CITY OF LOS ANGELES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, May 27, 2025
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Friendship Auditorium

3201 Riverside Dr. Los Angeles, CA 90027

AGENDA

1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	
2.	Declaration of Conflict of Interest	David Crippens
3.	Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items	
4.	Welcome new Youth Council Members	David Crippens

ACTION ITEMS:

5.	Consideration of the Minutes of March 25, 2025	David Crippens
6.	Approval of the yearly selection of two Youth Advisor positions in the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council and provide them with monthly educational stipends to offset their costs of preparing for and attending meetings	Lisa Salazar/Luciela Rojas

ADVISORIES/DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORT-BACKS/UPDATES

7.	Presentation on Youth Advisor experience	Lisa Salazar/Luciela Rojas
8.	Presentation on 2025 Crossroads Youth Policy Forum	Richelle Brooks
9.	Discussion of the possible impact of the City's budget and suggested consolidation on youth programs	Donny Brooks
10.	Verbal Update on the Horizons 32K Strategic Plan	Carrie Lemon
11.	Honoring UCLA YouthSource Centers' contributions to the YouthSource system	David Crippens
12.	Honoring David Crippens' contributions to Youth Council	Tammy Ortuno

13. Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, 2025

14. Adjourn

Youth Council Committee:

David Crippens, Veronica Corona, Kenya Croom, Raul Estrada, Gerald Feeney, Hrag Hamalian, Jaleesa Hazzard, Lindsey Heisser, John King II, Carrie Lemon, MaryRose Ortega, Carl Reece, Maria Turrubiartes, Steve Zimmer

PUBLIC INPUT AT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETINGS

The public will have an opportunity to address the Board on any agenda item at the time the item is considered. Members of the public who wish to speak on any item are requested to complete a speaker card for each item they wish to address, and present the completed card(s) to the designated personnel of the Board. Speaker cards are available at the sign-in table at the back of the meeting room. Documents/reports on agenda items are available on the Board's website and may be distributed at the meeting. For updated meeting schedules please visit www.wiblacity.org. For more information call 213-744-7164.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, your request should be received at least 72 hours in advance of the need. The TTY: 771.

For more information please contact us at 444 S. Flower Street, 14th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90071.
Phone: 213-744-7164 www.wiblacity.org

Workforce Development Board
City of Los Angeles

2.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available

4.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Welcome new Youth Council Members**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available

5.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Consideration of the Minutes of March 25, 2025**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 5 - DRAFT WDB Youth_Council Comm Mtg Minutes 03.25.2025

CITY OF LOS ANGELEES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB)
YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Crippens, Carrie Lemmon, Jaleesa Hazzard, Veronica Corona, Lindsey Heisser, Mary Rose Ortega, Steve Zimmer, Kamaurah Hogan (Youth Advisor)

1. Call to Order – Chair David Crippens called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations – Hannah Lee, WDB Executive Director explained the Conflict of Interest Declaration process. No conflicts were identified.

3. Introduction of New WDB Youth Council Members

   The new Youth Council Committee members Lindsey Heisser, Snap Chat, and Steve Zimmer, County of Los Angeles gave brief introductory remarks.

4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items
   Mary Keipp, UCLA suggested that contracts be done in multi-year contracts that can be amended.
   .

ACTION ITEMS:

5. Receive and File the Meeting Notes of February 22, 2024, May 21, 2024, June 18, 2024, and August 8, 2024, and January 28, 2025
   Accepted

6. Consideration of the Minutes of Minutes of April 25, 2024
   Carrie Lemmon Moved, and Second by Jaleesa Hazzard
   Motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of Recommendations from the Economic & Workforce Development Department, in Partnership with the Youth Development Department, to Accept a Federal Earmark and City General Funds to Implement the Peer Homeless System Navigator Program

Gerardo Ruvalcaba, Assistant General Manager, Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), and Lisa Salazar, General Manager, Youth Development Department (YDD) co-presented on their partnership to accept Federal Earmark and City General Funds to implement the Peer Homeless System Navigator Program. A combination of Federal funding and City General Funds was secured to hire 40 peer navigators. The funding will allow the navigators to work up to 360 hours to conduct outreach in their communities and facilitate appointments to connect young people to resources. YDD will be the program manager over this initiative. The Department request is for authority to accept up to $565,592 to administer this program, and authorize the General Manager to issue a Request For Interest to the WorkSource and YouthSource Center System. Additionally, to authorize the General Manager to implement necessary Controller instructions to accept these funds.

Carrie Lemmon asked about the career pathway for the peer navigators.

Lisa Salazar said that the plan is to build up their skills, starting with the YouthSource Center Peer mental health counselors toward peer mental health pathways.

Kamaurah Hogan asked what the requirements for this program are besides being a city youth.

Lisa Salazar said that the eligibility requirements will be consistent with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

David Crippens said that they need to document how these programs work and don't work.

Motion to approve Mary Rose Ortega, Second Veronica Corona.
Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

ADVISORIES/DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORT-BACKS/UPDATES

8. Presentation on the 2025-26 Annual Plan

Elizabeth Macias, EWDD Planning Unit presented the outline for the EWDD Annual Plan. The 5 -Year Workforce Development Plan was recently completed. The plan was procured in partnership with Mayor Bass and the Office of Economic Opportunity, and the Workforce Development Board. It will create and expand access to living-wage jobs, and career pathways, remove barriers to employment for priority populations, and implement training programs to prepare residents for work in high growth and in-demand sectors. The goal is to place 50,000 Angelenos into high paying jobs.

Alex Guerrero, Opportunity Youth Collaborative asked what advocacy is needed to promote the LA:RISE program.

Elizabeth Macias said that REDF is advocating to restore funding for the program. REDF recommends that the program partners reach out to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors to advocate.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba said that it is important that partners and service provider all share the message and advocate for the programs that work.

9. Update on the YouthSource Center Redesign

Donny Brooks introduced Bryson Gauff, as the interim Assistant Chief Grants Manager who presented an update on the YouthSource Center Redesign. A YouthSource RFP was release in April 2022. The YouthSource Center Redesign integrated lessons learned from the Covid-19 Pandemic, and sought to serve as a response to the disparate impact felt by the youth of Los Angeles.

In collaboration with the YDD, the ReLAY Institute, and the WDB's Youth Council Committee, six key areas were highlighted which must be addressed through the YouthSource Center Redesign.

1. Increase the focus on career pathway,
2. Promote the Youth Voice in the YouthSource System
3. Strengthen Mental Health Services
4. Increase the Focus on High barrier Populations
5. Address the Digital Divide
6. Promote System Partnerships

EWDD identified the following eight initiatives to meet the goals of the YouthSource Center Redesign Goals and Priorities:
1.Tiered Approach
2. LA County Department of Mental Health Demonstration Pilot
3. Peer to Peer Demonstration Pilot,
4. LAUSD DACE Youth Navigators
5. LACCD Youth Navigators
6. Youth Advisory Council
7. Digital Ambassadors
8. Horizons 32K Strategic Plan

10. Discussion on Relaunching the HireLA's Youth Steering Committee, in Partnership with the Youth Development Department

    Gerardo Ruvalcaba EWDD, Assistant General Manager and Lisa Salazar, YDD, General Manager co-presented the HIRELA's Youth Steering Committee Relaunch.

Lisa asked that consideration for resurfacing the Steering Committee be considered with the goal to increase the quality of work experience and to maximize all available resources in the region.

Gerardo added that the Department would transfer up to $75,000 to support EWDD in the implementation of this committee, to access and support the Citywide youth council, and help with promotion and outreach.

Lisa added that they could procure a consultant however consultants need time to understand the system. The YDD has the knowledge, and experience in leading the youth recruitment effort. These funds would increase the capacity of staff time to focus on this work.

Carrie Lemmon said that she supports this effort, and she is excited to partner with them.

11. Presentation on Youth Disconnection in Los Angeles and Horizon's 32K Update

    Carrie Lemmon, UniteLA introduced Alex Guerrero, Opportunity Youth Collaborative, who joined her in providing and update on the Horizons 32K program. The Youth Council Advisory has been kicked off, and three of the youth participating were present and shared their concerns.

    Ashanti Wince, 22 YO would like to see value, skills, and expanding change and prioritize mental health.

    Jasper Garcia, 22 YO, would like to see a greater emphasis on skilled base hiring. He has a difficult time finding a job because he has lived experience, but he is not getting hired.

    Iziko Calderon, 23 YO, finished her 4th internships with WIOA. She has not found the proper opportunities to be hired. She would like to see a change to that. She does not want to get a guard card, or go from the YouthSource to the Adult Workforce System. She is tired of going from one program to another.

    Carrie Lemmon, UniteLA spoke on the “Addressing Youth Disconnection in Los Angeles” report. Addressing disconnection in youth is critical for development, as they face lower lifetime earnings, poor health outcomes, and economic disparities. The data on disconnected youth shows that disparities affecting youth exist in certain regions in both the City and County of Los Angeles, such as: geographic, age, race and ethnicity. During the pandemic the rates went up and now there is a post pandemic number that shows a decrease. They need pathways to employment.

David Crippens commented that this report should serve as incentive for LAUSD, and the community college district since they both have a tremendous enrollment problem. He asked if 19-year-olds could be moved to the WorkSource system if their needs are not being me by the YouthSource System.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba said that they are looking at better aligning this when they procure the YouthSource Center System.

Lisa Salazar asked what does the baseline look like? How well are we serving the 19-year-olds.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba said that they are happy to launch a new program that is coming out of the justice involved youth.

12. Verbal Update on the Crossroads Conference

Danielle Martinez, WDB staff provided an update on the planning and coordination for the upcoming 2025 Crossroads Conference. This is the first time this event is scheduled after 10 years. The forum's target audience is policy makers, practitioners and youth leadership. It will have keynote addresses, and hands-on workshops. They will invite youth to be present and participate. Its intended date is April 28, 2025, at Los Angeles Trade Technical College.

David Crippens said that according to the LAEDC, the Los Angeles region is not kicking off jobs. This is why they need to be thoughtful in their process and programming.

13. Presentation on the Hollywood Entertainment Pathway Program

Doug Bond, President/CEO Amity Foundation, reported on the Hollywood Ranch Project. The Amity Foundation raised a million dollars and received a $250,000 grant from the City to create this program to support young adults (18 – 24) who have experienced Foster Care, Juvenile Hall, Youth Authority, or other Justice-System involvement and who lack prior work experience, training or employment history in partnership with the Anti-Recidivism Coalition and the Coalition for Responsible Community Development The program benefits include up to one year of safe and stable housing, and 10 months of union recognized career training in the entertainment industry. This program does work, the data supports it.

Sergio a program success story, shared that he benefited from the program as it taught him a good work ethic, and gave him a positive attitude. He had great mentors who cared about him and helped him find his way.

14. Next Meeting - May 27, 2025

15. Adjourn – Chair David Crippens adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

6.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Approval of the yearly selection of two Youth Advisor positions in the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council and provide them with monthly educational stipends to offset their costs of preparing for and attending meetings**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 6 - WDB Youth Advisor Positions
- Item 6 - Attachment A Workforce Development Board Eductional Stipend Policy

6

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board Youth Council

FROM: Luciela Rojas, Youth Advisory Council Program Manager, Youth Development Department

SUBJECT: Approval of the yearly selection of two Youth Advisor positions in the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council and provide them with monthly educational stipends to offset their costs of preparing for and attending meetings.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD ACTION

1. Approval to continue the Youth Advisors positions for the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council Committee during the FY 25/26 program year.
2. Approval to continue the monthly Educational Stipend for Youth Advisors serving the WDB Youth Council Committee during the FY 25/26 program year for a total amount up to $3,000 per member.

BACKGROUND

In 2021, in partnership with the WDB Youth Council and the Youth Development Department (YDD), EWDD engaged in an extensive review of the YSC program design. As part of the program review, EWDD and YDD conducted multiple public forums with service providers, community stakeholders, and youth participants. A common theme among youth in particular was the need to elevate and incorporate youth voice in the development and implementation of youth programming.

In FY 23-24, in acknowledgment of the importance of incorporating youth voices, the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council Committee, led by example and added two (2) Youth Advisor seats to the WDB Youth Council Committee. After a competitive application process, the first two Youth Advisors were selected in April 2024. This endeavor aims to bring authentic youth voice to our system, build community, and champion causes that impact their futures. Their voices will shape each community and region's programs, activities, and opportunities.

DISCUSSION

Youth Advisor Positions

Youth Advisors bring invaluable lived experiences to conversations surrounding youth services. As active participants in youth source centers and their programs, they provide insightful feedback and have proven to be outstanding thought partners. Additionally, Youth Advisors have participated in panels that promote initiatives focused on serving youth, gaining essential mentorship and professional development through guidance from board members and workforce leaders.

The chance to serve on the board has enhanced their skills in advocacy, public policy, and collaborative leadership, enabling them to better serve their communities. Youth Advisors develop a deeper understanding of the youth service system, which they then share with their centers and peers.

In their first year (FY 24/25), Youth Advisors have expressed that this opportunity has fostered meaningful connections and professional growth, leaving a lasting impact on their lives. By memorializing the inclusion of youth voices through Youth Advisors, there is a unique opportunity for youth to take on significant leadership roles, while the board gains direct insights from the youth being served in real time.

Youth Advisor Term Timeline (proposed)
June/July- Recruitment and application review
July - Interviews and Selection
August - Begin term on WDB Youth Council
June - End term and transition out

Educational Stipends

EWDD is intended to provide youth in the City with direct engagement and educational experiences to benefit their career and educational trajectory. By providing an educational stipend, we abide by the City's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion to ensure that otherwise talented individuals have the opportunity to participate regardless of their socioeconomic status, and compensation for youths' time and expertise is a tenet of Positive Youth Development.

In order to qualify for the monthly Educational Stipend, Youth Advisors are required to:

1. Attend monthly briefing meetings on WDB Youth Council agenda items.
2. Read and research agenda items discussed during the briefing.
3. Attend and participate in the in-person WDB Youth Council monthly meetings

NEXT STEPS

Upon WDB approval, YDD will work with the WDB Executive Director and/or Board Chair to update and finalize the FY 25/26 application, requirements, and selections. Once Youth Advisors are selected, the staff of the WDB will generate Educational Stipend checks and continue to issue checks on a monthly basis per the outlined requirements have been met as outlined in the Educational Stipend Policy (Attachment A).

Workforce Development Board
Youth Council Committee Youth Advisor
Educational Stipend Policy

Background

The Workforce Development Board Youth Council Committee Youth Advisor seats provide the opportunity for 2 youth between the ages of 16-25 residing within the boundaries of the City of Los Angeles to engage their municipal government. The intent is to educate and train youth within the City of Los Angeles on the inner functions of the Workforce Development Board , Economic Workforce Development Department, the City's Workforce Annual Budgetary Process. More importantly, youth members will understand the role of Mayoral appointed local Workforce Board members as they provide governance and oversight to the City's workforce development training resources.

In order to honor the time and expertise of the selected youth, and support the Positive Youth Development tenet to compensate youth, the Workforce Development Board (WDB) will offer an educational stipend of $300.00 per month over a 12 month period to Youth Advisors. This stipend is a nominal fee to assist with participating in the board, and encourages applicants from underserved communities to take part in the opportunity without having to take economic realities into account in their decision.

The opportunity is intended to provide youth in the City direct engagement and educational experiences to benefit their career and educational trajectory. By providing an educational stipend we abide by the City's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion to ensure that otherwise talented individuals have the opportunity to apply regardless of their socioeconomic status.

Description:

Youth Advisors engage in a 12 month seat. Attend 2 Meetings per Month, one in person meeting and one virtual meeting lasting 2- 3 hours per session.

Monthly meetings will involve an overview of the agenda items, receiving context and background on the items and gaining an understanding of the impact of the decision points to be discussed. The second set of monthly meetings will involve on-site in person Workforce Development Board Youth Council Committee meetings. The Youth Advisors' findings and recommendations will be discussed at both meetings.

Youth Advisors are not to receive any wages in compensation for their participation but are rather given an educational stipend at the benevolence of the City's WDB.

Educational Stipend & Compensation Qualification Requirements
Youth Advisors are eligible to receive a $300.00 per month stipend based on full attendance and participation.
Annual stipends per youth advisor will not exceed $3,600.00 per fiscal year.

Educational Stipend Disbursement Schedule
Educational Stipends are to be paid on a regular monthly basis. Youth Advisors will receive their stipend disbursement via check or direct deposit.

Time & Participation Commitment
Youth Advisors are expected to participate actively in all meetings required of council duties.
Youth Advisors are allowed two unexcused absences throughout the duration of the 12 months.
Youth Advisors who have more than two unexcused absences, will be automatically discharged from the WDB Youth Council Committee and will forfeit the rest of the educational stipend allocated to them for the remaining council term.

Youth Council Member Agreement
All participants sign agreement acknowledging:

They are not considered City Employees.

Are not entitled to wages as an employee but instead offered an educational stipend at the City's WDB benevolence.

Are not entitled nor guaranteed a job after fulfilling their term.

Start & End Dates
Official Start Date: July
Official End Date : June

**Note: The inaugural Youth Advisors started their term of service Apr 19, 2024 .*

Disclaimer: The Workforce Development Board reserves the right to make adjustments to the policy as necessary to comply with city, state, and federal labor regulations.

YOUTH ADVISOR EDUCATIONAL STIPEND
AGREEMENT FORM

(ATTACHMENT A)

THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE YOUTH ADVISOR SEATS PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR 2 YOUTH BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16-25 RESIDING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES TO ENGAGE THEIR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT. THE INTENT IS TO EDUCATE AND TRAIN YOUTH WITHIN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES ON THE INNER FUNCTIONS OF THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, ECONOMIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, THE CITY'S WORKFORCE ANNUAL BUDGETARY PROCESS. MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOUTH MEMBERS WILL UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF MAYORAL APPOINTED LOCAL WORKFORCE BOARD MEMBERS AS THEY PROVIDE GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT TO THE CITY'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING RESOURCES.

IN ORDER TO HONOR THE TIME AND EXPERTISE OF THE SELECTED YOUTH, AND SUPPORT THE POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT TENET TO COMPENSATE YOUTH, THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB) WILL OFFER AN EDUCATIONAL STIPEND OF $300.00 PER MONTH OVER A 12 MONTH PERIOD TO YOUTH ADVISORS. THIS STIPEND IS A NOMINAL FEE TO ASSIST WITH PARTICIPATING IN THE BOARD, AND ENCOURAGES APPLICANTS FROM UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES TO TAKE PART IN THE OPPORTUNITY WITHOUT HAVING TO TAKE ECONOMIC REALITIES INTO ACCOUNT IN THEIR DECISION.

THE OPPORTUNITY IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE YOUTH IN THE CITY DIRECT ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES TO BENEFIT THEIR CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL TRAJECTORY. BY PROVIDING AN EDUCATIONAL STIPEND, WE ABIDE BY THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION TO ENSURE THAT OTHERWISE TALENTED INDIVIDUALS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY REGARDLESS OF THEIR SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS.

AS A YOUTH ADVISOR OF THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE, YOU ARE TO FULLY AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS PROVIDED BY THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD. BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, YOU COMMIT TO CONFORMING TO THE POLICIES OF THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD AS WELL AS ACKNOWLEDGING THE INTENT BEHIND THIS OPPORTUNITY.

YOUTH ADVISOR AGREEMENT

BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, I COMMIT TO ATTEND AND FULLY PARTICIPATE IN ALL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.
I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MY ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION AT ALL MEETINGS IS A PREREQUISITE TO RECEIVING THE EDUCATIONAL STIPEND OF $300.00 PER MONTH FROM THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IF I HAVE MORE THAN TWO UNEXCUSED ABSENCES, I FORFEIT MY SEAT AS YOUTH ADVISOR ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND FORFEIT THE REMAINDER OF THE EDUCATIONAL STIPEND ALLOTTED TO ME FOR THIS TERM.

I UNDERSTAND AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE YOUTH ADVISOR SEAT IS NOT AN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.

I UNDERSTAND AND ACKNOWLEDGE MY PARTICIPATION DOES NOT QUALIFY ME AS A CITY OF LOS ANGELES EMPLOYEE.

I UNDERSTAND AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE DOES NOT GUARANTEE ME A PERMANENT POSITION WITH THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES UPON TERM COMPLETION.

I UNDERSTAND THAT MY PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE DOES NOT ENTITLE ME TO WAGES, HOWEVER THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD WILL PROVIDE ME WITH A $300.00 PER MONTH EDUCATIONAL STIPEND FOR MY PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE.

YOUTH ADVISOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE:_____

PARTICIPANT NAME PRINTED: _____

7.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Presentation on Youth Advisor experience**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available

8.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Presentation on 2025 Crossroads Youth Policy Forum**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 8 - Presentation on 2025 Crossroads Youth Policy Forum

2025 Crossroads Youth Policy Forum



From Surviving to Thriving: Reimagining Youth Mental Wellness in L.A.

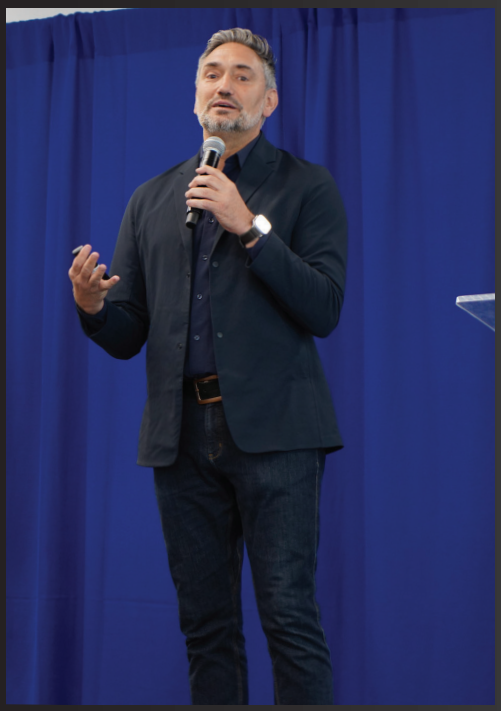
02

120 Attendees including YouthSource Center staff, youth participants, policymakers and educators gathered for The 2025 Crossroads Policy Forum to help catalyze a shift in youth mental wellness in Los Angeles.

Focused on healing-centered, equity-driven, and culturally responsive practices.

Platform for youth-led innovation and cross-sector collaboration.

What Took Place



Mission & Objectives

Advance youth wellness through equitable, community-driven solutions.

Promote mental wellness equity and empower youth leadership.

Strengthen professional capacity and drive systems change.

03

Insights Shared by Speakers, Presenters and Panelists



04

Healing-Centered Solution Based Approaches

- **Move away from diagnosis-centered models.**
- **Use Medicaid to fund peer specialists and community providers.**
- **Focus on racial equity and cultural competence.**
- **Workforce Development - Programs that prepare youth for living wage while also providing mental health support (EMS Corps)**

05

Youth Voice & Leadership

- **Poster sessions and lived-experience presentations by youth leaders.**
- **Advocacy for teacher training and inclusive support systems.**
- **Emphasis on youth as policy contributors and knowledge producers.**
- **Youth Panelist and Presenter Mariyah Williams dually enrolled High School Junior and College student with Mental Health Responder Certfication**

06

Workshops & Capacity Building

- **Emotional intelligence and stress management training.**
- **Inclusion-focused care for LGBTQ+ and minority youth.**
- **Mental Health First Aid and CSEC prevention strategies.**

07

Crossroads Youth Forum: Reflections & Insights

What Youth & Professionals Participants Shared About Their Key Takeaways



08

Youth Voices: What Matters Most

- **Mental health is the top concern—youth feel overwhelmed, unheard, and unsupported.**
- **Pressure from school, social media, and family expectations contributes to burnout.**
- **Cultural stigma and lack of safe spaces make it hard to seek help.**
- **Youth want privacy, understanding, and mental health days built into school calendars.**

09

Youth-Proposed Solutions

- **Culturally-attuned mental health education and peer-led workshops.**
- **Public wellness hubs and mentorship tied to career readiness.**
- **More school counselors, support groups, and mental health 'sick' days.**
- **Use of arts, poster presentations, and storytelling to communicate lived experience.**

10

Professional Reflections

- **Healing-centered care must reflect diverse cultural values and community needs.**
- **Many learned new ways Medi-Cal can fund mental health and housing support.**
- **Cross-agency collaboration and wraparound services seen as critical.**
- **Poster sessions and youth voices provided valuable, first-hand insights.**

11

Unexpected & Powerful Takeaways

- **Youth were confident, informed, and deeply reflective—many had lived experience.**
- **Poster presentations created real-time, peer-to-peer dialogue.**
- **Culturally responsive mental health support = long-term impact and trust.**
- **Real change begins with meeting youth where they are, emotionally and culturally.**

12

Crossroads Youth Policy Forum Recommendations

Strategic Recommendations for Youth Mental Health Equity in Los Angeles



13

Midterm Strategy: Learning & Support

- **Launch quarterly Learning Collaborative and digital hub.**
- **Develop certification pathways in inclusive care.**
- **Continue a Community of Practice for YouthSource staff, where best practices are shared across sectors and support is provided to uplift youth mental wellness.**

14

Midterm Strategy: Policy Action

- **Publish Policy Brief Series targeting local/state leaders.**
- **Align forum cycles with legislative sessions.**
- **Establish a Policy Fellowship Program where youth are prepared, trained, and equipped to advocate for legislative change; with compensation.**

15

Midterm Strategy: Cross-Sector Collaboration

- **Form Crossroads Coalition for Youth Wellness - a permanent iteration of the Working Group.**
- **Host sector-specific roundtables and develop equity metrics to determine if programs, initiatives and implementations related to youth wellness, have achieved the desired outcomes.**

16

Long-Term Strategy: Career Pathways

- **Advocate for Medicaid waivers for peer support roles.**
- **Partner with Workforce Development Board to advocate for more paid internships in the mental wellness space**
- **Create a Youth Mental Health Career Ladder.**

17

Long-Term Strategy: Evaluation

- **Use mixed-method strategies to track outcomes.**
- **Include youth in participatory research efforts.**

18

Long-Term Strategy: Digital Engagement

- **Build a Crossroads Digital Hub with blogs, tools, and events.**
- **Support youth storytelling and community-driven advocacy.**

19



Next Steps

Final Reportback that details the Accomplishments, Key Findings and Themes from the Crossroads Policy Forum, including Recommendation Implementation Guide and Tools

20

Workforce Development Board
City of Los Angeles

9.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Discussion of the possible impact of the City's budget and suggested consolidation on youth programs**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available

10.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Verbal Update on the Horizons 32K Strategic Plan**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available

11.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Honoring UCLA YouthSource Centers' contributions to the YouthSource system**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available

12.

DATE: May 27, 2025

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Honoring David Crippens' contributions to Youth Council**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available