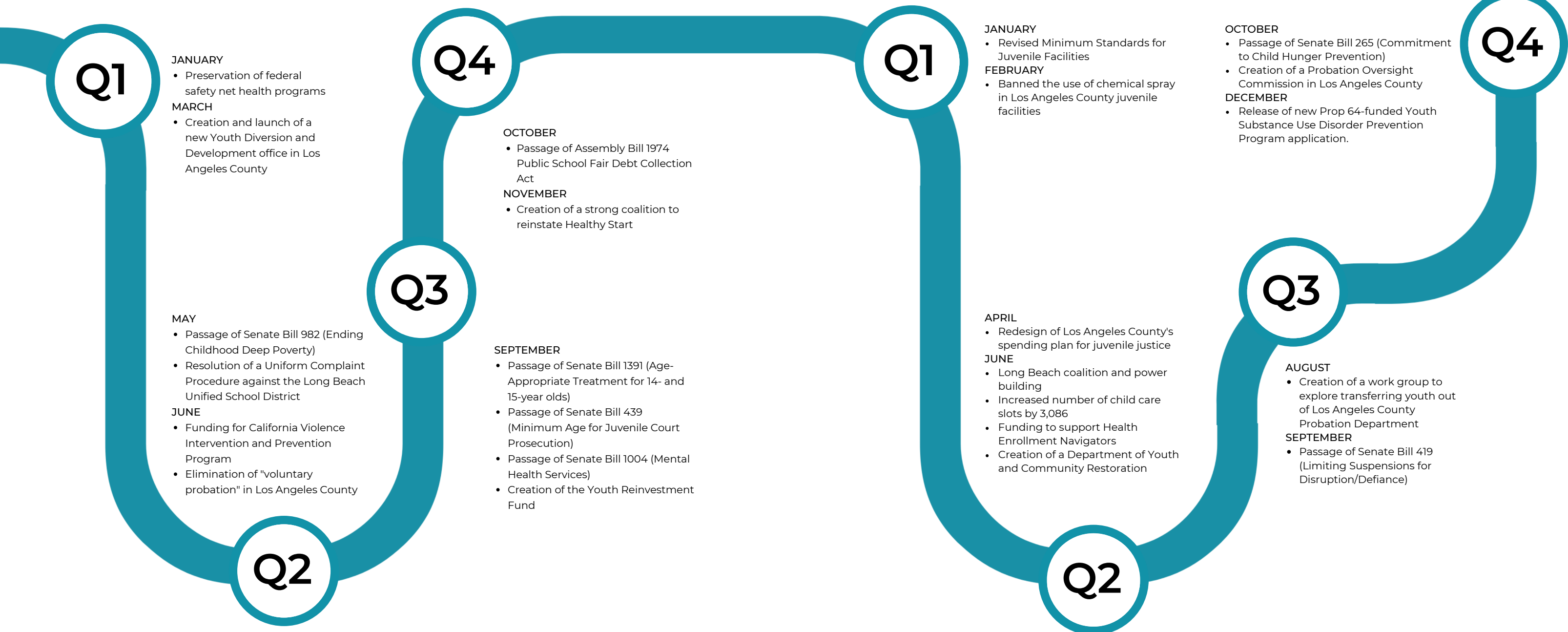




children's
defense fund
california

ROAD MAP TO VICTORY

Children's Defense Fund–California envisions a state where Black and Brown youth have access to quality and equitable health and education systems, are no longer incarcerated, and feel safe and supported in their families and communities.



INDEX 2018

JANUARY

- Preservation of federal safety net health programs (Medicaid and CHIP) and 10-year funding for CHIP

MARCH

- Creation and launch of a new Youth Diversion and Development office In Los Angeles County: This office will coordinate partnerships between police and service providers to divert youth before prosecution.

MAY

- Passage of SB 982 (Ending Childhood Deep Poverty): This bill creates a path to end childhood deep poverty by increasing CalWORKs basic needs grants above 50% of the federal poverty level.
- Execution of a Uniform Complaint Procedure against Long Beach Unified School District: After mispending state funds intended for high-need students, a settlement was reached with LBUSD promising \$7 million in academic and social-emotional support for 30 of the district's highest-need schools.

JUNE

- Secured the continued inclusion of \$9 million in the state budget for the CA Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (CalVIP)
- Elimination of "voluntary probation" in Los Angeles County: Informal or voluntary probation involved children between the ages 10 and 17 who are flagged by their middle schools or high schools as "at risk." The flagged youth were then referred to a professional probation officer for case management and services even though they had broken no law.

SEPTEMBER

- Passage of SB 1391 (Age-Appropriate Treatment for 14- and 15-year olds): This bill prohibits the prosecution of 14- and 15-year olds in the adult criminal justice system.
- Passage of SB 439 (Minimum Age for Juvenile Court Prosecution): This bill excludes children 11 and younger from prosecution except in cases of murder and forcible rape.
- Passage of SB 1004 (Mental Health Services): This bill improves trauma-informed care under the Mental Health Services Act.
- Creation of the Youth Reinvestment Fund: This fund allocates \$30 million to youth diversion around the state

OCTOBER

- Passage of AB 1974 Public School Fair Debt Collection Act: This bill prevents school districts from taking adverse action against a student in an attempt to collect a debt owed by the parents, and prohibits school districts from using a debt collector for the purposes of seeking repayment of a debt owed by a student's parent.

NOVEMBER

- Creation of a strong coalition to reinstate funding for Healthy Start: Healthy Start would help families by coordinating Medi-Cal enrollment, health care, mental health and other family support programs in schools and communities.

INDEX 2019

JANUARY

- Revised Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities: This effort was co-led by CDF-CA from Nov. 2016 to Sep. 2018, standards became effective in January 2019.

FEBRUARY

- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion to ban the use of chemical spray in county juvenile facilities by the end of 2019.

APRIL

- Redesign of Los Angeles County's spending plan for state Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act funds which totals approximately \$40-\$50 million each year, for the first time in about 18 years.

JUNE

- Long Beach coalition and power building: Facilitated the creation of a coalition of parents, students and community organizations in Long Beach to support meaningful engagement in the school and district's budget processes.
- Increased number of child care slots by 3,086: State budget included a \$50 million allocation for the additional slots.
- Funding to support Health Enrollment Navigators: State budget included \$60 million to support community outreach and enrollment efforts to ensure adequate access to healthcare.
- Governor renames the Division of Juvenile Justice to Department of Youth and Community Restoration and removes it from under the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, making it a separate department under the California Health and Human Services Agency

AUGUST

- LA Board of Supervisors voted to create a Youth Justice Work Group to explore how to remove youth from under the oversight of the LA County Probation Department into another agency with the goal of creating a rehabilitative, health-focused and care-first system.

SEPTEMBER

- Passage of SB 419 (Limiting Suspensions for Disruption/Defiance): This bill ends the racially disproportionate practice of suspending students in grades K-8 for behavior deemed "disruptive" and "defiant." CDF-CA advocated to increase state funding by \$15 million for district development of multi-tiered systems of support in order to replace racially unjust and harmful school climate practices with positive and healing approaches.

OCTOBER

- Creation of a Probation Oversight Commission in Los Angeles County: This commission has subpoena power, unobstructed access to facilities, an independent complaints process, power to review budget and policy and community engagement at every level.
- Passage of SB 265 (Commitment to Child Hunger Prevention): This bill is an amendment to SB 250 the original Child Hunger Prevention and Fair Treatment Act of 2017, which CDF-CA cosponsored. SB 265 ends the practice of lunch shaming students whose parents have outstanding school lunch debt.

DECEMBER

- Successfully advocated for the CA Department of Health Care Services to prioritize in its funding stream administration equitable distribution of funds to communities most impacted by the War on Drugs and investment in community-rooted, culturally relevant and healing-centered youth development approaches to prevention. The new program is funded by tax revenue in the Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention and Treatment Account created by Prop 64—the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (2016).