



Shifting Minds
Since 2019

COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE SYSTEM

Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office



"The College Collaborative System gives incarcerated students transformative influence over their future. We are proud and encouraged by their success in pursuing and achieving their education goals."

~ Dr. Patrick Marshall ~

THE COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE SYSTEM

The College Collaborative System (CCS) is an Emmy Award winning program developed by Dr. Patrick Marshall consisting of six community colleges that offer rehabilitation, education, wrap around support, and transitional services for incarcerated individuals.



Meet the Colleges

San Jose City College

Mission College

Foothill College

Ohlone College

Evergreen Valley College

Gavilan College





OUR MISSION

We aim to allow every incarcerated individual to participate in educational and rehabilitation programs. We know there is value in offering education, rehabilitation, and stabilization opportunities to incarcerated individuals and, more importantly, providing them with wraparound education and community support when they reintegrate into the community. Without in-custody programs that assist with rehabilitation and stabilization, incarcerated individuals could revert to criminal behavior upon release, increasing the possibility of harm to the community.

OUR POPULATION

Approximately 3,000 inmates, on average, make up the daily population of the Elmwood and Main Jail Correctional facilities. Therefore, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office, led by Dr. Patrick Marshall and the Programs Unit, designed and created the CCS to provide incarcerated individuals with postsecondary education, reentry, and wraparound support.

OUTCOME

Incarcerated people who participate in postsecondary programs are 48 percent less likely to recidivate than those who do not. The odds of recidivism decrease as incarcerated people achieve higher levels of education (Back, n.d.).

Back to school: A common-sense strategy to lower recidivism. Vera Institute of Justice. (n.d.). Retrieved March 21, 2023, from <https://www.vera.org/news/back-to-school-a-common-sense-strategy-to-lower-recidivism#:~:text=Few%20evidence%2Dbased%20reforms%20have,achieve%20higher%20levels%20of%20education.>



Designing a jail system to be the centerpiece that provides incarcerated individuals a direct pathway to receive a college education and offers continuous enrollment to community college once out of custody.

The community colleges provide career technical education and general education and when released, individuals transition to the college of their choice. The individual receives wraparound services (i.e., academic support, personal counseling, employment opportunities, , CalWORKs/TANF, basic needs [food, housing, financial, and health resources], community resources, etc.) from the college.

BENEFITS OF OUR PROJECT

This program is innovative among California Counties because it transfigures the jail into a community college and expands community colleges into reentry centers for the jail system.

The CCS design allows for individuals to enroll in multiple community colleges at the same time. For example, individuals can take their multi-media courses from Ohlone College as well as their general education courses from Mission College at the same time.



THERE IS NO-COST FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE COURSES WHILE-IN CUSTODY OR WHEN RELEASED.

College Collaborative System program pathways and services

- Programming opportunities to enhance Rehabilitation and Stabilization.
- Apprenticeship Pathways.
- Choice to which college they would like to attend while in-custody and upon release.
- Direct pathway from in-custody to all the community colleges within the collaborative.
- Community reintegration through community supports and resources connected within each community college.
- Wrap-around support (i.e., counseling, guidance, basic needs, employment opportunities, etc.) through the community college of their choice upon release.
- Changes in the perception that college is not for incarcerated individuals.
- Recruitment of incarcerated individuals that lacked limited access to higher education.
- Classes designed to complement and enhance the overall learning experience and future employability.
- Mutual support, encouragement, and exchange of ideas between the colleges and the jail, by sharing expertise knowledge and resources to enhance the lives of incarcerated and former incarcerated individuals.

Currently the Community College Collaborative System offers approximately 40 college courses that are credit and non-credit courses. All credited course are transferable.

Highlighted Courses

- **Vet Assisting**
- **Culinary**
- **Welding**
- **Auto**



Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff Programs Unit



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We no longer want to just
release individuals from
custody, we want them to
graduate from
incarceration.

Sheriff Jonsen

