

# National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women



## COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT: RESOURCES FOR OUTREACH AND EDUCATING OTHERS ON JUSTICE INVOLVED WOMEN AND GENDER RESPONSIVE APPROACHES

Women involved in the criminal justice system have challenging and complex needs that are different than men's. Generally, correctional approaches for women have largely been informed by policies and practices with men, in absence of consideration of gender differences. However, there is a growing body of research and best practices that inform practitioners on how they can better meet the risk factors and needs of women in the system, lower rates of recidivism and improve public safety.

The National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women (NRCJIW) has created this toolkit to provide practitioners with information, resources and tools to help them communicate effectively with others regarding how we achieve better outcomes with women at all stages of the criminal justice system.

To download a resource from this toolkit, click on the appropriate link below.

**Infographic**– The facts and intricacies of the needs of justice involved women may seem complex. To provide better understanding in an attractive and easy to follow format, the NRCJIW has created this infographic. It serves as a primer on some of the key issues that impact women in the justice system. The infographic can be shared in presentations and on social media, helping to engage and educate external audiences.

**Slide Presentation** – NRCJIW has developed a Microsoft PowerPoint-based slide presentation on meeting the complex needs of women in the justice system that includes recommended approaches for working with women in a way that is different from working with men. The purpose of this presentation is to increase understanding among key audiences, such as the judiciary, corrections officials, and probation and parole professionals on issues pertinent to justice involved women. It is designed to be easily customized for specific audiences, allowing for the removal or addition of slides as needed.

**Quick Tips** – This set of tips is designed to help professionals reflect on and improve how they and their agencies respond to justice involved women. This document offers considerations for changing policies and practices to better integrate gender responsive approaches for women, with the ultimate goal of improving public safety outcomes.

**Resource List** – This list contains the “must reads” or most seminal resources on justice involved women. For additional resources, please visit [NRCJIW's resource page](#).

**Video** – NRCJIW also developed a short video to provide professionals with an easy to follow narrative portraying the specific needs of women in the justice system. This video is ideal for sharing on social media and as part of in-person presentations to outside groups.

## Women in the Criminal Justice System



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