The Client: Founded in early 2013, The W.I.R.E. (Women Involved in Reentry Efforts) is a network of previously incarcerated women who have joined together to provide social support to women recently released from prison. As women who have successfully reentered society, The W.I.R.E. aspires to help women navigate their return and ensure that services are properly tailored to the gender-specific needs of women in reentry.

The Problem: Returning women struggle with a range of social and emotional needs, including family reunification, addiction, mental health and trauma recovery, and orienting to a changed way of life. Women in reentry must confront these issues while facing daunting challenges in obtaining housing, employment, public benefits, and other essential services. Traditional service providers and reentry organizations often fail to address the specific needs of returning women. The W.I.R.E. recently formed to meet the needs of this population and retained CJP to assist with strategic planning.

The Outcome: CJP student-attorneys met with a range of institutional and individual stakeholders inside and outside of The W.I.R.E. Student-attorneys worked with The W.I.R.E. to develop an organizational culture of strategic thinking. Through interviews, presentations to the Board, and the creation of organization-specific materials, CJP student-attorneys helped The W.I.R.E. articulate its objectives, identify critical steps for the organization’s growth, and develop a framework for future decision-making.