

Community Advisory Board (CAB) on AB 109 Public Safety Realignment

Application Summary Chart						
Name	Region	City of Residence	City of Employment	Provider Staff (yes or no)	Why do you want to serve on the Community Advisory Board?	What skills, experiences, or resources can you contribute to support the work of the Community Advisory Board?
Roland Fernandez	East	Pittsburg	Pittsburg	No	I already serve as Pittsburg Community Advisory, Contra Costa Behavior Health Board, CAB is perfectly fitted for myself, I want to help others, I want to help everyone, it makes the community better	I bring community involvement, sobriety, mental health, all and everything is needed for those to recover their lives back into our communities
Joey Lariz	Central	Oakland	Martinez	Yes	I want to serve on the Community Advisory Board to advance sustainable, systems-level change. I am committed to supporting Black and Brown women and families affected by the justice system and ensuring county resources are invested equitably to create lasting stability and opportunity. This role would allow me to help shape community-informed, effective reentry strategies.	I bring technical expertise, institutional knowledge, and lived experience to the Community Advisory Board. As Data and Operations Coordinator for The Gemma Project, I use data and compliance oversight to strengthen accountability and outcomes. My education at Stanford University sharpened my strategic and policy analysis skills, and my work is grounded in equity, cultural humility, and trauma and gender responsive care, informed by lived experience with incarcerated family members. I would leverage these skills and community connections to help ensure the CAB remains a strong bridge between Contra Costa County residents and its justice and reentry systems.
Pedro Bernal	West	San Pablo	Richmond	No	To be a voice for the community.	I am a credible messenger youth organizer here in Richmond CA
Kevin Lawson	East	Pittsburg	San Ramon	No	I'm interested in serving on the Community Advisory Board because my work as a business owner focuses on mentorship,	I bring operational leadership, data-driven decision making, and community-focused workforce experience to the Community Advisory Board. As CEO of a multi-state

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					workforce development, and ethical operations that support employees and local businesses. As a second-chance employer, I provide structured opportunities for individuals rebuilding their careers. This role allows me to extend that impact, collaborating with other leaders to improve access to opportunity, strengthen small businesses, and support long-term community growth.	fleet service company, I manage budgeting, contracts, and processes, strengthening my ability to evaluate feasibility, financial impact, and sustainability. I mentor team members and youth, operate as a second-chance employer, and bring strong relationship-building, problem-solving, and collaboration skills to ensure decisions support both economic growth and community impact.
Nicole Gomes	Central	Martinez	Pittsburg	No	I love this work because it supports students often overlooked, including formerly incarcerated and foster youth. I create programs and spaces that offer hope, community, and belonging, connecting students to college, organizations, and supportive initiatives. This work reflects my passion for educational equity, social justice, and second chances, helping students achieve personal and generational transformation.	I've worked in the Contra Costa Community College District since 1992, supporting students often excluded from traditional pathways. At Diablo Valley College, I built transition programs and founded Scholars for Justice. In 2024, I joined Los Medanos College to lead NextUp and RISE, serving foster youth and incarcerated students. With the Rising Scholars Network grant, we support over 55 students with wraparound services, helping them reclaim their futures.