



THE PETEY GREENE PROGRAM



ANNUAL REPORT

2021

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



2021 was another year of growth at the Petey Greene Program. Now two years into our three-year strategic plan, we've hit key programmatic, operational, and financial milestones on our path to expanding high-quality tutoring for system-impacted people.

In 2021, we deepened and expanded our programming for incarcerated youth in particular, partnering with the Maya Angelou Academy in Washington, D.C., to support students at the Youth Services Center, and the Collaborative for Educational Services in Massachusetts. We also formalized partnerships with organizations supporting formerly incarcerated youth, such as the Center for Community Alternatives in New York.

In doing so, the Petey Greene Program diversified its revenue base with the addition of fee for service contracts, which will enable the organization to continue expanding our programming in the coming years. Our vision and strategy for increasing access to personalized tutoring also garnered new philanthropic support in 2021, including a grant from the Ford Foundation.

To ensure we're offering the highest-quality tutoring possible, we made several key hires in 2021, including new staff with expertise in curriculum, tutor training and best practices, and evaluation.

In addition to enhancing our support for students, we continued with our work to redesign the volunteer experience. 2021 was the second year of our three-year initiative to pilot, evaluate, and scale a volunteer program model that elevates and better supports Black volunteer tutors.

All of these initiatives are made possible by your support. Thank you for your continued commitment to the Petey Greene Program and our vision: A world in which all incarcerated people have access to high-quality academic programs, and a tutoring experience that inspires our alumni—both students and volunteers—to become advocates and take on leadership roles that reimagine the criminal legal system.


Alison Badgett

AT A GLANCE

In-person and virtual tutoring



Since its founding, the PGP has tutored roughly 16,000 students in over 50 correctional facilities and reentry programs. We've recruited more than 3,200 volunteer tutors from 30 universities in seven states and the District of Columbia.

MISSION

The Petey Greene Program supports the academic goals of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people through high-quality volunteer tutoring programs, while educating volunteers on the injustice manifest in our carceral system.

VISION

We envision a world in which all incarcerated people have access to high-quality academic programs, and we strive to inspire our alumni—both students and tutors—to become advocates and take on leadership roles that reimagine the criminal legal system.



2021



COLLEGE BRIDGE

Preparing students for postsecondary success

The full restoration of Pell Grant eligibility for incarcerated learners in 2023 is fast approaching, and with it the need for college readiness programming that prepares incarcerated learners for the rigors of higher education.

The PGP's College Bridge program helps incarcerated people acquire the writing, critical thinking and math skills required to access postsecondary programs, while fostering the sense of educational self-efficacy and confidence vital for success.

The College Bridge program launched in 2020, and in just two years, we have offered the program four times at the Washington, D.C., Jail and expanded it to Fort Dix, a federal prison in New Jersey. The program is taught by faculty and graduate students from the PGP's higher education partners, and students also receive one-on-one support from PGP tutors.

Our data show that students make significant progress over the course of a semester, demonstrating greater ability to organize and present ideas coherently and convincingly. In addition, surveys and reflection forms show that participating in the College Bridge program improves student confidence and that tutors are especially important to fostering student engagement and participation. A student in the pilot course writes: "My experience has been nothing short of fantastic. [My tutor] showed genuine interest in me as a human being. [She] infused a confidence in me and my writing that made me want to ameliorate my writing while striving to make myself and her proud."

"A lot of people would benefit from tutoring.... [College prep] can change the trajectory of a person's educational endeavors; it's a confidence builder; if somebody is introduced back into something slowly, it gives the individual on the receiving end of that education...the ability to build confidence in what they know; to feel like they have the capacity to learn; it's a very important and integral piece."

-Syrita Steib, Executive Director,
Operation Restoration; PGP Justice
Education Series Expert Panelist



EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR YOUTH

Helping incarcerated and detained youth on their educational journeys

When young people are incarcerated, detained or otherwise become involved in the criminal legal system, their educational journeys are disrupted. The PGP has been providing tutoring services for detained youth in Massachusetts and Washington, D.C., for a number of years, and in 2021 our work in this area grew significantly.

We are now providing tutoring services for youth pursuing high school and postsecondary education at 17 facilities operated by the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services (DYS). Maureen Kendzierski, who manages the partnership between DYS, the PGP and the Collaborative for Educational Services, initially had doubts about how her students would respond to the new program: “When we forged our partnership with the PGP, I was not sure if our youth would be open to working with tutors,” she recounts. But the program has been a resounding success. Maureen continues: “This is our fourth year partnering with the PGP, and at the beginning of each new semester, youth will ask me ‘When are the tutors coming, Miss?’ Our PGP tutors have become an important part of our community of growth and learning; we are thrilled to have them with us.”

In Washington, D.C., we provide tutoring for students at the Youth Services Center (YSC) through a partnership with Maya Angelou Academy. Nearly 20 tutors support over 60 students working towards a high school credential or taking college classes. Howard University student Ajhani Carroll volunteers at the YSC, and she knows how important it is for students to see themselves reflected in their teachers: “As a Black tutor I am able to relate to students and create an environment that is both comfortable and receptive,” Ajhani explains. “I believe that feeling seen and heard is instrumental in a student's learning process.”



“Tutoring with the PGP has allowed me to directly work with those that are impacted by the criminal legal system. Not only have I been able to assist my students in working towards academic success, but I have also had the opportunity to get to know them as individuals. Tutoring has been one of the highlights of my college career and has highly influenced my work in and approaches to criminal justice, antiracism, and education.”

-PGP Tutor Erika Chen, MA

TUTORING IN REENTRY SETTINGS

Support across the education continuum

Each year, over 600,000 people return to their communities after incarceration. Many pursue their educational goals while they are incarcerated, but very few complete the journey before their release, creating a tremendous need for educational support for formerly incarcerated people. In 2021, we expanded our capacity to provide educational support in reentry settings through partnerships with community-based organizations in NY and PA.

Through our partnerships with Center for Community Alternatives (CCA) and College and Career Fellowship in NY, we are providing tutoring and other educational support for system-impacted youth and formerly incarcerated women. Working across a variety of CCA sites and virtually, PGP tutors support students pursuing a high school equivalency credential, students enrolled or preparing to enroll in college, and youth seeking access to trade or vocational training. The PGP supports system-involved women pursuing undergraduate and graduate education with tutoring in courses ranging from English, biology and philosophy to math and statistics.

In PA we're partnering with adult education provider Beyond Literacy (BeLit), bringing our expertise in tutoring formerly incarcerated learners to BeLit's GED and pre-apprenticeship programs. This partnership allows BeLit's educators to focus on their expertise as classroom teachers, while providing their formerly incarcerated students with comprehensive and customized support via PGP tutors.

"Max never gave up on me, even when I did. Without Max and the Petey Greene Program I would not be taking these steps towards success.....Thank you, Max, for your positive influence and most of all: Never giving up on me.

I am like the flower 'Lily of the Valley'; Despite darkness, a flower that still blooms. This is who I am, and Max and the Petey Greene Program have given me the tools I need to blossom."

- PGP Student, Angela Livingston



JUSTICE EDUCATION SERIES

Educating the public on the need to effect systemic change in the criminal legal system

The Petey Greene Program seeks to develop justice-oriented citizens—those who understand the root causes of injustice—by providing college students and community members with the opportunity to tutor, and educating volunteers on the need and opportunity to effect systemic change in the criminal legal system. To that end, we offer the Justice Education Series, which is designed to raise volunteers' and the public's awareness of the policies and practices that create mass incarceration and produce the educational experiences of the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated learners that we support.

We believe that formerly incarcerated people and other system-impacted people are the experts. For this reason, we prioritize their voices and expertise in working toward systemic change, and since the series' inception, 72% of presenters have been system-impacted people. Through our justice-oriented leadership programming, we are helping volunteers and the broader public expand their knowledge about incarceration, reentry, and education as one pathway to freedom and thriving. Over 80% of those who attend the webinars report that these events help them understand how to advocate for systemic change.

CHANGING THE SYSTEM AND COMMUNITIES

How System-Impacted People
are Pursuing Systemic Change

Reentry and Education: A Policy Perspective

WEBINAR

COVID-19 & PRISON EDUCATION: A Student Perspective

DEFUND, DECRIMINALIZE, & ABOLISH:

WHAT DO THEY
REALLY MEAN?

5

WEBINARS

807

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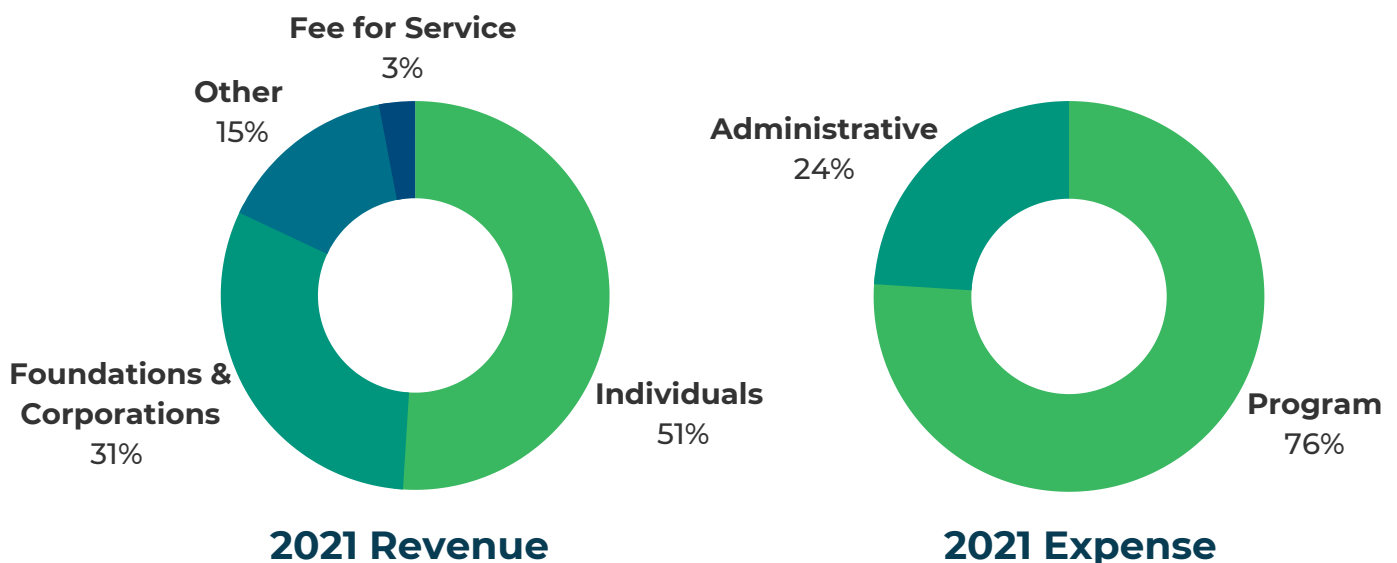
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2021 FINANCIAL REPORT



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