# Juvenile Justice Realignment Block GrantAnnual PlanFiscal Year 2021-2022



**Date:** November 30, 2021

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**County Name:** Plumas

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Background and Instructions:

Welfare & Institutions Code Section(s) 1990-1995 establish the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) program for the purpose of providing county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) 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 (JJCC) 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 state Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) website.

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## INTRODUCTION

On September 30, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Senate Bill 823, which realigns the California State Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) population from the State of California to Counties, beginning July 1, 2021. The bill establishes the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court up to the age of 23 and 25 for certain offenses and transfers the responsibility of the care, custody, and supervision of youth to the county of commitment. Under SB 823, intakes to the DJJ were discontinued as of July 1, 2021. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2021-22, and annually thereafter, the State of California will make allocations to counties to provide appropriate care, rehabilitation, and supervision of the realigned population known as the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG). SB 823 intends for counties to use evidence-based practices and programs to improve youth and public safety outcomes, reduce the transfer of youth to the adult court system and reduce the use of juvenile justice confinement through community-based responses and interventions.

The newly added Section 1995 of the Welfare and Institutions Code requires that, to be eligible for funding allocations associated with this grant program, counties are required to create a Subcommittee of the multiagency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) for the purpose of developing an annual plan to manage the custody, supervision, and rehabilitation of the realigned population at the local level. This plan, first due to the newly created Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) by January 1, 2022, for FY 2022-2023, and thereafter submitted each year by May 1st, is mandatory for counties to be eligible for the state funding available to manage the new responsibilities. Prior to that, the local plan for the first fiscal year, FY 2021-2022, will be presented to the Plumas County Board of Supervisors for consideration, as the OYCR does not yet exist. Funding is designated for the first three (3) fiscal years and subsequent funding is to be determined. Per 1991(a) W&I a local public agency that is primarily tasked with prosecution or arrests or detentions is not eligible for JJRBG funding and shall not provide rehabilitative and/ or supervision services for the realigned population set forth in this plan. The realigned population of youth offenders has been referred to as “Secure Track Treatment Youth.”

On July 1, 2021, state DJJ no longer accepted youth intakes. Until DJJ completely closes, youth already committed to DJJ can remain for a daily fee until completion of their program or the complete closure of all DJJ facilities on June 30, 2023. After July 1, 2021, Plumas County will be responsible for the custody, supervision and long-term treatment for any youth who previously would likely have been sent to DJJ.

Funding for the first three fiscal years, through FY 2023-24, will be based on a formula including:

* Juvenile Population – 20% of formula based on county’s distribution of youth ages 10-17
* DJJ Usage – 30% of formula based on each county’s DJJ population as of December 2018, June 2019 and December 2019
* Estimated 707(b) Population – 50% of formula based on county’s local population who have committed certain violent and felony crimes as reported in Juvenile Court and Probation Statistical System (JCPSS) to be updated annually

However, per 1991(a)(5) W&I, 1991(b) W&I, and 1991(c) W&I, Plumas County is set to receive a minimum annual allotment of $250,000 plus potential growth in monthly installments after each September 1.

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

List the subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information:

| **Agency** | **Name and Title** | **Email** | **Phone Number** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chief Probation Officer (Chair) | Keevin Allred, Chief Probation Officer | keevinallred@countyofplumas.com | 530.283.6200 |
| District Attorney’s Office Representative | David Hollister, District Attorney  | davidhollister@countyofplumas.com | 530.283.6303 |
| Public Defender’s Office Representative | Craig Osborne, Public Defender  | cosbornelaw@gmail.com |  |
| Department of Social Services Representative | Sarah McMahon, Social Services Supervisor | SarahMcMahon@countyofplumas.com | 530.283.6463 |
| Department of Behavioral Health Representative | Tony Hobson, Director Behavioral Health | tonyhobson@countyofplumas.com | 530.283.6307 |
| Office of Education Representative | Kristy Warren, Assistant Superintendent  | kwarren@pcoe.k12.ca.us |  |
| Court Representative | Doug Prouty, Juvenile Court Judge | Douglas.Prouty@plumas.courts.ca.gov |  |
| Community Member | Scott Cash, Environmental Alternatives Case Manager | scash@ea.org | 530.283.6990 |
| Community Member | Melissa Lopez, CASA | melissa.plumascasa@gmail.com |  |
| Community Member | Bill Powers, Juvenile Justice Commission Chair | bpowers96122@gmail.com |  |

## Part 2: Target Population (WIC 1995 (C) (1) )

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

Plumas County’s targeted population are youth whose most recent adjudicated offenses is described in WIC 707(b) and is defined under WIC 1990(b), in cases where the Juvenile Court has made a finding that less restrictive alternative dispositions are unsuitable.

Plumas County does not have an in county juvenile hall or other less restrictive facility such as a camp or ranch. The county contracts with other counties in the region for these services. The county does not currently have any in-county programs or resources to serve youth requiring specialized therapeutic needs, such as sexual offenders, arson offenders, offenders with significant mental health issues, and pregnant or recent mother female offenders. For these youth, we intend to seek a partnership within a consortium of other agencies in or out of our region that address these specialized treatment needs through a contract process.

It is not expected that all the future eligible youth will need “DJJ like” replacement programming in a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) custodial setting for an extended period. Extended period will be defined as secure facility incapacitation for over one (1) year. Secure Track commitment and length of commitment will be dependent on the individual circumstances and gravity of the qualifying offenses in conjunction with the assessed criminogenic risk and needs of the youth. If existing contracted facilities become operational as a SYTF, and they are configured and programmed to serve these youth to suitable standards of Plumas County, those facilities may be utilized.

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

Plumas County does not currently have any youth that would come within the provisions of realignment nor does the county have any youth currently housed within the DJJ.

Plumas County does not have a record of demographics for the target population because the last DJJ commit was over 15 years ago, and that data is no longer available. Generally, of Plumas County’s nearly 18,660 permanent residents, 17.4% are under the age of 18 and approximately 50% male and 50% female. Plumas County’s residents identify as 90.5% White, 1.1% Black or African American, 3.2% Native, 1.1% Hispanic or Latino, and 0.2% Asian. The median household income is well-below California’s median income by almost $55,359. In 2019, youth with new petitions filed, regardless of disposition, were 70% male, 30% female, 84% white, and 16% black. Plumas County does not have any verified gang activity.

Understanding that the targeted population will be dynamic, the needs of all youth, inclusive of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression (SOGIE) will be considered in the drafting of all plans and the care, custody, and supervision of all youth in an equitable and compassionate fashion.

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

Again, there is no data available for previous DJJ eligible/ committed youth due to the length of time since the last relevant youth.

## Part 3: Programs and Services (WIC 1995 (c)(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:

Plumas County currently has contracts with two (2) out of county juvenile detention centers located in Butte County and Tehama County. It is anticipated that these facilities will be utilized to house the targeted population pre-disposition and as a possible alternative to Secure Track detention centers for lower risk youth who do not have specific treatment or other special needs. Additionally, Tehama County Juvenile Detention Facility may be utilized for Secure Track detention following disposition of youth in the target population.

Programs, placements, services, and service providers, if out of the scope of local resources, will be contracted out potentially through the developing consortium of counties throughout the region and state depending on the most appropriate setting for the youth and proximity to supportive family. Supervision outside of a facility will be done by existing Plumas County Probation staff.

Plumas County has a relatively low wardship rate as there is a focus on serving our youth at the lowest level of intervention as appropriate. When appropriate, local resources are utilized. Those services have consisted of probation mentoring, parenting classes, interactive journaling, community service, online educational courses, tobacco, drug and alcohol services, mental health services, family inclusive services, electronic monitoring, and school attendance assistance. Contracted out of county services for sexual offender counseling have also been utilized. Funding will directly support our youth in providing these specialized services and potentially enhancing services within the county when the need arises.

Plumas County Probation enjoys a strong partnership with Plumas County Behavioral Health (PCBH), the primary provider of Mental Health and Substance Use Services available in the county. If a youth involved in the Juvenile Justice system at the local level is a MediCal beneficiary, as a Federal entitlement program, all MediCal recipients are eligible to full-spectrum Mental Health and Substance Use Services. If a youth involved in the Juvenile Justice system at the local level is not a MediCal beneficiary but still requires Mental Health and/or Substance Uses Services a variety of programs are accessed through the following specialized programing:

* Plumas Rural Services (PRS)– A Community Based Organization who provides counseling and mental health services for a small percentage of youth who do not obtain services from the Behavioral Health Department for various reasons. In addition, PRS provides Nurturing for Parenting classes for parents of youth served by the Probation Department.
* The Plumas County Public Health Department partners with Plumas County Joint Unified School District, Plumas County Behavior Health and the Probation Department to provide after school education services to the student body populations of high school age. Current plans are underway to extend youth-based wellness activities.

## Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds (WIC 1995 (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:

Plumas County plans to assess eligible youth using evidence-based Noble assessments for risk and needs. A specialized sex offender assessment will be conducted using the JSORAT assessment. Due to the historically small size of the county’s targeted population, unpredictable nature of juvenile crime and dynamic needs of the target population in Plumas County, it would be costly and inefficient to create robust programming for each specialized treatment need area. To be cost effective, JJRBG funding will be used to benefit these youth by enabling the county to enhance local services when appropriate and to obtain out of county services that are proven in quality for specialized offenders when needed. It is anticipated that services for offenders who are experiencing significant mental health needs, severe alcohol and drug issues, sexual offender treatment needs, and/or other significant related behavioral or trauma-based needs will be contracted out to out of county specialized services to effectively serve the youth. Plumas County is awaiting further development of the consortium of counties to address these needs.

Eligible youth who are not placed in Secure Track will also be eligible to receive programing and services through these funds to help decrease the risk of Secure Track placement.

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 (3) (B) )

Plumas County has a limited presence of community-based organizations (CBOs) or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) that specialize in providing services for justice involved youth, although efforts are underway to improve upon this condition. Plumas County does have three valued nonprofit partners in county; Plumas Crisis Intervention and Resource Center (PCIRC), Plumas Rural Services (PRS) and Alliance For Workforce Development (AFWD). Although PCIRC does not specialize in justice involved youth, it can offer general family services which include housing and food assistance, plus other emergency necessities. PRS offers both parenting services and youth counseling. AFWD offers youth employment preparation opportunities and placement services. They also offer GED and other educational and training advancement programs.

In partnership with PCIRC, part of the current effort to develop additional resources and programming for youth includes a reentry and resource program for youth in the target population and youth at risk of becoming part of the target population.

Lionheart’s Power Source Program will be utilized for reentry youth, particularly those who have participated in the program through programming at the Tehama County Juvenile Detention Facility. The program may be implemented for appropriate youth as a prevention tool for those at risk of escalating criminal behavior.

This plan intends to reserve some funding for further development of programs capable of providing additional support for the target population or those at risk of entering the target population. Funding may be used for prosocial activities and programs to help foster heathy development for these youth, housing assistance, employment placement and support.

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

Plumas County plans to support family engagement for the target population through a variety of services and programming. In collaboration with the Department of Social Services and Behavioral Health Department, Child and Family Team meetings will be utilized to garner engagement and input from family members. With the assistance of the Department of Social Services, family finding efforts will be utilized for youth in need of permanent connections. Parenting education and support will be provided, as well as mental health services, drug and alcohol services, and wellness services to support engagement and growth of families of Secure Track youth.

Bolstering a robust, stable family unit will be a core concept in the program. Family members are preferred to be involved in every step of the youths’ programs and transitions back into the community. The more involved the family is in the treatment experience, the better the understanding, respect, and trust to solidify the successful return to the community will be. Where no existing services can meet the need, grant funds may be applied towards replacement services.

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 (3) (D))

Plumas County plans to address reentry by working with county partners to support life skills development, education, housing and employment. Long-term success and continued rehabilitation occurs when the transition from custody to community includes a seamless continuum of care and supportive aftercare supervision with accountability. It is recognized that reentry service gaps will likely be discovered in the future. Probation will attempt to address these service gaps as effectively as possible by contracting/collaborating with other county service providers and CBOs to help leverage resources and direct services based on the needs of the realigned population.

The plan includes expansion or development of:

* Educational opportunities that provide access and opportunities to colleges or universities.
* Vocational programs, employment and job placement – Vocational programs in custody which can transfer to the community with the goal to gain true, local employment. Probation will partner with AFWD and PCIRC for assistance in helping the realigned population obtain support and skills related to employment and job placement. Vocational skills training available through Feather River College may be pursued and supported.
* Transitional and Safe Housing – Probation will partner with CBOs such as PCIRC for safe and supportive housing options upon reentry. As necessary, youth under the age of 18 may be considered for foster care placement. Those over 18, who do not qualify for Extended Foster Care will be reliant on these partnerships.
* Life Skills Development – Referrals will be made to PCIRC’s Dragonfly Café Program. This program is currently being developed as a resource for youth reentering the community following detention. Power Source programming and Change Company journaling programs will be implemented for skills development based on a need’s assessment and prior programming in custody.
* Specialized Services – Reserving some grant funds for specialized purpose needs as they arise will allow for some specialized services, such as services to aid with reentry for those target population youth who are not eligible for existing services based on age, insurance or other factors. This funding could also be accessed for youth specific needs such as post-secondary course enrollment and other vocational needs for Secure Track youth.
* Specialized Placements - Every effort will be made to serve the target population locally in order to keep them connected to their families and community; however, Plumas County has very limited local resources for placements in general. Therefore, this plan intends to reserve realignment funds for Specialized Placement each year to access Secure Youth Treatment Facilities in other counties as they become available.

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

The Probation Department currently uses validated risk assessment tools and provides evidenced based programming to youth in the community. This allows for individualized case plans that focus on those dynamic risk factors that lead to criminal behavior. The County’s plan includes the expansion of evidenced-based programming offered in the community. These are programs and other best practices that have been proven to address criminogenic needs and reduce recidivism. Examples include: Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Courage to Change/Forward Thinking journaling, Moral Reconation Therapy, and Powersource. Both sworn and non-sworn staff, as well as contracted service providers may facilitate these treatment modalities to youth. The expansion of services and training will focus on and support trauma informed practices and cultural responsiveness.

Most of the specialized programs and services to serve the targeted Secure Track youth will be contracted out to out of county providers; however, Plumas County Probation and the JJCC will endeavor to assess all programs and services prior to placement and to evaluate utilized programs at least annually.

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 (3) (F)

Plumas County has limited CBOs and NGOs located within the county that focus their services on justice involved youth. Plumas County is currently expanding upon a partnership with PCIRC (CBO) to provide reentry services for the target population, to include life skills development, housing and employment services. Further development of partnerships with PCIRC or other CBOs such as Plumas Rural Services may be pursued.

Plumas County will reserve an allocation of funding for programming and housing this population when the need arises. Provision of evidence-based programming offered by other CBOs or NBOs will be pursued and considered when available.

## Part 5: 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 (4))

If currently contracted facilities (Butte County and Tehama County)cannot be utilized as the most appropriate facility for the targeted youth, it is anticipated that other specialized facilities will be used through the developing consortium of counties. Plumas County does not have oversight or control of how contracted facilities are designed or operated; however, Plumas County will be diligent in monitoring contracted facilities for the safety and protection of all potential local youth. Contracts will not be renewed to facilities that do not ensure these standards.

Decision making on whether target population youth would be best served in an existing contracted juvenile hall or in a consortium based SYTF will be based upon the least restrictive option that provides care, treatment and guidance that is consistent with the best interests of the youth and the public as required by Section 202(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC).

Considerations for the safety and protection of all youth in the facilities will take on additional importance given the probability of older (up to and including age 24) and more sophisticated target population youth now remaining in local commitment for extended periods. Youth will continue to be classified for specific housing based on requirements contained in Title 15 and the policies and procedures of the hosting county facility. These requirements are intended to provide for the safety of youth, facility staff and the public by placing youth in the least restrictive housing and program settings that can meet their needs. Classification factors include but are not limited to the following:

* Age and maturity of the youth
* Sophistication
* Emotional stability
* Court status and present offense
* Criminal offense history
* Prior behavior while in the facility or other institutions
* Gang affiliation
* Conflicts with other youth
* Court-ordered restrictions as to the association with other youth
* Medical/mental health considerations
* Gender and gender identity
* Developmental and cognitive processing disabilities
* Program needs
* Legal process status

## Part 6: 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 (5))

The Plumas county justice partners are cognizant of the need to keep youth out of the adult court system. The adult court system will be a last resort reserved for consideration in only the most serious and violent of offenses. Funding for specialized services that meet an individual’s needs will incentivize keeping the youth within the juvenile court system.

It is important to note that SB 823 changed the maximum age of juvenile court jurisdiction for some target population youth. Previously, only youth who were committed to the DJJ had their maximum age of juvenile court jurisdiction extended to age 23 or 25. Changes enacted with SB 823 extend the age of jurisdiction for the entire target population, regardless of whether they become Secure Track youth, to the ages of 23 or 25, depending on the nature of their adjudicated charges. By adding a new Section, 208.5, to the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), SB 823 also provided additional restrictions on housing wards of the juvenile court in adult facilities, regardless of age. Wards 19 years of age or older cannot be detained in an adult facility without a hearing. The presumption at that hearing is that the ward will be retained in a juvenile facility. Wards serving a commitment in a juvenile facility cannot have that commitment transferred to an adult facility, regardless of age. For the purposes of this plan, that means there is the potential for more youth between the ages of 21-25 requiring services in the local juvenile justice continuum, up to and including juvenile detention services.

All requests for transfer of a juvenile to adult court will be reviewed by the Chief Probation Officer using multi-agency processes and creating a comprehensive continuum of services for the individual.

## Part 7: Regional Effort

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

Plumas County plans to use JJRBG funding to house eligible offenders in existing contracted facilities in Butte and Tehama County. Tehama County’s detention and treatment program is proposed to be expanded. Should the program be expanded in a manner sufficient to meet the needs of Plumas County’s realigned population, or a portion thereof, Plumas County would be inclined to financially support this expansion with JJRBG funding, not to exceed $50,000 annually, as a means of ensuring youth remain nearer to our community and their supportive relationships. This investment is in addition to daily fees paid for placement of youth in the facility.

The county has further planned to join a consortium of counties when that program is fully developed to serve as a “insurance” type policy to keep available and to utilize appropriate secure placement, special individualized programing and services, and reentry programing and services.

## Part 8: Data

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

Absent a significant anomaly, the amount of eligible youth the Plumas County justice system will become involved with will be low enough that existing staff will be able to record data through existing case management systems. The demographics of the youth served will address age, gender, ethnicity, neighborhood, family status, and offense details.

Data other than demographics that will be collected will consist of:

* Assessment information- risk/ need
* Custody time – days spent in custody at juvenile detention facilities
* New law violations - subsequent adjudications and/or convictions for misdemeanor or felony offenses after becoming a target population youth
* Treatment programming - program referrals and completion status
* High school and secondary education status
* Employment and/or employment skills training participation
* Housing status

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

Measuring the success of those committed to the Secure Track realignment program will be a significant indicator of how these youth will adjust once released back into the community. Attainable and measurable goals tied to a Case Plan and Court orders will be utilized throughout the course of their program to gauge case plan goal completion, progress, and to adjust to individual needs during their stay in a detention program and upon reentry into the community. Examples of these goals would be high school graduation or equivalency, college course completion, vocational training certificate attainment, completion of Court-ordered programs and treatment, job training program enrollment, apprenticeships, and internships. The completion rate of eligible youth will be measured as well as the completion rates for programs utilized. Youth, families, and other partners will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on programs and the methods used to manage this population. Outcome measures will include, but not be limited to:

* Completion of programs
* New offenses/Recidivism
* Risk assessment level. Fluctuation, impactful programming, etc.
* Completed life skills class
* Clean and sober (drug/alcohol testing results)
* Maintain or development of positive support system (family, friends, or county mentors)
* Obtaining/maintaining employment or attending school or college