

Program Overview



Mission and Vision

It is the mission of the Department of Youth and Community Restoration to help youth who have hurt people, and have been hurt themselves, return safely to the community and become responsible and successful adults.

Youth who were once under the care of California's Division of Juvenile Justice have transitioned successfully into adulthood and desisted from criminal behavior, and are now thriving and engaged members of their communities.

History

- When California became a state in 1850, there were no correctional facilities for juveniles in California.
- Between 1850 and 1860, about 300 serious cases were sent to the state prisons at San Quentin and Folsom. These cases were male juveniles under the age of 20, and as young as 12 years old.

History

- With the passage of the California Youth Correction Authority Act in 1941, the three boys' reformatories were moved from the Division of Institutions and became the California Youth Authority, whose purpose was focused on rehabilitation.
- Over the next 20 years, CYA became nationally and internationally known for innovative treatment and training programs.
- CYA's programs were examined and copied by correctional agencies from other states throughout the U.S., as well as from other countries.

History, cont

- Between 1943 and 1991, CYA operated 15 facilities and 10 camps, and by 1996, CYA's population had grown to 10,122 youth.
- On July 1, 2005, to highlight the renewed emphasis on rehabilitation of California youth, the governor changed CYA's name to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and transferred DJJ as a division into the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR).
- Since a peak in 1996, DJJ's population has seen an enormous decrease mostly due to:
 - A decline in the juvenile felony arrest rate since the mid 1990's.
 - New legislation required commitment of most juvenile offenders to county facilities, sending only those convicted of the most serious felonies and having the most severe treatment needs to DJJ.
- In 2019, there are approximately 750 youth in four DJJ facilities

Farrell Lawsuit

- Prison Law Office filed suit in 2002 alleging poor conditions of confinement and improper care/treatment of youth in six areas.
 - Safety and Welfare
 - Sexual Behavior Treatment Program
 - Education Services
 - Wards with Disabilities
 - Healthcare Services
 - Mental Health
- Court-appointed experts and monitors, remedial plans, and audit tools were developed and implemented. Intensive changes were made across all areas based on best practices and the experts' advice.
 - Creation and implementation of IBTM
 - CA-YASI
- In 2016, the Special Master recommended dismissal of the final remedial plans.



Eligibility and Acceptance

Types of Cases Accepted

Juvenile Court

- Commitments – DJJ# (WIC 733)
- Diagnostic Evaluations – C# (WIC 704)
- Emergency Housing – G# (WIC 1752.15)
- Probation Returnees – P# (WIC 1767.35)

Adult Court

- Commitments – DJJ# (WIC 1731.5(a))
- Diagnostic Evaluations – D# (WIC 707.2)
- State Prison Commitments with Housing at DJJ – E#/M# (WIC 1731.5(c))
- Adult Court Diagnostic Evaluations (housing only) – BZ# (PCI 203.03)
- Young Adult Program Pilot – X# (WIC 1731.7)

Juvenile Court Commitment Eligibility

- ***Restrictions per WIC 733:***
- Under age 11
- Suffering from a contagious or infectious disease
- Most recent offense is NOT listed in WIC 707(b) (serious/violent) **or** PC 290.008 (sex offenses)

Juvenile Court Commitment Acceptance Criteria

Per WIC 736(a)

Except as provided in Section 733, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Division of Juvenile Facilities, shall accept a ward committed to it if:

- The youth can materially benefit from the Division's reformatory and educational discipline
- The Division has adequate facilities, staff and programs to provide that care

Length of Stay Juvenile Court Commitments

***Jurisdiction – Age 23, 25 or 2 years from court action
As of July 1, 2018***

Confinement Time (ACT) – Set by court

Projected Board Date (PBD) – Set by DJJ

Characteristics of the Population

- Total Population: 790*

Males: 759

Females: 31

*as of February 2020

- Average Age*

DJJ Cases: 19.1

DAI Cases: 18.1

- Majority of Offenses*

- Homicide: 10.3%

- Robbery: 35.0%

- Assault: 36.4%

*as of December 2019

IBTM Definition

The IBTM is the framework for assessing, understanding, and treating youth. Staff work collaboratively with each other, the youth, families, and community resources.

**Youth + Staff + Families +
Community**

IBTM Guiding Principles

- I** – An INTEGRATED team approach that includes youth, staff, families and communities
- B** – Fostering BEHAVIOR that is safe and healthy for youth, staff and communities
- T** – Providing effective TREATMENT and understanding the Stages of Change
- M** – Maintaining fidelity to our MODEL

Discharge & Re-entry

IBTM	Youth	+	Staff	+	Family	+	Community
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk/Needs Assessment (CA-YASI) 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence Based treatment Interventions 		strengths
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual Case Planning 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavior Management System 		
Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Programs 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Services 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized Programs 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocation Programs 		Counterpoint ART IJ
BMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Camp 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing Technical Education 		
							RISK FACTORS



Treatment Programs and Services

Assessment / Case Planning

- During intake a psychological assessment, education evaluation and a full CA-YASI standardized risk/needs assessment is completed and a program assignment is recommended.
- Once assigned to a program, the results are discussed and a case plan is developed addressing areas of risk, mental health and education needs.

Risk and Needs Assessment

As part of the initial diagnostic process, DJJ utilizes the California Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (CA-YASI).

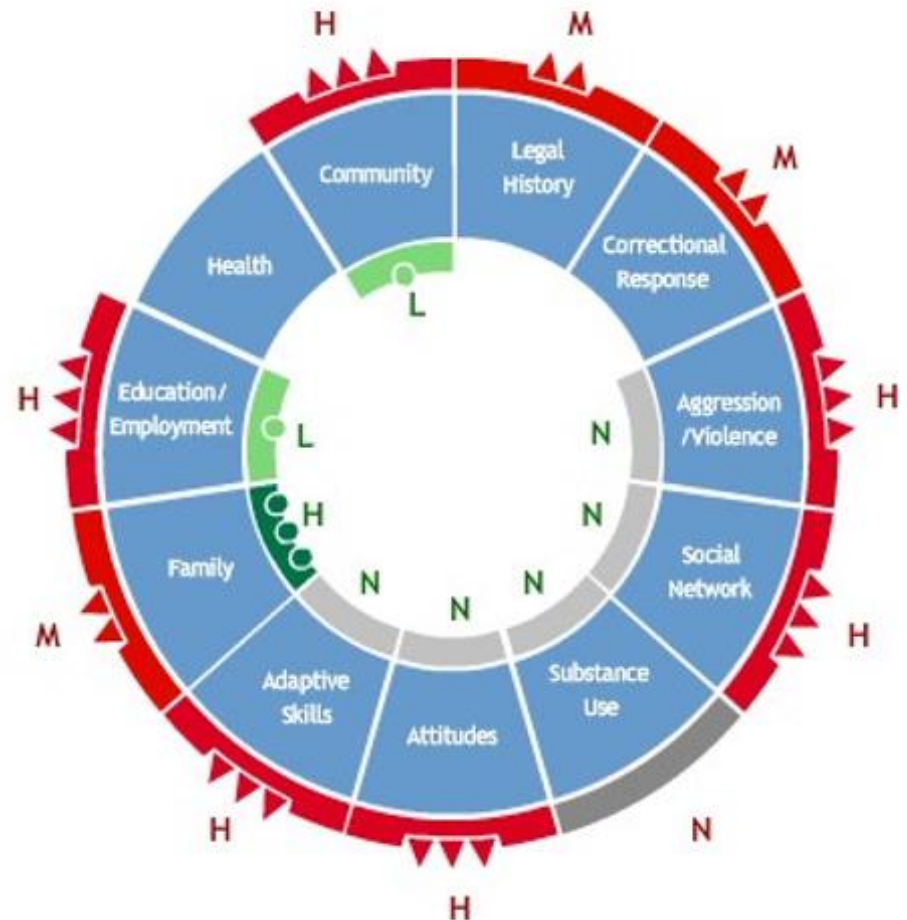
The CA-YASI risk and needs assessment tool helps guide the development of a youth's Individual Change Plan (ICP), also known as the case plan. It identifies areas of risk to re-offend and the needs for treatment. It also tells us where the youth's strengths are to build on (*protective factors*).

Treatment

- Treatment “dosage” provided to youth is based on the CA-YASI assessment
- Youth with a high-risk to recidivate receive a higher intensity of treatment than low-risk youth
- Treatment is individualized

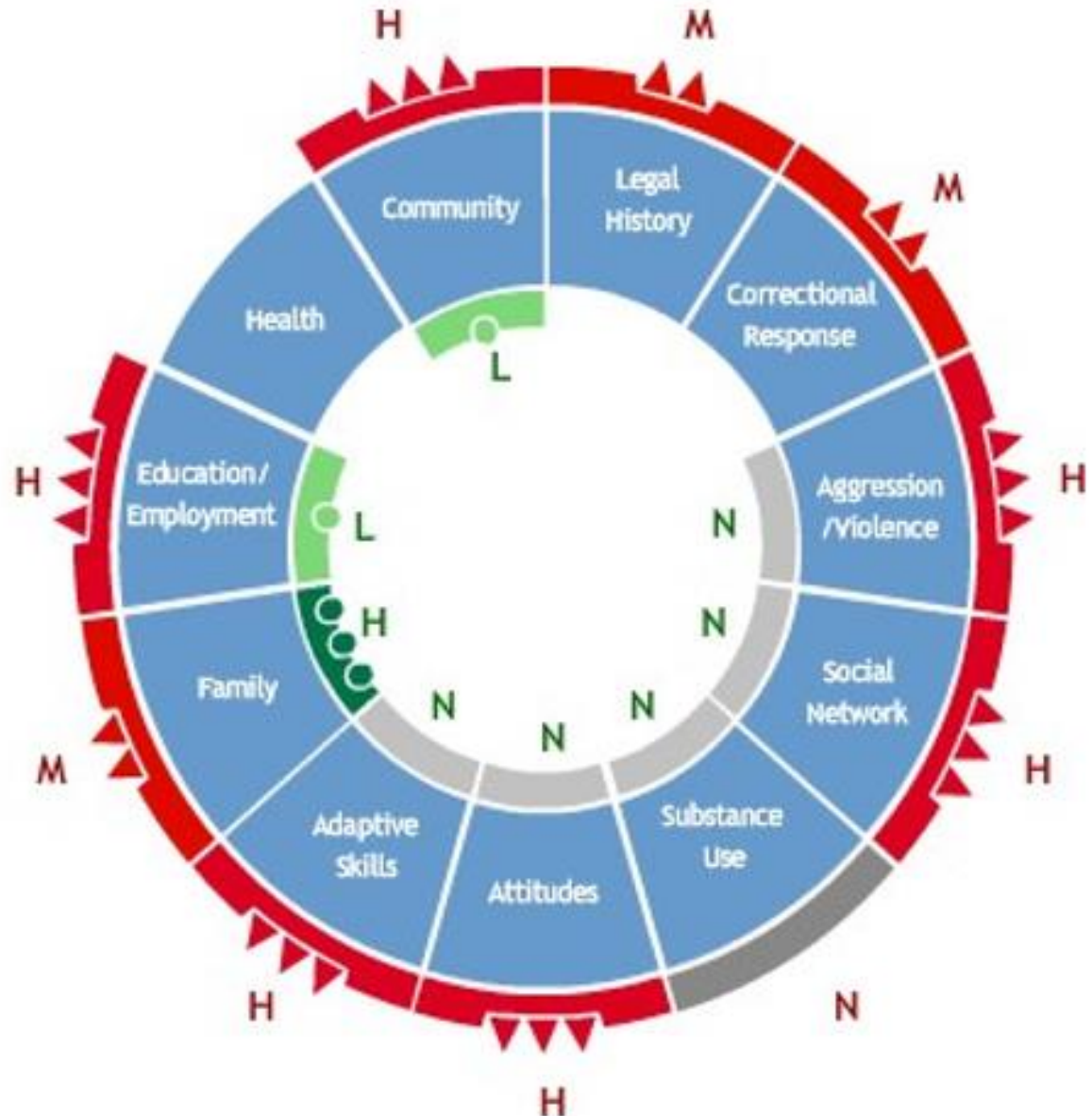
Need Principle

- Target Risks/Needs
- (Dynamic (changeable) Risk Factors) that are closely linked to offending.
- Violence/Aggression
- Social Influences
- Substance Abuse
- Social/Cognitive Skills



Need Principle, cont.

- Education
- Employment
- Family
- Health
- Community Linkages



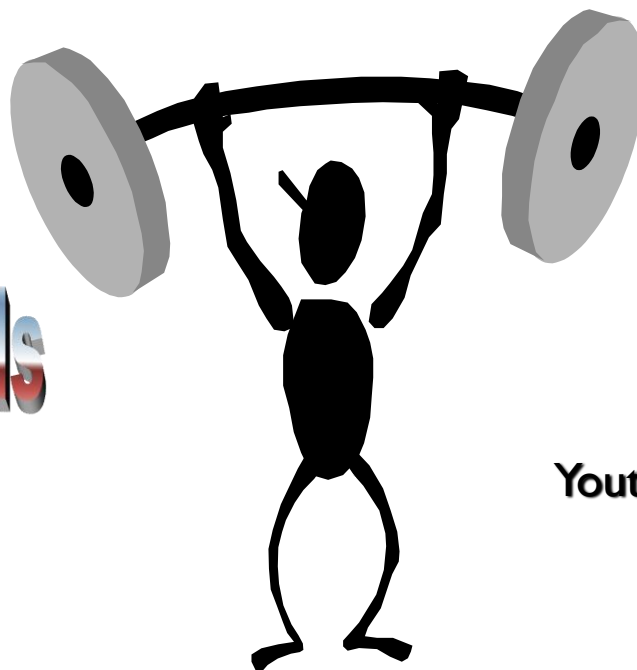
Strength-Based Approach

Skills development

Leadership

artistic

Education



Family & Friends

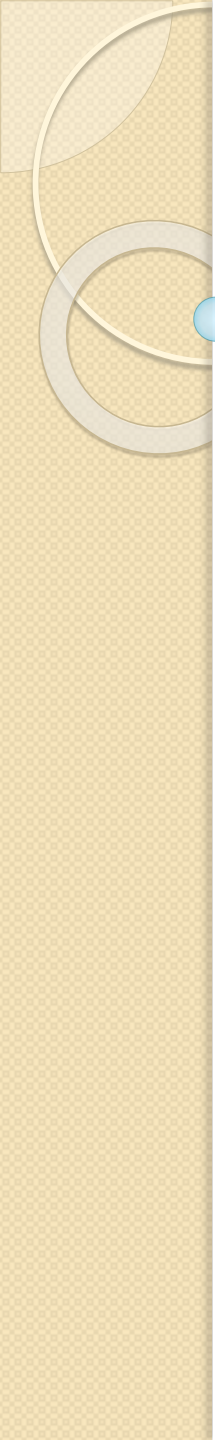
mechanical

Youths' incentives for change

Spiritual

vocational

writing



Programs

Core Treatment Program

There are two types of Core Programs:

- Core High
maximum population 36
- Core Moderate
maximum population 36
- Core Low
maximum population 38

Youth are placed into the appropriate Core Program based on CA-YASI level.

Youth in Core Programs receive individual and group counseling as well as attend assigned intervention groups based upon the results of their CA-YASI.

Specialized Programs

- Sexual Behavior Treatment Program
- Mental Health Program
- Intensive Behavior Treatment Program
- Behavior Treatment Program
- Young Adult Program
- Pine Grove Fire Camp
- Female Program

Education Services

- All schools accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
- Credentialed teachers and vocational instructors

Education Services, cont.

- Special Education and English Language Services
- Core Curriculum meets CA Dept. of Education State Standards
- In addition to diplomas, GED testing is offered when age and skills appropriate
- Career Technical Education Certificates
(variety of subjects at each site)
- Work Experience opportunities: Laundry, Kitchen, Plant Operations

Career Technical Education

- Landscaping
- Arts & Media
- Culinary Arts
- Construction
- Merit Partners

Career Technical Education, **cont.**

- Computer Applications/Microsoft Certification
- Computer Coding – Last Mile
- Dog grooming
- Small Business/ Entrepreneurship
- Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC)
Machine Operation

Project Rebound

- Six universities participating
- Partnership with Department of Rehabilitation.
- Providing video conferencing and face to face mentoring with credible messengers for interested potential college students.
- Once released, the students can contact Project Rebound staff to assist them in enrolling into their local community college or four year university.

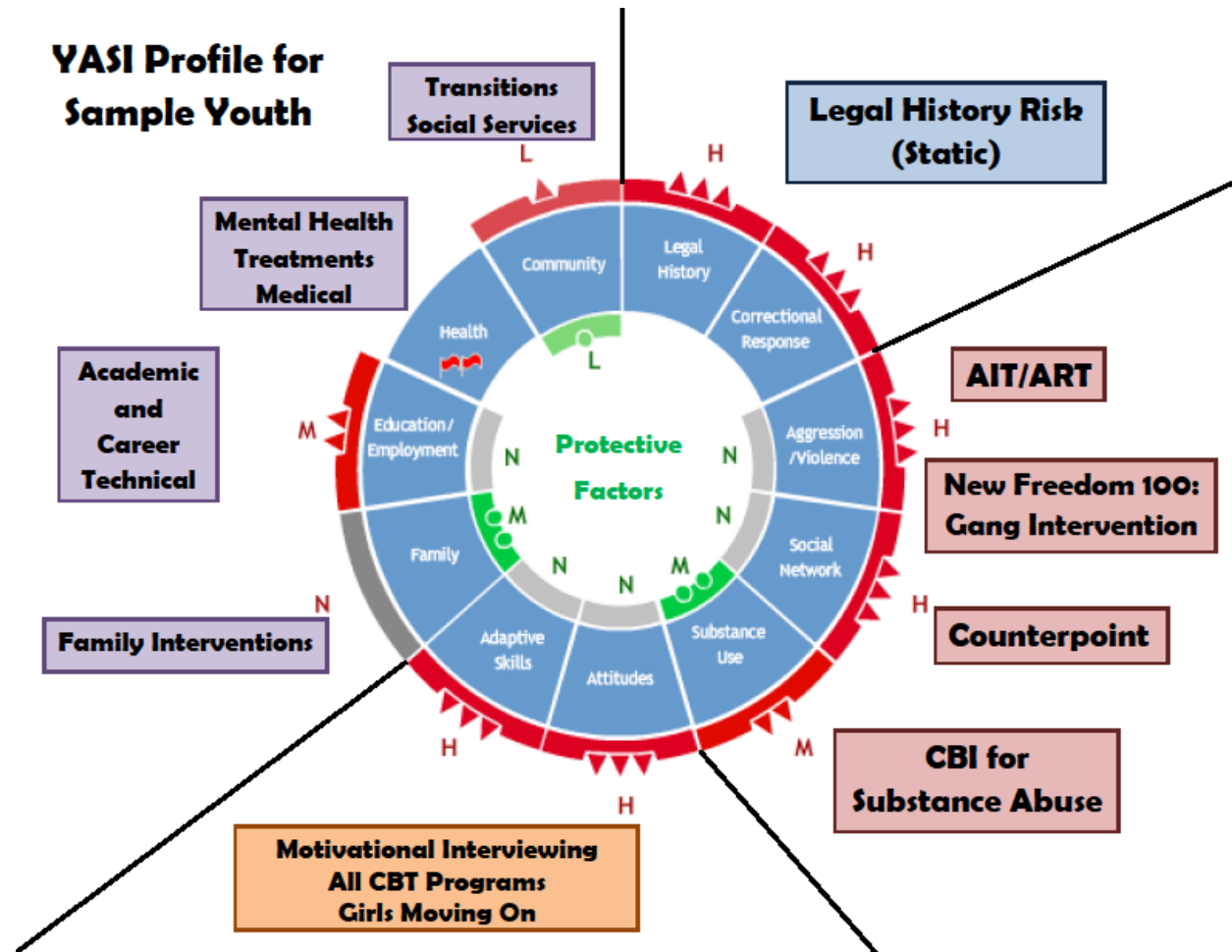
College & University Access

- Face to Face college education at each campus, provided by local community college professors.
- Developing access for youth to earn an AA degree via secure online portal from community colleges.
- Collaboration with Sac State and San Francisco State to enable a four year degree pathway in DJJ.



Interventions

YASI Profile for Sample Youth



Interventions

CounterPoint™

Aggression Interruption Training (AIT)

CBI for Substance Abuse

Sexual Behavior Treatment

Girls...Moving On™

VOICES

Trauma Focused – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Interactive Journaling®

Skill of the Week

Introduction to Treatment

Advanced Practice



Family Engagement

- Quarterly Family Nights
- Weekly Visiting
- Family Counseling
- Get on the Bus

Behavior Management System

The Behavior Management System (BMS) is comprised of the Reinforcement System, Level System, and Disciplinary Decision Making (DDMS) System. It is a behavioral health system that provides interventions and strategies that support the development of effective interpersonal skills and behaviors in youth.

Reinforcement System

The Reinforcement System is the first component of Behavior Management System. It provides the framework to reward/reinforce positive behavioral change on a daily, weekly and monthly basis.

Level System

The Level System is the second component of the Behavior Management System. It is a graduated system that defines promotion expectations and allows for earned privileges from intake to discharge. A youth progresses through the levels by performing at expected or above levels within set timeframes in the areas of treatment, education, and employment.

Program Credits

- Level A – Earn up to 15 each month
- Level B – Earn up to 9 each month
- Level C – Earn up to 6 each month
- Level D – Earn up to 3 each month

Disciplinary Decision Making System

The Disciplinary Decision Making System is the third component of Behavior Management System. It provides a graduated system of youth discipline designed to be administered to correspond with the seriousness of the behavior.

This system ties directly to the Reinforcement and Level System and is taken into consideration when updating treatment goals and actions steps.

Strength Based Space

- Identify and build on interests and motivators
- Increase strengths/protective factors
- Community involvement early and often:
 - Peer/Adult mentors
 - Community based resources/support
 - Education opportunities
 - Vocation opportunities
 - Leisure/recreation activities
 - Innovative Grants

Innovative Grants

Woman of Substance and Men of Honor (WOSMOH) – The WOSMOH program assist youth, young women and men at VYCF with pre and post release transitional services to help them become self-sufficient and independent.

Prison Education Project Reintegration Academy (PEP) – With volunteers from four universities, the Reintegration Academy College readiness program includes: introduction to college, introduction to soft skills, career development and financial literacy courses.

Insight Garden Program
Provides restorative life skills and vocational training through a curriculum facilitated in classrooms and in gardens.

Innovative Grants, cont.

Marin Shakespeare Company – Uses a drama-therapy-inspired curriculum, which promotes self-awareness, self-expression, creativity, teamwork, creative problem solving, goal setting, positive choices, intellectual curiosity and personal transformation.

Motivating Individual Leadership for Public Advancement (MILPA) – The curriculum is designed for young men to cultivate healthy habits, peer to peer learning exchange and to develop plans of action to refrain from self-sabotaging behaviors.

The Mentoring Center (TMC) – Emphasizes “Mentoring and Transformative manhood groups” that address barriers and youth resistant to change through intergenerational mentors and participants.

Fathers and Families of San Joaquin County (FFSJ) – Provides Ethnic Studies workshops utilizing various youth development curriculum such as El Joven Noble, Sacred Fatherhood, and Thinking for Change.

Jump StArts

- Jump StArts was designed as an intervention in the school-to prison pipeline mobilizing partnerships between arts organizations and juvenile justice to create programs that foster socio-emotional, behavioral, academic and developmental outcomes for system-engaged youth.
- In 2017, the Senate Budget Act dedicated funds specifically to expand the program, including service to state Division of Juvenile Justice Youth Facilities.

Jump StArts, cont.

- 916 INK – provides creative writing workshops at NAC and OHC. Each participant will receive 18 hours of English-language arts instruction and have their writing published in a professional anthology.
- Collage Dance Theatre – conducts movement-based, creative health and wellness workshops at VYCF. The workshops will culminate in performances by the youth participants and Heidi Duckler Dance company dancers.
- Spector Dance – offers dance classes, choreography workshops and culminating public performances. This project uses dance as a tool for prevention, a catalyst for conversation, and a pathway for building community.
- Ventura County Arts Council –provides arts programming to VYCF in the areas of music, poetry writing and visual art. Teaching artists work inside the facility on an on-going basis, offering year-round arts instruction.

AmeriCorps Vista



AmeriCorps VISTA project seeks to build capacity for volunteerism in communities while also building a collaborative culture of service within DJJ.

- Involves youth, staff, families, and volunteers to collaborate with DJJ to support youth currently housed at DJJ.
- Upon youth re-entry, provide community mentorship to youth, and identify individualized pathways toward self-sufficiency and honorable discharge upon release from DJJ.
- AmeriCorps VISTA members build capacity in nonprofit organizations and public agencies to help them more effectively generate the commitment of private sector resources, encourage volunteer service at the local level, and empower individuals and communities.
- AmeriCorps VISTA members serve full time one-year terms.

Greater Valley Conservation Corps

- Pre-Corps Training program for DJJ youth
- Two tiers of training
 - First tier provides job and soft skills training (e.g., CPR, customer service, financial literacy)
 - Second tier enables youth to engage in work on natural resource projects outside DJJ.
 - Geared towards placement of youth into local CCC after release.

Youth Peer Mentor Program

- Based on a successful program with adult and juvenile offenders in California and Oregon, this program provides paid training to youth on how to become a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, and sets them on a path to a career as a Substance Use Disorder counselor in the community.
- The first cohort has completed their in-class training, and now are completing practicum hours providing substance abuse peer mentoring to other DJJ youth.

DJJ Re-entry Program

The DJJ Re-Entry Program is designed to ensure that every youth leaves DJJ with a strong plan that connects them to viable resources and opportunities in the community that will help them maintain a lower risk to reoffend and assist in the pursuit of positive life goals.

DJJ Re-entry Program

Key Components

- Dedicated Re-entry Coordinators at each facility
- Family Re-entry survey
- Re-entry Orientation Workshops
- Integrated Re-entry assessments
- Re-entry planning groups

DJJ Re-entry Program

Key Components, cont.

- Re-entry Discharge Communication Workshops
- Integrated Re-entry Plan
- Portfolio of Resources
- Discharge Report prepared for the Board of Juvenile Hearings, probation staff and Judge
- Collaboration with community based resources and supports

Board of Juvenile Hearings

- Board overview
- Initial Case Reviews
 - Review of treatment plan and DJJ expectations within 45 days.
- Annual Reviews
 - Review of progress/areas of concern over the past year, and plan for the upcoming year.
 - Ensure youth is on track to complete treatment program by the time of their discharge consideration hearing.
- Discharge Consideration Hearings
 - Has youth reduced their risk to re-offend and increased their strengths such that they are no longer a risk to the community?
- Honorable Discharge Hearings

Board Hearing Notifications

- At least 60 days prior to the scheduled DCH, DJJ sends to probation, the committing court, and the youth's attorney the most recent written review along with notice of the hearing date. WIC 1766(b)(2)
- At least 30 days before the DCH, the Board shall send written notice of the hearing to the judge, the youth's attorney, the district attorney, law enforcement, and the victim.
 - The judge also receives a progress report regarding the youth. WIC 1767.1
- Within 60 days of intake DJJ sends a treatment plan to the court and probation department. WIC 1766(8)(c)

Re-Entry Navigators

- AmeriCorps/California Volunteers partnership: California Justice Leaders, projected to start early 2020
- Will provide employment/training for 40 young adults who were previously justice-involved and have successfully re-entered their communities to assist youth currently in or recently released from DJJ.
- Mission: build awareness and increase the utilization of HD, and assist with HD applications
- Eases the return to the community by providing one-on-one re-entry navigation and guidance to young adults who are or will soon transition back to their communities.

CA Division of Juvenile Justice

