

**Public Comment Session on Title II 3-Year State Plan
Program Purpose Areas
November 12, 2020.**

The SACJJDP held a listening session on November 12, 2021 to hear directly from the public, and especially youth, about the program purpose areas most impactful to their community. The SACJJDP requested input to inform the development of the three-year state plan strategies for delinquency prevention and juvenile justice improvement. The plan is a roadmap for policies that will direct spending under a federal Title II Grant Program. The intention of the meeting was to gain an understanding of what communities across California believe are the most important and effective interventions to help our at-risk young people succeed.

The meeting was held via Zoom. A video recording of the meeting can be viewed on YouTube at https://youtu.be/c09sZ56Tq_0. There were 35 attendees, including the following service providers who provided comment:

- Tumani Drew- Center for Young Women’s Development DBA Young Women’s Freedom Center
- Paulette Dunn-Sanders- Chief Executive Officer/President of Stopping Pressure on Teens (S.P.O.T.: www.spoteens.org)
- Alexa Ramirez- Center for Young Women’s Development DBA Young Women’s Freedom Center
- Mandy Miscevic- Program Director for South Bay Community Services
- Sandy Bonilla- Founder of Urban Conservation Corps.
- Kennisha Green- Community member and Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- Saul Serrano- Coordinator for the South Coast Task Force on Youth Safety, Santa Barbara
- Candex Seokyi Louie- Organizing Fellow with Center for Young Women’s Development DBA Young Women’s Freedom Center and Community Organizer with the #MetooBehindBars movement
- Lizzie Scanlon- Associate Director of Community Resources with Fresh Lifeline for Youth

Attendees were provided the opportunity to discuss the program purpose areas they found the most impactful for their community. The attendees identified Mentoring, Counseling, & Training; Mental Health Services; and Community-based programs as the most needed in their communities. The attendees also discussed the need for wrap-around services for youth and training for service provider staff. The attendees also

stated that a goal to reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparity should be integrated into all services.

Most Mentioned Program Purpose Areas:

- Mentoring, Counseling, & Training √√√√√
- Mental Health Services √√√
- Racial and Ethnic Disparity √√√
- Community Based Programs √√
- Job Training √√
- Alternatives to Detention √√
- Diversion √√
- School Programs √√
- Positive Youth Development √
- Aftercare/Reentry √
- After-School Programs √
- Delinquency Prevention √

Participant Comments:

Housing is needed for transitioning/non-conforming youth.

Mental Health services are needed for youth ages 0 to 17; Re-entry resources such as certified training skills for service providers. Intervention and prevention.

Mentoring programs for at risk youth are needed; school programs (i.e., do's and don'ts on how to write a resume). Free daycare for young mothers.

Funding for community-based providers to offer alternatives to detention, mental health, mentoring, restorative justice (alternatives to prosecution), efforts to reduce ethnic and racial disparities. COVID- Mental health services in addition to Basic needs. Grant funds should be carved out to address R. E. D. and implicit bias.

Transitional employment in combination with treatment for ages 18-25. Staff training needed for practitioners.

More mentorship programs. More people that look like you. Before school and after school programs. More male mentors for children to identify with. Many don't have the tools. Help breaking the generational curse with complete wrap around services.

Comprehensive programs to serve the needs of youth- Due to COVID some city and county program work funds are being reverted.

Investing in the equity of LGBTQ and gender-based violence behind bars. For some people they are unable to obtain supports prior to being system involved. Some feel these resources were inaccessible prior to involvement.