

MARYLAND ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE REFORM

Working to end unnecessary incarceration and build strong, safe communities



General Meeting this Friday!

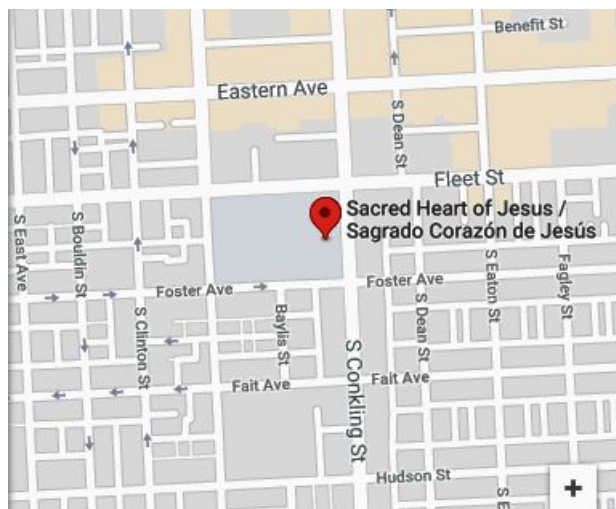
What issues are most important to you? And how should JRA funds best be spent? Drug abuse reportedly impacts 65% of those arrested. Mental health problems are estimated to affect up to 40% of those awaiting trials in our jails. Screening, treatment and mediation could reduce the intake of citizens into

our prisons which, in the U.S., still are filled at nearly 5 times the rate of other nations. Are these your issues? Do you have other concerns to bring forward?

Now What?

That's up to you.

We need your advice on how best to craft our initiatives for the next legislature. MAJR will host a general planning session on **Friday, September 14** at the **Sacred Heart of Jesus Church**, 600 South Conkling Street, Baltimore, MD 21224



6:00 - 7:00: Welcome and Potluck supper

7:00 - 9:00: Issues and Participation



Questions!

Governor Larry Hogan and **Ben Jealous** agreed to participate in only a single, hour-long televised debate on September 24th. But you will have this and other opportunities to find out where they stand on issues which have been important to you and the Maryland

Alliance for Justice Reform. Write directly to the candidates, or call their offices with questions about justice reform.

Here are some questions that we would like to hear answered before the election:

1. Do you support alternatives to incarceration where appropriate? Please explain.
2. In your opinion is there a difference between being "tough on crime" and being "smart on crime"? Please explain.
3. Maryland is one of the only states in the US that requires the governor's approval of a parole commission's recommendation to parole an inmate with a life sentence. Do you favor this policy? Please explain.
4. Without job training, without drug treatment, without housing, ex-offenders in Maryland too often end up back in prison. What will you do as Governor to correct this pattern?
5. The Justice Reinvestment Act, signed into law on May 19, 2016, seeks to reduce Maryland's prison population and use the savings to provide for more effective treatment to offenders, before, during, and after incarceration. How would you use these savings?

Do these questions address your major concerns? Do you have other questions that need to be asked? Come to our General Meeting in Baltimore City on Friday, September 14th and get your questions aired.

MAJR is a nonpartisan association of over fifty community organizations and churches with members in every part of the state, formed to support justice reinvestment. Individual supporters include judges, attorneys, corrections professionals, as well as returning citizens, victims, and service providers.

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