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Contact: Kate McCracken
Phone: 517.225.3186
Email: kate@safeandjustmi.org

Safe & Just
Michigan

Safe & Just Michigan Executive Director John Cooper on the creation of the Michigan Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration:

“Safe & Just Michigan is pleased to see state and county leaders working together to study and address the drivers of daily population and length-of-stay in Michigan’s county jails. While crime rates have fallen over the past two decades, Michigan’s jail populations have tripled in the past 35 years, and people are staying in jail longer than they used to. Data-driven efforts to examine and address overuse of county jails, such as this, are timely and desperately needed in Michigan. Jail overuse has widespread detrimental effects on individuals, families, communities, and state and local budgets and justice systems. By bringing together major state and local stakeholders and support and technical assistance from Pew, the Michigan Task Force on Jail and Pre-Trial Incarceration can find solutions to this problem and make our communities safer, smarter, and more just for everyone who lives in them.”

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Safe & Just Michigan (www.safeandjustmi.org) works to advance policies that end Michigan’s over-use of incarceration and promote community safety and healing. We partner with Michigan organizations and leaders from across the political spectrum, including business and community leaders, faith communities, crime survivor organizations, formerly incarcerated individuals, prisoners and their families, as well as Michigan taxpayers statewide.