The City Justice Policy Advisors Network (CJPAN) is a peer learning network of mayors’ policy advisors that provides ongoing engagement for local leaders to inform and refine justice reform and public safety strategies, policies, and practices. City leaders are uniquely positioned to promote innovation and advance local strategy at the system level that results in more just outcomes, and this network provides a space for peer learning about these strategies. CJPAN members have the opportunity to connect with fellow policy advisors, discuss issues and experience with resource experts, and strategize around reimagined approaches to achieve public safety.
The Need for Action

As cities face a global pandemic, a national epidemic of violence, and calls for improved, equitable public safety systems, peer learning opportunities have become invaluable. CJPAN aligns its priorities to match the current national landscape to ensure it provides timely, relevant, and needed support for its members. CJPAN works to ensure that all residents, regardless of their race, wealth, background, or location, thrive in safe and healthy communities.

CJPAN Objectives

The City Justice Policy Advisors Network is rooted in a central premise: that local leaders can reimagine and achieve public safety through a more equitable lens. Overall, CJPAN aims to accelerate the pace of information and policy exchange across cities and set the stage for cities to effect change on a systems level while embedding equity in their community institutions. Specifically, the network:

- Develops opportunities for mayoral engagement and leadership on justice policy issues.
- Provides access to expertise and emerging trends.
- Builds strong peer learning and sharing ties across cities.
- Advances effective strategies to reduce use of jails and racial and ethnic disparities.

Context and Partners

NLC undertakes this initiative in its role as a Strategic Ally in the Safety + Justice Challenge of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, which focuses on reducing the overuse and misuse of jails and racial equity.

Join Us

Interested in joining the network?

Email Kirby Gaherty, Program Manager for Justice Reform & Youth Engagement at gaherty@nlc.org