



DYD partners,

As the summer season ends, I'm excited to highlight several powerful initiatives that are advancing LA County's commitment to [Youth Justice Reimagined](#) and care-first initiatives by centering youth and community voices.

This fall, we are taking an exciting step forward in how we support our young people by developing an Integrated Youth Engagement (IYE) model to directly lead programming inside juvenile facilities. We are grateful for the ongoing partnership of the Probation Department and other County agencies as we build this together. Your voice is essential as we prepare for this launch, so I warmly invite you to join us for an upcoming listening session. These gatherings provide a space to share ideas, ask questions about the facility programming plan, and offer valuable recommendations. Please review the details below to find a session near you.



I'm also proud to announce the launch this month of "LA Youth: Know Your Rights," a countywide campaign giving young people practical tools to safely navigate protests, walkouts, and encounters with law enforcement or immigration authorities. Developed in collaboration with the LA County Board of Supervisors, County agencies, and community partners, this initiative features a digital toolkit offering real-world advice to help youth and caregivers navigate the boundaries of

civic engagement. Read on below to access this valuable guide and empower the young people in your community today!



This month, the DYD team was grateful to join youth at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall, our partners at [Alma Family Services](#), and Probation Department staff for a hands-on gardening workshop in which these young people created a beautiful, brand-new garden. Beyond growing fresh plants, this collaborative project gives youth a chance to build practical skills, enjoy the outdoors, work as a team, and take ownership of a space to call their own.



We also had a great time teaming up with [Hoops 4 Justice](#) for their Community Impact Stakeholders Tournament at Cal State LA! Beyond the action on the court, the event brought together local leaders, justice-impacted youth, and community advocates to shoot some hoops, form genuine connections, and strengthen our shared bonds.



Finally, our team recently partnered with local youth to create a new comic book launching at our October summit! The comic highlights first-hand stories from LA County youth as they navigate DYD's support programs and services. Keep an eye out for the digital release on our website, and don't forget to register for the Built By Us Youth Summit below!

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](https://dyd.la) for more information and resources.

David
DAVID J. CARROLL
DIRECTOR



🔔 Save the Date! DYD's 2026 Youth Summit 🔔



Excitement's building for DYD's 2026 Youth Summit, happening **Friday, October 16th** at The Beehive in Los Angeles! This year's theme, Built By Us, will bring together young people, community partners, and supporters from across Los Angeles County for a day filled with interactive workshops, music, activities, resources, giveaways, and opportunities to connect.

Spots are filling up! [Click here to register now](#) and follow [@lacountyyouth](#) on Instagram for more announcements, program highlights, and updates as we get closer to the big day!

Join Us: Facility Programming Community Listening Sessions



COMMUNITY TOWNHALL

JUVENILE FACILITY PROGRAMMING TRANSITION

Learn about the Department of Youth Development's (DYD) upcoming expansion of programming in youth justice facilities and share your feedback to help shape future priorities and make sure youth have the programming they need.

Refreshments and activities for children will be provided.

 LANCASTER	October 7, 2026 @ 5PM - 7PM Museum of Arts & History: Cedar 44857 Cedar Ave., Lancaster, CA 93534
 EL SERENO	October 20, 2026 @ 5PM - 7PM Barrio Action Youth & Community Center 4927 Huntington Dr N #200, Los Angeles, CA 90032
 LONG BEACH	November 9, 2026 @ 5PM - 7PM Long Beach City College 4901 East Carson St., Long Beach, CA 90808
 CARSON	November 18, 2026 @ 5PM - 7PM Victoria Community Park 419 E. 192 nd St., Carson, CA 90746
 SYLMAR	December 9, 2026 @ 5PM - 7PM El Cariso Regional Park 13100 Hubbard St., Sylmar, CA 91342



Scan or visit bit.ly/465165e
to register for the townhall
near you!



DYD is developing a new Integrated Youth Engagement (IYE) model to bring a care-first, youth-centered approach to programming in juvenile facilities. Please join us

at an upcoming listening session to learn more, share your feedback, ask questions, and help shape this initiative. [Click here for more information.](#)

LA Youth: Know Your Rights!



Join us in empowering young people to know their rights and drive local change. The “*LA Youth: Know Your Rights*” campaign offers practical resources on civic participation, peaceful protest, family discussions, and wellness support. Share these resources with the young people, families, educators, and community members in your network. Visit dyd.lacounty.gov/KYR

This campaign was created at the request of the LA County Board of Supervisors and is a partnership between the County’s Department of Youth Development, [LA County Public Defender’s Office](#) and [Alternate Public Defender’s Office](#).

Youth Incarceration Survey



**ARE YOU A LA COUNTY RESIDENT?
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

What are your thoughts on youth incarceration?

**This survey is part of a research study exploring
Los Angeles community beliefs and attitudes
about youth incarceration.**



**COMPLETE OUR SHORT ONLINE SURVEY AT
THE LINK OR SCAN THE QR CODE:
bit.ly/lacnarratives**

**Fill out the survey by Sept. 27 for a chance
to win a \$100 gift card!**



Questions? Contact akim@dyd.lacounty.gov

We want to hear from you! DYD is conducting a research survey to better understand public beliefs and attitudes towards youth incarceration in LA County. This anonymous survey includes 15 questions and takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Survey respondents who submit responses by **Sunday, September 27th at 11:59PM** can enter to win a \$100 e-Visa gift card. Share your thoughts at bit.ly/lacnarratives.

LA Sparks Cohort Celebration



We're celebrating the first cohort of young men to complete our 35-hour sports and mentorship program at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall!

In partnership with DYD, [LA Sparks](#), [The Twinning Project](#), and the [LA County Probation Department](#), this program combines on-court basketball coaching with workshops on teamwork, communication, emotional resilience, and decision-making to equip these young men with tools they can carry with them well beyond

the court. [Click here](#) or on the graphic above to learn more about the program and join the celebration!

**Fast & Fatal Teen Traffic Safety Workshops:
Expanding Prevention Through 2027**



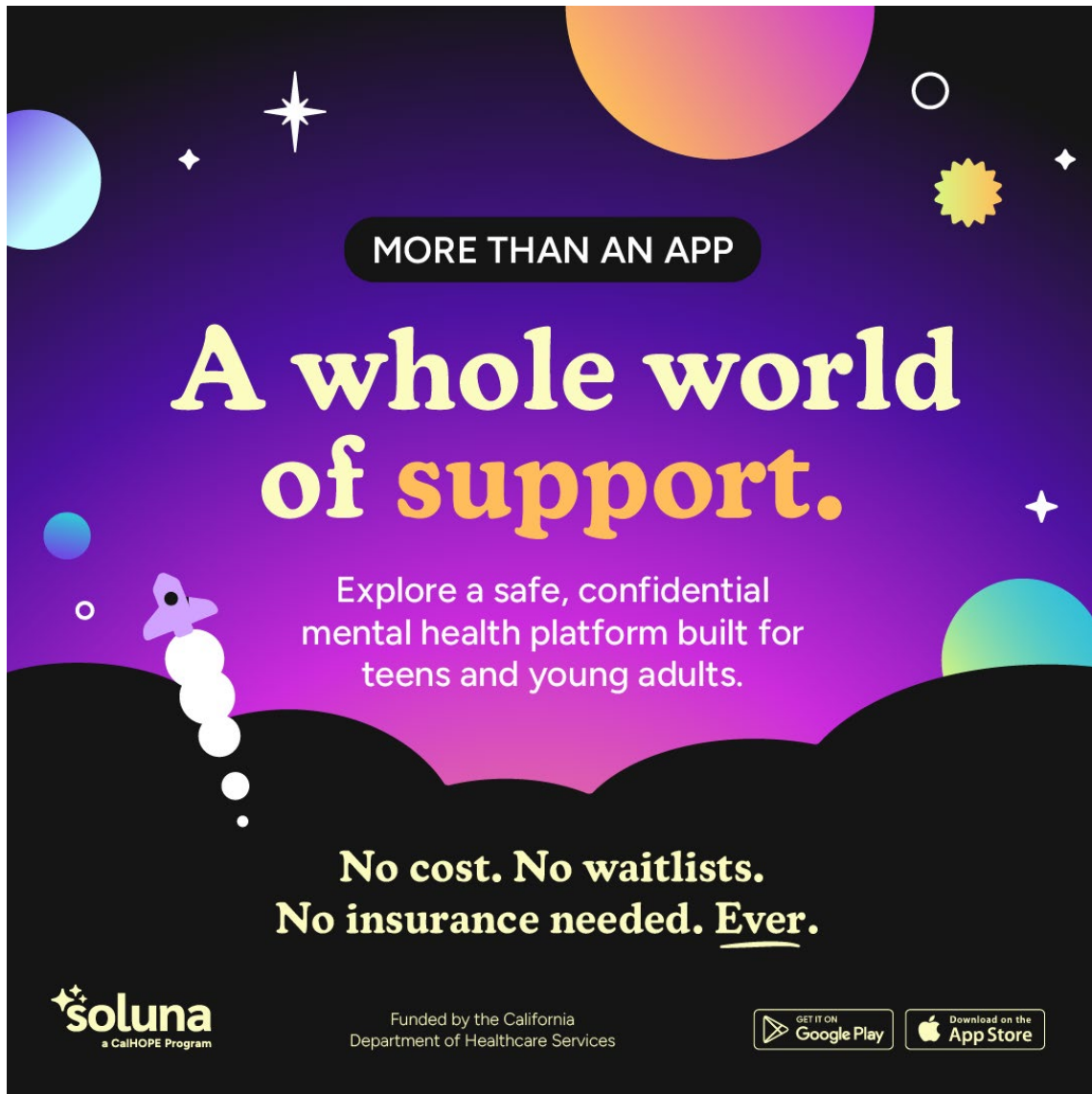
Following the success of our Fast & Fatal Teen Traffic Safety Workshops, DYD is officially extending its partnership with Street Racing Kills through June 2027! In our

first year alone, 127 countywide workshops reached over 3,300 youth—with 84% of participants reporting they are now less likely to engage in street racing or takeovers. ([Click here to hear one young person's story about how a fatal street race impacted his life.](#))

We're now turning these one-time educational sessions into year-round engagement. The next phase delivers workshops, resource fairs, and direct outreach to high-impact schools and Youth Development Networks, equipping even more families with life-saving traffic safety skills. Learn more about these programs and explore resources at [Street Racing Kills](#).

This project is supported by the Los Angeles County Justice, Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD).

Soluna: Free, Confidential Mental Health Support for Youth

The graphic features a dark purple and black background with a space theme. There are several colorful celestial bodies: a large orange and pink sun in the top right, a blue and white planet in the top left, a yellow star in the top right, and a blue and white planet in the bottom right. A small purple rocket ship is on the left, leaving a trail of white smoke. The text is centered and uses a mix of white, yellow, and orange colors. At the bottom, there are logos for Soluna, the California Department of Healthcare Services, and the Google Play and App Store.

MORE THAN AN APP

A whole world of support.

Explore a safe, confidential
mental health platform built for
teens and young adults.

**No cost. No waitlists.
No insurance needed. Ever.**

soluna
a CalHOPE Program

Funded by the California
Department of Healthcare Services

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

From navigating daily stress to finding space for a mental reset, Soluna is a no-cost, confidential mental health app where young people ages 13-25 can care for their wellbeing.

[Funded by the California Department of Health Care Services](#), Soluna offers:

- 1:1 support with professional coaches
- A safe, moderated community for peer connection

- Self-care activities to explore at their own pace
- Help finding and accessing local resources

Soluna is support designed just for youth, whenever they need it most. Get more info at solunaapp.com or download it in the App Store or Google Play.

Find Resources with the DYD Provider Directory



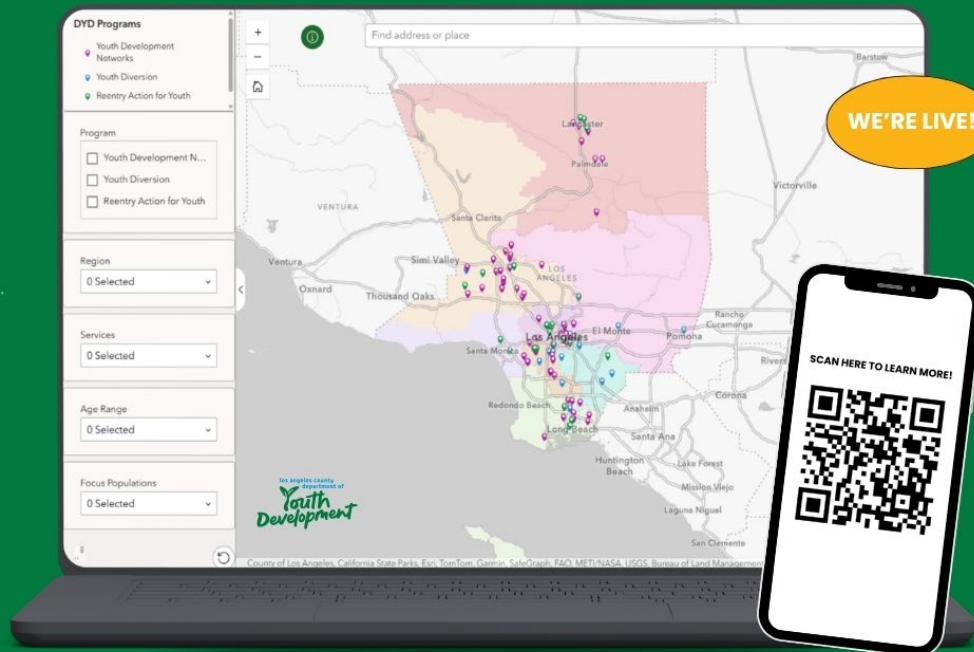
DYD Provider Directory

Check out this interactive resource designed to connect Los Angeles County youth & families to **free, culturally responsive programming!**

✓ Diversion ✓ Youth Development ✓ Reentry



dyd.lacounty.gov/providers 🔍



DYD's Provider Directory is an interactive resource designed to connect Los Angeles County youth and families to DYD's free, culturally responsive

programming. This user friendly map allows you to easily filter results by region, age, and specific service types to help you connect with DYD's youth development, diversion, or reentry programming providers. It's your source to explore DYD's network of community-based services. Visit dyd.lacounty.gov/providers to learn more.

Our SPOT Teen Center



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF
Parks & Recreation

Los Angeles County
Department of
Youth Development



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION
Building safer communities through positive change



OUR SPOT - TEEN CENTER

Looking for somewhere fun to hang out after school? We've got you! Activities include:

- Field trips and Teen nights
- Workshops
- Mentorship and job pathways
- Supper served at 7:00 PM

HOURS

- During School Year:
Afterschool – 9:00 PM
- Summer: 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM

REGISTER NOW



parks.lacounty.gov/ourspot



OUR SPOT LOCATIONS

100% FREE for teens ages 12–18 (Grades 6–12)

AMELIA MAYBERRY PARK

13201 East Meyer Road,
Whittier, CA 90605, (562) 944-9727

BELVEDERE COMMUNITY REGIONAL PARK

4914 East Cesar Chavez Avenue,
Los Angeles, CA 90022, (323) 260-2342

CITY TERRACE PARK

1126 North Hazard Avenue,
East Los Angeles, CA 90063, (323) 260-2371

EARVIN MAGIC JOHNSON PARK

905 E. El Segundo Blvd.,
Los Angeles, 90059 (323) 942-8457

EAST RANCHO DOMINGUEZ PARK

15116 South Atlantic Avenue,
Compton, CA 90221, (310) 603-3724

EL CARISO COMMUNITY REGIONAL PARK

13100 Hubbard St.,
Sylmar, CA 91342, (818) 367-5043

EUGENE A. OBREGON PARK

4021 E. First St.,
Los Angeles, CA 90063 (323) 260-2344

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT PARK

7600 Graham Avenue,
Los Angeles, CA 90001, (323) 586-7228

JACKIE ROBINSON PARK

8773 East Avenue R
Little Rock, CA 93543 (661) 944-2880

LENNOX PARK

10828 South Condon Avenue,
Lennox, CA 90304, (310) 419-6712

LOMA ALTA PARK

3330 N. Lincoln Ave.,
Altadena, CA 91001, (626) 398-5451

MONA PARK

2291 E. 121st St.,
Compton, CA 90222, (310) 603-3729

PAMELA PARK

2236 Goodall Avenue,
Duarte, CA 91010, (626) 357-1619

RUBEN F. SALAZAR PARK

3864 Whittier Boulevard,
Los Angeles, CA 90023, (323) 260-2330

SAN ANGELO PARK

245 South San Angelo Avenue,
La Puente, CA 91746, (626) 968-2666

STEPHEN SORESENSEN PARK

16801 E. Ave. P,
Palmdale, CA 93591, (661) 264-1249

Hilda L. Solis

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Holly J. Mitchell

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Lindsey Horvath

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Janice Hahn

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Kathryn Barger

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

DYD is proud to provide support for Our SPOT, LA County Parks and Recreation's free, weekday, park-based program for teens aged 12-18. Our SPOT offers LA County teens access to a safe and supportive environment where they can socialize, explore interests, receive homework help, and enjoy hot meals, mentoring, sports, and career exploration. Our SPOT offers engaging, meaningful programming year-round during critical after-school and evening hours. Learn more about Our SPOT and find a park location near you by [clicking here](#).

Employment Opportunities: Check Out Youth @ Work

A graphic with a blue and purple gradient background. On the left, 'LA COUNTY' is written vertically in white. In the center, 'YOUTH @WORK' is written in large white letters, with a smiley face icon inside the '@' symbol. To the right of the smiley face, 'department of economic opportunity' is written in smaller white text. Below this, a white button contains the text 'Learn more: bit.ly/DEOYouthAtWork'. Underneath the button, white text reads 'LA County youth ages 14-24 can explore new career pathways and earn \$17.87/hr through Youth@Work (Y@W)'. At the bottom, there are icons for YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, followed by the text 'Stay connected! Follow @EconOppLA'.

Youth@Work provides opportunities for young people (ages 14-24) to gain valuable experience and develop in-demand skills through salaried positions in thriving industries. This program will connect you with local employers and America's Job Centers of California (AJCCs), where you can gain real world experience and build your confidence. Take the next step toward a bright future by visiting bit.ly/DEOYouthAtWork!

Care First



Care First uplifts the message that young people thrive when we prioritize healing and opportunity over punishment. By providing access to supportive mentors, community resources, and genuine second chances, we build a safer, stronger LA County for everyone. Get involved! Visit [DYD.LA](https://dyd.la) or click the banner above to learn about Care First programs and how you can support and empower our youth. You can also download printable information about DYD by [clicking here](#).

STAY CONNECTED WITH DYD!



WEBSITE
[DYD.LA](https://dyd.la)



INSTAGRAM
[@LACOUNTYYOUTH](https://www.instagram.com/lacountyyouth)



NEWSLETTER
[BIT.LY/DYDNEWSLETTER](https://bit.ly/dydnewsletter)



YOUTUBE
[@LACOUNTYDYD](https://www.youtube.com/lacountydyd)



FACEBOOK
[BIT.LY/FBDYD](https://bit.ly/fbdyd)



los angeles county
department of
Youth
Development