



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES

EFFECTIVE JUSTICE AND PREVENTION OF DISABILITY

There should be effective prevention and treatment for targeted person with disability and at risk of disability from entering the juvenile justice system.

A briefing was held on a design to reduce incarceration of people in America through provision of community prevention programs that include mentoring and educational supports. Persons in attendance at the briefing were congressional staff and advocates for criminal justice.

Summary

There was a legislative proposal for grants to target persons in communities who are at risk of entering the criminal justice system. The proposal was a proactive approach to prevent entry into the justice system and improve both financial and life quality of released incarcerated people for community life. Effective public health could make a substantial contribution to prevention of incarceration of persons with disabilities who comprise nearly half of the prison population.

Disability Prevention Issue

Strengthening community prevention of violent and abusive behavior through effective public health is a disability prevention issue. There is impressive data that indicates that half of incarcerated people are disabled. High prevalence disabled populations are persons who are mentally ill, persons with substance abuse disorders, and with infectious diseases. Many of the disabling conditions associated with incarceration can be prevented through effective community public health prevention programs..

Activity

A letter was written to the Chair of a subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee concerning needs of persons with disabilities from entering the justice system.

Principle

There should be effective prevention and treatment of at risk juveniles with poor health who may enter the justice system to prevent disability.