



American Friends Service Committee

Arizona Area Program

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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New report reveals private corporation backroom deals and ex-offender warehousing rather than treatment

Grassroots Leadership and American Friends Service Committee expose lack of accountability, poor care and the exploitation of ex-offenders

AUSTIN, Texas — On Thursday, prison reform advocacy organizations Grassroots Leadership and American Friends Service Committee Tucson will host a telephone press briefing on its newly released report, “Incorrect Care: A Prison Profiteer Turns Care into Confinement.” This report outlines rampant, shocking mistreatment and abuse of power committed by private prison corporations as these entities continue to swell—now also providing mental health and health care treatment—as well as policy solutions to stop these abuses.

What: Press briefing on “Incorrect Care: A Prison Profiteer Turns Care into Confinement”

When: Tues., Mar. 1 at 1:00 pm Eastern

Who:

- Cate Graziani, mental health campaigns coordinator, Grassroots Leadership
- Caroline Isaacs, Arizona program director, American Friends Service Committee

RSVP: For dial-in information, email Ben Roussel at ben@caminopr.com or call 212-255-2575.

Key report examples of mistreatment and abuse include:

- Florida has the most concentrated “Treatment Industrial Complex” (TIC) in the country and it is killing people. For example, in 2011, Luis Santana died in a psychiatric facility run by private corporation GEO, now Correct Care Solutions (CCS). He had been left unattended in a scalding bathtub of 118 degree water.
- The former executive commissioner of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission was asked to step down from his position in 2015, after a contracting scandal exposed his extremely close relationship with a GEO lobbyist with whom he was working to privatize multiple state hospitals.

- GEO/CCS contracts in Texas and Florida offer state governments financial incentives to keep people locked up, charging a lower rate when the facilities are full. A resident of the Florida Civil Commitment Center revealed that GEO/CCS can file as many disciplinary

reports against someone in the program as they please and then use those reports to keep individuals confined.

This report is the first in a series of three reports to be released this year, as updated companion reports to 2014's "[The Treatment Industrial Complex: How For-Profit Prison Corporations are Undermining Efforts to Treat and Rehabilitate Prisoners for Corporate Gain.](#)"

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*The **American Friends Service Committee** is a non-profit organization that works for justice and human rights both nationally and internationally. The Arizona office, based in Tucson, advocates for criminal justice reform.*