



**MARIPOSA COUNTY
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

**Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act
and
Youthful Offender Block Grant
2025-2026 Annual Plan**

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

A. Assessment of Existing Services

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

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Juvenile Division

There are two Deputy Probation Officers, one Deputy Probation Officer III, and one Supervising Probation Officer assigned to the Juvenile Division within the Probation Department. Juvenile offenders are assessed to determine the appropriate level of intervention and services needed. In most cases, informal intervention services are found to be appropriate to hold youthful offenders accountable. Local records indicate that at the end of March 2025, there were fifteen juvenile offenders under the supervision of the department.

3rd Millennium Classrooms

The Juvenile Division uses an online educational program to hold juvenile offenders accountable in a constructive way. The probation department covers the costs of the classes so that parents or guardians are not financially burdened. Low-level and first-time youthful offenders are referred to online classes for offenses related to shoplifting, conflict, marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco.

3rd Millennium Classrooms also offers a parent education program that complements the juvenile alcohol and drug education classes. Additionally, Conflict Wise is an intervention program designed to help individuals understand the impact of their behaviors. This course provides essential skills training in conflict resolution and techniques to manage anger.

Participants receive personalized feedback about the consequences of their actions and an action plan to improve their behavior. Conflict Wise is applicable for issues related to domestic violence, anger management, partner violence, or stalking violations. Youth who successfully complete these online courses can have their referrals closed and avoid appearing in court.

Truancy Intervention Program

The Truancy Intervention Program has been an essential resource for the school district and its students since its launch in 2001. By fostering collaboration between a deputy probation officer, the Sheriff's Department's School Resource Officer, and the Child Welfare and Attendance Supervisor of the Mariposa Unified School District, the program effectively addresses student attendance challenges countywide. This teamwork not only supports students but also promotes a positive school environment.

To proactively address attendance and discipline concerns, a deputy probation officer visits each school site in the county every other week. Given the county's vast geography, including a school located in Yosemite National Park, these visits are crucial for fostering positive relationships within the community. The school personnel and the deputy probation officer collaborate to ensure these visits are constructive and supportive in nature. When any issues

arise, the probation officer intervenes in a considerate manner, prioritizing the youth's well-being and aiming to minimize their exposure to the criminal justice system. When no concerns are reported, the deputy probation officer engages students in recess activities, focusing on building rapport and encouraging a positive school environment.

The school district offers valuable support through counselors available at every school site, ensuring that students have access to guidance when needed. Additionally, Mariposa County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services enhances this support by providing therapeutic services through its Full-Service Partnership (FSP) Program, which aims to assist both students and their families. This collaboration between agencies has significantly bolstered the approach to addressing student attendance and behavior challenges, fostering a more positive and inclusive school environment.

Mariposa County Special Purpose Juvenile Hall

In 1992, Mariposa County established a four-bed juvenile detention facility for youthful offenders, allowing for stays of up to 96 hours when detained by law enforcement. With juvenile crime rates declining nationally, the need for secure detention has decreased, highlighting the potential for more supportive alternatives for young people in the community.

To enhance the management of juvenile offenders, the facility has introduced a detention risk assessment instrument (DRAI), which has successfully led to a decrease in local detentions of young individuals. This positive change, while beneficial for youth, has posed challenges in maintaining the necessary staffing levels with extra-help employees at the local facility. In response, Mariposa County is actively collaborating with full-service juvenile hall facilities to ensure that we continue to meet the detention needs of our youth effectively.

In 2024, [REDACTED] arrested and booked into the local juvenile hall. Pending court proceedings or placement, they were transported to one of Mariposa County's contracted full-service detention facilities.

MARIPOSA COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

After School Programs

The Mariposa County Office of Education and the Mariposa County Unified School District offer after-school programs funded by the After School Education and Safety (ASES) grant and other district resources.

These ASES programs allow a limited number of students to participate in a free after-school program that includes academic tutoring and enrichment activities such as sports, arts, music, dance, and drama. Programs are offered Monday through Friday from school dismissal and for a minimum of three hours. The programs are educational and enjoyable, including a complimentary snack each day.

Mariposa Safe Families offers an after-school program, Paws for Success, specifically designed for students in grades TK-4. This program plays a vital role in fostering young learners' social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development. Mariposa Safe Families ensures children can thrive during after-school hours by providing a safe, inclusive, and engaging environment. The program includes well-organized spaces for completing

homework, diving into reading, exploring science, expressing creativity through art, engaging with multimedia projects, and enjoying outdoor activities that encourage physical play.

In addition, Mariposa Safe Families facilitates After School Matters, an innovative after-school program catering to youth in grades 5-12. This program empowers teenagers to explore their interests, tap into their creativity, and engage in meaningful discussions. Participants learn about maintaining healthy lifestyles and acquire essential life skills, equipping them to navigate the complexities of adolescence with confidence and resilience. Through these programs, Mariposa Safe Families is committed to supporting the growth and success of every child and youth in the community.

Ethos is a community-driven drop-in center dedicated to supporting local youth aged 12 to 18. Their mission is to create a welcoming and safe environment where young people can find the help they need. They offer a range of free services, including professional counseling tailored to address mental health and emotional well-being, personalized tutoring for academic support, and nutritious meals to ensure that no one goes hungry. Additionally, Ethos fosters meaningful connections between youth and compassionate adult mentors, creating a network of support that encourages personal growth and resilience. Through engaging programs and a nurturing atmosphere, they aim to empower young individuals to thrive both in their education and personal lives.

Community School Coordinator

Under the direction of the department director, the Community School Coordinator serves as a key member of the school leadership team. They are responsible for designing, implementing, and overseeing a variety of programs that focus on prevention, intervention, and enrichment activities aimed at supporting the holistic development of students. The Community School Coordinator works closely with the department director on a daily basis to develop and manage all community school programming within the schools, including:

- Attendance support and interventions
- Family support services
- Family engagement and community-building
- Health and wellness services
- Enrichment activities including those that occur during the school day, after school, and summer

The Community School Coordinator is a leader who empowers and fosters relationships with school leaders, educational partners, and community organizations to implement a community school strategy based on a community school plan. Additionally, the coordinator strengthens connections among all community partners to enhance support for the whole child—academically, socially, emotionally, and physically.

Foster Youth Services

Foster Youth Services (FYS) programs offer vital support to foster children who experience the trauma of being displaced from their families and schools, as well as the instability of multiple placements in foster care. These programs have the authority to obtain health and school records to facilitate appropriate placements and coordinate various services, including

instruction, counseling, tutoring, mentoring, vocational training, emancipation services, and independent living training.

The primary goal of FYS programs is to enhance the stability of placements for foster children and youth. By providing these essential services, FYS programs aim to improve the educational performance and personal development of the children, benefiting them directly while also contributing to long-term cost savings for the state.

McKinney-Vento Services

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act plays a crucial role in safeguarding the educational rights and protections of children and youth facing homelessness. Under this act, the Student Services Department is dedicated to delivering comprehensive support and resources to the various school districts within the Mariposa County Unified School District. This department actively works to implement the provisions of McKinney-Vento, ensuring that homeless children and youth receive the assistance they need. By facilitating their enrollment, promoting regular attendance, and fostering academic success, the Student Services Department strives to create a stable educational environment that empowers these young individuals to overcome challenges and thrive in school.

Student Attendance Review Board (SARB)

This dedicated group is composed of representatives from a variety of vital departments and organizations, including the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Office, the Health and Human Services Department, and the Probation Department, alongside committed school administrators and counselors from local educational institutions. Together, they work collaboratively to delve into the underlying reasons contributing to each student's attendance or behavioral challenges. By fostering open communication and sharing insights, they aim to develop constructive solutions and support systems tailored to help students regain their footing.

Students referred to the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) are actively monitored on a monthly basis until their issues are resolved, ensuring a consistent and responsive approach. The probation officer plays a crucial role in this process, collaborating closely with the school administrator liaison when delivering truancy notices to the homes of identified youth. This partnership is particularly important in situations where safety concerns may exist, as it allows for a compassionate and supportive engagement with families.

Moreover, students who continue to experience challenges by the end of the academic year are given special attention in the following year. This proactive strategy ensures they have timely access to early intervention services, promoting their academic and social-emotional well-being from the outset. Through these comprehensive efforts, the group aims to create a nurturing environment in which every student can thrive.

Tobacco Use Prevention Education Program (TUPE)

The TUPE program aims to reduce tobacco use among youth by empowering young people to make informed, healthy decisions regarding tobacco. This is achieved through tobacco-specific educational instruction and activities that not only enhance knowledge but also develop social

skills and youth development assets. Collaborating with community-based tobacco control programs is a crucial aspect of the program's planning.

MARIPOSA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Health Services Division

This Division includes Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Community Health and Environmental Health Services.

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

A wide range of mental health services and substance use disorder services are provided for children, youth, and adults. Services are also provided at the North County HHSA Office in Coulterville and the Yosemite Medical Clinic in Yosemite National Park.

Services Available include:

- Individual, Group, and Family Counseling
- Psychiatric services (including medication management)
- Case Management
- Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
- 24/7 Crisis Response
- Behavioral Health Court
- Wellness Center

Children & Family Services - Behavioral Health

Children and Family Services provides individual counseling services with a focus on trauma-informed care. The services offered may include individual, group, or family counseling, as well as supportive case management. The program also provides Intensive Care Coordination (ICC), Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS), and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS). Other services include Wraparound, Full Service Partnerships (FSP), Child and Family Team Meetings (CFTMs), as well as psychiatric services and medication management.

California Children's Services (CCS)

The California Children's Services (CCS) program provides diagnostic and treatment services, medical case management, and physical and occupational therapy services to children under the age of 21 with CCS-eligible medical conditions. CCS may provide:

- Treatment
- Hospital Care
- Surgical Care
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Testing
- Medical Equipment

Full-Service Partnership Program

The Full-Service Partnership Program is designed to provide comprehensive youth and family services, carefully tailored to meet each family's specific needs and strengths. This program begins with a thorough assessment that identifies families' unique circumstances and resources, ensuring that support is targeted and effective.

Youth and family partners play a pivotal role in this process, actively contributing to the development of personalized case plans and collaboratively setting meaningful goals. This involvement not only empowers families but also fosters a sense of ownership over their journey.

By incorporating a wraparound services approach, the program effectively integrates various support mechanisms while reducing the redundancy of services. This ensures that youth and families receive streamlined, cohesive assistance that aids them in overcoming challenges and fulfilling their aspirations. Ultimately, the program aims to create a nurturing environment that promotes the growth and success of both youth and families in their pursuit of well-being and achievement.

Tobacco Education Program (TEP)

The Mariposa County Tobacco Education Program is funded by the California Tobacco Prevention Program, which receives funds from California Proposition 56 and Proposition 99. This program addresses tobacco-related issues faced by our rural communities throughout Mariposa County. The program provides free services, including community education and collaboration, technical assistance on tobacco laws, smoke-free technical assistance and training, technical assistance for local healthcare providers, local data collection educational materials, and more.

Community Health Center

The Community Health Center has a full-time Public Health Officer and nursing staff to provide resource information and referrals, and assist with the following services:

- Child health and disability check-ups
- Psychiatry
- Family planning
- HIV testing
- Immunizations
- Pregnancy testing
- Public health emergency preparedness
- Sexually transmitted disease testing
- Tobacco cessation
- Tuberculosis skin testing

Child Welfare Services

Child Welfare Services (CWS) is dedicated to safeguarding the safety, permanency, and overall well-being of children, youth, and young adults within our community. With a compassionate approach, CWS aims to not only preserve and strengthen families but also

empower them to thrive independently through a variety of supportive services. This includes facilitating reunification efforts for children who have been removed from their homes, ensuring they can return safely to their families whenever possible. CWS plays a vital role in addressing the needs of the Juvenile Dependency Court, advocating for the best interests of the youth involved. Additionally, the organization is committed to providing ongoing support and resources to foster and resource parents, acknowledging their crucial role in the community's child welfare landscape. Through these efforts, CWS seeks to create a nurturing environment where every child can flourish.

Child Welfare Services is charged with protecting the safety and well-being of children in Mariposa County. CWS evaluates and determines the appropriate response regarding all referrals of child abuse or neglect. Different services are offered depending on each family's needs:

- Emergency Response (ER) investigates allegations of child abuse and/or neglect. If allegations are true, children may be removed from their family of origin or voluntary services may be offered to the family.
- Family Maintenance (FM) services may be offered to allow children to safely remain in their homes. Family Maintenance is designed to mitigate safety and risk factors in the home so that the children remain safe.
- Family Reunification (FR) provides services to the family to enable the children to safely return to the home. Permanency Planning (PP) facilitates the creation and maintenance of lifelong connections for children/youth who are unable to safely return home and who remain in foster care.
- The Independent Living Skills (ILP) program provides comprehensive services to current and former foster youth, age 15.5 and up, to prepare for adulthood. Youth are taught life skills, provided occupational and college prep classes, assistance with receiving vital documents, are provided transportation and counseling services. Aftercare Services are all provided to foster youth ages 18-21.
- Transitional Housing Program (THP) provides financial and supportive services to youth ages 18-24 who have aged out of foster care. THP assists in housing services, such as rent, utilities, and transportation.
- Extended Foster Care (EFC) allows for foster youth, ages 18-21, to remain in foster care as Non-Minor Dependents. These young adults must meet the criteria to receive EFC services, such as attending school or work. EFC services support young adults in their transition from foster care to independence.
- Interagency Leadership Team (ILT) meetings are convened when dependent or delinquent minors require an emergency placement or have other immediate needs.

MARIPOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

School Resource Officer

The School Resource Officer (SRO) is a vital, grant-funded position held by one Deputy Sheriff, specifically designated to support the schools within the Mariposa County Unified School District. This role encompasses a range of law enforcement responsibilities tailored to the unique environment of educational institutions.

The SRO serves as a proactive presence in all schools, fostering a safe and secure atmosphere for students, staff, and visitors alike. By collaborating closely with school administrators, the

SRO addresses various aspects of school and student safety, including strategies to prevent violence, bullying, and other potential threats to the learning environment.

In addition to safety measures, the SRO plays an educational role, guiding students on important topics such as the dangers of tobacco use and promoting healthy lifestyle choices. This educational outreach helps empower students with knowledge and encourages positive behavior.

The SRO works hand-in-hand with the school district's Child Welfare and Attendance Supervisor and the probation department's Truancy Intervention Officer. Together, they tackle truancy and behavioral issues, providing support and intervention for at-risk students. This collaboration ensures that students receive the necessary resources and assistance to excel academically and personally, reinforcing a community-oriented approach to education and safety.

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance for Community Transformations

Alliance for Community Transformations actively empowers individuals and families by offering both responsive and preventative services. By fostering strong partnerships and engaging in collaborative efforts, they are committed to building safe, healthy, and socially just communities where every member has the opportunity to thrive and succeed.

CASA of Mariposa County

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Mariposa County is committed to addressing the critical needs of children who, for their safety, have been removed from their homes and placed in the foster care system. This dedicated organization actively advocates for vulnerable children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or abandonment, ensuring that their voices are heard. CASA of Mariposa County is focused on preventing these children from becoming lost in the complexities of the Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency systems. By providing personalized support and guidance, CASA works tirelessly to help these children find a safe, loving, and permanent home as swiftly as possible, empowering them to build brighter futures and reinforcing their right to a nurturing environment.

Ethos Youth Center

Ethos Youth Center is dedicated to fostering positive change in youth culture by providing comprehensive support to meet the needs of young people. Their mission is to empower the youth of Mariposa County, encouraging them to engage fully with their community while thriving in an environment rich in creativity, security, and support. Open on weekday afternoons, Ethos offers valuable resources such as free counseling, school tutoring, nutritious food, and a welcoming space for youth aged 12-18 to connect. They also create opportunities for young individuals to build meaningful relationships with caring adults, further enhancing their development and sense of belonging. *Youth Thrive*

The Youth Thrive approach uses a training curriculum developed by Jean Carpenter-Williams from the National Resource Center for Youth Services (NRCYS) at the University of Oklahoma, along with Frank Eckles from Youth in Focus. The target population are youth ages

9-26 years old. Youth Thrive can accommodate up to 25 participants from youth service systems, agencies, organizations, partners, and advocacy groups. The program provides education designed to complement, reinforce, and advance positive youth services moving forward. The training consists of 2-3 days of full content, based on the familiarity and knowledge of the participants.

Youth Thrive 4 Youth (YT4Y)

Youth Thrive 4 Youth was created to offer insight and education on how young people can support their own healing, health, and well-being. This content is designed for individuals aged 14 to 16 years old, including eight hours of training. The content is particularly relevant for Youth Advisory Boards, public systems, youth leadership initiatives, service and advocacy groups, peer mentors, and young people involved in community-based activities.

Anger Management

Specifically designed for teens, anger management is available through Ethos. The curriculum used for the program is created by the Anger Management Institute and is recognized and endorsed by the National Anger Management Association. This evidence-based program employs cognitive behavioral techniques to enhance emotional intelligence and regulation. , it consists of 16 lessons that provide strategies for managing anger while addressing the core issues that hinder anger control. Each lesson lasts between 1.5 to 2 hours, and the weekly sessions are held at the Family Resource Center.

Mariposa Safe Families, Inc. (MSF)

MSF serves as a vital resource in Mariposa County, functioning as both a Family Resource Center and a Youth Empowerment Center. Additionally, it is designated as the Child Abuse Prevention Council for the region. Through its comprehensive programs, MSF is dedicated to providing essential services and support tailored to the needs of at-risk youth and their families. The center offers a range of initiatives, including educational workshops, counseling services, and advocacy programs aimed at empowering young people to develop critical life skills, build resilience, and foster healthy family dynamics. By addressing the unique challenges faced by vulnerable families, MSF plays a crucial role in promoting the well-being and safety of children in the community.

Father Engagement Program - "All Dads Rock"

This program identifies and helps fathers reengage in their children's lives, helps build father-child relationships, and establishes healthy safe relationships with fathers to improve father-child relationships. It is at 'All Dads Rock' where father figures will have the opportunity to connect with other dads navigating their fatherhood journey.

Mother Engagement Program - Mothers Empowering Mother Support group "MEMS"

MEMS is a wonderful way to connect with other moms navigating the journey of motherhood while supporting each other along the way. MEMS values and encourages strength, resilience, character, empathy, and understanding.

Monthly Family Engagement Activities

MSF offers a variety of fun, safe, and interactive monthly activities for families to engage in. It is during these activities that healthy living skills and information is relayed, and resource information is provided to families. Some events include Family Bingo Night, Fun Family Giveaways, and Family Arts and Crafts Nights, among many others.

Community Partner Program (CPP)

This is a mentoring program designed to support individuals and families living in poverty within Mariposa County. This program helps participants navigate and access resources needed to move out of poverty and into prosperity. These services include but are not limited to arranging transportation to and from appointments and meetings, providing monetary support for clients' basic needs (groceries, fuel, utility bills, etc.), and in-home visits. Training is also provided to participants to enhance client life skills while motivating and empowering members to live a safe, healthy, prospering lifestyle. The Community Partner Program is a hand-up for those in need. This program also supports local parents navigating the Child Welfare System and/or who have been identified as needing additional support by Mariposa Safe Families.

Parent-Guardian Support Groups coming soon...

Parent/Guardians of children with mental health needs and youth grief support.

Friday Night Live/Club Live

Friday Night Live (FNL) promotes positive youth development by engaging young people as leaders in their communities and addressing issues like underage drinking, alcohol-related driving, and tobacco use. FNL equips youth with essential skills and resources for success.

Building on FNL's success, the Club Live component focuses on middle/junior high school students. Both programs aim to foster partnerships between youth and adults, providing opportunities and support that encourage academic achievement and reduce risky behaviors.

The Mariposa chapters of FNL and Club Live have been instrumental in establishing "Mariposa County Flavored Tobacco Education and Advocacy Week," recognized by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors. This annual May event involves activities led by youth and local partners to raise awareness about tobacco dangers. Participants in these programs are dedicated individuals committed to promoting the well-being of their peers.

Youth Advisory Group

The Youth Advisory Group is comprised of local youth wishing to make a positive difference in the world. The Youth Advisory Group organizes youth-led campaigns to bring awareness to the community on the dangers of substance use. The Youth Advisory Group also has an impact on the "After School Matters" Program where youth-led activities take place. The YAG youth are leads on community educational events in cooperation with MSF and other youth programs.

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

Collaboration in Mariposa County has flourished as a natural result of our unique community structure. As a small county without incorporated towns, we benefit from the absence of competing local government levels. Agency officials carry broad responsibilities and often take on multiple roles, representing various programs that would usually be separate in larger jurisdictions. This collaboration is further enhanced by the fact that mandated boards, committees, and councils frequently include the same representatives from different agencies and community organizations. Our agency representatives are dedicated to fostering interrelationships, which enables us to fulfill our responsibilities effectively while avoiding unnecessary duplication of efforts.

Mariposa County's agencies are agile and responsive to the evolving needs of our environment and community. This flexibility not only necessitates collaboration but has also become a cornerstone of our county's ethos. It's common to see representatives from diverse government and private agencies, along with community groups, coming together in meetings to tackle community challenges. This level of collaboration is invaluable as we work collectively to identify and address service gaps, especially given our limited resources.

Furthermore, agency representatives recognize that many at-risk families often interact with multiple agencies. Our small county allows service providers to build strong relationships with each other and with the clients we serve. This synergy enables us to efficiently share information and collaboratively plan cases to cater to the needs of our youth and families. We are committed to continuing our collaborative efforts in Mariposa County, working together to enhance and integrate our services for the benefit of the community.

B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas

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

The rural landscape of Mariposa County presents distinct challenges when it comes to prioritizing neighborhoods within our community. According to the 2020 census report, the population density is a mere 11.8 people per square mile, underscoring the sparse distribution of residents. The county does not have any cities; rather, the largest town and county seat is Mariposa, which serves as the central hub for various services, social activities, and community events. Many young people in our area live in geographical "neighborhoods" that may not fit the traditional definitions often associated with urban settings, leading to unique social dynamics.

Inextricably linked to Mariposa County is Yosemite National Park, which is partially situated within its boundaries. When discussing the impact of youth on the local neighborhoods, it is crucial to consider the role played by the park. Currently, Yosemite faces a significant shortage of federal resources that would be effective in addressing juvenile crime within its premises. Despite a broader trend of declining juvenile delinquency nationwide, the Mariposa County Probation Department has reported a minimal number of juvenile delinquent referrals from the park in recent years. Nevertheless, a proactive approach is being adopted; the presence of a

probation officer who visits local schools every other week plays an essential role in identifying potential risk factors early on. This regular engagement allows for the timely addressing of minor issues before they escalate into more significant problems.

Identifying which schools may be more at risk for delinquent behavior presents another layer of complexity. In this context, the Alternative Education School and Monarch Academy tend to serve students who are categorized as more challenging. These educational institutions focus on supporting students who struggle academically or exhibit behavioral issues that hinder their success in traditional school settings. The deputy probation officer assigned to the juvenile division actively collaborates with personnel at both school sites to address any disruptions to the learning environment. Moreover, this officer works closely with educators to create strategies and support systems aimed at helping students reintegrate into mainstream educational settings. Through these collaborative efforts, both schools aim to foster an environment where all students can thrive and achieve their full potential, thereby reducing incidents of delinquent behavior and creating a more supportive community for our youth.

C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

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

Mariposa County is committed to enhancing the collaborative efforts of agencies and organizations that serve at-risk youth and youthful offenders. Our collective goal is to strengthen the continuum of services designed to reduce juvenile crime and delinquency in our community. A central achievement has been our success in fostering an environment where youth can remain in their homes with their parents or guardians while accessing essential support services.

We are dedicated to holding youthful offenders accountable in a constructive manner, prioritizing the least restrictive interventions available. The probation department has made significant strides by implementing various evidence-based programs that effectively address trends in juvenile crime. One notable initiative is the use of 3rd Millennium Classrooms, an online early intervention program focusing on offenses related to alcohol, marijuana, fighting, conflict, and shoplifting. This program is also being utilized by local high schools to tackle marijuana-related incidents involving students on campus. We look forward to ongoing collaboration with local service providers to expand and refine these evidence-based programs, ensuring they meet the evolving needs of youthful offenders and their families.

To further enhance our approach, the probation department utilizes juvenile assessment tools recognized for their effectiveness. These tools help identify offenders across a spectrum of risk levels, enabling us to allocate our resources wisely and focus on those who require the most support. By employing these assessments, we can establish suitable supervision levels for juvenile offenders and work with probation officers to create personalized case plans for each youth. We also incorporate incentive-based supervision, which encourages juvenile probationers to make positive choices. Our deputy probation officers receive training in

Motivational Interviewing, a powerful evidence-based method for facilitating meaningful behavior change.

Our measures of success will center on key indicators, such as the rates of arrest, incarceration, and successful probation completion. For youthful offenders under supervision, we will evaluate their progress through successful completion of probation or deferred entry of judgment programs. Additionally, for those not on probation, we will monitor school attendance and aim to reduce recidivism rates.

As we move forward, we will remain vigilant in identifying and addressing service gaps. We believe that continuing to prioritize the school-based intervention strategy is crucial, as it has shown significant success in supporting local youth. Given that poor academic performance and behavioral challenges are strong predictors of future delinquent behavior, the school district will continue to benefit from our support in working with these students. We recognize the profound impact of preventative and early intervention services on maintaining a cohesive response system. Furthermore, we will strive to integrate our efforts and further enhance intervention and prevention strategies to support our community effectively.

Based on the California School Dashboard, the Chronic Absenteeism for Mariposa County Unified School District was reported at 33.2% in 2024 (post-COVID), a 10.3% decrease from the prior year. In 2022, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only the most current year of data was reported. Chronic absenteeism increased considerably in 2022, with a rate of 45.2%.

Recent data indicates the negative impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on students. Our Truancy Intervention Program will be a critical asset to the Mariposa County Unified School District as we all work together to get our students back in school and on track to academic success.

In 2023, the California Department of Juvenile Justice was pending closure, which prompted the Mariposa County Probation Department to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for SB 823 Grant Funding. The RFP was open to any group or organization in Mariposa County that could demonstrate how they would utilize the funds to meet the needs of Mariposa youth who require or are at risk of requiring long-term custodial care. The services and programs selected for funding priority were evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive. The services or programs should include meeting the following needs:

1. Mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs;
2. Promote healthy adolescent development;
3. Promote family engagement in programs;
4. Provide re-entry services, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education.

On May 1, 2023, the Mariposa County Probation Department granted the SB 823 funds to the Alliance for Community Transformations – Ethos Youth Center, Youth Thrive Mariposa Project. The Youth Thrive strategy is a research-informed framework that focuses on providing support for the development and well-being of youth involved in the dependency or delinquency systems and those who are at risk of homelessness. By utilizing the Youth Thrive strategy and community-building activities, the aim is to support youth that are justice-

involved or are at risk and to increase support for youth in North County. As a result, youth participants will develop resilience, social connections, and cognitive and social-emotional competence.

Mariposa County is finalizing its System Improvement Plan (SIP) in collaboration with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). The California-Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) process aims to enhance the accountability system that monitors and assesses services for children facing maltreatment.

The five-year SIP functions as an operational agreement between CDSS, Mariposa County Child Welfare Services (CWS), and Mariposa County Probation, focusing on improving care for children and families. It emphasizes preventing child abuse as a cost-effective strategy for enhancing family well-being.

The Mariposa County Self-Assessment team and stakeholders identified priority needs and outcome goals for the SIP. CWS and Probation aim to collaborate with community partners to evaluate strengths, needs, and service levels for children and families.

The C-CFSR team works with the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) to continuously improve services funded by Title IV-B and Title IV-E. The SIP lays out specific, measurable improvements and coordinates prevention and intervention funds to support families and help children achieve permanent placements. It is a flexible plan that will be updated annually to reflect changes, successes, and challenges.

D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

Describe how your Plan has been updated for this year.

1. The Community School Coordinator, under the department director's guidance, is essential to the school leadership team. They design and manage programs that support student development, including attendance, family services, health, and enrichment activities. By collaborating with school leaders and community organizations, the coordinator enhances student well-being through a comprehensive community school strategy. This includes:
 - Attendance support and interventions
 - Family support services
 - Family engagement and community-building initiatives
 - Health and wellness services
 - Enrichment activities, including those that take place during the school day, after school, and during the summer
2. Designed specifically for teens, the anger management program offered through Ethos utilizes a curriculum created by the Anger Management Institute. This program is recognized and endorsed by the National Anger Management Association. It is evidence-based and employs cognitive behavioral techniques to improve emotional intelligence and regulation.

The program consists of 16 lessons that provide strategies for managing anger, while also addressing the core issues that hinder anger control. Each lesson lasts between 1.5 to 2 hours, and weekly sessions are held at the Family Resource Center.

3. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) established the California-Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) process to enhance accountability in child protective services, foster care, adoption, family preservation, and related areas. The goal is to improve the quality of services for children experiencing maltreatment.

Mariposa County's five-year System Improvement Plan (SIP) is an operational agreement between CDSS, Mariposa County Child Welfare Services (CWS), and Probation, focused on enhancing care for children and families. The process emphasizes that preventing child abuse and supporting families is a cost-effective strategy.

The Mariposa County Self-Assessment (CSA) team identified priority needs and improvement goals for the SIP. CWS and Probation will collaborate with community partners to analyze strengths, needs, and resources across the continuum of care.

The C-CFSR team works with the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) to ensure ongoing improvement of Title IV-B and IV-E funded services. The SIP includes measurable improvement obligations, a service provision plan for utilizing prevention and treatment funds, and a flexible approach that can adapt to challenges, with annual updates to document changes and successes.

Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

A. Information Sharing and Data Collection

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

Mariposa County agencies have independent information systems. The probation department currently uses Tyler Technologies' web-based case management system, Enterprise Supervision, for query and reporting of data for program evaluation. This system allows the department to coordinate, communicate, record, and track each step of the probation process. Intuitive features streamline client management while multiple layers of security provide system protection at the data center, application, and user levels.

Data and Information sharing between juvenile justice stakeholders takes place on multiple levels, including but not limited to, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Full-service Partnership Program, Student Attendance Review Board, and other team meetings. Program effectiveness is evaluated through local arrest and juvenile justice statistics, and the school district's attendance and truancy data and performance reports.

B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

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

The JJCC currently has no vacancies.

C. Funded Programs, Strategies, and/or System Enhancements

Using the spaces below describe each program, strategy, and/or system enhancement that will be supported with funding from JJCPA, identifying anything that is co-funded with Youthful Offender Block (YOBG) funding.

Program Name: Truancy Intervention Program (TIP)

Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

Since its inception in 2001, our program has been modeled on the established Truancy Reduction Program implemented by the Kern County Probation Department since 1990. We recognize the importance of collaborating with families and communities to minimize absenteeism and foster improved academic achievement among our students.

The TIP Program is guided by the principles set forth in the Manual to Combat Truancy, released in July 1996 by the U.S. Department of Education in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice. By employing school-based officers to address truancy issues, we leverage effective strategies that have been proven to reduce truancy rates across California and beyond. Together, with school and community-based organizations, we can work towards a more positive educational experience for all students. Our program components include an array of interventions such as:

- Case management
- Home visits
- Counseling
- Mentoring and advocacy
- Attendance monitoring
- Parent outreach
- Youth development
- Incentives
- Relationship/trust building with youth, parents and staff
- Participating in school activities/after school events

We take great pride in fostering a collaborative environment that embraces best practices and evidence-based strategies. Our commitment is to create an inclusive program where every

student is afforded the opportunity to thrive, supported by the resources necessary to navigate any challenges they may encounter along the way.

Description:

Mariposa County took a proactive step in 2001 by implementing the Truancy Intervention Program (TIP) to address youth absenteeism. This program serves as an early intervention initiative aimed at directing young individuals away from potential future involvement in the juvenile justice system. By focusing on addressing the underlying issues related to truancy, TIP not only supports educational engagement but also promotes positive life choices for the youth in the community.

The benefits from the reduction of truancy are:

- Opportunity to improve academic success
- Improve overall commitment to education
- Address anti-social behaviors
- Reduce the drop-out rate of students
- Fewer daytime crimes committed by youthful offenders
- Increase in ADA funding for the school district

Since the inception of this program to tackle truancy and behavioral challenges, the partnership with the probation department has provided invaluable support. The child welfare and attendance supervisor, along with the school resource officer, have taken the lead in addressing these pressing school-based issues. As a result, the necessity for a full-time deputy probation officer (DPO) dedicated to the school district has diminished.

This collaborative program has evolved over the past 22 years. The program has adapted to implement best practices aimed at fostering a wellness-oriented approach to early identification, intervention, and referral to appropriate services for students. The primary objective of this initiative is to effectively address family and community factors that contribute to truancy and to enhance student behavior.

In recent years, JJCPA funding has not fully supported the truancy intervention officer position. To maintain a full-time DPO assigned to this initiative, Mariposa County has had to augment general funding. The reduction in juvenile crime over recent years has corresponded with a decline in delinquency and truancy referrals, yet there is a consensus that the program's early intervention efforts have been remarkably successful.

JJCPA funding will continue to be allocated to support the ongoing role of the full-time DPO, ensuring that the department can effectively contribute to the school district's student welfare and attendance program. This will allow us to provide an appropriate level of intervention and services to juveniles referred to the probation department for delinquent activities.

The probation department remains committed to collaborating with families, schools, and communities to address absenteeism challenges. When a student is identified as truant, the school will promptly inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) through a letter. If necessary, the DPO and child welfare and attendance supervisor will conduct home visits to engage with the family if truancy concerns persist. Additionally, the DPO will assist in the personal delivery of truancy notification letters when the school encounters difficulties in reaching the parent or guardian.

The probation department is committed to supporting truancy intervention efforts. In collaboration with the child welfare and attendance supervisor and school resource officer, the DPO will continue to assist in providing the following interventions:

- Contact the student and parent/guardian at home or school
- Make family aware of laws pertaining to truancy
- Devise a plan that will get the family in compliance with the law
- Refer student and parent/guardian to school and/or community resources
- Potential obstacles to a student's success will be assessed and a decision will be made regarding whether a student is appropriate for Informal Probation, pursuant to 654(a) Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC)

The probation department will maintain its representation on the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) Panel. A designated Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) will attend SARB meetings to share valuable insights regarding the pre-SARB intervention services offered by the department and will assist in monitoring SARB cases for compliance. In instances where students continue to face challenges with attendance laws, the department will reach out to inform parents or guardians about the ongoing concerns. The probation department is committed to working collaboratively with families to support their efforts in ensuring that students attend school regularly.

YOBG funds are currently used to co-fund a full-time deputy probation officer assigned to the juvenile division.

Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

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

Mariposa County has established a proactive strategy that addresses the needs of all adjudicated juvenile felony and misdemeanor offenders who are under formal probation or Deferred Entry of Judgment supervision. This approach particularly targets youth involved in violent or serious offenses, drug-related issues, sex offenses, and those requiring mental health support. By prioritizing a comprehensive framework, Mariposa County effectively provides suitable supervision services and community referrals, helping juvenile offenders thrive within their homes and neighborhoods.

To facilitate this, Mariposa County employs the PACT Assessment tool, which helps identify the criminogenic risks and needs of all juvenile offenders. This tool empowers officers to tailor supervision and intervention services more appropriately, ensuring each youth receives the necessary program or service referrals. Importantly, both juvenile offenders and their parents are involved in creating individualized case plans that recognize the unique risks and needs of the youth and their families, promoting the delivery of targeted services.

Collaboration is at the heart of Mariposa County Probation's efforts, with strong partnerships formed with the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office, Health and Human Services Agency, Mariposa County Unified School District, and various community-based organizations. This collaborative spirit allows for the provision of wraparound services tailored to the target population. Additionally, a Juvenile Officer actively participates in community team meetings, including MDT, TDM, CFT, and SARB, to ensure that young offenders receive comprehensive services and support vital for their success.

For youth at risk of placement or detention, the Full-Service Partnership Program (FSP), managed by the Mariposa County Health and Human Services Department, offers vital support, including counseling, mentoring, parental role modeling, and other resources. By focusing on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and intervention services, Mariposa County effectively fosters the success of its youth while keeping them rooted in their home community.

In cases where non-707(b) youthful offenders require incarceration for longer than 96 hours, Mariposa County ensures their safe transport to full-service juvenile detention facilities, with contracts established with two neighboring counties for this purpose.

B. Regional Agreements

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

Mariposa County operates a Special Purpose Juvenile Hall, designed to hold youth in custody for a maximum of 96 hours. Historically, this facility has relied on extra-help or on-call personnel, who are engaged as needed when a youth is detained by law enforcement and brought to the facility. However, with a noticeable decline in juvenile crime over recent years, it has become increasingly challenging to recruit a sufficient number of extra-help employees to adequately cover 24-hour shifts.

To address this challenge, Mariposa County has formed collaborative housing contracts with Madera and Tuolumne Counties. These partnering facilities possess the necessary infrastructure and staffing to deliver essential educational, medical, and mental health services to youth during their detention.

The Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds, when available, may be used to partially support the costs associated with medical, dental, and mental health expenses related to the detention of youth. Furthermore, YOBG funds may also be utilized to partially finance psychiatric or psychological assessments for youth under the care and supervision of the Mariposa County Probation Department.

C. Funded Programs, Placements, Services, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Using the spaces below, describe the programs, placements, services, strategies, and system enhancements to be funded through the YOBG program. Explain how they complement or coordinate with the programs, strategies and system enhancements to be funded through the JJCPA program.

Program Name: Youthful Offender Program (YOP)

Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The Youthful Offender Program represents a thoughtful approach aimed at delivering a suitable level of supervision, services, and referrals for moderate to high-risk youthful offenders. It is worth noting that, in line with national trends, there has been a steady decline in juvenile offender referrals since the mid-2000s, highlighting a constructive shift in our approach to juvenile justice.

Description:

Mariposa County's Youthful Offender Program is a proactive initiative designed to offer comprehensive support and services to moderate to high-risk juvenile offenders. With the recent closure of the Division of Juvenile Justice, there is an opportunity to effectively use YOBG funds to enhance the available resources for these young individuals, aiming to reduce their chances of incarceration.

The program prioritizes preventive measures and seeks to address the underlying issues that lead to delinquent behavior. Funds can be allocated to cover various essential services, including assessments, probation monitoring tools, and transportation, ensuring that youth have access to the support they need.

In cases where confinement in a juvenile hall or Secure Track program is necessary, YOBG funds can also be utilized for the associated costs. By strategically managing these resources, Mariposa County can foster a supportive environment that encourages rehabilitation and reintegration into the community, ultimately benefiting both the youth and the wider community.

Most delinquent referrals received by the department are for low-level or status offenses, which are typically handled informally. What continues to increase is the number of delinquent youth referred who have significant mental health concerns and child welfare histories. This youthful population has become the new target of the YOBG program, by default, and is typically identified as being at a higher risk for out-of-home placement. Psychological assessments have been conducted on youthful offenders with mental health concerns and child welfare histories to address their needs. These assessments aim to gather information that can guide decisions to serve this population better. In many cases, the assessments have revealed significant childhood trauma, leading to the referral of these cases to Child Welfare Services and the dismissal of criminal petitions. Youth who are adjudicated and granted probation receive appropriate supervision, services and referrals as recommended in the evaluations. Although appropriate mental health services for this population are limited locally and statewide, probation officers collaborate with local providers and providers in nearby counties to provide services and referrals that will support the youth in the home of their parent or guardian. Child and Family Team Meetings are frequently utilized to identify family strengths and needs of the targeted population. These meetings help align the appropriate services to meet the needs of the youth and family. The Full-Service Partnership Program through Behavioral Health can provide counseling, mentoring, parental role modeling, and other supportive services.

The department's TIP Program, funded with JJCPA dollars, has been instrumental in identifying the needs of students early. Early intervention contact through this program gets students back in school and connected to appropriate resources for them and their families.

Early interventions and services for truant students reduces their risk of entering the justice system. The collaboration between the Mariposa County Probation Department and Mariposa County Unified School District because of the JJCPA Program has proven to be an asset for both agencies. The school site is often the place where a student's challenges are identified. The professional relationships that have been developed because of the TIP Program have given all probation youth an opportunity to meet their educational goals. Our approach has been effective in addressing youth and familial issues and has reduced the need for detention and out-of-home placement.