



SFPL Services for People Impacted by Incarceration



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SFPL services to incarcerated people

- Weekly library service at two county jails and Juvenile Justice Center
- Hoopla on jail tablets: ebooks, audiobooks, movies, TV shows, music
- Reference by Mail
- Reentry resources and outreach
- Local projects and partnerships
- *Expanding Information Access to Incarcerated People* Mellon-funded grant project



San Francisco Juvenile Justice Center



San Francisco Public Library



Reference by Mail



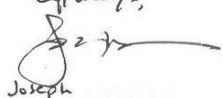
Dear San Francisco Public Library:

11/3/22

I just recieved your response to my inquiry request and wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I was stunned at how extensive your group researched my question. It was amazing! You are amazing. It's kindness like yours that helps me realize I can make it on the outside.

I made you this thank you card. Please excuse the corrections; gel pen is an unforgiving lover. ☹️ I'm going to put my experience with your group in a special place in my heart.



W/ways,

Joseph
Federal Inmate
#

Local projects & partnerships



Reentry resources & outreach



San Francisco Public Library
Jail and Reentry Services
jailandreentryservices@sfppl.org

SFPL Reentry Resources

for People Who Recently Experienced Incarceration

Main Library
100 Larkin Street (at Grove Street)
(415) 557-4400
sfppl.org

Call your neighborhood library for info about similar programs at your branch. See the back of this brochure for branch information.

Get a free library card at any location to use our public computers.

All Library programs are free.

On the 4th floor

Call (415) 557-4400 and ask for the Business Desk for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Smart Money Coaching

One-on-one virtual sessions with a financial coach

- make a budget
- plan for your future
- address identity theft

By appointment only. Call or go to sfgov.org/ofc/meet-financial-coach to schedule an appointment.

Provided by BALANCE (formerly CCCSF), a non-profit service and a member of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling.

Career Coaching

Half-hour sessions with a career coach: résumé review, help with your job search, and more.

By appointment only, Wednesdays 3:00–5:00 PM. Call or go to hsfjobs.careers.youcanbook.me to schedule an appointment.

Job-Search Programs

- résumé writing
- interviewing
- networking
- more!

Call or go to sfppl.org/events and select "Work It" in the "Topic" drop-down menu.

To find reentry-friendly jobs information, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera or go to sfppl.org/jobresources and select "Resources for Groups" and click on "Reentry."

Any librarian can help you sign up for virtual events.

Small Business Center

- Learn about entrepreneurship and how to start your own small business.
- Get connected to free advising and free entrepreneurship classes from our partner organizations.

Call or email busscitech@sfppl.org. Subscribe to the monthly newsletter listing free events and programs: bit.ly/sfpplnewsletter.

In The Bridge at Main

The Bridge at Main is on the 5th floor of the Main Library. It is closed on Sundays. Call (415) 557-4388 for more information on any of these programs or to schedule an appointment.

Computer Drop-In

Learn how to:

- get an email address
- type and use a mouse
- get started with Word, Excel, and other Office programs
- use the Internet
- use your phone or other device

Tuesdays, 1:00–2:30 PM

Veterans Resources

Resources on veterans' benefits and local services. Call for a one-on-one appointment.

Read Better!

- English-speaking adults get FREE one-on-one tutoring to improve reading and writing skills.
- ESL tutoring for English-language learners.

Online learning

We have everything!

- coding
- language-learning
- online high school
- more!

Call, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera, or go to sfppl.org/research-learn/elearning for more information about our online eLearning resources.

Fun for kids

Bring your kids to the library! Ask at your neighborhood branch about children's storytimes and special events.

Looking for more reentry support? Ask for the social worker at the Main Library.



Anza (415) 355-5717	Glen Park (415) 355-2858	Noe Valley / Sally Brunn (415) 355-5707	Presidio (415) 355-2880
Bayview / Linda Brooks-Burton (415) 355-5757	Golden Gate Valley (415) 355-5666	North Beach Marks (415) 355-5626	Richmond / Sen. Milton Marks (415) 355-5600
Bernal Heights (415) 355-2810	Ingleside (415) 355-2898	Ocean View (415) 355-5615	Sunset (415) 355-2808
Chinatown / Him Mark Lai (415) 355-2888	Main Library (415) 357-4400	Ortega (415) 355-5700	Visitation Valley (415) 355-2848
Eureka Valley / Harvey Milk Memorial (415) 355-5616	Marina (415) 355-2823	Park (415) 355-5656	West Portal (415) 355-2886
Excelsior (415) 355-2868	Mission (415) 355-2800	Parkside (415) 355-5770	Western Addition (415) 355-5727
	Mission Bay (415) 355-2838	Portola (415) 355-5660	
		Potrero (415) 355-2822	

Programs & Events (a sampling)

- Employment Resource Fair in partnership with CDCR Community Reentry Unit, featuring “Job Searching with a Conviction History,” presented by DHR at the Main Library: August 6, 2026
- Documentary screening at JJC of 26.2 to Life and visit from Markelle "the Gazelle" Taylor, featured in the film: July 2026
- Author visits in County Jail and Juvenile Justice Center: January 2026, Dorsey Nunn, author of *What Kind of Bird Can't Fly?*
- System-Impacted Authors' Book Fair: March 29, 2025
- Public screenings of relevant documentaries at the Main Library
- Host annual Recovery Summits, with Adult Probation Department
- Monthly PACT meetings for people recently paroled to San Francisco, with CDCR
- Free community trip to Alcatraz in collaboration with Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
- *This Is Ear Hustle* was SFPL's 2022 One City One Book selection



Reentry resources & outreach

SFPL services to people in reentry

- Centered at The Bridge at Main, SFPL's Adult Literacy and Learning Center
- Inclusive services and programs with attention to experiences of people with employment gaps and need for tech literacy
- PACT meetings host / Welcome Home Bags
- Lifers' Meetings at Adult Parole Office
- Adult online high schools
- Computer classes
- 1:1 support
- ESL tutoring





The BRIDGE at Main
LEARNING RESOURCES + CLASSES + PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP



Expanding Information Access for Incarcerated People Initiative



Expanding Information Access for Incarcerated People Initiative

Expanding Information Access for Incarcerated People is an initiative based in San Francisco Public Library's (SFPL) Jail and Reentry Services program, in coordination with the American Library Association (ALA). This project exists to locate library services to incarcerated people and to support the development of new services. It is made possible by a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation.

PROJECT OUTCOMES



New Standards for
Library Services for
the Incarcerated and
Detained



Interactive digital
map of library
services for
incarcerated people



Publicly available
professional
development video
series



White paper on
digital literacy

Getting involved

- San Francisco Public Library's Expanding Information Access for Incarcerated People project, funded by the Mellon Foundation: <https://sfpl.org/services/jail-and-reentry-services/expanding-information-access-incarcerated-people-initiative#>
- Prison Library Support Network, for responding to information requests from incarcerated people: <https://plsn-nyc.tumblr.com/>
- Books to Prisons organizations
 - National list <https://prisonbookprogram.org/prisonbooknetwork/>
 - San Francisco Bay Area: <https://www.prisonlit.org/>
- Friends of the San Quentin Library: <https://www.friendsofthesanquentinprisonlibrary.com/>

“The library presence in this jail is the best program. We look forward to getting good books to read and occupy our time. Reading is very therapeutic and eases the mind when stressing over being away from home. Inmates need the library service inside of the jail! The librarians are fantastic and try to help and accommodate the inmates as much as possible.”

-- K.N., County Jail #3 patron

“I appreciate all of the guests who took time out of their day to come to the infamous San Quentin correctional setting and discuss literacy and how libraries can improve people’s lives.”

-- San Quentin resident at San Quentin 2025 Literacy Symposium

Thank you!
Contact us at rachelkinnon@sfpl.org
and natalie.enright@sfpl.org