



STATE ADVISORY GROUP ON YOUTH JUSTICE: RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2026
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

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

Virtual Public Participant Link:
[Via Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 161 623 7296 | Password: 605558

Welcome and Roll Call (1:00 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.)

Facilitators: RJ Chair, Kent Mendoza (Anti-Recidivism Coalition)

- I. Chair Kent Mendoza called the meeting to order and welcome participants at 1:06 pm. We have quorum.
- II. The State Advisory Committee on Restorative Justice (RJ) (SACJJDP) members were in attendance
 - a. Don Carney, Executive Director of Youth Transforming Justice **-Here**
 - b. Jessica Ellis, Executive Director of Centinela Youth Services and Co-Chair of the RJ subcommittee- **Here**
 - c. Kent Mendoza, Associate Director of Local Advocacy of the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) and RJ subcommittee chair-**Here**
 - d. Efrain Morales, Program Manager of 3Strands Global Foundation-**Here**
 - e. Greg Srolestar, Director of Research and Tech Assistance with Prosecutors Alliance-**Here**
 - f. Javier Stauring, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Healing Dialogue in Action-**Here**
 - g. Allannah Tomich-Yolo Conflict Resolution Center- **Here**
 - h. Sheri Wiedenhofer, Executive Director of the Community Justice Center-**Here**
- III. (SACJJDP) RJ members not in attendance
 - Stephanie Autumn-, Director with the Tribal Youth Resource Center-**Not here**
 - Victoria Birch- Youth Advisory Board member with OYCR- **Not here**
 - Jerdine Clarke, Clinical Director of the Restorative Justice for Oakland (RJOY)-**Not here**
 - George Galvis, Executive Director of the Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)-**Not here**
 - Kasey Halcon, Deputy County Executive of Santa Clara County-**Not here**

- Julie Hilt, Founder of the Alternative Restorative Communities (ARC)-**Not here**
 - Rodrigo Jimenez, Youth Alliance-**Not here**
- IV. The Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR)
- Protima Pandey, Chief Legal Counsel
 - Krystal Lewis, Federal Title II Program Manager
 - Cecilia Arredondo Simmons, County Liaison

Approve Minutes (1:10 P.M. - 1:15 P.M.)

Facilitator: Kent Mendoza

I. Approve Minutes

- Subcommittee mentioned a correction in the spelling of 2 members names to the minutes, Rodrigo Jimenez and Allannah Tomich. Correction made.
- Sheri Wiedenhoefer filed a motion to approve minutes. Efrain Morales second the motion. All subcommittee members approved of the notes.
- Minutes approved by subcommittee.

Federal Title II Solicitation for new three-year plan (1:15 P.M. - 1:45 P.M.)

Facilitator: Jessica Ellis

- I. [2024-2026-CA-Title-II-State-Plan.pdf](#)
- II. Federal Title II solicitation was released last week.
- III. Four statutory goals remain: deinstitutionalization of status offenders, sight-and-sound separation, jail removal, and reduction of racial and ethnic disparities.
- IV. State must apply to the federal solicitation to receive funds, then run an instate request for proposals (RFP) to distribute funds; opportunity exists to influence the state's application and local distribution decisions.
- V. Restorative justice (RJ) appears in the state plan under diversion with objectives to increase diversion availability/use, apply evidence-based assessments to reduce bias, and expand awareness of non-arrest alternatives, including RJ.
- VI. Stakeholders reported racial/ethnic disparities have not improved and may have worsened; requested grantee data and compliance reports to assess impacts and guide RJ integration upstream (prevention, schools, reentry); state compliance team monitors jail separations and reports to Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the governor.
- VII. Member recommendations and questions
 - Move up stream and focus on youth in elementary school. Don Carney is writing an article about trauma in 4th grade.
 - How are the 4 statutory goals being tracked for the Title II grantees. Any results for the main goal.
 - The 3 year racial ethnic disparity (RED) plan has been written in a general overview way.
 - Is it prevention or reduction that we are focusing on.
 - Has there been an improvement with racial disparity data?
 - RED data from Title II grantees send information over to OYCR.

- RJ subcommittee could bring best practices for RJ to the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (SACJJDP) June meeting if we wanted to present on Title II recommendations.
- What areas are being looked at for the solicitation?
- The younger you are the better to reduce racial ethnic disparity.
- What is the vetting process for Title II recipients.
- Youth Policy and Legislative subcommittee is wanting data from Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding deferred entry of judgment (DEJ).
- How will DEJ affect survivors, victims and families?
- Is this policy decision going to repair harm. Educate the non-profit.
- Breakdown DEJ and where is used. Don't get convictions or destined conviction when a youth.
- [Joint Agenda Policy and Leg and RED 3.24.26](#)

Deliverable Brainstorm Discussion (1:45 P.M. – 2:15 P.M.)

Facilitator: Jessica Ellis

- I. Influence Title II criteria and add restorative justice (RJ) and harmed party language in Title II funds
- II. Highlight strong RJ examples across the state.
- III. Decision system framework on decision on the systems.
- IV. Looking at programs are currently going on within Title II funds. What is working and what is not working.
- V. Have a conference on restorative justice (RJ) if we have more funds.
- VI. Encourage SAG members with public health lenses. Highlighting best practices. A public health issue.
- VII. What is working and what is not working
- VIII. Scale up best practices
- IX. Connecting it to approaches and healthcare. To influence the framework and use RJ in the Title II plan and see results.

Public Comment (2:15 P.M.-2:25 P.M.)

Facilitator: Kent Mendoza

- I. No public comment

Closing (2:25 P.M.-2:30 P.M.)

Facilitator: Kent Mendoza

- I. Next meeting is on April 27, 2026, and no meeting on May 25, 2026, since that is Memorial Day-holiday.

Meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month. **Upcoming Subcommittee Meeting Dates:**

- 4/27/26 1-2:30pm
- 6/22/26 1-2:30pm

The order in which agenda items are considered may be subject to change. Depending on the number of individuals wishing to address the Committee, the Chair may establish specific time limits on comments.

The agenda and meeting materials can be viewed on the [State Advisory Group in Youth Justice webpage](#). Please contact OYCR at SAGYJ@chhs.ca.gov with questions about the meetings.

Any person who wishes to request this notice or other meeting materials in alternative format, requires translation services, or any disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, which would enable that person to participate at the meeting must make that request at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting date to: SAGYJ@chhs.ca.gov.

ADDENDUM - Notice of Expected Remote Attendance

Member	Expected Attendance
Kent Mendoza	Virtual
Sheri Wiedenhofer	Virtual
Jessica Ellis	Virtual
Greg Srolestar	Virtual
Javier Stauring	Virtual
Don Carney	Virtual
Victoria Birch	Virtual
Efrain Morales	Virtual