

**Title II Grant Program
Funding Recommendation
Project Summaries**

Applicant: Santa Cruz County Probation Department
Project Title: Stable Transitions After Reentry (STAR)
Funding Amount: \$350,000 annually
Project Total: \$1,050,000

Proposal Abstract: The Santa Cruz County Probation Department Stable Transitions After Reentry (STAR) program is designed to increase youth's stability and chance of success in their community, and to prevent their continued involvement in the justice system with particular focus on reducing disparities for Latinx youth. To accomplish this outcome, the program engages natural support networks, coordinates prosocial activities within the community, and increases the capacity of the family to support the youth in the community. The target population is youth transitioning from Juvenile Hall, Short Term Residential Placements, Juvenile Ranch Camp Placements, and Department of Juvenile Justice/Secure Youth Track Placements, and youth who have been taken into custody but released within 72 hours. STAR planning consists of two phases: in-custody case planning and reentry and after care services which include bilingual whole family services, provided by community-based organizations. The STAR program aims to intervene at every community transition point to optimize and leverage services and supports that engage youth and families in culturally responsive ways that are inclusive of their voice and choices.

Applicant: Youth Mentoring Connection
Project Title: Mentors Making Resiliency Real (MMRR)
Funding Amount: \$350,000 annually
Project Total: \$1,050,000

Proposal Abstract: The Youth Mentoring Connection Mentors Making Resiliency Real (MMRR) program builds youth resiliency by addressing individual, family, peer, school, and community factors to reduce juvenile justice involvement, increase Social Emotion Learning, and improve life outcomes. MMRR will address LA County youth, ages 13-24, needs related to high crime and gang activity, academic failure, and a high prevalence of system-involved youth which are linked to increasing the likeliness of engaging in delinquent behaviors and vulnerability to negative development outcomes. The MMRR program uses a comprehensive approach of intensive one-on-one, group, and workplace mentoring, trauma-informed counseling, and training, in partnership with Youth Build's employment development programs, to prepare youth for adulthood and employment. YMC recruitment strategies ensure that enrolled youth are at-risk, have previously offended and/or have regular contact with an incarcerated/previously incarcerated parent/guardian. The MMRR utilizes credible messengers to mentor youth that have similar race/ethnicity and life experiences and who are successful in their adult lives. The added elements of access to professional mental health, substance abuse treatment, and workforce development strengthen the overall mentoring program.

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Applicant: The City of Gilroy

Project Title: South County Restorative Justice Youth Diversion Program (RJYDP)

Funding Amount: \$349,984 annually

Project Total: \$1,049,952

Proposal Abstract: The South County Restorative Justice Youth Diversion Program (RJYDP) provides an opportunity for South Santa Clara County youth who engaged in conduct that harms others and themselves to come together with those who have been impacted by the behavior, including victims and community members, to collectively address harm at a community level through a process called the Restorative Justice Circle. RJYDP is based on a restorative justice framework, operates through a trauma-informed lens, and seeks to address root causes of harmful behaviors. The program counselors guide youth through program milestones where youth are supported by trained residents, the community, and government partners. By recognizing that juvenile citations and arrests disproportionately affect youth of color, the diversion program provides a path that is an alternative to involvement in the juvenile justice system. Completion of the voluntary program diverts youth away from the juvenile justice system by striving to decrease historical and systematic inequities and barriers and provides local supports that youth and families feel they need to heal and thrive.

Applicant: Fresh Lifelines for Youth, Inc.

Project Title: Mentoring Through Leadership Development

Funding Request: \$349,999 annually

Project Total: \$1,049,998

Proposal Abstract: Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY) provides mentoring, counseling, leadership training, and connection to services through the Leadership Training Program for high-risk and system-involved youth in the counties of Santa Clara, San Mateo, and Alameda. FLY is uniquely designed the Leadership Training Program to uncover and address the key needs of youth using a four-pronged approach: case management mentoring, peer mentoring, leadership training, and connection to service. The core curriculum and training is 10 months and includes three evidence-informed phases with distinctive activities for youth based on their assessed needs. The Leadership Training Program targets youth assessed as moderate to high need, a subset of whom are currently or formally on probation or have been incarcerated. The program incorporates one-on-one and group-peer mentoring. Additionally, through the program's non-clinical counseling tools of needs assessment, youth receive referral, warm-handoff, and follow up to clinical counseling for mental health and substance abuse.

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Applicant: Center for Training and Careers, dba ConXión to Community
Project Title: Bright Futures Mentoring and Counseling Program
Funding Request: \$349,669 annually
Project Total: \$1,049,006

Proposal Abstract: The ConXión to Community Bright Futures program offers an after-school, culturally relevant mentoring and counseling/intervention program that enhances resilience and empowers youth based on positive youth development principles to increase protective factors in their lives and reduce the risk factors that permeate the lives of these youth. Bright Futures will provide supportive services at one middle school and two high schools in Santa Clara County. The program is offered to youth that are low income, high-risk and underperforming, high-risk/gang impacted, and have prior arrests/citations or a parent previously/currently incarcerated. The targeted neighborhoods, designated as 'hot spots' by the City of San Jose Police Department, represent a majority of Latino youth with the remainder being Native American and Black American. The program provides a comprehensive intake that includes risk and protective factor assessment and will provide a minimum of 150 hours of case management/intervention services to each enrolled youth, each year, and youth receive an additional 60 hours of mentor engagement.

Applicant: Pacific Clinics
Project Title: Individual Placement and Support Employment Services (IPS)
Funding Amount: \$350,000 annually
Project Total: \$1,050,000

Proposal Abstract: Pacific Clinics provides youth employment services to at-risk transition age youth. The program will utilize the evidence-based Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model to serve transition age youth (TAY) ages 18 – 25 with juvenile justice involvement as well as foster/former foster youth of the same age range who are at heightened risk for justice involvement annually. The program emphasize relationship building to encourage youth to participate in mental health and substance abuse services, health navigation, housing support, among others. The IPS model includes three phases of service are 1) Pre-Employment, 2) Job Development and Placement, and 3) Employment Retention. The program will remove barriers to access and utilize employment as an intervention to improve employment and health and well-being outcomes and reduce disparities.

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Applicant: Volunteers of America of Los Angeles

Project Title: VOALA Youth Re-Entry Program

Funding Amount: \$350,000 annually

Project Total: \$1,050,000

Proposal Abstract: VOALA Youth Re-Entry Program provides evidence-based and culturally specific case management, mentoring, academic support, and job training/placement services to medium-to-high risk youth offenders, ages 18-26, who are being released from LA County jails. Services are provided in the community are based on participants' assessed risks and needs, with targeting needs that affect recidivism. VOALA works alongside LASD and Probation to accept referrals of eligible youth in need. The program includes Case Manager and mentorship to assess educational and vocational skills and needs and works together with the youth to build an Individual services plan. The VOALA Case Manager meets with participants at least every week for the first 30 days, and every other week thereafter via community-based visits and phone calls. Program services include linkages to housing and supportive service in the immediate hours/days following release, post-release case management, housing navigation, education services, employment services, life skills training, mentoring, and referrals to support services.

Applicant: Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Project: Expanding Supportive Services for Currently Incarcerated and Recently Released Youth in Los Angeles County

Funding Request: \$348,752 annually

Project Total: \$1,046,257

Proposal Abstract: The Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) provides in-reach, warm handoff, and reentry services for currently and formerly incarcerated youth under the age of 26 in Los Angeles County. ARC provides in-custody programming weekly/monthly in the LA County Probation Secure Youth Treatment Facility and juvenile halls. Both in-custody and reentry programs work together to create a continuum of care and promote participants' successful integration into their communities. Programs and services are based in ARC's credible messenger model of having service providers with lived experience of incarceration and will improve youth outcomes, reduce recidivism, and reduce the overrepresentation of youth of color in contact with the juvenile justice system. ARC and its partners provide aftercare and reentry services in juvenile facilities in the County, warm handoffs directly from ARC in-reach staff to ARC reentry staff, and full wraparound services including mentorship, counseling, training, and job training to youth reentering the community after incarceration.

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Applicant: Operation New Hope
Project Title: Youth Opportunity Pathways Project (YOPP)
Funding Amount: \$265,140 annually
Project Total: \$795,419

Proposal Abstract: Operation New Hope Youth, Opportunity Pathways Project (YOPP) is a community-based program providing a set of best practices to address the needs and provide solutions for aftercare/reentry, alternatives to diversion, diversion, workforce development, mentoring, counseling, and life skills programming. The YOPP targets high-risk and probation youth, ages 14-26, who are on the verge of dropping out of school, chronic truancy, justice impacted, homeless youth, teen parents, and ESL youth. For disconnected youth who are neither in school or working for long periods of time, they are more likely to fall into a lifestyle of criminogenic needs, experience incarceration as adults, poor health, lower incomes, and unemployment. The program is designed to assist chronic, high-risk with their navigation in the community after traumatic experiences and reentry.

Applicant: Reading and Beyond
Project Title: Youth Academy
Funding Amount: \$350,000 annually
Project Total: \$1,050,000

Proposal Abstract: Reading and Beyond provides community-based programs, mentoring, and training services to reentry youth in Southeast Fresno neighborhoods based at the Mosqueda Center and will target the 18 and under population. Reading and Beyond leverages relationships with the Juvenile Public Defender's Office, multiple Fresno County schools, over 1,000 community members who completed a community survey, and other community organizations to support delinquency prevention and juvenile system improvement. The program works with youth and parents to build education, economic assets, social capital, and health and wellbeing to create economic security that passes from one generation to the next. An innovative parenting curriculum, "Food for Thought," will be used in eight-week cohorts to increase protective factors, increase parental efficacy, knowledge, and skills, and increase positive instances of family interactions to build resilience. Youth and Family Navigators (YFNs) will provide culturally relevant one-on-one mentoring and will help expose youth to a variety of career and technical certification opportunities as well as college readiness strategies.

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Applicant: Arcata Police Department
Project Title: The Parent Project
Funding Amount: \$31,690 annually
Project Total: \$95,071

Proposal Abstract: Arcata Police Department Juvenile Diversion program supports the Parent Project which is a 10-week series of classes, occurring in the Arcata and McKinleyville areas, for parents of strong-willed children. The project discusses the use of effective structure and discipline to influence children's behavior and deter unwanted outcomes. Topics also include recognizing and discussing substance use, improving school attendance and performance, and how to address and support teens' mental health needs. The Parent Project results in creating a supportive peer group to discuss needs and brainstorm strategies for improving their children's behavior. The program also supports youth involvement with the Teen Court Organization by referring teens and reimbursing the program for costs of hearings and other diversionary interventions. Teen Court provides an array of valuable services including substance use intervention, truancy intervention, and mentoring.

Applicant: Retraining the Village
Project Title: Retraining the Village San Mateo County Aftercare/Re-Entry Program
Funding Amount: \$204,766 annually
Project Total: \$614,298, partially funded

Proposal Abstract: Retraining the Village is an Aftercare/Re-Entry program that provides comprehensive pre- and post-release reentry services for individuals under age 26 exiting the juvenile justice system to San Mateo County, California. Services include assessment, individualized case management, individual and group counseling, substance use disorder assessment and treatment services, employment and educational services, life skills education, housing, mentoring, and linkages to healthcare and other supportive services. The Retraining the Village's program also provides transitional housing. The program 20 transitional housing beds in two transitional homes available to reentry project participants. The program objectives are to reduce participant recidivism by 50% by end of year three; securing employment for 30% of participants within six months of release; provide stable housing for 80% of participants within one-month of release; reduce substance use by 60% of participants; and improved mental health for 60% of participants within 12 months of release. The project prepares youth for release and provides a continuum of follow-up services to promote successful reintegration into the community.