



JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

2026 / 2027

DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PLAN

JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION ACT (JJCPA) /
YOUTHFUL OFFENDER BLOCK GRANT (YOBG)

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Introduction – Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) was passed in 2000 and allowed California to take significant steps towards sweeping reform of juvenile justice practices across the state. In 2007, the Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) restricted State level commitment to youth who committed the most serious offenses, commonly referred to as “707(b)” offenses after the Welfare and Institutions Code section.

As a result, non-707(b) offenders who might have been committed to a state facility in previous years are now to be served at the local level using community resources and programs with the belief that remaining closer to their families and communities would support better positive outcomes. The YOBG authorized State funding to counties to offset the cost of providing these resources and programs to youth, consistent with an annual plan submitted by counties to the State.

The JJCPA is a collaboration between the State, local agencies and stakeholders. Local officials and stakeholders determine where to direct resources through an interagency planning process. The State Controller’s Office distributes the appropriate JJCPA funds to counties based on population. Local agencies and community-based organizations deliver the services.

Through these reform efforts, local jurisdictions have been provided funding to support initiatives and strategies that target juvenile crime and delinquency, juvenile offenders and at-risk youth. Over the past decade, juvenile justice has continued to evolve and has experienced numerous improvements. The field has embraced evidence-based practices and focuses on the delivery of treatment and other services to improve youth and system outcomes. Accurate and timely data have become a priority and are required to ensure interventions and operations reflect evidence-based practices and are aligned with rehabilitative goals.

Imperial County has a fully constituted Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council as prescribed by Welfare & Institutions Code 749.22. The Imperial County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council is an established multiagency committee that develops and implements a continuum of county-based responses to juvenile crime.

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Members

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council includes the following members:



ELIZABETH SAIS
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER
(CHAIR)



FRED MIRAMONTES
SHERIFF



GEORGE MARQUEZ
DISTRICT ATTORNEY



BEN SALORIO
PUBLIC DEFENDER



PAULA LLANAS
DIRECTOR, DEPT. OF
SOCIAL SERVICES



ARMANDO OROZCO
CITY OF CALEXICO,
CHIEF OF POLICE



JOHN HAWK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
DISTRICT 5



IMPERIAL COUNTY
Behavioral Health Services
MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE RECOVERY
Hope, Wellness and Recovery

LETICIA PLANCARTE-GARCIA
DIRECTOR, BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH SERVICES



CHERYL VIEGAS-WALKER
CITY OF EL CENTRO,
MAYOR (RETIRED)



PATRICIA URENA
JUVENILE JUSTICE
COMMISSION CHAIR.



TODD FINNELL
SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS

MONALISA VITELA
SENIOR DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Overview

To encourage coordination and collaboration among the various local agencies serving at-risk youth and young offenders, the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) advises the county Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils (JJCC) to update and refine the county's juvenile justice plan each year. This document will provide an overview of JJCPA and YOBG, goals and objectives for the coming year, and strategies that will be deployed.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1998 Consolidation

AB 1998 combined reporting requirements for the JJCPA and the YOBG programs. As of January 1, 2018, counties may submit a consolidated annual plan describing the programs, placements, strategies, services, and system enhancements supported by either JJCPA or YOBG funding.

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

In order to implement evidence-based practices, the Imperial County Probation Department recognized this effort would encompass new and innovative practices. Through this funding, the Probation Department continues to collaborate with Rite Track Youth Services for young people at risk of being removed from their homes and sent to placement and for those individuals returning from placement and reintegrating into the community. An allocation of Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act funds helps to support probation supervision of juvenile probationers with the intent of reducing recidivism and ensuring that evidence-based probation supervision practices will improve public safety outcomes among juvenile probationers.

Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

Through this funding from the Board of State and Community Corrections of California, the Imperial County Probation Department is able to provide necessary and effective services to youth by keeping juvenile offenders close to their families and communities and to enhance public safety. Additionally, contracts have been implemented with Behavioral Health Services to provide psychiatric assessments and counseling of minors in Juvenile Hall. This funding has allowed for the development of an evidence-based risk assessment program for all juveniles and supports diversion programs such as the Community Work Service (CWS) Program, the Police Athletic League/Sheriff's Athletic League, the Imperial Valley Desert Museum, Juvenile Hall Garden of Dreams, the Imperial County Youth Summit, Keeping Youth on Track Education Safety (KYOTES), and Project ASPIRE.

Imperial County – JJCPA/YOGB

The Imperial County Probation Department continues to utilize JJCPA/YOGB funding to invest in programs and services that target at-risk youth within our community. This continued investment shows steady progress towards reducing juvenile involvement with the justice system, as juvenile arrests have had a continued decrease in comparison to previous years' reported figures.

Programs such as the Sheriff's Office and El Centro Police Department's recreational athletic leagues, the KYOTES motorbike program, and our Youth Summit are continuing to engage community youth in a manner that keeps them informed, active, and healthy, both physically and mentally. These programs reduce risk factors that could lead them to become directly involved with our juvenile justice system. The Department also continues to invest in justice involved youth through Rite Track's Evening Learning Center (ELC) and Mentoring & Tracking Programs, which work diligently to ensure that referred youth can find success in obtaining higher education, employment, and develop skills that they can use throughout their lives.

For youth within the Juvenile Hall, the Probation Department uses JJCPA/YOGB funds to ensure that they are engaged in a meaningful way through the Imperial Valley Desert Museum. Additionally, if a youth is committed to the Imperial County Juvenile Hall Secure Track program, the Department has developed a rehabilitative treatment program to service this population. These programs help youth develop skills and relationships that they can build upon as they transition from the Juvenile Hall back to the community.

The Probation Department continues to be active and involved with our local community through its participation and support of events such as Career Fairs, the annual Children's Fair, and Shop with a Cop. In addition, the Department expanded Project ASPIRE to additional sites within the county and continued to keep youth ages 9-13 in our community engaged in positive prosocial activities. The Probation Department will continue to utilize these events and services to keep our community safe, informed, and engaged in supportive and impactful ways.

Imperial County Demographics



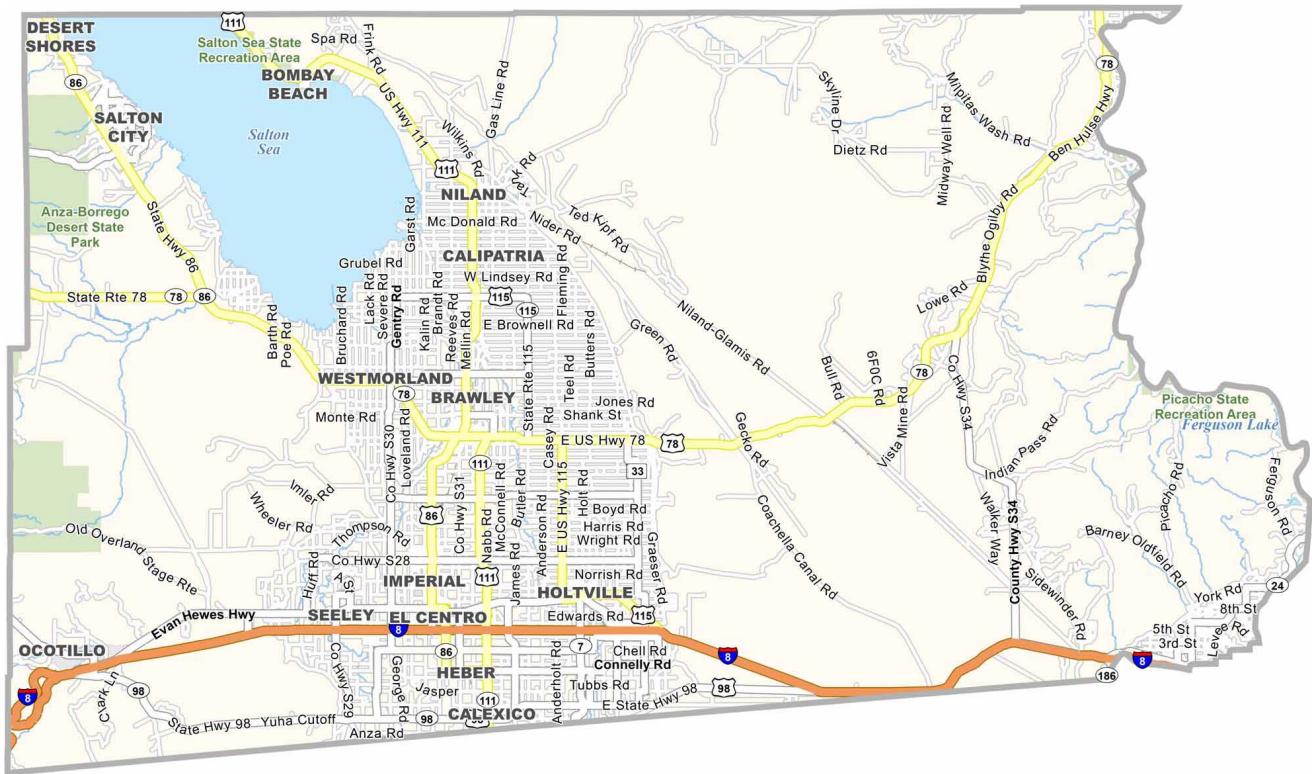
Imperial County is located in the southeast corner of California, east of San Diego County and south of Riverside County. The Colorado River forms the eastern boundary of Imperial and the Arizona-California Border, and the southern border is shared with Mexico. The region spans 4,174.73 square miles. Imperial County is largely rural, comprised of vast, sprawling communities with spread-out populations.

Imperial County is comprised of seven incorporated cities where most of its population resides: Brawley, Calexico, Calipatria, El Centro, Holtville, Imperial, and Westmorland. Additionally, there are a number of unincorporated areas where residents also reside: Salton City/Salton Sea Beach, Heber, Niland, Seeley, Winterhaven, Ocotillo, Bombay Beach, and Palo Verde.

Per 2020 census data, Imperial County has a recorded population of 179,702. The median age was recorded at 34.6 years, with 26.4% of residents under the age of 18 and 13.6% aged 65 or older. Hispanic or Latino residents comprised 85.2% of the population with 81.6% of residents living in urban areas, while 18.4% live in rural areas. Information collected through the census noted that there were 52,050 households in the county, of which 44.8% had children under the age of 18 living with them and 28.9% had a female householder with no spouse or partner present. About 17.5% of all households were made up of individuals and 8.5% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older.

Due to a combination of its unique circumstances, Imperial County faces unique challenges in numerous areas such as employment, environmental, and socioeconomics in the following ways:

- **Poverty / Employment:** An average of only 43% of families is considered able to meet the basic levels of self-sufficiency, with over one-fourth of all residents and one-third of youth living in poverty. Imperial County has a very high unemployment rate that varies between 18-25%, significantly higher than its neighboring counties.
- **Environmental:** The county is located within a wide-spanning desert area, and temperatures are high during non-summer months and become extreme during summer months, the temperatures will often reach above 110-degree weather. Air quality is also considered poorest in California due to pollution from the nearby Mexicali city across the border and lakebed dust from the nearby Salton Sea. Outdoor activities and programs often become much more difficult as a result.



- **US-Mexico Border:** Due to its proximity to the Mexico border, Imperial County is often utilized as a drug-trafficking corridor for gangs and is designated as a High-Intensity Drug-Tracking Area (HIDTA), which results in youth becoming targets of local gangs to participate in their illegal cross-border activities. Imperial County residents often travel between the border as many live within the nearby city of Mexicali, Mexico which makes providing them local services more difficult.
- **Travelling:** Imperial County residents that live on the outskirts of the county and outlying areas or in areas where services are not as readily available often face challenges in reaching the cities due to a lack of transportation options. This makes providing services to these populations more difficult and has resulted in local agencies such as Behavioral Health Services and Probation to develop mobile units to provide services.

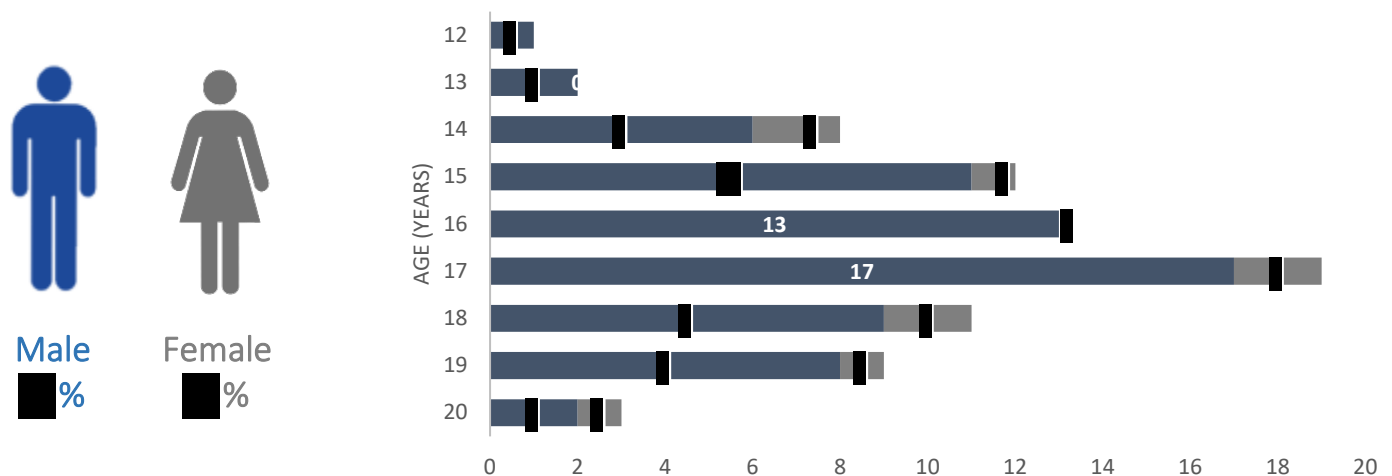
These challenges present all local agencies with hurdles that must be overcome as they attempt to service the local population. Through the JJCPA/YOBG funding provided to the Imperial County Probation Department, it is able to allocate funding to local organizations to help fill in gaps that can assist and provide services to youth and their families. The funding also provides support to the Probation Department itself as it works to better service the juvenile justice involved population to create a safer community for Imperial Valley residents.

Imperial County – Juvenile Supervision Population

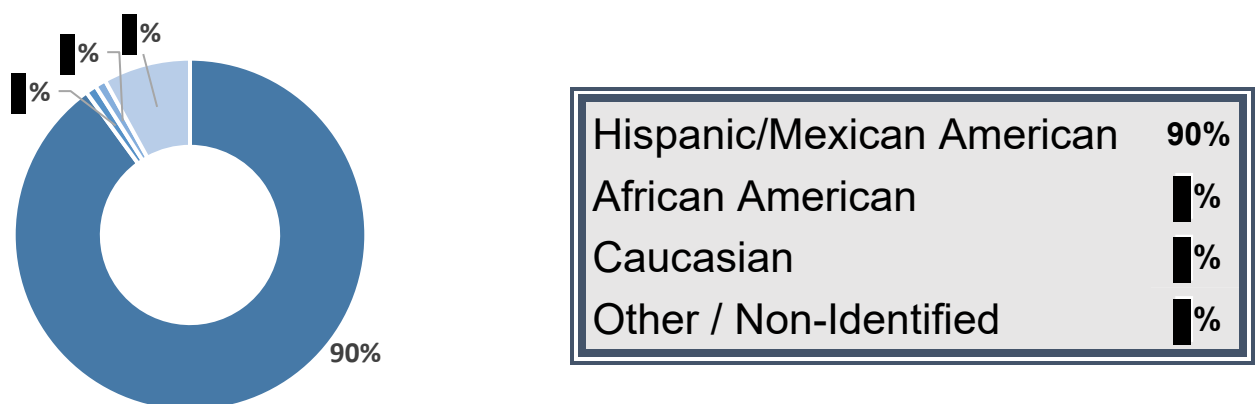
The Imperial County Probation Department's Juvenile Supervision Unit provides a wide range of services to juvenile offenders that include Intake Services, Investigation Services, Community Supervision Services, and Placement Services. The Probation Department's use of effective strategies and programs continues to have a positive impact on the juvenile supervision population. At the end of FY 2024-25, the Probation Department reported 77 Juveniles under supervision and as of April 1, 2026, the Probation Department is supervising 78 individuals, including █ Secure Track youth housed in the Juvenile Hall.

Below are juvenile supervision population breakdowns as of April 1st, 2026:*

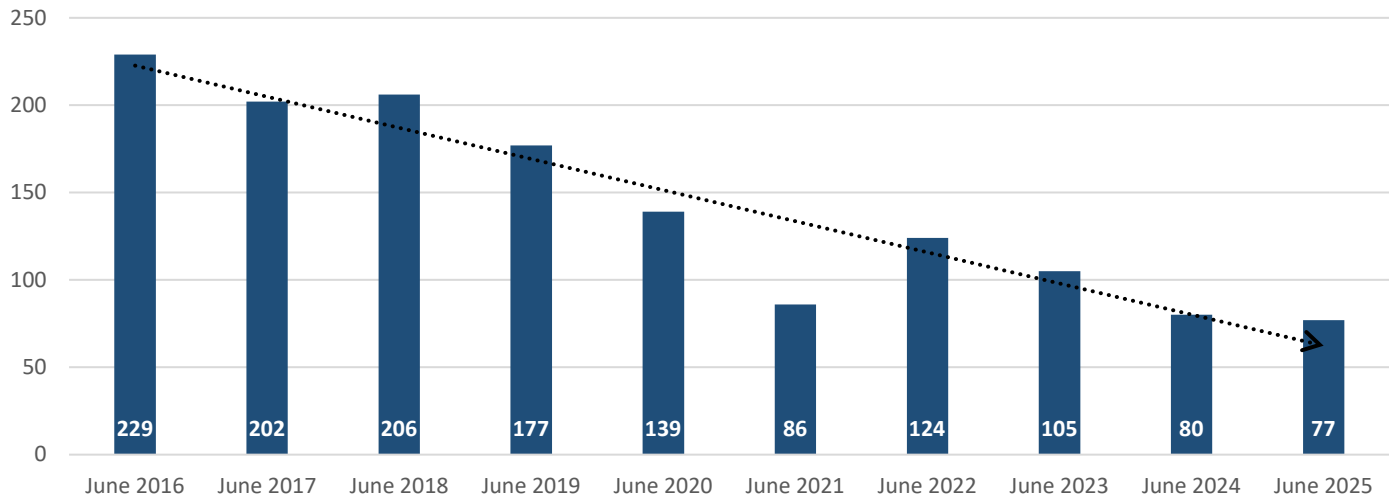
Imperial County Probation Department – Age / Sex Breakdown of Current Juvenile Population:



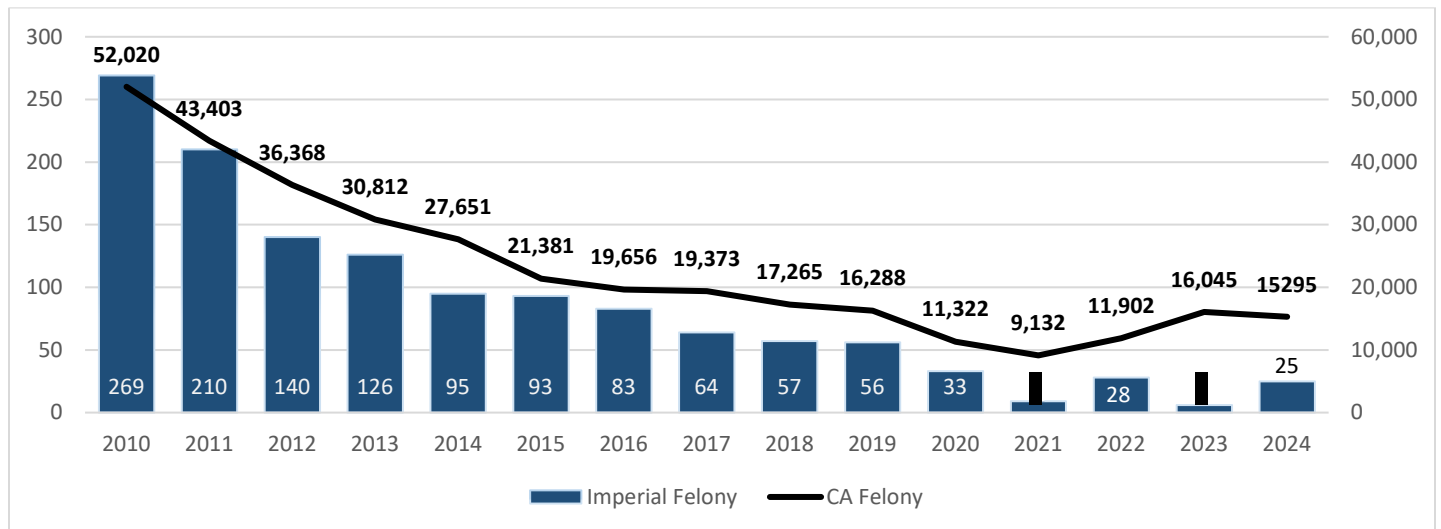
Imperial County Probation Department – Race Breakdown of Current Juvenile Population:



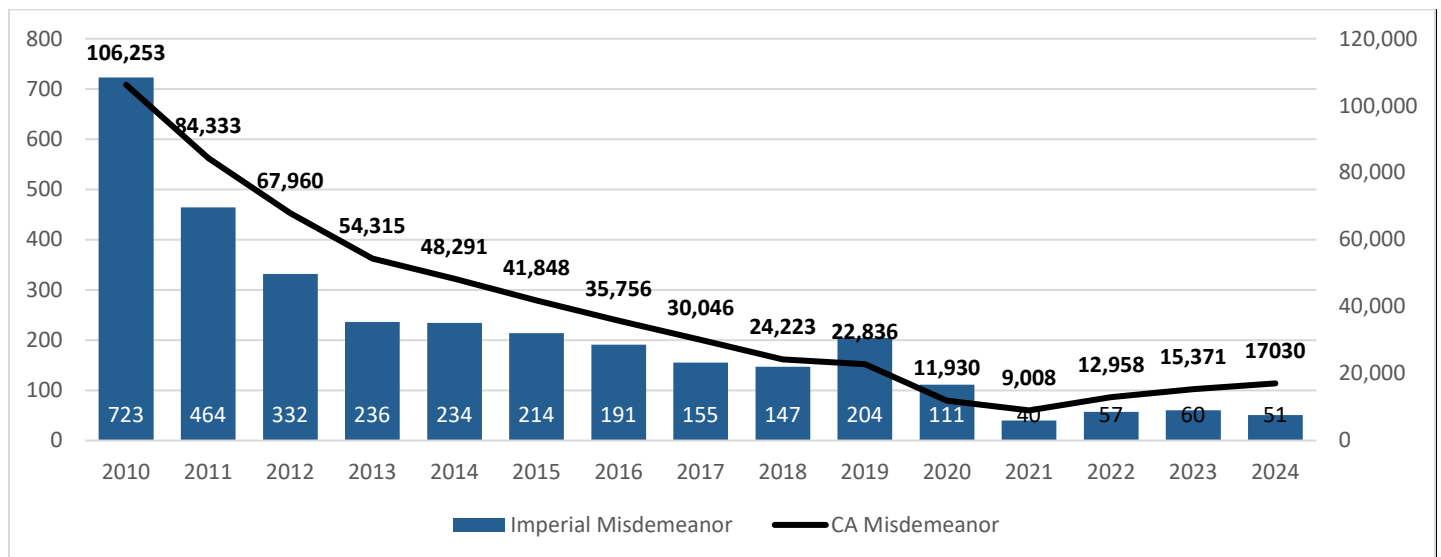
Imperial County Probation Department – Juvenile Supervision Population 2016 - 2024



Juvenile (Ages 17 and under) Felony Arrests: California vs Imperial County (2010-2024)*



Juvenile (Ages 17 and under) Misdemeanor Arrests: California vs Imperial County (2010-2024)*



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

A. Assessment of Existing Services

Rite Track Youth Services

Rite Track Youth Services is a community-based organization that provides a wide array of effective services for teens that are supported by research and evidence-based practices. Rite Track's mission is to teach youth the skills they need to succeed and to guide them in a positive direction by providing a continuum of

services that include the **Evening Learning Center (ELC)** and the **Mentoring and Tracking Program**, which have been in operation for over a decade since the program's first began operating in 2009.



The ELC is a joint effort between Rite Track Youth Services and the Imperial County Probation Department, as well as the Juvenile Court of Imperial County. In 2025, Rite Track Youth Services launched **Elevate**, a parenting and youth engagement program that replaces the former Proud Parenting program and expands its vision to better meet the needs of Imperial County families. Funded by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) in partnership with Elevate Youth California as part of the Standard Track 6 cohort, Elevate is designed to support Latinx and Black youth and their families through culturally responsive mentoring, parenting support, and youth-led civic engagement aimed at preventing substance use and reducing system involvement.

In 2025, Rite Track Youth Services continued its strong alignment with the Imperial County Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan and partnership with OYCR. The program provided additional services for females and gender-expansive youth ages 11–18, providing a less restrictive alternative to incarceration or juvenile sentencing, through dedicated diversion, mentoring, and social-emotional stabilization services, participants received individualized, trauma-informed support that fostered personal growth and positive development.

In continued collaboration with the Imperial County Department of Social Services (ICDSS) and in alignment with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) plan, Rite Track maintained and expanded its prevention program designed for youth ages 11–17 and their families who were at risk of entering the Child Welfare System. The program was

extended for an additional year in 2025 due to its demonstrated success as it grew from serving 15 families to 25. The program remains focused on preventing child abuse and neglect through comprehensive wraparound and family-strengthening services. Participation continued to rise as families engaged in skill-building workshops, supportive counseling, and community-based activities that build resilience, improve family functioning, and strengthen protective factors within the home and community.

In 2025, Rite Track received 201 referrals from various community partners and welcomed 105 new youth into their programming. Of these, new youth that were enrolled into the Evening Learning Center (ELC), 27 youth enrolled into the Mentoring & Tracking Program (MT), █ youth enrolled into the Secure Track Program (ST), 16 youth enrolled into the Ellas-Pueden program, █ youth enrolled into the UNIDOS program, and 28 young parents enrolled into the Elevate Parenting Program. In addition to the new enrollments, Rite Track continued to provide services to 90 youth carried over from the previous year.

The Juan Ulloa Evening Learning Center (ELC)

The Juan Ulloa Evening Learning Center is a diversion and conflict resolution focused program designed to support youth between the ages of 11 to 18 who have or had contact with the juvenile justice system.

In 2025, the program welcomed █ new youth and carried over █ participants from 2024, providing services to a total of thirty-one (31) youth throughout the year. On average, the ELC worked with fifteen actively enrolled participants at any given time. In 2025, sixteen youth exited the ELC program, with █ successfully completed the program, █ exited neutrally, █ required a higher level of care, and █ exited unsuccessfully. These outcomes underscore the effectiveness of the ELC's trauma-informed, structured approach in supporting behavioral change, building accountability, and preparing youth for long-term success

Program Models

Built as a trauma focused and responsive approach, ELC provides three program models to meet the diverse needs of the youth. Through the initial referral, youth are assessed and assigned to a program that the Rite Track Student Support Team (SST) believes the youth will benefit from with multiple factors such as age, risk-level, home setting, academics and acute behavioral issues taken into consideration to determine which program youth are placed in.

❖ Six-Month Program

The six-month program is Rite Track's most comprehensive program as it allows Rite Track staff and youth to work on their individual goals for an extended period. This program mirrors the framework of Rite of Passage's Short-Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTPs) and is designed for youth exhibiting acute behavioral concerns, who have committed serious or repeated offenses, are on formal probation, or would benefit from consistent daily supervision.

❖ Three-Month Program

The three-month program is like the six-month program, with an exception for the length of stay and youth enrolled into this program are expected to meet the same requirements youth in the six-month program would complete. Youth can be offered this alternative program to help reduce age-mixing of youth that are approaching their 18th birthday or to provide an alternative for youth that have been unsuccessful in completing the six-month program model.

❖ Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Focused Program

The CBT focused program is a three-month program that focuses on providing youth access to CBT groups, which are offered Monday through Wednesday. Youth who are enrolled in this program are considered low risk youth that do not display high acute behavioral issues.

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Groups

Rite Track operates utilizing best practices and evidence-based programming; Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) is the therapeutic milieu utilized by the Evening Learning Center and in 2025, Rite Track students completed 2,070 combined dosage hours of cognitive based interventions. Rite Track utilizes the following treatment groups:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| ❖ Thinking for a Change (English & Spanish) | ❖ Coping with Stress |
| ❖ Aggression Replacement Training | ❖ Positive Skill Development |
| ❖ Seeking Safety | ❖ Life Skills |

Community Service

Rite Track Youth Services currently utilizes a "Restorative Solutions" model, which emphasizes repairing the harm students have caused by giving back to the community, with hours varying between 25 -100 hours, depending on the students' disposition or school requirements. For 2025, ELC youth completed a total of 145 hours of community service by assisting with events such as the 2025 Youth Summit, downtown clean up, park beautification, and window art.

Learning through the Arts

Through a robust mix of art styles and activities, Rite Track provides youth with the opportunity to explore their emotions, understand conflicts or feelings that are causing them distress, and use art to help find solutions to those issues.

The goal of art therapy is to improve and restore the youth's functioning to gain a sense of personal wellbeing while providing them with an additional and safe outlet for self-expression. In 2025, Rite Track continued to encourage youth to participate in art projects that focused on diversity, national holidays, and traditions through a quarterly art competition. Some of the art activities the youth participated in this year included fidgeting tools, homemade ice cream, molding clay, reverse tie dye, figures of speech art and flowerpot painting.

Celebrations and Outings

Rite Track celebrates the accomplishments of every youth participant and strives to create meaningful and positive experiences that reinforce growth, engagement, and connection. In 2025, the program placed a special emphasis on building tradition and promoting a sense of normalcy by celebrating youth birthdays, personal achievements, and important milestones. These celebrations helped youth experience a sense of belonging and family support within the programming essential part of fostering emotional stability and community connection. Throughout the year, youth participated in outings designed to recognize their progress and expose them to enriching, community-based experiences. Activities included field trips to SeaWorld, local movie theaters, restaurants, and bowling. Rite Track also continued to recognize outstanding participants through *Youth of the Month*, *Most Improved*, and *Perfect Attendance* awards. The Youth of the Month award honors youth who demonstrated exceptional character. These shared experiences not only strengthened peer relationships but also encouraged the development of positive memories and lasting bonds.

Parenting Supports

Rite Track recognizes that improving youth well-being begins with strengthening families and in 2025, the program continued its collaborative approach with parents and caregivers, emphasizing shared responsibility and active engagement to create consistent support systems for youth at home and within the program. Through the evidence-based Active Parenting of Teens curriculum, parents participated in six-week cohorts designed to enhance communication, build family relationships, and connect with other caregivers facing similar challenges. These sessions provided practical tools for managing stress, promoting positive discipline, and supporting their child's emotional and behavioral growth. This year,

Rite Track proudly recognized several parents for their dedication to personal growth and their commitment to becoming stronger advocates for their children, each demonstrating exceptional perseverance, openness to learning, and active participation throughout the program. Their engagement reflects the continued success of Rite Track's family-focused model and the powerful outcomes achieved when parents and program staff work hand in hand to support youth development.

Rite Track Recognition Ceremony - Juan Ulloa Scholarship

The Juan Ulloa Scholarship continues to provide current, former, and prospective Rite Track youth with the opportunity to pursue higher education or vocational training. Awards ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 support students in covering tuition and educational expenses at colleges, universities, and trade programs. Applications are easily accessible on the Rite Track website, and eligible youth must meet minimum academic and program requirements to apply.

In 2025, [REDACTED] young men from Rite Track's Secure Track Program were honored as Juan Ulloa Scholarship recipients, each representing the program's mission of resilience and renewal. Having faced significant adversities and served extended periods of incarceration at Juvenile Hall, these youth demonstrated extraordinary perseverance and a deep commitment to education and personal growth. Their achievements embody the power of second chances and highlight the transformative impact of the Secure Track Program's trauma-informed, restorative approach to rehabilitation.

Case Management Services

The ELC strives to provide strong support systems for students by tailoring services to meet their specific needs using the 30-day Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Assessment. Service Coordinators can assess the youths' barriers or setbacks that may be currently affecting them and focus on obstacles that are important to the youth that require immediate attention. The youth work alongside the Rite Track team to develop an individualized service plan where the youth identify short- and long-term goals they wish to accomplish while enrolled in the ELC. Their goals are measured and monitored by their assigned case manager on a weekly basis and all accomplishments and progress made are rewarded through a rewards system that includes snacks and treats from local businesses, gift cards, and Rite Track clothing. In 2025, the ELC provided 181 incentives for youth reaching their short-term and long-term goals and milestones.

Urinalysis Test (UAs)

To support the youth's sobriety, all ELC youth are required to submit a weekly urinalysis test which are administered by ELC staff who screens for abnormalities and chemicals such as Tetrahydrocannabinol

(THC), Methamphetamines (M-AMP), Benzodiazepines (BZO), Cocaine (COC), and Opiates (OPI). Results are reported to the youth's Probation Officer and when a youth tests positive, additional sanctions and/or referral for Substance Abuse Treatment are made to a community partner. In 2025, ELC staff administered 376 drug screens with a noted 47% returned as positive for THC usage.

In alignment with national trends reflecting an increase in adolescent marijuana use, Rite Track continues to address positive results proactively by linking youth to weekly substance abuse counseling and group therapy sessions facilitated by a licensed Substance Abuse Counselor. This coordinated approach reinforces accountability while providing meaningful therapeutic support to promote long-term recovery and behavioral change

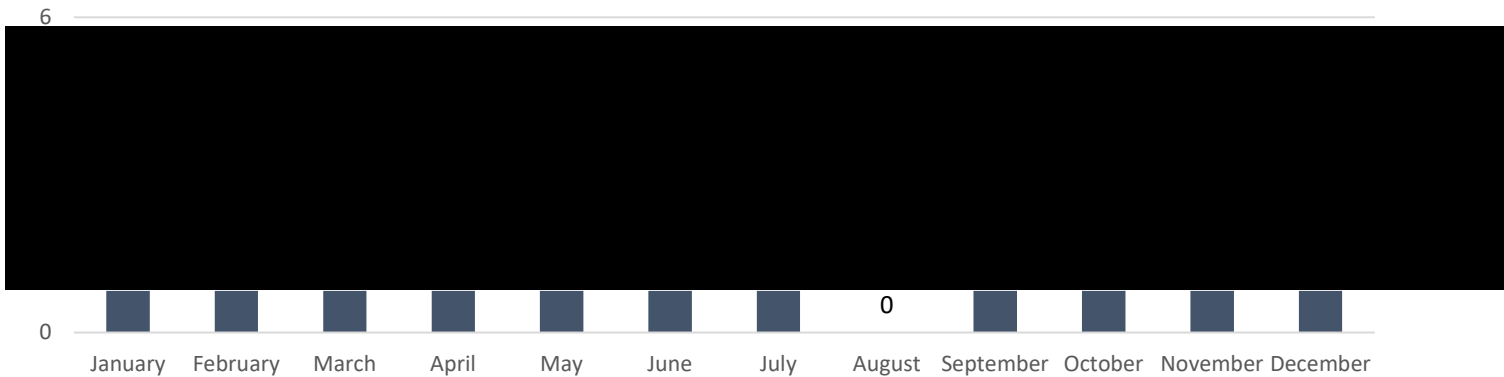
Rite Track – Mentoring and Tracking Program

Rite Track's Mentoring and Tracking (MT) Program is a diversion and mentoring focused program designed to support youth between the ages of 11 to 21 who have or had contact with the juvenile justice system or are presenting negative behaviors that could lead to justice involvement. Through MT services, youth have access to individualized risk assessments, case management services, individualized service plans, pro-social activities, life skills workshops, academic support and advocacy, court support and advocacy, and access to community service and individual therapy sessions with an on-site clinician. Mentors interact with youth through various methods and youth may meet with their mentor at their homes, school sites, public settings and within the Rite Track office.

Mentors engage youth in multiple ways, including home visits, school check-ins, community meetings, and sessions at the Rite Track facility. MT services encompass crisis intervention, educational assistance, job readiness training, court support, progress tracking, phone or in-person check-ins, and family strengthening activities. Participants also receive support in obtaining identification (California ID, driver's permit, or license), enrolling in educational or postsecondary programs, completing FAFSA applications, and participating in pro-social outings and life skills workshops.

In 2025, the MT program welcomed 30 new youths and along with the 27 students from the previous year, provided services to a total of 57 students throughout the year. Over the course of 2025, Mentoring and Tracking made over 2,128 telephone calls, 1,178 field/home visits, contacted Probation Officers 194 times, attended over 37 academic meetings, attended 64 court hearings, provided 11 family interventions, and administered 100 urine analysis. In 2025, the MT program had 24 youth exit the program consisting of 15 successful exits, ■ neutral exits, and ■ exits due to the need of higher care, and ■ unsuccessful exit.

M&T Enrollments 2025

**Supportive Services**

To help promote positive youth outcomes, the MT program provides opportunities, fosters positive relationships and gives youth the additional support that is needed to help prevent “risk-like” behaviors. Through supportive services, MT youth have access to immediate support such as work permits, transportation services, assistance with school supplies, clothing, vocational clothing, post-secondary education support, copies of birth certificates and assistance in obtaining their driver's license. In 2025, the MT program provided over 579 supportive services, 50% were due to transportation services, 34% were behavior modification incentives and 16% additional natural support such tutoring services, work permits, food assistance, referrals to outside agencies, computer use and SUD counseling sessions.

Community Service

Community engagement is a fundamental component of the MT program and through community service, MT youth can give back and contribute to their community. Most of the youth enrolled in the MT program are required to complete between 25-100 hours of community service.

In 2025, MT youth completed over 228 hours of community service while maintaining longstanding partnerships with Dee's Rescue, the Southern Counties Cat Rescue, Christ Community Church, and projects within Rite Track. These partnerships provide meaningful opportunities for youth to give back and contribute positively to their community.

Mentee and Mentor Activities

The main driver for the MT program's success is due to the development of strong and supportive relationships built between the mentor and mentee. Mentors are equipped with trauma informed and response tools to provide constructive feedback and provide youth with advocacy and the skills

necessary to thrive. In addition, mentors develop opportunities for youth to connect with other youth through program outings and activities.

In 2025, the MT program organized a variety of workshops and outings designed to build camaraderie and positive social connections. Activities included field trips to Dave & Busters's, Cinemark, Z Fun Factory, Pioneer's Museum and participated in the annual Rite Track Turkey Bowl, a youth kickball scrimmage with the Probation Department and Hispanic Heritage Month and a Mental Wellness workshop.

Holidays & Celebrations

In 2025, the program continued to celebrate birthdays with a \$25 gift card and personalized cake for each youth. During major holidays such as Easter, Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, youth received themed gift packages and families selected for holiday support received full meal baskets to enjoy together, encouraging connection, family bonding, and Positive Adverse Childhood Experiences (PACES). The year concluded with a Rite Track Recognition Ceremony honoring youth who successfully completed the program and achieved significant personal milestones. The event celebrated not only their achievements but also the collective impact of their mentors, families, and community partners who helped them stay on the "Rite Track".

Rite Track – Elevate Parenting Program

In 2025, Rite Track Youth Services launched **Elevate**, a parenting and youth engagement program that replaced the former Proud Parenting program and expanded its vision to better meet the needs of Imperial County families. Funded by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) in partnership with Elevate Youth California as part of the Standard Track 6 cohort, Elevate is designed to support Latinx and Black youth and their families through culturally responsive mentoring, parenting support, and youth-led civic engagement aimed at preventing substance use and reducing system involvement.

Elevate operates out of the Rite Track facility and in community settings, serving young parents and caregivers of at-risk youth ages 14–26. The program focuses on strengthening parenting skills, improving family communication, and increasing protective factors that reduce the risk of contact with the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare systems. The core goal of Elevate is to help disrupt cycles of generational trauma related to substance misuse by equipping young parents with knowledge, skills, and support to build healthier habits and environments for their children. In 2025, Elevate welcomed twenty-eight (28) parents to the program.

Substance Abuse Prevention: Stages of Change

Parenting and prevention support in Elevate is delivered through Stages of Change, a structured six-session curriculum that addresses substance use and behavior change. These sessions are delivered in a trauma-responsive, culturally grounded format that reflects the lived experiences of Latinx and Black families. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate in group discussions, practice new skills, and support one another, with the goal of strengthening young parents so they can model and promote healthier behaviors for their children. The six sessions include:

- Substance Abuse / Stages of Change – understanding substance use patterns and readiness for change.
- Routines & Early Stages – building healthy daily routines and recognizing early warning signs.
- Resilience – strengthening coping skills, protective factors, and hope for the future.
- Stress – identifying stressors and developing healthy stress-management strategies.
- Maladaptive Thoughts – challenging unhelpful thinking patterns and replacing them with more balanced perspectives.
- Action Plan – creating concrete, realistic plans for ongoing change, support, and relapse prevention.

Workforce Services

Elevate integrates workforce development as a core strategy to help address youth and young-parent unemployment in Imperial County. Participants receive individualized support with job applications, job matching, resume and cover letter development, interview preparation, and ongoing coaching, along with transportation assistance to interviews, job fairs, and new job sites available. Elevate also utilizes the RISEUP workforce curriculum, through which youth learn industry-recognized customer service and sales skills and earn a nationally recognized credential.

Once youth receive their RISEUP certification, they are offered the opportunity to be placed with a local business host to complete 100 hours of hands-on work experience, building real-world skills and references. Upon successful completion of these hours, participants are awarded \$1,000, supporting both immediate financial stability and longer-term economic independence. Through this model, Elevate works to lessen the impact of poverty, reduce Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and support the creation of safer, more nurturing home environments for children.

Family Focused Activities

Elevate creates opportunities for meaningful, family-focused activities that strengthen parent–child bonds and promote Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs). Through an array of supportive services

and structured events, the program offers safe, welcoming spaces where young parents and their children can connect, play, and build lasting memories together.

In **2025**, Elevate hosted workshops and events such as a Mother's Day brunch, Waylons's Water Park, Chucky E. Cheese outings, Halloween Carnival, Rite Track's Turkey Ball event and Cookies with Santa. These activities reduce isolation, encourage positive family traditions, and help youth and their children experience joy, belonging, and support within their community.

Supportive Services

Elevate provides targeted supportive services to help families overcome practical barriers so they can stay engaged and focused on their learning and growth. These supports are designed to reduce day-to-day stressors for young parents, allowing them to concentrate on building skills, strengthening relationships, and participating fully in program activities.

Supportive services may include diapers and formula, children's clothing and shoes, school supplies, interview attire, car seats, assistance obtaining childcare, and transportation to essential appointments such as the DMV, medical visits, and community resources. By helping to mitigate these challenges, Elevate supports family stability and creates conditions for parents and children to thrive together.

In 2025, Elevate provided over 351 supportive services. 28% of the services provided were transportation assistance, 23% were behavioral modifications incentives, 10% were childcare assistance and 39% were a mix of assistance such as obtaining their CA Drivers License, assistance with job applications, college applications, FAFSA, hygiene and clothing.

Civic Engagement & Youth Voices

Civic Engagement is a core pillar of Elevate, where youth actively participate in community outreach events and courageously share their personal stories to inspire others and raise awareness about substance use prevention, parenting challenges, and pathways to resilience. These experiences empower participants to become credible messengers within their communities while connecting families with essential local resources. Guest speakers are regularly invited to address current trends in health, wellness, parenting, and substance use prevention, equipping families with timely knowledge and strategies. In 2025, youth participated in three community outreach events.

Youth Listening Circles, held quarterly, create structured spaces for participants to discuss program experiences, identify challenges, and offer direct recommendations for improvement. These sessions

ensure young people's voices actively shape Elevates evolution, reinforcing the program's commitment to youth-led decision-making, authentic community impact, and meaningful systemic change.

Rite Track - Secure Track Youth Program



In support of the Imperial County Juvenile Justice Realignment plan and implementation of Senate Bill 823 DJJ Realignment Implementation, Rite Track established a Secure Track (ST) program aimed to serve males and females between 14 and 25 years old, who have been committed to Imperial County Juvenile Hall (ICJH) for longer-term correctional care and services. Secure Track's services align with youths individualized case plans that include intervention programming, family-centered diversion services, cognitive behavioral therapy, mentoring services, workforce training, linkage to employment and transitioning services.

The Secure Track's program services operate utilizing best practices and evidence-based trauma informed practices. Through support, structure and supervision of youth, Rite Track worked with the Probation Department and partnering agencies to help reduce risk behaviors, prepare the youth for reunification with family members, transitioning back to their community and prepare for the workforce.

In 2025, Rite Track welcomed [REDACTED] new youth to the program and carried over [REDACTED] youth from the previous year, serving a total of fourteen this year.

Case Management and Mentoring Services

Utilizing Rite Track's case management model, Secure Track youth receive individualized support and continuous engagement from their assigned mentor. Each participant completes a 30-day Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment to identify goals and barriers, leading to the development of an individualized service plan.

Mentors provide case management, court support, and ongoing collaboration with partner agencies. They participate in Multi-Disciplinary Youth Team (MDST) and Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings and prepare youth for release, ensuring each individual has a structured reintegration plan and strong community connections.

Workforce Services

To support youth in achieving financial independence and employability, Secure Track participants complete the RISEUP Customer Service and Sales credential program prior to release. The RISEUP

curriculum, developed by the National Retail Federation, equips youth with practical job readiness and customer service skills, providing a three-year nationally recognized accreditation.

In 2025, ■■■ Secure Track youth earned their RISEUP certifications and were granted the opportunity to job search within the community.

Youth received professional attire and attended multiple job interviews, with all ■■■ obtaining work experience and developing sustainable career goals. Rite Track continues to collaborate with local business partners to provide mentorship and on-the-job learning opportunities for system-impacted youth.

Group Based Workshops

Secure Track integrates group-based learning to promote self-confidence, peer connection, and social-emotional development. In 2025, ST youth participated in activities such as holiday art projects, collage creation, and tie-dye workshops. Staff and youth also celebrated milestones, including birthdays and holiday meals, fostering community, tradition, and connection within the facility.

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)

Through CBT treatment groups, offered at ICJH twice a week, Secure Track youth gain valuable skills to help improve their quality of life and have access to over 90 sessions of CBT through the following curriculums:

- ❖ Anger Replacement Training (ART)
- ❖ Seeking Safety
- ❖ Thinking for a Change (T4C)
- ❖ Safe Dates

In 2025, 287 hours of CBT were rendered to ST youth while detained at the Imperial County Juvenile Hall where ■■■ youth participated and completed a total of five cohorts and ■■■ certificates of completion were awarded for successfully completing one of CBT curriculums.

Transitioning/Post-Release Services

Youth who are released from ICJH receive up to six-months of post release follow up. During these follow ups, ST youth received bi-weekly home visits and weekly phone calls from their mentor.

In 2025, ■■■ youth transitioned back to the community. ■■■ enrolled into high school, ■■■ enrolled in barber school and ■■■ youth was employed and is attending community college. All youth are residing safely with their families and continuing their educational pursuits.

Supportive Services

To promote positive engagement and encourage full program participation, Secure Track provides incentives and immediate supportive services. These include transportation assistance, school supplies, clothing, vocational attire, post-secondary education support, birth certificates, and driver's license assistance. In 2025, a total of 199 supportive services were rendered to ST youth within the ICJH setting. 19% were transportation support, 57% were behavior modification incentives, and 24% were additional natural supports.

Ellas-Pueden Program

Aligned with the efforts of the Vera Institute of Justice, California's Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) and the End Girl's Incarceration (EGI) initiatives, Rite Track Youth Services, in partnership with the Imperial County Probation Department, launched Ellas-Pueden is an expanded version of the original Ellas program designed to empower female and gender-expansive youth while promoting pathways to independence and self-sufficiency.

Meaning "*Girls Can*," Ellas Pueden" builds upon the foundation of the 2024 ELLAS program and introduces workforce development opportunities alongside its trauma-informed, community-based diversion model. The program serves girls and gender-expansive youth ages 11 to 18 through personalized services that provide less-restrictive alternatives to incarceration or juvenile sentencing or up to twenty-five participants at a time.

Referrals are received through a "warm hand-off" approach facilitated by county partners who identify and refer eligible youth to Rite Track, ensuring rapid engagement and minimal disruption during critical intervention periods.

In 2025, Ellas-Pueden welcomed twenty-nine (29) new girls and gender-expansive youth, carried over sixteen (16) girls from the previous year and provided services to forty-five (45) girls services overall. 78% of referred youth enrolled successfully on a voluntary basis. On average youth enrolled were 15 years old. Of those enrolled, 27% claimed to have had no history with any system, 60% were arrested and sent to Juvenile Hall, █% were placed on Probation and █% reported to have had contact with law enforcement but were not sentenced.

Case Management and Mentoring Services

Each participant is paired with an age-appropriate mentor who has lived experience and is trained in trauma-informed and gender-responsive care. Using the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths

(CANS) assessment, mentors collaborate with youth to develop customized service plans that set individualized goals and identify barriers to success.

Mentors maintain consistent contact with youth through weekly visits at home, school, and in community settings. They provide court support, lead gender-specific workshops, and facilitate pro-social activities. This mentorship relationship creates stability, promotes accountability, and fosters resilience in participants. The average program duration is 6 to 8 months, depending on each youth's engagement and compliance.

To help support the success of participants, the Ellas team facilitated over 2005 phone calls, conducted 147 home visits, 159 field visits, 12 court support and provided individual and family crisis. In 2025- [REDACTED] youth successfully completed the program, [REDACTED] were neutrally discharged (due to relocation, transition to other services, or enrollment in Mentoring & Tracking), and no youth required a higher level of care or exited the program unsuccessful.

Gender Specific Workshops & Activities

To create safe spaces for self-expression and community building, Ellas-Pueden offers monthly gender-specific activities that promote emotional well-being, leadership, and creativity. Youth provide input on activity planning to ensure relevance and engagement.

In 2025, the program hosted sixty-three (63) workshops and twenty-five (25) social outings activities; including trips to Yuma Arizona, Mission Beach, movies at the local theatres, bowling, picnics at the park and workshops focused on etiquette and self-care. These activities foster empathy, self-confidence, and connection among peers.

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) & Evidence Based Practices (EBP)

Ellas-Pueden integrates Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and evidence-based curricula to help youth strengthen emotional awareness, coping skills, and self-management. Guided by trauma-informed care principles, participants learn to recognize trauma responses, practice emotional regulation, and build resilience through two key evidence-based programs.

❖ **Voices Curriculum** - Based on the realities of girls' lives and the principles of gender responsiveness; it has grounded in theory, research, and a clinical background. The Voices curriculum advocates a strength-based approach and uses a variety of therapeutic approaches, including psychoeducational, cognitive-behavioral, mindfulness, body-oriented and expressive art.

❖ **Safe Dates** - is an evidence-based curriculum to help teens recognize the difference between caring, supportive relationships and controlling, manipulative, or abusive relationships. It is during the critical preteen and teen years that young people begin to learn the skill needed to create and foster positive relationships.

In 2025, Ellas-Pueden facilitated fifty-one Voices sessions totaling 100 hours, and eight Safe Dates sessions totaling 16 hours and four RiseUp sessions totaling 6 hours. Thirteen youth received certificates of completion for successfully completing an EBT cohort.

Positive Reinforcements

The program employs a structured incentive matrix to reward and reinforce positive behaviors, academic progress, and consistent participation. Recognition includes both tangible and relational rewards, designed to celebrate each milestone in a youth's journey.

In 2025, Ellas-Pueden provided over 715 supportive services. 82% of the support rendered were transportation assistance, 18% were behavior modification incentives, such as gift cards, self-care outings, group meals, and movie trips. These experiences encourage confidence, strengthen relationships, and affirm each youth's growth within the program.

UNIDOS (UNITED) Mentoring Program

Aligned with the Imperial County Department of Social Services (ICDSS) initiative to develop integrated systems and programs that support children and families, Rite Track launched the UNIDOS (United) Mentoring Program. The program is aimed towards strengthening communities and improving child welfare through evidence-based, person-centered interventions tailored to each youth and family's unique strengths and needs. Rite Track is focused on strengthening the social emotional development of at-risk youth ages 11-17 and their families and providing additional support to serve as a primary prevention program to reduce the risk of crisis intervention and to prevent maltreatment among families.

Between September 2024 and September 2025, Unidos received 70 referrals from community partners including ICDSS, Imperial County Probation Department, Behavioral Health, and local schools, and of these referrals, 30% enrolled, 27% declined, and 43% were placed on a waiting list. The program maintained an average caseload of 15 youth, each matched with an age- and culturally appropriate mentor providing advocacy, weekly mentoring sessions, individualized service plans, and continuous wraparound supports.

Case Management & Mentoring Services

Through UNIDOS, youth are linked with an age-appropriate mentor who acts as a youth and family liaison and helps develop an individual case plan that is tailored to meet youths' individual needs with insight and support from parents. Utilizing the Rite Track case management model, the youth and families enrolled in UNIDOS also have access to the program's unique mentoring services and community resources/knowledge.

The mentor serves as an additional supporting member in the family lives and provides weekly in-person visits, court visits, organizes cognitive behavior and parenting workshops, and pro-social activities focused on building positive childhood experiences. The average length of stay for this program is 6-8 months depending on the needs and compliance of the families.

Unidos provided twenty-one youth with weekly mentoring and case management, completed 47 CANS assessments and 39 Individual Service Plans (ISPs) (includes quarterly updates), and facilitated over 1,300 phone contacts, 168 home visits, and 13 academic meetings. Mentors also supported families through 17 court hearings and conducted 15 crisis and youth-focused interventions, ensuring continuous safety and engagement.

Supportive Services

In addition to positive reinforcements UNIDOS aids with the coordination/linkage of services and supports that support the family's well-being and helps families reach their full potential, depression, anxiety, oppositional behavior, conduct, substance use, anger control, and adjustment to trauma. service can include advocacy, harm handoffs to local supporting agencies, referrals for health/mental health supports, job searching assistance, educational services, assistance with utilities, food, and clothing. Youth completed 30 hours of community service, and families received 34 supportive services, including assistance with transportation, food, utilities, and school supplies.

Imperial County Behavioral Health Services (ICBHS)



Imperial County Behavioral Health Services (ICBHS) continues to partner with the Probation Department to provide behavioral health services to meet the needs of youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Both agencies recognize the importance of addressing mental health and substance use challenges that many young individuals face while navigating the justice system.

Through a variety of services and supports offered by the Youth and Young Adult (YAYA) Services unit and the Adolescent Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Program, these young individuals receive comprehensive services and support which aim to improve their overall well-being and outcomes.

Youth and Young Adults (YAYA) Services

The Youth and Young Adult (YAYA) Services division is designed to meet the needs of Imperial County youth and young adults between the ages of 12 and 25 years old. All services provided through YAYA services are integrated, individualized, and developed to promote individual and family centered recovery, resiliency, and wellness. During FY 2025-2026, YAYA provides a variety of services consisting of *Anxiety and Depression clinics, Full-Service Partnership (FSP) programs, Juvenile Hall Services, and the Holistic Outreach Prevention and Engagement (HOPE) Program.*

Specialty Mental Health Services

The YAYA outpatient clinics and programs provide a wide array of Specialty Mental Health Services that include the following

- ❖ Assessment
- ❖ Individual / Group Counseling
- ❖ Crisis Intervention
- ❖ Medication Support
- ❖ Mental Health Services / Individual
- ❖ Therapy / Family Therapy
- ❖ Therapeutic Behavioral Services
- ❖ Targeted Case Management
- ❖ Intensive Care Coordination (ICC)
- ❖ Rehabilitation
- ❖ Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS)

YAYA programs focus on the implementation of evidence-based practices by therapists and mental health rehabilitation technicians. These practices have been proven effective in targeting specific mental health disorders and promoting recovery. The models used in YAYA services include:

- ❖ Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- ❖ Cognitive Processing Therapy
- ❖ Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- ❖ The Cat Project
- ❖ Parent Research Achieve & Excel through Empowerment Strategies (PRAXES)
- ❖ Motivational Interviewing
- ❖ Dialectical Behavior Therapy
- ❖ Interpersonal Psychotherapy
- ❖ Functional Family Therapy
- ❖ Aggression Replacement Training (ART)

Anxiety and Depression Clinics

The Anxiety and Depression clinics serve individuals 14 to 25 years old who are exhibiting signs of depression, anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder and who may also have a co-occurring substance use disorder. The focus of treatment is therapy and when needed, medication support and/or mental health rehabilitation technician services.

Full-Service Partnership Program

This program serves individuals 12 to 25 years old who are exhibiting symptoms of a psychotic disorder, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, conduct disorder, major depression with suicidal thoughts/actions and/or oppositional defiant disorder. Services include a full range of integrated community services and support, which include direct delivery and use of available community resources. Services include individual case management, rehabilitative services, “wrap-like” services, crisis response, home and community re-entry from juvenile hall, youth and parent mentoring, supported employment or education, transportation, housing assistance, benefit acquisition, and respite care.

In addition to traditional mental health services, individuals are provided with linkage to the following ancillary supports and services in order to meet their individual needs:

- ❖ Education
- ❖ Employment & Vocational Training
- ❖ Financial Aid Services
- ❖ Socialization Activities
- ❖ Housing & Independent Living Assistance
- ❖ Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- ❖ Physical Health Services
- ❖ Fitness Program
- ❖ Peer Support
- ❖ Family Education Support Groups

Services at Juvenile Hall

YAYA provides specialty mental health services to high-risk youth who are detained at the Juvenile Hall facility and that meet medical necessity. All incarcerated youth are screened by Juvenile Hall staff for mental health services at the point of admission using the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2). If a need for mental health services is identified, Juvenile Hall staff completes a referral to Imperial County Behavioral Health Services. All youth referred to ICBHS receive a comprehensive initial assessment by a therapist who makes treatment recommendations.

Referrals to ICBHS can also be initiated by Juvenile Hall staff, Probation Officers, or NaphCare nursing staff at any time during a youth's stay at Juvenile Hall if mental health needs are identified after the youth's admission or if a youth requests services. During 2025, ICBHS received 98 referrals from Juvenile Hall staff and provided the following services:

- ❖ Mental Health Services
- ❖ Individual Therapy
- ❖ Targeted Case Management
- ❖ Medication Support

ICBHS staff provide supportive services to youth at Juvenile Hall. Psychiatrists provide psychiatric services that include psychiatric evaluations and medication management. ICBHS Therapists provide individual therapy and are also on-call after hours, on weekends and holidays to conduct crisis interventions for those youth who present risk of harm to self or others. The role of the on-call therapist is to conduct risk assessments and provide interventions to stabilize and reduce the potential to harm. Therapists work closely with Juvenile Hall staff to determine the appropriate supervision level for the youth and coordinate further mental health treatment when necessary. Mental Health Rehabilitation Technicians supplement the youth's treatment by assisting with skill building techniques, case coordination, and linkage to appropriate services upon youth's discharge from Juvenile Hall.

During FY 2025-2026 ICBHS has engaged community members in the Community Planning Process as part of the transition from Mental Health Services Act to Behavioral Health Services Act and changes in treatments levels of care that will become effective July 2026. Specialty Mental Health Services and Services to Juvenile Hall will continue to be provided. YAYA will be providing Early Intervention services and specific treatment models under Full-Service Partnership services:

Early Interventions (EI)

Under the Early Intervention program, YAYA will provide behavioral health services and supports designed to identify and address emerging mental health or substance use conditions at the earliest signs and symptoms to reduce severity, prevent progression to serious mental illness (SMI) or serious

emotional disturbance (SED), and decrease the need for higher levels of care. The core purpose of these services is to detect early signs of mental health or substance use disorders; provide timely, short-to-moderate duration interventions; reduce symptom escalation; prevent hospitalization, justice involvement, homelessness, or school failure; and promote functional stability in home, school, work, and community settings.

Full-Service Partnership Program

This program serves individuals 12 to 25 years old. This is a comprehensive, community-based program that provides intensive, individualized behavioral health services and supports using a “whatever it takes” approach to assist individuals with serious emotional disturbance (SED) or serious mental illness (SMI) in achieving functional stability and improving outcomes in home, school, work, and community settings. Under the FSP program, youth and young adults may receive High-Fidelity Wraparound or Intensive Case Management, based on their individualized needs.

High-Fidelity Wraparound

This is an evidence-based, intensive, team-based care coordination model designed for children and youth with serious emotional disturbance (SED) and complex multi-system involvement (e.g., child welfare, probation, special education). It utilizes the “whatever it takes” philosophy within a structured, evidence-informed framework to maintain youth safely in their homes and communities. The core purpose of this model is to prevent out-of-home placement (group homes, residential treatment, hospitalization); reduce justice involvement; improve family functioning and youth outcomes; and stabilize placement and school performance.

Intensive Case Management (ICM)

This is a high-intensity, field-based care coordination and support services provided to individuals with serious behavioral health conditions who require frequent contact and structured intervention to maintain community stability and reduce reliance on crisis or institutional care. ICM is provided to individuals who meet medical necessity criteria for specialty mental health services; have high utilization of emergency, inpatient, or crisis services; experience homelessness or housing instability; have co-occurring substance use disorders; are involved in criminal justice or child welfare systems; and are at risk of institutionalization or repeated psychiatric hospitalization. The emphasis of ICM is on stabilization and functional recovery, treatment engagement, community integration, and reduced hospital and institutional utilization.

In addition, individuals will receive housing supports and linkage to the following ancillary supports and services, as appropriate, to meet their individual needs:

- ❖ Education
- ❖ Employment & Vocational Training
- ❖ Financial Aid Services
- ❖ Socialization Activities
- ❖ Housing & Independent Living Assistance
- ❖ Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- ❖ Physical Health Services
- ❖ Fitness Program
- ❖ Peer Support
- ❖ Family Education Support Groups

Adolescent Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Program

The Adolescent SUD Treatment Program provides professional services to youth ages 12 to 21 who are diagnosed with a wide range of SUD conditions or who present a risk of developing a SUD. Adolescent SUD Treatment Program provides a full continuum of care modeled by the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM).

All youth referred to the SUD treatment program receive an assessment utilizing the ASAM criteria to determine the appropriate level of care. Based on individual needs and ongoing assessment, youth in care can transition to higher or lower levels of care throughout the course of treatment. Outpatient and intensive outpatient services are provided at the outpatient SUD clinics located in the cities of El Centro and Calexico, at 10 local high schools, and at Juvenile Hall for youth who are detained. Residential treatment services are provided at the out-of-county contracted facility.

The SUD Adolescent Treatment programs focus on utilizing the following evidence-based practices:

- ❖ Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- ❖ MATRIX Model
- ❖ Seeking Safety
- ❖ Cognitive Processing Therapy
- ❖ Moral Reconation Therapy
- ❖ Dialectical Behavioral Therapy
- ❖ Motivational Interviewing
- ❖ Contingency Management

ICBHS provides the following SUD treatment modalities to youth in treatment:

Early Interventions (EI)

Early Intervention SUD treatment focuses on providing behavioral health services and supports designed to identify and address emerging substance use conditions at the earliest signs of symptoms to reduce severity, prevent progression to serious behavioral health conditions and decrease the need for higher levels of care. The core purpose of these services is to detect early signs of substance use disorders; provide timely, short-to-moderate duration interventions; eliminate use or misuse of

substances; prevent hospitalization, justice involvement, homelessness, or school failure; and promote functional stability in home, school, work, and community settings

Outpatient Services and Intensive Outpatient Services:

Youth may receive a maximum of 6 hours per week for outpatient services and maximum 19 hours per week of any of the following treatment components:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ❖ Assessment | ❖ Patient Education |
| ❖ Care Coordination | ❖ Recovery Services |
| ❖ Individual and Group Counseling | ❖ Treatment and Discharge Planning |
| ❖ Family Therapy | ❖ Crisis Intervention Services |
| ❖ Medication Services | ❖ Clinician Consultation |

Contingency Management (CM)

CM is a 24-week EBP that recognizes and reinforces individual positive behavior change consistently with meeting treatment goals, including medication adherence, as well as substance and stimulant nonuse. CM provides motivational incentives for nonuse of stimulants as evidenced by negative drug tests. Motivational incentives are an inherent and central element of CM treatment. The immediate delivery of the incentive helps tip decision-making toward avoiding stimulant use to manage difficult periods. CM repeatedly has demonstrated robust outcomes, including reduction or cessation of drug use and longer retention in treatment.

Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT):

This service consists of psychiatrists prescribing, administering, dispensing, ordering, monitoring, and/or managing all FDA approved medications used for MAT to treat opioid, alcohol and other substance use disorders. MAT may be provided in clinical or non-clinical settings and can be delivered as a standalone service or as a service delivered as part of a level of care.

Residential Treatment Services:

Residential SUD treatment is provided in a 24/7 non-medical, short-term residential setting where youth with a SUD diagnosis who meet the ASAM criteria for higher levels of care receive rehabilitation services that are clinically managed by licensed professionals. Services include residential withdrawal management where youth are clinically monitored 24 hours a day during the detoxification from alcohol and or other drugs. Residential SUD treatment services are provided by a contracted residential treatment provider that is licensed and certified by Department of Health Care services and that has the following ASAM designations:

- ❖ ASAM Level 3.1 – Clinically Managed Low-Intensity Residential Treatment
- ❖ ASAM Level 3.2 – Clinically Managed Residential Withdrawal Management
- ❖ ASAM Levels 3.5 – Clinically Managed High Intensity Residential Treatment

Recovery Services

Recovery services are available to youth once they have completed their primary course of treatment. These services are utilized as a preventive measure to prevent relapses or when clients are triggered or a relapse has occurred. Recovery services include ongoing recovery and relapse prevention that is developed during the discharge planning when treatment is completed. Clients accessing recovery services are provided to support in managing their health, promoting the use of effective self-management support strategies, and providing internal and community resources to support ongoing self-management.

Alcohol and Drug Prevention Services

SUD Adolescent Treatment programs provide prevention and outreach services to youth, families and community members across Imperial County. The goal of the Alcohol and Drug Prevention program is to provide education and resources for the prevention of substance use in the adolescent population. Outreach activities focus on identifying individuals in need of substance use treatment and linking them to services. Priority is placed on at-risk environments and priority populations that include youth in the foster care and juvenile justice system, Native American communities, LGBTQ2+ population, youth living with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, youth experiencing truancy and other behavioral health issues.

The Alcohol and Drug Prevention Services include the following components:

- ❖ Information Dissemination: This strategy is geared toward bringing awareness and knowledge of the nature and extent of alcohol, and drug use, abuse and the effects on individuals, families, and communities. It also provides knowledge and awareness of available prevention programs and services. ICBHS actively participates in community events throughout Imperial County where resources can be disseminated to assist individuals, families, and the community in accessing services.
- ❖ Education: Activities under this strategy aim to affect critical life and social skills, including decision-making, refusal skills, critical analysis, and systematic judgment abilities. Education strategy is provided in school settings utilizing the evidence-based model that addresses the areas of need identified in the development of the Strategic Prevention Plan. ICBHS utilizes the

Too Good for Drugs mode, which has been well accepted throughout Imperial County school districts.

- ❖ **Community Based Services:** This strategy aims to enhance the ability of the community to effectively provide prevention services for alcohol and drug use. Activities in this strategy include organizing, planning, enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of services implementation, inter-agency collaboration, coalition building and networking. ICBHS hosts quarterly coalition meetings where members of the community attend. Additionally, school meetings are held to collaborate and establish partnerships as well as interagency collaboration to assess community needs.

SUD Services - Juvenile Hall

The Adolescent SUD Treatment program provides services that include individual and group counseling to youth detained at the juvenile hall facility. Services are provided by a SUD counselor or therapist who conducts thorough screening and assessment to determine the youth's treatment needs. Services at juvenile hall include counseling, care coordination, and prevention services. Furthermore, MAT and medication services are provided by psychiatrists specializing in addiction medicine for youth with opioid use disorder and other SUDs. Upon the youth's release from juvenile hall, they are linked to the outpatient SUD Treatment programs, in which they will be assessed to determine the appropriate level of care for ongoing treatment.

As part of the BHSA transformation, the Adolescent SUD Treatment programs will be implementing Primary SUD FSP programs and Assertive Field-Based SUD Treatment. These programs will be effective July 1, 2026, and will offer the following services:

Primary SUD Full-Service Partnership (FSP):

The SUD FSP program will be designed to provide comprehensive, individualized, "whatever it takes" community-based care. The program will be intended for youth with serious behavioral health needs whose conditions are associated with homelessness, frequent crisis episodes, justice involvement, or high use of emergency services.

Primary SUD FSP services will include the following services:

- ❖ Assessment
- ❖ Crisis Intervention
- ❖ Intensive Outpatient Services
- ❖ Care Coordination
- ❖ Medication for Addiction Treatment
- ❖ Assertive Field-Based SUD Treatment
- ❖ Intensive Case Management

The SUD FSP programs will also include linkages to higher or lower levels of care, housing services, harm reduction, and targeted FSP outreach and engagement. SUD FSP services will be co-occurring capable and will assess all individuals for mental health conditions and ensure access to care.

Assertive Field-Based SUD Treatment:

As part of the BHSA transformation, the Adolescent SUD Treatment programs will implement Assertive Field-Based SUD Treatment, a model that aims to provide comprehensive and accessible care for individuals with substance use disorders. This program is designed to be trauma-informed, age-appropriate, and in partnership with families or an individual's natural support. It supports individuals in their recovery process, reduce health disparities, and is provided for the length of time identified during the service planning process.

Assertive Field-Based SUD Treatment includes three important components:

- ❖ Targeted outreach to communities, encampments, or locations where data reflects high incidences of substance use, overdoses, and limited access to care.
- ❖ Mobile Field-Based programs to increase access to care in underserved or isolated areas and/or to individuals who require that services be provided at their homes or in their communities.
- ❖ Open-Access Clinics that provide same-day treatment, walk-in services, or immediate interventions to ensure low-barrier access to care.

Imperial County Department of Social Services (DSS)

The Department of Social Services (DSS) continues to work collaboratively with the Probation Department in providing services to youth in foster care through the Independent Living Program, Transitional Housing, Wraparound Services, and the Assembly Bill 12 (AB12) Program.

The Department of Social Services also coordinates with the Probation Department for the funds it receives for financial reimbursements of programs and services that benefit delinquent youth.



Wraparound Program

Wraparound was implemented in 1997 pursuant to Senate Bill (SB 163). This legislation allowed California counties to pilot the Wraparound process using non-federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care dollars to provide children and families with family-based service alternatives to group home care. As a result of SB 163, the Department of Social Services in partnership with the Probation Department, Behavioral Health, and the Imperial County Office of Education (ICOE) met for the purpose of planning and implementing a Wraparound Program. In 2011, the Imperial County Wraparound Plan was approved by the Imperial County Board of Supervisors and the California Department of Social Services and Imperial County began serving dependents and wards.

The program is intended to allow children to live and grow up in a safe, stable, permanent family environment. For children and families in the foster care system, the Wraparound works to:

- ❖ Enhance strengths by creating a strength-based intervention plan with a child and family team;
- ❖ Promote youth and parent involvement with family voice, choice, and preference;
- ❖ Use community-based services;
- ❖ Create independence and stability;
- ❖ Provide services that fit a child and family's identified needs, culture, and preferences;
- ❖ Create one plan to coordinate responses in all life domains; and
- ❖ Focus on achieving positive goals.

Wraparound is a strengths-based planning process that occurs in a team setting to engage with children, youth, and their families. Wraparound allows the Probation Department to provide a variety of services to eligible children at risk of being removed from their home and placed in congregate care. Wraparound is also a team-driven process with a focus on building individual and family strengths to help families achieve positive goals and improve well-being. A Child and Family Team (CFT) is formed and works directly with the youth's family to help identify their needs and strengths. The Team develops

an individualized service plan that describes specific strategies for meeting the needs identified by the family and reflects the child and family's culture and preferences.

Prior to a youth entering the Wraparound Program, their case is brought before the Multi-Disciplinary Service Team (MDST) and Interagency Placement Committee (IPC). During this meeting, the MDST/IPC members discuss the youth's needs and services, which would best benefit the youth and their family. The MDST/IPC must vote to approve a youth into the Wraparound program and once approved, the youth's case is transferred to a WRAP officer. While in WRAP, the youth and their family participate in Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings. CFT meetings are generally scheduled on a quarterly basis; however, they may also occur as often as needed. The Wraparound Officer maintains continual communication with the client and their family to stabilize the youth's living environment. Wraparound officers work closely with the family to ensure their participation in rehabilitative programs, to ensure that the youth remain in compliance with their terms and conditions of probation, and to provide additional supports to strengthen the family. In addition, Wraparound officers have the unique ability to utilize foster care maintenance payment to assist the youth and their family with additional services and/or needs.

Wraparound currently provides intensive community-based services to 14 youth and their families. The utilization of Wraparound services has been an effective tool in preserving families through the following services:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ❖ Multi-Disciplinary Services Team (MDST) Meetings | ❖ Strengths-Based Level of Care |
| ❖ Child Family Team Meetings (CFT) | ❖ 24/7 Availability of Probation Officer |
| ❖ Individualized/Family Case Management | ❖ Rent / Utility assistance |
| ❖ Provides intensive, individualized treatment planning to youth and their families | ❖ Intensive supervision and family contact |
| ❖ Family Centered / Family Voice and Choice / Needs Driven | ❖ Collaborative Team approach |
| ❖ Crisis Intervention | ❖ Case Planning |
| ❖ Transportation to and from services, school, appointments | ❖ Mentoring |
| ❖ Provide recreational opportunities | ❖ Grocery / Clothes / Furniture Assistance |
| ❖ Assist with Employment linkage and resume building | ❖ Act as liaison between families and other agencies |
| ❖ Attendance at Individualized Educational Plan meeting | ❖ Attendance at Student Study Team meetings |

Imperial County Office of Education (ICOE)

The Imperial County Office of Education maintains three academies and one Court School, Del Rio Academy, Valley Academy, Calexico Academy, and Esther Huff that specifically target at-risk youth who are under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court. Esther Huff School is located at Juvenile Hall and provides educational services to detained offenders and tailors



courses specific to the needs of each student. A Probation Officer works in collaboration with the three academy schools and is present at the school throughout the week to assist with reducing school truancy and delinquency. Probation Officers provide intensive supervision to youth on their caseload whose lack of attendance may lead to a School Attendance Review Board Hearing.

The schools provide pre and post assessments that are completed upon enrollment and discharge to measure academic progress, maintain, and develop individual education plans as necessary. ICOE also maintains a Student Attendance Review Board (SARB), which provides services for truants and high-risk students.

Approach to Facilitate Collaboration

The Imperial County Probation Department continues to facilitate collaboration between Imperial County agencies by providing referrals to programs and services to ensure at-risk youth are being given the opportunity to receive rehabilitative services. In addition, Probation Officers remain in constant contact with the programs and services staff, the participating clients, and the client's families to track clients' progress and make modifications to the clients' rehabilitation plan as necessary. Probation Officers also provide transportation for clients to participate in programs if needed. Additionally, the Imperial County Probation Department continues to utilize the Multi-Disciplinary Service Team (MDST) meetings, Interagency Placement Committee (IPC) meetings, and Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings when necessary to ensure all involved agencies meet at the same time to work in collaboration to assist the youth in meeting his/her rehabilitative goals.

B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas

The Imperial County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council remains committed to promoting public safety and improving the quality of life for the youth and families that encounter the Juvenile Justice System.

The JJCC and Imperial County Probation Department are continuing to focus on these projects:

Project A.S.P.I.R.E (After School Programming Integrating Recreation and Education)

The Probation Department, in partnership with County Parks and Recreation, developed an after-school and Saturday programming for youth in outlying areas of Imperial County. The Imperial County Probation Department utilizes Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds to provide youth within underserved areas of the community with opportunities for structured, supervised, and pro-social activities after school and on the weekends.

In February 2022, Project ASPIRE opened its first program site in the City of Westmorland, CA, which, to date, services up to █ youths between the ages of 9 and 13. Since its launch, Project ASPIRE has launched two additional sites located in the City of Heber and Niland. Like the Westmorland site, Project ASPIRE's Heber and Niland sites service youth between the ages of 9 and 13, with a current enrollment of █ youth in Heber and █ youth in Niland. Project ASPIRE operates three times per week, at their respective sites, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Youth participants have been recruited through city events and community outreach. Project ASPIRE has also included a transitional period of one year for the youth who have aged out of the program. These youth are known as Youth Leaders, currently there are █ Youth Leaders at the Westmorland site. Their duties are to assist Youth Services Specialist with minor assignments such as coming up with trending ideas for the youth as they are closer in age, and to serve as a positive role model for younger youth.

Project ASPIRE has worked in collaboration with community agencies to provide presentations to youth regarding the dangers of drugs and alcohol, identifying and reporting bullying and cyberbullying, building healthy habits and self-wellness. In addition, all three sites receive an hour of cultural enrichment programming biweekly from the Imperial Valley Desert Museum's "History on the Go!" Program where youth learned about our desert region, vegetation and indigenous populations while engaging in hands-on activities related to the lesson and Saturday outings to the Museum.

Additionally, Project ASPIRE has partnered with California State Parks to provide ongoing programming to youth at all three program sites. Not only will youth learn about geology, ecology, history, safety, plants, and wildlife, these lessons will enable youth to meet the necessary requirements

to become a Junior Ranger. This partnership includes monthly presentations and activities at all three sites and Saturday outings to California State Parks locations in the Imperial Valley.

Additionally, Project ASPIRE has partnered with Farm Smart through UC ANR Desert Research & Extension Center. All sites have been provided programming at Farm SMART during Saturday's programming and school breaks. This partnership has developed a special curriculum for the youth offering, engaging team building activities, opportunities that promote collaboration, personal growth, and positive social interactions. Farm Smart Coordinator and Interns have helped teach the youth how to revive the ASPIRE Garden and maintain it, for the of Summer 2025. In addition, the youth are learning about all aspects of agriculture including healthy living, produce, commodities, machinery, & livestock.

Project ASPIRE has had collaborations with Customs & Border Protection, Imperial County Sheriff's Office, & Imperial County Library. Project ASPIRE receives programming from these three agencies at least once a month. Being a border town, CBP educates the youth on how to handle situations when crossing the U.S. Border. Imperial County Sheriff's Office has also provided several presentations on crime prevention. Both agencies have expressed their youth programs for when the youth age out of Project ASPIRE, Cadet & Explores program. The Imperial County Library has a literacy program; the youth partake in these events as it enhances and expands their reading and writing abilities.

As in years past, youth from all program sites are offered the opportunity to participate in overnight summer camp through a partnership with the YMCA of San Diego. During the summer, Project ASPIRE youth and staff attend a week-long camping experience filled with adventure, fun, and friendships with activities that include horsemanship, archery, swimming, climbing, crafts, canoeing, among other activities which allow the youth to experience laughter, leadership, and build lifelong memories.

Project ASPIRE youth have also participated in field trips to Legoland, Knott's Berry Farm, Universal Studios, Sea World, Major League Baseball games, The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens, Palm Springs Ariel Tramway, San Diego Zoo & Safari and various Imperial County community fairs, parades and events. Project ASPIRE is also in communication with Imperial Valley College, San Diego State University-Imperial Valley Campus, & San Diego State University-San Diego Campus for future campus tours.

Project ASPIRE Youth Service Specialists continue to work with youth housed at the Imperial County Juvenile Hall and the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home five days per week for approximately three hours per day. The staff provide services similar to those offered at their afterschool sites and strive to

serve these youth in a supportive role while providing educational and recreational activities, arts and crafts, and cultural enrichment activities.

Creating additional prevention-related programs under Probation's umbrella is a critical aspect in reinforcing the JJCC's role in delivering children's services countywide. Identifying new partners and enhancing existing relationships in both the public and private sector to promote evidence-based approaches and facilitate positive youth development is a key component of this project.

SB 823 – Project Phoenix



On September 30, 2020, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 823 to eventually eliminate California's state operated network of juvenile justice facilities. The last remaining facilities were closed in June of 2023, realigning these services to the counties.

SB 823 also established a Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program to fund county-based custody, care, and supervision of youth who would have otherwise been eligible for commitment to state facilities.

Pursuant to the legislation, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council has appointed a SB 823 Subcommittee that identified critical elements for Imperial County's SB 823 Plan.

Currently, the Imperial County Juvenile Hall houses [REDACTED] who have been committed to the Secure Track Program named Project Phoenix. Youth participate in programming provided by the Imperial Valley Desert Museum, the Juvenile Hall's Garden of Dreams program, Imperial Valley Public Arts mural project, and Positive Engagement Team (PET) program. The Probation Department continues to research additional workforce development programming that can be implemented for youth approaching their re-entry phase. In addition, these individuals are currently being provided with the following services:

- ❖ High school courses through Esther Huff School, as well as higher education courses through Imperial Valley College
- ❖ Building Healthy Relationships and Self-Empowerment classes provided by the SDSU Prison Education Project
- ❖ Mental health and substance use disorder services through Imperial County Behavioral Health.
- ❖ Cognitive Behavioral Therapy provided by Imperial County Probation Officers
- ❖ Anger Replacement Therapy (ART) and Parenting classes through Rite Track Youth Services

- ❖ Life coaching services that support youth in meeting their education, career pathway, and life goals through the Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP)
- ❖ Mentorship, Re-entry Services and Post Release Services through Rite Track Youth services
- ❖ Tutoring and Mentorship services delivered by a State of California-credentialed teacher.
- ❖ Work Experience through Imperial County Sheriff's Office Print Shop
- ❖ Work Experience through Imperial County Sheriff's Office Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement Safety Team (OHVEST)

ELLAS-Pueden Program

Aligned with the efforts of the Vera Institute of Justice, California's Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) and the End Girl's Incarceration (EGI) initiatives, Rite Track Youth Services, in partnership with the Imperial County Probation Department, launched Ellas-Pueden is an expanded version of the original Ellas program designed to empower female and gender-expansive youth while promoting pathways to independence and self-sufficiency.

Meaning "Girls Can," Ellas Pueden" builds upon the foundation of the 2024 ELLAS program and introduces workforce development opportunities alongside its trauma-informed, community-based diversion model. The program serves girls and gender-expansive youth ages 11 to 18 through personalized services that provide less-restrictive alternatives to incarceration or juvenile sentencing or up to twenty-five participants at a time.

Referrals are received through a "warm hand-off" approach facilitated by county partners who identify and refer eligible youth to Rite Track, ensuring rapid engagement and minimal disruption during critical intervention periods

C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

The Imperial County Probation Department implements several different strategies in response to juvenile crime and delinquency to decrease crime within our community and model graduated responses for at-risk juvenile offenders.

Youth referred for first-time minor offenses who meet the program's criteria may participate in the Community Work Service (CWS) Program. These youth are screened by a Probation Officer and recommended for inclusion and youth accepted into the program must complete community work service hours in lieu of fines or as an alternative to the filing of a petition with the juvenile court. Additionally, at the completion of their Community Work Service Program commitment, youth are required to submit an essay that details the experiences gained through the program. The Probation Department identifies the work sites and provides direct supervision to the offenders participating in the program. The Community Work Service Program is utilized to offer young people an opportunity to perform public service projects, which benefit communities, neighborhoods, charitable organizations, local schools, and other agencies throughout the Imperial Valley.

Another strategy offered by the Imperial County Probation Department is Project S.T.A.R, which funds a Probation Officer assigned to the three different alternative schools maintained by the Imperial County Office of Education. The Probation Officer, along with school personnel, identifies students who are chronic truants and makes referrals to the S.T.A.R Program. The Probation Officer participates in the initial screening of each case and makes appropriate referrals for drug counseling, anger management or behavioral health services. In addition, the Probation Officer attends school-related meetings, such as Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Student Support Team (SST), and School Attendance Review Board (SARB), on behalf of the Probation Department. Since the return of in-person classes, the Probation Officer has returned to the associated schools and has been providing in-person services.

For juveniles that have been placed on probation, there are evidence-based strategies Probation Officers utilize, including Motivational Interviewing (MI), a person-centered strategy used to elicit patient motivation to change specific negative behavior. This technique engages the youth and elicits change-talk, which evokes motivation to make positive changes. An additional evidence-based strategy Probation Officers utilize is an assessment tool to determine the youth's criminogenic needs and risk to re-offend. Probation Officers interview the youth and their family and input information into the assessment tool, which will provide the Probation Officer with risk factors and protective factors. The Probation Officer, in collaboration with the youth and their family, will develop a case plan to best map

the youth's rehabilitation process. The case plan is then updated every six months, or sooner, should the minor's goals and needs change.

Additionally, juveniles already placed on probation may be referred to Rite Track's Evening Learning Center or Mentoring and Tracking Program based on the assessed level of needs of the client. The Probation Department assigns a Probation Officer to assist youth referred to the Evening Learning Center and to ensure that the Probation Department and Rite Track staff work collaboratively to properly service the needs of all youth within the program. The youth referred to the program have varying criminogenic risk factors and, through the Noble Risk Assessment and the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment, Rite Track is able to determine the specific needs of each youth, which results in an individualized case plan. Additionally, the Evening Learning Center provides the following Cognitive-Based Groups: Aggression Replacement Therapy, Thinking for a Change, Cultural Enrichment, Healthy Relationships, Seeking Safety, and Social Awareness. The Mentoring and Tracking Program attempts to reduce the risk of re-entry into the juvenile justice system by partnering the participants of the program with mentors who work closely with the youth and their families during their time in the program. Rite Track also offers monthly "Mentoring Mixers," where participants gather once a month and work on their social skills through a series of self-development workshops and peer-to-peer counseling.

Another prevention approach for probation youth is utilizing Electronic Monitoring to combat juvenile crime and delinquency. Electronic Monitoring is used as a means of intervention to mitigate recidivism and violations of probation. The minor is supervised in the community with electronic monitoring to ensure he or she fulfills the requirements of release from detention including curfew and, in certain circumstances, staying away from a victim's places of residence. The minor may also be subjected to inclusion and exclusion zones.

Imperial County is also utilizing Project ASPIRE to engage children, ages 9 – 13, in underserved areas of our community with supervised, pro-social activities, educational services, cultural services, recreational activities and field trips. Project ASPIRE aims to provide participants with knowledge, experiences and skills to aid in the success of their future endeavors.

High-risk youth, including those in need of Wraparound Services or those at risk of being placed in out of county residential treatment facilities, are referred to the Multi-Disciplinary Service Team (MDST) and Interagency Placement Committee (IPC). The meetings with the Multi-Disciplinary Service Team and Interagency Placement Committee are intended to ensure that the circumstances impacting the

child and family, especially those related to the potential strengths and needs, are fully identified and considered in formulating recommendations related to the youth's case. The Multi-Disciplinary Service Team and Interagency Placement Committee meetings consist of representatives from the Imperial County Probation Department, Imperial County Department of Social Services, Imperial County Behavioral Health Services, Imperial County Office of Education, and Rite Track Youth Services. Additionally, the children, parents, and other community organizations, such as CASA and the Regional Center, participate in these meetings on an as-needed basis. The Multi-Disciplinary Service Team and Interagency Placement Committee Meetings are held weekly, or as needed, to review high-risk cases and determine the best rehabilitative and/or placement option for the client; agencies are able to begin the referral process for a client once meetings are completed.

Juvenile offenders may also be placed in the Wraparound Program, a program that was created collaboratively by the Imperial County Probation Department, Imperial County Behavioral Health and Imperial County Department of Social Services. Wraparound has been proven to reduce the risk of out-of-home placement and lower the rate of recidivism by bringing individuals, agencies and the community together as the decision-making team with the central focus being to meet the needs of the child and family. Wraparound Officers provide intensive, individualized treatment planning and supervision to youth and their families. Further, Wraparound officers coordinate all initial and follow-up Child and Family Team meetings for their clients, which serve as a critical point of communication for all individuals and agencies involved in the youth's life.

If youth on probation do not follow their probation terms and conditions and pose a danger to themselves and/or the community, they may be detained at Juvenile Hall. The youth's Probation Officer will meet with them while in custody to review and update their case plan, discuss the reason they are in custody, and make additional referrals to services to ensure the length of time in custody is minimized. Should a client on probation exhaust all services and are unable to maintain themselves within their home and community in a safe manner, the Probation Department will recommend that the client continue with rehabilitative services in an out-of-home placement.

Additionally, if a youth commits a 707(b) offense and the Court determines a less restrictive disposition is unsuitable, that youth will be committed to Imperial County Juvenile Hall Secure Track. With the implementation of SB 823, the Imperial County Probation Department has developed a rehabilitative treatment program to serve this population at Imperial County Juvenile Hall.

D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council has made updates and revisions to its Delinquency Prevention Plan for 2025/2026 consisting of:

❖ **Updates to statistics for Imperial County Probation Department Juvenile Supervision:**

- Current Population Statistics
- Population Trend Statistics
- Felony / Misdemeanor Arrest Statistics
- Probation Referrals Statistics
- Referral Disposition Statistics

❖ **Updates to existing services:**

- Rite Track Youth Services for SB 823 Youth, Ellas-Pueden Program
- Imperial County Behavioral Health Services for Juveniles & SB 823 Youth
- Project Phoenix / SB823
- Police & Sheriff Athletic Leagues

❖ **Updating focus areas and goals for the Juvenile Justice Commission**

❖ **Revisions and updates to the Juvenile Justice Action Strategy**

❖ **Updates regarding JJCPA and YOBG budgets for the upcoming fiscal year**

❖ **Revision of Appendix data to include more details and analysis**

The Probation Department and the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council will continue to explore and develop new programs and services that can better service the youth of Imperial County. The Imperial County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council remains committed to providing annual updates to the Board of State and Community Corrections for California to demonstrate the successes and accomplishments of its funded programming and practices throughout the Imperial County.

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

A. Information Sharing and Data Collection

The Imperial County Probation Department utilizes information systems to facilitate data sharing across agencies within the county to promote successful juvenile justice programs and strategies. The Multi-Disciplinary Service Team (MDST) and Interagency Placement Committee (IPC) Meetings allow county agencies to work together to share information and data on cases to ensure that all circumstances impacting the youth and family, especially those related to the potential strengths and needs, are fully identified and considered in formulating recommendations related to the youth's case.

Child Welfare Services Case Management System (CMS/CWS) is software utilized by the Probation Department, the Department of Social Services, and Public Health to input information for youth in foster care placement. The information inputted into the CWS/CMS database consists of the child's referral history, demographics, as well as past and current placement history to ensure that all agencies have access to vital information to make better-informed decisions. Information within the CWS/CMS database is submitted to the State of California, and it is utilized to determine the amount of funding provided to agencies that service foster youth within the Imperial County.

Rite Track also provides in-depth activity reports regarding their clients to Probation Officers, so that they can determine how youths are progressing through the program. The Probation Department also works in collaboration with all school districts in Imperial County to obtain grades, disciplinary records, and attendance information for minors who are on probation.

Through the utilization of these records, the Probation Department can ensure the client's educational needs are being met. In addition, with appropriate releases of information, Imperial County Behavioral Health can share information related to a client's diagnosis, treatment plans, and medication support, which is essential for the Probation Department to ensure the client's mental health needs are being properly treated and addressed.

B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

The Imperial County has a fully constituted Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council as prescribed by Welfare & Institutions Code 749.22. The Imperial County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council is an established, multiagency committee that funds a continuum of county-based responses to juvenile

crime. The Coordinating Council includes the Imperial County Chief Probation Officer, as Chair of the Council, the Imperial County District Attorney, the Imperial County Public Defender, the Imperial County Sheriff, a member of the Imperial County Board of Supervisors, the Director of Imperial County Department of Social Services, the Director of Imperial County Behavioral Health Services, the City of Brawley Police Department Chief, the Senior Director of the Imperial County Office of Education, and a former City of El Centro Council Member. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council also includes representatives from nonprofit community-based organizations that provide services to youth in the community.

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

Evening Learning Center (ELC) & Mentoring and Tracking Programs

The Imperial County Probation Department continues to contract with Rite Track LLC for operation of the Evening Learning Center (ELC) After School Program as well as the Mentoring and Tracking Program, which operate during the high crime periods. Rite Track continues to participate in monthly interagency meetings consisting of Imperial County Schools, the Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP), the Imperial County Probation Department, and Rite Track staff. Through these monthly interagency meetings, Rite Track staff can assess students' progress, performance, and current setbacks to develop and deploy individualized service plans tailored to the student's needs.

The Evening Learning Center also continues to provide recreational activities to students, which helps them develop self-esteem, personal awareness, and learn to better manage their behaviors and feelings while at the same time reducing their levels of stress. The Evening Learning Center has expanded upon recreational activities by offering an additional day at a local gym, where students can continue to work on improving their physical health and endurance.

Evening Learning Center / Mentoring and Tracking Probation Officer

The Imperial County Probation Department through JJCPA continues to fund a Probation Officer who is assigned to the Evening Learning Center to decrease truancy, arrest rates, and admittances to Juvenile Hall for participants of the program, as well as to ensure that participants successfully complete their terms and conditions of probation. The Probation Officer assigned to the Evening Learning Center supports and reinforces program staff in their efforts to guide and instruct youth in pro-social after-school activities.

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

A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

The Imperial County Probation Department's overall strategy for working with non-707(b) offenders is to provide the necessary amount of intervention to each client through evidence-based practices. At-risk youth, who are not under juvenile court jurisdiction participate in the Community Work Service (CWS) Program where they are given the opportunity to avoid formal court proceedings and perform public service projects.

During the initial stages of the youth being adjudicated and placed on probation, Probation Officers will utilize Motivational Interviewing when they meet with an at-risk youth as well as throughout the youth's term of probation. Motivational Interviewing will assist the officers when conducting assessments to determine the client's criminogenic needs. Once the youth's risk level is assessed and/or reassessed through the evidence-based assessment, an appropriate supervision level for the youth will be assigned based on the youth's risk level. This risk level will assist the Probation Officer in determining the appropriate amount of supervision and type of services that should be offered to the youth. After the youth's risk level is assessed, the Probation Officer, youth, and guardians jointly develop a case plan to best determine the client's needs and to set goals during their term of probation.

During the youth's term of probation, the Probation Officer works collaboratively with the youth, their family, and service providers to assist the youth in reaching their case plan goals. Should the youth violate their terms and conditions of probation, Probation Officers utilize graduated interventions to attempt to assist the youth with compliance. Graduated interventions may include counseling, additional referrals to service providers, intensified supervision, electronic monitoring, transitioning the youth to Wraparound and court reviews.

Probation officers may also recommend at-risk youth to continue rehabilitative services in out-of-home placement through an MDST/IPC process and court hearing should the above-mentioned strategies be unsuccessful. Youth can either terminate their probation while out-of-home placement or prior to their probation expiration by successfully completing rehabilitative goals as indicated in their case plans and court orders. Additionally, if a youth returns from placement and remains on probation, the youth will participate in Rite Track's three-month aftercare program at the Evening Learning Center. Through the three-month aftercare program, and in collaboration with the Probation Department, the Evening

Learning Center can provide returning youth with an additional 30 dosage hours of evidence-based practices, substance abuse support, employment linkage and preparation, educational/vocational support and individual and family-based therapy.

Additionally, at-risk and youth on probation may participate in the annual Youth Summit hosted by the Probation Department. This event's intended outcomes are to develop problem-solving skills among youth and parents, build awareness of community resources, and educate participants on the importance of education, life skills, and healthy lifestyles. As the Youth Summit has developed, it has been expanded to include youth on probation, foster care youth in both the delinquency and dependency arena, as well as non-probation youth.

B. Regional Agreements

Currently, Imperial County does not have any regional agreements or arrangements that are supported through YOBG funds.

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

Imperial County Probation Department Staffing Enhancements

Six (6) Deputy Probation Officers – Moderate to High Caseload

The Imperial County Probation Department utilizes five Probation Officers who are assigned to high-risk caseloads of no more than 30 minors per officer, funded through the Youthful Offender Block Grant. These Probation Officers can identify and target criminogenic needs for the assessed youth and translate those risk factors into treatment objectives through an evidence-based risk assessment tool. In addition, these officers utilize evidence-based tools and practices that lead to relevant interventions and supervision practices to reduce recidivism. Case plans are developed with each minor to ensure they have clear objectives and goals. The six staff funded through this program are classified as followed: One (1) DPO III, Four (4) DPO II, and one (1) Extra Help DPO II.

Six (6) Youth Service Specialists – Project ASPIRE

In addition, with the implementation of Project ASPIRE, the Probation Department has established new positions in the Department to provide services to youth participants of the program. The Youth Service Specialists will plan, organize and supervise after-school activities for pre-teens in underserved communities throughout the county.

One (1) Probation Assistant

The Probation Assistant will provide support to staff assigned to the Juvenile Division within the Imperial County Probation Department, which will allow Deputy Probation Officers more time to focus on providing supervision and supportive services to youth on probation.

Two (2) Supervisory Probation Officer

The Supervisory Probation Officers supervise and manage department staff assigned to the Juvenile Unit and Project Aspire and ensure that the program is focused on providing at-risk children in underserved areas of the county opportunities to gain confidence and engage in pro-social activities. The Supervisory Probation Officer will also collaborate with the Imperial County Department of Parks and Recreation and the County Library to maintain and expand program activities.

Community Work Service (CWS) Program

The Community Work Service Program is offered to select juvenile offenders that meet program criteria to complete community work service hours in lieu of fines as an alternative to the filing of a petition with the juvenile court. The Probation Department organizes the work sites and manages the offenders subject to community work service ordered by the court. The Community Work Service Program offers offenders an opportunity to perform public service projects that benefit local communities, neighborhoods, charitable organizations, schools and other agencies throughout the Imperial Valley.

The Community Work Service Program is designed to give youth an opportunity to fulfill the court's mandates as well as reinforce a restorative approach to juvenile justice. This program serves as a consequence to the behavior leading to the arrest and to avoid conviction and juvenile record, as well as to build focus around positive and meaningful service to the community. Youth involved with this program have performed graffiti abatement, event staffing and clean up, museum curation, and other meaningful activities.

The Probation Department has received many acknowledgments from other agencies, cities and non-profits for the work performed by the Community Work Service crew. Community Work Service barriers include weather extremes within the county; however, the program has been able to find alternative indoor locations that will accommodate the extreme weather conditions thus allowing the program to continue to operate twelve months a year.

Police Athletic & Sheriff Activities Leagues (PAL/SAL)

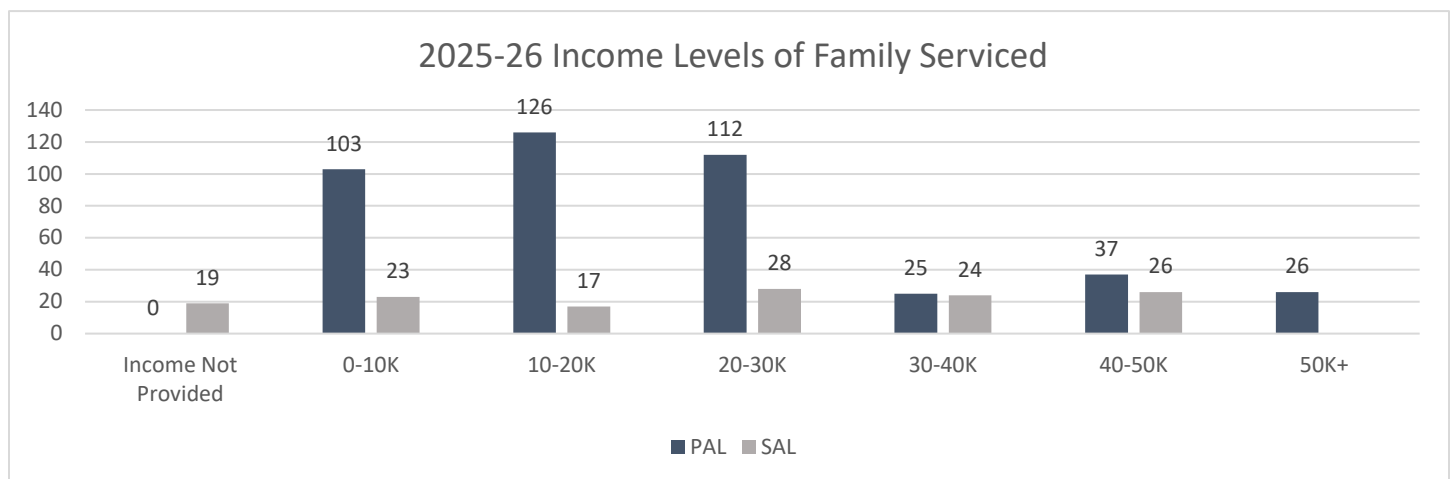
The PAL and SAL Programs provide at-risk youth in the community an opportunity for positive, participatory sport experiences with law enforcement officers who serve as both coaches and role

models. These programs strive to increase physical activity among youth and decrease their risk-taking behaviors by providing opportunities for youth to play in well-equipped, organized sports leagues.

The El Centro Police Activities League (PAL) fosters positive police and community relationships with youth in the City of El Centro and across Imperial County and strives to lead in the engagement of Imperial County youth, police officers, and the community. In addition to providing sports and recreation programs, PAL hosts tournaments and encourages external independent teams to register and participate.

The Sheriff's Activities League (SAL) provides quality activities for the youth in Imperial County, with the goal of reducing juvenile crime and delinquency. The program's activities are designed to pair law enforcement officers with young people to develop discipline, mutual trust, and respect. Outdoor activities provide youth with important life skills and experiences such as relationship building, leading, following, providing support, planning and accepting responsibility for their own actions. These activities and skills increase the likelihood of successful reintegration into the community and reduce recidivism. The Imperial County Sheriff Activities League (SAL) provides activities including summer programs, mentoring, Polynesian and ballet dance programs, Girl Circle program, Life After High School, a Toy Giveaway, the SAL Fair Day and Back to School Shopping Spree.

Throughout 2025, SAL provided programs and services to 168 youth and their families in Imperial

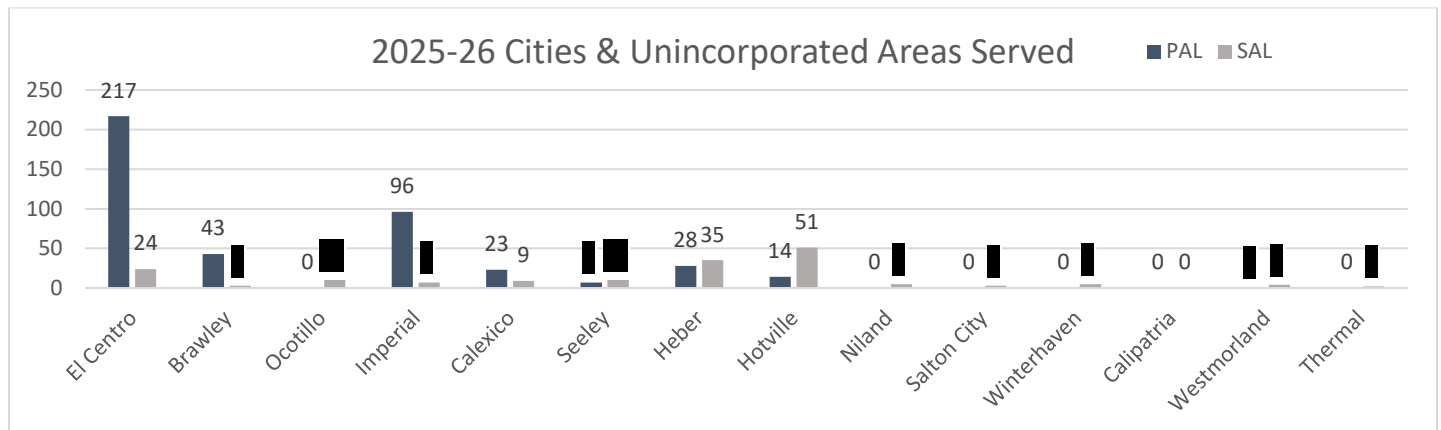


County. In 2025, PAL provided programs and services to 429 youth and their families. The PAL program provides services to local families of low to extremely low incomes and offers quality after-school programs and activities for their children that they could not otherwise afford.

The PAL program continues to be an important pillar in providing activities such as soccer, boxing, martial arts, a mentoring program, a youth leadership program, a bicycle repair course, golfing, a

“National Night Out” event, and an Explorers Program provided in partnership with the El Centro Police Department.

These types of activities and services remain a key component in ensuring that youth within the community do not become involved with the justice system as they build numerous skills that can lead to a successful life.



Imperial Valley Desert Museum

The Probation Department continues their partnership with the Imperial Valley Desert Museum. The partnership continues to allow youth within the juvenile hall to receive educational instruction by the Imperial Valley Desert Museum where they learn about traditional culture and participate in art projects throughout the year. The Desert Museum offered weekly fine arts and culture projects to youth in Juvenile Hall through their “History on the Go” program. The weekly classes included lessons on traditional Kumeyaay culture, science and technology, and earth science activities.

In addition to The Desert Museum’s programming at juvenile hall; youth from Project ASPIRE benefit from receiving educational services through their “History on the Go” program. Like youth at Juvenile Hall, the Desert Museum visits youth at both of Project ASPIRE’s program sites once per week where they partake in an educational lesson and a “hands on” project.

Keeping Youth on Track Education Safety (KYOTES)

Previously known as the NYPUM Program, the Imperial County Probation Department partners with the City of El Centro Parks and Recreation Department to coordinate the Keeping Youth on Track Education Safety (KYOTES) program, an off-road highway program for boys and girls ages 10 through 18.

The program tackles the problems of gangs, school truancy, and school behavior that youth in Imperial Valley can often face and offers youth the opportunity to develop self-esteem, create values for daily living, and find a sense of belonging and companionship through minibike related activities. The KYOTES program can use minibikes to attract youth to outdoor activities and provides incentives to improve their lifestyle through the excitement of riding. Youth learn teamwork, fair play, trust, respect for property, discipline and other skills through trail riding.

Project A.S.P.I.R.E

Project ASPIRE is an after-school program designed to offer children in underserved communities supervised, pro-social activities between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The six Youth Service Specialists (YSS) provide educational, recreational and cultural opportunities to the youth they serve. Youth Service Specialists are currently providing programming to Westmorland, Heber, Niland, Imperial County Juvenile Hall and the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home. The Probation Department is currently utilizing four vehicles purchased through YOBG funds to transport youth throughout the county to various activities and sites.

Youth from all program sites are offered the opportunity to participate in out-of-county field trips. These field trips have included outings to Legoland, Knott's Berry Farm, Universal Studios, Sea World, Major League Baseball games, The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens, Palm Springs Ariel Tramway, San Diego Zoo & Safari and various Imperial County community fairs, parades and events. Project ASPIRE is also in communication with Imperial Valley College, San Diego State University-Imperial Valley Campus, & San Diego State University-San Diego Campus for future campus tours.

Youth Summit

The intended outcomes of the Youth Summit are to help participating youth and families develop problem-solving skills, build awareness of community resources, and help them gain knowledge on the importance of healthy lifestyles, life skills, and higher learning. Initially, the targeted population for the Youth Summit was high-risk youth under probation supervision, however, the Youth Summit's audience has gradually expanded to include youth on probation who pose a lower risk, foster care youth in both the delinquency and dependency arena, as well as local middle and high school students who are not under any type of court jurisdiction. Youthful Offender Block Grant funding supports a keynote speaker, as well as the motivational workshops offered to youth at the Summit. The 2026 Youth Summit event is scheduled to take place later this year.

Boys and Girls Club of Imperial Valley – Brawley Teen Center

For 57 years, the Boys & Girls Club of Imperial Valley (BGCIV) has been in the forefront of youth development, working with young people from disadvantaged economic, social, and family circumstances. The BGCIV provides services at the two sites located within the City of Brawley and Holtville and works to impact youth positively in three priority areas: Academic Success, Good Character and Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles.

The Teen Center Club located in Brawley is a safe place for teens age 13-18, where they can drop in after school and be themselves without feeling the pressure of being judged. The program serves approximately 15-20 teens daily with services provided from Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3-6pm and Friday 12:30-6pm with activities varying from sporting activities, arts activities, volunteerism, and academic pursuits. The Teen Club offers teens resources and programs to create meaningful experiences as they prepare a plan for their future.

Programming

- ❖ **E-Sports Competition** - A new favorite among members, the BGCIV e-sports program fosters teamwork, communication, and strategic thinking. Weekly tournaments and league-style play offer a fun and inclusive environment where teens not only compete but also learn about digital careers and gaming industry pathways.
- ❖ **Culinary Experience Program** – Teens get hands-on experience in the kitchen with the new BGCIV Culinary Experience program, which allows them to learn knife skills, basic nutrition, and how to prepare full meals. This program seeks to build life skills and sparks interest in culinary careers. Participants also get to share their creations with the club community, adding an extra layer of pride and purpose.
- ❖ **Workforce Readiness** – Preparing teens for the future is a top priority. Our workforce readiness series includes workshops on resume building, interview practice, financial literacy, and workplace etiquette. Local professionals have also volunteered to mentor and share real-world insights, helping teens explore potential career paths and build confidence in their abilities.

Conclusion

The Imperial County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council is dedicated to enhancing public safety and enhancing the well-being of youth and families within our community. By implementing evidence-based interventions and diversionary tactics, Imperial County endeavors to steer numerous youths towards more promising paths while preventing their involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The ongoing accomplishments highlighted in this report underscore the efficacy of our initiatives and underscore our steadfast dedication to our overarching mission. Through extending support and resources to families engaged with the justice system, we actively contribute to breaking the cycle of reoffending and fostering better outcomes for youth in our community. Furthermore, our endeavors to adopt risk-responsivity models in community supervision facilitate accountability and rehabilitation among justice-involved youth.

Even as the JJCC confronts the persistent challenges of the juvenile justice landscape, we remain resolute in our commitment to identifying and implementing necessary changes and strategies. Our unwavering focus is on fortifying justice-involved families, safeguarding our community, and investing in the future of Imperial County's youth. At the heart of our success lies the invaluable collaboration of our partner agencies. Together, the Imperial County JJCC forms an intricate ecosystem of support, with each entity playing a vital role in the collective pursuit of our community's well-being. It is incumbent upon us to ensure the sustainability of these partnerships, advocating for the continued support and funding necessary to uphold our shared mission.

It is our hope that this report serves as a comprehensive and enlightening overview of our endeavors and achievements. We extend our gratitude for the ongoing support and collaboration of our community and stakeholders as we collectively strive towards our mission of fostering public safety and enriching the lives of youth and families in Imperial County.

Appendix - Fiscal Year 2026-2027 JJCPA Spending Plan

Estimated FY 2026/27 Allocation:	\$	505,300
Growth 25/26 Allocation:	\$	548,621
Total Available:	\$	1,053,921

Department / Program	Funding Amount	Percentage of Total
<u>Probation Department:</u>		
Salary – One (1) Deputy Probation Officer II*	\$ 81,749	7.76 %
Overtime	\$ 10,000	0.95 %
Bilingual	\$ 780	0.07 %
Medicare	\$ 1,185	0.11 %
Retirement*	\$ 33,076	3.14 %
Group Insurance	\$ 15,292	1.45 %
Dental/Vision	\$ 880	0.08 %
Redemption of Benefits	\$ 1,500	0.14 %
Worker Comp Insurance	\$ 1,359	0.13 %
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 111	0.01 %
Liability Insurance	\$ 2,250	0.21 %
Overhead Reimbursement*	\$ 5,682	0.54 %
Evening Learning Center (YOBG, WRAP)	\$ 710,000	67.37 %
Office Expense	\$ 3,000	0.28 %
Special Department Expense	\$ 2,500	0.24 %
Transfer Out-Probation (Mileage, Cell Phone)	\$ 8,847	0.84 %
Total	\$ 878,211	83.33 %
Surplus Available	\$ 175,710	

Included in the FY 26/27 Spending Plan is the allocation of one Deputy Probation Officer II is supervising high/medium risk minors at the Evening Learning Center. The cost includes COB services for the Evening Learning Center and Mentor/Tracking. (Salary, Medicare, Benefits, Worker Comp, Unemployment, and Liability costs are actual figures provided by Imperial County Human Resources and Risk Management as of 4/16/2026)

** Retirement includes: County Contr Retirement, Retirement - Pension Bond, Retirement-Health Plan for regular fulltime staff *Overhead costs are estimated at this time..*

Appendix - Fiscal Year 2026-2027 YOBG Spending Plan

Estimated FY 2026/27 Allocation:	\$	1,633,647
Growth 25/26 Allocation:	\$	71,504
OYCR DOR GRANT FY 2026/27	\$	200,000
Total Available:	\$	1,905,151

Department / Program	Funding Amount	Percentage of Total
<u>Probation Department:</u>		
Salary — Two (2) Supervisor Probation Officer, One (1) Deputy Probation Officer III, Four (4) Deputy Probation Officer II*, Six (6) Youth Service Specialists One (1) Probation Assistant, One (1) Extra Help DPO II	\$ 1,001,760	52.58 %
Overtime	\$ 200,000	10.50 %
Bilingual	\$ 1,560	0.08 %
Medicare (Regular Full Time + Extra Help Staff)	\$ 13,140	0.69 %
Retirement*	\$ 325,823	17.10 %
Group Insurance	\$ 238,221	12.50 %
Dental/Vision	\$ 8,655	0.45 %
Redemption of Benefits	\$ 5,000	0.26 %
Youth Summit	\$ 14,000	0.73 %
AB12 Recognition	\$ 6,000	0.31 %
Community Work Service Program	\$ 50,000	2.62 %
SAL/PAL	\$ 20,000	1.05 %
KYOTES	\$ 20,000	1.05 %
Boys & Girls Club of Imperial Valley Teen Center	\$ 20,000	1.05 %
Imperial Valley Desert Museum	\$ 10,008	0.53 %
Office Expenses	\$ 15,000	0.79 %
OYCR DOR Grant Expense	\$ 156,524	8.22 %
Vehicle Maintenance Fees	\$ 18,500	0.97 %
Transfer Out - Probation (Mileage, CWS OT)	\$ 70,000	3.67 %
Project ASPIRE Operating Costs	\$ 162,000	8.50 %
Total	\$ 2,356,191	123.67 %
YOBG Reserves (\$3.15M)	\$ (451,040)	

Included in the FY 26/27 Spending Plan is funding services provided to Youth within the Community. This includes funding for 2 Supervisor Probation Officer, 1 Deputy Probation Officer III, 4 Deputy Probation Officers, 6 Youth Services Specialists, 1 Probation Assistant, and 1 Extra Help (EH) DPO II to provide services. (Salary, Medicare and Benefits costs are actual figures provided by Imperial County Human Resources and Risk Management as of 4/16/2026).

* Retirement includes: County Contr Retirement, Retirement - Pension Bond, Retirement-Health Plan for regular fulltime staff

Appendix - Imperial County Juvenile Referral Data

The purpose of this section is to provide additional information related to youth in Imperial County. Data includes information collected and categorized by the California Department of Justice for youth ages 10 and under, ages 10 – 17, and individuals aged 18 and over, who are considered juvenile wards of the courts.

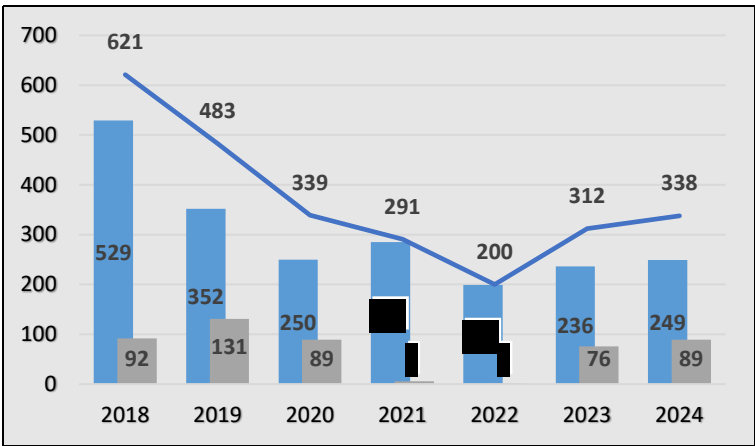
Referrals of Juveniles to Probation Department for Delinquent Acts

This section includes data provided by the California Department of Justice; it details referrals received by the Imperial County Probation Department from various sources in the following ways:

- **Referral Types** – Based on the referral received, a referral will be categorized in two ways:
 - **New** – This is a referral for a youth that was not previously in the DOJ system at the time of entering the referral data.
 - **Subsequent** – This is a referral for a youth that has been previously entered into the DOJ system at the time of entering referral data.
- **Referral Source** – Describes where the referral originates from.
- **Referral Offenses** – The breakdown information related to the alleged offenses committed by the youth described on the referral submitted.
- **Detention Result** – Information related to whether the youth was detained and/or how they were detained.
- **Prosecutor Actions** – Actions the local District Attorney's Office took related to the referrals.
- **Probation Dispositions** – Actions the local Probation Department took based on Prosecutor Actions.
- **Accepted Petition Types** – The breakdown of the referrals that had action taken on by the Probation and District Attorney's Office.
- **Petitioned Offenses** - The breakdown of offenses committed by the youth from the referrals that action was taken on.
- **Court Dispositions** – The result / outcome of the court's decision regarding the referral petitioned

Referral Types Submitted to Probation

Referral Types Submitted to Probation				
Year	New	Subsequent	Total	Change % Over Previous Year
2024	249	89	338	+8%
2023	236	76	312	+56%
2022			200	-31%
2021			291	-14%
2020	250	89	339	-30%
2019	352	131	483	-22%
2018	529	92	621	N/A



Referral Types Age Break Down (2018-2024)

Year / Age	10 & Under	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18 & Over	Total
2024	0	0				28	45	58	63	131	338
2023				0		14	27	37	52	167	312
2022	0					14	19	43	53	59	200
2021	0	0				19	35	51	75	102	291
2020	0	0	0			22	40	63	94	117	339
2019		0			13	58	75	103	127	100	483
2018					25	70	63	141	166	148	621

Referral Types Sex Break Down (2018-2024)

Year / Sex	Male	Female	Total
2024	282	56	338
2023	239	73	312
2022	145	55	200
2021	229	62	291
2020	251	88	339
2019	383	100	483
2018	485	136	621

Referral Types Offenses Break Down (2018-2024)

Year / Offense	Felony	Misdemeanor	Status Offenses	Total
2024	201	320	14	535
2023		328		496
2022		187		272
2021	138	353	0	491
2020		389		670
2019	390	502	0	892
2018		606		1025

Detention Result from Referral Source (2018-2024)

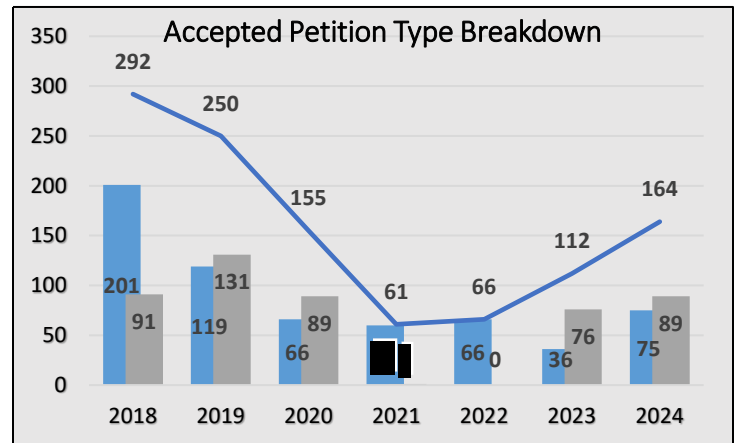
Year / Result	Not Detained	Detained – Non-Secure Facility	Detained - Secure Facility	Unknown / Not Identified	Total
2024	211		124		338
2023	188	0			312
2022	140	0			200
2021	209	0	82	0	291
2020	179		155		339
2019	215		264		483
2018	347			0	621

Accepted Petition Types

Prosecutor Actions				
Year	No Petition Filed	Petition Accepted	Petition Not Accepted	Total
2024	173	■	■	338
2023	179	108	25	312
2022	104	66	30	200
2021	222	■	■	291
2020	184	155	0	339
2019	■	250	■	483
2018	295	292	34	621

Probation Dispositions				
Year	Closed	Filed	Other	Total
2024	173	■	■	338
2023	179	108	25	312
2022	104	66	30	200
2021	222	■	■	291
2020	184	155	0	339
2019	■	250	■	483
2018	295	292	34	621

Accepted Petition Type Breakdown				
Year	New	Subsequent	Total	% Accepted from Total Referrals
2024	75	89	164	49%
2023	36	76	112	36%
2022	66	0	66	33%
2021	■	■	61	21%
2020	66	89	155	46%
2019	119	131	250	52%
2018	201	91	292	47%



Petition - Sex Breakdown			
Year	Male	Female	Total
2024	75	89	164
2023	36	76	112
2022	■	■	66
2021	■	■	61
2020	121	34	155
2019	197	53	250
2018	226	66	292

Petitioned Offenses				
Year	Felony	Misdemeanor	Status	Total
2024	171	■	■	293
2023	102	■	■	193
2022	56	45	0	101
2021	66	53	0	119
2020	254	136	0	390
2019	349	212	0	561
2018	347	■	■	597

Court Dispositions (2018-2024)							
Year	Dismissed	Transferred	Informal Probation	DEJ	Wardship Probation	Deported	Total
2024	46	■	14	21	79	■	164
2023	29	■	■	19	54	0	112
2022	■	0	■	19	26	0	66
2021	13	■	13	■	26	0	61
2020	17	0	22	48	68	0	155
2019	■	■	64	84	77	0	250
2018	■	■	68	82	102	0	292

Analysis

Similar to the California arrest trends for juveniles (pg. 9), since 2022 there has been a steady increase in juveniles being referred to the Probation Department from law enforcement agencies. In addition to more referrals being submitted to Probation, the District Attorney's Office is accepting more petitions to take actions on for these referrals.

Uptick in referrals could be due to a number of different factors and would need to be examined more thoroughly to draw a more distinct conclusion. As Covid had a large impact on justice decisions, one possible explanation could be related to a return to previous levels as many policies related to Covid-19 began to expire or change in recent years. Data indicates that male youth between the ages of 14 and 18 years old should be a population bracket to focus on for programmatic needs due to the higher rates of referrals being created for this demographic.

Possible Actions to Address Needs

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Members suggested that the Imperial County Probation Department look further into investing in after-school and weekend programming for youth, specifically targeting programs or activities that focused on building outdoor and life skills within the community.

Additional suggestions included doing more regular check-ins with currently funded programs and services to ensure funding is being utilized properly and having an impact on the local community in a positive manner.

Currently the Probation Department is working with the Office of Youth and Community Restoration and Rite Track Youth services to maintain a program focused on reducing female youth incarceration and providing intervention services. In addition, the Probation Department is planning on expanding its ASPIRE program to the City of Brawley to increase further outreach. Discussions with the Brawley Chief of Police are ongoing as they also expand their youth programming and are looking for additional partners.