

**Final Report of the FY 2025-2026 Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council-
Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan and Juvenile Justice Crime
Prevention Act Spending Allocation Ad-Hoc Subcommittee**

November 27, 2024

I. Introduction

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) adopted a resolution to appoint this FY 2024-2025 Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (JJCC-CMJJP) and Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) Spending Allocation Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on January 19, 2023. The JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee was charged with updating and revising the CMJJP as well as making recommendations as to the allocation of FY 2024-2025 JJCPA funds.

It should be noted that much of last year's Ad-Hoc Subcommittee's Report remains true as we continue with youth justice reimagined and the continuation of the escalation towards full capacity as a new department regarding the Youth Development Department (formally created as a County Department as of July 1, 2022). This, with priorities from the Board, such as the "Anti-Racism, Diversity & Inclusion (ARDI) (articulates an anti-racist agenda that will guide, govern and increase the County's ongoing commitment to fighting racism in all its dimensions), the "Better Reaching the 95%" (for individuals who have substance use disorders), the implementation of the Countywide Cultural Policy (that provides direction and guidelines for how the County and its Departments will ensure that every resident has meaningful access to arts and culture), Youth@Work "Reinvesting in Our Youth" (supports youth ages 16 to 24 in gaining work experience and employment as part of healing and recovery from COVID-19), continues to inform the funding recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee.

Additionally, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee continues to enhance the JJCPA funding request proposal and evaluation process to reflect the evolving landscape of juvenile justice programming, while creating a more defined process in reporting justice outcomes among service providers across the continuum. It is very important to the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to ensure the processes for review of carryover funds is continuously improved to further assist with making informed funding recommendations to the JJCC. Additionally, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee worked with several agencies to reimagine the implementation of their interventions and service delivery models to evolve juvenile justice initiatives to meet the needs of today's youth, families, and communities.

As a continued part of the process, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee reviewed prior Fiscal Year (FY) expenditures, carryover history and impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and considered program implementation/service delivery methods since 2019-2020. Additionally, new processes were created that included information by governmental partner of their prior year expenditures, prior year(s) unspent funds, expenditures as of end of closing prior fiscal year, new funding request. The new processes include a review of the prior year actual expenditures, prior unspent funds, anticipated estimated expenditures and new funding request amount to determine an equitable amount to provide a funding recommendation that includes prior unspent funds as part of the funding allocation amount. This will attempt to reduce the amount of carryover by governmental partners, rather than potentially increasing the unspent funds balance. Additionally, the funding request form was revised to enhance the information received to assist the governmental partners in providing information and in turn to assist the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members as they review the information received. Additionally, a new form was created for governmental partners to submit a separate request regarding unspent funds. This

form will be utilized by governmental partners that will not be submitting a new funding request form, rather it is intended for those who are not requesting new funding and wish to utilize unspent funds in the future fiscal year. This will ensure the governmental partner receives approval through the JJCC funding recommendations (if adopted) to utilize unspent funds in a future fiscal year. Current FY anticipated estimated expenditures and the addition of new programs/services was carefully deliberated upon considering shifting and emerging needs of youth, families, and communities. While this review created a more protracted timeline, these highlights capture the depth of work performed by the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee, which built upon previous years' work and demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement in administering this program.

The Funding Request Submission form was updated and now includes a new addition titled Section 9. In that the funding request submission form will be utilized by the CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to assist in determining funding recommendations, the following additional information has been added. Information included in the funding request submission form will be considered as the potential programming/services to occur within the named fiscal year. Any future or aspirational plans are to be included only in the new section titled: Potential Future Plans Regarding Programming/Services as Part of a Future Implementation in Future Fiscal Years. Information in the funding request form shall provide a picture of programming/services that would be made available during the single fiscal year of the funding request submission. As mentioned, the new potential future section provides a space for governmental partners to provide future project management/expansion information to show how the program/services plan to grow and expand in the future. This should not include information regarding the current programming.

The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee was intentional in continuing to support funding recommendations for the Public Private Partnerships (which includes Fiscal Intermediary Services and Capacity Building). This was further supported by the incorporation of the Department of Youth Development's (DVD's) leadership and oversight of at-promise youth data collection determination, process for submission and evaluation of these, and other at-promise youth related JJCPA funded programs.

Two years ago the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee included an opening statement in the CMJJP that underscores "WHY" the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee begins with reviewing this document annually. The CMJJP guides the overall process for making funding recommendations. The focus of this work continues to keep LA County youth at the center, and in the forefront of all our collaborations to build and sustain a continuum of care services model to foster positive youth development. The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee took great care in updating the FY 2025-26 CMJJP to inform funding recommendations, while also setting the direction for future improvements, which is described in the co-chairs annual final report. Program evaluation continues to be a top priority of the CMJJP's work, which is underscored in the 2024 RAND Gap Analysis. "To continue to fund effective programs, JJCC members need to know how well current programs are addressing factors related to at-promise youth, Probation-involved youth, and their families. This need highlights the importance of providing guidance to funded programs to help build their capacity for the collection of data that can be used for evaluation. The new toolkit aims to address this need" (RAND Gap Analysis, 2024).

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) adopted a resolution to appoint this FY 2025-2026 Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (JJCC-CMJJP) and Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) Spending Allocation Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on January 25, 2024. The JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee was charged with updating and revising the CMJJP as well as making recommendations as to the allocation of FY 2025-2026 JJCPA funds.

II. CMJJP Subcommittee Composition and Meeting Schedule

a. FY 2025-26 CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Membership

JJCC Member	Representing
Epps, Kimberly (Co-Chair)	Los Angeles County Probation Department
Santoro, Mercy (Co-Chair)	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation
Abrahamian, Samuel	Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender's Office
Osborne, Tapau	Los Angeles County Office of Education
Penrose, Tricia	Superior Court, Juvenile Division
Rodriguez, Luis	Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office
Streich, Karen	Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Green, Josh	Non-Profit CBO Supervisorial Representative District 3
Lewis, Samuel	Non-Profit CBO Supervisorial Representative District 1

b. FY 2025-26 JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Meeting schedule

- March 22, 2024 (2:00 pm - 3:00 pm)
- May 3, 2024 (9:00 am - 11:00 am)
- May 16, 2024 (9:00 am - 11:00 am)
- May 20, 2024 (2:00 pm - 3:00 pm)
- June 4, 2024 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm)
- June 20, 2024 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm)
- September 5, 2024 (9:00 am – 10:00 am)
- September 9, 2024 (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)
- September 23, 2024 (9:30 am - 10:30 am)
- October 2, 2024, (1:30 pm – 3:30 pm)
- October 8, 2024, (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)
- October 17, 2024 (10:00 am - 12:00 pm)
- *October 28, 2024, JJCC Meeting (2:30 pm - 4:30 pm)*
- October 30, 2024 (10:00 am - 12:00 pm)
- November 4, 2024 (2:30 pm - 4:30 pm)
- November 6, 2024 (1:00 pm - 3:00 pm)
- November 12, 2024 (2:30 pm - 4:30 pm)
- November 15, 2024 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm)
- November 21, 2024 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm)
- November 25, 2024 (2:30 pm -4:30 pm)
- December 2, 2024 (11:00 am - 12:00 pm)

c. A Snapshot of JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Scheduled Meeting Hours Within the Past Three Fiscal Years (FY 2021-2022 - FY 2025-2026)

- FY 2021-2022: A total of 13 Scheduled Meeting Hours
- FY 2022-2023: A total of 20.5 Scheduled Meeting Hours
- FY 2023-2024: A total of 25 Scheduled Meeting Hours
- FY 2024-2025: A total of 29 Scheduled Meeting Hours (Total Hours: 44 hours)
- FY 2025-2026: A total of 35 Scheduled Meeting Hours (Approximately 10 additional team meetings for a total of 45 hours)

It should be noted that the numbers of scheduled meeting hours more than doubled from 13 hours to 45 hours since FY 2021-2022. Additionally, this year, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee provided their total hours worked outside the scheduled meetings for 45 hours of work, compared to the 13 hours in FY 2021-2022. The additional hours of study and deep dialogue among the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee was necessary to analyze proposals to prepare for making funding recommendations. This is a testament to the dedication and incredible work the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee commits to in providing measured and thoughtful updates to the CMJJP, and to the funding recommendation process. The collaboration and effort to build consensus among leaders serving youth at-promise to inform is needed to guide an ever-evolving landscape of justice re-imagined for youth, families, and communities of Los Angeles County

III. JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Recommendations to the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)

Recommended: Adopt the CMJJP for FY 2025-26. The CMJJP has been developed based on a philosophy of partnership between diverse public agencies and community-based organizations to promote positive youth development and prevent youth delinquency through shared responsibility, collaboration, and coordinated action. The CMJJP serves as a theoretical and practical foundation on which programs and services are selected, implemented, evaluated, and continuously improved to maximize benefit to our youth population served in Los Angeles County. Previously, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee made major strides in creating greater transparency and accountability with regard to justice outcome reporting, enhancing the required submission request information to support these efforts, and convening the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee earlier in Spring for FY 2025-26 to engage in a comprehensive update, and re-alignment of the application with the CMJJP to improve the review and evaluation process of funded organizations/departments. This enhanced process of review began in 2022 and continues to date.

Revisions and Updates to the CMJJP included the following:

Reviewing the CMJJP for updates before considering funding proposals ensures the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee's work reflects the realities of today's ever-evolving justice reimagined landscape in Los Angeles County. Updates made uplift the continued direction of greater accountability in ensuring funds meet the urgent and specific needs of at-promise and probation youth and their families in a targeted manner, specifically around managing unspent funds balances. The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee deliberated extensively on how to manage unspent funds balances with new funding requests and enhanced prior processes and developed a more defined process for this. Applying the updated frameworks to proposal evaluation also resulted in a more coherent discussion on how services are being reimagined to address the developmental needs for youth. The work to update the CMJJP

continues to strengthen the continuum of care. Below includes information regarding significant updates for FY 2025-26 CMJJP.

Funding Review and Allocation Process

Process Improvement Funding Review and Allocation Process Streamlined proposal and review process to allow for more depth conversations, improved efforts to communicate with organizations on unspent funds, clarify submission process based on strategy.

- Revised the formalized process for review teams and equipped them with guiding questions to report out and meet and confer outside the formal Ad-Hoc Subcommittee meeting to develop follow-up questions for the organizations/departments requesting funds, and to calibrate proposal scores.
- Refined process to meet with governmental partners regarding questions posed by Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members to gain clarity.
- Additional meeting process by Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members who volunteer to meet with a governmental partners to ensure questions posed are provided assistance needed to obtain answers for the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee. This is a new level of assistance that was offered a governmental partner to receive information.
- Applied the new youth development frameworks outlined in the CMJJP to proposal review, which informed funding considerations.
- A new level of review was created this year to enhance Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members' processes in the review and evaluation of funding requests submissions. As in previous years, there has been a greater focus on the reasons and impacts of carryover fund amounts given the unprecedented COVID-19 Pandemic as previously reported in FY 2021-22 Co-Chair report. Last year unspent funds were reviewed, and some funding requests be granted to retain unspent funds amounts, rather than recommending the addition of new funding. Because some unspent funds balances are persisting, it was determined that additional review and analysis was required to review and address these reasons to inform and direct for funds to be allocated to meet the urgent needs of youth and their families.

More importantly, meetings coordinated with organizations/departments with large unspent funds balances to obtain their potential plan to spend down unspent funds amounts. The engagement with these organizations/departments provided, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members with the opportunity to ask direct questions. It was determined to be a successful process that included agencies who were willing to return some unspent funds. This process will continue as it provided an opportunity for the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members to engage with the agencies far beyond reviewing their submissions and pursuing back-and-forth emails, which did not get at the root cause. This engagement occurred prior to deliberations, and the information was utilized by the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee in their recommendations for FY 2024-25.

- A level to review was created this year regarding total expenditures, anticipated expenditures and available balances. The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee will review the actual total fiscal expenditures as of September 30 of the year, fiscal year-end closing balances and anticipated

estimated expenditures as provided by governmental partners. The information will assist in determining the amount of available balance that will be reviewed with the new funding request submitted by the governmental partners. This will assist and enhance the ability to determine the amount that would be viable to spend down to zero balance and to reduce unspent fund balances. For non-county agencies/partners, MOU execution timeline will be taken into consideration.

Updates to the CMJJP

- Met with the JJCPA Evaluator RAND in evaluation and a discussion included best practices for evaluation (based upon Gap analysis Report of January 2024).
- Aligned the proposal with the evaluation form to strengthen the proposal review and evaluation, which encouraged more depth review and discussions among the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee.
- Continued to monitor and document the shifting context of Juvenile Justice and actively engaged in discussion with other Departments on best practices.
- Continued with the bifurcated process of the CMJJP update in Spring 2023 and followed-up with additional work to the CMMJP in the Fall of 2023.
- The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee met with Chief Executive Office's Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Executive Director. The funding recommendations include a first-year allocation amount to begin to explore working in collaboration with ARDI to determine parameters and set up a new way of analyzing data.
- Enhanced Step 1 by adding to the FY 2025-26 JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Resolution to enhance the previously adopted version. The new language includes there shall be a minimum of two (2) JJCC Community Members (Non-Permanent JJCC Members) based upon self-nomination. Should the self-nomination process not yield two (2) JJCC Community Members, the self-nomination process will repeat for an additional opportunity for self-nomination. This has been added to ensure JJCC Community Member involvement priority and support the self-nomination process.
- Additionally, enhanced Step 1 to indicate that the funding request submission review process will include JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members assignment to teams of (2) by utilizing a random drawing process. Once teams are established, the total funding request submissions are divided and evenly distributed among the assigned teams, based upon a random number process. A review is completed to ensure no JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee members are assigned their own funding request submission(s). For any found, a random drawing process is utilized to revise the assignment; this process has been in effect and repeated annually since the FY 2020-21 JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee.
- A New Step has been added based to include the invitational meeting process with agencies regarding unspent funds balances. Additionally, unspent funds amounts for all agencies will be considered when new funding requests are received requesting additional funding beyond unspent funds amounts that remain. The goal is to reduce unspent funds by having agencies

prioritize utilizing this available funding as well as reviewing their program's record of previously expending funding when making annual recommendations to the JJCC. This may take more than one (1) year to accomplish, however, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee has made strides to recommend funding with these consideration.

- A new Step was added to review total expenditures, anticipated expenditures and available balances. The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee will review the actual total fiscal expenditures as of September 30 of the year, fiscal year-end closing balances and anticipated estimated expenditures as provided by governmental partners. The information will assist in determining the amount of available balance that will be reviewed with the new funding request submitted by the governmental partners. This will assist and enhance the ability to determine the amount that would be viable to spend down to zero balance and to reduce unspent fund balances. For non-county agencies/partners, MOU execution timeline will be taken into consideration.
- a. Recommended: Adopt the FY 2025-26 JJCPA Funding Allocations Recommended by the CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee at the next JJCC meeting. The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee's intended purpose was to propose funding allocation recommendations that maximize the provision and continuity of services across the continuum of effective youth development.

Respectfully Submitted the 27th day of November 2024:

Respectfull



Mercedes Santoro

Mercedes Santoro, Ed.D., Co-Chair
JJCC Member Representing Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation

Kimberly Epps, Co-Chair JJCC Chair Representing Los Angeles County Probation Department