

SURVIVED AND PUNISHED

end the criminalization of domestic and sexual violence survivors
 survivedandpunished.org

Anti-violence Organizations & Criminalized/Incarcerated Survivors: Self-assessment Tool (May 2016)

Question	Response				
	Does not exist	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Ready
Direct services and outreach					
Implement structure for answering mail and phone calls from incarcerated survivors.					
Operate with understanding that many survivors have frightening, hostile and traumatic experiences with police and prosecutors.					
Develop screening process for crisis calls and intakes inclusive of criminalized and incarcerated survivors.					
Write parole letters for incarcerated survivors offering services and/or support (shelter, trainings, volunteering, jobs, support group, counseling, etc.).					
Create language access capacity for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) survivors.					
Share domestic violence/outreach materials in jails, prisons and detention centers, including information about shelter and resources for survivors post-release.					
Include education on criminalization, race, and domestic violence in volunteer training programs.					
Give shelter, transportation and resources to callers who are being released from prison/detention.					
Give continuity referrals to community resources or coping skills for how to transition to the community for those being released from prison/detention.					
Provide support post-release from prison/detention.					
Organizational development					
Prioritize formerly incarcerated survivors as potential staff, board, and volunteers.					
Include support for criminalized/incarcerated survivors, including immigrants, as part of the organization's population served, mission, values and priorities.					

Train staff, board and volunteers to support criminalized/incarcerated survivors (trauma-informed cultural competency, education on prison and immigration systems, impacts of racism/sexism on our legal systems, etc).					
Create stronger boundaries between organizations and prosecutors (ex: challenge prosecutors targeting survivors; document/report sexist, racist, homophobic and transphobic rhetoric used by prosecutors, judges and police to justify criminalizing survivors; challenge notion that prosecutors are natural allies or should be in leadership roles for anti-violence organizations; etc).					
Community organizing and advocacy					
Prioritize the development of community-based strategies to addressing domestic violence.					
Share skills for addressing domestic violence with community members (ex: emotional support, safety planning, de-escalation, etc).					
Identify staff members who could be the contacts for a survivor defense campaign that arises.					
Support volunteers to regularly write to survivors on the inside.					
Challenge notion that increasing criminalization and incarceration will increase safety for survivors.					
Ground analysis in context of harmful impacts of policing, immigration enforcement and prisons on communities, particularly Black/immigrant communities—including women and trans/queer people.					
Build alliances with immigration and anti-prison organizations/policy advocates focusing on decarceration and immigration relief.					
Oppose initiatives that increase policing and criminalization to address domestic violence.					
Prioritize anti-criminalization legislation in policy advocacy (end mandatory minimums, 3 strikes, mandatory arrest, failure to protect, immigrant detention and deportation ["priority enforcement"]).					
Advocate for more expansive forms of immigration relief that don't rely upon one's status as a victim or perpetrator of crime.					
Advocate for incarcerated survivors with the understanding that imprisonment is inhumane and violent for everyone—and that domestic violence survivors are not the only ones inside who have histories of abuse and trauma and are in need of support and compassion.					