

**San Pasqual Academy:** Providing Comprehensive Residential Education and Services for Foster Youth and Emerging Adults, University of California, Davis Report September 2020

### **Executive Summary**

“For both current residents and alumni, who are highly diverse in racial and ethnic background, there are no gender or ethnic differences in outcomes. This suggest that the Academy treat all of its students equally.”

“Results to date, indicate the Academy does an excellent job of providing its students with high-quality, comprehensive residential support and education programs. The Academy also helps their alumni successfully transition into adulthood.”

### **Education and Training**

“...the Academy is doing an excellent job motivating students to pursue higher education.” (p. 9)

### **Summary—Current Residents**

“SPA’s dedication to provide a home-like environment for foster youth, which extends to all aspects of their life (personal growth, healthy development, school, work readiness, life skills, health care, etc.) is exceptional.” (p. 25)

### **Alumni**

“These figures (*in the report*) suggest that the SPA experience, which encourages focusing on post-secondary education, slows students’ rush into youthful marriage and parenting.” (p, 40)

### **Time at SPA**

“Alumni who spent more time at the Academy are more likely to have enrolled in a 2-year or 4-year college and have a greater number of categories of positive significant relationships while at the Academy and after leaving the Academy. This suggests that years at the Academy have a cumulative beneficial effect on residents.”

### **Summary-Alumni**

“Our findings for the alumni who have been assessed so far indicate that the Academy does a good job of preparing its students to be successful, both while attending the Academy and after leaving the program.” (p. 52)

### **Graduation Rates**

“Of the youth who were at least 18 years old when discharged from the Academy, 92% of them graduated with a high school diploma or GED, which greatly exceeds California’s high school graduation/GED rates for foster youth of 45% and for the general population of California youth of 79%. In fact, we are not aware of any other program serving foster youth in the United States with such high rates of high school diploma/GED completion.” (p. 56)

### **Conclusion**

“Based on the data collected to date, our findings support the conclusion that the Academy is a model program for adolescents and emerging adults transitioning from foster care.” (p. 60)