



YOR CALIFORNIA
California Youth Opioid Response

YOR NEWS

September 2025



Hello!

As we move into fall, the YOR California project is full steam ahead, and we've got so much to share. We've had many opportunities to connect with YOR 4 grantees at their sites, and a terrific, recent opportunity to come together as an entire project to learn, share ideas, and collaborate - with the YOR 4 cohort, DHCS, CIBHS, and AHP all under one roof! We are also excited about the 2026-27 iteration of the Youth Services Leadership Institute (YSLI) - accepting applications now!

-The YOR California Team

YOR 4 Learning Collaborative

September 16-17 | Long Beach

Sixty-three professionals representing 26 YOR 4 Grantee organizations from all over the state came to Long Beach to join DHCS and the YOR California Team for a jam-packed two days of learning, collaborating, sharing best practices, and working together.



Grantees and the YOR California Team posed for a group "selfie." Front: AHP's Christian Citlali and Kklara Moradian.

Topics included peer-led asset mapping, sustainability, how to turn data into outcomes, and youth-centered healing.

Attendees also heard directly from peers including youth leaders on the importance of including young people in SUD/ODU prevention outreach, and grantees from different organizations who shared best practices in family engagement.

A highlight was definitely the networking opportunities for same-region and similar organizations. One grantee quipped, "Today's connections impact tomorrow's outcomes."

**YOR 4 LEARNING
COLLABORATIVE 3**

Lasting Connections, Lasting Impact

VIDEO

Watch the video to the left to experience the energy of the event firsthand!



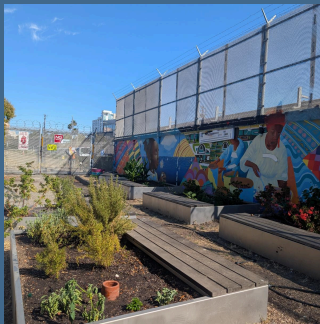
Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) Youth Voice Panel. L-R: Program Administrator Jesus Escobar, Health Education Associate Jessica Rivera, Youth Leaders Skye Price and Julia Vickrey-Trinh, and Senior Program Manager Irene Lim.



L-R: Sylvia Meza, Patient Care Coordinator, SUD Integrated Services, Celyne Demonteverde, Programs Director, Health Improvement Partnership - Santa Cruz, Wendi Vierra, Director of Behavioral Health Operations, and Ana Chavez, Neighborhood Healthcare, Escondido

Out and About at YOR 4 Grantee Sites

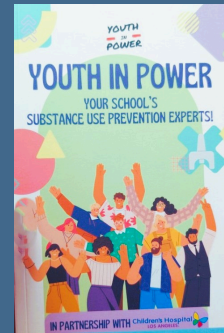
The YOR California Team was lucky enough to visit 15 out of 26 YOR 4 Grantee organizations in late summer and early fall to see some of the amazing work that is happening. We traveled to Los Angeles, San Diego, Merced, San Bernadino, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Orange, Sacramento, and Alameda counties. We will continue to connect with grantees this fall. Take a peek at images from our visits with Dream Youth Clinic, Sacramento Youth Center, CHLA, and our spotlight on Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance's MOSAIC Mobile Health Clinic - a YOR 4 funded initiative.



Community Garden at Dream Youth Clinic, Oakland



Sacramento Youth Center Music Room



Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) has 23 Youth Leaders advocating for substance use prevention. They created the zine (specialized magazine) shown here.



**Spotlight
On...**

Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance (RPYA)'s Mobile Health Clinic

Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance (RPYA) recently rolled out (literally) its mobile health van as part of their YOR 4 initiative. The van provides a way to bring care directly to young people in Riverside and San Bernadino Counties. The van has quickly become an outreach strategy cornerstone. RPYA Clinical Director A.K. Parker says, "It allows our team to meet youth where they are - whether at schools, encampments, or community events." The mobile clinic provides behavioral health and substance use screenings, fentanyl testing strips, Narcan, life-saving overdose prevention, and warm handoffs to treatment and wraparound services.



RPYA Mosaic Mobile Health Clinic

RPYA is partnering with the University of California, Riverside School of Medicine to make the van fully compliant for street medicine, which will expand RPYA's capacity to deliver on-site MOUD treatment, psychiatric, and medical care. This will help to overcome barriers that disproportionately impact the most vulnerable young people - access and transportation.

RPYA shared that the mobile van reflects a commitment to fostering community trust, bridging critical gaps in services, and ensuring that every young person knows they have a safe place to turn for support and healing.



Inside the MOSAIC Mobile Health Clinic van.



RPYA Clinical Director A.K. Parker greets community youth outside of the van.



RPYA mobile clinic members engaging in community outreach.

Youth Services Leadership Institute (YSLI)

Application Now Open!

The 2026-2027 Youth Service Leadership Institute is a leadership program for youth-serving professionals who have at least two years of work with, or on behalf of, youth and/or young adults impacted by opioid and stimulant use.

YSLI...

- prepares professionals to **meet the unique behavioral health needs of youth and/or young adults** impacted by or struggling with opioid and/or stimulant use.
- aims to **provide the foundational leadership skills** needed for early career professionals to move on to leadership roles within their service agencies.
- will further **strengthen the capacity of community-based organizations** to better advocate on behalf of underserved populations of youth and young adults impacted by opioid and stimulant use.

Deadline November 12, 2025

[Apply Here](#)

YSLI 2026-27
Youth Services Leadership Institute
Spring 2026 - Spring 2027
Virtual & In-Person (Southern CA)

ARE YOU ... **APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN!**

DEDICATED to serving vulnerable young people struggling with **STUD/ODU**?
EXPERIENCED in youth services with 2+ years progressive responsibility under your belt?
COMMITTED to investing in your career?
READY to lead?

BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPANTS
 Develop Leadership Skills
 Learn with Peers
 Build a Network
 Invest in Your Career
 Learn from Industry Experts

BENEFITS FOR ORGANIZATIONS
 Workforce Development and Retention
 Investment in Sustainability
 Expanded Network of Youth Services Leaders

TUITION FREE!

Click on the image for a direct link and larger view.

Resources

Webinars & Videos

[Data Decoded: UCLA Drop-in TA Hour](#)

UCLA Data Technical Assistance (TA) | Optional drop-in hour to answer any questions ahead of October 15th quarterly reporting deadline.

October 8, 2025, 12:00- 1:00 p.m. PT

[Navigator Forums](#)

CA Bridge | Share experiences and review and discuss strategies with peers. Upcoming topics:

October 8, 2025: Telehealth Treatment Resources

November 12, 2025: Best Practices for Returning Patients

[Tools to Talk with Your Young Person about Anything \(including substance use\)](#)

Get Smart About Drugs | Eight short videos with tips for caregivers, community organizers, and facilitators about communicating effectively with young people.

Articles & Opportunities

[Insights About the Opioid Crisis](#)

Health Affairs | Opioid-focused special edition featuring dozens of articles.

[HHS Provides More Than \\$1.5 Billion in State and Tribal Opioid Response Grants](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) | The allocations include \$1.48 billion for State Opioid Response and nearly \$63 million for Tribal Opioid Response.

Grant: [OJJDP FY25 Mentoring for Youth Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Use](#)

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) | Grant for enhancing and expanding mentoring services for children and youth affected by opioids and other substance use, and their families. Up to 20% of funds may be allocated for other direct services such as mental health treatment, SUD treatment, or other services. [Deadlines to submit](#): October 23, 2025: Grants.gov. | October 30, 2025: JustGrants.

YOR 4 is a joint effort of the California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS) and Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP) and supported by funding from California's Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) State Opioid Response (SOR) 4 grant, provided by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).



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