



The Delaware Center for Justice

Remembering Our Past, Redefining Our Future

Delaware Center for Justice • 100 W 10th St. STE 905 • Wilmington, DE 19801

HELP US RISE TO THE CHALLENGE!

Because of a generous challenge grant from the Longwood Foundation, **there is no better time than the present to become a DCJ donor. If we raise \$75,000 by May 31st, 2017, our pot will double.** We need your help to reach that goal! Please donate \$30 today so that when we reach our \$75,000 goal, your \$30 will turn into \$60. You can donate using the enclosed card and envelope, or at dcjustice.org. Our donation page is even smartphone-friendly! We will hit this goal with support from community members like you! Thank you for rising to the challenge.

UPDATED MISSION

We are excited to introduce DCJ's new and updated mission statement!

The Delaware Center for Justice, Inc. is the leading non-profit organization in Delaware committed to transforming the quality of justice through advocacy, policy, and practice.

Our entire staff worked together to re-focus and strengthen our mission. We believe the new language is a better fit for what we do and what we strive to do. We hope it helps you understand our organization a little better, too! In addition to the mission statement, we also updated our commitments. Find those on the "Who We Are" page at dcjustice.org!



Upcoming Events

Justice Served – 6-10pm on Friday, October 14th at the Delaware Art Museum

A masterpiece is missing from the Delaware Art Museum...but where did it go? Join us for a mystery dinner benefiting DCJ. Come dressed to impress and prepared to help solve the mystery! Tickets include a two-hour interactive performance, a three-course dinner catered by Toscana, and an open bar. Tickets and more info are available at dcjustice.org or 302-658-7174 ext. 10.

Visions of Justice 2016: Do No Harm – 8:30am-4pm on Friday, October 28 at the Wilmington/Christiana Hilton

Join us for DCJ's annual conference—this year addressing the pains of imprisonment in the 21st century. What does a justice system that does no physical or emotional harm to its participants look like, and how do we get there? Speakers include Dr. Angela Browne and Evie Litwok. Tickets are available at dcjustice.org or 302-658-7174 ext. 10.

Giving Tuesday – All day on Tuesday, November 29th

Last year, you gave \$3300 for our Read In, Read Out Program. Can we raise \$4300 for DCJ this Giving Tuesday? Mark your calendar and give on November 29th at dcjustice.org.

POLICY ROUND UP

DCJ is proud to have been a part of several legislative victories this session:

SB 198 creates opportunities for second chances for more young people by streamlining the process for some youth who are eligible for mandatory expungements and expanding discretionary expungement provisions.

SB 111 restores the right to vote to most citizens once they have completed their sentence and the terms of their probation.

HB 405 keeps young people out of the system by providing law enforcement with a civil citation procedure as an alternative to arrest for first-time juvenile offenders charged with certain minor misdemeanors.

HB 211 limits the use of shackles and other physical restraints on children appearing in court.

In the coming months, one of our top priorities will be ensuring that Delaware's death penalty (which was recently ruled unconstitutional by the Delaware Supreme Court) is not rewritten. **There is no way to make this broken policy just, and it does not belong in our state.**

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH JUSTICE



This summer, DCJ has been working with the Office of Defense Services and the Delaware Law School to ensure that young people who are eligible for expungements have access to the process because a juvenile record can stand between a young person and her job, education, or housing. Through two free legal assistance clinics so far, **53 youth have started the expungement process, and 65 expungements will be funded by donations from DCJ supporters.** More free clinics will be scheduled. Thank you to all who have created fresh starts for Delaware youth!

In July, DCJ's Truancy Reduction Program launched its first annual college tour by taking students to visit the University of Delaware. One student said **"I'm gonna work harder so I can go to UD."** We will work as hard as this student does to make his dream a reality!

DCJ'S PODCAST—REMAKING "MURDERTOWN"

DCJ has partnered with Short Order Production House at Wilmington Station to produce a four-episode podcast series— **"Remaking 'Murdertown': Poverty, Punishment, and Possibility."** The podcast follows one young man, Ricky Reyes, as a case study in the roles that poverty and public policy play in Wilmington crime.

More than 10,000 people have listened to the podcast so far. The News Journal, Delaware Public Media, Technical.ly Delaware, and Delaware Liberal have all covered the podcast and its success.

140 people attended a Wrap Party for the series at World Café Live at the Queen on August 4th. Attendees were the first to hear the fourth and final episode, "Swimming Upstream," and participated in a panel discussion featuring Ricky Reyes, Lisa Minutola from the Office of Defense Services, Dr. Yasser Payne from the University of Delaware, Zach Phillips from Short Order Production House, and Corry Wright and Ashley Biden from the Delaware Center for Justice.

To listen to the podcast, visit www.dcjustice.org or search for "The Murdertown Chronicles" in your podcast app.

