

I'm writing to you today to extend a warm invitation on behalf of the Department of Youth Development to join us for our upcoming Policy Priorities Listening Sessions. The three initial Listening Sessions will be held at Sanctuary of Hope's Antelope Valley location, Legacy LA's East Los Angeles location, and Community Coalition's South Los Angeles location.

These listening sessions are designed to be interactive and inclusive. We will begin with a brief presentation of DYD's current efforts, followed by a gallery walk with the opportunity to provide real-time feedback on the listed priorities and share input to inform the development of a pilot Youth Development Network (YDN) in the surrounding community. Following a Q&A session, we will also share a brief survey to gather additional insights.

We are excited to be moving into this next phase of collaborative development for the initial YDN pilot regions with young people and community members in each region. YDNs will aim to coordinate low-barrier and high-access networks of care for young people, with a focus on communities with high justice equity needs. We look forward to working with community members to build out the model and increasing awareness of, access to, and availability of comprehensive, culturally responsive, and coordinated youth development services.

Your voice matters, and we look forward to many more opportunities to engage in the coming months. Thank you for your dedication to the wellbeing and development of our youth.

David Carroll, Director

June 2023