



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**JUSTICE  
CARE  
OPPORTUNITIES**  
DEPARTMENT

# #TEAMJCOD

**HAPPY  
2024!**

**Message from Director  
Judge Songhai Armstead (ret.)**



Dear JCOD Community,

Happy New Year!

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024.

As we approach 2024 with excitement and reflect on 2023 with gratitude, I would like to highlight a few of the 2023 accomplishments of the JCOD team.

- Awarded \$55 million to 118 Community and Faith-Based Organizations over three years in Year One of Care First Community Investment Grants. And more than \$122 million in year two to 123 Community and Faith-Based Organizations. For more information on Care First Community Investment Grants click [here](#).
- More than 2,000 total individuals diverted via Rapid Diversion Program (RDP)
- More than 5,800 participants individuals were served via Reentry Intensive Case Management Services (RICMS)
- Launched a call center and website to assist justice involved individuals – [1-833-LAC-JCOD](tel:1-833-LAC-JCOD) and [justiceconnect.org](http://justiceconnect.org)
- A total of 89 Community Based organizations supported via our Incubation Academy. Cohort 5 is launching soon. To apply for future cohorts click [here](#).
- Launched our virtual Community Reentry Center: Developing Opportunities and Offering Reentry Solutions (D.O.O.R.S) services and phone number for residents in the Antelope Valley. DOORS AV Telephone: [213-584-4329](tel:213-584-4329)
- Expanded gender specific housing

You will notice the new newsletter format for 2024. In this edition, we have included two exciting new sections. The first is a "Staff Spotlight," where we will be highlighting the exceptional work and contributions of our dedicated staff members. It is so important to recognize and celebrate the individuals who play a vital role in serving our community.

The second new section is our "Community Corner." Here, we will showcase a community organization that has been funded by JCOD or JCOD's Care First Community Investment (CFCI) grants. We established CFCI under the guidance of the County's Board of Supervisors to funnel 10 percent of the County's locally generated unrestricted revenue to support community investment and alternatives to incarceration. By featuring these organizations, we hope to inspire and encourage more collaboration between the County and the community.

JCOD is committed to providing you with valuable information, resources, and updates on our programs and services. Together, we can work towards creating a more just, safe and compassionate society. Thanks for your continued support and engagement. We look forward to a year filled with growth, progress, and meaningful partnerships.

All the best,

**Judge Songhai Armstead (Ret.)**

Director, Justice Care and Opportunities Department in LA County

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## Staff Spotlight

### Henry Bratton - Program Manager in the Justice, Care and Opportunities Department.



Henry is an "ex-lifer", having served 36 years in prison, getting out in 2010. By connecting people to a wide range of services, he helps them navigate to get what they need. "I know how important we are because there were no such programs around to help me when I got out of prison," he said. "I've applied my personal experience to help clients.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to live the rest of my life in a decent manner." Henry struggled to find work when he got off parole, first taking a temporary job at an oil refinery in Texas. While there, he also worked to get an associate's degree as an alcohol and drug counselor. Then he ran bridge housing for veterans, and at another program doing "whole person care". He helped people at risk of legal system involvement by connecting them to support.

Los Angeles County hired him to come and do that here in California. He likes the respect his colleagues give him in the department. He describes our work as vital to helping people who have been institutionalized. "Some people can't find their birth certificates," he said. "I help them with that, and everything else. I help them meet society's high expectations for those of us who have been given a second chance."

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## Organization Spotlight

### Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC)



**The Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC)** works to end mass incarceration in California. ARC partners with JCOD in a number of ways, including in JCOD's LA County Training Center program. Executive Director Sam Lewis said: "ARC is excited to partner with Justice Care and Opportunities Department, Amity Foundation and Forestry & Fire Recruitment Program. Our Los Angeles County Training Center is an amazing opportunity to provide incredible resources to our young people towards career paths in firefighting." The training center offers an up to 12-month residential program. It gives previously incarcerated people opportunities to become firefighters across California.

Beyond the firefighter training program, ARC also empowers formerly and currently incarcerated people to thrive in a host of ways. It does that by providing a support network and comprehensive reentry services. It also provides opportunities to advocate for policy change.

In the last ten years, ARC has amassed more than 2,500 members. ARC's Hope and Redemption Team has impacted over 50,000 currently incarcerated people. It has passed more than 33 California state bills. 78% of ARC staff members are formerly incarcerated. Its Second Chance Pre-Apprenticeship Program has a job placement rate of 71% for enrolled individuals. ARC's Ventura Training Center program has also served over 300 formerly incarcerated participants. JCOD is proud to partner with ARC in its mission.

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## JCOD is Hiring!

JCOD currently has three positions open:

**Health Program Analyst I - EA EXAM NUMBER: JC4727A-EA FILING TYPE: Open Competitive**

SALARY: \$84,757.20 - \$114,219.36 Annually

**Health Program Analyst II - EA EXAM NUMBER: JC4729C-EA FILING TYPE: Open Competitive**

SALARY: \$94,477.20 - \$127,316.88

**Health Program Analyst III - EA EXAM NUMBER: JC4731A-EA FILING TYPE: Open Competitive**

SALARY: \$114,503.04 - \$154,304.88

**OPEN FILING DATE: January 11, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. (PT) CLOSING FILING DATE: January 16, 2024 before 5:00 p.m. (PT)**

**For more information visit:**

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/lacounty/jobs/4302969/health-program-analyst-i?keywords=health%20program&pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>



## Upcoming Meetings & Events: Save the Date

### [JCOD's Public Convening, Wednesday, 1/17/2024, 9am](#)

The next Justice, Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD) public convening meeting will be Wednesday, January 17th from 9 am – 10:00 am. This will be the first JCOD public convening of the year focused on Alternative Crisis Response (ACR) and will be led by the Department of Mental Health's (DMH) ACR



team. Every quarter the public convening meeting will have an ACR focus. Please view the agenda, [HERE!](#)

You can join the public convening in Microsoft Teams or via phone:

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 254 609 948 613

Passcode: QQzRbS

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 323-776-6996, 698559739#](#) United States, Los Angeles

Phone Conference ID: 698 559 739#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

**[CFCI Advisory Committee Regular Meeting, Thursday, 1/18/2024, 4pm](#)**

Agenda and supporting documentation will be provided at a later date.

**To participate via computer or smart phone:**

[Click Here For Access](#)

**To participate via telephone only:**

Dial-In: +1 669 900 9128

Meeting ID: 861 0182 2883#

Passcode: 437765

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Questions or comments? Email us at: [jcod@lacounty.gov](mailto:jcod@lacounty.gov)

Or visit us on the web: [jcod.lacounty.gov](http://jcod.lacounty.gov)

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central agency unifying LA County's efforts to serve vulnerable justice-impacted people and communities.

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