

Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee (CCPEC)

*Note: This application is due at least six (6) weeks prior to the CCPEC meeting.
Email requests to ProbationCommunityPrograms@acgov.org.*

TO: Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee (CCPEC)
c/o Alameda County Probation Department
Brian Ford, Chief Probation Officer
1111 Jackson Street, P.O. Box 2059
Oakland, CA 94604-2059

FROM: **Name:** George Galvis
Title: Executive Director
Agency/Organization/Department: Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)
Address: 1150 35th Avenue
Phone #: 510-842-9365 **Alternate Phone #:** N/A
Email: ggalvis@curyj.org

This application is being submitted for consideration by the Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee (CCPEC) at their meeting on March 3, 2026.

Community Outreach Event Description:

CURYJ's *Films for Freedom* community outreach event centers a screening of the 2024 award-winning documentary *Songs From The Hole*, a powerful documentary visual album that examines the lasting impacts of incarceration, isolation, and state violence while affirming the possibility of healing, accountability, and liberation. Rooted in lived experience, the film offers an honest and deeply human portrayal of how carceral systems shape individuals, families, and communities across generations. Its national impact has been seen through screenings in prisons, youth detention centers, museums, and community spaces, positioning the film as a catalyst for reflection, prevention, and collective transformation.

The screening is followed by facilitated conversation and reflective space led by film protagonist and writer JJ'88, inviting participants to process the film's themes and connect them to their own experiences. Youth are supported in engaging critically with topics of healing, harm, and responsibility, and in exploring their role in building alternatives rooted in community care rather than punishment. Participants will be introduced to a Community Healing Plan as a practical tool for reflection on health, relationships, boundaries, accountability, and support systems, helping translate the film's impact into concrete next steps and embodiment.

Designed for formerly incarcerated and systems-impacted youth and young adults, the event strengthens community connection and political understanding while serving as both a prevention and intervention strategy. By centering transformative storytelling and lived experience, *Films for Freedom*

supports youth in building awareness, resilience, and healing pathways toward stability while deepening their connection to CURYJ's ongoing life coaching, leadership development, and reentry support programming.

Funding Amount (cannot exceed \$10,000): \$10,000

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GG', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Print Name and Title: George Galvis, Executive Director

Funding Application Questionnaire

1. Have you read the CCP Community Outreach Event Sponsorship Guidelines? Yes No
2. What is the purpose of the event?

The purpose of this event is to create a meaningful space for healing, prevention, and community connection for formerly incarcerated and systems-impacted young people through the screening of the 2024 award-winning documentary *Songs From The Hole*. This screening is part of CURYJ's ongoing community-building series, *Films for Freedom*, which uses documentary film as a tool for political education, reflection, community building, and collective action rooted in lived experience.

Films for Freedom is designed to spark honest dialogue around incarceration, criminalization, racial injustice, and liberation, while centering the voices of people who have directly survived these systems. This event offers an accessible and affirming space where youth can see their realities reflected in transformational storytelling, build political consciousness, and connect their own stories to broader movements for social change.

The screening of *Songs From The Hole* specifically serves as both a prevention and intervention strategy. The film explores the long-term impacts of incarceration while also lifting up healing, creative expression, accountability, and transformation. Since its release, the film has been screened across the country in prisons, youth detention centers, museums, and community spaces as part of a growing movement for collective healing. Bringing this film to our community of systems-impacted and formerly incarcerated Oakland youth allows participants to engage with its message in a way that is relational, rooted, and engaging.

Following the screening, film protagonist and writer JJ'88, alongside our other panelist, will lead a facilitated discussion and accompanying activities (i.e. live musical performance, healing circles). These elements help participants move beyond observation into embodied practice that supports reflecting on harm, forgiveness, accountability, and the paths available to them outside of the criminal legal system. Youth will be guided through the creation of a personal Community Healing Plan, using free worksheets developed alongside the film. These plans encourage participants to reflect on their health, relationships, boundaries, learning, spiritual practices, and accountability, while identifying trusted people they can heal alongside.

Through this process, participants can begin building "accountability pods"- small, supportive networks that help sustain healing and growth even after the event ends. This is further supported as youth will be in attendance alongside their peers, program leaders, and life coaches. Youth attending will be outreached from CURYJ programs including Homies 4 Justice, Dream Beyond Bars, and Life Coaching, ensuring the event directly supports young people most impacted by incarceration.

CURYJ aims to be innovative in how we support our formerly incarcerated communities. This film screening is about prevention and intervention through connection, peer support, transformative storytelling, panelists/facilitators with lived experience, and culturally grounded healing practices. By creating this space for witnessing, reflection, dialogue, and collective care, CURYJ aims to strengthen community resilience and support our Oakland youth.

3. Please provide the date and location of the event:

We plan to hold our Films for Freedom screening on June 18th, 2026 at the New Parkway Theater.

4. Who is the target audience of the event?

The target audience for this event is formerly incarcerated and systems-impacted youth and young adults ages 14–26 in Alameda County, with a particular focus on young people who are currently engaged in CURYJ’s programs. This includes youth involved in our Life Coaching, Homies 4 Justice, Dream Beyond Bars, and Violence Interruption programs, as well as their families and broader community members who are impacted by the cross-generational harms of mass incarceration, criminalization, and economic exclusion.

The young people we serve are overwhelmingly Black and Latinx and face significant structural barriers. Of the 272 youth directly served by CURYJ in 2024, 100% reported household incomes at least 200% below the federal poverty level. Many are navigating the compounded impacts of incarceration, crimmigration, school resegregation, gentrification-driven displacement, and persistent economic inequality.

At the center of this event are systems-impacted young people who carry both deep intergenerational trauma and powerful intergenerational wisdom. CURYJ intentionally creates spaces that recognize young people not only as survivors or perpetrators of harm, but as leaders, healers, and agents of change within their families and communities. The screening of *Songs From The Hole* is designed to meet participants where they are while offering tools for reflection, accountability, and connection.

Because we know that economic stress can be a barrier for engagement, youth engaged in CURYJ programs will be stipended \$100 for participation. We will outreach to youth from Homies 4 Justice, our entry-level youth leadership development program for systems-impacted youth ages 13–18; Dream Beyond Bars Fellows, our advanced leadership development program for formerly incarcerated young adults ages 18–25; Life Coaching and Violence Interruption, which supports our young people with the highest levels of need, including those directly impacted by recent harm or system involvement.

By centering systems-impacted Black and Latinx youth and young adults, and welcoming the families and community members who support them, this event is designed to strengthen community bonds,

reduce isolation, and contribute to long-term prevention, healing, and safety in Oakland and throughout Alameda County.

5. What are the expected outcomes of the event?

The expected outcomes are as follows:

1. At least 40 systems-impacted youth/young adults will attend the screening and discussion.
2. Young people will walk away with an increased sense of community and belonging; deeper understanding of their own healing journey; and connection to at least one adult mentor.

6. Will this event offer any of the following opportunities? *Please check all that apply:*

- Prevention – Helps reduce the likelihood of individuals becoming involved with the criminal legal system (e.g., youth engagement, community support, education).
- Intervention – Supports individuals currently or formerly involved with the criminal legal system (e.g., resource connection, case management, reentry services, peer support).
- Innovation – Introduces new or creative strategies to support the reentry population and the communities they live in.

7. How does the event support the CCP’s generational health and generational wealth goals?

The screening of *Songs From The Hole* and the accompanying group facilitation directly supports generational health by creating space for trauma-informed reflection, emotional processing, and community-based healing. Many of the young people attending carry the weight of intergenerational trauma tied to incarceration, state violence, family separation, and chronic economic stress. This film, a documentary visual album, intends to “reveal the potential for healing and liberation within us all”.

Through guided discussion, music, and the creation of Community Healing Plans, participants reflect on their mental and physical health, relationships, boundaries, spiritual practices, and accountability. These plans encourage youth to identify trusted support systems and commit to ongoing care, helping interrupt cycles of harm, isolation, and cycle repeating. This is our innovative approach to implementing trauma-informed, culturally responsive services across reentry systems, in alignment with CCP’s goals.

The event also advances generational wealth by supporting prevention, stability, and leadership development for youth who are most impacted by economic inequality and system involvement. Incarceration and criminalization are among the most significant barriers to long-term economic mobility, often disrupting education, employment, housing, and family stability across generations. By using the film as a prevention and intervention tool, the event helps young people understand these impacts early and supports healing pathways from system involvement.

We intend for the event to strengthen our participants' inspiration and devotion to engaging and connecting to CURYJ programs that provide life coaching, leadership development, stipends, career pathways, and access to basic needs. Strengthened relationships with peers, mentors, and accountability pods increase participants' ability to stay engaged in education, employment, and community leadership as key building blocks of economic stability. For formerly incarcerated young adults, the event reinforces reentry support and leadership opportunities that counter economic exclusion and support long-term self-sufficiency. Further, our young people will be provided with stipends to both support their immediate economic needs and affirm that community engagement and healing pays off.

8. How much will it cost to operate the event?

It will cost approximately \$10,000 to operate this event.

9. Provide a breakdown of how you intend to spend the AB 109 funding for the event:

If we are to receive funding for the screening of *Songs From The Hole* Films for CURYJ's Films for Freedom series, we intend to break down the \$10,000 accordingly:

Theater Rental: \$2,000.00

Food: \$1,250.00

Printing/Outreach: \$250.00

Honoraria \$500 per person (2 panelists, 1 videographer:) \$1,500.00

Stipends for Youth (50 youth at \$100 each): \$5,000.00

Total Direct Costs: \$10,000.00