

Annual Plan

Date:

4/29/2021

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Solano

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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.

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

JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov



SOLANO COUNTY



2021 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL JUVENILE JUSTICE PLAN

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)
Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

<https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/probation>

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INTRODUCTION

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) program was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Chapter 353) to provide a continuous revenue source to counties for local juvenile justice programs that have proven effective at reducing recidivism and delinquency among at-risk youth. JJCPA funding supports prevention and intervention strategies that provide for a continuum of responses with a collaborative and integrated approach for implementation.

Assembly Bill 1998 (Chapter 880, Statutes of 2016) was enacted with legislation taking effect on January 1, 2017, addressing the reporting requirements for JJCPA and the Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG). YOBG funding was implemented to enhance the capacity of local communities to provide an effective continuum of responses to juvenile crime and delinquency. Services seek to enhance the capacity of county probation, mental health, behavioral health, and other agencies to provide appropriate rehabilitative and supervision programs to youth who are no longer eligible for commitment to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and must be supervised locally. This legislation requires counties to submit the most recent version of its Comprehensive Multiagency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). The below JJCPA-YOBG annual plan reflects the updated services and supports funded with JJCPA and YOBG funding to provide preventative and rehabilitative services to justice involved youth.

JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Solano County has a fully constituted Juvenile Justice Council as prescribed by Welfare & Institutions Code 749.22. The Solano County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) is a partnership between California State and Solano County, recognizing the need for resources and the value of local discretion and multiagency collaboration in addressing the problem of juvenile crime in communities. Solano County government agencies and community-based organizations play a critical role in delivering the determined services. Members of the JJCC include the Chief Probation Officer as Committee Chair, and one representative each from the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Sheriff's Department, Board of Supervisors, Health and Social Services Department, a community-based drug and alcohol program, a city police department, County Office of Education or a school district, and an at-large community representative. The Coordinating Council also includes representatives from nonprofit community-based organizations providing services to youth.

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Members

Krishna Abrams, District Attorney

Deanna Cantrell, Chief, Fairfield Police Department

Linda Connelly, Community Based Organization Representative

Aaron Crutison, Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services

Elena D'Agustino, Public Defender

Leticia De La Cruz, Mental Health Services Administrator, Behavioral Health

Lissette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools

Tom Ferrara, Sheriff/Coroner

Erin Hannigan, 1st District Supervisor

Christopher Hansen, Chief Probation Officer (Chair)

Julie Hilt, Member of the Public

OVERVIEW

To encourage coordination and collaboration among the various local agencies serving at-risk youth, the BSCC advises county Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils (JJCC) to develop and modify the county's juvenile justice plan each year. This document will provide an overview of the JJCPA and YOBG plan, a review of ongoing efforts toward meeting action plan recommendations, goals and objectives, strategies that are being deployed or are being planned, and summaries of spending plans.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1998 Consolidation

AB 1998 combined reporting requirements for the JJCPA and the YOBG programs. As of January 1, 2018, counties may submit a consolidated annual plan describing the programs, placements, strategies, services, and system enhancements supported by either JJCPA or YOBG funding. This report is Solano County's 2020 consolidated comprehensive juvenile justice plan.

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

JJCPA was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Chapter 353) to provide a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs aimed at reducing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth. In order to maintain program continuity in uncertain budget times, the plan recommends a 20% reserve to address unanticipated budget and program cost fluctuations. This initiative involves a partnership between the State of California, 58 counties, and various community-based organizations to enhance public safety by reducing juvenile crime and delinquency.

State law requires that counties provide programs that have been demonstrated to be effective in reducing delinquency. Targeted interventions that have resulted in lower crime rates among juveniles statewide include intensive family interventions, after-school programs for at-risk youth, gang and truancy prevention, job training, and diversion programs.

Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

YOBG, sometimes known as "Juvenile Realignment," was enacted in 2007 by Senate Bill 81 (SB81) (Chapter 175, Statutes of 2007) which reassigned from State to local jurisdictions control over youth that do not fall under 707(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code. These youth who might have been committed to DJJ in previous years are now supervised at the local level. The program has three primary goals: to reduce the number of youth in the DJJ facilities, to reduce state costs for incarcerating lower level offenders, and to keep lower level offenders closer to home and local support systems.

In recognition of the increased county responsibilities for supervising and rehabilitating youth subject to SB81, the State provides annual funding through the YOBG program. The amount allocated is based on

the county's juvenile justice population, and the number of juvenile felony dispositions. In order to maintain program continuity in uncertain budget times, the plan recommends a 20% reserve to address unanticipated budget and program cost fluctuations.

Comprehensive Plan Revisions

The County developed its Comprehensive Multiagency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) in 2000- 2001 in accordance with AB 1913, The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA). JJCPA requires programs to be modeled on strategies that demonstrate effectiveness in curbing juvenile delinquency. Additionally, JJCPA requires counties to collect and report information related to annual program expenditures and juvenile justice outcomes. At the local level, this enables stakeholders to assess progress towards desired goals, refine their programs, and target available resources. The 2000-2001 CMJJP was updated in 2005, 2008, 2012, 2014, and 2017. Each subsequent report highlighted the services currently available and provided an assessment of additional services needed. The Solano County Probation Department continues to build and implement services as recommended in the 2017 updated CMJJP. This JJCPA-YOBG annual plan has been updated to include service expansions and areas of enhancement for the juvenile justice systems model in the County.

The Department, partnered with the W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI) to look closely at the systems, procedures and relationships throughout the juvenile justice system. BI, through their "Readiness Assessment Consultation" helped the Department create equitable tools, which led to a 60% reduction in youth incarcerated at the Solano County Detention Facility (JDF). The Department continues to work diligently with members of the JJCC, The Racial and Ethnic Disparity (RED) Committee and other county and community partners to determine opportunities for improvement. The County is committed to examining key decision making points in the system, creating culturally relevant, trauma informed, and strength-based programs and services, and incorporating both into the framework of an evidence-based Risk, Need, and Responsivity supervision model.



Toward that end, the Department embraces the long-standing, well-researched, and strength-based Youth Asset Development framework in conjunction with the Risk, Need, Responsivity model of matching treatment needs to risk of reoffending in all intensive, diversion, and prevention programs for youth touching the juvenile justice system.

EXTERNAL ASSETS

-  Support
-  Empowerment
-  Boundaries & Expectations
-  Constructive Use of Time

INTERNAL ASSETS

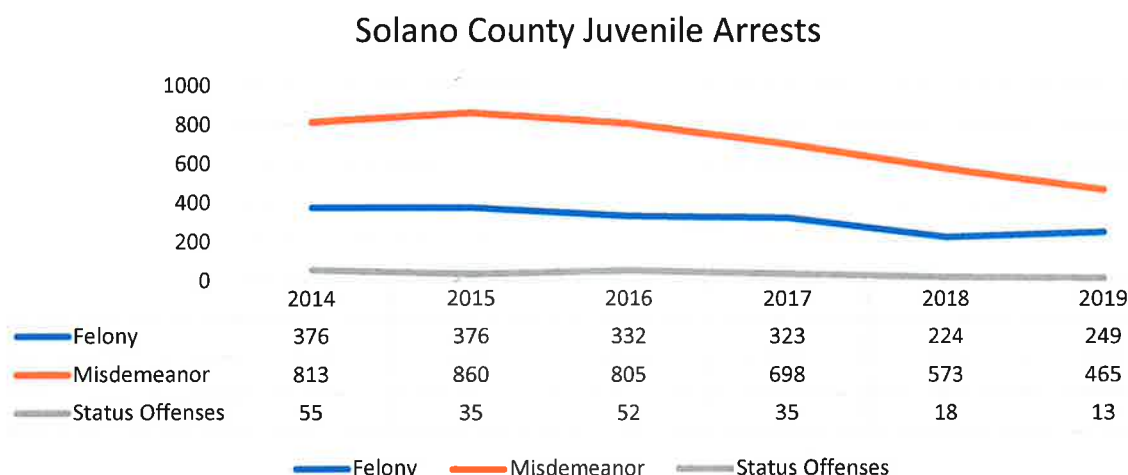
-  Commitment to Learning
-  Positive Values
-  Social Competencies
-  Positive Identity

POPULATION

Solano County has a growing and diverse population which is located in an urban-country-waterfront setting, with families located over the 909 square miles of the County. Within the county there are seven jurisdictions in addition to its unincorporated rural areas; Vallejo, Benicia, Fairfield, Suisun City,

Vacaville, Dixon, and Rio Vista. The city of Fairfield is centrally located and designated as the county seat. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, the Census 2020 facts for Solano County report the total population as 434, 981. According to the U.S. Census Bureau report from July 2019, the number of youth under the age of 18 within the county was approximately 22% of the population. The average household income was \$81,472. The percentage of residents within Solano County with a household income below the poverty level was 19.3%.

The three largest cities (Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville), pose the most significant public safety risk and account for most arrests. The number of youth arrested within the county and coming under the jurisdiction of the Department continues to decline, now falling to less than 200 youth under jurisdiction. It is noted that in 2019, the number of Felony arrests increased for the first time after steady declines over the past several years. The youth entering the juvenile justice system today present a complexity of needs, and pose a higher risk to recidivate, requiring significant rehabilitation needs.

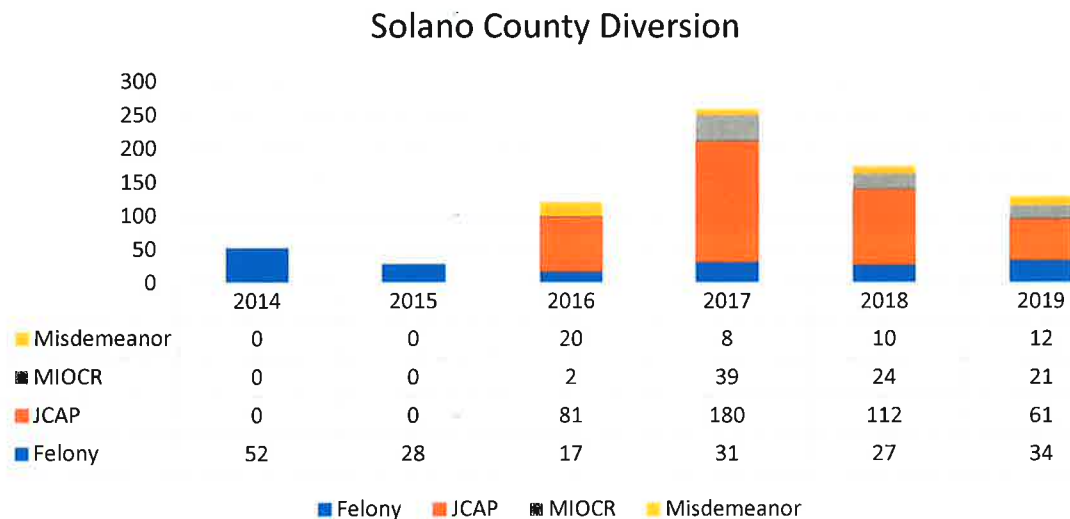


ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING SERVICES

The County operates a range of prevention and diversion programs to provide intervention services at the lowest level possible. This includes services through the youth services divisions of local police departments, a community-based organization (Alternative Restorative Communities), and Probation – all intended to divert lower risk youth with a limited criminal history from entering the formal juvenile justice system. Services include mentoring, Interactive Journaling, and counseling as needed. In addition, the Police Activities League (PAL), and the Youth Achievement Centers (YAC) deliver more intensive services to at-risk youth, and those formally involved in the juvenile justice system.

A continuum of educational services is offered within the community, at the YAC, and at the JDF to ensure individual educational needs are met. Formal partnerships with the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and Five Keys Charter School allow the Department to customize educational services to youth and increase their likelihood of graduation.

The CMJJP, updated in 2017, includes strategies that continue to guide the Department's full-service behavior change and positive youth development model based on the science of Risk, Need, and Responsivity, which places an emphasis on matching criminogenic needs with treatment intervention and intensity. The Department offers diversion services to appropriate youth, while referring only the highest risk youth for formal intervention. As annotated in the below graph, in 2014, the Department diverted approximately 4% of all juvenile arrests (52 of 1,244). With increased diversion services in place, by 2017, the number of cases diverted rose to nearly 25% of all juvenile arrests (258 of 1,021). With the decline in arrests continuing, coupled with the youth referred for services having increased risk and needs, there was a slight drop in the number of youth diverted in 2018 (173 of 815, approximately 21%). This trend continued in 2019, as the number of arrests and youth diverted again decreased slightly to 18% (128 of 727).



The Department currently operates three diversion programs for youth which include the Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP), Felony and Misdemeanor Diversion Program, and the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Program (MIOCR). For the JCAP program, a community-based organization, Alternative Restorative Communities, facilitates diversion hearings. Youth are held accountable for their behavior and given an appropriate consequence to address their delinquent act. The Felony and Misdemeanor Diversion program provides diversion services for youth that are either unsuccessful in the JCAP program or need additional support. The MIOCR program provides diversion services to youth with mental health challenges. Together, these programs have contributed to a decline in the number of youth referred for formal Court action. For youth requiring the filing of a formal petition, a screening and assessment of risk and needs is completed to understand the challenges and areas of need the youth and family are experiencing. Once under jurisdiction, the Department makes every effort to remove barriers and provide interventions geared towards increasing their likelihood of success as they transition towards adulthood.

The Department continues to focus on collaborative partnerships with external agencies to strengthen services for youth. In the Northern region of the county, the Juvenile Supervision Unit and Youth Achievement Center (YAC) are co-located at the Sullivan Interagency Center with the local police

department Youth Services Section, Police Activities League (PAL) program, and school district staff. With the support of a community agency, A Better Way, the Department has embedded mental health clinicians at the YAC sites in Fairfield and Vallejo. Additionally, substance abuse counseling is offered, as is cognitive behavioral therapy and a variety of evidence-based curriculum interventions described below in the programs and services sections. The Department was scheduled to relocate from the Sullivan site in Fairfield; however, this move was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A move to an alternative location in the upcoming year will be required, as the Department will need to vacate the rental site occupied by spring 2022.

IDENTIFYING AND PRIORITIZING FOCUS AREAS

The Department continues to focus on the following goals:

- Promote public safety and reduce recidivism by focusing on Positive Youth Development strategies and Evidence Based Services for youth involved in the juvenile justice system
- Utilize evidence-based assessment tools to determine supervision, treatment needs and interventions
- Develop and support effective partnerships with local agencies and community-based organizations to ensure youth and families in the County have the right supports and services to thrive

The most recent CMJJP remains the overarching guide for the direction of juvenile justice priorities in Solano County and includes recommendations in the following areas, many of which are addressed and/or implemented as outlined in the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Consolidated Annual Juvenile Justice Annual Plans. Goals and Objectives for 2021/2022 in the priority areas include:

Enhance and Increase Continuum of Care Services to Engage Families and Youth in Transition Planning, Shared Accountability and Community Connections

- Implement Child and Family Teaming model as designed by the Department
- Complete contract with provider to expand Wraparound services for youth at most risk of removal from the home
- Continue recruitment and training of Resource Family Homes
- Develop a plan for transitional housing and/or independent living programs for transition age youth or those transitioning from secure care
- Continue the development of diversion programs and other services as alternatives to detention

Enhance Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices

- Create a system to share assessment results and case plans when possible to enhance communication, ensure accurate service delivery, and minimize repeated traumatization
- Implement a system for regular review of assessment tools to determine if they are the most appropriate for the population being served
- Work toward evaluating current evidence-based interventions for effectiveness with local population and create a mechanism for enhancement or replacement as determined by analysis

Increase JJCC Oversight and Identify Opportunities for Additional Technical Assistance

- Create sub-committees to be more actively engaged in monitoring juvenile services as categories within the continuum of care
- Enhance communication of available resources so more at-risk families can participate

The County JJCC supports treatment and intervention programs and services for youth by following evidence-based practices, and implementing programs that have proven to reduce recidivism. There is a continued emphasis on agency collaboration and leveraging resources to improve success. In the upcoming year, the Department will focus on enhancing family systems services. This will include expanded Child and Family Team Meetings, not only for youth as a placement prevention and reentry service, but for youth under formal supervision with family-based issues. The Department will also continue wraparound services and add mental health support for families with youth identified as being at imminent risk of removal from home.

JUVENILE JUSTICE ACTION STRATEGIES

Risk and Needs Assessment Tool

The Department utilizes the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS-CMI), an evidence-based assessment tool used to identify and prioritize the risk factors and needs of each individual youth under supervision. Data from 2017 indicates that youth in Solano County have a myriad of needs. The Risk, Need, Responsivity model calls for the prioritization of those needs, and the matching of the right treatment intervention to address each need. While higher risk populations tend to have multiple risk factors, local assessment data demonstrates that the following issues impact justice involved youth at the highest rates:

- lack of structured and pro-social activities to fill idle time
- association with other individuals who are justice involved and/or affirm anti-social behavior choices
- demonstration of anti-social attitudes
- lack of educational supports and underdeveloped employment skills
- use of illicit substances, most often reporting marijuana as their drug of choice

Risk Need Responsivity Model (RNR)

The **Risk Principle (WHO)** is the prioritization of supervision and treatment services for clients at a higher risk of reoffending. Shifting resources to these clients results in much greater gains in public safety, while targeting clients with lower risk factors can increase their likelihood of recidivism. By focusing on clients with higher risk factors, programs can address multiple criminogenic areas with greater intensity, thus resulting in greater impact on behavior.

The **Need Principle (WHAT)** directs intervention resources to address primarily those areas which are directly linked to criminal behavior. While probationers have a variety of needs, not all have an equal impact on their risk to reoffend. Primary criminogenic needs include: criminal personality; antisocial attitudes, values, and beliefs; criminal peers; family dysfunction; and low self-control. Secondary

criminogenic needs include substance abuse disorder; low educational and vocational attainment; and low involvement in pro-social leisure activities. All services should target primary criminogenic needs as well as any other identified areas of need.

The **Responsivity Principle (MATCHING)** requires that service delivery match specific characteristics of individuals in order for them to benefit. This includes consideration of culture, gender, motivational stages, and learning styles, as well as logistical considerations and community functioning. Community functioning includes factors such as transportation, housing, food, or behavioral and physical health. While these factors are not themselves criminogenic, they should be addressed to the extent that they create barriers to an individual's ability to receive services.

The **Dosage Principle** directs programs to provide direct client services at a minimum of 100-150 hours for moderate risk and 200+ hours for high risk (across multiple criminogenic need areas) in order to achieve measurable reduction in recidivism. Dosage under one hundred hours produces relatively small effects for this population. High intensity programs should be provided and should occupy 40% to 70% of participant's free time to be effective.

RNR Supervision Model

The Department has adopted the following evidence based or best practices for community supervision to meet the objectives of reducing recidivism, reducing victimization, increasing life skills and family engagement.

Supervision Strategies	Methods	Implementation Strategies
Use of evidence-based assessments to guide decisions for effective case plan services and supervision	Use of Risk Based Supervision: matching intervention and dosage with risk/needs	Utilization of risk/needs assessment: Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLSCMI)
Youth and Family Engagement	Meetings to include supervised youth and their family	Family participation in case plan development and opportunities for home and or community-based family treatment services
Focus on Skill enhancement and reduction of criminogenic risk factors	Effective use of supervision practices and tools	Utilization of Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) and Case Planning Carey Guides

Increasing Protective Factors/Developmental Assets	Increasing youth/family capacity and understanding of needs, including behavioral health diagnosis; engaging support, services and prosocial activities.	Use of manualized cognitive behavioral interventions such as Aggression Replacement Training (ART). Train staff in 40 Developmental Assets enhancement. Specialized caseload assignments, behavioral health support, education, treatment, life skills development and prosocial activities.
Utilizing alternatives to detention	Offering appropriate programs to youth in lieu of detention such as Community-based treatment, Home Supervision or Electronic Monitoring Application of graduated responses	Utilizing the Risk Assessment Instrument at the Intake level to assess the risk to reoffend and/or appear for court hearings pending adjudication Use of Rewards/Incentives; utilization of Violation Response Grid.

Evidence-based Interventions

Strategies for impacting juvenile crime and delinquency require the use of evidence-based treatment programs, services, and interventions that target delinquency across multiple areas of need for youth and families. Over the last several years, the County has directed resources toward interventions for youth that target the needs most likely to reduce offending behaviors. Interventions are cognitive behavioral and teach youth basic problem-solving skills; skills in emotional regulation; social skills; conflict management and negotiation skills; and the prosocial values, attitudes and beliefs that make up prosocial competence.

In the coming year, family-based services will increase and include a stronger focus on the Child and Family Team (CFT) model and Wraparound services. The Department's Quality Assurance program monitors program delivery and fidelity to curricula in multiple areas and works closely with the contract manager to ensure provider support and collaboration.

Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R.E.D.)

With the support of JJCPA funding, the County partnered with the W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI) to look closely at the systems, procedures, and relationships throughout the juvenile justice system. BI, through their "Readiness Assessment Consultation" helped the Department update its detention

screening tool, which led to a 60% reduction in youth detained at the detention facility. BI continues to work diligently with county leadership in determining opportunities for improvement and the County is committed to examining key decision making points in the system and creating a culturally relevant, trauma informed, and strength-based programs model.

Representatives from Solano County Law and Justice Agencies, the Solano County Office of Education and community-based organizations began a partnership in 2017 to identify whether, and to what extent, racial and ethnic disparities exist in Solano County's juvenile justice system. The Solano County Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R.E.D.) Steering Committee formed as a subcommittee under the county JJCC in August 2018 with the goal to utilize a data-driven process to identify disparities, analyze and strategize, and pilot or adopt policy change that reduces disparate entry, and deeper advancement of youth of color in the juvenile justice system.

The initial focus of the R.E.D. Committee has been on the analysis of county-wide juvenile arrests, detention statistics, and existing youth diversion programs. The goal has been to identify to what extent racial and ethnic disparities exist in access to youth diversion programs, and which policies or practices can be changed or implemented to reduce the disparities. Through the analysis of local data, the R.E.D. Committee identified that a disproportionate number of youth of color are becoming formally involved in the juvenile justice system.

The R.E.D. Committee continues its work in the County to reduce disparities among people of color impacted by the criminal justice system, and has embarked on the process of identifying systemic barriers to racial equity. The Committee provides regular updates to the JJCC, provides oversight and direction to the Youth Reinvestment Grant, and provides guidance to the Department in culturally relevant program practices.

Education and Employment Readiness

The Department's efforts include a push for expansion of education and vocational services. The 2013 Rand Corporation study on correctional education found strong evidence that education's role in recidivism reduction is substantial. In fact, the study found that involvement in education programs reduce the likelihood of returning to correctional supervision by as much as 43%. The Department continues to support educational efforts at many points in the juvenile justice system, also with an eye on prevention. In 2018/2019, 22 Department staff adopted a third-grade classroom at a local elementary school to support students who are statistically at a higher risk to enter the juvenile justice system simply because they struggle with reading. Every week, staff worked on math learning projects and reading with the students. These efforts continued in 2020 but were interrupted with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department also worked with a local children's book author to create a book targeted at the third-grade population. The book provides a greater understanding of Probation and its role, while helping to facilitate trust with the youth. Once the restrictions are lifted and staff are able to return to the classroom, these early intervention and prevention efforts will resume.

At the JDF, the Solano County Office of Education ensures youth continue their educational pursuits and offers the support of a specialized teacher who works closely with youth with special needs. The Department has also expanded tutoring and vocational services, and implemented an online program with Solano Community College to assist youth who have completed high school and wish to continue their education. Since 2016, more than seventy (70) youth have earned a high school diploma while detained in the facility. In March of 2019, JDF partnered with the Solano County Office of Education to

provide vocational and employment services to youth in custody. Under this partnership, SCOE hired a Career and Technical Education (CTE) certified instructor to teach youth and provide them with the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue postsecondary career opportunities in the construction and trades profession. With the exception of the 2020 school year that was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the construction/trades program at JDF continues to be offered to youth two times per week.

The Department has a long-standing partnership with Five Keys Charter School, a free community-based education program that focuses on providing services to individuals and communities that have historically been underserved and underrepresented within the traditional educational system. Services include assisting with High School Diplomas, GED Test Preparation, HiSET Test Preparation, and Independent Study. With the help of dedicated teachers who work with diverse students at all educational levels, Five Keys has contributed to a continued increase in graduation rates. Five Keys Charter School serves youth who are on the verge of adulthood and are no longer able to attend public school, traditional or continuation school. Expansion services are focusing on a roll out of a "College and Career Readiness Day" which includes different stations where youth are given an opportunity to do mock interviews, resume building, and submit job applications.

FUNDED PROGRAMS, STRATEGIES AND/OR SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

Mental Health Assessment and Services

The Department adopted the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument -2 (MAYSI-2), a brief behavioral health screen that assist in determining the need for a referral to mental health services. Depending on the outcome of the screening or other presenting concerns, the youth is referred to a community-based partner, A Better Way, for clinical assessment, triage, counseling or group treatment services depending on the needs of the youth and their family. Better Way clinicians share office space with Department staff which enhances communication. In addition, by being on site, the clinicians can provide immediate assistance as necessary.

Diversion

Restorative/Alternative Justice programs are offered in partnership with a community-based organization, Alternative Restorative Communities, to hold the youth accountable for their behavior. The Department operates two programs which focus on restorative justice: The first program, the Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP), is an early intervention and prevention diversion program designed for low level or first-time offenders. Community members serve as arbitrators for youth in this program. The program uses restorative justice techniques to help the youth understand the harm their actions have had on the community or victim, and youth are then given an opportunity to make amends. Youth only remain on JCAP as long as needed to successfully complete their contract (most contracts range between 20-30 days). Those that are successful on JCAP do not enter the formal juvenile justice system.

Motivational Interviewing (MI)

MI is a person-centered communication method of fostering change by helping a person explore and resolve ambivalence. Rather than using external pressure, MI looks for ways to access internal motivation for change. It borrows from client-centered counseling in its emphasis on empathy, optimism, and respect for client choice. MI also draws from self-perception theory, which says that a person becomes more or less committed to an action based on the verbal stance they take. Thus, a person who talks about the benefits of change is more likely to make that change, whereas a person who argues and defends the status quo is more likely to continue their present behavior. The Department has embraced the use of MI and, in partnership with a Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT®) Master Trainer, has developed a Personal Mastery project to develop proficiency through an intensive staff coaching and feedback training model.

Youth Achievement Centers

The Department developed a multi-disciplinary treatment and services model to support youth under its jurisdiction with an array of evidence-based services. These services are designed to reduce the likelihood of a youth's further involvement in the juvenile justice system and enhance prosocial family and community connections. The Department partners with community-based agencies and treatment providers to create co-located team models that are comprehensive and mobile. Services are delivered at multiple locations with two main community-based centers located in Fairfield and Vallejo. YAC staff, along with the treatment providers work hard to ensure that access to services is not a barrier to treatment and support.

The YAC's are equipped with a computer lab. Staff work with youth to engage them in service learning projects, homework help, and structured activities that support education and future employability. For continuity of education, youth in need have access to chrome books. Chrome books have also been made available to students at the JDF to further enhance education, with plans to add Edovo® educational tablet access for youth in custody to support additional programming opportunities.

Evidence-Based Treatment Interventions

Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART)® is a 10-week, 30-hour intervention administered to groups of 8 to 12 youth three times per week. Aggression Replacement Training (ART) concentrates on the development of youth competencies to address various emotional and social aspects that contribute to aggressive behavior. Program techniques are designed to teach youth how to control their angry impulses and understand perspectives other than their own. The main goal is to reduce aggression and violence among youth by providing them with opportunities to learn prosocial skills in place of aggressive behavior.

Reasoning and Rehabilitation (R&R2)® is a cognitive and emotional skill development curriculum designed for youth ages 13-16 who are under supervision of juvenile justice agencies, and for those who are engaging in various disruptive and antisocial behaviors at home, in school, in community residences, probation, or juvenile institutions. It also targets youth who are developing patterns of antisocial behavior which involve risk-taking, opposition to adult values and/or persistent antisocial or offending behavior. The group normally meets twice a week for six weeks.

Individual Supervision Interventions - Probation Officers guide the youth to improve their pro-social thinking and behavior. Training in Motivational Interviewing and Effective Practices in Community Supervision-II (EPICS), along with the youth face-to-face contact guides included in policy assist the

Probation Officer in this process. All supervision Probation Officers are trained in the use of the Forward-Thinking Interactive Journals® and Carey Guides®.

Seeking Safety® is a present-focused, coping skills training to help youth attain safety from trauma and/or substance abuse. The treatment may be conducted in group or individual format, and consists of 25 topics that can be conducted in any order and number.

Substance Abuse - Motivational Enhancement and Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT12)® combines the effective use of Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET) and Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT). The number 12 indicates the number of sessions which include both individual and group sessions for teens and young adults with substance abuse issues. In the upcoming year, the Department will replace MET/CBT 12 with the Interactive Journaling Series “Keep it Direct and Simple”, a more comprehensive and individualized substance use intervention that will better serve youth with varying treatment intensity needs. Additionally, the Department is partnering with other County agencies and the County’s Medi-Cal Administrator to offer youth with substance use treatment needs services through the County’s Organized Delivery System as determined eligible by the American Society of Addiction Medicine’s (ASAM) criteria. These two additions to the continuum of care will help the Department better meet treatment needs across the spectrum.

Youth Development and Civic Engagement projects and activities support increasing job skills, employability and increasing opportunities for meaningful contributions that enrich the lives of youth and are socially beneficial to the community. Community service learning occurs when youth engage in reflection activities after their service experience and apply their learning and experience to real life activities. The goal of this program is to combine these concepts to enhance the youth’s positive involvement with the community, improve life skills, teach basic work skills, and facilitate connections with pro-social adults and positive peers in the community.

Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

Mental Health Services

Individual and family mental health services are offered through the Solano County Health and Social Services Department (H&SS), Kaiser Permanente, and two community-based organizations (A Better Way and Seneca Center). The Department currently works with all the above noted providers to ensure youth and families receive services. In addition, Probation increased the number of mental health clinicians on-site to three (3) to meet the needs of the youth. Clinical evaluation and consultation services are afforded, and treatment models utilized include Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). The level of service provided is based on the results of an evidence-based assessment, which include the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument - Version 2 (MAYSI-2) mental health screen or the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment. Services are offered in the home, community, or at the provider's office as appropriate. For youth detained at the JDF, each youth receives a mental health screen utilizing the Massachusetts Youth Severity Index (MAYSI). Youth with identified mental health needs are provided services by contracted mental health providers at the facility.

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy 2.0

CBT 2.0 is facilitated by JDF staff. The most important active ingredients in CBT 2.0 are (a) getting youth to realize how often they act without thinking; (b) helping youth recognize the key high-stakes situations in which their current set of automatic responses can get them into trouble; and (c) leading youth to either become more effective in high-stakes situations or develop new automatic responses. CBT 2.0 is a combination of small group facilitation, a positive behavior management system, and specific tools to address behaviors and thinking errors.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the contracted evaluator was not able to conduct site visits to meet with staff, and to observe directly how they are implementing CBT and the positive behavior management system. Conference calls and technical assistance continues with the JDF leadership team to review data and outcomes, discussions of next steps, and identification of staff development needs. In response, booster training curriculum has been developed. Initial training for new staff and booster training for the remaining staff is scheduled to occur in the coming year.

Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR) Program

The MIOCR program was originally started as a diversion program for youth arrested who, upon interview, showed signs of mental health challenges. The program provided early intervention and treatment services to divert youth from formal involvement in the juvenile justice system. The youth receive an assessment, currently the Global Assessment of Individual Needs - Short Screener (GAIN-SS) tool. Each referred youth was paired with a clinician from a community-based organization, A Better Way. Given the number of youth under jurisdiction with mental health needs, the MIOCR program was expanded beyond diversion to include informal and formal cases under the Department's jurisdiction. The clinician embedded within the Department provides therapeutic interventions and subsequent referrals as appropriate. The Probation Officer maintains supervision and provides supportive services. The goal of the program is to address and improve the health and safety of mentally ill youth, and to increase positive functioning so they can exit the system successfully.

Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP)

The EMP program affords enhanced supervision and increased monitoring services. In lieu of detention, youth receiving location monitoring services can remain in the community and attend school, employment, and community-based treatment and programming. Youth placed on EMP are monitored by staff employed by a community-based organization, Leaders in Community Alternatives (LCA). The LCA staff also supervise youth placed under the Home Supervision Program, an additional type of conditional release program ordered by the Juvenile Court while youth are pending proceedings. Youth participating in these programs are contacted weekly at home, or in the community, and can be referred to treatment services operated in the community and/or the Department to address individual needs.

Substance Use Treatment Services

Substance use treatment services are provided within the community setting, at JDF, and following foster care placement as part of re-entry. As noted above, substance abuse services (MET/CBT 12) are offered in the community, and at the JDF to include the Challenge Academy which is a camp program offered on the ground of the JDF. To support treatment, supervision officers have incorporated the use of Carey Guides and Interactive Journaling to support behavioral changes.

In Custody Mental Health Services

Wellpath provides medical, mental health, and psychiatric support services for youth detained at the JDF to include nursing, medication monitoring, and screenings for suicidal ideations or other emergency situations. For continuity of services, Wellpath also provides services following a youth's release to the community, or foster care placement.

Restorative/Alternative Justice

Restorative/Alternative Justice programs are offered in partnership with a community-based organization, Alternative Restorative Communities, to hold the youth accountable for their behavior. The second Restorative/Alternative Justice program funded by the Department includes restorative justice conferences: a facilitated meeting between victims, youth, and community members. It is a non-adversarial, community-based process that responds to crime by holding youth accountable for their actions, and repairs the harm caused to the victims and the community. For youth in custody, restorative justice programs offer support and accountability circles. The restorative justice group occurs weekly with the youth in custody, where the emphasis is not only the cause of delinquency, but also includes programs such as Self as Victim, Cycle of Offense, Forgiveness, Crime Impact, Victim Empathy, Grief, Loss, and Conflict Resolution.

XL Mentoring

The Department, in conjunction with Alternative Restorative Communities, implemented a community mentoring program which pairs trained volunteer mentors with youth in the community as well as those housed at the JDF. Because of the training from certified XL-Mentoring trainers, mentors understand the mentoring process and its effectiveness, and have knowledge of youth culture, how to work with young people, how to sustain a mentoring relationship, and how to help a young person set personal goals.

Mentoring is an evidence-based intervention with positive outcomes in behavior change, recidivism reduction, and school/community engagement. XL Mentoring is a formalized program with specific training and support that is a best practice for ensuring program fidelity and appropriate mentor/mentee matching. Youth being released from the JDF are matched with an adult mentor to support positive youth development, and reduce likelihood of further immersion in the juvenile justice system. The Department continues to expand the XL Mentoring program. In addition to youth at the JDF, youth under diversion as well as community supervision are now offered an opportunity to receive mentoring services.

Wraparound

Wraparound provides family-centered, strength-based, highly individualized, and culturally competent services. This service is a preventative intervention for those at imminent risk of being removed from home, and is also intended to support clients who are returning to a family-like setting upon release from a group home or the JDF. The population of youth and families served in the Wraparound program are often multi-stressed families that have complex needs, and require an intensive and comprehensive service.

The County Wraparound Program offers a range of flexible services including intensive behavioral intervention, permanency planning, team building, parenting support, therapeutic crisis intervention, case management, safety planning, individual and family therapy, and team meeting facilitation. Youth

and families also have access to a 24 hour, 7 days a week support line that helps with safety planning and problem solving when a potential crisis or escalation arises.

The Department's Family Preservation Caseload carries youth at imminent risk for removal from home with identified family-based issues. Family Preservation youth need a higher level of service, which is afforded through the utilization of Wraparound Services. Additionally, in effort to provide more family, clinical and mental health support, the Department assigned a clinician to support the youth and families on the Family Preservation caseload. This added service is an effort to keep youth in their home and family environment. For youth returning home from group home placement, this service will help strengthen the family unit and provide supportive services upon reentry.

Placement/Foster care

The Department continues to provide services and supports to youth in Resource Family Agency (RFA) and Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) homes. YOBG funding is used to support youth in out of home placement during and following their placement episode.

RFA homes offer youth an opportunity to remain in the community in a home environment when they are not able to remain in the home of their parent or legal guardian. STRTP programs provide a higher level of service in a residential setting. These live-in facilities provide treatment and rehabilitative services to address substance abuse, mental health needs, or other complex behavioral challenges. Also, as part of the Foster Youth Continuum of Care Reform (CCR, AB403), Solano County remains committed to increasing home-based family care, improving access to services without changing placements to get those services, and increasing the role of youth and families in the assessment and case planning process. As part of the continuum of care reforms, the Department and Child Welfare Services (CWS) staff are working to reduce the time youth spend in group home placements, and to increase the number of Resource Families that can provide support to youth in a home like environment.

Extended Foster Care (also known as AB12/AB212) is based on the federal Fostering Connections Act and became effective January 1, 2012. Because most 18-year-olds struggle with living independently, Extended Foster Care benefits offer support to prevent former foster youth from becoming homeless. It extends monetary supports and services to Non-Minor Dependents (NMDs) under the age of 21 who are eligible on a voluntary basis. NMDs meet with their Probation Officer monthly, attend a court hearing every six months, sign a voluntary agreement, and agree to work with their probation officer to meet the goals of their Transitional Independent Living Case Plan (TILP). In addition, NMDs receive financial benefits. Services can include mental health and support services, employment assistance, healthy relationship skill development, monthly face to face contact, and case management. The youth works with a Probation Officer and the Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) provider to develop the TILP.

California's highest risk youth in need of removal and placement in a secure setting are placed at the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Youth housed at DJJ are those that have committed serious and/or violent felonies that require intensive treatment services conducted in a structured and secure environment. DJJ remains the incarceration site of last resort for youth adjudicated under WIC section 707(b) and other specified offenses. There are currently ten (10) youth from Solano County housed at DJJ, where they are receiving education, training and treatment services. Following release from DJJ, the youth are supervised by the Department and referred to appropriate community-based intervention

services. With the passage of Senate Bill 823 (SB823) and continued juvenile realignment efforts, effective July 1, 2021, the Department will provide county-based care, custody and supervision of youth who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to DJJ prior to its closure.

Parent Partner

With a focus on continuum of services, the Department will enhance services with the training for and implementation of Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings. This family center service model will provide support to youth and families with the goal of preserving the family unit, and avoiding out of home placement, or conversely providing reentry step down services to help support the family while reunification occurs. As a component of the CFT, the Department will recruit a Parent Partner from a community-based organization. The Parent Partner will work to connect families to services, serve as a liaison in CFT meetings, and aid in the coordination and collaboration efforts to support the family system.

The Parent Partner works as part of a treatment team and primarily provides support to the youth's caregivers or significant supports. The Parent Partner is responsible for connecting the family to community resources, reinforcing caregiver's participation in supportive activities, and supporting the caregiver's participation in treatment to promote achievement of family and youth goals. The Parent Partner often works closely with the youth's school to help link the caregiver to school contacts and resources to increase academic success. The Parent Partner performs a wide range of activities, both individually and as part of the team, to facilitate positive changes in the family system.

Transitional Education

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides transitional education services to youth exiting the JDF and returning to a local school in the community. YOBG funding supports a Transitional Education Specialist position that helps youth transition back to their home school site. This includes ensuring that all credits are transferred in a timely manner. For youth not returning to their home school site, the Transitional Education Specialist works directly with a Probation Officer to expedite referrals to the court and community school via the Bridge Program. For Probation youth that fall under the provisions of 709 WIC, SCOE provides competency training, utilizing a curriculum that includes basic civic instruction and the operation of the court system. Youth are given an initial assessment and re-assessment to gauge their understanding of civics and the components of the juvenile justice system.

Revisions in Detention Decisions

As discussed above, the Department, in partnership with the W. Haywood Burns Institute revised the booking criteria at the JDF, and a Detention Screening Tool (DST) was revised, tested and implemented, ensuring objective measures are utilized in detention decisions. Moving forward, review of data will continue to support that only youth who present a threat to community safety or are likely to flee the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court are detained.

STRATEGY FOR NON-707(B) OFFENDERS

The overall strategy for the County is to provide a continuum of evidence-based services to address the identified risks and needs of youth under jurisdiction. This entails a variety of interventions, including

cognitive behavioral therapy, substance abuse and mental health services, barrier removal efforts, and teaching of independent living skills to address delinquency and reduce recidivism rates for youth in the juvenile justice system.

REGIONAL AGREEMENTS

The County does not have any regional agreements or arrangements.

INFORMATION SHARING AND DATA

The Department transitioned from the previously utilized CASE database system for electronic data storage, case management and tracking information to a new platform. The Department's data conversion and migration was completed and the new system, e-Probation, went live in October 2020. The Department is currently in phase one of the program, with roll out of expanded systems operations to continue moving forward. The Department conducts assessments via the CE Assessments system. Information housed within these systems can be queried and shared with external agencies when needed. The information contained is utilized to look at data such as the number of youth referred for diversion services and handled informally rather than facing the filing of a formal petition. Statistical information can be gathered on the number of youth under formal jurisdiction, youth in the formal system referred for programming, re-arrest rates and returns to court, and the number of youth entering foster care, group home, or congregate care settings, as well as the number of non-minor dependents receiving AB12 services and benefits. In addition, the YLS-CMI assessments within the system can show the varying risk and need levels of youth. A second assessment administered, the Massachusetts Youth Severity Index (MAYSI), shows data on the level of mental health needs for youth under jurisdiction.

Interagency protocols and agreements authorize the sharing of information between the Department, CWS, Mental Health, and the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) as well as each local school district for assessing the educational and treatment needs of youth and families in the community. These agencies come together each week at joint Interagency meetings to make case decisions related to youth at risk of removal or placement in a STRTP. Through the Safe Measures database maintained by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Department and CWS staff input information regarding placement youth and measure their progress while in placement. In collaboration with SCOE, student information is also shared for educational purposes and for enrollment in on-line college courses when appropriate.