



SOLANO COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT
ANNUAL PLAN
2024





JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL PLAN

MAIN CONTACT FOR PLAN

Date: April 29, 2024

County Name: Solano County

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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. Section 1995 was amended by Assembly Bill 505 (Ting, Chapter 528, Statutes of 2023.) This template has been updated to reflect those amendments which will be in effect on January 1, 2024. All citations are to the law as amended. The statutory language can be found [here](#).

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. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(a).)

County plans are to be submitted to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration in accordance with Welf. & Inst. Code §1995. OYCR may request revisions as necessary or request completion of the required planning process prior to final acceptance of the plan. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995 (f).) Plans will be posted to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(g).)

There are nine sections to the plan:

Part 1: Subcommittee Composition

Part 2: Target Population

Part 3: Programs and Services

Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block
Grant Funds

Part 5: Facility Plan

PART 1: SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSITION AND PROCESS (WELF. & INST. CODE §§ 1995 (B) AND (C))

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

Agency	Name and Title	Email	Phone Number
Chief Probation Officer (Chair)	Dean Farrah	djfarrah@solanocounty.com	707-784-7614
District Attorney's Office Representative	Lidia Hernandez	lahernandez2@solanocounty.com	707-784-6824
Public Defender's Office Representative	Elena D'Agustino	edagustino@solanocounty.com	707-784-6724
Department of Social Services Representative	Gerald Huber	grhuber@solanocounty.com	707-784-8400
Department of Mental Health	Emery Cowan	ecowan@solanocounty.com	707-784-8041
Office of Education Representative	Lisette Estrella- Henderson	lehenderson@solanocoe.net	707-399-4403
Court Representative	Judge Davis	tddavis@solano.courts.ca.gov	707-207-7317
Three Community Members <i>(defined as "individuals who have experience providing community-based youth services, youth justice advocates with expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system, or have been directly involved in the juvenile justice system" (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b).))</i>	Lawrence Barnes	Bind_the-broken@yahoo.com	707-771-0829
	Julie Hilt	juliehilt@gmail.com	707-290-0955
	Michael Pendergast	pendergastm76@gmail.com	707-712-6317
Additional Subcommittee Participants			
Child Welfare Services	Neely McElroy	nmcelroy@solanocounty.com	707-784-8331

Describe the process used to determine whether to select a co-chair for your subcommittee (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b)): There has not been a motion made to select a co-chair.

Provide the dates of the last two meetings that the subcommittee convened to discuss your county's JJRBG plan?

Meeting Date 1:

Meeting Date 2:

Additional meeting dates of the subcommittee, if applicable:

Date that the subcommittee approved the plan by a majority vote. The subcommittee approved the initial plan on April 13, 2021. The plan has been discussed at all subsequent Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) meetings with the last two meetings taking place on October 11, 2023 and April 24, 2024.

Describe how the plan was developed, including the review and participation of the subcommittee community members as defined in Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b): For the initial planning, the Solano Probation Department looked at historical data to complete a profile of the youth previously committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice. Using the known demographics of the target population and the anticipated number youth to be served, resources, treatment, and services were identified by the subcommittee that would adequately address the youth's needs. The subcommittee was comprised of Probation, the DA's office, Public Defender, the Department of Health and Social Services, the County Office of Education, the Court, as well as three community members. At the April 24, 2024 JJCC meeting, the Chief Probation Officer affirmed the plan to reconvene the subcommittee with four meetings over the next 12 months to ensure compliance with the recent changes to WIC1995(b).

PART 2: TARGET POPULATION (WELF. & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(1))

Briefly describe the County's realignment target population supported by the block grant.

The "target population" is defined as "youth who were eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure and shall further be defined as persons who are adjudicated to be a ward of the juvenile court based on an offense described in subdivision (b) of Section 707 or an offense described in Section 290.008 of the Penal Code." (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1990(b))

The Solano County Probation Department (Department) completed a profile of the youth previously committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) during the initial planning. Based on historical data, the anticipated population to be served were males, 17-23 years, who had committed a serious offense outlined in Section 707(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC). Based upon the profile developed, it was anticipated more than half of the committed youth will have received prior intervention and services from the Department. Through the first three years of the program, the target population has been consistent with the original identified target population.

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

For the initial planning, data during the timeframe of January 2018 to March 2020 was reviewed, which showed 23 Solano County youth were committed to DJJ. The Solano County youth under commitment and housed at DJJ during this timeframe were all males ranging from ages 16 to 21, and the average age at the time of commitment was 17 years. The age range at discharge from DJJ was between 18-21, with the average age at discharge being 20 years. Fourteen youth were involved with Child Welfare Services. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] While detained at the Solano County Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF), twelve youth received their high school diploma, and [REDACTED] completed online college courses. The ethnicity of the group included 13 African American, [REDACTED] Latino, [REDACTED] Caucasian, and [REDACTED] Pacific Islander youth. Of those, 19 of the 23 were committed for serious/violent felony offenses (12 for armed robbery, [REDACTED] assault with a deadly weapon, [REDACTED] manslaughter), while [REDACTED] youth were committed for sex offense crimes. At any given point in time, there were approximately [REDACTED]-14 youth serving out a commitment.

For calendar year 2023, there were 13 youth served in the JDF's Reaching Into Successful Endeavors (RISE) program. Of those 13 youth, all were male and ranged from ages 14-22 ([REDACTED]) at the time of commitment. [REDACTED] youth were black, [REDACTED] Hispanic, and [REDACTED] white. The most serious commitment offense for those 13 youth included [REDACTED] Assault with Firearm, [REDACTED] Attempted Homicide, [REDACTED] Homicide, [REDACTED] Robbery, [REDACTED] Voluntary Manslaughter, and [REDACTED] Assault with Great Bodily Injury.

Describe the target population, disaggregated by programs, placements and/or facilities to which they have been referred.

The Department operates a range of prevention and diversion programs to intervene with services at the lowest level possible, all intended to divert lower risk youth with a limited criminal history from entering the formal juvenile justice system. Services include mentoring, individual cognitive skill building activities, and counseling as needed. In addition, the Police Activities League (PAL), and the Youth Achievement Centers (YAC), deliver more intensive services to at-risk youth and those formally involved in the juvenile justice system. A continuum of educational services is offered within the community, at the YAC, and at the JDF to ensure individual educational needs are met. Formal partnerships with the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and Five Keys Charter School allows the Department to customize educational services for youth and increase their likelihood of graduation.

The Department offers diversion services to appropriate youth, while referring only youth at a higher risk to reoffend for formal intervention. For youth requiring the filing of a formal petition, an assessment of risk and needs is completed to understand the challenges and areas of need the youth and family are experiencing. Once under the jurisdiction of the Department, staff at all levels work to remove barriers and provide services aimed at increasing the youth's likelihood of success as they transition toward adulthood.

Youth supervised by the Department participate in an array of evidence-based programs and services such as cognitive behavioral therapy, mental health treatment, medical and medication support, individual, family and group therapy services, wraparound program services, sex offender treatment, and substance abuse intervention/treatment. Youth will participate in screenings to determine levels of care, if needed, in both substance use and mental health treatment. The Department is enhancing Substance Use Disorders (SUD) treatment services with support from the statewide Youth Opioid Response (YOR) program to ensure those youth in need are connected with needed services from education and family outreach to American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) assessment and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).

Youth with heightened risk and needs who require a higher level of care may be placed in a Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP). Youth in need of a highly structured program may be committed to Solano County Probation's Secure Youth Track Facility, RISE, or given a commitment to the JDF. For calendar year 2023, there were 13 youth served in the RISE program.

PART 3: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES (WELF. & INST. CODE §1995(D)(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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(D)(2) and (d)(8)):

Youth, for whom lower-level interventions are not deemed appropriate by the Court, participate in a long-term commitment through the Reaching into Successful Endeavors (RISE) program driven by the evidence-based Risk, Need, Responsivity model of effective intervention, and guided by best practices in youth development by establishing a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) and a structured phased program of services customized to match each young person's assessed needs. This team supports the youth through their commitment and focuses on the youth's successful transition from in-custody programming and services to community-based supervision and supports and ultimately to successful reentry in the community.

The MDT team is comprised of an assigned Juvenile Correctional Counselor (JCC), supportive Senior and/or Supervising Juvenile Correctional Counselors from both Programming staff and the RISE program, a Mental Health Clinician, a Wellness Specialist, a substance abuse counselor as needed, a Social Services Worker (SSW), Educational staff, a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO), and a Mentor/Coach. Family members and other members of the youth's support system are also key participants of this wraparound approach to service delivery. In a structured phased approach, the in-custody and community transition program will address the myriad of criminogenic, wellness, and basic needs through the development of an overarching case plan that will follow the young person through community reentry and supervision until the young person has successfully completed their term of supervision. Regular reviews of progress and celebrations of goal completion support the youth with a primary focus on a system of positive behavior incentives and rewards.

Phase one of the program, utilizing the Risk-Need-Responsivity model, each youth receives an assessment utilizing the Level of Service Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) or the Youth Level of Service Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI), depending on age, that measures the risk and need factors empirically associated with recidivism as well as individual strengths and supervision considerations. The Correctional Mental Health Screen (CMHS), American Society of Addiction Medicine Criteria (ASAM), and the Developmental Assets Profile survey are completed to inform and provide the best interventions, and positive youth development services needed. The Department considered utilizing a pre and post criminal thinking tool to help determine intervention effectiveness; however, it was determined using the Developmental Assets Profile Survey can effectively meet this goal. During this initial engagement and intake phase, which uses a strength-based approach to motivate change, the team identifies immediate clinical and basic needs, reviews appropriate housing determinations, and establishes appropriate connections with the family, and other support systems.

Phase two of the in-custody program begins by focusing on clinical treatment needs, responsivity and stabilization factors. Driven by assessments and the recommendations of the MDT, a case plan identifies the appropriate clinical interventions to address any identified needs including mental health and substance abuse. As determined by their case plan, the youth begin to set achievable goals, participate in individual and group therapy, process groups, are matched with a mentor, and engage in identifying family, and other support systems. Youth are also introduced to a set of prosocial skills to assist with decision-making and emotion management. Several evidence-based programs rigorously researched and proven to reduce recidivism and address anti-social behavior then begin, including Reasoning & Rehabilitation II, the Courage to Change Interactive Journaling System, Careg Guides, and Aggression Replacement Training.

Phase three of the program focuses on skill application, prosocial engagement and further assessment of responsivity issues as well as exploration of the young person's goals and hopes for themselves. Youth have the opportunity to engage in an array of educational options including pursuit of a high school diploma, California High School Proficiency Exam, Career Technical Education Certification, and college coursework. Employment exploration begins with an assessment of areas of the youth's interests, skills, strengths, and needs. Youth can then engage in a variety of courses designed to help them determine a possible career path. Classes can include but are not limited to life and employment skills, construction trades (plumbing, electrical, carpentry, drywall, painting, and welding), service learning and civic engagement projects, computer programming, culinary, and cosmetology/barbering training. Partnerships with employment programs and SCOE have created a possible path to work furlough in the later stages of the program with the hope to create connections to local unions. Youth are also offered specialized programming such as Hidden Genius. Hidden Genius is a technology and youth development program which trains and mentor's youth in technology creation and leadership skills to transform their lives and community.

As a youth progresses through the program and moves towards reentry, the intensity of programming increases, and the youth begins advanced work and practice in cognitive skill development, Restorative Justice practices and ongoing daily activities that are part of the facility's Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) 2.0 program. During

phase three, youth are also required to be a Peer Facilitator for a previously completed cognitive intervention group to demonstrate an understanding of learned skills. Intensive skill development and a continued high dosage of cognitive behavioral interventions during this phase allows for ample practice in real-world environments outside of the custody facility as the youth may begin offsite activities or work experiences. Intensive individual case management begins to focus on successful community reentry. This includes establishing support systems for continued sobriety, peer support groups, family engagement and planning for reunification, regular meetings with mentor/life coach and establishing the relationship with the community supervision DPO.

Phase four includes continued use of cognitive behavioral intervention tools with implementation of Thinking for a Change. This portion of the program includes the transitional planning phase which consists of a reassessment of the youth's needs, and the development of a reentry and community-based treatment and services case plan that includes the securing of essential documents and barrier removal. Expanded vocational training that ties youth to established work release/work furlough opportunities, outings with a Mentor/Life Coach, participation in family events, and establishing community connections are key elements as the youth prepares to transition back to the community. Additionally, the establishment of a safe and prosocial housing plan is developed with the youth and their family to ensure youth have an appropriate setting to return to.

The Supervision DPO engages and builds rapport with the youth from the beginning of the program. They participate in periodic meetings to assess the youth's progress, which is reported to the Court at regular review hearings. The DPO's engagement increases near the end of the in-custody program when the focus is on transitional planning and reentry. Several of the MDT staff working with the youth from the beginning of their in-custody program follow the youth upon their release to ensure a continuum of care. The DPO further develops the reentry case plan based on the reassessment and the various basic needs, health priorities, and criminogenic risk areas that drive community-based programs and services.

Once released back to the community, the DPO connects the youth with community-based programs such as the Youth Achievement Center (YAC), Alternative Restorative Communities (ARC), and the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) Youth Experiential Job Training Program, and meets with the youth on a weekly basis, including home visits. The Department is committed to addressing any non-compliant behavior with a range of evidence-based responses, as well as utilizing incentivized supervision to promote positive behavior change. The DPO provides case management and support through individualized best practices in community supervision and referrals to a variety of program and treatment services offered at the Department's Youth Achievement Centers, Centers for Positive Change (CPC), and nongovernmental organizations.

Like the Youth Achievement Centers, the CPCs are a one-stop center for probation clients to attend required and recommended programming, with age being a factor in identifying the appropriate community program for the client. Also located in both Fairfield and Vallejo, the CPCs assist clients with services specifically selected to improve decision-making ability, address any substance use issues, support client goals around school and employment, and learn lifelong skills that will assist clients in making positive choices.

Community based programming and services are leveraged with the Department's already established reporting centers, community partnerships, and treatment programs. In addition to the continuum of care programming that includes CBT interventions, pro-social engagement activities and events, youth are connected to the array of services available through community-based treatment provider partners, and the County's Organized Delivery System (ODS) of SUD treatment services.

The MDT will include the DPO leading the case management efforts to ensure the youth remains engaged in services and completes their term of community supervision with support and connections offered through the Department. Services through the YAC, CPC, the County's ODS, and already existing community partnerships and programs slated for expansion to serve this population are further discussed in Part 4.

PART 4: JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (WELF. & INST. CODE §1995(D)(3))

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address the mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of the target population. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(A) and (d)(8))

To ensure streamlined, intensity-appropriate behavioral health services across the spectrum of care both in custody and out, the Department uses allocated block grant funds to ensure the same providers are serving youth in and out of custody. Since the inception of the Organized Delivery System (ODS) in Solano County, the County's Health and Social Services agencies have worked diligently with the County's Medi-Cal Administrator, Partnership Health, to expand services, certify providers and ensure a range of programs provide individualized treatment based on each client's assessed needs.

The Department has a history of engaging multi-disciplinary teams in a wraparound approach to mental health treatment services. Currently, the Department has three embedded Mental Health Clinicians, certified in the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria assessment, each of whom can directly connect clients to treatment services in the community upon release.

Allocated realignment block grant funds are utilized for both the embedded Mental Health Clinician, and contracted services with ODS providers, creating a more streamlined connection to a Medi-Cal supported continuum of care. Additional grant dollars will be requested to cover this same level of care for clients who are not eligible for Medi-Cal, sponsored services, and do not have alternative comparable health insurance coverage. Newly granted Youth Opioid Response funds have assisted in increasing access and treatment modalities for the substance use treatment program.

The services and programs offered through the ODS include a Forensic Triage Team, Integrated Care Clinic, and an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team, among other evidence-based mental health and substance

use disorder treatment programs. The County already contracts with a local certified sex offender therapist for services specific to individuals with that therapeutic need. This therapist provides services in and out of custody and realignment dollars will continue to support that service for the population.

Since May 1, 2023, through the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE), the County expanded to add an additional Mental Health Clinician for a total of two to the in-custody youth services team to ensure youth involved in realignment are appropriately assessed, and quickly connected with in-custody services provided through partnerships with state certified providers who will also serve the youth upon release.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(B) and (d)(8))

The County embraces the long-standing, well-researched, and strength-based Youth Asset Development framework in selecting intensive, diversion, and prevention programming for youth touching the justice system. The programs built into in-custody and in-community services are guided by the overarching research-based framework from the Search Institute, known as Developmental Assets. Developmental Assets provides a measurable framework from which to build programming and practice-based evidence protocols that are both evidence-informed and grounded in positive youth development. It reviews 40 factors, both internal and external, that act as protective measures against at-risk behaviors, and as predictors of positive youth development. In other words, the more developmental assets a youth possess, the more likely they are to make healthy choices and refrain from risky activities. The Developmental Asset Framework guides the program proposed and guides the Department's continuum of care of services for youth. (Butts, et al., 2018).

On March 14, 2024, seven Department staff attended the Essentials of Asset Building for Trainers and Facilitators Workshop through the Search Institute. This training equipped trainers to promote the Developmental Assets framework in support of organizational and community-based initiatives that promote positive youth development. This training emphasized the powerful role of individual asset builders in the lives of youth. Participants were taught to identify the characteristics of effective asset builders and their own personal strengths and challenges, understand "circles of influence" and identify those circles in which there is a potential asset building, discuss how assets relate to other positive youth development efforts, and develop engaging presentation strategies to meet the unique needs of any youth. These seven Department staff are now certified to facilitate training for other Department staff.

The Department utilizes pre and post assessments of developmental assets to ensure all youth are engaged in programming tailored to meet their needs and interests. Examples of evidence-informed programs and services that can increase developmental assets, and reduce recidivism, in young people include Motivational Interviewing, mentoring, job training, education, behavioral skills development, and mental health treatment, all of which are embedded in the Department's plan for utilization of the realignment block grant.

The Department is committed to staff training, development and coaching so that the effective, strength-based interaction, responsivity, and counseling skills learned through Motivational Interviewing are supported and deepened. The work of program fidelity and quality assurance is further discussed in the section describing the County's commitment to evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive services.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(C) and (d)(8))

Family and intimate partners are strengths, and this program works to enhance those relationships, increase accessibility, and the development of emotionally and physically supportive, warm, and encouraging relationships through a variety of services including:

- *Family events/activities* – Providing specialized family events and activities for youth and families while in custody, transitioning to the community, and in the community, to engage youth and families in prosocial interactions that are less formal, build connectivity, and celebrate success.
- *Family Support* – Guidance and support services for youth and families to address identified needs or areas of concern and repair relationships.
- *Contracted therapist (In/Out of custody)* – Assists with higher needs issues including family trauma.
- *Family Support Peer Groups* – Facilitated by a clinician or social worker to assist families in sharing personal experiences, feelings, and coping strategies.
- *Child and Family Teaming (CFT)* – This family center service model provides support to youth and families with the goal of preserving the family unit, avoiding out of home placement, or conversely providing reentry step down services to help support the family while reunification occurs.
- *Social Services Worker*- The Social Services Worker is a member of the MDT that serves youth in custody and in the community. They support the youth and the family during the youth's transition to the community from JDF.
- *Wrap Services* - Wraparound provides family-centered, strengths-based, highly individualized, and culturally competent services. This service is a preventative intervention for those at imminent risk of being removed from home and is also intended to support clients who are returning to a family-like setting upon release from a group home or the JDF. The population of youth and families served in the Wraparound program are often multi-stressed families that have complex needs and require intensive and comprehensive services.

- *Parent Support* - Facilitated psychoeducational support groups for parents/family to share their experiences, identify their unmet needs, and learn more effective coping strategies in order to promote wellness and be a more productive support person to the incarcerated/detained person. This program was added after May 1, 2023.
- *Gender and Culturally Specific Parenting Programs* - Evidence-based parenting education through the Change Company's "Strengthening My Parenting Skills", which utilizes culturally relevant examples and topics. This program was added after May 1, 2023.

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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(D) and (d)(8))

The Department has many partnerships with nongovernmental organizations that provide support and services around housing, employment, and education. The Department has secured several housing grants expanding its ability to provide emergency, transitional, and permanent housing services. The Department is connected to the County's Continuum of Care services, which was developed to ensure those with unstable or no housing are quickly connected with resources in a "Housing First" model. The current funding along with additional block grant funds will ensure that realigned youth are appropriately housed utilizing both rapid rehousing, and transition housing services, building on existing partnerships, and connections to housing resources.

The Department is in the process of establishing a step-down program to the RISE Secure Youth Treatment Facility program, what will be referred to as the "The Rise Up House". The framework for the Rise Up House operates and is centered around the principles of Restorative Practices. The home will serve as a continuum of care for the RISE Program at the JDF, facilitating a seamless transition from JDF to partner organizations, Alternative Restorative Communities (ARC) and Uncuffed Project's Community Living Program. It will offer comprehensive support for eligible emerging adults, transitioning into the community reintegration phase/home living environment as a less restrictive placement (LRP) option. Services offered will include housing support with life skills training, basic income assistance, substance use/mental health support, individualized programming as needed, educational and vocational placements, and transportation assistance.

The grant funds outlined in SB 823 are used to expand employment training services, including vocational and technical training programs. Two existing programs will expand to serve the realigned youth population: a technology and coding training program in partnership with Hidden Genius, a bay area youth-focused development program, and an expansion of the Vocational Trades Program that is offered both in custody and in the community. Grant funds also support employment readiness, budget management, life skills, and job retention services.

In addition to an already existing partnership with the Solano County Office of Education to support the completion of high school and college programs, the Department has a long-standing relationship with Five Keys Charter School. Five Keys, a charter school that serves justice involved populations specifically, is onsite at three of the Department's community-based programming sites, including the Youth Achievement Center site in Vallejo that specifically serves a transitional age youth population. The Department continues to work with the Students Overcoming Adversity and Recidivism (SOAR) program. This program is connected to Solano Community College and works with formerly/currently incarcerated students. They provide mentorship and assist with college enrollment and transition into the college setting.

The Department has increased youth access to Edovo educational tablets. Staff work with youth to engage them in service-learning projects, homework help, and structured activities that support education and future employability. For continuity of education, youth in need have access to chrome books. Chrome books continue to be available to students at the JDF to further enhance education.

Since May 1, 2023, the Department has initiated several programs to facilitate growth and development with youth under supervision, in the facility and committed to the RISE program. In partnership with the SCOE, the Department initiated the Youth Experiential Job Training Program. This program is for justice involved youth ages 16-24. The youth receive services for work readiness leading up to an internship, which can be up to 100 hours. This is designed for youth that wish to improve their work skills, gain experience, and get exposed to various career options.

Another emerging program at the facility is Barber Apprenticeship Program facilitated by the California Barbering & Cosmetology Unilateral Apprenticeship Learning Center staff. This program will offer RISE youth the opportunity to complete the Pre-Apprentice Training for safety, sanitation rules and regulations, and receive a Pre-Apprentice Certificate of Completion pre-release. Students will also receive Apprenticeship training classes where they will complete theory and practical assignments in class with a mannequin head and perform haircuts and other services under supervision of their instructor. Post-release students will continue classroom learning and work in a Barbershop to complete on the job training hours and earn a wage that will assist them with transitioning to self-sufficiency and enable them to contribute to the community. Upon completion, students will receive a Barber Apprenticeship certificate of completion and apply for their exam to receive their professional Barber License. This program has an anticipated start date of July 1, 2024.

On July 25, 2023, the Department in collaboration with Aramark initiated the roll out of a culinary program in the facility called IN2WORK. The purpose of IN2WORK is to teach students how to function in a workplace setting, work as a team, and to teach the fundamental skills for success in the food service industry. Students learn accountability and responsibility through classroom work and hands-on training. By building competent and confident graduates, IN2WORK sets graduates up for success upon reentry.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive programs or services for the target population. Describe any

progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(E) and (d)(8))

The Department has expanded upon sustainable and well-developed program models utilized in both its juvenile and adult divisions. Since the Department's infrastructure is well-suited to provide an intensive and community-partnered array of services, the additional grant funds will ensure all selected programs and services are delivered with fidelity and integrity to the program models. The Department embraces the Risk, Need, Responsivity evidence-based framework to ensure treatment services match the needs of each individual youth. Responsivity is addressed at all points in the program, beginning at intake with intentional engagement practices grounded in Motivational Interviewing.

The Department utilizes grant funding to train, and coach all program staff to deliver specific treatment programs that have been proven effective with justice involved youth, including restorative justice and well-researched cognitive behavioral interventions, and innovative culturally responsive, and trauma-informed programs. An example of this is the Department's Men's Empowerment Group (MEG), facilitated by African American men for African American youth, a culturally responsive 10-week program based on the trauma-informed, present focused co-occurring treatment program, Seeking Safety. While the Seeking Safety curricula is used as the program guide, the model is built out with culturally relevant practices such as addressing generational trauma, Black health and wellness, and is centered on the Black voice and the Black experience in the discussion of mental health and safety. It also incorporates learning opportunities for entrepreneurship and civic engagement.

In addition to the MEG, the Department continues to offer the El Joven Noble and the Omega Men's Group. El Joven Noble is a youth development, support, and leadership enhancement curriculum designed to strengthen protective factors among male youth, particularly Latino youth and youth of color. The curriculum aims to promote character development with the goals of reducing and preventing unwanted or unplanned pregnancies, substance abuse, community violence, and relationship violence. The Omega Men's Group is designed for African American young men. Utilizing the book "The Black Male Handbook" by Kevin Powell, group discussions are held on each chapter of the book that explore the various societal issues they may face.

To ensure program fidelity, the Department employs two quality assurance coaches whose primary role is to coach and develop staff delivering evidence-based programs and services. Grant funds are utilized to expand developmental coaching, and model fidelity to ensure all staff providing services to the realigned youth population are equipped with the training, and support to follow the trauma-informed evidence-based practices and services selected. The selections include: Thinking for a Change, Reasoning & Rehabilitation II, Aggression Replacement Training, The Change Companies' Courage to Change Interactive Journaling System, Carey Guides, and an intensive coaching program for Motivational Interviewing skills development. Clinical supports and services include Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), and a wraparound model of multi-disciplinary care that also includes Child and Family Teaming (CFT) best practices, depending on assessed needs of the young person, their family or other support system.

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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(F) and (d)(8))

The Department has several community-based partners who offer expanded services for the realigned youth population both in custody and in the community. Below are several examples of the services identified by Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Subcommittee community participants, as well as additional added services:

- *Hidden Genius Project* - A comprehensive 11-week technology skills and career development program delivered in a mentoring/coaching framework.
- *Financial planning and money management with local service providers* - Saving, budgeting, investing and credit management workshops.
- *Substance Use Interventions* - Treatment and Prevention in partnership with community-based state certified Drug Medi-Cal providers.
- *Traditional and Career Education* - Partnerships with the Sheriff's vocational training center, Solano County Office of Education, and Solano Community College's reentry program.
- *Restorative Justice Services* - Mediation and justice circle programming that teaches participants to take responsibility for their actions, to understand the harm they have caused, and to discourage them from causing further harm.
- *XL Mentoring* - Evidence-informed mentoring program that matches young people with adults with responsiveness and cultural relevance. Formal training for mentors that includes asset development workshops.
- *Health Awareness/Access/Eligibility Services* - Fundamental health knowledge and skills, establish healthy behaviors, and connect to health services.
- *Independent Living Services* - Helping youth gain the basic life skills and information needed to become successful self-sufficient adults. Community partnership expansion to ensure connections to transitional and permanent, including supportive services.
- *Gender and Culturally Specific Programs* – El Joven Noble and Omega Men's Group.
- *Gender and Culturally Specific Parenting Programs* - Facilitation of the evidence-based parenting program through the Change Company's "Strengthening My Parenting Skills", which utilizes culturally relevant examples and topics. This program was added after May 1, 2023.
- *Prison Education Project* – Providing youth guidance and education on the process and steps towards pursuing post-secondary education, along with life skills training for college applicants on topics such as

the mechanics of writing essays and making study outlines, effective time management and organizational systems, developing soft skills, emotional intelligence, networking and follow through. This was also added after May 1, 2023.

PART 5: FACILITY PLAN (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(4))

Provide a detailed facility plan indicating which facilities will be used 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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

Youth who commit serious crimes need to be provided with options to address their rehabilitative needs in a safe environment designed to be more hospitable for treating specific criminogenic factors over time. This requires a need to create a balance between community and facility safety concerns and providing for the rehabilitative opportunity to promote behavior change in this youthful population, while understanding the impacts that conditions of confinement have on behavior and wellness. Females, some youth convicted of sex offenses, and youth with severe mental health needs, who are court ordered for long-term custody will be evaluated for consideration of placement in a regional hub or neighboring county program. These cases will require increased involvement of the team to assure that family connections are supported, and that appropriate programming and transition preparedness are available, and complementary to the efforts to successfully return the youth to the community.

The Department's Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) aims to provide youth with services that are individualized to specific needs. The approach of the JDF is in the utilization of evidence-informed, cognitive behavioral, and incentive-based interventions, including a variety of strategies within the housing unit, to intervene, support, and promote prosocial behavior. This incentive-based approach applied within a housing unit reinforces positive behaviors and targets thinking errors while engaging youth. With the recognition that the physical structure and daily environment have a significant impact on rehabilitation effort, along with violence prevention within a confined setting, the Sequoia Pod has been re-configured to create a more home-like living area. The Sequoia Pod provides two large classrooms and adequate space for programming needs allowing one classroom to be utilized for education at all levels, and the other for a dedicated wellness space and workout room equipped with exercise gear and weightlifting equipment for the youth. Sequoia's home-like re-configuration to address conditions of confinement have included updated furniture, mattresses, improved storage and room furniture options, youth designed and created artwork, repainting, and options for youth to decorate their living space.

On July 23, 2023, the Department initiated the Prison Yoga Project (PYP) for youth in the facility. The PYP envisions a cultural shift toward a healing-centered approach to addressing crime, addiction, and mental illness. PYP's mission is to provide programs for rehabilitation and resilience rooted in yoga and embodied mindfulness. This has been shown to provide a broad range of benefits for youth and individuals in recovery that align with the desired outcomes of addiction recovery programming. Due to the high prevalence of trauma in people with substance abuse disorders, PYP's Trauma-Informed Yoga Program is both appropriate and imperative. PYP programs give individuals skills to increase overall self-control and emotional stability and to assist in reducing stress, anxiety, and symptoms related to issues of unresolved trauma. The program has been shown to increase self-awareness and impulse control, encourage a calmer temperament, reduce depression, improve rational decision-making, and relieve chronic pain. It promotes the development of empathy and compassion, prosocial community building, and self-discipline, and it offers a healthy recreational option that helps participants develop self-esteem while improving physical fitness and overall health.

On July 28, 2023, the Department introduced youth in the facility to a sound bath. A sound bath is an experience of meditation, basic breathwork, and sound/frequency-based practices that can mediate trauma release, relationship repair, and facilitate non-violent conflict response. Ultimately this increases youth awareness regarding how vibration and the frequency of sound can mediate healing in the physical, emotional, and energetic body. The sound bath provides youth with sound healing ranging from 20-45 minute sessions and promotes cultivation of a safe environment in which youth can confront and process trauma. Youth are guided to identify self-defeating thoughts and behaviors, challenge the inherency of irrational or unproductive feelings, and replace them with more expansive and productive beliefs, feelings, and thoughts.

The facility has designated a separate space (Building 2) to provide a vocational training room with dedicated stations to develop skills that enhance employability, increase engagement, and support a successful transition. The Department was also able to create a music studio in Building 2 that offers youth a creative space to express themselves through writing lyrics and producing music. Facility-wide infrastructure needs include Wi-Fi hotspots and reconfiguration of the designated housing pod. The Department partnered with the Department of Information Technology (Do-IT) to install Wi-Fi technology throughout the facility that allow educational programming and youth to easily access the internet, creating an enhanced learning experience. Additionally, the facility kitchen has upgrades in progress to accommodate the culinary program for youth that was implemented on July 25, 2023. Facility upgrades have also been required to implement the Barber Apprenticeship Program, which will include a space designed to accommodate both classroom and hands on Barber training. This program is currently in the recruitment process to identify youth committed to this long-term vocational training program.

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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

Solano County Probation has a history of working within the parameters of the legal system to ensure youth entering the Juvenile Justice System are given opportunities to succeed at the lowest level of intervention possible. Solano County Probation is committed to addressing youth behavior with a supportive systems approach that is focused on assessing and addressing youth's criminogenic needs, building assets, and assisting youth in developing skill sets necessary for success. Youth who meet goals and complete program components and phases have their successes documented for regular reviews with the Court. Advancement in phases, with the support of the Court, result in the youth transitioning safely back into the community. The MDT meets with the youth to identify challenges and remove barriers to increase opportunities for success. While some youth have been resistant to change, the program continues to meet the youth where they are, and provide evidence based, culturally and trauma responsive interventions and supports proven to be most effective and assist the youth in recognizing the benefits of the program. The Department continues to monitor the number of youth involved in transfer hearings to identify the reasons contributing to the Court's considerations for transfers to the adult jurisdiction. For fiscal years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, Solano County had Fitness Hearings ordered for a total of [REDACTED] youth, none of which were ordered to adult criminal court.

PART 7: REGIONAL EFFORT (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(6))

Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

The Department continues to network and partner with other counties to provide services for special population (girls, severe mental health, sex offenders, etc.) which are outside the scope of the Department's programs. On June 22, 2023, the Department established a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's Pine Grove Youth Conservation Fire Camp. This fire camp serves as a possible less restrictive placement for youth committed to the RISE program. To date, several youth have considered this option, but none have wanted to pursue it.

PART 8: DATA (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(7))

Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response:

A variety of sources are used to collect data on this population to include the Department's case management system, (eProbation), surveys, and interviews with participants, staff and providers.

Describe outcome measures that will be utilized to measure or determine the results of programs and interventions supported by block grant funds. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response:

The Department collects the completion rate for interventions. A local evaluator was contracted with to assist in program specific evaluation and fidelity measures. These efforts remain in progress.

PART 9: OTHER UPDATES: DESCRIBE ANY PROGRESS ON ELEMENTS SINCE MAY 1, 2023: (WELF. & INST. CODE 1995 (D)(8))

Provide a description of progress made regarding any plan elements and any objectives and outcomes in the prior year's plan, to the extent that they have not already been described above.

All progress made regarding the plan elements have been included and discussed in Parts 1-8 listed above.