



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Friendship Auditorium

3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest David Crippens
3. Introduction of New WDB Youth Council Members David Crippens
4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

ACTION ITEMS:

5. Receive and File the Meeting Notes of February 22, 2024, May 21, 2024, June 18, 2024, and August 8, 2024, and January 28, 2025 David Crippens
6. Consideration of the Minutes of April 25, 2024 David Crippens
7. Approval of Recommendations from the Economic & Workforce Development Department, in Partnership with the Youth Development Department, to Accept a Federal Earmark and City General Funds to Implement the Peer Homeless System Navigator Program Gerardo Ruvalcaba and Lisa Salazar

ADVISORIES/DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORT-BACKS/UPDATES

8. Presentation on the 2025-26 Annual Plan Elizabeth Macias
9. Update on the YouthSource Center Redesign Bryson Gauff
10. Discussion on Relaunching the HireLA's Youth Steering Committee, in Partnership with the Youth Development Department Gerardo Ruvalcaba and Lisa Salazar
11. Presentation on Youth Disconnection in Los Angeles and Horizon's 32K Update Carrie Lemon
12. Verbal Update on the Crossroads Forum Danielle Martinez

13. Presentation on the Hollywood Entertainment Pathway Program

Jose Guadron and Doug
Bond

14. Next Meeting - May 27, 2025

15. Adjourn

Youth Council Committee:

David Crippens, Veronica Corona, Kenya Croom, Raul Estrada, Gerald Feeney, Hrag Hamalian, Jaleesa Hazzard, Lindsey Heisser, John King II, Carrie Lemon, MaryRose Ortega, Carl Reece, Maria Turrubiarres, Steve Zimmer

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TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available



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- ▣ Item 4 - MEETING NOTES_WDB Youth Council Committee_Mtg_February 22, 2024
- ▣ Item 4 - Meeting Notes of WDB Youth Council Comm_MAY 21, 2024
- ▣ Item 4 - MEETING NOTES WDBOARD YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE Mtg. JUNE 18, 2024
- ▣ Item 4 - MEETING NOTES OF THE WDB_YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING ON AUGUST 8, 2024
- ▣ Item 4 - Meeting Notes WDB Youth_Council_Comm_1.28.2025

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2024
MEETING NOTES

Item #1/Call to Order/Roll Call

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council Chair David Crippens called the meeting to order.

He was advised by WDB staff that a quorum was not present.

Mr. Crippens decided to proceed with the meeting and announced that he will be considering agenda items out-of-order.

He asked his colleagues and City staff to introduce themselves and identify their areas of responsibility.

Item #3/Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Crippens announced that he will be holding WDB Youth Council meetings, at a minimum, quarterly to check on the progress of implementation of the new YouthSource Center (YSC) System.

He also said that Lisa Salazar, General Manager of the Youth Development Department (YDD) will be scheduled to make regular reports on her department's progress in facilitating coordination of youth programs and initiatives citywide.

Mr. Crippens further stated that a City youth contractor will be invited, at every WDB Youth Council meeting, to provide information about their service delivery efforts.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish announced that he will be attending an event at the Hospitality Training Academy at which the Speaker of the California

Assembly and the workforce development expert on his staff, Tim Rainey, will be present to witness, to talk to graduates of a culinary training course.

Mr. Irish said that all of the graduates have already been offered union culinary jobs paying living wages with benefits.

At the conclusion of public comment, Mr. Crippens asked for a presentation on Item #9.

Item #9/Update on the Mental Health Services/Youth Peer-to-Peer Counselor Program

A representative of the Youth Development Department (YDD) provided background on the need for mental health services for youth.

The YDD had survey thousands of young people across the city and asked them what they were most concerned about. The top two issues were career pathways that would lead to good-paying jobs and mental health services.

As to the latter, many youth said that the COVID-19 pandemic had adversely impacted their feelings of stability and well-being. With schools being so overwhelmed, they were certain the school system couldn't provide them with the traditional patient-client sit-down therapy sessions.

The youth who were surveyed had suggested, instead, that safe spaces be created at which they can come together with their peers for support on a number of everyday life-related issues.

The State of California is now making available funding for non-clinical counseling from peer mental health counselors able to pass a state-certified test. After discussions with the Hilton Foundation, seed money was secured for the development of a program to train peer-to-peer counselors. Multiple partners are now involved, including the Children's Trust, County Department of Mental Health, City's YouthSource Center System, YDD, etc. The curriculum was approved by the state.

A total of 120 young people had expressed an interest in being trained as peer-to-peer counselors. The expectation is that many of them will complete the program and have the skills and knowledge to qualify for and obtain certification from the state.

The first cohort of 20 trainees started on February 13, 2024 and they were recruited from 13 YouthSource Centers (YSC). That's well below the expected enrollees of 70. Some thought has to be given to eliminating the impediments to full participation.

The WDB allocated funds to augment the contracts of YouthSource Centers (YSC) for the program and an additional \$37,500 can from other sources to support the training wages. There have been challenges in executing YSC contract amendments.

Participants, who must be at least 18 years of age, are paid wages while they undergo training and the expectation is that the full cohort will be ready for certification by June 30, 2024. The stipend amounts to nearly \$17,000.

The program will likely produce hiring opportunities (permanent or contracting) within the County Department of Mental Health and LAUSD. The County Department of Mental Health currently has a model for employment of peer-to-peer counselor within its Veterans Peer Network.

The date for the next cohort has not been established as of yet.

Mr. Crippens reminded everyone of planning underway for a WDB sponsored Crossroads Conference. He is advocating for "youth wellness" to be among the many issues addressed at the event.

There is a lot of attention to this program nationally.

Tammy Ortuno of the Mayor's Office said that the model may have some applicability to the City and the County's efforts to create internships that will lead to youth being qualified for regular and related civil service positions.

Item #6/YouthSource Center (YSC) Highlights

Mr. Crippens asked the representative from El Proyecto del Barrio to brief the WDB Youth Council on its innovations in service delivery.

This organization has a long history of providing workforce development and health services to San Fernando Valley communities.

El Proyecto del Barrio is operating a new program to train nurses assistants and caretakers. Because of the aging of the “baby boomer” population, these positions will be in demand.

Once training is completed, there is an opportunity to amass care hours that lead to livable wages for jobs related to caring for elderly and other persons in need.

Recruiting is currently underway for 120 trainees, both youth and adults. The City’s WorkSource Center and YouthSource Centers have been asked to refer any interested customers for enrollment.

Mr. Crippens said that by 2030, 25% to 30% of the population of Los Angeles County residents will be comprised of older residents. They will be in need of eldercare. He reminded all in attendance of the WDB’s efforts to develop an older worker plan and related workforce development programming.

Item #8/Presentation by UNITE-LA on LA Cash for College

Mr. Crippens introduced the representatives of UNITE-LA to explain the LA Cash for College program.

The program has been around for nearly 20 years. Its purpose is to ensure that secondary school LAUSD students and their parents have up-to-date information on college admissions requirements and resources to attend and complete a post-secondary education.

Students and their parents are given the opportunity to attend events where information is imparted to them about college courses and curricula, college enrollment, as well as financial aid. Experts are also on hand to help them apply for financial aid.

The program continues to focus involving residents from communities of color.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish explained that the WDB has been financing LA Cash for College for years. He was hoping that UNITE-LA, the program lead, can provide performance information annually on how many youth and families benefited from LA Cash for College activities.

Mr. Irish further advocated for increased numbers of African-American and their parents/guardians males attending LA Cash events.

He also encouraged UNITE-LA to expand the number of education partners and include Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) at LA Cash for College events to recruit students.

Item #7/Update from the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) on the Los Angeles Performance Pilot Partnership (P3) Initiative

Because of limited time, Mr. Crippens and Gerardo Ruvalcaba, Assistant General Manager of the Economic and Workforce Development Department, agreed that this item should be continued to a future meeting of the WDB Youth Council.

Item #2/Report by the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) on the Performance of All Youth Programs in the City's Program Year (PY) 2022-23 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) Workforce Development Annual Plan.

Makeda Vela (Youth Director of the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) and Gerardo Ruvalcaba (Assistant General Manager of the EWDD) said that instead of providing the WDB Youth Council with the typical narrative report with points and tables, they are presenting an impact report. It's a broad overview of both data and programs.

We are moving our system from a flat one size fits all model, to a progressive pipeline of moving young people forward. We've combined multiple funding sources (e.g., City, County, Federal, etc.) and partners and leveraged funding to serve more youth and better.

We've served over 12,200 youth (some in-school, others out-of-school) over the last two years, from July 1, 2022 to January 1, 2024. So the plan is to spend \$75

million on youth opportunities. The beneficiaries have been justice-involved youth, foster youth, low-income youth, homeless youth, etc.

Have we left money on the table? Yes, there are instances where money was returned to grantees. Obviously we can do better. We are making progress from returning \$2 million in 2020 to under \$1 million now.

We experienced delays in the receipt of funding and contract problems that sometimes require us to hold off on enrolling youth. But we are now closer to fulfilling our enrollment goals.

We have youth that are assisting small businesses through an arrangement between EWDD's workforce development side of the house and the economic development side of the house and its BusinessSource Centers.

We have a pipeline of youth ready for enrollment in Californians For All (CFA) program activities. CFA is funded through a special \$53 million allocation from California Volunteers, Office of the Governor.

Ms. Vela and Mr. Ruvalcaba continued to refer to their slides and report in referencing services delivered to youth and at what numbers.

We have young people in work experience opportunities in schools, childcare centers, hospitals, government agencies, etc.

Some programs are reserved for youth at least 16 years of age. Others are for youth up to 30 years of age.

Some programs are youth who need to obtain a GED. Others for youth who need help in attaining a regular high school diploma or are in college in search of skills certificates/credentials or degrees.

The EWDD has now formed a Performance Unit to gauge how our system is performing. California State University, Northridge is also involved in evaluating performance.

We are proud of the fact that our system is considered one of the best in the nation and it carries the federal performance of California.

Mr. Crippens thanked Ms. Vela and Mr. Ruvalcaba for their presentation.

Item #4/Public Hearing to Solicit Input on the Preparation of the City's Program Year (PY) 2024-25 Workforce Development Annual Plan

Mr. Crippens decided to continue this item to the next WDB Youth Council meeting.

Item #5/Update on the Implementation of the City's Redesigned YouthSource Center (YSC) System

Mr. Crippens decided to continue this item to a future WDB Youth Council.

Item #10/Next Meeting

Mr. Crippens will coordinate with WDB and EWDD staff on a date for the next WDB Youth Council meeting.

Item #11/Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Crippens at 12:17 p.m.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING**

MAY 21, 2024

MEETING NOTES

Item #1/Call to Order/Roll Call

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council Chair David Crippens called the meeting to order and asked for confirmation of a quorum.

WDB staff indicated that a quorum had not been achieved.

Mr. Crippens chose to proceed in conducting the meeting, while awaiting the arrival of additional WDB Youth Council members.

Item #2/Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Mr.

Crippens asked for comments from the public on non-agenda items.

Mary Keipp, representing UCLA and one of the City's YouthSource Center (YSC) operators, spoke about the necessity for the WDB and EWDD to develop and market the City's Workforce Development System. She advocated for money being inserted in the Year 25/Program Year (PY) 2024-25 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) Annual Workforce Development Plan.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish informed her, Youth Council members and other in attendance that, in addition to today, the Year 25 Plan will be considered by the WDB Executive Committee at its next meeting on May 23, 2024. He also said the plan can be viewed on the EWDD's website.

A staff member of the City's Youth Development Department (YDD) advised everyone of an upcoming recruitment for the Olivia Mitchell Youth Council and ongoing discussions being facilitated by the YDD about youth mental health issues.

WDB Youth Council member Olivia Mitchell informed her colleagues and the public about the City's Community Investment for Families Department's efforts to serve pregnant and parenting teens.

Mr. Crippens ended the public comment session and invited Dana Howard of the California Conservation Corps (CCC) to come forward and present information about Item #9.

Item #9/Presentation on the California Conservation Corps' (CCC) Youth Workforce Development and Employment Efforts, Especially the Pathways 2 CCC Program's Focus on Foster Youth

Mr. Howard mentioned that the CCC has residential and other facilities throughout California at which residents are trained in CCC related civil service occupations (e.g., firefighting, forestry, habitat restoration, etc.) and paid living wages.

He said the focus of the CCC is on creating a diverse workforce women and men. Also, the CCC is accelerating its training and hiring efforts on youth, 18 to 25 years of age.

He is requesting assistance from the WDB and the City's Workforce Development System in publicizing the CCC's programs and recruiting youth for participation in the CCC's various training and applying for employment as CCC workers.

WDB Youth Council member Hector Perez-Pacheco asked whether the CCC had any facilities in or near tribal areas. He was also interested in the CCC's attempts to recruit Native Americans for participation in CCC's programs and candidates for its civil service and other jobs.

WDB Youth Council member Dr. Alex Davis also inquired about the CCC's relationships with secondary school systems and community colleges.

Mr. Howard responded that all of the CCC's information is on its website and invited all in attendance at the meeting to visit same.

Mr. Crippens asked EWDD Administrator Donny Brooks and Mr. Howard to get together to explore the development of a formal agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) for mutual assistance between the EWDD and CCC in delivering services to and hiring youth.

Item #4/Approval of the Economic and Workforce Development Department's (EWDD) Recommendations to Execute a Contract/Agreement with FHI-360 to formulate a YouthSource Center (YSC) System Professional Development Plan and Youth Practitioner Apprenticeship Program

EWDD Assistant General Manager Gerardo Ruvalcaba provided the commentary on this item. He explained that over the past few months the EWDD has been engaged in multiple discussions and meetings about redesigning the City's WorkSource Center (WSC) System, facilitating continuous improvements to the City's recently redesigned YouthSource Center (YSC) System, developing a Horizon 32K plan for youth service delivery, and providing increased educational and training opportunities to disconnect/opportunity youth.

Mr. Ruvalcaba said that from its discussions and meetings have come recommendations regarding building the capacity of the City's Workforce Development System staff. The EWDD wants to begin by contracting with FHI-360 to develop a youth practitioner apprenticeship program to train YouthSource Center staff to provide more elevated services to customers.

FHI-360 has developed a U.S. Department of Labor registered apprenticeship program for this purpose that involves 200 hours of classroom training, stipends, and a practicum or on-the-job training component. The beneficiaries of this training will be existing and new employees. The EWDD will augment FHI-360's training with additional training modules.

CWA operates a similar program to train workforce development practitioners and administrators.

Being short of a quorum, Mr. Crippens asked for a sense of the Youth Council membership in sending this item to the WDB Executive Committee for approval. Hearing no objections, he instructed WDB staff to place this matter on the agenda of an upcoming WDB Executive Committee meeting.

Item #15/Approval of the Economic and Workforce Development Department's (EWDD) Recommendations Regarding the Procurement of a Consultant to Provide Assistance in Planning/Staging a Day-Long Youth Workforce Development Policy Symposium (Crossroads)

Mr. Crippens reminded his colleagues on the Youth Council and the public in attendance at the meeting of previous symposiums convened by the WDB that produced innovative youth policies and programming.

Many of the WDB's policies regarding service delivery to foster and disconnected youth were hatched from previous symposiums. Mayor Bass had attended a symposium years ago as a member of Congress and participated in workshops on developing programs to serve foster youth.

The EWDD has conducted a procurement to select a consultant (Rethink was the successful bidder), and has developed a statement of work (e.g., creating an agenda, compiling and arranging a list of speakers/subject matter experts, handling logistics and finalizing a venue, etc.) and contract with specific tasks to the planning and staging of the symposium.

Mr. Crippens ask if any of his colleagues had a conflict in approving this item and reminded them to step out of the room during discussions. Dr. Alex Davis recused herself and exited. He then attempted to get a sense of the Youth Council as to

whether this item should move forward for consideration and approval by the WDB Executive Committee.

Youth Council member Hector Perez-Pacheco asked about the date the symposium be convened, supported it being scheduled by the fourth quarter of the year, and believes recommendations therefrom should be presented to the Youth Council and the full WDB for approval. He believes the symposium will produce some ideas for the passage of youth service delivery and funding legislation in Sacramento.

Mr. Crippens agreed with his colleague and, hearing no objections, instructed WDB staff to move this item to the WDB Executive Committee for consideration and approval. He also committed to establishing a work group that can be involved with the consultant is performing the required contract tasks and planning the event.

Mr. Crippens mentioned plans by the WDB to hold a similar event at which issues regarding services for older workers would be front and center.

Mr. Crippens also committed to having a discussion at the next WDB Youth Council meeting regarding the establishment of a legislative task force to develop a youth legislative advocacy program for consideration by elected officials in Sacramento.

Item #6/Approval of the Economic and Workforce Development Department's (EWDD) Recommendations Regarding the Allocation of Californians For All (CFA) Funding to HIRE LA's Youth Program Service Providers

EWDD Workforce Development Division Chief Donny Brooks reminded the Youth Council that a report was approved by the WDB Executive Committee in February to reallocate CFA funding to several service providers/contractors, in an effort to maximize service delivery.

Missing from the report to the WDB Executive Committee was a breakdown of the \$4 million of CFA funding that each service provider/contractor would receive to underwrite all tasks associated with providing HIRE LA's Youth with work experience opportunities.

The City had received \$53 million of CFA funding from the Office of Volunteers, California Governor's Office to provide youth (up to 30 years of age and especially those from communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and high rates of poverty) with career exposure and work experience opportunities. That funding is set to expire in September 2024.

Mr. Brooks indicated that the chart on page 15 of the agenda report includes the breakdown of funding by service provider/contractor. He said that they were selected through a previously issued HIRE LA's Youth procurement. Not all of the service

providers/contractors that were successful in that procurement are YouthSource Centers (YSC) and WorkSource Centers (WSC).

The funding was distributed based on expenditures levels and the number of youth waiting to participate in work experience activities.

Mr. Crippens asked whether any of his colleagues objected to moving this matter forward to the WDB Executive Committee. Hearing none, he instructed WDB staff to schedule the report for consideration and approval by the WDB Executive Committee at its next meeting.

Item #7/Approval of the Year 25/Program Year (PY) 2024-25 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) Workforce Development Annual Plan Prepared by the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD)

EWDD Workforce Development Division Chief Donny Brooks introduced staff (Laura Rubin-Paco, Norman Tonato, Elizabeth Macias, and Tony Estrada) had a hand in the preparation of the plan.

The plan will be forwarded to the WDB Executive Committee on Thursday for final approval, after its members receive input from the Youth Council.

Mr. Brooks said that the plan is a blueprint for all workforce development strategies, policies, and programming (adult, dislocated worker, and youth) for the next 12 months beginning July 1, 2024. He will focus his presentation on the latter.

Mr. Brooks used a Powerpoint presentation to explain the plan to the WDB Youth Council and the public in attendance at the meeting. He said the plan's focus is on good jobs, equity and serving the most vulnerable populations (e.g., low-income individuals, homeless persons, public assistance recipients, justice-involved and formerly incarcerated individuals, low-skills job seekers, disconnected youth, foster youth, dislocated workers, etc.).

Labor market information about employment opportunities and demographic information about populations in need have been provided by the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation.

The plan also concentrates on high-growth industry sector programming, COVID-19 recovery efforts, partnerships with City proprietary departments and county government agencies, LAUSD, and the Los Angeles Community College District in leveraging funding in the delivery of workforce development services.

New Horizon 32K and older worker recommendations have been incorporated into the plan.

California State University, Northridge has been commissioned to perform a study of the WorkSource Center System. The study will be used to redesign the system and is critical to the procurement of new WorkSource Center (WSC) service providers to deliver services to adult and dislocated workers beginning July 1, 2025.

There are a number of activities that will be ongoing, including continuous improvements to the YouthSource Center (YSC) System, Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprises (LA:RISE), HIRE LA's Youth, Youth @ Work, and the LA Workforce Infrastructure Network (LAWIN).

The EWDD has included funding in the plan to underwrite the development of a fiscal system that will streamline the procedures and process for paying vendor/ contractor invoices.

The total plan is estimated at between \$118 million and \$119 million from local, state, and federal sources. Mr. Brooks showed a number of budget related Powerpoint slides that explained anticipated revenue and planned expenditures.

A protracted discussion of the plan ensued during which Mr. Brooks answered questions from WDB Youth Council and members of the public about the plan.

In the absence of a quorum, Mr. Crippens asked if any of his colleagues present objected to referring this item to the WDB Executive Committee. Hearing none, he instructed WDB staff to schedule this matter for consideration and approval of said committee.

Item #10/Update on Youth Development Department Activities/Initiatives

Youth Development Department (YDD) General Manager Lisa Salazar explained her department's purpose. She said that YDD is a source of information for young people and their parents/guardians about what the City of Los Angeles' 26 departments have to offer in programs and services.

Ms. Salazar mentioned YDD's relaunching of a website that lists all program activities available to young people during the summer.

Ms. Salazar distributed flyers, as well, on the upcoming Youth Expo at Los Angeles Trade Tech College on June 22, 2024, where a number of government and community-based organizations will be in attendance and youth can obtain information about resources and jobs.

The Youth Development Department is endeavoring to improve youths' access to mental health counseling services. The County Department of Mental Health is a partner in this

effort and will be offering free virtual training on May 29th on Understanding and Maintaining Mental Health, and De-escalation Strategies.

Ms. Salazar also said that the WDB Youth Council and members of the public should be on the lookout for an information bulletin on YDD's training sessions on youth program evaluation and positive youth development.

The YDD is accepting applications for the third cohort of the Olivia Mitchell Youth Council that provides opportunities for young people to receive a stipend while learning about the city.

Lastly, Mr. Salazar announced a convening of YouthSource Center Youth Council members on July 13th to discuss youth service delivery policies and potential community projects.

Item #8/Presentation by the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) on the Program Year 2023-24 Workforce Development Scorecard and a Discussion of Future Youth Program Metrics

Mr. Crippens asked EWDD Workforce Development Division Chief Donny Brooks and his staff to provide information regarding the scorecard.

Mr. Brooks said that the EWDD had finally established a Strategic Alignment Unit that will develop performance metrics for all workforce development programs and track and report on the achievement of same.

Mr. Brooks and his staff then explained the current performance metrics for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs and the requirements for providing performance data in the CalJobs system.

After a number of questions about data collection and evaluation were answered by EWDD staff, Mr. Crippens and his colleagues have committed to establishing additional performance metrics for all workforce development programs/ activities in the Annual Plan.

Mr. Crippens said that the development of additional performance measures will be an ongoing discussion during future WDB Youth Council meetings.

Mr. Crippens adjourned the WDB Youth Council meeting at 12:15.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING**

JUNE 18, 2024

MEETING NOTES

Item #1/Call to Order/Roll Call

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council Chair David Crippens welcomed his Youth Council colleagues and members of the public to the meeting.

After Mr. Crippens was advised by WDB staff that a quorum was not present, he asked for a presentation on Item #4.

Item #4/Presentation on the Angelino Corps, a Work Experience Program that Involves College Students in Recovery Efforts in Communities Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Hannah Lee, the Director of Angelino Corps and a member of the Mayor's Office provided information on the genesis and implementation of the program, and acknowledged some of the organizations (El Proyecto del Barrio and WLCAC) that have been involved since its inception.

The program began operations during Mayor Garcetti's Administration in 2011 in response to young people having to drop out of school or put their education on pause, to accept menial and part-time jobs to support themselves and their families. The delays in schooling affected their educational advancement. The pressures of work, sometimes in jobs with high exposure rates to COVID-19, had adverse impacts on their health.

She said that Angelino Corps was design to mitigate the aforementioned effects. It continues as a 10-month program that offers paid work experience and service learning opportunities (up to 380 hours) with community-based organizations to young adults. The program operates from September to June to coincide with the academic school year.

Between 350 and 400 youth are enrolled in Angelino Corps each year. Priority for enrollment is extended to youth with the highest educational, income, labor market, and social barriers. Enrollees are assigned to schools, after-school programs, hospitals, environmental justice organizations, housing rights organizations, etc. They may be asked to provide support to residents related to housing, immigration, food security, etc.

More than 1,200 youth have been enrolled in Angelino Corps. A total of 562 or 46.8% have been completers. The attrition rate is due to the level of commitment to the program required of it participants. Some drop out of the program to reconnect and focus full-time

on their schooling. Some of the drop outs often choose to return to the program in later years.

Of the enrollees who drop out and return to the program, 8% were identified as homeless, 9% were in foster care, and 3% were justice-involved.

Currently, there are 300 youth in the program.

Ms. Lee reminded the WDB Youth Council that the performance numbers are from 2021 to 2022. She said that the performance of the program in future years (both numbers and benefits received by enrollees) will be incorporated in the Californians For All evaluation.

One of the performance measures is educational persistence; the percentage of enrollees that were engaged in an academic program at the beginning of the program and either finished that program or continued in it during the next term (e.g., fall to spring). Ms. Lee said 62.5% of program participants were enrolled from fall to spring.

Of the program's enrollees in a high school completion or certification program, 83% made satisfactory progress from fall to spring.

Of the program's college students, 80% completed 24 units of education in that academic year; 12 in the fall and 12 in the spring.

Another performance metric is the number of service hours of enrollees. Over three years of program operations, 260,000 service hours have been amassed with 70 community-based organizations.

Another performance metric is career exposure and career plans completed for program enrollees. Approximately 72% of program completers benefitted from career exposure and having career plans completed.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish calculated that had the 562 program completers worked their maximum of 380 hours, the total service hours amassed would be 213,560. The additional hours amassed that is being reported by Ms. Lee of 46,440 ($260,000 - 213,560 = 46,440$) were probably attributable to 638 enrollees that did not complete the program. The averaged hours amassed by the 638 enrollees that did not complete the program ($46,440$ divided by 638) is 72.7.

As to stipends, enrollees in the program earn \$1,000 per month over ten months of program involvement. Ms. Lee said that the total paid to enrollees over a three-year period was \$5.8 million.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish calculated that had the 562 program completers received their full stipends of \$10,000 over ten months, the total would equal \$5,620,000. The balance of \$180,000 ($\$5,800,000 - \$5,620,000 = \$180,000$) was probably attributable

to stipends paid to the 638 youth that did not complete the program for an average of \$282.13.

Supportive services provided to program enrollees total \$183,000 according to Ms. Lee. Every enrollee was eligible for supportive services of up to \$500 for food, transportation, school related fees, etc. Had the 562 program completers maximized supportive services (562 x \$500) that total would be \$281,000.

Enrollees received 23,000 hours in mentorship and professional development support from staff in the Youth Resource Centers. There are 9 staff members/ peer mentors spread across the 7 Youth Resource Centers.

The peer mentors are persons two to three years out of college. Many of the peer mentors attended community college and transferred later to a four-year college, so they can help enrollees navigate obstacles to the furtherance of their education. Some peer mentors were actual former recipients of City services and program enrollees.

Enrollees are also asked to provide feedback on their satisfaction with the program. Sixty-six percent felt the mentorship component had a positive impact on their educational progress. Eighty-three percent of enrollees that completed the program said it enabled them to achieve their educational goals.

Ms. Lee shared a number of success stories about program participants. A good number of program completers have secured permanent jobs, some with workforce development service providers and City agencies.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish said that the services offered through this program, in some cases, mimic those that are offered through the YouthSource Center System. He said that some of the elements of the program can be duplicated or brought to scale by expanding the concept to and providing additional funding to YouthSource Centers.

Mr. Irish also pointed out that many of the partners in the program are actually YouthSource Centers. He wondered why this program is being operated outside the YouthSource Center System.

Ms. Lee responded that there are co-enrollments between the program and the YouthSource Center System. She said, however, that there are some limitations to enrolling in-school youth in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs.

Mr. Irish reminded Ms. Lee that Los Angeles has federal waivers for WIOA in-school youth enrollments. Homeless youth, foster youth, and other youth with severe barriers can be enrolled in and receive benefits through WIOA. The City will be given an opportunity next month, by the U.S. Department of Labor and California Employment Development Department, to expand WIOA youth waivers to other populations.

Mr. Irish also recommended that the performance goals be expanded to achievement of academic credentials (e.g., high school diploma, GED, occupational certification, college degree, etc.), job placements at certain wages, job retention, etc.

Ms. Lee said that some completers of the program are referred to the City's YouthSource Center System for additional services and enrollment in Californians For All activities.

Ms. Lee fielded other question from WDB Youth Council members and the public in attendance at the meeting about the need for increased coordination with school districts, adult schools, and community colleges.

One member of the WDB Youth Council suggested program staff confer with LAUSD on the development of complementary school curricula and career pathways.

Another member of the WDB Youth Council advised Ms. Lee to coordinate with LAUSD navigators assigned to YouthSource Centers.

A member of the public and a service delivery partner mentioned previous difficulties in getting the EWDD to pay the stipends to program enrollees in a timely manner.

Mr. Crippens ended the discussion with a commitment to continue to improve of this model in the WDB's ongoing efforts of YouthSource Center System continuous improvements.

Item #5/Presentation on the 2022-24 Final Evaluation of the City's Californians For All Youth Workforce Programs Funded by California Volunteers, Office of the Governor

Mr. Crippens called on Youth Development Department (YDD) General Manager Lisa Salazar and her Social Policy and Research Associates (SPRA) consultants, Andrew Weingart and Lorraine Sturdivant, to present this item.

Ms. Salazar thanked the YouthSource Center System, WorkSource Center System, and other City departments (e.g., Recreation and Parks, Public Works, Community Investments for Families, Housing Authority, etc.) for being partners in the evaluation.

Ms. Salazar also thanked the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), WDB Youth Council, full WDB, and City staff for their support.

She explained why YDD undertook this evaluation, underwritten with CFA funds, as part of its responsibilities to promote youth service delivery within the City government structure and in accordance with an approved Citywide Youth Development Strategy.

Ms. Salazar said that through YDD's collaborative efforts, an analysis of data from the CFA program was undertaken. She's here today to share the results, insights, and recommendations of the evaluation as a means of improving youth service delivery.

YDD and SPRA relied on a community-based participatory approach to conducting the evaluation. The voices and input of young people were part of the process. Ms. Salazar said they are the experts on what works and doesn't work with youth workforce development programs. More importantly, those programs impact their lives.

The YDD was involved in the outreach and recruitment of youth for enrollment in CFA programs. The goal of the \$53 million program, funded by California Volunteers, Office of the Governor, was 4,000 youth enrollments from throughout the city.

YDD sponsored a number of job fairs for outreach and recruitment purpose. It undertook a social media campaign, as well, that produced 43,000 actual clicks to the HIRE LA's Youth website. Hopefully these efforts will provide direction on how to close the geographic and other gaps in youth program enrollments.

Mr. Weingart mentioned that Angelino Corps is one of CFA's projects and was part of the evaluation. He said that in an ideal world there would be more money for the CFA program and its projects.

Mr. Weingart said that Social Policy and Research Associates was selected by YDD to conduct the evaluation in partnership with California State University, Northridge.

The evaluation's findings are divided in three components; the implementation study, an impact and outcomes study, and a participatory survey involving enrollees.

Mr. Weingart said the CFA program is headed by the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity and its original enrollment target was 4,000 youth. Initially there were 14 CFA projects. Multiple partners (City departments and community-based organizations) have since been added to the CFA program and the number of projects increased to well beyond that original number.

The program had three objectives: increasing youth employment, developing and expanding career pathways for youth, and strengthening the City's and communities' capacity to address the three broader goals of food security, climate change, and COVID-19 recovery.

Mr. Wiengart's colleague, Ms. Sturdivant, said that part of the evaluation involved site visits to 12 of the CFA projects, project staff interviews, participant interviews, and surveys. Qualitative and quantitative data was also collected and considered.

CFA projects varied by design, but had a similar focus. All, however, abided by the same eligibility requirements. Enrollees had to be city residents with employment barriers, between the ages of 16 and 30, legally eligible to work, and from low-income backgrounds.

Some projects, though, targeted youth for enrollment based on their career interest and willingness to perform certain types of work, place of residence, demographics, etc. Recruitments were based on word-of-mouth and referrals from other sources (e.g., government agencies, community-based organizations, etc.). As stated earlier, some youth found out about the program from YDD activities (e.g., social media, job fairs, etc.).

The onboarding process for the CFA program after enrollment was 20 to 40 hours and included a general orientation to work. Half of the projects used the Transition Age Youth World of Work curriculum. The others either developed their own curriculum or used one that they already had in place.

There were over 300 worksites throughout the city (mostly with community-based organizations, recreation centers, educational institutions, and City agencies) that provided work experience and training to enrollees. Attempts were made to assign enrollees to worksites that matched their particular career interest, strengths, and passions.

All projects tried to build a team environment among the participants, educate them about how they could influence the broader community, and link the work they were performing as essential to obtaining full-time employment.

Some projects had high rates of participants not completing the program, especially among the younger population. Other projects experienced staff turnover, which impacted program results.

Three-quarters of the projects reported geographic mismatches between where the enrollee lived and where the worksite was located.

Of 492 participants that responded to a survey at the conclusion of their involvement in CFA projects, most were highly satisfied with the program. About a third had a job lined up after program completion.

Many participant provided feedback about their need for soft skills to deal with challenges on the job. They were less enthusiastic about the programs focus on climate change, food insecurity, COVID-19 relief, etc. as reasons to participate in the program.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish intimated that participant enrollment and retention problems could be attributable to the minimum wage increases for fast-food and other workers. Some of the projects were offering pay below \$20 per hour.

Mr. Irish also inquired about the status of CFA expenditures. He asked whether all of the \$53 million of CFA funds will be exhausted by September.

The response from a City staff members was, "I don't have the figures right at my fingertips, but we do have information on expenditures and I don't think all of the money is going to be expended. Well, it's hard to say because we're in the process and who knows how much is back-loaded."

Mr. Irish responded that we should never return workforce development money. He said, "We like to refer to unexpended money as savings. But unexpended money is services denied"

Mr. Crippens closed the presentation and said we need a broader conversation about where funding should go in the future and how to maximize expenditures.

He thanked all involved in the evaluation process and encouraged everyone in attendance to read the report.

Item #6/Update on Youth Development Department (YDD) Activities/Initiatives

Lisa Salazar mentioned that 500 individuals have agreed to participate in four YDD trainings this week on positive youth development and youth program evaluation.

Also, on Saturday, June 22, 2024, the YDD will be hosting the Second Annual Youth Expo at Trade Technical Community College, with 80 exhibitors committed to attend. More than 1,000 youth have registered to attend the expo to learn about summer youth programming and job opportunities.

She also mentioned the YDD's ongoing efforts to recruit youth for participation in the Olivia E. Mitchell Youth Council. Applications are open through June 30, 2024. Youth are paid a stipend of \$300 per month for participation on the council.

Ms. Salazar reminded WDB Youth Council members and the public that on July 13, 2024, YouthSource Center staff and YouthSource Center Advisory Council members will convene sessions at California State University, Los Angeles to discuss youth service delivery issues.

Mr. Crippens thanked Ms. Salazar for the information and informed his colleagues that Item #8 is now up for discussion

Item #8/Discussion of the Payment of Stipends to the Two Youth Members of the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council

Mr. Crippens advised his colleagues that he has wanted youth voices on the Youth Council for quite some time and now, with the assistance of YDD General Manager Lisa Salazar, it's a reality.

He also said that he briefs the two youth members on all items that will be considered by the WDB Youth Council.

In order to defray the cost of their participation on the WDB Youth Council, Mr. Crippens is proposing they receive a stipend much like the participants on the Olivia E. Mitchell Youth Council.

Mr. Crippens instructed WDB staff to place stipends as an action item on the agenda for the next meeting of the WDB nonprofit corporation in August 2024.

He asked Ms. Salazar, in consultation with WDB staff, to write a report with stipend recommendations for consideration by the WDB at its nonprofit corporation meeting next month.

Item #7/Discussion of Youth Initiatives for Potential Enactment by the Governor and California Legislature

Mr. Crippens acknowledged Hector Perez-Pacheco to present on this agenda item.

Mr. Perez-Pacheco has been advocating for the WDB to develop youth legislative priorities for presentation to elected officials in Sacramento. He mentioned the numerous opportunities for youth funding that can be accessed through state legislation.

Mr. Perez-Pacheco wants the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), under the guidance of the WDB Youth Council and the full WDB, to formulate a legislative program.

WDB Youth Council member Carrie Lemmon said there is a ton of evidence about the value of paid work experience for youth and the WDB should be advocating for more permanent funding stream from Sacramento for such work-based learning opportunities.

Ms. Lemmon also said that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond has been expanding internship opportunities for youth in his campaign literature for election as California Governor.

Mr. Crippens suggested that the upcoming Crossroads conference include sessions on earn and learn activities for youth, as well as Mr. Perez-Pacheco's suggestion regarding the development of a youth legislative program for presentation to elected officials in Sacramento.

Mr. Crippens committed to forming a work group or subcommittee of the WDB Youth Council to begin convening meetings in September to develop a City youth legislative program. He asked his WDB Youth Council colleagues and the public in attendance at the meeting to email WDB staff expressing their interest in joining the work group/subcommittee.

Mr. Crippens also asked EWDD to ensure that once developed, the WDB youth legislative program will go through the normal City Council and Mayoral approval process.

Item #3/Approval of a Report from the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) on the Program Year (PY) 2022-23 Performance of WorkSource Centers (WSC)/American Job Centers of California (AJCCs) and YouthSource Centers

Absent a quorum, Item #3 could not be acted on by the WDB Youth Council.

Mr. Crippens instructed WDB staff to reschedule this action item for consideration at the August 8, 2024 meeting of the WDB Youth Council.

Adjournment

Mr. Crippens adjourned the WDB Youth Council meeting at 12:10 p.m.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB)

YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING

AUGUST 8, 2024

MEETING NOTES

Item #1/Call to Order/Roll Call

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council Chair David Crippens called the unofficial meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

WDB staff informed Mr. Crippens that a quorum was not present.

Mr. Crippens then proceeded to Item #2.

Item #2/Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Crippens announced that he will convening meeting of the WDB Youth Council monthly to track progress on the implementation of the new YouthSource Center System and the P3/Horizon Plan, and the achievement of youth program performance metrics.

He also talked about potential for job placements for youth during mega-sporting events such as the 2028 Olympics, in the “Blue Economy,” and with City proprietary departments (DWP, Port of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles World Airports).

The WDB had commissioned a study of Los Angeles youth nearly 17 years ago and found that 1 out of 5 were disconnected from school and work. That ratio was significantly reduced through special youth strategies, policies, and programming. However, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic diminished those gains.

Mr. Crippens said that the WDB and WDB Youth Council’s challenge is to restart and reinvigorate our efforts to now mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth and provide them with new opportunities for educational attainment and gainful employment.

Item #3/Consideration of the Minutes of April 25, 2024, May 21, 2024, and June 18, 2024

Because no quorum was present, no action could be taken on the minutes.

Mr. Crippens decided to rearrange the order of the agenda and asked for a presentation from Youth Development Department General Manager Lisa Salazar on Item #12.

Item #12/An Update on Youth Development Department Activities/Initiatives

Ms. Salazar said that all of the Youth Advisory Councils at YouthSource Centers came together at an event on Saturday, July 13th, to address some of the issues identified by Mr. Crippens.

She also informed WDB Youth Council members of a new Peer Only Navigator Program grant that will involve the hiring of 40 community college students for ten months to serve as Peer Navigators.

Ms. Salazar also noted that the Youth Development Department has and will continue hosting trainings to increase the knowledge and capacity of community organizations, City departments, and other entities to provide performance-based programming and services to youth.

Ms. Salazar mentioned that the Hilton Foundation convened a number of grantees in Mexico City to discuss youth program priorities and programming. The foundation's focus is on Los Angeles, CA, New Orleans, Louisiana, Mexico City, Mexico, and Mendoza, Kenya.

Representative from UNITE LA, the Opportunity Youth Collaborative, and Ms. Salazar were attendees. They had the chance to share with like folks from across the globe information on the challenges youth are facing related to schooling, employment, health, etc.

Mr. Crippens thanked Ms. Salazar for her presentation.

Inasmuch as this item was for informational purposes, no action was taken by the WDB Youth Council.

Item #4/Authorization for the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) to Reprogram, Among Service Providers and Up to \$250,000 Per Transactions, the Balance of Any Unexpended and Expiring Funding of the \$53 million Allocated to the City of Los Angeles by California Volunteers, Office of the Governor, for Californians For All (CFA) Related Activities

Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) staff member Donny Brooks explained that CFA funds were obtained with the help of the Mayor's Office and the City has been engaged in related workforce development activities for almost two years.

Mr. Brooks described the multiple CFA programs being operated by City departments and EWDD contractors. Program participants, ages 16 to 24, are provided with a variety of job training opportunities, including paid work was

He also said that a three-month extension, through September 30, 2024, was approved by the state for the City to expend all CFA funding from June 30, 2024 to September 30, 2024.

The EWDD is asking for a blanket approval from the WDB Youth Council to distribute the balance of CFA funding between youth providers. The latter has committed to enroll as many customers as possible through September 30, 2024. Hopefully, this will accelerate the expenditure of CFA funding by the EWDD and forestall the recapture of unexpended fund by the state

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish told the members of the WDB Youth that EWDD's request was very unusual. Never has the full WDB or its committees been asked to approve blanket reallocations of workforce development funds.

Mr. Irish asked for clarification about the level of unexpended funds subject to recapture by the state if not expended by September 30, 2024. He wanted an exact figure/amount of unexpended CFA funds and asked for a list of all youth service providers that will receive funding and in what amounts.

Mr. Brooks did not answer Mr. Irish's questions and instead given assurances that the EWDD would report back to the WDB Youth Council and the WDB Executive Committee, at a later time, with expenditure information and the final allocations to each CFA youth service providers.

Mr. Irish estimated that \$3 million to \$4 million of the \$53 million of CFA funding will be returned to the state. He said it didn't make sense that the Mayor's Office is convening EWDD staff to apply for a private foundation apprenticeship grant of \$500,000, while at the same time millions of dollars of unexpended funds that could be used for the same purpose are being returned to grantors.

He said returning workforce development funds to grantors has become standard practice and represents dreams deferred for the City's young people. Returned funds could have been put to good use in reducing the impediments (educational, employment, health, etc.) that young people are facing in achieving economic security and success in the labor market.

Mr. Irish also told Mr. Brooks that the City Council would never have approved the reallocation of CFA funding without knowing the amount of funds each service provider will be receiving and the amount of funds in jeopardy of recapture by the state.

Mr. Crippens echoed Mr. Irish's comments and said that with so many residents of Los Angeles needing help, the EWDD should not be returning funds to the state. However, he said we really have no choice. We have to take action today on this item. Hopefully,

the EWDD can significantly reduce the total balance of CFA funds being returned after the September 30, 2024 deadline.

Mr. Irish attributed workforce development expenditure problems to the lack of adequate staffing at EWDD. He said EWDD should have conducted procurements, in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), to distribute CFA funding to EWDD contractors. The CFR even specifies how sub-recipients should be chosen. The distribution of CFA funds is subject to the provisions of the CFR.

Mr. Brooks and his colleagues at the EWDD promised to provide a follow-up report to the WDB Executive Committee and WDB Youth Council on the final distribution and expenditure of CFA funds.

Because of the absence of a quorum, Mr. Crippens instructed WDB staff to schedule this item for consideration at the full WDB's August 2024 meeting.

Item #6/Approval of a Report from the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Performance of WorkSource Centers (WSC)/America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) and YouthSource Centers (YSC) During Program Year (PY) 2022-23 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

Item #7/An Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) Presentation on the Program Year (PY) 2023-24 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) Workforce Development Scorecard.

Mr. Crippens asked EWDD staff, for the sake of time, to combine Item #6 and Item #7 into one presentation.

EWDD staff member Elizabeth Macias said that because of staff vacancies and turnover at the EWDD, the evaluation of service providers for performance from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 was not completed until March 2024.

Ms. Macias further added that EWDD staff met with service providers in June 2024 to share with them the results of their performance.

The performance data being presented today on YouthSource Centers (YSC) is based on SOFA measures (i.e., Customer **S**atisfaction, Performance **O**utcomes, **F**inancial Reporting, and **A**ministrative Capability).

Service providers are required to enter data into EWDD systems, including CalJOBS, that tracks performance.

Customer Satisfaction is determined by the University of California, Northridge (CSUN) and its surveys of customers who use YSC services. They are rated about their experiences at YSCs.

Performance Outcomes are contained in YSC service provider contracts and include WIOA and local measures (e.g., how many youth attain educational credentials, how many youth attain measurable skills gains (e.g., educational, employment, etc.), how many youth advance to higher education, how many youth obtain jobs and at what wages, how long a youth remains on the job, etc.).

Financial Reporting is determined by the EWDD and based on the YSC contractor's compliance with all of EWDD imposed fiscal management, reporting and accountability requirements, as well as leveraged resources.

Administrative Capability, too, is determined by the EWDD and relates to the YSC contractor's compliance with all of EWDD imposed administrative/grants management requirements.

Under the evaluation process, all contractors are rated by EWDD in accordance with criteria established in consultation with CSUN and awarded stars for performance. Five stars are the maximum.

So this evaluation took place during the COVID-19 pandemic and the system still managed to perform well and serve the targeted populations identified under WIOA and prioritized locally. However, services to veterans were less than expected.

As to the scorecard, which covers the period, July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, it reflects performance of the EWDD's key signature programs. The youth metrics for the scorecard are number of participants served, number of participants trained, number of participants that received educational services, number of participants placed in jobs, etc.

Under the scorecard, the YSC System exceeded all of its goals.

The EWDD is proud of having finally established a Performance Unit, after so many years being requested to do so by the WDB. A great deal of more work needs to be done by the EWDD and this unit to provide the WDB with accurate performance data on all workforce development programs. EWDD staff admitted that they have not always kept track of all programs and their performance.

EWDD staff said that the challenge going forward is to establish consistent and worthwhile metrics for all workforce development programs funded through the City. Some of the existing program metrics are not sufficient and must be revised to truly ascertain the return on public investment and the impact on enrollees' lives.

WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish mentioned the WIOA waivers the City receives that enable the EWDD to serve youth most in need (e.g., homeless youth, foster youth, etc.). He also said that to provide the resources to fully serve disconnected or opportunity youth, co-enrollments in multiple programs is necessary.

He also said that the WDB needs some clarity as to which City Workforce Development System is more advantageous to youth, since both the WorkSource Center (WSC) System and the YouthSource Center (YSC) System serve youth.

The U.S. Department of Labor has classified youth as 16 to 25 years of age.

The City's WSC System serves customers ages 18 and older, and its YSC System serves customers 16 to 25 years of age.

The Californians For All (CFA) program serves customers up to 30 years of age.

Absence a quorum, the WDB Youth Council could not take action on Item #6 and Item #7.

Mr. Crippens instructed WDB staff to refer both items to either the full WDB or the WDB Executive Committee for consideration and action.

Item #10/An Update on the Implementation of the California For All Workforce Development Program Funded Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program

Mr. Crippens invited Christina Hernandez of Social Impact Collective to present information on this item.

Ms. Hernandez explained that the ECE program is part of the mix of Californians For All (CFA) programs that offer workforce development opportunities to adult school students, community college students, and college and university students.

As to the ECA program, students start off in paid internships and work 130 hours at a child development site to garner related skills.

To provide students with support and encouragement, they are matched with a mentor that can be someone with relevant experience or a peer. There are also coaching sessions and workshops for students.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Goodwill Southern California - Auditorium
342 North San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, CA 90031

MEETING NOTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Crippens, Raul Estrada, Jaleesa Hazzard, Carrie Lemmon, Mary Rose Ortega

1. Call to Order – 10:08 a.m. unofficial start as no quorum was present.
2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Chair David Crippens stated that no one knows the impact of the freeze of the federal grants. Most of us have been with the system and dealing with the calamities that we are facing now. Governor Newsom announced a new program to address the wildfire crisis LA Rises.

Tammy Ortuno, Mayor's Office, said that they have been working very hard to assist the communities that have been impacted by the wildfires. The Disaster Recovery Center has been open, and EWDD staff is onsite daily to support. Daily virtual sessions are held to help folks that are interested whose jobs have been impacted. They can get help from the Employment Development Department. YouthSource Centers are also supporting those that have been impacted by wildfires.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba, EWDD Assistant General Manager, said that the Department has been focused on getting funding to assist those impacted by wildfires. The State received \$20 million, and the City is looking to receive \$9 million dollars to provide emergency supportive services including temporary jobs, to do humanitarian work, and to assist with clean up. Long term opportunity efforts include remediation. Local 300 is anticipating the need to hire over 1,000 people. In the spirit of P3 they are having conversations, aligning resources with multiple City Departments to address the special needs populations.

Tammy Ortuno shared that the Mayor will attend a community meeting at 11 a.m. today to meet with those who have lost their homes.

Mary Keipp, UCLA said that when the Department announces assistance, they need to inform folks that there are resources for everybody.

Raul Estrada commented that the Mayor has activated all 21 Family Source Centers. They can support the undocumented, including the landscapers, and the caregivers. They are all wrapping their arms together and seeing what they can do. Air purifiers are being distributed.

Chair David Crippens said that we are all strapped for resources. It is imperative that we document what we are doing and who we are serving.

ACTION ITEMS: {No action items were considered due to the absence of a quorum.}

3. Receive and File the Meeting Notes of February 22, 2024, May 21, 2024, June 18, 2024, and August 8, 2025.
4. Consideration of the Minutes of April 25, 2024 – tabled due to the lack of a quorum.

ADVISORIES/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS/REPORT BACKS/UPDATES:

5. A Presentation the LAP3 Horizons 32K Strategic Plan and Governor's Budget Policy Updates

David Crippens said the 5-year Strategic Plan outlines what they will be doing. In 2012, the One in Five Study was done to see the youth disconnection rate. Currently, we are back to one in five and beyond.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba, EWDD Assistant General Manager, presented the Horizons 32K Plan. Over the last 18 months the Department has worked in partnership on developing strategies on how to move people out of poverty and come up with 50,000 jobs that pay a living wage. They are committed to the 5-Year Plan and will look to serve different populations that have other barriers, including older workers.

Collaboration is coming out of the "One in Five Report". The YouthSource System launched in 2012 and continues today. The challenge is 143,000 young people are not in school and not working. Young Black and Latino men disproportionately face disconnection. These are the leaders of tomorrow, and we want to be able to bring young people up and impact their economic vitality.

Lauri Collier -UniteLA, said that they want to reduce the number of young adults experiencing disconnection by 32k youth. Their goals are to increase the youth connection to the workforce training and career pathways so that they can work their way up to a living wage job. Employment and Cross-Sector Coordination are

also goals to help young people find a path that they are interested in in employment. There must be cross-sector coordination for them to navigate the system with a holistic approach. The County and the City have a different set of systems; they must collaborate. Collaborative infrastructure is important for them to establish how they look at and analyze data in order to learn how it can best work for them. They will send out a save the date for a data session convening they are planning. Policy & Advocacy – They had the opportunity to do WIOA waivers. The is still LA County, and California WIBs. How do they do this again. How do they lift it up locally and federally. Their implementation will done in three phases. Winter 2024-2025, Spring/Summer 2025, Fall 2025 – less than 2028. Young people need to be served in a way that benefits them. Prevention and reconnection need to be addressed. A prevention strategy is very important. Housing and employment must be tied together. They need to continue to push forward on the infrastructure that is needed.

Lauri Colliers, UniteLA reviewed different strategies for youth connection and reconnection, and discussed how data trends can be looked at to establish a more targeted approach. There are 4,200 youth that are consistently absent.

Carrie Lemmon, UniteLA said that they are directly reengaging. Horizons 32k is aiming to reduce the overall number of youths disconnected every year through connection and reconnection strategies. Every year young people are falling. The overall impact is going to continue much more than 32k every year.

Chair David Crippens said that the impact is more on the economic side than on education if we do not have young people in the workforce. We need to work closer with each other because of what is coming from Washington.

Edgar Castillo, Sr. Manager with UniteLA, gave a policy update of the Governor's Budget which was released on January 10, 2025, with a \$322.2 billion price tag. He said that economic trends are in flux with what is happening in Washington. This is about what impacts and affects youth. There is a surplus of \$363 million. The budget is usually finalized by June 2025.

6. Report Back on Authorization for Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) to Reprogram, Among Service Providers and Up to \$250,000 Per Transaction, the Balance of Any Unexpended and Expiring Funding of the \$53 Million Allocated to the City of Los Angeles by California Volunteers, Office of the Governor for Californians For All Related Activities

Chair David Crippens inquired about the decision-making process, and if any money had to be returned. He asked for the status of the CA for All grant funds.

Donny Brooks provided background. Bryson Gauff, EWDD staff, reported on the numbers and performance, and said that they have blanket authority for up to \$250,000. They are in the middle of finishing up activities. They worked closely with the Mayor's Office, and with their partners to extend their capacity, and to see where the money was going.

David Crippens asked how funding allocations across all their programs was done. They were supposed to be finished on June 30th, however, there have been two extensions since then. Consistent programming was seen across these programs but are they seeing performance. Fiscal stewardship needs to be looked at, are they seeing regular invoices, and cash requests from the agencies. Are they spending the money down that we are giving.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba said that through CA For All, 17 youth programs were initiated. They partnered with six city departments that implemented the programs. These programs were administered by EWDD. They took dollars away from other programs because we have the experience.

Bryson Gauff said that round two served as a model for how they intend to reprogram going forward. In round one there was an evaluation.

David Crippens suggested that they put this presentation on the agenda to discuss metrics going forward. Where do they want to go, and how is it serving.

Donny Brooks said that this program ended on December 30, 2024.

Dr. Fernando Campos, EWDD Assistant General Manager, reported on the financial standing of this grant. The reprogramming of 10 million dollars would have expired in June 2024. Six million dollars were saved, and reprogrammed. The metrics show proof of what the reinvestment did. An additional 1,700 youth were served. The grant is \$54 million in total. They are hoping 4 – 6 million will be returned.

David Crippens thanked the Department. Gerardo Ruvalcaba thanked all the YouthSource service providers for stepping up.

7. A Presentation on the Implementation of the Californians For All (CFA) Workforce Development Program Funded Student2Student (S2S) Program

Stephanie Ramirez, Mayor's Office, and Maria Torres co-presented. Student-2-Student (S2S) was started in 2021. They partnered with more than 60 elementary schools. A detailed breakdown of the S2S program was provided. They have 90 youth that are in line to get jobs with LAUSD.

What does it look like to continue this program? Round two funding, S2S will continue through CA For All.

Carrie Lemmon asked if there is an evaluation of the younger students to determine the impact of the S2S program.

Stephanie responded that they worked with LAUSD, and high school students are asked to upload report cards to see if there is any improvement.

Lisa Salazar, General Manager, Youth Development Department said that three years of data is available around attendance, and homework assignment completion. She would like to see the trends now that three cycles have been completed.

Mary Keipp, UCLA commented that it is important to remember that they are helping LA's Best. It is an after-school program that includes afterschool enrichment and physical activities.

8. A Verbal Update on Youth Development Department Activities/Initiatives

Lisa Salazar, General Manager of the Youth Development Department, said that as Lauri Collier mentioned, YDD is coordinating with the 32 City departments on the alignment of the 32K program. Upon the wildfire outbreak, they immediately convened the Olivia Mitchell Youth Council to do a check-in to see what the immediate needs were; access to address mental health issues, and transportation issues were priority topics. With the change in administration, immigration has come to the forefront. A one-page resource sheet is available. A webinar will take place tomorrow, "Building Your Future with the City of LA" at 3 p.m. on Zoom to demystify how to get a job in the City of LA. They are highlighting the great work of their partners UniteLA. Coming soon the YDD will post on their website training on youth program evaluation. The homeless pit count was postponed because of the fires. They are working with Youth Up to the Front, contracted leads by LAHSA. New dates for the youth count are February 19 – 28.

The CrossRoads Conference will be held on April 3, 2025, at Trade Tech Community College; after 20 years. Wellness is the focus. It will be two-pronged, youth wellness and workforce development.

9. Next Meeting: March 25, 2025

10. Adjourn: 11:55 a.m.



6.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Consideration of the Minutes of April 25, 2024

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 5 - Draft Minutes of April 25, 2024

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB)

YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE

APRIL 25, 2024

DRAFT MINUTES

Item #1/Call to Order

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council Chair David Crippens welcomed his colleagues and the public to the meeting of the WDB Youth Council. He then asked WDB Commission Executive Assistant Bianca Vite to call the Roll.

Ms. Vite indicated that a quorum was present.

Mr. Crippens asked that the record reflect the presence of a quorum.

Item #2/Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Crippens asked for public comment on any matter not on today's agenda.

Receiving none, Mr. Crippens made the following remarks.

As you can see from today's agenda where our youth system is going and it's exciting. But I want to make a comment about the City's budget and I know what the Mayor has to do.

We knew the surplus in pandemic funding would eventually and I hope the administration will look at the Economic and Workforce Development Department's (EWDD) budget differently. The EWDD has some 20-plus positions that have been eliminated or not filled, and that has created challenges for the WDB and our service delivery system.

Because of the lack of staffing, the EWDD has not been able to provide critical information about workforce development programs and performance. The lack of staffing has also resulted in service providers not being paid on time for service delivery.

Many of our service providers, most of them nonprofits, have been operating without City funding for months and this can't continue. I must make sure that my statement and concerns about the lack of payments to our service providers is on the record and encourage the EWDD and others in authority to rectify this situation.

Youth Council Chair David Crippens then asked whether there will be a chance for the WDB to comment on the City's budget and the proposed cuts in City positions that will impact EWDD.

WDB Youth Council member Cary Lemmon indicated that her organization, UNITE LA, plans to provide public comments to the City Council on the City budget and EWDD staffing.

Mary Kippe, a member of the public who also involved in the operation of a City YouthSource Center, said she would like to comment on the EWDD's proposed budget and the lack of staffing therein.

EWDD General Manager Carolyn Hull responded that she is still meeting with City fiscal officials to reconcile a number of budget issues, including staffing.

Mr. Crippens asked his colleagues on the WDB Youth Council in attendance to introduce themselves to the public and provide information about their backgrounds and current responsibilities.

Mr. Crippens asked City staff (Ms. Hull, EWDD Assistant General Manager Gerardo Ruvalcaba, EWDD Division Chief Donny Brooks, EWDD Analysts Elizabeth Macias, EWDD Analyst Tony Estrada, Youth Development Department General Manager Lisa Salazar and her staff YDD staff members Lucy Rojas and Jasmine Chicas, and WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish and his WDB staff members Bianca Vite, Tiffanie Wong, and Devin Randell) to introduce themselves to Youth Council members and the public, and provide information about their backgrounds.

Two youth, who will be joining the Youth Council as members, Kimora Hogan and Gabrielle Olvera, also introduced themselves to the Youth Council members and the public, and provided information about their backgrounds.

Mr. Crippens mentioned that federal legislation encourages WDB to have youth members on youth-related policy committees. He ask Deputy City Attorney Chris Lee to check and advise the WDB on whether Kimora Hogan and Gabrielle Olvera, as advisory members of the WDB Youth Council, will be subject to the same ethics and conflicts of interest local and state reporting procedures.

Mr. Crippens prioritized agenda items for presentation to the Youth Council and decided to begin with Item #4

Item #4/Approval of the Los Angeles Performance Pilot Partnership (P3) Strategic Plan, A Presentation and Recommendations by the Economic Workforce Development Department (EWDD)

EWDD Assistant General Manager Gerardo Ruvalcaba introduced this item to the Youth Council and the public. He said the EWDD is in the midst of a comprehensive strategic planning process and is working with the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity on ways

to improve the delivery of City funded workforce development services over the next five years.

He mentioned that there are three areas of focus: innovative workforce development services for older workers, 55 years of age and older, who represent close to 20% of our homeless population; infrastructure job training and employment opportunities related to the President's infrastructure legislation that was approved by Congress; and the disconnected youth, a WDB priority population for receipt of workforce services.

Mr. Ruvalcaba further stated that the WDB has developed innovative and effective programs and services for the disconnected youth population that has led to improvements in educational attainment and employment. The City's programs and services have successfully reduced the disconnected youth population.

A study commissioned by the WDB in 2007 found that 1 in 5 City youth, 16 to 24 years of age, were disconnected from both school and work.

However, Mr. Ruvalcaba said that this ratio was significantly reduced over the years. However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, disconnection is on the rise. The percentage of disconnected youth has increased by 39% and translates to 144,000 in the entire county and 73,000 in the city.

It is critical that WDB Youth Council and the full WDB dedicate additional resources to funding new programs and strategies for reconnecting youth to school and educational opportunities and jobs in the labor market paying living wages. To do that, multiple stakeholders must be involved and leverage their resources to meet the needs of disconnected youth.

Mr. Ruvalcaba further stated that the P3 partnership is going strong and been updating the strategies in the P3 plan. He introduced some of the partners involved in revisions to the P3 plan to present information about the new approach to addressing issues related to disconnect youth. The new P3 plan took 18 months to develop and is now known as Horizon 32K.

All of the elements of Horizon 32K were explained and a protracted discussion between WDB Youth Council members and members of the public ensued. Because of a technology issue, a Powerpoint presentation could not be downloaded.

Some of the discussion included details about how the new plan was developed. The last strategic plan for LAP3 ended in 2020 and activities related to a new plan began during the pandemic. A number of young people were brought together, community-based organizations, and government agencies that crossed jurisdictions. The Los Angeles Housing Services Authority and County Mental Health Department are just a few

examples on cross-jurisdictional involvement in plan development. Young people were involved of course, because who better to tell us what they need to succeed in school and the labor market.

The plan's principles and actions are summarized on page 5. Collaboration is a critical principle since partnerships are necessary to amass the resources and access the expertise to tackle the issues that youth face today. People and systems need to work together. Every partner needs to have skin in the game.

The plan's goals and objectives are summarized on page 8 and calls for, again, partnerships and alignment of education and workforce systems. Over the next few months, the EWDD and its P3 partners will attempt to obtain additional written commitments from government and private entities this disconnected youth coordinated and service enhancement effort.

The goals are further explained on page 12 of the plan. There are actual metrics of success and specific subpopulations identified for special consideration for receipt of services (e.g., African-American and Latino males, who are disproportionate among the disconnected population, and youth people between the ages of 20 and 24).

Some of the takeaways from the presentation were that increased investments are necessary for apprenticeship and other types of learn-and-earn and on-the-job training opportunities, mentoring opportunities, peer-to-peer support, and mental health and financial supports for disconnected youth.

In commenting on the presentation, Mr. Crippens stated that the P3 plan, now Horizon 32K (for the number of youth targeted for attention) is the roadmap for the YouthSource Center System. Some of the plan's findings and priorities were considered in the redesign of that system a year ago. But there are still many more elements of the plan that need to be implemented by the system. Continuous improvements are necessary.

Mary Keipp, a representative of one of the City's YouthSource Center said that her son is part of that population identified in the plan and he suffered pandemic related mental health issues (e.g., anxiety, depression, etc.)

At the conclusion of the presentation, WDB Youth Council members decided to forward the report and its recommendations for approval by the full WDB.

Another member of the public made reference to the lack of affordable housing and the fact that disconnected youth are at serious risk of homelessness, especially foster youth.

Youth Development Department General Manager Lisa Salazar explained the demonstration program that the WDB has already funded that is dedicated to addressing the mental health issues through the peer-to-peer mental health counseling.

Another member of the public spoke about the importance of expanding those mental health efforts or bringing them to scale.

Youth Council member Olivia Mitchell reminded everyone of the need to ensure that pregnant and parenting teens are identified for priority receipt of services.

The response from Mr. Crippens and others was that there are plenty of as-yet-to be recruited organizations that can contribute to the cause.

Two members of the public encouraged the P3/Horizon 32K partners to secure additional support from corporations and additional foundations.

Other members of the public inquired about the structure of the Horizon 32k collaborative. The response was that a stewardship board comprised of high-level government officials and other critical partners is under discussion.

Mr. Crippens closed the discussion by reminding everyone in attendance that the overarching goal of Horizon 32K is to provide disconnected youth with educational opportunities and employment and training opportunities that will enable them to prosper in life.

He said the Horizon 32K plan will be a subset of the 5-Year Workforce Development Strategic Plan under development by the WDB, Mayor's Office, and the EWDD.

Mr. Crippens acknowledged that the a quorum no longer existed, after Youth Council member Hector Perez-Pacheco had left the meeting.

Mr. Crippens then asked for a sense of the Youth Council membership as to forwarding this item to the WDB Executive Committee for action.

Hearing no objections, Mr. Crippens stated that this matter will be forwarded to the WDB Executive Committee.

Item #7/Presentation by the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) on a Conceptual Framework and Strategies for a Los Angeles Workforce Infrastructure Network (LAWIN)

EWDD Assistant General Manager Gerardo Ruvalcaba briefed members of the Youth Council on this initiative and then asked for additional comments and input from a partner in this effort, the Miguel Contreras Foundation and its staff member Armando Loza. The Miguel Contreras Foundation is an operation within the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor.

Both Mr. Ruvalcaba and Mr. Loza mentioned Horizon 32K's focus on the need to prepare youth for infrastructure living-wage jobs that are being created as a result of President Biden's infrastructure legislation approved by Congress.

The intent is to work with the construction trades to gain access for youth in our YouthSource Center System to apprenticeship opportunities. Former EWDD Assistant General Manager Robert Sainz is providing consultant services to EWDD in the establishment of LAWIN.

There are opportunities to, among other things, connect the YouthSource Center System to the trade's MC3 partners operating out of community colleges and adult schools. Also, an effort is being made to co-locate trades' staff in YouthSource Centers to recruit candidates for hiring through apprenticeship programs.

The EWDD is recommending that a LAWIN workforce development collaborative be created with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), employers, and EWDD as its members.

The EWDD also recommends that an inventory of trades/infrastructure training opportunities be undertaken that will serve as an information source and roadmap for youth to enter apprenticeship employment.

Another recommendation from the EWDD proposed the City to set aside 1% to 3% of federal infrastructure funding for capital projects to underwrite apprenticeship related workforce development programs.

The final recommendation from the EWDD calls for assembling a team of EWDD, union, and others to solicit grants to support apprenticeship programming.

Mr. Crippens responded that LAWIN fits in nicely with the climate goals of the state and federal government. He also believes that this is a way for youth to access living-wage jobs.

A member of the public said that many apprenticeship programs have entry requirements that involve educational credentials and STEM levels. Money will have to be set aside to impart the skills and earn the credentials necessary for youth to qualify for apprenticeship hiring. The same goes for providing youth with supportive services.

Mr. Crippens reminded everyone of the opportunities that will be available for youth employment as a result of mega-sporting events schedule in the next four years in Los Angeles, like the Olympics. He also noted that many job opportunities will be created through the expansion of transportation in Los Angeles County through Metro.

Members of the public commented on the need for various City Departments (e.g., Los Angeles World Airports, Port of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power, etc.) to develop workforce development plans with dedicated funding.

Inasmuch as some of the recommendations will be incorporated into the Annual Plan and 5-Year Strategic Workforce Development Plan, the EWDD asked that the report be received and filed. There was no need to refer it to the WDB Executive Committee.

Item #8/Update on Youth Development Department Activities/Initiatives

Mr. Crippens briefed his colleagues on the activities of the Second Annual Youth Leadership Summit he attended at USC on March 16, 2024. He described it as a youth-created Crossroads conference.

At the summit, the following four policy areas were discussed in breakout sessions: homelessness, employment, mental health, and sex trafficking.

Mr. Crippens also thanked the Youth Development Department for creating Youth Councils, comprised of young people, in each of the 14 YouthSource Centers.

Youth Development Department General Manager Lisa Salazar informed the Youth Council and members of the public about the department's website (LACityYouth), an upcoming recruitment for the Olivia Mitchell LA City Youth Council, and the Second Annual Youth Expo scheduled on Saturday, June 22, 2024.

Item #6/Presentation by the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) and Public Hearing to Solicit Input on the Draft Year 25/Program Year (PY) 2024-25 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024) Workforce Development Plan

Crippens invited EWDD staff members Donny Brooks and Elizabeth Macias to present on this item.

The plan has been posted on the EWDD's website.

Mr. Brooks said the plan identifies and prioritizes strategies and activities to ensure maximum service delivery to the customers the City's Workforce Development System serves. It focuses on opportunity/disconnected youth, underemployed and unemployed adults, and dislocated workers. Priority for delivery of services is reserved for the most vulnerable subpopulations (e.g., justice-involved and formerly incarcerated individuals, homeless persons, low-income individuals, public assistance recipients, persons with disabilities, etc.) as well.

The plan funds WorkSource Centers, YouthSource Centers, and a number of other community-based organization partners to provide resume preparation, career

exploration, job interview technique, and job search assistance to customers to facilitate entry into and thrive in the labor market. Also available are financial supports, work experience opportunities, access to job training and retraining, and myriad other services.

Performance metrics have been established for all activities in the plan and include training related job placements, training expenditures, leveraged resources, job placement, wage at placement, job retention, etc.

The Mayor wants the City's Workforce Development System to focus on customer placements in "Good Jobs;" those with regular and consistent hours and paying living wages with benefits.

Mr. Brooks informed Youth Council members and the public of the EWDD's website on which the 62 page plan is posted and the public comment period scheduled to end on May 12, 2024. There is also a virtual community forum on May 1, 2024 to answer questions about the plan.

Ms. Macias mentioned some of the strategies in the plan related to serving older workers, 55 years and above, hiring California State University, Northridge to evaluate the current WorkSource Center System as the basis for redesigning to for procurement of providers/contractors for July 1, 2025, Horizon 32K, apprenticeship expansion, high-road training partnerships, and employer downsizings.

One of the highlights of the plan is LA: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise, which provides paid work experience opportunities to hardest-to-serve populations, among them those who are homeless.

The plan, currently in draft form, totals \$112 million. It is still subject to input from the WDB, City Council, and the Mayor, and will not be finalized until after the public comment period.

Mr. Crippens reminded those in attendance of staffing problems at the EWDD that have had an adverse impact on service providers and service delivery. He also addressed the estimates of funding that is expected to be carried in from the previous year and said the total is not savings, but represents services deferred.

After a protracted discussion of the plans contents by WDB Youth Council members and the public, Mr. Crippens noted that the draft plan does not require action.

Mr. Crippens adjourned the meeting at noon



7.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Approval of Recommendations from the Economic & Workforce Development Department, in Partnership with the Youth Development Department, to Accept a Federal Earmark and City General Funds to Implement the Peer Homeless System Navigator Program

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 7 - Approval of Recommendations from the Economic & Workforce Development Department, in Partnership with the Youth Development Department, to Accept a Federal Earmark and City General Funds to Implement the Peer Homeless System Navigator Program

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

CAROLYN M. HULL
GENERAL MANAGER



KAREN BASS
MAYOR


7

**ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

444 S. FLOWER STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: David Crippens, Chair
Workforce Development Board, Youth Council

FROM: Carolyn M. Hull, General Manager 
Economic and Workforce Development Department

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE
ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, TO
ACCEPT A FEDERAL EARMARK AND CITY GENERAL FUNDS TO
IMPLEMENT THE PEER HOMELESS SYSTEM NAVIGATOR PROGRAM**

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD ACTION

The General Manager of the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), in partnership with the Youth Development Department (YDD), respectfully requests that the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council:

1. AUTHORIZE the General Manager or designee to accept funding in an amount not to exceed \$565,592, a combination of \$454,592 in federal earmark funding plus an additional \$111,000 in City General Fund funding, to assist with the implementation of the Peer Homeless System Navigator Pilot;
2. AUTHORIZE the General Manager or designee to issue a Request for Interest to the YouthSource and WorkSource Center systems to provide homeless youth navigation services for the Peer Homeless System Navigator Program and;
3. AUTHORIZE the General Manager or designees to implement necessary Controller Instructions to accept these funds.

BACKGROUND

On June 20, 2024, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) awarded \$640,108 in Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending (CPFCDs or federal earmark) funds to the YDD to implement the Peer Homeless System Navigator (PHSN) Pilot Program

during a term of July 1, 2024, through March 31, 2026. The City Council allocated an additional \$111,000 in General Fund dollars to the pilot. The PHSN Program will hire and train 40 low-income community college students to serve as peer navigators for other low-income, housing-insecure, and/or transition-age youth. The peer navigators will support other youth by facilitating connections and referrals to support services, such as job training, academic support, housing assistance, financial stability aid, mental health resources, public assistance services, and other basic needs support services.

The EWDD supported the YDD's initial application for CPFCDs funds to pilot the PHSN Program. The application emphasized the goal of implementing the program as part of the City's WDS and in alignment with the priorities of the WDB's Annual Plan. Specifically, the PHSN Program supports the 2024-2025 Annual Plan's Strategy One of supporting, "... regional efforts to reduce homelessness by providing pathways to sustainable employment, training, and education and connecting participants to supportive services."

Since the grant award, the WDB has adopted the Five-Year Workforce Development Strategic Plan and the Horizons 32K Strategic Plan, and the YDD has started the implementation of the Citywide Youth Development Strategic Plan. The PHSN Program also aligns directly with these three plans. Specifically, the program aligns with the Five-Year Workforce Development Strategic Plan's Strategy Two of "... building pathways to a brighter future: high barrier programs," the Horizons 32K Strategic Plan's Objective One to "... promote innovation, continuous improvement, and collaboration between Los Angeles region Education and Workforce systems to support opportunity youth connection to quality career pathways and employment," and the Citywide Youth Development Strategic Plan's Housing Priority of ensuring "... youth have access to safe and affordable housing and safe communities."

DISCUSSION

PHSN Program Implementation Plan

The YDD is entering into a partnership with the EWDD to leverage the department's expertise in administering federal programs and reporting on federal funds to assist with the implementation of the PHSN Program. Through this partnership, the YDD will be the lead coordinating agency of the PHSN Program and conduct all programmatic oversight and programmatic reporting for the pilot. The EWDD will procure the pilot's workforce service provider from the City's Workforce Development System (WDS), serve as the fiscal agent of the PHSN Program, and oversee fiscal reporting. The PHSN Program will also receive some accounting support from the Office of the City Clerk.

During the fourth quarter of the current Fiscal Year 24-25, the EWDD will complete a Request for Interest (RFI) to select an employer of record and service provider for the PHSN Program participants from the WDS's bench of qualified service providers. The YDD will hire and host a program manager to oversee the overall program, manage and train the peer navigators, coordinate with the EWDD and the WDS employer-of-record contractor, and ensure the pilot meets its DOL program outcomes. Additional project

planning and the recruitment of program participants are also planned for the fourth quarter of the current fiscal year. The onboarding and paid training for program participants will occur by July 2025. The PHSN Program will run through March 31, 2026.

PHSN Program Design

The PHSN design is modeled after the core components of the successful Angeleno Corps Program. The PHSN Program will hire and train 40 peer navigators, full-time college students who work up to 360 paid hours conducting outreach, identifying system gaps, providing referrals, facilitating appointments, and follow-ups with case managers, and helping secure benefits for other low-income, transition-age, and/or housing-insecure youth. The peer navigators will facilitate connections and referrals to support services, such as job training, academic support, housing assistance, financial stability aid, mental health resources, public assistance services, and other basic needs support services. Each of the 40 peer navigators will outreach and provide referrals to housing and other support services to 30 other homeless, transition-age youth, and/or housing-insecure youth. In total, the peer navigators will serve 1,200 youth with connections to homeless support services, financial management education, job readiness skills, and other support services. Thirty of the 40 peer navigators will be funded by the CPFCDs grant and 10 by the City General Fund.

Performance Measures and Target Outcomes

#	Performance Measure	Target
1	Number of Participants (peer navigators)	40
2	Number of Participants Co-enrolled in WIOA	20
3	Percentage of Youth Completing the Program	80%
4	Average Monthly Hours Worked by Participants across the Program	32 Hours
5	Education and Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	72%
6	Number of Participants that Complete Training out of Total Number of Participants that Begin Training	36/40
7	Credential Attainment	62%
8	Measurable Skill Gains	56.4%
9	Total Number of Youth Connected to Support Services by the Participants	1,200
10	Youth Participant Satisfaction Score at Exit, as Measured by a Survey	8/10
11	Percentage of Participants Reporting Interest in a Career in Homeless Services or other Human Services field at Exit, as Measured by a Survey	80%

The PHSN Program will hire 40 peer navigators, of which 20 will be co-enrolled in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) services. Eighty percent of the peer navigators will complete the program, which consists of completing 320 of 360 total program hours. Peer navigators will reach and serve 1,200 homeless, transition-age youth, and/or housing-insecure youth with referrals to support services such as job

training, academic support, housing assistance, financial stability aid, mental health resources, public assistance services, and other basic needs support services. Each peer navigator will work an average of at least 32 hours per month at an hourly rate of \$25. Seventy-two percent of all WIOA-enrolled peer navigators will meet an education and employment outcome in the second quarter after exit, as measured by their continued enrollment in postsecondary education at an L.A. Community College District (LACCD) college and/or placement in an additional paid work experience opportunity. At least 62% of peer navigators will enroll in specialized training and attain an industry-recognized certificate from LACCD. At least 56.4% of peer navigators will demonstrate measurable skill gains by persisting semester-to-semester at LACCD with a postsecondary transcript or report card with sufficient credit hours showing a participant meets the state unit's academic standard. The program will also incorporate an evaluation component, through surveys and other evaluation instruments, that will demonstrate that at least 80% of peer navigators are satisfied with the program and are interested in a career in homeless services or other human services fields.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval from the WDB Youth Council, EWDD will submit formal recommendations to the WDB Executive Committee for consideration at the next WDB Executive Committee meeting on April 10, 2025.

CMH:GR:DB:LS:RC:av



8.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Presentation on the 2025-26 Annual Plan

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 8 - Presentation on the 2025-26 Annual Plan

Year 26 Annual Plan Preview

WDB Youth Council Committee Meeting
March 25, 2025



Overview

The Year 26 Annual Plan establishes the **priorities, strategies, policies, budget, and timeline** for the LA Workforce Development System (WDS).

It articulates a framework of long-term strategic initiatives set forth to achieve the City's goal of placing its residents on a path to economic security through equity-focused strategies that create and expand access to living-wage jobs, remove barriers to employment for Angelenos facing the greatest economic disparities, and promote a strong regional economy.

The City of Los Angeles seeks to further its work toward an innovative, diverse, equitable, and inclusive WDS in Program Year (PY) 2025-2026.



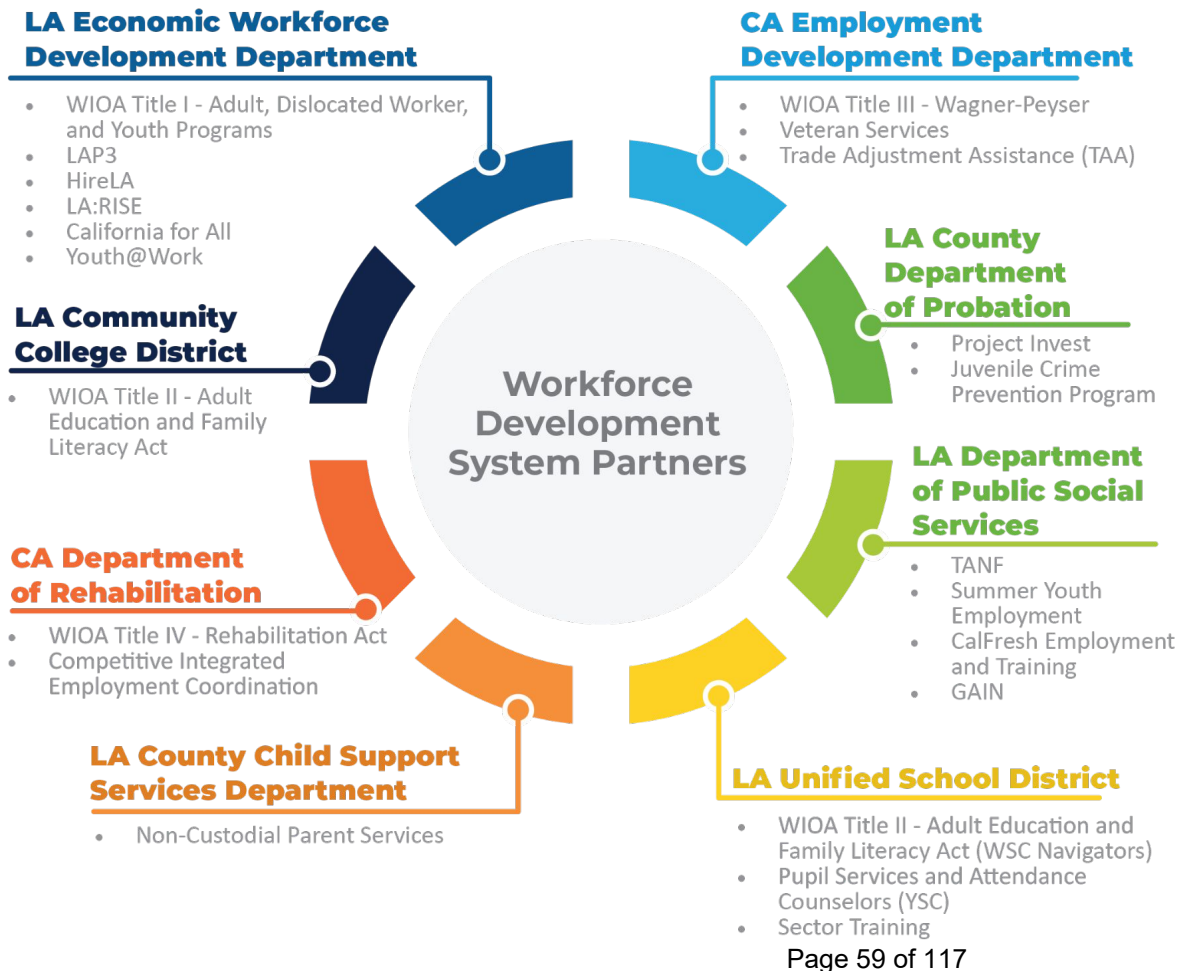
Los Angeles Five-Year Workforce Development Plan: A Path Forward (2025-2030)

The EWDD, in partnership with Mayor Karen Bass' Office of Economic Opportunity and the City of Los Angeles WD Board, will strategically implement the ***Los Angeles Five-Year Workforce Development Plan: A Path Forward*** (2025-2030) that aims to:

1. create and expand access to living-wage jobs and career pathways,
2. remove barriers to employment for priority populations, and
3. implement training programs to prepare residents for work in high-growth and in-demand sectors.

The Five-Year Plan's goal is to place 50,000 Angelenos into high-quality, living-wage jobs, registered apprenticeships, paid work experiences and training as critical pathways to economic stability and success by 2030.

System Partners



High Growth Sector Strategies

The WDS will develop sector-specific strategies in 8 industries:

1. **Biosciences**

Partnering with leading universities, community colleges, and biotech firms to prepare individuals for roles in groundbreaking research and manufacturing.

2. **Blue & Green Economy**

Training workers for future jobs in renewable energy, sustainability, and climate resilience that not only build careers but protect our planet.

3. **City of Los Angeles & Public Sector Agencies**

Expanding opportunities in the public sector through initiatives like Targeted Local Hire to offer upward mobility for veterans, justice-involved individuals, and high-barrier populations.

4. **Construction**

Empowering individuals through apprenticeships in public infrastructure and green building projects, providing unionized jobs that offer not just a paycheck, but a future.

5. **Entertainment, Motion Picture, and Sound Recording**

Leveraging Los Angeles' position as a global entertainment hub by expanding opportunities in media production, film, and television. With several of these jobs offering living wages, the sector provides vital opportunities for middle-skill workers and creative professionals.

6. **Healthcare & Social Assistance**

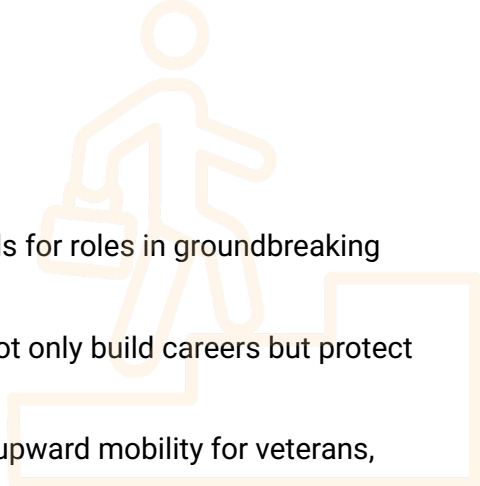
Expanding training and apprenticeships with hospitals and health centers to create pathways for women, people of color, and older workers to enter and advance in healthcare – one of the fastest growing sectors.

7. **Performing Arts, Spectator Events, and Related Industries**

Tapping into LA's cultural and economic strength by leveraging global events like the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games and World Cup to create accessible roles in media production and event management.

8. **Transportation**

Placing individuals into transportation jobs and work experiences within the transportation industry will help meet the growing demand in freight transportation and logistics among other areas.



Measuring Success and Impact

Key metrics of the Five-Year Plan include:

- **Job Placements:** Monitoring the number of individuals placed into sustainable, living-wage jobs, with a focus on high-barrier populations and long-term economic mobility.
- **Work Experience Opportunities:** Tracking the number of paid internships, apprenticeships, and career exploration opportunities that provide Angelenos with critical pathways to transformative career growth and long-term stability.
- **Sector Strategy Outcomes:** Measuring career advancements within high-growth industries through targeted sector strategies that align with market needs.
- **Service Delivery:** Evaluating the effectiveness of workforce centers in delivering holistic support services such as childcare, transportation, and other essential services that facilitate both job placements and work experiences.

Through data, accountability, and collaboration, we're ensuring that this plan delivers results:

- **Annual targets:** We will place 10,000 Angelenos into living-wage jobs and work experiences every year, with a strong focus on equity, inclusion, and opportunity for all.
- **Economic impact:** Contributing to the over 354,100 projected new nonfarm jobs by 2028, reducing poverty, increasing housing stability, and boosting economic growth.

Action Plan: Year One of the Five-Year Plan

All action items outlined in the Year 26 Annual Plan will be aligned to support:

- The Five-Year Plan's goals to place **50,000 Angelenos into high-quality, living-wage jobs, registered apprenticeships, paid work experiences and training** as critical pathways to economic stability and success by 2030;
- Addressing the **LA Wildfire disaster recovery**; and
- Supporting the City's efforts to address the **homelessness crisis**.

In PY 2025-26, the EWDD, Mayor's Office, and WDB will jointly work towards implementing the Five-Year Strategic Plan through the establishment of a **Policy & Oversight Committee, Business Services Committee/ Sector Coalitions**, and **Regional Collaborative efforts** to ensure continued dedication and alignment to the plan.

Funding for PY 2025-26

Revenue and Projected Carry-Over



Projected Revenue

Funding Source	PROPOSED: New Revenue for PY 2025-2026	PROPOSED: Carryover from Prior Year(s) for Carry In Report	PROPOSED: Total Allocation Available for PY 2025-2026
WIOA Formula	\$43,291,518	\$3,682,573	\$46,974,091
WIOA Discretionary	\$1,000,000	\$1,040,383	\$2,040,383
City GF	\$9,252,508	\$3,980,776	\$13,233,284
County	\$10,205,100	\$110,098	\$10,315,198
Californians for All	\$20,891,978	\$4,594,345	\$25,486,323
Other Grants/Funds	\$710,000	\$22,548	\$937,548
Anticipated Revenue	\$5,000,000	0	\$5,000,000
Grand Total:	\$90,351,104	\$13,635,723	\$103,986,827

Funding Highlights

1. Includes 100% cut to LA:RISE County Measure H Program
2. Assumes Level Funding for all other revenue sources



Timeline



PROPOSED TIMELINE	
Annual Plan Development Kick Off:	
Initiate Internal EWDD Yr 26 Plan Development Meetings	01/23/25
Public Comment:	
30-Day Public Comment Period (Plan posted)	04/01/25
30-Day Public Comment Period Ends	05/01/25
Public Meetings:	
WD Board Presentation: Youth Council	03/25/25
WD Board Presentation: Policy & Oversight Committee	04/17/25
Community Forums	04/23/25
Approvals:	
Mayor's Office Briefing Meetings	TBD April 2025
CAO/CLA Briefing Meetings	TBD April 2025
Council Committee Economic & Jobs Committee Initial Presentation	TBD March/Apr 2025
Council Committee Presentation	04/30/25
WD Board Report - Present Final Draft Plan to WDB Committees	05/15/25
Approval of Plan by WDB Executive Comm./ WDB Quarterly Meeting	05/22/25
Transmit Final Draft Plan to City Council Committees for Approval	05/29/25
Transmit WDB Approved Plan to the Mayor	05/29/25
Council Committees Approval	06/13/25
City Council and Mayor Approval	06/30/25
Program Start Up/ Year 26 AP Implementation	07/01/25

Questions?

The draft plan will be available for public comment on the Workforce Development Board and EWDD websites:
<https://ewdd.lacity.gov/index.php/about-ewdd/plans-reports>



9.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Update on the YouthSource Center Redesign

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- ▣ Item 9 - Update on the YouthSource Center Redesign

YouthSource Center System Redesign

Update for Program Year 2024-25

WDB Youth Council Committee Meeting

March 25, 2025

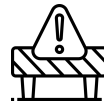
YouthSource Center Redesign Background I

- The YouthSource Center RFP was released in April 2022
- The Youth Source Center Redesign integrated lessons learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic and sought to serve as a response to the disparate impact felt by the youth of Los Angeles
- System goals included the following:
 1. Building strong partnerships, integrating efforts, removing barriers and improving communication
 2. Developing innovative strategies for increasing education and employment outcomes
 3. Championing public and private systems change to improve outcomes
 4. Focusing on policies and programs that empower youth to become self-sufficient and resilient

YouthSource Center Redesign Background II

- In collaboration with the Youth Development Department (YDD), ReLAY Institute and the WDB's Youth Council, the following six key areas were highlighted which must be addressed through the YouthSource Center Redesign:

1. Increase the Focus on Career Pathway Training
2. Promote the Youth Voice in the YouthSource System
3. Strengthen Mental Health Services
4. Increase the Focus on High-barrier Populations
5. Address the Digital Divide
6. Promote System Partnerships



YouthSource Center Redesign Initiatives

- To meet the goals of the YouthSource Center Redesign Goals and Priorities, EWDD spearheaded the following initiatives
 1. Tiered Approach
 2. LA County Department of Mental Health Demonstration Pilot
 3. Peer to Peer Demonstration Pilot
 4. LAUSD DACE Youth Navigators
 5. LACCD Youth Navigators
 6. Youth Advisory Council
 7. Digital Ambassadors Program
 8. Horizons 32K Strategic Plan



Key Area # 1:

Increase the Focus on Career Pathway Training

- **The Tiered Approach**
- **LAUSD DACE Youth Navigators**
- **LACCD Youth Navigators**

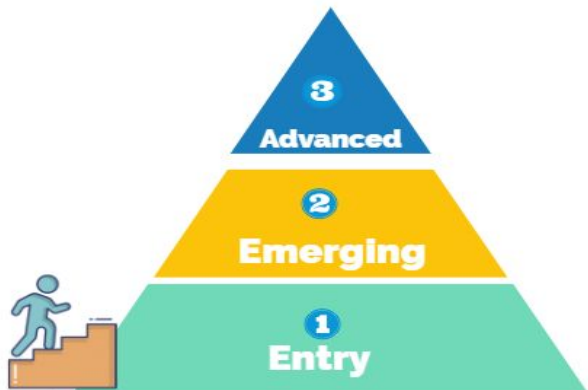


Tiered Approach I

- HIRE LA's Youth is envisioned as a program in which youth build on experiences year-by-year and have progressive work, education and social emotional development leading to a selected career pathway
- The programming is designed using a Response to Intervention model in which we meet young people at their current needs and aspirations and tailor services and work experiences to those needs
- Californians for All (Youth Service Corps) programs were launched to align with career-oriented pathways for youth participants as part of this initiative



Overview of Tiered Approach



Meet young people where they are:

Through the Tiered Approach to Intervention, previous work experiences, career readiness and barriers to employment are considered during the enrollment process, meaning that intervention is proactive rather than reactive



Tiered Level Approach Guiding Principles

Proactive + Aspirational: Meet young people where they are and where they aspire to be

Leveled Services: Align Provider Services and curriculum along a continuum

Pathways Focused : Identify Career Opportunities along Career Pathway



- Participants complete a self-reported assessment during their application process within HIRE LA platform
- Providers conduct their own assessment during intake and make final tier placement determination

Youth Tier Assessments

Participant's Self Reported Assessment

Tier Determination Assessment Questionnaire: (Initial Assessment)

Youth would be placed in the tier based on answers to the following:

Youth Self- Report Assessment: (youth response)

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Work Experience:			
	Less than 1 year	Greater than 1 year, but under 2 years	2 years or more
How many years of paid or unpaid work experience do you have where you reported directly to a supervisor or manager?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Network and Mentorship:			
	No references	Under 3 references	3 or more references
Can you produce 3 references that can attest to your character or workplace conduct?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Job Search:			
Check off all of the statements that apply to your experience.	Selected option D or less than 2 options	Selected 2 options	Selected 3 options (all)
a. I currently have a completed and updated resume			
b. I have secured an interview after applying for employment with my updated resume.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. I recieved a job offer after completing an interview process.			
d. None of these statements apply to me.			
Career Exploration:			
Check off all of the statements that best describes your experience	Selected last option or less than 2 options	Selected 2 options	Selected 3 options (All)
a. I know which career I would like to explore			
b. I have completed a career assessment previously			
c. I am aware of the different options that are available to me in effort to pursue the career identified as a result of my career assessment		<input type="checkbox"/>	
d. None of these options apply to me	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Future Planning and Preparedness:			
	I do not have a plan/unaware of possible options	I have some idea of plans/options	I have a plan (with actionable next steps)
Do you have a plan for yourself for the next 2-3 years?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

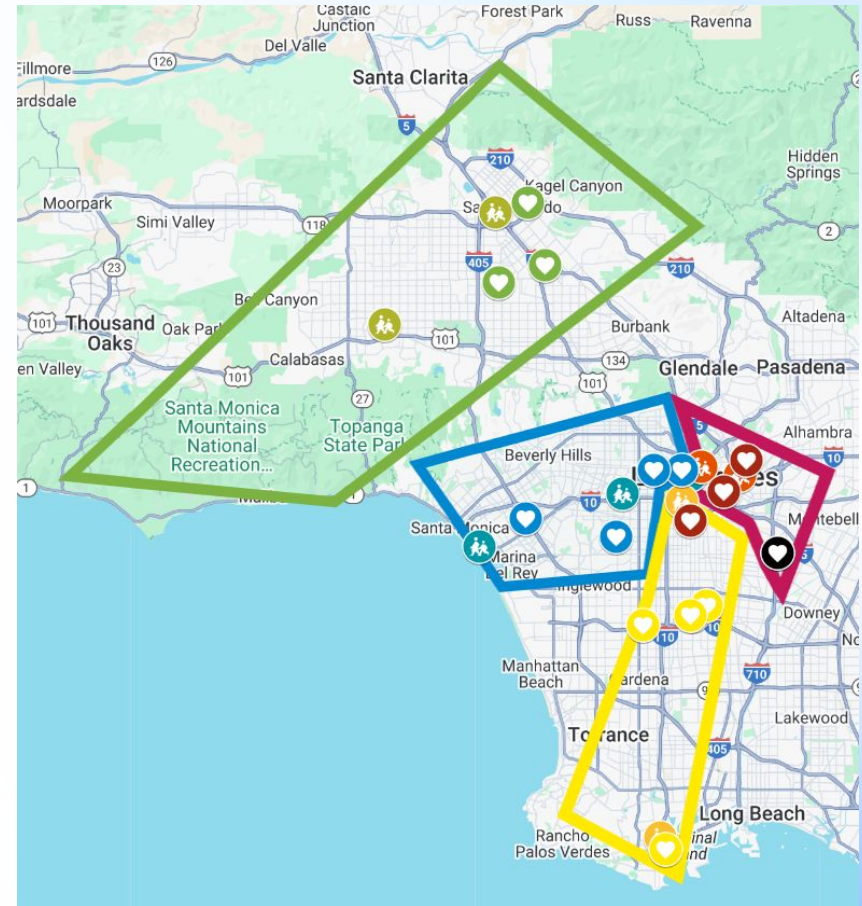


Participant vs. Employer Characteristics

Participants Characteristics by Tiers	Employer Characteristics by Tiers
Advanced Level (Tier 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2+ years of work experience- Demonstrates mastery of work place soft skills- Committed to a specific career industry and pathway	Advanced Level (Tier 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Previous work experiences, industry-specific skills or certification required ex. OSHA certification- Supervisor(s) have the ability to provide monthly coaching and supervision to an intern and can help youth learn and exercise skills sets that are specific to their occupation of interest.
Emerging Level (Tier 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Some previous work experience (1+ years)- Demonstrates knowledge of basic workplace skills<ul style="list-style-type: none">- May present some barriers to secure employment	Emerging Level (Tier 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Previous relevant work experience required. Technical Skill required that may include the ability to perform specific digital and/or physical task.- Supervisor(s) have the ability to provide average coaching and supervision to an intern and can help youth practice industry fundamentals to gain additional hands-on experience within the industry.
Entry Level (Tier 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- New to the world of work- High barriers to secure employment- Little to no exposure to the workplace	Entry Level (Tier 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Entry Level Work Skills Required or No previous work experience required.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Daily/Weekly Coaching available from Supervisors



DACE Navigators





Recognizing the value of **Student Outreach Navigators**



- **Client outreach**
Including career fairs, orientations and community-based events
- **One-on-one counseling**
Regarding CTE training, supportive services, résumés & interviews
- **Case management support**
Includes tracking and gathering of required funding documents
- **Professional networking**
Liaising with county, city and regional workforce development partners
- **Workshops**
On résumé writing and interview skills with one-on-one follow-ups
- **Enrollment assistance**
Contacting clients unscheduled in DACE-SIS and on interest lists

**Division of Adult and
Career Education**



YouthSource Navigators

Collaborate With



- ACCT Advisors
- YouthSource Centers
- LA Unified Pupil Services and Attendance Counselors(PSAs)

Provide wrap around services and link youth to career training, basic skills, and academic recovery options.



Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) Youth Navigators





Regional Economic & Recovery Partnership (RERP) Background I

Regional Economic & Recovery Partnership (RERP) Grant represents acceleration of Regional Plan Implementation efforts and seeks to support its sector strategies and career pathways programs that will achieve economic growth, economic equity, job quality, and job access by funding partnerships between Local Workforce Development Board and Community College Regional Consortia.



Regional Economic & Recovery Partnership (RERP) Background II

- Partnership to co-locate Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) Navigators throughout the City of Los Angeles (City) **fourteen (14) YouthSource Centers (YSC)**.
- Aligned with the YSC System redesign, the RERP project will aid the efforts to **increase access to career pathways in high-wage occupations** for YSC participants.
- Partnership will support the YSCs in achieving their goal of **co-enrolling 70 percent** of YSC participants into Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.



WHAT IS THE LACCD NAVIGATOR PROGRAM?

- A partnership between the City of Los Angeles and LACCD where the 9 campuses of LACCD provide a resource person for their designated YSC to provide onsite support in helping YSC clients register for college courses.
- The colleges are funded to provide the support needed to ensure that the YSC is staffed by one of our LACCD navigators at least 10 hrs per week at each of the 14 centers across LA county.





Key Area # 2:

Promote the Youth Voice in the YouthSource System

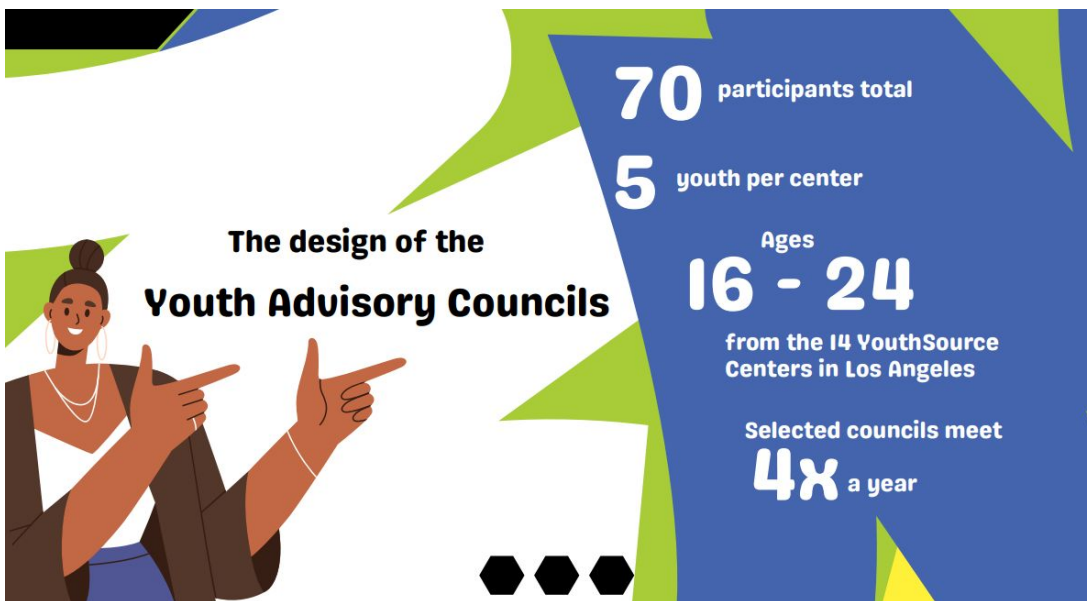
- **Youth Advisory Council in collaboration with the Youth Development Department (YDD)**



Youth Advisory Council

Goals

1. Enhance Service Delivery
2. Peer Engagement
3. Outcomes
4. Youth Voice





Youth Advisory Council Implementation

Results

- 1. Outreach**
- 2. Engagement**
- 3. Feedback**

YDD Support

- 1. Trainings**
- 2. Tools**
- 3. Technical Assistance**
- 4. Data**
- 5. Incentives**



Key Area # 3:

Strengthen Mental Health Services

- **LA County Department of Mental Health Demonstration Pilot**
- **Peer to Peer Demonstration Pilot**



LA County Department of Mental Health Pilot

- The pilot project has the goal of improving the process of youth assessment and referrals for mental health services through on-site meetings with youth, increased follow-up with clients, and warm handoff referrals to other mental health services
- The pilot launched in Spring of 2023 and served over 70 clients through workshops, and over 20 clients who accessed 1-on-1 sessions on-site at WLCAC
- The demonstration project also allowed for cross referrals between DMH and WLCAC
- WLCAC staff attest that youth participants could benefit from a consistent presence from DMH on-site even at a part-time limited capacity



The Peer-to-Peer Solution:

City of Los Angeles Certified Peer Specialist Demonstration Project

Program Goals:

- **Hire, train, and support 70-90 youth** participants (ages 18-24) through **100 hours** of training and delivery of **200 hours** of peer-to-peer mental health support
- Prepare youth participants for **CalMHSA Peer Support Specialist Certification Exam** (test prep is included in 100 hours of training)
- Establish entry point into **Medi-Cal Reimbursable career pathways**
- Enhance City YouthSource Center system capacity to serve mental health needs of all youth participants



Partners / Roles & Responsibilities:



WestCoast Children's Clinic - curriculum designer and training lead; will report on participant attendance and program progression to El Centro



El Centro de Ayuda - project managers overseeing youth participants and YSC case managers; will aggregate and report out participant attendance and program progression

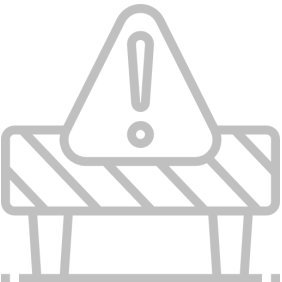


YouthSource Centers - youth recruitment and case management; meetings with WestCoast to preview curriculum, with El Centro for youth meetings, with youth participants for scheduling



Peer to Peer Implementation

- Program Year 2023-2024, 13 youth participants in 1st cohort
- Program Year 2024-25, 31 youth participants in 2nd cohort
- Identify youth with lived experience to serve as per specialists
- County and State Career Pathways
- Recommendations currently underway through the WestCoast Children's Clinic and the Public Works Alliance



Key Area # 4:

Increase the Focus on High-barrier Populations

➤ **Horizons 32K Strategic Plan**



Horizons 32K Strategic Plan

- The Horizons 32K Strategic Plan is a roadmap for Los Angeles opportunity youth to secure and persist in quality education, training and employment pathways
- OY are youth ages 16-24 who are not enrolled in school or working, or are at high risk of disconnection due to their involvement in the homeless, child welfare or justice systems
- Goals for Opportunity Youth
 1. Connection or re-connection to education
 2. Connection to workforce training programs and career related education pathways
 3. Connect to employment
 4. Utilization of holistic services



Horizons 32K Strategic Plan

- Mission Impact: Reduce the number of young adults experiencing disconnection from school and work in LA County by 22% (32,000) by 2027
- Roadmap:
 - Collaborative Infrastructure for Results
 - Data to Drive the Common Agenda
 - Innovation, Continuous Improvement and Collaboration
 - Cross-sector Coordination and Collaboration
 - Policy Advocacy



Key Area # 5: Address the Digital Divide

➤ Digital Ambassadors Program



Digital Ambassadors Program I

- Partnership with HACLA to provide training to participants to become DA's at Housing Developments
- Goal of enhancing resident digital literacy
- Peer model which is supplemented by formal training providers



Digital Ambassadors Program II

- 120 hours of training which includes basic digital skills training, training in outreach and engagement as well as in communication and customer service
- Promotion of community resources
- 63 Participants since July 1, 2023



Key Area # 6:

Promote System Partnerships

- **Horizons 32K Strategic Plan**
- **LAUSD DACE Youth Navigators**
- **LACCD Youth Navigators**



10.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Discussion on Relaunching the HireLA's Youth Steering Committee, in Partnership with the Youth Development Department

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available



11.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Presentation on Youth Disconnection in Los Angeles and Horizon's 32K Update

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- ▣ Presentation on Youth Disconnection in Los Angeles and Horizon's 32K

MEET THE OYC HORIZONS 32K YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL



Ashanti Wince
OYC Young Leader



Jasper Garcia
OYC Young Leader



John Ayala
OYC Young Leader



Alex Guerrero
OY Assistant



ADDRESSING YOUTH DISCONNECTION IN LOS ANGELES

CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES &
A CALL TO ACTION



1

2

WHY IT MATTERS

- Opportunity Youth (OY): 16-24 years, neither in school nor working.
- Key Impacts: Economic mobility, social well-being, and systemic inequities.
- Purpose: Trends, challenges, and solutions for LA County.



3

LOS ANGELES COUNTY



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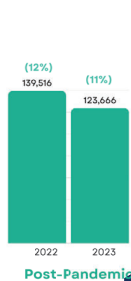
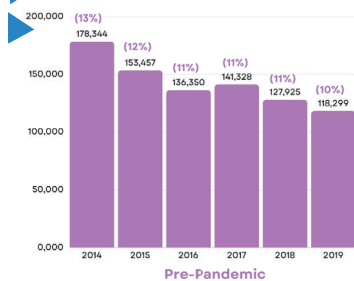
YOUTH DISCONNECTION IN L.A. COUNTY - THE NUMBERS

123,000+

Total Disconnected Youth
in LA County

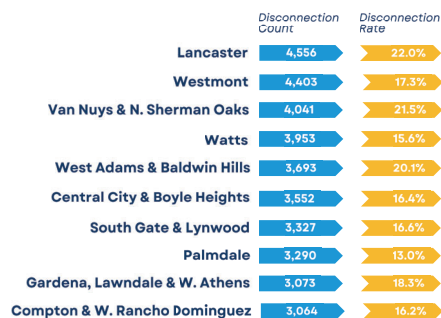
Key Insight:

Pandemic caused a temporary spike, but long-term recovery is still ongoing.



5

GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES (LA COUNTY)



Key Insight:
Place-based solutions have become even more crucial as post-pandemic recovery efforts vary by neighborhood.

6

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



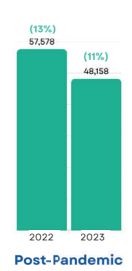
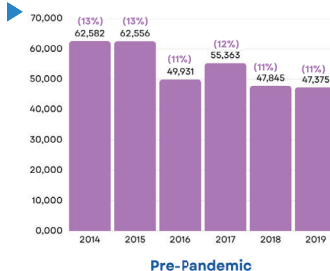
YOUTH DISCONNECTION IN L.A. CITY - THE NUMBERS

48,000+

Total Disconnected Youth
in LA City

Key Insight:

Post-pandemic recovery is slower for youth in the city compared to the county, and disparities persist across racial/ethnic groups.

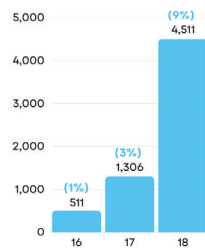


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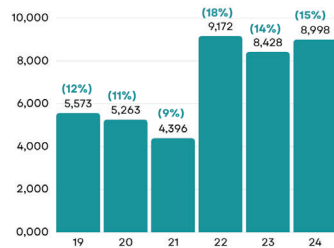
8

DISCONNECTION BY AGE (LA CITY)

5.0% Disconnection Teens (16-18)



14.6% Disconnection Young Adults (19-24)



Key Insight:

The young adult age group has been hit hardest by pandemic-related disruptions, indicating long-term recovery needs.

9

DISCONNECTION BY RACE & ETHNICITY (LA CITY)

2 MAJOR RACES
1,282 (4%)

OTHER RACE
2,534 (5%)

BLACK
792 (7%)

HISP./LATINO
4,635 (6%)

AGES
16-18

3+ RACES
81 (6%)

AM. INDIAN
213 (8%)

WHITE
1,245 (5%)

NON-HISP./LAT.
1,693 (3%)

Key Insight: Racial disparities in disconnection remain persistent pre- and post- pandemic.

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DISCONNECTION BY RACE & ETHNICITY (LA CITY)

2 RACES
9,021 (15%)

OTHER RACE
15,328 (15%)

BLACK
5,640 (23%)

HISP./LATINO
27,794 (16%)

AGES
19-24

3+ RACES
670 (19%)

AM. INDIAN
660 (15%)

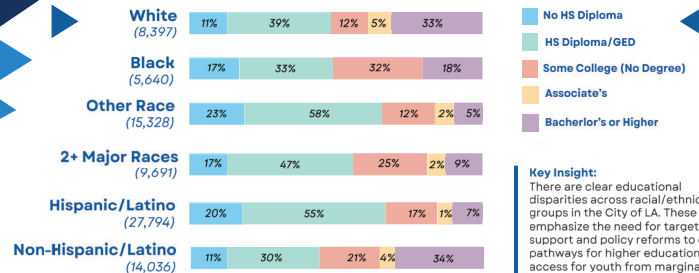
WHITE
8,397 (10%)

NON-HISP./LAT.
14,036 (10%)

Key Insight: Racial disparities in disconnection remain persistent pre- and post- pandemic.

11

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF DISCONNECTED YOUNG ADULTS (LA CITY) (19-24 YRS. OLD)

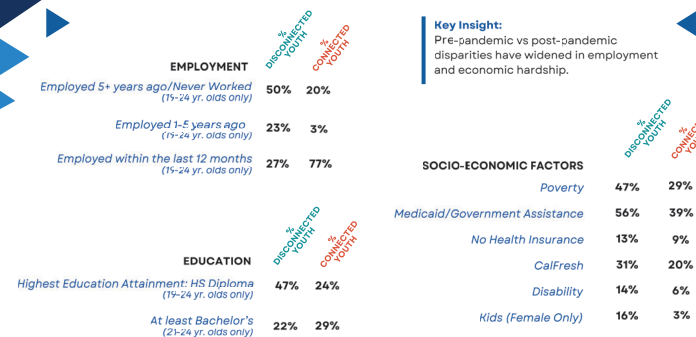


Key Insight:

There are clear educational disparities across racial/ethnic groups in the City of LA. These gaps emphasize the need for targeted support and policy reforms to create pathways for higher education access for youth from marginalized communities.

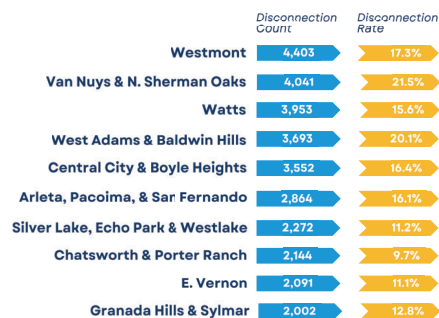
12

COMPARING DISCONNECTED YOUTH AND CONNECTED YOUTH (LA CITY)



13

GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES (LA CITY)



14

POLICY IMPLICATIONS & SOLUTIONS



15

ADDRESSING DISCONNECTION - WHAT WORKS?

- **Education & Career Pathways:**
Dual enrollment, vocational training, postsecondary support
- **Workforce Development:**
Paid internships, apprenticeships, job mentorship programs
- **Place-Based Solutions:**
Targeting communities like Lancaster, Westmont, and Watts
- **Support for Vulnerable Populations:**
Programs for young mothers, justice-involved youth, and youth with disabilities.



16

CALL TO ACTION - WHAT WE NEED TO DO NOW

- **Unite Stakeholders:** Policymakers, educators, employers, community organizations
- **Expand Successful Programs:** Scale programs that effectively reconnect youth to education and employment
- **Secure Long-Term Funding** for youth-centered interventions
- **Empower Youth Voice:** Engage young leaders in shaping policies and programs.



17



18



DATA PREPARED BY
ARI MALKA
NEW WAYS TO WORK
ari@newwaystowork.org



19

GET INVOLVED

- Support narrative change & public will-building to prioritize strategies for OY
- Align with Horizons 32K strategies and share best practices or recommendations for innovative solutions
- CBOs apply to aligned public funding opportunities (e.g., CA Opportunity Youth Apprenticeship Initiative)
- Provide thought partnership, encouraging ongoing connection Opportunity Youth and Horizons 32K



Contact
Lauri Collier • lcollier@alliancacr.org

20



12.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Verbal Update on the Crossroads Forum

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available



13.

DATE: March 25, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: Presentation on the Hollywood Entertainment Pathway Program

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 13 - Presentation on the Hollywood Entertainment Pathway Program

HOLLYWOOD RANCH YOUTH PROJECT

*DOUG BOND, CEO/PRESIDENT
AMITY FOUNDATION*



LA ENTERTAINMENT CAREER PATHWAYS

A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO SUPPORT **YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18–24)** WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED **FOSTER CARE, JUVENILE HALL, YOUTH AUTHORITY, OR OTHER JUSTICE-SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT**, AND WHO **LACK PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE, TRAINING, OR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**.

- **PROGRAM BENEFITS:**

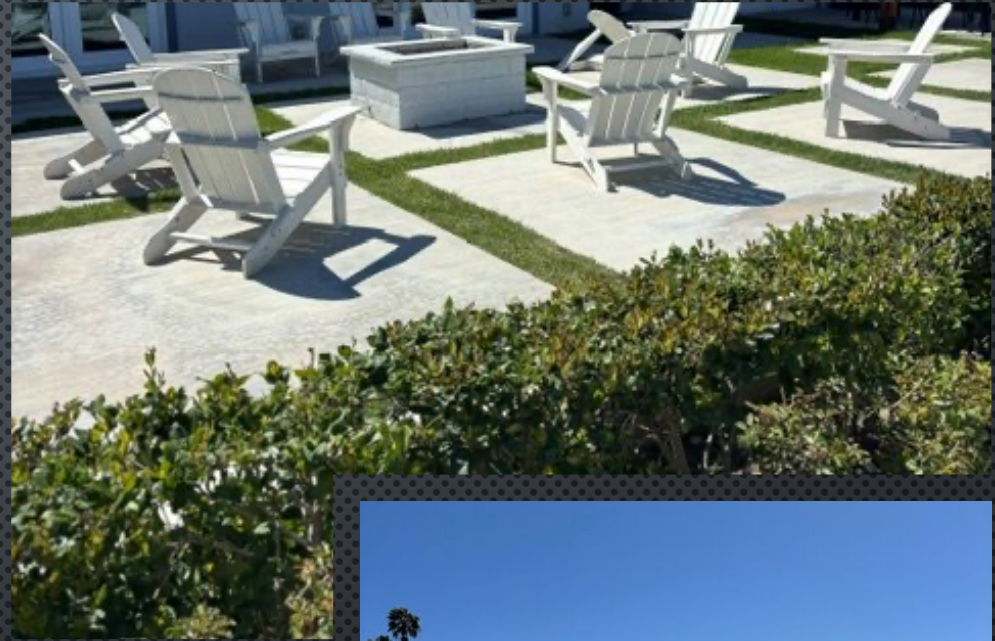
- **12 MONTHS OF SAFE AND STABLE HOUSING**
- **10 MONTHS OF UNION-RECOGNIZED CAREER TRAINING** IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

- **PROJECT TIMELINE: FEBRUARY 8, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024**

- **KEY PARTNERS:** ANTI-RECIDIVISM COALITION, AMITY FOUNDATION, CRCD

- **FUNDING: \$250,000**

- **TRAINING PROVIDER:** WEST LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE



AS A COMMUNITY, WE HAVE EMPOWERED JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH BY:

Supporting

- Successful reintegration post-incarceration

Offering

- Stability through housing and skills training.

Connecting

- These young individuals to union careers.


Transforming

- Lives with opportunity and purpose.


MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES

CREATING PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTHS BY...

01

 **Stable Housing:**
Provide transitional and permanent housing.

02

 **Re-entry Support:**
Offer comprehensive services for reintegration.


03

 **Job-Ready Training:** Equip youth with technical skills in film & TV production.

04

 **Employment Opportunities:**
Connect participants with industry professionals and local unions.

05

 **Reduced Recidivism:** Foster long-term stability and career growth.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

JANUARY 2023 – DECEMBER 2024



CAREER TRAINING

- 11 PARTICIPANTS RECEIVED FILM/TV PRODUCTION CRAFTS TRAINING
- 6 EARNED CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT (WEST LA COLLEGE)
- 2 SECURED UNION JOBS (LOCAL 44 & LOCAL 80) EARNING UP TO \$44/HR
- 3 COMPLETING INTERNSHIPS; 6 PROGRESSING TOWARD CERTIFICATION
- 1 ACCEPTED INTO LOCAL 33 STAGEHAND TRAINING (IATSE)



HOUSING & SUPPORT

- HOUSING PROVIDED AT 3 LOCATIONS:
 - HOLLYWOOD RANCH DORM
 - AMISTAD CAMPUS (SOUTH LA)
 - ARC LORENA CAMPUS (BOYLE HEIGHTS)
- 100% RECEIVED CASE MANAGEMENT AND TUTORING

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

ENROLLMENT PROGRESS

- 11 ENROLLED BY DEC 2024
- 2 NEW ENROLLMENTS IN JAN 2025
- 6 PENDING ENROLLMENT
- ON TRACK TO REACH 32 PARTICIPANTS BY MID-2025



UNION PATHWAYS

- PARTNERSHIPS WITH:
 - LOCAL 44 (SET DRESSING)
 - LOCAL 80 (GRIPS)
 - LOCAL 33 (STAGEHANDS)
 - IATSE (ENTERTAINMENT TECHNICIANS)



NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REENTRY & TRAINING SUPPORT

- TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, CASE MANAGEMENT, TUTORING, AND CAREER TRAINING PROVIDED.
- EXPANDED TO MULTIPLE HOUSING SITES FOR A SAFE, PRO-SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT.

FILM/TV WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED IN UNION-RECOGNIZED FILM/TV PRODUCTION CRAFTS TRAINING.
- GRADUATES WORKING ON MAJOR PRODUCTIONS, INCLUDING *THE PRICE IS RIGHT*, *LET'S MAKE A DEAL*, *THE OSCARS*, *KIM KARDASHIAN PROJECT*, AND *THE MANDALORIAN*.
- INTERNSHIPS AND UNION APPRENTICESHIPS SECURED WITH LOCAL 44 (SET DRESSING), LOCAL 80 (GRIPS), LOCAL 33 (STAGEHANDS), AND IATSE (ENTERTAINMENT TECHNICIANS).

HOLISTIC SUPPORT SERVICES

- FULL-TIME CASE MANAGEMENT, CAREER MENTORSHIP, AND PEER-LED SUPPORT.
- TUTORS WITH INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE GUIDE PARTICIPANTS TOWARD SUCCESS.

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

- STREAMLINED INTERNSHIP TRACKING AND DIRECT PORTFOLIO SUBMISSIONS TO HOLLYWOOD CPR.
- NEW TRAINING PARTNERSHIP IN DEVELOPMENT WITH LATTC.





THANK YOU