



At FLY, we interrupt the pipeline to prison and support youth on their path to healthy, free, and productive lives.

Founded in 2000, **Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY)** is an award-winning nonprofit serving youth in the juvenile justice system and those at risk. We educate them about the law, support them to become leaders in their communities, and give them positive mentors and role models. We also help our juvenile justice systems become more just, humane, and equitable.

FLY is one of a very few Bay Area agencies that specialize in working with kids who are currently, formerly, or at risk of being involved in the justice system. Each year, **we work with approximately 2,500 young people ages 11-24 in cities across the Bay Area.** The overwhelming majority of our youth don't have support in making healthy life choices. Poverty, racism, and educational discrimination also play a strong role in creating a pipeline to prison for our kids.

FLY has nearly two decades of working with youth while partnering with the systems that impact them and with their communities. In that time, **we have developed a uniquely successful approach to supporting youth** that maximizes their strengths, gives them hope for the future, and creates powerful opportunities for them to work for systems and community change themselves.

FLY is headquartered in Milpitas and has additional offices in Oakland and Redwood City.

FLY envisions a country where all kids grow up valued and supported, and the pipeline to prison is replaced with meaningful opportunities for kids to live healthy, free, and productive lives that make stronger, safer, and more vibrant communities for us all.

On average, more than 90% of FLY youth say that after participating in our programs, they are less likely to break the law and that FLY equipped them with positive adult role models and self-confidence to resist negative peer pressure.

The Need for FLY

Though the rate of youth incarceration is declining, the U.S. still incarcerates more kids than any other country in the world. Youth incarceration comes at an enormous cost—an average of about \$285,000 per year per incarcerated youth in California, with numbers much higher in the Bay Area. FLY actually began through conversations with youth who were incarcerated; our legacy programs are still based on their ideas about how to prevent other youth from having the same fate.

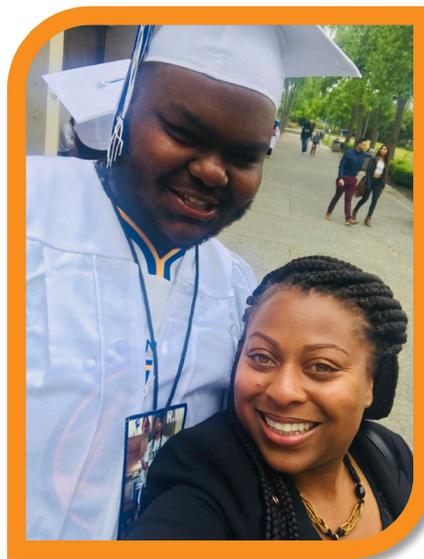
Our **Law Program** teaches high school aged youth about the law and their rights; the classes are offered primarily at under-resourced schools in neighborhoods with high rates of crime, and to young people incarcerated in locked juvenile facilities. FLY's staff-based case management and coaching programs include the **Leadership Program**, which supports high-risk youth as they become positive community leaders, and the **Reentry Program**, which helps youth successfully reenter their communities after longer term incarceration.

FLY's **Middle School Program** utilizes both law-related education and case management to reach youth ages 12-14 who are at risk of disengaging with school and getting caught up in the juvenile justice system. FLY's **CAFA Mentor Program** pairs youth on probation with positive adult volunteers, called Court-Appointed Friend and Advocate (CAFA) Mentors. Youth and young adults on the **Youth Advisory Council** participate in policy and decision-making to shift local juvenile justice practices. For more information about all FLY programs, please visit our [website](#).

FLY assesses and tracks the progress of FLY youth on an ongoing basis. For example:

91% of youth in our **Leadership Program** did not sustain a new offense and **87%** made significant academic progress or earned their diploma or GED during the program.

90% of youth in the **Reentry Program** did not receive a new charge during the program.



90% of youth receiving case management in our **Middle School Program** avoided system involvement or were on their way to getting off probation.

92% of assessed youth in our **CAFA Mentor Program** gained assets and skills that research shows helps youth thrive as adults.