
From:

LA County Department of Youth Development <DYD@subscriptions.lacounty.gov>



We are excited to announce the launch of the Credible Messenger Pilot Program!

This week, a team of sixteen Credible Messengers will begin providing transformative mentoring services to youth placed in detention at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall in Sylmar and Campus Kilpatrick in Malibu.

The Credible Messenger Program aims to provide a much-needed support system for young people as they navigate the challenges of the justice system. By connecting youth with mentors who have been through the system themselves, we hope to foster positive relationships with trusted adults who understand the unique challenges they face and are committed to helping them return home with the skills and resources they need to thrive. The Credible Messengers will offer individual mentorship, arts programming, affirmative athletics, restorative justice, and other supportive services.



Credible Messengers during training with CM3, UPI, and DYD.

To prepare for this new role, the Credible Messengers completed an intensive three-week training led by Credible Messenger Mentoring Movement (CM3), Urban Peace Institute (UPI), and DYD's own De'andre Nichols. The curriculum is designed to ensure that the team is equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to provide effective support. In the coming months, we plan to grow the team and expand services to a variety of other settings.

This program is a collaboration between DYD, Healing Dialogue and Action, the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, the Los Angeles County Probation Department, and many other partners who have helped us explore promising practices in transformative mentorship and helped develop the Credible Messenger model.

DYD believes that every young person deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential, and we are committed to providing the support and guidance they need to get there. We are proud to be launching the Credible Messenger Program and look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on the lives of young people in Los Angeles County.



David

DAVID J. CARROLL
Director

2023 California Justice Leaders Take AmeriCorps Pledge



We're celebrating the 2023 California Justice Leaders as they take their AmeriCorps pledge this month! DYD is proud to partner with Impact Justice to support youth and young adult reentry efforts through Care First and Community Investment funding.

The California Justice Leaders LeadOn program, a collaboration between AmeriCorps and Impact Justice, enlists formerly incarcerated and system-impacted people to provide reentry coaching and mentorship to justice-involved youth and young adults who are facing many of the same challenges they once did. Drawing on common lived experience, the Justice Leaders function as credible messengers for their younger peers. Learn more [here](#).

CFCI Advisory Committee Meeting: March 16



The next hybrid Care First and Community Investment (CFCI) Advisory Committee Meeting is Thursday, March 16 at 4PM! Access agenda [here](#).

Join in person at the Hall of Records: 320 W. Temple Street, First Floor, Room 150, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or join virtually via computer or smartphone by clicking [here](#).

Funding Opportunity for Justice-Focused CBOs



Los Angeles County invites justice-focused community-based organizations to apply for two-year grant funding of \$100,000 to \$500,000. As part of the County's commitment to its *Care First, Jails Last* vision, the County has allocated \$7.65 million in American Rescue Plan funds to assist justice-focused community-based organizations' recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Full instructions and links to applications are available [here](#).

Foster and Probation Youth Benefits Eligibility Finder



The new Foster and Probation Youth Benefits Eligibility Finder Is LIVE!

The Office of Child Protection (OCP) and its partners have launched a new electronic Benefits Eligibility Finder, which allows foster and probation youth in our County—and their families, caregivers, and social workers—to search a large online database of public benefits for which they may be eligible, depending on their age and circumstances. View the eligibility finder [here](#).

We want to hear from you as we shape our plans for the months and years ahead.

Send us your perspective and ideas!



Questions or comments? Email us at: info@dyd.lacounty.gov
Or visit us on the web: dyd.lacounty.gov

SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:
[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Help](#)

You received this email because you subscribed to the Department of Youth Development mailing list to receive notices about youth development.



This service is provided to you at no charge by [County of Los Angeles](#).

This email was sent using GovDelivery Communications Cloud to Email Address on behalf of: County of Los Angeles, California · 500 W. Temple St. · Los Angeles 90012