



**MARIPOSA COUNTY
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

**Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act
and
Youthful Offender Block Grant
2024-2025 Annual Plan**

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

A. Assessment of Existing Services

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

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Juvenile Division

There are two Deputy Probation Officers and one Supervising Probation Officer assigned to the Juvenile Division within the Probation Department. Juvenile offenders are assessed to determine the appropriate level of intervention and services needed. In most cases, informal intervention services are found to be appropriate to hold youthful offenders accountable. Local records indicate that at the end of March 2024, there were fourteen juvenile offenders under the supervision of the department.

3rd Millennium Classrooms

The Juvenile Division utilizes this online educational program to hold juvenile offenders accountable. The probation department pays for the classes to avoid burdening the parent or guardian financially. Low-level and first-time youthful offenders are referred to online classes for shoplifting, marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco-related offenses. 3rd Millennium Classrooms also offers a parent education program which is a companion course to the juvenile alcohol and drug education programs. Conflict Wise is an intervention program to help individuals recognize the impact of their behaviors. Conflict Wise is another 3rd Millennium course that provides important skills training designed to teach conflict resolution strategies and ways to diffuse anger. Personalized feedback shows the effects and consequences of actions. Each individual receives an action plan to better manage their behavior. This class is for use in domestic violence, anger management, partner violence, or stalking violations. Youth who complete these online courses have their referrals closed and avoid a court appearance.

Truancy Intervention Program

The Truancy Intervention Program has provided supportive services to the school district and students since its implementation in 2001. A deputy probation officer works collaboratively with the Sheriff's Department's School Resource Officer and the Mariposa Unified School District's Child Welfare and Attendance Supervisor to address student attendance countywide.

In a recent effort to be proactive in identifying attendance and discipline issues, a deputy probation officer visits every school site in the county once every other week. The geography of the county is widespread, including a school site located in Yosemite National Park. School personnel and the deputy probation officer work collaboratively to make these site visits positive and non-intrusive. If an issue is reported, the probation officer will intervene in the least intrusive manner, with the goal of limiting the youth's exposure to the criminal justice system. When there are no problems or concerns identified, the deputy probation officer utilizes recess activities to build rapport with the students.

The school district also provides counselors to assist students at all school sites. Mariposa County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services provides therapeutic services through its Full-Service Partnership (FSP) Program to support students and their families. The collaboration of these agency positions has strengthened the response to student attendance and behavior problems.

Mariposa County Special Purpose Juvenile Hall

In 1992, Mariposa County built a four-bed special-purpose juvenile detention facility. The local juvenile hall can house youthful offenders for up to 96 hours and is only open when a youth has been detained by law enforcement and transported to the facility. Juvenile crime continues to steadily decline across the country. Consequently, the number of youth needing secure detention has also decreased.

To ensure the appropriate detention of juvenile offenders, the facility implemented the use of a detention risk assessment instrument (DRAI). The DRAI has further reduced local detentions of youthful offenders. The reduction in the number of youth detained locally has made it difficult to maintain enough extra-help employees required to staff the local facility. To address this issue, Mariposa County has contracts with full-service juvenile hall facilities for the detention of our youth.

In 2023, [REDACTED] arrested and booked into the local juvenile hall. Pending court proceedings or placement, they were transported to one of the contracted full-service detention facilities used by Mariposa County.

MARIPOSA COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

After School Programs

The Mariposa County Office of Education and the Mariposa County Unified School District provide after-school programs through the After School Education and Safety Programs (ASES) grant and other district-available funding.

The ASES programs allow a limited number of students to participate free of charge in an after-school program consisting of academic tutoring support and enrichment activities such as sports, arts, music, dance, and drama. The programs are educational and fun and include a daily complimentary snack.

Mariposa Safe Families offers an after-school program called Paws for Success for students in grades TK-4. The program focuses on the social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development of the youth. MSF provides a safe, inclusive, engaging, active, and supportive environment for Mariposa children during after-school hours. The program offers designated spaces for homework, reading, science, art, multimedia, and outdoor activities.

Additionally, Mariposa Safe Families provides After School Matters, an after-school program for youth in 5th-12th grades. Youth can expand their minds, spark their inner creativity, have a safe place to have those tough conversations, learn about safe healthy lifestyles, and gain life skills.

Ethos, a local drop-in center for youth, provides a safe space for 12 to 18-year-olds to receive free counseling, school tutoring, and food, while also building relationships with caring adults.

Foster Youth Services

Foster Youth Services (FYS) programs provide support services to foster children who suffer the traumatic effects of displacement from family and schools and multiple placements in foster care. FYS programs have the ability and authority to ensure that health and school records are obtained to establish appropriate placements and coordinate instruction, counseling, tutoring, mentoring, vocational training, emancipation services, training for independent living, and other related services. FYS programs increase the stability of placements for foster children and youth. These services are designed to improve the children's educational performance and personal achievement, directly benefiting them as well as providing long-range cost savings to the state.

McKinney-Vento Services

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ensures educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness. The Student Services Department provides support and resources to the school districts in the Mariposa County Unified School District to implement McKinney-Vento. The Student Services department then facilitates the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youth in school.

Student Attendance Review Board (SARB)

This group is made up of representatives from various departments and organizations including the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office, Mariposa County District Attorney's Office, Mariposa County Health and Human Services Department, Mariposa County Probation Department, as well as school site administrators and school counselors. They work collaboratively to identify the reasons behind each student's attendance or behavioral problems and provide practical solutions and support to help them get back on track. Those who have been referred to SARB are monitored every month until the issue has been resolved. The probation officer works alongside the school administrator liaison when serving truancy notices to the homes of the identified youth, especially if there is a safety concern for the home environment. Students who continue to struggle at the end of the school year are closely monitored in the following year to ensure that early intervention services can be provided.

Tobacco Use Prevention Education Program (TUPE)

The purpose of the TUPE program is to reduce youth tobacco use by helping young people make healthy tobacco-related decisions through tobacco-specific, research-validated educational instruction and activities that build knowledge as well as social skills and youth development assets. Collaboration with community-based tobacco control programs is an integral part of program planning.

MARIPOSA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Health Services Division

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

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

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

Services Available include:

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

California Children's Services (CCS)

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

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

Full-Service Partnership Program

The Full-Service Partnership Program provides youth and family services based on an assessment of the families' needs and strengths. The youth and family partners are actively involved in the development of the case plan and goals. This program emulates the wraparound services approach reduces duplicative services and supports youth and families in meeting their goals.

Community Health Center

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

- Child health and disability check-ups
- Psychiatry
- Family planning
- HIV testing
- Immunizations
- Pregnancy testing
- Public health emergency preparedness

- Sexually transmitted disease testing
- Tobacco cessation
- Tuberculosis skin testing

Child Welfare Services

Child Welfare Services (CWS) ensures the safety, permanency, and well-being of children, youth, and young adults in our community. CWS strives to preserve and empower families, encourage the self-sufficiency of families and youth through supportive services, facilitate reunification when children are removed, serve the needs of the Juvenile Dependency Court, and provide ongoing support to resource parents in our community.

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

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

MARIPOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

School Resource Officer

The School Resource Officer (SRO) is a grant-funded position, utilizing tobacco tax monies, for one Deputy Sheriff. The SRO provides school-related law enforcement duties to all schools in the Mariposa County Unified School District. The SRO works closely with school administration on school & student safety, educational needs, tobacco issues, etc. The SRO

also works collaboratively with the school district's Child Welfare and Attendance Supervisor and the probation department's Truancy Intervention Officer on truancy and behavioral issues.

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance for Community Transformations

Alliance for Community Transformations provides responsive and preventative services to individuals and families and works through partnerships and collective action to create truly safe, healthy, and socially just communities where every member thrives.

CASA of Mariposa County

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Mariposa County seeks to serve the needs of children who, for their protection, have been removed from their homes and placed in foster care. The goals of CASA of Mariposa County are to prevent these abused, neglected, and abandoned children from becoming lost in the Juvenile Dependency/Delinquency systems and to help find them a safe, permanent home as soon as possible.

Ethos Youth Center

Ethos Youth Center desires to support young people in bringing positive change to youth culture and has continued to grow into a desire to support youth more holistically. The mission of Ethos is to empower young people in Mariposa County to participate fully in their community and thrive in a place of creativity, security, and support. Ethos is open on weekday afternoons and provides free counseling, school tutoring, food, and a safe place for youth 12-18 years old to gather and provides an opportunity for youth to establish relationships with caring adults.

Mariposa Safe Families, Inc. (MSF)

MSF is a Family Resource Center, Youth Empowerment Center, and the Designated Child Abuse Prevention Council for Mariposa County. MSF provides several programs that provide services and support to at-risk youth and their parents.

Father Engagement Program - "All Dads Rock"

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

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

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

Monthly Family Engagement Activities

MSF offers a variety of fun, safe, and interactive monthly activities for families to engage in. It is during these activities that healthy living skills and information is relayed, and resource

information is provided to families. Some events include Family Bingo Night, Fun Family Giveaways, and Family Arts and Crafts Nights, among many others.

Community Partner Program (CPP)

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

Parent-Guardian Support Groups coming soon...

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

Friday Night Live/Club Live

Friday Night Live (FNL) builds partnerships for positive and healthy youth development which engage youth as active leaders and resources in their communities. FNL is focused on preventing community issues such as underage drinking, drinking and driving, tobacco use, social hosting and more. The program also focuses on providing youth with the skills and resources they need to be successful citizens in their communities. Due to the overwhelming success of Friday Night Live, a middle/junior high school component was developed called Club Live.

The primary focus of both programs is to form youth/adult partnerships with young people, providing programs rich in opportunities and support, so young people will be less likely to engage in problem behaviors, more likely to achieve in school, and more likely to attend higher education or secure a full-time job.

The Mariposa Friday Night Live and Club Live Chapters have been a key part in the passing of the local proclamation for "Mariposa County Flavored Tobacco Education and Advocacy Week," from the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors. It is held annually in May when the FNL and CL youth, in partnership with the Youth Advisory Group and local partners, sponsor different youth activities bringing to light the dangers associated with tobacco use. The youth in these different programs are strong, dedicated, and caring individuals who strive to ensure the safety, health, and well-being of their fellow youth partners.

Youth Advisory Group

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

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

Collaboration in Mariposa County has occurred naturally here. Mariposa is a small county, with no incorporated areas, so there are no competing levels of local government. Agency officials have broad areas of responsibility. Each official often has many roles within the community and represents programs that would be housed and staffed separately in larger counties. Mandated boards, committees, and councils often consist of the same representatives from each agency and community-based organization. Agency representatives are continuously working on their interrelationships to effectively carry out their many responsibilities with a minimum of duplication and overlap.

Mariposa County agencies are flexible and bend to meet environmental conditions and the needs of the people. This requires collaboration, which has become a shared value in our county. It is not unusual to find virtually every government and private agency, or community group represented at a single meeting to discuss community problems. The county's high level of collaboration is extremely beneficial when we are working together to identify and fill service gaps with limited resources.

Agency representatives agree that all at-risk families are often served by multiple agencies. Because our county is small, service providers know each other well and the clients we serve. Therefore, we can share the tasks of information gathering and case planning, to best meet the needs of our youth and families. Mariposa County will continue to work collaboratively, as we have been doing for years, to support the integration of services.

B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas

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

Mariposa County's rural nature makes the prioritization of neighborhoods nearly impossible in our rural community. The population per square mile is 11.8, based on the 2020 census report. There are no cities in Mariposa County. The largest town and county seat is Mariposa, and it is the center of most services and activities. Many of our youth live in geographical "neighborhoods", not population centers, which are normally associated with the definition.

Yosemite National Park is partially located in Mariposa County. No discussion of youth impact on neighborhoods could be made without mentioning Yosemite National Park. The park continues to have a lack of Federal resources to deal with juvenile crime in the park. With the reduction in delinquent activities over the past several years nationwide, the Mariposa County Probation Department has not received many juvenile delinquent referrals from the park. However, having a probation officer who visits the school every other week assists with identifying any potential risk factors and appropriately addressing any small issues before they escalate.

It is also difficult to prioritize and identify one school over another as being more at risk of delinquent crime than others. However, the Alternative Education School and Monarch Academy generally deal with the more problematic students. These school sites have students who have learning challenges or difficulty being successful at the other traditional school sites in the school district. The deputy probation officer assigned to the department's juvenile division may respond to either school site to assist school personnel with those students who

disrupt the learning environment. Additionally, the deputy probation officer works collaboratively with school site personnel to support students toward the common goal of returning to mainstream school sites.

C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

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

Mariposa County agencies and organizations work together to improve the continuum of services provided to at-risk and youthful offenders to reduce the incidence of juvenile crime and delinquency locally. Mariposa County has been successful at keeping our youth in the home of their parents or guardian while providing services.

Every effort is made to hold youthful offenders accountable for their actions, utilizing the least restrictive option available. The probation department has implemented several evidence-based programs over the years to address juvenile crime trends. Currently, the probation department uses 3rd Millennium Classrooms, an early intervention web-based program for offenders of alcohol, marijuana, fighting, conflict, and shoplifting offenses. This online education program has also been used by the local high school to address marijuana-related offenses that occur on school grounds by students. We will continue to collaborate with local service providers to offer evidence-based programs to meet the needs of youthful offenders and their families.

The probation department also utilizes juvenile assessment tools, which is also an evidence-based practice. The assessment tools are used to identify low to high-risk offenders, allowing the department to focus limited resources on those offenders who need them the most. With the use of the assessments, the department has been able to establish appropriate supervision levels for juvenile offenders. Probation officers utilize the assessment tool to develop a case plan with the youth and plan a way forward while under supervision. Additionally, the department uses incentive-based supervision to motivate juvenile probationers to make positive and successful choices. Deputy probation officers are also trained in Motivational Interviewing, an evidence-based approach to behavior change.

Incidents of arrest, incarceration, and completion of probation will be our measures of ongoing success. Youthful offenders under a program of supervision by the probation department will be measured by their successful completion of probation or deferred entry of judgment programs. For youth not on probation, measures of success will include attendance in school and reduced recidivism rates.

We will continue to address service gaps as they are identified in the future. However, we believe priority should continue to be given to the school-based intervention strategy, which has proven to be a successful program locally. Poor school performance and/or behavioral problems have been proven to be a major predictor of future delinquent behavior. The school district continues to need assistance in working with these youths. Everyone recognizes the benefit of providing preventative and early intervention services to maintain the current continuum of responses. It has also been recognized that similar programs have demonstrated their effectiveness at integrating services and intervention/prevention strategies.

Based on the California School Dashboard, the Chronic Absenteeism for Mariposa County Unified School District was reported at 15.6% in 2019 (pre-COVID), a 3.3% decrease from the prior year. In 2022, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only the most current year of data was reported. Chronic absenteeism increased considerably in 2022, with a rate of 45.2%.

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

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

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

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

D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

Describe how your Plan has been updated for this year.

The Youth Thrive framework is a research-backed approach that prioritizes effective strategies for promoting the growth and overall well-being of young individuals who are involved in dependency or delinquency systems, as well as those who are at risk of becoming homeless. Ethos is committed to implementing this model to provide support for justice-involved youth and at-risk individuals. By leveraging this framework and engaging in community-building activities, we aim to enhance the level of support available to young individuals in North County. Ultimately, our goal is to foster the development of traits such as resilience, social connections, and cognitive and social-emotional competence among our youth participants.

Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

A. Information Sharing and Data Collection

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

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

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

B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils

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

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

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

The JJCC currently has no vacancies.

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

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

Program Name: Truancy Intervention Program (TIP)

Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

Our Truancy Intervention Program (TIP) is a highly effective initiative designed to address the issue of truancy in Mariposa County. Our program takes a holistic approach by identifying the root causes of truancy and providing early intervention and referral services to students in need.

The program was developed in 2001 and is based on the successful Truancy Reduction Program operated by the Kern County Probation Department since 1990. This program has demonstrated a remarkable reduction in unexcused absences, thanks to its collaboration with the Kern County Superintendent of Schools.

Our TIP Program is based on the guidelines identified in the Manual to Combat Truancy, released in July 1996 by the U.S. Department of Education in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Justice. School-based officers handling truancy issues have proven effective across the State of California and the Nation to be effective in reducing truancy rates.

We believe that by addressing truancy at an early stage and collaborating with families and communities, we can help reduce absenteeism and improve academic outcomes for our students. Our program components include a range of interventions such as:

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

We pride ourselves on being a collaborative effort that utilizes best practices and evidence-based strategies to ensure the success of our program. Our goal is to ensure that every student has a chance to succeed and that they have the support they need to overcome any obstacles that may hinder their success.

Description:

Mariposa County implemented the Truancy Intervention Program in 2001. TIP is an early intervention program to divert youth from future involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The benefits from the reduction of truancy are:

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

Over the past 22 years, the program has evolved into a collaborative effort that utilizes best practices for a wellness approach of early identification, intervention, and referral to appropriate services. The program objective is to mitigate the family and community factors to reduce the truancy rate of students and improve student behavior.

Since the school district developed its program to address truancy and behavioral issues of students, the probation department's program has become a support system for the school's program. The child welfare and attendance supervisor and school resource officer, assigned to the school's program, have taken the lead in addressing these school-based issues. Consequently, the need for a full-time deputy probation officer (DPO) assigned to the school district is no longer necessary.

It has been many years since JJCPA funding fully supported the truancy intervention officer position. Over the years, Mariposa County has had to increase general funding to cover the costs of maintaining a full-time DPO assigned to this project. The reduction of juvenile crime over the past several years has caused the number of delinquency and truancy referrals to decline. However, all parties agree that the early intervention efforts of the program have proven to be successful.

JJCPA funding will still be utilized to support the cost of maintaining a full-time DPO so the department can continue to support the school district's student welfare and attendance program while providing an appropriate level of intervention and services to juveniles referred to the probation department for delinquent activities.

The probation department will continue to work with the family, school, and the community to address the problem of absenteeism. Once a student has been identified as truant, the school will send a letter to the home of each student, apprising the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the problem. When deemed appropriate, the DPO and child welfare and attendance supervisor will make a home visit to contact a parent or guardian if the problem persists. The DPO will also assist with the personal service of truancy notification letters when the school has not been successful at contacting the parent or guardian.

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

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

Additionally, the probation department will continue to have representation on the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) Panel. The DPO attending SARB meetings will provide information regarding pre-SARB intervention services provided by the department and assist with monitoring SARB cases for compliance. Students who continue to be non-compliant with attendance laws may be contacted and their parent or guardian will be notified of the continuing problem. The probation department will make every effort to support the family in getting their student to school.

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

Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

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

Mariposa County's overall strategy is to provide an appropriate level of supervision services, and referrals that best support all juvenile offenders in their own home and community. This strategy includes all adjudicated juvenile felony or misdemeanor offenders placed on formal probation, or Deferred Entry of Judgement supervision involving violent or serious offenses, drug offenses, sex offenses, and offenders with mental health needs.

Mariposa County has been utilizing the PACT Assessment tool to identify the criminogenic risks and needs of all adjudicated juvenile offenders. This tool has been effective in assisting officers in providing an appropriate level of supervision, intervention services, and program or service referrals. All juvenile offenders and their parents participate in the development of an individualized case plan to identify the risks and needs of the youth and family so appropriate services and referrals can be provided. These tools also assist with coordinating agency efforts so duplicative services can be avoided. Mariposa County Probation's strong collaborative relationships with the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office, Health and Human Services Agency, Mariposa County Unified School District, and various community-based organizations, have made it possible to provide wraparound services to this target population.

A Juvenile Officer participates in a variety of community team meetings (MDT, TDM, CFT, and SARB) to ensure youthful offenders receive the services and support needed for success. When appropriate, youth at risk for placement or detention are served by the Full-Service Partnership Program (FSP), provided through the Mariposa County Health and Human Services Department. The FSP Program provides counseling, mentoring, parental role modeling, and other supportive services. The practice of providing primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention, intervention, and services has been used effectively to support the success of our youth while maintaining them in their own home and community.

Non-707(b) youthful offenders requiring incarceration longer than 96 hours are transported to full-service juvenile detention facilities. Mariposa County has contracts with two counties for this purpose.

B. Regional Agreements

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

Mariposa County has a Special Purpose Juvenile Hall, which can hold youth in custody for up to 96 hours. This facility has historically been staffed with extra-help/on-call personnel. These employees are called to work when a youth has been detained by a law enforcement agency and transported to our juvenile hall. With the steady decline in juvenile crime over the past several years, it has been difficult to hire enough extra-help employees necessary to cover 24-hour shifts in the facility. Therefore, Mariposa County has housing contracts with Madera and Tuolumne Counties. These facilities have the infrastructure and staffing to provide educational, medical, and mental health services to our youth while they are detained.

YOBG funds may be used to cover the contract housing fees, medical, dental, mental health, transportation and other expenses associated with the detention of youth. YOBG funds may also be used to cover the cost of psychiatric or psychological assessments of youth detained, or otherwise, under the care, custody, and control of the Mariposa County Probation Department.

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

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

Program Name: Youthful Offender Program (YOP)

Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The Youthful Offender Program is a strategic plan to provide an appropriate level of supervision, services, and referrals for the moderate to high-risk youthful offenders. Consistent with the rest of the country, the number of juvenile offender referrals has been steadily declining since the mid-2000s.

Description:

Mariposa County's Youthful Offender Program is a local strategy that focuses on providing the best services to its moderate to high-risk juvenile offenders. With the recent closure of the Division of Juvenile Justice, YOBG funds may be utilized to cover the cost of services and programs that will reduce the risk of incarceration for our target population. If confinement is necessary in a juvenile hall or Secure Track program, these funds may be used to pay for the costs of incarceration. YOBG funds have been used to cover the costs for assessments, probation monitoring tools, transportation, and other services or needs to support youth under the care, custody, and control of the department.

Most delinquent referrals received by the department are for low-level or status offenses, which are typically handled informally. What continues to increase is the number of delinquent youth referred who have significant mental health concerns and child welfare histories. This youthful population has become the new target of the YOBG program, by default, and is typically identified as being at a higher risk for out-of-home placement.

Psychological assessments have been conducted on youthful offenders with mental health concerns and child welfare histories to address their needs. These assessments aim to gather information that can guide decisions to serve this population better. In many cases, the assessments have revealed significant childhood trauma, leading to the referral of these cases to Child Welfare Services and the dismissal of criminal petitions.

Youth who are adjudicated and granted probation receive appropriate supervision, services and referrals as recommended in the evaluations. Although appropriate mental health services for this population are limited locally and statewide, probation officers collaborate with local providers and providers in nearby counties to provide services and referrals that will support the youth in the home of their parent or guardian. Child and Family Team Meetings are frequently utilized to identify family strengths and needs of the targeted population. These meetings help align the appropriate services to meet the needs of the youth and family. The Full-Service Partnership Program through Behavioral Health can provide counseling, mentoring, parental role modeling, and other supportive services.

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

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