

# Stellar presentation by Chicago 400 wraps up NARSOL's 2021 conference

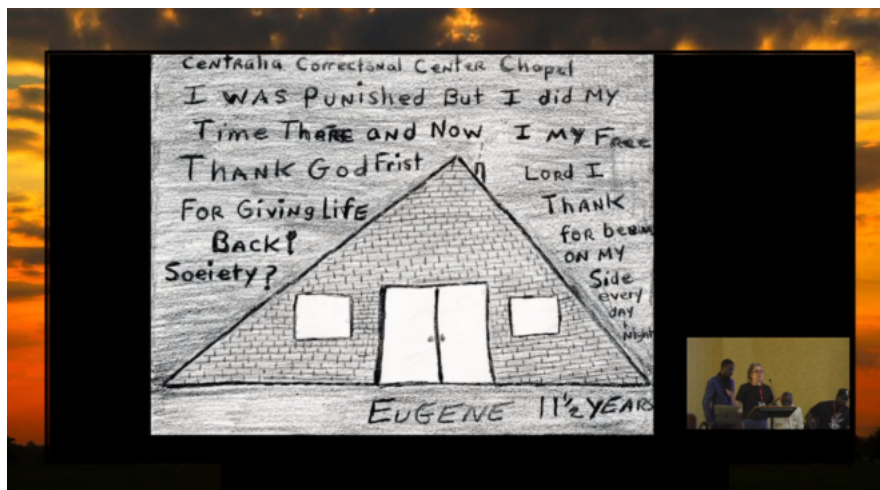
written by Sandy | October 11, 2021



Laurie Jo Reynolds is an artist, policy advocate, and organizer who has spent two decades countering the demonization, warehousing, and social exclusion of people in the

criminal legal system. Reynolds currently collaborates with the Chicago 400, formerly incarcerated people who have been forced into homelessness due to housing banishment laws. They are leading an inspiring legislative and public education campaign—premised in unity and solidarity—to challenge all public conviction registries and banishment laws for formerly convicted people. The Chicago 400 Alliance organizational

partners include victim advocates, housing advocates, police accountability activists, health and mental health service providers, recovery specialists, reentry organizations, and people of faith.



In their presentation Laurie Jo; the 400 Alliance's president Terrance; Steven, sergeant-at-arms in the organization; vice-president Benjamin, and resource director Domingo took us through the challenges and strategies of the Chicago 400 Alliance in community organizing, messaging and framing, and building a broad-based coalition to challenge registry laws and all forms of housing and public space banishment.

They showed us how, through their art, they created a sense of community, strengthened their bonds with each other, reached out to others in order to gain their help, and showed the desperation and the hopes of those forced into homelessness through legislation.