



*Changing the Narrative for Justice-Involved Women
and Girls:
Journey from Reform to Transformation*



What is AJFO?

AJFO is the only professional conference focused exclusively on women and girls involved with the justice system.

Audience

Social service providers, correctional staff, government employees, program directors, women with lived experience in the criminal justice system, holistic and other innovative practitioners who work with women and girls, advocates, researchers and program developers.

Conference Objectives:

- Share strategies for building resiliency for women, girls, and the community of criminal justice professionals who serve them
- Invite women with lived experience to inform this work
- Improve responses to women and girls involved in the criminal justice system
- Provide participants with opportunities for renewal and revitalization
- Build individual and organizational capacity to advance the field
- Incorporate the arts as a vehicle for accomplishing all of the above

Workshop Design

- Workshops and presentation slots will be **90 minutes**. Longer workshops that require two consecutive sessions will be considered, as will shorter presentations that may be combined with other complementary proposals.

Poster Presentations

- Posters focused on research, practice and policy will be presented during a poster session in which presenters will discuss the content of their posters.

Proposals

We are looking for proposals that:

- Explicitly integrate the theme of resiliency
- Address intersections between various forms of oppression faced by women and girls involved in the criminal justice system
- Emphasize innovative, evidence-based, responsive approaches to the diverse needs of women and girls (e.g. cultural/racial diversity, sexual orientation/gender identity, use of violence, sexual safety, medical/reproductive issues, financial literacy/economic security)
- Feature best practices for advancing work with women and girls (e.g. peer-based approaches, women's leadership, addressing compassion fatigue, policy development, program evaluation, etc.)
- Challenge conventional thinking with cutting edge ideas that provoke discussion
- Provide opportunities for revitalization and renewal

We will prioritize proposals that:

- Demonstrate evidence of effective outcomes for justice involved girls and women
- Incorporate the lived experience of women and girls with involvement in the criminal justice system
- Integrate the arts (movement, film, writing, visual art, etc.)
- Use a variety of different formats (experiential, video, posters, roundtables, panels) that go beyond the standard lecture format

Possible Workshop Topics

We are open to a broad range of ideas. Please consider the following list of possibilities as inspiration:

- Transgender youth and housing
- How to work with families and child protective services for juvenile offenders who are aged 16 to 18
- Human trafficking
- Connection between child welfare and corrections and how these departments can work collaboratively for better results
- Regeneration, self-care, and addressing compassion fatigue

- Gender-responsive, trauma-informed training for line staff in handling sensitive issues such as strip searches
- Issues during re-entry and services to respond to common challenges
- Considerations for serving undocumented women, including issues for re-entry
- Life after women leave the facility – 1, 2, 5, 10 years out
- Parenting while incarcerated
- Facilitating grief/loss work, especially around termination of parental rights
- Healthy sexuality
- Training others in gender responsive models, including hearing from corrections officers about what motivated them to adopt gender responsive practices
- Health services in prisons and how to access health services during re-entry
- Communicating with female probationers with trauma

Submission Guidelines

*** IMPORTANT: Unfortunately, we are not able to provide assistance with registration costs, travel and hotel lodging. However, we are working to secure scholarships to support women with lived experience to attend and present at the conference. Presenters will be required to register for the conference. ***

- **Deadline for submissions: Monday, April 10, 2017**
- Please submit completed applications to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AJFO2017workshops>
- Sessions are 90 minutes long and can accommodate between 40 and 100 attendees. Longer presentations will be considered and if selected will be conducted over two sessions.
- Poster presentations should describe research, policy and/or practice efforts related to justice involved women and girls.

You must provide the following documents for each workshop and poster presentation:

1. A CV (curriculum vitae) and/or resume for each presenter (email to AJFO2017@ceo.sccgov.org).
2. A biographical sketch for each presenter of no more than 175 words.
3. An abstract of no more than 250 words.
4. At least 3 learning objectives that describe what the learner will be able to *do* as a result of attending your workshop or reviewing your poster presentation. The learning objectives must start with an “observable action word”, such as:

Analyze, assess, compare, define, demonstrate, describe, design, develop, differentiate, evaluate, explain, identify, list, name.

Please do not use learning outcomes that are not observable, such as “understand”, “know”, or “be familiar with”.

Your submission will not be accepted unless all required documents are provided.

- Proposals will be evaluated solely on the information provided in this submission with preference given to proposals that demonstrate well-defined and active learning outcomes. **Priority will be given to presentations that are innovative, participatory and interactive.**

- Lead presenters will be responsible for notifying co-presenters of proposal status and related information.
- If similar or complementary proposals are submitted, we may ask that presenters consider working together on one session.
- Presenters will be notified about the conference committee's decision by May 1st, 2017.
- If you have any questions, please email AJFO2017@ceo.sccgov.org

The 17th AJFO Conference

The 17th AJFO Conference is presented by the County of Santa Clara. The Santa Clara County Office of Women's Policy is organizing all aspects of the conference. Questions for the 17th AJFO Conference can be sent to AJFO2017@ceo.sccgov.org or 408-299-5158. Information from the most recent AJFO conference is also available at www.ajfo.org

The Santa Clara County Office of Women's Policy

Developed in the spirit of collaboration between the County and the community in 1998, the Office of Women's Policy is a leading voice in Silicon Valley on the needs of women and girls, serving as a catalyst for awareness and action on current and emerging issues that impact women's health, safety and security. Through analysis, research and strategic collaboration, OWP works to ensure that programs and services, and also systems and policy support women's leadership, full equality and advancement in the home, at work and in the community.

Association for Justice-Involved Females and Organizations (AJFO)

AJFO addresses issues for women and girls involved in the criminal justice system. We recently changed our name to the Association for Justice-Involved Females and Organizations (AJFO), with a mission to convene and create opportunities to network and share promising practices and advance gender responsive outcomes for justice involved women and girls.

AJFO's history goes as far back as the 1912 National Prison congress when an Association of Women members was created so that the "ladies could get together for mutual help and advice [and so there would] be given a time on the program when women who were directly concerned and interested in the work for women prisoners should have an opportunity to emphasize this very important work". Over the past century the group grew and continues its leadership role as an advocacy group for female offenders. While the early purpose was to provide networking for those working with women offenders, in the 1980s APFO created the Adult and Juvenile Female Offender workshops (AJFO) which were held bi-annually to advance knowledge about working with justice involved women.

www.ajfo.org