

Mental Illness in the Prison System

People with mental illness deserve help, not a prison sentence. Unfortunately, people with mental illness are overrepresented in our jails and prisons. We need to work together to increase access to mental health care.



2 Million

times each year, people with serious mental illness sit in jail and prison.

63%

Of people with a history of mental illness do not receive treatment while incarcerated.



SOLUTIONS



Eliminate the stigma & biases towards mental illness.



Advocate for access to proper treatment and care inside the prison system.



End solitary confinement.



Stop arresting mentally ill individuals and help them find treatment.



Become involved regarding these issues.

RESOURCES

Assisted Outpatient Treatment:

Reintegration into community with treatment plan

Diversion Program:

Social workers push for psychiatric treatment, counseling, or rehabilitation courses instead of prison

Changing Lives and Changing Outcomes:

Helps prisoners learn to avoid behaviors that could lead to incarceration