



**State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, December 17 2025
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Call to Order: Welcome; Roll Call

Chair Mendoza called the meeting to order and welcomed participants. OYCR staff provided instructions for participation by committee members and members of the public. Vice Chair Franco took roll.

The following members attended in person: Chair Kent Mendoza, Vice Chair Franco, Tyrique Shipp, Carly Dierkhising, Michelle Guymon, Dr. Tecoy Porter Sr.

The following members attended virtually: Supervisor Joe Baca Jr, Carol Biondi, Dr. BJ Davis, Michael Duncan, Hon. Brian Back, Montay Magic McKay, Isaiah Barber

The following members were not present: Dante Williams, Dr Mimi Silbert, Susan Sands

Action Item: Approval of September 2025 Minutes

Chair Mendoza called for the action item of approving the Minutes from the September 2025 SACJJDP meeting. Dr. Carly Dierkhising moved to approve the minutes, Supervisor Joe Baca seconded the motion. There were no comments or questions and the minutes were approved.

Chair Updates

Chair Mendoza thanked the committee members for their engagement this year and highlighted the work of the subcommittee chairs and members in moving the work forward. Vice Chair Franco echoed Chair Mendoza's words and encouraged committee members and more members of the public to join in person next year. Carol Biondi thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for their leadership. She then suggested removing the word delinquency from the title of the Committee, noting that it is an outdated term. OYCR staff confirmed this would be on the agenda as a discussion item for the next quarterly meeting.

Updates from OYCR

OYCR Grants Title II Manager Krystal Lewis shared a few updates from OYCR, highlighting the work the office is doing to integrate initiatives that allow adolescents involved the youth justice system to be beneficiaries of health access. She shared an important update as of December 15, 2025, that a number of counties have recently been approved to be part of the CalAIM Justice Involved initiative, allows for Medi-Cal reimbursed services to begin 90 days before a youth leaves custody and continue thereafter in order to bridge services for success. She also highlighted recent work of the Title II Grant program, re-executing grant agreements for 12 Title

II grantees; as well as the Title II Compliance Monitoring work that OYCR leads, which just began a new 3-year inspection cycle as of October 2025.

Discussion and Action Item: Chair and Vice Chair Selection

Krystal Lewis then raised the discussion of Chair Mendoza and Vice Chair Franco continuing in their roles through 2026. She explained that per the by-laws, which were adopted in June 2025 after the Chair and Vice Chair were selected by the committee members, the committee needs to specify the term length (at a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years). Dr. Carly Dierkhising moved to have Chair Mendoza and Vice Chair Franco remain in their positions through 2026 and Carol Biondo seconded the motion.

The following members voted in favor of the motion: Tyrique Shipp, Carly Dierkhising, Michelle Guymon, Supervisor Joe Baca Jr, Carol Biondi, Dr. BJ Davis, Michael Duncan, Hon. Brian Back, Montay Magic McKay

The following members abstained from the vote: Chair Mendoza and Vice Chair Franco

The following members did not vote: Dante Williams, Dr Mimi Silbert, Susan Sands, Isaiah Barber, Dr. Tecoy Porter Sr.

The motion passed.

Chair Mendoza then raised 2026 meeting dates for the committee as the next topic for discussion. He shared the following proposed meeting dates:

- March 18, 2026
- June 17, 2026
- September 16, 2026
- December 16, 2026

Supervisor Joe Baca Jr. moved to approve the proposed meeting dates.

The following members voted in favor of the motion: Tyrique Shipp, Carly Dierkhising, Michelle Guymon, Supervisor Joe Baca Jr, Carol Biondi, Dr. BJ Davis, Michael Duncan, Hon. Brian Back, Montay Magic McKay, Dr. Tecoy Porter Sr., Isaiah Barber

The following members did not vote: Dante Williams, Dr Mimi Silbert, Susan Sands

Presentation: Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC) and Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development (DYD)

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission shared some background about the Probation Oversight Commission, including the 93 priorities set forth by the Probation Reform and Implementation Team (PRIT), some of which, such as the closing of Central Juvenile Hall, have been achieved. She then gave an overview of the powers and authorities of the POC, first specifying that Los Angeles is the only CA county that does not have a Juvenile Justice Commission, and instead has the POC. She highlighted the key responsibilities of the POC, including reviewing policies and procedures; conducting inspections to ensure physical safety and welfare; investigating non-confidential matters brought to the Commission's attention, receiving and reviewing grievances; and engaging the public. She highlighted key features of the Commission's community oversight

approach and their focus on leadership by individuals with lived experience. She explained the Commission's model of change and shared an update that all of the Commission's 2025 inspections are complete and will be included in an inspection report on the POC's website. Some major accomplishments of the Commission include: training for staff on administering Narcan, implementation of the Commission's recommendations regarding enhanced post-secondary education services for the juvenile hall population and recommendations around visitation policies. SACJJDP member and Commissioner Tyrique Shipp shared how valuable the work of the POC has been in building trust with young people in facilities and allowing them to build relationships with Commissioners who represent them, many of whom have lived experience with the system.

Carol Biondi expressed appreciation for the work of the POC and urged more action in response to their recommendations.

Dr. Carly Dierkhising asked what the POC's top priority or focus area is right now. She also asked how the SAG can support the work. Julien explained that the top priority of the POC is reducing the number of young people detained in locked facilities.

Carol Biondi asked if the POC has been involved in the receivership conversation. Julien responded that the POC has not been directly involved or taken a position but they are following it closely and the hearings are ongoing.

Chair Mendoza noted that one of the main things that the community really pushed for in the PRIT process as the POC was forming was to obtain subpoena power. He also noted how powerful the participation of the community was as the POC was being formed and how there is follow-up in response to what the public shares.

Carol Biondi reiterated the question about the role of the SACJJDP to advise on the receivership question. Per OYCR staff, currently, the SACJJDP isn't able to insert itself into the ongoing process but if the Committee would like more information about the ongoing process of the receivership we can bring this back. Currently, the hearings happen every 2 weeks at 8 am. The court has decided to hear testimony in staffing, data analysis and use of force. Currently the court is still hearing testimony on staffing.

David Carroll, Director of the LA County Department of Youth Development then shared an overview of some of the misconceptions he wanted to address through his presentation: Does the Department of Youth Development only serve the youth justice system? Is DYD duplicating work that others are already doing?; Does the DYD approach hold young people less accountable than arrest?; and Does diversion work only for lower level offenses?

He first emphasized that the youth development approach does hold youth accountable, but it does so in a care-first restorative way. He also underscored that youth development is public safety. He shared background on the development of DYD, that after decades of youth and community organizing, in 2019 the Board of Supervisors called for a study on how the juvenile justice system could treat youth differently. In 2020, the report, Youth Justice Reimagined, was adopted with one of the tenets of that report to create the DYD. In 2022, DYD was created as a department in July. The DYD's mission is to keep young people out of the system and for those who are system involved, to reduce the depth of their involvement and the harm they may experience. The department seeks to stay centered on youth and focused on community, based on the belief that those closest to the problem have the answers. He then shared the through-

line of development that represents how DYD works with all young people on the path of development, even those who have had negative consequences or involvement with the justice system. He highlighted the key partnerships that DYD works with to support youth: Youth Development Networks, Youth Diversion programs managed by law enforcement agencies who can refer directly to DYD, and Partnerships with Schools and other systems. He noted that the Diversion program has gone through an external evaluation process and the finding was that only 5% of young people who go through the program have reoffended after participating.

He shared the Youth Justice Supports and Services that DYD provides for young people who are in facilities, including In-facility youth development programming. DYD also focused on community reentry programs, including a partnership with 19 other organizations to provide reentry services called RAY. The program provides access to financial resources of up to \$5000 that can include education and training and/or emergency needs. He also highlighted ongoing de-carceration efforts that DYD continues to lead outside of facilities to advocate to prevent young people from going into facilities. He then highlighted a continuum of programs along a continuum that DYD offers to support young people, from initial contact to reentry and mentorship services for young people coming back into the community.

Carroll highlighted the strong data that DYD has collected on the efficacy of their programs, outcomes are regularly analyzed and shared with partners (see below for links to resources shared by staff in the zoom chat).

Dr. Tecoy Porter asked if DYD engages with faith-based partners as part of their work. David Carroll shared that while the relationships DYD has with organizations aren't focused on that aspect, there are a number of faith-based organizations that participate as partners. He noted that a list of all of the organizations DYD partners with is available on the website.

Carol Biondi expressed interest in seeing the program evaluation data David mentioned. (See links provided below) She also asked if any state funding resources are being used to support the RAY program described in the presentation. David shared that yes DYD is leveraging state funds, including JJRBG and JJCPA to support the programming he described. In the chat staff cited specifically that during 25/26 FY DYD received just over \$10 million in ongoing JJRBG funds.

Hon. Brian Back asked David about how many judges are participating in the Inglewood Court in the RAY program as part of the intake work. David replied that there are at least three judges working in the Inglewood court who make referrals to the RAY program. He also specified that the young people the judges are working with in this capacity they are seeing out of custody and those young people are meeting with judges and other court staff on a daily basis.

Dr Carly Dierkhising asked about the specifics of how youth get referred to RAY (Reentry Action for Youth) and what the program entails. David specified that the RAY program was originally designed for young people returning home from a camp or SYTF but they also learned of many young people who were awaiting disposition not yet under care or probation who didn't have any access to services yet. The program set-up consists of case managers located regionally around the city who work with up to 10 youth each. The sources of referral expanded as DYD learned about young people at different points of the system who needed support. Most recently released young people are at a higher tier in terms of priority for being supported than those who have been home longer.

Dr Dierkhising asked about how the healing centers are different than other placements. David explained that they are targeted toward girls and gender expansive youth, which there aren't nearly enough placements available. He also cited the small size, wraparound services and homelike environment as aspects that set them apart.

Michelle Guymon asked if DYD does work with parents to help prepare them while kids are in custody, to help get them ready for release. David said that the credible messenger organizations do a lot of work with families in this position. He also noted that they are piloting some work with families through DCFS.

Dr. BJ Davis expressed interest in having David attend one of the upcoming subcommittee meetings, the Policy and Legislative Advocacy Subcommittee, where they have been having a lot of conversations about diversion and delayed adjudication. David indicated that he would love to participate.

LA DYD Resources shared by staff in the chat

[Provider Directory | Department of Youth Development](#)

[Department of Youth Development | County of Los Angeles Department of Youth Development Bitly | bit.ly/49e1px2](#)

DYD Youth Development Networks: [Youth Development | Department of Youth Development](#)

DYD Diversion information: [Youth Diversion | Department of Youth Development](#)

DYD Youth Justice Supports & Services: Credible Messengers, Reentry Action for Youth (RAY), Care Coordination in Facilities, Decarceration and Safe Healing Centers information: [Youth Reentry | Department of Youth Development](#)

DYD Data and Reports: [Data & Reports | Department of Youth Development](#)

DYD's Impact: [Care First - Department of Youth Development](#)

If you are interested in subscribing to the DYD newsletter, please click on the link: [Newsletter | Department of Youth Development](#)

David Carroll's email: DCarroll@dyd.lacounty.gov

To schedule a meeting with David, please email his scheduler: Mirian Gomez MGomez@dyd.lacounty.gov

Chair Mendoza then announced that the committee would take a 30 minute break for lunch.

He called the meeting back to order at 1:30pm. He then introduced OYCR Grant Title II Manager Krystal Lewis to facilitate updates from subcommittees.

Subcommittee Updates and Discussion

Krystal Lewis first highlighted a few of the SACJJDP's accomplishments in 2025: held 4 quarterly committee meetings; launched 5 subcommittees, including the Community Investment and System Accountability for Youth Justice (held 4 public meetings); Policy and Legislative Advocacy subcommittee (held 5 public meetings); Racial and Ethnic Disparities subcommittee (held 2 public meetings); Restorative Justice (held 1 public meeting); Youth and Emerging Leaders (held 1 public meetings). She thanked the chairs for all of their hard work in launching those committees. The SACJJDP also approved the Title II report through 2027 and approved new by-laws. She prompted subcommittee chairs to share out how things went in 2025 and what they anticipate in 2026 and also noted that there would be a regular agenda item on all future SACJJDP meeting agendas for subcommittee updates.

Policy and Legislative Advocacy Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair Dr Tecoy Porter shared that they have confirmed 5 member subcommittee intentionally composed to bring together policy insights, system knowledge and a commitment to equitable juvenile justice reform. The committee includes Chair Dr Tecoy Porter, Co-Chair Dr. BJ Davis, Commissioner Joanna Rasmussen, Dr. Maria Leone and Charlie Nguyen. He thanked OYCR staff for supporting the subcommittee's work. In 2026, the subcommittee plans to focus on maximizing the utilization of the juvenile deferred entry of judgement program. Dr BJ Davis noted that part of the subcommittee's work in 2025 had been to clarify the scope of their role in advocacy vs advising vs influence related to legislation. He added that the subcommittee was especially interested in what seems to be a racial disparity in the uptake in the use of the juvenile deferred entry of judgement program. He noted that this issue seemed to be pertinent to the Racial and Ethnic Disparities subcommittee as well, and thought this could be an area where the subcommittees might be able to work together to produce a report and give some teeth to this issue.

Dr. Dierkhising asked for some clarification about when the deferred entry of judgement is actually used, and wanted to clarify that it wasn't something that could be used to inadvertently put youth on probation even though they had never been officially adjudicated of anything. OYCR Director Katherine Lucero shared that it is used for a nonviolent felony, it provides an opportunity to admit the behavior but hold off on the judgement and provided there are no other issues, the finding is never made and the case is dismissed after one year. Dr BJ Davis shared that it was on the subcommittee's radar because it was on the list of upcoming legislation despite existing for some time and the members wanted to better understand how and why it was or was not being utilized. Hon. Brian Back further clarified that DAs are required to prepare a document indicating whether a child is eligible for the program (it is not an opt in on the part of the county). It is also not an information probation. The attorney and the child do have to agree to go with the DEJ. In this context, it is not an opt in situation, it's a statute that has been in place for quite a while (Dr Davis further clarified the "opt in" might have been related to counties voluntarily submitting reporting).

Michelle Guymon asked if youth that could go into DEJ would not be eligible for diversion. OYCR staff clarified that this is a felony level diversion for nonviolent felonies.

Restorative Justice Subcommittee

Jessica Ellis, Executive Director of Centinela Youth Services, who serves as subcommittee co-chair shared that the subcommittee has just finalized their charter. She encouraged members of the public to participate and shared that their meeting information can be found on the SACJJDP website. She shared that their mission is to promote restorative justice policies and programming and that they plan to bring information to the SACJJDP about how to expand the youth of restorative practices across the youth justice system. She noted that the subcommittee will work collaboratively to 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 and move beyond oversimplified victim offender binaries. The subcommittee will gather insights from youth, harmed parties and survivors through listening sessions, YAB and interviews; they will contribute to discussions and the development of policy recommendations- including through the three-year plan; connect with RJ leaders and experts and engage in policy initiatives that align with the SACJJDP's purpose. The subcommittee currently consists of 15 members, including community members, local government leaders, young people with lived experience, mental health practitioners and other experts. They plan to meet virtually at least once a month and plan to meet in-person once a year. She also noted an intention to touch base with the Policy and Legislative Advocacy subcommittee about some additional insights into incentivizing judges use of the DEJ by referring people into community based restorative justice programs, where once the young person has made things right with the harmed party, judges leverage the DEJ to drop the charges.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Hon. Brian Back, subcommittee chair, shared on behalf of the RED committee. He noted that the committee has 11 members, including Christina Peoples, Founder and Executive Director of The Amelia Ann Adams Whole Life Center (AAAWLC); Dr. B.J. Davis; Laura Ridolfi of the Burns Institute; Sergio Coronel, founder of Youngsters for Change (YFC); Youth Advisory Board Members Victoria Birch and Mikaela Galvis-Venegas; Sandra McBrayer, Chief Executive Officer of the Children's Initiative; Dr. William Feather of the Round Valley Indian Tribe. They recently selected Christina Peoples as co-chair. They are also currently recruiting members from Los Angeles County, as well as members with law enforcement experience. He explained that in their recent meeting on October 27th, they went through the charge of the committee and some of the history and context for the Racial and Ethnic Disparities committee specifically. He noted that the subcommittee wants to zero in on specific, targeted data analysis to assess issues involving racial and ethnic disparities.

Community Investment and System Accountability Subcommittee

Dr Carly Dierkhising, subcommittee chair, shared on behalf of the CISA subcommittee. She noted that they invited current and former Title II grantees to present at 2 of the 4 meetings they have had. While the presentations were very helpful the subcommittee wanted to be sure they still had time to discuss additional work and opted to adjust the timing of the subcommittee meetings to 90 minutes. She said that one thing the subcommittee is working on is a needs assessment to determine what would be most helpful to Title II grantees about what they would like to have access to in terms of information and peer learning opportunities. They are also

considering a survey or needs assessment to help determine the types of technical assistance and/or informational resources for JJC's to help get them more information and connect them to each other. Vice Chair Franco asked about how the SACJJDP could get information back from JJC's about what is happening, what they are doing and what they need. Tyrique Shipp shared that the POC also has a budget subcommittee that the CISA subcommittee also might be interested in connecting with and learning more about what they need (Specific to LA county for the POC). OYCR Systems Change and Equity Director Marcia Rincon Gallardo shared that OYCR is currently in the process of working with a coalition created by Commissioner Rassmussen out of San Mateo- a coalition of 30 plus individuals who are interested in training and technical assistance. They have created two surveys- one for JJC chairs and one for members- asking about policies and procedures they have and information they had access to as they came into their roles. The surveys are targeted to go out early next year. They also are working on thinking about peer to peer trainings and have been contacted by a university in San Diego interested in doing research in this area of work. Marcia noted that they could share the results of these surveys with the SACJJDP members. Dr Dierkhising expressed interest in hearing these results and expressed gratitude that these efforts were in place. OYCR Director Katherine Lucero underscored that this area of training and support is a priority for the Systems Change and Equity Division. Dr. Dierkhising completed her update by noting that the CISA subcommittee plans to meet monthly.

Youth and Emerging Leaders Subcommittee

Tyrique Shipp, subcommittee chair, shared on behalf of the Youth and Emerging Leaders subcommittee. He noted how busy the youth involved in the subcommittee are and he noted that they are committed to keeping the work going, despite many competing commitments. Right now the subcommittee includes 7 members, all in the southern part of the state. They are reserving 8 spots for central and northern region members. The next meeting will be January 13 and the subcommittee decided on a bi-monthly schedule. He also noted that they are in the process of connecting with other subcommittee chairs to make sure there is youth representation on all the subcommittees. They are creating a shareable, scannable flyer to recruit the additional youth members for the committee and have a process to make it easy to connect to interview with the chair and co-chair. They have also connected with a western region group that connects other SAGs with youth advisory groups and are learning from them. They would like to produce a report that helps provide guidance on incorporating youth voice into all of the areas the committee and subcommittee are focused on by the end of 2026. Chair Mendoza encouraged members to share ideas about young people located in the central or northern regions of the state who may be interested in joining the subcommittee with Tyrique.

Krystal shared a list of upcoming subcommittee meetings with the group

- Tuesday, January 13- Youth and Emerging Leaders Subcommittee
- Tuesday, January 20- Policy and Legislative Advocacy Subcommittee
- Wednesday, January 21- CISA Subcommittee

Presentation: Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act Orientation

OYCR Chief Counsel Protima Pandey shared a brief orientation of key Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. All of the work of a public body has to happen openly, including all of the

deliberations. This is not only part of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, it is also enshrined in the California Constitution. She highlighted several key principles: timely and sufficient notice of meetings; providing opportunity for public comment; and conducting meetings in an open session (except in the limited situations where a closed session is warranted). She further shared the situations when the Bagley-Keene Act applies, what defines a majority of members, and critical considerations for what constitutes a serial meeting. She closed by clarifying allowable communications, including the rule of two. She concluded by specifying additional requirements around hosting a teleconference for advisory bodies.

Public Comment

Vice Chair Franco opened the floor for public comment. Victoria Birch expressed gratitude for participating in the SACJJDP subcommittee and thanked members for the opportunity to be in the space. Hon. Brian Back expressed gratitude for the support from OYCR staff members Marcia Rincon Gallardo and Cecilia Simmons for supporting the work of the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Subcommittee.

Announcements, Call for Agenda Items & Adjourn

Chair Mendoza called for any final announcements, thanked members and reminded them of the next meeting on March 18, 2026. He then adjourned the meeting.