Local Evaluation Plan

Plumas County District Attorney
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1. Description of the Project

This Prop 47 project is the result of a collaboration between the Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP), Plumas County Superior Court, Plumas County Sheriff, Plumas County Public Health, Plumas County Behavioral Health, Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center (PCIRC) and other community-based mental health and substance use disorder partners to expand the Plumas County Pretrial Release Program to create a full Pretrial Diversion Program and expand the ASP Bridges Program for offenders transitioning from incarceration. This project incorporates the principals of restorative justice, trauma-informed care and recidivism reduction while providing early identification and engagement through intensive wraparound case management related to community-based supportive services including physical and mental health, alcohol and drug services and transitional and permanent housing and job skills training. A multi-disciplinary team (MDT) approach will be embedded in all services.

The Plumas County Office of the District Attorney will serve as the lead agency, coordinating the equities of this multi-partner grant program. Plumas County will introduce a comprehensive evidence-based program and other activities to address and improve the local system. This project is designed to assist rural Plumas County criminal justice partners to enhance public safety, foster collaboration and improve the outcomes of individuals under the supervision of community corrections.

This Proposition 47 Project will build and expand the pre-plea/pre-conviction model to address the needs of those individuals who are eligible for pretrial diversion but unlikely to succeed without intensive supportive services. This will be done through addressing service gaps by providing a comprehensive array of pretrial diversion and re-entry services for transitioning offenders including mental health and alcohol and drug services, housing and related supports, intensive case management and job skills training through community partnerships that work to compliment and leverage existing resources, promote a regional approach and are trauma-informed and recidivism reduction minded. Through this range of intensive services, participants will follow a six-step process toward successful completion both in the pretrial diversion and transitioning offenders’ programs as follows: Step One: Outreach & Assessments, Step Two: ASP Pretrial Diversion Program, Step Three: ASP Bridges Program & Intensive Case Management & Treatment, Step Four: Civil Legal Services, Step Five: Permanent Housing Assistance, Step Six: Higher Education/Workforce Development.

ASP currently utilizes CaseloadPro, a full featured Case Management system. This system meets the data collection needs for this project while efficiently collecting and managing client-level data while maintaining confidentiality and meeting HIPPA and 42 CFR Part 2 requirements. The Risk and Needs Triage (RANT) is an evidence-based assessment and intervention classification tool that evaluates an offender’s criminogenic risks and clinical needs to determine the level and type of criminal justice supervision and treatment services where research suggests the offender stands the best chance of success. The Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) is an evidence-based system used to create a consistent and comprehensive continuum of care for
participants. An advanced feature of this tool is that it was designed to predict recidivism at different points in the criminal justice system which allows corrections professionals to make better supervision, placement and re-entry decisions. Additional evidence-based programs utilized by staff and mental health partners through ASP include: Mental Health Screening Form III (MHSF3); Modified Mini Screen; AOD Screening; Socrates Readiness to Change; Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) approved by SAMHSA’s NREPP National Register of Evidence-Based Programs; and Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy and Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction. All program services information will be documented by staff utilizing CaseloadPro. The Proposition 47 Project Manager will be responsible for all data collection activities, performance measures, data storage and protection. Program statistics and participant feedback will guide the program toward additions and improvements in services.

Plumas Prop 47 Project will replicate the principals of restorative justice to engage criminal justice partners and community collaborative partners to improve supervision strategies that reduce recidivism, increase partnerships, improve long-term data collection and improve the outcomes of offenders, their families and communities.

The Plumas County District Attorney will further enhance this promising practice by initiating the Plumas County Multidisciplinary Team. Members will include those currently recruited for the Plumas Prop 47 Advisory Committee. This team will also provide case management services in coordination with Plumas Prop 47 Project staff. These activities operating in unison will improve services immensely in Plumas County.

Prop 47 program funding will be shared between the Plumas County District Attorney, the Plumas County Sheriff’s Department and Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center representing. This project became effective on June 16th, 2017.

The intent of this monitoring and outcome evaluation process is to provide a summary of the funded activities and resulting outcomes from Proposition 47 dollars. A subsidiary goal is to track the use of evidence-based and promising practices as well as the fidelity of implementation of those models as adopted herein. The Alternative Sentencing Program utilizes the Restorative Justice Model as its theoretical framework for evaluation. The three major elements of this model include public safety, accountability and competency development. Tracking, data collection and assessment will include all program participants, the activities they participate in, the length of time they are in the program and the amount of criminal activity they participate in before and after the program. Participant successes in seeking permanent housing, obtaining needed behavioral health services, securing employment, improving family relationships and attending to health issues also will provide informational data for measurement.

This evaluation will connect each of these administrative, process and program measurement components to provide a complete overview of program challenges and successes as well as conclusions and recommendations. Further, the evaluation methodology will also assess and discuss the efficacy and impact of this program as far as how outcomes relate to the activities proposed herein.
2. **Anticipated Benefits of the Project**

Plumas Proposition 47 Project program goals are designed to assist rural Plumas County criminal justice partners to enhance public safety, foster collaboration and improve the outcomes of individuals under the supervision of community corrections. Leveraging the principals of restorative justice, the Plumas Proposition 47 Project program will: (a) improve supervision strategies that reduce recidivism; (b) promote and increase collaboration among agencies and officials who work in community corrections and related fields; and (c) improve the outcomes of individuals participating in these initiatives. This promising practice will provide the collaboration needed for success.

The development of a Pretrial Diversion Program (PDP) under ASP will assist participants in maintaining housing and jobs; accessing early intervention to primary health care, mental health services, substance use disorder services and other civil legal supports. The homeless will be safely housed through a variety of emergency, transitional and permanent housing option and participants will be matched with medical homes and intensive wraparound case management will assist in reducing county recidivism rates.

Plumas Prop 47 Project measurable objectives include:

- Increase the capacity of the Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP) to offer early diversion services that meet current gaps in the local criminal justice system.
- Create a system change in positive outcomes for program participants.
- Increase jail beds (i.e. connect offenders with services, when they qualify, and transition them out of custody to allow a “free bed”)
- Improve criminal justice system (i.e. create seamless transitions from custody, pretrial release, and community supervision without a gap in supervision, services and accountability)
- Developing a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) approach embedded in all services to bring collaborative partners together for timely and effective services.
- Improving supervision strategies that will reduce recidivism,
- Promoting and increasing collaboration and communication among agencies and officials who work in pretrial, law enforcement, treatment, reentry, and related community corrections fields.
- Developing and implementing strategies for the early identification, targeting, supervision, and treatment of offenders who are being supervised in the community.

Plumas Proposition 47 Project will provide data that measures the results of this work as outlined in the given performance measures for this funding.
Program objectives, strategies and outcomes are outlined as follows:

### Program Objectives:
- Increase the capacity of the Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP) to offer early diversion services that meet current gaps in the local criminal justice system.
- Create a system change in positive outcomes for program participants.
- Improve supervision strategies that will reduce recidivism.
- Increase jail beds (i.e. connect offenders with services, when they qualify, and transition them out of custody to allow a “free bed”)
- Improve criminal justice system (i.e. create seamless transitions from custody, pretrial release, and community supervision without a gap in supervision,

### Program Strategies:
- Develop the Plumas County Pretrial Diversion Program
- Identify and engage program participants in early services of Pretrial Diversion Program (PDP) and the Alternative Sentencing (ASP) Bridges Program
- Random/Frequent Drug Testing
- Access to Treatment
- Data Collection
- Prop 47 Advisory Committee
- Plumas County Multidisciplinary Team
- Access to Treatment
- Identify and engage program participants in early services of Pretrial Diversion Program (PDP) and the Alternative Sentencing (ASP) Bridges Program
- Prop 47 Advisory Committee
- Plumas County Multidisciplinary Team
Promote and increase collaboration among agencies and officials who work in pretrial, law enforcement, treatment, reentry and related corrections fields.

Develop and implement strategies for the identification, targeting, supervision and treatment for the early identification, targeting, supervision, and treatment of offenders who are being supervised in the community.

Numerous barriers, indicative to remote rural areas, play a significant role in the success or failure of Plumas Proposition 47 Project participants; these barriers include but are not limited to: lack of employment and economic stability, availability of safety-net services, access to substance abuse treatment, violence prevention and counseling, family support networks and housing stability. Plumas Proposition 47 Project recognizes the importance of a continuum of care network throughout the pretrial and reentry processes, and will track these variable factors in order to maintain a path to successful outcomes.

Participant success/failure in this project will be determined by the program objectives, program strategies and expected outcomes for offenders. We anticipate that outcomes will generally improve and recidivism rates will decline as a result of the implementation of this project. Program partners will have the opportunity to provide a true continuum of care from arrest forward to assure increased success and more positive outcomes for each program participant.

3. Process Measures

The Plumas Proposition 47 Advisory Committee, the Alternative Sentencing Program Manager and an independent evaluator will assess program effectiveness by leveraging a combination of both Monitoring and Outcome Evaluation models. Simultaneous use of both models will allow the Project Coordinator to quantify day-to-day program effectiveness as well as the success or failure of short and long-term goals. By actively monitoring arrest reports, prosecution statistics, recidivism, Diversion program activity, as well as drug testing results, etc. the Project
Manager will have the ability to conduct self-assessment of program effectiveness at any moment, and/or regularly subscribed intervals. Information will be utilized to guide program and budget needs.

The Proposition 47 Project assessment outcomes include: all program participants, the activities they participate in, the length of time they are in the program and the amount of criminal activity they participate in before and after the program. Participant successes in seeking permanent housing, obtaining needed behavioral health services, securing employment, improving family relationships, attending to civil and health issues also provide informational data for measurement. Local drug and/or alcohol arrest and criminal justice statistics will also be tracked accordingly.

The program will develop additional manual data tracking methods to measure the internal effectiveness of program processes such as the work of the MDTs, the diversion programs and Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center (PCIRC) and other community-based mental health and substance use disorder partner activities. Overall data evaluation and recommendations will address program efficacy and impact as it relates to this funded project.

4. Outcomes Measures

The following outcome data will be collected and measured during the course of this program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increase Jail Beds in Plumas County</th>
<th>- 20% increase jail beds (i.e. connect offenders with services, when they qualify, and transition them out of custody to allow a “free bed”)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expected Outcomes for MDT</td>
<td>- 50% improvement in coordination and services in cases and referrals to Model</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expected Outcomes for Offenders:</td>
<td>- 55% less likely to be arrested for a new crime</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 75% less likely to use alcohol/drugs</td>
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<td>- 55% less likely to have their OR revoked</td>
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<td>Expected Outcomes for Plumas Prop 47 Project Model</td>
<td>- 75% completion rates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 50% reduction in recidivism rates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 100% improvement in collaborative partnerships</td>
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<td>- 25% improvement in placement in long-term permeant housing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 25% improvement in employment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 75% improvement in quality of short and long-term data collection</td>
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As noted, multiple process, implementation, individual and program measurements will be collected and evaluated to assess program success on multiple levels over the coming three-year period of this grant. Activities are outlined within the following categories:

- Law enforcement/Corrections
- Multidisciplinary Teams
- Outcomes for offenders
- Outcomes for Plumas Prop 47 Project Model

Each component of this program and its goals are intricately tied to the overarching theme to enhance public safety, reduce recidivism, foster collaboration and improve outcomes for individuals and children under the supervision of community corrections. In reducing recidivism, program partners will assist offenders by providing them with the support and tools needed to change lifelong patterns including a chronic tendency toward repeated criminal or antisocial behaviors, and breaking generational norms.

5. Evaluation Methodology

The program evaluation model designed for this program will be a mixed design. The Alternative Sentencing Program utilizes the Restorative Justice Model as its theoretical framework for evaluation. While the program is new and it is difficult to make estimates Alternative Sentencing is projecting that they will screen approximately 500 individuals in the first year.

ASP currently utilizes CaseloadPro, a full featured Case Management system. This system meets the data collection needs for this project while efficiently collecting and managing client-level data while maintaining confidentiality and meeting HIPPA and 42 CFR Part 2 requirements. The Risk and Needs Triage (RANT) is an evidence-based assessment and intervention classification tool that evaluates an offender’s criminogenic risks and clinical needs to determine the level and type of criminal justice supervision and treatment services where research suggests the offender stands the best chance of success. The Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) is an evidence-based system used to create a consistent and comprehensive continuum of care for participants. An advanced feature of this tool is that it was designed to predict recidivism at different points in the criminal justice system which allows corrections professionals to make better supervision, placement and re-entry decisions. Additional evidence-based programs utilized by staff and mental health partners through ASP include: Mental Health Screening Form III (MHSF3); Modified Mini Screen; AOD Screening; Socrates Readiness to Change; Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) approved by SAMHSA’s NREPP National Register of Evidence-Based Programs; and Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy and Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction. All program services information will be documented by staff utilizing CaseloadPro. The Proposition 47 Project Manager will be responsible for all data collection activities, performance measures, data storage and protection. Program statistics and participant feedback will guide the program toward additions and improvements in services.
The implementation of evidence-based practices begins immediately at intake utilizing a validated pretrial assessment tool to identify those that are eligible for release through the Plumas County Pretrial Release Program. The Pretrial Assessment Tool (PAT) one of the tools in the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) was designed to be quick to administer, but at the same time be predictive of both a defendant's failure-to-appear and risk of violating pretrial probation with a new offense. The PAT can be used on a stand-alone basis or as part of the suite of assessments provided in the ORAS. The Bridges Project plans to implement the full ORAS system to create a consistent and comprehensive continuum of care for participants. ORAS was designed to predict recidivism at different points in the criminal justice system. In all, five instruments were constructed: The Pretrial Assessment Tool (PAT), the Community Supervision Tool (CST), the Community Supervision Screening Tool (CSST), the Prison Intake Tool (PIT), and the Reentry Tool (RT). Additionally, the use of a standardized assessment tool allows consistency in the assessment of risk. The purpose of ORAS is to promote consistent and objective assessment of the risk of recidivism for offenders. Another advantage of using a risk assessment system that follows offenders through the criminal justice systems is that it improves communication and avoids duplication of information. In fact, many of the items in the individual assessments carry over into assessments at later dates. The total number of risk items that are collected from all assessment instruments is 63. Of these, 24 items are used on at least two, if not more assessment instruments. Further, since ORAS will be automated, items that are assessed at earlier stages have the potential to auto-populate into assessments at future dates. ORAS has long supported supervision and programming practices rooted in the ever-growing body of the "what works" literature. The O.R.A.S. tools can be used at pretrial, prior to or while on community supervision, at intake, and in preparation for re-entry just prior to release from custody. The benefits of ORAS include: provides reliable assessment instruments with consistent meaning; reduces duplication and enhances communication and sharing of information; gathers information regarding potential barriers to treatment; creates a system that expands as the offender moves through different processing stages; provides fully automated tools with potential for auto-population to other IT systems; provides thorough and useful information to aid in informed decision-making; allows for professional discretion and overrides; relies on instruments able to significantly distinguish between risk levels; assists in more efficient allocation of supervision and treatment resources; generates case plans that identify and prioritize individual offender needs and specific treatment domains; and predicts likelihood of re-arrest and recidivism at different points in the criminal justice system. ASP believes this process of prioritization and the development of detailed individualized plans will lead to greater successes for participants and a significant reduction in recidivism. Individuals will work with ASP diversion staff and community-based partners to receive intensive case management through coordinated MDTs. ASP Bridge Program services will also be offered to offenders exiting the criminal justice system that are in need of intensive case management, treatment, housing support and educational and workforce development services through diversion programs. ASP staff will take this opportunity to assess and redesign program components that meet the needs of the Proposition 47 target population and bridge gaps in local justice services.
All program services information will be documented by Prop 47 staff utilizing CaseloadPro and Assessments.com data tools. The Plumas Prop 47 Project Coordinator will be responsible for all data collection activities, performance measures, data storage and protection. Program statistics and feedback will guide the program toward additions and improvements in services. This system allows us to add additional tracking components as needed to fully capture each program component. Focus groups, surveys, team meetings and participate feedback will allow the program to capture additional data and vignettes of program implementation, services and outcomes. Baseline data will be established at the grant start date of 6/16/17 to provide a snapshot to measure future successes.

This program is a model rural program for Plumas County and represents a systems change in the both the delivery of services and the collaboration required for its implementation. The rationale for determining program impact will be based upon comparative historical data, current program statistics, countywide systems changes, and measurable system and program participant outcomes, many of which may have been impossible to deliver if not for this funding. A comprehensive analysis of all data collected annually will assist in evaluating and determining program impact and activity efficacy.