

# (2024-2025) Annual Plan

Date: 4/30/2024

County Name: Humboldt

Contact Name: Coral Sanders

Telephone Number: 707-444-0644

E-mail Address: MGotcher@co.humboldt.ca.us

## Instructions:

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

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

Your Submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website. MGotcher@co.humboldt.ca.us

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

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

## Juvenile Justice Plan

### 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.**

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

The local plan continues to be monitored, managed, approved, and updated on a regular basis by quarterly Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (MAJJCC) meetings. Per Section 749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code the MAJJCC membership is required to consist of the chief probation officer, as chair, and one representative each from the district attorney's office, public defender's office, sheriff's department, board of supervisors, department of social services, department of mental health, a community based drug and alcohol program, a city police department, the county office of education or a school district, a representative from a nonprofit community organization providing services to youth, and an at large community representative. The MAJJCC meets quarterly in public meetings to discuss juvenile justice issues and review local data.

Members of the public participate in the meetings representing a variety of viewpoints including, but not limited to, the Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJDPC), the Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods, the Humboldt County Transitional Age Youth Collaborative, and Project Rebound. The Office of Youth and Community Restoration has also been participating.

Each fall, the MAJJCC assesses the existing law enforcement, probation, education, mental health, health, social services, drug and alcohol and youth services resources which specifically target at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families. This year's review noted the following as the most frequently used services in Humboldt: County Department Of Health and Human Services; Changing Tides; school resource officers; Boys and Girls Club of the Redwoods; Teen Court; the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission; the School Law Enforcement Network; Big Brother, Big Sisters; North Coast Indian Development Council;

Two Feathers; Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria; Family Resource Centers; Redwood Community Action Agency; Youth Services Bureau; Transitional Housing Program; The Raven Project; Parent Project; Northern Humboldt Diversion Program; Yurok Tribal Court; Hoopa Family Wellness Court; Humboldt County Office of Education; Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; United Indian Health Services; Project Rebound; Youth Education Services; California Department Of Rehabilitation; and Court Appointed Special Advocates.

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

Pursuant to Section 16521.6 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code, AB 2083, the County has adopted a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) setting forth the roles and responsibilities of agencies and other entities that serve children and youth in foster care who have experienced severe trauma. This builds upon existing relationships between county child welfare, probation, county behavioral health, county office of education, regional centers, tribes, and community partners focused on youth of concern. This MOU is in the process of being updated to include the voice of tribal partners and/or the addition of a tribal consultation policy.

This agreement also affirms the work of the Interagency Placement Committee (IPC). The IPC, consists of representatives from the MOU's signatories and is intended to provide oversight of youth placement, ensure reunification and reentry efforts, and to determine appropriate levels of service for youth.

The MAJJCC reinforces and strengthens the relationships with community providers through quarterly meetings. The same agencies participate in the meetings but with increased community participation and a larger scope to include diversionary and non-placement services for youth.

**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.**

In fiscal year 23-24, the greater Eureka area was the largest source of juvenile delinquency referrals in the county. The top offenses were Assault and Battery, Burglary, and Unlicensed Driving.

Also noted was a persistent need for mental health services for youth throughout the service continuum.

### **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.**

Humboldt County Probation Department (HCPD) focusses on assessing and identifying youth who could be diverted from the juvenile delinquency system. It supports the early part of the continuum of responses and ensures that only the highest risk youth enter wardship under section 602 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

The HCPD utilizes a validated risk assessment tool on youth being referred for reports of delinquent behavior. Youth assessed as low risk are placed on diversion and referred to culturally appropriate community-based services. Youth assessed low risk but who owe victim restitution and youth assessed moderate risk to reoffend are also granted short-term informal contracts under the supervision of a diversion officer. The informal contracts typically include referrals to services addressing identified needs of the youth and/or family including case management services in the community. A diversion officer attends School Attendance Review Board meetings throughout the county with the objective of diverting youth to appropriate community and family support services to resolve issues resulting in truancy and facilitates Parent Project.

Youth assessed as high risk to reoffend or are repeat offenders may not be eligible for diversion services. These youth participate in the juvenile justice system wherein the court determines the appropriate level of intervention and service array.

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

HCPD has continued to invest in community programs. In addition to the HCPD's assessment and diversion efforts, Humboldt County has leveraged JJCPA dollars to support early community intervention efforts. This includes the Humboldt Bridges to Wellness (HBTW), formerly named Humboldt Bridges to Success (HBTS) Program, the Boys & Girls Club youth program to support pro-social activities, and Humboldt County Teen Court's expansion into the Fortuna School District.

The HBTW program was originally developed through a Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) grant and led to the formation of regionally based crisis-triage teams. These teams, made up of County hired Mental Health Clinicians and school district hired staff, provide crisis response and linkage to services for students throughout the county. Over the past five years the program has served over 1700 students. It is an important resource for schools who otherwise may not be able to facilitate quick access to mental health services for students in crisis.

The grant that has funded the HBTW program sunsets on June 30, 2024. HCOE received a \$750,000 grant that will enable them to bill Medi-Cal and for the program to continue beyond the sunset of the original grant. It is a result of this grant that the program has been renamed. Under the new grant, the position of Navigator will be reclassified as Wellness Coach. The program also consists of six Mental Health Clinician positions and a Supervising Mental Health Clinician position that are hired through Humboldt County Behavioral Health. JJCPA funds help fill a gap in funding for those positions by being used to maintain two HTBW clinicians for a two-year period beginning in fiscal year 23-24.

JJCPA funds are also used to support the Boys and Girls Club of the Redwoods Friendship, Future, and Fun (FFF) program. The program creates recreational and educational opportunities to cultivate healthy peer and mentor relationships. The FFF program helps youth plan for the future by developing goals and aspirations to support a healthy productive life. JJCPA funds were released to the Boys and Girls Club through a request for proposal process that was to be in its third and final year of implementation in fiscal year 23-24. The contract will be extended however, to allow additional time to use unexpended funds.

Finally, JJCPA funds are used to support the expansion of the Humboldt County Teen Court into the Eel River valley. The expansion includes Teen Court hearings, Attendance Councils, brief interventions for substance using adolescents, Teen Court leadership development, and Parent Project classes. Funds have also been encumbered to continue supporting this expansion of Teen Court for a total of three years, should an alternate source of funding not be identified.

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

NA

**Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)  
(Government Code Section 30061(b)(4))**

**A. Information Sharing and Data Describe your information systems and their ability to facilitate the sharing of data across agencies within your county. Describe the data obtained through these systems and how those data are used to measure the success of juvenile justice programs and strategies.**

HCPD utilizes an integrated case management system, the Juvenile and Adult Management System (JAMS), to track all juvenile, detention, and adult probation data. This platform is a Microsoft Windows-based program and HCPD has programmed several SQL reports to inform internal practices, quality control, and report data of interest to community stakeholders. HCPD contracts with the noble Software Group for use of a suite of web-based assessment tools, including PACT, Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI), Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT a CSEC assessment tool), and the Juvenile Sexual Offender Recidivism Risk Assessment Tool (J-SORRAT). The Noble software is integrated with JAMS to assist in the preparation of criminogenic needs based individualized case plans. JAMS data also populates court paperwork as necessary.

JAMS data fields include relevant personal demographic and social history information, as well as detail related to all detentions, placements, and juvenile probation referrals. Case management details are also tracked within JAMS, allowing HCPD to evaluate the implementation of evidence-based practices such as Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) for fidelity to the model and provide feedback to staff regarding performance and skill development. HCPD inputs information in the child welfare case management system to document activities with family finding and out of home placements.

The HCPD employs two Administrative Analysts who design custom reports from JAMS and other data sources within the county to present to MAJJCC, the JJDPC, and other interagency groups overseeing integrated programs and practices. These reports are used to inform the county System Improvement Plan (SIP) in improving out of home placement services and reunification efforts, applications for grants to address specific community service gaps, strategic planning, and updating the juvenile justice plan.

Reports regarding detention and referral trends, racial disproportionality, case outcomes, and recidivism are regularly shared with interested parties. Reports are also instrumental in workload and resource management. These reports identify opportunities to provide continuous quality improvement trainings.

## **B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils**

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

no

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

The Humboldt County Juvenile Justice Council meets regularly on a quarterly basis. Representatives include all statutorily described entities except for a community-based drug and alcohol program. There is no entity in Humboldt County that meets these criteria. Department of Health and Human Services Children's Behavioral Health is the only substance abuse disorder treatment provider for youth in the county and they are represented on the council.

## **C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements**

**No JJCPA Funded Programs were Reported**



**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.**

HCPD's New Horizons Program continues to offer a local detention behavioral modification program allowing local youth to remain in the county of jurisdiction and near family. The program is a secure in custody six-month treatment program with a broad array of services to address mental health, SUD, education, independent living skills, and Wraparound. Transitional re-entry planning supports youth and families through Wraparound services and intensive supervision upon release. Service providers offer a continuity of service while the youth participate in the detention and aftercare phases of the program. HCOE offers classes in the classroom setting while youth are detained, and this includes an Alcohol and Other Drug prevention and education course. The New Horizons Program includes aftercare as a continuity of service following the youth from detention to re-entry in the family home.

**B. Regional Agreements**

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

NA

**No YOBG Funded Programs were Reported**