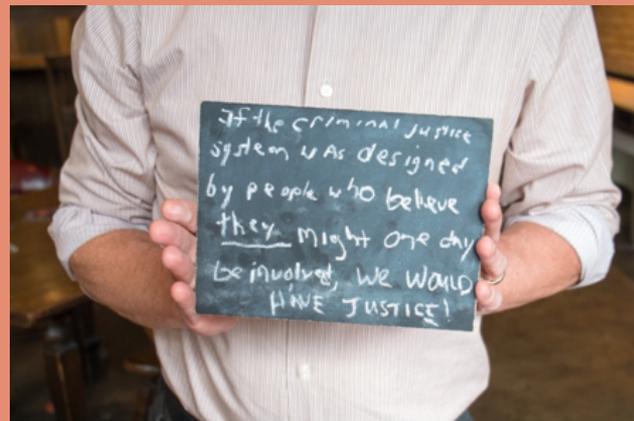
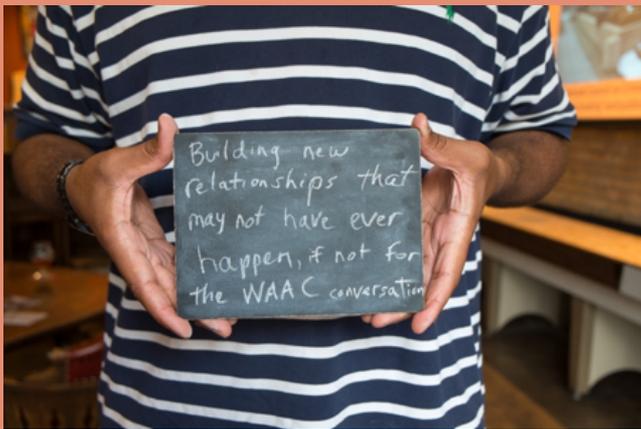


WE ARE ALL CRIMINALS

One in four people in the U.S. has a criminal record.
Four in four have a criminal history.

Participants in the We Are All Criminals project tell stories of crimes they got away with. The stories range from humorous to humbling, but all have one thing in common: they are privately held memories without public stigma. Each shows that oftentimes the only thing separating *clean* from *criminal* is who gets caught.

We Are All Criminals Turned Three!



To everyone who made it to Indeed Brewing Company for the [WAAAC Bday Bash](#), thank you for helping us celebrate this last year and welcome in another! You packed the taproom and patio in an enthusiastic support of a project and organization that continues to catalyze conversation, ignite change, and transform lives across the United States.

Special thanks to Indeed (in particular, Patrick The Brewer) and The Smoking Cow food truck for your generous support of our work.

If you weren't able to join us but would still like to show some love, you can support us [here](#).

Thank you. We couldn't do this without you.

With a full heart,

Emily





See more pics on our [Facebook page](#)

From a supporter in Ohio:

“This is a truly wonderful project, and one that I felt compelled to contribute towards in some fashion. I never imagined a website like this would have such an impact on my life, but I have come to realize the common humanity among all of us, no matter what a person's record says. Please continue with your important work; this project is reaching more people and transforming more lives than you may realize.”

WAAC on the Road

Minneapolis, Minnesota



Thanks to the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Design for hosting WAAC. Special thanks to Kelly Winters and KC Harrison for the invitation.

To the class of 2020: we see you, we hear you, we need you. Thank you for using your voice, your talent, and your unique experience to question narratives, shift paradigms, and change the world.

Saint Paul, Minnesota



Unity Unitarian

Thanks for hosting WAAC once again, Unity!

Minneapolis, Minnesota



Jason Sole, introducing WAAC



Emily



Nadine

We were honored to join BRIDGE, Voices for Racial Justice, and community members with loved ones in prison for a day filled with love, urgency, and action.

Special thanks to Kevin Reese, Zeke Caligiuri, and all of the men who are leading change from the inside out.

Madison, Wisconsin



WAAC returned to Madison, Wisconsin's ForwardFest—this year, to introduce defense attorneys Dean Strang and Jerry Buting (from the docuseries *Making a Murderer*), Wisconsin Innocence Project Directors Keith Findley and Carrie Sperling, and Wisconsin Circuit Court Judge Everett Mitchell as we discussed the criminal justice system, its failures, and the consequences for our country. Special thanks to Rachel Neill and Shobhan Thakkar for extending the invite, Madison Public Library for hosting the event, Underground Food Collective

and 3rd Sign Brewery for providing food and drink, and the National Council on Crime & Delinquency and Farwell for sponsoring the event and making WAAC's involvement possible. Field59's video of the talk can be found [here](#).

Shortly after the event, we received this beautiful note from one of our Madison partners: "after listening to your opening talk, [one woman] found herself so moved that she started to weep and actually left the event. She thought you were a powerful speaker and the stories just too heartbreaking. Even when she was speaking with me, she got very emotional. She told me that she will speak with me this coming week about what she can do to help you. Wow!"

Fayetteville, North Carolina



Dennis Gaddy



Bishop Larry O. Wright and Dennis

Community Success Initiative's Dennis Gaddy invited WAAC to be a part of the first Reentry Roundtable in Fayetteville, North Carolina. (CSI is a Raleigh-based nonprofit that helps men and women find stability and opportunity once released from prison.) It was a powerful gathering of food, fellowship, and a shared dedication to real change.

A Note From a Board Member



Nadine Graves

On September 9 and 10, Emily and I had the privilege to attend the Formerly Incarcerated & Convicted People & Families Movement 1st Annual Conference, in Oakland, CA. The atmosphere was filled with joy, empowerment, and demands for continued work on behalf of all affected by incarceration. The conference provided a dynamic space for people who were formerly incarcerated—not *ex-felons* but *people*—to talk frankly about ending mass incarceration. Time and again, we all took note of the needed talent tied up in the justice

system; there is power and ingenuity locked behind bars. It was inspiring to see so many organizations led by people directly impacted by the criminal justice system who are successful despite all the odds stacked against them. From my own experience and my family's, I understand those odds. I truly believe that as a nation we must come together to demand and enact change, and not draw arbitrary and unfair lines between the undeserving and the deserving. To echo the call from the Oakland organization that began the Ban the Box movement so many years ago: all of us or none!

Support WAAC

Help us continue our work by donating online.

Upcoming Events

September 28: [The Whole](#) in Minneapolis, MN. 6:30-8pm.

September 30: [Denfeld Auditorium](#) in Duluth, MN. 5:30-7:30pm.

October 3: [Tuscan Center Midtown Square](#) in St Cloud, MN. 5:30-7:30pm.

November 2: [Wake Forest University School of Law](#) in Winston Salem, NC. Noon.

November 18: [National Association of Social Workers](#), NC Chapter in Asheville, NC. 11:15am-12:45pm.



WAAC @ Burton Hall on the University of Minnesota Campus. The exhibit will be on display until the end of September.