

(2023-2024) Annual Plan

Date: 4/24/2023

County Name: Stanislaus

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Instructions:

Government Code Section 30061(b)(4) and Welfare & Institution Code Section 1961(b) call for consolidation of the annual plans required for JJCPA and YOBG.

Please submit your most up-to-date consolidated plan. The following is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. If you find it helpful to use this template, please do so. Each field must be completed before submitting your plan to the BSCC. If you have nothing to report for a field, please indicate 'N/A'. At the end of the template please press the 'Submit' button to be recorded with the BSCC. Your work will be saved each time you log in, if you need to make any edits.

Your Submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website. CostaDa@stanpro.org

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

JJCPA-YOBG@bscc.ca.gov

Juvenile Justice Plan

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

A. Assessment of Existing Services

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

Since the creation of the Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan developed in 2000, Stanislaus County has continued to update the Local Action Plan (i.e. 2005, 2008, 2013 and 2020). In 2020, the Probation Department updated the Local Action Plan document to consider projects, services, programming, and partnerships through 2025. Included in the submission of this report, as a separate document, is the most recent Local Action Plan (LAP) 2020-2025 update developed from a collaboration and cross section of numerous agencies working with the Probation Department. The Stanislaus County Graduated Responses To Youth Crime and Delinquency Prevention Continuum is updated in the LAP to include the upcoming FY 23/24, with projections through 2025. These documents combine to provide an assessment and overview of existing resources that target the specified populations we serve.

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

See the Local Action Plan 2020-2025 (updated for FY 23/24) submitted with this report which describes the approach Stanislaus County has used and will continue to use to collaborate amongst organizations and support the integration of services. It is expected that the Local Action Plan will be reviewed annually through 2025, adjusted as needed, and approved by the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council annually.

B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas

Identify and prioritize the neighborhoods, schools, and other areas of the county that face the most significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.

As identified in our original Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan, the greater Modesto areas faced the most significant public safety risk from juvenile crime. As part of the 18/19 plan, the Department initiated a Planning Phase for a Youth Assessment Center (YAC) in this targeted area. In FY 19/20, the Pilot Phase of the Youth Assessment Center began. In FY 20/21, the YAC was in its first year of full implementation. In Fiscal Years 21/22 and 22/23, the YAC continued to serve targeted youth in these areas. As part of future plans, the YAC is hoping to expand into the Turlock area, once referral numbers reach service capacity for the first center. This area was also originally identified as an area of significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.

C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

Describe your county's juvenile justice action strategy. Include an explanation of your county's continuum of responses to juvenile crime and delinquency as well as a description of the approach used to ensure a collaborative and integrated approach for implementing a system of swift, certain, and graduated responses for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders.

Attached is our updated Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency Prevention Continuum (Attachment A) which includes Prevention, Intervention, Enforcement and Detention programs and partnerships. Additionally, it includes all existing programs, programs to be expanded, programs being implemented and programs to be created. This attachment included with the submission of this report was updated to reflect the projected FY 23/24 plans. This document will be updated annually as needed and is a part of the Local Action Plan.

D.Comprehensive Plan RevisionsDescribe how your Plan has been updated for this year.

Previously, members of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), various county agencies, law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, and Probation staff were all invited to participate in the Local Action Plan Update committee that met in September 2019, November 2019, and February 2020. A wide variety of individuals participated in these meetings from each of the above identified organizations. During these meetings, the current Local Action Plan was evaluated and reviewed, as well as the goals from previous years. Subgroups were created that focused on four areas of the plan: (1) Prevention (2) Intervention (3) Enforcement and (4) Detention. Updated goals, partnerships, programs and services were identified and placed in an updated Local Action Plan to cover the time period 2020-2025. The Local Action Plan (with FY 23/24 updated information in Attachment A) was submitted for the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council's approval in April 2023. It is included in the submission of this JJCPA-YOBG Annual Plan.

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

N/A

**Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)
(Government Code Section 30061(b)(4))**

A. Information Sharing and Data Describe your information systems and their ability to facilitate the sharing of data across agencies within your county. Describe the data obtained through these systems and how those data are used to measure the success of juvenile justice programs and strategies.

The Stanislaus County Probation Department in collaboration with other county agencies has developed its own Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (ICJIS). Data is shared amongst the Probation, District Attorney, and the Sheriff's Departments. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to share information with agencies such as Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and Child Welfare was approved by the involved agencies in June 2022 to streamline services to youth.

B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils

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

yes

If no, please list the current vacancies that exist on your JJCC, when those vacancies occurred, and your plan for filling them.

N/A

C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

JJCPA Funded Program(s), Strategy and/or System Enhancement

Below are JJCPA funded programs reported by the county.

Program Name:

Gender Responsive Alternatives to Detention (GRAD)/ CSEC Youth Assessment and Support.

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Treating justice involved girls and boys in a generic manner does not appropriately meet their needs. Girls tend to have elevated rates of trauma, which can lead to serious mental health conditions. The reasons for girls' system involvement are complex and often rooted in challenging family dynamics. Without gender-responsive assessments, programs, and services, an opportunity to address the issues that lead to girls' justice involvement is missed.

In December 2009, the Probation Department began collaborating with the Prison Law Office, the National Center for Crime and Delinquency and the Youth Justice Institute to implement what would come to be known as the Girls Juvenile Justice Initiative. The purpose of the initiative was to create and implement a strategic plan and task force to address the dearth of services available to justice involved girls. A strategic plan was developed in December 2010 with the mission: "To promote public safety by creating a gender-responsive, culturally competent continuum of services that provides opportunities for girls and young women to lead safe, healthy and productive lives."

The Probation Department evaluated our own data and determined secure detention was the primary resource used for violations of probation, bench warrants and failures to appear. The data showed girls were over-represented in terms of bookings into the juvenile hall and out-of-home placement. It was also determined almost half of all girls entering the juvenile hall were booked for violations of probation, bench warrants and failures to appear. In July of 2011, the Stanislaus County Probation Department implemented the Gender Responsive Alternatives to Detention (GRAD) program, which introduced a specialized caseload, gender-responsive training and assessment tool, and enhanced services for the under-served population of justice involved girls.

In 2018, a partnership was established with a local non-profit, Without Permission, that provided a staff called a "Navigator" to conduct Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT) assessments and assist Probation with identifying youth who may be at-risk of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) issues. Through this partnership we have identified a population of previously uncategorized CSEC males that have been booked into our institutions. We will continue to utilize services of the Navigator to assist with both in-custody and out-of-custody youth.

Description:

A Center for Human Services case manager is currently co-located within the Probation Department. The Probation Department implemented the gender-responsive Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) tool. The JAIS is an evidence-based tool that generates an assessment in order to identify a risk level. Upon the completion of the assessment process, the GRAD team, to include the DPO I/II and the case manager meet to share information and determine appropriateness for the program for the under-served population of justice involved girls. Once accepted into the program, staff from both agencies interact on a daily basis, conducting weekly case reviews, attending court appearances and exchanging information as necessary.

The GRAD program employs numerous alternative interventions in the event of a violation of probation. When a girl receives traditional probation services, if she is in violation of probation, she is sent to Court and a recommendation for time in juvenile hall is typically made. With GRAD, the Deputy Probation Officer and case manager engage in a "case conference," during which they meet to discuss the particular circumstances of the girl, their various options and to make recommendations for appropriate steps to take to address the behavior. The GRAD program continues to serve between 12-19 female youth. Each youth in GRAD also receives one-on-one counseling services while also receiving education on CSEC, eating disorders/body image, and financial literacy.

Female youth receive various services such as an evidence-based Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) treatment program, Steps to Freedom. CBT (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy) is the premier cognitive-behavior program for substance abuse treatment which combines education, group and individual counseling, and structured exercises designed to foster moral development in treatment-resistant probationers. GRAD probationers may also be referred to Aggression Replacement Training (ART). ART is a cognitive behavioral intervention program to help children and adolescents improve social skill competence and moral reasoning, better manage anger, and reduce aggressive behavior. Additional services include probation supervision and case management services, general counseling, and intensive drug and alcohol out-patient services.

The youth on GRAD are also required to participate in the Probation Department's employment development program called, "Let's Work". This is in partnership with the County Workforce Development team who educate, guide and mentor youth through the employment process and encourage them to seek higher education beyond their high school graduation.

An extension of the GRAD program is the Girl's Advisory Council (GAC), which is a collaboration between the Probation Department, the Center for Human Services, community members and various local service providers. The GAC empowers female youth in the county with resources to help them reach their full potential.

Finally, in partnership with Without Permission (a local non-profit specializing in working with victims of human trafficking and those with CSEC issues), a staff called a "Navigator" assesses all female youth on probation or males/females who have been booked into the Juvenile Hall that show risk factors for CSEC. The CSE-IT assessment tool is used by the Navigator to assist in case planning for the youth to address protective factors, trauma issues or other concerns shown by the assessment. A Navigator is co-located in the Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit.

Program Enhancement: Partnerships will continue to be funded with focus on continuing to assess and address the needs of this population. The contract with Without Permission will be expanded to allow additional time for an additional Navigator to work with male youth in custody.

This program meets the goals identified in the areas of Intervention and Detention in the Local Action Plan.

Program Name:

Mental Health/SUD Treatment/Cognitive Behavioral Intervention

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The Probation Department continues to partner with Community Based Organizations and non-profits to refer youth in need of Mental Health, Substance Abuse Disorder, or other evidence-based treatment. Contracts for Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI) and Domestic Violence (DV) /Victim Awareness were started in 2018. In early 2019, these programs were expanded and in FY 21/22, on-site Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and CBI-Core Youth (CY) programming were added. These services will be continued in FY23/24.

Description:

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) treatment for lower level, informal youth, under probation supervision began in January 2019. Treatment programming for domestic violence counseling/victim awareness began in February 2019.

In August 2019, Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI) programming began to be provided to all in-custody youth. The program, called "Choices", uses an evidence-based curriculum, and is supported by technical assistance from the University of Cincinnati. Additionally, Probation staff have been trained in Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and CBI-Core Youth (CY) curriculums and are providing these programs to youth in-custody.

In FY 21/22, the Probation Department partnered with LCA, Inc., to provide out-of-custody ART and CBI-CY services at the new Juvenile Programming Center. In FY 22/23, Probation staff and LCA, Inc. began synchronizing some of the programming taking place both in and out of custody. This allows youth to transition more seamlessly from in custody programming to out of custody programming without losing progress or having to start a program from the beginning. These programs will continue in FY 23/24.

Program enhancement: Funds will be set aside for continued contracts in FY 23/24 for Mental Health, SUD treatment, ART, CBI-CY and DV/Victim Awareness for probation youth. These programs support the goals of both the Intervention and Detention areas of the Local Action Plan. Some programming contracts will be expanded to provide greater consistency in the facilitation of programming.

Program Name:

Home Supervision-Electronic Monitoring (GPS)/House Arrest Program.

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The program is effective in ensuring minors attended all scheduled Court hearings and reintegrating them back into the community after periods in a detention facility. Furthermore, by restricting appropriately selected minors to their homes rather than detaining them in Juvenile Hall, secure detention beds can be reserved for those youth posing the greatest danger to the community and taxpayer costs for juvenile facility placements can be avoided.

Description:

Home Supervision, an Intervention program, is designed to provide protection to the community and offender accountability while allowing offenders to remain in their homes in lieu of incarceration. The program consists of Electronic Monitoring through the use of Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) units and House Arrest of wards and alleged wards pending adjudication and/or disposition hearings in Juvenile Court. The minors are supervised through face-to-face visits by program staff who verify participation in structured, community-based counseling programs and compliance with imposed restrictions. The Programming and Placement Unit oversees and monitors the youth on this program utilizing the more accurate GPS units and web-based tracking system to streamline supervision services. In 2023, youth on electronic monitoring supervision began returning before the Court at least every 30 days to review their progress and determine if continued time on the program is appropriate.

This program supports the goals of the Intervention and Enforcement areas of the Local Action Plan.

Program Name:

Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

This team supervises youth who are categorized as "High Risk" based on their Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) assessment. In 2022, an average of 109 of 182 (60%) Probation wards were listed as High Risk. In 2021, an average of 150 of 231 (64%) Probation wards were listed as High Risk. This reflects an 27% decrease in the average number of High Risk cases. Targeted supervision, coupled with evidence-based programming referrals, is the key to this unit's success.

Description:

The Intensive Juvenile Supervision (IJS) Unit expands intensive, community-based supervision of high-risk juvenile Court wards and the enforcement of Court orders. The objective is to reduce juvenile criminal involvement in the target population and increase offender accountability by actively enforcing outstanding Juvenile Court warrants, providing intensive supervision of youth, referring youth to programs such as Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and CBI-Core Youth (CY) curriculum, and utilizing the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) assessment. One area that had been identified as needing enhancement is opportunities for this population to gain employment skills and eventually jobs. During FY 18/19, a new partnership with the County Workforce Development agency was created. Through the partnership, an In-Custody and Out-of-Custody employment development program called "Let's Work" was created. Youth are followed for 12-months after employment to track progress. The IJS Unit and employment program will continue in FY 23/24.

This Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit and the related employment program support the goals of both the Intervention and Enforcement areas of the Local Action Plan.

**Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)
(Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1961(a))**

A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

Describe your county's overall strategy for dealing with non-707(b) youthful offenders who are not eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice. Explain how this Plan relates to or supports that strategy.

See attached Stanislaus County Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency. YOBG funded programs/services are included in Attachment A and support our strategy of a graduated response for dealing with non-707(b) youthful offenders who are not eligible for a Secure Track commitment and may benefit from programming/services in various areas provided by the Probation Department or partner agencies.

B. Regional Agreements

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

N/A

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

Below are YOBG funded programs reported by the county.

Program Name:

Juvenile Hall

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Probation Officers have been trained in various evidence-based programming curriculum. Additional training will be provided and updated for staff.

Description:

The Juvenile Hall is a 158-bed facility at the Juvenile Justice Center located at 2215 Blue Gum Ave in Modesto. 138 beds are reserved for the Juvenile Hall and 20 beds are reserved for the Secure Youth Treatment Facility. The Juvenile Hall provides temporary and extended detention for those youth awaiting detention, jurisdictional or dispositional hearings. Programming for both pre-and post- adjudicated wards is also provided as previously noted in this plan. The facility provides academic and vocational education programs, mental health services, and other programs which promote a sense of self-discipline and responsibility. The county will continue operating the Juvenile Hall for youth who need to be detained.

YOBG funds will pay for salary and benefit costs for staff positions to the facility, providing supervision services to youth detained in the Juvenile Hall. Equipment, training and travel costs for each staff as well as workbook materials and incentives for youth will be included for all evidence-based courses taught in and out-of-custody.

This program supports the goals identified in the Detention area of the Local Action Plan.

Program Name:

Crime Analyst

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The Crime Analyst will evaluate the effectiveness of existing juvenile services/programs and will assist in researching best practices for future programming. The use of Statistical Product and Service Solution (SPSS) software will be utilized for numerical, spatial and graphical analysis.

Description:

The Crime Analyst (Program Evaluation Researcher) collects, collates, and analyzes data from a variety of sources. The Analyst evaluates the effectiveness of current services and juvenile programs to determine if the Department is achieving intended outcomes and will assist in researching best practices for future programming. The Analyst's work includes developing and maintaining a process for collection, maintenance and management of probation data. The Analyst will use innovation and technology to ensure the most progressive and efficient processes are used; which includes the use of analytics based software for numerical, graphical, and geospatial analysis.

This program supports the goals of the Intervention and Enforcement areas of the Local Action Plan through analysis of trends that allow appropriate allocation of resources for future supervision.

Program Name:

Camp-Juvenile Commitment Facility/Mental Health and Hospice Services.

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

The Department funds a number of administrative, supervisory and line staff positions to provide 24/7 supervision, programming and observation for those youth committed to the Juvenile Commitment Facility (JCF).

Description:

Stanislaus County completed the construction of a 47,207 square foot Commitment Facility in 2013. The 60-bed treatment facility is comprised of three living units; a 30-bed living unit and two 15-bed living units. The facility is separated from, but directly adjacent to the existing Juvenile Hall and Juvenile Justice Center located at 2215 Blue Gum Ave in Modesto. The Commitment Facility is providing residential programming for post-adjudicated wards, thereby preserving secure beds at the Juvenile Hall for pre-adjudicated youth. The facility is designed to house longer term Juvenile Court commitments and provide staffing to offer academic and vocational education programs, mental health, Culinary and Trade learning programs, and other programs which promote a sense of self-discipline and responsibility to guide them toward a more productive and pro-social lifestyle.

Program Enhancement: Continued Mental Health assessments for youth will be conducted to assist in determining the appropriate response level of care or treatment needed for those who are experiencing mental health episodes, and/or suicidal ideations. Additionally, youth who experience loss of family or significant others has been an area served by contracted Hospice counseling services. These mental health and hospice services will continue to be provided under this program area as well as throughout the Juvenile Institutions.

This program supports the goals identified in the Detention area of the Local Action Plan.

Program Name:

Home on Probation-Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS)

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

Wards assigned to the caseloads supported by YOBG and JJCPA funds will be assessed with an evidence-based risk assessment tool, the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS). This program works in collaboration with the JJCPA Intensive Juvenile Supervision Unit in that it identifies minors who may need a higher level of supervision. The JAIS risk levels determine the level of intervention.

Description:

In an ongoing effort to promote public safety by preventing lower risk minors from escalating into delinquency, from being sent to out-of-home placement or from otherwise being detained, Stanislaus County will use the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS), an evidence-based risk assessment tool, to develop case plans for minors supervised on probation.

This assessment affects youth under the Intervention, Enforcement and Detention areas of the areas of the Local Action Plan.

Program Name:

Youth Assessment Center

Evidence Upon Which It is Based:

As part of the Department's Graduated Responses to Youth Crime and Delinquency, there was an identified need to develop a Youth Assessment Center (YAC) in our County. This center would assist in addressing low level cases by working collaboratively to keep targeted youth from entering the Juvenile Justice System through Diversion or similar efforts. This was a phased approach with a Planning Phase in FY 18/19, Pilot Phase in FY 19/20 and Full Implementation Phase in FY 20/21. The YAC continued full operation in FY 22/23. Funding will be allocated to support a 4th year of full implementation and possible expansion into other targeted areas of the County in FY 23/24.

Description:

The Probation Department had a 5-year average of receiving approximately 380 citations annually for youth who committed medium/low level offenses in our county. These citations often involved youth who had medium/low criminogenic needs and family issues that led them to make their poor decisions. These youth predominantly ended up in the criminal justice system, either having to come see Probation to have their case closed, being sent to Court and potentially being placed on probation (informal or formal) or being given some alternative supervision program option at Probation. This process of handling citations diverted some youth from the system and provided discipline to some for their acts. The spectrum ran from least restrictive actions to incarceration. The goal was to help youth avoid the system altogether, but youth were having to enter the criminal justice system in the initial process. A goal was set to establish a system where appropriate youth for diversion could bypass physically reporting to probation altogether and receive intervention/prevention services through Community-Based Organization (CBO) referrals and community involvement.

During the initial Planning Phase in FY18/19, a committee of Probation, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) and non-profit staff looked into various "systems" to help us reach our ultimate goal of not having youth touch the criminal justice system (if possible) and "divert" or move them into more of a prevention / early intervention program. The initial funding was through a Probation/BHRS partnership and CBO service contract, while also engaging local law enforcement to refer youth to the CBO to offer services instead of Probation handling it through our criminal justice process. Our research showed we should target youth in the greater Modesto area.

In 2019, a partnership with Sierra Vista Child and Family Services (SVCFS) was established utilizing their existing Family Resource Center located in West Modesto. Our intention in meeting with an established CBO was to add another layer to its "one stop shop" at its Family Resource Center, reaching these youth and utilizing existing referrals or treatment processes to move them away from further criminal activity.

A team of Probation, Prevention/Early Intervention BHRS staff, and SVCFS made up the initial group to create the Youth Assessment Center (YAC) "pilot" in FY 19/20. YAC referrals initially came only from the citations received by the Probation Department from local law enforcement; however, the goal was to eventually have local law enforcement have the ability to send their referrals/citations directly to the YAC, thereby avoiding going through Probation. Additionally, a mobile referral application was developed and implemented at the end of FY 20/21. This mobile referral process was continued and evaluated in FY 21/22 and FY 22/23. That said, while local law enforcement has started to use the mobile application, the YAC still receives the strong majority of the referrals in hard copy from the Probation Department.

In the first eight months of FY 22/23, the YAC received 111 new referrals compared to the 72 new referrals it received in the first eight months of FY 21/22. This was a 54% increase in the use of this diversion/intervention tool. During this same comparative time frame, the YAC averaged 36 active clients monthly in FY 22/23 compared to 21 active clients monthly in 21/22. This is a 71% increase in clients they are actively working with. This steady progress is reflective of the continue partnership that Probation, BHRS, and SVCFS is trying to embed in our community. In FY 22/23, the YAC will continue in a 4th year of implementation with on-going evaluation of the program's effectiveness in reducing recidivism or decreasing the overall citations received by the Department. Further training and outreach will be conducted to get local law enforcement to use the mobile application instead of creating hard copy citations. Other potential sources for referrals will also be explored to expand early intervention/prevention services. This program supports the goals of the Prevention area in the Local Action Plan.

Program Enhancement: One of the goals is to expand the YAC into the Turlock area. Collected data shows the Turlock area is one of the areas with a denser population of criminal justice involved youth in the County. The hope is to work with youth and their families when early delinquency issues arise in less serious offenses, offering services to prevent those youth from entering the juvenile justice system in the future.