

Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan

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County Name: Contra Costa County

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Background and Instructions:

Welfare & Institutions Code Section(s) 1990-1995 establish the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program for the purpose of providing county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure.

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.

County plans are to be submitted and revised in accordance with WIC 1995, and may be posted, as submitted, to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website.

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Part 1: Subcommittee Composition (WIC 1995 (b))

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

Agency	Name and Title	Email	Phone Number
Chief Probation Officer (Chair)	Esa Ehmen-Krause Chief Probation Officer	Esa.Ehmen@prob.cccounty.us	
District Attorney's Office Representative	Andrea Tavenier	ATavenier@contracostada.org	
Public Defender's Office Representative	Jonathan Laba	Jonathan.Laba@pd.cccounty.us	
Department of Social Services Representative	Roslyn Gentry	gentrr@ehsd.cccounty.us	
Department of Mental Health	Dan Batiuchok	Daniel.Batiuchok@cchealth.org	
Office of Education Representative	Lynn Mackey	LMackey@cccoe.k12.ca.us	
Court Representative	Judge Barbara Hinton	bhint@contracosta.courts.ca.gov	
Community Member (Co- Chair)	Stephanie Medley Director of Education & Justice RYSE	stephanie@rysecenter.org	
Community Member	Tamisha Walker Executive Director The Safe Return Project	tamisha@safereturnproject.org	
Community Member	Ri Scott Chair of Juvenile Justice Commission	ri.m.scott@gmail.com	

Part 2: Target Population (WIC 1995 (C)(1))

Briefly describe the County's realignment target population supported by the block grant:

Contra Costa County intends to use the block grant funds to support the total population of youth who, prior to the promulgation of Senate Bill 823, were eligible for commitment to the California Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). This includes not only youth currently committed to DJJ, but also youth currently housed and supported by programming in two facilities maintained and operated by the Probation Department: (1) the Youthful Offender Treatment Program (YOTP), and (2) the Girls in Motion (GIM) program. Both YOTP and GIM are phased residential programs that offer robust programming to serve mental, behavioral, and cognitive needs as well as to provide education, job, and life skills.

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

The County anticipates serving a youth population very similar to the population currently under its custodial care. At present, 19 youth are committed to DJJ facilities, in addition to 2 youth in GIM and 15 youth in YOTP, for a total of 36 young people. Across these three programs, the population can be described by the following demographics:

Age. At intake, two (2) young people (5%) were aged 15 years; ten (10) young people (27%) were aged 16 years; fourteen (14) young people (39%) were aged 17 years; five (5) young people (14%) were aged 18 years; and five (5) young people (14%) were between the ages of 19 and 25.

Sex. Of the thirty-six (36) young people, thirty-four (34; 94%) are male and two (2; 6%) are female.

Racialization. Nineteen (19) young people (52%) identified as Black; twelve (12) young people (33%) identified as Hispanic; three (3) young people (8%) identified as Asian or Pacific Islander; and, two (2) young people (5%) identified as White.

Offense. Thirty-Three (33) young people (92%) were adjudicated for person offenses; two (2) young people (5%) were adjudicated for property offenses; and one (1) young person (3%) was adjudicated for other offenses. Of the person offenses, fourteen (14) cases involved Robbery or Carjacking; seven (7) cases involved Assault or Battery; five (5) cases involved Murder or Attempted Murder; five (5) cases involved sex offenses; and, two (2) cases involved shooting into inhabited dwellings.

*There are two young people currently pending DJJ intake who were excluded from the above data set as their intake date is unknown.

In a lookback from present to the beginning of 2018 of all commitment data, the County served a youth population of 184 who were committed as follows: thirty-five (35) youth were committed to

DJJ, one-hundred three (103) youth were committed to YOTP, and forty-six (46) youth were committed to GIM. Notably, the lookback data includes ten (10) male youth who were committed twice to YOTP, one (1) female youth who was committed twice to GIM, and one (1) female youth who was committed three (3) times to GIM. Across these three programs, the population can be described by the following demographics:

Age. At intake, four (4) young people (2%) were aged 14 years; nineteen (19) young people (10%) were aged 15 years; forty-eight (48) young people (26%) were aged 16 years; sixty-four (64) young people (34%) were aged 17 years; thirty-three (33) young people (18%) were aged 18 years; fourteen (14) young people (8%) were between the ages of 19 and 25. Two (2) young people are currently pending delivery to DJJ, therefore their age at intake is unknown.

Sex. Of the one hundred eighty-four (184) young people, forty-six (46; 25%) are female and one hundred thirty-eight (138, 75%) are male.

Racialization. Ninety-Seven (97) young people (53%) identified as Black; fifty-five (55) young people (30%) identified as Hispanic; twenty (20) young people (11%) identified as White; seven (7) young people (4%) identified as Asian or Pacific Islander; five (5) young people (3%) were unknown or other.

Offense. One hundred thirty (130) young people (70%) were adjudicated for person offenses; thirty-seven (37) young people (20%) were adjudicated for property offenses; and seventeen (17) young people (9%) were adjudicated for other offenses, including weapons related offenses. Of the person offenses, fifty-five (55) cases involved Assault or Battery; fifty-four (54) cases involved Robbery or Carjacking; one (1) case involved Extortion; one (1) case involved Elder Abuse; eight (8) cases involved various sexual offenses; one (1) case involved False Imprisonment; two (2) cases involved threats against an executive officer; six (6) cases involved Murder or Attempted Murder; and two (2) cases involved shooting into an inhabited dwelling.

Describe any additional relevant information pertaining to identified target population, including programs, placements and/or facilities to which they have been referred.

N/A

Part 3: Programs and Services (WIC 1995 (c)(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:

The County has created a treatment program roadmap to serve the needs of the target population. This program includes the following three components following disposition:

- 1) Orientation
- 2) Pathway
- 3) Reentry

During orientation, the following assessments will be completed:

- Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS)
- Youth Outcomes Questionnaire (YOQ)
- Criminal Thinking Scale (CTS)
- Choices
- Case Planning
- Career Aptitude Test

These assessments will be utilized to inform the youth's individualized rehabilitation plan, developed collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team (MDT.)

An individualized "Pathway" will be developed based on a youth's unique, and specific needs. The Pathway is developed collaboratively within the MDT. The MDT will include the youth, Deputy Probation Officer, Juvenile Institutional Officer, Behavioral Health, Medical, Education, and supportive individuals. These supportive individuals may include any person or persons the youth identifies as supportive, such as mentors, coaches, faith leaders, and/or family members; the Department will also work with the young person to ensure that they have a mentor to work with him/her in that capacity. In addition to plan development, the MDT will meet regularly to check-in on the youth's progress. Following best practice, the MDT includes only stakeholders relevant to the actual and current needs of the youth while in-custody. Research also illustrates the connection between meaningful engagement and participation of youth within the decision-making and treatment plan and successful plan completion.

Programming will include evidence-based cognitive behavioral treatment classes, life-skills development, postsecondary coursework, vocational and career technical education, as well as exposure to programs, services and activities that encourage positive youth development. Additional program considerations include off-site schooling, employment, recreational activities, day home passes, overnight furloughs and also collaboration with community-based organizations. All youth within the program will initially be housed on the Aspen Unit until they have amassed the appropriate amount of points, and reached specified personal goals and benchmarks to transition into the Tamalpais Unit. The Tamalpais Unit is a less restrictive environment and program goals will prepare the youth for reentry.

Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds (WIC 1995 (3)(a))

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:

Contra Costa County does not intend to operate a sex offender treatment program for youth during Fiscal Year 2021/2022. The County is committed to pursuing alternatives for youth to ensure retention within the juvenile justice system, including committing the youth to DJJ (which can be used in special cases) or partnering with another county. In the next phase of realignment planning, the County will explore the possibility of establishing a sex offender treatment program for youth.

In order to meet the needs of the realigned population, there is a clear need to expand current capacity of behavioral and mental health within juvenile hall, especially to meet the needs of young people with severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI). In particular, the County should consider:

- 1) Hiring a mental health supervisor for better and more effective clinical oversight of the population;
- 2) Extending the hours psychiatric services are available – currently, a psychiatrist is only available for 10-12 hours weekly, but there will likely be an increase in demand for services.

SPMI often emerges in transitional aged youth (TAY), which is a large part of the County's realigned population. If a young person presents symptoms while in-custody, it is substantially more challenging to transition into therapeutic care. The increase in staffing will expand the County's mental health professionals to provide better services to these young people.

In order to ensure all related behavioral or trauma-based needs are met, juvenile hall staff should undergo formal training and development opportunities so that interactions are consistent with mental health best practices. Intake assessments should also include a clinician to ensure mental health needs are not being missed.

Additionally, the County is committed to exploring partnerships with appropriate community-based organizations for services, including those with early intervention in psychosis and sex behavior treatment programs.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population: (WIC 1995 (3)(B))

The County plans to apply a percentage of the grant funds to support services that promote healthy adolescent development. This includes allocating funds to support Behavioral Health, Office of Education, and community-based organizations providing services to the realigned population, as well as offering evidence-based programming to the realigned population.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population: (WIC 1995 (3)(C))

Contra Costa County is committed to prioritizing family and community engagement. Research demonstrates that strong bonds with family and/or community support is essential for positive youth development and successful reintegration. The County will also work to remove financial or logistical barriers in place to ensure that these relationships are maintained while the youth is in-custody, such as considering more flexibility in family visitation hours or providing support to help families with youth detained in out-of-county facilities. Family engagement will also begin at the earliest possible stage of the youth's incarceration. In Fiscal Year 2021/2022, this will primarily happen through the MDT; families are encouraged to be involved in the youth's treatment through the MDT.

The County also recognizes the critical role family plays in supporting the youth during the reentry process and might need additional support or coaching to help them in the process. The County is committed to exploring the possibility of providing skill or navigation classes for families.

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: (WIC 1995 (3)(D))

The County plans to partner with community-based organizations as well as utilize dedicated reentry staff to work with young people reentering the community. Reentry and reintegration planning will begin at the earliest possible stage of a youth's commitment. In order to ensure the reentry planning, families, and out-of-custody community-based providers should also be engaged at the earliest possible stage.

In addition to the options already available within Juvenile Hall, the County will also expand education and technical training programs, including partnering with local colleges and trade unions, as well as offering skill development courses such as advanced manufacturing and safe food handling.

The County, through collaborations between the Probation Department and the community, will also utilize a step-down approach to provide less restrictive housing options to youth as they progress through the phases of the programming. Upon transferring into the Tamalpais unit, the youth will have transitional living programming to prepare them for reentry.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive services for the target population: (WIC 1995 (3)(E))

Contra Costa County's Probation Department is committed to providing trauma-sensitive and culturally cognizant services and programs to youth, as well as training staff in these areas.

In addition to relying on evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive services, the County intends to develop a feedback loop to reflect and review whether the plan is meeting the needs of the County, the realigned youth, and amending the plan, as necessary. The County is working with outside evaluators to measure the plan's impact and disseminate information on a regular basis.

Describe whether and how the County plans to apply grant funds to include services or programs for the target population that are provided by nongovernmental or community-based providers: (WIC 1995 (3)(F))

The County is committed to awarding a percentage of funding to community-based providers to support the realigned youth. In order to ensure reentry planning and continuity of services, community-based providers should be included at the earliest possible stage of a youth's commitment.

In Fiscal Year 2021/2022, the County is committed to exploring the role of community-providers in the realignment and identifying the specific services, programs, or components to handle. Additionally, the County recognizes the need to allocate resources towards capacity-building for community-providers to better serve the realigned population and will explore this more in the next phase.

Part 5: Facility Plan

Describe in detail each of the facilities that the County plans to use to house or confine the target population at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need, and improvements to accommodate long-term commitments. Facility information shall also include information on how the facilities will ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics. (WIC 1995 (4))

Contra Costa County will utilize its Juvenile Hall, a 290-bed, maximum security detention facility located in Martinez. There are ten (10) housing units and residents are classified and assigned to units based on gender, age, offense, and special needs.

The treatment program developed by Contra Costa County is intended to be viewed in its totality as a tiered program where residential placements are its most restrictive phase. Within its facilities, youth may progress through levels to gain access to greater incentives. Post-release community supervision and community-based services also fall within the County's conceptualization of its tiered programming, but these facilities are outside the County's direct control.

In Fiscal Year 2021/2022, there is no present intention to use the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Center for the realigned population, but the Committee may reevaluate as it moves forward in the planning process.

Part 6: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System

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: (WIC 1995 (5))

Contra Costa County is committed to the retention of youth within the juvenile justice system, in lieu of transfer to the adult criminal justice system, and appropriate steps to avoid net widening. As illustrated in the above sections, in Fiscal Year 2021/2022, the County is prepared to serve all youth who would have otherwise been committed to DJJ, apart from youth committed for sex offenses. For these cases, the County will exhaust every possible option, such as committing the youth to DJJ or partnering with another county, to ensure the youth is not transferred to the adult criminal justice system.

Part 7: Regional Effort

Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation: (WIC 1995 (6))

The County has no regional agreements or arrangements to support the realigned population but is exploring the possibility of pursuing regional agreements or arrangements with other Bay Area counties.

Part 8: Data

Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant: (WIC 1995 (7))

The data collected will utilize existing and emerging databases. This data will be utilized to drive future decision-making and be reviewed on a semi-annual basis.

Describe outcome measures that will be utilized to determine the results of the programs and interventions supported by block grant funds: (WIC 1995 (7))

Through our contracted partnership with Impact Justice, we will be developing performance and outcome measures to determine the results of the program. These outcome measures will be reviewed on a regular basis.