



# CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL



The next **Child Welfare Council Annual Report** covering the period **from July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023**, will feature highlights on the work of the Council and its committees. Please use this template to write your committee report and submit it to [Sarah.Saria@jud.ca.gov](mailto:Sarah.Saria@jud.ca.gov) no later than **November 17, 2023**.

*Readers may not be familiar with acronyms and abbreviations. Please fully write out acronyms and abbreviations the first time you use them and be consistent in using the same acronym or abbreviation throughout the rest of the report.*

*Readers may not be familiar with policies, organizations, or programs that are well known to your committee. Please consider including brief explanations so readers can better understand your report.*

**July 2022 through June 2023 Activities and Accomplishments:** Please briefly list major activities and accomplishments for FY 2022-23.

**Concerns or Challenges:** Describe any issues that you feel need the Council’s attention in order to maximize opportunities to address barriers to the work of the Council.

**2023 – 2024 Goals & Objectives:** Indicate your committee’s goals and objectives for the coming year.

<b>Committee/ Task Force Name</b>	Youth Justice Committee (acronym YJC)
<b>Purpose</b>	To address issues that impact justice-involved families, children and youth.
<b>July 2022 through June 2023 Activities and Accomplishments</b>	<p><b>At the September 14, 2022 YJC meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a series of presentations on Community Based Organizations (acronym CBOs) and Capacity Building at this meeting from the following people: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Honorable Patrick Tondreau (ret.) (YJC Member) – The Power of Non-Profits</li> <li>2) Ryan Souza (Program Director with the California State Association of Counties) – Promoting a Successful Evidence-Based and Data Driven Integration of CBO Services</li> <li>3) Frankie Guzman (YJC Member and Senior Director with the National Center for Youth Law) – Centering Community, Equity, and Lived Experience: Building the Capacity of CBOs to Improve Outcomes for System-Involved Youths</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

- 4) Kanwarpal Dhaliwal (Associate Director with RYSE Center) – Rooting and Rysing
- 5) Manuel Lua (Chief Operating Officer with Victor Community Support Services) and Megan Murphy (Executive Director with Victor Community Support Services) – Wraparound Capacity Building
- There was a facilitated discussion on this topic to choose how to move forward on this priority. – community-based organization capacity building YJC deliverable(s) was led by Alani Jackson (Office of Youth and Community Restoration (acronym OYCR) Deputy Director) and Dr. Holly Child (OYCR Chief Data and Research Officer)
- Action Item completed.
  - The committee selected deliverables for the CBO Capacity Building for the YJC:
    - A report on programs related to the topics that are currently being implemented.
    - One or more focus groups on the topic with publication of the results
    - A technical assistance brief.

A workgroup (acronym WG) was selected to achieve these deliverables. The WG meets regularly and is led by the OYCR Systems Change and Equity Chief: Marcia Rincon-Gallardo. The workgroup met four times from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and has the following members:

Judge Patrick Tondreau	Retired Judge
Manuel Lua	Victor Community Support Services
Kanwarpal Dhaliwal	RYSE Center
Matt Cervantes	Sierra Health Foundation
Shelley Dyer	Sierra Health Foundation
Chief Katherine Miller	San Francisco County Probation
Chief Dana Smith-Lacy	San Bernardino County Probation
Tommy Morris	Liberty Hill Foundation
Mark Taylor	Cal Poly Humboldt - Project Rebound
Marcia Rincon-Gallardo	OYCR
Katherine Lucero	OYCR
Alisa Hartz	OYCR
Krystall Rollins	OYCR
Ramon Leija	OYCR
Michael Massa	OYCR
Nancy Desiree Victor	OYCR

The workgroup works in tandem with Sierra Health Foundation who was selected via a request for proposal (acronym RFP) to receive \$1,346,534 to enhance CBO capacity building at the local level in the State of California. This workgroup will provide critical feedback and leadership on how these

funds will be spent.

**At the December 16, 2022, YJC meeting:**

- At this meeting the committee learned about what Less Restrictive Programs (acronym LRPs) look like locally and nationally.
- Presentations from:
  - 1) Tracie Neal (Chief Probation Officer of Shasta County) – Step-Downs Across the State
  - 2) Gladys Carrion, Esp. (Senior Fellow with the Columbia Justice Lab and Co-Chair of the Youth Correctional Leaders for Justice), Yumari Martinez, Esq. (Consultant with the Annie E. Casey Foundation), and Felipe Franco (Senior Fellow with the Annie E. Casey Foundation) – Maximizing Opportunities for Improved Outcomes for Youth in Confinement
  - 3) Elizabeth Barnert, MD, MPH, MS (Associate Professor of Pediatrics with the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles (acronym UCLA)) – Continuum of Care for Stepping Home

This goal towards having youth live in the most restrictive programs for the least amount of time drives our work to develop LRPs, which is outlined in SB 823. UCLA is partnering with OYCR and the YJC to research and outline what a continuum of care that included LRP's looks like.

**At the March 1, 2023 YJC meeting:**

- Informational Item – Updates from OYCR (Introduction of new staff, CBO Capacity Development, development deliverables, Ending the Incarceration of Girls Initiative)
- Informational Item – Forward Change higher education/vocational training deliverable update presented by Arnold Chandler (President of Forward Change)
- Facilitated Discussion – Step home/alternatives to detention led by Elizabeth Barnert, MD, MPH, MS (Associate Professor of Pediatrics with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA)

**At the June 14, 2023 YJC meeting:**

- Facilitated Discussion – Higher education/vocational training deliverable led by Arnold Chandler (President of Forward Change) Forward Change has delivered a 90-page report of the status of education for incarcerated youth in California. That report has been finalized and is going through Agency Review. This report was commissioned as a direct result of the priorities set by the YJC to understand the status of education in court schools (schools within the locked juvenile facilities) and to set an agenda for improvement where needed once identified. This is a systems improvement approach aimed to increase access to opportunities for youth in locked facilities.
- Presentations from:
  - 1) Katherine Lucero (YJC Chair and Director of OYCR) – Where We Are Today: Step Home/Alternatives to Detention

	<p>2) Elizabeth Barnert, MD, MPH, MS (Associate Professor of Pediatrics with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA) – Stepping Home: Standards of Excellence and Key Elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informational Item – Funding opportunities presented by Will Lightbourne (Special Consultant with OYCR)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Concerns or Challenges</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership recruitment and retention</li> <li>• Meeting quorum with the changing remote meeting policies</li> <li>• Making progress on identified deliverables</li> </ul>
<p><b>2023 - 2024 Goals/Objectives</b></p>	<p>Complete the deliverables identified in 2022-23:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Secure youth treatment facility (acronym SYTF) higher education report</li> <li>2) LRP development for youth to leave SYTFs when safe and appropriate for the youth and the community.</li> <li>3) To continue to develop CBO capacity</li> </ol>