

# Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

# Opportunity Young Adult Evaluation and Technical Assistance Program Year 2024-25 Award List and Project Summary

On March 17, 2025, approximately $1.7 million of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act 15% Governor's Discretionary funds were awarded to one organization under the Opportunity Young Adult Evaluation and Technical Assistance Program Year 2024-25 Solicitation for Proposals. The selected awardee and their project summary are listed below. Funding decisions are final.

## Award List

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| **Applicant Name** | **County** | **Award** |
| MDRC | Statewide | $1,699,985.00 |

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| Project Summary |

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| **Applicant** | **MDRC**475 14th Street, Suite 750Oakland, CA 94612 |
| **Contact** | Charles Michalopoulos1-510-844-2235Charles.Michalopoulos@mdrc.org |
| **Award** | $1,699,985.00 |
| **Service Model** | BOOST will support Opportunity Young Adult Career Pathway Program (OYACPP) awardees in developing and implementing employment and wrap-around case management services with a trauma-informed lens.  |
| **Expertise in Serving the Targeted Populations** | MDRC has conducted evaluations and provided technical assistance (TA) to a range of workforce programs, including those using sectoral job training, subsidized employment, job search assistance, and supported employment. Beyond workforce-related research and TA, MDRC regularly conducts K12 and postsecondary education and criminal justice research, and MDRC directly connects this work to the goal of improving outcomes for opportunity young adults (OYA) and others with barriers to employment. |
| **Key Partners** | * Line of Sight Consulting
* Bienestar Community Economics
* Redlo Health Solutions
* Per Scholas
* YouthBuild Global
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| **Project Description** | BOOST proposes comprehensive technical assistance, communities of practice, and developmental evaluation to support OYACPP awardees in creating opportunities and addressing barriers for OYAs in California. BOOST will first identify support needed among OYACPP awardees, review and prepare their data systems to gather baseline data and track progress over time, and document individualized Evaluation and Technical Assistance Plans. Following this initial assessment, the BOOST team will deliver both group and individual-based TA, including proposed in-person convenings, virtual communities of practice, and regular communication with individual awardees (both virtual and on-site). TA approaches will include MDRC’s iterative learn-do-reflect-sustain approach, which uses data to track progress and make adaptations based on results. The BOOST team will disseminate best practices and findings throughout the project period using multiple modes to key community partners and CA stakeholders. |
| **Expected Outcomes** | * Helping awardees reach and support OYAs in reaching their own education and employment goals.
* Building capacity for awardees to sustain their programs beyond BOOST.
* Disseminating findings from the developmental evaluation within the state of California around best practices and lessons learned.
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