

B.E.S.T. GRANT PROGRAM



Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together

VISION

The Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together (BEST) program is the funding arm of the San Jose Youth Empowerment Alliance which funds agencies that provide youth violence prevention and intervention services within the City of San Jose. As the funding arm of the San Jose Youth Empowerment Alliance (SJ YEA), the BEST Program strives to provide funding for services to San José youth that will build on their strengths and reduce their risk for involvement in gangs and violence. The SJYEA is built on a foundation of collaboration and partnership, which this grant builds upon. The City of San José (City) believes that it can address the serious problems of youth violence in our city through the strategic partnerships forged by the BEST Program. The issues of violence are complex, and therefore must include a multi-pronged approach that involves the community.

The BEST Program thus developed a scope of services to reflect this approach using five (5) Service Strategy Areas:

- 1) Youth Development and Leadership
- 2) Place Based Intervention
- 3) Vocational/Job Training
- 4) Family and Neighborhood Strengthening and
- 5) Individual and Whole Family Support.

Through a diversity of evidence-based and evidence-informed violence prevention and violence intervention program models, the BEST Program aims to amplify each other's strengths to improve the quality of life for our youth.

AGENCY INFORMATION

ALUM ROCK COUNSELING CENTER, INC.

ARCC will employ a Cognitive Behavioral Intervention & Life Skills Program Model to achieve the overarching goals of:

- Decreasing involvement in high-risk behaviors
- Improving critical thinking and decision-making skills
- Improving school attendance and graduation rates
- Improving emotional and behavioral health
- Increasing involvement in safe, age-appropriate activities and exposure to caring adults

ARCC also conducts Life Skills psychoeducation groups with clients, offers group mentoring and one-on-one mentoring services as well as supportive services to youth and their families to help address timely challenges and needs.

Contact info: Celina Chun | (408) 910-0446 | cchun@alumrockcc.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	Ocala STEAM Academy East Side Union High School District Alum Rock Union School District
	Citywide	Alum Rock Counseling Center

BAY AREA TUTORING ASSOCIATION

Bay Area Tutoring Association is dedicated to empowering youth through our high-intensity academic tutoring program. We provide consistent support for 60 at-risk and high-risk youth aged 8-18, focusing on academic improvement, leadership development, and self-advocacy. We use our Transformation Curriculum to ensure that students receive culturally responsive support, promoting college awareness and readiness. Our mission is to help youth excel academically and prepare for their future.

Contact info: Kelly Flanagan | (510) 792-1614 | kelly.flanagan@bayareatutor.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	August Boeger Middle School

BAY AREA WOMEN'S SPORTS INITIATIVE

Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative will provide their after-school program, BAWSI Girls, for girls in grades 2-5 in underserved neighborhoods. BAWSI Girls programs prevent violence among young people by harnessing the power of female athletes to inspire young girls to get moving, set high expectations of themselves, and improve their beliefs, attitudes and behaviors thus building leadership and resilience.

Contact info: Kathy Arena | (408) 247-2544 | kathy@bawsi.org; Dana Weintraub | dana@bawsi.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	San Antonio Elementary School

BILL WILSON CENTER

AGENCY INFORMATION

Bill Wilson Center will provide intakes and assess all eligible participants, who will then have a Service Plan developed for their needs based on objectives, personal goals, and scheduled services. Scheduled services include different workshops that cater specifically to at-risk youth, young women, and fathers providing life skills, employment readiness, educational assistance and substance abuse counseling curriculum.

Contact info: Debbie Pell | (408) 289-5830 | dpell@bwcmail.org; Juan Villalobos | (408) 925-0231289-5830 | jvillalobos@bwcmail.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Western	Drop In Center 693 South Second Street San Jose, CA 95112
SSA 3: VOCATIONAL/JOB TRAINING SERVICES		
SSA 5: INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES		

CAMINAR

Caminar will provide Families and Schools Together (FAST) an evidence-based family strengthening program for at risk, high risk, gang impacted youth and their families. The program works with the whole family for 10 weeks offering parenting classes and life skill sessions for youth participants.

Contact info: Maritza Henry | (408) 200-8612 | cmhenry@fcservices.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	James Lick High School El Rancho Verde Apartments Pollard Plaza Apartments Oak Grove High School Broadway Continuation High School
SSA 4: FAMILY AND NEIGHBORHOOD STRENGTHENING SERVICES	Southern	
SSA 5: INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES	Citywide	

CENTER FOR TRAINING AND CAREERS DBA CONXIÓN TO COMMUNITY

ConXion will provide its Bright Futures curriculum for High-Risk youth by utilizing the SPARK (*Speaking to the Potential, Ability, & Resilience inside every Kid*) Program. SPARK addresses the many struggles youth face and realizes these could be resolved with a clearer understanding of the mind & the power they have within to create change.

Contact info: Lori Ramos Chavez | (408) 213-0961 EXT 23 | lrchavez@conxion.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Western	Yerba Buena High School

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

AGENCY INFORMATION

Catholic Charities will provide intervention and case management services; Cognitive Behavior Training (CBT), Intervention and Life Skills Education and Street Outreach Intervention services; Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention for High-Risk youth.

Contact info: So'o Poumele | (408) 314-7550 | spoumele@catholiccharitiesscc.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Western	Bridges Academy Washington United Youth Center Downtown College Preparatory Middle & High School Monroe Middle School Yerba Buena High School
SSA 2: PLACE-BASED INTERVENTION AND DIVERSION	Foothill	Mayfair Valley Palms Area/SJ Apartments Poco Way
	Central	Jeanne Five Wounds/Olinder
	Western	Cadillac/Winchester Area Santee/Phelan/Owsley Washington Meadows
SSA 5: INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES	Foothill	Mayfair Valley Palms Area/SJ Apartments Poco Way
	Central	Jeanne Five Wounds/Olinder
	Western	Cadillac/Winchester Area Santee/Phelan/Owsley Washington Meadows

EAST SIDE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

James Lick High School will enroll high-risk youth who are struggling academically into their COMET Academy. COMET Academy provides students with academic and healing centered skills as well as intervention and case management services.

Contact info: Stefanie Blanco | (408) 347-4411 | blancos@esuhsd.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	James Lick High School

AGENCY INFORMATION

FRESH LIFELINES FOR YOUTH

FLY will provide a Law Related Education (LRE) for youth who are referred to and enrolled in the program. The course will consist of one two-hour class a week for 12 weeks, and a curriculum specific to California's juvenile criminal law as well as case management services, and life and conflict resolution skills.

Contact info: Kris Scott | (408) 263-2630 | kris@flyprogram.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	James Lick High School Independence High school Oak Grove High School San Jose High School Willow Glen High School
	Southern	
	Central	
	Western	
SSA 5: INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES	Citywide	James Lick High School Independence High school Oak Grove High School San Jose High School Willow Glen High School

GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Girl Scouts will provide structured group discussions and activities incorporating a range of topics from five main areas:

- Health & Wellness (Physical & Mental)
- Leading Change (Civic Engagement)
- Personal Growth (Confidence & Character)
- Healthy Relationships (Sisterhood & Belonging)
- Outdoors & Connection to Nature (when possible)

They will provide the Target Population with opportunities to strengthen personal identity, develop leadership qualities, envision better futures, and shape goal-setting behaviors.

Contact info: Rosa Chihuahua | (408) 288-4189 | rchiuhua@gsnorcal.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	James Lick High School Oak Grove High School Mt. Pleasant High School KIPP San Jose Collegiate Silver Creek High School Ocala Middle School
	Southern	Sylvandale Middle School
	Citywide	Juvenile Hall Bill Wilson Center James Ranch

AGENCY INFORMATION

MOVIMIENTO DE ARTE Y CULTURA LATINO AMERICANA

MACLA'S Teen Tech Center will engage youth in cognitive and prosocial development activities in a safe space where they can develop digital literacy, creativity, leadership and life skills to enhance their self-esteem, self-expression and resiliency. MACLA provides one-on-one mentoring and leadership development around digital media and arts.

Contact info: Ruben Escalante | (408) 998-2783 | Ruben@maclaarte.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Citywide	MACLA Center

NEW HOPE FOR YOUTH

New Hope for Youth will conduct youth interest-based activities that will provide opportunities for youth to interact and build positive relationships with adults and their peers, and build positive social skills. They will also accompany youth to important meetings, e.g. court dates, probation appointments, job interviews, etc., to provide advocacy for the youth, and support for the successful attainment his/her ISP goals.

Contact info: Philip Rodriguez | (408) 854-9166 | prodriguez@newhopeforyouth.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Southern	Sylvandale Middle School
SSA 2: PLACE-BASED INTERVENTION AND DIVERSION	Foothill	New Hope for Youth Administrative Office Overfelt Area Capital Park Plata Arroyo
	Southern	Edenvale Community Center Coy Park/Tradewinds Seven Trees Roundtable/Great Oaks Sylvandale
	Central	Julian Street Roosevelt Park
SSA 5: INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES	Foothill	New Hope for Youth Administrative Office Overfelt Area Capital Park Plata Arroyo
	Southern	Edenvale Community Center Coy Park/Tradewinds Seven Trees Roundtable/Great Oaks Sylvandale
	Central	Julian Street Roosevelt Park

AGENCY INFORMATION

BEST SERVICES MATRIX 2023-2024

PACIFIC CLINICS

Through on-campus groups, Pacific Clinics will proactively address behaviors of concern for at-risk and high-risk youth by addressing needs related to depression, anxiety, aggression, substance use, and other behaviors and emotions that are barriers to school attendance, learning, and pro-social connections.

Contact info: Lacey Castellese | lacey.castellese@pacificclinics.org; Deanna Aguas | deanna.aguas@pacificclinics.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	Piedmont Hills High School Overfelt High School
	Southern	Oak Grove High School
	Western	Andrew Hill High School

SAN JOSÉ JAZZ

San Jose Jazz will offer music lessons and weekly mentor groups and personal development opportunities with an emphasis on: applications of music skills for long-term success in school, career and personal life, goal setting, respect for self and others, healthy communication, and more.

Contact info: Hugo Garcia, Program Director | (408) 713-6366 | hugog@sanjosejazz.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	Shirakawa Elementary
	Western	Windmill Springs Elementary Stonegate Elementary Santee Elementary Meadows Elementary Kennedy Elementary Bridges Middle School

SHINE TOGETHER

Shine Together will provide case management activities focused on brokering, skill development and educational development of young mothers. They will also help youth develop a personal goal plan with follow up action items, including, but not limited to: educational, childcare, housing, transportation, personal, family and reproductive health related goals. In addition, participants will take part in Peer Learning groups where they will forge strong connections with other young moms, develop their parenting skills, set goals for the future and build their belief in their ability to improve their life through hard work and dedication.

Contact info: Sara Reyes | (408) 263-8330 | sreyes@shinetogether.org Kathy Williams | kkwilliams@shinetogether.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Citywide	Office: 508 Valley Way Milpitas CA 95035 Group sessions: Blanca Alvarado Community Resource Center
SSA 5: INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES		

AGENCY INFORMATION

SOMOS Mayfair

SOMOS Mayfair (SOMOS) will implement the Jóvenes Activos Leadership Program for youth ages 12 to 18, in East San José that focuses on teaching them how to utilize creative, fun, cultural, and artistic strategies (such as podcasting, art, and building), to develop friendships and connections with other Jóvenes, who are passionate about social justice, and who are interested in engaging in youth-led organizing opportunities that spark change within their community. Jóvenes Activos (Active Youth in Spanish) is one of SOMOS' leadership development and community organizing groups that is part of their Community Power Building ecosystem. As part of the SOMOS ecosystem, youth participants and families are engaged in SOMOS's multi-pronged program strategy to build community power.

Contact info: Andrea Portillo | (408) 393-0189 | aportillo@somosmayfair.org |

Victor Vasquez | vduarte@somosmayfair.org |(408) 593-6119

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	SOMOS Mayfair Center

THE ART OF YOGA

The Art of Yoga Project delivers yoga and Creative Arts Groups. The agency's trauma-informed, gender-responsive, developmentally-appropriate, strength-based and culturally responsive programming uses a holistic, evidence-based approach to promote self-awareness, self-respect and self-control. The agency sends specially trained, trauma-sensitive yoga and creative arts educators into facilities to deliver the mindfulness-based yoga and creative arts curriculum, Wise Inside.

Contact info: Lisa Pedersen | (650) 966-1904 | lisa@theartofyogaproject.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	Independence High School Overfelt High School
	Southern	Davis Intermediate Oak Grove High School
	Citywide	Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall

THE TENACIOUS GROUP

The Tenacious Group will provide Raising Expectations, Standards, and Honor 180 (RESH 180) classroom training, curriculum, which will focus on the development of students' developmental assets, improve scholastic performance, mental health, post-high school pursuits, career goals, responsibility for actions, home relationships, better choices, intrapersonal and interpersonal skills. RESH 180 also includes parents' engagement in student's education and development of pro-social skills.

Contact info: Adam Ybarra | (408) 258-8564 | adamt@resh.org; adamt@thetenaciousgroup.com

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	Latino College Prep Academy
	Western	Yerba Buena High School Andrew Hill High School

AGENCY INFORMATION

BEST SERVICES MATRIX 2023-2024

UJIMA ADULT AND FAMILY SERVICES, INC.

UJIMA will provide African-centered youth groups at school Service Locations. Groups will cover topics including, but not limited to: healthy communication and pro-social decision-making, life skills, self-reflection, and cultural history. UJIMA will provide workshops that will assist in the development of positive peer relationships around support and will build protective factors while increasing pro-social behaviors.

Contact info: Yvonne Maxwell | (408) 928-1700 | Yvonne@ujimaagency.org

Service Strategy Areas	Division	Locations
SSA 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP	Foothill	Independence High School Overfelt High School Silver Creek High School
	Southern	Oak Grove High School
	Western	Andrew Hill High School
SSA 5: INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES	Foothill	Independence High School Overfelt High School Silver Creek High School
	Southern	Oak Grove High School
	Western	Andrew Hill High School