

# Making Sense of the Election Results in North Carolina



**Rick Glazier**  
Executive  
Director



**Nicole Dozier**  
Director  
Health Advocacy



**Matt Ellinwood**  
Director  
Education & Law



**Quisha Mallette**  
Staff Attorney  
Fair Chance Criminal Justice



**Adam Svolto**  
Director of Policy &  
Engagement



## Welcome! Some tips for today:

- This event is being recorded
- Please mute yourself
- For the best viewing experience, select “speaker view” in the top right corner of your screen
- There will be time for questions at the end of the 30-minute presentation
- For IT concerns, please message AshLeigh Pienkosz or email [AshLeigh@ncjustice.org](mailto:AshLeigh@ncjustice.org)

# Leandro v. State of NC

- ▶ Lawsuit filed in 1994 by five low-wealth school districts (Hoke, Halifax, Robeson, Vance and Cumberland)
- ▶ Suit claimed that districts did not have enough resources to provide an adequate education to their students
- ▶ NC Supreme Court ruled in 1997 and 2004 that the state's students have a constitutional right to an opportunity for a "sound, basic education" and that the state is not meeting that standard



## ***Leandro v. State of NC***

- ▶ **November 2021** – Judge Lee Orders Treasurer and Controller to release funding from state reserves to fund years 2 &3 of Comprehensive Remedial Plan
- ▶ **December 2021** – Court of Appeals overturns November ruling and blocks transfer of funds
- ▶ **November 2022** – North Carolina Supreme Court overturns Court of Appeals and orders the release of funding for years 2&3 of Leandro Plan

## Communities for the Education of Every Child NC



# Every Child NC

[www.everychildnc.org](http://www.everychildnc.org)

[info@everychildnc.org](mailto:info@everychildnc.org)

[@everychildnc](https://twitter.com/everychildnc)

[#LeadWithLeandro](https://twitter.com/everychildnc)



NORTH CAROLINA  
JUSTICE CENTER

# Communities at the Center





NORTH CAROLINA  
**JUSTICE  
CENTER**



**7 Organization, Member-Led Coordinating Committee  
and 40+ Organization Partners**

2022 Midterm  
Elections:

Where Do We Go  
From Here?



FCCCJ

FAIR CHANCE-CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROJECT





Director  
Laura Holland



Senior Advisor  
Bill Rowe



Staff Attorney  
Quisha Mallette



Staff Attorney  
Emily Mistr



Communications  
Specialist  
Timothy Young

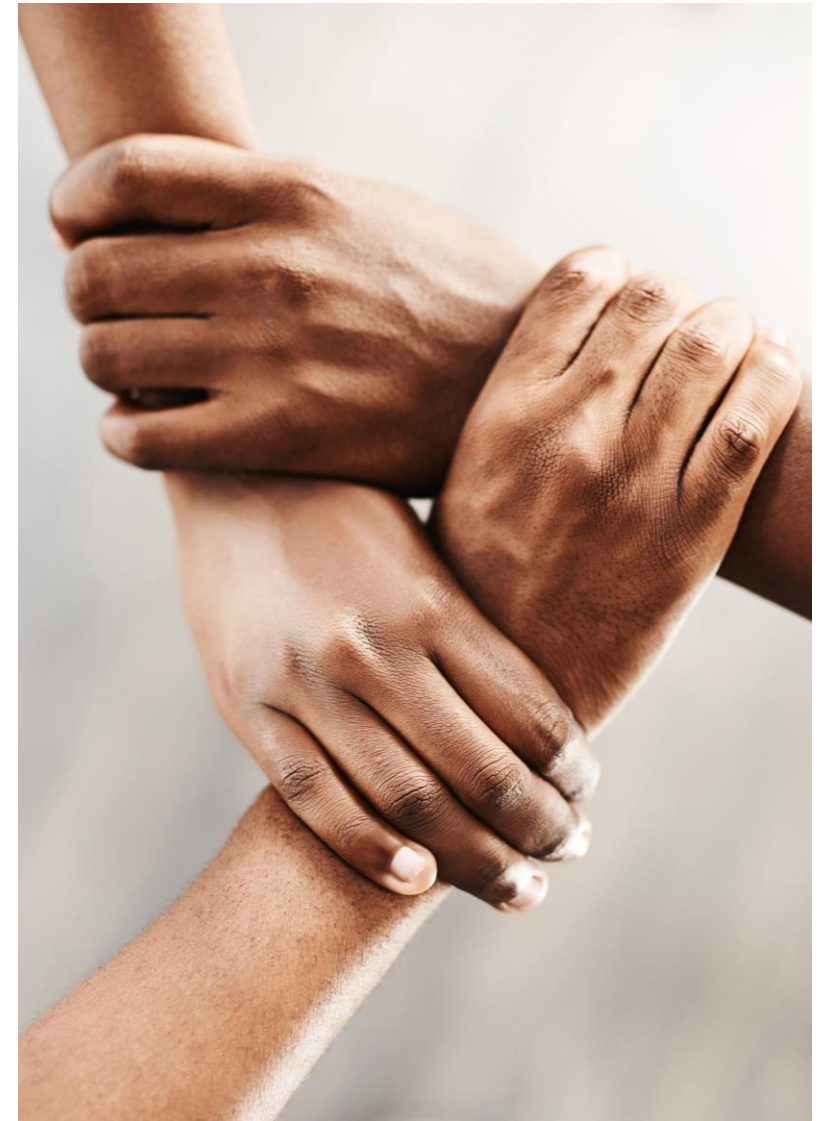
# Fair Chance Criminal Justice Project

# Scope of Work

The Fair Chance Criminal Justice Project partners with impacted people, congregations, concerned community members, advocacy organizations, and decision-makers to change local and states policies and practices to make the criminal justice system more fair from arrest to reentry.

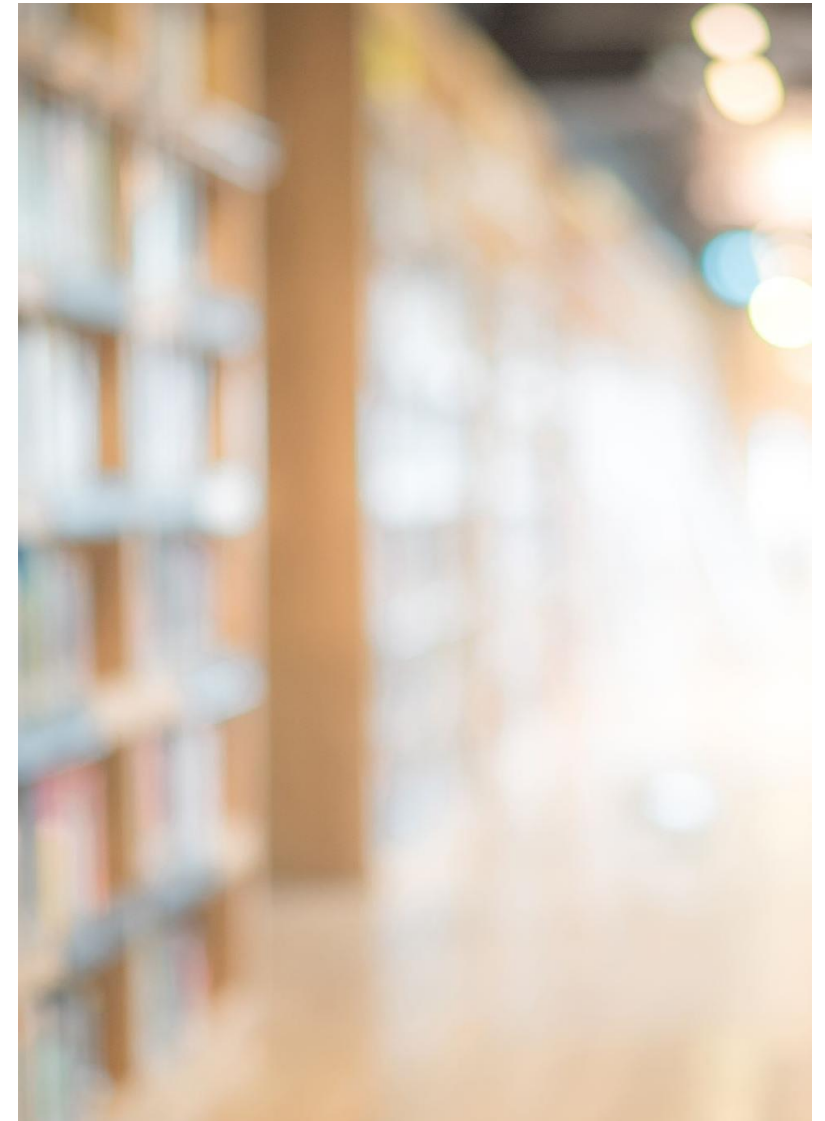
# Why our work is important:

Our communities are safer and we can prevent further criminal legal system involvement of individuals when everyone has access to the resources and supports needed to thrive.



# A Shortlist of our Commitments:

- ✓ Removing legal and social barriers for individuals with criminal records
- ✓ Working with coalition partners, advocates and decisionmakers across the state to promote and uphold fair chance policies
- ✓ Uplifting directly impacted advocates committed to advancing fair policies in our state through our coalition efforts and Fair Chance Fellowship program



# Challenges & Opportunities following the 2022 Midterm Elections



# Challenges

- Revamping inside strategy on criminal justice in light of current makeup of the legislature
- Increasing visibility and garnering support in an increasingly polarized environment
- Holding the line to keep common sense criminal justice reforms in place

# Opportunities

- Forging ahead with criminal record relief for thousands of North Carolinians
- Getting drivers across the state back on the road by addressing debt-based drivers license suspensions
- Building broad-based coalitions committed to fair chance hiring and rebuilding our workforce

Lawmakers across the aisle have demonstrated ongoing commitment to criminal justice reforms

---

Broad-based coalitions are building momentum across the state

---

Polls show that criminal justice reform is still popular with voters regardless of party affiliation





# Get Involved!

- ❖ **Participate** in one of our 2023 Advocacy Days
- ❖ **Join** debrief calls throughout the 2023 long session to stay informed on progress at the GA
- ❖ **Stay tuned** for future calls to action

