

#FromCrisis2Care Toolkit

Toolkit: bit.ly/FromCrisis2Care
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Join us to raise awareness of our new report, "From Crisis to Care: Ending the Health Harm of Women's Prisons," documenting the many ways that incarceration in women's prisons harms the health of cisgender women and transgender, gender-variant, and intersex people and recommending health-promoting community supports we could be investing in instead.

Produced by: <u>Human Impact Partners</u> (HIP), <u>Californians United for a Responsible Budget</u> (CURB), <u>California Coalition for Women Prisoners</u> (CCWP), and <u>Transgender Gender-variant</u> and Intersex Justice Project (TGIJP)

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Background

The time for change is NOW! California is one of the few states where the number of people incarcerated in women's prisons is decreasing - from 12,668 people in 2010 to 3,699 people in 2022, a 70.8% reduction. Folsom State Prison's women's units have already been emptied, and the facility is set to close down in 2023.

But we can do more. California has a chance to lead the nation in ending the harm caused by incarceration. We can close the two remaining women's prisons, release the small fraction of the state's incarcerated population who are housed there, and invest the millions budgeted for these prisons into community-based programs that promote health and prevent incarceration. By doing this, we can provide essential support services for successful reentry into society.

Join us in calling for an end to the public health crisis that is incarceration in women's prisons. Let's take action and make a positive impact on the lives of Californians.

Sample tweets:

Women's prisons are a public health crisis! 83% of survey respondents in CA women's prisons reported that they experienced medical abuse/neglect while imprisoned & 72% said they waited a long time to receive treatment. It's time to shift #FromCrisis2Care. humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

CA is one of the few states where the number of people incarcerated in women's prisons is decreasing - from 12,668 people in 2010 to 3,699 people in 2022, a 70.8% reduction. It's within reach to close women's prisons & move #FromCrisis2Care! Learn more: humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

As a public health worker, I know that incarceration harms the health & well-being of cisgender & TGI women, their families, & their communities. CA can protect public health by closing women's prisons & funding #HealthNotPunishment! Read the research: humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

Women's prisons particularly harm TGI people. Gender-affirming care, such as hormone therapy & surgery, is rarely provided, leading to harmful consequences such as depression, self-injury, & suicide. We must go #FromCrisis2Care for trans health! humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

Closing women's prisons = reproductive justice. 40% of survey respondents in CA women's prisons reported experiencing reproductive abuse, such as coerced sterilization or an untreated reproductive health issue while imprisoned. #FromCrisis2Care humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

Closing prisons is gender justice. Due to systemic & interpersonal discrimination & transphobia, nearly 1 in 6 TGI people are incarcerated at some point in their lives. With the additive effect of racism, nearly 1 in 2 Black TGI people experience incarceration. #FromCrisis2Care

Programs that provide housing to formerly incarcerated people without conditions like sobriety or employment more effectively keep people housed & healthy long term. Instead of investing in

women's prisons, invest in stable housing. #FromCrisis2Care humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

For formerly incarcerated people, employment is a pathway into health via economic security, housing stability, adequate nutrition, and accessible healthcare. Instead of investing in women's prisons, invest in employment opportunities. #FromCrisis2Care humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

44% of people formerly incarcerated in women's prisons reported having a diagnosis of some mental health concern & 56% felt that they currently needed treatment. Instead of investing in women's prisons, invest in affordable healthcare. #FromCrisis2Care humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

Unreliable access to transportation leads to increased stress, decreased work attendance, interrupted family cohesion, & harms to physical health. Instead of investing in women's prisons, invest in reliable transportation! #FromCrisis2Care humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

Studies of restorative justice programs find increased feelings of satisfaction/fairness & decreased re-engagement with the criminal legal system. Instead of investing in women's prisons, invest in non-carceral forms of accountability. #FromCrisis2Care humanimpact.org/HealthNotWomensPrisons

When asked which reentry resources they'd need after prison, people incarcerated in CA women's prisons most frequently expressed need for housing, employment, mental health & substance use support, healthcare, transportation, identification documents, & clothing. #FromCrisis2Care

Investing in resources like housing, healthcare, transportation, & employment opportunities helps to prevent harm from occurring in the first place & supports the health & well-being of the entire community, including those who have never been incarcerated. #FromCrisis2Care

>> Graphics available <u>here</u> with image descriptions <u>here</u> <<