

# STANISLAUS COUNTY

## JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday – April 25, 2024

### Stanislaus County Probation Department

#### MEMBERS/DESIGNEES PRESENT:

Mark Ferriera, Chair/Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department  
Jeff Anderson, Sierra Vista Child and Family Services  
Abraham Andres for Tony Vartan, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services  
Cynthia Duenas, Director, Center for Human Services  
Rick Mury, for Jeff Laugero, District Attorney's Office  
Marian Martino, JJC Chair/Volunteer  
Dr. Abu Mboka, Criminal Justice Department, CSU Stanislaus  
Telka Walser for Sara Noguchi, Modesto City Schools  
Brandon Gillespie, Chief, Modesto Police Department  
Isaiah Herrera, Youth for Christ  
Kara Anguiano, for Christine Huber, Community Services Agency

#### ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:

Leticia Ruano, Assistant Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department  
David Costa, Juvenile Field Services Division Director, Probation Department  
Jon Appleby, District Attorney's Office  
Robert Housden, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services  
Michelle Camacho, Without Permission  
Renee Flora, Center for Human Services  
Taylor Beckham, Center for Human Services  
Cecilia Simmons, OYCR

#### I. **CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTION**

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm by Chief Probation Officer (CPO) Mark Ferriera. Members, designees, and additional participants introduced themselves.

#### II. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No members of the public were present.

#### III. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 09, 2023, AND FEBRUARY 29, 2024**

MOTION: Cynthia Duenas. SECOND: Isaiah Herrera. The Meeting Minutes for November 09, 2023, and February 29, 2024, were approved.

#### IV. **REVIEW AND APPROVE THE COMBINED JJCPA/YOBG PLAN FOR FY 2024-2025**

Today's Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council meeting aims to review and approve the combined JJCPA/YOBG Plan for FY 2024-2025 as part of the 2020-2025 Stanislaus County Local Action Plan.

Division Director (DD) David Costa presented the combined JJCPA/YOBG Plan for FY 2024-2025 to the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) (The presentation is attached to the minutes). The youth programming detailed in the plan is supported by state funding; to receive the grant funding, the plan must be submitted to the state every year. Mr. Costa gave a brief overview of the JJCC planning in Stanislaus County. He described how local Juvenile Justice organizations worked together to establish a system geared towards youth accountability and success.

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council received a copy of the 2020-2025 Stanislaus County Local Action Plan (LAP) and the JJCPA/YOBG Consolidated Annual Plan for FY 2024-2025 (handouts are attached to the minutes).

DD Costa reviewed the Stanislaus County Probation Department LAP 2020-2025, the 10 goals established by the JJCC in 2019, and the overview of the current JJCPA-funded programs detailed in the Stanislaus County Graduated Responses to Youth Crime & Delinquency Prevention Chart.

#### 2020-2025 Local Action Plan Goals:

- Continue and increase the use of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) models for prevention, intervention, and in-custody services and programs.
  - To ensure youth and their families receive the comprehensive support and services needed to thrive, the programming provided is evidence-based and aligned with the goals established by the JJCC in the 2020-2025 Local Action Plan. The services offered to the youth are specific to their current juvenile justice status: in or out-of-custody, SB 823, Placement, and Low-Level.
- 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 youth population.
  - Mr. Costa recounted the positive outcome of two low-level youths referred to the Youth Assessment Center. The youths stayed out of the Juvenile Justice System and are thriving thanks to the early intervention and successful case management services received at the YAC.

He briefly discussed expanding the YAC concept in other Family Resources Centers throughout Stanislaus County and their continued effort to resolve the referral process. Cindy Duenas suggested incorporating the Center for Human Services Family Resource Centers into the YAC referral process as they work closely with local law enforcement.
- Increase the use of alternatives to incarceration for technical violations of probation.
  - GPS/Electronic monitoring with 30-day reviews are now being conducted.
- Enhance continuity of care for youth transitioning from custodial settings to the community.
  - Re-integration reviews, out-of-home placement family meetings before youth release from custody, and programming transitioning from in-custody to out-of-custody are now available.
- Create residential and non-residential substance abuse (i.e., inpatient and outpatient) treatment services for youth and expand services within the Juvenile Institutions.
  - Services have expanded to provide youth with transitioning services.
- Expand Mental Health and Behavioral Health Services in the Juvenile Institutions.
  - Youth are now being assessed during the Juvenile Hall booking process to ensure SUD and Mental Health services are provided.
- Develop and expand vocational training and job placement programs.
  - Workforce Development is now providing services to youth out of custody.
- Enhance re-integration by adding additional life skills support services once youth are released from custody.
  - Vocational Training and life skill support services have been expanded within the Juvenile Facilities. The expansion includes transitional training that youth can continue once released.
- Expand the GRAD program to include specific services for male youth, especially those male youth with Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) risk factors.
  - A counselor has been embedded in the Juvenile Facilities to provide GRAD and CSEC services to the male youth.
- Provide the JJCC with annual updates of the Local Action Plan (LAP), followed by re-evaluation of the entire LAP plan every five years.

MOTION: Chief Brandon Gillespie. SECOND: Kara Anguiano. The JJCPA/YOBG Consolidated Annual Plan FY 2024-2025 was approved unanimously.

#### V. JUVENILE INSTITUTIONS UPDATE

Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera reported the following Juvenile Institutions' update:

- 67 youth are in custody, with 3 being female.
- 8 of the 67 youths are 18 years of age.
- 6 of the 67 youths are 19 years of age.
- 2 of the 13 youths are 20 years of age.
- 8 of the 67 youths are pending Transfer Hearings.
- 13 of the 67 youths have been committed to the Secure Track Facility, formerly DJJ commitments. They can shorten their stay in custody as they are reviewed every 6 months for a commitment reduction.

Chief Ferriera advised that the development of additional vocational training to provide Juvenile Justice youth will be ongoing.

VI. **REPLACEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY-BASED DRUG & ALCOHOL ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE**

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, as mandated by the Welfare and Institutions Code, discussed replacing Cindy Duenas as the Community-Based Drug and Alcohol Program representative upon her retirement on July 12, 2024.

Center for Human Services Director Cindy Duenas recommended Gina Machado as her replacement as the JJCC Community Based Drug and Alcohol Program representative.

MOTION: Marian Martino. SECOND: Isaiah Herrera. Upon Cindy Duena's retirement, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council accepted Gina Machado as the Community-Based Drug and Alcohol Program representative.

VII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

-None

VIII. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next quarterly meeting will be scheduled for July 25, 2024, at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.

# **Stanislaus County Probation Department Local Action Plan 2020-2025**



Updated April 2024

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stanislaus County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council 2023-2024</b></p>
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**Mark Ferriera**, Stanislaus County Chief Probation Officer, Chair

**Marian Martino**, JJC Chair, Volunteer and at-large community representative

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

**Jeff Anderson**, Director, Sierra Vista Child and Family Services, a non-profit providing services to minors

**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

**Cynthia Duenas**, Executive Director, Center for Human Services, a community-based drug and alcohol program

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

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

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

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

**Dr. Abu K. Mboka**, Professor, CSU Stanislaus and at-large community representative

**Isaiah Herrera**, Director, Youth for Christ, and at-large community representative

## **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 2024)



# 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

2018/19	2019-22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	
Dept. of Juvenile Justice	Dept. of Juvenile Justice	JJ Realignment-OYCR	Secure Track Program	Secure Track Program	SB823
DJJ-AB1628 Supervision	DJJ-AB1628 Supervision	DJJ-AB1628 Supervision	DJJ-AB 1628 Supervision	DJJ-AB #28/ SYTF Supervision	JJCPA
Juvenile Commitment Facility	Juvenile Commitment Facility	Juvenile Commitment Facility	Juvenile Commitment Facility	Juvenile Commitment Facility	YOBG
Juvenile Hall	Juvenile Hall	Juvenile Hall	Juvenile Hall	Juvenile Hall	YOBG
Special Needs Unit/ JH	Special Needs Unit/ JH	Special Needs Unit/ JH	Special Needs Services	Special Needs Services	
Mental Health Treatment/ JH	Mental Health Treatment/ JH	Mental Health Treatment/ JH	Mental Health Treatment/ IC	Mental Health Treatment/ IC	YOBG
Residential AOD Treatment	Residential AOD Treatment	Residential AOD Treatment	Residential SUD Treatment	In Custody SUD Treatment	JJCPA
				In Custody Vocational Programs	
Foster/Group Home Placement	Foster/Group Home Placement	Foster/Group Home Placement	Foster/STRTP/AB 12 Placement	Foster/STRTP/AB 12 Placement	Child Family Teams (CFT) Qualified Individual Assessments (QI)
Aftercare/ Transition	Aftercare/ Transition	Aftercare/ Transition	Aftercare/ Transition	Aftercare/ Transition	
Wraparound Services	Wraparound Services	Wraparound Services	Wraparound Services	Wraparound Services	
Electronic Monitoring	Electronic Monitoring	Electronic Monitoring/GPS	GPS monitoring	GPS monitoring	JJCPA
Home Commitment	Home Commitment	Home Commitment	Home Commitment	Home Commitment	JJCPA
Home Supervision	Home Supervision	Home Supervision	Home Supervision	Home Supervision	JJCPA
High Risk/ Juv Warrant Ent.	High Risk Offender	Juv. Intensive Sup.-High	Intensive Juv Sup-Med/High	Intensive Juv Sup-Med/High	JJCPA
Probation Intensive Sup.	Probation Intensive Sup.				
Outptnt. Sub. Abuse Treat.	Outptnt. Sub. Abuse Treat.	Outptnt. Sub. Abuse Treat.	Outptnt. Sub. Abuse Treat.	Outptnt. Sub. Abuse Treat.	JJCPA
Outptnt. MH Treatment	Outptnt. MH Treatment	Outptnt. MH Treatment	Outptnt. MH Treatment	Outptnt. MH Treatment	JJCPA
Children's System of Care	Children's System of Care	Children's System of Care	Children's System of Care	Children's System of Care	CHS/ACA/ WP
ART/MRT/CBT	ART/MRT/CBT	ART/MRT/CBT	Evidence Based Programming	Evidence Based Programming	
Employment Development	Employment Development	Employment Development	Employment Development	Employment Development	JJCPA
GRAD	GRAD	GRAD--CHS	GRAD--CHS	GRAD--CHS	JJCPA
Informal Probation	Probation Supervision	Prob. Supervision-Low /Me	Prob. Supervision-Low	Prob. Supervision-Low	YOBG
Community Service	Informal Probation	Informal Probation	Informal Probation	Informal Probation	
VORP	Community Service-TBD	Community Service-TBD			
Youth Court	Youth Court	Youth Court	Youth Court	Youth Court	
Mentoring	Mentoring	Mentoring	Mentoring	Mentoring	
Diversion	Diversion	Diversion	Diversion	Diversion	
School Contracted P.O.s	School Contracted P.O.s	Youth Assessment Center.	Youth Assessment Center.	Youth Assessment Center.	YOBG
Asses/Intake/Reception Ctr	Asses/Intake/Reception Ctr				5th Year Implementation
Youth Centers	Youth Centers				

## PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Programs	Family, Youth and Child Programs	Law Enforcement Sponsored Programs	Family Resource Centers and Wraparound Services	Education Services and Programs	Mentoring Programs	Parenting and Pregnancy Programs	County and City Youth and Family Programs	Youth Leadership
After School Programs	Prevention and Early Intervention							

## PARTNERSHIPS

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services	Community Services Agency	Local Law Enforcement	Community Based Organizations	SCOE and local School Districts	Faith-Based Organizations	Health Services Agency	County/ City Sponsored	Stanislaus Workforce Development
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# **(2024-2025) Annual Plan**

Date: 4/18/2024

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

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

**JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov**

## **Juvenile Justice Plan**

### **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 24/25. 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 24/25) 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. A new Local Action Plan will be established during the upcoming fiscal year which will take effect in FY 25/26.

## **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 through 23/24, 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 24/25 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 24/25 updated information in Attachment A) was submitted for the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council's approval in April 2024. 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 2023 and is active through 2025 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:**

Gender Responsive Alternative 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. The partnership initially focused on working with female youth. However, a population of previously uncategorized CSEC males booked into our institutions was also identified. In FY 23/24, the program was expanded to include a male Navigator to work with male youth. We will continue to utilize services of the Navigators 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 supervision strategy and create an intervention plan. 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 an average of 15 female youth at any given time. 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 substance abuse disorder (SUD) treatment called 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 can also 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 female and male staff called "Navigators" assess youth on probation or who have been booked into the Juvenile Hall that show risk factors for CSEC. The CSE-IT assessment tool is used by the Navigators to assist in case planning for the youth to address protective factors, trauma issues or other concerns shown by the assessment. The Navigators' offices are co-located with the Juvenile Probation Officers in the Probation Department to further encourage communication and networking.

This program meets the goals identified in the areas of Intervention and Detention in 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. In FY 23/24 in custody SUD treatment services were added to available programs. These services will be continued in FY 24/25.

**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 24/25.

Program enhancement: Funds will be set aside for continued contracts in FY 24/25 for Mental Health, SUD treatment, ART, CBI-CY and DV/Victim Awareness for probation youth. In FY 23/24 in-custody SUD services were added for youth and allow for seamless transition from in-custody to out-of-custody SUD services. 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 and assist Community Based Organizations in filling vacancies.

**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 Intensive Supervision 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:**

Intensive Supervision Unit

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

This team provides intensive supervision to youth who are categorized as medium or high risk in their Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) assessment. Targeted supervision, coupled with evidence-based programming referrals, is the key to this unit's success. The unit also provides less intensive supervision services to wards of the Court who are categorized with a low risk level in their risk assessment and youth on non-wardship supervision. These youth are provided referrals for needed services and mostly receive services separately from medium and high-risk level youth to avoid the impact of negative criminal peer influence.

**Description:**

The Intensive Juvenile Supervision (IJS) Unit provides intensive, community-based supervision of medium and 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 accountability by actively enforcing outstanding Juvenile Court warrants, providing intensive supervision of youth, referring youth to programs such as Aggression Replacement Training (ART), CBI-Core Youth (CY) curriculum, Substance Abuse Disorder treatment, Mental Health Treatment services, and utilizing the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) assessment. Youth identified as needing employment skills and jobs are referred to the Let's Work program. This partnership with the County Workforce Development agency provides in-custody and out-of-custody employment development. Youth are followed for 12-months after employment to track progress. The IJS Unit and employment program will continue in FY 24/25.

The Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit and the related employment program support the goals of both the Intervention and Enforcement areas of 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 Secured Youth Treatment Facility 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:**

Juvenile Hall

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

Probation Corrections 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 150-bed facility at the Juvenile Justice Center located at 2215 Blue Gum Ave in Modesto. 130 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 and substance abuse 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. YOBG funds will also be used to partially fund needed upgrades to electronic controls and the surveillance system for the Juvenile Hall's security system to ensure youth safety. The system is over 20 years old, and these upgrades are needed to ensure compliance with California Code of Regulations under both Title 15 and 24.

This program supports the goals identified in the Detention area 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 maintains a 47,207 square foot Commitment Facility. 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.

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. A professional services contract with Wellpath was included to offset the costs associated with these services in custody. 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:**

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 determine the level of supervision for youth on probation.

This assessment affects youth under the Intervention, Enforcement and Detention areas of the areas 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 23/24. Funding will be allocated to support a 5th year of full implementation in FY 24/25.

**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, 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 Behavioral Health and Recovery Services 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 through FY 23/24.

Program Enhancement: While local law enforcement made some limited referrals using the mobile application, the YAC still receives the strong majority of the referrals from the Probation Department. In FY 23/24 the YAC leadership team began seeking additional opportunities to increase referrals for youth in need of services. A partnership was developed with the Stanislaus County Office of Education and Modesto City Schools in a pilot program to allow some schools to refer youth to the YAC using the Mobile referral process. Once referral numbers reach capacity for the current YAC in Modesto, expansion of the program to a Turlock location will be explored.