

## NEBRASKA REPEALS THE DEATH PENALTY



**IN MAY,** Nebraska became the first conservative state in 40 years to end the death penalty. EJUSA has been supporting Nebraskans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (NADP) with strategy, planning, training, and other support since 2007. EJUSA Campaign Strategist Colleen Cunningham was on the ground for much of the 2015 campaign. After weeks of hearings, readings, floor debates, and votes, including a vote to override the Governor's veto, Nebraska became the 19th state to end the death penalty.

Much as we'd like to say the death penalty in Nebraska is done, it's not. The Governor pursued and helped finance a petition drive to bring the issue to the ballot in November 2016. A team of top strategists is working with EJUSA, NADP, and a broad coalition to make sure repeal stays in place.

## THE DEATH PENALTY DYING, STATE BY STATE

**MARYLAND'S** governor cleared death row as he left office in January 2015. Maryland repealed the death penalty in 2013, but the governor's action finished the job and ended the legal limbo of the remaining people left on death row.



**MONTANA'S** Republican-led House of Representatives came within just one vote (50-50) on a bill to repeal the death penalty.



**CONNECTICUT'S** Supreme Court ruled the death penalty unconstitutional.



**KANSAS** Federation of College Republicans voted unanimously to support repealing the death penalty.



## EJUSA LAUNCHES TRAUMA ADVOCACY INITIATIVE

**IT'S NOT** enough to dismantle the parts of the justice system that aren't working. We also have to build up the system we want in its place. Our new Trauma Advocacy Initiative, directed by Fatimah Loren Muhammad, is already working with local partners in two pilot cities to

advocate for better access to trauma care for people harmed by crime and violence. In just a few months, Fatimah has spoken at numerous forums and has been contacted by schools, public health officials, and law enforcement who want our help to address trauma and heal communities.

# HELPING COMMUNITIES OF COLOR ACCESS RESOURCES

**PEOPLE** of color are more likely to be victims of violent crime, yet they often have the least access to victim services that would help them rebuild their lives after violence. In June, EJUSA hired Latrina Kelly-James (*at right*) to work with victim service providers in the most impacted communities, to help them access new federal funds that could fill this gap. Latrina spoke at the National Center for Victims of Crime conference on the need to address racial inequities in victim services. EJUSA will work intensively with 15 groups next year to build their capacity and expand their reach to more crime survivors.



# CONSERVATIVES CONCERNED IN THE MEDIA

**CONSERVATIVES** Concerned About the Death Penalty, a project of EJUSA, has become a highly sought-after voice on the death penalty. Reporters seeking a conservative perspective regularly call EJUSA's Marc Hyden for comment on death penalty

news, from botched executions to new exonerations. This year, the conservative movement for repeal has been covered by hundreds of outlets including *Time*, Reason TV, Fox Business, *Washington Times*, Rachel Maddow, *Daily Caller*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Huffington Post*, *Town Hall*, *New York Times*, and more.

# EVANGELICALS SHIFT ON DEATH PENALTY



**EJUSA'S** Heather Beaudoin (*at left*) directs Evangelical outreach for us. She has been meeting with Evangelical leaders for years, fostering dialogue and greater awareness of the death penalty's many failures. In March, the National Latino Evangelical Coalition voted unanimously to become the first national Evangelical association to support repeal of the death penalty. Heather was at the press conference in Orlando to help them announce the change. Then in October, the National Association of Evangelicals backed away from their 40-year pro-death penalty position, outlining serious concerns with the policy and acknowledging growing opposition on the issue among Evangelicals.

# ASK ABOUT OUR NEWEST TOOLS!

## CONSERVATIVE OUTREACH MANUAL

At over 40 pages, the color guidebook includes sample emails, examples of successful activities, and more to help build local Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty groups and chapters.

**VOCA TOOLKIT** For groups working with crime survivors, this manual is a step by step guide to unlock millions of dollars of federal funds to bring healing resources to underserved communities. [ejusa.org/voca/toolkit](http://ejusa.org/voca/toolkit)

**LATINOS AND THE DEATH PENALTY** A new fact sheet on how the death penalty disproportionately impacts the Latino community. Coming soon in Spanish!