Sigma Beta Xi Inc. works to eliminate poverty in Riverside County through mentoring, education and community organizing. The organization provides research-based mentoring and development services to juveniles on probation and abused, at-risk and foster care young men and women of color ages 8 to 18, and provides an alternative to suspension and incarceration. Sigma Beta Xi also serves as the Riverside County coordinator for the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color.

**Policy Issues**
- Design and implement uniform data collection and reporting systems throughout the juvenile justice system
- Develop and implement validated screening and assessment tools to more accurately identify youths’ developmental service needs
- Promote culture change within participating juvenile justice systems to normalize behaviors and set expectations required to sustain efforts that address disproportionate rates of minority contact

**Key Juvenile Justice Data**
- In Riverside County in 2014, 19 African American Black juveniles per 1,000 were arrested for a felony as compared to 4.6 per 1,000 for Hispanic/Latinos and 4 per 1,000 for Whites
- The county has higher rates of sending juveniles to correctional facilities than the state average, with 33 per 1,000 juvenile felony arrests compared to 24 per 1,000 in the state
- The county transfers youth to adult criminal court at a rate of 39 per 1,000 compared to 24 per 1,000 in the state