

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

**FY 2019-20
Consolidated Annual Plan**

Date:	Apr 30, 2019
County Name:	Solano County
Contact Name:	Amy Potter
Telephone Number:	(707) 784-7545
E-Mail Address:	apotter@solanocounty.com

Instructions:

Government Code Section §§30061(b)(4) and Welfare & Institutions 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 rest of this document is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. If you find it helpful to use this template, please do so.

Your submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website.

Please e-mail your plan to:

JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov

Introduction

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) program was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Chapter 353) to provide a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs aimed at curbing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth. The JJCPA is a collaborative effort between state, locals, and stakeholders. Local officials and stakeholders determine where to direct resources through an interagency planning process. The State appropriates funds that the Controller's Office distributes to counties based on population. As of 2016, the funds come from the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) Fund with backup from the State Sales Tax revenue.

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. The JJCC includes 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.

Solano 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, the 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 toward 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 has highlighted the services currently available and provides an assessment of additional services needed.

Solano County Service Needs, Priorities and Strategy

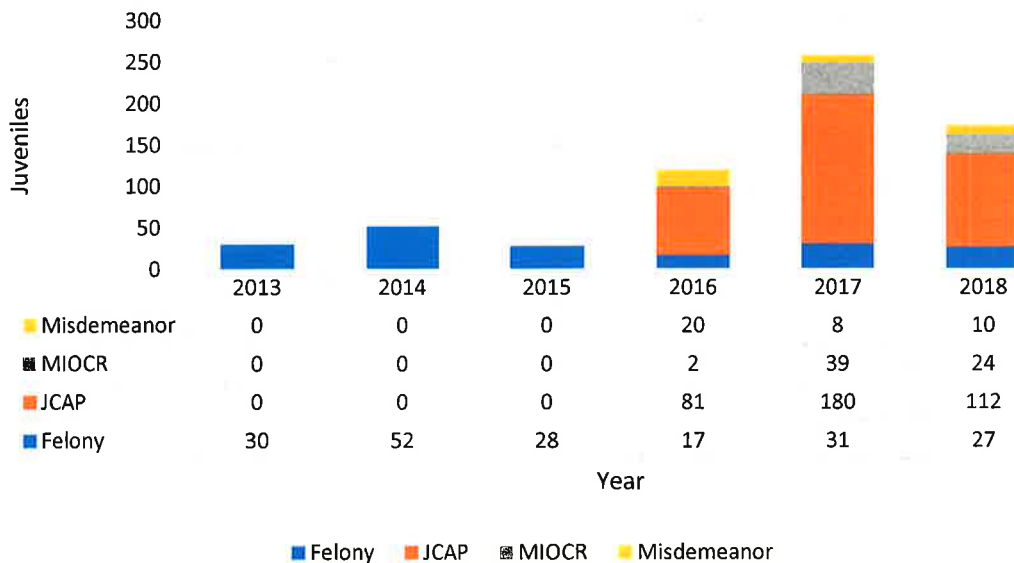
Assessment of Existing Services

Services existing within Solano County include a variety of diversion programs operated through the youth services section of the local police departments, a community based organization (Alternative Restorative Communities), and probation to divert lower risk youth with a limited criminal history from entering the juvenile justice system. Services afforded include cognitive behavioral interventions, interactive journaling, and counseling as needed. In addition, the Police Activities League (PAL), and the Youth Achievement Centers (YAC) serve at risk and justice involved youth and work towards positive change and personal empowerment.

Educational services are offered within the community, on site at the YAC, and at the Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) to ensure educational needs are met.

The juvenile justice action strategy continues with the use of a full-service behavior change model. Solano County makes every effort to provide diversion services for appropriate youth, while reserving formal action for higher risk youth. Considerable effort has been made to expand the use of both community as well as Probation diversion services offered. As annotated in the below graph, in 2013 the department diverted approximately 2% of all juvenile arrests (30 of 1,394). 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).

Solano County Juvenile Diversion



Diversion hearings are offered through the Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP), a community based diversion program, offered through the Probation Department. Other diversion services offered through the department include both felony and misdemeanor diversion, as well as the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR) Program which serves youth with mental health challenges. Together, these programs have contributed to a decline in the number of youth referred for Court action. For youth deemed appropriate for the filing of a petition, we conduct a screening and assessment of risk and needs to understand the full range of issues the youth and family are experiencing. Once a youth moves to formal services, a variety of services are afforded to help set the youth up for success prior to adulthood.

The members of the Solano County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) view programs and services for youth as a primary need and recognize the importance of agency collaboration and sharing of resources. In the upcoming year we will focus on enhancing our family systems services, with the goal to train and implement Child and Family Team Meetings for youth as a placement prevention and reentry service. Our partner agencies are working together to enhance the lives of youth and families.

Continued collaboration with partner agencies is critical to avoid duplication of services and to ensure service needs are met. Probation continues to communicate regularly with external agencies. In the Northern region of the county, the Juvenile Supervision Unit is now co-located at the Sullivan Interagency Center with the local police department youth services section, PAL program, and school district staff. The Department has embedded mental health clinicians on site at both the Youth Achievement Center sites, in Fairfield and Vallejo. Additionally, substance abuse counseling is offered, as is cognitive behavioral therapy and a variety of evidence-based curriculum interventions.

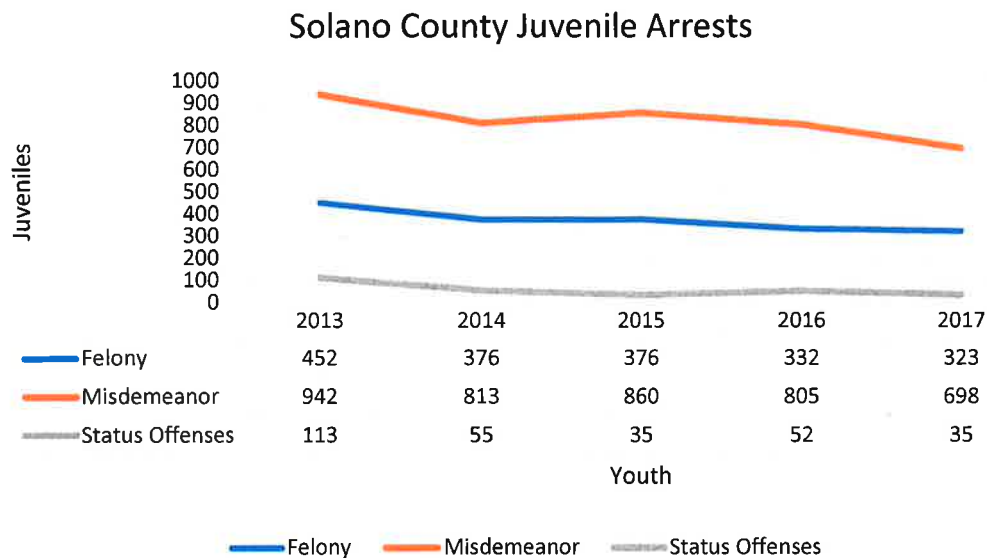
Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas

Solano County is a seven-city county, with the three largest cities facing the most significant public safety risk and driving the majority of arrests. The county seat lies in the middle of the region, in the city of Fairfield, and is one of the three largest cities within the county. The California Department of Finance's January 1, 2018 estimate of the population was 439,793. Previous data from 2016 related the juvenile population ages 5-19 was approximately 20%.

The number of residents living at or below the poverty level varies among Solano County's seven cities. Poverty rates broken down by cities are as follows: Benicia, 5.9%;

Dixon, 10.7%; Fairfield, 9.5%; Rio Vista, 9.1%; Suisun City, 10.2%; Vacaville, 7.9%, and Vallejo, 13.1%.

Although the number of youth coming to the attention of law enforcement and falling under the Department's jurisdiction has decreased, the youth entering the juvenile justice system present a higher risk to reoffend, and have significant treatment needs. The number of youth currently receiving both informal as well as formal probation services totals approximately 215.



Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

Assessment; Risk Needs Responsivity; Evidence-based Practices; Cognitive Behavioral Treatment; Co-Occurring; Gender Responsive

Since July 2018, Solano County has restructured and reorganized to move from the former Day Reporting Center to a full service comprehensive behavior change model under the umbrella of the YAC. As noted above, the Centers are in Fairfield and Vallejo with transportation being offered to serve all youth regardless of their city of residence. As a goal for youth services, the following elements been incorporated in the new juvenile treatment model, and in the overall program services continuum: Screening and comprehensive risk and needs assessment to increase the understanding of the full range of issues the youth and family are experiencing; Attending to issues of motivation

and readiness and incorporating methods of facilitating treatment engagement and retention; Establishing a positive reinforcement protocol that systematically reinforces the youth's strengths and desired pro-social behaviors; Involving juvenile probation officers directly in the treatment process; Using evidence-based or research informed interventions that target the assessed needs of the youth and addresses cultural and gender differences; Incorporating discharge planning and relapse prevention services within probation supervision; Developing comprehensive staff training to include clinical supervision and coaching for quality assurance; and Collecting data to measure probation supervision outcomes and program effectiveness.

Following an assessment of identified risk and needs, an individualized change plan is developed based on the criminogenic need areas identified. The services provided by existing staff and community-based organizations consist of: cognitive behavior therapy, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling and treatment, family centric services, interactive journaling, community service learning/civic engagement, tutoring, vocational services, and faith-based mentoring programs. Specific programming interventions include the use of Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Reasoning and Rehabilitation (R&RII), and Seeking Safety (a gender specific response). In the upcoming year, the focus will be on expanding the use of mentoring services so more youth can benefit, and ensuring the fidelity of programming and the curriculum being used. As such, coaching, skill development efforts and quality assurance will follow. Probation will also be focusing on youth and family engagement services, as well as meeting with youth and parents to work on family based issues.

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

Information Sharing and Data

Solano County utilizes the CASE database system for electronic data storage, case management and tracking information. The Department continues to move towards a new system, e-Probation. Once operational, all data will be migrated. Currently, in addition to CASE, 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 informal handling and diverted from the formal system, the number of 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. In addition, risk and need levels can be gathered for all youth given an assessment utilizing the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS-CMI).

Interagency protocols and agreements authorize the sharing of information between Probation, Child Welfare Services (CWS), Mental Health, and the local school district for the purpose of assessing the educational and treatment needs of youth and their families. CWS and Probation also share information related to youth in placement. Through the Safe Measures database maintained by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Probation and CWS input information regarding placement youth and measure their progress while in placement. In collaboration with the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE), student information is also shared for educational purposes and for enrollment in on-line college courses when appropriate.

Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Aggression Replacement Therapy

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.

ART consists of a 10-week, 30-hour intervention administered to groups of 8 to 12 youth three times per week. The program relies on repetitive learning and transfer training techniques to teach participants to control impulsiveness and anger, so they can choose to use more appropriate prosocial behaviors. In addition, guided group discussion is used to correct antisocial thinking. The program consists of three interrelated components, all of which come together to promote a comprehensive aggression-reduction curriculum: Structured Learning Training, Anger Control Training, and Moral Reasoning. Each component focuses on a specific prosocial behavioral technique: action, affective/emotional, or thought/values.

Reasoning and Rehabilitation (R&R) 2

The R&R2 Short Version for Youth is 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.

R&R2 provides a curriculum of cognitive and emotional skills and values which teach youth basic problem-solving skills; skills in emotional regulation; social skills; conflict management and negotiation skills; social perspective-taking; and the prosocial values, attitudes and beliefs that underlie prosocial competence. The program is designed to help them acquire prosocial competence in emotional and behavioral skills. The group normally meets twice a week for six weeks.

One on One Interventions

Probation Officers are the cornerstone for any effort to change the delinquent behavior of youth placed on probation. Through their contact with the youth, Probation Officers can guide the youth to improve their pro-social thinking and behavior. Training in Motivational Interviewing and EPICS-II, along with the youth face-to-face contact guides included in policy assist the Probation Officer in this process. The more behavior change tools that the probation officer can use, the greater the probability that behavior change can be achieved. Also, all supervision Probation Officers are trained in the use of the Forward-Thinking Journals and Carey Guides. These tools are available for officers to use as needed to address specific needs of a youth they are supervising.

Seeking Safety

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. Examples of topics are Safety, Asking for Help, Setting Boundaries in Relationships, Healthy Relationships, Community Resources, Compassion, Creating Meaning, Discovery, Recovery Thinking, Taking Good Care of Yourself, Commitment, Coping with Triggers, Self-Nurturing, Red and Green Flags, and Life Choices.

Substance Abuse - Motivational Enhancement and Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT12)

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. This method of treatment provides ways in which youth are motivated to change, training trips for building the skills necessary to increase social

support, how to engage in non-drug related activities, and avoidance and coping mechanisms to deal with any potential relapse issues. MET/CBT is beneficial for youth due to its less directive, non-confrontational approach in teaching coping skills. It also incorporates the power of peer influence into group sessions, which has proven successful.

Community Service Learning / Civic Engagement

Youth civic engagement is working to make a positive contribution to the civic life of one's community. It also involves developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values, and motivation to make a difference. These activities can enrich the lives of youth and are socially beneficial to the community. Community service provides a service to benefit a community, its institutions, or its citizens. 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 peers in the community.

Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

The overall strategy for Solano County includes addressing the identified needs of youth through an Evidence Based curriculum, including cognitive behavioral therapy and teaching of independent living skills to address delinquency and reduce recidivism rates for youth in the juvenile justice system.

Regional Agreements

Solano County does not have any regional agreements or arrangements.

Funded Programs, Placements, Services, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP)

The EMP program provides for increased monitoring services, and allows youth receiving EMP services to remain in the community to attend school, employment, and community based treatment and programming. EMP is used in lieu of detention in the JDF. 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 conditional release program. Youth participating in these programs are contacted weekly at home, or in the community. Youth released are referred to programs operated in the community and/or the Probation Department to address individual needs.

Mental Health Services

Individual and family mental health services are offered through the Solano County Health and Social Services, Kaiser, and two community based organizations (A Better Way and Seneca Center). Probation 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 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 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, at school, or at the provider's office as appropriate. If a youth is detained at the JDF, services are provided by contracted mental health providers at the facility.

The MIOCR program is a diversion program for youth experiencing mental health issues. The program provides early intervention and treatment services to divert youth from formal involvement in the juvenile justice system. The youth meet with a Diversion Officer at the Sullivan Center who conducts an assessment, currently the Global Assessment of Individual Needs - Short Screener (GAIN-SS) tool, to determine which youth should be referred to the program. For referred youth, the clinician completes the CANS tool, and provides therapeutic interventions and subsequent referrals as appropriate. The Probation Officer provides supervision and supportive services. The Department expanded the MIOCR program beyond diversion youth to service youth under formal probation services as well. As part of the full community approach, training was previously provided to probation, police, educators, community providers, and parents on youth brain development, impacts of trauma, and how to improve the health and safety of mentally ill youth while promoting alternatives to detention and improving community trust.

Substance Abuse Services

Substance abuse services are provided within the community setting, 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. To support treatment, supervision officers have incorporated the use of Carey Guides and Interactive Journaling which focus on maintaining sobriety for youth.

Wellpath

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 youth detained at the JDF. For continuity of services, Wellpath provides for continuation of medical needs following release to the community, or foster care placement.

Restorative/Alternative Justice

Restorative/Alternative Justice programs are offered in partnership with a community based provider, Alternative Restorative Communities, to hold the youth accountable for his/her behavior. The Department operates two programs which focus on restorative justice: The first program includes facilitating restorative justice conferences. This entails a facilitated meeting between victims, offenders, 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 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. The second program, the Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP), is a diversion program designed for low level or first-time offenders. The program uses restorative justice techniques to help youth understand the harm their actions have had on the community or victim, and youth are then given an opportunity to make amends. Juveniles only remain on JCAP as long as needed to successfully complete their contract.

Placement/Foster care

The Probation Department is committed to ensuring that there are coordinated efforts and services to support youth in foster care/group home placement. YOBG funding is used to support program and services for youth in placement during and following their placement episode.

Residential interventions are live-in facilities providing treatment for substance abuse, mental illness, or other behavioral challenges. As part of the Foster Youth Continuum of Care Reform (CCR- AB403), Solano County is committed to increasing home-based family care, improving access to services without changing out-of-home placements to get those services, and increasing the role of children, youth, and families in assessment and case planning. The measure establishes a core practice model to govern all services, whether delivered by a county or licensed provider, and provides medically necessary mental health services to foster care youth regardless of placement setting. As part of the continuum of care reforms, both probation and CWS are working to reduce the time youth spend in group home placements as well as 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 are not ready to live independently, Extended Foster Care benefits act like a safety net to prevent former foster youth from becoming homeless. It extends financial benefits and services on a voluntary basis, to eligible Non-Minor Dependents (NMDs) up to the age of 21. NMDs that wish to participate and receive these financial benefits 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). Services afforded include mental health and support services, employment assistance, healthy relationship skills, and monthly face to face contact and case management. The youth works with a probation officer to develop the TILP, and the Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP).

For youth requiring an escalation to a secure setting, the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is utilized. The 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 juvenile offenders adjudicated under WIC section 707(b) and other specified offenses. There are currently twelve (12) youth from Solano County serving commitments at DJJ. The youth will be supervised by the Probation Department and referred to appropriate services upon their return to the community.

Child and Family Teaming

With a focus on continuum of services, the Probation Department will enhance services with the training for and implementation of Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings. This service will be offered to youth at varying levels of the system with the focus being

placement prevention, reentry and step-down services. This family center service model will provide support to youth and families with the goal of preserving the family unit for placement prevention, or conversely providing reentry step down services to help support the family while reintegration occurs. CFT is an intensive individualized case planning and management process that aims to achieve positive outcomes by meeting the identified needs of the youth and family while addressing a range of life areas. CFT works to develop problem-solving skills, coping skills, and self-efficacy of the youth and their family members. There is an emphasis on integrating the youth into the community and building the family's pro-social support system. As a component of the CFT, we'll look to add a Parent Partner. The Parent Partner will work to connect families to services, serve as a liaison in CFT meetings, and aid in coordination and collaboration efforts in supporting the family system.

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE)

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides for transitional education services for 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 youth that fall under the provisions of 709 WIC, SCOE also provides competency training for probation referred youth, utilizing a curriculum that includes basic civic instruction for the youth and the operation of the court system. Youth are given an initial assessment and re-assessment to gauge their understanding of civics and the juvenile justice system.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Probation, in partnership with the W. Haywood Burns Institute is leading the Solano County Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R.E.D.) Initiative. Representatives from the agencies represented on the JJCC are collaborating to identify whether, and to what extent, racial and ethnic disparities exist in Solano County's juvenile justice system. Utilizing a data driven process, the group has been working to identify disparities, and pilot or adopt policy changes that reduce disparate entry and deeper advancement of Youth of Color in the juvenile justice system.

In addition to the above, beginning in 2017, the W. Haywood Burns Institute reviewed booking criteria, detention data, and met regularly with a team from JDF. Based on the collaborative findings, the booking criteria was revised, and a Detention Screening Tool

(DST) was developed, tested and implemented, ensuring objective measures are utilized in detention decisions. Moving forward, review of data will continue to assure that only youth who present a threat to community safety or likely to flee the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court are detained.

XL-Mentoring Project

Probation, in conjunction with Alternative Restorative Communities, implemented a community mentoring project which pairs matching trained volunteer mentors with juveniles 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. In addition, the mentors are equipped to address challenges that arise with the youth that they are working with.