

# JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL PLAN

## 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. Section 1995 was amended by Assembly Bill 505 (Ting, Chapter 528, Statutes of 2023.) This template has been updated to reflect those amendments which will be in effect on January 1, 2024. All citations 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).)

County plans are to be submitted to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration in accordance with Welf. & Inst. Code §1995. OYCR may request revisions as necessary or request completion of the required planning process prior to final acceptance of the plan. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995 (f).) Plans will be posted to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(g).)

There are nine 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 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)	Brad Michnevich, Deputy Chief Probation Officer (designee)	Brad.Michnevich@sonoma -county.org	(707) 565-6310
Co-Chair <i>(If Applicable)</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
District Attorney's Office Representative	Anne Masterson, Chief Deputy District Attorney	Anne.Masterson@sonoma -county.org	(707) 565-2311
Public Defender's Office Representative	Christina Davis, Deputy Public Defender	Christina.Davis@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-2791
Department of Social Services Representative	Vanessa Azevedo, Section Manager Placement & Prevention Sonoma County Family, Youth and Children	vazevedo@schsd.org	(707) 565-4337
Department of Mental Health	Karin Sellite, Section Manager, Behavioral Health Division, Youth and Family Services	Karin.Sellite@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-3542
Office of Education Representative	Georgia Ioakimedes, Director Sonoma County Office of Education	gioakimedes@scoe.org	(707) 514-2884
Court Representative	Hon. Ken Gness, Superior Court Judge	kgnoss1@sonomacourt.or g	(707) 521-6710
Community Member #1*	Greyson Gunheim, VOICES Sonoma	greyson@voicesyouthcent er.org	(707) 579-4327
Community Member #2*	Danielle Garduño, Santa Rosa Violence Prevention Partnership. GPS Program	dgarduno@srcity.org	(707) 543-4696
Community Member #3*	Michelle Edwards, Boys and Girls Club Sonoma-Marin	medwards@bgcsonoma- marin.org	(707) 919-0506

### Additional Participants

Sonoma County Probation Department	Kris Hoyer, Division Director II	Kris.Hoyer@sonoma- county.org	(707) 565-2891
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Sonoma County Probation Department	Kilee Willson, Division Director II	Kilee.Willson@sonoma-county.org	(707) 565-6240
Sonoma County Probation Department	Rob Halverson, Program Development Manager	Robert.Halverson@sonoma-county.org	(707) 565-3919
Sonoma County Probation Department	Haunani Pakaki, Program Planning & Evaluation Analyst	Haunani.Pakaki@sonoma-county.org	(707) 565-6294
Sonoma County Probation Department	Theresa Brownlee, Administrative Aide	Theresa.Brownlee@sonoma-county.org	(707) 565-8667
Sonoma County Probation Department	Dan Flamson, Division Director I	mailto:Daniel.Flamson@sonoma-county.org	(707) 565-6234

*\*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).))*

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

To be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

**Provide the dates of the last two meetings that the subcommittee convened to discuss your county’s JIRBG plan?**

Meeting Date 1:

Meeting Date 2:

**Additional meeting dates of the subcommittee, if applicable:**

Other meeting dates include December 13, 2023; October 19, 2022; April 4, 2022; December 7, 2021; September 14, 2021; June 22, 2022; March 16, 2021; March 2, 2021; February 16, 2021; February 9, 2021; January 26, 2021.

**Date that the subcommittee approved the plan by a majority vote.**

Tbd

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

On December 13, 2023, the JJRS met to discuss the Assembly Bill (AB) 505 updates and what those changes would mean to the STYF Youth. It also served as a time to refresh the participants of their purpose and that the new AB 505 changes would impact them as well: for example, by requiring more meetings and a firm, annual plan submission date. We provided access to the AB 505 text and advised the JJRS that we would be convening another meeting in early 2024 to discuss how the new rules would apply in practice, as well as next steps.

On February 27, 2024, the JJRS met once again after receiving a draft copy of the Annual JJRS Plan for review and comment. [The rest will be completed once the meeting is convened.]

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

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

The Sonoma County Probation Department’s (“Department”) provides county-based custody, care, and supervision of local and out-of county youth who were realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or who were otherwise eligible for commitment to the DJJ prior to its closure. These youth range from ages 14 to 25 and will have been adjudicated to be a ward of the juvenile court based on an offense described in subdivision (b) of Section 707 of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) or an offense described in Section 290.008 of the Penal Code; for the purposes of this Report, we refer to these youth as Secure Youth Treatment Facility (“SYTF”) Youth.

### **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 Department compiles and reviews the target population data to understand any potential net-widening effects and disparities in the experiences of racial-ethnic, gender and age groups. The most recent counts of adjudications in March 2024 on WIC 707(b) and PC 290.008, revealed that some net-widening had occurred.

Initially, the planned capacity for out-of-county SYTF Youth was 12-16, for a total of 20. In October 2022, the JJRS voted on a planned increased staggered at ten bed increments, not to exceed 40 beds. As of April 1, 2024, the number of out-of-county SYTF Youth is [tbd].

The current findings display the target population’s subsequent placements into various settings and are disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, and age.

Youth Adjudicated on PC 290.008 in FY 2022-2023: 0

Youth Adjudicated on WIC 707(b) in FY 2022-2023:

<b>B1. Number of youth adjudicated of a 707(b) offense</b>	17
<b>Gender identity at time of adjudication</b>	
Male	15
Female	2
Non-binary	0
Declined to identify	0
<b>Age at time of adjudication</b>	
Under 14	1
14	5
15	2
16	6
17	1
18	2
19	0
20	0
21	0
22	0
23	0
24	0
25 and older	0
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>	
Identify as White/Caucasian	2
Identify as Hispanic or Latino/a/x	12
Identify as Black/African American	2
Identify as Asian	1
Identify as Pacific Islander	0
Identify as American Indian/Native/Indigenous	0
Identify as Multi-Racial	0
Identify as Other	0
Unknown	0

Youth Transferred to Criminal Court

The following youth had cases transferred to the Adult Criminal Court:

- One Hispanic Male, age 19 at transfer, in FY 2020-2021;
- No transfer to Adult in FY 2021-2022;
- Two Hispanic Males, one age 18 at transfer, and the other age 24 at time of transfer in FY 2022-2023;
- No data yet for FY 2023-2024 data

Initial data collected in October 2020 on Sonoma County youth sent to the DJJ from 2016-2020 showed most commitments were male (only three female), 17 and 18 years old, Hispanic and White, and typically involved in aggravated assault (assault with a deadly weapon) followed by robbery and sex offenses. Half of the SYTF Youth committed to DJJ since January 2016 were Hispanic, while White youth made up nearly a third of commitments. The average length of stay was 22 months, with a range of 12 to 40 months (none less than 12 months). Based on that data, Sonoma County Probation estimated in April 2023 that by 2025 between 5 and 10 youth, primarily male, Hispanic or White, 17 and 18 years old at the time of commitment and committed for the aforementioned crimes.

[Insert findings once new comparative data is provided]

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

In our Juvenile Hall, 58% of youth commitments on new crimes, while probation violations only represent 21% of commitments. The most common reason for commitment is related to serious/violent behavior (serious crime, danger to the community, violence, weapons, and aggression). To follow are more specific descriptions of the SYTF Youth disaggregated by specialized program, placement, or facility referral types.

### Sexual behavior treatment

Typically, SYTF Youth are nearly all assessed as moderate to high-risk to reoffend. The Department utilizes the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) to assess for risk to reoffend. SYTF Youth committed for sexual behavior treatment often present as low risk to reoffend, as our assessment tool is not specifically designed to measure sexual offending risk. Juvenile sexual behavior treatment is delivered through a contracted service provider who specializes in sexual behavior treatment in the state of California. All SYTF Youth committed for sexual behavior treatment are assessed using tools recommended in the California's Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of Sexually Abusive Juveniles. Assessments will be used to identify both protective and risk factors pertinent to the individual youth. The Department may elect to use the Static-99 assessment tool for sex offenders over the age of 18.

### Placement

Youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court who need protective services shall receive care, treatment, and guidance consistent with their best interest and the best interest of the public. Minors under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court because of delinquent conduct shall, in conformity with the interests of public safety and protection, receive care, treatment, and guidance that is consistent with their best interest, that holds them accountable for their behavior, and that is appropriate for their circumstances. This guidance may include sanctions that are consistent with the rehabilitative objectives listed in statute. If a minor has been removed from the custody of his or her parents, family preservation and family reunification are commonly appropriate goals for the juvenile court to consider when determining disposition.

The Sonoma County Probation Department typically applies a graduated sanctions approach before presenting consideration for home removal; however, in some instances immediate removal is necessary upon a youth's first offense or subsequent new offense due to the severity of the adjudicated crime or necessity for public safety. Home removal is often made in attempt to best serve the youth and provide family strengthening services concurrent to removal. Several attempts are made to prevent home removal using community-based supervision and services which are tailored to the SYTF Youth and family's needs. Home removal generally consists of placement in either a short term residential therapeutic program (STRTP), Resource Family, or commitment to Juvenile Hall. As previously noted, use of SYTF commitment is reserved for SYTF Youth who have proved to be unamenable to these services, or their needs

and the need to maintain public safety warrants commitment and services beyond community-based services.

## **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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(D)(2) and (d)(8)):**

The Sonoma County Probation Department's ("Department") Juvenile Hall is a safe and secure facility for the housing and programming of court committed SYTF Youth identified as appropriate per Welf. & Inst. Code § 1990(b). Housing of SYTF Youth follows the administration of validated assessments which shows their unique classification, risk level, and individual needs. Juvenile Hall staff also consider the safety of the SYTF Youths and other SYTF Youth within the facility.

Juvenile Hall strives to provide programming that is trauma-responsive and culturally informed, calibrated to the SYTF Youth's assessments and input, as well as the insight of their Probation Officer (PO), and the Court. Programming includes rehabilitative treatment designed to reduce recidivism; opportunities to address personal, social, physical, mental health, educational, career technical education and independent living skills needs; and prepare them for a successful re-entry to their communities.

For services that the Juvenile Hall cannot directly administer, the Department maintains contracts with several local providers for services within the Juvenile Hall as well as contracts focused on transitional services. Within the facility, SYTF Youth are offered trauma focused, gender responsive, culturally competent/bilingual services; drug and alcohol services; mental health support; Aggression Replacement Training; spiritual advising; restorative justice groups; and various other services.

Transitional services include referrals to our Intensive Case Management (ICM) Program, career technical education/training programs, County Behavioral Health, and case management/supervision services through the Sonoma County Probation Department.

The Sonoma County Probation Department will provide additional family engagement opportunities and program provider meetings to support its existing programming, including: focus on the Child-Family Team approach to individual rehabilitation plans (specifically targeting individual risk factors and needs of SYTF Youths, enhanced family visitation opportunities such as events, career technical education/training opportunities, educational assistance, programming, and work day-pass/furlough opportunities (court approved), face-to-face meetings in Juvenile Hall with program providers, and family therapy services.

## 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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(A) and (d)(8))**

The Sonoma County Probation Department provides comprehensive treatment related to mental and behavioral health, trauma needs, and sexual behavior treatment.

The Sonoma County Probation Department can provide services to SYTF Youth in a number of ways; youth can participate community-based individual and group sexual behavior treatment, obtain services in Juvenile Hall, as well being able to provide additional services for the SYTF Youth's family and any victims within the home. The Department has historically served most offenders in the community setting and through home removal via placement/out of home care; commitments to Juvenile Hall are only made when appropriate, and when it is unsafe to provide services within the community. On average, juvenile sexual behavior treatment is between 12 to 18 months in length.

Mental health and trauma services will remain available to all SYTF Youth housed in Juvenile Hall regardless of commitment status and in compliance with statute and Title 15 regulations. The Sonoma County Probation Department will expand the current service array and introduce evidence-based services targeting these need areas, to help build youth resilience, stability, and rehabilitation.

Since May 2023, the Department is looking to further expand its abilities to provide individual and group therapeutic services and sexual behavior treatment by developing smaller, short-term contracts with existing vendors who provide services in Juvenile Hall, both in-person and via teleconference. We hope that this will provide more options for both the SYTF Youths and their families by enabling service providers to build capacity and dedicate clinicians to their very specific needs and goals.

**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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(B) and (d)(8))**

The Sonoma County Probation Department was successful in using the initial grant funds to bolster and facilitate ongoing evidence-based and innovative practices and programs. Currently, the Department has a variety of services and interventions available to SYTF Youth that are administered by trained staff and local community-based organizations such as individual and group restorative justice programming and gender responsive groups. The Department was able to use the grant funds previously received for procurement of these services and staff



training. In addition, grant funds were used for facility upgrades, procurement of equipment and resources for the integration of career technical education/training services, higher education, and virtual programming.

Since May 2023, the Department completed construction of a Greenhouse that will bolster the current garden program and orchard providing additional CTE opportunities to SYTF Youth interested in horticulture, botany aquaponics, and applying sustainable agricultural practices.

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(C) and (d)(8))**

Following the initial funding, the Department has provided services for SYTF Youth and their families that promote well-being and assist in our shared goal of rehabilitation. The Juvenile Hall works closely with juvenile probation officers to provide SYTF Youth and their families with supportive and necessary transition services. Family engagement is a key part of this transition process, and the Sonoma County Probation Department engages actively with families while the youth is housed within the facility and throughout their transition onto aftercare; and ultimately, successful completion of probation supervision.

The Department established virtual visitation and programming to facilitate family engagement and the breaking down of barriers to regular communication with family and pro-social connections that the youth may have outside the facility. This medium also allowed for Child and Family Team Meetings to easily be integrated into all individual rehabilitation plans (IRP) and the case management process. Child and Family Teams place families in the center of the planning process and encourage formal and informal supports to unite around the shared hopes and goals of the family. Plans coming out of Child and Family Team meetings build on individual and family strengths to address unmet needs and involve use of community resources.

To aid all visitation and meetings, the Department converted two spaces within the facility to facilitate virtual visitation and programming with increased technology options providing much needed support for SYTF Youth, their families, professionals and others. The rooms were “softened” with new paint, furniture, computers, and a 55” TV monitor in each room. To support this effort, changes are being made to the facility to allow the use of our Health Services Conference room for Child and Family Teams Meetings. Families will be able to enter through the visitation area, walk through a small courtyard, and meet with SYTF Youths and probation staff in a private setting.

The Department continues to expand its efforts to create a more home like setting throughout the facility. SYTF Youths’ rooms will be freshly painted, the visitation area will be re-carpeted, meetings rooms will be updated with new paint and additional virtual meeting spaces, art has been hung throughout the facility, and mural projects have been initiated.

Since May 2023, we have secured two full-time employees dedicated to the SYTF Youths, their family engagement, and movement through the justice system from intake to reentry and their transition out of supervision. These two positions will focus on helping the SYTF Youths and their families develop more robust IRPs that will build the foundation of how they progress through programming and services while in juvenile hall, how they are reviewed in court, and how they progress in the community. During the CFT, and emphasis will be placed on creating goals that are focused on youth successfully transition to the least restrictive placement possible, community supervision, and ultimately independence in the community with natural community supports. The Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) process will also be enhanced, in that it will meet every three months, and the SYTF Youth will have the opportunity to present their own IRP progress and advocate for themselves. Each will be given feedback and guidance on how to continue to progress on their goals. SYTF Youth will also make similar presentations to the court. The aim is to give youth meaningful action steps that support their goals, but ultimately evaluate their progress on the achievement of the goals, which will be demonstrated by skill development and behavior change.

**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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(D) and (d)(8))**

The Sonoma County Probation Department provides a robust transitional program focused on reentry and independent living, collaborating with local providers for transitional services for youth who are returning to the community from a variety of settings. Each SYTF Youth is unique and as such their long-term case management and plans for reentry are as well. Services currently available to SYTF Youth include referrals to our Intensive Case Management (ICM) Program, career technical education and training, Pine Grove Fire Camp, mentoring, County Behavioral Health, and case management and supervision services through the Sonoma County Probation Department.

The ICM Program is a family-centered, strength-based, and outcome-oriented alternative to out of home care or for youth transitioning from a court commitment. The target population is probationers with complex and enduring needs and their families. The goal of the ICM Program is to offer services in a strengths-based, family-centered, and culturally competent manner. To that end, most services are provided in the home, or their preferred locations, and services are provided around-the-clock, with staff expected to maintain flexible schedules and participate in a rotating on-call system to address the needs of families in crisis. Additional services include post commitment transitional services, and family finding services.

Career technical education and training services include a variety of referral programs that serve at risk youth ages 16-24, and targets career and educational goals. These programs assist in facilitating employment.

With regard to SYTF Youth referred for sexual behavior treatment, and as previously noted Sonoma County has historically served a high number of sex offenders within the community and through home removal via placement/out of home care; however, commitments to Juvenile Hall have become more frequent. On average, juvenile sexual behavior treatment is between 18 to 24 months in length. Services provided by our Secure Youth Treatment Facility generally take 12 to 18 months in length.

As previously mentioned, since May 2023 the Department has secured two full-time employees dedicated to the SYTF Youths, their family engagement, and movement through the justice system from intake to reentry and their transition out of supervision. Although still in development, the two new employees are creating a structure whereby as soon as a youth is designated a part of the SYTF group, the MDT will meet to begin creating the IRP, which will be further individualized during the CFT. From day one, the IRP will be structured with the vision to set youth up for a successful community transition plan. The pillars of this IRP are the three areas indicated in Welf. & Inst. Code section 875: treatment, education, and development. With an IRP in place that is robust and focused on community reentry, the MDT will have the ability to create a structured process and benchmarks for the SYTF Youth to earn base term reductions in court and possible release to a less restrictive placement. Once released to the community or less restrictive placement, a similar process with benchmarks related to the IRP will continue, moving toward community re-engagement and probation completion.

**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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(E) and (d)(8))**

The Sonoma County Probation Department has engaged and implemented the following programs for our SYTF Youth. These programs are evidence-based or promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive services for the target population:

#### Positive Youth Justice

Organizing framework for the program rooted in youth development research. Focuses on key assets: skills (learning & doing) and connections (attaching & belonging). Behavior change and development are pursued through six practice areas: Work, Relationships, Health, Education, Community, and Creativity.

CBT for anger-related problems in children and adolescents \*Does not refer to a specific program\*

This variant of CBT focuses specifically on SYTF Youth who have anger-related problems, including aggression, self-control, problem-solving, social competencies, and anger experience. For SYTF Youth with anger problems, CBT is designed to 1) change how anger is experienced

(e.g., how quickly a youth becomes angry, the intensity of the anger, and the amount of time spent feeling angry), 2) reduce aggressive behavior, and 3) improve social functioning.

#### Aggression Replacement Training (ART)

A multidimensional psychoeducational intervention designed to promote prosocial behavior in chronically aggressive and violent adolescents using techniques to develop social skills, emotional control, and moral reasoning. Program techniques are designed to teach youths how to control their angry impulses and take perspectives other than their own. The main goal is to reduce aggression and violence among youths by providing them with opportunities to learn prosocial skills in place of aggressive behavior.

#### Girls Moving On

Girls Moving On is a gender-informed cognitive-behavioral program for at-risk girls between the ages of 12 to 21 years. Girls Moving On is a comprehensive program that uses a number of complementary approaches, such as relational theory, motivational interviewing, and cognitive-behavioral intervention. The program is designed to provide girls and young women with alternatives to criminal activity by assisting them to identify and mobilize personal and community resources. Girls Moving On consists of seven modules: two are delivered in an individual basis and five are delivered in a group-based setting.

#### Cognitive Behavioral Interventions - Core Youth (CBI - CY)

This curriculum is designed to provide a thorough intervention that broadly targets all criminogenic needs for juvenile populations. Relies on a cognitive-behavioral approach to teach individuals strategies to manage risk factors in a way that is developmentally appropriate for youth. The program places heavy emphasis on skill building activities to assist with cognitive, social, emotional, and coping skill development. Additionally, it provides modifications so that youth with mental illness can participate, though it is not dedicated exclusively to this population.

#### Triple P Parenting

Provides 17 core parenting strategies/skills that promote children's development by creating positive relationships & teaching new skills & behaviors.

#### Supportive Virtual Family Time Program

Designed to create structure, guidance, and training for those supervising virtual parent-child visits, with the goal of helping them facilitate positive remote supervised visits between parents and their children in out-of-home care. Geared toward both private agency supervised visitation providers as well as caseworkers who will be supervising these virtual visits.

#### New Freedom

New Freedom programming is intended to target antisocial beliefs and association with antisocial peers through intensive intervention strategies based on cognitive-behavioral methods, motivational enhancement, and social learning philosophies. These strategies target resistance to behavioral change, and decrease antisocial behaviors, including gang activity. Desired outcomes upon program completion are a decrease in gang involvement, a reduced likely hood of reoffending or probation violation post release, an increase in protective factors, and active participation in programming post release.

As mentioned above, since May 2023, the Department is looking to further expand its abilities to provide individual and group therapeutic services and sexual behavior treatment by developing smaller, short-term contracts with existing vendors who provide services in Juvenile Hall, both in-person and via teleconference. We hope that this will provide more options for both the STYF Youths and their families by enabling service providers to build capacity and dedicate clinicians to their specific needs and goals.

**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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(F) and (d)(8))**

As described above, the Department works very closely with nongovernmental and community-based providers to provide programming for youth in Juvenile Hall, Mentoring services, transitioning home or to an alternative placement, as well as for career technical education and training programs. These partners are vital to the success of the SYTF Youth, and we seek their guidance and support at all stages of the youth's growth. We also use those funds to supplement currently funded programs such as our ICM Program, Mental Health services, and individual and group counseling services.

As previously noted, the ICM Program serves SYTF Youths and their families in a strengths-based, family-centered, and culturally competent manner. Group and individual trauma counseling services are offered to SYTF Youth and families who have an identified need beyond services already available to them (either through private insurance or probation referrals).

Since May 2023, the Department is diligently and creatively looking for ways to help community-based and nongovernmental service providers expand their services to SYTF Youth. A key part in that expansion is by developing smaller, short-term contracts with existing vendors who provide services in Juvenile Hall, both in-person and via teleconference. We hope that this will provide more options for both the STYF Youths and their families as well as a sense of familiarity as they transition from the Juvenile Hall, to home or a placement, and then off supervision altogether.

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

**Provide a detailed facility plan indicating which facilities will be used 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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))**

Since the JJRS was formed, it is the intent of the Department to house all youth within our jurisdiction in the secured setting of the Juvenile Hall, who are received for SYTF commitment. The Department houses SYTF Youth within the facility through use of a classification system, direct supervision model, and services targeted to address individual needs of the SYTF Youth. In most cases, male and female commitments are housed separately; however, SYTF Youth may be housed in various units throughout the facility given their needs, or any need, due to overall safety and security of the facility. When a SYTF Youths is committed to the facility, Intake & Release staff make the initial classification assessment based upon information received during the booking process. The goal of the classification process is to provide the least restrictive housing assignment that is still appropriate for the youth based on their needs. There will be periodic reviews of classification throughout a SYTF Youth's commitment. Factors considered in the classification process include but are not limited to age; current charge(s); the safety of the SYTF Youth, staff, and other SYTF Youth; the SYTF Youth's perception of vulnerability or safety needs; level of sophistication, emotional stability, program needs, medical and mental health considerations, gender, and gender identity.

SYTF Youth are assessed using the Positive Achievement and Change Tool (PACT), and the Residential Positive Achievement and Change Tool (R-PACT). The R-PACT fits the unique needs of a residential setting, and elicits more specific, relevant information that assists in developing intervention strategies for youth committed to Juvenile Hall. Additional risk assessment tools may also be utilized as appropriate, and the Juvenile Hall will follow accepted juvenile justice best practices.

Case management and supervision for these SYTF Youth begins at the process of commitment with a review or completion of a risk and needs assessment; the development, implementation and monitoring of an IRP; use of motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral interventions; application of structured evidence based practices such as "CCP" (Core Correctional Practices); and imposition of appropriate sanctions and the use of incentives for positive behavior and change, as a means of holding SYTF Youth accountable and improving outcomes. Individual rehabilitation planning and supervision practices for committed SYTF Youth address key issues such as risk, responsivity, competency development, reparation of harm, community protection, family dynamics, adolescent development, and services to address criminogenic needs. These goals are attained by adhering to the following objectives:

Adhering to individual rehabilitative planning and commitment and supervision practices that address risk, need and responsivity; providing youth with appropriate treatment services based on identified criminogenic needs; and facilitating community safety through containment of youth committed for violations of crimes specified in 707(b) of the WIC.

Regarding facility improvements, the Sonoma County Probation Department modified a vacant housing unit to accommodate a higher education setting, where high school graduates and college students can attend school and career technical classes. Additionally, given the number of SYTF Youth enrolled in Santa Rosa Junior College the facility is able to offer in-person classes with instructors from SRJC for core subjects such as Math and English. The Dayroom was converted to accommodate a professional work environment with cubicles and desks, personalized for each SYTF Youths. The Department purchased new laptops for individual use within the Unit. New software was also purchased through Linewiz, which monitors, blocks, and alerts inappropriate use of the internet and software. Dayroom seating was updated with couches and new chairs to accommodate a “softer setting”, allowing SYTF Youth additional comfort beyond standard institutional furniture; similarly, a large mural will also be completed soon.

The Department also completed construction of its greenhouse which is an addition to the current garden program and orchard, providing additional CTE for SYTF Youth interested in an introduction to horticulture and botany. Upcoming plans include introduction to aquaponics and applying sustainable agriculture practices.

## **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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))**

Justice system-involved youth who remain in their communities have lower recidivism rates and are more prepared for their transition back into the community. The Sonoma County Probation Department has worked to retain the SYTF Youth from within our jurisdiction by providing a safe and secure facility that promotes and provides rehabilitative treatment designed to reduce recidivism; provide opportunities to address personal, social, physical, mental health, educational, career technical training, and independent living needs; and prepare them for a successful re-entry to their communities. A key component of successful reentry is ensuring that SYTF youth are housed closer to their families and within their communities while they receive age-appropriate treatment and allowing the family to engage in treatment concurrently. Family and pro-social community ties play a large role in rehabilitation planning for each SYTF Youths.

The Sonoma County Probation Department currently utilizes evidence-based and promising practices and programs with Probation staff and community-based organizations that improve the outcomes of SYTF Youth and public safety. This is an important step in our attempts to reduce the transfer of SYTF Youth into the adult criminal justice system. By applying appropriate and individualized preventative services and programming to fidelity and ensuring that disposition recommendations are considered in the least restrictive appropriate environment, we hope to reduce recidivism and continue to serve youth within the juvenile justice system. With the addition of commitment programs within juvenile hall that target a variety of needs and risk levels we believe we can reduce the need for transfer to the adult criminal justice system.

As mentioned above, since May 2023 the Department has secured two full-time employees dedicated to the SYTF Youths comprehensive success including avoidance of entry into the Adult criminal justice system. Although still in development, the two new employees are creating a structure whereby support is continuous and the SYTF Youth's personal responsibility in their growth is central. As soon as a youth is designated a part of the SYTF group, the MDT will meet to begin creating the IRP, which will be further individualized during the CFT. From day one, the IRP will be structured with the vision to set youth up for a successful community transition plan. The pillars of this IRP are the three areas indicated in Welf. & Inst. Code section 875: treatment, education, and development. With an IRP in place that is robust and focused on community reentry, the MDT will have the ability to create a structured process and benchmarks for the SYTF Youth to earn base term reductions in court and possible release to a less restrictive placement. Once released to the community or less restrictive placement, a similar process with benchmarks related to the IRP will continue, moving toward community re-engagement and probation completion.

## **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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

The Sonoma County Probation Department has the capacity to offer our facility and programming to other Counties wishing to send their realigned youth to our County. To support the intent of SB 823, Sonoma County will only accept youth from the Bay Area or Northern California, keeping other county youth as close to their natural supports as possible. We will contract with these counties through cooperative agreements and provide them with written material and brochures describing the programming offered. As with our own county youth, we will work with out-of-county youth on ensuring connections to family and natural supports as well as closely working with the other Probation Departments to ensure a smooth reentry plan is in place. We will be investing in technology to support these youth with connections to their communities.



There have been no changes in this element since May 2023.

## **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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response:**

To manage the SYTF Youth population in Juvenile Hall, the detention management information system was modified to track new Secure Track commitment types and detention reasons. Validated risk and need assessments and Individual Rehabilitation Plans are integrated into the detention management information system, providing robust data for analysis of risk, needs and case plan quality. This work was completed at the start of the SB 823 implementation. The Sonoma County Probation Department and Information Services Departments are collaborating to develop a business application to track participation in SYTF programming, so that the dose of services can be considered when measuring outcomes for reentering SYTF youth, and positioning us for analysis of service matching, from assessed needs to Individual Rehabilitation Plans to engagement and completion of services. The new application will allow tracking of group and individual service participation, including the type of program and actual duration, in hours, of participation in programs. Phase 1, allowing for setting up programs, enrollment of youth in and recording attendance, should be implemented in fiscal year 24-25. Future phases, including integration with case plans and case notes, and direct service provider access, are also planned.

Sonoma County Integrated Justice Systems will be modernized in the coming years, with unknown impacts on the systems that support the Department. Additionally, the Department is in the process of modernizing its case management and detention management systems. These large projects may impact the timing of delivery of the SYTF Youth program participation application described above.

**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 on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response:**

Outcome measures will include recidivism, entry into the Adult justice system, measures of racial and gender equity, and changes in thinking, skills, and connection to supports for reentry and independent living. Recidivism is defined as a new delinquency or criminal/delinquency referral, petition/complaint, or adjudication/conviction during years one, two and three after release from the Secure Youth Treatment Facility. Entry into the Adult system includes youth entering the adult system for a new crime occurring after turning 18 years of age, and (reported separately) youth transferred to the adult criminal justice system under 707(b) of the WIC. Measures of racial and gender equity include comparisons of the experiences at key decision points broken out by race and gender. Changes in thinking, skills and connection to supports

will be measured for individual interventions, where applicable, using measurement tools specific to the intervention models.

Since May 2023, the Department continues to integrate the Anti-Racist Results Based Accountability (AR-RBA) framework into our provider contracts, as they are newly executed. AR-RBA is a Sonoma County Initiative of our Board of Supervisors being adopted county-wide, and Probation is at the forefront of that effort. AR-RBA is an ends-to-means framework to assess whether services are actively mitigating inequities in Black, Indigenous, Asian and local communities of color. It requires that the Department and community-based organizations work together at program level data by race and other demographic indicators (e.g., race/ethnicity, language, gender, disability) to adopt strategies to eliminate inequities.

## **PART 9: OTHER UPDATES: DESCRIBE ANY PROGRESS ON ELEMENTS SINCE MAY 1, 2023: (WELF. & INST. CODE (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.

Tbd