



**RESOLUTION No. 2020-21-16**

**AUTHORED BY: Roman Sotomayor, Social Justice and Equity Officer**

**REFERRED TO: A.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**ADOPTED: March 12, 2021**

**SUBJECT: Resolution Calling for the Expansion of Project Rebound Services**

**WHEREAS**, the Associated Students (A.S.) Board of Directors of Humboldt State University (HSU) is the single recognized voice for over 6,500 students; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Mission of the Associated Students of Humboldt State University serves to "assist in the protection of rights and interests of the individual student and the student body," and to "stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community"; and,

**WHEREAS**, Associated Students passed a resolution in support of Project Rebound at Humboldt State University.<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, in keeping with that support, Associated Students believes Project Rebound students should have the same opportunities available to them as students with similar needs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Prison Policy Initiative predicts there are around 5 million formerly incarcerated persons living in the United States<sup>2</sup>, and that a majority of formerly incarcerated persons receive an income that is below the poverty line<sup>3</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, "About 65 percent of people released from prison in California will return to prison within three years, according to a 2012 report by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The rate of returning convicts for rebound scholars is only 3 percent"<sup>4</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, formerly incarcerated persons face extraordinarily high rates of homelessness, 10 times that of the general public, due to prejudice and programs that seek to prevent access to housing applications<sup>5</sup>; and,

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<sup>1</sup> Associated Students, "Resolution in Support of Project Rebound at Humboldt State," February 28, 2020, [https://associatedstudents.humboldt.edu/sites/default/files/res\\_2019-20-09\\_support\\_for\\_project\\_rebound.pdf](https://associatedstudents.humboldt.edu/sites/default/files/res_2019-20-09_support_for_project_rebound.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Sarah K. S. Shannon et al., "The Growth, Scope, and Spatial Distribution of People with Felony Records in the United States, 1948–2010," *Demography* 54, no. 5 (September 11, 2017): 1795–1818, <https://doi.org/>.

<sup>3</sup> Prison Policy Initiative, "Out of Prison & out of Work," [Prisonpolicy.org](https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/outofwork.html), 2018, <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/outofwork.html>

<sup>4</sup> Alyssa Lopez, "Project Rebound Opens Doors for Formerly Incarcerated Students," *Daily Titan*, October 10, 2018, [https://dailytitan.com/news/campus/project-rebound-opens-doors-for-formerly-incarcerated-students/article\\_c3443200-558c-5509-a719-de8909b8edb7.html](https://dailytitan.com/news/campus/project-rebound-opens-doors-for-formerly-incarcerated-students/article_c3443200-558c-5509-a719-de8909b8edb7.html).

<sup>5</sup> Tanvi Misra, "The Homelessness Problem We Don't Talk About," *Bloomberg.com* (Bloomberg, August 16, 2018), <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-16/the-jail-to-homelessness-pipeline>.

**WHEREAS**, houselessness, unemployment, and poverty are the biggest predictors of recidivism<sup>6</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, a housing program in Utah provided housing to combat homelessness by providing homes that lowered homelessness rates by 91% while saving money<sup>7</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, California State Fullerton developed an off-campus housing program called the John Irwin House for Project Rebound students that has proven successful in welcoming students to the campus and increasing their educational opportunities<sup>8</sup>; therefore, be it,

**RESOLVED**, Associated Students calls on Humboldt State to respond by expanding Project Rebound services to include the following:

1. The development of a John Irwin Memorial House for Project Rebound.
2. Removal of out of state tuition costs for formerly incarcerated students.
3. The development of a clear emergency housing plan for formerly incarcerated students with Project Rebound.
4. The inclusion of professional development training options for faculty, staff, and administrators on how to best support formerly incarcerated students.

**RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to, but not limited to, the Director of Enrollment Management, the Director of Admissions, the Program Coordinator of Project Rebound.

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<sup>6</sup> Prison Policy Initiative, “Recidivism and Reentry,” Prisonpolicy.org, 2020, [https://www.prisonpolicy.org/research/recidivism\\_and\\_reentry/](https://www.prisonpolicy.org/research/recidivism_and_reentry/).

<sup>7</sup> Kelly McEvers, “Utah Reduced Chronic Homelessness by 91 Percent; Here’s How,” NPR.org, December 10, 2015, <https://www.npr.org/2015/12/10/459100751/utah-reduced-chronic-homelessness-by-91-percent-heres-how>.

<sup>8</sup> “How a House near Cal State Fullerton Is Changing the Lives of Former Prisoners,” LAist, 2019, [https://laist.com/2019/10/18/formerly\\_incarcerated\\_students\\_find\\_support\\_and\\_college\\_housing\\_at\\_cal\\_state\\_fullerton.php](https://laist.com/2019/10/18/formerly_incarcerated_students_find_support_and_college_housing_at_cal_state_fullerton.php).