



Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 6, 2026

10:00 AM

City Hall Complex, 915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Sacramento Childrens Fund Planning and Oversight Commission

***Eugenia Richardson, Chair
Lilian Ghafari, Vice Chair
Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz***

***Monica Ruelas Mares
Davon Thomas
Volma Volcy
Shannon Williams***

Open Session

Roll Call

Land Acknowledgement

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Calendar

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one Motion.

1. **Approval of Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Meeting Minutes**

File ID: 2026-00026

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a **Motion** approving Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Regular Meeting Minutes dated June 4, 2026.

Contact: Cecelia Ventress, Deputy City Clerk, (916) 808-5928, cventress@cityofsacramento.org, Office of the City Clerk

Attachments: [2026-00026 STAFF REPORT](#)

2. **Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Follow-Up Log**

File ID: 2026-00276

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a **Motion** approving the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Follow-Up Log.

Contact: Rene Kausin, Program Manager, (916) 808-6157, rkausin@cityofsacramento.org, Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment Department

Attachments: [2026-00276 STAFF REPORT](#)

Discussion Calendar

3. Sacramento Children’s Fund Strategic Investment Plan Third Year Review

File ID: 2026-01434

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Review Strategic Investment Plan and discuss outcomes and potential recommendations to align outcomes with the five fund goals.

Contact: Julie Garen, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1531, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Attachments: [2026-01434 STAFF REPORT](#)

4. Sacramento Children’s Fund Target Populations

File ID: 2026-01438

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Review the Strategic Investment Plan and Request for Proposals and discuss potential recommendations to align outcomes with the Measure L Target Populations.

Contact: Julie Garen, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1531, jgaren@cityofsacramento.org, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Attachments: [2026-01438 STAFF REPORT](#)

Target Populations Ad Hoc Committee Updates

Commissioner Comments-Ideas and Questions

Public Comments-Matters Not on the Agenda

Adjournment

Where to Find the Agenda and Staff Reports: The agenda provides a general description and staff recommendation; however, legislative bodies may take action other than what is recommended.

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Submit Written Comments Online: Written comments received are filed in the record, and will not be read aloud. Members of the public are encouraged to submit public comments electronically through the City's Upcoming Meetings website at <https://publiccomment.cityofsacramento.gov>.

Public Comment Speaker Time Limits: In the interest of facilitating the legislative body's conduct of the business of the City, members of the public (speakers) who wish to address the legislative body during the meeting will have two minutes per item with the maximum of four items. All items on the Consent Calendar are considered one item. Speakers may only speak on four items per meeting.

Notice to Lobbyists: When addressing the legislative body, you must identify yourself as a lobbyist and announce the client/business/organization you are representing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, a disability-related modification or accommodation, agenda materials in an alternative format, or auxiliary aids to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at 916-808-7200 as soon as possible. Providing at least 5 business days will help ensure that reasonable arrangements can be made.

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City of Sacramento
**Sacramento Childrens Fund Planning and Oversight
Commission Report**
915 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
www.cityofsacramento.org

File ID: 2026-00026

8/6/2026

Approval of Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Meeting Minutes

File ID: 2026-00026

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a **Motion** approving Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Regular Meeting Minutes dated June 4, 2026.

Contact: Cecelia Ventress, Deputy City Clerk, (916) 808-5928, cventress@cityofsacramento.org, Office of the City Clerk

Presenter: None

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

2-June 4, 2026, Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Draft Regular Meeting Minutes

Description/Analysis

Issue Detail: It is best practice for the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission to approve the minutes for each meeting.

Policy Considerations: The City Clerk keeps a permanent record of the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission proceedings, showing all action considered and taken and the vote of each member on matters before the Commission.

Economic Impacts: None.

Environmental Considerations: None.

Sustainability: None.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: After each Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission meeting, the City Clerk composes the DRAFT Minutes noting the action taken by the Commission. The attached DRAFT Minutes are presented to the Commission for its approval as a permanent record of the meeting actions.

Financial Considerations: None.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): None.



DRAFT Minutes

Thursday, June 4, 2026

10:00 AM

City Hall Complex, 915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission

*Eugenia Richardson, Chair
Lilian Ghafari, Vice Chair
Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz*

*Monica Ruelas Mares
Davon Thomas
Volma Volcy
Shannon Williams*

Open Session

Regular meeting called to order by Chair Richardson at 10:07 a.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at the Sacramento City Hall Council Chamber.

Commissioners Present: Lilian Ghafari, Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz, Monica Ruelas Mares, Davon Thomas, Shannon Williams, and Chair Eugenia Richardson.

Commissioners Absent: Volma Volcy.

Land Acknowledgement – Led by Chair Richardson.

Consent Calendar

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one Motion.

Action: Moved/Seconded: Commissioner Ghafari / Commissioner Ruelas Mares.

Yes: Commissioners Lilian Ghafari, Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz, Monica Ruelas Mares, Davon Thomas, Shannon Williams, and Chair Eugenia Richardson.

Absent: Commissioner Volma Volcy.

A motion **passed** to adopt the Consent Calendar in one motion except as indicated at each item.

1. Approval of Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Meeting Minutes

File ID: 2026-00025

Location: Citywide

Action: Passed a **Motion** approving Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Regular Meeting Minutes dated May 7, 2026.

Contact: Cecelia Ventress, Deputy City Clerk, (916) 808-5928, cventress@cityofsacramento.org, Office of the City Clerk

2. Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Follow-Up Log

File ID: 2026-00274

Location: Citywide

Action: Passed a **Motion** approving the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Follow-Up Log.

Contact: Rene Kausin, Program Manager, (916) 808-6157, rkausin@cityofsacramento.org, Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment Department

Discussion Calendar

3. Sacramento Children's Fund Target Populations

File ID: 2026-01127

Location: Citywide

Action: Reviewed the Strategic Investment Plan and Request for Proposals and discussed potential recommendations to align outcomes with the Measure L Target Populations.

Contact: Julie Garen, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1531, jgaren@cityofsacramento.org, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

4. Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Strategic Investment Plan Third Year Review

File ID: 2026-01125

Location: Citywide

Action: Reviewed Strategic Investment Plan and discussed outcomes and potential recommendations to align outcomes with the five fund goals.

Contact: Julie Garen, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1531, jgaren@cityofsacramento.org, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Action: Moved/Seconded: Commissioner Thomas / Commissioner Ghafari.

Yes: Commissioners Lilian Ghafari, Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz, Monica Ruelas Mares, Davon Thomas, Shannon Williams, and Chair Eugenia Richardson.

Absent: Commissioner Volma Volcy.

Pursuant to Council Rules of Procedure, Chapter 8 (D)(6) passed a **Motion** to extend the meeting past 2 hours.

Target Populations Ad Hoc Committee Updates

Target Populations Ad Hoc provided updates.

Commissioner Comments-Ideas and Questions

Members of the Commission provided comments.

Public Comments-Matters Not on the Agenda

Members of the public provided public comments.

Adjourned – 12:00 p.m.

Where to Find the Agenda and Staff Reports: The agenda provides a general description and staff recommendation; however, legislative bodies may take action other than what is recommended. Full staff reports are available at <https://meetings.cityofsacramento.org>.

Watch the Legislative Body Meeting Online: Live video streams and archives of past meetings are available at <https://meetings.cityofsacramento.org>.

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Public Comment Speaker Time Limits: In the interest of facilitating the legislative body's conduct of the business of the City, members of the public (speakers) who wish to address the legislative body during the meeting will have two minutes per speaker for Consent Calendar Items, Public Hearing Items, Discussion Calendar Items, and Matters not on the Agenda for a maximum total of eight minutes per speaker per meeting. Each speaker shall limit his/her remarks to the specified time allotment.

Notice to Lobbyists: When addressing the legislative body, you must identify yourself as a lobbyist and announce the client/business/organization you are representing.

Assistance: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, a disability-related modification or accommodation, agenda materials in an alternative format, or auxiliary aids to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at 916-808 7200 or clerk@cityofsacramento.org as soon as possible. Providing at least 72 hours' notice will help ensure that reasonable arrangements can be made.

City of Sacramento
**Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight
Commission Report**
915 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
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File ID: 2026-00276

8/6/2026

Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Follow-Up Log

File ID: 2026-00276

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a **Motion** approving the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Follow-Up Log.

Contact: Rene Kausin, Program Manager, (916) 808-6157, rkausin@cityofsacramento.org, Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment Department

Presenter: None

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

2-Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission Follow-Up Log

Description/Analysis

Issue Detail: Like other City commissions and committees, the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission maintains, as a standing item, a follow-up log to organize and track items that may be considered in the future. The follow-up log details each item and gives an estimate of when staff expects to bring the item back to the Commission. Commission members are welcome to add items to the log during each meeting.

Policy Considerations: None.

Economic Impacts: None.

Environmental Considerations: None.

Sustainability: None.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: None.

Financial Considerations: None.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): None.

Follow-Up Log Completed Items August 6, 2026 Meeting

Item #	Subject Matter	Requested by:	Meets Which Powers & Duties (Scope) of Commission	Commission Priority (High, Medium, Low)	Dated Added to Log	Scheduled To Be Heard (Future Meeting Date or TBD)	Notes / Status
	<i>What is the subject or topic and specific request for follow up?</i>	<i>Which Commissioner(s) requested this follow up item?</i>	<i>How does this request meet the scope of the Commission? Align with powers & duties as described in forming docs (i.e. city code, bylaws, resolution, etc.)</i>	<i>What is the priority of the Commission?</i>	<i>What was the meeting date this request was made?</i>	<i>What is the meeting date when this request will be brought back to Commission for consideration?</i>	<i>Provide a status of the request prior to each meeting. Note date request was completed then move to Completed Requests tab.</i>
1	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requested to review and pull key questions from the RFP to identify necessary updates and revisions.	Chair Richardson	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	4-Jun-26	6-Aug-26	City staff sent the RFP out to the commission via email prior to the August meeting. Additionally, staff added the RFP to Staff Report 01134 as an attachment for review and discussion.
2	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requested information on the maximum number of preference points that can be applied to the RFP, including how they apply to both secondary and tertiary considerations.	Chair Richardson	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	4-Jun-26	6-Aug-26	After review, adding preference points for levels of intervention would directly contradict parts of the council adopted Strategic Investment Plan. There is no definitive number of preference points that can be added to the RFP, however Staff would consider how adding multiple preference points may complicate the application and make it even more difficult for applicants to complete. Staff would recommend 1-2 preference points per solicitation. Commission may wish to discuss other ways to integrate preferences into the RFP.

Item #	Subject Matter	Requested by:	Meets Which Powers & Duties (Scope) of Commission	Commission Priority (High, Medium, Low)	Dated Added to Log	Scheduled To Be Heard (Future Meeting Date or TBD)	Notes / Status
	What is the subject or topic and specific request for follow up?	Which Commissioner(s) requested this follow up item?	How does this request meet the scope of the Commission? Align with powers & duties as described in forming docs (i.e. city code, bylaws, resolution, etc.)	What is the priority of the Commission?	What was the meeting date this request was made?	What is the meeting date when this request will be brought back to Commission for consideration?	Provide a status of the request prior to each meeting. Note date request was completed then move to Completed Requests tab.
1	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requesting a map of impact areas and how fund goals are spread out with the funding.	Commissioner Kravitz-Wirtz	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	1-May-25	Pending	This request is pending with the Sacramento Children's Fund Staff, the City's GIS team and the evaluation firm hired as a result of the RFP for evaluation services.
2	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requested updated report from Office of Violence Prevention	Commissioner Ghafari	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	7-May-26	Pending	This request is pending with the Office of Violence Prevention.
3	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requested the evaluator provide a presentation.	Commissioner Ruelas-Mares	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	5-Feb-26	Pending	This request is pending with the Sacramento Children's Fund Staff and the evaluator. City Staff will schedule a presentation with Harder & Company once the evaluation has launched.
4	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requested an update on GBI	Commissioner Ruelas-Mares	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	5-Feb-26	Pending	This request is pending with the Sacramento Children's Fund Staff and the grantee. City Staff will ask the grantee to present to the commission once the contract is executed.
5	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requesting information regarding grant writing opportunities or Workshops for small and emerging CBO's	Commissioner Thomas	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	7-May-26	Pending	This request is pending with the Sacramento Children's Fund Staff. Staff is conducting research and working with the CAO and commission to determine what assistance can be provided to potential applicants.
6	Subject: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission request: Requested an update on the remaining programs from the progress report.	Chair Richardson and Commissioner Ruelas-Mares	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	To prioritize funding goals for the Sacramento Children's Fund	7-May-26	Pending	Staff are working with the evaluator to produce a Sacramento Children's Fund Annual Report for Year 2 of the SIP. The report will include updated data included in the Progress Report. The report will come out in the new year after the initial grant term is concluded.

City of Sacramento
**Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight
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915 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
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File ID: 2026-01434

8/6/2026

Sacramento Children's Fund Strategic Investment Plan Third Year Review

File ID: 2026-01434

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Review Strategic Investment Plan and discuss outcomes and potential recommendations to align outcomes with the five fund goals.

Contact: Julie Garen, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1531, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Presenter: Julie Garen, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1531, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Attachments:

- 1-Description/Analysis
- 2-Sacramento Children's Fund Strategic Investment Plan
- 3-Sacramento Children's Fund Research Report
- 4-Sacramento Children's Fund Request for Proposals

Description Analysis

Issue Detail: Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission will receive an update on the implementation of the Sacramento Children's Fund Strategic Investment Plan and discuss the progress of the fund as part of the third year review.

As part of the third year review, commissioners will review and discuss the Strategic Investment Plan and the first round Request for Proposals.

The Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission will discuss potential recommendations it may wish to make to better align outcomes with the five fund goals, which include: (1) supporting the mental health and emotional wellness of youth; (2) preventing and reducing homelessness among youth, including youth transitioning out of foster care; (3) preventing and reducing youth substance abuse; (4) preventing and reducing youth violence; and (5) supporting the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5 years old.

The Commission may also consider its approach to potential changes in funding for the second round of open grants. The commission may substance abuse and homelessness and any programs or evidence-based practices it would like to recommend be included in the next competitive application process.

Any recommendations to revise the competitive selection process must be consistent with the Commission's powers and duties, as established in Section 120 of the City Charter, as well as the SIP approved by Council. Certain recommended revisions to the competitive selection process, and any revisions to the SIP, would require City Council approval.

Policy Considerations: Sacramento City Charter § 120 Sacramento Children's Fund.

Economic Impacts: Not applicable.

Environmental Considerations: Not applicable.

Sustainability: Not applicable.

Commission/Committee Action: Not applicable.

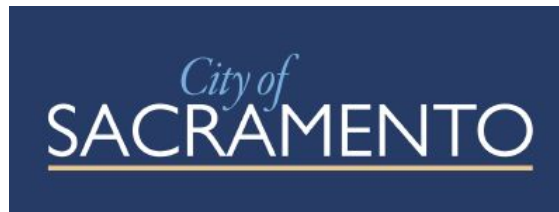
Rationale for Recommendation: As outlined in Measure L, Sacramento City Charter § 120 Sacramento Children's Fund, the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission is charged with the power and duty to complete a third year review of the Strategic Investment Plan. The Commission may make recommendations on how to implement changes to the next round of open grant funding and/or the SIP after review and discussion of the implementation updates.

Financial Considerations: Not applicable.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): Not applicable.

Sacramento Children's Fund Strategic Investment Plan

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2029



**Prepared by Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight
Commission, with support from Third Plateau**

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Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

The Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission acknowledges that we benefit from living and working on the ancestral and unceded lands of Sacramento's Indigenous Peoples^[i, ii]. We recognize and honor the Nisenan people, the Southern Maidu, Valley and Plains Miwok, Patwin Wintun peoples, and the people of the Wilton Rancheria, Sacramento's only Federally recognized Tribe. This acknowledgement demonstrates an intention to working together to build a more just and inclusive future where we dismantle the systems that enact exclusions and erasures of Indigenous voices, contributions, and history, and affirm the many Indigenous Peoples past, present, and future who resist, live, and uphold their sacred relations across these lands.

City of Sacramento Racial Equity Statement

The City of Sacramento affirms racial equity as a core value in which race does not affect life outcomes. We acknowledge historical racial inequities and are committed to transparent, deliberate, and actionable solutions that will remedy those inequities and serve all our diverse communities.

Executive Summary:

Sacramento Children's Fund Strategic Investment Plan

The Sacramento Children's Fund (Measure L)

In November 2022, voters in the City of Sacramento resoundingly approved the Sacramento Children and Youth Health and Safety Act. Also known as Measure L, this Act established the Sacramento Children's Fund (SCF or "the Fund") as a dedicated stream of funding for child and youth services.

The SCF is supported by general fund revenue, as determined by the City's existing cannabis business operations tax, which supplies an estimated \$8-10 million annually to fund programs and services for children and youth less than 25 years of age through an open, transparent, and competitive grant process. Five fund goals provide overarching direction for investing available funds. These goals include supporting the mental health and emotional wellness of youth and the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5, as well as preventing and reducing youth homelessness, substance abuse, and violence.

A nine-member Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission (SCF Commission) was also created to work in partnership with the Sacramento Youth Commission to develop this five-year Strategic Investment Plan, review annual service performance reports and periodic evaluation reports, and make recommendations to the City Council regarding investments in the programs and services that children and youth need and deserve to fully participate, prosper, and achieve their optimal potential.

The Strategic Investment Plan

The current five-year (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2029) Strategic Investment Plan overviews the goals of the SCF and the opportunities and challenges that Sacramento is facing in relation to these goals. Strategies for programming, funding allocations, fund management, and public accountability recommended by the SCF Commission are also discussed. This plan will be presented to the City Council for approval and the fund will be implemented by the City's Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment Department (YPCE). *Key components of the plan are outlined below.*

Community Input | This plan was informed by a landscape scan, frameworks for youth development, and community voice, including through a community survey and a series of community listening sessions. During the listening sessions, youth, parents, community and system leaders, and other community careholders shared their experiences, insights, needs, and desires for SCF-funded programming. Between January and August 2024, the SCF Commission, Sacramento Youth Commission, and YPCE staff met regularly to review the community findings and identify recommendations for directing SCF investments.

Focus on Equity | With equity at the core of Measure L, this five-year Strategic Investment Plan prioritizes children and youth who are the farthest from services and resources to ensure they receive maximum access to and benefit from SCF-funded programs. The SCF Commission recommends that funding be directed to agencies serving the neighborhoods, schools, and communities where youth experience the greatest impacts of poverty, trauma, and violence.

Recommended Strategies | This plan outlines a series of program strategies that were identified based on community input and documented effectiveness (see table below). These strategies align with the mission, vision, and goals of the SCF. Programs and services that use one or more of these strategies may be eligible for SCF grant funding. Additionally, the SCF Commission recommends utilizing part of the Fund's budget to support a Guaranteed Basic Income Program for youth who are transitioning out of foster care.

Executive Summary:

Sacramento Children’s Fund Strategic Investment Plan

Strategies to Achieve Fund Goals

1. Support the mental health and emotional wellness of youth

- Increase mental health literacy
- Develop healthy cultural identities
- Enhance social, emotional, & behavioral learning
- Provide cognitive behavioral interventions
- Reduce access to lethal means

2. Prevent and reduce youth homelessness

- Direct, unrestricted cash assistance
- Prioritize family support and reunification
- Expand housing programs
- Improve supportive crisis responses
- Provide street outreach

3. Prevent and reduce youth substance abuse

- Substance abuse screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment
- Integrate harm reduction
- Develop positive coping skills
- Build youth power to address socially-based stressors

4. Prevent and reduce youth violence

- Community-based violence intervention
- School-based safety programming
- Workforce development and employment
- Youth leadership and empowerment

5. Support the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5

- Promote early learning and school readiness
- Support responsive relationships
- Champion positive parenting skills and peer-support
- Provide economic supports to reduce sources of life stress
- Expand child care access

Guaranteed basic income for foster youth

- Unconditional cash transfers for current or former foster youth ages 18-24
- Optional wrap-around services, such as financial literacy courses and housing or job search assistance
- Public benefits counseling to ensure informed youth participation

Fund Management | This plan recommends two multi-year competitive funding cycles to award program grants. Grantees are encouraged to leverage existing community, public, and private resources and initiatives, and funded programs should be aligned with the Citywide Youth Development Plan and Framework for Children and Youth Programs. Other key recommendations made by the SCF Commission include receiving ongoing updates on the SCF granting process, robust community engagement, capacity building among SCF-funded grantees, and a youth-focused external evaluator.

This five-year Strategic Investment Plan draws on community wisdom, puts youth at the center, and stresses accountability to the public for making a sustained, positive impact on the lives of Sacramento’s children and youth most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence. The recommendations are rooted in a shared commitment to learning, expanding, and innovating on what works for ensuring that all children and youth have equitable access to the power, conditions, opportunities, and experiences that enable them to fully participate, prosper, and achieve their optimal potential.

Letter from the Chairs

Dear Sacramento Community,

As two young adults born and raised in the City of Sacramento, we had the unique experience of helping lead the campaign that established the voter-approved Sacramento Children's Fund in 2022. Now, as chairs of the Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission and the Sacramento Youth Commission respectively, we are actively involved in planning the implementation of the fund.

We want to begin by thanking the youth, adult allies, city staff, and local representatives who supported this initiative through its various iterations. Establishing a Children's Fund in Sacramento took years of dedicated effort, driven by the youth and adult leaders of the Sac Kids First Coalition. Through the years, we held the belief that investing in our most underserved youth, children, and their families is crucial for the City's prosperity and that the fund itself has the potential to positively impact youth, children, and families for generations to come.

In this letter, we offer recommendations to present and future commissioners, city staff, and consultants as we continue to collaborate on the implementation of the Sacramento Children's Fund. To maximize the positive impact of the Children's Fund we believe every part of the process from planning to implementation must include the following components:

1) Center youth and community voices

We challenge future commissioners, consultants, and city staff to not just "consult" with the Sacramento Youth Commission (SYC) but to collaborate intentionally with the SYC to ensure the voices of Sacramento youth are honored throughout this process. To achieve this, we encourage both commissions to routinely hold joint meetings and collaborate with the City and community-based organizations to implement targeted approaches to engaging youth, especially those from communities most impacted by poverty, violence, and trauma.

This can be achieved by 1) engaging youth where it is convenient for them, in their schools and communities, and via trusted community-based organizations; 2) offering a variety of methods for youth to engage in the process, virtually or in-person while compensating them for their time and engagement; and 3) doing targeted, intentional outreach to youth and adult allies so that they are aware of the services and opportunities available to them.

2) Be transparent and accountable

As a part of the implementation process, it is also important to build trust within the broader community and ensure that the community can see the tangible benefits of the fund. This process involves 1) transparency at the onset of every new fiscal year by publicizing the amount of funding available online and where it can be accessed by the public; 2) collecting comprehensive data from funded projects so that progress can be measured; and 3) engaging with youth and community members at every stage of the process to learn about their experience as funded entities or recipients of services.

Letter from the Chairs

The evaluation process should be specific, thorough, and transparent, allowing us to measure impact accurately and make data-driven decisions. If our goal is to create lasting positive change in the lives of Sacramento's children, we need to be transparent about the process we are engaging in to get there.

3) Emphasize equity

Both commissions must commit to integrating an equity lens in the strategic investment plan at the onset. To achieve this, we should expect to collaborate with the Sacramento Racial Equity Alliance, the Office of Diversity and Equity, and the Sacramento Racial Equity Committee. The City must also commit to using an equity-centered approach in its RFP and contracting process that aligns with the recommendations in the strategic investment plan (i.e. priority neighborhoods and populations). Most importantly, our efforts must continuously uplift the voices of Sacramento youth who often are left out of the process. Therefore, commissioners and city staff must ensure youth from the most underrepresented and impacted communities are included in the community engagement process.

In closing, we would like to express our appreciation to the active members of the Sacramento Youth Commission and the Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission who offered their expertise and experience to make this plan happen. Everyone from current and future appointed commissioners, city staff, local representatives, and community-based organizations has a role to play in the success of this fund, and this responsibility must be held with care. Together, we can ensure that the Sacramento Children's Fund remains a powerful force for equity and opportunity, empowering future generations of children, youth, and their families to thrive.

Sincerely,

Leo Hsu
Chair, Sacramento Youth Commission

Monica Ruelas Mares
Chair, Sacramento Children's Fund Planning
and Oversight Commission

I. Introduction

In November 2022, after years of youth-led community organizing and advocacy, voters in the City of Sacramento resoundingly approved the Sacramento Children and Youth Health and Safety Act. Also known as **Measure L**, this Act established the Sacramento Children’s Fund (SCF or “the Fund”) as a dedicated stream of sustained funding to support positive youth development and youth violence prevention programs for Sacramento children and youth less than 25 years of age.

“In five years, with thriving youths, Sacramento could be a vibrant and dynamic city. We might see more community involvement, innovative ideas, and a strong sense of youth empowerment, more youth-led initiatives, and a positive impact on the city. There would be a good change.”
- Youth focus group participant

The money for the SCF comes from local cannabis business operations tax (CBOT) revenue. Specifically, the SCF receives 40% of the annual revenue generated from the CBOT. This amounts to an estimated \$8-10 million annually in resources dedicated toward child and youth services, in addition to the City’s existing budget allocations.

Measure L identified five fund goals that provide overarching direction for investing available funds in the Sacramento community:

- Goal 1: Support the mental health and emotional wellness of youth
- Goal 2: Prevent and reduce youth homelessness
- Goal 3: Prevent and reduce youth substance abuse
- Goal 4: Prevent and reduce youth violence
- Goal 5: Support the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5

Planning and Oversight Commission

Measure L also created a nine-member Sacramento Children’s Fund Planning and Oversight Commission (SCF Commission) consisting of one member appointed by the Mayor and one member appointed by each of the City Council Members representing the eight council districts in the City.

In partnership with the Sacramento Youth Commission, the SCF Commission is tasked with developing and refining a five-year strategic investment plan to guide the distribution of available funds, reviewing funded program performance and evaluation reports, and making recommendations to the City Council regarding investments in child and youth services.

Strategic Investment Plan

The following five-year (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2029) Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) is organized around the five fund goals, each with a statement on the envisioned outcome, followed by a brief narrative that underscores the challenges to be addressed and opportunities to be advanced for that goal area. Options for strategies to achieve desired outcomes for each of the fund goals follow, with an emphasis on approaches that support the specific needs and experiences of children and youth most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence. Recommendations for funding allocations, fund management, and public accountability to evaluate progress toward achieving the fund goals are also

I. Introduction

provided. Taken together, the components of this plan provide an articulation of values, intent, and accountability founded on the following statement of mission, vision, and guiding principles.

Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

Mission Statement:

The SCF provides a dedicated stream of sustained funding to support positive youth development and youth violence prevention programs for Sacramento's children and youth from birth to age 24.

Vision Statement:

All children and youth in Sacramento, especially those most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, will have equitable access to the power, conditions, opportunities, and experiences that enable them to fully participate, prosper, and achieve their optimal potential.

Guiding Principles:

As with all City of Sacramento-supported programs for children and youth, the SCF is committed to adhering to and deliberately taking action that aligns with the values, social justice principles, and research-based supports and opportunities outlined in the [Citywide Youth Development Plan & Framework for Children and Youth Programs](#).

Value Statements:

- **Youth Voice:** Honor the youth mantra, "Nothing about us without us."
- **Elimination of Systemic Barriers:** Actively seek ways to break systemic barriers so that youth have access and ability to fully utilize resources and supports.
- **Cultural Humility:** Acknowledge individual and institutional biases, accepting that there are gaps in our knowledge and being open to new ideas.
- **Mutual Respect:** Build relationships through developing a culture of mutual respect and inclusivity.
- **Integrity:** Conduct our work in an honest, moral, ethical, and accountable manner.
- **Innovation:** Recognize that the status quo is unacceptable if it is not improving the lives of Sacramento's children and youth, and thus, we call for thinking outside of the box to better support our youngest residents.
- **Courage:** Have the audacity to take risks, stand up for what is right, and address the most challenging situations is unquestionable.

Social Justice Principles:

- Analyze power in social relationships
- Promote systemic social change
- Make identity central
- Encourage collective action
- Embrace youth culture

Supports and Opportunities:

- **Safety**
 - Emotional
 - Physical
 - Cultural
- **Relationship-Building**
 - With adults
 - With peers
- **Skill-Building**
 - Challenging
 - Interesting
 - Leading to growth and mastery
- **Youth Participation**
 - Input and decision-making
 - Opportunities for leadership
 - Sense of belonging
- **Community Involvement**
 - Ability to impact community

I. Introduction

Local Data & Community Input Informing the Strategic Investment Plan

This Strategic Investment Plan was informed by a multipronged approach to gathering local data and community input that began in early 2024 with a landscape analysis of child and youth needs and services. A series of community listening sessions and interviews were also conducted to gather feedback from youth, families, and service providers.

A common theme emerged: neighborhoods across Sacramento differ significantly in their access to the social, economic, and environmental resources and conditions that allow children, youth, and their families to thrive. These disparities include varying availability of quality schools and afterschool activities, safe housing, healthy food, parks, clean air, transportation access, and economic opportunities. Such differences in neighborhood opportunity fundamentally shape young people's experiences and outcomes related to the fund goals. Historic and present-day laws, policies, and practices rooted in racial discrimination and economic exclusion have contributed to these inequities, including restrictive zoning, racial covenants, redlining, displacement through urban renewal, and segregated public housing. As a result, not all young people in Sacramento have equal access to the local resources and conditions that enrich their development and maximize their potential. For more detailed information, see the [SCF Research Findings](#) and the [SCF Community Engagement Findings](#).

"I've had 20 years of being in North Sacramento. There has been a historic disinvestment of infrastructure, facilities, and programming for residents. The economic impact alone for the community is really an underlying factor for all five [fund goal] areas."
- CBO focus group participant

The SCF Commission sought a data-informed way to measure important differences in the landscape of opportunity for children and youth across neighborhoods. Two complementary methods for identifying neighborhood inequity are the [Child Opportunity Index \(COI\)](#)^[iii] and the [Sacramento Equity Explore Design \(SEED\) tool](#).^[iv] The COI and the SEED Equity Index tool each aim to identify the quality of resources and conditions that influence the healthy development and life chances of children and youth in the City's 152 census tracts (or neighborhoods, see Appendix Table 1).

These composite indices use more than 40 indicators across multiple domains to provide comparable measures of inequity across neighborhoods. Data encompassed across these indices include: the availability and quality of neighborhood institutions, such as quality schools and nonprofits; peer and adult influences that help shape children's norms and expectations, such as the high school graduation rate and high-skill employment rate for adults; neighborhood social structure and economic resources, such as the poverty rate, broadband access, and mobility-enhancing friendship networks; environmental quality, such as air pollution; and resources for healthy living, such as green space, access to healthy foods, and walkability.

I. Introduction

Figure 1 visualizes the distribution of neighborhood opportunity with an overlay of COI scores and SEED tool scores within the City of Sacramento. These scores are used to categorize neighborhoods into levels, ranging from very low- to very high-opportunity (COI) and from the lowest to highest equity quintile (SEED tool), respectively, relative to other neighborhoods in the area.

The SCF recognizes the benefits of channeling funds to support young people and families in meeting their basic needs in neighborhoods with the most limited conditions and fewest resources for positive development and future success. This approach is not about benefiting one group or one neighborhood at the expense of another. Rather, when strategies are tailored to the needs of communities farthest from resources, opportunities improve for all. The SCF Commission recommends prioritizing the unique needs and experiences of children and youth in very low-opportunity neighborhoods (red squares in Figure 1) or neighborhoods within the lowest equity quintile (blue shading in Figure 1). While these areas may receive priority consideration in funding decisions, all entities proposing to serve children and youth, particularly youth most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, are equally encouraged to apply and contribute to the mission of the SCF.

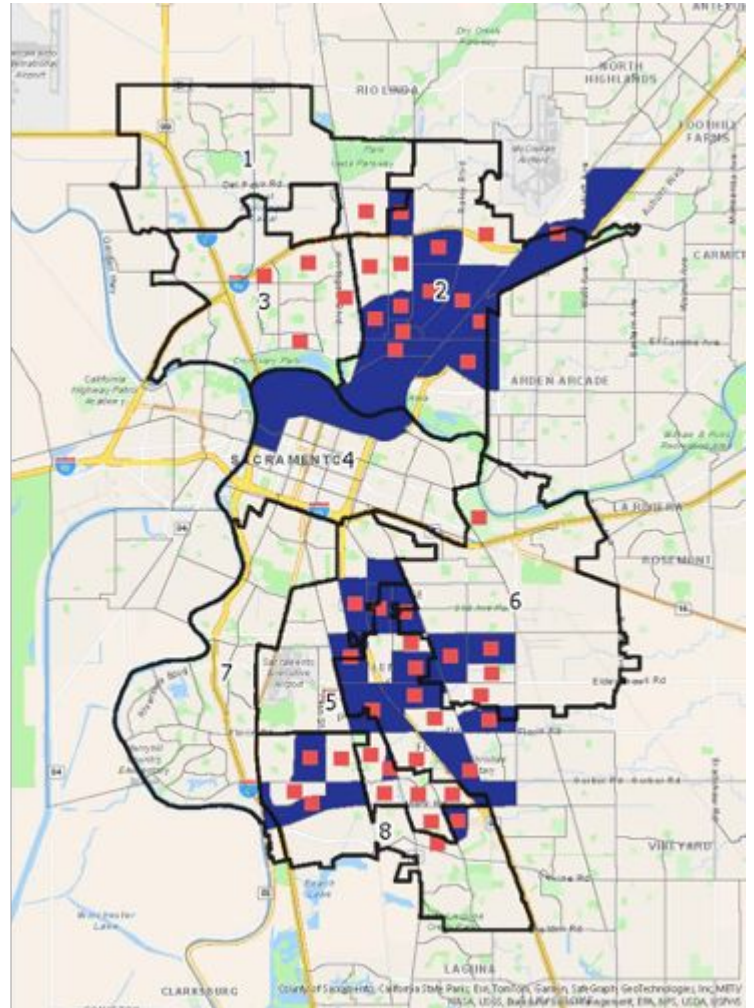


Figure 1. Distribution of neighborhood opportunity in the City of Sacramento, by City Council District

I. Introduction

Children and Youth Most Impacted by Poverty, Trauma, and Violence

The City of Sacramento has a rich history of diverse communities and cultures, as well as vibrant neighborhood histories; however, many of our children and youth continue to struggle with poverty, trauma, and violence. Measure L prioritizes those children and youth with the greatest need for resources and supports. The profile below provides a snapshot of current conditions disproportionately impacting a subset of Sacramento children and youth.

Profile of Children and Youth Living in Sacramento:

The City of Sacramento includes almost 165,000 children and youth (ages 0-24 years) residents.

- 1 in 5 children and youth live in a household with income below the poverty line.^[v]
- There are a total of 1,110 children and youth (0-21 years) in foster care; 242 of these youth were 18-21.^[vi]

Mental Health and Emotional Wellness

- 41% of 11 Grade students report experiencing chronic sadness/hopelessness in the past 12 months.^[vii]
- 3,034 children and youth were admitted to an Emergency Department for injuries related to self-harm. Seventy children and youth died by suicide (2020-23).^[viii]

Homelessness and Foster Youth

- The 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count estimated that 10% of the unhoused in Sacramento were children under 18, and 7% were youth between 18 and 24.^[ix]
- Those youth in, or transitioning out, of foster care are at a heightened risk for homelessness. One out of every four (25%) of all unhoused individuals surveyed in the 2024 Sacramento PIT shared that they had once been in foster care or lived in a group home before they were an adult.^[x]

Substance Abuse

- Fourteen percent of 11th graders in Sacramento self-reported using drugs or alcohol one more days in the past 30 days.^[xi]
- In Sacramento, fentanyl deaths for youth under 25 nearly tripled from 2019 to 2023 (14 to 38 deaths).^[xii]

Violence

- Between 2020-2022, there were 86 child and youth homicides in the city, including 26 homicides among children ages 0-17, an increase from zero between 2018-2019. Black youth (15-24) are almost nine times more likely to die from homicide than White youth.^[xiii]
- Only half of Sacramento County students (grade 7-11) feel safe in school. LGBTQ+ students report the lowest percentages of feeling safe in school.^[xiv]

Early Childhood Development

- Less than half of the children (45%) served by First 5 Sacramento were read to at least five days a week.^[xv]
- Child care spaces are available in Sacramento for only 28% of the children who need them.^[xvi]

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

This section discusses the status of Sacramento's children and youth in relation to each of the five fund goals and are accompanied by opportunity statements that envision future outcomes over the next five years. Recommended strategies to achieve each of these visions are discussed below. Strategies were identified through community input and demonstrated effectiveness, as well as alignment with the mission, vision, and goals of the SCF. Additional data can be found in Third Plateau's [SCF Research Findings Report](#).

Goal 1. Support the mental health and emotional wellness of youth

Opportunity Statement: All children and youth in Sacramento have fair and just opportunity to reach their highest level of mental health and emotional well-being.

The mental health and emotional wellness of children and youth is a critical aspect of development and foundational to lifelong health and overall well-being. Positive mental health enables young people to navigate the complexities of day-to-day life, build meaningful relationships, adapt to change, utilize relevant coping mechanisms, have their needs met, and realize their purpose and optimal potential. Yet rates of youth depression and anxiety, as well as youth suicide ideation, attempts, and deaths, even among younger youth, have been on the rise for years and remain unacceptably high.

"I work in a psychiatric facility and I see so many adolescents that do not have coping skills, healthy habits, access to mental health education and mental health care...Mental health is so important. Mentally unwell adolescents don't disappear. They become adults that feel helpless, experience homelessness."

- Youth focus group participant

In California, American Indian and Alaska Native youth ages 10-24 experienced the highest suicide death rate from 2018-2022; Black youth experienced the greatest increase in rate; and Latinx youth experienced the largest absolute number of deaths due to suicide.^[xvii] A statewide survey in 2021 additionally found that 44% of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and/or questioning (LGBTQ) youth ages 13-24 had seriously considered suicide and 14% had attempted suicide in the past year.^[xviii] Sacramento's youth are disproportionately impacted: from 2018-2022, the suicide death rate among Sacramento area youth was 8% higher than the state overall; and, in a 2022-23 survey, more than 1 in 3 Sacramento City middle and high school students said they had experienced chronic sadness or hopelessness in the past 12 months.^[xix]

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing mental health risk factors, while also increasing exposure to new stressors, especially for children and youth with minoritized and marginalized identities who face unique challenges due to inequities in insurance status, fear and distrust of health care providers, institutional and interpersonal racism, implicit bias, and difficulty accessing culturally relevant providers. Mental health problems and emotional distress can interfere with children's functioning, learning, and behavior; older youth may use substances or act in ways that elevate their risk for unhealthy outcomes; and research suggests that unmet mental health needs contribute to youth homelessness and increased involvement with the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Options for Strategies to Achieve Goal 1

The SCF supports youth-driven, culturally-affirming, and trauma-responsive strategies that are coordinated, equitable, appropriate, timely, sustainable, and accessible, so that all children and youth have fair and just opportunity to develop and maintain positive mental health, as well as access to affordable and effective early intervention, treatment, and recovery care when, where, and in the ways they need it most. These include^[xx]:

- **Increasing mental health literacy:** Increase knowledge and understanding of how to develop and maintain positive mental health, especially peer modeling programs, as well as skills that support how to effectively engage in help-seeking while also removing systemic barriers to access.
- **Developing healthy cultural identities:** Focus on promotion of strength-based, culturally grounded protective factors over reduction of risk to help build a sense of belonging while countering stigmatization of impacted populations and communities.
- **Enhancing social, emotional, and behavioral learning:** Promote social skills and emotional development by focusing on self-management, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, and social and self-awareness while enhancing connectedness to peers, adults, and community.
- **Providing cognitive behavioral interventions:** Teach skills for emotional regulation, anxiety management, and problem solving to address disruptive thoughts and behaviors in ways that are culturally adaptive or tailored to meet the unique needs of young people and families.
- **Reducing access to lethal means:** Promote safety by removing or securing access to dangerous items such as guns, medications, or other household items that could be used to cause harm to oneself or others in a “moment of crisis.”

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Goal 2. Prevent and reduce youth homelessness, especially among youth transitioning out of foster care^[xxi]

Opportunity Statement: All children and youth in Sacramento have a safe and stable place to live and the resources needed to sustainably meet their basic needs.

Housing has a profound impact on the lives of children and youth. Stable housing roots young people in communities, helping to meet basic human needs for safety, support, and belonging and enabling them to access opportunities that are necessary for healthy development and to achieve their optimal potential. Stable housing is linked to increased educational achievement for children and youth; greater family stability; improved job security and access to other family resources, including receipt of public benefits; better health and mental health outcomes throughout life; and stronger communities, as young people can establish durable ties to neighbors and the places they live.^[xxii]

By contrast, children and youth experiencing inadequate housing, frequent housing transitions, and homelessness, especially youth experiencing homelessness without a parent or guardian, are more likely to endure threats to their health, safety, and well-being, including: missing school, resulting in higher rates of problem behavior and dropping out, experiencing poverty, and becoming involved in the juvenile justice system; mental health problems, including suicidal ideation and attempts; substance misuse; violence exposure and injury, including physical and sexual assault and sex and labor trafficking; and unhealthy survival strategies, including stealing, selling drugs, or exchanging sex for basic needs.

“In my situation, I experienced homelessness because I didn't have the ability to afford an apartment when the pandemic happened. No one checked in on me, and my foster family was collecting AB20 money. I had no job. So, making sure youth have these funds up until they're 21 and have housing stability to reduce youth homelessness [is important].”

- Youth focus group participant

Differing definitions of homelessness and varied research methodologies mean that no single data source provides a complete picture of youth homelessness. In California, depending on the source, annual numbers of children and youth experiencing homelessness can range from 26,000 to 226,000.^[xxiii] In Sacramento County, an estimated 340 unaccompanied children and youth were found to be homeless and unsheltered during the 2022 point-in-time count, with an additional 213 young people staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens; transition age (TA) youth ages 18-24 accounted for the overwhelming majority (94%) of this population.^[xxiv] Youth who identify as LGBTQ; pregnant and parenting youth; youth with special needs or disabilities; and minoritized youth, particularly Black and American Indian and Alaska Native youth; as well as youth with a history of involvement with the foster care and juvenile justice systems, particularly TA youth exiting foster care, have elevated risk of experiencing homelessness.^[xxv]

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Options for Strategies to Achieve Goal 2

The SCF supports additional and coordinated investments in cross-system strategies that focus on root causes, advance equity, and are informed by the strengths and perspectives of youth, so that all young people have a safe and stable place to live, as well as access to the resources needed to exit homelessness and meet their basic needs as they prepare for and enter adulthood. These include ^[xxvi]:

- **Direct, unrestricted cash transfers:** increase access to cash assistance, including one-time payments to help avert a potential crisis, as well as longer-term income payments to make housing and other basic necessities more affordable
- **Prioritizing family support and reunification:** intervene early to avoid a young person separating from their family in the first place, and support youth experiencing homelessness to return home to family when safe and appropriate
- **Expanding housing programs:** when family reunification is not possible, offer coordinated short- and long-term housing options, including both rapid re-housing assistance and permanent supportive housing tailored for youth with a demonstrated need for the most intensive services
- **Improving supportive crisis responses:** increase local crisis housing capacity so that no young person remains unsheltered, including flexible shelter responses, host homes, and other safe, low-barrier crisis housing options
- **Street outreach:** build relationships with youth experiencing homelessness to provide street-based services such as survival aid and resources to move youth into stable housing and prepare them for independence

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Goal 3. Prevent and reduce youth substance abuse

Opportunity Statement ^[xxvii, xxviii]: All children and youth in Sacramento have access to the supports and services they deserve to address unhealthy patterns of substance use.

Addressing early exposure to and frequent use of substances among youth is important for healthy brain development and can prevent both short-term harm and lifelong chronic substance use disorders. Unhealthy patterns of using substances—such as nicotine, alcohol, cannabis, illicit drugs, and prescription drugs—often co-occur with mental health and wellness problems and can lead to negative impacts on educational success, including repeated absences, suspension, and expulsion; physical and mental health dangers, including driving while impaired; stressed or fractured family and peer relationships; and increased involvement with the juvenile justice system; and can also develop into substance use dependence, other chronic diseases, and contribute to social and financial insecurities in adulthood.

The youth substance use landscape has shifted over the years. With few exceptions, use of substances continued an overall downward trend from 2020 to 2021 and largely held steady in 2022 and 2023^[xxix]; however, substance use, including misuse of prescription opioids, remains a salient public health challenge.^[xxx] Sacramento, like many regions across the country, continues to confront a concerning epidemic of opioid overdose deaths, including and increasingly among youth. While the opioid overdose death rate in Sacramento County is nearly equivalent to the state rate among older youth ages 20-24, the rate among youth ages 15-19 is nearly 40% higher in Sacramento County than the state overall.^[xxxi] Deaths involving illicitly manufactured fentanyl, an especially potent synthetic opioid, are particularly concerning given the social media proliferation and marketing to youth of counterfeit pills that may contain fentanyl or other illicit drugs that increase overdose risk. Increases in cannabis potency, alcohol by volume, vapor products that ease access to nicotine and cannabis, and multiple substance use also mean that for youth who use, the risks of harm are higher than ever before.

“[It’s] unnerving to be walking through the hallway and smelling weed, or in classrooms. [It’s] hard to get into the bathroom because girls are smoking and vaping...It’s socially acceptable to post pics of them vaping - but why is it so accessible? School is not doing anything about it.”
- Youth focus group participant

Biological and personality factors interact with multiple sources of life stress to place youth at unequal risk of substance use problems. Exposure to these socially based stressors, such as poverty, hunger and food insecurity, community violence and trauma, family instability, homelessness, and discrimination, is more common among youth with disadvantaged social status and those with minoritized and marginalized identities, who may be more vulnerable to unhealthy coping responses owing to the chronicity of adverse stress exposures and overwhelmed psychosocial coping resources. Individual-level interventions, medical care, and treatment can address consequences of these socially based stressors, while upstream interventions, such as those that seek to improve the conditions in which young people live via changes in policies, housing, neighborhood conditions, and increased socioeconomic status, can reduce exposure to the social drivers of substance use vulnerability.^[xxxii]

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Options for Strategies to Achieve Goal 3

The SCF supports holistic, equitable, culturally appropriate, and youth-friendly prevention, early intervention, and treatment strategies that empower youth to make their own decisions around substance use and take ownership, so that all children and youth in Sacramento have access to the supports and services they need and deserve to make healthy choices and thrive even in the face of challenges. These include:

- **Screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment:** Focus on wellness-based responses, rather than disciplinary ones, that offer screening to assess the severity of use, brief interventions focused on motivational interviews to promote awareness and behavior change, and referral to treatment for unhealthy substance use and specialty care.
- **Integrating harm reduction:** Help youth improve their knowledge and decision-making around substance use to reduce stigmatization of use and minimize negative health, social, and legal harms, including lifesaving practices like carrying naloxone and testing substances before trying them.
- **Developing positive coping skills:** Empower young people with healthy coping mechanisms such as mindfulness, relaxation techniques, exercise, creative expression, and problem-solving skills, leveraging peers themselves as resources and support.
- **Build youth power to address socially based stressors:** Empower young people to mobilize and dismantle oppressive systems in their communities such as poverty, trauma, or lack of access to mental health services that play a role in creating vulnerability to unhealthy substance use.

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Goal 4. Prevent and reduce youth violence

Opportunity Statement: All children and youth in Sacramento grow up with safety and without the fear, threat, or reality of community violence harming them or their loved ones.

In too many communities—especially communities of color and low-wealth communities that have long suffered from disinvestment, lack of critical services, high levels of poverty, and racial and economic segregation—gun and community violence tragically and unjustly curtail opportunities for children and youth to participate, prosper, and realize their full potential. Research shows that youth exposure to and engagement in violence can have profound negative impacts on a broad range of physical and mental health outcomes, experiencing additional or other forms of violence, and myriad challenges across the lifespan, including barriers to education, employment, and housing. These consequences contribute to the cyclical nature of violence by increasing risk factors in the environments that surround youth and removing protective factors that could promote safe, healthy, and hopeful relationships, families, and communities.

“One of the issues is that for our young people, there's not a lot of options and opportunities for things to do...especially once they hit the 10-14 age range. You're not just going to go to the park or if you were at the park, it isn't safe in a lot of different places. Even though now they can ride the bus for free, there's not a lot for them to do on a regular basis. Once in a while, there's an event or activity, but... during the school year, there doesn't seem to be a lot of space for that group to just be. Without that, they'll go into spaces where they can't and that'll lead to some issues.”
- Caregiver focus group participant

The COVID-19 pandemic contributed to record increases in gun and community violence in cities across the country.^[xxxiii] Between 2020-2022, there were 26 homicides among children ages 0-17 within the city limits compared to zero homicides from 2018-2019.^[xxxiv] The health and safety burden of this violence is grossly uneven, reflecting the concentration of violence in specific neighborhoods and within small networks of young people who are at the center of risk for causing harm. Compared with the state overall, children and youth in Sacramento have a more than three-fold higher rate of homicide. Older youth ages 15-24 account for the largest share of these deaths, with a homicide death rate in 2022 that is nearly double the overall rate among children and youth in the city. Two in three homicides involving Sacramento's children and youth in 2022 were among young people identified as Black or Latinx, with Black youth experiencing a homicide death rate nearly three times higher than the overall rate for children and youth in the city.^[xxxv]

Despite mounting recognition of violence as a preventable public health problem, the tendency to rely on reactive and punitive responses to youth violence and problem behaviors remains common. In non-violence situations where there is no public safety risk, such as classroom disruption, use of profanity, misbehavior on public transit, fighting or truancy, harsh discipline policies and law enforcement-involvement can be counterproductive. Actions like school suspension or expulsion and ticketing or arrest, often push vulnerable youth away from school and employment, potentially into the juvenile justice system. This effect, particularly impacting youth with minoritized and marginalized identities, foster youth, and those with disabilities, contributes to the identified “school-to-prison pipeline.”

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Options for Strategies to Achieve Goal 4

The SCF supports community-directed strategies that address three key elements of violence prevention and response. First, strategies should target the unhealthy conditions that cause unequal vulnerability to violence. Second, programs should focus on those youth that are at the highest risk of violence. Finally, individual and community healing and transformation in the aftermath of violence should be centered as an important part of prevention. These strategies are intended to ensure all young people can grow up with safety and without the fear, threat, or reality of violence harming them or their loved ones. These include:

- **Community-based violence intervention:** Establish strong relationships and intervene with young people at the center of risk for violence, leveraging people and organizations with influence and credibility to provide:
 - Intensive life coaching and supportive services for active offenders
 - Street outreach to interrupt and mediate imminent violent conflicts
 - Crisis response and direct support for victims of violence
- **School-based safety programming:** Create school environments that are socially predictable, consistent, safe, and positive by supporting children and youth with conflict mediation skills and restorative justice practices rather than punitive measures.
- **Workforce development and employment:** Invest in improving employment outcomes, including civilian job corps, paid internships and summer jobs for youth, soft skills training, and job placement.
- **Youth leadership and empowerment:** Strengthen and expand civic engagement training for youth to activate their lived experiences and hone their leadership and advocacy skills.

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Goal 5. Support the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5

Opportunity Statement: | All young children in Sacramento have the care, relationships, and resources needed to thrive and to begin school safe, healthy, and empowered to succeed.

There is a strong body of evidence affirming the importance of early childhood for every person's future development, health, and well-being. Early childhood is marked by rapid brain development, which supports cognitive skills and is linked to physical and emotional development, including heart and lung function, digestion, immune response, and emotion regulation. This is also the time when the brain is most "plastic" or flexible, allowing young children to adapt to a wide range of exposures. The ways in which development proceeds are fundamentally shaped by a child's early environment, interactions, and experiences, especially their relationships with parents and caregivers. Stable and strong early foundations provide opportunities to affect lifelong learning, behavior, and physical and mental health.

““[There] already wasn't enough places for high-quality learning, then pandemic happened and all supports went online. [We] lost childcare centers and places where kids could go and have a half day of a good learning experience. [They are] still getting built back up; some never came back.”
- City staff focus group participant

Research identifies three key factors for building stronger early foundations in children: 1) constant, responsive relationships between children and adults; 2) healthy core skills of executive function and self-regulation; and 3) low stress, especially the absence of toxic stress and adverse childhood experiences.^[xxxvi] Providing resources and supports to families of young children aimed at reducing stress, developing positive parenting skills, and securing basic needs further builds the foundation for healthy development. For example, affordable, quality childcare is a critical component in achieving these goals but is in short supply in Sacramento. The median annual cost of care in Sacramento County ranges from \$10,806 (for a family childcare home) to \$17,073 (for a childcare center), leaving many families with young children to live in a constant, stressful scramble to find quality care and early learning and school readiness opportunities.^[xxxvii]

A child's readiness to learn and read when they enter kindergarten is critical to lifelong learning, and can be strengthened through parent involvement, exposure to books, and quality preschool. Young children who do not have the opportunity to develop school readiness skills before entering Kindergarten continue to show gaps in learning throughout their education. Disparities that start in early school readiness are reflected in third grade learning; only 16% of Black children and 26% of Latinx children meet or exceeded the standard of English Language Arts, compared to 57% of White children and 51% of Filipino children.^[xxxviii]

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Options for Strategies to Achieve Goal 5

The SCF supports strategies that promote young children's healthy development by reinforcing the capabilities and resources of parents and caregivers, so that all children ages 0-5 in Sacramento have the care, relationships, and resources they need to thrive and to begin school safe, healthy, and empowered to succeed. These include:

- **Promoting early learning and school readiness:** Support early childhood literacy and learning to prepare young children for early school success, such as summer school programs for children entering kindergarten and programs that provide books free of charge.
- **Supporting responsive relationships:** Build caregivers' capabilities and resources to engage in supportive interaction and "sensitive caregiving," characterized by prompt and adequate response to a child's signals and needs.
- **Championing positive parenting skills and peer support:** Support caregivers to build positive parenting skills to successfully manage the stressors of parenting young children, including home visitation programs and parent-to-parent programs.
- **Providing economic supports to reduce sources of life stress:** Create the conditions in which families are able and enabled to meet basic needs and build financial assets to withstand unexpected losses or emergencies, such as cash assistance and family support navigators.
- **Expanding childcare access:** Provide resources and opportunities, such as tuition vouchers and navigation and enrollment support, for families to access high-quality childcare for their young children.

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

Cross-Cutting Considerations and Approaches

The SCF recognizes the interconnections among the five goal areas and their relationships to common barriers and enablers to positive child and youth development. Integrated strategies that can address underlying causes and provide foundational supports are therefore strongly recommended.

Regardless of the individual fund goal, successful strategies include coordination and intentional cross-system collaborations in communities and across levels of government. The SCF Commission recommends programming that includes one or more of the following cross-cutting considerations related to service provision, delivery, and access:

Service Providers | In considering who provides services, effective strategies typically are led by:

- **Peers, centering youth voice:** Programs engage youth in authentic partnership, centering young people as the experts and leveraging peer-to-peer models where youth can support one another.
- **Caring, trusted adults:** In addition to peer-to-peer approaches, programs staff caring, responsive adults who create safe spaces and are held accountable.
- **People with shared experiences and identities:** Programs engage trusted messengers in mentorship roles who have shared backgrounds and lived experiences as the youth and communities they serve.

Service Delivery | In considering how services are delivered, effective strategies typically are:

- **Tailored to youth needs:** Programs center around unique youth needs, especially those identified by youth themselves, and allow youth to find support when, where, and in the way they need it.
- **Strengths-based:** Programs take an assets-driven approach and view the voices and critical insights of youth, especially impacted youth, as a necessary strength.
- **Culturally responsive and linguistically fluent:** Programs are culturally affirmative and linguistically accessible. This includes valuing and recognizing identity while building belonging.
- **Trauma-informed and healing-focused:** Programs center around healing and consider the impacts of trauma and traumatic stress. Offerings are restorative and non-punitive.
- **Holistic with wrap-around supports:** Programs prioritize wrap-around services to help young people in meeting complex needs through comprehensive and coordinated resources and supports.

Service Accessibility | In considering how young people and families utilize services, effective strategies typically are:

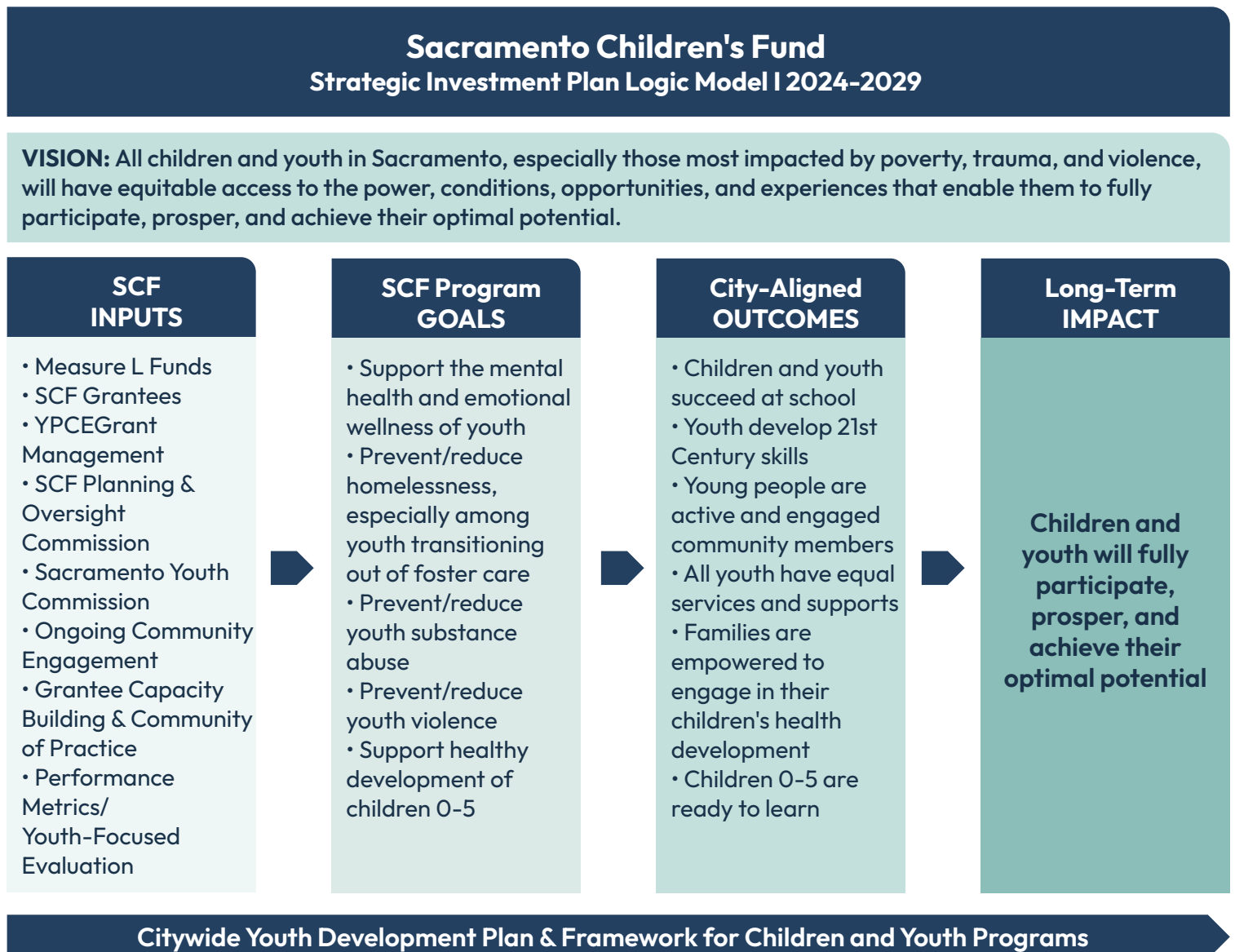
- **Accessible:** Programs are accessible to all youth, including youth with disabilities.
- **Place-based:** Programs are located or deeply rooted in the communities they serve and mindful of transportation access and barriers.
- **Free, low-cost:** Programs are offered for free or at a low-cost. When possible, programs offer stipends, compensation, or training credits for participation.
- **Located in safe, trusted, neutral spaces:** Programs leverage existing trusted and neutral community spaces.

II. Strategies For Investment By Fund Goal

2024-2029 Strategic Investment Plan Logic Model

This Strategic Investment Plan aims to make an impact in Sacramento over the next five years by supporting children and youth to fully participate, prosper, and achieve their optimal potential. The SCF Strategic Investment Plan Logic Model in **Figure 2** provides a high-level illustration of the key components of SCF implementation. It identifies the "inputs" as outlined in Measure L and this plan, as well as the five fund goals under which the SCF will finance program strategies for families, children, and youth. The model shows how these programs are expected to produce positive outcomes aligned with the Citywide Youth Development Plan, and how those outcomes contribute to long-term impacts for Sacramento's children and youth. Throughout the next five years, the implementation and management of the Strategic Investment Plan should adhere to the values, social justice principles, and support and opportunity frameworks identified in the Citywide Youth Development Plan.

Figure 2. SCF Strategic Investment Plan Logic Model



III. Investment Recommendations

The following recommendations^[1] were developed by the SCF Commission with input from the Sacramento Youth Commission. These recommendations aim to establish an equitable, sustainable, and transparent process for using the SCF dollars to support the City of Sacramento's children and youth. This Strategic Investment Plan assumes SCF supported programs and services will build on YPCE's existing programs and infrastructure and align, leverage, and coordinate with other public and private resources. This plan prioritizes children and youth who are most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, and it will be critical for YPCE and future grantees to coordinate with schools and County systems (e.g., MediCal, Child Protective Services, Probation, Sacramento County Office of Education, and First 5) to ensure SCF investments have maximum impact.

These recommendations follow the values outlined in the [Citywide Youth Development Plan & Framework for Children and Youth Programs](#) and underscore the importance of youth voice and the meaningful engagement of the residents of Sacramento in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the SCF, i.e., "Nothing about us, without us." Taking the learnings from this first strategic planning process, it is recommended that the City support ongoing community and youth engagement throughout the next five years of the SCF implementation.

Grants for Children and Youth Programs

The primary investment strategy is funding programs and direct services for children, youth, and their families that align with at least one of the fund goals. Given the complex needs of children and youth who are experiencing any of the five challenges outlined above, the SCF Commission encourages programs to be comprehensive, evidence-based, and innovative, addressing multiple goals as appropriate. This plan addresses the funding allocations for the next five fiscal years (FY24/25 through FY28/29) and includes the distribution of SCF funds accrued since FY23/24.

Grant Funding Structure

The SCF Commission recommends that funding available for grant making during the next five fiscal years should be structured in the following ways.

Multi-year grant cycles

The distribution of funds should be structured so that grants will be awarded through two separate competitive funding cycles.

The first grant cycle will be for 3 years, whereby grantees will apply to a competitive RFP for up to three years of funding. Funding will be dispersed annually, contingent upon grantee performance and fund availability. Grantees in the first funding cycle will be eligible to reapply for the second round of funding, in an open bid process.

The second grant cycle will be for 2 years, whereby grantees will apply to a competitive RFP for up to two years of funding. Funding will be dispersed annually, contingent upon grantee performance and fund availability.

^[1]YPCE staff will make good faith efforts to implement the recommendations made by the SCF Commission, upon approval by the City Council, recognizing operational constraints and resource needs may necessitate reasonable adaptations and flexibility in implementation.

III. Investment Recommendations

Funded Grants

The primary investment strategy for the SCF is funding programs and direct services for children, youth, and their families that align with **at least one of the SCF goals**. Given the complex needs of the most disadvantaged children and youth, we encourage programs to be comprehensive, evidence-based, and innovative, addressing multiple goals as appropriate.

Guaranteed income grants

The SCF Commission recommends multi-year grant funds be dedicated to support one or more grantees to provide guaranteed cash transfer programming for current or former foster youth ages 18-24. To optimize beneficial outcomes and improve economic security, funded programs should follow best practice by offering all participants optional wrap-around services, such as financial literacy courses, assistance in housing or job searches, or guidance in accessing other social safety net benefit programs. Given that guaranteed cash transfer payments are meant to supplement, rather than replace, the public benefits that young people may be eligible for or already receiving, public benefits counseling should be provided to all participants, before and during program enrollment, so that young people can make informed decisions regarding their initial and ongoing participation. The SCF Commission recommends that 20% of each grant cycle be dedicated to providing guaranteed cash transfer programming; however, it is understood that multiple factors will impact exact percentage allocations and other grantmaking decisions, including the number and type of grant proposals eligible for funding and annual fluctuations in the CBOT and the City's General Fund.

Open grants

The SCF Commission recommends the remaining grant cycle funding be awarded to a mix of proposals providing program strategies that address the five fund goal areas. This means that each grant cycle should fund a range of programmatic strategies that complement each other and have the potential to make the greatest impact for children, youth, and their families in Sacramento. The SCF Commission recommends that these individual grants be funded at a minimum of \$25,000 annually and a maximum of \$500,000 annually.

Grant Criteria

SCF grant proposals should be assessed through the City's competitive RFP and proposal selection process to ensure they are consistent with Section 120 of the Sacramento City Charter and meet the following criteria.

The following criteria are required for any SCF supported programs.

1) Goal Alignment | Align with at least one of the five fund goals. Programs that demonstrate capabilities to advance multiple fund goals may be given priority ^[2]

^[2] Being given "priority" is not a guarantee that an application advancing multiple program goals will be awarded funding, nor does it guarantee that an applicant who receives such priority will receive funding instead of other applicants who only advance one program goal. The advancement of multiple program goals will be included in the grant application scoring matrices, along with other scoring criteria.

III. Investment Recommendations

2) Most Impacted Populations | Reach children, youth, and families in the City of Sacramento who are most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, such as:

- Children, youth, and families who are low-income
- Children, youth, and families who are Black, Indigenous, Latino/e, Southeast Asian
- Youth or families who are unhoused
- Children and youth who identify as LGBTQ+
- Youth in or transitioning out of foster care
- Youth who are not in school or working
- Children and youth who have been involved in the juvenile or criminal legal systems
- Children and youth who are first generation immigrants or refugees
- Children and youth with disabilities

3) Underserved Populations | Demonstrate the ability to reach and serve those children, youth, and families that are not otherwise connected to programs or services.

4) Organizational Status | Be a public agency (including the City through its offices and departments) or nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) tax exemption status.

The following criteria are preferred^[3] for any SCF supported programs.

5) Priority Neighborhoods | Primarily serve youth in neighborhoods with the lowest levels of equity and/or the lowest levels of opportunity for children, as identified using the following tools:

- The [Child Opportunity Index](#) (COI) will be used to prioritize programs serving youth in neighborhoods with "very low" child opportunity.^[4]
- The [Sacramento Equity Explore Design \(SEED\) tool](#) will be used to prioritize programs serving youth in neighborhoods in the lowest quintile on the Sacramento Equity Index, indicating the lowest levels of equity.^{[5],[6]}
- Welfare Tax Exemption for Low Income Affordable Housing within the City of Sacramento.*

6) Citywide Youth Development Plan & Framework Alignment | Align with, and are informed by, the [Citywide Youth Development Plan & Framework for Children and Youth Programs](#), including its values, social justice principles, and research-based supports and opportunities.^[7] Specifically, the grant award criteria should include:

- Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward those youth in greatest need.

^[3] Meeting the preferred criteria does not guarantee an applicant will be awarded funding, nor does it guarantee that an applicant who satisfies the "preferred criteria" will receive funding instead of applicants who do meet the preferred criteria. The preferred criteria will be included in grant application scoring matrices, along with other scoring criteria.

^[4] The COI measures and maps the quality of resources and conditions that matter for children's healthy development in the neighborhoods where they live. The COI is a composite index comprised of 44 indicators in three domains (education, health and environment, and social and economic) and 14 subdomains.

^[5] The [Sacramento Equity Explore Design \(SEED\) Geographic Information System \(GIS\) Tool](#) applies a Sacramento Equity Index by rank percentile, using the following data: People of Color, linguistic isolation, income, employment, housing cost burden, educational attainment, disability status, policing and incarceration, technology access, health insurance, neighborhood redlining information, and pollution burden.

^[6] "Sacramento Equity Explore Design," The City of Sacramento, Office of Diversity and Equity and Information Technology-Geographic Information System, May 24 2024, <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ed1c486357884c06877c31f1fe4ee5c1>

^[7] "Youth Development Guide," 2001.

* The Welfare Tax Exemption for Low Income Affordable Housing was added by the Sacramento City Council.

III. Investment Recommendations

- Implement the Youth Development Framework practices in all program design, operations, and evaluation.
- Align, leverage, and/or coordinate with other public and private resources.^[8]
- Partner with existing programs, especially small, local community-based organizations (including those who are BIPOC-led/serving and/or have an annual budget under \$250,000).

7) Local | Be located in Sacramento County, including the City of Sacramento.

Allocations by Grantee Type | It is recommended that community-based organizations receive approximately 50% of programmatic grant funding*. Community-based organizations are well positioned to leverage and complement public programs, while expanding programmatic reach to children and youth most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, and who have not historically been served by existing programming.

Grant Selection Process

The selection of SCF grants must be based on an open, transparent, and competitive process and should align with YPCE's current granting process. In addition, the SCF Commission makes the following recommendations to ensure a transparent and fair process, YPCE and the selection committee should:

- **Conduct a robust outreach effort** to inform grassroots organizations within the communities of focus about the RFP processes, especially those organizations that have not been previously funded by the City.
- **Maximize competition** by reducing administrative burden and promoting a diverse group of grant applicants.
- **Provide technical assistance to CBOs** as needed in the application process.
- Include two members from the SCF Commission in the review of applications.
- **Implement transparent processes.** Post the outcomes of the selection process on the Measure L web page within 90 days of the finalization of the RFP process.

Grant Administration with an Equity Lens

SCF grants will be managed by the City of Sacramento following existing grants management policies. The City should review administrative processes to ensure all organizations that meet the SCF criteria outlined above can successfully apply for and meet the requirements associated with the City's grant administration process, and specifically, that smaller community-based organizations will not be excluded by administrative requirements. In addition, the SCF Commission recommends that the City intentionally implement best practices for managing SCF grants for ensuring equitable and impactful grant-making, including:^[9]

- Reduce administrative burden of grant management. Reduce administrative burden to minimize the need to use SCF for program services (e.g., streamlining proposal and reporting asks).

^[8] Scoring criteria will take into account the level of matching funds or in-kind services proposed. All public agencies (other than the City) are already required to provide matching funds, so this preference will not apply to them.

^[9] Best Practices for grant-making and supporting CBO capacity building with an equity lens include: <https://www.trustbasedphilanthropy.org/practices>; https://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/2021-9/CA_CBOs_Covid_Report_FINAL_20190908_0.pdf; <https://www.geofunders.org/resources/reimagining-capacity-building-navigating-culture-systems-power-1340>

*This recommendation was modified by the Sacramento City Council. The original SCF commission recommendation was that CBOs receive approximately 65% of programmatic grant funding.

III. Investment Recommendations

- **Provide advanced payment for funding.** Provide a payment of up to 50% annual grant award upon execution of the contract to ensure programs have the resources necessary to plan, staff, and execute program services in a timely manner.
- **Balance trust-based practices with accountability measures,** ensuring the City receives agreed upon output/outcomes data and can monitor and terminate grants, as needed.
- **Be responsive to emerging needs and events.** Keep a pulse on local community needs and revisit investment strategies, as needed, to adapt to the changing environment.
- **Gather and take action on grantee feedback.** Solicit feedback to support continued program improvement, year over year. Share findings with SCF Commissioners to support adjustments and improvements to the Strategic Investment Plan.
- **Encourage, facilitate, and leverage collaboration, as possible.** Support collaborative efforts across organizations and convene partners to creatively address shared challenges.
- Prioritize efforts that demonstrate they are **successfully expanding access** for those youth in greatest need and the hardest-to-reach communities, including those who have not previously been engaged in services.

Management of the Sacramento Children's Fund

Sacramento Children's Fund management should follow the intent of Measure L and maximize its collective impact in supporting children and youth in Sacramento. Recommendations for critical aspects of the SCF management are detailed below, including: ongoing community engagement; grantee capacity building; grant and performance measurement; and an external evaluation of the Strategic Investment Plan that centers the voices of the youth and families.

Ongoing Engagement & Capacity Building

The SCF Commission recommends robust communication and engagement strategies be integrated into the management of the SCF. This engagement should take place on multiple levels within Sacramento and its communities.

Community Engagement | Culturally appropriate and accessible materials should be developed to inform and promote SCF programming within Sacramento's priority neighborhoods and populations. SCF community engagement should build public recognition of the Fund programming, its goals, and accomplishments, and serve to increase access to programming among those children, youth, and families, especially those that may not have been previously connected to City youth services. This ongoing community engagement should facilitate contact points and outlets for which to seamlessly gather input for the next strategic investment planning process. Special attention should be given to conducting communication and engagement through the methods and media that are most effective at reaching youth and their families.

Social, Educational, and Youth Services Engagement | The SCF Commission recommends that the SCF staff have ongoing engagement with the social service, educational, and youth-focused organizations and institutions that make up the local infrastructure for serving Sacramento's families, children, and youth. The focus of the SCF is to serve the children and youth most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, and it is expected these participants of SCF programming will have complex needs and may require multiple layers of support. YPCE staff should actively engage with relevant entities, agencies,

III. Investment Recommendations

and task forces that are working towards supporting children, youth, and their families in Sacramento. This includes school districts, libraries, and County social support agencies in order to leverage the established infrastructures, planning, and coordination of services.

Grantee Capacity Building | The SCF Commission recommends that the SCF support ongoing engagement with grantees as valued partners in serving the children, youth, and families of Sacramento. Ongoing grantee engagement should facilitate coordination, alignment, leveraging, and collaboration across SCF-funded programs focused on shared challenges and opportunities through mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communication, and a backbone system of support. Grantees should be provided with resources to build and sustain their administrative and programmatic capacity with the intention of maximizing their individual and collective effectiveness in supporting children, youth, and their families in Sacramento. The SCF Commission recommends coordinating an ongoing grantee community of practice to include trainings, strategic organizational support, networking, and sharing of best practice around the fund goal areas, as well as holding a grantee convening at least annually. This ongoing engagement with grantees is critical in identifying ongoing and emergent issues impacting children and youth in Sacramento and increasing the effectiveness of grantees to develop creative and collaborative solutions for addressing them in concert.

SCF Measurement and Evaluation

Monitoring and measuring the work and impacts of the SCF will be integral to providing data for continuous improvement and grantee learning regarding how to best serve the families, children, and youth of Sacramento. In addition to measuring the work of the individual grantees' programs, it will be important to learn from this inaugural Strategic Investment Plan and the overall impact of the SCF for Sacramento.

Grantee Performance and Outcome Measurement

The SCF Commission recommends that SCF grantee requirements align with YPCE's grantee performance measurement process and their Citywide Youth Development Plan and Framework to reduce the need for a parallel measurement system and to ensure transparency in achieving citywide outcomes. The YPCE grant team will routinely review key performance indicators such as the selection of CBOs, recruitment and enrollment of intended youth, services provided, progress on program benchmarks, and feedback from participants, CBOs, caretakers and parents, and the community. Performance measurement results should inform any technical assistance required to support the success and sustainability of funded programs. YPCE will work with grantees to identify strategy-specific indicators that contribute to the city-aligned outcomes, ensuring that these indicators are feasible to collect and can measure change over the course of the grant period.

In addition to grant-level outcome measures, initiative-wide indicators should also be measured and reported to track how SCF are advancing the Citywide Youth Development Plan and Framework. When available, these indicators should be disaggregated to highlight the status of those most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence.

III. Investment Recommendations

Youth-Focused External Evaluator

In addition to YPCE's grantee performance measurement process, the SCF Commission recommends that the City use available administrative resources to hire an external evaluation contractor to evaluate the implementation and outcomes of this five year Strategic Investment Plan as a whole. This approach is crucial for understanding the collective impact of SCF programming and informing the next plan. This contractor should have demonstrated experience conducting evaluations in a manner that is culturally competent, trauma informed, and centers the experience of children, youth, and their families in its assessment of initiatives.

The Sacramento Citywide Youth Plan explicitly centers youth voice and provides opportunities for input, decision-making, and leadership. As a requirement, the evaluator should have experience integrating youth voice into evaluation processes (e.g., using a youth evaluation advisory board, implementing Youth Participatory Evaluation, conducting Photovoice, etc.) and experience working with Sacramento communities. The evaluation design should utilize creative and effective approaches to measure the overall implementation of the SCF Strategic Investment Plan, including alignment to the vision, values and strategies recommended, such as the quality and level of community and youth engagement, and success in reaching and serving those youth that have the greatest needs, reducing disparities in access and outcomes, and applying a racial equity lens to the implementation.

Estimated Funds Available

The amount of budget available for the SCF is expected to vary annually, with cannabis sales and revenue generated from the City's resulting Cannabis Business Operation Tax (CBOT). The annual budgets available for this Strategic Investment Plan are estimated below in Table 1. These estimates are based upon the SCF allocation from the 23/24 CBOT revenue and do not account for annual accrued interest or potential roll-over of unspent funds.

Total Estimated Fund | This Strategic Investment Plan covers the fiscal years 24/25 to 28/29, with the allocation from fiscal year 23/24 also being available for the SCF. The SCF will have an estimated total budget of approximately \$44 million dollars.

Administrative Expenses | Measure L takes into account the expenses needed to administer the SCF, including "strategic planning, grant making, grants management, data collection and evaluation, technical assistance, organizational capacity-building, communications, community engagement, and service performance and impact evaluation." Measure L limits the amount of funds available to the City to cover these administrative costs associated with managing the SCF. More resources are allocated to administrative costs in the first two years of the SCF in order to establish staffing, administrative processes, and facilitate the strategic investment planning process. The mandated cap on using the SCF for administrative purposes per year includes the following: (2023-24) maximum of 20%; (2024-25) maximum of 15%; and (2025-26 and beyond) maximum of 10%. The SCF will have an estimated total budget of about \$5.7 million dollars to cover administrative expenses over the course of this Strategic Investment Plan.

III. Investment Recommendations

During this investment period, the SCF will support three full-time staff that will be housed in YPCE and include one Program Specialist and two Administrative Analysts. In order to ensure that this plan is fully implemented—including providing ongoing community engagement, grantee capacity building, and a youth-focused evaluation—administrative expenses should be used to cover the cost of external consultants as needed.

Table 1 | Recommended SCF Allocation by Expenses and Available Budget

Fiscal Year	Total Estimated Fund	Administrative Expenses (% of Total)	Multi-Year Grants		
			Total Funding	Guaranteed Income Grants (20%)	Open Grants (80%)
23/24	\$8,786,500	\$1,757,300 (20%)	\$7,029,200	\$1,405,840	\$5,623,360
24/25	\$8,786,500	\$1,317,975 (15%)	\$7,468,525	\$1,493,705	\$5,974,820
25/26	\$8,786,500	\$878,650 (10%)	\$7,907,850	\$1,581,570	\$6,326,280
26/27	\$8,786,500	\$878,650 (10%)	\$7,907,850	\$1,581,570	\$6,326,280
27/28	\$8,786,500	\$878,650 (10%)	\$7,907,850	\$1,581,570	\$6,326,280
TOTAL	\$43,932,500	\$5,711,225 (13%)	\$38,221,275	\$7,644,255	\$36,903,300

**Note: estimated annual totals from General Fund/CBOT are for illustration purposes only.*

Multi-Year Grants | The majority of the SCF funding is budgeted to fund competitive grants that provide services to families, children and youth. Over the course of this investment period, it is estimated that \$38 million dollars will go directly to multi-year grants (or 87% of the total fund). The SCF Commission recommends that approximately 20% of these annual grant funds be reserved for funding guaranteed basic income grants for foster youth. It is estimated that the SCF will provide approximately \$7.6 million dollars over the next five years for guaranteed basic income programs. The remaining funds are recommended to go to open grants for programming that address the five SCF fund goals. This will amount to an estimated \$37 million dollars for child and youth programs and services.

IV. Commission Oversight & Public Accountability

As an important component of this Strategic Investment Plan implementation, the SCF Commission recommends the City provides timely and ongoing updates to both the SCF Commission and the Sacramento Youth Commission. These updates should include but not be limited to:

- The status of SCF grant management process;
- Changes in the forecasted or actual contributions of the fund resulting from the CBOT;
- Planned and implemented engagement with grantees and community members; and
- Emerging issues impacting the health and wellbeing of children and youth in Sacramento.

Specific data and reporting requirements are outlined below. All updates and reports should be presented in accessible and digestible formats in order to provide maximum transparency to the Commissions, the public, and especially non-technical audiences.

Annual Service Performance Reporting

Measure L stipulates that the City will develop an annual report evaluating all services funded by the Sacramento Children's Fund, assessing those services' performance and progress toward youth outcome metrics established in this Strategic Investment Plan. These annual reports should include the following content.

Summary of Funding Cycle | At the conclusion of each funding cycle, YPCE will update the Commission with a summary of funding that includes a list of all organizations/agencies receiving grants, including: a) Name of organization, b) SCF outcomes proposal is intended to address, c) Neighborhood and population of focus of proposal, d) Amount of funding requested, and e) If awarded, amount and period of funding.

Financial Reporting | On an annual basis, YPCE staff will provide a financial update to the SCF Planning and Oversight Commission. Updates should include:

- Status of expenditures (i.e., administration, grant spending, allocation of grant spending)
- Status of grantee and contractor contracts/budgets
- Estimated amount of total funding for new fiscal year from CBOT
- Estimated amount of administrative budget
- Estimated amount available for multi-year and guaranteed basic income allocations
- Estimated amount of interest/roll over from previous year balance

Summary of Grantee Performance Metrics | YPCE will provide an annual summary of performance metrics from SCF's multi-year grantees. At a minimum, this summary should include: a) total number of youth, children, and families served, c) types of services and programming received, d) how the program participants have been identified as those that are most impacted by poverty, violence, or trauma; and e) resident neighborhoods of those being served.

Summary of Fund Implementation, Engagement & Evaluation Activities | YPCE staff, in collaboration with the engagement and evaluation contractors, will provide at a minimum, annual updates that will include: a) summary of SCF engagement and youth-focused evaluation activities, including the number of participants/grantees and communities represented; b) summary of evaluation activity, including profiles of programs, demonstrating the impact that they are having on Sacramento's children and youth.

IV. Commission Oversight & Public Accountability

Youth Impact Evaluation Reporting

In addition to annual reports, Measure L mandates that the City produce evaluation reports at the three and five year mark of the investment period. In addition to assessing progress in program performance and youth outcome metrics, the SCF Commission recommends that the City work with an external evaluator to assess the implementation of the SCF Strategic Investment Plan, including how well the City's grant management practices and the community engagement aligns with the objectives of Measure L and the recommendations in this plan.

3-Year Evaluation Report | This report will include an evaluation summary of the implementation and outcomes of the 5-year Strategic Investment Plan at Year 3. This report should include an assessment of grantee progress in providing programming and their measured outcomes for the children and youth most impacted by poverty, violence, and trauma. In addition, the evaluation should assess how well the implementation of the SCF is aligned with the recommendations within this Strategic Investment Plan through an equity lens. The purpose of the 3-year report will be to update the Commissions on the status of the SCF, provide actionable feedback to the grantees and City that support improvements to processes and programming, provide recommendations for modifying the SCF funding in the remaining two-years, if needed, and provide data to inform the next cycle of strategic planning for the SCF.

5-Year Youth Impact Evaluation Report | This report will document the achievements and impacts across the 5-year Strategic Investment Plan funding period to assess the impact of the SCF for the City and Sacramento, and those children and youth most impacted by poverty, violence, and trauma. This report should include an assessment of the community engagement activities and how well the implementation of the Strategic Investment Plan reflects the objectives of Measure L. The purpose of this report is to inform the public on the progress of the SCF and highlight the impact on the children, youth, and families that benefited from SCF supported programs and services.

Commission Review

The SCF Commission, in consultation with the Sacramento Youth Commission, will provide ongoing oversight to the implementation of the fund. The Commissions should hold at least one joint meeting per year specifically to review and accept the Annual Service Performance Reports as well as the Youth Impact Evaluation Reports. The Commissions will make recommendations to the City Council as a result of its review of reports. It is recommended that the SCF Commission start the process of creating the next Strategic Investment Plan in January 2028, after the review of the Year 3 Evaluation Report findings. For the purposes of planning the next Strategic Investment Plan, the SCF Commission should hold monthly meetings and hold multiple joint meetings with the Youth Commission to ensure they are actively engaged in the planning process.

APPENDIX, Table 1

Census Tracts, Districts, Zip Codes, and Neighborhoods with Sacramento Equity Index of 0-20 and/or COI “Very Low”						
SEED Rank	SEED Rank Percentile	COI “Very Low”	Census Tract	District	Zip Code	Neighborhood
1	0.66	Yes	Census Tract 37	5	95820	South Oak Park, North City Farms, Central Oak Park
2	1.32	Yes	Census Tract 65.01	2	95838	Del Paso Heights
3	1.97	Yes	Census Tract 69.02	2	95815	Old North Sacramento, Noralto
4	2.63	No	Census Tract 28	5	95817, 95820	Central Oak Park
5	3.29	Yes	Census Tract 44.01	6	95820	Lawrence Park
6	3.95	Yes	Census Tract 68.01	2	95815	Richardson Village, Noralto
7	4.61	Yes	Census Tract 66	2	95815, 95838	Hagginwood, South Hagginwood, Old North Sacramento
8	5.26	Yes	Census Tract 44.02	5	95820	South Oak Park
9	5.92	Yes	Census Tract 47.02	6	95823	N/A
10	6.58	Yes	Census Tract 63	2	95815, 95838	Cannon Industrial Park, Hagginwood, South Hagginwood
11	7.24	Yes	Census Tract 50.02	5	95823, 95828	Parkway
12	7.89	Yes	Census Tract 67.04	2	95838	Robla
13	8.55	Yes	Census Tract 96.40	8a	95823	Valley Hi / North Laguna
14	9.21	Yes	Census Tract 49.07	5	95823	Parkway
15	9.87	Yes	Census Tract 43.02	8, 7	95832	Meadowview
16	10.53	No	Census Tract 69.01	2	95815	Woodlake, Johnson Business Park, American River Parkway, Erikson Industrial Park
17	11.18	No	Census Tract 53.01	4	95811, 95814, 95816	Southern Pacific / Richards, Dos Rios Triangle, East Sacramento
18	11.84	Yes	Census Tract 46.04	6	95824	N/A
19	12.50	Yes	Census Tract 68.02	2	95815	Noralto, Old North Sacramento, South Hagginwood
20	13.16	No	Census Tract 7	4	95814	Downtown, Old Sacramento
21	13.82	Yes	Census Tract 74.13	2	95821, 95660	Del Paso Park
22	14.47	Yes	Census Tract 48.02	6	95828	Glen Elder
23	15.13	Yes	Census Tract 45.02	5	95823	Parkway
24	15.79	Yes	Census Tract 62.02	2	95815, 95821	Ben Ali, Swanston Estates
25	16.45	Yes	Census Tract 32.04	6	95824	Avondale, Fruitridge Manor
26	17.11	Yes	Census Tract 32.02	6	95824	Fruitridge Manor
27	17.76	Yes	Census Tract 42.02	8	95822, 95832	Meadowview
28	18.42	Yes	Census Tract 45.01	5	95824	South City Farms
29	19.08	Yes	Census Tract 68.03	2	95815	Willis Acres, Noralto
30	19.74	Yes	Census Tract 55.02	2	95815, 95825	Swanston Estates, Ben Ali, Arden Fair, Erikson Industrial Park

APPENDIX, Table 1 cont.

31	20.39	Yes	Census Tract 48.01	6	95828	Southeast Village, Glen Elder
32	21.05	Yes	Census Tract 49.06	5	95823	Parkway
33	21.71	Yes	Census Tract 64	2	95838	East Del Paso Heights, Village Green, Parker Homes, Raley Industrial Park
34	22.37	Yes	Census Tract 47.01	6	95823	N/A
35	23.03	Yes	Census Tract 41	5	95822	Woodbine, Brentwood
36	23.68	Yes	Census Tract 32.03	6	95824	Southeast Village, Glen Elder
37	24.34	Yes	Census Tract 67.05	2	95838	Norwood Tech, Oak Knoll, Johnston Heights, Strawberry Manor
39	25.66	Yes	Census Tract 49.09	5	95823	Parkway
40	26.32	Yes	Census Tract 46.03	6	95824	Fruitridge Manor
42	27.63	Yes	Census Tract 70.01	3, 2, 1	95833, 95384	Gardenland, South Natomas, American River Parkway
43	28.29	Yes	Census Tract 70.22	3	95834	South Natomas
46	30.26	Yes	Census Tract 42.03	8	95822, 95832	Meadowview
47	30.92	Yes	Census Tract 96.34	5	95823	Valley Hi / North Laguna
51	33.55	Yes	Census Tract 49.08	5	95823	Parkway
53	34.87	Yes	Census Tract 52.01	6	95819, 95826	CSUS, College Town
55	36.18	Yes	Census Tract 67.03	1	95838	Glenwood Meadows, Pell/Main Industrial Park
57	37.50	Yes	Census Tract 49.10	5	95823	Parkway
61	40.13	Yes	Census Tract 43.01	8	95832	Meadowview
62	40.79	Yes	Census Tract 70.21	3	95834	South Natomas
67	44.08	Yes	Census Tract 49.04	5	95823	Parkway
68	44.74	Yes	Census Tract 96.33	8	95823	Valley Hi / North Laguna
96	63.16	Yes	Census Tract 70.24	3	95833	South Natomas, River Gardens
77	50.66	Yes	Census Tract 67.06	2	95838	West Del Paso Heights, Norwood I-80

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SACRAMENTO CHILDREN’S FUND

Research Findings

Updated 8/12/24

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PART 1: BACKGROUND

Overview

To guide the Sacramento Children’s Fund Planning and Oversight Commission (SCFPOC) in developing the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), Third Plateau conducted a **landscape analysis**, a **community engagement process**, and an **input and feedback process** in partnership with the SCFPOC, the Sacramento Youth Commission (SYC), and City of Sacramento staff. This report presents the research methodology, key findings, and major considerations for the SIP. It reflects Third Plateau’s research inputs and does not serve as the Strategic Investment Plan, which the SCFPOC is authoring separately.

Research Methodology

Third Plateau’s research sought to answer, *What is the current landscape of youth in Sacramento?* More specifically, we investigated this question as it relates to:

1. Key goals of the SCF, per Measure L:
 - a. Support the mental health and emotional wellness of children and youth;
 - b. Prevent and reduce homelessness among children and youth, including youth transitioning out of foster care;
 - c. Prevent and reduce youth substance abuse;
 - d. Prevent and reduce youth violence; and
 - e. Support the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5 years old.
2. Key components of the SIP, per Measure L:
 - a. Problems and challenges to be addressed;
 - b. Target populations to be served, based on those most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence;
 - c. Service performance measures and youth outcome metrics;
 - d. Strategies to achieve outcomes for the target populations; and
 - e. Alignment, leveraging, and coordination of other public and private resources.

For the landscape analysis, Third Plateau reviewed and summarized findings from major publications and reports on Sacramento youth and youth development more broadly (e.g., *First 5 Sacramento Community Trends and County Trends*, *2024 California Children’s Report Card*), as well as data from the U.S. Census and existing local community surveys and listening sessions (e.g., the Sac Kids First youth survey and investment recommendations).

For community engagement, Third Plateau conducted in-person focus groups, virtual focus groups, and one-on-one virtual interviews with 213 individuals, including: youth (ages 13-24); parents and caregivers; community-based organizations; educators; County of Sacramento staff; and City of Sacramento staff. The first phase of community engagement sought to answer: *What are community careholders’ perceptions of the needs, assets, and opportunities related to SCF-relevant youth services?* The second phase of community engagement sought to answer: *What are community careholders’ questions and feedback on the initial SIP draft?*

Additionally, Third Plateau and City staff distributed an online questionnaire to the Sacramento community, generating 262 completed and verified responses. Information was collected to better understand the Sacramento community's needs, priorities, and concerns related to the SCF goals, including a combination of multiple choice and free response questions related to:

- what it would look like for youth in Sacramento to “thrive”;
- the perceived importance of the SCF goals;
- strategies to address each of the SCF goals; and
- any other considerations relevant to the SCF.

For SCF and SYC input, Third Plateau conducted one-on-one interviews with each SCFPOC member and ran focus groups with self-selected SYC members. Additional feedback was gathered at monthly and special Commission meetings, joint SCFPOC/SYC meetings, and asynchronous email updates and feedback surveys.

For additional detail on the research methodology and limitations, see [Appendix A](#).

PART 2: KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS

Sacramento Youth at a Glance

The City of Sacramento has a population of approximately 525,000 people.¹ According to the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, nearly one-third of this population – or more than 164,000 residents – are children and youth less than 25 years of age. Table 1 presents a breakdown by age group from the 5-year estimates.²

Table 1. 5-year Population Estimates by Age Group (2022)

Age (in years)	Estimated Population	% of Population
Under 5	31,531	6.0%
5-9	31,289	6.0%
10-14	32,499	6.2%
15-19	33,621	6.4%
20-24	35,569	6.8%

Source: [United States Census Bureau ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates](#)

Sacramento City Unified School District is the 11th largest school district in California, comprising 81 public schools serving youth K-12.³ The school district serves 40,711 students. Of that population, 40% are Hispanic or Latino, 17% are Asian, 14% are African American, and 18% are white.⁴ In addition to Sacramento City Unified School District, other school districts within the city boundaries include Elk Grove Unified, Twin Rivers Unified, Natomas Unified, and San Juan Unified school districts.⁵

Sacramento boasts many strengths that help nurture children and youth, including its racial and ethnic diversity. Nearly 30% of residents identify as Hispanic or Latino, 19% as Asian, and 12% as Black or African American (Figure 1).⁶

¹ "Sacramento city, California," United States Census Bureau, Accessed: April 2024, https://data.census.gov/profile/Sacramento_city_California?q=160XX00US0664000.

² "DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates," United States Census Bureau, Accessed: May 2024, <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?t=Populations%20and%20People&q=160XX00US0664000>.

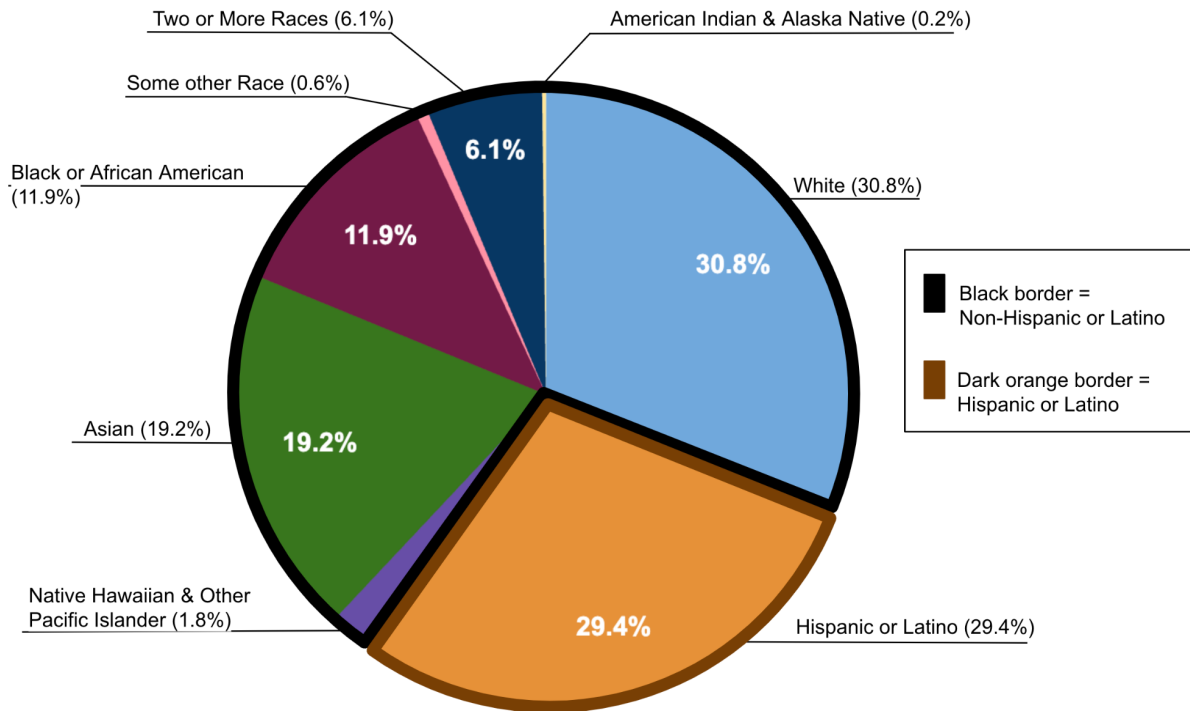
³ "Sacramento City Unified School District," Sacramento City Unified School District, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.scusd.edu/>.

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⁵ "Public School Districts Within Sacramento County," Sacramento County Office of Education, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.scoe.net/about/districts/>.

⁶ "Sacramento city, California," United States Census Bureau, Accessed: April 2024, <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?t=Populations%20and%20People&q=160XX00US0664000>.

Figure 1. City of Sacramento Demographic Breakdown by Race and Ethnicity (2022)



Source: United States Census Bureau ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates

Sacramento faces challenges that prevent all children and youth from accessing critical programs and services. For instance, compared with California as a whole, the City of Sacramento has a lower median household income (\$80,254 vs. \$91,551), a higher percentage of residents in poverty (13.7% vs. 12.2%), and a higher poverty rate for children ages 0-17 (15.9% vs. 15.3%).⁷ These and other social and economic conditions matter for the healthy development of all young people, but the availability and quality of resources like these are not distributed equally across neighborhoods.

Key Challenges & Impacted Populations: Findings from Landscape Analysis

Sacramento youth are struggling across the areas identified in the Fund – mental health, homelessness, substance abuse, violence, and early development (0-5 years) – while also facing a number of cross-cutting upstream challenges.

⁷ “Sacramento city, California,” United States Census Bureau, Accessed: April 2024, https://data.census.gov/profile/Sacramento_city_California?g=160XX00US0664000.

Challenges by Goal

Mental Health

Mental and emotional wellness is fundamental to youth's overall health. Young people's mental health determines how they "think, feel, and act."⁸ Emotional, psychological, and social wellbeing enables young people to navigate day-to-day challenges, manage stress and change, build meaningful relationships, and fulfill their potential.⁹ Mental health drives success in school, at work, and throughout life. Conversely, in more severe forms, mental health challenges are the primary cause of young people's disability and poor life outcomes.¹⁰ In California, they are the number one reason youth are hospitalized.¹¹ Mental health problems are also linked to higher risk behaviors that impact all other goal areas, such as substance abuse and violence.¹²

Alarmingly, Sacramento's young people are experiencing an unprecedented mental health crisis. According to a 2022-2023 survey, over a third of Sacramento City Unified middle and high school students reported experiencing chronic sadness/hopelessness and more than 16% of students had considered suicide in the past 12 months.¹³ This is consistent with other surveys of Sacramento youth, as well as nationwide trends that show the percentage of U.S. students experiencing poor mental health increasing every year since 2021.¹⁴

These trends are particularly concerning given the connection between youth mental health and adult mental health. Research suggests that initial onset of mental disorders often occurs in childhood or adolescence. Half of adults reporting a mental, emotional, or behavioral disorder indicate that the disorder first emerged by age 14 and three-quarters by age 24; the median age of onset is 11 years for anxiety and impulse-control and 20 years for substance abuse.¹⁵

Youth point to pandemic-related depression and anxiety, compounded by pressures at school and at home. Systemic issues – such as community violence and racism – as well as personal or family events – such as domestic violence, police violence, arrest of a loved one, harassment related to sexual orientation, or threat of immigration issues – also impact young people's

⁸ "Data and Statistics on Children's Mental Health," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, March 8 2023, <https://www.cdc.gov/childrensmentalhealth/data.html>.

⁹ "Mental Health," youth.gov, Accessed: May 2024, <https://youth.gov/youth-topics/youth-mental-health>.

¹⁰ "Youth Mental Health," U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the U.S. Surgeon General, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/youth-mental-health/index.html>.

¹¹ "2024 California Children's Report Card: A survey of kids' well-being and roadmap for the future," Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

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¹⁴ "Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Data Summary & Trends Report 2011-2021, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, February 13 2023, https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/pdf/YRBS_Data-Summary-Trends_Report2023_508.pdf.

¹⁵ Ronald C. Kessler, Patricia Berglund, Olga Demler, et al, "Lifetime Prevalence and Age-of-Onset Distributions of DSM-IV Disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication," *Jama Psychiatry*, June 1, 2005, <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapsychiatry/fullarticle/208678>.

well-being.¹⁶ Meanwhile, youth struggle to seek help, either due to a lack of awareness, fear of stigma, or discomfort with the limited cultural competency of those providing the support.

Homelessness

Housing is vital to a young person's sense of safety and stability. Without it, children and youth face ongoing threats to their security and mental and physical wellbeing. Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness are vulnerable to becoming food insecure and poorly nourished, missing school and dropping out, developing mental health disorders, and engaging in risky behaviors that can lead to substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy, violence, and involvement with the criminal legal system.¹⁷ They are also at greater risk of becoming victims of violence, sexual assault, and sex and labor trafficking.¹⁸ For families with children, homelessness often follows a traumatic life circumstance, such as sudden unemployment, illness, family conflict or violence, and unexpected bills. Children caught in this instability may exhibit emotional, behavioral, and health issues; be separated from their families; and experience school mobility, poor performance, dropout, and/or expulsion.¹⁹

In Sacramento County, homelessness increased across all ages by 67% between 2020 and 2022.²⁰ In 2022, 8% of people experiencing homelessness in Sacramento County were children under 18, and 7% were transitional age youth (TAY) between ages 18-24.²¹ The percentage of TAY experiencing homelessness increased by 53% from 2019 to 2022.²² Meanwhile, in 2023, almost half of those accessing the County's Continuum of Care homelessness response system were families with children.²³

According to 2022 Point-in-Time count data from the [Homelessness in Sacramento County Report](#) by California State University, Sacramento, about 24% of unhoused adults are former

¹⁶ "2024 California Children's Report Card: A survey of kids' well-being and roadmap for the future," Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

¹⁷ "Youth Homelessness: The Sum of Our Parts," Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R), Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/periodicals/em/Spring22/highlight1.html>.

¹⁸ "Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness in America, A Thrive by 25 Brief," The Annie E. Casey Foundation, March 8 2023, <https://www.aecf.org/resources/preventing-and-ending-youth-homelessness-in-america>.

¹⁹ "Children and Families," National Alliance to End Homelessness, December 2023, <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/who-experiences-homelessness/children-and-families/>.

²⁰ Soumya Karlamangla, "Rising Frustration Over the Homelessness Crisis in Sacramento," *New York Times*, September 20 2023, <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/09/20/us/sacramento-homelessness-crisis.html>.

²¹ "Homelessness in Sacramento County, Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count," Sacramento Steps Forward and Sacramento Continuum of Care, July 2022, <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ "A Snapshot of Homelessness in CA," State of California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, Accessed: May 2023, <https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/calich/hdis.html>.

foster youth.²⁴ The report also notes that most of these individuals are over 35 years old (outside the transitional age range).²⁵

Youth homelessness is tied to complex individual and societal challenges. Most unhoused youth in California (92%) named fragile social networks as the primary reason for their homelessness.²⁶ Family conflict is another common contributor, with triggers such as abuse, family member substance misuse, pregnancy, and sexual orientation rejection.²⁷ According to the 2022 Point-in-Time Count, 43% of youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Sacramento County were victims of domestic violence.²⁸ Systemic issues are numerous, including persisting pandemic impacts, a lack of affordable housing, and rising living costs, alongside prior involvement with the juvenile legal and/or foster system and disability-related barriers.^{29,30}

Substance Abuse

High-risk substance use among California's youth is a growing challenge. Most drug and alcohol use begins in adolescence, which is also when the risk for long-term issues is greatest: as many as 90% of adults who meet the criteria for substance use disorder began using substances by age 18.³¹ Despite overall decreases in reported alcohol, tobacco, and drug use among youth in California, by 11th grade, nearly a quarter of the state's teens actively use alcohol and drugs. The substances most abused by youth in general are alcohol and marijuana, which have lasting harmful effects – including liver disease, cardiovascular disease, and cancer.³² Vaping, too, is prevalent, tried by nearly half of California's 12th grade students.³³

²⁴ "Homelessness in Sacramento County, Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count," Sacramento Steps Forward and Sacramento Continuum of Care, July 2022, <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ "2024 California Children's Report Card: A survey of kids' well-being and roadmap for the future," Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

²⁷ California's Homeless Youth, California Coalition for Youth, <https://calyouth.org/advocacy-policy/californias-homeless-youth/#:~:text=Youth%20overwhelmingly%20cite%20family%20conflict,or%20episodes%20of%20running%20away>

²⁸ "Homelessness in Sacramento County, Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count," Sacramento Steps Forward and Sacramento Continuum of Care, July 2022, <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>.

²⁹ "2024 California Children's Report Card: A survey of kids' well-being and roadmap for the future," Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

³⁰ "Homelessness in Sacramento County, Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count," Sacramento Steps Forward and Sacramento Continuum of Care, July 2022, <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>.

³¹ Jeremy Wachter, "2020 Teen Drug Abuse Statistics in California | Prevalence of Adolescent Substance Use in CA," The Pathway Program, November 16, 2020, <https://thepathwayprogram.com/teen-drug-abuse-california-prevalence-adolescent-substance-use/>.

³² "California's Youth: A Look at Tobacco, Drug, and Alcohol Use," Children Now, August 2023, <https://www.childrennow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/sud-california-youth.pdf>.

³³ "Youth Online: High School YRBS," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Accessed: April 2024, <https://nccd.cdc.gov/Youthonline/App/Default.aspx>.

A Sacramento County survey identifies marijuana and alcohol as the top community concerns for youth ages 12-18, and alcohol, methamphetamine, and narcotics/opioids as top community concerns for youth ages 19-26.³⁴ The 2017-2019 California Healthy Kids Survey indicates that 11% of Sacramento County high school juniors have “used marijuana four or more times in their lifetime by e-cigarette or vaping.”³⁵ Opioid-related overdose rates are rising, with reported fentanyl deaths among those age 24 and younger tripling from 14 in 2019 to 38 in 2023.³⁶

Youth say that these substances are easy to access, often promoted to teens through social media and in stores. They note that substances – including pain medication and sedatives – are often used to help cope with increasing mental health challenges, pandemic-related anxiety and social isolation, or even boredom.³⁷ Meanwhile, there is limited education and knowledge around the dangers of substances, particularly vaping and fentanyl. And, California’s approach to youth substance abuse often leads with punishment – such as school suspensions, expulsions, and arrests – rather than support and treatment.³⁸ In Sacramento County, alcohol and/or drug-related suspensions increased from 1,861 in 2015-2016 to 2,340 in 2018-2019.³⁹

Youth Violence

Every young person deserves to live, learn, play, and grow with comfort and without the fear, threat, or reality of violence harming them or their loved ones. But in too many communities – especially Indigenous, Black, and Latino/e communities and communities of low wealth that have long suffered from disinvestment, lack of critical services, high levels of poverty, and racial and economic segregation – community violence tragically and unjustly curtails opportunities for young people to participate, prosper, and achieve their full potential.

Research shows that exposure to and engagement in community violence can have profound negative impacts on a broad range of physical and mental health outcomes. Notably this includes experiencing additional or other forms of violence and myriad challenges across a young person’s lifespan, such as barriers to education, employment, and housing. These

³⁴ “Substance Use Disorder Strategic Prevention Plan,” Sacramento County Department of Health Services, July 2021, <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Documents/Reports--Workplans/RT-BHS-SUPT-SUD-Strategic-Prevention-Plan-2021-2026.pdf/>.

³⁵ Gregory Austin, Thomas Hanson, Gary Zhang, and Cindy Zheng, “Marijuana Use Among California Secondary Students, 2017/19: Volume 1: Trends and Patterns of Marijuana Use,” California School Climate, Health, and Learning Surveys, Accessed: April 2024, https://calschls.org/docs/marijuana_use_vol_1.pdf.

³⁶ “Fentanyl Deaths, Sacramento County,” Sacramento County Coroner, Accessed: April 2024, <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/0661fb44435b4611bf52be84708c4591>.

³⁷ “Substance Use Disorder Strategic Prevention Plan July 2021-June 2026,” Sacramento County Department of Health Services, Accessed: April 2024, <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Documents/Reports--Workplans/RT-BHS-SUPT-SUD-Strategic-Prevention-Plan-2021-2026.pdf>

³⁸ “2024 California Children’s Report Card: A survey of kids’ well-being and roadmap for the future,” Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

³⁹ “Substance Use Disorder Strategic Prevention Plan July 2021-June 2026,” Sacramento County Department of Health Services, Accessed: April 2024, <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Documents/Reports--Workplans/RT-BHS-SUPT-SUD-Strategic-Prevention-Plan-2021-2026.pdf>

consequences, in turn, contribute to the cyclical nature of violence by increasing risk factors in the environments that surround youth and removing protective factors that could promote safe, healthy, and hopeful relationships, families, and communities.

Youth violence remains a serious concern for Sacramento. In 2018 and 2019, the City had no homicides of youth under 18.⁴⁰ However, by 2022, there were four homicide victims between ages 10-19 and 14 between ages 20-29.⁴¹ The most recent crime data from the Sacramento Police Department indicate that approximately 17% of violent crime victims were 19 years old or younger and approximately 17% of violent crime offenders were between ages 10-19.⁴² Data outside of the criminal legal system show similar patterns. In 2022, rates of hospitalization for assault-related injuries were 32 per 100,000 among Sacramento County residents ages 10-24 and 34 per 100,000 among ages 15-24; rates of emergency department visits for assault-related injuries were 401.1 per 100,000 among ages 10-24 and 475.2 per 100,000 among ages 15-24.⁴³

Many young people themselves report a lack of safety. School fights, shootings, and bullying are common perceived threats. The CDC finds that 1 in 5 high school students experience bullying in school, and 1 in 6 students face cyberbullying online, with the highest rates at the middle school level.⁴⁴ In Sacramento County, reported bullying rates were slightly higher than California averages (38% vs. 36% of surveyed 7th graders).⁴⁵

The youth bearing the brunt of violence are in/of communities marginalized by structural racism – subject to the impacts of redlining, underfunded schools, economic stress, gang involvement, and punitive discipline policies that result in disproportionate suspensions and expulsions and contribute to a “school-to-prison pipeline.”⁴⁶ Several reports by the Black Minds Project of the Community College Equity Assessment Lab describe Sacramento as “The Capital of Suspensions,” noting a County suspension rate of 5.7% compared to the state average of 3.5%.

⁴⁰ “For The First Time In 35 Years, No Children Were Murdered In The City Of Sacramento Last Year,” *CBS News*, January 21, 2019,

<https://www.cbsnews.com/goooddaysacramento/news/no-child-murders-sacramento/>.

⁴¹ “Expanded Homicide Offense Characteristics by Sacramento Police Department,” Federal Bureau of Investigation: Crime Data Explorer, <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/explorer/crime/shr>

⁴² “All Violent Crime Offender vs. Victim Demographics,” Federal Bureau of Investigation: Crime Data Explorer, <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/explorer/crime/crime-trend>

⁴³ “EpiCenter: California Injury Data Online,” California Department of Public Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Accessed: July 2024, <https://skylab4.cdph.ca.gov/epicenter/>

⁴⁴ “About Bullying | Youth Violence Prevention,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Accessed March 2024, https://www.cdc.gov/youth-violence/about/about-bullying.html?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/bullyingresearch/fastfact.html

⁴⁵ “Bullying/Harassment, by Grade Level,” Kids Data, Powered by PRB, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/621/bullying-grade/bar#fmt=874&loc=2,344&tf=134&pdist=163&ch=69,1170,1169&sort=loc>

⁴⁶ “Community Safety Realized: Public Health Pathways to Preventing Violence,” The Big Cities Health Coalition, Prevention Institutes, May 2021, <https://www.preventioninstitute.org/projects/community-safety-realized-public-health-pathways-preventing-violence>

Suspension rates were even higher for African American students in Sacramento County, at 13.8% compared to the state average of 9.1%.⁴⁷

Early Development (0-5)

There is a strong body of evidence affirming the importance of the early years, particularly from 0 to 5, on lifelong development. In the first thousand days of a child's life, by age 3, more than 80% of their brain has developed.⁴⁸ The quality of a child's early environments and experiences shapes the strength (or fragility) of their foundation for subsequent learning, health, and behavior⁴⁹ – influencing early learning, social and emotional development, physical and mental health, and adult outcomes. The research points to three factors that are particularly determinative of positive outcomes: 1) stable, responsive relationships between children and adults, 2) healthy core skills of executive function and self-regulation, and 3) low stress, especially the absence of toxic stress and adverse childhood experiences.^{50,51}

While Sacramento has made progress within 0 to 5 child development, challenges persist related to early life health, early learning and school readiness, child development and safety, and quality childcare. Compared to statewide data, Sacramento County women are more likely to have at least one morbidity at delivery, preterm birth and infant mortality rates are higher, and a smaller percentage of young children have well-child visits.⁵² Rates of developmental screenings and reading have decreased in recent years, as has the percentage of children attending a quality preschool (from 11% in 2017 to 8.4% in 2021). Approximately 1 in 5 children in the County (21%) experienced two or more adverse childhood experiences (ACES), a higher proportion than statewide (15%).⁵³

These negative trends correlate with other social determinants, including poor income and health outcomes and decades of barriers to wealth generation. The consequences have been especially dire against a backdrop of rising rents and living costs, as well as the high cost and

⁴⁷ J. Luke Wood, Frank Harris III, and Mohamed Khadar Abdi-Salam Qas, "The Capital of School Suspensions II: Examining the Racial Exclusion of Black Students in Sacramento City Unified School District," Black Minds Project, Community College Equity Assessment Lab, 2020, <https://naacpsac.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2020-Suspension-Capitol-of-Suspensions-II-Dec-2020.pdf>.

⁴⁸ "Why We Do It: Brain Development," First 5 California, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.cafc.ca.gov/whatwedo/why.html>.

⁴⁹ "The Science of Early Childhood Development," Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University, 2007, <https://harvardcenter.wpeneginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2007/03/InBrief-The-Science-of-Early-Childhood-Development2.pdf>.

⁵⁰ "Three Principles to Improve Outcomes for Children and Families," Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University, 2021, <https://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/three-early-childhood-development-principles-improve-child-family-outcomes/#strengthen-skills>.

⁵¹ "What Are Adverse Childhood Experiences?" First 5 California, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.first5california.com/en-us/articles/what-are-adverse-childhood-experiences/>.

⁵² "Sacramento County Trend Report," First 5 Sacramento, Accessed: May 2024, <https://first5sacramento.saccounty.gov/Results/Pages/SacramentoCountyTrend.aspx>

⁵³ *Ibid.*

low availability of early care. In 2021, full-time childcare costs were more than 40% of median county monthly income, slightly higher than that of California averages (39%).⁵⁴

Cross-Cutting Challenges

Across all goal areas, the problems that Sacramento's children, youth, and their families face are rooted in a range of upstream systemic and societal issues. Oppression, exclusion, and inequities related to class, gender, immigration status, race/ethnicity, and sexual orientation are reinforced by institutions – such as businesses, governments, schools, and nonprofit organizations – as well as laws, regulations, and policies. These inequities impact living conditions and environments (e.g., housing, employment, social services), behaviors (e.g., violence, drug use), and outcomes (e.g., mortality and life expectancy).^{55,56}

Also at play are a range of risk and protective factors. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) defines risk factors as “characteristics at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precede and are associated with a higher likelihood of negative outcomes” and protective factors as “characteristics associated with a lower likelihood of negative outcomes or that reduce a risk factor's impact.”⁵⁷ Risk and protective factors interact and are cumulative. Those who experience risk factors, such as poverty and family dysfunction, are more prone to experiencing multiple risk factors; protective factors, such as financial security and parental involvement, can mediate multiple risk factors.⁵⁸

Common challenges across mental health, homelessness, substance abuse, violence, and early childhood development for Sacramento children, youth, and families include:

- **Systemic divestment and community trauma:** Systemic issues and traumatic events contribute to poor and disparate outcomes across the Measure L goals. Those who have been historically underserved live with daily stressors – housing instability, unsafe and low-performing schools, unreliable health care and transportation, and broad community divestment – all of which continue vicious cycles of racism and inequity. Many young people engaged in violence or substance abuse have themselves experienced violence and trauma.
- **High costs and financial instability:** Sacramento residents face living costs that are 20% above the national average, including housing prices that are 41% higher and basic necessities that are 9% higher.⁵⁹ Full-time childcare amounted to more than 40% of the

⁵⁴ “Community Trends,” First 5 Sacramento, Accessed: May 2024, <https://first5sacramento.saccounty.gov/Results/Pages/Community-Trends.aspx>.

⁵⁵ The BARHII framework focuses on a path to health equity. The framework is widely used by entities such as the American Medical Association and California Department of Public Health's Office of Health Equity. The framework has also informed other state and local planning processes.

⁵⁶ “BARHII Framework,” Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative, Accessed: March 2024, <https://barhii.org/framework>.

⁵⁷ “Risk and Protective Factors,” Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/20190718-samhsa-risk-protective-factors.pdf>.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁵⁹ “Cost of Living in Sacramento, CA,” RentCafe, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.rentcafe.com/cost-of-living-calculator/us/ca/sacramento/>.

County's median monthly income, as of 2021.⁶⁰ Research on the effects of persistent poverty suggest that half of those born into poverty will be poor through almost half of their childhoods and a fifth through early adulthood.⁶¹

- **Personal and family conflict:** Personal or family events – such as the incarceration of family and friends – can take a heavy toll on families.⁶² As previously noted, family conflict and fragile social networks often intersect with systemic challenges, and the cumulative risks can mean devastating results for children and youth.
- **COVID-19 pandemic:** While families were struggling well before the pandemic, COVID-19 hit hardest for those already experiencing the greatest economic, health, and family stress. It also exacerbated experiences of social isolation, trauma, and stigma.⁶³
- **Lack of awareness and access:** Even when services are available, they are often inaccessible. CitiesRISE found that 65% of Sacramento youth reported no awareness of mental health organizations, programs, and services. Further, familial relationships, stigma, and the limited availability of culturally competent services can also create obstacles to accessing care.⁶⁴ Logistical barriers, such as transportation or language translation, also limit access.
- **System transitions:** Without support, youth transitioning from foster care are at increased risk of instability. In Sacramento County, nearly half of unsheltered homeless youth had been in foster care or a group home before age 18.⁶⁵ Additionally, involvement with the juvenile legal system is an increased risk factor, with approximately 62% of California youth who experienced homelessness having prior involvement.⁶⁶
- **Disproportionate and punitive responses:** California's approach to youth substance abuse and violence often leads with punishment rather than support and treatment.⁶⁷ Systems rely on law enforcement and harsh discipline policies, such as school suspensions, expulsions, or arrests. Rather than address underlying needs, such responses contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline and exacerbate the problem by driving youth out of schools and colleges and into the juvenile and criminal legal systems. This is particularly true for racially minoritized youth, foster youth, and youth with disabilities. In the Sacramento City Unified School District (6.2%), the suspension

⁶⁰ "Community Trends," First 5 Sacramento, Accessed: May 2024, <https://first5sacramento.saccounty.gov/Results/Pages/Community-Trends.aspx>.

⁶¹ "The Threat of Persistent Poverty," Children's Defense Fund, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.childrensdefense.org/the-threat-of-persistent-poverty/>

⁶² *Ibid.*

⁶³ "2024 California Children's Report Card: A survey of kids' well-being and roadmap for the future," Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

⁶⁴ "Youth Realities in Sacramento During COVID-19: A Rapid Response and a Call to Action," citiesRISE, Accessed: April 2024, <https://cities-rise.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/citiesRISE-Youth-Realities-During-COVID-19-Sacramento.pdf>.

⁶⁵ "Homelessness in Sacramento County, Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count," Sacramento Steps Forward and Sacramento Continuum of Care, July 2022, <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>.

⁶⁶ 2024 California Children's Report Card: A survey of kids' well-being and roadmap for the future," Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

rate of Black students (15.4%) is more than four times the rate in California overall (3.6%).⁶⁸

- **Underlying mental health challenges:** In Sacramento County, approximately 42% of youth experiencing homelessness indicated they had a mental or learning disability that prevented them from “holding a job or living in stable housing.”⁶⁹ Medications intended to treat depression, anxiety, or other mood disorders can also set youth down the path to substance abuse.⁷⁰
- **Early health, care, and learning:** Too many families lack consistent access to health care throughout pregnancy, birth, and the early years. First 5 Sacramento asserts that a significant share of children countywide don’t access the recommended number of wellness visits, restricting opportunities for pediatricians to identify and treat issues or delays in children’s health and development.⁷¹ Limited family support and high-quality education and care have likely also hindered school readiness. Preschool access for 3- and 4-year-olds in Sacramento County has decreased since 2019, likely tied to COVID-19 impacts.⁷²

Impacted Populations by Demographics

The populations most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence are those at the intersection of several identities, such as: socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, ability status, and involvement with foster care systems and the juvenile or criminal legal systems. Based on an accounting of those with disproportionately negative or unfavorable outcomes across the Measure L goal areas, those most impacted tend to be:

- Children, youth, and families with low incomes
- Children, youth, and families who are Black, Indigenous, Latino/e, Southeast Asian
- Unhoused youth
- Children and youth who identify as LGBTQ+
- Youth in or transitioning out of foster care
- Children and youth who have been involved in the juvenile or criminal legal systems
- Children and youth who are first generation immigrants or refugees
- Children and youth with disabilities

⁶⁸ J. Luke Wood, Frank Harris III, and Mohamed Khadar Abdi-Salam Qas, “The Capital of School Suspensions II: Examining the Racial Exclusion of Black Students in Sacramento City Unified School District,” Black Minds Project, Community College Equity Assessment Lab, 2020, <https://naacpsac.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2020-Suspension-Capitol-of-Suspensions-II-Dec-2020.pdf>.

⁶⁹ “Homelessness in Sacramento County, Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count,” Sacramento Steps Forward and Sacramento Continuum of Care, July 2022, <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>.

⁷⁰ “Substance Use Disorder Strategic Prevention Plan July 2021-June 2026,” Sacramento County Department of Health Services, Accessed: April 2024, <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Documents/Reports--Workplans/RT-BHS-SUPT-SUD-Strategic-Prevention-Plan-2021-2026.pdf>

⁷¹ “Community Trends,” First 5 Sacramento, Accessed: May 2024, <https://first5sacramento.saccounty.gov/Results/Pages/Community-Trends.aspx>.

⁷² *Ibid.*

Poverty

By race/ethnicity, the percentage of Sacramento County children in poverty is highest among African American/Black residents, followed by Hispanic/Latino/e residents and Asian American residents. As indicated in Table 2, the child poverty rates for these populations is about two to nearly three times the child poverty rates for white children.

Table 2. Children in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity					
Race/Ethnicity	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019	2016-2020
African American/Black	39.8%	36.5%	32.6%	27.9%	28.7%
American Indian/Alaska Native	S	S	S	S	S
Asian American	30.3%	27.1%	24.8%	23.6%	21.0%
Hispanic/Latino	35.0%	31.1%	28.0%	24.4%	22.7%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	S	S	S	S	S
White	14.3%	14.5%	11.7%	12.0%	11.7%
Multiracial	26.4%	21.9%	20.7%	16.1%	17.0%
All Children	29.9%	27.2%	24.6%	21.9%	20.4%
<i>Source: KidsData, Children in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity (Regions of 10,000 Residents or More)</i> <i>Source Note: "The notation S refers to data that have been suppressed because the estimated child population was less than 1."</i> <i>Note: Disaggregations by Sacramento City school districts show similar trends. Disaggregations were unavailable for Sacramento City as a whole.</i>					

When looking at the overall Sacramento City population, an estimated 76,325 of 515,709 people (14.8%) live below the poverty level.⁷³ The following tables disaggregate this data by gender, race/ethnicity, and place of birth.⁷⁴ They highlight (in yellow) disproportionately high percentages of poverty (relative to the overall City population) among:

- Children and youth across all age groups (under 5 years, 5-17 years, and under 18)
- Individuals who identify as female

⁷³ The poverty level, as measured by the Census, compares income to a poverty threshold, based on the size of the family and number of children. More information on this calculation, including the threshold tables, can be found [here](#).

⁷⁴ "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months", United States Census Bureau, Accessed July 2024: <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1701?q=poverty%20in%20Sacramento%20city>.

- Individuals who identify as Black or African American alone, American Indian and Alaska Native alone, Some other race alone, and Hispanic or Latino (any race)
- Individuals who identify as immigrants (foreign-born)

Table 3. 2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data: Poverty Level by Age Group

Age Group	Estimated Population Below Poverty Level	Estimated Percentage Below Poverty Level (%)
Under 5 years	5,258	16.9%
5-17 years	15,721	19.1%
Under 18 years	20,979	18.5%
Related children of household under 18 years	20,494	18.1%

Source: United States Census Bureau, [Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months](#)

Table 4. 2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data: Poverty Level by Gender

Gender	Estimated Population Below Poverty Level	Estimated Percentage Below Poverty Level (%)
Male	35,048	13.8%
Female	41,277	15.8%

Source: United States Census Bureau, [Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months](#)

Table 5. 2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data: Poverty Level by Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Estimated Population Below Poverty Level	Estimated Percentage Below Poverty Level (%)
White alone	25,880	12.8%
Black or African American alone	12,663	19.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	682	16.1%
Asian alone	14,401	14.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	1,394	14.8%
Some other race alone	11,265	17.1%

Two or more races	10,040	14.8%
Hispanic or Latino origin (any race)	24,290	16.0%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	18,166	11.4%
Combined (all)	76,325	14.8%
<i>Source: United States Census Bureau, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months</i>		

Table 6. 2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data: Poverty Level by Place of Birth				
Place of Birth	Below 100% of the poverty level (#,% of pop)	100-149% of the poverty level (#,% of pop)	At or above 150% of the poverty level (#,% of pop)	Total
Born in California	47,075 (14.8%)	27,254 (8.5%)	244,459 (76.7%)	318,788
Born in other US state	9,152 (11.7%)	6,212 (8.0%)	62,572 (80.3%)	77,936
US Native, born outside US	1,151 (13.6%)	571 (6.7%)	6,777 (79.7%)	8,499
Foreign born	18,947 (17.1%)	11,727 (10.5%)	80,310 (72.4%)	110,984
Total	76,325 (14.8%)	45,764 (8.9%)	394,118 (76.3%)	516,207
<i>Source: United States Census Bureau, Poverty Status by Place of Birth</i>				

The Sacramento Equity Explore Design (SEED) Geographic Information System (GIS) Tool presents a similar pattern.⁷⁵ Among the 30 census tracts scoring as “least equitable” on the SEED tool, the most common race/ethnicity for 21 census tracts was Hispanic/Latino/a, while the most common race/ethnicity for four tracts were White or Asian American, respectively, and the most common race/ethnicity for one tract was Black/African American. Table 7 reflects this, alongside additional metrics related to unemployment and housing.⁷⁶ See [Appendix B](#) for data from the SEED tool across the index’s included indicators.

Table 7. Poverty, Unemployment, and Housing by Census Tract and Race/Ethnicity for Tracts scoring 0-20 on the Sacramento Equity Index

⁷⁵ “Sacramento Equity Explore Design,” The City of Sacramento, Office of Diversity and Equity and Information Technology-Geographic Information System, Accessed: June 2024, <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c34d9a1597cf426086fbd7e8dea7016c>.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

Census Tract	Population Below Poverty Line (%)	Children <18 Living in Poverty (#)	Percentage Unemployed	Renters/Homeowners who spend more than 30% of income on rent/mortgage (%)	Most Common Race/Ethnicity
7	41.50%	Not available	18.1%	38.7% / 65%	White alone, not Hispanic
53.01	44.70%	150	9.5%	69.9% / 25.7%	White alone, not Hispanic
69.01	13.70%	3	22.2%	43.1% / 16.2%	White alone, not Hispanic
69.02	40.90%	235	1.5%	84.2% / 5.6%	Hispanic or Latino
68.01	14.60%	154	9.9%	38.1% / 66.0%	Hispanic or Latino
68.02	36.00%	419	8.3%	43.8% / 66.7%	Hispanic or Latino
68.03	30.50%	407	13.4%	34.6% 50.0%	Hispanic or Latino
66	20.00%	357	9.5%	55.3% / 53.5%	Hispanic or Latino
55.02	26.10%	378	7.0%	54.8% / 35.1%	Hispanic or Latino
62.02	16.50%	200	8.5%	68.6% / 49.2%	Hispanic or Latino
63	33.80%	644	11.7%	61.6% / 54.3%	Hispanic or Latino
65.01	40.60%	847	13.2%	74.9% / 66.1%	Hispanic or Latino
67.04	26.30%	203	12.6%	66.3% / 36.6%	Hispanic or Latino
74.13	34.50%	997	13.3%	67.9% / 38.4%	White alone, not Hispanic
28	24.10%	364	12.4%	68.8% / 44.8%	Hispanic or Latino
37	28.10%	424	6.5%	53.2% / 41.4%	Hispanic or Latino
44.02	27.80%	586	6.1%	52.0% / 44.9%	Hispanic or Latino
44.01	26.80%	129	9.5%	57.1% / 43.9%	Hispanic or Latino
45.01	32.70%	325	5.8%	50.9 % / 44.5%	Hispanic or Latino
46.04	15.80%	259	10.4%	45.7% / 52.1%	Hispanic or Latino
32.02	20.30%	261	3.0%	69.9% / 26.2%	Hispanic or Latino
32.04	27.00%	315	6.1%	46.6% / 45.5%	Asian alone, not Hispanic
45.02	27.10%	499	10.5%	56.9% / 48.4%	Hispanic or Latino

47.02	24.90%	629	15.4%	53.1% / 31.1%	Hispanic or Latino
42.02	27.20%	313	9.5%	50.5% / 48.7%	Hispanic or Latino
49.07	32.80%	361	20.1%	49.8% / 61.3%	Asian alone, not Hispanic
50.02	30.20%	704	10.2%	51.8% / 51.3%	Hispanic or Latino
43.02	28.10%	506	14.6%	71.8% / 44.1%	Asian alone, not Hispanic
96.40	24.80%	710	14.6%	68.6% / 49.0%	Black or African American alone, not Hispanic
48.02	25.80%	462	10.2%	57.4% / 38.5%	Asian alone, not Hispanic
Source: Sacramento Equity Explore Design (SEED) Geographic Information System (GIS) Tool					

Trauma

Based on the following data, the racial/ethnic groups most impacted by trauma are:

- Children and youth who identify as African American/Black
- Children and youth who identify as Hispanic/Latinx youth

KidsData shows that more than a fifth of children in Sacramento County (21.1% from 2016-2019) registered two or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), while nearly a third (31.5% from 2016-2019) had one ACE (see Table 8). Relative to all 41 counties included in the KidsData dataset, Sacramento County ranked ninth highest for the percentage of children with two or more ACEs and the fourth lowest for percentage of children with no ACEs.⁷⁷

Table 8. Adverse Childhood Experiences in Sacramento County, 2016-2019	
Number of ACEs	Percent
0 ACEs	47.4%
1 ACE	31.5%
2 or More ACEs	21.1%
Source: Kids Data	

⁷⁷ “Children with Adverse Experiences (Parent Reported), by Number,” Kids Data, Powered by PRB, Accessed: July 2024, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/1927/aces-nsch-county/table#fmt=2449&loc=127,1657,331,1761,171,2168,345,357,324,369,362,360,2076,364,356,217,354,1663,339,2169,365,343,367,344,366,368,265,349,361,4,273,59,370,326,341,338,350,2145,359,363,340&tf=139&ch=1256,1454,1456&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

Note: Data not available for Sacramento City.

This same dataset reveals disproportionalities in trauma exposure by race and ethnicity. Table 9 indicates that, statewide, a higher percentage of African American/Black and Hispanic/Latino children face one or more hardships compared to the overall population percentage (highlighted yellow cells). Among African American/Black and Hispanic/Latino children, 30.3-33% face two or more hardships, compared to 24.6% of white children. KidsData further notes that, based on the California Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) ACEs Module, “Among adults in households with children, those with lower educational attainment or lower household income were more likely to have four or more BRFSS ACEs, as were those with Medi-Cal or without any health care coverage when compared with privately-insured adults.”⁷⁸

Table 9. Child Hardships in California by Race/Ethnicity, 2013-2014

California	Hardships (%)			
Race/Ethnicity	0	1	2 to 3	4 or More
African American/Black	37.7%	29.3%	20.6%	12.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	76.0%	17.8%	4.9%	1.3%
Hispanic/Latino	45.6%	24.1%	22.9%	7.4%
White	52.4%	22.9%	15.5%	9.1%
Overall (combined)	51.8%	22.9%	17.8%	7.5%

Source: [Kids Data](#)

Source Note: “This indicator reports the prevalence of seven childhood hardships: (1) basic needs not met, (2) parental drinking or drug problem, (3) parental legal trouble or incarceration, (4) parental divorce or separation, (5) family hunger, (6) relocation due to problems paying rent or mortgage, (7) foster care placement. MIHA is an annual population-based survey of California resident women with a live birth in the calendar year. Percentages are weighted to represent all women with a live birth in California and counties during the time period.”

Note: This data is based on maternal survey data and is not disaggregated by other variables, such as gender, sexual orientation, and age. Disaggregated data for Sacramento County and Sacramento City are not provided.

⁷⁸ “Children with Adverse Experiences (Parent Reported), by Number,” Kids Data, Powered by PRB, Accessed: July 2024, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/1927/aces-nsch-county/table#fmt=2449&loc=127,1657,331,1761,171,2168,345,357,324,369,362,360,2076,364,356,217,354,1663,339,2169,365,343,367,344,366,368,265,349,361,4,273,59,370,326,341,338,350,2145,359,363,340&tf=139&ch=1256,1454,1456&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

Violence

In Sacramento City, those most impacted by shootings/homicides tend to be:

- Black
- Male
- 18-29 years old

The Sacramento City Police Department's Crime Report tracks shooting/homicide victims by ethnicity, sex, and age group. Per Tables 10, 11, and 12, to date in 2024, 60% of shooting/homicide victims are Black; 86% are male; and 48% are between the ages of 18-29.⁷⁹

Table 10. Sacramento City Shooting/Homicide Victims by Ethnicity (May 2024 and Year to Date)

Ethnicity	May 2024	Year to Date	Percent of Total (%)
American Indian	0	0	0.0%
Asian	0	1	2.0%
Black	12	30	60.0%
Hispanic	1	7	14.0%
East Indian	0	2	4.0%
Middle Eastern	0	0	0.0%
White	2	10	20.0%
Unknown	0	0	0.0%

Source: City of Sacramento Police Department [Firearm Crime Report](#)

Table 11. Sacramento City Shooting/Homicide Victims by Sex (May 2024 and Year to Date)

Sex	May 2024	Year to Date	Percent of Total (%)
Male	13	43	86.0%
Female	2	7	14.0%

Source: City of Sacramento Police Department [Firearm Crime Report](#)

Table 12. Sacramento City Shooting/Homicide Victims by Age (May 2024 and Year to Date)

⁷⁹ "Firearm Crime Report," City of Sacramento Police Department, Accessed July 2024:
<https://www.cityofsacramento.gov/content/dam/portal/police/crime---safety/Crime-Stats/2024/Firearm%20Crime%20Report%20-%20May%202024.pdf>

Age	May 2024	Year to Date	Percent of Total (%)
Under 18	2	3	6.0%
18-29	6	24	48.0%
30-39	5	11	22.0%
40-49	1	7	14.0%
50+	1	5	10.0%
Unknown	0	0	0.0%
Source: City of Sacramento Police Department Firearm Crime Report			

The Department further disaggregates data by a combination of ethnicity, sex, and age group. In May 2024 and in the year to date, Black males between 18-29 years old make up the highest percentage of shooting/homicide victims (33.3% and 28.0%, respectively). See Table 13 and 14, below.

Table 13. May 2024 Sacramento City Shooting/Homicide Victims by Sex/Ethnicity and Age Range

MAY 2024												
Sex / Ethnicity	< 18	<18 %	18-29	18-29 %	30-39	30-39 %	40-49	40-49 %	50+	50+ %	UNK	UNK %
Male - American Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Black	1	6.7%	5	33.3%	3	20.0%	1	6.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - East Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Hispanic	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	6.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Middle Eastern	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - White	0	0.0%	1	6.7%	1	6.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sex / Ethnicity	< 18	<18 %	18-29	18-29 %	30-39	30-39 %	40-49	40-49 %	50+	50+ %	UNK	UNK %
Female - American Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Female - Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Female - Black	1	6.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	6.7%	0	0.0%
Female - Hispanic	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Female - White	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Source: City of Sacramento Police Department [Firearm Crime Report](#)

Table 14. YTD 2024 Sacramento City Shooting/Homicide Victims by Sex/Ethnicity and Age Range

YEAR-TO-DATE 2024												
Sex / Ethnicity	< 18	<18 %	18-29	18-29 %	30-39	30-39 %	40-49	40-49 %	50+	50+ %	UNK	UNK %
Male - American Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Black	1	2.0%	14	28.0%	6	12.0%	2	4.0%	2	4.0%	0	0.0%
Male - East Indian	0	0.0%	2	4.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Hispanic	1	2.0%	3	6.0%	2	4.0%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Middle Eastern	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Male - White	0	0.0%	2	4.0%	1	2.0%	4	8.0%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
Male - Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sex / Ethnicity	< 18	<18 %	18-29	18-29 %	30-39	30-39 %	40-49	40-49 %	50+	50+ %	UNK	UNK %
Female - American Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Female - Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Female - Black	1	2.0%	2	4.0%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
Female - Hispanic	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Female - White	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Source: City of Sacramento Police Department [Firearm Crime Report](#)⁸⁰

Similarly, KidsData notes the juvenile justice system is overrepresented by youth who identify as youth of color, LGBTQ+, or male.⁸¹ They point to the disparate treatment of children of color, from arrest to incarceration, as well as the links to high poverty and inadequate access to resources such as housing and healthcare.

Table 15. Juvenile Felony Arrest Rate, by Race/Ethnicity (2020)	
	Rate per 1,000
African American/Black	16.2
Hispanic/Latino	2.8
White	1.6
Another Group	1.1
Source: Kids Data	
Note: Data not available for Sacramento City.	

Table 16. Juvenile Felony Arrest Rate, by Gender (2020)	
	Rate per 1,000
Female	.9
Male	5.8
Source: Kids Data	
Note: Data not available for Sacramento City.	

Crime data is limited, but student reporting through school climate surveys reinforces similar themes around youth populations most impacted by violence, while pointing to additional groups at risk. Per the 2019-2021 California School Climate Survey, the percentage of Sacramento County's 7th, 9th, and 11th graders who report they have been in a physical fight (one or more times in the past year) is higher for students who:

- Are African American, Latino/e, Pacific Islander, or mixed race/ethnicity

⁸⁰ "Firearm Crime Report," City of Sacramento Police Department, Accessed July 2024: <https://www.cityofsacramento.gov/content/dam/portal/police/crime---safety/Crime-Stats/2024/Firearm%20Crime%20Report%20-%20May%202024.pdf>

⁸¹ "Juvenile Felony Arrest Rate, by Gender," KidsData, powered by PBI, Accessed July 2024: <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/385/arrest-rate-gender/table#fmt=2333&loc=344&tf=110&ch=78.77&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

- Are male
- Reported not eating breakfast (proxy for low socioeconomic status)
- Reported living in a foster home or being homeless.⁸²

These surveys also point higher rates of reported school bullying and harassment among 7th, 9th, and 11th graders who:

- Are female
- Identify as transgender
- Identify as not straight/gay/lesbian/bisexual.⁸³

Impacted Populations by Other Goal Areas

Across the other goal areas not specifically named above – mental health, homelessness, substance abuse, and early development – many of the same populations are impacted. The below highlights illustrative data.

Mental Health

Across Sacramento County and in Sacramento City Unified school district, the percentage of students who reported that, over the past 12 months, they had 1) experienced chronic sadness and hopelessness and/or 2) considered suicide, tends to be higher for students who:

- Are female or nonbinary
- Identify as transgender
- Identify as gay/lesbian/bisexual
- Reported not eating breakfast (a proxy for low-income)
- Reported living in a foster home or being homeless

These trends are largely consistent over grade levels (7th, 9th, and 11th grade), time, and across City of Sacramento school districts. See Figures 2 and 3 for some illustrative examples.

⁸² “County: Sacramento | Most Recent Data (2021-23) | Violence and victimization on school property: been in a physical fight,” CalSCHLS, Accessed July 2024:

<https://calschls.org/reports-data/public-dashboards/f882f1e2-dfc0-4448-b90b-f49cef6e6d3f/>

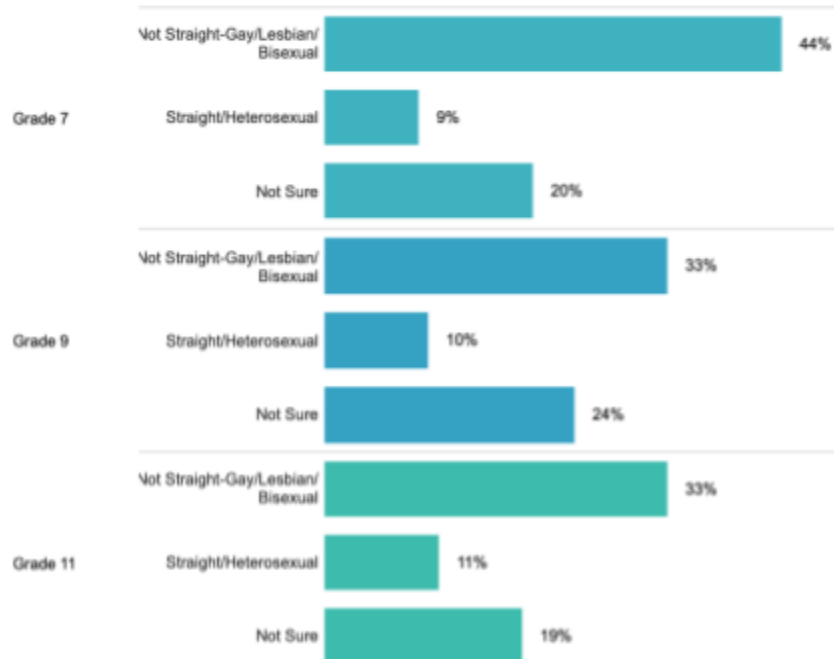
⁸³ “County: Sacramento | Most Recent Data (2021-23) | Any harassment on school property,” CalSCHLS, Accessed July 2024:

<https://calschls.org/reports-data/public-dashboards/f882f1e2-dfc0-4448-b90b-f49cef6e6d3f/>

Figure 2. Suicidal Ideation by Sexual Orientation: Sacramento City Unified (2021-23)

Considered suicide | Past 12 months

Results disaggregated by: **Sexual Orientation**



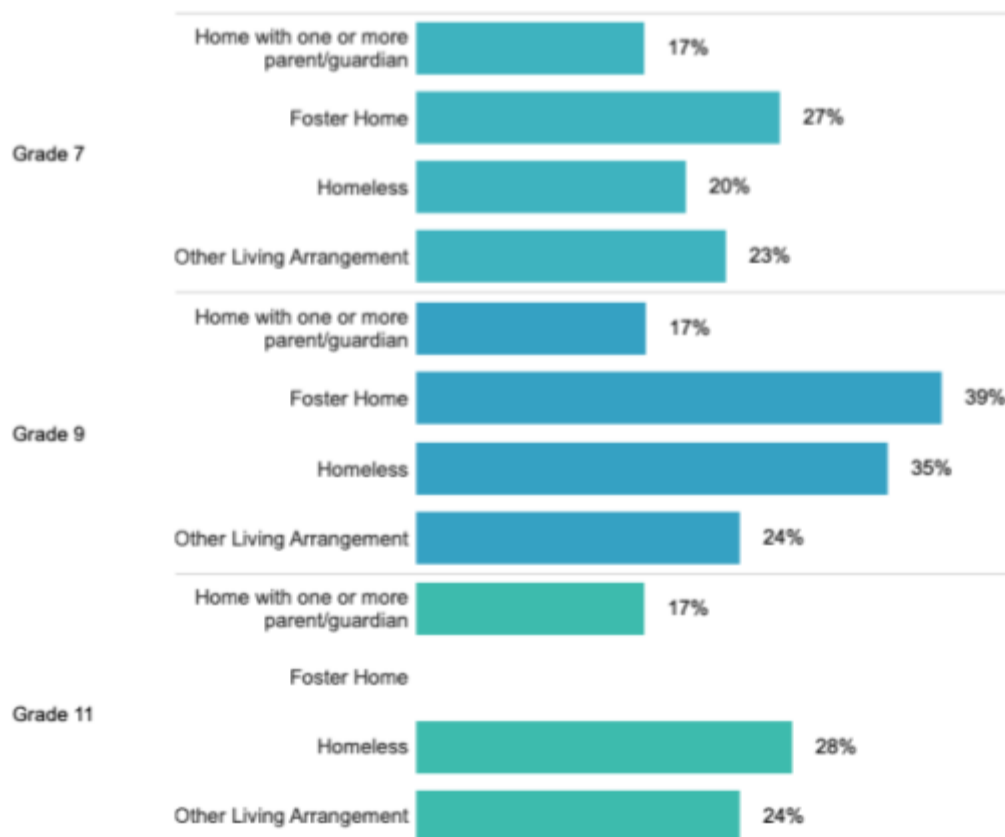
Source: California School Climate Survey:

<https://calschls.org/reports-data/public-dashboards/f882f1e2-dfc0-4448-b90b-f49cef6e6d3f/>

Figure 3. Suicidal Ideation by Living Situation: Sacramento County (2021-23)

Considered suicide | Past 12 months

Results disaggregated by: **Living Situation**



Source: California School Climate Survey:

<https://calschls.org/reports-data/public-dashboards/f882f1e2-dfc0-4448-b90b-f49cef6e6d3f/>

Homelessness

While adults made up the majority of the 2024 Point-in-Time Count, 6.6% of Sacramento's unhoused were transitional-aged youth (18-24) and 10.1% were children under 18.⁸⁴

Available disaggregations from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count indicate that relative to older respondents, those 24 and under were more likely to⁸⁵:

- Identify as LGBTQ+ (31% vs. 8%)
- Identify as transgender (9%) or gender non-conforming (8%) – nearly 1 in 5 (17% of youth vs. 1% of adults)

⁸⁴ "2024 Homelessness Point-In-Time Count Results," Sacramento Steps Forward, accessed July 2024: <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/PIT-Report-2024-06-04-Final-with-Cover.pdf>

⁸⁵ "Homelessness in Sacramento County: Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count," Division of Social Work and the Center For Health Practice, Policy & Research at the California State University, Sacramento, accessed July 2024: <https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>

Among unsheltered youth in the 2022 Point-in-Time Count⁸⁶:

- 43% attributed their homelessness to domestic violence (vs. 13% of adults)
- 49% reported previous placement in foster care or a group home by age 18 (vs. 22% of adults)
- 42% reported having a mental or learning disability, which kept them from employment or stable housing

Among families with children in the 2022 Point-in-Time Count⁸⁷:

- 60% were single headed households with 2-3 children
- Parents were more likely to be female
- 25% were fleeing domestic violence
- Half reported previous placement in foster care or a group home by age 18
- 43% identified as Black/African American, White (38%), and American Indian/Native Alaskan (7%). However, Black families made up a higher share relative to their overall proportion in the overall Sacramento County population (11%) and are 3x more likely to experience homelessness than White families. American Indian/Native Alaskan families are also disproportionately represented (2%).

Analyses from KidsData likewise indicate that statewide, young people at greater risk of homelessness tend to⁸⁸:

- Identify as Black/African American
- Identify as Hispanic/Latino
- Identify as LGBTQ+
- Have been involved with the child welfare or juvenile justice system
- Have disabilities
- Be English learners
- Be pregnant or parenting

Substance Abuse

Based on the 2019-2021 *California School Climate Survey*, Sacramento County 7th, 9th, and 11th graders *who reported living in a foster home or being homeless* report the highest percentages of using substances (including marijuana, alcohol, vaping, cigarettes) at least once within a month-long period.⁸⁹ This is largely consistent over time and when disaggregated by City of Sacramento school districts

⁸⁶ "Homelessness in Sacramento County: Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count," Division of Social Work and the Center For Health Practice, Policy & Research at the California State University, Sacramento, accessed July 2024:

<https://sacramentostepsforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PIT-Report-2022.pdf>

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸⁸ "Homeless Public School Students: Why This Topic Is Important," KidsData, Powered by PRB, Accessed July 2024:

<https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/230/homeless-students/table#jump=why-important&fmt=356&loc=344&tf=141&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

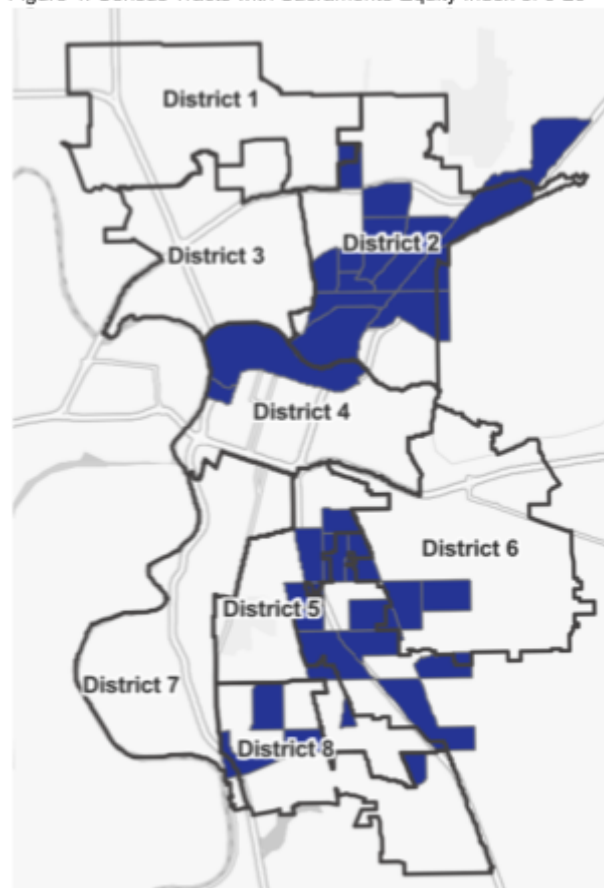
⁸⁹ "County: Sacramento | Most Recent Data (2021-23) | Current marijuana use," CalSCHLS, Accessed July 2024: <https://calschls.org/reports-data/public-dashboards/f882f1e2-dfc0-4448-b90b-f49cef6e6d3f/>

The 2024 California Children’s Report Card points to disproportionate suspension and expulsion rates for drug-related reasons for those who are low-income, male, and Black or Latino.⁹⁰ The City of Sacramento’s 2023 Racial Equity Committee Report reinforces this, noting that Black residents and males were more frequently arrested for cannabis charges.⁹¹

Impacted Populations by Geography

The most impacted populations also tend to correspond to certain Sacramento neighborhoods and communities. The [Sacramento Equity Explore Design \(SEED\) Geographic Information System \(GIS\) Tool](#) applies a Sacramento Equity Index by rank percentile, using the following data: People of Color, linguistic isolation, income, employment, housing cost burden, educational attainment, disability status, policing and incarceration, technology access, health insurance, neighborhood redlining information, and pollution burden.⁹² The lowest category is scored 0-20. Figure 4 shows in dark blue those Census tracts scoring between 0-20 on the combined Sacramento Equity Index. Corresponding districts and neighborhoods are presented in Table 17 and include District 2, District 4, District 6, and District 8, as well as areas within District 1 and District 5. See [Appendix B](#) for additional SEED Tool data.

Figure 4. Census Tracts with Sacramento Equity Index of 0-20



Source: Sacramento Equity Explore Design Tool

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c34d9a1597cf426086fbd7e8dea7016c>

Table 17. Districts and Neighborhoods with Sacramento Equity Index of 0-20					
District 1	District 2	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 8
Robla	Johnson Business Park	Downtown	South City Farms	Lawrence Park	Meadowview

⁹⁰ “2024 California Children’s Report Card: A survey of kids’ well-being and roadmap for the future,” Children Now, January 18 2024, <https://go.childrennow.org/2024-california-childrens-report-card>.

⁹¹ “City of Sacramento Racial Equity Committee Report, City of Sacramento, Accessed July 2024: https://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=21&event_id=4760&meta_id=743927

⁹² “Sacramento Equity Explore Design,” The City of Sacramento, Office of Diversity and Equity and Information Technology-Geographic Information System, Accessed: June 2024, <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c34d9a1597cf426086fbd7e8dea7016c>.

	Woodlake	Southern Pacific/Richards	Parkway	Fruitridge Manor	
	Old North Sacramento	Dos Rios Triangle	North City Farms	Avondale	
	Noralto	Old Sacramento	Central Oak Park	Glen Elder	
	Wills Acres	East Sacramento	Valley Hi/ North Laguna		
	Richardson Village		South Oak Park		
	Hagginwood				
	South Hagginwood				
	Erikson Industrial Park				
	Swanston Estates				
	Arden Fair				
	Ben Ali				
	Cannon Industrial Park				
	Del Paso Heights				
	Del Paso Park				
	Robla				
	American River Parkway				

The [Child Opportunity Index](#) (COI) serves as another tool to measure neighborhood resources and conditions. It is a composite index of 44 indicators across three domains:

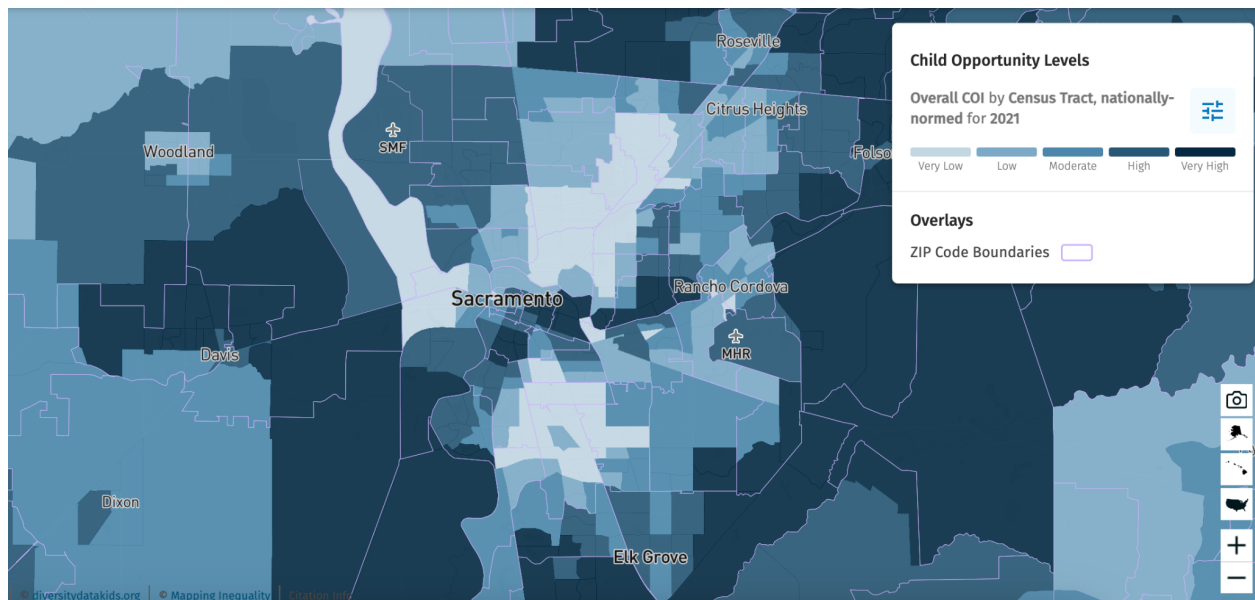
- Education, e.g.:
 - Pre-K enrollment
 - Reading and math test scores
 - Graduation rates
 - % of students in elementary schools eligible for free or reduced-price lunches (reversed)
- Health & Environment, e.g.:
 - Exposure to healthy natural environments using data on green space, tree canopies, parks, and air, noise and light pollution
 - Density of healthy food retailers
 - Density of non-profit organizations providing health-related services

- Social & Economic Opportunity, e.g.:
 - High-skill employment rate
 - Density of non-profit organizations

Based on data across these domains (covering 2012-2021, and updated annually where available), the COI scores U.S. census tracts from 1 (lowest opportunity) to 100 (highest opportunity) and categorizes them into five categories: very low, low, moderate, high, and very high opportunity. Published by diversitydatakids.org, the authors note that the COI is particularly useful in presenting racial/ethnic inequities in neighborhood access and opportunity and in informing policies and programs designed to increase equity for children and families.⁹³

Using the COI, 49 census tracts in Sacramento score as very low opportunity, per Figure 5. Many of these census tracts overlap with those with a Sacramento Equity Index score of 0-20, though there are some differences. Table 18 reflects these overlaps and differences.

Figure 5. Census Tracts by Child Opportunity Index Level



Source: diversitydatakids.org

Table 18. Districts and Neighborhoods with Sacramento Equity Index of 0-20 and/or Child Opportunity Index of "Very Low"						
LEGEND						
SEED Tool Sacramento Equity Index of 0-20 only						
Child Opportunity Index of "Very Low" only						
Both SEED Tool Sacramento Equity Index of 0-20 and Child Opportunity Index of "Very Low"						
District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 8

⁹³Clemens Noelke, Nancy McArdle, Brian DeVoe, Madeline Leonardos, Yang Lu, Robert Ressler, Dolores Acevedo-Garcia, "Child Opportunity Index 3.0 Technical Documentation." diversitydatakids.org, Brandeis University, 2024, diversitydatakids.org/research-library/coi-30-technical-documentation.

Robla	Johnson Business Park	South Natomas	Downtown	South City Farms	Lawrence Park	Meadowview
Glenwood Meadows	Woodlake	River Gardens	Southern Pacific/Richards	Parkway	Fruitridge Manor	Valley Hi/North Laguna
Pell/Main Industrial Park	Old North Sacramento	Gardenland	Dos Rios Triangle	North City Farms	Avondale	
	Noralto	Natomas Corporate Center	Old Sacramento	Central Oak Park	Glen Elder	
	Wills Acres		East Sacramento	Valley Hi/North Laguna	CSUS	
	Richardson Village			South Oak Park	College Town	
	Hagginwood			Woodbine	Southeast Village	
	South Hagginwood			Brentwood		
	Erikson Industrial Park					
	Swanston Estates					
	Arden Fair					
	Ben Ali					
	Cannon Industrial Park					
	Del Paso Heights					
	Del Paso Park					
	Robla					
	American River Parkway					
	Norwood I-80					
	Oak Knoll					
	Strawberry Manor					
	West Del Paso Heights					
	Johnson Heights					
	Raley Industrial Park					
	East Del Paso Heights					
	Parker Homes					

Key Challenges & Impacted Populations: Findings from Community Engagement

The community engagement process reaffirmed some insights from the landscape analysis regarding key challenges and impacted populations, while also contextualizing the findings through a local and youth-centered lens.

Cross-Cutting Challenges

The following highlights key challenges identified in careholder interviews and focus groups.

- **Young people and their families are struggling to meet basic needs.** Across all goal areas, careholders spoke to major challenges related to everyday needs. The rising costs of living, including housing, food, transportation, internet, and childcare, pose barriers to families' security and stability. These economic stressors can have a negative impact on child development, educational outcomes, and ability to participate in local youth development programs.
- **Young people feel unsafe.** Youth expressed a lack of safety in their schools and communities, where there is a sense of increased anger and distrust. They often witness school fights and stealing and are afraid of shootings and bullying. Some noted that language barriers, culture shock, and other stressors amongst recent immigrant communities may contribute to cultural misunderstandings, tensions, and fights with other youth. The ongoing housing crisis exacerbates these tensions, particularly when communities feel they are competing for housing and resources, and fear displacement.
- **Young people and their families want more social and economic opportunities.** There is a dearth of accessible spaces and engaging activities for young people to fill their time in fun, free, and safe ways. Youth and their parents/caregivers alike want opportunities for employment, workforce development, and economic mobility.
- **Mental health is a top challenge that affects all other goal areas.** Youth identified mental health as the top challenge for their peers and/or themselves. They pointed to a noted increase in depression and anxiety post-pandemic, compounded by pressures at school and at home. They linked poor mental health and trauma as underlying reasons for substance abuse and violence and named stigma around seeking help.
- **There is easy access and low knowledge around substances.** Vaping, marijuana, and alcohol are easy to access, promoted through social media and stores. Simultaneously, there may be low knowledge and education around the dangers of vaping and fentanyl.

Careholders pointed to the following barriers:

- **Low awareness:** Many youth and their families don't know what services are available. Services are not well promoted and there is no single directory for youth services in Sacramento. Youth experiencing homelessness and those not attending school are even less likely to know about available resources. City and County staff also flagged siloed, uncoordinated services across Sacramento.
- **Low accessibility:** Even when youth and their families are aware of community services, they face high barriers to accessing them. Barriers include limited time, high costs, inaccessible hours, social stigmas, long geographic distances, and lack of

transportation (e.g. lack of direct bus routes, not feeling comfortable navigating public buses, youth who are too young to drive themselves). Many programs are not inclusive or accessible to youth with disabilities. Workforce challenges impacting youth service providers, including understaffing, burnout, and turnover contribute to unavailability of language translation services, scarcity of culturally competent and trusted providers, and lack of providers trained to support youth with special needs and disabilities.

- **High costs:** The high cost of housing and childcare make these services especially out of reach for many families, with few available subsidized programs. When programs are offered free or at low-cost, families may still be unable to afford the costs associated with participation (e.g., sports uniforms/gear). These add to general economic insecurity and concerns over access to basic needs.

Impacted Populations

According to careholders who participated in the community engagement process, the most impacted populations are:

- Youth of color, in particular Black youth
- Teens and transition-age youth (ages 15-24)
- Youth in or transitioning out of foster care
- Youth who have been involved in the juvenile or criminal legal systems
- Youth who are undocumented
- Youth who are first-generation immigrants

Key Challenges & Impacted Populations: Findings from City of Sacramento Staff, Sacramento Children’s Fund Oversight Commission, and Sacramento Youth Commission

Key Challenges

During interviews and focus groups, SCFPOC Commissioners, Youth Commissioners, and City staff highlighted the following challenges facing Sacramento youth.

- **Cross-Cutting Challenges:** Youth are adversely impacted by systemic inequities and over-surveillance and punitive responses are employed too often. Additionally, youth and families struggle financially to meet everyday needs, including housing, food, transportation, and childcare.
- **Cross-Cutting Barriers:** Many youth and their families are unaware of existing services and of existing programs, most are not accessible to youth with disabilities. Many felt that there are insufficient culturally competent and culturally-tailored youth programs. Lack of safe and reliable transportation poses additional barriers to accessing youth programs and services.
- **Mental Health:** Youth continue to experience rising rates of anxiety, suicide, and bullying in schools. Many noted mental health as a top issue, given it impacts and touches all youth and families, regardless of age, gender, or background. Additionally, mental health challenges may be a key driver of youth substance abuse, housing and economic instability, and community violence.

- **Youth Homelessness:** Foster youth are disproportionately impacted by homelessness. Further housing instability is exacerbated by the lack of workforce development and life skills learning opportunities.
- **Youth Violence:** A rise in community violence may be tied to insufficient infrastructure and services offering alternatives to violence and gang involvement, as well as access to firearms.
- **0-5:** The high cost of childcare poses a burden and strain on low-income families. Commissioners and City staff additionally noted a lack of childcare facilities and a dearth of learning resources for parents and caregivers.

Impacted Populations

Commissioners and City staff named the following groups as disproportionately impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence.

- Communities that have experienced the most divestment (e.g., communities impacted by redlining, zoning, underfunded schools, racial discrimination)
- By populations
 - Youth of color (Black, Latinx, Native youth, Southeast Asian youth)
 - Youth who are first-generation immigrants
 - Youth who identify as LGBTQ+
 - Youth in or transitioning out of foster care
 - Youth who have been involved in the juvenile or criminal legal systems
 - Youth with disabilities
 - Families with low incomes*
 - Among commissioners, socioeconomic status surfaced as the
- By neighborhoods
 - Del Paso Heights (District 2)
 - Natomas (District 1)
 - Meadowview (Districts 7 and 8)
 - Oak Park (District 5)
 - River District (District 4)
 - South Sacramento (Districts 5 and 7)
- By age and stage of development
 - While recognizing that children, youth, and their families need support across a continuum of care, SCFPOC commissioners identified adolescence into early adulthood as critical stages of development for the SCF to target. This includes 13-17 year-olds as well as 18-24 year-olds.

Key Strategies

To understand effective approaches to addressing key challenges for youth, Third Plateau reviewed frameworks for youth development, the elements of effective programs, and specific strategies by goal.

Frameworks for Youth Development

The literature offers a plethora of frameworks for addressing challenges in child and youth development. The following highlights a few that may serve as potential models to organize and guide the SCF's investment plan approach and strategies.

Positive Youth Development

Historically, efforts to address youth development have been deficit-based, intended to reduce or eliminate problematic behaviors among at-risk youth. Many programs ignored underlying needs and narrowly focused on single issues – Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) being a notorious example. When evaluated, most of these programs fell short of their intended outcomes.⁹⁴

Contemporary frameworks, by contrast, tend to be asset-based. The Positive Youth Development (PYD) approach, as defined by the Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs, is “an intentional, pro-social approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people’s strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.” The operationalization of this definition varies but common themes across PYD frameworks include:

- “Young people need healthy, sustaining relationships.
- Young people need a sense of self-determination and agency.
- Services must be developmentally appropriate and informed by brain science.
- Young people’s comprehensive needs must be met, including their physical, mental, emotional, educational, career, and spiritual needs.
- Young people need supportive environments to thrive.”⁹⁵

Youth Development

The Youth Development (YD) framework offers a similar approach. Used as the foundation for the [City of Sacramento Youth Development Plan](#), the YD framework focuses on healthy youth development through community-wide strategies that strengthen young people’s support from their families, schools, and communities. The goals are to enable children and youth to become young adults who: “achieve economic self-sufficiency, maintain healthy family and social relationships, and contribute to the community.”⁹⁶ The framework posits that realizing these goals requires environments that enable young people to experience:

- “A sense of physical and emotional safety
- Multiple supportive relationships

⁹⁴ “Youth Development Guide,” Community Network for Youth Development, 2001, <https://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/ydguide.pdf?1499097609>.

⁹⁵ “Integrating Positive Youth Development and Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Approaches Across the Child Welfare and Justice Systems,” Child Trends, January 25 2022, <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/integrating-positive-youth-development-and-racial-equity-inclusion-and-belonging-approaches-across-the-child-welfare-and-justice-systems>.

⁹⁶ “Youth Development Guide,” Community Network for Youth Development, 2001, <https://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/ydguide.pdf?1499097609>.

- Meaningful participation
- Community involvement
- Challenging and engaging learning experiences that build skills.”

Figure 6. Youth Development Framework



Source: Youth Development Guide, Community Network for Youth Development, <https://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/ydguide.pdf?1499097609>

Levels of Prevention

A complimentary framework from the public health sector focuses on levels of prevention. The levels of prevention can serve as lenses through which to consider the spectrum or point of care.

- **Primary Prevention (“Upfront” Strategies):** These are “strategies everyone needs to be safe and thrive.”⁹⁷ They typically entail addressing upstream underlying root causes – often social and economic structures that impact people’s opportunities – to prevent issues from developing.⁹⁸ Examples include awareness programs to promote positive youth behaviors or positive parenting, as well as access to preschool enrichment, afterschool programs, and workforce development supports.

⁹⁷ “Prioritized Strategies to Prevent Violence Before it Occurs,” Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.preventioninstitute.org/sites/default/files/publications/UNITYPrioritizedStrategiestoPreventViolenceBEFOREitOccurs.pdf>.

⁹⁸ “Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Prevention Strategies in Public Health,” Office of the California Surgeon General, December 9, 2020, <https://osg.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/266/2020/12/Part-II-4.-Primary-Secondary-and-Tertiary-Prevention-Strategies-in-Public-Health.pdf>.

- **Secondary Prevention (“In the Thick” Strategies):** These are “strategies designed for those who may be at increased risk.”⁹⁹ They include screening and early intervention to minimize problems at early onset and to prevent additional, interrelated challenges. For example, mental health support early on could deter the use of substances as a coping mechanism; supporting youth newly experiencing housing instability could help prevent mental health challenges associated with that experience.
- **Tertiary Prevention (“Aftermath” Strategies):** These are “strategies to help individuals, families, and communities heal...and move forward in positive ways.”¹⁰⁰ For those already suffering from homelessness, substance abuse, community violence, and more, aftermath strategies ensure there are solutions and treatment options to overcome challenges, improve quality of life, and reduce the likelihood the problem(s) will reoccur.^{101 102} As examples, individual or family therapy can help reduce future violent behavior, while job placement or case management post-incarceration can facilitate healthy transitions and reduce the risk of recidivism.¹⁰³

City of Sacramento Youth Development Plan

The City of Sacramento adopted the Citywide Youth Development Plan in 2017 to guide the design, operations, and evaluation of its child and youth program investments. Developed in partnership with the SYC, the [Youth Plan](#) outlines goals from cradle to career, as well as a framework for integrating youth program quality at scale through evidenced-informed practices. The following highlights pertinent Youth Plan components for the SCF.

Goals

1. Contribute to the healthy development of children ages 0-5 so that they are prepared for school;
2. Provide resources, support, and connection to effective programs and services that lead to success in education;
3. Build 21st century skills including leadership, workforce development, life, resiliency, and social-emotional skills;
4. Provide opportunities for young people to become active and engaged community members;

⁹⁹ “Prioritized Strategies to Prevent Violence Before it Occurs,” Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.preventioninstitute.org/sites/default/files/publications/UNITYPrioritizedStrategiestoPreventViolenceBEFOREitOccurs.pdf>.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰² “Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Prevention Strategies in Public Health,” Office of the California Surgeon General, December 9, 2020, <https://osg.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/266/2020/12/Part-II-4.-Primary-Secondary-and-Tertiary-Prevention-Strategies-in-Public-Health.pdf>.

¹⁰³ “Prioritized Strategies to Prevent Violence Before it Occurs,” Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention, Accessed: May 2024, <https://www.preventioninstitute.org/sites/default/files/publications/UNITYPrioritizedStrategiestoPreventViolenceBEFOREitOccurs.pdf>.

5. Create a safe environment, both physically and emotionally, in all settings, honoring culture and community;
6. Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward those youth in greatest need;
7. Empower families to engage in their children's healthy development; and
8. Implement the youth development framework in all program design, operations, and evaluation.

Values Statement

- **Youth Voice:** We honor the youth's statement, "Nothing about us without us."
- **Elimination of Systemic Barriers:** We believe it is our responsibility to actively seek ways to break systemic barriers so that youth have access and ability to fully utilize resources and supports.
- **Cultural Humility:** We commit to acknowledging our individual and institutional biases, accepting that there are gaps in our knowledge, and being open to new ideas.
- **Mutual Respect:** We build relationships through developing a culture of mutual respect and inclusivity.
- **Integrity:** We believe in conducting our work in an honest, moral, ethical, and accountable manner.
- **Innovation:** The status quo is unacceptable if it is not improving the lives of Sacramento children and youth, and thus, we call for thinking outside of the box to better support Sacramento's youngest residents.
- **Courage:** We believe that having the audacity to take risks, stand up for what is right, and address the most challenging situations is unquestionable.

Framework for Children and Youth Programs

The Youth Plan offers the social justice principles and supports and opportunities below as a framework to guide program design, delivery, and practices to support positive outcomes. These are supplemented with definitions from the Community Network for Youth Development's [Youth Development Framework for Practice](#), which serves as the basis for City staff's training and program approach.¹⁰⁴

Social Justice Principles

- Analyze power in social relationships
- Make identity central
- Promote systemic social change
- Encourage collective action
- Embrace youth culture

Supports and Opportunities

- **Safety**

¹⁰⁴ "Youth Development Guide," Community Network for Youth Development, 2001, <https://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/ydguide.pdf?1499097609>.

- **Emotional:** Young people feel secure that they are valued and accepted; that they can participate without fear of teasing, harassment, or ostracism; that racial and cultural differences are embraced.
- **Physical:** Young people feel safe from physical harm and know that there are consistent and enforced rules that govern behavior.
- **Cultural:** Young people feel their cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds are known and understood.
- **Relationship-Building**
 - **With adults:** Young people have caring relationships with adults. They feel known and supported and receive emotional and practical encouragement.
 - **With peers:** Young people have caring relationships with their peers. They feel respected, bonded as part of a group, and can rely on each other for help.
- **Skill-Building**
 - **Challenging:** Young people stretch their skills, knowledge, and abilities.
 - **Interesting:** Young people are motivated to learn because activities interest them.
 - **Leading to growth and mastery:** Youth internalize a sense of mastery and competence on a wide range of competencies and skills.
- **Youth Participation**
 - **Input and decision-making:** Young people experience real involvement and decision-making. Programs are centered in their interests and shaped by their ideas.
 - **Opportunities for leadership:** Young people are self-directed, take on leadership roles and responsibilities, and feel a sense of ownership.
 - **Sense of belonging:** Young people gain a sense of belonging.
- **Community Involvement**
 - **Ability to impact community:** Young people know their community and feel connected to it. They have opportunities to give back to their community, make an impact, and be a productive member of it.

Key Strategies: Findings from Landscape Analysis

Alongside the aforementioned frameworks, the literature offers guidance on effective approaches that are specific to the Fund goal areas.

Mental Health

Strategies to support youth mental and emotional health span awareness and prevention, crisis care and intervention, and post-crisis or post-treatment services. Mental health awareness and promotion aims to *optimize* mental wellbeing,¹⁰⁵ encouraging positive mental health and building strength and resilience before mental health problems occur.¹⁰⁶ Mental health prevention aims to

¹⁰⁵ Vijender Singh, Akash Kumar, and Snehil Gupta, “Mental Health Prevention and Promotion—A Narrative Review,” *Frontiers in Psychiatry* 13, (2022), <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9360426/>.

¹⁰⁶ “Increase Students’ Mental Health Literacy,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, December 6 2023,

minimize mental health problems, preventing their onset or reducing their impact. Interventions can be school-based, community-based, individual/family-based, or digital. Effective mental health interventions feature many of the previously named cross-cutting elements of effective programs – for instance, addressing basic needs and the social determinants of health (poverty, homelessness, etc.), offering culturally competent and linguistically accessible services, and overcoming stigma. Specific strategies may include:

- **School-based education:** This set of strategies focuses on increasing students' mental health literacy through classroom curricula or school-based programming focused on mental health, mindfulness, and socio-emotional learning. Core lessons teach young people about mental health and reduce the stigma of mental illness, including how to maintain good mental health, how to cope with stress, what common mental disorders might be, and when and how to ask for help.^{107,108} More specifically, socio-emotional learning programs help build young people's self-management, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, social awareness, and self-awareness.¹⁰⁹ At school sites, multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) or response to intervention (RTI) models are common, with a focus on the universal supports that should be available to all students and tiered supports that should be available to students at higher risk.¹¹⁰
- **Peer mental health support and group settings:** According to an April 2020 survey conducted by citiesRISE, when youth in Sacramento County were asked who they wanted to receive mental health support from, the majority (63%) selected friends.¹¹¹ Teens in such programs share their mental health stories with each other, model positive attitudes and behaviors, and enlist trusted adults who can help.¹¹²
- **Relationship-building among youth, peers, adults, and families:** Students who feel cared for, supported, and like they belong are often buffered from negative mental health problems associated with feelings of social isolation or alienation. Programs that bolster these relationships typically focus on student-teacher relationships, parent-teacher or

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/mental-health-action-guide/increase-students-mental-health-literacy.html>.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁸ "Promote Mindfulness," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, December 6 2023,

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/mental-health-action-guide/promote-mindfulness.html>.

¹⁰⁹ "Promote Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Learning, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention," December 6 2023,

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/mental-health-action-guide/promote-social-emotional-and-behavioral-learning.html>.

¹¹⁰ "Multi-Tiered System of Supports," Child Mind Institute, Accessed: May 2024,

<https://childmind.org/education/childrens-mental-health-report/2016-childrens-mental-health-report/multi-tiered-system-of-supports/>.

¹¹¹ "Improving School-based Mental Health Services in Sacramento County," Sacramento County Mental Health Board, February 2022,

<https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Documents/Advisory-Boards-Committees/Mental-Health-Board/MHB-Reports-and-Workplans/RT-MHB-2022-School-Based-MH-Report.pdf>.

¹¹² "Increase Students' Mental Health Literacy," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, December 6 2023,

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/mental-health-action-guide/increase-students-mental-health-literacy.html>.

parent-school relationships, or peer-peer relationships and have been shown to reduce depression and anxiety.¹¹³

- **Cognitive behavioral therapy and counseling:** Cognitive-behavioral interventions encompass psychosocial skills training, therapy, and counseling that supports students to replace unhelpful thoughts and behaviors with helpful thoughts and behaviors.¹¹⁴ Programs are delivered by trained professionals in one-on-one or in small and large groups, often in a clinic, community-based provider site, or school.¹¹⁵
- **Crisis care/intervention and post-crisis services:** When youth are at risk of hurting themselves or others or unable to function effectively, immediate crisis care and intervention are critical, as is stabilization after the crisis. The National Guidelines for Child and Youth Behavioral Health Crisis Care recommends a continuum of care, focused on:
 - Someone to talk to (e.g., crisis call services);
 - Someone to respond on site (mobile response teams); and
 - A safe place to be (crisis receiving and stabilization services).¹¹⁶

Other key principles include: keeping youth in their homes, treating youth as youth through developmentally appropriate services, integrating family and peer support, and meeting families' cultural and linguistic needs.

Homelessness

Recommended strategies to reduce and prevent homelessness among youth incorporate many of the previously explored cross-cutting elements of effective programs, particularly those that emphasize a community-wide coordinated approach and focus on the most impacted. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), building on the work of the U.S. Interagency Working Group on Ending Youth Homelessness, identifies the following program models as essential parts of a coordinated community response: prevention; identification and engagement; emergency and crisis response; and tailored services and long-term housing solutions.¹¹⁷ Specific strategies may include:

¹¹³ "Enhance Connectedness Among Students, Staff, and Families," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, December 6 2023, <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/mental-health-action-guide/enhance-connectedness-among-students-staff-and-families.html>.

¹¹⁴ "Provide Psychosocial Skills Training and Cognitive Behavioral Interventions," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, December 6 2023, <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/mental-health-action-guide/provide-psychosocial-skills-training-and-cognitive-behavioral-interventions.html>.

¹¹⁵ "Adolescent Coping With Depression Course (CWD-A)," The California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare, July 2023, <https://www.cebc4cw.org/program/adolescent-coping-with-depression-course-cwd-a/>.

¹¹⁶ "National Guidelines for Child and Youth Behavioral Health Crisis Care," Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2022, <https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/pep-22-01-02-001.pdf>.

¹¹⁷ "Ending Youth Homelessness Guidebook Series: Promising Program Models," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Community Planning and Development, Accessed: May 2024, <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Ending-Youth-Homelessness-Promising-Program-Models.pdf>.

- **Primary prevention:** The goal of primary prevention is to keep children and youth housed with family.¹¹⁸ Promising programs focus on¹¹⁹:
 - **Family resiliency:** So that youth are safe at home, these programs focus on targeted family counseling, caregiver support, conflict resolution, respite, and behavioral health services. They can help relieve family pressures related to teen pregnancy, sexual orientation, or poverty and income insecurity.
 - **School-based screening and street outreach:** School district, college, and community liaisons can help identify at-risk youth and keep them in school and housed, offering healthy adult relationships and access to coordinated community supports.
 - **Foster care and juvenile justice or adult correctional systems transitions:** These approaches entail working with youth at moments of high risk of homelessness, such as before and after foster care and engagement with juvenile justice or adult correctional systems. For TAY, supports often cover money management, parenting skills, and job placement, while for systems-impacted youth supports often entail collaboration across law enforcement, diversion programs, probation offers, and after care programs.

- **Identification and engagement:** For youth who become homeless, early interventions focus on engaging youth early and, when appropriate, moving them towards safe family reunification.¹²⁰ First points of contacts are typically¹²¹:
 - **Mobile “street” outreach programs:** These programs leverage informal community contacts and outreach teams to seek out and build trust with youth who are homeless and to connect them to trauma-informed care and mobile teams or health centers that address basic needs, health care, counseling, and other services. Effective programs employ harm reduction models that focus on root challenges such as substance abuse and sexual or labor exploitation.
 - **Drop-in centers:** Drop-in centers offer a safe, welcoming, low- or no-barrier environment for youth who are homeless. In addition to helping youth access basic needs, they also link youth to trauma-informed care, peer support, and other coordinated services in areas such as education, work, and mental health.

¹¹⁸ “Ending Youth Homelessness Guidebook Series: Promising Program Models,” U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Community Planning and Development, Accessed: May 2024, <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Ending-Youth-Homelessness-Promising-Program-Models.pdf>.

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹²⁰ “Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness: A Coordinated Community Response,” U.S. Interagency Working Group on Ending Youth Homelessness, Accessed: May 2024, https://www.usich.gov/sites/default/files/document/Youth_Homelessness_Coordinated_Response.pdf.

¹²¹ “Ending Youth Homelessness Guidebook Series: Promising Program Models,” U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Community Planning and Development, Accessed: May 2024, <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Ending-Youth-Homelessness-Promising-Program-Models.pdf>.

- **Family engagement:** With the aim of family reunification, this comprehensive intervention model often uses a case management approach to help families reconnect and receive ongoing aftercare. Activities may include assessment; individual, family, and group counseling; conflict mediation; and connection to community supports, income, and health benefits.
- **Emergency and crisis response:** Promising short- and long-term alternatives to youth housing crises aim to provide housing environments that mitigate risk factors and strengthen protective factors.¹²² These include¹²³:
 - **Youth shelters and emergency services:** Youth shelters give young people a temporary safe housing solution to keep them off the streets. Oftentimes, individual case managers work with youth to plan for transitioning to stable housing while also facilitating peer, family, and community connection and safety and harm reduction. At times, short-term or one-time financial assistance is offered as an emergency boost.
 - **Host homes:** Youth service providers connect youth to “host homes” in an effort to provide stable housing within a young person’s existing community. Providers coordinate services and care, while hosts provide housing, food, and regular contact.
 - **Transitional housing and transitional living:** Youth who cannot live independently may access time-limited, supervised housing options (e.g., congregate housing with overnight staff, on-site supervised clustered units, or leased facilities). Promising programs offer individualized, flexible services; integrate education, employment, and income supports; and manage towards exit planning and permanent housing.
- **Tailored services and housing:** This approach is intended to help youth move towards long-term housing stability. It is rooted in a Housing First approach, which recognizes housing as necessary for people to make progress in other areas of their lives, such as employment or substance abuse recovery.¹²⁴ Young adults, typically ages 18+, receive rental assistance so that they can build income and savings, as well as voluntary services (e.g., job training, intensive case management, clinical support).¹²⁵ Property owners and landlords are critical partners, as are community service providers. Program models include:

¹²² “Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness: A Coordinated Community Response,” U.S. Interagency Working Group on Ending Youth Homelessness, Accessed: May 2024, https://www.usich.gov/sites/default/files/document/Youth_Homelessness_Coordinated_Response.pdf.

¹²³ “Ending Youth Homelessness Guidebook Series: Promising Program Models,” U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Community Planning and Development, Accessed: May 2024, <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Ending-Youth-Homelessness-Promising-Program-Models.pdf>.

¹²⁴ “Housing First,” National Alliance to End Homelessness, August 2020, <https://endhomelessness.org/resource/housing-first/>.

¹²⁵ “Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness: A Coordinated Community Response,” U.S. Interagency Working Group on Ending Youth Homelessness, Accessed: May 2024, https://www.usich.gov/sites/default/files/document/Youth_Homelessness_Coordinated_Response.pdf.

- **Rapid re-housing:** Rapid re-housing offers independent, affordable housing to young adults, typically for up to 24 months.
- **Non-time-limited supportive housing:** Programs provide supportive housing options, without time constraints, typically targeting high-need populations. The focus is on “moving on” to adult permanent supportive housing.

Substance Abuse

As in other issue areas, effectively decreasing youth substance abuse requires primary, secondary, and tertiary intervention. The strategies below are listed from primary to tertiary, and engage youth through a variety of touchpoints, including schools, families, and healthcare providers.

- **Substance abuse awareness, education, and prevention:** Evidence shows that effective substance use prevention programs are school-based, family-based, or digitally-based and provide a combination of skills development, drug-resistance strategies, information about drug policies and the effects of substances, and connection to services such as counseling or healthcare.¹²⁶
 - **Youth and family focused education and awareness campaigns:** These provide PSAs or resources aimed at the public, caregivers, or education professionals to use to engage youth around substance abuse (e.g., campaigns to educate on the dangers of fentanyl, the “Talk. They Hear You.”® campaign).¹²⁷
 - **Programs that support youth to build protective factors and skills:** Examples include drug resistance skills, general self-regulation and social skills, and/or changing normative expectations. For instance, training in “social resistance skills,” interventions designed with the goal of increasing adolescent’s awareness of the various social influences that support substance use and teaching them specific skills for effectively resisting both peer and media pressures to smoke, drink, or use drugs.¹²⁸
 - **Family-based interventions:** These provide instruction or training to parents and caregivers to enhance substance use preventive skills and practices for children and adolescents. Interventions include individual or small group sessions, web-based modules, printed instruction manuals and workbooks, or a combination of formats.¹²⁹

¹²⁶ “Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness: A Coordinated Community Response,” U.S. Interagency Working Group on Ending Youth Homelessness, Accessed: May 2024, https://www.usich.gov/sites/default/files/document/Youth_Homelessness_Coordinated_Response.pdf.

¹²⁷ “About the ‘Talk. They Hear You.’ Campaign,” Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, , Accessed: May 2 2024; <https://www.samhsa.gov/talk-they-hear-you/about>.

¹²⁸ Kenneth W. Griffin and Gilbert J Botvin, “Evidence-based interventions for preventing substance use disorders in adolescents,” *Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America* 19, no. 3 (2010): 505-26. doi: 10.1016/j.chc.2010.03.005. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2916744/>

¹²⁹ “Substance Use: Family-based Interventions to Prevent Substance Use Among Youth,” Community Preventive Services Task Force. June 2023, <https://www.thecommunityguide.org/findings/substance-use-family-based-interventions-to-prevent-substance-use-among-youth.html>.

- **Screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT):** SBIRT is an evidence-based approach to identify individuals who use alcohol and other drugs (substances) at risky levels. The goal of SBIRT is to prevent or reduce use of substances to prevent related health consequences, disease, accidents and injuries through an early intervention approach. The model includes a series of screener questions, administered by primary healthcare providers to assess risk levels among youth. Depending on the level, providers either offer advice, motivational interviewing, or a referral to substance abuse treatment.¹³⁰
- **Harm reduction:** Harm reduction is a set of strategies aimed at reducing the negative consequences of drug use that can include safer use, managed use, meeting people who use drugs “where they’re at,” and addressing conditions of use along with the use itself.
 - **Drug test kits:** These kits may detect fentanyl or other harmful substances in commonly abused drugs to prevent overdose, or naloxone kits which can rapidly reverse opioid overdose.
- **Youth-specific treatment programs:** Treatment should be tailored to youth life experience and culture. They must consist of effective wraparound methods that connect youth to the community and ongoing psychiatric supports and consider the co-occurring mental health needs of youth with substance disorders. The following are evidence-based treatments recommended for youth.¹³¹
 - **Medication-assisted treatment:** For example, the use of prescription medications for opioid and cessation medications and nicotine replacement therapy for tobacco dependency.
 - **Behavioral interventions and psychosocial treatment:** These include family-based therapy, 12-step programs, and cognitive behavioral therapy.
 - **Prescription digital therapeutics (PDTs):** Designed to be used in tandem with in-office treatment with a patient’s clinician, PDTs are FDA-approved behavioral health software -based treatments, often delivered on mobile devices. They provide telehealth services such as cognitive behavioral therapy, educational courses, or contingency management systems to support a patient throughout their recovery.

Youth Violence

Violence is not an inevitable nor intractable problem. Like many public health challenges, youth violence is preventable – as evidenced by the lack of youth homicides within Sacramento city limits in 2018 and 2019.¹³² These and other years of experience, locally and in cities across the country, demonstrate the promise of nurturing safety and supporting young people’s positive development through investments in strategies supported and led by community members and

¹³⁰ “SBIRT: Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment,” New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports, Accessed: May 2 2024, <https://oasas.ny.gov/sbirt>.

¹³¹ “California’s Youth: A Look at Tobacco, Drug, and Alcohol Use,” Children Now, August 2023, <https://www.childrennow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/sud-california-youth.pdf>.

¹³² “Expanded Homicide Offense Characteristics by Sacramento Police Department,” Federal Bureau of Investigation: Crime Data Explorer, Accessed: May 2024, <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/explorer/crime/shr>

community-based organizations that represent and work directly with youth and communities most impacted by violence and inequity. These strategies address the social forces and unhealthy community conditions at the root of unequal vulnerability to violence, establish strong relationships and intervene with young people who are at the center of risk for violence, and support individual and community healing and transformation in the aftermath of violence.

As explored in other goal areas, culturally-responsive, trauma-informed, and healing-centered strategies are vital for effective successful youth violence prevention, intervention, and recovery and for realizing communities of safety and opportunity in which all young people can thrive. Approaches should be largely supported and/or led by individuals and organizations with authority and credibility, or a “license to operate” from young people and in the communities being served. Efforts to intervene and interrupt cycles of violence by identifying and mediating conflicts in real time before they escalate, outreaching to and working with young people at the center of risk for violence, and providing stabilization resources and opportunities to young people and affected communities should be prioritized, as should strategies with potential to redress the systems of racism and inequity and resultant community conditions at the root of risk for violence. Specific strategies may include:

- **Community-based violence intervention:** Reduce youth violence, particularly homicides and shootings, by establishing strong relationships with young people at the center of risk for violence and creating opportunities to connect with community, including:
 - **Street outreach & violence interruption:** Interrupt the transmission of violence by deploying “violence interrupters” and outreach workers who respond to and de-escalate emergent or ongoing conflicts, broker peace between individuals and groups, support victims and their families, and provide access to social services;
 - **Life coaching & transformational mentoring:** Employ trusted community members or “change agents” who are effective at engaging and influencing youth/young adults who are directly involved in violence and providing them with intensive long-term support;
 - **Hospital-based violence intervention:** Combine the efforts of medical staff and community-based partners to provide intensive case management and wraparound services to meet the basic and recovery needs of youth/young adult survivors of violence-related injuries; and
 - **Group violence intervention with law enforcement:** Combine the efforts of community leaders, social service providers, and law enforcement to identify youth/young adults at the highest risk of violence in order to intervene and provide support.
- **School-based safety programming,** including:
 - **Restorative justice:** Leverage efforts within local school districts to develop restorative justice practices as an alternative to suspension/expulsion by creating a sense of belonging and providing a system of communal accountability that sets the stage for repairing harm;

- **Safe Passage:** Enlist a collaborative team of school and community leaders to ensure that children and youth arrive and depart school in a safe and timely manner; and
- **Schoolwide Positive Behavior Framework:** Create school environments that are socially predictable, consistent, safe, and positive by supporting children and youth with socioemotional learning, conflict mediation, and intervention services rather than punitive measures.
- **Youth workforce development and employment:** Invest in improving employment outcomes, including civilian job corps, paid internships and summer jobs for young people, soft skills training, and job placement.
- **Youth leadership and empowerment:** Provide civic engagement training for youth to activate their lived experiences and hone their leadership and advocacy skills.

Early Development (0-5)

As in the cross-cutting strategies, strategies to address the healthy development of children 0 to 5 must respond to systemic inequities, address root causes, and meet both individual and community needs. These strategies are particularly critical in this area given the impacts of health and financial disparities, as well as adverse childhood experiences, on early development. Further, a culturally responsive, whole family approach that addresses the needs of both young children and their parents, guardians, and caregivers is essential. Specific strategies include:

- Programs that address risk and protective factors for child maltreatment and ACEs, especially those focused on economic support, food and housing security (e.g., housing stipends), and quality childcare and early learning
- Peer support programs, home visitations, and parent/caregiver education focused on positive parenting and social support to minimize stress
- Flexible, subsidized childcare
- Early childcare workforce development and investment
- Integrated and holistic care models for pregnant people
- Income supports and program navigation

Cross-Cutting Qualities of Effective Programs

In line with youth development frameworks, Third Plateau found that program effectiveness was just as much about specific strategies by goal area but about the ways in which the strategies were designed and executed. The following highlights common qualities of effective programs, organized by who is providing the program, how the program is delivered, and how community members access the program.

In considering who provides the program, effective programs typically are led by:

- People with shared experiences and identities: Programs are led by credible, trusted individuals with shared and lived experiences, often called peers.
- Youth-led, youth-supported, or youth-informed: Many proven approaches leverage peer-led models where youth can relate to one another. Promising practices also use near-peer models and/or consult youth in design and integrate them into interventions.

- Caring, trusted adults: When peer-led programs are not possible, programs typically staff caring, trusted adults who create safe spaces and are held accountable.

In considering how programs are delivered, effective programs typically are:

- Tailored to youth needs: Programs center around unique youth needs and experiences, especially those identified by youth themselves.
- Strengths-based: Programs take an assets-based approach and view youth involvement as a strength.
- Culturally responsive and linguistically fluent: Programs are culturally competent and linguistically accessible. This includes being mindful of general stigma as well as cultural stigmas unique to the community served.
- Trauma-informed and healing-focused: Programs center around healing and consider the impacts of trauma. Offerings are non-punitive.
- Holistic prevention in addition to intervention: Linked to upstream impacts and basic needs, programs prioritize wraparound services and holistic approaches; such approaches typically cover multiple issue areas in one program or help connect youth to other available programs and referrals once they access one service.

In considering how community members access programs, effective programs typically are:

- Accessible: Programs are accessible to all youth, including youth with disabilities.
- Place-based: Programs are ideally located in the communities they serve and mindful of transportation access and barriers.
- Free, low-cost: Programs are offered for free or at a low-cost. When possible, programs offer stipends, compensation, or training credits for participation.
- Safe, trusted, neutral spaces: Programs leverage existing trusted and neutral community spaces.

Key Strategies: Findings from Community Engagement

Youth Voice and Peer Support

Community careholders most commonly highlighted approaches to child and youth development that were **youth- and/or peer-led**. Youth described being motivated by opportunities for young people to lead change, especially through peer **mentorship**. Community-based organizations, County staff, City staff, educators, and parents/caregivers underscored the critical role of **youth voice**. They also flagged the importance of ensuring that youth leaders are supported, given the tools to meaningfully and productively engage in program planning and implementation. Young people and parents/caregivers identified a particular opportunity to leverage youth-led programming for **mental health support**.

Other Key Strategies: Mentorship, Life Skills, Workforce Development, and Extended, Consistent Programming

The other top strategies recommended by various careholder segments include **mentorship**, **life skills**, **workforce development**, and **extended, consistent programming**. In particular, careholders were interested in programs that help youth develop critical life skills, including financial literacy, digital media, and leadership. Careholders emphasized the importance of

having safe, welcoming spaces to build a positive sense of self, strengthen connections to others, and explore diverse future career pathways. Youth shared that things that contribute to a sense of emotional safety include trusted adult allies, shared cultural identities, and supportive peers/friends. Youth additionally recommended tutoring and mentorship, whether from peers or trusted adults, as supportive of stronger educational outcomes and overall wellbeing. Careholders consistently named the need to support unmet basic needs as critical to the success and engagement of youth in any programs - including addressing challenges related to food, transportation, and work opportunities. The following visualizes the major themes by segment from careholder interviews and focus groups.

Figure 7. Preferred Careholder Strategies for Youth Development

	YOUTH VOICE	MENTORSHIP	WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	PEER SUPPORT	CONSISTENCY / EXTENDED HOURS	SPORTS	INCENTIVES	SAFE SPACES	PLACE-BASED
YOUTH									
PARENTS									
CBOS									
CITY/ COUNTY/ EDUCATOR									

Source: Third Plateau Community Engagement: Key Findings

Key Strategies: Findings from City of Sacramento Staff, Sacramento Children's Fund Oversight Commission, and Sacramento Youth Commission

City of Sacramento staff, the SCFPOC, and SYC uplifted additional considerations in strategies for supporting child and youth development.

Oversight commissioners were largely aligned on place-based approaches that build on:

- **Youth- and peer-led programming**
- **Trusting relationships**
- **Culturally-responsive, accessible approaches** that address stigma, especially service providers of shared backgrounds
- **Non-punitive responses** that address trauma and healing
- Existing successful **infrastructure** and **integrated family services**

They stressed the importance of comprehensive, cross-cutting approaches to addressing the Measure L goal areas. Several commissioners underscored the imperative of targeting **mental health support and services**, given its link across all goal areas.

From a prevention standpoint, there were mixed responses, but multiple commissioners flagged the need to prioritize **tertiary prevention/aftermath approaches** given the immediate, intensive, unmet survival needs of those most impacted by poverty, community violence, and trauma. Others noted secondary prevention/in the thick approaches as the next priority, with primary prevention/upfront approaches a potential focus of the SCF in future years, if the current crises can first be mitigated.

As far as specific strategies for the SCF, commissioners largely uplifted the value of addressing families' basic needs (e.g., economic supports) and ensuring that young people have essential skills for success (e.g., workforce development).

Existing Initiatives & Resourcing

Third Plateau also reviewed existing initiatives and resources for child and youth development in Sacramento. The intent was to identify complementary efforts and to surface opportunities for alignment, leverage, and coordination with the SCF.

City of Sacramento Public Resources

The City of Sacramento has a variety of youth serving citywide programs, supported by multiple funding streams that focus on and intersect with SCF goal areas. According to the City Auditor, in 2022-23 a total of \$22.9M from the City's General Fund supported baseline services aligned with the SCF goals. Figure 8 summarizes the breakdown of baseline funding by City department, as well as the Fund goal they support.

Figure 8. Baseline Funding and Fund Goals by Department 2022-23

Department	Baseline Programs	Fund Goals					Baseline Funding
		1	2	3	4	5	
Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment (YPCE)	13	•		•		•	\$ 10,841,921
Office of Youth Development (OYD)	4	•	•	•	•		\$ 4,240,340
Department of Community Response (DCR)	2	•	•	•			\$ 1,562,177
Sacramento Fire Department (SFD)	6	•					\$ 1,495,144
Sacramento Police Department (SPD)	4	•		•	•		\$ 1,421,979
Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)	4	•			•		\$ 1,041,552
Office of Innovation & Economic Development (OIED)	3	•				•	\$ 740,117
Office of the City Manager	1	•					\$ 750,000
Office of Cannabis Management (OCM)	1	•		•			\$ 525,000
Convention & Cultural Services (CCS)	4	•					\$ 192,188
Mayor and City Council	3	•				•	\$ 50,825
Office of the City Clerk	1	•					\$ 11,130
Community Development Department (CDD)	1	•					\$ 5,839
Information Technology (IT)	1	•					\$ 5,706
Total	48						\$ 22,883,918

Source: Sacramento City Auditor's Office based on Baseline Funding analysis

Fund Goal Areas: 1) mental health, 2) homelessness, 3) substance abuse, 4) violence, 5) healthy development 0-5

The following outlines the major programs by department and Fund goal. One-time or short-term funds, such as ARPA-funded programs are not included.

- Mental Health
 - [Youth, Parks & Community Enrichment \(YPCE\)](#): Office of Youth Development, Youth Sports Field Permit Program, Access Leisure, Aquatics, Camp Sacramento, Community Centers, Community Recreation Services, Youth Workforce Development, Youth Enrichment, Youth Expanded Learning
 - Office of Community Response: Step Up Outreach and Housing Coordination Program
- Homelessness:
 - Office of Homeless Services: Homeless services, including Homeless Housing Initiative and annual contracts for congregate sheltering, non-congregate sheltering, and support services programs
 - Office of Community Response: Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention III, which includes ongoing youth shelter contracts, ESG Step Up Outreach and Housing Coordination Program
- Substance Abuse:
 - YPCE: Office of Youth Development grant programming
 - Office of Community Response
- Violence:
 - Office of Violence Prevention (OVP): OVP contributes approximately \$1 million to the Measure L baseline funding annually. OVP collaborates with CBOs to prevent youth involvement in gangs and assists individuals in leaving gangs. OVP programs include: Gang Prevention and Intervention Taskforce, OVP Disruption, Response, Intervention & Prevention, Youth Peacemaker Fellowship, Lifeline Program
 - Measure U: Office of Community Response Violence Prevention
- Child Development, 0-5
 - YPCE: START, Fourth R, Expanded Learning
 - Sacramento Public Library: With 28 branches across the County, the Sacramento Public Library offers youth and family opportunities, including early learning and school readiness, tutoring and homework help, story-times, job-search assistance.

For details on each of the above and the City of Sacramento's youth programming more broadly, please see [Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment Department's presentation to the SCF Planning and Oversight Commission](#). Additional resources and information about local programs, services, and providers, including employment, housing, financial assistance, food programs, mental health, substance abuse, homeless services, emergency/crisis programs, and more, can be found on [2-1-1 Sacramento](#).

State of California and Sacramento County Public Resources

The State of California has funding programs that support services and resources for youth across and within fund goal areas. Major funding sources and infrastructure include:

- Mental Health
 - Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services (SCBHS)
 - Under the Medi-Cal [Specialty Mental Health Services](#) (SMHS) Program - Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services covers inpatient and outpatient SMHS services to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries with serious and persistent psychiatric illness, including intensive care coordination, intensive home based services, therapeutic foster care, and therapeutic behavioral services. Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans cover behavioral services for members who do not qualify for SMHS.
 - SCBHS operates a mental health urgent care clinic and provides mental health support to youth incarcerated at the detention facility.
 - SCBHS additionally contracts with community-based providers who offer mental health services to children and youth throughout the City, both funded through Medi-Cal, as well as through the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). These community programs include mental health and wellness counseling, peer support, prevention, and culturally-specific supports.
 - Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE): With a goal of placing a mental health clinician in every K-12 school, SCOE is gradually increasing the number of clinicians, family navigators, peer specialists, and associate-level therapists in schools. SCOE clinicians are able to bill Medi-Cal when serving youth enrolled in Medi-Cal on school sites.
 - Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide valuable mental health services through Medi-Cal funding. [As of 2019](#), there were seven FQHCs operating 32 sites across the county.
 - The Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013/SB-82
 - California Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI): Starting in 2020, this five-year program supports an integrated, youth-centered mental health system by investing in agencies and community providers to offer trauma-informed care, youth-driven programs, and youth education campaigns.
 - Workforce initiatives in mental health support diversification of the workforce and expansion of mental health prevention and support services.
 - In 2020, SB 823 allowed for Medi-Cal billing to support a new [Peer Specialist Program](#), which offers certification and training for youth to be employed by Sacramento County and with local community-based providers.
 - The [California Certified Wellness Coach Initiative](#) offers an entry-level opportunity for people with an associates or bachelor's degree.
- Homelessness
 - California Department of Social Services transitional housing programs for current and former foster youth
 - Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program: The [2022-2025 Sacramento Local Homeless Action Plan](#) was developed to create a cross-jurisdictional unified approach to addressing homelessness across

Sacramento County. The Sacramento region applied for another round of HHAP funding in March 2024.

- Sacramento County Department of Homeless Services & Housing
- [Guaranteed Income Pilot Program](#) for former foster youth, taking place in San Francisco County and Ventura County (18 month pilot programs, each giving monthly funds to former foster youth), with five more pilots launching in 2024.
 - In partnership with the County and City of Sacramento, United Way has been piloting a [Guaranteed Income program](#) to support low-income families, including one program focused on the City and two cohorts focused on families throughout the County.
- Substance Abuse:
 - Department of Health Care Services: Elevate Youth California
 - Board of State and Community Corrections [Proposition 64 Public Health & Safety Grant Program](#): The City of Sacramento's Office of the City Mayor received a five-year \$3 million grant for the [#SacYouthWorks #Futures project](#) to support 800 youth in creating pathways to healthy futures and postsecondary success through marijuana prevention education, work-readiness training, and community service.
 - Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services' Alcohol and Drug Services Program offers outpatient treatment, detoxification/withdrawal management, residential treatment, sober living environments, and specialty court/drug diversion programs
- Violence:
 - The California Violence Intervention & Prevention (CalVIP) grant program
- Child Development, 0-5
 - First 5 California
 - Sacramento County Department of Child, Family, and Adult Services
 - Sacramento County Office of Education
 - Sacramento County Public Health: Offers programs related to community health promotion and maternal, child, and family services, including Black Infant Health (BIH); Women, Infants & Children (WIC); and African American Perinatal Health (AAPH)

While funding sources often focus on a specific goal area, the nonprofit organizations and government jurisdictions receiving the funds typically take a more holistic approach, offering integrated services to youth that address multiple fund goals. Further, some state programs, such as Elevate Youth California, take a nuanced approach, addressing upstream inequities and policy change as well as funding for prevention and intervention.

Major Philanthropic Resources

Philanthropic investments significantly supplement public resources available to Sacramento children, youth, and their families.

Established in 1983, the [Sacramento Regional Community Foundation](#) has served as a center for philanthropic giving in Sacramento County as well as in El Dorado, Placer and Yolo counties.

- In 2023, the foundation awarded approximately \$24 million in grants and scholarships to the region, including five grants to youth-led projects through the Foundation's Grants Advisory Board for Youth (GABY).¹³³ This includes more than \$500,000 in grants to over 300 youth-led programs since 2003.¹³⁴
- In a January 2024 post, Foundation leadership indicated that potential new priority giving areas may be some subset of workforce and economic development, education, health access and equity, and youth development.¹³⁵ This builds on a pre-2022 focus on improving diversity among nonprofits, their staff, and constituencies, increasing college completion rates among students from underrepresented backgrounds, developing arts education, and streamlining emergency food networks to address food insecurity.¹³⁶

In addition to the Sacramento Region Community Foundation, other foundations giving to youth-related organizations in Sacramento include: the California Endowment, Sierra Health Foundation, and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals.¹³⁷

- [The California Endowment](#) works to further health and racial equity statewide, focusing on health systems, inclusive community development, justice reinvestment, power infrastructure, and schools.¹³⁸ From 2015 to 2024, the Endowment has made approximately \$44.7 million in grants serving youth and young adults in Sacramento.¹³⁹
- [Sierra Health Foundation](#) focuses on health and racial equity in more than 20 counties in Northern California, with investments in children, youth, and families; economic stability; climate health equity; and policy and systems change.¹⁴⁰ From 2015 to 2024, the

¹³³ "Year in Review: 2023," Sacramento Region Community Foundation, March 7 2024, <https://www.sacregcf.org/year-in-review-2023/>.

¹³⁴ "Grants Advisory Board for Youth," Sacramento Region Community Foundation, Accessed: April 2024, <https://www.sacregcf.org/grant/grants-advisory-board-for-youth/>.

¹³⁵ Kerry Wood, "Community-Led Transformation," Sacramento Region Community Foundation, January 2 2024, <https://www.sacregcf.org/community-led-transformation/>.

¹³⁶ "Our Impact," Sacramento Region Community Foundation, Accessed: April 15 2024, <https://web.archive.org/web/20210131140848/https://www.sacregcf.org/our-impact/about-our-initiatives/>.

¹³⁷ Foundation Directory Online, Year: 2015-2024, Recipient Location: Sacramento, CA, Population Served: Children and youth, Young adult, Accessed: May 2024, <https://fdo.foundationcenter.org/>.

¹³⁸ "Our Focus Areas," The California Endowment, Accessed April 2024, <https://www.calendow.org/focus-area-list/>.

¹³⁹ "Foundation Directory Online," Organization Name: California Endowment, Year: 2015-2024, Recipient Location: Sacramento, CA, Population Served: Children and youth, Young adults, Candid, Accessed: June 2024, https://fdo.foundationcenter.org/fdo-search/results?activity=form&_new_search=1&quicksearch=California+Endowment&subject_match=match_any&subject_area=&geographic_focus=&population_match=match_any&population_served=PA0201%2CPA01&organization_name=CALI071%7Cgrantmaker&organization_location=5389489&staff=&government_grantmaker=1&support_strategy=&transaction_type=&organization_type=&amount_min=%240&amount_max=%2410%2C000%2C000%2C000&year_min=2015&year_max=2024&keywords=&ein.

¹⁴⁰ "Programs," Sierra Health Foundation, Accessed April 2024, <https://www.sierrahealth.org/programs/>.

foundation and its Center for Health Program Management made approximately \$8.7 million in grants serving youth and young adults in Sacramento.¹⁴¹

- [Sutter Valley Hospitals](#) is a not-for-profit healthcare system providing healthcare, serving Medi-Cal patients, and reinvesting resources back into communities.¹⁴² From 2015-2024, Sutter Valley Hospitals gave approximately \$10.4 million in grants to organizations in Sacramento serving youth and young adults.¹⁴³

¹⁴¹ "Foundation Directory Online," Organization Name: Sierra Health Foundation, Sierra Health Foundation Center for Health Program Management, Year: 2015-2024, Recipient Location: Sacramento, CA, Population Served: Children and youth, Young adults, Candid, Accessed: June 2024, https://fconline.foundationcenter.org/fdo-search/results?activity=form&_new_search=1&quicksearch=California+Endowment&subject_match=match_any&subject_area=&geographic_focus=&population_match=match_any&population_served=PA0201%2CPA01&organization_name=SIER001%7Cgrantmaker&organization_location=5389489&staff=&government_grantmaker=1&support_strategy=&transaction_type=&organization_type=&amount_min=%240&amount_max=%2410%2C000%2C000%2C000&year_min=2015&year_max=2024&keywords=&ein=.

¹⁴² "About Sutter Health", Sutter Health, Accessed June 2024, <https://www.sutterhealth.org/about>

¹⁴³ "Foundation Directory Online," Organization Name: Sutter Valley Hospitals, Year: 2015-2024, Recipient Location: Sacramento, CA, Population Served: Children and youth, Young adults, Candid, Accessed: June 2024, https://fconline.foundationcenter.org/fdo-search/results?activity=form&_new_search=1&quicksearch=&subject_match=match_any&subject_area=&geographic_focus=&population_match=match_any&population_served=PA0201%2CPA01&organization_name=SUTT062%7Cgrantmaker&organization_location=5389489&staff=&government_grantmaker=1&support_strategy=&transaction_type=&organization_type=&amount_min=%240&amount_max=%2410%2C000%2C000%2C000&year_min=2015&year_max=2024&keywords=&ein=.

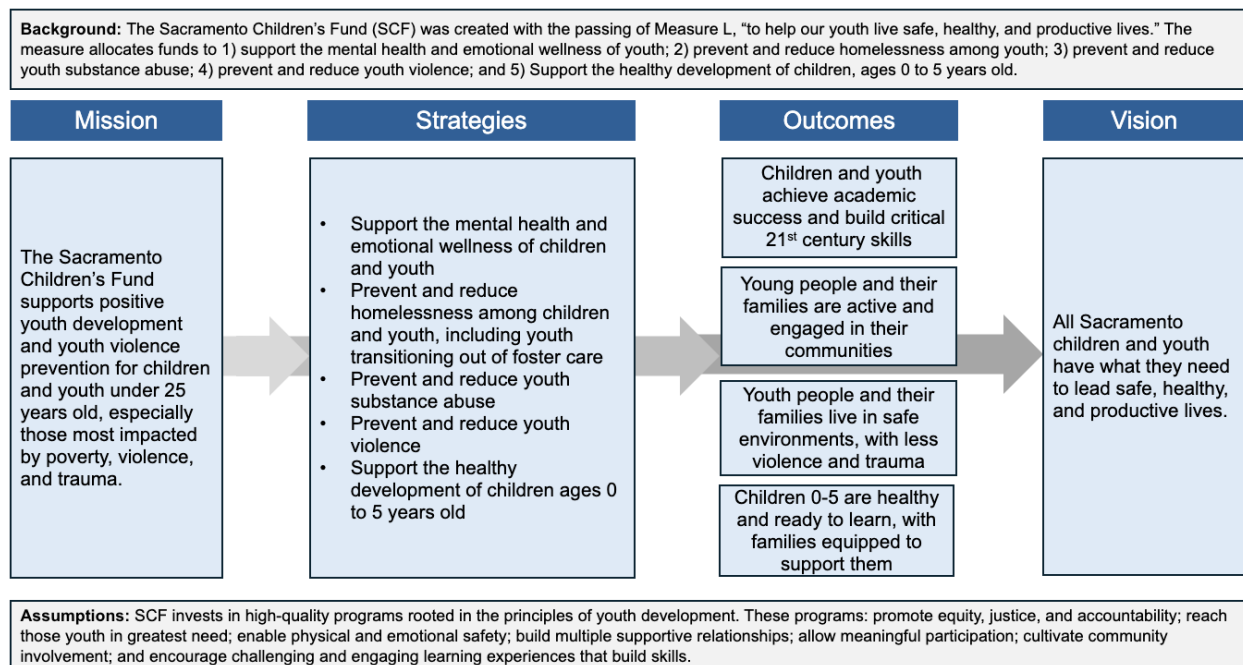
PART 3: INSIGHTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Informed by the research and shaped through ongoing consensus-building across the SCFPOC, this section offers insights for the City's investment considerations and decisions. These include a re-grounding in the overall purpose of the SCF (vision, mission, and theory of change) alongside recommended frameworks and strategies for fulfilling this purpose. Again, these are distinct from recommendations from the SCFPOC included in the final SIP.

THEORY OF CHANGE

A theory of change visualizes a logical hypothesis for how and why desired change is expected to happen. The following is a potential outline for a theory of change for the SCF SIP.

Figure 9. SCF Theory of Change



PRIORITY POPULATIONS

The SCF should support populations most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence. These groups tend to be disproportionately represented living and working in communities that have been most disinvested in – historically and/or currently.

Based on research findings, the Fund should target resources towards the following priority populations.

By Demographic Group

High Priority Groups

- Children, youth, and families with low incomes
- Children, youth, and families of color (Black, Latinx, Native, Southeast Asian)

Other Groups

- Youth who are first-generation immigrants
- Youth who identify as LGBTQ+
- Youth in or transitioning out of foster care
- Youth who have been involved in the juvenile or criminal legal systems
- Youth with disabilities

By Geography

High Priority Geographies

The Fund should target geographies aligned to the census tracts in the lowest 0-20 percentile on the SEED tool. Per Table 18 in this report, this includes:

- District 1:
 - Robla
- District 2:
 - Johnson Business Park
 - Woodlake
 - Old North Sacramento
 - Noralto
 - Wills Acres
 - Richardson Village
 - Hagginwood
 - South Hagginwood
 - Erikson Industrial Park
 - Swanston Estates
 - Arden Fair
 - Ben Ali
 - Cannon Industrial Park
 - Del Paso Heights
 - Del Paso Park
 - Robla
 - American River Parkway
- District 4:
 - Downtown
 - Southern Pacific/Richards
 - Dos Rios Triangle
 - Old Sacramento
 - East Sacramento
- District 5:
 - South City Farms
 - Parkway
 - North City Farms
 - Central Oak Park
 - Valley Hi/ North Laguna

- South Oak Park
- District 6:
 - Lawrence Park
 - Fruitridge Manor
 - Avondale
 - Glen Elder
- District 8:
 - Meadowview

The Fund should additionally target geographies having "very low" opportunity for children, as identified by the Child Opportunity Index. Per Table 18, neighborhoods that score as "very low," but do not fall into the neighborhoods already listed above in the 0-20 percentile on the SEED tool include:

- District 1:
 - Glenwood Meadows
 - Pell/Main Industrial Park
- District 3:
 - South Natomas
 - River Gardens
 - Gardenland
 - Natomas Corporate Center
- District 5:
 - Woodbine
 - Brentwood
- District 6:
 - CSUS
 - College Town
 - Southeast Village
- District 8:
 - Valley Hi/North Laguna

By Age and Stage of Development

High Priority Age Groups

- Youth, 13-17
- Youth, 18-24

Other Age Groups

- Young Children, 0-5
- School Age Children and Youth, 6-12

PRIORITY STRATEGIES

Rather than promote a new set of strategies, the SCF should build on Sacramento's existing initiatives and resources. This means aligning the Fund investments to strategies and programs that advance the goals, values, and framework of [Sacramento's Youth Development Plan](#). Specifically, this should prioritize strategies and programs that:

- Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward those youth in greatest need; and
- Implement the Youth Development framework practices in all program design, operations, and evaluation, particularly programs that enable youth to experience:
 - Physical, cultural, and emotional safety
 - Multiple supportive relationships
 - Meaningful participation
 - Community involvement
 - Challenging and engaging learning experiences that build skills

The following offers, for each goal area, the types of strategies and programs that should be paramount. These were identified through a consideration of landscape research, community feedback, and input from commissioners, youth commissioners, and City staff. Critical factors include:

- Areas identified as high-need
- Evidence-based approaches and [community-defined evidence based practices](#)
- Gaps in existing initiatives or resourcing
- Potential for impact relative to available investment dollars
- Secondary and tertiary prevention that supports those in the thick of crises and their aftermath

Given the shift towards continuity in comprehensive care, we expect overlaps across the goal areas, both in the outcomes they are in service of and the service modalities. We also name additional cross-cutting priority strategies in service of supporting children, youth, and families to meet their basic needs.

Table 19. Goals & Strategies
Goal 1. Support the mental and emotional wellness of children and youth
Priority Strategies • Mental health and socio-emotional well-being: Programs that promote young people's mental and emotional health, including school-, community-based, and peer-led awareness and prevention, crisis care and intervention, and post-crisis or post-treatment services.
Goal 2. Prevent and reduce homelessness among children and youth, including youth transitioning out of foster care
Priority Strategies • Access to basic needs: Programs that increase access to resources, cash, or stipends that help youth meet their daily needs (housing, food, etc.), including universal basic income or other economic supports.
Goal 3. Prevent and reduce youth substance abuse

Priority Strategies

- Substance abuse screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT): Programs that prevent or reduce the use of substances through screening to assess the severity of use, brief interventions focused on motivational interviews to promote awareness and behavior change, and referral to treatment for high-risk use and speciality care.

Goal 4. Prevent and reduce youth violence

Priority Strategies

- Programs that aim to reduce youth violence by establishing strong relationships with young people at the center of risk for violence and creating opportunities to connect with community, particularly:
 - Intensive life coaching for active offenders and victims of violence
 - Street outreach/violence Interruption

Goal 5. Support the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5 years old

Priority Strategies

- Family support:
 - Programs that support caregivers to build positive parenting skills and manage the stressors of parenting young children, including home visitation programs and peer programs
 - Programs that offer income supports and navigation services
 - Programs that provide resources or opportunities for families to access high-quality childcare for their young children
- Early learning & school readiness: Programs that support early literacy and learning to prepare young children for kindergarten and beyond

Cross-Cutting Goal. Support children, youth, and families to meet basic needs

Priority Strategies

- Access to basic needs: Programs that increase access to resources, cash, or stipends that help youth meet their daily needs (housing, food, etc.), including universal basic income or other economic supports.
- Enrichment and out-of-school programs: Programs that facilitate out-of-school enrichment opportunities that support hands-on learning, such as through sports, arts, sciences, transformative travel, the outdoors, and life skills.
- Workforce development and employment: Programs that provide career education and counseling, link youth to internships and jobs, and offer job training to build relevant knowledge, skills, and work readiness.
- Mentorship: Programs that facilitate ongoing relationship-building between caring adults and/or peers to provide support and guidance to youth.
- Navigation services: Programs that facilitate access and connections to health and social services.
- Family engagement and resilience: Programs that meaningfully strengthen families by engaging them in decisions and activities that impact children and youth.

IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

The City of Sacramento should also keep in mind the following considerations, shared by the SFPOC, SYC, and/or community members during the planning process.

- Draw upon the principles of [trust-based philanthropy](#), including:
 - Offer multi-year grants, as possible. Where multi-year grant agreements are not possible, consider streamlined renewal options for existing grantees who have demonstrated high-impact programs.
 - Offer general operating grants, as possible (recognizing per Measure L that children and youth must be explicit and primary recipients, not tangential).
 - Limit proposal and reporting burdens.
 - Gather and take action on grantee feedback. Solicit feedback to support continued program improvement, year over year. Share findings with SCFPOC to support adjustments and improvements to the SIP.
- Balance trust-based practices with accountability measures, ensuring the City receives agreed upon output/outcomes data and can monitor and terminate grants, as needed.
- Be responsive to emerging needs and events. Keep a pulse on local community needs and revisit investment strategies, as needed, to adapt to the changing environment. Leverage annual reports and three-year evaluations for this purpose.
- Encourage, facilitate, and leverage collaboration, as possible. Support collaborative efforts across organizations and convene partners to creatively address shared challenges.
- Utilize a lens of equity across all programs.
 - Prioritize efforts that demonstrate they are successfully expanding access for those youth in greatest need and the hardest-to-reach communities, including those who have not been engaged in services.
 - Utilize an asset-based approach and acknowledge the identities and intersectionality of populations served.
 - Recognize systemic inequities and the cross-cutting nature of priority outcomes, strategies, and challenges. The issue areas addressed by Measure L, such as homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health, don't exist in isolation, but represent risk factors for one another, collectively tied to inequities in current and historical economic and social systems.

APPENDIX A: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Community Engagement: Interviews & Focus Groups

Third Plateau engaged the Sacramento community between March and July 2024.

The table below specifies the roles and/or organizational affiliations of participating careholders. Individual names are omitted for confidentiality.

Table 20. Community Engagement by Type of Careholder		
Careholder Type	# of Individuals Engaged	Affiliated Organizations
Youth	122	Ball Out Academy Black Youth Leadership Project California Homeless Youth Project California Youth Connection Children Now Coloma Community Center Department of Sound EBAYC First 5 Sacramento Health Education Council Hiram Johnson High School Impact Sac La Familia Counseling Center Luther Burbank High School Muslim American Society Mutual Assistance Network Oak Park Community Center S@CH Peer Mentors Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services Sacramento County Office of Education Sacramento City Unified School District Sacramento County Unified School District Sacramento Fire Department Sacramento Public Library Sacramento Youth Center Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center The GreenHouse Twin Rivers Unified School District Voice of the Youth Wind Youth Services Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment (YPCE) YPCE, 4th R YPCE, Access Leisure YPCE, Youth Workforce Development
Parent/guardian	29	
City	10	
County	9	
Education	15	
CBOs	19	
Commissioners	9	
TOTAL	213	

The following [interview and focus group guides](#) reflect the key questions in Third Plateau’s community engagement, though sub-questions varied slightly based on phase and audience.

- [Sacramento Children's Fund Interview/Intercept Guide](#)
- [Sacramento Children’s Fund Focus Group Guide \(Parents\)](#)
- [Sacramento Children’s Fund Focus Group Guide \(Youth 13-14\)](#)
- [Sacramento Children’s Fund Focus Group Guide \(Youth 15-17\)](#)
- [Sacramento Children’s Fund Focus Group Guide \(Youth 18-24\)](#)
- [Sacramento Children’s Fund Focus Group Guide \(City, County Staff, CBOs\)](#)
- [Sacramento Children’s Fund Phase II Focus Group Guide](#)

In Phase I, Third Plateau conducted rapid thematic analysis of detailed notes from each engagement using an Excel-based matrix framework, grouping common sentiments from within and across engagements into core themes.

In Phase II, after each engagement, Third Plateau facilitators and notetakers highlighted brief key takeaways in a summary document. Third Plateau then conducted rapid thematic analysis of the takeaways within the summary document, grouping common sentiments from within and across engagements into core themes.

Community Engagement: Questionnaire

City of Sacramento staff promoted the publicly-available questionnaire through the City’s communication and social media channels, including the [Sacramento Children's Fund: Measure L website](#). City staff and Third Plateau also shared the questionnaire link and QR code with the SCFPOC and SYC, community-based organizations, and other careholders to distribute to their networks. Detailed findings from the questionnaire can be found in the [SCF Community Questionnaire Findings Report](#).

The questionnaire ran for approximately two weeks in March and April 2024. It was open to Sacramento residents ages 18 and up and available in English and Spanish, with additional machine translation options in Chinese, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. There were raffle prize incentives for completing the questionnaire: four \$25 gift cards and four City of Sacramento swag bags.

There were some incomplete, duplicate, or potential bot responses, as is common with large community surveys with incentives. Third Plateau applied standard data cleaning procedures and used survey platform Qualtrics’s fraud detection measures on the 907 submitted responses, leaving 262 completed and verified responses remaining for analysis. The following table presents this breakdown by age range. Question items are available at the link below:

- [Sacramento Children’s Fund Community Questionnaire](#)

Table 21. Questionnaire Respondents by Age

Age Range	# of Individuals Engaged
-----------	--------------------------

18-24 years	21
25-64	221
65+ years	19
Prefer not to say	1
TOTAL	262

Limitations

There are important limitations to Third Plateau's research. Most substantively, these include:

- **Self-selection bias and representation gaps:** Given that the focus group, interview, and questionnaire recruitment was done largely through City, Third Plateau, SCFPOC, and SYC networks, there are potential sample biases and representation gaps.
 - Those already plugged into City communications, familiar with SCF, or able to attend scheduled engagement sessions may have been more likely to participate, while other community members may be underrepresented in the sample.
 - Community-based organizations and other grant recipients may have been incentivized to participate in the community engagement given the opportunity to reflect their interests and influence the priorities of the SCF and associated funding.
 - Because of the difficulty accessing marginalized populations and limitations on resources and time, certain populations (unhoused youth, youth with disabilities, youth involved with the criminal justice system, and more) are underrepresented in the research.
 - The 262 responses to the Community Questionnaire is a non-representative sample of the City of Sacramento's population over 18 years.
 - Based on these factors, as well as the segments represented, this may have skewed responses around which goal areas to prioritize, which needs were most pressing, and more. Third Plateau's sampling in Phase II sought in part to include perspectives not reflected in Phase I, yet these biases remained throughout.
- **Imperfect generalizability:** Qualitative data is designed to understand nuance and patterns in a population, but not to understand the extent to which those nuances and patterns are distributed in that population. Because of that, the qualitative findings in this report should be contextualized with other knowledge (quantitative, secondary research) to draw more general conclusions about Sacramento's youth.
- **Common cognitive biases:** Certain common cognitive biases (social desirability bias, groupthink, participation bias from incentives) impacted participants' responses and the research. Also, certain participants received incentives to participate in the community engagement, potentially skewing who participated. Third Plateau facilitators employed certain research techniques to overcome these potential biases, carefully asking certain

people questions who have not participated yet in the focus group or probing where appropriate to better understand nuance and motivation of participants.

APPENDIX B: ADDITIONAL SEED TOOL DATA

This [SEED Tool Overlay by Census Tract](#) provides the census tracts with a Sacramento Equity Index percentile of 0-20 and the corresponding indicator results, zip codes, districts, and neighborhoods. See [here](#) for additional detail on the SEED Tool.

APPENDIX C: SUBMITTED MEMOS

Members of the public submitted the following memos to the SCF Planning and Oversight Commission. Third Plateau reviewed them as a part of the research, alongside the literature review, community engagement, and other inputs.

1. [Recommendations for the Early Childhood Priority](#)
 - a. Julie Gallelo, Lindsay Dunckel, Commissioners, First 5 Sacramento
 - b. Adonai Mack and Heidi Keiser, Child Action, Inc.
 - c. Sheila Boxley, Child Abuse Prevention Council
 - d. Jim Keddy, Youth Forward
 - e. Michelle Callejas, Director, Sacramento County Dept of Child, Family & Adult Services
 - f. Julie Montali and Christine Smith, Sacramento County Office of Education
2. [Sacramento Children's Fund Guiding Principles for the Planning and Oversight Commission and City Council](#)
 - a. Office of Councilmember Mai Vang
 - b. Youth Forward
3. [The Sacramento Children's Fund Background and Analysis for the Youth Mental Health Priority](#)
 - a. Jim Keddy, Executive Director, Youth Forward
 - b. Sarah-Michael Gaston, Deputy Director, Youth Forward
4. [Recommendations to the Children's Fund Supports for Youth Impacted by the Foster Care System](#)
 - a. Bina Lefkowitz, President, Sac County Board of Education
 - b. Mercedes Parker, Community Advocacy Coordinator, California Youth Connection
 - c. Yvonne Hampton, Jasmine Harris, Desiree Patterson, Tyler Zeno, Tashi Brown, and Celeste Isordia, Youth Leaders of the California Youth Connection
 - d. Erin Brown, Executive Director, FosterHope Sacramento
 - e. Tona Miranda, Manager of Tribal Programs and Advocacy, Youth Forward
 - f. David Heitstumen, CEO, Sacramento LGBT Community Center
 - g. Laura Heintz, CEO, Stanford Sierra Youth and Families
 - h. Parkside Church Organizing Committee, Sacramento ACT
 - i. Michelle Callejas, Director, Dept of Child, Family and Adult Services, Sacramento County
 - j. Kristi Baumbach, Program Planner, Dept of Child, Family and Adult Services, Sac County
 - k. Vanessa Hernandez-Spagnoli
 - l. Jim Keddy, Executive Director, Youth Forward
5. [Recommendations to the Children's Fund Commission Guaranteed Income for Foster Youth](#)
 - a. Mercedes Parker, California Youth Connection

- b. Bina Lefkovitz, Sacramento County, Office of Education
 - c. Kristi Baumbach, Sacramento County, Department of Child, Family and Adult Services
 - d. Jim Keddy, Youth Forward
- 6. [Investment Recommendations for the Sacramento Children's Fund](#)
 - a. Sac Kids First



SACRAMENTO CHILDREN'S FUND (SCF)
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

GRANT PERIOD: January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028

RFP RELEASED ON: November 6, 2024

RFP CLOSING ON: December 6, 2024 at 5 p.m. PDT

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OVERVIEW

The Sacramento Children's Fund (SCF) is seeking program proposals from non-profit organizations and public agencies to provide services to children and youth in Sacramento, California. The City will allocate funding as outlined in the SCF [Strategic Investment Plan \(SIP\)](#) to support programming taking place between January 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028. The City intends to award SCF funds to a portfolio of programs and projects most likely to target the children and youth (aged birth – 24 years) most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence.

All applicants are strongly encouraged to read the Strategic Investment Plan in addition to this RFP before starting the application process.

Grants awarded through this Request for Proposals (RFP) will be for up to 3.5 years with an initial one-and a half year funding period from January 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026, and up to two additional one-year funding periods available from July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027, and July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028. Renewals will be based upon performance review and fund availability.

Successful applicants will offer programs and services that advance the goals outlined in the SIP. Therefore, all applicants are strongly encouraged to read the SIP in addition to this RFP before starting the application process. The Sacramento Children's Fund will release a separate RFP for Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) in Spring 2025. Applicants proposing GBI programming should wait to apply in the Spring.

The SCF is funded via the City's General Fund, calculated by an annual allocation of 40% of Local Cannabis Business Tax (CBOT) revenue. Estimated annual allocations will total \$8-10 million and will fund programs and services through an open, transparent, and competitive grant process. Funding will be available to non-profit and government agencies only – no funding will be provided to for-profit entities.

All final awards are subject to City Council Approval.

As a result of this RFP, the City anticipates distributing approximately \$17.9 million to Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and public entities.

GRANT INFORMATION

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Prospective applicants should review this RFP in full, which includes all information necessary to prepare the application before beginning the proposal submission process.

Proposal Submittal Deadline Date and Time: Applicants must submit proposals electronically via the City's online portal, [Grant Management System](#) by **5 p.m. PDT on December 6, 2024**.

Proposals that are mailed, e-mailed, or faxed will not be accepted. Proposals not received by the Proposal Submittal Deadline are late and will not be considered.

We strongly encourage you to submit your proposal well in advance of the deadline to avoid submitting late due to unforeseen technical issues.

Deadline for Questions: Applicants may submit questions online through the GMS portal. Please click on the "Questions" tab of the GMS portal homepage to submit a question or review questions and answers for this RFP. To ensure open and equitable access to grant information, all questions must be posted there. The City will make its best effort to answer questions within 24-72 hours. The City will accept questions until **5 p.m. PDT on November 22, 2024**. Thereafter, staff will publish answers to all questions received by **5 p.m. PDT on November 29, 2024**.

Optional Bidder's Conference: Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to use the Q&A function on GMS (outlined above) to ask questions up until the deadline. However, the City of Sacramento will host one optional Bidder's Conference on **November 14, 2024, at 11 a.m. PDT** to provide an overview about the RFP process and answer questions. No preference will be given to applicants who attend. You may register [here](#).

Staff Contact: For **technical support** or help using the GMS, send an email to City staff at grants@cityofsacramento.gov.

BACKGROUND

The Sacramento Children's Fund (Measure L)

In November 2022, after years of youth-led community organizing and advocacy, voters in the City of Sacramento approved the Sacramento Children and Youth Health and Safety Act. Also known as Measure L, this Act established the Sacramento Children's Fund (SCF or "the Fund") as a dedicated stream of sustained funding to support positive youth development and youth violence prevention programs for Sacramento children and youth less than 25 years of age.

Measure L identified five fund goals that provide overarching direction for investing available funds in the Sacramento community:

- Goal 1: Support the mental health and emotional wellness of youth
- Goal 2: Prevent and reduce youth homelessness
- Goal 3: Prevent and reduce youth substance abuse
- Goal 4: Prevent and reduce youth violence
- Goal 5: Support the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5

Strategic Investment Plan

The Sacramento Children’s Fund’s current Strategic Investment Plan is structured around the five fund goals and outlines various strategies to achieve the desired outcomes for each goal, prioritizing methods that address the specific needs and experiences of children and youth most affected by poverty, trauma, and violence. The strongest applications will align with and reference the [Strategic Investment Plan](#).

Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

Mission Statement:

The SCF provides a dedicated stream of sustained funding to support positive youth development and youth violence prevention programs for Sacramento’s children and youth from birth to age 24.

Vision Statement:

All children and youth in Sacramento, especially those most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, will have equitable access to the power, conditions, opportunities, and experiences that enable them to fully participate, prosper, and achieve their optimal potential.

Guiding Principles:

As with all City of Sacramento-supported programs for children and youth, the SCF is committed to adhering to and deliberately taking action that aligns with the values, social justice principles, and research-based supports and opportunities outlined in the [Citywide Youth Development Plan & Framework for Children and Youth Programs](#).

City of Sacramento Racial Equity Statement

The City of Sacramento affirms racial equity as a core value in which race does not affect life outcomes. We acknowledge historical racial inequities and are committed to transparent, deliberate, and actionable solutions that will remedy those inequities and serve all our diverse communities.

FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

The following table provides a summary of projected funding allocations by grantee type, based on an estimated total of \$8.7 million annually. The table reflects estimated funding post administrative costs and a 20% allocation to Guaranteed Basic Income. Please refer to Sacramento Children's Fund Strategic Investment Plan for more information, which can be found on the City's Measure L website.

Please note: the City will conduct a separate procurement process for Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) funds in the Spring of 2025.

The total estimated funding for this RFP is \$17.9 million dollars, with approximately 50% allocated to CBOs and 50% allocated to the City and non-City public entities.

Fiscal Year	Estimated Funding *Post Admin/GBI	%	CBO's	%	City & Non-City Public Entities
23/24	\$5,623,360	50%	\$2,811,680	50%	\$2,811,680
24/25	\$5,974,820	50%	\$2,987,410	50%	\$2,987,410
25/26	\$6,326,280	50%	\$3,163,140	50%	\$3,163,140
TOTAL	\$17,924,460		\$8,962,230		\$8,962,230

GRANT PERIOD

Applicants can apply for up to three and a half years of funding to support programs and services that advance the goals of the SCF. Grant funded programs may begin as early as January 2025. After an initial 1.5-year funding period (January 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026), funding will be renewed annually, contingent upon grantee performance, contract compliance, and fund availability (see Reporting Requirements pg.14).

Grantees will not receive their first disbursement of funds until the contract is fully executed; meaning all required information and documents, including insurance requirements, must be satisfied before the program can commence. Fund disbursement is not immediate or automatic; the process includes several steps and takes time. Grantees should be prepared to wait up to 8 weeks after agreement execution before any funds are disbursed and plan accordingly.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All eligible applicants shall:

- ☐ Have an organizational budget at or above \$50,000 in the current or most recent fiscal year;

- ☐ Have at least one year of experience providing direct services to children or youth (birth through 24 years) in the last five years; and
- ☐ Must be either a public agency or a community-based organization (CBO). CBOs must submit an exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) certifying the organization's status as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. To obtain this letter, call the IRS at 1-877-829-5500.
(Note: in some cases, it can take over two weeks to obtain this letter).
- ☐ Provide proof of the required liability insurance, if funded.
- ☐ Demonstrate the operational capacity and ability to fulfill all program and administrative requirements and deadlines outlined in this RFP.
- ☐ If a previous or current City grantee, must be in good standing with the City. See Past Performance, below.
- ☐ Align their program with at least one of the five fund goals.
- ☐ Reach children, youth, and families in the City of Sacramento who are most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence.
- ☐ Demonstrate the ability to reach and serve those children, youth, and families that are not otherwise connected to programs or services.

PAST PERFORMANCE

For applicants that have received grant funds from the City within the past five years, the applicant must also be in good standing with the City. This means the grantee provided all requested data and fulfilled the scope of work requirements under any prior grant agreements and has not experienced any past performance or compliance issues on those agreements. **This good standing requirement also applies to any subgrantees of the applicant.**

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

An applicant can submit more than one proposal requesting funding, as long as the proposals are requesting funding for substantially different programs or projects. Substantially different programming is defined as a proposal for a distinct program or project that primarily implements a different strategy and has a distinct program design, staffing, program location, and/or target population receiving services.

Applicants may submit separate proposals for their own program or project and be part of a collaborative proposal as long as the proposals are substantially different. Applicants may not receive funds as a stand-alone organization and as part of a collaborative for the same program.

Applicants may not submit the same proposal more than one time under different funding strategies.

FUND GOAL ALIGNMENT

Proposals that are selected to receive funding through this RFP process must advance the goals of the Sacramento Children's Fund. The SIP recognizes the interconnections among the five goal areas and

their relationships to common barriers and enablers to positive child and youth development, therefore cross cutting strategies and applications that address multiple fund goals are highly encouraged.

GRASSROOTS OR EMERGING 501(C)(3) APPLICANT

The grassroots or emerging applicant designation assists grassroot organizations in building their capacity. Apply as a grassroots or emerging applicant if:

- ☐ Organizational budget is at or above \$50,000 and under \$200,000 in the prior fiscal year.

Grassroots or Emerging Applicant Grant Funding Parameters

- ☐ Grant request amount must be between \$25,000 and \$500,00 each year for up to three and a half years.
- ☐ To ensure applicant builds sufficient organizational capacity to implement and manage the proposed program, as well as meet all contractual and reporting requirements, up to 15% of the total grant request may be allocated to indirect costs (e.g., management, accounting, and general office expenses).
- ☐ Most recent Profit & Loss and Balances Sheet from prior fiscal year.

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION (CBO) 501(C)(3) APPLICANT

Apply as a Community Based Organization applicant if:

- ☐ Organizational budget is at or above \$200,000 in the current or most recent fiscal year.
- ☐ Organization has the fiscal and management capacity to support subcontractors (if applicable, such as instructors that are independent contractors) by issuing payments in a timely and professional manner.

CBO Applicant Grant Funding Parameters

- ☐ Grant request amount must be between \$25,000 and \$500,000 for each year up to three and a half years.
- ☐ Up to 10% of the total grant request may be allocated to indirect costs.
- ☐ One audited financial statement from the past 3 fiscal years.

NON-CITY PUBLIC ENTITY APPLICANT

Apply as a non-City Public Entity if:

- ☐ Applicant is a state or local government agency other than the City of Sacramento. Examples include public libraries, school districts, and county government entities.
- ☐ Applicant has the fiscal and management capacity to support subcontractors (if applicable, such as instructors that are independent contractors) by issuing payments in a timely and professional manner.

Non-city Public Entities Grant Funding Parameters

- ☐ Grant request amount must be between \$25,000 and \$500,000 per year for up to three and a half years.
- ☐ Non-city public entity applicants must demonstrate a cash match for each dollar requested from the SCF.
- ☐ Up to 10% may be allocated to indirect costs, calculated as a percentage of the total grant request.
- ☐ One audited financial statement from the past 3 fiscal years.

CITY APPLICANT

Apply as City Entity if:

- ☐ Applicant is the City of Sacramento.
- ☐ Applicant has the fiscal and management capacity to support subcontractors (if applicable, such as instructors that are independent contractors) by issuing payments in a timely and professional manner.

City Entities Grant Funding Parameters

- ☐ Grant request amount must be between \$25,000 and \$500,000 per year for up to three and a half years.
- ☐ Up to 10% may be allocated to indirect costs, calculated as a percentage of the total grant request.
- ☐ One audited financial statement from the past 3 fiscal years.

COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT

The City of Sacramento strongly encourages collaboration between non-profits and/or public entities to create and sustain partnerships that maximize the cost-effectiveness and quality of service delivery. The collaborative should examine how the involvement of other partners will be best coordinated within the model. Collaborative applicants will be required to provide a Letter of Intent signed by all collaborative partners during the proposal submission process; the City will require a formal MOU signed by all collaborative partners prior to grant award.

Note: When applying as a collaborative applicant with a non-city public entity, the 100% cash match is still required per Measure L.

Apply as a collaborative applicant if:

- ☐ The partnership consists of two or more organizations/agencies, each contributing *substantial participation* toward a mutual goal.
 - *Substantial participation* includes providing direct services, planning, and coordinating services, and having equal partnership in decision making around program design and implementation.
- ☐ The lead agency of a collaborative will be the agency that contracts with the City and is paid the grant proceeds.

- Collaboratives must choose a lead agency that has the fiscal and management capacity to support the other partners or subcontractors by issuing payments to them in a timely and professional manner.
- ☐ The City will not consider applications in which the lead agency simply acts as a fiscal pass-through.

Collaborative Grant Funding Parameters

- ☐ Grant request amount must be between \$25,000 and \$500,000 per year for up to three and a half years.
- ☐ Up to 15% may be allocated to indirect costs, calculated as a percentage of the total grant request.
- ☐ 100% Cash match required for collaborative applications only when the partnership includes a non-city public entity.

	Grassroots or Emerging Applicant	Community Based Organization 501(c)(3)	Non-city Public Entity Applicant	City Applicant	Collaborative Applicant
Minimum Grant Request*	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
CASH MATCH	None	None	100%	None	**Dependent on status of partners
Maximum Indirect Rate	15%	10%	10%	10%	15%
Financial Statements	Profit/Loss & Balance Sheet	Audited Financial Statement	Audited Financial Statement	Audited Financial Statement	Audited Financial Statement for Lead Agency

* Each year for up to three and half years.

**Collaborative applicants that include a non-city public entity will require a 100% cash match for their portion

SUMMARY TABLE OF FUNDING PARAMETERS BY APPLICANT TYPE

USE OF FUNDS

Ineligible Uses of Funds

- Any service that only incidentally benefits children and youth
- Fundraising or lobbying activities
- Grant application preparation expenses

- Expenses incurred or obligated outside of the specified grant period
- Acquisition, lease, or maintenance of any capital item or real property that is not for primary and direct use by youth
- Services for which a fixed or minimum level of expenditure is mandated by state or federal law, to the extent of that fixed or minimum level of expenditure

MATCH REQUIREMENT

The City of Sacramento will administer grants with following requirements:

- 501(c)(3) - no match requirement
- City - no match requirement
- Non-City public entities - 100% cash match requirement
- *Before receiving money from the Sacramento Children's Fund, any non-city public agency must demonstrate a cash match for each dollar it receives from the fund.*

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Applicants are required to provide a copy of their agency's audited financial statements as part of their application. The audit is required for only the lead agency of a Collaborative. Audited financial statements must be from within the past three years (July 1, 2020 to present). If an Applicant is a public agency, other than the City of Sacramento, the applicant must submit proof of the existence of an independent single audit.

If your agency is in the process of obtaining your audited financial statements, but the audit and financial statements will not be complete before the grant deadline, you will be able to submit proof of a contract with a Certified Public Accountant as part of your application submission. In lieu of the audited financial statements, provide a copy of your contract or engagement letter with a CPA as proof that an audit of your agency will be conducted, and include the expected date of completion as part of proof. All agencies selected for funding must provide audited financial statements to SCF before entering into contract for services. Small & Emerging Applicants are not required to submit audited financial statements to apply for funding. Small & Emerging applicants may submit their most recent fiscal year Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet. If the program is recommended for funding, SCF may require that the agency complete and submit a certified public accountant Review of Financial Statements for their agency prior to the start of new programming.

Audited Financial Statements require that:

- The cover letter explains what information must be returned to the CPA office before the audit report (and other letters) can be finalized.
- The opinion letter, otherwise known as the independent auditor's report, states whether the financial statements are presented in accordance with accounting principles accepted in the United States.

- The management letter, also known as the internal control letter, communicates deficiencies and weaknesses in a company's organizational structure.

PAYMENT METHOD

SCF grant programs can extend for up to three and a half years. However, the City reserves the right to terminate grant agreements at any time for non-compliance, including unsatisfactory reporting and performance history. Therefore, if the applicant is awarded a three-and-a-half-year contract, release of funds for year two and three will be contingent upon timely and satisfactory reporting and year one performance.

- *First year and half of agreement:* The City will advance up to 25% of grant funds upon initial grant agreement execution. The City will disburse the remaining funds on a quarterly reimbursement basis upon satisfactory submission of reporting requirements (see Reporting Requirements, pg. 14), including a mid-year progress report and financial documentation demonstrating that the grantee appropriately expended all funds previously advanced.
- *Second year and third year of agreement (if applicable) contingent upon performance and fund availability:* As long as the grantee has demonstrated satisfactory performance in the previous year, the City will release up to 25% of grant funds for each subsequent year. The remaining funds will be dispersed on a quarterly reimbursement basis upon satisfactory submission of all reporting requirements including a mid-year progress report, final report for the previous year, and financial documentation demonstrating that the grantee appropriately expended all funds previously advanced.

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

GRANT AGREEMENT

The City requires selected non-City applicants to enter into a grant agreement (see Appendix A: Grant Agreement Sample, pg. 55-67). The City will not modify or waive agreement provisions. While the agreement contains myriad provisions, applicants should take special note of the insurance requirements which are as follows:

- 1) General commercial liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1 million per occurrence
- 2) If the program requires use of a motor vehicle, automobile liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1 million
- 3) Workers' compensation insurance with limits of not less than \$1 million

- 4) If the program qualifies as a professional service for which the provider needs a state license such as a mental health counselor, professional liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1 million
- 5) Name the City as an additional insured for the general commercial liability and automobile policy per the terms of the policy if required by the grant agreement or by submitting an Additional Insured Endorsement certificate

501(c)(3) applicants recommended for funding will be expected to comply with Labor Peace Agreement requirements that prohibit the discouragement of employee unionization per City Council direction.

Please note: the actual award of grant funding is dependent upon final City Council approval and successful negotiation of the scope of services and budget attachments to the grant agreement, which will be based on the proposal and amount of grant funding available. If the scope and budget attachments cannot be completed within a reasonable period as determined by the City, the City may terminate negotiations and not award the grant.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Quarterly, mid-year, and end-of-year reports, as well as participant surveys and expenditure reports, serve as critical elements in the City's grant monitoring and oversight process. Grantees unable to demonstrate sufficient progress towards program objectives or grantees unable to demonstrate spending in accordance with the agreement's budget could be subject to the withholding of future funds and/or the early termination of the agreement.

Grantees will be required to collect information specified by the City, including but not limited to, participant information, administer a participant survey and submit reports that demonstrate the implementation of grant activities and progress/completion of program goals, for each year of the contract period, as follows (reporting templates will be provided):

- **Quarter 1 Report** (expenditures, participants, activity status)
- **Mid-Year Progress Report** (expenditures, participant data, activity status, progress towards objectives, survey status, program highlights)
- **Quarter 3 Report** (expenditures, participant data, activity status)
- **End-of-Year Report** (expenditures, participant data, activity status, assessment of objectives, survey status, program highlights and challenges)

Expenditure reporting must align with the agreement budget and must include documentation corroborating all expenses including time sheets and receipts with written justification as to the purpose of the expenditure. Should the City find the documentation submitted to be insufficient or the grantee

used City funds for ineligible costs, the City reserves the right to terminate the agreement, withhold future payments, and/or seek reimbursement.

Grantees shall track grant monetary expenditures as a standalone project, activity code, or assigned project to prevent the commingling of other organization expenses not related to the grant-funded program.

To ensure successful management of the proposed program, applicants (especially grassroots, emerging or small applicant types) are encouraged to propose a reasonable amount in their budget allocations to administer the program, which includes staff time and data collection tools/technology required to meet grant agreement reporting requirements.

RFP PROCESS OVERVIEW

CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF PROPOSAL

The City will only accept proposals submitted on, [Grant Management System](#) by 5 p.m. PDT on or before the proposal submission **due date** indicated in this RFP (**December 6, 2024**). The Grants Management System does NOT send a confirmation email upon submission of an application. After clicking the **Submit Application** button, a successfully submitted application will change from **Draft** to **Pending Staff Review** in the **Application Status** field. At any point prior to the application deadline, you may click the **Recall Submission** button to resume editing and the **Application Status** will revert to **Draft** status. If you recall your application to make additional edits, you must click the **Submit Application** button again *prior to the deadline* to re-submit your application. If your application has a status of **Draft**, then your application was not submitted. Please note that the Grants Management System does not currently allow users to download a full copy of their completed application. Instead, you must click on the **View this Item** button to view each item in the Application Checklist.

DISQUALIFICATION

Any of the following will result in an automatic disqualification:

- Failure to submit an application via the Grant Management System by **5 p.m. PDT on December 6, 2024**.
- Not qualifying as a public agency or a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in good standing with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General Registry of Charitable Trusts.
- Not otherwise meeting the eligibility requirements set forth above (see Eligible Applicants, pg. 7).
- Failing to propose a use of funding that meets one of the five fund goals.

PROPOSAL RATING PROCESS

Proposals that meet the minimum qualifications will advance to the Proposal Rating Process. To oversee the Proposal Rating Process, the City will convene a Grant Advisory Team comprised of diverse and non-conflicted careholders. Members will read and rate proposals in accordance with the prescribed rating factors (see Scoring Process Overview, pg.15-16).

Members of the Grant Advisory Team will base their scores on how well an applicant addresses the items listed under each rating factor within the proposal (including the proposed budget). Following the Proposal Rating Process, the City will organize Final Rater Review Meetings if necessary, where the Grant Advisory Team will develop funding recommendations for the City's consideration.

At the conclusion of this process, the City will notify applicants whether their proposal will be recommended for funding. City staff will bring proposals recommended for funding to City Council for final approval. Staff anticipates the City will act on the City Council's final funding recommendations in early 2025 and then proceed to prepare the grant agreements. Throughout this process, applicants are not to contact members of the City Council, members of the Grant Advisory Team or City staff to discuss their proposals. The City reserves the right to interview one or more applicants, and interviews with all applicants may not be required.

SUMMARY OF KEY DATES

The following table depicts a timeline of key dates related to the SCF RFP process.

Activity	Date
RFP Release Date	November 6, 2024
RFP Q&A*	Nov. 6, 2024 – Nov 22, 2024
Pre-Proposal Meeting (Bidders' Conference)	Nov 14, 2024, 11a.m. - 12:30p.m.
RFP Q&A Ends	November 22, 2024 by 5p.m.
Application Deadline: Proposals Due	December 6, 2024 by 5p.m.
Proposal Review	December 2024
Programs Recommended for Funding Announced	January 2025
Recommendations brought to City Council for approval	January/February 2025

Contracting and Negotiations Begins	February 2025
Program Year/ Contract Begins**	January 1, 2025
<i>*GMS technical support is ongoing. Programmatic Q&A is limited to the above referenced dates.</i> <i>**Contract negotiation may extend into the new year however the City will accept eligible expenses starting January 1, 2025</i>	

FUNDING INFORMATION

PRIORITY POPULATIONS

The following sections are taken directly from the Sacramento Children’s Fund Strategic Investment Plan.

Priority will be given to proposals that serve children, youth, and families in the City of Sacramento who are most impacted by poverty, trauma, and violence, such as:

- Children, youth, and families who are low-income
- Children, youth, and families who are Black, Indigenous, Latino/e, Southeast Asian
- Youth or families who are unhoused
- Children and youth who identify as LGBTQ+
- Youth in or transitioning out of foster care
- Youth who are not in school or working
- Children and youth who have been involved in the juvenile or criminal legal systems
- Children and youth who are first generation immigrants or refugees
- Children and youth with disabilities
- Children or youth exposed to violence

FUNDING STRATEGIES BY FUND GOAL

Proposed uses of SCF must address the fund goals set forth in the Sacramento Children’s Fund Strategic Investment Plan. Recommended strategies to achieve each of the fund goals are discussed below.

GOAL AREA 1: SUPPORT THE MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLNESS OF YOUTH

The SCF supports youth-driven, culturally affirming, and trauma-responsive strategies that are coordinated, equitable, appropriate, timely, sustainable, and accessible, so that all children and youth have fair and just opportunity to develop and maintain positive mental health, as well as access to affordable and effective early intervention, treatment, and recovery care when, where, and in the ways they need it most. These include:

- 1) *Increasing mental health literacy:* Increase knowledge and understanding of how to develop and maintain positive mental health, especially peer modeling programs, as well as skills that support how to effectively engage in help-seeking while also removing systemic barriers to access.

- 2) *Developing healthy cultural identities:* Focus on promotion of strength-based, culturally grounded protective factors over reduction of risk to help build a sense of belonging while countering stigmatization of impacted populations and communities.
- 3) *Enhancing social, emotional, and behavioral learning:* Promote social skills and emotional development by focusing on self-management, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, and social and self-awareness while enhancing connectedness to peers, adults, and community.
- 4) *Providing cognitive behavioral interventions:* Teach skills for emotional regulation, anxiety management, and problem solving to address disruptive thoughts and behaviors in ways that are culturally adaptive or tailored to meet the unique needs of young people and families.
- 5) *Reducing access to lethal means:* Promote safety by removing or securing access to dangerous items such as guns, medications, or other household items that could be used to cause harm to oneself or others in a “moment of crisis”.

GOAL AREA 2: PREVENT AND REDUCE YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

The SCF supports additional and coordinated investments in cross-system strategies that focus on root causes, advance equity, and are informed by the strengths and perspectives of youth, so that all young people have a safe and stable place to live, as well as access to the resources needed to exit homelessness and meet their basic needs as they prepare for and enter adulthood. These include [xxvi]:

- 1) *Direct, unrestricted cash transfers:* increase access to cash assistance, including one-time payments to help avert a potential crisis, as well as longer-term income payments to make housing and other basic necessities more affordable.
- 2) *Prioritizing family support and reunification:* intervene early to avoid a young person separating from their family in the first place, and support youth experiencing homelessness to return home to family when safe and appropriate.
- 3) *Expanding housing programs:* when family reunification is not possible, offer coordinated short and long-term housing options, including both rapid re-housing assistance and permanent supportive housing tailored for youth with a demonstrated need for the most intensive services.
- 4) *Improving supportive crisis responses:* increase local crisis housing capacity so that no young person remains unsheltered, including flexible shelter responses, host homes, and other safe, low-barrier crisis housing options.
- 5) *Street outreach:* build relationships with youth experiencing homelessness to provide street-based services such as survival aid and resources to move youth into stable housing and prepare them for independence.

GOAL AREA 3: PREVENT AND REDUCE YOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The SCF supports holistic, equitable, culturally appropriate, and youth-friendly prevention, early intervention, and treatment strategies that empower youth to make their own decisions around substance use and take ownership, so that all children and youth in Sacramento have access to the

supports and services they need and deserve to make healthy choices and thrive even in the face of challenges. These include:

- 1) *Screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment:* Focus on wellness-based responses, rather than disciplinary ones, that offer screening to assess the severity of use, brief interventions focused on motivational interviews to promote awareness and behavior change, and referral to treatment for unhealthy substance use and specialty care.
- 2) *Integrating harm reduction:* Help youth improve their knowledge and decision-making around substance use to reduce stigmatization of use and minimize negative health, social, and legal harms, including lifesaving practices like carrying naloxone and testing substances before trying them.
- 3) *Developing positive coping skills:* Empower young people with healthy coping mechanisms such as mindfulness, relaxation techniques, exercise, creative expression, and problem-solving skills, leveraging peers themselves as resources and support.
- 4) *Build youth power to address socially based stressors:* Empower young people to mobilize and dismantle oppressive systems in their communities such as poverty, trauma, or lack of access to mental health services that play a role in creating vulnerability to unhealthy substance use.

GOAL AREA 4: PREVENT AND REDUCE YOUTH VIOLENCE

The SCF supports community-directed strategies that address three key elements of violence prevention and response. First, strategies should target the unhealthy conditions that cause unequal vulnerability to violence. Second, programs should focus on those youth that are at the highest risk of violence. Finally, individual and community healing and transformation in the aftermath of violence should be centered as an important part of prevention. These strategies are intended to ensure all young people can grow up with safety and without the fear, threat, or reality of violence harming them or their loved ones. These include:

- 1) *Community-based violence intervention:* Establish strong relationships and intervene with young people at the center of risk for violence, leveraging people and organizations with influence and credibility to provide:
 - Intensive life coaching and supportive services for active offenders
 - Street outreach to interrupt and mediate imminent violent conflicts
 - Crisis response and direct support for victims of violence
- 2) *School-based safety programming:* Create school environments that are socially predictable, consistent, safe, and positive by supporting children and youth with conflict mediation skills and restorative justice practices rather than punitive measures.
- 3) *Workforce development and employment:* Invest in improving employment outcomes, including civilian job corps, paid internships and summer jobs for youth, soft skills training, and job placement.
- 4) *Youth leadership and empowerment:* Strengthen and expand civic engagement training for youth to activate their lived experiences and hone their leadership and advocacy skills.

GOAL AREA 5: SUPPORT THE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AGES 0 TO 5

The SCF supports strategies that promote young children's healthy development by reinforcing the capabilities and resources of parents and caregivers, so that all children ages 0-5 in Sacramento have the care, relationships, and resources they need to thrive and to begin school safe, healthy, and empowered to succeed. These include:

- 1) *Promoting early learning and school readiness:* Support early childhood literacy and learning to prepare young children for early school success, such as summer school programs for children entering kindergarten and programs that provide books free of charge.
- 2) *Supporting responsive relationships:* Build caregivers' capabilities and resources to engage in supportive interaction and "sensitive caregiving," characterized by prompt and adequate response to a child's signals and needs.
- 3) *Championing positive parenting skills and peer support:* Support caregivers to build positive parenting skills to successfully manage the stressors of parenting young children, including home visitation programs and parent-to-parent programs.
- 4) *Providing economic supports to reduce sources of life stress:* Create the conditions in which families are able and enabled to meet basic needs and build financial assets to withstand unexpected losses or emergencies, such as cash assistance and family support navigators.
- 5) *Expanding childcare access:* Provide resources and opportunities, such as tuition vouchers and navigation and enrollment support, for families to access high-quality childcare for their young children.

SCORING PROCESS OVERVIEW

RATING FACTORS AND MAXIMUM POINTS

Members of the Grant Advisory Team will use the rating factors listed below and the maximum point values below to score each application. Applications that receive an average score of 70 points or less will not be recommended for funding.

Rating Factor	Maximum Points
1) Program Summary	Not Scored
2) Organization History, Capacity & Staffing Qualifications	15
3) Program or Project Design	50
4) Outcomes and Impact	15
5) Budget and Budget Narrative	20
Maximum Points	100
Preference Points	Potential Preference Points
SEED/COI Opportunity Neighborhoods or Welfare Tax Exemption	10
Maximum Score with Preference Points	110

PREFERENCE POINTS

Preference points will not be partially awarded. The onus is on the applicant to sufficiently prove their eligibility for preference points. **Applicants applying for preference points must fill out Attachment 6- Preference Points.**

An applicant can earn ten (10) preference points by qualifying for one of the following categories. Note: qualifying for both of these categories will not result in the award of additional preference points.

- 1) If applicant's proposed program or project delivers services in one of the opportunity neighborhoods identified by the SEED/COI tools (See Exhibit A – SEED/COI Opportunity Neighborhoods).**

QUALIFYING AS PROGRAM OR PROJECT THAT SERVES SEED/COI IDENTIFIED OPPORTUNITY NEIGHBORHOODS

- Fill out *Attachment 1 Narrative – Preference Point Section*. Complete the *SEED/COI Areas Served Table* to identify the opportunity neighborhoods your program or project will serve.
- Describe how the program or project serves participants who live or go to school in one of the SEED/COI opportunity neighborhoods and list the neighborhood. Include the location of services (i.e. schools, community centers, libraries, parks etc.), frequency of services and target population. Provide evidence of your organization’s presence in the identified neighborhood.

Examples of evidence include but are not limited to:

- Existing MOUs, contracts or agreements with schools, community centers or facilities located in the identified opportunity neighborhoods
- Proof of address for existing project or program location where services are rendered
- Past performance data indicating at least 50% of program participants live or go to school in one or more of the identified opportunity neighborhoods

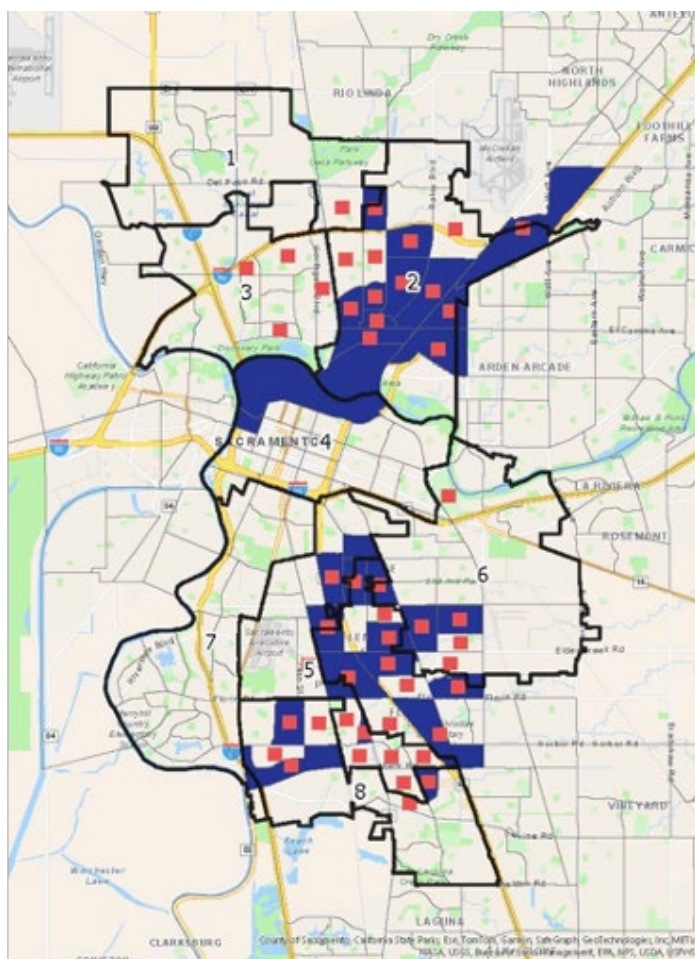


Figure 1. Distribution of neighborhood opportunity in the City of Sacramento, by City Council District

Programs or projects located in or serving participants in the identified opportunity neighborhoods will receive an additional 10 preference points. **For a list of qualifying neighborhoods, see Exhibit A**

Figure 1. Distribution of neighborhood opportunity in the City of Sacramento, by City Council District

- 2) **If applicant is a 501(c)(3) organization that meets the eligibility requirements of SCF and serves residents of a low-income affordable housing development in the City of Sacramento that received a California Welfare Tax Exemption for low-income affordable housing in the last tax year (Revenue and Taxation Code section 214).**

QUALIFYING AS A CALIFORNIA WELFARE TAX EXEMPT LOW INCOME AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPLICANT

- Identify the low-income affordable housing development where your program or project intends to provide services. Describe how the program or project serves residents of the identified low-income affordable housing development. Include the location of services (i.e. schools, community centers, libraries, parks etc.), frequency of services and target population. Provide evidence of your organization's presence in the identified neighborhood.
- Applicant is a registered 501(c)(3) organization that provides services to residents of a low-income affordable housing development in the City of Sacramento and received the California Welfare Tax Exemption in the last tax year. Examples of evidence include:
 - Copy of the 2023 Tax Roll from the Sacramento County Assessor listing the identified low-income affordable housing development as tax exempt under the California Welfare Tax Exemption for low-income affordable housing per the IRS Revenue and Taxation Code Section 214
 - Other substantial proof of California Welfare Tax Exemption status for identified housing development
 - MOU or agreement with housing development that outlines services and location
 - Past performance data indicating program participants are residents of identified housing development. Other evidence of applicant's presence and service delivery at identified housing development

SCORING RUBRIC

The scoring general rubric is below.

No Evidence 0	Poor up to 25%	Fair 25% to 50%	Good 50% to 75%	Very Good 75% to 100%
The response does not address the rating criteria.	The response is vague or incomplete and only partially	The response addresses some, but not all of the rating criteria or	The response is reasonably comprehensive and clearly addresses	The response is detailed, comprehensive, and addresses all of the rating criteria listed

	addresses the rating criteria.	is non-specific and lacking focus.	many of the rating criteria listed above.	above in a way that demonstrates a thorough understanding of the intent of the program.
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EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL

The following specific criteria and the points for each criterion, for a total of 100 points, will be used in evaluating and rating the proposals:

1) **ORGANIZATION HISTORY, CAPACITY & STAFFING..... 15 POINTS**

- Past experience administering similar programs or projects and demonstrated understanding of the intent of the proposed program and capacity needed for program delivery.
- Demonstrated experience working with diverse communities including the identified priority populations and youth most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence.
- Organization has achieved success, and accomplishments demonstrate capacity for effective delivery of proposed services.
- Professional background and qualifications of team members proposed to deliver direct services.
- Cultural humility and or lived experience of staff reflect communities proposed to be served.

2) **PROGRAM OR PROJECT DESIGN 50 POINTS**

- A clear and specific outline of the proposed services, including: the primary fund goal and any secondary fund goals addressed; frequency of programming; average number of clients to be served daily and over the course of the year; location of services in Sacramento County; and extent of proposed services to be delivered.
- Clearly demonstrates how the program or project addresses the fund goals and utilizes evidence informed strategies specific to those goals.
- Demonstrated outreach and engagement strategies that are effective and culturally relevant. Evidence of past performance or competency with the community and target population served including recruitment and retention strategies
- Demonstrated alignment with Citywide Youth Development Plan.
- Clearly demonstrates with evidence how the program or project will serve the identified priority populations and Sacramento youth most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence.
- Top scoring applications will effectively address multiple fund goals and/or utilize cross-cutting strategies. (Reference SIP pg.23)

3) **OUTCOMES AND IMPACT..... 15 POINTS**

- Applicant describes how program will serve Sacramento most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence.

- Applicant demonstrates how the program will promote equity, justice, and accountability through the application of resources toward those youth in greatest need.
- Applicant clearly describes the intended participants that the program is designed to address and their needs, providing accurate, current, and specific data where possible to demonstrate need.
- Applicant identifies outcomes that have been achieved through the proposed services before and is able to link projected outcomes to intended impacts identified in the core needs/funding strategies.
- Applicant demonstrates the ability to reasonably account for/track outcomes.

4) **BUDGET TABLE AND BUDGET NARRATIVE..... 20 POINTS**

- Program provides a clear budget that describes staffing and associated direct costs required for successful program implementation.
- Expenses are reasonable and commensurate with the scale of services proposed.
- Additional resources are identified to support the program, with reasonable plan for securing matching funds.
- Program aligns, leverages, and/or coordinates with other public and private resources.
- Total program budget of RFCY funding and additional matching funding is realistic and reasonable for proposed level of services.
- The ratio between the organization's total grant requests and their organization's overall current year budget is appropriate based on program design and other factors.

PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS AND TIPS

The City of Sacramento is exclusively using [Grant Management System](#) (GMS) to accept responses to this RFP. To access the submission portal and register for an account, please visit the grant program page. Applicant agencies must identify one primary contact responsible for submitting your materials and serving as your main point of contact, although you are welcome to share the login information with key collaborators at your organization.

Grant Management System:

This user guide is designed to help potential grant applicants who are interested in applying for City of Sacramento grant opportunities at [Grant Management System](#).

If you have questions or need tech support using the Grants Management System, please send an email to grants@cityofsacramento.gov and you will receive a response within one business day.

Proposal Submission and Acknowledgements:

Verify that the information is complete, all forms have been submitted and submit the online proposal.

You may enter your application over multiple sessions. Remember to save often and log out when you have finished a session. Please review the elements of your application including all uploads before submitting. It is recommended that you wait until the entire application is complete before submitting. Once you submit, you will not be able to edit any of your work. More information is provided on each of these steps on the following pages. Be sure to read these instructions carefully.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Supporting Documents

- 1) Copy of IRS Letter Certifying Tax Exempt Status (501(c)(3) non-profits only)
- 2) City BOT Exemption Certificate: Letter from the City's Revenue Division confirming an exemption from the business operations tax
- 3) Proof of Good Standing with the California Attorney General Registry of Charitable Trusts
- 4) Proof of Good Standing with the California Secretary of State
- 5) Financial Statements
 - ☐ If applying as a grassroots or emerging applicant, upload a Profit/Loss & Balance Sheet. All other applicant types must upload an Audited Financial Statement. The audit is required for only the lead agency of a Collaborative. Audited financial statements must be from within the past three years (July 1, 2020, to present). If an Applicant is a public agency than the City of Sacramento, the applicant must submit proof of the existence of an independent single, other audit.
- 6) Organizational Budget
 - ☐ Please upload a copy of your applicant agency's most recent fiscal year organizational budget
- 7) Board Roster
 - ☐ Please upload a copy of your current active board of directors roster indicating officers and professional affiliations.
- 8) Letter of Intent (Only applicable to Collaborative Applicants)
 - ☐ Please upload a copy of the letter of intent signed by all collaborative partners supporting the proposal.
 - ☐ If this does not apply to your proposal, please click the Not Applicable checkbox below the file upload area and Mark Complete
- 9) Non-Binding Letter(s) of Intent of MOU (optional)
 - ☐ Applicable if proposing to subcontract or partner with agencies for service provision such as a school. If selected, all partners may be required to be a party to the contract. Applicable as evidence to support preference points for Welfare Tax Exemption for Low Income Affordable Housing and SEED/COI tool.
 - ☐ If this does not apply to your proposal, please click the Not Applicable checkbox below the file upload area and Mark Complete.
- 10) Proof of Insurance (optional)
 - ☐ The insurances and endorsement certificates are not required for proposal submission. However, if awarded, the following insurance requirements are required. You may upload now, which could help speed grant agreement processing:

Proposal Required Documents

Please upload the following:

Attachment 1 – Organization and Proposal Cover Page

Attachment 2 – Narrative

Attachment 3 – Activity Projections Table

Attachment 4 – Budget Table

Attachment 5 – Budget Narrative

Attachment 6 – Preference Points – Optional

ORGANIZATION AND PROPOSAL COVER PAGE

The Organization and Proposal Cover Page details the Organization, program, award request and fund goal(s) the applicant is applying under. See *Attachment 1- Organization and Proposal Cover Page*.

NARRATIVE

The proposal narrative must include the following elements presented in the order listed below. See *Attachment 2- Narrative*.

All applicants must answer the universal narrative questions in addition to the fund goal or project specific narrative questions.

UNIVERSAL NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

PROGRAM OR PROJECT SUMMARY

Provide a clear and concise summary of the program or project.

ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND

Describe the organization's history, capacity and staffing qualifications including experience providing the services proposed in your application. Describe the staffing plan for the proposed program or project. Provide information on how many people will be directly working on the project and their qualifications to work effectively with the target population.

PROGRAM/PROJECT DESIGN

Program Structure

State the Primary Fund Goals and any additional fund goals and respective strategy(ies) that the proposed program or project addresses. Describe the program or project design, type of services, average length of participation, location of services, and how services will be delivered. If the program design reflects evidence-informed/based practices, addresses multiple fund goals or utilizes cross cutting strategies (pg. 23) please describe.

Program Participants

Identify the target population and how the program or project will serve Sacramento children and/or youth from birth through 24 years old most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence (pg. 12). Include evidence of applicant's experience providing services to the target population. Describe the plan to recruit, engage, and retain children and youth in services to reach the program or project's goals.

Program Partners

List the other partners that will support the program. If the program or project includes subcontractors or consultants, specify their roles, responsibilities, and qualifications. If services delivered at a public facility (e.g., schools, community centers, libraries), describe history of relationship with public institution.

ACTIVITY PROJECTIONS TABLE

All applicants must complete the Activity Projections Table as part of the application. See *Attachment 3 - Activity Projections Table*.

FUND GOAL SPECIFIC NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

All applicants must complete the fund goal specific narrative questions for the proposal's primary fund goal. If the proposal addresses multiple fund goals, be sure to answer the fund goal specific narrative questions for the primary fund goal AND any additional fund goals the proposal addresses. See *Attachment 2 – Narrative*.

PROJECT SPECIFIC NARRATIVE QUESTIONS (IF APPLICABLE)

In addition to the universal narrative questions and fund goal specific narrative questions, be sure to answer the project specific narrative questions. See *Attachment 2 – Narrative* (if applicable).

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

All applicants must complete the Outcomes and Impact section as part of the application. See *Attachment 2- Narrative*.

BUDGET TABLE AND BUDGET NARRATIVE

The program budget is an important component of the proposal that should be clearly linked to support the proposed program, with reasonable and justifiable expenses for staffing and program costs. The budget proposed should be an appropriate and accurate projection of the program expenses for each program year for which funds are requested.

BUDGET TABLE

All applicants must complete the Budget Table (see *Attachment 4: Budget Table*) as part of the application. The Budget Table asks applicants to provide budget information for full program budget, funding request budget, and any matching funding (if applicable). Please only complete a budget table for Program Year 2 and Program Year 3 if the budget differs from the previous program year.

IMPORTANT: The initial funding period for this grant is 1.5 years from January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. Applicants should fill out a Program Year 1 budget that reflects the initial 1.5 years period. Applicants should fill out an additional Program Year 2 budget table (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027) and Program Year 3 budget table (July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028) ONLY if the budget differs from the previous program year.

While some applicants may use different line items as a part of their own budget processes, the line items in the Budget Table are the line items that applicants must use. Applicant should note the following:

- List total cost for each line item. Detailed expenses will be provided in the budget narrative.
- Report amounts in whole dollars only.
- The City does not require applicants to request funds for every line item. If you are not requesting funds for a certain line item, simply list \$0.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

All applicants must complete the Budget Narrative. See *Attachment 5 - Budget Narrative*. The purpose of the Budget Narrative is to provide support and explanation for the amounts requested in the Budget Table.

PREFERENCE POINTS (OPTIONAL)

Only applicants applying for preference points need to fill out the Preference Points section of the application. See *Attachment 6 Preference Points and Exhibit A: SEED/COI Opportunity Neighborhoods*.

ATTACHMENT 1: ORGANIZATION AND PROPOSAL COVER PAGE

The Organization and Proposal Cover Page must include the following information:

Organization Information (Applicant):

Primary Contact for Grant

Organizational Type: Choose an item.	
Name of Organization: Click here to enter text.	Title: Click here to enter text.
Organization Address: Click here to enter text.	Name Click here to enter text.
	Phone Number: Click here to enter text.
	Email Address: Click here to enter text.

Collaborative Partner Organization

Organizational Type: Choose an item.	
Name of Organization: Click here to enter text.	Title: Click here to enter text.
Organization Address: Click here to enter text.	Name Click here to enter text.
	Phone Number: Click here to enter text.
	Email Address: Click here to enter text.

Program Budget:

Program Budget: \$ Click here to enter text.	Total Amount of Grant Funds Requested: \$ Click here to enter text.
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SCF Fund Goals:

Choose **one (1)** primary fund goal for which the proposal is being submitted for funding consideration and enter that information below:

- ☐ Goal 1: Support the Mental Health and Emotional Wellness of Youth
- ☐ Goal 2: Prevent and Reduce Youth Homelessness
- ☐ Goal 3: Prevent and Reduce Substance Abuse
- ☐ Goal 4: Prevent and Reduce Youth Violence
- ☐ Goal 5: Support the Healthy Development of Children Ages 0-5

What other fund goals are addressed by your program? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Goal 1: Support the Mental Health and Emotional Wellness of Youth
- ☐ Goal 2: Prevent and Reduce Youth Homelessness
- ☐ Goal 3: Prevent and Reduce Substance Abuse
- ☐ Goal 4: Prevent and Reduce Youth Violence
- ☐ Goal 5: Support the Healthy Development of Children Ages 0-5

Note: If the program addresses multiple fund goals, be sure to answer the fund goal specific narrative questions for the primary fund goal AND any additional fund goals the program or project addresses in *Attachment 2- Narrative*.

ATTACHMENT 2: PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

PROGRAM SUMMARY (NOT SCORED)

- 1) Provide a clear and concise summary of the program or project. The summary should describe the program or project in terms of who will be served, numbers to be served, types of services, location and frequency of services, and the purpose of the program and outcomes to be achieved. This Program or Project Summary will be used to describe the proposed program or project throughout the review process and will not be scored (150-word limit).

[Click here to enter text.](#)

ORGANIZATION HISTORY, CAPACITY & STAFFING QUALIFICATIONS (15 POINTS)

- 2) Describe the Organization's experience providing the services proposed in your application. Include information on years of service in the community being served and any partnerships or collaboration with other organizations or systems of care (200 words).

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 3) Describe the staffing plan for your proposed program or project. Identify (300 words):
 - a. The person who will have primary responsibility for managing the program or project and discussing their experience managing similar projects.
 - b. Describe the plan for recruiting and training the staff who will deliver the program.
 - c. Provide information on how many people will be directly working on the project and their qualifications to work effectively with the target population.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

PROGRAM OR PROJECT DESIGN (50 POINTS)

- 4) State the Primary Fund Goals and any additional fund goals and respective strategy(ies) that the proposed program or project addresses. Describe the program or project design, type of services, average length of participation, location of services, and how services will be delivered; include the role of each partner within a Collaborative Applicant proposal. If the program design reflects evidence-informed/based practices, or cross cutting strategies (page 15 of the RFP) please describe. In describing the program design, include (1,000 words):
 - a. How the program aligns with the Citywide Youth Development Plan ("Plan") by outlining at least, two (2) program practices that correspond with one or more youth development supports and opportunities.
 - b. How social justice principles are integrated into those program practices ([Find examples here](#))

As part of the Program/Project Design Narrative, fill out **Attachment 2 - Narrative** and **Attachment 3 - Activity Projections Table**

[Click here to enter text..](#)

- 5) Identify the target population and how the program or project will serve Sacramento youth aged 0-24 most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence (page 12 of the RFP). Include evidence of applicant's experience providing services to the target population including data from past program performance. Describe (*500 words*):
- The plan to recruit, engage, and retain children and youth in services to reach the program or project's goals.
 - Any existing referral systems with entities primarily serving the target population (page 12 of the RFP). Specify how the program activities or project design are age- and/or developmentally appropriate for target population

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 6) List the other partners that will support the program. If the program or project includes subcontractors or consultants, specify their roles, responsibilities, and qualifications. Identify the other partners not included in the program budget that are critical to the success of the program and present how these partners support the proposed program or project. If services delivered at a public facility (e.g., schools, community centers, libraries), describe the history of relationships with public institutions (*1,000 words*).

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Program Name	Roles and Responsibilities
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

- For Collaborative Applicants, describe the approach to shared leadership and planning, the collaborative structure, and the kinds and frequency of communication among the collaborative's members. Specify if staff time will be dedicated to supporting the collaborative's operations including the number of FTE and the responsibilities of staff person(s) (*500 words*).

[Click here to enter text.](#)

FUND GOAL SPECIFIC PROGRAM DESIGN NARRATIVE QUESTIONS (REQUIRED)

- 1) In addition to the universal narrative questions above, the following specific prompts/questions apply to specific Fund Goals. If the proposal addresses multiple Fund Goals, be sure to answer the

Fund Goal Specific narrative questions for the primary Fund Goal AND any additional Fund Goals the program or project addresses.

a. **FOR PROGRAMS THAT SERVE GOAL AREA 1: SUPPORT THE MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLNESS OF YOUTH (500 words).**

- i. Describe how the program incorporates culturally-affirming, and trauma-responsive strategies.
- ii. Explain how the program incorporates fund goal specific evidence informed strategies listed under Funding Information pg. 17-20.
- iii. Describe how the services are equitable and accessible so that all young people may participate

[Click here to enter text.](#)

b. **FOR PROGRAMS THAT SERVE GOAL AREA 2: PREVENT AND REDUCE YOUTH HOMELESSNESS (500 words).**

- i. Describe how the program provides youth experiencing homelessness with access to resources needed to exit homelessness and meet basic needs.
- ii. Explain how the program incorporates fund goal specific evidence informed strategies listed under Funding Information pg. 17-20.
- iii. Describe how the program will provide street-based outreach and build relationships with youth experiencing homelessness.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

c. **FOR PROGRAMS THAT SERVE GOAL AREA 3: PREVENT AND REDUCE YOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE (500 words).**

- i. Describe how your program incorporates holistic, equitable, culturally appropriate, and youth-friendly prevention, early intervention, and treatment strategies that empower youth to make their own decisions around substance use.
- ii. how the program incorporates fund goal specific evidence informed strategies listed under Funding Information pg. 17-20.
- iii. Describe how you plan to recruit, engage, and retain children and youth in your services to reach your program's goals? How do you keep youth engaged in programming?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

d. **FOR PROGRAMS THAT SERVE GOAL AREA 4: PREVENT AND REDUCE YOUTH VIOLENCE (500 words).**

- i. Describe how your program incorporates community-directed strategies that target the unhealthy conditions that cause unequal vulnerability to violence, focus on those youth that are at the highest risk of violence and address individual and community healing and transformation in the aftermath of violence.
- ii. Explain how the program incorporates fund goal specific evidence informed strategies listed under Funding Information pg. 17-20.

- iii. Describe how you plan to recruit, engage, and retain children and youth in your services to reach your program's goals?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

e. **FOR PROGRAMS THAT SERVE GOAL AREA 5: SUPPORT THE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AGES 0 TO 5 (500 words).**

- i. Describe how your program supports strategies that reinforce the capabilities and resources of parents and caregivers, so that all children ages 0-5 in Sacramento have the resources they need to thrive and begin school safe, healthy, and empowered to succeed.
- ii. Explain how the program incorporates fund goal specific evidence informed strategies listed under Funding Information pg. 17-20.
- iii. Describe the elements of the program that ensure a high-quality learning environment for participants including high-quality adult-child engagement and high-quality developmental activities. If not already addressed, describe how parents/caregivers are engaged in the program.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

PROJECT SPECIFIC DESIGN NARRATIVE QUESTIONS (IF APPLICABLE)

- 2) In addition to the universal narrative questions above, the following specific prompts/questions apply to Capital Improvement Project proposals.

a. **FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (500 words).**

- i. Describe how the project will directly impact Sacramento children, youth and their families most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence.
- ii. Which specific community needs, problems, or issues does the project seek to address related to the five Fund Goals? Identify the specific community, and the resources the project will contribute to that community.
- iii. Project Deliverables: Describe the specific and/or measurable accomplishments this project will achieve when completed, demonstrating effective use of SCF funds.
- iv. Project Timeline: Provide a general project timeline. Do not list specific dates or months due to uncertainty about when projects may begin.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 3) For Collaborative Applicants, describe the approach to shared leadership and planning, the collaborative structure, and the kinds and frequency of communication among the collaborative's members. Specify if staff time will be dedicated to supporting the collaborative's operations including the number of FTE and the responsibilities of staff person(s) *(500 words)*

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Collaborating Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT (15 POINTS)

- 4) State how the SCF target population your program serves directly benefit from the proposed services? (200 words)

Click here to enter text.

- 5) How will your organization document participant enrollment, participation, and other indicators that are relevant to your program such as number of participants, participation over time, number of referrals provided, etc.? How will your program gather and assess participant outcomes throughout the grant period? (300 words)

Click here to enter text.

- 6) List your program's projected outcomes. Describe annual outcomes and performances for the past one to three years. Explain any fluctuations in outcome and performance year-to-year. (300 words)

Click here to enter text.

ATTACHMENT 3: ACTIVITY PROJECTIONS TABLE

Provide an estimate on the overall activities in this section that correspond to the detailed activities you will provide throughout the year and a half. Do not provide a detailed list of each and every expected activity that would constitute a completed Scope of Work.

ACTIVITY PROJECTIONS TABLE

The activity types that are available are dependent upon the SCF fund need selected. There are two activity types that are available:

- **Individual Activities**
- **Group Activities**

For **Individual** and **Group Activities**, you will be required to provide the following information:

- **Activity Name**
- **Activity Category:** Select the most appropriate activity category from the drop-down list.
- **Average # of Sessions:** Project the estimated number of sessions that will be offered for this activity during the first year and a half of the program. For projects, project the estimated number of sessions/hours of service to be offered or available for use by children, youth or families.
- **Average # of Hours per Session:** Project the estimated number of hours per session this activity will be offered. For projects, projects the estimated length of session (hour of use) is used by children, youth or families during one program year once project is complete.
- **Total # of Program Hours:** Provide the total number of hours that a participant is expected to complete for this activity. For the Supportive Services category, provide an average estimate per participant. For projects, provide the average estimate a service will be utilized by 1 participant.

SERVICE LOCATION (IF APPLICABLE)

To complete the Activities Projections, provide information on the service site location. If your program is operating at multiple locations, provide information for each program site location. Do not include service site locations where only brief activities will take place.

LOCATIONS OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

For each service location, provide the following information:

- **Location Name:** Provide a clear name for the site (do not use acronyms).
- **Address:** Including Street Address, City, and ZIP code.
 - Note: SCF uses this information to inform the Planning and Oversight Commission and Sacramento City Council of potential program locations and to determine locations of services throughout the city of Sacramento. Please be sure to include accurate information in this section to be able to map potential service locations.
 - To find the Sacramento City Council District of your site location, visit: [District Mapping](#)
- **Location Type:** Provide a description of service location

ACTIVITY PROJECTIONS:

Name of Program Activities	Category (select from menu below)	Average No. of Sessions	Average No. of per Session (hours)	Total No. of Program Hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours
	Choose an item.		hours	hours

SERVICE LOCATION(S) OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE):

Location Name	Address	Location Type

ATTACHMENT 4: BUDGET TABLE

Applicant Agency:	(Insert Name of Agency/Organization)
Year 1.5 FY:	(Dates: 01/01/2025 - 06/30/2026)
Programmatic Period:	(Insert Program Period of Year 1, i.e. mm/dd/yyyy - mm/dd/yyyy)

Budget Line Item	A. Program Budget	B. Funding Request	C. Matching	D. In-Kind
I. DIRECT COSTS-PERSONNEL				
Total Direct Service Staff Salaries	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Direct Service Staff Fringe & Benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
II. DIRECT COSTS-OTHER				
Total Equipment/Furniture	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Facility Rental	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Food	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total General Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Participant Incentives	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Program Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Staff Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Travel/Transportation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
III. YOUTH WAGES AND STIPENDS				
Total Youth Wages	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Youth Wages Fringe	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Youth Stipends	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
IV. ADMINISTRATIVE/INDIRECT COSTS				
Total Admin/Indirect Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
V. SUBCONTRACTORS				
Total Subcontractors	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
VI. PROGRAM EVALUATION				
Total Program Evaluation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
VII. OTHER				
Total Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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DIRECT COSTS – PERSONNEL

Total Direct Service Staff Salaries: List all direct service staff for the project including line staff, supervisory staff that supervises line staff, and support/clerical staff that work directly on the proposed program.

- Create a separate line item for EACH individual staff working directly on the program including Title, Total Annual Salary/Wages, FTE dedicated to program, and percentage included in the funding request.

Examples: Workforce Development Trainer, \$40,000/year, 0.5 FTE (100%) / Afterschool Program Manager, \$50,000/year, 0.5 FTE (50%)

Total Direct Service Staff Fringe & Benefits: This line item represents benefits (health, dental, retirement, etc.) as well as mandatory employment costs such as FICA (includes Social Security at 6.2% and Medicare at 1.45%), SDI, and unemployment taxes. Show calculations for each expense included the Fringe and Benefits and the percentage included in the funding request.

Examples: FICA: \$100,000 (personnel) $\times$ 7.65% = \$7,650 (60%) / Health benefits: \$3,600/year $\times$ 4 employees = \$14,400 (45%)

DIRECT COSTS - OTHER

All items listed must directly benefit and support the operation of the proposed program. Applicant should use best judgement to determine if an explanation of why the specific item is needed should be included. Show the percentage included in funding request.

Direct costs that support the program include:

- *Equipment/Furniture:* Durable goods such as computers and furniture.
 - Example Laptops for program participants: \$500/laptop $\times$ 25 participants = \$12,500 (100%)
- *Facility Rental:* Pro-rated costs of space rental, utilities, building maintenance and other occupancy costs for delivery of program
 - Example Recording Studio: \$25/hour $\times$ 200 hours = \$5,000 (25%)
- *Food:* Meals, snacks and food for regular programming and special events. All expense except special events can be shown as a cost per participant for the duration of the program. List special event food separately.
 - Example Snacks: \$300/participant $\times$ 50 participants = \$15,000 (50%)
- *General Office Supplies:* Paper, pens, toner, and other reasonable office supply expenses. Cost per month is acceptable without itemizing each item.
 - Example Office Supplies: \$50/month $\times$ 10 months, \$500 (10%)
- *Participant Incentives:* Monies or other non-cash incentives, such as gift certificates, provided to a program participant as a reward for completing a program or achieving a programmatic milestone. Detail how many participants are projected to receive incentives and amount of incentive.
 - Example Gift Cards for: \$25/card $\times$ 100 cards = \$2,500 (75%)

- *Program Supplies:* Art supplies, workbooks, sports equipment, and other reasonable program supply expenses that are required for the proposed program. Use general categories (e.g., art supplies, sports equipment, science materials, writing supplies). Cost per participant for the duration of the program is acceptable, but not required.
 - Example Art Supplies: \$200/participant x 50 participants = \$10,000 (50%)
- *Staff Training:* Training of direct service staff including costs of trainers and training materials.
 - Example Trauma-Informed Practices Training: \$1,000/training x 1 training (10%). Costs include trainer's time and training materials.
- *Telephone/Internet/Communications:* Mobile phone, telephone, internet and postage.
 - Example Wi-Fi: \$65/month x 9 months = \$585 (10%)
- *Travel/Transportation:* Expenses for field trips and access to programs. The basis for the calculation as well as the purpose for all travel should be provided. Travel expenses for staff are allowed when directly benefiting children and youth. Funds cannot be used for travel to trainings or professional development conferences. Local travel estimates should be based on organization's current policies for mileage. Note that any transportation of participants will require the grantee (or the subcontractor company) to carry \$1 million in automobile insurance.
 - Example Field Trips: \$15/participant x 40 participants x 3 field trips = \$1,800 (50%). Field trips will be to local museums where the art ties into program's art classes.

YOUTH WAGES AND STIPENDS

Youth Wages: This line item is for programs that offer youth an hourly wage or stipend for internships or employment experiences. Enter a separate line item for each unique hourly wage. Do not enter a range for wages. As with other direct costs, applicant should use best judgement to determine if an explanation of any paid position for youth is necessary.

Example: Peer Tutors: \$14/hour x 4 hours x 40 weeks x 10 tutors = \$22,400 (100%). Cost includes direct tutoring and monthly trainings.

Youth Stipends: Stipends are used to support youth participants enrolled in the program in limited duration work experiences and internships. Please enter a separate line item for each unique stipend profile and stipend amount. Do not enter a stipend range. Do not include incentives for program participation in this line item. These should be included in the line-item Participant Incentives under Other Direct Costs.

Example: Peer Tutor Training Stipends: \$50/participant x 25 participants x 3 trainings = \$3,750 (100%)

ADMINISTRATIVE/INDIRECT COSTS

Administrative/Indirect costs by applicant designation are:

- Collaborative Applicants: Up to 20% of total grant request
- Up to 20% of total grant request
- Up to 25% of total grant request

- Grassroots or Emerging: Up to 35% of total grant request

Administrative/indirect costs cannot exceed the limits stated above, including the administrative/indirect costs charged by subcontractors.

Examples of allowable expenses in the administrative/indirect line item include audit, bookkeeping, payroll/finance, facilities maintenance, insurance, rent, storage, utilities, and allocated personnel costs (Executive Director's time or any other staff who works minimally on the funded program). Individual expenses that comprise the total administrative/indirect costs do not need to be itemized; however, if requested, applicant should be able to clearly demonstrate the individual expenses that were included in this line item.

Important Note: An audit conducted by an external party is required when an agency's annual operating budget is \$250,000 or higher.

SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors are described as organizations or individuals/sole proprietors that provide specialized services to target populations to help enhance the program. For proposal awarded through this RFP, each subcontractor must operate under a signed contract, MOU, or Letter of Agreement (LOA) with the grantee.

Any potential changes in subcontractors, scopes of work and budgets should be brought to the City's attention before implementation. Subcontractors should meet the same contracting requirements of the City of Sacramento that are required of the grantee. It is the legal obligation of the grantee to monitor the subcontractor's progress and to ensure accountability. However, City staff has the right to conduct file reviews of subcontractor agencies and program observations of the subcontractor.

List the organization or individual name of each subcontractor/potential subcontractor and provide a brief description (1-2 sentences) of the scope of work. For each and every subcontractor, show a line-item budget using the same format as the applicant budget. Subcontractor is only required to complete Column B (Funding Request) and may leave Column A (Program Budget) and Column C (In-Kind) blank.

If subcontractor is an individual, show hourly rate, number of hours in subcontract, and total subcontract amount. Include a brief description of the scope of work.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

This line item should reflect the staff time dedicated to the implementation of the program evaluation and the cost of any additional technology needed to successfully implement the program evaluation. Include the following information for the staff member who is taking primary responsibility for the program evaluation implementation: title, total annual salary/wages, FTE dedicated to program evaluation, and percentage included in the funding request.

Example: Afterschool Program Manager, \$50,000/year, 0.05 FTE (50%)

OTHER

This category is for any other expense that does not fall within any of the previous line items. Provide as much information as needed to demonstrate how the expense supports the program. Include the calculation of how total cost of item(s) were done and the percentage included in the funding request. Additional lines may be added to budget table for applicable categories.

MATCHING FUNDS (IF APPLICABLE)

Only fill out the matching funds column if you are applying as a non-city public entity. This line item should reflect a dollar-for-dollar cash match to requested SCF funding. Name and describe the matching fund source and the longevity and security of the funds in the Budget Narrative.

PROGRAM YEAR 2 AND PROGRAM YEAR 3 BUDGET TABLES (AS NEEDED)

Provide an explanation for any line item in the Program Year 2 budget for the program that varies more than 20% from the same line item in the Year 1 budget for the program. Follow the same guidelines required for narrative justifications of the Year 3 program budget above. Please fill additional Budget Tables as needed.

ATTACHMENT 5: BUDGET NARRATIVE

What fund goals are addressed by your program? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Goal 1: Support the Mental Health and Emotional Wellness of Youth
- ☐ Goal 2: Prevent and Reduce Youth Homelessness
- ☐ Goal 3: Prevent and Reduce Substance Abuse
- ☐ Goal 4: Prevent and Reduce Youth Violence
- ☐ Goal 5: Support the Healthy Development of Children Ages 0-5

The Budget Narrative is to provide support and explanation for the amounts displayed in the Budget Table spreadsheet. Please follow guidelines and examples listed in *Attachment 6- Budget Table* (Cannot exceed 1500 words).

For the Year 1 program budget, present a narrative for each line item in the total program budget. In general, each budget narrative and calculation statement should describe, in as much detail as required for clarity, what the specific item is and how the amount shown in the budget was calculated. In the case of non-personnel line items, applicant should use best judgment to determine if explanation of why the specific item is important to the program should be included.

NOTE: Year 1 Budget should reflect the initial 1.5-year period of January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

“Programmatic Period” refers to the dates of the proposed program, and for each funding year period, the date range must fall within the dates of the City’s fiscal year, with the exception of the first 6 months of programming from January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025. The Programmatic Period should reflect the dates when the program is working with children and youth directly. Expenditures resulting from preparations for program delivery, capacity building or for post-program work (e.g., data analysis, staff reflection meetings, clean-up) can be included in the budget. However, grant funds cannot be used for activities that occur before January 1, 2025. Please type in box below:

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

ATTACHMENT 6: PREFERENCE POINTS (OPTIONAL)

An applicant can earn ten (10) preference points by qualifying for one of the following categories. Note qualifying for both will not result in additional preference points.

If applicant's proposed program or project delivers services in one of the opportunity neighborhoods identified by the SEED/COI (see *Exhibit A*):

QUALIFYING AS PROGRAM OR PROJECT THAT SERVES SEED/COI IDENTIFIED OPPORTUNITY NEIGHBORHOODS

- 1) Fill out the Table below to identify the SEED/COI neighborhoods your program or project intends to services. Reference *Exhibit A* for a list of qualifying zip codes and neighborhoods.
- 2) Describe how the program or Project serves participants who live or go to school in one of the SEED/COI opportunity neighborhoods and list the neighborhood. Include the location of services (i.e. schools, community centers, libraries, parks etc.), frequency and target population. (500 words)
- 3) Provide one piece of the following documentation as proof:
 - a) Existing MOUs, contracts or agreements with schools, community centers or facilities located in the identified opportunity neighborhoods
 - b) Proof of address for existing project or program location where services are rendered.
 - c) Past performance data indicates that at least 50% of program participants live or go to school in one or more of the identified opportunity neighborhoods.
 - d) Other evidence of applicant's presence and service delivery in identified neighborhoods.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

<u>AREAS SERVED</u>		
Name of Program	Zip Code	Neighborhood
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

If applicant is a 501(c)(3) organization that meets the eligibility requirements of SCF and serves residents of a low-income affordable housing development in the City of Sacramento that received a California Welfare Tax Exemption for low-income affordable housing in the last tax year (Revenue and Taxation Code section 214):

QUALIFYING AS A CALIFORNIA WELFARE TAX EXEMPT LOW INCOME AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPLICANT

- 1) Identify the low-income affordable housing development where your program or project intends to provide services. Describe how the program or project serves residents of the identified low-income affordable housing development. (300 words)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 2) Applicant is a registered 501(c)(3) organization that provides service to residents of a low-income affordable housing development in the City of Sacramento and received the California Welfare Tax Exemption in the last tax year. Provide one piece of the following documentation as proof:
 - a) Copy of the 2023 Tax Roll from the Sacramento County Assessor listing the identified low-income affordable housing development as tax exempt under the California Welfare Tax Exemption for low-income affordable housing per the IRS Revenue and Taxation Code Section 214
 - b) Other substantial proof of California Welfare Tax Exemption status for identified housing development
 - c) MOU or agreement with housing development that outlines services and location
 - d) Other evidence of applicant's presence and service delivery at identified housing development

[Click here to enter text.](#)

EXHIBIT A: SEED/COI TOOL OPPORTUNITY NEIGHBORHOODS

Census Tracts, Districts, Zip Codes, and Neighborhoods with Sacramento Equity Index of 0-20 and/or COI "Very Low"

SEED Rank	SEED Rank Percentile	COI "Very Low"	Census Tract	District	Zip Code	Neighborhood
1	0.66	Yes	Census Tract 37	5	95820	South Oak Park, North City Farms, Central Oak Park
2	1.32	Yes	Census Tract 65.01	2	95838	Del Paso Heights
3	1.97	Yes	Census Tract 69.02	2	95815	Old North Sacramento, Noralto
4	2.63	No	Census Tract 28	5	95817, 95820	Central Oak Park
5	3.29	Yes	Census Tract 44.01	6	95820	Lawrence Park
6	3.95	Yes	Census Tract 68.01	2	95815	Richardson Village, Noralto
7	4.61	Yes	Census Tract 66	2	95815, 95838	Hagginwood, South Hagginwood, Old North Sacramento
8	5.26	Yes	Census Tract 44.02	5	95820	South Oak Park
9	5.92	Yes	Census Tract 47.02	6	95823	N/A
10	6.58	Yes	Census Tract 63	2	95815, 95838	Cannon Industrial Park, Hagginwood, South Hagginwood
11	7.24	Yes	Census Tract 50.02	5	95823, 95828	Parkway
12	7.89	Yes	Census Tract 67.04	2	95838	Robla
13	8.55	Yes	Census Tract 96.40	8a	95823	Valley Hi / North Laguna
14	9.21	Yes	Census Tract 49.07	5	95823	Parkway
15	9.87	Yes	Census Tract 43.02	8, 7	95832	Meadowview
16	10.53	No	Census Tract 69.01	2	95815	Woodlake, Johnson Business Park, American River Parkway, Erikson Industrial Park
17	11.18	No	Census Tract 53.01	4	95811, 95814, 95816	Southern Pacific / Richards, Dos Rios Triangle, East Sacramento
18	11.84	Yes	Census Tract 46.04	6	95824	N/A
19	12.50	Yes	Census Tract 68.02	2	95815	Noralto, Old North Sacramento, South Hagginwood
20	13.16	No	Census Tract 7	4	95814	Downtown, Old Sacramento

21	13.82	Yes	Census Tract 74.13	2	95821, 95660	Del Paso Park
22	14.47	Yes	Census Tract 48.02	6	95828	Glen Elder
23	15.13	Yes	Census Tract 45.02	5	95823	Parkway
24	15.79	Yes	Census Tract 62.02	2	95815, 95821	Ben Ali, Swanston Estates
25	16.45	Yes	Census Tract 32.04	6	95824	Avondale, Fruitridge Manor
26	17.11	Yes	Census Tract 32.02	6	95824	Fruitridge Manor
27	17.76	Yes	Census Tract 42.02	8	95822, 95832	Meadowview
28	18.42	Yes	Census Tract 45.01	5	95824	South City Farms
29	19.08	Yes	Census Tract 68.03	2	95815	Willis Acres, Noralto
30	19.74	Yes	Census Tract 55.02	2	95815, 95825	Swanston Estates, Ben Ali, Arden Fair, Erikson Industrial Park
31	20.39	Yes	Census Tract 48.01	6	95828	Southeast Village, Glen Elder
32	21.05	Yes	Census Tract 49.06	5	95823	Parkway
33	21.71	Yes	Census Tract 64	2	95838	East Del Paso Heights, Village Green, Parker Homes, Raley Industrial Park
34	22.37	Yes	Census Tract 47.01	6	95823	N/A
35	23.03	Yes	Census Tract 41	5	95822	Woodbine, Brentwood
36	23.68	Yes	Census Tract 32.03	6	95824	Southeast Village, Glen Elder
37	24.34	Yes	Census Tract 67.05	2	95838	Norwood Tech, Oak Knoll, Johnston Heights, Strawberry Manor
39	25.66	Yes	Census Tract 49.09	5	95823	Parkway
40	26.32	Yes	Census Tract 46.03	6	95824	Fruitridge Manor
42	27.63	Yes	Census Tract 70.01	3, 2, 1	95833, 95384	Gardenland, South Natomas, American River Parkway
43	28.29	Yes	Census Tract 70.22	3	95834	South Natomas
46	30.26	Yes	Census Tract 42.03	8	95822, 95832	Meadowview
47	30.92	Yes	Census Tract 96.34	5	95823	Valley Hi / North Laguna

51	33.55	Yes	Census Tract 49.08	5	95823	Parkway
53	34.87	Yes	Census Tract 52.01	6	95819, 95826	CSUS, College Town
55	36.18	Yes	Census Tract 67.03	1	95838	Glenwood Meadows, Pell/Main Industrial Park
57	37.50	Yes	Census Tract 49.10	5	95823	Parkway
61	40.13	Yes	Census Tract 43.01	8	95832	Meadowview
62	40.79	Yes	Census Tract 70.21	3	95834	South Natomas
67	44.08	Yes	Census Tract 49.04	5	95823	Parkway
68	44.74	Yes	Census Tract 96.33	8	95823	Valley Hi / North Laguna
96	63.16	Yes	Census Tract 70.24	3	95833	South Natomas, River Gardens
77	50.66	Yes	Census Tract 67.06	2	95838	West Del Paso Heights, Norwood I-80

OTHER CITY RIGHTS AND DISCLOSURES

GENERAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

If awarded a SCF grant, the grantee shall:

1. Appoint one representative to serve as the primary point of contact.
2. Obtain and maintain insurance as required by the City throughout the term of the agreement.
3. Limit service delivery within City of Sacramento boundaries and to City of Sacramento residents, unless otherwise requested.
4. Comply with all reporting requirements and allow the City and its contracted evaluator to conduct at least one on-site monitoring visit per year.
5. Attend SCF grantee convenings to maximize collaboration and the coordination of Sacramento children and youth services.
6. If the provision of services occurs on school campuses:
 - a. Obtain the written consent of the campus(es) to perform services on the campus prior to application submission
 - b. Enter into a written agreement with the campus(es), no later than thirty (30) days following the commencement of services and promptly provide a fully executed copy of the agreement(s) to the City
 - c. Notify the City if any party terminates, amends or suspends the agreement

A grantee's failure to maintain a proper agreement shall, in addition to all other remedies available to the City, constitute grounds for the City to withhold payment or terminate the agreement.

7. If the grantee uses subcontractors:
 - a. Enter into a written agreement with the subcontractor(s), no later than thirty (30) days following the commencement of services and promptly provide a fully executed copy of the agreement(s) to the City
 - b. Notify the City if any party terminates, amends or suspends the agreement
8. To the extent required by law, practice non-discrimination in providing services, hiring personnel, and recruiting volunteers, and at the sole discretion of the City, provide a Personnel Practices Plan acceptable to the City in a timely manner.
9. Establish and enforce standards of conduct for applicant employees and volunteers that reflect public conventions and morals.
10. Prior to hiring staff, volunteers, or subcontractors, conduct a criminal background check requiring fingerprinting and the Department of Justice conducting a criminal record review for each person if he or she would hold a supervisory position or have disciplinary power over any minor. Grantee shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of City that it has acceptable protocols in place for the screening of employees, volunteers and subcontractors.

11. Comply with church/state restrictions, including:

- a. Protecting against the discrimination of any employee or applicant for employment based on religion and shall not limit employment or give preference in employment to persons based on religion.
- b. Protecting against the discrimination of any person applying for public services based on religion and shall not limit such services or give preference to persons based on religion.

12. Follow all other local laws, ordinances, codes, regulations, and decrees.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflicts of interest may occur, whether directly or indirectly, when an employee, officer, board member, or volunteer of the Applicant is related to, married to, involved in an intimate relationship with, or are living with an employee or elected official of the City of Sacramento or if any of these individuals have an ownership or financial interest in the organization applying for funding. While a conflict of interest may not disqualify the applicant from receiving a SCF grant, any potential conflict of interest must be disclosed to the City Manager, or authorized designee, when the application is submitted and before grant funds will be awarded to a qualified Applicant.

Applicant acknowledges the following:

1. A conflict of interest may arise if an employee, officer, board member, or volunteer of the Applicant, is also an elected official or is employed by the City of Sacramento or is the spouse, partner, dependent child, member of the household, or has an intimate relationship, with an elected official or employee of the City of Sacramento.
2. A conflict of interest may arise if an employee, officer, board member, or volunteer of the Applicant has a financial or ownership interest in the Applicant's organization, and that person is also an elected official or is employed by the City of Sacramento or is the spouse, partner, dependent child, member of the household, or has an intimate relationship, with an elected official or employee of the City of Sacramento.
3. Applicant shall disclose the names of any employees, officers, board members, or volunteers, who may give rise to a conflict of interest in the proposal when submitting the application.
4. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest, or potential conflict of interest, will be deemed a material misrepresentation by the Applicant.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT

The City reserves the right to negotiate all terms of a Funding Agreement including length, scope of services, and grant award. A Funding Agreement with the successful candidate shall not be binding until it is signed by the authorized representatives of both City and the service provider. Selection as a service provider does not guarantee that City will award a grant to any eligible provider.

ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF RFP PROPOSALS

The City reserves the right to reject any items or groups of items offered in response to this RFP. Failure to furnish all information requested or to follow the format requested herein may disqualify the

proposer. Any false, incomplete, misleading, or unresponsive statements in a proposal may also be sufficient cause for a proposal's rejection. The City reserves the right to waive any minor informality or irregularity in any response. The City may, for any reason, decide not to award grants as the result of this RFP.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Responses to this RFP become the property of the City of Sacramento. All responses become a matter of public record and shall be regarded as such. Each applicant should be aware that, although the California Public Records Act recognizes that certain confidential trade secret information may be protected from disclosure, the City of Sacramento might not be able to establish that the information that an applicant submits is a trade secret. If the request is made for information marked "Confidential", the City will give notice to allow the applicant to seek protection from disclosure by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Any response which contains language purported to render all or significant portions of the response as "Confidential", "Trade Secret", or "Proprietary" shall be regarded as non-responsive.

RESERVATIONS AND RIGHTS BY THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO

1. The attached grant agreement is subject to changes by the City.
2. Applicants submitting a proposal agree that by submitting a response to this RFP, they authorize the City to verify all information given.
3. The award of a grant by the City to an organization which proposed to use sub-applicants for the performance of work under the grant agreement resulting from this RFP should not be interpreted to limit the City's right to approve subcontractors.
4. The City reserves the right, after grant award, to amend the resulting agreement, including updates to the scope of work and evaluation components, as needed through the term of the contract to best meet the needs of all parties,
5. If any provisions of the RFP shall be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.
6. The City reserves the right to revise or amend any part of this RFP up to the due date and time for accepting proposals. Such revisions and amendments, if any, shall be announced by addendum to this RFP. Copies of such addendums shall be furnished to all applicants who have obtained Qualification documents after the RFP advertisement. If the revisions and addendums require changes, the due date set for RFP proposals may be postponed by such number of days as in the opinion of the City shall enable applicants to revise their proposals. In any case, the due date shall be at least five working days after the last addendum, and the addendum shall include an announcement of the new due date, if applicable.
7. The City reserves the right to select the proposals which in its sole judgment best meets the needs of the City.

8. The City reserves the right to consider an applicant's financial standing as a basis for denying eligibility, including, in City's estimation, the financial ability or lack of financial ability of any applicant to carry out and successfully complete the proposed services.

APPENDIX A: GRANT AGREEMENT SAMPLE

This Grant Agreement (“Agreement”), dated _____ 2025 (the “Execution Date”), is between the City of Sacramento, a municipal corporation (“**City**”), and _____, an unincorporated association doing business as _____ (“**Grantee**”).

Background

- A. In December 2017, the Sacramento City Council adopted a Citywide Youth Development Campaign Plan that is intended to guide the City in the design, operations, and evaluation of its children and youth programs. The Plan lays out a set of goals that the City will strive to achieve through its own programs and through strategic partnerships.
- B. The Sacramento City Council allocated funding for a grant program to support youth engagement and summer programming during the fiscal year 2021 and 2022 for specified non-profit community-based service providers which offer youth programs within or serving disadvantaged neighborhoods.
- C. The City issued a Request for Proposals seeking non-profit community-based organizations willing to offer youth development programs for fiscal year 2021-22 and 2022-23. Grantee submitted a proposal which included proposed services and costs. City and Grantee have reviewed the proposal and may have negotiated changes to the scope of services and costs. Grantee has been selected to receive a grant to fund a youth development program as specified under the provisions of this Agreement.

Agreement

City and Grantee enter into this Agreement for the purpose of establishing each party’s rights and obligations with regard to the disbursement and expenditure of the City Funds (defined below) for the Authorized Activities (defined below) as follows:

- 1. **Term.** This Agreement takes effect as of _____ (the “Effective Date”) and expires on _____, 2026[or 2027] (the “Expiration Date”).
 - (a) This Agreement may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties if Grantee is unable to fully implement the program due to COVID-19 restrictions on in-person gatherings and the parties desire to continue the program with the grant funding, or if Grantee has not spent all of the grant funding by the planned Expiration Date. Grantee may request a time extension so that the term of this Agreement expires no later than _____. The request must be in writing and explain the reason for the extension. The City will decide, in its sole discretion, whether to grant the extension and will notify Grantee of that decision.

- (b) Either party may terminate this Agreement early by giving the other party notice in accordance with Section 10 at least 30 calendar days before the termination date set forth in the notice. In addition, this Agreement is subject to early termination with a shorter notice period under Section 9.

2. **Grant Funds – Services and Budget.** Grantee has been awarded a grant in the amount of not to exceed \$ _____ (the “City Funds”) solely to carry out the activities listed in Attachment 1 (“**Authorized Activities**”) in accordance with the budget listed in Attachment 2 (“**Approved Budget**”). The Authorized Activities and the Approved Budget are based on compliance with the terms of City’s Request for Proposals for Youth Development Plan Funding (RFP) and Grantee’s Proposal, which are incorporated as part of this Agreement by this reference. In the event of any conflict between Attachments 1 and 2 and City’s RFP and Grantee’s Proposal, the terms of the Attachments and this Agreement shall control and prevail.

Grantee shall perform all services performed under this Agreement in the manner and according to the standards currently observed by a competent practitioner of Grantee’s profession in California. Grantee shall assign only competent personnel to perform services under this Agreement. Grantee shall notify City in writing of any changes in Grantee’s staff assigned to perform the services under this Agreement prior to any such performance.

Grantee shall not assign any rights or duties under this Agreement to a third party without the express prior written consent of City. Grantee agrees that the City shall have the right to approve any and all subcontractors to be used by Grantee in the performance of the Authorized Activities this Agreement before Grantee contracts with or otherwise engages any such subcontractors unless they are identified in Attachment 1. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent set forth and described in the Authorized Activities, Grantee may work with collaborative service partners, which may include any entity that will share resources that impact the delivery of the services (such as school sites and other non-profit community service organizations), provided that Grantee shall ensure that it obtains all necessary permits to conduct the Authorized Services at such sites.

3. **City Funds Disbursement.** The City will disburse 25% of the City Funds for the first year of the term within 30-90 days of the Execution Date. The City will disburse the remaining funds on a quarterly reimbursement basis upon satisfactory submission of reporting requirements (see Reporting Requirements, pg. 14), including a mid-year progress report and financial documentation demonstrating that the grantee appropriately expended all funds previously advanced. The same fund allocation applies to the second year and third year (if applicable) contingent upon performance and fund availability: As long as the grantee has demonstrated satisfactory performance in the previous year, the City will release 25% of grant funds for the subsequent year.

4. **Restrictions on Use of City Funds.** Grantee may expend the City Funds only for Authorized Activities based on its Proposal that are provided during the Term of this Agreement, subject to the following limitations:

- (a) Grantee may not use the City Funds for: (i) its overhead, general organization, and administrative expenses which are not directly related to performing the Authorized

Activities; (ii) building maintenance, utilities, and similar operating costs of a facility unless it is used primarily by the grant program participants; (iii) fundraising and lobbying activities; (iv) expenses associated with the preparation of the Proposal, negotiating the terms of this Agreement, and costs incurred prior to the Execution Date unless included in the Approved Budget; or (vi) expenses not listed in the Authorized Budget.

- (b) Grantee shall not adjust any line item expenditure in the Approved Budget by more than 10% without the prior written approval of the City Representative listed in Section 10. Grantee shall submit requests for line item adjustments in accordance with the notice procedures in Section 10.
- (c) Grantee may not use the City Funds to supplant (displacing or replacing) funds provided by other entities or held by Grantee prior to the Execution Date to provide other youth services already being funded by those entities or donations received by Grantee for such other youth services.
- (d) This Section 4 will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

5. Accounting and Reporting.

- (a) Grantee shall keep all City Funds received under this Agreement separate from all other funds under its control.
- (b) Grantee shall maintain records of all matters related to this Agreement including, but not limited to, books, financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, personnel records, property records, and all other pertinent records sufficient to reflect properly: All direct and indirect costs of whatever nature claimed to have been incurred and anticipated to be incurred in performance of this Agreement and all other matters covered by this Agreement. The records shall document all financial transactions, including but not limited to contracts, invoices, time cards, cash receipts, vouchers, canceled checks, bank statements and/or other official documentation evidencing in proper detail the nature and propriety of all charges paid with the City Funds. Grantee shall submit to the City, at such times and in such forms as the City may require, such records pertaining to matters covered by this Agreement.
- (c) Grantee shall allow its records related to the services provided under this Agreement for inspection and audit by City. At City's election, the City Accounting Manager or City Auditor, at all reasonable times, may audit Grantee's books, records, and accounts to determine whether the Grantee has complied with the terms of this Agreement. City shall have the right for any reason whatsoever to perform, or cause to be performed an independent audit. Such audits may cover programmatic as well as fiscal matters. Grantee will be afforded an opportunity to respond to any audit findings, and have the responses included in the final audit report. Costs of such independent audits shall be borne by the City. This Section 5(c) will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

- (d) Within the time period specified in Attachment 1, Grantee shall provide City with a progress reports which lists the number of youth participating in the program and other matters regarding the program as listed in the Authorized Services.
- (e) Within 60 calendar days after either completion of the Authorized Services or the Expiration Date, whichever occurs first, Grantee shall provide City with a final report that lists the program accomplishments and expenditure of the City Funds. Grantee's failure to provide the final report or Grantee's unauthorized use of City Funds may result in the Grantee being barred from being eligible for City grant funding in future years.
- (f) If the City Accounting Manager or City Auditor determines that the City Funds were expended by Grantee for uses not listed in the Authorized Budget or in violation of the restrictions listed in Section 4, upon receipt of the written demand issued by City which details the unauthorized expenditures, Grantee shall reimburse City for the amount of the unauthorized expenditures. Reimbursement shall be made by check payable to the City and delivered to the City Representative at the address set forth in Section 10 within 30 days from the date of the demand for repayment. This Section 5(f) will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

6. Inspection, Monitoring, Evaluation and Program Changes. At any time during normal business hours, and as often as may be deemed necessary, Grantee agrees that the City, and/or any of its authorized representatives shall have access to and the right to examine its offices and facilities engaged in performance of services under this Agreement. No prior notice to Grantee of such inspection by City shall be required.

Grantee shall furnish all data, statements, records, information, and reports necessary for the City to monitor, review and evaluate the performance of the Authorized Services. Grantee shall cooperate with the City in the conduct of any evaluation of Grantee's youth development program and services. Grantee shall further cooperate to incorporate minor modifications to the program that may be discovered as necessary and appropriate as a result of feedback from the monitoring and evaluation process. City shall have the right to request the services of an outside agent to assist in any such evaluation, which services shall be paid for by the City.

Grantee recognizes and agrees that an evaluation of the Authorized Services may be completed after the expiration of the first year or the Term. In the event funding for a second year is included in this Agreement, Grantee acknowledges and agrees that such additional funding may be determined based on the results of the evaluation process and City may request changes to the Authorized Services and Approved Budget for the second year or services.

7. Non-Discrimination. Grantee shall not discriminate against any program participant on the grounds of sex which includes gender identity and gender expression, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship, primary language or immigration status. The foregoing is based on Section

51 of the CA Civil Code, which is incorporated herein by reference as if set forth herein in full, and includes any other applicable federal, state, or local law prohibiting discrimination.

If Grantee is a religious organization, Grantee may not require program participants to engage in any activity or ceremony associated with education or advocacy of that organization's religious beliefs or creed. However, the program offered by Grantee under this Agreement may be held within a church building or a building that may include religious statutes or displays associated with that organization's beliefs or creed.

8. **Criminal Background Check.** Grantee and all of its employees, volunteers and subcontractors which will have supervisory or disciplinary authority over minors or will have direct contact with minors providing services under this Agreement are required to be fingerprinted and checked for certain types of criminal convictions before providing services per California Public Resources Code Section 5164 and California Education Code Section 10911.5. Grantee shall require its employees, volunteers and subcontractors providing services under this Agreement to minors to submit to being fingerprinted for the criminal conviction review by the State Department of Justice. City may require Grantee to submit evidence of Grantee's compliance with this requirement at any time during the Term of this Agreement.

If any at time after the criminal conviction review process has been completed, Grantee or any of its employees, volunteers or subcontractors is arrested for a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, Grantee shall immediately notify the City Representative listed in Section 10. City may suspend the right of such person(s) to continue to provide services under this Agreement until the charges are dismissed or there is a settlement or conviction, and City may terminate this Agreement in lieu of suspension at its sole discretion.

9. **Suspension and Termination.** City shall have the right, at any time, to temporarily suspend Grantee's performance hereunder, in whole or in part, by giving a written notice of suspension to Grantee. If City gives such notice of suspension, Grantee shall immediately suspend its activities under this Agreement, as specified in such notice.

This Agreement may be terminated prior to the Expiration Date by either party by giving thirty (30) days' notice to the other in writing of its intent to terminate the Agreement for its convenience. Upon such notice, Grantee shall cease any further work related to this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to be a waiver of the City's right to recover from Grantee any portion of the City Funds that have not been spent in accordance with this Agreement or that have not been spent as of the date of notice.

City may terminate this Agreement for breach prior to the Expiration Date if the City Manager or the City Manager's designee determines that any of the following circumstances has occurred:

- (a) Grantee has failed submit records when requested or improperly used the City Funds(see Sections 4 and 5);

- (b) Grantee has made any material misrepresentation of any nature with respect to any information or statements furnished to City in connection with this Agreement;
- (c) There is pending litigation with respect to the performance by Grantee of any of its duties or obligations under this Agreement that may materially jeopardize or adversely affect Grantee's ability to implement the Authorized Services;
- (d) Grantee has violated the non-discrimination provisions or the religious restrictions in Section 7;
- (e) Grantee has failed to conduct criminal background checks as provided in Section 8;
- (f) Grantee or has failed to perform or has performed unsatisfactorily any term of this Agreement, including failure to submit the required reports and documents after the first year of the term; or
- (g) Grantee has completed the Authorized Services and submitted the required reports in accordance with Sections 5 and 6, so there are no further obligations by any party under this Agreement.

10. Representatives and Notices. Grantee shall assign a single program coordinator who shall have overall responsibility for the performance of this Agreement by Grantee. Should circumstances or conditions require a substitute Grantee coordinator, Grantee shall notify the City Representative identified below.

Any notice under this Agreement must be in writing and will be considered properly given and effective only when mailed or delivered in the manner provided by this Section 10 to the persons identified below or their successors. If mailed, the notice will be effective on the second calendar day from the date it is deposited in the United States Mail addressed as set forth below with postage prepaid. A notice sent in any other manner (e.g., e-mailed or hand-delivered) will be effective or will be considered properly given when actually delivered.

If to Grantee:

If to City:

Youth Development Policy Manager

City of Sacramento
915 I Street, 3rd floor
Sacramento CA 95814

Any party may change its address for these purposes by giving written notice of the change to the other parties in the manner provided in this Section 10.

- 11. Indemnity.** Grantee shall defend, hold harmless, and indemnify City, its officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all actions, damages, costs, liabilities, claims, demands, losses, judgments, penalties, costs and expenses of every type and description, including, but not limited to, any fees and/or costs reasonably incurred by the City's staff attorneys or outside attorneys and any fees and expenses incurred in enforcing this provision (collectively, "Liabilities"), including Liabilities arising from personal injury or death, damage to personal, real or intellectual property or the environment, contractual or other economic damages, or regulatory penalties, arising out of or in any way related to Grantee's acts or omissions under this Agreement, whether or not (i) such Liabilities are caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder or (ii) such Liabilities are litigated, settled or reduced to judgment, except that the foregoing indemnity does not apply to liability for any damage or expense for death or bodily injury to persons or damage to property to the extent arising from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the City, its officers, employees, agents, or independent contractors who are directly responsible to City. The provisions of this Section 11 will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.
- 12. Insurance.** During the term of this Agreement, Grantee) shall maintain at its sole expense insurance coverage as follows:
- (a) Commercial General Liability Insurance providing coverage at least as broad as ISO CGL Form 00 01 on an occurrence basis for bodily injury, including death, of one or more persons, property damage, and personal injury, arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of Grantee, products and completed operations of Grantee, and premises owned, leased, or used by Grantee, with limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence. The policy must provide contractual liability and products and completed operations coverage for the term of the policy. The policy must not include an exclusion for sexual abuse, physical abuse, or molestation.
 - (b) Automobile Liability Insurance is required if Grantee provides transportation for program participants providing coverage at least as broad as ISO Form CA 00 01 for bodily injury, including death, of one or more persons, property damage and personal injury, with limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence. The policy shall provide coverage for owned, non-owned and/or hired autos as appropriate to the operations of Grantee.

No automobile liability insurance is required if Grantee certifies as follows:

“Grantee certifies that a motor vehicle will not be used in the performance of any work or services under this Agreement. If, however, Grantee requires any employees of Grantee to use a vehicle to perform services under this Agreement, Grantee understands that it must maintain and provide evidence of Automobile Liability Insurance providing coverage at least as broad as ISO Form CA 00 01 for bodily injury, including death, of one or more persons, property damage and personal injury, with limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence. The policy shall provide coverage for owned, non-owned and/or hired autos as appropriate to the operations of the Grantee.”

_____ (Grantee initials)

- (c) Workers' Compensation Insurance with statutory limits, and Employers' Liability Insurance with limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000). No Workers' Compensation insurance shall be required if Grantee completes the following certification:

“I certify that my business has no employees, and that I do not employ anyone. I am exempt from the legal requirements to provide Workers' Compensation insurance.”

_____ (Grantee initials)

- (d) The Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability policies must contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:
- (1) The City, its officials, employees, and agents must be covered by policy terms or endorsement as additional insureds.
 - (2) Grantee's insurance coverage is primary insurance as respects the City, its officials, employees, and agents. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the City, its officials, employees, or agents is in excess of Grantee's insurance and does not contribute with it.
 - (3) The City must be provided with 30 days' written notice of cancellation or material change in the policy language or terms.
- (e) Insurance must be placed with insurers with a Bests' rating of not less than A:VI. Self-insured retentions, policy terms, or other variations that do not comply with the requirements of this Section 12 must be declared to and approved by City in writing prior to execution of this Agreement.
- (f) Grantee shall furnish City with certificates and required endorsements evidencing the insurance required. The certificates and endorsements must be forwarded to the City Representative named in Section 10. Copies of policies must be delivered to City on demand. Certificates of insurance must be signed by an authorized representative of the insurance carrier.

- (g) For all insurance policy renewals during the term of this Agreement, Grantee shall send insurance certificates reflecting the policy renewals directly to:

City of Sacramento
c/o Exigis LLC
PO Box 947
Murrieta, CA
92564

Insurance certificates also may be faxed to (888) 355-3599, or e-mailed to:
certificates-sacramento@riskworks.com

- (h) The City may withhold payments to Grantee or terminate the Agreement if the insurance is canceled or is not renewed as required by this Section 12.
- (i) Grantee's liability to the City is not in any way be limited to or affected by the amount of insurance coverage required or carried by Grantee in connection with this Agreement.

13. Conflicts of Interest. During the Term of this Agreement, Grantee, its officers, directors, employees, and agents shall not have or acquire any interest, directly or indirectly, that creates an actual or apparent conflict with the interests of City or that in any way hinders Grantee's performance under this Agreement.

14. Miscellaneous.

- (a) *Compliance with Applicable Laws.* Grantee shall conduct its affairs and carry on its operations in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws. Grantee must be registered and in good standing with the Registry of Charitable Trusts maintained by the California Attorney General and the corporation must be registered, active, and in good standing with the Secretary of State corporation filings.
- (b) *Assignment.* Grantee may not assign or otherwise transfer this Agreement or any interest in it without City's written consent, which the City may grant or deny in its sole discretion. An assignment or other transfer made contrary to this Section 14(b) is void.
- (c) *Successors and Assigns.* This Agreement binds and inures to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the parties. This Section 14(c) does not constitute the City's consent to any assignment of this Agreement or any interest in this Agreement.
- (d) *Independent Contractors.* Grantee may assign employees and volunteers or contract with third parties to perform the Authorized Services at its exclusive discretion and the services of such assigned employees, volunteers and third parties shall be at the sole expense of Grantee and they shall not be entitled to any benefits payable to employees of City.

- (e) *Third Parties.* This Agreement is for the sole benefit of Grantee and City and no other person or entity shall be entitled to rely upon, enforce, or receive any direct benefit from this Agreement.
- (f) *No Joint Venture.* It is understood and agreed that each party is an independent person, entity or government agency and that this Agreement shall not create a relationship between City and Grantee of employer-employee, joint venture, partnership, or any other relationship of association. Except as expressly provided in this Agreement or as the parties may specify in writing, neither party shall have authority, express or implied, to act on behalf of the other party in any capacity whatsoever as an agent.
- (g) *Interpretation and Exhibits.* This Agreement is to be interpreted and applied in accordance with California law. Attachments 1 and 2, and Exhibit A if applicable, are part of this Agreement.
- (h) *Waiver of Breach.* A party's failure to insist on strict performance of this Agreement or to exercise any right or remedy upon the other party's breach of this Agreement will not constitute a waiver of the performance, right, or remedy. A party's waiver of the other party's breach of any term or provision in this Agreement is not a continuing waiver or a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or any other term or provision. A waiver is binding only if set forth in writing and signed by the waiving party.
- (i) *Severability.* If a court with jurisdiction rules that any nonmaterial part of this Agreement is invalid, unenforceable, or contrary to law or public policy, then the rest of this Agreement remains valid and fully enforceable.
- (j) *Counterparts.* The parties may sign this Agreement in counterparts, each of which is considered an original, but all of which constitute the same Agreement. Facsimiles, pdfs, and photocopies of signature pages of the Agreement have the same binding effect as originals.
- (k) *Time of Essence.* Time is of the essence in performing this Agreement.
- (l) *Integration and Modification.* This Agreement sets forth the parties' entire understanding regarding the matters set forth above and is intended to be their final, complete, and exclusive expression of those matters. It supersedes all prior or contemporaneous agreements, representations, and negotiations—written, oral, express, or implied—and may be modified only by another written agreement signed by both parties.
- (m) *Authority.* Each of the signatories to this Agreement represents that he/she is authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of such party and that all approvals, resolutions and consents which must be obtained to bind such party have been obtained that no further approvals, acts or consents are required to bind such party to this Agreement.

[signature page follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been entered into as of the day and year first stated above.

City of Sacramento

By: _____
Assistant City Manager
For: City Manager

Approved as to Form:

By: _____
Senior Deputy City Attorney

Attest:

By: _____
Assistant City Clerk

[Grantee Name]

By: _____
Name:
Title:

City of Sacramento
**Sacramento Childrens Fund Planning and Oversight
Commission Report**
915 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
www.cityofsacramento.org

File ID: 2026-01438

8/6/2026

Sacramento Children's Fund Target Populations

File ID: 2026-01438

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Review the Strategic Investment Plan and Request for Proposals and discuss potential recommendations to align outcomes with the Measure L Target Populations.

Contact: Julie Garen, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1531, jgaren@cityofsacramento.org,
Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Presenter: Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz, Sacramento Children's Fund Commissioner

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

2-Sacramento Children's Fund Target Population Presentation

Issue Detail: As part of the third year review of the Strategic Investment Plan, the Target Populations Ad Hoc Committee will present updates on their work including recommendations on how to approach the target populations in the second round of open grant funding.

The Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission will discuss the implementation updates and potential recommendations it may wish to make to better align outcomes with the five fund goals and the Sacramento Children's Fund target populations. Sacramento Children's Fund Commissioners will present multiple approaches to addressing the target populations in the competitive funding process.

Any recommendations to revise the competitive selection process must be consistent with the Commission's powers and duties, as established in Section 120 of the City Charter, as well as the SIP approved by Council. Certain recommended revisions to the competitive selection process, and any revisions to the SIP, would require City Council approval.

Policy Considerations: Sacramento City Charter § 120 Sacramento Children's Fund.

Economic Impacts: Not applicable.

Environmental Considerations: Not applicable.

Sustainability: Not applicable.

Commission/Committee Action: Not applicable.

Rationale for Recommendation: As outlined in Measure L, Sacramento City Charter § 120 Sacramento Children's Fund, the Sacramento Children's Fund Planning and Oversight Commission is charged with the power and duty to complete a third year review of the Strategic Investment Plan. The Commission may make recommendations on how to implement changes to the next round of open grant funding and/or the SIP after review and discussion of the implementation updates.

Financial Considerations: Not applicable.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): Not applicable.

SCF Priority Populations

Subcommittee Recommendations

August 6, 2026

SCF Planning & Oversight Commission

Rec 1. Create a Separate "Priority Populations" Scoring Category

Rating Factor	Current	Proposed
Organization History	15	15
Program Design	50	30
Priority Populations & Equitable Reach	–	20
Outcomes & Impact	15	15
Budget	20	20

Priority Populations & Equitable Reach (20 points)

Applicants must clearly demonstrate how the proposed program will serve youth experiencing multiple co-occurring forms of marginalization, adversity, or service system involvement. Applicants should describe how they intentionally identify, engage, retain, and support youth experiencing intersecting needs, recognizing that children and youth facing multiple overlapping risks are often those with the greatest unmet needs. Responses should describe outreach strategies, evidence of prior success serving the proposed populations, barriers to participation, and how the proposed approach will reach youth who are not otherwise connected to services.

Sample scoring criteria

- Demonstrates meaningful reach to youth experiencing multiple, intersecting forms of adversity.
- Demonstrates reach to youth who are not otherwise connected to services.
- Includes credible outreach strategies for youth disconnected from existing services.
- Provides evidence of successful engagement and retention

Rec 2. Organize Priority Populations Into Three Categories

Multiple Marginalized Identities:	Socially Complex Needs:	"Hard-to-Reach":
• Children, youth, and families who are Black, Indigenous, Latino/e, Southeast Asian • Children and youth who identify as LGBTQ+ • Children and youth who are first generation immigrants or refugees • Children and youth with disabilities	• Children, youth, and families who are low-income • Youth in or transitioning out of foster care • Children or youth exposed to violence	• Youth or families who are unhoused • Youth who are not in school or working • Children and youth who have been involved in the juvenile or criminal legal systems

Rec 3. Require Applicants to Address Multiple Dimensions of Need

Rather than asking applicants to identify any priority population, applicants must identify at least **one** priority population from **two** of the three categories.

➤ This would require applicants to demonstrate service to youth experiencing multiple adversities and structural barriers. For example:

- ✓ Indigenous youth involved in juvenile justice
- ✓ Immigrant youth who are not in school or working
- ✓ Unhoused youth exposed to violence

Pros

- Better reflects how adversity clusters
- More closely aligns funding with youth experiencing multiple, overlapping disadvantages

Rec 4. Strengthen the RFP Narrative Question

Old: Program or Project Design Section

Identify the target population and how the program or project will serve Sacramento youth aged 0-24 most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence (page 12 of the RFP). Include evidence of applicant's experience providing services to the target population including data from past program performance. Describe (500 words):

- a) The plan to recruit, engage, and retain children and youth in services to reach the program or project's goals.
- b) Any existing referral systems with entities primarily serving the target population (page 12 of the RFP). Specify how the program activities or project design are age- and/or developmentally appropriate for target population.

New: "Priority Populations and Equitable Reach" Section

Describe how the proposed program or project will identify, recruit, engage, retain, and support Sacramento youth aged 0-24 most impacted by poverty, trauma and violence. Applicants must identify the priority populations the proposed program or project is designed to serve and demonstrate that those participants represent at least **one** priority population from at least **two** of the three categories. Describe (500-1000 words):

- a) Which priority populations the program is designed to serve and why those populations were selected, including how the proposed program is designed to address participants who experience multiple, intersecting forms of marginalization, adversity, or service system involvement.
- b) How participants will be identified, recruited, and engaged, including specific strategies for reaching youth who are not otherwise connected to existing programs or services, including how the program will reduce barriers to participation, promote sustained engagement and retention, and respond to the strengths and needs of the identified priority populations.
- c) How the program design, staffing, partnerships, and services are tailored to the unique strengths, needs, and lived experiences of the identified priority populations.