

# STANISLAUS COUNTY

## JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

### Meeting Minutes

Monday – April 24, 2023

### Stanislaus County Probation Department

#### MEMBERS/DESIGNEES PRESENT:

Mark Ferriera, Chair/Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department  
Keri Magee, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services  
The Honorable Annette Rees, Presiding Judge, Stanislaus County Superior Court  
The Honorable Ruben Villalobos, Stanislaus County Superior Court  
Jeff Anderson, Sierra Vista Child, and Family Services  
Joshua Clayton, For Sheriff Dirkse, Sheriff's Department  
Cynthia Duenas, Director, Center for Human Services  
Christine Huber, Director, Community Services Agency  
Joshua Woolworth for Jody Hayes, Chief Executive's Office  
Terrance Withrow, Board of Supervisors  
Jon Appleby, for Jeff Laugero, District Attorney's Office  
Kimberly Gonzales, for Jennifer Jennison, District Attorney's Office  
Dr. Abu Mboka, Criminal Justice Department, CSU Stanislaus  
David Houck for Sara Noguchi, Modesto City Schools  
Saundra Day for Scott Kuykendall, Stanislaus Office of Education  
Brandon Gillespie, Chief, Modesto Police Department  
Marian Martino, JJC Chair/Volunteer  
Isaiah Herrera, Youth for Christ

#### ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:

David Costa, Juvenile Field Services Division Director, Probation Department  
Tracie Martin, Juvenile Facilities Superintendent, Probation Department  
Michelle Camacho, Without Permission  
Brienne Huak Rangel, Without Permission  
Renee Flora, Center for Human Services  
Timothy Mejia, Youth for Christ  
Kim Saing, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services  
Richard Mury, District Attorney's Office

#### GUESTS PRESENT:

Miguel A. Garcia, Office of Youth Community Restoration (OYCR)

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTION**  
The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm by Chief Probation Officer (CPO) Mark Ferriera. Members, designees, and additional participants introduced themselves.
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**  
No public comment was received.
- III. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 02, 2023**  
MOTION: Joshua Clayton. SECOND: Dr. Abu Mboka. The Meeting Minutes for February 02, 2023, was approved.
- IV. **REVIEW AND APPROVE THE COMBINED JJCPA/YOBB PLAN FOR FY 2023-2024**  
Division Director (DD) David Costa presented the combined JJCPA/YOBB Plan for FY2023-24 to the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) (The presentation is attached to the minutes). He gave a brief history of Juvenile Justice Planning in Stanislaus County, including the work of Juvenile Justice involved agencies dating back to 1990 and the establishment of the JJCC in 1996, which can be found in the Local Action Plan (LAP).

In 2019, focused on prevention, intervention, enforcement, and detention, the JJCC, other county agencies, local law enforcement, community-based organizations, and Probation collaborated to create the 2020-2025 Stanislaus County Local Action Plan (LAP). The 2020-2025 Local Action Plan was finalized in 2020 and is brought forth to the JJCC every year for review and approval. He advised that upon approval of this council, the plan gets submitted to the state for grant funding to pay for Juvenile Justice services and programs approved by JJCC.

DD David Costa reviewed the Stanislaus County Graduated Responses to Youth Crime & Delinquency Prevention Chart, which provides an overview of the current Juvenile Justice services (The chart is attached to the minutes). He briefly talked about all the services, noting that some programs have been updated to be in line with the state requirements. Additionally, he did note that with the closure of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as of the beginning of FY2023-2024, the youth returning to this county will transition into local programming customized to their needs. Former DJJ youth will be housed in the Secure Track unit within Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall.

The JJCC established goals as part of the 2020-2025 Local Action Plan; DD Costa provided the following update:

- Goal 1: Continue and increase the use of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) models for prevention, intervention, and in-custody services and programs:
  - Partnered with the University of Cincinnati for the EBPs offered in and out of custody.
  - The Juvenile Programming Center was developed as a location where services can be offered.
  - The service providers and officers have been trained and certified to teach.
  - An evidence-based risk assessment tool (JAIS) has been implemented.
  - Data is collected to measure the program's success for further development and direction.
- Goal 2: Expand the Youth Assessment Center (YAC) beyond the Implementation Phase and embed the YAC concept in other Family Resource Centers in Stanislaus County to serve a wider population of youth:
  - Although COVID greatly impacted the ability to reach this goal, the YAC has experienced a great increase in referrals. For the referrals for the first 8 months of FY2021-2022 vs. FY2022-2023, there was a 54% increase, and during the same reporting period, there was a 71% increase in active clients monthly.
  - Expansion of the YAC is forthcoming, specifically to increase referrals directly from law enforcement using the developed mobile application and seeking additional referral sources.
  - A goal has been set to expand the YAC services in a Turlock-based Family Resource Center, as this area is identified as having a higher population of criminal justice-involved youth.

DD Costa shared the success story of a youth that was referred to the YAC by local law enforcement after an altercation with a family member and failing in school to becoming the MVP of the wrestling team at his school, competing at the state level, and obtaining employment after receiving the services he needed.

- Goal 3: Increase the use of alternatives to incarceration for technical violations of probation:
  - The Electronic Monitoring Program has expanded by introducing GPS units to provide an alternative to custody option that still incorporates accountability.
  - A 30-day review of a youth's electronic monitoring program goes before the judge to ensure continued time on a program is needed.
- Goal 4: Enhance Continuity of Care for youth transitioning from custodial settings to the community:
  - Reintegration meetings are being held with youth in custody prior to their release with the presence of community-based service providers and their families to assist with smoother transitioning.
  - Out-of-home placement youth are attending Child Family Team (CFT) meetings prior to being released to out-of-home placement.
  - In-custody programming is provided simultaneously with out-of-custody programming to allow youth to transition out of custody seamlessly without losing programming progress.
  - Expanded to contracting with Evidence-Based Service providers.
- Goal 5: Create residential and non-residential substance abuse (ie. Inpatient and outpatient) treatment services for youth and expand services within the Juvenile Institutions.
  - Residential inpatient substance abuse disorder treatment does not exist in our community, but any available options will be explored.
  - Probation established contracts with community-based organizations and offers outpatient substance abuse disorder services through direct referral from probation.
  - The planning of SUD services in custody has been initiated.

- Goal 6: Expand Mental Health and Behavioral Health Services in the Juvenile Institutions.
  - Probation has contracted with Wellpath to provide mental health services to youth in custody.
- Goal 7: Develop and expand vocational training and job placement programs.
  - Partnered with the Workforce Development; vocational training services are available with follow-up services for one year.
  - Coding and culinary arts programs are offered in custody to help youth develop employment skills.
- Goal 8: Enhance re-integration services by adding additional life skills support services once youth are released from custody.
  - The Juvenile Programming Center provides evidence-based programming, supporting youth released from custody.
  - Programming continues to expand to provide more consistency in the curriculum offered.
  - One service provider offers youth transportation to remove barriers.
- Goal 9: Expand the GRAD program to include special services for male youth, especially those male youth with Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) risk factors.
  - Without Permission is contracted to assess youth in custody for CSEC risk factors and provide them with ongoing services both in and out of custody.
  - The program initially worked primarily with female youth but has expanded its services to assess male youth.
- Goal 10: Provide an annual evaluation of the Local Action Plan (LAP) to the JJCC, followed by a re-evaluation of the entire LAP plan every five years.
  - The JJCC meets on a quarterly basis. In 2025, a new LAP will need to be established to set goals for the future.
  - Despite limitations created by COVID during this 5-year plan, significant steps have been made toward reaching the established goals.

MOTION: Cindy Duenas. SECOND: Joshua Clayton. The JJCPA/YOBG Consolidated Annual Plan for FY 2023-2024 was approved unanimously.

V. **REVIEW AND APPROVE THE SB 823 PLAN**

Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera advised that the SB 823 Plan developed by the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Subcommittee was recently finalized. Although approval of the JJCC is not required, their input and support are essential.

Facilities Superintendent Tracie Martin presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing the SB 823 Plan for the Secure Track Youth. (The PowerPoint presentation is attached to the minutes). Ms. Martin reviewed the following:

- Stanislaus County DJJ Youth demographics as of March 23, 2023
- Youth Booked into Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall for 707(b) WIC offenses for 2022
- Youth Receiving a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) commitment for 2022
- Youth Committed to SYTFs Statewide for 2022
- Facility Plan: "SHINE" Supporting Healthy Individuals Needing Encouragement
- Programming Unit Phased Approach
- Unit Program and Supervision-Corrections Staff
- Education Program
- Medical and Behavioral Health Services
- Vocational Training and Volunteer Services
- Programming
- LCA SHINE Programming Calendar
- Contracted Services/Regional Contracts
- Re-Entry Services
- Family Engagement
- Data Collection

MOTION: Isaiah Herrera. SECOND: Chief Brandon Gillespie. The SB 823 Plan for FY 2023-2024 was approved unanimously.

VI. **REVIEW AND APPROVE THE UPDATED JJCC MOU**

Chief Ferrera reviewed the updated JJCC MOU (A copy of the updated JJCC MOU is attached to the minutes). He states the MOU had not been updated for several years, noting it was necessary due to code section and membership changes. The updates read as follows:

- The Welfare and Institutions Code Section 749.99 has changed to 749.22; the MOU was updated to reflect this change.
- Article III: PURPOSE
  - Section 1
    - To develop and implement a continuation of county-based responses to juvenile needs and crime.
- Article V: MEMBERSHIP
  - Section 1
    - h. The Modesto Police Department.
    - i. Modesto City Schools and the Stanislaus County of Education.
    - k. A non-profit community-based organization providing services to minors.
  - Section 2
    - The District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, the Modesto Police Department, Modesto City Schools, Stanislaus County Office of Education and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall each designate a representative from its respective office, department, board, or agency to serve as a member of this Council.
  - Section 3
    - For all other member representatives indicated in Section 1 of Article V, nominations shall be made to the Chairperson and approved by the Council. As required by Section 749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the Chairperson will notify the Board of Supervisors, via written correspondence, if there are any changes to the community-based organizations serving on the Council.
  - Section 5
    - The District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, the Modesto Police Department, the Stanislaus County Office of Education, Modesto City Schools, and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall designate a new member representative whenever a member representative from its office, department, board, or agency resigns.
  - Section 7
    - If a Council member fails to attend three consecutive Council meetings without the absence being authorized by the Chairman, or if the Council member has not arranged for an alternate member to represent him or her, it may result in termination of the Council member. Termination of a Council member will require the process described in section 3(a) of Article VII.
  - Section 8
    - a. Each Council member shall attempt to designate, in writing provided to the Chairperson, an alternate member(s) to represent the member at a Council meeting in the event the Council member is unable to attend a Council meeting.
- Article VI: DUTIES
  - Section 3
    - The membership term for the Chairperson shall be concurrent with his/her term as Chief Probation Officer. Member representatives of the District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff-Coroner Department, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, the Modesto Police Department, Stanislaus County Office of Education, Modesto City Schools, and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall serve an indefinite term until the member representative resigns or a new member representative is designated by his or her office, department, board, or agency. All other member representatives shall

serve an indefinite term until the member representative resigns or is replaced by the Board of Supervisors.

- Article VI: MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES
  - Section 1
    - Regular meetings shall be held quarterly (January, April, July, and October) at the Stanislaus County Probation Department located at 2215 Blue Gum Avenue, Modesto, CA 93538.
- The signature lines were amended in the MOU to reflect the current membership.

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council discussed and agreed to the JJCC MOU updates.

MOTION: Cindy Duenas. SECOND: Joshua Clayton. The new Memorandum of Understanding of the Stanislaus County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council was approved unanimously.

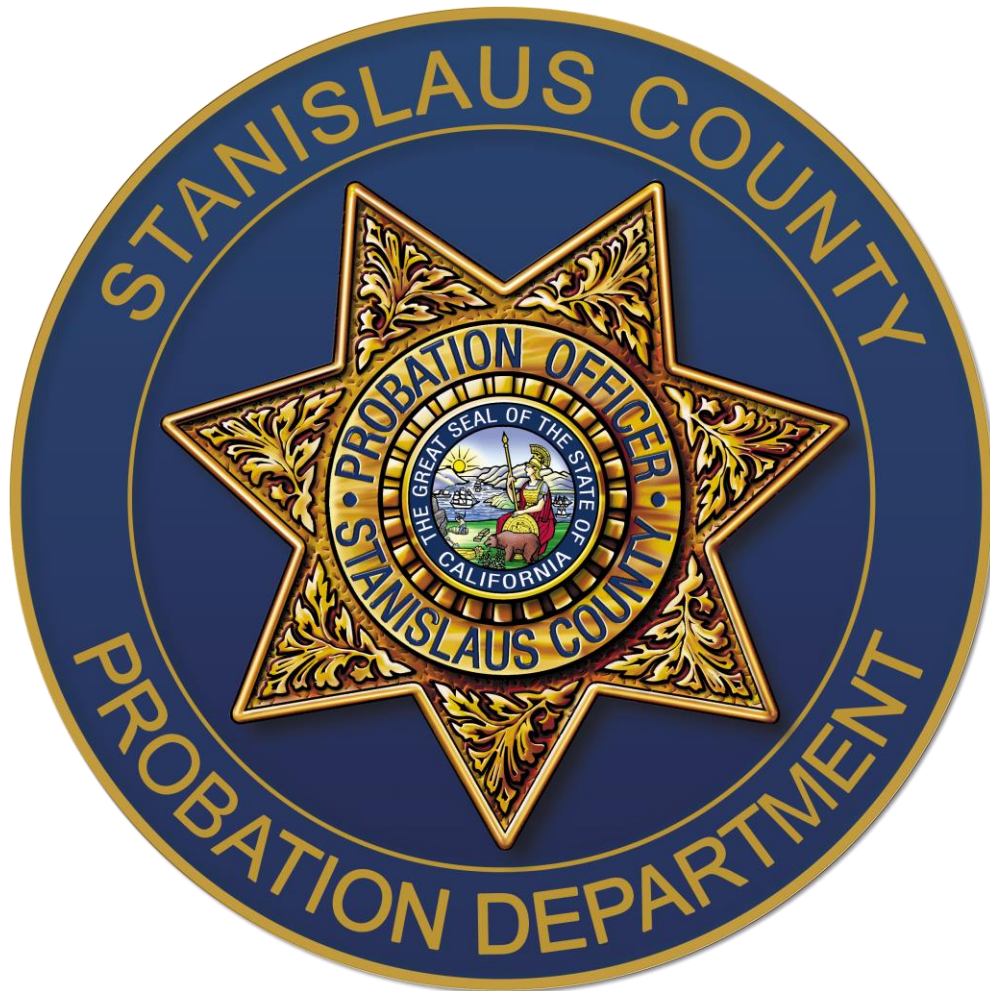
Chief Ferriera advised that the JJCC MOU will be forwarded to the membership for signature once all the amendments to the MOU have been made.

VII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**  
None.

VIII. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**  
The next quarterly meeting will be scheduled for July 27, 2023, at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:07 pm.

# Stanislaus County Probation Department Local Action Plan 2020-2025



Updated April 2023



**Stanislaus County  
Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council  
2022-2023**

**Mark Ferriera**, Stanislaus County Chief Probation Officer, Chair

**Marian Martino**, JJC Chair, Volunteer and Public Member

**Terry Withrow**, Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors

**Jeff Anderson**, Director, Sierra Vista Child and Family Services

**Jennifer Jennison**, Stanislaus County Public Defender

**Jeff Laugero**, Stanislaus County District Attorney

**Jeff Dirkse**, Stanislaus County Sheriff

**Brandon Gillespie**, Chief of Police, Modesto Police Department

**Cindy Duenas**, Executive Director, Center for Human Services

**Christine Huber**, Director, Community Services Agency

**Scott Kuykendall**, Superintendent, Stanislaus County Office of Education

**The Honorable Annette Rees**, Supervising Judge, Juvenile Dependency Court,  
Stanislaus County Superior Court

**The Honorable Rubén Villalobos**, Juvenile Delinquency Court, Stanislaus County  
Superior Court

**Sara Noguchi**, Superintendent, Modesto City Schools District

**Jody Hayes**, Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer

**Sarkis Anthony Vartan**, Director, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

**Dr. Abu K. Mboka**, Professor, CSU Stanislaus and Public Member

**Isaiah Herrera**, Director, Youth for Christ, Public Member

## **Historical Summary of Juvenile Justice Planning in Stanislaus County**

Passage of Senate Bill 1760 (SB 1760) in 1996 resulted in the addition of Welfare and Institutions Code Section 749.22, the genesis for Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils in the State. However, in Stanislaus County, work on collaborative and integrated juvenile justice planning predated passage of this legislation. Stanislaus County began comprehensive interagency planning relative to its youth population in the early 1990s. In 1990, the County formed a Children's Service Coordinating Council to facilitate program information sharing and interagency cooperation. Then in 1992, the County established a county-wide Interagency Children's Services Coordinating Council to develop, implement, oversee, link and advocate for services provided to children and families in the County. In 1994, Stanislaus County applied for and received a major five-year Family Preservation and Support Program Grant from the California Department of Social Services and established a multi-agency planning group to oversee this effort. Thirty-eight focus groups were conducted throughout the County to build the plan with the goals of strengthening families, preventing delinquency, reducing placements and building neighborhood empowerment and self-help support systems. Also in 1994, the Probation Department, Mental Health Department, and Department of Social Services joined forces to develop and implement a Children's System of Care to provide assessment, crisis evaluation, brief treatment, and wrap around services delivered from a specialty team at the Juvenile Justice Complex.

Stanislaus County formed its original Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) as a result of the passage of SB 1760 in 1996. It developed its first Local Action Plan (LAP) in 1997, in preparation for the submission of a Challenge Grant proposal. Consultant Susan B. Cohen helped guide the development of the LAP, which was a requirement of the grant. The County relied on a Community Based Punishment Plan (June 1996) and the Report on the Stanislaus County Juvenile Justice System, also known as the Juvenile Justice Master Plan (December 1996), to begin work on the LAP. This enabled the County to submit the first Challenge Grant application to the California Board of Corrections. With this grant application, the County proposed to pilot an intensive probation supervision and case management program called the Intensive Diversion and /Early Action (IDEA) demonstration project.

Prior to development of the LAP, consultants Susan B. Cohen and Mark Morris assisted the county in developing the Community Based Punishment Plan, which created a comprehensive proposal for enhancing public safety by augmenting prevention and available punishment options. This plan sought to emphasize prevention and early intervention, to fill existing gaps in the correctional services available to the court for adult and juvenile offenders, and to describe the number and kinds of local punishment options that would help the county reduce its commitment to the California Department of Corrections and the Department of the Youth Authority. The Community Based Punishment Plan envisioned a



continuum of interventions, sanctions and punishments, beginning with early identification of juveniles who appear to be at risk for involvement in crime or delinquency and continuing through post release supervision of those who have committed crimes, been incarcerated and are later returned to the community.

The 1996 Juvenile Justice Master Plan was initiated to assess the juvenile justice needs in Stanislaus County. The consulting firm of Mark Morris Associates, with Jay Farbstein & Associates, worked with an Advisory Committee appointed by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors. The Advisory Committee and several subcommittees met over a six-month period to discuss issues and to review information developed by the committees and the consultants. The consultants reviewed existing programs and services, completed detailed case by case studies of youth in the juvenile justice system, projected future trends, and assessed the juvenile facilities existing at the time. The assessment report outlined a vision for a balanced response to juvenile problems, containing elements ranging from prevention and early intervention to suppression and enforcement. Expanding upon the continuum model previously created with the Community Based Punishment Plan, the Juvenile Justice Master Plan created a new model that took into account the risk and need levels of minors. This new concept of the continuum assumed graduated sanctions, such that each youth could be assigned to a level of supervision or consequence suited to the severity of his/her behavior and/or to the level of risk to the general community. The 1996 Juvenile Justice Master Plan made a number of recommendations for enhancements to the juvenile justice system; including:

#### Prevention/Early Intervention

- Youth Centers for after-school hours
- Begin planning for intake/assessment centers
- Expand Youth Courts
- Create Victim Offender Reconciliation Program
- Expand Mentoring

#### Intermediate Sanctions

- Create juvenile electronic monitoring
- Supplement Probation with “trackers” for moderate risk community supervision
- Review and revise a Probation intake risk and offender needs assessment system
- Create non-secure detention for youth detained while pending placement
- Create a day reporting center
- Residential substance abuse treatment

### Facilities/Facility Programs

- Create a Camp/Ranch or Commitment Facility Program
- Mental health and substance abuse treatment unit(s) in Juvenile Hall
- Expand Juvenile Hall to 150+ beds

### Implementation

- Expand the role of the Interagency Children's Services Coordinating Council and create staff position to support
- Ongoing assessment of the juvenile justice system, review the Master Plan, and an evaluation of new programs
- Coordinating Council planning for integrated information system and "Children's Budget"

Building upon the 1996 Community Based Punishment Plan and the Juvenile Justice Master Plan, the initial 1997 LAP modeled a continuum of support and sanctions to prevent crime and delinquency and to provide swift, sure, graduated consequences for antisocial behavior when it occurred. It encompassed prevention, early intervention, intermediate sanctions, incarceration and aftercare. It also sought to hold offenders accountable for their actions, encourage and support positive behavioral change, use punishment options that fostered both short and long term public safety, instill a sense of self-discipline and responsibility, and engender reparation to individual victims and community. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council expressed four major goals for the LAP, in keeping with their other youth and family-based planning efforts:

- Develop system-wide vision, program capacity and long-term service sustainability
- Develop a children and youth continuum of care that provides targeted interventions and services for low risk, at risk, high risk and in-crisis youth and families
- Expand currently effective programs and create new juvenile services, community located and risk focused, to address the needs of minors already in the probation and juvenile court system
- Create a juvenile justice database and management information system that will permit program planning, outcome monitoring, appropriate client information sharing and short and long-term case tracking

Since the Master Plan and first LAP were developed in 1996 and 1997 respectively, many of the identified gaps in the system have been filled by both public and private agencies that serve at-risk youth and juvenile offenders. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council has periodically conducted extensive reviews of available services and programs targeting at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders and their families in an effort to update the continuum and LAP. The

LAP has served as the County's guiding strategic plan and has been a valuable tool in pursuing new funding resources to fill critical service gaps.

The County was awarded Challenge Grant funding in 1997 to operate its IDEA demonstration project in partnership with the Center for Human Services, a local non-profit organization. The program specifically targeted low-risk juvenile offenders referred to the Probation Department from high-risk neighborhoods.

Additional Challenge Grant monies became available in 1998 and the County responded by preparing a new Local Action Plan and submitting a proposal to serve families of adult probationers with minor children. The Family Oriented Community Utilization System (FOCUS) was proposed and funded by the Board of Corrections. The array of programs and services described in the Local Action Plan were indicative of the County's commitment to providing a comprehensive continuum of interventions from prevention and early intervention through supervision, treatment, placement and incarceration of juvenile offenders. Family based supervision was a priority of the Council highlighted in its 1999 Local Action Plan. The JJCC served as the oversight board for both Challenge Grants and met quarterly to hear progress reports and to receive information on the status and needs of the juvenile justice system.

In September 2000, Governor Davis signed the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (CPA 2000). This provided Stanislaus County the opportunity to revisit the continuum of responses to juvenile crime, to reassess the current resources and statistical data, to determine the progress the County had made since the completion of the last Local Action Plan and to identify remaining gaps in service for at risk youth, families and juvenile offenders. Stanislaus County called upon the Renaissance Consulting Group to assist in preparing the required Comprehensive Multiagency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP). The JJCC became the planning body for the development of the CMJJP. The Renaissance Group worked with members of the JJCC to develop the CMJJP. Through this process, the LAP and continuum were once again updated. Identified goals of the LAP included:

- Increase Community/School Based Programs
- Increase Mental Health and Substance Abuse Capacity
- Increase Intensive Supervision to Wards
- Improve or Create Data Collection Systems

Programs proposed through the CMJJP filled critical gaps in the County's LAP and continuum of responses. Four programs were recommended in the CMJJP and funded through CPA 2000 including a Day Reporting Center, High Risk Offender Supervision and Juvenile Court Warrant Enforcement, Neighborhood Accountability Boards, and Home Supervision Program Expansion. As required

by CPA 2000, the JJCC continues to monitor the progress of the programs implemented through the CMJJP.

In 2005, the JJCC once again conducted a thorough assessment of existing resources available to the County to address crime and delinquency in order to assess service gaps and develop goals for the overall juvenile justice system. These goals included:

- Create a camp/ranch or commitment facility program
- Expand Juvenile Drug Court treatment programs to include a third level of care for those offenders that are resistive to or refuse treatment services
- Expand School Contracted Probation Officers to provide school-based prevention and intervention services throughout the county
- Link Probation Officers to newly formed Family Resource Centers to provide for early assessment of problems and service needs of youth referred by law enforcement
- Work in collaboration with law enforcement, schools, community-based organizations and community members to promote Youth Centers for after school hours

Since the last extensive assessment of services conducted in 2005, the JJCC has periodically updated the continuum to reflect changes in available programs and options needing to be created.

### **Update of the Local Action Plan 2013**

The JJCC initiated an extensive assessment of juvenile services and an update to the county's Local Action Plan on October 25, 2011, in response to the successful grant application for funding through the Evidence Based Practices Project, which is funded as part of the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program. As noted previously, an extensive assessment of services had not been conducted since 2005 and the LAP had not been updated since 2008.

Since the last update in 2008, there has been continued advancement and refined knowledge regarding what works best for youthful offenders. Gender responsiveness is a critical factor which historically had not been considered by the JJCC when creating or evaluating juvenile justice programs. As a group, girls' reasons for involvement in the juvenile justice system are different than those for justice-involved boys. Research indicates treating justice-involved girls like boys is ineffective. The LAP was in need of analysis and planning for providing needed gender-responsive services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency. Therefore, the process for updating the LAP incorporated the fundamentals of Evidence Based Practices (EBP) and gender- responsiveness. The JJCC meets on a quarterly basis, so the process took a significant period of time to complete. Some activities related to the plan began to occur before the final update had been completed.

The JJCC primary task was to assess the available community services and programs, evaluate the use level and understanding of evidence-based practices and gender-responsiveness, and identify gaps in services. The council was not charged with evaluating crime data and/or trends in their evaluation of services.

### Information Gathering About Programs and Services

In October 2011, the Probation Department assigned a probation officer to complete the first step of the LAP update. This involved gathering information about the existing services and programs targeting at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families. The probation officer contacted every known service provider/agency, public and private, in an effort to determine what services were available, the type of population being served, if the services were evidence based, and if they were gender responsive. This process took several months and resulted in the elimination of 41 programs that were no longer available to the community, and the addition of 141 programs that had been added since the previous update in 2008.

At least 60 agencies are providing services to youth in our community. Of the programs identified, 31 agencies reported that they provided gender-based services; however, the council all agreed that most were pregnancy related services rather than programs based on gender-responsive services. Only four programs were identified as employing evidence-based practices. It was discovered that many of the county's service providers were not aware of what evidence-based practices were, and those who were aware, did not know if their program qualified. Once the program information was obtained, the Coordinating Council then moved into the next phase, which was to evaluate and analyze the programs.

### Evaluation of Available Programs

Evaluation of the programs required several meetings and took place over many months. Similar to previous Local Action Plans, the county utilized a continuum approach for assessing services available to youth in the community. The programs were divided into three primary service levels:

**Prevention** – Services for minors at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system or minors minimally involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Intervention** – Services geared toward minors who are involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Incapacitation** – Services offered to youth in custodial settings.

A matrix of available programs by service level was created. Services were then further divided by discipline areas within each service level to assist in identifying service gaps. The JJCC initially categorized the services into eight disciplines: drug and alcohol, education, health, law enforcement, mental health, probation, social services and youth services. As further discussion occurred, the group determined that the matrix could serve as a good resource guide for the community if the discipline categories were narrowed. Over the next several months a sub-committee worked on further analysis of the programs and returned to the JJCC with a recommendation for use of 12 disciplines; including, drug and alcohol, education, employment, family focus, health, law enforcement, mental health, mentoring, parenting and pregnancy, support services, youth services and probation.

### Analysis of Gaps in Services

The next step was for the JJCC to identify gaps in the services available to youth. The probation officer that was tasked with contacting all the service providers in the community at the onset of the LAP update also took the initiative to ask service providers about their needs and/or what they saw as gaps in services. This information was shared with the JJCC prior to identification of the gaps.

The following gaps in services were identified:

- Lack of drug and alcohol treatment programs, especially residential treatment
- Lack of juvenile residential mental health treatment
- Lack of familiarity with Evidence Based Practices and Gender Responsiveness among the service providers
- Lack of gender responsive services
- Need to increase the use of evidence based programs
- Alternatives to detention are underutilized
- More emphasis is needed on providing services to youth with a strength based focus and/or asset based case planning
- Need more mentoring programs
- Lack of both prevention and intervention services for “cross-over” youth (youth who transition from dependency to delinquency)
- Limited options for youth encountered by law enforcement for misdemeanors or school violations
- Assessment areas are lacking for lower level mental health needs
- Academic assistance and job readiness options are lacking in our area

### Goals

Two separate meetings focused on goal setting. During goal setting discussions, the JJCC agreed that time should be spent during each quarterly meeting to

review progress on the goals. During the January 2013 meeting, the JJCC approved the following two-year goals:

1. Increase the use of Evidence Based Practices (EBP) models for prevention, intervention and in-custody services and programs.
2. Create a gender-responsive, culturally competent continuum of services to meet the needs of young women at-risk of being involved, currently involved, and previously involved in the juvenile justice system.
3. Expand juvenile alcohol and other drug services, including residential programming.
4. Create a juvenile residential mental health treatment facility/program.
5. Increase the use of alternatives to incarceration for technical violations of probation.
6. Develop prevention and intervention programs for cross-over youth.
7. Expand mentoring programs.
8. Increase emphasis on providing services to youth that have a strength-based focus and/or asset based case planning.
9. Create Youth Assessment and Reception Centers that will provide behavioral screenings, criminal risk/needs assessment, linkage to community based services, and diversion from the delinquency system.
10. Create Youth Centers to address employment and educational needs. These Centers would focus on truancy, academic counseling, vocational programming, and job assistance.
11. Enhance continuity of care for youth transitioning from custodial settings to the community.

A new continuum model was also adopted and with these goals as the driving force behind the allocation of funds, staffing, programming and growth within the Probation Department.



## **2020 Update of the Local Action Plan**

In September 2019, members of the JJCC along with members from other county agencies, law enforcement, community-based organizations and staff from the Probation Department met to begin the process of re-evaluating the goals identified from 2013. In November 2019, subcommittees were created that focused on newly defined service levels which included:

**Prevention** – Services for minors at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system or minors minimally involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Intervention** – Services geared toward minors who are involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Enforcement**—Services provided by Law Enforcement, Probation, or other related agencies in the enforcement of laws, terms and conditions related to youth.

**Detention (formerly Incapacitation)** – Services offered to youth in custodial/detention settings.

In February 2020, a new set of goals were identified through 2025 which included previous goals and several new ones given the progress made and new partnerships created since 2013.

### Progress from 2013

During the September 2019 meeting, a historical overview of the Local Action Plan (LAP) provided a starting point for current and new members of the JJCC and others to have a solid understanding of the impact the LAP had on funding, staffing, programming and overall service delivery related to youth in our community.

For example, discussion was held around the many successes of meeting several of the 2013 LAP goals, specifically around the development of gender-responsive, culturally competent continuum of services to meet the needs of young women at-risk of being involved, currently involved, and previously involved in the juvenile justice system. As a result, the Stanislaus County Probation Department began collaborating with the Prison Law Office, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, and the Youth Justice Institute to implement the Girls Juvenile Justice Initiative creating the Gender Responsive Alternative to Detention (GRAD) program which is designed to prevent female juvenile offenders from being removed from their home. This program is a collaboration between the Probation Department, the Center for Human Services, and other community-based agencies.

The development of GRAD further led in October 2016 to the creation of the Girls Advisory Council (GAC) which is an organization providing female youth, and their

allies, community resources within Stanislaus County. The purpose of the Girls Advisory Council is to collaborate with various service providers, community members, female youth, supporting males and their families to address the needs of the female youth in Stanislaus County. The goal is to provide preventative services and resources to empower females.

Additionally, the Stanislaus County Juvenile Commitment Facility (JCF) was constructed as a secure living facility operated by the Probation Department. The JCF has been officially occupied since June 8, 2013. The goal of the JCF is to provide housing for court committed youth while providing evidence-based programs that guide the youth in changing delinquent habits, attitudes and behaviors.

Another major 2013 LAP goal which was put into action in 2018 was the planning phase for a Youth Assessment Center (YAC) that would provide behavioral screenings, criminal risk/needs assessment, linkage to community-based services, and diversion from the delinquency system. In 2019, the YAC pilot project began in collaboration with Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and the community-based organization, Sierra Vista Child and Family Services. The YAC will move into an "Implementation Phase" in FY 20/21 with on-going evaluation of the program.

Finally, a number of out-of-custody and in-custody programming courses for youth has recently been established that address: Mental Health and Substance Abuse issues, Employment/Job readiness and access to Higher Education. Furthermore, more resources are being placed in the areas of Prevention and Intervention while we move away from utilizing Detention as a solution for youthful offender behavior. For example, a Violation of Probation Matrix was developed that utilizes a youth's criminogenic risks/needs and identifies alternatives to detention as a consequence for violations.

#### Next steps in developing the 2020-2025 Plan

In November 2019 and February 2020, the committee members met to evaluate the service levels in subcommittees (i.e. Intervention, Prevention, Enforcement and Detention) and how each of these service levels were impacted by current trends, changes in legislation, and the current use of specific funding streams (Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and Youthful Offender Block Grant funds) in the Continuum of Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency Prevention (Attachment A). This assisted each subcommittee to discuss the service gaps, needs, and issues that their organization faced in their service level. Each of the service levels identified areas of need or desire to fill gaps moving forward into 2020-2025 as follows:

**Prevention:**

- Improve re-integration process
- Start intervening with prevention services EARLIER when CPS Reviews occur
- Expose youth to a program guide of local resources
- Create gender-responsive services for **YOUNG MEN**
- Continue implementation of Youth Assessment Center
- Re-introduce Youth Court

**Intervention:**

- Therapy Animals/Equine Therapy for youth with designated needs
- Solutions to youth barriers once they leave custody
- Transition documents upon release
- Employment opportunities
- Higher Education
- Case management on Day One of release instead of delay
- Expand evidence-based programming

**Enforcement:**

- Support local law enforcement in what is currently being enforced
- Establish the consequences upfront to change behaviors—goes back to Prevention
- Communicate the outcomes of cases to law enforcement to better understand the process and so law enforcement officers can see what they do makes a difference

**Detention (formerly Incapacitation):**

- Expand Evidence Based Practices in-custody
- Expand Educational /Vocational Programs
- Sports alternatives during recreation in custody
- Access to Higher Education

Based on these gaps/needs, in February 2020, the subcommittees created the following goals:

### 2020-2025 Goals

1. Continue and increase the use of Evidence Based Practices (EBP) models for prevention, intervention and in-custody services and programs.
2. Expand the Youth Assessment Center (YAC) beyond the Implementation Phase and embed the YAC concept in other Family Resources Centers in Stanislaus County to serve a wider population of youth
3. Increase the use of alternatives to incarceration for technical violations of probation
4. Enhance continuity of care for youth transitioning from custodial settings to the community
5. Create residential and non-residential substance abuse (i.e. inpatient and out-patient) treatment services for youth and expand services within the Juvenile Institutions
6. Expand Mental Health and Behavioral Health Services in the Juvenile institutions
7. Develop and expand vocational training and job placement programs
8. Enhance re-integration services by adding additional life skills support services once youth are released from custody
9. Expand the GRAD program to include specific services for male youth, especially those male youth with Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) risk factors
10. Provide annual updates of the Local Action Plan (LAP) to the JJCC followed by re-evaluation of the entire LAP plan every five years

Through on-going evaluation of the Local Action Plan goals and adjustment of the Continuum of the Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency Prevention, the JJCC has establish a road map for fund allocation, program development, service delivery and insures it is responding to the ever-changing needs of the youth in our community.

(Updated April 2023)

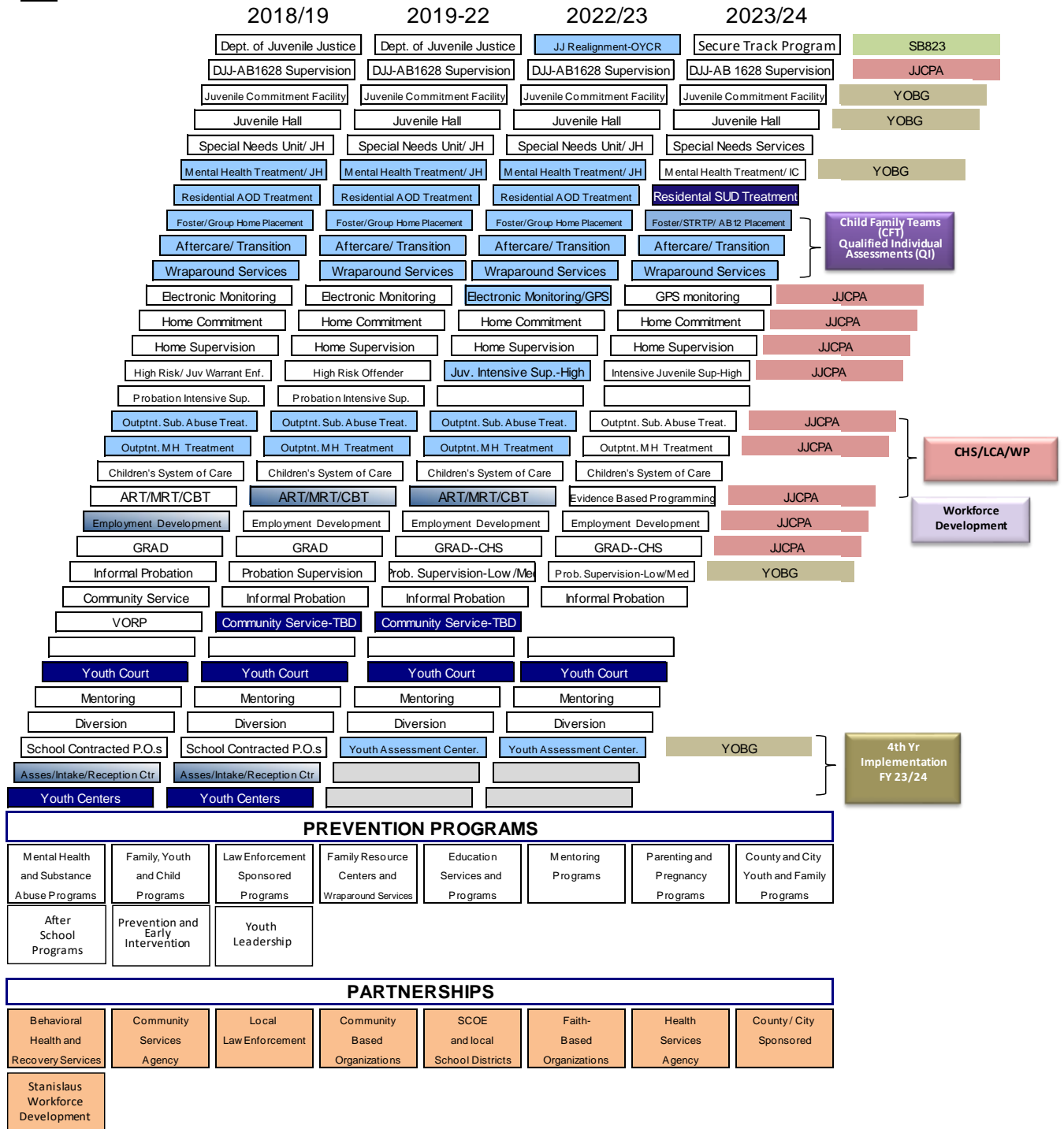


# Stanislaus County Graduated Responses To Youth Crime & Delinquency Prevention



- = Existing Option
- = Existing Option To Be Expanded
- = Option Being Implemented
- = Option To Be Created

## Attachment A



# (2023-2024) Annual Plan

Date: 4/19/2023

County Name: Stanislaus

Contact Name: David Costa

Telephone Number: 2095254505

E-mail Address: CostaDa@stanpro.org

## 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. [CostaDa@stanpro.org](mailto:CostaDa@stanpro.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](mailto:JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov)**

## Juvenile Justice Plan

### Part I. Countywide Service Needs, Priorities and Strategy

- A. Assessment of Existing Services
- B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas
- C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy
- D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

### Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

- A. Information Sharing and Data Collection
- B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils
- C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

### Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

- A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders
- B. Regional Agreements
- C. Funded Programs, Placements, Services, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

**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.**

Since the creation of the Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan developed in 2000, Stanislaus County has continued to update the Local Action Plan (i.e. 2005, 2008, 2013 and 2020). In 2020, the Probation Department updated the Local Action Plan document to consider projects, services, programming, and partnerships through 2025. Included in the submission of this report, as a separate document, is the most recent Local Action Plan (LAP) 2020-2025 update developed from a collaboration and cross section of numerous agencies working with the Probation Department. The Stanislaus County Graduated Responses To Youth Crime and Delinquency Prevention Continuum is updated in the LAP to include the upcoming FY 23/24, with projections through 2025. These documents combine to provide an assessment and overview of existing resources that target the specified populations we serve.

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

See the Local Action Plan 2020-2025 (updated for FY 23/24) submitted with this report which describes the approach Stanislaus County has used and will continue to use to collaborate amongst organizations and support the integration of services. It is expected that the Local Action Plan will be reviewed annually through 2025, adjusted as needed, and approved by the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council annually.



## **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.**

As identified in our original Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan, the greater Modesto areas faced the most significant public safety risk from juvenile crime. As part of the 18/19 plan, the Department initiated a Planning Phase for a Youth Assessment Center (YAC) in this targeted area. In FY 19/20, the Pilot Phase of the Youth Assessment Center began. In FY 20/21, the YAC was in its first year of full implementation. In Fiscal Years 21/22 and 22/23, the YAC continued to serve targeted youth in these areas. As part of future plans, the YAC is hoping to expand into the Turlock area, once referral numbers reach service capacity for the first center. This area was also originally identified as an area of significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.

## **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.**

Attached is our updated Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency Prevention Continuum (Attachment A) which includes Prevention, Intervention, Enforcement and Detention programs and partnerships. Additionally, it includes all existing programs, programs to be expanded, programs being implemented and programs to be created. This attachment included with the submission of this report was updated to reflect the projected FY 23/24 plans. This document will be updated annually as needed and is a part of the Local Action Plan.

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

Previously, members of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), various county agencies, law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, and Probation staff were all invited to participate in the Local Action Plan Update committee that met in September 2019, November 2019, and February 2020. A wide variety of individuals participated in these meetings from each of the above identified organizations. During these meetings, the current Local Action Plan was evaluated and reviewed, as well as the goals from previous years. Subgroups were created that focused on four areas of the plan: (1) Prevention (2) Intervention (3) Enforcement and (4) Detention. Updated goals, partnerships, programs and services were identified and placed in an updated Local Action Plan to cover the time period 2020-2025. The Local Action Plan (with FY 23/24 updated information in Attachment A) was submitted for the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council's approval in April 2023. It is included in the submission of this JJCPA-YOBG Annual 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 Stanislaus County Probation Department in collaboration with other county agencies has developed its own Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (ICJIS). Data is shared amongst the Probation, District Attorney, and the Sheriff's Departments. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to share information with agencies such as Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and Child Welfare was approved by the involved agencies in June 2022 to streamline services to youth.

**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:

Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This team supervises youth who are categorized as "High Risk" based on their Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) assessment. In 2022, an average of 109 of 182 (60%) Probation wards were listed as High Risk. In 2021, an average of 150 of 231 (64%) Probation wards were listed as High Risk. This reflects an 27% decrease in the average number of High Risk cases. Targeted supervision, coupled with evidence-based programming referrals, is the key to this unit's success.

## Description:

The Intensive Juvenile Supervision (IJS) Unit expands intensive, community-based supervision of high-risk juvenile Court wards and the enforcement of Court orders. The objective is to reduce juvenile criminal involvement in the target population and increase offender accountability by actively enforcing outstanding Juvenile Court warrants, providing intensive supervision of youth, referring youth to programs such as Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and CBI-Core Youth (CY) curriculum, and utilizing the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) assessment. One area that had been identified as needing enhancement is opportunities for this population to gain employment skills and eventually jobs. During FY 18/19, a new partnership with the County Workforce Development agency was created. Through the partnership, an In-Custody and Out-of-Custody employment development program called "Let's Work" was created. Youth are followed for 12-months after employment to track progress. The IJS Unit and employment program will continue in FY 23/24.

This Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit and the related employment program support the goals of both the Intervention and Enforcement areas of the Local Action Plan.

**Program Name:**

Home Supervision-Electronic Monitoring (GPS)/House Arrest Program.

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The program is effective in ensuring minors attended all scheduled Court hearings and reintegrating them back into the community after periods in a detention facility. Furthermore, by restricting appropriately selected minors to their homes rather than detaining them in Juvenile Hall, secure detention beds can be reserved for those youth posing the greatest danger to the community and taxpayer costs for juvenile facility placements can be avoided.

**Description:**

Home Supervision, an Intervention program, is designed to provide protection to the community and offender accountability while allowing offenders to remain in their homes in lieu of incarceration. The program consists of Electronic Monitoring through the use of Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) units and House Arrest of wards and alleged wards pending adjudication and/or disposition hearings in Juvenile Court. The minors are supervised through face-to-face visits by program staff who verify participation in structured, community-based counseling programs and compliance with imposed restrictions. The Programming and Placement Unit oversees and monitors the youth on this program utilizing the more accurate GPS units and web-based tracking system to streamline supervision services. In 2023, youth on electronic monitoring supervision began returning before the Court at least every 30 days to review their progress and determine if continued time on the program is appropriate.

This program supports the goals of the Intervention and Enforcement areas of the Local Action Plan.

**Program Name:**

Mental Health/SUD Treatment/Cognitive Behavioral Intervention

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The Probation Department continues to partner with Community Based Organizations and non-profits to refer youth in need of Mental Health, Substance Abuse Disorder, or other evidence-based treatment. Contracts for Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI) and Domestic Violence (DV) /Victim Awareness were started in 2018. In early 2019, these programs were expanded and in FY 21/22, on-site Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and CBI-Core Youth (CY) programming were added. These services will be continued in FY23/24.

**Description:**

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) treatment for lower level, informal youth, under probation supervision began in January 2019. Treatment programming for domestic violence counseling/victim awareness began in February 2019.

In August 2019, Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI) programming began to be provided to all in-custody youth. The program, called "Choices", uses an evidence-based curriculum, and is supported by technical assistance from the University of Cincinnati. Additionally, Probation staff have been trained in Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and CBI-Core Youth (CY) curriculums and are providing these programs to youth in-custody.

In FY 21/22, the Probation Department partnered with LCA, Inc., to provide out-of-custody ART and CBI-CY services at the new Juvenile Programming Center. In FY 22/23, Probation staff and LCA, Inc. began synchronizing some of the programming taking place both in and out of custody. This allows youth to transition more seamlessly from in custody programming to out of custody programming without losing progress or having to start a program from the beginning. These programs will continue in FY 23/24.

Program enhancement: Funds will be set aside for continued contracts in FY 23/24 for Mental Health, SUD treatment, ART, CBI-CY and DV/Victim Awareness for probation youth. These programs support the goals of both the Intervention and Detention areas of the Local Action Plan. Some programming contracts will be expanded to provide greater consistency in the facilitation of programming.

**Program Name:**

Gender Responsive Alternatives to Detention (GRAD)/ CSEC Youth Assessment and Support.

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Treating justice involved girls and boys in a generic manner does not appropriately meet their needs. Girls tend to have elevated rates of trauma, which can lead to serious mental health conditions. The reasons for girls' system involvement are complex and often rooted in challenging family dynamics. Without gender-responsive assessments, programs, and services, an opportunity to address the issues that lead to girls' justice involvement is missed.

In December 2009, the Probation Department began collaborating with the Prison Law Office, the National Center for Crime and Delinquency and the Youth Justice Institute to implement what would come to be known as the Girls Juvenile Justice Initiative. The purpose of the initiative was to create and implement a strategic plan and task force to address the dearth of services available to justice involved girls. A strategic plan was developed in December 2010 with the mission: "To promote public safety by creating a gender-responsive, culturally competent continuum of services that provides opportunities for girls and young women to lead safe, healthy and productive lives."

The Probation Department evaluated our own data and determined secure detention was the primary resource used for violations of probation, bench warrants and failures to appear. The data showed girls were over-represented in terms of bookings into the juvenile hall and out-of-home placement. It was also determined almost half of all girls entering the juvenile hall were booked for violations of probation, bench warrants and failures to appear. In July of 2011, the Stanislaus County Probation Department implemented the Gender Responsive Alternatives to Detention (GRAD) program, which introduced a specialized caseload, gender-responsive training and assessment tool, and enhanced services for the under-served population of justice involved girls.

In 2018, a partnership was established with a local non-profit, Without Permission, that provided a staff called a "Navigator" to conduct Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT) assessments and assist Probation with identifying youth who may be at-risk of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) issues. Through this partnership we have identified a population of previously uncategorized CSEC males that have been booked into our institutions. We will continue to utilize services of the Navigator to assist with both in-custody and out-of-custody youth.



## **Description:**

A Center for Human Services case manager is currently co-located within the Probation Department. The Probation Department implemented the gender-responsive Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) tool. The JAIS is an evidence-based tool that generates an assessment in order to identify a risk level. Upon the completion of the assessment process, the GRAD team, to include the DPO I/II and the case manager meet to share information and determine appropriateness for the program for the under-served population of justice involved girls. Once accepted into the program, staff from both agencies interact on a daily basis, conducting weekly case reviews, attending court appearances and exchanging information as necessary.

The GRAD program employs numerous alternative interventions in the event of a violation of probation. When a girl receives traditional probation services, if she is in violation of probation, she is sent to Court and a recommendation for time in juvenile hall is typically made. With GRAD, the Deputy Probation Officer and case manager engage in a "case conference," during which they meet to discuss the particular circumstances of the girl, their various options and to make recommendations for appropriate steps to take to address the behavior. The GRAD program continues to serve between 12-19 female youth. Each youth in GRAD also receives one-on-one counseling services while also receiving education on CSEC, eating disorders/body image, and financial literacy.

Female youth receive various services such as an evidence-based Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) treatment program, Steps to Freedom. CBT (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy) is the premier cognitive-behavior program for substance abuse treatment which combines education, group and individual counseling, and structured exercises designed to foster moral development in treatment-resistant probationers. GRAD probationers may also be referred to Aggression Replacement Training (ART). ART is a cognitive behavioral intervention program to help children and adolescents improve social skill competence and moral reasoning, better manage anger, and reduce aggressive behavior. Additional services include probation supervision and case management services, general counseling, and intensive drug and alcohol out-patient services.

The youth on GRAD are also required to participate in the Probation Department's employment development program called, "Let's Work". This is in partnership with the County Workforce Development team who educate, guide and mentor youth through the employment process and encourage them to seek higher education beyond their high school graduation.

An extension of the GRAD program is the Girl's Advisory Council (GAC), which is a collaboration between the Probation Department, the Center for Human Services, community members and

various local service providers. The GAC empowers female youth in the county with resources to help them reach their full potential.

Finally, in partnership with Without Permission (a local non-profit specializing in working with victims of human trafficking and those with CSEC issues), a staff called a "Navigator" assesses all female youth on probation or males/females who have been booked into the Juvenile Hall that show risk factors for CSEC. The CSE-IT assessment tool is used by the Navigator to assist in case planning for the youth to address protective factors, trauma issues or other concerns shown by the assessment. A Navigator is co-located in the Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit.

Program Enhancement: Partnerships will continue to be funded with focus on continuing to assess and address the needs of this population. The contract with Without Permission will be expanded to allow additional time for an additional Navigator to work with male youth in custody.

This program meets the goals identified in the areas of Intervention and Detention in the Local Action Plan.

**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.**

See attached Stanislaus County Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency. YOBG funded programs/services are included in Attachment A and support our strategy of a graduated response for dealing with non-707(b) youthful offenders who are not eligible for a Secure Track commitment and may benefit from programming/services in various areas provided by the Probation Department or partner agencies.

**B. Regional Agreements**

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

N/A

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

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

## **Program Name:**

Home on Probation-Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS)

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

Wards assigned to the caseloads supported by YOBG and JJCPA funds will be assessed with an evidence-based risk assessment tool, the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS). This program works in collaboration with the JJCPA Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit in that it identifies minors who may need a higher level of supervision. The JAIS risk levels determine the level of intervention.

## **Description:**

In an ongoing effort to promote public safety by preventing lower risk minors from escalating into delinquency, from being sent to out-of-home placement or from otherwise being detained, Stanislaus County will use the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS), an evidence-based risk assessment tool, to develop case plans for minors supervised on probation.

This assessment affects youth under the Intervention, Enforcement and Detention areas of the areas of the Local Action Plan.

**Program Name:**

Camp-Juvenile Commitment Facility/Mental Health and Hospice Services.

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The Department funds a number of administrative, supervisory and line staff positions to provide 24/7 supervision, programming and observation for those youth committed to the Juvenile Commitment Facility (JCF).

**Description:**

Stanislaus County completed the construction of a 47,207 square foot Commitment Facility in 2013. The 60-bed treatment facility is comprised of three living units; a 30-bed living unit and two 15-bed living units. The facility is separated from, but directly adjacent to the existing Juvenile Hall and Juvenile Justice Center located at 2215 Blue Gum Ave in Modesto. The Commitment Facility is providing residential programming for post-adjudicated wards, thereby preserving secure beds at the Juvenile Hall for pre-adjudicated youth. The facility is designed to house longer term Juvenile Court commitments and provide staffing to offer academic and vocational education programs, mental health, Culinary and Trade learning programs, and other programs which promote a sense of self-discipline and responsibility to guide them toward a more productive and pro-social lifestyle.

Program Enhancement: Continued Mental Health assessments for youth will be conducted to assist in determining the appropriate response level of care or treatment needed for those who are experiencing mental health episodes, and/or suicidal ideations. Additionally, youth who experience loss of family or significant others has been an area served by contracted Hospice counseling services. These mental health and hospice services will continue to be provided under this program area as well as throughout the Juvenile Institutions.

This program supports the goals identified in the Detention area of the Local Action Plan.

**Program Name:**

Crime Analyst

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

The Crime Analyst will evaluate the effectiveness of existing juvenile services/programs and will assist in researching best practices for future programming. The use of Statistical Product and Service Solution (SPSS) software will be utilized for numerical, spatial and graphical analysis.

**Description:**

The Crime Analyst (Program Evaluation Researcher) collects, collates, and analyzes data from a variety of sources. The Analyst evaluates the effectiveness of current services and juvenile programs to determine if the Department is achieving intended outcomes and will assist in researching best practices for future programming. The Analyst's work includes developing and maintaining a process for collection, maintenance and management of probation data. The Analyst will use innovation and technology to ensure the most progressive and efficient processes are used; which includes the use of analytics based software for numerical, graphical, and geospatial analysis.

This program supports the goals of the Intervention and Enforcement areas of the Local Action Plan through analysis of trends that allow appropriate allocation of resources for future supervision.

**Program Name:**

Juvenile Hall

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Probation Officers have been trained in various evidence-based programming curriculum. Additional training will be provided and updated for staff.

**Description:**

The Juvenile Hall is a 158-bed facility at the Juvenile Justice Center located at 2215 Blue Gum Ave in Modesto. 138 beds are reserved for the Juvenile Hall and 20 beds are reserved for the Secure Youth Treatment Facility. The Juvenile Hall provides temporary and extended detention for those youth awaiting detention, jurisdictional or dispositional hearings. Programming for both pre-and post- adjudicated wards is also provided as previously noted in this plan. The facility provides academic and vocational education programs, mental health services, and other programs which promote a sense of self-discipline and responsibility. The county will continue operating the Juvenile Hall for youth who need to be detained.

YOBG funds will pay for salary and benefit costs for staff positions to the facility, providing supervision services to youth detained in the Juvenile Hall. Equipment, training and travel costs for each staff as well as workbook materials and incentives for youth will be included for all evidence-based courses taught in and out-of-custody.

This program supports the goals identified in the Detention area of the Local Action Plan.

**Program Name:**

Youth Assessment Center

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

As part of the Department's Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency, there was an identified need to develop a Youth Assessment Center (YAC) in our County. This center would assist in addressing low level cases by working collaboratively to keep targeted youth from entering the Juvenile Justice System through Diversion or similar efforts. This was a phased approach with a Planning Phase in FY 18/19, Pilot Phase in FY 19/20 and Full Implementation Phase in FY 20/21. The YAC continued full operation in FY 22/23. Funding will be allocated to support a 4th year of full implementation and possible expansion into other targeted areas of the County in FY 23/24.

**Description:**

The Probation Department had a 5-year average of receiving approximately 380 citations annually for youth who committed medium/low level offenses in our county. These citations often involved youth who had medium/low criminogenic needs and family issues that led them to make their poor decisions. These youth predominantly ended up in the criminal justice system, either having to come see Probation to have their case closed, being sent to Court and potentially being placed on probation (informal or formal) or being given some alternative supervision program option at Probation. This process of handling citations diverted some youth from the system and provided discipline to some for their acts. The spectrum ran from least restrictive actions to incarceration. The goal was to help youth avoid the system altogether, but youth were having to enter the criminal justice system in the initial process. A goal was set to establish a system where appropriate youth for diversion could bypass physically reporting to probation altogether and receive intervention/prevention services through Community-Based Organization (CBO) referrals and community involvement.

During the initial Planning Phase in FY18/19, a committee of Probation, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) and non-profit staff looked into various "systems" to help us reach our ultimate goal of not having youth touch the criminal justice system (if possible) and "divert" or move them into more of a prevention / early intervention program. The initial funding was through a Probation/BHRS partnership and CBO service contract, while also engaging local law enforcement to refer youth to the CBO to offer services instead of Probation handling it through our criminal justice process. Our research showed we should target youth in the greater Modesto area.



In 2019, a partnership with Sierra Vista Child and Family Services (SVCFS) was established utilizing their existing Family Resource Center located in West Modesto. Our intention in meeting with an established CBO was to add another layer to its "one stop shop" at its Family Resource Center, reaching these youth and utilizing existing referrals or treatment processes to move them away from further criminal activity.

A team of Probation, Prevention/Early Intervention BHRS staff, and SVCFS made up the initial group to create the Youth Assessment Center (YAC) "pilot" in FY 19/20. YAC referrals initially came only from the citations received by the Probation Department from local law enforcement; however, the goal was to eventually have local law enforcement have the ability to send their referrals/citations directly to the YAC, thereby avoiding going through Probation. Additionally, a mobile referral application was developed and implemented at the end of FY 20/21. This mobile referral process was continued and evaluated in FY 21/22 and FY 22/23. That said, while local law enforcement has started to use the mobile application, the YAC still receives the strong majority of the referrals in hard copy from the Probation Department.

In the first eight months of FY 22/23, the YAC received 111 new referrals compared to the 72 new referrals it received in the first eight months of FY 21/22. This was a 54% increase in the use of this diversion/intervention tool. During this same comparative time frame, the YAC averaged 36 active clients monthly in FY 22/23 compared to 21 active clients monthly in 21/22. This is a 71% increase in clients they are actively working with. This steady progress is reflective of the continue partnership that Probation, BHRS, and SVCFS is trying to embed in our community. In FY 22/23, the YAC will continue in a 4th year of implementation with on-going evaluation of the program's effectiveness in reducing recidivism or decreasing the overall citations received by the Department. Further training and outreach will be conducted to get local law enforcement to use the mobile application instead of creating hard copy citations. Other potential sources for referrals will also be explored to expand early intervention/prevention services. This program supports the goals of the Prevention area in the Local Action Plan.

Program Enhancement: One of the goals is to expand the YAC into the Turlock area. Collected data shows the Turlock area is one of the areas with a denser population of criminal justice involved youth in the County. The hope is to work with youth and their families when early delinquency issues arise in less serious offenses, offering services to prevent those youth from entering the juvenile justice system in the future.



## JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL PLAN

### MAIN CONTACT FOR PLAN

**Date:** April 13, 2023

**County Name:** Stanislaus

**Contact Name:** Tracie Martin

**Telephone Number:** 209-525-4573

**E-mail Address:** Carlt@stanpro.org

### BACKGROUND AND INSTRUCTIONS:

Welfare & Institutions Code Section(s) 1990-1995 establish the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program for the purpose of providing county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure. The statute language can be found [here](#).

To be eligible for funding allocations associated with this grant program, counties shall create a subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council to develop a plan (WIC 1995 (a)) describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision, and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitative services for realigned youth.

County plans are to be submitted and revised in accordance with WIC 1995, and may be posted, as submitted, to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website. There are eight sections to the plan:

Part 1: Subcommittee Composition

Part 2: Target Population

Part 3: Programs and Services

Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds

Part 5: Facility Plan

Part 6: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System

Part 7: Regional Efforts

Part 8: Data

## PART 1: SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSITION (WIC 1995 (B))

List the subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information:

| Agency  | Name and Title   | Email  | Phone Number   |
|---|--|--|----------------|
| Chief Probation Officer<br>(Chair)              | Mark Ferriera<br>Chief Probation<br>Officer  | <a href="mailto:FerrMar@stanpro.org">FerrMar@stanpro.org</a>                                 | (209) 525-4503 |
| District Attorney's Office<br>Representative    | Jeffrey Laugero<br>District Attorney   | <a href="mailto:Jeffrey.Laugero@standa.org">Jeffrey.Laugero@standa.org</a>                   | (209) 525-5538 |
| Public Defender's Office<br>Representative      | Jennifer Jennison<br>Public Defender   | <a href="mailto:JENNSNJ@StanCounty.com">JENNSNJ@StanCounty.com</a>                           | (209) 525-4200 |
| Department of Social<br>Services Representative | Christine Huber<br>Director,<br>Community<br>Services Agency                                     | <a href="mailto:HuberC@stancounty.com">HuberC@stancounty.com</a>                             | (209) 558-2500 |
| Department of Mental<br>Health                  | Sarkis Vartan<br>Director,<br>Behavioral Health<br>and Recovery<br>Services                      | <a href="mailto:tvartan@stanbhrs.org">tvartan@stanbhrs.org</a>                               | (209) 525-6205 |
| Office of Education<br>Representative           | Scott Kuykendall<br>Stanislaus<br>County<br>Superintendent of<br>Schools                         | <a href="mailto:SKuykendall@stancoe.org">SKuykendall@stancoe.org</a>                         | (209) 525-4900 |
| Court Representative                            | Ruben Villalobos<br>Juvenile Court<br>Judge  | <a href="mailto:Ruben.Villalobos@stanct.org">Ruben.Villalobos@stanct.org</a>                 | (209) 530-3111 |
| Community Member                                | Marian Martino<br>Youth<br>Mentor/Chair of<br>the Juvenile<br>Justice<br>Coordinating<br>Council | <a href="mailto:marian@martinonet.com">marian@martinonet.com</a>                             | (209) 484-2775 |
| Community Member                                | Emily Webster<br>Center for Human<br>Services, Youth<br>Navigation Center<br>Director            | <a href="mailto:ewebster@centerforhumanservices.org">ewebster@centerforhumanservices.org</a> | (209) 526-1476 |

|                  |  |  |                |
|------------------|--|--|----------------|
| Community Member | Vickie Trask<br>Modesto Junior<br>College, Dean of<br>Workforce<br>Development &<br>Community<br>Lifelong Learning | <a href="mailto:mulvaneytraskv@yosemite.edu">mulvaneytraskv@yosemite.edu</a> | (209) 652-1252 |
|------------------|--|--|----------------|

**PART 2: TARGET POPULATION (WELF. & INST. CODE §1995(C)(1)) ) (**

**Briefly describe the County’s realignment target population supported by the block grant.**

*The “target population” is defined as “youth who were eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure and shall further be defined as persons who are adjudicated to be a ward of the juvenile court based on an offense described in subdivision (b) of Section 707 or on offense described in Section 290.008 of the Penal Code.” (WIC 1990(b))*

Stanislaus County Probation will serve youth ages 14 to 23, and up to age 25 depending on the length of the disposition ordered by the Juvenile Court. Population estimates for year two is four males and one female returning to Stanislaus County from the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). As of March 2023, five youth, all male, have been committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Program. There is capacity for 20 youth locally. Initially, it was anticipated Stanislaus County would seek a regional contract to have another County provide services for females based on the expected low numbers and to maximize their opportunities for group-based services; however, regional specialized programs to service the female population have not been developed. Absent a contract with another County, Stanislaus County has the necessary amount of living space and services available to accommodate a low number of female commitments based on historical commitment data. Stanislaus County will contract locally for specialized services for sex offenders. It is possible certain sex offenders will require a level of treatment necessitating a regional contract with another County who could provide group-based services with like offenders.

**Demographics of identified target population, including anticipated numbers of youth served, disaggregated by factors including age, gender, race or ethnicity, and offense/offense history.**

Demographics for youth booked into the Stanislaus County Juvenile Detention facility for a 707(b) WIC offense in 2022 are as follows:

- Total number of youth booked for a 707(b) WIC offense: 78
- Total number of youth booked for a non-707(b) WIC offense: 337
- Gender:
  - Male - 68 (87.2%)
  - Female - 10 (12.8%)
- Ethnicity:
  - African American - 13 (16.6%)
  - Hispanic - 45 (57.7%)
  - Caucasian - 18 (23.1%)
  - Asian - 1 (1.3%)
  - Other - 1 (1.3%)

- Age:
  - 12-14 years - 14 (17.9%)
  - 15-17 years - 62 (79.5%)
  - 18-21 years - 2 (2.6%)
- Offense:
  - Felony Assault: 28 (36%)
  - Robbery/Car Jacking: 35 (45%)
  - Attempted Homicide: 4 (5.1%)
  - Homicide: 1 (1.3%)
  - Rape: 4 (5.1%)
  - Kidnapping: 3 (3.9%)
  - Other: 3 (3.9%)
- Disposition:
  - Sustained 707(b) WIC – 34 (43.6%)
  - Sustained non-707(b) WIC – 22 (28.2%)
  - Dismissed – 18 (23.1%)
  - Pending Court – 4 (5.1%)

Demographics for youth from Stanislaus County serving commitments at DJJ as of March 2023 are as follows:  
total commitments

- 7 total commitments
  - 57% (4) for assault related offenses; 43% (3) for robbery related offenses
  - 100% of youth are between 18-21 years old
  - 86% (6) are Hispanic; 14% (1) is Caucasian
  - 86% (6) are male, 14% (1) is female
  - The median length of stay for these youth is 33.4 months.

Demographics for youth receiving a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) commitment as of March 2023 are as follows:

- 5 total commitments
  - 60% (3) for assault related offenses; 20% (1) for robbery related offenses; 20% (1) for sex related offenses
  - 80% (4) were under the age of 18 at the time of commitment; 20% (1) was 17 years old
  - 60% (3) are Hispanic; 40% (2) are Caucasian
  - The average length of commitment is 31.2 months.
  - Zero youth received a baseline term reduction pursuant to WIC 875(e)(1).
  - Zero youth received an increase in the baseline term pursuant to WIC 875(b).

The breakdown of offenders committed to a SYTF statewide for fiscal year 2021-2022 is as follows:

- 229 youth ordered to a SYTF.
- 224 youth ordered to a SYTF within the county of adjudication.
- 5 youth ordered to SYTF outside the county of adjudication.
- 10 youth requiring sexual behavioral treatment.
- 18 youth requiring specialized mental health treatment.
- 11 youth received a baseline term reduction pursuant to WIC 875(e)(1).
- 3 youth received an increase in the baseline term pursuant to WIC 875(b).

**Describe the target population, disaggregated by programs, placements and/or facilities to which they have been referred.**

Several lower-level interventions provided by the Probation Department are available to youth prior to a long-term commitment becoming necessary. However, at times the serious nature of the adjudicated offense(s) and consideration for public safety will outweigh the opportunity for youth to be tried in lower-level options. A brief description of the Probation Department's continuum of care is described below:

**Out of Custody Referrals for Youth not on Probation Status**

Stanislaus County Probation receives law enforcement reports issued out in the community. Each report is reviewed by a Probation Officer or Supervisor to determine what, if any, action will be taken. Referrals to other services or warning letters are sent to parents of youth with no prior record for any report received alleging charges that carry no confinement time and some low-level misdemeanors.

Additionally, lower-level offenses are referred to the Youth Assessment Center (YAC) directly from law enforcement. This removes the citation review process from the Probation Department, entirely, for offenses meeting the YAC criteria. The criteria includes: youth must be under 18 years old and pending a misdemeanor or felony offense, youth are experiencing family conflict, have frequent law enforcement contacts, or are under 12 years old and fit the criteria outlined in SB 439. A youth may not be referred to the YAC if they have any prior sustained felony petitions or if the instant offense is for felony domestic violence, a sex offense, or is an offense listed in 707(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code. If a case meets the criteria above, the Probation Officer may also directly refer the youth to the YAC.

**Evidence-Based Screening for Felony and Misdemeanor Bookings and Referrals**

The Juvenile Intake Unit reviews each referral which carries some type of confinement, for consideration of appropriate juvenile justice interventions. Options include: closing the referral at intake, referring a youth to counseling/diversion services, informal probation and finally, referring a youth to Court.

For those youth booked into Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall, the Probation Department uses the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) to screen all youth. The DRAI is an evidence-based, risk/needs assessment tool which assists Juvenile Intake Officers in making determinations as to what level of detention is most appropriate for any youth being booked. The DRAI assists officers in accomplishing the following basic objectives:

- Determine the level of risk for re-offending (low, moderate, or high) to focus resources primarily on moderate and high-risk youth
- Identify the risk and protective factors linked to criminal behavior so rehabilitative efforts can be tailored to address youths' unique assessment profiles

The DRAI assists in guiding initial decision-making regarding juvenile bookings. Dispositions of cases that have been screened by an officer include closing the matter at intake, referrals to services in the community, placement on informal probation, and referring the matter to the District Attorney for filing of a formal petition. Once a youth is placed on probation, the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) is utilized to properly assess a youth's risk and make the appropriate referrals to services.

### **Lower-level Interventions for Youth on Probation Status:**

One lower-level intervention the Juvenile Court utilizes is the Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJ) Program. DEJ is only available to first-time "nonviolent" felony offenders. The idea behind granting DEJ is to impose probation terms and conditions that will rehabilitate a youth and prevent future delinquent activity while allowing a youth to have his/her charge dismissed and record sealed upon successful completion of the program.

Once youth have been adjudged wards of the Juvenile Court, lower-level interventions are utilized for redirection prior to a consideration for a commitment to a local custodial program. These options include community based behavioral services and/or school-based services. The supervision of such youth occurs while they live at home in the community. Out-of-home placement is an option of last resort for youth whose parent/guardian is unable to properly provide care or where the home is unsafe or unsuitable for the youth.

### **Juvenile Programming and Placement Unit:**

Officers can also refer youth for services available at the Probation Department's Juvenile Programming Unit (JPU). The JPU utilizes support, counseling, and training through evidence-based practices to reduce criminal behavior for a safer community. The JPU is designed to offer youth a respectful and safe environment for individualized treatment of criminogenic needs by using evidence-based and cognitive behavioral treatment models with fidelity. The treatment provided promotes accountability, development of attainable goals, and a framework for making positive changes in personal values for increased success and reduced recidivism.

### **In-Custody Dispositions:**

Youth determined to need in-custody treatment can be committed by the Juvenile Court to local custodial commitment programs. These include commitments to the Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall or Stanislaus County Juvenile Commitment Facility (JCF). Youth may serve a portion of their commitment time in custody and the remainder of their time in an alternative to custody program, such as House Arrest or the Global Positioning System (GPS) Program.

These youth are composed primarily of those who, because of their level of delinquent behavior and risk to reoffend, require an in-custody commitment to affect rehabilitation. Upon release, most youth return to the community under Probation Department supervision.

### **The Probation Department operates two custodial programs on one campus:**

- **Juvenile Hall:** Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall is a secure detention facility for youth who fall under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court. Youth detained at Juvenile Hall are alleged to have committed a law violation and are detained for the protection of themselves and/or the community or are serving a short-term Juvenile Court-ordered commitment. The Juvenile Hall program is structured to provide individual and group activities (recreation, library program, game room program), behavioral health treatment, medical care, cognitive-based programming, and a well-balanced school program, including the option to enroll in and attend virtual courses through a partnership with Modesto Junior College (MJC) upon high school graduation. All youth booked into Juvenile Hall are screened for risk factors associated with Human Trafficking (HT)/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC). Youth identified as being at risk for HT/CSEC are referred to our Probation Site Navigator for Without Permission. Youth are also screened by our on-site mental health clinicians for suicidal/self-harming ideations. Youth who have experienced sexual abuse are screened through the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) questionnaire, and a general health assessment is made.
- **Juvenile Commitment Facility (JCF):** The JCF is a 60-bed juvenile camp which opened in 2013 and offers youth housing and programming in a family-like environment. The JCF program focuses on reform

through education, vocational programs, and mental health counseling. The 47,000 square foot facility includes, but is not limited to, classrooms, occupational training rooms, program space, a culinary training kitchen, garden, gymnasium, and outdoor recreation areas. All programming is geared to provide youth with the necessary tools to remain crime free upon their return to the community. Monday through Friday, youth attend school, participate in evidence-based treatment, and can participate in the culinary program. The culinary program offers youth an opportunity to earn their Serv-Safe Food Handler's Certificate so that, upon release, youth are prepared and certified to work in the food-service industry.

Additionally, Career Technical Education (CTE) credits are earned through the culinary program. As a youth prepares for release from his/her commitment, Reintegration Meetings are held to review youth accomplishments, identify available community resources, and present release expectations to render youth ready for successful re-entry into the community.

### **PART 3: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES (WELF. & INST. CODE §1995(C)(2))**

**Provide a description of the facilities, programs, placements, services and service providers, supervision, and other responses that will be provided to the target population:**

The central focus for youth committed to the Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall's SB 823 Program will consist of providing appropriate educational, behavioral and rehabilitative services. Such services consist of, but are not limited to the following: education (i.e., trade, academic, literacy), employment, rebuilding family connections, mental health services, addressing cognitive behavioral challenges, financial literacy, housing, and mentoring/community support.

**Facility:**

Stanislaus County is utilizing the existing Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall to house SB 823 youth. Juvenile Hall is a secure residential facility with an operational capacity of 158 beds. The Juvenile Hall is divided into eight separate housing units, one of those units, Unit 7, will house the realigned population. Unit 7 can house up to 20 youth and consists of ten rooms which can house two youth each. This 20-bed housing unit has a dayroom for structured activities and a separate classroom space for education. It also includes an additional room which can be utilized for mental health counseling and one-on-one case management services. There is an outdoor recreation yard adjacent to Unit 7, which will be utilized for the realigned population. Old office space contained in Unit 7 was converted into a calming room where youth can de-escalate from elevated emotional states. This room provides youth an opportunity to de-escalate; however, the department will be careful to create the room where youth will be soothed by their surroundings, but also not make it so attractive that youth purposely want to enter it. The room will provide a positive experience, and will be utilized as a resource, not as a punitive sanction. The physical plant includes a full kitchen where meals are prepared on-site and delivered timely to the youth housed on our campus.

**Youth Supervision-Programming Unit:**

To provide rehabilitative services to the realigned youth, safety and security must be a core tenant. Youth will only be able to thrive when they feel safe and secure. Juvenile Probation Corrections Officers (PCO) provide supervision and guidance to this population in day-to-day activities. They are trained in both de-escalation techniques and trauma-informed care as well as crisis intervention and defensive tactics. As is the case with all youth housed in the existing facilities, youth are held accountable for misbehavior but also provided with an



opportunity to redirect their negative behavior. PCO staff work in coordination with the education, mental health, and programming staff to develop individualized case plans for all youth housed in the SB 823 Unit. This ensures continuity in the services provided across the various disciplines.

PCO staff are on-site and provide direct supervision during education and programming hours to provide emotional support to youth, initiate daily structured programming to benefit youths' active program participation and adolescent development. Additionally, PCO staff will be involved in the Pre-Release Meetings to ensure a successful progression of the case plan while in custody and thorough connection to resources for transition upon release into the community. Full details regarding the SB 823 Unit are provided in Part 4 of this report.

### **Educational Program:**

Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) operates the on-site educational program. Youth within the program will have access to West Campus for continued education, where students are educated in a self-contained classroom with a dedicated teacher. The curriculum is online and accredited through the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC). Courses offered include English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, along with all other requirements and electives for graduation ("A-G" coursework). A-G coursework is a series of high school classes that students are required to successfully complete to be eligible for admission to the California State University and University of California systems.

Students also have access to a career readiness program, Naviance, that provides opportunities for students to develop career-ready skills and explore possible career paths that target their interests and strengths. Industry has indicated that possessing strong "soft skills" directly correlates with workplace success.

Students who complete their high school education have the opportunity to enroll in Modesto Junior College (MJC) either through the vocation program discussed later in this report or to begin general education courses. Students receive support from a dedicated Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) West Campus instructor in applying for financial aid, entry into MJC and registering for classes. Once enrolled, the student attends classes online. The dedicated SCOE instructor will double as a liaison with a pre-identified MJC counselor and the student to ensure proper paperwork and processes are completed and to ensure the youth are successful in completing course assignments.

Currently, youth who have obtained their High School diploma are enrolled in entry-level college courses through the Prison Education Project (PEP). Provided these courses continue to be available, all youth committed to SYTF will participate in these courses, year-round. The Prison Education Project has expanded educational opportunities for the in-custody population in 25 California correctional facilities and four international correctional facilities. With the assistance of 3,000 university student and faculty volunteers, PEP has serviced approximately 8,000 in-custody students in these facilities since 2011. By providing academic, life skills, and career development programming, PEP aims to educate, empower, and transform the lives of incarcerated individuals. The goal of PEP is to create a "Prison-to-School Pipeline" and provide in-custody students with the cognitive tools necessary to function as productive citizens. PEP's multi-layered approach enhances human development, reduces recidivism, saves resources, and allows participants to ultimately contribute to the economic and civic life of California.

### **Medical Services:**

Medical services are provided through an agreement with Wellpath, who currently provides on-site staff 24 hours each day, seven days per week to meet medical, basic dental, and vision-related needs of the youth. Emergency and specialty care services will be outsourced, and transportation is provided by Probation Department staff. For families with private insurance, arrangements can be made to transport youth to those providers' offices.

### **Behavioral Health Services:**

Wellpath is the primary provider of behavioral health services on-site. Wellpath provides an array of evidence-based and best-practice programs as well as individual therapeutic interventions, which include: suicide prevention, crisis intervention, mental health screening, assessment, individual and family interventions and participation in Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings. Additionally, they have a Psychiatrist and a Psychiatric Nurse available for a minimum of eight hours per week. The dedicated psychiatrist provides assessment, diagnosis and prescription recommendations as appropriate.

Wellpath's mental health staff provides small group sessions to the realigned population focusing on substance abuse, anger management and life skills. The curricula are from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) which utilizes the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy treatment model.

### **Vocational Training:**

In addition to the programs referenced in the Educational Program section, youth have access to work- based programs to enhance life skills and transitional opportunities upon release into the community. Examples of which include:

#### **SERV Safe:**

- Youth earn a certificate by completing tasks designed to mimic the restaurant industry. An online test must be passed to receive the certificate which is good for two years. The certificate translates to real world restaurant experience and the ability to step into a job in the restaurant industry immediately upon release.

#### **Career Technical Education (CTE):**

- SCOE has secured a partnership with Patterson Professional Truck Driving School, in which, youth will learn to operate a semi-truck via an advanced simulator machine. Students are required to attend a one-hour class, five days a week, for an entire school year. In addition to this, students need to log 30 hours on the simulator, which will be located in the community and available to the youth upon their release. Upon successful completion of the year-long course and 30 hours on the simulator, youth will earn their learner's permit.
- Culinary: Through the SCOE Culinary Program, youth are introduced to basic cooking concepts in both the classroom and kitchen environment. Students are introduced to cooking techniques, stocks, soups, poultry fabrication and cooking, meat cookery, and seafood identification and cookery. Through this program, students have the opportunity to earn their Serv Safe certificate.
- Principals of Agriculture: Through SCOE's Agriculture Program, the youth will study and examine plant and animal systems, the growth process of plants, flowers, fruits and vegetables. They will also learn about cultivation as they study the soil and the lay of the land, and ways to conserve and restore the earth.

#### **Computer Programming/Coding:**

- Bay Valley Technical Institute has been contracted through SCOE to offer Computer Coding classes weekly. Bay Valley Technical prepares the youth for careers in software development, digital design, and digital marketing. The course teaches web development skills including HTML/CSS, Bootstrap, JavaScript and Node.js. Students can earn various certificates of completion in Computer Coding that can assist them in obtaining a job in this field upon their release from custody.

Modesto Junior College (MJC) "My Next Step":

- The department has expanded upon an existing partnership and has entered into a contract to provide services to in-custody youth in the SB 823 Unit. The "My Next Step" Program allows this innovative MJC program to provide assessment, career counseling, and vocational program coursework to in-custody youth. Additional supports are built into this contract to provide for 30, 60 and 90-day follow-up with youth upon their release from custody. This program is described further in Part 4 of this report.

**Volunteer Services:**

Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall has a dedicated department-level Programming and Volunteer Services Supervising Probation Corrections Officer (SPCO) responsible for continuing and developing relationships with Community Based Organizations to access services for youth within our facilities. This SPCO monitors volunteer activities at the facility, explores volunteer programs, bolsters existing programming to meet unmet needs, explores new/additional ways for youth to serve the community, serves as the direct liaison between the facility and volunteers, and works closely with department administration. Additionally, this SPCO will answer all questions from volunteers to help them provide the best quality of service for youth. Current volunteer programs such as Youth for Christ's Juvenile Justice Ministry, SHARPE (Service, Health, Aptitude, Resolution, Purpose and Excellence) leadership program, Community Hospice, Creative Writing, Career Pathways, Library, and Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus County will be utilized to meet the identified needs of youth in the SB 823 Unit.

Cooperation with faith-based organizations has traditionally been strong. Entities such as Youth for Christ and our Chaplaincy Services will provide opportunities for youth seeking religious fulfillment from their program. Youth are free to exercise their individual religious liberties as they choose, with safety and security in mind.

**PART 4: JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (WELF. & INST. CODE §1995(C)(3))**

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address the mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of the target population: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(c)(3)(A))**

Leaders in Community Alternatives (LCA) is the primary provider of juvenile programming and rehabilitative services on-site. LCA provides an array of evidence-based and best-practice group programs as well as individual therapeutic interventions. Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) oversees the education component of instructing youth with specific mental health needs and/or learning disabilities. A dedicated SCOE Mental Health Clinician has a caseload and will meet with youth, identified with serious mental health concerns, throughout the school day. SCOE also oversees the provision of Education Related Mental Health Services (ERM HS).

In addition to a dedicated staff member who oversees youth with specific mental health needs, SCOE has dedicated staff who maintain caseloads of youth who have an active Individual Education Plan (IEP). Youth are visited in-custody as needed per their IEP.

Psychological medication management will be done in coordination with Wellpath-contracted psychiatrists. Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) will assist in the transition from custody plans related to mental health services post-release, as most of these youth will be eligible for services under the Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) program and the adult system of care once out of custody.

## **Leaders in Community Alternatives (LCA):**

LCA provides the cognitive-based behavior change programming offered to SB 823 youth. LCA successfully incorporates evidence-based practices and curricula to create high quality programs providing the necessary tools and support for justice-involved youth to change behavior and permanently break the cycle of addiction, crime, and incarceration. LCA has significant experience working with the realignment and juvenile population and has created programs that both adhere to best practices and adapt to the individualized needs of the participants.

All LCA staff are trained in the theoretical foundations, specific Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) curricula, and are trained in using Motivational Interviewing (MI) skills. Group assignment is based on the risk/needs assessment (YLS-CMI 2.0) and case plan and matched to address criminogenic needs and community functioning factors. All evidence-based groups have staff to participant ratios of no more than 1:12. All group participation is documented and reported consistent with contractual requirements and in the LCA database system. CBT is unlike other approaches to psychotherapy. CBT places responsibility in the hands of participants while supplying them with the tools to solve their problems. Youth taking part in CBT learn specific skills that can be used to solve the problems they confront as well as skills they can use to achieve legitimate goals and objectives. The programs, often offered in small group settings, incorporate lessons and exercises involving role play, modeling, or demonstrations. Individual counseling sessions are part of CBT.

LCA staff are also trained in Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Sexually Maladaptive Behavior in Adolescents. This curriculum provides both group sessions and individual sessions to youth who have been committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility for a sexual offense. This curriculum is designed to: 1) promote healthy sexual attitudes and behavior; 2) encourage youth to take responsibility for behaviors; 3) identify and replace risky thinking; 4) learn to manage emotions; 5) develop the ability to take perspective of others; 6) build social skills to strengthen relationships; 7) support the formation of a positive identity; 8) strengthen bonds with family members. The curriculum is based on a cognitive-behavioral treatment model, and incorporates motivational engagement, mindfulness techniques, and relapse prevention. In addition, many of the concepts are consistent with the good lives model, a strength-based approach that has been adopted by sex offender treatment programs internationally (Collie, Ward, Hufham & West, 2007; Willis, Prescott & Yates, 2015).

Each youth is provided a case manager, who, within the first seven days of engagement, creates an initial case plan with the participant. Participant engagement begins with personalized case management, assessment, and the additional development of an Individual Service Plan (ISP). LCA includes the following evidence-based curricula to incorporate the Trans-Theoretical Model of Behavior Change, Motivational Interviewing, CBT, and principles of adolescent learning. Each curriculum component is the basis of group classes or individual training provided in our facilities. Specific details are listed below:

### **Aggression Replacement Training (ART):**

Aggression Replacement Training (ART) is an evidence-based cognitive behavioral intervention for the reduction of aggressive and violent behavior. It is a multimodal program that has three components: Social Skills, Anger Control Training, and Moral Reasoning.

Each of the three components use a process to ensure participants learn the skills in class and transfer such skills to new situations outside of the group. The model also focuses on the concept of peer learning. It has been shown that participants learn best from other participants. ART is a 10-week program, meeting three times a week for one hour for each of the components. The components can also be consolidated for a single facilitation per week, over a 10-week period of time. To have the best results it is facilitated by trained group facilitators.

Room set up, introduction of materials, the number of youth, and the youth's history are all components that work towards having a group that produces measurable outcomes.

### Strength Based Individual Plan (ISP):

Upon completion of appropriate behavior-change programming, barriers to employment, life skills and vocational goals are addressed. As noted, LCA staff work with each individual to assess their skills and interests, identifying participant strengths and goals including specific daily, weekly, and long-term activities required to attain the goals. Measurable concrete goals are established, and a timeline determined. At a minimum, the following areas are addressed:

- Results of the Barriers to Employment Success Inventory (BESI) assessment
- Identified barriers-educational needs
- Employment goals
- Life skill needs
- Vocational goals

Barriers to employment are dealt with early to ensure each participant has everything they need to begin on the path to employment - from the proper clothes, tools, paperwork (social security card, resume, driver's license, birth certificate, diplomas, GED, etc.) to building confidence, customizing training, and helping with interviewing skills. Once the assessments have been made, the barriers removed, and an Individual Service Plan (ISP) is in place, participants are monitored as they:

- Complete services according to their ISP.
- Complete the Employment Readiness Group curricula.
- Enroll in job readiness and job search activities.
- Engage in vocational training.
- Engage in and complete the program.
- Maintain a successful reentry, while enrolled and after exiting each program.

Through the extensive assessment process and by developing an alliance with each participant, staff seek to learn about each individual's existing and potential barriers and develop a strategy to overcome them. LCA indicates experience has shown ownership of one's ISP and assistance with barriers are the two most significant factors in participant engagement.

LCA uses evidence-based curriculum from The Change Companies™, including: Seeking Employment, Recreation and Leisure, and Taking Care of My Finances. The Change Companies founded the evidence-based practice of "Interactive Journaling", a structured and experiential writing process that motivates and guides participants toward positive life change.

LCA's staff maintains current training from The Change Companies on the deployment, assessment, and tracking of effectiveness of the curricula, to ensure use, evaluation and measurement meets the standards of continuing to build upon the evidence-based practices. The curriculum emphasizes skill building activities to assist with cognitive, social, emotional, and coping skills development. Both LCA and PCO staff work with youth in completing interactive journaling that coincides with their daily programming.

### Contracted Specialized Services for Youth:

- Sex Offender Services: Sex offenders have historically been committed to current DJJ programs at a very low rate, in fact, over the past four years, Stanislaus County has not committed any sex offenders to DJJ. To date, we have one sex offender committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF). We have contracted locally for individual and group sex offender counseling for this offender. However, should

regional programs be developed, implemented, and deemed appropriate, a regional contract may be pursued.

- **Programs and Services for Females:** Female youth have historically been committed to current DJJ programs at a very low rate, in fact, over the past four years, Stanislaus County has committed just one female youth. Because of this, female youth programming may be better suited where additional like-gender youth can program together. This may be accomplished through a regional contract with another County. If that option does not become available or is not appropriate, female youth committed for longer terms in custody will be housed in a separate wing, or along with other females. In either case, there will be an individualized case plan developed specific to the youth that is suitable to both meet the youth's needs and is appropriate for longer-term care. It is prudent to ensure all youth have optimal opportunities to be placed in a program that best suits their needs.

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(c)(3)(B))**

Youth will have access to a variety of programs and services designed to promote healthy adolescent behavior. Some of the specific evidence-based, pro-social, and best-practice programs related to this area are more fully described in the "behavioral health" section of Part 4 of this plan. In addition to those, other services directed at healthy adolescent development will include volunteer-based, educational, recreational, redirection and vocational based programs and supports.

**Volunteer Services:**

Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall has a dedicated department-level Programming and Volunteer Services Supervising Probation Corrections Officer (SPCO) responsible for continuing and developing relationships with Community Based Organizations to access services for youth within our facilities. An example of a volunteer program that is designed to help healthy adolescent development is as follows:

- **SHARPE Program:** Offered through STAND! For Families Free of Violence (a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization): The mission of the SHARPE Program is to develop youth into leaders by provoking discussion centered around positive choices and defining attributes of a leader. The program objectives include promoting leadership, defining positive choices, personal development, understanding who "I" am, self-motivation and confidence, dealing with personal trauma and controlling anger. The program has built-in weekly incentives to encourage active participation and robust group discussion.
- **Love Notes:** Offered through Youth for Christ Juvenile Justice Ministries: Love Notes is a comprehensive healthy relationship education curriculum that teaches adolescents and young adults (aged 14-24) how to build healthy romantic relationships, prevent dating violence, and improve impulse control. The program is designed to build young people's skills for cultivating healthy relationships, selves, and sexual behaviors.

**Educational and Vocational Services:**

In addition to the provision of traditional core secondary and post-secondary education, this realigned population are able to receive additional training and skill building in specific fields. Healthy adolescent development includes the development of skills that support independence, responsibility, and work ethic. Some examples of these types of programs include:

- **SERV Safe:** Youth earn a certificate by completing tasks designed to mimic the restaurant industry. An online test must be passed to receive the certificate which is good for two years. The certificate translates to real world restaurant experience and the ability to step into a job in the restaurant industry immediately upon release.
- **Career Technical Education (CTE):** SCOE has secured a partnership with Patterson Professional Truck Driving School, in which, youth will learn to operate a semi-truck via an advanced simulator machine. Students are required to attend a one-hour class, five days a week, for an entire school year. In addition to this, students need to log 30 hours on the simulator, which will be in the community. Upon successful completion of the year-long course and 30 hours on the simulator, youth will earn their learner's permit. The truck-driving industry is currently short 50,000 drivers and that is believed to increase to 75,000 in the next two years.
- **Culinary:** Through SCOE Culinary Program, youth are introduced to basic cooking concepts in both the classroom and kitchen environment. Students are introduced to cooking techniques, stocks, soups, poultry fabrication and cooking, meat cookery, and seafood identification and cookery. Through this program, students have the opportunity to earn their Serv Safe certificate.
- **Principals of Agriculture:** Through SCOE's Agriculture Program, the youth will study and examine plant and animal systems, the growth process of plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables. They will also learn about cultivation as they study the soil and the lay of the land, and ways to conserve and restore the earth.
- **Computer Programming/Coding:** Bay Valley Technical Institute has been contracted through SCOE to offer Computer Coding classes weekly. Bay Valley Technical prepares the youth for careers in software development, digital design, and digital marketing. The course teaches web development skills including HTML/CSS, Bootstrap, JavaScript and Node.js. Students can earn various certificates of completion in Computer Coding that can assist them in obtaining a job in this field upon their release from custody.
- **Modesto Junior College (MJC) "My Next Step":** The department has expanded upon an existing partnership and entered into contract to provide services to in-custody youth in the SB 823 Unit. The "My Next Step" Program will allow this innovative MJC program to provide assessment, career counseling, and vocational program coursework to in-custody youth. Additional supports are built into this contract to provide for 30, 60 and 90-day follow-up with youth upon their release from custody. This program is described further in Part 4 of this report.
- **Prison Education Project:** Currently, youth who have obtained their High School diploma are enrolled in entry-level college courses through the Prison Education Project (PEP). Provided these courses continue to be available, all youth committed to SYTF will participate in these courses, year-round. The Prison Education Project has expanded educational opportunities for the in-custody population in 25 California correctional facilities and four international correctional facilities. With the assistance of 3,000 university student and faculty volunteers, PEP has serviced approximately 8,000 in-custody students in these facilities since 2011. By providing academic, life skills, and career development programming, PEP aims to educate, empower, and transform the lives of incarcerated individuals. The goal of PEP is to create a "Prison-to-School Pipeline" and provide in-custody students with the cognitive tools necessary to function as productive citizens. PEP's multi-layered approach enhances human development, reduces recidivism, saves resources, and allows participants to ultimately contribute to the economic and civic life of California.

## SB 823 Programming Unit:

The SB 823 Unit, which will be referred to as the SHINE (Supporting Healthy Individuals Needing Encouragement) Unit, will be designed to encompass a phased system for privileges and behavior modification. All items earned by youth will be items purchased by the department, utilizing SB 823 funds. Programming Unit Phases are divided between Levels A-D with Level A being the highest level a youth can achieve and Level D being the level where each youth begins. Advancement between phases is based on a point system. Youth will earn one point per day for participation in programming and one point per day for participation in their education or vocational program. Points will be totaled at the end of the month to determine the percentage of total points earned for the month (for example, two points earned daily in a month with 30 days, would mean 60 points were earned out of a total of 60 eligible points, equaling 100%). The phased system is described in detail below:

### Level D

- A youth arrives and is placed on Entry level D, lowest level.
- A youth maintains Level D if he achieves 75% or more attendance in treatment and education for 25 days.
- A youth is eligible for specific privileges including spending \$10 (“Canteen Bucks”) toward incentives.
- A youth promotes to level C if he maintains a minimum of 85% of total points and at least 75% attendance in treatment and education for an additional 5 days (totaling 30 days).
- If the percentage is not met by the 30 days, the youth will restart Level D.
- If youth receive an Incident Report (IR) for behavior-related means (fight, assault, contraband, destruction of property, or other behavior not specified) the youth will restart Level D.

### Level C

- A youth maintains Level C if he achieves 75% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for 45 consecutive days.
- A Level C youth becomes eligible to spend a total of \$25 (“Canteen Bucks”) toward incentives and becomes eligible to be a unit worker.
- A youth promotes from Level C to Level B if he achieves 90% of total points and at least 85% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for an additional 15 consecutive days (totaling 60 days) and participates in a promotion interview with the treatment team.
- A youth demotes to Level D when he drops below 75% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for 15 out of 30 days.
- If youth receive an IR for behavior related means (fight, assault, contraband, destruction of property, or other behavior not specified) the youth will demote to Level D.

### Level B

- A youth maintains Level B if he achieves at least 85% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for 90 consecutive days
- A Level B youth becomes eligible for increased privileges, by being able to spend a total of \$50 (“Canteen Bucks”) toward incentives. The youth is eligible to be a unit worker and may be eligible for additional jobs located in the facilities, such as Kitchen Program. As our SB 823 program develops and considerations are given to work furlough-type programs, a youth in Level B may be eligible for weekday employment.



- A youth promotes from Level B to level A if he achieves 95% of total programming points and at least 95% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for an additional 30 consecutive days (totaling 120 days) and participates in a promotion interview with the treatment team and "community" in a group of peers.
- A youth demotes to Level C when he drops below 85% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for 7 out of 30 days.
- If youth receive an IR for behavior related means (fight, assault, contraband, destruction of property, or other behavior not specified) the youth will demote to Level D.

### Level A

- Level A is the highest level a youth can earn offering them the most privileges.
- A youth maintains Level A by meeting a minimum of 95% of total programming points and 95% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for 120 consecutive days, presents a quarterly "community" presentation, participates as a youth mentor and serve as a youth assistant, if applicable.
- A Level A youth becomes eligible for increased privileges, by being able to spend a total of \$75 ("Canteen Bucks") toward incentives. A Level A youth is also eligible to be a unit worker and may be eligible for additional jobs located in the facilities. As our SB 823 program develops and considerations are given to work furlough-type programs, a youth in Level A may be eligible for weekday and weekend employment. A Level A youth also becomes eligible for special programs which may be offered to youth in the facilities as well as a mentor apprenticeship, tutor apprenticeship and participation as a "Youth Assistant" in primary interventions with other youth.
- A youth demotes to Level B when he drops below 85% attendance in treatment, education and/or vocational program for 4 out of 30 days or is unable to present a quarterly presentation to the treatment team and peers in a "community" setting or participate as a youth mentor or serve as a youth assistant as applicable.
- If youth receive an IR for behavior related means (fight, assault, contraband, destruction of property, or other behavior not specified) the youth will demote to Level D.

### Interactive Journaling:

In addition to the daily programming and education provided in the unit, SB 823 youth work on interactive journaling during their evening program. Journals are purchased through "The Change Companies" interactive journaling program to supplement and reinforce what is learned through the group and individual programming offered to the youth. "The Change Companies" program was highlighted in the National Institute of Justice's Crime Solutions site as a "promising" program with validated successful outcomes.

Youth will work on their journaling in an open, dayroom space utilizing furniture designed to create a more "home-like" look and feel.

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(c)(3)(C))**

Through LCA, mental health, and Deputy Probation Officers, youth will have access to groups designed to enhance the transition back to the community and maintain a strong family unit. Bolstering a robust, sturdy family unit will be a core concept in the program. Family members are preferred to be involved in every step of youths' programs and transition back into the community. The more involved the family is in the treatment experience, the better the understanding, respect, and trust to solidify the successful return to the community will be.

**Visiting:**

Regular visiting will be accessible to parents, legal guardians, or adults maintaining a positive relationship with the youth to continue and further develop family ties. Visiting will be accessible at the facilities, in person. Consideration will be given to expand visiting options to include additional family members, such as siblings, grandparents, spiritual advisers, and mentors. As the youth progress through the program, they may earn the privilege to expand their visiting list to include others who may serve as constructive influences. For youth who are parents, opportunities will be available for regular baby visits. Youth will have onsite visits with their children.

**Special Events and Engagements:**

Youth who are progressing strongly through their program and meet the criteria may be able to be eligible for passes to attend life events such as childbirth and funeral services. On-site familial engagements will also be considered for youth progressing well in their treatment program.

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education for the target population: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(c)(3)(D))**

**Reentry Supports:**

The current average length of stay for Stanislaus County youth at DJJ is approximately 33.4 months. It is anticipated that will remain similar moving forward with the development of sentencing structures for local commitments. Many of the youth will not have been out of custody and in the community as an adult prior to release. Based on their ages, there will also no longer be a legal obligation for parental care and custody. It is anticipated there will be a variety of tangible needs to help the release transition be more successful. Some examples of potential tangible needs may include food, clothing, transportation, vocation, and education supports. In addition, upon release there will be occasional needs for housing supports; be it in sober living homes or other temporary housing options.

**Housing:**

The Center for Human Services operates a Youth Navigation Center, located at 2008 W. Briggsmore Avenue in Modesto. The YNC provides shelter, housing, and comprehensive drop-in services to any youth or young adult in Stanislaus County between the ages of 13-24 experiencing crisis, housing instability, and/or homelessness. Services located at the YNC include:

- Hutton House - emergency shelter and drop-in services for 13-17-year-old youth
- Pathways - Transitional housing for 18-24-year-old youth

- Low Barrier Emergency Shelter for 18-24-year-old youth
- Housing Services
- Comprehensive Drop-In Services
- Behavioral Health Support/Linkage
- Street Outreach and Engagement Services
- Diversion Services and System Navigation

The Center for Human Services is committed to working in partnership with Stanislaus County Probation in referring youth, running the risk of homelessness, to this new and innovative center.

### **Employment:**

LCA will combine hands-on, individualized employment services with evidence-based curricula, to help participants obtain sustained, verifiable employment, create resumes, complete life skills and vocational training, and receive personalized support that includes barrier removal, job searching skills, and mentoring. LCA's program model provides a roadmap for participants to achieve the long-term goals of remaining attached to the legitimate workforce and maintaining their freedom.

LCA's existing employment programs in Stanislaus County are built on this program model. LCA will work with participants in custody to prepare them to find and secure employment, receive vocational and skills training, and learn to develop a resume and search for a job. Once in the community, the additional services provided include connecting participants to employers with actual job openings, coaching participants on individual opportunities, and working to remove all barriers to employment. These services are designed to increase job placement and retention with the primary goal of participants securing employment leading to career paths and increased self-sufficiency. LCA will further assist in facilitating connections with outside entities (Social Security Office, Post Office for draft registration, DMV for ID or CDL, birth certificates, Medi-Cal, etc.), and maintain a presence with the youth with whom they have built a rapport to determine any special interests or skills to be further encouraged through community referrals.

### **Education:**

Students who have completed high school will have the opportunity to enroll in local colleges or vocational schools. Depending on the level of security, youth will be able to attend classes online or possibly attend courses outside the facility if hands-on participation is required, and the youth is deemed suitable for this level of responsibility. Youth who have demonstrated a high level of competence in an individual area and are eligible for a less restrictive environment and a lower level of supervision may be eligible for placement within the community for educational, vocational, apprenticeships, internships, or skills-development training.

For those youth still enrolled in SCOE's West Campus High School Education Program, all high school credits and coursework completed in Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall or JCF will transfer seamlessly to SCOE's traditional high school education program. Youth will be transferred to an appropriate school site based on several factors. Both SCOE staff and the assigned DPO will assist youth in transitioning back into an appropriate high school education or GED Program.

Transition services for youth engaged in MJC's "My Next Step" Program will be assisted by the My Next Step Program Coordinator prior to and upon release. The Program Coordinator will arrange a campus or trade school tour, connect the student with his MJC guidance counselor or trade school contact, will assist with education or career planning and will connect with the Field Services Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) when the student is discharged from the Juvenile Facilities and again at 60 days post-release.

### **Vocational Services:**

In addition to the provision of traditional core secondary and post-secondary education, this realigned population will be able to receive additional training and skill building in specific fields which will continue when youth are released from custody. As noted, healthy adolescent development includes the development of skills that support independence, responsibility, and work ethic. Some examples of these types of programs include:

- **SERV Safe:** Youth earn a certificate by completing tasks designed to mimic the restaurant industry. An online test must be passed to receive the certificate which is good for two years. The certificate translates to real world restaurant experience and the ability to step into a job in the restaurant industry immediately upon release.
- **Career Technical Education (CTE):** SCOE has secured a partnership with Patterson Professional Truck Driving School, in which, youth will learn to operate a semi-truck via an advanced simulator machine. Students are required to attend a one-hour class, five days a week, for an entire school year. In addition to this, students need to log 30 hours on the simulator, which will be located inside the Juvenile Facilities. Upon successful completion of the year-long course and 30 hours on the simulator, youth will earn their learner's permit. The truck-driving industry is currently short 50,000 drivers and that is believed to increase to 75,000 in the next two years.
- **Modesto Junior College (MJC) "My Next Step":** The department expanded upon an existing partnership and enter into contract to provide services to in-custody youth in the SB 823 Unit. The "My Next Step" Program will allow this innovative MJC program to provide assessment, career counseling, and vocational program coursework to in-custody youth. Additional supports are built into this contract to provide for 30, 60 and 90-day follow-up with youth upon their release from custody. This program is described further in Part 4 of this report.

### **Behavioral Health Transitions:**

Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) will work with Probation to transition youth from in-custody treatment to behavioral health services post-release, as most of these youth will be eligible for services under the Adult System of Care or through the Transition Age Youth (TAY) program once out of custody. The Adult System of Care provides services to youth (age 18 and over) who are experiencing challenges in life functioning as a result of symptoms related to mental illness and/or substance use. Treatment is client-driven and based on the strengths and goals of the youth served. Key treatment components include a mental health assessment/reassessment, psychological evaluation, medication management services, group therapy, individual therapy, family therapy, case management services, psychoeducation, substance use treatment, rehabilitation and coping skills education, and linkage to community resources.

### **Pre-Release Meetings:**

Pre-Release Meetings will address the accomplishments and continuing needs of youth being released. Key stakeholders, including the youth, his LCA case manager and his DPO will participate in the meeting. Goals for after release will be reviewed and discussed with partnering agencies from education, religious services, behavioral/medical health, family members, LCA and Probation staff to help develop a successful re-entry plan. LCA and Probation will maintain a current resource list of community-based service providers to be able to refer youth being released in order for the youth and family to know what is available to them within the

community. The resource list will include agencies who provide support, services, and opportunities in the following areas:

- Employment/Job Readiness
- Housing, Shelter, and Utility Services
- Medical / Mental Health Services
- Transportation Services
- Support/Counseling Groups

### **Post-Release Supervision:**

Based on the high-risk level and numerous needs of the realigned population, dedicated caseloads with manageable youth to officer ratios will be key to successful re-entry back into the community. Deputy Probation Officers (DPOs) will begin working and building rapport with the youth while they are in custody.

They will provide case management services and individualized case plans to maximize the chance for successful integration. They will also provide a level of accountability to help redirect behavior which is contrary to their success. The DPO will assist in the coordination of many of the details of youth being released from commitments to address both custody and community needs upon release, coordinate services with partnering agencies, oversee Pre-Release Meetings, and act as a liaison between LCA and/or MJC and the youth being released. The DPO will further assist in facilitating connections with outside entities in coordination with LCA (Social Security Office, Post Office for draft registration, DMV for ID or CDL, birth certificates, Medi-Cal, etc.). An additional resource available is the Stanislaus County Day Reporting Center (DRC), where offenders have the opportunity to receive programming and counseling assistance specific to their current needs.

### **LCA Case Management:**

Comprehensive case management is the heart of a successful reentry program. Case Managers are responsible for participant orientation, engagement, facilitating groups, overseeing the implementation of participant case plans and coordination of services with off-site providers.

Case Managers have one-on-one counseling sessions with participants to review progress and group work, explore ambivalence, promote self-efficacy, identify criminal thinking, and make any needed adjustments to the participant's case plan. Throughout the program, Case Managers will continually work with each participant to assess how to best address specific issues. LCA will routinely give session and outcome rating scales to assess if participants are finding value in the services offered and are reducing their identified risk/needs as a result of programming offered.

### **Volunteers:**

The Stanislaus County Probation Department is fortunate to have long-standing relationships with community volunteers who are well-connected in the community and have a desire to assist justice-involved youth. These volunteers routinely communicate with the facilities' supervision and administration team to assist with unmet needs for youth. Volunteer connections include relationships with several Community-Based Organizations.

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive programs or services for the target population: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(c)(3)(E))**

**Evidence Based Practices:**

Stanislaus County Probation Department and LCA are committed to Evidence-Based Practices (EBP). EBP includes a wide variety of practices and treatments that have been validated through meta-analysis to reduce recidivism by addressing criminogenic needs and building on supportive factors.

The core of EBP is an evidence-based assessment. Stanislaus County utilizes the JAIS, as outlined in other areas of this report. This assessment both identifies a youth's risk level to reoffend as well as their criminogenic needs. The JAIS is validated for youth up to 21 years of age. For those youth over age 21 the CAIS will be utilized. This tool is used by the Probation Department for their adult offenders and is validated for this older age group. Both the JAIS and CAIS assessment tools are supported by the National Council on Crime & Delinquency (NCCD).

In addition to an assessment, EBPs include evidence-based treatments. These are Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) programs and other best practices that have been proven to address criminogenic needs and reduce recidivism. Examples include Aggression Replacement Training, (ART) and Cognitive Behavioral Interventions (CBI). Both sworn and non-sworn staff, as well as contracted service providers, will facilitate these treatment modalities to youth. Additional examples of such programs being implemented for this realigned population are found in Part 4 of this plan.

**Gender and Culturally Responsive Services:**

LCA staff located in the Juvenile Facilities will reflect experience and diversity at all levels. LCA management and direct service staff will operate with the required qualifications and certifications to empower them to perform their jobs effectively. Additionally, Juvenile Probation Corrections Officers (PCOs) within the facilities receive ongoing annual training on topics that include youth development and culturally responsive approaches to youth interaction. Here is one example of a gender/culturally responsive training offered:

- **LGBTQI Populations: Guiding Principles for Probation & Corrections:** This course focuses on preparing Probation and Correctional Officers to meet the needs and challenges of supervised LGBTQI populations both in and out of custody. The program of instruction will introduce students to key definitions, laws, guiding principles, roles, and responsibilities of staff aimed at achieving effective and appropriate communication, a culture of tolerance, an environment of trust, and desirable operations that inform proper staff/probationer interactions. In addition, students will examine best practices related to intake screening and classification that promotes confidentiality while minimizing potential dangers and maximizing opportunities for successful rehabilitation and reintegration. Further, students will identify requirements for mandatory reporting and design functional responses to harassment and discrimination. Finally, students will bridge course concepts to practical applications that reflect real- world solutions to the barriers of properly serving our supervised LGBTQI population.

Youth are free to exercise religious expression and have opportunities to request visitation from personal spiritual advisors. As noted, cooperation with faith-based organizations has traditionally been strong. Entities such as Youth for Christ and our Chaplaincy Services will provide opportunities for youth seeking religious fulfillment from their program.

### **Trauma Informed Care Based Approach:**

Probation is dedicated to a Trauma Informed Care (TIC) based approach. The first part of TIC in the juvenile justice system is to recognize that most of the affected youth have experienced trauma in their lives. The next step is to put policies in place which attempt to minimize the potential for re-traumatization. Providing services and outlets to address trauma through both treatment and positive staff interactions is also key. Some examples of current trainings provided to staff that support a trauma-informed approach include:

- **Crisis Intervention and Behavioral Health Training:** Police officers becoming mental health first responders are often inadequately trained for this task. Tragedies between police and the mentally ill are occurring more and more frequent. One "bad incident" can cause deviation to families, the mental health community, police officers and police agencies. One tragic incident can also damage your department's image and can negatively impact police-community relations. This course is designed to provide officers with valuable tools to interact effectively with the mentally ill.
- **Interacting Effectively with the Mentally Ill:** Law Enforcement and jail personnel are dealing more and more with a growing mentally ill population. This course is designed to provide students with the tools necessary to identify individuals who may be suffering from mental illness. The course will also provide students with active listening skills in order to have a safe disposition.
- **Think Trauma: A Training for Staff in Juvenile Residential Settings:** This particular training was created by the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN). This project was funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). This training provides an overview for juvenile justice Staff of how to work towards creating a trauma-informed Juvenile Justice Residential setting. Creating a trauma-informed setting is a process that requires not only knowledge acquisition and behavioral modification, but also cultural and organizational paradigm shifts, and ultimately policy and procedural change at every level of the facility.
- **Title 15 Trauma Informed Care:** During this highly interactive course, the student will learn approaches and techniques to reduce the stress faced while interacting with traumatized youth in the juvenile justice system. By understanding trauma, the student can become more effective and find greater reward and success working with the youth in their care. In 2018, Island Consulting and Training (the treatment provider) conducted a study of childhood trauma in probation staff and the children in custody. Numerous Probation Departments participated in that study. The findings were shocking. This highly focused course is specifically designed for probation staff utilizing evidence-based data collected in California Probation Departments and Juvenile Facilities.

### **Ongoing Training Support:**

Ongoing training will be a priority to ensure the permanency of these practices. To support ongoing training efforts, one Institutions Manager assists the Professional Standards Unit in researching and coordinating formal and informal training for the Department and collaborative partners, with a primary focus on emerging TIC and behavioral health minded approaches to staff/youth interactions to supplement and enhance training efforts already in place.

**Describe whether and how the County plans to apply grant funds to include services or programs for the target population that are provided by nongovernmental or community-based providers: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(c)(3)(F))**

It is recognized to accomplish the mission of successfully realigning the DJJ population it must be a collaborative effort. While the Probation Department will have primary responsibilities for security, services and treatment, numerous other partners will be significantly involved. SCOE and MJC will play a vital part in education services. Wellpath will provide health care services. Other important partners will be LCA, Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Center for Human Services, various volunteer groups, and more.

In addition to those core partnerships, as we move forward with this population it is recognized that service gaps will likely be discovered. These may be educational, occupational, recreational, treatment or some other area. Having funds available to address these service gaps is a sensible strategy to ensure that youths' needs will be met. Certain youth, depending on their circumstances or specialized needs, may present specialized treatment needs that could be better served by a community-based entity or a regional contract. Therefore, it is important to begin to prepare for such a contingency and grant funds will be set aside to be available for these types of services.

It is anticipated there will be a variety of tangible needs to help the release transition be more successful. Some examples of potential tangible needs may include food, clothing, transportation, vocation, and education supports. In addition, upon release there will be occasional needs for housing supports, be it in sober living homes or other temporary housing options and funds may assist in providing support in this area.

Probation and LCA will maintain a current resource list of community-based service providers to be able to refer youth being released to in order for the youth and family to know what is available to them within the community. The resource list will include agencies who provide support, services, and opportunities in the following areas:

- Employment/Job Readiness
- Housing, Shelter, and Utility Services
- Medical Services
- Transportation Services
- Legal Assistance
- Child Care Services
- Support/Counseling Groups

**PART 5: FACILITY PLAN (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(C)(4))**

**Provide a detailed facility plan indicating which facilities will be used to house or confine the target population at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need, and improvements to accommodate long-term commitments. Facility information shall also include information on how the facilities will ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics.**



## **Facilities:**

Stanislaus County intends to utilize the existing Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall to house SB 823 youth. This is a secure residential facility with an operational capacity of 158 beds. The Juvenile Hall facility is divided into eight separate housing units; one of those units, Unit 7, will house the realigned population. Unit 7 can house up to 20 youth and consists of ten rooms which can house two youth each. This 20-bed housing unit has a dayroom for structured activities and a separate classroom space for education. It also includes an additional room which can be utilized for mental health counseling or separation of target groups, as necessary. There is an outdoor recreation yard adjacent to Unit 7 which will be utilized exclusively for the realigned population. Current office space contained in Unit 7 will be utilized as calming room where youth can de-escalate from elevated emotional states. This room will provide youth an opportunity to de-escalate; however, the department will be careful to create the room where youth will be soothed by their surroundings, but also not make it so attractive that youth purposely want to enter it. The room will provide a positive experience, and will be utilized as a resource, not as a punitive sanction. The physical plant includes a full kitchen where meals are prepared on-site and delivered timely to the youth housed on our campus.

Female youth have historically been committed to current DJJ programs at a very low rate. Therefore, female youth programming may be better suited where additional like-gender youth can program together. This may be accomplished through a regional contract with another county. If that option is not available or appropriate, female youth committed for longer terms in custody may be housed in a separate wing with other females.

## **Additional Safety Measures and Protections:**

- **Prison Rape Elimination Act:** The Probation Department has a policy in place to investigate all sexually based accusations or complaints as serious, truthful, and time sensitive. PREA investigators include supervisory staff at the Probation Corrections Officer III (PCO III), Supervising Probation Corrections Officer (SPCO) and Management level. At any time during an investigation, outside law enforcement agencies may be called to conduct a criminal investigation. Victim Advocates will be available should they need to be utilized in any case. All information is considered confidential.
- **Transgender Youth:** Policies are in place to protect transgender and intersex youth. Upon initial entry to any Stanislaus County Institution, all youth participate with staff in completing a Sexual Vulnerability Assessment and an additional LGBTQI questionnaire which plays a part in helping to determine housing, clothing, and classification based on their gender identification.
- **Special Education:** In cooperation with the Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools (SCOE), youth will have access to continued education and services. Individual Education Plans (IEP) and Education Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) are available for those youth who qualify. Schools also work in cooperation with behavioral health providers, medical staff, and Probation to individualize each youth's program to meet their specific needs.
- **Multi-Disciplinary Team Meeting (MDT):** The MDT attendees include representatives from school, behavioral health, medical, and Probation staff. The primary goal of the MDT is to discuss challenges youth may have while programming and will detail any Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations deemed necessary. The SPCO in attendance records minutes and disseminates information to unit staff to assist with youth supervision.

- **Suicide Prevention:** Probation is committed to deterring and preventing self-harm and suicide within its facilities. Policies are in place for supervision of youth identified as high-risk for this behavior. Wellpath uses a risk assessment to determine the youth's history, current state of mind, and potential for self-harm or suicidal ideation. Youth deemed to be an immediate risk are immediately assessed by Wellpath to determine program needs and supervisory objectives. Youth may be placed on Suicide Watch or Special Watch depending on their needs. Programs can be changed at any time during their stay with behavioral health input and approval.
- **Youth Grievances:** Youth will be able to file a grievance at any time; the grievance process is covered during each booking orientation and youth are reminded of the grievance process by unit staff. Each youth will have access to grievances during their program and may keep them inside their room for completion. A confidential grievance box is made available within each housing unit, or youth may give them directly to supervisory staff. Grievances are taken seriously, handled in a timely manner, and at times can develop into policy change when required. All are reviewed by facility administration.

### **Facility Upgrade Considerations:**

Currently, security upgrades are being planned and prioritized to upgrade the facilities control panels, intercoms, staff stations, and camera systems. These upgrades are being added to protect youth and enforce the safety and security of the facility.

A team consisting of three Probation Corrections Officer III's (PCO III's) and one Supervising Corrections Officer (SPCO) was devised, and these staff extensively reviewed options for safe, "home-like" furniture and security upgrades for the SB 823 Unit, recreation yard, and de-escalation room. Furniture purchased for the living unit includes round "family-style" tables which can be utilized for meals and group programming, reading nooks, and comfortable seating for weekend and evening programming. As noted previously in this report, funds were utilized to develop the multi-sensory, de-escalation room. Items for this room include a therapy chair, sensory water beads, wood backed wall pads, body rocker, light cover sets, projector wheel, "relaxer chair", sensory ball set, sensory tactile "squishy set", air scent diffusers, and speaker systems for calming music/sounds to be played. The addition of a camera in this room is also planned as part of the security upgrades. Staffing for the SHINE Unit has expanded to one Supervising Probation Corrections Officer, three Probation Corrections Officer III's, and four Probation Correction Officer I/II's.

A secondary outdoor perimeter fence was installed in the recreation yard, complete with razor wire, a man gate, and a secondary gate allowing for emergency vehicle entrance. This updated fencing provides more security of the outdoor space, allowing youth to engage in physical activity outside while maintaining safety and security of the youth and facility. Additional upgrades to this outdoor space are being planned to include: custodial-grade exercise equipment, artificial turf for field type activities, basketball hoops, and a handball court.

## **PART 6: RETAINING THE TARGET POPULATION IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(C)(5))**

**Describe how the plan will incentivize or facilitate the retention of the target population within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system, in lieu of transfer to the adult criminal justice system:**

The Stanislaus County Probation Department continues to work within the parameters of the legal system to ensure youth entering the Juvenile Justice System are given opportunities to succeed at the lowest level of intervention possible. Partners within the Juvenile Justice System include the Stanislaus County Juvenile Court, the Stanislaus County District Attorney, the Stanislaus County Public Defender, Alternate Indigent Defense (AID), Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and additional community support advocates. These partners work closely to ensure fair, consistent, equal, and individual treatment for each youth.

Each individual case is assessed and evaluated before Court recommendations are made to ensure the best practices and services are directed to each individual youth. Working within the existing laws, only offenses eligible for transfer to the adult system would be considered. When considering Court recommendations on those cases, the underlying principle applied to the Court process will be that whenever possible and appropriate, youths' cases should remain in the Juvenile Justice System.

Probation will continue to operate rehabilitative programs and refer youth to community-based services when appropriate to reduce youth recidivism and mitigate the need for the transfer of cases to the Adult Criminal Justice System. Only when findings are made by the Juvenile Court that services within the Juvenile Justice System are not appropriate to rehabilitate a youth will a case be transferred to the Adult Criminal Justice System. It is the goal that this program will be adequate with regard to both security and service provision to be a robust alternative and thereby limit the need for cases to be transferred to the Adult Criminal Justice System in all but the most serious of cases.

## PART 7: REGIONAL EFFORT (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(C)(6))

### **Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation:**

Stanislaus County will serve youth locally unless substantial case factors indicate the youth would be better served another way. Youth committed to this program are not only at risk of further exposure to the Criminal Justice System, but they are at much higher risk to become disenfranchised with the community to which they will ultimately return. Family structure, family visits, positive peer and mentor involvement, and community service are keys to successful reintegration to the local community. Local programming, vocational training, higher education, and community ties are valuable to promote a youth's chances for success when released from the program. Stanislaus County is committed to prioritizing both the family bond and commitment to their community for these youth and local programming provides the best opportunity.

### **Possible Regionally Contracted Specialized Services for Youth:**

- **Sex Offender Services:** Sex offenders have historically been committed to current DJJ programs at a very low rate, in fact, over the past four years, Stanislaus County has not committed any sex offenders to DJJ. To date, we have one sex offender committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF). We have contracted locally for individual and group sex offender counseling for this offender. However, should regional programs be developed, implemented, and deemed appropriate, a regional contract may be pursued.

- **Programs and Services for Females:** Female youth have historically been committed to current DJJ programs at a very low rate, in fact, in Stanislaus County, just one youth committed to DJJ in the past four years has been female. Therefore, female youth programming may be better suited where additional like-gender youth can program together to avoid isolation or stigmatization. This may be accomplished through a regional contract with another County. If that option is not available or appropriate, female youth committed for longer terms in custody will be housed in a separate wing with other females. In either case, there will be an individualized case plan developed specific to the youth that is suitable to both meet the youth's needs and is appropriate for longer-term care. It is prudent to ensure all youth have optimal opportunities to be placed in a program that best suits their needs.

## PART 8: DATA (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(C)(7))

### **Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant:**

Data collection and analysis is an important aspect of any new program. Probation is committed to having accurate and relevant data upon which informed decisions can be made regarding what is working, what is not and where resources should best be applied. Data will be reviewed and analyzed by the Juvenile Data Analyst. This information will guide the department in finding evidence-based solutions and programs for the clientele served by Probation. The department has an existing internal case management system allowing officers to manage the Juvenile Probation population. This will allow the Department to ensure reporting accuracy and provide the ability to identify trends that impact services. Further, with the implementation of the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system within the Juvenile Facilities in 2021, tracking of program participation has become more robust. The ability to track and quantify programming information has been more effective and efficient with this system. Additionally, the Probation Department routinely reports information in the JCPSS system, annually through the CPOC annual report, and collects monthly statistical reports from Probation Officers. This information is used to direct resources and helps guide decision-making for the Department's Management Team.

Statistical data will also be gathered on youth housed within the facility to gather demographic information and to monitor and gauge significant incidents which may occur. Categories in which statistics will be compiled include but are not limited to mutual fights, assaults, gang related graffiti/signs/comments/ writing, suicide attempts, self-inflicted injuries, PREA incidents, suicides, escapes, and escape attempts. This data is regularly reviewed by Probation management. Additionally, Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall and JCF continues to contract with Performance-based Standards (PbS) Learning Institute. PbS works to produce better outcomes for justice-involved youth, their families and the community. PbS, in working with Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall, conducts rigorous data collection and accurate analysis that identifies nationwide trends, provides evidence of what's working and not working, and supports continuous improvement for our facilities.

Another important piece of data is getting feedback from the youth themselves. It is vital to understand how the affected youth are perceiving the services and supports being provided. Equally important is to gauge what service gaps exist from their perspective. While this feedback will be received during the normal course of interacting with the youth, it is felt a formalized process to collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data is needed. Therefore, formalized surveys will be conducted on a periodic basis, no less than two times per year. This data will be collated by the Juvenile Data Analyst and shared with Probation management and the SB 823 subcommittee to help inform decisions moving forward.

Staff working directly with the youth will be continuously engaged in providing feedback to supervisors and management through scheduled unit meetings and ongoing conversations in order to formalize a process to collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data.

**Describe outcome measures that will be utilized to measure or determine the results of programs and interventions supported by block grant funds:**

LCA Monthly Reports:

Reports will detail participation data which will include the number of participants in each program, each month, as well as monthly outcome reports. These reports will include details regarding participants' names, dates of referral, enrollment, engagement and activities, as well as exiting information including:

- Quantity of barriers which have prevented program participants from completing all programs and the percentages of program participants experiencing these barriers.
- Quantity of program participants referred to all programs, including those who exited all programs (with explanation of the reason for the exit), obtained employment after release, maintained employment for a minimum of 120, 150 and 180 days.
- Monthly Outcome Reports will include: Job Readiness Training Report, Case Management Services Report, and Vocational Training Report.

MJC "My Next Step" Program:

The My Next Step Program Coordinator will gather data during and after one's commitment to the SB 823 Unit. Progress will be tracked through specific benchmarks, including but not limited to:

- Completed Interest Inventory
- Completed Education Plan
- Completed MJC Application
- Completed Financial Aid Application
- Completed MJC Orientation
- Number of completed courses

The MJC Program Coordinator will be responsible for tracking student data and will conduct a 30-60 and 90-day follow-up upon one's completion of his respective vocational program. All data and findings will be shared with Stanislaus County Probation.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**OF THE STANISLAUS COUNTY**  
**JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**ARTICLE I**

NAME

The name of this organization shall be THE STANISLAUS COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL.

**ARTICLE II**

The organization is authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code Section ~~749.99~~ [749.22](#) and Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 96-926 dated October 29, 1996.

**Article III**

PURPOSE

The purposes of the Stanislaus County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council shall be:

1. To develop and implement a continuation of county-based responses to juvenile crime.
2. To set priorities for the use of granted or allocated funding for juvenile justice activities when applicable.
3. To develop a comprehensive multi-agency juvenile justice plan that identifies resources and strategies for providing an effective continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration of juvenile offenders, including strategies to develop and implement local out-of-home placement options for the offenders.

## **Article IV**

### DUTIES

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council shall have the following duties:

1. Assist the Chief Probation Officer in developing a comprehensive, multi-agency juvenile justice plan to provide a continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration of juvenile offenders in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code Section 749.22 and Government Code Section 30061.
2. At least annually, review and modify, if necessary, the juvenile justice plan.

## **Article V**

### MEMBERSHIP

1. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 749.22, in addition to the Chief Probation Officer serving as Chairman, voting members shall include, but not be limited to one representative from the following agencies:
  - a. Sheriff's Office
  - b. District Attorney's Office
  - c. Public Defender's Office
  - d. Board of Supervisors
  - e. Community Services Agency
  - f. Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
  - g. A community-based drug and alcohol program
  - h. ~~A City Police Department~~ [The Modesto Police Department](#)
  - i. ~~The County Department of Education or a school district~~ [Modesto City Schools and the Stanislaus County Office of Education](#)
  - j. An at-large community representative
  - k. A non-profit community-based ~~juvenile social services~~ organization [providing services to minors](#)
2. The District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's ~~Office, Coroner Department,~~ the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, [the Modesto Police Department, Modesto City Schools, Stanislaus County Office of -and Education and](#) Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall each designate a representative from its respective office, department, board, or agency to serve as a member of this Council.
3. For all other member representatives indicated in Section 1 of Article V, nominations shall be made to the Chairperson, ~~and~~ [approved by the Council, As](#)

required by Section 749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the Chairperson will notify the Board of Supervisors, via written correspondence, if there are any changes to the community-based organizations serving on the Council. ~~and then forwarded to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors for approval.~~

4. A member representative may resign at any given time by providing written notice to the Chairperson. The resignation shall become effective the date the notice is received or at a later time specified in the notice.
5. The District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's ~~Office-Coroner Department~~, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, the Modesto Police Department, the Stanislaus County Office of Education, Modesto City Schools, and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall designate a new member representative whenever a member representative from its office, department, board, or agency resigns.
6. For all other members, upon the resignation of a member representative, the process described in section three (3) of this Article shall be followed.
7. If a Council member fails to attend three consecutive Council meetings without the absence being authorized by the Chairman, or if the Council member has not arranged for an alternate member to represent him or her, it ~~will~~ may result in termination of the Council member. Termination of a Council member will require the process described in section 3(a) of Article VII.
8. Alternate Members
  - a. Each Council member shall attempt to designate, ~~in writing provided to the Chairperson,~~ an alternate member~~(s)~~ to represent the member at a Council meeting in the event the Council member is unable to attend a Council meeting.
  - b. When representing a Council member at a Council meeting, the alternate shall have the same voting power as the regular Council member.

## **Article VI**

### **OFFICERS**

1. Officers of the Council shall be a Chairperson, and an Acting-Chairperson and such other officers as the Council may choose to elect.
2. Responsibilities of Officers:
  - a. Chairperson – In accordance with Section 749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the Chief Probation Officer shall serve as the



Chairperson. The Chairperson shall supervise and direct the Council's activities, affairs, and officers. The Chairperson shall preside at all Council meetings. The Chairperson shall have such other powers and duties as the Council or Bylaws may prescribe.

- b. Acting Chairperson – In the event of the temporary absence of the Chairperson, the Chairperson's alternate member as designated pursuant to Section 8 of Article V shall be the Acting Chairperson and perform the responsibilities of the Chairperson.

3. Membership Terms

The membership term for the Chairperson shall be concurrent with his/her term as Chief Probation Officer. Member representatives of the District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff-Coroner Department, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, [the Modesto Police Department](#), [Stanislaus County Office of Education](#), [Modesto City Schools](#), and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall serve an indefinite term until the member representative resigns or a new member representative is designated by his or her office, department, board, or agency. All other member representatives shall serve an indefinite term until the member representative resigns or is replaced by the Board of Supervisors.

**Article VII**

MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES

Meetings of the Council and its committees shall be governed by the Brown Act open to public as required by the Brown Act.

1. Regular Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held quarterly (January, April, July, and October) at the Stanislaus County Probation Department ~~Office~~ located at 2215 Blue Gum Avenue, ~~Training Room~~, Modesto, CA 93538.

2. Special Meetings

A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chairperson, upon written request, specifying the general nature of the business proposed. An agenda and 24-hour notice must be given to the public.

3. Voting Procedure

- a. Decisions shall be reached through majority voting, which is defined as a majority of the members present.
- b. The Council shall use parliamentary procedures (the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order) to conduct business.

4. Setting the Agenda

The Chairperson shall place items on the agenda for Council meetings. Any member representative may place an item on the agenda by making a written request to the Chairperson no later than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled meeting for which the member representative wishes to include the agenda item.

5. Public Comments

Public comments at meetings are limited to three minutes for each agenda item. The Chairman has the discretion to extend the tie based on the complexity of the issue.

**Article VIII**

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1. Council members shall not participate in making any governmental decision in which they have a financial interest.
2. Any member with a disqualifying conflict of interest must, in compliance with the Political Reform Act:
  - a. Publicly state the nature of the conflict in sufficient detail to be understood by the public;
  - b. Recuse himself/herself from discussing and voting on the item; and
  - c. Leave the room until the item has concluded.
3. The member may be allowed to address the Council as a member of the public. Said disclosure shall be noted in the official Council minutes. The member must also comply with all other applicable conflict of interest laws.

**Article IX**

AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be adopted, amended, or repealed by a majority vote of the Council and shall be effective upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

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Mark Ferreira, Chief Probation Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S OFFICE**

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Jody Hayes, Chief Executive Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date

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**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT**

Adam Christianson, Jeff Dirkse, Sheriff \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE**

Birgit Fladager, Jeff Laugero, District Attorney \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS PUBLIC DEFENDER’S OFFICE**

Tim Bazar, Jennifer Jennison, Public Defender \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

William O’Brien, Terry Withrow, Board Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY**

Kathryn Harwell, Christine Huber, Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Madelyn Schlaepfer, Sarkis Vartan](#), Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES, [A COMMUNITY BASED DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM](#)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Cindy Cynthia](#) Duenas, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**MODESTO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Galen Carroll, Brandon Gillespie, Chief of Police \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS OFFICE OF EDUCATION MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS**

Thomas Changnon, Sara Noguchi, Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**STANISLAUS COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

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Scott Kuykendall, Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Date

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**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

Chau Pu Chang, Abu Mboka, Professor \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Marian Martino, Chair of the Juvenile Justice Commission  
Juvenile Institutions Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Isaiah Herrera, Youth for Christ \_\_\_\_\_ Date

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**SIERRA VISTA CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES, A NON-PROFIT, COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION PROVIDING SERVICES TO MINORS**

Jeff Anderson, Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date

