Ronald F. Day is a Vice President of Programs and Research at the Fortune Society. Ronald is passionate about reentry, promoting desistance, dismantling mass incarceration, and addressing the stigma of incarceration. He provides oversight for Fortune’s Education and Employment Services, and for Individualized Correction Achievement Network (ICAN), a New York City Department of Correction (NYCDOC) initiative that provides pre and post release services to people incarcerated in NYC jails. Ronald formerly served as the AVP of Fortune’s David Rothenberg Center for Public Policy (DRCPP), which advocates to reduce reliance on incarceration, promote model programing for the incarcerated population, change laws and policies that create barriers for successful reintegration, and foster a just and equitable criminal justice system. Ronald has been the recipient of several awards, including the Citizen’s Against Recidivism Bridge Builder Award, and the Justice Research Fellowship. He is the former host of Fortune’s original show Both Side of the Bars on Manhattan Neighborhood Network. He is a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Committee on Evaluating Success Among People Released from Prison (a division of the Committee on Law and Justice), and a co-PI on Pathways Home: Desistance from Crime in the Context of Parole (a research project funded by Arnold Ventures and Trinity Wall Street). Ronald has a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the CUNY Graduate Center / John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and a Master’s in Public Administration from Baruch College (CUNY). Ronald is also formerly incarcerated.

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Nancy La Vigne, PhD

Nancy La Vigne (Lah Veen) was appointed by President Biden as Director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the research and technology arm of the U.S Department of Justice, on March 28, 2022. A nationally recognized criminal justice policy expert, Dr. La Vigne’s research expertise ranges from policing and corrections reform to reentry from prison, criminal justice technologies and evidence-based criminal justice practices. Prior to joining NIJ, she served as executive director of the Council on Criminal Justice’s Task Force on Policing. Before that, La Vigne served as vice president at the Urban Institute (Urban), a nonprofit social policy research organization based in Washington, D.C., where over the course of a decade, she directed Urban’s Justice Policy Center. Her tenure at Urban included serving as executive director of the congressionally-mandated bipartisan Charles Colson Task Force on Federal Corrections Reform.

Dr. La Vigne is not new to NIJ, having been the founding director of the Institute’s Crime Mapping Research Center several years ago, as well as serving as special assistant to Office of Justice Program’s Acting Assistant Attorney General. She holds a Ph.D. in criminal justice from Rutgers University, a master’s degree in public affairs from the LBJ School at the University of Texas-Austin and a bachelor’s degree in government and economics from Smith College.

DeAnna Hoskins

DeAnna R. Hoskins is President & CEO of JustLeadershipUSA (JLUSA). Dedicated to cutting the U.S. correctional population in #halfby2030, JLUSA empowers people most affected by the criminal justice system to drive reform. DeAnna is a nationally recognized leader and a formerly incarcerated person with
experience as an advocate and policy expert at the local, state, and federal level. Prior to joining JLUSA as its President and CEO, DeAnna served as a Senior Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice, managing the Second Chance Act portfolio and serving as Deputy Director of the Federal Inter-Agency Reentry Council. Before that, she served as a county Director of Reentry in her home state of Ohio. DeAnna has always worked alongside advocates who have been impacted by incarceration, and knows that setting bold goals and investing in the leadership of directly impacted people is a necessary component of impactful, values-driven reform. Follow her on Twitter at @MzDeHoskins.

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Emily Wang, MD

Emily Wang is a professor in the Yale School of Medicine and directs the SEICHE Center for Health and Justice. The SEICHE Center is a collaboration between the Yale School of Medicine and Yale Law School working to stimulate community transformation by identifying the legal, policy, and practice levers that can improve the health of individuals and communities impacted by mass incarceration. She leads the Center's research program, the Health Justice Lab, which receives National Institutes of Health funding to investigate how incarceration influences chronic health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, cancer, and opioid use disorder, and uses a participatory approach to study interventions which mitigate the impacts of incarceration. As an internist, she has cared for thousands of individuals with a history of incarceration and is co-founder of the Transitions Clinic Network, a consortium of 40 community health centers nationwide dedicated to caring for individuals recently released from correctional facilities by employing community health workers with histories of incarceration. Dr. Wang has served on the National Academy of Sciences/Institute of Medicine’s Health and Incarceration Workshop, Means of Violence
Workshop, and the Steering Committee on Improving Collection of Indicators of Criminal Justice System Involvement in Population Health Data Programs. Her work been published in the Lancet, JAMA, American Journal of Public Health, and Health Affairs, and showcased in national outlets such as the New York Times, NPR, and CNN. Dr. Wang has an AB from Harvard University, an MD from Duke University, and a MAS from the University of California, San Francisco.

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Secretary George M. Little

Mr. Little currently is serving as Acting Secretary at the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) beginning October 2021. Prior to that he served as the Executive Deputy Secretary of Community Corrections and Reentry since September of 2017 after previously serving as DOC’s Director of Community Corrections since 2016. Mr. Little brings with him over 30 years of leadership experience in the public sector, which includes strategic planning, operations, budgeting, and management.

Prior to returning home to his Pennsylvania roots, Mr. Little served the state of Tennessee in various capacities for 26 years. There he served as Regional Probation Director, Warden and Commissioner Tennessee Department of Corrections, as well as Director of the Shelby County Tennessee Division of Corrections. Between periods of corrections service, Mr. Little served as Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Memphis, Tennessee. While serving there, he was responsible for oversight of the Memphis Police and Fire Departments, the Second Chance program and Workforce Development.

Mr. Little has a gift and passion for public speaking on a wide range of subjects to include motivation, leadership, organizational change strategies, and government management.
In his spare time, he serves on the Board of the National Police Foundation and is an associate member of the Correctional Leaders Association. He is also a mentor in the Kappa Alpha Psi Guideright program, sings with various choral groups and enjoys live music.

Lauren Zalut

Lauren Zalut works as Director of Education and Tour Programs at Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, an abandoned prison turned criminal justice museum in Philadelphia. In this role she oversees education and community engagement programs, guided tours, as well as family and school programming. Using the historic site as a catalyst for conversation on contemporary social issues, Lauren has worked to incorporate dialogue facilitation, lived experience in prison, and content about mass incarceration into all education programs. She has led Eastern State’s fair chance hiring initiative, recruiting and hiring formerly incarcerated people into a variety of roles. Lauren believes the museums can be spaces that advance social change, and throughout her career she has initiated collaborative programs between grass-roots organizations, social service agencies, and museums.

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Stanley Richards

Stanley Richards is the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of The Fortune Society, a service and advocacy non-profit organization in New York City, founded by David Rothenberg in 1967. The Fortune Society’s mission is to support successful reentry from prison and promote alternatives to incarceration. Stanley is a formerly incarcerated man of color with decades of experience in the criminal justice field. In 2014, Stanley was recognized by the Obama administration as a Champion of Change for his commitment to helping individuals impacted by the justice system. He also became the first formerly incarcerated person to be appointed to the NYC Board of Correction. As Vice Chair of the Board of Correction, in June 2020, Stanley was appointed to lead the Working Group to End Punitive Segregation. In July 2021, he was appointed to become the First Deputy Commissioner of Programs and Operations at the New York City Department of Correction (NYCDOC). He was the first formerly incarcerated person to serve this second highest position within the NYCDOC, the second largest jail system in the country. His other appointments include the Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform, which released a blueprint for the future of criminal justice in NYC; the Working Group on Design, a subcommittee of the Implementation Task Force, to ensure effective implementation of the “Smaller, Safer, Fairer: A Roadmap to Closing Rikers Island” initiative; the NYC Commission on Community Reinvestment and the Closure of Riker’s Island; and other taskforces on criminal justice issues. Stanley is a graduate of Medaille College, Columbia University’s Graduate School of Business: Institute for Not-For-Profit Management Executive Level Program, and the Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship Program.

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Jeremy Travis, JD.

Jeremy joined Arnold Ventures after serving for 13 years as president of John Jay College of Criminal Justice at the City University of New York (CUNY). Under Jeremy’s leadership, John Jay became a senior liberal arts college at CUNY, significantly increased the number of baccalaureate students, created the CUNY Justice Academy to serve community college students, and joined the prestigious Macaulay Honors College. During his tenure, John Jay also significantly expanded the number of faculty; tripled outside funding for research; and launched research centers on topics such violence, prisoner reentry, juvenile justice, policing, race, cybercrime, terrorism, and the role of prosecutors.

Prior to his time at John Jay, Jeremy was a senior fellow with the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute. There, he launched a national research program focused on prisoner reentry into society and initiated research agendas on crime in a community context, sentencing, and international crime. Before that, Jeremy served as director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), where he managed the growth of the organization’s annual budget from $25 million to $120 million. At NIJ, he established major initiatives to assess crime trends; evaluate federal anti-crime efforts; foster community policing and new law enforcement technologies; advance forensic sciences; and bolster research on counter-terrorism strategies. Jeremy’s career also includes his role as deputy commissioner for legal matters for the New York City Police Department (NYPD); chief counsel to the U.S. House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice; special adviser to New York City Mayor Edward I. Koch; and assistant director for law enforcement services for the Mayor’s Office of Operations. In addition, he was special counsel to the police commissioner of the NYPD.

Jeremy clerked for then-U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg and was the Marden and Marshall Fellow in Criminal Law at New York University. He served as executive director of the New York City Criminal Justice Agency. In addition, he worked at the Vera Institute of Justice, where he managed demonstration programs on bail reform, judicial
Jeremy began his career in criminal justice as a legal services assistant for the Legal Aid Society. Jeremy has taught courses on criminal justice, public policy, history, and law at numerous universities. He has written extensively about constitutional law, criminal law, and criminal justice policy. He earned his J.D. and M.P.A. from New York University and his bachelor’s degree from Yale College.

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**Micaela Linder**

Micaela Linder is the Senior Director of Research at the Fortune Society. For five years Micaela managed Fortune’s Reentry Education Project, and has trained over 1,000 healthcare providers and clinic staff to 1) increase participants’ knowledge of the criminal justice system, experiences of incarceration, and health effects of incarceration; and 2) enhance participants’ ability to communicate compassionately and collaboratively with formerly incarcerated patients. Micaela currently coordinates all research projects to the agency, as well as cultivates relationships with internal and external partners to grow the capacity of Fortune to conduct research. Micaela holds an M.A. from Columbia University in Developmental Psychology, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Critical Social Psychology at the CUNY Graduate Center.

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Carler Dinnold

Carler Dinnold works as a Contract Manager at The Fortune Society. She has worked in the non-profit sector for just under 10 years, with a specific passion for Criminal Justice and Family impacted social service support. She also currently serves as the Inaugural Executive Director of Lebanon Cares Development Corporation, a Bedford-Stuyvesant community-based organization committed to uplifting the lives of African American community members in Bed-stuy and the greater Brooklyn borough. She brings a wealth of diverse experience to her work. Carler earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Spelman College, located in Atlanta, GA. She is also the co-owner of Cakes by Carol Brooklyn. She is a woman of both high character and intelligence, but also an enormous heart. Carler is a believer in the strength of data and technology to empower individuals and communities, and commits her time to teaching and providing technological support to young adults and senior citizens. Carler currently serves as the Financial Security on the Executive Board of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church’s Deacon Ministry. She is also the youngest to be ordained. She has been described by her colleagues as an ‘agent for change.’ Carler currently resides in Brooklyn, NY.

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Valeriya Metla

Valeriya is a Research Assistant at the Fortune Society and a doctoral student in the School of Criminal Justice at Rutgers University, Newark. She holds B.A in International Criminal Justice (John Jay College, CUNY) and MA in Criminal Justice (Rutgers University). Valeriya’s research is focused on reentry, desistance, and
community programming. Valeriya was twice a recipient of the USAID Research and Innovation Fellowship Program (2017/2018) in South Africa where she conducted qualitative study with 50 male formerly incarcerated individuals from townships of Cape Town about their experiences of reentry, desistance, and social capital. Valeriya has worked as a researcher for the DOJ-funded Second Chance Re-entry Programs in Newark and Elizabeth, NJ and recently was a part of the Code for America brigade, managing Expunge Assist civic tech project that aims to help justice impacted people in California with criminal record clearance. Overall, her work is policy-oriented with the overarching goal to create evidence-based models for sustainable re-entry programming in partnerships with community organizations and local governments in the United States and internationally.

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Jeffrey Abramowitz

Jeffrey Abramowitz, J.D. is the CEO of the Petey Greene Program and past Executive Director of Justice Partnerships and Executive Director Reentry Services for JEVS Human Services and the Program Director of Looking Forward Philadelphia Reentry Program. Jeff proudly sits on the Executive Board of the Coalition on Adult Basic Education, COABE, where he serves as Secretary, and chairs the State Advocates for Adult Education Fellowship Program. Jeff was appointed to the Pennsylvania Reentry Council and serves as Chairman of the Employment Committee and Co-chairs the Reentry Committee for the PA Workforce Development Board. Jeff is Chair of the Philadelphia Reentry Coalition. Jeff is a subject matter expert for the US Department of Education, is the Moderator for US Department of Education LINCS (Literacy Information & Communication System, Resource Collection) Community of Practice on Correctional & Reentry Education. Jeff is the producer and host of the award-winning weekly radio/television show “Looking Forward” on Philly Cam Radio WPPM 106.5FM
Marie DiLeonardo

Marie DiLeonardo joined the Petey Greene Program in 2018 as the Division Manager of the Philadelphia region, supporting the development of prison and jail tutoring programs in the Greater Philadelphia area. Now as the Regional Manager, Marie is leading the expansion of PGP program operations to reach a wider range of system-impacted people, supporting students enrolled in diversion programs designed to prevent incarceration, facility classrooms during incarceration, and reentry programs post-incarceration.

As an educator, Marie enjoys facilitating language learning and communication. She holds a dual degree in Spanish Language and Secondary Subject Matter Education (K-12) from Rowan University and has experience teaching, tutoring, and learning alongside Spanish-speaking students in classrooms across age levels, learning environments, and continents. As an undergraduate student, she volunteered with the Petey Greene Program at South Woods State Prison in New Jersey tutoring Spanish-speaking students. She brings her experience developing programming for students of various language backgrounds to her role as Regional Manager.