

FY 2022-23 Community Corrections Partnership Survey

Ventura County

CCP Membership

Mark Varela Chief Probation Officer	Melissa Livingston Department of Social Services
Hon. Bruce A. Young Presiding Judge or designee	Vacant Department of Mental Health
Dr. Sevet Johnson County Supervisor or Chief Administrator	Melissa Livingston Department of Employment
Erik Nasarenko District Attorney	Dr. Loretta Denering Alcohol and Substance Abuse Programs
Claudia Bautista Public Defender	Cesar Morales Head of the County Office of Education
Bill Ayub Sheriff	Dr. Caroline Prijatel-Sutton Community-Based Organization
Jason Benites Chief of Police	Michael Jump Victims' Interests

How often does the CCP meet?

Quarterly

How often does the Executive Committee of the CCP meet?

Quarterly

Does the CCP have subcommittees or working groups

Yes



Goals, Objectives, and Outcome Measures

FY 2021-22

Goal	Determine if existing services are meeting the needs of the AB 109 population and/or provide additional services and make services available to all probationers beyond the AB109 population to facilitate successful reentry into society
Objective	Assess capacity of all existing funded programs and conduct literature review of best practices
Objective	Assess the ability of current providers to expand services using existing program services
Objective	Develop an inventory of system capacity and ability to expand by service providers
Outcome Measure	Number of beds or space the provider currently have
Outcome Measure	Increase the number of clients served
Outcome Measure	Services are fully utilized based on capacity of each provider
Progress toward stated goal	The launch of this project was delayed due to the COVID-19- pandemic. It has since been launched and is currently in progress.

Goal	Complete Phase IV of the AB109 Program Evaluation
Objective	Develop recidivism analysis by cohort summary report, highlighting the most current recidivism trends identified through the updated cohort analysis
Objective	Develop a report of the findings based on the analysis of services impact data in relation to recidivism
Outcome Measure	Identify trends, gaps in services
Outcome Measure	Recidivism analysis data summary
Outcome Measure	Services Impact report
Progress Toward Stated Goal	Report completed and presented to the CCP for consideration.

Goal	Enhance the recidivism dashboard to include Mental Health Court (MHC) analysis
Objective	Import and analyze MHC data into the dashboard
Objective	Create and analysis chart to measure the recidivism rate utilizing the BSCC definition
Outcome Measure	develop enhancement access and implementation
Outcome Measure	Measure recidivism in clients referred to MHC
Outcome Measure	Identify potential service gaps/needs
Progress Toward Stated Goal	This is still a work in progress but efforts are continuing to move forward.

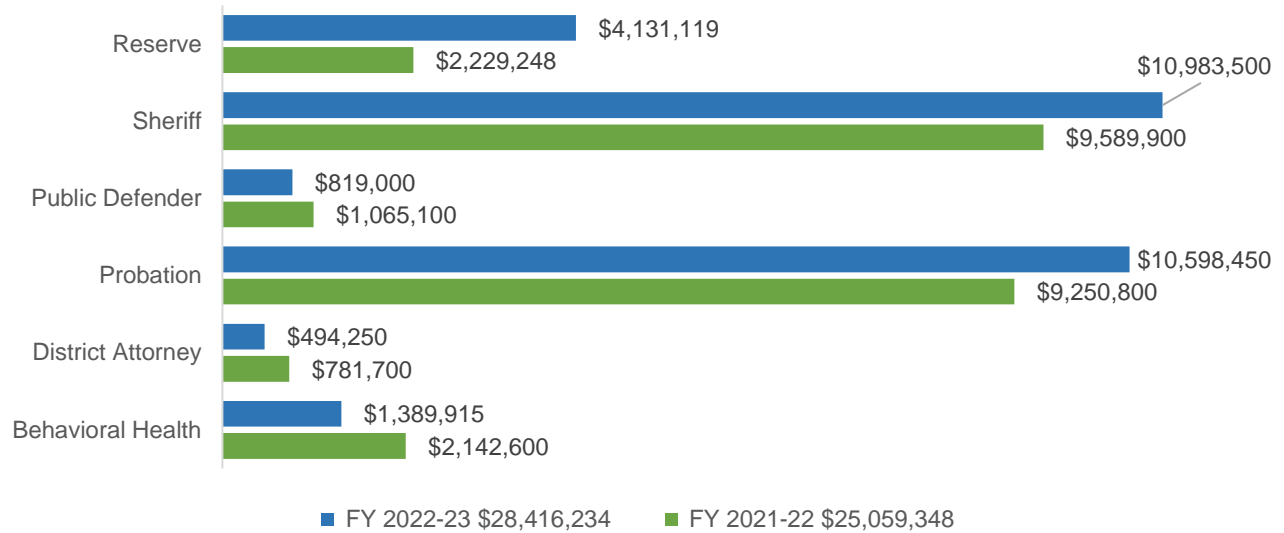
Goals, Objectives, and Outcome Measures

FY 2022-23

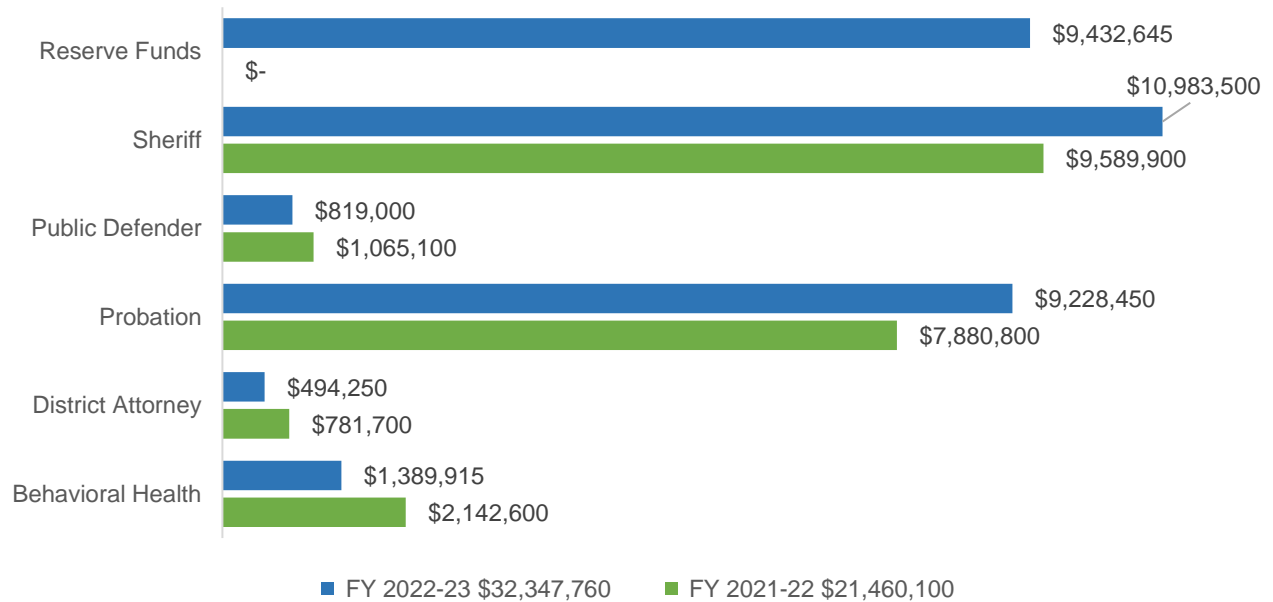
Goal	Evaluation of Victim Services
Objective	Complete an analysis of services available to victims of crime including types and utilization.
Objective	Develop a report of the findings based on the analysis of services and impact data in regard to victim services.
Outcome Measure	Identify trends, gaps in services, what is working and what is not working
Outcome Measure	Services Impact Report
Progress toward stated goal	Entered into a contract with EVALCORP to complete the analysis and report out the findings. The project launched in October 2022 and is on track to be completed in June 2023.

FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-23 Allocation Comparison

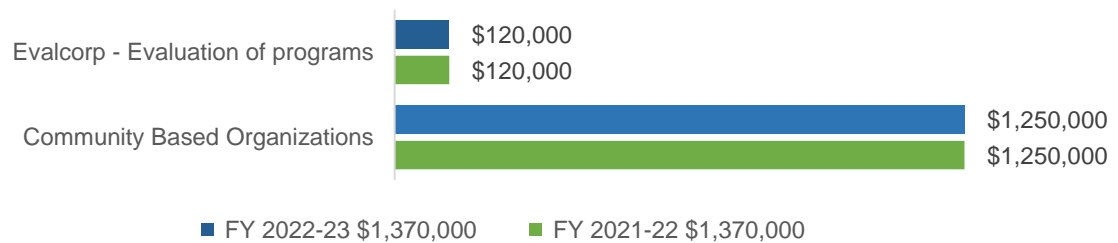
FY 21-22 and 22-23 Allocations



FY 21-22 and 22-23 Allocations to Public Agencies for Programs & Services



FY 21-22 and 22-23 Allocations to Non-Public Agencies for Programs & Services



Optional Questions

Describe the process the CCP uses to determine potential programs and/or services for local implementation using Realignment funds?

The Program Review and Development Subcommittee will review local data and evaluation materials to determine the need for innovative approaches and/or expansion of existing programs. Identifying existing gaps in services and approaches to address these areas are also a priority. The subcommittee will work with EVALCORP and/or IT Services to identify any program modifications.

Does the county evaluate the effectiveness (as defined locally) of programs and/or services funded with its Public Safety Realignment allocation?

Yes

If yes, how?

We use statistical information to measure outcomes and have partnered with EVALCORP to conduct efficacy studies on our programs and efforts. We also require that our Community Based Organization (CBO) partners collect data and present outcomes to ensure fidelity in their programming. Interface Children and Family Services (the lead agency of our Core Connection providers) hired an evaluator (Resource Development Associates) on their own to ensure the programs are utilizing evidence-based practices and are producing outcomes to reduce recidivism. The Program Review and Development Subcommittee are tasked with reviewing the current programs offered to the realignment population to determine if they are meeting the needs or if additional or different services are needed.

Does the county consider evaluation results when funding programs and/or services?

Yes

If yes, how?

As noted above, the county pays close attention to the evaluation results when looking to award or continue funding to CBOs to provide services. Our providers also understand the importance of data driven decisions and funding and have continued to provide the requested data and outcomes to the EVALCORP evaluator for analysis.

Does the county use BSCC definitions (average daily population, conviction, length of stay, recidivism, and/or treatment program completion rates) when collecting data?

Yes	No	
X		Average daily population
X		Conviction
X		Length of stay
X		Recidivism
X		Treatment program completion rates

What percentage of the Public Safety Realignment allocation is used for evidence-based programming (as defined locally)?

41% to 60%

We would like to better understand your county's capacity to offer mental health, substance use disorder, behavioral health treatment programs, and/or other services. What type and level of services are now available?

The Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) department in collaboration with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office (VSO), Probation, and the Superior Court offer an array of programming for those under post-release offender supervision (PROS/AB109). VCBH's Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP) employs three master's level clinicians who evaluate AB109 clients all referred by Probation. The clinicians are embedded in three probation offices (i.e., Ventura, Oxnard and Simi Valley). The purpose of the screenings is to determine whether clients would benefit from substance use treatment and/or behavioral health treatment, as well as, make recommendations for level of care for treatment interventions. VCBH contracts with community-based, substance use treatment providers to deliver the appropriate level of treatment. Residential treatment for women is provided by Prototypes. There have been no local residential treatment programs for men in the county since December 13, 2019. Efforts to bring a program locally have not yet been successful. County partners continue to develop strategies to address this gap in service. The average length of stay in residential treatment is 90 days. Alternative Action Program (AAP) provides outpatient, substance use treatment. VCBH clinicians can also provide overdose rescue kits (naloxone spray) to AB109 clients who suffer from opioid addiction.

In addition, VCBH, Probation and the VSO have an MOU in place to provide Vivitrol to AB109 clients who suffer from opioid addiction or severe alcohol related issues. The clients voluntarily agree to participate in the program while they are in custody. Probation previously was the lead agency MAT Champion for the Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) grant intended to expand the use of MAT in the jails for any client not just AB109 clients. This was a collaborative effort with representatives from VSO, Wellpath (jail custody healthcare), Interface Children and Family Services (ICFS), Alcohol Drug Programs, Probation and others. In Ventura County, the goal is to induct opioid addicted inmates on MAT, provide them treatment in custody, and have a treatment plan upon release with MAT supportive services and aftercare while in the community. Health Management Associates, VSO Inmate Services, ICFS and Probation are providing support and opportunities for clients both in custody and in the community. A second MAT grant was recently received and was used to fund a MAT coordinator position to act as the liaison between all agencies

and coordinate all MAT services. VSO has now taken the lead and has transitioned to the role of MAT Champion with intentions to expand the types of MAT services available in the jail.

To address behavioral health needs, VCBH contracts with Telecare Corporation whose clinical staff assess and provide specialty mental health services (i.e., psychiatric medication, rehabilitation, and case management) for those who exhibit symptoms of a serious mental illness and significant functional impairment. Two levels of behavioral health treatment have been delineated and differ in terms of the nature/frequency of treatment/contact. Telecare has the capacity for 15 clients with the higher-level need and 40 with the lower level need.

VCBH (in conjunction with Probation and the contracted providers) coordinates services and treatment when AB109 clients are receiving services from more than one provider at a time (e.g., substance use treatment from AAP and mental health treatment from Telecare). Typically, the nature and level of care evolves with the clients' recoveries.

For AB109 clients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse disorder, Reentry Court is a collaborative effort between the Court, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, VCBH, CBOs and Probation. The program provides intensive case management in the context of judicial authority and focuses on promoting stabilization and accountability in the client's life.

Since 2013, Probation has contracted with the Human Services Agency (HSA) to provide the Specialized Training and Employment Project for Success (STEPS). HSA provides an Employment Developer who conducts a job skills assessment, resume building, job skill training and creates an Employment Individual Plan for each client referred. An Employee Specialist then reaches out to employers to assist with job placement and retention for AB109 clients.

Since 2015, Probation has contracted with Interface Children and Family Services to provide a menu of services to the AB109 population. The most current CORE services are: Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Case Management, Trauma Services, Sober Housing and Specialized Treatment Services. Each client who is referred to CORE receives case management services. The Interface case managers work closely with the client and assigned probation officer to ensure success with program participation and completion. In 2021, the CCP agreed to the suggestion for Probation to assume responsibility of the CORE and contract directly with the providers for the services rather than paying Interface Children and Family Services to sub contract for all the services. The money saved by not contracting with Interface will be used for additional direct services to the clients.

Additionally, the Adult Resource and Reporting Center contracted with GEO Reentry Services provides Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Substance Abuse Treatment and Supervision services that include individually tailored program services for clients referred by probation. This program and services has been extended to AB 109 clients

What challenges does your county face in meeting these program and service needs?

Limited availability and capacity of residential treatment, detox services, and appropriate housing are some of the challenges VCBH encounters while operating these programs. The lack of residential treatment for men has greatly impacted the AB109 population, which

includes Reentry Court participants. Similarly, with behavioral health treatment, there are too few board and care facilities, privately owned businesses operating under licenses, providing 24/7 onsite staff, and dispensing medication. Additionally, Ventura County is challenged to provide adequate, sober living houses and other more independent living options. Because of this, the CBO's/case managers are routinely trying to find supportive environments for clients who are engaging in substance abuse treatment and working towards maintaining sobriety. Unfortunately, many of these alternative programs are located outside of Ventura County.

What programmatic changes and/or course corrections have you made in the implementation of Public Safety Realignment that you believe other counties would find helpful?

Based on data and program utilization, the CCP has allowed the CBO partners to reallocate funds to increase services to programs which have a greater population and need. CBO partners have essentially developed a menu of probation approved treatment services that meet individual specialized needs of the clients. For example, additional beds were secured for sober housing and domestic violence and sex offender program/treatment fees are being paid for if the client has the inability to pay for services. Because domestic violence classes and sex offender treatment are both court-ordered, clients who discontinue participation in these services could be found in violation. The fee assistance allows for their continued participation so they can receive the services they need while simultaneously allowing them to remain in compliance with their court ordered treatment terms.

Describe a local best practice or promising program that has produced positive results. If data exists to support the results, please share.

In August 2019, the Judicial Council of California (JCC) awarded Probation \$3.3 million to expand our existing Pre-Trial program as it had demonstrated favorable outcomes for over five years. Beginning October 6, 2019, with probation staff embedded in the jail, they began screening eligible defendants in the main jail booking area. From 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days per week, defendants are interviewed, screened using the Ohio Risk Assessment Screening-Pretrial Assessment Tool (ORAS-PAT) and the Ohio Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) and recommendations are made to the Court regarding their release. These screening tools assist the Court in deciding who may be released based on likelihood to appear for their court hearings and who is less likely to recidivate. While funding from the JCC program ended, funding from the state (SB 129) continues to fund the program.

Releasing lower level defendants on Pretrial monitoring frees jail space for more serious, higher risk offenders. The defendants are released from custody on Pretrial monitoring and report to probation for check-in appointments each week. They are eligible to receive services at the RRC and some are given drug and alcohol testing terms. This program was expanded to seven days a week when Ventura County was selected to participate in the Judicial Council of California's Pretrial Pilot Program.

Additionally, two probation officers are embedded in the jail with the sole purpose of meeting with the AB109 population. These officers have frequent communication with the assigned supervision officer. The officers in the jails have assisted with program referrals for clients for those who may have previously refused to participate or were out to warrant. Program referrals from the jail allows some of the CBO staff to begin meeting with the clients while they are in custody. This allows for them to develop a rapport; they can begin providing

services to them in custody and it assists with the client's reentry to the community upon their release.