



**State Advisory Group on Youth Justice (SAGYJ)
Community Investment & System Accountability (CISA) Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, July 17, 2026
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Attendees present:

Carly Dierkhising (Chair), Andrew Garcia (Co-Chair), Krystal Lewis (OYCR), Anthony Ortiz, Jr., Lisa Tadlock (OYCR), Carol Biondi, Valerie Salazar (OYCR), Lazandra Dial, John Diaz, Lucero Noyola, Protima Pandey (OYCR), Josefa Rodriguez (OYCR), Valarie Salazar (OYCR)

Welcome and Introductions

The Subcommittee welcomed the following OYCR team members:

Austin Dickman, County Liaison Analyst and former assistant to Director Lucero

Valerie Salazar, Analyst III with the Community Equity and Partnerships Program and former chair of the Ventura County Juvenile Justice Commission

Josefa Fontan, Program Specialist

Lisa Tadlock, Health Specialist supporting OYCR's work with the Sierra Health Foundation

Member Update

Johny Diaz shared an update on his professional and community work following his return home from incarceration in 2022. He described the support he received from ARC and his work with its Hope and Redemption Team, including life coaches who facilitate groups inside correctional facilities.

Johny also discussed helping to establish a reentry oversight commission at Valley State Prison, developing a curriculum for people serving non-life sentences, and leading ARC's first Fresno office. His current priorities include community outreach and partnership development throughout the Central Valley.

Andrew Garcia and Anthony Ortiz Jr. shared information about related work in the region. Anthony provided an update on the completion of a four-year California Youth Outreach grant in Fresno County and ongoing programming in Monterey County.

Approval of Minutes

The Subcommittee approved the minutes from the May 15, 2026 meeting.

Needs Assessment Preliminary Findings

The Subcommittee reviewed preliminary findings from its Title II grantee survey and interviews. The assessment included survey responses from 10 organizations and interviews with two organizations. Findings reflected strong interest in more structured opportunities for Title II grantees to connect, share practices, and receive support. Regular grantee presentations and a grantee convening were among the engagement opportunities discussed.

Recommendations Discussed

Members discussed several possible recommendations for strengthening relationships among Title II grantees, OYCR, the CISA Subcommittee, and the SAGYJ:

Hold an introductory meeting for each new group of Title II grantees with the CISA Subcommittee and/or SAGYJ.

Convene Title II grantees at least once during each funding cycle.

Consider coordinating the grantee convening with another statewide event to reduce participation barriers.

Incorporate quarterly grantee presentations and technical-assistance discussions into CISA meetings.

Invite all Title II grantees to attend relevant Subcommittee meetings.

Members noted that these opportunities could improve communication, peer learning, collaboration, and awareness of OYCR and SAGYJ resources.

System Accountability and Youth Justice Funding

The Subcommittee continued discussing how to advance the system-accountability component of its charge. The discussion focused on:

Increasing transparency regarding youth justice funding streams and how funds are allocated and used

Identifying concrete opportunities for the Subcommittee to examine fiscal accountability

Helping community-based organizations understand and access available funding

Exploring the role of county Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils in tracking state funding

Supporting sustainable funding for community-based services

Building upon existing state and local reporting and accountability mechanisms

Members referenced the Subcommittee's previously developed California Youth Justice Funding Summary.

The discussion highlighted existing accountability and sustainability efforts. These included work

to help justice-serving community-based organizations become managed-care providers through CalAIM and the Behavioral Health Services Act, as well as quarterly county reporting requirements associated with LRP and EGI funding. Members noted that Los Angeles County receives EGI funding but does not receive LRP funding.

The Subcommittee expressed interest in examining how these funding and reporting structures could inform its future system-accountability work.

Future Meeting Topics

Members agreed to continue the system-accountability discussion at a future meeting, with particular attention to Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils, fiscal transparency and accountability, funding availability and access, and existing county and state reporting mechanisms.

Action Items and Next Steps

Responsible party	Action item
Andrew Garcia	Share flyers for upcoming Central Valley events with Johny Diaz.
Subcommittee leadership	Complete the draft needs assessment report, including summary findings and recommendations, and present it to the Subcommittee for approval.
CISA Subcommittee	Further examine the role of Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils in youth justice funding and fiscal accountability.
CISA Subcommittee	Continue developing the system-accountability focus for future meetings.

Next Meeting

Friday, August 21, 2026 | 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.