

FUNDERS SUMMIT_{ON} JUSTICE REFORM

The Nation's Eyes on Rikers

A Report on Community Leader-
Identified Priorities,
Opportunities for Funders and
Key Organizing Objectives



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Summit Date: December 2017

Report Release Date: June 2018

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INTRODUCTION

In December 2017, Philanthropy New York hosted the **Funders Summit on Justice Reform: The Nation's Eyes on Rikers**, a one-day gathering of over 90 justice reform leaders in philanthropy, advocacy, research, government and academia. The convening—led by a core group of PNY members—explored the logistical, financial and political barriers to closing the Rikers Island Correctional Center and how efforts in New York City can inform both the state and national criminal justice reform dialogue.

For context, the Summit occurred eight months after The Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform (“the Lippman Commission”) released its report and Mayor Bill de Blasio publicly committed to jail closure, and over 1.5-years after JustLeadershipUSA and Katal Center for Health, Equity & Justiceof launched the #CLOSERikers campaign.

This report is divided into four sections:

PART 1

Strategic takeaways from the Summit that participants said will be crucial to successfully shuttering Rikers.

PART 2

Snapshot of the New York criminal justice **funding landscape** (based on survey participation).

PART 3

Funding strategies to support Rikers closure and address other justice reform issues, as suggested by issue area experts and funders.

PART 4

Overview of criminal justice **funding collaboration** and **Philanthropy New York's role** in facilitating coordination, moving forward.

This report attempts to capture the main ideas discussed during the Summit. It also includes related policy updates shared by participants in the months following the Summit.

The views presented here are not the views of Philanthropy New York or the Summit Planning Committee, but rather a compilation of ideas expressed by individual Summit participants and in subsequent planning sessions.

This report is presented without attribution or footnotes as participants were promised anonymity for their contributions to the discussion.

THE SUMMIT PLANNING COMMITTEE

- **Chloe Cockburn**
Open Philanthropy Project
- **Tanya Coke**
Ford Foundation
- **William Cordery**
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
- **Helena Huang**
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- **Maggie Lear**
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- **Scott Moyer**
The Jacob and Valeria Langeloth Foundation
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- **Ana Oliveira**
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- **Leticia Peguero**
Andrus Family Fund
- **Julie Peterson**
The Pinkerton Foundation
- **Prachi Patankar**
The J.M. Kaplan Fund
- **Diane Sierpina**
The Tow Foundation
- **Vivian Tseng**
William T. Grant Foundation
- **Sarah Williams**
Propel Capital

Additionally, our colleagues at the Vera Institute of Justice, Columbia Justice Lab, JustLeadershipUSA, Katal Center for Health, Equity & Justice, Center for Court Innovation, Fortune Society, and More Just NYC provided their input in the development of the Summit.

SUMMIT AGENDA

09:00– 09:30

WELCOME

Ronna Brown, Philanthropy New York
Tanya Coke, Ford Foundation
Ana Oliveira, The New York Women's Foundation

09:30 – 09:45

PHIL TALK

Vivian Nixon, College and Community Fellowship

09:45 – 10:00

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM RIKERS: THE NATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The Honorable Jonathan Lippman, former NYS
Chief Judge

10:00 – 11:15

FROM CITY HALL TO ALBANY: GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

Followed by audience Q&A.

Alphonso David, Office of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
Elizabeth Glazer, Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice
District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, The Brooklyn District
Attorney's Office
Nick Turner (moderator), Vera Institute of Justice

11:15 – 12:20

THE OUTSIDE GAME OF HOLISTIC SYSTEMS CHANGE

Followed by audience Q&A.

Khalil Cumberbatch, Fortune Society
Michael Jacobson, CUNY Institute for State and Local
Governance
Glenn Martin, JustLeadershipUSA
Tanya Coke (moderator), Ford Foundation

01:20 – 02:20

WHAT ARE FUNDERS DOING NOW ON JUSTICE REFORM?

Followed by audience Q&A.

Chloe Cockburn, Open Philanthropy Project
Emily Tow Jackson, The Tow Foundation
Kaberi Banerjee Murthy, Brooklyn Community Foundation
Leticia Peguero, Andrus Family Fund
Ana Oliveira (moderator), The New York Women's Foundation

02:20 – 03:20

FUNDER BREAKOUT SESSION

Followed by a funder discussion on tools for collaboration.

03:20 – 03:30

CLOSING COMMENTS & NEXT STEPS

Shiza Pasha, Philanthropy New York

PARTICIPATING FUNDERS

Agnes Gund Foundation
Andrus Family Fund
Brooklyn Community Foundation
Criminal Justice Initiative
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
Elias Foundation
Eugene M. Lang Foundation
Ford Foundation
Fortitude Fund
Foundation for Child Development
Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation
J.C. Flowers Foundation
Korean American Community Foundation
May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation
Meringoff Family Foundation.
New York Foundation
New York State Health Foundation
North Star Fund
Open Philanthropy Project
Pershing Square Foundation
Poses Family Foundation
Propel Capital
Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
SC Group
SeaChange Capital Partners
The Clark Foundation
The David Rockefeller Fund
The ELMA Philanthropies Services (U.S.)
The Frances Lear Foundation
The J.M. Kaplan Fund
The Jacob and Valeria Langeloth Foundation
The Joseph LeRoy and Ann C. Warner Fund
The New York Community Trust
The New York Women's Foundation
The Overbrook Foundation
The Pinkerton Foundation
The Tow Foundation
The Westchester Community Foundation
Tides
Trinity Wall Street Grants Program
Wachs Family Fund
Weissberg Foundation
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
William T. Grant Foundation

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAYS

Throughout the day, we heard from three sets of major stakeholders actively working to close Rikers: government, the advocacy community and philanthropy. All of the speakers reflected on their collective efforts and how they fit into the larger reform movement.

These are the priorities that Summit participants (which include speakers and audience members) said should be at the core of Rikers closure efforts. The general themes included here can also be applied more broadly to other criminal justice reform efforts.

Lead with Race

Closing Rikers and reimagining the criminal justice system requires centering the conversation on race.

A recent Vera Institute study reveals that even though the jail incarceration rate for African Americans declined by 20% nationally between 2005 and 2013, black people remain 3.6 times more likely to be incarcerated in local jails than white people, despite similar crime levels.*

Summit participants echoed these statistics, consistently asserting that Rikers epitomizes the institutional racism that permeates American systems. For example, they spoke to how racial profiling, “broken window” policing, the practice of tying innocence or guilt to financial means via bail and unconscious bias by court actors against people of color have all culminated in a Rikers population that is 95% people of color. In addition, the national racial gap in elected prosecutors (95% are white) has created conditions where unconscious racial bias against people of color can significantly impact case triage, bail and sentencing.

Participants also said that the racial disparity in the justice system has largely been ignored, mainly because the existing system benefits those in power. Additionally, they noted that communities of color often lack the political capital and resources to push for advocacy and reform. Participants agreed that efforts to reduce the jail population must explicitly address racial disparity to avoid creating miniature versions of the existing system.

“*Bring more community voices into every step of the policy process. The system is built to not hear those voices.*”

- **Khalil Cumberbatch**
The Fortune Society

*Mai, C., Riley, K., Subramanian, R., (2018). *Divided Justice*. Retrieved from Vera Institute of Justice Website: https://storage.googleapis.com/vera-web-assets/downloads/Publications/divided-justice-black-white-jail-incarceration/legacy_downloads/Divided-Justice-full-report.pdf

Sustain Pressure from All Sides

Recognize that efforts from both "outside" and "inside" the formal power system produced consensus for closure and will continue to be important.

Summit participants noted that Mayor de Blasio's commitment to jail closure in April 2017 followed the efforts of two complementary forces. The #CLOSErikers advocates further amplified the voices of grassroots organizers pushing for closure and provided a platform for the formerly incarcerated. The Lippman Commission— with its leadership and diverse membership— lent additional credibility to the cause and moved the inside game forward. Philanthropy played a major role in supporting both of these efforts.

Summit participants also encouragingly noted that with all major stakeholders now in agreement for Rikers closure, the main points of debate today focus on closure timeline, process and what form the new pre-trial justice system will take. Individual members of the #CLOSErikers campaign and the Lippman Commission continue to work towards Rikers closure, prioritizing the targets listed below. This is not a comprehensive list, but rather the top-of-mind items named by justice reform leaders at the Summit. It was also suggested that a central body may be valuable to coordinate these efforts, moving forward.

New Targets for Inside-Outside Game

Encourage City administration & City Council to identify jail sites, expedite ULURP*, and engage community in decision-making

Bolster upstate advocacy and push State administration and legislature to pass bold pre-trial reform, which is necessary to cut jail population to 5,000

Focus press/media coverage to keep pressure on Mayor and Governor and sustain momentum

Address NIMBY backlash through op-eds and community education & engagement

*Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) is a standardized procedure whereby applications affecting the land use of the city would be publicly reviewed.

Concentrate on Local Momentum

Amidst shifting federal landscape, position closing Rikers as a prime opportunity to model national change.

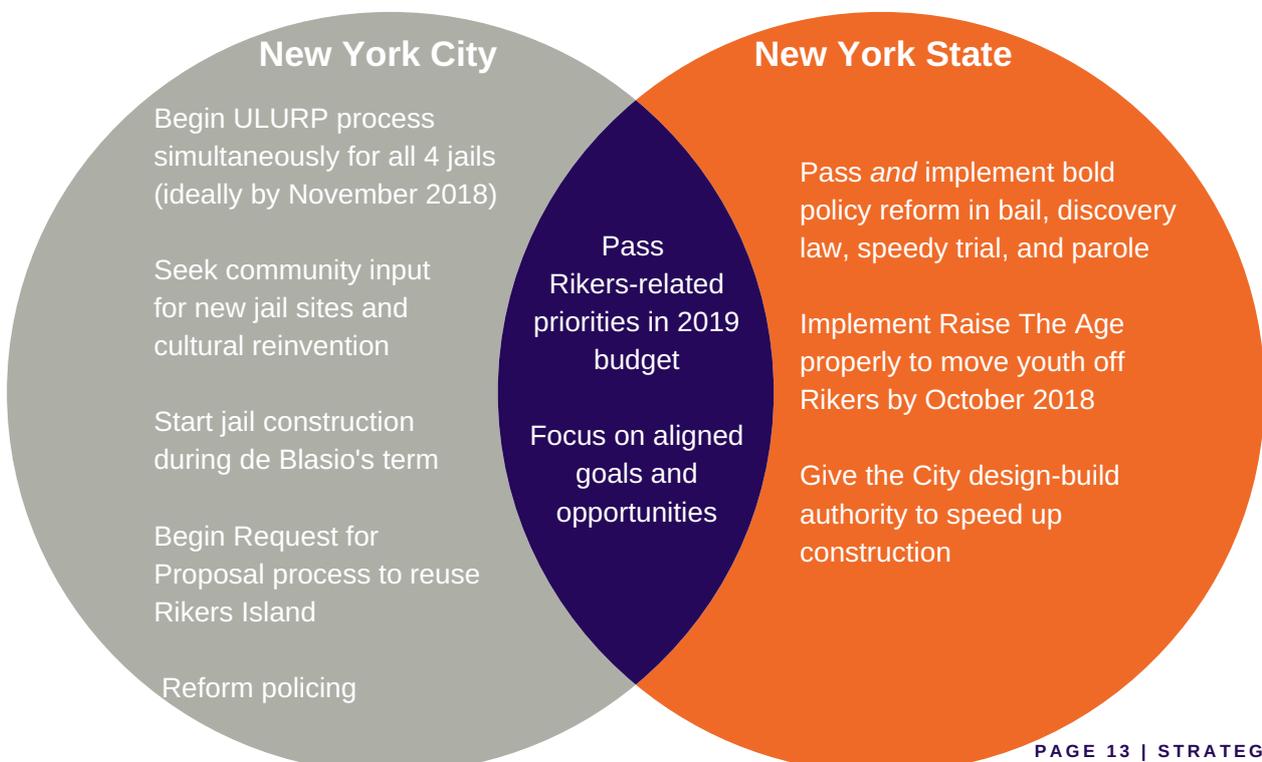
Summit participants noted that when grassroots advocates in NYC launched their efforts in 2014-2016, they were emboldened by support for justice reform in the federal administration and congress. Though the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act of 2015 ultimately did not pass, national momentum for justice reform was generated. Additionally, high profile documentaries, Kalief Browder's tragic case and a 2014 federal investigation also called national attention to a pervasive culture of violence at Rikers.

Summit participants noted that the conditions are different now. With a new federal administration in 2017 that is no longer interested in progressive justice reform, local and state government must step up, Summit participants said. Additionally, with ninety percent of the U.S. incarcerated population held in state, city, and county facilities— not federal prisons— state and local government certainly have a role to play. Moreover, emboldened by local consensus on Rikers' closure, New York has a particularly powerful opportunity to re-imagine one of America's largest and most expensive jails. Summit participants outlined the following priorities for local and state government to carry out:

“*Rikers is a stain on our soul. It is a test of our national will. We must demonstrate to the nation the values we want to represent.*”

- **The Honorable Jonathan Lippman**
Former NYS Chief Judge

City and State Government Priorities



Bridge the Upstate-Downstate Divide

Justice reform in New York will require increased understanding between upstate and downstate.

Summit participants spoke to the wide perception differences on basic justice concepts between the largely rural parts of upstate New York and the urban areas of New York City—at both the public and government leader levels. These differences translate into policy roadblocks in Albany that make closing Rikers challenging.

For example, upstate communities often benefit from the economic impact of mass incarceration. For example, upstate facilities are major employers and counties receive significant revenues from bail, fines and fees. Therefore, lawmakers are less inclined to push for reform that might negatively impact their communities. Additionally, communities not personally suffering as acutely from criminalization tend to pressure lawmakers to advocate for "tough on crime" measures. In fact, Summit participants noted that Democrats representing upstate communities do not believe that supporting justice reform is risk-free.

According to advocates, addressing the upstate-downstate divide will require:

- spotlighting long-term cost-savings associated with closing Rikers;
- partnering with unions to share how safer conditions in facilities will benefit the workforce and inmates alike; and
- humanizing the toll of incarceration by providing the platform for impacted communities to share their stories.

“We need to frame things around, not just what NYC needs, but also what Buffalo, Syracuse, and Sullivan County need.”

- gabriel Sayegh

Katal Center for Health, Equity & Justice

“Criminal justice policy is one of the hardest issues to effectively legislate because unfortunately some lawmakers and policy makers are deeply driven by fear, not facts. Public policy must be driven by data, creativity and empathy.”

- Alphonso David

Office of Governor
Andrew M. Cuomo

Implement a Cultural Overhaul

Push for cultural change in all parts of the justice system, before Rikers physically shutters.

For Rikers to truly serve as a model for national change, Summit participants said that the system needs to be rebuilt from the ground up, highlighting the following strategies.

Shift public opinion away from incarceration as the default. "Broken windows" policing, punitive school discipline, and other policies fill jail cells, damage communities and do not improve public safety.

Prevent the transfer of a culture of violence from Rikers to borough jails through comprehensive culture change, including:

- a shift in Department of Corrections philosophy from punishment to rehabilitation, along with a massive retraining of correctional staff;
- high-quality, gender and age-sensitive in-facility programming and services; and
- support for these initiatives from the Department of Corrections leadership.

Redesign borough-based facilities to meet the specific needs of women, Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming individuals and other populations. City representatives at the Summit expressed interest in blueprints that might be generated from privately financed international design competitions as they consider building borough-based jails.

Encourage prosecutors and judges to use pretrial detention far less frequently and consider alternatives to incarceration in sentencing.

“*Resources should go to engaging women and other constituencies, such as the mental health community, often overlooked in the justice system.*”

- Vivian Nixon

College and Community Fellowship

“*Prosecutors need to think about what they want to accomplish. It's not about punishing people, it's about holding them accountable. DAs need to advocate for better policies.*”

- Eric Gonzalez

Brooklyn District Attorney

Take a Closer Look at Rikers Population Data

The declining incarceration and crime rates in NYC are encouraging, but we should pay special attention to the increase in parolees reentering the system.

Summit participants noted that under the de Blasio administration, NYC's incarceration rate has decreased by 21%. In fact, NYC has the lowest incarceration rate of any large American city, attributed largely to a decrease in crime and an increase in diversion programs.* Summit participants encouragingly stated that the data disprove the common argument that a reduction in jail population will compromise public safety.

Summit participants also noted, however, that between 2014 and 2017, Rikers experienced a 15% increase in state parole violators who now comprise 8% of the jail population.* Technical violations—like stringent laws around missed curfews and meeting loved ones with system-involvement—are major drivers of this increase. For this reason, parolees often experience a trade-off between reintegrating into their communities and risking system re-entry.

Summit participants called for comprehensive parole reform that includes a culture change in how the Department of Parole is run, legislative reform at the state-level and investment in community services that help people on parole thrive.

“As the jail population declines dramatically, we need to pay attention to parolees as they are the only population that is increasing. In contrast, the number of people being held on low-level offenses is way down. At a certain point, due to these dramatic reductions, there will only be violent offenders left at Rikers, which represents its own challenges for further reductions.”

- Elizabeth Glazer

Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice

*Schiraldi, V., Arzu, J. (2018). *Less is More in New York: An Examination of the Impact of State Parole Violations on Prison and Jail Populations*. Retrieved from Columbia Justice Lab
Website: http://justicelab.iserp.columbia.edu/img/Less_is_More_in_New_York_Report_FINAL.pdf

**THE
FUNDING
LANDSCAPE**

To understand the funding priorities of Summit participants, Philanthropy New York asked participating funders to share information via a survey around the following areas:

- Estimated annual justice-related funding
- Geographic scope of funding
- Funding issue areas
- Funding strategies

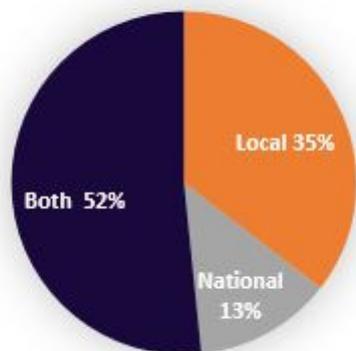
This section includes high-level highlights about the criminal justice funding landscape among Summit survey respondents (32 out of the 44 foundations in attendance completed the survey). As such, please note that this is not representative of all criminal justice-related funding.

While there are more philanthropic dollars flowing into criminal justice reform than ever before, justice-related funding still pales in comparison to other issue areas. Although it is difficult to accurately capture the exact number of dollars going into justice-related work, we can estimate, from our own tracking, that it is at least tens of millions of dollars (not including outliers such as the \$100M grant through the Art for Justice Fund). We can also estimate that a majority of this funding comprises of smaller funders giving \$2 million or less annually.

71%

of survey respondents are small local community and family foundations.

Geographic Scope of Criminal Justice-Related Funding

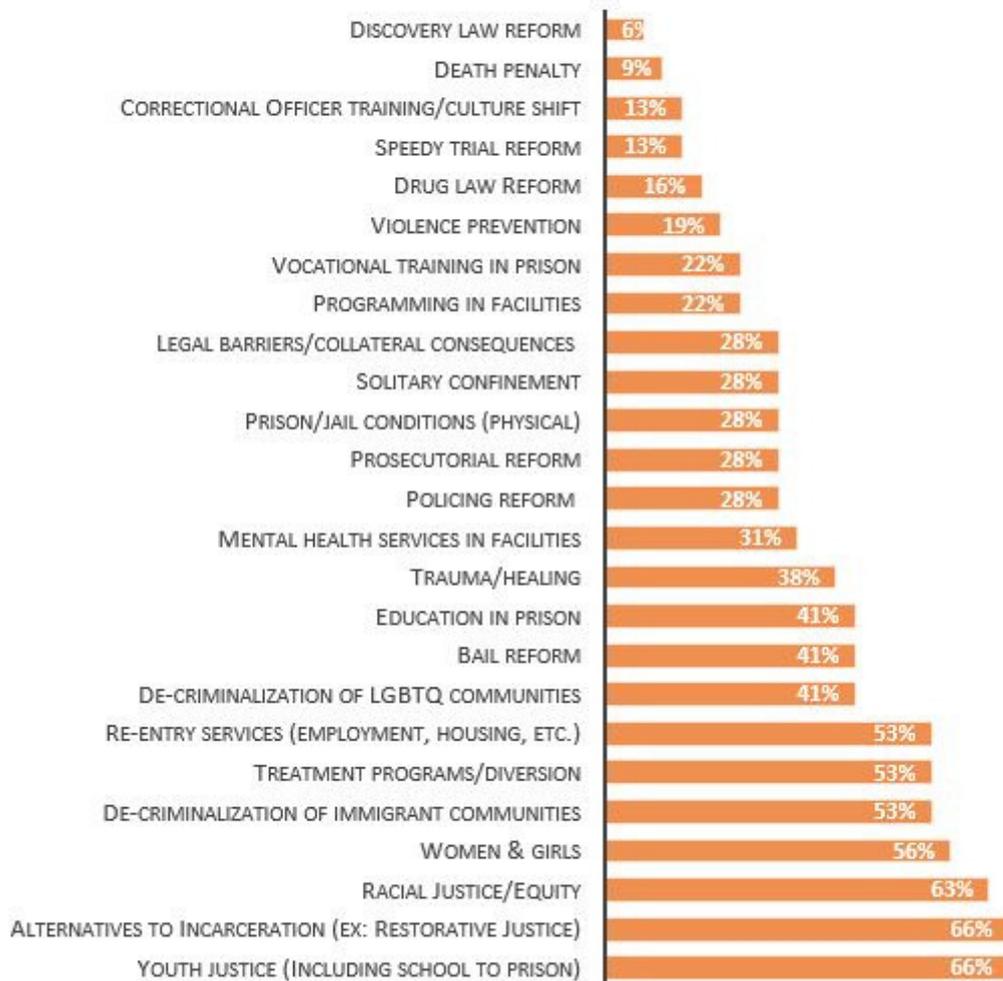


Survey results also tell us that most funders are giving locally, which, given the local nature of justice reform, bodes well for New York reform efforts. Also, funders are applying an inside-outside approach, with some focusing on working within the existing system of courts and department actors, and others seeking to overhaul the system altogether through advocacy and other strategies.

Survey Insights around Justice-Related Issue Areas

- Funders are increasingly looking at the cross-section of criminal justice reform and immigration, LGBTQ rights, women's rights, and education, etc.
- Funders are increasingly exploring racial justice/equity issues— whether through a lens or an explicit portfolio.
- While re-entry services are still receiving necessary support, there is also increased support for interventions at the community level aimed at preventing justice system interaction at the front end (through community engagement and diversion programs).
- While bail reform is receiving funding attention, other aspects of pre-trial reform—including discovery law, speedy trial, and prosecutorial reform— are not receiving comparable focus. In particular, given that a majority of the national jail population —including two-thirds of Rikers— is simply awaiting trial, it is noteworthy that only 13% of funders are supporting speedy trial reform.

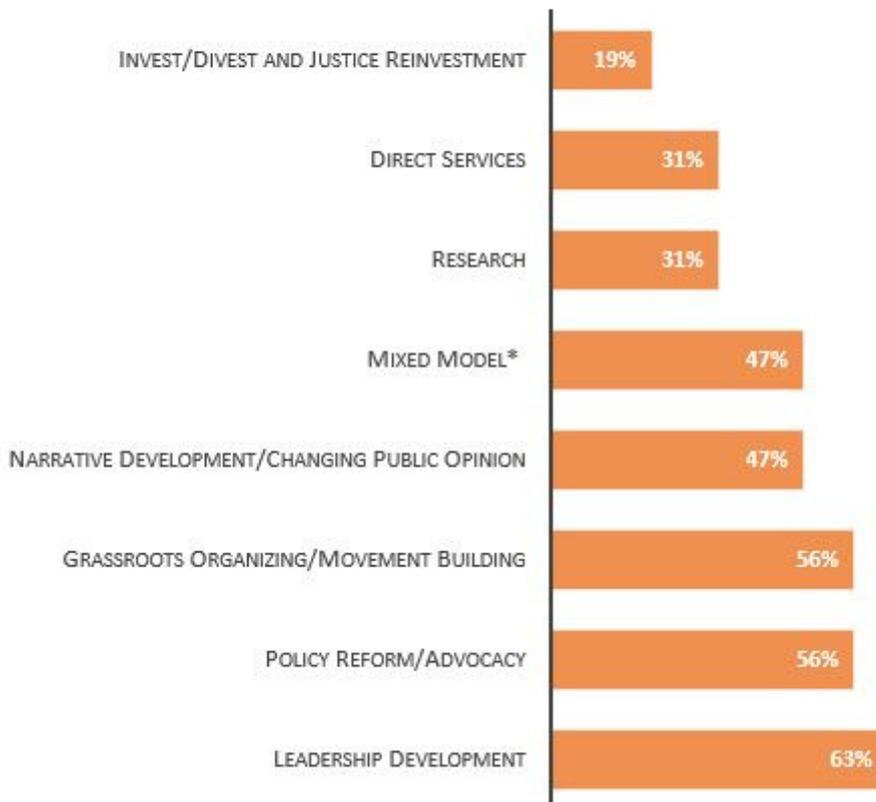
Breakdown of Criminal Justice-Related Funding by Issue Area



Survey Insights around Funding Strategies

- A majority of funders (63%) are supporting the leadership of formerly incarcerated individuals. Summit participants noted that efforts must invest in the field and not just specific individuals.
- Funders are increasingly funding advocacy and policy reform, though as previously mentioned, the focus seems to be mostly on bail reform.
- Given their interaction with communities, direct service organizations are uniquely positioned to bring community voices into the advocacy space. Many funders (47%) are seeing the value of this mixed model approach.*
- Research and data are still important, but the sector is calling for research that moves from shelves to practice via advocacy.

Breakdown of Criminal Justice-Related Funding by Strategy



* The mixed model approach builds the advocacy capacity of direct service organizations.

FUNDING STRATEGIES

The following is a list of funding strategies recommended by Summit participants. The list is neither comprehensive nor conclusive. Some strategies are specific to closing Rikers, but most can be applied to criminal justice reform funding in general.



Funders should apply an intersectional analysis to better understand and address the criminalization that immigrants, women, LGBTQ individuals, and communities of color increasingly experience.

Strategies:

- Support organizations with an intersectional analysis
- Collaborate with funders who may not have criminal justice portfolios
- Partner with community-trusted institutions (ex: CBOs, faith-based, etc.)
- Support community-centered policing reform
- Fund in-facility programming and design for the needs of a diverse population
- Fund social services such as housing to reduce recidivism



Funders should apply a racial equity lens to grantmaking. The stark racial disparity in the justice system drives inequity in employment, housing, education and vice versa.

Strategies:

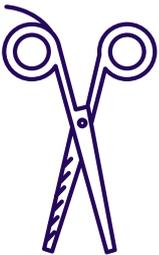
- Invest in communities of color
- Support policing reform, the decriminalization of drugs and bail reform (given their disproportionately negative impact on communities of color)
- Support research on racial disparity in the justice system
- Decrease racial gap in prosecutorial hiring and promotion



Funders should follow the lead of impacted communities who are closest to the problems and therefore the solutions.

Strategies:

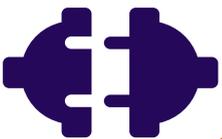
- Support grassroots organizing and "think tanks" led by people with lived experience
- Support leadership development of people with lived experience and trust innovative ideas that may not yet have proof of concepts
- Support platforms for directly impacted people to share stories
- Address trauma and support healing of impacted people



Funders should support changing the narrative that decarceration is a threat to public safety to shift public opinion to a less punitive approach.

Strategies:

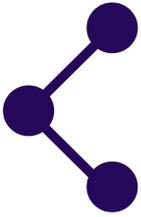
- Support local journalism and criminal justice-specific publications
- Support research on the effectiveness of Alternatives to Incarceration/diversion in maintaining public safety and share success stories of diversion cases
- Fund public influence, education, and advocacy campaigns (particularly in addressing NIMBY and jail siting issues)
- Fund communication tools for grantees to garner media coverage



Funders should collaborate around complementary strengths.

Strategies:

- Local funders can help national funders connect with local grantees
- National funders can provide national insight and resources to scale
- All funders should consider participating in an existing collaborative (see page 26) or fund connective tissue that facilitates dialogue, information-sharing or joint funding among funders



Funders should diversify beyond current grantees to ensure that power is dispersed across the reform movement.

Strategies:

- Invest in local grassroots organizations on the front line that may not have significant resources or even 501(c)3 status
- Provide capacity building grants to smaller organizations to prepare them to absorb increased funding opportunities in the future
- Fund intermediaries or organizations that can sub-grant funds to smaller grassroots organizations



Funders should support efforts that encourage justice system actors to adopt improvements. (System actors include police, prosecutors, judges, correctional officers, etc.)

Strategies:

- Support media, film and public education campaigns to shed light on current practices that need reform
- Support strategies— beyond training— to change court actors' behaviors
- Push for culture change in Department of Corrections, police departments and courts
- Provide reform-minded system actors resources to scale innovation



Funders should support prosecutorial reform. Summit participants noted that some of the most important criminal decision-makers are prosecutors.

Strategies:

- Adopt an inside-outside approach to prosecutorial reform:
 - Work inside courts to reform existing practices
 - Provide capacity for reform-minded prosecutors to scale practices
 - Funders able to fund 501(c)(4) organizations can support electing reform-minded prosecutors and targeted campaigns against prosecutors
- Support research to understand what prosecutors' offices do and why



Funders should support advocacy— both in terms of legislative reform and public influence campaigns.

Strategies:

- Support city- and state-level reform (as most criminal justice policy is made at the local and state levels)
- Support a mixed model approach (provide capacity building grants to direct service organizations to build advocacy arms) as there is power in direct services' proximity to community and their ability to capture issues and concerns
- Fund robust communication tools for grantees to garner media coverage



Funders should support research, but also try to release research that is timed with the legislative advocacy cycle so that the data and learning can move from shelf to practice.

Strategies:

- Support efforts to collect more race and ethnicity jail data
- Support research to understand the impact of criminalization and incarceration on women
- Support research on drivers and root causes of incarceration
- Support research around the economic, safety and moral arguments of community-based alternatives
- Support research design on innovative jail architecture in the U.S.
- Support research on crime prevention and community safety



Funders should support the field's communication infrastructure, which, Summit participants said, is weak particularly at the grassroots level.

Strategies:

- Support the communication capacity of local, state-level and grassroots organizations to interact with policy makers, garner media coverage and react to news/reforms with urgency
- Support film, media and the arts as communication tools
- Support local journalism and criminal justice publications to provide issue coverage
- Support opportunities for grantees to communicate with each other

**FUNDER
COLLABORATION
OPPORTUNITIES**

FUNDER COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Summit drew attendance from over 40 foundations of a variety of types, including donor advised funds, private foundations and public charities. This indicates that the justice funding landscape (at least in New York) is diverse and substantial. Many funders without designated criminal justice portfolios participated, indicating a growing interest in looking at the intersections of the criminal justice system and other issue areas.

Currently, however, there are few formal structures to support funder communication and collaboration around justice reform issues, particularly around the adult population. As such, information-sharing and collaboration is largely relegated to phone conversations and email exchanges.

Although larger national foundations are convening somewhat regularly and formally, small local foundations are frequently not at the table. This leaves a considerable amount of capital, strategic insight and added capacity outside of the convenings. Summit participants voiced the feeling that criminal justice funders should do more to coordinate efforts and be inclusive.

Our research identified these criminal justice-focused collaborative efforts:

National Affinity Groups

Funders for Justice (Sub-group of Neighborhood Funders Group): A virtual organizing space for funders, affinity groups and donor networks, to connect with each other and with movements for racial justice, gender justice, community safety and police accountability across the country. *Participation is not dependent on paid membership of Neighborhood Funders Group. Please visit <http://fundersforjustice.org/contact/> for more information on how to participate.*

Youth Justice Work Group (Sub-group of Youth Transition Funders Group): The group comprises of regional and national grantmakers who support policies, practices, programs and advocacy that promote fair, effective and age-appropriate treatment and interventions for youth involved in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Funders in the group work across the intersections of justice, education, foster care, human services, workforce development and health. *Participation is free. Please visit <http://www.ytfg.org/youth-justice-work-group/> for more information.*

Local Affinity Groups

The New York Youth Justice Initiative (NYYJI): This longstanding, independent funder group is a coalition of philanthropic organizations and donors seeking to improve the youth justice system in New York and outcomes for court-involved youth. *Please visit <https://nyjji.wordpress.com/> for more information.*

Philanthropy New York's Justice Reform Working Group (JRWG): Officially launched following the Summit detailed in this report, the JRWG is a group of Philanthropy New York members who fund in criminal justice reform or at the intersections of justice and other issue areas. The group is comprised of local and national funders who convene to share information and coordinate strategic funding. *PNY membership required to participate. Please email Michael Remaley at mremaley@philanthropynewyork.org to join or learn more.*

Collaborative Funds & Other Coordinated Philanthropic Efforts

Executives' Alliance to Expand Opportunities for Boys and Men of Color:

Working within and beyond the philanthropic sector, the Alliance seeks to leverage impact, resources and leadership, and also to coordinate investments, influence and information to improve the life outcomes of boys and men of color.

Please visit <http://bmafunders.org/alliance/> for more information.

Communities Transforming Policing Fund, housed at Borealis Philanthropy (CTPF):

The mission of CTPF is to support promising police reform advocacy in local jurisdictions in the United States. CTPF will build and strengthen the capacity of organizations to transform the way law enforcement agencies engage with local communities. The Fund will provide grants, technical assistance, organizational capacity-building, networking and leadership development opportunities to its grantees.

Please visit <https://borealisphilanthropy.org/grantmaking/communities-transforming-policing-fund/> for more information.

Black-Led Movement Fund, housed at Borealis Philanthropy (BLMF):

BLMF provides general operating support grants, organizational development support and movement building resources to organizations involved in the Movement for Black Lives.

Please visit <https://borealisphilanthropy.org/grantmaking/black-led-movement-fund/> for more information.

The Criminal Justice Initiative, housed at Solidago Foundation (CJI):

CJI's mission is to end mass criminalization and mass incarceration in the United States by building and strengthening the infrastructure of the grassroots criminal justice movement. CJI is a grant making panel comprised of donors, donor-activists and community organizers, who share authority and a passion for supporting meaningful, systemic change in the criminal justice system.

Please visit <http://www.criminaljusticeinitiative.org/> for more information.

Philanthropy New York & Justice Reform

Before the Summit

In late 2015 and early 2016, Philanthropy New York hosted several funder briefings focused on various aspects of justice reform, including efforts to end mass incarceration and fundamentally change police-community relationships.

The briefings revealed that there was a strong and growing interest in justice reform topics among a large variety of funders and that these issues seemed to be at a pivotal moment in history in which strategically deployed philanthropic resources might make a significant difference.

In response to members' interests in fostering collaboration, PNY organized its 2016 Annual Meeting "Rethinking American Justice" around these issues.

In the months that followed, PNY worked with several other local issue-based working groups to produce programs at the intersection of justice reform, health, education, immigration, housing and economic security. This included the "Ending the Criminalization of Poverty" series.

Additionally, funders were specifically interested in local reform efforts happening around the closing of Rikers. In response, PNY held a session to outline recommendations from the Lippman Commission report in addition to the Summit that is the subject of this report.

After the Summit

During the Summit, funders brainstormed barriers to collaboration as well as possible solutions. With Summit participant consensus, PNY is now moving forward the following three collaborative efforts:

1) Justice Reform Working Group (JRWG): Funders voiced the need for a space to share information with colleagues. Officially launched in February 2018, JRWG includes justice funders who have previously engaged in PNY's justice reform work and/or have a stated commitment to justice reform collaboration. The group includes funders focused on both local reform in New York, as well as national efforts. The group includes family, independent, public and community foundations. The group has expressed interest in expanding to include funders of racial justice, gender justice, education, youth, workforce development and other highly relevant funding areas.

FUNDER COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES

Currently, JRWG convenes to share the following information:

- Funding issue areas (e.g. Pre-trial reform, re-entry, policing, intersections with other issue areas etc.)
- Funding strategies (e.g. Advocacy, direct service, research, etc.)
- Grantee portfolios
- Funding opportunities
- Funding challenges
- Funding gaps
- Funding successes and failures
- Opportunities for collaboration

2) Listserv for the PNY Justice Funding Community: Funders wanted a tool to facilitate real-time communication, at a large scale.

3) Development of a New York Justice Reform Collaborative Advocacy

Strategy Blueprint: The objective of this project is to develop a “strategic framework” so that funders could consider how best to prioritize and coordinate funding to advance the closure of Rikers and related state-wide structural reforms. The project will build upon the recommendations of the Lippman Commission by holding a series of conversations with advocates and other stakeholders to identify a list of priority advocacy and technical assistance functions for the next two years.