

Project Change Fast Facts



- There are 529 court involved students in San Mateo County--Ages 12-18
- Nationally, African American youth made up 26% of all juvenile arrests, 46% of youth sent to adult courts, and 58% of youth incarcerated in adult prisons.
- In California, the population of African Americans is 6.2%, and in San Mateo County, it is 2%. In California, 37.6% are Hispanic/Latino, and in San Mateo, it is 25%.
- In San Mateo County, out of the 529 students in the Court and Community Schools, 16% are African American and 63% are Hispanic/Latino. This calls attention to the highly disproportionate lack of opportunities existing for various populations of youth nationally, at the state level, and locally in San Mateo County. These incarcerated youth are at the prime age to be receiving education and gaining workforce readiness skills; instead, some of the most underrepresented populations of students for postsecondary education are incarcerated.
- 85% of the 529 students are socioeconomically disadvantaged



- **Purpose:** Project Change is a unique program providing comprehensive educational services and resources to serve students and the community in order to deliver opportunity for career and postsecondary attainment for court-involved youth. The project aims to assist some of the county's most vulnerable population of students and help them access postsecondary education successfully at the College of San Mateo.
- **Design:**
 - Project Change provides a supportive network of volunteer faculty and staff mentors, as well as a project director, to assist students navigating their first year in college.
 - **On-Campus First-Year:** The project utilizes resources and programs already in place at the College of San Mateo, such as Pathway to College summer bridge, Student Support Services, as well as cohort learning communities (Puente and Umoja), and provides students a clear pathway to resources on campus from which they benefit.
 - **On-Site:** Project Change will offer college courses and college readiness workshops on-site at the juvenile hall (Youth Services Center)
 - Courses offered will be from existing courses at CSM: pre-transfer English, Math, and the possibility for general education like Psychology, or CTE courses. Pathway to College and financial aid workshops can be adapted and provided on-site.



- San Mateo County Youth Services Center; San Mateo County Probation Department; Superior Court of California, San Mateo County Branch, Juvenile Justice Judges; San Mateo Police Department; San Mateo County Office of Education; San Mateo Union High School District, Peninsula High School; Local Nonprofit Organizations: Each One Reach One and STEP; Court Appointed Committees: The Blue Ribbon Commission and Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council; and San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Rehabilitation Services.