Everyone deserves fair treatment and humane care. The Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution provides protection from cruel and unusual punishment including medical neglect and deliberate indifference to a serious medical need or punishment that degrades human dignity. Yet every year, the ACLU of Arizona receives hundreds of complaints from people in jails and prisons across the state as well as their families documenting a systemic denial of basic yet vital medical and mental healthcare.

The dangerous and degrading conditions of confinement in Arizona’s prisons and jails have been exacerbated by an absence of transparency and accountability. State officials must be held accountable for their failure to address the serious medical and mental health needs of those entrusted to their custody.

With the sixth highest rate of incarceration in the nation, the need to reform Arizona’s bloated, inefficient and unjust prison system is long overdue. Through litigation, advocacy and public education the ACLU of Arizona has been working to reform sentencing laws, protect inmates from abuse, improve prison conditions, and ensure access to the courts for those in jail and prison. Join our efforts to ensure fairness in our criminal justice system and humane treatment for people incarcerated in Arizona. Take action; visit acluaz.org/FairCareForAll

"A prison that deprives prisoners of basic sustenance, including adequate medical care, is incompatible with the concept of human dignity and has no place in civilized society." Brown v. Plata, Supreme Court