

Nevada County

Juvenile Justice Plan 2026-2027



Nevada County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

Chief Probation Officer, Chair

Jeff Goldman

Nevada County Office Superintendent of Schools

Scott Lay

Superior Court Judge

Kelly Babineau

Nevada County Sheriff's Department

Shannan Moon

Superior Court Judge

B. Scott Thomsen

Board of Supervisors

Heidi Hall

Probation Program Manager

Jeremy Vance

Board of Supervisors (alternate)

Susan Hoek

Assistant CEO

Patrick Eidman

Nevada City Police

Dan Foss

Public Defender's Office

Thomas Angel

Victor Community Support Services

Jasleen Tomm

District Attorney's Office

Jesse Wilson

Grass Valley Police Department

Alex Gammelgard

Adult and Family, Social Services

Tamaran Cook

Truckee Police Department

Danny Renfrow

Health and Human Services

Ryan Gruver

Superior Court Judge

Robert Tice-Raskin

Behavioral Health

Phebe Bell

Nevada Joint Union School District

Dan Frisella

Granite Wellness Centers

Victoria Blacksmith

Truckee/Tahoe Unified School District

Kerstin Kramer

Co-Founder & Director of Programs NEO

Halli Ellis-Edwards

Bright Futures for Youth

Jennifer Singer

CASA

Melinda Douros

**Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention
Commission (JJDP)**

Chris Bock

**Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention
Commission (JJDP)**

Timothy Reid

At-Large Community Member

Melissa Balderston

Table of Contents

SECTION 1 - Background	1
SECTION 2 - Nevada County Juvenile Justice System	4
SECTION 3 - Neighborhoods with Significant Juvenile Crime.....	5
SECTION 4 - Assessment of Current Youth Service Resources	15
SECTION 5 - Local Action Strategy	23
SECTION 6 – Information Sharing and Data	34
SECTION 7 – Programs to Be Funded By JJCPA	35
SECTION 8 – Programs to Be Funded By YOBG	38
SECTION 9 – Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders.....	39
SECTION 10 – Last Reported Expenditures	35

SECTION 1 - Background

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) was implemented via Assembly Bill (AB) 1913, The Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Action of 2000, and codified by Government Code §30061. The purpose of AB 1913 is to provide California counties with funding to implement programs for at-risk youth with the goal of early intervention and to support the implementation of programs and approaches demonstrated to be effective in reducing juvenile crime.

This law established a Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Account (SLESA) in each county to receive allocations. Fifty percent of the moneys received into the SLESA are to be used to implement a comprehensive multi-agency juvenile justice plan developed by the local juvenile justice coordinating council (JJCC) in each county. Members of the JJCC, as described in §749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), are required to develop and implement a continuum of county-based responses to juvenile crime.

The JJCC for each county must include the chief probation officer, as chair, and representatives from the following entities:

- District Attorney's office.
- Public Defender's office.
- Sheriff's department.
- Board of Supervisors.
- Social Services.
- Mental Health.
- Community-based drug and alcohol program.
- City police department.
- County office of education or a school district.
- At-large community representative; and
- Nonprofit community-based organization providing services to minors.

The plan must identify the resources and strategies for providing an effective continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment and incarceration of male and female justice-involved youth. The plan must include strategies to develop and implement locally based or regionally based out-of-home placement options for youth described in WIC §602.

Youth described in WIC §602 are as follows:

“Except as provided in Section 707, any minor between 12 years of age and 17 years of age, inclusive, when he or she violates any law of this state or of the United States or any ordinance of any city or county of this state defining crime other than an ordinance establishing a curfew based solely on age, is within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, which may adjudge such person to be a ward of the court.”

To qualify for the funding on a non-competitive basis, each county's comprehensive multi-agency juvenile justice plan must include the following components:

- Assessment of existing law enforcement, probation, education, mental health, health, social services, drug and alcohol, and youth services resources that specifically target at-risk youth, justice-involved youth, and their families.
- An identification and prioritization of the neighborhoods, schools, and other areas in the community that face a significant public safety risk from juvenile crime, such as gang activity, daylight burglary, late-night robbery, vandalism, truancy, controlled substances sales, firearm-related violence, and juvenile substance abuse and alcohol use within the council's jurisdiction.
- A local juvenile justice action strategy that provides for a continuum of responses to juvenile crime and demonstrates a collaborative, integrated approach for implementing a system of swift, certain and graduated responses for at-risk and justice-involved youth.
- A description of the programs, strategies or system enhancements that are proposed to be funded.

Youthful Offender Block Grant

The Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) was enacted in 2007 by Senate Bill 81. The purpose of the YOBG is to realign the supervision of non-violent, non-sexual and non-serious justice-involved youth from the State of California Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to local governments and to provide local governments with funding support for the supervision of this population. The realignment of youth from state facilities to local supervision in their county of residence allows their connection to community and family support systems to remain intact and undisturbed.

Since inception, an allocation has been provided each year to enhance the capacity of local communities to implement an effective continuum of responses to juvenile crime. The allocation is calculated based on a formula that gives equal weight to a county's juvenile population and the number of juvenile felony dispositions. The funds can be used to enhance the capacity of county probation, mental health, drug and alcohol, and other services to provide supervision and rehabilitation for youth no longer eligible to be committed to the DJJ.

As specified in WIC §1961, each County must submit a juvenile justice development plan to describe the proposed programs, strategies and system enhancements for the next fiscal year. The plan shall include:

- A description of the programs, placements, services, strategies, and system enhancements to be funded by the block grant allocation.
- A description of how the plan relates to or supports the county's overall strategy for dealing with justice-involved youth who have not committed an offense described in WIC §707(b).
- A description of any regional agreements or arrangements to be supported by the block grant allocation pursuant to this chapter.
- A description of how the programs, placements, services, or strategies identified in the plan coordinate with multiagency juvenile justice plans and programs.

Assembly Bill 1998

Assembly Bill 1998 was enacted in September of 2016 to consolidate the JJCPA and YOBG submissions and streamline reporting requirements.

The juvenile justice combined plan must be developed by the local juvenile justice coordinating council in each county with the membership described in WIC §749.22. The plan shall be reviewed and updated annually and no longer requires Board of Supervisors approval. The plan or updated plan must be submitted to the Board of State and Community Corrections by May 1 of each year in a format specified by the Board that consolidates the form of submission of the annual comprehensive juvenile justice multiagency plan with the form for submission of the annual Youthful Offender Block Grant plan.

REALIGNMENT OF THE DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Division of Juvenile Justice (formerly California Youth Authority) first opened in 1943 as a reform school. The Division of Juvenile Justice is a division of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. As of January 2020, DJJ reported operating three active facilities and one conservation camp. Total population was reported to be 745 cases. SB92 set a defined closure date of June 30, 2023.

According to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, The California Governor's 2020-21 State Budget transfers responsibility for managing all youthful offenders from the State to local jurisdictions. Under Budget Trailer Bill SB 823, intake of new juvenile offenders stopped July 1, 2021.

DJJ began the phased closure of its facilities. The decision to close certain housing units or entire facilities will be driven by several factors, including attrition trends, categories of juvenile offenders, and available staffing and program resources.

SB 823 has repealed previous legislation moving the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) into the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) as the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR).

SB 823 established a Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program to provide county-based custody, care, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the Division of Juvenile Justice or who would have otherwise been eligible for commitment to the division. The bill appropriates moneys from the General Fund in specified amounts for these purposes. The bill specifies how those funds would be allocated to counties based on specified criteria.

According to SB 823, Nevada County anticipates an allotment of \$250,000.00 as a minimum distribution by the state of California. Nevada County Probation's plan is to hold and retain these funds for future rehabilitative needs. Should a minor need specialized custody, care, placement, housing and/or supervision, these funds would be accessed for these purposes. Housing a formerly DJJ eligible youth in a yet to be established Regional Facility may have significant or high cost to the county.

SECTION 2 - Nevada County Juvenile Justice System

The Nevada County Juvenile Justice System is composed of several agencies which have direct responsibility for various functions in the system. These agencies include law enforcement, the Office of the District Attorney (District Attorney), the Office of the Public Defender (Public Defender), Nevada County Juvenile Court (Juvenile Court) and the Nevada County Probation Department (Probation).

The basic function of these agencies as they relate to the Juvenile Justice System is as follows:

Law enforcement provides first response to emergencies and other threats to public safety. Officers investigate suspected delinquent activity and determine if juvenile suspects will be: 1) verbally warned and released; 2) referred to a community resource agency or law enforcement diversion program; 3) issued a citation; 4) taken into custody and then released; or 5) taken into custody and booked. If an officer determines a juvenile should be taken into custody, he/she will bring the juvenile to Placer County Juvenile Hall under an existing contract agreement.

When a youth is brought to a juvenile hall facility by law enforcement, Probation administers a detention risk assessment to assist in determining if the juvenile can be released without increased risk to public safety or if he/she should be detained at the facility. If detained, the case is referred to the District Attorney so that a statutorily mandated detention hearing can occur. As an alternative to incarceration, some youth may be released on home supervision or electronic monitoring, with Global Positioning System (GPS) capabilities, pending their scheduled detention hearing. Youth are diverted from detention and further involvement in the Juvenile Justice System whenever possible. During the Juvenile Court hearing process, Probation provides shelter and care for each juvenile detained; an assessment of the juvenile's criminogenic risk and needs; and a social history report for dispositional consideration post-adjudication. Subsequent to the hearing process, Probation supervises youth who have been placed on probation by the Juvenile Court. Supervision and case planning are based on the results of an actuarial risk/needs assessment. Probation responses to behavior are based upon a behavior response matrix.

The District Attorney is responsible for filing petitions based on referrals from other agencies. Probation makes referrals related to the provisions of WIC §602. The District Attorney represents the community at all subsequent Juvenile Court hearings.

The Public Defender represents youth in juvenile justice hearings resulting from petitions filed by the District Attorney and related to WIC §602. Alternatively, a court-appointed or private attorney may be employed for this purpose in the place of a Public Defender attorney should a conflict arise.

The Juvenile Court is responsible for hearing facts, making findings and providing a disposition for petitions filed by the District Attorney related to WIC §601 and §602.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJJPC) is authorized pursuant to Section 225 et. seq. of the California Welfare and Institutions Code. In Nevada County the Board of Supervisors combined the Juvenile Justice Commission with the Delinquency Prevention Commission. It is the duty of a juvenile justice commission to inquire into the administration of the juvenile court law in the county or region in which the commission serves. The commission also serves to coordinate on a countywide basis the work of community agencies engaged in activities designed to prevent juvenile and adult delinquency. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJJPC) holds meetings up to 10 times per year and they are open to the public.

SECTION 3 - Neighborhoods with Significant Juvenile Crime

The following assessment of Nevada County neighborhoods/areas of the community identifies and prioritizes the neighborhoods facing significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.

Juvenile Probation Population by Residence Zip Codes

Table 1 shows the number of youth referred to probation, each calendar year, categorized according to the zip code of their last known residence. This data includes youth in pre-adjudication, on informal probation, on formal probation and those supported by Probation under Extended Foster Care. Table 2 is a juvenile referral rate expressed as the number of referrals per 1,000 residents between the ages of 10 to 17. Many referrals were sealed without a zip code listed. As a result, the numbers listed in table 1 and the rates by zip code in table 2 will under count the true numbers.

Table 1

Juvenile Probation Referrals by Residence Zip Code

Zip Code	Area Descriptor	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
95945	Grass Valley/Peardale	61	95	84	45	56	34	30	23	60
95946	Penn Valley	■	18	14	■	16	■	■	0	■
95949	Alta Sierra	27	35	29	25	18	25	24	0	17
96111	Floriston	0	0	0	0	0	■	0	0	0
95960	North San Juan	0	0	0	■	■	■	0	■	0
95959	Nevada City	19	36	28	22	■	■	16	0	18
95712	Chicago Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
95975	Rough and Ready	■	■	■	■	0	0	0	■	■
95977	Smartsville	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
95986	Washington	0	■	■	0	0	0	0	■	0
96160	Truckee	■	■	■	■	■	0	0	0	0
95924	Cedar Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
96162	Truckee	0	0	■	■	■	■	0	0	0
96161	Truckee	21	46	42	32	16	17	14	■	33
95602	Lake of the Pines	21	■	■	■	■	■	0	■	■
	Sealed Cases/Unknown/Other	0	0	0	14	84	92	108	221	138

Total	159	246	216	159	212	189	200	256	283
--------------	------------	------------	------------	-----	-----	------------	------------	------------	------------

Table 2

Zip Code	Area Descriptor	2025
95945	Grass Valley/Peardale	25.9
95946	Penn Valley	13.4
95949	Alta Sierra	17.4
96111	Floriston	0.0
95960	North San Juan	0.0
95959	Nevada City	14.5
95712	Chicago Park	0.0
95975	Rough and Ready	32.4
95977	Smartsville	6.7
95986	Washington	0.0
96160	Truckee	NA
95924	Cedar Ridge	0.0
96162	Truckee	NA
96161	Truckee	17.0
95602	Lake of the Pines	1.3

Map 1 below provides a visual representation of the number of referrals in the juvenile justice system, according to the zip code of their last known residence. This data includes youth pre-adjudication, on informal probation, on formal probation and those supported by Probation under Assembly Bill (AB) 12. Many records are sealed without a zip code, as a result the map below is an undercount of the true number of referrals.

7 | Page

Figure 1

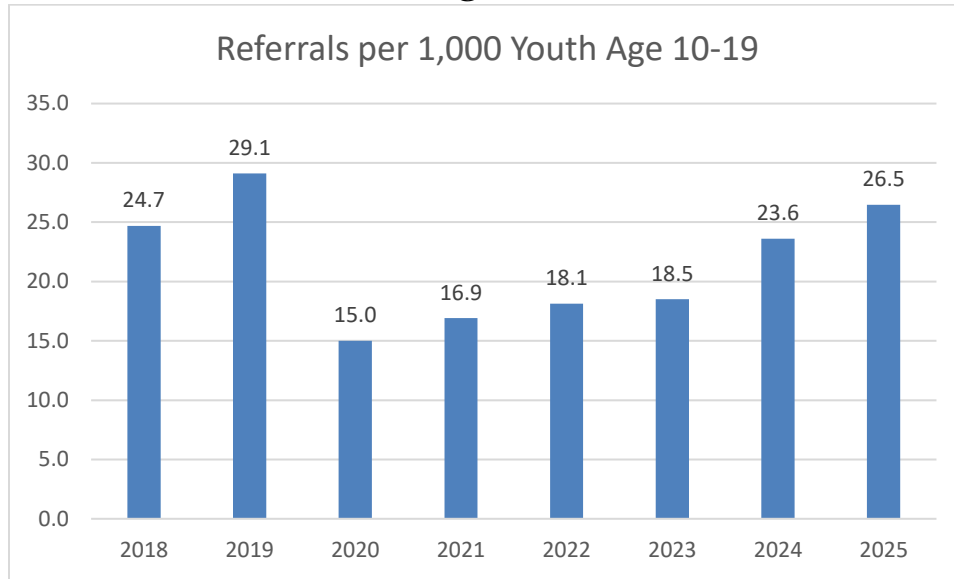
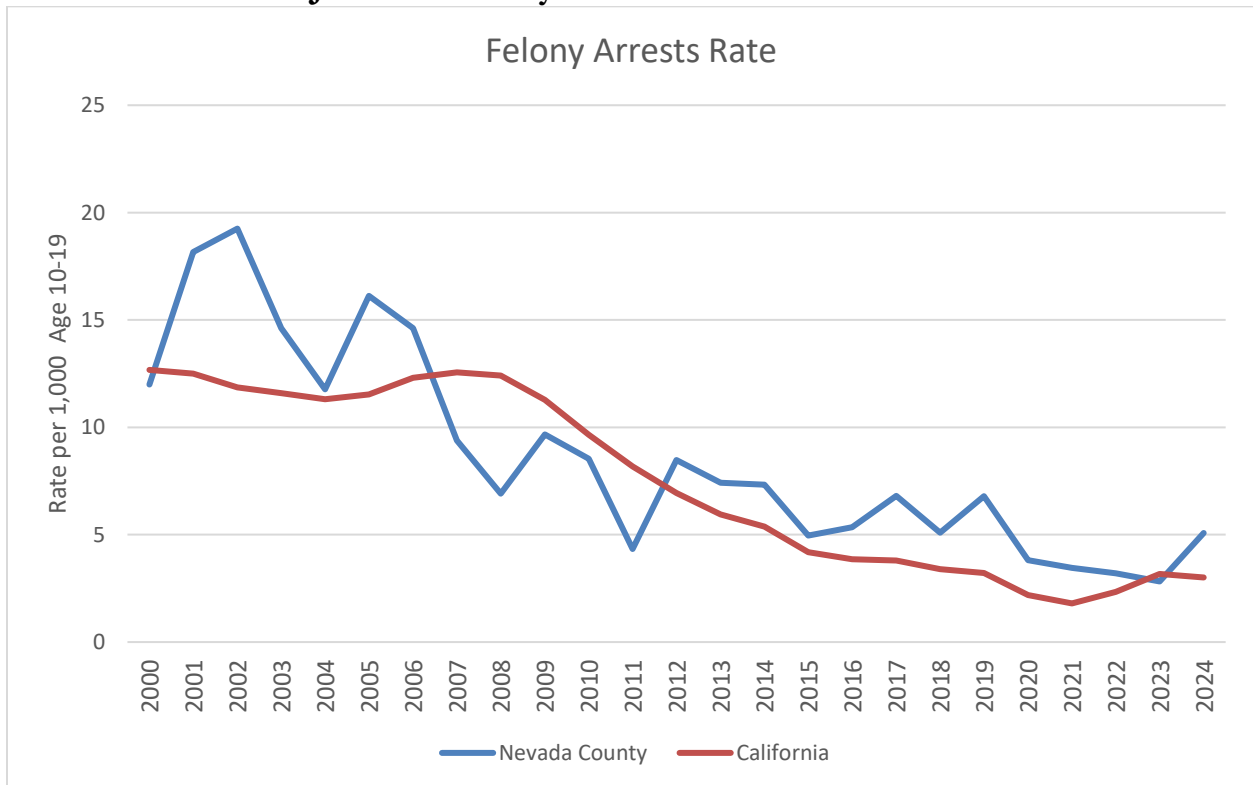


Figure 2

Juvenile Felony Arrest Rate: 2000 to 2024



Definition: Number of felony arrests per 1,000 youth ages 10-19

Data Source:

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/mwconsulting/viz/JuvenileDashboard/ArrestTotals>

Based on California Department of Justice arrest data and US Census population data

Figure 3

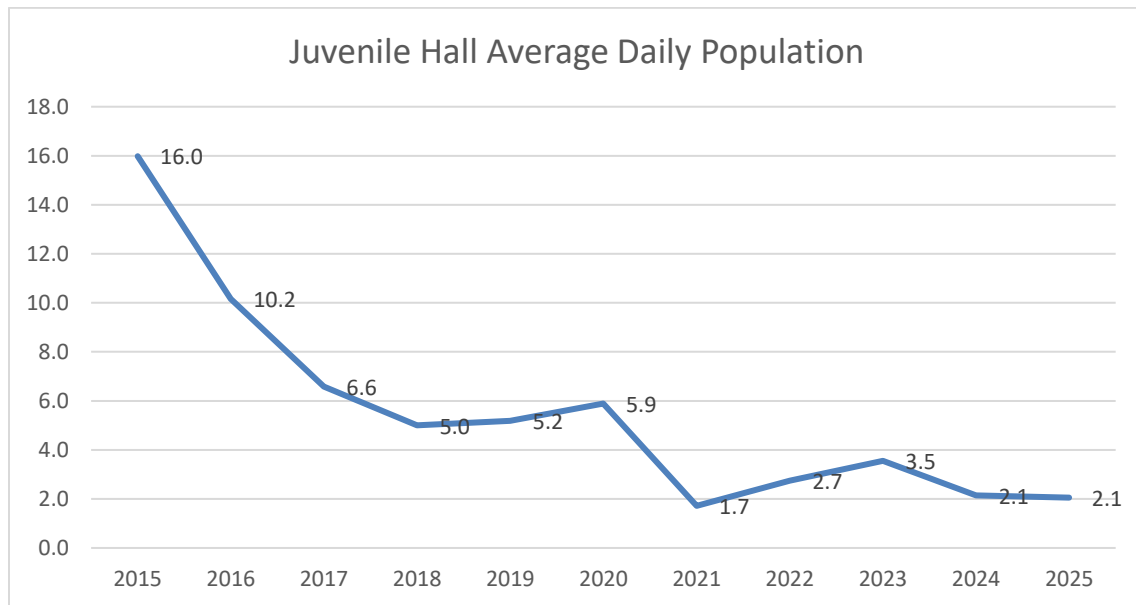
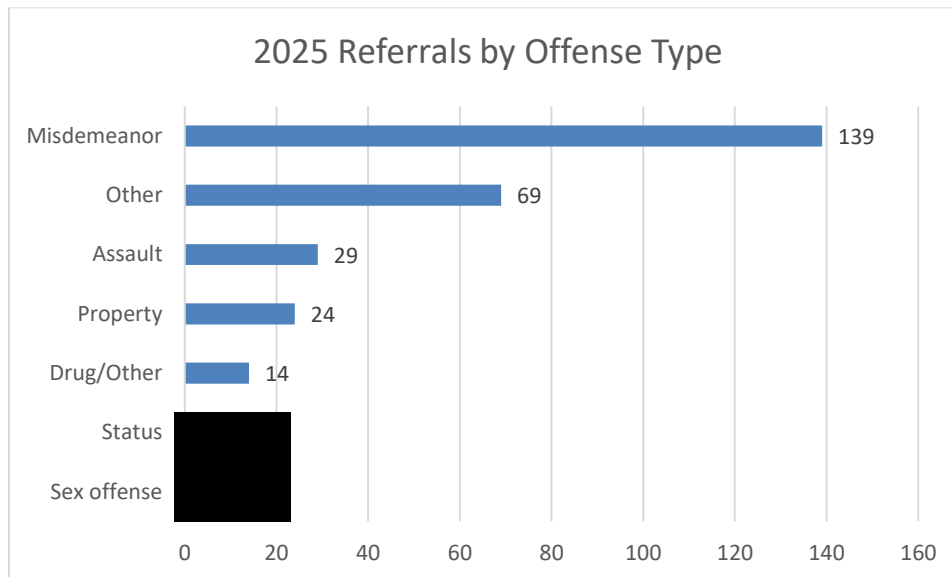


Figure 4



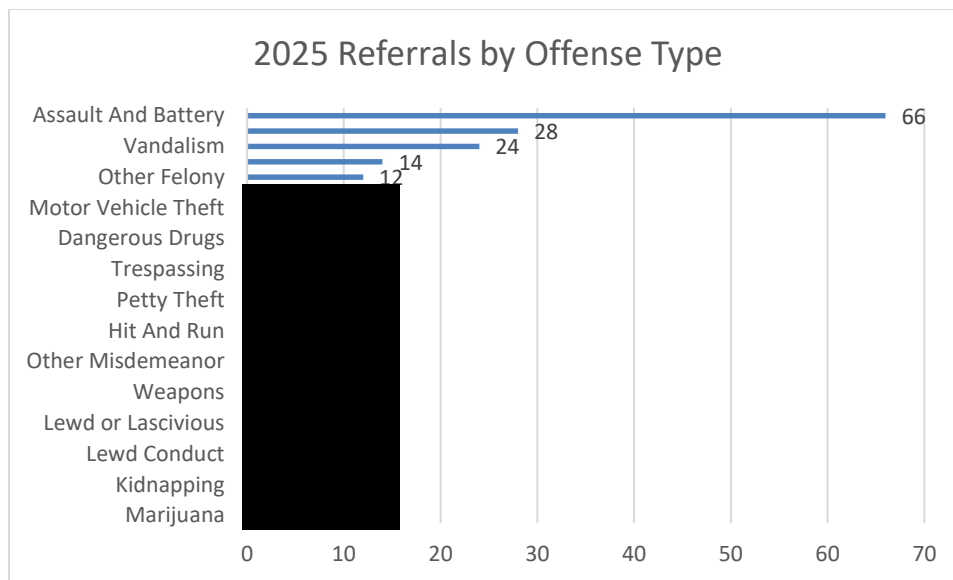
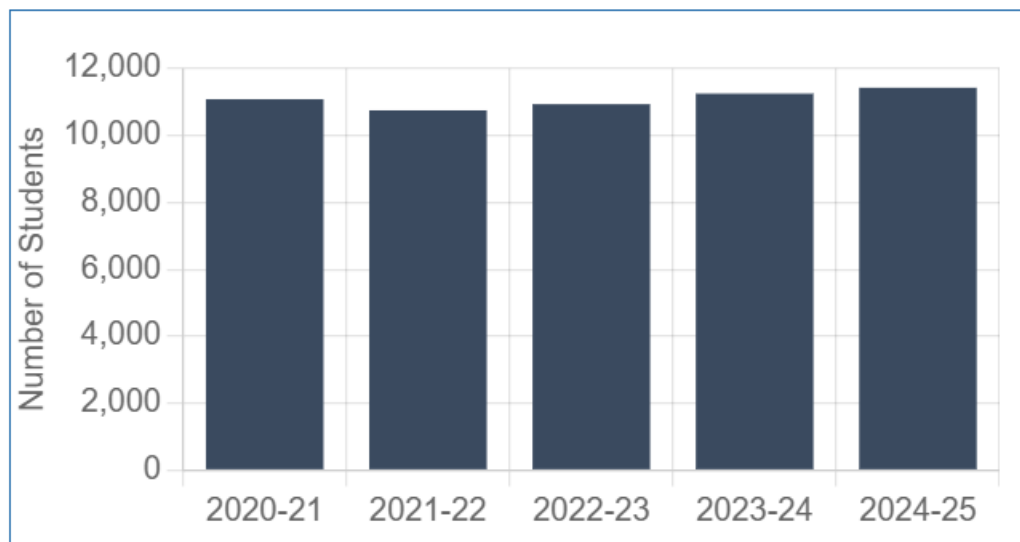
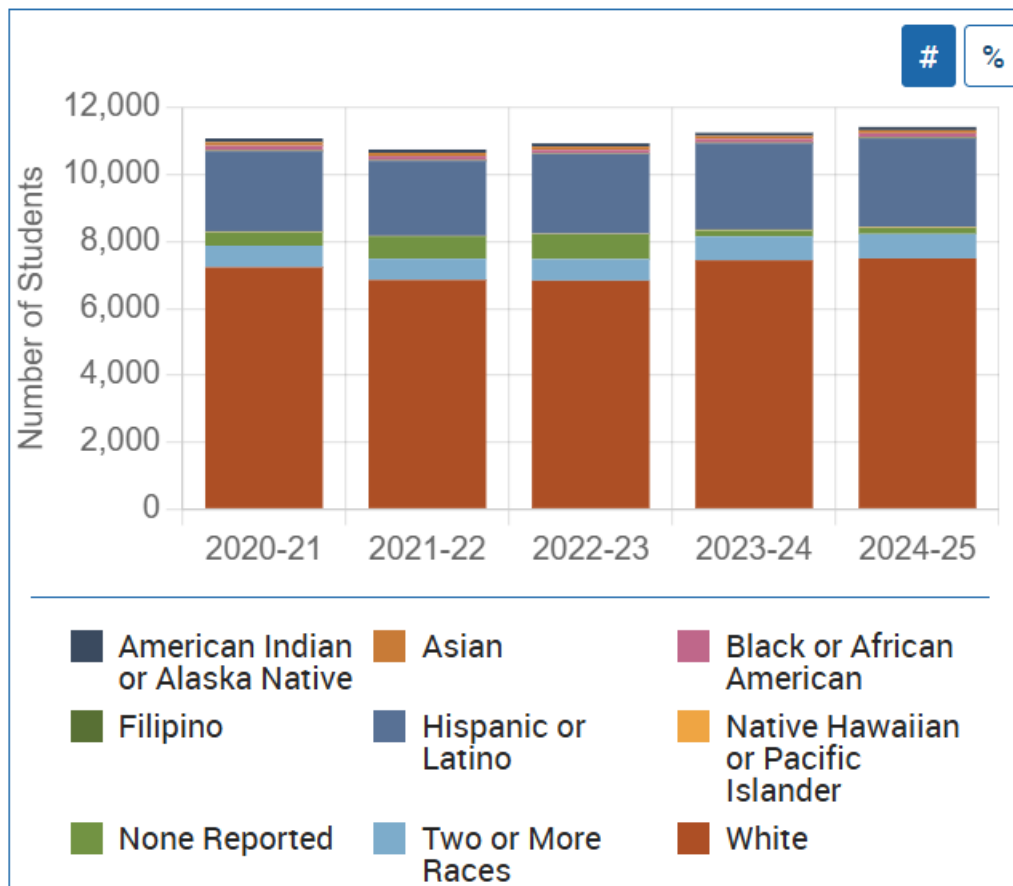


Figure 5 – Nevada County Census Day Enrollment



Source: Ed Data Education Data Partnership <https://www.ed-data.org/county/Nevada>

Figure 6 – Nevada County Census Day Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity



Source: Ed Data Education Data Partnership <https://www.ed-data.org/county/Nevada>

Table 3 below shows the number of maltreatment allegation referrals received by Nevada County Child Welfare Services categorized by zip code. The maltreatment allegation referrals include youth ages 0-17.

Table 3
Nevada County Maltreatment Allegation Referrals by Zip Code

Zip Code	Area Descriptor	January 2021	January 2022	January 2023	January 2024	January 2025	January 2026
95945	Grass Valley/Peardale	31	42	57	33	49	56
95946	Penn Valley	15	16	■	■	■	■
95949	Alta Sierra	15	23	19	31	20	27
96111	Floriston	0	0	0	■	0	■
95960	North San Juan	■	■	■	■	■	■
95959	Nevada City	■	16	19	■	21	19
95712	Chicago Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
95975	Rough and Ready	■	■	0	■	■	■
95977	Smartsville	■	0	■	■	0	■
95986	Washington	0	0	■	0	0	0
96160	Truckee	■	■	0	0	0	■
95924	Cedar Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	0
96162	Truckee	0	0	0	0	0	0
96161	Truckee	■	■	13	12	16	18
95602	Lake of the Pines	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Unknown				■	■	■
	Total	90	121	121	109	124	154

As demonstrated by Table 1, the top five (5) zip codes/neighborhoods with the highest average number of juvenile referrals under Probation's jurisdiction (2021-2025) are as follows:

- 95945-Grass Valley/Peardale
- 95949-Alta Sierra
- 96161-Truckee
- 95959-Nevada City
- 95946-Penn Valley

Though these neighborhoods have more overall referrals, they are also population centers, so they don't necessarily have higher crime rates. Efforts are focused to mitigate the overall number of new juveniles exhibiting delinquent behaviors. These programs operate in unison with community-based organizations to achieve optimal impact on youth and their families and may include truancy outreach, referrals for service, collaborative school interventions, informal or formal supervision, Functional Family Probation strategies, case management, treatment provider collaboration and recommendations to the Court. Probation and the local community have incorporated a more multi-cultural view to address needs and deliver appropriate services. A cornerstone of cultural responsiveness is recognizing who our clients are, what their history is and what they bring to the table. We also incorporate a trauma focused approach. A trauma focused approach seeks not to blame or re-traumatize, but to build confidence, re-educate and build new skills. A more culturally relevant and trauma focused view can have an impact on the client's perception of the criminal justice process, how they are treated within the process, their ability or willingness to reach out for assistance, trust and collaboration with their case manager or provider and ultimately their positive outcomes. We remain strength based and culturally competent in our overall or global approach.

As demonstrated by Table 3, the top five (5) zip codes/neighborhoods with the highest number of maltreatment allegation referrals (January 2021- January 2026) are as follows:

- 95945-Grass Valley/Peardale
- 95949-Alta Sierra
- 95959-Nevada City
- 96161-Truckee
- 95946-Penn Valley

The five zip codes/neighborhoods with the highest average number of juveniles in residence and under Probation's jurisdiction (2021-2025) also had the highest number of child maltreatment allegations and incident rates (2021-2025). As child abuse and neglect often contribute to youth trauma, the overlap of neighborhoods shown in Table 1 and Table 3 supports Probation's shift to trauma-informed approaches and strategies that address youth needs. "In one large-scale study, 92.5 % of a sample of detained youth had experienced at least one type of psychological trauma at some point in their lives, and over 50% of the sample—youth with an average age of 14—had been exposed to six or more potentially traumatic adversities by the time of detention (Abram et al. 2004)."

Youth Homelessness and Poverty

Nevada County youth are at increased risk of factors that contribute to homelessness including poverty, food insecurity, abuse, and neglect. According to Data USA, 12.8 percent of children in Nevada County live in poverty.

Homeless youth are highly vulnerable and are at increased risk of assault, sexual abuse, exploitation, and substance use (CCY, 2020; CA State Legis., 2018). According to Data USA, 21.5 percent of the Nevada County population was living with severe housing problems.

Rural communities are less likely to have services for homeless youth, although homelessness exists in both rural and urban communities at the same rates (Chapin Hall, 2018)

Services for youth experiencing homelessness promote resiliency, using positive youth development models that help youth overcome adversity through protective and promotive factors (RHYTTAC, 2018; NN4Y, 2013).

NCHHS. (2019). *Community Services Program*. Retrieved from Nevada County Health and Human Services: <https://www.mynevadacounty.com/543/Community-Services-Program>

KidsData.org. (2018). *Children in Nevada County*. Retrieved from KidsData: <https://www.kidsdata.org/export/pdf?loc=334>

CCY. (2017). *A Call to Action: Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness in California*. Retrieved from California Coalition for Homeless Youth: <https://calyouth.org/a-call-to-action-preventing-and-ending-youth-homelessness-in-california/>

CCY. (2020). *California's Homeless Youth*. Retrieved from California Coalition for Youth: <https://calyouth.org/advocacy-policy/californias-homeless-youth/>

Chapin Hall. (2018). *Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in Rural America*. Retrieved from Voices of Youth Count: <https://voicesofyouthcount.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/VoYC-Rural-One-Pager-Final.pdf>

NN4Y. (2013). *Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) (P.L.110-378)*. Retrieved from National Network for Youth: <https://www.nn4youth.org/wp-content/uploads/NN4Y-RHYA-Fact-Sheet-2013.pdf>

SECTION 4 - Assessment of Current Youth Service Resources

The following law enforcement, probation, education, mental health, health, social services, drug and alcohol, and youth services resources specifically target at-risk youth, justice-involved youth and their families.

Law Enforcement

Historically, each summer the Grass Valley Police Department operates a youth prevention program in collaboration with NEO/Bright Futures for Youth, the G.R.E.A.T. Summer Youth Academy. This is a week-long program to inspire and empower a child with the life skills to become successful. They encounter new experiences to form their life path, build self-confidence and develop leadership skills to become responsible role models within their community. Lesson plans include effective communication, active listening and empathy, anger management, refusal skills, decision making and goal setting. The Probation Department typically has one or two juvenile officers scheduled to take part in the program.

Collaborative services – Special Multi-Agency Resource Team (S.M.A.R.T.)

SMART (Special Multi-Agency Resource Team) is a multi-disciplinary team that meets weekly to discuss high risk children in the community. The child's family is invited to the meeting.

The team consists of Behavioral Health, Probation, Child Welfare, Public Health, the Schools, Cal-Works, Family Preservation and Nevada County Wraparound providers. Children are referred through the schools.

The goal of the team is to keep children safe in the community and succeeding in school. The SMART committee and the family talk about the child's strengths, the family and community's concerns and they come up with a plan to help the child. If a family is interested in such a meeting, they should speak to their child's school administration.

Educational Services

Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS)

Nevada County uses a PBIS model to address school behaviors. Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an organized, data-driven system of interventions, strategies and supports that positively impact school-wide and individualized behavior planning. PBIS focuses on the development and implementation of proactive procedure and practices to prevent problem behavior by providing a systematic framework of school-wide systems and individualized supports.

Focusing on a proactive model, PBIS utilizes a three-tier behavioral model including Universal, Secondary and Tertiary or Intensive. Universal or Primary Prevention focuses on school and classroom wide systems for all students, staff and settings with an emphasis on prevention and reinforcement of positive social and academic behaviors. Secondary focuses on individual students and/or specific groups of students demonstrating at-risk behavior. Finally, the Tertiary Prevention or intensive tier provides support for students that need specific, specialized and individualized systems addressing consistent high-risk behavior.

The four critical features of SW-PBIS include:

- Locally-meaningful and culturally-relevant outcomes
- Empirically-supported practices
- Systems to support implementation
- Data to monitor effective and equitable implementation and to guide decision making

Trauma-Informed Restorative Instructional Practice

Suspension rates have increased and then flattened since Covid19 at three schools in the Nevada Joint Union High School District over the five school years from 2020 to 2025.

Rather than jumping to suspension or expulsion, the focus is instead on acknowledgement of pain, and providing necessary boundaries and new directives to modify behavior. Restorative practice — now a pillar of the district — has been rolled out gradually over the last three years. Although resolution strategies manifest themselves differently at each school site, they maintain a general pattern: students must confront individuals they've harmed and vice versa. At the root of the shift is a changed belief system. It's no longer the understanding that punitive, strict punishment will rectify student behavior, creating a healthier learning environment.

While suspension rates have dropped recently in part to distance learning protocols, the restorative practice program has previously received the most attention. In spaces where it's been conducted over longer stretches of time suspensions and expulsions have dropped, and school cultures have improved.

School Attendance Review Board (SARB)

California compulsory education law requires everyone between the ages of 6 and 18 years of age to attend school. Some students, however, violate compulsory education laws and have a pattern of unexcused absences. A student who is absent from school for 10% or more of the days he or she has been enrolled in school is considered “chronically absent” and may also be referred to SARB. The School Attendance Review Board (SARB), is composed of representatives from various youth-serving agencies, help truant or recalcitrant students and their parents or guardians solve school attendance and behavior problems through the use of available school and community resources. The goal of the SARB is to keep students in school and provide them with a meaningful educational experience. The SARB has the power, when necessary, to refer students (ages 13 to 18) and their parents or guardians to court.

The School Attendance Review Board is normally composed of:

- County Superintendent of Schools
- A representative from the District Attorney’s Office
- A representative from Mental/Behavior Health Department
- A representative from Law Enforcement/Probation Department
- A representative from Child Protective Services
- A member of the Nevada County School Board
- The SARB Coordinator from Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office

School Attendance Mediation (SAM)

Student Attendance Mediation (SAM) is a team process to mediate between the school and the students and their families to assist in remedying attendance issues. The team may consist of the family court judge, a district administrator, a school site principal, the school resource officer, and a probation officer as needed.

Students and their families will initially meet with the team and discuss various options and plans to be set into motion. Efforts in the mediation process may include: referrals for assessments, mandated community service, attendance of community held counseling services, visiting various county agencies, transfer of schools, delay/revocation of the student driver's license, or referral to probation. Student progress will be monitored and follow up meetings may be scheduled.

A gap has been identified for youth when transitioning from different school settings. There currently are not enough spots in our array of educational opportunities versus the need. This is especially true for youth with IEPs. We have explored contracting with a local STRTP as they have the bandwidth in their non-public school to address this need.

Education Data Partnership

According to state reported school information, Nevada County schools saw an increase in suspension and expulsion rates coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, but they have levelled off over the past two years. It appears that males are more than twice as likely to be the subject of a school suspension. However, local high school data regarding mental health is also of concern and included below.

Restorative Practices (RAYS)

- The science of relationship and community
- Building and sustaining relationships
- Restoring relationships when things go wrong

Restorative Accountable Youth Solutions, an alternative program to suspension

Nevada County schools run an alternative to suspension program called RAYS. It aims to reduce both school suspensions and student substance use and is based in restorative practices. The program is evaluated by a team of researchers from UC San Diego. UC San Diego anonymously surveys students at a given time each year in order to gather data around student substance use and knowledge. As part of the evaluation of the RAYS program, the MYHB survey seeks to better understand:

- Student use of substances
- Youth attitudes and exposure to these products
- Perceptions of harm associated with substance use

Figure 7 - Suspension Rate Nevada County

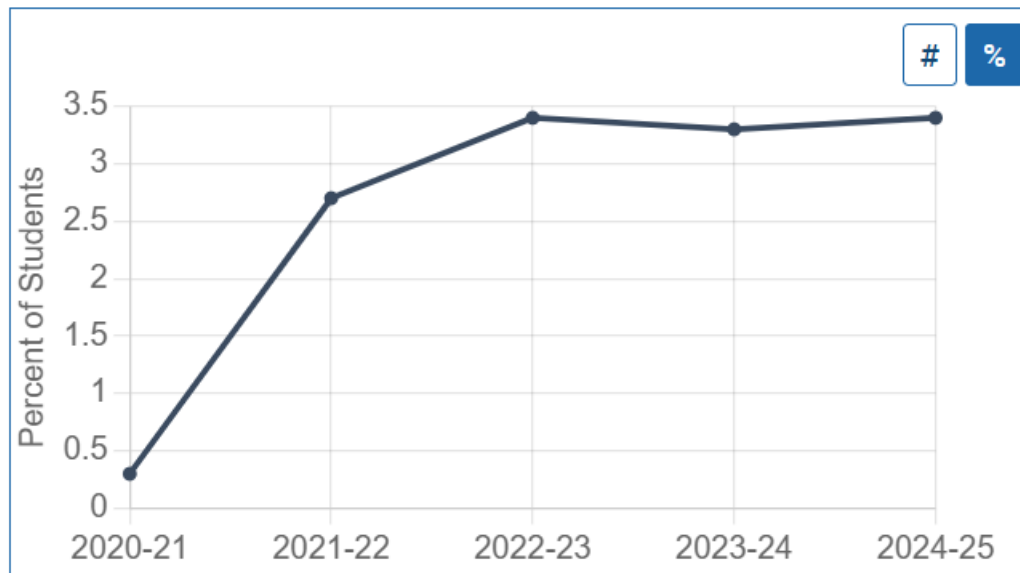


Figure 8 - Suspension Rate Nevada County by Gender

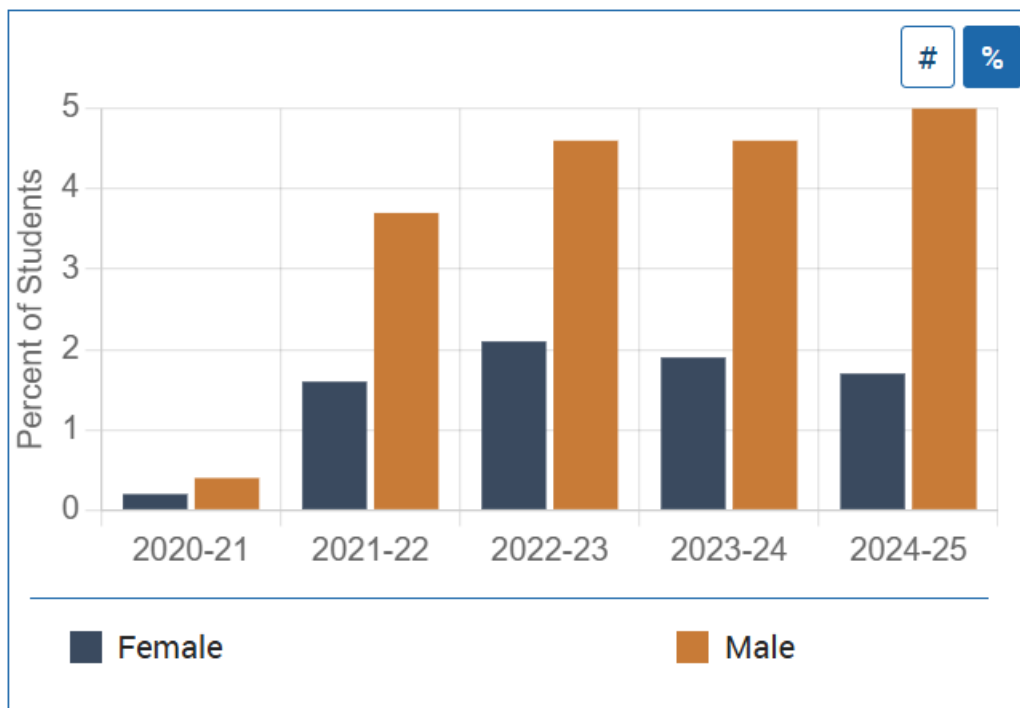


Figure 9 - Expulsion Rate Nevada County

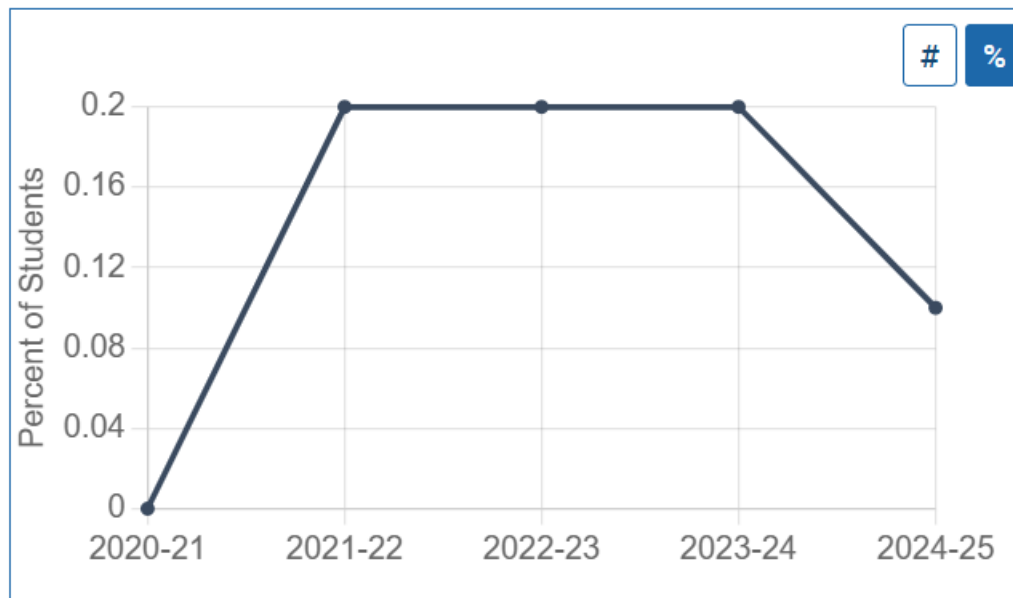
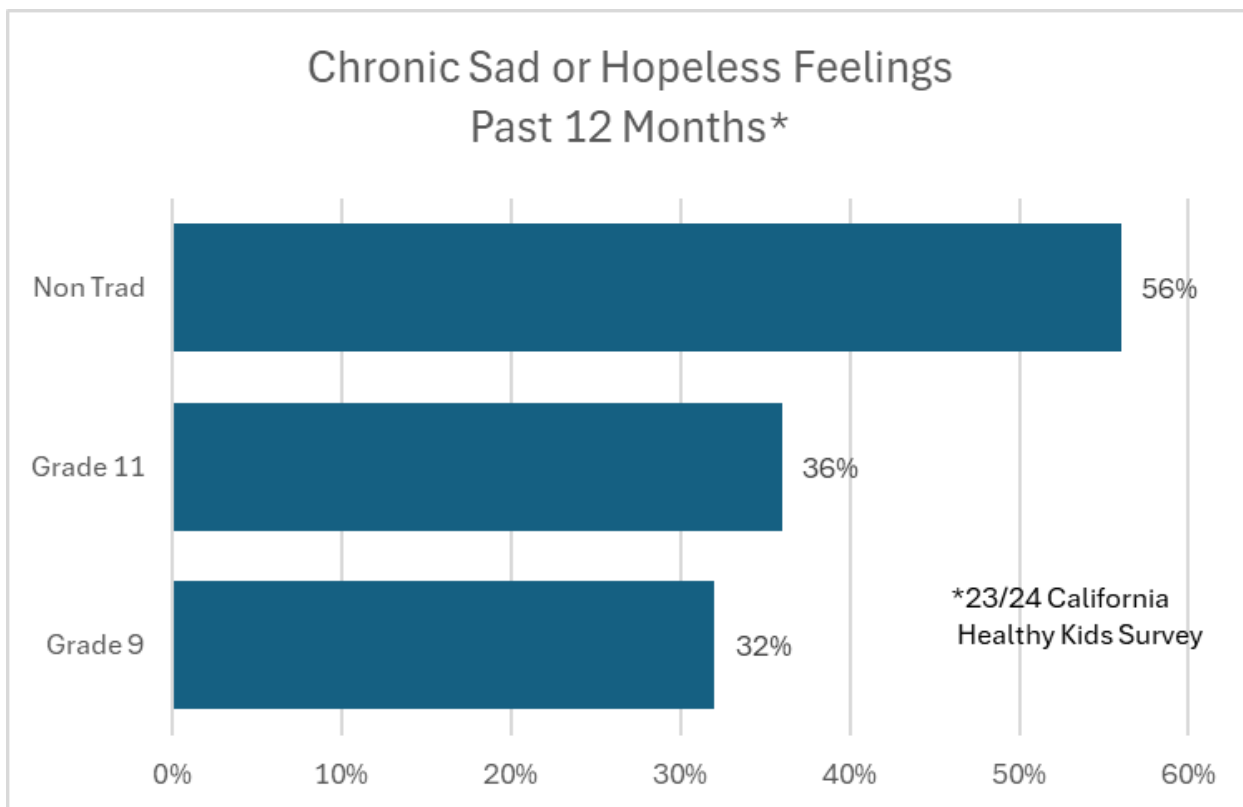


Figure 10



Behavioral Health Services

Substance Use Disorder Services

Juvenile Probation and contracted treatment providers have collaborated to create a comprehensive

process for screening, assessing, and referring youth with substance use disorder risks. As part of this process, youth identified with substance use disorder risk factors are referred to local services. After screening and assessment, treatment recommendations are made based upon assessed need, and referrals are provided to contracted county service providers.

To access substance use disorder services, Medi-Cal eligible youth or their families/guardians are encouraged to call the county's 24/7 Access Line at 530-265-1437. Available levels of care range from Early Intervention, Outpatient Treatment, Intensive Outpatient Treatment, Recovery Services, and Medication Assisted Treatment. Residential Treatment and Withdrawal Management are available from out of county providers on a case-by-case basis.

It has been identified that these resources have historically been underutilized by youth in the county. Efforts have been made to try and advertise youth treatment options as well as de-stigmatize treatment for youth. Web based applications have also been put in place for services as an effort to reach youth.

Public Health also provides an array of alcohol and other drug use prevention programs. Nevada County Public Health's Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention program houses school- and community-based programs aimed at building partnerships for positive and healthy community development to engage individuals as resources in their community. We offer services aimed to promote positive emotional health and well-being and prevent the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

Mental Health Services

Nevada County provides a full array of culturally competent and linguistically proficient mental health services for children, youth, adults, and older adults. Through a variety of county-operated and contracted providers, the county offers prevention and early intervention, outpatient, acute, subacute, and residential care, crisis intervention and stabilization services, and inpatient psychiatric hospitalization. The use of WRAP services are also a staple service when identified as a need in specific cases and referrals. The two chronic sadness charts listed above are the most recent data posted and available at the local level.

Nevada County Behavioral Health has been awarded a nearly \$2 million Early Psychosis Intervention Plus (EPI Plus) grant by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) for its Rural EPI Access through Cultural Humility (REACH) program. Half of all mental illnesses begin by age 14, and 75 percent by age 24. Psychotic symptoms, such as hallucinations and delusions, often emerge between the ages of 15 and 25.

The UC Davis Early Detection and Preventative Treatment (EDAPT) Clinic in Sacramento will serve as the psychiatric "hub" for the 4-year REACH program pilot. Nevada County, Alpine County, and Mono County will serve as the rural "spokes" of the program, partnering with Victor Community Support Services to staff the local Care team including case management and peer support services. The REACH program is expected to launch in the coming months, at which time Nevada County Behavioral Health and its partners will focus on outreach and education to encourage program referrals.

The schools have also hired several behavior interventionists to help with behavior modification in the school setting. This has helped with early identification and intervention for youth that might have previously had to get deeper into the system before appropriate help was available.

Community Resources

The following community resources are available in the specified areas of the County of Nevada. Probation has provided information on these services and organizations as a reference.

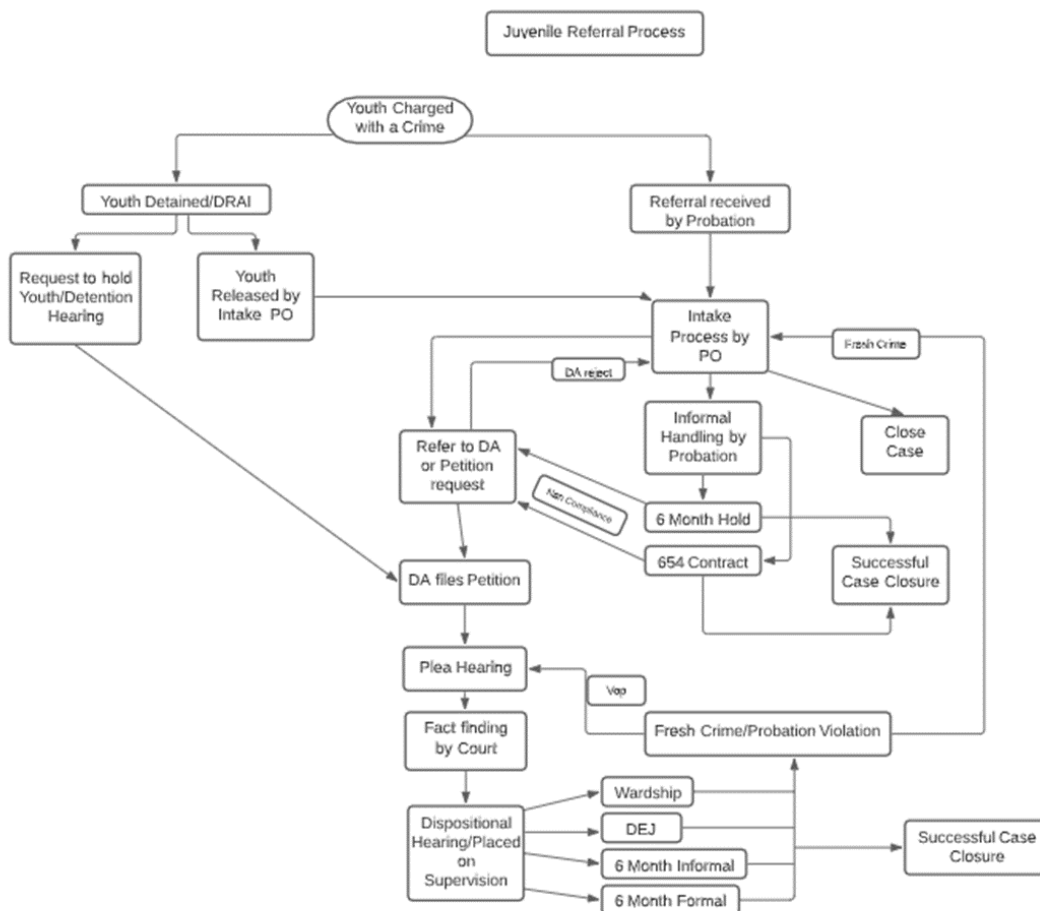
NEVADA COUNTY
Granite Wellness Center 180 Sierra College Drive, Grass Valley CA 95945 (530)273-9541, info@granitewellness.org
Granite Wellness Center 10015 Palisades Drive, Suite 1, Truckee CA 96161 (530)587-5617
Common Goals Inc. 256 Buena Vista, Suite 100, Grass Valley CA 95945 (530)274-2000, Joe@CommonGoalsInc.org
Victor Community Support Services 900 East Main Street #201, Grass Valley CA 95945 (530)273-2244, www.victor.org
Nevada County Children's Mental Health 988 McCourtney Road, Grass Valley CA 95949 (530)470-2736
Nevada County Behavioral Health 500 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley CA 95945 (530)265-1437
Nevada County Family Resource Centers, Grass Valley 236 South Church Street, Grass Valley CA 95945 (530)273-4059
Truckee House (formerly Family Resource Center), Truckee 11695 Donner Pass Road, Truckee CA 96161 (530)587-2513
Bright Futures for Youth 200 Litton Drive, Grass Valley CA 95945 (530)265-4311
CASA – Child Advocates 200 Providence Mine Road, Suite 210, Nevada City CA 95959 (530)265-9550
Environmental Alternatives-Family Services 525 Sutton Way, Grass Valley CA 95945 (530)273-7120
Stanford Sierra Youth and Family Services 1020 McCourtney Road #A, Grass Valley CA 94945 (530)478-0900

SECTION 5 - Local Action Strategy

The following juvenile justice action strategy provides for a continuum of responses to juvenile crime and demonstrates a collaborative, integrated approach for implementing a system of swift, certain and graduated responses for at-risk and justice-involved youth that best meets their individual needs.

The Nevada County Juvenile Justice System continues to place a strong emphasis on the principles of risk-need-responsivity in response to juvenile crime and delinquency. From the first point of entry into the Juvenile Justice System, efforts to divert youth from the system and preserve the family are a priority. A continuum of measured and prescribed response to behavior for youth under Probation's supervision mitigates the need for formal court proceedings and is designed to assist youth in recognizing both positive and negative behaviors and successfully completing probation. Targeted strategies place emphasis on prevention and early intervention, child and family focus and teaming, a cross-systems approach to programs and service delivery, collaboration, trauma-informed care and culturally relevant practices.

Referral Process Map



Functional Family Probation (FFP)

FFP was created as a case management practice for juvenile justice workers who are charged with supervision of youth in a community setting. FFP is based on what we know works. It is informed by the four decades of scientific investigation about how we can engage and motivate high risk teens and their families to reduce youth recidivism. It has been implemented on a statewide and county basis in communities as diverse as Los Angeles, Sacramento, the states of Utah and Washington, and Amsterdam in the Netherlands. It has also been modified for use with child welfare supervision in experimental designs, most recently in NYC.

Traditional supervision models are also commonly organized to monitor and intervene with *only* the adjudicated or identified youth. A strength of FFP is that it employs the support of family and/or community members. By strengthening family functioning and creating broader working relationships, we greatly increase the likelihood for long term success with the youth we're charged to supervise. The data we have accrued shows that by enlisting the support of the essential people in a youth's life and having them work together we can begin to alter the context from which problem behaviors occur.

Many families involved in the juvenile justice or child welfare systems are challenged by a host of stresses. In FFP we make an effort to uncover family and youth strengths so they can address obstacles as opposed to finding and responding to them ourselves.

The Functional Family Probation process includes protocols, practices, services and support to:

- Treat the juvenile, family and community as a whole.
- Increase protective factors with the juvenile and family.
- Reduce high risk factor with the juvenile and family.
- Reduce juvenile criminal recidivism.

FFP Protocols were implemented in 2019. The FFP process may include a social worker, probation officer and system partners who meet with the youth and their family to identify their needs and strengths and leverage available services in the community. Based on the needs identified, youth may be referred to mental health treatment or community services to prevent further involvement in juvenile justice. Through this process, youth can be diverted from the system entirely and court involvement can be prevented.

When a youth appears eligible for services from both Probation and Child Welfare Services, both agencies will collaborate on a joint assessment and single recommendation for the court regarding which status will serve the best interests of the youth and the protection of the community. The court will determine which status is appropriate for the youth (dependency, delinquency, or no status).

Functional Family Therapy (FFT)

Nevada County Probation continues to research the process of acquiring a local service provider to engage our youth using a Functional Family Therapy (FFT) model of intervention. This additional resource would complement and enhance the Functional Family Probation (FFP) model currently in use by the Probation Department.

Functional Family Therapy (FFT) is an intensive, short-term therapeutic model that offers in-home family counseling designed specifically to address the referring behaviors (i.e., curfew violations, running away, and truancy) and juvenile delinquency from a relational, family-based perspective. and improve family relationships.

FFT therapists utilize a national FFT evidence-based model to work with the referred youth and their families to address risk and protective factors within and outside of the family. This model assesses the family dynamics that have contributed to the youth's behavior, modifies strained family communication, improves parenting skills, and supports positive reinforcement within community contexts and relationships.

Motivational Interviewing (MI)

Nevada County Probation staff are trained in the use of motivational interviewing. Motivational interviewing is a dialogue approach designed to help people find the motivation to make a positive behavior change. This strength based and client-centered approach is particularly effective for people who have mixed feelings about changing their behavior. Motivational interviewing is meant to be collaborative, evocative, and honors client autonomy. The key components of MI include the use of OARS.

Open Ended Questions: opens the door and encourages change talk

Affirmations: shows recognition, support, appreciation and respect

Reflective Listening: seeks to understand the client's experience

Summaries: clarifies complex information and focuses on strengths

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Journaling (CBT)

Nevada County Probation is providing a staff led CBT Journaling program to juveniles in our community. We currently use *The Change Company* as a vendor for the interactive journals.

The *Forward-Thinking Journal* Series is a cognitive-behavioral series that uses evidence-based strategies to assist youth involved in the criminal justice system in making positive changes to their thoughts, feelings and behaviors. Applying the information presented in the Interactive Journals to their own lives helps participants achieve their goals for responsible living.

The Forward-Thinking Interactive Journaling® Series was developed in collaboration with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Juvenile Justice's *Interactive Journaling®* Charter.

The *Courage to Change Interactive Journaling®* System is an evidence-based supervision/case management model developed in collaboration with several United States Probation Offices.

Through the use of this cognitive-behavioral *Interactive Journaling*® System and interaction with their support team, participants address their individual problem areas based on a criminogenic risk and needs assessment. Implementation is flexible and can be customized based on risk, responsivity and programming needs. By personalizing the information presented in the Journals to their own circumstances, participants will develop a record of their commitments and progress throughout probation and a roadmap to success in their efforts to make positive behavior change.

School Liaison Officer (SLO)

There has been a lot of previous industry-wide discussion regarding the commonly referenced school to prison pipeline. There was previously proposed legislation last year trying to get at the belief that children are being funneled out of public schools and into the juvenile and criminal justice systems. There is also a belief that police in schools lead to students being criminalized for behavior that should or would normally be handled inside the school setting. At the same time there is a call to increase counseling and social work in schools.

The Probation Department has a School Liaison Officer referral process in place by which teachers and principals can reach out to probation when children appear to be in crisis and having difficult times. The referrals are not focused on discipline, rather bridging the gap between need and service. The aim is to provide services to youth in the school setting and may include direct service, case management and service referrals.

This includes local high schools and the Nevada City School District. Officers continue to provide direct services to address specific issues on said school sites such as CBT, Moral Reasoning (component of A.R.T.), Boys' Council and Girls' Circle.

Project Objective: Increase school safety through providing emotional and behavioral support. Take preventative measures to support youth in the community before they become justice involved.

Target issues or behaviors include: Truancy, anti-social behaviors, drug and alcohol use, students with anti-social peers, bullying, family stressors, mental health concerns, lack of pro-social recreation or activity and students that appear to be struggling in some capacity.

Nevada County Probation and the local Nevada County CASA office began collaborating, in 2024, on a new mentorship program allowing referrals for children outside of the traditional court process. SLO referrals were an opportunity and logical next step to begin these efforts.

Nevada County Youth Detention

Youth taken into temporary custody by a law enforcement officer, when alternate options for release are not feasible, are received by the Placer County Juvenile Hall and the Nevada County Juvenile Intake Unit. The arresting officer must provide a written statement of probable cause for detention prior to the Intake Unit accepting custody of the minor. If the youth is accepted into custody, an intake officer will review all available information and conduct an assessment using the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) to guide the custody decision. The intake officer will make one of the following primary dispositions: (a) dismissal at intake with or without conditions or program referrals; (b) diversion to informal probation, pursuant to WIC §654; or (c) referral to the District Attorney for prosecution. As an alternative to incarceration, some youth may be released on home supervision or electronic monitoring, with Global Positioning System (GPS) capabilities, pending their scheduled detention hearing.

The youth in custody are provided short-term care and secure detention while awaiting appearances in Juvenile Court, serving custody commitments or pending a transfer to other programs or otherwise released.

Probation Officers serve as Case Coordinators (CC) for detained youth. CCs are responsible for providing case plan documentation and determining minor's risks and needs. Historically, there has been much discussion regarding the commonly referenced school to prison pipeline. There was previously proposed legislation last year trying to get at the belief that children are being funneled out of public schools and into the juvenile and criminal justice systems. There was also a belief that police in schools lead to students being criminalized for behavior that should or would normally be handled inside the school setting. At the same time there is a call to increase counseling and social work in schools.

There is a referral process in place by which teachers can reach out to probation when children appear to be in crisis and having difficult times. The referrals are not focused on discipline, rather bridging the gap between need and service. The aim is to provide services to youth in the school setting and may include direct service, case management and service referrals. Project Objective: Increase school safety through providing emotional and behavioral support. Take preventative measures to support youth in the community before they become justice involved.

Beginning in the Fall of 2022, the department has a full-time officer dedicated to the School Liaison Officer (SLO) program. This person provided service to all schools in the county (Local high schools and the Nevada City School District campuses were added to the program). Other juvenile officers provided SLO support to schools deemed to be high-risk. Provided direct services to address specific issues on said school sites such as CBT, Moral Reasoning (component of A.R.T.), Boys' Council and Girls' Circle.

Target issues or behaviors include: Truancy, anti-social behaviors, drug and alcohol use, students with anti-social peers, bullying, family stressors, mental health concerns, lack of pro-social recreation or activity and students that appear to be struggling in some capacity.

Matching minors with services and programs available in JH. CCs are also responsible for making regular contact with minor's parents to ensure parents are fully aware of visiting times, obtain any necessary medical treatment authorization, and to provide progress reports. Coordinators develop personalized "reward contracts" for each minor, based on identified needs, which allow the youth to obtain certain privileges (home pass, in-house pass, early release). For example, a young person who has a history of substance abuse may have a stipulation that they need to attend Narcotics Anonymous classes to meet the criteria for the reward contract.

This strategy enables staff to create and follow case plans, which are designed to identify youth's static and dynamic needs, providing a "road map" for how to best make positive progress in addressing those needs. Thus, case plans enhance all the institution's JJCPA funded programs.

Probation works with Placer County and local service providers to provide medical, mental health, alcohol and drug services to youth within the facility. Services include health screenings, immunizations, optometry, dental, routine care, specialty care, crisis services, alcohol and drug screenings, education and supportive services.

On-site education for youth within Placer County Juvenile Hall is overseen by the Placer County School District. Instructional topics include English, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Physical Education, as well as Financial and Computer Literacy. Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) receive instruction by special education staff. High School Equivalency Testing (HiSET) is also available for those students ready to take the test.

Placer County Juvenile Hall youth programs are designed to strengthen pro-social skills, build confidence, solve problems, develop appropriate decision-making skills, promote physical activities and enhance academic performance. These programs encourage youth to work towards rehabilitation and build skills to support their reintegration into the community upon release from custody.

Juvenile Court Investigations and Services

Probation officers in the Juvenile Unit conduct case investigations and prepare social study reports used by the Court, District Attorney and Public Defender during case settlement discussions and to inform court disposition and treatment recommendations. Social study reports contain information regarding all aspects of the youth and family history, as well as information regarding the instant offense. Officers develop the recommendations for these reports using the Automon Case Management System and JAIS assessment tool during the post-findings child and family interview.

A probation officer is assigned to the intake function of the department. They process referrals and access all referred juveniles for initial static risk using a validated risk/needs tool. If the individual is a first-time offender, scores low risk on the tool, and the crime is not a mandatory referral they initiate a temporary hold on the referral. Once a hold is initiated, they educate the family on the resources that are available to the family in the community that will potentially address the identified needs of the family. They walk them through the process of accessing these services and attempt to empower the parents to take a role in securing services. The Probation Officer also educates the family on the juvenile justice process so that they know what benefits and potential consequences the youth is facing during and after the diversion process. The officer remains a resource to the family after the intake and diversion process. They can access the services of the officer at any time during the process. If

the minor goes six months free from further referrals or does not rise to the level of need for further intervention, then they will not be formally processed. The goal is that hopefully the matter is either an aberrant period of behavior and/or the matter can be handled successfully at the lowest level to avoid pulling a minor into the system that would otherwise thrive without such an intervention. This model not only conserves resources across the board but also recognizes that intervening at a high level when unnecessary could increase a minor's risk to re-offend.

Officers serve as presenters in the juvenile courtroom where they guide non-detained youth and families into the courtroom, provide last-minute case information and research probation issues at the Court's request. When hearings conclude, probation officers provide families and youth relevant information about the case and next steps.

Additionally, officers in this division work with victims of the alleged crimes while developing the social study reports and seek restitution on their behalf.

Diversion is predicated on the belief that formal system processing and/or incarceration has criminogenic effects and that alternatives such as decriminalization, deinstitutionalization, and diversion are better for long-term youth development.¹ In creating informal channels to navigate youths (generally those who have committed first-time or status offenses) away from traditional processing, diversion programs serve as opportunities to correct youths' antisocial behaviors with the assistance of their families and the community, rather than through the justice system.² Intake Diversion Protocols are research supported interventions.^{3,4}

Juvenile Field Services

Once a justice-involved youth has been adjudicated and placed on probation, sometimes following a period of detention at a Youth Center, the case is referred to Probation's Juvenile Field Services.

The first step in the juvenile field supervision assignment process is candidacy assessment through a structured interview to engage and motivate the youth and the family. Officers meet with youth subject to a WIC §602 petition to renew and update their risk-and-needs assessment, in collaboration with the youth's family/legal guardian, to determine their risk to recidivate and to identify strengths and areas of need. The assessment results drive the dynamic and individualized case planning process with an emphasis on criminogenic risk and protective factors. Through this guided process, evidence-based programs within the community are discussed and explored with the youth and family. Referrals

¹ Bishop and Decker 2006; McAra and McVie 2007; Loeb, Waung and Sheeran 2015

² Kammer, Minor, and Wells 1997; Patrick and March 2005

³ Davidson, William S., Robin Redner, Craig H. Blakely, James G. Ernshoff, and Christina M. Mitchell. 1987. "Diversion of Juvenile Offenders: An Experimental Comparison." *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* 55(1):68–75.

⁴ Smith, Emilie Phillips, Angela M. Wolf, Dan M. Cantillon, Oseela Thomas, William S. Davison. 2004. "The Adolescent Diversion Project: 25 Years of Research on an Ecological Model of Intervention." *Prevention & Intervention in the Community* 27(2):29–47.

to community-based providers are made on-site and connection to service is timely. Supervision and support are provided by case managing officers who further collaborate with service providers, youth, families, and natural supports.

Probation contacts and provides an array of effective intervention strategies for those most at-risk, and most in-need to prevent or reduce illness, high-risk behaviors and incarceration. Targeted behaviors will include: family circumstances and parenting; education/employment; peer relations; substance abuse; leisure and recreation activities; personality/behaviors; and attitudes/orientation. Through a trauma informed approach, the selected contractor will work in collaboration with probation officers, youth, families, advocates, educators and natural supports to ensure the youth's needs are being met.

Community-based Supervision is based on the school district in which the youth on probation attends school. This is designed to give officers increased access to youth during the school day which provides a better opportunity to supervise and support them in the community. This innovative method of supervision partners probation officers with school districts to positively impact educational outcomes and behaviors for probation youth.

Juvenile Field officers supervise clients with multiple risk levels, which allow youth to be moved between the two caseload types based upon their assessed needs and compliance with probation. This approach increases supervision efficiency, education and advocacy, and promotes healthy relationships between youth and officers. Further, there is improved information-sharing among school resource officers, teachers, and counselors. Through a fluid case planning process that often includes Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings, officers work with youth, families and community-based providers to ensure service needs are met.

Probation officers provide case management services to youth on probation who are experiencing mental health disorders and sexual exploitation. Through collaborative partnerships, higher risk youth and families are supported through a teaming process, Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and/or CFT meetings, which may occur in a mental health full-service partnership program or through Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) specific programming as described in detail below. Youth and families are referred to community-based programs to support their varying needs which may include family-based services, psychiatric services, cognitive based individual or group therapy, trauma related curriculums, youth advocates, life skills and/or educational/vocational training opportunities. Officers receive specific training in order to support the complex needs of the youth and families.

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children:

Since 2014, the California Legislature has invested in the child welfare system's capacity to identify and serve CSEC, while simultaneously shifting away from criminalization. Nevada County has utilized a multi-layered set of strategies to strengthen the ability of front-line staff and employees to engage, serve and support CSEC and their families. Nevada County's CSEC Steering Committee includes representatives from Probation, Juvenile Court, education, law enforcement, the Public Defender, the District Attorney, Public Health, BHS and community-based organizations that serve CSEC.

A Screening Assessment Tool is conducted on every youth booked into Juvenile Hall in order to identify youth believed to be CSEC. CSEC youth are placed on the caseloads of specially trained probation officers. The officers meet with CSEC youth to discuss their current situation and make recommendations to the Court. Additionally, probation officers may participate in MDT meetings

with attorneys, Child Welfare Services, counselors, youth advocates and other providers connected to these cases. The Protocol states CSEC must be understood as child abuse and reported as such, children should not be criminalized for their sexual exploitation, responses to CSEC youth should be victim centered, trauma-informed, strength-based, developmentally appropriate, culturally competent, data and outcome driven, and in the best interest of the child.

Youth who were not booked into the Juvenile Hall, but placed on probation by the Juvenile Court, are also provided a CSEC assessment by the Juvenile Intake Unit. Officers ensure compliance to Senate Bill (SB) 794 and are highly trained on the topic of human trafficking, victimization and pimping, intervention strategies, harm reduction, trauma informed care, and services specific to CSEC.

Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Unit

California State Bill 1004 (2016) – Pilot Program began in counties of Nevada, Alameda, Napa, Butte, and Sutter. The Transitional Age Youth Unit (TAY) is a specialized field unit providing case management services and support to young people ages 18-25 under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court. These young adults receive assessment and case planning that includes referrals to services to meet identified needs. Referrals are focused on specialized treatment, education, vocational training, and other supports as needed, such as food and emergency housing. The goal of TAY is to provide clients with assessment, treatment, supervision, and support necessary to promote rehabilitation and to prevent re-offending, resulting in a safer community.

In summary, all 18-25-year-old youth arrested on new felony charges will be assessed by probation staff. If found suitable and amenable for the program, they will be assigned a P.O. who will focus on community-based services in lieu of custody. These services include, but not limited to, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Moral Recognition Therapy, Mental Health Therapy, Education, and Vocational Training.

Juvenile Sex Offender Officer

Youth adjudicated for a violation of Penal Code §288 or a reasonably related offense are placed on a specialized caseload. This caseload is managed by the Juvenile Sex Offender Officer in collaboration with treatment providers (when applicable) and the parent/legal guardian(s).

Sexually abusive justice-involved youth participate in outpatient treatment designed to reduce the likelihood of re-offense and promote prosocial development. These youth are provided multiple assessments to inform individualized treatment plans, treatment progress and timing of termination services. The treatment plans generally combine individual and group treatment sessions, relapse prevention strategies and family counseling to support successful program completion. Consistent with best practices, probation officers work in collaboration with treatment providers and families and maintain weekly contact to monitor each juvenile's progress, ensure their needs are being met and ensure they are in compliance with the terms and conditions of their probation.

Placement Services

Family maintenance is the primary goal of rehabilitation. There are cases where it is in the best interest of a minor on probation and the community to place the youth in an alternative Foster Care setting which may include a resource family or a short term residential therapeutic program (STRTP). The Probation Placement Services Division (Placement) is responsible for the supervision of these youth.

The children's services Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) efforts launched by the State in 2012 produced recommendations aimed at improving outcomes for youth removed from their homes and placed in congregate or foster care. In 2015, Assembly Bill (AB) 403 was approved by the Governor to further CCR efforts. Under the new law, group homes must be restructured to comply with new licensure requirements to provide short-term specialized and intensive treatment and will only be used for children whose needs cannot be safely met initially in a family setting. Services are designed to transition youth back home or to another permanent family as soon as possible. All placement decisions utilize the Child and Family Teaming process.

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) introduced new standards to counties through information surrounding AB 403, and Probation, in collaboration with juvenile system partners, continues to employ changes brought about by AB 403 as new information and standards were released. Current placement options and aftercare services are summarized below:

In State Placement

Placement focuses on placing youth in appropriate residential treatment facilities located within the State of California. These cases are staffed by the Placement Committee (PC) designed to promote collaborative planning and coordination of services for youth and their families. The PC includes representatives from Probation, Child Welfare Services, Sierra Forever Families, Victor Community Support Services, Children's Behavioral Health and Foster Youth Services (Nevada County Superintendent of Schools). Residential treatment facilities must be designated as STRTPs in order to be utilized by Probation.

Out of State Placement

The Probation Department no longer places youth out of state.

Extended Foster Care (AB 12)

Extended Foster Care provides resources for non-minor dependents (450 WI) or Extended Foster Care (EFC) youth who would normally exit placement without any assistance, services or reunification with parents or legal guardians. The goal of AB 12 is to ensure this population leaves foster care with the practical skills to achieve their potential and succeed in life. The initiative focuses on providing a safety net of financial assistance, services and ongoing support to these young adults as they age out of foster care. Placement currently has staff assigned to manage the unique challenges of this population by providing case management and supervision to these young adults as they transition to adulthood.

Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention and Support

Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention and Support (FPRRS) is a time-limited, multi-year project under CCR and is financially support by CDSS to recruit, retain and support foster caregivers with additional allowable expenditures such as: staffing, removal of barriers, intensive family finding, and other nontraditional outreach approaches to potential foster family homes, resource families, and relatives. Our goal is to increase home-based care capacity of those willing to accept a placement youth served by Probation. Officers' recruitment efforts include intensive family finding, community outreach, advertising, a media campaign, and technical assistance from an expert in the FPRRS effort.

Youth Homelessness and Poverty

Nevada County Probation plans to assist and mitigate the homelessness and poverty issues by engaging local families, assessing needs and working closely with local resources to access and match needs to services. NEO, Nevada County Friendship Club and their umbrella organization Bright Futures for Youth (BFFY) are recent recipients of a grant funding to assist with this underlying issue and concern.

SECTION 6 – Information Sharing and Data

Probation uses a variety of methods to share information across agencies within the county. Multiagency disciplinary teams including Juvenile Justice System partners have been developed to coordinate case planning for youth associated with specific populations/programs including crossover youth, placement and Title IV-E. Memorandums of understanding are in place between Probation and various system partners to share information for specific programing, and community-based organizations provide reports to Probation regarding youth referred to their programs.

Probation's primary case management system is the Automon Information System. Automon is a dynamic web-based application available to Probation staff. The Automon application empowers the user with flexible search and case management features. Information regarding warrants, booking, arrest history, addresses, and approved family visitors is available to Probation staff in real time. Multiple Automon reports have been developed to pull specific data for reporting purposes.

Within Automon, program components contain information related to risk and needs assessments, detention risk assessments, juvenile referrals and supervision levels.

Probation utilizes the dynamic JAIS risk and needs assessment tools. These tools allow Probation to measure changes in risk over time and can be used to evaluate the impact specific programing has on a youth's risk factors.

For some programs, data to track and evaluate outcomes will be pulled from the JAIS risk and needs assessment tool reports, in addition to Probation records and databases, such as Booking, Intake and Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS).

SECTION 7 – Programs to Be Funded By JJCPA

The juvenile referral rate in Nevada County increased from 16.9 referrals per 1,000 10-19-year-olds to 26.5 referrals per 1,000 10–19-year-olds between 2021 to 2025. The number of juvenile referrals increased from 256 to 283 from 2024 to 2025. Overall, referrals have averaged 228 per year between 2021-2025.

What does stick out in the data is the dependency/maltreatment data matching the delinquency data and the growth of mental health challenges during previous Covid-19 protocols and adjustments. Addressing the dependency data, a high number of the delinquency referrals that include a violent offense involve an immediate family member as the victim. This results in several “crossover” youth, defined as youth that bounce back and forth from the dependency to the delinquency systems. The Functional Family Probation case management model was implemented to address this issue and appears to be well received by our clients and families. The model helps families solve problems on their own without the need of constant intervention from local supports.

Other data that stands out are related to trends in suspension/expulsions and extreme hopelessness/sadness. School suspensions/expulsions decreased during the Covid-19 pandemic but have increased since while extreme sadness/hopelessness measures of students have been steadily rising from 2015 to 2021. Both remain challenges for probation to confront. To address these issues, the Probation School Liaison Officers are trying to bridge any service gaps which might help students avoid entry into the delinquency system. The goal is not to widen the criminal justice net, but to make sure students have access and knowledge to appropriate and existing supports that can prevent future and/or further involvement in events that have a correlation with justice involvement.

Probation officers use tools and responses that limit the need to pull youth further into the justice system. The overall referral rate has been low that past five years relative to historic levels. The intake process, which has been in place for the past five years, ensures that minors are engaged at the lowest level of intervention appropriate to their needs.⁵ Individuals tend to age out of crime and with youth, research has shown that most juvenile referrals are the result of an aberrant period of behavior. A system that responds without balancing the need for accountability and reformation with the concept that the further into the system a youth goes can impede rehabilitation, can make youth more likely to continue⁶. This concept of limited, and targeted intervention drives the current intake process.

Given the needs of the youth in the county as demonstrated by the data and currently available interventions the County will utilize the Fiscal Year 2024-25 estimated JJCPA funding to support community based FFP Supervision, the School Liaison Officers (SLO), and intake services as well as the contract(s) established for juvenile interventions. Probation continues to focus on structured case management skill development for probation officers working to keep children and families together. Delivered services are with the knowledge and use of culturally relevant and trauma focused protocols.

We are also looking into expanding our services to the Truckee Unified School District. Truckee is unique in that it is in Nevada County, but the school falls under a neighboring county’s office of education. We have been strengthening ties with the district to identify their needs and the needs of their students so that we can provide impactful interventions.

Juvenile Justice Independent Living Services (JJ-ILP): Juvenile Justice Independent Living Program (JJ-ILP) services are available to youth currently in the Juvenile Justice system, aged 13 through 21. Priority for services includes eligible youth who have an open probation case.

Independent Living Program services include:

1. Assisting participants to seek a high school diploma or its equivalent or to take part in appropriate vocational training. Such assistance may include tutoring to help Juvenile Justice Involved youth become successful and competent learners.
2. Providing training in daily living skills, budgeting, money management and home management, access to community resources, locating and maintaining housing, and career planning.
3. Referring ILP youth for individual and group counseling, when appropriate.
4. Integrating and coordinating services and resources otherwise available to participants.
5. Providing for the establishment of outreach programs designed to attract individuals eligible to participate in the program.
6. Developing a transitional independent living plan with each participant based on an assessment of each participant's needs which shall be incorporated into his or her Probation case plan.
7. Providing participants with other services and assistance designed to improve their transition to independent living.
8. Assisting Juvenile Justice Involved youth to obtain personal records and documents, including driver's licenses, I.D. cards, birth certificates, family background information, social security numbers, health histories, etc.
9. Arranging for Juvenile Justice Involved youth to participate in conferences and workshops.
10. Involving, when appropriate, the biological parents, relatives, mentors, foster parents and Probation Officers in the development of the youth's independent living skills plan.
11. Paying stipends or incentive payments to Juvenile Justice Involved youth to encourage participation in independent living program activities..
12. Assist in the development of a collaborative relationship with the CalWORKs/TANF program for the incorporation of Juvenile Justice involved in that program if applicable. Transitional Living Plans shall include documentation of each participant's background, strengths and weaknesses in the following areas:
 1. Education (current level, educational goals and/or problems)
 2. Vocational or other training (field of training, certificate received, interests to be pursued)
 3. Employment experience/training (work history, career interests, barriers)
 4. Financial/budgeting (current source of income, amount of experience budgeting, problems)
 5. Documented follow-up of the participant's experience living independently

⁵ Hirschi, T., and Gottfredson, M. 1983. "Age and the Explanation of Crime." *American Journal of Sociology* 90, pp.1330-33.

⁶ Gensheimer, L. K., Mayer, J. P., Gottschalk, R., & Davidson, W. S. (1986). Diverting youth from the juvenile justice system: A meta-analysis of intervention efficacy. In S. J. Apter & A. P. Goldstein (Eds.), *Pergamon general psychology series*, Vol. 135. Youth violence: Programs and prospects (pp. 39-57). Elmsford, NY, US: Pergamon Press.

JJCPA Innovative Programs Request for Funding

Nevada County Probation recently developed a funding request process designed to fund community-based organizations that provide services to justice-involved youth populations the opportunity to innovate annually. Funding may be used for innovative projects designed to enhance and strengthen a successful project or program currently in operation or to begin a new program falling under the 2011 Realignment funding for the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention. Group discussions regarding requests occur at team meetings. The requirements include:

- Must be a community-based organizations located in Nevada County
- Must provide services to justice-involved juvenile populations
- Must have had consecutive operations for at least the prior three years

Probation recently awarded funds to two local community-based organizations:

Nevada County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

-Mentorship services for non court appointed youth.

-One 2 One Mentors: The One 2 One program is run under the umbrella of Child Advocates of Nevada County 's CASA program and empowers youth who are at-risk for delinquency to explore prosocial pathways and make safer and healthier decisions through one-on-one mentorship and advocacy. The CASA's goal as a mentor is to function as an additional champion and source of support for the county's most vulnerable and at-risk youth, ages 10-17.

Program Format

Based on their specific interests and strengths, youth are paired with a trusted, consistent adult for weekly visits. Mentors support youth by:

Creating a safe space for the youth to share without judgement

Exploring new interests & activities, funded by One 2 One.

Aiding in accomplishing new goals.

Promoting new life skills

Pursuing job/career development skills, funded by One 2 One

Advocating for educational success

The Volunteers

One 2 One mentors are sourced from our highly trained and screened CASAs.

- All undergo extensive background checks, complete an initial 5 week class (35 hours) before being sworn in by the family court judge, as well as 12 hours of continuing education per year.
- Staff supervised CASAs opt in to this alternate role, rather than serving youth in dependency or delinquency court.
- Data capture is attained through our online system where CASAs enter their hours and document the details of their advocacy and time with youth.
- CASAs make a long-term commitment of service for each youth and can follow the youth into delinquency court if he/she becomes justice engaged.

Sources of referrals:

- Probation officers via their role as School Liaison Officers

- School counselors and educational social workers
- Children’s Behavioral Health
- Victim/Witness

Bright Futures for Youth (BFFY):

-School campus activities to engage youth in an array of BFFY activities and services.

-Although not funded by JJCPA, Youth Job Corps is a partnership between social services, Connecting Point, and Bright Futures for Youth, to train and employ youth ages 16-30, in positions with local nonprofits and government entities. It provides job training, job readiness, career counseling, job placement, and paid internships. The program is currently on pause, with an expectation to resume operations in September of 2026.

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools (NCSOS)

SECTION 8 – Programs to Be Funded By YOBG

YOBG funding was traditionally used in coordination with JJCPA to fund several programs within the Juvenile Field Services Division. Through these two funding streams, the department was able to implement programs and strategies to rehabilitate justice-involved youth. These programs allowed officers to provide specialized supervision services to youth in an effort to mitigate further involvement with the Juvenile Justice System.

A Resolution to close the Nevada County Carl F. Bryan II Youth Center by June 30, 2021, was adopted by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors on July 14, 2020. The Youth Center was built in 2003 and sized according to anticipated growth in juvenile detainees.

Declining Populations in Juvenile Hall

Since its opening, the Youth Center was never at capacity and over its last several years the average daily population was less than [REDACTED] youth and yet maintained 27 County staff. This facility was designed to hold sixty youth in order to accommodate the projected population growth in the County. However, contrary to the prior population growth projections for Nevada County between 2000 to 2020, demographic data from the United States Census Bureau revealed that the population of Nevada County plateaued in the last decade, going from 98,205 in 2009 to 99,715 in 2019. This, in addition to Nevada County’s investment in collaborative alternative strategies to working with youth and families to resolve conflict and provide rehabilitative opportunities, has resulted in a substantially reduced need for secure detention of juveniles. Due to the declining population in secure detention, the average daily cost per youth increased by over 200% over the past decade. Over several years, Probation had previously sought to reduce costs caused by the steady decline in the daily Youth Center census by leasing juvenile hall beds to other counties. Nevada County has opted to contract with Placer County for any needed detention services.

In the Alternative

Nevada County Probation anticipates a modification and/or re-allocation of YOBG Funds to programs such as officer training, FFP, ART/CBT and MRT support, response matrix incentives, advanced educational opportunities, Family Findings Services, expanded CFT services, job/skill training opportunities and staffing as needed.

In addition, one of the goals of the realignment of youth from state facilities to local supervision was to allow their connection to community and family support systems to remain intact and undisturbed. FFP continues to provide an opportunity to strengthen those natural supports and increase the likelihood they remain intact. FFP creates an environment in the home that provides the family with the best chance being able to navigate and avert potential crisis situations on their own using skills they learn throughout the FFP process.

SECTION 9 – Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

Probation's strategy for dealing with non-707(b) offenders does not differ from its strategy for other justice-involved youth. The use of best practices by the department and community providers assists in addressing Probation's immediate and long-term goals. These include providing appropriate types and levels of programming and services to the County's justice-involved youth.

Probation continues to work towards building capacity to provide community supervision and serve the non-707(b) /PC 290.008 population in the following areas: 1) transitional living opportunities; 2) educational assistance and/or vocational training; 3) employment placement; 4) family support; 5) parenting skills; 6) mental health services; and 7) substance abuse treatment.

SECTION 10 – Last Reported Expenditures

Funding:

FY 2024/2025 JCPA TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$395,822

FY 2024/2025 YOBG TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$426,631

Juvenile Staffing:

Nevada City:

4 Deputy Probation Officers (Juvenile and TAY)

1 Supervisor (splits time with TAY and Pretrial)

1 Manager

Truckee:

1 Deputy Probation Officer (splits time with adult)

1 Supervisor (splits time with adult)

There is also a pool of Legal Office Assistants that cover both offices for both juvenile and adult matters.

<i>Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement</i>			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Truancy Intervention Program		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$130,447.58	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$20,984.84	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$1,100.00	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$45,378.50	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$197,910.92	\$	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for.			
A probation officer is assigned as the truancy liaison to all local school districts. That officer participates in the School Attendance Review Board (SARB), School Attendance Mediation (SAM), Special Multi-Agency Resource Team (SMART), and Community Agencies United for Safe Schools and Safe Streets (CAUSSSS). From these sources as well as directly from the school's sites and districts the officer receives truancy referrals. They then work with the parents to gain their buy-in to develop a program that provides the resources needed specific to that family to eliminate any barriers the family is facing that is seen as the cause of the minor's truancy. The program involves supporting the parent, while offering a full scope of services in a holistic approach. There is a schedule of rewards and sanctions for behavior that includes a variety of responses up to gift cards for positive behavior and truancy court for negative behavior. All the while providing the family with support and resources. All the groups mentioned above are collaborative stakeholder groups that engage in this program. The program has the full support of the school districts and Nevada County Office of Education. The officer assigned does regular outreach to school staff to inform them of the program and benefits of the program. School staff are committed to keeping youth in the most appropriate educational setting. Throughout the year we monitor referrals and trends of those referrals. At the end of the year, we use the data collected to determine at what level of intervention we start to see a correlation between the intervention and improved school attendance.			

<i>Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement</i>			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	School Liaison Officers		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$130,447.58	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$20,984.84	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$1,100.00	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$45,378.50	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$197,910.92	\$	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. The Probation Department has a School Liaison Officer referral process in place by which teachers and principals can reach out to probation when children appear to be in crisis and having difficult times. The referrals are not focused on discipline, rather bridging the gap between need and service. The aim is to provide services to youth in the school setting and may include direct service, case management and service referrals. An officer is dedicated to the program full-time. This officer provides support to other Officers doing SLO work at their sites while she focuses her attention on schools with the highest needs. This includes local high schools and the Nevada City School District. All officers continue to provide direct services to address specific issues on said school sites such as CBT, Moral Reasoning (component of A.R.T.), Boys' Council and Girls' Circle. Project Objective: Increase school safety through providing emotional and behavioral support. Take preventative measures to support youth in the community before they become justice involved. Target issues or behaviors: Truancy, anti-social behaviors, drug and alcohol use, students with anti-social peers, bullying, family stressors, mental health concerns, lack of pro-social			

Recreation or activity and students that appear to be struggling in some capacity.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement

Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Functional Family Probation		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$	\$377,847.22	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$	\$7,950.00	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$	\$385,797.22	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for.			
FFP is our supervision model that replaced what was considered to be a more traditional supervision model which focused mainly on monitoring adjudicated youth. One of the shortcomings of this approach was that officers paid very little attention to family dynamics. A strength of FFP is that it employs the support of family and/or community members. By strengthening family functioning and creating broader working relationships, we greatly increase the likelihood for long term success with the youth we're charged to supervise. The data we have accrued shows that by enlisting the support of the essential people in a youth's life and having them work together we can begin to alter the context from which problem behaviors occur. The Functional Family Probation process includes protocols, practices, services and supports to treat the juvenile, family and community as a whole, increase protective factors with the juvenile and family, reduce high risk factor with the juvenile and family and reduce juvenile criminal recidivism.			

<i>Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement</i>			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Case Coordinator		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$	\$27,527.77	\$
Professional Services:	\$	\$3,396.30	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$	\$9,912.90	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$	\$40,833.97	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. A Probation Officer now acts as the Case Coordinator for our youth when detained at Placer County Detention Center. They are responsible for providing case plan documentation, determining risks and needs and for matching youth with services and programs available in the PCDC. They are also responsible for making regular contact with the youths' parents or guardians to ensure parents are fully aware of visiting times, obtain any necessary medical treatment authorization, and to provide progress reports. The department ensures that all barriers such as housing, medication, school enrollment, vocational deficiencies, and transportation are addressed prior to release. In some cases, home passes are given prior to an outright release to ease the juvenile back into the community. Also, there is always a warm handoff to service providers with the focus on the needs of the youth.			