

## **Leadership Institute Launches with First Convening at UC Berkeley**

By Rebecca Silbert

The 2019 Leadership Institute for California Community Colleges Serving Formerly Incarcerated Students launched on February 7th at UC Berkeley, when teams from 20 community colleges spent two days learning from each other, networking, and skill building. College teams were selected after an application process and each team includes a student, the campus lead (faculty or staff) and a senior administrator. They will meet in person three times over the year, once at UC Berkeley, once at Stanford, and once in Sacramento, with webinars and other support between meetings. The Leadership Institute is funded in part by Corrections to College and in part by the Chancellor's Office through funding it received last year with the support of Senator Nancy Skinner.

The Institute began with a visit to the classrooms at Solano Prison and interactive discussion with the Solano students inside. Demand for the BA inside continues to grow, and inside students expressed a desire for more face-to-face post-secondary options. Back at Berkeley, the students and campus participants began building a toolkit of specific strategies that can successfully serve formerly incarcerated students. Work will continue at the next convening, May 2 and 3 at Stanford. The final result will be shared widely.

The following colleges are participating in the Leadership Institute: The College of San Mateo, Compton College, Cypress College, East Los Angeles College, Hartnell College, Imperial Valley College, Laney College, Long Beach City College, Norco College, Palomar College, Pasadena College, Rio Hondo College, Sacramento City College, San Diego City College, Santa Barbara City College, Santiago Canyon College, Shasta College, Skyline College, Solano College, and Southwestern College.