



Hello DYD Partners,

Many young people and families in Los Angeles are feeling a lot of stress, fear and uncertainty right now because of ongoing federal immigration enforcement activity. I want you to know that the Department of Youth Development (DYD) and our County partners are working hard to help residents navigate these challenging times safely and with dignity. DYD's "Know Your Rights" webpage provides a comprehensive list of organizations that can offer legal aid, mental health support, and other services. Please visit the page by [clicking here](#).



In May and June, DYD hosted five district-based meetings with community and County partners to discuss the Probation Department's Facility Plan, which impacts youth in the County's juvenile halls, camps, and Secure Youth Treatment Facilities. These dialogues allowed impacted youth, families, and the wider community to learn about the plan, provide feedback, and share perspectives. A consistent theme voiced by the public was the need for comprehensive transportation options to support family visits to facilities. Our

Research, Policy, and Innovation team is organizing feedback from the dialogues for release in the coming weeks.



This month, I was excited to attend Supervisor Holly Mitchell's Juneteenth celebration and resource fair. Juneteenth, observed on June 19th, commemorates the day in 1865 when enslaved Texans finally learned of their freedom, nearly two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation. This joyful day of celebration and reflection reminds us that the pursuit of justice and equality remains an ongoing national challenge.

I also had the honor of speaking to talented young authors from the San Fernando Valley, whose short stories are featured in "Our Voices"—a powerful collection created in partnership with the Plus Me Project and supported by DYD. Read on to explore the book, get a heads-up on an exciting youth program partnership with the Parks Department, celebrate successes from our Reentry Action for Youth (RAY) program, and discover upcoming leadership and employment opportunities for young people.

As always, I value your input and feedback. Connect with us at info@dyd.lacounty.gov with any questions or concerns and please explore DYD.LA for more information and resources.

David

DAVID J. CARROLL
DIRECTOR



RAY Update



Our Reentry team recently updated the Probation Oversight Commission on the Reentry Action for Youth (RAY) program. RAY is a comprehensive, care-first initiative designed to support youth reintegrating into their communities.

The program pairs young people with justice-experienced mentors who provide case management, connects them to essential resources (employment, housing, education, and health), and offers significant financial aid.

RAY is rapidly making an impact- in the three months since its launch, youth participation has doubled, and the program has successfully diverted at least two young people from detention at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall. [Click here to learn more about RAY](#) or email RAY@dyd.lacounty.gov.

Expanding Our SPOT for LA County Teens

DYD is thrilled to partner with LA County Parks and Recreation to expand and enhance Our SPOT, a fantastic free after-school program for teens aged 12-18.

Located in select parks countywide, Our SPOT provides a fun, safe and supportive environment where teens can hang out daily all year long to safely socialize, explore their special interests and enjoy themed classes and workshops.

More exciting details about this partnership are coming soon! Learn more about Our SPOT and find a park location near you by [clicking here](#).

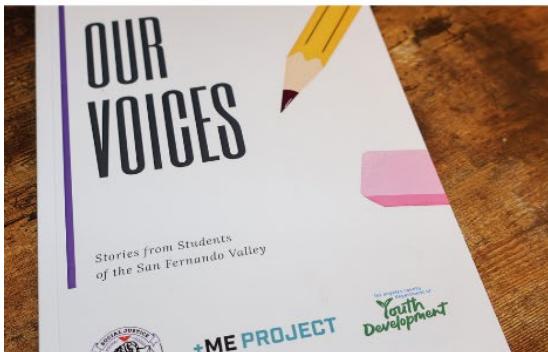


Special Delivery for Camp Grads

Our DYD executive team was proud to provide suits, dress shirts, and shoes this month to upcoming graduates of Camp Glenn Rockey in San Dimas. We're glad to help equip these young men for bright futures as they head off to college and trade school. Special thanks to supervisors at CGR for helping us make this delivery happen!



Author, Author! Plus Me Project Book Launch



Hats off to the talented student writers at Cesar E. Chavez Learning Academy with the launch of "Our Voices – Stories from Students of the San Fernando Valley." Our partner [Plus Me Project](#) empowers young people through the art of personal storytelling, helping them build confidence. The DYD team is proud to support the release of these vivid and honest stories that offer unique and unexpected insights into the experiences of youth in the San Fernando Valley.

DYD's Rooted In Us Summer Series is Coming!



Get ready for the Rooted In Us Summer Series kicking off this August at LA County parks! Join DYD for free events packed with food, music, resources, and activities, all celebrating youth leadership and empowerment. We're bringing fun to parks in all five supervisorial districts, so everyone can easily access this inspiring series! Keep watching this space or follow our [@lacountyouth](https://www.instagram.com/lacountyouth/) Instagram for details coming soon!

Heart of Youth Justice Reimagined

Heart of Youth Justice Reimagined (HYJR) is a youth-led and youth-centered group dedicated to shaping [Los Angeles County's YJR initiative](#). Check out this photo from a recent Long Beach HYJR meeting and use the QR codes below for information about HYJR gatherings near you!



HEART OF YOUTH JUSTICE REIMAGINED

June Gatherings for Heart of YJR Youth Leadership Work Groups

ANTELOPE VALLEY
June 27th 5pm - 7pm 548 W Lancaster Blvd. Lancaster, CA 93534

EAST LOS ANGELES
June 26th 5pm - 6:30pm 4876 Gleason St. Los Angeles, CA 90022

LONG BEACH
June 26th 4:30pm - 6:30pm Future Long Beach 508 W. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 90806

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
June 26th 6pm - 8:00pm 1101 San Fernando Rd. San Fernando, CA 91340

SOUTH CENTRAL
June 26th 5pm - 7pm 7625 S. Central Ave Los Angeles, CA 90001

Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development

June is Gun Violence Awareness Month



Fact: Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens in the U.S. To champion gun safety, DYD this month joined with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Office of Violence Prevention (OVP), for a June resource fair and Community Discussion on Gun Violence. You can find important gun safety information [here on the OVP's website.](#)

DYD June GOATs

Each month, we shine a spotlight on our incredible team members who embody DYD's dedication to empowering and uplifting young people. This month, we celebrate Angela Kim and Vanessa Reyes from our Coordination and Innovation team for their exceptional hard work and contributions throughout the year! They've been instrumental in everything from developing DYD strategic initiatives, designing new programs and creating outreach materials to co-leading our 2024 Youth Summit and engaging with our community partners.

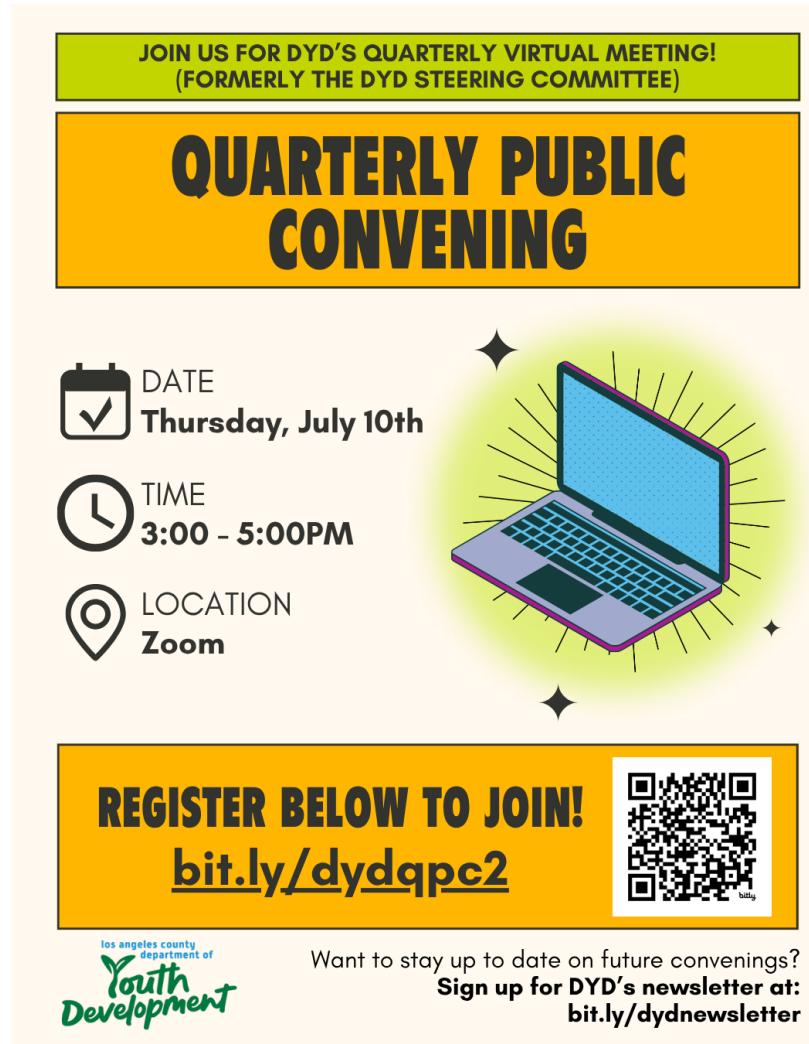


Let's also give a huge shout-out to our fiscal team, which includes John Selio, Melanie Yumul, Stephanie Chow, Pearl Le, Ryan Lim, and Jason Martinez. As the guardians of DYD's financial integrity, they work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure every dollar is accounted for, invoices are processed efficiently, and our financial operations run smoothly, allowing us to focus on our mission.

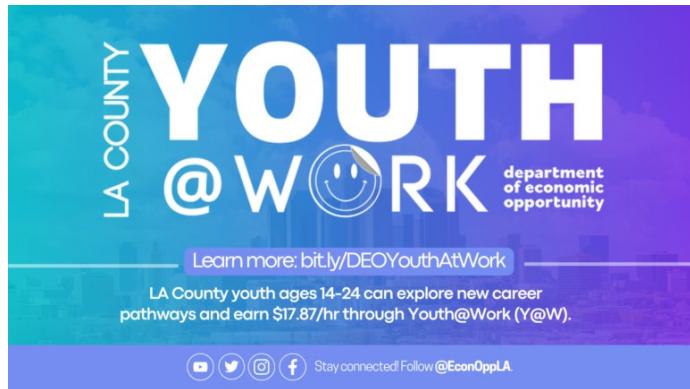
Congratulations to our June honorees!

DYD Quarterly Public Convening

Ignite change! Join DYD, passionate service providers, and incredible young people on July 10th for a dynamic online discussion about the issues affecting youth in LA County. [Click here](#) or on the flyer below to register for this online gathering.



Youth@Work: Your Career Starts Here!



Hey, LA County youth (14-24)- ready to kickstart your career? Youth@Work offers paid work experience in high-growth industries, giving you the skills employers want now and in the future. Get hands-on experience and personal growth through America's Job Centers of California (AJCCs) and local employers. [Click here](#) or the banner above to learn more!

