



Office of Youth and Community Restoration

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act & Youthful Offender Block Grant (JJCPA-YOBG) FY 2024-2025 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. Please use this template or ensure your submission meets the accessibility standards by reviewing either the Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF checklists published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services website here [Accessibility Conformance Checklists | HHS.gov](#). Your submission will be posted to the OYCR website once it is confirmed to meet the accessibility standards.

Once the report is complete, attach the file to an email and send it to: OYCRgrants@chhs.ca.gov.

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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.

1) Law Enforcement

a) **San Benito County Sheriff's Office**

- i) San Benito County Sheriff's Office Explorer Program: The San Benito County Sheriff's Explorer program offers an opportunity to educate and involve youth in police operations. Through involvement, the Explorer program allows youth to gain a working knowledge of police work, while also serving the community. Explorers are used to help in areas such as crime prevention, traffic control, telecommunications, and community policing projects. Explorers are also afforded an opportunity to participate in a ride-along program.
- ii) Agua Con La Chota: Agua con la Chota, is designed to build and strengthen relationships with large yet underserved demographics of the county's population, to help reduce crime by reducing the fear of reporting crimes to Police/Sheriffs, to encouraging victims to come forward so crimes could be investigated and criminals prosecuted, to help reduce youth violence, and gang involvement by involving the entire family in the process, to provide important public safety and civil rights information and to help reduce fear or discontentment of the government through education and providing resources through community partnerships. This program was started by Watsonville Police Department, Chief Jorge Zamora, and he allowed Sheriff Taylor to use this program in the San Benito County community.

b) **Hollister Police Department**

- i) Hollister Police Department Cadet Program: This program is designed as a mentorship program for youth who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement. As a cadet, participants receive training in areas of the criminal justice system, police patrol procedures, and other related fields.

2) Probation

a) **Diversion Program**

- i) **Juvenile Review Board (JRB):** The Juvenile Review Board provides a community-based diversionary program which promotes accountability for at risk juveniles and presents an opportunity for positive development. JRB provides a community-based mechanism for diverting first time offending

- juveniles from the Juvenile Court system. JRB is a board comprised of local professionals from youth serving organizations who meet weekly to examine juvenile cases and when appropriate, provide creative restitution opportunities or other alternatives which assist youth to understand the impact of their offense. The JRB strives to make informed decisions on each case by taking into consideration each important area of the youth's life, including home, community, and school.
- ii) 654 W&I (Informal supervision up to six months)
 - b) **Juvenile Work Service Program (JWSP):** This program allows youth to complete community service hours as directed by the juvenile court, juvenile review board, and/or probation department. Youth perform community service based on various needs in the county and partner with several organizations and businesses.
 - c) **Cognitive Journaling Group Program:** Evidence based practice program which includes interactive journaling that encourages self-change. Participants will explore the connection between their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, and learn practical strategies for improving their thinking style. This is a 5-6 long week program.
 - d) **Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT):** A systemic treatment strategy that seeks to decrease recidivism among juvenile offenders by increasing moral reasoning. Its cognitive-behavioral approach combines elements from a variety of psychological traditions to progressively address ego, social, moral, and positive behavioral growth.
 - e) **Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP)/Global Positioning System (GPS):** The Electronic Monitoring Program provides an alternative to detention for youth incarcerated at the San Benito County Youth Services Center. This program allows youth to remain in their community, attend their school of origin or remain employed, partake in community-based programming, and provide enhanced supervision for youth pending a hearing in the Juvenile Court or for youth completing a custodial sanction. EMP services include the options for GPS monitoring and alcohol monitoring.
 - f) **Partners Achieving Change Together (PACT) Team:** A wraparound services program for high needs youth that score moderate to high on the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) assessment. The PACT Team's objectives are to enhance youth's educational skills, teach vocational skills, build positive social community ties, help support healthy lifestyle choices, secure safe and stable housing, divert youth from incarceration, enhance community supervision, and address the complex needs of youth and their families (including mental health and substance abuse). This program encompasses a collaborative approach which includes administering appropriate assessments, individualizing treatment plans for youth, and ensuring services are youth and family driven. The PACT

Team wraparound service program focuses on treating the individual needs of the youth, improving their mental health and well-being, assisting them to graduate from high school, gain employment, helping to improve familial relationships and communication, and overall reduce recidivism.

g) **Youth Services Center Programming:**

- i) **Boy's Circle:** Youth participate in a structured support group for boys ages 14-18 years, integrates relational theory, resiliency practices, and skills training in a specific format designed to increase positive connection and personal and collective strengths.
- ii) **Fitness Program:** Youth participate in weekly circuit training workouts instructed by staff. Youth may also watch documentaries on health and fitness, engage in group discussions to gain a clear understanding of individual health goals.
- iii) **Restorative Justice:** Restorative Justice is held in a group setting during school time. It works on creating just and equitable learning environments, works on building and maintaining healthy relationships and healing harm and transforming conflict.
- iv) **Writing Workshop:** This weekly workshop is led by a teacher at San Andreas High School. She focuses on general writing skills to include resume writing and essay building.
- v) **San Benito Arts Council:** The San Benito County Arts Council's Arts in Education Program aims to create first-rate, diverse, and accessible learning opportunities in the arts for all students in San Benito County. Rotating 6-week programs consisting of Poetry Across the Curriculum, Hip Hop Dance, Sculpting, Cartooning, Traditional Art and Collaborative Muralism.
- vi) **Guidance Gardens:** The Guidance Gardening Program, conducted on a daily or weekly basis within the facility, offers justice-involved youth an opportunity to gain practical, hands-on skills in gardening, plant care, landscaping, and project planning. Participants are taught effective gardening techniques, from soil preparation to plant maintenance, while learning to design and manage landscaping projects. In addition to these technical skills, the program emphasizes personal growth and prepares participants for life after detention. Youth are provided with self-advocacy training to build confidence in expressing their needs and making decisions, while also being connected to resources that can assist with their reintegration.
- vii) **American Job Center of California:** Youth will work with providers in the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) program to gain skills they need to become employed.
- viii) **Dr. Jennifer D., Clinical Psychologist:** The clinician provides psychological evaluations and both individual and family therapy to justice-involved youth at high risk for recidivism. She works with youth in custody and in the community throughout their probation, ensuring continuity of care. She connects clients with community services, including educational, psychiatric, and medical support. She also supervises bilingual master's-level therapists who offer individual, family, and group therapy at the youth services center. Her work

- with the PACT team focuses on minimizing treatment gaps and ensuring timely access to services.
- ix) **WellPath Mental Health Therapy- Marriage, Family Therapist (MFT):** WellPath provides weekly mental health services to youth, including individual counseling, crisis support, and regular check-ins. These services help support emotional well-being, track progress, and make sure each youth gets the care they need in a safe and supportive setting
 - x) **Sacred Rok:** Sacred Rok takes youth out of the facility into nature on day trips and overnight trips. This program supports youth in nature helping youth to learn to respect nature and through that, to respect themselves.
 - xi) **Life Skills Program:** Youth will learn and understand how to get a job/job applications/budgeting/goal setting and school and/or career interest.
 - xii) **Higher Aspirations, Gavilan College:** The mission of the program is to support students affected by incarceration to achieve their Higher Aspirations. The program is designed to help formerly incarcerated youth, with the support of a Peer Mentor, with achieving their goals and to support their desire to achieve higher learning and leadership and become an inspiration to your family, friends, and the community. Students who participate will also be eligible to receive incentives like food cards, technology, gas cards and bookstore vouchers.
 - xiii) **Prison Education Project:** In collaboration with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the Education Project provides academic courses, life skills training, and creative enrichment to support personal growth and transformation. The goal is to create a “Pathway to Higher Education,” giving participants the tools to become engaged, productive members of society. The initiative leverages nearby colleges, most facilities are within 30 miles of one, to build strong community partnerships. This multi-layered approach promotes rehabilitation, reduces recidivism, supports human development, and empowers individuals to contribute to California’s civic and economic life.

3) **Education**

- a) Student Attendance Review Board (SARB)
- b) School Districts
 - i) Aromas/San Juan Unified School District (K-12)
 - ii) Bitterwater-Tully Union School District
 - iii) Cienega Union School District
 - iv) Hollister School District
 - v) Jefferson School District
 - vi) North County Joint Union School District
 - vii) Panoche School District
 - viii) San Benito High School District (9-12, Night School)
 - ix) Southside School District
 - x) Tres Pinos School District
 - xi) Willow Grove School District
 - xii) San Benito County Office of Education

4) Mental Health

- a) San Benito County Behavioral Health: Mental health intake, treatment plan development, individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, Intensive Care Coordination (ICC)/ Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS) services, Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment (EPSDT) services, crisis support, residential services, etc.
 - i) Full-Service Partnership (FSP)
 - ii) Full-Service Partnership Transitional Age Youth (FSP TAY)
 - iii) Integrated Behavioral Health Services (IBHS)
 - iv) Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS): TBS is an intensive, short-term mental health service available to children and youth who have serious emotional problems and are at risk of out-of-home placement. TBS is available to individuals under 21 who have full-scope Medi-Cal.
 - v) Crisis Intervention: 24-hour response services to help resolve crisis situations.
 - vi) Case Management Services: Clients are linked to needed medical, educational, social, vocational, rehabilitative, and other community services as needed.

5) Public Health & Social Services

- a) San Benito County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA): Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC), In-Home Supportive services, Public Health, Community Work Force Development, Resource Family Approval Foster Parent Program, Child Protective Services (CPS)
- b) Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of San Benito County: Our program provides a trained advocate to foster children appointed by the courts. Advocates report findings, make recommendations, and speak up for children directly to the Judge in dependency proceedings to ensure their emotional, physical, and educational needs are met during their time in the foster care system.

6) Drug and Alcohol

- a) **San Benito County Behavioral Health:** American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), substance abuse assessment, prevention programs such as Friday Night Live, co-occurring groups at juvenile hall for youth, and substance abuse treatment groups within the local high schools/alternative school sites.
 - i) Drug Court Program
 - ii) Outpatient Counseling Services: Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) services are available for children and youth who have full-scope Medi-Cal.
- b) **Youth Recovery Connections:** Youth Recovery Connections is a non-profit organization offering intervention, prevention, and services for those suffering from opioid and other substance use disorders. Youth Recovery Connections offers an individualized and evidence-based approach provided in a safe, caring, and supportive environment. Their main focus is to promote recovery and

wellness through healthy and productive lifestyles changes while using a whole person approach to care.

- i) Prevention & Intervention
- ii) 24-hour crisis hotline / Overdose response

- c) **New Hope for Youth:** New Hope for Youth is dedicated to serving and reaching out to young individuals facing adversity and those at risk, along with their families and the community. Our services include educational programs, individual and family care, and resources that promote a healthy, positive, and productive lifestyle.
- d) **San Benito County Opioid Task Force:** We are a local community opioid safety coalition committed to preventing opioid overdoses and deaths in San Benito County through prevention efforts such as safe prescribing, safe medicine disposal, medication assisted treatment (MAT), naloxone training and distribution, and outreach.

7) **Other Youth Services Resources (community-based organizations)**

- a) Youth Alliance (YA)
 - i) **Guiding & Understanding Individuals in Achieving Success (GUIAS):** A strength-based group approach program to promote young men and young women's positive character development to meet the specific needs of the community. GUIAS is based at the following schools: San Benito High School, Rancho San Justo Middle School, and Marguerite Maze Middle School. It is a comprehensive youth character development program that supports and guides young people. It is based on the philosophy that youth need other adults, their family, and community to care for, assist, heal, guide, and successfully prepare them for adulthood. The rites of passage program promote healthy peer relationships, build self-esteem, build social skills, and prepare each student to achieve success and is a Mental Health Services Act funded PEI project. The curriculum used includes El Joven Noble (Noble Youth), Xinachtli (female), Life Skills, Girl's Circle & The Council for Boys and Young Men, which are a comprehensive youth leadership development program that support and guide young men and young women through their "rites of passage" process while focusing on positive behavior choices and school success.
 - ii) **Organizing Leaders to Learn, Inform, and Nurture (OLLIN):** Ollin supports and guides youth while focusing on positive behaviors, positive choices, and school success. This year-round strength-based program emphasizes the prevention of substance use, positive character development, and leadership. Ollin's purpose is to raise awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol and to foster healthy living in order to increase youths' mobility and creativity. This allows the youth to become agents for change in their own lives and communities.
 - iii) **The Youth Empowerment Project:** Youth Leadership Development to middle school and high school groups, which raises community, cultural, and current

- events awareness. Involved youth implement evidence-based community-building models to train youth in participatory action research. The students research the issues their communities are facing and develop an action plan to help bring about positive change.
- iv) **Guidance And Navigation to Achieve Success (GANAS):** A culturally rooted and strength-based program that works with youth transitioning from incarceration and custody to adulthood. Youth are welcomed into a non-judgmental space to receive mentorship, guidance, and support, including intensive case management, Child and Family Team meetings (CFT), referrals to supportive counseling or treatment, family meetings, and advocacy. Positive Youth Development including educational support groups (with curriculum from El Joven Noble, Xinachtli, Ollin, Life Skills), Restorative Justice Circles, and resources that support self-determination and empowerment. Community Building activities to support belonging and kinship to further connect with their community.
 - v) **Fathers And Mothers Learning and Achieving (FAMILiA):** A culturally and developmentally appropriate program serving pregnant or parenting adolescents (ages 14-21). The program supports young mothers and fathers, so they complete high school or their educational goals, increase their parenting skills, maintain their family size, and give a healthy start to their infants and toddlers.
 - vi) **The Parent Project:** A nationally recognized, evidence-based parenting skills workshop for the parents of adolescents. Workshop curriculum is focused on changing destructive adolescent behavior and increasing positive family experiences. The Parent Project workshop addresses truancy, school performance, social media, substance use, violence, establishing rules and ways to reconnect and show love. Parents can share real concerns and learn from other families' experiences within a safe space. Support after sessions are offered for in depth skill development to address particular needs.
- b) **First 5 of San Benito**
- i) **Promoting First Relationships:** Supportive environment to strengthen the ability to understand a baby's cues and responses. Parents or "alloparents" (which includes foster parents, grandparents, or caregivers), strengthen their attachment and attunement to infants during the sensitive perinatal period. Sessions will focus on breastfeeding, routines, talking, reading, singing, and gentle sleeping.
 - ii) **Power of Play Program (P.O.P.):** Learn effective ways to engage your child with fun and safe activities. Open to families with children birth to two years of age.
 - iii) **Wonders of the World Program (W.O.W.):** This program provides a place that's fun, imaginative, and filled with wonder. A place to be healthy, happy role models for our children. A place for parents to meet other parents while nurturing our minds, spirits, and bodies.
 - iv) **Parents as Teachers:** Parents as Teachers envision that all children will grow and develop to reach their full potential. Through Parents as Teachers,

- individuals will partner with a parent educator focused on your child's healthy growth and development. Your parent educator will personalize information to fit with your family's needs, concerns, and hopes. Together you will discuss goals for you as a parent and for your child. You will build on your strengths and skills.
- v) **Mis Historias:** Parents learn new vocabulary in Spanish and English, and how to observe their young child and write about them and will conclude the six-week course with a handmade book about their infant / toddler.
 - vi) **Raising a Reader:** Raising A Reader's mission is to engage caregivers in a routine of book sharing with their children from birth through age eight to foster healthy brain development, healthy relationships, a love of reading, and the literacy skills critical for school success.
 - vii) **Strengthening Families Program:** The Strengthening Families Program (SFP) is a nationally and internationally recognized parenting and family strengthening program for high-risk and general population families. SFP is an evidence-based family skills training program found to significantly improve parenting skills and family relationships, reduce problem behaviors, delinquency and alcohol and drug abuse in children and to improve social competencies and school performance. Child maltreatment also decreases as parents strengthen bonds with their children and learn more effective parenting skills.
 - viii) **A Road Map to Kindergarten:** This program offers education and resources specifically designed to help support a child's school readiness and transition to kindergarten.
 - ix) **Family Fun Fridays:** This program offers an opportunity to learn how to use positive discipline to create more respectful, peaceful home environments, and support our community with curricula based on mutual respect.
- c) **Community Solutions:** As needed counseling for youth that are victims or struggling with mental health issues, domestic violence, or sexual/ physical assault.
- i) **Solutions to Violence (Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence)**
 - (1) Counseling (individual, group and/or family)
 - (2) Crisis intervention and 24-hour crisis line
 - (3) Case management
 - (4) Legal Advocacy
 - (5) Emergency safe housing/temporary shelter
 - (6) Advocacy for clients with outside agencies
 - (7) Accompaniment medical, legal and/or court appointments
 - (8) Community prevention education training
 - ii) **Anti-Human Trafficking Crisis**
 - (1) 24-hour crisis hotline-crisis intervention
 - (2) Safety Planning and Confidential Shelter
 - (3) Counseling (individual, group and/or family)
 - (4) Goal planning
 - (5) Legal advocacy

- (6) Transportation and accompaniment to social services, legal and/or court appointments.
- (7) Referral and linkage to additional services and resources
- (8) Community prevention education training
- iii) Criminal Justice:
 - (1) Counseling for youth
 - (2) Coordination of support services
 - (3) Family counseling
 - (4) Parenting classes
 - (5) Medication support

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

The San Benito County Probation Department partners with a number of agencies and organizations to support the integration of services using a trauma-informed care and strength-based approach. In working with youth and their families, a multi-agency and community-based approach has been implemented amongst the following stakeholders, including but not limited to local law enforcement, office of education, local schools, social services including public health and child welfare, probation, behavioral health, the Superior Court, and local community-based organizations.

This collaborative approach is further developed and facilitated through the various following meetings: Child Family Team (CFT), Inter-Agency Review Placement Committee (IRPC), Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CICC), Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) and JJCC Subcommittee, School-Law Partnership, Student Attendance Review Board (SARB), School Transition/Reentry, the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP), the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC), the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Crime Prevention Commission, Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Committee, Partners Achieving Change Together (PACT) team meetings, Family Finding Prevention Services (FFPS) meetings, Law Leadership meetings, and Superior Court agency collaborative meetings. All these meetings occur on either a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or quarterly basis.

These meetings are conducive to resource sharing, case staffing, event planning, and overall coordination of services provided for youth and families. In each of these meetings, collaborative partners identify barriers and assist in the development of case plan objectives for youth and their families to be successful in the community. Probation has representation in each of these ongoing meeting collaborations.

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.

According to the US Census Bureau, San Benito County's population as of July 1, 2024, was estimated at 69,159. Of this population, 62.5% are identified as Hispanic or Latino, 28.9% identify as Caucasian (White alone, non-Hispanic), 5.8% identify as Asian alone, 3.1% identify as American Indian and Alaska Native alone, and 1.9% identify as African American. Of the sixty-nine (69) thousand people living in San Benito County, 25% are under the age of 18 and reflect our youth. Additionally, the median household income from (2019-2023) was \$108,289.00 and the percentage of those in poverty within San Benito County was 9.1% of the population.

San Benito County is generally considered a rural and agricultural county and is a bedroom community for the Bay Area. The influx of people from the Silicon Valley, Bay Area, and Central Coast has caused an increase in population of all ages. The population of youth in the community is a priority as are educational resources. All San Benito County schools are impacted, and one focal point is the safety, education, and wellbeing of the youth. US Census Bureau reflects that 83.2% of the population in San Benito County have graduated from high school for all persons aged 25 and up (2019-2023). The percentage of persons aged 25 and up that have attained their bachelor's degree or higher education is 22.4%.

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.

San Benito County's juvenile justice action strategy includes the following, as listed from least to most restrictive:

- I. Diversion Programs: These programs are aimed at first time offending, low risk, non-violent offending youth that are diverted from the juvenile court system.
 - a. Juvenile Review Board (JRB) - The purpose of the JRB is to provide a community-based mechanism for diverting appropriate juvenile cases from the juvenile court system. That mechanism is

a board comprised of local professionals from youth serving organizations who meet weekly to examine juvenile cases and when appropriate, provide creative restitution opportunities or other alternatives which assist youth to understand the impact of their offense. The JRB strives to make informed decisions on each case by taking into consideration each important area of the youth's life, including home, community, and school.

b. Counsel and close

II. Informal Probation:

- a. 654 W&I informal probation contract (range 2-6 months): Services may include apology letters, community service hours, service referrals for behavioral health treatment, curfew, counseling, programming, cognitive journaling, and/or restitution.
- b. 654.2 W&I Court ordered informal probation (6 months): low level court ordered informal probation may include the following services: apology letters, community service hours, service referrals for behavioral health treatment, curfew, counseling, programming, cognitive journaling, restitution, limited chemical testing, parenting classes, etc.

III. Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJP) - felony cases, non 707(b) offenses, Positive Achievement for Change (PACT) risk/needs assessments to target criminogenic needs, case planning, Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP), etc.

IV. Probation Non-Wardship (725(a) W&I): misdemeanor or felony cases placed on a period of non-wardship probation not to exceed six months. Youth will be assessed by the Positive Achievement for Change (PACT) risk/needs assessment to target criminogenic needs, case plans completed, and the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) may be utilized.

- V. Probation Wardship (725(b) W&I): adjudged Wards of the Court, Positive Achievement for Change (PACT) risk/needs assessments to target criminogenic needs, case planning, Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) or Global Positioning System (GPS) monitoring, etc.
- a. Low/Moderate Supervision: low to moderate offending youth, not at imminent risk for removal from their home (non-Title IV-E cases)
 - b. High Risk Supervision: moderate to high-risk offending youth ages 13 and up.
 - i. Juvenile Work Service Program (JWSP) - community service program
 - ii. Interactive Cognitive Journaling
 - iii. Field supervision
 - iv. Child Family Team (CFT) Meetings and school reentry meetings
 - v. Transportation to and from school as needed

- vi. Interagency Review & Placement Committee (IRPC) referral
- c. Placement: youth removed from their homes, placed with family (RFA), Foster Family Agencies (FFA), and/or Short-Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP's), non-minor dependents (NMD's)
- d. 707(b) W&I Offending Youth
 - i. Partners Achieving Change Together (PACT): Wraparound Services Team

VI. San Benito County Youth Services Center: The San Benito County Youth Services Center is the primary community resource for justice involved youth. It is part of a system of care that provides a safe, protective, and home-like environment while fostering responsible and accountable behavior for youth through a trauma informed lens. Our purpose is to promote resiliency while strengthening community connections.

- a. Secure Youth Treatment Facilities (SYTF)
 - i. Juvenile Justice Realignment pursuant to Senate Bill 823: Youth formerly sent to the Division of Juvenile Justice will now be housed in county facilities.

D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

Describe how your Plan has been updated for this year:

The plan has been updated this year to include updated statistical information on San Benito County from the U.S. Census Bureau. A thorough review of available programs, placements, and services was conducted for each county department and community-based organization located in San Benito County. Programs and services have been updated to provide a more detailed description for what is offered for youth and families in San Benito County.

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

N/A

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

A. Information Sharing and Data

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

San Benito County Probation attends multi-agency team meetings which are held between the various service providers monthly or more frequently when needed at San Benito County Behavioral Health (SBCBH). The Interagency Review and Placement Committee (IRPC) meetings are facilitated by SBCBH staff. These meetings discuss at-risk youth in the community and IRPC members sign a consent for release of information to allow for open communication and collaboration. IRPC meetings are on an as needed basis in which various information is shared and discussed. This information includes, but is not limited to a youth's: family dynamics, educational history and goals, substance use history, past and present counseling services, programming, at-risk for placement discussions, employment goals, barriers to case plan goals and objectives, etc.

The probation department utilizes Corrections Software Solutions (CSS) as its case management system for sharing information and data on probation youth. Probation continues to review and implement policy and procedures for staff to reference when using the CSS case management system. Probation has previously collaborated with CSS to develop reports that are conducive to information shared in collaborative meetings. Some of the data obtained reflects the following: number of youths served on probation, risk assessment levels of youth, programming and treatment needs for youth, number of youths in foster care placement, and number of 707(b) W&I offending youth.

The probation department will be implementing a new case management system through Journal Technologies Incorporated, called 'eProbation'. It is anticipated that the "go-live" will occur before the end of calendar year 2025. This case management system will integrate with the San Benito County Superior Court's case management system, eCourt. Probation has completed a gap analysis between the current case management system and the new system and is in the process of analyzing the historical data contained within CSS. Probation is in the process of data conversion of the legacy data. The department meets on a regular basis to ensure project timelines are completed. Once the new case management system goes live, there will be a public portal available to our partnering agencies to view information in the system as needed. This will increase collaboration and communication between the probation department and other local agencies.

Additionally, probation has collaborated with San Benito County Behavioral Health (SBCBH), Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), the California Forensics Medical Group (CFMG), and the San Benito County Sheriff's Office to develop a Data Sharing agreement in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding. This MOU will align with CalAIM requirements for data sharing and agency collaboration.

B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils:

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain what vacancies exist on your JJCC, when those vacancies began, and your plan for filling them:

C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Using the templates below, provide details for each program, strategy, and/or system enhancement that will be funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), identifying any program that is co-funded with Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds.

To include multiple programs, copy and paste the template fields "1. Program Name," "2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based," and "3. Description" as many times as necessary.

JJCPA Funded Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement

This template should be copied as many times as needed to capture every program, strategy, and system enhancement you plan to fund next year.

1. Program Name: Partners Achieving Change Together (PACT)

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: Youth are evaluated through a validated risk assessment, the Positive Achievement for Change Tool and when assessed as moderate or high-risk to reoffend in the community are placed on the PACT team. Assessment data reflects that these youth experience the highest need for mental health treatment and reported higher rates of suicidal ideation. As such, the probation officer assigned to oversee youth that fall under this program is responsible for providing service referrals geared to helping both the youth and their family. The probation officer assigned to PACT collaborates with a licensed clinician and family advocate to provide wraparound services. Probation Officers utilize evidence-based cognitive journals provided by the Change Company to assist youth in several areas. Motivational Interviewing techniques are applied in case management services to assist youth in making positive changes that affect their future. Through intensive supervision, thorough case management, and a trauma-informed care approach, youth are referred to other community-based programs, classes, and services.

3. Description: Funds provided are used to support the salary and benefits of a deputy probation officer for the Partners Achieving Change Together (PACT) program. The mission of this wraparound service team is to provide youth and their families support and services through a collaborative effort and tailoring services to each individual youth. The PACT team will work with moderate to high-risk youth that have complex needs to ensure they have access to appropriate services and supports. The team will strive to reintegrate youth back into society and thrive within their community. The team will collaborate with those relevant in the youth's life to develop goals, build natural supports, and overcome challenges or barriers. Through family engagement, determination, and coordination of services, the vision of the team is to build a foundation for a better life.

The PACT Team will encompass the following members:

- Deputy Probation Officer: supervises moderate to high risk / high need youth.
- Clinician (mental health and substance use treatment services)
- Family Advocate: community-based organization member local to the SBC community that is a liaison for the youth's family/parents/guardians/caregivers.

Associated/contributing members to the PACT Team may include:

- Substance Abuse Counselor
- School counselor/teacher or Student Support Services Manager
- Individualized Education Plan (IEP)/Special Education (SPED) Coordinator
- Educational Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) counselor
- Social Worker (SW)
- Juvenile Institutions Officer (JIO)/ YSC Staff
- Community Solutions Advocate
- Reentry Case Manager
- Child & Family Team (CFT) facilitator
- Public Health Nurse (PHN)
- Wellpath/MediKO nurse/staff

The PACT Team will convene bi-weekly for meetings at the probation department and/or YSC based on the needs of the youth and their family. At these meetings, the following may be reviewed or addressed:

- Updated school records (grades, behavior or discipline, attendance, and I.E.P. or 504 plans)
- Progress report / meeting notes (probation aide or intern)
- Program attendance and participation updates
- Treatment updates for mental health and substance use services
- Review of assessment(s) and case plan objectives
- Complete Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) referrals as needed
- Referrals and linkage to community resources
- Scheduling of meetings or CFT's
- Court orders compliance updates (community service, curfew, testing, etc.)
- Victim services as needed (i.e., CSEC youth, DV victims, etc.)
- Parenting class referrals or parenting education groups by the family advocate
- Follow-up after court proceedings, meetings, appointment(s) for the youth and family
- Updated information on parents' concerns, barriers, successes, self-care, etc.

The PACT Team may address the following, including but not limited to:

- Complex needs of youth and their families (complex trauma)
- Youth engagement and participation in services
- Decreased substance use
- Improving communication in families, specifically between youth and their parents/legal guardians/caregivers
- Promoting positive social relationships for the youth and their family
- Providing support for youth to make healthy choices in the community

- Helping the youth and their family's perception of services provided be positive and productive
- Diverting siblings from delinquent involvement with the justice system
- Diverting youth from incarceration for technical violations
- Assisting in reentry and transition from incarceration to community supervision
- Improving mental health and physical wellbeing of the youth
- Assist youth and families to access necessary medical services (i.e., medical, and dental check-ups, vision screening, hearing screening, shots, medication, etc.)
- Providing life skills training to prepare for independent living
- Assisting with the completion of high school curriculum or GED (educational skills)
- Assisting with obtaining and maintaining employment
- Assisting with further advanced education, trade school, vocational training, etc.
- Assisting in obtaining secure and stable housing
- Linkage to community resources based on individual needs of the youth and family
- Reducing recidivism

The PACT Team may complete the following risk/needs assessments as needed for each youth:

- Positive Achievement for Change Tool (PACT) assessment
- Mental Health & Substance Use Assessments
- Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Questionnaire
- CSE-IT Commercial Sexual Exploitation - Identification Tool (CSEC assessment)
- CANS – Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment
- Psychological evaluations

- Static-99R – Actuarial Assessment Instrument for Adult Male Sexual Offenders (for youth aged 18 and older)
- Static Risk Assessment (SRA)/Offender Needs Assessment (ONA) for youth 18 and older

The PACT Team will complete a Treatment/Case Plan:

- Individualized with youth and family
- Using a trauma-informed and culturally responsive approach

Service delivery of the PACT Team will be:

- Youth and family driven
- Culturally relevant and responsive
- Trauma informed
- Strength-based
- Solution-focused
- Data-driven and evidence-based
- Modeled after wraparound community services

1. Program Name: Moderate to High-Risk Supervision

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: Youth are evaluated through a validated risk assessment, the Positive Achievement for Change Tool. The assessment results identify the top criminogenic needs that are to be addressed in the case plan. The probation officer assigned to oversee youth that fall under this program is responsible for providing service referrals geared to helping both the youth and their family. Program referrals may include the following: New Hope for Youth, Youth Recovery Connections, SBCBH, Youth Alliance, Life Project and Higher Aspirations through Gavilan College., and/or Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT). Probation Officers utilize evidence-based cognitive journals provided by the Change Company to assist youth in several areas. Motivational Interviewing techniques are applied in case management services to assist youth in making positive changes that affect their future.

3. Description: This is a family-focused caseload that emphasizes matching the entire family to local resources. The program assists the family by providing parenting education, support, and addresses the youth's barriers towards positive change. This caseload accounts for youth that are at imminent risk for removal from their home and Child Family Team (CFT) meetings are regularly held for this caseload. In addition, youth are immersed in valuable community-based programs and activities at a level that facilitates competency development.

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

A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

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

Non-707(b) offending youth will remain under the jurisdiction of the San Benito County Juvenile Court and/or the San Benito County Probation Department. San Benito County Probation collaborates with community-based organizations and county partners to provide case management, individualized treatment, and referrals for service for the following: interactive journaling, group counseling, family counseling, parenting education, substance disorder treatment, mental health counseling, and other programs designed to address trauma, cultural appropriations, and any other identified needs or barriers to success.

Youth newly entering the juvenile justice system will undergo a risk assessment to determine their risk level of recidivism and identify their needs and strengths. The criminogenic needs outlined in the assessment tool then help probation officers to develop goals and interventions in a case plan with the youth and their family. All youth are processed through our juvenile intake and youth scoring a moderate to high-risk score will be investigated further to develop a case plan for treatment and services. These youth may be subjected to our Juvenile Review Board, Informal probation through 654 or 654.2 W&I, or their case may be referred to the district attorney's office for prosecution and possible deferred entry of judgment, non-wardship probation, or wardship probation.

B. Regional Agreements

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

None.

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

Using the templates below, provide details for each program, strategy, and/or system enhancement that will be funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), identifying any program that is co-funded with Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds.

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

This template should be copied as many times as needed to capture every program, placement, service, strategy, and system enhancement you plan to fund next year.

1. Program Name: Juvenile Review Board (JRB)

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: The Juvenile Review Board provides a community-based diversion program which promotes accountability for at risk-youth and presents an opportunity for positive development. JRB provides a community-based mechanism for diverting appropriate juvenile cases from the Juvenile Court system. That mechanism is a board comprised of local professionals from youth serving organizations who meet weekly to examine juvenile cases and when appropriate, provide creative restitution opportunities or other alternatives which assists youth to understand the impact of their offense. The JRB strives to make informed decisions on each case by taking into consideration each important area of the youth's life, including home, community, and school.

3. Description: Youth referred to the San Benito County Probation Department will undergo an assessment to determine their risk level. San Benito County Probation presently utilizes the Positive Achievement for Change Tool (PACT) and youth scoring low on the PACT risk assessment may be referred to the Juvenile Review Board (JRB). JRB members meet with youth and engage in discussions with the minors and their families to address issues that resulted in their citation or arrest. They will respond to identified needs through referrals to services and utilize compliance incentives or accountability techniques that include giving back to the community (i.e., community service) and goal setting. After a youth successfully completes requirements imposed by JRB, their case is closed and their record is ordered sealed immediately, therefore their case is not held before the juvenile court, and they are not further entrenched in the juvenile delinquency system. JRB has proven to be a successful diversion program and has reduced the number of youth that are adjudged Wards of the Court and/or placed on intensive supervision.

1. Program Name: Juvenile Work Service Program (JWSP)

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: Youth that fall under the moderate to high-risk caseload are also referred to the Juvenile Work Service Program to complete community service hours as directed by the juvenile court, Juvenile Review Board (JRB), and/or the probation department.

3. Description: JWSP is overseen by a probation aide and consists of opportunities for youth to perform essential volunteer work that focuses on the various county needs. Youth supervised by a probation aide are mentored through the process of giving back to their community. Through JWSP, the probation department partners with the San Benito County Veteran's Hall, the San Benito County Community Food Bank, the San Benito County Historical Park, and Bolado Park, to name a few, and provide volunteer work. Youth are required to write reflections focusing on the daily events of the volunteer work they provided, the lessons or takeaways of the work provided, as well as outlining their future goals and aspirations. This program supports our effort to provide preventative and intervention services to youth in San Benito County.

1. Program Name: New Hope for Youth

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: Youth that fall under the moderate to high-risk caseload will be referred to New Hope for Youth in which probation will partner with to serve at-risk youth. The services provided help support probation supervision through parent education, support services, mentoring, community service projects, pro-social-recreation, conflict mediation, case management, and intervention and outreach services for youth.

3. Description: New Hope for Youth is dedicated to serving and reaching out to young individuals facing adversity and those at risk, along with their families and the community. Our services include educational programs, individual and family care, and resources that promote a healthy, positive, and productive lifestyle.

Probation has contracted with New Hope for Youth to provide the following Community Support Services:

Youth intervention services: Provide personal coaching, assistance with achieving personal/social/educational/vocational goals and securing needed services and opportunities.

Parent Education and Support Services: Empower parents with the information and tools to identify signs of risky behaviors and involvement in negative activities among their children or youth. Offer guidance and support to parents in redirecting their children's behaviors through coaching and assistance.

Intervention Outreach and Diversion Services: Engage with youth facing high-risk circumstances and provide support to those involved in negative activities within the community. Assist individuals who express a willingness to leave harmful lifestyles and provide emergency aid, crisis response, and conflict mediation services to prevent the escalation of violence associated with street activities.

1. Program Name: Serv Safe

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: Youth that are incarcerated have the ability to participate in the Serv Safe program. Upon completion, the youth have the opportunity to utilize the certification within the community by applying for job opportunities. Through employment, youth are able to reintegrate and become contributing members of the community.

3. Description: The ServSafe Food Handler program is comprehensive and provides training on the following intended learning outcomes: basic food safety, personal hygiene, cross-contamination and allergens, time and temperature, and cleaning and sanitation. Youth referred to this program must complete each of these sections before the assessment is made available. This program allows incarcerated youth to become certified food handlers. This certificate can be used when youth reintegrate into the community and are looking to obtain employment. The program prepares youth and gives them an opportunity to work in the food industry. The goal of the program is to promote self-sufficiency, increase self-esteem, and aide youth with obtaining employable skills while incarcerated. This goal is achieved for youth when they become certified and learn basic food safety practices for preparing and serving food.

1. Program Name: The Recycling Project

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: The probation officer, funded by JJCPA, will refer youth to participate in this project. The project allows for the youth to network in the community and learn the value of recycling. The services provide additional opportunities for community work service hours to be completed as ordered by the court.

3. Description: The Recycling Project overseen by the San Benito County Probation Department, incentivizes recycling by turning funds from recyclables into unforgettable memories for our underserved youth. The project calls for San Benito County, City of Hollister, and San Juan Bautista Departments to collect bottles and cans so that the youth can redeem these recyclables and use the funds toward field trips and experiences. In the process, they learn about the importance of recycling and playing a part in keeping their environment and community sustainable and clean. Project funds are used for special events and field trips outside of San Benito County. Many of the youth served have never been outside San Benito County. The opportunities provided by the program are impactful because many come from underserved, low-income households.

1. Program Name: Sacred Rok

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: Youth under the supervision of the probation department that have been assessed as moderate to high-risk to reoffend in the community may be referred to Sacred Rok. In lieu of youth completing community work service hours, they will have the opportunity to experience non-urban environments.

3. Description: Sacred Rok provides day and overnight camping trips for Probation and Diversion youth to experience nature and the wilderness. Activities include nature hikes each day, daily reflections, and a rock-climbing demonstration. Youth will conduct hiking trips at local National Parks, Pinnacles and Yosemite. Youth who participate in this program may visit Tuolumne Meadows and Soda Springs, hike up the back of Lembert Dome, walk by Pothole Dome to the river, hike to Cathedral Lakes, and attend naturalist talks at the campfire. After the hike, youth are encouraged to write a reflective essay of their experience. This is an incentive-based program for youth that promotes pro-social outdoor experiences designed to enhance a youth's appreciation for nature and how they fit into the world.

1. Program Name: Guidance Gardens, LLC

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based: Guidance Gardens, with the assistance of program participants, will beautify the garden at the Youth Services Center. We will work with Participants on construction tasks such as preparing materials, ensuring a safe work site, and solving drainage and erosion issues.

Classroom settings for the program will include social-emotional circle processes that have proven effective in other garden programs with justice involved populations.

3. Description: Each week we will hold a gardening course consisting of 1 hour of indoor instruction

with 1 hour of instruction in the garden where we teach participants different ways to be self-sufficient, resourceful gardeners. Some techniques we will share include how to support young plants, how to properly fertilize plants, and manage garden pests. We will cover important environmental topics such as composting, healthy soils, and waste reduction practices in the garden. We will assist them in growing a successful garden to ensure access to enough organic foods to meet dietary needs for a productive and healthy life as well as to gain the skills they need to care for plants in a nursery/landscaping setting.

Project goals:

1. Build gardening skills.
2. Promoting behavioral change and personal transformation through emotional process work.
3. Planning for reentry to society, including opportunities to continue engagement in environmental stewardship Guidance.

Activity:

Facilitate gardening class 1 day per week for 8 consecutive weeks with a 2-week break in between 8-week cycles.

