

Youth Reinvestment Grant

Round 1 Grantees | 2019-2023

Final Evaluation Report

December 14, 2023



SACRAMENTO
STATE

Acknowledgments

We would like to acknowledge the dedication of the YRG Grantees and their local community-based partners in continuing to provide vital services to youth during the challenging times of COVID-19. Many of the grantees developed innovative approaches for connecting with youth despite the imposed isolation of the pandemic. We also want to thank the many BSCC staff for their partnership over the course of this grant, including Eddie Escobar (Field Representative, Corrections Planning & Grant Program), Johnny Sanchez (Grant Analyst), and Michael Lee (Research Data Supervisor).

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Youth Reinvestment Grant Round 1 Awarded Grantees

Alameda County | Changing the Game: Ending Youth Violence Through Positive Engagement

Contra Costa County | Restorative Justice Diversion for Youth in Contra Costa County (RESTOR)

City of Costa Mesa | Waymakers Juvenile Diversion

Culver City | Diversion Program

Imperial County | Workforce Inspired Student Edification (WISE) Program

Inglewood City | City of Inglewood/South Bay Workforce Investment Board Youth Reinvestment Collaboration

La Puente City | Adolescent Intervention Program (AID)

Los Angeles City | Los Angeles Youth Diversion Partnership (LAYDP) & Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD)

Los Angeles County | Youth Diversion and Development Program Regional Expansion

Marin County | School Works Initiative and the Youth Early Intervention and Prevention Network

Richmond City | West County Youth Reinvestment Initiative

Sacramento City | Lifeline Program

Sacramento County | Pivoting Pathways Project

San Bernardino City | Youth Reinvestment and Development

San Fernando City | Tutčint Youth Empowerment

San Joaquin County | San Joaquin Juvenile Deflection Project

San Jose City | Adelante Program

San Leandro City | Restorative Justice Alternatives to Suspension Tiered Services

San Luis Obispo County | Restorative Dialogue Program

Santa Barbara County | Youth Empowerment Services

Santa Clara County (Executive Office) | Intentional Diversion for Maximum Impact, Young Women's Freedom Center

Santa Clara County (Probation) | Project Evolve

Santa Cruz County | Community Reclaiming Youth Justice

Solano County | Youth Diversion Program

Sonoma County | Youth Diversion with Case Management

Ventura County | Check and Connect Ventura County

Yolo County | Redefining Engagement with Services and Treatment by Offering Restorative Experiences (RESTORE)

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BSCC	California Board of State and Community Corrections
CBO	Community-based Organization
ISR	Institute for Social Research
LEP	Grantee Local Evaluation Plan
LER	Grantee Local Evaluation Report
QPR	Grantee Quarterly Progress Report
YRG	Youth Reinvestment Grant

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) Program was established in the 2018 Budget Act (Senate Bill 840, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2018) and the related trailer bill (Assembly Bill 1812, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2018). Aimed at diverting youth from initial or subsequent contact with the juvenile justice system, grantees use approaches that are evidence-based, culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate. Round 1 Grantees of the YRG Program include 27 local government agencies which were required to give 90 percent of their awarded funds to community-based organizations (CBOs) who delivered diversion services. The grantee programs provided diversion and alternative-sanction programs, academic- and vocational-education services, mentoring, behavioral health services, and/or mental health services. While the primary goal of this grant program is to avoid initial contact with law enforcement, grant funds could also be used to avoid further interaction with the juvenile justice system for youth who already had an initial contact. YRG Program Round 1 funding represents an investment of \$26,368,966 during the four-year grant period of July 2019 to February 2023.

The administrator of the grant, the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) contracted with the Institute for Social Research (ISR) at California State University, Sacramento, to conduct a statewide evaluation of the YRG Program. The evaluation was designed to measure the overall impacts of the YRG Program by using aggregated youth data reported by grantees. While the evaluation findings provide a description of the program services as well as the youth served, the program outcomes were measured differently by each grantee. Taking the evaluation design into account, the following key findings are summarized below. A total of 10,937 youth (first-time entry) were served by the YRG Program across the four years of the grant.

- **YRG Funding Targeted High-Need Communities.** Round 1 Grants were awarded to local jurisdictions that experience on higher juvenile arrest rates compared to the state average (1,370 vs. 1,264 per 100,000 in 2018). Likewise, a significant proportion of youth in these funded communities are Hispanic/Latino or Black/African American. In 2021, 52 percent of youth identified as Hispanic/Latino, followed by five percent of youth identified as Black/African American.
- **YRG Funding Supports a Wide-Array of Youth Diversion Programs and Services.** Local government grantees partnered with CBOs in their communities to deliver their diversion programs. These CBO partners addressed the unique needs and challenges within the local youth populations. The majority of the funded programs focused on Pre-arrest Diversion (78%) and Community-Led Diversion (70%) programs and services.
- **YRG Diversion Programming Was Not Fully Implemented Until Year Three.** Only half of the grantees had the staffing in place to implement their programs at the end of the first year of the grant, and less than half (44%) of grantees had the needed partnerships for program implementation. The emergence of COVID-19 nine months into the grant undoubtedly was a factor for delayed programming.

- **YRG Diversion Programming Targeted At-Promise Youth¹.** Grantees' youth participation data demonstrate that diversion programming targeted at-promise youth. Over half of the youth participants were assessed at Medium or High risk when enrolling in grantee programs. Half of the youth participants (51%) overall were Hispanic/Latino and 21 percent are Black/African American. Almost a third (27%) of participants had previous contact with law enforcement (pre/post adjudication or informal contact); 56 percent had no contact and the status of the remaining 17 percent was unknown. Almost all of the youth (89%) were participating voluntarily.
- **YRG Grantees Provided Vital Services to Youth, and Especially During the Pandemic.** Despite challenges presented by stay-at-home orders during the pandemic, grantees provided youth services throughout the grant cycle. In grant year 22/23, grantees supported youth with Referrals and Linkages to Mental Health (758 youth), Mentoring (1,793 youth), and Counseling (1,062 youth). Other types of services provided were Pro-Social Activities (2,075 youth), Restorative Justice Activities (1,097 youth), and Educational Supports (1,285 youth).
- **YRG Grantees Reported Positive Statewide Outcomes for Youth.** Grantees reported the total number of youth who completed their program. On average, the most frequently reported outcomes include having No Contact with the Juvenile Justice System (66%), Positive Youth Development Outcomes (68%), Reduced Assessed Risk Status (56%), and Improved Educational Outcomes (48%).

¹ At-promise youth is defined as having the same meaning as “at-risk” youth as specified in Assembly Bill 413 (Chapter 800, Statutes of 2019).

I. INTRODUCTION

The Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) Program was established in the 2018 Budget Act (Senate Bill 840, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2018) and the related trailer bill (Assembly Bill 1812, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2018). Aimed at diverting youth from initial or subsequent contact with the juvenile justice system, grantees use approaches that are evidence-based, culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate.² Round 1 Grantees of the YRG Program include 27 local government agencies which were required to give 90 percent of their awarded funds to community-based organizations (CBOs) who delivered diversion services. The grantee programs provided diversion and alternative-sanction programs, academic- and vocational-education services, mentoring, behavioral health services, and/or mental health services. While the primary goal of this grant program is to avoid initial contact with law enforcement, grant funds could also be used to avoid further interaction with the juvenile justice system for youth who already had an initial contact. YRG Program Round One funding represents an investment of \$26,368,966 during the four-year grant period of July 2019 to February 2023.

Statewide Evaluation Framework

The California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) administers the YRG Program and contracted with the Institute for Social Research at Sacramento State University in September 2019 to develop and implement a statewide evaluation framework for the YRG Program. The request for proposals stipulated that the statewide evaluation design must rely on aggregated youth data and not collect individual youth data (for reasons of confidentiality) from grantees. Another requirement of the statewide evaluation design was that it should not put significant burden on the grantees in terms of data collection. In addition to the statewide evaluation efforts, the YRG grant agreement required that grantees submit a Local Evaluation Plan (LEP) at the start of the grant outlining how grantees were going to measure and report their individual program, and a Local Evaluation Report (LER) summarizing the findings of their program at the end of the grant period. These local evaluation requirements for YRG Grantees were instituted before ISR was contracted to develop the statewide evaluation.

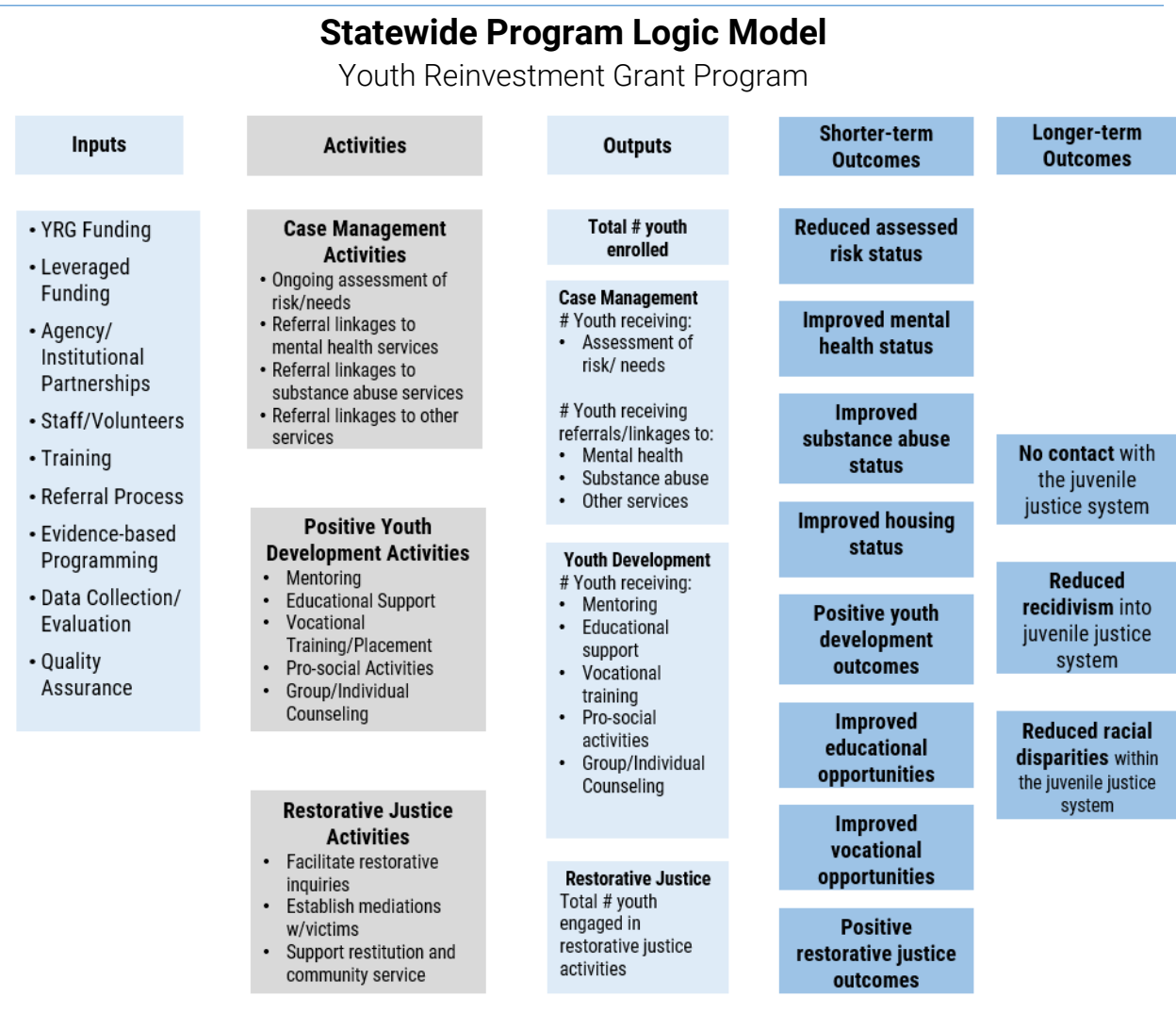
ISR designed the statewide evaluation framework by reviewing YRG grant applications, consulting with BSCC staff, and gathering YRG Grantee input at the grantee orientation in October 2019 and through multiple Zoom meetings with grantees. The goal of the statewide evaluation framework is to account for the diversity of youth diversion programming across grantees within a unified evaluation framework. The statewide framework uses aggregated youth data grantees collected for their local evaluations to understand the statewide impact of YRG programming on youth.

YRG Program Statewide Evaluation Logic Model. The YRG Program logic model is the first component of the statewide framework and represents how YRG funded programming can achieve the goals of the grant program, specifically: preventing youth from having contact with the juvenile justice system; reducing youth recidivism into the juvenile justice system; and reducing racial disparities within the juvenile justice system. Program logic models are visual schematics that help identify how resources and program activities can lead to desired change. The YRG Program Statewide Logic model (Figure 1) synthesizes the various types of youth diversion programs proposed by YRG Grantees, categorizes their core program activities and services, and identifies

² https://www.bscc.ca.gov/s_youthreinvestmentgrant/

common outcomes expected from these diversion programs that will lead to the longer-term outcomes identified for the YRG Program.

Figure 1 | Youth Reinvestment Grant Statewide Evaluation Logic Model



Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports. The second component of the statewide evaluation framework was to develop a method for YRG Grantees to collect key metrics related to program implementation and indicators to measure elements of the statewide logic model. ISR designed the Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) for grantees to submit standardized program and youth data in order to provide a statewide-perspective on the YRG program. The QPR collected data about program goals, program and service descriptions, and aggregated quarterly and annual data regarding youth participation, youth demographics and background, and the status of statewide outcomes. The QPR was designed as an Adobe form which enabled grantees to electronically report their project data to the BSCC and allowed for the data to be automatically extracted for analysis. ISR cleaned and analyzed grantee QPR data to provide a summary of program activity across the program since 2019. While most grantees (22 grantees out of 27) submitted 90 percent or more of their quarterly reports, some grantee QPRs were missing or excluded in the analysis below due to data quality.

YRG Round 1 Grantees

The 27 YRG Grantees were selected based upon the four criteria:

1. program need (i.e., target population to be served)
2. type of program services (i.e., trauma informed, developmentally appropriate, integrated with formal justice system or other partnerships)
3. data collection/evaluation (i.e., how data will be collected reported)
4. proposed budget

The average award for YRG Grantees was \$976,628, with individual grants ranging from \$300,000 to \$2,997,952. Table 1 below lists the local governments that were selected for the Round 1 YRG awards, their diversion program name, as well as the total grant amount awarded.

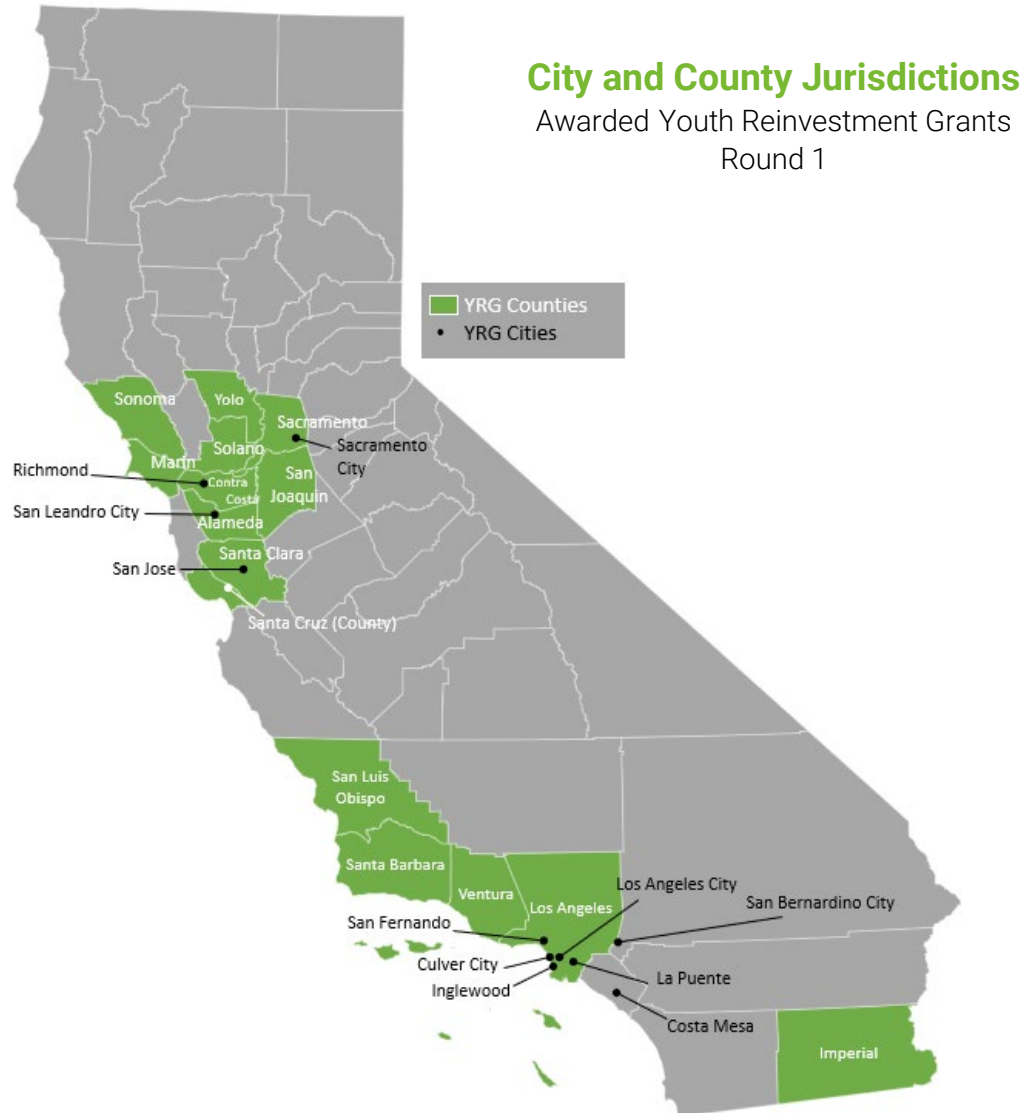
Table 1 | Summary of YRG Grantees, Round 1

Grantee	Program Name	Grant
Los Angeles County	Youth Diversion and Development Program Regional Expansion	\$2,997,952
City of Costa Mesa	Waymakers Juvenile Diversion	\$1,000,000
Contra Costa County	Restorative Justice Diversion for Youth in Contra Costa County R.E.S.T.O.R.E.	\$1,000,000
Inglewood City	City of Inglewood/South Bay Workforce Investment Board Youth Reinvestment Collaboration	\$1,000,000
Los Angeles City	City of Los Angeles Youth Diversion Partnership (LAYDP)	\$1,000,000
Richmond City	West County Youth Reinvestment Initiative	\$1,000,000
Sacramento County	Pivoting Pathways Project	\$1,000,000
San Fernando City	Tutçint Youth Empowerment	\$1,000,000
San Joaquin County	San Joaquin Juvenile Deflection Project	\$1,000,000
San Jose City	Adelante Program	\$1,000,000
Santa Clara County	(Executive Office) Intentional Diversion for Maximum Impact – Young Women’s Freedom Center	\$1,000,000
Santa Clara County	(Probation)Project Evolve	\$1,000,000
Santa Cruz County	Community Reclaiming Youth Justice	\$1,000,000
Sonoma County	Youth Diversion with Case Management	\$1,000,000
Ventura County	Check and Connect Ventura County	\$1,000,000
San Bernardino City	Youth Reinvestment and Development	\$999,998
Sacramento City	Lifeline Program	\$999,780
Alameda County	Changing the Game: Ending Youth Violence Through Positive Engagement	\$999,372
San Leandro City	Restorative Justice Alternatives to Suspension Tiered Services	\$985,000
Marin County	School Works Initiative and the Youth Early Intervention and Prevention Network	\$935,317
Imperial County	Workforce Inspired Student Edification (WISE) Program	\$830,006
Santa Barbara County	Youth Empowerment Services	\$795,193
Culver City	Diversion Program	\$763,014
San Luis Obispo County	Restorative Dialogue Program	\$733,333
Yolo County	RESTORE	\$630,001
La Puente City	Adolescent Intervention Program (AID)	\$400,000
Solano County	Youth Diversion Program	\$300,000

Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023.

YRG Round 1 funding included 15 county and 11 city governments located across California with a total of 17 counties, with grantees clustered in the more populated counties in the San Francisco/Bay – Sacramento area, and the southern coast/Los Angeles area.

Figure 2 | Map of Round 1 Youth Reinvestment Grantees



Profile of Youth in YRG Grantee Communities

The YRG Program targeted underserved communities and jurisdictions with racial or ethnic disparities determined by disproportionately high rates of juvenile arrests.

Table 2 below provides the demographic profile of the counties in which Round 1 YRG Grantees provided diversion services. The total youth population (11-17 year old) in the YRG Program funded counties was 2,381,300 in 2021. Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino youth made up at least 50 percent of the youth populations within the funded YRG counties.

Table 2 | Description of Youth Population in Counties with YRG Funded Diversion Projects

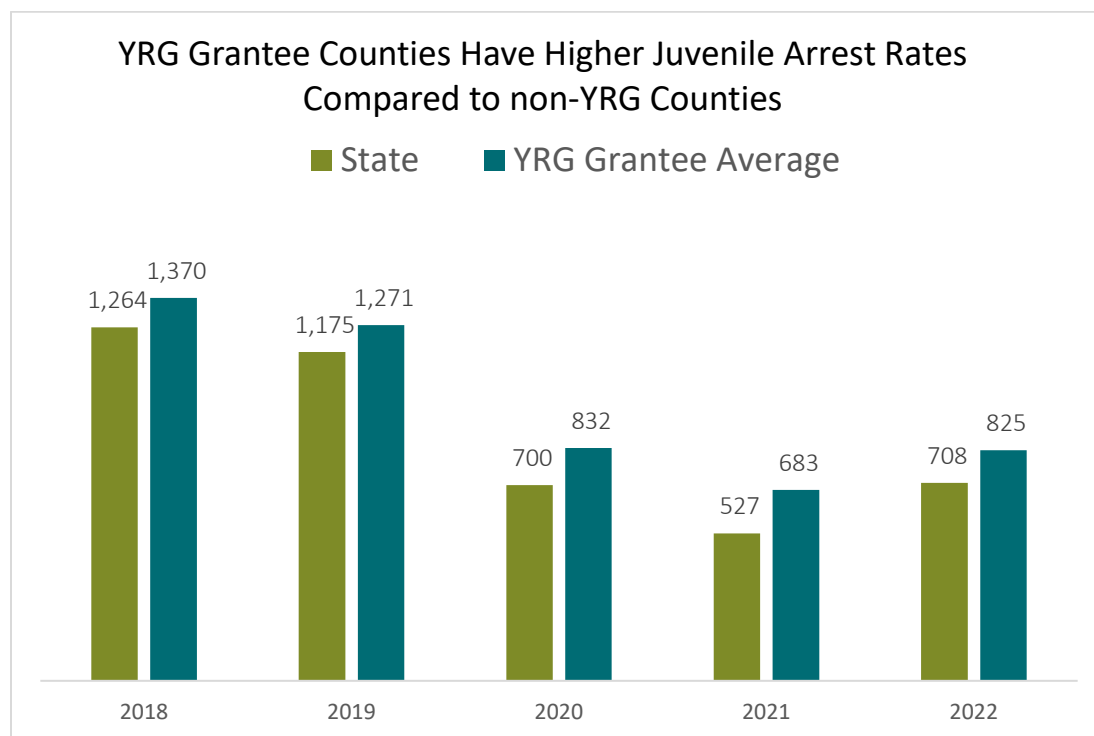
County of YRG Funded Projects	Youth Population (11-17 years) in 2021			
	Total Population	% Black	% Hispanic	% White
Alameda County	133,336	9.7%	32.5%	20.6%
Contra Costa County	112,830	8.6%	33.5%	31.6%
Imperial County	21,342	1.1%	90.1%	6.4%
Los Angeles County	886,899	6.7%	62.0%	16.2%
Marin County	23,123	2.7%	24.4%	58.2%
Orange County	292,788	1.5%	45.4%	28.7%
Sacramento County	150,785	9.6%	32.9%	31.5%
San Bernardino County	233,113	6.4%	65.3%	18.1%
San Joaquin County	87,843	6.3%	52.3%	19.7%
San Luis Obispo County	21,515	0.6%	39.3%	51.7%
Santa Barbara County	39,245	1.6%	66.9%	25.7%
Santa Clara County	172,380	2.2%	35.3%	21.9%
Santa Cruz County	22,311	0.7%	51.6%	39.2%
Solano County	40,359	13.1%	37.7%	24.2%
Sonoma County	40,386	1.6%	44.1%	42.9%
Ventura County	84,590	1.4%	56.2%	31.6%
Yolo County	18,455	2.4%	44.4%	33.8%
Total Grantee Counties	2,381,300	5.6%	51.8%	22.7%
California	3,674,140	4.9%	52.2%	24.9%

Source: Census PUMS Microdata 2021 5-Year Estimates. Notes: 1) All Hispanic includes individuals of any race who identify as Hispanic, and 2) Black and White NH includes individuals who identify as that race only and not as Hispanic.

Juvenile Arrest Trends

The prevention and reduction of youth contact with the juvenile justice system is the primary goal of the YRG Program. Figure 3 shows the five-year trend in arrest rates involving juveniles (youth between the ages of 11-17) for the state as well as for the average across YRG Grantee counties. The juvenile arrest rate represents the number of arrests made by law enforcement agencies per 100,000 total population. Statewide juvenile arrest rates dropped 41 percent from 2019 to 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic began, and continued to drop in 2021, though arrest rates picked up in 2022. The 17 counties with YRG funded diversion programs have higher overall arrest rates than those of the state, indicating that the program targeted its funding in counties that are relatively high need. YRG Grantee counties, on average, follow the state trend of dropping in 2020/2021 during the pandemic. Given that the YRG diversion programs were primarily focused on specific communities, it is not expected that county-level arrest rates would reflect the impact from the 4-years of programming.

Figure 3 | 5-Year Trend in Juvenile Arrest Rates per 100,000 youth, State Average & YRG Grantee Average



Source: <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/exploration/crime-statistics/arrests>.

Note: Both 2020 and 2021 are COVID-19 years with stay-home orders.

YRG prioritizes efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in counties with disproportionately high rates of juvenile arrests. Table 3 includes the disparity ratios for racial and ethnic groups for 2018 (pre-grant) and 2022 (the latest arrest data available). The disparity ratio is a method to measure the disproportionality of arrests within a population.³ In the table below, the ratio was calculated by dividing the percent of juveniles who were arrested from a specific racial/ethnic group by the percent that racial/ethnic group makes up within the total population. For example, in 2018, Black/African American youth made up 55 percent of all youth arrests in Alameda County. However, Black/African American youth only make up 9.7 percent of the youth population in Alameda. Therefore, Black/African American youth were arrested in Alameda County almost six times (5.7) more than if arrests were made equitable across the entire population. Cells highlighted in green showed a decrease in the arrest disparity ratios between 2018 and 2022 by YRG county.

Table 3 | Ratio of Racial Breakdown of Juvenile Arrests

Location of YRG Funded Projects	Black/African American		Hispanic/Latino		White	
	2018	2022	2018	2022	2018	2022
Alameda County	5.7	5.5	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.4
Contra Costa County	5.6	5.3	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7
Imperial County	1.8	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9
Los Angeles County	4.3	3.8	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.7
Marin County	3.8	2.4	2.1	2.3	0.5	0.5
Orange County	3.9	4.5	1.5	1.5	0.6	0.7
Sacramento County	5.1	5.2	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
San Bernardino County	4.8	4.5	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7
San Joaquin County	4.8	4.7	0.7	0.8	1.3	0.9
San Luis Obispo County	7.1	6.7	0.8	1.4	1.1	0.8
Santa Barbara County	3.0	2.2	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.7
Santa Clara County	4.6	4.8	2.0	1.8	0.5	0.5
Santa Cruz County	4.5	3.7	1.3	1.3	0.7	0.7
Solano County	2.8	3.5	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.9
Sonoma County	4.9	4.2	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.9
Ventura County	5.7	3.0	1.2	1.4	0.7	0.5
Yolo County	7.7	5.5	1.2	1.3	0.7	1.7
Total YRG	4.3	4.2	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.7
California	4.3	4.1	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.7

Source: <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/exploration/crime-statistics/arrests>

³ <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/literature-reviews/racial-and-ethnic-disparity#nlydqf>

II. YRG GRANTEE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

YRG Grantees implemented diversion programs designed to meet the specific needs of their youth populations and address community needs and resources. Therefore, the 27 diversion programs included in the YRG statewide evaluation represented a diverse array of services and approaches.

Grantee Diversion Programs

Grantees were asked to characterize their diversion programming from a list of categories identified in the BSCC grant application. Table 4 below lists the types of youth diversion programming of YRG grantees and the percentage of grantees that are implementing each type of program. It should be noted that grantees could select more than one programming type for their grant. For example, more than three-fourths (78%) of YRG grantees characterized their program as a Pre-Arrest program and 70 percent indicated that their program was Community-Led Diversion Program. Examples of how Round 1 YRG grantees implemented these types of diversion programming in their communities are also included below.

Table 4 | Types of YRG Grantee Diversion Programs and Grantee Examples

Diversion Program	Example of Grantee Program
<p>Pre-Arrest Diversion 78% of programs</p> <p>Pre-arrest programs serve youth before they have contact with the juvenile justice system. Justification for youth enrollment in these programs may come from school related indicators such as truancy or poor performance.</p>	<p><i>Culver City's Youth Diversion Program provides participating youth with a case manager and an individualized care plan which outlines participation in a broad set of after-school programs, such as parent education, arts programs, mentoring, and job development.</i></p>
<p>Community-Led Diversion 70% of programs</p> <p>Community-led diversion programs place emphasis on alternatives to the juvenile justice system which include informal supports, such as the family, friends, teachers, or others in a youth's life, in addition to formal supports (service providers). Community-led diversion programs can take place pre- or post-adjudication.</p>	<p><i>The Sonoma County Probation Department, for example, contracted with Seneca, a community-based organization, who provides intensive case management services informed by the wraparound service model. Services center family voice, giving the family and youth authority to make decisions while building on youth's strengths to increase protective factors, and encourage a positive outlook.</i></p>
<p>Service Referral Diversion 59% of programs</p> <p>Service referral diversion programs connect youth with services. The connection to services may be within the project they are referred or to external services depending on the youth's needs.</p>	<p><i>La Puente's Adolescent Intervention and Diversion (AID) program acts as a bridge between their local sheriff's department and the Boys and Girls Club of West San Gabriel Valley (The Club). AID provides personalized services, based on intake assessment, referring to mental health counseling, behavior therapy, substance use, academic and sports programming as needed.</i></p>
<p>Restorative Justice Diversion 56% of programs</p> <p>Restorative justice diversion programs serve all parties involved in a particular offense. More specifically these programs provide services that develop meditation between actor and victim.</p>	<p><i>Contra Costa County's Restorative Justice Diversion for Youth arranges meetings between felony youth cases and identifiable victims, along with their caregivers and supporters, to discuss the impact of harm caused and create a plan to remedy those</i></p>

Diversion Program	Example of Grantee Program
	<i>harms as much as possible. Once the plan is completed, no charges are filed.</i>
Probation Diversion 48% of programs	
<p>Probation diversion programs serve youth who have been exposed to the juvenile justice system or are displaying risk behavior and are referred services through their local probation department. Services vary per program but typically include risk or needs assessment, service plan construction and referral to internal or external services.</p>	<p><i>Imperial County Probation Department’s Diversion Program provides academic and vocational education as well as behavioral health and mentoring services depending on the youth’s needs.</i></p>
Court Diversion 26% of programs	
<p>Programs that select court diversion in their grant proposals receive referrals from the court system and provide services in place of formal court processing and or support youth with their court mandated activities.</p>	<p><i>The Santa Clara County Young Women’s Freedom Center received participants from court referrals and aided with system navigation such as organizing community service.</i></p>
Police Diversion 19% of programs	
<p>Police diversion programs either maintain partnerships with local police to facilitate a referral pathway, or the police in that area collaborate in service provision, usually through a police-sponsored community organization.</p>	<p><i>The City of Richmond’s Office of Neighborhood safety teamed up with the Richmond Police Activities League, a community-based organization providing mentoring, life skills training, community service placements and recreational activities.</i></p>
Community Assessment Diversion 15% of programs	
<p>Community assessment diversion programs include initial risk or needs assessments which are collaborative or include multiple voices.</p>	<p><i>Marin County’s School Works Initiative is a project which employs community assessment diversion. While completing assessments information and feedback is incorporated from parents, and other partners such as teachers, school staff, or youth specific informal supports in addition to the participating youth.</i></p>
Other 19% of programs	
<p>The category consists of all other types of diversion programming.</p>	<p><i>Some examples of other project types, as described by grantees, include: positive youth development, violence prevention, family treatment, crossover youth practice, middle school diversion, and pre-filing diversion.</i></p>

Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023

Youth Program Activities and Services

The YRG Program is intended to support evidence-based, trauma-informed, culturally relevant and developmentally appropriate diversion options at various points of entry to the juvenile justice system. Grantees can incorporate a variety of youth activities in their program services. For the purposes of the statewide evaluation, youth services are grouped into three main service categories: Assessment and Case Management Services; Positive Youth Development; and Restorative Justice. Almost 90 percent of grantees included at least one assessment and case management type of service, and more than three-quarters (78%) provided at least one service to promote positive youth development, which includes mentoring, educational support, vocational training/placement, pro-social activities, and group/individual counseling. One-third

of the grantee programs (33%) implemented restorative justice-type services.

Table 5 | YRG Statewide Evaluation - Grantee Youth Services

YRG Statewide Evaluation Grantee Youth Services	
Assessment & Case Management Services	
	<p>Risk/Needs Assessments 85% of programs</p> <p>Any routine project process involving assessing youth, assigning risk levels or other individualized plans, and monitoring progress over time with repeated testing, which is an important aspect of case management.</p>
	<p>Referral/Linkages to Mental Health Services 85% of programs</p> <p>Connecting youth specifically to mental health services outside of the project, either directly through a partnership or indirectly by providing youth with resources. This may include individual counseling, group therapy, and psychiatry.</p>
	<p>Referral/Linkages to Drug and Alcohol Services 63% of programs</p> <p>Connecting youth to services outside the project that specifically address substance use/drug and alcohol issues. These may include inpatient or outpatient rehab, sessions with a substance use counselor, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or other groups or individual services.</p>
	<p>Referral/Linkages to Other Services 67% of programs</p> <p>Connecting youth to other services outside of the project using “warm-hand offs” or other active modes of connecting youth that go beyond simply providing a list of available resources.</p>
Positive Youth Development	
	<p>Pro-Social Activities 85% of programs</p> <p>Services that encourage positive relationships with others and society as a whole. These can be recreational, artistic, social, educational, and more. Any activity that provides youth with alternatives to risky behavior (and does not fit into the other categories) can be grouped here.</p>
	<p>Mentoring 78% of programs</p> <p>Formation of an ongoing relationship with youth in which the mentor becomes a confidant, role model, teacher, friend, etc. and supports a path of positive development for the youth.</p>
	<p>Educational Support 78% of programs</p> <p>Any services aimed to help youth progress in school, including tutoring, academic advising, study hall, supplemental classes, etc.</p>
	<p>Group/Individual Counseling 70% of programs</p> <p>Counseling provided by a professional as part of the project, not by referral to any outside agency.</p>
	<p>Vocational Training/Placement 52% of programs</p> <p>Any service aimed to help prepare youth for the workforce. These services can focus on general job skills like constructing a resume and interviewing, soft skills such as communication, computer literacy and professionalism, trainings and internships for specific jobs, or any other kind of employment support for youth.</p>
Restorative Justice	
	<p>Restorative Justice Activities 59% of programs</p> <p>Services that address the harmful cost of offense to victims and/or society as a whole. Most focus on the impact of actions on others (rather than the fact that rules were broken), building empathy, and bringing affected parties together to build consensus and</p>

community. Common restorative justice services include community service hours, restitution payment, mediation with victims, and writing letters of apology or repentance.



Other | 49% of programs

A service that falls outside of the categories above and is an intentional and impactful component of the project's design.

Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023

Examples of YRG Diversion Program Youth Services

Assessment and Case Management

LA County's Department of Youth Development provides youth with core services from the District Attorney's Office or County Probation which include a strengths-based intake assessment to identify youth strengths and needs in 10 domains. The program's case management then develops an individualized diversion care plan and connects youth to services and activities internally or externally depending on the specific youth's goals per their care plan.

Positive Youth Development

The San Jose Adelante Program incorporates positive youth development activities through mentoring and pro-social activities. Mentors provided education supports, law-related education and a life skill building course. Mentors also maintained youth and parent phone check-ins, and acted as mediators for any school related conflicts or needs. Pro-social activities included youth enrichment, field trips, and afterschool sports.

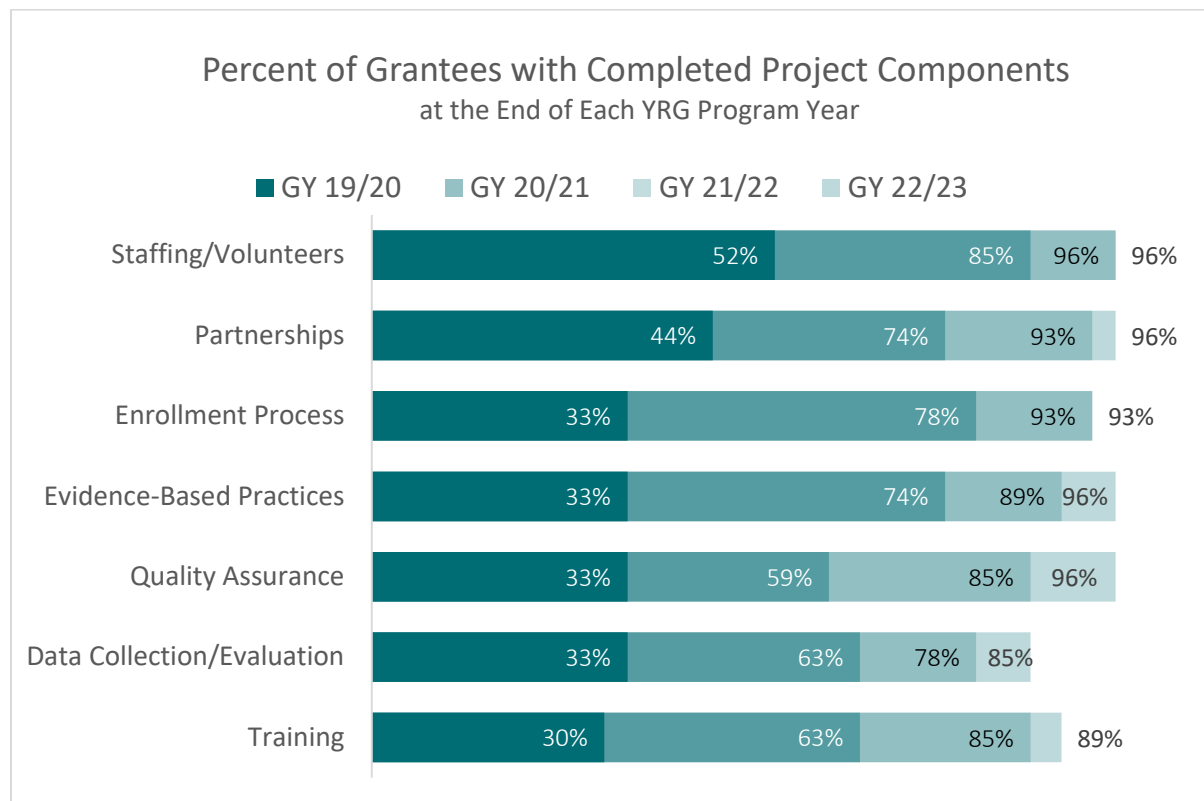
Restorative Justice Activities

The Contra Costa RESTOR program's Restorative Community Conferencing process includes a preparation, conference (meeting of victim and actor), and planning phase. Preparation can take a few months due to the need to build trust and address any other issues that may stand in the way of conferencing. The conference phase is where everyone can discuss causes and impacts, ask questions, and create a plan that meets everyone's needs. During the planning phase, the youth acts to complete the plan, with support from program facilitators, to make things as right as possible by the person(s) harmed. The entire process takes approximately eight months.

Grantee Program Implementation

Grantees were asked to provide a quarterly status update of program implementation in their QPRs. Figure 4 below displays the status of grantee program implementation at the end of each YRG grant year. A number of issues impacted YRG Program implementation. In the first year of the grant, grantees were still forming their partnerships and determining staffing. In the second year of the grant (GY 20/21), the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home mandates impacted programs in terms of recruiting youth participants and providing alternatives to in-person activities (more about the impact of COVID-19 is discussed below). By the end of the third grant year (GY 21/22), almost all of the grantees reported that their diversion programs were fully implemented.

Figure 4 | Implementation Status of YRG Grantee Diversion Programs



Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023. Note: GY 22/23 only has three quarters.

Figure 4 above shows the percent of YRG Grantees who reported their program components were fully in place/completed and supporting project goals. Note that at the end of the first grant year (GY 19/20) only a little over half (52%) of the programs had the required staffing/volunteers but by the end of the third year, almost all (96%) had their staffing/volunteers in place. *Implementation of partnerships* (formal relationships between agencies, schools, and/or community goals that supported program goals) was at 44 percent by the end of GY 19/20. The program components of the *Identification, Outreach and Enrollment Process*, *Evidence-based Practices* (using strategies known to achieve positive youth outcomes), *Quality Assurance* (methods to ensure youth services are being delivered as intended/fidelity), *Data Collection/Evaluation* (systematic and ongoing data collection to measure participation and evaluation measures), and *Training* took longer to fully implement by about two-thirds of the grantees.

The majority of grantees achieved full implementation of the project components by the end of the grant period. It is important to note that the program component *Data Collection and Evaluation* was never fully completed/implemented by some of the grantees and lagged behind the other program components in terms of implementation.

III. YOUTH PARTICIPANTS IN GRANTEE PROGRAMS

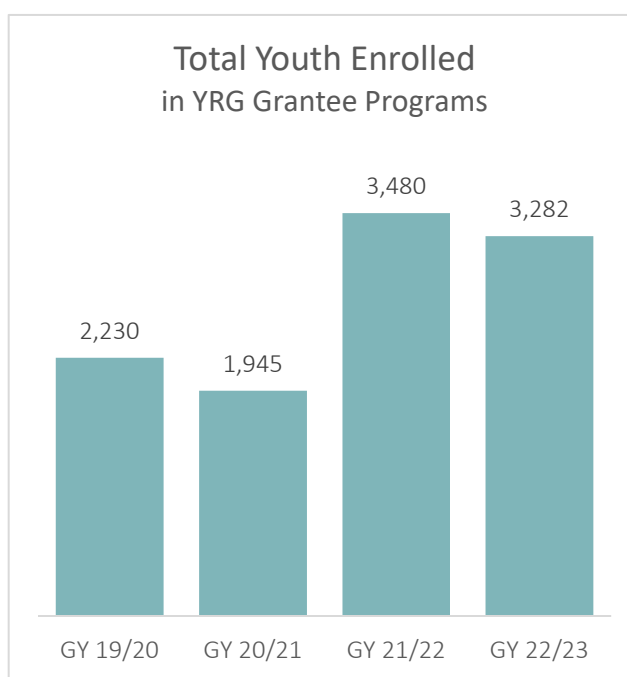
In addition to the status of their program implementation, grantees submitted aggregated data regarding their youth participants for the YRG statewide evaluation. Grantees were asked to track the total number of youth who enrolled and exited a program during the course of the year. Youth who entered and exited a program multiple times, were recorded separately during each grant year. However, it is not known if the same youth participants were enrolled across multiple grant years because youth data were reported in aggregate. Below, the total number of youth participants enrolled annually in the YRG funded programs are noted. Demographic detail for youth represents all four years of participant data.

Total Number of Youth Participants

Grantees reported the number of youth who participated in their programs for the first time across the grant years was 10,937, with youth participation increasing annually throughout the grant cycle. In the first year of the grant, many programs were still in the implementation phase and enrolled 2,230 youth. The second year (GY 20/21) shows the impact of COVID on program enrollment, with a drop in enrollment. Finally, the number of youth participants saw a 60 percent increase in enrollment from the second to the third year (GY 21/22 = 3,480 youth) and slightly decreased in the final year (GY 22/23) but includes only three quarters of enrollment data (July-February).

Each grantee’s enrollment numbers for across the grant are presented in Table 6 below. Note that making comparisons across grantees is difficult; grantees received a range of funding and the different types of programs had varying levels of capacity.

Figure 5 | Total Youth Enrolled in YRG Grantee Programs



Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023
Notes: 1) These are youth who entered the program for the first-time only (first entry). 2) GY22/23 only has three quarters.

Table 6 | Total Youth Enrolled in YRG Diversion Programs, by Grantee

Grantees	GY 19/20	GY 20/21	GY 21/22	GY 22/23	Total Grant
Alameda County	41	80	76	93	290
City of Costa Mesa	13	17	25	12	67
Contra Costa County	11	33	57	49	150
Culver City	41	20	78	47	186
Imperial County	32	36	72	28	168
Inglewood City	2	81	513	654	1,250
La Puente City	29	61	53	40	183
Los Angeles City	0	5	10	4	19
Los Angeles County	0	0	1	353	354
Marin County	25	29	30	22	106
Richmond City	0	6	482	376	864
Sacramento City	86	14	24	0	124
Sacramento County	13	27	16	0	56
San Bernardino City	134	178	168	92	572
San Fernando City	66	88	40	19	213
San Joaquin County	0	25	36	25	86
San Jose City	389	68	77	21	555
San Leandro City	1,000	732	1,040	1,012	3,784
San Luis Obispo County	84	53	92	77	306
Santa Barbara County	13	198	131	125	467
Santa Clara County - EO	66	27	44	22	159
Santa Clara County - P	24	81	223	132	460
Santa Cruz County	34	35	52	35	156
Solano County	0	19	8	7	34
Sonoma County	2	6	12	11	31
Ventura County	90	0	90	1	181
Yolo County	35	26	30	25	116
All YRG Grantees	2,230	1,945	3,480	3,282	10,937

Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023. Notes: 1) Includes youth who entered the program for the first-time (first entry). 2) GY22/23 only has three quarters.

San Leandro’s Restorative Justice Alternatives to Suspension (RJAS) served the largest number of youth (3,784) across the four years of the grant. RJAS worked directly in partnership with the San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD) and youth were not required to have previous contact with law enforcement or have been suspended in order to be eligible for services.

On the other hand, Los Angeles City’s Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) served the least number of youth at 19 total entries. In the QPRs, GRYD expresses difficulties in their referral network, acknowledging challenges to increase referrals from LAPD and schools. Additionally, Los Angeles City GRYD grant concluded early in December of 2022.

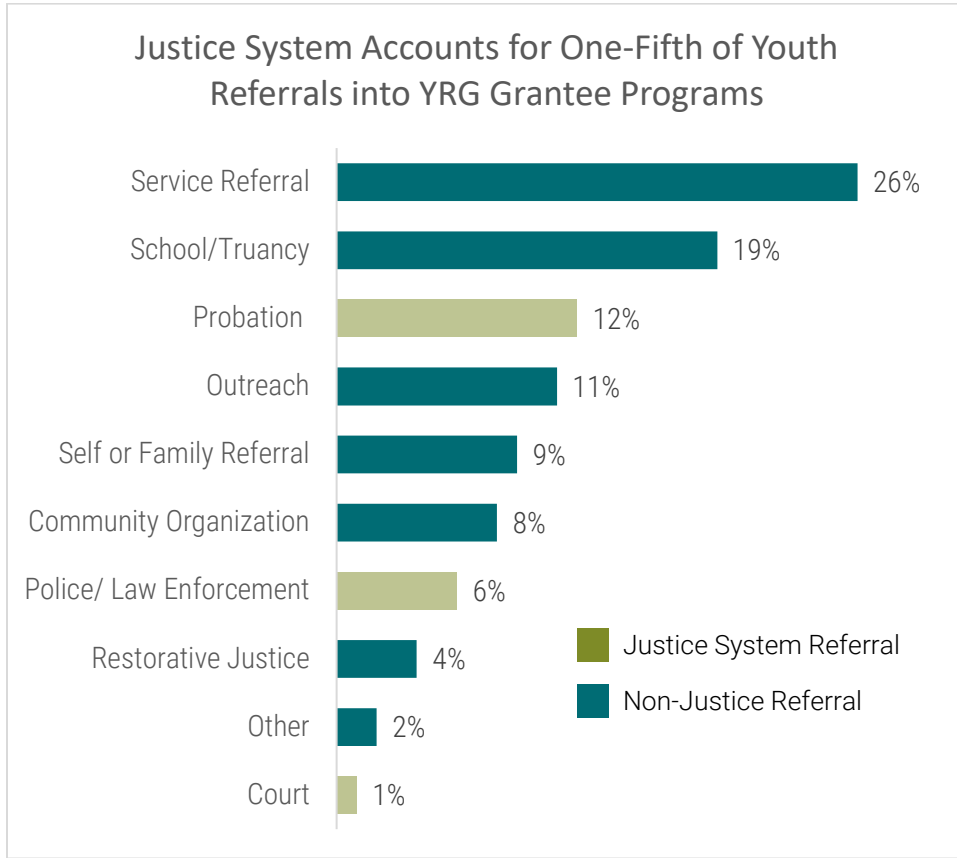
Youth Referral Type

A required component of the YRG funded programs was a clear referral plan and process that ensures participant confidentiality and a commitment to avoid net-widening, i.e., enrolling youth into a diversion program if their needs could have been met at an even lower level of intervention. Grantees reported the referral type for each youth enrolled into their program. Referral types in the YRG diversion programs included:

- **Probation:** referral to project by a probation department as part of or in lieu of probation.
- **Court:** youth mandated to participate in project by a judge in lieu of detention or other penalization by the justice system.
- **Community Organization:** referral to project by a community organization, such as a youth/teen center, recreation club, church, activism group, etc.
- **School/Truancy:** referral to project by their school for reasons such as truancy or disruptive behavior.
- **Police/Law Enforcement:** referral to project by a law enforcement officer, usually following contact and potentially arrest or citation.
- **Restorative Justice:** Youth referral as a part of a restorative justice process.
- **Service Referral:** Youth referred by an organization or agency that has an ongoing referral-based relationship with your project, which may be mutual or one-way.
- **Self or Family Referral:** Youth came to project on their own accord, or as some kind of informal agreement within their family/caregivers (without law enforcement, school, or government involvement).
- **Outreach:** Rather than being referred to project, youth was identified during outreach efforts, which may include school and community events, contacting at-risk youth or families, and advertisements or other public postings.
- **Other:** any other types of referrals.

Figure 6 below includes the percentage of program referrals for youth participating across the entire grant period. One-fourth (26%) of youth received a service referral from an organization or agency that has an ongoing referral-based relationship with the grantee program. The second most common referral type was School/Truancy (19%), in which participants were referred by their school for reasons such as truancy or disruptive behavior. A total of 19 percent of youth were referred by the justice system, either by Probation (12%), Police/Law Enforcement (6%) or through the Courts (1%).

Figure 6 | Percent of Youth by Program Referral Type

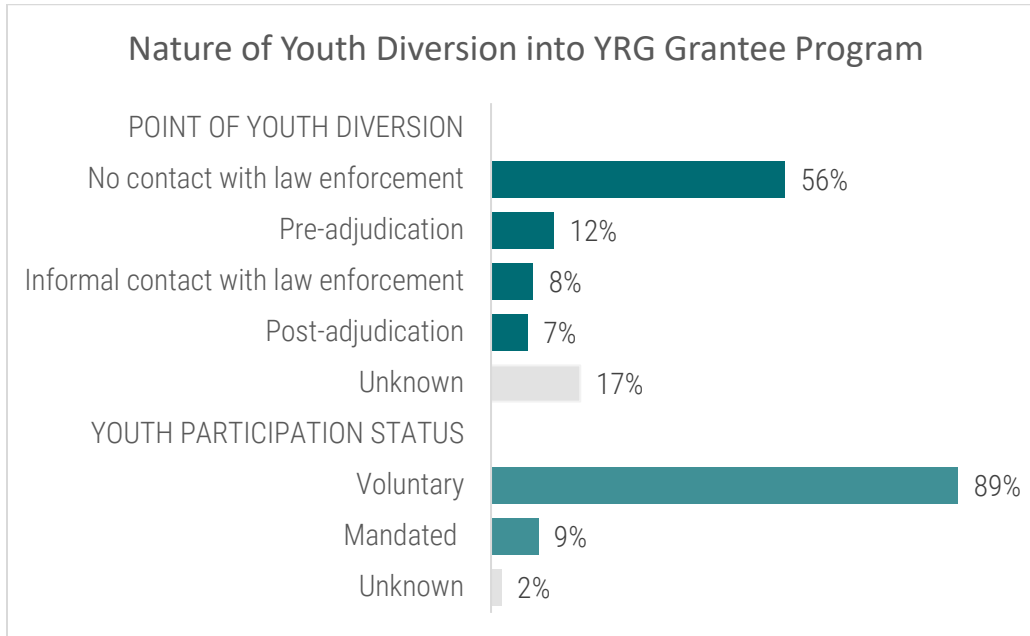


Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023. Note: Lighter color indicates referral from the justice system.

Nature of Youth Diversion into Program

YRG Grantees reported the nature of diversion for youth enrolling in their program as well as if their participation was mandated or voluntary. A total of 19 percent of youth were diverted as a part of the formal judicial process (12% for pre-adjudication and 7% post-adjudication). More than half of the youth (56%) were reported to have had no previous contact with law enforcement but may be at a high risk for law enforcement involvement, for example, youth with poor academic performance or high absenteeism. Eight percent (8%) had informal contact with law enforcement only. Similarly, almost all of the youth (89%) were participating in the diversion program voluntarily.

Figure 7 | Nature of Youth Diversion into YRG Grantee Programs



Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023

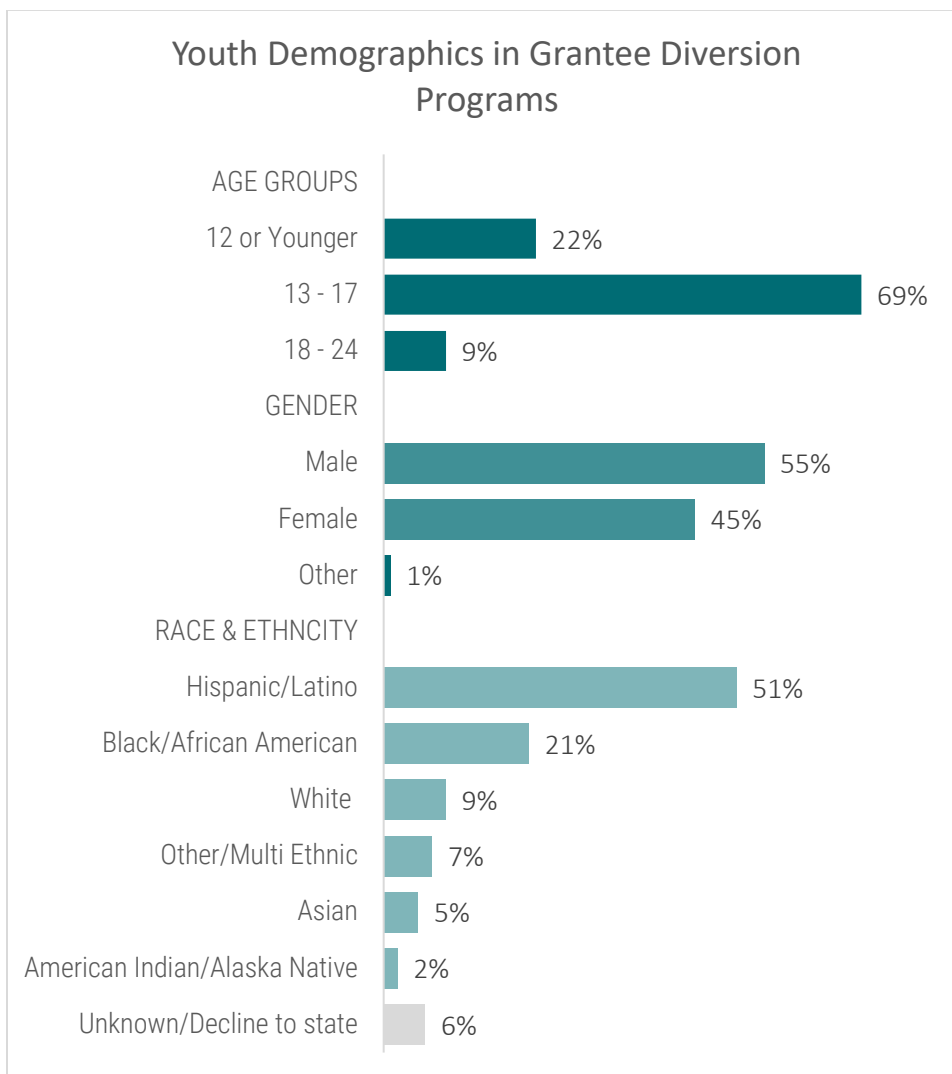
Youth Participant Demographics

YRG Grantees reported the aggregated demographics of youth who enrolled in their programs. Figure 8 shows youth enrolling in diversion programs across the four years of the grant.

Age & Gender. Two thirds (69%) of the youth participants were 13-17 years old, and about a quarter of the youth (22%) were 12 years old or younger. Only nine percent were older than 17 years. Over half (55%) of the participants were male.

Race & Ethnicity. Overall, the majority of youth enrolled in the diversion program come from ethnic and racial groups that have disproportionate contact with the juvenile justice system. Half of the youth (51%) identify as Hispanic or Latino with another 21 percent reported as Black/African American.

Figure 8 | Demographics of Youth Enrolled in YRG Diversion Programs



Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023

Description of Youth Participants

Grantees were asked to report the status of youth enrolling in their programs for several key domains to understand the backgrounds of the population being served. Figure 9 below provides the status of youth entering programs across the four years of the grant.

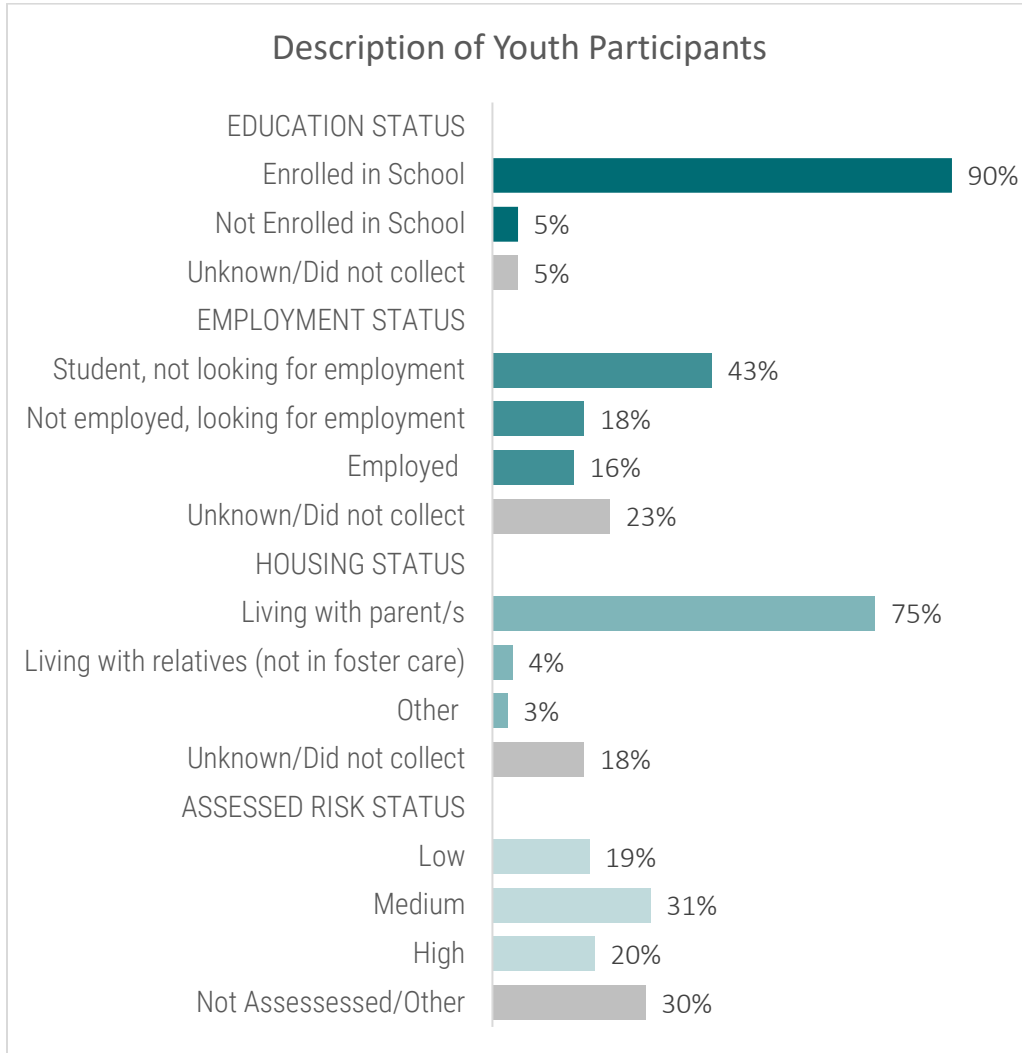
Education Status. The majority of youth are enrolled in school (90%) with most of these youth attending high school. Five percent of the youth were not students, either because they had graduated or dropped out of school.

Employment Status. The largest percentage of youth (43%) were students who were not seeking employment. Another 18 percent were seeking employment but were not employed (these youth could also be students). Sixteen percent reported being employed. It is important to note that there was a large proportion of youth (23%) that did not have employment data.

Housing Status. Three-fourths of the youth participants (75%) were living with their parents at the time of their enrollment into grantee programs. Four percent (4%) were living with relatives other than their parents and three percent (3%) were living in other situations which includes out-of-home care through child welfare/probation, living doubled up/couch surfing, living independently, or experiencing homelessness.

Assessed Risk Status. Grantees were recommended but not required to assess risk status of youth participants with a standardized testing instrument. Almost three-quarters (70% or 8,679) of youth received a risk assessment at entry. Examples of the types of assessments used by grantees included the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Assessment and the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI). About 50 percent of assessed youth received a risk assessment of High or Medium. It is important to make a distinction between entry risk status assessments and risk/needs assessments for service. For example, some grantees assessed risk status at entry and again separately to determine an individualized case management or service plan. Assessed risk status below and the outcome reduced risk assessed risk status, reflects the assessment conducted at enrollment.

Figure 9 | Description of Youth Participants in YRG Diversion Programs



Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023

Examples of YRG Diversion Program Risk Assessments

The Imperial County WISE program used the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Assessment. It is a multipurpose tool developed to support care planning and level of care decision-making to facilitate quality improvement initiatives, and to allow for the monitoring of service outcomes. It assesses a youth's functioning, strengths, acculturation, behavioral health needs, and risk behaviors, as well as their caregiver's strengths and needs.

Sacramento County Pivoting Pathway Project (PPP) used the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI), which is a risk/needs assessment and a case management tool combined into one convenient system. The YLS is a valid and reliable risk instrument that assesses the risk for recidivism by measuring 42 risk/need factors over the following eight domains: prior and current offenses, family circumstances/parenting, education/employment, peer relations, substance abuse, leisure/recreation, personality/behavior, and attitudes/orientation.

Solano County's Youth Diversion Program used the Developmental Assets Framework. The ASSETS framework identifies experiences and qualities that influence young people's development. Half of the assets in the framework focus on external relationships and opportunities needed in their families, schools, and communities. The other half focus on internal factors like social-emotional strengths, values, and personal commitments.












Inglewood's South Bay Workforce Investment Board Youth Reinvestment Collaboration (SBWIB) utilized the Youth Level of Service Inventory (YLS) a Risk instrument that assesses the risk for recidivism by measuring 42 risk /need factors over the following domains: prior and current offenses, family circumstances, education, employment, peer relations, substance use, recreation, and behavior and attitudes. SBWIB also used a personality assessment tool, True Colors.

IV. YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN SERVICES & OUTCOMES

Diversion Program Activities and Services

Grantees reported an unduplicated total of youth who received their program services at any point during the grant year. Youth could receive more than one service and therefore may be counted under multiple types of services. In Table 7 | Annual Totals of Youth Participating in YRG Services the number and percent of youth receiving each diversion program service statewide are presented. In the last year of the grant, the type of program services reaching the majority of youth statewide were *Pro-Social Activities* (63%) and *Risk/Needs Assessments* (66%) followed by *Mentoring* (55%) and *Educational Support* (39%).

Table 7 | Annual Totals of Youth Participating in YRG Services

Total Youth Participants	GY 19/20 2,410	GY 20/21 1,959	GY 21/22 3,479	GY 22/23 3,276
Assessment & Case Management Services				
 Risk/Needs Assessments	1,437 (60%)	646 (33%)	1,488 (43%)	2,161 (66%)
 Referral/Linkages to Mental Health Services	553 (23%)	214 (11%)	962 (28%)	758 (23%)
 Referral/Linkages to Drug and Alcohol Services	97 (4%)	126 (6%)	148 (4%)	196 (6%)
 Referral/Linkages to Other Services	260 (11%)	397 (20%)	342 (10%)	513 (16%)
Positive Youth Development				
 Pro-Social Activities	574 (24%)	698 (36%)	1,078 (31%)	2,075 (63%)
 Mentoring	466 (19%)	676 (35%)	636 (18%)	1,793 (55%)
 Educational Support	335 (14%)	603 (31%)	1,065 (31%)	1,285 (39%)
 Group/Individual Counseling	355 (15%)	439 (22%)	1,227 (35%)	1,062 (32%)
 Vocational Training/Placement	121 (5%)	341 (17%)	398 (11%)	491 (15%)
Restorative Justice				
 Restorative Justice Activities	227 (9%)	394 (20%)	582 (17%)	1,097 (33%)
 Other	440 (18%)	509 (26%)	667 (19%)	500 (15%)

Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023. Note: This table includes all youth who entered multiple times and received multiple services.

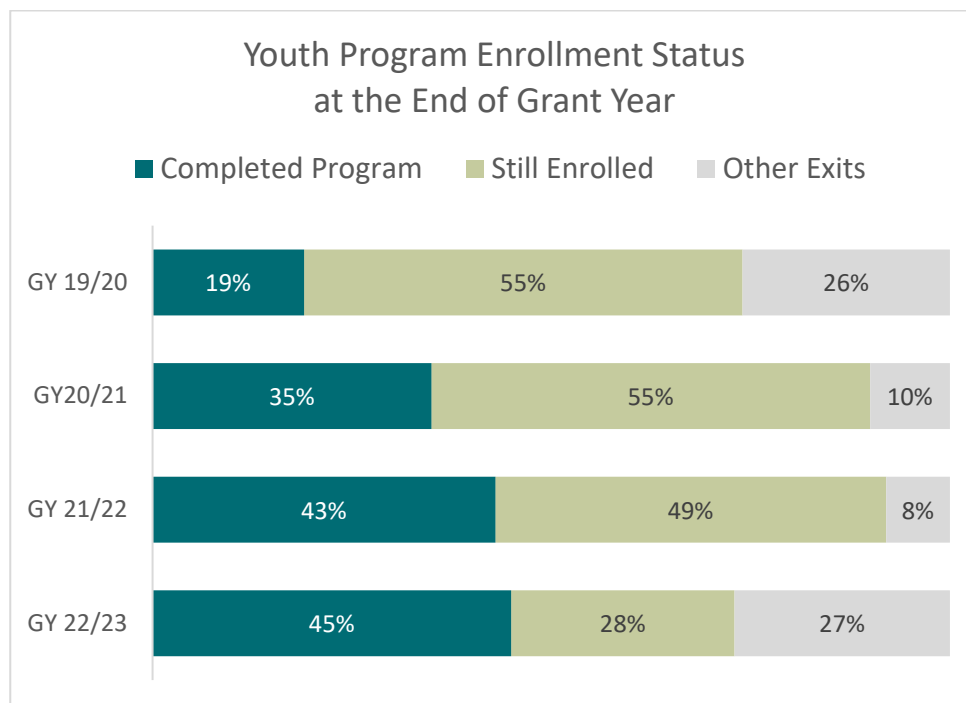
Youth Completing Program & Exits

To account for the variation in the types of diversion programs and youth services offered statewide, grantees were asked to identify a minimum level of participation that would serve as a benchmark for “successful completion of services” specific to their program. This grantee-unique criterion was then used to define a minimum amount of time, the number of sessions, or other measures of program participation, that youth would be expected to complete in order to reasonably gain benefits from the grantee program activities. For example, youth expectations could include “10 mentor sessions”, “one school year” or “six counseling meetings.” Only those youth who met this minimum level of participation were to be included in the reporting of outcomes.

Status of Youth at End of Grant Year

Grantees reported the enrollment status of youth participants at the end of each grant year, including those who met the minimum amount of participation. Programs continued to enroll more youth at the end of the grant cycle, which impacted the percentage of youth exiting because they did not have time to complete the services. Round 1 of the YRG grant ended in February 2023, when many of the school-based programs were still serving youth, and were reported as still enrolled at the end of the reporting period. Grantees also reported in the final year of the grant GY22/23, that 27 percent of youth exited their programs without meeting the minimum level of participation for reasons such as dropping out, losing contact, or being arrested. Of these, a total of 37 (2%) of youth exited the program because they were arrested and/or detained in GY 22/23. Across the four years of the grant, 6,436 youth were reported as exited, with a total of 2,106 youth (33%) leaving programming without meeting their program’s completion criteria.

Figure 10 | Status of Youth Enrollment at the End of Each Grant



Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023

Across the four-years of the grant, youth meeting their specific program's completion criteria at time of exit totaled 4,330 statewide.

Table 8 | Status of Grantee Program Youth Participation by Grant Year

Grantees	GY 19/20			GY 20/21			GY 21/22			GY 22/23		
	Total Enrolled	% Comp.	% Still Enrolled	Total Enrolled	% Comp.	% Still Enrolled	Total Enrolled	% Comp.	% Still Enrolled	Total Enrolled	% Comp.	% Still Enrolled
Alameda	41	49%	15%	80	83%	11%	76	42%	18%	93	<1%	99%
Costa Mesa	13	-	100%	17	60%	41%	25	50%	76%	12	-	100%
Contra Costa	11	100%	55%	33	86%	12%	57	88%	28%	49	92%	-
Culver City	41	83%	71%	20	94%	-	78	100%	38%	47	91%	30%
Imperial	32	-	59%	36	64%	-	72	73%	7%	28	79%	-
Inglewood City	2	-	100%	81	95%	52%	513	95%	56%	654	85%	39%
La Puente City	29	20%	83%	61	90%	84%	53	-	81%	40	62%	35%
LA City	0	-	-	5	-	100%	10	100%	40%	4	100%	-
LA County	0	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	100%	353	3%	18%
Marin County	25	-	96%	29	79%	52%	30	83%	23%	22	78%	-
Richmond City	0	-	-	6	100%	83%	482	80%	49%	376	70%	69%
Sac. City	86	-	35%	14	38%	43%	24	60%	38%	0	62%	-
Sac. County	13	100%	69%	27	76%	7%	16	93%	6%	0	100%	-
San Bern.	134	91%	57%	178	95%	48%	168	100%	32%	92	99%	-
San Fernando	66	44%	17%	88	53%	61%	40	73%	45%	19	50%	79%
San Joaquin	0	-	-	25	40%	80%	36	31%	11%	25	62%	-
San Jose City	389	17%	95%	68	-	99%	77	-	94%	21	-	100%
San Leandro	1,000	38%	30%	732	82%	62%	1,040	97%	55%	1,012	53%	17%
San L. Obispo	84	44%	11%	53	47%	-	92	51%	27%	77	67%	-
Santa Barbara	13	-	100%	198	81%	66%	131	82%	21%	125	93%	2%
Santa Clara EO	66	-	100%	27	50%	19%	44	78%	80%	22	100%	91%
Santa Clara Pr.	24	75%	67%	81	-	100%	223	100%	89%	132	-	100%
Santa Cruz	34	57%	59%	35	65%	11%	52	54%	8%	35	39%	49%
Solano County	0	-	-	19	-	100%	8	-	100%	7	-	100%
Sonoma	2	-	100%	6	100%	17%	12	63%	33%	11	58%	-
Ventura	90	-	100%	0	100%	-	90	100%	2%	1	95%	-
Yolo County	35	83%	17%	26	76%	19%	30	64%	53%	25	43%	72%
Total	2,230			1,945			3,480			3,282		

Note: This table includes first time entries only.

Statewide Outcomes for Youth

Grantees were asked to report their measured outcomes for those youth who exited ‘successfully’ with at least a minimum level of participation (n= 4,330). Standardized youth outcomes were identified in the statewide evaluation for the YRG diversion programs. Grantees reported only those outcomes related specifically to their youth services; most grantees measured and reported several youth outcomes but were not expected to measure/report on all statewide outcomes. Table 9 below lists the YRG Statewide Outcomes and the percent of grantees who reported measuring the outcome for their diversion programs. Note that grantees determined the specific indicators/methods for how they measured these outcomes for those youth who exited the diversion program with the minimum level of participation (see examples below).

Table 9 | Statewide Youth Outcomes Reported by Grantees











YRG Statewide Diversion Outcomes Reported in QPR
Positive Youth Development Outcomes 89% of Grantees Examples include completion of project’s services in this area, new enrollment/participation in pro-social or recreational activities (such as sports, social groups, the arts), self-reported attitudes, or improvement in development measured in another tangible way by the project.
No Contact with the Juvenile Justice System 81% of Grantees Youth did not report any contact with the juvenile justice system during program participation. This includes without further processing if their diversion was formal, or without any processing if they had been diverted before initial contact.
Improved Educational Outcomes 78% of Grantees Examples include an improvement in grades, better attendance, enrolling in school when youth previously were not, successful participation in educational support or mentoring, etc.
Reduced Assessed Risk Status 74% of Grantees Youth risk status was reduced as determination by a standardized assessment tool and/or by a mental health or juvenile justice professional.
Improved Mental Health Status 74% of Grantees Improved mental health as determined by a qualified mental health professional and/or a standardized measurement device or based upon receiving formal treatment/support.
Positive Restorative Justice Outcomes 74% of Grantees Examples include paying restitution, completing community service hours, writing a letter of apology, completing mediation with a victim of their actions, demonstrating remorse approved by a judge or other legal professional, etc.
Improved Vocational Outcomes 70% of Grantees Examples include obtaining employment, success at work (e.g., promotion, award), enrollment/completion in vocational training, etc.
Improved Housing Status 63% of Grantees Examples include an improvement from homeless to housed, from couch surfing/doubled up to being a rent-paying member on a lease, leaving Foster Care or other out-of-home care to a more permanent situation, etc.
Improved Substance Use Status 59% of Grantees Examples include successful completion of a treatment program, a verified decrease or complete cessation process. Use, or improvement on a standardized substance use assessment, the opinion of a qualified professional, active enrollment and participation in support or treatment programs, etc.
Other 44% of Grantees Examples include reduced risk for suspension, improved family relationships, improved conflict resolution, improved financial literacy, increased knowledge of services, improved health awareness, food security and access to healthy food.

Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023

Youth Exiting Program with Statewide Diversion Outcomes

Grantees reported outcomes for the total number of youth who completed their program within the grant year. Outcomes were not reported for youth who were still enrolled in the diversion programs or who exited without program completion. Table 10 shows the total number of youth per grantee year who successfully completed the program and the percent of these youth exiting with positive outcomes. Grantees only reported those outcomes which related to their program services and were measured. Youth could also be reported across multiple outcome categories. The most common outcomes reported for youth exiting programs in 22/23 were *Positive Youth Development Outcomes* (63%) and *No Contact with the Juvenile Justice System* (59%). Almost half (49%) of youth had *Reduced Risk Status* and 40 percent had *Improved Educational Outcomes*.

Table 10 | Percentage of Youth Completing Diversion Program with Positive Outcomes

Youth Participants Exiting with Positive Outcomes		GY 19/20	GY 20/21	GY 21/22	GY 22/23	Overall
		449	693	1,493	1,460	4,095
	Positive Youth Development Outcomes	42%	75%	78%	63%	68%
	No Contact with the Juvenile Justice System	90%	77%	59%	59%	66%
	Improved Educational Outcomes	40%	80%	45%	40%	48%
	Reduced Assessed Risk Status	48%	54%	67%	49%	56%
	Improved Mental Health Status	48%	48%	45%	29%	41%
	Positive Restorative Justice Outcomes	38%	42%	45%	35%	40%
	Improved Vocational Outcomes	10%	26%	18%	15%	17%
	Improved Housing Status	4%	7%	4%	4%	4%
	Improved Substance Use Status	6%	15%	9%	8%	9%
	Other ⁴	<1%	17%	25%	9%	15%

Source: YRG Grantee Quarterly Progress Reports, 2019-2023. Note: Completed youth outcomes reported for first-time youth exit.

⁴ Other outcomes for grantees include: Reduced risk for suspension, improved family relationships, improved conflict resolution, improved financial literacy, increased knowledge of services, improved health awareness, food security and access to healthy food.

Grantees identified their indicators and instruments used to measure their statewide outcomes. The statewide evaluation was designed to meet the requirement of reduced data collection burden for grantees, and therefore grantees could use their local evaluation plans to fulfill the statewide reporting requirements. As a result, there is variation among grantees in terms of how their reported statewide outcomes were measured. Examples of how grantees measured outcomes are included below.

Examples of How Statewide Outcomes Were Measured in Grantee Local Evaluation Reports

Positive Youth Development Outcomes

- In Alameda County, the OMBL program administered a pre- and post-test survey and found that participating youth reported: 100 percent had a positive experience in the league, 92 percent would like to participate in the league again, 81 percent stated the league made them think about career interests and goals, 95 percent received useful information from the speakers at the workshops, and 83 percent stated that the league made them think differently about how to interact with people in the community.
- Over 60 percent of youth who enrolled in the AID program in La Puente remained connected to the community-based organization even after completing their original program goals. These youth continue to benefit from other pro-social behavior-promoting programs and have taken on leadership roles within the Club.

No Contact with the Juvenile Justice System

- In Marin County, 100 percent of participating youth in the SWI program with successful transitions had no contact with the juvenile justice system.
- In Imperial County, 100 percent of the 179 enrolled youth had no arrests or detentions during their time in the WISE program.
- In San Luis Obispo, implementation of the RPD program led to a 75.9 percent reduction in the number of youths who were referred to the Probation Department for new law violations by the end of the grant cycle.
- In Sonoma County, 21 youth (70%) who participated in YDCM did not recidivate during their enrollment in the program.

Reduced Assessed Risk Status

- In the City of Sacramento, using EIS measures, 11 (19%) out of 57 youth in the Lifeline program went from High-Risk to Low-Risk status and 36 youth (63%) maintained their risk status.
- Participating youth in the San Joaquin JDP program showed 42 percent had a reduced assessed risk status, as indicated by the YRG Risk Needs Assessment.
- In Santa Clara County, 98 percent of youth exited Project Evolve with reduced assessed risk status as measured by the YRG Risk Needs Assessment.

Improved Educational Outcomes

- In Marin County, participating youth in the SWI program with successful transitions, demonstrated a 70 percent improvement in their educational outcomes, as indicated by increased attendance, in-school behavior, or grades.
- In San Joaquin County, most youth (80%) who enrolled in the CPFSJ JDP program had goals that centered around education, three (60%) had employment goals, and two (40%) had goals that included transportation. At the end of the reporting period, those youth were in progress of completing eight of the eleven (73%) goals set, and three goals were fully completed (27%).
- In San Bernardino County, youth in the YRG Program demonstrated an average increase in GPA of 31.05 percent. Pre-GPA and current GPA means were 2.19 and 2.87, respectively among 76 individuals.
- In Ventura County, 70 percent of Check and Connect students indicated an increase in teacher – student relationships and increased peer support. Check and Connect Students also indicated an increase in family support for learning (78%).

Improved Mental Health Status

- *In the County of Contra Costa, 67 percent of youth reported an increase in resilience after completion of the Waymakers Juvenile Diversion Program, as measured by the Resilience Scale or the Adolescent Resiliency Scale.*
- *In Santa Barbara, as indicated by the Youth Screening Tool, significant reductions were found for mental health distress symptoms, perceived acceptability of substance use, self-reported substance use, and justification thinking after participation in the YES program. From program entry to exit, 93 percent of youth maintained or achieved a low level of risk on at least three mental/behavioral risk factors.*

Positive Restorative Justice Outcomes

- *In Santa Cruz, 13 participating youth completed a combined total of 340 hours of community service. In addition, 23 individuals from 4 families participated in the creation of a community mural.*
- *In San Luis Obispo County, participating youth engaged in Restorative Conference (RC), an empowering opportunity to feel acknowledged and heard, receive an apology, and participate in developing actionable responses to the harm caused. Feedback from court-involved youth, their families, and people harmed by juvenile offenses who have participated in a Restorative Conference has been highly positive.*
- *In Yolo County, participating youth and family members expressed that the restorative justice process provided relief, a sense of accountability, and an opportunity to own their actions and accept responsibility for their mistakes in a healthy and reintegrative manner.*

Improved Vocational Outcomes

- *In Santa Clara County, participating youth in Project Evolve received vocational training and placement, which resulted in 14 percent exiting with improved vocational outcomes.*

Improved Substance Use Status

- *In Imperial County, between 2019 and 2022, 14 youth in the WISE program self-reported that they improved their substance use status.*
- *In Sacramento County, as measured by the YLS/CMI assessment, nine participants (16%) experienced a decrease in the Substance Abuse domain; most of those (8 or 14%) went from Moderate to Low.*

Improved Housing Status

- *In Marin County, after successful transition in the SWI program, 13 (13%) students self-reported improved housing status.*

Other

- *In the City of Costa Mesa, 55 percent of parents reported an increase in protective factors after completion of the Waymakers Juvenile Diversion Program.*
- *In Santa Barbara, significant improvements were found for parent-reported family satisfaction after participation in the YES program. At program exit, 73 percent of caregivers maintained or achieved a high level of satisfaction with their family functioning.*

YRG Grantees Responses to COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic emerged nine months into the Round 1 YRG Program. The pandemic had severe impacts across the state with mandatory stay-at-home orders, school and business closures, and the inability to use public space or conduct in-person programming. As a fund intended to support positive youth engagement, the pandemic severely hampered YRG grantees' ability to deliver their programs. More than half of grantees described the following challenges in relation to the pandemic.

Delayed Program Activities. YRG grantees described how the pandemic created significant barriers to their programming, resulting in delays. Grantees highlighted how key partners closed operations or went remote, which imposed significant barriers to delivering services. Many counties were under "shelter in place" protocols which delayed in-person activities.

Challenges Meeting Original Grant Goals. Despite some project activities occurring on schedule, many grantees expressed challenges meeting the goals stated in their original scopes of work. Santa Cruz County, for example, described how even with adapting their programs in various ways, they had only seen approximately one-sixth of youth they intended to serve despite being halfway through the grant:

We are not seeing the number of referrals that we anticipated seeing when we submitted the grant. We had indicated during the entirety of the grant we would work with over 300 youth and to this point we have worked with about 55 youth. We have seen the referrals drop precipitously since COVID-19 and the resulting Shelter-in-Place order from the Governor. Our county, like most counties in California, has not fully bounced back and a great deal of our work has shifted to virtual and remote.

Barriers to Youth Engagement. Although grantees generally adapted their programs to be virtual or hybrid throughout the pandemic, grantees noted substantial challenges in engaging with youth. Many grantees described that youth already had Zoom fatigue (with most schools being exclusively online), inequitable access to technology, and mental health problems caused or exacerbated by the pandemic.

Taken together, these challenges highlight how the pandemic contributed to delays in activities, and challenges in meeting goals and engaging youth after project activities started. Overall, grantee responses highlight the ways the pandemic served as a severe impediment to service delivery.

While the COVID-19 pandemic undoubtedly affected YRG grantees' ability to deliver programs, QPR responses highlighted innovative ways grantees adapted their programs to the pandemic. The top two modifications to programs related to the pandemic were: 1) program redesign, and 2) delivering services virtually.

Program Redesign. Throughout the pandemic, YRG grantees implemented several modifications such as redesigning services and providing them virtually. Grantees also reported implementing new services to best address the current needs of their communities. For example, the City of San Bernardino recounts its response to the challenge of food access throughout the city during the pandemic:

Instantly we recognized the lack of food resources for our youth and their families was a chronic problem. We identified opportunities with local food banks, and now we are recognized in the city as one of the only weekly grocery food resources for our youth and their families. Witnessing our YRG youths' dedication, passion, and work ethic has been amazing. To think, we began the food program to provide for our youth and families solely

(20 - 30 families); our youth did not stop there and now we are providing weekly groceries to 300-350. If we had access to more food, we would exceed 1000.

A few grantees highlighted how the pandemic exacerbated poverty-related challenges and barriers for their clients which significantly increased the need for supportive services.

Delivering Services Virtually. Nearly all organizations developed online resources and transitioned to virtual meetings via Zoom or telephone to maintain engagement with youth and families. For example, as the shelter-in-place order was implemented across the Bay Area, the county of Contra Costa developed new service delivery systems virtually:

We set up new virtual systems to continue to provide creative youth development programming, tele-therapy, and leadership outlets for young people across the city. We held space during all programming to answer questions and provide information about [shelter-in-place] and COVID-19, including hosting "Ask a Doc" on Instagram. We developed online resources and youth-specific materials about COVID-19 and school requirements/policies/supports and convened students from schools across WCCUSD [West Contra Costa Unified School District] to respond to distance learning policies, survey youth about needs and ideas, and organize a Youth Town Hall.

A few grantees expressed the desire to expand virtual and technological capacity. Grantees utilized a combination of video conferencing and webinars, virtual workshops, telephone calls, text messages, email, social media and e-signing to continue services. The Tutçint organization, located in the City of San Fernando, created innovative summer reading, cultural programs, virtual field trips, and restorative justice circles to assist with student engagement.

V. SUMMARY OF YRG STATEWIDE EVALUATION FINDINGS

Round 1 of the Youth Reinvestment Grant Program funded 27 local governments from July 2019 to February 2023, and served 10,937 youth (first-time entry) with diversion programs. Nine months into the YRG grant period, COVID-19 emerged with significant impacts for all grantee programs. However, most grantees along with their community-based partners were able to implement program changes that allowed activities and services to be delivered to youth virtually. The statewide evaluation was designed to use aggregated youth data reported by grantees. While the evaluation findings provide a description of the program services as well as the youth served, the program outcomes were measured differently by each grantee. Taking the evaluation design into account, the following key findings are summarized below. By the end of the grant cycle, it intended to prevent contact with the juvenile justice system (either first time or reentry). The key findings from the statewide evaluation are summarized below.

YRG Round 1 Funding Targeted High-Need Communities.

Round 1 of the YRG Program funded local governments and their community-based partners to provide youth diversion services in communities that represent 65 percent of the state's youth population and had on average higher arrest rates for youth, as compared to the state average (1,370 vs. 1,264 per 100,00 youth in 2018). Likewise, a significant proportion of youth in these funded counties are Hispanic/Latino or Black/African American. In 2021, 52% of youth identified as Hispanic/Latino, followed by 5% of youth identified as Black/African American.

YRG Funding Supported a Wide-Array of Youth Diversion Programs and Services Statewide.

Local government grantees partnered with CBOs in their communities to deliver their diversion programs. These CBO partners addressed the unique needs and challenges within the local youth populations through most programs characterized as Pre-arrest Diversion (78% of programs), Community-Led Diversion (70%), Service Referral Diversion (59%), and Restorative Justice Diversion (56%). Within these program models, the most common types of youth services provided included Risk/Needs Assessments, Referrals/Linkages to Mental Health, Drug, and Alcohol Services, Pro-Social Activities, Mentoring, Educational Support, Counseling, Vocational Training, and Restorative Justice Activities.

YRG Diversion Programming Was Not Fully Implemented Until Year Three.

Only half of grantees had the staffing in place to implement their programs at the end of the first year of the grant, and less than half (44%) of grantees had the needed partnerships for program implementation. Forming partnerships and implementing programs requires significant time, especially given that local governments must process agreements and contracts with partnering CBOs. The emergence of COVID-19 nine months into the grant also accounted for some of the delays in program implementation. Most grantees had key program components in place by the end of the third grant year. The program area that lagged most among the grant cycle was Data Collection/Evaluation, with 85 percent of the grantees reporting that these activities were established by the end of the grant cycle.

YRG Diversion Programming Targeted At-Promise Youth.

Grantee reported youth participation data that demonstrate diversion programming targeted at-promise youth. Over half of the youth participants assessed entered YRG programs with Medium or High-Risk levels. YRG program also served youth who have disproportionate arrest rates within the grantee counties; half of the youth participants (51%) statewide were Hispanic/Latino and 21 percent were Black/African American. Almost a third (27%) of program participants had previous contact with law enforcement (pre/post-adjudication or informal contact); 56 percent had no contact and the status of the remaining 17 percent was unknown. Almost all of the youth (89%) were participating in the YRG program voluntarily.

YRG Grantees Provided Vital Services to Youth, and Especially During the Pandemic.

Despite challenges presented by stay-at-home orders during the pandemic, grantees reported providing youth services throughout the grant cycle. In the final year of the grant (GY22/23), grantees supported youth with Referrals/Linkages to Mental Health (758 youth), Mentoring (1,793 youth) and Counseling (1,062 youth). Other types of services provided were Pro-Social Activities (2,075 youth), Restorative Justice Activities (1,097 youth) and Educational Supports (1,285 youth).

YRG Grantees Reported Positive Statewide Outcomes for Youth.

Grantees reported positive outcomes for those youth completing their programs. Overall, the most frequently reported outcomes for youth include having No Contact with the Juvenile Justice System (66%, n=2,691), Positive Youth Development Outcomes (68%, n=2,789), Reduced Assessed Risk Status (56%, n=2,299) and Improved Educational Outcomes (48%, n=1,980). Note that grantees only measured outcomes related to their program services. The percentage represents an average across the four years first time exits and the reported number applies to total first time exits.

ATTACHMENT A – GRANTEE PROGRAM SUMMARY

Grantee	Program Summary
Alameda County	Changing the Game is a collaboration between probation, police and the community that utilizes sports and wrap-around support to provide youth with positive alternatives, healthy social interactions, critical mental health support, and community role models. This program is a blend of two 2 program strategies: The Oakland’s Midnight Basketball League (run by police) and Pathways (community-based intervention).
City of Costa Mesa	The City of Costa Mesa and Waymakers addressed alternatives to law enforcement “over-handling” of low-risk youth by petitioning youth into the formal juvenile justice system. Waymakers provided Juvenile Diversion services to address violence prevention and intervention for youth and their families and aided impacted victims. Waymakers used a short-term, solution-focused, restorative justice model designed to work in collaboration with law enforcement, local schools, victims, and the community to divert low-risk youth from the juvenile justice system.
Contra Costa County	The RESTORE program focuses on providing trauma-informed, culturally relevant, and developmentally appropriate wraparound services to both the young person and the person harmed. RESTOR employees a co-facilitation model, which ensures that one facilitator can focus on preparing participants and leading the conference, while the other facilitator focuses on case management and providing wraparound services. Referrals are made pre-charge, meaning the young person has been arrested but has not been formally charged. The program seeks to reduce the risk of probation or technical violations impacting program participation, which can increase a young person’s likelihood of detention, disrupt education and employment opportunities, and can have emotional and psychological consequences for young people. It also aims to decrease the pressure from the legal system and provides an opportunity for youth to engage in a restorative justice process. Once restorative justice plan is complete the DA closes the case with no charges filed.
Culver City	Participating youth will receive an individualized care plan after meeting with his/her case manager which will outline participation in a broad set of after-school programs, such as parent education, arts programs, mentoring, and job development, for youth and their families.
Imperial County	The Workforce Inspired Student Edification (WISE) program was intended to provide diversion services and community-based services to at-risk youth between ages 13-18, that have come in contact with law enforcement or were displaying at-risk behaviors such as truancy, school attendance issues, aggression, multiple academic disciplinary actions, oppositional/defiant behaviors and homelessness. WISE was modeled after best practices that emphasize positive decision-making, skill building opportunities and tools to build a brighter future. WISE program services were intended to respond to the needs and strengths of the participant directed by an Individual Service Plan, which included positive and realistic interpersonal goals. Youth would also be linked to medical, economic, and supportive community-based resources depending on their needs and were anticipated to complete the program within three to six months.
Inglewood City	The South Bay Workforce Investment Board Youth Reinvestment Program creates a systemic pathway for diversion and employment opportunities for 150 youth ages 14-18. It utilizes interventions to increase sociability, case

	<p>management, job training, paid work experience, improved employment marketability, and job search assistance. Diversion services include community empowerment models, mental health diversion, Families Able to Resolve Situations mediation, and Everychild Restorative Justice Center case management. Mentoring, sports therapy, and leadership development are also provided.</p>
La Puente City	<p>The City of La Puente created the Adolescent Intervention and Diversion (AID) program, a referral-based program designed to intervene and divert non-violent youth into The Club's programs. Over the three years of this grant, participants worked one-on-one with case managers from The Club to learn skills and develop tools to help them make healthier life choices. The underlying philosophy of this program was that if youth were provided with positive alternatives, they'd avoid future problematic interactions with law enforcement. The included programs focused on critical outcomes related to academic development, drug and alcohol prevention and intervention, fitness, recreation, and social-emotional development.</p>
Los Angeles City	<p>Through the City of Los Angeles Youth Diversion Partnership (LAYDP), the City of Los Angeles works to reduce inequities in law enforcement contact and arrest for youth in the targeted communities. The Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) Office has developed a strength-based approach assessment which allows us to support the youth by enhancing their assets and increasing their protective factors. Each youth has their individual case plan designed by the service provider based on the assessment results to better serve the youth and family needs.</p>
Los Angeles County	<p>This effort builds on existing diversion efforts, scaling and spreading pre-arrest community-based youth diversion in a project area composed of several jurisdictions. The Youth Diversion and Development Program model provides funding and capacity-building to a network of community-based organizations to empower them as providers of individualized healing-informed and strengths-based services for youth in lieu of arrest/citation.</p>
Marin County	<p>The School Works Initiative (SWI) is an intensive program focused on the individual needs of youths struggling in their school environment with early-intervention and case management services. By addressing identified needs at an earlier stage, SWI aims to improve short-term school connectedness and reduce the risk of juvenile justice involvement and the overrepresentation of youth of color in the long-term. The program also looks to increase protective factors, which include parental resilience, concrete support, social connections, social-emotional competence, and knowledge of parenting & child development. SWI services are expected to last for six months to stabilize families and connect them to services.</p>
Richmond City	<p>The West County Youth Reinvestment Initiative was designed to support Black/African American and Latinx/Hispanic youth in West Contra Costa County who were at risk of juvenile justice system involvement, or who already had engaged with the justice system, with the purpose of preventing initial or deeper system involvement. An integrated array of evidence-based services including street outreach, mentoring, behavioral health services, mental health services, vocational education, wraparound and diversion are provided. These services help youth to become reintegrated into their community, engage in constructive activities, and avoid involvement with the juvenile justice system.</p>

Sacramento City	The Lifeline Program was a partnership between three community organizations—Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center, the HAWK Institute, and Another Choice Another Chance (ACAC)— the City of Sacramento’s Office of Violence Prevention, the Sacramento City Unified School District, and the Sacramento County Department of Child, Family, and Adult Services. The program provided underserved youth and their families with family engagement and support, education support and enrichment, mentorship, and mental health services.
Sacramento County	Sacramento County Probation Department’s Pivoting Pathways Project involves, a high-fidelity Wraparound service which is family-centered, strengths-based and needs-driven planning process for creating individualized services and support for low risk/high needs youth who were under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court for the first time and their families. Ex: child and family teaming, family and youth engagement, and individualized strength-based case planning.
San Bernardino City	San Bernardino Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) program is an evidence-based, culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate initiative to address the unique needs of crossover youth ages 14 to 24. The program offers life skills training to low and medium-risk youth who were involved or potentially could be involved in both the child welfare and the juvenile justice systems.
San Fernando City	Tutóint Youth Empowerment (Tutóint) was open to American Indian and other youth residing in the City of San Fernando and surrounding communities (i.e., Sylmar, Pacoima, Mission Hills) who are between 12-17 years of age. Youth were referred from local government, educational and community-based institutions. This program consists of direct and indirect services to each individual Youth, Family, and Community. Youth must be guided by mentors to explore opportunities for meaningful and culturally relevant “rites of passage”- a process of growth and maturity most Indigenous people have forgotten due to cultural assimilation and genocide. The project aims to increase cultural competency, reduce detention and recidivism and support youth development.
San Joaquin County	The San Joaquin County Juvenile Deflection Project is a community driven endeavor to avert the arrest of children and youth for low-level offenses. The project seeks to accomplish this through Community Accountability Boards (CAB) and Community Programs. CABs are designed to meet with youth, help them take responsibility for their actions, and address any harm that was committed by making fair and just amends. Community Programs provide case management, mentoring, and youth development programming for youth deflected away from arrest. Deflected youth are referred to a Probation Navigator for review and receive a referral to non-governmental community partners for engagement into services.
San Jose City	The Adelante Program, with support from the county, was intended to provide reliable, consistent mentoring services that address a variety of individual, family, school, and community needs. One full-time mentor was placed at three school sites and tasked with leading mentoring/intervention, educational support, and prosocial activities for a caseload of up to 25 youth. Mentors also engaged in family support services, as needed, for the families of the youth they served. In addition to mentoring services, law-related education classes were provided to students by the contracted organization, Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY). The Adelante Program aimed to prevent and reduce youth contact and involvement with law enforcement and the juvenile justice system, enhance prosocial and age-appropriate behaviors, family-

	community engagement, and middle school bonding/performance, and better prepare enrolled youth for a successful transition to high school.
San Leandro City	The Restorative Justice Alternatives to Suspension (RJAS) Tiered Services Program was designed and implemented as a youth diversion program to reduce and prevent youth from entering California’s juvenile justice system and help ensure positive life outcomes through college and career readiness. Our goal was to disrupt this pipeline by investing in evidence-based alternatives to suspension that included wraparound services that were trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and developmentally appropriate. In addition, our RJAS Tiered Services Program focused on supporting healthy social-emotional development through transformative SEL models.
San Luis Obispo County	The pre-existing Restorative Dialogue Program developed services through a collaborative pilot program beginning in 2017 between Juvenile Probation and Creative Mediation at Wilshire Community Services, San Luis Obispo County’s not-for-profit community mediation center. The services are tailored to be age-appropriate and designed to be “fully restorative,” addressing the emotional, relational, and material needs of the primary stakeholders affected by an offense.
Santa Barbara County	In Santa Barbara County, the Youth empowerment Services (YES) project brought together the Santa Barbara County Probation Department (SBPCPD), schools, and the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (CADA) to provide pre-adjudication diversion to youth ages 12 to 17. The primary goals of this program were to reduce the number of misdemeanor arrests and reoffending rates in Santa Barbara County’s juvenile justice system, and to support the strengths and needs of youth in a trauma-informed and culturally sensitive manner.
Santa Clara County (Executive Office)	The Young Women’s Freedom Center (YWFC) Santa Clara County (SCC) site delivered the Self Determination Advocacy (SDA) program. SDA serves young women, girls, and gender expansive youth from local zip codes with the highest rates of juvenile arrests and detention, school pushout, and/or other predictive factors of legal involvement such as housing insecurity or child welfare involvement. Services leverage a youth-led, gender-responsive, and strengths-based design by centering youth’s needs and priorities throughout the program duration.
Santa Clara County (Probation)	In Santa Clara County’s Office of Education, Project Evolve in partnership with three community-based organizations, aim to reduce arrest and citation rates among Chicano/Latinx youth through the provision of academic, vocational, behavioral, and mentorship services. These services were made available to youth on the basis of need upon referral by Local Education Agencies.
Santa Cruz County	Community Reclaiming Youth Justice (CRY-J) aimed to divert Watsonville’s Latino/a youth from entry into or further involvement in the justice system. The program intended to fund two years of case management and services for youth with recent non-violent misdemeanor and felony violations, followed by a year of prevention services for family members and the Watsonville community at large.
Solano County	This program expands mentoring, restorative justice services and service-learning programs to serve at risk youth because of their race, socio-economic status, and the gap in service and support between school intervention and law enforcement intervention. Utilizing the XL Mentoring model, mentors support the youth in social-emotional education, school and community engagement and model pro-social behavior. The program targets

	Youth of Color who would normally be cited or arrested for infractions on school grounds.
Sonoma County	The Youth Diversion with Case Management (YDCM) program administered by the Sonoma County Probation Department, is a countywide strategy designed to divert lower-risk youth with high social, behavioral, or mental health needs into individualized case management services instead of formal court processing. Youth diverted from the system are provided modified Wraparound services through a community-based organization, Seneca Family of Agencies.
Ventura County	Check & Connect Ventura County (CCVC) provides diversion services for at-risk middle school youth. The overall goal of the program is to identify youth who are most at risk of dropping out of school and provide them with mentors who work with them to improve their academic performance, build their self-esteem, and address problem behaviors. Eligibility criteria for the program include poor grades, high absences, low self-regulation leading to disciplinary action, and family history/factors known to predict juvenile justice involvement.
Yolo County	RESTORE (Redefining Engagement with Services and Treatment by Offering Restorative Experiences) program engages youth in restorative justice processes designed to build both accountability and empathy in a non-punitive community-based setting that diverts youth from traditional juvenile justice processes.

Source: Local Evaluation Report (LER) from Grantees