

# (2021-2022) Annual Plan

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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. MGotcher@co.humboldt.ca.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**

## 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.**

The Humboldt County Probation Department (HCPD) conducted its initial comprehensive juvenile system assessment in 1996 in relation to the Juvenile Crime Enforcement and Accountability Challenge Grant Program (SB 1760, 1996), which was the precursor to the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act. Extensive information was gathered through various means depicting our community profiles, juvenile system operations, juvenile population trends, juvenile arrest trends, case processing trends, at-risk and juvenile offender profiles, high-risk neighborhoods/community areas, continuum of services/sanctions, and a resource assessment was done to prepare this plan.

The local plan has been monitored, managed, and updated on a regular basis by the Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (MAJJCC). Membership has varied throughout the years and included Probation, Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, County Schools, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS, an integrated social service agency - Public Health, Children's Behavioral Health - Mental Health, Social Services, Child Welfare Services, Employment Training Division), Sheriff, Eureka Police Department, Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJDPC), and the Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods - Teen Court program. Various guests have attended these public meetings, including representatives Humboldt County Transition-Age Youth Collaboration (HCTAYC), Board of Supervisor members, local Native American tribes, tribal social services, and LatinoNet. MAJJCC continues to review local HCPD referrals and juvenile hall data on a regular basis. A review of existing services for at-risk youth, juvenile offenders and families are also held periodically and in response to specific identified needs or local trends. The last year has been dominated by COVID -19 and the resulting effects on the community. It is hoped the year ahead will allow the community to recover while addressing on going COVID-19 concerns. Most agency partners in the community have converted to electronic services to meet the needs of the people they serve.

There are many governmental and community based agencies/organizations supporting youth and families in Humboldt County. The following are some of the services present in the community.

The Family Resource Centers operate community based, family focused, culturally sensitive locations throughout Humboldt County offering family driven programs and services. DHHS

mobile engagement vehicles have regular schedules at these sites.

Assisting Families to Access Change Through Resources (ARACTR) is an AmeriCorps program strengthening families through collaborative work with Family Resource Centers and Child Welfare Services.

Humboldt County Children's Behavioral Health is the primary resource for mental health services and substance use disorder treatment for youth. To supplement their direct services, they refer families to Changing Tides for additional counseling and support services.

The Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA) provides a wide range of services to low and moderate-income residents of Humboldt County through which people can become self-sufficient and empowered to improve their own lives. The Youth Service Bureau (YSB) offers services to youth who are homeless, fleeing abusive or dangerous situations or experiencing severe family conflict. Our House Shelter is a temporary, 21-day, housing program for youth 12-17, with the goal of family reunification. RCAA supports a subsidy program for youth age 18-24 fleeing domestic violence or finding themselves houseless by providing deposit and rent assistance. Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus) is offered to youth age 18-24 years who exited foster care to develop life skills for successful independent living. The Raven Project provides basic survival supplies and makes referrals to support and advocate for at risk youth in Humboldt County to improve the mental health and physical wellbeing of the youth. Youth Educators use street outreach to provide resources to youth in the community not accessing the drop-in center.

Parenting classes are offered throughout the community by various agencies.

Local law enforcement has created diversion programs in the northern portion of Humboldt County (Arcata and McKinleyville) to work within the schools/ communities to address youth and family needs at the lowest level. Unsuccessful community diversion cases are referred to HCPD for evaluation of further intervention and potential court involvement.

The Yurok Tribal Court provides a Youth At Risk program for Yurok members and descendants age 10-24. This program offers community readiness and assessment, suicide prevention, and mentorship. The Superior Court and Tribal Court operate a joint Family Wellness Court Program with Yurok Tribal Courts, with a broad stakeholder advisory group.

The Hoopa Family Wellness Court is presided over by two judges, a Hoopa Tribal Judge and a State Court Judge and embraces components of tribal healing and wellness informed by Hoopa traditions and culture. Prior to COVID -19 Hoopa Tribal Court was developing a truancy court

and continues with aspirations to offer this support to the education community.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods operates Teen Court and currently receives most of their referrals directly from various local schools, law enforcement, and probation. They also provide Brief Interventions for substance using adolescents. During COVID -19 Teen Court referrals have been reduced as youth are attending school via distance learning. Teen Court has modified their operation to assist youth in addressing barriers to successfully participating in distance learning. All services are currently taking place virtually.

Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) employs a substance abuse counselor to work with youth in the court/community school system. HCOE and local school districts hold regular School Attendance Review Board hearings that are attended by probation staff. An HCOE clinician provides on-going trainings to staff throughout the county on trauma-informed approaches to education. HCOE school sites incorporate Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports with the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) framework offering a fully integrated system of support aligning academic, behavioral, and social- emotional support for all students. Arcata and Eureka High Schools have peer- driven conflict resolution programs in place - "Taming Tigers" and "Redwood Resolvers", respectively. Humboldt Bridges to Success is a county mental health triage service working with local public schools to provide short-term, school based mental health interventions and support to students who are in crisis or at risk of crisis.

The School Law Enforcement Network (SLEN) supports the School Threat Assessment Team including HCOE, Mental Health, Probation, and by invitation the local law enforcement and the school district personnel. This team was developed to identify and address serious threats at or related to school that could lead to mass casualties.

United Indian Health Services, Two Feathers and the social service departments of multiple local tribes offer a variety of health, mental health, substance use disorder, and foster placement services and supports to eligible youth and families.

The Mental Health Services Administration (MHSA) offers mentoring for all school age children.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is active locally with colleges in providing "Bigs" to local at-risk youth for mentoring.

Families can dial 211 from any phone in Humboldt County for a comprehensive database of information and services.

Redwood Coast Regional Center (RCRC) offers services and supports for children and adults with developmental disabilities or are at risk for disabilities and their families. Lifelong planning and service coordination is a voluntary service for eligible recipients.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and match employers with skilled workers

Barriers to accessing evidence based practices for community members has been public transportation, delivery by qualified staff, and funding. The number of evidence based practices available to juvenile justice involved youth are Nurse Family Partnership, Aggression Replacement Training (only available to facility youth), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (in some school districts and detentions), Brief Intervention, Functional Family Therapy (limited), Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (limited), Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (limited) and Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS - available to youth under probation supervision). Staffing shortages and turnover have affected fidelity to some of these models.

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

Quarterly MAJJCC meetings will continue to occur to discuss juvenile probation data, program and service updates, and local trends and problems to be addressed. When appropriate, focused groups will be formed to tackle specific issues, as needed.

The County has developed a memorandum of understanding pursuant to Section 16521.6 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code between Child Welfare, HCPD, County Behavioral Health, HCOE, and RCRC. The MOU sets out roles of the respective agencies that serve children and youth. Additional interagency leadership team and community members participate in monthly meetings.

The Interagency Placement Committee (IPC) is part of the local System of Care and consists of Probation, DHHS- Child Welfare Services, DHHS-Children's Behavioral Health (Mental Health), education, and other appropriate partners (Regional Center, tribes, etc.) to address the needs of youth at highest risk of removal from the home and youth who have been removed. This interagency group identifies appropriate local services, oversees placement services, reunification, and monitors steps toward permanency, as appropriate. The administrative tier of IPC II identifies system gaps and needs to resolve deficiencies. The administrative tier/IPC II monitors and approves out of county placements, monitors, and approves Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP).

The Family Urgent Response System (FURS) is a newly developed interagency collaboration between behavioral health, child welfare, and probation. FURS provides an immediate response including a mobile response to current or previous foster youth under the age of 21 to provide stabilization.

The Law Enforcement Chiefs Association has interagency agreements related to the local Gang Resource Intelligence Team (GRIT), the Child Abuse Service Team, and local Commercially Sexually Exploited Children protocol. COVID has forced the various agencies to prioritize participation and GRIT has paused meetings.

The Humboldt County Foster Youth Education Executive Advisory Council is a broad collaborative of social services, education, and juvenile justice agencies focused on shaping local policies and implementation plans with regard to foster youth education supports and services. The goal of the group is to ensure successful educational outcomes for foster youth, including preparation for transition into higher education or the workforce with the necessary skills and confidence as young adults. The group meets multiple times per year to review local

foster youth data and update on inter-agency work in this area.

The Department of Health and Human Services/Educational Leadership group is made up of children's mental health, social services, education and probation administrators focused on improving the coordination of mental/behavioral health care for school aged children (ages 3-22) through building relationships and establishing sustainable structure for interagency partnering.

The Juvenile Court holds occasional Court Improvement Meetings for both delinquency and dependency courts with all affected agencies participating. A truancy court (School Attendance Court) is currently operating locally with positive results.

## **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 County has experienced a significant decrease in the number of delinquency referrals during the COVID 19 pandemic. This is attributed to partial school closures, distance learning, and changes in police practices to reduce the spread of the disease.

This has shifted the primary referral source from the County seat of Eureka to the City of Fortuna and Eureka respectively. It is notable that Fortuna High School was the only school that remained open throughout the pandemic.

The low numbers of youth under Section 602 wardship will allow for an increased emphasis on preventative services.

## **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 local Juvenile Justice Plan incorporates several strategies to effectively address prevention and intervention of juvenile crime and delinquency in Humboldt County. The plan focusses on community protection by assessing referrals to offer evidence based practices/programming to the highest risk to reoffend youth. It provides for a continuum of services from diversion to in custody treatment programs.

The HCPD operates the Primary Assessment and Intervention to Reduce Recidivism (PAIRR) program. PAIRR is a screening evaluation system to ensure youth referred to the HCPD receive the appropriate level of intervention. It utilizes the Positive Achievement Change Tool pre-screen (PACT pre-screen) to assess the youth's referral. Youth evaluated as low risk are diverted to community-based services as indicated in the assessment process, and closed. Low risk youth with victim restitution and moderate risk offenders are placed on short-term informal contracts, given referrals to services addressing identified needs of the youth and/or family, and are provided case management within the community. The PAIRR officer attends School Attendance Review Board meetings throughout the county with the objective of diverting youth to appropriate community and family support services to address issues resulting in truancy. For youth and families that require the intervention of the juvenile court to correct school attendance problems, the Humboldt School Attendance Court program is available.

The HCPD also completes a Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) on all youth presented for detention. The DRAI is a point based tool that generates a recommendation for release, alternative to secure detention (home supervision with/without electronic monitor), or detention. The Annie E. Casey Foundation recommends point based tools. The DRAI includes points based on the present offense(s), prior history, aggravating and mitigating factors and provides a screener recommendation for the least restrictive detention option. JJCPA funding supports two staff positions to operate the PAIRR program as well as the software licenses for the PACT and DRAI screening tools.

High risk and high needs youths, typically repeat offenders, are not eligible for PAIRR services and are referred to juvenile court for conditions of supervision within the community. These offenders receive active case planning and case management to address identified criminogenic needs, including one-on-one or group cognitive behavioral interventions (Effective Practices in Community Supervision and Aggression and Social Skills Training, respectively), and referrals to

other supportive services for the youth and family.

The HCPD operates a Juvenile Community Service Work (JCSW) program with a deputy probation officer coordinating work assignment for appropriate youth. The program has been creative in supporting youth to complete JCSW during the pandemic. Under normal circumstances the JCSW allows youth to work in a community non-profit organization. The program offers youth an opportunity to give back to the community, learn/practice skills associated with employment, build self- confidence and community connection, and occasionally gain employment.

Those youth with the highest risk and criminogenic needs may be placed in the integrated Healthy Alternatives court program, with family therapy available to them and their family, as well as intensive community supervision and other linkages and supports. This therapeutic court program is premised on swift, certain, fair and proportional responses to youth behavior, with regular court hearings providing an additional avenue of support and reinforcement.

Wards of the delinquency court identified as needing intensive out-of-home treatment are screened through Humboldt County IPC II and evaluated for Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP). Youth determined appropriate for STRTP are recommended to the court for a placement order. These cases are managed by the HCPD Family Reunification Unit, and the youth and family are provided Wraparound services and are regularly reviewed by IPC to develop reunification or permanency plans at the conclusion of placement. Monthly Child Family Team (CFT) meetings are facilitated to support the family reunifying. CFT meetings include extended family, natural supports, and professionals. Wraparound services offer additional case management services for the family. Humboldt County does not have an STRTP in the county for youth. This requires youth ordered to an STRTP to be placed out of the county making reunification efforts and lifelong connections additionally challenging.

The New Horizons program is a six-month behavior modification detention facility. This program offers a broad array of behavioral health services and supports, substance use disorder groups, independent living skills groups, education and intensive re-entry case management and community supervision. Programming includes Aggression Replacement Training, trauma-informed cognitive behavioral therapy, and substance use disorder treatment. This collaborative New Horizons program serves local youth in detention allowing them to remain close to their families and focus on reunification. Re-entry is coordinated by a Senior Probation Officer to include continued work with the established behavioral health team and Wraparound services. Care coordination is intended to be individualized, strengths-based, and family-focused. Both JJCPA and YOBG funds service youth requiring this level of intervention.

HCPD staff, including a correction officer and a probation officer, facilitate Aggression Social

Skills Training in the detention facility. Likewise, a number of HCPD staff are trained in the Parent Project and co-lead these groups throughout the county during the school year.

The HCPD is in the midst of developing a secure detention track program for youth who would have been previously committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). It will represent the high end of the juvenile justice continuum and be reserved for the highest risk youth adjudicated for the most serious offenses.

Historically, the local JJCPA and YOBG funding has consistently been directed primarily to services and programs at the diversion level and the highest risk to reoffend youth of our continuum. County general funds and other juvenile-derived revenues support services associated with core investigative and community supervision services in the Juvenile Services Division. HCPD intends to continue with the current Juvenile Justice Plan and programs through FY2021-2022. JJCPA funding will continue to support the PAIRR program with its associated Supervising Probation Officer (SPO), Deputy Probation Officer, and assessment tool licenses. It further funds a contract with Ink People to provide art education and activities in the juvenile hall. In keeping with FY 19-20, the JJCPA monies will be funding a diversion grant to Two Feathers to provide youth mentorship to native youth. The grant is completing the first year of a 3 year grant period. The YOBG monies are focused on the New Horizons program. It supports a Senior Probation officer who coordinates reentry and case management into the community. YOBG also partially funds the core programming of New Horizons program. The expenditures described above account for the baseline JJCPA and YOBG allocation. In recent years, the JJCPA fund has received growth funds from the state. The FY 21-22 JJCPA plan will include a Request For Application (RFA) for juvenile diversion focused activities.

**D.Comprehensive Plan RevisionsDescribe how your Plan has been updated for this year.**

The Humboldt County Juvenile Hall should be completed during FY 21-22 with detained and the New Horizons program youth being moved to the new facility.

Humboldt County will be releasing an RFA for diversion activities using JJCPA growth funds. The grant will be for \$450,000 over a three(3) year period.

The HCPD will develop a secure detention track program for youth who would have been previously committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). It will represent the high end of the juvenile justice continuum and be reserved for the highest risk youth adjudicated for the most serious offenses.

It is hoped that the County's array of youth services and interventions will return to some degree of normalcy as the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are mitigated in our community.

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

NA

**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 Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (MAJJCC) continues to review local HCPD referrals and juvenile hall data on a periodic basis. A review of existing services for at-risk youth, juvenile offenders and families are also held periodically and in response to specific identified needs or local trends. Quarterly MAJJCC meetings will continue to occur to discuss juvenile probation data, program and service updates, and local trends and problems to be addressed. When appropriate, focused groups will be formed to tackle specific issues, as needed.

The County has developed a memorandum of understanding pursuant to Section 16521.6 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code between Child Welfare, HCPD, County Behavioral Health, HCOE, and RCRC. This group will oversee other inter agency collaborations such as IPC and FURS.

**B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils**

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

no

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

The vacancy in the Humboldt County JJCC is the community based drug and alcohol program. There is currently no entity in Humboldt County meeting this criteria. HCPD partners with Children's Behavioral Health Substance Use Disorder to provide alcohol and other drug care services to youth. Additionally, HCOE employs an alcohol and other drug care specialist who provides education resources to youth. Boys and Girls Club of the Redwoods offers Substance Abuse Brief Intervention education services as an early intervention to teens and families in Humboldt County.

## **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:

Primary Assessment and Intervention to Reduce Recidivism

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The principle of assessing actuarial risk/needs is the evidence-based practice PAIRR is founded on. The Positive Achievement Change Tool(PACT) is the foundation of the program and is a validated assessment tool in use in several jurisdictions across the country, including many California counties. The PACT is used to determine risk to reoffend, and to identify criminogenic needs as well as protective factors. This allows HCPD to assess the appropriate level of system response and the type of services or interventions that best match the youth's identified needs to craft an individualized case plan. The PACT risk tool offers an override protocol to allow the probation officer and supervisor discretion in meeting the unique needs of the minor and family.

## Description:

Cases are initially assigned to the program based on level of offense. Each youth and family receive a comprehensive assessment. Youth assessed as low risk to commit a new delinquent act are prioritized for referral to community-based services or a Family/Community Resource Center within their home community, as appropriate. Youth may be offered the option of participating in the Teen Court program. Youth assessed as low risk of re-offending but who have victim restitution and those assessed as moderate risk to re-offend are placed on a diversion or informal probation contract with referrals to community-based services, and provided case management and monitoring within the community for their brief period of supervision. The PAIRR officer possesses current knowledge on available local resources and attends community resource network meetings. Due to a reduction in overall referrals to the probation department the PAIRR officer is able to offer preventive services to young people and families in Humboldt County. The HCPD provided funds to Two Feathers to support pro-social community events and other diversionary opportunities for Native American young people and their families.

Youth assessed as high risk to re-offend are ineligible for PAIRR and referred to delinquency court. This risk-based continuum has been effective at diverting youthful offenders to the most appropriate and least restrictive services and supports, while addressing the most risk-prone individuals with higher levels of intervention.

**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.**

Humboldt County's New Horizons Program is a local detention court ordered program for justice involved youth. The program is a secure in-custody treatment program lasting up to six months offering a broad array of programming and services to address behavioral health and substance use disorder needs. Education, independent living skills, and Wraparound services support the treatment program. Transitional case planning and case management and linkages to continuing community treatment are integral to the re-entry services provided to the youth and their family. HCOE has an Alcohol and Other Drug Specialist who teaches classes through the classroom and offers one on one sessions individually.

The New Horizons Program includes an aftercare service in which the services provided in the detention program follow the youth as they transition into the community.

**B. Regional Agreements**

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

NA

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

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

## **Program Name:**

New Horizons Program

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

The juvenile system is a continuum of services ranging from early diversion to the secure detention track programs developed for the highest risk youthful offenders. The County uses JJCPA monies to integrate risk and needs assessments into the juvenile justice system, ensuring that justice involved youth receive the appropriate level of targeted intervention. The YOBG funds are used to fund the New Horizons program which provides services to youth at the upper end of the continuum. The nature and extent of those services is informed by the risk assessments supported through JJCPA dollars.

## **Description:**

This intensive and restrictive program is typically ordered in response to a youth's lack of success at lower level services or in placement. The program is structured with integrated behavioral health, education and corrections programming which transitions with the youth and family upon program completion. The program offers a broad array of behavioral health services and supports, substance use disorder groups, independent living skills groups, education and intensive re-entry case management and community supervision. Programming includes evidence-based practices such as Aggression Replacement Training, Motivational Interviewing, trauma-informed cognitive behavioral therapy, MATRIX model substance use disorder treatment, and other effective and promising practices.

Re- entry is coordinated to include continued work with the established behavioral health team, Wraparound services, and Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach family treatment where appropriate. EPICS is a primary intervention with youth exiting the program. Care coordination is individualized, strengths-based, and family-focused.