

Annual Report 2020–2021

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021



OUR MISSION

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison supports the expansion of quality higher education in prison, empowers students while in prison and after release, and shapes public discussion about education and incarceration.

OUR VISION

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison envisions a world in which all people, including those in prison, have access to quality higher education, creating a more just and equitable world.

OUR VALUES

- 1. Human Dignity:** We believe in the unequivocal value of every person and their right to be treated equitably, without labels or stigmas.
- 2. Equitable Access to Education:** We believe that all people should have access to the opportunities afforded by higher education, including those incarcerated.
- 3. Resolve:** We believe in maintaining an unwavering commitment to our goals.
- 4. Collaboration:** We believe in bringing together multiple groups to work and share resources for the purpose of rebuilding communities, one generation at a time, through higher education.
- 5. Transparency:** We believe in the critical importance of access to reliable information and the insurance of accountability from and to all our community members.

OUR PROGRAM AREAS

Building Community

We provide space for the higher education in prison community to convene and collaborate, share resources and information, enhance programming, while also creating a forum for discussion, problem solving, and exchange of ideas.

Shaping Dialogue

We are challenging stereotypes and stigmas surrounding people who are currently and formerly incarcerated, including shifting away from polarizing and/or oppressive language.

Supporting Quality Practice

We are producing reports, resources, and toolkits and providing technical assistance to programs seeking to launch, expand, or enhance the quality of a program offering in-prison higher education.

Producing Knowledge

We are generating reliable data and metrics that are vital to demonstrating the need, value and importance of quality higher education in prison programming.

Ensuring Sustainability

We are working to frame the most significant issues in the field and to partner with funders to support the current sustainability of programs throughout the country, while simultaneously working toward the abolition of prisons.



Welcome to the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison's First Annual Report.

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison's First Annual Report introduces you to our mission, goals, values, and everyday work. Along the way, we'll also orient you to our many ongoing projects, as well as the many people who make the Alliance what it is.

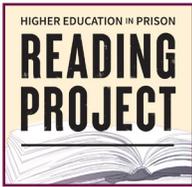
We should note that we've wanted to produce an Annual Report for some time. Since our founding back in 2017, we've recognized the significance of providing an annual update to the field on the Alliance's operations and progress. And, while our fiscal partner, Community Partners, does not require us to produce an Annual Report, we feel strongly that it's important to share an annual update with our community. It took us a number of years to build the Alliance and to produce things worth reporting on. Only in 2019 did the Alliance begin to operate with more than just two paid staff and on more than one major project (National Conference on Higher Education in Prison). And, in light of the many hardships that came with the early part of 2020, we felt that 2021 offered the right time to make the Alliance's Annual Report a reality.

We're thrilled to have the opportunity to present you now with the Alliance's First Annual Report. We look forward to doing so next year, and for many years to come.

Again, Welcome!

The Year in Review

Our First Annual Report covers the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison's broader operations for the fiscal calendar year between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Alliance Staff will remember these months for some time, as The Alliance faced some truly unprecedented challenges, as well as many opportunities to support the field. Here are some of the highlights:



July 2020: The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison launches its Higher Education in Prison Reading Project. The Project invites community members to engage in a collective reading project, profiling books (e.g., Angela Davis's *Freedom is a Constant Struggle*, Bettina Love's *We Want to Do More Than Survive*) that the Alliance engages with the community to select and then the Alliance distributes (at no cost to participating programs).



November 2021: Year Two of the Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program kicks-off. The program continues the Alliance's effort to establish and support the nation's inaugural cohort of higher education in prison programs.

2020

August and September, 2020: Two American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) postdoctoral fellows join in the Alliance Team for two-year positions. Valeria Dani (Ph.D., Cornell) becomes the Community Engagement Director, while Steph C. Iasiello (Ph.D., Emory University) becomes the Information and Education Director.





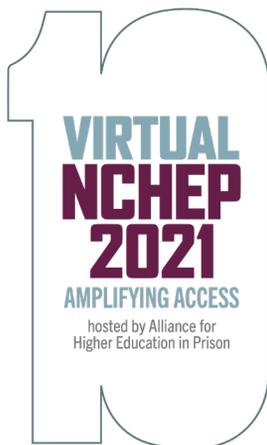
December 2020: The National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Program launches, establishing the largest directory and searchable online overview of higher education in prison programs and resources.



April 2021: The 2021 Annual Survey of Higher Education in Prison Programs is distributed to more than 300 known higher education in prison programs.



2021



March 2021: The Alliance hosts the first-ever “Virtual NCHPEP,” from March 1-5, 2021. Featuring speakers Reginald Dwayne Betts (*Felon: An American Washi Tale*), Bettina Love (*We Want to Do More Than Survive*), Danielle Sered (*Until We Reckon*) and a panel of accomplished historians of policing (Simon Balto, DeAnza Cook, and Marisol LeBrón), the virtual event draws at least 2,200 participants across 51 events.

May 2021: Planning begins for the 11th Annual National Conference for Higher Education in Prison, scheduled for November 11-14, 2021, and to be hosted in person in Denver, Colorado.

Our People

THE ALLIANCE TEAM

The Alliance's work and many projects begin with our committed team of lifelong learners. Our team combines educators, scholars, writers, higher education in prison practitioners, students and former students (including those from within higher education in prison programs), activists, and more.



Alyssa Cisneros

Alyssa joined the team in 2021 and comes to the Alliance with experience supporting historically excluded student populations in higher education and non-profit programs. She specializes in ensuring historically excluded students have equitable access, pathways, and enriching experiences during college. She is interested in using data to inform program design, curriculum, and impact analyses. bridging her graduate level training with her passion for supporting students. When she is not teaching students in Ethnic Studies departments at local campuses, she offers yoga from a place of radical practice of self-preservation, collective liberation, and a place where folks can take up space and honor their collective rage. She learns from and centers herself around abolition, Black Feminist Theory, Chicax/Latinx & Indigenous relationships to community, research, and each other.



Valeria Dani

Valeria joined the Alliance in 2020 as an American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) postdoctoral fellow. In the course of her doctoral studies, Valeria wrote about poetry, rhetoric, radical feminism, and critical theory. She also worked for the Cornell Prison Education Program, through which she taught humanities courses in various prisons in Upstate New York. Valeria's current research interests include the intersection of language and political praxis, anti-capitalism, and abolitionist feminism. Through the Alliance, she is committed to bridging the hiatus between academic discourses and liberation work.



Jesse Gant

Jesse joined the Alliance team in December 2017. Jesse is studying toward a doctorate in United States History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he plans to defend his dissertation in 2022. Jesse writes, researches, and teaches as a historian from campuses in both Madison and St. Louis, including the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). He specializes in the long histories and legacies of slavery, abolition, and emancipation.



Mary Gould

Mary joined the Alliance as its first Director in 2018, after serving as co-chair (with Sean Pica, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison) of the strategic planning process (2015-2016) that led to the formation of the network and serving on the Alliance's Founding Advisory Board. Mary continues to maintain an appointment in the department of communication at St. Louis University and is the former director of the St. Louis University Prison Education Program. Mary researches, publishes, and teaches on the topics of critical pedagogy, communication and community engagement, and higher education in prison.



Steph Iasiello

Steph joined the Alliance in 2020 as an American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) postdoctoral fellow. Prior to their appointment with the Alliance, Steph served as President

of the Board of Directors for Reforming Arts, an Atlanta-based nonprofit organization that provides a theater-infused higher education curriculum to individuals who are incarcerated in women’s prisons in Georgia. For several years, Steph taught writing and literature courses to students who are incarcerated. Their research interests include slavery, neo-slavery and the prison industrial complex, the ongoing work of abolition, as well as finding ways to use art and literature as tools of social justice. Steph is currently a law student at Georgia State University College of Law and hopes to bring this lens to their higher education in prison work.



Lauren Reed

Lauren joined the Alliance in 2019. She became the first person in her family to earn a bachelor’s degree when she graduated from Rutgers University

in 2017. She is also an alumna of the New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons Consortium (NJ-STEP) and the Rutgers Mountainview Community of New Brunswick, a pathway from the prison campus to Rutgers University. She serves on the Executive Board for NJ F.O.R.T.E. House and Advisory Board for Princeton University’s Prison Teaching Initiative (PTI) and was a member of the first cohort of Faces of Women Imprisoned and a member of the 2020 cohort of Columbia University’s Women Transcending Collective Leadership Institute. Lauren speaks regularly about her journey with higher education in prison, telling her story of becoming a professional in the field and sharing the impact of this work on herself and the community. Lauren is passionate about empowering, educating, and supporting people affected by incarceration.

OUR PARTNERS

Across 2020 and 2021, the Alliance also partnered with many organizations and individuals:

Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program

Christina Dawkins, A4Abolitionist

Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project

Research Collaborative on Higher Education in Prison, University of Utah
Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley

Journal of Higher Education in Prison

Erin Castro, Co-Executive Editor
Breea Willingham, Managing Editor

Strategic Communication

Blue Marble Creative,
Christine Fisher (Principle)
and Blake Foskett

Facilitation and Coaching

A4Abolitionist, Christina Dawkins (Principle)
Conditioning Leaders, Madeline McNeely (Principle)
Infinity Martinez, Becky Martinez (Principle)

Development

Julep Consulting, Juliet Page (Principle)

Technical Assistance Program

Edén Cortes, Research Project Manager

Former Alliance team members who were employed for parts of 2020-2021:

Jameel Spann, Program Assistant
Ved Price, Development and Project Coordinator

You can also learn about the people who make the Alliance what it is on our new and fully re-designed website, higheredinprison.org

Our People

ADVISORY BOARD

The Alliance's work is supported by an Advisory Board that in many ways represents the broad landscape of the higher education in prison community.



Robert Carmona is the Co-Founder of STRIVE

International. Under his stewardship, the organization has grown from a community-based organization in 1984 to an international network of service providers with 18 sites throughout the United States as well as six sites abroad. Prior to his tenure at STRIVE, he was the Assistant Director/Agency Services for Greater New York Fund/United Way. Robert has extensive experience advocating for adolescents having served as a counselor for adolescents in the Court Employment Project and as an Adolescent Caseworker for Downstate Medical Center's Family Youth Center.



André de Quadros is a professor of music at

Boston University where he holds positions in African, African-American, Asian, Muslim Studies and prison education. In 2019, he was a Distinguished Academic Visitor at Queens' College, University of Cambridge, UK. His work as a music educator, researcher, conductor, human rights activist, and community musician has taken him to the most diverse settings in more than forty countries. He leads five choirs and has authored

several publications in music and social justice. He leads several arts-based projects in Massachusetts prisons, in the Arab world and Israel, and on the US-Mexican border.



Naomi Dennis is an appellate judge (JAG) and Lieutenant

Colonel in the United States Air Force. She has served as both a prosecutor and defense attorney and has frequently lectured on advanced trial advocacy. She has also worked in the Central Criminal Court of Iraq during Operation Enduring Freedom. Naomi most recently served as a White House Fellow at the U.S. Department of Education where she led the Department's efforts to abolish the use of criminal justice history in college applications and to provide better transition assistance to justice impacted youth returning to community schools. Additionally, Naomi co-founded and led a breast cancer awareness non-profit organization.



Brendan Ozawa-de Silva is Associate Director for SEE Learning at the

Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics at Emory University. SEE Learning (Social, Emotional and Ethical

Learning) is a global K-12 and higher education program that seeks to bring the cultivation of basic human values into education on the basis of science, common experience, and common humanity. Prior to his current position he was Associate Professor of Psychology at Life University and founding director of the Chillon Project, an A.A. and B.A. program run at Lee Arrendale Women's Prison in the state of Georgia.



Sean Pica is the Executive Director of Hudson Link for Higher

Education in Prison, a not-for-profit organization that provides college education, life skills and re-entry support to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated men and women to help them make a positive impact on their own lives, their families and communities. Sean serves on the New York State Council on Community Re-Entry and Reintegration, was a founding member of the New York State Consortium for Higher Education in Prison, and a member of the Service Providers Advisory Committee, which collaborates on policy issues in the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision. Recently Sean founded and launched New Beginnings, a reentry housing initiative for the Hudson Link

students where formerly incarcerated students renovate abandoned properties and bring them back to life to create housing for other returning students.



Shana Russell is a humanities faculty member at Bard High

School Early College Newark, a partnership between Bard College and local school districts in several cities that grants high school diplomas and associate degrees simultaneously as a way of increasing equitable college access for working class communities and communities of color. She also serves as the chief historian for the Rikers Public Memory Project. Shana was formerly the Program Manager for the States of Incarceration initiative at the Humanities Action Lab.



Jonathan Stenger is a communications, public affairs,

and government relations professional with more than twenty years of progressively responsible experience in editorial and publishing, not-for-profit organizations, and educational institutions. He has successfully built and led communications, outreach, and public education programs at complex organizations and grown individual fundraising and corporate partnership programs. He's worked as an editor and publisher, graphics and production designer, project manager, and director in a variety of strategic

planning roles. He is currently the Public Information Officer for the Osborne Association, a New York-based organization that is committed to transforming lives, communities, and the criminal justice system through a broad range of treatment, educational, and vocational services for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people and their families.



Stephen B. Walker is currently the Director of

Correctional Health and Political Logistics for the California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA), a statewide organization representing 30,000 men and women who work supervising incarcerated adults and juveniles within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Before the current position, he was Director of Governmental Affairs. He also served on four different main table teams, which are responsible for negotiating the Memorandum of Understanding with the Governor of CA. After serving in the United States Marine Corp, Stephen held the classification of Youth Correctional Officer in the

California Youth Authority for thirty-five years. Stephen is the current chair and a board member for the Child Abuse Prevention Center as well as a board member with the Black Youth Leadership Project and Foundation for Independent Voter Education.



Cheryl Wilkins is the Senior Director of Education

and Programs at Columbia University's Center for Justice where her work is committed to reducing the nation's reliance on incarceration, developing new approaches to safety and justice, and participating in the national and global conversation around developing effective criminal justice policy. Cheryl is also an adjunct lecturer at Columbia University School of Social Work and serves as a key partner of the Women & Justice Project. Cheryl is a consultant for Healing Community Network and has been instrumental in developing the Justice in Education Prison Program, a project that facilitates Columbia University professors teaching inside Bedford Hills, Taconic and Sing Sing Correctional Facilities.

FISCAL SPONSOR

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison receives structure, finance, and administrative support services from Community Partners. www.communitypartners.org

Building Community

Community Conversation Series

In July 2020, the Alliance continued its Community Conversation Series, which we initiated in March 2020. The three conversations across July and August added to the more than thirty Community Conversations that the Alliance hosted overall between March 2020 and July 2021. These conversations created a digital space to share information, resources, experiences, and lessons learned. They offered ideas to expand and enrich the field of higher education in prison. Anyone wanting to attend had the opportunity to do so. Topics included crisis communication planning, fundraising, the role of a higher education in prison program, abolition and higher education in prison, and a series of wellness sessions.

An average of **100 people** per session attended the **Community Conversations**.

14 Weekly De-Briefs were published consecutively at the height of the **Coronavirus Pandemic** (March to June 2020).

6 Building Community newsletters were published since rebranding the publication.

Community Newsletter: *Building Community*



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alliance transitioned its newsletter into a weekly debrief in order to keep the higher education in prison community informed and connected. Starting on July 10, 2020, the newsletter was redesigned and renamed “Building Community,” and published bi-monthly as a resource to announce major events (e.g., National Conference) or projects (e.g., Higher Education in Prison Reading Project) from the Alliance or the higher education in prison community (e.g., Community News and Community Events Calendar).



National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHep)

The annual National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHep) is not only an event—for many community members, it’s a lifeline. More than a thousand people participated in the Alliance’s week-long (March 1-5, 2021) Amplifying Access virtual conference, and over 180 researchers, students, and programs gave presentations (across 51 total sessions) on a wide range of topics within

higher education in prison, including presentations from students who are currently incarcerated and presented from prisons across the country.

51 events hosted

475 online participants attended the keynote and plenary sessions, each drawing an average of **118** attendees

FEATURED EVENTS:

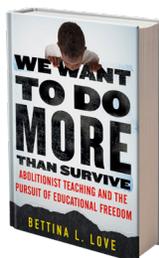
- ▶ **Closing Speaker:** Reginald Dwayne Betts, author of *Felon: An American Washi Tale*
- ▶ **Keynote Speaker:** Dr. Bettina Love, *We Want to Do More Than Survive*
- ▶ **Plenary Session:** Danielle Sered, *Until We Reckon*
- ▶ **Panel Discussion:** Historians of Policing: Simon Balto, DeAnza Cook, and Marisol LeBrón

Higher Education in Prison Reading Project

Since early 2019, the Alliance has invited members of this community to read along with us, using weekly sessions on social media and “book giveaways” to support participation. In July 2020, we expanded the project in the hopes of bringing even more participants and programs into this reading community. Participating programs now receive free books for all staff/team members and prepared materials including a reading/discussion guide, calendar, and additional resources.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON READING PROJECT

ALLIANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON



199 copies of the 2021 reading selection, Bettina Love's *We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom* (2019) were requested by community members.



COMPLETE LIST OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON READING PROJECT BOOKS:

2021

We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom by Bettina Love

2020

Freedom is a Constant Struggle: Ferguson, Palestine, and the Foundations of a Movement by Angela Y. Davis

Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward

City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion, and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles, 1771-1965 by Kelly Lytle Hernández

The New Jim Crow (10th Anniversary Edition, Featuring a New Preface) by Michelle Alexander

Solitary: Unbroken by Four Decades In Solitary Confinement: My Story of Transformation and Hope by Albert Woodfox

2019

Until We Reckon: Violence, Incarceration, and a Road to Repair by Danielle Sered

Lower Ed: The Troubling Rise of For-Profit Colleges in the New Economy by Tressie McMillan Cottom

Unequal Higher Education: Wealth, Status, and Student Opportunity by Barrett J. Taylor and Brendan Cantwell

Cuz: The Life and Times of Michael A. by Danielle Allen

Shaping Dialogue



Political Philosophy

In order to guide us in our work, to establish and maintain a clear sense of identity within our organization, and to define the intentions of the Alliance while being transparent with each other about our political commitments, the Alliance team developed a political philosophy document and statement to be referenced by team members as they engage their work.

The Alliance's North Star Statement:

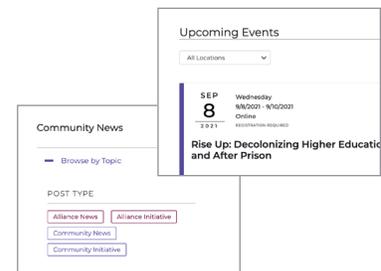
Our ultimate vision for the future is one where the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison is no longer needed because the prison industrial complex and its originating structures cease to exist.

Language Guidelines

The Alliance has also worked to develop language guidelines and a public statement in order to help community members discussing, for example, the usage of labels in describing people, or the power of choosing people-centered language, something the community has also asked for over the past few years. In response, the Alliance developed a public resource that outlines our position on committing to using intentional and mindful language to describe people. Though we know language and its contested meanings and usages constantly shift and evolve, our language guide can be used to help guide our approaches in hosting and leading all future conversations we have with the field.

“The Alliance believes that language is a powerful tool in shaping the culture and narrative in the field of higher education in prison, and in society as a whole.”

<https://www.higheredinprison.org/frequently-asked-questions>



Community News & Community Calendar

With all that occurred in the late months of 2020 and through the early half of 2021, the Alliance also moved to enhance its communications in terms of its Community News and Community Calendar initiatives. These resources are now a routine feature of the Alliance website and broader communications plan and serve as resources for the entire higher education in prison community to use to stay connected and informed.

- ▶ **Read the Community Calendar:** <https://www.higheredinprison.org/community-calendar>
- ▶ **Read the Community News Page:** <https://www.higheredinprison.org/news>

Supporting Quality Practice



COVID-19 Executive Leadership Support Program

The Alliance launched an Executive Leadership Support Program in 2020 as a direct response to the COVID pandemic. This cohort launched in March and the program supported higher education in prison leaders from across the field as they faced unique leadership challenges brought on by COVID-19. The program focused on both cohort-based support as well as one-on-one technical assistance sessions.

25 higher education in prison programs participated in the COVID-19 Executive Leadership Support Program

The inaugural two-year cohort included 12 programs from around the U.S., and each participating program receives **\$25,000** per year for two years

Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program

The Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program promotes meaningful co-learning and collaboration. Launched in 2019, the Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project Cohort Program membership includes 12 higher education in prison programs and program leaders who are working to create, sustain, and grow programs throughout the field. Program participants engage at different stages in their evolution, offer many different types of programming, and have various leadership structures. By bringing these programs together, the Alliance hopes to foster a supportive environment where practitioners can collaborate and engage in collective problem solving.

- ▶ **To learn more** about the Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program visit: <https://www.higheredinprison.org/higher-education-in-prison-cohort>

Technical Assistance

The Alliance's Technical Assistance Program provides space for cross-disciplinary collaboration, peer-to-peer learning and networking and resource sharing. In 2020/2021 we provided technical assistance to three states: Colorado, Iowa and Tennessee. We worked with multiple agencies in each state such as the Board of Regents, Department of Corrections, Department of Education, Department of Labor, reentry services, and higher education in prison programs. The Alliance addressed major topics including but not limited to: barriers to higher education in prison, outdated and restrictive policies, access to technology, interagency data sharing agreements, building community partnerships, program design, and evaluation. We also hosted multiple panel discussions where currently and formerly incarcerated students could offer advice, insight, and feedback on how statewide networks can be advanced. In each state, the purpose of this work was to support greater collaboration and partnership to ensure the advancement of equity, access and quality in higher education in prison programming.

Document Library

In association with the National Directory of Higher Education in Prison the Alliance created a database where higher education in prison programs are able to share common documents to support the expansion of the field and launch or growth of new programs. A series of common documents were identified and all documents shared under the Creative Commons Attribution: NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC BY-NC-SA).

The documents currently available for review and sharing are examples of: Admissions Applications, Bylaws, Curriculum Overviews, Faculty Handbooks, FAFSA Instructions, Memorandums of Understanding, Organizational Charts, Re-entry Guides, Staff Handbooks, Strategic Plans, Student Handbooks, and Volunteer Handbooks.

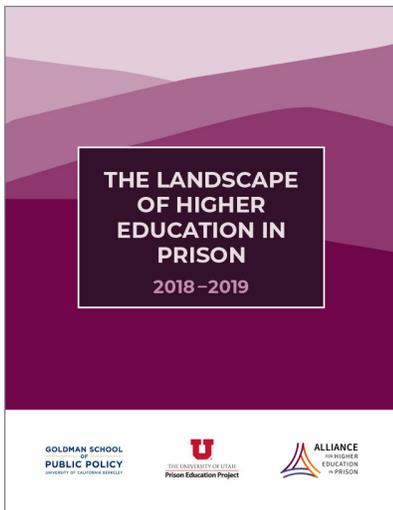
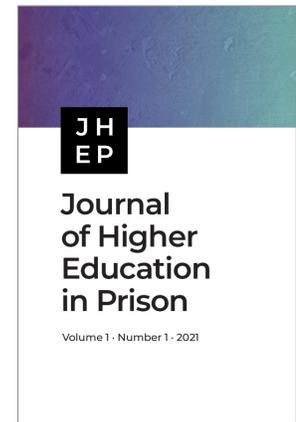
Producing Knowledge



Journal of Higher Education in Prison

The Journal of Higher Education in Prison publishes open-access, peer-reviewed scholarship that advances the field of higher education in prison and addresses four specific needs:

1. creating a dedicated space for peer-reviewed scholarship on higher education in prison;
2. expanding opportunities for scholars to publish on topics focused on higher education in prison;
3. extending readership opportunities to more people (domestic and international) through open-access publishing; and
4. contributing to the creation of a community of practice for the higher education in prison community.



Landscape of Higher Education in Prison Data Report

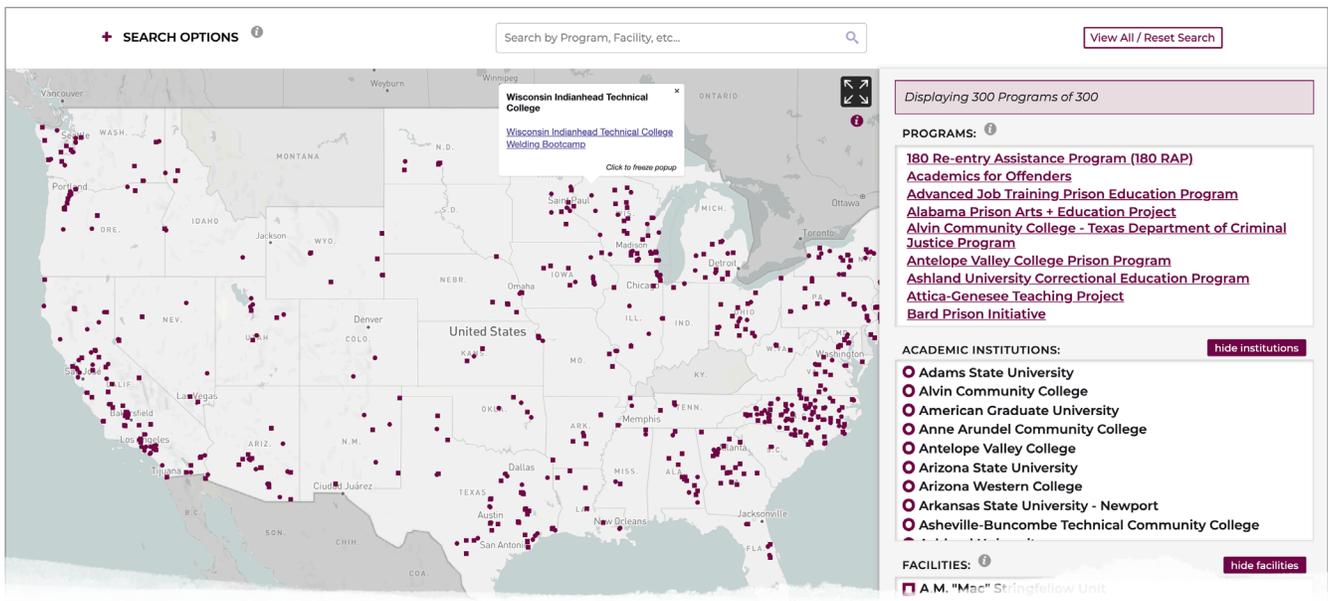
The Landscape of Higher Education in Prison Data Report provides a descriptive overview of the field of higher education in prison for the academic year 2018/2019. The data reported is collected from the 2020 *Annual Survey of Higher Education in Prison Programs* and is made public through the National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs.

2018-2019 DATA HIGHLIGHTS

131
Associate's
Degree
Pathways
Offered

45
Bachelor's
Degree
Pathways
Offered

22
Programs
for
Correctional
Staff



National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs

Working with our partners at the Research Collaborative on Higher Education in Prison at the University of Utah, and the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, the Alliance for Higher Education launched the National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs (2020). The National Directory serves as a comprehensive resource for people seeking information about college in prison programs in the United States and is the most comprehensive overview of the field of higher education in prison, the programming offered and the partnership that define this work.



There are three main ways to view program data: Map View (shown above), Stat View, and List View.

300

Higher Education in Prison Programs Added to the National Directory

322

Academic Institutions Supporting Higher Education in Prison Programs

13

2018/2019 National Directory Dataset Requests from Researchers

To explore the National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs visit:
<https://www.higheredinprison.org/national-directory>

Ensuring Sustainability



The Alliance is working to frame the most significant issues in the field of higher education in prison and to partner with funders to ensure their awareness of these issues and to pursue re-grant funding to support programs and colleagues in the field. These efforts are engaged to ensure the short-term sustainability of the field. It seeks the ultimate goal of a society without prisons and therefore a society without higher education in prison.

Direct Investing Programs

The Alliance works to ensure that all people, regardless of their location or circumstance, have access to quality higher education. One way it does this is by making funding for higher education in prison programs more accessible to practitioners, program administrators, students and community partners. The Alliance has developed strong partnerships with donors and foundations that see the value in expanding quality higher education in prison programs. With their financial support, the Alliance is making it possible for more people to get the training and peer support they need to establish, grow, and sustain quality higher education in prison programs.

National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP) Financial Aid Program

Each year since 2017, the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison invites applications for the NCHEP Financial Aid Program from anyone without institutional support to attend the 11th annual conference. During this time, people who are formerly incarcerated have made up a full quarter (and sometimes more) of the participating membership of the entire National Conference on Higher Education in Prison. Direct Investments help support the Alliance's Financial Aid program, which has offered recipients full funding--travel, accommodation, and food--in attending the annual conference.

\$1,500
Average Cost
of Financial Aid
Package

116
Average Number
of Financial Aid
Awards Each Year
(since 2017)

Our Financials

The Alliance's fundraising efforts include a mixed revenue model that sustains our work. Revenue from foundations, government grants, technical assistance support and individual donations support our projects, team and daily operations.

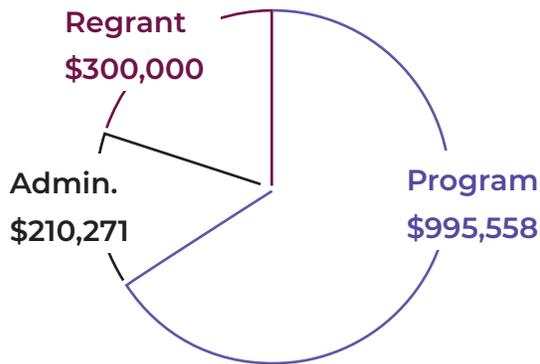
FY2021 Revenue

\$1,471,033



FY2021 Expenses

\$1,505,830



Note: The discrepancy between FY2021 revenue and expenses was rectified through a surplus of \$730,764 carried over from FY2020 Revenue

To learn more about our funders, visit: <https://www.higheredinprison.org/our-team>.



PHOTO CREDITS

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison would like to thank photographer Babita Patel and the following higher education in prison programs for contributing photographs for our website and print materials:

Freedom Education Project
Puget Sound

Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Mt. Tamalpais College

Saint Louis University Prison Education Program

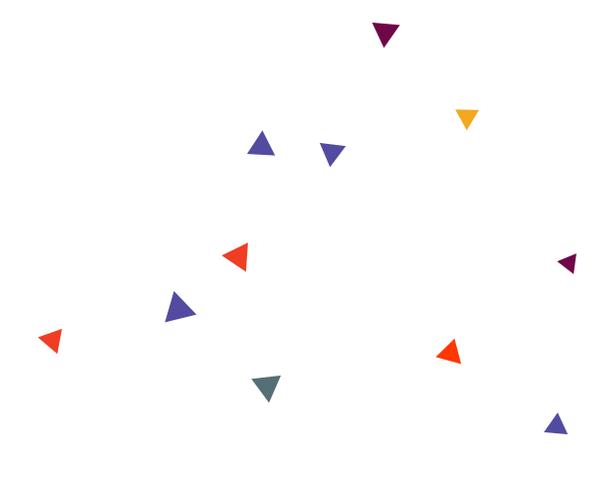
Tennessee Higher Education in Prison Initiative

University of Utah Prison Education Project

Annual Report designed by:
Blue Marble Creative



*All must
thrive* in
order for
this work
to proceed.



2021/2022

Vision for the New Year

While the past few years have helped the Alliance and many organizations at work in the field gain some valuable lessons, perhaps few are as important as the one that says all must thrive in order for this work to proceed. With that in mind, the Alliance will be focusing on the creation of a vision for the future that not only ensures its own short-term organizational sustainability and ultimately the pursuit of its own North Star Statement, but the same for the entirety of the field. Key actionable priorities for the following year include:

- ▶ **Continued (and increased) sharing of information and resources;**
- ▶ **Creating more opportunities for networking and collaboration;**
- ▶ **Helping to foster a sense of shared political commitments/alignments among those active in the field; and**
- ▶ **Increased public discussion and attention to the work of higher education in the field.**



ALLIANCE
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON



Access. Equity. Dignity.

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