Tehama County Department of Education
Cohort 3 Project Restore
Local Evaluation Plan

<u>PROJECT BACKGROUND</u>

Information Essential to Understanding the Project

Tehama County Department of Education is the new lead for Project Restore Cohort 3. Effectively, expanding on Cohort 2 City of Corning Project Restore that served 100 participants 12-26 years old annually to Cohort 3 that will serve 150 participants 12-30 years old annually. Cohort 3 also expands services provided from the existing mental health, substance use disorder treatment, and juvenile/adult diversion services to include behavioral support to assist with transition from incarceration back to school for justice involved youth, housing assistance, and workforce readiness services.

Project Restore Cohort 3 will provide activities and services that directly address its stated problems/needs by continuing both the Cohort 2 Adolescent Diversion and the Adult Diversion programs, which utilize Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and coordinated case management for evidence-based drug treatment and wrap-around support services, and in Cohort 3 Project Restore bolsters its focus on housing, education, and employment supports. Project Restore Cohort 3 leverages federal, state, regional, and local resources to target adolescents and adults arrested, charged with, and/or convicted of criminal offenses who have mental health issues and possibly suffer from substance use disorders. Project Restore Cohort 3 youth are assessed by a licensed mental health counselor using DSM-V cross-cutting measures to determine the presence and severity of mental health and substance use disorders; similarly, Project Restore adults undergo an assessment used to determine mental health and substance use disorders for comprehensive case planning. Project Restore Cohort 3 is a systems change effort designed to move the county's criminal justice system from a reactive, punitive system to one of great accountability that reduces recidivism in the county.

Project Restore Cohort 3 is comprised of three components to address the needs of the target population.

<u>Component 1 ADP</u>: ADP is an evidence-based program validated by the Office of Criminal Justice Planning (crimesolutions.org). ADP is associated with a significant reduction in the rate of recidivism as compared to non-participating offenders formally processed in the criminal justice system. ADP is a strengths-based, advocacy-oriented program. ADP moves offenders from formal processing in the Tehama County justice system and provides them community-based, restorative services and linkages to trained adult advocates for juveniles and paid Case Coordinators for adults. The goal of ADP is to prevent future criminal activity by strengthening offenders' attachment to pro-social individuals, creation of empathy and personal responsibility, and increasing access to education, employment, health, and housing resources within the community.

<u>Component 2 Mental Health Services</u>: Mental health services are provided to all enrolled participants. Each referred individual is assessed by a licensed mental health therapist using DSM-V cross-cutting measures to determine presence and severity of mental health disorders. Individual DSM assessments are subsequently provided as indicated and include measures of trauma, mood, and anxiety disorders. Research has shown linkages between exposure to

violence and later depression and social maladjustment. In addition, those exposed to violence are more likely to have "poorer educational attainment, lower levels of employment, and higher levels of criminal activity". Mental health therapists provide weekly counseling sessions for Project Restore clients using Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). CBT is a mental health approach that has shown to be effective through multiple randomized trials. Furthermore, CBT is provided in individual and familial group sessions in both English and Spanish.

Component 3 Substance Use Treatment: All enrolled participants are assessed to determine the presence and severity of substance abuse disorders. Individual and group treatment services are provided along with integrated family-based programming. Treatment is linked to Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) that addresses the interrelation between trauma and symptoms of trauma such as substance abuse, eating disorders, depression, and anxiety. Project Restore participants are also provided Moral Reconation Therapy to address criminogenic thinking related to substance abuse. Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is offered to those who abuse opioids. MAT combines behavioral therapy and medications to treat substance use disorders. These intensive therapeutic approaches show increased positive outcomes for clients with dual-diagnoses.

Project Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: A reduction in the recidivism rate among Project Restore clients (ages 12-30)

- Objective 1: By June 2023, and each subsequent year, 90% of Project Restore clients will not commit a criminal offense as measured by police arrest, District Attorney, or probation records.

Goal 2: Project Restore clients with diagnosable mental health disorders will display higher levels of functioning and less anti-social behaviors.

- Objective 2: By June 2023 and each subsequent year, 90% of Project Restore clients completing the program will self-report and/or case coordinator report that they have higher levels of functioning and pro-social behaviors using the Tehama County Probation Assessment and Intervention System.

Goal 3: Project Restore clients with diagnosable substance use disorder will no longer use illegal drugs or alcohol.

- Objective 3: By June 2023 and each subsequent year, 90% of Project Restore clients completing the program will not test positive for illegal substances or alcohol and maintain sobriety.

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Logic Model

Inputs/Resources	Activities	Outputs	Process Measures	Outcomes	Impact
BCSS Proposition 47 Grant Funding Tehama County Department of Education In-Kind Funding CBO In-Kind Funding	1. Potential clients referred to Project Restore Cohort 3 are provided need/risk assessments to determine program eligibility. 2. Project Restore Cohort 3 clients are linked with case managers who develop case plans to establish the type and scope of required support activities. 3. Project Restore Cohort 3 clients are linked to evidenced-based mental health counseling, substance use counseling, and pro-social groups/activities that promote sobriety and healthy lifestyles. 4. Project Restore Cohort 3 clients and families are provided access to wrap-around supportive services for housing, counseling, job training/employability skills, and education.	Project Restore Cohort 3 participants receive sufficient treatment and support services to successfully complete their case management plans.	Objective 1: By June 2023, and each subsequent year, 90% of Project Restore Cohort 3 clients will not commit a criminal offense as measured by police arrest, District Attorney, or probation records. Objective 2: By June 2023 and each subsequent year, 90% of Project Restore Cohort 3 clients completing the program will self-report and/or case coordinator report that they have higher levels of functioning and pro-social behaviors using the Tehama County Probation Assessment and Intervention System. Objective 3: By June 2023 and each subsequent year, 90% of Project Restore Cohort 3 clients completing the program will not test positive for illegal substances or alcohol and maintain sobriety.	Goal 1: A reduction in the recidivism rate among Project Restore Cohort 3 clients (ages 12-30) Goal 2: Project Restore Cohort 3 clients with diagnosable mental health disorders will display higher levels of functioning and less anti-social behaviors. Goal 3: Project Restore Cohort 3 clients with diagnosable substance use disorder will no longer use illegal drugs or alcohol	Systems change that moves Tehama County's criminal justice system from a focus on incarceration to least restrictive settings of care. Increase in levels of functioning behavior among juvenile and transitional adults in the community. Decrease in the use of illegal substance among juvenile and transitional adults in the community. Positive changes to the culture of incarceration for juvenile and transitional adult offenders. Changes that improve the lives of Project Restore Cohort 3 participants.

Process Evaluation

The Project Restore Cohort 3 research design compares pre-program measures to post-program completion measures of participant criminal justice involvement, functioning behaviors, and substance use to help determine if the program was implemented as expected. Program participants opt-in to receive support services and voluntarily engage in program activities that are, for the most part, unique to Project Restore Cohort 3 within the County.

Project Restore Cohort 3 inputs and resources include BCSS Proposition 47 Grant Funding, TCDE In-kind funding, and CBO in-kind funding. There are four major categories of activities listed below that will be assessed to measure the expected outcome that *"Project Restore Cohort 3 participants will receive sufficient treatment and support services to successfully complete their case management plans."*

1. Potential clients referred to Project Restore Cohort 3 are provided need/risk assessments to determine program eligibility. This will be measured by tracking the number of referrals received and the number of eligible clients who enter the program.

2. Project Restore Cohort 3 clients are linked with case managers who develop case plans to establish the type and scope of required support activities. This will be measured by tracking the type and frequency of support activities provided to each participant.

3. Project Restore Cohort 3 clients are linked to evidenced-based mental health counseling, substance use counseling, and pro-social groups/activities that promote sobriety and healthy lifestyles. This will be measured by tracking the frequency of mental health counseling and substance use counseling, and the type and frequency of pro-social groups/activities.

4. Project Restore Cohort 3 clients and families are provided access to wrap-around supportive services for housing, counseling, job training/employability skills, and education. This will be measured by tracking the type and frequency of each related activity.

The specific data sources used to measure the inputs, activities, and outputs are listed below by partner organization. Program case managers enter baseline information, including Bureau of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) demographic data, into a Project Restore Cohort 3 Data System. Service delivery data from partners is collected quarterly by case managers and entered into the Project Restore Cohort 3 Data System.

BSCC
- Participant ID
- Participation Status
- Age at Intake
- Gender
- Race
- Level of Education
- Prior Arrests
- Prior Convictions
- Probation/Parole/PRCS

- Days Enrolled
- Employment Status
- Housing Status

Also collected is "Yes/No" for the following BSCC participant level variables:
- Mental Health Treatment
- Substance Use Treatment
- Diversion Participation
- Food, Basic Necessities
- Case Management
- Education Services
- Employment Services
- Family Services
- Health Services
- Housing Services
- Legal Services
- Re-Entry Services
- Social Services
- Transportation Assistance
- Other Support Services

River Cities Counseling
Adolescent Diversion Program client level variables:
- Advocate activity frequency and duration
- Case Coordinator activity frequency and duration
- Community Outreach events frequency and number of participants
- Graduation Celebration dates and number of participants
- Advocates Training frequency and number of participants

Empower Tehama
Adult Diversion Program client level variables:
- Mental Health frequency and type
- Batterer Intervention Program activity frequency
- Incentives frequency
- Housing Support Services frequency

Job Training Center
Employability variables also include:
- Referral Date
- Assessment Date
- Barriers to Employment type
- Maker Space event frequency, type, and number of participants
- Employment Services frequency and type
- High School Diploma, GED and/or Career Technical Education (CTE) certifications earned

Tehama County Department of Education

Education variables include:
- Restorative Group frequency, type, and number of participants
- School Staff training, type, and number of participants
- Parent Engagement activity frequency, type, and number of participants

The Project Restore Cohort 3 Data System is a secure, comprehensive, data collection and reporting system used by Project Restore Cohort 3 Case Coordinators, Case Managers, Advocates, Data Managers, and the local evaluator. The system is designed to provide ongoing monitoring of service implementation, to generate local and BSCC progress reports, and to analyze the impacts of supports and activities from service providers and community-based organizations. The data system provides for real-time comparison of baseline data with outcome data over the life of the program.

Successful program completion for program participants is when an enrolled youth or adult achieves all of their Project Restore Cohort 3 case plan goals. The individualized plans are facilitated by case managers who help ensure that all plan goals are met.

There were several factors in place to help execute project implementation. In particular, the Project Restore Cohort 3 has been formulated on the best practices as well as lessons learned from previous Cohort 1 and Cohort 2. BSCC Prop 47 projects and benefits from having the majority of Cohort 2 partner organization staff members remain in place for Cohort 3. Additionally, the Tehama County Department of Education as the Cohort 3 Project Lead Agency has a proven history of collaborative leadership within Tehama County and brings its expertise to the leadership role in Cohort 3.

Outcome Evaluation

Project Restore Cohort 3 outcome evaluation is designed to collect ample quantifiable evidence to measure the program's outcome, which is the rate of program completion for enrolled participants who were law enforcement engaged and assessed with mental health issues, and who may also have been assessed with substance abuse issues. The outcome measures seek to determine the level of improvement in participants' mental health, the level of reduction in their adverse substance use, as well as the level of reduction in both juvenile and adult recidivism. Outcome evaluation data is collected quarterly and analyzed annually to measure the level of client participation, the project's fidelity to the evidenced-based diversion model, and the level of achievement of the expected impacts.

The Project Restore Cohort 3 outcomes to be assessed are as follows:
- Engagement/Enrollment statistics
- Case Management type and frequency of participant contacts and support services
- Advocate type and frequency of participant activities and support services
- Tehama County Probation crime records and probation arrest data
- Mental Health Therapy frequency
- Substance Use Treatment frequency
- Housing status
- Employment status

Change brought about by the Project Restore Cohort 3, if achieved, will most likely be due to the project because its activities are not being replicated for the targeted population within

Tehama County in either a similar comprehensive program or in the consistent dosage being utilized.

The strategy for determining whether recidivism may be lower at the end of the project relative to before the project began will be an analysis of the respective rates of recidivism for participants who successfully complete Project Restore Cohort 3 compared with those who are unsuccessful.

The primary analysis of data is to compare change over time for program participants. Improving participants' mental health, reducing their adverse substance use, and the reduction of both juvenile and adult recidivism should contribute to the project's expected impacts listed below.

- Systems change that moves Tehama County's criminal justice system from a focus on incarceration to least restrictive settings of care.
- Increase in levels of functioning behavior among juvenile and transitional adults in the community.
- Decrease in the use of illegal substance among juvenile and transitional adults in the community.
- Positive changes to the culture of incarceration for juvenile and transitional adult offenders.
- Changes that improve the lives of Project Restore Cohort 3 participants.