

The Coalition requests \$14.226 million, a restoration of \$11.826 million and an increase of \$2.4 million, or \$200,000 for each coalition member from the New York City Council.

ABOUT THE COALITION

The New York City Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) and Reentry Coalition is composed of 12 service provider organizations with decades of experience in a broad range of alternative to detention and incarceration programs as well as re-entry services. Collectively, we serve more than 30,000 justice-involved individuals across the five boroughs every year.

Below is a description of each organization's current use of funding, as well as anticipated use of the requested \$200,000 per organization increase.

Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES) currently leverages Council funding to incorporate ATI services in CASES mental health clinic. Funding fully supports two court intake coordinators who screen and enroll clients into their Alternatives to Incarceration Assertive Community Treatment program, which serves 90 people annually.

Additional funding would be used to staff a new misdemeanor ATI court part in Manhattan, including a) an assistant team leader to ensure compliance with reporting; b) an intake clinician to liaise with the court part; and c) a navigator to assist clients.

Center for Community Alternatives (CCA) currently deploys Council funding to three essential programs: a) their youth services, which support 1,200 justice-involved youth annually through work readiness training, paid internships, and mentorship; b) Crossroads to Recovery, an OASAS-licensed outpatient ATI treatment program providing holistic substance use treatment supports to over 300 NYC residents facing incarceration each year; and c) their court mitigation services, which provide client specific mitigation reports for 50 residents, saving City taxpayers \$7.5 million each year in incarceration costs.

Additional funding would allow CCA to serve 50 additional NYC residents each year through intensive, individualized reentry services focused on employment (including internship stipends) and behavioral health.

Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) currently uses Council funding to provide immediate transitional employment, ensuring daily pay to NYC residents coming out of jails and prisons. Additionally, funding is used to invest in job readiness, training, and placement services that ensure transitional employment leads to long-term employment.

With additional funding, CEO would be able to serve 50 more individuals annually. CEO could also hire additional staff to help reduce caseloads, lessen wait time for program enrollment, and ensure every individual receives four days of transitional crew work a week and daily pay.

College and Community Fellowship (CCF) currently utilizes Council funding to provide scholarships, up to \$1,500 each year, to justice-involved women who are engaged in higher education or professional certifications that will advance their careers. Additionally, funding has allowed CCF to develop services that specifically support women returning from incarceration in developing economic independence.

With an additional \$200,000, CCF could increase financial support for participants and enroll 20 more people in their scholarship funds. For participants who are not enrolled in college but still need professional development, this new funding would provide critical direct services and new training pathways.

EAC Network uses existing Council funds to operate TASC Mental Health Diversion and Substance Use Case Management programs citywide. These funds support: a) clinical assessments to inform court diversion decisions; b) case management to coordinate treatment, monitor compliance, and report to the courts; and c) infrastructure to manage referrals, documentation, and court communications.

With an additional \$200,000 in discretionary funding, EAC Network would be able to hire two new part-time licensed clinical evaluators and two new part-time forensic case managers to help meet the demand of increasing caseloads in Queens and the Bronx. This will reduce waitlists, allow case managers to devote more concentrated time to each of their clients — thus improving outcomes and retention — and enable enhanced collaboration with the court parts. Ultimately, increased funding would allow EAC to provide approximately 100 additional clinical evaluations annually.

exalt youth currently uses Council dollars to support their core program, a 21-week internship-based model that advances court-involved young people (ages 15-19) in three areas: a) criminal justice avoidance; b) academic progression; and c) employability.

Increased funding would allow exalt to serve an additional 20 justice-involved youth by hiring a new program coordinator, supplementing stipends for participating youth through their internships, providing desperately needed mental health supports to all enrollees, and developing better reporting mechanisms to the courts.

Fortune Society currently deploys Council funding toward intake and assessment for approximately 230 NYC residents annually, connecting them to all appropriate services across the organization's service domains, including but not limited to: behavioral health counseling, substance use treatment, and employment services. This funding also provides specific support for 30 individuals receiving education and employment services through their ATI program.

Additional funding would allow Fortune to serve approximately 50 more NYC residents in one or more of these service divisions.

Greenburger Center for Social and Criminal Justice has used Council funds to support the development of Hope House, a residential ATI facility for people living with serious mental illness who have been accused of felony-level crimes and are not eligible for diversion to other programs due to the nature of their illness or alleged crime. There, mental health experts provide structured clinical care, and through collaboration with local providers, participants are connected to other social services as necessary.

Additional funding would be used for: a) hiring and providing training for new staff, including in psychosocial rehabilitation and harm reduction techniques; and b) finalizing referral and intake processes with the District Attorney offices.

Legal Action Center leads the NYC ATI and Reentry Coalition, and provides free civil legal services to over 400 justice-involved New Yorkers every year, helping them to overcome barriers and uphold their rights to jobs, housing, and healthcare. LAC uses Council funding to support this work and to also develop and improve the capacity of coalition partners to meet the specific needs of LGBTQIA+ individuals with justice involvement.

Additional funding would allow LAC to provide direct legal services to 250 additional NYC-based clients each year, particularly as the primary legal service provider for new Fair Chance for Housing cases.

Osborne Association currently utilizes Council funding to provide court mitigation services to nearly 800 people annually, preventing at least 1,411 years of incarceration and saving taxpayers an estimated \$162 million in incarceration costs. Additionally, discretionary funding allows Osborne to provide video visitation and family services for children of incarcerated parents as well as programming for older incarcerated adults, including creating transitional plans for 65 participants readying to leave Rikers Island.

Additional funding would ensure the continuation of the Bronx-Osborne Gun Accountability and Prevention (BOGAP) program, which is the first program in NYC to offer young people (ages 16–30) facing first-time gun possession charges a rigorous, yearlong alternative to incarceration. In FY24, 83% of participants successfully completed all required activities and avoided incarceration. BOGAP is urgently seeking funding following the recent termination of a federal contract which puts 25 annual program slots in jeopardy.

Urban Youth Alliance, Inc. (aka Bronx Connect) currently deploys Council funding to support a comprehensive approach to engaging young people in ATI including: enrolling and training mentors that can support youth engaged in court-mandated diversion; training for young people in legislative advocacy; and a counseling program that provides over 700 sessions to 60 youth during their mandate.

Additional funding would help Bronx Connect expand these ATI services in Staten Island through their new StatenIslandConnect office. This program already provides over 50 youth with Family Functional Therapy, and ten youth with Youth Service Coordination (YSC) services, but new funding would allow a full slate of programming to be offered, including ATIs across the island.

Women's Prison Association (WPA) currently utilizes Council dollars to deliver screening, referrals, and individualized case management services to women transitioning back to the community from Rikers Island. Specifically, funding supports: community-based reentry services; specialized support for women who have experienced sexual assault and/or domestic violence; and legal support for women engaged in the court system. Currently, this funding provides vital services for 214 women and gender non-conforming NYC residents.

Increased funding would allow WPA to serve approximately 100 more women and gender non-conforming residents annually, as well as provide for an additional staff member to manage intake and referrals.

