

**Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act &  
Youthful Offender Block Grant (JJCPA-YOBG)**

**Consolidated Annual Plan**

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Date: May 1, 2017

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Instructions:

Government Code Section 30061(b)(4) and Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1961(b) call for consolidation of the annual plans required for JJCPA and YOBG.

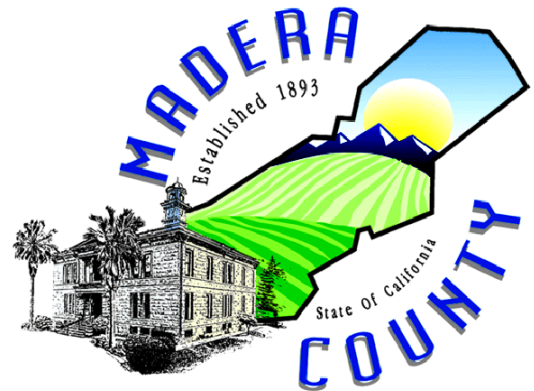
Please submit your most up-to-date consolidated plan.

The rest of this document is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. If you find it helpful to use this template, please do so.

Your submission will be posted, as submitted, to the BSCC website.

MADERA COUNTY  
COMPREHENSIVE  
MULTI-AGENCY  
JUVENILE  
JUSTICE PLAN

2017



2018

**MADERA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL  
COMPREHENSIVE MULTIAGENCY JUVENILE JUSTICE PLAN (CMJJP)/  
LOCAL ACTION PLAN (LAP)**

**2017-18**

## **INTRODUCTION**

To meet Legislative requirements of the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act of 2000, a State funded grant project, the Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP), was derived from the Local Action Plan. The two plans are consolidated into the CMJJP/LAP. The updated Plan will review the current services, and address specific issues which pertain to the area of juvenile crime.

The CMJJP/LAP confronts the problems of youth in Madera County from a systems perspective. This perspective suggests that the problems of youth crime are related directly to issues involving the families, community, private and governmental agencies, as well as law enforcement, the courts, and the correctional systems. The Plan has its roots in ongoing efforts in collaboration and coordination through locally initiated activities. These activities are summarized below and in a tradition of cooperation and multi-agency initiatives in addressing the complications of youth crime and at-risk populations. The CMJJP/LAP is intended as a blueprint for future planning activities and the development, implementation, and evaluation of future programs and policies.

Madera County has developed an existing continuum of services that strongly emphasizes collaboration across agency boundaries toward reducing crime and delinquency for delinquent and pre-delinquent youth. The County has a history of developing such inter-agency projects through dedication of pre-existing resources and maximizing external funding through a range of projects. The major strengths found through this Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan/Local Action Plan include:

- A commitment to addressing the problems of youth through on-going development of an Interagency Children and Youth Services Council.
- A continuum of care, using graduated services and programs ranging from prevention and intervention to incapacitation.
- Collaborative and integrative service delivery through such programs as the Stop Truancy Opportunity Program, Court Day School and Boot Camp's Program RESPECT with all of the above listed programs utilizing choice theory through

Corrective Thinking and New Choices. Recently Aggression Replacement Therapy (A.R.T.) has been added in to the behavior modification scheme.

- Programs recognizing the need to deal with the multiple causes and problems leading to at-risk and high-risk behavior.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan/Local Action Plan has two overlapping purposes. First, as a stand-alone document, this plan summarizes past and current efforts at combating juvenile crime in Madera County. As a Plan, this document reviews the existing system and identifies gaps in services that address juvenile delinquency, crime, and related problems. This description of the range of solutions addressing these problems directs future planning efforts and program development by providing an empirical framework for discussion and planning efforts. Second, this Plan provides the basis for an ongoing application to the Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) for funding of specific program initiatives developed through this planning process.

As part of the planning process, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council spent considerable time in developing their mission, goals and objectives. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council examined a diverse body of material, including existing and past Madera County documents as well as academic research. Expert opinion and community perspectives were solicited from key participants in county and civic affairs. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Mission Statement includes elements from previous work and research findings wherein group consensus was established:

*The mission of the Madera County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council shall be: Enhancing public safety through use of the full continuum of timely and appropriate prevention, intervention, suppression and punishment options. Effective use of these options will hold youth accountable and propel them toward productive and responsible citizenship, which will result in a reduced rate of youths continuing with problem behavior leading to adult crime.*

This mission will be addressed through the meeting of specific goals and objectives. Services and programs will be provided that prepare youths and their families to make responsible decisions and lifestyle changes. Accomplishing these goals will involve the following activities:

- Continuing the development of the continuum of care, through the development of prevention, treatment, and aftercare components.
- Stressing prevention and suppression: encourage and support prevention and intervention services at the front end of the system.
- Involving government and private agencies in all activities.
- Engaging families in these goals.
- Continuing the commitment to future planning and collaborative work.
- Improving services to under-served communities/populations.
- Information sharing by collaborative partners for case management and evaluation and developing empirical indicators that allow evaluation of outcome measures.

## **IDENTIFIERS OF YOUTH AT-RISK**

The problems of at-risk and high-risk youth in Madera County are much like jurisdictions throughout the country and previous research has shown, those youth who exhibit the greatest risk factors are best served in prevention programs.

At-risk and high-risk youth are composed of individuals who meet the following problem criteria:

- **School:** Those with truancy and attendance issues; those with behavior and adjustment problems; those in danger of failing; and youth either dropping out or in danger of dropping out.
- **Family:** Those youth residing with families in conflict (including violence and abuse in the home); children of substance abusers; and those whose parents lack fundamental parenting skills. Family issues are often a precursor to youth failing to attend school.
- **Community: Anti-social peers and premature independence:** Those youth involved in gang or gang-like activities; those youth who are at-risk of developing attachments to anti-social friends and norms, and engaging in activities outside convention; those exhibiting signs of early independence through rebelliousness and early initiation into problem behaviors such as truancy; and those out of parental control, and/or suffering from a mental health disorder such as depression, anxiety, and trauma impairing their normal functioning. These youth are typically the most likely to avoid the educational system.
- **Sexual activity and resulting parenthood:** Youth, who engage in sexual activity, often resulting in early parenthood, create a range of problems for themselves and their children.

## **EXISTING INTERAGENCY COLLABORATIVE JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS**

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council found that the County had made excellent progress in developing collaborations across agency boundaries in addressing the needs of target groups, at-risk youth and youth who were currently involved in the juvenile justice system. Through the Interagency Children and Youth Services Council, the County has formed an on-going collaborative body that continues to address these problems in a pro-active, preventative perspective.

### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (BHS)**

#### **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Madera County Behavioral Health provides a broad range of mental health services to children, adolescents and their families throughout Madera County. These include:

**Outpatient Clinics:** Outpatient clinics in Madera, Chowchilla and Oakhurst provide assessment, individual, family and group therapy, psychiatric evaluation and medication services and crisis intervention. Case management services are also available to link client families with needed community resources and to augment therapy services by assisting in the development of pro-social skills, behavior management and the like. Crisis response services are available 24 hours a day, and include telephone crisis management, crisis staff that responds to Madera Community Hospital, Valley Children's Hospital, Juvenile Hall and the Jail for involuntary hold (5150's) evaluations.

**Full Service Partnership (FSP):** This program is funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and we work in close partnership with the Department of Social Services, Probation, Education and Behavioral Health. The FSP provides intensive community based services for underserved youth who are at risk of school failure, criminal justice involvement, or out-of-home placement as a result of serious mental illness. Services include therapy, mentoring, rehabilitation and intensive case management in the community, school and home and are designed to help stabilize children and adolescents to allow for healthier behavior in their life domains. There are two FSP programs; one is geared toward children, ages 5 to 16 and the other to transitional age youth, and ages 16-21. Candidates for this program can be residing in their family home as well as in foster care and group home when services are necessary to stabilize these placements and allow for successful re-integration into their communities.

**Juvenile Justice Services (JJS):** This program is co-located at Enterprise Secondary School on the Criminal Justice campus. Mental Health staff provides individual, family and group therapy as well as case management services for youth who are on probation or are at risk of criminal justice involvement. Youth enrolled at Court Day School are expected to participate in intensive Behavioral Health Services as part of their school program. Enterprise Secondary School students are also eligible for

services when at risk for criminal justice involvement. This is a collaborative program between Probation, County Office of Education and Behavioral Health, and staff work closely together to promote pro-social behaviors, decrease recidivism, and alter negative interactions in a youth's home, school and community.

**Interagency Placement Committee (IPC):** This committee includes representation from the Department of Social Services, Probation, County Office of Education and Behavioral Health. The committee meets monthly to address the needs of Children and Youth in out of home placement. The committee oversees and reviews the status of children and youth who are in high level (13-14) group home placements. This also includes stepping down children from higher level group homes as soon as possible and back into their home community. This may include intensive services from all agencies in an effort to sustain and stabilize their placement. If intensive services are needed, the youth is usually referred to the Full Service Partnership (MHSA) through Behavioral Health Services to help prevent higher level of group home placement and decrease risk of needing multiple placements. The committee may also address the needs and status of children and youth in foster care or lower level (10-12) group homes when needed. The committee may consult and make recommendations regarding level of care when an existing placement and services are not meeting the youth's needs. The goal of the IPC is always to determine and recommend the least restrictive and appropriate care.

### **SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES (SUD)**

Madera County Behavioral Health provides an array of alcohol and drug prevention and treatment service to Madera County youth and their families. These include:

**Outpatient Substance Use Treatment:** This service is available to youth meeting DSM-IV criteria for substance abuse or substance dependence. Youth who are in treatment have significant and dangerous patterns of substance abuse that are affecting them in various life domains and/or leading to involvement in criminal behavior. Referrals come from parents, probation, schools and mental health programs. The program is a minimum of 9 months long and includes focus on drug refusal skills, understanding addiction, character development, resiliency skills and the like. There is close collaboration with JJS mental health and SUD providers regarding services for youth with co-occurring disorders.

**Prenatal Alcohol & Drug Treatment:** Treatment services are available for pregnant and/or parenting teen girls who need individual counseling regarding substance abuse; teens receive parenting education, outreach, and case management, linkage to needed health services and prenatal care, instruction in and have an identified substance abuse or dependence diagnosis. In addition to group and daily living skills, there is ongoing support to manage the demands of pregnancy. This program works closely with community partners to assist in linking the young women to all the resources needed to address both the substance abuse issue and their pregnancy or parenting needs.

**Prevention Education Classes:** The SUD Prevention Coordinator conducts Drug and Alcohol Education Prevention classes with students in Madera Unified Schools who have been discovered at school or school sponsored events to be under the influence or in possession of drug paraphernalia. Such students are required to complete an 8-week course of drug abuse education. This occurs at the school site or BHS. Students referred by probation who do not meet the DSM-V criteria for treatment services also receive prevention education classes conducted by the youth SUD treatment counselors. At any time it becomes evident that a youth is in need of treatment a referral is made for outpatient treatment.

**Prevention Education in Juvenile Correctional Facilities:** Weekly drug and alcohol education classes are conducted for all youth residing in the Juvenile Detention Facility or Juvenile Correctional Camp. The youth SUD counselors conduct classes and youth are linked to outpatient prevention and/or treatment services as needed. Using the youth SUD counselors to conduct these classes enables positive continuity and continued support and intervention for these youth as they leave the correctional facilities and return to the community.

**Other AOD Prevention Initiatives:** All counties are required by the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs to have a five-year strategic plan focused on prevention. Madera County's plan includes initiatives targeting youth and pregnant and parenting teens. A full-time Prevention Coordinator oversees implementation of the plan. In addition to prevention classes, prevention activities include participation in local community events, like Picnic in the Park, Challenge Day, March against Methamphetamine and various health fairs. Statewide campaigns such as Problem Gambling Awareness Week, Recovery Happens Month, and Child Abuse Prevention month are also on the prevention activities calendar. The prevention Coordinator provides local media with information and press releases to disseminate information to the broader community. All have in common the reduction of alcohol and drug abuse in the community through education, information dissemination, problem identification and referral, provision of pro-social alternatives and involvement within community.

**Service Gaps Identified:**

None.



# **MADERA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

## **JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION**

Juvenile Services Division has expanded services through several initiatives introduced since 2010. As the department continues to work to develop practices that align with (EBP) principles, we learned from data collected that fewer youth are being placed on formal probation and fewer violations are being filed in juvenile court since the 2010.

Probation and Child Welfare as a whole is progressing through some significant changes for foster youth care. AB403, also known as Continuum of Care Reform increases family based resources, extended family and Short Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP) and creates a Child, Family Team (CFT) to help guide placement decisions for foster youth.

The department received approval to begin a remodel project of the old Correctional Camp facility to convert it into the new Juvenile Services Division building. Construction on the project started in October 2016 and will be completed in May 2017. The location of the newly remodeled building is adjacent to Enterprise School and Juvenile Hall. Additionally, it will have the capacity to add vocational training programs to a portion of the building. It has the office capacity to house 30 probation staff, host trainings, two classrooms for youth engagement and large recreation area in the back. It will provide local youthful offenders innovative evidenced based programs using state of the art technology. It will serve as a hub where probation staff and community based agencies can co-facilitate programs to motivate youthful offenders to change their behavior and to be positive contributors to their community.

Since 2010 the department has put significant focus on training staff both evidence based practices and officer safety skills. Much of the success of turning troubled youth around and keeping the community safe can be attributed to our hard-working, well trained and dedicated staff.

### **Juvenile Court and Intake:**

The Juvenile Services Division oversees all juvenile matters referred to the Probation Department by other law enforcement agencies in Madera County. Juvenile Court Intake staff processes hundreds of referrals from law enforcement agencies for youths alleged to have committed law violations, those who are beyond parental control, curfew violators, truants or runaways. A determination is made whether the youthful offenders will be referred to the Juvenile Court for prosecution, placed on informal probation, diverted or reprimanded with the case closed. A deputy district attorney assigned to the Juvenile Services Division determines charges to file. The juvenile court investigators are responsible for compiling dispositional reports for the court.

## **Diversion for the First Time Offender**

A face-to-face interview is conducted with first time offenders and their families which typically include a referral for a misdemeanor. Support and guidance for parents is given in the form of a referral to parenting education classes and other community based resources. In some cases the youth may be referred to informal probation services for a period of six months.

### **Court Day School:**

The Court Day School is a 180 day program in partnership between the Madera County Probation Department, Madera County Superintendent of Schools and Madera County Behavioral Health Services Department (BHS). The probation officer works in collaboration with counselors, teachers, and administrators from the participating agencies. The components of the program include education, life skills, counseling services, substance abuse treatment, electronic monitoring, intensive supervision, Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART), health education, recreational activities, job readiness, Battle for Change, credit recovery and parenting education, mentoring and community service. Beginning in August 2017 these services will be provided on site at the newly remodeled Juvenile Services facility.

### **Group Home/Foster Care:**

A probation officer is responsible for the supervision of youthful offenders court ordered into group homes and/or foster care placement. The officer is responsible for the offender's safety and well being and makes monthly visits to the placement site. The officer works closely with the Child Family Team that consists of social workers, behavior health specialist, offender and their families. This arrangement ensures the youth in placements are given a voice and receive appropriate treatment in a safe and secure environment. During this time, the offender will be enrolled in school, mental health counseling, substance abuse counseling, and other counseling if necessary. The probation officer will also work with the offender's parents or recruit foster parents to prepare the youth for transition back home and Wraparound services.

## **Juvenile Services Programs Supported by YOBG/JJCPA Funding**

### **American Community Corrections Institute (ACCI):**

Evidence based workbooks which use cognitive restructuring techniques to change the way youth offenders think. ACCI's workbooks are used for diversion, as alternative sanctions that address criminogenic needs. The workbooks are completed within 30 days by the offender, with the help of a "coach".

### **Aggression Replacement Treatment (ART):**

Aggression Replacement Treatment (ART) has been implemented and taught to the youth since 2010. It is a cognitive training aimed to reduce aggression and typically is taught over a 10 week span. Probation Specialist facilitates it at both Court Day School and Correctional Academy programs. The program is evidence based.

### **Battle for Change:**

The Battle for Change engages youth in the juvenile justice system to develop positive interpersonal habits to make a positive impact in their community. Battle for Change involves physical workouts four times a week and monthly team building activities. The goal of these activities are to teach at risk youth the value of mutual respect, hard work, social responsibility, environmental awareness, proactive activities and help them in forming their opinions through positive independent thought. Probation staff and local community members take youth to participate in mountain hikes, ice skating, gym access, ropes course, mountain biking and zip line team building activities.

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters:**

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters is to provide youth facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one on one relationship that change their lives for the better, forever. On any give school day, you can find probation staff and friends of the probation department mentoring local youth at a local school.

### **Community Service and Improvement Program:**

Together with the City of Madera Public Works Department and the Probation Department, offenders are provided opportunities to perform community service hours under the supervision of the City's worksite supervisors.

### **Electronic Monitoring:**

Electronic monitoring services are contracted through behavioral interventions (BI). Electronic monitoring serves as an alternative to incarceration for youthful offenders by providing electronic supervision for youth released from juvenile hall or otherwise sentenced to this additional condition of probation. This alternative is used to monitor minors released from early from juvenile hall and as a component of the court day school program and correctional academy aftercare.

**Risk and Needs Assessment:**

A key principle to identify behavioral interventions of youthful offenders is done with a risk/needs assessment tool and a case plan which becomes a “Road Map” to address offender needs and risk factors. Caseloads are determined by the risk / needs assessment score. An offender who receives a High or Moderate score is assigned to active supervision. An offender who receives a Low score is assigned to bank supervision.

**Mentoring:**

Mentors from Youth for Christ are assigned as mentees at Madera County Probation facilities. Each mentor conducts monthly mentee activities, individual visits and participates in mentee group discussions. The mentors collaborate with probation staff to encourage, motivate, educate, and empower the mentee.

**Juvenile Arson Prevention:**

Youth who have committed arson offenses are referred to complete an evidence based fire starter prevention and intervention curriculum. Cornerstone Counseling provides the service the local youth.

**Pathways to Recovery:**

In collaboration with Madera County Behavioral Health Services and Cornerstone Counseling a youth sex offender counseling program was developed for youthful offenders. There was a pressing need to effectively treat the rising number of youth sex offenders being placed on probation in the county. The “Pathways” treatment model is an evidenced based model that consists of a cognitive behavioral framework for persons with sexual behavior problems. The offender’s family and or caregivers will be included in the treatment process as means of developing their ability and understanding of how to support the offender throughout the entirety of their treatment process.

**RadKids:**

Probation officers teach 5<sup>th</sup> graders at a local elementary school to resist aggression in a ten week program. The instruction includes personal empowerment safety education which is designed to empower the children to resist and stop violence, harm or bullying while improving focus to learn in a safe school environment.

**Redirect:**

The Valley State Prison Redirect Program is a one day reality program presented by staff and volunteer inmates to the at-risk male youth ages 12- 17. The program is voluntary for the youth. The program is comprised of carefully selected inmates who share with the youth their own past behaviors, the choices they made and what they did to get sent to prison. It is supervised by correctional officers and carefully matches the inmates with the youth.

### **Strengthening Families:**

The Strengthening Families Program is a parenting program through the Community Action Partnership of Madera County (CAPMC). It is a family skills enrichment program that improves interactions between parents and children in all stages of child/teen development. It is an evidence-based enrichment program for parents and children consisting of parenting skills, children's life skills, and family skills training courses, some of which will include informal family practice time and group leader coaching.

### **Truancy Prevention:**

A probation technician is assigned to work with the County's school districts to identify needs of the county's truant youth with the goal of increasing school attendance throughout the county.

### **JUVENILE DETENTION HISTORY IN MADERA COUNTY:**

Juvenile Detention in Madera County began in the 1940's, at the first facility on Lewis Street just west of Madera Avenue. In 1962, the old Juvenile Hall was completed at a cost of \$323,151, including the property. The building was designed for 21 offenders. Over the years, remodeling and "double bunking" changed the rated capacity to 40.

Construction of the new facility started in July 2000 and the facility was occupied in January 2002. The facility is designed for expansion to 130 beds to meet future needs. The facility continues to be an efficient, safe, and secure environment for detained youth, and the dedicated staff that supervises the detainees.

The Juvenile Detention Facility currently has 70 single cell rooms. Thirty (30) beds are designated for the Correctional Academy Program. Forty (40) beds are designated for the Juvenile Hall. In addition, four (4) beds have been added in an open dormitory area by increasing the overall capacity to seventy (74) total.

### **CORRECTIONAL ACADEMY HISTORY IN MADERA COUNTY:**

With the support of our County Board of Supervisors the Madera County Juvenile Correctional Camp began providing services to delinquent youth from our community in May of 1997. The correctional camp, in part, was built as a cost effective alternative for a juvenile commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice, formally known as California Youth Authority. A juvenile placement at the correctional camp allows the County to keep local control of our delinquent youth and provide safety to the community while holding the cadets accountable for their unlawful behavior through a structured rigid program.

In September 2010, because of budgetary restraints, the Correctional Camp Facility was closed and the program was moved into the Juvenile Detention Facility. In

December of 2015, the Correctional Camp program was restructured and formally changed to a Correctional Academy program.

### **CORRECTIONAL ACADEMY CAMP PROGRAM:**

To be eligible for the correctional academy, the Juvenile Court Judge must order a ward committed to the program under Section 602 of the Welfare & Institutions Code. The program is a collaborative effort between the Madera County Probation Department, Madera County Office of Education, Madera County Behavioral Health Services and volunteers. The program is typically a twelve month, eighteen month or twenty four month commitment that includes detention and aftercare phases. The program was developed from a correctional model for defiant youth based in part on military protocol.

The academy utilizes a combination of structure, discipline, physical conditioning and accountability in a nurturing approach in order to emphasize self-control and improve self-esteem. Once a youth has been committed to the camp they are referred to as cadets. There are three stages to the custody phase in which the cadets wear colored shirts according to their rank, from lowest to highest, green, brown and black. As the cadets advance in their rank they become eligible to receive additional privileges such as sibling visitation, community service and field trips.

After successful completion of the in custody phase cadets graduate to the aftercare component and are placed back into their parent's home whenever possible or an alternate living arrangement is made. The cadets are closely monitored as they may be placed on house arrest with electronic monitoring and probation staff provides intensive supervision. The cadet and their family will receive counseling services as determined by a mental health screening process and as resources allow.

### **JUVENILE FACILITY SERVICES**

#### **EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMMING:**

Sierra Education and Research Institute (SERI) provides volunteer interns seeking their doctorate degree in forensic psychology to teach life skills to the cadets in the academy program. Many of these volunteers already have their bachelors or masters degree. The Life Skills program is an intervention program for detained youth. The program provides education in Self Esteem, Anger Management, Domestic Violence, Victim Impact, Parenting Skills, Gang Intervention, and Substance Abuse counseling. Edovo learning based tablet program is also available for youths to take a course such as College Algebra and in return, gain credits to listen to music or play a video game. Further, Madera Behavioral Health provides substance abuse treatment in group counseling sessions. The Proud Parenting Program and Courage to Change courses are also offered as programs within the facility. The youth leave with a better

understanding of positive character development and with the tools necessary to become responsible and productive contributors to the community.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

Youth committed to the academy program participate in community service. These cadets learn a greater amount of respect and appreciation for their work. It also teaches the cadets to work together and give back to their community no matter what gang affiliation or ethnic background they come from. Some of the job sites where the work is performed include the following: Veterans of Foreign War, Putney Ranch, Fair Grounds, Animal Shelter, Madera Love Inc, Hensley Lake, and Bass Lake Tree Removal.

### **MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH:**

Madera County contracts with California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG). Medical services are provided 12 hours a day, 7 days per week. A registered nurse is on duty 8 hours a day and the remainder of the shift is covered by a Licensed Vocational Nurse. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker is available as needed between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday. All services provided in the facility meet or exceed the standards as required by California Code of Regulations, Title-15. Further, there is a Behavioral Therapist assigned to the Correctional Academy three times a week for mental health issues.

### **EDUCATION SERVICES:**

Madera County Juvenile Detention Facility and Correctional Academy both are provided educational services through the Madera County Office of Education (MCOE). MCOE maintains the responsibility for compliance with all educational standards as required through the State of California Department of Education and Title-15.

### **FOOD SERVICES AND NUTRITION:**

Madera County contracts with Aramark Cooperation to provide food services to the facility through the Madera County Department of Corrections kitchen. All meals served are in compliance with the California Code of Regulations Title-15, and California Department of Education Nutrition Program specifications.

### **RELIGIOUS SERVICES:**

Youth for Christ provide onsite non-denominational religious services to those youth who choose to participate. Youth can request to have their own pastor visit them with the approval of the commander. Other religious services and spiritual counseling are offered throughout the year.

### **Service Gaps Identified:**

- Need for additional gang prevention.
- Vocational training.
- Full time Behavior Health Therapist.

## **Youthful Offender Block Grant:**

In September 2007, the California Legislature enacted SB81 and AB191. This directed the California Department of Juvenile Justice to discontinue accepting juvenile court commitments and parole violators except those adjudicated for violent offenses. Juvenile offenders with less serious offenses served custodial and parole commitments under the jurisdiction of the county probation departments in California.

The new law provided funding through the Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG) to counties for the implementation of correctional reform programs for juvenile offenders. The funds cover the costs to counties to oversee juvenile offenders.

In 2017-18, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funding for one part time mental health clinician assigned to the Correctional Academy (Formally called Correctional Camp) and Court Day School Program. The clinician will provide individual and group therapy with juveniles. The clinician will also provide family therapy during the juvenile's time in the Correctional Academy. The clinician assesses juvenile s' suitability for the academy. The clinician is also an A.R.T. facilitator for both programs as well. Additionally YOBG funds will be used to purchase MRT and ART curriculum, incentives, team building activities and field trips.

A mental health clinician teaches Aggression Replacement Therapy to juveniles ordered into the Correctional Academy and Court Day School as part of the program's regular evidence based programming. Programs that integrate juvenile cognitive treatment with family intervention during the period of confinement and thru community reintegration have been shown to reduce the percentage of recidivism among juveniles.

A mental health clinician can focus on individual juveniles and their needs both in custody and out, by addressing negative factors such as anger, impulse control, and emotional instability. Individual treatment sessions while in-custody would otherwise be non-existent that provides the juveniles an outlet to express and work on individually tailored needs.

In 2017-18, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funding for one Juvenile Detention Officer who will serve as a transport officer position assigned to the Juvenile Detention Facility/Correctional Academy and works with all detained juveniles. The officer coordinates all transport assignments as well as transports juveniles to Court, medical appointments and other detention facilities throughout the State. The officer is also trained to facilitate evidenced based cognitive programming to juvenile offenders and complete working case plans for those juveniles in custody for 30 days or more. He / She will facilitate cognitive group therapy in these EBP approaches: A.R.T., Motivational Interviewing and completing JAIS Assessments and case plans. YOBG funds will also pay for the officer's safety equipment, vehicle lease, cell phone, ART and MRT curriculum, related training and office supplies.



Having a designated transport officer who works with all of the detained minors provides institutional consistency between detention transportation practices as well as facilitating evidence based services to juveniles which otherwise would not be provided by a detention officer. This officer also builds rapport with the juveniles through these aforementioned strategies. This helps reduce the stress between officer and offender in the institution.

In 2017-18, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funding for one Deputy Probation Officer and .20 FTE Probation Program Specialist assigned to work with juveniles ordered to the Court Day School Program and also with juveniles at an alternative education school site located on our Juvenile Justice Campus. The evidence based services include A.R.T., MRT, Mentoring, Workforce Skills for Success program which is also an EBP Job readiness/training program provided by the CBO Work Force Development. The deputy probation officer and program specialist are trained to do A.R.T, MRT, Motivational Interviewing, and Forward Thinking and participate in a quarterly department wide EBP committee meeting.

Additionally funds will pay for program supplies, curriculum, incentives, and team building field trips, snacks, gift cards, and sports equipment. Also, related officer safety equipment office equipment/supplies, vehicle lease, and training.

Having full time presence of a deputy probation officer and program specialist on the School campus to directly supervise the wards in the Court Day School program, as well as providing the juveniles services otherwise not provided.

In 2017-18, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funds for one deputy probation officer will closely supervise juveniles when released from the residential phase of the Correctional Academy program. The juveniles will serve on house arrest with electronic monitoring, receive job training, counseling, transitional education, ART, MRT and Forward Thinking. They will also be provided with incentives and opportunities at field trips and special events as opportunity affords. Additional funds will be used for training, office, vehicle lease, and safety equipment as needed. Additionally, ART and MRT curriculum, and lastly a contract with behavioral Interventions for house arrest electronic services.

The continuum of services combined with close supervision creates consistent case familiarity, appropriate follow-up and transition of these juveniles back into their respective communities and residences.

In 2017-18, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funds to pay annual maintenance and training contract with NCCD for the JAIS Assessment tool that works in conjunction with our case management system. The assessment tool is utilized on all juveniles passing through the juvenile system with who are subject to a filing of a formal petition. As such, case plan is created to target needs with services and recommendations accordingly. Ultimately the most critical offenders are identified and supervision efforts are provided based on validated risk/needs scores.

This is the primary tool in identifying what EBP programming and services should be provided for the respective identified populations. Meaningful EBP efforts cannot be provided without first assessing the risk/needs of the juvenile offender. The use of such validated risk/needs assessment tools as well as detention assessments and case plans will offer more appropriate supervision/services and the use of staff time. This contract also includes staff training/development/use of the tools to assist in Evidenced Based Practices (EBP) with at risk/target youth.

In 2017-18, Madera County Probation will use YOBG funds to pay for two Probation Technicians dedicated to working with a targeted at risk youth population i.e. informal probation and truancy supervision. Referrals for family counseling for parents and youthful offenders will be offered to break the cycle of delinquency that ultimately leads to future adult criminality resulting in offenders' constant series of commitments to detention facilities. Additionally, funds will pay for vehicle lease, office supplies, cognitive workbooks, and associated supplies i.e. alternative sanctions and rehabilitative tools such as written courses with target specific offenses and related issues. It will also be used to contract with County Action Partnership of Madera County (CAPMC) to keep youthful offenders in Madera County and their families participating in the Strengthening Families Services Program.

The Strengthening Families family counseling program can provide services to about 75-100 English and Spanish speaking families. Strengthening Families program is recognized as a functional family's curriculum, and one that is evidenced based.

**Service Gaps Identified:**

- \* Transportation barriers limit service delivery and access in the unincorporated and rural areas of the County.
- \* Increased pregnancy prevention services throughout the County.
- \* Lack of Community Based Organizations
- \* Lack of local services/resources

## **MADERA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

Madera County Office of Education (MCOE) serves nine (9) school districts, with a combined total of 29,409 K-12 students (2008-2009). Sixty-four percent of these students are Hispanic. The 2007-08 countywide adjusted, Grades 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, four year derived dropout rate was 17.1%, while the state's dropout rate was 18.9%.

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools (MCSOS)/MCOE has actively pursued positive youth development through the following programs:

### **ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION**

All secondary MCOE alternative education schools are Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accredited.

**Enterprise Secondary School (Court and Community School):** In addition to a strong academic program that is aligned to State standards, students are taught the Character Counts curriculum with the five pillars of good character reviewed on a regular basis with all students.

Several components of the alternative education program have received plus reviews from the community at large. While the above program has been placed on hiatus due to budget cuts, it has played a vital role in students providing community service. This program offered selects student volunteers to participate, after appropriate training, in a tutoring program at the MCSOS Millview Preschool and the Gould Educational Center. The latter two provide educational programs for students with severe disabilities. Student tutors work with youth at Millview and Gould who have severe disabilities, assisting them to develop skills, develop/preserve muscle tone, participate in play activities, listen to stories, and similar life skill activities. This has provided our alternative education students with opportunities to practice using skills developed through their own education program and has created valuable learning experiences for the disabled youth as well as the student tutors.

In addition to the Enterprise Secondary School program described above, MCOE provides instructional services to incarcerated minors in Madera County, operating the educational program in the Juvenile Hall and Correctional Camp. Comprehensive and individualized instruction meets the needs of students of various age and skill levels. Staff members work closely with various schools and with the educational staff to coordinate curriculum, promoting a smooth transition into less restrictive environments.

At the beginning of the 2008-09 school years, additional career technology was brought to the alternative education program as a way to provide skills and technology to students in order to assist them in pursuing a lifelong interest in specific work areas.

**The California School Age Families Education (Cal-SAFE) Program:** The Cal-SAFE program serves a selected population of pregnant and parenting teens (male and female) and their children on a request basis from their home districts within Madera County.

This alternative education program is located at Pioneer Technical Center (PTC) in Madera. Cal-Safe provides core curriculum academic instruction. Cal-SAFE also provides instruction in pre-post natal conditions, nutrition, and child development/care. Individuals enrolled in this program continue their education and receive community services through interagency collaboration, designed to result in high school graduation. Services provided include health care, transportation, academic and emotional counseling, and parent training. The program is coordinated with the Cal-LEARN program.

Other Alternative Education programs include Community Day Schools serving both elementary and secondary students operated by the Madera County Office of Education:

- Apollo Elementary Community Day School program (4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> grades) located in Madera.
- Challenger Elementary Community Day School (4<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grades) located in Chowchilla.
- Discovery Secondary Community Day School (7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades) located in Chowchilla.

**Pioneer Technical Center:** A WASC accredited charter high school with a vocational/technical emphasis, primarily serves students from the Madera Unified School District. Students (160+) often enter this voluntary alternative educational program with poor attendance patterns, often 50% or less attendance. The overall attendance factor for PTC is 89%, a remarkable increase that leads one to believe its instructional strategies and educational design are appropriate to the interest of many students whose pathway is an alternate route to graduation.

The goal for all alternative education students is to provide an opportunity for students to earn credits that will transfer to their home schools and lead them to graduation.

## **Madera County Independent Academy Program**

The nature of the independent study program gives students the opportunity to personalize their instruction and the freedom to utilize resources and activities to create a flexible educational experience. All course contracts are developed in accordance with the Madera County Independent Academy and state standards. While attending the Madera County Independent Academy program, students learn and practice the self-discipline necessary for future success. The staff assists students in accomplishing their individual goals

Course work and credits are those required by the Madera County Independent Academy and the Madera County Office of Education. Students who have earned the necessary credits may receive a high school diploma from the Madera County Independent Academy. The goal of the program is to help students achieve success and earn a high school diploma.

**Special Education:** The Madera County Superintendent of Schools operates regional, individualized education programs for students with disabilities throughout the Madera/Mariposa SELPA. Special education and related services are offered to students with learning disabilities, communicative disorders, emotional disturbance, speech and language delays, and developmental delays.

**Youth Development:** The Madera County Office of Education has actively pursued positive youth development through the following programs:

- MCOE Infant Program: provides integrated services to disabled children and their families.
  
- Friday Night Live, Club Live, and Friday Night Live Kids: provides direct services to over 10,000 students in eight school districts and support materials to all nine districts. Activities and community services include:
  - ◇ Community wide rallies.
  - ◇ Annual youth conference for high school Friday Night Live students.
  - ◇ Multiple community service projects, dances, movie nights, field trips and rallies.
  
- Tobacco Use Prevention Education/ Title IV (Safe and Drug Free Schools): implements prevention and youth development programs emphasizing good character, building assets, and understanding tolerance. Many activities are

conducted in collaboration with the Health Department, Law Enforcement, and other agencies.

- The Youth Development Program offers training services for staff and/or students in the areas of leadership, character building, asset development, conflict resolution, peer counseling, conflict managers, and curriculum integration.

### **Service Gaps Identified**

Although Madera County has proven the ability to work collaboratively within Departments, much remains to be accomplished. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council identified specific gaps in these areas:

- Truancy
- Reaching non-school populations
- Providing services to youth and children in outlying and rural areas
- Transportation

# **Madera County Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act**

## **Title I and Title II**

### **Workforce Assistance Center:**

The Madera County Workforce Assistance Center is a partnership of community organizations providing a wide variety of services to the residents of Madera County. Services include access to employment opportunities, assistance with resume development and employment applications, on-line tools for job search, career research, and skills evaluation, as well as access to Adult Education, English as a Second Language, Citizenship classes, and information regarding available jobs and training services. All of the services at the Workforce Assistance Center are available to eligible Madera County residents aged 18 and over, and are provided by the various partner agencies located at the Center.

The Madera County Workforce Investment Corporation is housed within the Madera County Workforce Assistance Center and also provides services to eligible out-of-school young adults between the ages of 16 and 24. All young adults who apply for services complete an individual assessment of their basic educational skills, aptitudes, and vocational interests. This assessment process results in the development of an individualized service strategy for each young person that outlines the programs and services that will be of most benefit to them.

Young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 are offered a comprehensive menu of services designed to assist them to transition into employment, advanced training, and/or postsecondary educational opportunities, with the emphasis on developing the skills needed for successful transition into economic self-sufficiency. The program offers a customer-centered approach with services designed to meet the needs of each individual, and includes: tutoring and study skills, alternative secondary education options, paid and unpaid work experience, occupational skills training, education combined with workforce preparation, leadership development, supportive services, adult mentoring, guidance and counseling, financial literacy education, entrepreneurial skills training, labor market information, postsecondary preparation and transition, and follow-up services. Young adults are offered opportunities for work experience in either subsidized or direct placements into employment. These young adults are also offered assistance with accessing continuing education, including assistance with a GED or HS diploma, if needed, or guidance in selecting and registering for appropriate postsecondary course work, as appropriate. Financial aid workshops are also offered by Madera Center staff, to help participants identify resources to help them pay for college, if that is their next step.

While quite comprehensive, all of these programs and services could benefit from higher levels of funding to allow for services to more youth and young adults in the community. There is a need for more focused collaboration and cooperative planning between agencies when grants are available to strengthen youth services and delivery systems. Planning is underway to strengthen the existing referral process between both the juvenile and adult divisions of the Probation Department, so that all staff members are familiar with the services available to young people through the Workforce Assistance Center. Designation of single points of contact at each department will help to streamline referrals between the agencies. In addition, regular presentations to Probation Department staff regarding the current programs and services being offered will assist in the development of appropriate referrals for services for individuals on probation.

## **Madera County Department of Social Services**

The Madera County Department of Social Services (DSS) has responsibility for providing public assistance and social services to the citizens of Madera County. In addition to Child Welfare Services, DSS has developed several specific programs to address the problems of at-risk youth.

**Promoting Safe and Stable Families:** In Fiscal Year 2008-09, Madera County Department of Social Services received a planning allocation for Promoting Safe and Stable Families in the amount of \$150,663.00. PSSF services are administered by DSS in four categories: Family Preservation, Family Support, Time Limited Family Reunification, and Adoption Promotion and Support. Each category focuses on a specific target population and offers services that can provide the need in that area. DSS uses PSSF, to fund both the Health Beginnings Program (HBP) and direct services.

Family preservation focuses on families in crisis with the imminent potential of the children's removal from the home. The services help maintain the safety of children in their own homes, support families preparing to reunify or adopt, and assist families in obtaining other services to meet multiple needs.

Family support services are voluntary and focus on services to strengthen the family and teach parents to alleviate stress and develop nurturing skills. They connect families with available community resources and include such activities as parenting education, health services, and a range of center-based activities.

Time Limited Family Reunification facilitates a reunification of the child safely and appropriately within a timely fashion. Services may include, but not limited to,



counseling, inpatient, or outpatient substance abuse treatment services, mental health services, domestic violence, and transportation, among others.

Adoption Promotion and Support encourages adoption from the foster care system, when adoptions promote the best interests of children, including such activities as: pre and post adoptive services and those designed to expedite the adoption process and support adoptive families.

Clients served under these programs are extremely resource challenged, and often interact with multiple agencies. DSS has discovered families in crisis who are in need of alcohol and drug counseling services, early mental health and intervention services, assessment and treatment of high risk medical needs and developmental delays and intervention in the areas of domestic violence, immigration, housing, economic assistance and education.

**Cal-LEARN:** Cal-LEARN services are provided by an agreement between the Department of Social Services and the Public Health Department. The Cal-LEARN program is designed to assist pregnant and parenting CalWORKs teens in completing high school. Services include case management and referral, program compliance monitoring, counseling, parenting education, and mentoring.

It should be noted that the Public Health Department also administers the Adolescent Family Life Program. The AFLP and Cal-LEARN programs share common goals and purposes:

- \* Encourage pregnant and parenting teens to stay in school or return to school, earning a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- \* Employ case management services to link each adolescent parent to community-based, multi-faceted referral networks (including education, health and social services).

**DART:** The Adolescent Family Life Program experienced dramatic program cuts this year, in response, the department of Social Services and Public Health formed the DART program. Cal Learn did not experience fiscal cuts. DART is considered a companion program to Cal Learn, provides comparable services to adolescent parents.

Both programs provide intensive case management services (differential response) often in lieu of referrals to child welfare. Both programs have the goal of preventing child abuse and repeat pregnancies, encouraging young parent to finish high school, and include program activities that teach young parents about the dangers of smoking,

drinking, and use of illegal substances for their children and families. Further, young parents are taught techniques for engaging their infants and toddlers.

Children raising children still remains a societal struggle. Madera County has a disproportionate number of adolescent parents as compared to the state average. Adolescent parents and their children are at significantly higher risk of coming to the attention of Child Welfare Services and Probation. Examples of services provided to this population include: Parenting Skills; Housing, Substance Abuse/Smoking Education/Intervention; Linkage to Community Services. This program provides a safety net to these young parents and their families. With the recent budget reductions this program is no longer is a robust community service.

#### **Transitional Housing Program - Plus:**

This program is for emancipated youth, exiting the Foster Care system. Youth live with host families and case management services are available to assist in the self-sufficiency process. The goal is to provide participants with a safe living environment while helping them learn safe life skills to achieve self sufficiency.

#### **Interagency Placement Committee:**

The department of Social Services is an active participant in this committee. See page 5 for full details.

#### **Independent Living Skills:**

Madera County has an active ILP program, which serves youth in out of home placement ages 16-21. In addition to case management services, the county engages all foster care youth in this age category in the Chaffee Assessment to help them identify areas that need to be addressed as they move toward self sufficiency. Additionally, the county contracts with the Ready Set Go Program to provide curriculum to the ILP groups that meets weekly. Nineteen workshops are held with foster youth from CWS and Probation. The focus is work readiness skills, life skills, leadership skills, and occupational skills.

#### **Service Gaps Identified:**

- \* Transportation barriers limit service delivery and access in the unincorporated and rural areas of the County.
- \* Increased pregnancy prevention services throughout the County.
- \* Lack of Community Based Organizations
- \* Lack of local services/resources

### **Service Gaps Identified:**

- Transportation barriers limit access to weekly support groups.
- Lack of funds to provide an after school program/club as a prevention method against drugs, alcohol and gangs.
- Lack of funds to provide after-care programs for juvenile offenders in Madera County.

## **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA**

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters**

The mission of BBBS is to help children and youth reach their potential through one-to-one mentoring. Youth participating are shown through national independent research and local outcome evaluations to do better in school, are less likely to begin using drugs and alcohol, and less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as gang participation and teenage pregnancy. Eligible youth are involved in the school free-and-reduced lunch program, may have an incarcerated parent, or live in a single parent or non-traditional parent household.

The comprehensive screening process of our program assures that we have done everything possible to ensure the safety of the children we serve. The staff of BBBS is professionally qualified in the areas of counseling and crisis intervention, and provides regular and consistent support to all matches. Each match has individualized goals and outcome objectives concentrating on promoting positive growth and development. The program also provides empowerment training which familiarizes parents, children and volunteers on child abuse prevention. BBBS is headquartered in Fresno with satellite offices in Madera, Tulare, and Bakersfield. The organization serves five counties that include Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, and Tulare counties. In 2009, 367 children were served, of which 61% was Hispanic, 71% were children of incarcerated parents, and 94.4% were eligible for school free-or-reduced lunch.

### **Madera BBBS**

BBBS serves a greater percentage of children living in poverty, given the local demographics. Big Brothers Big Sister's goal is to take our program to more children with our commitment to help these underserved youth become confident, competent and caring adults. Studies have proved that children that are mentored do better in school, are less violent and avoid drugs and alcohol. At the end of 2009, 34 children were matched with a community-based mentor (a 28% increase from the previous year), and another 56 elementary school youth were mentored by High School Big Brothers and Sisters at 4 different school sites and two adult site-based matches at the school sites.

**The One-to-One Community Based Mentoring Program** is primarily geared toward at-risk youth. The youth and the adult meet at least once weekly, spending time together in activities that build friendship and trust. Weekly activities may include attending arts or sports events, playing games, participating in educational activities, helping with homework, or just hanging out together.

**The High School Bigs Program** provides mentoring matches between High School and Elementary School students. Group meetings occur once per week for up to one hour at the school site.

**Bigs as Buddies Program** provides mentoring matches between volunteers ages 18 and above at a school site. One-to-One meetings occur once per week for a minimum of one hour.

**BBBS Kids with Character course** helps children learn about and explore values such as trustworthiness, caring, justice and respect.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

### **MADERA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

The Sheriff-Coroner of Madera County is an elected official administering 85 sworn deputies, approximately 20 members of the Sheriff's reserve and 28 support personnel. A 20-member volunteer "Citizen Patrol" auxiliary further serves the department. The Sheriff's Department operates a main office just outside the east boundary of Madera City limits, with a new substation in Oakhurst set to open in May 2010. Due to the rural nature of the county, the Sheriff's jurisdiction is divided into eight patrol beats covering large, often sparsely populated areas.

The Sheriff's Department has several dedicated enforcement programs. These include the multi-agency Narcotics and Gang Enforcement Team. The Department also partners with other agencies including Alcohol Beverage Control, California Highway Patrol, and related county departments including the Departments of Correction, Probation, and the Office of the District Attorney.

## **MADERA POLICE DEPARTMENT (MPD)**

"The City of Madera appoints its Chief of Police. The Chief of Police, one Commander and three Lieutenants manage 71 sworn officers, 23 non-sworn, 14 volunteers and 7 chaplains. The Department supports a Detective Division (5 officers and a sergeant), Special Investigations unit (4 MPD officers, Chowchilla Officer, Probation Officer, Sheriff's Deputy, CHP Officer and MPD sergeant), one officer on the countywide Narcotics Enforcement Team, two School Resource officers assigned to the Madera Unified School District, one Housing Authority Officer and two GREAT Officers. The remaining personnel are assigned to patrol functions.

The Madera Police Department strives to make Madera a safer community through an effective policing model identified by three tenets:

- Solving problems, orienting toward crime, not just criminals
- Asking citizens to reassert their role in crime reduction and community livability
- Being accountable, taking responsibility for the level of crime

Effective policing is an evolving strategy that alters the fundamental way in which the police fight crime and respond to other problems in the community. It means having officers in neighborhoods working cooperatively with people to address the problems of crime, drugs, disorder, fear, and other elements that have a disruptive influence on the quality of life in our city. Effective policing is not soft on crime. In many ways it is tougher on crime than traditional policing because it has, as a basic tenant, a problem solving orientation. Effective policing is based on the realization that most crimes are solved with information that comes from people. The better our relationship with people, the more information we will have at our disposal to combat crime.

Effective policing is a partnership involving all affected participants from government, neighborhoods, social, civic, educational, and religious groups to identify, address, and solve problems. Effective policing is empowerment, creating a sense of joint ownership for reciprocal behavior, skills, and attitudes which allow members of "communities" and officers to express their concerns. Through that expression of concerns, crime, livability, and economic conditions can be impacted. Effective policing is accountability, placing shared responsibility for solving problems on citizens, police, government, civic, and social agencies. Effective policing is problem solving, the identification of criminal, and disruptive behavior patterns to develop methods and solutions for permanent resolution.

## **Madera Police Department Kids Camp:**

The Camp was an overwhelming success with over 70 kids attending. The camp consisted of a four day kid's camp for third and fifth graders ran by police personnel. The camp had a sports theme teaching the importance of physical education, good health and education. The camp also incorporated a daily guest speaker. The guest speakers were from various professional fields, such as Law Enforcement, Fire, Military and College Athletes (Fresno State Football). We are in the planning stages for our second annual Kids Camp with an estimated enrollment of over 100 third and fifth graders.

## **School Resource Officers:**

The School Resource Officers (SRO) is charged with the responsibility of maintaining a safe environment at the Madera High North and South school and middle school campuses as well as surrounding areas. The SORs coordinates activities between the schools, probation system and the courts. The SROs directly represent the juvenile justice system on the middle school and high school campuses. Whenever a juvenile breaks the law the SOR will conduct the investigation and, if necessary, affect an arrest. The SOR also assists in coordinating rallies, necessary traffic control and the security of other special events. The SOR assists with the administration of onsite school security forces. This includes enforcing school policies such as dress code, disturbances and out of control students. SORs may also act as a counselor to students regarding problems on or off campus relating to home, personal or other problems. In this role, matters are kept confidential. The SOR will also assist the student in seeking proper guidance and will contact and refer special problems to an appropriate agency. The Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program is an [evidence-based](#), national and international gang and violence prevention program that has been building trust between law enforcement and communities for almost 30 years.

**G.R.E.A.T. Program:** is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. It is designed for children in the years immediately before the prime ages for introduction into gangs and delinquent behavior. The G.R.E.A.T. Program is built around school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curricula. It provides a continuum of components for children and their families. These components include a 6-lesson elementary school curriculum, a summer component, and a family's component. The G.R.E.A.T. curricula has been delivered to more than 2,300 Madera children, allowing law enforcement to foster strong relationships with these students, as well as their schools and community. Since

its inception, G.R.E.A.T. has developed partnerships with nationally recognized organizations, such as Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Inc.; Families and Schools Together®; and the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. These partnerships encourage positive collaboration among the community, parents, schools, and law enforcement.

## **CHOWCHILLA POLICE DEPARTMENT (CPD)**

The Chief of Police, employed by the City of Chowchilla, supervises a department of 18 sworn officers and 7 support personnel. The Chowchilla Police assume similar responsibilities to the Madera Police Department.

CPD has two full time Campus Resource Officers, one assigned to Chowchilla Union High School and one assigned to Chowchilla Elementary Schools. The Campus Resource Officer (CRO) concept was introduced to Chowchilla in 1998 through a cooperative effort between the Chowchilla Police Department and local school districts. The goals of the CRO Program are to ensure that our school campuses are safe environments for learning and to increase positive interaction between youth and the police department. In cooperation with school staff, the Campus Resource Officers attempt to provide alternative solutions for our youth when they are faced with a problem. The CROs work closely with the Gang Liaison Officer, MADNET and MADGET Detectives, and school personnel to keep the influence of gang activity and drug use low among our middle and high school age students. Both current Campus Resource Officers go the extra mile by being involved with our youth. Officer Cheatham is the lead person in valuable CUHS prevention programs and is also one of the assistant coaches on the Chowchilla Varsity Football team. Officer Sanders works with the Police Explorer Program and also organizes safety/awareness presentations tackling issues such as gang awareness and internet safety.

The Chowchilla Police Activities League (PAL) exists to help youth participate in activities that provide a positive outlet for their energy and to increase constructive interaction between themselves and the Chowchilla Police Department. The PAL Program is run by a Board of Directors that contains members of the community including Police Department employees. The elected officers of PAL are Police and Parks & Recreation employees. This cooperation allows the two departments to combine their resources to produce better results for the community. PAL programs are available to boys and girls 5 to 17 years of age but attempts to engage at risk youth particularly of middle school age.

Chowchilla PAL programs currently include PAL boxing and PAL Free Swim Days held throughout the summer at the Dower Aquatic Facility. PAL boxing is a great way to keep kids physically fit and active while working with positive role models. Participants meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights to work on physical fitness, nutrition, and weight training. PAL Free Swim Days are for all Chowchilla youth. The special days are

conducted at the Dower Aquatic Facility during Open Public Swimming from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. All youth are invited to enjoy an afternoon of food, music, games and swimming. Chowchilla PAL supports the Chowchilla School District schools, grades K-6, with their Chowchilla PAL Bikes for Perfect Attendance Program. Chowchilla PAL gives a bicycle away each trimester to one student achieving perfect attendance at Stephens, Fuller, Reagan, and Fairmead elementary schools. Over the years, Chowchilla PAL has worked cooperatively with the City's Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department, Chowchilla Ministerial Association, private companies, and private individuals to provide these and other opportunities for the youth of our area. Special events are hosted by PAL each year to raise funds, products and supplies for various community programs. One example is the Annual Motorcycle Toy Run held every October, where new toys and food are gathered from participants to be used for the Community Christmas Basket Program.

Chowchilla PD recently established an Explorer program as well staffed by a Community Service Officer and Resource Officer.

### **Service Gaps Identified:**

Review of law enforcement documents and interviews with key respondents suggest the following gaps in service to juveniles in the county:

- \* Inadequate recreational activities for youth and children.
- \* Difficulties in providing law enforcement services in rural and un-incorporated areas.
- \* Need for increased multi-agency law enforcement sweeps.
- \* Inadequate number of school resource officers.

## **2017-18 PROGRAM ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIES**

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council remains committed to the idea of collaboration and interagency projects in addressing the problems described above. The following matrix of services and the remaining gaps caused the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council to examine in detail the important systems in this collaboration, focusing on the Juvenile Justice System, the Behavioral Health Department, the County Office of Education and the Department of Social Services.

In 2015-16, a Juvenile Justice survey was developed and implemented for at risk youth to complete on existing programs. With this tool, we are able measure the qualitative effectiveness of evidenced based programming.



## ASSESSMENT

### EXISTING PROGRAMS

#### PREVENTION

Madera Narcotics Enforcement Team  
(MadNet)

Friday Night Live and Club Live

Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE)

Alcohol and Drug Prevention

Police Explorers

Drug Resistance Education

Parent Education Classes

#### SUPPRESSION

Probation Officers in Schools

Court Day School

Community Service

Restitution

Foster Care

Group Home Placements

Student Attendance Review Board (SARB)

#### INTERVENTION

Extra Special Parents Program

Community School

Behavioral Health Services/Alcohol & Drug

Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Cal-Safe

Parenting Education Classes

Life Skills

CalLearn

Adolescent Family Life Program

Independent Living Program

New Choices/Corrective Thinking

Aggression Replacement Therapy

#### INCAPACITATION

Correctional Academy

Juvenile Hall

Electronic Monitoring

Behavioral Health Crisis Counseling

Madera County has been effective in reducing juvenile crime in our community in recent years. This success can be largely attributed to the spirit of collaboration that has been carefully cultivated among city and county agencies and community-based organizations. By embracing the values and principles of collaboration, the county has been able to be responsive to emerging issues and gaps in services within the juvenile justice system, resolve problems cooperatively, and redirect resources as needed to address these issues.

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council and the Local Action Plan Update Committee have prepared this document which articulates the gaps in services, and considers strategies to continue quality services to youth in Madera County. However due to the current unstable economy the challenges to provide services and close the service gaps is of utmost concern to all of the collaborative partners in Madera County. As our human and other hard resources diminish, collectively we remain committed to achieving positive outcomes for the families we serve. As we continue to face new challenges in this fiscal climate, this document will provide a blueprint for future plans when the fiscal climate stabilizes. This document will continue to lead us on a path to provide effective multi-agency response to the needs of at-risk youth who find themselves involved in the juvenile justice system.