

## WOMEN IN PRISON CONFERENCE “BREAKS THE SILENCE” ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND JUSTICE-INVOLVED WOMEN

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### NEWS ADVISORY

- WHAT:** Women in Prison Conference
- WHEN:** Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> – Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>
- WHO:** Oregon Justice Resource Center
- WHERE:** White Stag Block, 70 NW Couch St., Portland, OR 97209. (University of Oregon building.)
- WHY:** Explore the involvement of women in Oregon’s criminal justice system with experts and those with lived experience.
- WEBSITE:** <http://ojrc.info/women-in-prison-conference/>
- DESCRIPTION:** This annual conference is the only event of its kind in Oregon. It considers the experiences of women in the justice system in Oregon.

We know that a significant number of women in our prison, jails, and under supervision have been victims of domestic violence and that those experiences contributed to their criminal activity. This year, our conference explores issues of women who are justice-involved in this context: looking at how domestic violence contributes to women’s offending.

Keynote: Vanessa Timmons, ED, Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

Speakers/panels include:

- Criminal defenses for women also affected by domestic violence
- A district attorney and a public defender’s perspectives
- How girls are affected by domestic violence and how it can lead to their involvement in the justice system
- The perils of dialing 911 for survivors of color and queer and trans survivors
- Women arrested for domestic violence perpetration
- Screening of a film about Oregon woman Robyn Drown
- Native American women, domestic violence and the justice system
- Ideas for reform
- Currently and formerly incarcerated woman will also speak at the event.

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**The conference has sold out but we have reserved space for media. Please contact Alice Lundell if you wish to register to attend all or part of the conference.**