



# SAFE CHOICES

## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT *Connections* PROGRAM

### Program Overview

The *Connections* program supports the elimination of disparities for youth engaged in school disciplinary measures or the justice system by zeroing in on life-fueling connections and the development of essential life skills.

When youth are connected and presented with opportunity and good choice options, they are less likely to reoffend and more likely to proceed away from discipline and justice engagement.

This innovative, evidence-informed program builds connections for youth to advance themselves towards positive outcomes and life affirming choices.

“I do not know what it is like to walk a day in the shoes of the youth I encounter, but I want them to know they matter, their choices matter, their wellbeing matters.

~ Senior Director of SAFE Choices at SAFE Project



**33%**

Likelihood of felony recidivism in a young person who has been to juvenile detention

**\$1 Billion**

The yearly cost of temporarily confining youth

**1 in 3**

Odds of confinement when a young person is arrested and referred to court

Source: The Anne. E. Casey Foundation

**The Youth and Young Adult *Connections* Program = An Empowering Personal Growth Experience!**

## Connections

focuses on the critical needs that all youth have in common:

Respect

Acceptance

Security

Inclusion

Importance

*Learn more*

## Program Learning Objectives



Master "The Flourishing Formula" leading to positive personal development, a greater sense of self-identity and finding power in meaningful connections



Develop essential life skills for adaptive and positive behaviors



Apply the Stages of Change Model through interactive journaling and self-expression



Gain clearer insight into personal passions through participation in meaningful service hour opportunities



Develop skills to make positive decisions which will reduce the likelihood of recidivism and support young lives in achieving their full potential



## About SAFE Choices

SAFE Choices supports the vision of youth reaching their fullest potential through innovative programs. Our goal is to ensure young people have the information and support needed to make SAFE Choices—while recognizing that every person is one choice away from a different life—and aims to decrease risk while increasing personal resilience.