

Elevate Youth California is a statewide program addressing substance use disorder by investing in the leadership development and civic engagement for youth of color and 2S/LGBTQ+\* youth ages 12 to 26 living in communities disproportionately impacted by the war on drugs.

## ACCOMPLISHMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Sixteen youth participated in **Kno'Qoti Native Wellness, Inc.** regalia-making workshops, creating their own traditional headpiece and/or skirt for ceremonial purposes. The workshops empowered youth to develop leadership skills, intergenerational healing skills and promote well-being to reduce the need to engage in substances.



Eight youth participated in **Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance's** summer camp focused on leadership development and networking among queer and trans youth to prevent substance use. Two youth leaders developed the camp activities. Participants expressed a greater sense of community and social connection and a better understanding of steps they can take to advocate for themselves at their school.

**"It felt nice to not have to hide myself. I have developed friendships here that will last a lifetime."**

—Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance Participant

**A Hopeful Encounter Inc.** engaged 272 Hmong young people in four afterschool cohorts to increase youth awareness of substance use and prevention through training in policy, petition writing and social media utilization. Ninety percent of participants self-reported feeling more prepared to engage with policymakers and 60% reported raised confidence in their own public speaking abilities.



Seven youth participated in **Viet Rainbow of Orange County (VROC) and Ahri Center's** summer youth leadership program. Participants were trained in community organizing and civic engagement, behavioral health, and wellbeing. Youth hosted a town hall and organized community members in support of 2S/LGBTQ+ student rights. Participants self-reported feeling better equipped and more confident in their abilities to navigate and promote community movements.

# ACCOMPLISHMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Youth from **Young Women’s Freedom Center, Anti-Recidivism Coalition and Freedom 4 Youth** and other EYC funded partners and organizations advocated for the passage of policies to further transform California’s youth justice system. Civic engagement activities included elevating the voices of formerly incarcerated youth and training and educating youth on policy reforms and the legislative system.

**Hmong Innovating Politics’** Transforming Systems Empowering Our Village program in Fresno and engages Hmong youth about the history of the Hmong diaspora, advocacy and healing justice skills, and a sense of empowerment and belonging to reduce substance use disorder. The program’s success has led to building future work with other Hmong teachers and district administrators that hope to expand this program district-wide.

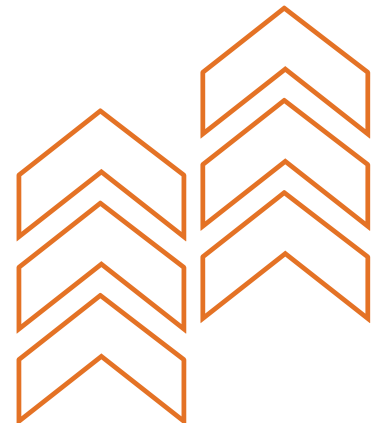
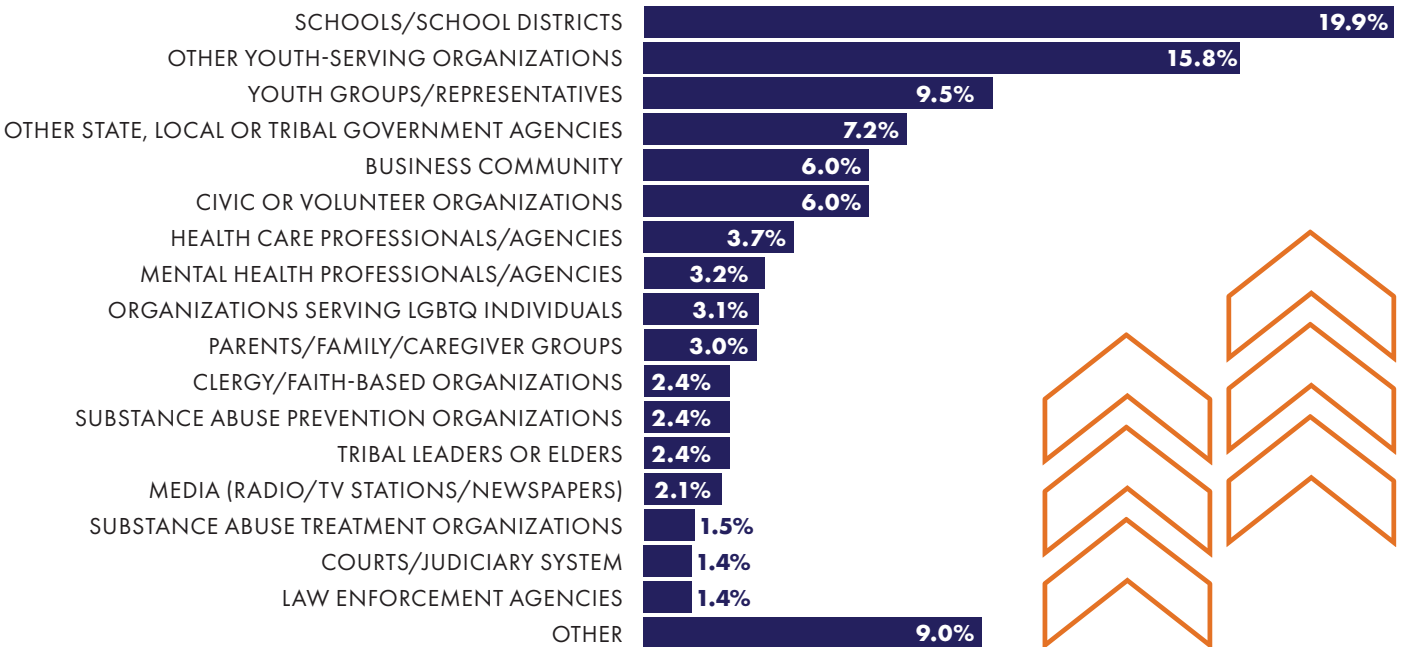


Photo from Hmong Innovating Politics

# LOCAL MOVEMENT BUILDING

**FUNDED PARTNERS HAVE ENGAGED**  
**4,608**  
**NEW DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS**

Engaging new stakeholders in prevention efforts can lead to increased support and resources for programming, new opportunities for youth development, increased funding, enhanced efficiency, improved sustainability for prevention programs, and commitment for substance use disorder prevention across diverse sectors.



# CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES FROM THE CENTER AT SIERRA HEALTH FOUNDATION

5,872 hours of technical assistance from The Center at Sierra Health Foundation includes the applicant proposers’ conferences, funded partner orientations, topic-specific webinars, sessions on the data reporting tool, and individual sessions for partners.

**5,872**  
**HOURS**



# YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, LEADERSHIP, AND DEVELOPMENT

**373,602**  
**PARTICIPANTS\***

**ATTENDED**

**40,235**  
**PREVENTION  
PROGRAM EVENTS**

## Program activities included:

- Educational workshops, trainings, meetings, and mentoring sessions with youth focused on leadership, mental health, substance use prevention and civic engagement for policy, systems, and environmental change.
- Meetings and educational workshops with parents to provide information on substance use prevention, behavioral health, and ways to strengthen their relationships with youth.

\*Number of event participants is larger than total number of youth engaged because individuals participated in multiple events and includes other attendees such as parents and community members.



**FUNDED PARTNERS CONVENED**  
**785**  
**YOUTH LISTENING SESSIONS**

## At Youth Listening Sessions held across the state:

- Youth expressed the need for greater collaboration and inclusion between youth and adults, having their voices heard in decision-making processes that affect them and participating in promoting positive change in their communities.
- Youth highlighted the importance of creating safe spaces for young people to explore their identities, celebrate their cultural heritage, discuss behavioral health, and access emotional support.
- Youth emphasized the need for greater access to behavioral health services, including resources to enhance positive coping skills.

# YOUTH ENGAGED

**46,697** YOUTH ENGAGED\*

**4,119 (9%)** 2S/LGBTQ+ YOUTH ENGAGED

**92%** YOUTH WITH SELF-REPORTED RACE/ETHNICITY DATA IDENTIFY AS BIPOC\*\*



Photo from Positive Images

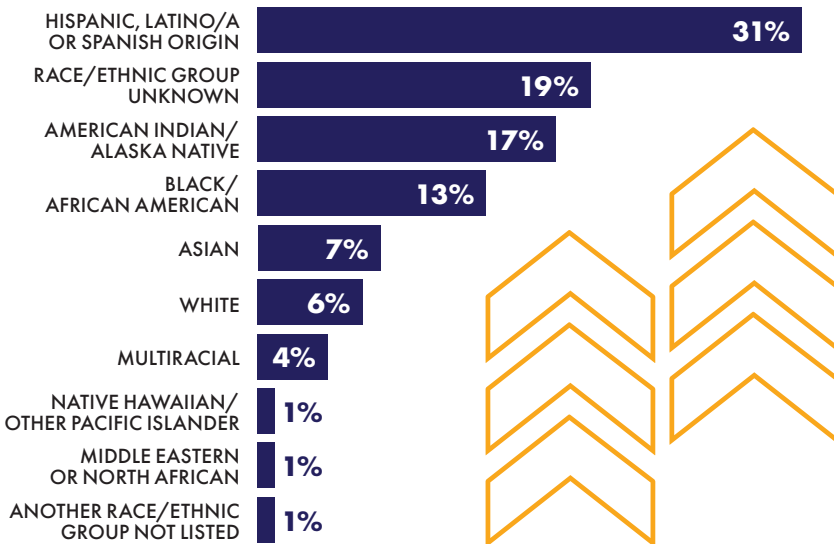


Photo from Blue Mountain Coalition for Youth and Families, Inc.

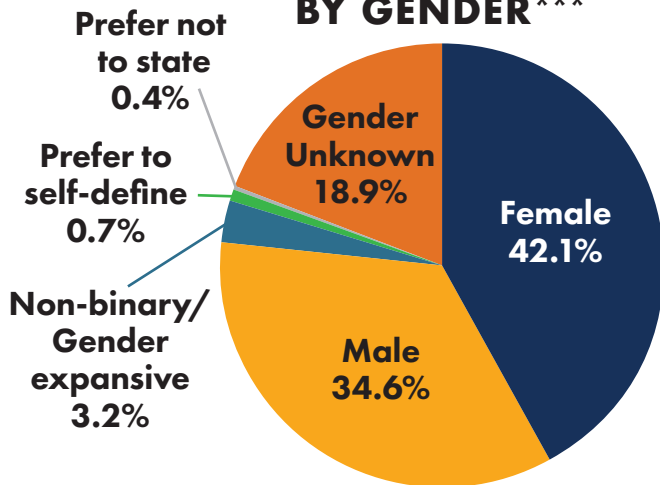


Photo from EYC Youth Leadership and Promising Practices Convening

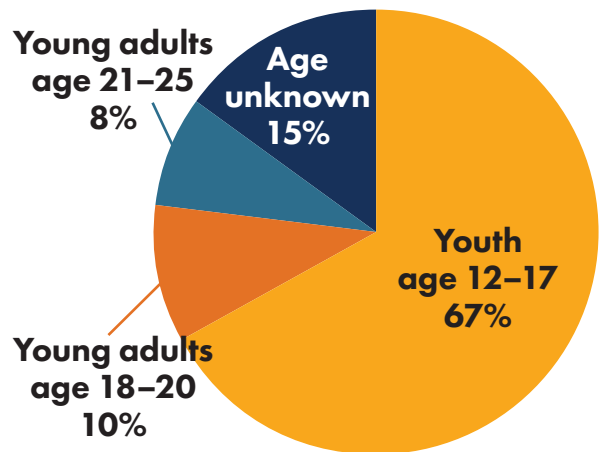
## % OF YOUTH ENGAGED BY RACE OR ETHNIC GROUP



## % OF YOUTH ENGAGED BY GENDER\*\*\*



## % OF YOUTH ENGAGED BY AGE GROUP



\* Total number of unduplicated youth that engaged in programming

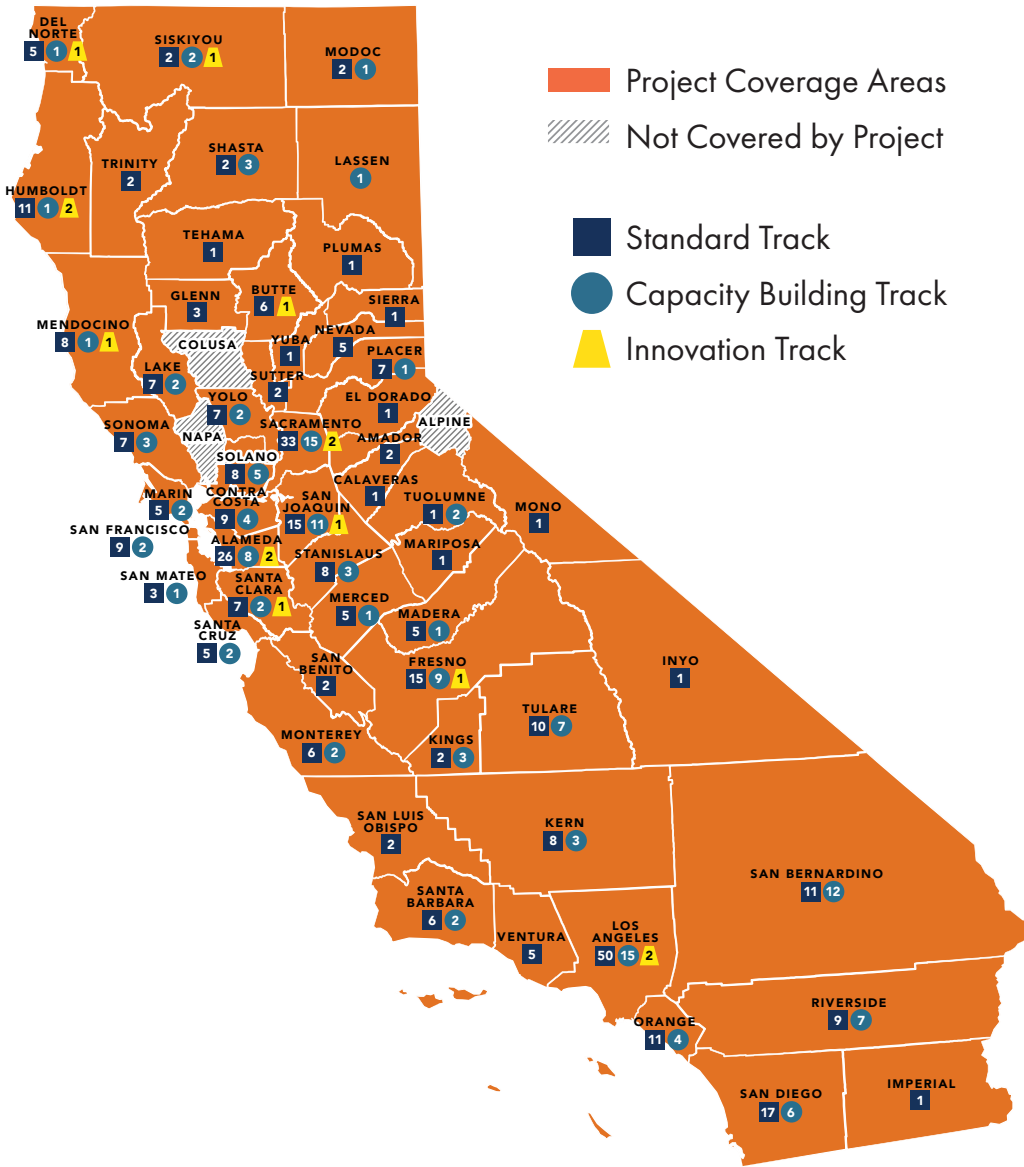
\*\* BIPOC = Black, Indigenous and other people of color

\*\*\* Values do not add up to 100% due to rounding.



# ORGANIZATIONS AWARDED BY COUNTY

## ALL FUNDED PARTNERS



County	Standard	Capacity Building	Innovation
Alameda	26	8	2
Alpine	0	0	0
Amador	2	0	0
Butte	6	0	1
Calaveras	1	0	0
Colusa	0	0	0
Contra Costa	9	4	0
Del Norte	5	1	1
El Dorado	1	0	0
Fresno	15	9	1
Glenn	3	0	0
Humboldt	11	1	2
Imperial	1	0	0
Inyo	1	0	0
Kern	8	3	0
Kings	2	3	0
Lake	7	2	0
Lassen	0	1	0
Los Angeles	50	15	2
Madera	5	1	0
Marin	5	2	0
Mariposa	1	0	0
Mendocino	8	1	1
Merced	5	1	0
Modoc	2	1	0
Mono	1	0	0
Monterey	6	2	0
Napa	0	0	0
Nevada	5	0	0
Orange	11	4	0
Placer	7	1	0
Plumas	1	0	0
Riverside	9	7	0
Sacramento	33	15	2
San Benito	2	0	0
San Bernardino	11	12	0
San Diego	17	6	0
San Francisco	9	2	0
San Joaquin	15	11	1
San Luis Obispo	2	0	0
San Mateo	3	1	0
Santa Barbara	6	2	0
Santa Clara	7	2	1
Santa Cruz	5	2	0
Shasta	2	3	0
Sierra	1	0	0
Siskiyou	2	2	1
Solano	8	5	0
Sonoma	7	3	0
Stanislaus	8	3	0
Sutter	2	0	0
Tehama	1	0	0
Trinity	2	0	0
Tulare	10	7	0
Tuolumne	1	2	0
Ventura	5	0	0
Yolo	7	2	0
Yuba	1	0	0



Photo from Underground GRIT

**365 AWARDS**  
**TOTALING**  
**\$257.8 MILLION**  
**MADE SINCE 2020**



**THE CENTER**  
*at Sierra Health Foundation*

**TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED**

- \$21.6** Million Standard Track Cohort 1  
March 2020 · 26 Organizations
- \$29.7** Million Standard Track Cohort 2  
November 2020 · 32 Organizations
- \$5** Million Capacity Building Cohort 1  
August 2021 · 18 Organizations
- \$52.8** Million Standard Track Cohort 3  
November 2021 · 61 Organizations
- \$8.1** Million Innovation Cohort 1  
February 2022 · 12 Organizations
- \$13.4** Million Capacity Building Cohort 2  
May 2022 · 36 Organizations
- \$58.5** Million Standard Track Cohort 4  
November 2022 · 61 Organizations
- \$16.7** Million Capacity Building Cohort 3  
May 2023 · 44 Organizations
- \$51.8** Million Standard Track Cohort 5  
November 2023 · 75 Organizations

Elevate Youth California is a program of the California Department of Health Care Services funded through Proposition 64. This statewide program is providing funding and technical assistance for organizations that are developing or increasing community substance use disorder prevention, outreach, and education focused on youth. Elevate Youth California prioritizes youth leadership in under-resourced communities harmed by the war on drugs. Communities of color endure the consequences of systemic racism in all aspects of their lives, including punitive physical, emotional, and economic impacts. The Center at Sierra Health Foundation is contracted to support the implementation of Elevate Youth California. Learn more at [elevateyouthca.org](http://elevateyouthca.org).



Photo from Stanislaus County Youth Empowerment Program



Photo from Santa Cruz County Black Health Matters Initiative