



STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION: RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2025
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Physical Location:
925 L Street, Suite 1275
Sacramento, CA 95814

Virtual Public Participant Link:
[Via Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 160 195 2706 | Password: 444703

Welcome and Roll Call (12:00 P.M. – 12:10 P.M.)

Facilitators: RJ Co-Chair, Jessica Ellis (Centinela Youth Services)

- I. Co-Chair Jessica Ellis called the meeting to order and welcome participants at 12:06 pm.
- II. The State Advisory Committee on Restorative Justice (RJ) (SACJJDP) members were in attendance
 - Don Carney, Executive Director of Youth Transforming Justice
 - Jessica Ellis, Executive Director of Centinela Youth Services and Co-Chair of the RJ subcommittee
 - Kent Mendoza, Associate Director of Local Advocacy of the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) and RJ subcommittee chair
 - Efrain Morales, Program Manager of 3Strands Global Foundation
 - Greg Srolestar, Director of Research and Tech Assistance with Prosecutors Alliance
 - Javier Stauring, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Healing Dialogue in Action
 - Alannah Tomich, Executive Director of Yolo Conflict Resolution Center
 - Sheri Wiedenhoefer, Executive Director of the Community Justice Center
- III. The State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP) RJ members not in attendance
 - George Galvis, Executive Director of the Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)
 - Julie Hilt, Founder of the Alternative Restorative Communities (ARC)
 - Jerdine Clarke, Clinical Director of the Restorative Justice for Oakland (RJOY)
 - Kasey Halcon, Deputy County Executive of Santa Clara County

- Rodrigo Tomich, Associate Director with Youth Alliance
- Victoria Birch, Youth Advisory Board member
- Stephanie Autumn-, Director with the Tribal Youth Resource Center

IV. **The Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR)**

- Protima Pandey, Chief Legal Counsel
- Marcia Rincon-Gallardo, Chief of System Change and Equity
- Cecilia Arredondo Simmons, County Liaison with System Change and Equity

Introduction of the subcommittee members (12:10 P.M. – 12:20 P.M.)

Facilitators: RJ Co-Chair, Jessica Ellis (Centinela Youth Services)

I. Introductions and subcommittee members

- Don Carney, Director of Youth Transforming Justice. They divert young people from the juvenile justice system and school suspensions. Also have a 12-hour harm reduction training. They started doing trauma mitigation work in elementary and middle schools to shrink that school-to-prison pipeline.
- Javier Stauring, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Healing Dialogue in Action (HDA), has worked in Restorative Justice for 30 years. He was a Chaplin in juvenile hall and later started HDA in adult prisons and impact work. Current contract with LA county to work with the youth population in the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF). All HAD staff have lived experience or lost a loved one.
- Greg Srolestar, Director of Research and Tech Assistance with Prosecutors Alliance. His background is in public policy and focused on youth issues.
- Sheri Wiedenhoefer, Executive Director of the Community Justice Center. Focused on intervention work in the schools in rural communities. Working with mostly youth diversion program with the courts, since 1982.
- Alannah Tomich- Executive Director of Yolo Conflict Resolution Center Conflict in Yolo County. They do restorative justice as pre-trial youth diversion and partnership with the probationary department, as well as the police department.
- Efrain Morales, Program Manager of 3Strands Global Foundation located in Sacramento. It's an anti-human trafficking organization. They have a contract with Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), to be able to provide direct services to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) youth that are being trafficked in Sacramento. Also being able to do employment education, education services and restorative justice work with youth.
- Marcia Rincon-Gallardo, Chief of System Change and Equity, support the subcommittee with staffing.
- Protima Pandey, Chief Legal Counsel with OYCR
- Ceclia Arredondo Simmons, County Liaison with System Change and Equity.
- Jessica Ellis- Executive Director with Centinela Youth Services (CYS), and the organization has been around since 1975 doing diversion work and RJ work since 1992. They focus on prebooking diversion, interrupt the process. Real work is to meet the needs up front. A lot of work in schools and away from punitive practice.

Discussion and finalize the RJ Charter (12:20 P.M. -12:40 P.M.)

Facilitators: RJ Co-Chair, Jessica Ellis (Centinela Youth Services)

- I. Discussed the Charter's purpose, responsibilities, meeting cadence and schedule
 - Purpose
 - The purpose of the restorative justice subcommittee is to advance healing-centered, community-rooted approaches to accountability by promoting restorative justice practices, understanding historical and systemic trauma, prioritizing relationship building, repairing harm, and centering impacted voices.
 - The subcommittee will work collaboratively too:
 - Challenge punitive and exclusionary systems by promoting restorative alternatives;
 - Support policy transformation that uplifts community-led restorative justice practices;
 - Build capacity across institutions and communities to implement restorative justice frameworks that uphold safe, trauma-informed collective care with dignity;
 - Move beyond oversimplified "victim/offender" binaries, recognizing
 - Members
 - The subcommittee will consist of up to 15 members, including 1 Chair, 1 Co-Chair and a diverse group of practitioners, community members, and experts. The RJ Subcommittee currently consists of 15 individuals.
 - The Chair and subcommittee will select and conduct outreach for members of the subcommittee. OYCR will also assist with the outreach. The subcommittee will make the final decision via vote.
 - Members should have varied restorative justice experiences from across the state including survivors, lived experience individuals, youth, mental health practitioners, education experts, regional and national experts.
 - Responsibilities
 - Gather insights from stakeholders including youth with lived experience, harmed parties and survivors, justice system workers, and restorative justice practitioners through listening sessions, Youth Advisory Board (YAB) participation, and interviews.
 - Contribute to discussions and the development of policy recommendations for the SACJJDP on youth restorative justice issues.
 - Connect with restorative justice leaders and experts to identify topics salient to the three-year plan or other SACJJDP priorities
 - Engage in restorative justice policy initiatives that align with the committee's purpose.
 - Meeting Cadence and Schedule
 - The RJ subcommittee will meet no less than once per month, with additional meetings scheduled as needed.

- Meetings are typically virtual. The subcommittee will hold at least one in-person meeting annually.
- Subcommittee Charter was approved by the following subcommittee members:
 - Don Carney, Executive Director of Youth Transforming Justice
 - Jessica Ellis, Executive Director of Centinela Youth Services and Co-Chair of the RJ subcommittee
 - Kent Mendoza, Associate Director of Local Advocacy of the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) and RJ subcommittee chair
 - Efrain Morales, Program Manager of 3Strands Global Foundation
 - Greg Srolestar, Director of Research and Tech Assistance with Prosecutors Alliance
 - Javier Stauring, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Healing Dialogue in Action
 - Alannah Tomich, Executive Director of Yolo Conflict Resolution Center
 - Sheri Wiedenhofer, Executive Director of the Community Justice Center

Next Steps for subcommittee (12:40 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.)

Facilitators: RJ Co-Chair, Jessica Ellis (Centinela Youth Services)

- Subcommittee to present newly approved charter at SACJJDP meeting on December 17, 2025
- Scheduling challenges persist but will figure out a date to meet to improve attendance and productivity for 2026.
- Proposal to review and provide feedback on the current three-year SACJ plan for the next meeting.
- Federal Title II Solicitation for new three-year plan expected August 2025; committee preparing in advance.

Public comment (1:00 P.M.-1:15 P.M.)

- None

Closing (1:15 P.M.-1:20 P.M.)

- Co-chair Jessica Ellis called the meeting in order at 1:20 pm