

# (2024-2025) Annual Plan

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County Name: Monterey

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## Instructions:

Government Code Section 30061(b)(4) and Welfare & Institution Code Section 1961(b) call for consolidation of the annual plans required for JJCPA and YOBG.

Please submit your most up-to-date consolidated plan. The following is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. If you find it helpful to use this template, please do so. Each field must be completed before submitting your plan to the BSCC. If you have nothing to report for a field, please indicate 'N/A'. At the end of the template please press the 'Submit' button to be recorded with the BSCC. Your work will be saved each time you log in, if you need to make any edits.

Your Submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website.[reedwl@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:reedwl@co.monterey.ca.us)

**If you have any questions on completing your annual plan, or wish to use your own plan, please email:**

**[JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov)**

## Juvenile Justice Plan

### Part I. Countywide Service Needs, Priorities and Strategy

- A. Assessment of Existing Services
- B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas
- C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy
- D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

### Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

- A. Information Sharing and Data Collection
- B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils
- C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

### Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

- A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders
- B. Regional Agreements
- C. Funded Programs, Placements, Services, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

## **Part I. Service Needs, Priorities & Strategy (Government Code Section 30061(b)(4)(A))**

### **A. Assessment of Existing Services**

**Include here an assessment of existing law enforcement, probation, education, mental health, health, social services, drug and alcohol, and youth services resources that specifically target at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families.**

Monterey County created its Comprehensive Violence Prevention, Intervention, Suppression and Reentry Framework in 2009 to support an integrated, coordinated approach to building and sustaining a peaceful and safe community, and provide local citizens, particularly young people, with a safe and prosocial environment in which to live and grow.

The framework implemented Five Core Strategies based on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)'s Comprehensive Gang Model: Community Mobilization, Organizational Change and Development; Provision of Opportunities, Social Intervention and Suppressions, with strategies in the areas of Primary and Secondary Prevention, Intervention, Suppression, and Reentry. Also included was an inventory of existing resources in these areas, and their level of services (critical, adequate, or needed).

The Board of Supervisors approved and launched the Monterey County Gang Violence Prevention Initiative in May 2013 with a strategic plan for developing infrastructure for the initiative using the Collective Impact Model, allocating and leveraging resources, and fostering community outreach and participation.

In June 2015, the development and adoption of the Action Plan for Building Safe and Thriving Communities included community input for a framework of strategically selected focus areas and indicators. The overarching goal of the Monterey County Gang Violence Prevention Initiative is to address the root causes and risk factors of violence through systemic and policy change using an improved collaborative effort.

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument/13353/636089483981230000>

Monterey County's Office for Community Engagement and Strategic Advocacy (OCESA) serves as a liaison to County resources for locally organized violence prevention efforts throughout Monterey County, such as Four Cities for Peace for South County cities of Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City; the Seaside Youth Violence Prevention Task Force; the Community Alliance for Safety and Peace (CASP) in Salinas; East Salinas Building Healthy Communities; and the North Monterey County Community Alliance.

Further, the City of Salinas, the county seat and area of higher youth delinquency, developed a

Comprehensive Strategy for Community-wide Violence Reduction based on current research and surveys refined by community, city, county, faith and organizational leaders. The Strategic Plan follows the Department of Justice's recommended PIER framework, aligning efforts around the key focus areas of Prevention, Intervention, Enforcement and Reentry into a cohesive violence reduction program.

The strategy is based on four key operating principles: 1. A single operational structure that manages action and progress; 2. Action is research and data-driven; 3. The youth are at the center; 4. There is deep and meaningful engagement with the community.

<http://www.youth.gov/youth-topics/preventing-youth-violence/forum-communities/salinas/brief>

The plan is implemented using a collective impact approach by the cross-sector collaborative Community Alliance for Safety and Peace (CASP), a group of core stakeholders working together to address the area of gang violence through collaboration, coordination of resources and a comprehensive, community-wide strategy. Through CASP, the City of Salinas continues to deepen its partnership with the County of Monterey, community and business leaders, youth, and other regional collaboratives and governments. <https://caspmc.org/>

**Describe what approach will be used to facilitate collaboration among the organizations listed above and support the integration of services.**

The OJJDP Gang Model, co-location of services, and the utilization of a multi-disciplinary team to manage coordinated and integrated case plans and interventions all facilitate collaboration among county departments, providers of services, and the Juvenile Court. Close coordination among criminal justice departments is also fostered by Truancy Court and the Therapeutic Courts model.

The campus-based probation supervision model and the Silver Star Youth Program (SSYP) also require close coordination and an on-going working relationship with the various school districts, as well as local law enforcement agencies. The long-standing collaboration and co-location between County agencies and the non-profit Rancho Cielo represent a nationally recognized model of public-private partnerships capable to leverage public resources with significant contributions from the private sector.

At the prevention level, the multidisciplinary collaborative at the Silver Star Resource Center (SSRC) unites public agencies with community-based organizations in a coordinated approach focused on family support and unification, and healthy youth development.

## **B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas**

**Identify and prioritize the neighborhoods, schools, and other areas of the county that face the most significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.**

Although Monterey County's strategy and services have a county-wide range, areas of focus and priority include the City of Salinas, with areas of higher gang activity in the east side, and the South County cities (Soledad, Gonzales, Greenfield, and King City) due to the prevalence of juvenile crime, or unmet needs in those areas.

### **C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy**

**Describe your county's juvenile justice action strategy. Include an explanation of your county's continuum of responses to juvenile crime and delinquency as well as a description of the approach used to ensure a collaborative and integrated approach for implementing a system of swift, certain, and graduated responses for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders.**

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act of 2000, and the funding it provides to local jurisdictions, was the catalyst for creating collaborative and integrated strategies to prevent and address juvenile crime in Monterey County.

The original multi-pronged and multi-disciplinary approach has evolved through time to embrace and implement the OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Model, and the implementation of evidence-based practices and programs more likely to positively impact at-risk and adjudicated youth.

This holistic approach initiates with identification and intervention on risk factors for juvenile delinquency with the Silver Star Resource Center (a prevention/ early intervention program for at-risk youth and their families), Truancy Mediation and Truancy Court, and with the enhancement of protective factors, including family support and family parenting.

Other diversion strategies, such as Intake Diversion and Informal Probation, have been in place and are utilized by Probation to divert referred youth from criminal justice proceedings. Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJ) is also utilized to dismiss the case, when successful.

Graduated interventions for adjudicated youth include restorative justice, community and school campus-based supervision, intense supervision through Therapeutic Courts (mental health, drug court, and sex-offender outpatient treatment), a youth day program (Silver Star Youth Program at Rancho Cielo), out-of-home placement and Wraparound services, Juvenile Hall custody, Youth Center commitments and Aftercare supervision, and alternatives to custody, such as Home Supervision and Electronic Monitoring.

The Youth Center is a secure residential treatment facility for male wards which provides a variety of educational, vocational, support and treatment services to residents, as well as aftercare supervision and transitional housing. Reentry services for JH and YC residents are managed through a collaboration with a community-based service provider.

Violations of conditions of probation are managed with the Graduated Response Matrix (GRM). Many violations may be addressed through community-based interventions, utilizing multi-level responses in lieu of a formal violation petition being filed.

**D.Comprehensive Plan RevisionsDescribe how your Plan has been updated for this year.**

There are no Plan revisions to report.

**If your Plan has not been updated this year, explain why no changes to your plan are necessary.**

The general strategy and major programs continue unchanged. Programs were transitioned to remote sessions to maintain a continuity of operations and services to clients during the pandemic. Due to the success of the remote format, many programs continue to provide services using this method. Juvenile operations are now being offered both in-person and remotely in an effort to provide broader access for clients to receive services.

**Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)  
(Government Code Section 30061(b)(4))**

**A. Information Sharing and Data** Describe your information systems and their ability to facilitate the sharing of data across agencies within your county. Describe the data obtained through these systems and how those data are used to measure the success of juvenile justice programs and strategies.

Currently, County Departments collect data on individual client or case management systems which do not interface with each other or with the Court system. Data sharing through data exchanges remains a costly and complex problem within the County. Data collection is also a challenge for community-based organizations providing services to juvenile clients and their families, as they are typically small non-profit agencies with limited budgets and less stable workforce.

JJCPA data continues to be collected via individual department reports and then matched to identify juveniles receiving services.

Efforts to combine data in one centralized repository have been challenging due to multiple factors, including insufficient funding and the absence of an integration plan with the Court's system. During this past fiscal year, progress was made in that Probation implemented a new case management system which potentially has the capability to integrate with the Court's system in the future.

**B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils**

**Does your county have a fully constituted Juvenile Justice Council (JJCC) as prescribed by Welfare & institutions Code 749.22?**

yes

**If no, please list the current vacancies that exist on your JJCC, when those vacancies occurred, and your plan for filling them.**

N/A

**C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements**

# JJCPA Funded Program(s), Strategy and/or System Enhancement

Below are JJCPA funded programs reported by the county.

## Program Name:

Silver Star Resource Center (SSRC) managed by Probation

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The program is based on the OJJDP's strategy of Risk and Protective Factors of Child Delinquency, addressing risk factors in five domains: individual, family, school, peer group, and community.

## Description:

The Silver Star Resource Center (SSRC) is a multiagency collaborative of prevention and early intervention services designed to promote positive youth development by reducing risk factors that lead to gang involvement and delinquency of youth in Monterey County.

The collaborative is co-located to provide a "one-stop" for youth and family services and employs an innovative multi-agency approach that combines probation supervision, individualized study program, vocational and job training, counseling and mediation services, anger management, truancy abatement, mentoring, outreach to the community, substance abuse programs and family support services to at-risk or gang-involved youth.

The program is initiated by a referral and assessment process, and a review by a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) in case of multiple risk factors to determine how to provide the appropriate services to meet the family's needs. Probation staff then conducts follow-ups with collaborative partners to ensure that families are being served.

In FY 18-19 Probation added a pilot project to provide Restorative Justice services for SSRC participants, utilizing "Victim Impact: Listen and Learn" curriculum, delivering restorative justice and outreach services in middle schools, and expand restorative justice services in the community. This program is now on-going. In FY 20-21 it added a new component of prevention



and intervention services to parents, caregivers and youth with the Strengthening Families Program (SFP) provided by Partners for Peace (P4P). SFP is an evidence-based family-skills and a parenting training program for high-risk (probation, adjudicated, court-referred, expelled) youth and their parents.

In FY 23-24, youth diversion services under the Road to Success Program, provided by Sun Street Center was provided to youth in South County. The three-to-six-month program for youth is for first time offenders of crimes and seeks to prevent school expulsion and/or entry into the juvenile justice system by offering youth offenders individualized diversion plans that include substance abuse intervention and education, participation in pro-social activities, individual and/or family counseling, parent workshops, and community service hours.

**Program Name:**

Silver Star Youth Program (SSYP) at Rancho Cielo managed by Probation

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The program is based on the OJJDP's strategy of Risk and Protective Factors of Child Delinquency, addressing risk factors in five domains: individual, family, school, peer group, and community. Services are provided through a nationally recognized model of public and private partnership with the local non-profit Rancho Cielo, Inc.

**Description:**

This program targets juveniles ages 14 through 18 who are probation wards participating in a youth day program. It is designed to function as an umbrella agency, a "one-stop center" for supervision, schooling, cultural enrichment programs, physical and outdoor activities, individual and group counseling, nursing services, and vocational services for minors.

**Program Name:**

Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) managed by Restorative Justice Partners, Inc.

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The program is based on and utilizes principles of Restorative Justice.

**Description:**

VORP is a restorative process which provides victims with the opportunity to meet juvenile offenders in a safe and structured setting. The program provides counseling and mediation services to juveniles ages 12 to 18 who are first time offenders and who participate in the program on a volunteer basis and under the protocol and principles of Restorative Justice.

The Merchant Accountability Panel (MAP) is an innovative application of the VORP process which focuses directly on the pervasive crime of juvenile shoplifting. It was created by VORP in collaboration with Probation's Restorative Justice Coordinator. Young shoplifters are held accountable in a highly successful mediation process that brings a group of 4-6 youths to face the merchant representatives in a restorative, non-threatening venue.

**Program Name:**

Truancy Mediation managed by the District Attorney's Office and Probation

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The program is based on the OJJDP's strategy of Risk and Protective Factors of Child Delinquency, addressing risk factors in five domains: individual, family, school, peer group, and community. Truancy in particular has been identified as an early warning sign of potential delinquent behavior, social isolation, and educational failure, carrying long-term negative effects.

**Description:**

This program is a collaboration of Probation and District Attorney's Office to reduce the truancy rate in the school districts in Monterey County.

This is based on two strategies: 1) aggressively pursuing chronic truants and to involve their families in seeking solutions to school absenteeism through education, mediation and enforcement of compulsory law, and 2) utilizing the Truancy Court model and supervision to restore school attendance and positive behaviors.

The Truancy Abatement Unit works closely with schools and families to bring about compliance with compulsory school attendance laws.

Truancy Court is a Problem-Solving Court model designed to assist school-aged children to overcome the underlying causes of truancy by reinforcing and combining efforts from the school, courts, mental health providers, families, and the community to stabilize the family environment and reengage the youth in continuing their education.

**Program Name:**

Juvenile Drug Court managed by Probation

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Therapeutic Drug Court Model: Matrix Model for Substance Abuse

**Description:**

Monterey County's Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Program is a collaboration between the Juvenile Court, Probation, Behavioral Health and various treatment providers within the community.

Youth are involved in individual, and group treatment, and they work closely with their Probation Officer. It is designed to help minors address and overcome their addiction to alcohol and/or drugs, and to reduce harmful behavior against themselves, their family, and other individuals. The philosophy of the program is that parental and family support is the cornerstone in adolescent substance-abuse treatment and that family support is a critical factor in helping adolescents turn their lives around.

Drug Court imposes intensive supervision and coordinates counseling and rehabilitative services to juvenile probationers who have serious substance abuse problems. Probationers are drug-tested frequently and appear in Court once a month.

**Program Name:**

Drug and Alcohol Intervention Services for Youth (DAISY) managed by Community Human Services (CHS)

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The program utilizes The Seven Challenges curriculum, an evidence-based best practice endorsed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

**Description:**

DAISY provides intervention and education services for substance abusing youth ages 13-18 who are referred by parents, schools, Social Services, Monterey County Behavioral Health, and Probation.

The program utilizes The Seven Challenges, a developmentally appropriate alcohol and drug curriculum addressing co-occurring problems to decrease substance use among adolescents and improve their overall mental health.

Services include comprehensive assessment to identify problems and concerns for the adolescent and family, goal setting, individual, group and family counseling, substance abuse education, journaling and relapse prevention planning.

DAISY also offers a parent support group that provides parents with accurate information and tools to help them better understand and support their children.

**Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)  
(Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1961(a))**

**A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders**

**Describe your county's overall strategy for dealing with non-707(b) youthful offenders who are not eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice. Explain how this Plan relates to or supports that strategy.**

Through its system of graduated responses, Monterey County offers multiple strategies for all juvenile offenders, as deemed appropriate based on criminogenic needs and risk of recidivism, as well as personal strengths and family resources.

Non-707(b) offenders are assessed through a risk and needs assessment tool, and dependent on risk level, a case plan is tailored to individual needs and family dynamics. The case plan is developed with the minor, the family, and the Probation Officer, and is based on the criminogenic needs identified by the risk and needs assessment, Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI).

When a youth requires services that either cannot be provided locally, or community safety warrants concern, the case is presented to the Interagency Placement Committee (IPC). IPC may recommend Wraparound services or out-of-home placement when appropriate.

**B. Regional Agreements**

**Describe any regional agreements or arrangements to be supported with YOBG funds.**

N/A

# **YOBG Funded Program(s), Placement, Service, Strategy and/or System Enhancement**

**Below are YOBG funded programs reported by the county.**

## **Program Name:**

Juvenile Hall Staffing and Programming Services

## **Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Monterey County Probation's intervention is based on a series of graduated interventions for offender accountability and rehabilitation through access and delivery of services, and for protection of the community.

JJCPA supports at-risk youth and juvenile diversion programs, as well as interventions within the continuum of graduated responses. YOBG funding supports in-custody services at the two juvenile institutions, completing the array of services for at-risk and adjudicated youth at the different stages of involvement in the juvenile system.

## **Description:**

The Monterey County Juvenile Hall is a short-term detention facility with a capacity of 80 beds for secure confinement of those juveniles who are pending court; awaiting transfer to other juvenile and adult institutions; pending placement in foster homes or group homes; or serving court-ordered custodial dispositions.

YOBG funds the salary and benefits of 11.0 FTE Juvenile Institutions Officer II positions assigned to Juvenile Hall to maintain staffing, provide security and supervision, and for monitoring structured activities and several in-custody programs. Additionally, YOBG funds programs for youth while in custody.

Juvenile Institutions Officers, Behavioral Health staff, nursing staff, and teachers who work in Juvenile Hall make every effort to address the youth's social, physical, behavioral, psychological, and emotional needs. Their shared goal is to provide services that will help the youth reintegrate

back into the community.

Evidence Based Practices used include: 1) The Phoenix Curriculum, a gang prevention, intervention and resistance program for high-risk minors; 2) Forward Thinking Journal by The Change Companies, a cognitive-behavioral series that uses evidence-based strategies to assist youth involved in the criminal justice system in making positive changes to their thoughts, feelings and behaviors. Applying the information presented in the Interactive Journals to their own lives helps participants achieve their goals for responsible living; and 3) Seeking Safety, a present-focused, coping skills therapy for adolescents that targets trauma /post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or substance abuse and can be delivered as group or individual sessions.

Additional programs include: a) Victim Impact class, victim speakers provided by Restorative Justice Partners, Inc., an educational program designed to teach offenders about the human consequences of crime with the direct involvement of victims and victim service providers; and b) READY (Re-Entry Assistance for Determined Youth), a re-entry program administered by California Youth Outreach (CYO) and providing per-release, transitional and aftercare services. In addition to other educational and rehabilitative programs, Institutions staff also administers substance abuse educational and awareness sessions about intoxicants and their negative effects through the Substance Abuse Facts and Education (SAFE) program.



**Program Name:**

Youth Center Staffing and Programming Services

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Monterey County Probation's intervention is based on a series of graduated responses for offender accountability and rehabilitation through access and delivery of services, and for protection of the community.

JJCPA supports at-risk youth and juvenile diversion programs, as well as interventions within the continuum of graduated responses. YOBG funding supports in-custody services at the two juvenile institutions, completing the array of services for at-risk and adjudicated youth at the different stages of involvement in the juvenile system.

**Description:**

The Youth Center (YC) is a secure residential treatment facility for juvenile wards, and is rated as a Juvenile Camp, with a total capacity of 60 beds in dorm settings. The youths are distributed in 4 housing units: Ventana Bay, Gavilan Bay and Pinnacle Bay each house 16 wards, while Laguna Bay houses 12.

Youth receive medical and mental health services as needed and attend school. In-custody time is utilized for the early and immediate exposure and engagement in supportive rehabilitation programs, as well as Independent Living Skills, designed to help juveniles develop skills that will allow them to become self-sufficient. The program also offers an intensive supervision aftercare program.

YOBG funds the salary and benefits of 12.0 FTE Juvenile Institutions Officer II positions assigned to the Youth Center; it also funds a 1.0 FTE Psychiatric Social Worker II (PSW) that provides services to the Youth Center. Funding for 12.0 JIO positions allows the only local secure treatment program to maintain the current capacity of 60 male residents, providing security, supervision and monitoring of structured activities and programs. The PSW staff provides individual and group counseling services for the residents. Additionally, YOBG funds programs for residents while in custody.

Evidence Based Practices used include: 1) Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART), a cognitive behavioral intervention program to help children and adolescents improve social skill competence and moral reasoning, better manage anger, and reduce aggressive behavior;<sup>17</sup> 2)

Forward Thinking Journal by The Change Companies, a cognitive-behavioral series that uses evidence-based strategies to assist youth involved in the criminal justice system in making positive changes to their thoughts, feelings and behaviors. Applying the information presented in the Interactive Journals to their own lives helps participants achieve their goals for responsible living; and 3) Seeking Safety, a present-focused, coping skills therapy for adolescents that targets trauma /post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or substance abuse and can be delivered as group or individual sessions.

Additional programs include: a) Victim Impact class, victim speakers provided by Restorative Justice Partners, an educational program designed to teach offenders about the human consequences of crime with the direct involvement of victims and victim service providers; and b) READY (Re-Entry Assistance for Determined Youth), a re-entry program administered by California Youth Outreach (CYO) and providing per-release, transitional and aftercare services.