

**JJCC Meeting February 3, 2022**  
**Written Public Comments Submitted via E-mail**  
**Agenda Item VI c.**

1. Eric Shamp

“As a community-based organization committed to youth development and healing for youth at-risk of and currently engaging with the juvenile justice system, United Friends of the Children is in firm opposition to the proposed 40% cut in funding to the Ready to Rise initiative. Probation (LAC) should shift the proposed “School Based Supervision” (\$4m) to fully fund and expand Ready to Rise.

1. Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that fortifies the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most. With Ready to Rise funding, UFC is expanding its youth development programming for foster youth in the Antelope Valley. However, this proposed cut will significantly challenge our ability to do so.
2. JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.
3. Juvenile Probation has a \$570 million budget, with funding for over 400 vacant positions. If they want to fund field officers, they don't need JJCC dollars - they have access to underutilized Juvenile Special Services funding
4. Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources and capacity building to 49 youth development organizations and supported nearly 12,000 youth as a result.
5. Ready to Rise grantees provide a variety of programs focused on educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing and more. All grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Black and Brown youth.”

Thank you,

Eric Shamp  
Director of Institutional Giving  
United Friends of the Children  
(p) 714-401-2774

2. Kristian Cardenas

Hello,

My name is Kristian Cardenas. Please accept my written public comment for agenda item 5c.

Please stick to what the money was originally saved for and do not divert the funding. Probation and other punitive measures have enough funding. this pool is earmarked for restorative purposes and physical youth resource hubs do a lot more restorative measures.

These steps are vital and should not be half measures. Please fully fund physical youth resource centers other restorative non profits rather than probation, an outdated and already well funded approach.

- The \$1.5 million for PHYSICAL youth resource hubs should stay for that purpose! They should be distributed as grants to organizations already doing the work through a 3rd Party Administrator, using the guidelines that were passed. (The guidelines that were passed are below)
- Youth and community have been asking for 24-hour youth centers for decades, and they are a cornerstone of Youth Justice Reimagined.
- The spirit of this recommendation is for physical resource hubs and youth centers, with the aim of them being 24 hours to support emergency housing, not another inaccessible online resource.
- CEO's office undercut this recommendation. The Measure J Advisory Committee recommended \$5.25 million for resource hubs to be funded through a third party administrator (like a

foundation). CEO's office undercut funding to this by 70%, and recommended it be sent to the "Service Integration Branch" for online resources.

- There are dozens of organizations in LA County already working as important resource hubs for youth. They should get this funding, and it should go through a third-party administrator using the guiding principles that were passed!
- We support funding 24-hour youth centers through YDD; however, \$1.5 million—70% less than what was recommended—is not a sufficient investment. We recommend the CFCI Advisory Committee robustly fund youth centers for FY 2022-23.

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

Juvenile Probation has a \$570 million budget, with funding for over 400 vacant positions. If they want to fund field officers, they don't need JJCC dollars.

- Juvenile Special Services (the budget unit that funds School-Based Probation) has a budget of \$103 million (\$53 million which is net county cost, aka discretionary funds to the BOS) and 51 vacant positions

These discretionary JJCC dollars should not go to a program that exists without a manual, without training, without data and without any purpose except filling general operating costs. (See School-Based Probation Fact Sheet)

- In 2018, reducing funding for school based probation allowed for the creation and funding of the Ready to Rise partnership, focused on healing, learning and opportunity for youth without the threat of violations and incarceration

Thank you for your time.

Best Wishes,

3. Joel Garcia

Dear Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC),

I am writing to request that the JJCC fund Ready to Rise for \$9,700,000, without any reductions.

In just over two years Ready to Rise, an evaluated program has fortified the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most, such as my community of East Los Angeles and supporting the only Youth Development program that is focused on the Native and Indigenous Youth of Los Angeles County.

- Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources and capacity building to 49 youth development organizations and supported nearly 12,000 youth as a result.
- Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.
- Ready to Rise grantees provide a variety of programs focused on educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing and more. All grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Indigenous, Black and Brown youth.
- It is short-sighted to cut funding to an initiative that, even through COVID and the racial reckoning our country is undergoing, has proven to be successful and a model approach for other similar efforts.

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. Juvenile Probation already has a \$570 million budget. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

Thank you,

4. Bernice Vasquez

Dear Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC),

I am writing to request that the JJCC fund Ready to Rise for \$9,700,000, without any reductions.

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- Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.
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- It is short-sighted to cut funding to an initiative that, even through COVID and the racial reckoning our country is undergoing, has proven to be successful and a model approach for other similar efforts.

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. Juvenile Probation already has a \$570 million budget. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

Thank you,  
Bernice Vasquez  
Concern citizen

5. Raul Garcia

Dear Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC),

I am writing to request that the JJCC fund Ready to Rise for \$9,700,000, without any reductions.

In just over two years Ready to Rise, an evaluated program has fortified the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most, such as my community and supporting the only Youth Development program that is focused on the Native and Indigenous Youth of Los Angeles County.

- Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources and capacity building to 49 youth development organizations and supported nearly 12,000 youth as a result.
- Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.
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- It is short-sighted to cut funding to an initiative that, even through COVID and the racial reckoning our country is undergoing, has proven to be successful and a model approach for other similar efforts.

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. Juvenile Probation already has a \$570 million budget. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

Thank you,  
Raul Garcia  
323-558-3302

#### 6. Christine Goddard

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. Juvenile Probation already has a massive budget of \$570 million, with funding for over 400 vacant positions. Funds should not go to programs that exist without a manual, without training, without data and without any purpose except filling general operating costs like Juvenile Special Service.

The funds should be diverted from School Based Probation and restore full funding to Ready to Rise. Why have funds been massively cut to Ready to Rise?

There are many questionable programs getting funding, however Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that fortifies the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County that need it the most.

Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources to 49 youth development organizations supporting nearly 12,000 youth as a result. Ready to Rise has been equitable, efficient, and responsive in distributing public dollars and supporting youth service providers in LA County.

Ready to Rise grantees provide invaluable services and programs to youth in need, be it educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing and more. All these grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Black and Brown youth.

Sincerely,  
Christine Goddard

#### 7. Kate Teague

To whom it may concern:

My name is Kate Teague and I would like to provide comment on item 5c: *Item: FY 2022-2023 JJCPA Funding Allocations Recommended by the CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee.*

JJCC should not fund school-based probation again this year. The lack of information about how funding for this program supports youth is concerning. Instead the JJCC should continue to invest in initiatives such as the Ready to Rise partnership that funnels funding to support the operation and capacity building of community based agencies grounded in the principles of positive youth development. The JJCC should continue to invest in programs that strengthen the network of youth development opportunities and invest in the organizations that provide that programming. Youth need programs in their schools and communities that support their education, growth and healing.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Kate Teague

8. Daniela Hernandez

Dear JJC,

I write to you urging you to take a bold stance on ending the criminalization of youth of color across LA County. On Thursday you will have the vote to decide where dollars will be allocated for 2022-2023. For the past couple of years, the Ready to Rise initiative has diverted probationary funds to invest in prevention and direct resources/services to LA County youth. This partnership between the county and 49 community-based organizations has proven successful as nearly 12,000 youth have been supported. These organizations have provided youth development, job training, academic supports, holistic support for foster youth, and so much more. These initiatives are important to bolster the success of our youth. Based on the proposed budget, I urge you to reallocate school-based supervision into the "Public-Private Partnership Grant Making". It is critical to continue investing in community-centered initiatives like Ready to Rise.

Thank you,  
Daniela

9. Ruby Rivera

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing my public comment on agenda item 5c: FY 2022-2023 JJCPA Funding Allocations REcommended by the CMJJP Ad Hoc Subcommittee. My name is Ruby Rivera, I am the director of community organizing with InnerCity Struggle, a longtime youth advocate in Boyle Heights and a resident of Lynwood in SD4. I am writing to share my concern and disagreement with JJCC allocations.

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend. Juvenile Probation has a \$570 million budget, with funding for over 400 vacant positions. If they want to fund field officers, they don't need JJCC dollars. Juvenile Special Services (the budget unit that funds School-Based Probation) has a budget of \$103 million (\$53 million which is net county cost, aka discretionary funds to the BOS) and 51 vacant positions. These discretionary JJCC dollars should not go to a program that exists without a manual, without training, without data and without any purpose except filling general operating costs. In 2018, reducing funding for school based probation allowed for the creation and funding of the

Rise partnership, focused on healing, learning and opportunity for youth without the threat of violations and incarceration.

We should divert funding from School Based Probation and restore full funding to Ready to Rise. For the next year, Ready to Rise grants were cut by \$3.9M from last year (40% cut) and Ready to Rise CBO capacity-building was cut by \$2.1M (almost 60% cut). Why?! While most of the other programs being funded have shown no outcomes, Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that fortifies the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most. Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources and capacity building to 49 youth development organizations and supported nearly 12,000 youth as a result. A county-wide Youth Development Network is a cornerstone of Youth Justice Reimagined. Ready to Rise is helping to grow and fortify that network. Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment. Ready to Rise grantees provide a variety of programs focused on educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing and more. All grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Black and Brown youth.

I have worked in Youth Development for over 10 years. Investment in Youth Development rather than criminalization and incarceration is the ONLY way to truly reduce crime and support our youth to Thrive.

Thank you,

10. Ariana Rios

Hello,

My name is Ariana Ríos, I am a resident of East Los Angeles, and I am commenting on Item 5c.

The JJCC should not fund school based probation this year. Juvenile Probation does not need these extra dollars. These dollars should be going to rehabilitation efforts and restorative practices. Probation has a long history of harming students and instead of moving forward with giving them more money there should be an investigation about how effective these practices are and the trajectory of the students who go through this.

Instead you should restore full funding to Ready to Rise. I have seen the benefits Ready to Rise has brought to the community and there is proof. Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that has supported nearly 12,000 youth. Ready to Rise is equitable and has the capacity to do more for students. Please give Ready to Rise the dollars they deserve and invest in our youth.

Thank you,  
Ariana Rios

11. Jessica Panduro

Jessica Panduro

Hello my name is Jessica Panduro, Civic Engagement Director with innerCity Struggle. I want to make a comment on agenda item 5c (Item: FY 2022-2023 JJCPA Funding Allocations Recommended by the CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee).

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

Juvenile Probation has a \$570 million budget, with funding for over 400 vacant positions. If they want to fund field officers, they don't need JJCC dollars.

These discretionary JJCC dollars should not go to a program that exists without a manual, without training, without data and without any purpose except filling general operating costs.

For the next year, Ready to Rise grants were cut by \$3.9M from last year (40% cut) and Ready to Rise CBO capacity-building was cut by \$2.1M (almost 60% cut).

While most of the other programs being funded have shown no outcomes, Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that fortifies the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most.

Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.

In Community,  
Jessica Panduro

12. Nathan Carbajal

My name is Nathan Carbajal and I am commenting on agenda item 5C

I work with the highschool age youth in the Eastside of Los Angeles. JCC should invest money into models of youth development and healing. I am urging that JCC invest into Ready to Rise as they have shown actual impact on youth and the programming that is geared toward youth. JCC should not be funding Juvenile Probation because they already have a \$570 million budget. Ready to Rise has programming around youth leadership, youth workforce-development, wellness, and youth organizing. All of this programming has demonstrated concrete deliverables through funding Ready to Rise. I hope that JCC is able to continue funding Ready to Rise.

Best,

13. Tony Brown

Dear Council Members,

My name is Tony Brown, I am the Executive Director of Heart of Los Angeles. On behalf of Heart of Los Angeles, I would like to submit a public comment on Agenda Item 5c (*Item: FY 2022-2023 JJCPA Funding Allocations Recommended by the CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee*).

Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA) is 1 of 49 grantees that received funding from the California Community Foundation/Liberty Hill Foundation Ready to Rise Initiative. With various outstanding metrics to show, Ready to Rise has positively impacted more than 12,000 youth through diverse youth development programs across the County, including those offered by HOLA's holistic after-school programs.

The Ready to Rise Initiative helped HOLA achieve the following:

- Serve more than 320 at-risk youth of color with deepened academic and enrichment opportunities and wellness services including counseling and direct aid, thus providing a vital prevention alternative to juvenile justice probation.
- In spring 2020 and 2021, HOLA saw 100% of our seniors participating in senior programming graduate from high school, with 95% of them enrolled in college.

- Through capacity building support from Ready to Rise's Fund Development Training Tracks, HOLA was able to provide more comprehensive support to youth and their families.
- Over the course of a year, HOLA saw an increase in individual giving of 137% and has recently implemented a new organization-wide data tracking system that will improve our ability to evaluate our programs and share our story.

HOLA would like to see support for the Ready to Rise Initiative continue at the previous funding level of \$13.2M, providing critical support to the community-based organizations that are working hard to keep kids out of the juvenile justice probation system, and instead keeping them on a path to achieve their educational and life goals.

Thank you for your time.  
Warmly,  
Tony

14. Alexis Saenz

Dear Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC),

I am writing to request that the JJCC fund Ready to Rise for \$9,700,000, without any reductions.

In just over two years Ready to Rise, an evaluated program has fortified the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most, such as my community and supporting the only Youth Development program that is focused on the Native and Indigenous Youth of Los Angeles County.

- Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources and capacity building to 49 youth development organizations and supported nearly 12,000 youth as a result.
- Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.
- Ready to Rise grantees provide a variety of programs focused on educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing and more. All grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Indigenous, Black and Brown youth.
- It is short-sighted to cut funding to an initiative that, even through COVID and the racial reckoning our country is undergoing, has proven to be successful and a model approach for other similar efforts.

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. Juvenile Probation already has a \$570 million budget. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

To clarify, Agenda Item #36 which I'm asking you to vote no.

Agenda Item #44 & #45 which I'm asking you to vote yes, but with increased amounts to total last year's allocation.

Thank you,  
Alexis



15. Nancy Stiles

Dear JJCC,

My name is Nancy Stiles, and I am the executive director of Stars, a youth-serving CBO and one of the 49 organizations that is part of the Ready to Rise Initiative. I am writing in regards to agenda item 6c, and to urge you to fully fund the Ready to Rise initiative next year. The extensive outcomes have shown it to be an incredibly worthwhile investment of county funding.

Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.

Ready to Rise grantees provide a variety of programs focused on educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing and more. All grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Black and Brown youth.

Please restore or better yet increase the funding allocated to Ready to Rise.

Thank you,  
Nancy Stiles

16. Melissa Sanvicente

As part of Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural, a grantee of the Ready to Rise initiative we have firsthand experienced the impact made possible by this Grant Making funding. It has created the opportunity for us to grow and sustain our organization to further expand our reach to systems impacted youth. We have built strong relationships with Alternative Learning schools that are invested in the healing, nurturing, and growth of all probation-based youth in their school. Our Young Warriors Mentoring Program works closely with teachers to build connections, community, and culture with youth participants. We strongly urge the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council to not cut the Public-Private Partnership Grant Making line item by 40% and instead redirect funds from School-based probation and restore full funding to the Ready to Rise initiative. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, it is not to the benefit of our youth to continue funding school-based probation. It would be best for the council to fund programs that have proven to be successful in helping the healthy development of our youth, not those that are punitive and risk re-traumatizing our youth. The Ready to Rise granters would be happy to inform those on the council of the full impact and change that has been created by the 49 community-based organizations involved.

Thank you for your time.

17. Darryl Molina Sarmiento

Hello,

My name is Darryl Molina Sarmiento, Executive Director of Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), a grantee in the Ready to Rise partnership. CBE's Youth program, Youth for Environmental Justice (Youth EJ) program provides leadership development and membership opportunities for students in 8 different high schools across Wilmington and Southeast LA.

I am writing to urge the JJCC to not cut R2R grant funding by 40%, and capacity-building funding by 60% for FY 2022-23. We are calling on the JJCC to end funding to School Based Probation and reroute those dollars to Ready to Rise.

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

- These discretionary JJCC dollars are some of the few available to community organizations, they should not go to a law enforcement program that exists without a manual, without training, without data and without any purpose except paying for salary and benefits. In 2018, reducing funding for school based probation allowed for the creation and funding of the Ready to Rise partnership, focused on healing, learning and opportunity for youth without the threat of violations and incarceration

We should divert funding from School Based Probation and restore full funding to Ready to Rise.

- For the next year, Ready to Rise grants were cut by \$3.9M from last year (40% cut) and Ready to Rise CBO capacity-building was cut by \$1.9M (almost 60% cut). Why?!
- While most of the other programs being funded have shown no outcomes, Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that fortifies the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most.
- Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources and capacity building to 49 youth development organizations and supported nearly 12,000 youth as a result.
- A county-wide Youth Development Network is a cornerstone of Youth Justice Reimagined. Ready to Rise is helping to grow and fortify that network.
- Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.
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•  
R2R's success in increasing opportunities and resources for community-based youth development organizations that keep youth out of the legal system and help those in the system successfully transition back into the community.

R2R has proven its ability to be an equitable, fair, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing government dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County.

I urge you to reinstate the full funding to the Ready to Rise program now.

Thank you for your time,  
Darryl Molina Sarmiento  
Communities for a Better Environment

18. Ruth Cusick

I'm reaching out to provide written public comment for today's JJCC meeting (item 6c).

My name is Ruth Cusick and I work as a movement lawyer in support of LAYUP's transformational vision to end Juvenile Probation as we know it and build out youth development across our county. I, along with several other LAYUP members, have given public comment to your committee several times lifting up the lack of transparency regarding Probation's School-Based program. We shared that despite sending a PRA Request in February 2020 for information on outcomes, training and budget, Probation replied that

no such documents existed. No school-based probation budget and NO relevant related documents to share. All of you should be disappointed by this lack of transparency and program outcomes and should not reward it by continuing to fund school-based probation services with millions of dollars. You are well aware of Probation's massive budget and they can use those funds for the program if needed rather than take precious JJCC funds that our community partners should be accessing through you all.

Please restore the Ready to Rise (R2R) partnership funding to its previous levels and do not give a dollar to School-Based Probation. I have worked with several of the R2R grantees and they are doing amazing work with young people across the county.

Please do not defer to the status quo and Probation's leadership in this space by continuing to fund programs that contribute to surveillance and criminalization of our schools. To the extent school administrators are asking to protect school-based probation officer jobs, they are speaking more to the challenges in supporting our schools holistically than the systemic value of the school-based deputy program. Please interrogate these viewpoints and listen to the stories of young people who have been harmed by constant surveillance and threats of probation violations through this program.

Sincerely,  
Ruth S. Cusick (she/her)

19. Kruti Parekh

Hello JJCC Members,

Item 6c: FY 2022-2023 JJCPA Funding Allocations Recommended by the JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee

The JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. As the county moves towards a model of youth development and healing, JJCC dollars should follow that trend.

Juvenile Probation has a \$570 million budget, with funding for over 400 vacant positions. If they want to fund field officers, they don't need JJCC dollars.

Juvenile Special Services (the budget unit that funds School-Based Probation) has a budget of \$103 million (\$53 million which is net county cost, aka discretionary funds to the BOS) and 51 vacant positions. Juvenile probation has over 400 vacant positions.

These discretionary JJCC dollars are some of the few available to community organizations, they should not go to a law enforcement program that exists without a manual, without training, without data and without any purpose except paying for salary and benefits. (See School-Based Probation Fact Sheet) In 2018, reducing funding for school based probation allowed for the creation and funding of the Ready to Rise partnership, focused on healing, learning and opportunity for youth without the threat of violations and incarceration

Please answer the following questions: Which schools have school based probation officers? What are their caseloads? How many youth are arrested in these schools each year? What is the program's total budget? How do young people view this "program"? Do you have the answer to any of these questions? The JJCC should have all of these answers and more before giving this program any more funding!

We should divert funding from School Based Probation and restore full funding to Ready to Rise. For the next year, Ready to Rise grants were cut by \$3.9M from last year (40% cut) and Ready to Rise CBO capacity-building was cut by \$1.9M (almost 60% cut). Why?!

While most of the other programs being funded have shown no outcomes, Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that fortifies the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most.

Since 2018, Ready to Rise has provided resources and capacity building to 49 youth development organizations and supported nearly 12,000 youth as a result.

A county-wide Youth Development Network is a cornerstone of Youth Justice Reimagined. Ready to Rise is helping to grow and fortify that network.

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Thank you,

20. Dara Long-Griffin

Good Day,

My name is Dara Griffin. I am a PACTL staff member and proud mother of 3 sons, 22 years old, 18 years old, and 15 years old. My husband and I have had all of our children enrolled in positive youth development programs for their entire lives.

It is very important that organizations and programs focused on PREVENTION be fully funded. The programs my children have been engaged in have contributed to their success academically, socially, and emotionally.

I am asking that you restore and fully fund Ready 2 Rise.

School-based probation is not community or family-focused, it doesn't help students or families identify strengths is punitive and ineffective for Black children and children of color and does not offer positive outcomes.

Please restore full funding to Ready to Rise so youth in LA County have a chance to be engaged with people and organizations dedicated to healing and wholistically serving youth and their families.

With thanks,

Dara

Create Wonderful Effects!!

Dara Long-Griffin

21. Denise Villamil

As a Ready to Rise contracted provider I would like to advocate for Ready to Rise to be fully funded and funds not reduced. The JJCC should not fund school-based probation this year. JJCC should invest in community services and agencies that have dedicated themselves to serve youth during the pandemic. Now more than ever we need innovative approaches that address the needs of youth and answer the crisis call to address the mental health needs of our youth in Los Angeles County. Ready to Rise providers have served youth through youth development services and school based approaches that have proven to be more effective than school based probation . The unique access and rapport building

that occurs from being integrated into the community makes Ready to Rise partners best suited to address the needs of youth. Again more than ever our youth are experiencing loss and trauma while trying to survive a pandemic . We need to support community based providers with history and roots in serving youth in Los Angeles county.

Denise Villamil MPA

22. Melissa Denton

Dear JJCC members,

I'm writing to urge you to divert funding from School Based Probation and restore full funding to Ready to Rise.

- For the next year, Ready to Rise grants were cut by \$3.9M from last year (40% cut) and Ready to Rise CBO capacity-building was cut by \$1.9M (almost 60% cut). Why?!
- While most of the other programs being funded have shown no outcomes, Ready to Rise is an evaluated program that fortifies the ecosystem of youth development opportunities throughout LA County, including parts of the County that need it most.
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- Ready to Rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.
- Ready to Rise grantees provide a variety of programs focused on educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing and more. All grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Black and Brown youth.

As a grantee of Ready to Rise, we have benefited greatly from capacity building funds to strengthen our evaluation practices and applications. We've been able to serve more youth in the camps and halls with the addition of a second program manager funded by the grant. Ready to Rise holds its grantees accountable to reach their goals and objectives. Lastly, the peer to peer learning and collaborations have only fortified our impact in the juvenile justice space.

Please consider restoring full funding to Ready to Rise.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Denton  
Executive Director  
The Unusual Suspects Theatre Company

23. Josselyn Perez

Dear JJCC,

My name is Josselyn Perez -- Senior Civic Engagement Organizer with InnerCity Struggle and long time resident of East Los Angeles. I will be sharing public comment on item 5. It is my opinion that JJCC should NOT fund school-based probation again this year. We are making great advances and changes to ensure that the approaches are focused on healing, restorative justice practices, and youth development. JJCC allocated funds should go towards that to best support our youth. We should restore Ready to Rise funds as this will best support youth's development for their future.

Best

24. Erika Jimenez

Dear Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council,

My name is Erika Jimenez, and I am a site organizer at the non-profit organization, InnerCity Struggle based in East Los Angeles. I am reaching out to you today to talk about agenda item #5. My job allows me to work high school youth from Roosevelt and Mendez. I help run a student club where we engage students to become civically engaged and involved them in making a difference in their community. The org I work with depends on grants like Ready to Rise. I am writing you because we need to divert funding from School-Based probation and restore full funding to Ready to Rise.

For more than a year, Ready to Rise grants were cut by \$3.9 Million from last a 40% cut and Ready to Rise capacity building was cut by \$2.1 Million an almost 60% cut. While most of the other programs being funded have shown no outcome, Ready to Rise has prospered the youth development throughout LA County.

Ready to rise has been an equitable, efficient, and responsive vehicle for distributing public dollars and growing the organizational capacity of youth service providers in L.A. County as an alternative to relying on archaic, draconian forms of punishment.

Ready to Rise grantees provide a variety of programs focused on educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, arts, wellness, youth organizing, and more. All grantees share a focus on youth development and a commitment to improving outcomes for Black and Brown youth.

I urge you to keep Ready to Rise and not cut its funding. We need to continue to prosper the lives of our Black and Brown youth and that can not be done if we cut the funding to Ready to Rise. Do not cut Ready to Rise! Let's continue to foster the growth of the youth.

In community,

Erika

25. Megan Gregorovic

Good morning, I am a resident of La Verne and I oppose the proposed SYTF at Camp Afflerbaugh and Paige. The camp is located above over 2,500 homes and can only be accessed by driving directly through residential neighborhoods. I am deeply concerned with the safety and access issue. Camp Afflerbaugh and Paige already experience frequent breakouts. With a larger population and higher level offenders, community safety is compromised. An escapee has direct access to homes and schools. As an alternative, the County should invest in Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall so it serves as the location that houses DJJ youth and becomes an example of transformative youth justice in LA County. It is the only option with the least disruption to their continuity of service. Minimizing changes, establishing routines and offering stability is a best practice. Barry J. Nidorf offers staff that are better trained and equipped to offer support to the youths progress throughout their stay. Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall makes the most

sense financially. Transforming the Nidorf site is an efficient use of valuable resources to meet state requirements. The County should invest in reimaging the site to join Kilpatrick in the "LA Model". Thank you for your time in carefully selecting the appropriate site.

Megan Gregorovic

26. George Rio

Continue funding probation school-based programs.

Calls to stop funding have political based motives.

What about the youth it serves?

Taking away support for the youth is not helping them. It is the opposite.

Voting against it tells everyone you do not care about the youth being served.

Principles have called in stating the good these programs do.

Comments have been made trying to dismiss their comments.

Principals are people who have dedicated their lives to serving youth.

Probation school based funding needs to continue.

27. Ruth Tyson

Ruth Tyson, representing SEIU

Speaking to item 8

School Base probation definitely have proven benefits. Working with you and seeing them complete high school, discontinue using drugs and alcohol, introduce them to experiences they would never have, prevent many of the youth from ever seeing a juvenile hall are all benefits of school base office engaging the youth within the community.

Maintaining the budget for schools base is the responsible thing to do.

28. Michael Crenshaw

JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL,

For the past 23 years I have been a high school educator. The high school I am at presently is in the San Fernando Valley. Throughout my time as a classroom teacher and Dean we truly received the highest number of challenging students compared to our neighboring schools.

As a Dean of Discipline on campus I have witnessed both the hard work and efforts made by our Probation officers to truly support students on formal probation with rehabilitation and pursuit of success in their post-secondary lives - either towards attending college, starting a career, or both.

As a Los Angeles County resident and registered voter, I urge you, as a Council, to do what is necessary to fully fund all school-based units, within the Los Angeles Unified School District, for the 2021-2022 school year and beyond.

IF TIME PERMITS.....

Some important roles that Probation officers have displayed on our campus have been:

- 1) Teaching and modeling appropriate behaviors to students for a public-school setting, reinforcing the terms of their probation to ensure compliance, and pointing towards the goal of exiting probation.
- 2) Creating a positive climate for effective communication and collaboration with the student, family, school, and support services during entry, follow-ups, and any issues that may have taken place. This provided the platform for decisions to be made by consensus and for the welfare of the student.
- 3) Providing coaching, mentoring and reward systems to promote behavior changes in the minor reducing a relapse towards criminal behaviors.
- 4) Coordinating with service providers for education assistance, job training, and recreational programs. This was very important to pave the way for students to believe they could achieve and have fun too.
- 5) Showing a strong commitment, professionalism, and fostering the best possible outcomes. The character shown by our probation officers proved to motivate students to do the right thing.

In Unity,  
Michael Cranshaw, M.Ed., Coordinator  
James Monroe High School Magnet Programs

29. Manuela Almaguer

My name is Manuela Almaguer, I'm the Program Coordinator at Centro CHA. I would like to speak in advocacy for Ready 2 Rise. We've been operating in partnership with Ready 2 Rise for two years now. In that time frame, participants have received mentorship, workforce and leadership services through a cultural lens. It's important for CBO's to continue their work through Ready 2 Rise in order to continue supporting communities in need.

Thank you for your consideration,

Manuela Almaguer  
Program Coordinator  
Centro CHA Inc

30. Robert Castillo

My name is Robert Castillo, Program Manager of Workforce at Centro CHA. I would like to speak in advocacy for Ready 2 Rise. Centro CHA is a CBO in Long Beach with a two-year relationship with Ready 2 Rise. Our data shows that our program is effective in working with 16-24 years of age. Centro CHA has successfully assisted youth with employment readiness, pro-social skills, employment placement, and supportive services. Centro CHA has provided mentoring to many of the youth, and aided youth in their restorative process. Many young participants have participated in our community events and have given back to areas they once damaged. Community Based Programs are effective

Best regards