DHCS
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Meeting Summary

Proposition 64 Advisory Group
July 25, 2024
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting

Members Present	
Denise Galvez, Prevention and Youth Branch Chief, Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS)	Pete Nielsen, MA, President and Chief Executive Officer, California Consortium of Addiction Program and Professionals
Jessica Guerra, Program and Policy Section Chief, DHCS	Adrienne Shilton, MPPA, Vice President, Public Policy and Strategy, California Alliance of Child and Family Services
Stephanie List, Proposition 64 Program Unit Chief, DHCS	Martin D Martinez III, Tribal Member, Mendocino County Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Jim Keddy, Executive Director, Youth Forward	Karina Pangan, MPH, Health Program Specialist, Orange County Health Care Agency
Lynn Silver, MD, MPH, FAAP, Senior Advisor, Public Health Institute	

Opening Remarks and Introductions
Denise Galvez

Galvez opened the meeting by thanking the Proposition 64 Advisory Group (Prop 64 AG) members for attending. Galvez mentioned this was the second meeting of 2024 and the sixth year since the Prop 64 AG was created.

Galvez provided brief updates on the Prevention and Youth Branch at DHCS, including the 2024 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Conference and Summer Series through Advance Behavioral Health Prevention California, which offers free technical assistance and training to people in the prevention field. Galvez also announced the March passing of Proposition 1, which will transform the behavioral health system in California, along with upcoming public listening sessions.

Proposition 64 Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention, and Treatment Account (YEPEITA) DHCS Contract Updates – **Rounds 5 and 6**
Jessica Guerra

Guerra noted the contracts that were successfully executed this year. The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) contract was executed for $16.465 million, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) contract was executed for $12 million, and the California Department of Social Services contract (CDSS) was funded for $246.98 million and will be executed soon. The Elevate Youth California (EYC) contract with The Center at Sierra Health Foundation (The Center) is pending for $65.728 million and will be executed soon. The YEPEITA is estimated to remain funded for $341 million in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Guerra and Stephanie List from DHCS discussed the CNRA, CDPH, and The Center contracts. CDPH receives $12 million in funding annually to administer the California Youth Cannabis Prevention Initiative, which includes the California Cannabis Surveillance system and Cannabis Education and Youth Prevention Program. CNRA funds competitive Youth Community Access Grants to give youth ages 0 to 26 access to natural or cultural resources, with a focus on low-income and disadvantaged communities. EYC also makes grants to numerous Tribal organizations, which are encouraged to access restoration funds. Community advocacy can counter pushback from the cannabis industry over excise taxes.

EYC Cohort Updates
Palvinder Kaur, Senior Program Officer, The Center

Kaur introduced The Center and shared the presentation agenda.

There are two tracks anticipated to move forward with the EYC Round 6 Request for Applications (RFA) timeline: Standard Track (ST) and Capacity Building Track (CBT). The EYC Round 6 ST RFA will be released in summer 2024, with implementation to begin in January 2025. Additional information will be shared when the RFA is released and published on the EYC website. The CBT RFA is anticipated to be released in winter 2025.

Kaur shared that the EYC 2023 Annual Report has been published on the EYC website. It will include highlights and accomplishments from select EYC partners, along with quantitative data. Kaur encouraged attendees to share the report widely with stakeholders.

A pilot youth survey was conducted with Round 3 partners as part of an external evaluation with Education Northwest (EdNW). Seventy surveys were completed to inform the final version, with changes made to reflect youth responses and utilize their responses to further inform partners' work. Results will be made available by the end of 2024, along with a public report in spring 2025.

Six EYC Regional Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Convenings will be hosted across the state this year. The EYC Regional TTA Convenings will be provided in different regions in California. The Center, the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, and the Youth Leadership Institute will provide TTA for EYC partners. The regional trainings will focus on prevention, youth-centered storytelling, and civic engagement.

Two videos were shared, featuring youth from Kids in the Spotlight and True Care organizations. Both videos described how each organization has implemented EYC in their community.

Kaur shared that many organizations, especially ones that work with people of color and 2S/LGBTQIA+ youth, are facing resistance from school boards. Kaur suggested adapting resources and networking campaigns that have been implemented by Tribal EYC partners for other communities.

Youth Listening Session Report
Black Youth Leadership Project (BYLP)

Lorreen Pryor, CEO and President, BYLP	*Laila Anderson, Facilitator, BYLP*
Lisa Stanley, Assistant to Ms. Pryor, BYLP	*Brandon Trowel, Facilitator, BYLP*
Quinessa Stibbons, Facilitator, BYLP	*Fxxi Irvin, Facilitator, BYLP*
Candy Jackson, Facilitator, BYLP	*Adriene Lott, Facilitator, BYLP*
Kima Lee, Facilitator, BYLP	*Tevin Tyler, Facilitator, BYLP*

Galvez introduced BYLP, an EYC Round 3 ST recipient, located in the Sacramento region. Pryor introduced herself and her team, explaining that BYLP was founded in 1999 by several Black State Capitol staff members. The organization hosts a legislative open house to teach students about the assembly process. BYLP works on and off campuses to identify problems and protect youth and their families. Youth are always at the center of programming, with a specific focus on how the behavior and choices of adults around them can influence their own decisions, including those potentially leading to substance use. More recently, youth suicide prevention and mental health advocacy have become greater focus areas. BYLP has multigenerational staff who are encouraged to learn from and support each other.

The Black Boys Support Network (BBSN) program meets weekly and is supported by a team of Black men, with a goal to encourage attitudes that benefit youth later in life and interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline. Facilitators offer outreach, peer support, and early intervention to manage triggers responsibly. The Black Girls Support Network (BGSN) is led by a multigenerational staff who serve as youth mentors. BGSN offers activities like kickball, check-in talks, an art release program, and conflict mediation services. Along with in-person events, BGSN also meets virtually to serve girls from other regions.

BYLP engaged in civic engagement by working on the Family Finding Bill (Assembly Bill 3217), bringing younger BYLP members to the State Capitol in the process.

BYLP service outcomes are intended not only for students, but also for staff and facilitators. While their main goal is to serve Black children, they ultimately serve all children in need.

Galvez mentioned that EYC was a launching pad, but BYLP has leveraged other funds, including philanthropic funding sources. Pryor described how existing funds, including EYC and philanthropic funds, have been leveraged to provide opportunities to youth and employment opportunities to members of the community.

Elevate Youth California Logic Model
Marbella Uriostegui, Researcher, Education Northwest
Verenice Chavoya-Perez, Senior Associate, Social Policy Research Associates

Uriostegui and Chavoya-Perez were introduced and detailed how EdNW is working with DHCS and The Center to provide a multi-year, mixed-methods evaluation. The EYC logic model is designed to measure intended outcomes for youth and partner organizations.

EdNW also implemented virtual listening sessions to assist with developing the EYC logic model. The virtual listening sessions included staff from nineteen programs and youth from five programs. Both groups were given key components of the Logic Model draft and then asked to share how activities and outcomes aligned with their experiences. Key components of youth social and emotional development include mentorship, relationship-building, and leadership opportunities that help young people gain confidence.

In an iterative process, the Logic Model incorporated feedback from The Center and DHCS, updating it alongside the feedback from youth and partners. Goals included focusing on youth social justice and systems change, connecting EYC program activities to outputs and outcomes, and strengthening partnerships to advance goals.

The EYC logic Model has multiple components and accounts for external factors, such as the disproportionate impact of the war on drugs on marginalized communities. There are three levels: participant, funded partner, and community. All begin with inputs into the program, such as funding and staff, resources from DHCS and The Center, incorporation of evidence-based practices, and cohort-based support for partners. The participant level is centered around youth leadership activities and substance use disorder (SUD) prevention.

The evaluation will track short-term, intermediate, and long-term outcomes and outputs from these activities. The funded partner outputs include the number of training and technical assistance (TTA) hours for partners, and the ways in which TTA increased their knowledge, capacity, and sustainability. This work leads to long-term impacts, such as a focus on community and policy outcomes, grassroots engagement, and policy, systems, and environmental changes related to youth SUD prevention initiatives, especially for underserved communities.

One Prop 64 AG member, Jim Keddy, noted that young people are inundated with advertisements for alcohol and cannabis, highlighting the predatory role of the private sector in substance use. He inquired whether the EYC logic model addresses this. EYC AG member Galvez pointed out that the processes related to the activities of grantees will vary. Kaur noted that the first page of the EYC logic model addresses certain external factors. Uriostegui and Chavoya-Perez shared their observations regarding predatory strategies employed by private companies, likening these tactics to the harms caused by the war on drugs in some communities.

EYC AG member Lynn Silver inquired about the extent to which the civic engagement component leads to system changes. In response, Kaur referenced Keddy's comments, explaining that the civic engagement approach tackles several relevant issues. For instance, some youth have reported that their EYC programs focus on preventing substance retailers from targeting their communities. Kaur also noted that a more thorough evaluation with EYC partners will be made available and that these questions and concerns may be addressed in the future.

Public Comment
All participants

No comments or questions.

Closing and Next Steps
Denise Galvez, Prevention and Youth Branch Chief, DHCS

Galvez thanked Silver for her contributions to the committee and announced her retirement from the AG committee. Silver said it was an honor to help develop the EYC program.

Galvez shared several public listening sessions from the California Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health, including a lunch and learn session for juvenile justice on July 31, a justice workgroup overview on August 16, and a Diversion Reentry Recommendations Webinar on August 23.

Silver shared some additional policy updates: pending Assembly Bill 1775 will create cannabis cafes in California and allow smoking environments onsite. Assembly Bill 2223 would prohibit hemp outside of the legal cannabis industry; the Prop 64 AG opposes this bill and hopes to remove intoxicating hemp products from smoke shops.

No other announcements or statements were made. Galvez thanked all for participating.