

Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan

Date: April 7, 2022

County Name: San Bernardino County

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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 (DJJ) or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) 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

On September 30, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 823 into law, which supports the research reflecting that youth experience better outcomes when they remain closer to home. SB 823 increases local court jurisdiction and age of confinement in local youth facilities to age 25 to align with the current upper age of confinement at the Department of Juvenile Justice. Effective July 1, 2021, the State will begin to phase out the Department of Juvenile Justice by halting all transfers of youth from California's counties to the State's three remaining custodial facilities. San Bernardino County youth previously sent to State facilities will instead remain in local secure youth treatment facilities and San Bernardino Probation will assume responsibility of the care, custody, and supervision of this population. This will open the door for the County's youth to receive rehabilitative services closer to their families and to their communities, the same communities to which they will subsequently return. The Governor's 2021-22 Budget proposes further amending SB 823 to set a defined closure date of June 30, 2023 for all Department of Juvenile Justice facilities. This builds on the Administration's commitment to providing more treatment and rehabilitative services for youth closer to home.

On May 14, 2021, the Governor signed SB 92, which was a bill ensuring the establishment of a treatment centered secured program and youth centered supervision for the realignment of the Department of Juvenile Justice population. It provided additional clarification on commitment eligibility, terms of confinement, rehabilitation plans, and progress reviews. It also delineated the requirements of a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) and ensured the utilization of comprehensive strength based programming services for this specialized population. The State further empowered the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) Sub-Committee to ensure the realization of its expressed goals.

This sub-committee is comprised of county and state stakeholder agencies and departments, as well as community members who have experience providing direct services to youth, youth justice advocates with expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system, or justice involved persons who have experienced or been directly involved in the juvenile justice system. The sub-committee will strategize collaboratively to develop the infrastructure of the facilities, programs, placement, services, supervision, and re-entry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitation and supervision services for this population. In addition, W&I Code 1995 also defines elements of the program where these block grant funds should be maximized. These mandates include mental health services, trauma informed care, cultural responsiveness, positive youth development, family engagement and re-entry planning.

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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)	Tracy Reece Chief Probation Officer	tracy.reece@prob.sbcounty.gov	909 387 5692
District Attorney's Office Representative	Julie Peterson Assistant District Attorney	jpeterson@sbcda.org	909 382 3666
Public Defender's Office Representative	Jennifer Cannady Chief Deputy Public Defender	jcannady@pd.sbcounty.gov	909 387 0569
Department of Social Services Representative	Jeany Zepeda Deputy Director Children and Family Services	Jeany.zepeda@hss.sbcounty.gov	909 891 3568
Department of Behavioral Health	Amber Carpenter Program Manager Dept. Behavior Health	acarpenter@dbh.sbcounty.gov	909 387 7787
Office of Education Representative	Donald English Director Superintendent of Schools	Donald.english@sbcc.net	909 386 2755
Court Representative	Anabel Romero Deputy Court Executive Officer	aromero@sb-court.org	909 521 3489
Community Member	Terrance Stone Young Visionaries	tstone@yvyla-ie.org	909 723 1695
Community Member	Tony Collins Cifuentes Highlander Boxing Club	highlandersboxingclub@live.com	909 496 0710
Community Member	Owen Duckworth Inland Empire Rebound Reentry Services	o.duckworth@ierebound.org	909 474 9212
Additional (Non-Voting) Subcommittee Participants			
San Bernardino Superior Court	Hon. Denise Trager-Dvorak	ddvorak@sb-court.org	760 269 4718
Probation Department	Julie Francis Assistant Chief	Juliehoavis.francis@prob.sbcounty.gov	909 387 5786

Community Member	Sandy Bonilla Urban Conservation Corps of the Inland Empire	sb@mountainsfoundation.org	909 963 6645
Department of Behavioral Health	William Oglesby Deputy Director	William.oglesby@dbh.sbcounty.gov	909 388 0889
Probation Department	Dana Smith-Lacy Deputy Chief Probation Officer	Dana.Smith-Lacy@prob.sbcounty.gov	909 387-5533
Probation Department	Eric Raley Division Director II	eric.raley@prob.sbcounty.gov	909 387 6959

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

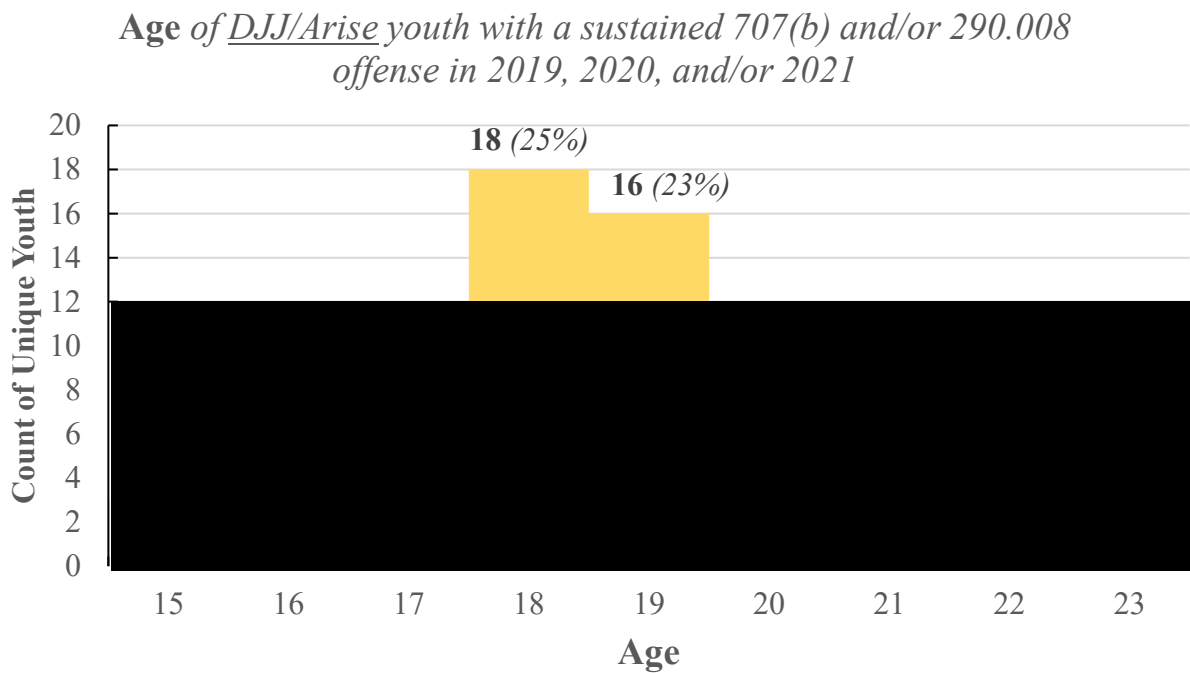
Briefly describe the County’s realignment target population supported by the block grant:

The target populations for those supported by the block grant in San Bernardino County are youth who have been realigned to the county by the California Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or who would otherwise have been eligible for commitment to DJJ. The number of youth in the program is anticipated to range from a minimum of 10 youth to a maximum of 80 youth at any given point in time, with the ages of the youth ranging from 14 years to 25 years old

Those supported by the block grant are youth whose most recent committing offenses are listed in Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 707(b); those offenses include murder, rape with force, robbery, kidnapping for ransom, assault with a firearm or destructive device, or other serious and violent crimes. The youth supported by the block grant in San Bernardino County will be males, females, and transgender youth of any race or ethnicity. The legislation provides that this shift is necessary to reduce the transfer of youth into the adult criminal justice system, as well as ensuring youth are placed in the least-restrictive and most-appropriate environment, and that the resulting system will reduce the use of confinement in the juvenile justice system.

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

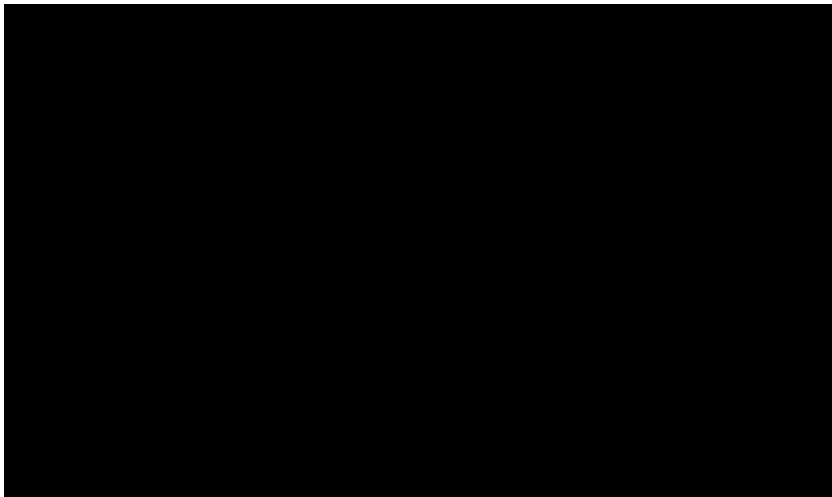
In preparation for the development and implementation of this plan, three years of demographic data was collected for analysis. The number of youth the county will provide services is anticipated to fluctuate as process changes and improvements are made throughout the DJJ Realignment progression. Additionally, the number of youth served is not under the sole control of any one agency or department, but is instead the result of assessments and decisions made by multiple agencies, which include the Superior Court, the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, and the Probation Department. **Information was also obtained regarding the demographic data for youth with 707(b) and/or 290.008 offenses in San Bernardino County, separated by their commitment order, for the years 2019 through 2021, the age ranges of youth ordered committed between 2019 and 2021 is as follows, with 18 and 19 years of age being the most common.**



Additionally, of those ordered committed between 2019 and 2021, it was determined that █% percent were male and █ were female.

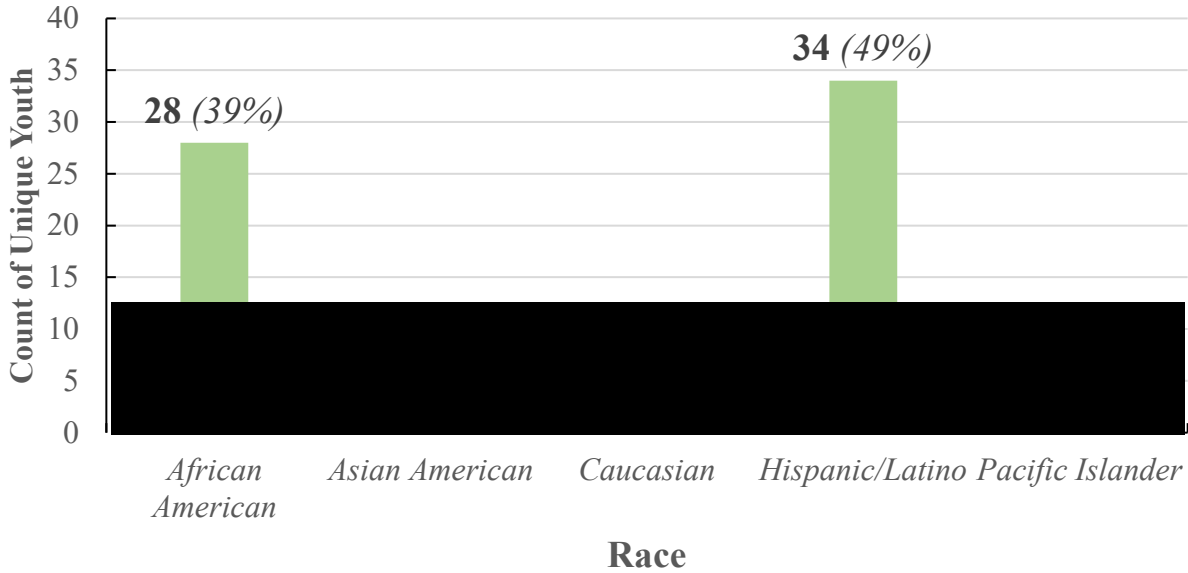
Gender of *DJJ/Arise* youth with a sustained 707(b) and/or 290.008 offense in 2019, 2020, and/or 2021

█ Female █ Male



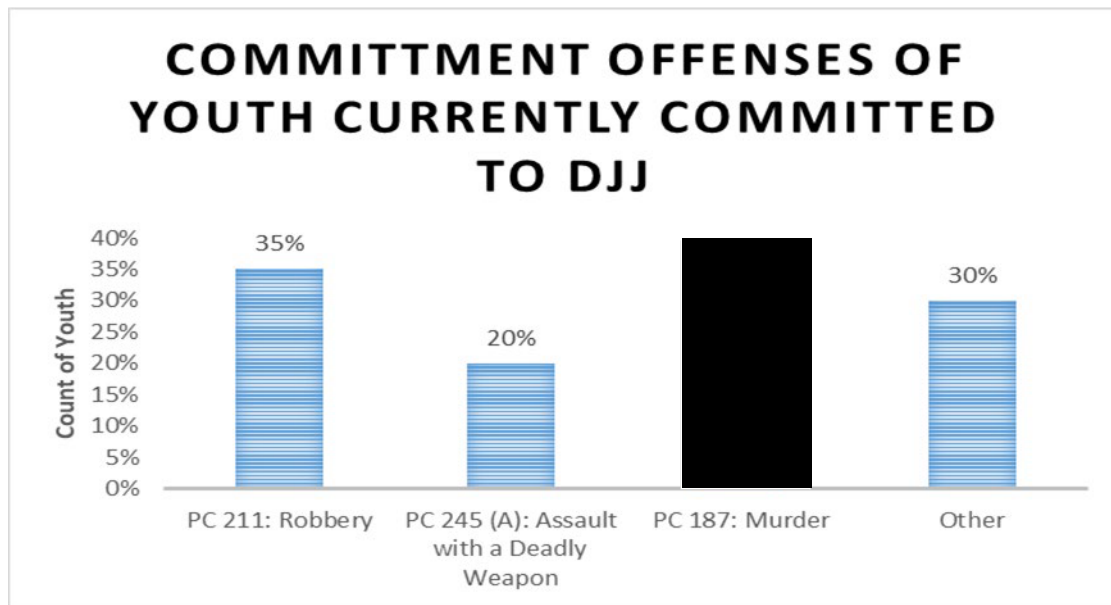
Of those ordered committed between 2019 and 2021, research showed that 49% were of Hispanic ethnicity, while 39% were African-American, █% were Caucasian, and █ % were other.

Race of *DJJ/Arise* youth with a sustained 707(b) and/or 290.008 offense in 2019, 2020, and/or 2021



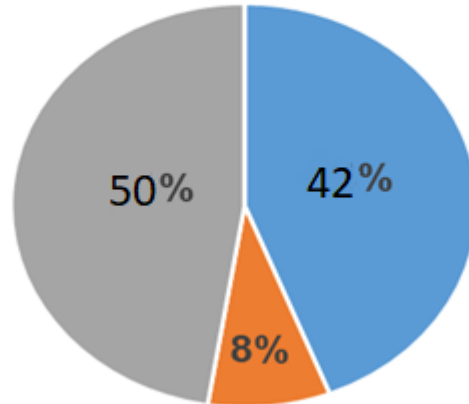
With this in mind, research was also done on those already ordered committed to California DJJ facilities and found that the county had fifty-six (56) youth placed within California DJJ facilities as of July 27, 2021, and had another [REDACTED] youth housed in local Juvenile Detention & Assessment Center facilities who were pending delivery. Of this total population of fifty-nine (59) youth, there were approximately fourteen (14) youth who had a Parole Board date in 2021 and were likely to be released back into the community. The number of youth who may be released via Parole Board in 2022 and 2023 is unknown at this time.

In the past, DJJ commitment offenses in San Bernardino County have typically been for crimes such as murder, armed robbery, and carjacking, although other 707(b) offenses have also been committed if so ordered by the court. The majority of the fifty-nine (59) youth committed to DJJ were between the ages of 16 and 21 years of age, with the single largest percentage being 18 years old at 25%. The youth's commitment offenses, while covering a broad array of circumstances, are typically violent crimes with the single greatest percentage being Penal Code (PC) 211, Robbery, at 35%. The next most common committing offense is PC 245 (A), Assault with a Deadly Weapon, at 20%, and third is PC 187, Murder, at 15%.



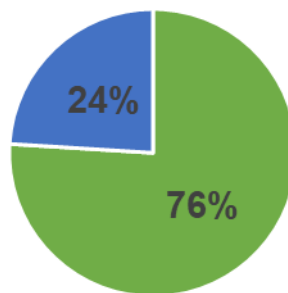
The race/ethnicity breakdown of those youth currently committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice is shown in the following chart.

Race of Youth Currently Committed to DJJ
■ African American ■ Caucasian ■ Hispanic/Latino



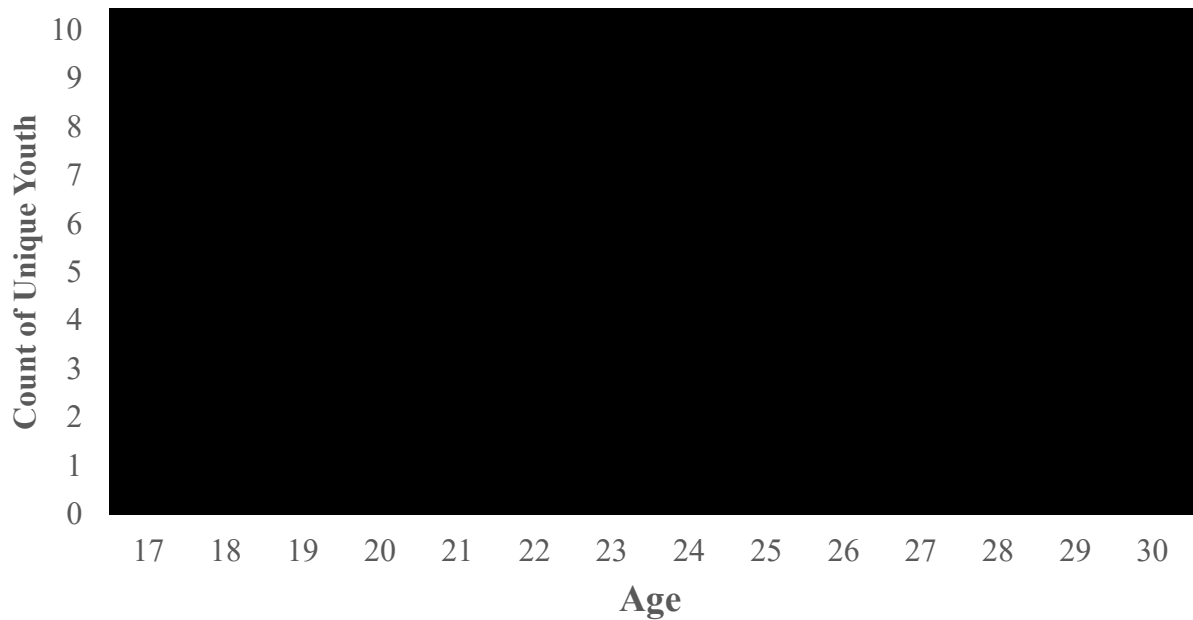
In a review of the youth ordered committed to DJJ, 76% were found to have had a prior criminal history and 24% had no prior sustained allegations.

Sustained Allegation History
for Youth Currently Committed to DJJ
■ Prior Sustained Allegations ■ No Prior Sustained Allegations



While these prior Department of Juvenile Justice population demographics do not dictate future numbers, they are being used to provide insight into trends and improve preparedness for future probabilities. **Additional information was also obtained regarding the demographics of youth transferred to Adult Court between 2019 and 2021. The age of the largest number transferred to Adult Court was 20 years of age, while most ranged from 18 to 21 years of age.**

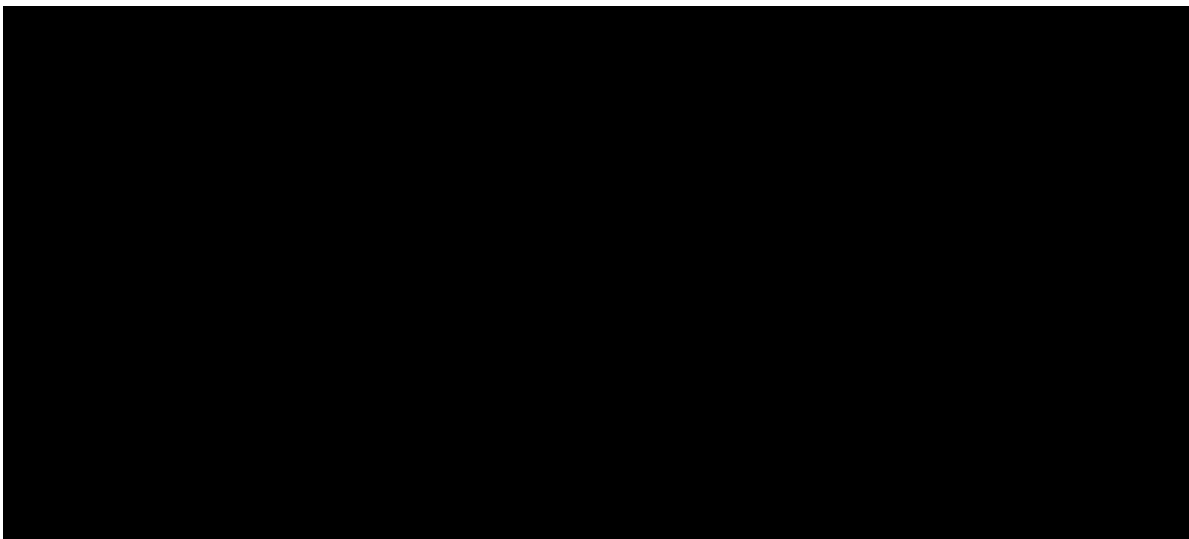
Age of Adult Court youth in 2019, 2020, and/or 2021



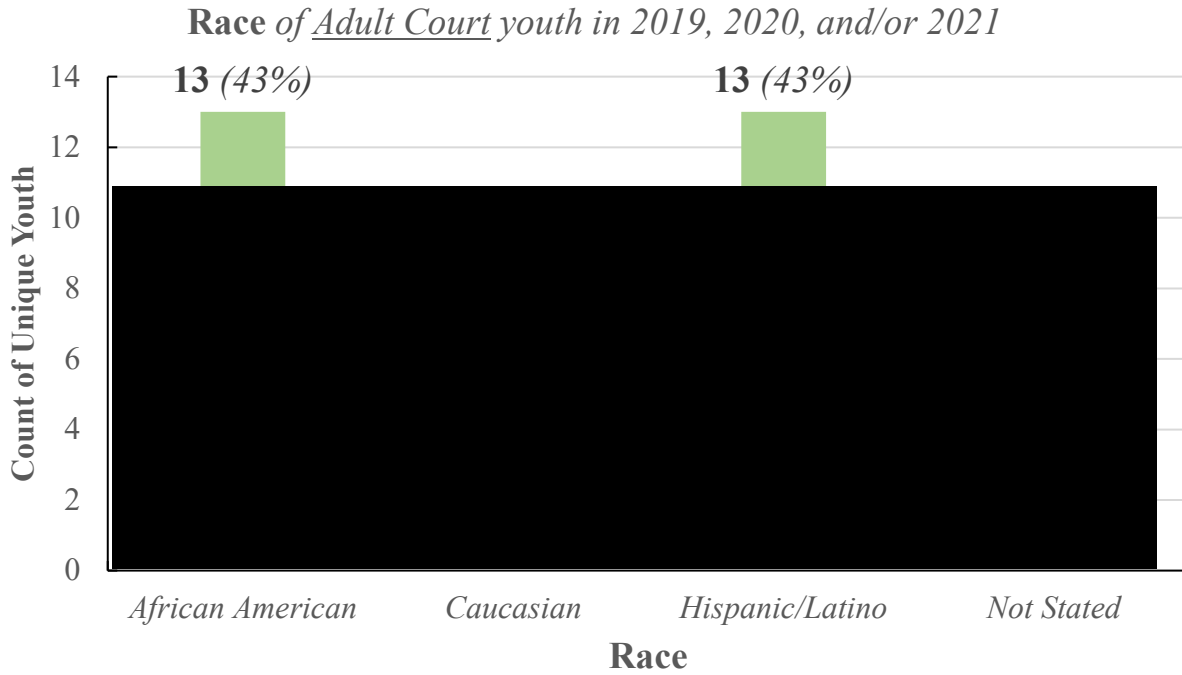
The gender breakdown for Adult Court transfers between 2019 and 2021 was [redacted] male and [redacted] female.

Gender of Adult Court youth in 2019, 2020, and/or 2021

■ Female ■ Male



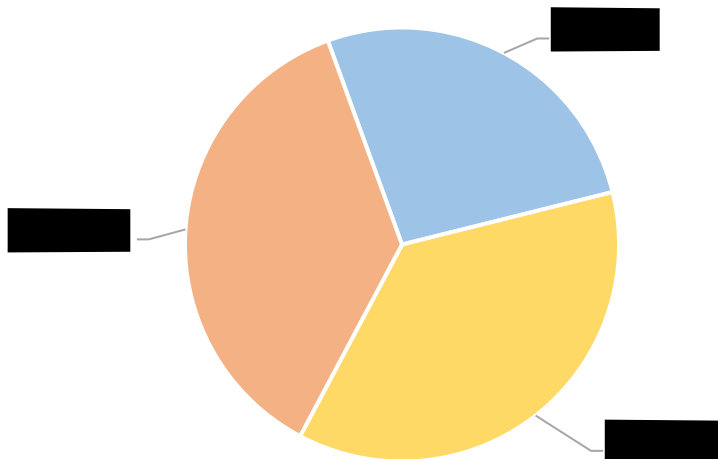
Race/ethnicity for those ordered to Adult Court between 2019 and 2021 were committed at the same rate with African American and Hispanic/Latino both 43%.



Of those transferred to Adult Court between 2019 and 2021, the most frequent outcome was State Prison at █%, followed by the disposition Still Pending at █%, and Formal Probation last at █%.

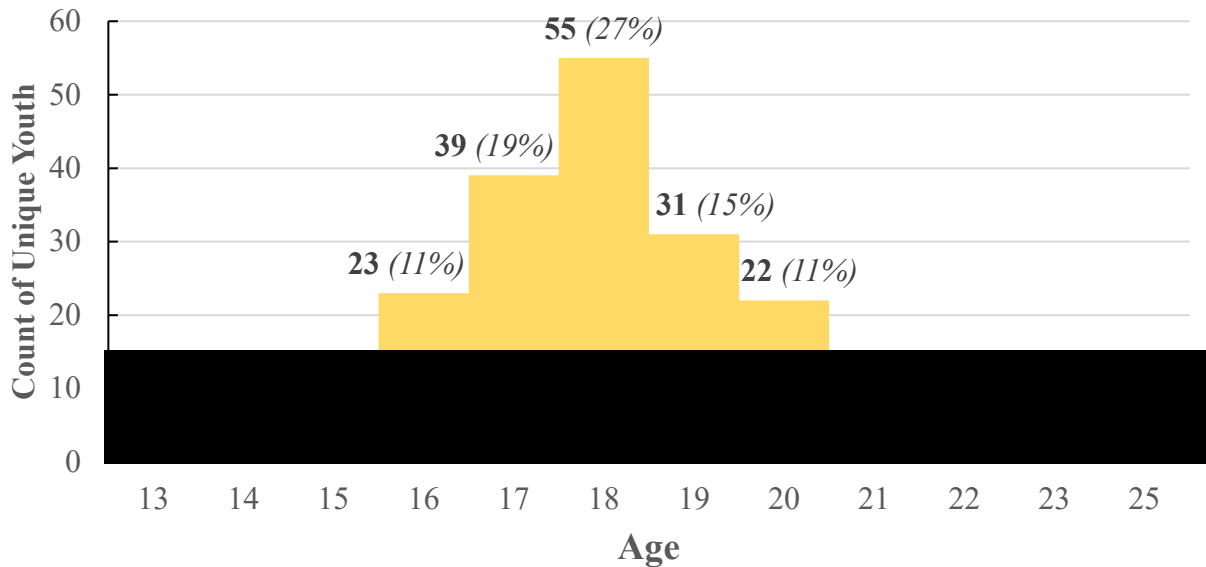
Outcomes of *Adult Court* youth in 2019, 2020, and/or 2021

█ Formal Probation █ Pending █ State Prison



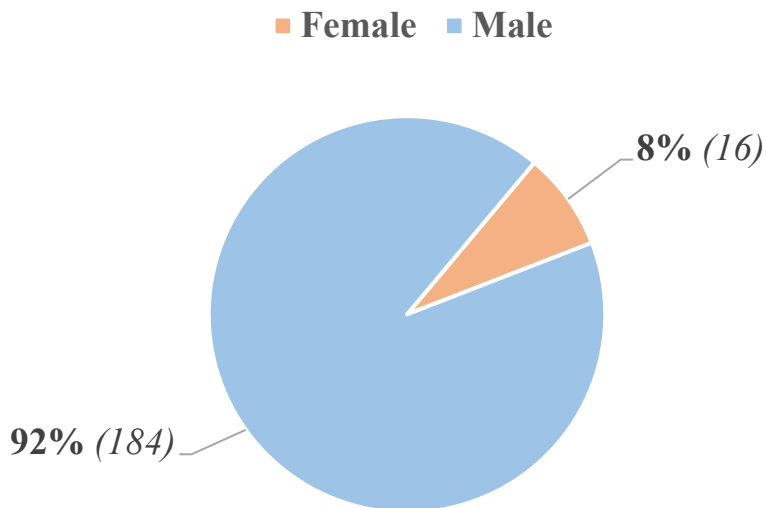
We also looked at youth convicted of 707(b) offenses that were not transferred to Adult Court nor committed to DJJ between 2019 and 2021. The demographics of those youth are as follows. The most frequent age range of this demographic is 18 years of age, at 27%.

Age of non-DJJ/Arise youth with a sustained 707(b) and/or 290.008 offense in 2019, 2020, and/or 2021

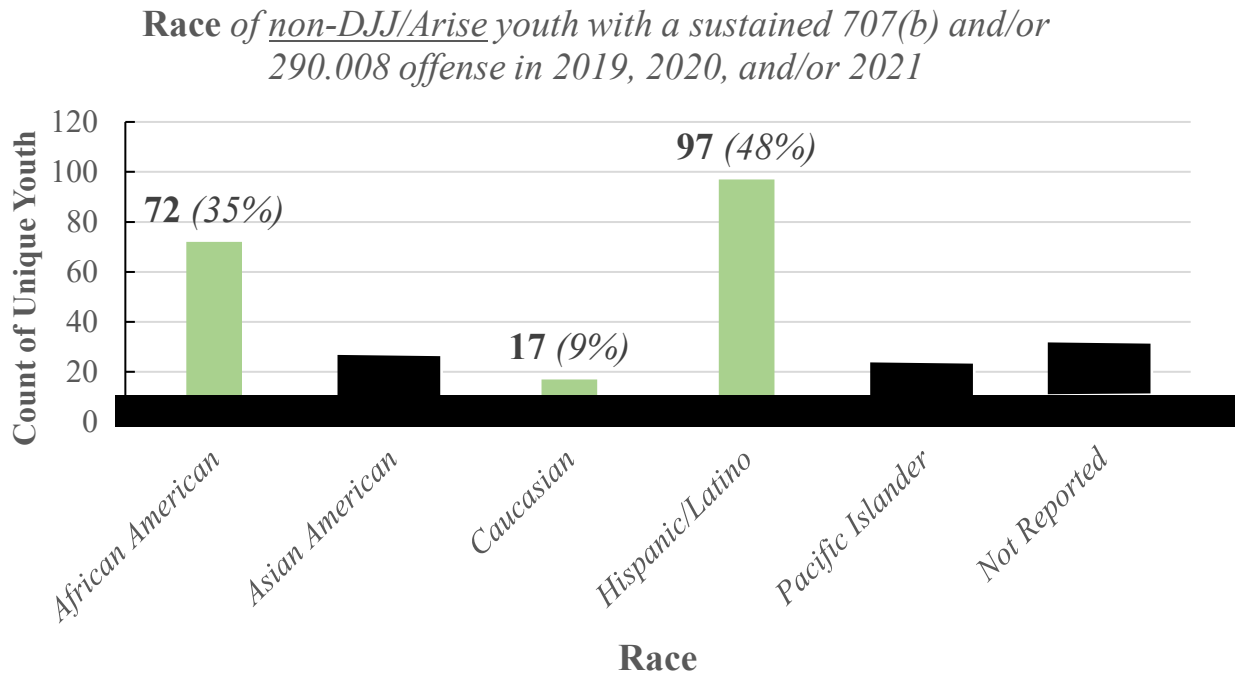


The gender for this demographic between 2019 and 2021 was primarily male at 92%, with females making up the remaining 8%.

Gender of non-DJJ/Arise youth with a sustained 707(b) and/or 290.008 offense in 2019, 2020, and/or 2021

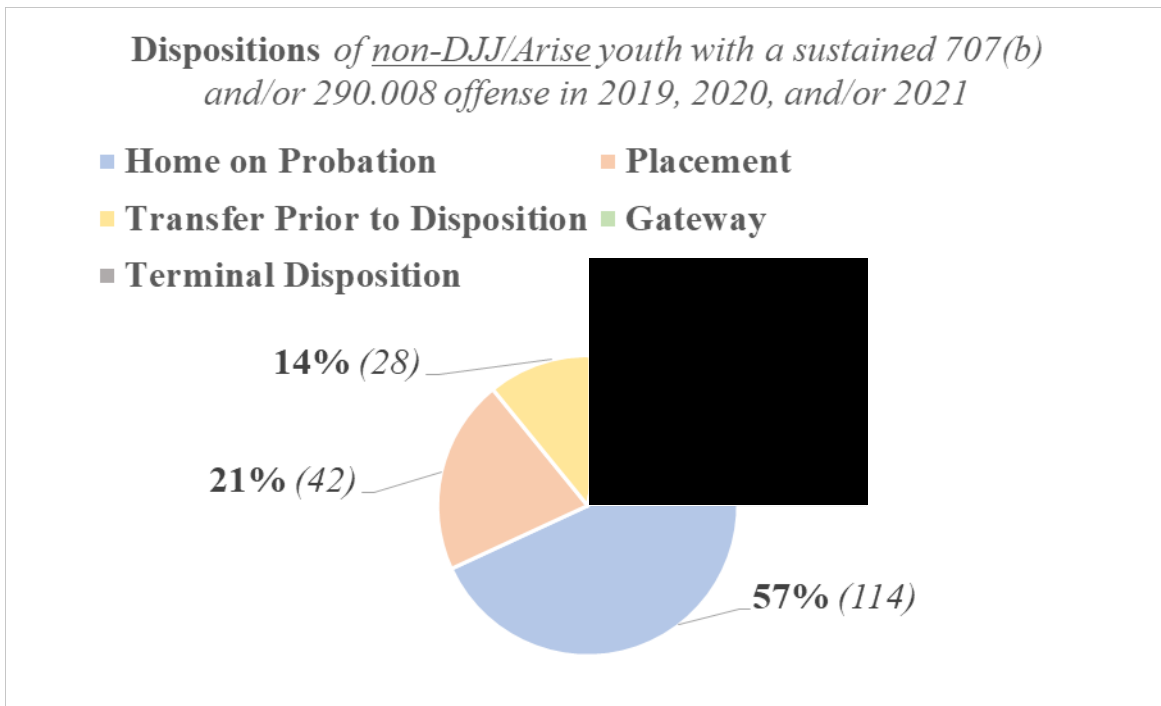


The most common race/ethnicity in this demographic between 2019 and 2021 was Hispanic/Latino at 48%, followed by African American at 35% and all others less than 10% each.



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

Information was gathered to display the disposition data, e.g., placed in juvenile hall, ranch, home, etc., for all youth with 707(b) offenses and/or 290.008 offenses in San Bernardino County from 2019 through 2021. The chart below represents those disposition outcomes, with Home on Probation the primary outcome at 57%, followed by Placement at 21%, and all other outcomes at lesser amounts.



In order to prepare for the target population, an evaluation of existing DJJ committed youth was completed in 2021. Of those who had an offense history prior to their committing offense, approximately one in four had previously been ordered to a placement, four of the youth had previously been in the Wraparound Program, and one had previously been ordered into the Gateway Program. All of those with a prior offense history had been ordered by the court to attend various prevention and intervention programs, which commonly included being supervised by Probation Officers in their home, attending Anger Management classes, participating in Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and participating in Cognitive Life Skills classes. As part of the Court process, some youth may have been screened for out of home placement or for participation in specialty courts, such as Drug Court, and found to be unsuitable.

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:

The intent of this program is for community-based organizations and families to work together with county personnel to integrate services both in and out of custody to provide the youth with a comprehensive continuum of care. The San Bernardino County program will incorporate a multiple step-down / phased approach to community reentry. The county will utilize two existing Probation Department facilities for the DJJ realignment population as well as coordinate with other county departments and community based organizations to ensure appropriate housing options are available for additional phasing in the rehabilitation process in the future. The initial phase, or phase one, of the program will occur within a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) where the youth will begin their commitment order. San Bernardino County's SYTF is located in Apple Valley, California. The SYTF will initially utilize four housing units, each with a maximum housing capacity of 20 youth, four unit day rooms, and one large multi-purpose room, which have been remodeled to provide a more home-like atmosphere while still ensuring the safety and security of the youth and staff.

Each youth will have gone through a comprehensive process of assessment and classification using factors such as height, weight, age, sophistication and other relevant characteristics to ensure the safety and security of the youth is prioritized and to ensure the youth is housed on the most appropriate living unit, from amongst those units available. If an assessment has not already been done, one will be completed to ensure the identification of any psychological & mental health issues, physical health problems, or substance use disorder dependencies.

The San Bernardino County Probation Medical Services is accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC), and is the only Juvenile Detention Facility in the State of California to hold this accreditation. A dentist, licensed by the state of California, as well as optometry services will be provided on-site. Health education and instruction in self-care will be provided. General health education classes as well as pamphlets and brochures on a variety of health topics will be available and accessible to youth. Mental health clinicians play an integral role in the youth's rehabilitation by providing treatment planning, individual, family and group therapy, substance use disorder counseling, art therapy, and other services.

A review of each youth's prior program(s), placement(s) and facility history will also be completed to aid in identification of the steps needed to assist the youth in preparing for their eventual release. Rehabilitation services such as individual and family therapy, medical and mental health services will begin as soon as the youth enters the facility. They will be able to obtain a high school diploma, a college degree, vocational certifications and more, in addition to expanding life management skills such as completing job applications.

A system has been implemented to provide youth with both the incentives and the opportunities to earn privileges in areas, which include but are not limited to, expanded personal property items on the housing unit, additional hygiene and snacks, additional activities and training, and eligibility for incentive jobs in the facility. Youth can progress through the system by complying with facility rules, completing the components of their Individual Rehabilitation Plan, participating in various life skills classes, and demonstrating pro-social behavior. The program will include the addition of a canine therapy program, and youth will be provided with opportunities to participate in non-denominational faith-based spiritual health services or faith-based counseling at least once each week.

Educational programs will provide youth with the opportunity to improve their educational and vocational competencies based on their aptitudes and employment market demand. Staff will support the youth's completion of their secondary education (High School Diploma) as well as college course work. Youth will have the opportunity to take classes, which can lead to an Associate's Degree or even a Bachelor's Degree. Additionally, Career Technical Education (CTE) programs combine academics with employer required hands-on experience and occupational knowledge, creating a strong pathway to a career. The program will offer an abundance of CTE and Associate's Degree programs so that youth will have the opportunity to both prepare for a job and complete post-secondary education.

In this facility, the county will incorporate the engagement of community based organizations and county departments who have experience serving youth in a custodial setting in activities, experiences, and programming using a rehabilitative and therapeutic milieu treatment approach. Each youth will have an Individualized Treatment Team, which will include the youth, a clinical therapist, a social worker, a teacher (if applicable), and the youth's caseload counselor, as well as supportive family members and other supportive adults, community members and mentors. The Individualized Treatment Team is a collaborative effort intended to bring support to the youth in their rehabilitation process; this team will meet to review the youth's progress towards meeting their goals and will work together to create the youth's Individualized Rehabilitation Plan. When necessary, the team will also make adjustments and updates to the youth's Individualized Rehabilitation Plan in order to ensure ongoing support to the youth as they work towards their rehabilitation goals.

From the start, the emphasis will be on preparing the youth for eventual community reintegration. Once youth have completed significant aspects of their Individual Rehabilitation Plan, and with the input and evaluation of the youth's treatment team and the court, the youth may be transitioned to phase two, a non-secure program facility where additional support services will be provided to prepare the youth for reentry into the community. In this phase the youth are still afforded many of the programs and services in phase one, but with additional services to focus on needs such as housing, employment, family reunification, and continued treatment for substance use disorder and mental health services. The youth will also be guided in obtaining appropriate forms of identification and aided in applying for services and assistance for which they are potentially eligible while in this phase of the program.

By ensuring justice involved youth remain closer to their families and communities, family engagement throughout the treatment process can be strengthened, and families will have more opportunity to be involved in the treatment process, should they choose to do so.

For the second phase of this program, the Probation Department will repurpose an existing building located in the City of San Bernardino, California, as the step-down from the SYTF in the High Desert. There, the youth will be provided with additional programming options in order for them to engage in direct societal interaction, including limited & structured community access, which is crucial to improving their reintegration process and prospects. For example, the youth may use the job preparedness skills they have learned to become employed, at which point the program will initially transport them to and from work until they have established their own means of transportation. Budgeting and financial planning training will be given a greater focus, as will other independent living skills. Community members who are committed to helping the youth make lasting changes will also be partners in this treatment process, and will be involved to help ensure youth are on the path to success upon their release. The focus on the youth's foundational support system and development as a person will continue to be prioritized and enhanced.

Alternatively or in addition to, the youth may enroll in in-person college courses and be transported to and from classes. Should the youth wish to engage with family, friends and/or mentors in the community, this support will also be provided. Youth will have the opportunity to appreciate the value of helping others by participating in a variety of community service projects both in and outside of the facility. This phase also allows additional incentive options, including trips to museums and beaches, amusement parks, and hikes through mountains and National Parks, amongst others in order to experience a variety of environments and situations while still having the support of the program staff. Included in this phase will be periodic reassessments, which identify their successes as well as any needed modifications to their Individual Rehabilitation Plan.

To ensure the youth are ready to reintegrate back into their community, programming will be developed in close conjunction with community based organizations, mentors, and family members to support a realistic and public safety conscious plan of supervision. The youth's potential living possibilities will be evaluated to provide the best possible chances of success. Youth will have an opportunity to earn the privilege of home furloughs in differing time increments. Home furloughs give the youth an opportunity to spend time with family members and practice the pro-social skills they have been learning and developing throughout their treatment process. This phase will also ensure that the youth's health/medical and dental care are documented and delivered in such a way that recommended support services can be continued in the community upon release.

This also serves as a way of helping youth understand what their health care needs are, where to go for help and what to ask as they become responsible for guiding their own care. Community based programs that include housing and provide case management will be sought out to engage with the youth, as we recognize that for youth to be successful they must be connected in a positive way with the communities to which they will be returning. Therefore, the youth will be working with

community based providers to connect to services, employment and housing in that area while also working with the Probation Department in providing case management to the youth.

This phase will identify and establish community service, transitional employment, apprenticeships, internships, and other opportunities for youths to acquire work experience and skills as they seek and maintain permanent employment. Youth will also be provided with the opportunity to participate in work assignments and skill-building programs that enhance their employability and success in the community. Work programs that involve non-profit, volunteer, and community service organizations will be contacted to assist youth, who have been in custody for lengthy periods, with work experience. Peer support, mentoring, and independent living skills will continue to be provided to develop the youth's positive attitudes, motivation, and ability to live independently. Each component provided builds on past positive youth developmental achievements and goals to empower the youth to make positive and long-lasting changes while focusing on the youth's transition back into the community. Staff will create opportunities within the program for youth to lead the process of developing themselves, in order to build and strengthen their ability to resist involvement in destructive behaviors such as substance use disorder or violence.

Phase three is the last phase of the program, and removes the direct staff support provided in phase two. This may include returning to a family member's home or to other housing options; community-based organizations will continue to be utilized to provide support. In this phase, the youth lives without daily supervision using their learned skills and developed resources, while still having program support available as needed. It is in this phase where the youth achieves independence. Youth who are continuing to participate in college programs will work with the college's services to continue their educational needs towards their chosen career path. Youth who have gained employment will be encouraged and supported in maintaining their employment and advancing in their chosen career. Staff and youth will work together to develop a strategy that leverages the youths strengths and the resources available in their community to ensure their best chances of success. This phase continues until the youth is discharged from community supervision, and the youth will be provided with support, boundaries, and other services intended to buffer the youth from the risk of recidivism. If the Court finds that the youth is not meeting their rehabilitative goals prior to reaching their maximum baseline term, then they may not be able to participate in this phase, returning to the community.

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 youth treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of the target population:

Funds will be applied to ensure that staff participating in rehabilitation efforts have completed specialized mental health and adolescent brain development training in order to provide appropriate behavioral and trauma informed care skills to meet the needs of the target population. The county will work collaboratively with the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) as well as community based organizations and private providers to provide coordinated services which may include individual, family, or group counseling, crisis intervention, medication management, Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). If the Court, Probation, or Department of Behavioral Health identifies a treatment need, the county will coordinate with the appropriate department and/or community based organization providers to address their individual therapeutic needs. Youth who are identified as being in crisis will be referred to the Forensic Adolescent Services Team (FAST) for immediate evaluation in Phase 1 and Phase 2.

In the future, should partnerships and collaborations develop as anticipated, the county may also engage in agreements with other Probation Departments to provide services for populations that have been identified as specialized: females, sex offenders, and youth who have serious mental health issues. Until such time, these specialized populations will receive therapeutic services unique to their needs through community based organizations, contracted private providers, and county or state agencies.

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))

Grant funds will be applied to support programming such as self-care, interpersonal relationships, goal setting, and decision making which aim to maximize the promotion of healthy adolescent development. The youth will be assessed using applicable tools to determine how to ensure appropriate adolescent development. While assessment tools are continually being developed and revised, some of those used will include the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS), the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS), and/or the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI). The JAIS is a supervision model, which weaves together a needs assessment and a risk assessment. At the heart of JAIS is a one-on-one conversation that focuses on who the youth is and particularly on their underlying motivations for behavior.

The CANS tool is a multi-purpose tool that supports decision-making, including the appropriate level of services, which allows for effective monitoring and outcome of services. The CANS Assessment helps guide conversations among treatment team members about the wellbeing of the youth, identifying their strengths and needs, and aids in developing the rehabilitation plan. The YASI provides for analyzing information collected by officers, caseworkers, social workers, and other professionals who assess at-promise youth.

These and other assessments will help identify the youth's needs and strengths, as well as areas, which need additional focus. *The Teen Years Explained: A Guide to Healthy Adolescent Development*, from the Center for Adolescent Health at Johns Hopkins, identifies five areas of adolescent development; physical, cognitive, emotional, social, and moral values. Programming will include lessons which increase development in these areas and encourage the youth to learn about themselves, create positive experiences, and become responsible and contributing members of the community with confidence, passion, and purpose.

While healthy physical development opportunities have been established in the county for quite some time, funding will be applied towards large muscle activity curriculums, nutritional standards, yoga and meditation. Learning opportunities to ensure cognitive development will include college classes and vocational training, as well as other knowledge-based opportunities. Emotional needs will be addressed by ensuring psychologically safe spaces for the youth to live and learn in, particularly during individual and group counseling and therapy. Social development will be achieved, in part, through opportunities for the youth to create and maintain positive connections with supportive people (adults who will encourage them in their growth process). These may include family members, teachers, therapists, probation corrections officers, program leaders, mentors and more. In order to provide this programming, community based providers and contracted non-governmental agencies will be sought out.

To ensure the development of morals and values consistent with societal expectations, funding will be directed towards ensuring youth are given opportunities in all phases of the program to engage as learners, leaders, and team members. Treatment components used to assist in these endeavors may include the Forward Thinking journal series, a cognitive-behavioral series that assists youth in making positive changes to their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. The program focuses on a strengths-based approach to problem-solving, rather than emphasizing punishment for transgressions. Additionally, a victim's awareness or restorative justice treatment component may be included when feasible. Restorative models of justice have worked with survivors to define the healing and justice they need, and to understand and connect to the positive transformation of the person who inflicted harm as part of their own recovery.

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

Family members and other social support systems play an important part in ensuring youth's success following their reintegration back into the community. Understanding family as an important support system, staff will work to identify and overcome potential barriers to reunification. The San Bernardino County Probation Department plans to utilize the clinical model of Functional Family Therapy (FFT) to address family engagement. These services are led by Department of Behavioral Health staff, with Probation staff also trained on the use of this modality. The model has five major components: engagement, motivation, relational assessment, behavior change and generalization, and each component have its own goals and techniques. Funds will be utilized to assist families with transportation so they can participate if needed, with Social Workers identifying the needs of the family and connecting them with incentives, resources and services based locally in their communities.

The engagement component focuses on responsiveness to family needs and maintaining a strength-based relational approach. The motivation component focuses on the relationship process, separating blame from responsibility while remaining strength-based. Relational assessments identify the patterns of interaction within the family to understand the relational "functions" or interpersonal payoffs for individual family members' behaviors. This sets the stage for planning in behavior change and generalization, where all interventions are matched to the families' relational functions. The goal of behavior change is to improve family functioning and individual skill development. The goal of the generalization component is to extend the improvements made during the behavior change component into multiple areas and to plan for future challenges, planning for relapse prevention, and incorporating community systems into the treatment process.

The program will also work with other county agencies to implement family finding techniques; in many cases, youth have extended family and other individuals who care about the youth and can provide support. By identifying, developing and maintaining these connections, innovative solutions may arise to ensure a positive future for the youth, both while in the phases and throughout their lives. The focus will be on plans that are safe, stable, and lasting with adults who have sufficient skills to provide support and healthy relationships to the youth. Additionally, recognizing that transportation can be a challenge as San Bernardino is the geographically the largest county in the United States, transportation officers are available to transport families and mentors to locations to meet with youth if needed.

There will also be a focus on parenting skills and family reintegration, both in FFT and throughout the program, to strengthen and support as much of the youths family structure as possible. This support includes family visitation, transportation to the program facilities or minors' location, staff who can act as a liaison and volunteers or advocates who assume the role of parent partners and mentors. In addition, staff will also be trained in various types of treatment services and approaches, including cultural competencies and trauma-informed care, to ensure an understanding of the cultural and environmental factors, which may affect or affect the youth's individualized rehabilitative plan.

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))

This program incorporates the belief that youth's needs are best met by providing and implementing approaches to support positive youth development and building capacity through a continuum of local community-based approaches whenever possible. While the county will be applying funds to address reentry throughout each phase of the program, how it is incorporated into the youths programming will vary as their level of preparation changes. In the first phase, assessment of the youth's aptitudes and abilities will take place and programming will be provided in order to maximize successes. Agreements with community-based organizations will assist youth in obtaining local housing if needed, and throughout each phase the youth will continue to have available to them a continuum of community based care, including mental health services, medical services, mentoring, job placement, and transportation.

Employment skills, including training in interviewing, completing job applications and writing resumes, and dressing professionally, will have been part of the youths programming and multiple opportunities will be provided to ensure the youth is prepared to reenter the job market. Throughout the program, the county will also provide physical items needed to prepare for different kinds of employment; for example, in order to get an OSHA forklift operators permit, a forklift will be necessary for practice and test taking. An oven is necessary for the food handlers permit needed for work as a chef. A computer is needed for computer programming, and so on. The program will also include linkages to the Workforce Development Department (WDD), which may be able to provide on-site facilitators to assist youth in successfully obtaining employment.

Some of the types of jobs being discussed include electrical work and solar power panel installation, welding and metalworking, and music production and graphic design. Local businesses and organizations in the community, such as the Urban Conservation Corps of the Inland Empire, may help to facilitate these connections and trainings through either grants or agreements. These may include work with the California Forestry Service or with utility companies as a Line Clearance Tree Trimmer or a Utility Vegetation Management Pre-Inspector. Additionally, local unions, including the Ironworkers Local (for metalwork), the Carriers & Laborers Local (for building construction), the Teamsters Local (for shipping & logistics), and the Boilermakers Local (for industrial construction) may assist in ensuring safe, stable, high quality employment opportunities are available to the youth. For those youth attending college, they will be linked with on campus support to assist them with instructions, resources and opportunities. Follow-up services will be provided to ensure resource connectedness and assistance with independent living.

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))

Although the evidence-based and promising practices provided will change based on the needs of the youth, some options include the use of resources provided by the Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center (part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)) and the What Works Clearinghouse (part of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) within the U.S. Department of Education). These organizations include positive reviews of several programs as examples of what may be provided:

- Lions Quest Skills for Action, which is a program designed to build positive youth development and citizenship skills for high school age students, includes classroom lessons and service learning. The program includes more than 100 lessons focused around 26 personal, social, and thinking skills. Program length ranges from one semester to four years. Students explore personal stories highlighting values and behavior through teachers' questions, group discussion, and resource pages in the curricular materials. Optional components include a student magazine, an Advisory Team, and supplemental units on drug use prevention.
- Building Decision Skills, which aims to raise high school students' awareness of ethics, help youth gain experience developing core values, and give youth strategies for dealing with ethical dilemmas. Using readings, handouts, and overheads, the curriculum covers key concepts and students are encouraged to debate the key concepts through small-group activities, class discussions, and homework assignments.
- Too Good for Drugs and Violence (TGFD&V), which is designed to promote high school students' pro-social skills, positive youth development, and violence- and drug-free norms. The curriculum consists of 14 core lessons, as well as an additional 12 lessons that can be infused into other subject areas (such as English, science, and social studies). The program includes optional elements of family and community involvement.

Trauma-informed means services that recognize and understand traumatic stress reactions and the impact of trauma on the youth, their family and the community. Culturally responsive means programming, which respects a diverse population with regard to race, language, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender expression, immigration status and values. As examples, trauma-informed and culturally aware training which may be provided to the youth include:

- Mindfulness-Based Strategic Awareness Training (MB SAT), will encourages youth awareness to help them make decisions free from unhelpful beliefs or cognitive biases. Contrary to popular belief that we make rational decisions, research have shown that our choices are mostly driven by emotions, and mindfulness can help to regulate those emotions, creating the mental space for us to become more aware of ourselves and our surroundings and avoid situations which could thwart our well-being.

- Community Resiliency Model (CRM) training will help youth to not only help themselves but to help others by providing a skills-based program intended to reset the natural balance of their nervous system. CRM helps individuals understand their nervous system and learn to read sensations connected to their own well-being, to help to create “trauma-informed” and “resiliency-focused” communities that share a common understanding of the impact of trauma and chronic stress on the nervous system and how resiliency can be increased using a skills-based approach.

The county submitted a Request for Information (RFI) to assist in identifying and obtaining evidence-based and promising practice programs and services through nonprofit and for profit community-based organizations. Those responses assisted in the identification of trauma-informed and culturally responsive resources in this community, such as those provided through culturally responsive organizations like the National Compadres Network, which offers training such as El Joven Noble, La Cultura Cura, and Circle Keepers. These services will assist youth’s educational support, employment support, vocational training, mentorship, peer support, and the provision of pro-social activities.

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))

In order for community outreach and engagement efforts to enable the success of the youth, the program will work with multiple partners, including volunteers, mentors, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, civic organizations, and local businesses. As previously mentioned, the county is actively seeking services and supports provided by non-governmental and community based organizations. The goal will be to deliver comprehensive services that begin upon intake and continue upon release, through the entire custody to community process.

Services and programs which have been sought include but are not limited to; the development of coping and social skills, arts and craft classes, animal assisted therapy, behavior management skills, pro-social development, life skills such as cooking, hygiene, time management, financial planning, literacy, journaling, mentoring, tutoring at both the high school and college levels, gang intervention, victim awareness, parenting skills and support, transitional housing, workforce development, and vocational skills. Programming will be available to the youth while in the SYTF, at the step-down location, and near the youth’s place of residence, to the extent possible.

Two Request for Proposals (RFP) has been issued through the county’s ePro system to assist in finding available services and support that are evidence-based or promising practices. The county intends to utilize organizations with existing county contracts and Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) as well as collaborating with new community partnerships.

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))

The intent of the program is to ensure that youth are maintained in the least restrictive and most appropriate environment available. Research has established that a home-like environment encourages socialization and minimizes psychological barriers and that when coupled with dignified treatment supports a therapeutic setting and reduces behavioral conflict. The program is located in the High Desert facility during the first phase of the youth's commitment order. This is a secure facility, with five main buildings, and with one building housing the four DJJ realignment program units, each unit with its own Day Room. The remaining buildings include a booking facility, an administration building, a warehouse, additional classrooms, and offices. The program building will have on-site supervisors' offices, clinical therapist offices and classrooms. Outdoor recreational spaces are located off each housing unit and both an exterior and an interior exercise room is located onsite.



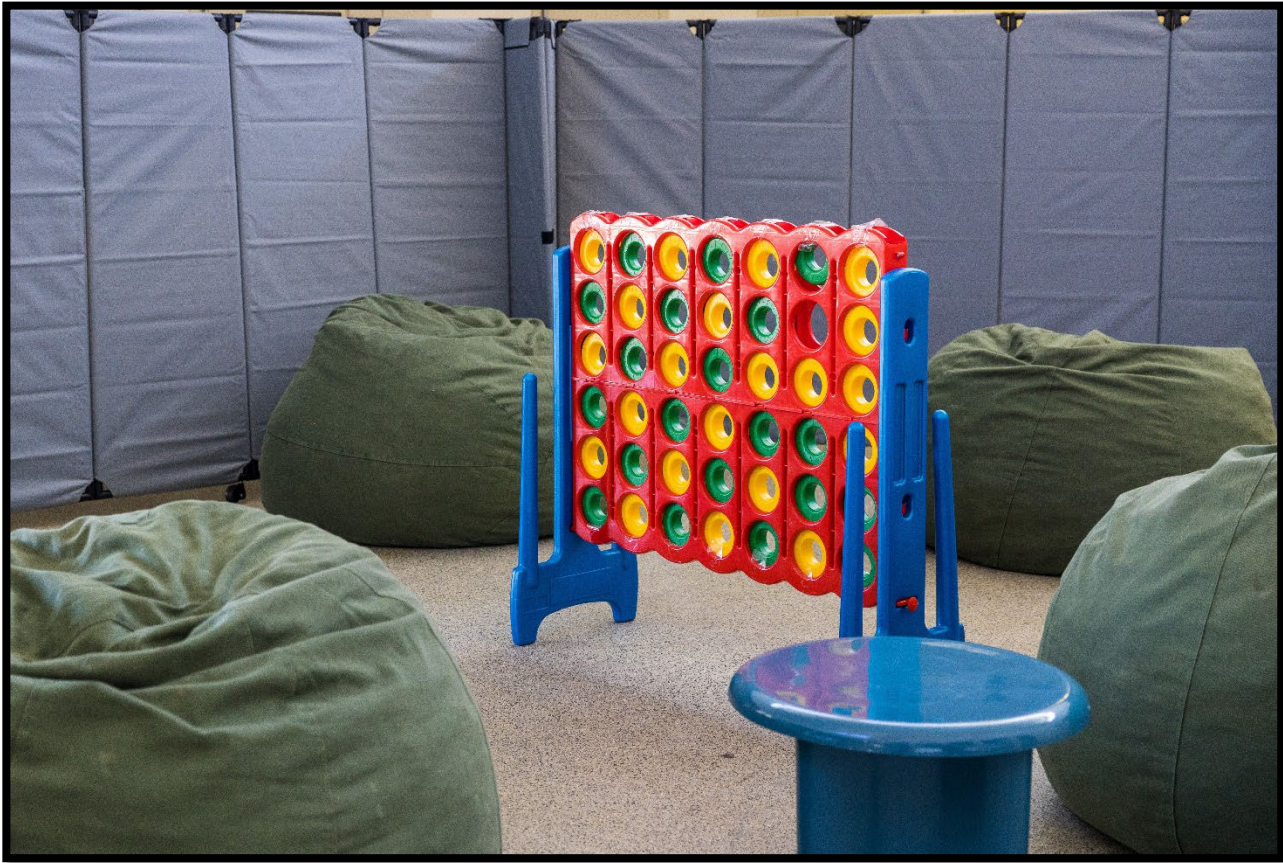
DAY ROOM

A visiting area for families, a library, and counseling space for individual, family, and group counseling are also all located within the facility. Staffing will be proportional to the number of youth to ensure the safety and security of the youth and the facility, and monitored cameras are located throughout the facility to add additional safety and security. Youth of differing ages, genders, size and sophistication will be closely monitored to ensure appropriate and safe interaction to the highest degree possible. Youth will also be provided with age appropriate interaction with others of similar age, as well as sophistication and other characteristics. The facility is current on all local and state safety inspections, and was built with safety and the prevention of injury in mind. A bus stop is located in front of the SYTF and bus passes will be available to ensure family can visit, should the family be experiencing transportation challenges.



CHILD VISITATION AREA

Transgender youth will be housed according to Federal Department of Justice 28 CFR 115 (PREA) Standards, which state that the facility must consider transgender or intersex inmate housing and programming assignments on an individual and case-by-case basis in order to ensure the youth's health and safety. Furthermore, a transgender or intersex inmate's own views with respect to his or her own safety shall be given serious consideration and allow for housing by gender identity when appropriate. Transgender and intersex youth shall be given the opportunity to shower separately from other inmates and not be placed in units solely on the basis of such identification or status, unless such placement is in connection with a consent decree, legal settlement, or legal judgment for protecting such youth. Recognizing that transgender youth may be in different stages of transition, each youth will be connected to appropriate resources for the stage they are in and their plan for the future with identified providers who responded to the RFP submitted by the department for these services.



MEDITATION AREA

Phase one facility improvements included new flooring, soft furniture, and paint, as well as increased control by the youth over hygiene facilities such as the length of time to shower. Improved landscaping, which will include shade and fruit trees, a Zen-style garden, a new exercise room, and more home-like bedding and towels and other room décor will all assist in providing improvements in order to accommodate long-term commitments. The youth will be provided with a variety of incentives and ample access to natural sunlight and fresh air. The addition of dedicated college classrooms with computers, printers, and other equipment, as well as multiple vocational classrooms, provide numerous opportunities to engage the youth in positive developmental activities. The visiting area has been updated to include a children's play area to engage family members of all ages, and visiting tables and chairs are configured for increased interaction. The group counseling rooms have also been redesigned and will use beanbags instead of hard chairs.



YOUTH ROOM

For phase two, the youth will transfer to a facility designated for this purpose in the City of San Bernardino, California. This facility is where transitional services have already been provided in the past to prepare youth for structured re-entry into the community. This facility has two housing units, a classroom and a programming component room, a cafeteria area, an atrium, outdoor recreational courts, an exercise room, and a nearby vocational training building. It also has an administrative area with conference rooms for family, group and individual therapy. Cameras are located throughout the facility to provide additional security.

As with the phase one location, the building is current on all local and state safety required inspections. The college-like setting of this particular facility will be able to extend the home-like atmosphere provided to the youths during commitments. The housing units are designed to accommodate youth of varied ages and sophistication. Multiple options will also exist regarding youths clothing so that their participation in the community can occur without disruption. Prior to the program utilizing the facility, improvements will include new flooring, furniture and paint, as well as more home-like bedding and towels. Phase three incorporates the use of non-county facilities for housing, and as the program progresses, improvements and modifications will be identified and made. The department will continue to work with stakeholders, community organizations and other interested parties on this phase.

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))

Transfers to the adult criminal justice system are initiated by the District Attorney's office and subsequently determined by the Court when other alternatives are unavailable or unlikely to be successful. The Probation Department assists by providing its expertise, in alignment with the Court, to ensure all options are considered and that the needs of the youth and the community are represented. It is the intent of this program to provide sufficient treatment modalities, educational resources, vocational training and family engagement support such that the Court will have an abundance of alternatives within this program to facilitate the retention of youth in the juvenile justice system and deter transfer to the adult system.

Part 7: Regional Effort

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

As our partners, both governmental and community based, develop promising programs it would be the intent of the subcommittee to utilize their services when it is found to be in the youth's best interest. We are working to put into place the broadest variety of services possible and continue to explore options for the future. The Chief of the Probation Department is part of a statewide workgroup organized to develop additional resources for youth with specialized needs such as sex offenders and youth with serious mental illnesses, and enter into agreements with local service providers and other county and state agencies to provide services. In the future, other cooperative and collaborative arrangements may be made in order to ensure the most appropriate and effective rehabilitative services are provided amongst the options available in California.

Part 8: Data

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

Outcome measurements for the program are centered on public health and public safety approaches that are evidence-based. The primary data collection system for youth in the program will be the Probation Departments client management system, Caseload Explorer, in conjunction with the departments Research Unit. Enhancements will be made to the system to ensure the capturing of all data points need to measure the success of the programming delivered. San Bernardino County will be using evidence-based assessments such as the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI), and Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) to measure changes in behaviors. Many evidence-based programs such as Aggression Replacement Training, Moral Reconation Therapy and Courage to Change have established evaluations to measure changes in participants thinking. Surveys of the youth may be taken at multiple points in the process, including post-release, in order to better understand the impacts of the program and provide data to improve future outcomes. Data from all of these resources can be collected to assist both in formulating the youth's Individualized Rehabilitation Plan and in providing data and information on youth served as the program progresses. Research staff will be able to analyze the information provided both internally and by community-based organizations to ensure statistical effectiveness using proven methodologies and thus identify process improvement suggestions for future program iterations.

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

The intention of this plan is to protect the community, which includes these youth, by improving their lives through assessment, treatment, rehabilitative services and enforcement. Evidence supports that gainful employment, positive youth development and strong connections to the community will result in reduced future crime (i.e. lower recidivism). Longitudinal outcomes will examine how the programming effectively utilizes community-based programs, and may help to ensure the least restrictive dispositions appropriate to the environment are being utilized; new alternative responses to confinement may be identified. Tracking outcomes regarding behavioral incidents, progression in pro-social behavior, successful community reentry at multiple time intervals, and recidivism among the youth will also assist in measuring the program's effectiveness, and demonstrate improved outcomes for youth success, reduced transfers of youth into the adult criminal justice system, and greater public safety.