

RURAL RESILIENCE INNOVATION HUB

Youth Behavioral Health & Justice Community of Practice Report

November 2025 - June 2026

10 POPULATION HEALTH INNOVATION LAB
A DECADE OF IMPACT, A FUTURE OF INNOVATION

NAC
Northern ACEs Collaborative
A Rural Resilience Innovation Hub

Acknowledgements

The Population Health Innovation Lab (PHIL) extends our sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of the Rural Resilience Innovation Hub (RRIH) Youth Behavioral Health & Justice Community of Practice (CoP).

The Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP was made possible through the partnership and support of the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) and the many practitioners, community leaders, researchers, and organizations who generously shared their time, expertise, and lived experience throughout the initiative.



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SPECIAL THANKS

- Community members who shared their experiences
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- Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR)
- Participating county teams and organizations

If you are interested in learning more about the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP, please visit the PHIL website or contact us at info@pophealthinnovationlab.org

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Executive Summary

Communities across California are navigating a period of rapid systems transformation. Initiatives such as California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI), the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), and other reforms with a youth-serving component create significant opportunities to improve outcomes for children and families, particularly those impacted by the justice system. However, rural communities in Northern California continue to face longstanding challenges, including limited workforce capacity, fragmented systems, and geographic barriers that can hinder implementation and limit the reach of these reforms. As statewide initiatives continue to evolve, rural partners need practical ways to learn from one another, align efforts across systems, and adapt statewide initiatives to local contexts.

To address this need, the Population Health Innovation Lab (PHIL), through the Northern ACEs Collaborative (NAC) and with support from the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR), launched the Rural Resilience Innovation Hub (RRIH)'s Youth Behavioral Health & Justice Community of Practice (CoP). Rather than introducing a new program or service model, RRIH invests in the strengths already present in rural communities by creating structured spaces for peer learning, relationship-building, and cross-sector collaboration.

From November 2025 through June 2026, RRIH convened practitioners, leaders, researchers, and community partners from behavioral health, probation, education, public health, academia, and community-based organizations across Northern California. Through monthly virtual convenings, in-person gatherings, and focused learning opportunities, participants explored emerging policies and practices, shared implementation strategies, exchanged implementation lessons, and identified opportunities to better align services and supports across sectors and counties to serve children, youth, and families.

Participants reported stronger cross-sector relationships, increased confidence navigating evolving state initiatives, and greater ability to apply new tools and approaches in their local work. The CoP also reduced isolation by connecting individuals who often work across vast geographic distances and cultivated a growing network committed to improving outcomes for children, youth, and families in rural communities.

As California's transformation efforts continue to evolve, rural communities will need ongoing opportunities to learn together, strengthen relationships, and adapt innovations to local realities. The experience of this CoP demonstrates that investing in relationship-centered, cross-sector learning helps rural communities translate policy change into meaningful local action.

Section 1. Overview

RRIH & the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice Community of Practice

The Population Health Innovation Lab (PHIL), a program of the Public Health Institute, launched the Rural Resilience Innovation Hub (RRIH) in 2023. RRIH operated without dedicated funding until July 2025 when PHIL secured a contract with the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR), allowing RRIH to convene its first Community of Practice (CoP) to strengthen rural and cross-county systems of care for children, youth, and families in rural Northern California, particularly those impacted by the justice system (see Figure 1 for a visual overview of a Community of Practice (CoP). Beginning in November 2025, the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP, engaged participants from across Northern California over an eight-month period around a central design challenge question: *How might we elevate local wisdom and cross-sector collaboration to build behavioral health systems that work for youth and families in rural communities, including those impacted by the justice system?* Though



Figure 1. A diagram showcasing what a Community of Practice (CoP) is and the unifying components of a CoP.

open to broad participation, the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP focused on 10 target counties: Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Shasta, Tehama, and Trinity (see Figure 2).

RRIH, which serves as the umbrella for the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP grew out of the Northern ACEs Collaborative (NAC), a PHIL initiative launched in 2019 to support rural Northern California counties in addressing trauma, improving behavioral health outcomes, and strengthening cross-sector partnerships. In 2023, the NAC Steering Committee adopted the Three Realms of ACEs Framework as its guiding lens – recognizing that trauma and resilience occur across household, community, and environmental contexts. That same year, the NAC Steering Committee identified the need for a strategic shift in NAC work that would foster generative dialogue and learning across the rural region. This led to the launch of RRIH—a place for rural collaboration resulting in real solutions. The name *Rural Resilience Innovation Hub* reflects the initiative's core philosophy: building on the strengths and wisdom already present in rural communities despite very real challenges, creating space for collaborative innovation, and elevating resilience as a guiding principle for systems change.

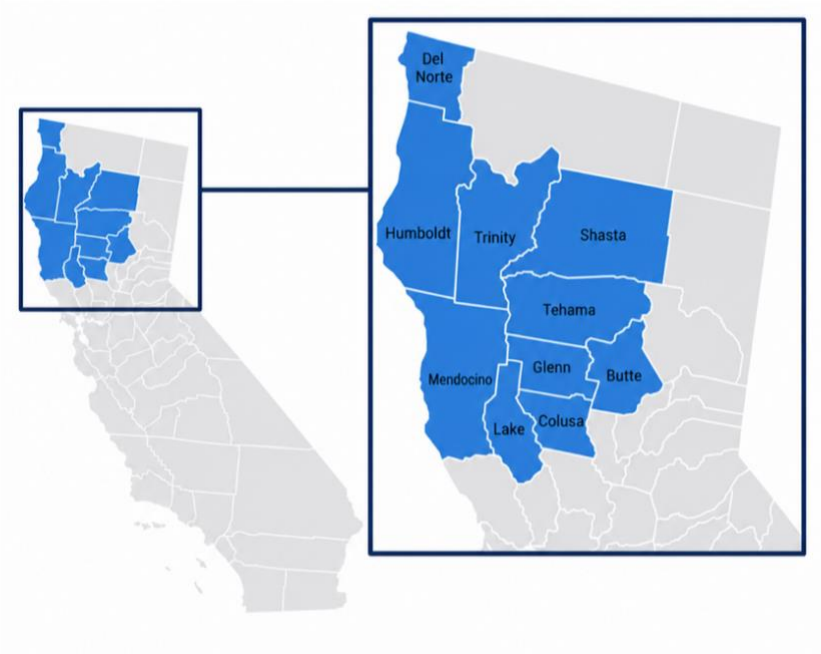


Figure 2. The 10 Northern California counties targeted for engagement in the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP of the RRIH: Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Shasta, Tehama and Trinity.

RRIH Goal

RRIH exists to create reliable, specialized spaces for people in rural Northern California counties to collaborate, problem-solve, and implement solutions. RRIH achieves this by fostering intentional, time-bound learning opportunities that:

- Build cross-sector relationships grounded in trust and shared purposes;
- Deepen understanding of rural systems;
- Share relevant local and state-level systems transformation efforts and how to leverage such opportunities;
- Surface local innovations and strengthen collaborative strategies;

- Elevate the voices of youth, families, and communities with lived experience; and
- Share insights that support local decision-making and state policy.

Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP Structure

RRIH's Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP met from November 2025 through June 2026. Feedback from NAC partners and a 2025 Pre-CoP Regional Interest Survey fielded to leaders, organizations, departments, and any youth-serving individuals in Northern California with interest or experience in supporting behavioral health of youth and families confirmed the urgency and readiness of partners for this RRIH CoP. The survey identified several key challenges, including fragmentation between probation, behavioral health, education, and public health; limited structured diversion programs; gaps in re-entry support; and a strong appetite for practical peer learning (see Appendix A for link to survey results dashboard and Appendix B for survey highlights infographic).

The 2025 Pre-CoP Regional Interest Survey and its responses from 189 people, with 131 respondents representing at least one of RRIH's counties of focus, shaped the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP structure, key objectives (see Figure 3), and learning content (see Table 1). The CoP was intentionally designed to be participant-driven, with survey findings informing initial topic selection and ongoing feedback gathered through monthly post-event evaluations used to refine future sessions and adapt the convening structure over time.

To ensure that learning remained grounded in local realities, PHIL partnered with a Design Team of local leaders throughout the CoP to identify emerging needs, surface rural perspectives, and inform session planning. PHIL also collaborated closely with monthly speakers to tailor presentations to participant interests and regularly incorporated local speakers to share real-world examples, innovations, and implementation experiences from rural communities.

Recognizing the geographic challenges faced by rural communities, the CoP utilized a primarily virtual format to maximize accessibility and participation across Northern California. The monthly 90-minute Zoom convenings, held from November 2025 through April 2026, combined structured peer learning, storytelling, policy dialogue, technical assistance from subject matter experts, and action-oriented discussions focused on local application. Sessions emphasized active engagement through facilitated breakout discussions, opportunities for participants to exchange experiences and resources, and dedicated time for questions and dialogue with presenters.



Figure 3. Objectives of the Youth Behavioral Health and Justice CoP.

The CoP experience was supplemented by additional learning opportunities, including the December 2025 Rural ACEs Summit, a May 2026 in-person convening and training, a March 2026 deep dive on the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative, and a June 2026 data pop-up highlighting updated regional ACEs data (see Appendix A for link to Data Dashboard). To support continued learning and connection between events,

participants also had access to a shared online resource center containing session materials, tools, and additional resources (see Appendix A).

Table 1. High-level summary of events shared with the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP between November 2025 - June 2026.

Timeframe	Event Name	Format
November 2025	Reflecting Together: Survey Findings & Rural Resilience Innovation Hub CoP Launch Preview	Virtual
December 2025	4th Annual Rural ACEs Summit & Pre-Summit Training with Open Doors	In Person
December 2025	Strengthening Partnerships Across Systems	Virtual
January 2026	Community-Engaged Practices	Virtual
February 2026	Rural Resilience-Related County Plans: Opportunities for Collaboration with BHSA, Community Health Assessments/Community Health Improvement Plans, and OYCR Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grants	Virtual
March 2026	Deep Dive: CalAIM Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative	Virtual
March 2026	Leveraging CYBHI to Support Youth and Families	Virtual
April 2026	OYCR and Less Restrictive Programs: A Plain-Language Overview for Counties	Virtual
May 2026	RRIH In-Person Meeting & Single Session Consultation Training	In-Person
June 2026	Pop-Up: NAC Regional ACEs Data Dashboard Showcase	Virtual

Section 2. Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP Highlights and Successes

Reach Across Northern California

Building on longstanding partnerships and previous work in rural Northern California through NAC, PHIL leveraged existing relationships to launch and engage participants in the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP. Participation extended beyond county-specific boundaries, bringing together participants from behavioral health, probation, education, public health, academia, and community-based organizations across Northern California.

Attendance varied across sessions based on topic and format, reflecting the diverse interests represented throughout the CoP. Engagement highlights over the course of the CoP are provided below.

Overall Engagement:

- **413 people** engaged with the CoP in some capacity [CoP participants], including joining the mailing list, completing the Pre-CoP Regional Interest Survey, registering for monthly virtual convenings, or participating in in-person sessions.
  - CoP participants spanned **all 10 target counties** (Figure 2) plus 47 additional counties in California.
  - **239 of the 413** CoP participants served at least one of the 10 rural counties of focus (Figure 2).

In-Person Events and Trainings:

- **155 CoP participants** attended at least one in-person event
  - The most well-attended in-person event was the NAC Summit in December 2025 with **137 people**.
  - **38 people** attended the pre-NAC Summit in-person training day on Open Doors, provided by the Catalyst Center. The Open Doors training program empowers non-medical youth-serving adults to build stronger relationships with youth, emphasizing authentic youth engagement, substance use prevention conversations, and practical relationship-building tools.
  - **37 CoP participants** received training on Single Session Consultation at the in-person RRIH event in May 2026. Participants explored practical, evidence-based strategies to provide

immediate support to children, youth, and families across settings.

Virtual Convenings:

- **109 CoP participants** attended at least one virtual CoP convening.
  - Virtual convenings **averaged 27 participants**, with engagement ranging from 14 to 40 participants per event.
  - **57 CoP participants** attended at least two or more convenings (virtual and/or in person).

Strengthening Rural Connections and Shared Learning

The Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP created opportunities for local leaders and innovators, researchers, frontline practitioners, and community partners to learn alongside one another while exploring practical approaches to strengthening systems of care for children, youth, and families. Participants consistently highlighted peer exchange and relationship-building as among the most valuable aspects of the CoP. Many described the CoP as one of the few spaces to connect with colleagues across counties and sectors who understood the unique geographic, workforce, and resource challenges facing rural communities. These conversations fostered a sense of solidarity and created new opportunities for cross-county collaboration, resource sharing, and ongoing problem-solving.

As one participant reflected in the CoP closing survey, the most valuable aspect of the CoP was:

> "Knowing that your organization is not alone, and you can reach out to any participant, and they are willing to support or answer questions you may have."

Another participant shared during closing reflections for May's CoP event:

> "I really enjoyed networking & getting to know other providers/professionals around the North State. I learned about a group home that could be useful to our county (Trinity). In addition to learning about SSC, I valued the interaction among everyone & thinking about SSC in different ways."

Over time, what began as a series of monthly sessions evolved into an active network of practitioners committed to advancing more coordinated and resilient systems of support.

Building Knowledge and Practical Capacity

At the heart of the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP was a commitment to learning as a collaborative process. Rather than relying solely on presentations or information sharing, convenings created space for participants to contribute to their own experiences, reflect on local challenges, and explore practical strategies alongside their peers.

Post-event surveys, completed by a subset of attendees following each CoP event, nevertheless indicate that participants consistently found the content of RRIH events relevant and valuable to their work (see Appendix C for post-event survey highlights). Among survey respondents:

- **100%** reported gaining ideas and tools to build meaningful, inclusive, and sustainable community partnerships for youth behavioral health during January's "Community-Engaged Practices" event (N=18) (see Appendix C, Figure C2).
- **77%** agreed that the February "Rural Resilience Related County Plans: Opportunities for Collaboration" event increased their understanding of county plans across departments, including similarities, intersections, and potential overlaps (N=13) (see Appendix C, Figure C3).
- **78%** agreed that the March "Leveraging the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) to Support Youth and Families" event helped them identify new ways CYBHI resources and opportunities could be leveraged to strengthen behavioral health supports for youth and families (N=9) (see Appendix C, Figure C4).
- **100%** agreed that the April "OYCR and Less Restrictive Programs: A Plain-Language Overview for Counties" event increased understanding of OYCR and its role in supporting youth well-being in California (N=5) (see Appendix C, Figure C5).
- **96%** felt equipped to implement Single Session Consultation strategies following the May "RRIH In-Person Meeting & Single Session Consultation Training" event (N=23) (see Appendix C, Figure C6).

Participants also described sharing resources and strategies with colleagues and incorporating new ideas into their local efforts:

- "I plan to share the info I learned today with the Mental Health staff and request they complete the survey online. New tools are always helpful." –CoP participant at the May 2025 event
- "I will look into Community Health Workers and share with my CHIP steering committee about Probation's alignment plan." –CoP participant at the February 2025 event

Early Signs of System Impact

Although the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP was implemented over a relatively short period, participant feedback suggests that the CoP contributed to shifts in how participants engage with partners, navigate complex initiatives, and approach their work in systems.

As one participant shared in the January 2025 CoP post-event survey:

> "It was incredibly helpful to participate in a group where community engagement is the primary focus...I have been in many meetings/gatherings where it is the INTENTION, but this is the first time I have been in a group where this type of work is the FOCUS."

In late May 2026, a closing survey was distributed to all CoP participants to evaluate their experiences since participating in the CoP. The survey assessed self-reported changes in confidence, partnerships, alignment, and learning over the course of the CoP. Findings indicate early evidence of increased confidence, stronger cross-sector relationships, and greater application of tools and strategies introduced through RRIH. Among respondents:

- **81%** reported trusting cross-sector partners to work toward shared goals for children and youth after participating in the CoP (N=21).
- **81%** indicated that they applied tools, ideas, and examples from the CoP into their work (N=21).
- **86%** reported increased confidence navigating state initiatives such as CalAIM, OYCR, BHSA, and PATH compared to before participating in the CoP (N=21).
- **76%** agreed that CoP helped elevate rural perspectives in cross-county learning and collaboration (N=21).

Taken together, these findings suggest that the CoP's impact extends beyond individual convenings. The Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP helped strengthen

relationships, increase knowledge, and create opportunities for participants to apply new approaches within their organizations and communities.

Section 3. Challenges and Mitigation Strategies

While designed to be participant-driven and grounded in local realities, the CoP encountered several challenges during its eight months of implementation. Consistent with the principles of continuous learning and adaptation, PHIL regularly gathered participant feedback and adjusted program design, communications, and engagement strategies to respond to emerging needs and barriers. Below were some of the top challenges and mitigation strategies:

- **Limited awareness of OYCR and its relevance to participants' work.** Because OYCR is a relatively new entity, many potential participants had limited familiarity with its role and connection to their day-to-day responsibilities. To address this challenge, PHIL refined communications and identified target audiences to more clearly articulate the "why" behind RRIH and this CoP and to demonstrate how participation aligned with local priorities and OYCR goals.
- **Competing demands on participants' time and attention.** Participants across sectors faced numerous competing initiatives, meetings, and responsibilities, making consistent participation of the same CoP participants difficult. In response, sessions were scheduled well in advance, promoted through multiple channels, and intentionally framed around practical takeaways, peer learning, and immediate relevance to participants' work.
- **Balancing meaningful dialogue with participant availability.** Designing sessions that allowed sufficient time for relationship-building and discussion while remaining concise enough to sustain participation required ongoing adjustment. PHIL utilized an adaptive session design approach, balancing brief presentations with interactive dialogue and using monthly participant feedback to refine pacing, format, and engagement strategies over time.
- **Identifying speakers with both subject-matter expertise and deep understanding of rural contexts.** Recruiting presenters who aligned with participant priorities, possessed relevant expertise, and could speak to the realities of rural Northern California—particularly within juvenile justice and youth-serving systems- proved challenging. Speaker recruitment was guided by survey findings and leveraged regional relationships and networks to

identify practitioners, local leaders, and subject-matter experts with direct experience in rural communities.

- **Sustaining Design Team engagement amid high workloads.** Design Team members brought critical local knowledge and perspective, but busy schedules and competing responsibilities sometimes limited participation. PHIL maintained a flexible Design Team approach, using meetings to gather feedback on emerging issues, shape session topics, and identify opportunities to leverage local relationships and expertise.
- **Despite ongoing outreach, participation from county probation departments remained limited.** During the discovery phase before launch of the CoP, PHIL learned that convening formal county teams was not feasible given local capacity constraints and feedback from probation partners. As a result, RRIH shifted the CoP from a county team model to an individual participation model while intentionally creating opportunities for collaboration within and across counties through breakout discussions, peer exchange, and networking activities.

Section 4. Next Steps

This RRIH CoP demonstrated that a structured, rural-centered CoP creates real value — for participants, for counties, and for the state's ability to make transformation efforts reach places often left behind. At the same time, this CoP surfaced how much further this work needs to go. The following recommendations reflect how RRIH should adapt, grow, and where it could go next.

1. **Sustain rural CoP models as a core field-building strategy**. Eight months and eight sessions around a key topic area of focus are a beginning, not a conclusion. Rural partners benefit from a predictable, trusted learning space over time — and the conditions built into RRIH (Design Team relationships, cross-county trust, practical peer exchange) are most valuable if they continue. Future CoPs should preserve the strongest elements of this work: local design team guidance, peer exchange, plain-language policy translation, and rural-specific tools.
2. **Make Tribal partnership an explicit priority moving forward.** California is home to 109 federally recognized Tribal Nations, each of which has its own distinct culture and norms. Over 30 of these Tribes are located in Northern California—many in rural areas. Native American and Alaska Native people continue to experience vast inequities that are often underrepresented in data

and reporting. While this RRIH CoP did see engagement from Tribal partners, PHIL relied on its adjacent PATH Collaborative Planning and Implementation (CPI) Tribal engagement efforts in Northern California to share about RRIH. The CoP itself did not include explicit trust-building or time-intensive efforts to engage Tribes that Native communities share is needed for inclusion in collaborative efforts that want to have true equitable impact. Future CoPs in rural Northern California need to treat Tribal Nations and Tribal-serving organizations as essential partners with unique outreach and engagement needs given their central role in serving the local population.

3. **Keep translating state initiatives into rural-relevant guidance.** Keeping up with numerous, simultaneous systems transformation efforts (e.g., CalAIM, CYBHI, and OYCR programs) is an initial barrier for CoP participants. Understanding what they mean together, particularly with limited staff, staff turnover, long travel distances for clients, and thin provider networks, is an even bigger obstacle. RRIH, the State, and CoP-supporting agencies should focus on creating short "what this means for rural counties" briefs, rural case studies, office hours for planning requirements, and discussions about cross-initiative alignment to help rural counties move from awareness to action and meaningful alignment.

The subsequent recommendations reflect where additional iterations of the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP could go next to strengthen behavioral health support for youth and families in rural Northern California.

1. **Build intentional structures for youth, family, and community voice.** Future efforts to strengthen behavioral health support for youth and families should go beyond creating opportunities for lived experience input and build in structured roles: youth advisory functions, stipend-supported listening sessions, community storytelling, and partnerships with trusted local organizations. For rural systems change to be meaningful, it must be shaped by the young people and families most affected — not only by the agencies responsible for implementation.
2. **Invest in rural community-based organization (CBO) capacity as a foundational priority**. Rural CBOs are essential to building community-based alternatives for youth and families navigating behavioral health and justice systems. Rural CBOs were not the initial primary target audience for this CoP; however, PHIL's adjacent work in Northern California, along with early CoP input, indicates that CBOs lack infrastructure to fully participate in CalAIM, behavioral health, and justice-related funding, despite CBOs' intended

inclusion. Future learning collaboratives should focus on CBOs explicitly, exploring their needs and supporting them with coaching, peer exchange, and practical tools on billing readiness and braided funding.

3. **Move from shared learning to applied implementation.** Additional iterations of this work should help counties test and document what rural diversion, reentry coordination, and less-restrictive alternatives can look like in practice. Small, well-documented tests of change — supported through "learning-to-action" teams — could help surface what works, what needs adaptation, and what state-level barriers require attention.
4. **Deepen rural pathways to less-restrictive programs and positive youth justice.** RRIH has a foundation that could serve more targeted work on rural, less-restrictive program implementation, higher education pathways for justice-involved youth, and gender-responsive approaches such as Ending Girls' Incarceration. Rural replication cannot copy urban or large-county models — it must account for transportation, housing, supervision, provider availability, and small-population scale. OYCR is well-positioned to help identify the conditions, adaptations, and funding strategies rural counties need.

RRIH demonstrates the value of investing in sustained, cross-sector learning within communities for rural regions. Over the course of the Youth Behavioral Health & Justice CoP, participants repeatedly noted that opportunities to engage across sectors, even with organizations within their own communities, are rare. RRIH creates unique spaces for partners to build shared understanding, develop common language, strengthen trust, and establish relationships across counties and systems. These connections not only reduce isolation among rural practitioners, but they also lay important groundwork for future collaboration and systems change. As California's transformation efforts continue to evolve, rural communities will require ongoing opportunities to learn together, strengthen relationships, align efforts, and act in coordination to make lasting change possible. PHIL is well-positioned to continue this work — building on what has been started and deepening its impact across Northern California's rural communities.

Appendices

Appendix A. Additional Resources & Links

2025 Pre-CoP Regional Interest Survey Results Dashboard

NAC Regional ACEs Data Dashboard

Rural Resilience Innovation Hub Online CoP Resource Center

Appendix B. 2025 Pre-CoP Regional Interest Survey Highlights

Regional Interest in a Youth Behavioral Health Community of Practice

Findings from 10 rural Northern California counties

In October 2025, the Population Health Innovation Lab surveyed youth-serving partners and organizations in Northern California to inform the development of a new Community of Practice (CoP) focused on trauma, resilience, and integrated behavioral health across youth-serving systems. Findings reflect 131 respondents working across 10 Northern California counties: Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Shasta, Tehama, and Trinity.

Top Areas of Interest for CoP

66%

of respondents are interested in learning about collaborative partnerships to address trauma and promote resilience.

59%

of respondents are interested in learning about youth and community engagement.

48%

of respondents are interested in learning about tapping and sustaining into opportunities (i.e., Certified Wellness Coaches, Medi-Cal Peer Support Services Specialists).

Top Challenges and Barriers



Workforce Shortages and Capacity Constraints



Funding Instability and Sustainability



Limited Access to Services and Resources (Especially in Rural Areas)



Mental and Behavioral Health Needs

What Partners Want to Learn from Each Other

- Restorative Justice and Healing-Centered Practices
- Rural and Community-Specific Models
- Cross-Agency Agreements and Collaboration
- Youth and Family Engagement Practices
- Funding Strategies and Sustainability
- Integrated Behavioral Health (BH) Planning

Appendix C. RRIH Youth and Behavioral Health & Justice CoP Post-Event Survey Result Highlights by Month



Figure C1. December 2025 CoP Post-Event Survey Highlights

Community Engaged Partnerships

January 2026 Rural Resilience Innovation Hub

This session explored community-engaged practices in rural settings, featuring guest speakers **Megan Irgens** and **Karen Pautz**. They shared real-world experiences from their work in rural communities, highlighting what effective partnerships look like in practice, what makes them successful, and key lessons for cross-community learning and collaboration. A total of 18 participants completed the post-event survey and shared insights about their experience attending the session.



Figure C2. January 2026 CoP Post-Event Survey Highlights

Rural Resilience Related County Plans: Opportunities for Collaboration

February 2026 Rural Resilience Innovation Hub

This session provided an overview of key county planning efforts and how they connect, including Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) plans, Office of Youth and Community Restoration Youth Justice plans, and Community Health Assessment and Improvement planning (CHA/CHIP). Participants explored practical strategies to align these efforts and strengthen coordinated support for children, youth, and families. A total of 13 participants completed the post-event survey and shared insights about their experience attending the session.

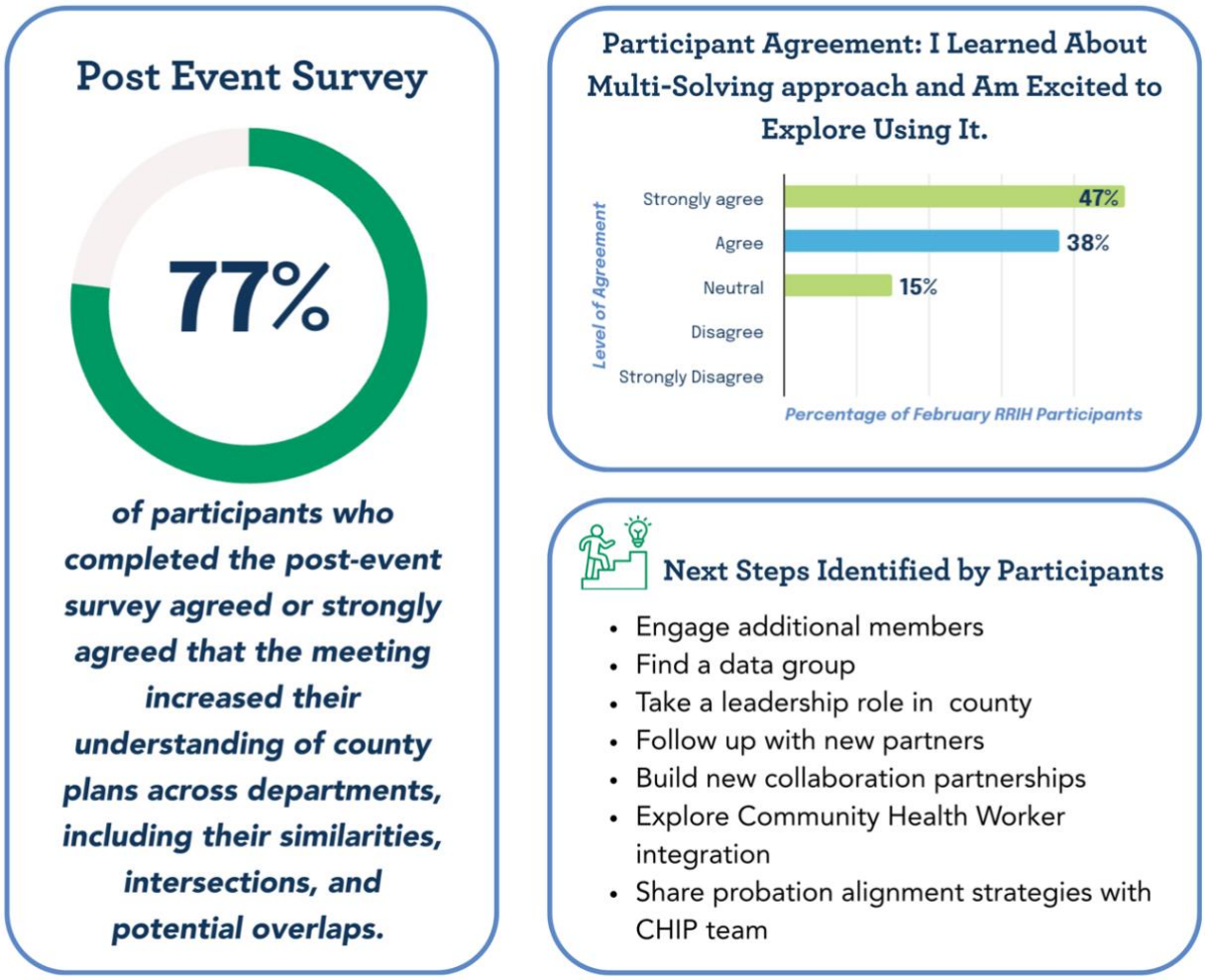


Figure C3. February 2026 CoP Post-Event Survey Highlights

Leveraging CYBHI to Support Youth and Families

March 2026 Rural Resilience Innovation Hub

This session featured state and local leaders who shared practical strategies and resources from the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) to strengthen behavioral health supports for youth and families, including school-based mental health services and community partnership opportunities. A total of 9 participants completed the post-event survey and shared insights about their experience attending the session.

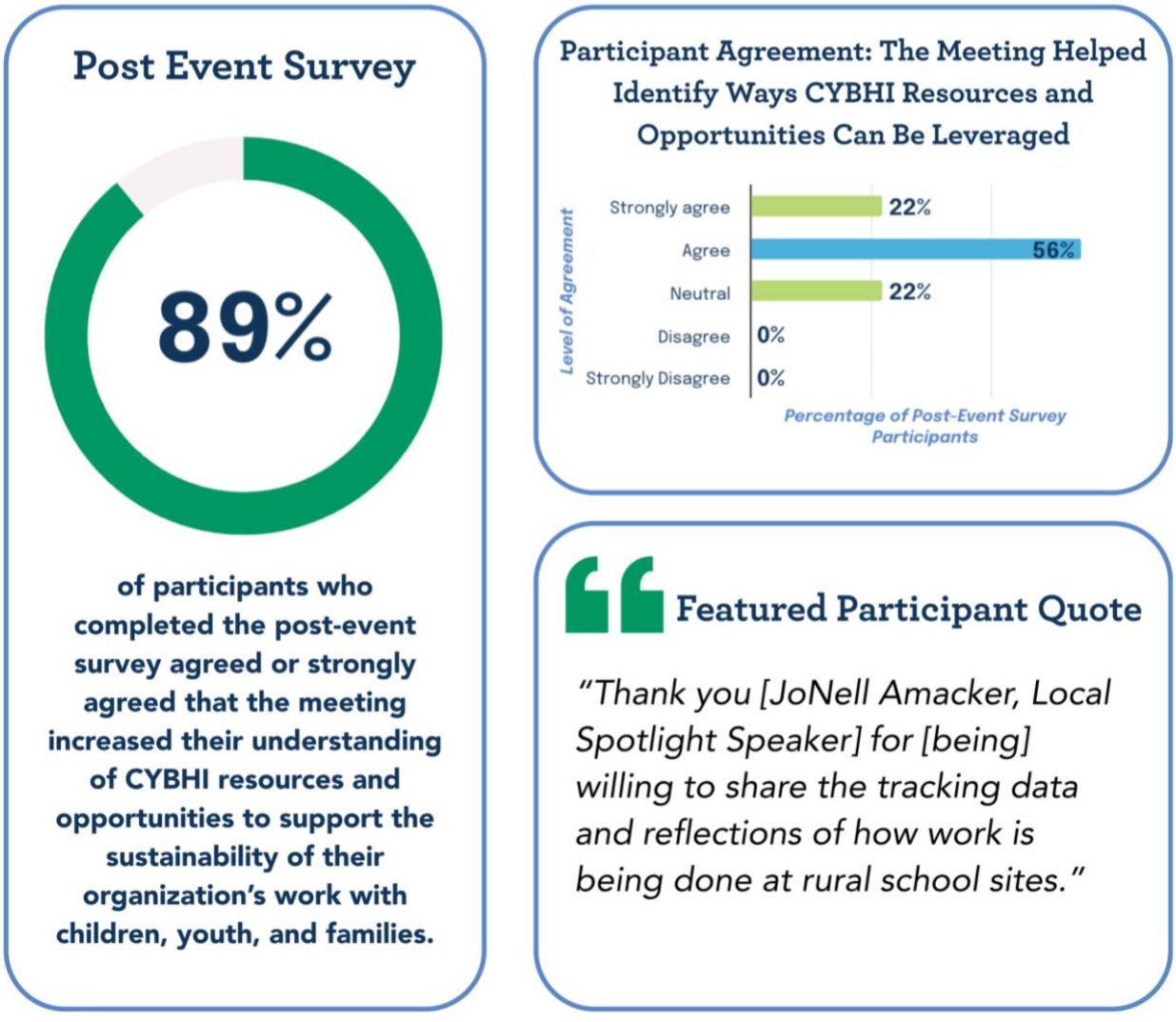


Figure C4. March 2026 CoP Post-Event Survey Highlights

OYCR and Less Restrictive Programs: A Plain-Language Overview for Counties

April 2026 Rural Resilience Innovation Hub

This session featured guest speakers **Angeles Zaragoza**, subject matter expert in Less Restrictive Programs at the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR), and **Michael M. Massa, Ed.D.**, Chief of the Health Policy Division at OYCR. They shared an overview of OYCR and examples of less restrictive programs (LRPs), highlighting strategies counties can use to align services, partnerships, and planning to better meet court expectations and support young people in the community. A total of 5 participants completed the post-event survey and shared insights about their experience attending the session.

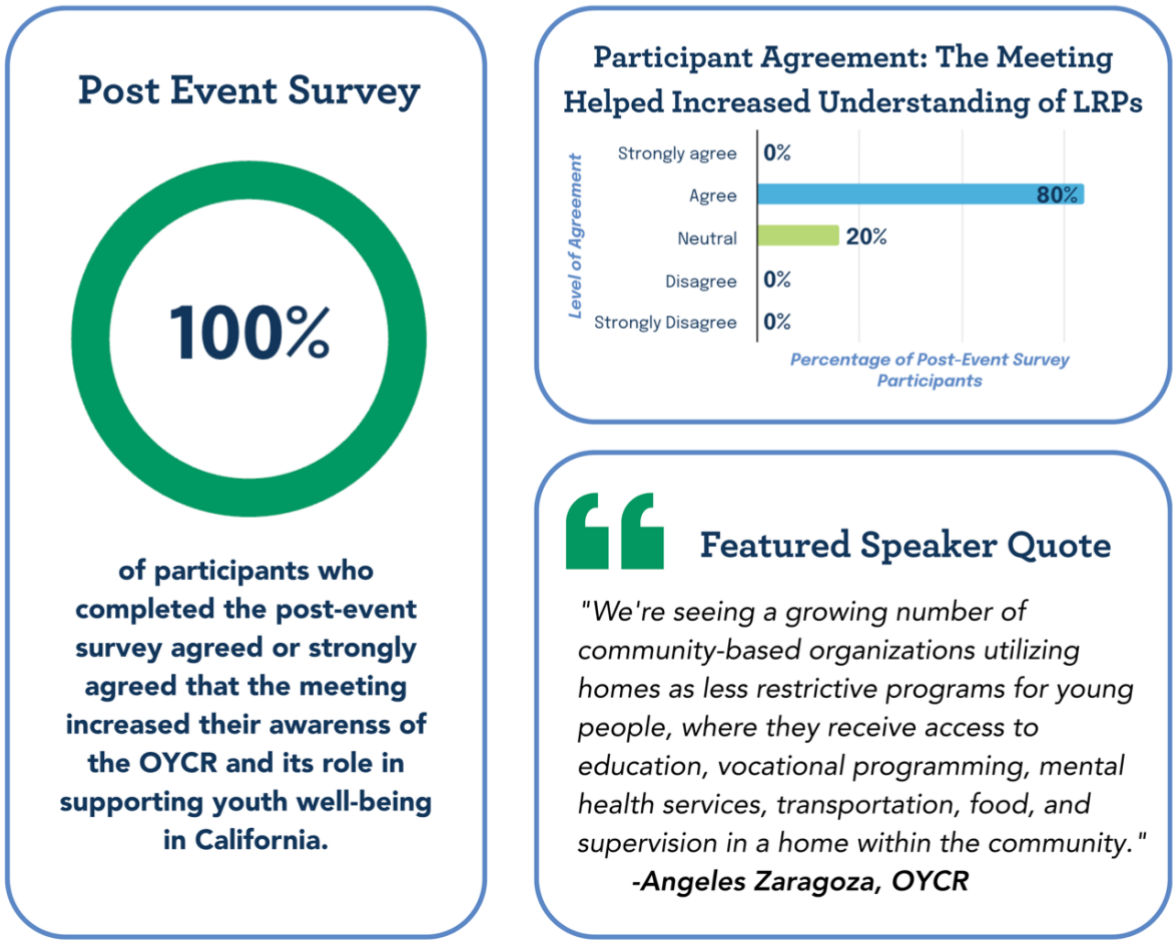


Figure C5. April 2026 CoP Post-Event Survey Highlights

Rural Resilience Innovation Hub In-Person Meeting & Training

May 2026 Rural Resilience Innovation Hub

This in-person convening and training session featured updated Northern ACEs Collaborative (NAC) regional data presented by **Seun Aluko**, along with a training on the Single-Session Consultation (SSC) model led by guest trainers **Megan S. Irgens and Lauren Haack**. Participants explored practical, evidence-based strategies to support children, youth, and families across settings while strengthening collaboration and peer learning in rural Northern California communities. A total of 23 participants completed the post-event survey and shared insights about their experience attending the session.

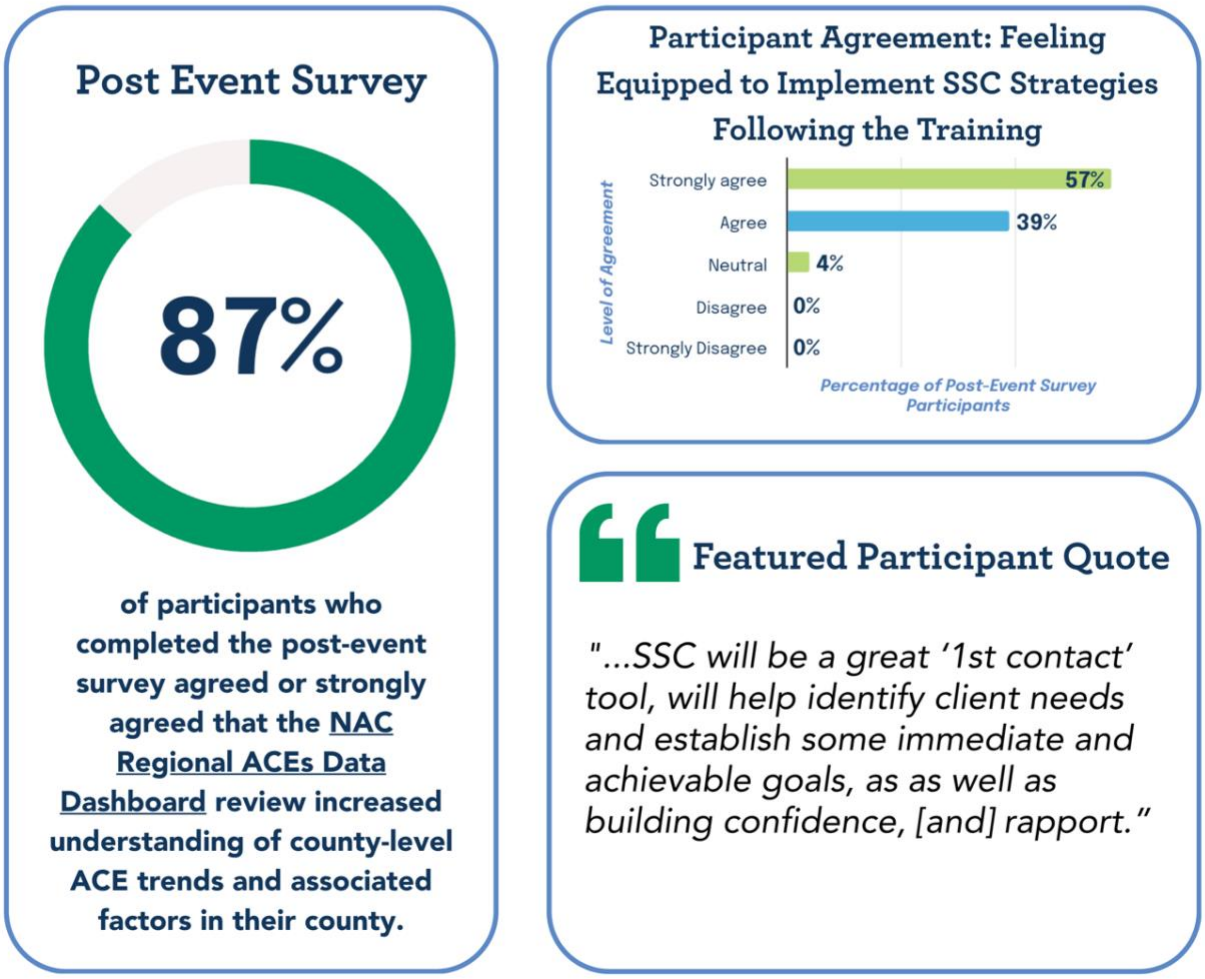


Figure C6. May 2026 CoP Post-Event Survey Highlights