What is In the Loop?

In the Loop is a newsletter shared by the Richmond Department of Children and Youth (Department) to ensure that Richmond and North Richmond community members are aware of the work being done by Department staff and their various partners to enhance the lives of children, youth, and families across Richmond and North Richmond. The Department and Fund for Children and Youth were created as a result of the hard work of local youth, individuals, and community organizations to provide a sustainable funding stream for youth-serving organizations in Richmond and North Richmond. Department staff recognizes these efforts and the importance of keeping the Richmond and North Richmond communities in the loop about the work being done to support children and youth.
Oversight Board

On December 2, 2019, the Oversight Board held its first official meeting. The Oversight Board is made up of young people and adults from Richmond and North Richmond. Congratulations to Zeonta Johnson and Guadalupe Enllana for being selected as the 2019-2020 Co-Chairs. Seven Board members were also selected to serve on a sub-committee to help select the consultant for the Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Investment Plan.

Y-PLAN @ Kennedy

In collaboration with Y-PLAN (Youth – Plan, Learn, Act, Now), 45 students from Kennedy High School had the opportunity to visit Civic Center Plaza and RYSE on December 4, 2019, to learn about the various and diverse youth services available across Richmond. Y-PLAN seeks to empower young people to tackle real-world problems in their communities through project-based civic learning experiences. The Department of Children and Youth is working collaboratively with Kennedy High School’s Information Technology Academy to better understand how to best serve and engage youth in Richmond. Community members are invited to attend Y-PLAN Kennedy High School Proposal Presentations which will take place on Friday, January 24th from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Kennedy High School Library (4300 Cutting Blvd., Richmond, CA 94804).

Community Needs Assessment and Request for Proposal

A Request For Proposal was released on December 10, 2019 to hire a consultant to support the Department in conducting a Community Needs Assessment and drafting a Strategic Investment Plan. A committee will be formed to interview and select a consultant by mid-February with the contract scheduled to begin in February/March of 2020. Community members and community-based organizations will be directly involved throughout each step of the Community Needs Assessment in order to effectively advance outreach that is rooted in health equity and racial justice. This includes a combination of surveys, focus groups, key informant interviews, and analyzing secondary data sources.
In supporting Department best practices, a group of 6 UC Berkeley graduate students conducted research on community engagement and outreach methods specific to youth-centered Community Needs Assessments. Their work will help create a framework for community engagement during the upcoming Community Needs Assessment process. The team’s research included specific ways to involve the experiences and voices of youth and youth-oriented organizations.

Meet the Team

LaShonda White, Director
David Padilla, Management Analyst
Letitia Carpenter, Fellow
Sarah Ferrell, Intern
Anna Leversee, Intern
Guadalupe Morales, Community Services Department
Patrick Seals, City Attorney’s Office

Learn more as we spotlight Department team members in future newsletters! Community members are also invited to connect with us at (510) 620-6523 or youth@ci.richmond.ca.us.

Stay in the Loop!

Join us on social media, visit our website, and join our E-News mailing list at www.richmondyouth.org.

The Richmond Department of Children and Youth would like to thank the Service Provider Working Group, Oakland Fund for Children and Youth, San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, the Invest in Youth Coalition, and the Kids First Committee for their continued support.