



## YOR California Key Principles

YOR California works in partnership with stakeholders throughout California to reduce the impact of the opioid and stimulant crisis on California's youth and families. YOR California is expanding access to youth-relevant outreach, MAT, and other prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services for youth misusing opioids and/or stimulants.

YOR California offers grants, professional resources, partnerships, and convenings to help make this a reality.

**The YOR California project's framework is based on the following key principles for successful outcomes:**

### **Culturally Relevant and Responsive**

Services are responsive to youth and family values, beliefs, norms, and socio-economic and cultural context. Policies, procedures, and practices demonstrate respect for, and build on, the values, preferences, beliefs, culture, and identity of youth and families served.

### **Youth-guided**

Youth are full partners in all aspects of service delivery. A safe environment is created that enables youth to have a decision-making role in their care, as well as in the development and implementation of organizational policies and procedures governing their received services.

### **Family oriented**

Services and interventions take family concerns and dynamics into consideration.

### **Trauma-informed**

The widespread impact of trauma and its signs and symptoms in youth, families, staff, and others is recognized. Knowledge about trauma and its connection to substance use disorders and potential paths for recovery is fully integrated into policies, procedures, and practices to actively avoid re-traumatization.

## Positive Youth Development

Intentional, pro-social approaches are used that enhance youths' strengths and help them engage in a productive and constructive manner within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families. Opportunities are provided, positive relationships are fostered, and the support needed to build on youths' leadership strengths is furnished.

## Evidence-based

Age-appropriate evidence-based interventions and practice are used along the continuum of prevention, early intervention, treatment, recovery, and care coordination to address opioid and stimulant misuse and use disorders.

## Needs-focused

The focus is on high-risk youth populations, prioritizing those with unmet treatment needs and at risk for overdose death.

## Co-occurring Disorders

The high prevalence of co-occurring mental and substance use disorders among youth who have, or are at risk of, opioid or stimulant use disorders is recognized and addressed.

## Targeted Outreach and Engagement

Individualized outreach and engagement strategies taking into consideration each youth and family's unique experiences, priorities, and readiness for change are used, and the focus is on increasing timely access to needed services and resources.

## Destigmatizing

Misinformation is addressed and education about medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for youth with opioid use disorders is provided. The language used is selective and purposeful, while advocating for non-judgmental, non-coercive provision of services and resources.

## Data-driven and Outcome based

Data is collected and used to make informed decisions. Goals and strategies are tied to observable or measurable indicators of success. Progress is monitored in terms of these indicators and as a result, the approaches are revised or adjusted accordingly.

## Community Partnerships

Collaboration and shared responsibility with system partners occurs to ensure youth gain access to enrichment activities; MAT; and evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery services that are integrated with the local system of care.

## Accountable

Fiscal, legal, and programmatic responsibility are maintained and operate with the highest degree of integrity, mutual accountability, transparency, and continuous quality improvement.

## Innovative

Positive outcomes are fostered by pioneering unique evidence-informed solutions spanning across multiple service delivery systems, including the medical system, community and adolescent health, schools, youth outreach-serving organizations, and the public.

## Sustainable

Sustainable services, programs, and interventions are planned for and developed.

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