

San Bernardino County
2023-2024
Public Safety Realignment Plan
Assembly Bill 109

Produced by
San Bernardino County Community Corrections Partnership
Executive Committee

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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

In April 2011, the California Legislature passed the Public Safety Realignment Act (Assembly Bills 109 and 117), which created a significant change to the California correctional system. Specifically, the Realignment Act transferred responsibility for incarcerating, supervising, and treating lower-level inmates and parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to the counties. Implementation took effect on October 1, 2011.

The tenets of the Realignment Act require that the state and counties use a data-driven approach to balance public safety and reduce recidivism. To accomplish this, a concerted effort has been made to invest in community corrections, evidence-based re-entry programs and services, as well as using alternative custody options.

This update, in conjunction with the annual Community Corrections Partnership Survey, affirms that San Bernardino County (County) continues to embrace the tenets of the Realignment Act and strives to implement innovative ways to reduce recidivism, foster public safety, and provide a path for our clients to become productive members of society.

San Bernardino County Community Corrections Partnership:

The fourteen-member Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) collaborates to prepare and develop an implementation plan (Plan) that will enable the County to meet the goals of the Realignment Act. The Plan is then voted on and approved by the CCP's Executive Committee who then provides recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors (Board). The Plan is deemed accepted unless the Board rejects the Plan with a four-fifths vote.

The CCP Executive Committee is currently comprised of the following:

- Chief Probation Officer (Chairperson)
- Chief of Police
- Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- Presiding Judge of the Superior Court or his/her designee
- Head of the Department of Social Services

SECTION 2

FISCAL INFORMATION – Fiscal Year 2023-24

The CCP approved allocation in the amount of \$144.6 million for the fiscal year (FY) 2023-24, which was distributed by the CCP amongst the member agencies with the understanding that all agencies are to provide a quarterly report on the financial activity and use of the realignment funds. The budgetary allocations were as follows:

Agency	2023-24 One-time AB109 Funding	2023-24 Ongoing AB109 Allocation	2023-24 Total AB109 Funding
Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator	25,765,000	76,392,786	102,157,786
Probation	5,393,205	50,891,203	56,284,408
District Attorney		4,958,695	4,958,695
Public Defender		3,602,170	3,602,170
Human Services (DBH and others)	1,429,600	8,283,673	9,713,273
Workforce Development		312,158	312,158
Law & Justice Group Administration		208,105	208,105
Total	32,587,805	144,648,790	177,236,595

SECTION 3

PROBATION

Research supports that a combination of systematic interventions and evidenced-based practices culminate in an overall reduction of recidivism. This premise represents a primary goal of the Probation Department's (Probation) community corrections efforts. While there continues to be challenges, such as the number of clients with increased diverse criminogenic and sociogenic needs, Probation remains dedicated to the mission of protecting the community by assisting clients in becoming productive members of society. Probation achieves this through progressive supervision strategies, proactive rehabilitative efforts, and collaborative efforts with stakeholders.

REALIGNMENT SERVICES PROVIDED:

- **Day Reporting Centers:** Located in three of the main regions of the County in the Cities of San Bernardino (Central Valley), Fontana (West Valley), and Victorville (High Desert), each Day Reporting Center (DRC) represents a multi-agency collaboration designed to reduce recidivism by identifying and addressing the factors that can often lead to re-offending. In essence, these centers are a "one-stop" concept that offers a variety of comprehensive treatment services to assist clients in successfully transitioning back into the community.

Each DRC provides opportunities for clients to receive services that address concerns such as substance abuse, physical and mental health issues, finding and maintaining employment, and resources for family needs. Probation Officers located at the DRCs play a significant role in coordinating services. A critical component for Probation Officers in the success of DRC functions is developing a rapport with clients and being part of a more significant support group. Other County agencies co-located at the DRCs include the following:

- Department of Behavioral Health (Behavioral Health)
- Transitional Assistance
- Workforce Development
- Department of Public Health

For example, the Department of Public Health has a Health Specialist assigned to the DRCs. This specialist provides educational services that include:

- Nutrition/Diabetes Management
- Tobacco, Alcohol, and Substance Abuse Education
- Basic Hygiene
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Education

Each DRC is also assigned a Correctional Nurse that provides additional medical services, including:

- Basic medical triage
- Blood pressure checks
- Diabetic checks
- Assistance with obtaining prescribed medications
- Physician referrals
- Dental referrals

Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and contracted agencies are also utilized at the DRCs to augment the available resources.

DRC functions include, but are not limited to, the following program components:

- Orientation upon release from prison or County jail
 - Classification via an evidenced-based risk and assessment tool
 - Development of a comprehensive treatment plan
 - Daily check-in with DRC staff
 - Individualized and group counseling
 - Substance abuse and alcohol testing
 - Anger management
 - Domestic violence curriculum
 - Cognitive and Life Skills Development
 - Parenting and family reintegration
 - Health screenings
 - Educational services and GED preparation
 - Budgeting and money management
 - Vocational training
 - Work programs
 - Discharge planning
 - Aftercare
- **Supervision:** In addition to the need for providing services and resources, Probation is also responsible for continuing supervision of offenders in the community and ensuring they meet their required terms and conditions. Over the years, with the increase in the community corrections population, as well as the diversity of client needs, Probation has continued to develop several specialty supervision units to address specific areas of concern and to better allow for targeted supervision based on particular risks and needs. These include, but are not limited to:

- Mental Health Supervision
- Treatment Courts
- Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
- Domestic Violence
- Sex Offender
- Homeless Outreach/Housing

ACCOMPLISHMENTS – Fiscal Year 2022-23:

- **Veterans Treatment Court:** A collaboration between the Veteran's Court/Treatment Court teams, the facilitation of classes began under the Courage to Change Curriculum for Veteran clients. The Classes are a 16-part series, typically three classes per week with approximately five students in each class, wherein each client is evaluated to determine their specific needs. The curriculum is then tailored to the individual.
- **Vocational Welding Program:** There were 55 graduates from the Welding certification program this year. The Welding Trailer is a mobile program that provides clients with the opportunity to earn industry recognized certifications throughout all areas of the County.
- **GED/HS Diploma through Five Keys Charter School:** There were 18 graduates who earned their general education/high school degrees across all County regions. Despite COVID restrictions in classrooms, Probation and Five Keys Charter School worked together to adjust and adapt to ensure students received educational services.
- **DRC Council:** The DRC Council is a representative focus group of Probation clients who meet quarterly to provide Probation with valuable insight regarding needs and services. The purpose of the DRC Council is to receive practical input to improve the quality of services, determine services that are not already provided that would be beneficial, and review barriers that prevent Probation clients from receiving services currently being offered. This year the DRC Council met on three different occasions to address issues and provide feedback in areas that most affect Probation clients and their programming.
- **Implementation of Optional Virtual Services and Classes:** Flexibility of virtual options allows for clients with various barriers to still receive rehabilitative services. Classes are in conjunction with various County partner agencies and include, but are not limited to: anger management, parenting classes, employment readiness, healthy life choices, and cognitive journaling. The virtual classes have been proctored out of the High Desert DRC, but the services have reached out to clients in all areas of the County to include Barstow, West Valley, and Central Valley.

- **Mobile Tattoo Removal Pilot Program:** This is a mobile program that covers all areas of the County and allows Probation clients who wish to have tattoos removed for improved confidence in their appearance. This opportunity can often provide a chance at a new life by allowing access to additional opportunities for employment and education that may have been prevented previously by their choice of body art. In FY 2022-23, the mobile tattoo service completed over 140 treatments to clients throughout the County.
- **Multi-dimensional Anti-recidivism Partnership:** Probation has been working to establish the Multi-dimensional Anti-recidivism Partnership (MAP) program as a collaboration that promotes client wellness and success through treatment and vocational programming.
 - A professional organization was contracted through a competitive procurement process to serve as Program Administrator and will operate the MAP facilities in selected regions within the County.
 - The goal of the MAP is to engage CBOs and treatment providers to offer services to justice involved clients from the Probation Department, as well as from allied County agencies. The Program Administrator will be charged with obtaining these services within the community to offer to our clients.
 - Clients will be referred to the MAP for assessment to help determine specific therapeutic services that will aid in changed behavior in the community and successful completion of probation.
 - Several trade and certification programs will also be available to obtain certification and job placement services.
 - Probation is in the process of obtaining properties to facilitate the growth of the MAP program in several main regions of the County, as well as satellite campuses in Barstow, Joshua Tree, and Needles.
 - Real Estate Services and Probation are in the process of obtaining lease agreements for properties in the City of San Bernardino and the City of Ontario that will host the MAP program.
 - Probation is collaborating with Real Estate Services to locate properties in the cities of Joshua Tree and Needles that will host the MAP program.
 - Probation is in the process of renovating a property in the City of Barstow that will host the MAP program.
- **Linking Homeless Clients to Housing Opportunities:** From July 2022 through June 2023, Probation has provided temporary housing to approximately 444 clients through our seventeen (17) Housing Provider contracts.

- **Community Action Response Engagement Program:** The Community Action Response Engagement (CARE) Program was developed to assist our local Law Enforcement partners in improving the delivery of services and resources to the homeless and vulnerable client population. CARE was launched in January 2022, and by January 2023, the Program expanded to include four (4) Probation Officers assigned to local city law enforcement agencies.
 - Since July 2022, CARE officers assisted with Shelter Court events and Quality of Life operations focused on the homeless population. For example, in July 2022, a Shelter Court event allowed thirty (30) homeless individuals to clear one hundred (100) court cases, which are often barriers to receiving services. CARE Officers further assist their local agencies in community outreach events developed to increase communication, education, and the delivery of services to their communities. The teams collaborate with community and religious based organizations for the delivery of resources. CARE Officer activities also include drug awareness presentations and assisting individuals with housing opportunities and detox/rehabilitation programs. They are committed to improving the quality of life in our communities by providing resources, assistance with housing, referrals for mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and basic hygiene needs.

- **Homeless Outreach Events:** Officers from the Homeless Outreach Unit planned, coordinated, and participated in numerous events throughout the year to help “at risk” community members stabilize themselves through treatment and services offered. A sampling of such events include:
 - Shelter Court: A collaboration between Probation and the Courts wherein a temporary courtroom is set up in a local community location to allow homeless clients the ability to deal with outstanding court concerns. During the last fiscal year, Shelter Courts were held in San Bernardino, Victorville, and Redlands where approximately 200 clients were served and over 400 court cases were heard and mitigated.
 - Resource Fairs were held in the cities of Fontana and Colton.
 - In October 2022, the Homeless Outreach Unit provided resources and housing opportunities for those who lost housing during the 340 W. 4th Street Building closure in conjunction with San Bernardino City Deputy Director of Housing & Homelessness and City of San Bernardino Community & Economic Development.
 - Participation in Feed the Hungry Homeless Event with the County Department of Behavioral Health, County Community Action Partnership, and Ministerios Rey de Gloria.

- During FY 2022-23, there were over 3,500 reported homeless contacts made. Our Homeless Outreach Unit engaged the community by providing services through our onsite DRCs, which include housing services, medical services, workforce development classes, transitional assistance, providing clothing and hygiene items, and food incentive cards.

GOALS - Fiscal Year 2023-24:

1. Continue to advance toward implementation of MAP throughout selected areas of the County in order to offer a comprehensive multidimensional rehabilitative and community integration program that seeks to develop long-term, self-sustaining, social, and independent living skills among justice involved individuals through treatment, vocational training, and personal development opportunities.
2. Continue to increase accessibility for clients to vocational/educational programs at the DRCs, through MAP, and through frequent collaboration with external partners, CBOs, and other qualified agencies.
3. Continue to decrease the potential for recidivism in the justice involved homeless population by linking them to housing opportunities and conducting homeless outreach events throughout the County.
4. Increase bed capacity with our housing provider contracts.

SECTION 4

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The Choosing Healthy Options to Instill Change and Empowerment (CHOICE) program provides mental health services to Probation clients with severe mental illness (SMI) and substance use disorder (SUD) within San Bernardino County.

CHOICE is funded through the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Behavioral Health allocation of AB109 funding, serving Probation clients located throughout the West Valley Region, Central Valley Region, and High Desert Region of the County.

REALIGNMENT SERVICES PROVIDED:

- **Day Reporting Centers:** The CHOICE program is co-located in the three County Probation Day Reporting Centers (DRC) in Fontana, San Bernardino, and Victorville. CHOICE also offers intensive mental health treatment for those probation clients deemed as needing a higher level of care in the Adult Forensic Services (AFS) Clinic, located in Colton.

The CHOICE program design enables “whole-person care” in one convenient location for Probation clients with mental health needs. Probation and the CHOICE program work collaboratively to ensure clients receive optimal results with minimal access barriers and reduction in recidivism, while addressing an individual’s mental health, substance use, case management needs, and housing. Additionally, the efforts of the CHOICE program aid justice involved individuals by providing support and encouraging seamless transitions into their communities, promoting overall health, and success for each individual justice involved client served.

Mental health services include, but are not limited to, screening and assessment, development of individualized recovery plans, individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, and case management services. Additionally, SUD services include, but are not limited to screening and assessments, treatment plan development, individual and group counseling, relapse and recovery support, case management support and linkage to appropriate levels of care.

- **Barstow Probation Office and Joshua Tree Probation Office:** For the Barstow CHOICE population, Victorville DRC staff continue to successfully screen and link clients to Barstow Counseling Center for mental health and SUD services. Previous allocation of CCP funds for the Barstow CHOICE program were reincorporated into the overall CHOICE program to allow for continued service delivery for the AFS population in Barstow. The Joshua Tree Probation Office offers SUD Supplemental Services through the Triage Engagement and Support Team (TEST) program, which includes an Alcohol and Drug Counselor and a General Service Worker II.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS - Fiscal Year 2022-23:

- CHOICE program at each DRC transitioned to a walk-in model five days a week to increase client engagement and reduce wait times to meet with a treatment provider.
- Established a Telehealth option for individuals in Victorville in order to decrease travel to Psychiatric appointments.
- CHOICE referrals and active caseload continue to support Probation clients in need of mental health and SUD treatment. Additionally, CHOICE was able to successfully support the transportation needs of an increased number of clients actively participating in treatment.

FY 2022--23 CHOICE MH Mental Health and SUD Data				
Month/Year	Number of Referrals	Mental Health Active Caseload	SUD Active Caseload	Client Transports
July-22	253	248	12	345
August-22	222	244	13	374
September-22	250	248	15	252
October-22	252	274	24	392
November-22	204	274	17	336
December-22	183	136	14	184
January-23	221	140	15	215
February-23	184	143	15	211
March-23	171	136	21	501
April-23	184	114	25	253
May-23	170	116	17	308
June-23	256	249	14	412
AVERAGE	212.5	193.5	16.8	315.3

- CHOICE offered multiple rehabilitative activities of daily living groups as well as outpatient SUD treatment groups and relapse and recovery education groups at DRC locations:
 - In FY 2022-23,
 - CHOICE programs facilitated 232 mental health groups with a total of 1,164 participants: 163 SUD groups with 765 attendees in total, and 93 educational groups with a total of 628 participants.
 - 4 clients were enrolled into college and nineteen linked to workforce development, with 4 clients receiving special certification in forklift and/or welding, and 9 clients obtaining employment.
 - 17 clients completed probation while receiving CHOICE services.
 - 8 clients completed residential substance use treatment.
 - CHOICE placed 212 clients in need of immediate housing in emergency shelter beds throughout the County.

GOALS - Fiscal Year 2023-24:

- With the AB109 FY 2023-24 on-going funding, CHOICE San Bernardino DRC will be expanding its service provision to include an outpatient SUD treatment clinic to provide care coordination and recovery services to those probation clients with a SUD need or co-occurring diagnosis. In addition, recovery residences and residential treatment beds will be added and made available to this population through a procurement process.
- CHOICE DRC's will increase the SUD treatment caseloads by 50%.
- SUD counselors will provide screenings at MAP sites for 100% of those referred.
- Additional one-time funding will be used to purchase eight (8) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Passenger Vans to increase access to services and remove transportation barriers.
- Continue to assist clients with obtaining and maintaining sustainable housing for 95% of those unsheltered to decrease the potential for recidivism in the justice involved homeless population.
- Hire and fill vacancies to maintain 80% of staffing over the next year.

SECTION 5

SHERIFF/CORONER/PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

Since the passage of AB109, the San Bernardino County Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator (Sheriff) jail system has faced many challenges, including changes in the inmate population. To better serve this population, the Sheriff has expanded services to current and former incarcerated individuals, their families, and communities to help facilitate positive change. The Sheriff has focused on adding medical and mental health staff and services, including the addition of 110 medical and mental health positions. In addition, the Sheriff uses AB109 funds to provide transportation services to inmates upon release to connect them with resources and services.

These services will continue to expand moving forward to ensure public safety and a prosperous future for all residents of the County.

Highlights - Fiscal Year 2022-23:

Mental Health Services

One of the challenges the Sheriff faces is the increased need for mental health services within the correctional system. Since 2016, the Sheriff contracted with Liberty Healthcare Corporation (Liberty) to provide correctional mental health services in detention centers.

West Valley Detention Center (WVDC) saw an increase in beds designated to house seriously mentally ill inmates from approximately 80 beds in 2022-23 to over 1,500 beds in 2022-23. With a rated total capacity of 3,315 beds, 48% (1,591 beds) of WVDC housing are designated for inmates with mental health needs, including seriously mentally ill (SMI) inmates. In 2022, Liberty staff focused on enhancing and improving the delivery of mental health services with a specific emphasis on providing services in a private, confidential setting. In addition, Liberty enhanced a variety of other program elements, including comprehensive treatment plans for all inmates receiving mental health services, modifying the discipline process to permit additional consideration of mental health issues when determining sanctions, ongoing expansion of available mental health services, and finally, an improved, structured approach to ongoing quality improvement plans. To accomplish this, a series of Continuous Quality Improvement studies have been implemented to develop best practices as the population of inmates with mental health needs continues to grow each year. Liberty also expanded recruitment efforts to fill vacant mental health positions.

The Sheriff received additional AB109 funding in 2022-23 to provide safety staffing for mental health appointments and structured programming for SMI inmates in detention facilities and to provide medical transportation.

Population Management Unit

With the implementation of AB109, the County has seen increases in “higher-level” inmate populations (those more prone to violence and with different levels of criminal

sophistication). The state has implemented numerous legislative and policy changes, which has caused classification issues. In the past, certain classifications of inmates could be housed together as “general population.” This is no longer effective, and now there are several classifications within the general population, including protective custody and SMI. Many of these classifications must now be housed separately, which takes up bed space (i.e., cells that were once capable of accommodating two inmates can only be used to house one inmate in many facilities).

In October 2022, the Sheriff reopened operation of Housing Unit 1 at the High Desert Detention Center (HDDC) by closing the M1 and M2 housing units at Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center (GHRC), redeploying deputies, and transferring inmates from M1 and other areas of GHRC to HDDC. M1 and M2 have a combined bed capacity of 480; however, those units cannot be fully utilized due to classification issues. In addition, the Detention and Corrections Bureau consistently receives inmates with pre-existing medical and mental health ailments. Currently, these inmates are only housed at WVDC due to staffing levels. Expanding bed space at HDDC will assist with dividing resources while improving treatment options.

In 2022-23, the inmate population in San Bernardino County was further impacted by two key areas: public health mandates and state prison protocols. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation began accepting people sentenced to state prisons again, whereas before, inmates would remain in County detention centers due to COVID-19 restrictions. In addition, public health mandates that once required County inmates to be segregated due to COVID-19 related quarantines have been lifted. These actions have contributed to the County’s overall jail population remaining near 72% of maximum capacity. However, the number of inmates suffering from mental illness continues to rise, as does the number of inmates detained under civil commitments. These special populations make population management more challenging as their presence limits the space available to general population inmates. In 2023-24, with COVID-19 restrictions largely ended in jails, and courts resuming full caseloads, the Population Management Unit expects jail populations to continue to rise.

Community Service and Reentry Division

On July 3, 2021, the Sheriff formed the Community Service and Reentry Division (CSRD). CSRD aims to look at rehabilitation holistically, offering intensive psychotherapeutic, vocational, and self-development programming while inmates are in custody, as well as providing former inmates with continued programming and services following their return to the community. CSRD also oversees community-based outreach teams who work with the unhoused and seriously mentally ill populations across the County.

Family Attachment Intervention Through Healing Solutions

In 2020-21, the Sheriff partnered with three area universities to bring the Family Attachment Intervention Through Healing Solutions (FAITHS) program to the incarcerated population. FAITHS operates under the umbrella of CSRD and delivers evidence-based, psychotherapeutic rehabilitative programming to the justice involved

population, both during incarceration and following their return to the community. While the Inmate Welfare Fund initially funded FAITHS, it is now fully supported by AB109 funds.

In 2022-23, FAITHS served 549 participants across multiple forms of rehabilitative programming. Of these participants, 361 completed FAITHS programs/courses, which vary based on each participant's need. Program/courses include Custody to Community (C2C), Trauma Recovery and Family Relations classes, Teaching and Loving Kids (TALK), pregnancy support programs, and more. In 2022, several FAITHS staff were certified as Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) Lead Trainers and have certified 46 staff members on the use of ORAS. FAITHS intends to consistently train any incoming interns and interested Sheriff staff to promote assessment sustainability into the future. In addition, the FAITHS/CSRD partnership was selected in a national level competitive process to serve as a Criminal Justice Mental Health Learning Site by the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the Bureau of Justice Assistance. As one of only ten programs selected from across the nation, the FAITHS/CSRD partnership will now be showcased at a national level and serve as a model for others on effectively working with the mental health impacted, justice involved population.

In 2022-23, CSRD added new or expanded programs, including:

- (1) Addition of a Deputy Sheriff and a Social Worker to the Sheriff's Transitional Assistance Reentry Team (START). START provides reentry services to those exiting incarceration. These services include vital document services, housing, transportation, and connections to partners and services such as the Probation Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (2) Expanded partnership with the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools to add additional vocational instructors and establish a new literacy program that partners incarcerated parents with their children to build literacy.
- (3) Expanded partnership with Five Keys Charter School to offer high school education at all four of the County's Type II correctional facilities, based on CSRD data showing nearly 65% of the incarcerated population have not completed high school.
- (4) Developed a partnership with the San Bernardino County Fire District and the Department of Behavioral Health to launch a Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST) to serve the seriously mentally ill population. On June 13, 2023 (Item No. 90), the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding for the program.
- (5) Continued to develop and implement new FAITHS programming to serve the incarcerated population and analyze data in response to Board Resolution 2020-03, affirming that racism is a public health crisis. In 2022-23, FAITHS completed a Custody to Community pilot program that provided intense psychotherapeutic programming to the justice involved population while in custody, then continued

those services following their release. Over 80% of FAITHS participants have not been reincarcerated since the program started. FAITHS continues to work with outside providers to develop a fatherhood engagement program that will launch in 2023-24.

During 2022-23, the Homeless Outreach Proactive Enforcement (HOPE) team continued to work with the unhoused population across the County, making 3,061 contacts with unhoused persons and successfully housing 360 individuals. The San Bernardino County 2023 Point-in-Time Count (PITC) showed homelessness continued to rise, with a homeless population increase of over 25.9% between 2022 and 2023, and an increase of over 98.1% between 2018 and 2023. Of the unsheltered population counted during the 2023 PITC, 22.9% reported incarceration in the past year. HOPE staff report that approximately 75% of unhoused individuals they encounter have been incarcerated at some point in their lives. Because a significant portion of this population also has mental health and substance use disorders, the Department of Behavioral Health has assigned a Clinical Therapist and part-time Drug and Alcohol Counselor to assist the team.

The Innovative Remote Onsite Assistance Delivery (InnROADS) teams work with the seriously mentally ill unhoused population and provide on-site medical and mental health stabilization services. This partnership involves the Department of Behavioral Health, the Department of Public Health, and the Department of Aging and Adult Services. During 2022-23, InnROADS teams made 3,689 contacts across the County and provided services to 1,828 individuals.

Efforts to impact the realigned population is one of the Sheriff's Transitional Assistance Reentry Team (START) missions. START works entirely within the correctional system to provide services to inmates who may be unhoused, have mental health issues, substance use disorders, or simply need supportive services. Since 2021-22, at the request of the Sheriff, START has tracked their contacts with AB109 realigned inmates, and of the 2,593 inmates served by START during 2022-23, 218 were AB109 realigned inmates.

GOALS - Fiscal Year 2023-24:

For 2023-24, Sheriff received additional AB109 funding to expand staffing at the HDDC, which was designed as a full booking facility for both male and female inmates and allows inmate programming to occur in each housing unit. It is also equipped with a complete dental and medical ward to conduct X-rays and perform dental work. In addition, the housing pods allow multiple classifications to be housed in one unit. Each housing unit has a medical exam room providing for medical treatment without the inmate having to leave the unit, allowing for better medical care and fewer security issues; each housing unit has two classrooms designed to allow multiple classes to be given at one time without mixing inmate classifications and provides the ability to do more programming, including mental health services. HDDC provides the capacity to house SMI, seriously mentally ill lockdown (SMIL), and higher medical acuity inmates in a dorm-like setting; and has the ability to close off a segment to allow for protective custody, if necessary. In addition, expanding HDDC provides the ability to have inmates with Court hearings in the High

Desert to be housed in the High Desert, reducing the cost of transportation, as well as providing better access to visiting family members. The Sheriff also received additional funding to purchase a new prisoner transport bus and to set up a reserve to build a future infirmary.

In 2023-24, CSRD will focus on the roles and services of the division's outreach teams: HOPE, InnRoads, and START. The outreach operations, which are not funded by AB109 but serve the realigned population, continue to work with those experiencing homelessness or undertreated mental health and substance use disorders, whether in the field or during incarceration. CSRD continues to grow and work toward a broader range of programs and services for the hardest-to-serve populations. CSRD will work to further align the goals of outreach operations with the larger goals of the Sheriff and the County, including:

- (1) Expand FAITHS programming. As the Sheriff's primary contracted rehabilitative service provider, FAITHS is continually asked to develop and implement additional programming. Additional clinical and support staff are required to continue to fulfill this expectation.
- (2) Expand outreach efforts to work with the unhoused, seriously mentally ill, and justice involved populations. To meet this goal, CSRD aims to increase staffing in outreach and support teams and build additional partnerships.
- (3) Partner with Department of Behavioral Health to develop business processes and implement an Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program in response to the County opting into Laura's Law in 2022-23. AOT programs will allow staff to refer seriously mentally ill persons who are resistant to treatment to special courts that can order treatment and service paths.
- (4) Launch the Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST) pilot program. The COAST team, approved in 2022-23 by the Board, is a collaborative team working with seriously mentally ill persons and those in mental health crisis. This team will relieve uniformed patrol officers of this duty, freeing them up for urgent public safety roles, while delivering clinical services to those in need.
- (5) Complete contracts with Helping Hearts to provide mental health recuperative care services to the post-release justice involved population who suffer from mild to moderate mental illness.

SECTION 6

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

When AB109 was signed into law by Governor Brown in 2011, the responsibilities of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's office increased significantly.

Highlights – Fiscal Year 2022-23

Additional Staffing due to Increased Litigation

One of the challenges that the District Attorney (DA) faces is meeting AB109 requirements for Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) and Parole Revocation Hearings. The volume of these hearings steadily increased following the passage of AB109 in 2011. As the DA reported in 2012, the average number of hearings was 155 per month. In 2013, it more than doubled to 365 hearings per month. After July 1, 2013, when parole revocation became an activity handled by the DA, the department started to experience increases averaging over 385 monthly hearings. These cases have continued to increase annually, as have caseloads resulting from individuals previously sentenced to prison who now receive probation or County prison sentences. Since 2012, the DA has added positions such as deputy attorneys, paralegals, investigators, victim advocates, clerical and support staff. Many of the additional clerical and support staff were approved in January 2022. FY 2022-23 saw the implementation of the additional staff addressing the increased workload and providing needed services.

In 2022-23, the DA was able to keep up with the increased workload created by AB109. For example, the Office Assistant III staff assisted victims of crime through various processes, including processing documents for reimbursements due to victimization. While case filings are increasing, cases are not settling at the same rate as had occurred before the passage of AB109. Specifically, due to jail overcrowding, defendants and their attorneys opt to take cases to trial or further litigate matters, possibly with the knowledge of limited available jail space. At times, matters will progress to trial simply because of disagreements between parties, such as sending a defendant to state prison versus County jail/prison. Staff assisted victims through these challenges.

In January 2022, clerical staff were reorganized, which reorganization allowed the DA to meet Penal Code Section 1054 et seq. requirements to provide discovery to defense counsel.

The DA continued to provide support to victims of crime through its Victim Advocates, who provided support to victims of crime both in-court and in other capacities. With the jail overcrowding described above, defendants in cases involving victims of crime that would normally be housed in state prison can now potentially be sent to County prison. This increased population in local jails means that in cases of traditionally lower-severity victim crimes (such as many domestic violence cases), defendants are released sooner than they would otherwise have been prior to the imposition of AB109. Victim Advocates within the DA spent additional time explaining court processes, the current status (i.e., capacity issues) of the jail system, and the likelihood of defendants being released earlier,

as a result. Additionally, Victim Advocates assisted victims of crime in registering for the National Victim Notification Network (VINELink) program. Victim Advocates currently process more claims for assistance in shorter timeframes than they have done in the past (including processes for relocation of victims and other such services), given the possibility of early releases for defendants.

The Department also expanded its police-based victim advocacy program by assigning advocates to city police departments and the Sheriff's Department because the Sheriff's Department does not employ their own advocates. This program has allowed the DA to provide services to victims of crime sooner than in the past.

GOALS - Fiscal Year 2023-24

Further assistance for Victims

The DA will continue to work on steps already taken to locate and reestablish contact with victims of crime to distribute stale-dated Court-ordered restitution collected from defendants. Over time, contact with victims can be lost when victims change names and move locations without leaving a forwarding address. The DA has been working with the Auditor-Controller's Revenue Recovery Division to identify outstanding restitution due to victims of crime, conducting research to locate victims, and arranging for victims to receive the restitution funds.

Additionally, the DA will continue to develop a portal to its case management system for applicable County departments to research victims' contact information and for victims to provide their current contact information. If these County departments can reestablish contact with victims prior to the restitution becoming stale-dated, it will reduce the DA's workload to locate victims and verify the restitution amounts.

SECTION 7

PUBLIC DEFENDER

The Public Defender (PD) allocates its AB109 funding to improve its client's ability to transition from County jail detention to the community. By strategically allocating human and technical resources, the PD seeks to avoid the release of clients into the community without access to appropriate resources and support services. To do so, PD attorneys identify vulnerable and underserved clients who may benefit from social services and support. Attorneys then refer each client to PD's social service practitioner team which coordinates with service providers, such as Behavioral Health, Probation, and Veterans Affairs to assist clients with accessing housing resources, substance abuse programs, transportation services, health care, and other support services. The process requires significant information sharing, which, in part, is coordinated by PD's Office Assistants. By prioritizing early needs assessments, PD staff work diligently to connect clients to services to prevent vulnerability impediment to success.

PD's commitment to holistic representation enables its clients to begin the process of change. The holistic and client-centered approach facilitates early needs assessments, allowing clients to benefit from support services, diversion programs, and other opportunities to exit the criminal justice system and regain stability in the community. Knowledgeable, responsive, and experienced PD staff improve client well-being and provide a roadmap to access social services that will decrease recidivism and improve the safety of our communities. Realignment funds the process of change within PD's office.

SECTION 8
SUMMARY

As the State of California continues to transition to local agency responsibility for monitoring populations historically supervised by state entities, the CCP will continue to address changes as needed with the funding provided. Undoubtedly, this is a population with diverse and complicated needs, which often requires more and varied resources than the historical local community corrections population. As such, the County CCP will continue to monitor and adjust opportunities to provide the best service to all residents of the County. By addressing the holistic needs of individual justice involved adults and providing them the services and supervision most amenable to the successful reintegration into the community, the CCP will continue to work together to balance public safety and reduce recidivism.

County agencies and community stakeholders collaborate to provide these services and have developed unique and evidence-based solutions. It is the goal of the CCP to assist all justice involved persons with respect, to offer focused and appropriate services, and provide the opportunity for individuals to succeed in a pro-social manner.

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

October 3, 2023

FROM

TRACY REECE, Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department

SUBJECT

San Bernardino County 2023-24 Public Safety Realignment Plan also Known as the Community Corrections Partnership Plan

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Accept and approve the San Bernardino County 2023-24 Public Safety Realignment Plan, also known as the Community Corrections Partnership Plan, consistent with the reporting requirements of Assembly Bill 109, to be submitted to the State of California’s Board of State and Community Corrections.

(Presenter: Tracy Reece, Chief Probation Officer, 387-5692)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Promote the Countywide Vision.

Provide for the Safety, Health and Social Service Needs of County Residents.

Pursue County Goals and Objectives by Working with Other Agencies and Stakeholders.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approval of this item will not result in the use of Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost). The Budget Act of 2023 (Senate Bill 101) provides an ongoing allocation of \$144,648,791 and \$32,587,805 in one-time funding for community projects that benefit the re-entry population, as Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Plan Implementation Grant funds that were included in the 2023-24 Budget as listed below.

Department	2023-24 One-time AB109 Funding	2023-24 Ongoing AB109 Allocation	2023-24 Total AB109 Funding
Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator	\$25,765,000*	\$76,392,786	\$102,157,786
Probation	\$5,393,205	\$50,891,203	\$56,284,408
District Attorney		\$4,958,695	\$4,958,695
Public Defender		\$3,602,170	\$3,602,170
Human Services	\$1,429,600	\$8,283,674	\$9,713,274
Workforce Development		\$312,158	\$312,158
Law & Justice Group Administration		\$208,105	\$208,105
Total	\$32,587,805	\$144,648,791	\$177,236,596

*Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator (Sheriff) one-time funding includes \$25,000,000 placed in a reserve for a potential West Valley Detention Center infirmary.

**San Bernardino County 2023-24 Public Safety Realignment Plan also
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On April 4, 2011, Governor Edmund G. Brown signed Assembly Bill (AB) 109, the Public Safety Realignment Act, which created a significant change to the California correctional system. Specifically, AB109 transferred responsibility for incarcerating, supervising, and treating lower-level inmates and parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to counties, beginning on October 1, 2011.

The tenets of the Public Safety Realignment Act require that the state and counties use a data-driven approach to balance public safety and reduce recidivism. To accomplish this, a concerted effort has been made to invest in community corrections, evidence-based re-entry programs and services, as well as alternative custody options.

On September 27, 2011 (Item No. 102), the San Bernardino County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the first CCP Plan pursuant to AB109. The State of California Annual Budget Act requires counties to submit an updated CCP Plan and a CCP Survey to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) annually by December of each calendar year. For 2023-24, Senate Bill 101 requires counties to submit an updated CCP Plan and a CCP Survey to the BSCC by December 15, 2023. The CCP Survey, which does not require Board approval, provides information about the actual implementation of the County's 2022-23 updated CCP Plan. Additionally, the CCP Survey includes plans for the 2023-24 allocation of funds, including future outcome measures, programs and services, and funding priorities. The CCP reviews the CCP Survey annually prior to submission to the BSCC.

The CCP roles and purpose are established in Penal Code Section 1230 and sets forth membership composition. The County's CCP Executive Committee is comprised of the following:

- Chief Probation Officer (Chairperson)
- Chief of Police
- Sheriff
- A County Supervisor or the Chief Executive Officer or a designee of the Board
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- Presiding Judge of the Superior Court or his/her designee
- Head of the Department of Human Services

The Head of the Department of Human Services can be a representative from either a social service, mental health, or alcohol and substance abuse program department, as appointed by the Board. In addition, a County Supervisor, the Chief Executive Officer, or a designee of the Board may be appointed to the Executive Committee. On March 1, 2022 (Item No. 30), the Board appointed the Assistant Executive Officer of Department Operations, as the Head of the Department of Human Services, to the CCP Executive Committee and the County Chief Financial Officer to fulfill the role of the member representing a County Supervisor, Chief Executive Officer, or a designee of the Board for the County.

On December 13, 2022 (Item No. 47), the Board approved the County's 2022-23 CCP Plan, in conjunction with the annual CCP Survey, which affirmed that the County continued to embrace the tenets of the Public Safety Realignment Act and strived to implement innovative ways to reduce recidivism, foster public safety, and provide a path for clients to become viable members

**San Bernardino County 2023-24 Public Safety Realignment Plan also
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of society. The proposed 2023-24 CCP Plan continues the County's commitment to the tenants of the Public Safety Realignment Act and includes goals of participating County departments.

The Probation Department will continue to advance toward the implementation of the Multi-dimensional Anti-recidivism Partnership (MAP) Program throughout selected areas of the County to offer a comprehensive rehabilitative and community integration program and continue to increase accessibility for clients to vocational/education programs with frequent collaboration with community-based organizations, external partners, and other qualified agencies. Also, the Probation Department will continue to decrease the potential for recidivism in the justice involved homeless population by linking them to housing opportunities and conducting homeless outreach events throughout the County and attempt to increase bed capacity with current housing provider contracts.

The Department of Behavioral Health will continue to expand Choosing Healthy Options to Instill Change and Empowerment (CHOICE) program services to include an outpatient substance use disorder (SUD) treatment clinic providing justice involved clients' care and recovery services.

The Sheriff received additional AB109 funding that will allow the expansion of staffing at the High Desert Detention Center (HDDC), which was designed as a full booking facility for both male and female inmates and allows inmate programming to occur in each housing unit. It is equipped with a complete dental and medical ward to conduct x-rays and perform dental work; the housing pods allow multiple classifications to be housed in one unit. Each housing unit has a medical exam room providing for medical treatment without inmates having to leave the unit, two classrooms designed to allow multiple classes to be given at one time without mixing inmate classifications and provides the ability to do more programming, including mental health services. HDDC provides the capacity to house seriously mentally ill (SMI), SMI lockdown, and higher medical acuity inmates in a dorm-like setting; and is designed to close off a segment to allow for protective custody, if necessary. In addition, expanding HDDC provides the ability to have inmates with Court hearings in the High Desert to be housed in the High Desert, reducing the cost of transportation, as well as providing better access to visiting family members.

The District Attorney (DA) will continue to develop a case management system portal for applicable County departments to research victims' contact information and for victims to update contact information. Providing County departments the ability to reestablish contact with victims prior to restitution checks becoming stale-dated will reduce DA workload to locate victims and verify restitution amounts.

The Public Defender (PD) will continue to improve its clients' ability to transition from County detention to the community. By strategically allocating staff and technical resources, the PD seeks to avoid the release of clients into the community without access to appropriate resources and support services.

The CCP and its Executive Committee collaborate to provide funding and programming recommendations to the Board for the various components of the CCP Plan. The CCP will continue to advise, monitor, and adjust opportunities to provide the best service to all residents of the County. By addressing the holistic needs of justice involved individuals and providing services and supervision most amenable to the successful reintegration into the community, the CCP will continue to work together to balance public safety and reduce recidivism.

PROCUREMENT

**San Bernardino County 2023-24 Public Safety Realignment Plan also
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N/A

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by the Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator (Carolina Mendoza, Sheriff Financial Manager, 387-3431) on August 31, 2023; District Attorney (Claudia Walker, Administrative Chief, 382-7689) on September 5, 2023; Department of Behavioral Health (Alyce Belford, Deputy Director, 418-0889) on September 5, 2023; Public Defender (Diana Lovelace, Chief of Administration, 382-3943) on September 5, 2023; County Counsel (Maria Insixiengmay, Deputy County Counsel, 387-5455) on September 7, 2023; Finance (Kathleen Gonzalez, Administrative Analyst, 387-5412) on September 19, 2023; and County Finance and Administration (Robert Saldana, Deputy Executive Officer, 387-4342) on September 19, 2023.

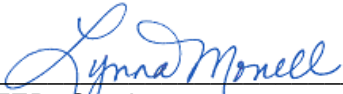
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Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County

APPROVED (CONSENT CALENDAR)

Moved: Curt Hagman Seconded: Joe Baca, Jr.
Ayes: Col. Paul Cook (Ret.), Jesse Armendarez, Dawn Rowe, Curt Hagman, Joe Baca, Jr.

Lynna Monell, CLERK OF THE BOARD

BY 
DATED: October 3, 2023



cc: File - Probation Department w/ attach
jm 10/12/2023