



**Addiction & Health Equity and Criminal & Juvenile Justice Programs
Request for Proposals
Preventing and Decreasing Incarceration and Overdose Among
Populations Most at Risk for COVID-19**

Summary: Individuals who use drugs and/or are incarcerated are in the crosshairs of the current COVID-19 epidemic. Given the high potential of pre-existing conditions related to substance use; of the health risks associated with current or recent incarceration; the prevalence of food and housing insecurity in several Baltimore communities; the lack of health care; and the heightened risk of fatal overdose that comes with social and physical distancing; this is a particularly vulnerable time for people who use drugs or are justice-involved. OSI-Baltimore is seeking to provide rapid response funding to organizations that are working to address these risks. Similarly, people who are formerly incarcerated or who use drugs are at a heightened risk to be left out or pushed out of the formal economy at this time—putting them at further risk for incarceration or overdose.

Goals: This rapid response RFP is focused on achieving several key goals:

- Reducing the number of people subject to incarceration (e.g. reducing policing, migrant and other enforcement or prosecutions);
- Getting (and keeping) people out of jails, prisons, and detention centers (e.g. releasing people with pre-existing conditions or who are immunocompromised, over a certain age and those who pose no risk to public safety and providing community based services to those at high risk for criminal justice system involvement);
- Supporting people who are being released from incarceration because of COVID-19, and decreasing the risk of future incarceration (e.g. testing, cash assistance, benefits connection, harm reduction services and distribution of supplies, assistance identifying alternative housing);
- Advocating for and providing connections to primary and behavioral health care, case management or harm reduction services for individuals who are disconnected from the health care system to address health conditions that might create higher risk for contracting COVID-19 or be associated with more severe outcomes from contracting the virus.

Eligibility: Eligible organizations will be 501(c)3 or 501(c)4 organizations doing advocacy for, or providing direct services to, incarcerated populations or individuals at high risk for incarceration and people who use drugs. Organizations without independent nonprofit status will be considered only if there is an existing fiscal sponsor relationship, as these funds are intended for rapid disbursement.

Amount: Proposals will be considered for awards of up to \$50,000.

Deadline: May 8, 2020, but we will begin reviewing proposals as early as May 1.

Contact: Inquiries and concerns should be directed to Scott Nolen (scott.nolen@opensocietyfoundations.org) or Tara Huffman (tara.huffman@opensocietyfoundations.org). Applications should be emailed in an attachment that is renamed "{Insert Organization Name} COVID RFP". To ensure that the application is properly identified, please use the same in the subject line of the email.

**Preventing and Decreasing Incarceration and Overdose Among
Populations Most at Risk for COVID-19**

Organization Name
Name of Fiscal Sponsor (if used):
Contact Name: Email: Phone:
Requested Amount:
Timeline (start and end date):
Project Overview (1 paragraph):
Project Goals (3-4 sentences):
Anticipated barriers to success:

Scope of Work (600 word maximum):