

# (2022-2023) Annual Plan

Date: 4/29/2022

County Name: San Benito

Contact Name: Ashlyn Canez

Telephone Number: 8316364070

E-mail Address: acanez@cosb.us

## Instructions:

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

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

Your Submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website.[acanez@cosb.us](mailto:acanez@cosb.us)

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

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

## Juvenile Justice Plan

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**A. Assessment of Existing Services**

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

The following is an assessment of services offered for youth and families in San Benito County:

1) Law Enforcement

a) San Benito County Sheriff's Office

i) San Benito County Sheriff's Office Explorer Program: The San Benito County Sheriff's Explorer program offers an opportunity to educate and involve youth in police operations. Through involvement, the Explorer program allows youth to gain a working knowledge of police work, while also serving the community. Explorers are used to help in areas such as crime prevention, traffic control, telecommunications, and community policing projects. Explorers are also afforded an opportunity to participate in a ride-along program.

b) Hollister Police Department

i) Hollister Police Department Explorer Program: This program is designed as a mentorship program for youth who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement. As an Explorer, participants receive training in areas of the criminal justice system, police patrol procedures, and other related fields.

ii) Support, Awareness, Follow up, and Engagement (S.A.F.E) Team: The San Benito County Behavioral Health Department has collaborated with the Hollister Police Department to create a new program that will provide emergency and continued assistance to community members suffering with mental and substance abuse matters. S.A.F.E. pairs behavioral health with a police officer to respond to behavioral health matters and provide proactive preventative and connection to services.

c) San Benito County Police Activities League (PAL)

i) Hollister Junior Giants

2) Probation

a) Diversion Program

i) Juvenile Review Board (JRB): The Juvenile Review Board provides a community-based diversionary program which promotes accountability for at risk-youth and presents an opportunity for positive development. JRB provides a community-based mechanism for diverting first time offending juvenile delinquency cases from the Juvenile Court system. That mechanism is a board comprised of local professionals from youth serving organizations who meet monthly to examine juvenile cases and when appropriate, provide creative restitution opportunities or other alternatives which assists youth to understand the impact of their offense. The JRB strives to make informed decisions on each case by taking into consideration each important area of the

youth's life, including home, community, and school.

ii)654 W&I (Informal)

b)Juvenile Work Service Program (JWSP): This program allows youth to complete community service hours as directed by the juvenile court, juvenile review board, and/or probation department. Youth perform community service based on various needs in the county and partner with several organizations and businesses.

c)Cognitive Journaling Group Program: Evidence based practice program which includes interactive journaling that encourages self-change. Participants will explore the connection between their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, and learn practical strategies for improving their thinking style. This is a 5-6 long week program.

d)CrossFit Youth Program: This program partners with Cold Storage CrossFit to coach youth into their own self-awareness regarding life choices with measurable outcomes at the end of a three-month commitment. The ultimate goal of this pro-social activity is to provide at-risk youth with a structured, well-balanced, fitness regime in a safe and nurturing environment while addressing the physical, intellectual, psychological, emotional, and social development of each youth. Our hope is that they will learn life-coping skills and pass this healthy way of living and self-awareness on to their peers and eventually to their own children. The goal is for program participants to strengthen their commitment to this community in a healthy, positive, and productive way.

e)Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP): The Electronic Monitoring Program provides an alternative to detention for youth incarcerated at the Benito County Juvenile Hall. This program allows for youth to remain in their community, attend their school of origin or remain employed, partake in community-based programming, and provided enhanced supervision for youth pending a hearing in the Juvenile Court or for youth completing a custodial sanction.

f)Partners Achieving Change Together (PACT) Team: A wraparound services program for 707(b) WIC offending youth, that score moderate to high on the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) assessment. This program is targeted for youth at risk for being moved to the adult court system. The PACT Team's objectives are to enhance youth's educational skills, teach vocational skills, build positive social community ties, help support healthy lifestyle choices, secure safe and stable housing, divert youth from incarceration, enhance community supervision, and address the complex needs of youth and their families (including mental health and substance abuse). This program encompasses a multi-agency approach which includes administering appropriate assessments, individualizing treatment plans for youth, and ensuring services are youth and family driven. The PACT Team wraparound service program focuses on treating the individual needs of the youth, improving their mental health and well-being, assisting them to graduate from high school, assisting to gain employment, helping to improve familial relationships and communication, and overall reduce recidivism.

g)Juvenile Hall Programming:

i)Boy's Circle / Girl's Circle: The Girl/Boys Circle model, a structured support group for girls/boys

from 9-18 years, integrates relational theory, resiliency practices, and skills training in a specific format designed to increase positive connection, personal and collective strengths, and competence in girls.

ii)Health/Nutrition/Fitness Program: Youth participate in weekly circuit training workouts instructed by staff. Youth will calculate and log their weight, Body Mass Index (BMI) and keep track of their daily food intake along with nutritional value. Youth may also watch documentaries on health and fitness, engage in group discussions to gain a clear understanding on individual health goals.

iii)YMCA: Youth learn sportsmanship, teamwork, and the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility through organized sports.

iv)Restorative Justice: Restorative Justice program is held in a group setting during school time. It works on creating just and equitable learning environments, works on building and maintaining healthy relationships and healing harm and transforming conflict.

v)Teen Recovery: Teen Recovery is a 20-week, faith-based recovery program, helping teens find healing from the pains of life, recovery from addictions and help rebuilding relationships.

vi)San Benito Arts Council: The San Benito County Arts Council's Arts in Education Program aims to create first-rate, diverse, and accessible learning opportunities in the arts for all students in San Benito County. Rotating 6-week programs consisting of Poetry Across the Curriculum, Hip Hop Dance, Sculpting, Cartooning, Traditional Art and Collaborative Muralism.

vii)Garden Program: Youth will take a hands-on approach from the beginning of site planning, preparing the foundation, planting, and ongoing upkeep to establishing a sustainable garden program. Youth will learn to be responsible caretakers and gain knowledge about the impacts of land cultivation, local agriculture, and the impacts it has on our community and the farm to table philosophy.

viii)Sacred Rok: Sacred Rok takes youth out of the facility into nature on day trips and overnight trips. This program supports youth in nature helping youth to learn to respect nature and through that, to respect themselves.

ix)Life Skills Program: Youth will learn and understand how to get a job/ job applications/ budgeting/ goal setting and school and/or career interest.

x)Ag in the Classroom: Agriculture in the Classroom supports state programs by providing a network that seeks to improve agricultural literacy, awareness, knowledge, and appreciation, among PreK-12 teachers and their students. The Juvenile Hall Garden program is also utilized during this program.

xi)Debate Program: Youth will understand and learn how to debate. Two sides speak alternately for and against a particular contention usually based on a topical issue. This program teaches ways to improve speaking skills and is particularly helpful in providing experience in developing a convincing argument.

xii)Back on Track Program: Cognitive behavioral therapy- Identifying negative thought process-gaining insight and understanding of conscious mind. Influencing social awareness, behavioral

modification.

xiii) Believe to Achieve Program: A collaboration with Shoe Palace and Howard White's book Believe to Achieve 10 week or 10 sessions, with curriculum based on the book to inspire youth, to help each youth identify and achieve their dreams. It focuses on goal setting, responsibility, change, honor, integrity and overcoming failure. This program offers guest speakers and mentors on a weekly basis.

### 3) Education

a) Student Attendance Review Board (SARB)

b) School Districts

i) Aromas/San Juan Unified School District (K-12)

ii) Bitterwater-Tully Union School District

iii) Cienega Union School District

iv) Hollister School District

v) Jefferson School District

vi) North County Joint Union School District

vii) Panoche School District

viii) San Benito High School District (9-12, Night School)

ix) Southside School District

x) Tres Pinos School District

xi) Willow Grove School District

xii) San Benito County Office of Education

### 4) Mental Health

a) San Benito County Behavioral Health: Mental health intake, treatment plan development, individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, ICC/IHBS services, EPSDT services, crisis support, residential services, etc.

i) Full-Service Partnership (FSP)

ii) Full-Service Partnership Transitional Age Youth (FSP TAY)

iii) Integrated Behavioral Health Services (IBHS)

iv) Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS): TBS is an intensive, short-term mental health service available to children and youth who have serious emotional problems and are at risk of out-of-home placement. TBS is available to persons under 21 who have full-scope Medi-Cal.

v) Crisis Intervention: 24-hour response services to help resolve crisis situations.

vi) Case Management Services: Clients are linked to needed medical, educational, social, vocational, rehabilitative, and other community services as needed.

### 5) Public Health & Social Services

a) San Benito County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA): Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC), In-Home Supportive services, Public Health, Community Work Force Development, Resource Family Approval Foster Parent Program, Child Protective Services (CPS)

b) Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of San Benito County: Our program provides a trained advocate to foster children appointed by the courts. Advocates report findings, make recommendations, and speak up for children directly to the Judge in dependency proceedings to ensure their emotional, physical, and educational needs are met during their time in the foster care system.

6) Drug and Alcohol

a) San Benito County Behavioral Health: substance abuse assessment (ASAM), prevention programs such as Friday Night Live, co-occurring groups at juvenile hall for youth, and substance abuse treatment groups within the local high schools/alternative school sites.

i) Drug Court Program

ii) Outpatient Counseling Services: EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment) services are available for children and youth who have full-scope Medi-Cal.

7) Other Youth Services Resources (community-based organizations)

a) Youth Alliance (YA)

i) Casa de Milagros: CASA De Milagros programs, in partnership with the Hollister School District, provide a highly specialized and unique curriculum that directly addresses the needs of our school community and the larger community. Hours of operation for all CASA de Milagros Programs run from after school hours until 6:00 pm Monday – Friday. This program offers recreation, homework help, and enrichment for students after school.

ii) GUIS: A strength-based group approach program to promote young men and young women's positive character development to meet the specific needs of the community. This program, at San Benito High School, Rancho San Justo Middle School & Marguerite Maze Middle School is a comprehensive youth character development program that supports and guides young people, is based on the philosophy that youth need other adults, their family, and community to care for, assist, heal, guide, and successfully prepare them for adulthood. The rites of passage program is to promote healthy peer relationships, build self-esteem, build social skills, and prepare each student to achieve success and is a Mental Health Services Act funded PEI project. The curriculum used includes El Joven Noble (Noble Youth), Xinachtli (female), Life Skills, Girl's Circle & The Council for Boys and Young Men, which are a comprehensive youth leadership development program that support and guide young men and young women through their "rites of passage" process while focusing on positive behavior choices and school success.

iii) CAMINOS: A Bilingual Spanish/English school-based counseling and case management services program for referred children and teens. On site services include assessments, creation of service plans, referrals for services, advocacy, individual, and family counseling. YA provides a range of support services and mental health services to youth in child welfare, juvenile justice and schools in community and school-based settings. The primary goal of the program is to support the youth and/or families' mental health needs to improve their social, emotional, cognitive, academic, and physical abilities, which will enable the youth to succeed at home and in the community. The Caminos Program also provides Mental Health First Aid workshops for

community groups and professionals to recognize the early signs and symptoms of children in need of behavioral health services to ensure children and teens receive the support they need. Caminos is a Mental Health Services Act funded PEI project

iv)FAMiLiA: The only program in San Benito County designed for teen mothers and fathers while also working with their child/ren 0-5 years of age. The program seeks to increase the number of relationships within their local community and decrease the feeling of isolation for these families—a primary concern for many teen parents. FAMiLiA also addresses a large gap in services and achievement markers for an incredibly high risk and needy subgroup. These young people must maneuver adolescence with a young child while also frequently accompanied by other stressors such as: poverty, high educational needs, homelessness, substance abuse or trauma. In order to “break cycles” and assist their children, FAMiLiA provides intensive support for some of the highest risk parents in our community. YA staff member will provide case management services for (5 males) teen fathers to facilitate access to a network of services and resources.

v)GANAS: GANAS is a YA program that provides intense case management services to referred local youth. Ganas in Spanish means “desire to overcome” and we feel the name of the program could not be more appropriate as we believe these young men and women have the ganas to get ahead but often times feel stuck. Participants in GANAS are mentored in various skills and on issues such as employment & interviewing skills, education, truancy, self-esteem, and in some cases provided support to address gang involvement or homelessness.

vi)GrC – Great Choices Program: Our Great Choices (GrC) pregnancy prevention/dating violence prevention program for high-risk young men and women offers support groups (8 weeks long) for high-risk teens and will oversees the teen pregnancy prevention peer educator program. Peer educators become knowledgeable in teen dating violence prevention, STD and pregnancy prevention strategies, building healthy relationships, and understanding how cultural values may impact teen decision-making. This model has proven to be highly effective in both outreach and youth leadership development.

vii)Chill out – Living above the Influence: Today’s youth are presented with major challenges—often without the skills or resources to tackle them. To cope with the pain, they turn to unhealthy means. Chill Out is a program that helps teens between the ages of 12 and 20 gain valuable life skills to help them reach their full potential while also providing them with a safe, open place to express themselves. Chill Out helps build self-esteem and confidence, encourages good choices, and presents alternatives to gang involvement and substance abuse. Our sessions focus on improving attitude, overcoming depression, the importance of education, anger management strategies, healthy relationships, developing assertive communication skills and healthy boundaries, and more.

b)First 5 of San Benito

i)Talk, Read, Sing Program

ii)Promoting First Relationships: Join us in a supportive environment to strengthen the ability to

understand your baby's cues and responses. Parents or "alloparents" (which includes foster parents, grandparents, or caregivers), will strengthen their attachment and attunement to infants during the sensitive perinatal period. Sessions will focus on: breastfeeding, routines, talk, Read, Sing, and gentle Sleep.

iii)P.O.P – Power of Play Program: Learn effective ways to engage your child with fun and safe activities. Open to families with children birth to two years of age.

iv)W.O.W – Wonders of the World Program: This program provides a place that's fun, imaginative, and filled with wonder. A place to be healthy, happy role models for our children. A place for parents to meet other parents while nurturing our minds, spirits, and bodies.

v)Parents as Teachers: Parents as Teachers has a vision: that all children will grow and develop to reach their full potential. Isn't that what we all want for our children? Through Parents as Teachers, you will partner with a parent educator focused on your child's healthy growth and development. Your parent educator will personalize information to fit with your family's needs, concerns, and hopes. Together you will discuss goals for you as a parent and for your child. You will build on your strengths and skills.

vi)Mis Historias: Parents learn new vocabulary in Spanish and English, and how to observe their young child and write about them and will conclude the six-week course with a handmade book about their infant / toddler.

vii)Raising a Reader: Raising A Reader's mission is to engage caregivers in a routine of book sharing with their children from birth through age eight to foster healthy brain development, healthy relationships, a love of reading, and the literacy skills critical for school success.

viii)Strengthening Families Program: The Strengthening Families Program (SFP) is a nationally and internationally recognized parenting and family strengthening program for high-risk and general population families. SFP is an evidence-based family skills training program found to significantly improve parenting skills and family relationships, reduce problem behaviors, delinquency and alcohol and drug abuse in children and to improve social competencies and school performance. Child maltreatment also decreases as parents strengthen bonds with their children and learn more effective parenting skills.

ix)A Road Map to Kindergarten: This program offers education and resources specifically designed to help support a child's school readiness and transition to kindergarten.

c)Community Solutions: As needed counseling for youth that are victims or struggling with mental health issues, domestic violence, or sexual/ physical assault.

i)Solutions to Violence (Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence)

(1)Counseling

(2)Crisis intervention

(3)Creating a safety plan

(4)Emergency safe housing/temporary shelter

(5)Advocacy of rights

(6)Accompaniment to SART exams, interviews, court proceedings, etc.



ii) Human Trafficking Crisis

- (1) 24-hour Crisis hotline-Crisis intervention
- (2) Safety Planning and Confidential Shelter
- (3) Counseling
- (4) Advocacy and coordination of services
- (5) Accompaniment to interviews, Court, etc.

iii) Criminal Justice:

- (1) Counseling for youth
- (2) Coordination of support services
- (3) Family counseling
- (4) Parenting classes
- (5) Medication support

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

The San Benito County Probation Department partners with a number of agencies and organizations to support the integration of services using a trauma-informed care and strength-based approach. In working with youth and their families, a multi-agency and community-based approach has been implemented amongst the following stakeholders, including but not limited to local law enforcement, the office of education, local schools, social services including public health and child welfare, probation, behavioral health, the courts, and local community-based organizations.

This collaborative approach is further developed and facilitated through Child Family Team (CFT) meetings, Inter-Agency Placement Committee (IPC) meetings, Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CICC) meetings, Children's System of Care (CSOC) meetings, Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) meetings, School-Law Partnership meetings, Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) meetings, Juvenile Probation Reentry meetings, the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) meetings, the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) meetings, the Juvenile Justice Commission meetings, Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Committee meetings, and Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) Executive Advisory Council meetings. All these meetings occur on either a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or quarterly basis.

These meetings are conducive to resource sharing, case staffing, event planning, and overall coordination of services provided for youth and families. In each of these meetings, collaborative partners identify barriers and assist in the development of case plan objectives for youth and their families to be successful in the community.

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

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

According to the US Census Bureau, San Benito County's population as of April 1, 2020 was estimated at 64,209. Of this population, 60.8% are identified as Hispanic or Latino, 32.8% identify as Caucasian (White alone), 3.9% identify as Asian alone, 3.1% identify as American Indian and Alaska Native alone, and 1.6% identify as African American. Of the sixty-four (64) thousand people living in San Benito County, 25.5% are under the age of 18 and reflect our youth. Additionally, the Median household income from (2016-2020) was \$85,808.00 and the percentage of those in poverty within San Benito County was 7.9% of the population.

San Benito County is generally considered a rural and agricultural county; however, it has quickly become a bedroom community for the Bay Area, as high-income workers seek a lower cost of living and housing. San Benito County has multiple residential developments and with each year brings an influx of new people from the Silicon Valley, Bay area, and Central Coast. The focus areas in San Benito County that face the most significant public safety risk for juvenile crime are the west-side neighborhoods of Hollister, CA which is San Benito County's seat (largest town). The schools most significantly impacted are generally the alternative education school sites: San Andreas Continuation High School, Pinnacles Community School, and Santa Ana Opportunity School. The population of youth in these neighborhoods and schools are prioritized at the top with needing support and services in the community.

## C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

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

San Benito County's juvenile justice action strategy includes the following, as listed from least to most restrictive:

I. Diversion Programs: These programs are aimed at first time offending, low risk, non-violent offending youth that are diverted from the juvenile court system.

a. Juvenile Review Board (JRB) - The purpose of the JRB is to provide a community-based mechanism for diverting appropriate juvenile cases from the Juvenile Court system. That mechanism is a board comprised of local professionals from youth serving organizations who meet monthly to examine juvenile cases and when appropriate, provide creative restitution opportunities or other alternatives which assists youth to understand the impact of their offense. The JRB strives to make informed decisions on each case by taking into consideration each important area of the youth's life, including home, community, and school.

b. Counsel and close

II. Informal Probation:

a. 654 W&I informal probation contract (range 4-6 months): Services may include apology letters, community service hours, service referrals for behavioral health treatment, curfew, counseling, programming, cognitive journaling, and/or restitution.

b. 654.2 W&I Court ordered informal probation (6 months): Low level Court ordered informal probation may include the following services: apology letters, community service hours, service referrals for behavioral health treatment, curfew, counseling, programming, cognitive journaling, restitution, limited chemical testing, parenting classes, etc.

III. Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJP) - felony cases, non 707(b) offenses, Positive Achievement for Change (PACT) risk/needs assessments to target criminogenic needs, case planning, Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP), etc.

IV. Probation Non-Wardship (725(a) W&I): misdemeanor or felony cases placed on a period of non-wardship probation not to exceed six months. Youth will be assessed by the Positive Achievement for Change (PACT) risk/needs assessment to target criminogenic needs, case plans completed, and the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) may be utilized.

V. Probation Wardship (725(b) W&I): adjudged Wards of the Court, Positive Achievement for Change (PACT) risk/needs assessments to target criminogenic needs, case planning, Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) or Global Positioning System (GPS) monitoring, etc.

a. Low/Moderate Supervision: low to moderate offending youth, not at imminent risk for removal from their home (non-Title IV-E cases)

b. High Risk Supervision: moderate to high-risk offending youth ages 13 and up.

- i. JWSP - community service program
- ii. Interactive Cognitive Journaling
- iii. CrossFit Program
- iv. Field supervision
- v. Child Family Team (CFT) Meetings and school reentry meetings
- vi. Transportation to and from school as needed
- vii. Children's System of Care (CSOC) referral
- c. Placement: youth removed from their homes, placed with family (RFA), Foster Family Agencies (FFA), and/or Short-Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP's), non-minor dependents (NMD's)
- d. 707(b) W&I Offending Youth
  - i. PACT -Partners Achieving Change Together: Wraparound Services Team
- VI. San Benito County Juvenile Hall (secured locked facility for incarcerated youth): The San Benito County Juvenile Hall facility is the primary community resource for youth that require secure confinement. It is part of a total system of care that provides a safe, protective environment, and promotes individual responsibility and accountability. The overall goal is to provide youth with an environment that promotes acceptable community values and behavior.
  - a. Secure Youth Treatment Facilities (SYTF)
    - i. Juvenile Justice Realignment pursuant to Senate Bill 823: youth formerly sent to the Division of Juvenile Justice will now be housed in county juvenile hall facilities

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

The plan has been updated this year to include updated statistical information on San Benito County from the U.S. Census Bureau. A thorough review of available programs, placements, and services was conducted for each county department and community-based organization located in San Benito County. Programs and services have been updated to provide a more detailed description for what is offered for youth and families in San Benito County.

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

Not applicable.

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

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

San Benito County Probation attends multi-agency team meetings which are held between the various service providers twice a month at Children's System of Care (CSOC). The CSOC meetings are facilitated by San Benito County Behavioral Health and all at-risk youth that are discussed through CSOC have a consent for release of information form signed amongst all agencies working with that youth's case. CSOC meetings are consistently held the first and third Tuesday of every month for at least an hour in which various information is shared and discussed. This information includes, but is not limited to a youth's: family dynamics, educational history and goals, substance use history, past and present counseling services, juvenile programming, at-risk for placement discussions, barriers to employment, etc.

The probation department itself utilizes Corrections Software Solutions (CSS) as its case management system for sharing information and data on probation youth. We continue to review and implement policy and procedures for staff to reference when using the CSS case management system. We have worked collaboratively with our CSS partners to develop reports that are conducive to information shared in collaborative meetings. Some of the data obtained reflects the following: # of youth served on probation, risk assessment levels of youth, programming and treatment needs for youth, # of youth in foster care placement, and # of 707(b) W&I offending youth.

**B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils**

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

yes

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

Not applicable.

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

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

Below are JJCPA funded programs reported by the county.

## Program Name:

High Risk Juvenile Supervision

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Youth are evaluated through a validated risk assessment, the Positive Achievement for Change Tool (PACT) and when assessed as high-risk to reoffend in the community are placed on the high-risk supervision caseload. This small percentage of chronic offenders' accounts for more than half of all juvenile arrests. These youth are usually age 15 or younger at the time of their first juvenile delinquency system referral. Data trends reflect that these youth scored an average of 4.98 on the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) assessment which indicates a higher likelihood of heart disease, lung cancer, diabetes, and many autoimmune diseases, as well as depression, violence, being a victim of violence, and suicide. Further, our PACT assessment data reflects that these youth also experience the highest need for mental health treatment and reported higher rates of suicidal ideation. As such, probation officers assigned to oversee youth that fall under this program are responsible for providing service referrals geared to helping both the youth and their family. Probation Officers utilize evidence-based cognitive journals provided by the Change Company to assist youth in several areas noted above. Motivational Interviewing techniques are applied in case management services to assist youth in making positive changes that affect their future. Through intensive supervision, thorough case management, and a trauma-informed care approach, youth are referred to other community-based programs, classes, and services.

## Description:

This is a family focused caseload that emphasizes matching the entire family to local resources. The family focused case planning is important given the parents' demonstrated inability to adequately supervise and discipline their children. This caseload accounts for youth that are of imminent risk for removal from their home and child family team (CFT) meetings are regularly held for this caseload. Probation officers are trained in Safety Organized Practices (SOP) and

use this approach when conducting CFT's and developing goals for the youth's case plan. In addition, youth are immersed in valuable community-based programs and activities at a level that facilitates competency development.



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

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

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

Non- 707(b) offending youth will remain under the jurisdiction of the San Benito County Juvenile Court and/or the San Benito County Probation Department. San Benito County Probation collaborates with community-based organizations and county partners to provide case management, individualized treatment, and referrals for service for the following: interactive journaling, group counseling, family counseling, parenting education, substance disorder treatment, mental health counseling, and other programs designed to address trauma, cultural appropriations, and any other identified needs or barriers to success. Youth newly entering the juvenile justice system will undergo a risk assessment to determine their risk level of recidivism and identify their needs and strengths. The criminogenic needs outlined in the assessment tool then help probation officers to develop goals and interventions in a case plan with the youth and their family. All youth are processed through our juvenile intake and youth rating a moderate to high-risk score will be investigated further to develop a case plan for treatment and services. These youth may be subjected to our Juvenile Review Board, Informal probation through 654 or 654.2 W&I, or their case may be referred to the district attorney's office for prosecution and possible deferred entry of judgment, non-wardship probation, or wardship probation.

**B. Regional Agreements**

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

None at this time.

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

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

## **Program Name:**

Juvenile Review Board (JRB)

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

The Juvenile Review Board provides a community-based diversion program which promotes accountability for at risk-youth and presents an opportunity for positive development. JRB provides a community-based mechanism for diverting appropriate juvenile cases from the Juvenile Court system. That mechanism is a board comprised of local professionals from youth serving organizations who meet monthly to examine juvenile cases and when appropriate, provide creative restitution opportunities or other alternatives which assists youth to understand the impact of their offense. The JRB strives to make informed decisions on each case by taking into consideration each important area of the youth's life, including home, community, and school.

## **Description:**

Youth referred to the San Benito County Probation Department will undergo an assessment to determine their risk level. San Benito County Probation presently utilizes the Positive Achievement for Change Tool (PACT) and youth rating low to moderate on the PACT risk assessment may be referred to the Juvenile Review Board. JRB members meet with youth and engage in discussions with the minors and their families to address issues that resulted in their citation or arrest. They will respond to identified needs through referrals to services and utilize compliance incentives or accountability techniques that include giving back to the community (i.e., community service) and goal setting. After a youth successfully completes requirements imposed by JRB, their case is closed and their record is ordered sealed immediately, therefore their case is not held before the juvenile court, and they are not further entrenched in the juvenile delinquency system. JRB has proven to be a successful diversion program and has reduced the number of youth that are adjudged Wards of the Court and/or placed on intensive supervision.

**Program Name:**

Juvenile Work Service Program (JWSP)

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Youth that fall under the moderate to high-risk caseload are also referred to the Juvenile Work Service Program to complete community service hours as directed by the juvenile court, juvenile review board (JRB), and/or the probation department.

**Description:**

JWSP is overseen by a probation aide and consists of opportunities for youth to perform essential volunteer work that focuses on the various county needs. Youth supervised by a probation aide are mentored through the process of giving back to their community. Through JWSP, the probation department partners with the Veteran's Hall, the San Benito County Community Food Bank, the San Benito County Historical Park, Bolado Park, and the Hollister Pregnancy Center, to name a few and provide volunteer work. Youth are required to write reflections focusing on the daily events of the volunteer work they provided, the lessons or takeaways of the work provided, as well as outlining their future goals and aspirations. This program supports our effort to provide preventative and intervention services to youth in San Benito County.

**Program Name:**

Youth Alliance programming and case management

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Youth that fall under the moderate to high-risk caseload are also referred to Youth Alliance, a community-based organization that probation partners with to serve at-risk youth. The services provided help support probation supervision and case management for youth.

**Description:**

Youth Alliance is a community-based organization that provides intensive case management, individual counseling, group counseling, parent support, community service, interactive workshops, crisis intervention, and transitions plans for youth and their families. Using a strengths-based and family focused approach, probation officers and a Youth Alliance case manager work collaboratively with local agencies, schools, behavioral health, substance abuse, youth, and their families to provide oversight, direction, and support based on the individual needs tailored in the youth's case plan. The Youth Alliance case manager also conducts programming that encompasses youth leadership, accountability, life-skills, employment and interviewing skills, and prevention of substance abuse, gang violence, teen pregnancy, poor school performance, truancy, homelessness, and general delinquency. Youth Alliance currently facilitates a number of programs and groups for this population including but not limited to, Guidance and Navigation to Achieve Success (G.A.N.A.S.), Restorative Justice, the Parent Project, and the FAMiLiA program. G.A.N.A.S. is an aftercare program for youth transitioning from juvenile detention and custody back into the community. This program helps guide youth through their journey to adulthood through meaningful and thought-provoking groups, parenting skills, and intervention services that reintroduce cultural and family values.

**Program Name:**

CrossFit Youth Program

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Youth that fall under the moderate to high-risk caseload may also be referred to the CrossFit Youth Program. The program will coach youth in their goals, develop their own self-awareness regarding healthy life choices, and provide positive encouragement. The program offers pro-social activities to provide at-risk youth with a structured, well-balanced, fitness regime in a safe and nurturing environment, while addressing the physical, intellectual, psychological, emotional, and social development of each youth. The goal of the program is to teach life-coping skills subsequently strengthening their commitment to this community in a healthy, positive, and productive way.

**Description:**

The program will consist of three classes per week that will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays and a Saturday class. These will be private classes with private instruction geared toward the needs of the youth. While attending a CrossFit session, the youth will be offered a fitness program that changes each day and an educational piece on healthy eating and making smart life choices pertaining to their physical and mental health and well-being. There will be additional discussion on responsibility, accountability, ethics, and morals. Progress for each youth will be tracked physically and mentally with monthly updates to show their overall progress with measurable outcomes resulting from their hard work, dedication, and their individual choices to live healthier lifestyles. Through this program, youth will not only receive a predetermined exercise program that changes daily, but they will also have a one-on-one trainer available the entire length of the 3-month commitment to help them stay engaged and achieve their goals with positive encouragement. This youth intervention will provide stress relief, structure, teach commitment, and limit the time our youth spend on the street during peak crime hours without purpose or supervision. It will also help build self-confidence, self-esteem, a sense of self-worth, achievement, give them the opportunity to rely on themselves and their community for support, and be a positive influence in their own community.