Bringing Light
PENNSYLVANIA PRISON SOCIETY
2018 ANNUAL REPORT
Bringing light to the inside and bringing the darkness on the inside to light

Our mission is to advocate for humane prisons and a rational approach to criminal justice.
From the Executive Director

BRINGING LIGHT TO THE DARKNESS

Almost two years ago, I was asked to take the helm of the nation’s oldest human rights organization, the Pennsylvania Prison Society. My charge from the board was to help usher this vitally important and historically significant organization into a new phase as a contemporary powerhouse for justice and compassion.

Today, we are squarely on our way. Over this past year we have realigned our programming, resources, and staffing. We have undertaken significant new partnerships and stepped into new opportunities, modernized our governance structure, freshened-up our branding, and attracted many new funders and supporters. We are on the move.

This year has also been a time for introspection. We have been asking how can we be most impactful? What does true transparency in corrections and citizen-advocacy look like in the 21st Century?

To help with this inquiry, in April, with support from the Langeloth Foundation, we hosted a summit of experts in correctional oversight to help us think through the next chapter in the Society’s history.

We don’t have all of the answers yet, but we do know that as we ongoingly refine our work and expand our impact we need to focus on:

• providing real, timely information on what is happening in all prisons across the Commonwealth;

• being responsive to complaints we receive;

• harnessing the energy and compassion of our unparalleled volunteer network; and

• amplifying our advocacy potential through partnerships with other organizations.

To help lead us on this journey, in this upcoming year we will be hiring a new Prison Monitoring Director. This new Director will be charged with blazing our trail in correctional monitoring and advocacy for the decades to come.

At the Pennsylvania Prison Society, our volunteers and staff monitor prison conditions and assist more than 79,000 incarcerated people and their families. As we say, “We bring light to the inside and the darkness on the inside to light.”

CLAIRE SHUBIK-RICHARDS
Executive Director
Pennsylvania’s prison population has increased 850% in the last 40 years.

It costs $42,000 per year to incarcerate someone in a Pennsylvania prison and $16,000 to pay for a year of college at a Pennsylvania state school.

Half of the state’s prisoners are Black, even though only 11% of the state’s population is Black.

Nearly 25% of Pennsylvania’s prisoners are awaiting trial—they haven’t been convicted of anything, they are jailed while waiting to be seen by a judge. Most are not considered a risk to society, they are simply too poor to come up with bail money.

DID YOU KNOW? The Prison Society was founded by Benjamin Rush, established in 1787.

2 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

4 PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

800+ SUPPORTERS

79,000 INDIVIDUALS INCARCERATED IN PENNSYLVANIA AND THEIR FAMILIES

OUTREACH

1,500+ requests for help fielded by staff and volunteers

10,000+ Issues of Graterfriends distributed

2,800 round trip bus rides provided to jails and prisons

252 Mentees served

115 Annual Meeting attendance
12 Foundations & Grants

Langeloth Foundation
The Barra Foundation
The Philadelphia Foundation
Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation
Edward and Helen Oppenheimer Foundation
Uber
MKM Foundation

Thomas Scattergood Foundation
Centre Gives (ie Centre County Foundation)
William K. Stewart Sr. Foundation
Djerassi Foundation
Roberts Charitable Foundation

20 Media Mentions
(in 15 media outlets)

The Philadelphia Inquirer
AP Associated Press
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The Express
ABC 27
Huntingdon Daily News
Trib Live
Star Gazette
Penn Live
The Merciad
The Intelligencer
The Philadelphia Tribune
Altoona Mirror
Newsworks
The Morning Call

SPOTLIGHT on PARTNERSHIPS

Uber | Provides transportation on behalf of the Society for elderly citizens and families with children to Philadelphia jails

Shawn Carter Foundation | Invited the Society to participate in the Made in America Cause Village and donated concert tickets

Broad Street Ministry | Partners with the Society on re-entry services including clothing closet, housing resources, access to healthcare, i.d services, mailboxes and much more

Temple University Klein College of Media and Communications | The Entrepreneurial Journalism class workshopped ways to improve Graterfriends, a Society publication that gives voice to those on the inside
For the past year, I’ve been riding Society buses every other month to see my daughter. These bus rides are such an important service for people who don’t have the resources to get to prisons that are far out. When you don’t have a lot of money, it’s easier to go on the Society bus than pay for tolls and gas and a hotel room.

Knowing that I can get to my daughter safely and affordably, takes a lot off my mind. I can’t say how important and how much comfort providing transportation brings.

These visits give me a chance to support my daughter and she knows her daddy is coming to visit no matter what. I’ll do anything to keep that promise. When we get to see each other face-to-face, I can look in her eyes to see she’s alright—that she’s walking and breathing—it’s important. But I kind of keep my emotions to myself (even though my heart is crying on the inside, but I don’t let her see it.)

It’s overwhelming for my daughter to be locked up. She’s fighting to get back home, and visits from her family give her hope that everything is going to be okay. It’s hard leaving though because I know it’s going to be a month before I see her again.

My son went with me on a recent visit. He hadn’t seen his sister since she was locked up five years ago. There were lots of tears. Seeing her again made my son understand the urgency with which she needs our support. Now he’s going to make it part of his schedule to visit.

Besides being able to see my daughter in person, visits help me understand the process of the system so I can help my daughter make it through and do what she needs to do to get home.❤️
The change in financial position for the Society over the past twelve months is immense. Increasing funds from bequests, donations and grants coupled with improved financial oversight has vastly improved our standing. The focus of budgetary meetings has gone from where to cut to which growth initiatives to fund. We are talking about the possibility of an endowment rather than deficits. We are better off now than we have been in many years! And we are not finished. Thanks to our supporters and our donors for continuing their support and consideration of the Society. We need your gifts now, more than ever, to keep the momentum going.

As much as any time in our 231 year history, our mission of working toward just and humane conditions for those detained against their will faces real and unique challenges. The Society, with an energized staff and Board, dedicated volunteers and a new and more modern infrastructure are positioned to meet those challenges and to extend our work across the Commonwealth with the help of our members and donors.”

—THOMAS INNES, Board Chair
I’m originally from New York, so when I was released from prison I didn’t have much support. I moved into a halfway house and began trying to take my next steps on my own but realized quickly that I needed help. At the time I was only able to travel within three counties in Pennsylvania, and none of them included Philadelphia.

While I was still incarcerated, I signed up for a reintegration program to find resources that were available to returning citizens. That’s when I learned about the Prison Society’s mentoring program. I decided to reach out in my time of need, and got connected with my mentor. Now, I have two jobs and am registered for school. I don’t know where I would be or what my situation would be like without the Prison Society. I don’t know for certain that I would still be unemployed, but I just don’t see it happening without them.

Having an ongoing relationship with my mentor has been just as meaningful as his help with getting a job and registering for school. We stay in touch and I know that I can call or text him at any time. My mentor went above and beyond to help me and to create a game plan tailored to my needs.

Having a network for returning citizens like myself has made a monumental impact. I have now realized that there are many resources available for people who have been in my shoes, but most do not know about them.

The Prison Society’s mentoring program helps to relay the message that although people who have been incarcerated may have some bruises and hit some bumps, they are still employable and valuable. I am so happy that I found the real deal with the Prison Society. 💚
Donors & Members

The Prison Society accepts every gift with gratitude and values all contributions for their ability to advance the mission.

We are so grateful for every gift that has come through the Society’s doors! With each contribution, you too have been a light for those who are incarcerated across the commonwealth through your commitment to the mission of the Society.

Sam Agoos
Ted Agoos
Victor Aguirre
Craig Agule
David Thomas Akers
Albion New Inmate
Visionary Organization
Etta Albright
Matthew Aldrich
Seville Ali
Lakeith Amir-Sharif
Joshua D. Anderegg
Ramel Anderson
Chris J. Anderson
Kenneth Andrews
Jeffrey Adam Ank
Peggy Anthony
Eugene B. Antley
Clifford Aponte
Michael Archacki
Janet Armour
D. Rambo Arnold
Gert Aron
Rackell Arum
Jill Aschkenasy
Barbara Auerbach
Joseph Babitt
William G. Babcock
Kyle Bagenstose
Chuck & Shirley Baily
Jerome Banks
Samuel Banks
Susan L. Barbella
Erik Barclay
Thomas Barndt
Mason Barnett
Hon. Michael J. Barrasso
Alison Barrett
Jim B. Barrett
Jeffrey Baylor
Christopher Beachy
Lewis Beatty
Joan H. Behr
Matt H. Beiler
Joel Belich
Nancy Bellafante
Robert Benchoff
Gerald Bendig, Jr.
Vernon Bennett
Angelo Betancourt
Chris Biddinger
Suzanne Blemiller
Andrew Bigelow
Russell H. Bishop
Laura Black
Marsha Black
Stephen Blakeslee
Shawn Blei
Hubert Blount
Marissa Bluestine
Michael Blume
Prof. Alfred Blumstein
Aquil Bond
Herbert Bouie
Joshua Brady
Alexander Brengle
Bradley Bridge
Lewis Brooks
Bruce Brown
Calvin Brown
Wilbur Brown
Anthony Brown
Gloria Brown
Kathleen M. Brown
Isabel McAndrews Bruhn
Lyndsey Brunell
James Bryant
Martin & Judy Buchman
Michael P. Buckley
Janet F. Burd
Allan D. Buyna
Melody Byrd
Ruth Calby
Clay Caldwell
Michael Cantor
Norman Carder
Carlisle Quaker Meeting
Eileen Carpenter
Allen W. Carr
Randy Carter
Lisa Carter
Daniel Carter
William Case
Rita Caufield
Garrett Cessna
Chadi Youssef Chehade
Cherron
Alexia Chororos
William Christian
Church Communities NY
Danielle Ciani
Robert Cicchinelli
Kathleen Clark
Alden Clark
Rev. Harrod Clay, Jr.
Latese Clinton
Yvonne Cloud
Brie Coellner
Anita Colon
William Colon
Jennifer Ray Colon
Phillip Colton
William Coneghen, Jr.
Martha R. Conley
Jennifer Conley
James Connor
Steven Cooper
Benny Cooper
Tim A. Copenhaver
Corizon Health, Inc.
Eric Corson
Ruth Cosand
Douglas & Laurel Costa
Christopher Covington
James Crager
Jose Cruz
Daniel Cummings
Clarence Cummings
Michael & Cynthia Dahl
Todd Dailey
Kristin Daly-Barnes
Craig P. DATESMAN
Kimberly Davidson
Troy Davis
Amanda Davis
Ernest Davis
Mark Davis
Jerad Davis
Michael Deblin
Marilyn Debroleski
Judith Dederick
Jeff Deeter
Anthony DeFazio
Denise DeGeorge
Edwin E. DeJesus
Delaware Investments
Carida H. Delgado
Sarah Lynn Delp
Rodney Derrickson
Mary Desmone
Cynthia DeVries
Howard William DeWeese
Danielle DiCianni
Sharon M. Dietrich
Dorothea E. DiGiovanni
A. Shirley Dinger
Hon. Ramy I. Djerassi
Gregory J. Dober
Peg Dobrinska
Mark R. Dodds
Michael Donohue
Jack T. Donson
Judith Dooley
Adam Doublerby
Emily Dowdall
Kevin Brian Dowling
Marc C. Draper
Michael Drawbaugh
Paul Drosch
John Duffy
Marty Dunbar
Benjamin Dunlop
Dawn Durain
George Durham
Joseph Dyson
Carolyn D. Eberhardt
Mary C. Eberly
Teniola Egbe
Larry Eichel
Jillian Eidson
David B. Eller
Sister Janice M. Etchison
David Evanko
Gordon Everett
Walter & Nancy Everett
Susan M. Fagnani
Nancy Fariss
Michael Fende
Erin L. Fennell
DelRobyn Fenty
Elek Fenyes
Nan Feyler
Lois H. Fischbeck
Katherine Fisher
Demetrius L. Florentino
Terrell Floyd
Janet & Anthony Foderaro
Leroy Fohner
Jeremy Fontanez
Sylvia Forman
Patricia Forr
Jason Fox
LuAnne Fox
Michael Fox
Steven Frederick
Robert Fried
Isla A. Fruchter
Stephen Fuegi
Erik Fulk
Ernest Fuller
Elizabeth A. Fuller
James T. Funk
Larry Futrell
John A. Gallery
Diego Gararra
Mayuri Ganupuru
Lafaye Gaskins
Joan Gauker
Lawrence H. Geller
Sheri Gentekos
Evan Gentry
Hon. Michael A. George
Gregory Gerace
Mary M. Gergen
Eugenia Gernert
Elizabeth Geyer
Rosemary L. Gido
Stephanie Gill
Anthony Gillard
Amy Gipe
Karen Goyal
Ken Glowancia
Monique Goings
Joan & William Goldstein
Bruce Goldy
Miguel Gonzalez
Virginia L. Good
Trevor Goodyear
Sean Gordinie
Marie Gottschalk
Edmundo & Elena Grab
Bernard Granor
Marshall & Tamar Granor
Graterford Inmate
General Welfare Fund
Janet Gratz
Sherman Gratz
Grayfred Gray
Gary Green
David Anthony
Greenbaum
Ellen Greenlee
Jamie Lynn Greger
William Griffin
Raymond Grimes
John D. Grove
Robert R. Gutowski
Kirk Hagelston
Eric Hall
Courtney S. Harding
Holly Harner
M. Kay Harris
Lorenzo Harris
Harrisburg Monthly Meeting
Gladys R. Hart
Marsha F. Hartman
Michael Hartman
Ricky Minn Hartman
Steven J. Hartz
Peggy Hartzell
Bruce Haskins
Haverford College
Eric Heath
Bruce Herdman
Anthony Heriza
Benjamin Herman
Ronald Hershey
Heather Hess
Shawn Hesse
Terrance Heyward
Charles Hicks
Rebecca Hillyer
Richard Hilton
Joette Hoffman
Donald Hofler
Melanie Holland
Richard Hollihan, Jr.
Larry Holman
Evelena M. Holmes
Patrick Horan
Sylvia Horst
Ronald Hostetter
Keith Howard
David Howell
Robert M. Hughes
Cheryl Humes
Joe Hussmann
Shariff Ingram
Ruby Ingram
Thomas Innes
Richard Iovanna
Janet Irons
Lenora S. Irwin
Kenneth Jackson
Gary L. Jackson
Christine M. Jackson
Wayne James
Brooke Jaron
Clifford Jenkins
Freddie Jenkins
Robert L. Jennings
Alan Johnson
Sarah Johnson
Justin Johnson
Dorothy Johnson-Speight
Norman Johnston
Charles T. Jones
Donald Cecil Jones
Thomas Joseph
Justice & Mercy
Colton Kaiser
Melissa Kapadia-Bodi
Clifford Karolaski
Harriet Kaylor
H. Mark Keintz
Jason Keiser
Bruce Kelemen
Kerby K. Keller
Dana Kelley
Kellogg Estate
Maryann Kelly
John Kenstowicz
Kenneth E. Kerle
John Killeen
Aaron King
Josh Kinner
Deborah Klehr
Heidi K. Klop
John Louis Knapich
Matt Knetzer
Abigail Kokitus
Magda Konieczna
Gayl Koster
Lindsay Kowalski
Vicki W. Kramer
Clarence E. Kreider
Gary Kretchmar
Billy Krszal
Hon. Stewart L. Kurtz
Darlene Kvaternik
Norman Lacasse
Eric & Janet Lambert
Cory Lambing
Janet & Joseph Landis
Kenneth Lane
Donna A. Lane
William R. Lang
John Larkins
Derrick Lawrence
Timothy Lawrence
Hon. John B. Leete
Daniel Lefiar
Theresa Leipzig
Jeremy Leipzig
DONORS

Jacklyn R. Leitzel
Marsha Levick
Hon. Stephen E. Levin
Anthony Lewis
Alison M. Lewis
Carolyn Lidston
John A. Linder
Jason Liverpool
William Lockard
Craig Long
Christian Longo
Joel Lopez-Campos
Angus R. Love
Carol Love
David Lowe
Kimberly Lucas
Robert Lutz
Emanuel Lybrand
Bonnie Lyn Heist
Elsie MacCullagh
Edward Madeira
Dillon Mahoney
Orlando Maisonet
Marcia Makadon
Joseph Malcomb
Mario D Maldonado
Jacob Malikkal
John Maltese
Susan Mangold
Joseph Manzi
Susan Maple
Jerome Marshall
Linda & Vernon Martin
Lance Masse
Ben Mattison
Gerald Mawhinney
David Mayberry
Sheila Mayne
Sally A. McCabe
Carole McCallum
Michael J. McCaney
Paul McCauley
Edgar McClure
Damon McCool
Deonte McDowell
Chris McDowell
Robert McFarlane
Darrell A. McKelvie
Mary Jane McKenna
Callie McKean
Patricia McKernan
James P. McKinley
Mary L. McNichol
Joseph McParland
Irene Mehnert
Joan Mejia
Ellen D. Melchiondo
Paul Memmo
Mark & Jane Mendlow
Morgan Mengel
Stanley Merves
Robert N. Messersmith
Sylvia L. Metzler
Julia Meyer
James Midkiff
Damien Mikell
David L. Miller
James Miller
Kelly Miller
John P. Minarik
William J. Mitchell
Rebecca G. Mitchell
Frank Mitulski
Miguel Molina
Mariah Montgomery
Pamela Moore
Zachary Morris
Jean & Walton Moyer
Elaine Moyer
Abdullah Muhammad
Bruce Murray
Bettye M. Musham
Anna & Roy Musselman
Laurence J. Mutti
Karl Myers
Andre Myers
Jack H. Nagel
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Frada Newman
Ryan Noel
Carolyn & Thomas Nolan
Kathleen Noonan
Lona B. Norris
Bruce Norris
Mark Norton
Orville W. Nyblade
Joseph O’Boyle
Mark O’Connell
Walter Ogrod
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Harry Oxman
Ronald Page
Dean Palmer
Kimberly Pander
Roger Parker
Stephen Parker
Carol E. Parsons
James Patterson
Lauren Paulson
Allen Perry
Joseph Perry
Jeffrey Persavage
Walter J. Peterson
Michael Peticca
Carol & Peter Petraitis
Shirley Pfadt
Gail E. Phelps
Audra Picciano
William H. Pierce
Dexter Pitts
Edward S. Platel
Joan L. Porter
Nancy R. Posel
Ernest Potts
Kimberly Prendergast
Barbara Pressman
Marvin Price
Steven Printz
Q. & K. Sturm Char Rem Unit Trust
Cletus Qivera
John P. Ralph
John L. Rauch
Jessica H. Raymond
Jeanette Raymond
Julie Read
Robert Redding
Joan Reese
Roger Reister
Steven Reph
Residents Betterment Organization
Michael A. Rester
Thomas Resuta
Grahame P. Richards
Carol Richardson
Nahbeel Richardson
David Richman
Kayleigh Rider
Leonard Rieser
Martina Risch
Jerry Ritchey
Barbara Rittenhouse
Noemi Rivera
Delores Rivers
Anwar Rizvi
Sousan T. Robinson
Carolyn M. Robinson
Larry Rodriguez
Jose N. Rodriguez
Cory Rogers
Philip Rogers
Johanna Rosen
Kelvin Rosen
Lawrence A. Rosenberg
Stan Rosenthal
Allen Ross
James Ross
Barbara Rottenberg
Carolyn W. Rudnitsky
Rick Rupar
John Rush
Bernie Ryan
Carl Sachette
Mohammad Saleem
Salford Mennonite Church
Adam Michael Robert
Sanson
Jason Sant
Robert Saunders
Edward Savka
Marianne Sawicki
Jeffrey Saxberg
Jean Saxon
Ellen B. Scales
Hon. Eugene F. Scanlon
Gustave Scheerbaum
Judith Scheffler
Phoebe J. Schellenberg
Suzanne Schiller
Paul & June Schlueter
George Michael Schmidt
Michelle Schmit
Marilyn J. Schneider
Kris Schwartz
SCI Craterford
SCI Huntingdon Library
Donald Scott
Michael McCoy Seaman
Bryan Sedlak
Nina Segre
Elif Sen
Elizabeth P. Shay
Charles Sheppard
Norvell Sherrard
Betty Sherman
Claire Shubik-Richards
Reginald T. Shuford
Earl E. Shutt
The Pennsylvania Prison Society is unique because of our special donors and supporters who walk this journey with us day in, day out. Our spotlight donor is an incredible member of this group and a dear friend to the Society. Michael Buckley has been a generous philanthropist and passionate partner from whom we have greatly benefited. From his support in communications and community engagement to merging our mission with arts and theatre, Michael continues to advocate for humane prisons and a rational approach to criminal justice. Thank you Michael for bringing your light to us. We are deeply grateful for community members such as Michael and would not be where we are without them.
I’ve been meeting regularly with Matthew, an inmate at Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility since May 2018. He has been held in administrative segregation for over a year, prohibiting him from having any in-person visits. The exception, of course, is our Society Official Visitors, like myself.

What originally was a general visit concerning a medical concern has turned into a deeper, meaningful relationship. We meet once a week, sometimes for over an hour, to talk about whatever Matthew would like—sometimes it’s current events, other times it’s about how Matthew is feeling. We have recently begun reading a book on non-violent communication and he is beginning to understand that he actually can have some power over his situation no matter how dire and miserable the circumstances.

These visits, Matthew recently shared, have become the highlight of his week. Unable to have in-person visits with family, I am his window into the outside world, an opportunity to speak with someone whose sole responsibility is to help and be a listening ear. I regularly check-in with Matthew’s family to share updates on him and vice-versa. Recently, the family shared with me a photo of Matthew’s son, who participated in our recent back-to-school drive, shopping at Walmart. Matthew was ecstatic to see the photo, as he hadn’t seen his son since being put in segregation.

This work, as Matthew mentioned in a recent letter, is useful for him. But I’d also like to think that this work is useful for Philadelphia as a whole. ♥
Staff & Leadership

STAFF

Claire Shubik-Richards
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
cshubik@prisonsociety.org

John Hargreaves
VOLUNTEER DIRECTOR
jhargreaves@prisonsociety.org

Jennifer Sozio
FINANCE & OPERATIONS MANAGER
jsozio@prisonsociety.org

Natalie Jenkins
COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE
njenkins@prisonsociety.org

Joseph Robinson
MENTORING ASSOCIATE
jrobinson@prisonsociety.org

Hannah Snyder
ADMINISTRATIVE & CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE
hsnyder@prisonsociety.org

The Prison Society Staff.
“What people don’t realize about those on the inside is that there is someone on the outside there with them.”
—JOANNE, Bus Rider

“Official Visits make me feel human and help me stay connected to the outside world.”
—BRIAN, Returning Citizen

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Thomas J. Innes III, Esq.**
**PRESIDENT**
Attorney, Defender Association of Philadelphia

**Nan Feyler, JD, MPH**
**VICE PRESIDENT**
Stoneleigh Fellow

**Chris Covington, CFA**
**TREASURER**
Principal, HighVista Strategies

**Carol Petraitis**
**SECRETARY**
Former Director of the Clara Bell Duvall Reproductive Freedom Project of the ACLU of Pennsylvania

**Robert A. Cicchinelli**
Independent Contractor, Electrical Technology

**Malik Neal**
Research Associate, The Adams Group

**David Davis**
Managing Director, Accenture

**Simeon Poles**
Associate, Duane Morris

**H. William DeWeese**
Lobbyist and Political Consultant

**Joan Porter**
Official Visitor, Prison Society

**Rebecca Hillyer**
Partner, Morgan Lewis

**David Thornburgh**
President and CEO, Committee of Seventy

**Angus R. Love, Esq.**
Executive Director, Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project

**Jerome Walsh**
Former Superintendent, SCI Dallas

**Michael J. McCaney, Jr., Esq.**
Attorney at Law

**Seth Williams**
Senior Managing Consultant, Public Financial Management