

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

# RECORD CLEARANCE PROJECT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE STUDIES

The Record Clearance Project works to make justice a reality for those it serves. RCP assists people with criminal convictions who cannot afford an attorney, enabling them to pursue their legal rights to a full, productive future. Read below about RCP accomplishments in the past year.



“The Record Clearance Project was a unique opportunity to do meaningful work that could change a person’s life completely. I had the chance to help two amazing people move past their convictions, a humbling experience that I will never forget.”

-Mark Sugui, RCP Student, BS '16

**In the past year**, the SJSU Record Clearance Project has...

...trained **66** students in expungement law, who gained hands on experience working with clients.

...held **32** LiveScan fingerprinting events where **254** clients were fingerprinted, **80%** of whom qualified for a free RAP sheet based on income. (Others paid only the \$25 Department of Justice fee.) Getting a RAP sheet is the first step in starting the expungement process.

...signed up **17** men and **9** women for RCP's Path to Expungement Mentoring Program. Individuals are connected with mentors who have gone through the expungement process. Mentors provide guidance and resources.

The Health Trust makes this program possible.

...worked with **11** clients who have state prison cases to apply for Certificates of Rehabilitation and **6** clients with conviction histories apply for professional licenses.

This is made possible with support from Santa Clara County.

...taught **3** expungement courses to people in Elmwood Jail, **2** pilot sessions and **1** SJSU credit-bearing course.

"During the expungement course I have grown so much. I arrived here... so far gone physically & emotionally, due to my battle with addiction combined with being by myself, homeless ... I was not even human anymore, but... a scared little girl trying to survive by staying high to numb myself from everything, ...I thought all was lost and hopeless for me. Your compassion and willingness to go so far out of your way invoked a drive and confidence within me to pass that on & hopefully be that amazing figure in someone else's otherwise bleak outlook. This is a catalyst for so much good even beyond record expungement!"

- RCP in Elmwood jail student

"I want you to know how thankful I am for your great work. It's wonderful to know that there's caring, loving and inspired individuals that see me as a man, father, son, contributing member to society, human being, but most importantly you see us as people and not inmates. You have given me a whole new outlook on life and even though I always knew that my dreams and goals were reachable and attainable, through you and your hard work and not giving up has now made them very much a reality. "

- RCP in Elmwood jail student



...presented **In the Interests of Justice**, a panel discussion of personal stories and experiences regarding the redemptive power of an expungement in court, attended by **115** people.

...hosted Columbia Law School students for the **6th** annual Alternative Spring Break. Partnered with Record Clearance Project students, teams completed **12** clients' court petitions in one week.



"I met great people with phenomenal stories that have changed my view on life. Their stories serve as proof that people can change and further themselves, if given the opportunity and the tools to move forward in life."

-Jesus Rangel, RCP Student, BS '16

**Overall**, the SJSU Record Clearance Project has...

...completed more than **66,000** hours of uncompensated service.

...informed over **10,000** people of their rights to expungement at **268** presentations in the community and in jail.

...assisted more than **1,300** people in individual interviews about their next steps in the expungement process.

"On July 13, this program helped me and my family start our life over. I can move on from my past thanks to the people from this program. We will always be grateful for your help. "

-RCP Client '17



"I was still in shock when I left court so I didn't get a chance to hug you and thank you. I am so grateful to your team and the funders who helped me put my past behind me. Words still can't describe how grateful/excited/motivated I am for my future now, thanks to all of you :)"

- RCP Client '17

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**The Record Clearance Project  
relies upon support from your generous donations.  
Help make a difference.**

Please help the Record Clearance Project be even more productive by making a tax-deductible contribution today.

Thank you.

Peggy, Anahi, Zulema, Nina, José, Cheryl, Laura, Nishtha, Rebeka, Alyssa, Christine and the Record Clearance Project students

**Make a Donation**

Specify the Record Clearance Project in the "Other Purpose" box.

Or mail a check made out to "The Tower Foundation" to:

The Tower Foundation, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0256. Please note "Record Clearance Project" in the memo line. (The Tower Foundation is SJSU's auxiliary organization and is a 501c3 accepting philanthropic donations for use at San José State University.)