



JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL PLAN

MAIN CONTACT FOR PLAN

Date: April 28, 2025

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	Angela Scardina, Director Sonoma County Office of Education	ascardina@scoe.org	707-522-3322 ext. 4105
Court Representative	Hon. Robert LaForge, Superior Court Judge	rlafor1@sonomacourt.org	(707) 521-6710
Three Community Members <i>(defined as "individuals who have experience providing</i>	Greyson Gunheim, VOICES Sonoma	greyson@voicesyouthcenter.org	(707) 579-4327

<i>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>	Danielle Garduño, Santa Rosa Violence Prevention Partnership-GPS Program	dgarduno@srcity.org	(707) 543-4696
	Michelle Edwards, Boys and Girls Club Sonoma- Marin	mheery@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, Research & 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 April 22, 2025, meeting, the Juvenile Justice Realignment Subcommittee (JJRS) has not selected a cochair.

Since the amendment creating the role of the cochair was discussed in 2023 pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) Section 1995(b), the JJRS has followed the statute’s intent to actively seek a co-chair. In early 2024, the JJRS discussed the roles and responsibilities of the co-chairs including: how the co-chairs would share their work as active collaborators, that a new co-chair shall not be selected by or from Probation, that any member or participant could nominate themselves as co-chair (subject to a majority vote), the role has a

two-year commitment, and that the JJRS would have a standing agenda item for all regular meetings where self-nominations could occur.

Since the March 2024 meeting, the JJRS has maintained the standing agenda item where the role of a co-chair is discussed and members or participants can self-nominate, subject to a motion and majority vote. As described above, as of the submission of this Plan, no co-chair has been selected.

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:

The Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) Plan and its ongoing goals are items at every JJRS meeting. In addition to the meetings above, the JJRS also met on October 30, 2024.

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

April 22, 2025.

Describe how the plan was developed, including the review and participation of the subcommittee community members as defined in Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b):

The 2024 JJRBG Annual Plan was approved on March 26, 2024, following by a majority vote of its members. Since that time, the Probation Department has been compiling data and working with its JJRS partners to provide the programs, interventions, and facilities that will empower youth with the best rehabilitative services in the community, in anticipation of reentry. The JJRS anticipates approving its 2025 JJRBG Plan on April 22, 2025 having met on two prior occasions since the prior Plan's approval; the first time was October 30, 2024, and second was on March 4, 2025.

The JJRS is key in helping develop the JJRBG Annual Plan through a consistent sharing of best practices, data, and emerging changes. In its October 2024 meeting, Chair Michnevich decided that in the spirit of collaboration and Plan development that Probation would keep participants updated on juvenile trends at each meeting. The intent was to give participants the opportunity to ask questions about the information presented, and to create an ongoing dialogue whereby information is presented, questions or concerns are voiced, and those questions or concerns are addressed at the next meeting. Examples of what was shared included the current number of youth on supervision and how that compared to past years, the number of Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) Youth, how many SYTF Youth have been served since the JJRBG was received, and current Requests for Proposals (RFP). Similarly, the Planning Implementation and Evaluation (PIE) Team added an agenda item that directly asked participants what other data or updates they might want; it led to a meaningful discussion and follow ups were provided at the March 2025 meeting. Lastly, the JJRS asked whether any participants wished to lead a JJRS Youth Voice subgroup, and two voting members came forward to lead and participate in that project. The JJRS Youth Voice subgroup will be comprised of former justice-involved youth and community-based organizations (CBOs) which will provide necessary perspective to the JJRS and its work going forward.

At the March 2025 meeting, updated trends were provided by Chair Michnevich on supervision numbers and notable trends. Kilee Willson and Kris Hoyer (Division Directors II, from Juvenile Hall and Probation Services, respectively) provided updates including number of SYTF Youth at that time, both from in- and out-of-county. Participants were also provided responses to their data requests from the previous meeting and given the opportunity to ask follow-up questions. From that exchange, themes were noted which will be featured in the current Plan; similarly, some themes were acknowledged as important, but not achievable within the current Plan term, but set aside as a priority in future Plans. Additionally, the JJRS Youth Voice subgroup was

updated that Chair Michnevich connected with a contact received from the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR). The contact shared resources and best practices for counties hoping to form successful youth-driven groups; the names of other counties with active youth groups were also provided.

The writing and submission of the JJRBG Plan itself is led by Probation staff, but the JJRS contributes to its completion by providing data or guidance, when needed. Regarding review of this Plan, each Voting Member received a draft on April 16, 2025, and was directed to review the Plan carefully in anticipation of a vote in April. Voting Members were also provided the opportunity to email questions directly to the JJRS' email: scpd-jjrs@sonoma-county.org, call the lead Program Planning Evaluation Analyst directly, or take advantage of two drop-in office hours set by Probation to address issues and answer questions in a virtual environment.

The final meeting for approval occurred on April 22, 2025.

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))

It should be noted that no youth with an adjudication for an offense listed in Section 290.008 of the Penal Code were transferred to Sonoma County in the process of the closure of DJJ, nor has Sonoma County served any of these youth in the SYTF, including SYTF youth from other counties. Since Senate Bill 92 made youth adjudicated on these offenses ineligible for SYTF commitment beginning on July 1, 2021, none of these youth will be served in Sonoma County's SYTF in the future.

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. SYTF Youth range from ages 14 to 25 and will have been adjudicated based on an offense described in WIC Section 707(b).

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 different races, ethnicities, genders and age groups.

Probation collects and shares data related to the target population, as displayed in the attached data template provided by the OYCR, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, gender, and age. Since the JJRBG Plan is a public document, Sonoma County complies with laws regarding juvenile case file information in WIC Section 827 by suppressing counts for any group of fewer than ten, showing "<11" 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 ">11." This masking assists in preventing the identification of any youth included in this public document.

Counts for Age, Gender, Race or Ethnicity, and Offense are of young people entering the target population, meaning they have adjudicated on an offense listed in WIC 707(b), during Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024. Thirty-two entered the target population, representing a 41% increase compared to FY 2022-2023, and continue to show overrepresentation of Hispanic youth, compared with their proportion of the County population. Just over

half of the adjudications were for assaults, and more than a fourth were for robbery. Regarding adult transfer net widening, numbers of youth transferred to adult criminal court have remained consistently very small, with no youth transferred to criminal court in FY 2023-2024.

Initially, the planned capacity for SYTF Youth was 20. In October 2022, based on the need for other counties to house their SYTF Youth with Sonoma County, the JJRS voted on a planned increased staggered at ten bed increments, not to exceed 40 beds. As of March 19, 2025, the number of committed out-of-county SYTF Youth is less than 11; data for out-of-county SYTF Youth is not reflected in the attached data template, as they are reported in the Annual Plan of their home counties.

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

Referring to the attached data template provided by the OYCR, counts for Placement, Facilities, and for Program, are for any youth in the target population who entered a Placement, Facility or Program during FY 2023-2024. Data for Placements and Facilities included Short Term Residential Treatment, Other County Camps or Ranches, Sonoma County SYTF, and various Less Restrictive Programs individualized for the unique needs of youth stepping down from the SYTF. Data for programs included Aggression Replacement Training, community service work, trauma counseling, Functional Family Therapy, individual counseling, Intensive Case Management, juvenile sexual behavior treatment, and Restorative Conferencing. Several additional in-custody programs were also provided to SYTF and Compass Academy participants, but participant counts are not available due to the delayed development of a program participation tracking 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, 2024, at the end of your response (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(D)(2) and (d)(8)):

The 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 consider the safety of individual SYTF Youth, the SYTF Youth as a group, as well as the other committed 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 each 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; various restorative justice services to help identify and take accountability for the harm they caused; opportunities to address personal, social, physical, mental health, educational, career technical education and independent living skills needs; and help youths prepare for successful re-entry to their communities.

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

For services that the Juvenile Hall cannot directly administer, Probation maintains contracts with several local providers for services within the Juvenile Hall as well as contracts focused on transitional services. These

CBOs, municipal, regional, 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 less restrictive programming, our Intensive Case Management (ICM) Program, career technical education and training programs, case management and supervision services, and Sonoma County Behavioral Health Division's Mental Health Services, through the Probation Department.

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

Since May 2024, Probation's new SYTF-specialized Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) IV and DPO have been interviewing the SYTF Youth and their families, analyzing records, getting insights from Juvenile Correctional Counselors and DPOs, and reviewing best practices to develop the most comprehensive reentry plan possible for SYTF Youth. 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, 2024, 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 Youths' family and any victims within the home. Sonoma County has historically served most adjudicated youth in the community setting and through home removal via placement and 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 complies with applicable statutes and Title 15 regulations. The Sonoma County Behavioral Health Division's Mental Health Services has an embedded office at the Juvenile Justice Center, which is currently fully staffed. Their onsite presence provides services and support, not only to the SYTF Youth, but all youth committed to Juvenile Hall.

Since May 2024, Probation has contracted with two separate providers for sexual behavior treatment programming. Adding a second provider allows youth and families additional support and options when services are matched to individuals.

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, 2024, 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. Probation 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 to teach empathy and understanding using the victim's voice, when available; gender responsive groups; and bicultural and bilingual providers, when possible. Probation 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 and training services, higher education, and virtual programming.

In Juvenile Hall, grant funding was used to significantly expand programming within the facility. The career technical education (CTE) programming was expanded to include use of a completed 30-foot greenhouse which successfully grows produce using aquaponics. Staff currently provide gardening programming to residents; however, a Request for Proposals (RFP) will soon be released for CTE programming specific to the greenhouse and garden at Juvenile Hall. Additionally, a culinary program was created, and two classes of students have successfully completed the program. The culinary program is facilitated via contract with a local chef and educator. Residents are engaged with hands-on learning of all facets of meal planning, preparation, and safe handling of food and instruments. Menus are centered around local cultures and heritages, with residents learning about themselves and others throughout the program.

For SYTF Youths' fitness, a general exercise program and a running program continue to operate and promote healthy lifestyles and add positive activities which can increase stamina and agility. Workout equipment has been provided to every unit and is also available on recreation yards where residents can engage in a pro-social activity that focuses on techniques, overall health and wellness, and boosts chemicals in the brain that support the hippocampus (memory and learning function). In addition, the gym on Housing Unit 7 had several upgrades to workout equipment and additionally, industrial rubber floor mats were installed to lessen the physical impact of workouts and provide a more sanitary workout space.

SB 823 has allowed Juvenile Hall to utilize additional funding to help create a more "home-like" environment in several areas of the facility. Court Visitation underwent a complete "refresh" having not been upgraded since the facility was completed in 2005. New paint, carpet, furniture, and technology upgrades were completed to allow a more therapeutic environment conducive to personal and professional visitation, treatment meetings, therapy sessions, and meetings between residents and families, professionals, attorneys, POs, and pro-social connections. Each room has been set up for virtual access with large TV monitors, cameras, and computers. Plastic chairs and tables have been replaced with comfortable office chairs and wood desks and tables, walls have been adorned with art, and each room has been repainted with accent walls. Additionally, Probation contracted with two local artists to complete murals in every housing unit, the small recreation yard, and in Court Visitation. Grey walls have been replaced with colors and images that pop out and catch your attention, while conversely creating a more calm and peaceful setting. All sleeping rooms were also refreshed with new paint, including accent walls for each room, and chalkboard paint on the doors.

In January 2024, Juvenile Hall implemented a music program which has exceeded expectations regarding resident participation and production quality. The program purchased, and received donations for, a variety of musical equipment, built an industry standard music studio, added music lessons and music theory classes, hosted performances for residents by a string quartet from The Julliard School, and secured volunteers and vendors to keep the program running strong. The music studio is run through a contract with a local producer who works closely with the residents through writing workshops, recording sessions, and engages the entire facility with unit challenges where each unit can show off their talents and have friendly competitions against other units. The producer has also facilitated the creation of two music videos with groups of youth performing their own music.

Additionally, Juvenile Hall secured a local volunteer who achieved platinum status in the music industry who teaches the residents how to make and mix music using various programs and instruments. He also works in the community with residents when they are released, keeping them connected to the studio and in partnership with the Sonoma County Library who have several music studios throughout the county. Probation has contracted with two CTE certified music instructors who teach basic and intermediate instruction of various musical instruments which are readily available to residents. Creatively, Juvenile Hall has integrated the music program with one of the restorative justice programs, allowing residents to express themselves through song and poetry, in a manner that is deep, open, and honest, and allows residents to be vulnerable and expressive in a way that feels safe to them.

Since May 2024, the contract with the Sonoma County Library has been enhanced to bring on a librarian full time within the facility and made significant additions to the facility library. Residents now have regular access to a librarian, have a greater selection of books, and make frequent trips to the library to make their selections. Book carts and deposit boxes were installed on every unit, making selection and return of books seamless.

Most recently, in February 2025, Juvenile Hall updated the incentives and phase programs, enhancing the incentive items for youth. Items were specifically selected to add a more homelike environment, such as waste baskets, picture frames, photo albums, area rugs, bathmats, small plants, fleece blankets, and pillows with pillowcases for their rooms. Separate from the phase and incentive changes, all mattresses were replaced in 2024.

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, 2024, 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 its Probation Officers (POs) 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 youth are housed within the facility and throughout their transition onto aftercare; and ultimately, successful completion of probation supervision.

Juvenile Hall uses virtual and in-person 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 also allows for CFT meetings to easily be integrated into all IRPs and the case management process. CFTs 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 CFT meetings build on individual and family strengths to address unmet needs and involve use of community resources.

As described above, two spaces were converted within Juvenile Hall 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. These enhancements allow for privacy, while providing some level of comfort to youth while visiting families or receiving services.

Since May 2024, the new specialized DPO IV (Supervisor) and DPO have been solely dedicated to the SYTF Youth, their family engagement, and movement through the justice system from intake to reentry, including their transition to supervision. This team focuses on helping the SYTF Youth and their families develop more robust IRPs that will build the foundation of how they progress through programming and services while in Juvenile Hall, how they are reviewed in court, and how they progress in the community.

During the CFT meetings, emphasis is placed on creating and updating IRP goals that are focused on youth successfully transitioning into the community with natural community supports. Leveraging CBOs, and local and County service providers, the team works with each SYTF Youth to develop meaningful ties and helps them transition.

The Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) process has also been enhanced, meeting every three months, and the SYTF Youth are tasked with presenting their own IRP progress, and advocating for themselves. Each is given detailed written feedback on multiple growth areas, 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, 2024, 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 ICM Program, career technical education and training, Pine Grove Fire Camp, mentoring, County Behavioral Health, restorative justice programming, and case management and supervision services coordinated by Sonoma County and serviced by its many CBO partners.

Youth in SYTF and the general probation population are also sometimes committed to the in-custody Compass Academy. These youth are incentivized to progress toward their case plan goals based on a weekly review process that allows them to incrementally reduce their commitment time. They are assigned a JCC case worker, and in collaboration with a DPO and MDT team, can earn structured furloughs into the community. Each of these furloughs is tied to a robust individual reentry plan, and each furlough involves the use of evidence-based practice skills, and the requirement that youth report back on their progress and continuously update their reentry plan.

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 are 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.

CTE 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 are 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 or 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 SYTF generally take 12 to 18 months in length.

Since May 2024, Sonoma County has secured a DPO IV and DPO who are dedicated to the SYTF Youth, their family engagement, and movement through the justice system from intake to reentry and their transition out of supervision. The SYTF specialized team has created a structure whereby as soon as a youth is committed to the SYTF, the MDT will meet to begin creating the IRP, which will be further individualized during the CFT meeting, and after 90 days the youth will present to an MDT team, to further refine their IRP and possible transition to an LRP, and eventually the community. Before each six-month court review, a CFT meeting is held, and the cycle continues.

By day 30 of an SYTF commitment, the IRP is created and structured with the vision of setting 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 program. Once released to the community or less restrictive program, 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, 2024, 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 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 (PYJ)

PYJ is an organizing framework for programs rooted in youth development research. PYJ 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 youth how to control their angry impulses and take perspectives other than their own. The main goal is to reduce aggression and violence among youth 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. It 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 2024, Sonoma County was able to secure trauma-based individual therapy services with an existing vendor who can provide services in Juvenile Hall, both in-person and via teleconference, as SYTF Youth prepare for reentry.

In February 2025, Probation contracted with a local provider to add Breathwork and Trauma Recovery programming to our array of services. The program is centered around breathwork, meditation, mindfulness, and yoga. Program objectives include presenting and fortifying the resident's skillset for coping with the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Complex PTSD, as they relate to addiction, recovery, human trafficking, gang involvement and lifestyle, and generational trauma through approaches based in self-empowering techniques.

Probation employs bilingual and bicultural Spanish staff and requires Spanish language services in contracts, to support meaningful interactions with monolingual Spanish speakers among youth served and their networks of support.

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, 2024, 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 deliver programming to youth in Juvenile Hall such as, mentoring services, support in transitioning home, or to an alternative placement; restorative justice programs to help youth understand the impact of their actions on the community; and career technical education and training programs. These partners are vital to the success of the SYTF Youth, and we seek their guidance and support as youth move along the continuum. SYTF Youth are also provided services from currently funded programs such as the ICM Program, Mental

Health services, treatment of sexual offending youth. 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 2024, Sonoma County has been diligently looking for ways to help community-based and nongovernmental service providers expand services for SYTF Youth. Probation's Juvenile Hall and Probation Services programming leadership and staff communicate regularly with CBO and nongovernmental service providers in the course of regular business, but also during JJRS meetings or at community events; in these settings, challenges and successes are shared as well as strategies on how to attract and retain additional service providers. At all times, Probation strives to work collaboratively with its partners, both at Juvenile Hall and in the community.

In addition to consistent communication, Probation has been building capacity by developing multiple smaller, short-term contracts with new and existing vendors who provide services in Juvenile Hall and in the community. Over the past year, Probation struck several new contacts with additional, local individual providers who will work with SYTF Youth while they are in Juvenile Hall and as they move into the community. Specifically, Probation is working to bolster an existing CTE relationship in the hopes of leveraging grant fund to develop more tailored services for youth. On a parallel track, an RFP for CTE services which could strengthen new relationships in the region, is slated for release within the coming months. Lastly, through one of our municipal partners, we are accessing the services of a nonprofit which helps youth navigate the transition from Juvenile Hall to their life in the community.

Overall, Sonoma County hopes that all these additions will give more options to the SYTF Youth and their families, as well as a sense of familiarity as they transition from the Juvenile Hall to less restrictive option, 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, 2024, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

Since the JJRS was formed, it has been the intent of Sonoma County to house all youth within its jurisdiction in the secured setting of the Juvenile Hall, who are received for SYTF commitment. Probation 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 Youth 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 specific needs. Probation conducts 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 incoming 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 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 (SRJC) 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 Youth. 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.

Since May 2024, there have been many changes to help Sonoma County and Probation access the SYTF Youth from a more comprehensive perspective. Juvenile Hall expanded its CTE programming to include use of its 30-foot greenhouse which successfully grows produce using aquaponics. Staff currently provide gardening programming to residents. As previously mentioned, two local artists recently completed a large mural project throughout Juvenile Hall including in the recreational “Club” area, the small recreation yard, Intake, and in Court Visitation, which adds vibrancy and color to previously neutral-colored spaces. Additionally, the muralists worked with the youth to create murals for each housing unit.

Lastly, Juvenile Hall has continued to build its music program purchasing numerous musical instruments and recording equipment, creating an industry-standard music studio, providing music lessons and music theory classes, and hosting performances for residents by a string quartet from The Julliard School, and securing volunteers and vendors to keep the program fresh and running strong.

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, 2024, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

Sonoma County has developed programming and interventions that are age-appropriate and tailored to each SYTF Youth, based on their assessments and age at the time of entry. Programs are evidence-based and promising practices, delivered by Probation staff and community-based organizations to fidelity, which improve the outcomes for SYTF Youth and support public safety. Youth are provided a safe and secure facility that prioritizes services and interventions that address personal, social, physical, mental health, educational, career-technical training, and independent living needs. This level of preparation for a thoughtful and successful reentry into the community is simply not available in the adult system.

Additionally, SYTF Youth work closely with the Sonoma County Office of Education to attain their educational goals. No matter where the educational path starts for each youth, their personal plan is individualized and can include coursework from one of the local online high schools, community colleges, or universities. By giving local educational connections for youth while they are still in the facility, they are developing meaningful, pro-social, positive connections that can continue once in the community.

As mentioned above, since May 2024, Sonoma County has two full-time employees dedicated to the SYTF Youths' comprehensive success including avoidance of transfer or eventual entry into the Adult criminal justice system. The DPO IV and DPO III developed a structure whereby support is continuous and the SYTF Youths' personal responsibility in their own growth is central. As soon as a youth is committed to SYTF, the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) is formed. Comprised of Probation staff who are involved in the youth's long-term goal planning, an MDT typically includes the DPOs, JCCs, clinicians, social workers, housing specialists and service providers who work to collaboratively coordinate care and goals to comprehensively address the needs of the youth and their family. The MDT meets to begin creating the IRP, which will be further individualized during the CFT meeting. Most importantly, as opposed to relying on the court's rhythm of having MDTs and CFT meetings every 90 days, Probation and its MDT partners can meet more frequently if issues arise, or the SYTF youth or their family makes a request. Since May 2023, SYTF Youth have had 53 CFT meetings, with overall positive responses to the process. In FY 2023-2024 no youth were transferred 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, 2024, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

Probation offers its facility and programming to other Counties wishing to send their realigned youth here. To support the intent of SB 823, Sonoma County thus far has only accepted youth from the Bay Area or Northern California, with the goal of keeping them as close to their natural supports as possible. Contracts are executed through cooperative agreements which include written materials and brochures describing the programming offered. As with in-county youth, Probation works with each out-of-county youth to develop connections to family and natural supports as well as closely working with the youth's home-county Probation Departments to ensure a smooth reentry plan is in place.

Since May 2024, two less counties are contracted to send their SYTF Youth to Sonoma County. A possible reason for this reduction is that other counties have had sufficient time to ready their facilities to accept SYTF Youth back to their home counties or have contracted with counties closer to their own. Currently, Probation maintains eight active contracts with other Bay Area and Northern California counties: Contra Costa, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Santa Cruz, and San Benito.

Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2024, 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 (ISD) collaborated 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, and recording attendance, was to be implemented in FY 2024-2025. Future phases, including integration with case plans and case notes, and direct service provider access, are also planned.

Sonoma County's Integrated Justice Systems (IJS) 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 2024, Sonoma County Information Technology (IT) staff resources were directed away from the SYTF program participation application due to competing priorities, specifically the IJS modernization project. The application may be built when County IT resources again become available. The ISD modernization project is still in progress and is expected to take multiple years to reach completion. Requirements development for Probation's new case management and detention management systems are in progress.

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, 2024, 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 following a youth's release from the SYTF.* 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 2024, Sonoma County has launched an evaluation of Less Restrictive Programs (LRPs), funded by the OYCR's LRP Grant. This evaluation focuses on processes, especially from the perspectives of youth and their networks of support and will guide program improvements to assure adequate preparation for stepdown and reentry, and that LRPs are providing appropriate support for positive health, developmental and public safety outcomes.

*Not all criminal behaviors were referred to, or filed by, the District Attorney's Office because, pursuant to WIC Section 875(a)(2), such filing would remove youth from the SYTF target population.

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.

Progress regarding all plan elements, objects, or outcomes are stated above. Sonoma County diligently strives to find, research, and implement the most relevant evidence-based or evidence-informed, trauma-informed, and gender specific services for its committed youth, both while in custody and in the community. Sonoma County and its CBO, agency, and justice partners are consistently looking to improve how it collects data, administers services, and houses the youth in our care. The coming year anticipates many changes and the JJRS looks forward to sharing its progress with the OYCR in our 2026 Plan.

(1) A description of the realignment target population in the county that is to be supported or served by allocations from the block grant program, including the numbers of youth served, disaggregated by factors including their ages, offense and offense histories, gender, race or ethnicity, and other characteristics, and by the programs, placements, or facilities to which they are referred.

Target Population Disaggregated by Categories (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1990(D)(1)):					
A. Age		Number of Youths		D. Placement and/or Facility (Please provide the placement or facility names below)	Number of Youths
	14	<11		Enter Facility Name Here Identifying it as a SYTF within or out of county, type of LRP, or other type of placement.	
	15	12		Short Term Residential Treatment Program (STRTP)	<11
	16	<11		Other County Camp/Ranch	<11
	17	<11		Sonoma County SYTF	<11
	18	<11		LRP - Community with Electronic Monitoring	<11
	19	<11		LRP - Compas Academy	<11
	20	0		LRP - College With Supports	<11
	21	0		LRP - Pine Grove	<11
	22	<11			
	23	0			
	24	0			
	25 and older	0			
B. Gender		Number of Youths			
	Male	>10			
	Female	<11			
	Non-binary	0			
	Declined to identify	0			
C. Race or Ethnicity		Number of Youths		E. Program (Please provide the name of specific programs below)	Number of Youths
	White/Caucasian	<11		Enter Program Name Here Identifying the type of program that the target population was enrolled in.	
	Hispanic or LatinX	23		Aggression Replacement Training	<11
	Black/African American	<11		Community Service Work	<11
	Asian	0		Trauma Counseling	<11
	American Indian or Alaskan Native	<11		Functional Family Therapy	<11
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0		Individual Counseling	<11
	Multi-Racial	0		Intensive Case Management	<11
	Other	0		Juvenile Sexual Behavior Treatment	<11
	Unknown	<11		Restorative Conferencing	11
F. Offense or Offense History		Number of Youths			
	Arson	0			
	Assault	17			
	Attempted Homicide	<11			
	Homicide	<11			
	Kidnapping	0			
	Robbery	<11			
	Sex Offense	0			
	Use of Firearm	<11			
	Violence Against Aged	0			
	Weapon of Mass Destruction	0			
	Witness Tampering	0			
	Other	0			