REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN

Strategically Aligning Los Angeles County's Youth's and Students' Safe Spaces, Programming, and Services

The youth are our future. In Los Angeles County (County), 2,172,465 or over 20% of the over 10 million residents are youth¹ and their success, health, and ability to thrive are a priority of the County, as evidenced by the multitude of County-driven youth-centered programs, initiatives, and centers, independent and community-partnered, that are available to them, such as:

- The Department of Public Health (DPH) is planning to expand their Student Wellness Centers (SWC)², which are in over 40 schools, that provide students with "a youth-centered approach to substance use prevention and overall wellness education to support students throughout adolescence";
- The Department of Mental Health's (DMH) Drop-In Centers³ that operate in collaboration with community providers for transition age youth to provide services such as clothing, educational services, employment assistance, housing assistance, linkage to mental health and case management, linkage to substance

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¹ According to the 2023 Census Estimates. Individuals between the ages of 10-26. According to the LA County Department of Children and Family Services, Transition Age Youth (TAY) are individuals between the ages of 16-21.

² http://publichealth.lacountv.gov/pie/Education/wellbeingctrs.htm

³ https://dmh.lacounty.gov/our-services/transition-age-youth/

abuse treatment services, among many others⁴; as well as offer school-based programming in 2,248 individual school sites in 81 school districts⁵;

- The Executive Office's Human Relations Commission (HRC), through the LA vs. Hate program, operates eight Dream Resource Centers⁶ in high schools throughout the County, in response to students facing hate and bullying incidents, to provide "wrap around support and resources to communities across the county who have been impacted or might be impacted by hate"⁷;
- The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is in the process of implementing a Youth Engagement Section (YES) and has conceptual plans for a drop-in center for Transition Age Youth;
- The Department of Youth Development (DYD) is in the process of creating 24-hour youth centers and support for youth in schools⁸ and will be "facilitat[ing] a community centered process to design 24-Hour Youth Centers in alignment with Youth Justice Reimagined goals...";⁹ and
- The Los Angeles County Office of Education's (LACOE) Community Schools Initiative (CIS), which was launched in 2019 to "disrupt inequities and break the cycle of poverty by leveraging assets to transform schools into 'hubs' of the community."¹⁰

⁴ https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dmh/1080865_TAYDrop-

 $[\]underline{InCenters.pdf\#:} \sim : text = Drop\%2DIn\%20Centers\%20provide\%20temporary\%20safety\%20and\%20basic, between\%20the\%20ages\%20of\%2016\%2D25\%20years\%20old.$

⁵ https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dmh/1114399_DMHSupportingSchoolCommunities102121.pdf

https://www.lavshate.org/programs#:~:text=The%20eight%20Dream%20Centers%20currently,Morningside%20High%20School%20in%20Inglewood

⁷ Id. 8 https://dyd.lacounty.gov/development/

⁹ Id

¹⁰ https://www.lacoe.edu/news/2025-06-06-2025-community-schools-initiative-making-a-difference-across-los-angeles-county

It's apparent that these County Departments and offices, through their initiatives, have shared goals and objectives to enrich our youth, provide them with safe spaces and places, identify and link them to resources and services, and help them navigate complex systems and issues.

Some of the County Departments, such as DCFS have many internally driven programs and initiatives, including those which they've partnered with community-based organizations and providers to provide a variety of resources and services to parents, youth, and caregivers. For example, the DCFS website, with webpages directed at teens, have resources with links to information and benefits, but it also has links to DCFS' community partners that offer either similar programming or resources.

With the abundance of centers, programs, and initiatives geared towards our youth, the County, however, needs to ensure that these programs are working hand-in-hand, streamlining and aligning their efforts to reduce any redundancy in programming and service offerings, limiting competition internally and externally for resources and clients, and be mindful of how these projects are or will be funded through one-time, ongoing, and philanthropy dollars.

Ultimately, the collective goal and objective is to ensure these valuable resources can be made accessible and available to as many youth in the County as possible and offered by safe providers, places, and spaces. It's important that our County Departments, as well as our community partners, are working collaboratively and in partnership with each other to be the best ally to our most vulnerable youth and being strategic in identifying the where, how resources and services are offered, and what kind of services are best for what target population. With the financial uncertainty that the County is currently facing and planning for the years ahead, this is when we assess, evaluate, and

move in unity to support our youth.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Direct the Departments of Public Health (DPH), Mental Health (DMH), Youth Development (DYD), Children and Family Services (DCFS), Executive Office's Human Relations Commission (HRC), the Office of Child Protection, in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), including the Board of Supervisors (Board) initiated Los Angeles County Transition Age Youth (TAY) Table, and any other County Department or entity that has or is in the process of developing centers, drop-ins, and spaces to provide services and resources to youth and students to provide the Chief Executive Office's Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch (CEO-PIAB) and the Transition Age Youth (TAY) Table with individual reports, in writing, in 60 days, on the following, but not limited to:
 - a. A description of their centers and programs, along with a list of services and resources that are/will be provided to youth and student clients, including programs and centers offered by community-based providers that the departments are partnering with or referring to;
 - The purpose, objectives, outcomes met or to be met, how progress is/will be tracked and measured, and what the performance metrics are/will be;
 - c. The population the program is designed to serve or target, how clients are/will be referred, and what is/will be involved in the intake process;
 - d. How are/will language barriers and cultural competency be addressed;
 - e. How the program is/will be funded (one-time and ongoing), staffed, and operated;
 - f. What services and resources are/will be provided and by whom; and

- g. Any other relevant information describing the project, program, or initiative.
- I, **FURTHER MOVE**, that the Board of Supervisors:
- 1. Direct the Chief Executive Office's Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch (CEO-PIAB) and the TAY Table to collect, review, evaluate, and assess the individual report backs directed in Directive 1 and provide the Board, in writing in120 days:
 - a. A crosswalk analysis on the similarities, differences, overlap, redundancies of the centers, programs, services, and resources;
 - Review audits, contracts, evaluations and surveys of programs to inform the development of recommendations; and
 - c. Recommendations on:
 - How the County Departments and entities can better coordinate their initiatives with the purpose of reducing redundancy and increasing efficiencies, coordination, integration, and effectiveness to better serve youth and students in Los Angeles County;
 - ii. How to ensure community, providers, and potential clients are aware of the existence of these programs and are receiving the most relevant and appropriate services based on their needs, taking into account language access, cultural competency, and accessibility to centers and resources;
 - iii. Data collection and sharing, taking into account legalities, privacy, and confidentiality, to better understand the needs of the population; and
 - iv. How funds supporting the projects, programs, and initiatives can be used more efficiently and effectively.

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