Title II Grant Program: Identifying Effective Interventions and Replicable Strategies for Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Project Proposal Summaries

W. Haywood Burns Institute

The W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI) advances the safety and well-being of people of color by working to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities (R.E.D.) in the justice system through community-centered responses promoting equitable and restorative practices. BI has provided technical assistance to reduce R.E.D. in 18 California counties. BI proposes the creation of a dashboard to explore R.E.D. using quantitative data at the county and state level, along with investment in qualified community partners to gather qualitative data in two to three selected counties. The intent is to create a dashboard that will be an easy-to-use, community-friendly, interactive experience for users that clarifies and makes real the unconscionable R.E.D. that have plagued our youth justice system since its inception.

UEC at CSUSB

The University Enterprises Corporation at the California State University – San Bernardino (UEC) multi-disciplinary team proposes to address the voids in Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R.E.D.) programming and research by first creating a data dashboard that may be used to monitor R.E.D. trends. Through qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, UEC will review existing approaches in R.E.D. monitoring and interventions throughout the state of California to identify the most effective strategies. This review will inform the development of the strategic framework which may be used by counties to implement strategies designed to address R.E.D. at specific decision points as well as more system-wide strategies. This work will be conducted with transparency through data dashboard visualizations to ensure that all agency partners can participate.

WestEd and the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR)

WestEd and the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR) will use a mixed-methods approach utilizing quantitative and qualitative data to address the Title II Grant Program questions related to identifying what works to reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R.E.D.). The evaluation approach will result in the identification of juvenile RED metrics and the development of a data dashboard displaying the R.E.D. metrics at the county and state level. The qualitative findings from the in-depth review of a sample of counties will identify county policies, practices, and interventions that contribute and/or mitigate R.E.D. WestEd will also develop a framework to help guide the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP) in directing resources and the local communities in identifying and addressing R.E.D.

JSI Research and Training Institute, Inc.

BAI, in partnership with JSI (BAI/JSI), project will be informed by a public health theoretical framework that views youth involvement in the juvenile justice system as the unfortunate outcome of circumstances and social determinants present in their life context. The BAI intends to address systemic factors of structural racism and social determinants of health (SDOH), which are inextricably linked to risk and protective factors. BAI/JSI will support State Advisory Committee

on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP) in recognizing and addressing disparities in the California juvenile justice system. BAI/JSI will identify appropriate metrics, develop a data dashboard, and will conduct an in-depth review of selected counties. BAI/JSI differentiates between the collection of person-centered metrics to assess juvenile justice involvement (e.g., arrest, court referral, pre-trial detention, diversion, petitioned, delinquency finding, probation placement, secure confinement, and adult court transfer) and those contextual metrics that illustrate SDOH, such as school-related data elements (e.g., zero-tolerance policies, level of students expulsions; poverty level, housing status).