



JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL PLAN

MAIN CONTACT FOR PLAN

Date: April 26, 2024

County Name: Sonoma

Contact Name: Vanessa Fuchs

Telephone Number: (707) 565-2732

E-mail Address: vanessa.fuchs@sonoma-county.org

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 6: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System
- Part 7: Regional Efforts
- Part 8: Data
- Part 9: Other Updates

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)	Brad Michnevich, Deputy Chief Probation Officer (designee)	Brad.Michnevich@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-6310
Co-Chair <i>(If Applicable)</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
District Attorney's Office Representative	Anne Masterson, Chief Deputy District Attorney	Anne.Masterson@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-2311
Public Defender's Office Representative	Lynne Stark- Slater, Deputy Public Defender	Lynne.Slater@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-2060
Department of Social Services Representative	Vanessa Azevedo, Section Manager Placement & Prevention Sonoma County Family, Youth and Children	vazevedo@schsd.org	(707) 565-4337
Department of Mental Health	Karin Sellite, Section Manager, Behavioral Health Division, Youth and Family Services	Karin.Sellite@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-4337
Office of Education Representative	Georgia Ioakimedes, Director Sonoma County Office of Education	gioakimedes@scoe.org	(707) 514-2884
Court Representative	Hon. Ken Gness, Superior Court Judge	kgness1@sonomacourt.org	(707) 521-6710

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>	Greyson Gunheim, VOICES Sonoma	greyson@voicesyouthcenter.org	(707) 579-4327
	Danielle Garduño, Santa Rosa Violence Prevention Partnership. GPS Program	dgarduno@srcity.org	(707) 543-4696
	Michelle Edwards, Boys and Girls Club Sonoma-Marin	medwards@bgcsonoma-marin.org	(707) 919-0506
Additional Subcommittee Participants			
Sonoma County Probation Department	Vanessa Fuchs, Chief Probation Officer	Vanessa.Fuchs@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-2732
Sonoma County Probation Department	Kris Hoyer, Division Director II	Kris.Hoyer@sonoma-county.org	(707) 565-2891
Sonoma County Probation Department	Kilee Willson, Division Director II	Kilee.Willson@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-6240
Sonoma County Probation Department	Rob Halverson, Program Development Manager	Robert.Halverson@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-3919
Sonoma County Probation Department	Haunani Pakaki, Program Planning & Evaluation Analyst	Haunani.Pakaki@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-6294
Sonoma County Probation Department	Theresa Brownlee, Administrative Aide	Theresa.Brownlee@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-8667
Sonoma County Probation Department	Dan Flamson, Division Director I	Daniel.Flamson@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-6234

Describe the process used to determine whether to select a co-chair for your subcommittee (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b)):

At the time of the submission of this Plan following the March 26, 2024, meeting, the JJRS has not selected a cochair.

In both the December 13, 2023, and February 27, 2024, meetings, the Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) Section 1995(b) amendment creating the role of the cochair was discussed. Discussion topics included how the cochairs would share their work, that a new cochair shall not be selected from Probation, and that

additional information was required; it was decided at that time to hold off any formal action until the next meeting in March.

Following the February 27, 2024, meeting, a summary document was distributed to the JJRS outlining the cochair requirements. Main points of the document stated the authority to create a cochair, the anticipated role as an active collaborator with the Probation Chair, the two-year time commitment.

The JJRS met on March 26, 2024, to formally decide whether a cochair would be selected, following receipt of the summary document. Following a group discussion and opportunity for questions no member came forward to volunteer as cochair. Members were informed that if they wished to nominate themselves at any time, they shall contact the Probation Chair to request an agenda item calling for a nomination vote at a future meeting.

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:

Other meeting dates include December 13, 2023; October 19, 2022; April 4, 2022; December 7, 2021; September 14, 2021; June 22, 2021; March 16, 2021; March 2, 2021; February 16, 2021; February 9, 2021; January 26, 2021.

Date that the subcommittee approved the plan by a majority vote.

March 26, 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):

On December 13, 2023, the JJRS met to discuss the Assembly Bill (AB) 505 updates and what those changes would mean to the STYF Youth. Among the meeting materials, was a copy of the AB 505 text and participants were advised that the JJRS that we would be convening another meeting in early 2024 to discuss how the new rules would apply in practice, as well as next steps. This meeting also served as a time to refresh the participants of their purpose and how the new AB 505 changes would impact the JJRS as well. For example, AB 505 requires that the JJRS meet a minimum of twice per year and it designated a fixed annual plan submission date of May 1. The JJRS was also advised that a SYTF-specialized Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) IV position with support staff would be created and filled by the next meeting.

On February 27, 2024, the JJRS met once again after receiving an advanced draft copy of the Annual JJRS Plan for review and comment. As discussed in the previous meeting, JJRS participants were informed of the new SYTF Supervising DPO, and their anticipated role. Regarding the Plan draft, a presentation was given to guide JJRS participants through the most impactful changes. Participants were given the opportunity to ask questions or comment on the presentation and Plan draft. Following the discussion, the Probation Department committed to sending the JJRS a summary document addressing their concerns about the time requirements for a cochair and a final draft of the Plan before the next meeting.

At the March 26, 2024, meeting, a final walk through of the Plan was provided by the Probation Department. Within the draft was sample language representing final outcomes, based on the group; for example, "At the time of the submission of this Plan following the March 26, 2024, meeting, the JJRS [has/has] not selected a cochair." As those Plan sections were discussed, the text was revised in real time. Next, participants were given the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. One voting member corrected their organization's representative and the change was immediately made. After the question-and-answer period, a

Motion and second was made to approve the Plan with amendments. Following a roll call vote, the Plan was approved by a majority of voting members.

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))

Sonoma County provides county-based custody, care, and supervision of local and out-of- county youth who were realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or who were otherwise eligible for commitment to the DJJ prior to its closure. These youth range from ages 14 to 25 and will have been adjudicated to be a ward of the juvenile court based on an offense described in WIC Section 707(b) or an offense described in Penal Code (PC) Section 290.008; for the purposes of this Report, we refer to these youth as Secure Youth Treatment Facility (“SYTF”) Youth.

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

Sonoma County compiles and reviews the target population data to understand any potential net-widening effects and disparities in the experiences of racial-ethnic, gender and age groups.

Initially, the planned capacity for out-of-county SYTF Youth was 12-16, for a total of 20. In October 2022, the JJRS voted on a planned increased staggered at ten bed increments, not to exceed 40 beds. As of March 20, 2024, the number of committed out-of-county SYTF Youth is [REDACTED] data for out-of-county SYTF Youth is not reflected in the table below, as they are reported in the Annual Plan of their home counties.

The current findings display the target population’s subsequent placements into various settings and are disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, and age.

The Sonoma County Probation Department collects and shares data related to the target population, as displayed below. Since the JJRS Plan is a public document, Sonoma County complies with recently updated laws regarding juvenile case file information in WIC Section 827 by suppressing counts for any group of fewer than ten, showing “<10” instead. In cases where a group includes ten or more, but only two subgroups would allow determination of any count fewer than ten by subtraction, the one number greater than ten is also replaced with “>10.” The following data show no increase in transfers to criminal court. Adjudications on WIC Section 707(b) offenses have fluctuated but the count in FY 22-23 is like that in FY 19-20. Adjudication on offenses listed under PC Section 290.008 that are not also included in WIC 707(b) remain rare.

Youth Adjudicated on a 707(b) Offense	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23
Race/ethnicity				
Identify as American Indian/Native/Indigenous	[REDACTED]	0	0	0
Identify as Black/African American	[REDACTED]	0	0	[REDACTED]
Identify as Hispanic or Latino/a/x	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	12
Identify as Other	[REDACTED]	0	[REDACTED]	0
Identify as Pacific Islander	<10	0	0	0
Identify as White/Caucasian	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Identify as Asian	0	0	0	█
Gender Identity at time of adjudication	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23
Male	█	█	█	>10
Female	█	█	0	█
Non-Binary	0	0	0	0
Declined to identify	0	0	0	0
Age at Adjudication	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23
12	█	0	0	█
13	█	0	0	0
14	█	0	0	█
15	█	█	0	█
16	█	█	█	█
17	█	█	█	█
18	0	0	█	█
19	0	█	0	0
Total Adjudicated on a 707(b) Offense	14	█	█	17
	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23
Youth Adjudicated on a 290.008 offense	0	0	█	0
Youth transferred to Criminal Court	0	█	█	0

Initial data collected in October 2020 on Sonoma County youth sent to the DJJ from 2016-2020 showed most commitments were male, 17 and 18 years old, Hispanic, and White, and typically involved in aggravated assault (assault with a deadly weapon) followed by robbery and sex offenses. Half of the SYTF Youth committed to DJJ since January 2016 were Hispanic, while White youth made up nearly a third of commitments.

Since the COVID pandemic has slowed, there has been a marked increase in the number Hispanic youth being referred, from all sources. This trend is being closely monitored and we are working with our community-based organizations and law enforcement partners both to determine the root cause of this shift as well as best means of service provision (i.e., in their preferred language, with clinicians from similar backgrounds).

In April 2023, Sonoma County estimated that by 2025 █ youth, primarily male, Hispanic, or White, 17 and 18 years old at the time their crimes were committed. While Sonoma County initially underestimated the number of youths that would come into the system, the April 2023 figure was based on data gathered during the pandemic; the other demographic data, however, has proven to be closer to accurate.

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

In Sonoma County, the most common reason for SYTF commitment is related to serious and violent behaviors (serious crime, danger to the community, violence, weapons, and aggression). To follow are more specific descriptions of the SYTF Youth disaggregated by specialized program, placement, or facility referral types.

Network of Community Based Organizations (CBO) and Support

Most youth who encounter the justice system in Sonoma County will interact with the well-established network of CBO support, both while committed and in the community. In Sonoma County, there is an array of community-based programs available, funded by Sonoma County, municipalities, and private organizations, all designed to support justice-involved youth and young adults. These programs include detention alternatives such as diversion, home detention, community-based case management as well as services, supports, and programming grounded in positive youth development, cultural relevance, and healthy relationships. These organizations, cities, and the County work closely with an even broader network of community-based services that provide therapeutic/medical drug treatment, forestry work experience, workforce development, education supports, temporary housing, therapeutic interventions and support, and skilled trade career and educational services.

Sexual behavior treatment

Typically, SYTF Youth are nearly all assessed as moderate to high-risk to reoffend. Sonoma County utilizes the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) to assess for risk to reoffend. SYTF Youth committed for sexual behavior treatment often present as low risk to reoffend, as our assessment tool is not specifically designed to measure sexual offending risk. Juvenile sexual behavior treatment is delivered through a contracted service provider who specializes in sexual behavior treatment in the state of California. All SYTF Youth committed for sexual behavior treatment are assessed using tools recommended in the California's Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of Sexually Abusive Juveniles. Assessments identify both protective and risk factors pertinent to the individual youth.

Placement

Youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court who need protective services shall receive care, treatment, and guidance consistent with their best interest and the best interest of the public. Minors under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court because of delinquent conduct shall, in conformity with the interests of public safety and protection, receive care, treatment, and guidance that is consistent with their best interest, that holds them accountable for their behavior, and that is appropriate for their circumstances. This guidance includes sanctions that are consistent with the rehabilitative objectives listed in statute. If a minor has been removed from the custody of his or her parents, family preservation and family reunification are commonly appropriate goals for the juvenile court to consider when determining disposition.

Sonoma County typically applies a graduated sanctions approach before presenting consideration for home removal; however, in some instances immediate removal is necessary upon a youth's first offense or subsequent new offense due to the severity of the adjudicated crime or necessity for public safety. Home removal is often made in attempt to best serve the youth and provide family strengthening services concurrent to removal. Several attempts are made to prevent home removal using community-based supervision and services which are tailored to the SYTF Youth and family's needs. Home removal generally consists of placement in either with a Resource Family, or commitment to Juvenile Hall. As previously noted, use of commitment is reserved for SYTF Youth who have proved to be unamenable to these services, or their needs and the need to maintain public safety warrants commitment and services beyond community-based services.

Since May 2023, there have been some shared challenges regarding the programs, placements, and facilities in Sonoma County. Several long-time partners have experienced capacity issues resulting in reduction or changes to service provision, a common theme is inability to recruit and maintain skilled staff. It is the goal of Sonoma County to address this pervasive issue by keeping communication open between all organizations, by means of the JJCC, the JJRS, local CBO and non-profit resources and events, local and regional forums and collaborations, and consistent dialogue with justice partners.

As previously mentioned Sonoma County has developed and filled the DPO IV position with staff that will be focused on enhancing communication between the youth and their family, the Court, Child-Family Team members, service providers, and potential placements. The intent of this course of action is to help avoid many of the issues that arise as the SYTF Youth moves through the justice system.

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)):

The Sonoma County Juvenile Hall is a safe and secure facility for the housing and programming of court committed SYTF Youth identified as appropriate per WIC Section 1990(b). Housing for SYTF Youth follows the administration of validated assessments which shows their unique classification, risk level, and individual needs. Juvenile Hall staff also consider the safety of individual SYTF Youth as well as the other SYTF Youth within the facility.

Juvenile Hall strives to provide programming that is trauma-responsive, gender specific, and culturally informed. Services and interventions are calibrated to the SYTF Youth's assessments and input, as well as the insight of their Probation Officer (PO), and the Court. Programming includes rehabilitative treatment designed to reduce recidivism; opportunities to address personal, social, physical, mental health, educational, career technical education and independent living skills needs; and prepare them for a successful re-entry to their communities.

Within the facility, SYTF Youth are offered many services, including trauma focused, gender responsive, culturally competent/bilingual programming; drug and alcohol services; mental health support; Aggression Replacement Training; spiritual advising; restorative justice groups; and various other services.

For services that the Juvenile Hall cannot directly administer, the Department maintains contracts with several local providers for services within the Juvenile Hall as well as contracts focused on transitional services. These CBO, municipal, and privately funded partners work closely with Juvenile Hall and Probation Services to help youth obtain services while committed, and as they transition back into the community.

Transitional services include referrals to our Intensive Case Management (ICM) Program, career technical education/training programs, County Behavioral Health, and case management/supervision services through the Sonoma County Probation Department.

Sonoma County provides additional family engagement opportunities and program provider meetings to support its existing programming, including: focus on the Child-Family Team approach to individual rehabilitation plans (IRPs) specifically targeting individual risk factors and needs of SYTF Youths, enhanced family visitation opportunities such as events, career technical education/training opportunities, educational assistance, programming, and work day-pass/furlough opportunities (court approved), meetings in Juvenile Hall with program providers both in person and virtually, and family therapy services.

Since May 2023, many service providers are experiencing hiring and retention issues, described above. Sonoma County is committed to continuous communication with these partners so service provision can continue as smoothly as possible. At the same time, all avenues are being pursued to develop Requests for Proposals and contracts that help providers build capacity and weather this challenging time.

A Probation-specific addition includes our new SYTF-specialized DPO IV and staff positions that have been interviewing the SYTF Youth and their families, reviewing records, getting insights from POs, and reviewing best practices to develop the most comprehensive plan possible for our SYTF youths. Although still in its initial phase, the goal is to focus on the WIC Section 875 pillars: treatment, education, and development.

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))

Sonoma County provides comprehensive treatment related to mental and behavioral health, trauma needs, and sexual behavior treatment to SYTF Youth in several ways; youth can participate community-based individual and group sexual behavior treatment, obtain therapeutic services in Juvenile Hall, as well being able to provide additional services for the SYTF Youth's family and any victims within the home. The Department has historically served most offenders in the community setting and through home removal via placement/out of home care; commitments to Juvenile Hall are only made when appropriate, and when it is unsafe to provide services within the community. On average, juvenile sexual behavior treatment is between 12 to 18 months in length.

Mental health and trauma services are available to all SYTF Youth housed in Juvenile Hall regardless of commitment status and in compliance with statute and Title 15 regulations. The Sonoma County Probation Department will expand the current service array and introduce evidence-based services targeting these need areas, to help build youth resilience, stability, and rehabilitation.

Since May 2023, Sonoma County is looking to further expand its abilities to provide individual and group therapeutic services and sexual behavior treatment by developing smaller, short-term contracts with existing vendors who provide services in Juvenile Hall, both in-person and via telehealth. We hope that this will provide more options for both the SYTF Youths and their families by enabling service providers to build capacity and dedicate clinicians to their very specific needs and goals.

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))

Sonoma County was successful in using the initial grant funds to bolster and facilitate ongoing evidence-based and innovative practices and programs. Currently, the Department has a variety of services and interventions available to SYTF Youth that are administered by trained staff and local community-based organizations such as individual and group restorative justice programming and gender responsive groups. The Department was able to use the grant funds previously received for procurement of these services and staff training. In addition, grant funds were used for facility upgrades, procurement of equipment and resources for the integration of career technical education/training services, higher education, and virtual programming.

Since May 2023, Sonoma County Juvenile Hall completed construction of a greenhouse that will bolster the current garden program and orchard providing additional CTE opportunities to SYTF Youth interested in horticulture, botany aquaponics, and applying sustainable agricultural practices. Additionally, the Department recently opened a new music recording studio with the goal of promoting self-expression, positivity and

wellness among youth detained at Juvenile Hall with the assistance of local music professionals. The studio is called Free Voices and Juvenile Hall is working with a local music professional as a consultant, who is making connections with the residents and assisting in the creation of unique music.

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))

Sonoma County provides services for SYTF Youth and their families that promotes well-being and assists in our shared goal of rehabilitation. The Juvenile Hall works closely with juvenile probation officers and CBOs to provide SYTF Youth and their families with supportive and necessary transition services. Family engagement is a key part of this transition process, and Sonoma County engages actively with families while the youth is housed within the facility and throughout their transition onto aftercare; and ultimately, successful completion of probation supervision.

Sonoma County and Juvenile Hall established virtual visitation and programming to facilitate family engagement and the breaking down of barriers to regular communication with family and pro-social connections that the youth may have outside the facility. This medium also allowed for Child and Family Team Meetings to easily be integrated into all IRPs and the case management process. Child and Family Teams place families in the center of the planning process and encourage formal and informal supports to unite around the shared hopes and goals of the family. Plans coming out of Child and Family Team meetings build on individual and family strengths to address unmet needs and involve use of community resources.

To aid all visitation and meetings, Sonoma County converted two spaces within the facility to facilitate virtual visitation and programming with increased technology options providing much needed support for SYTF Youth, their families, professionals, and others. The rooms were “softened” with new paint, furniture, computers, and a 55” TV monitor in each room. To support this effort, changes are being made to the facility to allow the use of our Health Services Conference room for Child and Family Teams Meetings. Families will be able to enter through the visitation area, walk through a small courtyard, and meet with SYTF Youths and probation staff in a private setting.

Sonoma County continues to expand its efforts to create a more home like setting throughout the facility. SYTF Youths’ rooms will be freshly painted, the visitation area will be re-carpeted, meetings rooms will be updated with new paint and additional virtual meeting spaces, art has been hung throughout the facility, and mural projects have been initiated.

Since May 2023, the new specialized DPO IV and their staff are completely dedicated to the SYTF Youths, their family engagement, and movement through the justice system from intake to reentry, including their transition out of supervision. This team will focus on helping the SYTF Youths and their families develop more robust IRPs that will build the foundation of how they progress through programing and services while in juvenile hall, how they are reviewed in court, and how they progress in the community.

During the CFT, emphasis will be placed on creating goals that are focused on youth successfully transition to the least restrictive placement possible, community supervision, and ultimately independence in the community with natural community supports. Leveraging CBO, local, County service providers the team can work with each STYF Youth to develop meaningful ties to help them transition.

The Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) process will also be enhanced, meeting every three months, and the SYTF Youth will have the opportunity to present their own IRP progress and advocate for themselves. Each will be given feedback and guidance on how to continue to progress on their goals. SYTF Youth will also make similar presentations to the court. The aim is to give youth meaningful action steps that support their goals, but

ultimately evaluate their progress on the achievement of the goals, which will be demonstrated by skill development and behavior change.

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))

Sonoma County provides a transitional program focused on reentry and independent living, collaborating with local providers for transitional services for youth who are returning to the community from a variety of settings. Each SYTF Youth is unique and as such their long-term case management and plans for reentry are as well. Services currently available to SYTF Youth include referrals to our Intensive Case Management (ICM) Program, career technical education and training, Pine Grove Fire Camp, mentoring, County Behavioral Health, and case management and supervision services coordinated by Sonoma County and serviced by its many CBO partners.

The ICM Program is a family-centered, strength-based, and outcome-oriented alternative to out of home care or for youth transitioning from a court commitment. The target population is youth with complex and enduring needs and their families. The goal of the ICM Program is to offer services in a strengths-based, family-centered, and culturally competent manner. To that end, most services are provided in the home, or their preferred locations, and services are provided around-the-clock, with staff expected to maintain flexible schedules and participate in a rotating on-call system to address the needs of families in crisis. Additional services include post commitment transitional services, and family finding services.

Career technical education and training services include a variety of referral programs that serve at risk youth ages 16-24, and targets career and educational goals. These programs assist in facilitating employment both while the youth is in custody and under supervision in the community.

Sonoma County has historically served a high number of sex offenders within the community and through home removal via placement/out of home care; however, commitments to Juvenile Hall for these have become more frequent. On average, juvenile sexual behavior treatment is between 18 to 24 months in length. Services provided by our Secure Youth Treatment Facility generally take 12 to 18 months in length.

As previously mentioned, since May 2023, Sonoma County has secured a DPO IV with staff who are dedicated to the SYTF Youths, their family engagement, and movement through the justice system from intake to reentry and their transition out of supervision. Although still in development, the SYTF specialized team is creating a structure whereby as soon as a youth is designated a part of the SYTF group, the MDT will meet to begin creating the IRP, which will be further individualized during the CFT.

From day one, the IRP will be structured with the vision to set youth up for a successful community transition plan. The pillars of this IRP are the three areas indicated in WIC Section 875: treatment, education, and development. With an IRP in place that is robust and focused on community reentry, the MDT will have the ability to create a structured process and benchmarks for the SYTF Youth to earn base term reductions in court and possible release to a less restrictive placement. Once released to the community or less restrictive placement, a similar process with benchmarks related to the IRP will continue, moving toward community re-engagement and probation completion.

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))

Sonoma County has several evidence-based, promising, trauma- informed and culturally responsive programs or services for the target population. In addition, the Probation Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation (PIE) Team is dedicated to finding, researching, and developing evidence-based, culturally responsive programming and its implementation.

Sonoma County has engaged and has available the following evidence-based, promising, trauma- informed and culturally responsive programs or services for the target population:

Positive Youth Justice

Organizing framework for the program rooted in youth development research. Focuses on key assets: skills (learning & doing) and connections (attaching & belonging). Behavior change and development are pursued through six practice areas: Work, Relationships, Health, Education, Community, and Creativity.

Cognitive Behavioral Interventions-Interpersonal Violence (CBI-IPV)

CBI-IPV is designed for youth with a recent pattern of interpersonal violence who are moderate to high risk on a general risk assessment. Using social learning and cognitive behavioral approaches, the curriculum teaches people how to identify and manage high-risk situations related to interpersonal violence, with particular emphasis on emotional regulation. Modules include Motivational Engagement, Cognitive Restructuring, Violence Awareness, Emotional Regulation, Social Skills, Problem Solving, and Success Planning.

Aggression Replacement Training (ART)

A multidimensional psychoeducational intervention designed to promote prosocial behavior in chronically aggressive and violent adolescents using techniques to develop social skills, emotional control, and moral reasoning. Program techniques are designed to teach youths how to control their angry impulses and take perspectives other than their own. The main goal is to reduce aggression and violence among youths by providing them with opportunities to learn prosocial skills in place of aggressive behavior.

Girls Moving On

Girls Moving On is a gender-informed cognitive-behavioral program for at-risk girls between the ages of 12 to 21 years. Girls Moving On is a comprehensive program that uses several complementary approaches, such as relational theory, motivational interviewing, and cognitive-behavioral intervention. The program is designed to provide girls and young women with alternatives to criminal activity by assisting them to identify and mobilize personal and community resources. Girls Moving On consists of seven modules: two are delivered in an individual basis and five are delivered in a group-based setting.

Cognitive Behavioral Interventions-Core Youth (CBI-CY)

This curriculum is designed to provide a thorough intervention that broadly targets all criminogenic needs for juvenile populations. Relies on a cognitive- behavioral approach to teach individuals strategies to manage risk factors in a way that is developmentally appropriate for youth. The program places heavy emphasis on skill building activities to assist with cognitive, social, emotional, and coping skill development. Additionally, it provides modifications so that youth with mental illness can participate, though it is not dedicated exclusively to this population.

New Freedom

New Freedom programming is intended to target antisocial beliefs and association with antisocial peers through intensive intervention strategies based on cognitive-behavioral methods, motivational enhancement, and social learning philosophies. These strategies target resistance to behavioral change, and decrease

antisocial behaviors, including gang activity. Desired outcomes upon program completion are a decrease in gang involvement, a reduced likelihood of reoffending or probation violation post release, an increase in protective factors, and active participation in programming post release.

As mentioned above, since May 2023, Sonoma County is looking to further expand its abilities to provide individual and group services by developing smaller, short-term contracts with existing vendors who provide services in Juvenile Hall, both in-person and via teleconference. We hope that this will provide more options for both the SYTF Youths and their families by enabling CBO, municipal, and privately funded service providers to build capacity and dedicate clinicians to their specific needs and goals.

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))

As described above, Sonoma County works very closely with nongovernmental and community-based providers to provide programming for youth in Juvenile Hall, Mentoring services, transitioning home or to an alternative placement, as well as for career technical education and training programs. These partners are vital to the success of the SYTF Youth, and we seek their guidance and support at all stages of the youth's growth. SYTF funds are also used to supplement currently funded programs such as our ICM Program, Mental Health services, and individual and group counseling services.

As previously noted, the ICM Program serves SYTF Youths and their families in a strengths-based, family-centered, and culturally competent manner. Group and individual trauma counseling services are offered to SYTF Youth and families who have an identified need beyond services already available to them (either through private insurance or probation referrals).

Since May 2023, Sonoma County is diligently and creatively looking for ways to help community-based and nongovernmental service providers expand their services to SYTF Youth. As mentioned above, ongoing staff capacity deficits have created service provision issues being felt by all providers. At all times, the County will work collaboratively with its partners to continue services both at Juvenile Hall and in the community.

For the Probation Department, a key part of building capacity is by developing multiple smaller, short-term contracts with new and existing vendors who provide services in Juvenile Hall and in the community, both in-person and via teleconference. The Department hopes that this will give more options for both the SYTF Youths and their families as well as a sense of familiarity as they transition from the Juvenile Hall, to home or a placement, and then off supervision altogether.

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))

Since the JJRS was formed, it is the intent of Sonoma County to house all youth within our jurisdiction in the secured setting of the Juvenile Hall, who are received for SYTF commitment. The Department houses SYTF Youth within the facility through use of a classification system, direct supervision model, and services targeted

to address individual needs of the SYTF Youth. In most cases, male and female commitments are housed separately; however, SYTF Youth are occasionally housed in integrated units throughout the facility given their needs, or due to the overall safety and security of the facility.

When a SYTF Youths is committed to the facility, Intake & Release staff make the initial classification assessment based upon information received during the booking process. The goal of the classification process is to provide the least restrictive housing assignment that is still appropriate for the youth based on their needs. There are periodic reviews of classification throughout a SYTF Youth's commitment. Factors considered in the classification process include but are not limited to age; current charge(s); the safety of the SYTF Youth, staff, and other SYTF Youth; the SYTF Youth's perception of vulnerability or safety needs; level of sophistication, emotional stability, program needs, medical and mental health considerations, gender, and gender identity.

SYTF Youth are assessed using the Positive Achievement and Change Tool (PACT), and the Residential Positive Achievement and Change Tool (R-PACT). The R-PACT fits the unique needs of a residential setting, and elicits more specific, relevant information that assists in developing intervention strategies for youth committed to Juvenile Hall. Additional risk assessment tools may also be utilized as appropriate, and the Juvenile Hall will follow accepted juvenile justice best practices.

Case management and supervision for these SYTF Youth begins at the process of commitment with a review or completion of a risk and needs assessment; the development, implementation and monitoring of an IRP; use of motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral interventions; application of structured evidence based practices such as "CCP" (Core Correctional Practices); and imposition of appropriate sanctions and the use of incentives for positive behavior and change, as a means of holding SYTF Youth accountable and improving outcomes. Individual rehabilitation planning and supervision practices for committed SYTF Youth address key issues such as risk, responsivity, competency development, reparation of harm, community protection, family dynamics, adolescent development, and services to address criminogenic needs. These goals are attained by observing the following objectives:

Adhering to individual rehabilitative planning and commitment and supervision practices that address risk, need and responsivity; providing youth with appropriate treatment services based on identified criminogenic needs; and facilitating community safety through containment of youth committed for violations of crimes specified in WIC Section 707(b).

Regarding facility improvements, Sonoma County modified a vacant housing unit to accommodate a higher education setting, where high school graduates and college students can attend school and career technical classes. Additionally, given the number of SYTF Youth enrolled in Santa Rosa Junior College the facility can offer in-person classes with instructors from SRJC for core subjects such as Math and English. The Dayroom was converted to accommodate a professional work environment with cubicles and desks, personalized for each SYTF Youths. Sonoma County purchased new laptops for individual use within the Unit. New software was also purchased through Linewize, which monitors, blocks, and alerts inappropriate use of the internet and software. Dayroom seating was updated with couches and new chairs to accommodate a "softer setting", allowing SYTF Youth additional comfort beyond standard institutional furniture; similarly, a large mural will also be completed soon.

Since May 2023, the Sonoma County Juvenile Hall completed construction of its greenhouse which is an addition to the current garden program and orchard, providing additional CTE for SYTF Youth interested in an introduction to horticulture and botany. Upcoming plans include introduction to aquaponics and applying sustainable agriculture practices.

Additionally, the Sonoma County Juvenile Hall recently opened a new music recording studio with the goal of promoting self-expression, positivity and wellness among youth detained at Juvenile Hall with the assistance of local music professionals. The studio is called Free Voices and the Probation Department is working with a local music professional as a consultant, who is making connections with the residents and assisting in the creation of unique music.

PART 6: RETAINING THE TARGET POPULATION IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(5))

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))

Justice system-involved youth who remain in their communities have lower recidivism rates and are more prepared for their transition back into the community. Sonoma County has worked to retain the SYTF Youth from within our jurisdiction by providing a safe and secure facility that promotes and provides rehabilitative treatment designed to reduce recidivism; provide opportunities to address personal, social, physical, mental health, educational, career technical training, and independent living needs; and prepare them for a successful re-entry to their communities. A key component of successful reentry is ensuring that SYTF youth are housed closer to their families and within their communities while they receive age-appropriate treatment and allowing the family to engage in treatment concurrently. Family and pro-social community ties play a large role in rehabilitation planning for each SYTF Youths.

Sonoma County currently utilizes evidence-based and promising practices and programs with Probation staff and community-based organizations that improve the outcomes of SYTF Youth and public safety. This is an important step in our attempts to reduce the transfer of SYTF Youth into the adult criminal justice system. By applying appropriate and individualized preventative services and programming to fidelity and ensuring that disposition recommendations are considered in the least restrictive appropriate environment, we hope to reduce recidivism and continue to serve youth within the juvenile justice system. With the addition of commitment programs within juvenile hall that target a variety of needs and risk levels we believe we can reduce the need for transfer to the adult criminal justice system.

As mentioned above, since May 2023, Sonoma County has secured two full-time employees dedicated to the SYTF Youths comprehensive success including avoidance of entry into the Adult criminal justice system. Although still in development, the two new employees are creating a structure whereby support is continuous and the SYTF Youth's personal responsibility in their growth is central. As soon as a youth is designated a part of the SYTF group, the MDT will meet to begin creating the IRP, which will be further individualized during the CFT. From day one, the IRP will be structured with the vision to set youth up for a successful community transition plan. The pillars of this IRP are the three areas indicated in WIC Section 875: treatment, education, and development. With an IRP in place that is robust and focused on community reentry, the MDT will have the ability to create a structured process and benchmarks for the SYTF Youth to earn base term reductions in court and possible release to a less restrictive placement. Once released to the community or less restrictive placement, a similar process with benchmarks related to the IRP will continue, moving toward community re-engagement and probation completion.

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 Sonoma County Probation Department has the capacity to offer our facility and programming to other Counties wishing to send their realigned youth to our County. To support the intent of SB 823, Sonoma County will only accept youth from the Bay Area or Northern California, keeping other county youth as close to their natural supports as possible. We will contract with these counties through cooperative agreements and provide them with written material and brochures describing the programming offered. As with our own county youth, we will work with out-of-county youth on ensuring connections to family and natural supports as well as closely working with the other Probation Departments to ensure a smooth reentry plan is in place. We will be investing in technology to support these youth with connections to their communities.

There have been no changes in this element since May 2023.

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:

To manage the SYTF Youth population in Juvenile Hall, the detention management information system was modified to track new Secure Track commitment types and detention reasons. Validated risk and need assessments and IRPs are integrated into the detention management information system, providing robust data for analysis of risk, needs and case plan quality. This work was completed at the start of the SB 823 implementation. Sonoma County and Information Services Departments are collaborating to develop a business application to track participation in SYTF programming, so that the dose of services can be considered when measuring outcomes for reentering SYTF youth, and positioning us for analysis of service matching, from assessed needs to IRPs to engagement and completion of services. The new application will allow tracking of group and individual service participation, including the type of program and actual duration, in hours, of participation in programs. Phase 1, allowing for setting up programs, enrollment of youth in and recording attendance, should be implemented in fiscal year 24-25. Future phases, including integration with case plans and case notes, and direct service provider access, are also planned.

Sonoma County Integrated Justice Systems will be modernized in the coming years, with unknown impacts on the systems that support the Department. Additionally, Sonoma County is in the process of modernizing its case management and detention management systems. These large projects may impact the timing of delivery of the SYTF Youth program participation application described above. Since May 2023, the Sonoma County has completed the programming requirements and the modernization project is in the early work phases.

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:

Outcome measures will include recidivism, entry into the Adult justice system, measures of racial and gender equity, and changes in thinking, skills, and connection to supports for reentry and independent living. Recidivism is defined as a new delinquency or criminal/delinquency referral, petition/complaint, or adjudication/conviction during years one, two and three after release from the Secure Youth Treatment Facility. Entry into the Adult system includes youth entering the adult system for a new crime occurring after turning 18 years of age, and (reported separately) youth transferred to the adult criminal justice system under WIC Section 707(b). Measures of racial and gender equity include

comparisons of the experiences at key decision points broken out by race and gender. Changes in thinking, skills, and connection to supports will be measured for individual interventions, where applicable, using measurement tools specific to the intervention models.

Since May 2023, the Department continues to integrate the Anti-Racist Results Based Accountability (AR-RBA) framework into our provider contracts, as they are newly executed. AR-RBA is a Sonoma County Initiative of our Board of Supervisors being adopted county-wide, and Probation is at the forefront of that effort. AR-RBA is an ends-to-means framework to assess whether services are actively mitigating inequities in Black, Indigenous, Asian, and local communities of color. It requires that Sonoma County and CBOs work together at program level data by race and other demographic indicators (e.g., race/ethnicity, language, gender, disability) to adopt strategies to eliminate inequities.

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

While we appreciate the opportunity to provide other updates and objectives to the current year Plan, they are all stated above. That said, Sonoma County consistently strives to find, research, and implement the most relevant evidence-based or evidence-informed, trauma-informed, and gender specific services for the SYTF Youth, both while in custody and in the community. Sonoma County and its CBO and justice partners are consistently looking to improve how it collects data, administers services, and houses the youths in our care. The next year will be one of growth as the new SYTF DPO IV and their team develop a comprehensive approach to SYTF case management, and the JJRS looks forward to sharing that project's progress in our 2025 Plan.