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Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act & Youthful Offender Block Grant (JJCPA-YOBG)

FY 2024-2025 Consolidated Annual Plan

Date:	<u>April 30, 2025</u>
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INSTRUCTIONS:

Government Code Section 30061(b)(4) and Welfare & Institutions 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 rest of this document is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. Please use this template or ensure your submission meets the accessibility standards by reviewing either the Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF checklists published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services website here [Accessibility Conformance Checklists | HHS.gov](#). Your submission will be posted to the OYCR website once it is confirmed to meet the accessibility standards.

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.

Sonoma County has a broad array of programs, services, and resources for prevention- and justice-involved youth and their families. The Sonoma County Probation Department (Probation) contracts with 14 community-based organizations (CBOs) including non-profits, as well as county- and municipal- funded agencies providing prevention services for children and youth prior to juvenile justice system involvement, and serving both committed youth in Juvenile Hall, and supervised youth in the community. Providers work directly with youth and families delivering cognitive behavioral services; career and technical education (CTE) services; intensive youth-centered, family driven services; sexual trauma services; educational services; individual and group therapy and counseling; treatment of sexual offending youth; group-format programming that focuses on self-esteem, communication skills, cultural issues, gender responsive services, conflict resolution, interpersonal dynamics, substance use, interpersonal violence, and independent living skills.

Funding for these services comes primarily from the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) and Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG), as well as a small number of other grants targeted for specific populations or purposes. For all programming, Sonoma County strives to collaborate with local and regional providers, and the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) to deliver services that are evidence-based or evidence-informed, strengths-based, trauma-informed, bilingual and bicultural, and in a setting that meets participants' needs.

Sonoma County's current Priorities and Strategy were the result of a countywide assessment overseen by the IOYouth Task Force (Task Force). The Task Force worked closely with the Council of State Governments and conducted a 10-month review to determine how well the Sonoma County juvenile justice policies and practices aligned with those shown to work in improving outcomes for youth. The result of that review was the 2020 Comprehensive Multiagency Juvenile Justice (CMJJ) Plan that stated seven (7) Goal Areas describing how Sonoma County's policies and programs could be enhanced. From 2020 to now, the JJCC has annually reviewed its Goal Areas, providing updates as items are modified or completed before submission on May 1.

In 2024, the JJCC met and decided the current CMJJ Plan will be concluded, and a new juvenile justice continuum assessment should be conducted during 2025-2026 to

determine service needs, priorities, and strategy. In the section entitled, “Part C: Juvenile Justice Action Strategy,” the 2023-2025 CMJJ Plan will be detailed. “Part D: Comprehensive Plan Revisions,” will describe updates to the 2023-2025 CMJJ Plan including how each item was resolved and closed; additionally, this section will describe the anticipated design for the upcoming juvenile justice continuum assessment that was started in 2025 and will continue into 2026.

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

Collaboration among the juvenile justice supporting organizations will be facilitated primarily by the JJCC. The Sonoma County JJCC meets quarterly and, consistent with Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 749.22, includes: Law Enforcement representatives from the Healdsburg Police Department and Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office, an appointed County Administrator’s Office designee from the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, the Juvenile Court Presiding Judge, representatives from the offices of the Sonoma County Public Defender and District Attorney, Sonoma County Behavioral Health, Sonoma County Human Services-Family, Youth, and Children Division; nine CBO service providers; an At-Large member from the community; Sonoma County Office of Education; Sonoma County Probation Juvenile Division Leadership; and the Chief Probation Officer.

Collaboration opportunities also presented themselves from unexpected statewide changes. While the revised 2023-2025 CMJJ Plan was developed, significant changes impacted the juvenile justice system in California, specifically ongoing implementation efforts around Senate Bill (SB) 823 and Assembly Bill (AB) 505. The former bill, among other things, realigned youth that were, or would have been, sent to the Division of Juvenile Justice back to their home county to serve out their sentence. Despite these changes and their accompanying increase to our Juvenile Hall population, many opportunities developed to creatively collaborate with CBOs and partner agencies to integrate services, especially as a new juvenile justice continuum assessment proceeds.

One exciting example is the upcoming juvenile justice continuum assessment’s emphasis on elevating youth voice in the process. A key determinant in the process of selecting a consultant for the assessment was the consultant’s expertise in supporting and facilitating a collaborative, integrated approach for implementing a system of swift, certain, and graduated responses to prevent juvenile justice involvement, mitigate further penetration into the system, and assist juveniles in successfully exiting the system. Practically speaking, the juvenile justice continuum assessment consultants will collect administrative data and resources, review existing services and identify services gaps, facilitate discussions with stakeholders, conduct focus groups including groups with young people having justice system involvement, and with family members of justice-impacted youth, analyze all data, engage in a co-interpretation of results, and provide a report which will inform the next CMJJ Plan. The JJCC voting members and

participants will also play a role, forming a subgroup intended to support both Sonoma County and the consultant as the juvenile justice continuum assessment moves forward.

Probation is working diligently to further collaborate with several of its CBOs to develop a system of transitional services to committed youth while in Juvenile Hall, services that will continue when the youth is transitioned to supervision, either in the community or to a less restrictive program. For new Requests for Proposals (RFPs), Probation is asking that providers deliver services at both locations. For existing service contracts, the new service delivery component is discussed and added when contract renewals occur. In addition, Probation is working closely with the City of Santa Rosa's Guiding People Successfully program and one of its services to specifically provide transitional life-skills and case management for youth starting at Juvenile Hall and continuing as they move back into the community, school, and the workforce.

Lastly, Probation takes part in existing structures that focus on collaboration and integration of services. One of the core elements of case planning at Probation is the Child and Family Teams (CFT) model. CFT meetings promote communication and inter-agency collaboration as youth in Juvenile Hall, or under supervision, develop their own goals. For youth with enhanced needs that may be in Probation's Wraparound or Intensive Case Management caseloads, there is the Placement Assessment and Review Committee (PARC). PARC is the result of an interagency agreement with the Human Services Department and Health Services-Behavioral Health Division that meets with Probation when its youth intersect those systems and are presenting unique challenges or are being considered for home removal and possible placement in a Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program. Probation also collaborates with the Human Services Department's Family, Youth & Children Division in developing the California Department of Social Services' County Self-Assessments (CSA). CSAs occur every five years and describe federal and state standards for youth and family outcomes in preventing home removal and increasing permanency, and Sonoma County's efforts to meet those standards; each year there are updates to the CSA, they are called System Improvement Plans (SIP) and are worked on collaboratively, detailing each group's progress over the last year and modifications, if needed.

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.

Sonoma is a Northern Bay Area County which has a population of approximately 481,812 residents. It is considered a medium-sized county by governmental standards, has nine incorporated municipalities with the county seat in the City of Santa Rosa, which is also the most populous city in the county. There is substantial open space, agriculture, and ranching in the County and the population is one of the most diverse

above the Bay Area proper. Despite its rolling hills and suburban and rural landscapes, Sonoma County has its challenges when dealing with juvenile crime.

Schools remain a significant source of juvenile referrals. Since the 2023-2025 CMJJ Plan was approved, a few high-profile crimes were committed by juveniles, including a homicide that occurred at a local high school which had expected and unexpected consequences. Expected consequences included community expectations of enhanced security measures on school grounds, and an overall increase in the number of confiscated weapons on campus. One of the unexpected consequences was a shift in how weapons on campus are being reported. Specifically, local middle and high schools are enrolling in the StopIT App which enables students and parents to anonymously report bullying, cyberbullying, violence, inappropriate student-teacher relationships, hazing, drugs and alcohol, self-harm, weapons or any legitimate issue which can negatively impact the learning environment. While the anonymous reports typically go to school contacts, it does create a chain of accountability which is more likely to result in a law enforcement contact with the youth. Additionally, the Santa Rosa City School District (SRCS) is facing a fiscal crisis due to a significant decline in student enrollment which will result next year in the consolidation of middle- and high-school students in a reduced number of campuses. Other school districts in Sonoma County are facing similar challenges.

In addition to school campuses, places where youth congregate continue to see a rise in referrals. Specifically, the Santa Rosa Transit Mall, the neighboring Santa Rosa Plaza shopping mall, and public parks are places where juvenile crime persists.

Like much of the nation, juvenile referrals were at an all-time low until the end of the COVID pandemic. At that time, the number of misdemeanor and felony referrals (excluding Probation Violations) dropped more than 50% from Fiscal Years (FY) 2018-2019 through 2020-2021: 659, 511, 289, respectively. In FY 2021-2022, the Probation Department saw an increase in that number to 405; for FY 2022-2023 the number of referrals jumped to 596; in FY 2023-2024, the number of referrals rose to 677. Additional problematic trends arose. Counts of referrals for younger youth are increasing dramatically. Referrals for violent offenses increased as well, leading to an increase in adjudications for offenses listed in WIC Section 707(b), from less than 11 in FY 2021-2022, to 17 in FY 2022-2023, to 32 in FY 2023-2024. Hispanic/Latino/a youth continue to be overrepresented among these adjudications, compared with their representation in the County population.

Probation continues its work to improve race and gender data collection, which will include allowing multiple selections of racial and ethnic categories and additional gender options beyond male and female. The new race and gender data collection standards will be required in Probation's new case management information systems. The success of the race, gender and ethnicity data projects goes together with the upcoming modernization of the County's Integrated Justice Systems (IJS) which is anticipated to

take years, with an unknown impact on the systems that support Probation and its justice partners.

For FY 2025-2026, Probation will continue its work supporting school connection and safety, especially through its prioritized Diversion Tasks and programs such as Keeping Kids in School (KKIS). KKIS is a multi-agency partnership aimed at re-engaging the most disconnected youth to their education by providing individualized case management and schoolwide technical assistance services to increase student attendance and prevent future entry into the juvenile justice system. The embedded Sonoma County Office of Education's Alternative Education program at Juvenile Hall provides comprehensive educational support to committed youth by helping them attain their educational goals both while in custody, and in anticipation of release. To help youth meet their individualized life skill goals, Probation is in the final stages of onboarding a comprehensive case management team with lived experience, through a community provider, that specializes in neighborhood outreach; an exciting and needed addition for youth and families that have traditionally had challenges moving away from the juvenile justice system.

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 original CMJJ Plan was organized around seven focus areas addressing the juvenile justice continuum, and the JJCC meets regularly to discuss ongoing progress for each area. Many of the Goals were completed; however, during and after the COVID pandemic, a constellation of factors necessitated that some CMJJ Plan Goals be modified, while others were deemed unachievable. Below is the full CMJJ Plan, as written in 2020; the revised CMJJ Plan for 2023-2025, with full updates and recommendations, is given in Section D.

Diversion (Prevention)

1. Establish formal policies around diversion eligibility criteria and the screening process and expand diversion to additional low risk youth.

- 1.1. Create formal policies and criteria around eligibility for pre-file diversion, based primarily on PACT pre-screen risk assessment results, including youth who have prior referral histories, and do not preclude youth with non-violent felonies from being eligible for diversion if low/moderate risk.
- 1.2. Create a structure for ongoing communication and education with stakeholders, such as law enforcement and schools, around diversion eligibility policies.

2. In lieu of, or as a precursor to, an assessment center, expand law enforcement diversion and develop multi-systems diversion partnerships.

- 2.1. In partnership with local law enforcement agencies, establish/expand pre-arrest law enforcement diversion programs for low-risk youth/first time offenders, including an emphasis on effective diversion programs for youth of color to reduce front-end racial disparities and address current geographic equity issues.
 - 2.2. Establish formal partnership with other service systems—child welfare, behavioral health, and schools—to leverage and combine resources to divert and serve low/moderate risk youth outside of the juvenile justice system.
 - 2.3. Establish a multi-systems diversion/program placement team and family/team meeting process that connects youth with complex needs to appropriate services.
3. Create a juvenile assessment center to serve as a non-secure, multi-system receiving center for youth in contact with the justice system.
- 3.1. Create a one-stop assessment center (potentially with regional offices to alleviate geographic barriers) that serves as a central receiving location to process juvenile referrals from law enforcement—including pre-arrest—and that co-locates and provides warm handoffs between and amongst probation, behavioral health, restorative justice, service providers, and family engagement specialists.

Detention Decision Making and Alternatives to Detention (Incapacitation)

4. Revise the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI), create override policies, and collect, analyze, and report data on tool fidelity and overrides.
- 4.1. Revise and validate the DRAI or adopt an already validated tool and adapt to local context and establish clear override policies.
 - 4.2. Update policies and procedures around use of the DRAI and generally restrict use of detention unless certain criteria are met: lack of community-based supervision alternatives, crisis beds, and service options; a lack of supervision in the home or community; a parent, guardian or legal custodian avoiding legal responsibility; a risk of self-harm or other behavioral health needs; technical violation unless public safety is at risk.
 - 4.3. Develop and provide training on the DRAI, new policies and protocols, and establish a quality assurance process to analyze data and produce quarterly reports on detention decisions to review alignment with the DRAI, the use of overrides, the reasons for overrides, and to identify and address equity issues. Share reports with detention staff on a consistent basis.
5. Create alternatives to secure detention to ensure that youth who are not a public safety risk are not placed in Juvenile Hall.
- 5.1. In collaboration with the Human Services Department, develop policies that require detention staff to engage in a family-findings process and allow kinship placement for use in lieu of secure detention.
 - 5.2. Partner with HSD and other service systems/community-based organizations to expand eligibility criteria for currently available shelter beds/crisis intervention to also include youth involved in the juvenile justice system and create guidelines to support the use of these beds as an alternative to detention.

Detention Services (Intervention/Incapacitation)

6. Expand availability and accessibility of research-based services to youth in detention.

- 6.1. Expand the availability of research-based mental health, substance use, and CBT services in detention, including through partnerships with additional community-based providers.
- 6.2. Expand partnerships with local community-based providers with the goal of continuing their service provision in the community for youth post-release.

Juvenile Equity and Training (Entire Juvenile Justice Continuum)

7. Provide robust, ongoing training, and engage all staff in regular conversations around equity issues.

- 7.1. Review current training offerings for Juvenile Hall staff and ensure that the Probation is offering a robust set of trainings that includes research and best practices focused on adolescent development, positive behavior change, implicit bias, and cultural competence.
- 7.2. Incorporate considerations around equity and cultural competence into staff and supervisor meetings and trainings and include a process to regularly share and review data on equity at all points of the juvenile justice continuum.

Probation Supervision (Intervention)

8. Develop Probation-wide policies to improve service matching based on youths' criminogenic and behavioral health needs.

- 8.1. Create internal policies and protocols to improve service matching based on criminogenic and behavioral health needs, establish a related quality assurance process, and better define the role of probation officers (POs) in service matching, referrals, and communication/engagement with providers.

9. Restrict the use of secure detention for youth as a sanction, and generally, post-disposition.

- 9.1. Restrict the use of detention as a sanction.
- 9.2. Limit the use of detention post-disposition by establishing non-secure residential or intensive community-based behavioral health and substance use treatment alternatives, and/or by requiring a multi-disciplinary team process to explore all potential community-based/non-secure alternatives before secure placement are used.

10. Revise Juvenile supervision policies to reflect a developmentally appropriate approach and explore opportunities for system-wide change.

- 10.1. Move toward a more developmentally appropriate model of juvenile probation focused on youth/family engagement and positive youth behavior change, including:
 - 10.1.1. Establishing policies that position POs as agents of behavior change, including youth and family engagement and service engagement and oversight.
 - 10.1.2. Using the graduated response matrix with fidelity to adopt graduated responses, minimize violations, and incentivize positive youth behavior.
 - 10.1.3. Exploring opportunities to streamline the number of POs that youth have across the system.
 - 10.1.4. Tailor conditions of probation to youths' assessed risks and criminogenic needs in conjunction with juvenile justice partners, and aligning court expectations, progress reports, and termination criteria accordingly.

Family Engagement and Case Planning (Intervention)

****JJCC Recommendation:** For one of these tasks, develop a focus group or incorporate the voices of those with lived experience to help improve programming and outcomes.**

11. Develop and implement Probation-wide family engagement policies and practices.

- 11.1. Establish policies and trainings around meaningful family engagement including participation of families in case planning and treatment team meetings, visitation policies, engagement in service provision, the creation of surveys and feedback loops, development of parent groups, etc.
- 11.2. Begin process to create a paid position for a bilingual family advocate to assist families as they navigate the court and probation process.
- 11.3. Establish a family-team conference model to deploy at key decision and transition points along the juvenile justice continuum, including reentry from Hall/Camp/DJJ.

12. Develop a case planning process that is seamless across the juvenile justice system and involves families in a meaningful way.

- 12.1. Create a uniform case planning template that is used throughout the duration of a youth's time in the juvenile justice system and develop policies and required timeframes for case planning and treatment team meetings that involve youth, families, probation staff, and service providers (in addition to other individuals as appropriate).

Probation Camp – [REMOVED due to Camp un-occupancy]

Quality Assurance and Data Collection (Information Sharing and Outcome Reporting)

13. Develop a continuum of effective and equitable community-based services across the county aligned with youth's most prevalent needs.

- 13.1. Partner internally and with the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council and Provider Council in an ongoing way to:
 - 13.1.1. Map existing services/funding streams to better leverage/use untapped community resources to enhance diversion and support services for probation youth and make this database available for officer and county stakeholder use.
 - 13.1.2. Based on results from above and IOYouth analysis, better align contracted services with youth's needs and identified service gaps, to include creation of more behavioral health treatment services, as well as addressing equity and geographic service gaps.
 - 13.1.3. Establish performance-based requirements for providers, develop an associated quality assurance, oversight, and continuous quality improvement process, deepen commitment to increasing capacity for high-quality, community-based programming, and reallocate resources to more effective programs.

14. Build internal data collection, analysis, reporting, and use capacity for system and provider performance and youth outcomes.

- 14.1. Build internal capacity to collect, track, report, and use data to inform decisions, including:

- 14.1.1. Identifying other system performance and positive youth outcome measures.
- 14.1.2. Incorporating data review and use into leadership and staff meetings and cross-system discussions.
- 14.1.3. Develop an ethnic and racial disparity report to support Objective 7.2, above.
- 14.1.4. Establishing a standard definition of and/or multiple ways of tracking recidivism.
- 14.1.5. Tracking recidivism into the adult system.
 - 14.1.6. Analyzing recidivism and technical violation rates by key variables.
- 14.2. Establish shared program performance/ outcome measures and consistent data collection expectations to improve data collection for service providers; develop and track outcome measures as well as program participation data for services provided by the Probation.

D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

Describe how your Plan has been updated for this year:

Below is the revised CMJJ Plan for 2023-2025, with updates and recommendations. This reduced list has updates from 2024, as well as the current updates. Following these updates is a description of the planned juvenile justice continuum assessment.

Diversion (Prevention)

- Create formal policies and criteria around eligibility for pre-file diversion, based primarily on PACT pre-screen risk assessment results, including youth who have prior referral histories, and do not preclude youth with non-violent felonies from being eligible for diversion if low/moderate risk.
 - Update 2024: The District Attorney and Probation's inter-agency agreement for Diversion is still in discussion.
 - Update 2025: The District Attorney and Probation updated their Mandatory Referral agreement in 2024.
- In partnership with local law enforcement agencies, establish/expand pre-arrest law enforcement diversion programs for low-risk youth/first time offenders, including an emphasis on effective diversion programs for youth of color to reduce front-end racial disparities and address current geographic equity issues.
 - Update 2024: Collaboration with local law enforcement, municipalities, regional partners, and private organization continues to increase awareness around Diversion programs and their impact on youth, families, and their communities. In the coming year Probation plans to complete the next phase in the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Analysis, focused on Diversion/Petition Filing decisions. This will examine the differences in rates of Diversion and Petition Filing among racial/ethnic groups, with a goal of advancing our shared understanding of where disparities exist and what policy changes to consider in response.

- Update 2025: Several local law enforcement agencies are now operating their own diversion programs. Due to staffing issues, the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Analysis Report, focused on Diversion/Petition Filing decisions is on hold, but will be completed when there is adequate staffing.
- Establish formal partnerships with other service systems—child welfare, behavioral health, and schools to leverage and combine resources to divert and serve low/moderate risk youth outside of the juvenile justice system.
 - Update 2024: The implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) has been delayed by the California Department of Social Services due to automation updates at the State level; however, the collaboration between our agencies continues. One example is the successful implementation of Functional Family Therapy which provides a roadmap for shared programming whereby both agencies can access services for low/moderate risk youth in Sonoma County.
 - Update 2025:
 - FFPSA is currently ongoing, and Probation is part of the statewide implementation project; it is likely there will be a partnership with Sonoma County Human Services Department's Family, Youth, and Children (FYC) Division
 - Probation meets quarterly with the California Department of Social Services and Sonoma County FYC to review data on shared youths' outcomes on preventing home removal and permanency, as compared to state and federal standards. The culmination of those meetings is reported every five years in the County Self-Assessment, with updates annually in the System Improvement Plan.
 - The shared implementation of Functional Family Therapy with Sonoma County FYC has been successful. The program has been well-received by participants, and practiced to fidelity, according to quarterly data reports from the provider.

Family Engagement & Case Planning (Intervention)

- **JJCC Recommendation added in 2024: Develop a focus group or incorporate the voices of those with lived experience to help improve programming and outcomes.**
 - Update 2024: The JJCC plans to add at least one youth with lived experience to its Juvenile Justice Realignment Subcommittee in the latter part of 2024. We hope to have candidates participate in the development of their role as a part of engagement, work as a key member in creating the 2025 JJRS plan and be able to use this experience toward their continued growth in the community while maintaining a crime-free life.
 - Update 2025: Probation has commissioned a juvenile justice continuum assessment and secured a consultant that will emphasize youth voice and insights from those with lived experience. The assessment was started in 2025 and will continue into 2026.

- Begin process to create a paid position for a bilingual family advocate to assist families as they navigate the court and probation process.
 - ****Recommendation: Add language that the bilingual paid position should also be bicultural/culturally competent.****
 - Update 2024: Due to staffing shortages and the implementation of SB 823 and AB 505, this continues to be an unfulfilled goal.
 - Update 2025: Probation hired a new Probation Assistant who is bilingual and bicultural who helps families work through questions, concern, and processes following their Court dates. The goal is to eventually implement a program that will help all youth and their families, post-Court.
- Create a uniform case planning template that is used throughout the duration of a youth's time in the juvenile justice system and develop policies and required timeframes for case planning and treatment team meetings that involve youth, families, probation staff, and service providers (in addition to other individuals as appropriate).
 - Update 2024: Technical enhancements to the case planning system are now complete and Probation will implement the new case plan in the coming year.
 - Update 2025: The single case plan is in the final stages, all POs, JCC IIIs, and related program supervisors are being trained in a roll out that is occurring in the spring of 2025.

Probation Supervision (Intervention)

- Using the graduated response matrix with fidelity to adopt graduated responses, minimize violations, and incentivize positive youth behavior.
 - Update 2024: The Juvenile Division is finalizing automation of its Behavior Response System (BRS) and is updating response options to align with available interventions, with the goal of providing a refreshed training and implementation by the end of 2024. In addition, the data team is working to pair the Juvenile BRS as much as possible with its Adult counterpart to reduce training time if POs move between divisions.
 - Update 2025: BRS is the standard screening tool for the Juvenile Services Division. Minor modifications have been made to the matrix since last year, which occurs naturally when new interventions, both incentives and sanctions, are introduced.
- Exploring opportunities to streamline the number of probation officers that youth have across the system.
 - Update 2024: The CFT model has continued to thrive and is now used in all non-Diversion cases. In the coming year, we plan to provide pre- and post-surveys to CFT youth and their families to gauge success and make improvements where needed.
 - Update 2025:
 - Youth movements between Probation Officers (POs) have been reduced, and when movement does occur, the youth has a CFT meeting which prepares them for the change. Surveys have not yet been developed, but Probation

plans to integrate pre- and post- surveys following the juvenile justice continuum assessment.

Detention Decision Making and Alternatives to Detention (Intervention/Incapacitation)

- Revise and validate the DRAI or adopt an already validated tool and adapt to local context and establish clear override policies.
 - Update 2024: Data collection for the DRAI continues, once sufficient occurrences have been obtained a validation can take place.
 - Update 2025: Although there have been increases at Intake, Probation is reaching the numbers at release that are sufficient to conduct a validation study. As of early April 2025, 308 intakes with release have been conducted.
- Develop and provide training on the DRAI, new policies and protocols, and establish a quality assurance process to analyze data and produce quarterly reports on detention decisions to review alignment with the DRAI, the use of overrides, the reasons for overrides, and to identify and address equity issues. Share reports with detention staff on a consistent basis.
 - Update 2024: July 2023 saw the release of Probation's "Preliminary Juvenile Racial/Ethnic Disparities Analysis: Detention Decisions" Report, to the public and the JJCC. Among other data points, this analysis compared the rate of mandatory detention and override rates across race/ethnicities between 2014-2022 and found that rates for youth of color and white youth are comparable.
 - Update 2025: For Quality Assurance, when DRAIs are conducted, the DRAI Summary Report automatically goes to Supervisors and Managers for review.
- Partner with HSD and other service systems/community-based organizations to expand eligibility criteria for currently available shelter beds/crisis intervention to also include youth involved in the juvenile justice system and create guidelines to support the use of these beds as an alternative to detention.
 - Update 2024: No update currently.
 - Update 2025: No update currently.

Juvenile Equity and Training (Entire Juvenile Justice Continuum)

- Incorporate considerations around equity and cultural competence into staff and supervisor meetings and trainings and include a process to regularly share and review data on equity at all points of the juvenile justice continuum.
 - Update 2024: Completed
 - Update 2025: All Probation staff are attending the Racial Equity Foundations course offered by the County of Sonoma Office of Equity.
- Review current training offerings for Juvenile Hall staff and ensure that the Probation is offering a robust set of trainings that includes research and best practices focused on adolescent development, positive behavior change, implicit bias, and cultural competence.

- Update 2024: Completed
- Update 2025: Adolescent Brain Development and Neuroscience training will be added to the 2025-2026 Training Plan, for both Juvenile Hall and Juvenile Probation Services.

Detention Services (Intervention/Incapacitation)

- Expand partnerships with local community-based providers with the goal of continuing their service provision in the community for youth post-release.
 - Update 2024: Sonoma County continues to cultivate relationships and partner closely with community-based organizations to help youth transition from the Juvenile Hall to the community. In addition, Sonoma County has secured a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) IV with staff who are dedicated to facilitating youth and their families' movement through the justice system from intake to reentry.
 - Update 2025: Probation is nearing completion of an RFP for programming and reentry services.
- Expand the availability of research-based mental health, substance use, and CBT services in detention, including through partnerships with additional community-based providers.
 - Update 2024: While many county agencies and CBO services continue to experience problems with hiring and retention, Sonoma County is working to enhance the number of providers who can provide services in person and via telehealth. We are encouraging providers who specialize in working with youth and families in anticipation of, and after reentry into the community to help ensure seamless provision of services.
 - Update 2025: Sonoma County Behavioral Health and Alcohol and Other Drug Services (AODS) is fully staffed in the Juvenile Hall. Probation also recently partnered with two new providers for Treatment of Sexual Offending Youth. Additionally, Probation is working with four mental health providers who can render services both in, and out, of Juvenile Hall.

Quality Assurance and Data Collection (Information Sharing and Outcome Reporting)

- Establish performance-based requirements for providers, develop an associated quality assurance, oversight, and continuous quality improvement process, deepen commitment to increasing capacity for high-quality, community-based programming, and reallocate resources to more effective programs.
 - Update 2024: All new provider contracts include Antiracist Results Based Accountability (AR-RBA) Plans and ongoing collaborative performance monitoring requirements.
 - Update 2025: We continue to use AR-RBA for several contracts and are expanding utilization of the framework to collaborate with service providers on improving outcomes for all participants.
- Based on results from above and IOYouth analysis, better align contracted services with youth's needs and identified service gaps, to include creation of more behavioral health treatment services, as well as addressing equity and geographic service gaps.

- Update 2024: Sonoma County is organizing efforts to implement CalAIM requirements, focused on behavioral health services for those in detention and assuring continuity of care upon reentry.
 - Update 2025: Probation has developed new partnerships with therapists in known service deserts in Sonoma County. Additionally, service matching is a priority in the upcoming juvenile justice continuum assessment.
- Establish shared program performance/ outcome measures and consistent data collection expectations to improve data collection for service providers; develop and track outcome measures as well as program participation data for services provided by Probation.
 - Update 2023: In addition to using the RBA model, Probation collaborates with all its providers on a Service Provider Outcomes Report, the next due for release at the end of 2023.
 - Update 2025: The “2023-2024 Service Provider Outcomes Report” was recently published for public view on the Probation website.
- Develop an ethnic and racial disparity report.
 - Update 2024: As above, July 2023 saw the release of Probation’s “Preliminary Juvenile Racial/Ethnic Disparities Analysis: Detention Decisions” Report, to the public and the JJCC. In the coming year Probation plans to complete the next phase in the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Analysis, focused on Diversion/Petition Filing decisions, with a goal of advancing our shared understanding of where disparities exist and what policy changes to consider in response.
 - Update 2025: Due to staffing issues, the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Analysis Report, focused on Diversion/Petition Filing decisions is on hold, but will be completed when there is adequate staffing.
- Identifying other system performance and positive youth outcome measures.
 - Update 2025: The work on this item continues, researching new methods and measures. Probation plans to continue this work following results from the upcoming juvenile justice continuum assessment.

Starting in 2024, Sonoma County began the process to identify a consultant to develop and facilitate a juvenile justice continuum assessment. The assessment will inform improvements to assure Sonoma County’s juvenile justice continuum is complete, balanced, and responsive to the needs of the Sonoma County community. The consultant will organize a collaborative process to identify community issues, include and elevate the voices of those experiencing the juvenile justice continuum, address racial and other inequities in juvenile justice continuum outcomes, incorporate input from service providers and system partners, and facilitate identification of strengths and gaps in the continuum for consideration in the development of Sonoma County’s Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJ Plan). The process was completed in early 2025, and Probation is currently working closely with the awardee that is a regional, non-profit that promotes evidence-based practices and has extensive experience working with youth and families from diverse backgrounds.

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

There have been several updates to the 2023-2025 CMJJ Plan, detailed in the previous section. Included with those updates are an overview of the upcoming juvenile justice continuum assessment which started in FY 2025 and will continue into 2026.

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.

Sonoma County Probation participates in the Integrated Justice System (IJS) with the Court and the Offices of the Sheriff, District Attorney and Public Defender, and has direct access to the database tables for analysis and measurement of the success of juvenile justice programs and strategies.

The data obtained through the IJS supports measurement of: juvenile delinquency referral trends including mapped locations; detention utilization and detention screening results; effectiveness of the detention risk assessment in appropriately classifying youth for pre-dispositional placement; assessed risk and needs; service referral, engagement and completion; detention commitment and adult transfer trends related to Juvenile Justice Realignment; front-end and deep-end strategies to prevent further justice system involvement; adherence to behavioral response best-practices and policy and case management standards; the implementation of Child and Family Team meetings; effectiveness of youth- and family-serving programs; recidivism during and after supervision, including in the adult system; and racial/ethnic and gender disparities at key decision points in the juvenile justice system.

Due to staff turnover, the planned gender, racial and ethnic disparities decision point analysis that was to examine diversion and petition filing decisions has not yet been completed. Sonoma County is planning two major information system changes: the modernization of the IJS shared by justice partners, and the replacement of Probation's case management and detention management systems. Additionally, the Superior Court is moving to a new case management system. Interagency data sharing, both real-time and for reporting and analysis, continues as a goal, but the impact of these changes is unknown at this point. Data analysis and reporting capacity in Probation has additionally been limited due to staff turnover. The next year and beyond will be taken up with preparations for testing, selecting and implementing new systems, and recruitment and training of staff to support that effort and the reporting and evaluation needs of the justice system.

B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils:

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

If no, please explain what vacancies exist on your JJCC, when those vacancies began, and your plan for filling them:

Currently, all but one of the CBO Representative positions are filled. This vacancy occurred when one of the CBO representing agencies combined with another CBO agency early in the FY. This and any of the JJCC vacancies are posted and maintained online in accordance with the Local Appointments List or "Maddy" Act.

C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Using the templates below, provide details for each program, strategy, and/or system enhancement that will be funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), identifying any program that is co-funded with Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds.

To include multiple programs, copy and paste the template fields "1. Program Name," "2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based," and "3. Description" as many times as necessary.

JJCPA Funded Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement

This template should be copied as many times as needed to capture every program, strategy, and system enhancement you plan to fund next year.

1. Program Name:

Educational case management program (Keeping Kids in School)

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The Keeping Kids in School (KKIS) initiative is a modified wraparound program designed to provide outreach and individualized intensive case management services to students exhibiting patterns of chronic absenteeism within a multi-tiered system of supports framework.

3. Description:

Probation leads the KKIS program, a multi-agency partnership that supports youth in reengaging with their education. Serving students, families, and schools across Sonoma County, KKIS provides individualized case management and schoolwide technical assistance services to increase student attendance and prevent future entry into the juvenile justice system. The program goals for youth include reduction in the incidence of school absence and truancy for students who are chronically absent in Sonoma County, increased student and parent engagement with school, improvement in student educational outcomes, improvement in family functioning of participant families, and a reduction in participant involvement in criminal activity.

1. Program Name:

Analyst and Administrative Aide staffing

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The Sonoma County Probation Department relies on implementation science to assure the success of its evidence-based programs and practices (EBPs). Research identifies drivers of successful implementation, and Probation has organized itself to attend to these factors, including staffing the Planning, Implementation & Evaluation (PIE) Team to guide the selection of effective interventions, support effective implementation methods, and contribute to supportive context for the interventions within Probation. The National Implementation Resource Network's Active Implementation model serves as a framework to improve EBP implementation, thereby achieving favorable program outcomes. Evidence shows that EBPs are most likely to achieve these outcomes when implementations drivers are fully attended to, including competency drivers: staff selection, training, and coaching; organization drivers: internal and external supports, and decision support data systems; and leadership drivers: technical management and transformative leadership.

3. Description:

The Sonoma County Probation Department has been heavily involved over the past several years in the implementation of EBPs, the organization of which is led by the PIE Team. The PIE Team is responsible for leading Probation's application of implementation science to support internal and contracted EBPs. The JJCPA funds two analysts responsible for program administration and for attending to the drivers of successful EBP implementation.

1. Program Name:

Substance Use treatment

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

Properly assessing criminogenic needs and risk factors and conducting a follow-up assessment on identified needs prior to assigning an appropriate level of treatment is considered critical to the success of correctional programs. Most recently the University Cincinnati Correctional Institute has been developing and validating a program assessment tool which identifies substance use assessment (if substance use treatment is being provided as part of the program) as an important program component.

3. Description:

Sonoma County has an embedded medical and Behavioral Health services team onsite in the Juvenile Hall, provided by the County of Sonoma Department of Health Services. Teaming with Probation to discuss each youth's goals, Behavioral Health assesses and refers youth to the alcohol or substance use programming best suited to their needs.

1. Program Name:

Family violence prevention (and trauma counseling)

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

This service includes a diverse array of violence prevention and intervention services. Sonoma County contracts with several community-based organizations to deliver services to youth on probation in the community and in custody. Programs include Aggression Replacement Training (ART), trauma counseling (including Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy), and Violence Prevention Groups. ART is an evidence-based practice found to be effective in reduction in felony recidivism, improved social skills and a reduction in problem behavior among participants. It is listed on Crimesolutions.gov and other evidence-based clearinghouses with top ratings. Research shows that youth in the justice system are much more likely than the population at large to have had adverse childhood experiences, trauma, and abuse. These experiences can lead to behavior problems and mental health symptoms if not unaddressed. Youth on Probation who have a history of trauma can access individual counseling via two different service providers. One of the providers specializes in sexual abuse counseling and other provider offers trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy, an evidence-based intervention.

3. Description:

As noted above, this program includes a diverse array of violence prevention and intervention services. Sonoma County contracts with several CBOs to delivers services to youth on probation in the community, and in custody.

Programs include the following:

ART: Youth assessed as high risk to reoffend will complete the 30-hour evidence-based curriculum that addresses social skills, moral reasoning, and management of emotions.

Trauma counseling: Youth on Probation who have a history of trauma can access individual counseling via two different service providers. One of the providers specializes in sexual abuse counseling and the other provider offers trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy, with the ability to also provide resource assistance (assistance to families in securing tangible resources) or parent education on an as needed basis.

Other services focused on violence prevention and healthy relationships with families and with peers include Healthy Relationships, My Strength, Teen Assault Prevention Project Workshops and Diversity Workshops. Healthy Relationships and My Strength are eight-week group programs that address topics such as sexual harassment, teen dating violence, family dynamics, communication skills, body image, alternative definitions of masculinity, and sexual assault prevention. Teen Assault Prevention Project Workshops are one-hour workshops focused on addressing sexual assault and issues of consent. Diversity workshops are one-hour workshops focused developing an understanding of the many differences among peoples, and the importance of understanding, accepting, and honoring these differences.

1. Program Name:

Functional Family Therapy

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

Numerous reviews have identified Functional Family Therapy (FFT) as an effective intervention for at-risk adolescent youth and their families. FFT has an established record of outcome studies that demonstrate its efficacy with a wide variety of adolescent related problems including youth violence, drug abuse, and other delinquency related behaviors. The positive outcomes of FFT remain relatively stable even after a five-year follow-up (Gordon, Arbuthnot, Gustafson, & McGreen, 1988), and the positive impact also affects siblings of the identified adolescent (Klein, Alexander, & Parsons, 1977).

3. Description:

Functional Family Therapy is used to resolve immediate crises through the mobilization and utilization of individual, family, school, peer, and community resources. Administered by community-based organizations, the program involves phases and techniques designed to engage and motivate youth and families to change their communication, interaction, and problem-solving skills. The FFT model is based on the assertion that the family or living unit of the youth is the best context within which to both understand the nature of youth's problems and to search for long-term solutions. Interventions seek to strengthen the ability of families to resolve the problems they face through reducing risk factors and increasing positive factors. The FFT model is intended to prevent at risk youth from entering and penetrating the juvenile justice system by identifying and addressing pre-delinquency issues in the context of youths' family, friends, and support systems.

1. Program Name:

Family group conferencing (restorative justice programs)

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

A local evaluation has shown positive outcomes from restorative justice programs. When compared, the pre- and post-program survey results reveal significant changes. Dr. Pat Jackson from Sonoma State University, supplied the following observations after reviewing pre- and post-program Youth Resiliency Surveys: 1. The data show significant improvement in the subscale measuring how they feel about their understanding of others including: feeling bad when someone gets their feelings hurt, trying to understand what other people go through, and trying to understand what other people feel; 2. The data shows overall significant improvement in both internal and external assets. The two internal asset subscales that show the largest improvements are improvements in the family environment and in the presence of an adult outside the home who provides support, expectations, and facilitates helping the community.

3. Description:

Restorative justice is a process that brings together the youth who offended, their family and support, the victim with their support and others impacted by the crime, to dialogue about the harms and impacts of the offense, the underlying causes that led to the offense and to create a plan to address the discussed harms, impacts and underlying causes. Restorative justice programs are designed to address victim's needs, assist youth in accepting responsibility for their offending and achieve a reduction in recidivism. Two organizations provide restorative justice interventions in multiple different formats. Depending on the case, youth may participate in family group or restorative conferencing, restorative mediation, restorative dialog groups or accountability circles. While the format varies, the focus is on accepting responsibility for offending and repairing harm.

1. Program Name:

Evidence-based Probation Supervision

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

Studies have shown community supervision and intensive supervision to be promising practices in reducing juvenile recidivism. This program uses principles from the research shown to be most effective in the field of community supervision; the program addresses the principles of risk, need, treatment and fidelity. Officers use evidence-based risk and needs assessment tools to determine the level of risk for re-offending and to target resources to higher-risk offenders, and to match intensity of services and supervision to level of risk. The tools allow staff to identify criminogenic needs, protective factors, barriers, and drivers. This information is used to develop individualized case plans. Case plans set “SMART” goals and identify interventions, supervision strategies and treatment programs that are appropriate to the offender's strengths and needs. Officers use motivational interviewing and Effective Practices In Community Supervision (EPICS) when working with youth.

3. Description:

Probation Officers funded through this program supervise low-moderate risk caseloads. They will refer youth to diversion and provide intervention services designed to improve behavior in the community, home, and school as well as to restrict further entry of youth into the juvenile justice system.

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.

Sonoma County offers a continuum of programs, services, and varying levels of probation supervision for youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court system. The programs provided to youth and their families target risk factors identified through use of a validated risk and need assessment. Supervision caseloads are based on risk level to reoffend, and lower risk youth are not typically mixed with higher risk youth.

The array of Probation's services targets criminogenic needs, offering cognitive-behavioral interventions, trauma-informed, gender-responsive and culturally-responsive programming, family intervention, substance use intervention, mental health treatment, and restorative justice. As YOBG is not the sole source of local funding for juvenile services, other funds (JJCPA and JPF) are used to fill needed service gaps and provided services for youth who are at high risk to reoffend. The overall program planning process is designed to assure that JJCPA and YOBG funds complement other funding to provide a full continuum of prevention, intervention, suppression and incapacitation programs and services, and supports the system improvement actions identified in the Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan.

Probation has expanded its use of Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings to all cases on Probation community supervision. CFTs are comprised of the youth, parents, and other natural supports including extended family members, service providers, the assigned PO, and a CFT facilitator. Service plans are formed in partnership, successes are celebrated, and challenges are addressed together. The CFT model is in wide use in California and is a best practice for ensuring collaboration with youth and families, and for strengthening networks of support that can be sustained after Probation involvement.

B. Regional Agreements

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

Currently, Juvenile Probation does not use YOBG funds to support regional agreements or arrangements.

C. Funded Programs, Placements, Services, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Using the templates below, provide details for each program, strategy, and/or system enhancement that will be funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), identifying any program that is co-funded with Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds.

To include multiple programs, copy and paste the template fields "1. Program Name," "2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based," and "3. Description" as many times as necessary.

YOBG Funded Program, Placement, Service, Strategy and/or System Enhancement

This template should be copied as many times as needed to capture every program, placement, service, strategy, and system enhancement you plan to fund next year.

1. Program Name:

Boys & Girls Club of Sonoma-Marin

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The overall program planning process is designed to assure that JJCPA and YOBG funds are used to go along with other funding to provide a full continuum of prevention, intervention, suppression and incapacitation programs and services.

3. Description:

The Boys & Girls Club operating at Juvenile Hall delivers weekly programming and structured recreation, workshops, and group activities that helps prepare youth for reentry. Each young person entering attending The Club works with the Club program provider to gain skills for work, education, relationship building, community engagement, health, and creativity. This program provides prosocial activities to all enrolled youth and is designed to give youth the opportunity to reflect and think critically about their lives, be successful at new skills, and engage with one another in positive ways.

1. Program Name:

Specialized supervision contingency funds

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The overall program planning process is designed to assure that JJCPA and YOBG funds are used to go along with other funding to provide a full continuum of prevention, intervention, suppression and incapacitation programs and services.

3. Description:

Sonoma County Probation Department will maintain a percentage of funding for the purpose of ensuring immediate access to necessary specialized treatment and monitoring services that will provide appropriate rehabilitative and supervision services to youth, protect the community, and reduce liability. Noting that the non-707(b) offenders who were historically sent to the Department of Juvenile Justice had either expended all available local resources and programs or were not found to be acceptable for many group home placements, this type of funding is necessary for specialized intensive case management and treatment services.

1. Program Name:

Partial funding for high-risk unit in Juvenile Hall

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The overall program planning process is designed to assure that JJCPA and YOBG funds are used to go along with other funding to provide a full continuum of prevention, intervention, suppression and incapacitation programs and services.

3. Description:

Funds will be used to pay the salary and benefits of four Juvenile Correctional Counselors (JCC) II who staff the maximum-security unit in the Juvenile Hall. The full staff complement of the Maximum-Security Unit program is 8.0 full-time equivalents. Sonoma County funds the remaining costs of the program.

1. Program Name:

Career and Technical Education (NextGen Trades Academy)

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The overall program planning process is designed to assure that JJCPA and YOBG funds are used to go along with other funding to provide a full continuum of prevention, intervention, suppression and incapacitation programs and services.

3. Description:

The NextGen Trades Academy is a LIME Foundation program providing diverse vocational construction training as well as work and life skills to youth ages 16-24 within Sonoma County. Throughout the program, each student explores approximately 14 construction trades such as architecture, plumbing, roofing, electrical, green building, solar technology, as well as life skills such as cover letter writing, resume writing, personal finance, budgeting, and job interview coaching. The program integrates technology, classroom instruction, hands-on experience, construction trade research, and CalOSHA certifications.