Women Exiting the Criminal Legal System Deserve Better

Maryland women have ZERO minimum security and pre-release facilities. Men have several.

Maryland women deserve supports:

- Women are more than twice as likely as men to be incarcerated for non-violent offenses (37% compared to 16%).
- Since 1980, the number of women in jail has increased 462%, and the number of women in prison has increased 264%.

75% of women who are incarcerated are the primary or sole caretakers of children. Children need their parents.

SUPPORT pre-release services for women that offer:

- Job opportunities
- Housing assistance
- An opportunity to adjust back into their communities
IN THEIR OWN WORDS:
Women at MCI-Win Jessup

I thought I was the only person struggling to find a place to rent when I am released, until I began talking to other women on work release... I would say that 70% of the work release women need help finding housing. No help here though!

When I’m released I have no job, no car, no license, no clue how to get around, no money, management training...I have never taken a bus...thrown into society with no sense of navigation...the bottom line is that transitioning is really impossible in this setting.

I live on a housing unit with maximum and medium security...this can be scary sometimes mainly since jealousy resides in this institution...they antagonize you. I would really like to be housed in a properly equipped facility. It would really help a lot of residents that have been here conform to living in society once again.