

# (2021-2022) Annual Plan

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County Name: Sierra

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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. [chenson@sierracounty.ca.gov](mailto:chenson@sierracounty.ca.gov)

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

**[JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov)**

## Juvenile Justice Plan

### Part I. Countywide Service Needs, Priorities and Strategy

- A. Assessment of Existing Services
- B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas
- C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy
- D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

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- A. Information Sharing and Data Collection
- B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils
- C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

### Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

- A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders
- B. Regional Agreements
- C. Funded Programs, Placements, Services, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

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

**A. Assessment of Existing Services**

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

Law enforcement- Sierra County is served by a small (12 sworn) Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office covers all aspects of law enforcement including the investigation of juvenile delinquency, crimes against children and also participates in the county's SARB.

Probation- Sierra County is served by a probation department that currently consists of two (2) sworn staff which includes the chief probation officer. Both officers respond to juvenile delinquency and truancy matters. There is always an on-call officer to respond during any nonbusiness hours. Probation regularly attends county SARB meetings and is involved in several interactive programs with the schools.

Education- Sierra County is served by an elementary school, a combined middle and high school and a combined K-12 school. There is an additional opportunity at the Sierra Pass Continuation School and adult education.

Mental Health- Sierra County is served by a small mental health department of which juveniles and adults can access services both in and outside of the justice system. Services range from peer counseling (on site service in schools), traditional counseling services, psychological services and medication management.

Health/ Social Services- Sierra County is served by two (2) private health clinics and a county health department that offers medical and dental checkup services to youth.

Drug and Alcohol- Sierra county is served by a county AOD department which provides services to juveniles and adults which are in and out of the justice system. There are no in county inpatient programs or private outpatient providers.

Other- Sierra County is served by a county AOD/ tobacco prevention program, Friday Night Live program, several private youth afterschool/recreational programs, and a family resource center.

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

Sierra County is a small rural community where there is no issue in communication among departments and resources.

## **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.**

Being a small rural community with several scattered populated areas there is no real "target" area that attracts a concentration of juvenile crime more than any other.

## **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.**

Sierra County utilizes a strategy to address justice involved youth that focusses on preventing and deterring youth from needing to be placed in detention. Detention is only utilized when necessary and other non restrictive measures are not appropriate at the time. Sierra County focusses on providing and coordinating proper resources to youth and families to better their prosocial interactions with one another and the community.

Consequently, there is a system of graduated responses that begin with the least restrictive measures and increase when appropriate. If a youth has the necessity to begin in a more restrictive environment, resources are pooled to help assure that the youth can be supported in a less restrictive setting.

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

Per SB 823 the Sierra County JJCC has added three (3) community members and a representative from the courts to form the Juvenile Justice Realignment sub-committee. This committee will be further evaluating and developing a plan for the targeted population that will utilize local resources when they can be utilized and developing other robust out of county resources.

Also new to this year the Sierra County Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) and the probation department are in the the early stages of developing a new delinquency prevention commission (JDPC).

Further, last year the probation department, social services and the schools pieced together an on campus peer support position. The group plans on further developing that resource.

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

N/A

**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.

Sierra county does not have a dedicated shared information system. The sharing of data and other relevant information is done person to person and is effective.

**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:

Incapacitation

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Incapacitation, when used appropriately is a proven tool to prevent and deter criminality.

## Description:

Sierra County allocates \$2,500 annually to fund juvenile hall detention. The full amount is rarely utilized but is allocated early in the budget out of caution.

## Program Name:

Friday Night Live program

## Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Friday Night Live (FNL) is a renowned national program that focuses on providing and teaching health prosocial lifestyles to prevent and to intervene in negative antisocial behaviors including truancy, substance abuse and delinquency.

## Description:

Sierra County allocates \$3,000 annually to enable the FNL program to serve youth with prevention and intervention services in the county.

**Program Name:**

On campus Peer Support

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

Readily accessible peer support is a proven tool to assist youth in successfully managing stress, anxiety, depression, loneliness and other common feelings that have been exacerbated by the pandemic. These feelings are also proven to be root causes of negative behaviors including truancy, substance abuse and delinquency.

**Description:**

Beginning the 2020-2021 year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sierra County contributed \$20,000 to the schools to be used to identify and assist at risk distanced youth with counseling/peer support services.

**Program Name:**

Deputy Probation Officer salary and benefits.

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

A probation officer to manage the juvenile case load is a vital tool in serving the juvenile justice involved population. This position provides supervision and provides and coordinates intervention and prevention services.

**Description:**

\$70,000 of funds are allocated annually in a shared cost with YOBG to fund our only juvenile probation officer. Without these funds the department would likely not have a position to adequately address the needs of the juvenile population.

**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.**

Sierra County does not have its own juvenile detention facility. During the last year our long time contracted facility in Nevada County was closed and two (2) new contracts were developed with Placer County and Butte County. These facilities have been utilized when appropriate and will continue to be utilized for youth requiring detention. Sierra's overall strategy is to keep youth out of the juvenile hall unless necessary, utilizing the least restrictive placements. Sierra County also incorporates a plan to provide appropriate services to youth and to families to prevent detention and to better the ability of the family unit to maintain positive prosocial functionality amongst themselves and the community.

**B. Regional Agreements**

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

None

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

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

**Program Name:**

Deputy Probation Officer salary and benefits.

**Evidence Upon Which It is Based:**

This is a shared cost with JJCPA.

**Description:**

\$117,000 of YOBG funds are allocated annually to fund our only juvenile probation officer. Without these funds the department would likely not have a position to adequately address the needs of the juvenile population.