SFPL Library Services to Youth in Custody

SAN FRANCISCO JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER
& LOG CABIN RANCH
San Francisco Juvenile Justice Center (formerly “Youth Guidance Center”)

* Approximately 40-60 youth: young men and women ages 11-18

* Mostly reluctant readers, new to the library experience

* Weekly library visits during school; residents can borrow 5 items each visit and can request specific titles be acquired

* Dramatic increase in literacy levels

* JPD staff use of library encouraged

* Support for online applications: FAFSA, college, jobs, etc.

San Francisco Public Library
Recent Notable Author Visits at JJC

Coe Booth

Benjamin Bac Sierra

Shaka Senghor

Jason Reynolds

San Francisco Public Library

Jeff Hobbs
Log Cabin Ranch

* Located in La Honda, San Mateo County, CA (50 miles south of San Francisco)

* Approximately 15-20 young men, ages 14-18

* Youth adjudicated to 8-12 month program at LCR by judge at JJC

* Youth visit library twice a week:
  Sunday 11am-5pm & Wednesday 7:30-9pm

* Collaborations with LCR-based and outside partners

San Francisco Public Library
Programs at Log Cabin Ranch

LEGO

Knitting

Musical Instruments

"Recording Studio"

Movies & Video Games

San Francisco Public Library
Popular Titles

San Francisco Public Library
Juvenile Justice Center

* Average monthly circulation: 1,500 (books, magazines and DVDs)
* Collection size: approximately 21,000 books and DVDs
* SFPL cards are issued upon patron request – working towards policy to issue cards to all residents

Log Cabin Ranch

* Average monthly circulation: 200 (books, magazines, DVDs and games)
* Collection size: approximately 4,000 books and DVDs
* SFPL cards are issued to LCR residents prior to their release

San Francisco Public Library
Partnerships

* JPD (including upcoming Resource Fair)
* SFUSD
* Special Programs for Youth (SPY)
* Occupational Therapy Training Program (OTTP)
* Other local library facilities for youth in custody

* Sunset Youth Services
* Substance Abuse Therapy programs
* City Youth Now
* Writers Corps
* At LCR: Urban Sprouts, SF Conservation Corps

San Francisco Public Library
Testimonials

“The library is important because it allows us to educate our brains. When youth are in our rooms we can educate ourselves instead of dwelling on our bad situation. It helps us cope, so we don’t do something destructive.” – JJC Unit 6 Youth

“The library is the youths’ safe place. It is where they allow their minds to travel around the world while their bodies are locked up.” – JJC Counselor

“It is so important to engage youth while they are in custody, to keep their minds focused and their stress levels down. Staff here notices an improvement in behavior on days when youth have access to the library.” – LCR Supervisor

“The librarian was the first person who inspired me to read. Now I can’t put the books down! Thank you for everything you do for us.” – LCR Youth

San Francisco Public Library