

April 27, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I'm excited to inform you that the Prisoner Reentry Institute is now the **John Jay College Institute for Justice and Opportunity**. We chose to change our name because after 15 years the name "Prisoner Reentry Institute" no longer accurately describes the scope of our work.

We arrived at this name after a lengthy and consultative process—actively soliciting input and feedback from our staff, partner organizations, and the individuals we serve. We believe that the **Institute for Justice and Opportunity** better reflects our values and our mission—to create opportunities for people to live successfully in the community after involvement with the criminal legal system.

The words "justice" and "opportunity" are intentionally aspirational. They declare the purpose that animates all of our work—our direct service to over 1,000 people a year, our technical assistance and training programs, and our policy advocacy. We do not adopt the word "justice" lightly. We recognize that the criminal legal system often falls very short of providing justice for all. So, just as we are rebranding ourselves, we think it is time to rebrand justice. We put "justice" in our new name because we are working toward creating equitable access to authentic justice and opportunity.

Please also visit [our updated website](#). We would love to hear your thoughts on our new name, website, and this new chapter of our work together. I can be reached at ajacobs@jjay.cuny.edu.

Warm Regards,



Ann Jacobs
Executive Director