

LA Training Academy

Fact Sheet

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Launching in 2022, the LA Training Academy provides firefighting training and employment opportunities to individuals facing barriers to employment, particularly previously incarcerated individuals. This program addresses **Intercept 5** of the **Sequential Intercept Model** – the strategic framework for LA County’s re-defining of the justice system and push towards more community-based care and prevention.

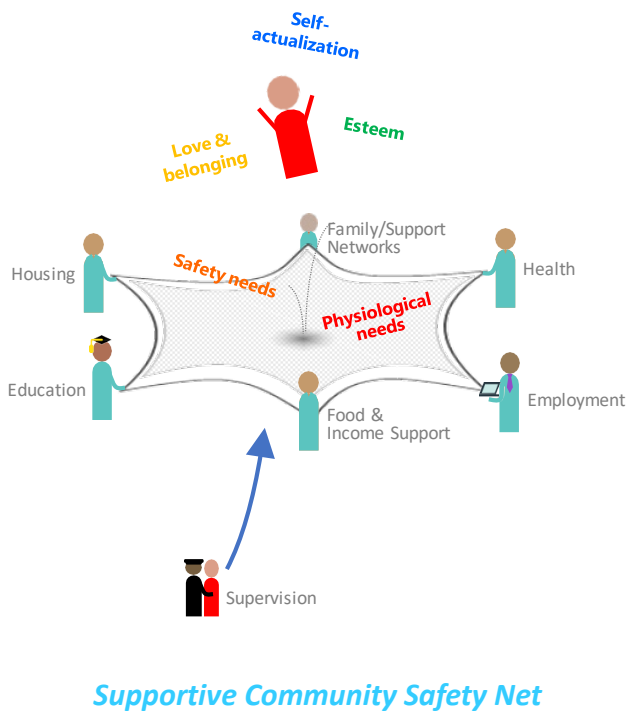
Sequential Intercept Model Target:



INTERCEPT 5

Supervision in the Community

Goal: Provide Continued & Permanent Access to Resources After Transition from Jail to Community to Prevent Recidivism



PROGRAM METRICS & DESIRED OUTCOMES

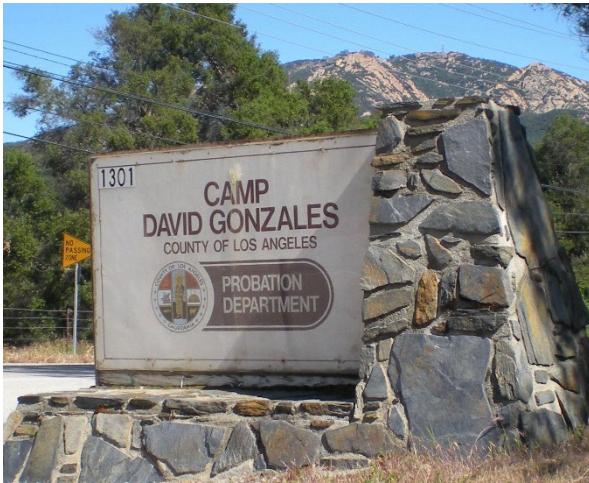
- ✓ Reduction in recidivism rates for participants
- ✓ Increased employment opportunities among typically disadvantaged populations
 - Black men
 - Black women
 - Latinx women
 - Previously incarcerated individuals
 - Transgender individuals

The Justice, Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD) will be collecting data and tracking these results ongoing, to ensure these outcomes are achieved.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

- The California Department of Corrections Rehabilitation (CDCR), Los Angeles County Probation Department and the Fire Department will work together to determine admissions to the Fire Camps. Non-justice involved local candidates may also be identified for admissions.
- Individuals will participate in a 12-month residential training program.
- Participants will receive wildland firefighter training and certification, first aid and CPR certification, and as well as EMT training (as an EMT license is required to become a County firefighter).
- During the program, participants will be employed by the California Conservation Corps (CCC) and receive a monthly stipend of \$2,265.

- Service Providers will also be part of the program, providing life skills training, re-entry and counseling services, and job placement assistance to program participants.
- After program completion, participants will receive job placement assistance and opportunities to participate in other firefighting trainings offered by the California Fire Agency.
- After program completion and verification, individuals may be eligible to have their convictions expunged through AB2147. (AB2147 is Assembly Bill 2147, which was signed in 2020 to allow incarcerated individuals trained in firefighting to have their records cleared to ease employment eligibility as professional firefighters after release.)



PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

- Participants will include individuals on parole from State prisons and individuals on probation through AB109.
- AB109 is Assembly Bill 109, also known as Realignment, which diverts individuals convicted of certain N3 offenses to County jails instead of State prisons.
- N3 refers to Non-violent, Non-serious, and Non-sexual offenses.

PILOT DETAILS

- Program will launch with housing for 60 individuals at Camp Gonzales, a former probation camp.
- Initial program will focus on transitional age youth up to 27 years old (also known as TAY), though older participants may be included based on availability and capacity.
- Goal is to launch program by end of 2022.