Program Examples

The Social Innovation Fund (SIF), through its Classic and Pay for Success (PFS) programs, is identifying and growing the impact of promising solutions to the challenges faced by children and youth involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems.

The SIF Classic program awards grants to experienced grantmaking institutions who in turn select, fund, support, and evaluate community-based nonprofit organizations seeking to grow innovative, evidence-based solutions to challenges facing low-income communities nationwide.

The SIF Pay for Success (PFS) program awards grants to nonprofit organizations and state and local governments for capacity building, feasibility and transaction structuring projects that enable local jurisdictions and service providers to advance and evaluate new models of funding high-quality, effective social interventions to produce measurable outcomes for individuals and communities. Pay for Success is an innovative contracting model that ties funding for an intervention to its true impact in the community. In a PFS finance project, philanthropic or private investors provide capital to fund services up front, with the government, or other entity, paying after they generate results.

Below follows a sample of SIF Classic subgrantees working to improve outcomes for disconnected and system-involved youth.

**Children’s Home Society of North Carolina**  
*Funded by SIF grantee: The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation*  
*Located in: Greensboro, North Carolina*

The Children’s Home Society of North Carolina is expanding two programs to help youth aging out of foster care and to prevent teen pregnancy—Family Finding, which helps connect foster youth with supportive relatives, and Wise Guys, which educates teen boys about male responsibility and appropriate sexual behavior.

**Children’s Institute, Inc.**  
*Funded by SIF grantee: The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation*  
*Located in: Los Angeles, California*

Children’s Institute, Inc. (CII) helps very troubled youth, typically involved in foster care or the juvenile justice system, improve their life prospects and avoid gang involvement. CII’s evidence-based clinical services have independently been shown to reduce gang involvement, raise academic performance, improve school attendance, and promote family reunification and preservation. CII is expanding its operations to serve two of the poorest, most isolated urban communities in the country.
Funded by SIF grantee: The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation
Located in: Portland, Oregon
Gateway to College National Network works with young people to implement the Gateway to College model, an alternative education program that helps students, including foster youth, who have dropped out of high school, or are at high risk of dropping out, earn a diploma while also earning college credits.

**Kids in Common**
Funded by SIF grantee: Jobs for the Future / Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund
Located in: San Jose, California
Kids in Common and its partners have three key strategies: 1) strengthen and expand reengagement options at the San Jose Conservation Corps and Charter School and the Santa Clara Office of Education’s Reengagement Academy for high-risk opportunity youth including transition age foster youth, homeless youth, and court-involved youth; 2) co-locate Navigators at these sites, who will help to remove barriers to engagement for youth transitioning out of foster care, homeless youth, and justice-involved youth, and promote pathways to postsecondary education and careers; and 3) develop an employment coach position to provide youth support to obtain internships and jobs through TeenForce, an innovative youth-focused employment agency.

**Marion and Multnomah Counties**
Funded by SIF grantee: Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc.
Located in: Oregon
Third Sector is conducting a Pay for Success feasibility study with Marion and Multnomah Counties, in partnership with the nonprofit Youth Villages, with the goal of reducing crime and systems involvement for youth ages 10-18 assessed at medium or high risk of committing further delinquent acts in the next 12 months and at-risk of placement in a youth correctional facility at the Oregon Youth Authority.

**PACE Center for Girls, Inc.**
Funded by SIF grantee: The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation
Located in: Jacksonville, Florida
PACE Center for Girls provides a gender-responsive prevention, early intervention and education program in non-residential centers in 19 Florida counties for middle and high school girls involved in or at risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Philadelphia Youth Network**
Funded by SIF grantee: Jobs for the Future / Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund
Located in: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
The Philadelphia Youth Network and its partners in the Project U-Turn collaborative are expanding postsecondary bridging services at four E3 Centers to increase postsecondary persistence and success for lower-skilled out-of-school youth and youth returning from juvenile placement.

**Youth Guidance**
Funded by SIF grantee: The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation
Located in: Chicago, Illinois
Youth Guidance’s innovative Becoming a Man program helps young males in Chicago’s most distressed public schools develop social and cognitive skills that reduce anti-social behavior, dropping out of school, and gang violence. The BAM program is an evidenced-based intervention and recently underwent a randomized controlled trial conducted by the University of Chicago Crime Lab that showed it increased school engagement, reduced arrests for both violent and nonviolent crime, and had the potential to increase high school graduation rates.

Below follows a sample of SIF Pay for Success subgrantees working to improve outcomes for disconnected and system-
involved youth.

**Center for Evidence-based Policy at Oregon Health & Science University**  
*Funded by SIF grantee: Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc.*  
*Located in: Oregon*

The Center for Evidence-based Policy is receiving technical assistance to advance an early childhood foster care avoidance PFS project for between two to four geographically diverse Oregon communities with high foster care entry rates. The Center has also agreed to take on a lead coordinator role with Third Sector’s two other Oregon awardees, Friends of the Children and Marion and Multnomah Counties.

**The Children’s Initiative**  
*Funded by SIF grantee: National Council on Crime and Delinquency*  
*Located in: San Diego, California*

NCCD is completing a Pay for Success feasibility assessment of The Children’s Initiative’s Alternatives to Detention program. The program provides a continuum of community-based detention alternatives for juvenile offenders who have been arrested and charged, yet do not require secure detention because of low flight risk or danger to the community.

**City of New Haven**  
*Funded by SIF grantee: National Council on Crime and Delinquency*  
*Located in: New Haven, Connecticut*

The City of New Haven is working with NCCD to evaluate the potential of PFS contracting models to help expand the scale and reach of YouthStat, a data-driven prevention program to reduce juvenile justice involvement and youth disengagement by involving youth in a support network that builds positive behaviors.

**Community Advocates**  
*Funded by SIF grantee: National Council on Crime and Delinquency*  
*Located in: Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

NCCD is working with Community Advocates to assess the feasibility of using PFS financing to implement a summer teen employment and year-round support program with the goal of reducing juvenile justice involvement and improving school engagement/achievement and job readiness/attainment.

**State of Connecticut**  
*Funded by SIF grantee: Institute for Child Success*  
*Located in: Connecticut (statewide)*

ICS is conducting a feasibility study of scaling the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) in Connecticut. Based on successful implementation in 13 countries to date, evaluations have shown reduced rates of child abuse and neglect, out-of-home placements, children using the ER, conduct problems among preschoolers, and children with attention problems.