

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY**  
**JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING**

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**RUSTIN CONFERENCE CENTER**

**2085 RUSTIN AVENUE, RIVERSIDE, CA, CONFERENCE ROOM 1055**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

April 8, 2024, 2:00 P.M.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (VOTING MEMBERS)**

**Chief Probation Officer**  
**Christopher H. Wright**  
Or Designee

**Public Defender**  
**Steven Harmon**  
Or Designee

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative, Dr. Mona Davies**  
*(1st District – appointed 11/16/20)*  
Community Outreach Ministry

**Director, Department of Public**  
**Social Services**  
**Charity Douglas**  
Or Designee

**District Attorney**  
**Michael A. Hestrin**  
Or Designee

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative, Dr. Rodney Kyles**  
*(2nd District appointed – 11/16/20)*  
Nathanael Foundation

**Sheriff of Riverside County**  
**Chad Bianco**  
Or Designee

**Presiding Juvenile Court Judge**  
**Mark Petersen**  
Or Designee

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative, Mary Jo Ramirez**  
*(3rd District appointed – 11/13/23)*  
California Family Life Center

**Director, Riverside University**  
**Health Systems–Behavioral Health**  
**Dr. Matthew Chang**  
Or Designee

**Chair of the Board of Supervisors**  
**Chuck Washington**  
Or Designee

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative, Kevin Kalman**  
*(4th District – appointed 11/16/20)*  
Desert Recreation District

**Chairperson, Juvenile Justice**  
**Delinquency Prevention**  
**Christopher Collopy**  
Or Designee

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative, Caryn Marsella,**  
*(Appointed – 1/22/24)*  
Riverside Art Museum

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative Pete Serbantes**  
*(5th District appointed – 11/13/23)*  
Camino Real Family Services

**Superintendent, Riverside County**  
**Office of Education**  
**Dr. Edwin Gomez**  
or Designee

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative Johnie Drawn**  
*(Appointed – 1/22/24)*  
Communities for Children

**Community Based Organization**  
**Drug & Alcohol Program**  
**Representative Jessica Clark**  
*(Appointed – 11/13/23)*  
Solid Ground Wellness

**Chief, Riverside City Police**  
**Department**  
**Larry V. Gonzalez**  
Or Designee

**Community Based Organization**  
**Representative, Pamela Clay**  
*(Appointed – 1/22/24)*  
Living Advantage

*In accordance with State Law (the Brown Act):*

- *The meetings of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council are open to the public. The public may address the council within the subject matter jurisdiction of this council.*
- *Disabled persons may request disability-related accommodations to address the JJCC. Reasonable accommodations can be made to assist disabled persons if requested 24-hours prior to the meeting by contacting Riverside County Probation Department at (951) 955-2694.*
- *The public may review open session materials at <https://rivcoprobation.org/juvenile-justice-coordinating-council-meeting-materials> or at Probation Administration, 3960 Orange St., Suite 600, Riverside, CA.92501*
- *Items may be called out of order.*
- *Agenda will be posted 72-hours prior to meeting.*
- *Cancellations will be posted 72-hours prior to meeting.*

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING**

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**RUSTIN CONFERENCE CENTER**

**2085 RUSTIN AVENUE, RIVERSIDE, CA, CONFERENCE ROOM 1055**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

April 8, 2024, 2:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Roll Call (Voting Members)
2. Approval of Minutes – March 18, 2024 – Action Item
3. Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual (Local) Plan – Action Item
4. Council Comments
5. Public Comments
6. Adjournment

Next JJCC Meeting:

Date/Time: July 15, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING  
March 18, 2024, AT 2:00 P.M.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Host Location:** Rustin Conference Center, 2085 Rustin Avenue, Conference Room 1051, Riverside

**1. Call to Order – Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chief Probation Officer Christopher H. Wright at 2:02 p.m.

Roll call of the members was taken. The following representatives were present:

Chris Wright, Chief Probation Officer, Chairman  
Bridgette Hernandez, Department of Public Social Services  
Herman Lopez, Sheriff's Department  
Janine Moore, Riverside University Health Systems, Behavioral Health  
Chris Collopy, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Committee  
Dr. Deanna McCarty, Riverside County Office of Education  
Joelle Moore, Deputy Public Defender IV, Public Defender's Office  
Michael Cabral, Assistant District Attorney, District Attorney's Office  
Dr. Mona Davies, Community Outreach Ministry  
Kevin Kalman, Desert Recreation District  
Zach Bell, California Family Life Center  
Peter Serbantes, California Real Family Life  
Caryn Marsella, Riverside Art Museum

In attendance but not present during roll call:  
Pamela Clay, Living Advantage

**2. Approval of Minutes from the January 22, 2024, Meeting**

Chris Wright presented the minutes from the January 22, 2024, JJCC meeting (handout). Chris Wright made a motion for the JJCC to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Dr. Mona Davies. Minutes were approved.  
Oppositions: None

**3. JJCC Strategic Planning Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee Update**

Dr. Monica Hunter gave a brief update outlining phase one of the juvenile justice action plan:

- Identify all current programs and services being provided.
- Create a comprehensive evaluation system with qualitative and quantitative data pre-post surveys.
- Identify gaps in services, overlap, and barriers to capacity building.
- Review last year's data reports from WestED and use that as a base line.
- Create a flow chart explaining the process of getting referrals to provide services for probation and how to become a contracted vendor.

**Comments:**

Rebecca Acevedo asked if there are any details and timelines for phase one.

Elisa Judy mentioned the Ad Hoc committee have met a couple times outlining phase one are the highest priorities the main goal is to get together with the approved vendor to establish timelines.

Rebecca Acevedo asked if the County has already executed the agreement with the vendor.

Chris Wright mentioned this is an agenda item that will be reviewed later in the meeting.

Chris Collopy mentioned it is a pleasure to see how cohesive the group is working together and rapidly assembling great ideas.

Chris Wright thanked the Ad Hoc committee for their dedication and great work so far. We are excited and looking forward to future updates!

**4. Technical Report by WestEd**

WestEd representatives Arena Lam and Sara Russo shared report highlights (handout).

- In 2023, through JJCPA funding, Riverside County Probation Department, District Attorney’s Office, Law Offices of the Public Defender, and community-based organizations (CBOs) served 5,313 youths as well as 64,621 individuals with meetings or presentations. The CBO programs reached 1,646 families.
- The 2023 evaluation report includes data gathered from multiple sources, such as Riverside County Business Intelligence and Operations Services, the Riverside County District Attorney’s Office, the SAFE Family Justice Centers, the Law Offices of the Public Defender, data 14 CBOs collected using a tool developed in collaboration between WestEd and the CBOs, and data from youth surveys. The report focuses on unique, program-specific outcomes as well as cross-program outcomes.
- Programs offered by County Agencies include De-escalation and Assistance Resource Team (DART); Gang Awareness Mentorship and Education (GAME); Student Attendance Review Board (SARB); Successful Short-Term Supervision (SSTS); Support, Partnerships, Advocacy, and Resources for Kids (SPARK); Youth Accountability Team (YAT); Youth Empowerment and Safety (YES); and 654.1 Welfare Institutions Code (WIC) Program.
  - DART enrolled 15 youths and had 46 meetings with 484 attendees.
  - GAME provided 144 presentations to 16,004 attendees.
  - SARB held 3,207 meetings with 7,385 attendees on truancy prevention efforts. Of the 442 students with outcome data, 55% of students improved their school attendance 30 days after the SARB intervention.
  - SSTS served 455 youths in 2023. By December 31, 45% of the cases were still on going and 55% of the cases were terminated. Of the 55% cases, 83% were successful terminations and 17 percent were unsuccessful terminations. For youth who successfully terminated SSTS had a significantly higher school attendance and higher-grade point average at program exit compared to youths who unsuccessfully terminated SSTS.

- SPARK served 377 new youth in 2023 and hosted 1,426 meetings with 11,012 attendees focused on preventing youths from full entry into the juvenile justice system and reducing recidivism.
- Of the two youths referred to YAT, one youth enrolled and completed the program, and one family or youth did not agree to enroll.
- YES provided 95 presentations on bullying/cyberbullying, healthy relationships/teen dating violence, hate crimes, internet safety, human trafficking, and juveniles and the law to 19,763 attendees.
- The 654.1 WIC program served 18 youths who allegedly have driven under the influence. Of these 18 youths, 15 youths enrolled in the program and 3 had not yet responded to the referral. Of the 15 enrolled youths, 12 youths completed the program by the end of the reporting period.
- CBOs reported serving 3,466 unique youth, providing 72,753 hours of service.
- CBOs reported serving 1,646 unique families, providing 4,143 hours of service.

**Comments:**

Chris Wright thanked Arena and Sara for their presentations. We look forward to the Ad Hoc committee taking a deeper dive into this report and considering the recommendations and findings.

Ismael Davila mentioned since the YAT lawsuit what has been implemented and changed in the YAT program. Why is the data and report not publicly accessible.

LaToya Thomas mentioned we have not had enough youth participate to provide data in a report.

Ismael Davila mentioned should the changes to the program be reported are there still things listed in the lawsuit occurring.

Chris Wright mentioned all that information is being monitored as part of the settlement agreement.

LaToya Thomas mentioned there is a monitoring agreement annual report which is provided at the November JJCC meetings that discloses settlement compliance.

Dr. Naomi Goldstein introduced herself. She is one of the two monitors assigned to oversee the settlement agreement and list of criteria. She mentioned the monitoring report shows compliance with the requirements of the lawsuit. The report includes exactly what was changed within the YAT program.

Ismael Davila mentioned he could not find the report and does it include funding.

LaToya Thomas mentioned all JJCC information, including such reports, is posted publicly on Probation's website at <https://rivcoprobation.org/juvenile-justice-coordinating-council-meeting-materials>.

Chris Wright mentioned funding is part of today's agenda and will be covered later in the meeting.

Rebecca Acevedo stated in the WestEd report there was information about two funded CBOs that did not serve youth and wanted to know if this was because they had reporting issues. Are any of those organizations here present? Is it possible they could have served youth and WestEd is not aware of it?

Sarah Russo mentioned they are working with a CBO with their standardized data collection system. They are not present today. She believes they have served youth and were not able to report the data.

Rebecca Acevedo asked what is the efficiency of the funding going to the programs?

Arena Lam mentioned Chapman University Restorative Justice was the second program the youth and offender did not elect to participate therefore data was not available.

Sam Lewis asked if there is a programmatic and fiscal audit that is presented to the public to allow transparency of programs and funding? Every program should be audited.

LaToya Thomas mentioned CBOs provide invoices for services rendered. If there are no services being provided the organizations do not get paid.

Chris Wright mentioned there is no audit that exists.

Pamela Clay mentioned her organization submits invoices for services they provide. An audit would cost more than the funds allocated to them.

Lynette Jones mentioned Probation is very detailed with auditing invoices for services her organization provides.

Alejandra Gutierrez mentioned to continue supporting the desert youth with JJCPA funding. Congratulations to all CBOs for their amazing work. Make sure we are looking at how the money is distributed and resourcing the CBOs appropriately.

Jessica Aparicio asked what the auditing process for programs is for the county agencies.

Cherilyn Williams mentioned Probation is the administrator of JJCPA funding. We receive information from the District Attorney and Public Defender outlining their programs and follow same procedures.

Van Houston encouraged the Probation department to look at which organizations are really delivering the programs and services and take a detailed approach.

Chris Wright mentioned this could be a recommendation for the Ad Hoc committee to review.

Cynthia Prewitt encouraged the CBOs to apply to become a vendor with Riverside County to receive funding. The oversight is very extensive.

Deanna McCarty mentioned from the WestEd report what is the process going forward to change or increase survey results.

Arena Lam mentioned working with CBOs on providing a more convenient survey to try and make it easier for clients to complete.

Chris Wright mentioned make sure comments are related to the agenda item. Comments not related to the agenda item can be brought up during Public Comments.  
Thank you WestEd for the information and hard work.

## **5. Evaluation of Services Update**

Division Director LaToya Thomas mentioned the RFP Evaluation of Services process has been completed and announcement of the award recipient at the Board of Supervisors meeting will occur sometime in April.

## **6. Community Led Diversion Update**

Division Director LaToya Thomas mentioned the new modified version Community Led Diversion model RFP was approved in the last JJCC meeting in January. We have created the RFP and scope of services which was a collaborative effort between Probation, District Attorney, and the Public Defender. The bid solicitation request was received and processed by County Purchasing and everything is currently pending review from County Counsel. A status update will be provided at the next meeting.

### **Comments:**

Rebecca Acevedo asked if there were any CBOs participating in the scope of work of the Community Led RFP.

LaToya Thomas mentioned CBOs were not invited to participate in the RFP process because we must allow for fair practices for every potential respondent. We wanted to avoid subjecting any CBO to not being able to respond to the RFP themselves.

Rebecca Acevedo asked if the CBOs in the Ad Hoc committee are excluded from applying for this RFP.

Elisa Judy mentioned when the Ad Hoc committee was formed the members knew potentially if they were recommending their programs in designing the scope of work, they would be forfeiting their response to apply for the RFP; however, if something is initiated and there is no knowledge they can apply.

Lynette Jones asked to clarify that any member of the CBO alliance can apply for the RFP.

Elisa Judy mentioned once the RFP is released and if the scope of work matches your organization you can apply.

## **7. RFP for Community Services**

Chief Deputy Elisa Judy mentioned some vendors contracts will be expiring in June and want to make sure there is a continuum of services for youth and want to put forth a motion for the council

to approve to start the RFP for Community Services process. We are looking for CBOs to outline their services and indicate their costs. The RFP will not place a cap on program costs. We are looking for CBOs across the whole county.

We are looking to have a bidders' conference. If you would like more information on how to become a vendor, reach out to Tiki Copeland from Probation.

**Comments:**

Rebecca Acevedo recommended everyone to review the budget reports and that it would be beneficial for the CBOs to update their information into the 211 system for accuracy.

Doreen Govari mentioned this is great news for the RFP. Does this mean the \$100,000 cap will be lifted or is this separate?

Elisa Judy mentioned the current contracts will remain in place; this is separate.

Chris Wright entertained a motion for the council to approve the RFP for Community Services. Kevin Kalman made the motion. Pete Serbantes seconded the motion. Motion passes.  
Oppositions: None.

Chris Wright stated this is great! We have a lot of momentum within the community, and we want to ensure everyone who is interested in applying understands how. Please register as a county vendor to be notified of RFP opportunities and should you have additional questions, please contact Tiki Copeland. Further if there is anybody from the council interested in participating in the bid review, please contact Bryon Hansen. Keep in mind this is a labor-intensive process with tight deadlines, however we encourage the engagement of the council in the selection of contracted service providers.

**8. Transforming Juvenile Probation Application**

Chief Deputy Elisa Judy gave a brief presentation. The Transforming Juvenile Probation Certificate Program is designed to guide and support teams from state and local jurisdictions, including probation leadership, judges, attorneys, and other key stakeholders to fundamentally transform their system-wide approach to probation. Riverside County's application was accepted by Georgetown University. The team will consist of Probation, Public Defender, District Attorney, Court, one CBO, and one youth. We are excited to announce our interview is scheduled for Thursday, March 21.

The program is a four-day period in June at Georgetown University where participating teams will receive instruction from researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, as well as guidance from Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) and Annie E. Casey Foundation (Casey), to develop and implement a Capstone Project advancing system-wide reform in their jurisdiction.

**Comments:**

Carolyn Ayala asked which CBO was picked.

Elisa Judy mentioned we received seven responses from CBOs interested in participating. Ramon Ramos from The Exception was selected for his involvement mobilizing the CBO base and by forming the CBO Alliance here in Riverside County.



Bridgette Hernandez asked if a representative from DPSS Child Services and a dual status youth will be able to participate.

Elisa Judy mentioned the team has already been identified.

Chris Wright mentioned we have not been selected yet our interview is scheduled later this week. This is an amazing opportunity for Riverside County!

## **9. SB 823 Subcommittee Report Out**

Chief Deputy Daniel Castaneda gave a brief update and mentioned the Juvenile Justice realignment block grant (local plan) will need to be submitted to the State by May 1. Due to the time constraint, we will be convening a special meeting for the JJCC SB 823 Subcommittee to review and approve the local plan. The special meeting is tentatively scheduled for next week on March 26 at 2pm location will be the District Attorney building at 3960 Orange, Street, Riverside on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor County Counsel Training Room at 2:00 p.m.

## **10. Approval of Fiscal Year 24/25 Budget**

### **a) Summary**

Administrative Services Manager III Jessica Holstein gave a brief presentation summary of the budget report (handout). Program proposals were presented to the JJCC on January 22, 2024, which identified how each agency's program could reduce delinquency and address juvenile crime within Riverside County. Governor Newsom released the FY 2024-25 proposed state budgets on January 10, 2024, which includes the constitutionally guaranteed base allocation of \$489.9M statewide. Riverside County's estimated allocations is \$6.7M as outlined, although the statewide base amount does not change the county's distribution percentages can change slightly from year-to-year due to changes in known populations statewide as well as within Riverside County.

Based on the state's January proposal growth funding is anticipated for Riverside in the estimated amount of \$6.1M. Growth funds for FY 2023/24 will be received in October of FY 2024/25. Just like the base allocation, the county's distribution percentages are based on current known populations. Unlike the base allocation, the growth funding is not guaranteed.

On November 13, 2023, the JJCC approved a contingency fund balance in the amount of \$17.2M which is held in reserves and is at the discretion of the JJCC. The contingency balances approved by the JJCC are a result of unobligated funds received from the state and rollover balances from prior year allocations.

Many things can change from March until June which includes the Governor's May revised budget but as of today's report out, the estimated FY 2024/25 available funding is \$30.0M.

Agenda #10a page number 2 contains the fully executed contracts approved by the JJCC in prior years, as well as pending executed contracts for FY 2023/24 and new budget requests for FY2024/25. The FY 2024/25 budgeted amounts for current, pending, and new budget request total \$3.2M.

Please note that there are two new RFP requests of \$1M dollars each for additional expansion services to Community Based Organization and the previously presented Community Led Diversion Project, however, the actual contracted amounts are not known at this time and will not be limited to the million dollars as budgeted.

**Comments:**

Rebecca Acevedo asked if round three contracts are executed because there are two organizations that provided zero services.

Jessica Holstein mentioned they are executed contracts and as previously stated earlier in the meeting contracted CBOs provide invoices for reimbursement of services they rendered.

Rebecca Acevedo mentioned these funds could be reallocated to someone else because if they are not used, they go into the contingency fund.

Jessica Holstein mentioned round three are multi-year contracts that were contractual agreed upon rates and this is the final year of those contracts.

Kevin Kalman asked if there is a review process in place for CBOs that are not providing services for a period like a termination clause in the agreement.

LaToya Thomas mentioned there is a thirty-day termination clause in the agreements. We understand the concern. Probation continues to work with the CBOs to help them establish a data system to report their services. If we determine all efforts have been exhausted, we will look at the termination clause at that time.

Chris Wright stated the following agencies will give a quick high-level recap of their budgets.

**b) Probation**

Division Director LaToya Thomas mentioned Probation continues providing three youth programs (handout): Youth Accountability Team (YAT), 654.1 WIC and Successful Short-Term Supervision (SSTS). The Community-led Diversion program will be utilized once the program is finalized and ready to fully implement.

**Comments:**

Rebecca Acevedo asked if anyone has successfully completed the tattoo removal program and why this program keeps getting funded.

Jessica Aparicio asked if there was going to be comments after each agency's budget recap.

LaToya Thomas mentioned yes there will be time for comments.

Chris Wright stated in accordance with the Bylaws, he would like to designate Chris Collopy for the passing of Probation's requested budget as he steps out of the room.

Chris Collopy asked if a committee member would like to make a motion to approve Probation's budget. Pete Serbantes made a motion. Kevin Kalman seconded the motion.

Motion passes.

Oppositions: None.

**c) Public Defender**

Joelle Moore gave a quick recap of Public Defenders programs (handout): Support Partnerships Advocacy and Resources for Kids (SPARK) and Chapman University Restorative Justice Program.

**Comments:**

Ismael Davila mentioned why are we calling them community-based organizations when they are not in our community. Why is funding sent to a private university outside of Riverside County?

Joelle Moore mentioned Chapman is a research institute for evidenced based practices and a registered county vendor in Riverside.

Van Houston mentioned seeing issues with credible messengers in all programs and asked what the quality of credible messengers is in the restorative justice programs.

Joelle Moore mentioned the program has trained clinical mediators and faculty that works with the families and victims. They bring in other community-based resources to offer a wraparound of services.

Rebecca Acevedo mentioned it would be beneficial for those organizations that receive funding to be required at the meeting to represent themselves. Asked about her question from the last meeting.

Joelle Moore mentioned she could recall the question was about the ratio of amount of time spent on presentations to CBOs and to county agencies. Our web dashboard does not break it down specifically. In the last week, we have met with several program providers.

Sam Lewis clarified an audit of funding and services should be paid for by Probation and would allow for transparency. Have you thought about having some of the students and credible messengers train with other CBOs and county agencies. I can connect you with organizations that provide training to credible messengers.

Joelle Moore mentioned she is welcome to connect with Sam Lewis after the meeting for more information.

Carolina Ayala mentioned what the best approach to get CBO trainings (two-day workshops) out to the community.

Joelle Moore mentioned to send her information and she will share it.

Chris Wright made a motion to approve the Public Defender's budget. Bridgette Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Oppositions: None

**d) District Attorney**

Katie Gilbertson gave a quick recap of the District Attorney programs (handout): Truancy Prevention: Student Attendance Review Board (SARB), and Student Attendance Review Team (SART) meetings; SAFE Family Justice Center; Gang Awareness Mentorship and Education Program (GAME) and Youth Empowerment and Safety (YES).

**Comments:**

Kuba Brown asked how we collaborate with your office.

Katie Gilbertson mentioned give me your cell phone number.

Carolina Ayala asked if people with lived experience worked with the youth at SAFE Family Justice Center.

Adrianna Moreno with SAFE Family Justice Center stated many of the specialists have lived experience and a college degree. They are in the community doing intervention and special training.

Jessica Aparicio mentioned the purpose of the JJCPA funding. Based on the budget reports we are seeing most of the funds are allocated to county agencies and least amounts to CBOs. The WestEd data reported over 5,000 youth were served with over 3,400 by CBOs. This is 65%. Why are Probation and District Attorney programs heavily funded than CBO programs? According to findings by The Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice in 2022 50% of JJCPA funds were going to Riverside Probation staff for salaries and benefits. Contrary to JJCPA intent, we see funds for voluntary programs like YAT which exacerbates youth contact in the legal system. Since 2020, I have seen YAT continually receive funding although they only reported one client in 2023. I continue to urge council to question where the funds are going and push for a majority of funding to go to where it was originally intended.

Rebecca Acevedo asked the council to review the budget and line items.

Chris Wright made a motion to approve the District Attorney’s budget. Pete Serbantes seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Oppositions: None

**Comments:**

Van Houston mentioned I encourage the council to review what Jessica Aparicio said in her comments and question the council votes.

Chris Wright made a motion to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 24/25 Budget. Pamela Clay seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Oppositions: None

**11. Annual Juvenile Justice Plan Approval**

Division Director LaToya Thomas gave a brief presentation (handout).

The Juvenile Justice plan is submitted annually to the State by May 1. This report highlights all the great work that we intend to do, collaboratively from county and community-based agencies, and efforts from the Ad Hoc committee. It outlines funded programs and services; strategies, and system enhancements; identifying and prioritizing focus areas; and the new community led diversion model. This plan outlines our direction going into the new year strengthening our commitment to have the most efficient and appropriate strategic outcomes for youth and families in need of services in our county.

Chris Wright made a motion to approve the Annual Juvenile Justice Plan. Chris Collopy seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Oppositions: None

## **12. Council Comments**

Kevin Kalman stated he respects the voice of the community. Changes are coming and moving forward things are not going unrecognized.

## **13. Public Comments**

Rebecca Acevedo mentioned to compel the council for accountability. We must act and change the way we treat youth in Riverside County.

Chris Wright mentioned we have come a long way since I have been chairing this meeting. Our great work is already changing and momentum moving forward.

## **14. Adjournment**

Next JJCC Meeting:

Regular scheduled JJCC Meeting:

Date/Time: July 15, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

An attendance sheet was signed by all present and will be kept on file.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Probation Executive Secretary Bryon Hansen

**Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant  
Annual Plan**

**Date:**

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**County Name:** Riverside County

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**Contact Name:** Christopher Wright, Chief Probation Officer

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**Telephone Number:** (951) 955-2815

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**E-mail Address:** Chwright@rivco.org

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**Background and Instructions:**

Welfare & Institutions Code Section(s) 1990-1995 establish the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program for the purpose of providing county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure.

To be eligible for funding allocations associated with this grant program, counties shall create a subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council to develop a plan describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision, and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitative services for realigned youth.

County plans are to be submitted and revised in accordance with WIC 1995, and may be posted, as submitted, to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website.

## **Executive Summary:**

The Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), operated by the State, historically treated high needs youth who committed serious or violent crimes, 707(b) Welfare and Institution Code (WIC) offenses. On September 30, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 823 into law, which supports the research reflecting youth experience better outcomes when they remain closer to home. Effective July 1, 2021, the State began phasing out DJJ by halting all transfers of youth from California's counties to the State's three remaining custodial facilities. Effective June 30, 2023, DJJ closed their doors and returned the remaining youth to the custody of their respective county. In response to the legislative changes and requirements, Riverside County determined RCP's Alan M. Crogan Youth Treatment and Education Center (YTEC) already had similar programs to those provided at DJJ and met the criteria requirements of SB 823. A gap analysis was completed, and even though the area was limited to expand vocational services, it was agreed upon, and approved, by the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) subcommittee and the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) that the YTEC structure offered the program and service components required by SB 823. RCP assumed responsibility of the care, custody, and supervision of this population and opened the door for our county's youth to receive rehabilitative services closer to their families and to their communities. RCP's secure youth treatment facility (SYTF), named Pathways to Success, was established to mirror YTEC's existing program foundation and incorporated within YTEC's facility. Since July 1, 2021, eligible RCP youth, per 875 WIC, were placed in the Pathways to Success program. As of May 2023, RCP dedicates three units for the Pathways to Success Youth, two male units and one female shared unit. Further, on June 26, 2023, RCP expanded the Pathways program to include a separate unit in our Indio Juvenile Hall (IJH) for the DJJ returnees. As of December 2023, the three DJJ returnees were released into the community, and the unit closed until further need. RCP had one DJJ female returnee, who was committed the YTEC treatment program where she remains.

Pathways to Success exemplifies a treatment-centered program that accounts for varying life experiences. While commitment to a SYTF track setting may appear to be the same, each youth's journey is different, and Pathways to Success offers individualized opportunities for success to each participating youth. To continue Pathways to Success' progress, in accordance with 1995 WIC requirements, RCP established a multiagency subcommittee of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) to collaboratively assist with the continued development of the infrastructure, implementation, and improvements of RCP's SYTP and processes. This subcommittee is comprised of county stakeholders, the district attorney, behavioral health, Department of Public Social Services, Riverside County Office of Education, the public defender, and community members defined as individuals who have experience in providing community-based services to youth, youth justice advocates with an expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system, or justice involved youth who have experienced or been directly involved in the juvenile justice system.

RCP has continued to work collaboratively with the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) to remain updated on legislation, language, improvements, training

opportunities, guidance regarding mental health cases, placement opportunities, auditing, metrics insight, and processes which may assist in detouring youth from being transferred to the adult sector. We will continue conversation to ensure compliance and best practices. All things considered, RCP provides a treatment-focused environment for the youth to thrive, and live productive and healthy lives as they reintegrate into the community.

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**Part 4: Programs and Services**

**Part 5: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds**

**Part 6: Facility Plan**

**Part 7: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System**

**Part 8: Regional Efforts**

**Part 9: Data**

**Part 10: Progress Report**

**Part 1: Subcommittee Composition (WIC 1995 (b))**

List the subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information. If the subcommittee has opted to select a co-chair, identify the co-chair

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Name and Title</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Chief Probation Officer (Chair or Co-Chair)	Christopher Wright, Chief Probation Officer	<a href="mailto:Chwright@rivco.org">Chwright@rivco.org</a>	(951) 955-2815
District Attorney's Office Representative	Daima Calhoun	<a href="mailto:Dcalhoun@rivcoda.org">Dcalhoun@rivcoda.org</a>	(951) 436-7802
Public Defender's Office Representative	Joelle Moore	<a href="mailto:joellemoore@rivco.org">joellemoore@rivco.org</a>	(951) 304-5603
Department of Social Services Representative	Mike Scebbi	<a href="mailto:mscebbi@rivco.org">mscebbi@rivco.org</a>	(951) 922-7878
Department of Mental Health	Dr. Michael Gunther	<a href="mailto:MGGunther@ruhealth.org">MGGunther@ruhealth.org</a>	(951) 955-4833
Office of Education Representative	Dr. Deanna McCarty	<a href="mailto:dmccarty@rcoe.us">dmccarty@rcoe.us</a>	(951) 826-6464
Court Representative	Marcus Walls	<a href="mailto:Marcus.walls@riverside.courts.ca.gov">Marcus.walls@riverside.courts.ca.gov</a>	(951) 324-5782
Community Member	Dr. Mona Salomo-Davies	<a href="mailto:Daviesmmd1@gmail.com">Daviesmmd1@gmail.com</a>	(951) 231-5515
Community Member	Liz Reid	<a href="mailto:liz@immanuelhouse.org">liz@immanuelhouse.org</a>	(951) 530-7680
Community Member	Laurel Cook	<a href="mailto:cookvoulan@aol.com">cookvoulan@aol.com</a>	(951) 522-9700
Community Member	Alejandra Gutierrez	<a href="mailto:agutierrez@youthlaw.org">agutierrez@youthlaw.org</a>	(510) 920-3528
<b>Additional Subcommittee Participants</b>			
Department of Mental Health	Dwayne George, Supervising Clinician	<a href="mailto:dgeorge@ruhealth.org">dgeorge@ruhealth.org</a>	(951) 358-5405

**Part 2. Subcommittee Process and Meetings**

Define process utilized by subcommittee to determine whether or not a co-chair was desired (WIC 1995(b)):

On March 10, 2021, RCP's initial JJCC Subcommittee finalized the general framework for Pathways to Success' vision: **Dedicated to creating collaborative re-entry pathways alongside youth to promote healing, healthy, and resilient lifestyles, as well as strengthen families, and restore safety to the community.** At this meeting, the 1995(b) WIC by laws were discussed regarding the structure of RCP's JJCC Subcommittee, including the Chief of Probation as chair. As there was not a need for a co-chair and not required per 1995(b) WIC, the subcommittee was established to consist of the chief probation officer as chair, collaborating county partners, and community members.

Provide dates of subcommittee meetings held during the year (WIC 1995(e)):

On March 10, 2021, RCP's initial JJCC Subcommittee finalized the general framework for Pathways to Success' vision: **Dedicated to creating collaborative re-entry pathways alongside youth to promote healing, healthy, and resilient lifestyles, as well as strengthen families, and restore safety to the community.** This vision outlines and guides the creations of RCP's SYTF. It ensures critical requirements are met, continued improvement to the current services, and most importantly, youth are provided the best opportunity for local treatment, services, as well as positive efforts to successfully reintegrate them into the community. On September 13, 2022, the JJCC Subcommittee reconvened to add in new members and provide a vision for the goals for the next three years to enhance the Pathways to Success program in the following areas: Transitional Services, Vocational and Life Skills, Parent Resources, Outcome Metric. Team leads were assigned to each area and meet monthly to discuss research and resources to integrate into the program. On November 13, 2023, three new community members were voted in to maintain compliance, as a few members had resigned. They were added into the four teams and will continue to work toward the Pathways to Success goals of enhancing and continuously improving the program. Further, the subcommittee is required to convene at least every third year; however, RCP's subcommittee meets yearly to—review, update, and submit the most recent annual plan regardless of any changes, and to ensure RCP's compliance with the bylaws. The subcommittee has reported updates formally in an open arena at the JJCC Committee meetings on the following dates: September 13, 2022, March 20, 2023, August 2, 2023, and November 13, 2023.

Provide date plan was updated (WIC 1995(e)) and approved by the majority of the subcommittee (WIC 1995(c)):

The local plan for 2021-2022 was reviewed and approved by the subcommittee in March 2023. The local plan for 2022-2023 was reviewed and approved (date) \*\*\*date will be added on once the subcommittee reviews it and ready to sent to OYCR\*\*\*\*

**Part 3: Target Population (WIC 1995 (d) (1))**

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

The target population supported by the block grant of Riverside County are youth who have been realigned to the county by the DJJ or youth who would have otherwise been eligible for commitment to DJJ prior to the passage of Senate Bill 823 and Senate Bill 92. These are youth who were adjudicated and declared a ward of the juvenile court based on an offense described in the Welfare and Institution Code (WIC), Section 707(b) or an offense described in Penal Code Section 290.008(c). The Pathways to Success program, is committed to reducing recidivism by creating a rehabilitative, health-focused, and care first system within a secured environment for youth. As this population is considered serious offenders, and with a high level of treatment needs, RCP collaboratively works with the county partners, state, and community organizations to provide effective programs leading to educational advancement, employment and life skills, pro-social activities through recreational settings, and an overall therapeutic living environment. These services will offer evidence-based practices and trauma-informed approaches that will empower and encourage youth to stay away from illegal activities by enabling rational thinking and life skills, as well as emotional maturity to succeed in the community. This is a continuum of care program, providing in-custody services, along with comprehensive re-entry plans for each youth which are initiated upon admission. While youth complete their custodial portion of their commitment, they are assigned to a Probation Corrections Officer (PCO) case worker and Probation Officer who collaborate and work closely with the youth, their family and program personnel to develop the re-entry plan respective to the youth’s individual needs. Further, as evidence has demonstrated that justice involved youth are more successful when they remain connected to their families and communities, and has shown to reduce recidivism rates; thus, more prepared to reintegrate into the community, RCP offers transportation for youth and families to ensure a connection and communication as well as transitional child and family team meetings. Please refer to Part 4, Programs and Services for detailed information pertaining to the services offered to this population.

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

From July 2022 to June 2023, the below graphs show the flow of 707(b) offenses through RCP's juvenile justice system, demographics of the youth, and offenses filed. Most of the dispositions for these cases are not only continued in juvenile jurisdiction but are ordered lesser restrictive settings.

**707(b) Offenses:**

- Race: 58% Hispanic, 30% Black, 12% White
- Gender: 7 to 1 Male to Female Ratio

Demographics of 707(b) Offenses		
Race	Gender	
	Male	Female
Asian	2	1
Black	111	23
Hispanic	277	34
Indian (American)	11	0
Other	13	0
Pacific Islander	3	0
White	42	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>68</b>

Adjudications of 707(b) Offenses	
Disposition	N
Deferred Entry of Judgement 790 WIC*	10
Juvenile Supervision	58
Juvenile 725(a) WIC*	5
Juvenile 654 WIC*	4
Juvenile Placement	42
DJJ Re-entry	20
Youth Treatment Education Center (YTEC)	61
Pathways to Success (PTS)	16
Juvenile-Dismiss Petition	94
Awaiting Disposition**	126
Committed to Juvenile Hall	3
Counsel & Closed/Closed at Intake	7
Probation Terminated	71
Unfit/Transferred to Adult Court	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>527</b>

\*Youth were granted DEJ, 725(a) WIC and Informal Probation after admission of guilt

\*\*Includes youth who were granted Home Supervision and transfers out of the county before disposition

Count of 707(b) Offenses	
707(b) Offenses	N
12022.5(a) PC - Use Firearm/Att/Commis/Felony	6

12022.53(b) PC - Use Of A Firearm During A Violent Offense.	2
136.1(a)(1) PC - Prevent/Dissuade Wit/Vict	1
136.1(a)(1) PC - Prvent/Disuade Vic/Witnes	2
136.1(a)(2) PC - Att Prvnt/Disuade Vic/Wit	1
136.1(b)(1) PC - Att Prvnt/Etc Vic/Etc:Rpt	3
136.1(b)(1) PC - Intim Wit/Vict Fr/Rprt	2
187(A) PC - Murder:First Degree	68
187(A) PC - Murder:Second Degree	9
206 PC - Torture	1
207(a) PC - Kidnapping	9
211 PC - Robbery:First Degree	143
211 PC - Robbery:Second Degree	44
215(a) PC - Carjacking	51
245(a)(1) PC - Force/Adw Not Firearm:Gbi	142
245(a)(1) PC - Force/Adw-Not Firearm:Gbi	10
245(a)(2) PC - Aslt W/Firearm On Person	77
245(a)(4) PC - Assault By Force/Gbi	162
245(b) PC - Aslt Prsn:Semiauto F/Arm	18
245(c) PC - Adw Not F/Arm:PO/Fire:Gbi	4
246 PC - Shoot:Inhab Dwell/Veh/Etc	25
261(1) PC - Rape/Unable Consent Pc	2
261(a)(1) PC - Rape:Vict Incpbl Of Cnsnt	2
261(a)(2) PC - Rape By Force/Fear/Etc	14
261(a)(4) PC - Rape:Vict Unconsc Of Act	3
261(a)(4)(A) PC - Rape:Vict Unconscious	1
286(a) PC - Sodomy	1
286(b)(1) PC - Sodomy:Person Under 18	2
286(b)(2) PC - Sodomy:Person Under 16	1
286(c)(2)(A) PC - Sodomy By Force By Means Of Force, Fear, Or Duress	2
286(c)(2)(B) PC - Sodomy By Use Of Force Or Fear On Minor Under Age 14	3
287(c)(2)(A) PC - Oral Copulation By Use Of Force/Injury	1
287(c)(2)(b) PC - Oral Copulation Of Person Under 14 Against Will/Or By Force	4
287(c)(2)(C) PC - Oral Copulation Of Person Age 14 to 17 Against Will/Or By Force	1
288(b)(1) PC - L&L W/Child -14:Force/Etc	1
288(c)(1) PC - L&L Acts W/Child:Age Spec	1
289(a)(1)(A) PC - Sex Penetration:Force/Etc	1
289(a)(1)(B) PC - Sexual Penetraion Of Minor Younger Than 14 By Force, Or Fear	4
289(a)(1)(C) PC - Sexual Penetration Of Minor Age 14 Or Older By Force, Or Fear	2
451 PC - Maliciously Set Fire To Property	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>827</b>

**Sex Offenses:**

The following are the demographics of Sex Offenses gathered from **July 2022 through June 2023:**

- Race: 59% Hispanic, 14% Black, 11% White
- Gender: 70 to 1 Male to Female ratio

Demographics of Sex Offenses		
Race	Gender	
	Male	Female
Asian	0	0
Black	9	1
Hispanic	42	0
Indian (American)	1	0
Other	8	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
White	8	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1</b>

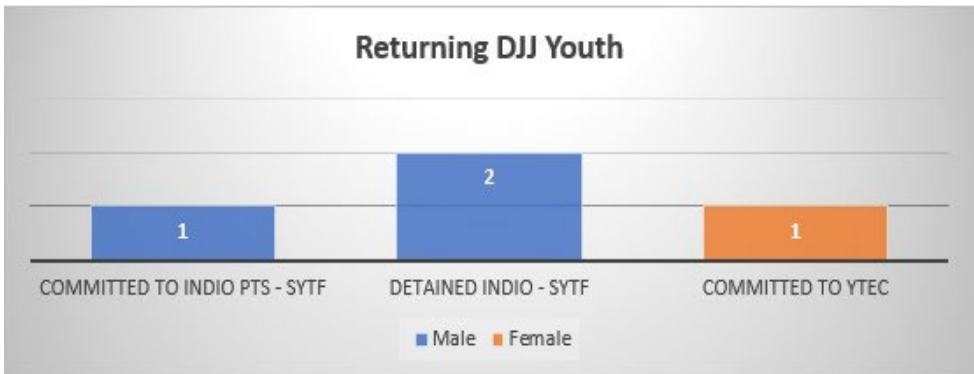
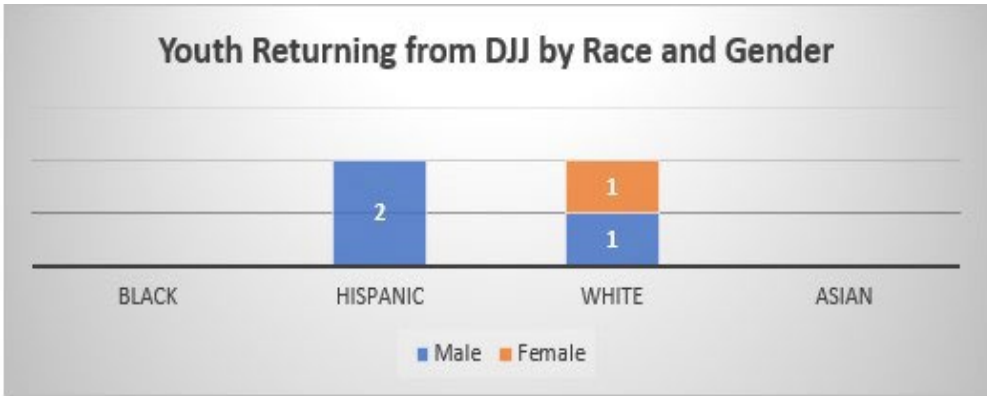
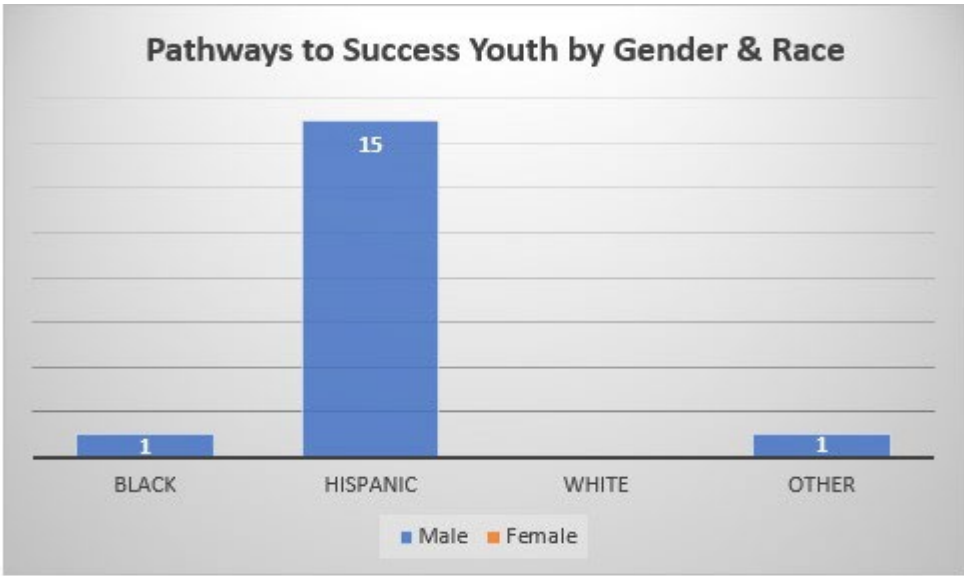
Adjudications of Sex Offenses	
Adjudications	N
Deferred Entry of Judgement 790 WIC*	5
Juvenile Supervision	11
Juvenile Placement	2
DJJ Reentry	1
Youth Treatment Education Center (YTEC)	1
Pathways to Success (PTS)	1
Juvenile Dismiss Petition	25
Awaiting Disposition	18
Probation Terminated	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>

\*Outliers-Youth were granted DEJ after admission of guilt

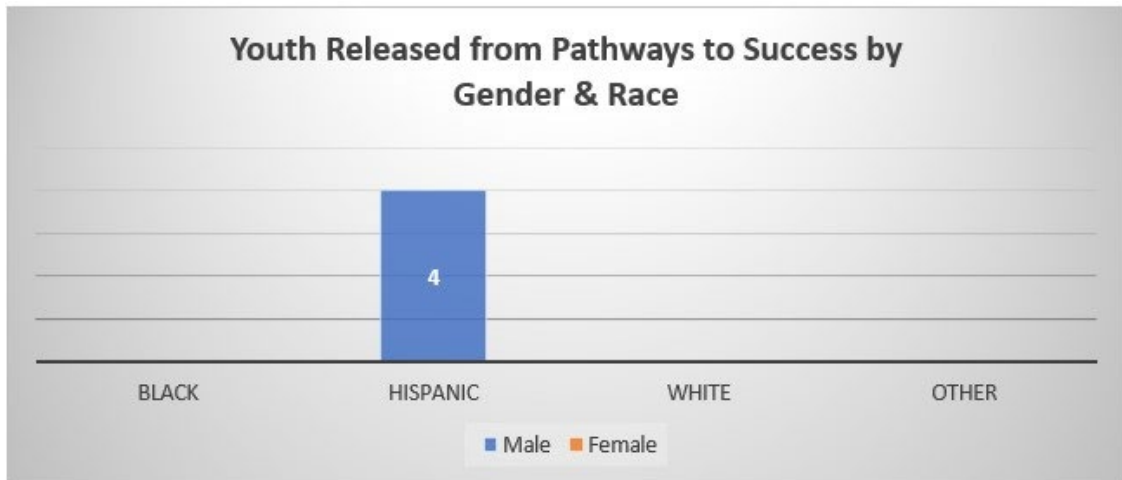
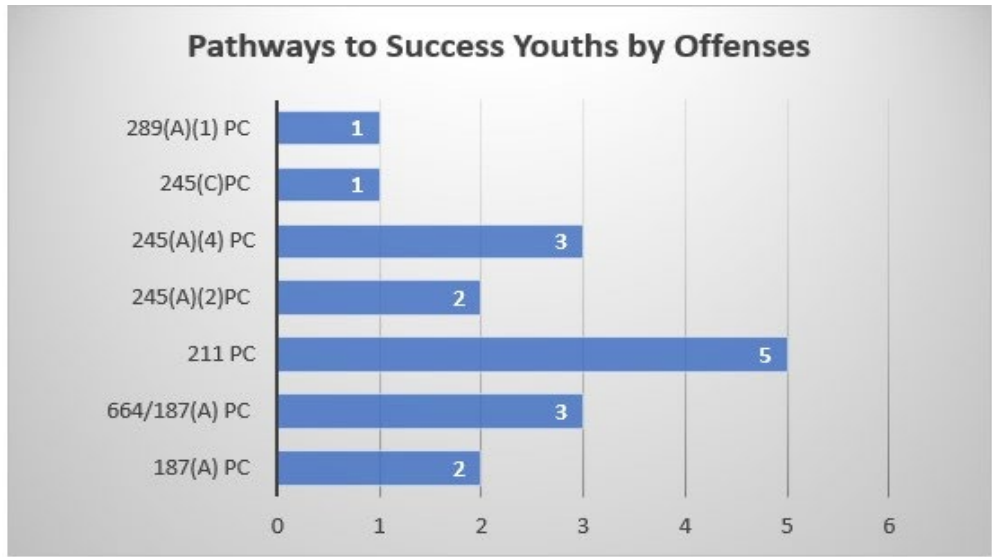
<b>Count of Sex Offenses</b>	
<b>Sex Offense</b>	<b>N</b>
220(a)(1) PC - Assault With Intent To Commit Mayhem, Rape	2
220(b) PC - Aslt:Intent Rape In 459	2
261(1) PC - Rape/Unable Consent Pc	2
261(a)(1) PC - Rape:Vict Incpbl Of Cnsnt	4
261(a)(2) PC - Rape By Force/Fear/Etc	16
261(a)(4) PC - Rape:Vict Unconsc Of Act	4
261(a)(4)(A) PC - Rape:Vict Unconscious	1
264.1 PC - Rape/Etc:Cncrt Force/Viol	2
286(b)(1) PC - Sodomy:Person Under 18	2
286(b)(2) PC - Sodomy:Person Under 16	1
286(c)(1) PC - Sodomy:Person Under 14	1
286(c)(2)(A) PC - Sodomy By Force By Means Of Force, Fear, Or Duress	3
286(c)(2)(B) PC - Sodomy By Use Of Force Or Fear On Minor Under Age 14	3
287(b)(1) PC - Oral Copulation Of Minor Under The Age Of 18	9
287(c)(1) PC - Oral Copulation Of Person Under 14 Years Of Age.	1
287(c)(2)(A) PC - Oral Copulation By Use Of Force/Injury	2
287(c)(2)(b) PC - Oral Copulation Of Person Under 14 Against Will/Or By Force	4
287(c)(2)(C) PC - Oral Copulation Of Person Age 14 to 17 Against Will/Or By Force	1
288(a) PC - L&L W/Child Under 14	56
288(b)(1) PC - L&L W/Child -14:Force/Etc	27
288(b)(2) PC - Ctakr L&L Dep Adl:Frc/Etc	1
288(c)(1) PC - L&L Acts W/Child:Age Spec	3
288(c)(2) PC - L&L W/Dep Adlt By Caretkr	1
288.5(a) PC - 3 Or More Sex Acts W/Ch U/14Yr	6
288A(b)(1) PC - Oral Cop:Person Under 18	1
288a(c)(2)(A) PC - Oral Copulation Of Minor Age 14 Or Older By Means Of Force	1
288a(c)(2)(B) PC - Oral Copulation Of Minor Under Age 14 By Means Of Force	2
289(a)(1)(A) PC - Sex Penetration:Force/Etc	4
289(a)(1)(B) PC - Sexual Penetraion Of Minor Younger Than 14 By Force, Or Fear	5
289(a)(1)(C) PC - Sexual Penetration Of Minor Age 14 Or Older By Force, Or Fear	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>

The following demographics describes the youth who have been placed in the program from July 2022 through June 2023. Based on this population the average age range was between 17 and 20 years old with an average age of 18 yrs.





Below are the adjudicated offenses amongst the Pathways to Success youth. The most prevalent offense being 211 PC, robbery in the first degree.



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

### Screening and Alternative placements

Prior to admission, RCP begins with a preliminary screening process through the YTEC/Pathways Screening Committee for all 707(b) offenses. This committee is comprised of representatives from the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE), the Riverside University Health Systems-Behavioral Health (RUHS-BH), and RCP Pathways to Success Supervisors. Prior to the screening, a Behavioral Health clinician will meet with the youth to assess their needs and provide a treatment plan and goals. This plan assists the committee in determining the level of care needed to meet the youth's treatment needs in the least restricted environment and to evaluate youth for fitness hoping to deter from entering the adult system. Further, the committee evaluates the eligibility and suitability of the youth for a SYTF recommendation pursuant to 875 WIC and the Judicial Council Offense Matrix and Criteria release July 1, 2023.

The committee's recommendation is added to the probation officer's report for submission to court, and a treatment plan is discussed with the Pathways Treatment Team should the youth be committed to the Pathways to Success program. When the youth's treatment needs do not rise to the level of a SYTF, alternatives such as, juvenile supervision with resources within the community, short-term placement facilities, and RCP's treatment facility at AMC-YTEC for short term therapeutic treatment in a secured facility.

Since July 2022, of the **569** 707(b) adjudicated juvenile cases, **48** cases were screened with the Pathways Interagency Screening committee. Of those screened, **33%** were recommended to Pathways SYTF, **63%** to the AMC-YTEC program, and **4%** to a less restrictive disposition, which includes placement or community supervision.

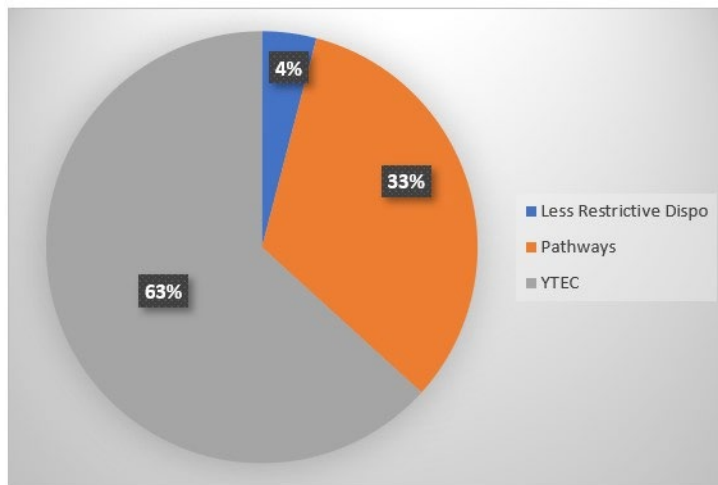


Figure 1: Screening Committee's Recommendations

From the 48 cases screened, 25% had an actual disposition of Pathways SYTF, 39% to the AMC-YTEC program, 2% to a Private Placement and 6% to a less restrictive setting.

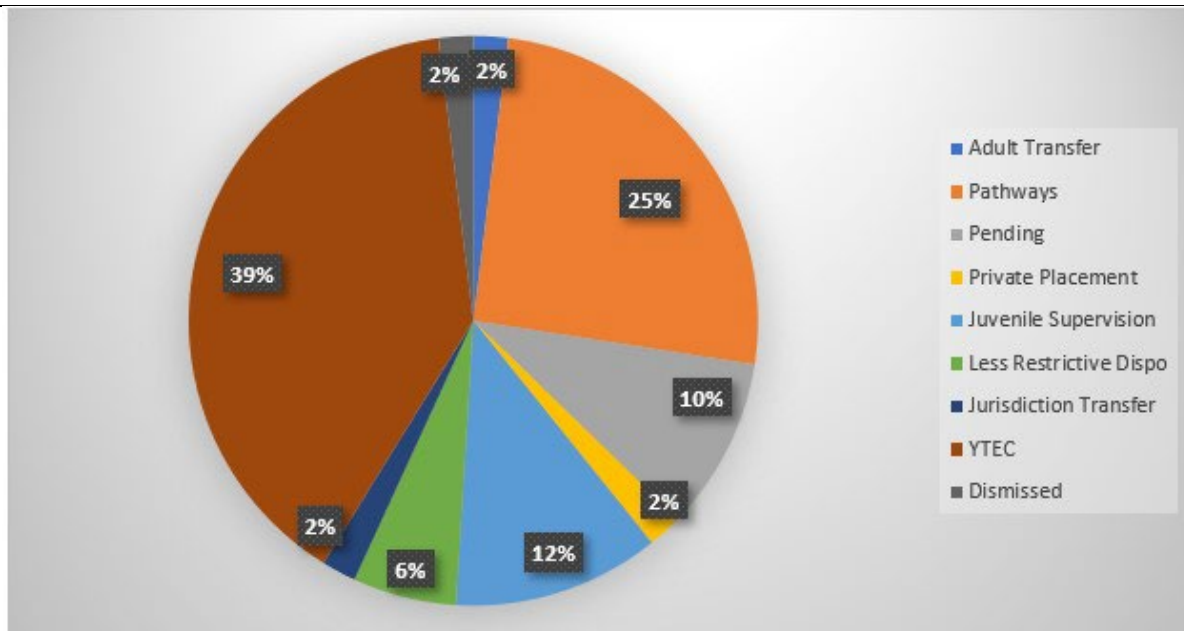


Figure 2: Court's Disposition of those Screened

#### Part 4: Programs and Services (WIC 1995 (d)(2))

Provide a description of the facilities, programs, placements, services and service providers, supervision, and other responses that will be provided to the target population:

##### Commitment to Pathways to Success

Upon the court's order to commit a youth to the program, a baseline term of confinement is set by the Court. Regarding classification, the living units are determined once a youth is screened for relevant characteristics such as age, developmental maturity, mental and emotional health, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disabilities, and/or special needs which are taken into consideration for classification of appropriate housing, safety, and well-being of the youth. Regarding further facility information, please see *Part Six: Facility Plan*. Once assigned to their living unit, the youth review the Youth Handbook, which includes detailed program guidelines, the Pathways Incentivize Ranking System (PIRS) and Pathways Incentive Dollars (PIDs), and an understanding of their expectations to be successful within the program. Each youth is assigned to a Pathways' unit case worker, as well as a behavioral health clinician, who work closely alongside the youth to develop treatment goals based on assessments, behavioral history, career assessment and future goals. Probation staff administer the Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS), Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) assessments. Following these initial assessments, behavioral health personnel complete a clinical assessment. With this information, an Individual Rehabilitation Plan (IRP) is designed to focus on youth's needs and treatment plan submitted to court along with the comprehensive screenings and assessments. Upon court authorization, all results are reviewed by the treatment team to begin programming.

The youth are then introduced to their treatment team, who partners with them to restore connections, safety, and trust. This treatment team is a multi-disciplinary team comprised of probation staff, educational personnel, behavioral health staff, county office of education, and Correctional Health. The treatment team meets to discuss the progress each youth is making, at

least monthly, in achieving their individual rehabilitation goals. The youth's progress in the incentivized phase system, potential promotion or demotion, and determination of any baseline modification is evaluated. Throughout this process, Child and Family Team meetings (CFTM) are conducted to discuss the youth's progress and/or barriers with their support systems to identify strategies. Once the youth has advanced in their phases or reached their baseline term, a transitional CFTM is scheduled 30-60 days prior to transition to discuss the youth's community integration plan, whether it be the youth returning home, to a less restrictive placement/setting, or other alternatives. These CFTMs are intended to include those involved in the youth's life and include mapping out action items to assist in the transition.

## **PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

The following section provides a description of the types of program components, resources, and services offered to youth and their families specifically those focused on:

- Programming
- Education
- Treatment

Actual programs and services are dependent on the youth's individual rehabilitation plan and the needs to be address for a successful transition into the community. Each one of these components are evaluated monthly at the multi-agency treatment team meetings. Pathways utilized an incentivized model which included achieved behaviors and assignments to complete at each phase. The first three phases of the Pathways Incentive Ranking Systems (PIRS) are in a SYTF, with the fourth phase as a less restrictive setting, where they will begin supervised outings and progress to furloughs to support their reintegration successfully. Each phase has a canteen, comprised of upgrades snacks, beverages, and hygiene products, as well as opportunities for increase phone calls, family dinners, and other incentives the treatment team believes are beneficial for the youth. Further, the PIRS provides a grid of how the youth earn their baseline time modifications. The PIRS was constructed by representatives of the Court, Public Defender's Office, District Attorney's Office, Behavioral Health, and Probation. The treatment team is the lead in guiding the youth through the PIRS model and assessing when youth are eligible to be reviewed for potential promotion to the next phase.

### **Programming**

The use of evidence-based programs has become the mainstay of treatment that emphasizes outcomes which are proven to reduce recidivism. Pathways to Success utilizes various programs which address youth risk and needs. Treatment programs are evaluated utilizing the evidence-based principles for effective interventions depicted below. Once established that a treatment program is evidence-based, it is evaluated, and the program is made available to the youth.

Youth committed to the Pathways to Success program have the following evidence-based programs made available to them by Probation:

- Forward Thinking
- Just Beginning Program
- Crossroads
- Restorative Justice
- Victim Awareness



### **Pathways Incentive Ranking System (PIRS)**

Riverside County Probation’s Pathways Incentive Ranking System (PIRS) is designed to provide youth incentivized programming phases. PIRS has four (4) phases beginning with phase one (1) which includes a 30-day orientation and the final phase ending in the youth’s transition into a less restrictive setting or reintegrated into the community. PIRS will be in alignment with their rehabilitation plan as established by the youth, their family, and the treatment team. PIRS is focused on fostering independent thinkers, healthy adolescent development and building upon the skills necessary for a seamless transition into a less restrictive environment. PIRS is set to encourage accomplishments and reinforce positive behaviors while discouraging and minimizing negative behaviors through the offered incentives as well as the collaborative partnerships of a treatment team working together to support growth and rehabilitation. Youth who complete or meet the required assignments of their respective phase may progress to the next phase. Each phase provides the youth the ability to reduce up to six months off their baseline term every six months, dependent upon their progress, completion of the required assignments, and their demonstrated behaviors achieved through the duration of their program.

Phase One of the PIRS is the orientation phase where the youth are learning the rules and expectations of the program, establishing their Individual Rehabilitation Plan (IRP), learning how to maintain their room, and beginning to manage their time and program. In this phase, the youth is establishing their treatment and program plans by enrolling in school, meeting with their clinicians for treatment assessments, writing their autobiography, creating their vision board, and preparing to transition to phase two by completing the Orientation stage of the CHANGE model.

Phase Two of the PIRS sets the expectations based on the youth’s established plan. The youth own their program and begin to increase their responsibility, acknowledge their wrongdoing, refrain from engaging in negative behaviors, obey and follow staff directives, and demonstrate self-



management skills. The youth will begin to career plan, complete CHANGE model stages one and two, Forward Thinking journals, attending group therapy sessions (Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Aggression Replacement Training (ART), and Seeking Safety), and work on their Community Integration Plan (CIP) for a smooth transition into the community.

Phase Three of the PIRS is the last phase within the unit before potential transition to outings and furloughs. The youth should be a leader and role model within the unit. The youth should be able to respectfully express concerns, demonstrate positive behavior toward youth and staff, have improved impulse control, accountability for actions, willingness to receive feedback, and manage time and tasks appropriately. The youth should have completed CHANGE model three and four, where they are to identify other perspectives, offer emotional support to a peer without being prompted, appropriately and accurately communicate empathy to a peer without being prompted, pro-social decision-making skills, self-awareness, and effectively articulate/illustrate the relationship between thinking, behaving, and feeling from old to new self. They are to obtain vital documents needed for transition, lead groups, and demonstrate ability to focus on own growth and goals, despite peer pressure, and including a plan for reintegration by updating their CIP.

Phase Four of the PIRS is the less restrictive setting. The focus of this phase is to prepare for re-entry. It allows supervised outings and the transition to furloughs, and the opportunity to complete their baseline term at Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp. The youth will be participating in educational, life skills, and therapeutic outings which will expose them to new things, learn life skills, and coping mechanism. Further, in this phase, it is expected the youth demonstrate consistent leadership skills, contribute to group discussions, make empathetic and sound decisions, express self-awareness, and reduction in impulsivity. While in this phase, the treatment team members will evaluate the youth's progress to determine their readiness from supervised outings to furloughs and eventually release into the community.

### **Promotional Review Board (PRB)**

A Promotional Review Board (PRB) was established this year to determine the youth's eligibility and suitability to promote to the next phase of the PIRS incentive model. The objective is to ensure youth have progressed, completed their assignments, maintained positive behaviors, have a level of confidence by expressing their growth through discussions pertaining to their personal responsibility, rehabilitation, education, support systems, lessons learned, and coping mechanisms. Further, the youth appearing before the board teaches the youth to advocate for themselves. There are three factors the Promotional Review Board considers when addressing youth during a PRB: 1) Current behaviors within the unit, programs completed, CHANGE model stage, PIRS phase, and IRP; 2) Interview with youth (Probation, Education, and Behavioral Health representatives presenting questions); and 3) Summary of next steps and discussion. Following the youth returning to the unit, the treatment team will discuss the youth and their interview deciding whether the youth will be promoted or not. The youth will be notified by the end of the month and given feedback. Should the youth promote to the next phase, it will go into effect the following month. If it is for PIRS phase four, a court recommendation will be made by the probation officer for a less restrictive setting. Should the youth not promote, they will be given the expectations for improvement and can be eligible the following month to appear before the PRB.

## **Less Restrictive Program**

During the youth's commitment to Pathways to Success, should the treatment team or the Court deem the youth eligible for a less restrictive program, the motion must be considered pursuant to SB 92. The purpose is to facilitate the safe and successful reintegration of the youth into the community.

Once ordered to a less restrictive setting, the youth will continue to attend six-month review hearings to update the court on the performance and compliance of the youth in the program on an individual basis. The court will consider the recommendations for discharge upon the completion of the less restrictive setting or baseline term, whichever comes first. Prior to the discharge hearing, the youth, family, positive support systems and treatment team will complete a Transitional CFTM to map out the plan for re-entry, including referrals within the community. RCP plans to utilize Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp (PGYCC) and YTEC facility-less restrictive unit as a soft handoff to community supervision while engaging in the community. The YTEC treatment facility will offer an open dorm style setting along with the appropriate programming and services necessary for youth to complete Stage Five of the CHANGE model, as well as the PIRS criteria. They will continue to work through the model in a less restrictive environment that allows life skills training and furloughs to attend school, work off sight, and visit family, etc.

Between July 2022-June 2023, the average baseline modifications during this timeframe were 133 days off. RCP's Pathways' program transitioned the first youth to a less restrictive setting on June 28, 2023, with supervised outings within the community including equine therapy. Also, since August 29, 2022, RCP released 16 youth into the community following the completion of the baseline time.

## **Community Supervision**



To minimize trauma youth experience due to generational impacts from incarceration, and/or community violence, Probation will work in a trauma-informed approach to shift the view from law enforcement to community supports and ensure involvement and guidance is established. To initiate this process, community mentors are made available with the hope that bonds will be established between the youth and these mentors over the entirety of their time in the program, from commitment to reintegration into the community. The role of the mentor should be to provide emotional support for the youth as they reconnect themselves into the community. In addition, mentors will be available for the youth to address their needs and concerns promoting their success. Mentors will hold consistent one-on-one meetings with youth to mentor and support them during their transition back



into the community. Youth are requested to identify their mentors and if they are unable to find one, probation will work with collaborating agencies to match appropriate mentors. Probation will collaborate with the mentor to best support the youth and families involved.

**FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR RIVERSIDE COUNTY**

Pursuant to 1990 and 1995 WIC, in fiscal year (FY) 21/22, an allocation of funds referred to as the “Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant” was given to counties that supply the treatment-centered secured program and youth-centered supervision for the realignment of the DJJ population. Based on the allocation formula in SB 823, over the course of three years, RCP will receive \$2.3 million for FY 21/22, - \$6.6 million for FY 22/23, and \$10.7 million for FY 23/24. Respectively, to be utilized toward the development of a robust and comprehensive menu of services for this specialized population. At full implementation, total statewide funding will be \$208.8 million. Below is the total program budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 which includes other state funding:



**Riverside County Probation Department  
FY 2022/23 Pathways to Success "SB823" Budget**

Category	Services	Budget
Staffing (40 Full Time Positions)	Salaries and Benefits	3,649,512
Treatment Facility Operational Costs	Professional Services, Building Maint, Training, Safety-Security, Office Supplies, Software,	986,313
Behavioral Health and Mental Health Services	Healthy Adolescent Development, Trauma Based Services	283,500
Education Services	GED, College Opportunities, Vocational Opportunities	368,322
Pine Grove Fire Camp	Employable skills development	450,930
Transitional Housing and Services Program	Re-Entry Contracted Housing	600,000
Other Contracted Services	Community Based Organizations, Family Engagement, Culturally Responsive, Independent Living Programming, Conflict Resolution/Restorative Justice	388,000
Indirect Costs	Administrative Overhead	260,162
<b>Total SB 823 allocation: \$6,686,577</b>	<b>Other State Funding: \$300,162</b>	<b>Total Budget: \$6,986,739</b>

## **Part 5: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds (WIC 1995(d)(3)(A))**

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address the mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of the target population:

### **Treatment**

The treatment plans begin with the screening process which includes mental health and risk assessment processes. Thereafter, youth are matched with a caseworker, treatment team, and respective courses for their individualized therapeutic treatment needs. The offered services include, but are not limited to mental health, counseling and psychiatric services, trauma-informed approaches, conflict mediation, restorative justice, substance abuse, anger management, moral and cognitive recognition, sexual offender treatment, etc.

### **Counseling Services**

Behavioral Health services use evidence-based, trauma-informed, collaborative, and strength-based treatment approaches to target dynamic risk factors that contribute to re-offending. Youth who are committed to the Pathways to Success program receive treatment services through Behavioral Health and Probation staff. All youth in the Pathways to Success Program participate in the Collaboratively Helping Adolescents Negotiate Greater Empathy treatment program known as the CHANGE model. The model includes stage work, bibliotherapy, plant/pet therapy, and individual, family and group therapy. Within the model some treatment interventions are required, including Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Healthy Living, and Restorative Justice. Other treatment interventions are required for youth who have exhibited certain problem behaviors; for instance, substance use treatment, Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), and family therapy. Additionally, some forms of treatment are voluntary but highly encouraged, including evidence-based practices to address trauma.

All treatment interventions were carefully selected as part of the CHANGE model to help youth address their core treatment needs, while identifying and utilizing their talents, strengths, and healthy interests. The wide array of treatment options also enable youth to develop a treatment plan that is individualized to them while providing them the best opportunity to successfully reintegrate to their family and community. Most of the treatment interventions are Evidence-Based, meaning that there is strong research supporting their effectiveness with certain age groups and populations (in this case, juvenile justice involved youth).

While counseling is a required part of being at Pathways, medications are voluntary. Some youth are unable to maintain healthy/stable thoughts, emotions, and behaviors without taking medications consistently. As such, many youth have discovered, under appropriate care of their physician/psychiatrist, being consistent with their prescribed medication helped them reach their goals and stay on track at Pathways. Youth may refer themselves to meet with the psychiatrist by filling out a self-referral form for a medication evaluation.

### **CHANGE Model**

The CHANGE model is the overarching program that includes all behavioral health counseling. All individual, family, and group therapy, and all other clinical and behavioral health activities, are part of the CHANGE model. With the CHANGE model youth work through a series of eight stages that help them to build pro-social attitudes and behaviors and prepare for successful community re-entry. This program is specifically designed for youth with sex offenses and/or violent offenses. As part of the stage work the youth address the following topics: healthy living; personal history; responsibility and accountability; attachment, loss, and early connections; behavior patterns and restorative justice; effective decision making; successful community re-entry; and creating a new beginning.

The stages include:

- Stage 0/Orientation – Comprehensive assessment and evaluation; case planning and orientation
- Stage 1 – Initial exploration of the past and the relationship between decision-making and behaviors so that youth can begin to plan a successful move forward.
- Stage 2 – Exploration of past with focus on future; accountability and responsibility and the role of each in long-term success.
- Stage 3 – Exploration of the relationship trauma, victimization and thoughts, feelings, and behaviors; foster the healing process and help youth develop new healthy ways to manage thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.
- Stage 4 – Promote continued learning about the effects of behaviors on self and others with an emphasis on demonstrated progress in making positive behavioral changes.
- Stage 5 – Facilitate continued learning about the relationship between thinking and decision-making. Assess youth's readiness to promote out of the institution. Finalize plans for re-entry. Youth also has a chance for Promotion out of Institution at the end of this stage – to be determined by Probation Unit Supervisor and based on youth behavior throughout the program.
- Stage 6 – Provide guidance as youth is allowed the opportunity to demonstrate achievements in re-entry and Good Life goals, as well as the ability to be a good citizen, and learn new skills for a successful transition.
- Stage 7 – Reinforce continued demonstration of positive changes, firm preparations for future, and closure.

In the CHANGE group, youth share and process their stage work assignments and address any challenges and successes they are having in each stage. They exchange constructive feedback amongst their peers. They share details about their offense(s) and receive constructive feedback from their peers that increase their accountability for their poor choices and awareness of how their offense(s) impact their peers, family, victims, and the community.

### **Other Treatment groups and classes**

Through a youth-centered approach and the detailed individual rehabilitation plan, the goal is to unlock the youth's potential. The youth will use the rehabilitation plan as an active roadmap with action items and achievable milestones while in the Pathways to Success program.

The following is a list of potential programming and treatment provided to each youth:

- Aggression Replacement Training (ART)-*Resource Group*
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)-*Resource Group Required*
- Seeking Safety-*Individual Treatment Resource (Voluntary)*
- Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)- *Individual and Family Treatment Resource (Voluntary)*
- Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)- *Individual and Family Treatment Resource (Voluntary)*
- Collaboratively Helping Adolescents/Young Adults Achieve Greater Empathy (*Change model*)
- Healthy Living- *Resource Group Required*
- Restorative Justice- *Resource Group Required*
- Moods and Expressions- *Resource Group Required*
- Substance Use Counseling-*Resource Group*

As the psychologist position has been vacated, the position is currently open. The intention for this position is to screen youth within the Pathways program and identify more severe treatment needs to place under the psychologist care to treat them more effectively.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population: (WIC 1995(d)(3)(B)):

One approach RCP is dedicated to is engaging credible messengers as roles model to help transform attitudes and behaviors around violence by sharing their lived experience with the youth. It is hoped, the youth will better understand guidance and feedback from someone who they feel understands and respects them. Through these credible messengers, youth can develop and understand a better sense of self as an individual and within their community, demonstrate critical decision-making skills, and set goals for the future (healthy relationships, communication, decision-making, and understanding your own triggers, etc.). Besides working with our community-based organizations, such as Chavez Educational and Success Stories, many guest speakers have spoken to the youth sharing their experience and advice of being justice involved. A former National Football League player, Mr. Montgomery, Riverside County Assistant Sheriff Delgado, Representatives from the National Law Institute are just some of the speakers who have shared with the youth about their background, challenges they had to overcome, and where they are currently.

Another approach is providing services for life skills, including but not limited to, financial literacy workshops by Altura Credit Union and Youth Opportunity Center, on-site job opportunities, interviewing and resume building, job readiness, creation of a culinary program to discuss nutrition and teach youth how to cook on a budget, and a Fatherhood program through Birthchoice community-based organization. As indicated in *Part Four: Programs and Services (see budget)*, RCP continues to collaborate with both county and community partners to ensure our youth are provided opportunities for life skills and a successful independent living transition. The JJCC Subcommittee continued to research and vet more organizations to increase opportunities in this area.

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Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population (WIC 1995(d)(3)(C)):

## Family Engagement

Research shows youth benefit more from treatment, and better sustain those benefits, when family is involved in the treatment process. The family resources begin from the initial CFTM and continue through the youth's transition into the community. Upon commitment to Pathways to Success, the unit supervisor contacts the family to participate in the CFTM to discuss the youth's strengths, areas of concern, identify goals within the program and transition to the community. Within the first week of the youth's commitment, the Pathways Unit Supervisor and Clinician meet with the youth's family/guardian individually to provide an overview of the program, discuss expectations, explain the IRP process, and answer any questions pertaining to the program. A plan is developed to engage families in the youth's treatment process, from the date the youth is committed to Pathways to Success to the time they transition into the community. Family/team meetings will continue to be held as needed and in preparation for Court hearings, focusing on the youth's progress and accomplished milestones. Family engagement services offered are:

- Visiting
- Family Orientation
- Family Therapy
- CFTMs
- Transportation (via bus passes, etc.)
- Family Days



The JJCC Subcommittee is researching Parent Partners to help walk the parents through rehabilitation, relocation, and employment services for the parents of the youth, and Parent Project to provide support for the youth.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing and continuing education for the target population (WIC 1995(d)(3)(D)):

## **Educational and Employment Services**

Pathways to Success offers high school, post-secondary, and college opportunities through Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE), Riverside Community College (RCC), and independent vocational and mentoring services. Youth also have access to job skills training and career guidance. Further, youth may obtain their birth certificate, California identification card, food handler card, high school transcripts and social security card.

### **Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE):**

Youth attend school daily. The RCOE educational program is fully accredited. Youth are evaluated utilizing the Renaissance Learning Star Assessment to determine reading and math achievement levels to place them in the appropriate grade. Ensuring youth obtain a quality education is a vital component of the program. Those who have graduated high school or completed a high school equivalent exam can enroll in a higher education program through Riverside Community College's Rising Scholars program and attend virtually.

Pathways has one Specialized Academic Instruction Teacher to assist with post-secondary education and vocational opportunities. Some of those responsibilities entail:

- Assisting youth in applying to college
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) & Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- Assists with graduations, portfolios, and resumes
- Facilitate & Coordinate communication between RCC, RCP, and students.
- Assist and provide student support by establishing and maintaining a learning environment that is physically, emotionally, and intellectually safe
- Teach students how to read syllabus and how to navigate website
- Discuss career goals and assist with resources
- Three-day support system to graduates
- Assist with College and Career Fair
- Participate in Student Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meetings as needed

### **College Opportunities**

Pathways to Success is building a bridge between the youth and higher education. Through a partnership with, but not limited to:

- Riverside Community College, Rising Scholars

- California State University San Bernardino
- The Prison Education Program (PEP)



Riverside City College’s Rising Scholars Program provides a safe, supportive, equitable, and empowering educational environment for students impacted by the carceral system. Pathways to Success youth, who are enrolled in RCC classes, are encouraged to join Rising Scholars for them to receive the full benefits of the program while they are in custody and following their release from custody. The RCC Rising Scholars program equips students with the tools they need to achieve their highest potential through higher education. Understanding that each student has their own unique set of experiences and challenges, Rising Scholars aims to assist students throughout their college journey, from application to graduation. The foundation of the Rising Scholars program is the Scholar Success Team (SST). The SST provides individualized, integrated support to students from trained and experienced educators while engaging them within a community of support. The team consists of an RCC counselor, an educational advisor, and an outreach specialist. The program is currently expanding capacity to also include in the SST current RCC students as peer mentors and California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) students as in-person academic tutors. Appropriate intake assessments and procedures as well ongoing communication enable the SST and students to work together to identify an appropriate program of study, alleviate potential barriers, and ultimately stay on their intended path.

The goals for the partnership between RCC Rising Scholars and Pathways to Success are as follows:

1. Expose Pathways to Success youth to a college experience that is holistic, supportive, rehabilitative, and academic-forward goal setting that optimizes student success and goal attainment.
2. Provide youth access to RCC credit-bearing and non-credit course options, that are rigorous, relevant to their lives, and prepare them for the future and professional opportunities.
3. Create long-lasting opportunities for youth and provide them the skills to identify and reach their short-term and long-term goals that will extend beyond the Pathways to Success program.
4. Institutionalize a network of academic and social connections for incarcerated youth to access and rely upon during reentry.

Build strong and equity-minded youth and provide effective enrollment and retention best-practices through matriculation support, high quality academic instruction, mentorship, and individualized support services.

The programming designed for Pathways to Success is based on a California Community Colleges Guided Pathways model, which provides a framework to facilitate clear, integrated, goal-focused



certificate or degree pathways with continued support from designated staff and faculty along the student's journey. Guided Pathways is a national movement founded upon four pillars: 1) clarify the path, 2) enter the path, 3) stay on the path, and 4) ensure learning. Therefore, regular meetings with counselors and advisors are complemented by relevant informational workshops and connections to individualized support services. Depending on the student's needs, tailored services may include the Disability Resource Center, the Guardian Scholars Program (for former and current foster youth), Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS), Umoja and La Casa.

Students can enroll in academic majors and courses according to their interests and the availability of online programming. All RCC classes are conducted virtually. Meetings with members of SST are conducted both virtually as well as in-person at the YTEC.

Since spring 2022, a total of 20 Pathways students have enrolled in classes across the three colleges of Riverside Community College District (RCCD) – RCC, Moreno Valley College and Norco College, including three dually enrolled students. There are also five students who have been released from custody who are still receiving regular support (weekly contacts) from the Rising Scholars counselor. While most students attend classes part-time (less than 12 units), there are four students who currently have 12 units or more. There are 16 youth attending part time, with less than 12 units. One youth is attending the Interactive Creative Educational Videos (ICEV) course.

Lastly regarding college opportunities, PEP aims to educate, empower, and transform the lives of incarcerated individuals. The goal of PEP is to create a "Prison-to-School Pipeline" and provide in-custody students with the cognitive tools necessary to function as productive citizens. The overarching philosophy of PEP is to use the resources, such as justice-impacted university student and faculty volunteers, to provide sessions to all the youth. They are working to expand their involvement with all units within the Pathways to Success program.

#### Vocational Opportunities:

The Riverside County Office of Education has spearheaded a multitude of vocational services through the Innovative Creative Educational Videos (ICEV) program. All youth will be exposed to Workforce Readiness Skills Courses. Upon completion of the foundational classes, the youth will have the opportunity to take a myriad of computer-based classes in family and consumer sciences. Other certificate programs added to the youth's career training this year were construction, business, and small engines. Other avenues such as architecture, transportation, manufacturing, and a pathway in marketing, finance, IT and Media classes are to be added. For the final piece, the RCOE liaison will identify the classes that interest the youth after a career assessment is completed. They will begin to work with the treatment team to build community connections to create the linkage between learning the knowledge and how it translates into the workplace.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive practices for the target population (WIC 1995(d)(3)(E)):



When a youth is committed to the Pathways to Success program, they are provided a series of assessments for RCP to properly evaluate the youth's treatment needs. One of those assessments is the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES). This assessment provides insight to the tremendous impact on future violence, victimization, and lifelong health of the youth. It is felt this assessment is an integral part of the trauma-informed approach for RCP to identify behavioral, social, and trauma-specific services to connect to the appropriate treatment. The ACES tallies the different types of abuse, neglect, and other experiences which would indicate higher risk for physical and mental health problems later in life. The ACES can also empower and validate the youth's experiences and can help to address even the family's health and relationships as well. RCP's Pathways staff are trained in the ACES, Trauma-Informed Care, and Emotional Intelligence, as noted previously.

Not only are RCP's probation staff utilizing trauma-informed approaches, but as noted previously Behavioral Health services use evidence-based, trauma-informed, collaborative, and strength-based treatment approaches to target dynamic risk factors that contribute to re-offending. Youth who are committed to the Pathways to Success program receive treatment services through Behavioral Health and Probation staff. Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health's (RUHS-BH) treatment for youth in the Pathways to Success Program begins with an assessment that includes a youth's trauma history, gender identity preferences, and the culture of their family, loved ones, and peers. This informs direct service staff on how to work with them and their family (when applicable) in a way that matches to their needs and preferences. In the Pathways to Success program, youth participate in the CHANGE model, which is patterned after the award-winning Sexual Behavior Treatment Program that was developed at the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and modified to address violent offenses as well as sex offenses, and to have a stronger community re-entry component, as encouraged by DJJ as part of ongoing consultation with them.

With DJJ's program being evidence-based and ongoing support of its treatment effectiveness, RUHS-BH uses that program in conjunction with other Evidence-Based Practices: Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Aggression Replacement Therapy, and Forward-Thinking Journaling. Youth with substance use histories also receive an evidence-based substance use treatment (Living in Balance or A New Direction) with a higher or lower dosage depending on the severity of their usage. Youth with trauma histories, that present with traumatic symptoms, receive trauma-informed therapy to the degree that they are willing to participate in it, with options of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, EMDR, Seeking Safety, and Coping with Stress. As part of each youth's re-entry plans, they are linked to aftercare services in the community that can include continuing the CHANGE model in the community setting, substance use treatment, trauma-based treatment, and linkage to vocational training and education.

Other services are to provide the youth a sense of belonging and positive sense of self while understanding their roots, including youth of color. Youth participate in cultural traditions within the unit, including food, art, and holidays, to allow not only a positive perspective of their culture but to embrace the culture of others.



Describe whether and how the County plans to apply grant funds to include services or programs for the target population that are provided by nongovernmental or community-based providers (WIC 1995(d)(3)(F)):

RCP, along with community-based organization (CBO) service providers, are committed to providing “collaborative reentry pathways alongside youth to promote healing, healthy, and resilient lifestyles, as well as strengthen families, and restore safety to the community.” To achieve this aim, RCP has begun to partner with CBOs for life skills, mentorship, and re-entry specific services to the diverse regions of Riverside County.



Currently, RCP has been working with the following Community Based Organizations: Chavez Educational Services/STEP UP,



Chapman Mediation Services, Success Stories, and Canine Therapy program with Kayla Branscum (Indio) and is looking to expand the community-based organizations. Each organization provides engagement while the youth are in the SYTF but also when the youth reintegrate back into the community. Individuals from these CBOs will begin working with our youth in various capacities either on site or virtually. Each CBO provides specific services to enhance the youth’s support systems, provide consistent mentorships and provide life skills as described:

**Chapman University Mediation:** It is a three-pronged approach, conflict resolution, restorative justice, and transitioning youth into the community, with regards to conflict and decision making. Track 1 is Conflict Resolution and Mediation Program which teaches youth the necessary skills to creative problem-solve under principles of believing and acting in a non-violent society. Further, it will adjust to the youth's learning levels. Track 2 is the Restorative Justice program with resolution services. The victims will take an active role in this with collaborating partner agencies. Track 3 is the transition to home program for mediation, conciliation, and mentorship within the community.

**Chavez Educational Services/STEP UP program:** Interactive seminar to address issues of self-efficacy, independent decision making, personal goal setting, anger and conflict identification, and resolution woven into an intense workshop beginning with their transition from childhood to adulthood with its responsibilities and freedoms. There are a series of activities from music, poetry, intensive and interactive dialogue, self-revealing exercises, and goal identification.

**Success Stories:** Monthly mentorship meetings to develop resiliency upon reentry into the community by exploration of toxic masculinity, patriarchy, beliefs, love, and short-term/long-term thinking and provide participants with tools needed to shift their criminal behaviors to positive behaviors and not act in harmful ways that lead to recidivism.

Other partnered community-based organizations and government agencies utilized by RCP:

- Real Man Read: a literacy program that provides community engagement from male mentors to encourage young men to read.

- Women Wonder Writers: youth participate in writing and speaking lessons, practicing healthy expression, empathy building, receive positive peer supports, gain a sense of purpose and hope, and improve self-esteem.
- California Family Life Center: Youth Opportunity Center: youth begin to set career goals and personal aspirations through receiving paid in-custody work experience and work readiness development and assist in transition into the community.
- Partner Paws Dog Training/Canine Therapy (Indio location): animal assisted therapy and activities to help youth relax, reduce feelings of depression, anxiety, or loneliness, and promote a feeling of well-being.

Beyond organizations coming in to provide services, there have been several guest speakers, as previously stated, who have presented opportunities, positive messages, and inspiration to the youth.



### Faith-Based Services



Pathways to Success youth are offered voluntary weekly faith-based services and bible study through various local faith-based organizations. Volunteers offer many different services including Catholic, Christian, Islamic and Non- Denominational. Youth may also request services not represented. In addition to providing the above-mentioned services, faith-based volunteers also participate in competitive, yet friendly, sporting events during holiday weekends.

They also participate in holiday events including Christmas caroling, gift wrapping and bringing in guest speakers.

### Part 6: Facility Plan

Describe in detail each of the facilities that the County plans to use to house or confine the target population at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need, and improvements to



accommodate long-term commitments. Facility information shall also include information on how the facilities will ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics. (WIC 1995(d)(4))

RCP dedicated three units for the Pathways to Success Youth, two male units each with a 20-bed capacity and one multi-program female unit. Further, on June 26, 2023, RCP expanded the Pathways program to include a separate unit in our Indio Juvenile Hall (IJH) for the DJJ returnees. This is a 10-bed self-contained living unit with a classroom, an attached side yard for recreation, a living space for programming, meals, and leisure. RCP transitioned the three DJJ returnees and anticipated all will be release before December 2023. The one DJJ female returnee, was not eligible for a SYTF, as she committed the offense prior to 14 years of age. She was ordered to the YTEC treatment program in the female multi-program unit, where she is provided programming to meet her individual



As the needs of the program have begun to expand so has the capacity of the facility. To enhance the home-like environment, youth can earn upgraded snacks, toiletries, clothing, and even blankets in their rooms which include a bed, storage for belongings, and a vision board for them to create their future vision with motivational quotes and pictures.



With Pathways requiring a less restrictive setting in a step-down program and in the spirit of improving youth with long-term commitments, the Institution managers and staff scheduled a Rapid



Improvement Event (RIE) to devise a master plan to best utilize the facilities for classification, staffing, bed space, and services provided. The plan will be implemented in phases with milestones to move to the next phase. It will be suggested to move Pathways' youth between the facilities according to the progress within the PIRS phased incentive model. In addition to movement and utilization of facilities, RCP is also implementing the SB 81-round two grant to expand the AMC-YTEC with a multi-purpose space to include a recreational, vocational,

educational and treatment area to support life skills and emotional maturity to succeed in the community. The anticipated build for this is 2025.

### **Part 7: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System**

Describe how the plan will incentivize or facilitate the retention of the target population within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system, in lieu of transfer to the adult criminal justice system (WIC 1995(d)(5)):

As stated previously, RCP screens all 707(b) offenses going before the court with a therapist completing an evaluation prior to the meeting. The Pathways Interagency screening committee then evaluates the case utilizing the 875 WIC and new Judicial Council's Offense based classification and criteria in efforts to link the youth with service meeting their individual treatment needs. The committee will make a recommendation to be added to the court report for submission to Court, and a treatment plan is discussed with the Pathways Treatment Team should the youth be committed to the Pathways to Success program. Each youth screened to ensure the less restrictive setting to meet their specific treatment needs is recommended, as well as eligibility and suitability for SYTF. In the screening process, a therapist working with the youth while in detention, will evaluate the youth prior to provide a thorough report of youth's behavior and treatment needs. When the youth's treatment needs do not rise to the level of aSYTF or the adult system, alternatives such as our juvenile supervision with resources within the community, short-term placement facilities, and RCP's treatment facility at AMC-YTEC for short term therapeutic treatment in a secured facility are utilized.

In Pathways, Probation and Behavioral Health worked together to create an incentivized, treatment-based program to empower the youth, while addressing and treating the offense and behavior that placed the youth in program. Behavioral Health seeks to prepare a youth for successful community re-entry, preventing them from recidivating and entering the adult system, through providing them intensive treatment that is focused on the whole person as well as the severe offense. Youth in the Pathways to Success Program may not initially be considering a clean, sober, and pro-social lifestyle in the community. Therefore RUHS-BH starts with building their awareness of what, in their past, contributed to a mindset that led to acts of violence in the community. They then learn about taking responsibility for their past actions – especially those harmful to others – and are expected to demonstrate on their unit that they are making marked progress in living responsibly,

with pro-social attitudes and behaviors. Following this stage of treatment, youth must go into detail about their offense(s), writing and presenting their offense(s) from their perspective and the victim's perspective, with all details as they relate to theirs and the victim's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors (i.e., Cognitive Behavioral Therapy), including their overall impact on the victim and community. They must continue demonstrating marked improvement with taking responsibility and prosocial attitudes and behaviors. The latter part of treatment focuses on the youth planning for their success re-entering the community. With their treatment team, they develop a vision of what they want for themselves, in a prosocial way, and what it will take to achieve it, including character, skills, and family and community supports. They are linked to any services/resources in which they are willing to participate. Pathways to Success has many collaborative relationships with community partners to help with ongoing substance use treatment, vocational support, housing, and mental health support.

Lastly, youth are provided active case management by field probation officers throughout their commitment to PTS. This allows for continuity of care and services both inside the program and when transitioning to the community. The supervision model affords intensive supervision and ongoing connection to services within the community. It is hoped the use of collaborative community supervision will prevent recidivism and youth continuing to the adult system.

### **Part 8: Regional Effort**

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

RCP, in cooperation with the San Bernardino County Probation Department (SBCPD), have a completed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together to accomplish a mutual goal of providing services to SYTF youth in both counties. Youth can be placed in the other counties SYTF should their program offer a program unavailable at the residing county. Further, should there be a classification or gang issue the responsible county cannot safely accommodate. In the MOU, the youth will return to the residing county upon their completion of baseline term and be released into the community. A liaison for each county is assigned as well as a replacement staff, should the originally assigned staff be unavailable. The liaison serves as the point of contact for any issues, documentation, or communication in general.

## Part 9: Data

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

RCP collects data regarding client demographics, such as number of clients admitted into the program, age, race, offenses, as well as those who transition into less-restrictive settings and recidivism. In addition, we utilize youth surveys to obtain feedback on programs and services. The surveys will be used in the future, to assist in creating Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of success within the program. With the implementation of a new client management system, data points for RCP will be integrated to assist in building a collaborative dashboard of data and track information to be collected. As stated previously, RCP utilizes the ACES and other assessments when the youth enter the program to understand the needs of the youth and provide a plan for staff and collaborating partners to meet the youth's treatment needs. RCP has partnered with Chapman University, who developed an empathy scale assessment delivered to the youth when they enter enrolled in the program, throughout the program and again upon completion, which will be discussed in the next section. Lastly, the JJCC Subcommittee work group and RCP's research team are working towards identifying the right metrics to collect, resources to collect data, and how to utilize the metrics to evaluate the programs and services provide to meet the youths' needs.

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

RCP will be integrating a new case management system which will be instrumental in the collection of accurate data for reporting and analysis. Pathways to Success will measure the data required by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration as well as identifying Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) such as case plan goals completed, school credits earned, and programs completed. In addition, RCP will track undesirable behaviors such as fights or assaults. This information will be represented on a visual dashboard allowing for data driven decisions in real-time.



Moreover, the goal of the data will be to assess the youth's growth within the program, as well as their successful reintegration into the community. These measurements will initially be tracked internally, not only by Probation but by the collaborating agencies as well, and this will allow the program to be assessed not only for fidelity but for continuous improvement. One of the most exciting additions to performance measures is our work toward measuring the program's impact on empathy.

Currently, Probation has partnered with Chapman University, where they developed an empathy scale delivered when the youth is enrolled in the program, throughout the program and again upon completion. When a youth exits the program, it is anticipated recidivism will decrease, if clients can think of others and understand how their actions impact others, coupled with effectively addressing their underlying behavioral health needs. In addition to performance, population data, educational data, and assessments on mental and emotional health will also be tracked. The Pathways to Success treatment team manage the youth and family goals developed in the individual

rehabilitation plan. This is accomplished by the youth and their families completing a survey on their needs and strengths. With the results from the survey the Pathways to Success program can act accordingly and place the youth on the path best suited for them. Questions will range from topics such as gender identity, therapy evaluation, and reading comprehension. Youth and family voice are pivotal in determining program success to include their opinions and feelings about the program. As such, the youth and their families will also complete a survey upon completion of the program. The survey gauged where program improvements could be made. Chapman University reported out for their first three quarters of data, which stated the following:

“An emotional empathy scale is described and administered to 35 youth. A pre-, mid-, and post-survey was administered to the participants. Not all participants participated in every survey. The scale consists of 30 items, and it measures the emotional Empathy of an individual while providing detailed external factors. A principal component analysis yielded eight significant factors that best capture the various external factors influencing the Youth's responses. Alpha reliabilities displayed high internal consistency for all survey scores. Emotional Empathy Scores for all three were moderate and generally increased over time. The youth demonstrated the highest level of increase in emotional expression and observance in the first quarter; however, emotional susception, as part of emotional empathy, was a prominent factor in the last quarter. The youth's tendency to absorb and resonate with the emotions of others (staff included) had increased in the last quarter. This emotional susception ‘effect’ can also be used in an opposing light where youth can encourage one another to participate authentically, or staff, can encourage.”

It was noted in the reports that the environment can play a factor in consistency of the data. There were limits in the gender information as there is only one female youth, as well as missing data with not all youth completing all surveys due to environmental factors, time frame, uneven participation, and the way the survey was distributed. By aligning this report with the earlier analysis, Chapman aims to construct a cohesive narrative that sheds light on the evolving emotional empathy landscape among justice-involved youth participating in the Pathways Restorative Justice Initiative.

While Pathways to Success seeks to individualize the program to each youth, it will be vital to validate the effectiveness of all programs being offered to the youth and to ensure each day spent in the program is equipping them to be successful as they reintegrate into the community. The Riverside County's JJCC Subcommittee team has begun to survey the youth in attempts to identify the baseline metrics for the program regarding their definition of success and program elements, as well as staff and agencies providing the service. It is hoped to make a metrics dashboard, viewable by probation and collaborating agencies, to ensure effective systems and where countermeasures and improvements need to be made. Further, the JJCC Subcommittee plans to work with the OYCR to evaluate other counties' collection of data to identify what is best to audit when evaluating the fidelity of RCP's PTS program.

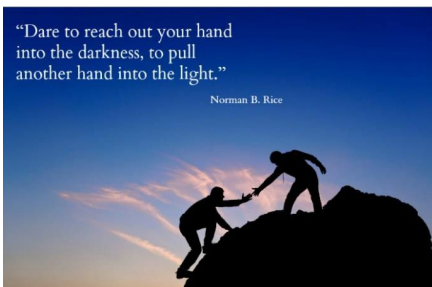
## **Part 10: Progress Report**

Provide a description of the progress made regarding any elements described in Parts 2-9 and any objectives and outcomes in the plan that was submitted to the Office of Youth and Community Supervision in the previous calendar year. (WIC 1995(d)(8)).



Since the last submission of the RCP's plan, we have expanded our services and processes to include the following:

- Developed a process for youth's induction into Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp and finalized the contract.
- Established in-unit employment, collaborating with California Family Life Center (CFLC), where the youth fill out an application, interview, and have monthly reviews of their efforts.
- Identified a process for victim notification and will finalize prior to submission of this report.
- Implemented a Promotional Review Board for youth to participate in when eligible for phase promotions.
- Implemented a Less Restrictive Program, which includes supervised off-grounds outings and furloughs.
- Implemented and utilization of the Judicial Council's Offense matrix in reports and screening for placement.
- Utilize credible messengers through the Project Rebound Program at University of San Bernardino to tutor the youth.
- Following the Transitional Child Family Team Meeting (CFTM), the youth is provided a planner with all appointments and referrals, as well as important contact information for support systems within the community.
- Created a process, training, and updated screening for youth with 707(b) offense with the new Judicial Council Offense Matrix and Secured Track Criteria.
- Completed a Memorandum of Understanding with San Bernardino County Probation.
- Applied for the OYCR Less Restrictive Program Grant.
- Created Honor Roll and enhanced incentives (upgrade food, beverages, hygiene, and clothing) for youth in the unit.
- Created an updated Credible Messenger's background process to be more efficient with clearing for entrance into RCP's facilities.
- Implemented the use of Career Assessments for each youth entering the facility with our RCOE liaison.
- Updated the Individual Rehabilitation Plan to include Community Integration Goals and Tasks to begin planning for reintegration from the first day of commitment.
- Planned a Rapid Improvement Event to evaluate how to best utilize RCP's facilities to provide a more supportive setting for the youth's progression through the program.



## NEXT STEPS 2024/2025

In the next phase of the program, RCP will focus on the following components:

- Program validation and outcome metrics.
- Strength-based assessment tool and additional assessments to evaluate effects of long-term commitment.
- Restorative Practices.
- Addition of a psychologist to the program.
- Explore the development, process, and structure of a less restrictive setting.
- Workforce Development collaboration, including working with the Department of Rehabilitation.
- Establish more job skill programs, which will teach leadership and responsibility.
- Continue to enhance and identify programs, community-based organizations to partner with, and seek life skill opportunities, etc.
- Vocational opportunities and certifications with community colleges and other vocational programs.
- Enhance incentives.
- Enhance resources and support for the youth and their parents.
- Expanding Transitional housing with services for a select population.
- Establish a Program Graduation Process.
- Increase in-person vocational and education training through SB 81-Round 2 funding.
- Finalize Victim Notification Process.
- Continued collaboration with OYCR to ensure compliance and best practices are being utilized.
- Add art workshops to programming to enhance employable skills, as well as an opportunity for youth to express themselves.
- Implement the Helping Justice-Involved Reenter Employment (HIRE) grant with California Family Life Center (CFLC) to provide business entrepreneur, career assessment and financial literacy classes. Further, to expand the in-unit employment and assist youth in resume building, interviewing skills, and strategies to keep employment.
- Add a vocational trade in person, preferably in construction through Skyrocket organization, where youth receive OSHA certification, and level one and two apprentice certificates.