

**Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act &  
Youthful Offender Block Grant (JJCPA-YOBG)  
FY 2025-2026  
Consolidated Annual Plan**

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**Instructions:**

Government Code Section 30061(b)(4) and Welfare & Institutions 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 rest of this document is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. If you find it helpful to use this template, please do so.

Your submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website.

MADERA COUNTY  
COMPREHENSIVE  
MULTI-AGENCY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE  
PLAN

2025



2026

<b>MADERA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL COMPREHENSIVE MULTIAGENCY JUVENILE JUSTICE PLAN (CMJJP)/ LOCAL ACTION PLAN (LAP)</b>
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<b>2025-2026</b>
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## **INTRODUCTION**

To meet Legislative requirements of the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act of 2000, a State funded grant project, the Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP), was derived from the Local Action Plan. The two plans are consolidated into the CMJJP/LAP. The updated Plan will review the current services and address specific issues which pertain to the area of juvenile crime.

The CMJJP/LAP confronts the problems of youth in Madera County from a systems perspective. This perspective suggests the problems of youth crime are related directly to issues involving families, community, private and governmental agencies, as well as law enforcement, the courts, and the correctional systems. The Plan has its roots in ongoing efforts in collaboration and coordination through locally initiated activities. These activities are summarized below and in a tradition of cooperation and multi-agency initiatives in addressing the complications of youth crime and at-risk populations. The CMJJP/LAP is intended as a blueprint for future planning activities and the development, implementation, and evaluation of future programs and policies.

Madera County has developed an existing continuum of services that strongly emphasizes collaboration across agency boundaries toward reducing crime and delinquency for delinquent and pre-delinquent youth. The County has a history of developing such inter-agency projects through dedication of pre-existing resources and maximizing external funding through a range of projects. The major strengths found through this Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan/Local Action Plan include:

- A commitment to addressing the problems of youth through on-going development of an Interagency Children and Youth Services Council.
- A continuum of care, using graduated services and programs ranging from prevention and intervention to incarceration.
- Collaborative service delivered through programs such as Court Day School and Correctional Academy have been implemented to improve behavior through Corrective Thinking, and Evidence Based Programming. These programs recognize the need to deal with multiple causes and problems leading to at-risk and high-risk behavior.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan/Local Action Plan has two overlapping purposes. First, as a stand-alone document, this plan summarizes past and current efforts at combating juvenile crime in Madera County. As a Plan, this document reviews the existing system and identifies gaps in services that address juvenile delinquency, crime, and related problems. This description of the range of solutions addressing these problems directs future planning efforts and program development by providing an empirical framework for discussion and planning efforts. Second, this Plan provides the basis for an ongoing application to the Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) for funding of specific program initiatives developed through this planning process.

Since being established, the Madera County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council developed a mission statement, goals, and objectives. At the time, the Council examined a diverse body of material, including academic research and community perspectives were also solicited from key participants in county and civic affairs. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Mission Statement was established from previous work and research wherein the following were established:

*The mission of the Madera County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council shall be: Enhancing public safety through the use of the full continuum of timely and appropriate prevention, intervention, and rehabilitative options. Effective use of these options will hold youth accountable and propel them toward productive and responsible citizenship, which will result in a reduced rate of youths continuing with problem behavior leading to adult crime.*

This mission will be addressed through the meeting of specific goals and objectives. Services and programs will be provided that prepare youth and their families to make responsible decisions and lifestyle changes. Accomplishing these goals will involve the following activities:

- Continuing the development of the continuum of care, through the development of prevention, treatment, and aftercare components.
- Stressing prevention and suppression: encourage and support prevention and intervention services at the front end of the system.
- Involving government and private agencies in all activities.
- Engaging families with these goals.
- Continuing commitment to future planning and collaborative work.
- Improving services to under-served communities/populations.
- Information sharing by collaborative partners for case management and evaluation and developing empirical indicators that allow evaluation of outcome measures.

## **IDENTIFIERS OF YOUTH AT-RISK**

The problems of at-risk and high-risk youth in Madera County are much like other jurisdictions throughout the country and previous research has shown those youth who exhibit the greatest risk factors are best served in prevention programs.

At-risk and high-risk youth are those individuals who meet the following problem criteria:

- **Family:** Those youth residing with families in conflict (including violence and abuse in the home); children of those with substance abuse problems; and those whose parents lack fundamental parenting skills. Family issues are often a precursor for youth failing to attend school.
- **School:** Those with truancy and attendance issues; those with behavior and adjustment problems; those in danger of failing; and youth either dropping out or in danger of dropping out.
- **Community: Anti-social peers and premature independence:** Those youth involved in gang or gang-like activities; those youth who are at-risk of developing attachments to anti-social friends and norms, and engaging in activities outside the norm; those exhibiting signs of early independence through rebelliousness and early initiation into problem behaviors such as truancy; and those out of parental control, and/or suffering from a mental health disorder such as depression, anxiety, and trauma impairing their normal functioning. These youth are typically the most likely to avoid attending school.
- **Sexual activity and resulting teen parenthood:** Youth, who engage in sexual activity, often resulting in teen parenthood, create a range of problems for themselves and their children.

## **EXISTING INTERAGENCY COLLABORATIVE JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS**

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council of Madera County and the Interagency Children and Youth Services Council of Madera County form on-going collaborative bodies that continue to address these problems in a pro-active, preventative perspective.

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (BHS)**

### **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Madera County Behavioral Health Services provides a broad range of mental health services to children, adolescents, and their families throughout Madera County. These include:

#### **Outpatient Clinics**

Outpatient clinics in Madera, Chowchilla and Oakhurst provide assessment, individual, family and group therapy, psychiatric evaluation & medication services, therapeutic intensive care services and crisis intervention. Case management services are also available to assist in linking or brokering on behalf of clients and their family's access to needed community resources and to augment therapy services by assisting in the development of pro-social skills, behavior management and the like. Crisis response services are available 24 hours a day, and include telephone crisis management, and mobile crisis response. Crisis staff are available to respond to the Juvenile Hall, Jail and to the community of Madera County for involuntary hold (WIC5150/5585) evaluations.

#### **Full-Service Partnership (FSP)**

This program is funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and BHS works in close partnership with the Department of Social Services, Probation, and the schools. The FSP provides intensive outpatient community-based mental health services for underserved youth who are at risk of school failure, criminal justice involvement, or out-of-home placement as a result of serious mental illness. Services include therapy, mentoring, rehabilitation, therapeutic intensive care services which include intensive case management in the community, school and home and are designed to help stabilize children and adolescents to allow for healthier behavior in their life domains. There are two FSP programs; one is geared toward children, ages 5 to 16 and the other to transitional age youth, and ages 16-21. Candidates for this program can be residing in their family home, foster care or an STRTP when services are necessary to stabilize these placements and allow for successful re-integration into their communities.

#### **Juvenile Justice Services (JJS)**

This program has a dedicated BHS clinician co-located in the Juvenile Detention Facility and Correctional Academy. Mental Health staff provide individual, family, and group therapy as well as case management services for youth who are on probation or are at risk of criminal justice involvement. Youth enrolled at Court Day School are expected to participate in intensive Behavioral Health Services as part of their school program. PTC students are also eligible for services when at risk for criminal justice involvement. This is a collaborative program between Probation, Superintendent of Schools, and Behavioral Health Services. Staff from each agency work closely together to promote pro-social behaviors, decrease recidivism, and alter negative interactions in a youth's home, school, and community.

### **Interagency Child and Family Services (ICFS)**

This committee includes representation from the Department of Social Services, Probation, Superintendent of Schools, Public Health, and Behavioral Health Services. The committee meets monthly to address the needs of Children and Youth in out of home placement. The committee oversees and reviews the status of children and youth who are either placed or being considered for placement in a Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) or in an Intensive Service Foster Care (ISFC) home. This also includes stepping down children from their placements in either an STRTP or ISFC home as soon as possible and back into their home community. This may include intensive services from all agencies in an effort to sustain and stabilize their placement. If intensive services are needed, the youth are usually referred to the Full-Service Partnership (MHSA) through Behavioral Health Services to help prevent higher levels of care like that of an STRTP or ISFC placement and decrease risk of needing multiple placements. At any time, a child or youth is recommended for out-of-home placement or has a change in placement it is the responsibility of the committee to review and approve completed Qualified Individual Assessments. The committee may consult and make recommendations regarding the level of care when an existing placement and services are not meeting the youth's needs. The goal of the ICFS is always to determine and recommend the least restrictive and appropriate level of care.

### **Substance Use Disorder Services (SUD)**

Madera County Behavioral Health Services provides an array of alcohol and drug prevention and treatment services to Madera County youth and their families. These include:

#### **Outpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment**

This service is available to youth meeting DSM-V-TR criteria for substance abuse or substance dependence. Youth who are in treatment have significant and dangerous patterns of substance abuse that are affecting them in various life domains and/or leading to involvement in criminal behavior. Referrals come from parents, probation, schools, and mental health programs. The program is a minimum of 9 months long and includes focus on drug refusal skills, understanding addiction, character development, resiliency skills and the like. There is close collaboration with JJS mental health and SUD providers regarding services for youth with co-occurring disorders.

#### **Perinatal Substance Use Disorder Alcohol & Drug Treatment**

Treatment services are available for pregnant and/or parenting teen girls who need individual counseling regarding substance abuse; teens receive parenting education, outreach, and case management, linkage to needed health services and prenatal care, instruction in and have an identified substance abuse or dependence diagnosis. In addition to group and daily living skills, there is ongoing support to manage the demands of pregnancy. This program works closely with community partners to assist in linking the

young women to all the resources needed to address both the substance abuse issue and their pregnancy or parenting needs.

### **Prevention Education Classes**

The SUD Prevention Coordinator conducts Substance Use Disorder Drug and Alcohol Education & Prevention classes with students at Chowchilla Union High School who have been discovered at school or school sponsored events to be under the influence or in possession of drug paraphernalia. Such students are required to complete a 10-week course in drug abuse prevention & education. This course is at the school site. Students referred by probation who do not meet the DSM-V-TR criteria necessary for treatment services are also referred to the 10-week prevention education course conducted by the youth SUD treatment counselors. At any time, it becomes evident that a youth is in need of treatment, a referral is made for SUD Outpatient Treatment Services.

### **Prevention Education in Juvenile Correctional Facilities**

Weekly substance use disorder drug and alcohol education classes are conducted for all youth residing in the Juvenile Detention Facility or Juvenile Correctional Academy. The youth SUD counselors conduct classes and youth are linked to outpatient prevention and/or treatment services as needed. Using the youth SUD counselors to conduct these classes enables positive continuity and continued support and intervention for these youth as they leave the correctional facilities and return to the community.

### **Other SUD Prevention Initiatives**

All counties are required by the State Department of Health Care Services Alcohol and Drug Programs to have a five-year strategic plan focused on prevention. Madera County's plan includes initiatives targeting youth and pregnant and parenting teens, as well as other parents. A full-time Prevention Coordinator oversees implementation of the plan. In addition to prevention classes, prevention activities include participation in local community events and various health fairs. There is also continuous collaboration with other community agencies, coalitions, and school districts to plan and implement events and disseminate information throughout Madera County. Such collaboration also facilitates various educational presentations and workshops aimed at parents. Statewide campaigns such as Alcohol Awareness Month, Marijuana Awareness Month, Prevention Week, and Red Ribbon Week are also on the prevention activities calendar. The prevention Coordinator provides local media with information and press releases to disseminate information to the broader community, as well as provide updates through social media outlets. All have in common the reduction of alcohol and drug abuse in the community through education, information dissemination, problem identification and referral, provision of pro-social alternatives and involvement within community, and all are conducted with cultural competence in mind.

### **Service Gaps Identified**

- None.



## **MADERA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

### **JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION**

Juvenile Services Division has expanded services through several initiatives introduced since 2010. As the department continues to work to develop practices that align with Evidence Based Practices (EBP), we learned from data collected that fewer youth are being placed on formal probation and fewer violations have been filed in juvenile court since 2010.

Probation and Child Welfare have processed through some significant changes for foster youth care. AB403, also known as Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) increases family-based resources, extended family and Short-Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP) and creates a Child and Family Team (CFT) to help guide placement decisions for foster youth.

The Juvenile Services Division building is adjacent to Pioneer Technical Center and the Juvenile Detention Facility. Additionally, the building has the capacity to add vocational training programs to a portion of the building. It has the capacity to house 30 probation staff, host training courses, with two classrooms for youth engagement and a large recreation area at the back. It serves as a hub where probation staff and community-based agencies can co-facilitate programs to motivate youth to change their behavior and to be positive contributors to their community.

The probation department has put significant focus on training staff in both evidence-based practices and officer safety skills. Much of the success of justice involved youth around and keeping the community safe can be attributed to our hard-working, well-trained and dedicated staff.

#### **Community Involvement**

The Madera County Probation Department has partnered with our local County Animal Services. The Court Day School and Correctional Academy Aftercare students participate in walking and caring for the dogs at the Madera County Animal Services, which is located directly behind the Juvenile Services Division of the Probation Department. The program provides the juveniles an opportunity to develop a sense of nurturing and care for an animal, while developing a sense of empathy. This program is one day a week currently.

The Madera County Probation Department Juvenile Services Division's Court Day School/Correctional Academy Aftercare program has also partnered with Habitat for Humanity. Our participants work side by side with Habitat staff on cleanups at local homes and have worked on helping paint a local church. Often there are people in our community that need a helping hand and because of age or illness they are unable to clean up their yards, windows, or trash or even paint needed areas. We utilize these opportunities to teach the youth how to be part of a caring community.

## **Juvenile Court and Intake**

The Juvenile Services Division oversees all juvenile matters referred to the Probation Department by other law enforcement agencies in Madera County. Juvenile Court Intake staff processes hundreds of referrals from law enforcement agencies for youths alleged to have committed law violations, those who are beyond parental control, curfew violators, truants or runaways. A determination is made whether the youth will be referred to the Juvenile Court for prosecution, placed on informal probation, diverted or reprimanded with the case closed. A Deputy District Attorney assigned to the Juvenile Services Division, who is also housed part-time at the juvenile services probation office, determines charges to file. The juvenile court investigators are responsible for compiling dispositional reports for the court.

## **Diversion for the First Time Offender**

A face-to-face interview is conducted with first time offenders and their families which typically includes a referral for a misdemeanor. Support and guidance for parents is given in the form of a referral to parenting education classes, traffic school, and other community-based resources. In some cases, the youth may be referred to informal probation services for a period of six months.

## **Court Day School**

The Court Day School is a 180-day program in partnership between the Madera County Probation Department, Madera County Superintendent of Schools (MCSOS) and Madera County Behavioral Health Services Department (BHS). The probation officer works in collaboration with counselors, teachers, and administrators from the participating agencies. The components of the program include education, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, electronic monitoring, intensive supervision, community service, recreational activities, mentoring, and work force. Counseling services include Forward Thinking, Aggression Replacement Therapy (A.R.T.), Phoenix New Freedom, Word on the Street, Making Proud Choices, and Safe Dates (CSEC), Moral Recognition Therapy (M.R.T.), Teen Parenting Classes, It's All About Being a Teen, Project Life, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and Battle for Change. These counseling services have been provided at the Juvenile Services Division location.

## **Short Term Residential Treatment Program / Resource Family Placement**

A probation officer is responsible for the supervision of youthful offender's court ordered into group homes and/or foster care placement. This officer is responsible for the offender's safety and wellbeing and makes monthly face to face visits to the placement site. The officer works closely with the Child and Family Team that consists of social workers, behavioral health specialists, placement providers and the youth's family. This arrangement ensures the youths in placement are given a voice and receive appropriate treatment in a safe and secure environment. During this time, the youth will be enrolled in school, mental health counseling, substance abuse counseling, and other counseling if necessary. The probation officer also works with the youth's parents or recruit foster parents to prepare the youth for transition back home.

## **JUVENILE SERVICES PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY YOBG/JJCPA FUNDING:**

### **American Community Corrections Institute (ACCI)**

Evidence based workbooks which use cognitive restructuring techniques to change the way youth offenders think. ACCI's workbooks are used for diversion, as alternative sanctions that address criminogenic needs. The workbooks are completed within 30 days by the youth, with the help of a "coach".

### **Aggression Replacement Treatment**

Aggression Replacement Treatment (A.R.T.) has been implemented and taught to the youth since 2010. It is cognitive training aimed at reducing aggression and typically is a 10-week curriculum. Probation Specialist facilitates this curriculum at both Court Day School and Correctional Academy programs. The program is evidence based.

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters**

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters is to provide youth facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-on-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. On any given school day, you can find probation staff and friends of the probation department mentoring local youth at a local school.

### **Correctional Academy Aftercare**

The Aftercare Program is an integral part of the continued rehabilitation process for juveniles being released from the Correctional Academy. Prior to the release, the youth participate in an Aftercare Transition Meeting (ATM) with the parents/guardian, school counselor, SUD Counselor, Mental Health Clinician, Probation Officer, and Juvenile Probation Specialist. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the components of the Aftercare Program and the expectations of the youth upon release. The Aftercare Program partners with Madera Probation and Behavioral Health Services to offer services and resources necessary to help the youth with their reintegration back into the community. The programs offered within the aftercare phase are as follows: Aggression Replacement Treatment, Counseling Services, Substance Abuse Treatment, Electronic Monitoring, Life Skills, Job Readiness, Forward Thinking, and Community Service. A probation officer and probation specialist are responsible for supervising youth participating in the Aftercare Program.

### **Community Service and Improvement Program**

Together with the City of Madera Public Works Department and the Probation Department, offenders are provided opportunities to perform community service hours under the supervision of the City's worksite supervisors. Additionally, community service is provided by our Correctional Academy/Court Day School youth in partnership with Madera County Animal Services and Habitat for Humanity.

### **Electronic Monitoring**

Electronic monitoring services are contracted through BI Electronic monitoring and serve as an alternative to incarceration for youthful offenders by providing electronic supervision for youth released from juvenile hall or otherwise sentenced to this additional condition of probation. This alternative is used to monitor youth released early from the juvenile detention facility and as a component of the court day school program and correctional academy aftercare.

### **Gang Awareness/Prevention**

In collaboration with our local school districts and local law enforcement agencies, the Probation Department offers gang presentations to school staff and the student body throughout the year. During these presentations, school staff are provided with tools to aid in identifying behaviors, symbols, associations, trends, proper documentation, and the role of various law enforcement agencies. The student body is provided education regarding the dangers of gang membership, the legal and lifelong consequences, as well as the reality of the gang lifestyle using up to date public information in Madera County and neighboring counties. Students learn prevention strategies, positive relationship building skills, current laws for juveniles, and the court orders enforced by Probation.

### **Graffiti Prevention**

The Madera Police Department, Madera Sheriff's Department, Madera Probation Department, and the Graffiti Abatement Team go out to various Madera elementary schools throughout the school year and educate young students about graffiti and its harm to private properties, businesses, schools, and public spaces. The team endeavors to raise awareness for the betterment of our larger community and to the benefit of all. The collaboration is pivotal to the success of this program. The Madera Unified School District, City of Madera Council Members and Board of Supervisors may also be present during the graffiti prevention presentations.

### **Juvenile Arson Prevention**

Youth who have committed arson offenses are referred to complete an evidence-based fire starter prevention and intervention curriculum.

### **Pathways to Recovery**

In collaboration with Madera County Behavioral Health Services a youth sex offender counseling program was developed for youthful offenders. The "Pathways" treatment model is an evidenced based model that consists of a cognitive behavioral framework for persons with sexual behavior problems. The offender's family and/or caregivers will be included in the treatment process as a means of developing their ability and understanding of how to support the offender throughout the entirety of their treatment process.

## **RadKIDS**

Probation officers teach 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders at local elementary schools to resist aggression in a ten-week program. The instruction includes personal empowerment safety education which is designed to empower the children to resist and stop violence, harm or bullying while improving focus to learn in a safe school environment.

## **Redirect**

The Valley State Prison Redirect Program is a one-day reality program presented by staff and volunteer inmates to the at-risk male youth ages 12-17. The program is voluntary for the youth. The program is comprised of carefully selected inmates who share with the youth their own past behaviors, the choices they made and what they did to be committed to prison. It is supervised by correctional officers and carefully matches the inmates with the youth.

## **Reaching Youth Saving and Empowering (RYSE)**

The Central California Women Facility RYSE Program is a one-day reality program presented by staff and volunteer inmates to at-risk female youth ages 12-17. The program is voluntary for the youth. The program is comprised of carefully selected inmates who share with the youth their own past behaviors, the choices they made and what they did to be committed to prison. It is supervised by correctional officers and carefully matches the inmates with the youth.

## **Risk and Needs Assessment**

A key principle to identify behavioral interventions of youth is done with a risk/needs assessment tool and a case plan which becomes a "Road Map" to address youth needs and risk factors. Caseloads are determined by the risk/needs assessment score. A youth who receives a High or Moderate score is assigned to active supervision. A youth who receives a Low score is assigned to bank supervision. Madera County Probation utilizes the JAIS risk assessment tool.

## **Social Media Awareness**

In collaboration with the District Attorney's office and our local school districts, the Probation Department offers social media presentations throughout the year. During these presentations, staff provide education to students regarding the dangers of sex crimes through phone texting and social media. Students learn prevention strategies and current laws in relationship to sex crimes by using social media.

## **The Parent Project**

The Parent Project is a 10-week class, during which time parents gain and learn the skills to effectively deal with and control teens who exhibit destructive behaviors. The Madera Police Department, Madera Probation Department, Madera Unified School District,

Community Action Partnership of Madera County, and the Madera Ministerial Association work together to bring this national program to life locally.

### **Truancy Prevention**

A probation officer is assigned to work with the County's school districts to identify the needs of the county's truant youth with the goal of increasing school attendance throughout the county.

### **JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENT ACT (JJCPA)**

In 2000, the California Legislature passed the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act, which authorized funding for county juvenile justice programs and designated the Board of Corrections (BOC) as the administrator of funding. A 2001 Senate Bill extended the funding and changed the program's name to the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA). This effort was designed to provide a stable funding source to counties for juvenile programs that have been proven effective in curbing crime among at-risk and delinquent youth.

In 2025-2026 Madera County Probation will use JJCPA funding for one SUD counselor and mental health counselor assigned to the Correctional Academy Aftercare and Court Day School Program. The counselor will provide individual and group treatment with juveniles. Additionally, JJCPA funds will be used to purchase evidenced based curriculum, incentives, team building activities and field trips.

The mental health clinician teaches cognitive based programming to juveniles ordered into the Correctional Academy and Court Day School as part of the program's regular evidence-based programming. Programming that integrates juvenile cognitive treatment with family intervention during the period of confinement and through community reintegration have been shown to reduce the percentage of recidivism among juveniles.

A mental health clinician can focus on individual juveniles and their needs by addressing negative factors such as anger, impulse control, and emotional instability. Individual treatment sessions offer the juveniles an outlet to express and work on individual tailored needs.

The SUD counselor will provide both individual and group sessions regarding substance abuse education and treatment. This counselor will work with both in-custody and out of custody youth providing support for substance abuse recovery. Throughout the process, the counselor will continually review, assess, and document their clients' progress and follow up with post-treatment.

In 2025-2026, Madera County Probation will also use JJCPA funds to pay for three Deputy Probation Officers dedicated to working with formal probation caseloads. Counseling referrals for parents and youth are offered to break the cycle of delinquency that ultimately leads to future adult criminality resulting in youths' constant series of commitments to detention facilities. Additionally, funds will pay for vehicle leases, travel,

office supplies, cognitive workbooks, and associated supplies i.e., alternative sanctions and rehabilitative tools such as written courses with target specific offenses and related issues.

In 2025-2026, Madera County Probation will also use JJCPA for one Probation Specialist assigned to work with juveniles ordered to the Court Day School Program and the Correctional Academy Aftercare Program. The evidence-based services provided will include A.R.T., MRT, ACEs, Project Life, The Phoenix New Freedom and Mentoring, the Probation Specialist is also trained to do A.R.T, MRT, ACEs, Motivational Interviewing, and Forward Thinking.

In 2025-2026 Madera County Probation will use JJCPA funding for specialized treatment providers. To provide services to local youths who have committed arson offenses regarding an evidence-based fire starter prevention and intervention program. The youth's family will be included in the treatment process as a means of developing their ability and understanding of how to support the youth throughout the entirety of their treatment process.

In 2025-2026 Madera County Probation will collaborate with the Madera Unified School District on the Ripperdan School campus by assigning a probation officer as a school resource officer with the hope of changing the behaviors of youth at Ripperdan High/Jr. High School. The team consists of the Juvenile Deputy Probation Officer, the Probation Specialist, and the Behavioral Health Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselor. The Probation Officer is on campus 5 days a week during school hours and provides additional support and services to the MUSD staff and students. The Probation Specialist and SUD Counselor are on site to facilitate groups Monday through Thursday in the afternoons. Thursday classes are specifically for the Jr. High Students. The program offered is a LIFE skills curriculum, where the students are taught about Anger Management, Victimization, Communication, Substance Abuse, Responsible Behavior, Relationships, how to get a job, and Resume building.

### **Service Gaps Identified**

- Vocational training-working with local Madera Community College.
- Transportation to and from counseling, community service, and school.
- Programming and services specifically for the female youth population.

### **Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)**

In September 2007, the California Legislature enacted SB81 and AB191. This directed the California Department of Juvenile Justice to discontinue accepting juvenile court commitments and parole violators except those adjudicated for violent offenses. Juvenile offenders with less serious offenses served custodial and parole commitments under the jurisdiction of the county probation departments in California.

The new law provided funding through the Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG) to counties for the implementation of correctional reform programs for juvenile offenders. The funds cover the costs to counties to oversee juvenile offenders.

In 2025-2026 Madera County Probation will use YOBG funding for one Deputy Probation Officer to work with juveniles ordered to the Court Day School Program and with juveniles at alternative education school sites located on our Juvenile Justice Campus. Evidence-based services include A.R.T., MRT, ACEs, and Mentoring. The deputy probation officer receives training in A.R.T., MRT, ACEs, Motivational Interviewing, and Forward Thinking.

Additionally, funds will pay for program supplies, curriculum, incentives, and team building field trips, snacks, gift cards, and sports equipment. Also, related officer safety equipment office equipment/supplies, vehicle lease, and training.

In 2025-2026, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funds for one Deputy Probation Officer who will closely supervise juveniles when released from the residential phase of the Correctional Academy program. The juveniles will serve on house arrest with electronic monitoring, receive job training, counseling, transitional education, A.R.T., MRT, ACEs and Forward Thinking. They will also be provided with incentives and opportunities at field trips and special events. Additional funds will be used for radKIDS training, office and safety equipment, vehicle leases, and other training courses as needed. Further funds will be used for A.R.T. and MRT curriculum, and lastly a contract with Behavioral Intervention (BI), is used for house arrest electronic services as an added service to our youth in lieu of incarceration.

In 2025-2026, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funds to pay annual maintenance and training contract with the Evident Change Company for the JAIS Assessment tool that works in conjunction with our case management system. The assessment tool is utilized on all juveniles passing through the juvenile system who are subject to the filing of a formal petition. As such, a case plan is created to target needs with services and recommendations accordingly. Ultimately the most critical offenders are identified, and supervision efforts are provided based on validated risk/needs scores.

This tool is primary in identifying what EBP programming and services should be provided for the respective identified populations. Meaningful EBP efforts cannot be provided without first assessing the risk/needs of the justice involved youth. The use of such validated risk/needs assessment tools as well as detention assessments and case plans will offer more appropriate supervision/services and the use of staff time. This contract also includes staff training/development/use of the tools to assist in Evidenced Based Practices (EBP) with at risk/target youth.

In 2025-2026, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funds to pay for five Probation Officers dedicated to working with formal probation caseloads and targeted at-risk youth population. Counseling referrals for parents and youthful offenders are offered to break the cycle of delinquency that ultimately leads to future adult criminality resulting in offenders' constant series of commitments to detention facilities. Additionally, funds will pay for vehicle lease, travel, office supplies, cognitive workbooks, and associated



supplies i.e., alternative sanctions and rehabilitative tools such as written courses with target specific offenses and related issues.

### **Service Gaps Identified**

- Vocational training-working with local Madera Community College.
- Transportation to and from counseling, community service, and school.
- Programming and services specifically for the female youth population.

## **JUVENILE DETENTION HISTORY IN MADERA COUNTY**

### **JUVENILE DETENTION HISTORY IN MADERA COUNTY**

Juvenile Detention in Madera County began in the 1940's, at the first facility on Lewis Street just west of Madera Avenue. In 1962, the second Juvenile Hall was completed at a cost of \$323,151, including the property. The building was designed to house 21 youth. Over the years, remodeling and "double bunking" increased the rated capacity to 40.

Construction of the new Madera County Juvenile Detention Facility started in July 2000 and the facility was occupied in January 2002. The facility is designed for expansion to 130 beds to meet future needs. The facility continues to be a safe, efficient, secure, learning environment for youth and the dedicated staff that supervise them.

The Juvenile Detention Facility currently has 70 single rooms. Twenty-Five (25) beds are designated for the Correctional Academy Program youth. Five (5) Correctional Academy beds are designated for Secure Track Youth who may be eligible for the Correctional Academy Program. Forty (40) beds are designated for Juvenile detention youth. Madera County Juvenile Detention Facility also accepts youth from other counties.

### **JUVENILE FACILITY SERVICES**

#### **Education Services**

Madera County Juvenile Detention Facility, Correctional Academy and Secure Track Program are provided educational services through the Madera County Superintendent of Schools (MCSOS) through High School level academics. MCSOS maintains the responsibility for compliance with all educational standards as required through the State of California Department of Education and Title-15. Those youth who have completed High School and are academically eligible may enroll in on-line college classes.

#### **Evidence Based Programming**

General life skill programs are offered to detained youth through our on-site full-time Probation Specialist. These programs provide education in Self Esteem, Trauma, Anger Management, Domestic Violence, Victim Impact, Parenting Skills, and Substance Abuse counseling. Edovo learning educational based tablet program is also available for youth to listen to music, watch appropriate movies or play video games. Further, Madera Behavioral Health Services provides substance abuse treatment in group and individual

counseling sessions. Forward Thinking and Adverse Childhood Experience courses are also offered as programs within the facility. Youth leave with a better understanding of positive character development with the tools necessary to become responsible and productive contributors to the community.

### **Food Services and Nutrition**

Madera County contracts with Aramark Cooperation to provide food services to the facility through the Madera County Department of Corrections kitchen. All meals are prepared off site and served in compliance with the California Code of Regulations Title-15, and California Department of Education Nutrition Program specifications.

### **Medical and Mental Health**

Madera County Juvenile Detention Facility contracts with Wellpath for medical services that are provided 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. A registered nurse is on duty 7am-3pm and a Licensed Vocational Nurse is on duty 3pm-7pm. After 7pm a nurse is available as needed from the adjacent County Jail and will respond as needed and will assess each booking. A full-time mental health clinician is available on site between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm 5 days a week. Wellpath also provides on call after hours services regarding crisis mental health incidents. BHS C.A.R.E.S (Crisis Response Team is contacted when needed for 24 hours crisis) A MAT Coordinator and Discharge Planner were recently hired to assist with the Cal-Aim 90-day pre-release process. All services provided in the facility meet or exceed the standards as required by the California Code of Regulations, Title-15.

### **Religious Services**

Youth for Christ provide onsite non-denominational religious services to those youth who choose to participate. Youth can request to have their own pastor or religious leader visit them with the approval of the facility commander. Other religious services and spiritual counseling are offered throughout the year. Christian Bibles are available for all youth and Edovo tablets also provide religious literature. Throughout the year youth are provided with culturally responsive educational materials and participate in multiple events.

### **Workforce**

Workforce provides services for our youth in and out of detention. The programs include workshops, assessments and career planning, subsidized employment, on-the-job training, job placement, prerelease services, education, vocational training, connections to community-based organizations and other services to assist in transition back into the community. Workforce, with the assistance of the Probation Staff, may identify youth to participate in paid work-based learning activities to develop employment skills and gain hands on experience in an occupation of interest or sponsor vocational training. Incentives may be available upon reaching benchmarks such as completion of workshops, training, work-based learning activities, and/or employment & retention.

Supportive Services and needs related payments may also be available on a case-by-case basis. Ideally, workforce services would begin at least 90 days prior to release and continue post-release through the Workforce Assistance Center. The Workforce Investment Corporation, and the Partner agencies at the Workforce Assistance Center, provide a full array of education, training, skill development, and job placement services to support individuals in entering a career pathway that leads to quality employment opportunities and economic self-sufficiency.

The Madera County Probation Department contracts with the Madera County Workforce Investment Corporation to provide our realignment population with digital literacy, financial literacy program, banking information, Life skills, work- based learning, and opportunities for workplace training. There are two curriculums offered based on age or development. The IMAGO lesson plans are suited for the younger population, 12-18 years of age and the Correctional Community Transitional Program (CCTP) 10-week curriculum is targeted for the 18–25-year-old population.

## **CORRECTIONAL ACADEMY HISTORY IN MADERA COUNTY**

With the support of our County Board of Supervisors, the Madera County Juvenile Correctional Camp opened and began providing services to justice involved youth in May of 1997. The Correctional Camp, in part, was built as a cost-effective alternative for a juvenile commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice, formerly known as the California Youth Authority and now permanently closed as of July of 2023. A juvenile placement at the now titled Correctional Academy allows the County to offer local services, provide safety to the community, and accountability in a structured local program.

In September 2010, because of budgetary restraints, the Correctional Camp Facility was closed, and the program was moved into the Juvenile Detention Facility. In December of 2015, the Correctional Camp program was restructured and formally changed to the title of Correctional Academy.

### **Correctional Academy Program**

To be eligible for the correctional academy, the Juvenile Court Judge must order a ward committed to the program under Section 602 of the Welfare & Institutions Code. The program is a collaborative effort between the Madera County Probation Department, Madera County Superintendent of Schools, Madera County Behavioral Health Services, and volunteers. The program is typically a twelve-month, eighteen month or twenty-four-month commitment that includes detention and aftercare phases. The program was developed from a correctional model for at risk youth based in part on military protocol.

The academy utilizes a combination of structure, redirection, physical conditioning, and accountability in a nurturing approach to emphasize self-control and improve self-esteem. Once a youth has been committed to the academy they are referred to as cadets. There are three stages to the custody phase in which the cadets wear colored shirts according to their rank, from lowest to highest, green, brown, and black. As the

cadets advance in their rank, they become eligible to receive additional privileges such as community service, field trips and early release.

After successful completion of the in-custody phase, cadets graduate to the aftercare component and are placed back into their parent's home whenever possible, or an alternate living arrangement is made. The cadets are closely monitored as they may be placed on house arrest with electronic monitoring and probation staff providing intensive supervision. The cadet and their family will receive counseling services as determined by a mental health screening process and as resources allow.

### **Community Service**

Youth committed to the academy program participate in community service. These cadets learn a greater amount of respect and appreciation for their work. It also teaches the cadets to work together and give back to their community building a sense of citizenship. Some of the sites where the work is performed include the following: Veterans of Foreign War, Fair Grounds, Animal Shelter, Food Bank, Madera Love Inc, Rotary Club Events, New Hope Cemetery, Annual City of Madera Parks & Recreation Easter event and Wreaths Across America.

### **Service Gaps Identified**

- Vocational training
- Gang prevention program-identifying a gang prevention program to offer to our youth.
- Transportation barriers limit service delivery and access in the unincorporated and rural areas of the County.
- Culturally Responsive programs and services.

## **MADERA COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Madera County Superintendent of Schools (MCSOS) serves nine (9) school districts and charter schools, with a combined total of 32,318 K-12 students (Dataquest, 2023-2024). Of these 32,318 students, 76.9% (24,853) are Hispanic, 16.6% (5,353) are White, and small percentages, none larger than 1.7% represent any other ethnic group. The 2023-2024 countywide adjusted cohort graduation rate was 88.0%, compared to the state's rate of 86.4%. The 2023-24 cohort size was 2,490 students and 2,190 received high school diplomas.

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools (MCSOS) has actively pursued positive youth development through the following programs:

### **Alternative Education**

In the past several years, significant changes have occurred at the state level that affected almost all county office court programs. The most significant change was the implementation of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). When Governor Brown implemented the LCFF, one of the

most interesting aspects was eliminating the County Office of Education's ability to operate Community Day Schools on a waiver for School Districts. As a result, many counties have closed their court day programs due to lack of enrollment. Former Governor Brown also added increased incentives for school districts to create new programs to retain students that would normally attend County Operated Programs. This new funding came in the way of Supplemental and Concentration Funds, which added up to an additional \$3,000 per year for student's attendance in three categories: English Learners, Low Income, and Foster Youth. A second change to schools during this time included the usage of Education Code 48900 for Expelled Youth. This policy affected the specific usage of the Education Code 48900 (K) to expel a student. These changes resulted in Enterprise Secondary decreasing enrollment from 125 students to roughly 15 students, making it impossible to operate a functional program. The 2016-2017 school year was the last year Madera County Superintendent of Schools operated Enterprise Secondary School. During 2017-2018, expelled students were enrolled at Pioneer Technical Center (PTC). The Pioneer Technical Center campus is located at 1665 E. Olive Ave., Madera.

The Career and Alternative Education Services division offers a wide variety of services to students that need an educational option different from their prior academic placements. These programs are designed to lower student to teacher ratios, allowing for personalizing the educational options for each student. Students meet weekly with their assigned teacher and must enroll in Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways as part of graduation requirements from PTC. Programs currently offered include Designated English Language Development (DELD), Academic Acceleration Classes for remediation in English Language Arts and Mathematics, Edgenuity online curriculum for original course credit, and many opportunities for students to recover credits to graduate with a high school diploma. All MCSOS Alternative Education Programs are fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and the curriculum is aligned to the State Frameworks for Content Standards. High School students earn credit toward graduation and develop employment skills at the same time.

### **Endeavor Secondary School**

Endeavor is a court school that provides educational programs for students grades 7-12. Court schools are mandatory and serve students who have been referred by the Probation Department, Police Department, Sheriff's Department, or the Juvenile Court System.

### **Voyager Secondary School**

Voyager is the Madera County Juvenile Correctional Academy, and a Juvenile Court judge assigns students to the program. Students (cadets) enrolled at Voyager receive an academic program that assists them in earning credit toward high school graduation, along with many opportunities for community service and public speaking. Along with the academic program, cadets receive a highly structured training program to develop self-discipline, physical fitness, healthy choices, and increased behavioral health supports.

### **Pioneer Technical Center (PTC)**

PTC is a public charter school, established in 2002, and winner of the Golden Bell Award under the category Invigorating High Schools. Pioneer Technical Center promotes an Independent Study model that emphasizes vocational and career technical skills leading to career employment after graduation. The PTC charter offers grades Pre-Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, and a satellite campus in Chowchilla (Pioneer Technical Center, Chowchilla) that serves students grades 5-12. Students attend weekly ATT appointments with their teacher of record and have other educational opportunities to attend seat-time classes for additional content area support in English-Language Arts, English Language Development, and Mathematics, electives or CTE courses, in addition to the assigned courses students complete as part of the Independent Study program. Pioneer Technical Center has two campuses, one located in Madera and the other located in Chowchilla. Many students enroll in Pioneer Technical Center having had very poor attendance in their prior school districts. Overall, the attendance rate at PTC is 92.4% (May 2024). Students earning the required 230 credits receive a high school diploma from PTC. The main goals for all students include achieving daily success, earning a high school diploma, and having the option to either enter college or obtain meaningful employment after graduation.

### **Madera County Independent Academy (MCIA)**

Prior to the 2017-2018 school year, MCIA offered grades Transitional Kindergarten through grade 12. That same year, students in grades 9-12 were transferred to Pioneer Technical Center for greater access to the offered Career Technical Education Programs. MCIA is an Independent Study program using a Personalized Learning Teacher who leads students and parents through individualized curriculum and learning modes and provides one-on-one site-based instruction. This approach encourages students to personalize their instruction, and the freedom for students to utilize resources and activities to create flexible, educational experiences. All student contracts are developed in accordance with MCIA policies and state curricula standards. While attending the MCIA program, students learn and practice the self-discipline necessary for future success. The staff assists students in accomplishing their individual goals. In order to provide greater academic support for all students, Academic Acceleration classes are offered daily for all students below grade level proficiency in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

### **Special Education**

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools provides a variety of special education services through regionalized programs to identified students with special needs from birth to age twenty-two, offered to the nine school districts and charter schools throughout Madera County. As determined through the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) process, students may receive special education services individually, in small group settings, or in specialized classroom settings to address their developmental, physical, and social-emotional needs.

Utilizing developmentally appropriate curricula aligned to state standards, instruction focuses on the individual needs of each student with an emphasis on functional life skills leading to independence. Students may receive related services such as speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, deaf/hard of hearing services, services for the visually impaired, specialized health care, counseling and adapted physical education.

### **Youth Development**

Madera County Superintendent of Schools has actively pursued positive youth development through the following programs for Homeless and Foster Youth:

The objective of the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) and the Educating for Homeless Children and Youth Program (EHCY) is to ensure, in accordance with the law, that every Foster and Homeless Youth residing in Madera County is allowed a meaningful opportunity to meet the challenging state academic achievement standards to which all students are held. These programs ensure that all Foster and Homeless students have access to the same educational rights and resources as other students. Through the county-wide facilitation and coordination of services, the FYSCP and the EHCY ensure that the educational needs of Foster and Homeless youth are met to help them graduate from high school and be college/career ready. Services include ensuring immediate enrollment (even if required documentation is not available), assistance to maintain educational stability (including transportation support to maintain the school of origin), ensuring the timely transfer of student records, calculation of full or partial coursework, screening for modified graduation criteria (AB167, AB1806), post-secondary preparation support, individualized academic/support services, and student advocacy. In addition, the FYSCP and EHCY provide professional development opportunities to local school districts and other stakeholders as well as monthly parent workshops.

## **MADERA COUNTY WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT-Title I**

### **Workforce Assistance Center**

The Madera County Workforce Assistance Center is a partnership of community organizations providing a wide variety of services to the residents of Madera County. Services include access to employment opportunities, assistance with resume development and employment applications, on-line tools for job search, career research, and skills evaluation, as well as access to Adult Education, English as a Second Language, Citizenship classes, and information regarding available jobs and training services. All of the services at the Workforce Assistance Center are available to eligible Madera County residents aged 18 and over and are provided by the various partner agencies located at the Center.

The Madera County Workforce Investment Corporation is housed within the Madera County Workforce Assistance Center and also provides services to eligible out-of-school young adults between the ages of 18 and 24. Young adults (16- and 17-year-olds) who

have a high school diploma or GED equivalent and are out of school may be eligible for these services as well as out-of-school emancipated young adults. Services may also be provided for in-school youth between the ages of 16 to 24 with unique demographics such as justice impacted, homeless, foster youth and/or persons with disabilities or other barriers as deemed appropriate by the Executive Director. All young adults who apply for services complete an individual assessment of their basic educational skills, aptitudes, and vocational interests. This assessment process results in the development of an individualized service strategy for each young person that outlines the programs and services that will be of most benefit to them.

Young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 are offered a comprehensive menu of services designed to assist them to transition into employment, advanced training, and/or postsecondary educational opportunities, with the emphasis on developing the skills needed for successful transition into economic self-sufficiency. The program offers a customer-centered approach with services designed to meet the needs of each individual, and includes: tutoring and study skills, alternative secondary education options, paid and unpaid work experience, occupational skills training, education combined with workforce preparation, leadership development, supportive services, adult mentoring, guidance and counseling, financial literacy education, essential workforce skills (soft skills), entrepreneurial skills training, labor market information, postsecondary preparation and transition, and follow-up services. Young adults are offered opportunities for work experience in either subsidized or direct placements into employment. These young adults are also offered assistance with accessing continuing education, including assistance with a GED or HS diploma, if needed, or guidance in selecting and registering for appropriate postsecondary course work, as appropriate. Financial capabilities workshops are also offered by Workforce Assistance Center staff, to help participants identify resources to help them pay for college, focusing on improving credit scores, raising income, increasing saving, and reducing debt.

While quite comprehensive, all of these programs and services could benefit from higher levels of funding to allow for services to more youth and young adults in the community. The new Madera County Justice Center now houses a Mini Workforce Assistance Center with a full-time workforce staff to provide on-site comprehensive services for the youth. Ongoing collaboration and cooperative planning between agencies will strengthen youth services and delivery. Planning is underway to strengthen the existing referral process between both the juvenile and adult divisions of the Probation Department, so that all staff members are familiar with the services available to young adults through the Workforce Assistance Center. Designation of single points of contact in each department will help to streamline referrals between the agencies. In addition, regular presentations to Probation Department staff regarding the current programs and services being offered will assist in the development of appropriate referrals for services for individuals on probation.



## **MADERA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

The Madera County Department of Social Services (DSS) has responsibility for providing public assistance and social services to the citizens of Madera County. In addition to Child Welfare Services, DSS has developed several specific programs to address the problems of at-risk youth.

### **Promoting Safe and Stable Families**

Madera County Department of Social Services received a planning allocation for Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF). PSSF services are administered by DSS in four categories: Family Preservation, Family Support, Time Limited Family Reunification, and Adoption Promotion and Support. Each category focuses on a specific target population and offers services that can provide the need in that area. DSS uses PSSF, to fund the Prevention Services Program, Strengthening Families Program, and direct services.

Family preservation focuses on families in crisis with the imminent potential of the children's removal from the home. The services help maintain the safety of children in their own homes, support families preparing to reunify or adopt, and assist families in obtaining other services to meet multiple needs.

Family support services are voluntary and focus on services to strengthen the family and teach parents to alleviate stress and develop nurturing skills. These services are intended to connect families with available community resources and include such activities as parenting education, health services, and a range of center-based activities.

Time Limited Family Reunification services are provided when a child has been removed from the care of their parents due to safety concerns that prevent children from remaining in the care of their parents. These services facilitate the reunification of the child safely and appropriately within a timely fashion. Services may include but are not limited to counseling, inpatient, or outpatient substance abuse treatment services, mental health services, domestic violence, and transportation, among others.

Adoption Promotion and Support encourages adoption from the foster care system when adoptions promote the best interests of children, including such activities as pre- and post-adoptive services and those designed to expedite the adoption process and support adoptive families.

Clients served under these programs are extremely resource-challenged and often interact with multiple agencies. DSS has discovered families in crisis who need alcohol and drug counseling services, early mental health and intervention services, assessment and treatment of high-risk medical needs and developmental delays, and intervention in the areas of domestic violence, immigration, housing, economic assistance, and education.

## **Cal-LEARN**

Cal-LEARN services are provided by the Department of Social Services. The Cal-LEARN program is designed to assist pregnant and parenting CalWORKs recipient teens in completing high school by obtaining a high school diploma or equivalent. Services include: case management and referral, program compliance monitoring, counseling, parenting education, and mentoring. Other programs' goals and purposes are:

- Encourage pregnant and parenting teens to stay in school or return to school, earning a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- Employ case management services to link each adolescent parent to community-based, multi-faceted referral networks (including education, health, and social services).

## **Transitional Housing Program – Plus**

The Transitional Housing Program- Plus (THP-Plus) is a traditional housing program designed to provide housing and case management for youth who exited foster care on or after their 18th birthday and are not yet 24 years of age. It supports youth by providing stable housing and services such as case management, education assistance, counseling, employment support and training, and mental health services. The goal of THP-Plus is to provide independent living opportunities for eligible participants to gain and practice life skills in a safe environment and to assist with the transition from dependency to self-sufficiency.

## **Non-Minor Dependent (NMD)**

Non-minor dependents (NMD) are assigned social workers/probation officers that understand late adolescence/young adult development. We ensure that the youth have adequate and appropriate housing and that their minimal basic needs are met, food, medical, employment/education, etc. Concurrently, agency workers follow up with these young adults at least monthly to assist with independent living needs on an ongoing basis. The agency assists with transportation needs and models problem solving to make alternative transportation plans to help develop self-sufficiency skills in preparation for when they are no longer eligible for these services.

Agencies are responsible for screening, assessing, and assisting with referring to appropriate Behavioral/Mental Health counseling agencies (therapeutic-based and educational). We make sure that we maintain communication with outside agencies that are working with each youth. We assist with connecting them to the Independent Living Program (ILP) and assist with coordinating classes based on the needs of the youth as identified in the Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP). Some common areas identified as areas our youth need assistance in are as follows: opening bank accounts (if not already open), budgeting, life skills development (ordering food in a restaurant, pumping gas, developing a budget, grocery shopping, oil change, etc.), parenting skills (to reduce risk and prevent their own child welfare involvement). All aspects covered with youth are identified and driven by the youth.

## **Interagency Child and Family Services**

The Department of Social Services is an active participant in this committee.

## **Independent Living Skills**

Madera County has an active ILS program, which serves youth in out-of-home placement ages 14-21. In addition to case management services, the county engages all foster care youth in this age category in the Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment to help them identify areas that need to be addressed as they move toward self-sufficiency. Additionally, the county offers both in-person and home-life skills classes on various topics using a validated curriculum. Workshops are held with foster youth from CWS and Probation. The focus is post-secondary education, work readiness skills, life skills, leadership skills, and occupational skills.

## **Service Gaps Identified**

- Transportation barriers limit service delivery and access in the unincorporated and rural areas of the County.
- Increased pregnancy prevention services throughout the County.
- Lack of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services (inpatient and outpatient)
- Lack of Community-Based Organizations.
- Lack of local services/resources.

## **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA**

For more than 50 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California (BBBSCC) has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. BBBSCC makes meaningful, professionally supported matches between adult volunteers (“Bigs”) and youth (“Littles”), ages 6 through 18. These positive relationships have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

The mission of BBBSCC is to *create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth*. Recent statistics show that 82% of youth participating in the program have declined in participating in risky behavior. In addition, there is a 98% graduation rate, 88% have improved family relationships, 89% have increased their ability to regulate their emotions, and 87% have improved their academic performance.

Eligible youth meet 2 of the following criteria:

- Receive free or reduced school lunch.
- Have a current or previously incarcerated parent or loved one
- Live in a non-traditional household

The comprehensive screening process of the program ensures that we have done everything possible for the safety of the youth we serve. The staff of BBBSCC are

professionally qualified in the areas of social services and crisis intervention and provide regular and consistent support to all participants. Each match has individualized goals and outcome objectives concentrating on promoting growth and development. The program also provides empowerment training which familiarizes parents, youth, and volunteers on child abuse prevention. The BBBSCC headquarters is in Fresno, CA with satellite offices in Madera, CA and Visalia, CA. In 2024 BBBSCC served over 1,000 youth throughout the four counties we serve, Fresno, Tulare, Kings, Madera.

## **Programs**

### **Community Based**

The Community Based Program matches a youth with an adult mentor, and they meet between two to four times per month. The match spends time together within the community participating in activities that build friendship and trust. Activities may include attending sporting events, taking a hike, painting, playing board games, participating in educational activities, helping with homework, or simply spending time together.

### **High School Bigs**

The High School Bigs Program provides mentoring relationships between High School students and Elementary School students. Group meetings occur between two to four times per month for 90 minutes at a designated site. Every meeting session is supervised and facilitated by BBBSCC staff. Matches participate in hands on enrichment activities that help foster a healthy mentoring relationship.

### **Bigs With Badges**

This is a specialized program geared towards members of public safety. Due to the nature of their careers, there is flexibility offered for the mentors with regards to frequency of outings. Mentors meet with their mentees between 2-4 times a month out in the community.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

### **MADERA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

The Sheriff-Coroner of Madera County is an elected official administering approximately 127 sworn deputy positions, 104 correctional officer positions, 60 support staff, approximately 22 members of the Sheriff's reserve unit, and approximately 44 members of the Sheriff's volunteer "Citizen Patrol" auxiliary. The Sheriff's Office headquarters are located near the north-west boundary of the Madera City limits with a large substation in Oakhurst, substations in Madera Ranchos, and Tesoro Viejo. Due to the rural nature of the county, the Sheriff's jurisdiction is divided into seven primary beats with two additional high-country beats.

The Sheriff's Office has several dedicated enforcement programs. These include the multi-agency Narcotics Enforcement Team, Boat Patrol, and Problem Oriented Policing. The Sheriff's Office dedicates personnel to the Special Investigations Unit Task Force, FBI Cyber Crimes Task Force, and FBI Human Trafficking Task Force. The Sheriff's Office has three dedicated School Resource Deputies assigned to our three school districts. The Sheriff's Office also partners with other agencies including Alcohol Beverage Control, California Highway Patrol, and related county departments including the Probation Department and the Office of the District Attorney.

## **MADERA POLICE DEPARTMENT (MPD)**

The City of Madera appoints its Chief of Police. The Chief of Police, one Commander and three Lieutenants manage 76 sworn officers, 37 non-sworn, 1 Reserve Officer, 3 Volunteers and 5 Chaplains. The Department supports a Detective Division (6 Officers and a Sergeant), Special Investigations unit (4 MPD Officers, 1 Probation Officer, one Madera County Sheriff's Deputy, one Madera County District Attorney's Office Investigator and a MPD Sergeant), Motor unit (4 Officers and a Sergeant), three School Resource Officers are assigned to the Madera Unified School District, and one Officer is assigned to the City of Madera Housing Authority. The remaining personnel are assigned to patrol functions.

The Madera Police Department strives to make Madera a safer community through superior service and partnerships.

### **Mission Statement**

It is the mission of the Madera Police Department to be devoted to family and community through superior service and partnerships. We will reduce crime while treating people with dignity and respect.

### **Values Statement**

The Madera Police Department values professionalism. We strive to provide quality customer service with integrity and endeavor to solve community problems and reduce crime through partnerships built upon a foundation of accountability, trust, and compassion. The badge is a symbol of public faith and trust that we will maintain through adherence to these core values. The badge is a symbol of public faith and trust that we will maintain through the adherence to these core values.

### **Principled Policing**

The Madera Police Department seeks procedural justice using Principled Policing methods in order to realize positive outcomes during our day-to-day contact with community members. The four tenets of procedural justice are: **Voice:** Allowing community members the ability to tell their side of the story while being sincere and

considerate to their views. **Neutrality:** Making unbiased decisions that are guided by transparent reasoning and the law. **Respect:** Taking issues seriously, being polite, respecting rights, and being courteous in treatment. **Trust:** Professional behavior that is sincere, caring, open, honest, considering views of others, with a lack of prejudice throughout.

### **Madera Police Department Kids Camp**

The Camp has been an overwhelming success with over 100 kids attending annually. The camp consisted of a four-day kid's camp for third through fifth graders run by police personnel. The camp had a sports theme teaching the importance of physical education, good health, and education. The camp also incorporated a daily guest speaker. The guest speakers were from various professional fields, such as Law Enforcement, Fire, Military, and College Athletes (Fresno State Football). We are in the planning stages for our fifth annual Kids Camp with an estimated enrollment of over 100 third graders through fifth graders.

### **School Resource Officers**

The School Resource Officers (SRO) are charged with the responsibility of maintaining a safe environment at the Madera High North and South school and middle school campuses as well as surrounding areas. The SROs coordinates activities between the schools, probation system and the courts. The SROs directly represent the juvenile justice system on the middle school and high school campuses. Whenever a juvenile breaks the law, the SRO will conduct the investigation and, if necessary, affect an arrest. The SRO also assists in coordinating rallies, necessary traffic control and the security of other special events. The SRO assists with the administration of onsite school security forces. This includes enforcing school policies such as dress code, disturbances and out of control students. SROs may also act as a counselor to students regarding problems on or off campus relating to home, personal or other problems. In this role, matters are kept confidential. The SRO will also assist the student in seeking proper guidance and will contact and refer special problems to an appropriate agency.

### **Learning with the Law Program**

This program provides Madera PD members with opportunities to read and interact with elementary school age kids. The nonprofit, Literacy Center, states there is a link between low literacy and crime. Seventy-five percent of adults incarcerated in state prisons lack a high school diploma or have low literacy skills. The Madera Police Department wants to set the example and show the importance of reading to youth at an early age. The program is active in 13 MUSD campuses where officers meet biweekly during the school year and read a children's book and answer students' questions about our profession and numerous other topics kids come up with! Our officers know that education is a key aspect in reducing crime and building community success.

## **Parent Project**

The Madera Police Department participates in facilitating several Parent Project classes throughout the year. The Parent Project is a team of instructors from Madera County Probation, Madera Police Department, Community Action Partnership of Madera County, Madera Unified School District, and the Madera Ministerial Association. To strengthen our community these agencies have partnered together and formed a team of certified Parent Project facilitators. This program has been developed by over half a million parents over the last 33 years. These parents have been through the struggles and success raising children who frequently run away, associate with gangs, use of drugs, and anything in between. Our multi-agency team utilizes education techniques and principles to help parents raising strong willed children.

## **CHOWCHILLA POLICE DEPARTMENT (CPD)**

The Chief of Police, employed by the City of Chowchilla, supervises a department of 22 sworn officers and 11 support personnel. The Chowchilla Police assume similar responsibilities to the Madera Police Department.

CPD has two full-time Campus Resource Officers, one assigned to Chowchilla Union High School, and one assigned to Chowchilla Elementary Schools. The Campus Resource Officer (CRO) concept was introduced to Chowchilla in 1998 through a cooperative effort between the Chowchilla Police Department and local school districts. The goals of the CRO Program are to ensure that our school campuses are safe environments for learning and to increase positive interaction between youth and the police department. In cooperation with school staff, the Campus Resource Officers attempt to provide alternative solutions for our youth when they are faced with a problem. The CROs work closely with the Gang Liaison Officer, MADNET and Madera PD SIU Detectives, and school personnel to keep the influence of gang activity and drug use low among our middle and high school age students. Both current Campus Resource Officers go the extra mile by being involved with our youth.

Chowchilla City Police Officers Association is very active in the community and with the youth. They consist of the sworn and non-sworn officers of the Chowchilla Police Department and function primarily as their bargaining unit. Each year they help fund youth programs in the City of Chowchilla.

Chowchilla CCPOA participates in their annual toy and coat drive each year during Christmas. They receive hundreds of toys and coats which are given to school aged children living in the community. Their yearly goal is to provide children with coats during the cold winter months and toys for their Christmas celebration. CCPOA also sponsors a youth little league baseball team and youth girls' softball team. They will also sponsor any other boys or girls sport program when asked to do so. Their Chief of Police is also a very active member on the high school campus, announcing football games and assisting with field maintenance. Their Police lieutenant Daniel Denny is a high school varsity football coach. There is one other officer in the department who coaches at the

high school and youth level football programs. All of them are in constant contact with the youth and those other organizations within the community which support youth programs and mentoring of youth.

Prior to becoming Chief, Chief Palmer helped design the public safety course now taught at Chowchilla Union High School. It is part of the CTE program and is beginner law enforcement training for those students interested in the career field. As the class evolves several officers from the department are asked each year to assist in teaching certain topics of the class. This gives the officers the ability to create relationships with the youth which benefits day-to-day patrol operations. In addition, Chief Palmer, Lt. Denny and Sgt. Cobb are on the advisory committee that helps mold the training for the class each year. This class creates a direct positive interaction between the Chowchilla Police Department and the older youth of the community, helping bridge the gap between officers and juvenile civilians.

### **Service Gaps Identified**

Review of law enforcement documents and interviews with key respondents suggest the following gaps in service to juveniles in the county:

- Inadequate recreational activities for youth and children.
- Difficulties in providing law enforcement services in rural and unincorporated areas.
- Need for increased multi-agency law enforcement sweeps.

## **2025-2026 PROGRAM ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIES**

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council is committed to collaboration and interagency programs. The following matrix of existing programs identifies this collaboration.

### **EXISTING PROGRAMS**

<b>PREVENTION</b>	<b>INTERVENTION</b>
Madera Narcotics Enforcement Team Tobacco Use Prevention Education Alcohol and Drug Prevention Police Explorers Drug Resistance Education Parent Education Classes RadKids	Community School Behavioral Health Services/Alcohol & Drug Promoting Safe and Stable Families CalLearn Independent Living Program Forward Thinking New Choices/Corrective Thinking Aggression Replacement Therapy Adverse Childhood Experiences Student Attendance Review Board



<p><b>COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT</b>          Probation Officers in Schools          Court Day School          Community Service          Victim Restitution</p> <p><b>PLACEMENTS</b>          Continuum of Care- Placements          Foster Care          Short-Term-Residential-Treatment          Programs (STRTP)</p>	<p><b>DETENTION</b>          Correctional Academy          Juvenile Detention Facility          Secure Track          Electronic Monitoring</p>
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Madera County has been effective in reducing juvenile crime in our community. This success can be largely attributed to the collaboration that has been cultivated among city and county agencies and community-based organizations. By embracing the values and principles of collaboration, the county has been able to be responsive to emerging issues and gaps in services within the juvenile justice system, resolve problems cooperatively, and redirect resources as needed to address these issues.

This Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan/Local Action Plan update identifies gaps in services, as well as effective strategies to continue quality services to youth in Madera County. As funding allows, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council remains committed to achieving positive outcomes for the youth and families that we serve. This document will provide a blueprint for future plans and will continue to lead us on a path to providing effective multi-agency response to the needs of at-risk youth who find themselves involved in the juvenile justice system.