The Women's Prison Association works with women at all stages of criminal justice involvement. We promote alternatives to incarceration and help women living in the community avoid arrest or incarceration by making positive changes in their lives. Inside prison and jail, we are a source of support to women and a resource to them as they plan for release. After incarceration, women come to WPA for help to build the lives they want for themselves and their families in the community.

WPA helps women:

- Find safe and affordable housing
- Obtain employment
- Reunify with their children
- Comply with criminal justice mandates
- Access substance abuse services
- Access physical and mental health services
- Gain peer support from other women
- Learn household skills for daily life

WPA was founded in 1845 and is the nation’s first organization dedicated solely to working with criminal justice-involved women and their families.

WPA serves over 1,500 women and 500 children each year from three community sites in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

WPA has jail-based offices at Taconic and Bedford Hills Correctional Facilities as well as Rikers Island.

WPA programs are organized into four broad service areas including Family and Children’s Services, Reentry Services, Alternatives to Incarceration, and Public Policy and Advocacy.

WPA offers gender-responsive* services to women at any stage of contact with the criminal justice system.

*Gender-responsive services recognize the different ways in which men and women come in contact with the criminal justice system. You can read about the six primary differences at bit.ly/WPAUnique.