

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Investing in youth wellbeing and development, with a focus on young people and communities who have been impacted by structural racism, poverty, and criminalization.



Mission & Vision

DYD's mission is to be a catalyst for transformation by providing innovative pathways to youth development through intersectional, anti-racist, youth-centered strategies so that all young people can access resources that nurture their growth, wellbeing, and connection to community. DYD envisions a flourishing youth development ecosystem that builds safer communities and eliminates youth incarceration by ensuring young people have the tools they need to thrive.

Areas of Focus



Youth Development

DYD funds regional networks of community-based organizations to provide low-barrier Youth Development services to support youth and families where they live, learn, and play. In collaboration with provider and County partners, DYD is developing additional school-based services, Youth Centers, and more.



Youth Diversion

DYD funds a network of community-based providers and coordinates partnerships with law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney's Office to provide an alternative to arrest and court involvement in communities most impacted by the youth justice system. Diversion offers individualized care coordination and restorative justice.



Reentry, Housing, & Employment

DYD funds and coordinates services for youth who are or were detained in the County's juvenile hall and camps, including through the Credible Messenger Transformative Mentorship program, which connects incarcerated youth with culturally relevant mentorship and care.



Coordination & Innovation

DYD is committed to advancing systems change for youth development through research and evaluation, narrative strategy, and collaborative innovation. The Department is always open to strategic partnerships and projects to equitably improve youth and family wellbeing.



LEARN MORE & CONNECT

info@dyd.lacounty.gov
www.dyd.lacounty.gov

DYD's focus populations are informed by a Targeted Universalism approach to equity, which leads with those who are furthest away from a universal goal. DYD's goal is therefore to improve wellbeing for all young people, with targeted strategies focused on prevention and support for youth who experience the greatest barriers to accessing youth development services.