

# Dismantling the School to Prison Pipeline

Everyone makes mistakes. Prison put our lives on hold.

I care about my education and helping my family shine.

I have the talent to do anything that anyone else can do.

I'm scared of losing my life over a crime

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I love my mom

I will never get locked up again

I am smart and brave

I need to have less ~~time~~ time so I want do bad things

I care about our black community

# School to Prison Pipeline By the Numbers

## National Data (2011-2012)

**3.17 million** students received one or more out of school suspension nationally.

**40,989** students were expelled (out of school for 365 days) without education services.

**249,752** students were referred to law enforcement from school, and **64,218** students were arrested at school.

African American students make up **31.2%** of students suspended, but only **15.9%** of students enrolled in public schools.

**Source:** U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Collection: [ocrdata.ed.gov](http://ocrdata.ed.gov)



I didn't have a role model growing up, so I had to be my own role model

Sometimes I had to learn things on my own

I need more support to become what I want to be.

I'm scared of losing my mom and my aunt and sister, and niece

I want to be successful and a better person

# School to Prison Pipeline By the Numbers

**State Data (2011-2012)**

**86,196** students received one or more out of school suspensions nationally.

**328** students were expelled (out of school for 365 days) without education services.

**17,863** students were referred to law enforcement from school, and **394** students were arrested at school.

African American students make up **50.6%** of students suspended, but only **24%** of students enrolled in public schools.

**Source:** U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Collection: [ocrdata.ed.gov](http://ocrdata.ed.gov)



Educate



Instead of  
Incarcerate

## Data in Context

I think if they spent as much money on education and projects for youth, the amount of kids getting locked up would be cut way back.

It's not right because they spend more money on us being locked up, then they spend on our education.

We need more counselors in the schools.

More teachers for fewer students.

Communities could be using the money that ya'll are using to lock people up with. That money could support families in need.





## **What is RISE for Youth?**

RISE (Reinvest In Supportive Environments) for Youth is a non-partisan campaign coalition in support of community-based alternatives to youth incarceration.



## GOALS

Increase the likelihood that youth will become **law-abiding adults** by investing in community-based alternatives to juvenile justice system involvement.

Reduce the number of youth **arrested, referred, under the supervision** of the Department of Juvenile Justice or **committed** to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Close Virginia's juvenile prisons and re-invest savings from their closure into **evidence-informed, community-based alternatives** that will keep youth at home with their families and communities and keep communities safer.

Build a true continuum of **evidence-informed placements** for youth that cannot safely remain in their homes.



Like to Make People Smile I Love My family  
I am Caring and have an uplifting Spirit  
I Need More Opportunites For My Community  
I'm Not a Mean Person  
I'm Scared of losing Loved ones  
I want to be a Youth Counselor  
I Struggle with trusting people  
I want to change the situation me  
and my Mom and brothers are in.



Being locked up hurts because I feel like I was doing right, trying to provide for my family, and then I'm taken away.

The longer I'm locked up the more I learn to be a better criminal.

Kids should be able to do community service instead of getting locked up.  
We need more options.





## Why Now is the Time for Reform?

**Expensive** | In FY 2015, Virginia spent over \$142,000 to incarcerate one youth for one year in a juvenile prison.



**Ineffective** | In FY 2015, 73.4% of youth who were released from juvenile prisons were reconvicted of new offenses within 3 years.

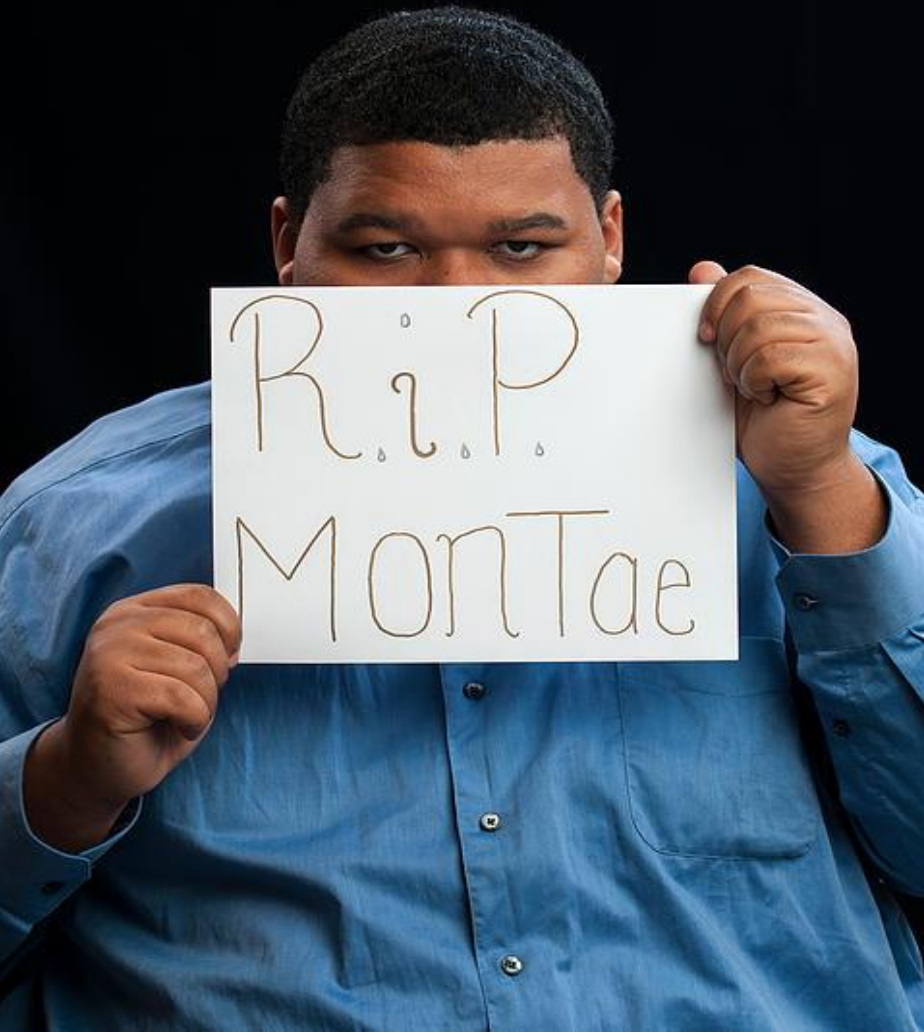
**Disproportionality** | In FY 2015, Black youth made up 67.2% of the youth in juvenile prisons, but 21% of the youth population in Virginia.



**Source:** Department of Juvenile Justice Data Resource Guide (2015) and KIDS Count Data Center, Voices for Virginia's Children



Imma Make it big You'll soon see  
It's not a big difference from you and me  
Imma Move my family in a bigger house



Fund programs, not prisons!

Kids need after school programs for kids to help with homework and let them know that someone else cares.

They need jobs.

They need a rec center because kids love to play.

They need programs to fill their free time.

They need a big brother,

They need a mentor and a counselor.

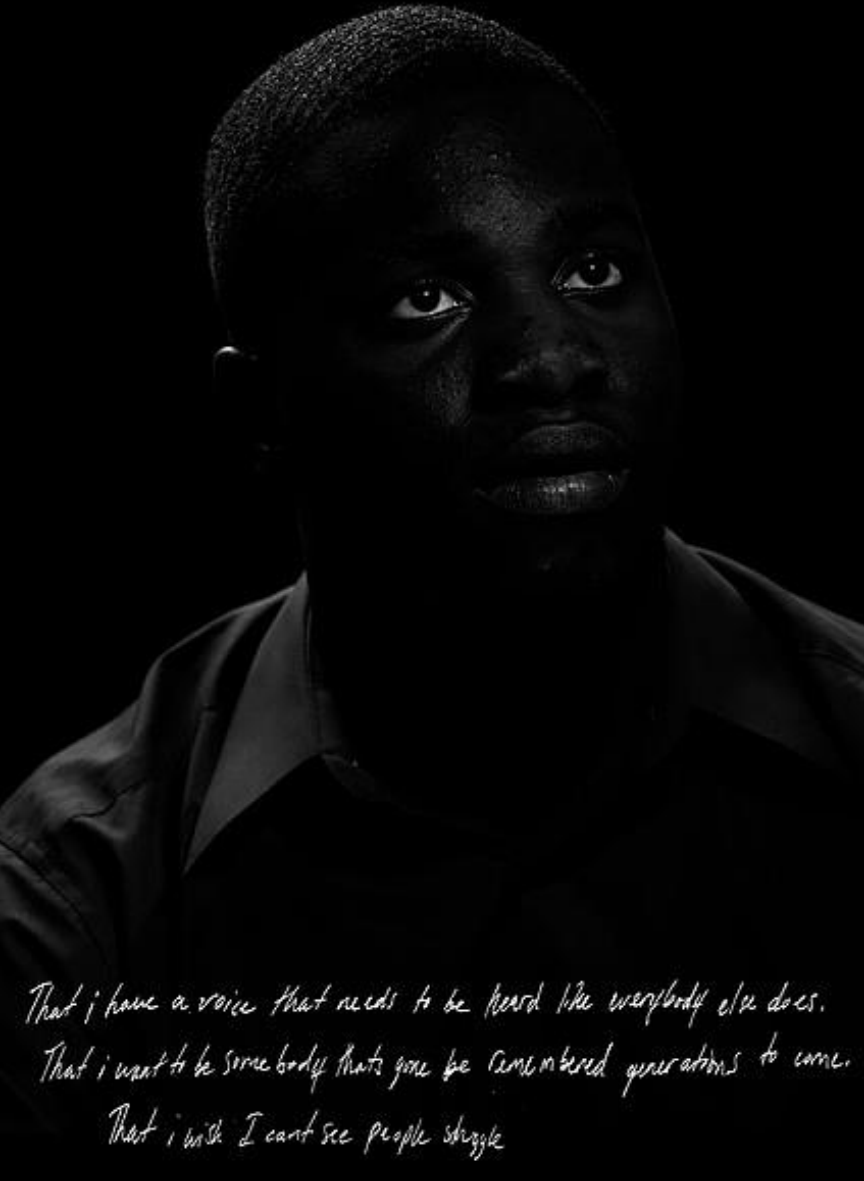
They need homeless shelters, somewhere to get out of the cold.

They need to not be locked up because of one mistake.

Everyone makes mistakes.

In prison we just learn how to be told what to do?





# What Programs Should We Support in Our Schools & Communities?

- Restorative Justice
- Social-emotional learning
- Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions
- Youth Advocates Program, Inc.
- Multi-systemic Therapy
- Functional Family Therapy

*That i have a voice that needs to be heard like everybody else does.  
That i want to be some body that's gone be remembered generations to come.  
That i wish I cant see people struggle*