

# INSIDE-OUTSIDE ALLIANCE RESOURCE GUIDE

## BOOKS and MAGAZINES for PRISONERS

### Durham Prison Books Collective

A non-profit organization that sends books to people inside women's prisons in North Carolina and to the Durham county jail by request. Durham Prison Books can send three books at a time, approximately once a month, in addition zines and this resource guide.

Durham Prison Books c/o Internationalist Books  
P.O. Box 1524, Durham, NC 27702

### PEN Prison Writing Program

The Prison Writing Program sponsors an annual writing contest, publishes a free handbook for prisoners, and provides one-on-one mentoring to inmates.

588 Broadway, Suite 303, New York, NY 10012  
(212) 334-1660 penmentor@gmail.com - pen.org

## Legal and Parole Resources

### ACLU of North Carolina

The American Civil Liberties Union takes on individual cases and provides referrals. They publish a quarterly journal and helpful booklets. Intake Department, ACLU of North Carolina PO Box 28004, Raleigh, NC 27611-8004

### Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Legal help and advocacy for immigrants. Works with INS detainees and imprisoned immigrants.

Se habla español. Immigrant Legal Resource Center, 1016 16th Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20036 - <http://www.ilrc.org/>

### Lewisburg Prison Project

Publishes several low-cost materials for prisoners, including Legal Bulletins, Federal Parole Guide, and Due Process standards. PO Box 128, Lewisburg, PA 17837 570-523-1104 [www.lewisburgprisonproject.org](http://www.lewisburgprisonproject.org)  
National Center on Institutions and Alternatives Can help with preparing sentencing and parole recommendations; death penalty mitigating circumstances; jail suicide prevention. 7205 Rutherford Road, Baltimore, MD 21244 - 443-780-1300 - [info@ncianet.org](mailto:info@ncianet.org)

### National Lawyers Guild

A national organization of progressive and radical lawyers active around a wide range of issues which affect prisoners. They publish an excellent Jailhouse Lawyers handbook, free from: 132 Nassau Street, Rm. 922, New York, NY 10038 - 212-679-5100 - [www.nlg.org](http://www.nlg.org)

### North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services

A non-profit legal services firm to provide inmates meaningful access to the courts. Can determine whether there were legal errors made in convictions. PO Box 25397 Raleigh, NC 27611 Phone: 919-856-2200 [ncpls@ncpls.org](mailto:ncpls@ncpls.org) - <http://www.ncpls.org/>

### Prison Legal News

A monthly magazine with review & analysis of prisoner rights, court rulings and news concerning prison-related issues. \$3.50 sample issue/\$30 year subscription. Has catalog of legal books. Accepts books of new stamps as payment. PO Box 1151 Lake Worth, FL 33460 561-360-2523 [info@prisonlegalnews.org](mailto:info@prisonlegalnews.org)

### Prison Self-Help Legal Clinic

Supports prisoners' efforts at self-ligation with education resources. Provides services in Spanish and in English. Se habla español. One Newark Center, Seaton Hall University School of Law, Newark, NJ 07102 - [PSHLC@domain.com](mailto:PSHLC@domain.com) 888-415-7271

### Southern Center for Human Rights

Provides legal representation to people facing the death penalty, challenges human rights violations in prisons and jails, legal representation for poor people, and advocates for criminal justice system reforms. 83 Poplar St. Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-688-1202 - [www.schr.org](http://www.schr.org)

### NC Center on Actual Innocence

Investigates claims of innocence for NC felonies with at least three years left in the sentence.  
PO Box 52446, Shannon Plaza Station, Durham, NC 27717-2446 - 919-489-3268 - [admin@nccai.org](mailto:admin@nccai.org) - <http://nccai.org/>

# feedback

inside & outside, voices from the jail struggle

Durham, NC ~ August 2018 ~ volume 42

## “This is not your business”

*The following letter was signed by many inmates in the women's pod:*

It happened one week ago. One of us is gone – one of our male inmates [Dashawn Evans]. The tragedy in jail – again: another death. We are sorry and scared. Frustrated. And of course; needless to say; we want to know the truth; we want to know what happened. It would be so natural and respectful if the jail administration informed us about this tragedy. It's so clear that it shouldn't have to be proven. Because the lack of information produces gossip. And also it produces fear. Let me start. My tablemate told me: it was suicide. The teacher from one of my classes thinks this man just took the wrong medicine. One girl is literally terrified. When they found his body the blood was everywhere in the cell, she told me. So we incarcerated people trying to figure out about that and started to ask those working in here. We deserve to know the truth at least because it happened in here where we live!! in jail!! But the officials disagree with our natural curiosity. “No, you should not ask, it has nothing to do with you” – those are literally the words of an official (let's say her name is Mary). “Oh big pardon, ma-am! We are STILL HERE and want to be SAFE!” This is not the first case of death around us. It is not even the second. Now, a young 23 year old man has died. It is unrevocable. It's scary and horrible in itself and also because we are in potential danger. Nobody in here wants to help us. Is it hopeless or can you help????

By F.L.

PS: (different author) The staff here does not care about the well-being or respect or dignity of the inmates. it's like the staff only cares that you are here to do your time. Nothing else.

## “I’m not trying to die like he did”

I’ve been doing alright, trying to maintain and keep my spirits up. Because some days I do get down, I’m not gonna lie. A little about myself would be that I’m from Newark, NJ originally. I’m 26 years old. I dropped out-of-school in the 11th grade but in grade school I was a honored student. My first job was at UPS, then it became FedEx as a package handler. I lost my mom 6 days before my birthday, which changed my whole lifestyle on May 2, 2015. So I came to live with my brother in Durham. I got a couple of jobs in the time I’ve been down but I couldn’t keep them due to my lack of responsibility and if my brother wouldn’t of kicked me out with a job. IDK about my man’s death [Dashawn Evans]. I’m not trying to die like he did. It kinda got me shook, you know being in jail anybody could do something to you. -UB

### What is Feedback?

**Feedback** is a publication of Inside-Outside Alliance (IOA), a group of people trying to support the struggles of those inside (or formerly inside) the Durham jail, and their families and friends. We recognize that any of us can be outside one day, inside the next – the revolving door of incarceration. We also participate in struggles against police harassment and brutality. IOA maintains a website called Amplify Voices Inside ([amplifyvoices.com](http://amplifyvoices.com)) that publishes the words of Durham jail inmates and former inmates talking about conditions inside and outside and how they see the world.

The name Amplify Voices Inside comes from something a brave and rebellious inmate wrote in the fall of 2012. This publication, Feedback, is a sampling of recent contents of the website. When something amplified is redirected at the source of the sound, the effect is called feedback. That is what this is: the voices that have been amplified to the outside world being re-broadcast inside the walls of the jail. Feedback is also distributed on the outside and sometimes includes ‘outside’ voices. Unless a person requests use of their real name, then writers’ initials have been changed to protect identities and minimize repressive attacks and harassment.

**To contribute words or art, write to: IOA, PO Box 1353, Durham, NC 27701.**

You may be able to reach us by phone at 919.666.7854

Or, if you are not in jail and are able to, send an email: [insideoutsidealliance@gmail.com](mailto:insideoutsidealliance@gmail.com)

**\* Se habla español. \***



Image from a protest for Dashawn Evans on Friday, June 1st, in front of the jail.

**WFTP 92.9 airs a monthly radio show with music, interviews, and news from prisoners.**

**Tune in on the 2nd Sunday of every month at 7pm at 92.9!**

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quickly locking us back at 12:45 and 6:45 in the afternoon. I wanna be able to go home to my family that God bless me with. Thanks M. for asking my response cuz nobody else ask me how it is except my family. If you can send me some books to read, I write songs based on the stories I read, hear, and tell. – DYNESTE (God Bless Us All).

### As You Walk Past

“As you walk past”

I’m poor and needy,  
These hands dirty and greedy,  
My clothes are old and worn,  
unto poverty I was born,

I fight every day that I take breath,  
I’ll keep fighting even until death,  
I walk among shadows and I remain unseen,

The rich are death and blind it would seem,  
Crime becomes a need to survive, or act upon  
My thoughts of suicide,

People ask why I live  
This way, I shake

My head not knowing what to say,  
Do you know me? and do you even care?  
Questions I ask as you walk past like I’m not even there,  
Your world and mine are 2 different places,  
As you walk past my face is just another among many faces.

By: Wallace Eubanks

### “Our laws enslave and our leaders hold the leash”

So many things are happening in the free world. Many want change and seek it out, yet continue to climb the wall of oppression that we as people have build. I know that sounds impossible but it’s true. All our laws we bend and add to and do away with, when we fight to change these we dig deeper the hole that will soon be our grave. Once we were a “free nation” or so we claimed, yet people were enslaved. We boasted freedom and still do, but our laws enslave and our leaders hold the leash. We fight, they pull, we are divided not truly united. When as a whole nation have we stood together on the major issues we are faced within our own borders?

We elect officials to represent our countries, cities, states, and the whole nation, how many of them really stand up for the people? Do they walk through our ghettos, trailer parks, and homeless streets and ask what can they do for the very people they represent? They say kind words and give promises when it’s time to vote and when they are elected they become shadows and make excuses why they can’t uphold the promises made. By our laws we elect them and by our laws he is protected. We try to change them and they bend and remake them. It looks good at the

time until the fine print plunges us back into darkness. My hope is this: never give up the pursuit of the true love for one another that makes us equal in every way. Only then will we truly have freedom. Our world leaders are blinded by power and the “king of the hill” mentality. They fight one another to be the best, they do not see one another as equal, and is then passed down to the people of these nations. Hate is like cancer that spreads until it devours its host. It has spread all over the world into the hearts of many. We have done this to ourselves, generation after generation it has been passed down, yet I have Hope!

Love is far greater than any amount of hate. As a people we could make a difference and an impact greater than we could conceive. It must start with the individual, then as groups with like minds & hearts. Many fight for equality yet do not stand equal. Groups fight independently for rights, when we we all should stand together. This sounds impossible in the world we live I know. Love binds together, hate spreads apart. Until we understand this as a people, I am afraid

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we will destroy what we are fighting so hard for. . .

I am so ready to face my freedom. These cells work in two ways: they “break down” and they “build up”. I am stronger behind all this. I want you to know I am grateful for your letters, C—. I wish more people would write, but I am thankful for what you I do here. I wish I had a steady female companion to exchange letters of hope and to possibly build upon other than the extreme loneliness that my heart has become used to. You must forgive me, my emotions sometimes get the best of me. I also like to speak my mind and feelings.

-Wallace Eubanks

### “Before I get lost in the system”

How are you doing? How is that going with trying to get me some help (with medical)? I was listening to the public radio station and I heard that someone is putting together a lawsuit against the jail or the prison because inmates like me that have hepatitis are not getting treatment for it. So I need a lawyer to come see me, because this may be why I am having sweating problems in my legs when I sleep, and my legs and feet are swollen and I am not getting any treatment for this. So let’s get together now before I get lost in the system. . . . I need to get a lawsuit going against Durham County for not treating my hepatitis C.

-EN

### ***SURVEY and PETITIONS ABOUT MEDICAL NEGLECT***

*Have you experienced medical neglect, medical inattention, or any kind of problems with medical care in the jail?*

We want to know about inmates’ experiences of medical neglect in the jail. If you have any such experiences, please write to us and tell us about your experiences (or what you have witnessed of other people’s experiences). We are inspired here because there are inmates making petitions around these issues in some pods. Please consider making a petition for your own pod, gathering signatures, and sending it to us. We would then help publicize the petitions, to create pressure for change.

### ‘Dashawn Evans death has touched me in a strong way..?’

Whassup how are you? First off my love and and support goes out o Dashawn Evans and his family. Just reading the pamphlet it got my head spinning. I show my woman of my first born child when she came to visitation what we go through. All I can do is pray because God has bless me with my first son and I wanna be there for him and not him suffer without his biological father like I did. Dashawn Evans death has touched me in a strong way and it hurts to know that it could’ve been me or any other brothers. I don’t care if u black, white, chinese or even hispanic. I learn being incarcerated to love thy neighbor – its too much evil in this world. I wish what I did never happened but when you become a pawn on the devil’s chessboard don’t no good come from it. I don’t like it. I see my brothers wake up faithfully because of the grace of God, but actually no one wants to even get out their pod cuz this place is depressing. Bad enough how we get fed is pitiful. Like, come on, they feed us like we babies at daycare. Like on 6/27/18 my dinner tray had soup, but it looked like somebody scoop some of it back off the tray and I had a piece of cornbread about the size of a newborn’s hand. Many of us had about nothing on the tray. It is sad for the ones that don’t have commissary and their stomachs touching their backs down to the worn down blue mats. It’s sad, painful and people are tired of it. All this money Durham get, but where does it go? For real. It’s bad enough that this jail making money off of us, but worse to know people is dying in here. I thought coming here was to finally sit down and get our minds right, but how can that happen under these dysfunctional conditions? Every charge and incarceration I have received in Durham was under the influence of alcohol and drugs, but why is it that every time I try to get in a treatment programs there is all this unnecessary stuff added along. I’m asking for help but I don’t receive it. I thought I was safe and protected but I am not here. It’s no different than being on the streets and being gun down by police. Once again our lives in the hands of the government and we still suffer. This is crazy, but it’s reality. I just ask God to be with Dashawn and his family and all of us. I do have love for the staff in this jail, but I just think a lot of stuff needs to change. Instead of so

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