

FLY's Vision and Goal

FLY envisions a country where **all** kids grow up valued and supported, and **the pipeline to prison is replaced with meaningful opportunities for kids to live healthy, free, and productive lives** that make stronger, safer, and more vibrant communities for us all.

By 2030, through partnering with kids, communities, and systems, FLY will help dismantle California's pipeline to prison, equip **30,000** juvenile-justice and at-risk youth to transform their lives, and strengthen services for marginalized youth in California and beyond.

The Need for FLY

Our country incarcerates more children than any other nation in the world.

We push disproportionate numbers of kids of color, kids from low-income communities, foster kids and homeless youth, LGBTQ youth, and kids with disabilities out of our schools and neighborhoods and into juvenile facilities. In the process, **we've created a steady pipeline of youth who end up in adult prisons**, and as a result, our communities are less safe, less healthy, and less just.

For nearly 20 years, FLY has helped local systems move away from punitive policies that don't result in success for youth. We've gained national recognition for success in supporting youth to heal from past traumas, choose pathways toward healthy and productive lives, and become advocates for other youth. We've also fostered many effective collaborations with probation departments, juvenile courts, and others in the systems that affect our youth.

Right now, in California and nationwide, the juvenile justice system is in enormous transition. Despite an overall decrease in the number of youth in the system, many communities are experiencing increases in youth arrests and incarceration. The disproportionate representation of marginalized groups of youth is rising. The financial burden on communities of youth incarceration continues to grow.

Experienced agencies like **FLY must help ensure that resources are directed to strategies that will not perpetuate the practices of a broken system**, but will promote lasting change. We know what works to help young people escape the cycle of violence and incarceration. We are ready to leverage our strong relationships, competencies, and reputation to reach farther in California and to begin to effect the right changes on a national scale.

To learn more, please contact Ali Knight, Chief Operating Officer for FLY, ali@flyprogram.org.

FLY's Strategic Plan, Imagine 2030, Outlines Four Pathways to Impact

Expansion. FLY will be deeply present in its current three counties through direct service and systems change work that responds to community needs. We will also expand our services to two more counties in California.

Systems Change. FLY will support juvenile justice reform statewide. We will be both responsive and preemptive in our support of good policy, good practice, and elevating youth voice.

Technical Assistance. To increase the capacity of our field, FLY will explore opportunities to launch the Lifeline Institute, a training and technical assistance arm of FLY's direct service and systems change work.

Evidence-Building. FLY will develop the organizational muscle needed to adopt a rapid testing cycle approach to evidence-building, continuous quality improvement, and strategic growth initiatives.