



LIBERATION PROGRAM 20/20 CAMPAIGN DEMAND:

By 2020, we want an increase to the budget for NYC public schools so as to quadruple the number of student support staff (Guidance Counselors, Career Counselors, College Counselors, Therapists, and Social Workers). To do this, we need to institute a Student Support Staff to Student ratio of no greater than 1:100; divest from the School to Prison Pipeline and policing culture; and invest in student and community-led restorative justice and safety strategies.

Additional Specific Demands:

Disciplinary Changes -

Remove Metal Detectors*

Prioritize additional training in de-escalation practices *and* Mental Health First Aid to personnel in schools with the highest number of summonses and arrests* **

Increase awareness and provide professional development for school personnel on the impact arrests and suspensions have on students ****

End student arrests as well as the issuance of summonses and juvenile reports for non-criminal, non-violent violations and misdemeanors*

Implement Restorative Justice Practices citywide* ****

Mandate Guidance interventions before the use of suspensions*

Employ in-school suspension before out-of-school suspension and ensure youth on suspension are able to keep up with school work

Jails for youth under 21 years of age should also have quality schools

Programmatic Changes -

Incentivize and craft programs for college graduates of color (and marginalized peoples) to become counselors and therapists

Each school should have a student council/advisory board as well as licensed and qualified teachers

Each school should have a wellness center, a mental health center, and a college and career counseling center with a 1:100 ratio for personnel to students* **

NOTES:

These demands are listed in or supported by the research in the following reports:

* Urban Youth Collaborative and the Center for Popular Democracy's [\\$746 Million A Year School-to-Prison Pipeline: The Ineffective, Discriminatory and Costly Process of Criminalizing NYC Students](#)

** Borough Pres. Brewer's [WHO'S CARING: The state of school-based mental health care in NYC schools](#)

***[Young Women's Initiative Report Recommendations](#)

****Mayor de Blasio's [Safety with Dignity](#) Report

For more information on Liberation Program Campaign Demands, contact Dr. Marsha Jean-Charles, Lead Organizer at mjc@brotherhood-sistersol.org