

Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan



FY 2022-23

COUNTY OF MONTEREY

Prepared by the Subcommittee of the Monterey County Juvenile Justice
Coordinating Council (JJCC)

APPROVED 11/10/2021

Juvenile Justice Realignment Block

Grant Annual Plan

COUNTY OF MONTEREY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Senate Bill (SB) 823 was signed by the Governor on September 30, 2020 and became effective immediately. With this bill the State initiated the closing of the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and effective July 1, 2021 realigned to the counties the responsibility for youth adjudicated for serious violent felony offenses that would have formerly been eligible for commitment to the DJJ. The bill also raised the maximum age of local jurisdiction and confinement for certain offenses up to age 25 for the realigned population. SB 823 intends for counties to use evidence-based practices and programs to improve youth and public safety outcomes, reduce the transfer of youth to the adult court system and reduce the use of juvenile justice confinement through community-based responses and interventions.

SB 823 established a Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program to fund the counties' efforts to provide a replacement service continuum for this realigned population. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2021-22, and annually thereafter, the State of California will make allocations to counties to provide appropriate care, rehabilitation, and supervision of the realigned population. For the first three (3) fiscal years, funding is provided at designated levels for each county. Funding levels for subsequent years have not yet been determined. In order to receive the funding, counties are required to establish a subcommittee of their multiagency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) to develop a local plan (Plan) to serve this realigned population. County Boards of Supervisors are required to consider the Plan, and commencing Fiscal Year 2022-23, the Plan must be submitted annually to a newly created state department, the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OCYR), responsible for oversight and accountability of the realigned system.

The County of Monterey convened a subcommittee of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council on January 13, 2021 and the FY2021-22 Plan was developed and approved at its meeting on April 28, 2021. The County of Monterey Board of Supervisors received and considered the Plan on June 8, 2021, and on September 14, 2021, received a detailed presentation from the Probation Department on the Juvenile Justice Realignment of 2020 - SB823 and SB92.

The Subcommittee submits the following FY2022-23 Plan to the OCYR.

PART 1: SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSITION (WIC 1995 (B))

Subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information:

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PART 2: TARGET POPULATION (WIC 1995 (C) (1))

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

The target realigned population in Monterey County includes youth 14 years of age or older, whose most recent adjudicated offense is a serious violent felony, listed in the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §707(b), or Penal Code (PC) §290.008, that would have previously made the youth eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

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

Based upon the realignment target population definition described above and historical statistics regarding commitments to DJJ from Monterey County, it is anticipated that the program will serve between 8-10 youth in the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) program within juvenile hall. Of the (30) youth presently housed in DJJ from Monterey County, there are (28) Hispanic males, (1) Caucasian male, (1) African American male, and (1) Asian male. These youth range in age from age 16-21 years. Their adjudicated WIC §707(b) offenses include robbery/carjacking (13); murder/attempted murder (8); assault with a deadly weapon (6); lewd and lascivious acts with a minor (1); and forcible rape (3).

Many of the realigned youth committed to DJJ in Monterey County have histories of out of home placement, mental health needs, and common criminogenic needs, such as antisocial peers and anger management issues. Further, many of the realigned youth have been unsuccessful in a range of less restrictive placements and programs, which led to their eventual commitment by the Juvenile Court. This population has historically displayed the highest level of risk of recidivism and highest needs in the juvenile justice system. The Probation Department will utilize a validated risk assessment tool to effectively identify the risks, needs, and strengths of each individual. The youth's assessed criminogenic needs, in conjunction with any individual circumstances and the nature and gravity of the qualifying criminal offense, will be applied to develop an individual rehabilitation plan that will be utilized during the local commitment ordered by the Juvenile Court.

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

The Probation Department currently provides an array of programs, placements, and facilities to youth throughout Monterey County. The continuum of these services will be made available to the realigned population. The Probation Department will continue to explore opportunities to expand the existing range of services and programming to improve system outcomes and focus on intervention strategies that reduce delinquency for youth at significant risk of reoffending in the community. The use of these interventions is a key component to the Department's balanced approach to addressing negative youth behaviors and helps to reserve Court involvement and terms of detention for only the most serious of matters. The Department's continuum of care includes:

- Silver Star Resource Center - Providing a multi-agency collaborative of government agencies and community-based organizations that work to reduce risk factors that precipitate youth entering the juvenile justice system.
- A variety of Diversion programs that divert youth from significant involvement in the juvenile justice system, so that they can receive services and make restitution to victims without formal prosecution or formal court record of the offense.
- Low-level court interventions, including Informal probation under §654.2 WIC, Probation without Wardship, pursuant to §725(a) WIC, and Deferred Entry of Judgment, pursuant to §790 WIC.
- Silver Star Youth Program at Rancho Cielo - In collaboration with the non-profit Rancho Cielo, Inc., the Probation Department provides supervision and case management to justice-involved youth at the Rancho Cielo campus. The Monterey County Office of Education provides meals, education, and transportation for youth in the program; and the Children's Behavioral Health Department provides ongoing mental health services to all youth on campus. In addition, Rancho Cielo provides additional programming available to youth, including the Youth Corps, the

Construction Academy, the Drummond Culinary Academy, Agriculture Vocational Training, and the Transitional Housing Village.

- Therapeutic Courts - The Probation Department currently operates three treatment based collaborative courts for juveniles: 1) Juvenile Drug Court Program; 2) Collaborative Action Linking Adolescents (CALA), a mental health court, and, 3) Juvenile Sex Offender Response Team (JSORT) for juvenile sex-offenders.
- Wraparound Services - Intensive in-home, team-based support services for youth, including Child Family Team (CFT) practices involving both the Probation Department, Social Services, and Children's Behavioral Health.
- Placement - Foster care placement ordered by the Juvenile Court in an out-of-home setting, such as a resource family home, transitional housing, or Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP).
- Mentorship and educational advocacy through Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program.
- Detention or commitment in either Juvenile Hall or the Youth Center, where youth can receive services, supervision, education, and programming within a secure environment.

In addition to the Core Programming, youth participants will also have the opportunity to engage in a variety of other services meant to support the whole person. Such opportunities to include:

- Restorative justice (healing and accountability)
- Housing, upon program completion and release
- Job training and placement (preparedness, work experience)
- Vocational Education (learning skills and career planning)
- Health (well-being, physical activity, nutrition, lifestyle, behavioral, and mental health)
- Relationships (communication, conflict resolution, family support)

- Creativity (arts, music, personal expression)
- Community Engagement (service, responsibility)
- Mindfulness
- Life Skill Development
- Higher Education (Hartnell)
- Faith and Community Access

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:

Facilities:

The realigned population will be served in the two existing custodial facilities operated by Monterey County Probation, the Juvenile Hall and the Youth Center. The Juvenile Hall will be designated as the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF), while the Youth Center may serve as a less restrictive step-down placement option available to the Court pursuant to §875(f)(1) WIC.

Juvenile Hall

The 80-bed facility is laid out in a campus-style design with a centralized recreation yard surrounded by housing units and support buildings. The two main housing units are 30-bed medium security units with both single and double rooms, separated into two distinct units, each containing a connecting dayroom and shower area, surrounding a central multi-purpose room, staff support spaces, and outdoor recreation areas. Additionally, a (20) bed dormitory unit with a dayroom and programming space is available for minimum security youth.

Facility program services space is available for religious services; counseling; substance abuse classes; group counseling; mental health evaluations; and other evidence-based programs to reduce recidivism throughout the facility, utilizing dayroom and/or multipurpose room space in the housing units, classrooms and gymnasium spaces in the education building, as well as the visitation area in the administrative building for program delivery. The

educational building consists of four classrooms, gymnasium, teacher resource room, educational offices, and staff support areas.

Youth committed to the SYTF will benefit from a Trauma-Informed approach to local detention, receive intervention designed to help youth develop life skills, learn emotional management and problem-solving skills, develop an awareness about the dynamic factors that have resulted in law enforcement contact, as well as benefit from a full continuum of mental health services geared towards supporting long term success both in and out of the custody setting.

Youth Center

The Monterey County Youth Center is a local secure residential, treatment facility and aftercare program designed for Monterey County Juvenile Court wards, rated as a camp. The Youth Center is comprised of four dormitories with a total capacity of 60 male residents. The program's cognitive behavioral approach is focused on building trusting relationships with positive adult role models (staff), developing better decision-making skills and learning strategies to reduce anger by attending group and individual counseling sessions along with receiving substance abuse, mental health and educational services.

Rehabilitation opportunities are offered in collaboration with other County agencies and departments, as well as private and business sectors of the community. The Youth Center's environment is designed to address anti-social/illegal behavior and thinking patterns in youth while promoting acceptance of personal responsibility, increasing self-awareness, enhancing resilience and personal coping mechanisms, and encouraging pro-social attitudes and behaviors.

The Aftercare/Re-entry portion of the program is spent in the community and can last from six to twelve months. All residents are placed on electronic monitoring when they first start aftercare. The goal of re-entry is to transition the youth successfully back into their family and the community through supervision, connection to resources and continued therapeutic treatment and support.

Programs:

The immediate goal of the Department is to improve upon existing programming and services available in the community and at each institution and develop a comprehensive program to meet the varying and dynamic needs of the realigned population. To assist in development of the individualized rehabilitation plan and targeted interventions for each youth committed to the SYTF, the following program components will be addressed:

- The Probation Department will conduct a formal risk and needs assessment, the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI), to measure any factors that may be associated with recidivism, individual strengths for each youth participant, and supervision considerations.
- Children's Behavioral Health will conduct a Structured Assessment for Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY) and a Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) to determine the youth participant's clinical needs in the development of the therapeutic programming recommendations for inclusion in the rehabilitation plan.
- The Inter-Disciplinary Team (IDT) will conduct an initial meeting within (10) days of formal commitment to the program by the Court and, at a minimum once every 90 days thereafter. The youth participants' program milestones will be monitored, adapted, and modified to meet the changing clinical needs and progress of the participant throughout the commitment term. The results of all assessments will be incorporated into the development of individualized rehabilitation case plan for each youth participant, both within the facility and upon transition to community supervision during the reentry phase of their program. Within the first (30) days, the IDT will submit a formal Secure Track Individual Rehabilitation Plan to the Juvenile Court for consideration.

Programming:

The Probation Department facilitates or utilizes a variety of programs at both facilities deemed appropriate by the collaborative team that will be available to the realigned youth population. Some key programming is described below:

- Thinking for a Change (T4C) - T4C is a cognitive-behavioral therapy that includes cognitive restructuring, social skills development, and the development of problem-solving skills. The T4C curriculum is administered by staff from Probation and community service provider, California Youth Outreach.
- Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) - ART is a cognitive-behavioral program that teaches social skills; anger control training and moral education. The ART program is administered by Probation and Behavioral Health staff to groups of juvenile offenders.
- Education - Monterey County Office of Education alternative education program provides mandated, compulsory public education services in a supportive school environment that focuses on increasing academic and prosocial behaviors and skills while also providing functional life skills.
- Forward Thinking Journaling (FTJ) - FTJ is an interactive journaling series administered by trained Probation staff. The FTJ program uses evidence informed practices that helps youth in making positive changes to their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) - The Probation Department detention facilities utilize a behavior management program that incorporates elements of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). The program is designed to promote positive behavior by rewarding adherence to facility rules, pro-social and skill building behaviors, and recognizing hard work and good behavior with enhanced privileges. The PBIS model is also utilized by the Monterey County Office of Education, in conjunction with the facility behavior management system. Additionally, the PBIS model is utilized within many of the other Monterey County School Districts.
- Restorative Justice - Victim Impact Program (VIP) - Probation contracts with Restorative Justice Partners to provide restorative justice programming including

victim/survivor presentations of their experiences to in-custody youth on what it is like to survive crime from their perspective

- Family Therapy Group Counseling - Behavioral Health staff conduct weekly therapy sessions between youth and their families to address issues that may be contributing to instability in the family unit or contributing to negative behaviors and delinquency.

In addition, youth participants will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of other programming and services meant to support the whole person. Such opportunities include:

- Housing, upon program completion and release
- Job training and placement (preparedness, work experience)
- Vocational Education (learning skills and career planning)
- Health (well-being, physical activity, nutrition, lifestyle, behavioral, and mental health)
- Relationships (communication, conflict resolution, family support)
- Creativity (arts, music, personal expression)
- Community Engagement (service, responsibility)
- Mindfulness
- Life Skill Development
- Higher Education (Hartnell)
- Faith and Community Access

Services and Service Providers:

Monterey County Probation actively collaborates with numerous County and community-based providers to access services for youth involved with the juvenile justice system. Some key services and service providers include:

- Wraparound Services - In partnership with Behavioral Health, Probation and the Department of Social Services, provide intensive, home based services in an all-encompassing model to prevent youth from being removed from their homes and support youth in stepping down or returning home from out of home care. Services emphasize the youth and family's strengths and needs and provide individual and family counseling.

- Individualized Services - In addition to other programs and services deemed appropriate by the collaborative team, the youth participant will engage in programming tailored to their individually identified risks and according to recommended intervention needs from the IDT and the results of any formal assessment instruments. In partnership with Behavioral Health, secure track programming will include Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Mindfulness practices, Moral Reasoning Therapy, interactive journaling, psychoeducation, and other evidence-based and promising practices giving youth access to a wide variety of opportunities to learn and explore themselves, their history, and their desires for the future. Additionally, the Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) and Juvenile Institution Officers (JIOs) assigned to this program will be trained in and be responsible for the facilitation and co-facilitation of several interventions in collaboration with assigned clinicians and community-based partners. All staff providing direct services will utilize evidence-based practices and will take a trauma-informed approach to providing interventions.
- Mental Health Services - All youth participants will have access to a full continuum of mental health services provided by Monterey County Children's Behavioral Health. Treatment services will consist of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Interactive Journaling, Moral Reasoning Therapy, as well as other clinical techniques and theoretical approaches needed to support the overall health, wellness, and long-term success of the youth participating in the Secure Track program. All youth will be invited to participate in a needs and risk assessment to determine the areas of needs and strengths that may benefit the youth participant to work on during their stay in the Secure Track Program.

Supervision and Other Responses:

The Probation Department uses a risk-based supervision model where officers interact with youth to address their individual risks and needs. Officers will assess each youth using a validated risk/needs assessment tool, complete case plans, and tailor services and interventions commensurate with the identified risks and needs of the youth.

While in the community under supervision, progress with educational and/or vocational goals will continue to be monitored, as will any other supportive groups, classes, and programs nearing completion. Efforts to develop transitional programming in the community to address maintenance of learned skills will be affected by probation supervision staff as part of the individualized rehabilitation plan.

A Trauma Informed Care perspective will be utilized by all facility staff members to identify, respond appropriately to behaviors, and recognize the impact that Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) may have upon youth in the facility. All staff will utilize established training to recognize the needs, triggers, and vulnerabilities of youth that have experienced trauma and provide effective supports and interventions to respond to behavioral or emotional concerns that may be related to prior trauma experiences, to minimize the possibility of re-traumatizing youth, and to develop a safe environment based upon trust, empowerment, collaboration, health, and respect for both youth and staff.

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:

The plan intends to address the mental health, behavioral, and trauma-based needs of the realigned population by increasing the full continuum of mental health services provided by Monterey County Behavioral Health, Children's Services, including the addition of a dedicated psychologist and additional psychiatric social worker positions to the facilities to initiate or expand mental health services, substance abuse education and treatment, and expansion of the juvenile sex offender treatment programs currently available to youth in the community. The Probation Department and Behavioral Health have implemented trauma-based practices in all facility operations and intake assessments to identify and address trauma in youth.

Treatment services will consist of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Interactive Journaling, Moral Reasoning Therapy, as well as other clinical techniques and

theoretical approaches needed to support the overall health, wellness, and long-term success of the youth.

Additional services available to youth and their families will include:

- Individual Therapy
- Group Therapy
- Family Therapy
- Case Management
- Rehabilitation and skill building
- Crisis Intervention and supports
- Risk assessments
- Psychiatric Services (Medications)
- Orientation and Discharge Planning

Facility staff will continue to administer the Commercial Sexual Exploitation – Identification Tool (CSE-IT), for youth who are or may be at risk for involvement in Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. Youth who are identified as at risk or vulnerable to exploitation are monitored and/or referred to collaborative agencies pursuant to the Monterey County Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Multi-Disciplinary Team for responsive action, which can include additional supportive services in the areas of housing, mental health and substance use counseling, and mentoring while at the facilities and continuing into the community, if appropriate.

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 Probation Department will take steps to ease and simplify the processes for families and supportive adults to engage with youth in the facility, including the development of enhanced mail, electronic communication, and facility visitation with supportive persons in the community. Identified family and supportive persons will be included in regular multidisciplinary team meetings regarding the youth's progress, including participation in family therapy, parent-teacher conferences, and decision making/planning for services.

Probation is planning to use the Juvenile Relational Inquiry Tool (JRIT) to identify supportive individuals that can assist youth in obtaining integrated services and support while detained and identify appropriate services available in the community in re-entry planning.

Further, Probation will seek out programming, methods, tools, and policy to identify and engage family, supportive adults, and community members to assist detained youth while in the facility in participating in appropriate therapy and programming during their commitment periods, as well as the development of a support system that can assist with reintegration to the community upon transfer to community supervision. Specifically, the inclusion of credible mentors and leadership development programs from collaborative agencies and community programs will be initiated within the facilities for all youth, including the target 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))

The plan supports family engagement for the target population through inclusion of family members and supportive adults to the interdisciplinary team meetings and collaborative planning process, as well as the development of the individualized rehabilitation plan for each youth. Additionally, the expanded mental health and counseling services provided by Behavioral Health, Children's Services, including family therapy will provide ongoing opportunity for family engagement in the rehabilitation process.

Family engagement services will continue throughout the commitment term, including the transition phase of the youth's programming, which will include continued programs and family counseling, transition of custody-based services to community providers, and reintegration to the community. Intensive case management focused on the establishment of support systems in the community for continued sobriety, continuity in support services, and re-entry preparation.

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 plan intends to apply grant funds and existing resources to support the continuum of reentry services as described below:

- All youth participants and their families will participate in Transition, Release, and After Care (TRAC) planning as a part of a regular discussion occurring within the IDT format.
- Identification of housing assistance or placement that will best address the needs of youth without suitable homes several months before potential release from the commitment, as a component of reentry case planning. To accomplish this, funds will be designated to support efforts in this area, which may include the need to develop contracts with community-based organizations and other support-focused entities.
- Assistance with a variety of tangible needs to help the release transition be more successful, including access to food, clothing, transportation, vocational, and education supports.
- Continuing planning with youth and their families in collaboration with justice partner agencies and community-based organizations for continuity of services in the community.
- Hartnell College, Office of Equity, will continue to provide access to credible mentors and leadership development programs, the Rising Scholars Network for justice impacted youth, the Center for Achievement and Student Advancement Program, or Mi Casa, for community services that may be utilized by our youth populations.
- Utilization of the Salinas Valley Promise Program to assist youth in attaining tuition assistance for continuing college courses in the community upon release.
- Specialized placements – for those youth who present individualized needs and risks may be better suited for an alternative placement, grant funds will be set aside to access programs within other regional facility programs or alternate less-restrictive placements, such as fire camp.

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))

The plan will apply grant funds and existing resources to address evidenced-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive services for the target population through increased

services from Behavioral Health, to include the acquisition of appropriate curriculum, and additional evidence-based program development.

In addition to the utilization of grant funds to increase the services of Behavioral Health, Children's Services Department within the facility, subsequent year grant funding will be directed to secure and purchase curriculum that will be facilitated by clinicians to the realigned youth population. The Department further plans to research evidence-based programming and expansion of mentoring programs for the realigned youth population, as well as all justice impacted youth.

Monterey County is committed to actively retaining and recruiting a diverse staff in its facilities, as the Department strongly believes that the ability for youth to have relatable role models and the ability to speak with prosocial adults that have a shared cultural experience is imperative to meaningful engagement. It is anticipated that grant funding will be utilized to expand existing culturally responsive programming and provide related staff training, as well as investing in additional programming that is both culturally and gender responsive.

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))

Monterey County is committed to a collaborative approach with its core partners to develop and implement innovative services to support the needs of the realigned youth, including expanded programming and services from community-based organizations. It is recognized that in addition to the services provided by county collaborative agencies, there will likely be gaps in services and programs that will be discovered as the development of the County plan evolves and new legislation is received from the State of California. It is therefore anticipated that grant funding will be utilized to access the services of nongovernmental and community-based providers that can provide targeted interventions and services to the realigned population.

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))

Facilities:

The Monterey County Juvenile Hall is the designated Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) to serve the targeted realigned population that have been determined by the Juvenile Court to require services to be delivered in a secure environment.

All youth booked into Juvenile Hall have a Victim Vulnerability and Risk of Victimization and/or Sexually Aggressive Behavior Assessment, a Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Assessment, and a Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Assessment conducted as part of the intake process, to ensure that appropriate services and safety issues are immediately identified and responded to by staff.

The facility classification system within Juvenile Hall is designed to provide for youth safety, the safety of other youth, facility staff and the public, by placing the youth in the most appropriate and least restrictive housing and program setting. The factors that will be considered in assigning detained youth to living units in the facility include, but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- Age and maturity of the youth
- Seriousness of the offense and sophistication of the youth
- Emotional maturity and stability
- The youth's prior involvement with the justice system
- Medical or mental health considerations
- Gender and gender identity
- Developmental and cognitive processing disability
- Safety considerations or conflicts with other youth
- Prior behavior in the facility or other out of home placements
- Court ordered restrictions related to the association with other youth

The bifurcated design of the housing units will also allow for the older and/or more challenging youth to be housed in an area away from younger, less sophisticated youth. Additionally, use of one of the dormitory units for youth that are preparing for transition to a less-restrictive placement by the Juvenile Court will allow for continuity in service and programming, while developing graduated independence and responsibility in a secure setting apart from the general youth population.

The Youth Center, Laguna Bay Unit, will be utilized as a step-down, less-restrictive setting for the Juvenile Court's consideration. Use of this housing bay will allow for the realigned population to receive services and programming in a secure setting apart from the general youth population in the commitment program. Additionally, this housing bay has a separate entrance from the remainder of the facility, which can accommodate the planned furlough release to the community for qualified youth within the realigned population.

Juvenile Institutions Officers will be on site at each facility 24 hours a day for direct supervision of youth committed by the Court. There will always be an adequate number of personnel to carry out program activities, provide for the safety and security of youth and staff, meet established state standards and regulations, and to ensure that no required services are denied because of insufficient numbers of staff on duty (absent exigent circumstances). The shift coverage for the units will be arranged to meet or exceed the Title 15 Minimum Standards for juvenile detention facilities.

Behavioral health staff and medical staff from Natividad Medical Center will be on site at each facility every day and on-call 24 hours a day in case an emergency response is needed. Youth can request behavioral health and medical services at any time by either verbal or confidential written request.

Due to the reduction in scope for the construction of the new Juvenile Hall occupied in 2020, the facility lacks previously planned high security housing for youth requiring enhanced security measures, especially long-term. The new scope removed the 30-bed high security housing unit with dedicated classroom, reduced the 30-bed dormitory to 20 beds, and consequently the total facility capacity from 120 to 80 youth. It also eliminated the building containing kitchen, dining area, laundry, maintenance shop, and storage, and restricted programming space.

It would be in the best interest of the county to explore financing options to address the shortcomings created by the descoping of the New Juvenile Hall project.

Additional Safety Measures and Protections in the Facilities:

Prison Rape Elimination Act: Youth will have access to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) hotline. The Probation Department has a policy in place to investigate all sexually based accusations or complaints as serious, truthful, and time sensitive. PREA investigators include supervisory staff at all levels within the facility. At any time during an investigation, outside law enforcement agencies may be called to conduct a criminal investigation. Victim Advocates will be available should they need to be utilized in any case. All information is considered confidential.

Transgender Youth: Policies are in place to protect transgender and intersex youth. Upon initial entry to any Monterey County facility, youth who identify as transgender participate with staff in completing a Transgender Youth Preference Form which plays a part in helping to determine housing, clothing, and supervision based on their gender identification.

Special Education: In cooperation with the Monterey County Office of Education, youth will have access to continued education and services. Individual Education Plans (IEP) and Education Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) are available for those youth who qualify. Schools also work in cooperation with behavioral health providers, medical staff, and Probation to individualize each youth's program to meet their specific needs.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The Department has a position designated as the ADA Coordinator. The Coordinator monitors accommodations for youth requiring additional

assistance due to a disability. The Coordinator conducts quality control of the documentation in unit binders, follows up with staff to ensure accommodations are understood and being followed, serves as an ADA liaison with partnering agencies and evaluates ADA training needs for the facility. The ADA Coordinator will ensure youth accommodations are communicated during intake, initial assessment, school, and multidisciplinary team meetings. The ADA Coordinator will work closely with the Monterey County Office of Education to ensure information regarding educational accommodations are received and documented.

Suicide Prevention: Probation is committed to deterring and preventing self-harm and suicide within its facilities. Policies are in place for the identification and supervision of youth identified as high-risk for this behavior. Each youth completes a MAYSI-II questionnaire upon entry into any facility. This risk assessment tool is utilized in determining the youth history, current state of mind, and potential for self-harm or suicidal ideation. Youth deemed to be an immediate risk are immediately assessed by behavioral health to determine program needs and supervisory objectives. Youth may be placed on Suicide Watch or Special Watch depending on their needs. Programs can be changed at any time during their stay with Behavioral Health input and approval.

Youth Grievances: Youth will be able to file a grievance at any time. Each youth will have access to grievances during their program or they and may keep them inside their room for completion. A confidential grievance box is made available within each housing unit, or youth may give them directly to supervisory staff. Grievances are taken seriously, handled in a timely manner, and at times can develop into policy change when required. All are reviewed by facility administration.

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))

To facilitate the retention of the target population within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system, it will be imperative that the Court, justice partners, and community have confidence that the programming, treatment, services, and facilities available will safely and successfully address the target population's rehabilitative needs, while providing necessary community safety.

Probation will continue to operate rehabilitative programs and refer youth to community-based services at the lowest level of intervention possible, to reduce youth recidivism and mitigate the need for the transfer of cases to the Adult Criminal Justice System. The proposals in this plan further support the benefits of keeping youth in the Juvenile Court system. Providing services in their home county allows for quality engagement of the family, establishment of school or work, and ties to community services, resources, and activities. Monterey County believes that youth provided with intensive local services are more likely to be successful in meeting the goals of their rehabilitation plans and successfully reintegrate into the community as productive citizens, thereby reducing recidivism and enhancing safety.

Probation also continues to work with Monterey County's Juvenile Justice System partners to ensure that youth are given opportunities to succeed the lowest level of intervention possible. Each individual case is assessed and evaluated for referral for prosecution. Before Court recommendations are made to ensure the best practices and services are directed to each individual youth and that incorporation of goals related to youths' court orders into their program to ensure youth are on track to meet achievable goals of being law-abiding and self-sufficient community members.

It is the belief of the Probation Department that the realigned youth population will serve any imposed commitment locally unless substantial case factors or facility limitations result in diminished services at the local level.

PART 7: REGIONAL EFFORT

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

Due to the very tight timing for creation of suitable facilities and implementation of services, counties are continuing to assess the impact of the new population in their own jurisdictions.

It is not known at this time if other jurisdictions will offer available beds with the appropriate programming for the general or for specialized populations (e.g., sex offenders). Through its participation in the proactive Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC) association and its allied organizations, Probation will keep abreast of possible partnerships with other counties for the custody and delivery of services to offenders that Monterey County cannot serve.

Possible Regionally Contracted Specialized Services for Youth

- **Sex Offender Services:** Probation will be seeking to expand specialized services for sex offenders through Behavioral Health – Children's Services. It is also possible certain sex offenders will require a level of treatment necessitating a regional contract with another County that could provide group-based services with like offenders. Certain youth, depending on their circumstances or specialized needs, may benefit from a non-local custodial placement capable of serving more youth with similar needs, allowing for the group counseling dynamics needed in sex offender treatment.
- **Programs and Services for Females:** Female youth have historically been committed to current DJJ programs at a very low rate. Therefore, female youth programming may be better suited where additional like-gender youth can program together to avoid isolation or stigmatization. This may be accomplished through a regional contract with another County. If that option is not available or appropriate, female youth committed for longer terms in custody may be housed in a separate wing, or along with other females within Juvenile Hall. In either case, there will be an individualized case plan developed specific to the youth that is suitable to both meet the youth's needs and is appropriate for longer-term care. It is prudent to ensure all youth have optimal opportunities to be placed in a program that best suits their needs.
- **Mental Health Services:** Probation will be seeking to expand specialized services for youth with significant mental illness through Behavioral Health – Children's Services. It is also

possible certain youth may require a level of treatment necessitating a regional contract with another County who could provide an appropriate level of services with like offenders. Certain youth, depending on their circumstances or specialized needs, may benefit from a non-local custodial placement capable of serving more youth with similar needs, or whose individualized needs exceed the available local service.

PART 8: DATA

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

Collection of data on the target population will require additional programming of the current case management system for juvenile offenders. At the beginning, as offenders are gradually committed to local custody, data might be collected through manual methods.

Data collection and analysis is an important aspect of any new program. Probation is committed to having accurate and relevant data upon which informed decisions can be made regarding what is working, what is not and where resources should best be applied. A Management Analyst position will be added and assigned to this program to collect and analyze data, an evaluate evidence-based solutions and programs for the realigned youth population. This will allow the Department to ensure reporting accuracy and provide the ability to identify trends that impact services including programs and funding. This system will be further built out to collect data specific to this new population related to demographics and progress, both while in and out of custody.

The Probation Department routinely reports information in the JCPSS system, annually through the CPOC annual report and collects monthly statistical reports from Probation Officers. This information is used to direct resources and helps guide decision making for the Department's Management Team. Statistical data will also be gathered on youth housed within the facility to gather demographic information and to monitor and gauge significant incidents which may occur. Categories in which statistics will be compiled include but are not limited to mutual fights, assaults, gang related graffiti/signs/comments/writing, suicide attempts, self-inflicted injuries, PREA incidents, suicides, escapes, and escape attempts.

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

Monterey County plans to track a broad range of process and outcomes measures for youth served by this grant, with a particular focus on outcomes related to programs, services, and re-entry. Reports will be developed for this population showing rates of entry to programs, successes, and failures, recidivism rates, services for youth with disabilities and ultimately where resources should be directed to allow youth the best chance to succeed. Measuring the success of those committed to the local realignment program will be a significant indicator of how these youth will adjust upon being released back into the community.

The Department plans to set attainable and measurable goals tied to the youth's rehabilitation case plans and Court orders will be set through the course of their program to gauge case plan goal completion, progress, and to adjust to individual needs during their stay. Case managers will establish attainable goals during assessments to focus youth on successful program completion. Examples of these goals would be high school graduation or equivalency, college course completion, vocational training, certificate attainment, completion of Court-ordered programs and treatment, job training program, enrollment, apprenticeships, and internships.