Trip Attendees

Alex Duran

Alelur “Alex” Duran is a Program Director at Galaxy Gives overseeing its Criminal Justice Reform portfolio. He previously served as a program specialist with the Open Society Foundations supporting grant-making efforts tackling mass incarceration in the United States. His passion to dismantle systems of oppression come from having been impacted by the criminal legal system at a young age and being sentenced to 14 years in prison. He has a BA from Bard College. A lover of history, Alex grew up in the boogie-down Bronx, New York.

Allana Jackson

Allana Jackson is a partner and head of The Bridgespan Group’s Boston office, where she works both with funders of social change and nonprofit organizations. Across both client types, Allana helps develop strategies for significant scaling of impact with an emphasis on creating more equitable systems. Her experiences cover fields including: education, criminal justice reform, and youth development. With funders, Allana supports the design of philanthropic collaborations and the structuring of big bet investments. Allana earned her BA from Harvard University and her MBA from the Kellogg School of Management. A native of Atlanta, Allana currently lives in western Massachusetts with her husband and two children.
Trip Attendees

Andrea James

Andrea James is an abolitionist community organizer. She is the Founder and Executive Director of The National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls; Founder of Families for Justice as Healing; and Author of *Upper Bunkies Unite: And Other Thoughts on the Politics of Mass Incarceration*. As a former criminal defense attorney and a formerly incarcerated woman, Andrea uses her professional and personal experiences to end the incarceration of women and girls through reimagining our communities and creating infrastructures to facilitate people led, thriving neighborhoods.

Carmen Garcia

Carmen Garcia is the Executive Director at Root & Rebound. Carmen believes that her purpose in this world is to serve others. In the in-custody CHOICES PROGRAM, she learned that knowledge, opportunities & privilege is meaningful and rewarding when you pay it forward following the mantra that Each one, Teach one! We are responsible for each other; we don’t exist alone in this world! While at SFSU, Carmen worked at City College of San Francisco as a Teacher’s Assistant to Dr. Terry Day in the Psychology Department. Carmen also interned at City College of San Francisco’s Second Chance Program. In her spare time, Carmen enjoys writing children’s stories in Spanish and, most importantly, spending time with her family.
Trip Attendees

Chet Hewitt

Chet P. Hewitt is President and CEO of Sierra Health Foundation and its nonprofit intermediary, The Center at Sierra Health Foundation. At Sierra Health, Chet leads a bold collective impact strategy focused on promoting health equity and social justice in underserved communities to improve the well-being of children, youth and families. Prior to joining Sierra Health Foundation, Chet held several senior positions including Director of Alameda County’s Social Services Agency and Associate Director for the Rockefeller Foundation in New York. Chet is an Annie E. Casey Children and Families Leadership Fellow.

Chiraag Bains

Chiraag Bains served in President Biden’s White House from January 2021 to March 2023. As Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council (DPC) and Deputy Assistant to the President for Racial Justice and Equity, he drove policy development and implementation to advance public safety, gun violence prevention, and criminal justice reform. From 2018 to 2021, Bains led a national docket of voting rights litigation as the Director of Legal Strategies at Demos. From 2010 to 2017, Bains served in the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division. Previously, Bains prosecuted civil rights crimes. Bains graduated from Harvard Law School, the University of Cambridge, and Yale College.
Trip Attendees

Diana Becton

Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton has spent most of her professional career as a judge, lawyer, and manager. In 2017, she was sworn in as the 25th District Attorney for Contra Costa County. Following her appointment from the Board of Supervisors, she was elected to the position in June 2018, and re-elected in June 2022. District Attorney Becton served for 22 years as a judge in Contra Costa County. She is the first woman, the first African American, and the first person of color to serve as Contra Costa District Attorney since the office was established in 1850. She is a product of Oakland Public schools and a graduate of Golden Gate University School of Law and Pacific School of Religion, where she earned a Masters of Theological Studies. She is married and has two adult sons.

Doug Bond

Doug Bond is President and CEO of Amity Foundation. He currently oversees dozens of contracts for Amity Foundation in California, and Arizona including four residential campuses serving over 500 people with histories of criminal justice system involvement, addiction and homelessness per day. Under his direction, Amity is currently developing 300 units of permanent housing and over 200 more beds for residential services. Amity's California services have increased from serving 2,000 people to over 20,000 people a year in the last 5 years. He has helped to ensure that people with lived experience have the same opportunities he had.
Trip Attendees

James Forman Jr.

James Forman Jr. is the J. Skelly Wright Professor of Law at Yale Law School. After attending Brown University and Yale Law School, he joined the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C., where for six years he represented both juveniles and adults charged with crimes. In 1997, along with David Domenici, he started the Maya Angelou School, an alternative school for school dropouts and youth who had been arrested. Professor Forman’s scholarship focuses on schools, police, and prisons. He is particularly interested in the race and class dimensions of those institutions. Professor Forman is the author of *Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America*.

Jesse Hahnel

Jesse Hahnel serves as a Senior Program Officer at the Crankstart Foundation, where his portfolios include criminal justice, immigration, democracy and environment. Prior to Crankstart he served as Executive Director of the National Center for Youth Law, a civil rights law firm working to amplify the power of young people and advance justice through impact litigation, policy advocacy, collaboration, and research that fundamentally transform our nation's approach to education, health, immigration, foster care, and youth justice. He currently lives in Alameda, California, and is father to two children who constantly remind him of the wonder and grace in the world.
Trip Attendees

Lemlem Rijio

Lemlem Rijio is Program Officer at Crankstart, a private foundation headquartered in San Francisco, California. At UC Berkeley, Lemlem studied with internationally renowned scholars who shaped and nurtured her worldview of critically engaging with questions of environmental, social, and economic equity and sustainability. Over her professional career, Lemlem has held leadership roles with public-interest institutions dedicated to using educational, legal, and advocacy tools for social impact, including work in public broadcasting, girls and women’s rights, clinical legal education, and direct legal services.

Marva Diaz

Marva Diaz is a public affairs and government relations professional with 26 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. Marva specializes in California politics to effect change on the statewide and local levels by utilizing issue advocacy and campaign tactics. Success in this field requires equal parts finesse and tenacity, along with the wisdom to know when to use them. She's honed this wisdom serving as a leadership staffer in the California State Capitol for over 12 years, managing the political affairs program for a prominent business association, and her collaboration on the strategic planning on over 600 campaigns in multiple states ranging from internal corporate campaigns to ballot propositions to legislative campaigns.
Trip Attendees

Michael Jacobson

Michael Jacobson is the Director of CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance. Prior to joining CUNY in May 2013 to help create the Institute for State and Local Governance, Michael Jacobson was president of the Vera Institute of Justice, serving from 2005 to 2013. He is the author of *Downsizing Prisons: How to Reduce Crime and End Mass Incarceration*. Holding a Ph.D. in sociology, he has had an ongoing academic career coupled with more than 20 years of government service. From 1998 to 2005 he was a professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the Graduate Center of CUNY. He was New York City correction commissioner from 1995 to 1998 and New York City probation commissioner from 1992 to 1996.

Nancy Fishman

As Senior Director, Criminal Justice Grantmaking, Nancy is building a new portfolio of work for Schusterman Family Philanthropies that will focus on ending mass incarceration, increasing opportunities for those impacted by the criminal legal system and promoting the health and safety of all communities. Before coming to Schusterman, Nancy served as a Project Director in the Center on Sentencing and Corrections at the Vera Institute. Nancy holds B.A. and J.D. degrees from Yale University and an M.A. in Human Development and Social Policy from Northwestern University.
Trip Attendees

Ruby Qazilbash

Ruby Qazilbash is the Deputy Director for Policy at the Bureau of Justice Assistance within DOJ's Office of Justice Programs. As Deputy Director, Ruby leads a team of criminal justice experts in developing and implementing programs that meet the challenges facing today's criminal justice systems, leaders, and practitioners. BJA's Policy team interprets legislation and congressional intent for over $1.4 billion dollars of discretionary funding appropriated to BJA annually to support and strengthen state, local and tribal criminal justice systems. Ruby has been with DOJ for 19 years, with previous experience at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; Arlington County, Virginia; and the New York City Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice.

Samantha Corbin

Samantha is a political affairs and program development expert. As the CEO and founding partner of Corbin and Kaiser – a woman-owned public affairs and strategic development firm – Samantha has managed national organizational expansions, procured over $700 million in funding for education and public interest programs, and has led clients and coalitions to victory. In addition, Samantha serves as the Acting Executive Director of Safe Call Now where she leads efforts to improve support and outcomes for emergency personnel nationwide.
Trip Attendees

Teresa Younger

Teresa C. Younger is an activist, advocate, organizational strategist, and a proven leader in the philanthropic and policy sectors. Having spent over 30 years on the frontlines of some of the most critical battles for comprehensive equity and the elimination of institutionalized oppression, she now serves as the President and CEO of the Ms. Foundation for Women. She heads a 100% women of color leadership team and a staff that is over 80% women of color. Prior to joining the Ms. Foundation for Women, Younger served as the executive director of the Connecticut General Assembly's Permanent Commission on the Status of Women and as executive director of the ACLU of Connecticut — the first African American and woman to hold that position.
Impact Justice Trip Attendees

Aishatu Yusuf

Aishatu Yusuf is the Vice President of Innovation Programs at Impact Justice, where she leads a portfolio of transformational seed to scale projects including California Justice Leaders, the Homecoming Project, and Food in Prison. Aishatu has spent the majority of her career working within multiple social systems with the purpose of creating better outcomes for marginalized youth, young people, and their families. Throughout her career, she has focused on child safety, youth, and adult legal system reform, child protection, and education policy. Aishatu holds two bachelor degrees from the University of Utah and a master’s degree in public administration from Northeastern University.

Alex Busansky

Alex Busansky is President and founder of Impact Justice. Prior to forming Impact Justice, Busansky served as a prosecutor at the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office for 12 years, a trial attorney in the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division at the US Department of Justice, and counsel to Senator Russ Feingold on the US Senate Judiciary Committee. Busansky received his Juris Doctorate from the Georgetown University Law Center and Bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Impact Justice Trip Attendees

Mariana Robertson

Mariana Robertson is a Senior Projects Associate at Impact Justice. In this role, she coordinates a variety of emerging and special projects, including this trip to Finland. Prior to Impact Justice, Mariana worked at Payomet Performing Arts Center, where she helped to reinvent Payomet’s programming during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a graduate of Barnard College, a historically women’s institution, Mariana comes to her work at Impact Justice with a lifelong engagement with intersectional feminism that foregrounds her commitment to building a world where all systems of oppression are dismantled.

Michela Bowman

 Michela Bowman is Vice President and Senior Projects Advisor at Impact Justice. Drawing on decades of experience advocating for the rights of people who are incarcerated and in criminal legal system change, Michela Bowman helps guide IJ’s efforts to end mass incarceration while simultaneously improving living conditions and life outcomes for people in confinement—initiatives that range from the reform of existing correctional systems to visionary, cross disciplinary, and international collaborations. Michela joined Impact Justice in 2016 as the co-director of the National PREA Resource Center (PRC), a position she held from the PRC’s inception in 2011 until 2022. Michela has a master’s degree in Law and Society from New York University, and a law degree from NYU School of Law.
Impact Justice Trip Attendees

Kriss Goss-Marr

Kriss Goss-Marr is the Director of Leadership Programs at Impact Justice where she currently leads the California Justice Leaders and LeadOn programs. The Leadership Programs team at Impact Justice creates, builds, implements, and scales programming in California and across the country that aims to build the capacity and leadership skills of individuals that have had contact with the criminal legal system. Kriss has spent her career serving in diverse roles within nonprofit organizations and educational institutions throughout the U.S., the U.K., and Mexico.