

WHO IS THE CT JUSTICE ALLIANCE?

CTJA is a youth-adult partnership that has been a statewide organization for over 20 years. We use advocacy, policy, and organizing tools to protect the rights, futures, and well-being of potentially, currently, and formerly incarcerated youth under the age of 25 years old.

CTJA believes deeply in: addressing root causes, lived experience being expertise, and that communities must be equitably invested in.

POLICY PRIORITIES

1

**Children Should
Not Be In Adult
Prison**

Residential Correction **does not work**: 72% of young people incarcerated in adult prison in CT returned to DOC within 3 years*

2

**Raise the Minimum
Age of Arrest to 14**

The human brain **does not fully mature until age 25** and as brains mature, youth age out of lawbreaking***

3

**Invest in &
Mentor Youth**

CT Youth Advocate Programs supported over 60 youth in CT last year. **86% of high risk youth in a YAP program have remained arrest free.******

*OPM Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division 2023 Recidivism Study

***Why Youth Incarceration Fails, The Sentencing Project, Dec 2022*

*** *Most High Risk Youth Referred to Youth Advocate Programs Remain Arrest Free, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, April 2014*

