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December 20, 2024

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## **RE: Project Rebound**

The California State University (CSU) Project Rebound program has positioned California as a national leader in providing equitable access to the transformative power of higher education for currently and formerly incarcerated people. Over the last 55 years, Project Rebound has grown from a single campus program to a consortium that encompasses 15 campuses providing essential support to formerly incarcerated CSU students. In the last year, Project Rebound has nearly doubled its enrollment. Its Class of 2022 included 150 graduates, bringing the total number of conferred Project Rebound degrees to 500 since the consortium was formed in 2016.

This report highlights the activities and outcomes that have been made possible through state and grant funding in Project Rebound. What's more, it illustrates the important role the program plays as part of the CSU's efforts to eliminate student equity gaps. The majority of

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### **CSU Campuses**

Bakersfield  
Channel Islands  
Chico  
Dominguez Hills  
East Bay

Fresno  
Fullerton  
Humboldt  
Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay  
Northridge  
Pomona  
Sacramento  
San Bernardino  
San Diego

San Francisco  
San José  
San Luis Obispo  
San Marcos  
Sonoma  
Stanislaus

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Rebound Scholars come from historically marginalized and underserved populations. sixty-six percent of Rebound Scholars are Pell Grant recipients, compared to forty-three percent in the general CSU student body. Rebound Scholars are also more diverse in age, race and ethnicity than the CSU at large. The majority of Rebound Scholars – sixty-two percent – are Black, Latinx or Native American. The proportion of Rebound Scholars that identify as Black or Native American is six times greater than that of the CSU student body overall. By offering a broad range of resources as well as access to a supportive network of similarly situated students and alumni across the state, Project Rebound member campuses are fostering empowerment and transformation in this student population. As outlined in this report, the state allocation sustains the success of Project Rebound.

This report is submitted pursuant to Pursuant to California State Assembly Bill 178: Budget Act of 2022, Chapter 45, Item #6610-001-0001, Provision 2.4 and includes information related to:

- (a) An expenditure plan.
- (b) The amount of other funds, including Graduation Initiative funding and philanthropic grants, each campus is using to support Project Rebound students in 2022.
- (c) A description of educational and support services each Project Rebound campus provides to students and potential students.
- (d) A description of outreach, orientation, and transfer support services the Project Rebound Consortium provides to students and potential students in the custody of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- (e) Student enrollment in Project Rebound, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, and age, as well as first-time freshmen, transfer students, undergraduate students, and graduate students.
- (f) Outcomes associated with the program, including student retention, graduation, and recidivism rates.
- (g) Any plans to expand Project Rebound to other California State University campuses.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Nathan Dietrich, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations at (916) 445-5983.

Sincerely,

*Bradley Wells for*

Steve Relyea  
Executive Vice Chancellor and  
Chief Financial Officer

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SR:dr

Full report posted to <https://www.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/government/Advocacy-and-State-Relations/Pages/legislative-reports.aspx>

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**CSU**

**The California State University**



**PROJECT REBOUND CONSORTIUM**

*Supporting the higher education and successful reintegration of the formerly incarcerated*

**CREATING  
TRANSFORMATIVE  
KINSHIP**

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

**CSU**

**The California State University**

**P|R**

**PROJECT REBOUND CONSORTIUM**



**Generating healthier, safer communities**

## Acknowledgments

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The Project Rebound Consortium would like to acknowledge the Program Directors and Coordinators at our 15 campuses for their daily dedication to our mission and students: Rena Alspaw, Summer Brantner, Danica Bravo, Melvin Callaway, JC Cavitt, Lily Gonzalez, Aaron Greene, Paul Jones, Jennifer Leahy, Martin Leyva, Stanley Peterson, Irene Sotelo, Priscilla Terriquez, George Turner, and Tony Wallin.

The Consortium also wishes to acknowledge the critical work of its Executive Directors: Annika Anderson, Melissa Barragan, Eileen Barrett, Jason Bell, James Binnall, Martha Escobar, Andres Favela, Emma Hughes, Steve Ladwig, Taffany Lim, Alan Mobley, Trish Morris, Brandon Price, Markel Quarles, and Romarilyn Ralston.

Opposing page photo: Project Rebound Consortium program staff and partners building community after two-day intersegmental outreach and recruitment event at Pelican Bay State Prison in August 2022 where on-site transcript evaluations were provided to over 250 incarcerated college students. Staff pictured from CSU Project Rebound campuses at Humboldt, Long Beach, Northridge, Sacramento, and San Francisco along with community college partners from College of the Redwoods and Long Beach City College.

## Contact

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*Supporting the higher education and successful reintegration of the formerly incarcerated*

**Creating Transformative Kinship  
2024 Annual Report**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

After the 2022-2023 academic year, Project Rebound was reorganized administratively. Cal State Fullerton served as the first administrative campus providing leadership in developing a strategic plan, program proposal criteria, and budget allocations processes. Through these efforts, a strong foundation was built to continue to strengthen and expand campus Project Rebound programs. Building upon this foundation, there was interest among the campus programs to move the administrative operations and oversight to the Office of the Chancellor.

On July 1, 2023, the Office of the Chancellor assumed the administrative duties of Project Rebound and coordinated a transition plan with Cal State Fullerton to close out budget and general operations, year-end reports and data collection processes. Given the size and comprehensiveness of Project Rebound, the transition was more complex than anticipated and spanned the 2023-2024 academic year.

A significant difference in the administrative practices was data collection and reporting. The Office of the Chancellor’s practice is to collect and report data from the prior academic year for legislative reports. However, Cal State Fullerton’s practice was to report same year data on the previous Project Rebound reports. So, the 2023 Project Rebound report included Fall 2022 data, which is part of the 2022-2023 academic year data that the Office of the Chancellor used for this report. While there is no gap in the data, this year’s 2024 report includes duplicative data. Next year’s report will include the data from 2023-2024.

The Office of the Chancellor is committed to strengthening the Project Rebound programs through streamlined budget allocation processes and increasing all campus program budgets while setting aside funds for expansion campuses for when they are ready to establish a program. The Office of the Chancellor looks forward to reporting these accomplishments in the next report.

<b>Project Rebound’s Progress Due to State Support</b>		
<b>Metric</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Campus Programs</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Students Enrolled</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>836</b>
<b>Students Enrolled in Graduate Programs</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>Graduating Class Size</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>247</b>
<b>Fulltime Equivalent Staff (Nearly all Formerly Incarcerated)</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Students Employed</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>132</b>
<b>Students Placed in Internships</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Percentage of Students in Good Academic Standing</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Students Received Certificates of Rehabilitation or Pardons</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Students Connected to Department of Rehabilitation Resources</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>341</b>
<b>Students Completed Criminal Record Expungements</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Students that Identify as Black, Latinx, or Native</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>Pell Grant Recipients</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>First-Generation Students</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>Parents of Minor Children</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Recidivism Rate</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>&lt; 1%</b>



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A hallmark of the successful model of the CSU Project Rebound is that our staff of university professionals draw upon the assets they have developed from their own lived experience with the criminal legal system to construct communities of care on campus that not only foster students’ sense of belonging but also cultivate a culture of kinship.

This annual report will demonstrate how the CSU Project Rebound Consortium remains one of the most cost-effective public safety and postsecondary education investments in the state. Through grit, ingenuity, and community-building, Project Rebound daily transforms modest investment from the State of California into equitable access and opportunity, expansive student success, and stronger, safer communities from Humboldt to San Diego.

## 2. HISTORY OF CSU PROJECT REBOUND

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In 1952, John Irwin (1929-2010) robbed a gas station and served a five-year sentence for armed robbery in Soledad Prison. During his time in prison he earned 24 college credits through a university extension program. After his release from prison, Irwin earned a B.A. from UCLA, a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley, and then served as a Professor of Sociology and Criminology at San Francisco State University for 27 years, during which he became known internationally as an expert on the U.S. prison system.



**(1929 – 2010)**  
**Founder of Project Rebound**  
**Established in 1967**

In 1967, Irwin created Project Rebound as a way to matriculate people into San Francisco State University directly from the criminal justice system. Supported for many years by San Francisco State University’s Associated Students, Inc., the program supported hundreds of formerly incarcerated students obtain Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees. In 2019, following a three-year, philanthropically funded expansion effort (2016- 19), California made an ongoing investment in the CSU Project Rebound Consortium to grow and further expand this successful program across the state. In 2022, California significantly augmented that ongoing investment to further scale Project Rebound’s continued success as a model for the state and the nation. The CSU Project Rebound Consortium is now a state- and grant-funded network of programs operating at fifteen CSU campuses in Bakersfield, East Bay, Fresno, Fullerton, Humboldt, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Northridge, Pomona, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Marcos, and Stanislaus. Project Rebound is at the forefront of the CSU’s objective to close the equity gap for underrepresented minority and low- income students.

## 3. WHO ARE OUR STUDENTS? REBOUND SCHOLARS

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Who are the students that are the vital part of the statewide Project Rebound kinship network? Project Rebound students are scholars—Rebound Scholars. Rebound Scholars are a highly diverse, multifaceted student population from a variety of backgrounds who contribute greatly to the



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strength and talent of the CSU student body and are beloved members of the CSU community. Rebound Scholars exemplify the way that Project Rebound is at the forefront of advancing the CSU's objective to close the equity gap for underserved and low-income students.

The majority of Rebound Scholars come from historically marginalized and underserved populations. Sixty-three percent of Project Rebound students are the first in their families to attend university, and thirty-eight percent are parents of minor children. Thirty-six percent of Project Rebound students are also recipients of the CSU State University Grant. Sixty-six percent of Rebound Scholars are Pell Grant recipients, compared to 43% in the general CSU student body. Another 6% of Rebound Scholars have exhausted their lifetime Pell Grant eligibility. Most often this is the result of events prior to students joining Project Rebound: not knowing how to access help or too scared to admit they needed help, having to decelerate their education to care for family members, or receiving poor advising and accumulating non-transferable credits or earning multiple associates degrees at the community college level without being informed that Pell Grants are time-limited resources or without realizing that a bachelor's or master's degree was an attainable possibility for them.

Rebound Scholars are also more diverse in age, race, and ethnicity than the CSU at large. The majority (62%) of Rebound Scholars are Black (18%), Latinx (42%), or Native (10%). The proportion of Rebound Scholars that identify as Black/African American or Indigenous is five times greater than that of the CSU student body overall. In addition, 68% of Rebound Scholar are between the ages of 25 and 44. By contrast, 77% percent of CSU students are 24 years of age or younger. Many Rebound Scholars had their educational journeys as youths disrupted—often violently—by the foster care system (12%) and/or the juvenile justice system (36%). The pathways of many would-be first-generation college students, especially youths of color, diverted by the school-to-prison pipeline.

While Rebound Scholars are incredibly diverse, one thing they share is a commitment to academic success, achievement, and excellence. Rebound Scholars are active in both undergraduate and graduate programs, pursuing degrees in fields such as the Social Sciences, Business and Economics, Health and Human Services, Arts and Humanities, Engineering and Computer Science, Education, and more.

This compares with remarkable favor to the CSU overall, where systemwide the equity gap for students who identify as Black, Native American, or Latinx has increased from 9.2 percent in 2020 to 12.4 percent in 2022. Moreover, the number of Project Rebound students going on to pursue graduate studies in the CSU has increased by 310% (from 25 students to 119 students) since 2018.

Across the Project Rebound Consortium, Rebound Scholars and staff embody academic success, community engagement, and lifelong achievement, demonstrating that formerly incarcerated people not only *belong* in higher education; they *excel* in higher education. Their presence in the university and their pursuits and contributions strengthen the CSU and help fashion a stronger, safer, more prosperous California. Rebound Scholars and staff come from all walks of life and enrich the culture



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of their university campuses, families, and broader communities, while paving the way for others—especially their children, nieces, and nephews—to do the same.

#### **4. INVESTMENTS IN THE CSU PROJECT REBOUND**

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The ongoing appropriation that the State of California allocated to the CSU Project Rebound Consortium in 2019 enabled Project Rebound to begin to scale its proven model of success, shifting from piecemeal to more coherent and stable staffing, expanding from 9 campus programs to 15, and tripling our enrollment in just three years despite the wider pandemic enrollment declines experienced by postsecondary educational segments across California. Prior to receiving State support in 2019, campus program staffing across the Consortium included a patchwork of 12 fulltime-equivalent staff, 14 student employees, and 6 interns/volunteers. In Fall 2022, the Consortium included 30 fulltime-equivalent staff, 72 student employees, and 72 interns/volunteers. Gainful, meaningful employment is a major contributor to student success and reduced recidivism. With an increase in fulltime-equivalent staff, and thus supervisory capacity, Project Rebound was able to increase student employment by 414% and program interns/volunteers more than ten times over. Sixty-one percent of these student employees are part of the Federal Work Study program, which means Project Rebound is successfully leveraging State investments to secure additional federal support for formerly incarcerated student workforce development. Many interns are earning academic credit. Both are gaining valuable work experience and professional development while supporting an expanding number of prospective and matriculated formerly incarcerated students to access the transformative power of higher education.

In addition to the current 14 Project Rebound programs another expansion program at CSU East Bay was launched in the Fall of 2022 to bring the total to 15 programs. The programs significantly extend the regional scope of opportunity available to college-aspiring formerly incarcerated people. In Fall 2022, the first wave of expansion campuses, which included Humboldt, Long Beach, Northridge, San Marcos and Stanislaus, created opportunity for 171 enrolled students in different parts of the state to access the transformative power of higher education, and by the end the current academic year, after three years of operation, these four campuses are expected to have cumulatively conferred 90 degrees to formerly incarcerated students. During 2022-2023 academic year, Project Rebound received expansion proposals from four campuses – Chico, Dominguez Hills, Monterey Bay and San Jose – that were accepted and will launch programs during the 2023-2024 academic year.

The State allocation is critical to sustaining the success of Project Rebound. State funds have been invested in hiring additional support staff who play a critical role in advancing Project Rebound goals (e.g., Program Directors and Coordinators, Outreach Coordinators, Enrollment Specialists, Pre-admissions Counselors, academic tutors, administrative support, etc.), in general operation (e.g., program supplies, materials, equipment, events, outreach and conference travel, etc.), and in direct student support (e.g., student employment, transportation, books, school supplies, printing, meal and emergency housing support, scholarships and fellowships, etc.).



## **5. EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

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CSU Project Rebound campuses continue to make significant progress in our efforts to advance Project Rebound’s mission to make higher education more accessible and supportive of formerly incarcerated students so that they can acquire the knowledge and skills of a university education, enhance their capacity for civic engagement and community leadership, secure meaningful and gratifying employment, empower themselves and their families, and ultimately make strong, safer communities. CSU Project Rebound campus programs continue to focus on the following five Key Service Objectives designed to make higher education more accessible to and supportive of formerly incarcerated students:

1. Fostering a college-going culture among and building recruitment pathways for currently and formerly incarcerated people.
2. Helping prospective students prepare, apply, and matriculate.
3. Supporting enrolled students to persist and graduate.
4. Supporting enrolled students to participate in student life and leadership, community service, and civic engagement.
5. Establishing and fostering empowering networks among Project Rebound alumni and students.

One of Project Rebound’s Key Program Elements is the active example and leadership of staff who have an incarceration experience and who also have experience successfully navigating a university campus, which enables them to effectively mentor formerly incarcerated students and build community among formerly incarcerated students and the wider university community. This staffing model is critical for several reasons, including lived experience and understanding of the unique adversities of formerly incarcerated students, cultural competency and credibility, modeling successful reentry and behavior that encourages personal growth, and demonstrating that pathways to purpose, promise, and viable careers exist post-release.

This section of the report provides specific programmatic activities, student support programs, services, and various strategies undertaken, and demonstrates how the Project Rebound is working to advance the success of formerly incarcerated people who have the desire and motivation to obtain a baccalaureate and/or master’s degree and beyond. State support has enabled increased systemwide coordination and capacity-building that has allowed Project Rebound to identify and replicate many best practices across Project Rebound member campuses as well as to expand Project Rebound education and support services to additional CSU campuses. The following campus narrative reports highlight the direct student support services and programs, which include developing a sense of belonging and addressing basic needs:



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### BAKERSFIELD

CSU Project Rebound Bakersfield (PRB) continues to provide in-person and virtual workshops to reentry facilities, parole and probation department meetings and sober living homes. Incoming students participate in both New Student Orientation and Project Rebound specific orientation called Pathways to Success Summit. At the Pathways to Success Summit, students learn about on-campus, local resources, and support services (e.g., academic advising, tutoring, financial aid, writing lab, library, and housing) and are quickly connected to an academic advisor to develop an Individual Academic Plan and enroll in courses. Project Rebound students participated in the Freshman Mentoring Program and academic support activities and are also connected to tutors, student mentors, and ongoing individual and academic support workshops to enhance their learning skill development and for socioemotional support. Tutors provide over 80 hours of Math and English tutoring per month in the Project Rebound Lab. Project Rebound continues to sustain relationships with key campus departments (e.g., Academic Advising, Office of the Registrar, Financial Aid & Scholarships, Admissions, Student Affairs, Veterans Center, Basic Needs, ASI, etc.).

PRB has expanded its work by working closely with CDCR facilities including North Kern State Prison, the Substance Abuse Treatment Facility at Corcoran State Prison, Kern County Sheriff's Office, Kern County Parole and Probation, the Kern County Department of Juvenile Probation, and has a sustained commitment to mentoring DJJ youth. The campus is also strengthening its relationship with Bakersfield College's Rising Scholars Program.

#### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- Bookstore Voucher Program which provides much needed support to alleviate the rising cost of textbooks and school supplies. Students receive a \$250 voucher each semester.
- Peer Navigation is provided to all students. Peer navigators are high achieving projectrebound students who make weekly contact with new and ongoing students to assist in navigating challenges involved in their transition into higher education.
- Tutoring and college preparation assistance are provided by in-house tutors and assistants who have completed the guaranteed 4.0 training and are passionate about student Success.
- Clean Slate is a program of the Kern County's Public Defender's Office that help project rebound students "clean up" their criminal records. The type of service provided includes Expungements (misdemeanor & felony convictions including, but not limited to, drunk driving, theft, prostitution, burglary, drug offenses, domestic violence, robbery, and assault and battery) and Certificates of Rehabilitation such as State Prison Cases

Enrollment continues to grow, with the Fall 2023 enrollment expected to surpass 50 students for the first time at CSUB. A Project Rebound student was selected as Student of the Year at our Antelope Valley Campus; three students serve on the Board of ASI - the Director of Veterans Affairs, Director of Student Support and Director of Graduate Students; 4 of 5



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Spring 2023 PR graduates applied to Graduate School, and one accepted full-time job offer in their field of Study; a Project Rebound Student was selected for a summer research fellowship at Brown University.

EAST BAY

On July 1, 2022, CSU East Bay became an official Project Rebound Program (PREB) with one enrolled student. By the end of the academic year, PREB had 17 enrolled Scholars with four graduating from their degree programs. Of those graduating, three are continuing in CSU East Bay graduate programs and the fourth is teaching special needs courses in the Oakland Public Schools with plans to apply to graduate school once they complete records clearance. PREB currently has 14 continuing undergraduates, 3 continuing graduate students, 7 newly enrolled undergraduates, and 2 accepted students whom they are helping enroll in fall semester courses. PREB continues to assist 5 students with applying and matriculating for the next academic year, at least 1 of whom is expected to be accepted shortly. This growth to 26 undergraduate and graduate students exceeds expectations and reflects the need for this program on the campus. PREB attracts slightly older students (median age of 38); the majority are students of color (75% Black or Mexican), recipients of federal financial aid, parents to minors; and several of the students work for nonprofit agencies that make valuable social contributions to the local communities. PREB has achieved the majority of the objectives, outputs, and outcomes that were outlined in their 2022-2023 Campus Work Plan.

Objective	Outputs and Outcomes
Recruitment within CSUEB and Community College partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruited 26 Rebound Scholars</li> <li>Conducted over 30 outreach presentations</li> <li>Hosted and conducted tours for prospective Rebound Scholars at local community college programs</li> <li>Tabled at 10 orientation and recruitment events</li> <li>Recurring meetings with contacts at ROC, RISE, Rising Scholars, and Open Gate</li> </ul>
Assist prospective students prepare, apply, and matriculate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Established a landing webpage for prospective/current Rebound Scholars</li> <li>Established MOUs with Admissions and Open Enrollment to accommodate Rebound Scholars</li> <li>Assisted 12 potential Rebound Scholars with CSU application</li> <li>Two Rebound Scholars accepted to CSUEB under the</li> </ul>
	Disadvantage Exception MOU with Admissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Point-of-Contacts established with Registrar, Financial Aid, and Admissions to quickly address issues with Rebound Scholars' applications</li> </ul>



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Support enrolled students to persist, graduate, and pursue career options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 student peer mentors hired and initiated peer mentoring program for Rebound Scholars</li> <li>• 4 workshops held on academic advising, career options, and record clearance</li> <li>• Celebrated over 30 outstanding achievements from Rebound Scholars, notably the graduation of four Scholars and acceptance of three into graduate programs</li> </ul>
Support enrolled students to participate in student life and leadership, community service, and civic engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 staff and 4 Rebound Scholars attended in-person BASIC meeting hosted by Solano Community College</li> <li>• 8 Rebound Scholars attended seminar by Nikole Hannah-Jones on her book <i>The 1619 Project</i></li> <li>• 5 Rebound Scholars attended a Teach-In on Critical Race Theory hosted by Educational Leadership in Social Justice</li> </ul>
Establish and foster empowering networks among Project Rebound alumni and students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two Rebound Scholars participating in Project Rebound Research Lab; will present research at August conference</li> <li>• Rebound Scholar alumni hired on staff to focus on outreach, advising, and mentoring</li> <li>• Six stories with accomplishments of three Rebound Scholar highlighted on CSUEB website, local and national news outlets</li> </ul>
Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation to University Advancement to raise awareness of Project Rebound program</li> <li>• Received \$205,100 in unrestricted donor funds, individual donations, and grants</li> </ul>

Most of the students are doing well in their courses with notable improvements in grades since joining Project Rebound. PREB students have been recognized for their academic achievements by being awarded scholarships, making the Dean’s list, accepted in the McNair Scholars program, winning a CSU system-wide award at the undergraduate Sociology Conference, and presenting their Research Lab projects at CSU Long Beach in August. On average, our Rebound Scholars have improved more than 1 GPA in the semester following their enrollment into the program.

**Key program innovations and achievements include the following:**

- One distinguishing feature of PREB is the strength of connections within the Bay Area community and community college programs. Fortuitously, our popular transfer campuses (Chabot, Laney, Merritt) have programs for systems-impacted and formerly incarcerated students, and PREB has established strong collaborations with these programs. The geographic proximity and the diversity of the student body (first-generation, racial/ethnic diversity, older age) attracts

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potential Rebound Scholars, and the campus has created seamless transfer pathways to readily transition students from the 2-to 4-year college experience.

## **FRESNO**

CSU Project Rebound Fresno (PR Fresno) hired two (2) new full-time staff, a Housing Coordinator, and a Department Administrative Assistant to accommodate the growing need from the ever-increasing number of students enrolled in the program. These two (2) new hires allow the Project Rebound Director and Outreach Coordinator to focus more directly on serving students. The number of hours paid for tutoring increased and the culture around accessing assistance for a difficult class is improving. PR Fresno continues to conduct workshops focused on subject matter that is commonly lacking in their student population. PR Fresno also successfully implemented the “Educating our Youth” program under the Building Postsecondary Educational Pathways for Juvenile Justice System-Involved Youths Grant, sponsored by California Wellness Foundation. This was done in partnership with Focus Forward at the Fresno County Juvenile Justice Campus (JJC) which offers the “Pipeline to Opportunity” Program (P2O). The “Educating our Youth” outreach program provides direct support for incarcerated juveniles. It builds a sense of belonging among incarcerated youth so they see themselves attending university. On-campus relationships are well established (e.g., University Outreach, Dog Days). With the implementation of the Bachelor Completion Program on campus, relationships with Admissions and Financial Aid have grown. Through the partnership with Career Services, a designated counselor, who has lived experience, is part of the team. PR Fresno has been the recipient of a grant from Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) each year, for increasing amounts, to support student employment. \$10,240 was received for the 2022/2023 year.

Fresno State has open communication with the academic community within the two Chowchilla prisons, VSP and CCWF and have assisted in assessing transcripts for eligibility for placement in the Bachelor Completion Program for students who are still incarcerated via emails with staff working in Education Departments in prison. PR Fresno has a regular presence in Fresno County facilities as well as Tulare County Juvenile Hall, Avenal State Prison (ASP) Workforce Development Classes and Pleasant Valley State Prison (PVSP) Education Department on various yards and speak regularly at local “alternatives to incarceration” locations such as Teen Valley Ranch in Madera working with at-risk youth. They have a mentoring program at the JJC which is staffed by Project Rebound student mentors and have partnered with the Community College that provides direct educational services to incarcerated juveniles who are in dual enrollment programs. The Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) and Project Rebound work closely with each other and have increased the DOR caseload. Project Rebound staff and DOR staff meet annually and sometimes bi-annually to discuss best practices and assess how to work better together.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- Opened their first house for formerly incarcerated students. The house has room for





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six (6) single men with a large indoor and outdoor gathering area as well as a pool and multifunctional spaces for group events and workshops.

- Identified a potential location for women with minors in a five (5) bedroom house even closer to campus.
- The Housing Coordinator has created a Housing Consortium that stands to be a significant improvement in the campus' ability to address housing insecurity for all students in the program, as well as students who are in the pipeline to Fresno State. This Housing Consortium includes Community Based Providers that serve the population from the time individuals are released from custody. It also includes private homeowners who rent to formerly incarcerated as well as property developers that can share information and help house formerly incarcerated individuals.
- Hired student assistants to serve in very specific roles, rather than just having them working in the office (e.g., a student to organize, attend and recruit students for outreach and volunteer events; a student to promote their social media presence; a student to organize and conduct workshops). These activities can be done in locations other than the office, while maintaining staff supervision.
- Within the "Educating our Youth" program, students are learning to be leaders and examples within their communities through mentoring incarcerated juveniles who are participating in the dual enrollment program at the Fresno County JJC.

### FULLERTON

CSU Project Rebound Fullerton (PR Fullerton) provides holistic, healing, trauma-informed wraparound support services for formerly incarcerated students in order to increase student success and community reintegration. We begin by assisting each student with designing an educational plan and specific academic goals that lead toward post-secondary education, career opportunities, civic engagement, and community leadership. Students are required to meet with the Academic Counselor or Program Director bi-monthly during their first year to ensure campus integration, relationship-building, and basic needs. New students are assigned a peer navigator to assist them with integrating into the program and culture of the campus. Students are also introduced to mentors who are part of a mentorship program created in partnership with CSU Fullerton's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, through which interested Rebound students are paired with mentors drawn from senior professionals from the community. Financial aid, housing, food security, textbooks & course materials, mental health, and other essential goals are met. By meeting the basic needs of our students, the program's overall grade point average consistently remains at or above 3.0. Rebound students secure employment either on-campus or off-campus within their first semester, and more than a third of the students engage in recruitment, outreach, and new student orientations.

PR Fullerton has maintained a collaborative relationship with the CSUF Admissions Office as they have come to understand the unique needs and supports necessary for serving students



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with an incarceration experience that extend beyond grade point averages and course work. Besides offering program admission's codes to enable the timely enrollment of recently released prospective students, application fee waivers, academic assessments and evaluating transcripts, and hearing admissions appeals, the program is in the first stages of developing a special graduate admission's process or MOU similar to the one on file with the undergraduate admission office. PR Fullerton continues to work closely with the Office of Financial Aid and Federal Work Study Coordinator to ensure that Rebound students have access to federal and state financial aid, federal work-study awards, university scholarships, and loan rehabilitation support. The program continues to host interns on campus and at the John Irwin Memorial House, which is an approved field worksite for Human Service majors and Internships through CSUF Center for Internships and Community Engagement (CICE). This academic year, PR Fullerton hosted 10 interns and employed 13 federal work study students.

The Executive Director continues to work closely with the Office of Sponsored Program, the Philanthropic Foundation, and Office of Grants and Contracts to secure and administer grants and donations to support the mission of Project Rebound and deliver timely and need-responsive resources to students aimed at improving academic, psychosocial, and employment outcomes and reducing recidivism, including housing, employment, books, and meal support. The program received several new grants and gifts this year totaling \$240,000 with several proposals pending or in progress.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- This academic year, PR Fullerton saw a 19% increase in enrolled students, growing from 88 in fall 2022 to 105 in spring 2023. Of the initial 88 students, 67% were full-time, 33% were parents with minor children, and 89% were first-generation college students. In the spring, 47.6% (50 students) enrolled through the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). The cumulative GPAs during AY 22/23 were between 2.5-3.5, with 67% of students (70) above a 3.0 GPA. We hosted two Bridge to Success: New Student Orientation (BTS) events, attended by 59 incoming students. They were paired with Peer Navigators, essential to students' stability and success. During the 2022-2023 academic year, 23 student workers, including Peer Navigators, Outreach Team Members, and Graduate Interns, played key roles in fostering community and personal growth among Rebound Scholars. In May, the program celebrated 28 graduates receiving baccalaureate degrees and 3 of alumni Bickerstaff Fellows: Robert Ortiz Archila, Hector Martinez, and Sergio Torres. Since the inception of the Bickerstaff Family Graduate Fellowship in 2019, we have contributed financial support to 10 Project Rebound alumni in the amount of \$50,000 for tuition, books, and student fees. One of the most prominent collaborations was with the NAACP of Orange County where students and staff GOTV with an emphasis on voter registration for individuals with a felony record.
- The relationship with DOR continues to enhance the lives of PR students and prospective students. There are now have a number of DOR counselors assigned



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to support incarcerated youths through the Dare 2 Dream: Building Pathways to Post- Secondary Success for System Impacted Youth program in Orange County Youth facilities.

- PR Fullerton has the first transformative housing community for formerly incarcerated university students in the Consortium and the nation. The John Irwin Memorial Housing Initiative provides holistic, life-affirming reentry housing and wraparound services to improve academic, psychosocial, and employment outcomes for formerly incarcerated students. The Irwin House provides residential housing for nine male students who receive holistic care and enjoy a safe, drug and alcohol-free environment. The Irwin House has partnered with community-based organizations, agencies, community colleges, and university partners to coordinate meetings, events, and workshops at the house that provide Rebound Scholars with professional development and expose them to transformative opportunities. The house has evolved into more than housing and a meeting space.
- The Food Justice Initiative was born out of the onset of COVID-19 pandemic as PR Fullerton worked creatively to provide meal support to food-insecure students in the absence of campus infrastructure. Food insecurity was exacerbated by the shortage of food in stores, lack of access to campus, and loss of employment. The program rapidly constructed an emergency food pantry that provided produce and staple items to support scholars' wellbeing and overall nutrition.
- The "Dare to Dream Juvenile Justice Pathways to College" program (DTD) was inaugurated with a vision. DTD's mission is not just to create post-secondary pathways but to instill values of lifelong learning and self-development within students. What distinguishes this program is its inventive and singular methodology. By employing the personal experiences of both staff and students, the program forges connections and build trust, linking youth who have been impacted by the system with higher education opportunities. The comprehensive curriculum is tailored to address the specific needs and challenges faced by this demographic. Through imparting essential knowledge, we equip these young individuals for their educational pursuits once they are released. Since the birth of the program, DTD has already organized five cohorts across two juvenile correctional facilities, namely Youth Leadership Academy and Youth Guidance Center. A total of 43 youths participated in the program, with 22 completing it. Among these, two Dare to Dream graduates have successfully enrolled in a local Community College after their release. These students were provided with academic advising, mentoring, and a College Start-Up Kit worth \$1,000, setting them on a path toward a brighter future.
- The Rebound Academy, a six-week youth enrichment program designed to work



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with justice-involved youths ages 17-25 will be implemented in Fall. The program’s goal is to create pathways from juvenile correctional facilities to institutions of higher learning. By providing meaningful exposure to college life and student engagement, participants will enhance and develop new skill-sets navigating technology and software, research, public speaking, and fundamental social skills for personal growth and transformation. The Rebound Academy also is partnered with the DOR so that youths will have access to valuable reentry resources to support vocational and educational development along with DMV, Cal ID, and medical benefits. Some of the topics covered in the curriculum are: College preparation, accessing financial aid, work force development, time management, research, critical thinking, public speaking, money management, problem solving, self-determination, and more.

- The Project Rebound Leadership Academy (PRLA) takes inspiration from established public affairs and policy frameworks like the Solis Policy Institute (CA) and CORO, the prestigious national program in public affairs creating a one of a kind policy and advocacy practicum. Through the PRLA, student fellows in the field of public affairs will have the chance to tackle pressing issues related to criminal justice, public safety, and higher education. The academy's primary goals are to empower student leaders by providing them with a platform to raise awareness, educate policymakers about specific challenges, and foster collaborative partnerships with higher education and social justice institutions both within the United States and internationally.

### HUMBOLDT

CSU Project Rebound Humboldt (PR Humboldt) is in the most rural of all CSUs and caters to multiple counties outside of their own. This means that the campus must work extra hard to foster trust within communities and fill the role of reentry where the county is lacking. PR Humboldt has experienced enrollment growth – from 21 students in Fall 2022 to 25 in Spring 2023 and has graduated 9 students, 4 of whom are continuing into graduate school and medical school and 3 graduates of MSWs. PR Humboldt provides students with schoolbooks and supplies as well as two stipends per semester that assist with emergency basic needs such as rent, food, gas or anything else that is needed for them to succeed. PR Humboldt has fostered relationships with campus student support programs, including but not limited to departments such as, Counseling and Psychological Services, The Tutor and Writing Center, the Library, Academic Counseling, Financial Aid, Dean of Students, Off- and On-Campus Housing, Human Resources, Sponsored Programs, and SDRC (Student Disability Resource Center), and the Career Center who provides further wrap-around support for their student population. There is a designated liaison in nearly each one of these departments that eliminates student’s having to relive trauma or having to explain their story repeatedly. Instead, these student support entities know Project Rebound students have lived experience and that’s all they need to know



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to specifically assist and support students.

Beyond the academic support provided, a robust community support for Rebound students is cultivated by activities done outside the campus. These include regular bonfires and restorative circles, bowling night and axe throwing, beach BBQs, backpacking trips and day hikes, river days, Big Lagoon get-togethers for kayaking and paddle boarding, regular lunch and dinner student get-togethers and encouragement of individual Center Activities events. Students also table at various community events involving local tribes, rancherias, and community centers and non-profits. Project Rebound student assistants are employed (e.g., a youth mentor for incarcerated youth inside the juvenile hall and advocate for youth court dates and a student assistant in partnership with the Yurok Tribe to facilitate case management for incarcerated Yurok tribal members). The program also collaborates to provide internship opportunities that include the Social Work Department, Sociology Department and local Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee. PR Humboldt has extensive correspondence with students and future students inside the prison where they communicate on a regular basis and provide support letters for probation and parole, housing, graduate school, expungements, and employment referrals.

PR Humboldt has built strong and robust partnerships with Pelican Bay State Prison, and community partners facilitating programming, as well as the local community college providing education through the Pelican Bay Scholars Program. The PR Youth Outreach Specialist facilitates the Prison Arts Collective class inside the prison once a week and because he has a brown card, can provide ready and immediate support when needed. PR Humboldt's partnership with the local community college to provide educational services is also so strong that they regularly collaborate with them and their students on transfer pathways and educational planes for when the students are graduating and ready for a 4-year university. PR Humboldt facilitates a transformative educational workshop in collaboration with College of the Redwoods, CSUN and Long Beach to host multiple CSU, UC, and CCC college representatives to provide a multi-day workshop for every yard in Pelican Bay and Lancaster State Prisons. PR Humboldt has had the pleasure of accepting students into Cal Poly Humboldt even while they were incarcerated with a parole date so when they parole, the students are already ahead of the process and land smoothly into the community with the full range of support. PR Humboldt also picks up men paroling from the prison to ensure that they are supported and connected when they are released. The first stop is to the university and into the Project Rebound office. We also work with the financial aid office and office of the registrar to assist former students who are now incarcerated and help navigate student loan forgiveness or academic renewals and withdrawals.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- CDCR to provide a BA in Communications for students in Pelican Bay State Prison for Spring 2024. PR Humboldt will have the nation's first in-person BA program on a level-4 yard which will be setting a precedent for the nation to



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hopefully open more doorways for high-security level yards to allow educational opportunities.

- Strong working relationship with the local DOR office where they host regular check-ins and have a designated liaison counselor that counsels all our Project Rebound students. 75% of our students are DOR clients.
- Partnership with the community college adult school and local Jefferson Community Center, which is a beacon in the area for formerly incarcerated community members to receive job training, family assistance, and assistance with food and baby products. PR Humboldt also hosts these introductions to college pathways in the local Hoopa Tribe reservation 50 miles east of the university. This partnership is also with the Hoopa Tribal Family Program and the Hoopa Campus for College of the Redwoods.
- Creation of a formerly incarcerated students club for the College of the Redwoods where we host weekly drop-in sessions and club meetings at the Eureka Campus.
- Strong relationship with the Yurok Tribe, where PR Humboldt continues to build strong pathways with Chief Justice of the Yurok Tribe Abby Abinanti and her staff for educational opportunities and reentry for Yurok Tribal members. PR Humboldt is also part of the Yurok Tribe Wellness Coalition and Suicide Prevention Coalition.
- Strong relationship as being part of the North Far North group of Rising Scholars Programs led by Kellie Nadler that include Butte, Shasta, Lake Tahoe, Lassen, Yuba Del Norte, Mendocino, Lake and Sacramento County Transitional Age Youth Committee, Teen Court, Northern County Indian Development Council, Humboldt Area Foundation, and our local treatment facilities. PR Humboldt works closely with and has built strong relationships with Humboldt Area for Harm Reduction Services, Waterfront Recovery Center, Humboldt Recovery Services and the local Aegis methadone clinic. State-wide and nationally, PR Humboldt is a member of the Community Agency Board with lived experience for youth services working on The Juvenile Justice Toolkit, Office of Youth and Restoration's Youth Education Committee, the Public Defender Appellate Committee, the Boundless Freedom Project, the RESPECT Close the DJJ the Right Way Group, and the American Prison Newspaper Project.
- Working with them on a \$1.5 grant for juvenile justice education support for our local juvenile hall in partnership with our Office of Education and our Probation Department.

### **LONG BEACH**

CSU Project Rebound Long Beach (PRLB) has grown from 9 Formerly Incarcerated (FI)



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students in Fall of 2020 to 78 FI students in 2023 and have provided services for currently and formerly incarcerated students by providing them with CSU application process, connecting them with the State of California Department of Rehabilitation, financial aid application support, and provided the physical space for students to embrace their identity and engage in professional development. PRLB has established a strong relationship with their admission and records office by collaborating with them on difficult admissions issues. Through 2022-23 the program secured admission for 26 graduate students and 14 undergraduate students. The team secured 3 paid internships with a grand total of \$30,000USD, which allowed the office to hire 3 part-time students during the 2022-23 year. This allowed our Rebound students to not only work but also gain valuable work experience.

Holistic Support Services for our Rebound students is rooted in the idea that formerly incarcerated students need wrap around program services. It is for this reason that PRLB provides academic advising, mental health support, career development, and assistance with financial aid application. These distinguishing features address the unique challenges faced by formerly incarcerated students at our university and help them navigate the complexities of higher education. Another key feature offered to Rebound students is a strong federal work study program which provides the space and opportunity for students to engage in professional development.

The PRLB outreach team has grown from 2 students to 8 active students who actively participate in the strategic recruitment efforts of PRLB. The program also provides beginning of semester orientation, professional development workshops, peer to peer navigators, CSU transfer application process and mental health service through its Arizona State University Internship program. In 2022-23 the program created the Community Runners Club for Formerly Incarcerated Students which promotes healthy eating and regular exercise. Moreover, the PRLB team has actively been entering the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation which enables them to recruit directly from currently incarcerated students and provide them with support in the admission process to the university. Through direct support of the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs their program has secured multiple positions for our students, streamlined the increase “Cost of Attendance” which provides additional financial aid for Rebound students.

PRLB has established a strong working relationship with the Department of Rehabilitation which allows the program to provide direct financial support for our students. The program has hired 2 DOR Liaisons through their internship program. In doing so, the program has designated staff members who provide tailored support services for our students.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- Dr. James Binnall (Executive Director) PRLB, a formerly incarcerated professor and practicing attorney, provides support for Rebound students encountering legal challenges as they embark on their journey to law school. This year the program supported students interested in law school by supporting them with the application process and coached these students for their law school interview.



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- Another impactful initiative that helped achieve their goals is their community building events. To foster a sense of community and belonging, the program provides students with the opportunity to organize, facilitate workshops and support groups such as SoberScholars, PR Book Club, etc.
- Lastly, another key factor that has helped PRLB achieve success is the strong collaboration with community partners. To expand the impact, PRLB continuously collaborates with organizations such as Homeboy Industries, ARC, Cypress College LIFE Program, Justice Scholars Long Beach City College to name a few. Their events are geared towards creating initiatives that promote social justice and provide our students with the opportunity to embrace their identities.

### LOS ANGELES

**Total Events: 944 Total Reached: (7,966) Total Partnerships: 67**

CSU Project Rebound Los Angeles (PRLA) continues to refine collaborative efforts and provide a range of services to matriculated and prospective students including emergency basic needs support (295), academic advisement (476), moral support, workshops, tech trainings (3), campus tours, and personal/professional development, and student employment / internships (28). Student staff were exceptionally prompt, sending personalized responses to over 1000 letters. Homeboy Industries Pathways (HBI) to College participants make up 25% of PRLA fall 2023 transfers, 11 students chose Cal State LA as their top campus. HBI and PRLA share an especially strong 6-year relationship, matriculating 46 students and graduating 18 since 2019. PRLA Transfer Navigators (TN) and Outreach Coordinator led a campaign that increased the scope and magnitude of PRLA activities, boosting the prestige of the program. Information sessions, workshops, tabling, and other outreach activities grew community partnerships to include Prism Way, PCC, ELAC, Rio Hondo, El Camino College, Los Angeles City College, Los Angeles Trade Tech College, Long Beach City College, Chabot College, Allan Hancock College, Los Angeles Unified School District, and Five Keys Programs. As a result, PRLA helped 50 prospective students apply for admission. PRLA assisted 300 prospective students through academic advisement, transfer plans, unofficial transcript evaluations (172), and leveraged well-established relationships with 7 community colleges in the local area, tracking student's progress towards transfer. The Theater Workers Project and PRLA partnership supported 20 formerly incarcerated people (FIP), East Los Angeles College (ELAC) (2), Pasadena City College (PCC) (2), and PRLA (16) through California Arts Council Reentry through the Arts grant funding that provided each a \$1400 stipend and an experience that fostered healing, personal growth, and strengthening the PRLA community bond. Three performances reached 135 prospectives. PRLA met with PR SFSU and TWP with the hopes of sharing the partnership with the wider PR statewide family. Visits to California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) facilities (RJ Donovan, California Institute for Men (CIM), California Institute for Women (CIW), and Lancaster) were also made.

PRLA has increased its campus allyship enjoying new collaborative partnerships including





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Administrative Departments such as Admissions, Center for “”Engagement Service and the Public Good, “Financial Aid, Career Center and Housing and Residence Life; Health, Wellness, & Special Population Support including the Care Team, Counseling and Psychological Services CAPS, Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), Veterans Resource Center, Educational Opportunity Program, Food Pantry; Colleges and Academic Departments including Natural and Social Sciences Academic Advisement Center, Rehabilitation Services Department, Charter College of Education, The Sociology Department, Communications Department; Student Life and Organizations including Associated Students Inc, Center for Student Involvement, Debate Team, The Cal State LA Guitar Ensemble, Rehabilitation Counseling Association; University Bookstore and University Times.

PRLA established a reputation in the community as a place that feels like home. Partnerships grew to include Mental Health and Wellness Partners such as the Department of Rehabilitation, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, Nu-Millennium, RE- Entry Services and Orgs Partners such as Homeboy Industries, Fear For Breakfast, The Prism Way, Sunset Clinic, Cavanaugh & a New Way of Life (male and female housing); Youth Education Partners such as LAUSD, Five Keys, AMC YTEC College & Career Fair, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Southwestern Law School, and Community College Partners such as Chabot, El Camino, Rio Hondo, Allen Hancock College, Long Beach City College and Cypress College. .

**Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- PRLA’s **The Rough Draft**: reimagined the Formerly Incarcerated Populations Conference taking the center stage as the official host. The 2-day symposium highlighted system-impacted community college students and places the PRLA community at the helm and in control of the narrative. The Rough Draft: is purposefully punctuated with a colon indicating that their story has not been told; there is more to come. Over 300 community college students along with 27 community organizations attended.
- Students in the **BA Graduation Initiative at Lancaster** continue to have a V.I.P. transitional experience upon their release. To date, 16 students who began their bachelor’s degrees while incarcerated at Lancaster have been released. 15 have graduated from Cal State LA. Three master’s degrees have been awarded to Lancaster students at Cal State LA.
- **BA Graduation Initiative at California Institute for Women** – The Outreach coordinator brought PRLA to the women (27) at CIW delivering an informative workshop each semester (2). Additionally, processing correspondences to include transcript evaluations in tandem with CIW support staff. Board and commutation letters have been written for 7 women. Unlike Lancaster, most of the women will be paroling to communities outside of Los Angeles. This means PRLA will be working closely with our Project Rebound family to ensure the seamless transition of students to other CSU campuses.
- PRLA continues to be a highly innovative program in its approach to education and leadership development and received recognition at the SCRIPT Conference



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where Program Director, Summer Brantner, and Outreach Coordinator, Jeff Stein, were the recipients of 2 of 3, 2023 Hope Awards in Education and Training and Innovation.

- PRLA partnered with TWP for a third year winning a grant \$42,000 grant from Cal ARTS for Project Reframe—a partnership that brought the theater arts to FIS at Cal State LA. Staff assigned weekly writing assignments addressing traumas and supporting the healing amongst a community with shared lived experience for the first half of the semester. The remaining 6 weeks (about 1 and a half months) were spent learning the script and theater craft. Each semester culminated with an original production. “Born of Chaos” was performed in the Fall at the University Student Union. “Unmasked” debuted in May for 2 shows in partnership with A Noise Within Playhouse in Pasadena. The program provided \$1400 stipends to 24 students.
- PRLA also partnered with the Geffen Playhouse to expose FIP to the culture of professional theater. This year we shared revenue costs and received a check based on our ticket sales for “The First Deep Breath” and “The Mountaintop.”

### NORTHRIDGE

CSU Project Rebound Northridge (PRN) continues to be successful in achieving their objectives and outcomes. PRN was launched in fall 2020 with five students and ended the spring semester with thirty-five with the expectation to start the fall semester with approximately forty-four students which demonstrates consistent expansion. PRN provides financial support to most Rebound Scholars to cover the costs of their books and school supplies and approximately \$500 per semester for meal and transportation support. PRN offers regular meetings with their Student Success Coordinator (SSC) to ensure that Rebound Scholars are on track academically and to address any issues that may impact their academic performance. This includes referring students to campus and community resources, such as emergency housing, food pantries, and mental health providers, assistance with Financial Aid and unit cap appeals and scholarship and graduate school applications, as well as providing students with employment opportunities. PRN has effectively developed close partnerships with a number of campus entities (e.g., EOP TRIO and Student Outreach to conduct a CSUN application workshop for ten prospective students; Admissions to support formerly incarcerated prospective students by providing codes that enable them to overcome difficulties and successfully apply and matriculate; the Learning Resource Center (LRC) to conduct a three-part workshop series to guide students interested in applying to the UCLA Public Health Training Program; and liaisons in Financial Aid to address issues that come up with Rebound Scholars).

PRN participated in sixteen on-campus outreach efforts, which include tabling at outreach events, presenting in classrooms and for other campus entities, holding a conference with Pierce College for community college and high school students, organized and participated in outreach efforts at Pelican Bay State Prison and at Barry J. Nirdof Juvenile Hall. Pelican Bay



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included a contingency from Humboldt, Long Beach, Northridge, Sacramento, and San Francisco that held a three-day outreach event where the contingency visited Pelican Bay Prison and worked with close to 250 incarcerated people currently taking courses through College of the Redwoods.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- PRN has successfully established relationships with a number of external entities (e.g., Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) to assist Rebound Scholars apply and access their resources; Pierce College to hold a conference focused on formerly incarcerated people’s experiences in higher education and professional careers; organized their first San Fernando Valley Justice and Wellness Resource Fair, which is now an annual event) One of the community providers is Clear Skies Ranch, which provides housing for formerly incarcerated men.
- PRN has been successful in development having been awarded internally through the Campus Quality Fee and the Diversity, Equity, and Innovation Grant. Externally, PRN secured a CSU HSI Community Grant to establish a program, “From Prison to Computer Science: Creating a Pipeline for Formerly Incarcerated People,” led by Maria Martinez, PR CSUN alumni, and Jason Ingram, current Rebound Scholar. This is a partnership with Homeboy Industries and Next Chapter. PRN has also participated in campus fundraising efforts and raised \$23,264 during the first CSUN Giving Day. It is important to note that out of the 984 donations made, 411 (approximately 42%) were for Project Rebound, which demonstrates PR efforts and the significance of this work. An anonymous donor followed up on this effort with a \$50,000 donation.
- A key distinguishing feature of Project Rebound at California State University, Northridge is our firm grounding in social justice and deep commitment to positive social change. Grounding ourselves in this way ensures that we center those most impacted to create equitable opportunities. This year PRN was once again awarded CSUN’s Diversity, Equity, and Innovation Grant. As part of this grant, PRN was able to connect twelve Rebound Scholars to community organizations whose work challenges the criminal legal system. One of the organizations is the Homeboy Art Academy.
- PRN’s established relationships with community organizations also enabled them to apply and be awarded a grant to provide instruction and support to formerly incarcerated people interested in going into computer technology. PRN partnered with Homeboy Industries and Next Chapter to teach computer literacy and program coding basics to ten formerly incarcerated people who, if successful, will be awarded apprenticeship opportunities with a tech company.
- Central to their success is their outreach efforts. PRN will continue to collaborate with Project Rebound staff from Cal Poly Pomona and Long Beach to hold monthly workshops at Homeboy Industries, Amity Foundation, and virtual sessions. These outreach efforts are extremely productive in guiding formerly incarcerated people into higher education. We also plan to continue to collaborate



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with Pierce College to hold a conference mainly for community college students. This was a very fruitful event that motivated many formerly incarcerated and systems impacted people to continue in higher education. PRN will also continue collaborations with community organizations, especially Tarzana Treatment Center and Center for Living and Learning, to hold their annual SFV Justice & Wellness Resource Fair. This is an event where community providers come to CSUN to offer direct support to formerly incarcerated community members. It is a significant moment where of community building where providers connect with one another and with formerly incarcerated people. It is also significant as it makes CSUN a resource for the larger community.

### POMONA

CSU Project Rebound Pomona (PRP) outreach efforts surpassed those of prior years, both in terms of the number of events and the various populations reached. PRP attended and/or hosted 55 events and reached a total of 1,945 individuals, including 1,004 prospective students. PRP expanded outreach efforts with new partners, including correctional facilities and on-campus offices. PRP engages in a variety of activities including the following:

- In-person and virtual Transfer Workshops at Cerritos, Chaffey, Cypress, Rio Hondo, Mt.Sac, and PCC.
- Intro to College Workshops in/with Correctional Facilities and Local Re-entry Organizations. Unlike the monthly transfer workshops, the Intro to College workshops provided at re-entry organizations are designed to motivate and inform participants about college life, the college admissions process, and the benefits of a college degree regardless of where they are at in the college admissions process. PRP staff conducted four Intro to College workshops at 4 facilities, a campus tour with 5 incarcerated youth, and participated in an educational resource fair at the Barry J facility in Sylmar. Approximately 79 incarcerated youth were reached. PRP continues to partner with Homeboy Industries and Amity Foundation in LA and conducted 10 workshops, reaching approximately 253 justice-involved individuals.
- The Prison Education Project (PEP) remains a key outreach partner for PRP as well as a partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice. PRP hosted the first college tour with incarcerated youth from Riverside County Probation.
- In collaboration with CSULB and CSUSB, PRP co-hosted an ally training for RCC staff and students and helped organize and present at a Youth Conference at CSU Long Beach which drew nearly 250 youth from the LA region. PRP was also invited to speak in the Landscape Architecture Department to share the work of Project Rebound, drawing nearly 30 participants.
- Tabling during resource fairs at LBCC, RCC and Cypress community colleges.
- Provided ad-hoc advisement to currently and formerly incarcerated individuals that reach out to via mail, email, phone, and/or in-person visits to campus. During these interactions, PRP staff review academic transcripts; provide guidance on next



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steps (e.g., official academic assessment by the Admissions Office, assistance with completion of FAFSA and/or CSU application); provide referrals to relevant resources (e.g., Department of Rehabilitation, community college partners); and provide encouragement for wherever an individual is in their educational journey.

- PRP's routine advisement model for matriculated students includes informal and formal check-ins with students throughout the academic semester. In Fall 2022, PRP moved toward an incentivized mid-semester check-in model given that not all students were responsive to the peer-to-peer check-in. Rather than provide students with their traditional one-time semesterly scholarship at the start of the semester, PRP divided the payment into two installments, with the second awarded upon completion of the mid-semester check-in. About 70% of students completed the mid-semester check-in.
- Hosted several workshops in the Fall 2022 semester focused on professional and post-graduate success including a graduate school workshop; LinkedIn workshop; and Career Planning Workshop.
- Hosted four community building events including rock-wall climbing at the campus gym, bowling, end of fall semester retreat and spring graduation.
- As part of collaboration on the Middle Leadership Academy project, PRP compiled a Project Rebound Housing Toolkit for CPP. This toolkit includes a robust list of housing resources in the local region including resources specific to CPP students, as well as a variety of transitional and sober-living homes.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- One key goal for the 2022-23 AY has been institutionalization of Project Rebound at CPP. Though the program has been on campus since Fall 2016, PRP largely operated in isolation. Transitioning to Student Affairs has been one effort at changing this dynamic. Though official transition was placed on hold and not slated to commence until July 2023, Division leadership still invited PRP to participate in various training, service, and leadership activities. These activities not only provided PRP with an opportunity to network and learn from colleagues, but they also provide opportunities for PRP staff to contribute to key equity initiatives within the division. Examples include **i.** Racial Justice and Cultural Humility Learning Series – Each session serves as DEI training to create a more inclusive campus climate providing both professional development for staff and knowledge to be incorporated within PRP programming. **ii.** Culturally-Based Orientation Working Group – This working group is charged with designing a new culturally-based orientation that acknowledges and welcomes students' intersectional identities (including for some, their experience as system-impacted individuals). **iii.** Collaborations with other campus programs (e.g., PRP was invited to present at Renaissance Scholars' new student orientation given the strong overlap between foster-system and justice-system involvement, and during two classes for our campus' Male Student Initiative, namely, to share insights on the impacts of incarceration and the experience of being formerly incarcerated. In collaboration with



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ASI Beat and the Criminology Club, PRP also co-hosted a campus-wide speaking engagement with Father Greg Boyle of Homeboy Industries. **iv.** PRP staff took part in two divisional retreats aimed at supporting program/unit development and staff wellness. **v.** For the first year since PRP has been at CPP, we participated in both Freshman and Transfer orientation activities, tabling at Resource Fairs and engaging with parents of prospective students. **vi.** Over summer and fall PRP met with leadership in various departments to identify the feasibility of developing a remote Juvenile Justice BA Pathways Program for incarcerated youth. Participating faculty/staff were from Enrollment and Admissions, Financial Aid, Academic Programs, and chairs from 3 different departments. Each department and office were enthusiastic about the prospect of expanding higher education access to a highly marginalized population. The Office of Admissions will be requesting an MOU from the Chancellor's Office that will allow for certain admissions exceptions for youth with justice-involved experiences.

### SACRAMENTO

CSU Project Rebound Sacramento (PR Sacramento) continues to work hard to reach out to potential students and offer support in applying and matriculating to the California State University system and remain connected throughout their program and beyond graduation. This year PR Sacramento has helped 26 formerly incarcerated students enroll for the Fall 2023 semester by working directly with their admissions liaison. Once admitted, students receive direct monetary support in the form of orientation fee payment, campus food cards, gift cards for meal and household support, bookstore credit, printing, basic needs funds, housing assistance, campus parking passes and a meeting set up with the on-campus Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) liaison to see if the student qualifies for DOR to pay for school supplies and tuition. The program also employs three justice-impacted federal work-study students and five student mentors in the office where they receive training in the workforce and valuable hard and soft skills. We have cultivated great relationships with other campus offices including Admissions, Guardian Scholars, Student Affairs, Career Center, Veterans Resource Center, Transfer Resource Center, Financial Aid, Disabled Student Access Center, CARES, Counseling and Wellness Center, and University Advancement departments. PR Sacramento has developed a strong relationship with Sacramento State's Disability Resource Access Center and has partnered with them to increase access to the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) Liaisons. Project Rebound Students now have access to a DOR liaison three days a week instead of twice a month. Project Rebound also works in tandem Transforming Outcomes Project at Sacramento State (TOPSS) prison-based bachelor's program (in Folsom and Mule Creek State Prisons) and assists these students with ordering transcripts, applying to CSU Sacramento, applying for FAFSA, and appealing admission decisions. PR Sacramento also leads a special prison-based Student Orientation and has been instrumental in the admission process for the TOPSS students advocating on behalf of these students with admissions, records, the Bursar's office, and the CDCR to admit new TOPSS students. As fully matriculated students, the program offers workshops and special events, keep records for milestone credits and advocate



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for parole. In addition to the relationship and work they are doing with Folsom State Prison and Mule Creek State Prison through TOPSS, they have built great rapport through regular visits to Valley State Prison, Pleasant Valley State Prison, California City Correctional Facility, Central California Women's Facility, Sierra Conservation Camp, Avenal State Prison, Solano State Prison, California State Prison, Sacramento, California Medical Facility, San Quentin, Soledad State Prison, and Pelican Bay State Prison. In fact, the director has been able to hold office hours for individuals at Mule Creek and Folsom twice monthly. PR Sacramento also works with Solano and Mule Creek State Prison, Transitions Program, and presents to their classes every eight weeks. On the county level they are working with the Sacramento Youth Detention Facility and Sacramento Juvenile Court and as of the summer 2023 they have been successful in enrolling four youth offenders in the fall semester. They also provide workshops and conferences at Sacramento Youth Detention Facility, Yolo County Youth Facility, Sonoma County Youth Facility, and advocate for release to institutions of higher learning to the courts and juvenile probation department.

PR Sacramento regularly coordinates efforts with other public agencies and community-based organizations and has created opportunities for many of our students. For example, they have been able to place six students in various locations around the capital in internships, with places such as the Federal Defender's Office, the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, and Health and Human Services. Project Rebound has a great partnership with Los Rios and Lake Tahoe Community Colleges Rising Scholars Program. PR Sacramento also partners with the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) and attends monthly meetings with SCOE and the Youth Detention Facility to see how to best serve the juvenile population and foster youth that are on or have been on probation. Project Rebound has also hosted partners for Underground Scholars and conducted a workshop on best practices. They also have a very close relationship with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) and have been able to increase access to DOR services on our campus to four days a week starting in the fall of 2023. Their largest partner is Sacramento Area Reentry Collaboration (SARC) which has over 700 partners on the listserv that they have access to. Services provided to the reentry population and opportunities are posted and sent out daily. This partnership has provided employment, housing, food, and medical assistance to Sacramento State Project Rebound students.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- PR Sacramento was able to launch an Innovative Housing Project Initiative with the \$550,000.00 housing grant from the Consortium and \$1,100,000 in matching funds from the campus administration at Sacramento State University. With the housing grant and matching funds from campus President Robert Nelsen and University Enterprises Inc., Project Rebound was able to purchase two homes for students who are facing housing insecurities and provide housing resources for students who are transitioning from incarceration.
- Strengthened and fostered relations with community partners, youth detention facilities, community colleges, DOR, and the Department of Corrections.



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- Exceeded their target fundraising goal of \$40,000, and plan to continue seeking funds to support our housing initiative.
- PR Sacramento has been able to work closely with Sacramento Probation and SCOE to prepare release plans for three incarcerated youth at YDF, which were submitted to the juvenile court. Based on the support from Project Rebound and the offer of stable transitional housing, Project Rebound staff were able to apply for admissions to the university on behalf of three youth prior to their release from custody. Working closely with Sacramento County Probation and all three attorneys of record who are representing these young individuals, Project Rebound staff put together release plans that allowed for continuity in the youths' educational and provided fullwraparound reentry support.

### SAN BERNARDINO

CSU Project Rebound San Bernardino (PRSB) exceeded their enrollment target with 51 Project Rebound students by conducting 46 outreach events to expand recruitment. This included informational sessions with community colleges and non-profit organizations, probation and parole, adult and juvenile correctional facilities including **i.** facilitated (4) seven-week juvenile justice educational workshops (i.e., introduction to college, soft skills, forgiveness and healing, and college success) in Indio, Santa Barbara, and Riverside juvenile facilities; **ii.** surpassed the expected outcome (6) in terms of outreach inside correctional facilities during the 2022-23 academic year providing (12) Introduction to college workshops in Chuckawalla State Prison; **iii.** 5 Parole DAPO PACT meetings; **iv.** 10 Community partner Anti-recidivism coalition meetings; **v.** 2 Matriculation/Cal State Apply workshops with Chaffey College and Coastline Community College; and **vi.** 4 On-campus tabling events including one at the Criminal Justice Career Fair. PRSB responded to 246 letters received with each letter containing educational materials related to the transfer and enrollment process for prospective students. PRSB staff also provided transcript evaluations and academic plans for prospective students who completed the PR questionnaire and submitted their transcripts for evaluation. PRSB staff, interns, and student workers assisted prospective students through CSU APPLY and FAFSA, and helped 21 students through admission, orientation, and enrollment. Three PR students were hired as federal work study and student assistants. PRSB has developed a relationship with SAIL (Student Assistance In Learning) which allows PR students who may not qualify for EOPS to get individualized academic advising, support, and access to specialized scholarships for SAIL participants. PRSB has also developed a relationship with Information Technology Services (ITS) who will offer its services to PR students in individual or group settings and will provide tailored workshops based on PR students' needs. PRSB conducted one DOR workshop during the Fall 2022 semester, informing current and prospective students of DOR services, eligibility, and requirements. One student was selected to be a Research Fellow for the consortium's Project Rebound Research Lab. The student was supervised by PRSB program's Research and Internship Coordinator, Doug Weiss and presented at the Second Annual Project Rebound Research Lab Conference held at CSU Long Beach in August 2023. During Fall 2022, two





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manuscripts were submitted for publication (both included Project Rebound students or alumni and interns and both were, or will be, published in 2023). In addition, the PR Executive Director Annika Anderson was trained in inside out pedagogy and plans to begin teaching courses to expand outreach efforts and build the pipeline from prison to university. Dr. Anderson also presented or co-presented at several conferences with Project Rebound staff and/or students at other campuses. Director Paul Jones acts as the faculty sponsor/liaison for an Associated Students Club on campus named Club Rebound. This Club is open to system-impacted and non-system-impacted students interested in using their voice to make a difference in the criminal legal system in California.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- **Housing Initiative:** On May 1, 2023, CSUSB successfully submitted a comprehensive housing proposal that showcases the campus' dedication to serving system-impacted students. This proposal targets three essential areas of student success: enrollment, retention, and completion rates. The proposed off-campus housing site, located within San Bernardino County, will be managed by a Housing Coordinator, Project Rebound students, and CSUSB Social Work interns. These individuals will facilitate various programs such as communication skills workshops, substance use programs, and mentoring/tutoring in writing and math. This holistic approach empowers individuals through advocacy and promotes re-entry success. Each member living in the house will have rotating job duties, including rent collection and utility payments, fostering personal responsibility and autonomy. Additionally, the housing project will benefit from the expertise and guidance of personnel from the Offices of Community Engagement, Philanthropic Foundation, Housing and Residential Education, University Advancement, Student Affairs, and legal counsel at CSUSB to minimize any potential risks to the university.
- **Partnership with School of Social Work:** During the 2022-2023 academic year, PRSB had 3 Social Work interns. Each semester, the School of Social Work sends new interns for their "Field Practicum" hours. As a requirement of this internship, BASW and first-year MSW students must intern 16 hours per week; second-year MSW students must intern 20 hours per week. The hour requirement, along with social work students' desire to be of service, allows PR to address various objectives set forth in the Campus Work Plan Goals 1-5. Social work students assist with all aspects of PR operations from correspondence, outreach and recruitment, admissions, and enrollment, FAFSA as well as meet with students individually to conduct Risk and Needs Assessments. PRSB currently has (14) students pursuing Social Work degrees at the undergraduate or graduate level.
- **Project Rebound/PEP Juvenile Justice initiative RCC:** Beginning Summer of 2022, PRSB began to recruit student volunteers to get involved with programmatic partners such as the Prison Education Project and Riverside Community College. In October 2022, Project Rebound student volunteers began to get trained and facilitated 4 classes at various juvenile facilities virtually across



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California. Because many of PR students were new to facilitation, the program used this opportunity as a training period for them to gain the necessary facilitation skills and course development skills to design and implement their own College Success Course beginning in the Spring Semester (February 2023). In addition, after the completion of the College Success Course, PRSB was asked to pair Project Rebound students to mentor/tutor youth taking college courses in Riverside YTEC Juvenile Facility.

- Partnership with ARC for TAY youth Outreach: Thanks to the seed grant money provided by PR consortium and the work PRSB has begun to do inside juvenile facilities in the Inland Empire, combined with the working relationship PRSB has with ARC, ARC reached out and wants to partner with PRSB to expand college going opportunities and outreach to their TAY youth housing in the Korea town Los Angeles location.
- Partnership with ARC for Monthly Support meetings: Beginning in the Fall of 2021, PRSB has established a valuable partnership with ARC to offer monthly support meetings for PR students and members of the IE ARC community. This collaboration has grown stronger over time and is a partnership PRSB is committed to nurturing and developing further. Moreover, ARC is actively exploring opportunities to extend their services into San Bernardino. If this expansion occurs, it could significantly benefit PRSB students by providing them with comprehensive wrap-around services that PR is currently unable to offer.
- Expansion of Staff: PRSB effectively utilized the grant funds from the consortium juvenile justice initiative to hire a dedicated part-time program coordinator and a capable student assistant, pivotal in our efforts to forge partnerships with county juvenile probation. Because of this expansion, PR has been able to go inside five juvenile facilities in the inland empire, hold four seven-week classes virtually inside juvenile facilities and has worked with Riverside probation to re-draft their volunteer guidelines to allow PR students inside the facility on a regular basis to provide academic support and workshops to youth housed in Riverside YTEC facility.
- Community Garden: Spring of 2023 Project Rebound CSUSB acquired a plot of land in a local community garden in San Bernardino. The community garden in San Bernardino holds great promise in multiple areas. Firstly, it can offer therapeutic and wellness support by providing a serene environment for activities like meditation and mindfulness exercises, promoting mental and emotional well-being. Secondly, the garden can contribute to food security by growing fresh produce, herbs, and vegetables, which can be shared among the students and the local community, addressing nutritional needs. Thirdly, it can foster community engagement and collaboration by hosting events, involving local businesses, and partnering with educational institutions, creating a network of support. Lastly, the garden promotes collaboration by offering internships and work experience in environmental sustainability thus empowering students to develop practical skills



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and participate in the local food economy.

### SAN DIEGO

Project Rebound San Diego (PRSD) continued to provide prospective and admitted justice-impacted and formerly incarcerated students, academic advising and assistance in all phases of admissions, persistence, and graduation from the California State University. These services included transcript review, selection of major(s) and advice on course selection, tutoring and mentoring, housing recommendations and advice on living arrangements, employment prospects, and activities related to students' overall well-being, including introductions to Counseling and Psychological Services personnel. Advising and other services are delivered by peers and allies, most formerly incarcerated and/or justice-involved. Examples of peer delivered programming include research and writing workshops, math workshops, and health and wellness workshops. These offerings were well attended and increased camaraderie.

PRSD also revised and reintroduced "Project Rebound Admitted Student Reception" where recently admitted justice impacted and formerly incarcerated students were invited to an information session. During this session, PRSD collaborated with two campus partners, EOPOS and Admissions, to help students 1) understand the transition to SDSU, 2) show them an array of resources and services available to them, 3) give them an overview of the benefits of being part of Project Rebound, and 4) help them make a decision to commit to SDSU.

PRSD has continued to partner with the three state prisons in our direct service area (RJ Donovan, Centinela, and Calipatria), the sheriff's departments of San Diego and Imperial counties, the federal detention facility, and community transitions providers. Monthly outreach introductory workshops were held at the above facilities and several facilities offered tours and peer support opportunities for PR students and allies. PRSD also reached out, collaborated and enhanced partnerships with various state and local entities to inform and support prospective and current PR students (e.g., meetings with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) counselor and supervisor to ensure PR students receive services. PRSD has established direct communication with the Community Colleges' Rising Scholars Network. A system is now back in place where Rising Scholars staff inform PRSD staff of transfer applicants, PR staff inform SDSU Admissions, and transfer applicants are coded as prospective Rebounders.

#### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- PRSD's Health, Wellness & Healing program (HWH), a pilot program beginning with students identifying as female, is becoming a signature feature of their program. PR students tend to belong to demographic groups that are known to be at relatively high risk of relapse into substance use/abuse, reemergence of mental health issues, and despair over new and seemingly insurmountable challenges related to transitioning from incarceration. HWH begins with a comprehensive assessment process during which participants co-create a "map of wholeness" to restore and even maximize their personal HWH. The HWH process is then



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supported by “Councils” with peers. Councils is a circle dialogue process that builds knowledge of self and others and improves multiple domains of communication skills. The HWH program culminates with a nature-based Rites of Passage Ceremony to mark and celebrate the participants' transitions: from incarceration to community; from community to campus; and from campus graduation back to community; and from discomfort to healing.

- In collaboration with the Prison Education Project, with a mission to expand educational opportunities into incarcerated communities, PRSD Rebounders enter San Diego youth facilities to promote higher education. Non-justice involved participants are involved as well and gain a unique perspective of the lived experiences of those affected by the carceral system. There has been a more proactive approach in Rebounders using their lived experiences to serve as mentors and to model behaviors for young individuals experiencing hardships. PRSD has also collaborated with police departments, the San Diego District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office and schools in the San Diego area to get PR students out into the community and use their enthusiasm and lived experience to foster encouragement for higher education in underserved communities.

### SAN FRANCISCO

CSU Project Rebound San Francisco (PRSF) helped prospective students prepare, apply and matriculate by providing 194 transcript evaluations. Each evaluation result was accompanied by a detailed advising letter for each student. For formerly incarcerated prospective students, PRSF staff assisted with 24 undergraduate university applications, 100% of the applicants were offered admission, and 16 students (66%) of the applicants matriculated either in the Fall 2022 or Spring 2023 semester, 25% of the enrolled students began working with Project Rebound while still incarcerated. Only two applicants in AY22/23 had to be admitted under an admission exception, all other applicants were fullyadmissible due to detailed and targeted pre-admission advising. For all students who planned to enroll in a quantitative reasoning class for admissions during Fall 2022, PRSF provided a hands-on summer statistics preparation workshop to lower math anxiety and address imposter syndrome related to math. For students who were not ready to apply, PRSF provided open university enrollment assistance where 42 prospective students enrolled in classes. Ten students (23% of this cohort) ended up enrolling in undergraduate degree programs after successfully completing their Open University classes.

PRSF provided high touch wraparound services to 63 continuing students – 55 undergraduate and 8 graduate students increasing graduate school enrollment by 62%. Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, PRSF recorded 2123 student contacts either in person, via Zoom or Google Meet, and phone consultations. The direct student services provided during those contacts with students included academic and career advising, crisis counseling, and assistance with student advocacy and registration holds, scholarship applications, tutoring, travel, technology and many more. Additionally, PRSF linked students to licensed clinical therapists who currently provide weekly mental health services to 6 PR students. To alleviate the financial burden for



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commuting students, PRSF covered fees connected to student holds, orientations and labs. Forty-two students received fall & spring semester parking permits, and 49 students commuting by car received \$100 gas vouchers every month. PRSF provided 450 complimentary meals through their \$15 food voucher program for food insecure students on campus, distributed personal hygiene, and cleaning products for eligible students, paid phone and utility bills for 13 students, and provided office supplies, class materials and textbook stipends up to \$250 to 45 enrolled students, including E-readers, and additional technology related equipment needed for class participation. Additionally, PRSF provided new shoes, car repairs, optometrist exams and new glasses for students in need. Furthermore, PRSF provided \$34,695.07 in partial and full tuition support for 16 students and provided emergency housing funds and rent support for 16 students, preventing students from stopping out due to financial pressures.

PRSF has established and fostered an empowering network among Project Rebound alumni and current and prospective students by providing weekly Town Hall meetings as a platform for all students to connect and create community support. Between July 2022 and June 2023, PRSF held 37 Town Hall meetings with an average of 17 students in attendance.

PRSF has fostered a college-going culture and built recruitment pathways by conducting 25+ visits to jails and prisons to connect with currently incarcerated students and provide transfer information. Visits included Pelican Bay State Prison, Ventura Youth Correctional Facility, Stockton Chandlerian Youth Correctional Facility, Santa Clara Juvenile Hall, San Francisco County Jail among others. PRSF staff wrote a total of 39 letters of support for incarcerated students to advocate for suitability findings through the Board of Parole and resentencing hearings in court. For 14 of our students, the letter contributed to a successful outcome, while 15 students received a suitability denial.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- In collaboration with the College of Ethnic Studies, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and SF State's College of Professional and Global Education (CPaGE), PRSF launched the Advancing College Education (ACE) Program. The innovative ACE Program allows incarcerated youth to take online courses towards an undergraduate certificate in Ethnic Studies through the College of Extended Learning, while current PR students motivate and advise these students to come to SF State by presenting at the youth facilities and participating in advising internships.
- After successful negotiations with the College of Professional and Global Education (CPaGE), PRSF was able to renew their MOU for the academic year 2023-2024. The agreement allows PRSF to continue their on-campus College of Professional and Global Education (CPaGE) relationship. PRSF's Open University enrollment program is a powerful recruitment tool. Twenty-three of the 22/23 cohort enrolled in undergraduate degree programs after successfully completing their Open University classes.
- PRSF offers the first Reentry Minor certificate program in the CSU system. The



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12- unit minor program offers courses designed in collaboration with Project Rebound, Criminal Justice Studies, and the College of Ethnic Studies, and is tailored to reentry studies. Students who declared the minor take two required courses and two electives. The minor also includes an exciting internship/capstone experience for applied learning to ensure that students who do not have lived experience can be exposed to hands-on experiences relevant to the reentry process for formerly incarcerated students. A particular point of pride is that several courses required for the minor are taught by formerly incarcerated professors, further increasing Project Rebound's ability to train the reentry professionals of the future and to provide career options to qualified expertteaching in the field.

- PRSF, City College of San Francisco (CCSF), and the Felton Institute collaborated on a grant application for the Rising Scholars Network–Juvenile Justice Program, one of many initiatives aligned with the Vision for Success goals for the California Community College system.
- PRSF continues to strive to carry the message of inclusiveness in higher education beyond the state borders. To illustrate, the PR staff traveled to Portland State University for the Higher Education & Prisons; Finding Synthesis between Institutions event. This 2-day event was structured to share best practices with a budding program for currently and formerly incarcerated students on the Portland State Campus. Portland State University's Project Rebound has increased its coursework at the women's prison in Wilsonville over the last several years, thanks to work spearheaded by professor and former criminal defense attorney Deborah Arthur.
- In collaboration with the San Francisco Public Defender's Office, PRSF designed a new Court Advocacy Liaison position with the SF public Defender's Office. The position will help strengthen Project Rebound power to advocate for education over incarceration in the San Francisco courts. The position allows PR staff an opportunity to appear at court proceedings and suggest education and various support opportunities for both potential and current students as they traverse the SF Courts system.
- In collaboration with the SF Public Defender's Office, Project Rebound hosted two 2- hour workshops for PR students with arrests or convictions in San Francisco, seeking to expunge, seal, or otherwise clean up their criminal record. As follow up and next steps to our successful collaboration, PR drafted and completed an MOU outlining the process of a Court Advocacy Liaison with the SF Public Defender's Office, launching the program in August.
- SF State continues to be the only campus with a mural dedicated to the lived experience of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people. Each year, PR SF State celebrates the inception of this unique and moving art piece. The celebration kicked off with the District Attorney Forum at SF State on Thursday, October 20, 2022, in Jack Adams Hall.
- On Friday, June 9, 2023, PRSF hosted the annual Project Rebound state-wide Dinner celebration for the class of 2023 where 203 PR graduates and more than



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325 people attended.

### SAN MARCOS

CSU Project Rebound San Marcos (PRSM) has remained linked with different campus partners to address student needs associated with gainful employment/career center inquiries; financial aid; mental health services; support letters for their parole and probation files; transportation; campus food pantry; and tutoring for both undergraduate and graduate students. PRSM employed four formerly incarcerated students to work in the day-to-day operations of Project Rebound. On the campus level, Project Rebound remains committed to the visibility and inclusivity of the program. PRSM promoted student support and resiliency by creating public educational events with financial support from Arts and Lectures to bring in Dr. Ana Muniz. Dr. Muniz's presentation "*Borderland Circuitry: Immigration Surveillance in the United States and Beyond*", brought to light the importance of organizing in a border region and discussion about Crimigration; the cross between immigration and criminology. PRSM also hosted Quan Huynh, the author of "Sparrow in the Razor Wire." His presentation, *Finding Freedom from Within While Serving a Life Sentence*, enlightened the campus with the importance of CSU San Marcos lifer population. Events like these enable students to destigmatize and normalize Project Rebound students. In addition, PRSM continues to pair up Rebound students with mentors throughout the campus furthering their success.

#### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- PRSM collaborated with Project Rebound's research lab. For the second cohort, two of the ten students were selected from CSU San Marcos and presented at multiple research venues including the Justice Studies Association annual conference.
- Each One, Reach One (EOTO) program received the Building Postsecondary Educational Pathways for Juvenile Justice System Involved Youth grant and revived this prison-to-school program for formerly incarcerated and justice-impacted high-school students from regional continuation schools and Juvenile Court and Continuation Schools (JCCS). The program held its on-campus (CSUSM) class for the EOTO program, and four of 5 seniors in the class are now attending local community college in hopes of attending CSU San Marcos in the future.
- PRSM continues to struggle with increasing Project Rebound students as many formerly incarcerated and justice-impacted students like the large campuses and prefer to enroll at larger schools such as San Diego State (SDSU). As a result, PRSM has begun to work on a new curriculum that focuses on quality over quantity by focusing more on mentoring, guidance, and professional development of our students. PRSM is in the process of admitting 11 new formerly incarcerated students for the Fall 23' semester bringing the current number of Rebound students to 23.
- PRSM continues to build a strong relationship with the Department of



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Rehabilitation (DOR) by having a direct liaison at the DOR who wholeheartedly supports our students. PRSM also has in place a direct liaison with TrueCare which provides services such as dental, medical, pharmacy, behavioral health, and more. PRSM continued access to local area community colleges, in-person classrooms, jails, halfway and soberliving facilities, continuation schools, JCCS, and our Each One Reach One program will solidify a regional prison-to-school nexus and will promote success in the 2023- 2024 academic year.

- PRSM works across several resource centers, departments, and in the community to destigmatize formerly incarcerated persons and is beginning to see the impact of their work at Mira Costa and Palomar Community Colleges with students from the Rising Scholars program coming to CUSM. With incoming students, PRSM is more focused on the retention and success of Rebound students. PRSM is working closely with faculty and staff to create a mentor program for Rebound students and have created a 5-point checklist of items they want students to achieve before leaving CSUSM (e.g., record expungement, professional development hours, creation of a Curriculum Vitae or Resume, specialized mentorship, and a pay-it-forward model where students are also mentoring others).
- PRSM's mission to create a prison-to-school program became the most significant impact in 2022-2023. Our Each One Teach One program has allowed young adults to envision futures in education. At the beginning of the on-campus program, most of the seniors mentioned not wanting to go to college, but at the completion of the program, 4 of the 5 seniors signed up for community college in pursuit of coming to CSUSM. The grant received will continue to allow PRSM to plant seeds in our youth as we prepare them to develop their social agency and human capital. Next, PRSM believes that now that they are fully back in person and on campus, the collaboration with their student centers in highlighting the perseverance and resiliency of Rebound students will further promote the need for Project Rebound and its funding. Finally, PRSM continues to do weekly check-ins with Rebound students to assist them with mental health services and to help them develop strong connections both in person and online. PRSM has developed and maintained a bi-weekly "eat-and-greet" where students get together to eat and build community and share accomplishments, hardships, resources, and create a family.

### STANISLAUS

Project Rebound Stanislaus (PRStan) has made significant progress in efforts to advance Project Rebound's mission. These efforts increased the number of students participating in the program and an expansion of the services offered to and received by Rebound students. Specifically, prospective students received services such as assistance completing the college application; assistance with the FAFSA; support completing petitions for late applications; guidance and advising related to admissions requirements; enrollment support; assistance with transcript requests; orientation support; referrals to local community colleges when appropriate. Regarding current students, PRStan provided: academic advising, financial aid





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referrals, guidance navigating university systems (emails, student portals, learning management systems, etc.); support with petitions; textbooks support; support with basic needs; orientation fee waivers; and tuition support. For 2022-23, 40 students were registered in the program by the end of Spring 23.

PRStan has established internal collaborations with the Admissions and Outreach Department on the development of policies regarding late admissions requirements and coding of Project Rebound participants; coordinated with the Career and Professional Development Center to ensure Project Rebound students receive immediate support with resume and cover letter assistance, job searches, and professional attire; collaborated with Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) to provide warm handoffs for students in crises, coordinated with Associated Students Inc. to develop and maintain a student organization, “Books Not Bars”; partnered with Financial Aid and the Budget Analyst to create Federal Work Study positions for participants to work within the program; and collaborated with Financial Aid to provide Project Rebound students additional support for basic needs including emergency or short term housing subsidies.

Collaborations with external partners include DJJ where PRStan provided Zoom presentations for their students and potential students; collaborated with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) and had various presentations from the assigned counselor to provide DOR resources, application assistance, and address student questions and concerns; partnered with Root & Rebound to provide record expungement guidance and additional services for students. Through these efforts, two students have fully expunged their records and five students are currently in the process of record expungement; provided four transfer workshops and presentations to the formerly incarcerated students at Modesto Junior College, San Joaquin Delta College, and Merced College.

### **Key program achievements and innovations include the following:**

- Of the 38 Project Rebound students that were enrolled in the program for 22-23, 82% (31) persisted (enrolled in Fall 2023 or graduated). Although the program only began in 2019 PRStan has already graduated ten students, seven of which graduated in Spring 2023. A key distinguishing feature of the program is the extensive outreach model utilized to reach prospective students and reduce stigma. Such connections are made through visiting re-entry programs in the community, presenting at schools and conferences, partnering with media outlets to highlight the program, and coordinating campus events to increase awareness. Key examples are as follows:
- Program Coordinator attended various speaking engagements and conferences to broadcast the program.
- Presented at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Juvenile Court, Community and Alternative School Administrators of California Conference.
- Spoke at the Inaugural OVP (Office of Violence Prevention) Symposium in Stockton which the event and the Program Coordinator were highlighted on



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the KCRA news.

- Keynote Speaker at the Stockton Juvenile Hall Graduation Ceremony providing motivational and encouraging works to high school graduates and presented the program's history and supportive services.
- Collaborated with several media departments on and off campus which resulted in the program being highlighted and published on various platforms:
  - A two-page featured [article](#) in Central Valley's Premiere Lifestyle Magazine for Stanislaus County for the July/August issue.
  - Partnered with Communications & Public Affairs on campus and conducted various recorded interviews with students and the Program Coordinator, which are now published on the PRStan website and various social media platforms. <https://www.csustan.edu/project-rebound/testimonies>
  - Had an [article](#) featured in the American Association of State Colleges and Universities that highlights the program's services and successes as a promising practice.
  - Partnered with an art teacher to create an art piece reflecting our program and participants' lived experience. A Phoenix Bird was created out of metal and quotes, scriptures, and various words from students were stamped on the metal feathers. An [article](#) was written about the amazing art piece and the art teacher's collaboration with students.
  - Coordinated and hosted the program's first all-campus event, a film screening called, "They Call Us Monsters", which was a sold-out event. After the film screening, we had a panel discussion featuring Jarad Nava. Which resulted in over 100 faculty, staff, and students attending the event.

The following represent the top three initiatives that will have the greatest impact on the achievement of our 2023-24 program goals:

1. Holistic 1:1 student support will increase program expansion and support students to create targeted plans for each student to achieve goals.
2. Continuation and growth of the extensive outreach model to both recruit new students and reduce stigma.
3. Financial support to provide stopgaps for participants to stay enrolled in school when experiencing crises or challenges related to their reintegration process.

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## **6. COORDINATION WITH OTHER CSU CAMPUS ENTITIES**

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Project Rebound member campus programs continue to cultivate and refine strong partnerships with a broad range of other CSU campus entities to support the diverse needs of Rebound Scholars. These partnerships serve to remove barriers and increase equitable access to higher education and successful reintegration for formerly incarcerated Californians. The CSU campus entities with which Project Rebound actively coordinates include Admissions, Financial Aid, the Office of the Registrar, the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), Academic Advising, Academic and Student Affairs, Student Organizations and Leadership, Associated Students, Inc., Guardian Scholars, University Advancement, Career Services, Services for Students with Disabilities, Grants and Contracts, Human Resources, University Outreach, New Student Orientation, Counseling and Psychological Services, Center for Internships and Community Engagement, Dreamer’s Resource Center, Adult Reentry Center, Campus Bookstores, Information Technology Services, Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment, Public Affairs and Government Relations, Veterans Resource Center, and more. The diverse groups of dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators who have partnered with Project Rebound have been informed by Project Rebound staff and students about the unique challenges that formerly incarcerated students face and are committed to ensuring that Rebound Scholars are successful.

## **7. EXPANSION PLAN**

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The goal of Project Rebound is to expand to new CSU campuses by providing funding, training, guidance, and technical support to CSU campuses that aspire to establish Project Rebound programs on their campuses. In 2020, Project Rebound released a Request for Proposals (RFP) inviting CSU campuses that aspire to establish a program to submit proposals. To be eligible to apply, aspiring campuses must have worked with Project Rebound staff to build their campuses’ capacity to serve and foster the academic success, psychosocial well-being, and community engagement of formerly incarcerated students.

Five CSU campuses were selected to establish a Project Rebound program in 2020 based on their proposals’ quality and strength of alignment with the Project Rebound goals, the demonstrated degree of campus buy-in, administrative support, and organizational readiness, as well as the ambition and demonstrated feasibility of campus work plans. Since 2020, these five expansion campuses—Cal Poly Humboldt, CSU Long Beach, CSU Northridge, CSU San Marcos, and CSU Stanislaus—have been awarded \$2.3 million on an annually renewable basis while being provided ongoing guidance, technical support, and mentorship by the Consortium administrative campus and other member campus program staff.

A sixth expansion program at CSU East Bay was launched in the Fall of 2022. Together, these six additional campuses significantly extend the regional scope of opportunity that the CSU provides to college-aspiring people with an incarceration experience. In Fall 2022, after just two academic years of operation, the first wave of expansion campuses created opportunity for

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171 enrolled students in different parts of the state to access the transformative power of higher education, and by the end the 2022-23 academic year, these six campuses are expected to have cumulatively conferred 90 degrees to formerly incarcerated students.

In December 2022, Project Rebound released another Request for Proposals (RFP) inviting CSU campuses that aspire to establish a Project Rebound program on their campuses to submit proposals. Four CSU campuses – CSU Chico, CSU Dominguez Hills, CSU Monterey Bay and San Jose State University - were selected for expansion campuses and will receive financial and technical support to enable their campuses to build programs in alignment with the Project Rebound goals to support the higher education and successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated students. Project Rebound expects to add additional expansion campuses during the academic year 2023-2024.

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**CAMUS DIRECTORY**

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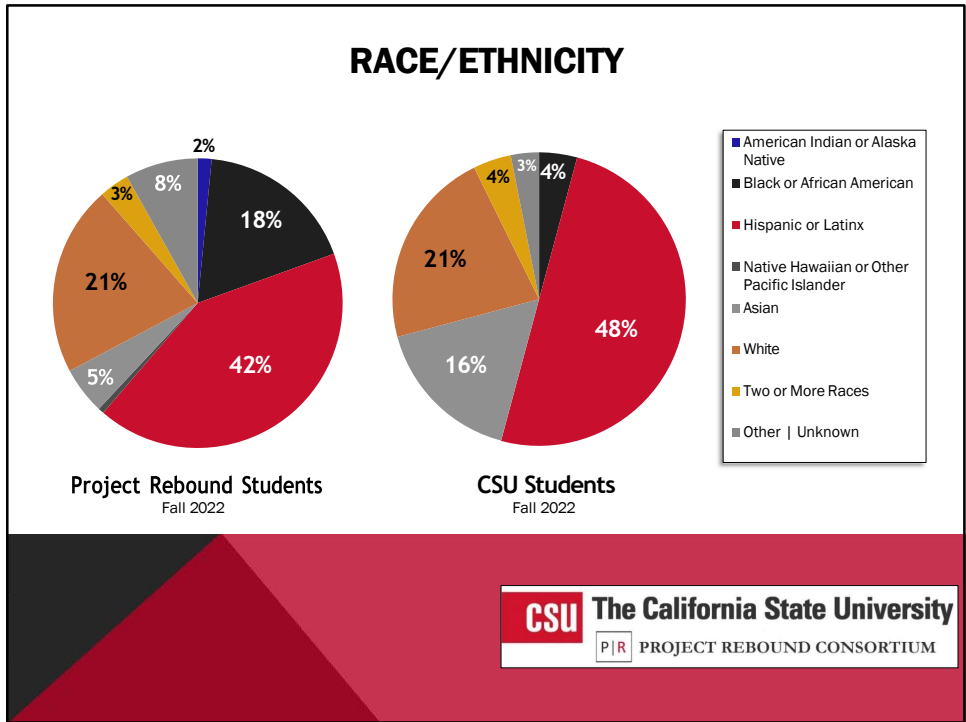
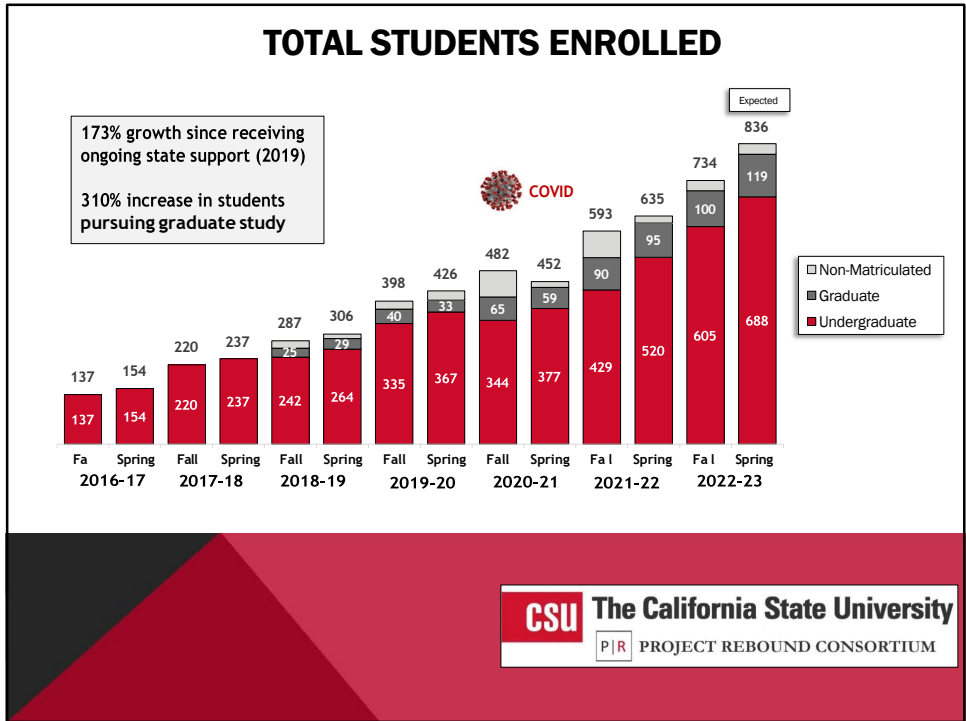


**PROJECT REBOUND CONSORTIUM**

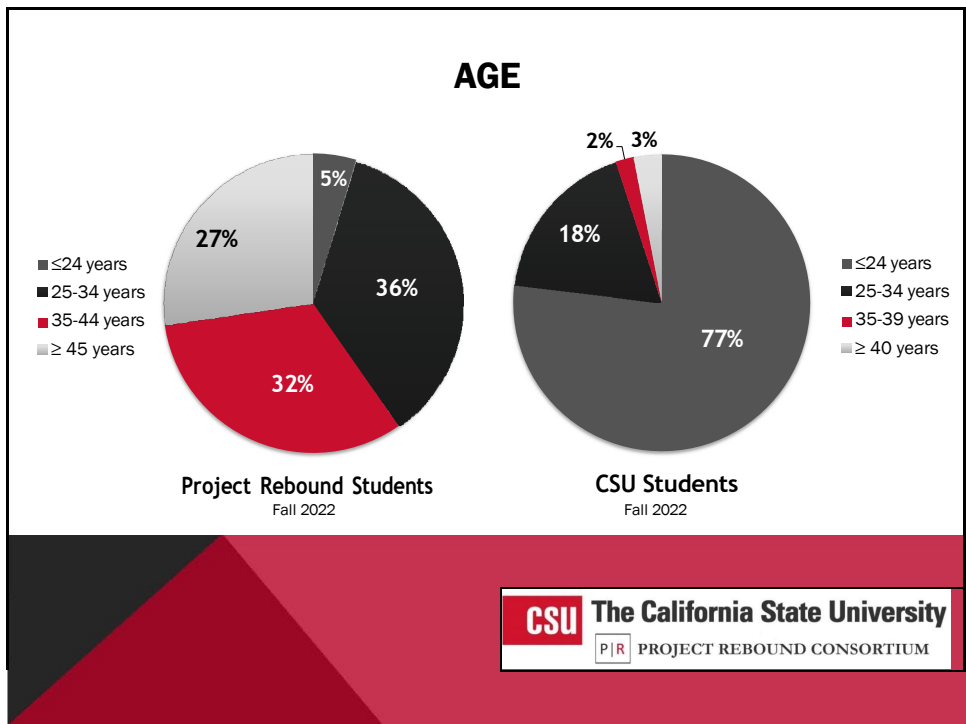
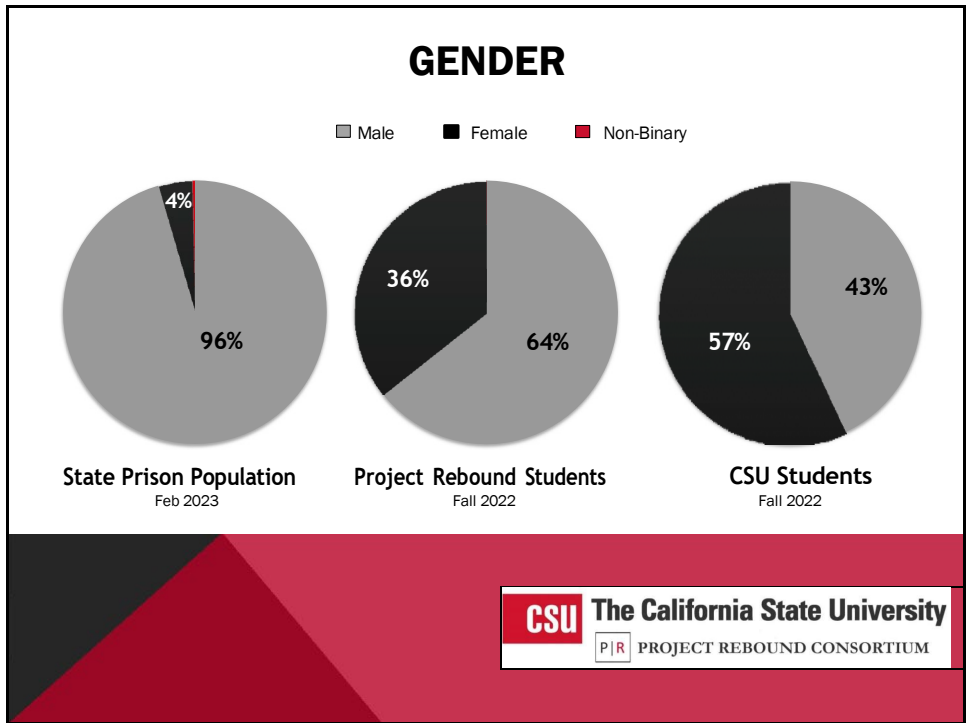
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**STUDENT ENROLLMENT  
& DEMOGRAPHIC DATA**

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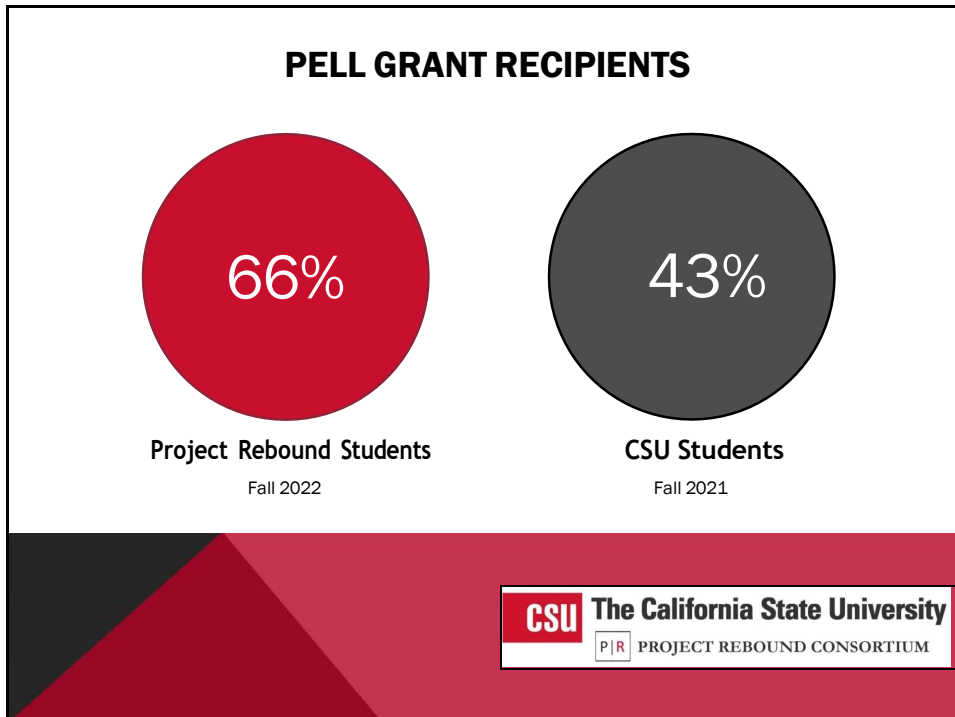
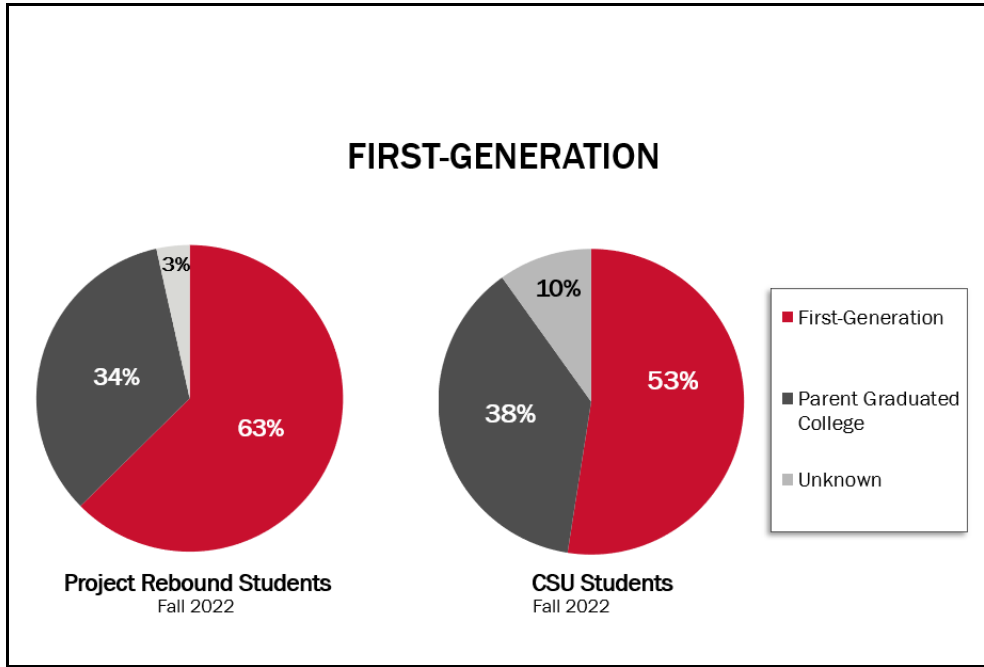


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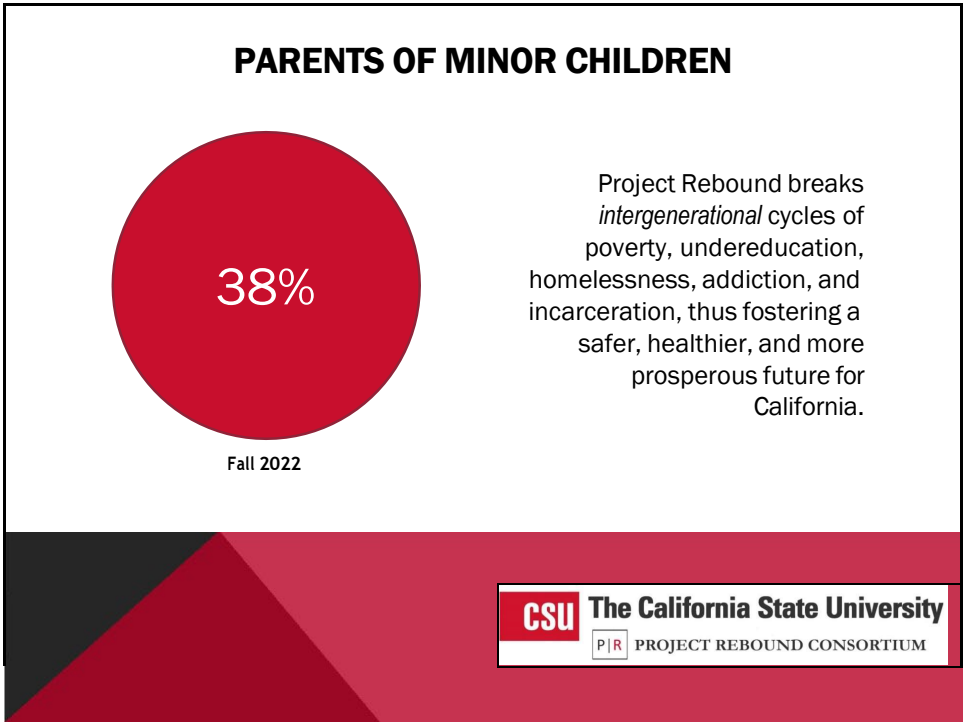
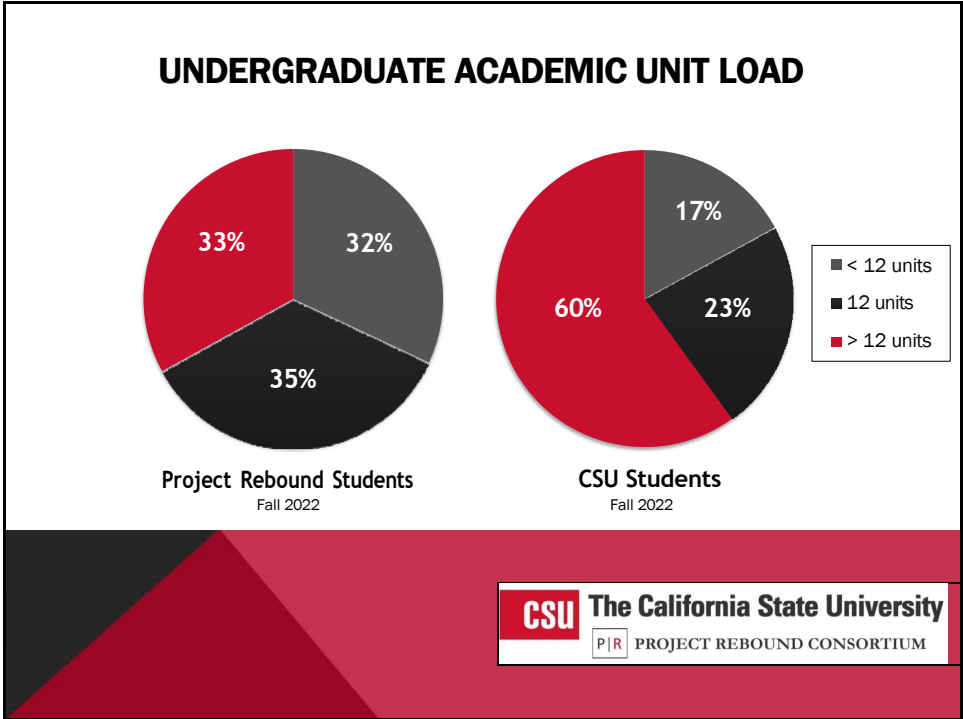




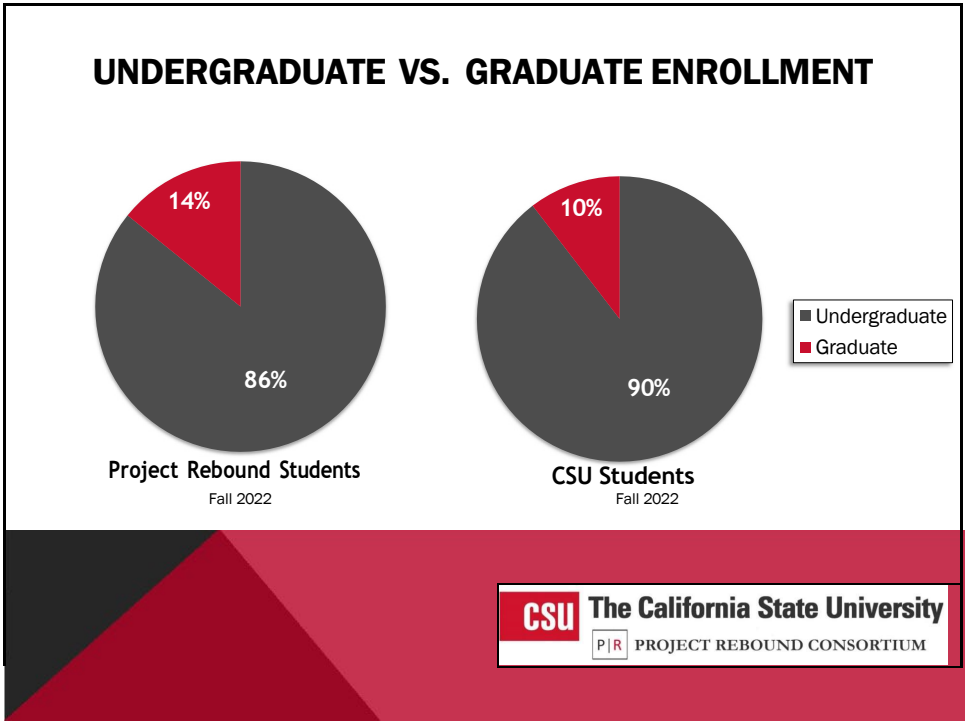
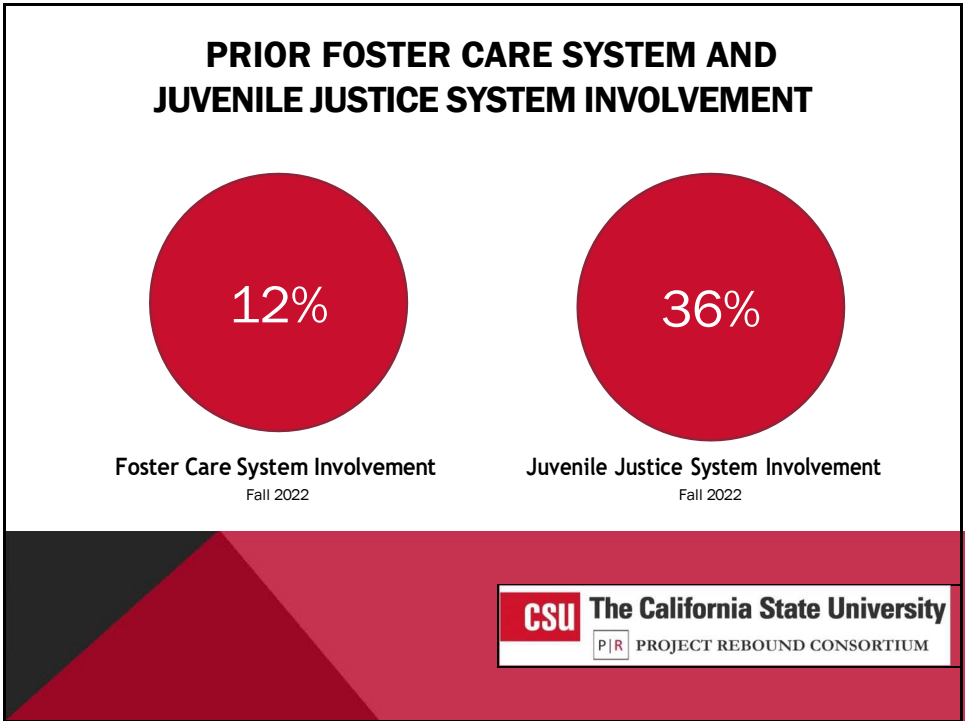
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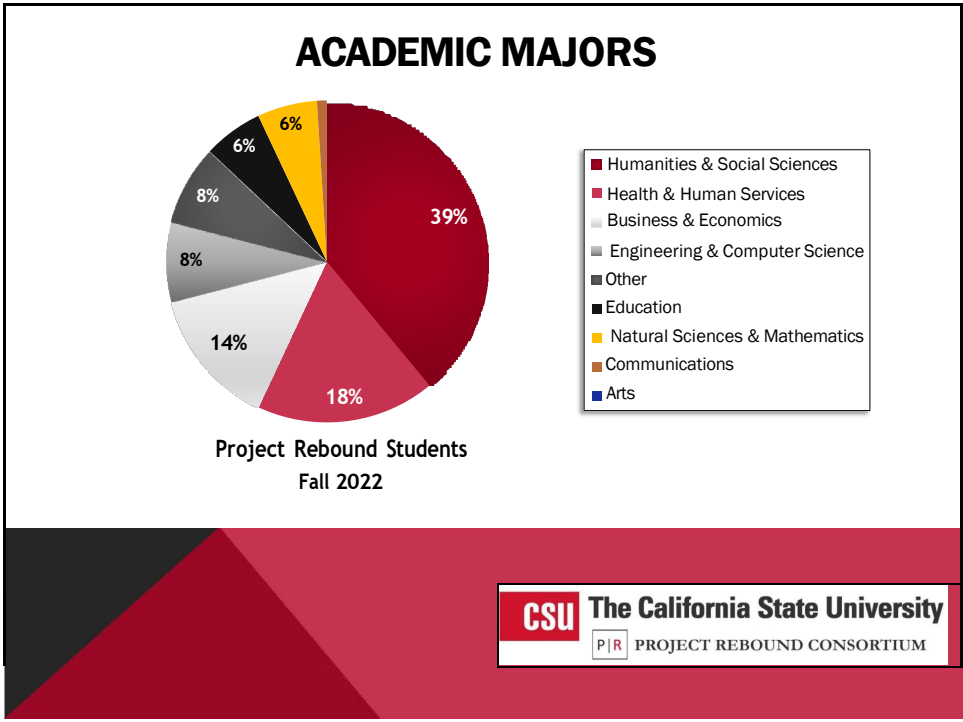
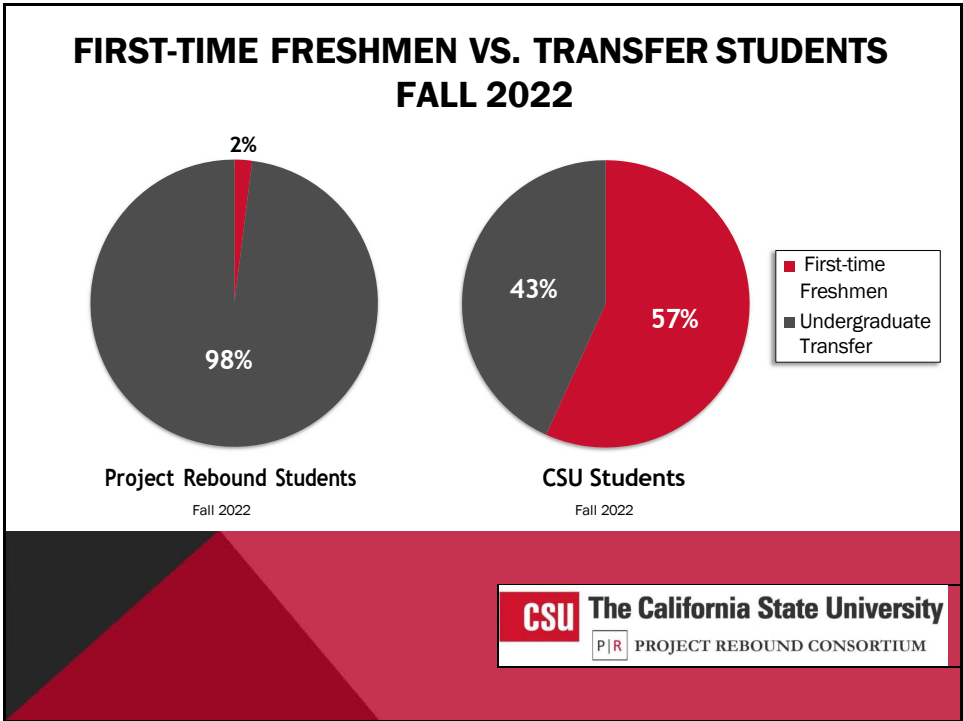
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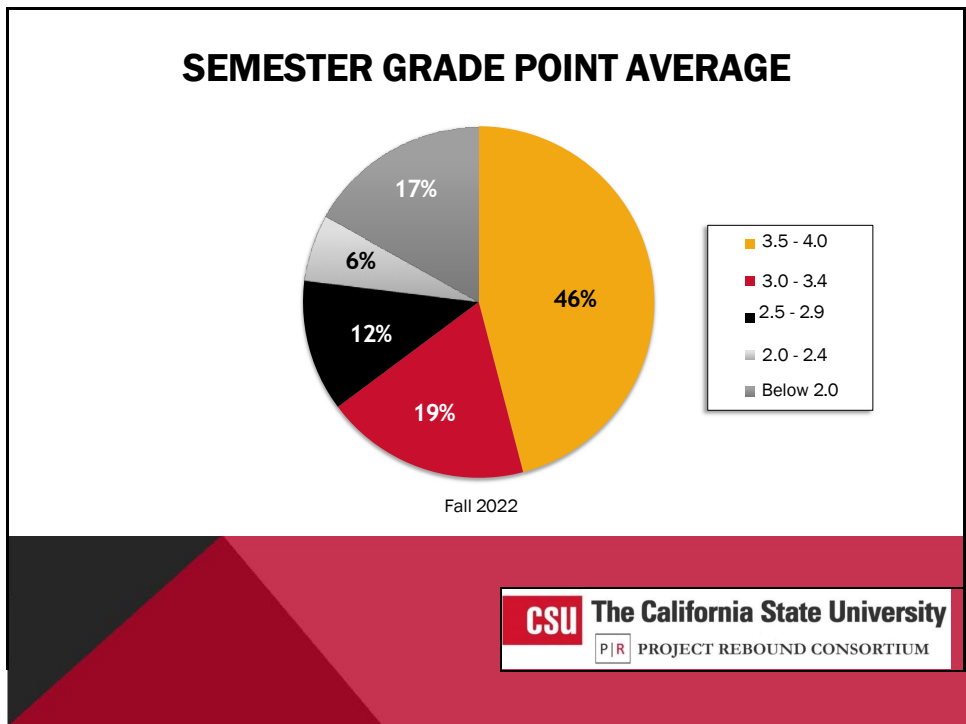
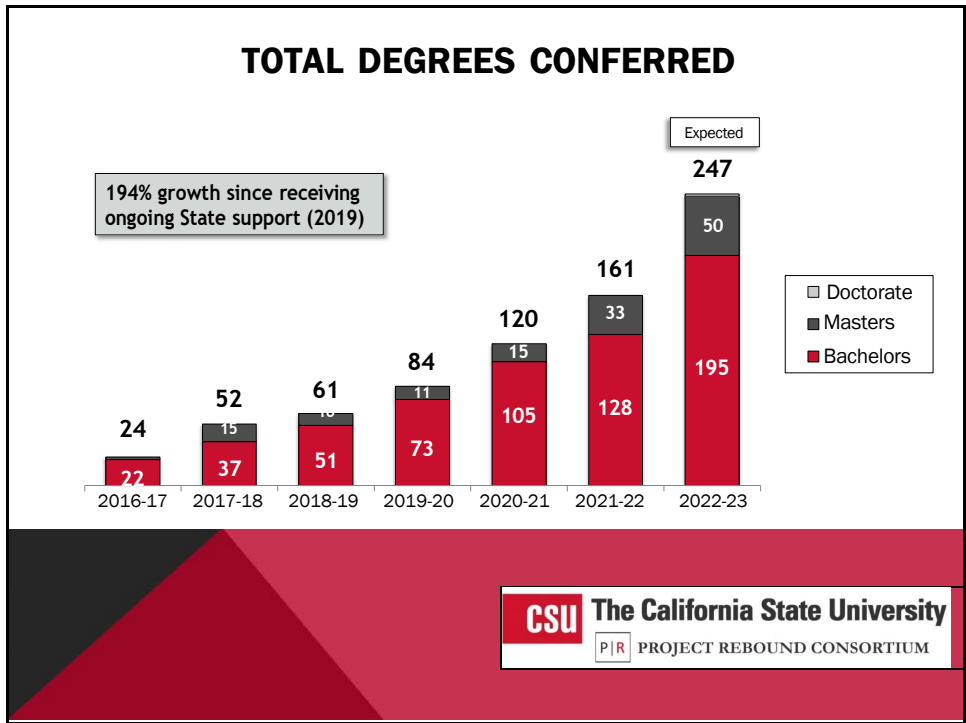


**PROJECT REBOUND CONSORTIUM**

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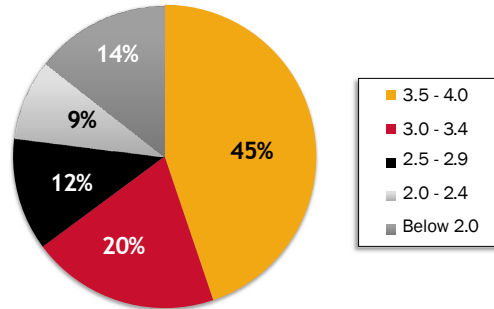
# PROGRAM OUTCOMES DATA

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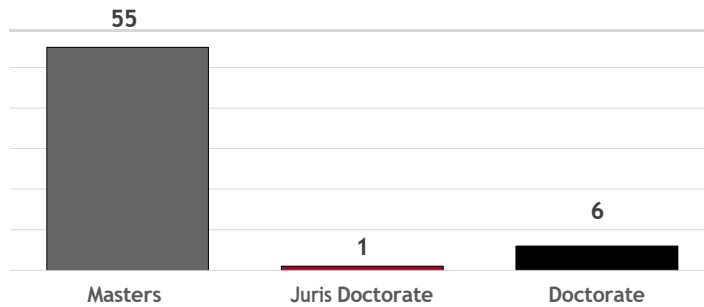
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### SEMESTER GRADE POINT AVERAGE DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

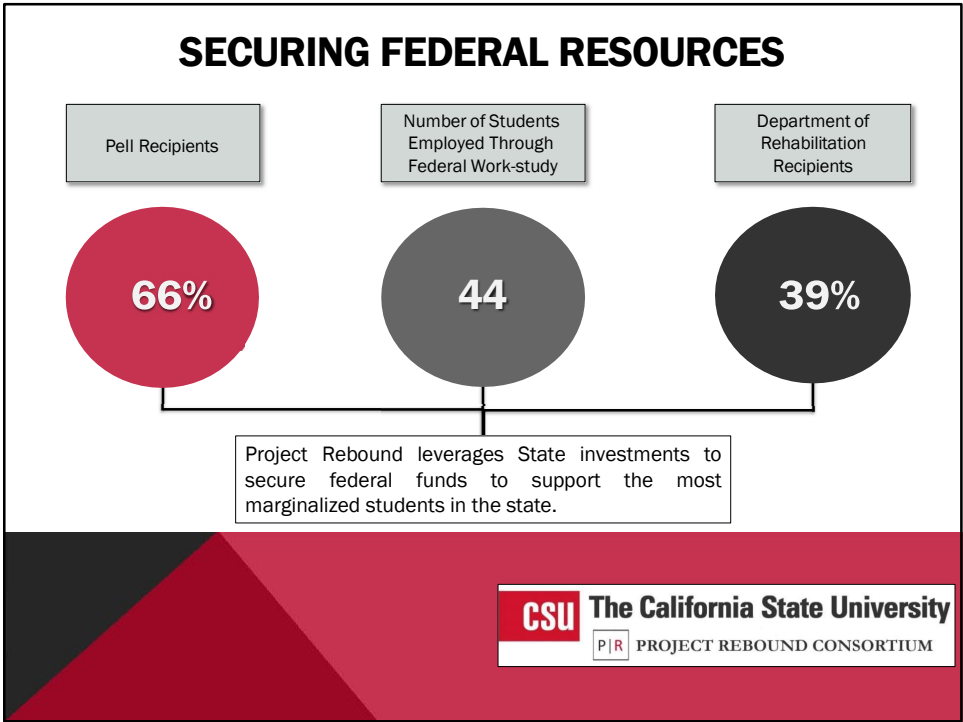
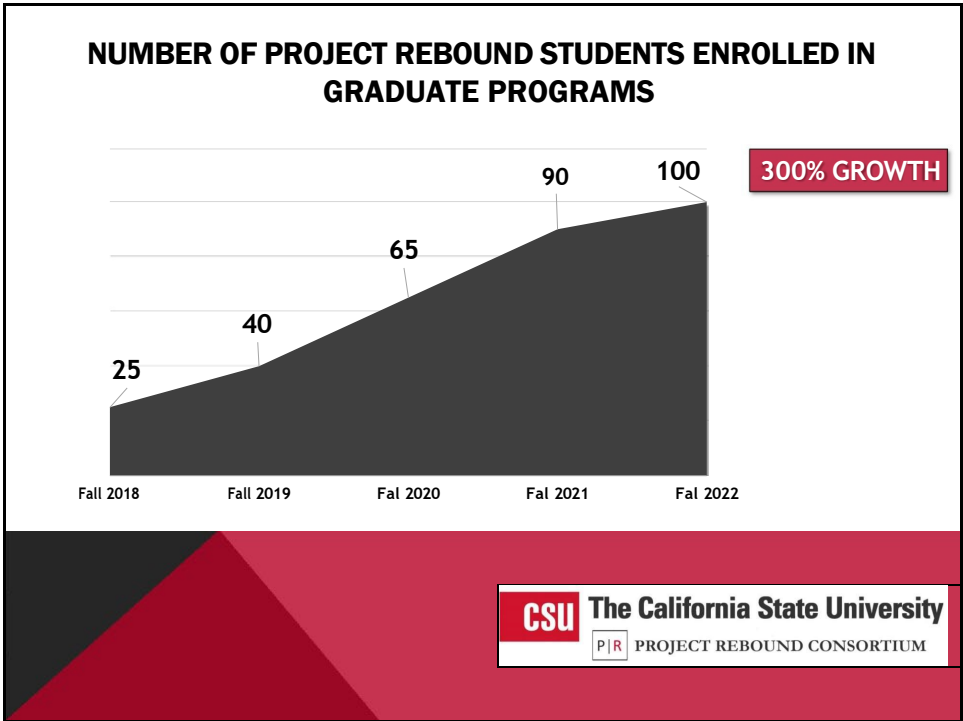


Post-COVID  
Spring 2020 - Spring 2022

### NUMBER OF STUDENTS ADMITTED TO POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMS, 2022

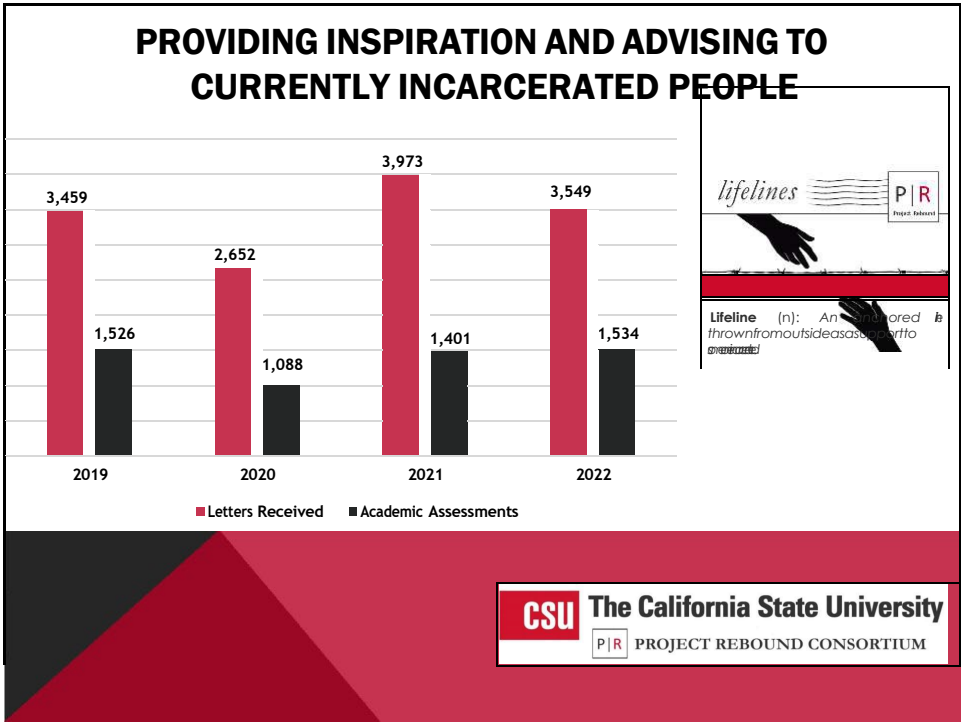
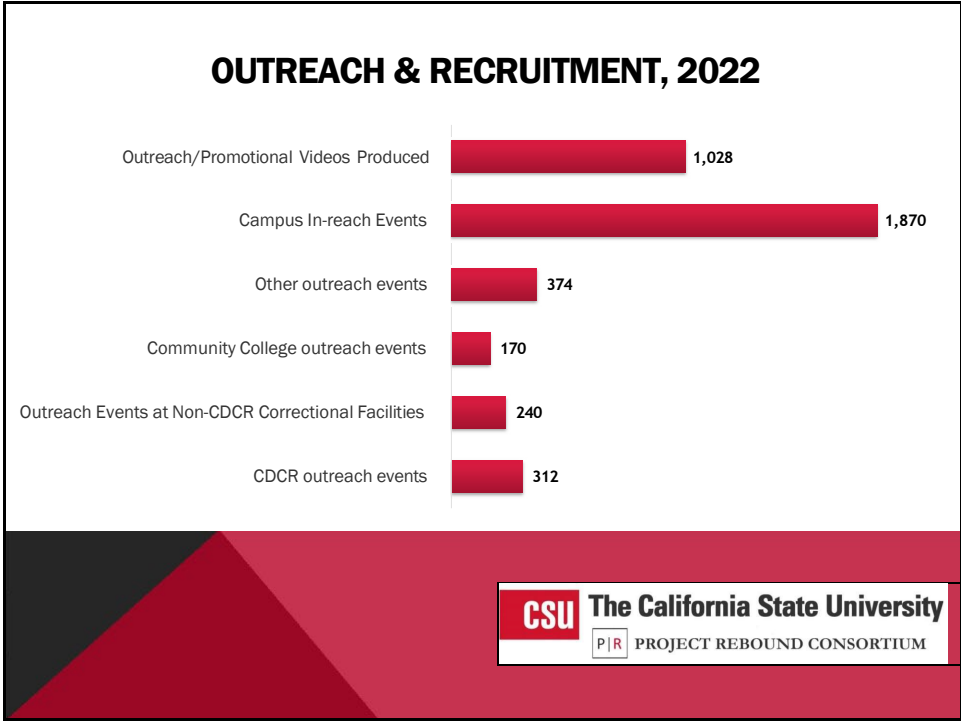


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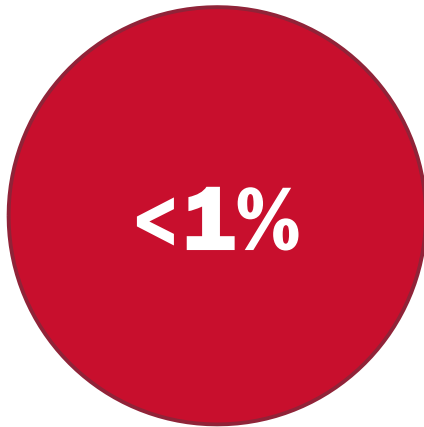


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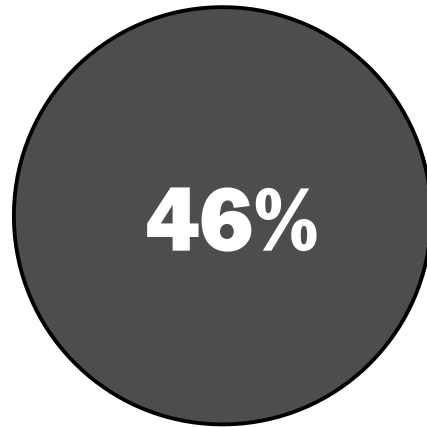
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## RECIDIVISM



**Project Rebound Students**

**Fall 2022**



**State of California**

**2019**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF CONSORTIUM SYSTEM-WIDE STATE BUDGET**  
FY 2022-2023 (Fall Revise)

	Section I	Section II	Section III
	Base Allocation	One-Time Operations Allocation	Total
<b>Administrative Campus (Fullerton)</b>			
Consortium Administration	\$ 580,003	\$ 25,000	\$ 605,003
Campus Apportionments for Direct Student Support		\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Systemwide Staff Professional Development	\$ 125,000		\$ 125,000
Innovative Initiatives RFP		\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Juvenile Justice Engagement RFP		\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
Web Development		\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000
Grant Development		\$ 112,500	\$ 112,500
Learning Community & Convenings	\$ 135,000		\$ 135,000
Strategic Planning		\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Systemwide Program Assessment		\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Reserve		\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
<b>Administrative Campus Total</b>	<b>\$ 840,003</b>	<b>\$ 3,897,500</b>	<b>\$ 4,737,503</b>
<b>Member Campuses</b>			
Bakersfield	\$ 302,500	\$ 41,000	\$ 343,500
Fresno	\$ 330,000	\$ 82,000	\$ 412,000
Fullerton	\$ 330,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 480,000
Long Beach	\$ 275,000	\$ 87,740	\$ 362,740
Los Angeles	\$ 330,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 360,000
Northridge	\$ 275,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 307,000
Pomona	\$ 300,662	\$ -	\$ 300,662
Sacramento	\$ 330,000	\$ 94,804	\$ 424,804
San Bernardino	\$ 302,500	\$ -	\$ 302,500
San Diego	\$ 302,500	\$ 37,500	\$ 340,000
San Francisco	\$ 302,510	\$ 41,918	\$ 344,428
<b>Member Campus Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,380,672</b>	<b>\$ 596,962</b>	<b>\$ 3,977,634</b>
<b>Expansion Campuses</b>			
Humboldt	\$ 180,000	\$ -	\$ 180,000
San Marcos	\$ 103,652	\$ 60,000	\$ 163,652
Stanislaus	\$ 149,804	\$ 25,000	\$ 174,804
<b>Expansion Campus Total</b>	<b>\$ 433,456</b>	<b>\$ 85,000</b>	<b>\$ 518,456</b>
<b>TOTAL CONSORTIUM BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 4,654,131</b>	<b>\$ 4,579,462</b>	<b>\$ 9,233,593</b>

Beginning with the 2023-24 fiscal year, the Project Rebound Consortium plans to employ a differential funding formula, currently in development, to equitably and transparently augment and sustain support for Project Rebound Consortium member campus programs. Plans are to join a standard baseline operating budget with augmented baseline funding based on fulltime equivalent student enrollment in campus programs. Baseline allocations will be supplemented by one-time funding allocations, including an equity allocation tied to indices of student need such as number of Pell Grant recipients, students who have exhausted their lifetime Pell Grant eligibility, AB 540 students, and student parents of minor children, as well as a student success allocation informed by campus program outcomes like persistence and graduation metrics.