

CALL FOR LETTERS CAMPAIGN

We invite you to participate in a national push to increase support for higher education in prison. The impact of higher education in prison on human beings can be best explained by those who have the lived experience of incarceration. As you know, it is well documented that offering higher educational opportunities in prison improves the overall culture of facilities as well as the lives of those returning to society. To build support for higher education in prison, we need to hear from you! We ask one important question: What are the benefits of higher education in prison?

This initiative has many stakeholders who are dedicated, concerned, and driven to bring back the federal grants so incarcerated human beings can have access to higher education in prison. However, you should know that of all the stakeholders, this campaign is being spearheaded by individuals “just like you” from all over the country that have spent significant amounts of time locked away and have been able to transform ourselves, families, and communities through higher education. We have taken our lived experience in college classrooms in prisons and come out as teachers, directors of organizations, community organizers, and business leaders, but nothing has been more rewarding than being able to impact the lives of those most dear to us, our families, by becoming better sons and daughters, better parents, better siblings, better spouses, and better advocates, working to support our family members and friends that are incarcerated. You are not alone, and the person closest to the problem has to be involved with the solution.

To contribute, please write and share your perspective and experience with college programming in prisons or your dream to have access to college in prison. Letters will be published online in part or whole and shared publicly with legislators to increase support for higher education in prison.

Campaign Organizer:

This project is led by Opportunity 2 Restore, a non-profit organization that works to advance policies to increase educational opportunities for those who are formerly and currently incarcerated.

Timeline:

Letters will be accepted on an on-going basis, but we would like to start receiving letters as soon as possible.

Please mail letter to the following address:

**Opportunity 2 Restore
P.O. Box 531712
New Orleans, LA 70156**

CALL FOR LETTERS

Cover Form

(Please complete and return with your letter)

**** NOTE**** Your name is your choice - On your letter, write the name you wish to appear for readers; this can be your full name, first name only, or chosen name if you wish to remain anonymous - this is the name readers will see

Writers Name: _____

DIN# (Optional)

Facility: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

AGE: _____

Gender: (circle all that apply) Male | Female | Transgender | Gender Non-Conforming

Your Community Before Incarceration

(The purpose is to identify communities that are impacted by incarceration)

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Note: Your street/block address is fine - you do not need to note your house or apartment number)

Address: _____

CONSENT

Actual Name: _____

Check all that apply:

_____ I do not want to receive any mail or any other response from a reader

_____ I only want my Writer's name to be associated with this Call for Letters Initiative

_____ I would like for readers to know who I am (real name)

_____ I would like for readers to know what facility I am at

_____ I am okay with readers, such as congresswomen/congressmen or staff responding directly to me

Signature of the Participant: _____