

# Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan

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## Background and Instructions:

Welfare & Institutions Code Section(s) 1990-1995 establish the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program for the purpose of providing county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure.

To be eligible for funding allocations associated with this grant program, counties shall create a subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council to develop a plan describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitative services for realigned youth.

County plans are to be submitted and revised in accordance with WIC 1995, and may be posted, as submitted, to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On September 30, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 823 into law, which supports the research reflecting that youth experience better outcomes when they remain closer to home. SB 823 increases local court jurisdiction and age of confinement in local youth facilities to age 25 to align with the current upper age of confinement at the Department of Juvenile Justice. Effective July 1, 2021, the State will begin to phase out the Department of Juvenile Justice by halting all transfers of youth from California's counties to the State's three remaining custodial facilities. San Bernardino County youth previously sent to State facilities will instead remain in local secure youth treatment locations and San Bernardino Probation will assume responsibility of the care, custody, and supervision of this population. This will open the door for the county's youth to receive rehabilitative services closer to their families and to their communities, the same communities to which they will subsequently return. The Governor's 2021-22 Budget proposes further amending SB 823 to set a defined closure date of June 30, 2023 for all Department of Juvenile Justice facilities. This builds on the Administration's commitment to providing more treatment and rehabilitative services for youth closer to home.

Commencing on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, and annually thereafter a state allocation, referred to as the "Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant", will be provided to counties which supply a treatment centered secured program and youth centered supervision for the realignment of this Department of Juvenile Justice population. These funds will be utilized to develop a robust and comprehensive menu of strength based programming services for this specialized population. To design the secure treatment program, Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1995 outlines the creation of a multiagency sub-committee of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC).

This sub-committee is comprised of county stakeholders and community members who have experience providing community-based services to youth, youth justice advocates with expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system, or justice involved youth who have experienced or been directly involved in the juvenile justice system. The sub-committee will strategize collaboratively to develop the infrastructure of the facilities, programs, placement, services, supervision, and re-entry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitation and supervision services for this population. In addition, W&I Code 1995 also defines elements of the program where these block grant funds should be maximized. These mandates include mental health services, trauma informed care, cultural responsiveness, positive youth development, family engagement and re-entry planning.

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**Part 1: Subcommittee Composition (WIC 1995 (b))**

List the subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Name and Title</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Chief Probation Officer (Chair)	Tracy Reece Chief Probation Officer	<a href="mailto:tracy.reece@prob.sbcounty.gov">tracy.reece@prob.sbcounty.gov</a>	909 387 5656
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**Part 2: Target Population (WIC 1995 (C) (1))**

Briefly describe the County’s realignment target population supported by the block grant:

The target population for those supported by the block grant in San Bernardino County are youth who have been realigned by the California Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or who would otherwise have been eligible for commitment to DJJ. The number of youth in the program is anticipated to range from a minimum of 10 youth to a maximum of 80 youth at any given point in time, with the ages of youth ranging from 14 years to 24 years old. Those supported by the block grant are intended to be youth whose most recent committing offenses are listed in Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 707(b); those offenses include murder, rape with force, robbery, kidnapping for ransom, assault with a firearm or destructive device, or other serious and violent crime. The targeted population in San Bernardino County does not currently include three specialized populations: females, sex offenders, and the severely mentally ill (SMI).

In the past, DJJ commitment offenses in San Bernardino County have typically been for crimes such as murder, armed robbery, and carjacking, although other 707(b) offenses will be addressed if so ordered by the court. The youth supported by the block grant in San Bernardino County will be males of any race or ethnicity, with females of any race or ethnicity being supported through out of county collaboration with other Probation Departments. Prior to a commitment order, the court shall be provided with all available information concerning past programs, placements, and/or facilities to which the youth has been referred and/or participated in as well as the outcome(s).

Demographics of identified target population, including anticipated numbers of youth served, disaggregated by factors including age, gender, race or ethnicity, and offense/offense history:

The number of youth the county will provide services to be subject to fluctuation as changes may occur throughout the DJJ realignment process. Additionally, the number of youth served is not under the sole control of any one agency or department but is instead the result of assessments and decisions made by multiple agencies, which include the Superior Court, District Attorney’s Office, and Public Defender’s Office, and the Probation Department. With that in mind, the county currently has 48 youth placed within California DJJ facilities, and has another 13 youth in local Juvenile Detention & Assessment Center facilities who are pending delivery. Of this total population of 61 youth, there are approximately 20 youth who have a Parole Board date in 2021 and are likely to then be released back into the community. The number of youth who may be released in years 2022 and 2023 is unknown at this time. The majority of the 59 youth who have been ordered committed are between the ages of 16 and 19 years of age, with the single largest percentage being 18 years old at 27.5%. Additionally, 90% percent of those who have been ordered committed are male, and 50%

are of Hispanic ethnicity, while 42% are African-American and 8% are Caucasian. The youth's commitment offenses, while covering a broad array of circumstances, are typically violent crimes with the single greatest percentage being Penal Code (PC) 211, Robbery, at 35%. The next most common committing offense is PC 245 (A), Assault with a Deadly Weapon, at 20%, and third is PC 187, Murder, at 15%. In a review of the youth ordered committed to DJJ, 76% were found to have had a prior criminal history and 24% had no prior sustained allegations. While these prior population demographics do not dictate future numbers, they will be used to improve preparedness by providing insight into future probabilities.

Describe any additional relevant information pertaining to identified target population, including programs, placements and/or facilities to which they have been referred.

In order to prepare for the target population, an evaluation of existing DJJ committed youth was completed; of those who had an offense history prior to their committing offense, approximately one in four had previously been ordered to a placement, four of the youth had previously been in the Wraparound Program, and one had previously been ordered into the Gateway Program. All of those with a prior offense history had been ordered by the court to attend various prevention and intervention programs, which commonly included being supervised by Probation Officers in their home, participating in the Probation Departments House Arrest Program, attending Anger Management classes, and participating in Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and Cognitive Life Skills classes.

### **Part 3: Programs and Services (WIC 1995 (c) (2))**

Provide a description of the facilities, programs, placements, services and service providers, supervision, and other responses that will be provided to the target population:

The intent of the program is for community-based organizations and families to work together with county personnel to integrate services in and out of custody to provide the youth with a comprehensive continuum of care. The San Bernardino County program will incorporate a multiple step-down and phased approach to community reentry; the county will utilize two existing Probation Department facilities for the DJJ realignment population as well as coordinate with other county departments and community based providers to ensure appropriate housing options are available for additional phasing of the rehabilitation process in the future. The initial phase, or phase one, of the program will occur within a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) where the youth will begin their commitment. The location of the county's SYTF is within the county's High Desert Juvenile Detention & Assessment Center, located in Apple Valley, California. The SYTF will utilize four housing units, each with a maximum housing capacity of 20 youth, four unit day rooms, and one large multi-purpose room, which are currently in the process of being remodeled to provide a home-like atmosphere while still ensuring the safety of the youth and staff.

Each youth will have gone through a comprehensive process of assessment and classification to assist in ensuring the youth is housed in the most appropriate living unit, from amongst those available. If an assessment has not already been done, one will be completed to ensure the identification of any psychological or mental health issues, physical health problems, or substance abuse dependencies. The San Bernardino County Probation Health Care Services is accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC), and is the only Juvenile Detention Facility in the State of California to hold this accreditation. A dentist licensed by the state of California, as well as optometry services will provide on-site dental services. Health education and instruction in self-care will be provided, and general health education classes as well as pamphlets and brochures on a variety of health topics will be available and accessible to youth. Mental health clinicians play an integral role in the youth's program, and will provide treatment planning, individual, family and group therapy, substance abuse counseling, art therapy, and other services.

A review of each youth's prior program(s), placement(s) and facility history will also be completed to aid in identification of the steps needed to assist the youth in preparation for their eventual release. Rehabilitation services begin as soon as the youth enters the facility, which will contain areas in which the youth can work towards obtaining a high school diploma, college degrees, and vocational training and certifications. Job application skills, life management skills, individual and family therapy, medical and mental health services, and more will be provided.

A graduated system will be implemented to provide youth with both the incentives and the opportunities to earn privileges in areas, which include but are not limited to expanded personal property items on the housing unit, additional hygiene and snacks, additional activities, and eligibility for incentive jobs in the facility. Youth can progress through the system by complying with facility rules, completing components of their Individual Rehabilitation Plan, participating in various life skills classes, and demonstrating pro-social behavior. The program is likely to include the addition of a canine therapy program, and youth will be provided with opportunities to participate in non-denominational faith-based spiritual health services or faith-based counseling at least once each week.

Educational programs will provide youth with the opportunity to improve their educational and vocational competencies based on their aptitudes and employment market demand. Staff will support the youth's completion of their secondary education (High School Diploma) as well as college course work. Youth will have the opportunity to take classes, which can lead to an Associate's or even a Bachelor's Degree. Additionally, Career Technical Education (CTE) programs combine academics with employer required hands-on experience and occupational knowledge, creating a strong pathway to a career. The program will offer an abundance of CTE and associate's degree programs so that youth will have the opportunity to both prepare for a job and complete post-secondary education.

In this facility, the county will incorporate the engagement of other county departments, community based organizations who have experience serving youth in a custodial setting, and other partners with the youth in activities, experiences, and programming using a rehabilitative and therapeutic treatment approach. Each youth will have an Individualized Treatment Team, which will include the

youth and may include a clinical therapist, a social worker, a teacher, a caseload counselor, supportive family members and other supportive adults, community members and mentors. The Individualized Treatment Team is a collaborative multi-disciplinary effort intended to bring support to the youth in their rehabilitation process; this team will meet to review the youth's progress towards meeting their goals and will work together to create the youth's Individualized Rehabilitation Plan. When necessary, the team will also make adjustments and changes to the youth's Individualized Rehabilitation Plan in order to provide ongoing support to the youth as they work towards their goals.

From the start, the emphasis will be on preparing the youth for eventual community reintegration upon their release. Once youth have completed significant aspects of their Individual Rehabilitation Plan, and with the input and evaluation of the youth's treatment team and the court, the youth may be transitioned to phase two-program facility where additional support services will be provided to prepare the youth for reentry into the community. In this phase the youth are still afforded many of the programs and services in phase one, with additional services to focus on needs such as housing, employment, family reunification, and continued treatment for substance addiction and mental health services. The youth will also be guided in obtaining appropriate forms of identification and aided in applying for services and assistance for which they are potentially eligible while in this phase of the program. By ensuring justice system, involved youth remain closer to their families and communities, family engagement throughout the treatment process can be strengthened, and families will have more opportunity to be involved in the treatment process.

For the second phase of this program, or phase two, the Probation Department will repurpose an existing building located in the City of San Bernardino, California, as a step-down from the SYTF in the high desert. There, the youth will be provided with continuing programs and services like those at the SYTF, but with additional programming options, which include limited/structured community access in order for them to more fully engage in, direct societal interaction. This is crucial to improving their reintegration process and prospects. For example, the youth may use the job preparedness skills become employed, at which point the program would transport them to and from work, and assisting with the reintegration process. Budgeting and financial planning training will be given an even greater focus, as will other independent living skills. Community members who are committed to helping the youth make lasting changes are also partners in this treatment process, and will be involved to help ensure youth are on the right pathway to success upon release. The focus on the youth's foundational support system and development as a person will be prioritized.

Alternatively or in addition to, the youth may enroll in in-person college courses and be transported to and from class. Should the youth wish to engage with family, friends and/or mentors in the community, support will be provided. Youth will also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of community service projects both in and outside of the facility to better appreciate the value in helping others. This phase also allows additional incentive options, including trips to museums and beaches, amusement parks, and hikes through mountains and National Parks, amongst others, in order for youth to experience a variety of environments and situations while still having the support of the county. Included in this program are periodic reassessments during the youth's commitment, which identifies their successes as well as any needed modifications to the plan. Peer support, mentoring, and independent living skills will continue to be provided to develop the youth's positive

attitudes, motivation, and ability to live independently in the future. Each component provided builds on past positive youth developmental achievements and goals to empower the youth to make positive and long-lasting changes while focusing on the youth's transition back into the community. Staff will create opportunities within the program for youth to lead the process of developing themselves, in order to build and strengthen their ability to resist involvement in destructive behaviors such as substance abuse or violence.

To ensure the youth is ready to reintegrate back into their community, programming will be developed in close conjunction with community based organizations, mentors, and family members to support a realistic and public safety conscious plan of supervision. The youth's potential living possibilities will be evaluated to provide the best possible chances of success. Job readiness and preparation, interview techniques, job application completion and resume writing, will continue to be available for youth who have not already completed these trainings, or who wish to complete a refresher. Youth have an opportunity to earn the privilege of home furloughs in differing amounts of time increments; home furloughs give the youth an opportunity to spend time with family members and practice the pro-social skills they have been learning and developing throughout their treatment process.

This phase will also ensure that the youth's health care is documented and delivered in such a way that recommended support can be continued in the community upon release., This also serves as a way of helping youth understand what their health care needs. When they are released, they know where to go for help and what to ask when they become responsible for guiding their own care. This phase will identify and establish community service, transitional employment, apprenticeships, internships, and other opportunities for youths to acquire work experience and skills as they seek and maintain permanent employment. Youth will also be provided with the opportunity to participate in work assignments and skill-building programs that enhance their employability and success in the community. Work programs that involve non-profit, volunteer, and community service organizations will be contacted to assist youth, who have been in custody for lengthy periods, with work experience.

Phase three is the next step-down in the program. This may incorporate placements, community-based organizations and other housing options into the youths plan. In this phase, the youth lives without daily supervision using their own learned skills and developed resources while still having the advantages of program support. It is in this phase where the youth achieves independence. Youth who are continuing to participate in college programs will work with the college's services to continue their educational needs towards their chosen career path. Youth who have gained employment will be encouraged and supported in maintaining their employment and advancing in their chosen career. Not all youth may participate in this phase. This phase is for youth who will be living independently upon release.

Supervision staff, conjunction with the youth, will develop in a supervision strategy that corresponds to a strengths based approach to the needs of the youth and the resources available in their community. This phase begins when the youth is released to family, friends, or other housing and continues until discharged from community supervision. During this phase the youth, the Probation

Department, community-based organizations, county and state human service agency providers, and the youth's own personal support network will work collaboratively to optimize the youth's successful adjustment. The youth will be provided with support, boundaries and expectations, and other services intended to buffer the youth from risk of recidivism.

**Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds (WIC 1995 (3) (a))**

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address the mental health, sex offender youth treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of the target population:

Funds will be applied to ensure staff participating in the rehabilitation and treatment of youth have completed specialized mental health and adolescent development training in order to provide appropriate behavioral and trauma informed care to meet the needs of the target population. The county will work collaboratively with the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) as well as community based organizations and private providers to provide coordinated services which may include individual, family, or group counseling, crisis intervention, medication management, Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). If the Court, the Probation Department, DBH identify a treatment need, the youth or the youth's Treatment Team that is not already provided through previously identified services the county will coordinate with appropriate departments and providers to obtain needed services. Youth with identified psychological distress will be referred to the Forensic Adolescent Services Team (FAST) for further evaluation.

It is currently the intent of the county to coordinate agreements with other county Probation Departments to provide services for females who have received a commitment order, due to the infrequent nature of those orders in this county. Sex offender youth and youth who have significant mental health issues, which would affect their ability to benefit from participation in this counties program, may receive specialized therapeutic services through a local county agency, a contracted private provider or community based organization, or through the State of California or another Probation Department.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population: (WIC 1995 (3) (B))

Grant funds will be applied to support programming such as self-care, career planning, interpersonal relationships, goal setting, and decision making which aim to maximize the promotion of healthy adolescent development. The youth will also have been assessed using applicable tools to determine how to best ensure appropriate adolescent development. While assessment tools are constantly being developed and revised, some of those used may include the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS), the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS), and/or the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI). The JAIS is a supervision model, which weaves together a needs assessment and a risk assessment. At the heart of JAIS is a one-

on-one conversation that focuses on who the youth is and particularly on their underlying motivations for behavior. The CANS tool is a multi-purpose tool that supports decision-making, including the appropriate level of services, which allows for effective monitoring and outcome of services. The CANS Assessment helps guide conversations among treatment team members about the wellbeing of the youth, identifying their strengths and needs, and aids in developing the rehabilitation plan. The YASI provides for analyzing information collected by officers, caseworkers, social workers, and other professionals who assess at-promise youth. These and other assessments will help identify the youth's needs and strengths, as well as areas, which need additional focus. *The Teen Years Explained: A Guide to Healthy Adolescent Development*, from the Center for Adolescent Health at Johns Hopkins, identifies five areas of adolescent development; physical, cognitive, emotional, social, and moral values. Programming will include lessons which include development in these areas and encourage the youth to learn about themselves, create positive experiences, and become responsible and contributing members of the community with confidence, passion, and purpose.

While healthy physical development opportunities have been established in the county for quite some time, funding will be applied towards large muscle activity curriculums, yoga, meditation, nutritional standards and regular medical health screenings. Learning opportunities to ensure cognitive development will include college classes and vocational training, as well as other knowledge-based opportunities. Emotional needs will be addressed by ensuring psychologically safe spaces for the youth to live and learn in, particularly during individual and group counseling and therapy. Social development will be achieved, in part, through the establishment of opportunities for the youth to create and maintain positive connections with supportive people (adults who will encourage them in their growth process). These may include family members, teachers, therapists, probation corrections officers, program leaders, mentors and more.

To ensure the development of morals and values consistent with societal expectations, funding will be directed towards ensuring youth are given opportunities in all phases of the program to engage as learners, leaders, and team members, and access to faith-based opportunities. Treatment components used to assist in these endeavors may include the Forward Thinking journal series, a cognitive-behavioral series that uses evidence-based strategies to assist youth involved in the criminal justice system in making positive changes to their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Additionally, a victim's awareness or restorative justice treatment component may be included when suitable. Restorative models of justice have worked with survivors to define the healing and justice they need, and to understand and connect to the positive transformation of the person who inflicted harm as part of their own recovery.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population: (WIC 1995 (3) (C))

Family members and other social support systems play an important part in ensuring youth's success following their reintegration back into the community. Understanding family as an important support system, staff will work to identify and overcome potential barriers to reunification. The San Bernardino County Probation Department plans to utilize the clinical model of Functional Family Therapy (FFT) to address family engagement. These services are led by Department of Behavior Health staff, with Probation Department staff also trained on the use of this modality. The model has five major components: engagement, motivation, relational assessment, behavior change and generalization, and each component has its own goals and techniques. The engagement component focuses on responsiveness to family needs and maintaining a strength-based relational approach.

The motivation component focuses on the relationship process, separating blame from responsibility while remaining strength-based. Relational assessments identify the patterns of interaction within the family to understand the relational "functions" or interpersonal payoffs for individual family members' behaviors. This sets the stage for planning in behavior change and generalization, where all interventions are matched to the families' relational functions. The goal of behavior change is to improve family functioning and individual skill development. The goal of the generalization component is to extend the improvements made during the behavior change component into multiple areas and to plan for future challenges, planning for relapse prevention, and incorporating community systems into the treatment process.

The program will also work with other county agencies to implement family finding techniques; in many cases youth have extended family and other individuals who care about the youth and can provide support. By identifying, developing and maintaining these connections, innovative solutions may arise to ensure a positive future for the youth, both while in the phases and throughout their lives. The focus will be on plans that are safe, stable, and lasting with adults who have sufficient skills to provide support and healthy relationships to the youth.

There will also be a focus on parenting skills and family reintegration, both in FFT and throughout the program, to strengthen and support as much of the youths family structure as possible. This support may include family visitation, including transportation to the program facilities or minor's location, staff who act as a family liaison and volunteers or advocates who assume the role of parent partners and mentors. In addition, staff will also be trained in various types of treatment services and approaches, including cultural competencies and trauma-informed care, to ensure an understanding of the cultural and environmental factors, which may affect or affect the youth's individualized rehabilitative plan.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing and continuing education for the target population: (WIC 1995 (3) (D))

This program incorporates the belief that youth's needs are best met by providing and implementing approaches to support positive youth development and building capacity through a continuum of local community-based approaches whenever possible. While the county will be applying funds to address reentry throughout each phase of the program, how it is incorporated into the youths programming will vary as their level of preparation changes. In the first phase, assessment of the youth's aptitudes and abilities will take place and programming will be provided in order to maximize successes later in the process. Agreements with community-based organizations will enable youth to be placed in local housing if necessary to afford them the opportunity of full community access while maintaining strong support services and mentoring. Throughout each phase youth will continue to have available to them a continuum of community based care, including mental health services, medical services, mentoring, job placement, and transportation.

Employment skills, including training in interviewing, completing job applications and writing resumes, and dressing professionally, will have been part of the youths programming and multiple opportunities will be provided to ensure the youth is prepared to reenter the job market. Throughout the program, the county will also provide physical items needed to prepare for different kinds of employment; for example, in order to get an OSHA forklift operators permit, a forklift will be necessary for practice and test taking. An oven is necessary for the food handlers permit needed for work as a chef. A computer is needed for computer programming, and so on. The program will also include linkages to the Workforce Development Department (WDD), which may be able to provide on-site facilitators to further assist youth in successfully obtaining employment. Some of the types of jobs being discussed include electrical and solar power installation, welding and metalworking, and music production and graphic design. Local businesses and organizations in the community may help to facilitate these connections.

Additionally, contact with local unions, including the Ironworkers Local (for metalwork), the Carriers & Laborers Local (for building construction), the Teamsters Local (for shipping & logistics), and the Boilermakers Local (for industrial construction) may assist in ensuring safe, stable, high quality employment opportunities are available to the youth. For those youth attending college, they will be linked with on campus support to assist them with instructions, resources and opportunities. Follow-up services will be provided to ensure resource connectedness and assistance with independent living.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive services for the target population: (WIC 1995 (3) (E))

Although Evidence-Based and Promising Programming and services provided will change based on need and availability, some options may include the use of resources provided by the Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center which is part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the What Works Clearinghouse, which is a part of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) within the U.S. Department of Education. These organizations include positive reviews of several programs as examples of what may be provided:

- Lions Quest Skills for Action, which is a program designed to build positive youth development and citizenship skills for high school age students, includes classroom lessons and service learning. The program includes more than 100 lessons focused around 26 personal, social, and thinking skills. Program length ranges from one semester to four years. Students explore personal stories highlighting values and behavior through teachers' questions, group discussion, and resource pages in the curricular materials. Optional components include a student magazine, an Advisory Team, and supplemental units on drug use prevention.
- Building Decision Skills, which aims to raise high school students' awareness of ethics, help youth gain experience developing core values, and give youth strategies for dealing with ethical dilemmas. Using readings, handouts, and overheads, the curriculum covers key concepts and students are encouraged to debate the key concepts through small-group activities, class discussions, and homework assignments.
- Too Good for Drugs and Violence (TGFD&V), which is designed to promote high school students' pro-social skills, positive youth development, and violence- and drug-free norms. The curriculum consists of 14 core lessons, as well as an additional 12 lessons that can be infused into other subject areas (such as English, science, and social studies). The program includes optional elements of family and community involvement.

Trauma-informed means services that recognize and understand traumatic stress reactions and the impact of trauma on the youth, their family and the community. Culturally responsive means programming, which respects a diverse population with regard to race, language, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender expression, immigration status and values. As examples, trauma-informed and culturally aware training which may be provided to the youth include:

- Mindfulness-Based Strategic Awareness Training (MB SAT), will encourages youth awareness to help them make decisions free from unhelpful beliefs or cognitive biases. Contrary to popular belief that we make rational decisions, research have shown that our choices are mostly driven by emotions, and mindfulness can help to regulate those emotions, creating the mental space for us to become more aware of ourselves and our surroundings and avoid situations which could thwart our well-being.
- Community Resiliency Model (CRM) training will help youth to not only help themselves but to help others by providing a skills-based program intended to reset the natural balance of their nervous system. CRM helps individuals understand their nervous system and learn to read sensations connected to their own well-being, to help to create "trauma-informed" and "resiliency-focused" communities that share a common understanding of the impact of trauma and chronic stress on the nervous system and how resiliency can be restored or increased using this skills-based approach.

The county has submitted a Request for Information (RFI) to assist in identifying and obtaining evidence-based and promising practice programs and services through nonprofit and for profit community-based organizations. These services, which may be provided by other county agencies or departments, or community based or non-governmental sources, are intended to identify trauma-informed and culturally responsive resources in this community. These services will assist youth in educational support, employment support, vocational training, mentorship, peer support, and the provision of pro-social activities.

Describe whether and how the County plans to apply grant funds to include services or programs for the target population that are provided by nongovernmental or community-based providers: (WIC 1995 (3) (F))

In order for community outreach and engagement efforts to enable the success of the youth, the program will work with multiple partners, including volunteers, mentors, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, civic organizations, and local businesses. As previously mentioned, the county is engaged in outreach to identify services and supports provided by nongovernmental and community based organizations to contribute to the youths development both while housed in the initial SYTF and during subsequent phases, culminating with the youths release and re-entry while maintaining established connections with family and community.

Services and programs that are being sought to benefit the DJJ realigned youth include, but are not limited to; the development of coping and social skills, arts and craft classes, animal assisted therapy, behavior management skills, pro-social development, life skills such as cooking, hygiene, time management, financial planning, literacy, journaling, mentoring, tutoring at both the high school and college levels, gang intervention, victim awareness, parenting skills and support, transitional housing, workforce development, and vocational skills. Programming will be made available to the youth both remotely and near the youth's place of residence and will, to the extent possible, be trauma-focused and evidence-based, as well as culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate.

The current Request for Information issued through the county's ePro system will assist in finding available services and support that are evidence-based or promising practices. The program intends to utilize organizations with existing county contracts and Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) as well as collaborating with new community partnerships. The Caseload Explorer Case Management computer system will be utilized for tracking youth participation and completion dates of programming.

## Part 5: Facility Plan

Describe in detail each of the facilities that the County plans to use to house or confine the target population at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need, and improvements to accommodate long-term commitments. Facility information shall also include information on how the facilities will ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics. (WIC 1995 (4))

The intent of the program is to ensure that youth are maintained in the least restrictive and most appropriate environment available. Research has established that a home-like environment can encourage socialization and minimize psychological barriers and that when coupled with dignified treatment, supports a more therapeutic setting and reduces behavioral conflict. The High Desert Juvenile Detention and Assessment Center (HDJDAC) is the facility in which the program will be located during the first phase of the youth commitment time. The HDJDAC is a secure facility, with five main buildings with one building housing the DJJ realignment program. The remaining buildings are the HDJDAC booking and housing facility, as well as the administration building, warehouse, additional classrooms, and offices. The program building will have on-site supervisors' offices, clinical therapist offices and classrooms. Outdoor recreational spaces are located off each housing unit and an exercise room will be located onsite.

A visiting area for families, a library and counseling space for individual, family, and group counseling are also all located within the facility. Staffing will be proportional to ensure the safety of the youth and security of the facility, and monitored cameras are located throughout the facility to add additional safety and security. Youth of differing ages, size and sophistication will be closely monitored to ensure appropriate and safe interaction to the highest degree possible. The facility is current on all local and state safety required inspections, and was built with safety and the prevention of injury in mind. The facility is cleaned and sanitized on a daily basis.

Phase one facility improvements for the purposes of the program to ensure a more home-like environment include new flooring, furniture, and paint, as well as increased control by the youth over facilities such as the length of time to shower. Improved landscaping, a garden, a new exercise room, and more home-like bedding and towels as well as mattresses and other room décor also assist in providing improvements in order to accommodate long-term commitments. The youth will be provided with mattress options used as an incentive to keep their room clean. Amenities such as hygiene kit options to incentivize good hygiene, and ample access to natural light and fresh air. The addition of a dedicated college classroom with computers, printers, and other equipment, as well as multiple vocational classrooms, provide numerous opportunities to engage the youth in positive developmental activities.

For the phase two portion of the commitment time, the youth will transfer to a facility designated for this purpose in the City of San Bernardino, California. This facility is where transitional services have already been provided in the past to prepare youth for re-entry into the community. This facility has two housing units, a classroom and a component room, cafeteria areas, an atrium, outdoor recreational courts, an exercise room, and a nearby vocational training building. It also has an

administrative area with conference rooms for family, group and individual therapy. Cameras are located throughout the facility to provide additional security.

As with the phase one location, the building is current on all local and state safety required inspections and the housing units and youths' rooms are cleaned and sanitized on a daily basis. The more college-like setting of this particular facility will be able to further extend the home-like atmosphere provided to the youth during long-term commitments. The housing units are designed to accommodate youth of varied ages and sophistication. Multiple options will also exist regarding youths clothing so that their participation in the community can occur without disruption. Prior to the program utilizing the facility, improvements will include new flooring, furniture and paint, as well as more home-like bedding and towels. Phase three incorporates the use of non-county facilities for housing.

### **Part 6: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System**

Describe how the plan will incentivize or facilitate the retention of the target population within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system, in lieu of transfer to the adult criminal justice system: (WIC 1995 (5))

Transfers to the adult criminal justice system are initiated by the District Attorney's office and subsequently determined by the Court when other alternatives are unavailable or unlikely to be successful. It is the intent of this program to provide sufficient treatment modalities, educational resources, vocational training and family engagement support such that the Court will have an abundance of alternatives within this program to facilitate the retention of youth in the juvenile justice system and deter transfer to the adult system.

### **Part 7: Regional Effort**

Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation: (WIC 1995 (6))

It is the intent for San Bernardino County Probation Department, to enter into agreements with other nearby Probation Departments, in order to provide for appropriate rehabilitative services for females, for youth that have committed serious sexual offenses, and for youth with serious mental health issues that would significantly affect their ability to participate in the San Bernardino County program. We are currently in discussions with other county Probation departments and stakeholders as these programs are being developed to ensure needed resources for our youth are available.

## Part 8: Data

Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant: (WIC 1995 (7))

Outcome measurements for the program are centered on public health and public safety approaches that are evidence-based and the primary data collection system for youth in the program will be the Probation Departments client management system, Caseload Explorer, with additional fields added as needed to ensure all relevant information is tracked and can be reported out. San Bernardino County will be using evidence-based assessments such as the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI), and Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) that measure changes in criminogenic needs. Many evidence-based programs such as Aggression Replacement Training, Moral Reconation Therapy and Courage to Change have established evaluations to measure changes in participants thinking. Surveys of the youth may be taken at multiple points in the process, including post-release, in order to better understand the impacts of the program and provide data to improve future outcomes. Data from all of these resources can be collected to assist both in formulating the youth's Individualized Rehabilitation Plan and in providing data and information on youth served as the program progresses.

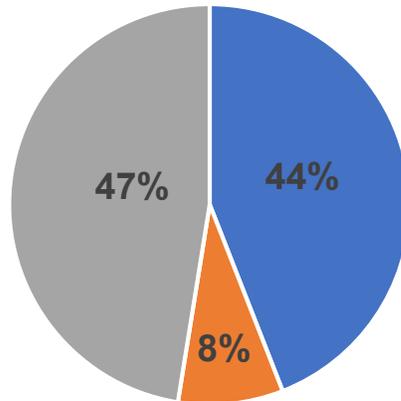
Describe outcome measures that will be utilized to determine the results of the programs and interventions supported by block grant funds: (WIC 1995 (7))

The intention of this plan is to protect the community, which includes these youth, by improving their lives through assessment, treatment, rehabilitative services and enforcement. Evidence supports that gainful employment, positive youth development and strong connections to the community will result in reduced future crime (i.e. lower recidivism). Longitudinal outcomes will examine how the programming effectively utilizes community-based programs, and may help to ensure the least restrictive dispositions appropriate to the environment are being utilized; new alternative responses to confinement may be identified. Tracking outcomes regarding behavioral incidents, progression in pro-social behavior, successful community reentry at multiple time intervals, and recidivism among the youth will also assist in measuring the program's effectiveness, and demonstrate improved outcomes for youth success, reduced transfers of youth into the adult criminal justice system, and greater public safety.

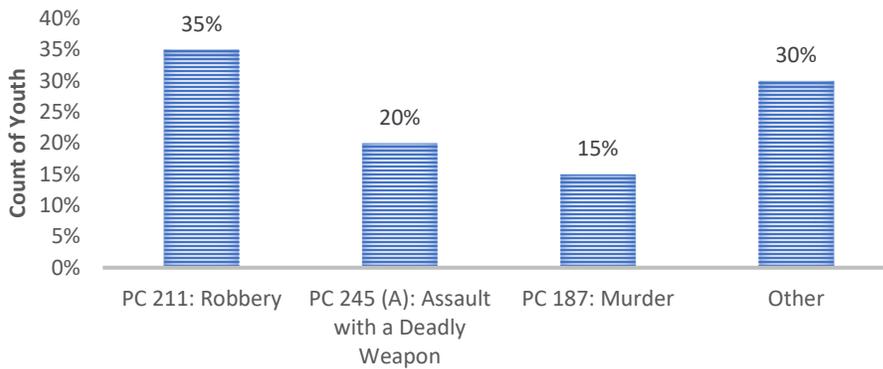
## Appendix

### *Race of Youth Currently Committed to DJJ*

■ African American ■ Caucasian ■ Hispanic/Latino



### **COMMITMENT OFFENSES OF YOUTH CURRENTLY COMMITTED TO DJJ**



### **Sustained Allegation History for Youth Currently Committed to DJJ**

■ Prior Sustained Allegations ■ No Prior Sustained Allegations

