Criminal Justice Reform

The Facts: What We Know
• The U.S. has 5% of the world’s population, yet nearly 25% of the incarcerated population.
• In 2017, Blacks represented 12% of the U.S. adult population, but 33% of the sentenced population. Whites represented 64% of adults, yet 30% of prisoners.
• The ‘War on Drugs’ implemented by President Richard Nixon to criminalize Blacks has a substantial impact on current imprisonment rates: Almost half of the incarcerated in federal prison are there for drug offenses, nearly two-thirds are people of color.

Rebound: Interim Support
• Frontline support for Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) protests: Includes logistics coordination, technical assistance, training video development, and safety trainings. Organization: The BlackOUT Collective, which works in partnership with M4BL.
• Trauma-informed curriculum development for prosecutors: To create understanding of how the cycle of trauma feeds crime and to promote community-centered standards of safety, fairness, and dignity. Organization: The Institute for Innovation in Prosecution
• Living wage and equal job opportunity provisions: To support individuals with judicial barriers to employment, housing, health, and wealth. Organization: Resources, Justice & Management

Reimagine & Restructure: Systems Change and Root Cause Remediation
• Impact litigation and media advocacy: To change laws to make positive change for communities and influence the public dialog on issues related to the criminal justice system. Organization: ArchCity Defenders
• Support, empower, and mobilize families and individuals impacted by the criminal justice system: Through local and statewide campaigns for justice and against human rights violations in prisons and jails, year-long fellowships, community organizing meetings, and advocacy and communications training. Organization: Alliance of Families for Justice
• Voter turnout: To reach 70% of the eligible Black voting population through digital channels. Organization: PushBlack

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