

2025

LASSEN COUNTY PROBATION

MULTI-AGENCY

JUVENILE JUSTICE PLAN



The Probation Department receives state funds to support juvenile justice initiatives aimed at reducing youth involvement in the justice system. These funds are administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), which requires counties to develop an annual plan and track key outcome data. Additionally, each county must convene a Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council to collaborate on strategies that prevent delinquency and promote positive opportunities for youth.

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

JJCPA was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 as a stable funding source for local juvenile justice issues and youth at risk of entering the delinquency system. In 2000, the Probation Department secured these funds by establishing the Truancy Reduction Program and Mobile Treatment Services, aimed at addressing youth needs through early intervention and accessible support.

Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

The Youthful Offender Block Grant was enacted in 2007 through Senate Bill 81 and shifted control of non-violent, non-serious, non-sexual juvenile offenders from state to local jurisdictions and precluded commitments to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) for crimes not listed in section 707(b) of the Welfare and Institution Code (WIC). YOBG provides funding for the new responsibilities for the Probation Department.

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)

The JJCPA grant created the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council outlined in section 749.22 of the Welfare and Institution Code. The council is required to develop a comprehensive multi-agency plan identifying strategies and resources for prevention, intervention, supervision and treatment of juvenile offenders. The plan must include an assessment of existing resources and services, identification of areas with higher concentration of juvenile crime, strategies to address juvenile crime and descriptions of funded programs. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council includes the Chief Probation Officer acting as the chair, one representative from the district attorney's office, the public defender's office, the sheriff's department, the board of supervisors, the department of social services, the department of mental health, drug and alcohol program, city police department, county office of education and an at-large community representative.

Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

The passage of Senate Bill 823 led to the closure of DJJ on June 30, 2023, with intakes into DJJ facilities ending on June 30, 2021. As a result, the closure of DJJ will create the need to provide intensive services that were designed to reduce criminally sophisticated behavior to youth who commit serious or violent felonies as outlined in 707(b) of the Welfare and Institution Code.

Youth charged with these offenses are more likely to progress deeper into the juvenile justice system due to higher recidivism rates. The Stronger Families Program operates in alignment with the intent of the passing of California Senate Bill 823, which supports Juvenile Justice Realignment efforts. The program is designed to encourage both youth and caretaker(s) participation in anger management, emotional management, family wellness, relationship management and codependency services. The program measures the increased positive interactions within the core family or support system, reduction in violations of probation, decreased incarceration rates and length of time incarcerated.

Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan

The Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan outlines Lassen County Probation Department's service needs, priorities, and strategies for addressing juvenile justice issues. This plan provides a comprehensive

assessment of existing services, identifies key focus areas, and details action strategies aimed at reducing juvenile crime and improving outcomes for youth.

In addition, this report highlights the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) and the Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG), which support evidence-based programs, system enhancements, and targeted interventions for at-risk youth.

Lassen County Probation has submitted an annual plan to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to sustain and enhance critical programs, including mobile probation and truancy reduction services in our local and outlying areas. These initiatives have been instrumental in connecting juveniles and families with services designed to prevent deeper involvement in the justice system.

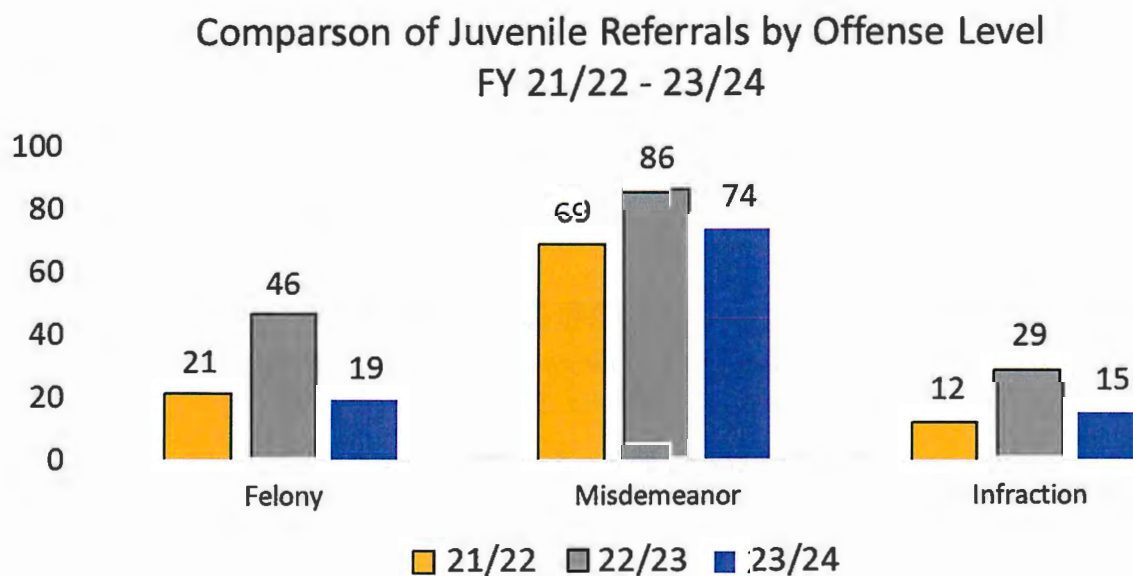
This report addresses:

1. **Assessment of Services:** Evaluating the effectiveness of existing resources for youth and families.
2. **Identification of Focus Areas:** Prioritizing areas with heightened public safety concerns related to juvenile crime.
3. **Juvenile Justice Action Strategy:** Implementing data-driven strategies to reduce juvenile crime, prevent out-of-home placements, and enhance community-based interventions.

By addressing these areas, Lassen County aims to create a more effective, responsive, and prevention-focused juvenile justice system.

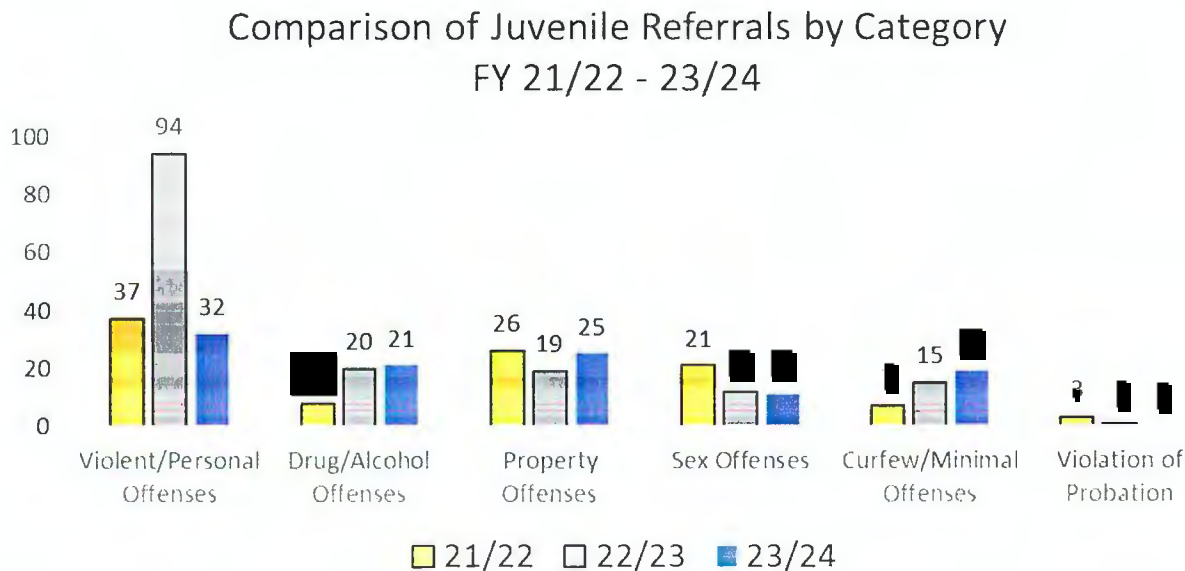
JUVENILE JUSTICE DATA

In Fiscal Year 2023-24, there were a total of 86 referrals received by the Lassen County Probation Department. Of the referrals received, there were 19 felony charges, 74 misdemeanor charges and 15 infractions. Referrals often contain more than one charge, and this is why the number of referrals does not match the number of charges.



The 86 referrals resulted in 108 charges being referred to the Lassen County Probation Department. Those charges are defined by the following categories:

Violent/Personal – 32, Drug/Alcohol – 21, Property – 25, Sex – 21, Curfew/Minimal – 15, Violation of Probation – 5

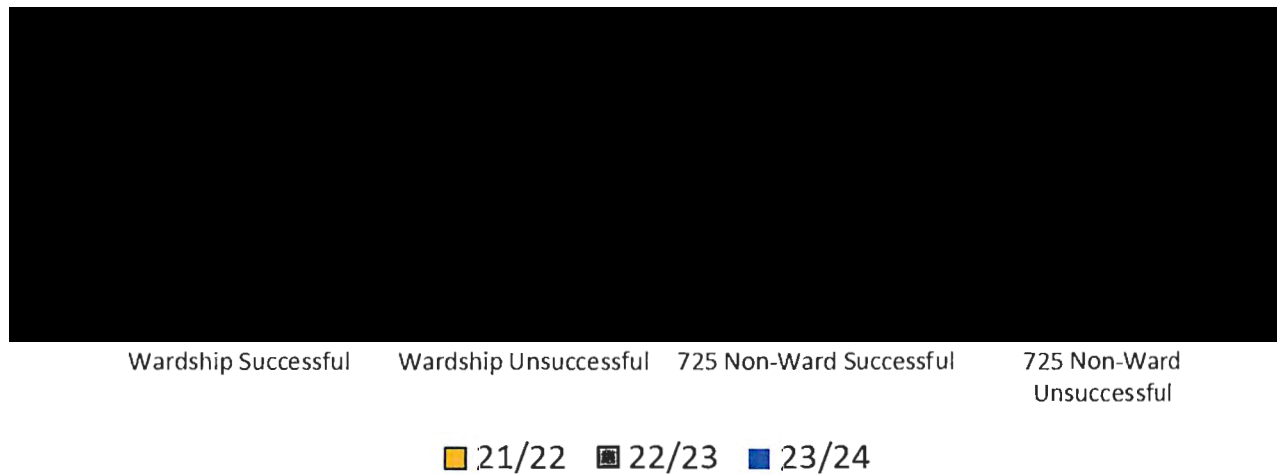


As of June 30, 2024, there were 108 juveniles under supervision in Lassen County. 32 on felony wardship, 21 felony non-wardship, and 55 informal supervision. There were no juveniles on misdemeanor wardship or misdemeanor non-wardship.



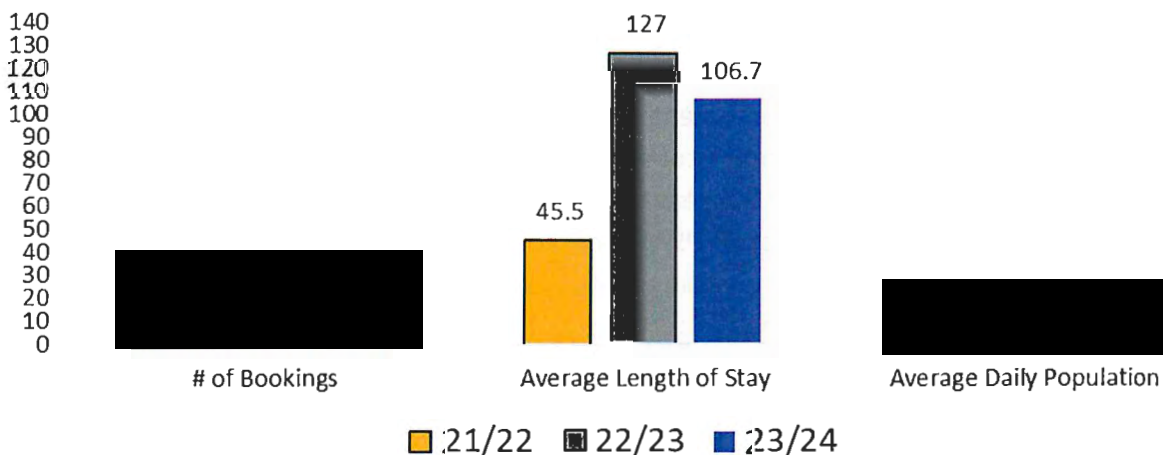
In Fiscal Year 2023-24, Lassen County Juvenile Probation had a total of 725 probation terminations. There were 32 successful wardship terminations and 693 successful non-wardship terminations.

Comparison of Termination Type FY 21/22 - 23/24



Juvenile bookings in Lassen County

Bookings, Length of Stay, & Daily Population FY 21/212- 23/24



Juvenile Justice Action Strategy/ Agency Collaboration

Lassen County Probation's action strategy prioritizes ongoing collaboration and open dialogue with community partners to enhance service coordination and improve outcomes for justice-involved youth. We actively engage in countywide meetings and maintain consistent partnerships with local service providers, the Lassen County Office of Education, school districts, the Juvenile Court Judge, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, Behavioral and Public Health, criminal justice agencies, and other key stakeholders.

Our approach is guided by evidence-based practices, utilizing risk and needs assessments to ensure high-risk youth receive targeted individualized interventions while preventative services are directed toward at-risk youth in the community. Additionally, the Probation Department works closely with local law enforcement and serves as a stakeholder in the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, supporting initiatives that enhance public safety and juvenile justice efforts.

Current Services and Resources

Lassen County offers a variety of programs and services aimed at preventing juvenile crime and promoting healthy decision-making among youth. These initiatives provide comprehensive support, early intervention, and skill development to help young people avoid justice system involvement and achieve positive life outcomes.

Collaborative System of Care

The Children's System of Care (CSOC) is a multi-agency partnership committed to delivering integrated, comprehensive, and culturally responsive services for children, youth, and families. Regardless of the agency through which a family enters the system, CSOC ensures access to evidence-based and best practice services. A key focus is incorporating foster youth experiences and voices into county-level collaborations that oversee service delivery for youth in foster care.

Prevention and Intervention Programs

- **Multi-Agency Prevention and Education Program** – Provides life skills training to reduce alcohol and drug abuse, as well as violence, by addressing the social and psychological factors that contribute to risky behaviors.
- **Youth Diversion Program** – Encourages positive, constructive behavior and provides early intervention to prevent youth from progressing into the justice system. This program helps participants avoid formal juvenile justice involvement while connecting them with needed services and support. Referrals come from schools, parents, and law enforcement.
- **Tobacco Prevention Program** – Offers tobacco prevention education in schools and supports retail enforcement efforts to reduce youth access to tobacco products.
- **Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Program** – Provides preventive services aimed at keeping youth safely in their homes and preventing foster care placement. This program connects youth and families to evidence-based mental health services, in-home parenting support, substance use treatment, and family stabilization services.
- **Independent Living Program (ILP)** – Supports foster youth and former foster youth as they transition to adulthood by providing life skills training, housing assistance, career development, and educational support.
- **Lassen Links** – A centralized resource hub that connects youth and families to local services, including mental health support, employment assistance, and community programs.
- **Care Teams (School-Based Mental Health Support)** – Provides mental health services within schools to support youth experiencing emotional and behavioral challenges, ensuring they receive early intervention and ongoing care.
- **Tribal Partnerships for Services** – Collaborates with local Tribal communities to offer culturally relevant services, including mental health support, family advocacy, and substance use treatment tailored to the needs of Indigenous youth and families.

- **Pathways Screening for Mental Health (formerly known as Katie A)** – Ensures that youth with significant mental health needs receive timely assessments and coordinated services. This screening process helps identify children eligible for intensive mental health support and ensures they are connected to appropriate services, including Wraparound, therapy, and case management.

Family-Centered Support and Workforce Development

- **Family Solutions Wraparound Program** – Uses a whole-family approach to prevent youth from being placed in out-of-home care. Services are customized and strength-based, with a focus on pre-placement assessments, concurrent planning, and family stabilization. Wraparound is utilized in cases where youth face an imminent risk of removal, ensuring families receive the support necessary to keep youth in the home.
- **Alliance for Workforce Development** – Provides job readiness training, career services, and employment support to youth and adults seeking to enter the workforce.
- **Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Program** – Offers individualized treatment plans, support groups, and addiction recovery services to youth struggling with substance use.
- **Foster Youth Services** – Provides educational support and advocacy for current and former foster youth, helping them navigate academic challenges and achieve success.
- **Mobile Crisis Response** – Delivers immediate, on-site mental health crisis intervention services to youth and families, reducing the need for hospitalization or law enforcement involvement.
- **Family Urgent Response System (FURS)** – A 24/7 crisis response service offering immediate support to current and former foster youth and their caregivers, ensuring stability and reducing placement disruptions.
- **Stronger Families Program** – Provides structured support and skill-building for families experiencing conflict, helping them develop communication skills, resolve disputes, and strengthen relationships to create a stable home environment for youth.
- **Juvenile Work Program (JWP)** -The Juvenile Work Program (JWP) partners with nonprofit, local, state, and federal agencies to provide youth with valuable life and work skills in a structured, supportive environment.
 - Youth Benefits - Participants gain hands-on job experience in a less restrictive setting while learning responsibility, teamwork, and discipline.
 - Community Partner Benefits - Agencies receive assistance in completing essential projects that might otherwise lack resources.

Commitment to Evidence-Based Strategies

Lassen County's approach to reducing juvenile justice involvement and promoting successful probation completion is rooted in evidence-based and strength-based practices. Programs and interventions are continually assessed in a team environment to ensure their effectiveness, with a focus on data-driven decision-making and improving long-term outcomes for youth.

Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Truancy Reduction Program

The Lassen County Probation Department remains committed to providing truancy services to participating schools, recognizing the important role that school attendance plays in academic success and juvenile crime prevention. These services have been effective in reducing absenteeism, implementing targeted behavioral

interventions, and decreasing arrests in focus areas, including Susanville. Probation officers take a holistic approach by considering students' emotional and behavioral needs when developing individualized intervention plans. To support at-risk youth, probation collaborates with local agencies and provides referrals to Public Health, Youth Diversion Programs, Youth Support Groups, the Family Solutions Wraparound Program, and Lassen Family Services.

One of the most significant challenges in delivering truancy intervention services is transportation, as Lassen County's schools are spread across a large geographical area spanning 4,720 square miles. Despite this barrier, the Lassen County Probation Department remains dedicated to helping schools improve attendance, increase Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding, enhance academic performance, reduce juvenile crime, and promote positive citizenship among students. Through collaboration, early intervention, and targeted support, the department strives to break the cycle of chronic absenteeism and create better long-term outcomes for Lassen County youth.

Community Based Probation Services

A Deputy Probation Officer will continue to provide personalized, supportive services to youth in outlying rural areas located a significant distance from Susanville, with the goal of reducing probation violations, preventing recidivism, and fostering long-term success. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by families in these remote communities, probation services are designed to be accessible, strengths-based, and responsive to individual needs.

Many families in these areas experience barriers to transportation and limited access to services in town, which can disrupt education for youth and create additional stressors for parents balancing work and family responsibilities. By providing consistent, community-based support, the Probation Department aims to bridge service gaps, empower families, and promote stability. Through collaborative case planning, mentorship, and connection to essential resources, probation officers help youth build resilience, develop positive coping strategies, and create pathways toward a more hopeful future.

Strategies for Non-707(b) Offenders

Lassen County utilizes a comprehensive, individualized approach to support youth who do not fall under Welfare and Institutions Code 707(b) offenses. This strategy includes screening, assessment, targeted interventions, and ongoing monitoring to ensure that youth receive the services they need to reduce recidivism and support positive development.

All youth are screened using the Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS) and Pathways Screening for Mental Health (formerly known as Katie A) to evaluate risk factors, strengths, and service needs. Based on the results, probation officers develop an individualized case plan and set of terms tailored to each youth's needs. Referrals are then made to appropriate prevention and intervention programs to reduce the likelihood of reoffending and promote long-term success.

To track progress and make data-driven decisions, Lassen County monitors youth outcomes through its database, ensuring that services remain effective and responsive. To further enhance youth development, the county has adopted the evidence-based Forward-Thinking interactive journaling program, which helps youth build essential life skills, manage emotions, improve peer relationships, and navigate difficult situations.

As part of its commitment to prevention and education, Lassen County is also developing the Health and Wellness Program, an education-based initiative that provides substance use education, social-emotional learning, and life skills training. This program aims to equip youth with the knowledge and tools needed to make informed, healthy choices, further strengthening early intervention efforts and reducing the risk factors associated with juvenile justice involvement.

By integrating screening, individualized case planning, evidence-based interventions, and ongoing monitoring, Lassen County remains dedicated to preventing youth from further involvement in the justice system while promoting personal growth and positive life outcomes.

Regional Agreements

Lassen County does not have regional agreements with any other jurisdiction at this time.

Information Sharing and Data Collection

Lassen County Probation utilizes data-driven decision-making to assess program performance, identify trends, and guide policy development. The department reports data annually through the Lassen County Probation Department's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

The department continues to operate its Case Management System, which is essential for maintaining accurate records and reporting Juvenile Court and Probation Statistical System (JCPSS) data to the California Department of Justice. This system tracks all minors on probation, youth detained in Juvenile Detention Facilities, minors supervised under electronic monitoring, youth ordered to probation for minor offenses, and participants in the Truancy Reduction Program.

In addition to tracking youth involvement in the juvenile justice system, the Case Management System provides valuable statistical insights that support funding opportunities, program evaluations, and the development of new services. By leveraging data effectively, Lassen County Probation ensures that programs remain evidence-based, responsive, and aligned with the evolving needs of youth and families.

