YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CATEGORIES

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The categories of youth development provide a framework for classifying and aligning youth programs across the City of Los Angeles. These categories help organize services, identify gaps, and foster collaboration. The eight categories are:

- **Basic Needs (and Stability) –** Ensures that youth have access to essentials such as food, shelter, transportation, and economic support.
- **Health and Well-being –** Supports physical, mental, and emotional health through healthcare services and wellness programs.
- **Recreation –** Offers opportunities for creative expression and physical activities outside the classroom, including sports and the arts.
- **Academic Achievement & Educational Enrichment –** Enhances learning through tutoring, STEM education, college readiness, and academic support.
- **Career Readiness & Financial Empowerment –** Prepares youth for the workforce with job training, internships, financial literacy, and career coaching.
- **Leadership Development –** Promotes civic engagement and advocacy through youth councils, volunteerism, and decision-making roles.
- **Mentorship –** Fosters relationships with caring adults and peers to support youth development and goal achievement.
- **Safety and Justice –** Ensures youth safety through services related to violence prevention, legal aid, reentry support, and community protection.