

(2024-2025) Annual Plan

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Instructions:

Government Code Section 30061(b)(4) and Welfare & Institution Code Section 1961(b) call for consolidation of the annual plans required for JJCPA and YOBG.

Please submit your most up-to-date consolidated plan. The following is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. If you find it helpful to use this template, please do so. Each field must be completed before submitting your plan to the BSCC. If you have nothing to report for a field, please indicate 'N/A'. At the end of the template please press the 'Submit' button to be recorded with the BSCC. Your work will be saved each time you log in, if you need to make any edits.

Your Submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website.maiyang@buttecounty.net

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.

In Butte County, various agencies and organizations collaborate to provide a comprehensive array of resources targeting at-risk youth and their families across multiple domains. The Butte County Probation Department (Probation) leads efforts through its multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan, which focuses on prevention and intervention strategies supported by funding from the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and the Youthful Offender Block Grant. Probation utilizes detailed assessments to tailor supervision and interventions to the specific criminogenic needs of individual youth, resulting in a decrease in out-of-home residential placements. Collaborative partnerships with the Department of Employment and Social Services (DESS), Children's Services and interagency committees ensure that youth receive appropriate support at various levels within the community. Additionally, community partners such as the Boys and Girls Club, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, Catalyst, Youth for Change, and the Alliance for Workforce Development offer a range of services, including educational support, mental health counseling, life skills training, and substance abuse intervention. Butte County Public Health plays a crucial role in addressing the physical health needs of at-risk youth, while the Butte County Office of Education implements Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports to promote positive behavior strategies in both juvenile hall and community school settings. Through ongoing collaboration and evidence-based practices, Butte County's juvenile justice system strives to provide holistic support to youth and families, emphasizing prevention, rehabilitation, and positive community engagement.

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

To enhance collaboration amongst various youth-serving agencies, Probation actively engages in ongoing collaborative opportunities and regular meetings with partners from public, private, and nonprofit sectors. These meetings address critical issues such as adverse childhood experiences, commercial sexual exploitation of children, placements, community re-entry strategies, the Local Control and Accountability Plan, and gang intervention. Furthermore, Probation strengthens relationships with community partners to address the unique needs of youth, as evidenced by its involvement in forums like the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission and the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, which focus on integrative juvenile services.

In combating the commercial sexual exploitation of children, Probation participates in regular meetings of the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Multi-Disciplinary Team, where multiple county agencies and community partners collaborate to guide Butte County's approach to serving this vulnerable population. The team works diligently to address the needs of exploited youth, from immediate identification through ongoing stabilization, utilizing a Harm Reduction approach and connecting them to available resources at both state and local levels.

Moreover, Probation maintains a strong partnership with DESS, allowing for a seamless connection to resources that benefit youth and families in both systems. Through collaborative efforts like the Systems Improvement Plan and the dual jurisdiction protocol, which allows youth to receive services from both systems simultaneously, Probation and DESS ensure comprehensive support for families in need. Additionally, the collaboration extends to the utilization of wraparound services, which aim to engage families in a strength-based manner and provide supportive services to prevent placement into foster care.

Furthermore, Probation has partnered with community stakeholders to establish a Restorative Justice collaborative work group, aiming to support, educate, and implement restorative practices benefiting youth, families, and the broader community. This collaborative effort, facilitated by the Boys and Girls Club, provides direct services such as conferencing and mediation, offering youth the opportunity to repair harm, reintegrate into the community, and foster positive relationships. Through these collaborative initiatives, Probation and its partners strive to create a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes the well-being and rehabilitation of at-risk youth and their families in Butte County.

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.

BCPD continues to focus on providing responsive programming throughout Butte County. The focus of juvenile crime prevention and intervention is countywide. A greater emphasis is placed on areas of the county wherein services are historically more limited, including the more rural areas, in an effort to decrease public safety risk from juvenile crime.

Strategies such as providing group programming meetings, increasing access to transportation to support attendance, and providing language interpreters, ensure programs and information are delivered directly to underserved populations. BCPD implements programs that work with the whole family, not just the individual youthful offender, in an effort to provide a more in-depth, holistic, and preventative approach to addressing the presenting offense and reducing recurrence.

C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

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

The juvenile justice action strategy in Butte County, as outlined in the finalized plan of November 2020, is a comprehensive approach aimed at addressing both the prevention and intervention of juvenile delinquency. Leveraging funding from sources such as the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and the Youthful Offender Block Grant, Butte County Probation implements a continuum of services tailored to the specific needs of youth. This continuum includes diversion classes, community service, general supervision, counseling, electronic monitoring, gender-specific programming and supervision, gang interventions, detention services, a Camp program, and placement services.

To ensure a collaborative and integrated approach, Probation collaborates with various community-based organizations, such as the Boys and Girls Club, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, Catalyst, Youth for Change, Alliance for Workforce Development, and Butte County Office of Education. These partnerships enable the provision of diverse programming both inside and outside custodial settings.

For instance, the Boys and Girls Club offers services such as interactive journaling, workforce readiness, financial literacy, academic support, and restorative justice interventions. Furthermore, collaboration with local agencies like Northern Valley Catholic Social Services and Catalyst enhance the support provided to at-risk youth and juvenile offenders. This includes life skills groups, Aggression Replacement Training, parenting programs, and domestic violence prevention. Probation also works closely with Youth for Change to provide comprehensive mental health counseling services, including individual, group, and family therapy. Wraparound services are tailored to high-risk/high-needs youth, ensuring a holistic approach to support both before and after their release from Juvenile Hall. In collaboration with Butte County Office of Education, Probation integrates Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports into its programs, emphasizing proactive strategies to address behavioral issues and promote positive outcomes in both educational and community settings.

To ensure effective coordination between Probation and other relevant agencies, protocols have been established to staff cases, and regular meetings of interagency committees are held to address the needs of high-risk youth across various systems.

Additionally, Probation emphasizes whole family-centered approaches, providing wraparound programming and engaging youth in community service activities to foster connections and

reduce recidivism. The Commitment to Success Program offers evidence-based programming, education, vocational training, and community reentry support for youth impacted by realignment.

Regular meetings of the local Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission and the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council facilitate ongoing discussions, updates, and collaborative strategies to address juvenile delinquency within Butte County. Through these concerted efforts, Butte County's juvenile justice action strategy aims to provide swift, certain, and graduated responses to at-risk youth, ultimately promoting safer and healthier communities.

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

To ensure the Plan remains relevant and effective, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council convened on April 16, 2024, to review, edit, and approve the 2024-2025 Plan. This collaborative meeting provided an opportunity for stakeholders to assess the current state of juvenile justice in the county, identify areas for improvement, and strategize on how best to address emerging challenges. By engaging in this ongoing process of review and refinement, Probation and its partners demonstrate a commitment to maintaining public safety and delivering quality, evidence-based services to youth in the community.

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

Not applicable.

**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.

Probation employs a comprehensive information system infrastructure to facilitate data sharing across agencies within the county. Utilizing a browser-based case management system, hosted on external servers, and a contracted browser-based assessment provider, Probation effectively manages case plans, criminogenic risk and need assessments, and other critical data. The current case management system, Enterprise Supervision, has been in use since 2017, while the assessment system, Noble, has been utilized since 2015. These systems track various aspects of juvenile justice processes, including referrals, bookings, assessments, court hearings, programs, and case management functions.

Through these systems, Probation can generate data reports and securely share data files with collaborative partners as necessary. This capability ensures seamless information exchange and enhances coordination among agencies involved in juvenile justice efforts. Probation can measure short-term success rates by assessing improvements in a youth's criminogenic needs over time. Additionally, long-term success rates can be evaluated by monitoring subsequent law enforcement referrals, providing insights into the effectiveness of juvenile justice programs and strategies implemented by Probation and its partners. Overall, our goal is to utilize the systems utilized by Probation enable data-driven decision-making and facilitate the evaluation of program effectiveness in addressing juvenile delinquency.

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.

Not applicable.

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:

Strengthening Families Program

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The Strengthening Families Program is grounded in solid evidence from various sources. Research studies consistently show its effectiveness in improving family relationships and reducing the risk of substance abuse among youth. These studies, using careful research methods, demonstrate that participating in the program leads to better communication within families, enhanced parenting skills, and positive changes in children's behavior. Additionally, feedback from families who have experienced the program supports its effectiveness, highlighting its role in strengthening family bonds and preventing substance abuse. Overall, the evidence confirms the Strengthening Families Program as a valuable resource for building healthier families and safeguarding youth from harmful behaviors.

Description:

The Strengthening Families Program stands as a cornerstone within Butte County's juvenile justice strategy, representing a nationally and internationally recognized effort to fortify families facing various levels of risk. Developed as an evidence-based family skills training program, it has demonstrated remarkable success in reducing problem behaviors, delinquency, and substance abuse among youth while concurrently enhancing social competencies and academic performance. Originally tailored for parents with histories of substance abuse, the program has evolved into a comprehensive initiative catering to both high-risk and general population families.

Sessions are structured to provide a conducive environment for learning and growth. Families convene weekly, commencing with a shared meal to foster support and rapport. Subsequently, participants break into smaller groups tailored to address the specific needs of parents/caregivers, young children, and teenagers. These group sessions delve into essential topics such as effective communication, problem-solving, and negotiation skills, equipping

families with the tools they need to navigate challenging situations.

Under the guidance of Probation staff, participants reconvene in a larger group setting to practice and reinforce the skills they have acquired throughout the session. This collective reinforcement not only solidifies learning but also fosters a sense of community and mutual support among participants.

Given the program's commitment to accessibility and effectiveness, sessions are conducted outside of normal business hours, ensuring that families facing various challenges can participate without disruption to their daily routines. Funding is allocated to accommodate staff overtime as needed, underscoring the county's dedication to the success and sustainability of the program.

The Strengthening Families Program provides a platform for families to cultivate reciprocal care, emotional support, and guidance, while also offering opportunities for conflict resolution, peace-seeking, and mutual assistance during challenging circumstances and crises. By empowering families with essential skills and resources, the program not only strengthens individual family units but also contributes to the overall well-being and resilience of the community as a whole.

Program Name:

Individualized Mental Health Counseling/Group Counseling/Family Counseling

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Different counseling methods, including individual, group, and family counseling, have been proven effective through research, observations, and professional expertise. Individual sessions offer personalized support tailored to personal issues and skill development, while group counseling fosters social support and peer feedback, addressing specific concerns like substance abuse or depression. Family counseling aims to improve communication and resolve conflicts within families, utilizing interventions such as systemic therapy to enhance family dynamics and reduce stress. Together, these counseling approaches provide comprehensive support for mental health concerns, leading to improved well-being as evidenced by diverse research methodologies and clinical experiences.

Description:

Youth for Change is responsible for delivering individual, group, and family counseling services to detained youth. The role entails a spectrum of duties, including but not limited to the evaluation, treatment, and counseling of at-risk youth, as well as case management. This involves intervention, testing, assessment, counseling, and guidance for both individual clients and groups of clients. Additionally, a clinician is tasked with screening and evaluating youth with mental health concerns or facing significant life stressors, as well as conducting interviews to gather personal histories. Furthermore, they provide casework services and execute treatment plans for at-risk youth and their families. This encompasses offering both personal and group therapy and counseling sessions, developing and implementing guidance, counseling, and treatment strategies, and imparting socialization and coping skills. Moreover, part of their role involves advising youth and their families on available community resources. Throughout these responsibilities, licensed clinicians adhere to current best practices, which include evidence-based approaches, ensuring the provision of effective and comprehensive mental health care.

Program Name:

Camp Program

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The Butte County Probation Camp Program is based on the Michigan Youth Reentry Model. This model is a comprehensive approach aimed at stopping the inter-generational cycle of crime. The goals of this model are to promote public safety by reducing recidivism among youth and repair the harm done to victims; foster positive transitions into adulthood by helping youth and families make responsible choices and achieve goals in education, employment, behavioral health and personal relationships, and to stop the 'pipeline to prison' in order to reduce long-term costs to the state and community. Reentry begins the first day in the facility, or an exit-upon-entry approach, and continues through transition, reintegration and aftercare in the community.

Description:

The Camp Program is a court-ordered program that starts at juvenile hall, placing a strong emphasis on collaborative case management from the outset. The overarching objective is to establish a seamless continuum of services and supervision that spans from the initial days in the program to eventual reentry into the community. Structured into three distinct phases, this program equips youth with vital skills essential for a successful transition back into society. Moreover, it's intricately tailored to address the unique needs of each individual participant. Rooted in evidence-based methodologies and programs, the Camp Program crafts individualized case plans for both the youth and their families, with the overarching aim of diminishing the likelihood of recidivism.

The staff assigned to the Camp Program operate as part of a Multidisciplinary Team, collaborating closely with the youth and their families to devise comprehensive individualized case plans. Concurrently, Juvenile Hall staff directly supervise and mentor detained youth, ensuring they receive a range of essential services – including education, vocational training, medical care, mental health support, social services, and community reentry assistance – within a nurturing and secure environment.

A designated Deputy Probation Officer oversees the youth's progress in the program, ensuring that assessments are up to date and case plans are aligned with their programming goals. Probation Officers, responsible for overseeing juveniles on formal probation, employ Evidence-Based Practices to monitor compliance with court orders and the juvenile's individualized case plan. They also facilitate various programs, including New Freedom Gang Intervention, New

Direction (a cognitive-behavioral substance use program), and Moral Reconciliation Therapy – a treatment system aimed at enhancing moral reasoning and decision-making skills, with each participant receiving a workbook at the program's inception.

Furthermore, Probation Officers provide regular updates to the Court through the preparation and composition of petitions, dispositional reports, and supplemental reports. Administrative Analysts oversee fiscal matters, managing budgets and maintaining contracts with service providers, while Legal Office Assistants offer clerical support, including data entry into the case management system, file preparation for Court, and distribution of legal documents.

Program Name:

After School Services

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Programs and activities that use Evidence-Based Practices help youth shift their attitudes and actions from negative to positive. These programs take a multi-faceted approach, working with partners across the county to prevent recidivism, intervene when appropriate, re-direct if necessary, and provide support for successful reentry into the community. They focus on things like improving school attendance and behavior, and building mentor relationships with young people. As a result, participants gain more confidence, engage in fewer risky behaviors, and see improvements in their school, social, and personal lives.

Description:

Under the guidance of Probation, the Boys and Girls Club offers comprehensive staff services and engaging events for youth both in and out of custody within the jurisdiction of Juvenile Court. These services encompass a wide array of offerings, including evidence-based group sessions such as interactive journaling, workforce readiness training, financial literacy workshops, diversity programs, academic support, GED preparation courses, college exploration programs, entrepreneurial opportunities, job skills training, health and wellness initiatives, relationship and resilience building workshops, character and leadership development activities, service learning opportunities, as well as arts, sports, fitness, and recreation programs. Moreover, the Boys and Girls Club extends Restorative Justice direct services like conferencing and mediation, facilitating opportunities for youth to take responsibility, make amends, and reintegrate into the community. Staff members are present daily at the Juvenile Hall, providing over five hours of programming each day. Additionally, designated staff members are stationed in Chico, Oroville, and Paradise to support youth transitioning back into society. All programs and services are thoughtfully designed to align with the Boys and Girls Club's core outcome areas: Academic Success, Good Character and Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles.

Northern Valley Catholic Social Services offers weekly sessions covering a diverse range of topics aimed at supporting youth in Juvenile Hall. These include classes on social responsibility, cultural diversity, sex and health education, teen parenting, and life skills. Group sessions are held after school and at lunchtime during the week, providing valuable opportunities for youth to engage with important subjects in a supportive environment. Northern Valley Catholic Social Services also collaborates with staff to facilitate Aggression Replacement Training groups, an intervention program designed to address aggression and anger management for youth ages

12-17. The program aims to promote positive changes in moral reasoning and behavior, ultimately reducing the risk of recidivism.

Additionally, Catalyst, a local domestic violence service organization, plays a crucial role in enhancing the knowledge and skills of various agencies in dealing with domestic violence issues. Catalyst offers a Teen Dating Violence Education and Prevention program, consisting of interactive presentations aimed at educating teens about healthy relationships and the prevention of dating abuse. Weekly discussion groups at Juvenile Hall cover topics such as healthy and abusive relationships, communication skills, body image, self-esteem, and relationships with family and friends. Catalyst fosters a mentoring relationship with youth, recognizing the positive impact of quality relationships on their outcomes. Evaluations of Catalyst's mentoring programs have shown evidence of positive outcomes, highlighting the importance of these interventions in youth development.

Program Name:

Reentry Wraparound

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Research studies consistently show that comprehensive reentry programs, like Reentry Wraparound, significantly reduce recidivism rates among youth by addressing multiple needs simultaneously, such as housing, employment, substance abuse treatment, and mental health support. Additional research studies further reinforce these findings, demonstrating positive outcomes in areas like employment rates, housing stability, and reduced criminal involvement among participants. Evidence shows the value of Reentry Wraparound in promoting successful reintegration and reducing recidivism rates among youth transitioning from incarceration back into the community.

Description:

Probation partners closely with Youth for Change to deliver Reentry Wraparound services tailored to youth participating in the Commitment to Success Program and the Camp Program. These services ensure that the risk factors and criminogenic needs of the youth are effectively addressed before, during, and after their return to the community. The Reentry Wraparound team employs evidence-based, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive approaches to provide high-fidelity Wraparound and Child and Family Team services to both youth and their families. This comprehensive support is a key component of a multidisciplinary rehabilitation strategy aimed at preparing detained youth for a successful transition back into the community. These services are available both within the Juvenile Hall facility and in the community, offering continuous assistance to youth upon their release. The Re-Entry Wraparound Program emphasizes collaboration among various community agencies, care coordination, development of a unified care plan, and systematic delivery of outcome-based services.

Program Name:

Child and Family Team Facilitation

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Child and Family Team meetings are a promising practice. There is an increasing body of evidence showing that services for children and families are most effective when delivered in the context of a single, integrated team that includes the child or youth, his or her family, natural and community supports, and professionals. In California, the Child and Family Team process is key to the well-being of children, youth, and families served by public agencies and their partners. It is based on the belief that children, youth, and families have the capacity to resolve their problems if given sufficient support and resources to help them do so.

Description:

Youth for Change plays a crucial role in coordinating and facilitating Child and Family Team meetings, which are essential gatherings aimed at supporting families in need. These meetings bring together a diverse group of individuals, including the youth, parent/caregiver, Parent Partner, Family Specialists, Butte County Children's Services Division, a Mental Health Clinician (if necessary), Probation staff, and a Facilitator. The primary focus of these meetings is to assess the family's needs, set goals, and collaboratively develop case plans that incorporate input from the entire team, with a strong emphasis on the voices and choices of the family members. Additionally, Child and Family Team meetings are convened for youth who are placed outside of their homes, serving as a forum for assessing their needs and making placement decisions in a manner that prioritizes the well-being of the youth and their family.

Program Name:

Restorative Justice

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Restorative justice is a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach to treatment that is responsive to the needs of the participants, victims and the community. It is aimed to aid in repairing harm caused by the youth. A collaboration of the use of restorative practices is intended to engage victims, youth, families and communities in addressing these harms in a way that focus equally on victim needs, community safety, as well as youth accountability and growth.

Description:

Restorative Justice is a holistic approach to addressing conflicts and offenses within a community. It emphasizes the needs of everyone involved: the victims, the offenders, and the community as a whole. The core principle is to address the harm caused by the offense, hold the youth accountable, and involve the community in finding resolution. This approach aims to bring together the youth and the injured parties, whenever possible, while also providing support and services to help both victims and offenders heal.

To support and implement Restorative Justice practices, Probation has collaborated with juvenile justice stakeholders, community-based organizations, and community members. Together, they've developed strategies to establish a Restorative Justice program. This program focuses on implementing Restorative Justice practices in schools and providing services to young offenders to steer them away from further involvement in the juvenile justice system. The Boys and Girls Club is playing a key role in delivering direct services such as conferencing and mediation. These services give youth the opportunity to take responsibility for their actions, repair harm, apologize, and reintegrate into the community.

**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.

Probation has crafted a multifaceted strategy to reduce delinquency while nurturing positive development among youth. Recognizing the importance of prevention and equipping the youth with crucial life skills in hopes of deterring future criminal behavior. Probation emphasizes a shift away from punitive measures towards more positive approaches. A cornerstone of this strategy is the use of validated risk and needs assessment tool, which allow for accurate classification of youth to tailor interventions and services effectively, ultimately aiming to reduce recidivism.

Efficient resource allocation is central to combating serious juvenile crime, and Probation conducts thorough assessments to gauge changes in risk levels and identify criminogenic factors predisposing youth to reoffend. These assessments inform the development of individualized case plans, collaboratively crafted with youth and their families, with specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound objectives and goals.

In response to youth behavior, Probation has developed a sanction and incentive matrix based on behavior and risk level. This matrix offers Probation Officers a structured menu of options to reinforce case plans and court conditions, holding youth accountable while providing positive reinforcement and ensuring swift responses to behavior, all within a measurable framework.

Collaboration is key in Probation's approach, with regular meetings and committees involving various stakeholders from both public and private sectors addressing diverse issues such as adverse childhood experiences, commercial sexual exploitation of children, placements, community re-entry, and gang intervention. Moreover, ongoing engagement in a collaborative Systems Improvement Plan facilitates countywide strategies to support youth across Probation and DESS Children's Services systems.

Continual efforts to enhance relationships with collaborative partners enable Probation to better meet the unique needs of the youth. Implementing Evidence-Based Practices guides Probation in determining effective programs and policies proven to reduce recidivism. These evidence-based approaches, such as the Strengthening Families Program, The Council for Boys and Young Men, Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Interactive Journaling, Motivational Interviewing, Mentoring, and Aggression Replacement Training, ensure that Probation remains at the forefront of promoting positive outcomes for youth.

B. Regional Agreements

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

At present, Probation does not have any regional agreements or arrangements that are supported with Youthful Offender Block Grant funds.

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

Below are YOBG funded programs reported by the county.

Program Name:

Intensive Juvenile Supervision

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation ensures effective supervision of justice-involved youth through a comprehensive approach. This includes conducting thorough assessments and intakes to gauge the needs and risk levels of each individual. Based on these assessments, individualized case plans and recommendations are developed for the Court, with a focus on addressing criminogenic needs and ensuring community safety. Youth are then referred to collaborative and multidisciplinary services to address the identified needs. Probation Officers supervise youth in the community on both informal and formal probation, employing Evidence-Based Practices to ensure compliance with court orders and promote positive behavior change.

Additionally, Probation Officer Supervisors provide oversight and support to ensure the effective implementation of supervision strategies. They monitor the progress of youth and provide guidance to Probation Officers as needed. Meanwhile, Legal Office Assistants offer clerical support, facilitating tasks such as data entry, file preparation, and the distribution of legal documents. This coordinated approach aims to enhance public safety by addressing the underlying factors contributing to delinquent behavior and supporting the rehabilitation and successful reintegration of justice-involved youth into the community.

Program Name:

Other Direct Services

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation allocates funding to support youth in obtaining vital documents like birth certificates, as well as school and work attire, and other necessary items to foster their success in the community. This assistance ensures that youth have the resources needed to engage in positive activities, such as completing their high school education and securing employment opportunities.

Cognitive behavioral interventions have emerged as crucial components of probation departments' strategies to address offender behavior. Collaborating with community-based organizations, Probation offers three evidence-based cognitive behavioral programs widely recognized in community corrections:

1. Aggression Replacement Training: This program targets chronically aggressive youth aged 12 to 17, aiming to enhance moral reasoning, manage aggression, and control anger under the guidance of trained staff. By fostering pro-social attitudes and behaviors, it endeavors to diminish the risk of reoffending.

2. Moral Reconciliation Therapy: Primarily focusing on addressing substance abuse issues among youth, this intervention aims to reduce recidivism by strengthening youths' capacity to utilize moral reasoning in modifying their behavior.

3. Forward Thinking: Utilizing an evidence-based interactive journaling approach, this program targets individual criminogenic needs either in individual or group settings. It offers a participant-driven resource that guides individuals through the process of self-change, focusing on proactive measures to address specific behavioral challenges.

Program Name:

Recreational Activities

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation has initiated a youth sports team called The Defenders, offering youth the chance to engage in sporting events. Uniquely, Probation Officers join the teams, doubling as coaches and teammates alongside the youth. Research underscores the positive impact of formal youth mentoring programs, which can bolster self-esteem, social skills, and awareness of career prospects. The primary objectives of The Defenders are to cultivate pro-social skills and competencies among participants, supplanting aggressive behaviors with more constructive alternatives, and furnishing opportunities to hone these newfound abilities. To further incentivize participation, water and snacks are provided, recognizing the importance of nutrition, especially for youths from economically disadvantaged backgrounds who may lack access to such resources. By ensuring proper sustenance, the program aims to enhance youths' ability to actively engage and concentrate during these activities, thereby fostering their holistic development.

Program Name:

Contract Services

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Wellpath is contracted to deliver a range of non-emergency medical, dental, psychiatric, dietary, and pharmaceutical services to detained youth at the Juvenile Hall facility, covering both emergency and non-emergency needs. Their services extend to include communicable disease testing, health education, health screening, and medical records management. Moreover, Wellpath offers various health-related training sessions to Probation staff, alongside administering services like tuberculosis testing and Hepatitis B vaccinations.

In addition, Probation has contracted with Enterprise Technologies to implement and manage the department's case management system. This browser-based system, hosted on external servers, comprehensively tracks juvenile referrals, bookings, assessments, court hearings, programs, and case management activities. Probation holds full access to generate data reports and securely share data files with relevant partners as required. Leveraging this system, Probation can gauge long-term success rates by analyzing statistical reports and monitoring subsequent law enforcement referrals.

Furthermore, Probation has engaged Lexipol to maintain and update its probation policies in alignment with evolving state and federal laws and court decisions. This ensures that Probation's policies remain current and compliant with the latest legal requirements and judicial precedents.

Program Name:

Risk/Need Assessment

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation contracts with Noble Assessments, a browser-based assessment provider, to administer and maintain the department's case plans and criminogenic risk and need assessments. Utilizing the Positive Achievement Change Tool, an actuarial risk and needs assessment instrument, aligns with Evidence-Based Practices in community corrections, which have long advocated for such tools. These assessments not only identify youth most in need of services based on their risk for recidivism but also pinpoint specific areas requiring intervention to reduce that risk. Probation Officers then develop case plans in collaboration with youth and their families, targeting risk factors to mitigate recidivism and reduce further involvement in the justice system.

Employing this assessment tool has significantly enhanced Probation's ability to manage youth and streamline operations. This instrument brings greater validity, structure, and consistency to the decision-making process surrounding risk/needs assessment, facilitating more efficient resource allocation by directing intensive interventions to the highest-risk youth based on their individual needs. By utilizing a validated risk/needs assessment tool, Probation effectively coordinates prevention services and, critically, reduces offender recidivism. Scientifically validated risk/needs assessments serve as the cornerstone of modern juvenile justice practices, ensuring a data-driven and evidence-based approach to intervention and rehabilitation efforts.

Program Name:

Staff Training/Professional Development

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation ensures ongoing training and professional development is designed to keep staff current on Evidence-Based Practices related to juvenile assessment and supervision. An emphasis is placed on Evidence-Based Practices, that have been found to significantly reduce problem behaviors, delinquency, and alcohol and drug use in youth, as well as to improve social competencies and school performance. Probation staff have received training in subject matters such as: facilitating evidence-based programing; implementing trauma informed care; and identifying commercial sexual exploitation of children. Future training opportunities emphasizing Evidence-Based Practices are desired, particularly as Evidence-Based Practices are researched, developed, and updated.

Program Name:

Informal Mental Health Screening

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation utilizes a licensed therapist to administer mental health screenings aimed at understanding youths' mental well-being, spotting any potential mental health issues, and deciding whether further examination or support is necessary. Screenings involve asking questions about various aspects of mental health, including trauma, behaviors, and any difficult emotions the youth may be experiencing. The main objectives of mental health screenings are to detect mental health concerns early, guide youth toward appropriate support services, and help reduce the stigma surrounding mental health discussions. While screenings aren't diagnostic, they serve as important initial steps in identifying potential mental health challenges and to connect youth with the help they need to maintain or improve their mental well-being. This information can provide insight when determining appropriate responses and identifying needed services and treatment.

Program Name:

Gender-Specific Programming for Boys

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation utilizes The Council for Boys and Young Men, a gender-responsive circle model and intervention program developed by the One Circle Foundation. The One Circle Foundation promotes resiliency and healthy relationships in youth and communities with research-based, gender-responsive circle program models and best practices. The Council for Boys and Young Men is designed using Evidence-Based Practices. It incorporates Motivational Interviewing, Cultural Responsivity, strengths-based approaches, and trauma-responsive practices. Results from two studies conducted by Portland State University show significant increases in boys' school engagement, positive impacts in boys' masculinity beliefs, and a high rate of satisfaction amongst participants. Water and snacks are provided in an effort to incentivize the programming, an essential key to achieving buy-in. Nutrition is paramount to healthy development and will improve the ability of youth to participate and focus during these activities. Gender-specific programming is utilized in a manner that is responsive to a youth's gender identity. Probation currently has practices in place to address transgender or non-binary youth by their preferred pronouns.

Program Name:

Gender-Specific Programming for Girls

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation utilizes Girls Circle, a gender-responsive circle model and intervention program developed by the One Circle Foundation. The One Circle Foundation promotes resiliency and healthy relationships in youth and communities with research-based, gender-responsive circle program models and best practices. The Girls Circle program is designed using Evidence-Based Practices. It incorporates Motivational Interviewing, Cultural Responsivity, strengths-based approaches, and trauma-responsive practices. Studies in 2005 and 2007 revealed statistically significant improvement for girls in six long-term outcomes, including an increase in self-efficacy, a decrease in self-harming behavior, a decrease in rates of alcohol use, an increase in attachment to school, an increase in positive body image, and increases in social support. Water and snacks are provided in an effort to incentivize the programming, an essential key to achieving buy-in. Nutrition is paramount to healthy development and will improve the ability of youth to participate and focus during these activities. Gender-specific programming is utilized in a manner that is responsive to a youth's gender identity. Probation currently has practices in place to address transgender or non-binary youth by their preferred pronouns.

Program Name:

Community Service

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Probation collaborates with the recreation and park district within the community to provide a variety of community service opportunities. Within this framework, youth, in conjunction with Probation Staff, engage in the restoration and upkeep of public parks. Tasks encompass scheduled clean-up sessions. Additionally, youth undertake endeavors to eliminate graffiti within local park premises. This provides youth the opportunity to contribute positively to their communities, thereby fostering stronger relationships within their communities.

Participation in community service endeavors also serves as a catalyst for the cultivation of pro-social skills among youth. Evaluations of youth mentoring programs consistently underscore the pivotal role of quality relationships in eliciting favorable outcomes. Incentivizing the programming through the provision of drinks, snacks, or gift cards is important, to facilitate greater engagement and buy-in from youth.

Program Name:

Juvenile Hall Garden

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

The Juvenile Hall Garden program gives youth the opportunity to participate in gardening, from planting seeds to harvesting crops. Through this program, they not only grow fruits, vegetables, and flowers but also learn important life skills. These skills include getting ready for work, building confidence, improving problem-solving abilities, and forming stronger connections with both their peers and the staff running the program.

In addition to gardening, the program helps young people develop essential life skills, become more employable, succeed in education, and build stronger bonds with their community. Probation staff use Motivational Interviewing techniques to connect with young people, aiming to change their attitudes and behaviors from negative to positive. Research has shown that building strong relationships through mentoring programs can lead to positive outcomes, highlighting the importance of support and guidance in shaping the lives of young people.

Program Name:

Incentives

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

To encourage and reinforce pro-social behaviors among youth, Probation implements a system of small incentives, such as gift cards. These incentives are awarded for various achievements, including satisfactory program participation, consistent school attendance, completion of program homework, and successful program graduation. Gift cards may cover expenses for restaurant meals or admission to family activities, fostering healthy family bonding experiences. Additionally, gas cards or bus passes are provided to alleviate transportation barriers that could impede attendance in evidence-based programs. In cases where other resources are limited, gift cards are utilized to address social service needs, ensuring that youth can fully engage in school or program activities. By offering positive reinforcements and rewards, Probation aims to bolster pro-social behaviors and recognize the efforts of youth in embracing education and participating in beneficial programming.

Program Name:

Electronic Monitoring

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program does not coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act.

Description:

Juvenile Probation Officers oversee the electronic monitoring program, which has proven effective in reducing the population at Juvenile Hall. With a commitment to enhancing community safety in Butte County, Probation continues to administer its Global Positioning Services caseload. This program enables youth to reside in the community instead of being detained at Juvenile Hall, allowing them to attend school and engage in rehabilitation plans. Global Positioning Services offers several benefits, including cost-effectiveness, flexibility in sentencing, immediate sanctioning options, heightened supervision, and enhanced community safety measures. Each youth undergoes a thorough evaluation, including the development of a case plan and detention release criteria, before being considered for release back into the community.