



LONE STAR
JUSTICE ALLIANCE

Youth Safety Collaborative Strategic Plan

City of Dallas Workforce, Education, & Equity Committee
May 12, 2025



Who We Are

The National League of Cities (NLC) is an organization comprised of city, town and village leaders that are focused on improving the quality of life for their current and future constituents.

With nearly 100 years of dedication to the strength and advancement of local governments, NLC has gained the trust and support of more than 2,700 cities across the nation.



The City of Dallas selected to participate in a National League of Cities' Initiative to advance community safety

City of Dallas sent this bulletin at 04/28/2022 09:00 AM CDT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2022

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

media@dallascityhall.com

The City of Dallas selected to participate in a National League of Cities' Initiative to advance community safety

5 Cities

Baltimore

Dallas

Jackson

Philadelphia

St. Louis

Mission

To boldly address systemic failures in the justice system through advocacy and innovative evidence-based programs that improve life outcomes for youth and emerging adults.



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Vision

We envision a justice system that uses developmentally-appropriate responses to behavior and treats youth and emerging adults with equity and dignity to promote resilience, conserve costs, and increase public safety

Transforming Justice. Transforming Lives.

Theory of Change

1. **Community Based Programs.** Innovative and scalable evidence-based programs that lead to lower recidivism, sustainable careers, healthy young people, lower costs and improved public safety.
2. **Advocacy.** Policy change and advocacy on the federal, state, and local levels through place-based partnerships.
3. **Strategic Litigation.** Confronts systemic constitutional violations to assure youth are treated fairly.



MONDAY, APRIL 22ND
5:30- 7:00PM

Good
Vibes
Only



\$20 GIFT
CARD
FOR ATTENDEES

IT'S A

V.I.B.E.

Session

VERY IMPORTANT BUILDING EXPERIENCE

WHO: YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 16-24

WHERE:

624 N. GOOD LATIMER EXPRESSWAY, SUITE 100



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68%
want
support
with
housing.



48%
are in need of
better
transportation.

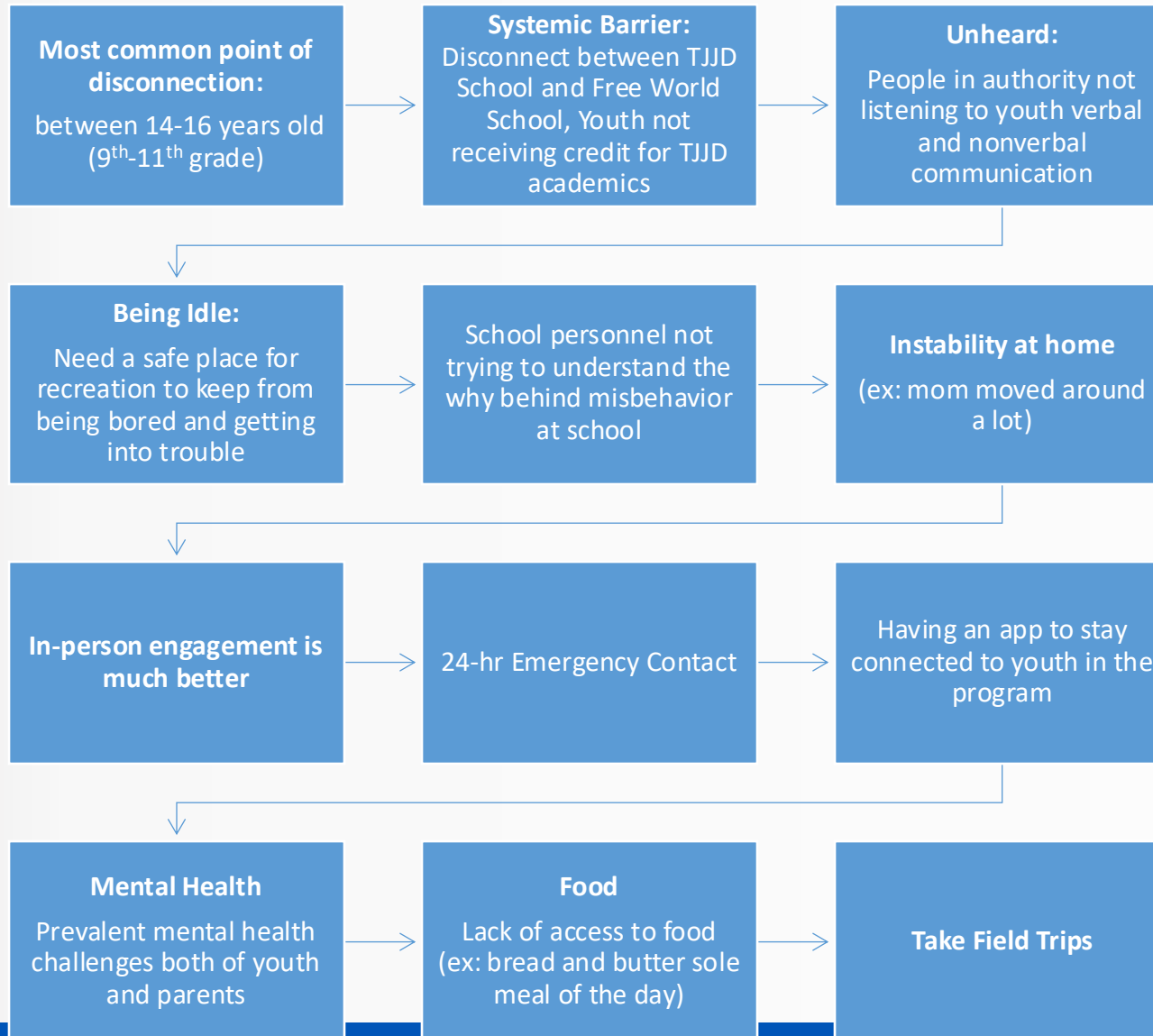


41%
need help
accessing
food.



24%
Reported a
need/desire
for mental
health
support

V.I.B.E. Session Learnings



SDAY, APRIL 19TH
5PM



V.I.B.E.
Session
VERY IMPORTANT BUILDING E

WHO: YOUNG PEOPLE AG

WHERE: AFTER 8 TO EDUCATION
4212 E. GRAND AVE DALLAS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19TH
5PM



IT'S A V.I.B.E. Session

VERY IMPORTANT BUILDING EXPERIENCE

WHO: YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 16-24

WHERE: AFTER8TOEDUCATE

4212 E. GRAND AVE DALLAS, TX 75233

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Good Vibes Only

GIFT CARD OPPORTUNITIES

FREE FOOD

V.I.B.E. Sessions Key Take-Aways

Key Take Away:

- The accumulation of compounding factors from the environment at home, stress/strife from interpersonal relationships, the absence of a consistent/dependable adult to offer guidance, and a less than flexible or supportive environment at school create the perfect recipe for disengagement.

Critical Needs:

- Safe Space
- Community
- Caring Adults who will give direction and Insights
- Giving youth space and opportunity to assert an appropriate level of independence
- Giving youth space and opportunity to make measured mistakes in a safe environment that allows them to learn and grow

Why It Matters

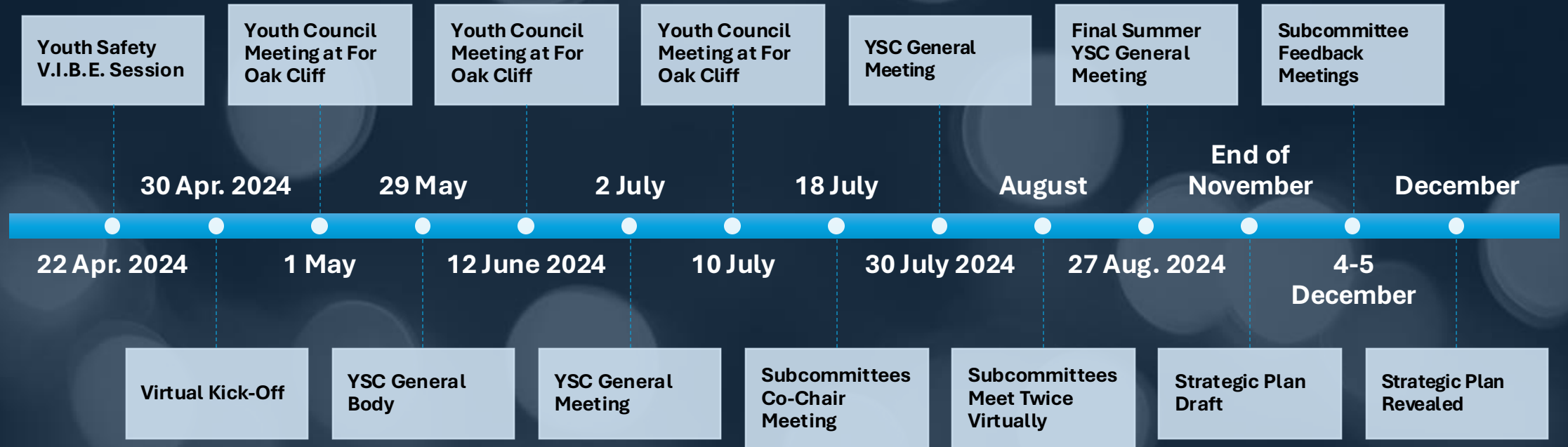
- Relative to their connected contemporaries, OYs have a disproportionate share of problems as they age, including
 - chronic unemployment
 - Poverty
 - Mental health disorders
 - Criminal behaviors
 - Incarceration
 - Poor health
 - Early mortality.
- These alarming disparities between opportunity youth and their more connected peers represent a public health problem with serious social, economic, and health implications.

-Mendelson et al. (2018),



Youth Safety Collaborative

Where We Are: Youth Safety Collaborative Review



YSC Community/Public Safety Definition

“Public safety in Dallas is a developed and actualized culture that engages all, creates pathways of opportunity, and promotes belonging so all people can thrive.”



YSC VALUES AS IN STRATEGIC PLAN

- **Joy and Hope:** Fostering an environment where optimism is nurtured and celebrated.
- **Critical Thinking and Wisdom:** Encouraging thoughtful analysis and insight-driven approaches to problem-solving.
- **Wellbeing:** Addressing the physical, mental, financial, and spiritual health of our youth and our community.
- **Respite:** Creating spaces where individuals can find peace amidst chaos.
- **Strategy and Data:** Utilizing informed strategies and reliable data to guide actions.
- **Social Capital and Community:** Building networks of support and a sense of collective responsibility.
- **Belonging and Emotional Intelligence:** Promoting an inclusive community where every voice is valued, and every emotion is respected.
- **Stability:** Ensuring a consistent and dependable framework for public safety for our youth.



DALLAS YOUTH SAFETY COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIC PLAN

DECEMBER 2024



Key Cornerstones

1. **Ecosystem
Building/Infrastruc
ture**
2. **Leadership
Development &
Mentorship**
3. **Education**
4. **Youth Justice**

Ecosystem Goals

1. Develop a Comprehensive and Accessible Infrastructure
2. Streamline and Improve the Procurement Process for Effective Collaboration
3. Empower Community Organizations to Secure and Manage Resources
4. Establish a Funding Framework Rooted in Equity and Racial Justice



Leadership Development & Mentorship Goals

- 1) Center Youth Voice in Decision-Making
- 2) Support Youth Through Healthy, Positive Relationships and Growth Opportunities



EDUCATION GOALS

- All Schools will foster safe, supportive environments where students can thrive and develop to their fullest potential
- Establish comprehensive support systems that leverage the diverse strengths of the community to create a support network around schools, empowering teachers to focus on education while the community collaboratively address the broader student needs
- Foster a culture of mutual respect and partnership



JUSTICE GOALS

- 1) Reform the Intake Process to Better Identify the Underlying Needs of Justice Involved Youth and Young Adults
- 2) Maximize Diversion Opportunities for Youth to Avoid Justice System Involvement
- 3) Reduce Juvenile Detention Population by 50% Through Diversion Programs, Community-Based Alternatives, and Targeted Interventions
- 4) Shift the Public Narrative Around Justice-Involved Youth



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DALLAS YOUTH SAFETY DASHBOARD

This Dallas Youth Safety Dashboard was created in collaboration with National League of Cities as a way to showcase available data and information about Dallas Youth.



Data for this dashboard was obtained from the following:

Offense Data: [City of Dallas Open Data](#)

Arrest Data: [City of Dallas Open Data](#)

311 Request Data: [City of Dallas Open Data](#)

Calls for Service Data: [Dallas Public Records Request](#)

Youth Court Referrals: [Texas Juvenile Justice Department Request](#)

School Disciplinary Data: [Texas Education Agency Discipline Data](#)



OFFENSE & ARREST DATA

CALLS FOR SERVICE & 311 DATA

YOUTH COURT REFERRAL DATA

SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY DATA

QUESTIONS? REACTIONS?

