

AMERICA REFRAMED Premieres a Trio of Films in April to Spark a National Dialogue on Criminal Justice Reform and Citizens' Re-entry

-- MILWAUKEE 53206, BEYOND THE WALL, THE CORRIDOR, are scheduled for April 3rd, 10th and 17th respectively on WORLD Channel --

March 13, 2018 – (New York, NY) – As incarceration and recidivism rates soar for communities of color in the U.S., in April 2018, WORLD Channel will present a consecutive three-film arc on issues related to prisons and jails, citizens' reentry, and persistent systemic challenges around drug addiction and incarceration.

Presented on WORLD Channel's award-winning weekly series, <u>AMERICA REFRAMED</u>, this timely group of criminal justice-themed films strives to educate and engage audiences around the state of criminal justice today and the possibilities of restorative justice.

The featured films – MILWAUKEE 53206, BEYOND THE WALL and THE CORRIDOR -provide a rare "insider's view" of those dealing first hand with the contradictions of the U.S. criminal justice system and the aftermath of incarceration for individuals and families who wrestle with socio-economic barriers to reform and re-entry. Perhaps most importantly, the films introduce to viewers people and places across the country, whose diverse views and experiences they might otherwise not encounter.

To spark a national dialogue, WORLD will curate and commission engagement materials for each film, creating a thematic toolkit to support April's criminal justice and reentry programming. These toolkits will be shared with local community partner organizations as well as public television stations around the county.

WORLD will also host a series of free online events on social media and other platforms to provide additional opportunities for audiences to engage with the stories beyond broadcast. For example, on April 2nd there will be a Facebook Live presentation including clips from all three films and live video appearances from the filmmakers. Viewers are encouraged to share comments and information using hash tag #ReentryxWORLD. Additional events will be announced soon. For updates, visit: https://www.facebook.com/pg/WORLDChannel/events/?ref=page_internal.

MEDIA RELATIONS

Neyda Martinez 917 656 7846 neyda@amdoc.org

AMERICA REFRAMED 20 Jay Street Suite 940 Brooklyn, NY 11201

P: 212-989-8121 F: 212-989-8230 americareframed.com



AMERICA REFRAMED is programmed on Tuesday nights @ 8/7c on WORLD Channel. Streaming for each title begins the day after the broadcast on worldchannel.org and all station-branded PBS platforms including PBS.org, and on PBS apps for iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Chromecast.

April 3 MILWAUKEE 53206 by Keith McQuirter

MILWAUKEE 53206 introduces viewers to a community with the highest rate of incarcerated African American men in the U.S. The unvarnished film unfolds through the stories of postal code 53206 residents directly impacted by imprisonment: Beverly Walker and her husband, Baron, who is in prison and caught between changing parole laws. Chad Wilson, a former drug dealer hopes to turn his life around and get at least some of his record expunged. Dennis Walton took a wrong turn early in life but found a way out by creating a support system for men seeking re-entry. Caught in a web of imperfect laws, poverty and unemployment, MILWAUKEE 53206 renders a portrait of citizens often dehumanized in the media and illuminates, beyond headlines, the decimating toll families of color face as a result of mass incarceration.

"A powerful new documentary." - UWM Milwaukee Public Radio

April 10 BEYOND THE WALL by Jenny Phillips and Bestor Cram

BEYOND THE WALL revolves around one central figure, a former prisoner named Louie Diaz, who works with formerly incarcerated men. As we follow Louie, we meet five other men who attempt to rebuild their lives on the outside. Too often, prisoner reentry becomes a setup for failure and eventual re-incarceration. For Louie, giving back and helping others keeps him grounded, helps him maintain his sobriety and preserves his freedom. But, for the others, with little to no support from the criminal justice system, how will they find hope?

"... Vividly depicts the often insurmountable struggle to re-establish oneself in the community, family unit and workforce." – Ellie Newman, That Got Me Thinking

April 17

THE CORRIDOR by Annelise Wunderlich and Richard O'Connell; a co-presentation with KQED's Truly CA.



THE CORRIDOR shows the inner-workings and challenges of San Francisco's Five Keys Charter School – the first high school of its kind in the United States designed to provide inmates the opportunity to earn a high school diploma to prepare them for successful reintegration into their communities.

Enrollment is mandatory for those who never received a high school diploma. For many of the inmates, the experience validates their humanity: they are respected for the value of their minds, and their opinions matter. As the inmates pause for self-reflection and to consider what they might want to do differently in life, THE CORRIDOR invites viewers to ask: is education the first step along the pathway to restorative justice?

Winner of the San Francisco Film Critics Award for Best Bay Area Documentary.

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Media Contacts

For interviews and special requests, journalists and reviewers may contact Neyda Martinez at **917-656-7846** or via email at <u>neyda@amdoc.org</u>.

About AMERICA REFRAMED

AMERICA REFRAMED is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc.

AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging and veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the exurbs and country roads that span the spectrum of American life. The documentaries invite audiences to reflect on topics as varied as culture, health care, politics, gun violence, religion and more.

An award-winning documentary series, AMERICA REFRAMED is the recipient of an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for broadcast journalism. The series has earned several Christopher, GRACIE, Telly and Cine Golden Eagle Awards, as well as nominations for an EMMY, Independent Documentary Association, and Imagen Award.

AMERICA REFRAMED Series Credits

Executive Producers:Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris WhiteSeries Producer:Carmen L. Vicencio



AMERICA REFRAMED can be accessed online via http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/ and, https://www.facebook.com/WorldChannel https://www.facebook.com/AmericaReFramed

@worldchannel @americareframed

About Truly CA

Truly CA is KQED's showcase for independently-produced documentaries representing the spirit of California. The Emmy Award-winning series brings audiences original and fascinating stories that reflect the diversity and maverick spirit found in all corners of the state.

About KQED

KQED serves the people of Northern California with a public-supported alternative to commercial media. An NPR and PBS affiliate based in San Francisco, KQED is home to one of the most listened-to public radio stations in the nation, one of the highest-rated public television services and an award-winning education program helping students and educators thrive in 21st-century classrooms. A trusted news source and leader and innovator in interactive technology, KQED takes people of all ages on journeys of exploration — exposing them to new people, places and ideas. www.kqed.org

Truly CA Series Credits

Executive Producer: Susie Hernandez Series Producer: Ainè Henderson

Truly CA Can be accessed online via: https://www.youtube.com/trulyca https://www.facebook.com/KQEDtrulyca/ https://www.kqed.org/trulyca

AMERICA REFRAMED Co-Producers

American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These



activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: <u>www.amdoc.org</u>

The **WORLD Channel** delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programming. The channel features original content by and about diverse communities to U.S. audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at worldchannel.org. WORLD reached 33.3 million unique viewers 18+ last year (52% adults 18-49) and over-indexes in key diversity demographics. Online, the WORLD Channel expands on broadcast topics and fuels dialogue across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction. WORLD has won numerous national honors including an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, Tellys, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, a Gracie, an Asian American Journalists Award and many others. WORLD Channel also won the Radio Television Digital News Association's 2017 Kaleidoscope Award for its critically-acclaimed series, AMERICA REFRAMED and has received four National News & Documentary Emmy Nominations.

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with PBS and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Wyncote Foundation and The Kendeda Fund. For more information about The WORLD Channel, visit www.worldchannel.org



