Dear Community,

In 2021, our organization continued the deep healing work we are so committed to. We participated in defense campaigns, built and strengthened our survivor organizing academy, expanded our loving facilitation team, fostered new relationships and strengthened old ones, as well as moved to a new fiscal sponsor! 2022 marks five years since Collective Justice was born, and we have such deep gratitude for our community, our staff, and our collective members who have been alongside us.

Despite the barriers from Covid-19, our team still remained active and engaged in community! Here are just a few highlights from 2021:

- Cassandra DuBois joined our staff team as our Wellness & Development Director.
- We completed our second facilitation training for our Community Circles, skilling up 22 community members.
- We took a leap and shifted our organizational structure from classic hierarchical to a horizontal one, shifting decision making power to include collective members and dissolving the role of Executive Director.
- Our Survivor Organizing Academy completed their first cohort with 11 participants.
- We have a new fiscal sponsor! Rainier Valley Corps has taken us in as of September 2021.

We are committed to continuing work in 2022 that fosters fundamental changes in people, relationships, and communities. Our model challenges the legitimacy of punishment as a frontline approach to harm and creates the conditions that make policing and prisons obsolete. We have put restorative justice into powerful practice in opposition to the violence of the criminal legal system and are engaged in survivor-led advocacy to build responses to harm that are truly just.

We share this report with you as a way to look back on the work we have accomplished and as a thank you to our members, staff, and donors who have made it possible. Please continue to support CJ so we may continue creating the conditions for healing and safety, for each other and for everyone.

In solidarity,

Collective Justice
Collective Justice (CJ) was born out of conversations with – and entirely nurtured by – survivors of violence. Our mission is to build relationship-based responses to harm that center the dignity of all people. Through restorative and transformative justice practices, we support communities most impacted by interpersonal and state violence to build new pathways for healing, accountability, and safety.

We envision a future where our communities experience what it means to be truly free. Free from the punitive systems that create the conditions for violence; free from scarcity and the extractive forces that lead to trauma in our lives and those of our children. In the future we are building, we are safe because we are in community. Where there once were prisons, there is an abundance of resources - green space, food, healthcare, and housing. In this future, generational wounds are healed, allowing us to live well, equitably, and with love.

At Collective Justice, we create spaces where healing and accountability can happen, outside of and in response to the violence of the criminal legal system. Everyone who works at CJ has been impacted by violence in some way, and we know that life-affirming, community-based healing is the only path toward our collective liberation.

WWW.COLLECTIVEJUSTICENW.ORG

Art Credit:
Henry Luke @artbyhenryluke
HEALING CIRCLES
Our team holds circles both in prison and in community for people on all sides of serious harm. Community members who join our circles foster skills to cope with triggers, tap into a community of care, and build resilience. In circles for those who have experienced harm, including gun violence and sexual violence, participants share their stories of grief and loss, paving the way for healing and resolution. In circles for those who have caused harm, participants unpack the dynamics that led to their actions, paving the way for healing and reparation.

DIALOGUE AND ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESSES
We facilitate Dialogue and Accountability Processes where people who have survived or lost loved ones to violence have face to face dialogues with those who have caused them harm. Talking in a safe setting allows those harmed to give full voice to their experience and all that they endured. Survivors decide how the harm is redressed and may ask questions about what happened, express the impact, and make requests for repair. People responsible for harm, no matter how severe, are given the opportunity to face the often wide-ranging and complex impact of their actions and work towards their own accountability. We work with people in community and in the criminal legal system, including those who are in jail and prison.

COLLECTIVE HEALING TO COLLECTIVE POWER
Through embodied leadership development and political education, we support community members who are left feeling powerless without a channel to influence legislation and public policy that aligns with the needs and values of their communities. We elevate the visions of justice and safety as defined by members of the most vulnerable communities whose lives are at stake in the criminal legal system’s response to harm and violence — we understand violence as connected to a broader historical context, recognizes state as well as interpersonal violence, and is grounded in racial equity. More effective paths forward emerge when advocacy and organizing are led directly by survivors of harm and violence, from the communities most targeted by the criminal legal system.
OUR TEAM

STAFF

MARTINA KARTMAN
Capacity & Advocacy Coordinator

GUADALUPE VIDAURRI
HEAL Circles Coordinator

DASHNI AMIN
HEAL2Action Program Coordinator

DEVON ADAMS
Fundraising Coordinator

CASSANDRA BUTLER
Wellness & Development Coordinator

MATTHEW MURPHY
Dialogue & Accountability Process Coordinator

SATORY ADAMS
Communications Coordinator

FACILITATORS

BRIANA HERMAN-BRAND

CALVIN BURNAP

CLARA OLIVO

DANNY WAXWING

DOLPHY JORDAN

DEVITTA BRISCOE

FLORENCE SUM

GRADY MITCHELL

ISAURA JIMÉNEZ GUERRA

KARISSA MASCIEL

KATHEI MCCOY

METASABIA RIGBY

ORLANDO AMES

PARIS CHAPMAN

PRIYA NAIR

PRIYA RAI

STACY TORRES

TEDDY MCGLYNN-WRIGHT

TRACY STEWART
Collective Justice holds a vision of the future where no person or community is above or below another. In 2021, to reflect our aspirational vision, we began an ambitious journey towards a more horizontal, worker-owned collective - one that holds collective accountability to this work, to one another and to the communities we are committed to supporting. We have moved slowly and stumbled along the way - disentangling ourselves from the ever-present and familiar forms of power we are so used to. Our collective body is still adjusting, and we are still learning, yet, we are hopeful that together we can create liberating and loving spaces.

With this new organization structure brought lots of change the past year. Martina Kartman has shifted from her former role as Director so that she can work alongside our brilliant team as a fellow-staffer. We will be dissolving the role of Director and co-hold the development of Collective Justice as a team. We are also working with teams made up of staff and collective members that collectively see our work through from circle to fundraising and organizational development. We are deeply grateful for the love and labor of our members.
“I would like to thank you and your organization for the help given to me and my family. I’m very grateful that they’re are programs like this to help families in need. Sometimes is hard to ask for help because you turned away one too many times, but thank you for opening the door when I knocked for help” – Jancy, Rapid Response Participant

This year we continued to respond to the ways in which COVID-19 has made it increasingly difficult for our communities to meet their survival needs through the Rapid Response Program. Rapid Response continued to address the material needs of survivors, centering their dignity and agency. Rapid Response at its core is a program about building relationship through offering spaciousness and healing through being an entry-point into our other programming.
The community we supported this year was primarily Black mothers experiencing houselessness, those who are currently pregnant, and/or are survivors of domestic violence.

Tapping into the existing mutual-aid networks across Seattle and King County, we used this year to build partnerships and connect participants with crowdsourcing. In times when we were unable to meet all of the needed support, community stepped up to send funds directly and redistribute wealth. Connecting with mutual-aid networks has been the greatest shift in the program. Rapid Response as it is currently structured will close out at the end of this year, shifting to be a program to deeply resource folks involved in our other programs, making sure that our communities can feel resourced while healing and building power.

112+ Families supported
79% are Black
90% are People of Color
In 2021, we coordinated three virtual HEAL circles. In these spaces, participants joined others in a restorative justice circle where they explored different topics that may have included trauma, shame, resilience, accountability, socialization, structural and generational violence, and their impacts on our bodies and had access to material resources to meet access needs. They shared and witnessed each other’s stories, growth, and created community. Collectively, the facilitators hold many years of experience in: services for survivors of harm and violence; prison-based support work; somatics; healing and trauma work; community organizing; community-based responses to harm; community education; and movements for racial justice and queer and trans liberation.
Collective Justice (CJ) & Community Passageways (CP) collaborated to support BIPOC young leaders in the community. We used restorative justice practices to build skills and wellness around coping with stress and trauma, build resilience, and unpack the dynamics that lead to harm. This circle was built on the deep wisdom that CP has gained over the years on best practices for culturally relevant anti-violence work for Black and Brown youth.

Our BIPOC-centered restorative justice circle for those who have been impacted by gun violence in the King County area. We bring experience facilitating trauma healing space, grief work and restorative justice circle work. Our facilitators have all been impacted by violence in some form, and are well-rounded and experienced in trauma informed work.
In 2021, OPC team members reconvened after our 2020 hiatus and led CJ’s base-building and advocacy work. OPC team members participated in community-led defense campaigns for criminalized survivors like Maddesyn George. They offered testimony and input on house bills 1293, 1282, 1344, and 1412; attended task forces like the Budget for Justice coalition or the WA State Sentencing Taskforce; and met with candidates for office like Nikkita Oliver, Lorena Gonzalez, and Nicole Thomas-Kennedy.
In 2021, the OPC team held the first full HEAL2Action (H2A) Cohort, an eight-month long survivor organizing academy that provided 10 local BIPOC survivors a heart-centered space for healing, material resources to meet access needs, and organizing tools for liberation. We partnered with local organizers to matriculate the first cohort of survivor-leaders who are well-resourced and positioned to make change in the world. The training curriculum included political education deepening our collective understanding of how to strategically disrupt systems of power that perpetuate violence in our homes and daily life, as well as workshops on narrative storytelling, facilitation, and somatic presence. Over many one-to-ones, weekly Saturday sessions, and one memorable and COVID-free in-person retreat, relationships were built that will outlast the program and campaigns were built that are now held by the OPC team. Five H2A graduates continued their membership within Collective Justice teams, joining other criminalized survivors to lead within CJ and the anti-violence movement in Washington.
“THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO
ARE AS READY AS YOU, WHO
HAVE THE IDEAS YOU HAVE.
THEY’RE SURVIVORS TOO,
AND THEY’RE RIGHT THERE
TO HOLD ALL THAT YOU
ARE.”
- MARCENA DAY, H2A 1.0

“I HAVE WOKEN UP MANY
MORNINGS WITH PAIN AND
HEARTACHE. THE THING THAT
KEEPS ME GOING IS KNOWING
THAT MY COMMUNITY FOSTERS
LOVE, CREATES LOVE. THIS
CARE FOR EACH OTHER IS
NATURAL.”
- ALIYAH MUSALIAR, H2A 1.0