

July was a great beginning for the Department of Youth Development!

It has been so energizing to see such a talented, committed group of people coming together to do this work. Starting today, we are officially looking for more folk to join our small but mighty team, and anyone interested can find links to new job postings below.

One of our team's first priorities is to expand the reach of youth diversion and development programs across Los Angeles County to ensure that young people from any community have the opportunity to be referred to a community provider instead of being arrested or detained. We believe this better serves youth and will lead to a healthier and safer LA County. We will continue to report on our progress in the months ahead and showcase the work of our dedicated partners and team members.

One of our provider partners, Alma Family Services, recently shared this note from a young person who participated in their youth diversion and development program. (Names have been changed to protect this person's privacy but the words are their own.)

Hello, my name is Joey and I am very grateful to have undergone the Youth Diversion & Development program. Ms. June has really helped me a lot. Talking with her helped me mature more and she also helped guide me to try and become a better person to everyone that I encounter. Things have happened in the past but I am confident that I have become someone that I can be proud of and will continue to be better every day. I would like to thank Ms. June and Alma Family Services for helping me through a troubling time in my life where I felt the lowest I have ever felt. I will always remember everything that we have talked about.

Thanks for your support,
Vincent Holmes, Interim Director

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