



**CISA SUBCOMMITTEE -
JULY 2026**

NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

PARTICIPANT OVERVIEW & METHODOLOGY

Data Collection

To better understand the needs and perspectives of Title II grantees, the Community Investment & System Accountability Subcommittee conducted a needs assessment using a mixed-methods approach.

- Survey Responses: 10 organizations
- Key Informant Interviews: 2 organizations

Survey responses provided quantitative and qualitative feedback, while interviews offered additional context and insight. Many of the themes identified during the interviews aligned with the perspectives shared through the survey responses, reinforcing several of the key findings presented in this assessment.

WHAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR ORGANIZATION?

Respondent Profile

Responses were provided exclusively by Community-Based Organizations (100%), with the majority representing current Title II grantees. The survey also captured perspectives from former grantees and organizations interested in future Title II funding, providing insight from organizations with varying levels of Title II experience.

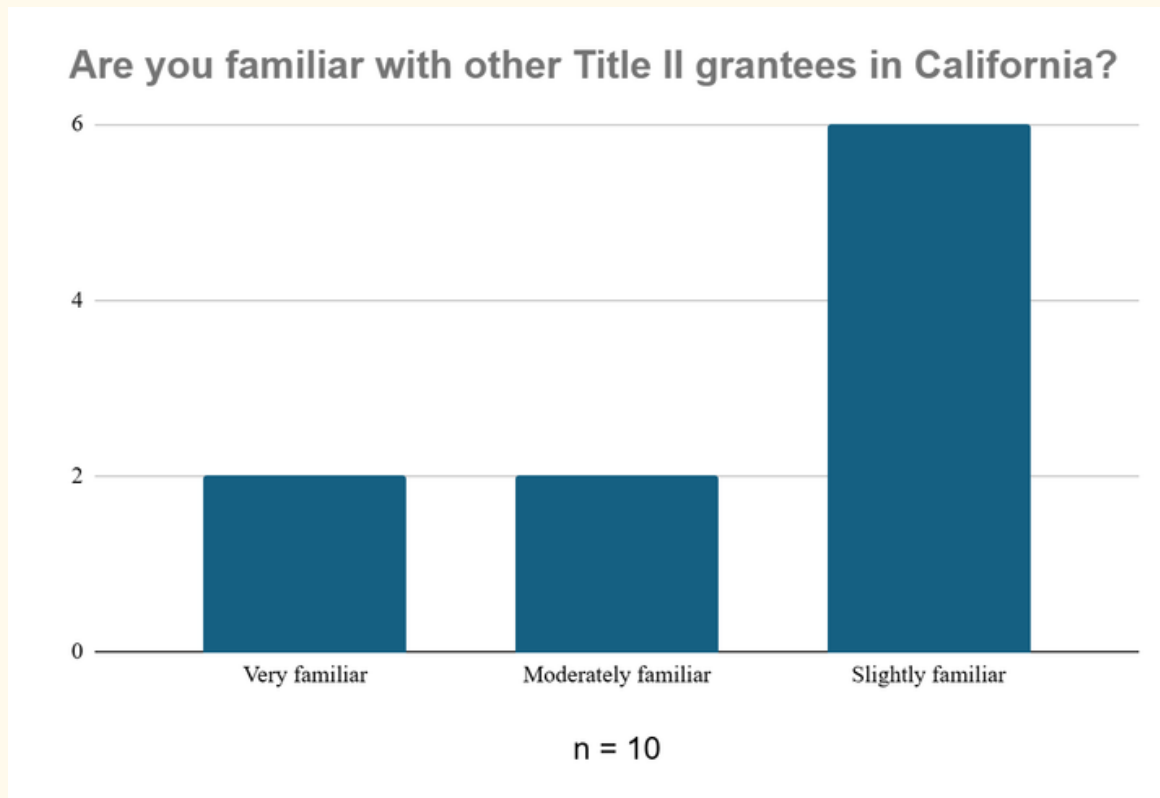
Organization Status	Responses (n = 10)	Percent of Respondents
Current Title II Grantee	7	70%
Former Title II Grantee	3	30%
Interested in Title II Funding	3	30%

Note: Respondents could select more than one category for certain questions; percentages may not total 100%.

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH OTHER TITLE II GRANTEES IN CALIFORNIA?

Current Level of Familiarity

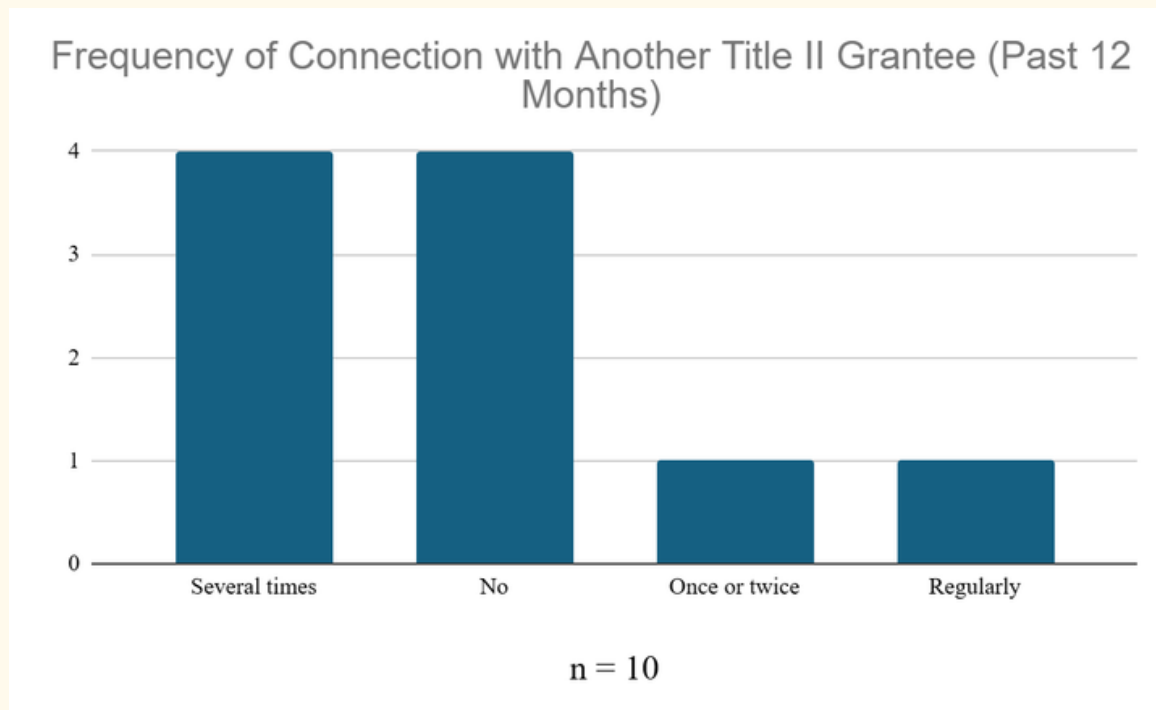
Respondents reported varying levels of familiarity with other Title II grantees in California. The majority (60%) indicated they were slightly familiar, while 20% reported being moderately familiar and 20% indicated they were very familiar.



DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, HAVE YOU CONNECTED WITH ANOTHER TITLE II GRANTEE REGARDING YOUTH JUSTICE WORK?

Connection with Other Title II Grantees

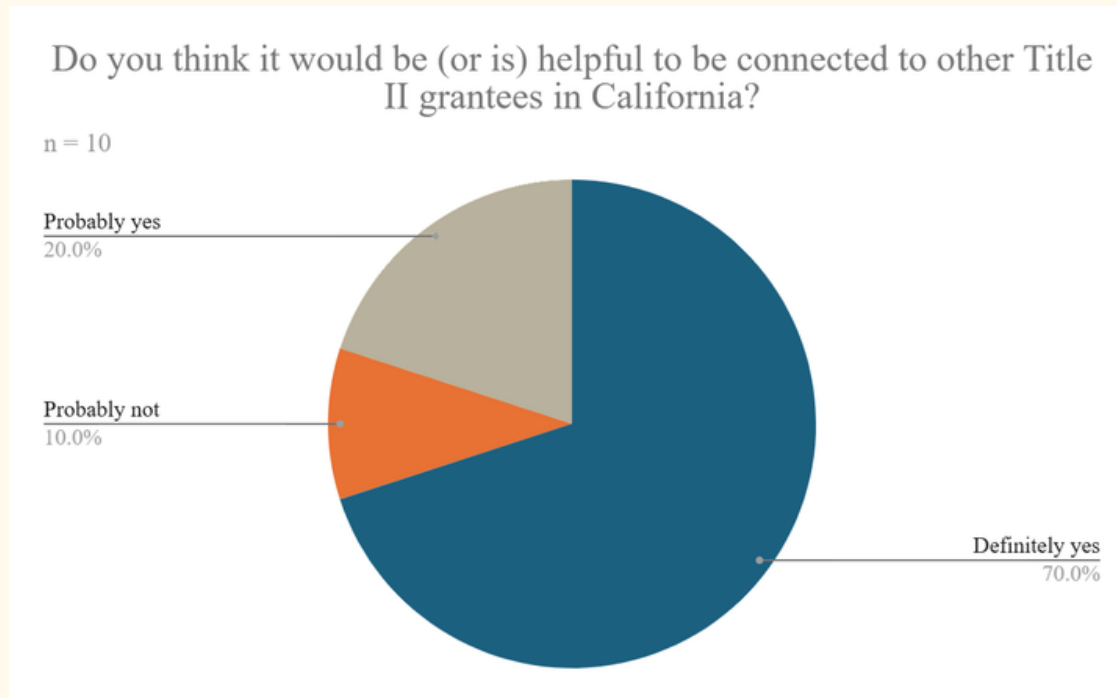
Respondents reported varying levels of engagement with other Title II grantees during the past 12 months. While 40% indicated they had connected with another grantee several times, an equal proportion (40%) reported no connection during the same period. Fewer respondents reported connecting once or twice (10%) or regularly (10%).



DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BE (OR IS) HELPFUL TO BE CONNECTED TO OTHER TITLE II GRANTEES IN CALIFORNIA?

Perceived Value of Connecting with Other Title II Grantees

Respondents expressed strong support for increased engagement with other Title II grantees in California.



WHICH TYPES OF ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH OTHER TITLE II GRANTEES WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN?

Preferred Engagement Opportunities

Respondents expressed strong interest in structured opportunities to connect with other Title II grantees. Regular grantee presentations and an annual summit/convening were the most frequently selected engagement opportunities (80% each).

Engagement Opportunity	Responses (n = 10)	Percent of Respondents
Regular grantee presentations	8	80%
Annual summit/convening	8	80%
Peer learning communities	7	70%
Topic-specific working groups	7	70%
Resource sharing	7	70%
Site visits	6	60%
Mentorship opportunities	5	50%
Virtual networking	4	40%
Other	1	10%*

*Write-in Response (Other):

"Strengthening capacity-building efforts, expanding learning opportunities to maximize available resources, and establishing a clear referral process to support youth who relocate beyond the city or county we serve."

WHAT BENEFITS WOULD YOU HOPE FOR IF YOU HAD MORE ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH OTHER TITLE II GRANTEES?

Expected Benefits of Increased Engagement

Respondents identified several anticipated benefits of increased engagement with other Title II grantees.

Benefit of Increased Engagement	Responses (n = 10)	Percent of Respondents
Identifying funding opportunities	10	100%
Learning & sharing best practices	9	90%
Discussing common challenges & solutions	9	90%
Strengthening referral networks	8	80%
Strategies to address service gaps	8	80%
Building collaborative grant partnerships	8	80%
Improving program evaluation & data collection	7	70%
Reducing duplication of services	5	50%
Learning about policy developments	4	40%

WHAT TYPES OF DATA DO YOU COLLECT?

Data & Evaluation Capacity

Respondents generally reported strong data and evaluation capacity. All respondents indicated they track youth participation, have access to evaluation expertise, and assess youth progress within their programs. Areas with greater variation included collecting information from families and maintaining formal evaluation reports.

Data & Evaluation Capacity	Yes	No	Not Sure
Track youth participation	10 (100%)	0	0
Collect information from youth	9 (90%)	0	1 (10%)
Collect information from families	4 (40%)	3 (30%)	3 (30%)
Staff responsible for data/evaluation	9 (90%)	1 (10%)	0
Access to evaluation expertise	10 (100%)	0	0
Program has a logic model	9 (90%)	0	1 (10%)
Assess youth progress	10 (100%)	0	0
Evaluation report	7 (70%)	0	3 (30%)

HOW DO YOU TYPICALLY USE DATA?

How Organizations Typically Use Data

Organizations reported using data for a variety of operational, evaluation, and reporting purposes. The most frequently selected uses were program design (100%), communicating impact to funders (100%), and improving services for youth and families (100%), demonstrating that data plays a central role in both program implementation and continuous improvement.

Use of Data	Responses (n = 10)	Percent of Respondents
Inform program design	10	100%
Communicate impact to funders	10	100%
Improve services for youth & families	10	100%
Inform day-to-day decision-making	9	90%
Reporting requirements	9	90%
Program evaluation activities	9	90%
Identify unmet community needs	7	70%
Advocate for policy change	5	50%
Other (Write-in)	2	20%*

*Write-in Responses (Other)

Respondent 1: "Organizational Board reports, County Board updates, City Council updates, highlighting program success & opportunities for our Justice Serving Network, sharing with other funders and businesses who seek to support efforts."

Respondent 2: "Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) approach."

HOW ORGANIZATIONS DEFINE YOUTH SUCCESS

Common Themes

- Educational engagement and attainment
- Employment and workforce readiness
- Goal achievement and personal growth
- Reduced justice system involvement
- Self-sufficiency and independence
- Family and community support

Direct Responses

"Success is determined upon an individual's progress toward the fulfillment of goals... with the ultimate aim of becoming self-sufficient."

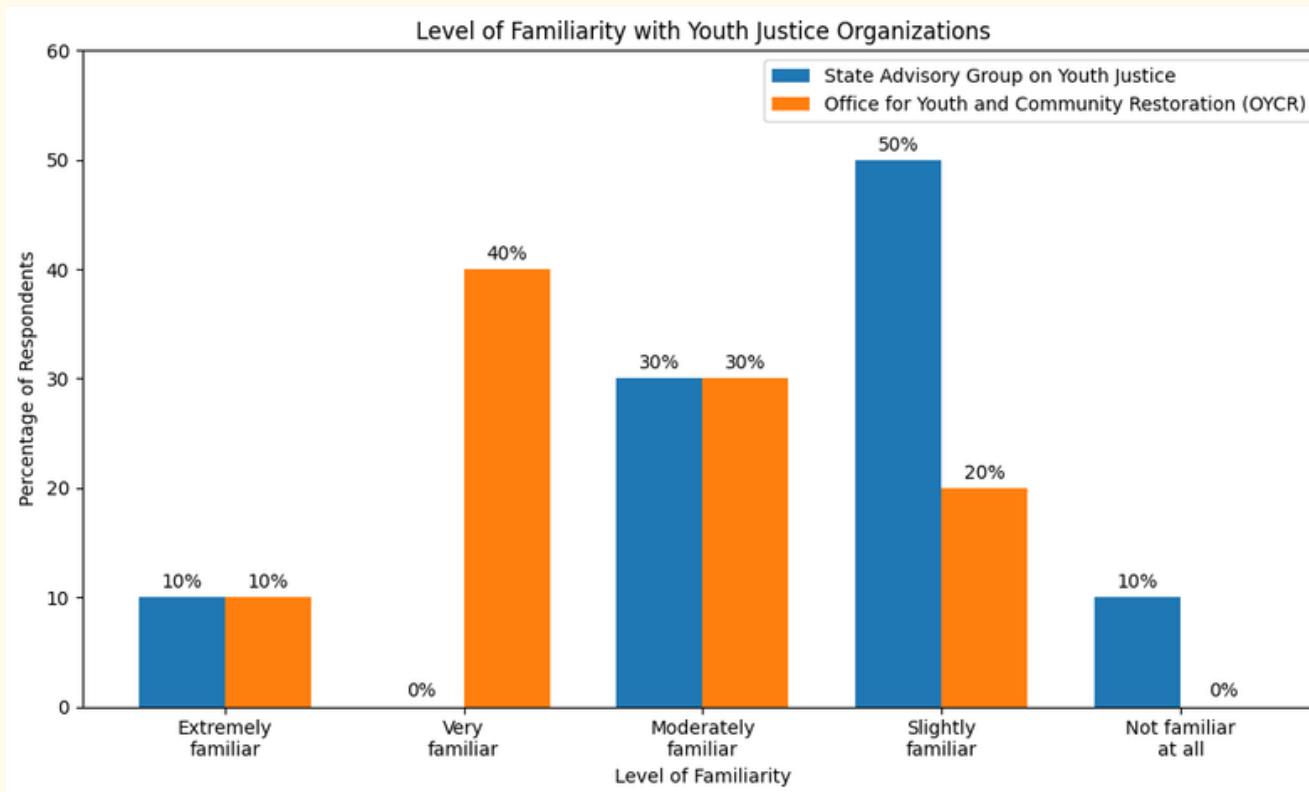
"When we help them achieve each goal, it builds their confidence... leading to employment, college enrollment, family reunification, and avoiding further justice system involvement."

"Youth is engaged in school and/or employment, has a community of support, has a plan for their future, and is confident in their ability to achieve it."

AWARENESS OF KEY STATEWIDE YOUTH JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS

Familiarity with Statewide Youth Justice Entities

Respondents reported a range of familiarity with both the State Advisory Group on Youth Justice (SAGYJ) and the Office for Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR), with responses spanning from not familiar at all to extremely familiar for SAGYJ and from slightly familiar to extremely familiar for OYCR.



WHAT KINDS OF RESOURCES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, OR ENGAGEMENT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO YOU FROM STATE-LEVEL COMMITTEES SUCH AS THE SAGYJ?

Requested Resource or Support
Information about funding opportunities
Youth & family engagement strategies
Training on evidence-based/promising practices
Technical assistance with funding applications
Program evaluation support
Updates on state youth justice policies
Training related to service provision
Program design & implementation support
Collaboration on grant applications
Data collection & management support
Collaboration with organizations in my county
Opportunities to provide input on state priorities
Training related to grant writing
Collaboration with organizations outside my county
Other (Write-in)

***Write-in Response (Other):**

"Opportunities to provide local Juvenile Probation with guidance on best practices to strengthen coordination and ensure a smooth transition for youth returning from secure settings to the community..."

HOW WOULD YOU PREFER TO LEARN ABOUT SAGYJ AND OYCR ACTIVITIES?

Preferred Communication Methods

Respondents identified webinars (50%) as the most preferred method for learning about SAGYJ and OYCR activities, followed by regional meetings (40%) and email updates (30%).

Preferred Communication Method	Responses (n = 10)	Percent of Respondents
Webinars	5	50%
Regional meetings	4	40%
Email updates	3	30%

NEXT STEPS

- Synthesize survey and interview feedback into a brief report.
- Present the report and key recommendations to the State Advisory Group on Youth Justice (SAGYJ) in September to inform future priorities, collaboration efforts, and recommendations.

FOR DISCUSSION:

BASED ON THE RESPONSES, WHAT ARE THE KEY RECOMMENDATIONS?