

# Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan 2017



County of Lake



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**I. Introduction: Lake County Juvenile Justice System**

At the beginning of 2017, the Lake County Probation Department began the process of revising the 2001 Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan as outlined in Welfare and Institutions Code sections 749.21-749.22. This new, consolidated plan addresses the continuum of juvenile justice including prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration. This plan includes an assessment of local and regional resources currently available to at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families. This plan also identifies and prioritizes neighborhoods, schools, and other areas in the community.

Since 2009, Lake County’s Juvenile Justice Stakeholders have been committed to implementing evidence-based approaches and promising practices to promote positive youth development and prevent juvenile delinquency. This plan identifies programs and provides a strategy on how to better capture measured outcomes to improve results. The Lake County Probation Department commissioned a planning workgroup to review and add information for the Lake County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council’s consideration in creating this plan. The Council then considered and adopted the following.

**1.1 Vision Statement**

To have successful programs in place, ready to meet the needs of every minor and family that require services; to address the needs of all victims; to be a catalyst among counties for low recidivism rates; and to ensure a safe community.

**1.2 Mission Statement**

Creating a safer community by strengthening families, providing support to victims, and making a positive difference in the lives of youth.

### 1.3 Recent History of Lake County’s Juvenile Justice System

**2009-2010** – The Lake County Juvenile Justice Division underwent many significant changes from 2009-2010. These changes included:

#### A. Introduction of Risk Assessment Instruments

Two risk assessment instruments were implemented to provide uniformity and objectivity in screening and assessing minors entering probation. A year was spent training all Probation Officers (PO) to use the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) effectively to produce uniform results:

a. 2010 – Current: Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI)

A tool implemented to create a non-discretionary method of assessment to determine custody status at the time the youth is brought to Juvenile Hall.

b. 2010 – Current: Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT)

An instrument designed to assess criminogenic needs, assign risk level to juveniles, and provide information about services that are appropriate based on the minor’s needs and family input. A case plan is created for each minor based on this assessment.

#### B. Beginning of New Practices

Promising Practices and Evidence Based Practices (EBP) were just beginning to make their way into Lake County during 2010; unfortunately, too many practices were started at the same time making it difficult to provide the staff with adequate training and knowledge as to why the practices would be effective.

Most of the practices that were implemented during 2010 were short-lived due to poor implementation caused from low staff numbers and inadequate training.

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Some of the first EBP programs that were implemented in Lake County were:

a. 2010 - Current: Case Plan

Each youth has a Case Plan created with the youth and family to address the needs of the youth and family. The goal is to develop the best way to eliminate those needs in order to enable the youth to live a life free of criminal activity and to be successful. Case planning is still in practice. Each youth has their case plan updated at least every six months.

b. 2010 – 2012: Courage to Change - EBP Program

Courage to Change succeeded to build a rapport between minors and staff. The program covered multiple topics including self-control, social values, and peer relationship. The program ended because of poor training, low staff numbers, and a time consuming delivery that took place off-location, which was difficult to complete with the staffing levels at the time.

c. 2012-2013: Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) - EBP Program

ART is an EBP Program that was successful due to the fact that it had effective instructors that created positive engagement. The program ended due to the trainer leaving the Probation Department, low staff numbers, and because it was also time consuming.

### C. Lasting Practices

Promising Practices that were implemented during 2010 that are still in place today are Case Plans, Probation Family Pro and Wraparound. Probation Family Pro and Wraparound had some implementation difficulties but have been successful in part due to fact that they are better alternatives than Juvenile Hall and placement/foster care.

Educating the court system and attorneys about the programs has also helped with their success.

In 2016, the Juvenile Division began using a reward/sanctions matrix in order to consistently motivate youth to comply with their terms and conditions of probation. The use of the matrix ensures that all youth are treated equally related to their compliance, and that rewards and sanctions are used in a graduated manner.

#### **D. Internal Department Changes**

During 2008, the Lake County Chief Probation Officer retired. Following his departure, there were four years of quick turnover in the position. Another critical blow to the Probation Department was the loss of five trained staff between 2010 and 2012 to Sonoma County for higher wages. The departure of so many employees left the division understaffed and in a reactionary state for the next few years.

There were also several policy changes that contributed not only to the change in the protocol of the division, but also to a shift in mindset and approach to juvenile offenders. Where previous policies were punitive-based and focused only on the minor, new policies were constructed to assist the minor and focus on the family unit. By shifting the focus from the minor to the family, it provided for greater cooperation between agencies.

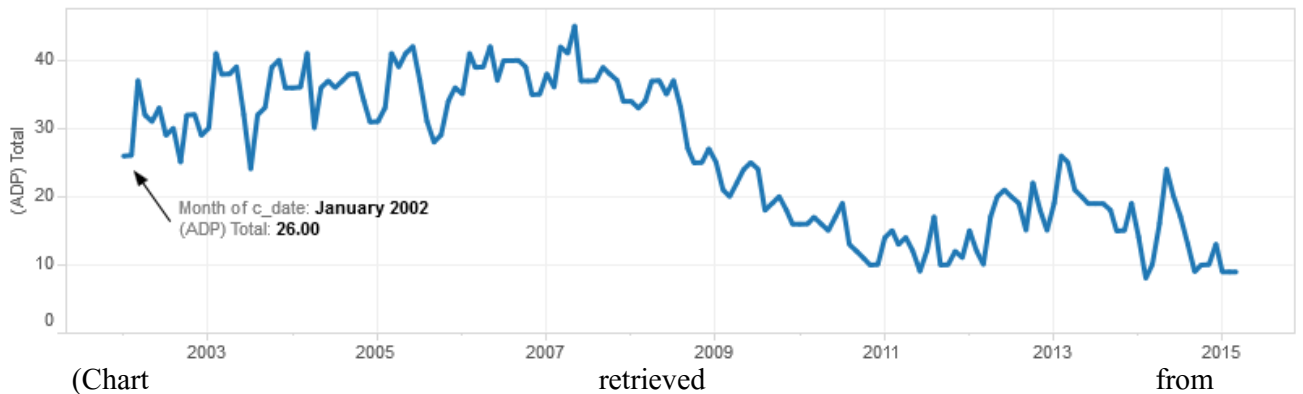
**E. 2010-Current**

The Lake County Probation Department Juvenile Division has made substantial strides in the Juvenile Justice System of Lake County.

a. Lake County Juvenile Hall

The introduction of risk assessment instruments changed the course of the Lake County Juvenile Hall. In 2010, the DRAI and PACT were implemented and, for the first time, Lake County used uniform and unbiased risk assessment for all minors entering probation. The instruments also established criminogenic needs and assigned a ‘low’, ‘moderate’ or ‘high’ risk level to reoffend. It was these tools that ultimately took the population of Juvenile Hall from 30-40 occupancy to 10-20.

County Juvenile Detention ADP for Lake County for January 2002 to March 2015



[http://public.tableau.com/views/CaliforniaJuvenileFacilities/Introduction?%3Aembed=y&%3AshowVizHome=no&%3Adisplay\\_count=y&%3Adisplay\\_static\\_image=y&%3AbootstrapWhenNotified=true](http://public.tableau.com/views/CaliforniaJuvenileFacilities/Introduction?%3Aembed=y&%3AshowVizHome=no&%3Adisplay_count=y&%3Adisplay_static_image=y&%3AbootstrapWhenNotified=true)).

The chart above shows the population of the Lake County Juvenile Hall from 2002 to 2015. Beginning in 2009, the occupancy of the Juvenile Hall began to dip into very low numbers and never reached the 30-40 occupancy range again. The decrease in occupancy is attributed to the DRAI and PACT assessment tools. With these tools, only those youth that committed the most

serious or multiple offenses and refused to participate in probation programs were detained in Juvenile Hall.

The Lake County Juvenile Hall closed in October of 2015 due to low occupancy. It was clear from the numbers that it was not cost-effective to provide a full working staff when occupancy was only at six to ten minors. Lake County now contracts with Mendocino County to care for confined youth.

## 1.4 Strategies and Focus Areas

### A. Strategies

#### a. Programs

Our program strategy is to focus on improving the results of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) and Promising Practices, which will be accomplished through the following steps:

1. Identifying target populations in probation that have increased recidivism rates.
2. Identifying what programs or services are currently in place to meet the needs of this population.
3. If services are being delivered to this population, then a more thorough examination of their application will be reviewed.
4. If the population is not being targeted for services, then a review of which services and programs in existence could be applied to assist this population in reducing their recidivism rates.
5. If there are no programs or services in existence that would benefit this population, then research will be conducted through Results First Clearinghouse to identify an EBP that would effectively target this population and help reduce their recidivism.



b. Stakeholders

In order to gain more support among community stakeholders, it is important to include them in the conversation. One strategy that has already been implemented is a quarterly newsletter that provides current information on what programs and activities the Probation Department and other organizations are currently providing to minors. The goal is to take this form of communication and turn it into a conversation. By engaging stakeholders, the aim is to rally support for new activities and areas that the stakeholders will be able to contribute.

**B. Focus Areas**

a. Spanish-speaking Families

An important focus area is determining how to better serve the Spanish-speaking population of Lake County. Our focus will be to encourage our providers to obtain more Spanish-speaking employees to assist the Latino community in Lake County.

b. Alcohol & Other Drug Services (AODS)

Currently, AODS provides a small window of time during the day that they offer services to juveniles on probation which coincides with normal school hours. The location of the services can make it very difficult for juveniles living in further parts of Lake County to benefit from the services provided and meet the requirements of their probation. A focus would be to work with AODS to reach a common ground where all minors that require these services can receive them.

c. Mental Health Services

Lake County Behavioral Health and the Probation Department have made a lot of progress in building their relationship. One important focus will be to continue to nurture the relationship between the two entities in hopes to produce faster assessments

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and increase access to medication management, psychiatrists, and therapists. Additionally, relationships with other providers will be developed in order to provide in-patient treatment for high risk mental health juveniles.

### d. Gang Prevention

Gang prevention has become a focus in recent years. The Probation Department, Sheriff's Department, and Redwood Community Services are considering collaborating to evaluate and implement an education-based prevention program for youth located in areas where gang recruitment is prevalent. It is hoped that other entities and school districts will consider joining this collaboration once the prevention program has been chosen.

### e. Sex Offender Treatment Options

There are currently no treatment programs available in Lake County for the juvenile sex offender population. In order to receive treatment, these youth must drive to Sacramento, a four plus hour round trip drive, once a week and pay for the treatment program. This can be an extreme financial hardship for families. When a family cannot afford to access this treatment, or if the victim is in the family home, the youth is sent to out-of-home placement for treatment. Future focus will be placed on programs that can be established within the county to meet the requirements of this population's needs. Once a local program can be created, it is hoped that local Resource Family Homes will be increased, so youth who have their victims in their family home can still stay in Lake County for rehabilitation.

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**1.5 Stakeholders**

The primary and secondary stakeholders for the 2017 Lake County Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan are:

<b>Agencies Involved</b>	
Lake County Probation	Lake County Department of Social Services
Lake County Behavioral Health	Lake County Child Welfare Services
Redwood Community Services (RCS)	Lake County Sheriff's Office
School Attendance Resource Board (SARB)	Lakeport Police Department
Lake Family Resource Center	Clearlake Police Department
Mendocino County Probation	Mendocino Private Industry Council (MPIC)
Alcohol & Other Drugs Services (AODS)	Workforce Lake Business & Career Center
Humboldt County Probation	
<b>Lake County Rancherias</b>	
Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of CA	Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Elem Indian Colony	Robinson Rancheria
The Big Valley Tribe of Pomo Indians	Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
<b>Lake County Office of Education &amp; Lake County Schools</b>	
<b>Kelseyville Unified School District</b>	<b>Lakeport Unified School District</b>
Ed Donaldson School/Community Day	Clear Lake High School
Intermountain STEM Charter	Lakeport Elementary School
Kelseyville Elementary School	Natural High & Alt Ed Programs
Kelseyville High School	Terrace School
Mountain Vista Middle School	<b>Lake County Office of Education Schools</b>
Rivera Elementary School	Hance Community School
Lake County International Charter School	Clearlake Creativity School
<b>Konocti Unified School District</b>	<b>Middletown Unified School District</b>
Blue Heron & Carle School	Cobb Mountain Elementary School
Burns Valley Elementary	Coyote Valley Elementary School
East Lake Elementary	Loconoma Valley Continuation High School
Highlands Academy	Middletown High School
Konocti Adult School	Middletown Middle School
Konocti Education Center	Minnie Cannon Elementary School
Lower Lake Elementary	
Lower Lake High School	<b>Upper Lake Unified School District</b>
Pomo Elementary School	Upper Lake Elementary
<b>Lucerne Elementary School District</b>	Upper Lake Middle School
Lucerne Elementary School	Upper Lake High School & Clover Valley High

## **1.6 Shared Vision –Developing a Plan of Action**

The four main areas of focus for the Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) are to engage, assess, problem solve, and implement:

### **A. Engage**

An important strategy of the CMJJP is to involve and engage as many agencies as possible in order to increase the accountability and flexibility of the plan. Increasing the number of participating agencies will provide more opportunities for them to collaborate on ways to solve the current issues that face the at-risk and juvenile offender populations in Lake County. The Probation Department and Child Welfare Services hold periodic stakeholder meetings to engage and provide information to stakeholders. The Probation Department also sends out a quarterly newsletter with information about their progress and success with the juvenile probation population. Additionally, the Probation Department's website provides relevant information about the Juvenile Division.

### **B. Assess**

The CMJJP will be a living document that will need to evolve as the juvenile population of Lake County evolves. As new generations emerge, the CMJJP will need to continually assess and evaluate the needs of the youth population in order to ensure programs are continuing to meet their goals, if the programs need to be adjusted, or if new goals need to be created. Assessing programs will be an ongoing process where data will constantly be collected and analyzed. All assessment results and statistics should be filtered out to agencies involved to ensure everyone is receiving the same information needed to move forward. Currently, data is being collected and assessed related to Family WRAP Programs, placement numbers, and at-risk youth. An analyst has been hired by the Probation Department to continue data collection and assess all programs in use.

**C. Problem Solve**

Once information on the assessed topic has been circulated among the agencies, a team will be created to attempt to come up with services to solve the issue. Problem solving should include how to strengthen or implement a new resource that might be effective at preventing future juvenile crimes, strengthening programs/activities, and reducing recidivism rates in the youth population. Problem solving is a very important step that should include all agencies interested in playing an active role in implementing the solution(s).

**D. Implement**

Once a solution has been developed through multiple-agency problem solving, the next step is selecting the work group to implement it. The agencies that created the solution should lead the implementation; this could include hiring an outside agency. It is important to evaluate and document the steps taken from obtaining a solution to the implementation in order to gauge the process. Once implemented, further evaluations will be conducted in order to find out how effective the solution was at servicing the target population and if changes should be considered.

## II. Lake County’s Existing Juvenile Justice System Services

The Lake County Probation Department has done well at providing multiple services and supports to at-risk and juvenile offender populations. The Department continually strives to find ways to improve their services.

### 2.1 Accomplishments

Many agencies in Lake County currently provide great resources and services that cover a wide range of needs, including prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment and incarceration.

#### A. Program/Activity – Area(s) of Focus – Contracting Organization(s)

Many programs, activities, projects and services offered in Lake County are very successful and others are being continuously worked on and improved. Below are the services and resources provided in Lake County that specifically target at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families.

a. Healthy Start – Prevention – Lake County Office of Education (LCOE)

Healthy Start is a statewide initiative placing comprehensive support services for children and families at individual school sites. It gives schools, in partnership with public and private service providers, a unique opportunity to restructure systems to better meet the needs of children and families. Healthy Start offers a wide variety of services that focus on supporting academic success and building personal strengths for children, youth and families. Healthy Start assists students so they come to school ready to learn.

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b. LUSD Family Night – Prevention – Lakeport Unified School District (LUSD)/RCS/Healthy Start

LUSD Family Night is an annual event that began in 2014 and is on its third year. The event begins with a meal then families participate in a creative project together, and a parenting lesson is provided.

c. Lake County Sheriff's Activities League (LCSAL) – Prevention – Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO)

1. U.S.A. Boxing: This is a coeducational activity for students 8 years to 18 years. The program is designed to promote physical fitness, self-defense, and respect for others. Coaches are trained and certified through USA Boxing. Students work out two times per week. Competition is optional. Students must pass a physical examination before beginning training.
2. Junior Giants: The Jr. Giants Program, funded by the Giants Community Foundation, offers eight weeks of programming for students, ages 5 to 18. Practices are held two times each week during the summer. Participants learn about leadership, teamwork, and other valuable life skills.
3. Lake Kayaking: LCSAL offers kayaking to students ages 11 to 18.

d. CA PREP (CA Personal Responsibility Education Program – teen pregnancy prevention) – Prevention – Lake Family Resource Center (LFRC)

The CA Personal Responsibility Education Program (CA PREP) offers the opportunity to collaborate with our local schools and provide pregnancy prevention education including HIV/STD awareness to 8th graders. The program utilizes the ‘Making a Difference!’ curriculum designed to empower adolescents to change their behavior in ways that will reduce their risk of becoming (or getting) someone pregnant, and becoming infected with

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an STD or HIV. Specifically, this curriculum advocates postponing sexual activity and emphasizes that abstinence is the only way to completely eliminate the risk of pregnancy, STDs and HIV.

e. Start Smart Program – Prevention – California Highway Patrol (CHP)

Lake County's CHP office in Kelseyville is dedicated to reducing the amount of teen deaths and injuries that occur as a result of traffic collisions. The program is funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The CHP office in Kelseyville hosts free, two-hour driving safety classes each year. Participants in the Start Smart class are teenagers and their parents. The class also covers parental responsibilities, defensive driving and collision avoidance techniques, like appropriate space cushions. All minors who receive traffic citations are referred to the Start Smart Program.

f. 3rd Millennium – Prevention – Probation

3rd Millennium is a program that offers online education to parents and minors. There is a course for parents that is free and provides tools that will help with discipline. The cost for a minor to enroll is \$60.00 and courses cover topics like cannabis, alcohol, shoplifting and more. 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium is designed for minors with lesser crimes as a way to help educate them to make better decisions in the future and keep them from going deeper into the Juvenile Justice System.

g. Probation Family PRO - Prevention – Healthy Start

Probation Family PRO is a referral program for youth who had their first contact with probation. The Probation Department refers the youth to Healthy Start. Healthy Start works with the family and assists them with finding resources, supports, and to develop coping strategies that will allow the parents to parent effectively, even under



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stress. Case management, including the development of a family goal assessment and case plan is used and structured around the “protective factors”. Healthy Start and the Probation Department monitor the youth’s success and the youth’s probation case is then closed upon successful completion.

### h. Nurturing Parenting – Prevention/Intervention – Lake Family Resource Center (LFRC)

The Nurturing Parenting programs are a family-centered initiative designed to build nurturing parenting skills as an alternative to abusive and neglecting parenting and child-rearing practices. The long term goals are to prevent recidivism in families receiving social services, lower the rate of multi-parent teenage pregnancies, reduce the rate of juvenile delinquency and alcohol abuse, and stop the intergenerational cycle of child abuse by teaching positive parenting behaviors.

The programs feature activities to foster positive parenting skills and self-nurturing, home practice exercises, family nurturing time, and activities to promote positive brain development in children birth to 18 years. Lessons can be delivered in a home-based setting, group-based setting, or combination of home and group settings.

Parents and children attend separate groups that meet concurrently designed to build self-awareness, positive concept/self-esteem and build levels of empathy; teach alternatives to hitting and yelling; enhance family communication and awareness of needs; replace abusive behaviors with nurturing behaviors; promote healthy physical and emotional development; and teach appropriate role and developmental expectations.

### i. Surviving Parenting – Prevention/Intervention – Probation, RCS

The Surviving Parenting Program is an EBP Program that helps parents gain the tools they need to build a disciplined and rewarding relationship with their youth. The

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program provides workshops to adults in a structured environment where they can receive the education they need to build skills in communication and discipline.

j. Lake County Behavioral Health and Alcohol & Other Drug Services (AODS) – Prevention/Intervention/ Supervision/Treatment – Lake County Behavioral Health

Mental Health services are designed to provide strong community-based partnerships with individuals and families who are dealing with serious mental illness, including those who have co-occurring (mental health and substances abuse) disorders. Recovery-oriented services include assistance with establishing stable housing, access to physical health care, medications management, trauma-informed counseling and peer supports. Behavioral Health assists with management of mental health crises for all members of the community and provides for inpatient or temporary residential care as appropriate.

AODS provides comprehensive, quality services and supports to community members in recovery from serious mental health and/or substance use disorders. For youth, AODS offers individual and group counseling related to substance use and abuse.

k. Behavioral Health & AODS Counseling for Youth – Prevention/Intervention/ Supervision/Treatment -Lake County Tribal Health (LCTH)

The goal of the Tribal Health Human Services Department is to provide culturally relevant comprehensive services including the incorporation of traditional practices, adult and family behavioral health counseling and support, alcohol and other drug services, and children’s treatment services to Native American and Alaska Native persons within the context of a community-based primary care health center. Native youth are referred to Tribal Health to participate in these services.

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### 1. Family WRAP- Prevention/Intervention – Probation, CWS, RCS

Family WRAP is a shortened version of Wraparound which is intended to focus on the criminogenic need of current living arrangements rather than all of the needs of the youth and family. The program is intended to last 90 to 120 days and is being used with minors & families who have not been involved with probation previously. The program was implemented in March of 2015 and has already helped 43 families and has had graduated 19 minors.

(Picture: Kevin O’Brien, Deputy Probation Officer, instructs Child & Family Teaming for local stakeholders).



### m. Summer Program – Prevention/Intervention/Supervision – Probation/RCS

Probation and RCS held their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Exploring Horizons Summer Program for 12 juveniles in 2016. The program was filled with fun sports activities, and the youth were also able to receive training in first aid, CPR, and employment readiness skills. The program generated a lot of positive feedback and will continue in the summer of 2017. (Pictures below are from the 2016 Summer Program)



### n. Wraparound - Prevention/Intervention/Supervision – Probation, CWS, RCS

The mission of Wraparound is to keep children at home with those who love them and know them the best by linking families with community supports. Wraparound was

implemented in Lake County on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 and has been one of the most successful programs run.

Probation and Child Welfare Services contract with RCS for this program. For probation referred youth and families, this program can last from 6 months up to 18 months and assist the family with a variety of issues including homelessness, family conflict, and family therapy. The family creates a family team and has the assistance of a Care Coordinator who leads the team, a Skills Coach who provides one-on-one assistance to the youth, and a Parent Partner that works one-on-one with the parents.

o. Mendocino County Juvenile Hall – Custody/Detention – Mendocino County

Lake County Probation contracts with Mendocino County for Juvenile Hall services. The primary function of the Mendocino County Juvenile Hall is to provide for the physical and emotional care of confined youth pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 15 and Title 24 standards. Youth can be detained in juvenile hall pending their Juvenile Court Hearings, while they are serving short-term commitments or awaiting out-of-home placement in a foster/group home, camp or other institution.

The Mendocino County Juvenile Hall houses up to 40 youths, and as mandated, it is operated with as homelike an environment as possible. This includes providing education, food, clothing, and personal hygiene items, as well as medical, psychiatric, and dental services. Additionally, youth in MCJH can access AA/NA meetings, yoga classes, martial arts classes, and CHP Start Smart classes.

p. New Horizons - Intervention/Treatment/Incarceration – Humboldt County Probation

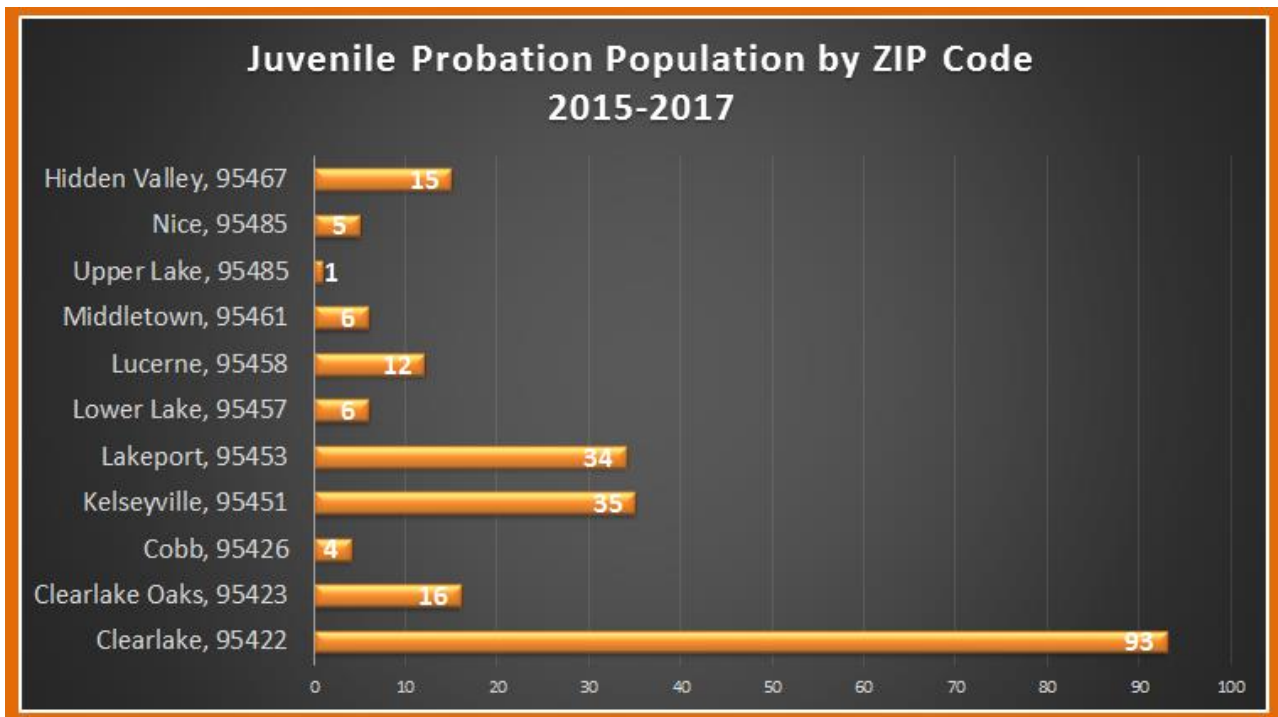
Lake County Probation contracts with Humboldt County for the few extreme mental health cases where group home care is not suitable. Treatment services include a combination of medication support; individual, group, and family counseling;

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alcohol/drug assessment and counseling; skill development training on anger management; moral judgement, correction of thinking errors, social skills, and victim awareness.

### 2.2 Identification & Prioritization

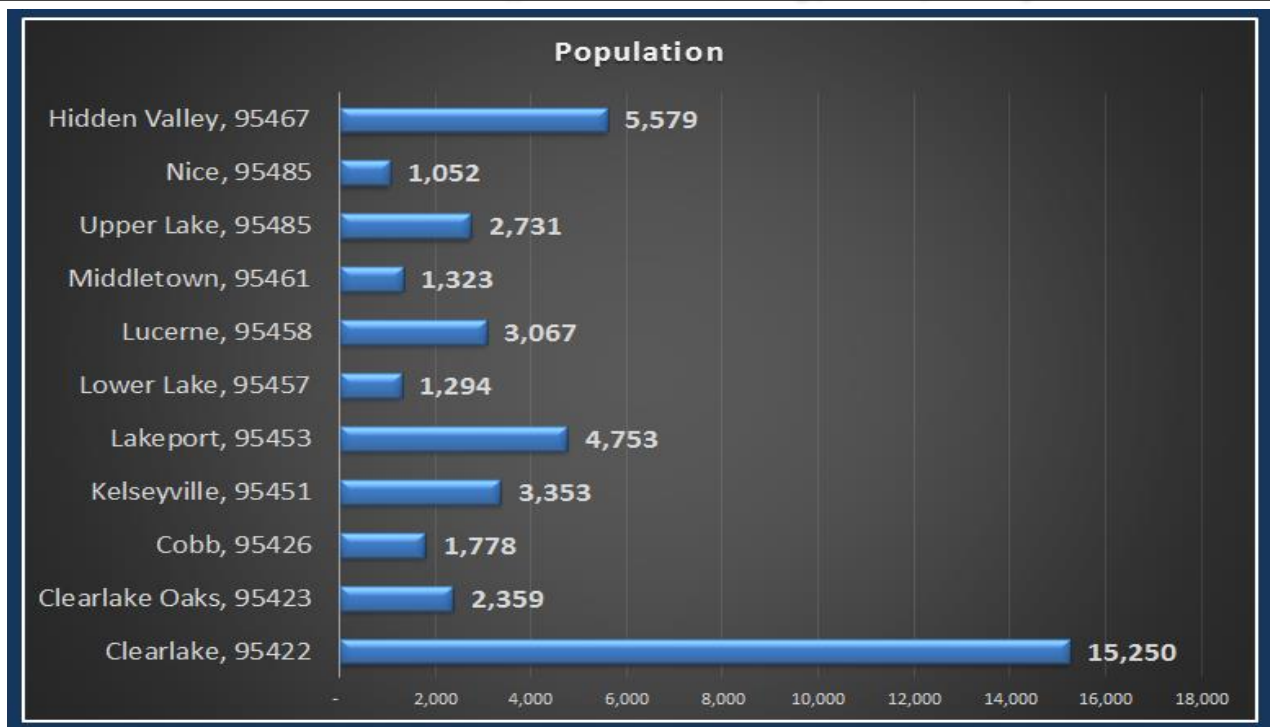
The identification and prioritization of areas in Lake County that face significant public safety risk from juvenile crime (gang activity, daylight burglary, late-night robbery, vandalism, truancy, controlled substances sales, firearm-related violence, and juvenile substance abuse and alcohol use) are listed below.



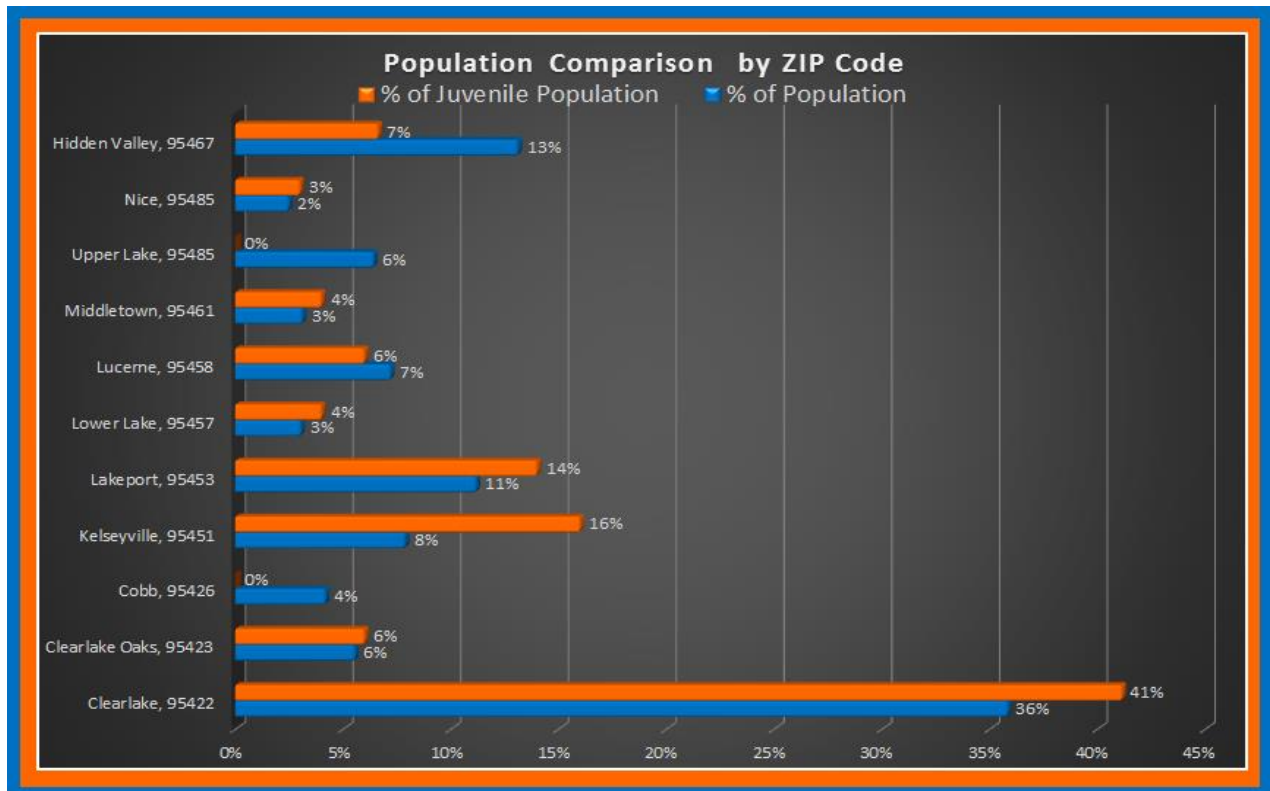
#### A. Neighborhoods

The chart above shows that in the last two years the majority of juveniles on probation and entering into probation live in Clearlake, Kelseyville and Lakeport.

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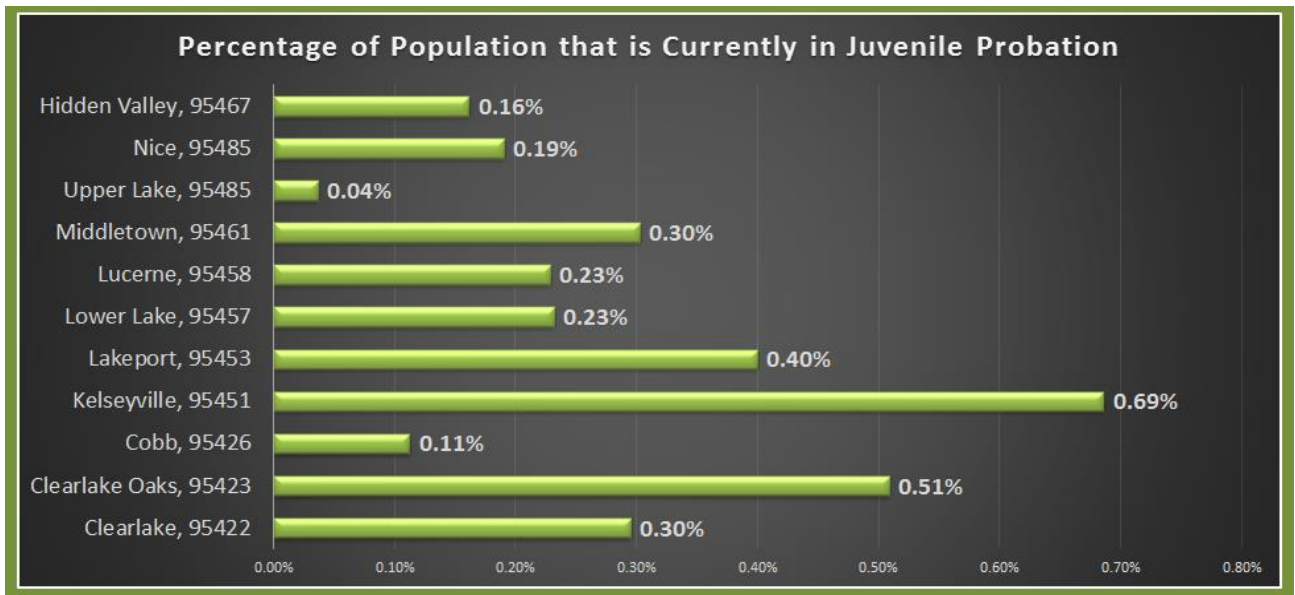


The chart above shows the total population for each specific city/town by ZIP Code.



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When the percentages of the two current populations are compared, as seen in the chart above, they are very similar, leading the viewer to believe that in Lake County there is a correlation between the size of the population and the size of the of juvenile population on probation; with the exception of Kelseyville and Upper Lake, which show the biggest contrasts. Further research will be completed to evaluate if the low population of juveniles on probation in Upper Lake is related to the School Resource Officer (SRO) that Upper Lake Union High School has hired from the Probation Department.



The chart above shows what percentage of the current population is on juvenile probation. Unlike the visual in the prior charts, this demonstrates that Kelseyville has the largest percentage of juveniles on probation, next is Clearlake Oaks and then Lakeport. It is important to note that even though the percentages for these areas look intimidating, the majority of juveniles on probation make up less than one percent of the entire population for these areas. From this information, we will discuss the possibility of setting a goal to keep the population of juveniles on probation to .30% of the total population for each ZIP Code, and what kind of resources and services are needed in the areas that have the highest percentages of juveniles on probation.

a. Clearlake

Clearlake is the largest populated area in Lake County. Over 40% of all juveniles that have entered probation in the last two years live in this area. Many resources are allocated to this section of Lake County due to the population. Clearlake is a constant focus area for the Juvenile Justice Council, working continuously to find resources to accommodate the needs of the minors and families that reside there.

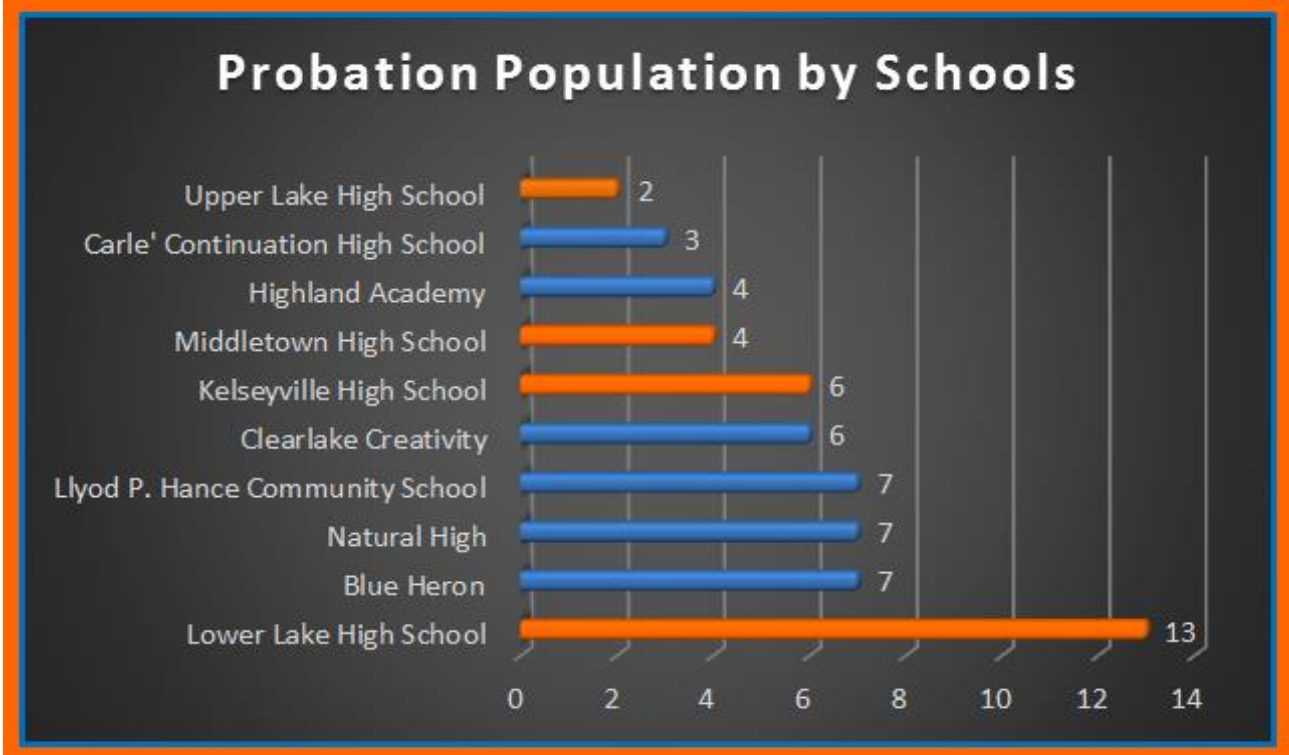
b. Kelseyville

Kelseyville's juvenile crime rate has increased in the last few years. More gang activity and vandalism has been witnessed than ever before. Steps are being taken to look into gang prevention and other programs that might reduce crime in the neighborhoods.

**B. Schools**

The alternative schools in Lake County with the largest number of probation youth include: Blue Heron, Carle' Continuation High School, Highlands Academy, Natural High School, and Llyod P. Hance Community School. Alternative schools in Lake County collectively hold the majority of juveniles on probation.





The chart above shows where the current populations of juveniles on probation are attending school or went to school prior to placement. Schools that only had one or two juveniles on probation were not included. All mainstream high schools were included that had juveniles on probation except Clear Lake High School which currently has one juvenile on probation.

The chart also shows that the majority of juveniles on probation attend Lower Lake High School (LLHS). The schools with the next largest probation populations are all alternative education schools with Kelseyville High School pulling in the next biggest juvenile probation population among mainstream high schools.

a. Lower Lake High School (LLHS)

With an approximate population of 827 students currently in attendance, LLHS serves the largest population of juveniles in the county. It educates 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students attending LLHS live in Lower Lake, Clearlake Oaks, and

Clearlake; areas that house the largest number of juveniles on probation and youths that are at-risk. Due to the size of the school and the fact that many areas in proximity of the school have high crime rates, this school is a focus for attention, resources, and programs that are being offered.

b. Blue Heron High School

Blue Heron is an opportunity school in the Konocti Unified School District for students in grades 9-12. Students that attend Blue Heron cannot receive a diploma but can use it as a stepping stone back into high school or adult school.

c. Carle' Continuation High School

Founded in 1978, Carle' Continuation High School educates students who are between the ages of 16 – 18 years of age and predominantly in grades 10-12. The mission of Carle' High School is to provide an alternative educational setting that allows students to take charge of their own education, establish a post-high school plan, and become contributing members of society.

d. Highlands Academy

Highlands Academy is a community day school in the Konocti Unified School District for students 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below. 43% of all students at Highlands Academy are designated learning disabled, which is much higher than the median across all reported elementary schools in California (10%) (Retrieved from [http://public-schools.startclass.com/1/9327/Highlands-Academy#Program%20Enrollment &s=X3Wiz](http://public-schools.startclass.com/1/9327/Highlands-Academy#Program%20Enrollment&s=X3Wiz) ).

e. Lloyd P. Hance Community School

LCOE alternative learning environment for middle and high school students (grades 7-12) who are experiencing difficulties in a traditional school setting or who are exhibiting negative behavior patterns in school or in the community. The program serves students who have been expelled from school, identified as habitually truant by a Student Attendance Review Board, placed on probation by the court, or otherwise referred by a school district, probation, or social service agency. The emphasis of the program is to reestablish the educational direction of students and to transition them to a regular school setting or other learning environment that meets their needs. Counseling and other support services are provided by public and community agencies. Independent Study is another option available to students who have specific educational needs, work interests, personal issues and/or family obligations that preclude success in a daily classroom setting.

**C. Rancherias**

Establishing better relationships with Lake County Tribal leaders is an ongoing goal for the Council. Some rancherias are currently making substantial progress, like Big Valley, in implementing new programs and services to better accommodate their juvenile population. There continue to be rancherias that have a higher rate of juvenile crime than others, and reaching out to these rancherias to form a better relationship through sharing resources and services could prove to be beneficial for their juvenile populations.

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Round Tables are a great place to start a discussion and will hopefully provide more insight into the culture and traditions of each rancheria. By initiating more dialogue and collaboration, agencies currently serving juveniles on probation will be able to share their knowledge with local rancherias to assist them in benefiting this population.

### **III. Strengths, Opportunities and Emerging Issues for Growth**

#### **3.1 Strengths**

The strengths of the Lake County Juvenile Justice Plan rely heavily on the initiation and follow-through of the agencies involved. It is a credit to these agencies that the juvenile system has come this far in Lake County.

#### **A. Lake County Probation Department**

The most important strength of the Probation Department’s Juvenile Division is their staff. All staff members have over two years of experience working with youth and are well-trained in working with minors. The staff’s genuine interest in working with juveniles is what drives them to reach their goals. Continuous training and involvement in the community help the staff value the goals of EBP and push to implement programs that are beneficial to new populations of juveniles on probation. Staff are encouraged to be active in the community. Many staff members volunteer with pro-social youth programs such as school sports, youth community sports programs, Boy Scouts, and the 4-H Youth Development Program.

#### **B. Programs**

The strongest programs being offered in Lake County that target at-risk and juvenile offenders are: Wraparound, Family Wrap, Probation Family Pro and Surviving Parenting. Some of these programs are implemented by more than one agency and require a joint effort to produce effective support and resources to the minors and families being served.

#### **C. Agency Collaboration**

The strongest agency collaboration exists between the Probation Division, Redwood Community Services (RCS), Child Welfare Services (CWS), Behavioral Health (BH), and Lake County Office of Education. All agencies work together to provide various programs

and offer resources that specifically target at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families. The multi-agency effort is one of the main factors as to why the current programs are successful.

**D. Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) & Promising Practices:**

EBP programs provide strength to the division by producing positive results that can be measured and shared. As Lake County continues to implement practices based on successful data, it is hoped that recidivism rates will drop.

**E. School Resource Officer (SRO):**

Deputy Probation Officers can act as a School Resource Officer (SRO) after completing a one week course. For the past two and a half years, the Probation Department has contracted with the Upper Lake Unified School District to have a School Resource Officer work on their campuses. In this capacity, the SRO handles crimes that occur on any campus, counsels students with discipline issues, collaborates with the School District on safety plans, and does classroom presentations. Out of all of the school districts in Lake County, Upper Lake has the smallest portion of juveniles on probation, which lends significant credibility to the value of the presence of a Probation Department SRO on campus.

**3.2 Opportunities**

**A. Increasing Agency Collaboration**

4-H Youth Development and Boy Scouts have both expressed interest in working with the Probation Department to improve the lives of troubled youth. Working with these non-profit organizations could create an opportunity to gain more support and grant funding.

**B. New Programs**

Two new programs that the Probation Department is focused on implementing are Girls Circle and Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT). Currently, they are both on hold because of staff-related issues. These programs are currently still planned to start by the end of 2017 which creates a future opportunity for success.

**C. New Analyst**

The Probation Department has recently hired a new analyst in hopes it will be able to capture the data needed to help assess existing programs in order to make them more effective. The opportunity to view needed statistical information could also contribute to the greater pool of knowledge for EBPs and Promising Practices concerning rural counties.

**D. School Resource Officer (SRO) Out Reach**

Due to the positive effects witnessed from a SRO's presence on the Upper Lake Union High School campus, the Council is encouraging the Probation Department to reach out to other schools that might benefit from this service. There currently seems to be a significant link between the presence of a Probation Department SRO and the safety of juveniles on campus.

**E. Outreach Newsletter**

The Probation Department has recently begun sending out quarterly newsletters to update community stakeholders on different programs and activities focused on Probation youth in Lake County. The newsletters are an ideal way to bring in the interest of new stakeholders and to educate current stakeholders of the activities they are supporting.

### 3.3 Forward Focus

For the remainder of 2017, the focus is to continue to evaluate and gather data on programs and services being offered that target at-risk juveniles and juvenile offenders including their families. It is the number one goal to continue to strengthen the efforts at reducing recidivism.

Additionally, the agencies involved are united to continue using and improving the programs described in this plan to make a positive difference in the lives of youth in Lake County.



## 2017 Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

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**Rob Howe, Chief Probation Officer**

### Council

**Tina Scott, Lake County, District 4 Supervisor**

**Brian Martin, Lake County Sheriff**

**Crystal Markytan, Lake County Department of Social Services, Director**

**Todd Metcalf, Lake County Department of Behavioral Health, Director**

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**Trang Jensen, Lake County District Attorney, Senior District Attorney**

**J. David Markham, Public Defender**

**Victoria Kelly, Redwood Community Services (RCS), Program Director**

**Terri Rivera, Public At Large**



April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Rob Howe**

**Date**

**Chief Probation Officer**