

# (2021-2022) Annual Plan

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County Name: El Dorado

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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. [hilary.gayhart@edcgov.us](mailto:hilary.gayhart@edcgov.us)

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

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

## Juvenile Justice Plan

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

### **A. Assessment of Existing Services**

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

Many agencies in El Dorado County collaborate to provide resources in order to assist and serve youth in the community. These resources are available to youth currently or previously involved in the justice system, as well as youth who are at risk of being justice involved. Below are available resources:

The El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, the Placerville Police Department, and the South Lake Tahoe Police Department participate in the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program, which dedicates officers to respond to school related service calls. The SRO's also present educational opportunities to faculty and parents in order to encourage youth from engaging in at-risk activities.

The County Office of Education provides various education related services for youth, including individualized learning plans as well as services specific to foster youth.

Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health division, ensures Specialty Mental Health Services are provided to referred youth found appropriate for services, through locally based service providers.

The El Dorado County Dual Status Youth Initiative (DSY) provides a coordinated approach between Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Services, and the Probation Department in order to provide services to youth who are involved in both the dependency and juvenile justice systems. The DSY population have unique needs that must be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Both agencies collaborate to provide specific services appropriate to each youth without duplicating services. Services are coordinated through Multi-Agency Case Staffings where the individual family circumstances and history are discussed in order to determine appropriate next steps in the best interest of the youth. Informal handling, based on the needs of the youth, may be considered as court proceedings may not be necessary and/or appropriate for every youth.

The Peer Council in El Dorado County exists as a collaboration between the Probation Department and Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health division, to divert youth from further delinquent behavior by promoting victim awareness, accountability, and restorative justice to their communities. The concept for this early intervention program is to empower youth to

positively change their lives by addressing poor choices and anti-social behaviors in a collaborative, peer-supported environment where teaching and accountability take place to facilitate change. The Peer Council model promotes peer advocacy in an effort to avoid future delinquency and immersion into the juvenile justice system.

The Probation Department also supports justice-involved youth ordered to foster care. When a placement order is made by the court, the Probation Department will place the youth in the most appropriate setting after evaluation of numerous factors, including, but not limited to: the minor's educational needs, mental health needs, substance abuse history, risk and responsivity factors, ability to thrive in the parental home, and the parent stability and/or availability. Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings are an important component of ensuring the needs of youth and families are met.

Through a number of local providers, youth are referred to community-based organizations in the community for counseling and treatment, which is individualized to address the need, such as drug and alcohol, family, trauma related, etc.

The Juvenile Service Council is a non-profit corporation of volunteers committed to working and supporting justice-involved youth in detention or in the community. The JSC organizes activities, participates in the observance of holidays, assists the Chaplain, provides tutoring, donates items, and members provide mentorship to youth.

An officer from the Probation Department and Big Brothers and Big Sisters have an opportunity to work together to pair a youth with a "Big" in our community. A "Big" who has knowledge and experience with justice-involved youth is matched with a "Little."

With local law enforcement agencies, community treatment providers, community-based organizations, education representatives, the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, and Judges, the Probation Department participates in The Drug Store Project in South Lake Tahoe, a drug prevention program that educates over 300 sixth-grade students.

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

With a 2018 Bellwether grant through the County Office of Education, the county developed the El Dorado County Commission for Youth and Families (the "Commission") in 2020. The original vision was to develop a streamlined shared system of communication to enable providers to understand the needs and services of a particular youth or family more efficiently as to not duplicate services nor put youth and families through the trauma of repeatedly "telling their story" to a number of providers. Various government agencies throughout El Dorado County, as well as community-based organizations, worked together to ultimately develop the Commission. The Commission does not take the place of any existing service, program, or agency. Instead, its purpose is to act as an organizing structure to better coordinate resources so that systems themselves are able to seamlessly support the people that they serve without gaps or duplication. The goal is that by 2023, County partners will consistently use an integrated, transparent, and data- driven system of services to ensure all young people have access to the social, emotional, educational, and/or health services they need.

Often, collaboration relies heavily on relationships between individuals and organizations in order to communicate and coordinate services for specific youth and families.

**B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas**

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

The Probation Department does not identify or prioritize services based on neighborhoods, schools, or geographical areas.

### **C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy**

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

The Probation Department is responsible for the intake, investigation, court, detention, detention alternatives, supervision, and out of home (foster care) placement for youth referred by law enforcement to the Probation Department. The Department also facilitates prevention efforts to youth in the community. The Department is committed to respecting human rights and diversity, fostering transparency through accountability and communication, and providing exemplary service by leading with integrity, humility, honesty and equality.

The Probation Department operates under the Risk, Need, Responsivity (RNR) principles that have been proved through scientific research to facilitate behavioral change and reduce recidivism. Youth referred to the Probation Department are assessed and classified by a combination of assessment tools, including the application of the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) Full-Screen, the PACT Pre-Screen, the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI), the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI), and the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) assessment. The Department periodically conducts evaluations of available assessments appropriate for various populations and adjusts practices to ensure an evidence-based and culturally responsive approach to evaluating each youth or young adult.

The results from the assessment tools are used to inform court reports, custody decisions, and supervision standards. Results are also used to inform case plans and treatment plans based on criminogenic needs and protective factors. Supervision caseloads are assigned by risk level and each risk level follows a contact standard developed to prioritize probation officer resources to those youth that most require services, while protecting the low risk youth from unnecessary involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The purpose of assessment standards is to provide the most appropriate supervision level and treatment tools to assist youth with positive behavioral changes, minimize the risk of harm to public safety, as well as inform necessary changes to practices and procedures that most benefit youth.

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

Additional details and updated information were added to the existing program descriptions. Various grammatical corrections were made throughout the plan.

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

N/A

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

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

The Probation Department utilizes the software Caseload Explorer by Automon to enter and store the majority of data related to justice-involved youth. Caseload Explorer provides a secure technology for protecting, organizing, sharing, and managing client information. The application is able to be connected and integrated with multiple applications and the Department is currently in the process of integrating Caseload Explorer with the assessment and case planning tools provided by Noble Software Group. Noble and Caseload Explorer contain all data related to each youth, such as: charges, dispositions, identifying information, detention data, contact events, placement information, treatment programs, assessment results, and case plans. The data obtained through Caseload Explorer and Noble is used to track recidivism, inform decisions, compare key performance indicators, as well as provide measures pertinent to Administrators in order to effectively organize resources.

While Caseload Explorer contains all placement (foster care) information pertinent to the Probation Department, the Department also understands the role other community resources have in the lives of foster youth, and has partnered with these agencies in order to access, utilize and share data with a number of information systems specific to youth in foster care.

Probation partners with Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Services, for access to Child Welfare Services / Case Management System (CWS/CMS). This system is used by probation officers to not only to record services provided to youth in placement, but also to screen and access child abuse/neglect information on all youth referred to the Department. This information is used to identify Dual Status Youth, youth involved in both the juvenile justice as well as the dependency systems, where Probation collaborates with Child Welfare in order to provide effective services.

For youth ordered to placement, again in collaboration with Child Welfare, Probation uses the software program Binti to assist resource families through the Resource Family Application process. Binti collects pertinent information related to families applying to become a resource family for a youth, and the data is shared with Child Welfare, as well as allows resource families to submit information electronically.

Probation also partners with the County Office of Education in order to access the statewide Foster Focus data system. This data system provides access to current academic records that are used by probation officers to ensure timely enrollment in school when a youth moves or is



ordered to foster care.

In addition to the above information systems, Probation has purchased access to the software LexisNexis by Accurint to conduct family finding for youth. When Family Reunification with a parent/guardian is not appropriate, finding a permanent family is often the primary goal when youth enter out-of-home care. However, they also may need to establish, re-establish, or strengthen meaningful connections with people who are not immediate members of their permanent families. Youth may wish to maintain contact with relatives, friends, or other supports that were part of their lives when residing with their birth families. Additionally, youth may be greatly assisted by creating and maintaining connections with caring adults as they potentially transition out of foster care and into independent living situations.

## **B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils**

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

yes

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

N/A

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

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

Below are JJCPA funded programs reported by the county.

## Program Name:

Community Supervision and Prevention

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The Probation Department utilizes Risk, Need, Responsivity (RNR) principles while working with youth under supervision, a program proven to reduce the risk of recidivism. James Bonta and Don A. Andrews, Risk-Need- Responsivity Model for Offender Assessment and Rehabilitation (Ottawa: Public Safety Canada, 2007).

Motivational Interviewing (MI) rated as "Well-Supported" by The Prevention Services Clearinghouse.

Programming is also based upon Core Correctional Practices (CCP), and Clinical Case Management Principles/Practices.

## Description:

El Dorado County Probation in collaboration with local education professionals, law enforcement agencies and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) developed an action strategy that provides a continuum of services and responses to address causes of juvenile delinquency for youth in the community. To execute the strategy, the Probation Department employs dedicated probation officers to supervise justice-involved youth and perform preventative work with at-risk youth in the community.

Justice-involved youth are supervised according to the Risk, Need, Responsivity (RNR) principles. Officers meet with youth in familiar locations such as family homes, work locations or school campuses (including charter school locations, home school environments, or detention facility classrooms) in order to meet supervision contact standards for youth based on their risk to reoffend. Officers are available for immediate support and intervention when appropriate or

necessary.

With assistance from education professionals, parents, counselors, and members of CBOs, probation officers are well positioned to identify at-risk youth and facilitate connective services to address each youth's individual needs. The officers provide intervention by connecting youth to community counseling service providers or other identified services as appropriate.

Officers utilize a myriad of available resources and tools to effectively supervise justice-involved youth and provide services to at-risk youth as well as their respective families. Services and programs include, but are not limited to 3rd Millennium courses, Peer Council, parenting classes, counseling, individualized re-entry/prevention services or goods to support the family or youth, Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Change Companies journaling/classes, etc. As part of prevention services, Probation coordinates outreach at community events such as El Dorado County Fair and National Night Out where goods that support education (backpacks, notebooks and other school supplies) are provided to youth. Probation also intends to establish outreach campaigns in the community such as officers reading and providing books to young children at local elementary schools.

To support the overall action strategy, Probation utilizes various information gathering and sharing platforms such as Caseload Explorer by Automon, Noble by Noble Software Group and Accurint by LexisNexis. These software applications track delivery of services to youth as well as allow the department to effectively measure and monitor key performance indicators to ensure an evidence-based approach.

**Program Name:**

Juvenile After Hours Programming

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The Probation Department utilizes Risk, Need, Responsivity (RNR) principles while working with youth under supervision, a program proven to reduce the risk of recidivism. James Bonta and Don A. Andrews, Risk-Need- Responsivity Model for Offender Assessment and Rehabilitation (Ottawa: Public Safety Canada, 2007).

Motivational Interviewing (MI) rated as "Well-Supported" by The Prevention Services Clearinghouse.

Programming is also based upon the following programs: Anger Management/Replacement Skill Building, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Lifeskills, and Pro-social Behaviors.

**Description:**

The Probation Department is working toward providing programs and assistance to youth on the West Slope of El Dorado County after hours and/ or on weekends. Services may include individual and group counseling, anger management, MRT, Lifeskills enrichment, and a variety of pro-social events (ROPES course, supervised outings, homework assistance, etc.). These services may also serve as an alternative to detention for justice- involved youth who may benefit. JJCPA funds may be used to obtain or convert facility space to an area that will facilitate youth activities. JJCPA funds will also be used to supplement staff salaries to coordinate and oversee these activities. Currently, two extra-help probation officers provide programming on Sundays (when scheduled), providing opportunities for moderate and high risk youth in the morning to complete community service hours at the Probation Department by cleaning cars, collecting trash from the parking lot, etc. In the afternoons, a Change Companies journaling session is conducted.

**Program Name:**

Counseling Services

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The Probation Department utilizes Risk, Need, Responsivity (RNR) principles while working with youth under supervision, a program proven to reduce the risk of recidivism. James Bonta and Don A. Andrews, Risk-Need- Responsivity Model for Offender Assessment and Rehabilitation (Ottawa: Public Safety Canada, 2007).

**Description:**

The Probation Department partners with two local community-based organizations (CBOs) to provide a variety of counseling services to justice- involved youth or at-risk youth in the community at no charge to the youth and parent(s)/guardian(s). Services are individualized to the youth and/or family and may include individual therapy, family therapy or alcohol and other drug therapies. For some youth and families, it is appropriate to utilize multiple therapies. Probation manages an eligibility process, using RNR principles, to identify and refer youth who may benefit from individual, alcohol and other drug, or family counseling sessions from highly trained staff.

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

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

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

Given the passage of Senate Bill 823 and the eventual closure of the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities, 707(b) WIC youth and young adults who previously may have been committed to DJJ will be served by the local county detention center, the Juvenile Treatment Center (JTC), to complete their commitments and participate in programming.

The county plans to serve all youth or young adults in detention using an evidence-based, trauma-informed, youth and family centered approach to rehabilitation and focus on returning youth back to the community as soon as safely possible.

Youth and/or young adults at the JTC are provided individualized services and programs based upon the RNR principles. These programs and interventions are tailored to each individual based on the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) Full Screen assessment results for risk to reoffend, criminogenic needs, and responsivity needs.

For more details about programs and services offered at the JTC, please see YOBG program description in part C.

**B. Regional Agreements**

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

The El Dorado County Probation Department currently contracts with the Madera County Probation Department to utilize their Juvenile Detention Facility located at 28219 Avenue 14, Madera, CA 93638.

The facility is available as an alternative option to justice-involved youth assessed as high risk for recidivism (using the PACT Full Screen assessment), who have not responded to local resources aimed at improving behavior, engaged in serious delinquent behavior, and/or present a higher risk to public safety.

If the facility does not meet the need(s) for youth, or the facility is no longer available, the Department will explore other options and partnerships for providing services that meet the needs of the population.

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

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

## **Program Name:**

Youthful Offender Block Grant

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

YOBG funds are used in the Juvenile Treatment Center (JTC) for staff, staff training, programs and services provided by staff, and for out-of-county program services. Part of the JJCPA funds are used for the Community Supervision and Prevention program, as stated above.

The YOBG funded `Chances', `Choices', `Changes', and `Challenge' commitments/interventions outlined below are available as disposition options for youth who are serving a commitment in the JTC. Field and Institution officers collaborate together as a team in order to develop case plans to effectively transition youth from the JTC back to the community.

## **Description:**

Youth serving commitments at the JTC are provided individualized services and programs during incarceration. These programs and interventions are tailored to each individual based on the PACT Full Screen assessment results for risk to reoffend, criminogenic needs, and responsibility needs. The following evidence-based programs are available as needed: Matrix Model, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Change Companies Interactive Journaling, Anger Management/Replacement, and mental health therapy. When appropriate, the Department provides Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) services including counseling, education, and relapse prevention interventions.

The Probation Department also utilizes Integrated Behavioral Intervention Strategies (IBIS), a blended use of MI skills and Core Correctional Practices (CCP).

Commitment programming available for adjudicated wards include:

1. Chances Commitment - This custodial intervention is designed for moderate risk wards to address assessed responsivity and criminogenic factors with a total commitment not to exceed (NTE) thirty (30) days in duration that need a minimal period of dosage for stabilization.
2. Choices Commitment - This custodial intervention is designed for moderate to high risk wards to address assessed acute responsivity and criminogenic factors NTE ninety (90) days in duration that need a moderate level of dosage for stabilization.
3. Changes Commitment - This custodial intervention is designed for moderate to high-risk youth with identified moderate to severe responsivity and criminogenic need factors that need a moderate period of dosage for stabilization. This commitment is NTE 180 days.
4. Challenge Commitment - This custodial intervention is designed for high-risk youth with the most severe risk factors for recidivism coupled with the most severe responsivity and criminogenic need factors that need the highest level of dosage for stabilization. This commitment is NTE 240 days. The Challenge is a 'ranch style' program in which youth earn daily points to ascend to different levels to completion that encompasses behavior modification techniques as well as cognitive restructuring.

All commitment services are designated NTE a specific amount of custodial days. Early release and temporary release is available to commitments listed above at the discretion and determination of the facility multi-disciplinary treatment team in collaboration with the facility superintendent. Early release returns a youth to their parental/guardian's home upon substantial completion of custodial intervention/programming tied to responsivity and criminogenic factors. Temporary release to a parent/ guardian allows youth the opportunity to begin connecting with services in the community like attending Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous meetings with their sponsor, attending family therapy with a parent/ guardian, and other events that will keep the youth connected with family and community prior to release.

Prior to release a comprehensive case plan (transitional aftercare plan) is developed in collaboration with the youth, his/her parent/guardian, the Probation Officer (Institutional & Community Supervision Officer), and other supportive parties [i.e. Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and CBO representative] that will continue necessary intervention services connected to the youth and family's needs.

All youth in a commitment program have the opportunity to participate in school programming through Grade 12 and upon graduation will have the opportunity to complete college credits through the local community college incarcerated students program. Youth also have access to leadership development programming (i.e. 'My Future Matters' by Community Works and 'Road



Trip Nation'), as well as Workability Curriculums. Youth may also participate in gender specific services such as `Boys Circle', `Girls Circle', and other programming to address health and wellness skills needed upon release.

The Juvenile Service Council (JSC) has been operating in the JDF for more than thirty years. JSC a non-profit corporation of community volunteers that provide enrichment programming for youth in the arts, community service, and provide prosocial mentoring/coaching and ensure that youth maintain a connection to the community. JSC provides activities on site at the detention facility as well transporting approved youth offsite for outings to dining, sporting events, movies, and other activities that are age appropriate for the youth. These are all earned activities by the youth.

Lastly, in the near future, the JDF will also include a culinary arts program where youth can learn about nutrition and kitchen practices. Youth will earn a ServSafe food handlers certificate and learn about food ordering, preparation, storage, assist with the preparation of facility meals. In addition to facility culinary practice and meals, youth in the program will develop and learn how to shop and prepare personal/family meals with the goal to sustain self-sufficiency with food preparation.

Juvenile detention staff also assist youth with learning other life skills such as basic financial planning, resumes, and employment applications. Staff also provide enrichment activities related to astronomy, gardening, nutrition education, and other disciplines the youth might find interesting. The envisioned future is to include youth with vocational learning opportunities provided by the collaboration of the Northern California Construction Trades (NCCT) and the El Dorado County Office of Education (EDCOE).