



The Youth Service Leadership Institute (YSLI) aims to develop youth service leaders who will strengthen the capacity of service agencies and community-based organizations (CBOs) to meet the unique behavioral health needs of youth and/or young adults impacted by opioid and/or stimulant use.

The YSLI curriculum will emphasize a leadership approach that is developmentally appropriate; structurally, culturally and gender-responsive; and trauma-informed by providing critical leadership education to youth service professionals who have at least five years of progressively responsible work with, or on behalf of, underserved and/or over-represented populations of youth and/or young adults

impacted by opioid and stimulant use.

Those served include, but are not limited to, youth who identify as LGBTQ+, Black/African American, Native American/American Indian, immigrant, runaway, or unhoused. Additionally served are youth who live in rural settings, feel disengaged in school, are currently involved with, or transitioning out of foster care, and are currently involved with, or transitioning out of the juvenile justice system.

The Youth Services Leadership Institute (YSLI) will contribute to lasting impacts in the following areas:

- **Communication:** Associates will improve their ability to actively listen, and convey information to supervisors, direct reports, and colleagues.
- **Self-awareness and Confidence:** Associates will increase their self-awareness of strengths and weaknesses, including how their style and perspective affects others. They will enhance knowledge and skills, and adjust attitudes, which improves confidence and effectiveness.
- **Vision and Enhanced Supervision Skills:** Associates will increase their ability to mobilize and motivate staff.
- **Advanced Leadership Skills:** Associates will become more comfortable making decisions, taking risks, negotiating, and leading change initiatives.
- **Skill Development for Associates:** Opportunities for Associates to develop and strengthen skills to employ with colleagues.
- **Improved Services:** Associates' service projects and increased leadership skills will benefit their respective agencies by strengthening youth and young adult services.
- **Increased Number of Leaders:** DHCS will gain insight into trends and needs in the field through connections to YSLI's new pool of leaders.



## 2023 – 2024 YSLI Participant Curriculum

### "I," "We," "You(th)"

#### "I" Curriculum (Day 1 — Immersion Training)

Associates will utilize the True Colors assessment to gain insight into their communication styles, work preferences, strengths, and areas for growth. These insights will serve as a foundation for the exploration of "Who am I as a leader." This session will equip associates to lead effectively, communicate well, impact, and foster a positive and productive work environment.

#### "We" Curriculum (Day 2 — Immersion Training)

This session will focus on identifying strategies to foster collaboration and integrate cultural competency and trauma-informed practices into organizational culture. Associates will explore methods to establish meaningful alliances between practitioners and clients that support the provision of comprehensive services attuned to the unique needs of youth. This session will provide actionable steps to enhance practices and promote inclusivity and responsiveness at every level of service.

#### "You(th)" curriculum (Enhancement Training)

Associates will explore frameworks, tools, and best practices to incorporate the vital perspective of youth voice in programming. Associates will develop the skills to act as a bridge, connecting young people to essential resources and networks that enhance their social capital. This session will equip associates to advocate, collaborate and co-create alongside youth, empowering them to take charge of their own futures.

### Action Learning

Associates will implement a **Leadership Enhancement Action Plan (LEAP)** to build and enhance a wide range of interpersonal, communication, and leadership skills. The Youth Services Leadership Project will be centered around meeting a need of each participant's individual agency. Associates will receive ongoing coaching, peer mentoring and support. In addition, participants will attend webinars during LEAP Action Periods. Topics may include:

- Nurturing Leadership and Staying Present (especially in the context of working with youth)
- Managing Up
- Wellbeing
- Leading from Every Seat — Leadership With or Without a Title
- Bringing True Youth Advisory Boards into Your Agency



## 2023 – 2024 YSLI Participant Schedule

Associates will be required to commit a minimum of 5 hours per month to YSLI training and attend three in-person meetings. Associates or their organizations will be responsible for the cost of travel and lodging. Scholarships may be available for those identified as in need of support.

<b>November 2023</b>	<b>Application Launch</b> — Week of November 6 <sup>th</sup> <b>Application Close</b> — Week of November 27 <sup>th</sup>
<b>December 2023</b>	<b>Associate Selection</b> — Week of December 4 <sup>th</sup> <b>Associate Orientation</b> — Week of December 11 <sup>th</sup> (1 Hour Virtual)
<b>January 2024</b>	<b>True Colors Step II Assessment</b> (30 Minutes) <b>Keynote Address</b> (1 Hour, Virtual) <b>Immersion Training</b> — L.A., January 23-25 (2.5 Days, in Person) <b>Immersion Training Group Debrief</b> — Week of January 26 <sup>th</sup> (Virtual)
<b>February 2024 (Action Period)</b>	<b>Bi-weekly Associate Check-in Calls</b> (1 Hour, Virtual) <b>Webinar</b> (1 Hour, Virtual) <b>Engagement Hour</b> (1 Hour, Virtual)
<b>March 2024 (Action Period)</b>	<b>Bi-weekly Associate Check-in Calls</b> (1 Hour, Virtual) <b>Webinar</b> (1 Hour, Virtual) <b>Engagement Hour</b> (1 Hour, Virtual)
<b>April 2024</b>	<b>Keynote Address</b> (1 Hour, Virtual) <b>Enhancement Training</b> Dates TBD (2.5 Days, in Person)
<b>May 2024</b>	<b>Graduation</b> — @ YOR 3 Learning Collaborative (1.5 Days, in Person)