



# *Shasta County Probation Department Juvenile Justice Plan*



*“Safer Communities- Better Lives”*

*Integrity- Professionalism- Accountability- Belief in Change*

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## *Table of Contents*

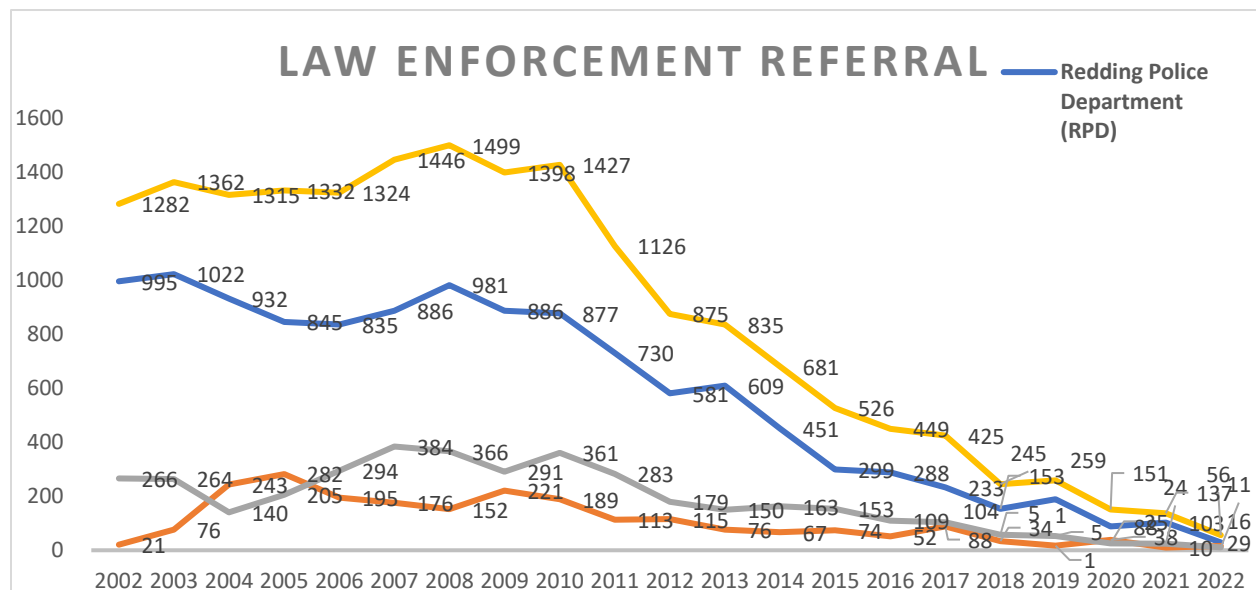
Overview and Context	1
JJCPA and YOBG in Context of other Reforms	4
Strategic Planning Process	10
Strengths, Needs and Opportunities	11
Strategic Framework	13
Part I. Service Needs, Priorities, and Strategy	15
Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)	20
Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)	24
Recommendations	26
Appendix A.	38
Appendix B.	40
Appendix C.	41

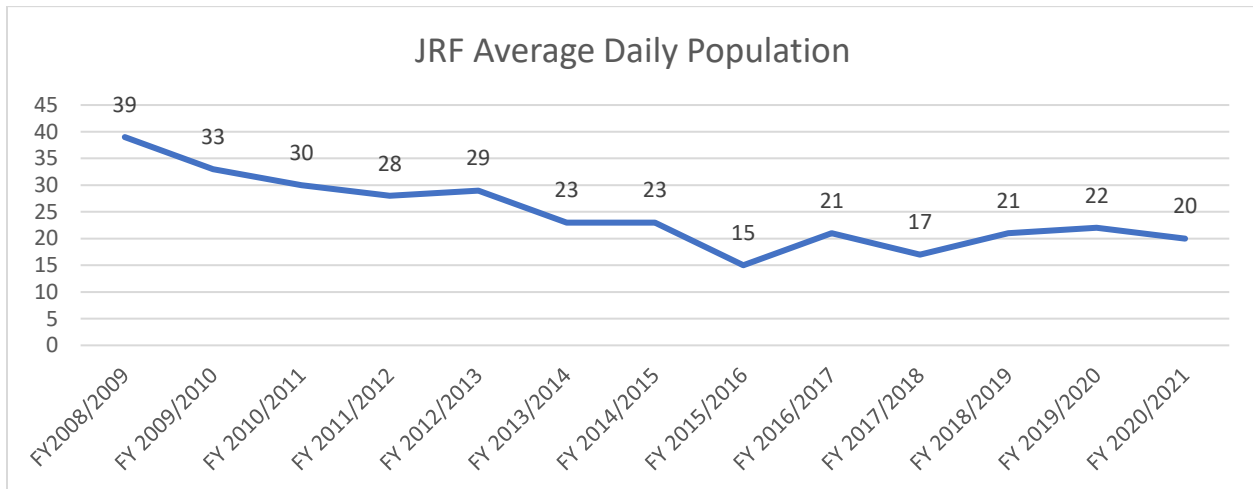
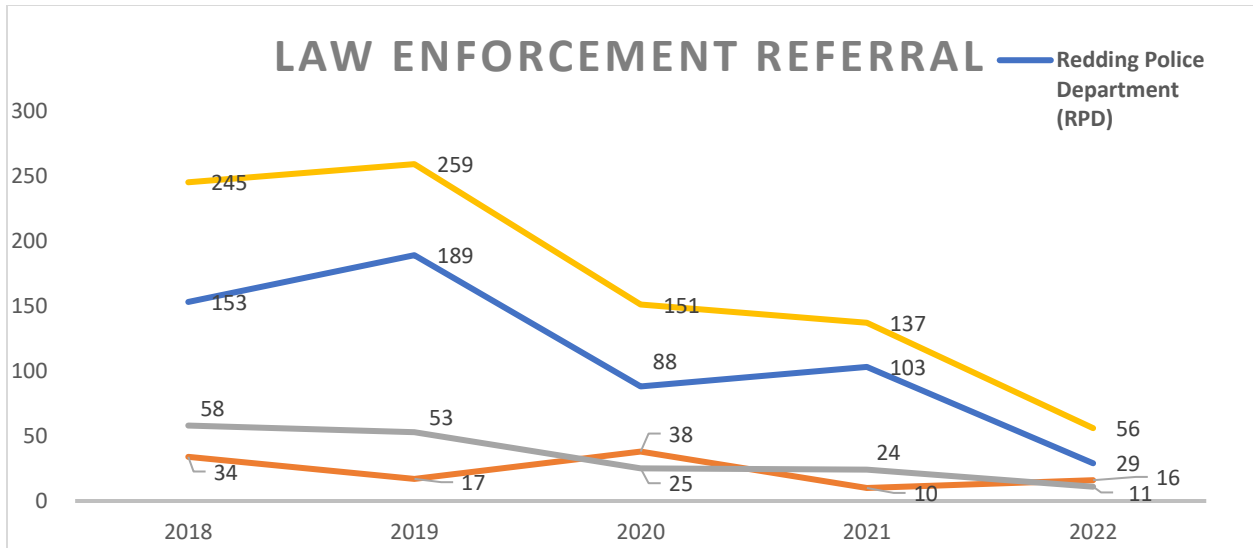
## Overview and Context

The recommendations presented in this document will describe the most important components of Shasta County’s Probation Department’s Juvenile Division and Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF) and identify areas to strengthen its prevention, early intervention, supervision efforts, and rehabilitative and treatment services, as well as to promote collaboration across agencies and develop interventions and services to best meet the needs of Shasta County’s young people.

While it is not the intent of this document to suggest changes for agencies outside of the Shasta County Probation Department, given the highly collaborative and interdependent service environment found in Shasta, and specifically with those agencies working to provide services to juveniles and their families, areas of recommendation may involve the work of other agencies. Suggestions or content of this report which involve services provided solely by agencies other than the Shasta County Probation Department contained herein are intended only as a recommendation or suggestions going forward towards further collaboration.

Since 2009, the number and type of youth involved in the county’s juvenile probation system has evolved significantly. The juvenile population peaked in 2008 and during this calendar year the probation department received a total of 1499 law enforcement referrals. Since 2008, there has been a steady decline in the population and in 2019 there were a total of 259 juvenile law enforcement referrals and 151 in 2020. The 2020 law enforcement referrals are the lowest the county has seen in decades and this low number may be a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The average daily population for the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF) was 20 for fiscal year 2020/2021 and 22 for the first part of the fiscal year 2021/2022. During the pandemic the booking process and procedures were modified, and restrictions put in place, to incorporate COVID-19 precautions.





In 2006, the county conducted a feasibility study. The study estimated there would be a need to have a juvenile detention facility to address a population of 71 by 2015, 76 by 2020, and 94 by 2030. In 2009, the county was awarded an SB 81 grant to fund the construction of the JRF and the facility opened in January 2014, leaving the outdated 56 bed facility built in the 1950's vacant. The steady decline in population has been seen both within the Juvenile Division and JRF.

The Probation Department has received Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) dollars since 2000 and Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) dollars since 2010. A combined annual JJCPA and YOBG plan has been maintained over the years. In 2018, a community collaborative took place to update and revise the plan. This report serves as the plan and is updated and reviewed annually by members of the Probation Department, collaborative partners, and at the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC). The plan is additionally shared with the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC). The plan describes the programs, services and system improvements which are supported by JJCPA or YOBG resources. Annual year-end reports with more specific details of budget and expenditure, along with countywide data for specified juvenile justice involved youth, will be provided accordingly in subsequent plans and reports.

Those reports will also describe how the goals and recommendations of this document have impacted outcomes in Shasta County.

This plan is the product of a community-wide collaborative planning conversation, that jointly informed a multi-pronged strategy reflective of the county's vision and values for its youth, the department's mission to protect and support system involved families, the community's goals and objectives, and the state's Continuum of Care reform efforts. The Shasta County Probation Department contracted with the Integrated Human Services Group, LLC to conduct a planning and analysis process and to develop this Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP).

## ***JJCPA and YOBG in Context of other Reforms***

### **Systems Improvement Plan (SIP)**

This plan seeks to support and leverage the work of the County SIP. Policies and Procedures have been finalized in Safety Organized Practice and Family Engagement and Finding. Ongoing training of staff on these procedures will be a continued priority. Activities and training around trauma informed practice, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's), and the Strengthening Families Collaborative will also continue to be a priority.

A new 5-year SIP was put into place jointly with Children's Services in June of 2020. This 5-year SIP plan will be in place through 2025. The SIP was created by participating in the County Self-Assessment (CSA) process which reviews: County demographics; federal performance measures; service array; court systems; stakeholder feedback and peer review information. Data was discussed and analyzed by representatives and stakeholders. Throughout the CSA process, many strengths and best practices were identified in addition to areas needing improvement and gaps in services which impacted permanency, both systemically and individually.

Shasta County Child Welfare and Probation collaboratively selected the Priority Outcome Measures of Placement Stability, Recurrence of Maltreatment, Monthly Out-Of-Home Visits, and Systemic Factor of Staff Training. The SIP outcomes were carefully selected based on the discussion, research, and analysis performed on each measure in addition to the feedback received from stakeholders and the community. Strategies and actions steps have been developed to target and improve these identified areas where most improvement is needed.

Workgroups have been established for each of the individual outcome measures and Probation staff participate in these workgroups jointly with Children's Services. The work groups planned to meet on a monthly basis but have been canceled due to COVID-19. The workgroup meetings resumed in February 2021 and progress is being made towards assessing the data, outcomes, and progress. These meetings have been conducted in person and virtually when needed. COVID-19 has had an impact on meetings as some meetings were canceled due to ever changing circumstances caused by COVID-19. However, these work groups have made progress which is reported to the state quarterly to highlight the efforts we have made towards our established goals. A joint annual report will be completed with CFS in the spring of 2022 to report the progress each agency has made towards their goals.

### **Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) Assembly Bill 403**

AB 403 was signed by the Governor on October 11, 2015 and is a comprehensive reform of placement and treatment options for foster children or youth. The act was designed to improve California's child welfare system and its outcomes by using a comprehensive child assessment, increase the use of home-based family care and the provision of services and supports to home-based family care. AB 403 provides the statutory and policy framework to ensure services and supports provided to the child or youth and his or her family are tailored toward the ultimate goal of maintaining a stable permanent family.

Many CCR enhancements are underway and are reflected here. The county currently opted to use the *Emergency Child Care Bridge Program* for foster children, as allowed in support of CCR implementation, the All-County Letter 19-18, and the goals of this plan.

Probation worked with the Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) to transition local group homes to Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP). Outreach and recruitment activities for resource families have been conducted and continue. Staff have been trained in the basic concepts and changes required by CCR. Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) promotes the use of Child & Family Team (CFT) meetings to engage with families, natural supports, and professional partners to plan and implement services. This teaming approach aligns with Shasta County's initiatives and resonates beyond placement decisions and informs the department's approach to the work moving forward. In 2020, the Juvenile Division reviewed and updated policy and procedure and created an internal placement manual to support these efforts. The Juvenile Division completed about 172 CFT meetings during the fiscal year 2020/21. This process is an on-going aspect of both case planning for those youth within the community and transition planning for the youth currently in custody in the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF).

A new foster caregiver approval process, Resource Family Approval (RFA) was designed to improve the way foster caregivers are approved, trained, and supported. Foster parents will provide homes for youth who need it as a step down from an STRTP or as a preventative measure.

The Juvenile Division has used its Foster Parent Recruitment Retention and Support (FPPRS) allocation from the state to enhance caregiver recruitment and support as the required changes in placement options for youth are evolving. This funding allowed the hiring of a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO), the purchase of a vehicle for transportation and support activities, provided Change Companies training for staff, paid for items associated with barriers experienced by families during the application process, and training for resource families. The assigned DPO works with families while going through the application process and provides ongoing support. This DPO is also actively recruiting families at various events in the community. However, the FPPRS allocation from the state was not included in the fiscal year 2021/22 proposed budget which resulted in the loss of the position.

In order to keep recruiting foster parents for these youth in fiscal year 2021/22 our placement unit has paired with our intake unit to find families for youth when needed. This process includes a family finding process, aiding potential families through the process, and working with foster care agencies to certify these homes for youth to reside in. Most of the foster parents we have been able to recruit this year have been extended family or family friends that our officers have worked with to certify. Established processes and procedures in our Juvenile division continue to support the good work that FPPRS funding help to create.

### **Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)**

The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) which was signed into law in 2018 and went into effect October 1, 2021 has been a major focus of juvenile probation and child welfare. The focus of this act is toward keeping children safely with their families and to avoid the trauma which occurs with out-of-home placement. This law had two main focuses which probation and child welfare have been working collaboratively to address. Efforts to explore the evidence-based treatment options available to assist with providing prevention services to our youth and families as part of Prevention Planning under Title IV-E. In addition, modifications have been made to the Title IV-E case plan, while additional requirements have also been placed on Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) Placements to include more stringent review of these placements by the County's Qualified Individual (QI) and Court review of placements as well as review hearings and aftercare services.

### **Out of State Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP)**

In mid-December of 2020 a decision was made by the Department of Social Services to no longer allow California youth to be placed in approved STRTP's that were out of the state of California. This decision occurred after an investigation was conducted on out of state placements. From the date that the decision was made, Probation Departments and Child Welfare Departments were given 45 days to return their respective youth back to the state of California. This decision directly impacted Shasta County Probation as we had one youth placed out of state. The state offered technical assistance calls, additional funding, use of the newly formed catalyst center, and other agencies to assist counties in finding suitable placements for youth in the state of California. State partners assisted in locating the Shasta County youth a placement in an STRTP that was licensed for 2 youth with enhanced treatment and mental health services. The youth transitioned to the new placement and is doing well.

While Probation was able to eventually locate a program for our youth, this change to the placement system is significant. For years, out of state placements have been utilized when youth have exhausted services within the state, have failed in state placements, or had treatment needs greater than what the state had available. New proposed legislation will permanently eliminate out of state STRTP placements.

### **Assembly Bill 2083**

Assembly Bill 2083 required each county to develop and implement a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining the roles and responsibilities of the various local entities that serve children and youth in foster care who have experienced severe trauma. As a result of this legislative change, a series of meetings and discussions for the development of an MOU began in May 2020. Several agencies including Probation, Child Welfare/Children's Mental Health, Shasta County Office of Education, and Far Northern Regional Center were part of the development of the MOU. These agencies met regularly throughout 2020 and were able to draft an MOU which was completed and signed in November 2020. The MOU covers areas including but not limited to the purpose, data and information sharing, establishment of an Interagency Leadership Team (ILT), and financial resource management. Through this MOU process, a foundation was created with this team's goal of coordinating services to achieve the lowest level of care that is safe and responsible for each child/youth and their needs. This team will continue to work collaboratively and respond to and support children/youth and families with resources and solutions. In addition, these discussions acted as a catalyst for agencies to further discuss potential areas of improvement such as Interagency Placement Committee, cross agency training, and resource management. This group continues to meet on a regular basis to keep the goals of AB 2083 and the processes determined within the MOU progressing forward

In 2021, the ILT team conducted two different overview trainings to educate staff from Probation, HHS, Shasta County Office of Education, and Far Northern Regional Center on the 2083 MOU to include who the MOU effects, how to request an ILT meeting, and funding procurement. These trainings served as a follow up to the establishment of the MOU last fiscal year. In addition to the trainings there have been numerous Interagency Leadership Team meetings to discuss and staff youth referred under the 2083 process. These youth are referred if a solution cannot be found at a lower level. The ILT team staffs the youth and collaboratively within our system of care offers solutions that may help best provide assistance to the youth and others involved with the youth. The ILT team continues to meet monthly to ensure agencies stay focused on the system of care and provide trainings to other agencies when available.



### **241.1 WIC/ Dual Status**

Progress continues regarding the development of a local 241.1 WIC Protocol. Probation and Child Welfare have met several times over the last year to develop a cohesive protocol. Welfare and Institution Code Section 241.1 addresses the process for when a youth appears to come within both the dependency and delinquency systems. When youth are in both jurisdictions a report may be ordered by the court to establish which system would best serve the youth and the needs of the family. A working draft of the protocol has been created which continues to be reviewed and discussed. This protocol is expected to be completed in 2021.

Probation and Child Welfare have continued to meet this fiscal year. A final draft of the 241.1 WIC protocol has been submitted by all agencies and has been in review since early December. This document should be adopted and signed early in 2022.

There has been an expressed desire to improve the access to services and supervision of youth by the creation of a dual status process for Shasta County. Dual Status is a process that Child Welfare and the Probation Department have been researching and discussing for the last several years. In March of 2020, Child Welfare and the Probation Department agreed to explore the possibilities of the creation of a dual status protocol to allow a youth to be within both systems simultaneously thus benefiting from services offered in both systems.

Meetings have been held sporadically this fiscal year in regard to dual status as the COVID-19 pandemic has kept members of this workgroup busy focusing on other efforts. We have researched Dual Diversion processes in other counties and been discussing how this process could be established in Shasta County. This process is still in the exploratory stage and the workgroup plans to continue to meet in 2022.

### **River's Edge Academy**

River's Edge Academy (REA) is Shasta County Probation Department's commitment/camp treatment program serving youth in need of structured treatment services and providing youth with an alternative to out of county placements. Keeping youth in Shasta County allows for enhanced family involvement and linkages to community-based services while never leaving the community they are familiar with. REA serves female and male youth ranging in age from 14 to 17 years old who would otherwise have been sent to out of home placements. Program length varies based upon the individual needs and circumstances of each youth as well as progress in treatment and overall behavior. REA focuses on positive values and connections within the community and engaging youth in cultivating healthy relationships and building long-term support systems, with the goal of all participants becoming productive members of society. The GEO Group, Inc., is the program's contracted service provider who delivers program services to include intensive case management and evidence-based treatment programming. In partnership with HHSA, a mental health clinician provides mental health services to the youth and family, to include conducting assessments, creating individualized treatment plans, and developing transition plans for the youth and family. These activities aid in the smooth transfer of care to a clinician within the community to establish a continuum of care for the youth and family.

REA officially opened on April 11, 2021, and currently serves 9 youth who have joined the program at various times throughout the year. The program graduated six youth on April 8, 2022. REA's focus is to reunify the youth with their families or enter into other stable living arrangements, including independent living, and to develop community ties that will continue to assist in their overall rehabilitation and ongoing success in life. Family/pro-social visitation and family therapy have been a

priority to make the transition process a success, as well as participation in community activities and events to develop positive community ties. REA has successfully transferred one youth back to the comprehensive high school system with this student completing all required credits for graduation on January 27, 2022. This youth is in the process of transitioning home, is gainfully employed in the community and will complete all REA requirements and graduate REA in April 2022.

REA works closely with the SMART center to develop job and life skills, and currently three youth are employed in the community. REA staff continues to support the youth and provide transportation to and from community schools and work. Employment is important for the overall wellbeing of the youth we serve, and probation has partnered with a local olive farm to work with the youth to develop life skills, work ethics, community connections and an opportunity to learn about farming while developing job skills. As part of the Oliveview program the youth will be enrolled in Shasta College and will earn college credits for the training and education they receive.

The Oliveview project has procured grant funding allowing the youth to earn a stipend for the work they do. Five youth applied to work with Oliveview, submitted resumes and participated in interviews with a panel of four. All five youth will be accepted into the program.

Shasta County Office of Education (SCOE) provides education to the REA youth. SCOE has worked closely with Shasta College to develop a program for the youth to participate in pre-college classes to introduce them to college, apply for financial aid, learn the basics of navigating the college entrance procedures and prepare them to become a successful college student. Each class will be six weeks or less and college units will be earned toward their college education.

REA will continue to explore community services and introduce the youth to valuable programs to foster their success, including those programs which may otherwise not have been available to these youth. Rehabilitation and transition to a stable home environment, including living independently in the community, is the goal for each REA youth upon graduation.

### **Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)**

Shasta County youth have been affected by and are at risk of exploitation. The County has a multi-agency CSEC agreement, has conducted training, and is committed to improved communication to identify and serve children at risk of or who have been exploited.

All staff have been trained in the use of an assessment scoring tool called the CSE-IT. This tool is used to identify and better serve the youth at risk. Probation participates in all CSEC Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings to support appropriate service referrals and support plans. A therapist provides up to 20 hours per week to serve CSEC youth in and out of custody who fall under probation jurisdiction. The clinician serves the in-custody youth individually as well as in small group settings depending on the individual needs of each youth and the overall group dynamics. Once released from custody, the youth have the opportunity to stay connected and continue participating in CSEC services in the community. If the youth does not have a primary mental health clinician, the CSEC clinician will often remain the primary clinician for the youth's mental health services and treatment needs.

### **Public Safety Risk**

While juvenile arrests and detention rates have decreased in the County from year to year, Probation has seen significant changes in the population of youth being arrested, detained, and referred to the department. The youth being referred to Probation have committed more serious offenses and have

increased trauma, significant school behavior/issues, mental illness, substance abuse, and lack of family support. Addressing issues of child trauma are central to ameliorating a multigenerational risk pattern, and eventually enhancing public safety. Collaborative efforts and wraparound approaches play a key role in service delivery and preventing lifelong public health problems, breaking the cycle of family violence and intergenerational trauma, and keeping youth out of the adult criminal justice system. In addition, working with the youth and their families to address anti-social thinking and behavior through cognitive-behavioral restructuring programs is of vital importance.

### **COVID-19 Pandemic**

The COVID-19 pandemic altered many aspects of the Probation Department. Due to the risk of exposure to COVID-19, in person office visits were suspended throughout most of the 2020 year. To effectively manage youth on supervision, diversion, or in the intake process, changes were made to the division's working procedures. Many meetings and CFTs were held virtually to ensure the ability to maintain social distancing. Visits that were historically conducted in person were held virtually or outside allowing for social distancing. This presented some challenges in learning the new technology, but staff adapted, and this technology has allowed the department the opportunity to continue to provide quality supervision and services to youth during the pandemic. Procedural changes were also made to drug testing and field work. Many schools were on distance learning creating additional challenges. Treatment and group programming at the Juvenile Division transitioned to a virtual platform. In person placement visits stopped in March 2020 and transitioned to a virtual platform. In person placement visits resumed in February 2021 and are required as long as the state tier system allows.

COVID-19 has continued to impact business practices and operations for the Probation Department in fiscal year 21/22. We have continued to manage staff and client's exposure to COVID-19. This has created a delicate situation where we try to offer as many in person services as possible while continuing to abide by state mandates and ensuring staff and clients alike can be as safe as possible from the transmission of COVID-19. Many meetings continue to be web based which has brought about some increase in time management as many meetings now do not require travel to and from. For the most part schools have remained open although in January of 2022 some schools in the county were forced to close due to the number of staff and students with the virus. As a department we have continued to adapt to the ever-evolving pandemic and are striving to provide services to those in need.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought many new requirements and restrictions to the JRF to ensure the safety, security, and health of the residents and staff. Beginning in March 2020, the JRF put strict guidelines in place for accepting youth into the facility, keeping only those youth who engaged in serious or violent offenses, failed placements, as well as those committed to the JRF by the Court. As the community spread of COVID19 lessened, the JRF adjusted acceptance requirements and youth needful of detention were accepted into the facility. All new intakes continue to be COVID-19 tested and quarantined for 14 days once booked into the facility. At times, all rehabilitative services, school, therapy sessions, religious services, court, and family visits were held via a virtual platform. The Chief Probation Officer worked closely with the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to report on, and develop a plan to mitigate, the suspension of programs and services as needed. As restrictions were lessened, in person services and family visits resumed with social distancing, wearing of masks, temperature checks, and a review of COVID-19 symptoms for all visitors prior to entering the facility.

All residents and staff continue to wear masks throughout the duration of each shift; temperature checks and a review of COVID-19 symptoms are required of all staff and visitors/facilitators upon entering the facility each day. Additionally, all unvaccinated staff and visitors/facilitators are required to submit a negative test each week to enter the facility for work or facilitate school or rehabilitative programming. In addition, the JRF continues to adhere to strict cleaning protocols, including sanitizing the facility each night.

To date, there have been two separate Covid-19 outbreaks in the facility. The first outbreak involved four youth, and with the most recent outbreak nine youth tested positive for COVID-19. The positive youth are cared for by the facility nursing staff and separated from the remaining residents. If positive youth were healthy enough to participate, they were allowed to participate in rehabilitative programming, religion, free recreation and outside activities while remaining separated from the group. During this time period, school and rehabilitative programming continued virtually, as did family and pro-social visitation. All residents are allowed free phone calls to their family and pro-social contacts.

### ***Strategic Planning Process***

To create this plan, on June 21, 2018, the department convened an extended meeting of its Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), along with a cross-section of community partners. The JJCC and guests are identified in Appendix A., and included, among others: Probation staff and management; the Juvenile Court Judge; community-based providers; school personnel; District Attorney and Public Defender staff; and county department leaders including HHSA and Sheriff's office.

In all, more than thirty stakeholders gathered in Redding for this Juvenile Justice planning discussion. This dynamic and deeply involved group held a facilitated conversation which strategically identified a set of Shasta's strengths and assets, its youth-related challenges, and other critical questions, and sought further to contextualize the department's efforts to state reforms in related areas. The meeting attendees also discussed and agreed upon a timeline and strategy for formulation of this combined plan. Not all interested parties could be present and follow up interviews were scheduled and conducted with an additional twelve (12) constituents (Appendix B.). More than forty-five voices from across the county have participated in the plan's design, either at the planning session, in follow up interviews, or in subsequent interviews.

During the planning discussion and subsequent interviews, many themes emerged, and participants appeared to engage deeply in a thoughtful and data driven dialogue about what should be captured in the county's revised plan. Those themes are reflected in the following sections of strengths, challenges and outcomes. As part of its planning conversation, participants were asked to reflect about unique geographic needs and further to elaborate as to how their observations of need may be evidenced with data or information.

The meeting materials, along with the questions used during the follow up interviews, are attached as Appendix A- C.

All of the information gathered from the various discussions, was reviewed further and validated or challenged through a review of the department's existing and historic youth focused plans and outcomes. Some of these included:

- Probation Evidenced-Based Goals and Action Steps Documents
- Annual Department Reports
- Existing/historic JJCPA and YOBG planning documents
- Department Policy and Procedure documents
- Department Logic Models

Since 2018, the plan has been reviewed by Probation staff and updated annually. The plan is discussed at the JJCC meetings and updates to the plan are approved by the membership.

## ***Strengths, Needs and Opportunities***

Through its planning and related identified assessment processes, the following strengths, needs, and opportunities were identified by stakeholders and form the basis of this report.

### **Key Strengths**

- Partnership and Collaboration: The department is universally seen as being open and transparent, and active in its pursuit of value-adding collaboration. This is evident in its inter-agency partnerships and its interface with the community and the families served. Parents and siblings are required to come to certain interventions as part of their service. In particular, Probation strives to support youth who cross between systems and maintain the proactive ongoing collaboration and coordination to assure youth and families are receiving appropriate services. Services are coordinated and align. Developing a dual jurisdiction programs continues to be an area of great interest.
- Trauma Awareness: The department and its partners are deeply committed to, and skilled in use of, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and its trauma-related implications. The department has invested heavily in a focus on restorative rather than punitive practices. Staff have been trained in the use of the Adverse Childhood Experiences Survey and the programs and services across the continuum reflect its implications.
- Effectiveness of Services: There is high regard for the quality and effectiveness of many of its services. Diversion programs, in particular, were highlighted. The department uses evidence-based interventions with its youth and offenders and has a well-developed assessment process.
- Dynamic Leadership: Probation leadership is universally seen as accessible and open to working with the community to provide quality services, and as dedicated to the pursuit of effective care. Partners and stakeholders in Shasta County universally acknowledge that department leadership is highly effective. Court and community partners celebrate the vision and professionalism of senior staff, and other county agencies express profound appreciation for the department's work.
- Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF): In many ways, the JRF is the face of the Juvenile Division. Its buildings and grounds are welcoming and conducive to the delivery of trauma informed and rehabilitative services. Additionally, and more importantly, staff are well trained, embrace evidenced-based practices, are supervised well, and consistently focused on delivery of trauma informed services. Core Correctional Practices and Motivational Interviewing continue to be a priority within the facility. In recent years, the JRF's behavior modification program has been

enhanced and multiple prosocial programs and evidence-based treatment programs have been added. The combination of these efforts and the effectiveness of the relationships among staff and the youth they supervise has resulted in a marked reduction in the use of force deployed by officers, as well as negative behaviors such as fights among youth in the facility. It has also increased youth engagement and healthy conversation between youth and staff.

- Highly Effective Peer Court: Youth Options is a community-based organization who operates the county peer court. Peer Court has strong ongoing support from judges and justice partners and is widely acknowledged for their successes. JJCPA dollars are used to provide some financial support for this program.

### **Key Challenges**

- Adequacy of Services: In some geographic locations, there may not be enough services for youth or adequate access to service. Focus needs to continue regarding expanding treatment and service options for the rural areas of the county. This focus will assist in addressing the anti-social behavior and substance abuse that can be observed through generations of families in these areas. Collaboration between local leaders, including Native American tribal leadership, will aid in the development of a plan for increasing access to treatment and services in these remote areas.
- Awareness of Services: While services are generally available within the county, the community at large may not be familiar with available services for youth and families.
- System Coordination: At times, the coordination between Probation and key partners (HHSA and Schools) has struggled to meet the needs of system-involved youth. Presently, there is one DPO serving as a Juvenile Prevention Officer in the Gateway School District. Some educational partner's policies remain punitive versus restorative and not all school superintendents are engaged with the department or other systems serving high-risk youth.
- Need for Intensive Mental Health Care: There is a need for further development of direct mental health interventions for youth at the JRF, beyond any state or federal required screening for mental health needs. Developing mental health and trauma-based services within the JRF will allow for access to services for youth while detained and continuity of services as part of a continuum of care upon their release into the community.

### **Priority Outcomes**

- Improve and expand efforts to engage biological and extended family supports/parents. Build sustainable prosocial activities for youth and parents to engage in the community and the community to engage youth and family.
- Break the cycles of addiction and family violence.
- Keep youth in home and community settings and connected with prosocial adults. Increase collaboration between Probation, schools, and community providers.
- Partner with employment services sector to insulate youth from effects of under or unemployment.
- Increase capacity for resource families by targeted recruiting, training, coaching, and mentoring.
- Strengthen prevention services. Increase protective factors so that youth do not have to first fail at lower levels of care or treatment.

- Reduce homelessness. While not an obligation of the Probation Department, the prevalence of homeless youth contributes to crime and secondary corrections system involvement.
- Reduce recidivism. Further progress is desirable toward reducing the rate of system re-entry into both the adult and juvenile systems

## **Strategic Framework**

Based on the engagement conversation at the stakeholder meeting and other assessments of need, a multi-pronged approach to enhance services is being recommended. These approaches are correlated in the recommendations that are contained later in this document.

- 1. Trauma-informed Care and System Enhancement:** Probation staff and its partners will create welcoming places and programs and will obtain additional training to increase knowledge with trauma and its effects. These efforts will not only support improved youth outcomes but can assist staff in managing secondary trauma and compassion fatigue upon professionals and service personnel.

*“Service providers need to incorporate a trauma-informed perspective in their practices to enhance the quality of care for these children. This includes making sure that children and adolescents are screened for trauma exposure; that service providers use evidence-informed practices; that resources on trauma are available to providers, survivors, and their families; and that there is a continuity of care across service systems”. (KO, 2018)*

- 2. Community and School Partnership:** Juvenile Probation cannot effectively serve youth alone. Identifying existing and new partners, with whom critical service delivery components can be enhanced and constructed, will lead to better outcomes for youth. Low risk youth are best served at school and in the community to prevent involvement in the juvenile justice system. Use of Child & Family Team (CFT) meetings to plan and coordinate services is part of the core practice model required for Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) and is one of the key priorities for Shasta County.

- 3. Youth and Family Engagement:** In alignment with the state’s Continuum of Care Reform, Shasta’s plan will use the Child and Family Teaming and Engagement to its maximal intent, and in ways that ensure family-centered, culturally competent, and strength-based planning and service delivery. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Crime Prevention has suggested:

*“These adults, who may include a biological parent...an aunt, coach, or other mentor are important to a child's rehabilitation, recovery, and healing. In many cases, they will also be the primary source of support once youth reenter their communities. Regular input from a youth's family--whether biological or “chosen” - is key to successful outcomes for youth at all points in the juvenile justice spectrum”. (2013)*

Youth and family voice and choice are critical for improving outcomes for youth. Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) is one part of the effective practices in community supervision. EPICS uses a structured format of an officer’s interaction with a youth which includes Check In, Review, Intervention, and Homework to maximize purpose and consistent appropriate interventions to utilize engagement during the contacts with youth. This type of risky behavior and the youth’s thoughts and skills around the behavior determines the consistent, appropriate interventions to use.

The department began implementation in March 2018, with the University of Cincinnati. The department has maintained the practice without the support of University of Cincinnati since October 2018.

The department is moving forward with the implementation of Core Correctional Practices as an additional method to deliver consistent and effective cognitive-based treatment and interventions for the youth in the JRF. These practices, which will become part of the on-going training curriculum for the detention staff, reduce overall recidivism and increase behavior management by focusing efforts on each individual youth's risk, needs, and responsivity factors. This concept will also aid in the transition between the facility and treatment and services, including EPICS, utilized by the Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) when a youth is released from custody back into the community.

- 4. Mental Health Therapeutic Services:** The development and implementation of a continuum of care for mental health, trauma-based treatment, and cognitive-behavior programs is essential to reducing the number of youth who cycle between the community and the JRF. Youth must have access to seamlessly move between these services while they are in the community and while housed in the JRF. These efforts will not only support the youth in receiving the necessary treatment but will also lend to accountability for attendance and participation when youth have the same access to treatment both within the community and while in custody.

In addition, there has been an increase in the number of youth who are detained in the JRF for extended periods of time. There is a need to develop long-term treatment programs and interventions for these youth. The implementation of Core Correctional Practices within the Probation Department will aid in this process but additional support for mental health and trauma-based services is still a need.

- 5. Prevention and Education Services:** Crime prevention and intervention is an important component of public safety and preventing entry into the juvenile and adult criminal justice system. Prevention and intervention practices focus on youth in the community and provides a foundation to reduce and deter crime and criminals, prevent and reduce violent behaviors by acting on both risk and protective factors, and embracing the principles of restorative justice and evidenced based practices.

Education is an important component to crime prevention and intervention. Studies show youth who regularly attend school are less likely to become involved in crime. Increasing school attendance and participation in education is an important aspect of raising well developed youth who have the pro-social and cognitive skills to become productive members of the community. The Probation Department has a history of working with local school districts to provide probation resources on campus. On-going efforts will continue to provide prevention services to youth, to address absenteeism, and to engage students in creating sense of community.



## ***Part I. Service Needs, Priorities, and Strategy***

### **Assessment of Existing Services**

The Juvenile Division is charged with the supervision and service delivery to approximately 209 youth who have been referred to the department as a result of criminal offenses. In 2020, the average number of youth with open cases was approximately 101, with under 31 youth in out of home placement.

The department has invested heavily in the last 18 years in development of a host of services, and in the evidence informed models which make them effective. That investment has yielded a thoughtfully implemented continuum of services, from Primary Prevention to Aftercare. This continuum is built upon a partnership with HHSA and other key partners. This closely aligned cross agency work is highly regarded within the public youth-serving sector in California for its success, well-established levels of leadership trust, and capacity to innovate in response to the emerging needs of its young people. Shasta employs a system focused, breaking barriers, and family focused approach, which links leaders from its Child Welfare and Behavioral Health, School Systems, and the Probation Department in a shared and highly collaborative delivery of services.

The department provides a range of services within its continuum. Probation teams currently partner with several community-based organizations, other county departments, school programs, and law enforcement agencies to assure a variety of services are dedicated to addressing the needs of youth and their families. No one agency can provide comprehensive services in isolation. The Shasta County Probation Department recognizes the vital importance of developing a community strategy for serving youth. Critical partners in creating a trauma-informed system include law enforcement, child welfare, education, first responders, and health care partners—from both public and private systems:

- Law enforcement partners include Shasta County Sheriff's Office and local police departments in Redding and Anderson, the county's two largest cities.
- The department is an active and committed collaborative partner, where staff are co-located and active in serving youth in multiple systems or who are at risk of entry to parallel systems. Child Welfare, Behavioral Health, Substance Use Disorder Services, and Juvenile Probation are collaborative partners.
- School partnerships are collaborative, and direct service partnerships with schools are present in a number of schools via co located services, or services delivered via contract with providers or other partners. Juvenile Probation maintains a partnership with Gateway School District and Foothill High School to provide a Deputy Probation Officers (DPO), as Juvenile Prevention Officers, working with at risk youth building leadership, sense of self, peer conflict resolution, and accountability. These officers, amongst other duties, provide intervention and support services and addresses truancy and status offenses. Education partners are committed to working together to resolve issues on campus before calling law enforcement. The development of a sense of community on the campus allows these officers to quickly assist as issues arise and aid the youth in addressing problems before they rise to the level of school discipline or arrest. Removing barriers for school services is frequently difficult for probation youth and these officers work as intermediaries between the schools and the youth to create successful outcomes as problems or concerns arise.

- The Probation Department participated in meetings led by the Shasta Office of Education to revamp the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) process. These meetings have been held monthly and have resulted in the changing of the SARB process for our county. By looking at data, and processes, as a group it was determined that SARB would no longer focus on behavior issues and would solely address attendance issues. Behavior issues are now managed within the home district of the child/youth. Further early intervention was selected as an area for our county to target as issues with attendance appears as early as in Transitional Kindergarten and successfully coming to school at that young age has a direct correlation to the attendance when the youth is older according to the data.

The county's youth serving continuum ranges from prevention to treatment and aftercare services.

**Prevention Services:** Community based providers and schools which provide pro-social activities are key to primary prevention in Shasta County. Civic groups and clubs, which provide positive activities for youth, support their development and connect them to their community. Prevention services are not limited to those procured via formal contracts with Probation. Pro-social activities throughout the community promote youth development and community engagement which reduce risk factors and increase protective factors in youth.

Stakeholders reflected during the county assessment that prevention resources in Shasta are adequate and generally effective, although many families and youth are unaware of their existence or availability. Shasta's partners embrace an awareness that often, community-based services are more accessible and less stigmatizing than county or court-mandated services, and engagement therein is more family friendly.

**Diversion Services:** The department utilizes a diversion program for youth who are eligible according to the law and established criteria, which improves rehabilitative efforts and makes appropriate interventions and/or recommendations in alignment with evidence-based practices. The goal of diversion is to remove youth as early in the juvenile justice process as possible to avoid later negative outcomes associated with formal processing, such as increased odds of recidivism, stigmatization/labeling, and increased criminal justice costs.

The Probation Department has partnered with community-based organizations to develop many strategies, specific to the community and aligned with research, for youth who are eligible for diversion programs. The department uses an intervention strategy that redirects low risk and certain first-time offenders away from formal processing in the juvenile court system, while holding them accountable, providing services based on the youth's risk to reoffend and criminogenic needs, providing victim services, and providing services for the entire family.

Depending on the identified needs, the youth and family are referred to appropriate services including various education programs including: Shasta Youth Options/Peer Court, Hope City- HUB (mentoring, restorative circles, anger management, art therapy, nurturing fathers program), Thinking for a Change, substance abuse counseling, Towards No Drugs, Forward Thinking, Aggressive Replacement Training (ART), Moral Reconnection Therapy (MRT), Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program, mental health services, Triple P (Positive Parent Program), Parent Project, Parent Café, community work service, discussion on choices, restitution, writing assignments, Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS), and homework and apology letters.

**Treatment and Supervision Services:** Juvenile Probation treatment and supervision services are comprehensive and well-coordinated. The primary intensive treatment services are:

- The Integrated Family Wellness Program (IFWP): An interagency collaborative program with HSA Children's Services, Shasta County Probation, Pathways to Hope/Ameri-Corps, and the Shasta County Juvenile Court. Youth admitted to the program have significant challenges in relation to juvenile justice involvement, mental health symptoms, substance abuse and educational success. IFWP is the result of the merging of the former Juvenile Drug Court Program with our Wraparound Interagency Network for Growth and Stability (WINGS) Program. This resulted in one program that can effectively treat and manage drug and alcohol issues, mental health issues, and family dynamics.
- Juvenile Court Work Program (JCWP): The Probation Department oversees youth ordered to do community service as part of their terms and conditions, as a sanction, alternative to custody, or as an alternative to fines and fees. A variety of community programs are available for individuals to perform their community service allowing sufficient flexibility in scheduling days and times as well as locations. Group projects and services days are also coordinated by Probation staff that specifically focus on improving the community. Group projects may include community clean up, work around the Juvenile Division campus, or assisting with the GROW Program.
- Placement Team: The placement team is made up of two DPO's and a Probation Assistant who are overseen by a Supervising Probation Officer. Once youth are ordered to be placed out of the home by the Court, the youth's assigned DPO works closely with the placement team to coordinate placement services using the lowest level of care that is safe and suitable for each youth's need. Should placement in a Short Term Residential Treatment Program (STRTP) be deemed necessary, the DPO collaborates with the STRTP and the youth's team to return them back into the community either with their parents, a relative, or a resource family. Depending on their age and circumstances, they may be entered into an independent living program. While a youth is in an STRTP or any placement, the DPO's visit each youth at least once per month.
- River's Edge Academy: River's Edge Academy (REA) is Shasta County Probation Department's commitment/camp treatment program serving youth in need of structured treatment services and providing youth with an alternative to out of county placements.
- Rehabilitative and Treatment Services: The Probation Department contracts with several community-based organizations to provide evidenced based treatment services to youth both in and out of custody. These services include: Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART); Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT); Individual Cognitive-based Treatment (ICBT), Art Therapy, Project Towards No Drugs; Girls Circle; and Boys Council.

### **Approach Utilized to Facilitate Collaboration**

There are several vehicles for collaboration and coordination in use in Shasta County, including the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC), the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), and the Strengthening Families Collaborative.

Shasta County's public youth serving agencies employ a unique use of interagency partnership, modeled on the premise that all youth deserve to be raised in their communities and with families who know and love them. Interagency Placement Committee (IPC) functions as a regular convening of agency partners for care coordination.

The IPC work is historically rooted in the county's comprehensive Juvenile Justice Local Action Plan, first completed in March 1997, and updated in 2005. Collaboration and integration of juvenile justice services in Shasta County has progressed since 1997. Families have become a primary focus of service delivery within the Juvenile Justice System. Significant efforts have been made to transition from generic services to evidence based and best practice programs and supervision models. In addition, collaborative teaming has been part of the effort to assure youth and families receive services through a family-focused approach. Changes in assessment and case plan tools and procedures within the Probation Department have focused on including parents and other family members as stakeholders and partners in reducing the at-risk behavior or engagement in criminal activity of the referred youth. Historically this team was referred to as the Placement Prevention Review Team (PPRT), however with the creation of the new AB 2083 MOU, the name was changed to the Interagency Placement Committee (IPC) to bring Shasta County in line with the rest of the state. The MOU also created an Interagency Leadership Team (ILT) to oversee youth in the Foster Care System. This team consists of administrative members from the Probation Department, Child Welfare/Mental Health, SCOE, and Far Northern.

### **Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas**

Shasta County (County) is located in the northern Sacramento Valley on Interstate 5 and is the largest county in the region. The County is over 3,800 square miles in size with a population of approximately 179,000 residents who are primarily Caucasian. According to the California Department of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections, in 2020, there were 38,090 children (ages 0-17) living in Shasta County. The County contains three incorporated cities: Redding (the county seat), Anderson, and Shasta Lake. The vast size of the County makes access to treatment and services difficult in areas outside of the three cities. There are multiple small communities located outside of the county seat where many services are not available or are limited. There are 61 public schools in use, eight of which are high schools and another 10 are middle schools. Nearly 33% of the county's residents are under the age of 24 years. The population is approximately 90% white, with all other ethnic groups comprising less than 3% each. Spanish is the predominant second language in use.

The department and its various stakeholders are aware of neighborhoods and schools that are at higher risk and makes efforts to fund, design, and deliver services geared towards prevention when possible. Many Shasta youth are scattered throughout the community and in many cases, family and school stability are difficult to maintain. This instability is enhanced by the rural nature and geography of the county. The City of Shasta Lake is perhaps the most widely cited locale with unmet need or with families or youth that experience isolation from other services due to geography. These areas lack the ability to address and treat concerns quickly based upon the remote location within the community.

Development of plans with local leaders, including Native American tribal leadership, regarding creating and/or expanding treatment and service options will be a priority. These efforts should include discussions regarding early prevention efforts as well as treatment and services to address the multigenerational concerns of the population in these communities.

There is arrest record and school truancy data which corroborates the targeting of many of the county's services for youth in areas where its likely to be of most impact.

### **Juvenile Justice Action Strategy**

The strategy for Shasta County is early identification, assessment and multiagency collaboration to address identified supports needed for youth and families. Shasta County Juvenile Probation uses the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) to assess the risk/needs of each youth. Evidence based programming (EBP) related to criminogenic needs identified in the assessment is utilized to target interventions and address the issues directly related to recidivism. Case planning efforts are focused on the youth and family's strengths, while addressing the needs of the youth and the family and encouraging connections with pro-social activities in the community. Central to assisting youth and reducing recidivism is to help strengthen families, prevent the generational cycle of continued delinquent, criminal behavior, and adverse childhood experiences (ACE's).

Assuring DPO's and staff who are invested in youth and families that serve as coaches, mentors, and role models for youth is essential to the success of youth and families. Using Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) provides for a focused interaction and skill training for youth. Daily and weekly contact, as well as graduated sanctions and immediate consequences, assist in managing and redirecting the youth quickly. In the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility, a behavioral matrix, which is based on restorative practices, is designed to address behaviors. Through assessments, criminogenic needs of the youth are targeted incorporating evidence-based programming, both in and out of custody, that address the needs to support a continuum of care approach. Understanding the youth served based on the data and outcomes collected, allows reassessment of services and ensures necessary services are provided to meet the needs of youth and families.

## ***Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)***

### **Information Sharing and Data**

The department's case management system (CMS) is maintained by the Shasta County Superior Court Information Technology department. This is the primary means of sharing cases among agencies, which consist of the Public Defender, District Attorney, and the Courts. Juvenile Court and Probation Statistical System (JCPSS) statistical data is automatically reported to Department of Justice (DOJ). The CMS has the capability to contain docket information including charges, sentencing information, codefendant's information, and restitution. The system is very limited in reporting outcome data, which often requires the department to hand count and cross check all data reports. Several years ago, it was determined that the current CMS was not accurately transmitting data to the JPSS System. The Probation Department worked with the CMS administrators to attempt to correct this error but was unable to successfully make these corrections making it necessary to manually gather and transmit this data on a monthly basis to ensure accuracy. Additional data is collected and shared through meetings and within the department's annual reports. The Probation department has executed a contract with Journal Technologies Incorporated to replace the current CMS by September of 2021. This will allow the department to collect statistics that we were not able to previously and to automate many of the manual processes.

Noble Software Group is contracted for juvenile assessments, which include Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT), and Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI). The Noble system also contains the Title IV-E Case Plan and Standard Case Plan. The department also pulls Adverse Childhood Experience data from the PACT. The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) is administered by HHSA. Data can be pulled to communicate issues and strengths considered in treatment.

Shasta County Juvenile Probation and the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility have logic models and utilize both the CMS and Noble to pull data in many areas including recidivism of juvenile offenders while on supervision, re-entry to the criminal justice system following completion of supervision, top criminogenic needs, completion of programs, education level, employment status, use of force in the JRF, and the number of citations/incident reports in the JRF. In addition to the many outcomes tracked in the logic model, the data gathered from the PACT related to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) is used to determine areas to address with the entire population currently as well as into the future.

### **JJCPA Funded Program, Strategy, and/or Enhancement**

#### Juveniles that Have Offended Sexually (JTHOS):

The Juvenile Sex Offender Recidivism Risk Assessment Tool JSORRAT-II provides an evidence-based protocol which determines the risk of a youth and help guide various interventions, treatment, and legal processes. The Containment Model recognizes the complex nature of juvenile sex offending and the need for key system components to facilitate accountability, rehabilitation, and victim and community safety.

All youth are assessed using the JSORRAT (Juvenile Sexual Offense Recidivism Risk Assessment Tool), a Static Risk Tool, in order to develop an individualized case plan. The Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) assists the treatment provider in addressing critical issues and in supervising the youth's activities in the

home and community according to the developed safe plan. Working closely with the family and the treatment provider, a case plan is developed to ensure the youth is meaningfully participating in the treatment program and complying with court and therapeutic directives that may include a polygraph, as well as addressing family concerns.

Youth are expected to learn values as they relate to respect for self and others. They may receive sex education and will develop an understanding of healthy human sexuality and the correction of distorted beliefs about appropriate sexual behavior. Therapy focuses on impulse control and coping skills, assertiveness skills, conflict resolution to manage anger, and resolve interpersonal disputes. Family Maintenance efforts are primary.

This JTHOS DPO provides case management functions including acting as a liaison with other community agencies involved with the family and tracking outcomes for each youth. By using motivational interviewing skills to establish rapport, the DPO assists the youth with the stages of change. In addition, the DPO assures victims have access to services.

Outcome measures are tracked for three years after completion of probation for reentry into the criminal system. While in the program, the following data measures are tracked: arrests rates; custody commitments; completion of treatment; and completion of supervision.

#### Integrated Family Wellness Program (IFWP):

IFWP is an interagency collaborative program with HHS Children's Services, Shasta County Probation, Pathways to Hope/Ameri-Corps, and the Shasta County Juvenile Court. Youth admitted to the program have significant challenges in relation to juvenile justice involvement, mental health symptoms, substance abuse and educational success. The focus of IFWP is to assist enrolled youth in developing a more positive lifestyle today, and a focus toward healthier paths as adults. Program structure combines intensive juvenile probation supervision; intensive mental health outpatient treatment; and focused outpatient substance abuse treatment to decrease substance use, improve mental health symptoms, and increase positive community functioning. One of the foundational components of IFWP is the weekly (or less frequent if indicated) parent/team meetings. These are modeled after a Wraparound approach and aim to address the concerns and needs of parents from a strength-based perspective, providing them with support and assistance in addressing the needs of their youth. Additionally, other team members (mental health clinician, substance abuse counselor, Ameri-Corps youth partner/parent partner, DPO, etc.) are present to create a shared treatment direction for the youth. Youth enrolled in IFWP are given daily opportunities to learn new ways of handling life's challenges regarding their mental well-being and recovery from illegal substances. Intensive supervision and accountability are provided by the DPO and the Juvenile Court. Individual, group, and family therapy are available through the mental health clinician and substance abuse treatment and support is available through the drug and alcohol counselor.

#### Gardening, Responsibility, and Ownership of Self and Community Well Being (GROW):

Youth referred to the Probation Department and going through the court process are assessed using the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT). Youth in custody have an institutional case plan addressing their criminogenic needs and treatment while in-custody. In addition, youth have a Title IV-E case plan linked to their criminogenic needs that is designed to assist them in desisting from crime. A significant

portion of youth served by Shasta County Probation Juvenile Services spend most their time with criminal associates, lack positive leisure/recreation activities, and have antisocial personality traits. These youths' re-offense risk will be lowered if they build noncriminal alternative behaviors in risky situations, enhance involvement and satisfaction in prosocial activities, and reduce association with criminals by enhancing their associations with prosocial people.

This program has existed as part of juvenile services' in and out of custody program options since 2015. In the GROW program, youth assist in building and maintaining raised planter beds, chicken coops, and enclosures to provide for chickens and goats. The youth care for the chickens and goats by providing food, water, and basic grooming. The youth sow seeds, plant seedlings, and care for the plants until harvest.

The Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF) kitchen utilizes the eggs and produce in the facility menu as well as the Parent Project weekly meal for parent attendees. The Youth Partner facilitates family dinner cooking classes in the community utilizing affordable recipes that can be made together as a family.

The Juvenile Court School partners with the program by incorporating lessons regarding math, nutrition, animal husbandry, landscaping, biology into the class curriculum, and utilizes the on-site garden and farm as a laboratory for in-custody students.

This program has an assigned staff, a Youth Partner from Pathways to Hope, and support from Juvenile Detention Officers. The youth learn skills transferable to future employment, teamwork, and pro-social relations with others. The program also helps support social emotional skills, such as empathy and coping skills, by teaching youth to care for the animals and learn patience. Raising food that is utilized on-site gives youth a sense of pride and ownership. Youth also learn valuable life skills working inside the JRF kitchen. Outcomes measures such as program participation, program completion, and recidivism rates for youth who participated in the GROW program are tracked.

#### Parent Project:

The Parent Project is classified as a best practice in reduction in juvenile recidivism and school expulsions. Effectiveness of the Parent Project has been established by a number of studies, primary among them, the work of Dr. Heidi Stoltz. She used a pre-and post-survey at several national sites and demonstrated significant positive changes in effective parenting in every area studied. This work has been replicated since.

In an article written by Susan H. Chibnall and Kate Abbruzzes, *A Community approach to Reducing Risk Factors*, they attribute successes in Minidoka County, ID since the Parent Project's implementation in 1997. Juvenile petitions filed decreased, the number of drug-related probation violations went down 20 percent, and the number of days spent by youth in detention decreased 24 percent. School dropout rate fell from 17 percent to 0 percent, and school expulsions plummeted from 72-0.

The goal of the Parent Project is to help parents learn and practice identification, prevention, and intervention strategies for destructive behaviors of their children while increasing positive relationships and healthy display of affection within families. This program is for the parents or guardians of out-of-control youth with destructive behaviors such as truancy, alcohol and other drug use, gangs, running away, violence in the home and/or community, and suicide/attempts.



Trained Probation staff facilitate the classes, in which parents receive a twelve-week curriculum, meeting one night a week for three hours. Parents learn to develop a plan to prevent or intercede in their children's destructive behavior and build a stronger family unit.

Outcome measures tracked are related to parent completion rates, how often parents praise their youth, and frequency that parents lose control when disciplining their youth.

#### Diversion Services:

A significant amount of research has been conducted to support diversion programs. Diversion programs have demonstrable outcomes in both their efficacy and effectiveness. Among many research studies, the Peer Court studies of Butts, Buck and Coggeshall at the Urban Institute (2002) is noteworthy.

The Probation Department utilizes various forms of diversion programming for eligible youth, which focuses on redirecting them away from formal processing in the juvenile justice system, while holding them accountable for their actions. The goal of diversion is to remove youth as early as possible in the juvenile justice process, to avoid later negative outcomes associated with formal processing. The Probation Department has partnered with community-based organizations in Shasta to develop many strategies, specific to our community and aligned with research, for youth who are eligible for diversion programs.

Assigned staff review offense report referrals to determine eligibility, at which point the officer contacts the youth and parent(s) to assess problems, issues, and strengths of the family. Staff complete a PACT (Positive Achievement Change Tool) prescreen assessment according to the business rules.

Depending on the identified needs, the youth and family are referred to appropriate services including: various education programs; Youth Options; Peer Court; Thinking For a Change; Hope City- HUB; Community Restorative Justice Panel; substance abuse counseling; mental health services; Triple P or Parent Project; community work service; Fire Setting Prevention Program; discussion on choices; restitution; writing assignments; and apology letters. Youth may also be referred to Anderson Teen Center or the Martin Luther King Center for additional services and support. Once referred, staff monitor those placed on diversion for completion of the programs or assignments. Monitoring for non-compliance also includes referrals to the screening DPO for court action if necessary and appropriate.

Once a youth completes the program, outcome measures related to recidivism are tracked for one year.

## ***Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)***

### **Strategy for non 707(b) Offenders**

The Shasta County Probation Department employs various strategies to address non-707(b) offenders: Shasta County Juvenile Probation uses the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) to assess the risk/needs of each youth. Evidence based programming (EBP) related to criminogenic needs identified in the assessment is utilized to target interventions and address the issues directly related to recidivism. Case planning efforts are focused on addressing the needs of the youth and the family, while encouraging connecting with pro-social activities in the community.

The 707(b) approaches include Foster Care with relative or non-relative caregivers; secure detention and treatment; intensive probation supervision; and daily and weekly contact, as well as graduated sanctions and immediate consequences have proven helpful in managing and redirecting youth.

In all cases, central to assisting youth and reducing recidivism is to help strengthen families to prevent the generational cycle of continued delinquent and criminal behavior and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Using Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) provides for a focused interaction and skill training for youth. In the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility, a behavior response matrix, which is based on restorative practices, is designed to reinforce positive behavior and provide consistent, appropriate suggested staff responses to address negative behavior while teaching appropriate replacement skills.

### **YOBG Funded Program, Strategy, and/or Enhancement**

YOBG funds are used for staff salaries and benefits in the JRF.

The Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan utilizes YOBG funds to support the JJCPA programs by providing a validated detain/release inventory tool to detention staff in order to identify youth appropriate for referral to JJCPA funded programs. Detention staff are trained in Motivational Interviewing and Core Correctional Practices, which can prepare detained and released youth for further participation in JJCPA programs.

The goal of the JJCPA is to provide a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs aimed at reducing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth. The act invites and requires a focus in key areas of service delivery, which include early intervention, crisis family reunification, case management services, after-school services, and juvenile justice treatment services. The act also supports and invites collaboration with the courts, health and human services department, schools, parents and family, community-based providers, and other partners to develop a trauma-centric, coordinated, and effective continuum of services to achieve positive outcomes for youth and their families.

The goal of the YOBG program is to provide state funding for counties to deliver custody and care (i.e. appropriate rehabilitative and supervisory services) to youthful offenders who previously would have been committed to the California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation, Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

Key outcomes shared by both the act and the grant include increased school attendance, completion of probation, decreased recidivism, decrease in status offenses, increased availability and quality of

treatment, increased family functioning, and decreased out-of-home placements. These key outcomes align with the mission of the JRF which provides a safe and secure environment for youth in a setting where the residents are held accountable but are also supported by trained JDOs to foster, target, and model pro-social behavior. The JRF staff works closely with community partners to target individual needs and deliver services and support education for the youth in the facility.

Staff use the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI), which guides detention intake personnel making the critical decision of whether to detain or release a referred youth. Detaining only the appropriate youth through objective decision-making to provide for youth and community safety is the goal.

As the number of youth who are detained for serious offenses or ordered by the court for long-term commitments increases, so does the need to develop a commitment program. The JRF and Juvenile Probation staff are committed to partnering with county agencies and CBO's to establish and maintain a program for these youth. It is vital that the behavioral, mental health, and trauma-based service needs of these youth are addressed while they are housed in the JRF.

To support these service needs the Probation Department has contracted with Victor Community Support Services to provide Cognitive Behavior Services to all residents detained in the JRF, and individual and family counseling as needed. HHS provides a mental health clinician to address mental health services, crisis intervention, and assistance with de-escalation in the JRF. The clinician communicates with the family and makes referrals to community-based programs for the continued success of the youth and family. To further support the JRF residents, Fine Arts Therapy is offered giving an outlet for the residents to express their thoughts, feelings, and emotions. An LGBTQ support group is available providing a safe forum for residents to have discussions and work through issues relating to their needs and a sensory-de-escalation room has been developed as a positive behavior intervention to assist residents in working through emotions and creating a safer environment within the JRF.

YOBG funds are used as partial funding of salaries and benefits for Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF) staff: Director (1); Legal Process Clerk (1); Supervising Probation Officers (2); Supervising Juvenile Detention Officers (4); Juvenile Detention Officers (JDOs) (26); Extra Help Juvenile Detention Officers (10-15); and Cooks (2); for housing and treatment of youth offenders in the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility. The capacity of the JRF is 90, but due to budget constraints, there is a cap of 40. Staff are core trained and provide education, recreation, assessment, counseling, and other intervention services to maintain a youth's well-being during his or her stay in custody. The facility's programming provides highly structured and supervised group activities. Programs include recreational therapy, specialized socialization, life skills, and cognitive behavioral intervention. Other funds will be used to contract with other agencies to provide medical, counseling, and dietician services.

## Recommendations

The planning process identified needs and priorities, many of which are related to JJCPA and YOBG investments, and which would be best addressed by pursuing the following goals:

### **Improve and Strengthen Prevention and Early Intervention Services**

1. *Prevention Goal #1: Identify and refer At-Risk Students and Families (Implementation Goal: 0-18 months)*

Develop a plan to immediately engage county schools and school professionals to provide education on probation services, treatment options, and information to assist in identify children and families with risk factors. Early identification can create a strong, supportive community and help parents develop the skills needed to address behaviors at a lower level of service.

#### **Progress:**

May 2020 Update – Effective Spring 2019, the Supervising Probation Officer of the Juvenile Supervision Unit began attending the quarterly School Attendance Review Board (SARB) meetings and DPOs from the Juvenile Supervision unit were assigned to attend all other SARB meetings. Through this process, the officers are able to engage with the schools and give feedback related to community services available to address the needs of the youth and their families. For youth who are on Probation, the DPO is able to refer to additional resources available through the Probation Department. Staff in leadership positions from the Probation Department attended Shasta County Office of Education sponsored quarterly meetings designed to review the SARB process and made recommendation for updates and changes.

The Division Director of the Juvenile Division provided information on services provided by a local provider through a grant from the Innovation Subaccount to the Superintendent of Schools. These services are designed to be provided, in cooperation with school staff, to youth at risk of entering the criminal justice system. In addition, the Probation Department provided information to all school principals and counselors on prevention services available in the community. The services included the ability to refer youth to the Probation Department's Juvenile Work Program as a consequence for their behaviors.

April 2021 Update – Through much of 2020, the Juvenile Division Director and Assistant Chief Probation Officer participated in trainings and brainstorming sessions with local partners and SCOE to revamp the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) process. These meetings occurred on a monthly basis and reviewed data and other information collected by SCOE and at the state level. Through these efforts the number of SARB boards were reduced by merging similar areas into one SARB Meeting and the combining of individual district SARB hearings.

During the 2020/2021 school year a DPO was assigned as a Juvenile Prevention Officer (JPO) 24 hours per week to Foothill High School. Having a JPO assigned to the school has allowed for referrals for services, conflict resolution, youth de-escalation, and welfare checks. The welfare checks in the home were especially important due to distance learning due to COVID-19 as youth who were not engaging with the distance learning process could be contacted to attempt to engage them in school.

Many of the youth who assess as low risk to reoffend have continued to be diverted prior to entering the criminal justice system. By utilizing diversion programs through Youth Options and Hope City we have been able to engage youth in services prior to entering the justice system and if they are successful, their records are sealed automatically upon program completion. There has been a focus on incorporating restorative justice into these diversion programs which has included restorative justice chats, victim conversations, and peer court. The Probation Department has continued to refer diversion cases for these services during COVID-19. Many of these diversionary programs have expanded the referral process to allow referrals to come directly from the schools. This allows for the schools to refer youth for services if needed or as a result of on-campus behavior issues. This has been beneficial for schools as youth under 12 years of age can no longer be referred to the Probation Department except when they commit very serious and specific offenses. These youth can now be referred by the schools for many of the same services that they would have received upon a referral to Probation. Schools are also able to refer youth and/or parents to utilize the Juvenile Work Program and Parent Project programs overseen by Probation staff.

April 2022 Update – The Assistant Chief and Juvenile Division Director continued to attend SARB meetings when they occurred. Efforts are being made to educate parents on the importance of school when the youth first begin attending the school. The Chief and Juvenile Division Director also participated in a county wide meeting with SCOE to determine what services in regard to the youth were missing in our county. This meeting stemmed a work group that Probation has continued to participate in.

During 2021/2022 our JPO that was at Foothill High School part time was increased to a full-time position. This officer now divides their time between the campuses of Foothill High School, Pioneer High School, and Freedom High School. Our JPO officers at Central Valley and Foothill continue to provide campus security and enforcement, refer for services, file suspected child abuse reports when needed, and mentor youth while they are assigned to the school.

Through the efforts of our JPO's, work of multiple multi-disciplinary teams, and continued promotion of the services we offer, the community is now much more aware of what we do and how we can help keep youth out of the criminal justice system through early intervention. We now receive referrals for our parenting programs, juvenile work program, and requests for input on youth that are not in the Juvenile Justice System. The earlier these interventions occur in the lives of these families the less likely the youth may enter into the Juvenile Justice System.

**Status: Completed**

2. *Prevention Goal #2: Expand activities of School Attendance Review Board (SARB) (Implementation Goal: 0-12 months)*

SARB identifies and initiates review of at-risk children and youth as early as possible to help engage families to help students stay in school, attend regularly, and graduate. This approach may include involving school counselors; connecting families with community agencies for counseling, tutoring, and other supports services; and reinforcing parental legal responsibility for student attendance. Early engagement and accountability will help get the support to families early to divert children and youth from more intensive services. The counties SARB partnership is well positioned to build on its prior success.

**Progress:**

May 2020 Update – Effective Spring 2019, the Supervising Probation Officer began attending the quarterly School Attendance Review Board (SARB) meetings and DPOs from the Juvenile Supervision unit were assigned to attend all other SARB meetings. Through this process, the officers are able to engage with the schools and give feedback related to community services available to address the needs of the youth and their families. For youth who are on Probation, the DPO is able to refer to additional resources available through the Probation Department. The Probation Department also made their Juvenile Work Program available to schools to use as a consequence for any youth involved in the SARB process. Staff in leadership positions from the Probation Department attended Shasta County Office of Education sponsored quarterly meetings designed to review the SARB process and made recommendation for updates and changes.

Research has been completed by justice partners and SCOE on Truancy Mediation. A meeting was held on March 12, 2020, to further discuss truancy mediation. Topics discussed at the meeting included training the SARB panel members in mediation training, working with JAG Grant partners to assure grant funded services are available to families and youth involved in the SARB process, Probation to continue to share information on services available to include Hope City restorative justice programs and the community service program, for the SARB Coordinator to attend the court hearings, and for Probation to continue to work with the SARB Coordinator on cross checking the names of both youth and parents.

April 2021 Update – For the 2020/2021 school year the SARB process changed to only conduct SARB hearings for youth with attendance issues. With the narrowing of the focus for SARB it has allowed early attendance issues to be addressed before escalating into potential behavioral problems. Under the new format there is a DPO assigned to each of the four SARB panels in Shasta County. The DPOs assist in making recommendations for the families, refer for services when appropriate, and update the case carrying DPO if the youth is on supervision.

The Assistant Chief Probation Officer and Juvenile Division Director continue to participate in SCOE quarterly SARB meetings. The most recent meeting was on 3/12/21 to review progress and make on going recommendations for improvement.

School attendance continues to be a focus for the youth under supervision.

April 2022 Update – For the 2021/2022 school year the department has continued to participate in SARB meetings and hearings. The number of SARB hearings have decreased significantly since making changes to the process in the prior years. Lack of attendance has become a focus at a much earlier age by the educational system and the process is now more collaborative with identified families. DPO's continue to participate on their assigned SARB panels. These DPO's provide guidance as well as potential referrals for our services during these meetings. The Probation Department will continue to be involved in the SARB process. The structure is now in place for ongoing success with the SARB process and this goal is completed.

**Status: Completed**

3. *Prevention Goal #3: Support and Strengthen a behavioral management system such as Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) (Implementation Goal: Immediate 0-36 Months)*

Research different behavioral management systems to determine the best system for Shasta County youth. Seek to locate a system which includes a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, such as PBIS. There is an opportunity to implement a behavioral management system at the JRF and to continuously train new staff in a systematic manner to fully understand the program and provide assure consistent practice and model fidelity. Effective behavioral management system programming has shown ability to reduce emergency physical intervention and enhance probationer compliance and success. Providing training to new staff, as well as providing periodic “booster trainings” for ongoing staff, will support consistent implementation.

**Progress:**

May 2020 Update – The Division Director of the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF) has worked with the supervisors in the facility to review and make changes to the existing Behavior Matrix. The existing matrix included a level system in which youth could earn or lose privileges or consequences based on their behavior and the amount of time good behavior was sustained. Through this review process two additional levels to the system were added. An intake level was added to allow all youth to enter the facility at a neutral level rather than one that’s viewed as punitive. In addition, an honors level was added to incentivize youth to maintain long term positive behavior. The honors level added various incentives such as: clothing to identify this higher status, later bedtimes, additional access to entertainment activities, and opportunities to assist in areas of the facility not available to the other youth.

April 2021 Update - To remain consistent and effective with the behavior management system practices, staff received ongoing training on the behavior matrix and making point determination consistent with the behaviors of the residents. This training focuses on reviewing facility rules, so all staff have the same expectations of the residents allowing consistent scoring on the point level system.

April 2022 Update - In July 2021 a new behavior management system, the Positive Behavior Support System, was implemented. This new system allows the residents to earn a grade at the end of each shift based on their overall behavior, rather than taking away points throughout the day. The grades are determined through a joint conference between the pod staff at the end of each shift. A weekly average of a resident’s grades is determined from calculating the daily grade point average earned during the week. Based upon that grade point average, residents earn a level which allows them privileges according to their weekly performance. This system comes from a more positive approach with residents being rewarded for positive behavior and earning a grade rather than the negative process of points consistently being taken away throughout the day. The Positive Behavior Support System gives residents plenty of opportunity to redeem themselves throughout the day after they may have faltered. The facility bedtimes were adjusted to 30 minutes later, and the ability to earn later bedtimes based on positive behavior were also included in the new system. The Positive Behavior Matrix was updated to reflect the new behavior management system, and the commissary program was also redesigned to better serve the youth and reward them for their positive behavior.

**Status: Completed**

## Enhance and Expand Treatment and Supervision Services

### 1. *Treatment and Supervision Goal #1—Increase Practitioner contact with family members while in the JRF (Implementation Goal: 0-18 months)*

Communicate and meet with family members to identify the needs of parents and link them to services while the youth is in the JRF. The state’s Integrated Core Practice Model suggests,

“The initial activities of family engagement, particularly through the conversations about strengths, needs, and culture, set the tone for teamwork and team interactions that are consistent with ICPM principles. The engagement process is also where a clear understanding of the family’s vision for a better future is established. Everything that follows, including the development of measurable goals and intervention strategies, will support the achievement of that personal family vision.”

Early identification of family needs and linkage to services in the community will provide support for parents who often feel isolated from other parents. For youth who are in the JRF for longer periods of time, develop communication skills that can be practiced with parents during weekend visitation so there is foundation of successful communication prior to returning home.

#### **Progress:**

May 2020 Update – A Request for Quotes (RFQ) was issued in October 2019 to solicit quotes from local providers to provide Individual Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Enhancement Therapy, trauma-informed treatment/suicide prevention, and general counseling services to youth within the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF). A provider was selected, and a contract is nearing execution.

The JRF has implemented an enhanced release process to support youth and families. A Child/Family Team meeting is conducted by a DPO prior to the release of each resident. This process provides a structure for working with the families and the youth when the youth near their release date to ensure services are in place for both youth and families to ensure a successful transition from custody back to their home. Upon release, the youth and parent/guardian are provided with the JRF “Passport” document that identifies school, medical, treatment and any other pertinent transition information for the youth.

April 2021 Update - Victor Community Support Services (VCSS) was awarded the contract and provides Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) to residents in the JRF five days per week. After admission into the JRF, all residents participate in a Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment to determine their individual needs. The CBT facilitators determine the need for group and/or individual services to teach residents how emotions, behaviors, and thoughts are interconnected and to identify and correct problematic thinking and emotions; improve impulse controls, judgement and problem solving, stress management, dealing with anger, and enhancing self-esteem; and to assist residents in being successful in the JRF while working on a plan/skills to successfully reintegrate back into our community. All individual and group services follow a trauma informed approach and ongoing assessments of residents’ psychosocial and risk for delinquency needs are performed throughout detention. VCSS staff communicate with DPOs



and families and work to connect with community-based services in preparation of release and to ensure a successful reintegration into the community.

The Probation Department has partnered with HHSA to provide a full-time mental health clinician in the JRF to address the needs of the residents. Individual therapy is offered to residents who have co-occurring mental health disorders that require specialized mental health services beyond the offered rehabilitative programming. Individual therapy is a trauma-informed service that uses evidence-based practices tailored to the individual goals of the resident. A comprehensive mental health assessment considers the resident's holistic needs and the resident participates in developing a treatment plan aimed at improving functioning and behavior. The mental health clinician is available to residents throughout the day for crisis intervention, self-harm or suicidal ideations, de-escalation, individual therapy, and collaboration with our Probation team. Families are included in the development of the treatment plans, and family therapy is provided as a component of the plan. Because continuity of care is an integral part of the resident's success, individual therapy is continued while a resident is in the facility and service delivery is ensured upon release back into the community.

The JRF has developed a Sensory/De-escalation room which is an innovative practice that creates a safe, trauma informed environment allowing youth to de-escalate without the use of force or being placed in an isolation room. The sensory room reduces the number of disciplinary incidents, alleviates anxiety and fear among the residents, teaches residents how to manage stress, work through anger, improve sensory development, and build cognitive decision-making skills. The Sensory room is a positive behavioral intervention creating an overall safer environment in the JRF.

The JRF implemented a new Fine Arts Program which provides youth opportunities to learn new skills, develop new talents, and an outlet to express thoughts and feelings through creative writing/poetry, music, drawing and painting. The program has a positive impact on youth development and is associated with positive social and emotional behavior including empathy, sharing, expression, and mood control.

The release process from the JRF has been enhanced during this year. Prior to a youth transitioning from the JRF into the community a Child/Family Team (CFT) meeting is now a required part of the re-entry planning process. The CFT allows for everyone involved with the youth to meet, plan for the youth's return, and ensure everyone's expectations are clear regarding the transition of the youth to the community. These CFT's assist to establish a concrete plan for services, support, and expectations for everyone involved and to provide for continued services in the community upon the release of the youth. A smoother transition to their school district of residence has also been a benefit of this enhanced re-entry process.

April 2022 Update - In October 2021, the JRF Mental Health Clinician began holding rehabilitative programming for one hour each night, Monday-Friday from 7:00-8:00 p.m. All residents participate in this group with the assistance of JDO's and mentors when available. The clinician also prepares a lesson plan for the JRF staff to hold the group sessions on weekends, in the clinician's absence, which guarantees each resident will have a minimum of one hour of rehabilitative programming each day per Title 15 requirements. Cognitive Behavior Therapy and Anger Replacement Therapy continue to be provided through VCSS to identified residents in the afternoon. Individual therapy sessions are provided by the JRF Mental Health Clinician and

outside providers for those residents already established with a clinician. The Smart Recovery group, which is a Cognitive Behavioral Therapy based program, was added in January 2022, facilitated by VCSS to address addictive behaviors, including substance abuse. The JRF mental health clinician also addresses substance abuse related issues during therapy sessions as needed. The JRF has continued to expand programming efforts by adding two mentors who also participate in the nightly group sessions when available. The JRF continues to provide training to enhance the skills of JDO's allowing them to provide a positive impact on the youth we serve in the JRF. Although NA and AA have recently returned to providing volunteer services in the facility, implementing a program to specifically address substance abuse remains an ongoing goal for the JRF.

**Status: Completed**

2. *Treatment and Supervision Goal #2--Improve Access to and documentation of Mental Health Services in the JRF--Develop formal protocols for youth to request and receive Trauma-Informed Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder services. (Implementation Goal: 0-24 months)*

Develop a formal, written process for youth to use a MH Screen service to request time with a practitioner. Identify and co-locate a clinician at the JRF to offer Trauma Informed crisis and follow up case management. The Mental Health Practitioner will develop service plans, engage youth and family, assure timely Child and Family Team meetings, attend relevant meetings, and collaborate with partners for each youth in the JRF in need of ongoing mental health services.

Obtain or identify funding for this position from MHSA, State Grant or other revenue stream.

Most Shasta youth admitted into the JRF are present for short periods of time and cannot complete full treatment cycles. However, given the prevalence of trauma in the community and family dynamic, nearly all youth can benefit from learning basic communication skills or other pro-social skill building. Groups may include anger management, trauma-informed cognitive behavior therapy, developing skills in social cue awareness, problem-solving, and methods for responding non-aggressively. Offer more systematic, treatment-focused mental health services in the JRF, including individual and group therapy to develop skills and build a foundation for continuing therapy and counseling in the community.

Utilization of evidence-based programs offered by the substance use treatment provider provide consistency in services across providers. A program such as 7 Challenges may be appropriate.

Document the number of requests for services, as well as when a youth has received services from the practitioner.

**Progress:**

May 2020 Update – A procedure to provide referrals to a mental health provider has been implemented. This procedure includes a process to identify if a youth has a provider and, if appropriate, connect the provider with the youth within the facility.

A Request for Quotes (RFQ) was issued in October 2019 to solicit quotes from local providers to provide Individual Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Enhancement Therapy, trauma-informed treatment/suicide prevention, and general counseling services to youth within the

Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF). A provider was selected, and a contract is nearing execution.

JRF staff are working to review all individual case plans within the facility to ensure accurate communication regarding needed treatment DPOs and staff in facility. A counselor for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children has been assigned to work with youth in the facility including assessing the youth and providing group treatment. Recently, as a result of COVID 19, it has become necessary to have most of the treatment services transition to a telehealth style delivery. While this will not continue for all services past the current emergency, the ability to bring this type of treatment into the facility will open up additional treatment opportunities in the future.

County Mental Health has agreed to provide additional clinician support starting in Fiscal Year 2020/21 and duties and expectations has been outlined.

April 2021 Update - Formal protocols for youth to request and receive services have been completed and implemented. Staff have been trained. Youth receive information on how to request services during the booking process and information is included in the orientation handbook. This process is also discussed and reviewed as part of the orientation video which is presented to the youth during the booking process.

The JRF mental health clinician conducts an initial mental health assessment of each resident after admission into the facility. The onsite clinician contacts the probation officer to discuss the projected length of stay for the resident. If a resident will be detained in the JRF beyond the detention hearing date, the onsite clinician will conduct a more in-depth mental health assessment and refer the youth for mental health services as indicated. The clinician informs the probation officer, as well as JRF supervising staff, of the referral and specific provider information. The onsite clinician works with community-based providers as needed to support the resident.

At any time during detention a resident may complete a "Request for Contact" slip located on the pods requesting to see their community-based clinician, the Wellpath clinician, or the JRF onsite clinician. This "Request for Contact" can be confidential and placed in a confidential lockbox, only being retrieved by the onsite nurse, or it can be given to any one of the JRF staff to forward to the appropriate clinician. At any time if a resident is in crisis, a JDO or supervisor will seek assistance and follow up care from mental health staff.

**Status: Completed**

3. *Treatment and Supervision Goal #3--Enhance Coordination of Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services in the JRF with Community Services to Promote Successful Reunification (Implementation Goal: 0-24 months)*

Related to goal #1 above, the clinician will develop Treatment Plans for ongoing services after youth's release, and document referrals to all community services for each youth. The collection of mental health service utilization data will provide an understanding of the services, the number of youth who receive individual or group services, and other useful data points, and provide important information on the ongoing need for services after release.

The clinician will maintain a data set of youth post release, and conduct periodic engagement with youth, family and provider to assure continuity of services.

*Coordinate care after youth's release: (Implementation Goal: 0-24 months)*

Develop a clear methodology for implementing a treatment plan for each youth when released back to the community, and communicate the plan to the DPO, involved partners, court, and provider that will offer services in the community. The practitioner provides leadership to the treatment plan and ensures that the youth is connected to services prior to release from the JRF. The DPO will follow up with the plan and communicates the success of linkage to the involved partners.

**Progress:**

May 2020 Update – The Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility developed a process to provide youth released from the facility with an exit passport which provides information about what treatment and services they need to be successful when released. The passport is developed at the Child and Family Team Meeting (CFT) held within 30 days of the youth's scheduled release and includes treatment, medication, school, and other necessary services.

County Mental Health has agreed to provide additional clinician support starting in Fiscal Year 2020/21 and duties and expectations has been outlined.

April 2021 Update - HHS provides an onsite clinician to offer individual and family therapy to JRF residents. The clinician communicates with family members, facilitates family therapy, or refers to an outside provider depending on the treatment plan. This clinician works closely with the DPO's to facilitate a successful family reunification plan and participates in CFTs facilitated by the DPO.

For those residents identified through the PACT assessment or the mental health assessment as having substance use issues, the resident is referred to an educational program, Toward No Drugs, offered by a contracted provider in the JRF. If there is a more significant need for services, the mental health clinician will address during therapy sessions and/or make a referral for further services upon release from custody. The DPO also develops a case plan outlining services for the resident in and out of custody. Upon release from the JRF there have been some challenges in maintaining the treatment level in the community due to COVID-19 restrictions.

April 2022 Update -The JRF has implemented Caseload Teams, assigning Juvenile Detention Officers (JDO's) to residents. They are responsible for developing rapport with those residents on their Caseload Team, regularly checking in with them to address any issues that may have arisen as well as positive events and behavior. The JDO will work closely with the probation officer and JRF mental health clinician sharing information and working on case planning. Both the JRF mental health clinician and JDO's will participate in the CFT's for residents pending release to assist with developing a successful transition plan for the residents' release.

**Status: Complete**

4. *Treatment and Supervision Goal #4--Implement Continuum of Care and Related Reforms*  
(Implementation Goal: 0-24 months)

Shasta County Juvenile Probation has been active in further development of Child and Family Teaming, and more critically, in practicing the authentically family and community-based decision-making processes invited by the reforms. This can be challenging for staff but has demonstrable effects in terms of its outcomes with youth in care and in the eventual staff satisfaction and retention of team members.

Use Integrated Core Practice Model as guidance. The department will incorporate training and supervisory practice based in ICPM best practice and deliver periodic training to staff based on its principles and practice behaviors.

Relatedly, the use of Resource Family Approval protocols has shown some potential for Shasta's probation youth, to instill greater stability and quality of care. While the department benefits from its partnership with CWS social work teams in recruitment and support of caregivers, probation supervisors and leaders will devote further energies to establishment of sustainable RFA practice.

**Progress:**

May 2020 Update – Staff in Juvenile Probation used a variety of intervention methods to aid step-downs or permanency within the placement system. These methods included Safety Organized Practices, Family Finding, Effective Practices In Community Supervision (EPICS), and the Integrated Family Wellness Program (IFWP) as intervention methods to aid in a step down or permanency from placement.

DPOs and Probation Management involved in placement of youth participated in a training provided by Loc Nguyen on Continuum of Care practices, STRTP's, and trauma informed systems and how to best implement these practices to aid youth in being successful in placement. In addition, DPOs involved in placement of youth attending a training on transitioning youth from congregate care to family.

The Probation Department participated with Child and Family Services in the System Improvement Process (SIP) during the summer of 2019 to identify for improvement within the Child Welfare and Probation systems related to placement of youth. Peer Quality Case Reviews also occurred in June 2019.

April 2021 Update – Efforts are being made by Probation staff to place youth in the lowest level of care possible. This has increased the number of placements with family members or friends who are willing to foster the youth or in a foster home. STRTP placements are being utilized, but efforts are made through family finding and other methods are being utilized to locate placements.

We have focused on the amount of time a youth is in custody prior to being placed. The average time a youth spends in custody has dropped significantly. This was obtained through the revamping of our Placement Manual, changing procedures, and monitoring how long it is taking to obtain a Placement for the youth.

Monthly placement meetings have become the standard. These meetings review every probation youth in placement as well as the Non-Minor Dependents (NMD). DPOs are expected

to have a status update and transition plan or step-down option for each youth. There has been a shift to starting exit planning as soon as a youth is placed. This shift in practice has allowed us to engage those identified as their transition plan in the treatment of the youth which has shown to be beneficial. It has also allowed DPO's to more effectively adjust when transition plans need to be altered as we have more time to shift our focus to other transition options if needed.

Targeted referrals for STRTP's and foster families have begun as well. We have now identified what STRTP's specialize in certain treatments such as CSEC, sex crimes, or mental health and make referrals accordingly based on the needs of the youth. We select 3-5 programs that meet the needs of the youth and if they are denied we begin the process of a deeper dive. This deeper dive involves the state Department of Social Services in collaborative and concentrated efforts to determine if the youth is indeed appropriate for the placement program in which they were denied and to assist in determining if there are additional services that can be provided to enable the youth to be successful in the identified program.

A lot of time and effort went into the creation of the AB 2083 MOU. This MOU outlines much of the placement process for youth in Shasta County and included Child Welfare/Mental Health, Probation, Shasta County Office of Education, and Far Northern Regional Center. The MOU the Shasta County team created has been utilized as a template for other counties still struggling to get an MOU established in their county. The MOU was completed and signed in November 2020.

In December 2020, the state decertified all out of state placements for California youth. There is pending legislation that will permanently eliminate the use of out of state placements.

April 2022 Update - Lowest level of care has become a mantra for our department. It is now common practice for staff to seek the lowest level of care in order for a youth to be successful on supervision or in the community. Through targeted referrals, utilization of the River's Edge Academy, and effective case management we have seen our youth in STRTP's decline drastically over the last two years. The changes the department has made to our placement practices has been drastic, but the results are encouraging that we are going down the correct path to give youth the best chance to succeed at the lowest level of care possible.

For those youth that transition back from a STRTP they are given much more intensive services than they were prior to 2019. Youth now are mandated to have support services for six months after transition from a STRTP due to the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA also has brought about another change to the placement of youth. It now requires that a Qualified Individual (QI) assess the youth to deem if placement in a STRTP is appropriate. The QI is a neutral third party who conducts assessments to determine the if the recommended level of care for placement meets the youth's needs. This QI process is required for any youth potentially being placed in a STRTP or changing STRTP placements.

The department has continued participation in the SIP process for our county. There are meetings for each of the 4 work groups monthly that we attend, monthly leadership meetings, and quarterly meetings with the state. The department has established good relationships with its partners and the 5-year SIP Plan is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

Overall, the department has made great strides in revamping placement practices and procedures. Development will continue with new law changes, for the purpose of this goal much success has been achieved and it is to be considered completed.

**Status: Completed**

5. *Treatment and Supervision Goal #5--Issue Court Orders for Family to participate in services member participation (Implementation Goal: 0-24 months)*

It is recommended the judge write orders to require parents/caregivers to participate in services and treatment. Orders may include participation in learning behavior management, communication, and anger management skills, and involvement in wraparound services, mental health counseling, family counseling, parenting support groups, SUD treatment, and/or other Probation services. By writing orders for the parent's involvement, the youth will see that the parent also has expectations to learn that change is not exclusively the responsibility of the youth and change must happen for the family as a whole. This supportive treatment approach begins when the youth is removed from the home so the parent can begin learning new skills prior to the youth returning home.

This strategy will hold families accountable for learning skills while the youth is learning similar skills in the JRF to help provide continuity and consistency at home. Helping parents learn new skills will also have positive consequences for younger children in the home, help the family learn new patterns of communication, and create a safe and stable home environment.

**Progress:**

May 2020 Update - Probation has been working with Social Services to establish a dual status/dual jurisdiction process for the county which would allow Probation to hold the youth accountable and Social Services to hold the parents accountable to participate in treatment and services. Agencies are also working to improve the 241.1 WIC process. Monthly Juvenile Court meetings continue which allows a venue to discuss process improvements.

April 2021 Update - Probation continues to work with Social Services, and other justice partners, towards the creation of a dual status process model. The workgroup has met monthly for the majority of the last year with some exceptions due to COVID 19. On-going efforts continue regarding the development of a County wide 241.1 WIC protocol.

April 2022 Update - The establishment of a dual status/dual jurisdiction process is still being worked on. There are meetings that still occur, however with staff turnover from other agencies, COVID-19, progress has been minimal towards the goal of dual jurisdiction in this last year. Efforts will continue on this subject for FY 22/23.

**Status: Completed**

## Appendix A.

June 21, 2018 Roster: extended meeting of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)

Name	Agency
William Bateman	Shasta County Public Defender
Cindy Vogt	California Heritage Youthbuild Academy, Juvenile Justice Commission
Barbara Jackson	Anderson Teen Center
Kim Niemer	City of Redding, Martin Luther King, Jr Center
Jackie Durant	Hope City
Amy Diamantine	North Valley Catholic Social Services
Josh Smith	Shasta County Probation
Eric Jones	Shasta County Probation
Liz Leslie	Partnership Health Plan
Eric Faxon	Probation, Juvenile Supervising Probation Officer
Lori Steele	Shasta County Mental Health Children's Services
Doug Shelton	Shasta County Mental Health Children's Services
Wendy Dickens	First 5 Shasta Commission
Chelsey Chappelle	Shasta County Probation
Natalie Jacobs	Shasta County Probation
Barbara Van Dyke	Juvenile Justice Commission
Betty Cunningham	Shasta County Chemical People, Juvenile Justice Commission
Judge Daryl Kennedy	Shasta County Superior Court
Sarah Till	Shasta County Probation
Susan Duncan	Juvenile Justice Commission
Tracie Neal	Shasta County Probation, JJCC Member
Benjamin Hanna	Shasta County District Attorney's Office
Carol Ulloa	Shasta County Probation
Donnell Ewert	Shasta County Health & Human Services Agency, JJCC Member
Elaine Grossman	Shasta County Administrative Office
Linda Ram	Shasta County Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council, JJCC Member
Roger Moore	Redding Police Department, Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
Steve MacFarland	Juvenile Justice Commission Chair, Shasta County Office of Education Board Member, JJCC Member
Steve Morgan	Shasta County Board of Supervisors, JJCC Member
Tom Bosenko	Shasta County Sheriff, JJCC Member
Melissa Fowler-Bradley	Shasta County Superior Court Executive Officer
Patrick O'Conner	Redding Fire Department, Youth Fire Prevention & Intervention Program
Elizabeth Poole	First 5 Shasta
Mey Chao-Lee	Adult Services Mental Health/Alcohol & Drug



Ian Collins	Shasta County Public Defender's Office
Kathryn Barton	Shasta County Public Defender's Office
Kimberly Johnson	Children's Legacy Center
Becky Domindquez	YMCA
Twyla Carpenter	Shasta County Probation
Mary Lord	Shasta County Office of Education, JJCC alternate Member

## Appendix B.

### Shasta County Interviews (2018)

Name	Agency
Mary Lord	Shasta County Office of Education
Kristen Lyons	YMCA
Kimberly Johnson	Children's Legacy Center
Cindy Vogt	Juvenile Justice Commission Member
Jackie Duggan	Children's Legacy Center
Natalie Jacobs	Shasta County Probation Department
Sarah Till	Shasta County Probation
Jackie Durrant	Non-Profit Restorative Justice Services
Mandy Moore	Supervisor AB 12 Program/Case Manager
Liz Leslie	Partnership Health MCO
Tara T.	Parent Participant
Kathy Thompson	Juvenile Court School/SELPA Director
Dianna Wagner	CSOC Director
Susan Wilson	Director Youth Violence Prevention Council
Tracy Lewis	California Forensic Med Group
Joan Jeffers	Shasta County Office of Education
Wendy Dickens	First 5 Commission Shasta County

## **Appendix C.**

### Shasta County Juvenile Justice Plan Follow Up Interview Questions

1. What are the strengths of the Juvenile Probation partnerships in Shasta?
2. What should the goals of the Juvenile Probation System be over the next five years?
3. Are there partnership opportunities for Probation, relative to your agency? What would those look like?
4. What is Probation doing to keep the number of youth in group homes low?
5. What is needed to reduce the number of out-of-State placements for youth?
6. Recidivism or reentry was identified in our June meeting. What do you think would help reduce recidivism?
7. What geographies in the county are most in need?

#### **Family**

8. How does Probation support families of youth who have been involved in Probation?
  - a. Families of youth who have mental health disorders?
  - b. Families of youth who have substance use disorders?
9. Overall, what would strengthen parent engagement in Shasta?

#### **Education/School Partnership**

10. How does Probation collaborate with the schools to meet the needs of youth who are on probation?
11. What are the objectives for youth who are returning to mainstream school?
12. What role do schools have in diversion?

13. How is Probation involved in SARB?

14. What is the role of the Probation Officer in the schools?

15. Does Probation work with the School Resource Officers?

### **Community**

16. What is the Primary role of the Probation Officer in Shasta County and when does or should the PO get involved with the youth?

17. What are the responsibilities of the Probation Officer in linking youth to services and following up to ensure they happen?

18. What is Probation's role in promoting community safety?

19. Are there any other services that could support Probation to meet the needs of the community?

### **Court Partnership and Services**

20. How do Deputy Probation Officers work with the court system?

21. Does the Probation Officer report to the court about youth behavior?

22. What would strengthen the relationship between Probation and the court system?

### **Juvenile Rehabilitation Services**

23. What is Probation's role with the youth when the youth is in JRF?

a. Frequency of visits?

b. Types of support given?

c. Communication with families? Where?

24. What services are available while the youth is in the JDF? Are there additional services needed?

25. How are mental health needs assessed?

26. How are substance use needs assessed?

27. How do youth being released get referred and linked to services in the community?
28. How do JDF Staff coordinate services for youth being released from the JDF?
29. How do Child Welfare Services and Probation coordinate services with each other? How does the CSOC/HHS support Probation?
30. How are youth with dual designations (300 and 602) served?
  - a. Are there opportunities for strengthening these collaborative services?
  - b. Does the Probation Officer meet with the Child Welfare Case Worker for these? youth?
  - c. How do the Case Worker and Probation Officer coordinate services?
31. What would strengthen the collaboration between the CSOC and Probation?
32. Are Independent Living Program (ILP) services available for youth who are on probation?
33. How does Probation support the CSOC to keep youth at home or in the community? rather than in out-of-home placement?
34. How does Probation refer to outpatient mental health and substance use treatment when the youth needs services?
35. Does Probation participate in Child and Family Teams?

### **Summary**

36. Do you have other/additional thoughts about what youth who are on probation need to achieve positive outcomes?