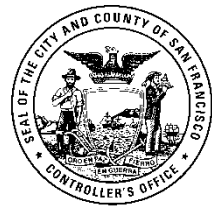


### **SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY JAIL PROGRAMS SURVEY**

**An analysis of survey responses from  
inmates participating in the Sheriff  
Department’s in-custody programs**



*May 5, 2015*

**CONTROLLER'S OFFICE  
CITY SERVICES AUDITOR**

The City Services Auditor was created within the Controller's Office through an amendment to the City Charter that was approved by voters in November 2003. Under Appendix F to the City Charter, the City Services Auditor has broad authority for:

- Reporting on the level and effectiveness of San Francisco's public services and benchmarking the city to other public agencies and jurisdictions.
- Conducting financial and performance audits of city departments, contractors, and functions to assess efficiency and effectiveness of processes and services.
- Operating a whistleblower hotline and website and investigating reports of waste, fraud, and abuse of city resources.
- Ensuring the financial integrity and improving the overall performance and efficiency of city government.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

This report discusses the results of a survey that the City Performance Unit of the Controller's City Services Auditor (CSA) conducted with inmates participating in the following Sheriff in-custody programs:

- **Community of Veterans Engaged in Recovery (COVER):** This program is offered to male inmates in CJ #5. It offers employment training and connects participants with services offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- **Resolve to Stop the Violence (RSVP):** This program is offered to male inmates in CJ #5 to reduce violent behaviors and recidivism related to violent crimes.
- **Roads to Recovery (ROADS):** This program is offered to male inmates in CJ #5 and offers substance abuse prevention and treatment services.
- **Sisters in Sober Treatment Empowered in Recovery (SISTERS):** This program is offered to female inmates in CJ #2 and includes counseling services related to trauma, domestic violence, and relapse prevention.

The purpose of this survey was to seek feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of current programs to help the Sheriff's Department examine the effectiveness of the services they provide. The Sheriff's Department has limited information about program performance and would like to better understand how to optimally coordinate and deliver a system of programs for incarcerated individuals, with the ultimate goal of positively impacting inmate outcomes including recidivism.

## II. KEY FINDINGS

### Male In-Custody Inmates

- The notable majority of male respondents demonstrated overall satisfaction with the programs they participated in.
- When asked what types of programs have been most important to them while in custody, the majority of male respondents chose violence prevention and drug/alcohol treatment programs from the list of options.
- In an open-ended question about what parts of the programs male respondents had found most helpful, specific therapeutic groups or groups in general were mentioned frequently.
- The notable majority of male respondents also agreed or strongly agreed with a series of statements that suggest less potential to recidivate. Statements with which respondents agreed most include the following:
  - I am more likely to take responsibility for my own actions.
  - I am more motivated to make changes in my life.
  - I believe I am more capable of making changes in my life.
  - I am less likely to use violence to solve problems.
- However, respondents agreed less strongly with the following statements:
  - I am in jail because of my own choices.
  - I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out.

- I am less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol after I get out.
- My job skills have improved.

### **Female In-Custody Inmates**

- The notable majority of female respondents demonstrated overall satisfaction with the SISTERS program.
- When asked what types of programs have been most important to them while in custody, the majority of female respondents chose drug/alcohol treatment programs from the list of options. Violence prevention was the second most frequently chosen response.
- In an open-ended question about what parts of the programs female respondents had found most helpful, specific therapeutic groups or groups in general were mentioned frequently.
- The notable majority of female respondents also agreed or strongly agreed with a series of statements that suggest less potential to recidivate. The statement with which respondents agreed most strongly was:
  - I have a better understanding of the impact of my actions on other people.
- However, respondents agreed least strongly with the following statement:
  - I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out.

### **III. METHODOLOGY**

After researching the types of questions that are known to be useful for conducting jail program surveys, CSA created two sets of surveys for both male and female inmates – one to be distributed while inmates were in-custody and one to be distributed post-release. Both sets of surveys included mostly multiple choice questions with a few options for open-ended responses. The surveys are provided in Appendices A and B.

Nonprofit program providers delivered the survey between May 2014 and February 2015 to all inmates who had received at least 30 days of jail programs and were likely to be released within two weeks of the survey. CSA received 69 hard-copy responses to this survey (47 men and 22 women). CSA entered the answers from these hard-copy surveys into an online survey form, exported the data, and analyzed the results for this report.

CSA also attempted to survey the same individuals 30 to 90 days post-release and offered gift cards as a participation incentive. Unfortunately, CSA only received 11 hard-copy responses total (nine men and two women) to the post-release survey. This sample size is too small to analyze meaningfully; as a result, an analysis of the post-release survey results has not been included in this report.

### **IV. DATA LIMITATIONS**

While CSA received more responses to the first round of surveys, the resulting data should be interpreted with caution. The sample size was not large enough to make meaningful comparisons between programs.

Moreover, although surveys are useful for soliciting feedback, they are also limiting because it is impossible to isolate the bias associated with self-reported responses. Respondents could have – consciously or unconsciously – picked what they perceived to be the “right answer” instead of the most accurate answer. The fact that inmates responded to the survey while still in custody underscores the possibility that respondents felt pressure to provide positive feedback.

Finally, since the respondents were in custody at the time they took the survey, the results do not provide information on the long-term impact of the programs. If the Sheriff Department decides to distribute these surveys again, CSA recommends trying to collect more responses from inmates once they are released from custody to learn more about how programs may ultimately impact recidivism rates.

## V. IN-CUSTODY SURVEY RESULTS (MEN)

### Demographic Characteristics

The following visualizations are meant to help contextualize survey responses by providing more information about the respondents.

**Figure 1: What program are you currently in?**

COVER	17
RSVP	15
Roads to Recovery	14
COVER, Roads to Recovery, RSVP	1

**Figure 2: How long have you been in this program?**

	1-3 months	4-5 months	6 months +
COVER	10	2	4
RSVP	9	2	4
Roads to Recovery	8	2	3
COVER, Roads to Recovery, RSVP	1		

**Figure 3: How many times have you been in jail or prison before?**

No other times	4
1-2	3
3-5	6
6 or more	33

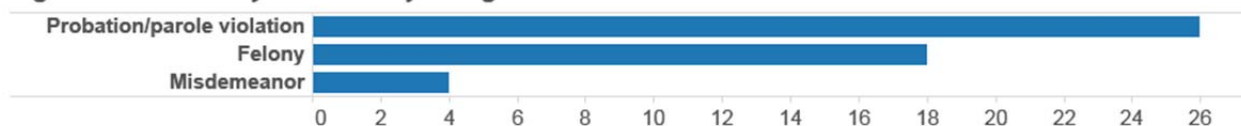
**Figure 4: How many times have you been in this program?**

No other times	22
1-2	13
3-5	9
6 or more	3

**Figure 5: What is the current status of your involvement with the courts?**

Sentenced	34
Not Sentenced	9

**Figure 6: What are you currently charged with or sentenced to?**

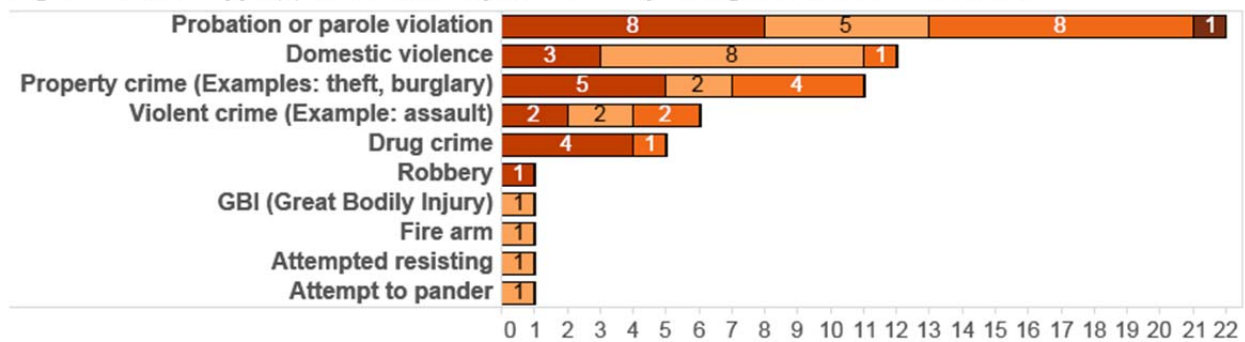


The visualizations on the previous page provide a breakdown of survey participation from each of the in-custody programs and information on the respondents' prior experience in custody, current sentencing status, and the types of charges that applied to their cases. They show the following:

- CSA received responses from 47 total male inmates with nearly even participation from inmates in each of the programs (see Figure 1).
- Most of these inmates had participated in their programs for one to three months when they took the survey (see Figure 2).
- Most respondents indicated that they had been in jail or prison six or more times (see Figure 3).
- Most respondents were new to the program that they were in at the time they took the survey (see Figure 4).
- The notable majority of respondents had been sentenced before they took the survey (see Figure 5).
- Most indicated that their current charges represented either probation or parole violations (see Figure 6). The next most common charges represented in the sample were felonies.

Most also indicated that the type of crime they were charged or sentenced with was either a probation or parole violation (see Figure 7).

**Figure 7: What type(s) of crime are you currently charged or sentenced with?**



**Legend**

- COVER
- Roads to Recovery
- RSVP
- COVER, Roads, RSVP

The majority of respondents that were in custody for a probation or parole violation either participated in the Roads to Recovery or COVER program. The next most common type of crime represented in the sample was domestic violence, followed closely by property crime. The majority of those charged with a domestic violence crime were in the RSVP program.

The visualizations below provide information on respondent age, education level, pre-arrest employment status, and plans for housing post-release.

**Figure 8: How old are you?**

50 or older	20
25-49	19
18-24	7

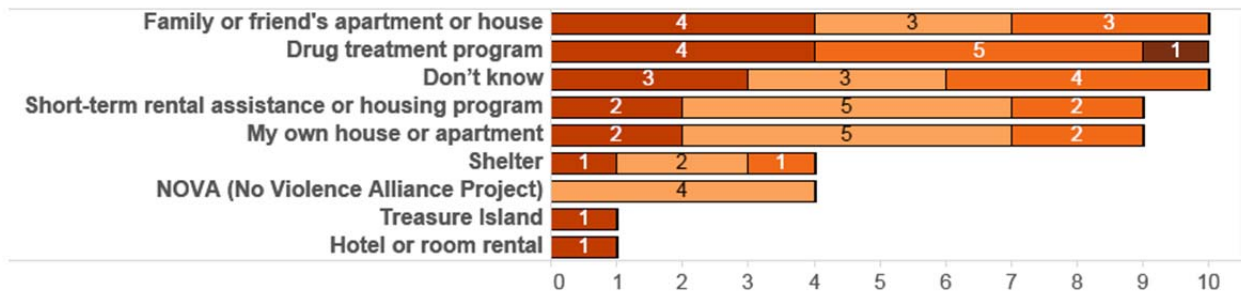
**Figure 9: Do you have a high school diploma or GED?**

Yes	39
No	7

**Figure 10: Did you have a job when you were arrested?**

No, I did not have a job	25
Yes, part-time job	12
Yes, full-time job	10

**Figure 11: Where will you stay the day after you get out of jail?**



**Legend**

- COVER
- Roads to Recovery
- RSVP
- COVER, Roads, RSVP

These visualizations show that:

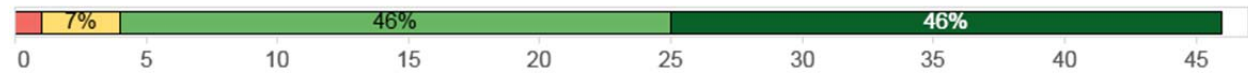
- The majority of respondents were either 50 years of age or older or 25 to 49 years old (see Figure 8). There was almost an even split between the number of respondents in each of these age groups.
- The majority of respondents had already received a high school diploma or GED (see Figure 9). It is CSA's understanding that, if male inmates do not already have a high school diploma or GED, they are typically referred to the 5 Keys Charter School program over the programs included in this survey. Thus, it is unsurprising that the notable majority of male respondents had finished their high school education.
- Most respondents did not have a job when arrested (see Figure 10).
- When asked where they would stay when they got out, most respondents indicated that they would either stay with family or at a friend's apartment, at a drug treatment program, or that they did not know yet where they would go (see Figure 11). Respondents from each of the programs suggested that they would stay with family or a friend or that they did not know yet where they would go. Meanwhile, mainly respondents from RSVP and COVER stated that they would reside at a drug treatment program.

## Program Preferences

The following charts show how strongly all 47 respondents agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about the programs themselves.

Figure 12

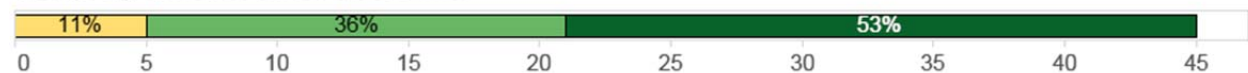
**I am satisfied with this program.**



**During my time in this program unit, I wanted to participate in this program.**



**The program staff cares about me.**



**I am in jail because of my own choices.**



### Legend

- 1 - Strongly Disagree
- 2 - Disagree
- 3 - No Opinion
- 4 - Agree
- 5 - Strongly Agree

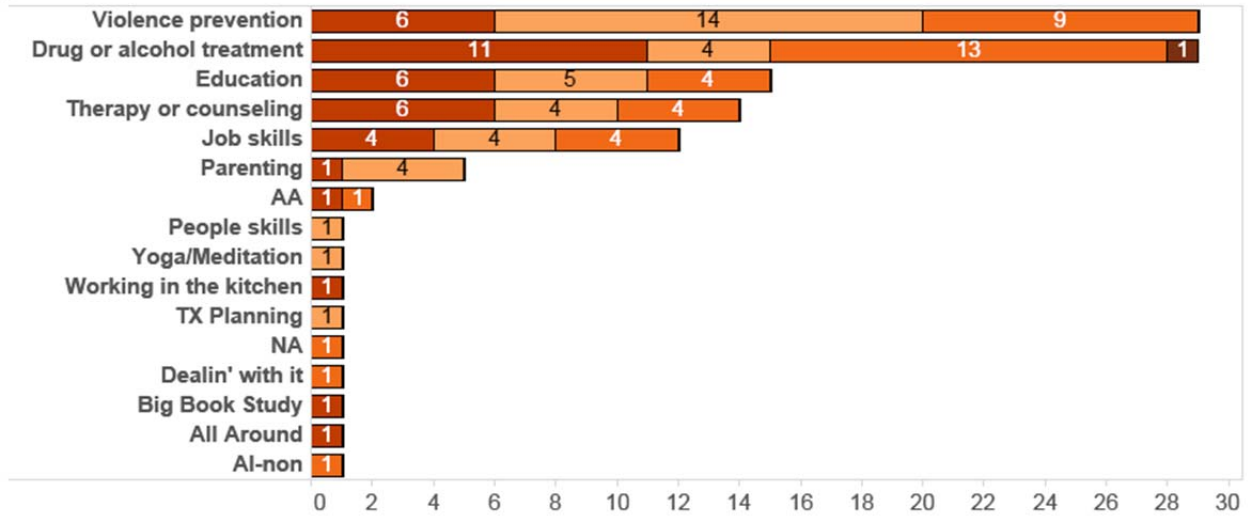
As shown in Figure 12 above, the notable majority of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with each statement. Respondents agreed most strongly with the statement “I am in jail because of my own choices.” Curiously, this was also the only statement with which any respondents strongly disagreed (five respondents picked “Strongly Disagree” for this statement). Thus, it seems that “I am in jail because of my own choices” was a polarizing question among respondents.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This statement was included in the survey to measure one element of criminal thinking and is similar to statements included in criminal thinking scales developed by Texas Christian University.



When asked what types of programs have been most important to them while in custody, the majority of male respondents chose violence prevention and drug/alcohol treatment programs from the list of options (see Figure 13).

**Figure 13: What types of programs have been most important to you while you have been in jail?**



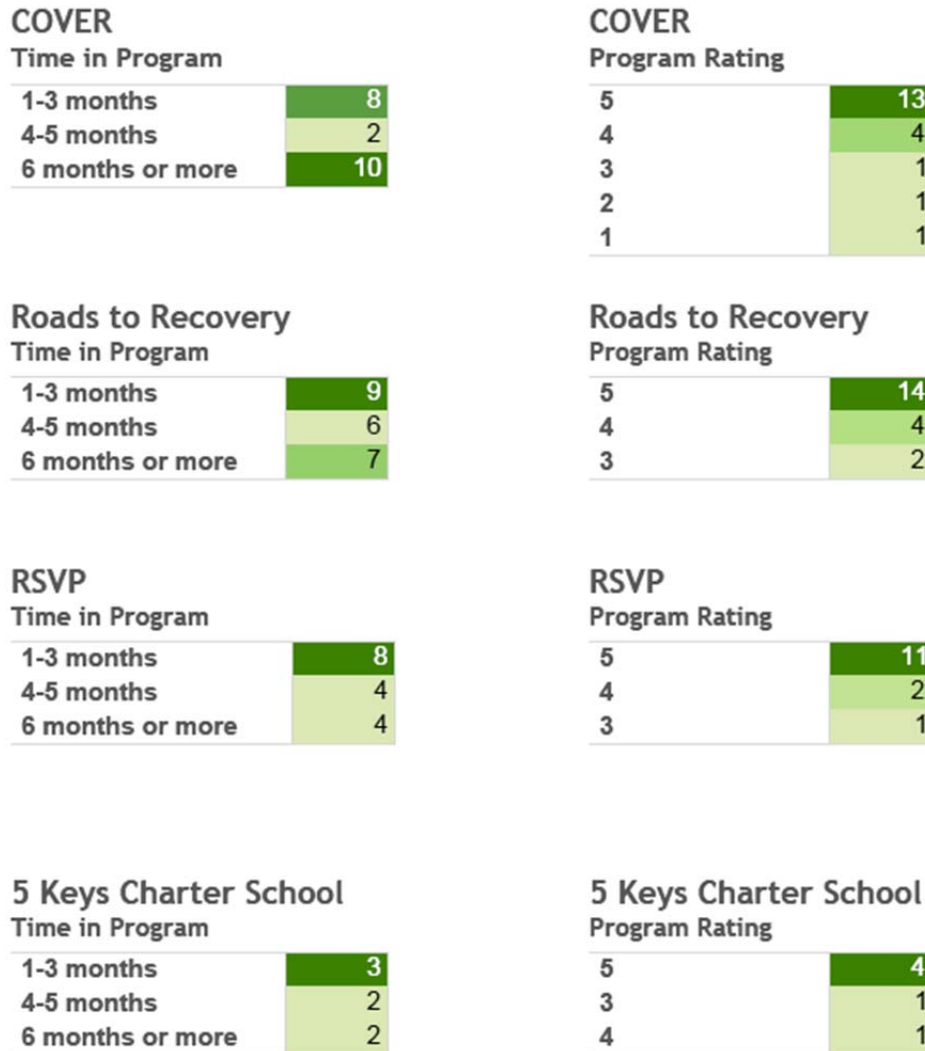
**Legend**

- COVER
- Roads to Recovery
- RSVP
- COVER, Roads, RSVP

As shown in Figure 13 above, violence prevention was the most frequently mentioned among respondents in the RSVP program. Drug and alcohol treatment was the most frequently mentioned among respondents in the Roads to Recovery program, followed closely by respondents in the COVER program.

Moreover, when asked about what other programs they had been in, how long they were there, and how they would rate them, the majority of respondents indicated that they found each of the programs helpful (see Figure 14 below). Respondents were asked to rate programs on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 representing the lowest possible score and 5 representing the best possible score). COVER was the only program that received any negative scores (one 1 and one 2 rating).

**Figure 14**



The survey also included an open-ended question that asked respondents to identify the parts of the programs they found most helpful. CSA reviewed responses for frequently mentioned themes and color coded which responses referred to therapeutic groups or classes as most helpful. The results of this analysis can be found in Figure 15 on the next page.

**Figure 15: What parts of the program you are in now have been the most helpful?**

Response Theme	Count	% Total Count
Staff	11	12%
AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)	6	7%
Life Skills/Winner's Circle	6	7%
TX Planning (Discharge Planning)	6	7%
Groups (in general)	5	5%
Meditation/Yoga	5	5%
Man Alive Groups	3	3%
RSVP (Resolve to Stop the Violence)	3	3%
Share and use tools we've learned	3	3%
Restorative Justice	2	2%
Cover	2	2%
Survivor Impact	2	2%
Big Book Study	2	2%
Safe environment	2	2%
Anger Management	2	2%
Structure of groups	2	2%
NA (Narcotics Anonymous)	2	2%
Drug classes/Counseling	2	2%
Broadcasting class/Media Access	2	2%
Fatal Past Peril Cycle	2	2%
Alcohol class	1	1%
Vet to Vet	1	1%
Circle Group	1	1%
Pressa Group	1	1%
5B (a cell block)	1	1%
Interacting with peers	1	1%
Roads to Recovery	1	1%
12 steps groups	1	1%
CA Group (Cocaine Anonymous)	1	1%
Buddhist Group	1	1%
Process Group	1	1%
Domestic Violence Relapse Prevention	1	1%
Victim Impact	1	1%
Solar Program	1	1%
VA (Veterans Affairs services)	1	1%
5 Keys Charter School	1	1%
One-on-ones	1	1%
Bridging the Gap/Community Circle	1	1%
Computer training	1	1%
Criminal Addictive Thinking	1	1%
Al non (Al-Anon Family Groups)	1	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Legend**     Groups     Classes

Figure 15 shows that:

- Specific therapeutic groups or groups in general (shown in blue) were mentioned quite frequently (51 times total). The groups that were mentioned most frequently (6 times each) include AA (Alcoholics Anonymous), Life Skills/Winner’s Circle, and TX Planning (Discharge Planning).
- Specific staff members or staff in general were mentioned second most frequently (11 times total). Staff members include case managers and instructors.
- Classes (shown in green) were also mentioned frequently. The most frequently mentioned class was Meditation/Yoga (mentioned five times total).
- Respondents mentioned programs by name (RSVP, Cover, and Roads to Recovery) six times total and either suggested directly or implied that they were helpful overall.

A second open-ended question in the survey asked respondents to identify the parts of the programs they found least helpful. CSA also reviewed the responses to this question for frequently mentioned themes and color coded which responses referred to groups and classes. The results of this analysis can be found in Figure 16 below.

**Figure 16: What parts of the program you are in now have been the least helpful?**

Response Theme	Count	% Total Count
All helpful, None, or N/A	16	40%
Peers (moods, hostility)	3	8%
AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)	2	5%
Big Circle	2	5%
Process Group	2	5%
Repetition (same class/message over and over)	2	5%
Staff	2	5%
2nd Stage exercises	1	3%
4B (a cell block)	1	3%
Check-in Group	1	3%
Entrepreneurship	1	3%
Groups every day	1	3%
Job skills	1	3%
Winner's circle	1	3%
Yoga	1	3%
Information to study in cell	1	3%
Personal lack of openness to change	1	3%
Did not understand question	1	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Legend**     Groups     Classes

Figure 16 shows that:

- The majority of respondents either indicated that they found no part of the program unhelpful or they responded “N/A” (non-applicable) to the question (16 responses total).
- Specific therapeutic groups or groups in general (shown in blue) were mentioned second most frequently as unhelpful (ten times total). While groups were mentioned as helpful more often than not helpful, it is interesting to note that groups such as AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) were named specifically as helpful to some respondents, but not others.

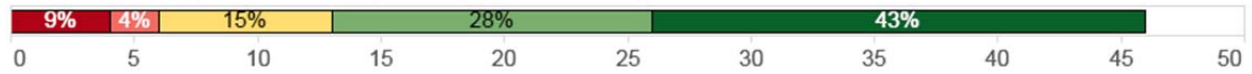
### **Program Impact**

#### ***Overall***

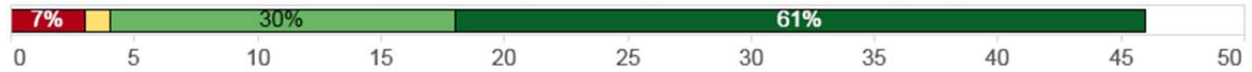
The charts on the following page (Figure 17) show how strongly all 47 respondents agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about how their lives had changed since they started their programs.

Figure 17

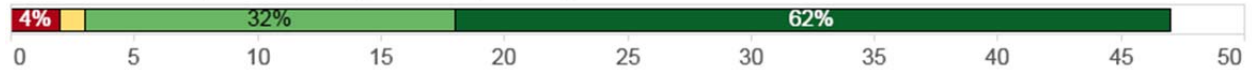
I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out.



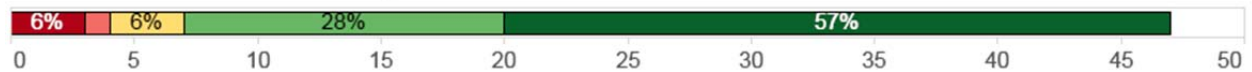
I have a better understanding of the impact of my actions on other people.



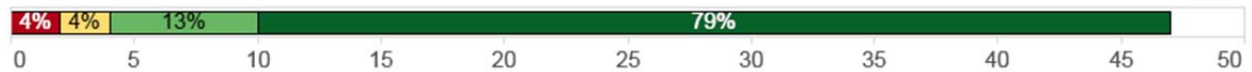
I am more likely to take responsibility for my own actions.



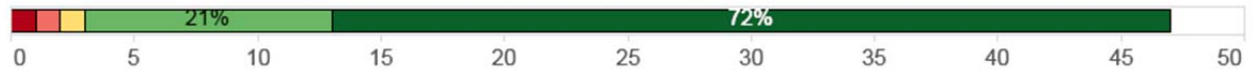
I have more confidence in myself.



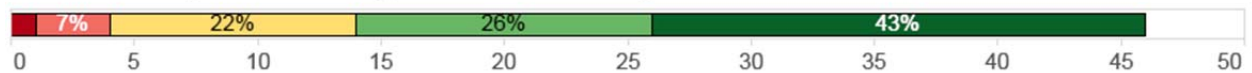
I am more motivated to make changes in my life.



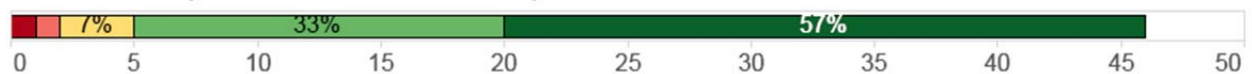
I believe I am more capable of making changes in my life.



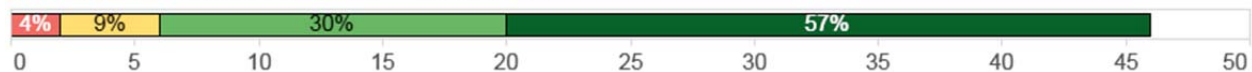
I am less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol after I get out.



I am less likely to use violence to solve problems.



My anger management skills have improved.



My job skills have improved.



Legend

- 1 - Strongly Disagree
- 2 - Disagree
- 3 - No Opinion
- 4 - Agree
- 5 - Strongly Agree

The notable majority of respondents to the statements in Figure 17 either agreed or strongly agreed with each statement. Respondents were most likely to strongly agree with the statements “I am more motivated to make changes in my life” and “I believe I am more capable of making changes in my life.” Respondents were least likely to agree with the statements “I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out,” “I am less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol after I get out,” and “My job skills have improved.”

**Parenting**

Of the seven male respondents that indicated they participated in parenting programs, one indicated that he participated in all around classes and six indicated that they participated in parenting classes.

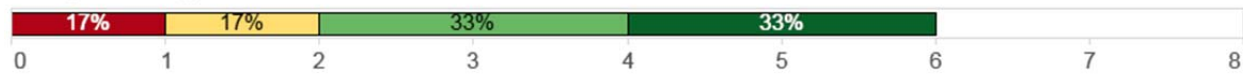
The following charts (Figure 18) show how strongly all seven respondents that participated in parenting programs agreed or disagreed with a series of statements these programs.

**Figure 18**

**I am satisfied with the parenting services offered.**



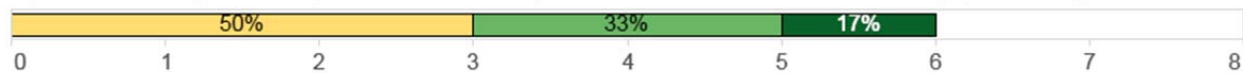
**The parenting services staff care about me.**



**My parenting skills have improved since I started receiving parenting services.**



**My relationship with my children has improved since I started receiving parenting services.**



**Legend**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree
- 2 - Disagree
- 3 - No Opinion
- 4 - Agree
- 5 - Strongly Agree

As shown in Figure 18, the notable majority of respondents to the first three statements either agreed or strongly agreed with each. Half of respondents (three respondents out of six total) had no opinion about whether their relationship with their children had improved since starting parenting programs. A “No Opinion” response could be interpreted to mean the parent/child relationship neither improved nor got worse. Given that one would expect incarceration to negatively impact the parent/child relationship, a “No Opinion” response may be considered as a parenting program success.

## VI. IN-CUSTODY SURVEY RESULTS (WOMEN)

### Demographic Characteristics

The following tables and charts are meant to help contextualize survey responses from female inmates by providing information about the respondents.

Figure 19: How long have you been in SISTERS during your current stay?

1-3 months	12
4-5 months	6
6 months or more	4

Figure 20: How many times have you been in this program?

No other times	3
1-2	11
3-5	4
6 or more	3

Figure 21: How many times have you been in jail or prison before?

1-2	5
3-5	2
6 or more	14

Figure 22: What is the current status of your involvement with the courts?

Sentenced	19
Not Sentenced	2

Figure 23: What are you currently charged with or sentenced to?

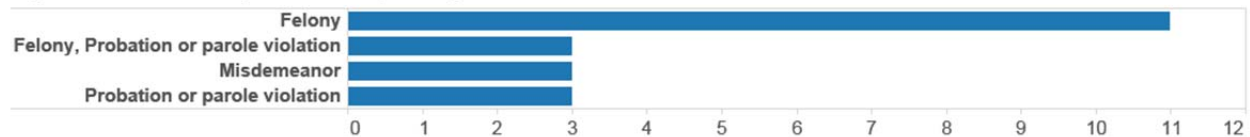
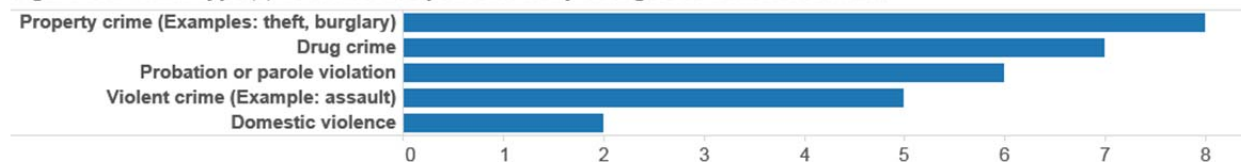


Figure 24: What type(s) of crime are you currently charged or sentenced with?



The visualizations above provide information on the respondents' prior experience in the SISTERS program, prior experience in custody, current sentencing status, and the types of charges that applied to their cases. They show the following:

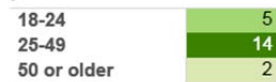
- CSA received responses from 22 total female inmates in the SISTERS program. Most of the female respondents had participated in SISTERS for one to three months when they took the survey (see Figure 19).
- Most of the female respondents were not new to the program that they were in at the time they took the survey (see Figure 20).
- Most female respondents indicated that they had been in jail or prison six or more times (see Figure 21).
- The notable majority of respondents had been sentenced before they took the survey (see Figure 22).



- The notable majority of female respondents indicated that their current charges were felonies (see Figure 23).
- Most respondents also indicated that the type of crime they were charged or sentenced with was a property crime (see Figure 24). The next most common type of crime represented in the sample was related to drugs, followed by probation or parole violations.

The visualizations below provide information on respondent age, education level, pre-arrest employment status, and plans for housing post-release.

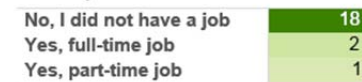
**Figure 25: How old are you?**



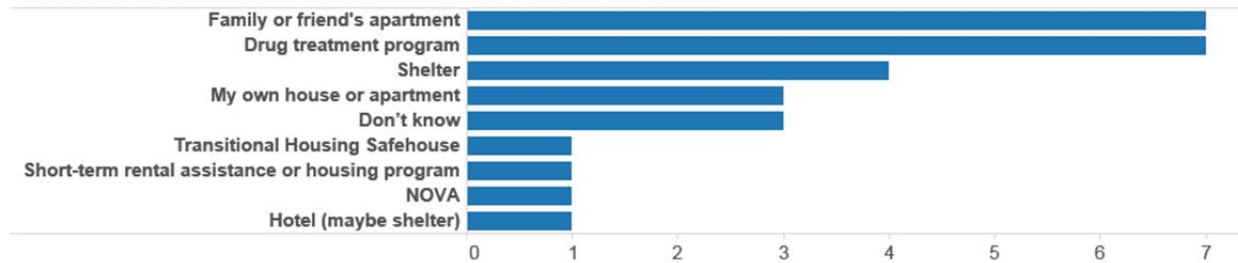
**Figure 26: Do you have a high school diploma or GED?**



**Figure 27: Did you have a job when you were arrested?**



**Figure 28: Where will you stay the day after you get out of jail?**



The visualizations above show the following:

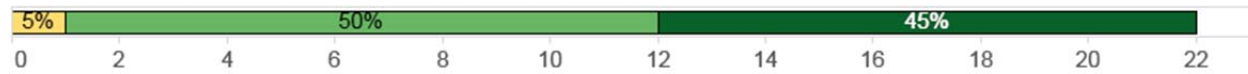
- The majority of female respondents were 25 to 49 years old (see Figure 25).
- Half of female respondents indicated that they had a high school diploma or GED while half indicated that they did not (see Figure 26). It is CSA's understanding that, if female inmates do not already have a high school diploma or GED, they do not have to choose between educational programming and SISTERS programming – they are able to participate in both at the same time. Thus, it is unsurprising that there was a roughly even split between female respondents that had finished their high school education and those that had not.
- The majority of female respondents did not have a job when arrested (see Figure 27).
- When asked where they would stay when they got out, most female respondents indicated that they would either stay with family/friends or at a drug treatment program (see Figure 28).

## Program Preferences

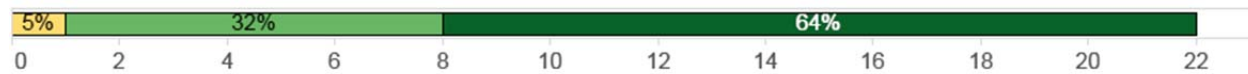
The following charts show how strongly female respondents agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about the SISTERS program.

Figure 29

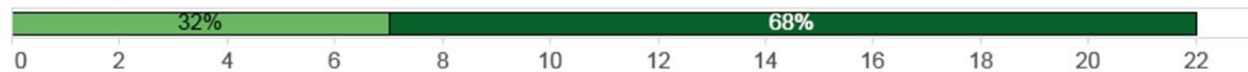
I am satisfied with this program.



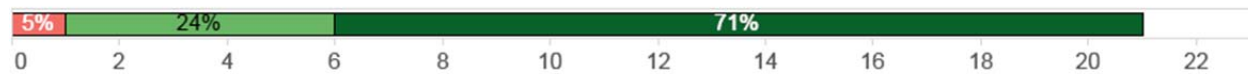
During my time in this program unit, I wanted to participate in this program.



The program staff cares about me.



I am in jail because of my own choices.



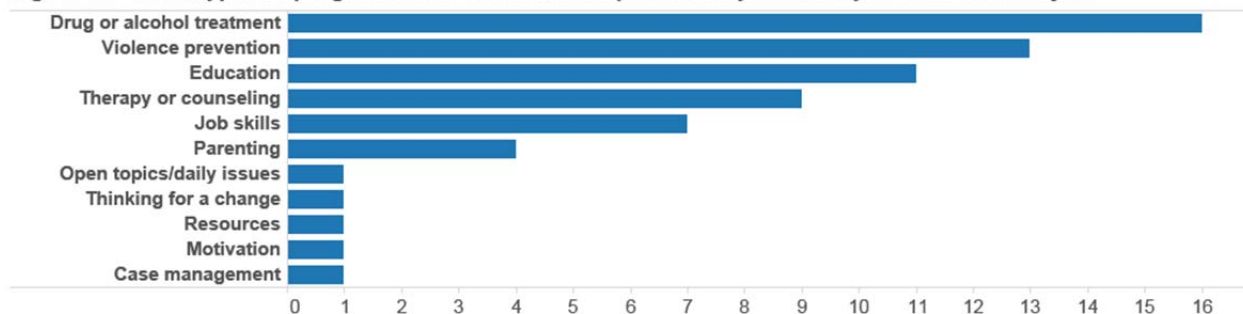
### Legend

- 1 - Strongly Disagree
- 2 - Disagree
- 3 - No Opinion
- 4 - Agree
- 5 - Strongly Agree

As shown in Figure 29 above, the 95 to 100 percent of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with each statement. Only one respondent disagreed with the statement “I am in jail because of my own choices.”

When asked what types of programs have been most important to them while in custody, the majority of female respondents chose drug/alcohol treatment from the list of options (see Figure 30). Violence prevention was the second most frequently chosen response.

Figure 30: What types of programs have been most important to you while you have been in jail?



The survey also included an open-ended question that asked respondents to identify the parts of the programs they found most helpful. CSA reviewed responses for frequently mentioned themes and color coded which responses referred to groups or classes as most helpful. The results of this analysis can be found in Figure 31 below.

**Figure 31: What parts of the program you are in now have been the most helpful?**

Response Theme	Count	% Total Count
Relapse Prevention	3	10%
Healthy Relationships Class	3	10%
Anger Management	3	10%
Groups	2	7%
Coping Skills	2	7%
TX Planning (Discharge Planning)	2	7%
All parts helpful	2	7%
C.O.R.E Membership (leadership development)	2	7%
Staff	2	7%
Self Esteem	1	3%
School	1	3%
Parenting	1	3%
One-on-ones with case managers	1	3%
Motivation Orientation	1	3%
Helping women recover	1	3%
Criminal Style	1	3%
Church	1	3%
Art Therapy	1	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Legend**     Groups     Classes

As shown in Figure 31, respondents mentioned specific therapeutic groups or groups in general (shown in blue) most frequently as the most helpful part of the programs in which they participated. The specific classes that they noted as helpful are shown in green.

A second open-ended question in the survey asked respondents to identify the parts of the programs they found least helpful. CSA also reviewed the responses to this question for frequently mentioned themes and color coded which responses referred to groups in blue (there were no mentions of specific classes or classes in general for this question). The results of this analysis can be found in Figure 32 below.

**Figure 32: What parts of the program you are in now have been the least helpful?**

Response Theme	Count	% Total Count
All helpful, None, or N/A	6	38%
NA (Narcotics Anonymous)	2	13%
Repetition (same class/message over and over)	1	6%
TX Planning (Discharge Planning)	1	6%
Opening and Closing circle	1	6%
Motivation Orientation	1	6%
Lack of deputized staff support	1	6%
Staff	1	6%
Closed in room/cell #16	1	6%
AA	1	6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Legend**     Groups     Classes

As shown in Figure 32 above, the majority of respondents either indicated that they found no part of the program unhelpful or they responded “N/A” (non-applicable) to the question.

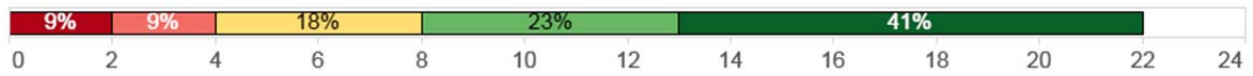
**Program Impact**

***Overall***

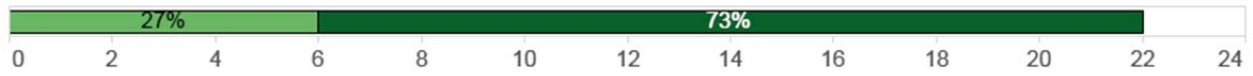
The charts on the following page (Figure 33) show how strongly all 22 respondents agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about how their lives had changed since they started the SISTERS program.

Figure 33

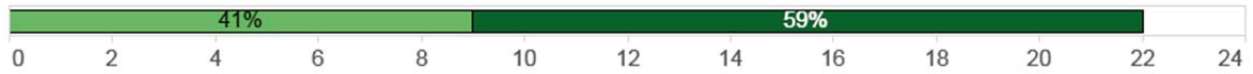
I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out.



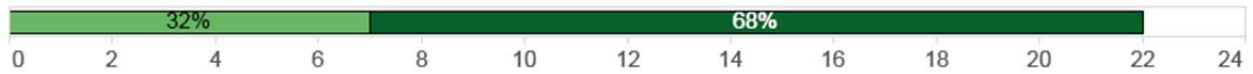
I have a better understanding of the impact of my actions on other people.



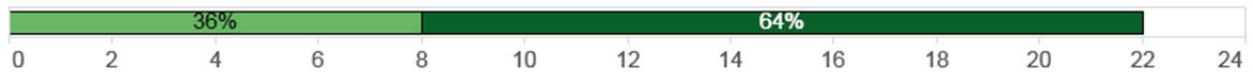
I am more likely to take responsibility for my own actions.



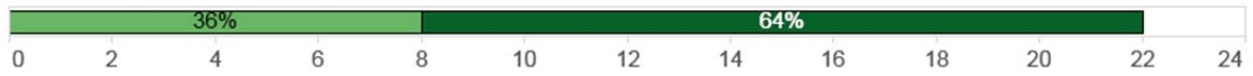
I have more confidence in myself.



I am more motivated to make changes in my life.



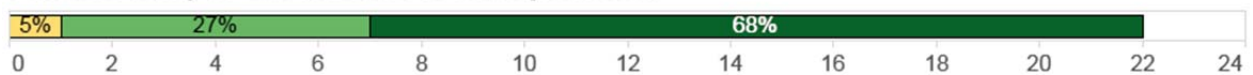
I believe I am more capable of making changes in my life.



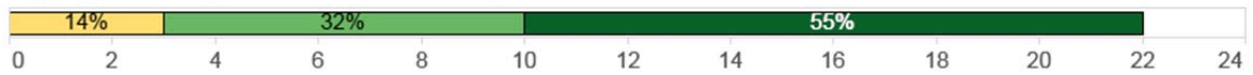
I am less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol after I get out.



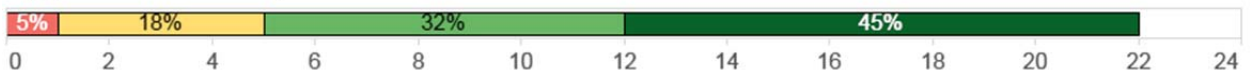
I am less likely to use violence to solve problems.



My anger management skills have improved.



My job skills have improved.



Legend

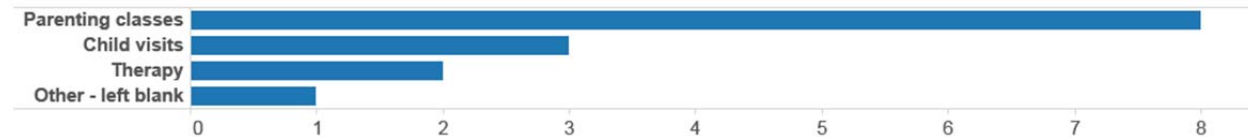
- 1 - Strongly Disagree
- 2 - Disagree
- 3 - No Opinion
- 4 - Agree
- 5 - Strongly Agree

The notable majority of respondents to the statements in Figure 33 either agreed or strongly agreed with each statement. Respondents were most likely to strongly agree with the statements “I have a better understanding of the impact of my actions on other people,” “I have more confidence in myself,” and “I am less likely to use violence to solve problems.” “I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out” was the only statement with which any respondents strongly disagreed.

**Parenting**

Of the 14 female respondents that indicated they participated in parenting programs, the notable majority received parenting classes.

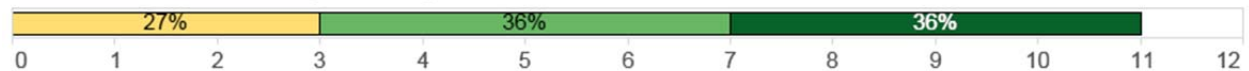
**Figure 34: Which parenting services have you received?**



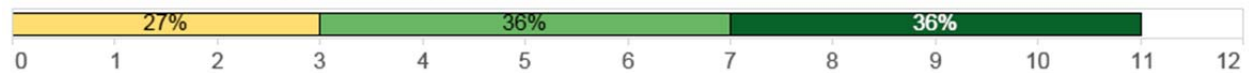
The following charts show how strongly all 14 respondents that participated in parenting programs agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about these programs. Respondents agreed most with the first three statements and least with last statement.

**Figure 35**

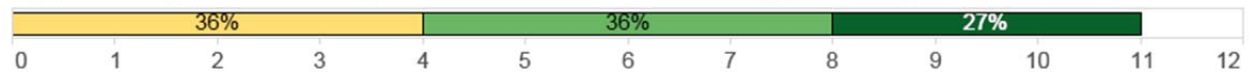
**I am satisfied with the parenting services offered.**



**The parenting services staff care about me.**



**My parenting skills have improved since I started receiving parenting services.**



**My relationship with my children has improved since I started receiving parenting services.**



**Legend**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree
- 2 - Disagree
- 3 - No Opinion
- 4 - Agree
- 5 - Strongly Agree

The lower rate of agreement with “My relationship with my children has improved since I started receiving parenting services” is understandable. It is likely difficult for mothers to put improved parenting skills to consistent use or improve their relationships with their children while they remain in

custody. CSA recommends posing this same question to more survey respondents since their release from custody to elicit more meaningful feedback.

**APPENDIX A:  
Jail Programs Survey  
(Men)**

*See following page*





# San Francisco Jail Programs Survey

Do Not Write Your Name or Any Other Identifying Information on this Form

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. What program are you currently in?**

- COVER     Roads to Recovery     RSVP

**2. How long have you been in this program during your current stay?**

- 1-3 months                       6 months or more
- 4-5 months

**What has changed in your life since you started this program?**

**3. I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**4. I have a better understanding of the impact of my actions on other people.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**5. I am more likely to take responsibility for my own actions.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**6. I have more confidence in myself.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**7. I am more motivated to make changes in my life.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**8. I believe I am more capable of making changes in my life.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**9. I am less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol after I get out.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**10. I am less likely to use violence to solve problems.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**11. My anger management skills have improved.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**12. My job skills have improved.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

**13. What parts of the program YOU ARE IN NOW have been the most helpful?**

**14. What parts of the program YOU ARE IN NOW have been the least helpful?**

**Please select the answer that best fits how you feel about the statement in bold.**

**15. I am satisfied with this program.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**16. During my time in this program unit, I wanted to participate in this program.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**17. The program staff cares about me.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**18. I am in jail because of my own choices.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**Please respond to these questions 19-23 below ONLY IF you were in parenting programs. If you were not in parenting programs, you can skip them.**

**19. Which parenting services have you received?**

- Child visits    Parenting classes    Therapy    Other \_\_\_\_\_

**20. I am satisfied with the parenting services offered.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**21. The parenting services staff care about me.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**22. My parenting skills have improved since I started receiving parenting services.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**23. My relationship with my children has improved since I started receiving parenting services.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**Please select the answer that best fits the question in bold.**

**24. What types of programs have been most important to you while you have been in jail? (check all that apply)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug or alcohol treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Education             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violence prevention       | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job skills                | <input type="checkbox"/> Therapy or counseling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____               |  |

**25. Where will you stay the day after you get out of jail?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> My own house or apartment             | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or friend's apartment or house | <input type="checkbox"/> Short-term rental assistance or housing program (provided by faith-based group, government, or other organization) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug treatment program                | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                           |   |

**26. How many times have you been in jail or prison before?**

- No other times
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6 or more

**27. How many times have you been in this program?**

- No other times
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6 or more

**28. What other programs have you been in, how long were you there, and how would you rate them from 1 (not helpful) to 5 (very helpful)?**

Program	Total Time in the Program	Circle Program Rating 1=not helpful - 5=very helpful
COVER	<input type="checkbox"/> Did not participate <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 months <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months or more	1   2   3   4   5 or Did not participate
Roads to Recovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Did not participate <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 months <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months or more	1   2   3   4   5 or Did not participate
Keys to Change	<input type="checkbox"/> Did not participate <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 months <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months or more	1   2   3   4   5 or Did not participate
RSVP	<input type="checkbox"/> Did not participate <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 months <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months or more	1   2   3   4   5 or Did not participate

**29. How old are you?**

- 18-24     25-49     50 or older

**30. Do you have a high school diploma or GED?**

- Yes                 No

**31. What is the current status of your involvement with the courts?**

- Sentenced     Not sentenced

**32. What are you currently charged with or sentenced to? (check all that apply)**

- Misdemeanor     Felony     Probation or parole violation

**33. What type(s) of crime are you currently charged or sentenced with? (check all that apply)**

- Property crime (Examples: theft, burglary)
- Domestic violence
- Drug crime
- Sex crime
- Violent crime (Example: assault)
- Probation or parole violation
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**34. Did you have a job when you were arrested?**

- Yes, full-time job
- Yes, part-time job
- No, I did not have a job
- No, in school

**Thank you for taking the Survey!**

**Please seal the survey in the envelope.**

**APPENDIX B:  
Jail Programs Survey  
(Women)**

*See following page*



# San Francisco Jail Programs Survey

Do Not Write Your Name or Any Other Identifying Information on this Form

---

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How long have you been in SISTERS during your current stay?

- 1-3 months       6 months or more
- 4-5 months

## What has changed in your life since you started this program?

2. I am less likely to return to jail or prison after I get out.

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

3. I have a better understanding of the impact of my actions on other people.

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

4. I am more likely to take responsibility for my own actions.

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

5. I have more confidence in myself.

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

6. I am more motivated to make changes in my life.

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

7. I believe I am more capable of making changes in my life.

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree

8. I am less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol after I get out.

- 1 - Strongly Disagree     2 - Disagree     3 - No Opinion     4 - Agree     5 - Strongly Agree



**9. I am less likely to use violence to solve problems.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**10. My anger management skills have improved.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**11. My job skills have improved.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**12. What parts of the program YOU ARE IN NOW have been the most helpful?**

**13. What parts of the program YOU ARE IN NOW have been the least helpful?**

**Please select the answer that best fits how you feel about the statement in bold.**

**14. I am satisfied with this program.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**15. During my time in this program unit, I wanted to participate in this program.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**16. The program staff cares about me.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**17. I am in jail because of my own choices.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**Please respond to these questions 18-22 below ONLY IF you were in parenting programs. If you were not in parenting programs, you can skip them.**

**18. Which parenting services have you received?**

- Child visits    Parenting classes    Therapy    Other \_\_\_\_\_

**19. I am satisfied with the parenting services offered.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**20. The parenting services staff care about me.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**21. My parenting skills have improved since I started receiving parenting services.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**22. My relationship with my children has improved since I started receiving parenting services.**

- 1 - Strongly Disagree    2 - Disagree    3 - No Opinion    4 - Agree    5 - Strongly Agree

**Please select the answer that best fits the question in bold.**

**23. What types of programs have been most important to you while you have been in jail? (check all that apply)**

- Drug or alcohol treatment
- Violence prevention
- Job skills
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Education
- Parenting
- Therapy or counseling

**24. Where will you stay the day after you get out of jail?**

- My own house or apartment
- Family or friend's apartment or house
- Drug treatment program
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Shelter
- Short-term rental assistance or housing program (provided by faith-based group, government, or other organization)
- Don't know

**25. How many times have you been in jail or prison before?**

- No other times
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6 or more

**26. How many times have you been in this program?**

- No other times
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6 or more

**27. How old are you?**

- 18-24     25-49     50 or older

**28. Do you have a high school diploma or GED?**

- Yes     No

**29. What is the current status of your involvement with the courts?**

- Sentenced     Not sentenced

**30. What are you currently charged with or sentenced to? (check all that apply)**

- Misdemeanor     Felony     Probation or parole violation

**31. What type(s) of crime are you currently charged or sentenced with? (check all that apply)**

- Property crime (Examples: theft, burglary)     Domestic violence  
 Drug crime     Sex crime  
 Violent crime (Example: assault)     Probation or parole violation  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**32. Did you have a job when you were arrested?**

- Yes, full-time job     Yes, part-time job     No, I did not have a job     No, in School

**Thank you for taking the Survey!**

**Please seal the survey in the envelope.**