

# (2023-2024) Annual Plan

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County Name: Trinity

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## Instructions:

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

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

Your Submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website. rfierro@trinitycounty.org

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

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

## Juvenile Justice Plan

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## **Part I. Service Needs, Priorities & Strategy (Government Code Section 30061(b)(4)(A))**

### **A. Assessment of Existing Services**

**Include here an assessment of existing law enforcement, probation, education, mental health, health, social services, drug and alcohol, and youth services resources that specifically target at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families.**

Trinity County Probation Department (TCPD) provides an array of juvenile services including, but not limited to, prevention, intervention and informal services, investigation, intake, assessment, diversion and diversion programming, case planning, supervision, advocacy, placement, and contracts for custody/residential correctional treatment. Probation also has an assigned intervention officer who assists the schools by providing supervision and support to sporting events, Sober Grad., school dances, and other functions.

Probation facilitates an after-hours Parent Project program called Changing Destructive Adolescent Behavior. This 10-week program is designed for parents raising difficult or out-of-control adolescents from ages 10 and up and employs behavioral interventions, cooperative learning norms, activity-based instruction, and integrated support groups.

Probation's Day Reporting Center (DRC) offers several evidence-based programs used to divert youth from the criminal justice system and to target the criminogenic needs of youth on juvenile supervision. These programs include Tobacco and Marijuana diversion and education, Third Millennium prevention and intervention programs, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Forward Thinking (cognitive-behavioral interactive journaling), and the Victim Impact Program.

The partnership between the Superior Court, Probation, District Attorney, Public Defender and Trinity County Office of Education utilizes Peer Court. Peer Court as an alternative approach to the traditional juvenile justice system where youth charged with an offense have the option to waive the hearing and sentencing procedures of juvenile court and agree to a sentencing forum with a jury of the youth's peers. Peer court is under the supervision of a judge and also includes youth defendants and volunteers who play a variety of roles in the judicial process, such as district attorney, public defender, bailiff or juror. Peer Court is youth-focused and youth-driven. The Peer court model provides youth the opportunity to acquire practical experience in the juvenile justice system.

Trinity County Alcohol and Other Drug Services (AODS) provides MRT, Trinity Choices youth substance abuse education, intervention programming, substance abuse prevention and healthy choices community activities, Club Live (elementary schools) and Friday Night Live (high schools) programs to the youth in Trinity County. AODS is also a partner to Probation in facilitating the Third Millennium Series. Additionally, every four years AODS coordinates a two day Every 15 Minutes

Trinity County Behavioral Health (TCBHS) funds and maintains the Systems of Care Team and Parent Partners program. They also provide mental health case management to probation youth

in need of that level of care, and provides crisis response to youth. TCBHS has developed a Mobile Crisis Unit which will be used to respond to mental health crises throughout the community with an emphasis on school response.

Human Response Network (HRN), the primary community-based organization (CBO) and non-profit service provider in Trinity County, offers a variety of programs to youth and their families. Services include the following: Housing Assistance for youth and families that are homeless or at-risk of being homeless; In-Home Parenting Education Program, including programs that involve youth and their parents together; Transportation Assistance program to help families with fuel to go to their medical and social service appointments; Youth Leadership and Violence Prevention Programs; Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivor advocacy and support; Welcome Baby Program for anyone caring for an infant, including youth parents; School Shoes for enrolled students; Child Care assistance for families with children 12 and under; and referrals to other services in the county.

Trinity County Office of Education (TCOE) provides Love and Logic parenting classes to parents of probation youth. TCOE provides the Pathways to Success program. Pathways is a collaboration with Modoc County Office of Education, the California Heritage Youth Build Academy (CHYBA), and Trinity County Behavioral Health. The program provides Wellness Liaisons who will support students at each school site, interfacing with families of students confronting mental health challenges to advance the health and well-being of each student through targeted prevention, intervention and triage school-based mental health and wellness supports. Trinity Together, Cradle to Career Partnership (TTCP) explores what students need in order to be ready for higher education or the local job market. This program utilizes business people and organizations throughout the county. In addition to the identified need of providing youth with needed technical job skills, certain soft skills (showing up on time, not using your phone at work, dressing appropriately, looking people in the eye, making introductions, being courteous, etc.) were also deemed to be just as important links to employment as are resumes, filling out job applications, and interviewing. The ultimate goal is to develop a program that can build pathways for students so that they might go from school to internships, to job experiences, and finally to employment in careers within Trinity County.

Trinity County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) maintains contact and communication with the Trinity County Probation Department. They partner with various county agencies when the opportunity and funding allow. The Sheriff's Office participates in juvenile justice stakeholder meetings. The Sheriff's Office also has an assigned juvenile officer who assists the schools providing supervision and support to sporting events, Sober Grad., school dances, and other functions. TCSO invited Probation to partner in a Proposition 47 grant application to fund a primarily assigned TCSO School Resource Officer and Probation Intervention Officer.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) offers the Smart Start program and helps support the Sober Grad programs in the county. The California Highway Patrol has partnered with and is committed to being of service to the youth of Trinity County.

Trinity County District Attorney's Office (TCDA) maintains contact and communication with the Trinity County Probation Department. They participate in the stakeholder meetings and are active in helping address the various needs of the youth of Trinity County.

Trinity County Health & Human Services (HHS) oversees the county's Resource Family Approval (RFA) program and partners with the Trinity County Probation Department to assess, approve and to support the care-providers of youth when they are ready to transition into lower-level, family and/or community-based homes.

HHS administers the Independent Living Program (ILP) which targets youth 16-21 who have been in foster care. This program includes life skills training, financial incentives for grades and secondary education, assistance with obtaining housing and household items, emergency rent and utilities assistance, and transportation assistance.

Under the CalWORKs (Temporary Aid to Needy Families – TANF) provisions, youth ages 16 – 18 who are in receipt of CalWORKs are permitted to participate in the Welfare-To-Work component of CalWORKs. Participation activities are either vocational education related or employment related. Examples of approved activities can include but, are not limited to; job readiness, on-the-job training (subsidized employment), work-experience, assessment(s), referrals for behavioral health / substance use treatment services, vocational education (certification programs) and any other activity that may resolve a barrier toward employment. As such, these youth are entitled to all the necessary and available ancillary and supportive services that are also offered to adult participants. These items can include, but are not limited to; costs for transportation, vocational education / work supplies, payment/reimbursement for licenses or certifications, tools and clothing for work, etc.

HHS collaborates with the various county agencies described herein in stakeholders' groups concerning youth-based programming to better support the needs of youth and families.

CSEC: Trinity County Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Services (CWS), Trinity County Probation Department (Probation), and California Superior Court, County of Trinity-Juvenile Court (Court) participate in the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Program and have developed the CSEC Interagency Protocol as described in Section 16524.7 of California Welfare and Institutions Code.

Trinity County Child Welfare Services and Trinity County Probation implemented policies and procedures, pursuant to Section 16501.35 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code, that require social workers and probation officers to identify, document and determine appropriate services for children who are, or are at risk of becoming, victims of commercial sexual exploitation; and receive relevant training in order to be able to do so.

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

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council typically meets bi-annually to review existing programs, discuss areas of collaboration, and to explore various funding sources and opportunities to expand services. It is the intent of the council and community stakeholders that with bi-annual meetings they can address issues surrounding on-going data collection, analysis, and effectiveness of funded programs.

**B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas**

**Identify and prioritize the neighborhoods, schools, and other areas of the county that face the most significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.**

The greatest need in Trinity County remains that of limited basic services. We have an inadequate number of staff to cover nearly 3,200 square miles which included ten (10) school districts and three (3) high schools. There are inadequate public resources available throughout the county to serve a population of 16,060. Trinity County is one of the most severely economically disadvantaged counties in the state. Further, we have not had any Sheriff's deputies in the county that specialize in juvenile matters and, up until 2019, did not have any School Resource/Truancy officers in any of our three high schools. While there has been the assignment of a Sheriff's deputy for juvenile specialization, there have been challenges in the implementation as the assigned deputy has often been utilized for other duties.

Our Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council completed a revised Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMAJJP) in 2018 that identified the most pressing concerns with our youth and their outcomes and created action steps to be implemented to address them. These action steps and the funding behind them, along with renewed collaborative efforts with our juvenile justice stakeholders, provide for a continuum of responses to juvenile crime and delinquency and demonstrate an integrated approach for implementing a system of interventions and sanctions for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders that incorporates evidence-based restorative justice strategies, programs, and services. While this revision of the CMAJJP is already several years old, it remains very relevant to current issues and strategies, and great progress has been made in achieving original goals. It was projected that new goals and objectives would be defined by 2023. The global pandemic beginning in 2019, which spiked in Trinity County from September 2021 into February of 2022, has greatly impacted implementation and analysis of actions steps. The ability to collect and appropriately interpret data over those years poses unique challenges with the known, and still unknown, impacts of the pandemic. It is more likely that new goals and objective will be defined by 2025. Options utilized by other counties to contract an outside entity to evaluate and revise the CMAJJP have been being collected by the Chief Probation Officer over the past year.

## **C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy**

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

The juvenile justice strategy in Trinity County is reflected in our current Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMAJJP). Although we have been able to fulfill each of the goals from the plan listed below, two of the three goals were only recently achieved (Trinity CARES as an element of SMART and the assignment of a Deputy Sheriff – Juvenile Specialist) and would therefore need continuing full support of the JJCC to ensure success before any further plan revision.

The current goals of the county plan are:

- 1) Implement a System-Wide Mental Health Assessment Response Treatment (SMART) program utilizing the assessment tool Mosaic, a research-based and validated risk assessment tool. This would be a Mobile Response Team, partnering with the schools, and comprised of juvenile justice stakeholders including the Sheriff's Department, Probation, Trinity County Office of Education, and Mental Health as possible personnel options to fill out the team.
- 2) Re-allocate resources within the Probation Department to dedicate a full-time deputy probation officer to be embedded in the schools to increase services in the areas of Prevention, Intervention, Truancy Reduction, and Crisis Response. This person would also be part of the SMART team crisis response.
- 3) Hire a sheriff's deputy to specialize in juvenile matters within the county and in the schools, and work collaboratively with the SMART team.

The Trinity CARES team, working with the Office of Education, created a Decision Tree instrument that provides detailed direction of engagement and services for juveniles based upon a comprehensive number of factors. This document is available upon request.

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

The plan was not updated as it is still current and relevant.

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

Two of the three main goals of the plan were completed in 2022 with new programs coming online (Trinity CARES program and the Deputy Sheriff - Juvenile Specialist) and it is still too soon in recovery from the pandemic to evaluate outcome measurements to determine any other needed changes.

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

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

Juvenile Justice data is collected using the Corrections Software Solutions (CSS) case management system which allows for sufficient query and reporting of data for program evaluation. Data and Information sharing between juvenile justice stakeholders takes place on multiple levels, including but not limited to the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Systems of Care team, and the new Trinity CARES team. Program effectiveness is evaluated through local arrest and juvenile justice statistics, CalSCHLS data, client evaluation, and staff feedback. Additionally, overall public and stakeholder input has been evaluated in the current CMAJJP through the use of an online Juvenile Justice Survey.

**B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils**

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

yes

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

N/A

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

# JJCPA Funded Program(s), Strategy and/or System Enhancement

Below are JJCPA funded programs reported by the county.

## Program Name:

School-Based Prevention/Intervention Program

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This program is based upon the evidence-based practice of school-based restorative justice, and seeks to intervene with at-risk youth using tools, strategies, and programs that facilitate learning and inclusion in the school community. Staff are also part of the System-Wide Mental Health Assessment Response Treatment (SMART) program which utilizes the assessment tool Mosaic, a research-based and validated risk assessment tool for addressing risk and threats by students.

## Description:

JJCPA funds were used to provide staffing for and to support on-going efforts related to our School-Based Prevention/Intervention Program. This program plays a key role in the school SMART team which assists in crisis response to ensure youth safety, and also provides general education, prevention, intervention, truancy reduction and crisis response services to students through a variety of methods and incorporates a school-based restorative justice model to ensure that youth are not brought into the juvenile justice system unless legally necessary and all other options are not feasible or practical. This program is one of the primary reasons why Trinity County's juvenile incarceration and ward rates remain as low as they are.



**Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)  
(Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1961(a))**

**A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders**

**Describe your county's overall strategy for dealing with non-707(b) youthful offenders who are not eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice. Explain how this Plan relates to or supports that strategy.**

All formal juvenile cases are provided a full assessment and case plan that addresses criminogenic needs and identifies appropriate services to the youth and family which help to keep the youth from entering deeper into the juvenile justice system. Additionally, Juvenile Officers have been provided numerous trainings in all areas of case management, motivational interviewing, and trauma-informed care, and apply those skills to partner with the family or caregiver to holistically address issues and concerns within the household. Other services include collaborative team decision making for difficult youth and families through our county Systems of Care team, and coordination with the schools for school-based restorative justice measures.

**B. Regional Agreements**

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

N/A

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

**Below are YOBG funded programs reported by the county.**

## **Program Name:**

Risk, Needs and Responsivity (RNR) Model

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

The RNR model is a model used in community corrections for justice-involved individuals and is known to reduce recidivism through proper dosage of supervision and services based on the risk the person presents to the community and what needs they have.

## **Description:**

YOBG funds were used to provide staffing for and to conduct comprehensive assessments on new juvenile cases, provide case planning and intensive home supervision to our highest risk juvenile population, and assist in diverting youth away from higher levels of care and incarceration. The tool we are using for determination of juvenile risk is the PACT assessment, which screens for level of risk. Higher risk youth who are at the greatest risk of commitment to the Secure Track are provided more intensive supervision and services by a seasoned Deputy Probation Officer, and all services and intervention strategies align with the (RNR) model of evidence-based practice.