



**City of Corning Proposition 47 Grant Program
Two-Year Preliminary Evaluation Report**

Executive Summary

WORKING AS INTENDED

The City of Corning Restore project is working as intended, which was to address the needs of Tehama County juveniles ages 12-18 who are arrested, charged with, and/or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony and who have mental health and/or substance abuse disorders. The Michigan State Restorative Justice approach has been fully implemented and is effectively addressing juvenile misconduct by focusing on healing rather than on punishment. Each participant is assigned a Probation Officer, Case Coordinator, an Advocate/Mentor, a Therapist, and the involvement of participant’s family members and school officials who work collaboratively to achieve healing.

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

The project is on track to meet its target, serving 25 additional youth along with the original number of 15 who were part of Restore at implementation of the Prop 47 funded project. The recidivism rate was 25% for youth in Tehama County prior to the Prop 47 Restore project and is at 3% for Restore youth who have completed the Program at the time of this report.

Restore has established and maintained effective relationships with law enforcement agencies, in particular with the Tehama County Probation department that works in close relationship with Restore in the referral process. Probation also provides support for administering the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS). There is now more consistent buy-in by School Resource Officers for how they can collaborate with Restore to provide referrals.

An efficient process for Advocate fingerprinting has also been established with the assistance of local law enforcement agencies. The recruitment and training protocol for advocates is working smoothly conducted by the Case Coordinators.

PROGRESS TOWARDS INTENDED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The table below displays the Restore goals, operationally defined objectives, and the progress toward meeting the intended goals and objectives. The table also includes proposed changes to objectives with strikethrough font formatting.

Table 1: Goals/Objective Operational Definitions/Progress

Goal/Objective	Progress
<i>Goal 1: The recidivism rate among juvenile offenders participating in RESTORE will decrease.</i>	Goal 1 has been met and maintained since Restore was initiated.
<i>Objective 1: By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not commit a criminal offense as measured by police arrest and/or juvenile probation records.</i>	Objective 1 has been met and maintained since Restore was initiated. The project “hit the ground running” and has been successful in decreasing the rate of recidivism for the targeted population. The current Restore recidivism rate is 3% at time of this report, while the current county-wide rate is over 40%.

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<p><i>Goal 2: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable mental disorders will have higher levels of functioning and less anti-social behaviors.</i></p>	<p>Goal 2 is partially met through information garnered from focus group interviews of therapists.</p>
<p><i>Objective 2: By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will self-report higher levels of functioning and pro-social behaviors as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) therapist pre-post structured clinical interviews.</i></p>	<p>Objective 2 was difficult to ascertain using the JAIS because it is limited to determining a youth’s level of risk to re-offend, but it does not provide data on functioning and less anti-social behaviors.</p> <p>Focus group interviews of therapists indicate that youth self-report higher levels of functioning and pro-social behaviors.</p> <p>Therapist pre-post structured clinical interviews are now being used to address this objective. The data set is currently too small to measure goal achievement.</p>
<p><i>Goal 3: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable substance abuse disorder will no longer use illegal drugs and alcohol.</i></p>	<p>Goal 2 has been met and maintained since Restore was initiated.</p>
<p><i>Objective 3: By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not self-report using illegal drugs and/or alcohol as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) substance abuse treatment data.</i></p>	<p>Objective 3 was difficult to ascertain using the JAIS because it is limited to determining a youth’s level of risk to re-offend, but it does not provide data on substance abuse.</p> <p>The objective has been met by requiring Restore juvenile offenders with diagnosable substance abuse disorders to participate in a drug and alcohol treatment program as a condition for program completion.</p>

PROBLEMS/BARRIERS

Transportation can be a significant barrier in a rural region such as Tehama County. It was initially a problem that has been mostly mitigated by having the services, including counseling, conducted at the youth’s schools. Additionally, case coordinators, youth advocates, drug and alcohol counselors, and probation officers frequently provide transportation for youth to services.

The prohibition on the provision of food with Prop 47 funds continues to be a barrier for youth activities in general as well as family outreach activities specifically. Food is an important



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component to increase the participation rate for teenagers and their family members. Additionally, youth events are often scheduled during normal meal times and include Restore Advocates and Case Managers. The cost for food is an out-of-pocket expense that remains a major barrier.

The project initially had some difficulty recruiting enough mentors for the number of enrolled youths, but currently has a pool of mentors ready to participate. The issue was successfully resolved through the work of Restore Case Coordinators who conduct ongoing recruitment activities at community-based organizations and higher education institutions.

There was also a need early on to effectively communicate with law enforcement agencies how they could participate in making referrals to Restore, which was accomplished through multiple meetings with law enforcement decision-makers and Restore leadership.

The project initially utilized the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) to measure youth functioning and anti-social behaviors. Tehama County Probation uses the JAIS and Restore decided to train a Case Coordinator to administer the JAIS to replace the YLS/CMI and reduce what seemed to be a duplication of screening of youth. It was subsequently discovered that the JAIS did measure the level of risk to re-offend but did not effectively measure youth functioning or anti-social behaviors; therefore, the project now uses therapist structured clinical interviews conducted for each participant to design treatment plans and to measure pre-post functioning and anti-social behaviors.

Project Description

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Tehama County RESTORE Program is an adolescent diversion program that integrates the Michigan State's Adolescent Diversion Program with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and evidence-based drug treatment services with coordinated case management services focused on housing, education, and employment. RESTORE leverages federal, state, regional, and local resources to target arrested, charged with, and/or convicted adolescents with criminal offenses and a history of mental health issues and/or substance use disorders. RESTORE is designed to serve 50 juvenile offenders throughout Tehama County per year. Youth risk and needs are assessed through Therapist structured interviews and the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) for case planning and to measure recidivism. Therapist Structured Interview data measures functioning and anti-social behaviors.

METHODOLOGY

RESTORE utilizes a quasi-experimental model with non-equivalent group design. The evaluation will determine program impact by comparing reliability-corrected pre-program measures to post-program measures of recidivism, functioning, and illegal substance use.

Outcome data are shared quarterly with the RESTORE Advisory Committee. Stakeholders and constituents are provided regular updates on program outcomes through the RESTORE Continuous Improvement Subcommittee, which is comprised of constituents including program participants and community stakeholders. The subcommittee's primary role is to review program services and make evidence-based recommendations for the continuous improvement



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of the project so that it is more responsive to participants' needs. Stakeholders and constituents also use outcome data and other evaluation findings to identify the extent to which the project is making progress toward meeting goals and objectives. Reports detailing the project's progress toward meeting its goals will be updated regularly on the RESTORE website.

The outcome measures are quantifiable and match Proposition 47's intent to make measurable improvements in juvenile recidivism, mental health and substance abuse. Additionally, RESTORE engages in ongoing process evaluation activities. The process measures include: a) an analysis of the fidelity of the RESTORE 18-week program timeline; b) an analysis of the JAIS risk/needs assessments; c) and analysis of therapist pre-post structured clinical interviews; and d) review of RESTORE Data System client-level data.

Project Performance

MODIFICATIONS

The only modification has been the addition of collecting therapist pre-post structured interview data to help measure Goal 2/Objective 2.

PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING GOALS

Goal 1: The recidivism rate among juvenile offenders participating in RESTORE will decrease.

The key factors which resulted in achieving Goal 1 are: 1) ongoing monitoring by Probation Officers and Case Coordinators, and 2) changes in attitudes towards school, increase in pro-social behavior and functioning.

Goal 2: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable mental disorders will have higher levels of functioning and less anti-social behaviors.

The key factors which resulted in achieving Goal 2 are the therapy sessions that directly impact increases in pro-social behavior and functioning. The data collected to date has been qualitative; however, Restore has begun collecting quantitative data from therapist pre-post structured interviews to help measure the objective for this goal.

Goal 3: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable substance abuse disorder will no longer use illegal drugs and alcohol.

The key factor which resulted in achieving Goal 3 is the targeted substance use counseling provided by the Tehama County Health Services Agency Drug and Alcohol program. In order for Restore youth to successfully complete substance use counseling, they must be able to self-report at that they have been drug and alcohol free for least 30 days.



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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

There have been 91 unduplicated referrals to Restore as of June 30, 2019, of which 69 completed the intake process, 37 are currently enrolled in the program, and 32 have successfully completed the program.

RECIDIVISM

Recidivism for Restore is defined as “conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody or committed within three years of placement on supervision for a previous criminal conviction (PC Sec. 6046.2(d)). "Committed" refers to the date of the offense, not the date of conviction.”

The project has been successful in decreasing the rate of juvenile recidivism for the targeted population. The current Restore recidivism rate is 3% at time of this report, while the current Tehama County-wide juvenile rate is over 40%.



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Table 2: Logic Model

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Process Measures	Outcomes	Impact
<p>BCSS Proposition 47 Grant Funding</p> <p>City of Corning In-kind Funding</p> <p>CBO In-kind Funding</p>	<p>RESTORE Advocate Training</p> <p>RESTORE Adolescent Diversion Program</p> <p>Mental Health Services</p> <p>Substance Use Treatment</p> <p>Interagency Case Management (Housing, Education, Employment, Legal)</p>	<p>RESTORE Program Graduates</p>	<p><u>Objective 1:</u> By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not commit a criminal offense as measured by police arrest and/or juvenile probation records.</p> <p><u>Objective 2:</u> By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will self-report higher levels of functioning and pro-social behaviors as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) therapist pre-post structured clinical interviews.</p> <p><u>Objective 3:</u> By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not self-report using illegal drugs and/or alcohol as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) substance abuse treatment data</p>	<p><u>Goal 1:</u> The recidivism rate among juvenile offenders participating in RESTORE will decrease.</p> <p><u>Goal 2:</u> Juvenile offenders with diagnosable mental disorders will have higher levels of functioning and less anti-social behaviors.</p> <p><u>Goal 3:</u> Juvenile offenders with diagnosable substance abuse disorder will no longer use illegal drugs and alcohol.</p>	<p>Reduction of illegal substance abuse</p> <p>Higher levels of juvenile functioning behavior in the community</p> <p>Change the culture of incarceration of juvenile offenders</p> <p>Change and improve the lives of RESTORE participants</p>