

(2021-2022) Annual Plan

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County Name: Trinity

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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. trogers@trinitycounty.org

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.

Current Programs and Services include:

Trinity County Probation Department (TCPD) provides an array of juvenile services including but not limited to prevention, intervention and informal services, investigation, intake, assessment, diversion services, case planning, supervision, advocacy, placement, and custody/residential correctional treatment. These programs are provided by two (2) Juvenile Officers, one (1) School Prevention/Intervention Officer, and a Day Reporting Center that is staffed by two (2) Probation Corrections Counselors and one (1) contract service provider to deliver non-custody programming to youth court ordered to complete specific programming provided in the facility. Probation is also a member of the TrinityCARES school crisis response team.

Trinity County Alcohol and Other Drug Services (AODS) provides Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) and Trinity Choices youth substance abuse education and intervention programming, Club Live (elementary schools) and Friday Night Live (high schools) programs to the youth in Trinity County.

Trinity County Behavioral Health (TCBHS) provides mental health case management to probation youth in need of that level of care, and is a member of the TrinityCARES school crisis response team.

Human Response Network (HRN) is Trinity County's only community-based organization (CBO) and non-profit service provider offering prevention programs to county youth including Prevention Squad and other after school youth programming offered through teen centers located in Weaverville and Hayfork.

Trinity County Office of Education (TCOE) coordinates the TrinityCARES school crisis response team, provides office space and other logistical support to the school-based prevention and intervention officer, and partners with probation and the courts on the Peer Court program.

Trinity County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) is a member of the TrinityCARES school crisis response team and partners with various county agencies supporting juvenile justice programs and services when the opportunity and funding allows for that to happen. The Sheriff's Office also

participates in juvenile justice stakeholder meetings.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) offers the Smart Start youth driving education program and helps support the Sober Grad programs in the county. CHP Trinity River Command has partnered with and is committed to being of service to the youth of Trinity County.

Trinity County District Attorney's Office (TCDA) participates in the stakeholder meetings and is supportive of the restorative justice programs and services used within this population.

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

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council meets bi-annually to review existing programs, discuss areas of collaboration, and to explore various funding sources and opportunities to expand services. It is the intent of the council and community stakeholders that with bi-annual meetings they can address issues surrounding on-going data collection, analysis, and effectiveness of funded programs.

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 greatest need in Trinity County remains that of limited basic services. We have an inadequate number of staff to cover nearly 3,200 square miles which included ten (10) school districts and three (3) high schools. Further, we also haven't had any sheriff's deputies in the county that specialize in juvenile matters and, up until 2019 didn't have any School Resource/Truancy officers in any of our three high schools.

Our Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council completed a revised CMAJJP in 2018 that identified the most pressing concerns with our youth and their outcomes and created action steps to be implemented to address them. These action steps and the funding behind them, along with renewed collaborative efforts with our juvenile justice stakeholders, provide for a continuum of responses to juvenile crime and delinquency and demonstrate an integrated approach for implementing a system of interventions and sanctions for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders that incorporates evidence-based restorative justice strategies, programs, and services. While this revision of the CMAJJP is already several years old, it remains very relevant to current issues and strategies, and great progress has been made in achieving original goals. It is hoped that new data will back up the progress, and new goals and objectives can be defined by 2023.

Identification of areas of concerns, barriers to services, and prioritization of need include:

Geography - Trinity County is a geographically isolated rural mountainous county in Northwest California covering 3,179 square miles and with a population of only 13,635 spread throughout many small communities that make up our county's demographics. These local communities range in diversity and include underserved populations of Hmong and Native Americans. Trinity is also one of the most severely economically disadvantaged counties in the State of California and lacks the basic economic opportunities afforded to larger counties, mostly due to an inadequate local tax base as a result of the high percentage (76%) of federally owned lands.

Poverty and Youth Homelessness - Trinity County continues to struggle in some key areas that have a profound impact upon the juvenile justice system and the lives of our youth population. In Trinity County, 25.2 % of households with children ages 0-17 live below the federal poverty level of \$24,008. From 2017 to 2018, Trinity County saw an increase of 15.6% in homeless students as reported by Trinity County Office of Education. These students are also suffering from tumultuous homes as the Health and Human Service Office reports a 300% increase in our foster care system from 2014 to 2018. This puts Trinity County as the second highest county in the state for homeless students.

Childhood Trauma - Adverse Childhood Events (ACE) are commonly used to describe a range of traumatic experiences that may occur during a person's first 17 years of life, including child abuse, neglect, and other events. Findings suggest that ACEs are a risk factor for a wide range of poor health, safety, and social outcomes, and the higher the ACEs number the greater the likelihood of an individual experiencing adverse health conditions. In Trinity County, 23% of the tested youth had a score of 4 or more ACEs, and 27% of the tested population scored 2-3 ACEs. These results are alarming and speak to the need for greater early intervention and prevention services to the youth of Trinity County.

Suicide, Depression, and Mental Illness - Trinity County, with a rate of 35 suicides per 100,000 residents, has one of the highest suicide rate of all small rural counties in California, or about 80% higher than the rate in urban counties.

Drug Trafficking, Cultivation, and Substance Abuse within the general population - Since 2012, Trinity County has seen a 61.9% increase in the overall violent crime rate and a 30.48% overall increase in property crimes. The surge in crime has designated Trinity County as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) by the Office of National Drug Control Policy. This is largely because of an exponential increase in drug and other violent crimes related to cannabis cultivation and substance use in our population.

Youth Substance Use and Abuse - Juvenile drug and alcohol-related offenses have increased from 36% to 69% of all juvenile crimes committed in Trinity County. This alarming increase contrasted greatly with other California counties who were seeing a dramatic decrease in all juvenile crimes. While Trinity County did see similar decreases in property crimes and crimes against persons committed by juveniles, the spike in substance use and the declining overall legal, social, and academic outcomes of our youth was becoming very evident. Of that population, the hardest hit appears to be 7th graders (Cannabis use in 7th graders from 2016-2019 has increased by 21% to 28% while the state average is 2%). These same issues are also prevalent within other age groups as well. In fact, the Mountain Valley Unified School District (MVUSD) reported Marijuana Violations skyrocketed by 200% in the 2019-2020 school year.

Truancy and School Suspensions - Trinity County schools, while making progress in addressing chronic absenteeism and suspensions, we're seeing as high as 21% absenteeism. In some remote sectors of the County and part of the Mountain Valley Unified School District (MVUSD), many youth and teens choose to stay home to trim Cannabis instead of coming to school. The COVID-19 pandemic has only added to these numbers. One could understand the lure of easy money when we look at the increase in youth living in poverty shown through our Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) count. In 2019, 63% of students qualified for FRL compared to 52% who qualified in 2016. The Mountain Valley Unified School District reports elevated rates of

absenteeism and suspensions, especially during trimming season. Also, suspensions for drug use and possession on campus increased nearly 300% from the 2014-2015 to 2017-2018 school year.

Bullying and Harassment in the Schools - Since the implementation of our School Prevention and Intervention Officer position, promising improvements are being seen in our county-wide rates of school age bullying and harassment. However, Trinity County still remains at greater than state average in this area and will remain a critical component of our local juvenile justice plan.

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 juvenile justice strategy in Trinity County is reflected in our current CMAJJP. Although we have been able to fulfill each of the goals from the plan listed below, two of the three goals were only recently achieved (TrinityCARES and the hiring of a Deputy Sheriff – Juvenile Specialist) and would therefore need continuing full support of the JJCC to ensure success before any further plan revision.

The current goals of the county plan are:

- 1) Implement a System-Wide Mental Health Assessment Response Treatment (SMART) program utilizing the assessment tool Mosaic, a research-based and validated risk assessment tool. This would be a Mobile Response Team, partnering with the schools, and comprised of juvenile justice stakeholders including the Sheriff's Department, Probation, Trinity County Office of Education, and Mental Health as possible personnel options to fill out the team.
- 2) Re-allocate resources within the Probation Department to dedicate a full-time deputy probation officer to be embedded in the schools to increase services in the areas of Prevention, Intervention, Truancy Reduction, and Crisis Response. This person would also be part of the SMART team crisis response.
- 3) Hire a sheriff's deputy to specialize in juvenile matters within the county and in the schools, and work collaboratively with the SMART team.

The TrinityCARES team, working with the Office of Education, recently finalized a Decision Tree instrument that provides detailed direction of engagement and services for juveniles based upon a comprehensive number of factors. This document is available upon request.

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

The plan was not updated as it's still current and relevant.

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

Two of the three main goals of the plan were only recently completed with new programs coming online (TrinityCARES program and the Deputy Sheriff - Juvenile Specialist) and it's too early to evaluate outcome measurements to determine any other needed changes.

**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.

Juvenile Justice data is collected using the Corrections Software Solutions (CSS) case management system which allows for sufficient query and reporting of data for program evaluation. Data and Information sharing between juvenile justice stakeholders takes place on multiple levels, including but not limited to the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Systems of Care team, and the new TrinityCARES team. Program effectiveness is evaluated through local arrest and juvenile justice statistics, CalSCHLS data, client evaluation, and staff feedback. Additionally, overall public and stakeholder input has been evaluated in the current CMAJJP through the use of an online Juvenile Justice Survey.

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.

We are only able to fill one (1) community member position on our JJCC, and even that was not an easy accomplishment. Requiring three (3) community at-large members is just not realistic for micro-small counties, and I highly doubt that our county will ever be able to meet this requirement!

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:

School-Based Prevention/Intervention Program

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program is based upon the evidence-based practice of school-based restorative justice, and seeks to intervene with at-risk youth using tools, strategies, and programs that facilitate learning and inclusion in the school community. This person is also part of the System-Wide Mental Health Assessment Response Treatment (SMART) program which utilizes the assessment tool Mosaic, a research-based and validated risk assessment tool for addressing risk and threats by students.

Description:

Through reallocation of juvenile services staffing resources using JJCPA funding , the probation department dedicated a full-time deputy probation officer who is assigned to the area schools to increase services in the areas of Prevention, Intervention, Truancy Reduction, and Crisis Response as a member of the TrinityCARES team. This person also assists in the SARB process, Peer Court, and oversees the 1TIP line program.

**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.

All formal juvenile cases are provided a full assessment and case plan that addresses criminogenic needs and identifies appropriate services to the youth and family which help to keep the youth from entering deeper into the juvenile justice system. Additionally, Juvenile Officers have been provided numerous trainings in all areas of case management, motivational interviewing, and trauma-informed care, and apply those skills to partner with the family or caregiver to holistically address issues and concerns within the household. Other services include collaborative team decision making for difficult youth and families through our county Systems of Care team, and coordination with the schools for school-based restorative justice measures.

B. Regional Agreements

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

The Trinity County Probation Department maintains an MOU with Trinity County Office of Education for the TrinityCARES Program.

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

Below are YOBG funded programs reported by the county.

Program Name:

RNR Model

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The purpose and importance of utilizing our YOBG funding to support comprehensive case planning with probation youth is to ensure a full spectrum of comprehensive services that can identify trauma and recognize contributing criminogenic factors underlying the youth's behaviors. For youth who formally engage in the juvenile justice system, this builds on our overall mission to divert youth from entering deeper into the system, including into DJJ.

Description:

The risk-needs-responsivity model is a model used in community corrections for justice-involved individuals and is known to reduce recidivism through proper dosage of supervision and services based on the risk the person presents to the community and what needs they have.