



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Meeting Notes

**California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
Proposition 64 Advisory Group
November 18, 2021, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Webex Virtual Meeting**

Members Present	
Denise Galvez	Ruben Cantu
Martin Martinez III	John de Miranda
Jim Keddy	Brinn Langdale
Veronica Lewis	Nicole Coxe
	Lynn Silver
Non-Members Present	
Palvinder Kaur, Sierra Health Foundation (SHF)	
Matt Cervantes, SHF	
Latojanae Hall, SHF	
Andrew Ha, SHF	
Noemi Avalos, SHF	
Angelica Pete, Round Valley Indian Health Center (RVIHC)	
Shayleena Britton, RVIHC	
Julia Russ, RVIHC	

Opening Remarks and Introductions

Denise Galvez, Section Chief, Youth Services Section, DHCS

Jovon Torres, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, Youth Services Section, DHCS

Galvez thanked the Proposition 64 Advisory Group (P64AG) members for attending the final meeting of the year. Galvez made a brief announcement regarding the recent Elevate Youth California (EYC) Round 3 Standard Track selection of funded partners. After membership introductions, Galvez reviewed a few housekeeping items, and Torres reviewed the meeting agenda and objectives.

P64AG Membership

Denise Galvez, Section Chief, Youth Services Section, DHCS

Denise introduced the two newest P64AG members, Nicole Coxe and Brinn Langdale, who gave brief introductions and spoke about their professional experience related to the work of the P64AG.

Contract Updates and Round 3 Timeline

Denise Galvez, DHCS

Jovon Torres, DHCS

Torres provided an update on the current \$385,814,000 allocated to state departments through interagency agreements for Round 3 Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention, and Treatment Account (YEPEITA) funding.

Based on the Governor's Budget Act of 2021, the total revenue for YEPEITA funding increased from \$265 to \$385 million. DHCS also identified additional budget appropriations, amended state department contracts, and transferred money to programs. Torres said DHCS will provide members with Round 4 revenue totals at the March 2022 meeting, pending the Governor's proposed budget in January 2022.

P64AG member Jim Keddy asked if funding allocated for the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) was tied to the work previously led by the California Department of Education (CDE). Galvez confirmed that the Early Child Care Voucher and Alternative Payment Program is now led by CDSS, replacing CDE as the contractor for the project.

EYC Cohort Updates

Palvinder Kaur, Program Officer, SHF

Matt Cervantes, Director of Health Programs, SHF

Cervantes provided the updated EYC amount of about \$109 million, allocated to approximately 137 community-based organizations across the state.

SHF mentioned the need for technical assistance (TA). SHF continues to use innovative ways to provide TA, given the restrictions of the pandemic. In addition, EYC partners are highly engaged and learn best practices for project implementation during the TA sessions.

Currently, SHF is meeting with EYC Cohort 1 partners to discuss their final contract year plans, the support they will need, and any additional concerns. In addition, SHF will continue to work with all EYC partners to enhance their TA needs and support throughout the project.

In closing, SHF announced they will finalize the EYC Innovation Track Release for Applications (RFA), which were released in November 2021, and an announcement for awarded partners in February 2022. The EYC Capacity Building Track RFA will be released in February 2022, announcing awarded partners in May 2022. SHF is currently planning for a youth convening in 2022 (pandemic restrictions pending).

Round Valley Indian Health Center

Angelica Pete, Native Way Program Director, RVIHC

Shayleena Britton, Native Way Media Specialist, RVIHC

Julia Russ, RVIHC

Pete thanked the members for the opportunity to present during the P64AG meeting. She explained the importance of keeping their culture and traditions alive through positive engagement and opportunity to engage local youth through EYC funding.

As part of their program, Pete said that a mentor and mentee pledge, signed at the program's start, is used to keep youth accountable in efforts to abstain from alcohol and substance use. A short video was shared recapping some of the youth projects consisting of several traditional items, including gardening, learning music, praying, basket weaving, and ribbon skirt making. After completing these projects, youth become mentors and support other youth in the program.

To provide context for the need of their program, including the environmental impacts of illegal marijuana growers, Russ explained a shift in the general acceptance and perception of harm regarding marijuana use among youth. She also stated the negative impact of illegal marijuana grower operations in the county, which has led to drought issues, serious crimes including abandoned vehicles, unsanitary living conditions, and murder.

Russ explained that RVIHC will continue to advocate for change and address the negative impact illegal marijuana grower operations have on sacred tribal land. Russ said she is grateful for EYC funding support.

Member Update

Jim Keddy, Executive Director, Youth Forward

Keddy advised Assembly Bill 1302 (2021) proposed to allow cannabis billboards on interstate highways. Dr. Silver and Keddy led a campaign and successfully persuaded the Governor to veto the bill.

In addition, four state agencies manage funding for the legal cannabis industry. Grants are available, and Keddy said he is hosting a webinar on December 7 to provide information about the grant programs.

Lastly, the California Department of Public Health's Tobacco Education and Research Oversight Committee (TEROC) recently developed a new state plan looking at the intersection of tobacco and cannabis use. Keddy proposed a collaboration between TEROC and DHCS' P64AG. Galvez will propose this collaboration to Marlies Perez, chief of DHCS' Community Services Division.

EYC: Evaluation and Data Collection Strategies

Denise Galvez, DHCS

Galvez briefly reviewed the 2020 EYC Annual Report, and asked members what data points should be included in future reports. P64AG member Veronica Lewis asked how qualitative data is captured to determine participant and program outcomes over time. Galvez informed members that a deep dive discussion on evaluation and data collection will occur at the March 2022 meeting.

Galvez shared the breakdown of EYC grant tracks, listing each one's required reporting profiles. Galvez then briefly covered the challenges and successes encountered through two EYC cohorts. Noemi Avalos, an SHF evaluation team member, shared the EYC reporting tool and walked the members through each data collection tool, highlighting what SHF currently collects from partners for reporting purposes.

Torres briefly shared the EYC Round 3 and 4 project timeline, covering priority project items from November 2021 to February 2022.

Public Comment

None

Closing and Next Steps

Denise Galvez, DHCS

Galvez thanked the P64AG members for their feedback and adjourned the meeting.