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# Youth Council Regional Forums

Summer 2005

## Youth Council Institute

*YCi is conducted by New Ways to Work and the  
California Workforce Association  
under contract with the California Workforce Investment Board*

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## Introduction

In June, July, and August, 2005, the Youth Council Institute (YCi) sponsored a series of **Regional YCi Forums** across the state to discuss state and federal direction and legislation affecting workforce programs for youth. Participants discussed their needs and strategies towards continuing to build comprehensive youth-serving systems in the current changing environment. Among the topics addressed were

- DOL's New Strategic Vision for Youth
- WIA Reauthorization and DOL's Common Measures
- California's Strategic Two-year Plan
- YCi Impact Report

After receiving an overview of each of the above elements (see PowerPoint overview, Attachment C.) Participants discussed the impacts and challenges of these shifts in workforce policy in both small and large groups, facilitated and recorded by New Ways/YCi staff. Participants shared implementation strategies to address some of the current or proposed changes and anticipated shifts in policy. In addition, specific attention was paid to discussing strategies for partnering across systems with a focus on the "neediest youth", especially youth in and emancipating from foster care.

Forums were hosted in six regional locations in California by local Youth Councils, and facilitated by the following YCi staff: Steve Trippe, Charlene Mouille, Chandra Larsen, and Brenda Gray. All 50 YCi team leaders were invited to attend and to send or bring with them some or all of the following representatives to one of the local forums: Youth Council representatives; representatives from partner organizations such as Department of Social Services, Education, or Juvenile Justice; local service providers; and key staff. The following YCi Forums were held throughout the state in June, July and August: Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Visalia, CA; Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> in Los Angeles, CA; Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> in Ukiah, CA; Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento, CA; Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> in Irvine, CA; and Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> in Ventura, CA.

In addition to YCi staff facilitators from New Ways to Work, representatives from the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) and the Employment Development Department's capacity building unit attended some of the Forums. Anna Chambers from the CWIB participated in the forums and shared information from the State Board and provided a statewide perspective.

## Participants

Over 150 participants from across the state attended one or more of the regional forums. Thirty-one local Youth Councils participated (see participant lists - Attachment D), representing and inviting partners from some of the following cities: Anaheim, Auburn, Camarillo, Capitola, Carmichael, Carson, Colusa, Costa Mesa, Davis, El Centro, El Dorado Hills, Eureka, Fresno, Glendale, Guerneville, Hayward, Irvine, Los Angeles, La Habra, Long Beach, Madera, Marin, Napa, Newberry Park, Orange, Oxnard, Petaluma, Redlands, Rialto, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Rafael, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Simi Valley, Stockton, Sun Valley, Sunnyvale, Thousand Oaks, Tulare, Ukiah, Ventura, Visalia, West Sacramento, Westminster, and Woodland.

## Host Your Own Forum

Participants expressed interest in hosting their own forums and to use the materials to stimulate conversation around their issues among their Youth Council and community members. In response, New Ways/YCi posted the documents, PowerPoint presentation, and other supportive materials from the Forums on the YCi website. The documents can be personalized and used to share this information with local YC members, colleagues and service providers. These documents are available at <http://www.nww.org/new/initiatives/yCi/legforums.html>.



## Youth Council Regional Forums Summary

This notes packet summarizes discussions from all six forums, arranged in the following six broad areas. Each includes an overall summary of the participant responses in the topic area.

- Preparation.** Participants discussed how they are planning and preparing for state and federal changes in legislative direction.

*Of those who reported that planning and preparation had taken place, the most common responses included shifting services to a higher percentage of out-of-school youth, identifying new partners in alternative education, targeting hard to serve populations and conducting strategic planning activities with the Youth Council and WIB. However, many locals, particularly those in the smaller local areas reported that little or no planning had taken place – in fact in many cases the Youth Council members and staff were unaware of the potential implications of these policy shifts.*

- Local Strategies.** Participants discussed the local strategies they are implementing or exploring to provide services as described in USDOL's New Vision, including the following topics: alternative education, high-growth industries and occupations, neediest youth, and improved performance.

*The local representatives reported and shared a number of strategies in this area as related to the four pillars as described in the new vision for youth. In general, strategies focused on creating and promoting collaborations with new service partners and employers, leveraging resources beyond WIA and aligning work in the workforce system with education reform outcomes.*

- Connecting to Other Systems and Serving Special Populations.** Locals discussed strategies that support connections to Child Welfare Systems/Foster Care Youth, juvenile justice, and other "at-risk" populations they are implementing or exploring.

*Overall participants reported developing the strongest strategies around serving youth in, or emancipating from, foster care and the child welfare system. Participants from more urban communities reported that they were building strategies to engage and support youth offenders and youth in the juvenile justice system. In addition, participants from rural communities expressed interest in finding ways to support migrant youth. As previously discussed, many of the strategies for serving special populations often surrounded developing or enhancing programs to serve out-of-school youth, which often include, disproportionately, many "at-risk" populations.*

- Challenges and Barriers.** Participants discussed challenges and barriers to implementation that local are experiencing or anticipate occurring as a result of the changes in legislative direction.

*This area drew the most conversation at the forums, and centered on a few key themes. The first related to a lack of clarity and consistency in what was to be expected and what and when new rules and guidelines would apply to local programs and having adequate time and support (from the state) to prepare for these changes. The second area of concern was that increased targeting and new program prescriptions paired with diminishing dollars creates a no-win situation for program operators. Increased and longer term services to special populations is much more expensive, and in some cases the expected outcomes are unrealistic. The third area identified was a lack of consistent and clear direction from the state and federal government. After four years of promoting All Youth-One System, modeling the importance of youth issues through the State Youth Council and supporting local implementation through the technical assistance activities of YCi, the current lack of support and direction causes for uncertainty at the*

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*local level and places the value of youth services in jeopardy. Participants expressed concern around the future of the Youth Council Institute and its importance in supporting their evolving program practices. The fourth are generally identified highlighted the difficulty of cross-agency and cross-system collaboration.*

- ❑ **Services and Supports.** Participants were asked to discuss needs for services and supports from the State or through targeted technical assistance.

*Participants again expressed that the value of the AYOS frameworks and the support provided by YCi in the implementation of local practices was a key component in their local youth program and systems development activity. They cited the need for continued support in applying the AYOS frameworks to their work and to continue technical assistance and guidance in the areas of systems change and strategic planning. They also expressed a need for more consistent and detailed support from the state in some key areas, especially those related to new or shifting regulation and expectation. Not surprisingly, the content areas identified for support in the future included a sustained effort on AYOS implementation, systems-change support and assistance with aligning local work with new regulatory requirements or policy shifts..*

- ❑ **Future of Youth Councils and YCi.** Participants discussed whether their Youth Councils would continue if Youth Councils are made optional, and provided feedback about the uncertainty of sustaining YCi beyond the final contract.

*Most participants indicated that their Youth Council would continue to function if made optional through WIA reauthorization. However most also indicated that without State leadership as expressed through the State Youth Council, support for the AYOS concepts, or technical assistance and peer networking efforts such as YCi, that it would become more and more difficult to sustain Youth Council activity over time.*

The following section summarizes the participant responses and discussions at all six YCi Forums.

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## Planning and Preparation

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Participants discussed how they are planning and preparing for state and federal changes in legislation and direction. Many of the participants reported that their Youth Council or community had begun some level of planning and/or preparation to address state and federal direction, however all participants expressed a general awareness of being ill-prepared for the changes to come, and uncertainty about what changes to make and where to begin.

Communities that seemed to have made the most progress and have put in more strategic planning time were often communities who have been very active in the Youth Council Institute, regularly attending conference calls, workshops, and other events and/or who had adopted the All Youth-One System framework as a guide for their communities.

Communities who had already begun planning and preparation reported involvement with some of the following activities:

- Developing new partnerships and tightening links with other systems
- Identifying and leveraging new funding sources (beyond WIA)
- Enhancing youth services in One-Stops
- Having discussions about our making modifications to budgets for WIA youth allocations to 60/40 or 50/50 (Out-of-School Youth/In-School Youth) and modifying provider contracts
- Increasing focus on Out-of-School Youth

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- Targeting special populations, including migrant youth, youth with disabilities, foster youth, youth involved in the juvenile justice system, and other groups identified as the “neediest youth”
- Identifying potential partners and working with Alternative Education
- Coordinating services among youth service providers and other systems of support for youth
- Developing relationships with and working with business and industry to prioritize goals and gain resources
- Developing industry credentials or Work-Readiness Certificates
- Developing inter-agency teams
- Creating new data management systems, including county-wide system sharing
- Planning to align work performance measures to WIA and NCLB
- Holding Youth Council meetings to discuss and assess needs for change, including reviewing vision and mission and assessing how the new direction currently applies

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## Strategies/Services

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Participants discussed the local strategies they are implementing or exploring to provide services as described in USDOL's New Vision. The following sections summarize strategies and services communities are currently engaged in to provide services under the new direction. Among the topics discussed were: key strategies, alternative education, high-growth industries and occupations, neediest youth, and improved performance.

**Key strategies** identified by participants included the following:

- Developing collaborative cross agency teams
- Assuming passage of WIA Reauthorization and increasing services to Out-of-School Youth and modifying budgets for WIA youth allocations to 60/40 or 50/50 (Out-of-School Youth/In-School Youth)
- Creating ad hoc committees to focus local priorities
- Developing services and supports that align to the California High School Exit Exam
- Improving partnership strategies, including clarifying roles, coordinating youth services, and collaborating with business and schools
- Improving One-Stop services for youth
- Exploring regional projects across counties or centralizing the location of services to increase services or enhance accessibility
- Collaborating and partnering with business and industry
- Developing industry credentials or Work-Readiness Certificates and engages schools in the process
- Build relationships with elected officials to support strategies and information sharing
- Leveraging new funding sources beyond WIA and partnering with other agencies
- Securing clear definitions and directions for WIA programming
- Co-enrolling and multiple programs (financing)

Strategies for connecting to **Alternative Education** included the following:

- Defining and clarifying the definition of Alternative Education under new direction
- Selecting alternative education programs that are tied to new measures
- Identifying community-based organizations and charter schools that fit definitions
- Working with Adult Basic Education, court schools, adult schools, CSET, SEC, Co. GED, and DIP programs to support older, out-of-school youth
- Providing onsite instruction for older, out-of-school youth
- Creating instructional programs that include work experience

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Strategies for working with **High Growth Industries and Occupations**, included the following:

- Conducting labor market research to identify opportunities to connect with high growth industries in local communities
- Partnering with community colleges to support training and programs within selected industries
- Collaborating with local businesses and industries
- Partnering with high growth industry businesses to support work experience programs for youth
- Starting with a focus on economic development – then launch programs
- Connect with economic development/employers
- Identifying labor market challenges and structuring programs to serve their needs

Strategies for working with the **Neediest Youth** included the following:

- Developing or enhancing services and programs to serve migrant farm worker youth, youth in or emancipating from foster care, disabled learning youth, youth in Juvenile Justice, teen parents, youth in Special Education, out-of-school youth, etc.
- Building relationship with partners in other systems, such as child welfare, social service, Juvenile Justice, Dept. of Human Services, Probation Department, ILP, Housing Authority, and education to support cross-system collaboration and coordinating youth services
- Increasing opportunities and accessibility of supportive services such as housing, transportation, and childcare
- Conducting strategic planning that is guided by the DOL New Vision for Youth Services under WIA

Strategies for **Improved Performance** included the following:

- Leveraging new funding sources beyond WIA and partnering with other agencies
- Creating more certificated programs
- Replicating existing strong programs
- Co-enrolling youth into multiple programs
- Hosting cross-agency meetings and deepening partnerships
- Developing a youth ad hoc committee to address local priorities

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## **Connecting to Other Systems and Serving Special Populations**

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Locals discussed strategies that support connections to child welfare systems/youth in foster care, juvenile justice, and other “at-risk” populations they are implementing or exploring.

Overall participants reported developing the strongest strategies around serving youth in, or emancipating from, foster care and the child welfare system. Participants from more urban communities reported that they were building strategies to engage and support youth offenders and youth in the juvenile justice system. In addition, participants from rural communities expressed interest in finding ways to support migrant youth. As previously discussed, many of the strategies for serving special populations often surrounded developing or enhancing programs to serve out-of-school youth, which often include, disproportionately, many “at-risk” populations.

Among the strategies identified by participants to address **Connecting to Other Systems and Serving Special Populations** included the following:

- Developing or enhancing services and programs to serve migrant farm worker youth, youth in or emancipating from foster care, disabled learning youth, youth in Juvenile Justice, teen parents, youth in Special Education, out-of-school youth, etc.
- Building relationship with partners in other systems, such as child welfare, social service, Juvenile Justice, Dept. of Human Services, Probation Department, ILP, Housing Authority, and education to support cross-system collaboration and coordinating youth services

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- Increasing opportunities and accessibility of supportive services such as housing, transportation, and childcare
- Conducting community resource mapping to identify services available for all youth and to assess gaps in programs and services, especially for special populations
- Developing after-school leadership programs to support at-risk populations

Specific strategies reported in serving **Youth in or Emancipating from Foster Care** included the following:

- Supporting youth emancipating from the child welfare system by offering WIA services that address their particular needs
- Identifying the continuum of services available locally for youth in and emancipating from foster care and identifying ways that WIA enhance those services
- Developing Career Centers and foster youth-friendly One-Stops
- Participating in the Youth Transition Action Teams initiative, which is focused on bringing together and leveraging the approaches, strategies, and resources of multiple efforts concerned with the issue of successful youth transition. They are assessing their current capacity to address the needs of foster youth, developing achievable and outcome-based workplans, aligning local resources and programs to meet the needs of foster youth, and putting those plans into action.
- Supporting youth transitions from foster care, including support for transitional housing and workforce development
- Youth Council staff participating as representatives of foster youth in Independent Living Programs
- Partnering with local service providers to engage foster youth in WIA services
- Providing cross-training between Child Welfare Services and WIA
- Co-locating foster youth services at local One-Stops
- Educating and providing information to youth in and emancipating from foster care about the services available to WIA

Additional strategies discussed to support other **Special Populations** included the following:

- Providing services to support the empowerment of youth in juvenile justice
- Partnering with Probation Departments to support youth transitions from incarceration to workforce development and education
- Identifying ways to serve migrant youth and youth farm workers
- Serving teen parents by providing support for child care, transportation, housing, and alternative education options
- Supporting youth with disabilities by providing educational and workforce development support that accommodates their needs

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## Challenges/Barriers/Issues

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Participants discussed challenges or barriers they have experienced or anticipate as a result of the changes in legislative direction. Overall, participants reported seven primary challenges:

1. Lack of understanding regarding the implications of the new or revised direction, including timeframe for implementation and leadership and technical support available for making the transition
2. Challenges and barriers to coordinating services with other agencies and systems (i.e. education, child welfare, and industry)
3. Lack of time to prepare for the new and proposed changes in legislation and direction

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4. Implementation challenges and concerns about program outcomes, including serving special populations and older/out-of-school youth, which may be intensified with changes in direction/legislation
5. Lack of guidance and leadership from the state to advocate for youth issues and services
6. Lack of resources to address the new direction and increased emphasis on serving high targeted populations with big outcome challenges
7. Uncertainty about the future of the Youth Council Institute, and if discontinued, whether there will be continued support for All Youth-One System, Youth Councils, and WIA service providers from the state or other entities

The following summarizes some of the **Challenges and Barriers** participants have experienced or anticipate experiencing with the changes in legislation and direction:

## **Lack of guidance and leadership from the state to advocate for youth issues and services**

- Building support without guidance and leadership from the state
- Addressing changes of this magnitude, locals need coordination from the state for administrative services at the county level
- Without a State Youth Council there is an absence of advocacy for youth issues to inform state policy and legislation
- State policy is not focused on youth
- Need state/local boards engaged to address industry employer barriers

## **Implementation issues/challenges and concern about program outcomes, including serving special populations and older/out-of-school youth, which may be intensified with changes in direction/legislation**

- Implementation challenges for serving high targeted populations with fewer dollars and big outcome changes
- Lacking critical pieces to connecting to social services and supports
- Challenges with working with specific populations, including: multi-layered challenges for foster youth, youth for whom English is not the primary language, transportation, youth in special education
- Serving younger aged youth has a greater impact on dollars (long-term), although they are more receptive to services
- Increased focus on out-of-school youth will further stigmatize the system and deter employers
- In-school youth programs are more efficient because there are more supports in place
- Concern about program outcomes, including: long term success, lower performance rates, retaining younger youth for longer periods of time, engaging older youth in programs
- Older youth are hard to recruit, engage, and retain; there are high costs involved with successful recruitment strategies; increasing older youth services weakens partnerships with high school education and career preparation; older youth tend to only be interested in work - not education
- Concern about not being able to serve the same number of younger youth
- Challenging to serve all the youth in need - capacity is a huge issue
- The age of eligible youth will greatly impact programs, in particular it will be challenging to serve youth longer if they can't be exited until they graduate. This creates a disincentive to serve the hardest to serve

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- Large geographic areas struggle with reaching youth where they are, and/or having accessible public transportation. Often, this requires coordination of multiple agencies and responsibilities, which takes time, resources, technical assistance, and support for strategic planning
- Providers struggle with partnering vs. "slot" mentality

## **Challenges and barriers to coordinating services and resources with other agencies and systems due to differing requirements under different systems (i.e. education, child welfare, and industry)**

- Multiple agencies are charged under different legislation and guidance to provide similar services and struggle with coordinating services and partnering to prevent duplication
- Challenges with leveraging resources with partners
- Workforce providers are forced to collaborate with other systems, but other systems are not under the same pressure to partner with workforce, so the relationship is difficult to establish and sustain
- Disconnect between agencies within same county, especially when providing referrals
- Challenges with supporting high academic standards, including requirements under NCLB and CAHSEE. Under new Common Measures the challenge increases with finding and approving an equivalent to the state standard
- Rural counties struggle with finding employers and work experiences for youth - focus is primarily on getting youth out of the county. Need support with coordinating services with surrounding counties
- Often, priorities with educational partners are not aligned
- Concern about impact on employers who receive either too much or too little information about changes and having this affect their desire to partner with workforce programs and hire youth
- Challenge to engage youth and get their buy-in for long-term results, especially older youth
- Some youth may never get a certificate or diploma, but they will need money to survive

## **Lack of resources to address the new direction and increased emphasis on serving high targeted populations with big outcome challenges**

- Not enough resources to fulfill the charge; necessary to search for alternative funding streams beyond WIA
- Less financial resources and more challenging requirements for target populations - more work, harder work, and less money
- Small local areas are not eligible for challenge grants
- System building is harder the less money there is to dedicate staffing and resources, but is essential to meet and go beyond requirements

## **Lack of time to prepare for the new and proposed changes in legislation and direction**

- Weighing the pros and cons of choosing to opt out of the system if WIA funding carries so many strings and challenges
- New system elements and direction foster competition rather than collaboration
- Limited time to "pre-strategize" before authorization (especially if Common Measures are implemented early in California)
- Challenges with contractors involved being aware of changes in legislation (i.e. education partners) and with trying to align goals/measures with educational partners
- Challenge to align programs and activities to meet new measures under restricted time frame

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## **Uncertainty about the future of the Youth Council Institute, and if discontinued, there will be continued support for All Youth-One System, Youth Councils, and WIA service providers from the state or other entities**

- Communities have built their youth-serving systems around All Youth-One System; without sustained support for this framework, it will be a challenging to keep it alive, vibrant and relevant
- Navigating the system is challenging when there are conflicting or unclear requirements and without technical assistance to support understanding

## **Lack of understanding regarding the implications of the new or revised direction, including timeframe for implementation, and leadership and technical support available for making the transition**

- Uncertainty about changes in reporting required under the new WIA Common Measures, including: definitions of acceptable Work-Readiness Certificates and Credentials, implementation and reporting deadlines, skill attainment, implications/requirements for new literacy/numeracy measures,
- Conflicting priorities and disconnect among the various items of workforce direction and legislation. This is further compounded by different charges and priorities of education (i.e. NCLB and CAHSEE)
- The New Vision for Youth Services on WIA definition of "hardest to serve" may be too narrow (i.e. need to include teen parents and youth with disabilities)
- Concern that the new legislation doesn't allow support for the "neediest" youth in a genuine way because regulations prevent them from involvement
- If new common measures are implemented this year, youth service providers/WIA programs will be impacted by not having time to make their WRC approved
- Challenging to meet performance with ongoing and changing parameters
- If the Common Measures are established in California this year (instead of two years), it will be incredibly challenging for providers to transition their system

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## **Services and Supports**

Participants were asked to discuss needs for services and supports from the State or through targeted technical assistance. Overall, participants provided comment for needed services and supports in four general areas:

1. State and Local Support
2. Continue Using the All Youth-One System Frameworks
3. Continue Technical Assistance and Guidance with System change and Strategic Planning
4. Specific Topics for Technical Assistance and Training

### **State and Local Support**

- State and local support to meet achievement measures and system building for high risk youth
- State support as a strong advocate for local service priorities and flexibility with DOL
- Support with identifying alternate funding streams to leverage state dollars
- Collection and dissemination of best practices
- Resource support for the network with technology, including website, listserv, and electronic access to tools and materials
- Capacity building and training for local Youth Councils and service providers
- Support for state licensing and education performance measures
- Support and information about educational resources
- Clarification and support for understanding and addressing DOL's Common Measures
- Advance notice on RFPs and other funding opportunities

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- Advocacy and education about federal policies and legislation (connection to National Youth Employment Coalition resources)

## **Continue Using the All Youth-One System Frameworks**

- Continue to build upon the work of previous four years of utilizing the All Youth-One System frameworks
- Frameworks help to guide the process and are user-friendly for supporting cross-system coordination
- All Youth-One System frameworks are being utilized by several other statewide initiatives serving youth (notably, Youth Transition Action Teams - for foster youth; Improving Transition Options for Youth with Disabilities - for youth with disabilities). This supports cross-system coordination and partnerships by bridging a common language.

## **Continue Technical Assistance and Guidance with System Change and Strategic Planning Support**

- System building is not as easy as it sounds, is time consuming, and requires technical assistance and support to guide process, provide training around elements, and strategic planning to guide process
- Network provides a forum for peer-learning and sharing of best practices, which enables individual communities to adapt what is working and avoid reinventing the wheel
- Local support with strategies for engaging key stake holders and navigating political and bureaucratic settings
- Detailed support and tools for performance measures
- Integrating team building and dealing with systems issues
- Utilizing and understanding state and local resources (Foster Youth, Juvenile Justice System)
- Provide written information, support for locals to call and get information, coaching local teams with strategic planning, and collection and dissemination of best practices

## **Specific Topics for Technical Assistance and Training**

- Cross agency team building and strategic planning among partners in education, community-based organizations, local service providers, social service and child welfare, juvenile justice, etc.
- Recruiting older/out-of-school youth
- Assistance with strategies for coordinating services and co-enrollment in programs
- Effective communication skills with staff, youth, partners, etc.
- Effectively engaging and supporting youth - especially at risk populations, including: youth in foster care, juvenile offenders, out-of-school and older youth, youth in gangs, youth using drugs, pregnant and parenting teens, migrant youth, etc.
- How to support "neediest" youth in high growth/high wage workforce development
- Engaging employers and workplace partners
- Effective marketing to engage and educate the community and partners
- How to attain achievement measures and system for high risk youth
- Support and guidance on keeping youth engaged and transition out successfully
- Support for youth intermediary organizations
- Literacy/numeracy tools and support for youth with disabilities

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## Future of Youth Councils and YCi

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Participants discussed whether their Youth Councils would continue if Youth Councils are made optional, and provided feedback about the uncertainty of sustaining YCi beyond the current contract. Overall, participants shared the value they have found in participating in YCi over the last five years, and the services they seek to continue to receive from YCi or other statewide leadership body.

### YCi - What's Worked

- Connecting to other programs through the sharing of effective practices (i.e. YCIdeas, YCIinfo Search, YCI Reporter, and electronic communication via the YCi listserv)
- Regional and local meetings to connect face to face with others in the YCi Network
- State-wide advocacy on behalf of locals by YCi staff, through network surveys and other forms of collecting and disseminating local perspective back to locals and to the state leadership
- Legislation updates via electronic communication through the listserv, bi-monthly newsletters, and content conference calls
- Support for sustainability through dissemination of system-building frameworks and dissemination for funding and resource opportunities
- On-site technical assistance to locals provided by YCi staff to support strategic planning and assessment of community goals and progress
- Institutes provide intensive and efficient face-to-face time with community teams to utilize YCi tools and frameworks and coaching from YCi staff to support community planning
- Provider meetings and practitioner forums provide opportunities for local Youth Councils and WIBs to provide professional development for their providers and partners on key content areas to streamline their services and work
- Network website provides forum for sharing quality practices (YCIdeas) and easy access to download tools and resources on an as-needed basis
- Annual All Youth-One System conferences provide opportunity for network members and youth service providers to share promising practices, network with other members across the state, and engage youth in decision-making
- Regional workshops provide locals opportunities to focus deeply on particular topics to support comprehensive youth-serving system development and to enhance program practice

### If YCi Funding is Extended, Additional Support Requested Includes:

- Regional quarterly meetings with state analyst
- Peer-to-peer opportunities help to show "how"- state folks describe "what"

### If Not Funded:

- Local regions will take on the role of convening meetings, but likely statewide support and opportunities to connect with peers will be greatly diminished
- Without technological networking and communication tools, network will lose access to sharing promising practices and local strategies across the state
- Locals are already strained for resources, so developing an infrastructure from the local base will not be possible

### If Youth Councils are Not Mandated, Will Your Community Continue to Have One?

Local Youth Council representatives who attended the Forum overall reported that they will continue to have a Youth Council if not mandated, however several mentioned need of support to do so, planning to reconstitute focus, and/or will struggle without support or funding to do so. The following includes specific responses from locals:

- Anaheim: Likely to continue – need direction and encouragement from the state

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- Colusa County: yes (likely)
- Humboldt: Minimal discussion about continuation
- Imperial: Expand to bring in other money/ target populations – will continue
- Kern County: Leadership and staffing will continue
- Kings County: Not sure
- Los Angeles City: Definitely yes
- Los Angeles County: Yes
- Madera County: Not sure
- Marin County: Yes
- Mendocino and Sonoma: Want to continue but if lose staffing we don't know if can be sustained
- NOVA Consortium: Something will be in place, but some reconstructing
- Orange County: Serving more targeted populations visible; will continue
- Riverside: Committed to keep in place (under question from leadership). Need state leadership to sustain
- Sacramento: Yes
- San Bernardino City: Like Riverside, will take direction from state
- San Bernardino: Will continue. Need guidance and support from the state
- San Diego: Will keep/strong and getting stronger; no plans to change
- San Francisco: Unsure - probably yes, but be reconstituted
- San Joaquin County: Yes
- San Jose/Silicon Valley: Likely some strategy
- Santa Ana City: Is committed; will keep in place
- Santa Cruz: Yes
- Tulare County: Yes
- Yolo County: Yes, but re-name it