



DATE: October 22, 2019

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilwoman Jeannine Pearce, District 2 

SUBJECT: Youth Justice Research

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file a presentation from VoiceWaves Long Beach on Youth Justice Research.

DISCUSSION:

VoiceWaves is a Long Beach youth-led journalism and media-training program of Youth Leadership Institute (YLI), a statewide youth leadership and development nonprofit. VoiceWaves partners with Long Beach youth within the ages of 15-25 whose goal is to raise awareness on community issues within our local neighborhoods. Trainings include digital photography, video, radio and social media to engage the community on important local issues. With this platform, youth are provided with a creative outlet to be a vital part of the community.

Through the Long Beach Health and Human Services Department, YLI received funds to implement a youth-led project under the My Brother's Keeper Initiative. Youth leaders led a juvenile justice research project, surveying 192 youth across Long Beach about their experiences with the justice system, family, schools, suspensions, trauma, coping skills, resources, support networks, and solutions. They also created a 15-minute, youth-produced documentary on the topic that has been translated into Spanish and Khmer.

This presentation will discuss findings from the six month-long project and the importance of increasing youth resources and expanding the visibility and availability of restorative justice resources in Long Beach.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact anticipated upon this recommendation.