



STATE ADVISORY GROUP ON YOUTH JUSTICE: RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2026

1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Physical Location:

925 L Street, Suite 1275
Sacramento, CA 95814

Virtual Public Participant Link:

[Via Zoom](#)

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

Facilitator: Jessica Ellis

- I. Meeting starts at 1:00 P.M.
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Jessica Ellis
 - b. Alannah Tomich
 - c. Efrain Morales
 - d. Greg Srolestar
 - e. Rigo Jimenez
 - f. Kent Mendoza
 - g. Sheri Wiedenhofer
 - h. Don Carney
 - i. Victoria Birch

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

Facilitator: Chair Kent Mendoza

- I. Greg Srolestar motioned to approve the May minutes and Efrain Morales second. The May meeting minutes were approved.

Preliminary reviews of State's Title II Plan (1:15 P.M.-1:50 P.M.)

Facilitator: Co-Chair Jessica Ellis

- I. Identifying areas for potential inclusion of RJ
 - a. The subcommittee discussed opportunities to strengthen restorative justice throughout California's **2026–2028 Title II State Plan** [Title II FFY 24-25 State Plan RJ Review Formula Grant Areas | Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#)

- b. The State Advisory Group reviews and approves the Title II State Plan before submission to OJJDP.
 - c. Members identified gaps where restorative justice is not sufficiently reflected within the three-year plan or future Requests for Proposals (RFPs).
 - d. The committee discussed the Title II FFY 2024–2025 State Plan as a reference for future recommendations.
 - e. Members emphasized providing recommendations to the full State Advisory Group for consideration.
 - f. Restorative justice should focus on meaningful behavior change and accountability.
 - g. Current funding often supports isolated or limited restorative justice efforts rather than a comprehensive statewide strategy.
 - h. Members discussed the importance of addressing required Title II priority areas, including racial and ethnic disparities.
 - i. Previous state plans have included reentry, diversion, and community-based programming. Members recommended integrating restorative justice across all stages of the juvenile justice continuum.
 - j. Restorative justice should include:
 - Prevention
 - Early intervention
 - Diversion
 - Community-based responses
 - Reentry
- II. Due to limited funding, members agreed that front-end diversion should remain a primary priority.
- III. Members emphasized restorative justice should clearly focus on repairing harm, defining restorative justice practices, and supporting pre-charge and pre-petition diversion opportunities.

Presentation of Additional Report Summaries (1:50 P.M.-2:20 P.M.)

Facilitator: Greg Srolestar, Efrain Morales and Don Carney

- I. Sentencing Project report: [Restorative Justice Diversion: A Better Way to Provide Meaningful Accountability for Youth – The Sentencing Project](#)
 - a. The report highlighted opportunities to transform the juvenile justice system through restorative justice.
 - b. Members noted the need for stronger and more comprehensive data demonstrating restorative justice outcomes.
 - c. Diversion combined with restorative justice continues to show promising results in reducing youth system involvement.
 - d. Members discussed ensuring the "repairing harm" component remains central to restorative justice practices.
 - e. Additional discussion focused on how restorative justice can shift traditional power dynamics within the juvenile justice system and influence future Title II planning.
- II. RJ Scan Document

- a. https://oycr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/346/2026/07/Scan-of-Youth-CJ_RJ-CA-Programs.pdf
- b. Members noted that many restorative justice programs serve relatively small populations.
- c. Programs vary significantly in scope, with some serving youth at early intervention stages and others serving youth deeper within the justice system.
- d. Members highlighted ongoing monthly webinars involving victim advocates and prosecutors to promote restorative justice education and collaboration.
- e. <https://prosecutorsalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Restorative-Justice-Primer.pdf>

III. EGI and RJ practices

- a. <https://oycr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/346/2026/07/Justice2Jobs-Sacramento-County-EGI-Learning-Summit-Slides-to-Share.pdf>
- b. Since the 1980s, the incarceration of women has increased significantly, while girls continue to represent approximately 15% of incarcerated youth.
- c. Members discussed pathways that contribute to girls entering the justice system and the lack of community-based alternatives.
- d. The committee emphasized taking a structural and gender-responsive approach to serving girls and young women.
- e. Members also discussed racial disparities affecting girls and the need to better understand culturally responsive approaches that address differences in outcomes among racial and ethnic groups.

Public Comment (2:20 P.M.-2:25 P.M.)

Facilitator: All

- I. No public comments were received

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

Facilitator: Kent Mendoza and Jessica Elias

- I. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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

- 8/24/26 1:00 pm-2:30 pm
- 9/28/26 1:00 pm-2:30 pm
- 10/25/26 1:00 pm-2:30 pm
- 11/23/26 1:00 pm-2:30 pm
- 12/28/26 1:00 pm-2:30 pm

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 on 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
Chair Kent Mendoza	Virtual
Co-Chair Jessica Ellis	Virtual
Greg Srolestar	Virtual
Victoria Birch	Virtual
Efrain Morales	Virtual
Rigo Jimenez	Virtual
Sheri Wiedenhoefer	Virtual
Alannah Tomich	Virtual
Don Carney	Virtual