

## **Intern / Volunteer Opportunity: Work with See Your Change consulting on the Justice Mapping Project**

### **Background: the Justice Mapping Project**

See Your Change consulting ([seeyourchange.org](http://seeyourchange.org)) is leading a major research project focused on analysing and mapping criminal justice advocacy in Australia. The research has been commissioned by the Victorian Legal Services Board, and supported by a range of community organisations and philanthropic foundations.

We are undertaking this project in the context of an unprecedented increase in incarceration in Australia which shows no signs of slowing. The purpose of the project is to provide critical baseline information which is urgently needed to inform strategic decision-making – both so that current efforts and resources can be maximised, and so that future investment in criminal justice advocacy work is well-informed and effectively targeted. This report will be the most comprehensive landscape analysis of justice advocacy in Australia that has been produced to date.

### **The research will:**

(1) **Provide a clear picture of the challenge of mass incarceration**, as well as related trends such as increased policing and the criminalisation of poverty. This will comprise not only descriptive data, but informed analysis of the political, economic, social and cultural drivers at play.

(2) **Map the actors who are working to address this challenge**. This will include information about the organisations, networks and individuals who are advocating for alternatives to incarceration, as well as those working to safeguard civil liberties and monitor police accountability. We will map the resources available to these actors, the nature and scope of the advocacy initiatives being undertaken, the level of coordination between different actors, the key challenges they are experiencing, and the gaps that have emerged.

(3) **Make recommendations for next steps**, based on current challenges and gaps.

The final report will be delivered in March 2021, through a series of online and offline workshops and events.

### **Opportunity for research interns and volunteers:**

We are seeking applications from students from relevant disciplines, such as criminology, law, public policy and political science. You will work virtually with the See Your Change team. The project is also being overseen at a high level by the Steering Committee of 12 prominent justice reform advocates. Tasks that you will assist with include:

- Completing a literature review examining the economic and social drivers of incarceration and criminalisation in Australia;

- Completing interviews with leading advocates, lawyers, professors, people with lived experience of prison, Aboriginal leaders, cultural influencers and other relevant individuals;
- Collating and analysing data from sources such as the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission, annual reports of relevant organisations and other relevant sources;
- Evaluating survey data;
- Supporting investigative research into for-profit companies with financial interests in the prison industry and related areas.

You will be supported by members of the See Your Change team, who will provide guidance and take you through the methodologies we are using for data collection and analysis.

As this is a project that See Your Change is contributing significant pro-bono support to, we are unable to offer financial remuneration for these intern/volunteer roles. However, in addition to the valuable experience offered by this opportunity, you will be acknowledged as a contributor to this report, and supported in gaining valuable networking opportunities.

We are also happy to discuss how we can shape your internship/volunteer role to meet university credit requirements.

#### **Availability requirements:**

- Availability of 8 – 12 hours per week between the week of October 26<sup>th</sup> 2020 – week of December 14 2020 (we are flexible as to how this time is organised – it can be condensed into specific days or alternating weeks, or split evenly);
- Ideally some additional availability during February and March 2021 – this is not essential, but will mean that you are able to be involved in the shaping of final recommendations, delivery of the report and associated workshops.

#### **Selection Criteria:**

You will have or be close to completing tertiary or post-graduate qualifications in a relevant discipline and bring the following experience and skills to the role:

#### **Demonstrated research or evaluation skills:**

- Experience in research, and an understanding of evaluation methods or data collection
- Strong conceptual and analytical skills
- The ability to synthesise academic texts
- The ability to discern and summarise key information for inclusion in reports

#### **Strong communication skills:**

- Advanced writing skills and demonstrated experience producing plain-English reports conveying quantitative and qualitative data for diverse audiences

- Clear and concise verbal communication skills for diverse audiences

**Personal attributes:**

- An ability to work under pressure and meet project requirements and deadlines
- A sense of shared responsibility for projects and teamwork
- A passion for justice reform, particularly for championing alternatives to incarceration
- Strong initiative and capacity to work autonomously.

**Desirable:**

These skills are not necessary but would be an advantage.

- Strong visual communication skills, including ability to graphically articulate complex messages and data simply;
- Experience with coding qualitative data.

**TO APPLY:** Please email your resume and a cover letter (of no more than 2 pages) to [melanie@seeyourchange.org](mailto:melanie@seeyourchange.org) with the subject line "Mapping Project Application", by **5pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020.**

**Note** - we are also looking for interns or volunteers with **graphic and/or web design experience** – please email [melanie@seeyourchange.org](mailto:melanie@seeyourchange.org) if you are interested in knowing more about these opportunities.