



WORTH — R I S E S —

We spend \$80 billion annually to incarcerate 2.2 million people in facilities with subpar treatment services, ineffective programs, and deplorable conditions. Loved ones spend another \$3 billion to support them. But the social costs of our failing criminal legal system, such as the harm done to families and communities, are far higher. And these costs are not distributed evenly—their burden is carried largely by those we already marginalize: low-income and minority communities.

However, this injustice has produced windfalls for some. Private and public actors have commercialized each segment of our punishment continuum to financially exploit our criminal legal system and those it touches. Motivated to help expand its reach, these actors wield their economic and political power to protect the legal structures that support their growth.

These structures have become an invisible, but fortified barrier to building a criminal legal system rooted in justice. Thus, while advocates fight for legislative, legal, and organizing wins, their efforts are thwarted by the oft-ignored imbalance of economic and political power between affected communities and those who capitalize on their victimization, criminalization, and incarceration.

Worth Rises is a non-profit organization dedicated to elevating people over profits.

OUR MISSION

To dismantle the prison industrial complex and end the exploitation of those it touches

OUR VISION

A society in which no entity or individual relies on human caging and control for its wealth, operation, or livelihood

OUR STRATEGY

➔ EXPOSING EXPLOITATION



We conduct research, collect data, and perform innovative analyses aimed at unmasking

the harms caused by the prison industrial complex. Understanding the mobilizing power of knowledge, we transform our analyses into accessible and compelling content designed to increase awareness and shift discourse around the commercialization of the criminal legal system.

➔ ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE



We organize and lead campaigns that center on protecting and returning resources

to directly-impacted communities. We empower and equip consumers, investors, public agents, elected officials, advocates, and the public with the tools to fight those who profit from our carceral crisis.