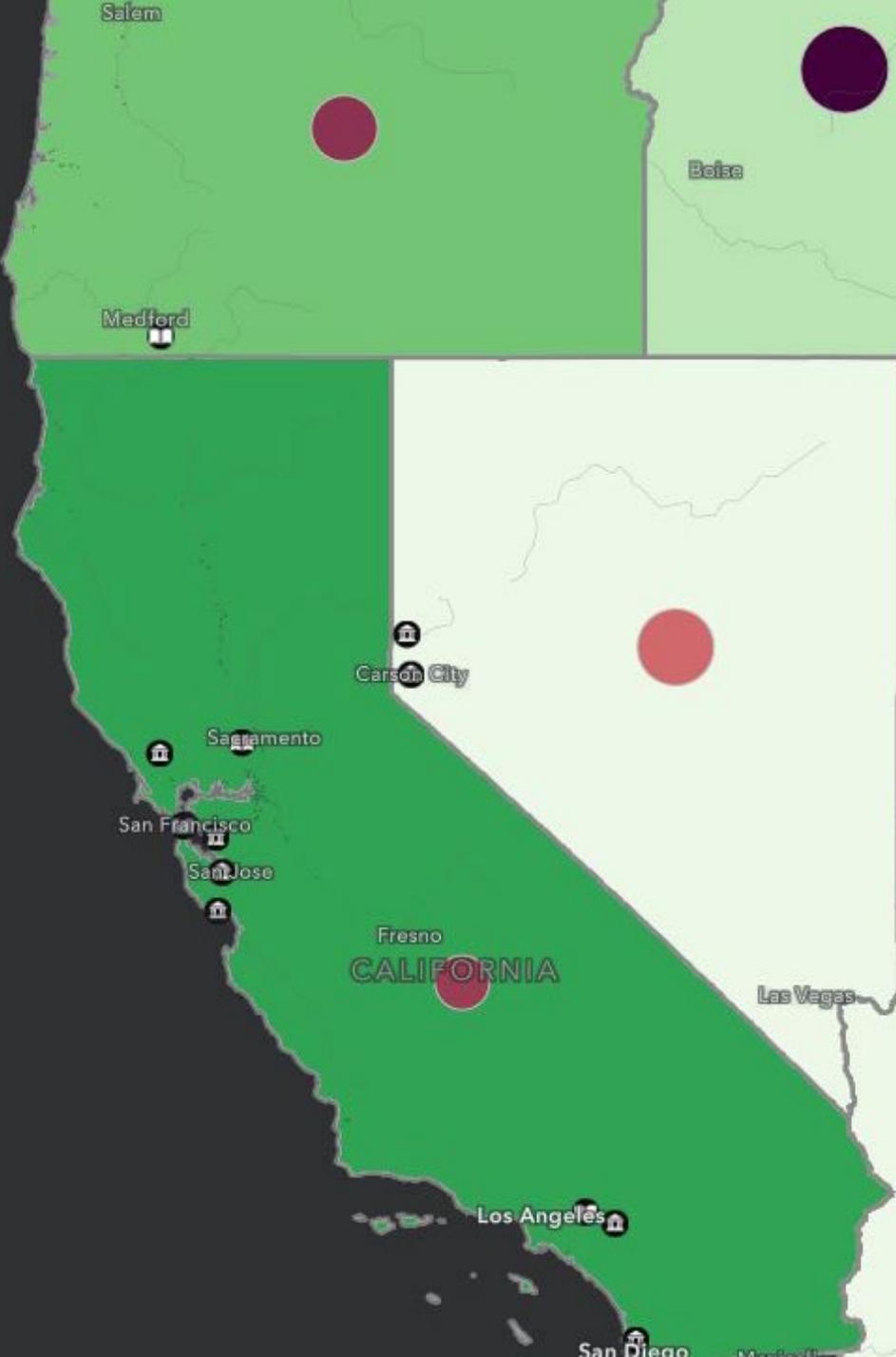


# Expanding Information Access for Incarcerated People

Jeanie Austin, Principal Investigator  
Jail & Reentry Services  
San Francisco Public Library



# Mellon Grants Snapshot

Grants thus far:

\$2,000,000 for two-year period (January 2022 - December 2023)

\$375,000 award to continue grant work (October 2023 - December 2024)

\$1,966,000 for two-and-a-half-year period (November 2024 - June 2027)

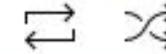
Sub-grantee:

- American Library Association (ALA)

Continues enhanced capacity at SFPL:

- 1 FTE 1822 Administrative & GIS Analyst
- 1 FTE 1823 Senior Administrative Analyst
- 1 FTE 3630 Jail & Reentry Services Librarian

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**Training: Public Library Services for Incarcerated...**

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2

**Training: Prison Library Services to Incarcerated...**

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3

**Training: Reentry Services for People Who Recently...**

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**Training: Beginning Library Services for Incarcerated...**



# Achievements

## SFPL:

- Created resources that promote literacy and reentry support for people who are incarcerated.
  - Publicly searchable GIS map of available library services for incarcerated people and related resources
  - 10-video virtual training series on library services and incarceration
  - White papers
- Held in-person convenings of librarians and nationwide virtual meetings in 2022, 2023, and 2024
- Promoted grant work through conference presentations, lectures, and related events

## ALA:

- Conducted pilot library programs on building digital literacy
- Revised existing ALA Standards for library services to people who are incarcerated (ALA-based) and distributed no-cost copies nationally



# Continuing Efforts

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## SFPL:

- Continuing to build resources that support literacy for people who are incarcerated and people in reentry
  - Ongoing research on existing library services for people who are incarcerated
  - Updating publicly searchable GIS map of available library services for incarcerated people
  - Promoting virtual training series on library services and incarceration
- Supporting professional development of established and early-career librarians
  - Coordinating 2025 convening of librarians (estimated attendance: 150)
  - Creating learning cohorts of early-career professionals
- Sustaining advisory committee composed of people impacted by incarceration to identify service needs

## ALA:

- Continuing development of digital literacy programming



# Impact of Project

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- Increase services for local library patrons impacted by incarceration (including after sentencing and in the process of reentry)
- Strengthen connections between local and national support networks
- Improve library and information access for incarcerated people nationwide
- Provide nationwide support and training for librarians providing or hoping to provide these services
- Create data-driven reports that identify and promote models that work





Thank you!