

Project Rebound

Background

Project Rebound is a program assisting formerly incarcerated individuals as they enter and proceed through California State University, San Bernardino. The program is an alternative to the revolving door policy of the criminal justice system. By offering a program which encourages students to excel in a course of study, Project Rebound encourages positive life efforts. The program offers admission for men and women who might not normally qualify for university acceptance because of application deadlines and/or minor academic deficiencies.

Project Rebound was started in 1967 at San Francisco State University by the late Professor John Irwin. However, The CSU Chancellor's office supported the development of Project Rebound programs at all CSU campuses, and CSUSB is one of seven pilot efforts. The program is staffed by one full-time coordinator, who has had prior incarceration experiences. The program coordinator acts as a liaison with campus services and programs, as well as with community organizations in order to serve as an advocate for people on campus and in the community.

Year 1 Highlights/Successes

There have been several great successes at California State University, San Bernardino. One of which is the overwhelming support that the CSUSB community has expressed, from the University President to the Deans of several colleges. Not only has there been support coming from the upper echelon of the university, but numerous faculty, staff, and students have expressed interest in Project Rebound. In fact, on April 11, 2017, the Faculty Senate passed a Resolution Endorsing Project Rebound.

We have established relationships with community colleges, three reentry centers, and provided outreach efforts to potential students who are currently incarcerated at several prisons (e.g. Chino Institute for Women, Chino Institute for Men, CRC Norco, and Chuckawalla prison). We have developed several promotional materials to continue our outreach efforts and are currently developing collaborative events with other programs. We launched a website and began a peer mentorship program.

The School of Social Work developed an internship program for Project Rebound. As a result, we hired a coordinator (who is also an intern) and 1 intern – both pursuing Masters in Social Work (MSW) at CSUSB in August 2017. Additionally, we are working with The Department of Criminology, Law & Society (CLS) at the University of California, Irvine to have our students attend their Social Justice Research Symposium. We have made arrangements with the Coyote bookstore so that each student can purchase textbooks using project rebound funds. All of the successes at CSUSB, thus far, is indicative of the necessity for such a program in the Inland Empire region.

As of the end of Year 1:

- 19 current students are enrolled in our program.
- 10 students are completing courses at the community colleges, required for transfer into the university.
- 3 students earned bachelor's degrees

Events Held	Dates
Project Rebound Orientation	9/17/2016
Current Student Meeting	11/9/2016
Brainstorming Session	2/8/2017
Yotie Talks	4/6/2017
Current Student Meeting	4/12/2017
Project Rebound Orientation	4/25/2017
Event Attendee/Presenter	
Disability Awareness Fair, Chaffey College	10/20/2016
PINTO Club Special Event	11/3/2016
American Society of Criminology-Roundtable: College in Prison: Creating Successful Programs	11/17/2016
CSRI	11/17/2016
Fair Chance Hiring	11/18/2016
Formerly Incarcerated Student Regional Meeting	11/19/2016
Teach-in CSUSB	12/1/2016
Workforce Development Meeting	12/13/2016
SB County Reentry Collaborative	12/13/2016
Regional Occupational Program	12/14/2016
ASI Presentation	1/10/2017
Breakfast with the President	1/13/2017
Development Council Meeting	1/30/2017
Guest Lecture – Social Work Class	2/20/2017
Corporate and Foundation Relations Meeting	2/23/2017
Chino Institute for Men	3/3/2017
Faculty Senate Meeting	3/7/2017
Reentry Workgroup Meeting	3/10/2017
Project Rebound and Honors Program Meeting	3/15/2017
Chino Institute for Men	4/14/2017
Social Work Program Initial Meeting	4/19/2017
Social Work Program Follow-up Meeting	5/23/2017
Chino Institute for Women	5/26/2017
Transfer Resource Fair	6/10/2017
Peer Re-entry Navigation Network Meeting	6/19/2017
Transfer Resource Fair	6/29/2017