

Our Partners

The Institute on Community Integration

Part of the University of Minnesota, the Institute on Community Integration (ICI) is a recognized national leader and major source of information on transition services for individuals with disabilities.

Volunteers of America - Minnesota / Amicus

Amicus provides reentry and prevention services to over 2600 adult and juvenile offenders each year. Amicus staff are serving as mentors and as coordinator.

Ramsey County Juvenile Services - Boys Totem Town

Boys Totem Town is a residential program for up to 85 adolescent boys who have been adjudicated delinquent by the Juvenile Court.

St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS)

SPPS has a longstanding relationship with the **Map Project** sites and have an essential role in the MAP/ISC. Johnson, Central, and Harding High Schools all serve inner-city St. Paul youth.

DEED - The Department of Employment and Economic Development will connect Map participants to assistance through DEED programs in areas such as vocational rehabilitation.

Contact

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The Map Project

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Institute on Community Integration

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Amicus is a part of



MINNESOTA



Real change starts on the inside.

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"I want to get back into the community. I am ready. But I am just not sure how to do it. I need a map." Circle of Peace Youth Participant

The Map Project



The Map Project - a partnership with VOA-MN/Amicus, the University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration, Ramsey County Juvenile Services, St. Paul Public Schools and others.



The Map Project

The **Map Project**, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, is a four-year program designed to help youth in the Ramsey County juvenile justice system. We help youth:

- Stay in school
- Plan for the future
- Get better grades
- Find a job
- Graduate
- Go to college

Program Details

The **Map Project** combines proven community reintegration practices with a framework of active collaboration among agencies working with systems-involved youth. We believe that broad collaboration is essential to the success of each youth, and see the project as a model for similar programs across the country.

The **Map Project** provides each youth with a mentor to help plan for life back in their home community.

A Map Back to Family and Community

Mentors help guide youth on their transition back to their family, school and community by serving as liaison and advocate for youth with these groups.

Mentors connect with parents, school personnel, employers, community agencies and others, helping youth resolve issues that can make reentry difficult.



Goals include:

- getting back into school
- finding supportive employment
- getting admitted to a post-secondary school

The **“Expanding the Circle”** curriculum offers tools for individualized goal-setting, planning strategies and forming positive work habits and behaviors.

Mentors work to maintain long-term relationships with youth, supporting them as they make progress on their goals and gain a foothold back into their community.

Check & Connect

Check & Connect is a comprehensive intervention designed to improve student engagement at school and with learning for marginalized, disengaged students through relationship building, problem solving and capacity building and persistence.

It has four components:

1. **A mentor** - works with students and families for a minimum of two years;
2. **Check** - regular checks, utilizing data schools already collect on students' school adjustment, behavior and educational progress;
3. **Connect** - timely interventions, driven by data, to reestablish and maintain students' connection to school and learning;
4. **Engagement with families** - mentors engage with parents and strive to foster their active participation in their child's education.

Since its inception in 1990, Check & Connect has been a proven intervention which increases school completion rates and decreases truancy, tardiness and behavior referrals .



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