City of Corning

Proposition 47 Grant Cohort 1

Final Local Evaluation Report

June 16, 2017 through August 15, 2021
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Executive Summary

“Did the project work as intended?”

Project RESTORE’s design was intended to effectively address the needs of juveniles in Tehama County’s criminal justice system who suffered with moderate to severe diagnosable mental health issues and, in many instances, also suffered with substance abuse disorders. The outcome data affirmed that the RESTORE project did in fact work as intended.

“What were the project accomplishments?”

The most significant accomplishment was a dramatic reduction in the rate of recidivism for RESTORE enrolled youth that was 5% (3/61) at the conclusion of the project when compared to a 25% recidivism rate for juveniles at the beginning of the program. The diversion project prevented future delinquency by strengthening the RESTORE youth’s attachment to pro-social individuals, by fostering empathy and personal responsibility, and through increasing their access to resources within their community.

Another accomplishment included the development of a collaborative approach that brought together law enforcement officers, probation officers, school officials, parents, and RESTORE staff who coalesced their efforts to mentor, teach, and affirm RESTORE youth as they did their part to successfully complete program requirements.

“What goals were accomplished?”

The first RESTORE goal was to reduce the rate of recidivism for juvenile offenders. The second goal was for RESTORE youth to achieve higher levels of functioning and to reduce their anti-social behaviors. The third goal was to free RESTORE youth from their use of illegal drugs and alcohol.

All three goals were accomplished by engaging RESTORE youth in a minimum of 14 weeks of therapy with a licensed mental health counselor, in at least 18-weeks of the Michigan State Adolescent Diversion Program with a trained adult advocate, and in alcohol and drug abuse treatment as needed.

The RESTORE program target was to engage 50 youth per year over the grant period, which included a world-wide pandemic that caused significant problems and barriers (see below). However, even in the face of these obstacles, RESTORE engaged 188 youth of which 88 were screened and assessed but not enrolled, and 100 were enrolled. Of the 100 enrolled youth, 61 successfully completed the life-changing RESTORE program.

“What problems/barriers were faced and how where they addressed?”

Barrier 1 was the need to convince some law enforcement agencies that the RESTORE program could have a significant positive impact on youth involved in the justice system. Referrals to the RESTORE program came mainly from law enforcement agencies within the county. Additionally, COVID-19 restrictions, as well as a change in state law, reduced the pool of youth referrals suitable for the RESTORE program that adversely impacted reaching the target numbers.
Barrier 1 was addressed primarily by perseverance of the RESTORE Case Coordinators who made multiple in-person contacts with agency representatives and officers, they conducted weekly conferences with probation officers, and they processed all contacts and referrals in a timely manner. Secondly, the ongoing success stories of youth bolstered RESTORE’s claims about the program’s worth to the enrolled youth and to the community at large.

Barrier 2 was the rural geography of the service area that made transportation of youth a challenge that turned out to be a consistent problem for many RESTORE youth.

Barrier 2 was mostly mitigated by Case Coordinators transporting youth to their counseling appointments as well as Advocates transporting youth to RESTORE activities.

Barrier 3 was that the RESTORE program initially collaborated with Tehama County Probation to ensure that all youth were assessed with the JAIS at intake and at graduation to monitor and measure levels of risk and youth functioning. The JAIS was found to be an adequate instrument for juvenile case planning, but not adequate for showing changes in youth functioning over time, which was one of the initial program goals.

Barrier 3 was mitigated by the use of the Teen Assessment of Functioning Inventory (TAFI) that is designed to measure youth functioning over time and the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) that is designed to measure levels of risk over time.

Barrier 4 was an unknown issue at the onset of the RESTORE program. SB 190 that was signed into state law October 2017 changed how juveniles were managed by Tehama County Probation. The result was that far fewer juveniles remained under probation supervision for more than six months, which was too short a time to completing the RESTORE program. The impact included the reality that post-JAIS data for many juveniles became unavailable. Some RESTORE youth who had been in the program longer than six months had their probation records automatically sealed, and there were others whose records were sealed because of judicial orders, which prohibited accessing JAIS data once the records were sealed.

A secondary impact was that many juveniles who would have gone into probation supervision with previous laws were referred to RESTORE for services without a JAIS being conducted because the juveniles never officially entered Tehama County Probation supervision.

The impact on the RESTORE evaluation plan was that the original comparison group of non-RESTORE juveniles essentially disappeared. At the end of the RESTORE program, JAIS records showed that 82% of juveniles who had been administered the JAIS by Tehama County Probation had been referred to the RESTORE program.

Two adjustments were made to address Barrier 4: 1) RESTORE Case Coordinators used the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) to help show changes in risk levels over time, and 2) RESTORE therapists began administering the Teen Assessment of Functioning Inventory (TAFI) pre-post structured interview instrument with RESTORE youth to measure functioning and anti-social behaviors. The limitation was that the YLS/CMI and the TAFI were not administered to non-RESTORE juveniles for a
comparison group, which was primarily because probation was not in favor of adding another lengthy instrument similar to its existing mandatory one.

Lastly, but certainly not the least in impact, was Barrier 5: the world-wide COVID-19 pandemic. Support systems across the county shut down for weeks and months during the final year of the grant period and had the potential to undo much of the RESORE successes up to that point in time. The COVID-19 restrictions caused schools and social service agencies to close including halting DOJ LiveScan services that precluded new RESTORE Advocates from getting background clearances. The clearances that were required for the Advocates to work directly with the youth became a major issue for M’BIAH trained Advocates who were unable to directly mentor youth. These and other restrictions disrupted weekly meetings and activities with youth and extended the program duration for many of them. The COVID-19 restrictions also increased the need for vital individual and family therapy.

- Therapists were able to adapt counseling sessions to meet the needs of the youth through a combination of in-person sessions, video conferencing platforms such as TeleHealth, and over the phone. Most of the services, including counseling, were normally conducted at the youth’s schools through the end of the academic year.

- RCC Case Coordinators stepped into the role of advocates and maintained ongoing contact with youth and their families through socially-distant in-person sessions, video conferencing, and over the phone.

- The M’BIAH Case Coordinator conducted as many of the 18-week adolescent program modules as possible, 5 out of the 18-week program, in lieu of M’BIAH trained Advocates who were unable to conduct the modules because of delays in receiving DOJ LiveScan clearances.

“What unintended outcomes (positive and negative) were produced?”

The COVID-19 situation produced one unintended outcome. The pandemic required the immediate establishment of preventative measures implemented to reduce exposure to the virus involving extensive hygiene training for staff as well as communication with youth and their families regarding the adaptations. Attentiveness to the preventative measures kept RESTORE youth and staff 100% COVID-19 free.

A second unintended outcome that resulted from COVID-19 happened during school restrictions when school bus operations were postponed. RESTORE Case Coordinators personally transported enrolled youth to their RESTORE activities that allowed for many more hours of face-to-face interaction that significantly increased opportunities for mentoring and building meaningful relationships.

A third unintended outcome that resulted from COVID-19 was that even though schools closed and went to distant learning models and county probation activities were severely reduced, RESTORE was able to maintain contact with enrolled youth and provide vital therapy and counseling services during the pandemic.
“Where there any lessons learned?”

The protocol for transitioning youth from the referring agencies was immensely important in establishing trust of the RESTORE staff with both the youth and their guardians. The “hand-off” was a critical component in securing success with youth that were referred to RESTORE. When representatives of referring agencies introduced Case Coordinators to the youth and their guardians a heightened understanding of the urgency and necessity of the program for the youth was instilled that resulted in increases in positive engagement during the program that contributed to a higher completion rate.

Initially, informing youth and their guardians about RESTORE had been solely the consequence of interactions with law enforcement agencies. Over time, the reputation of the program within the community encouraged word-of-mouth contacts with RESTORE staff from school officials, interested guardians, and even siblings of RESTORE youth.

It was also discovered that when RESTORE Case Coordinators maintained ongoing and positive relationships with each youth’s school administrators, including conferring at the school level, the noticeable benefit was increased positive youth participation in school along with a reduction in RESTORE youth being removed from school for disciplinary reasons.

The data collection plan was a tremendous tool for tracking activities that contributed to the success of the RESTORE program. The Case Coordinators worked closely with the RESTORE Evaluator to develop the original data system and subsequently made modifications to it to streamline their data collection and analysis that helped monitor youth progress during the program.

The length of time it frequently took to intake new youth was a very important lesson that was learned. There were cases where it took weeks to complete the process from initial engagement until a youth was formally enrolled into the RESTORE program, denied because of unsuitability, or they opted out. The RESTORE data tracking system was designed to capture multiple dates that marked various steps in the intake process. The data included a "Referral Date" when youth were initially engaged followed in sequence with an "Intake Interview Date" when the first step in screening for suitability was conducted and demographic data was entered, a “Therapist Interview Date” as a second step on screening if needed or to start case planning, a “Pre-Assessment Date for the YLS/CMI”, a “Participation Agreement Date” to establish program compliance, a “Release of Information Date” to help meet legal requirements, and a “Paired with Advocate Date.” The time between the "Intake Interview Date” and then being enrolled, denied, or opting out often required a significant amount of time and resources to ensure program suitability and to ensure that all legal requirements were being met.

Project Description

The Tehama County RESTORE Program was an adolescent diversion program that integrated the Michigan State’s Adolescent Diversion Program with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and evidence-based drug treatment services with coordinated case management services focused on housing, education, and employment. RESTORE leveraged federal, state, regional, and local resources to target arrested, charged, and/or convicted adolescents with criminal offenses and with a history
of mental health issues and/or substance use disorders. RESTORE was designed to engage juvenile offenders throughout Tehama County. Youth risk and needs were initially assessed through the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) that was subsequently replaced with the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI), the Teen Assessment of Functioning (TAFI), and intake interviews to determine suitability as well as case planning with the goal of increasing youth functioning and decreasing youth recidivism.

Project Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: The recidivism rate among juvenile offenders enrolled in RESTORE will decrease.

Objective 1: By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not commit a criminal offense as measured by police arrest and/or juvenile probation records.

Goal 2: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable mental health disorders will have higher levels of functioning and less anti-social behaviors.

Objective 2: By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will self-report higher levels of functioning and pro-social behaviors as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS).

Goal 3: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable substance abuse disorders will no longer use illegal drugs and alcohol.

Objective 3: By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not self-report using illegal drugs and/or alcohol as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS).

Research Design

The RESTORE design was a quasi-experimental model with non-equivalent group design. The groups consisted of youth under Tehama County Probation supervision and youth selected to participate in the RESTORE program. Both groups were to be assessed with the JAIS to determine risk levels. The adolescent diversion program served as the single intervention for which multiple measures were employed to analyze results. The evaluation was designed to determine program impact by comparing rates of recidivism for both groups as well as changes in functioning in the treatment group, however, as described within this report, the comparison group population diminished in size that prohibited between group analysis.

Process Evaluation

The RESTORE process evaluation utilized several methods to ensure that proposed activities were carried out with fidelity: 1) RESTORE Case Coordinators and Advocates were trained in the use of a secure online data system for tracking program activities; 2) the Project Director oversaw RESTORE Therapists and tracked the frequency and duration of client therapy sessions, and 3) Case Coordinators used mobile devices to log the frequency and duration of client contacts in the field. Quarterly analysis of program data was used for project monitoring to help ensure that the project maintained a match with its underlying theories.
Outcome Evaluation

RESTORE engaged in ongoing process evaluation activities that directly contributed to the outcomes. The outcome measures were quantifiable and matched Proposition 47’s intent to make measurable improvements in juvenile recidivism, mental health, and substance abuse. The outcome measures included: 1) an analysis of the fidelity of the RESTORE 18-week program timeline; 2) an analysis of the pre-post TAFI scores; 3) an analysis of recidivism, and 4) an analysis of RESTORE Data System variables and indicators.

Organizational Changes

The RESTORE organization remained unchanged for the first three years of the grant when program services were provided by River Cities Counseling (RCC). One Case Coordinator left the organization during that period and was immediately replaced, so there was negligible adverse impact on the organization or program operation.

The BSCC approved a RESTORE budget revision request that extended Cohort 1 program activities from April 2021 through August 15, 2021. Program services were provided by M’Biah LLC (M’Biah) during that period of the grant.

Staff Training

RCC RESTORE Case Coordinator training was conducted prior to the beginning of grant activities for 3 RCC Case Coordinators that continued weekly throughout the first three years of the grant.

RCC RESTORE Advocate training was conducted when the volunteers joined the project and additional training was provided periodically when program changes were initiated or when new components were established. There were 15 Advocate training sessions conducted during the grant period. A significant element of RESTORE was the matching of volunteer Advocates to conduct the Adolescent Diversion program with youth. Advocates were recruited from surrounding community entities, colleges and universities, and faith-based organizations. There were 101 community networking events that drew 1,210 participants. The events were sponsored by RESTORE Case Coordinators for recruitment purposes.

M’BIAH had 1 Case Coordinator who began April 2021 and trained 7 volunteer Advocates to conduct the Adolescent Diversion program with youth.

New/Altered Assessment Instruments

All RESTORE assessment instruments were evidence-based, and when used in the program were conducted with fidelity without alteration.

Outcome Measures & Results

DEMOGRAPHICS

Enrolled youth were assigned a Case Coordinator who conducted pre-post assessments, matched each youth with an Advocate, and supervised intervention activities for each youth. The RESTORE enrolled cohort matched proportionally with the overall Tehama County Probation juvenile
population in gender, ethnicity race/ethnicity, and age at intake. The tables and charts below display the percentages for each demographic component.

**RESTORE Youth Gender, Ethnicity, and Age at Intake Frequencies (n=100)**

**RESTORE Youth Gender**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RESTORE Youth Ethnicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African-American</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than one race</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RESTORE Youth Age at Intake**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RISK LEVEL

Initially, RESTORE referrals were reviewed for suitability that included each juvenile’s assessed JAIS risk level. RESTORE strove to enroll juveniles identified with the highest likelihood for success, which were typically moderate to low risk levels on the JAIS. Juveniles with high JAIS risk levels tended to strongly resist working with Advocate volunteers or comply with expectations to meet with therapists or drug and alcohol counselors. The chart below displays the risk levels for the 98 juveniles assessed with JAIS.

Beginning in September 2017, RESTORE Case Coordinators administered 46 pre-YLS/CMI assessments as part of screening youths’ risk levels for program suitability. The instrument provided indicators of Low, Moderate, or High for eight domains that included Offenses/Depositions (OD), Family Factors (FF), Education/Employment (EE), Peer Relations (PR), Substance Abuse (SA), Leisure/Recreation (LR), Personality Behavior (PB), and Attitude/Orientation (AO). The chart below displays the results of the pre-assessment.
ADOLESCENT DIVERSION PROGRAM

Enrolled RESTORE youth participated in an 18-week adolescent diversion program based on the 1976 Michigan State University model. The conceptual framework of the model involved social control theory that emphasized the importance of social bonds in preventing delinquent behavior, social learning theory where delinquency is a learned behavior through interactions with family, peers, and others, and social-interactionist theory where the labeling of behavior as delinquent results in further social interactions that intentionally or unintentionally label youth as delinquent.

The strengths-based program diverted youth from formal processing into the Tehama County juvenile justice system and provided them with community-based services. The goal was to prevent future delinquency by strengthening the youth’s attachment to their families and other prosocial individuals, by increasing the youth’s access to resources in the community, and by keeping the youth from the potentially stigmatizing social contexts of the juvenile justice system.

A key component within the RESTORE adolescent diversion program was creating an effective alternative to juvenile court processing within a strengths-based, advocacy framework. During the 18-week intervention, the RESTORE Advocates (community volunteers) spent 6–8 hours per week with the youth in their homes, schools, and communities. Advocates worked one-on-one with youth and provided them services tailored to their specific needs. The time spent with RESTORE Advocates was focused on improving the youth’s skills in family relationships, school issues, employment, and free-time activities.

Successful completion of the RESTORE program was determined by youth being active and engaged for at least 18-weeks. The verification included 1) confirmation of the youth’s participation in mandated components outlined for each week of the program as measured by RESTORE Advocate records, 2) confirmation of the youth’s progress in mental health and substance use as measured by RESTORE Therapist records, 3) confirmation of the youth’s progress in functioning and anti-social behaviors as measured by the TAFI, and 4) confirmation of the youth’s progress in risk/need as measured by a pre-post comparison of YLS/CMI levels.

RESTORE youth who did not complete the program were treated in the research as non-completers. Frequency and dosage analyses were conducted where possible to show how differences in outcomes could be linked to higher frequency and dosage for the youth who were successful. Initial screening by a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist for youth suitability was an important factor that contributed to the rate of successful program completion. Youth who did not qualify for RESTORE because they lacked a criminal history or mental health issues received RESTORE assistance through limited counseling as well as referrals to other agencies that helped meet their behavioral or psychological needs.

Referrals to the RESTORE program were received primarily from Tehama County Probation that reviewed all cases of incoming juveniles for potential suitability. The probation referral criteria for RESTORE consideration included a review of each juvenile’s age at intake, their offense history, and JAIS risk level. Also, since the RESTORE service area is located in rural Tehama County, probation officers get to know residents quite well and are able to add additional context to the referral review process. For example, a juvenile who committed a misdemeanor and scored as
low risk on the JAIS, but also associated with family or other community members with high levels of historical criminal justice involvement may well have been a good candidate for RESTORE if a criminogenic mindset had not yet been established.

A RESTORE Case Coordinator provided the following: “Youth referred to RESTORE have generally endured experiences, both self-induced and outside of their control, that hindered their emotional, behavioral, and psychological development. Though naturally resilient, they have been subjected to difficulties and inconsistencies in their young lives that contributed to needing the types of services that RESTORE could provide. Further complicating this condition is that these youth had often experienced multiple caregivers in unstable living situations subjecting them to whims of the custodial adults in their lives. Consequently, even when significant time was spent building positive relationships and demonstrating stable life habits while in the RESTORE program, custodial adults could too easily derail the positive progress by prematurely removing their youth from RESTORE. There were 17 enrolled youth in Cohort 1 who were on the verge of successful completion when their custodial adults removed them. Some relocated outside of Tehama County and others were removed without the adult providing any rational reason. RESTORE cannot quantify for this report its success with these youth, but it is certain that they were positively impacted by RESTORE in significant ways.”

Initial clinical interviews were conducted by a RESTORE licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who screened for functioning, substance use issues, and psychological orientation. The table below displays the frequency of youth engagement, enrollment, and successful completion by program year.

### RESTORE Engagement, Enrollment, and Completion by Program Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># Engaged but not Assessed</th>
<th># Engaged, Referred or Screened, and Assessed</th>
<th># Enrolled</th>
<th># Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1: September 2017 - September 2018</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2: October 2018 - October 2019</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3: October 2019 - August 15, 2020</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4: May 2021 - August 15, 2021</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All RESTORE youth were expected to participate in scheduled activities with their volunteer Advocates for a minimum of 18 weeks. The Advocates were trained to deliver the adolescent diversion program. It is noteworthy that the youth who successfully completed the program averaged 18 activities with their Advocates while in the program, yet those who did not successfully complete the program averaged 9 activities with their Advocates.

**Mental Health and Substance Use Therapy**

RESTORE youth had access to mental health therapy with licensed counselors on a weekly basis. RCC RESTORE Therapists provided mental health services for all enrolled youth, and substance use counseling sessions as needed, on a weekly basis. Each session lasted approximately 1 hour. The RESTORE evaluator began collecting RCC mental health therapy data for analysis in October 2018 that totaled of 1,047 sessions through August 15, 2021.
It is noteworthy that the RCC youth who successfully completed the program averaged 16 therapy sessions while in the program, yet those who did not successfully complete the program averaged 9 therapy sessions while in the program.

The chart below displays the average attendance for RCC mental health and substance use therapy sessions alongside RCC Advocate activities for both graduates and non-graduates.

The M’BIAH RESTORE data for April 2021 through August 15, 2021 showed 6 initial mental health screening sessions and 1 enrolled youth who participated in 4 mental health therapy sessions.

**CONTACTS**

In January 2019, RESTORE Case Coordinators began logging contacts they made with a variety of people as they managed the engagement and enrollment of youth. The contacts helped show the intensity of effort related to interactions with youth and their parents, law enforcement officers, probation officers, school officials, Advocates, etc. to ensure that RESTORE youth had the support needed to position them to be successful. Overall, since January 2019, RCC Case Coordinators logged 3,993 contacts across 88 different topics including various meetings and communication. The majority of the topics were corresponding with Advocates (17%), corresponding with the parents of youth (5%), and corresponding with RESTORE youth (4%).

Beginning in April 2021, the M’BIAH Case Coordinator had opportunities to interact with engaged and enrolled youth primarily in group settings at the youth’s school site and while transporting youth to and from cross-fit workout activities. The data showed 41 group events involving the engaged and enrolled youth.

**FUNCTIONING AND RISK LEVEL**

RESTORE began using the Teen Assessment of Functioning Inventory (TAFI) scales in May 2018 at program intake for initial case planning and again at program completion to see the change over
time in juvenile functioning. A TAFI scale score is a numeric value within a 100-point scale from 1 indicating, “Persistent danger of severely hurting self or others OR persistent inability to maintain minimal personal hygiene OR serious suicidal act with clear expectation of death” to 100 indicating, “Superior functioning in a wide range of activities, life’s problems never seem to get out of hand, is sought out by others because of his or her many positive qualities. No symptoms.” A higher post-scale score indicated positive movement from the pre-score at the beginning of the program to a higher level of functioning at program completion. This means that all youth completing the program significantly increased their social, emotional, educational, and behavioral functioning. There were 31 matched pre-post TAFI assessments conducted from May 2018 through August 15, 2020. The central tendencies for the TAFI scale scores are displayed in the table below.

### TAFI Pre-Post Change (n=31)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range of Change in Scale Scores</th>
<th>Mean of Change in Scale Scores</th>
<th>Mode of Change in Scale Scores</th>
<th>Median of Change in Scale Scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-55</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) helped to evaluate youth risk levels as well as pro-social factors and was utilized in place of the JAIS to help measure change over time. There were 21 matched pre-post scores at the conclusion of the grant.

The YLS/CM contained 42 statements clustered into 8 domains. Each statement was dichotomously coded with values of 1 for “Yes” and 2 for “No” for a highest possible scale score of 42. The “Yes” responses were sub-totaled for each domain. The higher scale score for a youth, the higher the risk/need would be for the youth. Pre-post scale scores were compared in the analysis interpreting that a lower post-scale score would indicate positive pro-social growth.

RESTORE Goal 3 was measured in part with YLS/CMI Substance Use domain data. The results showed that 48% of youth assessed with the YLS/CMI indicated chronic drug use at the beginning of the program and 0% indicated chronic drug use at program completion. The chart below displays the level of change for 21 matched pre-post-scores.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YLS/CMI Risk Level Change (n=21)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low to Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate to Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate to Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High to Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High to Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUPPORT SERVICES

RCC RESTORE Case Coordinators and Advocates began tracking support services information in 2017; however, an intensified focus on tracking took effect in 2019. The tracking showed a combined frequency of 1,247 incidents of support service information distributed to youth and to their families (n=425) as well as actual services known to have been provided to them (n=1,171). The chart below displays the results.

![Graph showing YLS/CMI Pre-Post Scale Scores](image_url)

![Graph showing RESTORE Support Service Frequencies](image_url)
ADVOCATE ACTIVITIES

RCC Advocates interacted with youth weekly for mentoring activities including time to establish effective youth-Advocate relationships, to conduct the 18-week Michigan State Adolescent Diversion Program component, and to participate in a variety of RESTORE special activities. RCC data listed 100 RESTORE Advocates in the data system of which 94 completed specific training to mentor RESTORE youth.

The RCC weekly mentoring activities typically ranged in duration from 30 minutes to 3 hours depending on the topic and the level of the youth’s engagement. The special activities included group camping and fishing events when youth interacted with their Advocates for longer periods of time. RESTORE Advocates tracked 1,149 mentoring activities during the grant.

The M’BIAH Case Coordinator interacted with youth weekly for mentoring activities including time to establish effective relationships, to conduct the 18-week Michigan State Adolescent Diversion Program component, and to participate in cross-fit workouts. The data showed 2 one-on-one mentoring activities with an enrolled youth, and 41 1-hour cross-fit workouts that took place 2 to 3 times per week including interaction during transportation to and from the cross-fit studio location.
COVID 19 Impacts

The COVID-19 pandemic certainly had adverse impacts on RESTORE’s ability to recruit and retain both suitable youth and volunteer Advocates to mentor them. In year 1 of the project, both recruitment and retention had upward trends fostered by the RESTORE Case Coordinators’ efforts to establish and employ protocols for processing referrals from Tehama County law enforcement agencies, and to inform the community at-large about RESTORE Advocate opportunities.

The school closures, juvenile court closures, and changes in juvenile probation case management that happened in the Winter and Spring of 2020 significantly reduced the necessary contacts with at-risk youth who could have benefitted from the RESTORE program. The table below displays the results.

Community restrictions such as shelter-in-place as well as agency restrictions that included the postponement of DOJ fingerprinting significantly reduced the availability of potential volunteer RESTORE Advocates. The table below displays the frequency of advocate applications submitted by program year.
Data Collection and Management Protocols

An integrated online data management system was created to track information for engaged and enrolled participants. The data system security protocols defined hierarchical password protected remote access to Case Coordinators and Advocates for data entry. Therapy data was sent to the Local Evaluator for import into the data system. The relational database was designed and managed by the Local Evaluator who produced progress monitoring reports and summative reports for all data collection components. Individual records were maintained for each enrolled client with related tables for tracking multiple activities across the entire program.

RESTORE youth records contained 214 variables per client that included eligibility criteria (age, juvenile criminal offense, and risk level), demographic information, referral details, and an enrollment checklist. The Local Evaluator developed training materials including “How To” videos and handouts that demonstrated how to access and utilize the data system.

Most data were collected within 24 hours from when activities transpired. The exceptions were therapy session data that was collected and imported on a monthly basis, and recidivism data that was collected quarterly.

The methodology for analyzing the data was at the individual level to help ensure fidelity to the adolescent diversion model and to determine program completion in the aggregate for overall success rates and group trends. It is particularly noteworthy that the RESTORE Staff and Local Evaluator developed a level of trust and accountability in the data collection and analysis protocol that no data issues arose; therefore, there were no difficulties that influenced the final analysis.

Conclusions

What the Results Mean

RESTORE therapy for the youth helped resolve a great deal of emotional trauma for 188 engaged youth within Tehama County. Most engaged youth were screened for suitability with opportunities at each point of contact to provide emotional trauma support to engaged youth and their family members. The greatest positive impact, by far, was with the 61 youth who successfully completed the RESTORE program. Engaged youth learned necessary skills for maintaining healthy relationships with their peers and a variety of adults including Case Coordinators, Advocates, Therapists, law enforcement officers, and school officials. They also learned social skills, employment skills, and goal-setting strategies with measurable objectives to help achieve their goals. RESTORE youth learned how to establish healthy support systems with trusted, responsible adults, how to think for themselves, and to develop healthy ways to celebrate their accomplishments.

The results showed that all three RESORE goals were achieved that 1) reduced recidivism, 2) increased levels of functioning and decreased anti-social behaviors, and 3) decreased illegal substance use in the population served.
**RECIDIVISM**

RESTORE’s ability to reduce recidivism aligned with the definition on page 46 of the RFP, “Recidivism is defined as conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody or committed within three years of placement on supervision for a previous criminal conviction.”

The Tehama County juvenile recidivism rate at the beginning of the RESTORE program in June 2017 was 25%, and at the conclusion of the RESTORE program in August 2021 the rate for RESTORE program completers was 5% (3/61).
## Logic Model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inputs</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Process Measures</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BCSS Proposition 47 Grant Funding</td>
<td>RESTORE Advocate Training</td>
<td>RESTORE Program Graduates</td>
<td><strong>Objective 1:</strong> By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not commit a criminal offense as measured by police arrest and/or juvenile probation records.</td>
<td>Goal 1: The recidivism rate among juvenile offenders enrolled in RESTORE will decrease.</td>
<td>Reduction of illegal substance abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Corning In-kind Funding</td>
<td>RESTORE Adolescent Diversion Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Goal 2: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable mental disorders will have higher levels of functioning and less anti-social behaviors.</td>
<td>Higher levels of juvenile functioning behavior in the community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBO In-kind Funding</td>
<td>Mental Health Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Goal 3: Juvenile offenders with diagnosable substance abuse disorder will no longer use illegal drugs and alcohol.</td>
<td>Change the culture of incarceration of juvenile offenders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Substance Use Treatment</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Objective 2:</strong> By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will self-report higher levels of functioning and pro-social behaviors as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Change and improve the lives of RESTORE participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interagency Case Management (Housing, Education, Employment, Legal)</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Objective 3:</strong> By June 2018, and each year thereafter, 90% of RESTORE youth completing the 18-week program will not self-report using illegal drugs and/or alcohol as measured by the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grantee Highlights

SUCCESS STORIES

1. Youth 1 was not attending school when she entered the program. She was physically fighting with her mother regularly, abusing drugs and alcohol, and not living at home consistently. By the end of the program, she had graduated high school with the goal of becoming a special education teacher; her RESTORE Case Coordinator helped her get a driver’s license and a job. She attended all of her therapy sessions while in the program and by the time she completed the RESTORE program she was clean and sober. She is currently clean and sober, attends college, and stays in touch with RESTORE Case Coordinators and Advocate.

2. Youth 2 was suspended from school for fighting numerous times, was placed in partial day attendance in middle school, was a regular runaway, and had a general disrespect and distrust for authority. Through contact with his RESTORE Advocate, it was learned that he had a dream of becoming a fishing guide. With his Advocate’s help he started participating in regular fishing trips and ultimately was able to attend a licensed chartered fishing trip on the Sacramento River. He maintains regular contact with his former RESTORE Case Coordinator and Advocate and attends his high school on a regular basis.

3. Youth 3 entered RESTORE with troublesome behaviors including several instances of campus theft committed against students and faculty. She was removed from school numerous times for behavioral issues and experienced severe childhood psychological trauma and family discord, but through RESTORE therapy was able to resolve many of those issues in a demonstrable way. Her RESTORE Advocate was able to help her establish a network of friends and family that gave her an alternative community quite different from the previous destructive one. She created a healthy support system with her Advocate’s assistance and is now an honor roll student with excellent attendance, a multi-sport athlete with several extracurricular activities, and has healthy relationships with her peers and adults in her life.
Appendix

These photos are of a RESTORE excursion to the Pacific Coast that for many youth participants was their first time seeing the ocean or fishing in it. River Cities Counseling acquired signed permission forms to display the photos below.