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



October was Youth Justice Action Month (YJAM), a powerful reminder of our collective responsibility to uplift and support young people in their journey toward growth and opportunity. At the Department of Youth Development, we believe that every young person deserves the chance to thrive, and YJAM is all about raising awareness and taking action to create a more just and equitable system.

And what better way to carry this momentum forward than at our Youth Summit at the Beehive on November 15, 2024? It's going to be an incredible day of inspiration, featuring amazing speakers, workshops, shared learning, and more.

A few exciting highlights include:

- A keynote speech from Xolo Maridueña you won't want to miss! Known for his roles in *Cobra Kai* and *Blue Beetle*, Xolo is an LA native actor, recording artist, and advocate who uses his platform to engage and inspire in ways that motivate others to find their authentic selves.
- Remarks from Supervisor Hilda Solis with video messages from Supervisor Holly Mitchell and Supervisor Lindsey Horvath.
- Youth Panel featuring youth leaders from across the County.
- Interactive workshops and a Youth Townhall.
- A first look at DYD's new Strategic Plan!

Join us as we celebrate the power of youth development → [ys24.eventbrite.com](https://ys24.eventbrite.com)

I also want to acknowledge the recent Board of State and Community Corrections declaration of unsuitability for Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall. The Department of Youth Development remains

committed to working with our partners to ensure all young people receive the support and care they need to thrive. The safety and wellbeing of youth is our highest priority.

As always, please reach out to us at [info@dyc.lacounty.gov](mailto:info@dyc.lacounty.gov) with any questions and stay tuned here for more information each month!

*David*  
DAVID J. CARROLL  
DIRECTOR



## Youth Reentry



The Credible Messenger Transformative Mentorship program was recognized with a Top Ten Productivity & Quality Award at the 37th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards! This incredible honor celebrates our powerful partnerships with the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, Healing Dialogue and Action, and the Young Women’s Freedom Center, all working together to create meaningful change for system-involved youth. This recognition highlights the impact of mentorship and care-first support in building positive pathways for young people in LA County.

## Youth Diversion

The Youth Diversion & Development Program received the Special Merit Plaque Award at the 37th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards! We are honored to share this achievement with our community partners who make this work possible.

Between July 2023 and June 2024, DYD received 1,293 formal Diversion referrals—up 55% from the previous year! That’s 1,293 more opportunities for young people to get the support they need to thrive outside of the system. With community-powered programs leading the charge, we're thrilled to see our impact grow.

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## Youth Development

DYD is celebrating the success of our first summer with Youth Development Networks active in every Supervisorial District! With 34 providers on board, we’ve connected with over 1,100 youth so far. Visit our website to explore the full list of contracted providers and the programs they offer.



On October 25th, DYD and LA County Parks and Recreation teamed up for a spooky, fun-filled evening at El Cariso Park! The park came alive with music, crafts, and giveaways, while families enjoyed meeting local Youth Development Network providers and learning about the programs and resources they offer.

For general inquiries specific to your region, contact our team here:

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## Community Partner Spotlight: Barrio Action

DYD is proud to collaborate with dedicated community partners across LA County in our shared mission to uplift youth. This month, we're highlighting our Youth Development Network partner, Barrio Action Youth & Family Center! Barrio Action empowers young people to succeed both academically and socially. With a special emphasis on helping high-risk and at-risk youth, young adults, and their families, Barrio Action works in partnership with youth and their families, seeking to increase young people's understanding of life choices available to them.



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