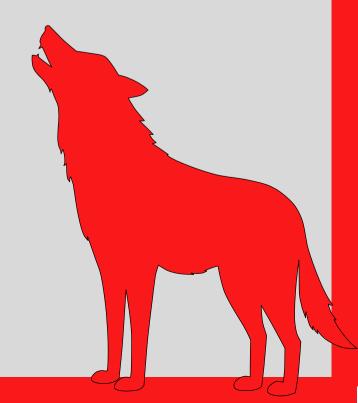


# 2022 Annual Report

### 12 Staff and Interns

Bella Robinson	Executive Director
Tara Burns	Research Director
Kayla Katt	Communications Director
Ramona Flour	Social Media Coordinator
Shiela Brown	Closet Director
Lilah Rose	Disability Advocate
Zoey Dash	Gender Justice Advocate
Erica McDonald	Editor of COYOTE Monthly Newsletter
Samantha Cote	Resource Coordinator
Tatiana Rothchild	Research & Policy Assistant
Gerilou Ebrada2	022 Summer Intern, "Monkey Pox Education"
Allie Benz	2022 Summer Intern & Research Assistant

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#### **Publications & Content Creation**

- Prostitution and Prostitution Related Charges in Rhode Island 2000 Present, Report
- <u>Sex Worker Storytelling Podcast</u> (9 episodes published)
- Prostitution and Prostitution Related Charges in Rhode Island, 2000-2021, Report
- <u>Four Years of FOSTA Survey Report</u> <u>COYOTE filed an <u>amicus brief</u> in support of Woodhull Freedom Foundation et al. v. United States</u>
- Important Facts on Monkeypox
- Immunity Toolkit
- <u>5 Week COYOTE Re-Entry Training</u>
- COYOTE Monthly Newsletters

#### Community-Based Participant Directed Research for Sex Work Policy

- Conducted a sex worker/survivor focus group on the RI charging documents.
- Started a <u>new survey</u> to collect stories to support a RI bill for immunity for sex workers and sex trafficking survivors reporting violent crimes to police.
- The ebook is almost done!

#### Educational and Research Archives

- We updated the <u>Coyote RI Survey Collection</u>, which is archived at the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women through Brown University.
- COYOTE Rhode Island Records (Ms.2019.019) hosted by the Brown University Library
- On a daily basis, we update content on our website: <u>COYOTERI.org</u>



### Mutual Aid

## The COYOTE CLOSET served 1,454 people in 2022.

We provided over 1000 hygiene kits, 100 COVID tests, hundreds of masks, dozens of Naloxone kits, over 4000 condoms, clothing, and food. Provided \$18,297 to sex workers in crisis.

Mentor by Mail Program served over 50 incarcerated sex workers nationwide.

We provided case management in release planning and accessing reentry planning, as well as support upon release.

#### In November we launched our "RI Re-entry Program".

We provided \$2,200 in gift cards to incarcerated women being released from RI Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI). We provided case management to 18 women at the RI ACI, helping them get their birth certificates, social security cards, and access housing in sober houses/ transitional programs. We plan to expand this program in 2023.

Supported a local woman who is a victim of law enforcement domestic violence as well as a local sex worker who was assaulted, beaten, and robbed.

#### **Presentations and Conferences**

- 1. RI College (Sex Worker Rights are Human Rights)
- 2. Williams College (Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies)
- 3. FREEHER Fellowship National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls (Sex Worker Rights training)
- 4. FREEHER Conference in Detroit (FOSTA/SESTA/Amicus Brief)
- 5. Black & Pink Massachusetts (DECRIMPACT Symposium)
- 6. Massachusetts LGBTQ Youth Commission (Sex Work Research Team)
- 7. Harm Reduction Los Angeles (HRLA) (Continuing Medical Education for Health Care Providers"
- 8.St. Louis Department of Health (Monkeypox Q&A)
- 9. Three COYOTE Members attended the 2022 FREEHER Conference in Detroit, MI (October 2022)
- 10. Two COYOTE Members attended the FREEHER Fellowship Conference in Montgomery, AL (March 2022)

#### Training

- 1. Bella Robinson's 6 month fellowship through FreeHer (20 hours a week)
- 2. Bi-weekly meetings with the New England FreeHer Coalition
- 3. Three-day "Repower Training"
- 4. "Lobby Testifying Training" through the Womxns Project
- 5. "Justice, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Webinar" through RI United Way
- 6. "Abolition is Feminism, Feminism is Abolition: Abolition Feminism in Action"
- 7. "A Community Event on the Future of Surveillance and Mass Incarceration"
- 8. "A Conversation on Transformative Justice" Training
- 9. "RIDOH Community Partners on Monkeypox" Training
- 10. Additional webinars and community meetings



### Media and Interviews

- 1. Providence Journal "RI's Bella Robinson fights to legalize prostitution, her profession at age 57" (<u>View</u>)
- 2. Reason Magazine "Rhode Island Senators Consider Two Paths To Decriminalizing Prostitution" (<u>View</u>)
- 3. Uprise RI "COYOTE RI urges DC Circuit Court to overturn harmful sex trafficking law" (<u>View</u>)
- 4. Uprise RI "International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers" (View)
- 5. Uprise RI "Sex workers Zoom-bombed at December 17th International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers vigil" (<u>View</u>)
- 6. Uprise RI "First Source mandates the hiring of PVD residents but the city refuses to enforce it" (<u>View</u>)
- 7. Uprise RI "1500+ people rally at Rhode Island State House against Supreme Court abortion reversal" (<u>View</u>)
- 8. Uprise RI "Dozens testify to ban sex between law enforcement and those in their custody" (<u>View</u>)
- 9. Uprise RI "ACLU Director Steve Brown details the history of prostitution laws in Rhode Island" (<u>View</u>)
- 10. "Interview with an Activist" by Piper Burke (View)
- 11. Brown Daily Herald "Bill regulating sexual conduct while in police custody stalls in RI Assembly" (<u>View</u>)
- 12. Bella Robinson Interview with Once Incarcerated Anonymous "Sex Worker Advocacy and Housing Rights!" (<u>View</u>)
- 13. Interview with Pasty Lewis from Brown University "George Floyd Project"
- 14. Interview with Lisa from Sex Workers Community Support Line
- 15. Radio interview with Nightside with Dan Rea podcast "Sex Workers Advocate for Change" (<u>View</u>)
- 16. Reflections on "The Prison Nation Exhibit" by the Davis Museum (View)



### **Coalition and Movement Building**

- 1. Advisory Committee with National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls
- 2. Project collaboration with Once Incarcerated
- 3. Joined Families for Justice as Healing to support the "No New Prison Campaign"
- 4. Joined *The Womxns* Project Steering Committee to pass the Equality in Abortion Coverage Act (EACA) 2023
- 5. Joined the RI-MA Solidarity For Incarcerated Workers to demand PVD City Council enforce the "First Source" Ordinance

#### More Coalition and Movement Building

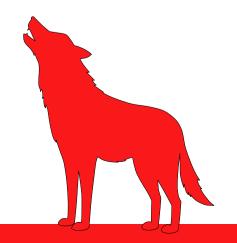
Nationally, we organize with over a dozen sex worker rights groups and LGBT & trans organizations, many of whom signed on to our amicus brief.

#### Annual Events

Celebrated International Sex Workers Day on June 2nd, 2022.

Our "International Day To End Violence Against Sex Workers Virtual Event" was held on December 17th, 2022. View the <u>Event Program Video</u> or the <u>2022 Memorial Video</u>.





### Policy Work

- 1. Filed an amicus brief in the federal case to overturn FOSTA
- 2. We drafted a <u>RI Prostitution Immunity Bill</u> that will be introduced in 2023
- 3. We supported and opposed dozens of RI legislative bills in 2022 (details below)
- 4. We published "<u>Prostitution and Prostitution Related Charges in Rhode Island 2000 -</u> <u>Present</u>"

#### Bills Supported

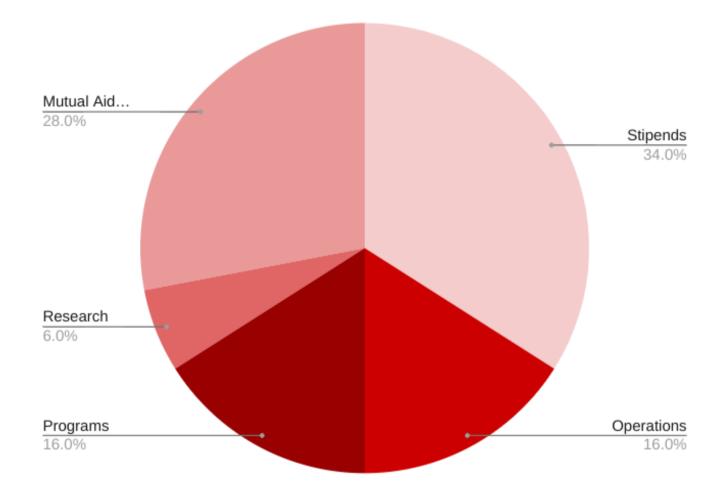
- RI S2713 Decriminalizes sex work and expands eligibility for expungement of related criminal records
- RI S2716 Decriminalizes certain commercial sexual activity by making the buying or selling of sexual services a civil fine
- RI S2233 & H6637 Establishes criteria for the criminal offense of sexual assault when the victim is in the custody of a peace officer
- RI H7044 Grants immunity to any person engaged in or witnessing commercial sexual activity if they report the offense to law enforcement in good faith
- RI S267 & H5787 Equality in Abortion Coverage Act (EACA)
- RI H7691 No cash bail for misdemeanors
- RI S2212 Requires law enforcement agencies to obtain search warrants for electronic information, data, location information, etc.
- RI S2656 outlines a program to provide access to electronic multimedia tablets to prisoners in the general population
- RI H7100 & S2007 Expands voting by mail reasons, requirements, and processes
- RI H5749 & S0399 Prohibits the operation of private detention facilities and private-public partnerships within the state
- RI H7896 Decriminalizes possession of under one ounce of any controlled substances except for the drug fentanyl
- RI H7695 Eliminates all costs, assessments, and fees for persons serving a prison sentence of over thirty (30) days and those determined to be indigent
- Federal FIX Clemency Act Creates an independent commission, including a formerly incarcerated person, to review clemency and pardon petitions for the president

#### Bills Opposed

- RI H7539 A racist, transphobic attack on public education
- RI S2501 Another transphobic bill
- RI H7306, H7307, H7405, H7458 & H7189 Anti-abortion bills
- RI H7323 Redistricting Congressional and General Assembly districs
- RI H7247 Jail for annoying messages

#### **Budget Allocation**

#### 2022 Total Income: **\$73,714.54** 2022 Total End of Year Expense: **\$70,553.55**



Thank you to Amenity Aid, RI Department of Health, the University of RI, and Preventing Overdose and Naloxone Intervention (PONI) RI for providing us with outreach & harm reduction supplies.

Please make a tax deductible donation <u>here</u>.