



Strengthening the College-DOC Connection: Advocating for Quality Programs

Jobs for the Future

JFF Common Ground Session Track | October 2024

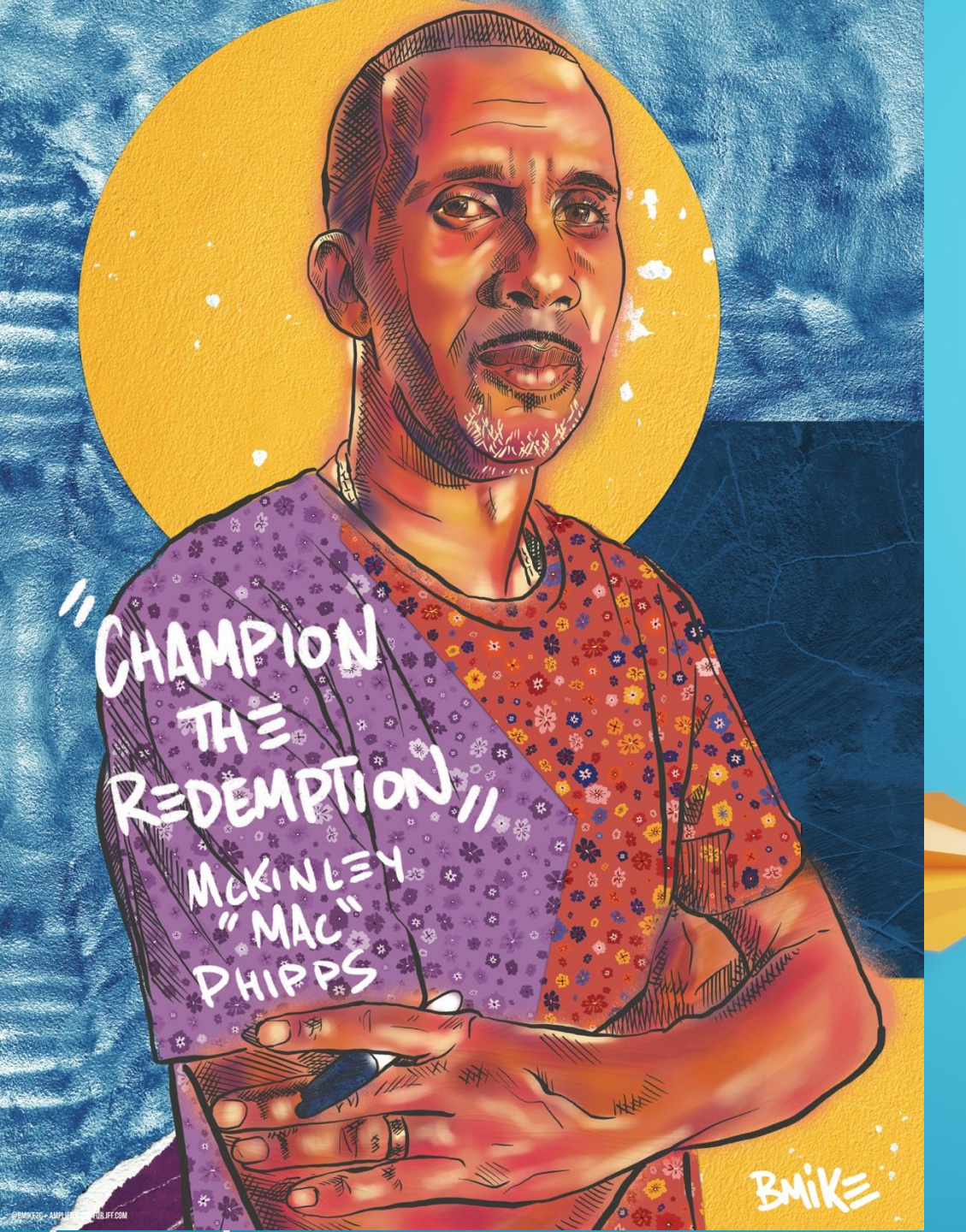
Day 2: JFF Session Track

10:30 A.M. – 11:15 A.M. | Strengthening the College-DOC Connection: Advocating for Quality Programs

We'll share JFF's perspective and advice based on our experience supporting these partnerships and tap into the expertise in the room to explore additional advice, ideas, and questions.

11:30 A.M. – 12:15 P.M. | Collaborative Reentry Solutions

We'll share a summary of the key learning and takeaways from the conversations on Day 1 and explore opportunities to enhance reentry supports in Wisconsin.



Our work is grounded in our vision, mission, and North Star.

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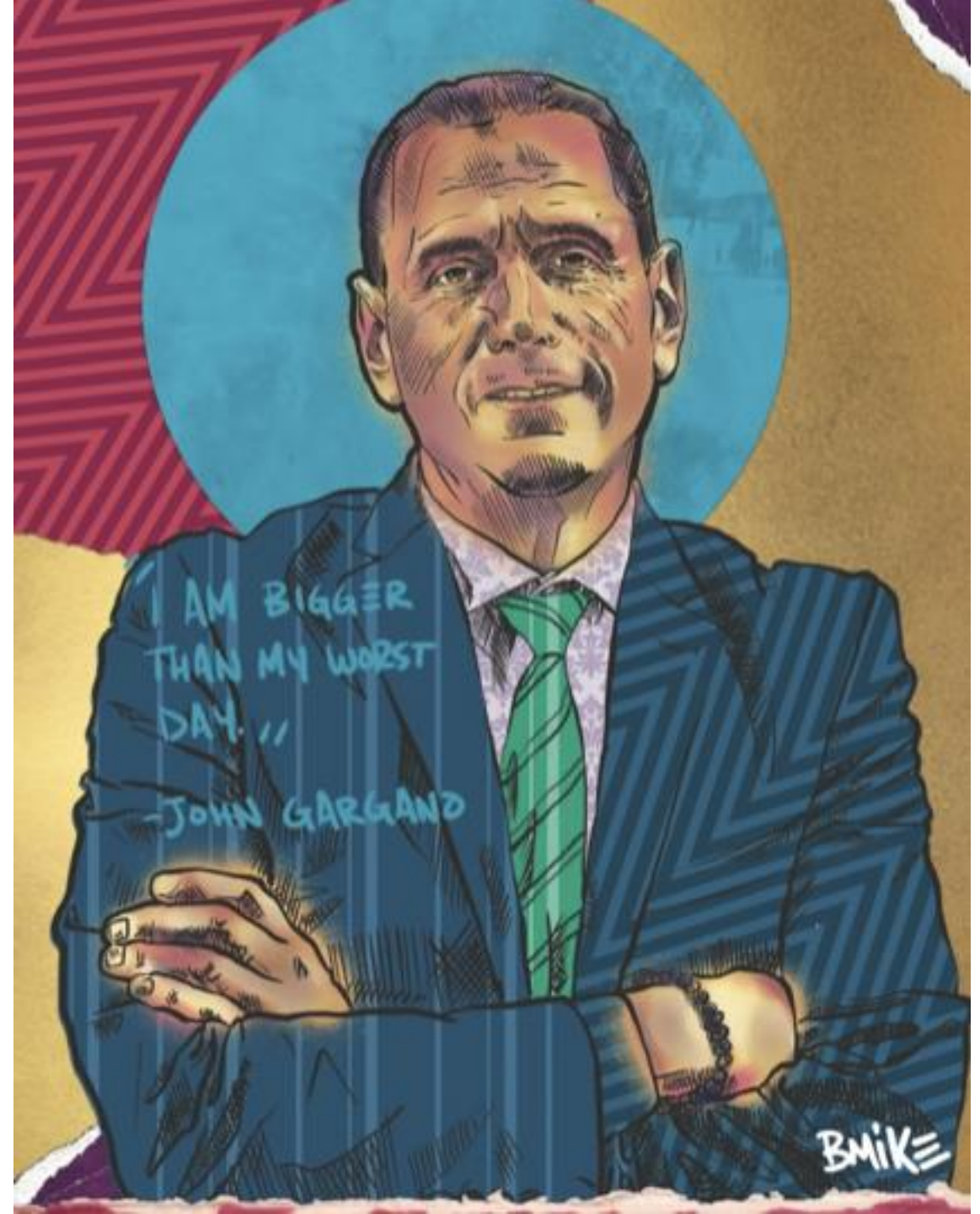
The specific change we want to see in the world and what we're working towards.

By 2033,

75 million people facing systemic barriers to advancement work in quality jobs.

Center for Justice & Economic Advancement

Break down **systemic barriers** that indefinitely penalize people with records to create **enabling conditions for advancement to quality jobs.**



CJEA Impact Areas



**Talent
Development**



**Employer
Change**



**Policy &
Systems
Change**

Research & Evaluation

Narrative Change & Advocacy



Key Partners

People With Lived Experience

State Leaders and Policymakers

Departments of Corrections

Education & Workforce Training Providers

Employers & Industry Organizations

Workforce Development Agencies & Boards

Reentry Service Providers & Community Organizations

Fair Chance to Advance

Jobs for the Future's Fair Chance to Advance initiative brings together leaders of educational and corrections systems, policymakers, and employers to transform state systems and remove barriers that limit economic advancement opportunities for people with records of arrest, conviction, or incarceration. Our mission is to create an ecosystem that enables the change needed to expand pathways to quality jobs while boosting states' economies.



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JFF's Advice

Large Group Discussion



ICYMI: Pell Reinstatement

On July 1, 2023, the federal Pell Grant once again became available for students who are incarcerated after a nearly 30-year hiatus.



*But prisons were not
designed to be colleges...*

*and DOC leaders committed
to expanding postsecondary
education in facilities face
really difficult decisions.*



Strengthening the College-DOC Connection

If you are just getting
started...

1. Learn as much as you can about the existing PEP landscape in your state, including:
 - PEP programs already operating and in which facilities
 - Landscape of student academic support services available or missing
 - Your DOC's federal PEP Application Process
2. Start building relationships with other DOC/college partners

Strengthening the College-DOC Connection

If you know the PEP
landscape and are ready to
assess and explore other
pathways...

1. Leverage labor market
information as a valuable starting
point for partner conversations

LMI Data Sources



Note: Data from vendors typically require an annual subscription; however, state labor market agencies often provide free customized data pulls for stakeholders in the state.



Q electrician Go

Biologists 19-1029.04

Updated 2024

Research or study basic principles of plant and animal life, such as origin, relationship, development, anatomy, and functions.

Sample of reported job titles: Aquatic Biologist, Aquatic Scientist, Biological Scientist, Biologist, Botanist, Horticulturist, Marine Biologist, Research Biologist, Research Scientist, Scientist

Summary Details Custom Easy Read Veterans Español

Contents

Occupation-Specific Information

Tasks

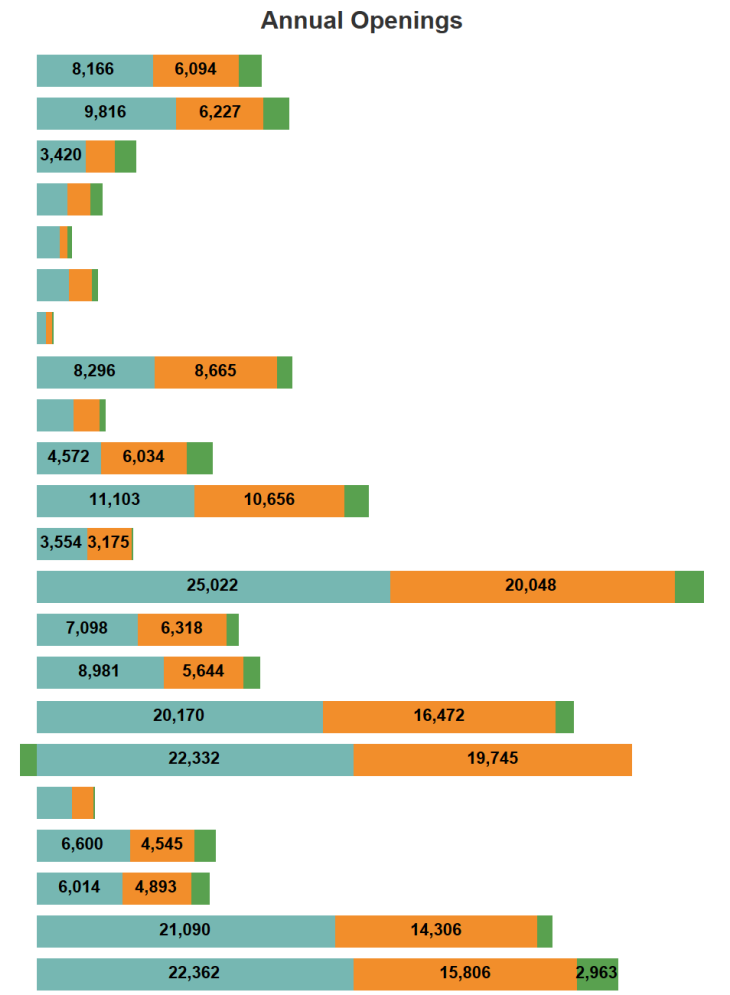
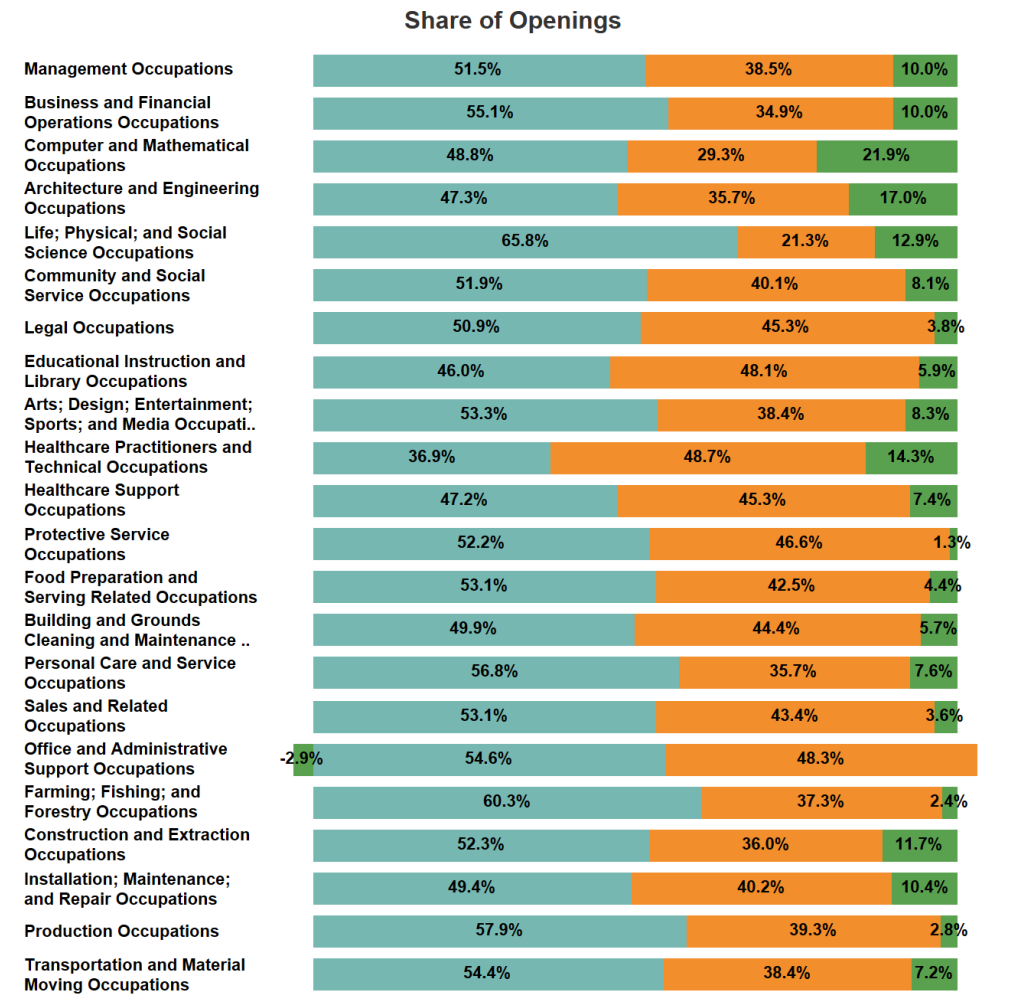
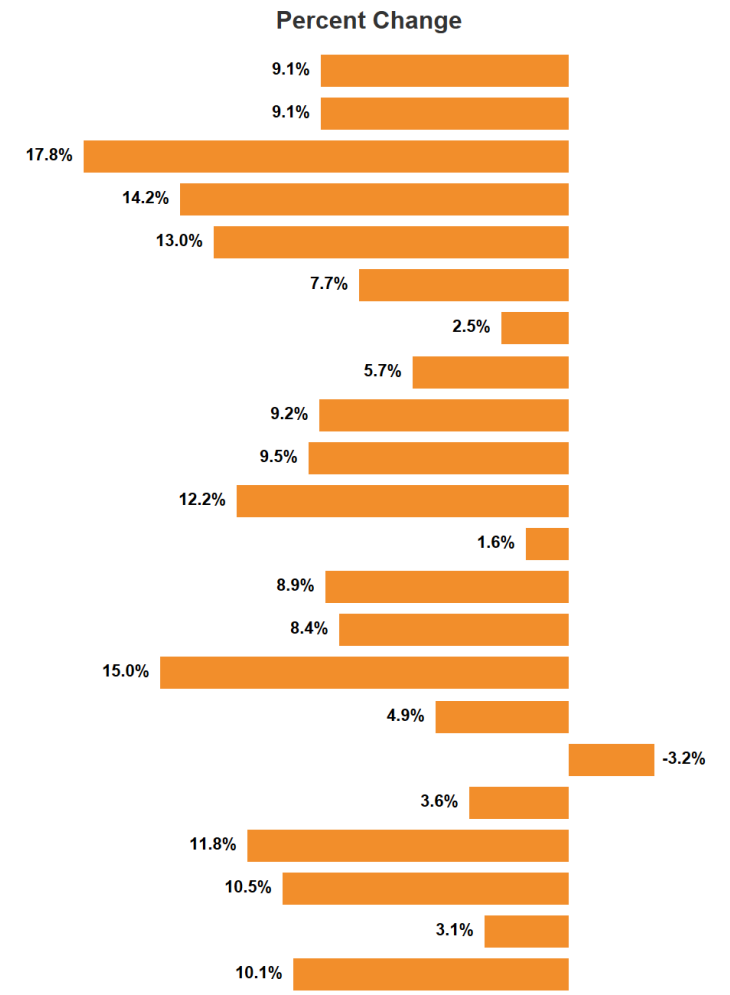
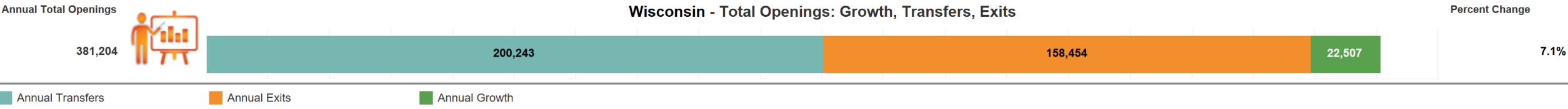
5 of 22 displayed

- Prepare technical and research reports, such as environmental impact reports, and communicate the results to individuals in industry, government, or the general public.
- Develop and maintain liaisons and effective working relations with groups and individuals, agencies, and the public to encourage cooperative management strategies or to develop information and interpret findings.
- Collect and analyze biological data about relationships among and between organisms and their environment.

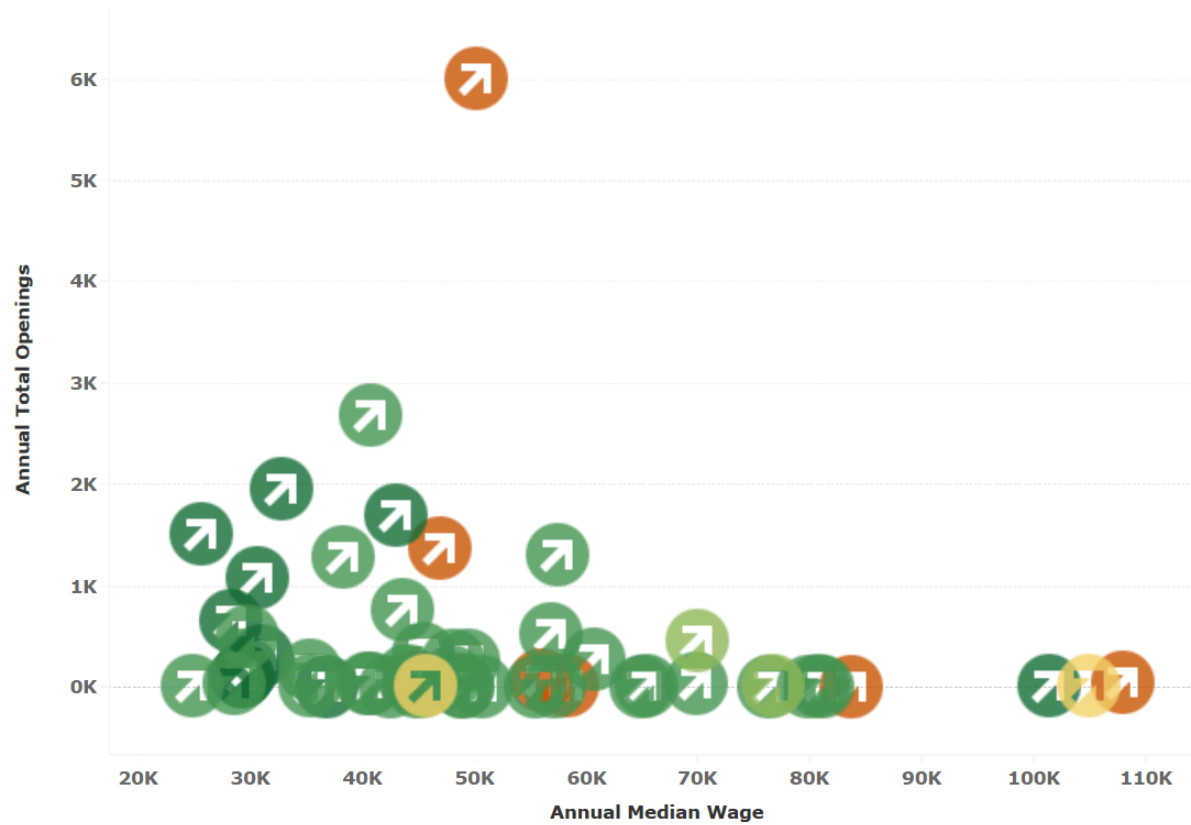
O*NET

Provides detailed occupational data including sample job titles, typical tasks, skills, educational requirements, as well as regional data related to wage, projections, and job postings.

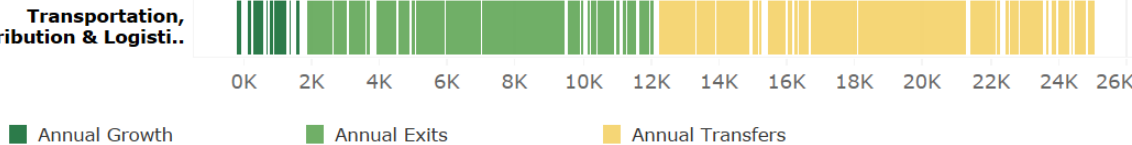




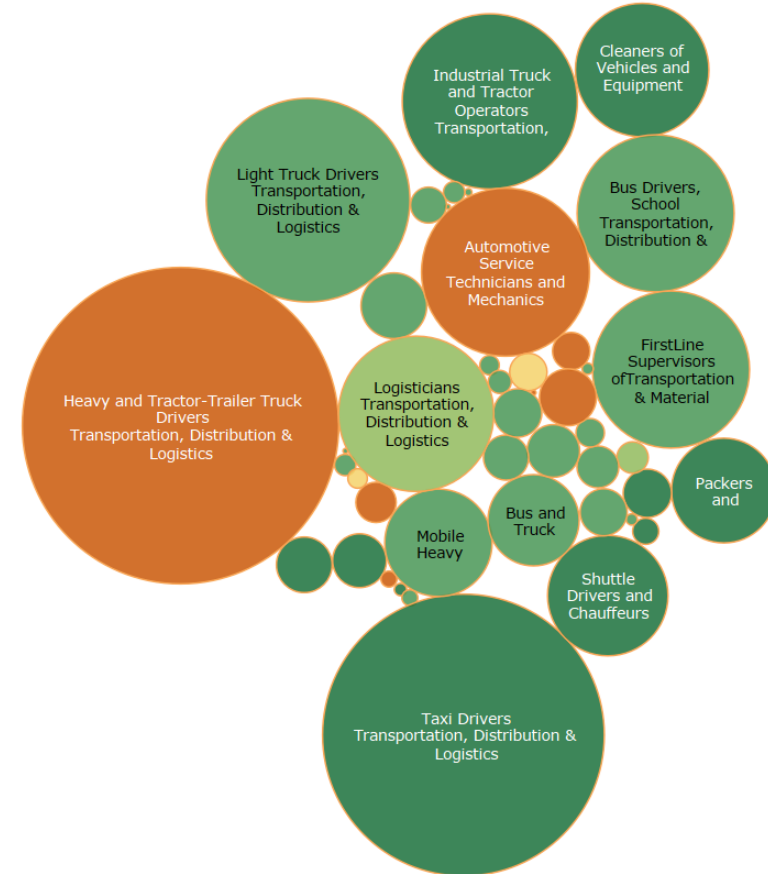
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
Annual Median Wage and Annual Projected Openings
*highlight occupations to filter views



Transportation, Distribution & Logisti..



Typical Education and Projected Numeric Change



Typical education needed for entry, select to highlight on views:

- Associate's degree
- No formal educational credential
- Bachelor's degree
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Postsecondary non-degree award

ENSURING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

LIVING WAGE VS. FAMILY-SUSTAINING WAGE

Kansas

	1 ADULT				2 ADULTS (1 WORKING)				2 ADULTS (BOTH WORKING)		
	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children
Living Wage	\$15.69	\$32.73	\$42.01	\$54.98	\$25.69	\$31.72	\$36.66	\$40.61	\$12.85	\$18.31	\$23.24
Poverty Wage	\$6.53	\$8.80	\$11.07	\$13.34	\$8.80	\$11.07	\$13.34	\$15.61	\$4.40	\$5.54	\$6.67
Minimum Wage	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25



Living Wage | calculator

<https://livingwage.mit.edu/>

Strengthening the College-DOC Connection

If you know the PEP
landscape and are ready to
assess and explore other
pathways...

2. Engage local workforce
development agencies and boards,
industry organizations, unions, or
individual employers as partners
who can help you:

- vet the LMI data
- apply a “quality jobs” lens
- apply a “fair chance hiring” lens

Strengthening the College-DOC Connection

If you know the PEP
landscape and are ready to
assess and explore other
pathways...

3. Prepare a menu of potential pathways that you might offer, including whether they are:
 - Pell eligible (if that's how you would plan to fund it)
 - Not being offered by another partner
 - Aligned to state labor market needs
 - Aligned to quality jobs that offering living wages
 - Aligned to the needs of fair chance employers in your state

Strengthening the College-DOC Connection

If you know the PEP
landscape and are ready to
assess and explore other
pathways...

4. Establish a plan for sharing the
menu with students and assessing
their level of interest and alignment
to their education and career goals

Strengthening the College-DOC Connection

AFTER you have determined the pathway(s) you aim to offer...

1. Strengthen/maintain strong relationships between the DOC and the college by establishing a recurring meeting series and open lines of communication. Make sure to include the Financial Aid office!
2. Empower your leaders with precise information about the pathway you are proposing and why, so they can serve as your advocates within the agency/college
3. Consider an interagency agreement
4. Start thinking about data. Yesterday!
5. Start thinking about reentry support. Yesterday!

Large Group Discussion

Let's take a break

2024 Common Ground Session
Surveys





Collaborative Reentry Solutions: Bridging Gaps and Aligning Efforts

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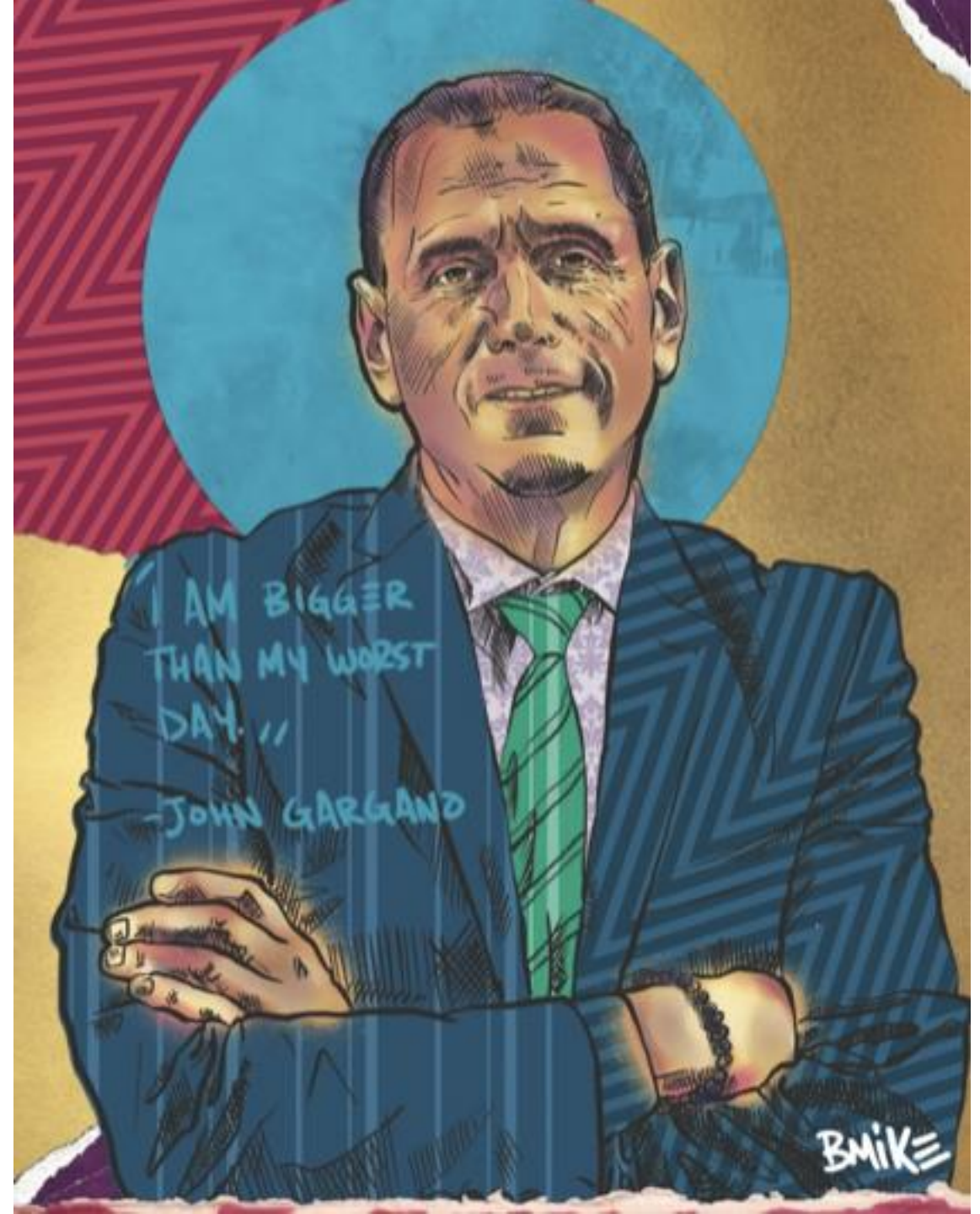
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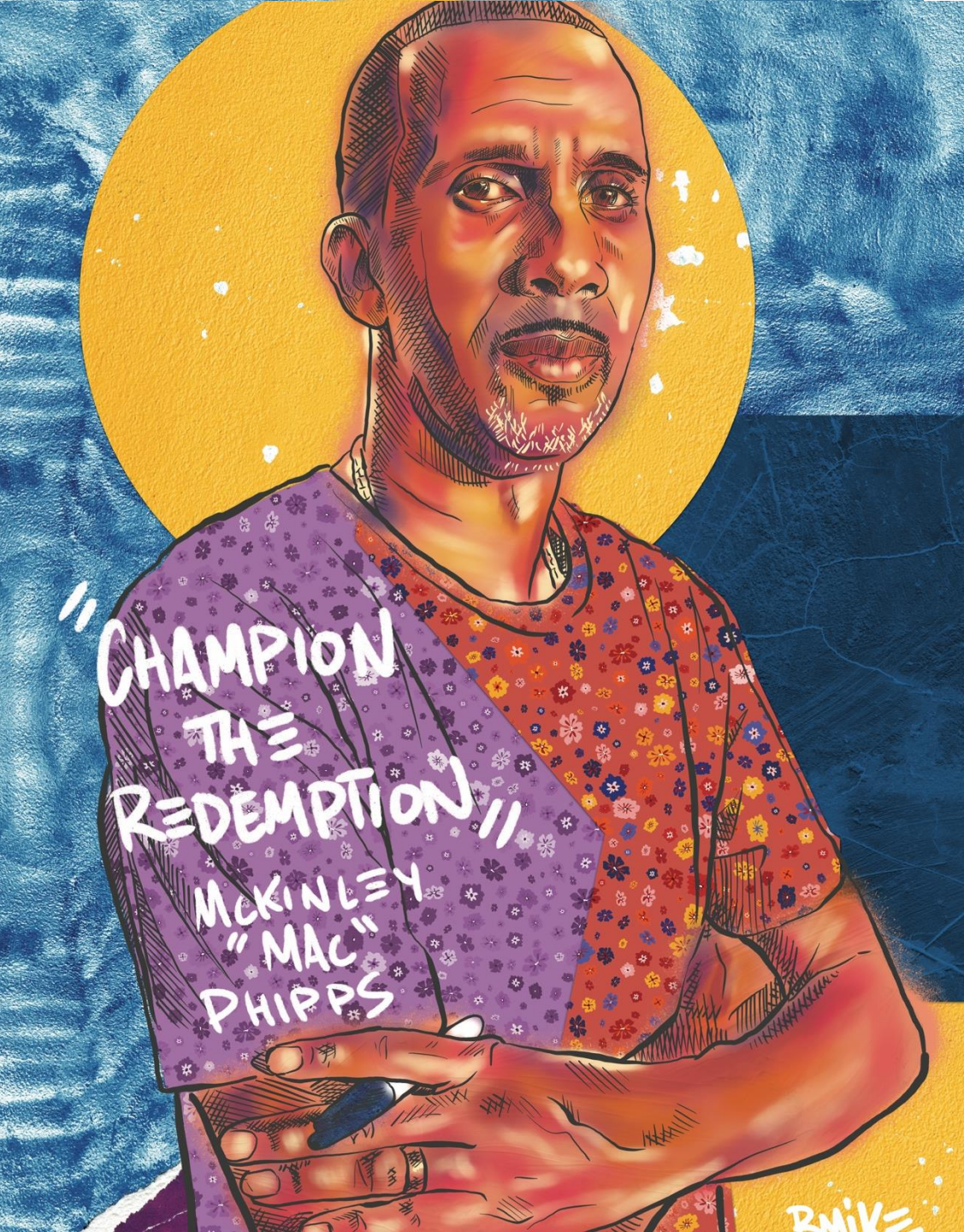
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Findings from Day 1

Reflections

Path Forward



Day 1 Recap: Unlocking Successful Reentry

Support Service Categories

- Continuing Education Services
- Basic Needs
- Technology
- Career Preparation
- Social Integration



Continuing Education Services

Support Service	Status
Articulation agreements	ESTABLISHED
Warm handoffs to support staff at the college	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Obtaining and sending PEP transcripts	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Updating financial aid documents	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Obtaining essential documents	NO / I DON'T KNOW
Backpacks/immediate supplies	ROOM TO IMPROVE / I DON'T KNOW
Advising support for reentering students/workload	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Professional development for advisors serving students with records	ROOM TO IMPROVE / I DON'T KNOW
Training or resource on trauma-informed approaches to student services	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE

Notes:

- Some colleges have figured out to navigate partnerships in their community and some haven't
- Lots of advising happening, but not a lot of training to support

Basic Needs

Support Service	Status
Assessment of individual needs	SPLIT RESULTS / I DON'T KNOW
Up-to-date resources list	ROOM TO IMPROVE
Support applying for benefits (SNAP / Medicaid)	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Clothing and basic toiletries	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO
Food	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO
Transitional Housing	SPLIT RESULTS - YES/NO
Long term Housing	SPLIT RESULTS - YES/NO
Transportation plan	ESTABLISHED
Transportation access	ESTABLISHED
Legal aid or expungement	NO
Financial literacy and budgeting	I DON'T KNOW
Resources on banking services	I DON'T KNOW

Technology

Summary:

- Clear area for growth for the vast majority of organizations that responded
- Only a few had laptops or hotspots
- Vast majority of answers were need for improvement, no, or don't know

Support Service	Status
Digital literacy skills (before release)	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO / I DON'T KNOW
LMS (post release)	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO / I DON'T KNOW
Email (post release)	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO / I DON'T KNOW
Navigating the internet (post release)	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO / I DON'T KNOW
Using a cell phone (post release)	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO / I DON'T KNOW
Free or affordable laptops (post release)	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO / I DON'T KNOW
Free or affordable hotspots	ROOM TO IMPROVE / NO / I DON'T KNOW

Career Preparation

Summary:

- These services/partnerships definitely exist -- the question is if staff are equipped to support students with lived experience of incarceration with translating their experiences inside
- There are substantial challenges in rural counties

Support Service	Status
Career advising for PEP students before release	MIXED RESULTS
Professional development for career advisors working with students with records	ROOM TO IMPROVE / I DON'T KNOW
Employment search support	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Resume / experience translation	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Interview skills / time in corrections	ESTABLISHED / ROOM TO IMPROVE
Guide students in how to speak about past conviction with employers	MIXED RESULTS
Jobs fairs or networking with fair chance employers	MIXED RESULTS

Social Integration

Summary:

- Evidence suggests that there are some applicable offerings across the colleges but very few were specifically tailored to people reentering or with histories of incarceration.
- A lot of folks appeared to be doing work in one of these categories -- – how can we help elevate the gaps as ways to leverage their resources to fill those gaps?

Support Service	Status
Mentorship and peer support	NOT SPECIFIC TO REENTRY
Access to group counseling	NOT SPECIFIC TO REENTRY
Support groups for addiction	NOT SPECIFIC TO REENTRY
Mental health services tailored to formerly incarcerated	NOT SPECIFIC TO REENTRY
Space for formerly incarcerated students to convene	NO
Support navigating child custody	NO
Support for reunification of families	NO

Day 1 Recap: Additional Takeaways

- Services should reach folks before release
- Reentry Navigators Model
- Wausau Community Partners Campus Model
- Difference across counties
- Student desire for a “hub”
- System Office interest in making colleges into such "hubs"



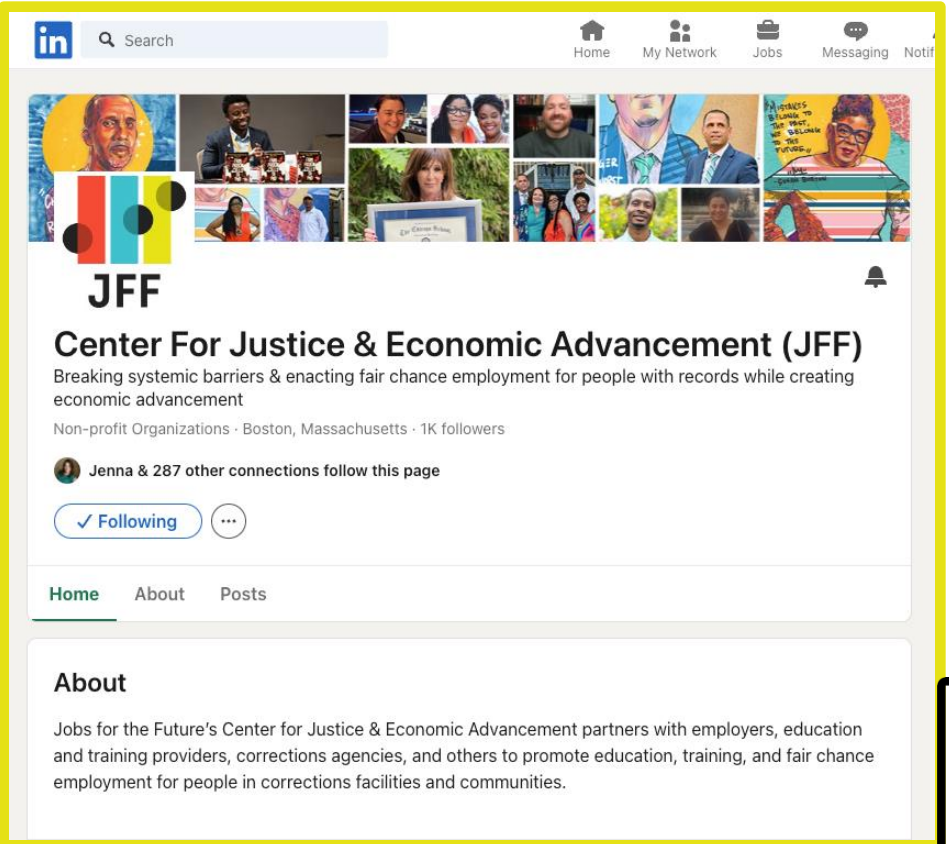
Reflections & Takeaways

Colleagues who participated in yesterday's sessions – what else would you like to raise up?

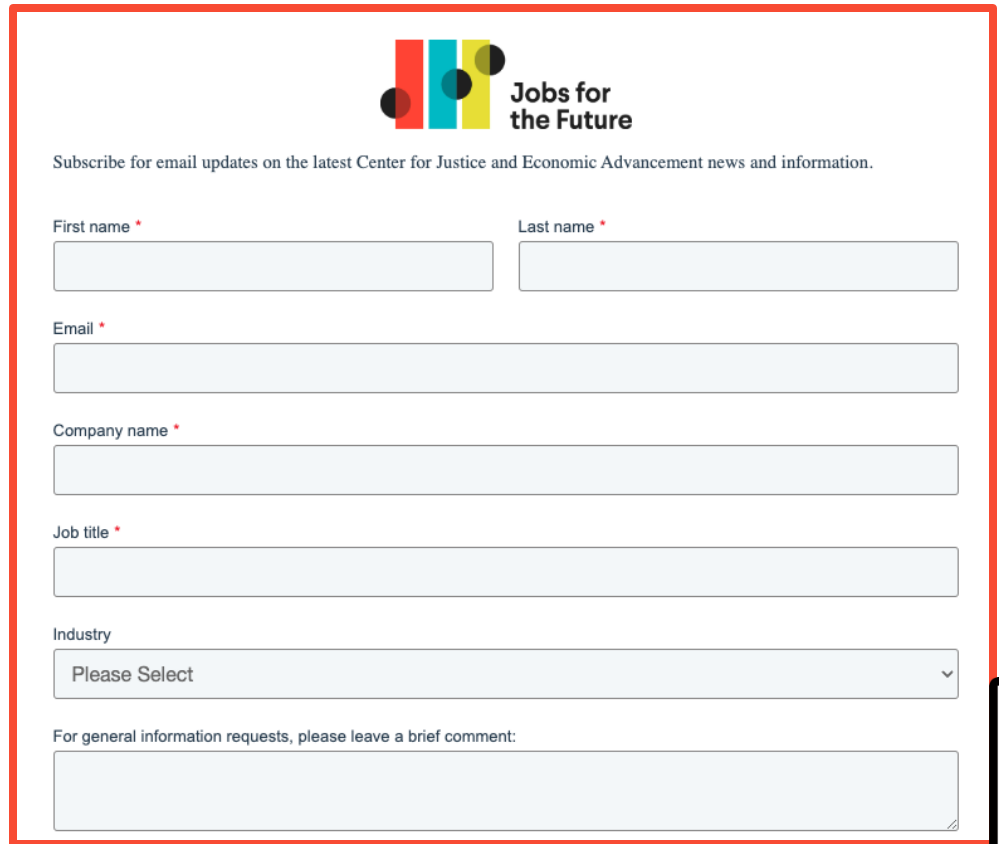
How does this summary align with your experience / what you might have expected? What was surprising? Where are you most eager to learn more?

Now that we have this information, what do we want to do with this it? How can we make it **actionable** for you? What do you see as feasible next steps? If you feel called to help bridge some of these gaps, what would you **need** to be able to do so?

Connect with Jobs for the Future and the Center for Justice & Economic Advancement!



The image shows a screenshot of the LinkedIn profile for the Center for Justice & Economic Advancement (JFF). The profile header includes the JFF logo and the text "Center For Justice & Economic Advancement (JFF) Breaking systemic barriers & enacting fair chance employment for people with records while creating economic advancement". Below this, it states "Non-profit Organizations · Boston, Massachusetts · 1K followers" and "Jenna & 287 other connections follow this page". The "Following" button is highlighted. The "About" section is partially visible, starting with "Jobs for the Future's Center for Justice & Economic Advancement partners with employers, education and training providers, corrections agencies, and others to promote education, training, and fair chance employment for people in corrections facilities and communities."



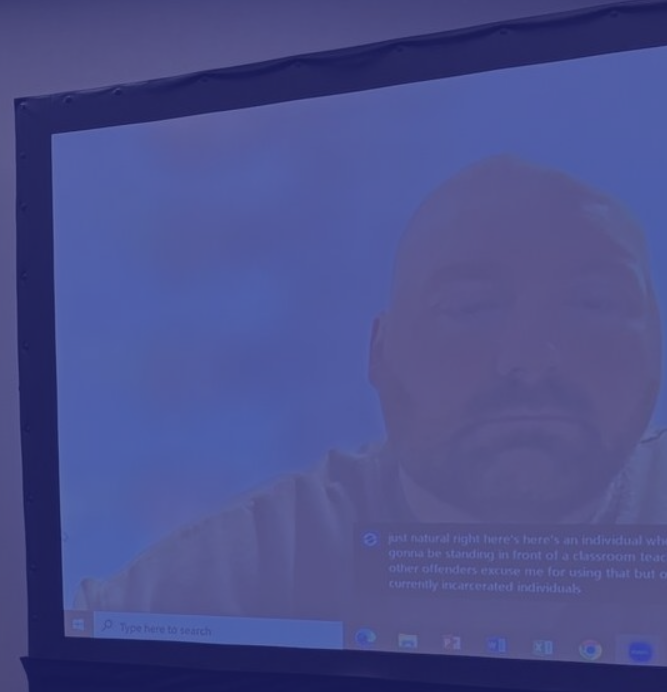
The image shows an email subscription form for JFF. The form includes the JFF logo and the text "Jobs for the Future". Below the logo, it says "Subscribe for email updates on the latest Center for Justice and Economic Advancement news and information." The form contains several input fields: "First name", "Last name", "Email", "Company name", and "Job title". There is also a dropdown menu for "Industry" with "Please Select" as the current selection. At the bottom, there is a text area for a comment with the prompt "For general information requests, please leave a brief comment:". Two QR codes are positioned at the bottom corners of the form area.





Presented by JFF

HORIZONS



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

June 10 & 11, 2025

New Orleans, Louisiana

We'd love your feedback!

2024 Common Ground Session
Surveys





JFF