



Yolo Youth Commission:  
YSG 2023

## TIER 2 APPLICATION: Youth Empowered Through Action Grant Program (YEA!)

*This page must be the first page of the Grant Application*

<b>Applicant Organization</b>	<b>Type of Organization</b>	<b>Federal ID Number</b>	<b>Physical Address</b>
Social Environmental Entrepreneurs (SEE)	Non-Profit	EIN: 95-4116679	23564 Calabasas Road Suite 201 Calabasas, CA 91302
<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Title / Position</b>	<b>Phone #</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Carlos Molina	Brown Issues Advisor	(916)508-2363	carlos.molina.iii@gmail.com
<b>Secondary Contact Person</b>	<b>Title / Position</b>	<b>Phone #</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Kimberly Gudino	Executive Director	(916)370-6223	kkgudino@gmail.com
<b>Region(s) Program Serves (if your program serves statewide and/or communities other than Yolo County please list here)</b>	<b>Business Sector that applies to your organization: (Private, Public/ Nonprofit)</b>	<b>Grant Amount Requested</b>	<b>Select one of the following which best describes the level of evidence or support for your project model:</b>
Brown Issues is a statewide serving youth organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	\$40,000 for services up to June 30, 2024	<input type="checkbox"/> Emerging Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Promising Practice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supported Practice



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Project Name	Which of the following best describes your Program? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services to Youth <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behavioral Health	If your program fits into another type of service please list below:	
Brown Issues is a statewide serving youth organization		Leadership development and civic engagement	

**FROM TIER 1 APPLICATION**

**Abstract/Project Summary:** Briefly summarize the proposed project using no more than 350 words to address each of the following points: 1) title of the program, 2) overall goals and objectives of the program, and the purpose or vision of your program in one sentence, 3) specific services that will be provided to meet the overall goals, 4) deliverables, 5) brief description of the specific population including the proposed number of individuals that will be served, 6) performance measures, 7) a brief statement of how the program will aid in the prevention of child abuse/neglect, and 8) brief description of how the program is considered primary or secondary prevention.



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1. Civics for All: Empowering Yolo County youth through art, social emotional learning, and career readiness
2. To support Yolo County youth in overcoming barriers associated with adverse childhood experience (ACEs) so that they can become leaders within their community that help address root causes and systematic forms of discrimination.
3. This project will help bring in on-campus staff support at alternative education sites in West Sacramento, Woodland, and Yolo. The Brown Issues education will aid students in social emotional learning teachings aimed at helping youth understand their emotions, label their emotions, and regulate their emotions. In addition, students will be engaged in after-school programming that assists them in identifying social issues in their community and learn about decision making spaces (school board, city council, county board of supervisors, etc.) where issues can be examined and resolutions can be brought forward. And, lastly, students will be exposed to college, career panels, and cultural sites to help each of them and their families establish and strengthen a college going culture.
4. A) At least, 100 youth taught social emotional learning tools B) 50 youth trained in local decision making processes C) 50-100 youth exposed to college programs and services D) 20 youth involved and trained in event planning and creating community- centered civic engagement opportunities
5. There will be approximately 100-250 students served on a weekly basis, but larger engagement opportunities such as our youth leadership conference, policy bootcamp, art show, etc can likely engage 300-500 Yolo County youth. Our primary student population will be those identified as having behavioral problems and academic challenges and who have been sent to alternative education high school campuses within Yolo County. Another campus where youth will be engaged on a weekly basis is Douglas Middle school. However, our community events that will take place within different Yolo County cities will be open to all youth as well as some other programming that this grant opportunity would allow us to offer.
6. We will measure and keep track of 3 important factors: attendance, behavioral improvements, and grades/credit recovery. It is important that we provide space for students to heal and learn, and we aim to do this while ensuring students are on track to graduate from high school and better positioned for future career opportunities.
7. Child abuse is often committed by guardians but sometimes also takes place sibling to sibling. By training students in social emotional learning teachings, they will be able to identify healthy relationships and unhealthy relationships. As a result, they will have a better understanding and less likely to harm their siblings or friends and better position to address different forms of abuse/ neglect that they may see occur within their own households.
8. We aim to prevent Yolo County high school aged students from dropping out of school. Our prevention strategy is two fold. First, we go to the campuses where the student population is most vulnerable and these sites are alternative education campuses in Yolo County. Youth are sent to these campuses largely due to behavioral issues or need for academic recovery. We believe that every Yolo County youth has the opportunity to graduate from K-12 and enter a desirable career as adults. Therefore, we want to be on campuses where that promise needs to be made real. In addition, our secondary prevention component is our work within the middle schools where we help support positive identity formation amongst historically marginalized groups to empower them and instill a college going culture within them and their families.



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## Section 1: Need for the Program (20 points)

1.1 Identify social, physical, economic and/or other problems impacting youth of Yolo County that need investment. *What Yolo Youth needs will be addressed by your proposed program, product(s), and/or service(s)?*

The rates of poverty are extreme in Yolo county especially when compared to other counties in California. And often, a disproportionate amount of adverse childhood experiences are associated with children experiencing poverty. It has been well documented that these early childhood ACE's negatively impact educational attainment, and education happens to be one of the greatest variables for economic mobility from one generation to the next. As a result, the cycle of poverty continues from one generation to the next due to the fact that those who disproportionately experience poverty rarely have disproportionate access to culturally competent resources that would help support their educational aspirations. Our program will help allocate resources related to job readiness, civic engagement, and youth leadership development opportunities to youth most impacted by poverty.

1.2 Describe the community you propose to serve. Include distinctive characteristics such as demographic statistics, ethnicity, median income, levels of educational attainment and other relevant details.

Brown Issues aims to serve Yolo county high school aged students who are in alternative education programs and have the highest likelihood to drop out of high school and not pursue higher education. The students served also include system-impacted youth, those enduring a disproportionate number of ACE's, those growing up in single family and low income homes, first generation students, and students who continue to face troubling inequities from early learning through higher education.

1.3 Describe the needs, gaps, and services within the community you intend to serve. What asset gaps have you identified? How will your program address the needs associated with these gaps?



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Brown Issues understands that being present in identity formation spaces is crucial in the healthy development of a young person, such places are: schools, community and social media. We aim to provide Yolo County high school aged youth with leadership and cultural enrichment opportunities to help them find their voice, cultivate their voice and exercise their voice.

In schools, Brown Issues fosters a space of belonging to ensure youth feel comfortable and safe in expressing their vision for themselves and their community. In order to cultivate youth who will become responsible change agents in their lives and community they must be able to communicate and take action on their goals inside and outside of the classroom -- from community projects to team building activities, youth will take lead on a variety of efforts, with the support of adult allies. Through these efforts, they will gain soft and hard skills that will be needed as they prepare for a path of job and college readiness. In addition, students become more confident in their voice and leadership.

In community, Brown Issues instills the importance of being present -- from attending events to taking a volunteer role in making it happen, youth will be provided with community engagement opportunities that emphasize the skills and conversations that take place in schools.



## Section 2: Impact on Yolo County Youth Needs<sup>1</sup> (15 points)

2.1 Identify protective factors that apply to your program and state how each will be addressed	
<b>Protective Factors</b>	<b><i>How will your program address these factors?</i></b>
Social and Emotional Health Support	Youth will learn how to understand and manage their emotions and resources and opportunities to build resilience will be offered.
Mentors and Support	Mentors act as a sounding board, provide counsel, keep students on a path of continuous leadership growth. Mentors help students navigate the education system, utilize resources on campus, and the extensive Brown Issues leadership network for students to realize their full potential.

<sup>1</sup> This section invites applicants to address which protective factors the program will address. Proactive factors are positive influences that can improve the lives of individuals or the safety of the population to be served. Examples include but are not limited to: Conflict resolution skills; Good mental, physical, and emotional health; Success at school; Strong social supports; Problem-solving skills; Stable housing; Access to social, cultural and other desirable services.



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2.2 Clearly describe how the proposed product(s), program, and/or service(s) will aid in the prevention of risk factors impacting Yolo County Youth.

In the five years that Brown Issues has been present and providing program services to Yolo County campuses, we have come to notice that behavior issues tend to be the biggest and most frequent interrupter in creating a healthy learning environment on alternative education campuses. Teachers are often overwhelmed with the difficulties of simultaneously needing to facilitate classroom management under intense situations and providing daily instruction to students.

Students with the most extreme behavior issues are often the ones most likely to drop out of high school, decide not to pursue higher education, and later suffer from being incarcerated. By placing additional support inside the classroom, student behavioral issues become more manageable. Students can be given customizable exercises such as breathing routines, art therapy, etc. to help them cope or find new ways to center their emotions as opposed to being suspended or expelled for behavioral issues. In addition, extracurricular activities are able to be more customizable reigniting student imagination and participation.



### Section 3: Theory of Action<sup>2</sup> (20 points)

3.1 Describe the proposed program. Include explanations of any specific service-delivery models, or adaptations of existing models, and the frequency of service delivery.

In the past, Brown Issues was able to privately fund an on-campus Brown Issues Advisor full time. This allowed support staff to be present on campus for the full day of instruction Monday through Friday. If this grant is secured, it will enable Brown Issues to support a full time advisor in Yolo County this school year. This advisor will be present, on different campuses, Monday through Friday for the full period of classroom instruction and after school for additional daily programming. This allows Brown Issues advisors to develop strong partnerships with on-campus staff and students and is the fastest method to introduce and have a Brown Issues advisor become a part of the on-campus community.

As report is being established between Brown Issues Advisor and students/staff, the advisor is better prepared to guide on-campus community members through social emotional learning exercises and intervene in any behavioral concerns. With trust and understanding being established, the advisor is better equipped to coach and support students through leadership opportunities such as workshop development, event planning, civic engagement exercising, credit recovery opportunities, etc. A variety of support services and learning opportunities will be provided Monday through Friday for the entirety of the 2023-2024 academic year.

3.2 List the proposed activities of your program.

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<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this grant application a Theory of Action is a research informed explanation as to why and how your proposed program will be effective.



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There will be in-class student support in partnership and coordination with on campus administration and teachers.

Weekly after school meetings where students can work collectively on group projects, events, and prepare and execute civic engagement opportunities.

In late 2023, there will be a statewide youth conference where students will prepare a presentation to be presented to a room of their peers and get exposure to panels and workshops from College Financial Aid, Career Panels, etc. We will also be holding our annual Brown Issues Policy Bootcamp and Yolo County students will be involved in a 2-day training at the California State Capitol where students will learn the California legislative process.

3.3 What are the anticipated outcomes and/or results of your proposed program?

Students will have greater on and off campus support to help create improved learning environments and safe spaces for their educational attainment.

There will be greater youth-centered leadership opportunities for students whose leadership capacities are often overlooked or have been undervalued.

Students will have a greater understanding of social determinants of health and how systems of power and decision making: such as school board, city council, board of supervisors, and the California State legislature work.

First generation college going students and their families will be engaged and exposed to a college going culture. Students and guardians will have greater knowledge about college programs and services.

3.4 List the key performance indicators (KPI) of the proposed program. *How will progress be measured?*



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Attendance - How many students have demonstrated improved attendance at school compared to previous semesters?

Classroom Behavior - Are students more engaged and less likely to have behavioral issues that necessitate disciplinary actions?

Grades and Academic Performance - Are students on track or getting on track to graduate? Are grades improving and are credits being recovered?

Anecdotal Assessments - Do teachers and admin feel better supported on campus? Are teachers and administration sensing students more motivated to graduate and pursue college or certain careers.

3.5 Using the activities, results, and KPIs described in 3.2; 3.3; and 3.4, develop and attach a logic model.

See table below

ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES	KPI's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In class student support in partnership with campus admin</li> <li>• Weekly after school meetings</li> <li>• Youth centered space for students to share their stories and connect with one another</li> <li>• Mural projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will have greater on and off campus support to help create improved learning environments and safe spaces for their educational attainment.</li> <li>• Self expression through the arts</li> <li>• Unlearned and disrupted patriarchal behavior and practices</li> <li>• Raised consciousness</li> <li>• Creative thinkers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved attendance, classroom behavior, grades and academic performance</li> <li>• Number of youth who state that their voices are shared and valued</li> <li>• Increased self-control skills at the conclusion of programming</li> </ul>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide youth conference</li> <li>• Policy Bootcamp</li> <li>• Community engagement events</li> <li>• Introduce youth to health advocacy campaigns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will have a greater understanding of social determinants of health and how systems of power and decision making work</li> <li>• Greater knowledge, awareness and confidence in self and others</li> <li>• Equipped and empowered to exercise their agency and be civically engaged</li> <li>• Greater connectedness to community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efforts attended and level of participation</li> <li>• Evaluation</li> <li>• Percentage of participating youth who report that their concerns were heard by elected officials or other community leaders</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College tours</li> <li>• College panels</li> <li>• Home visits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First generation college going students and their families will be engaged and exposed to a college going culture. Students and guardians will have greater knowledge about college programs and services.</li> <li>• Equipped with tools needed to pursue higher education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of participating youth interest in higher education</li> <li>• Percentage of youth familiar with CC's, CSU's and UC's</li> <li>• Percentage of youth feeling equipped to navigate financial aid opportunities</li> </ul>

3.6 Explain why your logic model and proposed program will be effective for the youth of Yolo County.

Our logic model and program will be effective because it centers the needs of youth in Yolo County and youth engagement efforts are consistent throughout the school year, both inside and outside of the classroom



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## Section 4: Engagement (10 points)

4.1 Describe who will be most affected by your proposed program and provide the number proposed to be served.

The demographic that is set to benefit most from the program are Yolo county high school aged students who are in alternative education programs and have the highest likelihood to drop out of high school and not pursue higher education. The aim and focus of the program will be to help ensure successful graduation from high school and enrollment into college.

4.2 How will program participants be engaged or recruited?

Students who are behind on credits and have identified behavior issues that resulted in suspension(s) or expulsion(s) will be the largest pool of students who will be engaged. These youth will be recruited from alternative education campuses in West Sacramento, Woodland, and Yolo. However, given the dynamics of alternative education campuses, these students will be from all across Yolo county.



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## Section 5: Evaluation (15 points)

5.1 How do you propose your program be evaluated? Please attach a copy of any evaluation forms and protocols you would like to be used.

The metrics will be used, at multiple points to evaluate the program and those are student attendance, classroom behavior (as reported on from teachers), and credit recovery.

5.2 What data-gathering activities will be used to measure program effectiveness at achieving the associate KPIs? (For example, observations, interviews, surveys, etc.)



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The three measures above will be cross compared to student performances before they entered the program. In addition, admin and teacher observations will be weighed in for anecdotal informational purposes. Furthermore, interviews and surveys will be administered for staff and students to gather information and make programmatic improvements during the year.

5.3 If applicable, provide the representative(s) responsible for data collection, analyses, and reporting results to YCOE.

N/A

5.4 Show the timeline for program services and evaluation activities for the first year of service.

Activities	Expected Completion Date	Responsible Party(ies)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily in-class support</li> <li>Weekly after school meetings</li> </ul>	Daily	Yolo County Advisor
Student Youth Conference	Late 2023	Yolo County Advisor
Policy Bootcamp	Late 2023	Yolo County Advisor
College Tours Minimum 4	2023-2024	Yolo County Advisor



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## Section 6: Capacity to Achieve Goals and Objectives (10 Points)

6.1 What is your organization's Vision Statement? Mission Statement?

Brown Issues is a statewide youth-led advocacy organization that utilizes healing, civic engagement, and narrative change to help young people find their agency and create systematic change within their communities.

Our vision is to advance our underserved communities by building a strong and healthy, civically engaged community, where problematic issues are being discussed and addressed, and policy shifts are being advanced to get at root causes that inhibit conditions most conducive to community well being.

6.2 Provide evidence of the organization's fiscal responsibility and accountability in program administration.

Brown Issues is a fiscal sponsorship project of SEE.

6.3 Attach brief job descriptions and/or biographical sketches for each position to be involved with program services delivery.



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Yolo County Advisor - Executes school-site and community-based programming to support the leadership development and civic engagement of students in Yolo County. Engages parents in the development of the student's personal and academic success as well as their own civic engagement. Invests in future aspirations of young people through college and careers exposure and provides social-emotional health support and creates unique statewide educational and leadership development opportunities, which are central to the mission of Brown Issues.

All advisors act as a sounding board, provide counsel, keep students on a path of continuous leadership growth. Advisors train students to navigate the education system, utilize resources on campus, and the extensive Brown Issues leadership network for students to realize their full potential.

6.4 Describe any additional resources that will be used in conjunction with proposed funding such as supplementary funding, volunteers, donations etc.

We will continue to leverage private foundation resources to provide Brown Issues student support services to Yolo County youth and families. In addition, our Yolo County volunteer core consists of 12 adults and 4 senior citizens who have leveraged their social capital and network to private funders to help raise additional resources for college tours, to cover cost of hosting events, etc.

6.5 Will any collaborative partner(s) be involved with the proposed program? If so please list their respective organization(s), titles, and contact information.

No

6.6 List any accreditations, certifications, and awards your organization has achieved.



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In 2023, Brown Issues successfully led the way for the first ever California Lowrider Holiday, moving the culture from criminalization to celebration. Sabrina Cervantes, Chair of the Latino Caucus, recognized our efforts during the reading of ACR 102 on the Assembly Floor.

In 2022, the California Latino Capital Association Foundation recognized Brown Issues with the Community Champion Award.

6.7 Explain how the proposed program will be sustained beyond this funding cycle.

For over the past five years, Brown Issues has been able to support Yolo County students with the use of resources and funds from private philanthropy. Through this funding stream we have been able to hold policy bootcamps, summer organizing camps, college tours, and weekly on-campus student support programming. And, Brown Issues has provided these services free of charge to the campus, school district and multiple cities within Yolo County. Our goal this year is to begin to receive funds from different entities within Yolo County, responsible for supporting the healthy development of youth, to help alleviate financial challenges and provide greater opportunities for a greater number of students in need.



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## Section 7: Project Budget (10 points)

***Note: Please reserve requests for Yolo County Youth Commission funds for services to Yolo County Youth. Administrative/Indirect costs should not exceed 10% of the requested funds.***

7.1 Develop a budget narrative that describes the specific costs and expenses associated with the proposed program.



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**Administrative cost:** This will help cover financial support for receiving, tracking, and reporting on the grant and work outcomes of the grant.

**Project Manager / Staff Salary:** The project manager will oversee the specified projects such as but not limited to the mural projects, college tours, etc. This individual will also be present in the class room on a daily basis to aid teachers and administration with on-campus youth centered social emotional learning, campus climate, and can be thought of as a team member when reaching school district goals and student needs.

**Policy Bootcamp:** At least, ten Yolo County High School aged youth will participate in a California Legislative Policy Bootcamp. These youth will go to the California State Capitol for two days to learn how an idea becomes a bill and how bills go through the legislative process to become laws. Students will participate in mock hearings and debates in the committee rooms and voting floors of the California State Senate.

**Mural Project:** Students will work with regional artists to learn mural making and will create at least 2 mobile murals on campus that will be displayed in Yolo County. In addition, one of these murals will be displayed in a Brown Issues Yolo County art show focused on highlighting the artistic talent of Yolo County youth.

**Statewide Youth Conference:** 100 Yolo County High School and Middle School aged youth will participate in a statewide youth conference. Here they will be exposed to college panels, trade schools, and hear from first generation college students about overcoming “imposter syndrome”, improving one’s career opportunities post-graduation with internships and fellowships, creating good study habits and more. In addition, 5-10% of these students will learn to develop and present workshops of their own and present their workshops to their peers at the conference.

**College Tours:** Approximately 60 students will be taken on four college tours. These tours will be focused on creating a college going culture for primarily first generation college students. These tours will equip students with financial support services, on-campus college tutoring and academic support, and exposure to internships and fellowships that are



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7.2 Attach detailed calculations for the specified items such as salaries and other expenses aligned to the budget narrative.

Administrative cost:	\$4,000
Project Manager / Staff Salary	\$26,000
Policy Bootcamp	\$1,000
Mural Project	\$1,500
Statewide Youth Conference	\$2,500
College Tours	\$5,000

Signature of the Representative	Title/Position	Date
	Executive Director	09/08/23

Board President/Executive (print or type name)	Date
	09/08/23