COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan

San Diego County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, May 1, 2026

CONTENTS

DJJ Realignment Annual Plan 3

Part 1: Subcommittee Composition – WIC §1995(b)–(c) 4
• Process for Co-Chair Selection 5
• Process for Development of the Plan 5

Part 2: Target Population – WIC §1995(d)(1) 6

Part 3: Programs and Services – WIC §1995(d)(2), (d)(8) 9

Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds – WIC §1995(d)(3) 15

Part 5: Facility Plan – WIC §1995(d)(4) 23

Part 6: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System – WIC §1995(d)(5) 25

Part 7: Regional Effort – WIC §1995(d)(6) 25

Part 8: Data – WIC §1995(d)(7) 26

Part 9: Other Updates – WIC §1995(d)(8) 27

Part 10: Prior Year Expenditures and Summary of Outcomes/Impacts – WIC §1995(d)(9) 28

Works Cited 33

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JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL PLAN

MAIN CONTACT FOR PLAN

Date: May 1, 2026

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BACKGROUND AND INSTRUCTIONS:

Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Sections 1990 through 1995 establish the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) program, which supports county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who were previously eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) prior to its closure. Section 1995, which governs the county planning process, was amended by Assembly Bill 118 (Chapter 96, Statutes of 2025). This template reflects those amendments, which take effect January 1, 2026. All statutory references in this document are to the law as amended. The statutory language can be found here.

To be eligible for funding allocations associated with this grant program, counties shall create a subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council to develop a plan describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision, and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitative services for realigned youth. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(a).) OYCR may request revisions as necessary or request completion of the required statutory elements in the plan prior to final acceptance of the plan. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995 (f).) Plans and the date of their acceptance will be posted to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(g).)

There are ten sections to the plan

Part 1: Subcommittee Composition
Part 2: Target Population
Part 3: Programs and Services
Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds
Part 5: Facility Plan
Part 6: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System
Part 7: Regional Efforts
Part 8: Data
Part 9: Other Updates
Part 10: Expenditure Summary

PART 1: SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSITION AND PROCESS (WELF. & INST. CODE §§ 1995 (B) AND (C))

List the subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information:

Agency	Name and Title	Email	Phone Number
Chief Probation Officer (Chair)	Tamika Nelson, Chief Probation Officer	Tamika.Nelson@sdcounty.ca.gov	(858) 514-3103
Co-Chair (*If Applicable*)	N/A	N/A	N/A
District Attorney's Office Representative	Samira Seidu, Deputy District Attorney	samira.seidu@sandiegoda.gov	(858) 694-4468
Public Defender's Office Representative	Kristin Scoggin, Supervising Attorney	kristin.scogin@sdcounty.ca.gov	(858) 974-5789
Department of Social Services Representative	Yael Koenig, Deputy Director, Behavioral Health Services	Yael.Koenig@sdounty.ca.gov	(619) 563-2773
Department of Mental Health	Fran Cooper, Behavioral Health Services	Frances.Cooper@sdcounty.ca.gov	(619) 559-5125
Office of Education Representative	Roberto Carrillo, Executive Director, San Diego County Office of Education	roberto.carrillo@sdcoe.net	(858) 290-5469
Court Representative	Honorable Ana Espana, Presiding Judge, Juvenile Court	Ana.Espana@sdcourt.ca.gov	(858) 634-1501
Three Community Members (*defined as "individuals who have experience providing community-based youth services, youth justice advocates with expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system, or have been directly involved in the juvenile justice system" (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b).)*)	Laila Aziz, Pillars of the Community, San Diego Community Organizer	laila@potcsd.org	
	D'Andre Brooks, CEO & Co-Founder at Freedom2Succeed and Chair at San Diego Commission on Gang Prevention & Intervention, Lived Experience	Dbrooks@freedom2succeed.org	
	VACANT		

Additional Subcommittee Participants			

Describe the process used to determine whether to select a co-chair for your subcommittee (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b)):

Updates pertaining to Welfare and Institutions Section 1995(b) were disseminated to the subcommittee, followed by several substantive discussions. On 03/05/2025, by a majority vote, the subcommittee elected not to appoint a co-chair at this time. Subsequent discussions on 03/05/2026 and 04/14/2026, reaffirmed this decision.

Provide the dates of the last two meetings that the subcommittee convened to discuss your county's JJRBG plan?

Meeting Date 1: 03/05/2026 Meeting Date 2: 04/14/2026

Additional meeting dates of the subcommittee, if applicable: N/A.

Date that the subcommittee approved the plan by a majority vote: 04/14/2026.

Describe how the plan was developed, including the review and participation of the subcommittee community members as defined in Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b):

As a requirement to receive funding through the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Program, counties were mandated to create a subcommittee within the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) per WIC 1995 and submit a plan to OYCR by January 1, 2022. Thereafter, the plan was required to be submitted annually to OYCR by May 1st, and the subcommittee convened no less frequently than twice per year to consider the plan. The plan required approval by a majority of the subcommittee. The subcommittee was composed of the chief probation officer, as chair; representatives, as mandated by WIC 1995, included members from the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Department of Social Services/Mental Health, County Office of Education, the Court, and at least three members from the community: 1) individuals with experience providing community-based youth services; 2) youth justice advocates knowledgeable about the juvenile justice system; and/or 3) individuals who had been directly involved in the juvenile justice system.

The JJCC Subcommittee oversaw the development of the DJJ Realignment Plan, which described the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision, and reentry services needed to provide rehabilitation and supervision to youth who were realigned from DJJ. The Realignment Plan utilized the term “youth” to represent those up to the age of 18, as well as young adults up to the age of 24, recognizing that the developmental and chronological age needs of youth and young adults must be considered in care.

During this reporting period (fiscal year 2024-2025), several meetings were convened to coordinate and establish vital mechanisms for monitoring progress, evaluating policies and procedures, and making necessary adjustments to ensure the plan's long-term effectiveness. County stakeholders, contract providers, and Probation staff actively collaborated to realize the objectives outlined in the Youth Development Academy (YDA) within the Realignment Plan. These regular gatherings fostered continuous collaboration among all partners, enabling troubleshooting and improvements as the program advanced, thus ensuring comprehensive addressing of all deliverables outlined in the Realignment Plan.

Developing the Realignment Plan document involved several key steps, including the temporary establishment of the Realignment Plan Action Group, which assisted in gathering the necessary information and documentation related to data, research, and the implementation of action items in previous plans. This coordinated effort facilitated community member participation in the development and review of the plan as a draft was initiated. The Action Team was comprised of subject matter experts from the Youth Development Academy and Community Supervision units, alongside departmental data and research specialists. With their expertise, an initial draft of the plan was formulated. Subsequently, the JJCC Subcommittee provided valuable input and feedback on the updates made throughout the year, offering suggestions and recommendations for addressing identified needs and potential solutions. This iterative process involved multiple rounds of revisions to refine the plan and ensure that it was comprehensive, inclusive, and reflective of the diverse needs and priorities of the community. Once the plan was thoroughly reviewed and revised, the subcommittee finalized the document for submission.

PART 2: TARGET POPULATION (WELF. & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(1))

Briefly describe the County’s realignment target population supported by the block grant.

The “target population” is defined as “youth who were eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure* and *shall further be defined as persons who are adjudicated to be a ward of the juvenile court based on an offense described in subdivision (b) of Section 707 or an offense described in Section 290.008 of the Penal Code.” (*Welf. & Inst. Code § *1990(b))

Demographics of identified target population, including anticipated numbers of youth served, disaggregated by factors including age, gender, race or ethnicity, and offense history.

The following tables include the demographics of **320** unduplicated youth, ages 14 or older, adjudicated in San Diego County for 707(b) or 290.008 offenses during Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025. All these youth therefore qualify to receive a commitment to our SYTF program. In FY 2024-2025, [redacted] of the **320** adjudicated youth were given an SYTF commitment by the court, representing [redacted] of the target population (compared to 38 of 356 youth in FY 2023-2024, representing 10.7% of the target population). The time lag between adjudication and disposition can impact how data is reported for the given fiscal year. Additionally, because youth may appear in separate 6-month reporting periods on the AB 169 reports, the totals in this report will not match those shown in the two separate AB 169 reports that encompassed FY 2024-2025.

Age	Number of Youths
14	39
15	74
16	91
17	79
18	25
19	[redacted]
20	[redacted]
21	[redacted]
22	[redacted]
23	[redacted]
24	[redacted]
25 and older	[redacted]

Gender	Number of Youths
Male	277
Female	43
Non-binary	0
Declined to identify	0

Race or Ethnicity	Number of Youths
White/Caucasian	38
Hispanic or Latino	207
Black/African American	54
Asian	[redacted]
American Indian or Alaskan Native	[redacted]
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	[redacted]
Multi-Racial	[redacted]
Other	[redacted]
Unknown	[redacted]

Offense or Offense History	Number of Youths
Arson	0
Assault	205
Attempted Homicide	
Homicide	
Kidnapping	0
Robbery	81
Sex Offense	16
Use of Firearm	0
Violence Against Aged	0
Weapon of Mass Destruction	0
Witness Tampering	
Other	0

Describe the target population disaggregated by programs, placements and/or facilities to which they have been referred.

This table represents the placement and/or facility detail for youth committed to SYTF in FY 2024-2025 and those previously housed in the SYTF who received supervision services during FY 2024-2025.

Placement and/or Facility	Number of Youths
STYF within county	92
LRP - Pine Grove	
Home Supervision	19
Community Supervision	23
Jail	14
Residential Treatment Program	

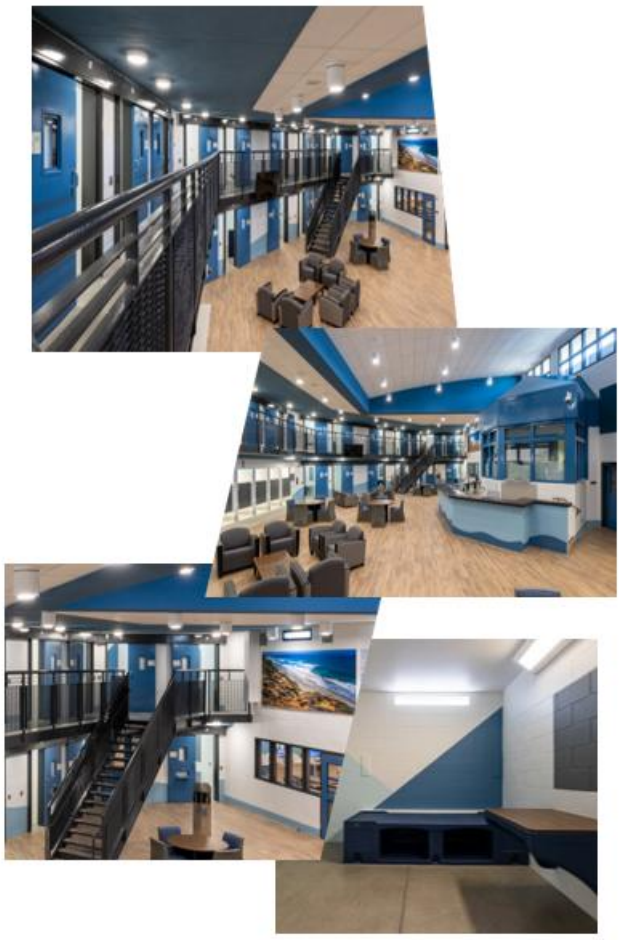
This table represents the commitment, placement and facility detail for the remaining **97.5%** of 707(b) or 290.008 adjudicated youth aged 14 or older during FY 2024-2025.

Placement and/or Facility	Number of Youths
Community Supervision	247
Home Supervision	72
HOPE Commitment	46
Urban Camp 120 Commitment	[redacted]
Urban Camp 130 Commitment	40
Urban Camp 250 Commitment	39
Urban Camp 85 Commitment	[redacted]
Youthful Offender Unit Commitment	[redacted]
Short Term Commit	[redacted]
Placement (e.g. STRTP)	[redacted]

PART 3: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES (WELF. & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(2))

Provide a description of the facilities, programs, placements, services and service providers, supervision, and other responses that will be provided to the target population. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(2) and (d)(8)):

Approximately [redacted] of the target population is committed to our SYTF facility. The remaining [redacted] may be committed to a lower level of commitment, including our Healing Opportunities for Personal Empowerment (HOPE) program or our Urban Camp Program, or remain in the community and participate in Home or Community Supervision. Community based services also utilized for this population are Achievement Centers, CHOICE program, Resiliency Mentoring program, family wrap-around services, etc.



Our SYTF, known locally as the Youth Development Academy (YDA), houses the male youth and is located at the East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility (EMJDF). EMJDF is a secure facility in the East Otay Mesa area of San Diego County. The facility opened in June of 2004 and has served both short-term detention populations and medium-term commitment programs; most recently, since the closure of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) in 2023, it has served the SYTF population consisting of youth between the ages of 16-24, who would have otherwise been sent to DJJ.

The department renovated the living units to soften them for the longer term SYTF population to provide a more homelike, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate setting for longer commitments. The remodel included laminate flooring in the unit dayrooms, a complete remodel of sleeping rooms with new toilets, desks, privacy walls and beds. Additionally, units have been re-painted and softened using heavy-duty furniture, murals of local outdoor scenes, and classrooms with updated furniture.

The female YDA youth are placed at the Youth Transition Campus (YTC). The campus features a schoolyard that encompasses classrooms, a gymnasium, and amphitheater as well as a support services area to include the Visiting Center, the Commons (youth dining), and a state-of-the-art kitchen. In addition to the services provided for YDA, the female youth participate in gender specific services and other programs offered at YTC that include:

- Financial Literacy
- Criminal Addictive Thinking
- Restorative Practices (via Project Aware)
- Restoring Citizens/Victim Impact
- Cooking Classes
- Mediation
- Career Technical Education (CTE) Horticulture
- Juvenile Justice Advocates of California (JJAC)
- Pawsitive Teams (Dog therapy)
- Mindfulness/Trauma program
- My Life My Choice (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children specific)
- Life Skills/ Healthy Relationships
- Career Technical Education (CTE)/Vocational programs such as Culinary, Graphic Arts
- Religious Services
- Community Wrap Around Services (gang prevention/mentorship)

- Wellness Team (health, hygiene, wellness practices)
- High Risk Substance Use Disorder (HR SUD)
- High School and College Educational Support

Youth committed to YDA benefit from a variety of improvements to the living and physical environment designed to better meet foundational needs and increase their amenability to treatment. These include mattresses which are twice the thickness of typical correctional facility bedding, art, and murals throughout the facility, and a newly created athletic field. Nutrition has shown to have an impact on behavior and amenability to treatment, with one study showing that individuals who received improved nutrition committed 26% fewer facility rule violations while in custody (Gesch, 2013). Youth in local custody receive meals which have been prepared fresh, on-site, from a menu designed to appeal to youth, and informed by regular youth surveys to ensure quality, as well as fresh fruit bowls in each unit to ensure easy access to healthy snacks between meals.

YDA programs and services received are dependent on a youth's individualized rehabilitation plan (IRP), which is formulated from the results of evidence-based screenings, assessments, and input from the family and youth. In collaboration with Probation, contracted partners, San Diego County Office of Education, Behavioral Health Services, and other partners, programming includes, but is not limited to, Rehabilitative Programming, Pro-social Development groups, Positive Youth Development classes, Career Readiness and exploration, Employment Preparation, Education, Academic Services, and Care Services.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) was implemented to integrate technical training and academics to help youth develop the knowledge and skills needed for transition to career training and the workforce. Unit Delta at the East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility, which was repurposed in February 2025, was thoughtfully designed to support both Career and Technical Education (CTE) and selected group programming; fostering a dynamic and enriching learning environment where students can explore creativity, innovation, and practical career pathways. Through a strong partnership with the Department of General Services, the painting and surface preparation program provides industry-aligned instruction and hands-on experience in professional techniques and safety standards. The automotive services program, developed in collaboration with the County's Fleet Services, blends immersive virtual reality simulations with real-world mechanical training, preparing students for modern automotive careers.

Unit Delta also features a construction trades program in collaboration with the Department of Rehabilitation, where students build foundational skills in carpentry, basic construction, tool use, job-site safety, and project planning. This hands-on training emphasizes employability, industry certifications, and pathways into apprenticeships and union trades.

In the creative arts pathway, students engage in music production and video design and editing through the BizPod program, while the graphic arts program focuses on heat pressing and entrepreneurship, empowering students to design, produce, and market their own branded products.

A forthcoming culinary arts apprenticeship program will further expand opportunities, equipping students with foundational skills and industry exposure in the culinary field. Together, these diverse offerings make Unit Delta a vibrant hub for skill-building, creativity, service, and long-term career readiness.

Expanding beyond traditional trades, Unit Delta is also home to the YDA Fire Program, a fuels crew and vegetation management initiative that provides hands-on training in fire prevention, land stewardship, and workforce readiness. Students gain practical experience in vegetation management, defensible space practices, tool safety, teamwork, and environmental responsibility—preparing them for careers in firefighting services, forestry, and natural resource management.

YDA programming, provided by contracted service partners, include evidence-based and restorative practices, to include expanded Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) curriculums, social-emotional learning programs, victim/survivor impact groups, mindfulness practices—including yoga, meditation, and restorative circles—enhanced Substance Use Disorder (SUD) courses, specialty programming, and specialized treatment services, including sex offense–specific treatment, ensure a structured and individualized approach to rehabilitation. Additionally, all YDA youth have access to higher education opportunities, including in-person college laboratory courses hosted at EMJDF and expanded college pathways, reinforcing the Youth Development Academy's commitment to long-term success through education, skill development, accountability, and personal transformation.

Contracted staff provided the following programming for YDA youth in FY 2024-2025:

Group Education	**Facilitator**	**Number of Participants (Individual youth- not sessions attended)**
All Together We Rise	SBCS	24
EMPAK FITNESS	(SBCS subcontractor)	53
Food Safety Training (Food Handlers)	SBCS	28
Project AWARE – Restorative Circles/Gang Intervention	Project Aware	63
Promoting Paternal Involvement	SBCS	[redacted]
Restorative Justice Mediation Program	(SBCS subcontractors)	56
What Do You Stand For?	SBCS	41
Young Orators	SBCS	13
Youth Advisory Council	SBCS	47
7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens	SBCS	17
Anger Management – Module 1	SBCS	40
Anger Management – Module 2/3	SBCS	66
Arts & Crafts	SBCS/STAT	31
Boundaries	SBCS	13
Communication	SBCS	29
Culinary Artis	SBCS	83

David's Harp Foundation – Beats Behind the Walls and Biz Pod	David's Harp Foundation (SBCS Subcontractor)	50
Financial Literacy	SBCS	22
Healthy Relationships	SBCS	18
Horticulture/Garden 31	Garden-31 (SBCS Subcontractor)	75
Identity and Community	SBCS	33
Life Skills	SBCS	39
Recreation	SBCS	63
Addictive Criminal Thinking	SBCS	7
Delinquent Behavior	SBCS	57
Demolition Man	SBCS	6
Domestic Violence	SBCS	3
Emotional Intelligence	SBCS	25
Growth Mindset	SBCS	26
Parenting	SBCS	12
Thinking For A Change	SBCS	13
Victims Impact	SBCS	7
Young Men's Guide to Self-Mastery	SBCS	20
Youth Gang Involvement	SBCS	16

Garden 31:

Garden 31 is a restorative justice program that uses organic gardening and horticulture as a tool for healing, growth, and transformation. Led by individuals with lived experience in the justice system, including incarceration, this program is offered to youth at East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility (EMJDF).

Garden 31 combines hands-on regenerative gardening instruction with Restorative Practice Circles to support emotional healing, accountability, and personal development. Youth are guided through all aspects of gardening, landscaping, and nursery work, while also participating in mentorship with Garden 31 staff and MiraCosta College students. Lessons are grounded in both skill-building and self-reflection, helping youth reconnect with nature, themselves, and their communities.

A key part of the program is *Character Mastery*—a personal development curriculum centered on 12-character traits which include responsibility, humility, and perseverance. These lessons challenge participants to reflect on who they are and who they want to become, both inside and outside the garden.

Victim Impact:

Victim Impact is a restorative justice workshop facilitated by individuals with lived experience in the justice system and incarceration. Their personal journeys allow them to connect authentically with participants, creating a space where honest reflection and accountability can take place.

This program is designed to help participants gain a deeper understanding of how their actions have affected others—specifically their victims, families, communities, and society. Through guided discussions and structured activities, participants are encouraged to reflect on their choices, acknowledge the harm they've caused, and begin to take meaningful responsibility for their behavior.

Throughout the group, participants explore concepts such as trauma and the five stages of grief, which provide context for both the harm they've inflicted and the pain they've endured. They are supported in examining their own past traumas and how these experiences may have contributed to their criminal behavior. By introducing healthy coping strategies, conflict resolution techniques, stress management tools, and boundary setting, the program empowers participants to break cycles of harm and begin healing.

Victim Impact is part of *The View* workshop series and is grounded in the belief that true rehabilitation involves understanding, accountability, and change. Participants are encouraged to make amends not just through words, but through consistent, pro-social actions that reflect personal growth and a commitment to living differently.

Delinquent Behavior

This curriculum helps justice-involved youth address the root causes of their delinquent behavior. Through engaging, activity-based lessons, participants learn to recognize and change anti-social patterns, build positive peer relationships, and make responsible, pro-social choices. The program also encourages accountability by helping youth understand the impact of their actions and take responsibility for the harm caused.

Youth Advisory Council (YAC):

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a youth driven leadership group made up of responsible youth who work collaboratively to identify challenges, propose solutions, and engage in respectful dialogue with SBCS and Probation leadership within the Youth Development Academy (YDA). The YAC provides youth with a structured platform to share their voices, strengthen communication, and contribute to positive program development.

The Council works to improve the overall YDA program by offering constructive feedback, developing solution-focused ideas, and helping shape future programs and activities that support growth, accountability, and pro-social engagement.

The Youth Advisory Council is comprised of one youth representative from each YDA unit. Unit representatives meet regularly with the SBCS-YDA Program Director and/or Coordinators, along with a Probation Division Chief. Additional YDA partners may attend as appropriate.

Following each meeting, the SBCS Program Director serves as liaison between youth and Probation leadership to monitor progress, communicate updates, and follow through on agreed-upon action items.

PART 4: JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (WELF. & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(3))

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address the mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of the target population. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(2) and (d)(8)):

The response for Part 4 addresses the application of grant funds for the **2.5%** of the target population committed to SYTF.

The County uses grant funds to promote family engagement in the treatment process, expand the number of mental health clinicians serving realigned youth, and procure additional evidence-based services for this population including treatment for violent sex offenders.

The County uses a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) approach to develop Individual Rehabilitation Plans with each youth. This MDT team includes the youth, their family, representatives of behavioral health, education, ancillary treatment providers, and Probation. Treatment goals are developed based upon the youth's assessed risk and needs utilizing the San Diego Risk and Resiliency Checkup-II (SCRRC-II), a validated assessment instrument, as well as the youth's own perceived strengths and input from their family. Youth are reassessed every six months using the SDRRC-II to track improvements in both risks to recidivate and in protective factors gained through programming. The establishment of the Individual Rehabilitation Plan is done by a care coordinator (Reentry Officer). This person is responsible for gathering input from stakeholders, monitoring progress for completing goals and updating the plan as goals are achieved and new priorities are identified. Once youth complete their high school education, or its equivalent, care coordinators support youth with identifying potential career pathways—education or employment. San Diego has established partnerships with local community colleges to offer traditional Associate of Arts (AA) or Continuing Technical Education pathways that lead to meaningful employment. Dedicated staffing, with a unique understanding of the barriers facing the justice-involved population, help local youth navigate enrollment, financial aid, and other important tasks. A community-based organization supports out of custody youth with transportation to classes and purchasing of course materials. A partnership with the San Diego County Office of Education also helps custodial youth with tutoring and homework assistance when college youth are in custody.

Each youth's Individualized Rehabilitation Plan is uniquely tailored with input from members of the MDT based on the following principles:

- Include youth, families, and supportive individuals
- Address family strengths, risks, and needs
- Identify positive community support for the youth and family
- Include community-based services that are evidence-based and trauma-informed
- Involve services for mental health, substance use treatment, cognitive behavioral therapy, life skills, academic support, enrichment programs, and physical activity
- Immediately involve re-entry planning to identify goals and a pathway towards successful release and transition to the community
- Assist with overcoming barriers to success such as tickets and fines, school access, include prosocial activities and recreational elements (e.g., sports, gym membership, music enrichment, art, or other social activity) as part of each youth's transition to the community
- Address harm to the victim and community

MDT staff members and involved systems professionals receive training in national best practices to support re-entry needs with refresher training provided on the Youth In Custody Practice Model (YICPM). They serve as program liaisons to the education and treatment providers in and out of custody. MDT meetings occur regularly and in response to any emerging issues. Regular reviews are conducted with youth and their family to review the case plan and discuss progress. Youth receive case management that includes effective communication and planning involving all supports with a focus on re-entry. Probation ensures that the Court receives meaningful information about the case plan development and the youth's progress toward completion of goals at an initial review hearing within 30 days of commitment and at regular reviews at a minimum of every six months thereafter, and as needed.

The MDT provides a variety of program options to address identified risks and needs of each youth. The services include:

- Substance use education and counseling
- Cognitive Behavioral Treatment and Moral Reasoning
- Mental health support
- Sex offender treatment
- Anger management
- Child and family parent engagement and family visitations
- Parenting skills
- Self-care and emotional regulation
- Healthy relationships
- Independent living skills
- Financial literacy
- Education support
- Career and technical education and support
- Mentorships utilizing lived experience experts and gang intervention
- Physical, mental and sexual health awareness and education

The contract or agreement to provide these services is supported in part by grant funds.

In addition to a risk and needs assessment, youth committed to local secure youth treatment receive screening/assessments at intake to identify mood/anxiety symptoms, risk of suicide/self-harm, history of alcohol/drug use, history of trauma, current traumatic stress symptoms, risk of violence/sexual victimization, and risk of commercial sexual exploitation.

Screening Tool	Description
Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2)	MAYSI-2 is a brief behavioral health screening tool designed for juvenile justice programs and facilities that identifies important behavioral health needs for youth.
Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS)	C-SSRS is an evidence-supported questionnaire used to assess suicide risk that has been successfully implemented in the justice system.
Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT)	CSE-IT is a validated tool widely used in child welfare and probation agencies that is designed to improve early identification of children who are commercially sexually exploited.
Risk of sexual victimization or violence	This tool is designed to meet Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) guidelines.
Texas Christian University Drug Screen (TCU)	TCU Drug Screen 5 checks for mild to severe substance use disorder and is particularly useful when determining placement and level of care in treatment.
San Diego Risk and Resiliency Check-Up (SDRRC)- II; Resiliency Self-Administered Tool (RSAT) B – Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)	The SDRRC II is a risk-based tool for assessing the risk and needs of youth. The RSAT B is a self-administered screening tool which identifies Adverse Childhood Experiences which may include experiencing/witnessing violence, abuse, neglect, or growing up in a household with substance use, mental health, parental separation due to incarceration or other instability related challenges.

Youth with MAYSI and C-SSRS scores, that indicate cause for concern are referred for follow up by Correctional Healthcare Partners (CHP) staff. CHP professionals provide follow-up recommendations for interventions, therapeutic services, or referrals to specialized care, supporting the overall well-being and development of youth. The CHP Team is contracted to provide mental health services within institutional settings.

At EMJDF (males) and YTC (females), each youth is assigned a clinician that meets with them at minimum once weekly. CHP provides a continuum of mental and behavioral health services such as crisis intervention, behavioral health assessment, traditional and non-traditional psychotherapy, psychiatric evaluation and medication management in the detention facilities and commitment programs. This includes preparing youth for transition back to the community. Treatment is provided by a multi-disciplinary team that includes psychiatric nurses, discharge planners, associate therapists under the supervision of a licensed clinician, licensed therapists, psychologists, post-doctoral psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, and psychiatrists. The psychiatrists and psychiatric nurse practitioners also provide 24-hour on call coverage for all YDA youth. The clinicians for YDA have a private office in each YDA unit for youth to meet with their assigned clinician, as needed. The clinicians are also on hand to provide any crisis intervention, family therapy, and family re-unification services as needed, or as ordered by the Court. CHP offers individual, group, and family services. CHP utilizes evidence-based treatments for individual therapy such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Motivational Interviewing (MI), Dialectal Behavior Therapy (DBT), and other modalities that meet the medical necessity of the youth in YDA. While the primary modality for group therapy is Dialectal Behavior Therapy. CHP clinicians also form part of a Crisis Response Team to quickly respond to developing situations

and provide a therapeutic and team approach to de-escalate situations and attempt to resolve a youth's issue or primary stressor to support the decrease in need for physical interventions or room confinement.

Daily behavior is addressed through a positive behavior management system. Developed during a period of technical assistance through the Youth In Custody Practice Model (YICPM), the behavior management system is based on positive reinforcement. Reinforcing positive behavior is a more effective approach to behavior change than relying on the application of sanctions. The system encourages program staff to look for and reinforce positive behavior. This supports the "coach" mindset; actively looking for strengths that can be acknowledged to achieve improved outcomes and encourage responsible behavior while reducing negative interactions between youth and staff.

The behavior management system offers multiple opportunities for youth to earn "achievements" during the day by demonstrating safe conduct and showing effort. As youth earn more "achievements," they gain additional privileges such as access to video game systems, personal mp3 players, DVD players, and longer-term incentives. Grant funds will be used in part to offset costs associated with procuring these incentive items.

Although not supported by JJRBG funds, during the fall of 2024, the department implemented an Integrated Healthcare Services unit, under the clinical direction and leadership of a medical director, dedicated to enhancing the care and support provided to youths in our detention facilities. In the fall of 2024, the department executed new contracts for integrated healthcare services for youths in the facilities including physical healthcare, behavioral healthcare, pharmacy services, pre-release/reentry services, and wellness services to provide youths with the healthcare they need to be healthy, safe and thriving. The department is also updating its Electronic Health Record system to further support these efforts.

Additionally, in October 2025, the Department launched the CalAIM Justice-Involved initiative to support youth in our facilities by assisting with enrollment and access to services that promote continuity of care during reentry. This initiative also enhances care coordination, with the broader goal of advancing health equity and improving overall health outcomes for justice-involved youth.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(2) and (d)(8)):

San Diego County Probation Department pursues a strength-based strategy of positive youth development. This intentional, pro-social approach engages youth in their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances youth's strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths. This approach supports positive outcomes by building on strengths, working collaboratively with the youth, and promoting a sense of fairness and support for the youth. Studies have shown that youth are more likely to accept responsibility for their actions, comply with authorities, and embrace pro-social activities when they perceive systems to be fair (National Research Council, 2013). Providing for a strong youth voice in the system, allowing youth to see a neutral and fact-based decision-making process, treating youth with respect and politeness, and acting out of benevolent and caring motives, have all been shown to increase youth perceptions of a fair system (Fagan & Tyler, 2005).

Probation has supported this strategy by transforming the role of direct supervision staff from a referee mindset, in which they look to penalize infractions, to a coach mindset whereby they offer support, encouragement, opportunities to debrief and learn from mistakes and role play for better outcomes. Additionally, the department has partnered with the National Institute of Corrections and Justice System Partners to implement the Organizational Coaching Model, which supports behavior change by providing training and technical assistance to improve organizational culture, management styles, policies, procedures, and environment, fostering evidence-based practices.

In 2023, the department reclassified the two previous Correctional Deputy Probation Officer classifications to the Deputy Probation Officer classification to emphasize the changed nature of the expectations and role of the position.

This effort has included introducing positive youth development in the core training curriculum for supervision staff and training staff members in adolescent brain development, trauma informed care, restorative practices, and implicit bias. The approach is further strengthened through a youth advisory council in which youth can provide suggestions and feedback directly to the facility superintendent, with the introduction of regular youth surveys, and by placing an emphasis on and encouraging youth and family participation in the development of individualized treatment plans.

The County utilizes grant funds to procure services for this population which are evidence-informed, rehabilitative, developmentally appropriate, and support the positive youth development model. Treatment providers are required to support pro-social development by including the youth's voice in programming decisions, offering programs that support financial literacy, job readiness, artistic expression and enrichment, and opportunities for leadership development.

Healthy development is further supported through the provision of appropriate care including screening for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), medical, mental health, and dental screenings, and providing preventative care including dental cleanings every six months.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(2) and (d)(8)):

Family engagement and intervention is a critical component in working with youth committed to long term programs. Therefore, it is essential to support ongoing and continued family engagement and community engagement opportunities.

The family is the youth's greatest support and possesses extensive knowledge about youth and their background. Family visits for youth in custodial settings have been linked to decreased rates of symptoms of depression (Monahan, Goldweber & Cauffman, 2011). Youth who receive regular family visits also perform better academically and are involved in fewer behavior incidents compared to their counterparts (Shanahan & Villalobos Agudelo, 2012). Reentry programs that prioritize involving families early in the youth's treatment process have also been shown to reduce the prevalence and seriousness of subsequent offending (Winokur-Early, Chapman & Hand, 2013). The Probation department has implemented increased access to in-person, contact family visits, as well as video visiting opportunities. To assist in family re-unification, special in-person visits with minor siblings and/or children are encouraged and facilitated by visiting center staff.

The EMJDF visiting center has been softened through the implementation of table style games (air hockey, foosball, etc.) as well as board games to increase family-youth engagement and increase family bonds.

Shifting this population from distant DJJ facilities to local treatment offers a tremendous opportunity to harness the positive rehabilitative benefits of strong family bonds and collaborative involvement of family in the youth's treatment. Local secure treatment is designed to engage the family as part of the treatment team from the beginning of the program, inviting and encouraging their participation in developing the initial treatment and re-entry plans. Families are encouraged to collaborate as a partner during the regular Multi-Disciplinary Treatment team meetings throughout the youth's commitment. They are invited to attend program graduations and other milestones during a youth's commitment, and Probation holds regular family engagement events to encourage their presence in the program, including a Summer Festival, Thanksgiving dinner, Winter Holiday Events, art and music exhibits and high school graduations.

Programming procured for this population using grant funds is designed to include a strong role for the family and seek best practices and innovative approaches to maximize family participation in treatment such as transportation assistance, options for virtual attendance, flexible hours, support for incarcerated parents, and monetary support for attending clinical programming when their role is necessary. Transportation assistance was provided to 30 youth and their families to support engagement.

These strategies build upon policy and procedure changes the Probation Department has enacted in recent years to encourage family engagement and support. To increase visitation for youth in custody, the definition of "family" was expanded to allow visits from aunts, uncles, cousins, adult siblings, non-biological relatives, and more; visitation areas were made more welcoming; and special events were introduced. Transportation is also provided for parents to increase visitation opportunities for families as well as increase involvement at engagement events, MDTs, and special visits. During FY 2024–2025, the Probation Department continued its partnership with the Parent Advisory Council, meeting monthly to gather meaningful input from parents and enhance the facility environment.

During FY 2024-2025, 88% of YDA youth had at least one visit each month.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education for the target population. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(2) and (d)(8)):

The County embraces a philosophy that re-entry planning should begin at the start of a youth's commitment. To that end, the Multi-Disciplinary Team works with the youth and family to develop their Individualized Rehabilitation Plan within the first 30 days to identify any obstacles to be overcome, existing supports which can be leveraged, and new supports which can be developed to prepare each youth for successful return to the community upon completion of their in-custody treatment. This plan is regularly reviewed and updated through the MDT, including the youth and their family, throughout the youth's commitment.

San Diego's shared philosophy calls for youth to remain in secure treatment for the shortest term necessary to achieve the specific rehabilitative goals of the Court and promote safe and successful re-entry. Regular reviews address whether the youth's rehabilitative needs can be safely met in a stepdown location, or on supervised release within the community. In FY 2024-2025, [redacted] youth were housed at Pine Grove, and 27 youth were supervised outside of an SYTF or LRP (including Home Supervision, Placement and Community Supervision).

The Judicial Council has now established new guidelines related to Senate Bill 92. These parole consideration intervals are based on the severity of the most serious offense for which the youth received a true finding.

Previously, youth committed to DJJ could reduce their parole consideration date by half based on good citizenship and participation in their treatment program. San Diego's program continues this practice through a phase-based model, which was recently reassessed and adjusted to better incentivize positive behavior and support youth in making healthier, more constructive choices, that will help them reintegrate into the community more efficiently.

Senate Bill 92 also calls for youth to appear before the Court every six months for an update on their progress toward completing their Individualized Rehabilitation Plans. As the youth nears completion of their program, Probation reports to the Court on the youth's progress, and identifies an appropriate transition plan with support and services. These supports provide an emphasis on caring for the youth transitioning out of the facility and their willingness to continue their treatment utilizing a stepdown location, furloughs, or on community supervision.

To further support their success in re-entering the community, youth are released on GPS monitoring for at least 30 days and re-examined each month. They are provided with intensive supervision and support by their community supervision officer, who meets with the youth in the community or office every 7-10 days for a few weeks once released. As the youth is stabilized and connected to their community support systems, the supervision meetings reduce gradually based on their progress and needs for support. Goals and objectives identified as part of their re-entry meetings in the YDA program are supported by the community supervision officers in the community. Various contracts provide programs and supports that the youth participate in while in the YDA program follow them into the community, such as:

- Alcohol and Drug Program Specialists (ADPS)
- Excel internship/apprenticeship program
- Mental health and/or substance abuse related needs i.e.: Residential Treatment Programs (RTP), out-patient substance abuse treatment, alcohol monitoring, clinician-supported therapies
- School technicians assist youth with school placement (college or HS) prior to their release
- Resilience Mentoring Program/Project Aware
- Transitional housing
- Counseling and Psychotherapy Center (CPC)
- Treatment for Sexually Reactive Youth

The County intends to use furloughs within the parameters of the Judicial Council guidelines to support re-entry by offering youth in the final stages of their custodial treatment opportunities to visit the services they will utilize upon re-entry and eventually attend some services, education, and employment in the community while returning to the detention facility at the end of the day. The goal of these furloughs will be to acclimate youth to services and locations, and build rapport with service providers, to reduce anxiety and increase the youth's comfort in attending these services and functions upon release. The County plans to use grant funds to partially offset the cost of obtaining community-based transitional living, transportation, employment support, and college and vocational education opportunities for this population.

The San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) will continue to support the high school education needs of youth as well as all mandated transition services including Individual Education Plans (IEP) and special education services. The County supplements their services through grant supported partnership(s) with a local college, vocational schools, and/or community-based organizations to provide continuing education and vocational training to this population. The proposed agreement establishing a vocational training partnership

will include a focus on licensure, apprenticeships, journeyman positions, and paid work upon release as well as entrepreneurial support.

While not funded directly through JJRBG funding, the Juvenile Court recently implemented the YDA Court, an SYTF-specific court designed to create a unified and streamlined hearing process for YDA participants. This structure ensures that every youth receives consistent, equitable services and is placed in the least restrictive level of care appropriate to their needs. The model also emphasizes collaboration among all supportive individuals in a youth's life, contributing to stronger, more positive outcomes in the future.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive programs or services for the target population. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(2) and (d)(8)):

As a general approach to service delivery, the San Diego County Probation Department offers evidence-based, evidence-informed, rehabilitative, and developmentally appropriate programming to youth in custody that supports their long-term success. The Department requires that contracted providers offer services that are evidence-based or evidence-informed that are delivered in a manner that is culturally competent and responsive to the population that they are serving. The Department provides programming that is based on a positive youth development model and supports the youth's pro-social development by including their voices in programming decisions and working collaboratively to meet their needs. Successful and effective programming helps youth acquire the skills needed to exit the juvenile justice system more quickly and thrive in the community.

The County collaborates with a variety of agencies for service delivery including: a contracted service provider, Correctional Healthcare Partners, community-based organizations including volunteers, Probation staff, and collaborative partnerships with other County agencies such as the San Diego County Office of Education, the County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services (BHS), and the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services. Programs and services are provided to youth in custody and during reentry to assist youth in a successful transition from custodial treatment to the community.

To guide service delivery, clients are screened/assessed for trauma, Substance Use Disorder, Commercial Sexual Exploitation, and criminogenic needs. The grant supported contracted service provider operates an evidence-based comprehensive program to address the mental health, trauma, substance use disorder, and pro-social needs of youth in custody. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) is utilized as one of the primary evidence-based practices. Other programs provided in custody include but are not limited to: Aggression Replacement Training, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Thinking for a Change, Moral Reconation Therapy, Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy, mentorships utilizing lived experience experts and gang intervention, Substance Use Disorder (SUD) education, My Life My Choice, Safe Dates, Seeking Safety (a manualized treatment for PTSD and substance abuse), Seven Challenges, Interactive Journaling, and Character Counts. Services are provided using a range of formats from individual to group sessions utilizing curricula that emphasize skill-based interventions that employ role-playing and are evidence-based or evidence informed. These programs and services are provided while youth are in custody with an approximate six-month aftercare period during which appropriate clinical services will continue to support youth in the community. Community Reentry Services: During the community reentry phase projected to span six months, the youth obtain supportive and transitional services from the clinical team that provided services while in custody. In addition, service providers ensure appropriate connections are made to community-based services prior to release including school, continuing technical education, and other support and services identified in their Individualized Rehabilitation Plan.

Describe whether and how the County plans to apply grant funds to include services or programs for the target population that are provided by non-governmental or community-based providers. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(2) and (d)(8)):

The County plans to continue its procurement of a variety of services for this population through contracts or agreements with nongovernmental or community-based providers. Services supported by grant funds will include leadership development, financial literacy, job training and furlough opportunities, least restrictive programs, enrichment activities, transportation to college and or jobs, family transportation, and mentoring.

Additionally, the department encourages the development of relationships between the primary service provider and organizations such as community agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, and public services to leverage community resources to serve youth and caregivers and ensure continuity and collaboration during re-entry. Probation also supports the utilization of lived experience programs within the juvenile justice system, to provide education, advocacy/community engagement, training, and support for youth and families (including direct services).

Probation will continue to utilize established protocols and processes for linkage and collaboration between community-based providers and entities such as School Districts, Public Health, Behavioral Health Services, Child and Family Well-being (Child Welfare Services), Juvenile Court, and other agencies to meet the needs of the youth and caregivers.

PART 5: FACILITY PLAN (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(4))

Provide a detailed facility plan indicating which facilities the county will use to house or confine realigned youth at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need. Include the following (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(4)):

- **Any less restrictive programs the county uses, and whether those programs are in facilities regulated by Subchapter 5 (commencing with Section 1300) of Chapter 1 of Division 1 of Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations**
- **Any county juvenile facility improvements made to support long-term commitments**
- **How the county will ensure youth safety and protection, including for youth of different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics**

Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(8)):

The Youth Development Academy (YDA) is located at East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility (EMJDF). EMJDF is a secure juvenile facility in the Otay Mesa area of San Diego. The facility opened in June of 2004 and was the home of the Youthful Offender Unit (YOU), a DJJ alternative that served youth who before the passage of SB 81 in 2007, would have been sent to the DJJ.

EMJDF consists of 10 separate housing units. Youth are assigned to a housing unit based on classification criteria such as, but not limited to, age, the youth's physical size, level of delinquency/sophistication, and gender, with the aim of providing for the safety of all youth. Absent other overriding considerations, youth committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility are housed in units which are specially dedicated to

delivering their treatment or rehabilitative program. Housing and program assignments for transgender or intersex youth are based on the youth's health and safety and related supervisory, management, or facility security concerns. When assigning youth to a housing unit, Probation staff are required to give serious consideration to transgender or intersex youth's views regarding their own safety. Facility staff must also allow youth to dress and present themselves in a manner consistent with their gender identity and provide youth with clothing and undergarments consistent with their gender identity.

EMJDF currently has six housing units dedicated to house youth committed to YDA. All five units have undergone a complete remodel; therefore, providing a setting that is more homelike, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate for longer commitments. There is laminate flooring in the unit dayrooms, updated sleeping rooms with new toilets, desks, privacy walls and beds. Additionally, units have been re-painted and softened using heavy-duty furniture, murals of local outdoor scenes, and updated classrooms with new furniture.

Youth committed to the YDA also benefit from a modern living environment. This includes improved food service that prepares fresh meals on-site, a menu designed to be appealing and appetizing to youth, a regular youth survey to ensure meal quality, fresh fruit bowls in each unit to ensure access to healthy snacks between meals, mattresses which are twice the thickness of typical correctional facility bedding, art and murals throughout the facility, and a new athletic field.

During Fiscal Year 2024–2025, [redacted] youth were placed in court-ordered less restrictive placements, each aligned with the youth's age, needs, and rehabilitative goals.

Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp (Pine Grove, California)

[redacted] remains placed at the Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp, a structured rehabilitative conservation camp operated by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) in partnership with CAL FIRE. Pine Grove serves young adults approximately 18–25 years of age who are serving sentences or are on probation while participating in intensive rehabilitation programming.

At Pine Grove, the [redacted] engaged in the following services:

- Vocational and Technical Training:
  The youth receives formal wildland firefighting training through CAL FIRE, with opportunities to earn certifications applicable to careers in firefighting, emergency services, and related public safety fields.
- Work Experience and Responsibility:
  Participants work on full-day conservation crews, performing wildfire prevention, environmental restoration, stream clearance, and disaster response activities. This experience builds discipline, teamwork, accountability, and a strong work ethic.
- Rehabilitation and Treatment Support:
  The program utilizes an Integrated Behavior Treatment Model, providing trauma-informed therapy, counseling, life skills instruction, and interventions aimed at addressing substance use, anger management, and criminal thinking patterns to reduce recidivism.
- Education Continuation:
  Youth are expected to possess a high school diploma or GED or actively work toward completion while in the program, supporting long-term employability beyond the camp setting.
- Leadership and Personal Development:
  The camp emphasizes leadership, responsibility, and positive habit formation through structured routines and team-based work, fostering confidence and personal growth.
- Structured and Supportive Environment:
  Pine Grove offers a lower-security, program-focused setting that promotes rehabilitation and reintegration planning. Participation in programs such as the Youth Offender Program (YOP) expands access to services and incentives that support positive behavioral change.

PART 6: RETAINING THE TARGET POPULATION IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(5))

Describe how the plan will incentivize or facilitate the retention of the target population within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system, in lieu of transfer to the adult criminal justice system. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(8)):

Research has shown that juveniles tried in adult criminal court reoffend at a higher rate than youth who remain in the juvenile system (Redding, 2010) and the San Diego County Juvenile Justice System's Core Beliefs highlight the importance of rehabilitation, support, and accountability, versus punishment and punitive sanctions. The San Diego County Probation Department enacts these beliefs through the use of a structured decision-making tool which guides Probation Officers to recommend to the Court the lowest level of intervention available under statutory guidelines which will provide for the rehabilitation of the youth and safety of the community. The local Juvenile Court has a variety of disposition options for youth including:

- Probation to the Court
- WIC 725(a) Non-Wardship Probation
- Community Supervision (WIC 790)
- Probation Supervision on a low, medium, or high-risk caseload with services in the community
- Commitment to Urban Camp for 85, 130, or 250 days
- Commitment to the HOPE program
- Youthful Offender Unit (YOU)

The YDA program has added another layer of rehabilitative services and re-entry support for youth who have received true findings for the most serious charges (WIC 707(b) offenses). By developing a robust program, to replace DJJ, that meets needs and reduces risk in this population, the County created another option and level of support to reduce the likelihood of youth entering the adult system. To the extent that the YDA is implemented with fidelity, achieves its goals, and meets or exceeds outcome measures, it will effectively reduce transfers to adult court.

During FY 2024-2025, twelve youths had transfer hearings held; however, only [redacted] youth were transferred to adult criminal court.

PART 7: REGIONAL EFFORT (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(6))

Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(8)):

The County has held discussions with neighboring counties, but regional agreements or arrangements are not planned or anticipated at this time.

PART 8: DATA (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(7))

Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(8)):

The Department collects data on youth served by the block grant using the Probation Case Management System (PCMS), which is a robust application that maintains data at an individual level so that all aspects of a case can be monitored through case file review, data extraction, and analysis. In addition, contracted service providers report on contract deliverables on their monthly status reports. The Department collects data at all points in the justice system process including referrals to probation, petitions filed, bookings into custody, dispositions, risk and needs assessment, case planning, referrals to services, programming, reentry, contacts, use of incentives, etc. Data is collected for case activities occurring in custody as well as when the youth is released on community supervision.

All the Department's data can be analyzed at the individual level by client demographics including age, gender, race/ethnicity, etc. The Probation Department monitors racial and ethnic disparities by utilizing standardized protocols based on the US Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to examine disparities in the use of detention, true findings, and custodial commitments. The juvenile justice partners, through the Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities Committee, identify changes to policies and practices to address disparities.

The Department utilized the Performance-based Standards (PbS) program which helps the agency to monitor and improve services provided to youth using national standards and outcome measures. In 2025, the department transitioned from Performance-based Standards (PbS) to the Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators (CJJA) Critical Data Points (CDP). CJJA's CDP collects monthly data and compares data to other like jurisdictions which enables the department to contribute to a national research effort that provides valuable insights into current trends and helps inform policies, practices, and safety standards across juvenile justice programs nationwide.

In FY 2024-2025, the Department continued to implement the Guardian Radio Frequency Identification system, which provides a user-friendly electronic tracking system to improve the monitoring of youth participation in programming while enhancing the safety and security of youth and staff.

In FY 2025-2026, the Department implemented the Correctional Program Checklist (CPC) with training provided by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute. Moving forward, the CPC will be used to assess the extent to which the programs provided to clients in the YDA are being implemented in accordance with evidence-based practices that have been demonstrated to be effective at reducing recidivism.

Describe outcome measures that will be utilized to measure or determine the results of programs and interventions supported by block grant funds. Describe any progress made on this element since the previous annual plan submission (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(8)):

The Department utilizes a variety of process and outcome measures to monitor the results of programs and interventions supported by the block grant funds. The process measures examine how the programs and interventions are being implemented by quantifying the number of program activities, the number of youths served, and the program completion rates. The outcome measures focus on the results of the programs and interventions including the impact on the target population.

The Department continuously collects data on process measures including the number of assessments completed, the number of different types of rehabilitative programs provided, the number of youths who participated in different types of rehabilitative programming, the number of youths who participated in group education, the number of case management contacts (face-to-face, telephone, and virtual) made with youths who have been released from custody, the number of referrals/linkages to community programs, etc. The Department also monitors the number of youths who completed the full number of required sessions for specific programs, the number of youths who terminated from programs without completing them, and the number of out-of-custody youths who successfully completed services.

To monitor client satisfaction with services, the Department tracks the completion of exit interviews/customer service questionnaires. Qualitative data is also gathered through youth surveys, Youth Advisory Councils, and Parent Advisory Councils.

To further examine the outcomes of programming and services in terms of the impact on the clients, the Department monitors changes in risk levels, protective factors (those associated with positive adjustment and reduced risk), and the risk-to-protective factor ratio. The changes in risk and protective factors are analyzed based on the clients' most recent reassessments compared to when they started the Youth Development Academy.

A variety of outcomes related to recidivism are monitored. The Department tracks new charges filed during the custodial portion of the Youth Development Academy. Once clients are released to the community, the Department monitors the number of clients who have warrants issued, the number of clients who are booked back into juvenile detention for probation violations, warrants, and new crimes, and the number of clients who are arrested on new crimes in the adult system. These recidivism outcomes are tracked for clients who have been released for six and twelve months. After clients have been terminated from the Youth Development Academy, the Department tracks the number of clients who have new sustained law violations in both juvenile and adult courts within 6, 12 and 18 months after termination from supervision.

PART 9: OTHER UPDATES: DESCRIBE ANY PROGRESS ON ELEMENTS SINCE THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL PLAN SUBMISSION: (WELF. & INST. CODE § 1995 (D)(8))

Provide a description of progress made regarding any plan elements and any objectives and outcomes in the prior year's plan, to the extent that they have not already been described above.

Please refer to the main body of the document for detailed information on the extensive updates across all plan elements, including the implementation status of objectives and outcomes. All sections of the plan comprehensively outline the progress made, highlighting achievements, challenges, and any adjustments made to ensure alignment with the overall goals of the Realignment Plan.

PART 10: PRIOR-YEAR EXPENDITURES-SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES/IMPACTS: (WELF. & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(9))

Please use the table provided below to summarize prior-year expenditures (e.g. for the 2025 JJRBG plan the summary entered into the table below would be for FY 2024-2025 expenditures) in accordance with Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(9), which requires counties to report:

- **Total expenditures of block grant funds;**
- **Whether these expenditures were consistent with the plan described in subdivision (a); and**
- **How the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment target population described in Section 1990.**

Please itemize expenditures by each subject area described in Part 4 of the 2025 JJRBG County Plan Template. Expenditure Subject Area[1]	**Total Expenditures ($)**	**Were the expenditures consistent with the plan described for this subject area (i.e., were the goals described for this expenditure subject area met)? (Yes/No)**	**Please describe why the expenditures were or were not consistent with the plan described for this subject area.**	**Please describe how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment of target population described in Section 1990.**
Support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development. Family engagement in programs. Evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices. Reentry, including planning and linkages to support	$708,841	Yes	This portion of the block grant funding was used to offset the cost of group education services provided to the target population by contracted, community-based organizations. Services include career technical education, restorative practices, and youth and family engagement through advisory councils.	Improvements in risk and protective factors (as described in Part 8), including measures in Strength Index, Dynamic Risk to Protective Factor Ratio, and Risk, which indicate improvement in resiliency and lower risk of recidivism.

[1] This table corresponds to Part 4 of the JJRBG County Plan Template and fulfills the reporting requirements of WIC §1995(d)(9) by itemizing expenditures according to the five areas of need or development for realigned youth described in WIC §1995(d)(3)(A)–(E).

Please itemize expenditures by each subject area described in Part 4 of the 2025 JJRBG County Plan Template. Expenditure Subject Area[1]	**Total Expenditures ($)**	**Were the expenditures consistent with the plan described for this subject area (i.e., were the goals described for this expenditure subject area met)? (Yes/No)**	**Please describe why the expenditures were or were not consistent with the plan described for this subject area.**	**Please describe how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment of target population described in Section 1990.**
employment, housing, and continuing education. Services or programs for realigned youth that are provided by non-governmental or community-based providers.				
Support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development. Evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices. Services or programs for realigned youth that are provided by non-governmental or community-based providers.	$534,708	Yes	This portion of the block grant funding was used to offset the cost of programming provided to the target population by contracted, community-based organizations. Services include arts and culture, culinary arts, gardening/horticulture, offsite recreation experiences, and life skills (including but not limited to communication, critical thinking, financial literacy, social skills, and time management).	Improvements in risk and protective factors (as described in Part 8), including measures in Strength Index, Dynamic Risk to Protective Factor Ratio, and Risk, which indicate improvement in resiliency and lower risk of recidivism.
Mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or	$1,009,348	Yes	This portion of the block grant funding was used to offset the cost of rehabilitative	Improvements in risk and protective factors (as described in Part

Please itemize expenditures by each subject area described in Part 4 of the 2025 JJRBG County Plan Template. Expenditure Subject Area[1]	Total Expenditures ($)	Were the expenditures consistent with the plan described for this subject area (i.e., were the goals described for this expenditure subject area met)? (Yes/No)	Please describe why the expenditures were or were not consistent with the plan described for this subject area.	Please describe how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment of target population described in Section 1990.
trauma-based needs. Reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education. Evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices. Services or programs for realigned youth that are provided by non-governmental or community-based providers.			programming provided to the target population by contracted, community-based organizations. Services include Thinking for a Change, Moral Reconation Therapy, Seeking Safety, Aggression Replacement Training.	8), including measures in Strength Index, Dynamic Risk to Protective Factor Ratio, and Risk, which indicate improvement in resiliency and lower risk of recidivism.
Mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs. Evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices. Services or programs for realigned youth that are provided by non-	$1,273,132	Yes	This portion of the block grant funding was used to offset the cost of services provided to the target population by Probation's contracted healthcare service provider, Correctional Healthcare Partners (CHP), including cognitive behavioral therapy in individual, group, and family settings. CHP provides licensed mental	Enhancements in therapeutic services now provide both acute and long-term care, reducing recidivism risk and improving reentry outcomes.

Please itemize expenditures by each subject area described in Part 4 of the 2025 JJRBG County Plan Template. Expenditure Subject Area[1]	Total Expenditures ($)	Were the expenditures consistent with the plan described for this subject area (i.e., were the goals described for this expenditure subject area met)? (Yes/No)	Please describe why the expenditures were or were not consistent with the plan described for this subject area.	Please describe how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment of target population described in Section 1990.
governmental or community-based providers.			health and psychiatric professionals to support the behavioral health needs of youth.	
Mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs. Evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices. Services or programs for realigned youth that are provided by non-governmental or community-based providers.	$1,650	Yes	This portion of the block grant funding was used to offset the cost of services provided to the target population by Probation's contracted sex offender treatment service provider.	Critical areas of risk were targeted with appropriate evidence-based services designed to address youth-specific factors and reduce the likelihood of recidivism.
Mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs. Support services that promote healthy adolescent development. Family engagement in	$11,645,216	Yes	This portion of the block grant funding was used to offset the cost of care, supervision, and reentry support provided to the target population by Probation staff, including 57 probation officers, five alcohol and drug program specialists, and one	Improvements in these areas support successful community reentry by ensuring service linkage for the target population, thereby reducing recidivism risk and promoting

Please itemize expenditures by each subject area described in Part 4 of the 2025 JJRBG County Plan Template. Expenditure Subject Area[1]	Total Expenditures ($)	Were the expenditures consistent with the plan described for this subject area (i.e., were the goals described for this expenditure subject area met)? (Yes/No)	Please describe why the expenditures were or were not consistent with the plan described for this subject area.	Please describe how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment of target population described in Section 1990.
programs. Reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education. Evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices			correctional counselor. Staff participate in multi-disciplinary teams which assess youth risk and needs and develop Individualized Rehabilitation Plans, employ a positive youth development model to engage with youth, facilitate family involvement and engagement, are involved with reentry planning and linkages, and work with service providers and partner organizations to offer evidence-based programming to youth.	improved outcomes and rehabilitation.

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Tamika Nelson, Chief Probation Officer

To: Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR)

From: Tamika Nelson, Chief Probation Officer

Date: June 18th, 2026

Subject: Response to Request for Clarification – 2026 Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) Annual Plan

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This memorandum provides San Diego County's response to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration's request for clarification regarding the County's 2026 Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) Annual Plan, submitted in accordance with Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) § 1995. We appreciate OYCR's review and recognize its statutory role in supporting transparency and implementation of JJRBG requirements.

Response to Requested Clarifications:

• *Please clarify whether identified less restrictive programs are Title 15–regulated per Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(d)(4)*

Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp is not a Title 15–regulated facility, as outlined in Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(d)(4).

• *Statute requires that the JJRBG include three community members; however, the County's JJRBG submission does not identify the three required community members.*

WIC § 1995 requires representation from three community members on the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Subcommittee. While this requirement is established in statute, the plan itself must be approved by a majority of the subcommittee members. The County affirms that the 2026 JJRBG Plan was approved by a majority vote in accordance with WIC § 1995.

Immediately prior to the meeting convened for plan approval, one of the community member representatives vacated their position. Due to the timing of this vacancy, the County did not have sufficient time to conduct a recruitment process and fill the position before the approval meeting. Consistent with the subcommittee's bylaws, a recruitment to fill the community member vacancy has since been posted and is currently in progress.

San Diego County remains committed to meeting all statutory requirements and ensuring continued transparency and collaboration with OYCR.

Please let us know if any additional information or documentation is needed.

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