

# Proposition 47 Grant Program, Cohort 2

Funded by: California Board of State and Community Corrections  
FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

**Reducing** Recidivism. **Building** Protective Factors. **Changing** Lives.



Prop 47

Grantee: Corona Norco Unified School District, Norco, California

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Reporting Period: August 15, 2019 – December 31, 2022

Prepared by: SPSG, Inc.

May 15, 2023

# FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

## 1. Executive Summary

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*CNUSD's Prop 47 program organized and mobilized the community using a data-driven strategy that ensures resources are directed toward effectively reducing juvenile recidivism rates.*

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The Corona-Norco Unified School District (CNUSD) applied for and received the Proposition 47 Grant from the California Board of State and Community Corrections. Pursuant to Proposition 47, the purpose of this grant is to provide mental health services, substance use disorder treatment and diversion programs for juveniles and young adults involved with the criminal justice system. The grant program may also provide, based on participant needs, housing-

related assistance and other community-based supportive services, including job skills training, case management and civil legal services. The Prop 47 grant program began on August 15, 2019, and ended on December 31, 2022. The grant period includes three phases: 1) Implementation: August 15, 2019 through December 31, 2019; 2) Service Delivery: January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022; and 3) Final Evaluation: January 1, 2023 through May 15, 2023. The project grew from a collaborative effort among key stakeholders in our community who now make up the Local Advisory Committee (LAC). To design a project that met both the community's needs as well as the grant requirements, CNUSD conducted an Environmental Scan and Needs Assessment, and then utilized a Logic Model to align project activities with needs and gaps in service and infrastructure. In completing the environmental scan, a SWOT analysis was performed: *Strengths*, *Weaknesses*, *Opportunities*, and *Threats*. We reviewed data to identify trends and patterns in crime rates as well as population projections, to help identify the potential magnitude of juvenile offenders and related problems if intervention

and prevention methods were not enhanced and expanded over the next three years. Demographic information to measure the risk factors known to contribute to youth violence and delinquent behavior was collected to identify appropriate interventions for the challenges facing the families in our community, as well as identify strengths and resources within our community. This information included data on family make up, education levels, exposure to violence, mental health, substance abuse, homeless and foster youth, crime, and school records (truancy, school discipline, youth risk behavior survey). CNUSD reviewed several evidence-based programs, practices, and strategies to identify which ones would best serve their population. After conducting these exercises, CNUSD was able to clearly articulate their vision for this project and respond to the Prop 47 program with a plan predominantly focused on prevention and intervention. CNUSD's Prop 47 initiative, which is ongoing, is community-wide in scope, includes broad community involvement in planning and delivery, and employs integrated outreach support and services. The Prop 47 grant program utilized a data-driven strategy that ensures resources are directed toward effectively preventing juvenile recidivism and its associated criminal activity.

This Final Evaluation Report includes information on the project accomplishments, progress towards intended goals, and how identified obstacles were addressed based on the information provided to the evaluator. The reporting timeframe for this report begins on January 1, 2020, and concludes on December 31, 2022.

## 2. Project Background

### 2.A Prop 47 Project Information

The Corona-Norco Unified School District (CNUSD), located 45 miles southeast of Los Angeles in Riverside County, is the largest school district in Riverside County and the tenth largest in California. As a large urban school district with approximately 54,000 students in 50 schools, CNUSD serves a diverse student population, which includes 53% Hispanic, 26% White, 10% Asian, 6% African American, and 3% Filipino. Forty-seven percent of CNUSD students are eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and 14% are classified as English Learners. CNUSD serves the cities of Corona, Norco and Eastvale.

The need for our project is driven by both the number of youth and young adults involved with the criminal justice system and gaps in current services prior to this grant. As of January 31, 2019, 386 CNUSD students were on formal probation, with an additional 71 students also being supervised (informal probation) by a Deputy Probation Officer. Crime reports from our law enforcement partners

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*The need for our project is driven by both the number of youth and young adults involved with the criminal justice system and gaps in current services.*

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revealed significant increases in juvenile crime of 55% compared to previous years.<sup>1</sup> The following identifies CNUSD students involved with the criminal justice system in 2018: 971 citations, 782 arrests, 89 sentenced to juvenile detention, 12 sentenced to juvenile camps, and 3 incarcerations.<sup>2</sup> Of significant concern was the indoctrination of middle school and high school students

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<sup>1</sup> Crime reports provided by the Corona Police Department and Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2015 - 2017

<sup>2</sup> Riverside County Department of Probation.



into gang life. Gang Membership in our communities increased 20% over the four years prior to this application, creating a severe problem. CNUSD's discipline records mirrored the trends identified by juvenile crime records, showing a 92% increase in suspensions from the 2015/16 school year to 2016/17 (876 to 1,680). CNUSD saw an increase of 408% in behavioral problems related to alcohol or drugs over the same time period (63 to 320). CNUSD serves a large population of foster and homeless youth. Prior to our grant, 59% of these students were involved with the juvenile justice system. This is particularly concerning considering the increase in students in foster care ending up in prison as noted in current research and literature. One study found that by age 17, over half of youth in foster care experienced an arrest, conviction, or overnight stay in a correctional facility.

**Target Population** The services provided under our Prop 47 were aiding juvenile offenders (ages 12 to 17 1/2) who have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of a criminal offense *and* have a history of mental health issues or substance use disorders. Individuals (ages 18 through 21) who have either dropped out of CNUSD, or are enrolled in an Adult or Alternative Education program and also meet the above criteria were also served.

## **2.B Prop 47 Activities and Interventions**

The Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Diversion Programs Funded by this Grant advanced principles of restorative justice while demonstrating a capacity to reduce recidivism rates among our target population. The project increased CNUSD's mental health capacity by contracting with a community-based organization to provide therapeutic mental health services to our target population in the school setting. Trauma-informed counselors provided therapeutic

mental health services to youth who were referred through probation, the juvenile courts or the Prop 47 referral process. Additionally, the contract with this organization included substance use disorder treatment to our target population with known substance use, including individual and group counseling, case management, and recovery support services. Addressing mental health needs and associated behavior problems at school helps students stay in school and become more connected to their school and community. Providing this protective factor creates a positive competing pathway to the lure of delinquent behavior and gangs. CNUSD's Prop 47 program enhances and expands existing diversion programs: Corona Police Department's YDT and Riverside County Sheriff Department's YAT. Through these programs, youth who have committed non-violent crimes were diverted out of the criminal justice system and entered into a contract to complete community service and restitution. The Youth Service Officer hired under this grant program facilitated these added services.

**Supplemental and Supportive Services** featured a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters' Workplace Mentoring Program that included monthly job skill seminars. These 90-minute seminars were conducted virtually (due to COVID) or in-person (when restrictions were lifted). Monthly curriculum and exploratory topics included: job and/or trade industries, 21<sup>st</sup> Century soft skill development, and career preparation. Mentoring and On-Site Career Exploration provides an opportunity for participants to be matched and meet monthly with their 1:1 mentor at a Corporate Headquarters in one of California's 15 industry sectors for CTE Pathways. Enrollment in this program was voluntary, with a commitment of one year by the student and the mentor. After successful completion of this program, students received a Certificate of Completion, recommendation letter, and community service hours. Mentors also worked one on one with students to search for, respond to, and successfully achieve employment.

**Rationale for Interventions.** Significant evidence has been generated leading to the conclusion that many rehabilitation programs have, in fact, produced significant reductions in recidivism. The interventions selected as a part of CNUSD's Prop 47 project were aligned with this research, as they incorporated identified characteristics most commonly associated with effective programs. Those features include: Assess Risk/Needs and provide targeted interventions through our existing Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and Response to Intervention (RtI) programs; increase positive reinforcement through mentoring, therapeutic counseling, and substance use disorder treatment; provide job skills training with directed practice; engage in ongoing support in natural communities; measure relevant processes and practices; and provide measurement feedback. CNUSD's overarching strategy for delivering a continuum of programs is built upon MTSS, implemented in 2014. This evidence-based framework emphasizes preventing school discipline problems. All programs listed below are included on SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices, unless specifically noted otherwise. *Why Try?* is a cognitive behavioral intervention to help children and adolescents improve social skill competence and moral reasoning, and better manage anger and reduce aggressive behavior. It is used by Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services ("Hathaway") and CNUSD School Counselors. Hathaway also uses Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, an evidence-based practice, to provide mental health and substance abuse counseling to our target population. *Check-In/Check-Out* (CICO), supported by MTSS, is conducted by law enforcement and probation officers in the school setting. Individuals in this program "check-in" at the start of the school day and establish goals for the day. They "check-out" at the end of the day and create a Daily Progress Report based on the success of meeting each goal. The existing diversion

program is being enhanced under this grant and uses case management and mentoring strategies. Mentoring programs help youth develop empowering communication skills and behaviors and increase self-awareness, self-efficacy, and personal and social responsibility.

**CNUSD is the nucleus of the community** and is seen by members of the community as a trusted resource, and as such was selected by the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) to serve as the lead agency on the Prop 47 grant. CNUSD's successful history in managing federal grants on time and within budget, as well as their track record for legal and financial compliance with each grant's specific requirements, guided the decision of the LAC. All members of the LAC were committed to the goals, objectives and outcomes of the Prop 47 program. The LAC was reflective of the make-up and culture of the community and the identified need. CNUSD has developed adaptation to service delivery reflecting an understanding of cultural diversity. These attitudes contribute to their cultural proficiency.

The existing management structure for each participating agency remained in effect throughout the Prop 47 grant program, and the LAC was utilized as the governing body for the program. The LAC provided a vehicle to expand program-relevant partnerships. The LAC relied on data-driven decisions to ensure the project supports the objectives and goals outlined in the Prop 47 grant, while also monitoring what is/isn't working, overcoming obstacles and progressing toward meeting the goals. The Superintendent provided oversight for the Prop 47 grant program and was responsible for all legal, operational, and financial compliance of the grant. As Project Director, Steve Ellis oversaw and managed all aspects of this grant. He ensured all project activities were completed on time and within budget. He led the LAC meetings and facilitated community



collaboration and partnerships, supervised all program staff and service providers, and worked closely with the local evaluator.

**Referral Process.** The multi-disciplinary teams (LAC) enhanced under our Prop 47 grant worked together as one cohesive team to ensure the appropriate referrals were made for our target population. This team reviewed documents from law enforcement (Corona Police Department, Riverside County Sheriff's Department), the court system, and the Department of Probation. A written protocol was created and adopted by all service providers. All citations and arrests were thoroughly vetted to identify individuals who had a mental health issue or substance abuse issue and were eligible to participate in our youth diversion program (low-level, non-violent offense).

## **2.C Prop 47 Goals and Objectives.**

**The project design addressed the identified needs and gaps by expanding existing programs and enhancing services to at-risk youth and youth who were already involved with the juvenile justice system.**

**The Prop 47 project design included a clear statement of goals and measurable objectives.** Grant funds were utilized to implement a collaborative effort to decrease juvenile recidivism rates, increase diversion programs for juvenile offenders, and increase protective factors for juvenile offenders and youth who are at-risk for interaction with law enforcement, probation, and the juvenile courts through the use of evidence-based prevention and intervention activities in coordination with a Local Advisory Committee and community-based organizations. CNUSD's project design had three goals with four corresponding objectives.

### **Goal 1: Reduce the Number of Chronic Juvenile Offenders.**

- Objective 1: Decrease juvenile recidivism rates for the target population: At least 50% of the participant population will be deterred from further involvement with the juvenile justice system for the duration of the grant period.

### **Goal 2: Divert Non-Violent Juvenile Offenders from Juvenile Correctional Institutions.**

- Objective 2: Increase the number of juvenile offenders who participate in diversion programs by 150.

### **Goal 3: Improve Academic Performance and Employment Opportunities for Juvenile Offenders.**

- Objective 3: Increase the number of individuals in the target population who improve their school-based performance by 25%
- Objective 4: Increase the number of juvenile offenders who secure employment by 60%.

### 3. Process Evaluation and Methods and Design

#### Methodology for Evaluation.

CNUSD contracted with Strategic Partnership School Group, Inc. (SPSG) to perform the evaluation of their Prop 47 project to ensure an objective and impartial evaluation of the project is completed. Grant funds, per BSCC limits, were targeted for evaluation, which included data collection, performance measurement, and evaluation. SPSG worked closely with the Project Director to submit all required grant reports.

**SPSG's methodology and evaluation process relied on quantitative and qualitative data collection methods** to maintain focus on mission, purpose, goals, and objectives; develop strategic plans; maintain program fidelity; measure progress; and promote sustainability. **Research Design.** We utilize a mixed-method (process and fidelity) for the outcome evaluation to ensure an ongoing review of the project's progress and a thorough assessment of its overall effectiveness.

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*The evaluation methods were designed to maintain focus on mission, purpose, goals and objectives; develop strategic plans; maintain program fidelity; measure progress; and promote sustainability.*

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Our evaluation plan was thorough, feasible and appropriate to the goals and objectives of the program and includes both formative process evaluation and annual summative reviews. Our evaluation plan was designed to collect, analyze, and use high-quality and timely data, including data on program participant outcomes, in accordance with privacy requirements, to improve practices within the framework of the evidence-

based programs and service delivery. Sources of quantitative data include: crime data (including citations and arrests);



disposition data (referrals to diversion programs, juvenile detention and juvenile halls); and service delivery logs (mental health, case management, addiction treatment and counseling, activity logs and attendance sheets). Sources of qualitative data include: open-ended surveys, and meeting minutes. These methods include performance measures clearly related to assessing fidelity and outcomes. Outcome measures were evaluated using a pre/post method to gauge the success in meeting the stated objectives.

**Process and Outcome Measures for our Prop 47 project.** Process measures assess how program activities are being carried out in accordance with the stated goals and objectives. They are designed to identify *what the program is actually doing*, and *if it's what we planned our program to do*. Our process measures include: the number and type of referrals made to our target population, the type and amount (duration and dosage) of services received by each participant in the program, the number of individuals who are referred to diversion programs, including success rates; and the number of individuals from our target population who improve school outcomes and find gainful employment. Outcome measures for the Prop 47 grant include: 1) Number of juvenile offenders who complete a diversion program and have not re-offended; 2) Number of individuals who improve academic performance; and 3) Number of juvenile offenders who receive jobs skills training and secure employment. Process data was submitted by CNUSD and all service providers to SPSG on a monthly basis. SPSG created data collection sheets that aligned to the data points required in BSCC's quarterly reports and smartsheet.

**Fidelity.** Evidence-based programs and practices form the core of CNUUSD's Prop 47 grant project. Underlying our evaluation plan is the creation of a scientifically sound logic model explicating the mechanisms through which the project will achieve desired outcomes.

**Our Research Design for the Impact Evaluation is Mixed Method** and combined qualitative and quantitative techniques to triangulate multiple sources of data and significantly enhance the validity of the evaluation.<sup>i</sup> Sources of quantitative data include: crime data; disposition data; service delivery logs; and school records. Sources of qualitative data include: open-ended surveys, observations, meeting minutes, and pre- and post-surveys from evidence-based curriculum programs. The impact evaluation determined the impact of the project on juvenile offenders across project performance indicators (goals and objectives). In addition to the day-to-day data collection and analysis, the Evaluator was responsible for the Local Evaluation Plan (LEP), a Two-Year Preliminary Evaluation Report (TYPER) and a Final Local Evaluation Report (FLEP). These documents adhered to the formats and timelines prescribed by the BSCC. The evaluation of the Prop 47 grant program focused on two primary areas: 1) Is the grant being implemented as intended and aligned with the requirements of the grant program? and 2) Are the objectives of the grant being met? The first area of focus addresses fidelity. Fidelity to the grant requirements, fidelity to the grant application, and fidelity to the evidence-based practices that were implemented under the grant. Fidelity measures the degree to which a program is implemented as intended by the program developer, including the quality of implementation. Fidelity ensures the consistency, accuracy and integrity of programs and interventions. Fidelity is important as it ensures that programs are implemented as intended and helps in the determination of a program's effectiveness and in decision making.

The Prop 47 project is aligned with the Safe Neighborhoods and School Act to maximize alternatives for non-serious, non-violent juvenile offenders. CNUSD used grant funds to provide the target population with mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, diversion programs and workforce development and mentoring.

## Operational Definition of Variables

The operational definition of variables is how a researcher decides to measure the variables in a study. However, it is important to note that the evaluation for Prop 47 is *not* a research project, and it would be inappropriate to assign the requirements of a research project to this evaluation. The method of evaluation for the Prop 47 uses predictive methods and is based on correlation. SPSG analyzed the statistical relationship between two or more events, measures, and data points. This method allows for prediction but cannot determine cause and effect.

Conducting research (or an experiment) of the Prop 47 program would allow the researcher to identify how one variable causes another variable to change. This type of research requires independent and dependent variables that include an experimental and control group. The research design and protocols should align with What Works Clearinghouse, Standards Handbook or similar standards universally accepted by the scientific community. A research study related to Prop 47 and/or Prop 47 grant recipients would require a significant increase in resources dedicated to this endeavor.

The outcome measures linked to the goals and objectives of CNUSD's Prop 47 grant program are aligned with the BSCC's requirements for funding and include: recidivism rates, mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, and job skills training.



## 4. Project Performance

### 4.A Project Modifications.

CNUSD did encounter a few changes with the community-based organizations they had identified to support this grant program: Family Services Association (FSA) was identified in the application to provide therapeutic mental health services to the target population. FSA had served on a previous CalGRIP grant program administered by the city of Corona and provided excellent services to the student population. However, the cost of their services increased significantly during the implementation period and CNUSD was not able to execute a contract with funds provided by this grant program. CNUSD consulted with current and previous Prop 47 recipients to obtain references for CBOs who provide therapeutic mental health services and signed a contract with Sycamores Child and Family Services to provide therapeutic mental health and substance use disorder treatment to the target population. Upon award, CNUSD also discovered that Starting Over would need to limit their services to individuals 18 and older who qualify for re-entry services. Consequently, they executed a contract with Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) to provide their Workplace Mentoring Program (WPMP). The WPMP includes monthly job skills seminars, mentoring, and on-site career exploration. Mentoring includes individual support in preparing for and applying for employment. The on-site career exploration provides participants an opportunity to be matched and meet monthly with a corporate mentor at the company's headquarters. The corporate mentors represent the 15 industry sectors for CTE Pathways. Enrollment in this program was voluntary with a commitment of 1 year by both the student and the mentor. After successful completion of this program, students receive a Certificate of Completion, recommendation letters, and community service hours. BBBS has also successfully served as a partner and CBO on the previous CalGRiP grant program.

#### **4.B Factors that have Affected Project Goals.**

COVID and the Global Pandemic significantly affected the Prop 47 grant program. In response to federal guidelines and mandates by the county and the state, CNUSD school sites stopped in-person learning on March 19, 2020, and all employees were instructed to work from home. This practice continued through April 12, 2021, when some staff members could return to district facilities and students could opt to join in-person learning one day a week through the remainder of the school year. In person learning resumed in August 2021 for the 2021-22 school year.

The pandemic disrupted the lives of staff members, students, and their families, which resulted in an increase in unemployment, anxiety, stress, isolation and other adverse experiences.

COVID also impacted law enforcement, where the departments supporting our communities changed protocols to protect officers from contracting the disease. Consequently, patrols were discontinued during this time period and response calls were limited to calls for service that included violent crimes and felonies. It's possible that the target population was committing offenses that would have made them eligible to participate in Prop 47 programs, but individuals were not arrested or cited because COVID protocols for law enforcement eliminated these types of encounters.

It was difficult to reach youth who had already been identified as eligible to receive Prop 47 services, and when grant staff were able to connect with youth and their families, interest was extremely low. Without the connections formed at school, and the relationships that encourage program participation, families and students already under stress retreated from services rather than reaching out. Forming relationships and trust with eligible youth and their families was extremely

difficult over the phone, and while all service providers adjusted their programs to distance/tele support, participation rates were extremely low during this time period.

While participation levels increased after the restrictions related to COVID were lifted, they never reached the targets included in CNUSD's grant application. The time necessary to fully recover from COVID, even after restrictions were lifted, is far greater than anyone could have anticipated.

#### **4.C Progress on Goals and Objectives.**

The following provides the degree to which the goals and objectives were achieved based on data collected and analyzed during this time period (1/1/2020-12/31/2022); broken out by the three goals with four corresponding objectives for CNUSD's Prop 47 project.

##### **Goal #1: Reduce the Number of Chronic Juvenile Offenders.**

Activities to support this goal include: 1) Hire one (1 FTE) Youth Service Officer; 2) Provide the evidence-based programming Why Try? and Check-in/Check-out for Prop 47 participants; 3) provide job skills training and placement; 4) provide therapeutic mental health counseling and substance use disorder treatment; and 5) enroll target population in mentoring and diversion programs.

**Objective 1: Decrease juvenile recidivism rates for the target population:** At least 50% of the participant population will be deterred from further involvement with the juvenile justice system for the duration of the grant period.

As of December 31, 2022, the recidivism rate for Prop 47 participants is 2.95%. A total of 237 youth were provided service throughout the grant period and seven of these individuals re-offended.

### ***Process Measures***

#### **1.a The number of project staff who have been recruited, hired and trained.**

Steve Ellis, CNUUSD, was identified as the Project Director for this grant program on September 15, 2019, and served as the Project Director throughout the grant period. Alyssa Kinney, Corona Police Department, served as the Community Service Office from January 1, 2020 through April 1, 2020. Rafael Flores, Corona Police Department, replaced her in April 2020 and continued to serve as the Community Service Officer through the end of the grant program.

#### **1.b The number of contracts with CBOs that have been executed with protocols for service delivery in place.**

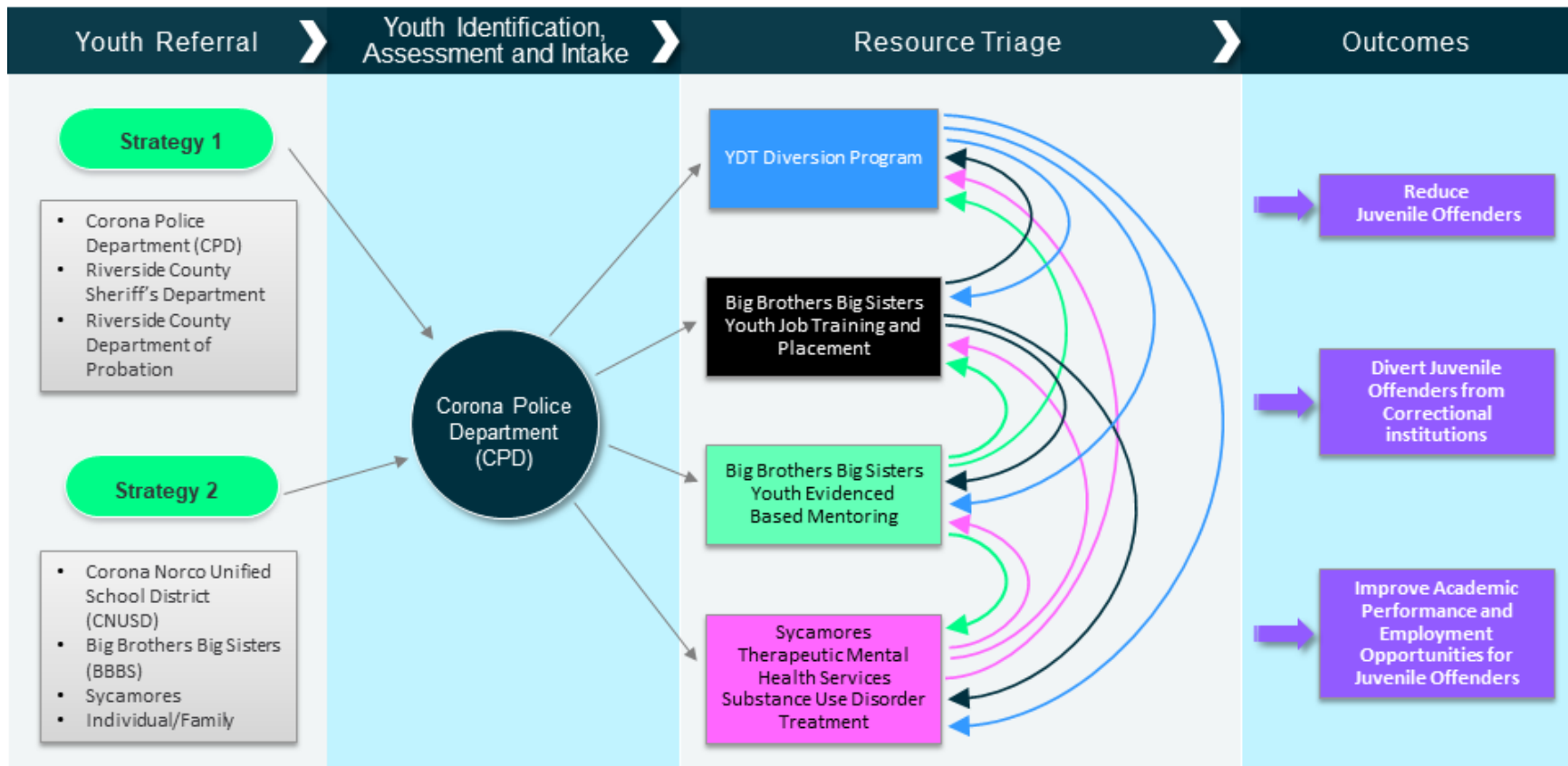
Contracts and Memorandums of Understanding have been executed with all service providers: Big Brothers, Big Sisters (July 2020) and Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Health Services (October 2020). Protocols for service delivery were adopted in July 2020 that extend to CBOs, law enforcement, and the department of probation.



### 1.c The number and type of referrals made to our target population.

Two hundred and thirty-seven (237) referrals for the target population were completed throughout the grant period. Each of these participants received services from the Community Service Officer, 30 were referred to mentoring and job skills programs from Big Brothers Big Sisters and 43 were referred for mental health and substance use disorder treatment from Sycamores.

## INTEGRATED YOUTH SERVICE MODEL



Prop  
47

**1.d The type and amount of services received by each participant in the program.**

One hundred and five (105) participants received a one-time intervention from the Community Service Officer who provided case management and referrals to existing programs. Each one-time intervention was one-hour in duration. Each of these individuals have been referred to receive therapeutic mental health services.

Forty-three participants successfully completed the Diversion program as an alternative to adjudication through the juvenile courts. Fifteen participants dropped out of the Diversion program and were referred to probation, and one participant re-offended during the program and consequently was removed from the program and adjudicated through the juvenile court.

Thirty participants received work force mentoring and job skills training throughout the grant period from Big Brothers/Big Sisters: 21 successfully completed the program, 7 dropped out of the program with one drop out due to re-offending; and 2 were continuing the program after the period of the grant award ended.

**1.e The number of individuals receiving the Why Try? and Check-in/Check-out intervention.**

None. These programs were not implemented during the grant period due to COVID related shutdowns and subsequent delays.

**1.f The number of LAC meetings including duration and participation, and the number of MOUs created.**

The Local Advisory Committee (LAC) formally met twenty-four (24) times during the grant period. The LAC met on the second Wednesday of each month, which started in August 2020. Prior to this, CNUSD met with LAC members on a one-on-one basis. Each meeting is one hour, followed by a one-hour work session between CBOs and law enforcement. Participants include: CNUSD, Corona Police Department, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Riverside County Department of Probation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services, and SPSG. Five MOUs were executed between CNUSD and each agency.

**Goal #2: Divert nonviolent juvenile offenders from juvenile correctional institutions.**

Activities to support this goal include: 1) refer eligible offenders to the YDT and YAT diversion programs; and 2) conduct outreach and education program for the Prop 47 program.

**Objective 2: To increase the number of juvenile offenders who participate in diversion programs by 150 by December 31, 2022.**

A total of ninety-five (95) petitions were submitted to the YDT program and fifty-nine (59) youth from our target population were accepted into the YDT program. Participation rates were low due to COVID lockdowns and restrictions.

## ***Process Measures***

### **2.a The number of our target population referred to diversion programs, including success/failure rates.**

Fifty-nine youth from our target population were accepted into the YDT program and a total of 43 successfully completed the program, 15 dropped out of the program before completion, and one re-offended during the program and consequently was removed and adjudicated by the juvenile court.

### **2.b The type and duration of dispensation awarded by diversion programs.**

Individuals referred to the Youth Diversion Team (YDT) complete mentoring, counseling and community service hours to fulfill their contract. YDT is a program made up of a Corona Police Senior Detective and a Corona Police Community Service Officer to oversee counseling of first-time offenders, teach classes to offenders related to the crimes committed, and meet with the parents/guardians of YDT participants to ensure accountability. This program offers a second chance to teen offenders of minor crimes. The eligible offenders enter into a contract with the Corona PD and their families. If the offender successfully fulfills the terms of their contract, then their criminal offense is dismissed prior to it entering the criminal justice system.

### **2.c The number and type of outreach and communication activities conducted, including target audience and method of delivery.**

Our CBOs and Youth Service Officer met with administrators and teachers at CNUSD high schools (12 times throughout the grant period) to review the Prop 47 program, eligibility and recruitment. The Youth Service Officer and the School Resource Officer (Riverside County Sheriff's Department) made presentations to the Corona Police Department, Sheriff's Department

and the Department of Probation to provide an overview of the program, including eligibility requirements and recruitment strategies. A flyer was created and distributed to students, family members, law enforcement, and probation officers.



## SPECIAL THANKS TO

CORRECTIONS PLANNING AND  
GRANT PROGRAMS

BOARD OF STATE & COMMUNITY  
CORRECTIONS

**CORONA-NORCO**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# PROP 47 PROGRAM

COMMUNITY SUPPORTING  
AT-RISK YOUTH



**Big Brothers  
Big Sisters.**  
OF ORANGE COUNTY  
& THE INLAND EMPIRE



HEAL. HOPE. THRIVE.  
**Hathaway-Sycamores**  
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE  
Corona-Norco Unified School District







## IF YOUR CHILD IS IN NEED OF SUPPORT, WE PROVIDE:

- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Housing-Related Assistance
- Job Skills & Placement Services
- Mentorship
- Mental Health Services

## PROP 47 PROGRAM

a partnership with

Corona-Norco Unified School District  
Corona Police Department  
Riverside County Sheriff's Department  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America  
Hathaway-Sycamores

The Prop 47 Program is a partnership between Corona-Norco Unified School District, Corona Police Department, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Empire, and Hathaway-Sycamores to offer counseling, rehab services, job training, foster youth services, and mentoring of first time offenders. This program offers a second chance to teen offenders of minor crimes and provides important life-skills that are needed to get their lives back on track. The eligible offenders enter a contract with the program and their families. If the offender successfully fulfills the terms of their contract, their criminal offense is dismissed prior to it entering the criminal justice system.

Any parent/guardian needing help can contact our office for assistance.

### Contact Information

Corona Police Department  
Family Services Unit  
400 S. Vicentia Ave. Suite #115  
Corona, CA 92882  
(951) 279-3588

## PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT YOUTH AGES 12 TO 21



### **Goal #3: Improve Academic performance and Employment Opportunities for Juvenile Offenders.**

Activities to support this goal are included in Goals 1 and 2.

#### **Objective 3: To increase the number of individuals in the target population who improve their school-based performance by 25%.**

The standardized test scores were not made available due to COVID cancelations, and the results reported in the aggregate. We did gather grade point averages for students who had received interventions and had comparable data. Of the 46 participants that fall into this category, 25 improved their academic performance by an average of 46.31%; 19 worsened their academic performance by an average of 68.46% and two students showed no change. Additionally, 28 students graduated from high school, 20 dropped out of school and 30 remain enrolled in school.

#### **Objective 4: To increase the number of individuals in the target population who secure employment by 60%.**

None of the participants enrolled in the Workforce Development and corporate mentor program from Big Brothers Big Sisters secured employment during the grant period. Services were delayed and negatively impacted by COVID. However, the corporate mentorship program extends beyond this grant period, and we expect participants will secure employment through this program after the grant has ended.



## ***Process Measures***

### **3.a The number of individuals from our target population who receive job skills training.**

Twenty-one participants successfully completed the workforce development training and were matched with a corporate mentor through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

### **3.b The number of individuals from the target population who interview and receive employment.**

None of the participants enrolled in the Workforce Development and corporate mentor program from Big Brothers Big Sisters secured employment during the grant period. Services were delayed and negatively impacted by COVID. However, the corporate mentorship program extends beyond this grant period, and we expect participants will secure employment through this program after the grant has ended.

#### **4.D Unduplicated Participants and Progress Towards Reducing Recidivism.**

A total of 237 unduplicated participants received Prop 47 services from the period beginning on January 1, 2020, and ending on December 31, 2022. Of the total number of unduplicated participants, 94 successfully completed their program as of December 31, 2022. Seven of the participants who successfully completed their program have reoffended, representing a 2.95% rate of recidivism.

- One hundred and seventy-two (172) participants were male and sixty-five (65) were female.
- One hundred and forty-four (144) participants were Hispanic/Latino, sixty-nine (69) were White, fifteen (15) were African-American, four (4) were Asian, and five (5) were other.
- Participant ages included: 6 twelve-year-olds, 15 thirteen-year-olds, 33 fourteen-year-olds, 70 fifteen-year-olds, 57 sixteen-year-olds, 54 seventeen-years-olds, and 2 eighteen-year-olds.

**Successful Program Completion** is defined by each Community-Based Organization and individual service provider. Participants receiving therapeutic mental health services work closely with their therapist to identify goals for treatment and use the Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) to measure progress in a pre/post format. The mental health therapists report whether or not each participant reached his/her goal and successfully completed the program. Additional information for participants who do not meet their goals is provided (graduated, completed probation, moved, stopped coming, etc.). We organize data for participants who stop coming to treatment into two types: 1) factors that CNUSD may be able to impact and 2) factors that CNUSD cannot control. CNUSD and the LAC review this data and strategize ways to address factors CNUSD may be able to impact such as stigma, lack of therapeutic rapport, or logistical barriers. This same methodology is utilized for participants who receive substance use disorder treatments.

What constitutes successful completion of participation in the Youth Diversion Program is established at enrollment and included in the contract signed by the participant, his/her guardian, and the Corona Police Department.

Successful completion for services that include employment, mentoring, and legal aid are established by the agency during the intake process. Goals, objectives, and activities to reach goals are identified, and reported to SPSG when participants leave the program.

The definition of recidivism used for the Prop 47 grant program aligns with the BSCC and is defined as a conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody or committed within three years of

placement on supervision for a previous criminal conviction (PC Sec. 6046.2(d)). “Committed” refers to the date of the offense, not the date of conviction.

CNUSD’s Prop 47 grant program also provides services to youth on both informal and information probation. Informal probation is for youth who are at-risk for being placed on formal probation due to previous behavior and incidents, or are participants in the YDT program, which is a diversion program from the juvenile court system. In both of these programs we use the same definition of recidivism, however the adjudication may not include commitment. As an example, if a youth has been previously adjudicated through the YDT program, and then subsequently re-offends, he/she will be adjudicated through the juvenile courts which wouldn’t necessarily include commitment. Juveniles can be placed on formal probation, sent to the juvenile detention center, or assigned to a juvenile camp, depending on the offense and sentence.

## 4.E Data Collected to Demonstrate Project Progress and Performance.

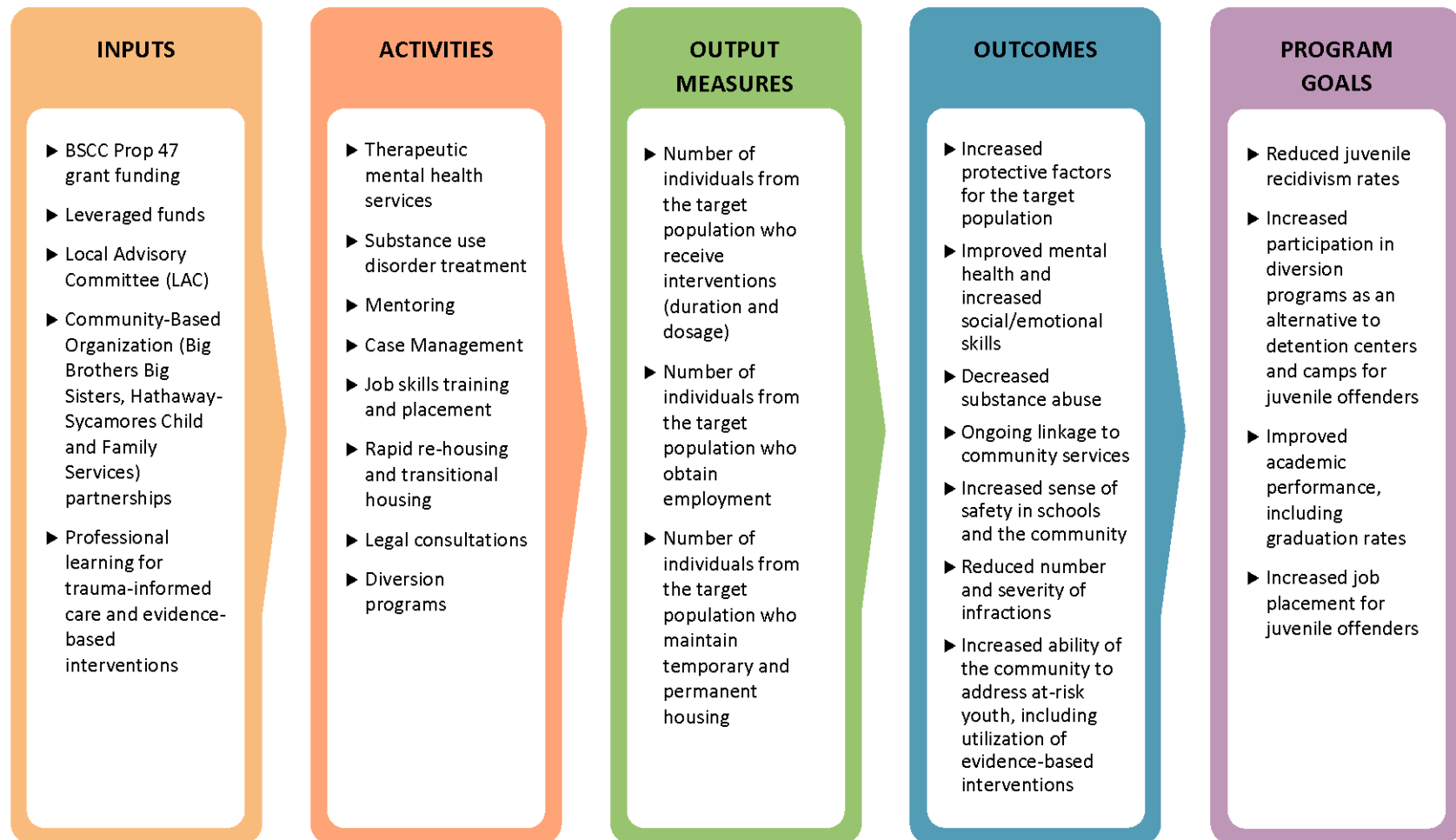
The following chart identifies the type of data, collection frequency, and responsible party for the four outcomes:

Data Source	Who will collect raw data	Frequency of raw data collection	Analysis and Reporting
<b>Decrease the juvenile recidivism rate by 50%</b>			
Arrest records – including dispensation, probation records	Juvenile Court/Department of Probation	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports
Crime data	Corona Police Department and Riverside County Sheriff's Department	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Attendance records	CBOs	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
<b>Improve Academic Performance for Juvenile Offenders by 25%</b>			
Attendance Records	CNUSD	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS)	CNUSD	Annual	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Mental Health Logs	Hathaway	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
<b>Increase participation in diversion program</b>			
Sign-in Sheets	Corona Police Department, YDT	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
<b>Increase employment opportunities for juvenile offenders by 60%.</b>			
Job training attendance sheets	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Job applications submitted and positions acquired	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Workforce Mentor Program: attendance sheets	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.

The following chart identifies how process variables and outcome variables were measured:

Primary Evaluation Questions for YDP			
To what degree and in what manner has/have:	Implementation aligned with the program model?	Key elements & approach have been described?	Participants made & maintained gains in proposed outcomes?
Quantitative Measures			
YDP Prop 47 Fidelity Index	√	√	
Case Management Records	√	√	
Mental Health Referrals and Treatment Logs	√	√	√
Juvenile Court/Crime Data (law enforcement, probation, courts)			√
Employment Records: interviews, placement, job skills training			√
Intervention and service records (housing, legal consultations, evidence-based interventions, etc.)			√
Surveys: Close-ended Questions			√
Student Academic and Graduation Records			√
Student Conduct Records: attendance, referrals, suspensions/expulsions			√
Attendance Logs: training and professional development			√
Personnel Records: new hires and performance reviews	√	√	√
Qualitative Measures			
CNUSD Administrative Records	√	√	
On-Site Observations	√	√	
Focus Groups	√	√	
Key Informant Interviews	√	√	
Surveys: Open-ended questions	√	√	

## 5. Prop 47 Logic Model



## 6. Grantee Highlight

A 16-year-old participant entered the Youth Diversion Team (YDT) program following interaction with the Corona Police Department. Initially they were apathetic, pushing adults away with a tough exterior and clear communication that they thought the whole process was “stupid.” After initial assessment, it became clear the student did not have reliable adults in their life and was not attending classes consistently. Despite an interest in music, the student was not connected to any opportunities to pursue this passion as a positive outlet. They were referred to Big Brothers Big Sisters to fulfill their diversion contract and were successfully matched with a mentor in October 2021. Their mentor saw the student’s apathy as a protective behavior to keep themselves from being let down by adults and worked hard to earn their trust and build rapport. That trust is still budding, and the participant remains closed off when it comes to their mom, holding things inside rather than sharing freely. But they are letting their excitement about hanging out with their new mentor show. They are avoiding criminal and delinquent behavior and living up to their end of the contract. It is still early in the process with this student, but the value of positive interaction, encouragement, and accountability is definitely on display with this participant.



CNUSD utilizes grant funds to implement a collaborative effort to reduce juvenile recidivism rates and delinquency through the use of evidence-based prevention and intervention activities.



Members of our Local Advisory Committee hosting a Listening Session for Students and their Parents/families.