



IMPACT REPORT

2022-2023

THE SPARKPOINT APPROACH

“SparkPoint really helped me during a harsh moment in my life.”

In a County home to several of the most affluent neighborhoods in the nation, food, housing, and financial disparities have the potential to disrupt a student's ability to reach their full college and economic potential.

SparkPoint is an equity-driven program, founded by United Way Bay Area, that has been institutionalized at the College of San Mateo to support student achievement, disrupt cycles of poverty, advance economic mobility, and foster self-determination through the delivery of culturally relevant financial empowerment education and strength-based basic needs services.



SERVICES

SparkPoint provides pathways for students to stabilize their basic needs and amplify their financial proficiency by providing direct services that cultivate resiliency and self-determination.



Food

- SparkPoint Free Grocery Center
- Drive-thru grocery distribution
- Semester food grants
- Grab-and-go hot lunches
- CalFresh enrollment
- Grocery and gas gift cards

Housing

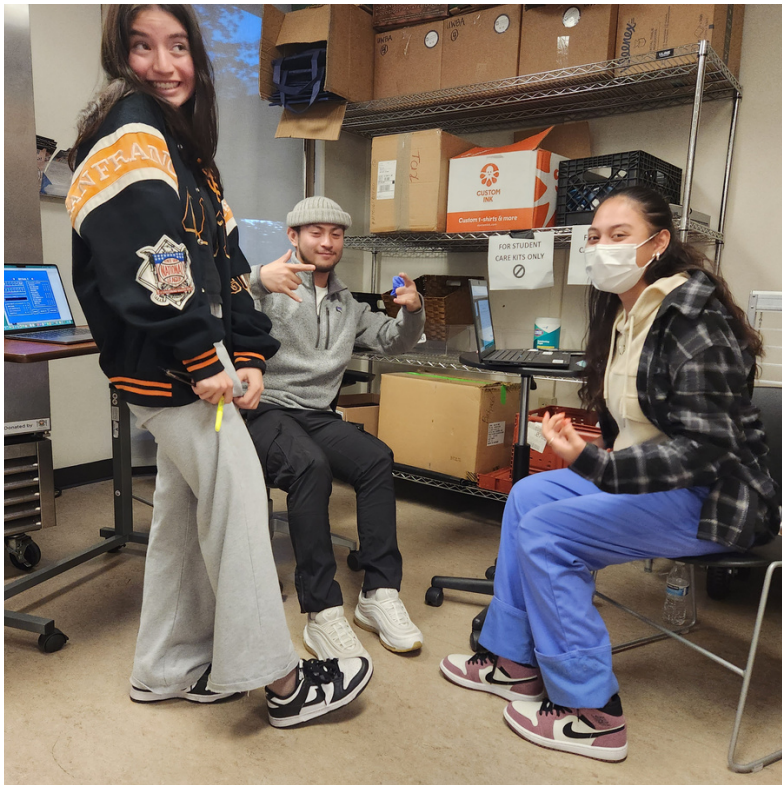
- Emergency housing
- Rental assistance
- Housing navigation
- Pipelines to local programs

Financial

- Financial coaching
- Tax Preparation
- Scholarships
- Public benefits enrollment
- Budgeting and transfer prep

BIG IMPACTS

SparkPoint works to instill a culture that recognizes food, housing, and financial services as a means for economic justice. Students take pride in support designed to fortify their educational advancement.



1,595

CSM students received services in AY 22-23.

836

Students picked up groceries for their household.

403

Nights of shelter were provided that included meals, WiFi, and transportation.

159

Students increased their financial literacy via personalized financial coaching.

2,038 Households received food at the drive-thru grocery distribution.

BIG IMPACTS

More students accessed SparkPoint services in 2022-2023 than any other academic year.

<i>Students served</i>	AY 19-20	AY 20-21	AY 21-22	AY 22-23
Free grocery pick up	449	N/A	423	836
Financial coaching	99	110	148	159
Emergency hotel stay	N/A	N/A	11	28
Rental assistance	N/A	25	4	24
Food grant	348	522	541	1,123

Services not represented include grab-n-go meals, public benefits enrollment, direct aid, tax prep, and personal care supply pick-up, all which of experienced increased access.



"THANK YOU! This program is simply the best... I really appreciate the way it supports students and how it shows that the college cares about us. Thank you so much again SparkPoint!"

CSM SPARKPOINT STUDENT

"... I have classes from Monday - Thursday, and my biggest meals are on campus... my SAM card was what allowed me to continue attending."

CSM SPARKPOINT STUDENT

Students were surveyed across programs about their SparkPoint experience:

9/10



Hotel stay students persisted in the following semester.

100%



Food grant students reported increased food security.

9/10



Students reported services helped them do better in school.

86%



Agreed services improved their wellbeing.

HONORED

SparkPoint received CSM's Equity and Justice Impact Award, recognized by Campus Life and Leadership for courageous efforts that challenge the institution and/or society to become more equity and justice focused.



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

SparkPoint was proud to appreciate the many folks who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Their support enables SparkPoint to provide essential services to students including our facilities teams, safety crews, business office, funders, and campus community partners.



The work of SparkPoint at CSM has been made possible through a dedicated coalition of community-based partnerships and the support of our student assistants.

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01.

United Way of the
Bay Area

02.

Second Harvest of
Silicon Valley

03.

Samaritan House

Student Team

Auner Barrios, Carlin Corea, Edgardo Molina-Carlos,
Eduardo Posadas-Barrera, Gianela Gutierrez, Hansaint Noto,
Hiry Clemente, Jazmin Laureano, Julianne Downs, Michael
Macapagal, Ramiro Benitez, Tint Myo Htet, Tyler Castillo