An analysis of coverage delivered in the 30 days between 25 May 2015 and 23 Jun 2015 from 1 folder (Guthrie) found 21 items. This coverage reached a cumulative audience of 58,824 and had an advertising space rate of AUD 12,749.

* AM Radio had the highest volume of coverage (7 items or 33% of the total volume of coverage)
* Magazines reached the highest cumulative audience (38,607 or 65% of the cumulative audience)
* Newspapers had the highest advertising space rate (AUD 6,130 or 48% of the total advertising space rate)
Program explores alternatives to jail

Canberra Weekly, Canberra, General News 18 Jun 2015

For the past two years, researchers at the Australian National University (ANU) and the town of Cowra have been exploring ways to prevent young people from slipping into the criminal justice system.

ANU Research Fellow Dr Jill Guthrie has been working on the Justice Reinvestment program, to work out potential new policy approaches to address the underlying causes of crime and improve the lives of both individuals and communities.

The program culminated in a Cowra public meeting, which considered alternatives to jail.

"The Cowra forum decided that about 50 per cent of the costs of incarceration - some $23 million had been spent for crimes which would be amenable to a Justice Reinvestment approach," said Dr Guthrie.

Justice Reinvestment would redirect funds into early intervention, crime prevention and diversionary programs, and would create savings in the criminal justice system that could be reinvested into the community.

The findings showed a potential to reduce crime, offer positive opportunities to young people and to save taxpayers’ money.

"These outcomes from the forum have wider application to other communities in Australia in that they represent a microcosm of what is occurring in one town of about 10,000 people," Dr Guthrie said.

"The same sorts of calculations and deliberations could be applied to many other towns and communities in other jurisdictions including the ACT."

Cowra Shire Councillor Ruth Fagan said that overall the community felt that crimes such as traffic offences, public order offences, justice procedure offenders and drug offences, could be considered as amenable to a Justice Reinvestment approach.

She also said that data showed around $2.3 million a year was spent to incarcerate local citizens for those types of offences.

"It would be great if we could reinvest that money in our community - into a Safe House, a Halfway House, a Homework Centre, skills training, housing the homeless and similar positive initiatives that address the underlying causes of crime - rather than have our young people sent away to detention," she said.

Councillor Fagan praised the Justice Reinvestment program and said it was designed to help the community find better outcomes.

Audience
38,607 CIRCULATION
The NSW Government will be asked to consider spending more money to keep people out of jail after a study into crime in Cowra. The Australian National University has been examining whether the community will prefer the cost of incarcerating offenders to be used on alternatives to prison. Dr Jill Guthrie, Research Fellow, says Cowra residents believe 50% of the money could be spent to rehabilitate people who are charged with traffic and public order offences.

A study into the cost of crime in a Central West town has found there is strong support for the money to be invested in prevention and rehabilitation. The Australian National University has selected Cowra for the two-year study. According to Dr Jill Guthrie, Australian National University, the community doesn't believe those charged with traffic and public order offences should necessarily put to jail.
A study into the cost of crime in a Central West town has found there is strong support for the money to be invested in prevention and rehabilitation. The Australian National University has selected Cowra for the two-year study. Dr Jill Guthrie, Australian National University, says the community doesn't believe those charged with traffic and public order offences should necessarily put to jail.

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Interview with Ruth Fagan, Councillor, Cowra Council, about the Keeping People Put of Prison forum by the Australian National University. Fagan says the forum is part of a research project of the Australian National University. She says former Australian of the Year Prof Mick Dodson will co-Chair the event. Fagan says the three-year Australian Research Council-funded research project which began in 2013 sees Dr Jill Guthrie and a team of researchers from the Australian National University working closely with Cowra community members, to discover the theory and research methodology of 'justice reinvestment' as a way of averting young people from ending up in the criminal justice system. Fagan says the team will present their findings to the stakeholders today and tomorrow at the forum. She says several interviews and focus groups have been directed with many people at all levels, from service providers to politicians to young people who have been in prison or detention themselves. Fagan says the research aims to help steer change on present attitudes, policies and approaches to incarceration and alternatives to detainment. She notes that the report indicates a very strong need for family support.
The importance of having good role models for young people is set to be highlighted in Cowra today as part of a major study into justice reinvestment. The Australian National University Centre for Indigenous Studies has been working with the Cowra community since 2013.

Audience
N/A ALL, N/A MALE 16+, N/A FEMALE 16+

Interviewees
Ruth Fagan, Cowra Shire Council

A forum in the central west of NSW has been told money spent incarcerating young people could be used to keep them out of custody in the first place. The community of Cowra has been working with Australian National University researchers since 2013 on a study into justice reinvestment. About 80 persons involved in the project, including Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda, have been in the town today to hear the initial findings of the investigation. Ruth Fagan, Councillor, Cowra, says the project has found that young people need strong family support and good role models in the community to keep them out of trouble.

Audience
N/A ALL, N/A MALE 16+, N/A FEMALE 16+

Interviewees
Ruth Fagan, Councillor, Cowra
Justice Reinvestment: forum helps community focus on finding better outcomes

Cowra Guardian 10 Jun 2015 12:00 AM

Cowra is the site of exploratory research that is testing how Justice Reinvestment could be adopted as a possible policy approach.

Read on source website

Audience

N/A UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, N/A AV. STORY AUDIENCE
Cowra is the site of exploratory research that is testing how Justice Reinvestment could be adopted as a possible policy approach.

The Cowra community, together with Australian National University researchers, held a very successful Justice Reinvestment Forum in Cowra last week.

The research is being led by ANU Research Fellow, Dr Jill Guthrie, who said the response from the community had been a positive one.

Cowra Shire Councillor Ruth Fagan and former Australian of the Year, Professor Mick Dodson, co-chaired the Forum which was attended by some 40 people. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda also participated in the Forum.

"We have been working closely with organisations in the town such as the Neighbourhood Centre, Cowra Youth Council, the Police Citizens Youth Club, the schools, health services, Cowra Aboriginal Land Council, Headspace, the Mental Health Service, Cowra Aboriginal Land Council, Cowra Business Council and many others," Councillor Fagan said.

"The town has enthusiastically engaged with the research over the past two years," Dr Guthrie said.

The Forum was the culmination of two years engagement by the researchers with the town to develop some shared understandings of what Justice Reinvestment could look like if it was adopted as policy.

Justice Reinvestment aims to address the underlying causes of crime and improve the lives of both individuals and communities.

It uses data to identify communities that have high concentrations of offenders and assess the particular problems facing those communities. The redirection of funds into early intervention, crime prevention and diversionary programs creates savings in the criminal justice system that can be reinvested into those communities. Justice Reinvestment has the ability to reduce crime, offer positive opportunities to young people and to save taxpayers' money.

Forum participants reflected on the money that had been spent on incarcerating their own citizens over the past ten years. They also deliberated on the crimes that could be amenable to a Justice Reinvestment approach. They then engaged in a process to decide how monies that had been spent on incarcerating Cowra citizens could be better spent on prevention, early intervention or other services within the community.

"As a community, we overwhelmingly felt that crimes such as traffic offences, public order offences, justice procedure offenders and drug offences, could be considered as amenable to a Justice Reinvestment approach," Cr Ruth Fagan said.

About $46 million had been spent on incarcerating Cowra citizens over the past ten years. Forum participants determined that about 50 per cent of this - some $23 million - had been spent during that time on incarcerating their citizens for crimes which would be amenable to a Justice Reinvestment approach, if such a policy was in place.

"When we take into consideration how much has been spent on citizens from our community over the past ten years to incarcerate them for these types of offences, we learnt that some $23 million has been spent on our behalf. Looked at another way, just in our community alone, that represents some $2.3 million per annum that could be reinvested into treatment, prevention and early intervention, if a Justice Reinvestment policy was in place," Cr Fagan said.
"It would be great if we could reinvest those monies in our community - into a Safe House, a Halfway House, a Homework Centre, skills training, housing the homeless - and similar positive initiatives that address the underlying causes of crime - rather than have our young people sent away to detention.

'The forum was an interesting and fitting public way of introducing us to the JR philosophy. It was also a great way for us all to see and hear the strengths and weaknesses in the provision of support services for those less able to cope in our community.

"The research project has focused the community on finding better outcomes.

"It made me realise, we don't need to change the world - just our little bit of it" It would be great if we could reinvest those 'monies in our community into a Safe House, a Halfway House, a Homework Centre, skills training, housing the homeless - and similar positive initiatives that address the underlying causes of crime - rather than have our young people sent away to detention.

Cr Ruth Fagan

Caption Text:
Professor Mick Dodson, Cowra High School's who did the Acknowledgement of Country at the forum and Aboriginal and Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda.

ANU and Cowra work together on justice reinvestment »

Reers from The Australian National University (ANU) have teamed up with the New South Wales town of Cowra to explore ways of keeping young people out of the criminal justice system.

For the past two years, the Cowra community has worked with ANU Re...

Read on source website

A study into the cost of crime in a Central West town has found there is strong support for...

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Interviewees
Dr Jill Guthrie, Australian National University
Anyone with an interest in ideas for keeping young people away from the criminal justice system is invited to a stakeholder forum to be held in Cowra tomorrow.

The forum is part of a research project Reducing incarceration by testing Justice Reinvestment theory and methodology: an exploratory case study.

The forum will be held at the JT Pridham Conference Centre, Cowra Agricultural Station, Binni Creek Road, commencing with a community lunch at 12 noon on Tuesday and finish with lunch on Wednesday. It will be co-chaired by Councillor Ruth Fagan and former Australian on the Year, Professor Mick Dodson.

Also attending the forum will be Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda. In his Social Justice Commissioner Report 2014, Commissioner Gooda hailed Justice Reinvestment as a powerful strategy that can help create safer community by investing in evidence-based programs, noting that it looks beyond offenders and towards the needs of the whole community.

The three year ARC-funded research project is being led by Dr Jill Guthrie. Dr Guthrie and a team of researchers from The Australian National University have worked closely with Cowra community members to explore the theory and research methodology of Justice Reinvestment.

"Justice Reinvestment is framework for rethinking criminal justice system so large sums of taxpayer money are not spent imprisoning people for low-level criminal activity," Dr Guthrie said.

"Justice Reinvestment requires a shift in policy and social outlook from one of incarceration, towards non-incarceration to reinvest in the community and in people. It requires involvement by governments at all levels - federal, state, and local as well as non-government organisations; service providers; the business sector; the education, employment and health sectors; the police and the judiciary.

"The Cowra community has engaged in the research project and this is demonstrated by the ongoing commitment leaders such as the Mayor, Councillor Bill West and Councillor Fagan and other community members." In keeping with the research design, regular consultation and workshops with Cowra community members has occurred throughout the research to ensure they are involved in decisions that empower them to explore alternatives to incarceration for their young people.

"Tomorrow’s forum continues this process," Dr Guthrie said.

"And the community will have the opportunity to hear and discuss the findings from interviews they have participate in, and to deliberate on those findings in order to make recommendations for policy and practice.” Anyone with an interest in the research topic is welcome to attend the forum. It will commence with a community lunch at 12 noon tomorrow, Tuesday, May 26 at the JT Pridham Conference Centre, Cowra Agricultural Station, Binni Creek Road.

Further information can be found on the website http://ncis.anu.edu.au/cowra/ or by phoning 1800 010 448 (free call) or emailing cowra@anu.edu.au.
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Changing our little bit of the world

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Are you keen to improve your stock health?

Recycling pays off for preschool

National Families week well supported

Community stakeholders at a forum held in December 2013.