



Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)  
Closing the Circle Program (CTC)  
Final Local Evaluation Report  
Prepared by Logan Robertson, Ph.D.  
January 2019

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

**Table of Contents**

Program Description .....3  
    Program Strategy.....3  
    Partners .....4  
Program Evaluation .....5  
    Overall Program Coordination.....5  
    Law Enforcement Activities .....6  
    Prevention and Education Activities.....6  
Goals and Objectives.....7  
    Discussion of Goals .....7  
    Discussion of Objectives .....7  
        Law Enforcement .....7  
        Prevention and Education .....8  
Summary and Recommendations .....10  
Appendices.....11  
    1. CAST participant surveys .....11  
    2. Second Step participant survey excerpt .....14  
    3. Three-Year JAG Strategy .....16

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

## **Program Description**

The Tulare County Closing the Circle (CTC) Program was funded by The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (42 U.S. Code §3751(a)), which is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. From 2012-2014, the California Board of State and Community Corrections engaged in a comprehensive planning process, resulting in a strategy that maintains law enforcement programs as a priority, while placing an equal emphasis on prevention and education programs, as well as on court, prosecution and defense strategies.

## **Program Strategy**

The centerpiece of Tulare County's 3-year JAG/CTC Strategy was the Prevention and Education component: the coordinated implementation of two evidence-based curricula at several middle schools and court-and-community schools throughout the county. The project coordinator was housed at the Tulare County Office of Education. Two social workers, housed at the Tulare County Public Defender's Office, collaborated with the County Office of Education, Tulare County Sheriff's Office, Farmersville and Exeter Police Departments, and local non-profits to provide ongoing case management for participating youth and their families.

The first evidence-based curriculum was Second Step, a social-skills program that teaches socio-emotional skills to help children reduce impulsive and aggressive behavior while increasing social competence. The program includes both student lessons and parent training. Participants in Second Step learn to identify and understand their own and others' emotions, reduce impulsiveness, choose positive goals, and manage their emotional reactions. The 6th through 9th grade curriculum includes 15 lessons in Year One and eight lessons in the following two years. In each grant year, Second Step was implemented with a new cohort of students at Farmersville Junior High School, Earlimart Middle School, Wilson Middle School, and Mid County Community School. Prior year graduates of the program were incorporated as mentors/aides. Partner ProYouth wrapped the Second Step curriculum into a program called "Insight", which uses photography and writing to further socio-emotional goals of the primary program.

The second evidence-based curriculum of Tulare County's JAG/CTC Strategy was Coping and Support Training (CAST). CAST was chosen to complement Second Step because it is designed to serve a population of youth who have been identified as being in need of more intensive intervention. Participants in CAST learn life-skills training and social support in a small-group format (6-8 students per group). The curriculum includes 12 group sessions administered over 6 weeks by trained staff. CAST has three primary goals: increased mood management (depression and anger), improved school performance, and decreased drug involvement. In each year of the grant, CAST was implemented through the after-school programs at

## **Closing the Circle Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant Final Local Evaluation**

Farmersville Junior High School, Earlimart Middle School, Wilson Middle School in Exeter, and Mid County Community School, which is run by the Tulare County Office of Education.

The Suppression component complemented the Prevention and Education component. A law enforcement task force conducted crime abatement sweeps in attendance areas of participant schools in the Prevention and Education component. The crime analyst prepared crime maps of these target communities to guide the task force. Hot-spot policing techniques have also been utilized. A baseline of criminal activity, broken down by age, type, and other categories, has been established in Year One, and reduction objectives in key categories for Years 2 and 3. Law enforcement also provided support for the Prevention and Education component in target communities.

### **Partners**

**Tulare County Sheriff's Office:** The Tulare County Sheriff's Office was the fiscal agent and lead organization.

**Tulare County Office of Education:** The Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) housed the JAG/CTC Project Coordinator, and was responsible for the implementation of the Prevention and Education component. TCOE also had a voting role on the JAG Steering Committee.

**Tulare County Public Defender's Office:** The Tulare County Public Defender's Office housed the two social workers who provided ongoing support, follow up, and resource and referral services for JAG/CTC program participants. The Public Defender's Office also had a voting role on the JAG Steering Committee.

**ProYouth:** ProYouth, a Tulare County based non-profit whose mission is to help youth succeed academically, socially, and emotionally by providing a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment during out-of-school time, was responsible for the implementation of the Second Step and "Insight" curricula. ProYouth also had a voting role on the JAG Steering Committee.

**Exeter Police Department:** The Exeter Police Department is the law enforcement agency for the City of Exeter. The Department had a voting role on the JAG Steering Committee, and provided one police officer for the crime suppression task force. Additionally, the Department supported the Prevention and Education component in Exeter.

**Farmersville Police Department:** The Farmersville Police Department is the law enforcement agency for the City of Farmersville. The Department had a voting role on the JAG Steering Committee, and provided one police officer for the crime suppression task force. Additionally, the Department supported the Prevention and Education component in Farmersville.

## Closing the Circle

### Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant

### Final Local Evaluation

**Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency:** The Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) had a voting role on the JAG Steering Committee, and coordinated existing programs with the activities proposed under the JAG/CTC program. HHSA was also able to provide funding through its Children of Promise program to implement CAST and Second Step in schools not targeted by the JAG grant.

Other partners involved in the planning of the JAG/CTC strategy were the Tulare County Probation Department, the Tulare County District Attorney, and Community Services Employment Training, but these entities declined to participate on the Steering Committee.

## Program Evaluation

The purpose of the process evaluation is to analyze the implementation process and determine how successfully the JAG/CTC project followed the strategy. This section will focus on three aspects of the project implementation: overall program coordination, law enforcement activities, and prevention and education activities.

### Overall Program Coordination

The JAG/CTC Project Coordinator (TCOE) held regular monthly Partner Meetings throughout the regular grant period, followed by the JAG Steering Committee meeting. The initial plan called for the Tulare County JAG Steering Committee to be chaired by a representative of the Sheriff's Office, but because of frequent shifts in high-level officers assigned to the grant, the Steering Committee was primarily chaired by the TCOE Program Coordinator. The TCSO Fiscal Analyst and outside grant evaluator were also regularly present at JAG/CTC meetings.

Partner Meetings included updates from staff on all JAG/CTC activities, as well as opportunities to develop and streamline communication between the partner organizations. Steering Committee meetings included action items requiring formal discussion and approval, such as budget modifications and continuation grant applications, and grant extensions. Because the JAG Steering Committee meetings were scheduled to occur after the monthly Partner Meeting, the Steering Committee always exceeded the grant requirement for quarterly meetings, but the members of this body expressed that that the more regular meetings allowed them to be more responsive to the needs of the program.

These regular meetings also facilitated strong and positive communication between the partners, enabling them to address such challenges as organizing the sharing of information and referral process between partners, devising a single format to communicate with schools and other grant beneficiaries, and maximizing the value of the time spent in collaborative discussion.

During the extension year (2018), program coordination shifted to another individual within the Tulare County Office of Education, with minimal impact to the JAG/CTC program. The

## **Closing the Circle**

### **Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant**

### **Final Local Evaluation**

regular meeting schedule also shifted during the extension year, with primary participation only among partners who were spending down JAG funding.

#### **Law Enforcement Activities**

The Tulare County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) assembled a task force including each of the law enforcement partners (TCSO, Exeter Police Department, Farmersville Police Department). The members of this task force worked closely together to conduct crime abatement sweeps and investigations in each of the focal communities of the grant (Earlimart, Exeter, and Farmersville) throughout the three years of the grant.

TCSO has also hired a crime analyst to collect data on the work of the task force and criminal activity in each of the communities. The work of the crime analyst enabled the Sheriff's Office to collect data on gang crimes, drug crimes, and gun violence in the target areas.

#### **Prevention and Education Activities**

The Prevention and Education partners worked together to implement the activities outlined in the JAG/CTC strategy. Through the JAG grant, the Public Defender's Office hired two full-time social workers, who collaborated with staff from ProYouth, Tulare County Office of Education, and the three law enforcement agencies to support the program participants, their families, schools, and communities. The Tulare County Office of Education carried out the CAST curriculum. In addition to the Second Step curriculum, which was linked to particular outcome objectives in the JAG/CTC Strategy, ProYouth also implemented the "Insight" curriculum at the JAG/CTC program sites, which provided an enriching opportunity for creative expression through photography.

Both the CAST and Second Step curricula consistently exceeded their overall yearly participation targets, due to the coordinated efforts of the JAG/CTC partners.

## Goals and Objectives

### Discussion of Goals

The Tulare County JAG/CTC strategy has three overarching goals, all of which were met by the collaborating partners:

*Goal 1: Multi-agency coordination of Prevention and Education efforts*

The JAG/CTC Partners worked over the three-year period to coordinate efforts across their multiple agencies. One initial challenge was communication between JAG/CTC and the focal communities, but partners were able to streamline communication as the program grew. The development of the alternative sentencing program by Exeter Police Department and Tulare County Office of Education was perhaps the strongest example of multi-agency coordination of Prevention and Education efforts, but JAG activities in all the focal communities and schools met this goal.

*Goal 2: Address negative youth behaviors by providing a spectrum of services*

The participation/completion numbers in the CAST and Second Step curricula indicate that the program helped youth in target communities become connected with other services through their contact with the JAG/CTC social workers and prevention and education staff.

*Goal 3: Promote public safety by encouraging youth to avoid gang activity, delinquency, substance abuse, and violence*

Youth participants in the program showed improvement on the outcome measures, and adults on the school site noted an improvement in participating youth, which contributes to an overall positive effect on school climate.

### Discussion of Objectives

#### Law Enforcement

The objectives of the JAG/CTC Law Enforcement component were to reduce gang crime, drug crime, and gun violence in the attendance areas of the targeted communities. Data reported for to the evaluator was based upon task force activity, rather than total data for the targeted geographic area, which perhaps makes it a better indicator for task force activity than crime in the community. Drawing regular patterns in such a small data set is also a challenge. However, according to JAG/CTC law enforcement partners, the work of the task force made a positive impact in reducing overall crime in the focal communities.

	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
--	----------	----------	------------

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

<b>Objective</b>	Earlimart	Exeter	Farmersville	Earlimart	Exeter	Farmersville	Earlimart	Exeter	Farmersville
Gang violence will be reduced (gang members arrested)	24	26	34	68 (increase)	23 (decrease)	18 (decrease)	19 (decrease)	9 (decrease)	3 (decrease)
Drug crimes will be reduced (drug related felonies or misdemeanors)	6	3	8	27 (increase)	6 (increase)	0 (decrease)	18 (decrease)	14 (increase)	6 (increase)
Gun violence will be reduced (number of individuals charged with firearms crimes)	0	5	5	1 (increase)	0 (decrease)	1 (decrease)	0 (decrease)	0 (same)	0 (decrease)

**Prevention and Education**

The Tulare County JAG/CTC Prevention and Education strategy had four primary objectives, as outlined below. Under each primary objective, specific measurable targets are described:

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Outcome variables</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
1. Decrease negative behaviors among youth at participating schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) School attendance, behavior, and academic performance of program participants, as compared to the prior year (before program participation).</li> <li>b) Pre- and post surveys for Second Step and CAST</li> <li>c) Number of law enforcement contacts with youth and families who have completed CAST and Second Step</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) School attendance, behavior, and academic performance will improve year-to-year for program participants</li> <li>b) Pre- and post surveys will indicate improvements in the desired behaviors and skills</li> <li>c) Law enforcement will have fewer contacts with youth and families who have completed the curricula</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved</li> <li>b) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved</li> <li>c) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved</li> </ul>
2. Decrease the number of gang-exposed youth, ages 12-14, who become active gang members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Participation in other youth programs after completion of CAST curriculum (per follow up by social worker.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Youth who complete will participate in at least one other youth program in the year following their participation in CAST</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Analysis of data indicates that this outcome was partially achieved</li> </ul>



**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

<p>3. Increase the number of youth who terminate negative behaviors and begin the transition to successful adulthood.</p>	<p>a) Self and family reported decreases or in negative behaviors (gang activity, delinquency, drugs, etc.), for youth who complete CAST curriculum b) School reported decreases in same negative behaviors</p>	<p>a) Youth who complete curriculum will decrease negative behaviors (self and family reports) b) Youth who complete curriculum will decrease negative behaviors (school report)</p>	<p>a) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved b) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved</p>
<p>4. Develop and sustain strong coordination and collaboration between new and existing primary prevention activities, focused prevention and intervention programs, and law enforcement activities.</p>	<p>a) School site surveys on preparedness to deal with gang activity, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, and school violence. b) Partner survey of community-based officers in the targeted communities/schools. c) Partner survey on collaboration on prevention, intervention, and suppression activities.</p>	<p>a) Schools will be more prepared to deal with gang activity, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, and school violence b) Community-based officers will be better prepared (self-report) to implement community policing strategies c) Partner organizations will implement a more coordinated strategy for prevention, intervention, and suppression.</p>	<p>a) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved, though may be influenced by other programs, factors, etc. b) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved c) Analysis of data indicates this outcome was achieved</p>

## Summary and Recommendations

The final evaluation of the Tulare County JAG/CTC Strategy suggest that the partners worked together to implement the activities as outlined in the strategy, as well as leveraged their resources to better serve program participants, schools, and communities.

The following recommendations may assist the JAG/CTC partners as they strive toward further progress on the goals and objectives outlined in this grant:

1. Continued coordination and collaboration between partner agencies: The coordination and collaboration between the partner agencies was the most critical component of the success of the Tulare County JAG/CTC program. By building upon their current efforts as they move forward, the partners will ensure the continued success of the strategies, as well as facilitate the integration of the JAG/CTC strategies into other countywide efforts and future grant applications.
2. Continued resource development: The partners of the JAG/CTC can build upon the success of their efforts to seek other funding, where appropriate, and to leverage funding available to individual agencies to benefit other partners, Tulare Count communities, and the county as a whole.

Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation

## Appendices

### 1. CAST participant surveys

Pre and Post

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. I can decide what options are good or bad for me.	1	2	3	4	5
2. When I have decided on an option or plan, I can follow through on it.	1	2	3	4	5
3. When I get off track in meeting my goal, I can get back on track.	1	2	3	4	5
4. I feel confident that I can handle my personal problems.	1	2	3	4	5
5. I feel capable and in control of my life.	1	2	3	4	5
6. I know what makes me worried, angry, or depressed.	1	2	3	4	5
7. I can control unhelpful thoughts or hurtful ideas.	1	2	3	4	5
8. I can control my anger.	1	2	3	4	5
9. In the last 30 days I have often felt stressed.	1	2	3	4	5
10. In the last 30 days I have often felt angry.	1	2	3	4	5
11. In the last 30 days I have been feeling depressed.	1	2	3	4	5
12. In the last 30 days I have been feeling hopeless or helpless.	1	2	3	4	5
13. In the last 30 days I have had suicidal thoughts.	Yes		No		
14. I can say no to peer pressure to drink alcohol or use drugs.	1	2	3	4	5
15. I can recognize bad situations where there will be smoking or use of alcohol or other drugs.	1	2	3	4	5
16. I have skills that I use to say no to using alcohol or drugs when I am tempted.	1	2	3	4	5
17. I can track my progress in using drugs less or in not using drugs.	1	2	3	4	5
18. I often hang out with friends while they are drinking alcohol or using drugs.	1	2	3	4	5
19. I often hang out with friends while they are breaking the law.	1	2	3	4	5
20. I believe that drinking alcohol is bad for me.	1	2	3	4	5
21. I believe that using drugs is bad for me.	1	2	3	4	5
<b>In the past month my alcohol or drug use has ...</b>					
22. ... had a bad effect on my relationships with my family members.	1	2	3	4	5
23. ... had a bad effect on my relationships with people my own age.	1	2	3	4	5
24. ... gotten me in trouble with law enforcement (police, sheriff).	1	2	3	4	5
25. I have a positive attitude about myself.	1	2	3	4	5
26. I feel a positive connection to some of my teachers or other adults at my school.	1	2	3	4	5
27. I feel a positive connection to some students at my school.	1	2	3	4	5
28. I feel that I am part of my school.	1	2	3	4	5

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

<p><u>Pre and post</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">During the <u>past 30 days</u>, how many days did you use ...</p>	0 days	1 day	2 days	3 to 9 days	10 to 19 days	20 to 30 days
---	--------	-------	--------	-------------	---------------	---------------

1. Tobacco or nicotine (cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, vaping nicotine)?	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30
2. Alcohol (beer, wine, liquor)?	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30
3. Marijuana (weed, chronic, herb, hash, bomb, bud, vaping marijuana)?	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30
4. Cocaine (coke, crack)?	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30
5. Narcotics (opiates, heroin, morphine)?	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30
6. Methamphetamine (meth, speed, crystal, crank, ice)?	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30
7. Prescription medicines <u>not</u> prescribed to you by a doctor, <i>to get "high" or "stoned"</i> (such as Vicodin, OxyContin, Percodan, Ritalin, Adderall)	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30
8. Over-the-counter drugs (Dexatrim or other diet pills, NoDoz, NyQuil)? <i>Only if you use these when you're not sick.</i>	0	1	2	3-9	10-19	20-30

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

**Post only**

1. Has Coping and Support Trainings (CAST) helped you with ... ?

	Yes	No
School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug Use Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mood Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. If you answered "Yes," **how much** of a positive change has CAST helped to make in you?

	A lot	Somewhat	A little
School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug Use Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mood Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Can you describe or give examples of any positive changes in yourself that CAST helped you make (such as in school attendance or behavior, grades, drug use, mood management, or any other areas)?

4. What about CAST did you find very helpful?

Please check each item you found very helpful and describe how it helped you:

Check-in: \_\_\_\_\_

Helping you feel better about yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Helping you manage your moods (STEPS): \_\_\_\_\_

Helping you make better decisions: \_\_\_\_\_

Helping you with self-control: \_\_\_\_\_

Helping you with alcohol or other drug use or non-use: \_\_\_\_\_

Helping you set goals (mini goals): \_\_\_\_\_

Helping you communicate better with others: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Are there any ways your CAST experience could have been better? (If so, please describe.)

2. Second Step participant survey excerpt



[www.secondstep.org](http://www.secondstep.org)

## Grade 7 Summative Knowledge Assessment

---

### Instructions

1. Read the situation (in bold type).
2. Answer the questions in the box by doing the following:
  - Imagine this situation is really happening to you.
  - Think about all the skills you have learned in the Stepping In program.
  - Explain in detail how you could use these skills to handle the situation in a positive way.

One point will be awarded for each acceptable action, skill, or concept you include in your answers. Write down as many things as you can think of.

### **Situation 1: Alcohol and the Teen Brain Project**

**In health class, you have been assigned to work with a partner on a project about the effects of alcohol on the teen brain. You and your partner Jared have very different ideas about how you should do the project.**

Explain at least two things you can do to handle this disagreement in a positive way.

---

---

---

---

---



You finally agree on a plan together. You decide to start the research in the library during lunchtime. You wait for Jared to come. He does not show up. You start to feel angry at him because you have wasted your whole lunchtime waiting. You mutter mean things about Jared under your breath as you go to class. You tell yourself he just doesn't care about doing a good job on the project. You find yourself getting angrier and angrier.

Explain at least two things you can do to manage your anger and stay in control.

---

---

---

---

---

What can you say to yourself?

---

---

---

You see Jared in the hallway at the end of the school day, and you know you need to say or do something.

Explain at least two things you could do to handle the situation in a positive way.

---

---

---

---

---

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

**3. Three-Year JAG Strategy**

**Year One: March 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015**

**JAG Program Purpose Area: Prevention and Education Programs**

Areas of Need: Gang Initiatives, Juvenile Delinquency, Substance Abuse, School Violence

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Multi-agency training on Second Step curriculum	Tulare County Office of Education	Staff from all partner organizations will be trained in implementation of the Second Step Curriculum	Attendance roster from training session(s)	March 1-July 30, 2015 (roster collected after training)
Multi-agency training on Coping and Support Training (CAST) curriculum	Tulare County Office of Education	Staff from all partner organizations will be trained in implementation of the Second Step Curriculum	Attendance roster from training session(s)	March 1-July 30, 2015 (roster collected after training)
Second Step Curriculum implementation in Farmersville Middle School	ProYouth HEART, in collaboration with Farmersville Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	June 1-December 31, 2015 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post-surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Second Step Curriculum implementation in Exeter Middle School	In collaboration with Exeter Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	June 1-December 31, 2015 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post-surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Second Step Curriculum implementation in Earlimart Middle School	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	June 1-December 31, 2015 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post-surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
CAST implementation in Farmersville Middle School	ProYouth HEART, in collaboration with Farmersville Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	June 1-December 31, 2015 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post-surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)



**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
CAST implementation in Exeter Middle School	In collaboration with Exeter Police Department	1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum 2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	June 1-December 31, 2015 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post-surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
CAST implementation in Earlimart Middle School	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum 2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	June 1-December 31, 2015 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post-surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
CAST implementation in Mid-County Court and Community School	Tulare County Office of Education	1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum 2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	June 1-December 31, 2015 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post-surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Ongoing follow up with indicated youth by social worker	Tulare County Public Defender's Office	All youth who are referred to the CAST program will participate in at least one follow up meeting with the social worker, and will be referred to other services as needed	Record of meetings with youth and families; record of referrals to services	June 1-December 31, 2015 (records collected monthly)

**JAG Program Purpose Area: Law Enforcement Programs**

Area of Need: Gang Violence Reduction, Drug Enforcement, Gun Violence Reduction

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Gang crime and membership (data collection)	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Baseline for gang crimes and gang membership in target school attendance areas	Data collection by crime analyst	March 1-December 31, 2015: Develop baseline of gang membership and gang crimes in target school attendance areas.
Drug crime (data collection)	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Baseline for drug crimes in target school attendance areas	Data collection by crime analyst	March 1-December 31, 2015: Develop baseline of drug crimes in target school attendance areas.
Gun violence (data collection)	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Baseline of gun violence in target school attendance areas.	Data collection by project crime analyst.	March 1-December 31, 2015: Develop baseline of gun violence data in target school attendance areas.

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

**Three-Year JAG Strategy for County of Tulare**

**Year Two: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016**

**JAG Program Purpose Area: Prevention and Education Programs**

Areas of Need: Gang Initiatives, Juvenile Delinquency, Substance Abuse, School Violence

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Continued Second Step Curriculum implementation in Farmersville Middle School	ProYouth HEART, in collaboration with Farmersville Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued Second Step Curriculum implementation in Exeter Middle School	ProYouth HEART in collaboration with Exeter Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued Second Step Curriculum implementation in Earlimart Middle School	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued CAST implementation in Farmersville Middle School	ProYouth HEART, in collaboration with Farmersville Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued CAST implementation in Exeter Middle School	In collaboration with Exeter Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued CAST implementation in Earlimart Middle School	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Continued CAST implementation in Mid-County Court and Community School	Tulare County Office of Education	1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum 2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Expansion of Second Step Curriculum to at least 3 other middle schools	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	1. 20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum 2. Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	August 1, 2016-December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Expansion of CAST Curriculum to at least 3 other middle schools	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum 2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	August 1, 2016-December 31, 2016 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Ongoing follow up with indicated youth by social worker	Tulare County Public Defender's Office	3. All youth who are referred to the CAST program will participate in at least one follow up meeting with the social worker, and will be referred to other services as needed	Record of meetings with youth and families; record of referrals to services	June 1-December 30, 2016 (records collected monthly)

**JAG Program Purpose Area: Law Enforcement Programs**

Area of Need: Gang Violence Reduction, Drug Enforcement, Gun Violence Reduction

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Gang sweeps	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Gang violence will be reduced	Records of sweeps and gang related arrests	January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016: Reduce gang crimes and membership by 10% over annualized rate from baseline period.
Drug sweeps	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Drug crimes will be reduced	Records of sweeps and drug related arrests	January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016: Reduce drug crimes by 10% over annualized rate from baseline period.
Gun violence arrests	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Gun violence will be reduced	Records of arrests in crimes featuring gun violence	January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016: Reduce gun violence by 10% over annualized rate from baseline period.

Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation

**Three-Year JAG Strategy for County of Tulare**

**Year Three: January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017**

**JAG Program Purpose Area: Prevention and Education Programs**

Areas of Need: Gang Initiatives, Juvenile Delinquency, Substance Abuse, School Violence

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Continued Second Step Curriculum implementation in Farmersville Middle School	ProYouth HEART, in collaboration with Farmersville Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued Second Step Curriculum implementation in Exeter Middle School	ProYouth HEART in collaboration with Exeter Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued Second Step Curriculum implementation in Earlimart Middle School	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued CAST implementation in Farmersville Middle School	ProYouth HEART, in collaboration with Farmersville Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Continued CAST implementation in Exeter Middle School	ProYouth HEART in collaboration with Exeter Police Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued CAST implementation in Earlimart Middle School	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued CAST implementation in Mid-County Court and Community School	Tulare County Office of Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued implementation of Second Step Curriculum at middle schools where program began in Year 2	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> <li>2. Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Continued implementation of CAST Curriculum middle schools where program began in Year 2	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum</li> <li>2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Expansion of Second Step Curriculum to other Tulare County schools (all sites to be sustained with other	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 20 students will participate in the Second Step Curriculum</li> </ol>	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student	August 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and

**Closing the Circle  
Tulare County Justice Assistance Grant  
Final Local Evaluation**

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
resources after end of 3 year JAG funding)	Tulare County Sheriff Department	2. Students who participate in the Second Step Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	surveys, attendance rosters	post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Expansion of CAST Curriculum to other Tulare County schools (all sites to be sustained with other resources after end of 3 year JAG funding)	Tulare County Office of Education CHOICES Program, in collaboration with Tulare County Sheriff Department	1. 10 students will complete the CAST Curriculum 2. Students who complete the CAST Curriculum will show improvement in the indicated areas	Lesson plans, pre- and post- student surveys, attendance rosters	August 1 - December 31, 2017 (lesson plans and rosters collected monthly, pre- and post- surveys collected at beginning and end of curriculum)
Ongoing follow up with indicated youth by social worker	Tulare County Public Defender's Office	1. All youth who are referred to the CAST program will participate in at least one follow up meeting with the social worker, and will be referred to other services as needed	Record of meetings with youth and families; record of referrals to services	January 1 - December 31, 2017 (records collected monthly)

**JAG Program Purpose Area: Law Enforcement Programs**

Area of Need: Gang Violence Reduction, Drug Enforcement, Gun Violence Reduction

<b>Project Component / Activity</b>	<b>Agency / Organization Responsible</b>	<b>Expected Outcome (Measurable)</b>	<b>How Progress will be Tracked (i.e. data collection)</b>	<b>Timeline / Benchmarks</b>
Gang sweeps	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Gang violence will be reduced	Records of sweeps and gang related arrests	January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017: Reduce gang crimes and membership over annualized rate from baseline period.
Drug sweeps	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Drug crimes will be reduced	Records of sweeps and drug related arrests	January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017: Reduce drug crimes over annualized rate from baseline period.
Gun violence arrests	Tulare County Sheriff's Department	Gun violence will be reduced	Records of arrests in crimes featuring gun violence	January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017: Reduce drug crimes over annualized rate from baseline period.