2nd Annual Report 2021–2022

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022
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 insurance of accountability from and to all our 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 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 Second Annual Report.

This Report introduces you to our mission, goals, values, and everyday work. We’ll orient you to our many ongoing projects, our work for the 2021 fiscal year, and identify some of the exciting work and transitions that lie ahead.

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison was founded in 2017. Last year we produced our first annual update to the field on our operations and progress. Since then, we’ve hosted the 11th Annual National Conference on Higher Education in Prison and expanded many of our programs. We also prepared for a significant leadership transition and welcomed Ved Price as our new Executive Director on July 11, 2022.

We’re thrilled to share the Alliance’s Second Annual Report.

We look forward to doing so for many years to come.
The Year in Review

Our Second Annual Report covers the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison’s broader operations for the fiscal calendar year between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022. Here are some of the highlights:

**August 2021:** The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison launched its Community Job Board to share career opportunities with the higher education in prison community.

**October 2021:** The Alliance began planning for a Speakers Bureau, featuring a directory of speakers in the higher education in prison community. The Speakers Bureau was announced at the 11th National Conference for Higher Education in Prison and will publicly launch in Fall 2022.

**October 2021:** The Alliance began a search for a new Executive Director, with support from search firm Community Research Exchange and the Alliance Advisory Board’s transition committee.

**November 2021:** The Alliance hosted the 11th Annual National Conference for Higher Education in Prison, centered on the question, “What Is To Be Done?” from November 11-14, 2021 in Denver, Colorado.

**November 2021:** The Alliance hosted its first-ever virtual NCHEP follow-up conference from November 17-19, offering space on Zoom for anyone in the field to continue the conversations opened in Denver.

**September 2021:** The Alliance co-hosted a Racial Equity Professional Institute webinar with the Education Trust.

**September 2021:** The Alliance published the inaugural issue of the Journal of Higher Education in Prison, featuring Contemporary Perspectives and Articles addressing the questions, “What is the field of higher education in prison?” and “What does it mean to be a ‘field?’”
December 2021:
The Alliance circulated a call for submissions for the second issue of the Journal of Higher Education in Prison. The second issue will focus on responses to the question, “What are the possibilities and limitations of teaching and learning in prison spaces?”

What’s Next?
Higher Education in Prison and Its Future(s)

2022 NCHEP 12

January 2022:
Planning began for the virtual 12th Annual National Conference for Higher Education in Prison, scheduled for October 11-14, 2022. The theme for the 12th NCHEP is “Higher Education in Prison and Its Future(s).”

May 2022:
The 2022 Annual Survey of Higher Education in Prison Programs is opened and circulated to all known higher education in prison programs.

March 2022:
The Alliance hosts the first of its three-part Community Conversation series on reentry.

June 2022:
The Alliance continued the Higher Education in Prison Reading Project and distributed Abolition. Feminism. Now. and corresponding materials to eleven programs.

December 2021:
The National Directory launched its second year of data in November 2021 (from Academic Year 2019-2020 with archives going back to 2018). Data from the 2022 survey of Academic Year 2020-2021 will be going live in fall 2022.
Our People

THE ALLIANCE TEAM

Steven Abundis
Steven is a proud Project Rebound Student, who graduated San Francisco State University in 2020, with a BA in English Literature. During his studies at San Francisco State University, Steven was a Willie Brown Fellow, and passionately volunteered his time to speak in public about his experiences, struggles, and triumphs during and post incarceration. Currently, Steven advocates for justice-impacted students, at-risk youth, as well as equity in the cannabis industry. In addition to being a father, Steven is an entrepreneur, pre-law candidate, and co-founder and community partner of Bridging Roots, a justice-impacted student program at Los Medanos College in his hometown of Pittsburg, California.

Valeria Dani
Valeria joined the Alliance in 2019. 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.

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.

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.
**Ved Price**

Ved Price joined the Alliance as Executive Director in July, 2022. Ved brings deep experience in the nonprofit sector and significant board and committee experience. He previously served as a Program Assistant at St. Francis Center in Denver, where he supported clients navigating incarceration, homelessness, mental health, addiction, affordable housing, and workforce development. He chaired the Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity Committee at St. Francis Center and he served on the Board of Directors for Metro Denver Homeless Initiative. Ved is deeply passionate about eliminating systemic barriers and developing human-centered solutions for equitable access to resources. Ved holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services from Metropolitan State University of Denver. In his leisure time, Ved enjoys playing basketball, chess, reading, and gardening.

**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, the Advisory Board for Princeton University’s Prison Teaching Initiative (PTI), 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 2021 and 2022, 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 and Blake Foskett
Rachael Zafer

**Facilitation and Coaching**

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

**Development**

Julep Consulting, Juliet Page (Principle)

**Former Alliance team members who were employed for parts of 2021-2022:**

Alyssa Cisneros, Research Project Manager
Jesse Gant, Information Manager
Steph Iasiello, Information and Education Director

You can also learn about the people who make the Alliance what it is on our 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.
Kimberly Haven is an author, advocate, and activist. She offers a fresh voice, insight, and authority to the Alliance, bringing new attention to issues in the criminal justice system. She is a 2020 JustLeadershipUSA LwC Fellow, a 2020 Women Transcending Collective Leadership Institute Fellow, and was a 2016 Justice Policy Network Fellow. She is a member of the 2020-2021 cohort of the Faces of Women Imprisoned Speaker’s Bureau Program, a nationwide criminal justice reform organization of formerly incarcerated women informing U.S. legislative advocacy, public awareness, & education on mass incarceration. She consults routinely with national, state, and local elected officials and executives on criminal justice issues. During her extensive career, she has played a leadership role in numerous statewide efforts and has executed a variety of message campaigns in order to engage and impact public debates and, ultimately, to move policy.

Laura Manyweather brings over 25 years of Private, Public and Nonprofit experience to contracting agencies and partners. Dr. Manyweather earned her degree in Educational Leadership with an emphasis on Social Justice from California State University Long Beach. Laura’s research focuses on Critical Race Theory, the Prison Industrial Complex, and Black males in Higher Education. Her scholarship aims to affect policy and to shift the negative and pervasive paradigm that some faculty and private employers tend to hold toward formerly incarcerated individuals. She developed the Reentry Success Pathway Program at West Los Angeles College, and currently she is an Associate Professor in Business at Los Angeles Community College District.
**ADVISORY BOARD**

**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.

**Romarilyn Ralston** is Program Director of Project Rebound at California State University Fullerton and also serves as the Chair of the CSU Project Rebound Policy and Advocacy Committee. Romarilyn is a black feminist prison abolitionist scholar who works to interrupt criminalization at the intersections of race, gender, and education. Romarilyn earned a Master in Arts degree in Liberal Arts at Washington University in St. Louis and Bachelor in Arts degree in Gender & Feminist Studies at Pitzer College. She has received several honors and awards for her work over the years, including being named Pitzer College’s 2020 Distinguished Alumni Honoree, and she sits on the Pitzer College Alumni Board, California Senator Ling Ling Chang’s 2020 Woman of Distinction Social Justice Champion awardee, and National Council of 100 Black Women (Orange County Chapter), 2018 Civil Rights and Advocacy recipient. Romarilyn is a 2017-2018 Women’s Foundation of California Women’s Policy Institute alumna, and there she served as fellow and an integral member of the criminal justice reform team to pass several pieces of legislation in law. As a statewide organizer and advocate with the California Coalition for Women Prisoners, she monitors and challenges the abusive conditions inside California women's prisons fighting for the release of women, gender non-conforming, and trans people.
Jamey Leanne Rislin is a counseling psychologist and licensed clinical social worker. She earned her Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania, and her Doctorate in Counseling Psychology from New Mexico State University. She recognizes the importance of the scientist-practitioner-advocate role and brings this level of integrated thought to all aspects of her professional work. Dr. Rislin has worked in a plethora of clinical settings with diverse clients with varied psychosocial and mental health needs. Her research focuses on minority mental health, the impact of systems of oppression on mental and physical health, and best practices in improving treatment outcomes, satisfaction and service delivery for diverse clients and client systems. She is particularly interested in multicultural considerations in psychology, mental health literacy and issues of diversity/inclusion. She currently works as a Psychologist at a juvenile detention center.

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.

EMERITUS ADVISORY BOARD

The Alliance recognizes the significant contributions of our Emeritus Advisory Board members who dedicated significant time and energy to strengthen the field of higher education in prison.

Naomi Dennis
Brendan Ozawa-de Silva
Stephen B. Walker

IN MEMORIAM

Stephen Blount (1953 - 2022)

FISCAL SPONSOR

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison receives structure, finance, and administrative support services from Community Partners.
www.communitypartners.org
Our Projects 2021–22

Building Community
» Community Conversations
» Job Board
» Community Newsletter
» 11th NCHEP
» Higher Education in Prison Reaching Project

Producing Knowledge
» National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs
» Landscape of Higher Education in Prison Data Report
» Document Library

Shaping Dialogue
» Speakers Directory
» Language Guidelines
» Community News & Community Calendar

Ensuring Sustainability
» Direct Investing Programs
» National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP) Financial Aid Program
» Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program

Supporting Quality Practice
» Technical Assistance
» Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project
» JHEP: Journal of Higher Education in Prison

Photo: Blake Foskett
Community Conversation Series
The Alliance hosted five events this year as part of the Community Conversations Series. These events included a film screening and discussion, a book reading and discussion, and a three-part series on reentry. Attendance included participants from Mexico, the Virgin Islands, Nigeria, Argentina, New Zealand, and people incarcerated in Colorado.

Job Board
In August 2021, the Alliance created the Community Job Board to share career opportunities with the higher education in prison community.

Higher education in prison programs and organizations relevant to the higher education in prison community are invited to submit new job postings, internships, and volunteer opportunities to be added to the Alliance website. To date, more than 100 jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities have been posted to the Community Job Board.

Community Newsletter: Building Community
The Alliance published 27 “Building Community” bi-weekly digital newsletters to help keep the higher education in prison community informed and connected. The newsletter was sent to over 3,500 subscribers.
The annual conference is not only an event—for many community members, it’s a lifeline.

544 people registered for the 11th NCHEP (November 11-14, 2021) What Is To Be Done? Conference, and the Alliance estimates that 475 or more people attended the in-person event.

Over 145 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.

The Alliance hosted its first-ever virtual follow-up NCHEP conference from November 16-19, offering space on Zoom for anyone in the field to continue the conversations opened in Denver. This space was created in part due to the acknowledgement that not all of the community’s stakeholders could or felt safe traveling to the in-person conference.

**Featured Events:**

- **Keynote Speaker:** Terrell A. Blount, Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network, “Whose Voices? The Future We Want for Higher Education in Prison”
- **Plenary Session:** “Radical Moves: Building an Abolitionist Feminist Politic and Practice” presented by Monica Cosby, Gina Dent, Alice Kim, and Erica Meiners
- **Plenary Session:** “Barriers that Formerly Incarcerated Female Leaders in Higher Education Face” presented by Robert Ortiz Archila, Irene Marie Sotelo, Priscilla Terriquez, and Summer Bratner
- **Plenary Session:** “Since I Been Down” Documentary Screening and Conversation
- **Virtual Plenary Session:** “A Conversation on Abolition Pedagogy” with Priya Kandaswamy and Erica Meiners
Higher Education in Prison Reading Project

Since early 2019, the Alliance has invited members of this community to read along with us, and has supported participating programs with free books and prepared materials including a reading and discussion guide, calendar, and resources for continued learning.

For the first time in the program’s history, 100 free copies of Abolition. Feminism. Now. were distributed to currently incarcerated students, thanks to a generous gift from Haymarket Books.

367 copies of Carceral Capitalism and Abolition. Feminism. Now. were sent to programs in the HEP Reading Project

Get involved and view the reading schedules, discussion guides, and additional resources.

https://www.higheredinprison.org/info/reading-project

COMPLETE LIST OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON READING PROJECT BOOKS:

2022
Abolition. Feminism. Now. by Angela Y. Davis, Gina Dent, Erica R. Meiners, and Beth E. Richie

2021
Carceral Capitalism by Jackie Wang

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


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
Speakers Directory

The Alliance began planning for a Speakers Directory, featuring a directory of speakers in the higher education in prison community, in Fall 2021. As the field of higher education in prison rapidly expands, we hope that the Speakers Directory will provide an avenue for members of our community, including currently incarcerated students, alumni, program directors, teachers, researchers, prison and college/university administrators, and others with lived experience and in-depth knowledge to share their stories and expertise with a wider audience. The Speakers Directory was announced at the 11th National Conference for Higher Education in Prison and will publicly launch in Fall 2022.

Language Guidelines

The Alliance has also developed 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. 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 guidelines 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

Social Media

The Alliance expanded its social media presence in 2021/2022, growing its presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Vimeo. The Alliance’s social media accounts reach over 5,050 users.
Community News & Community Calendar

The Alliance expanded communications with its Community News and Community Calendar initiatives and with a more robust social media presence. These resources are now a routine feature of the Alliance website and broader communications plan.

194 Events publicized on the Community Calendar
79 Announcements shared in Community News

› View the Community Calendar
  higheredinprison.org/community-calendar

› View the Community News Page
  higheredinprison.org/news
Supporting Quality Practice

Technical Assistance

The Alliance’s Technical Assistance Program provides space for cross-disciplinary collaboration, peer-to-peer learning and networking, and resource sharing. In 2021/2022 we provided a year of technical assistance to the Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC). The Alliance hosted bi-weekly meetings, worked with CDOC staff and administrators, and collaborated with 12 students from three facilities to produce a toolkit that will inform and assist how CDOC reviews, approves, and engages with postsecondary education in prison programs in facilities across the state. The toolkit focuses on access, equity and quality for students, staff, and all persons involved in the educational process, while centering the well-being and the academic success of students during and after incarceration.

The Alliance continues to provide technical assistance to higher education in prison practitioners, programs, state agencies, and community partners who write or call with a request. We aim to ensure and expand access to quality in-prison learning experiences and peer-to-peer learning and networking opportunities.

The Alliance offers technical assistance in a variety of areas, including:

- strategic planning;
- program design,
- data collection and evaluation;
- starting or sustaining a higher education in prison program;
- building statewide and/or regional networks;
- and increasing program quality.

Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project

Together, we are gathering information about each program and learning from one another how to overcome challenges. We are identifying opportunities for growth and collaboration.

- Annual Survey of Higher Education in Prison Programs
- National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs
- Landscape of Higher Education in Prison Data Report(s)
- Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program

See the following sections (Producing Knowledge and Ensuring Sustainability) for details on the above projects.
The Journal of Higher Education in Prison (est. 2019) is the only peer-reviewed journal that publishes solely on topics and issues in higher education in prison. The journal provides the growing field of higher education in prison a forum to discuss praxis and the ways that theory can and should inform teaching and learning in prison. The first volume of the journal was published in September 2021 and includes original Articles and Contemporary Perspectives essays that address urgent issues in the field. To date, more than 500 copies have been distributed to programs, students, and practitioners. The second volume of the journal will be published in 2022.

**JOURNAL MISSION**

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.
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 hosts the National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs. The 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 partnerships that define this work.

In 2021, the Alliance updated the National Directory database to include summary statistics about higher education in prison programs on a state-by-state and regional basis, a map view showing the location of facilities and academic institutions that participate in higher education in prison programs, a searchable list of programs and program contacts, and instructional documentation on the features of the National Directory.

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

To explore the National Directory visit: higheredinprison.org/national-directory
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 2019/2020.

The data reported is collected from the 2021 Annual Survey of Higher Education in Prison Programs and is made public through the National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs.

2019-2020 DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- **374** Higher Education in Prison Programs
- **420** Academic Institutions Affiliated with Higher Education in Prison Programs
- **522** Facilities Affiliated with Higher Education in Prison Programs
- **199** Associate’s Degree Pathways Offered
- **70** Bachelor’s Degree Pathways Offered
- **31** Programs for Correctional Staff

Document Library

In association with the National Directory of Higher Education in Prison the Alliance created a database for higher education in prison programs 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 were shared under the Creative Commons Attribution: NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC BY-NC-SA).

This database currently includes 56 documents for review and sharing, and include examples of:

- Admissions Applications
- Bylaws
- Curriculum
- FAFSA
- Memorandums of Understanding
- Organizational Charts
- Re-entry Guides
- Staff Handbooks
- Strategic Plans
- Student Handbooks
- Volunteer Handbooks
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 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 for travel, accommodations, and food for the annual conference.
Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program

The Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program promotes meaningful co-learning and collaboration. Launched in 2019, the inaugural Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program included 12 higher education in prison programs from around the United States.

Program participants were at different stages of their evolution, offered many different types of programming, and had various leadership structures.

By bringing these programs together, we aimed to foster a supportive environment where practitioners can collaborate and engage in collective problem solving.

The inaugural 2019-2021 Cohort included 12 programs from around the United States.

The Alliance opened applications for the 2022-2023 Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program in June 2022 and programs will be notified of participation in September 2022.

To learn more about the Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program visit: higheredinprison.org/higher-education-in-prison-cohort
Our Financials

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

**FY2022 Revenue**

$1,555,350

- **Foundations:** $1,349,333
- **Technical Assistance:** $81,806
- ** Corporations:** $18,905
- **Individuals:** $105,306

**FY2022 Expenses**

$1,278,749

- **Program:** $1,098,451
- **Professional Fundraising Consulting:** $9,125
- **Admin.:** $171,173
- **Other:** $28,116

To learn more about our funders, visit: [https://www.higheredinprison.org/our-team](https://www.higheredinprison.org/our-team).

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
Vision for the Year Ahead

2022 will continue to be a year of growth for the Alliance. We are thrilled to welcome Ved Price as the Alliance’s new Executive Director, and we look forward to making significant contributions to the higher education in prison field under his leadership.

The Alliance’s vision for the future focuses on sustainability for the entire field of higher education in prison. Key actionable priorities for the year ahead include:

- **Build a community of learning and practice within the Alliance’s staff and board**
- **Create and distribute free academic resources to advance the education of currently incarcerated students**
- **Explore the implementation of a national standard to reduce sentences for incarcerated students**
- **Develop an infrastructure that can accommodate internships for currently incarcerated students**
- **Create professional development opportunities for people who are formerly incarcerated**
- **Strengthen our political commitments and deepen our shared alignments with others in the field**
- **Grow the Alliance’s visibility within and beyond the field**

higheredinprison.org

FOLLOW US

Twitter
@AllianceforHEP
@OfficialINCHEP

Instagram
@AllianceforHEP

Facebook
@AllianceforHEP
@OfficialINCHEP

LinkedIn
@AllianceforHEP

Vimeo
@AllianceforHEP