BEYOND THE BARS
Connecting the Struggles...

ABOUT BEYOND THE BARS:

The 6th annual Beyond the Bars Conference will take place March 4th -6th, 2016 at Columbia University. This year’s conference Connecting the Struggles, aims to connect the many ways in which mass incarceration continues to impact individuals, families and communities across the U.S, and beyond. The goal for this year’s conference is to build connections across diverse struggles for social justice.

Social activist bell hooks stated: “to be truly visionary we have to root our imagination in our concrete reality while simultaneously imagining possibilities beyond that reality.” — Our comrade and sister Angela Davis, challenged us to imagine a world without prison. Join us as we honor the spirit of the struggle – join in solidarity with impacted people, and with academics, activists, practitioners and community members as we continue to connect the struggles in the efforts to eradicate mass incarceration.

Workshops are intended to make visible the ways that people are organizing to end mass incarceration, to provide skills and tools for organizing and advocacy efforts, and to connect attendees to opportunities for continued engagement beyond the conference.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2016, the third and final day of the conference, will feature workshops that aim to empower attendees to participate or continue to develop

Email Us: workshops.btb.2016@gmail.com

CALL FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS
for Sunday MARCH 6th 2016 event
skills and knowledge in the work of ending mass incarceration and connecting the many related struggles. The workshops are an opportunity for organizers, activists, students, academics, community members and more to come together to learn about and get involved in a variety of grassroots efforts relating to the many struggles connected to mass incarceration. The intended purpose of these workshops is to make visible the ways that people are organizing to end mass incarceration, to provide skills and tools for organizing and advocacy efforts, and to connect attendees to opportunities for continued engagement beyond the conference.

This year we are basing the workshops around the following foundational questions:

1. **How can we empower people to get involved in activism, organizing, and education to end mass incarceration and build social justice?**
2. **How can we empower and support the work of those who are directly and indirectly impacted by mass incarceration?**
3. **How can we make visible the ways in which people and groups are organizing around mass incarceration and social justice?**
4. **How can we better illuminate organizing efforts that are making connections to issues of incarceration but whose work is not directly addressing it?**
5. **How can we make visible the ways in which mass incarceration impacts people directly and indirectly?**

We invite proposals for workshops that address one or more of these foundational questions. We encourage workshops to emphasize tangible take-aways for
participants, such as skillsets necessary for organizing, both through active participation and/or gaining a deeper understanding of an issue.

Accepted proposals will be those that are interactive and work towards bridging the gap from analysis to action. Additionally, we are specifically seeking workshops that provide the opportunity for continued involvement after the conference weekend—either through one’s individual actions or through involvement with a group.

*All workshops will be 1.5 hours long and will take place on:

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<td>AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK</td>
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*To submit a proposal, please fill out the following form by FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016 [http://goo.gl/forms/2c9pKyzAX0].

For more information about the conference click the link below [http://centerforjustice.columbia.edu/education/beyond-the-bars-conference-2016]

Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or comments at workshops.btb.2016@gmail.com