



Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board Youth Summit

Panel 1: Criminalizing Youth

Panel 2: Investing Upstream

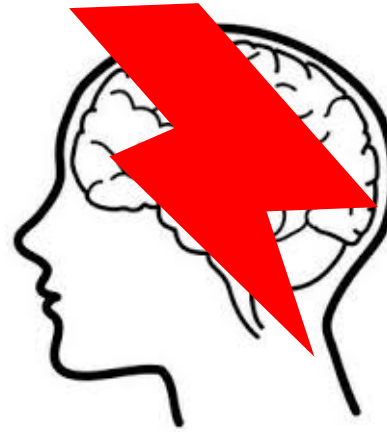
Panel 3: Minimizing Community Harm

Introduction: Lisa Thureau, Strategies for Youth

Teen Brains Are Still Developing



immature



reactive



uninformed

Strategies for Youth



Panel 1: Criminalizing Youth

Jasmine Dellafosse

Director of Organizing and Community Engagement at End Poverty in California (EPIC) and member of Stockton Education Equity Coalition

Dieudonné Brou

Youth Advocacy and Program Coordinator at Urban Peace Movement

Analisa Ruiz

Policy Director at Young Women's Freedom Center



Panel 2: Investing Upstream

Olivia Shields

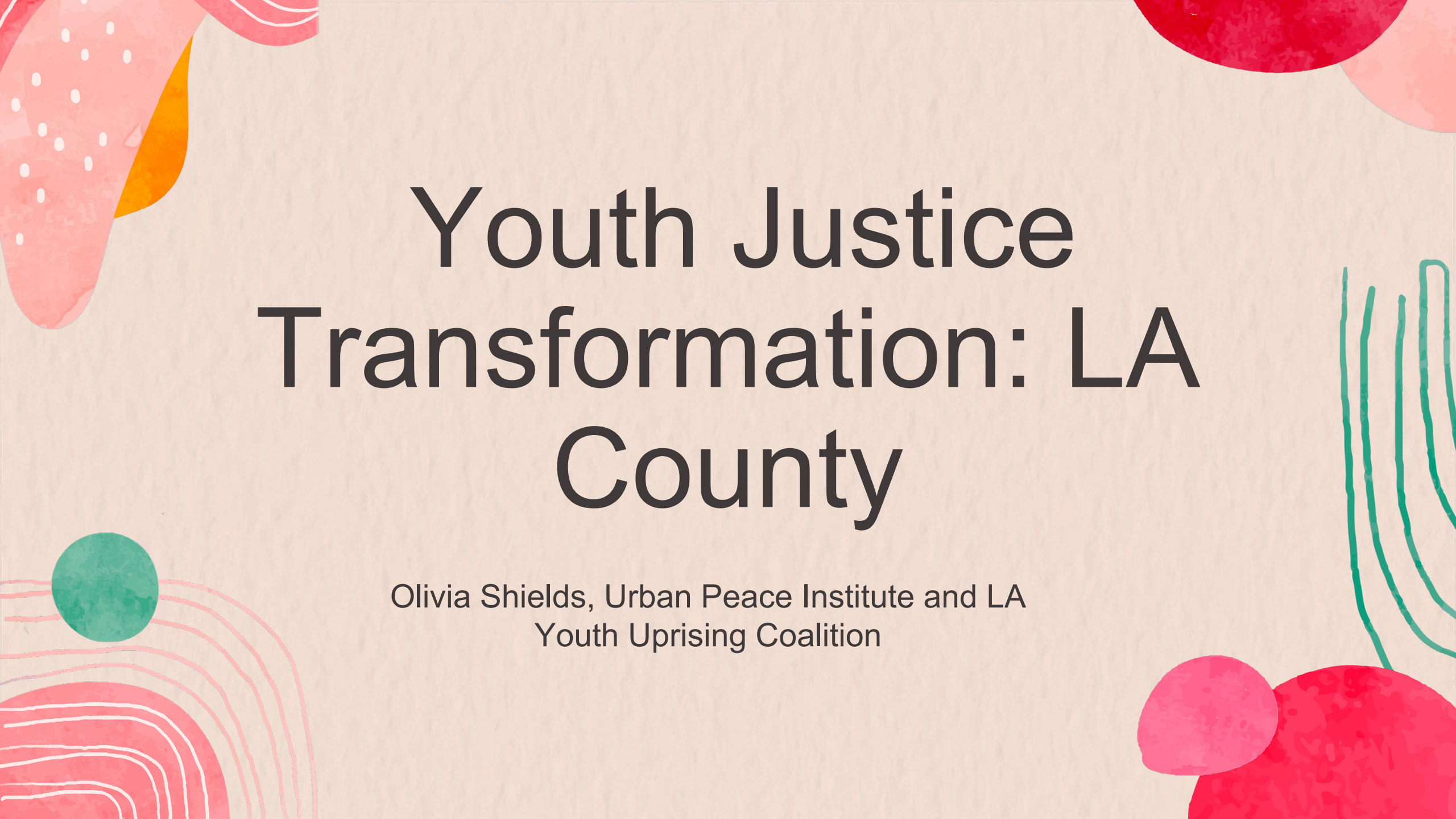
Justice Transformation Policy Coordinator at Urban Peace Institute

Gina Warren

CEO and Co-Founder at Neighborhood Wellness

Nancy Juarez

Policy and Communications Analyst at Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJCJ)



Youth Justice Transformation: LA County

Olivia Shields, Urban Peace Institute and LA
Youth Uprising Coalition

Agenda

- Grounding: History and Vision of YJR
- Most pressing issues:
 - Detention
 - Law enforcement budget
 - Lack of Coordination
- Solutions
 - Prevention/Diversion
 - YES Teams as cultural shift
- Closing



History of YJR

2017

Youth Diversion Subcommittee co-designed a plan for equitably reducing the youth justice system in LA County

Leads to creation of **Division of Youth Diversion and Development (YDD)** in ODR

2019

YDD launches

Board of Supervisors establishes a **Youth Justice Work Group (YJWG)** tasked with building on YDD to develop a plan to **transform the youth justice system in LA County and transition away from Juvenile Probation completely**



Youth Justice Reimagined

2020

Board **unanimously adopted the values and visions** of the YJWG's **Youth Justice Reimagined (YJR) report** and issued directives focused on developing a plan to implement the YJR model, including:

1. Expand and improve pre-arrest **youth diversion**
2. **Establishment of DYD**
3. Advance community-based youth development countywide, including **Youth Development Networks**
4. Continue planning of phased transformation of youth justice system, including **legislative strategy**
5. Support **demonstration projects** to improve and scale key elements of Youth Justice Reimagined:
 - a. **Credible Messengers in secure and non-secure settings**
 - b. Collaborative Teams, including **Youth Empowerment and Support Teams**
 - c. **Safe and Secure Healing Centers** as alternatives to juvenile halls, camps and placements

Los Angeles Youth Uprising Coalition

YOUTH UPRISING

#FREEOURFUTURE



Primary Issues

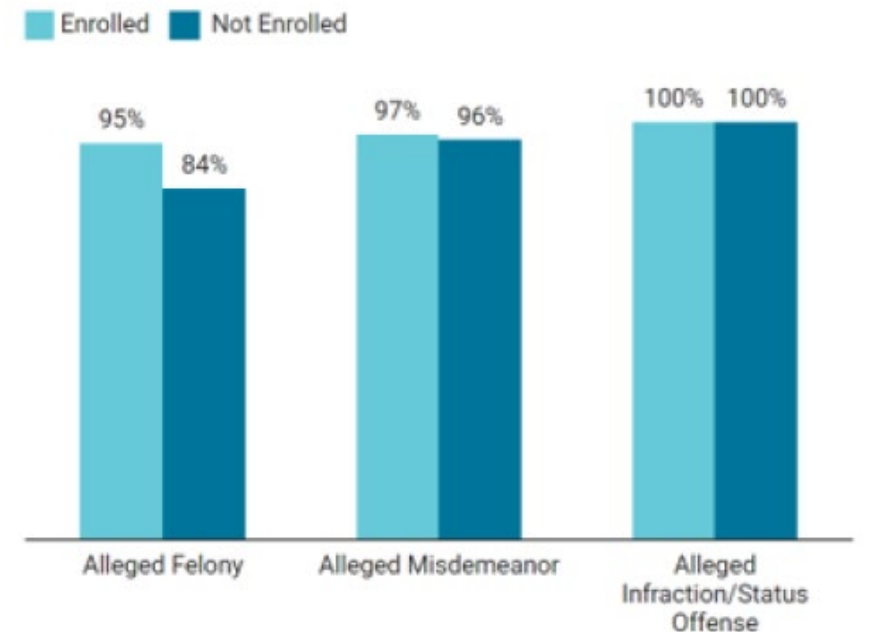
- Detention
- Law Enforcement Budget
 - \$855,215 to incarcerate 1 youth for 1 year in LA County
- Lack of Coordination
 - Ex: Credible messenger clearance, distribution of JJCPA funds

Solutions

- Prevention/Diversion

- Increase diversion access and enrollment for black youth
- Greatest impact for youth with alleged felonies
- Youth Development Networks

Figure 28. Percent of Youth Who Did Not Recidivate - Six Months Post-Diversion Program Exit by Referral Reason



Solutions

- Youth Empowerment and Support Teams

- Cultural shift crucial for transformation to occur

To help illustrate the system we need, let's look at two scenarios.

Incident:



What you might not know: This youth has had a long history of mental and physical abuse and recently lost their housing.



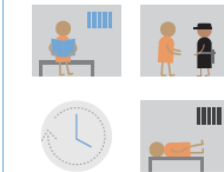
The system as it is:



Law enforcement responds to 911 call.



Youth is arrested and/or brought to Juvenile Hall if youth diversion is not available.



If detained in juvenile hall, youth may attend basic high school classes and meet with a probation officer. They sleep in a cell and get limited resources while they wait for a hearing.



The court decides the youth's sentence with the limited information they have available to them and the youth and their family experience many structural barriers.



If sent to camp, youth attends high school classes, sees few people, and gets limited services.

As it could and should be:



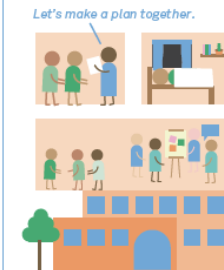
24-hour trauma-informed crisis response is available to youth, families, community, or law enforcement across the County.



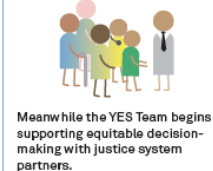
Youth Empowerment and Support (YES) Team may respond to crisis with Law enforcement as needed, and either connects youth to diversion or brings youth to 24-hour Youth and Community Center for assessment, care coordination and temporary housing if needed.



The person harmed also receives support through restorative practices.



YES Team recommends that the youth stay at a Safe and Secure Healing Center until their detention hearing, and then the judge determines they can stay with a relative before their adjudication hearing.



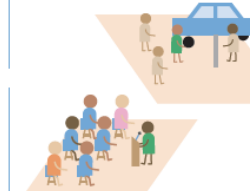
Meanwhile the YES Team begins supporting equitable decision-making with justice system partners.



A YES Team helps the judge understand the full context of the case and together they decide that a restorative justice process would be a good outcome. The hearing is held at a time when friends and family can come and there could also be a non-court resolution.



The person harmed, youth and their support networks meet and have an opportunity to repair the harm. If it isn't safe for the youth to be at home, they can stay at a Safe and Secure Healing Center until it is safe or they find permanent supportive housing.



The youth gets the support they need to get a job that actually supports their life goals as well.

Underlying need: holistic investment



Thank you!

Questions?

Olivia Shields

Justice Transformation Policy Coordinator

oshields@urbanpeaceinstitute.org



Panel 2: Investing Upstream

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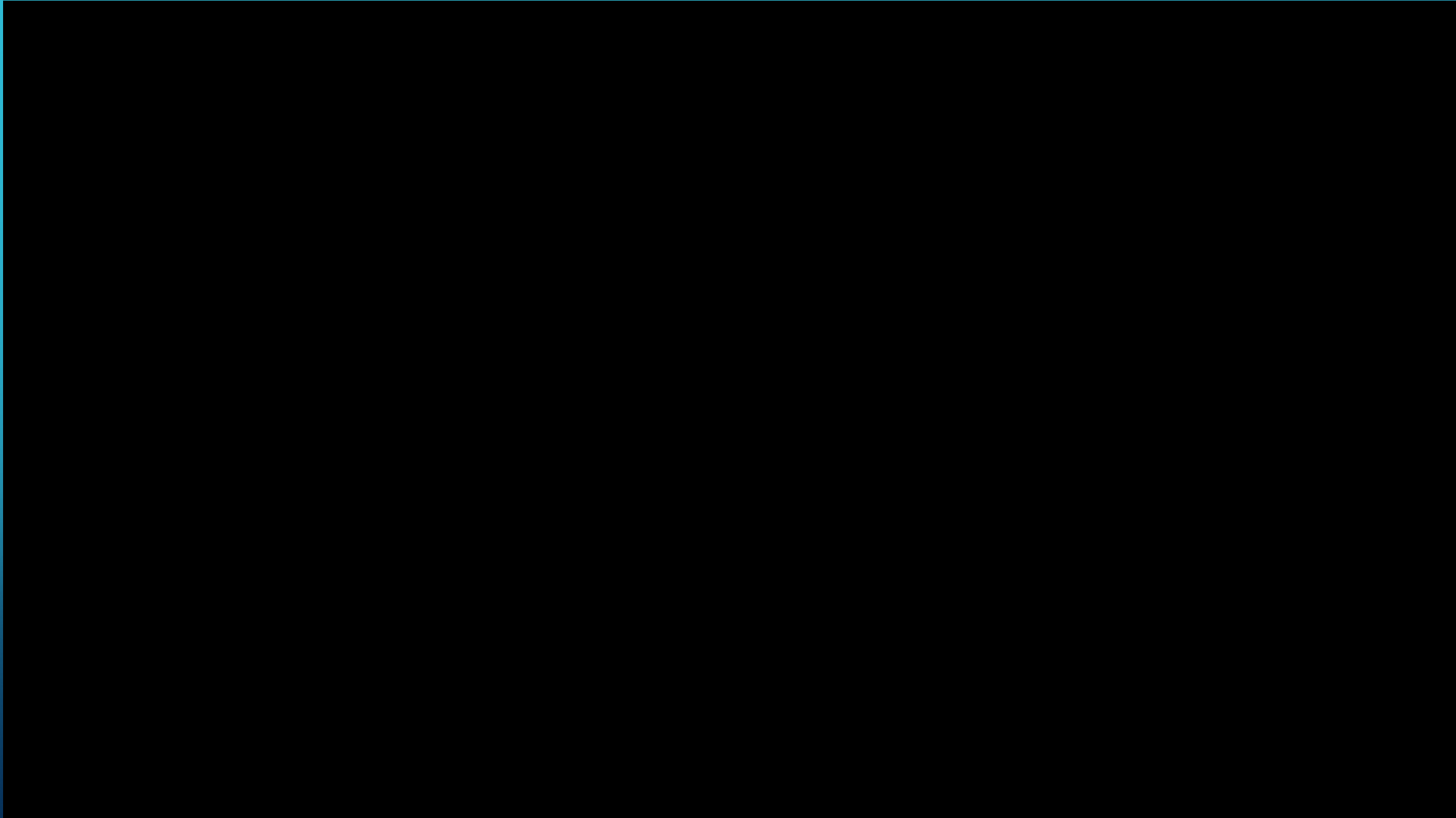
Policy and Communications Analyst at Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJCJ)

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W**

NEIGHBORHOOD WELLNESS

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY

Gina Warren, Pharm.D., June 24, 2024



A NEIGHBORHOOD WELLNESS
IMPACT PROGRAM 

RESTORE LEGACIES

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NON-CARCERAL COMMUNITY- LED PROGRAM

- **Mental Health**
- **Education**
- **Socioeconomic Stability**
- **Collaborative Partnerships**



MENTAL HEALTH



Adults

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EDUCATION





The California Department of Public Health

certifies that

Octavia Booker

has successfully completed the Asthma Management Academy (AsMA), a training that follows the Association of Asthma Educators "Asthma Education for the Community Health Worker" curriculum, including: The Scope of Asthma, Triggers and Environmental Control, Medications, Medication Delivery Devices, and Assessment and Monitoring.

September 25-26, 2023

Ashley Kissinger
Ashley Kissinger
California Breathing
Certified Asthma Educator



Natalie Sacramento
Natalie Sacramento
AsMA Coordinator



"A growing body of work within the field of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) focuses on its intersection and positive correlation to substance use disorders (SUDs) and risk in adulthood."
-Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

ALWAYS TRY TO HAVE EYES THAT SEE THE BEST IN PEOPLE, A HEART THAT FORGETS THE WORST, A MIND THAT FORGETS THE BAD, AND A SOUL THAT NEVER LOSES FAITH IN GOD.



SOCIOECONOMIC STABILITY

Neighborhood Navigators



Sherri Kirk



Sonia Smith



Sam Dinkins



Octavia "Pinky" Booker



Damond "Fade" Dorrough



Cornelius Houston



Bobby Brown



Carinda Goodal



Les Jones



Neighborhood Navigators



Josh Ransom



Charles Goodman



Chris Elliott



Teverence "TK" Jarvis



COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS



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Areas that Require Focus for Development & Improvement

- What Happened? Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs): abuse (physical, emotional, sexual), neglect (physical, emotional)
- Program: minimum hours required must align with progress NOT time spent for successful outcomes
- Complete Removal of Gang Enhancements racial profiling -data to show that it mitigates violence or improves public safety?
- Educate the Educator Model of NW to build and strengthen relationships of black community and law enforcement that will improve public safety, prevent victimization by learning about each other, our lives, our families



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Panel 3: Minimizing Community Harm

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Senior Staff Attorney at ACLU Northern California

Lisa Thurau

Executive Director at Strategies for Youth

Walt Allen

Police Academy Director at Rio Hondo College

ACLU

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
FOUNDATIONS

California

Minimizing Community Harm: RIPA Board Virtual Youth Summit

Linnea Nelson, ACLU Foundation of Northern CA
Helen Ho, Youth Liberty Squad

Recommendations

Third-Party Software Vendors

The Legislature should bar third-party software vendors who have contracts with local educational agencies from granting themselves the authority to notify law enforcement, or granting law enforcement direct access to student data, if they believe students are threatening harm, including self-harm, or allegedly committing a legal violation. [Examples: Gaggle and LASAR]

- [Activist groups sue L.A. schools seeking data on app used to report suspicious behavior - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)

Recommendations

Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Notification

The Legislature should require that when law enforcement is called to schools, prior to any student being questioned, arrested, booked, restrained, or secluded by a law enforcement officer on campus, the student's parent/guardian shall be called and given a reasonable opportunity to be present prior to the questioning, arrest, booking, restraint, or seclusion, unless the student is a suspected victim of child abuse in the home. The sole purpose of this notification to the parent/guardian or surrogate parent/caregiver is to inform them of the situation, not to gather information about the student.

Recommendations

Law Enforcement Interviews of Youth

The Legislature should require that when any law enforcement official requests to interview a student at school, the principal or designee shall request that the official provide verification of the officer's identity and legal authority under which the interview is being conducted. Additionally, law enforcement may not remove students from class for questioning without a court order or arrest warrant that permits questioning unless the student's behavior presents a imminent danger of serious physical injury or death to a person on school property; otherwise, the law enforcement officer shall wait until after school to allow the student to access their learning time. A private location out of sight and hearing of other students shall be arranged to question the student, where possible, to help avoid invading the student's privacy, jeopardizing the safety and welfare of other students, and causing further disruption to the school campus.

Recommendations

Definition of “Mass Threat”

The Legislature should further clarify the law enforcement definition of “mass threat” in ways that do not criminalize common adolescent behavior.



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Making the Case for Reducing
Disparate Treatment of Youth

by

Expanding

Policies & Training of

California Law Enforcement

Officers

SFY June 24, 2024



Strategies for Youth

SFY is a national nonprofit policy and training organization dedicated to ensuring best outcomes for youth who are interacting with law enforcement.

SFY's Mission is to Go Upstream

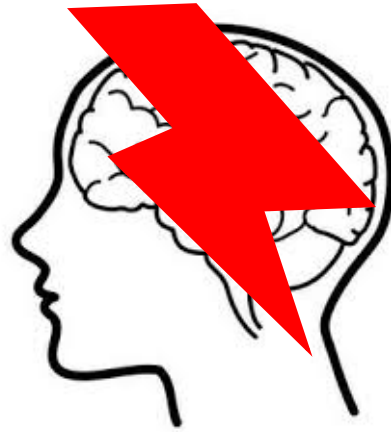


- To work with gatekeepers to reduce arrests, escalation of incidents, use of force,
- Equip LEOs and LEAs to use developmentally appropriate practices,
- Educate youth.

Teen Brains Are Still Developing



immature



reactive



uninformed

Strategies for Youth

SFY's Objectives for LE: *Policing Youth As Youth*

Developmental Competence

Strategies for Youth believes that adults who are developmentally competent have more effective interactions with youth. Here's how we define that concept:

Developmental Competence refers to the understanding that children and adolescents' perceptions and behaviors are influenced by biological and psychological factors related to their development stage.

DEVELOPMENTAL COMPETENCE is based on the premise that specific, sequential stages of neurological and psychological development are universal. Children and adolescents' responses differ from adults because of fundamental neurobiological factors and related developmental stages of maturation.

A PERSON WHO IS DEVELOPMENTALLY COMPETENT recognizes that how children and youth perceive, process and respond to situations is a function of their developmental stage, and secondarily their culture and life experience. Developmentally competent adults align their expectations, responses, and interactions — as well as those of institutions and organizations — to the developmental stage of the children and youth they serve.

IN ORDER TO BECOME DEVELOPMENTALLY COMPETENT, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST:

- UNDERSTAND** that children, adolescents, and adults interpret and respond differently to and adults interpret and respond differently to situations, social cues, interpersonal interactions, and the inherent power of adults, making them more vulnerable to external pressures and more compliant with authority;
- APPLY** this knowledge to enhance and improve interactions with children and youth and;
- ADJUST** institutional responses to the developmental stage of the children and youth served.

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Strategies for Youth
CONNECTING COPS & KIDS™

P.O. Box 390214 • Cambridge, MA 02139 • 617.714.3785 • www.strategiesforyouth.org

- Developmentally Appropriate
- Trauma-Informed
- Equitable

Officers are often ill-equipped to work with youth

- While science and the U.S. Supreme Court recognize that youth are different than adults,
 - Most LEAs **do not have policies** that distinguish youth from adults,
 - States **do not require youth-specific training at the academy or in-service.**

Without policies & training...

Officers rely on
pre-existing biases and beliefs
and those of their peers in the law
enforcement agency.

What could go wrong?

- Encounters that escalate,
- Unreasonable stops and searches,
- Unnecessary arrests,
- Excessive use of force,
- Coerced or false confessions,
- Lasting negative impacts for youth, their families, their communities.

32 Lawsuits
In Federal Courts

3 Decisions by California Courts
on

J.D.B. v. North Carolina 2011

Officers Need Training



Police Exec. Research Forum:

- “a solid understanding of the laws and policies that govern their actions, as well as the skills and knowledge needed to effectively serve their communities.”
- “...Training programs that focus on ethical conduct, cultural competence, and diversity. This can help officers to understand and appreciate the different perspectives and experiences of the communities they serve, which can be essential in promoting cooperation and trust.”

Training on Differences

- Brain Development
- Trauma Focus
- MH Issues



- Demographic Factors
- Juvenile Law
- Using YSCBOs
- Asserting Authority



SFY's 12 Model Policies –Nov. 2023



Model Policies

Each POLICY provides law enforcement agencies and officers with guidance on how to interact with youth in developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, equitable ways that comply with the law. Additional source and background information for the policy can be found in the APPENDIX.

- POLICY 1 | Appendix 1
Overview of Youth Interaction Policies
- POLICY 2 | Appendix 2
Investigatory Steps, Non-Custodial Interviews, and Search and Seizure of Youth
- POLICY 3 | Appendix 3
Arrest, Transport, Booking, and Temporary Custody
- POLICY 4 | Appendix 4
Mandatory Warnings, Waiver of Rights, and Youth Interrogations
- POLICY 5 | Appendix 5
Use of Force with Youth
- POLICY 6 | Appendix 6
Fair and Impartial Policing of Youth: Race, National Origin, and Immigration Status
- POLICY 7 | Appendix 7
Fair and Impartial Policing LGBTQ+ Youth
- POLICY 8 | Appendix 8
Policing of Youth with Disabilities, Experiencing Mental Health Crises, or Impaired by Drugs or Alcohol
- POLICY 9 | Appendix 9
Protection of Youth Who Are Vulnerable Due to the Arrest of Parents or Other Caretakers, the Execution of Residential Search Warrants, or Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- POLICY 10 | Appendix 10
Law Enforcement Interactions With Students
- POLICY 11
Data Collection
- POLICY 12
Transparency and Accountability

Youth-Specific Policies are Necessary

Rising reports of harmful interactions between youth and law enforcement agencies and the lack of model policies led Strategies for Youth to fill this void with its 12 Model Law Enforcement Policies for Youth Interactions. These policies are the first of their kind to be introduced and provide a valuable roadmap for law enforcement leaders, elected officials, communities and insurance providers.

[Why Youth Policies Are Necessary](#)

FOR THE MEDIA

Visit our Model Policies media page for media coverage, our press releases, inquiry contact, and related information.

[Media](#)

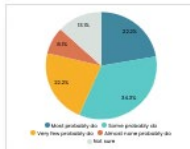
Benefits Of Adopting These Policies

- Law Enforcement Leaders
- Commissioners, Police Reform Advocates, and Youth Advocates
- Mayors, County Executives, Legislators
- Insurance Companies with Law Enforcement Agency Claims

Poll Highlights a Need for Change

Poll results show Americans want policies and training for law enforcement interactions with youth.

Do Law Enforcement Agencies Have Written Policies For Interactions With Youth?



[View Poll Findings](#)

- First of its kind
- Comprehensive
- Researched & vetted
- LEAs can adopt & adapt
- State Legislatures and Agencies can consider
- Roadmap for Reform for Communities

SFY Model Policies Address Key Points of Contact Between Youth and Law Enforcement

- Interactions such as **investigatory stops, weapons pat downs, searches, arrests, interrogations**, use of force
- Needs of **particularly vulnerable youth** (BIPOC, LGBTQ+, youth with disabilities, youth with substance use disorders)
- Treatment of youth when parents are arrested/residences are searched
- Interactions with students
- Data collection and need for transparency (e.g. publicly-available information; complaint systems)

Policies Serve as a Contract Between Law Enforcement and the Public:



- Transparency
- Predicts LE Response
- Accountability
- Central to Community Oriented Policing

Model Policies: Making an Impact

Juvenile Justice Update™

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Spring 2024

Model Law Enforcement Policies for Youth Interaction

Strategies for Youth

SFY's Model Policies are the [cover story](#) of the Spring 2024 Issue of *Juvenile Justice Update*



Strategies For Youth – Implementing the Three Ps: Policies, Protection, and Prevention

March 2024 | Volume 17 | Issue 3

The Dispatch, the [USDOJ COPS Office](#) newsletter, released a [March 2024 feature article](#) about the need for policies and SFY's Model Policies initiative

SFY Recommendations

To ensure law enforcement treats youth using developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, equitable approaches, consider:

- ✓ Using existing **legal precedent** in CA and the U.S. Supreme Court supporting the reasoning;
- ✓ Using years of **RIPA data** on enduring disparities in treatment of youth by officers

Then, negotiate with POST to ensure

- ☐ **Academy & in-service training** incorporates these concepts,
- ☐ **Expand policies** beyond Temporary Custody of Youth.



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