

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

# COMPREHENSIVE MULTI-AGENCY JUVENILE JUSTICE PLAN

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

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2020  
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL  
PLAN



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The FY 2020-2021 Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan  
may also be viewed online at:

<https://www.sbprobation.org>

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# JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL MEMBERS

- **Peter Adam**, 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor  
*County of Santa Barbara*
- **William Brown**, Sheriff-Coroner  
*County of Santa Barbara*
- **Michael Cash**, Police Chief  
*Guadalupe Police Department*
- **Alice Gleghorn**, Ph.D., Director  
*County of Santa Barbara Department of Behavioral  
Wellness*
- **Matt Hamlin**, Director  
*Coast Valley SATC*
- **Phil Hansen**, Police Chief  
*Santa Maria Police Department*
- **Gregg Hart**, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Supervisor  
*County of Santa Barbara*
- **Tanja Heitman**, Chief Probation Officer (Chair)  
*County of Santa Barbara Probation Department*
- **Michelle Kerwood**, Director START & School Based  
Counseling Programs,  
*Counsel on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (CADA)*
- **Tracy Macuga**, Public Defender  
*County of Santa Barbara*
- **Mona Miyasato**, County Executive Officer  
*County of Santa Barbara*
- **Mag Nicola**, Chief Deputy District Attorney  
*County of Santa Barbara Office of the District  
Attorney*
- **Daniel Nielson**, Director  
*County of Santa Barbara Department of Social  
Services*
- **Dominick Palera**, Chair of the Juvenile Justice  
Delinquency/Prevention Commission
- **Darrel Parker**, Court Executive Officer  
*County of Santa Barbara Superior Court*
- **Susan Salcido**, Ed.D., Superintendent,  
*Santa Barbara County Education Office*
- **Saul Serrano**, Coordinator  
*South Coast Youth Safety Partnership/ Community  
Action Commission (CAC)*
- **Jill Sharkey**, Ph. D, Associate Dean for Research  
and Outreach  
*Gervitz Graduate School of Education  
University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)*
- **Todd Stoney**, Captain  
*Santa Barbara Police Department*
- **Kathrine Wallace**, Principal  
*Maple High School  
Lompoc Unified School District*
- **Brian Zimmerman**, Director of Pupil Personnel  
*Santa Maria Bonita School District*

# OVERVIEW

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) was enacted in 2000 (AB 1913) and provides counties with a reliable funding source for local programs and services aimed at reducing juvenile crime and delinquency as codified in Government Code Section 30061. It mandates a local Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) whose multidisciplinary membership collaborates on identifying local needs, supports the development of relevant programs, and considers budget priorities. Additionally, it requires the development of a Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) that is updated annually and submitted to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), the State agency that oversees the JJCPA. The CMJJP addresses local delinquency issues, identifies service needs and gaps, sets goals and priorities, and reports on local juvenile efforts and initiatives. Changes to this year's Plan include: updated goals and the addition of new objectives; updated demographics and population trends; analysis of existing services; updates to funded services; and new juvenile justice strategies.

In Santa Barbara County, the CMJJP incorporates aspects of the JJCPA and the Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) requirements. Challenges have included the availability of specialized providers for youth with high needs or specific treatment needs, , limited diversion opportunities for youth outside of Probation involvement, the availability of local group care facilities, and established programs offering alternatives to detention or court involvement for minor violations.

Santa Barbara County uses JJCPA funding for three areas of interest: Probation supervision resources, behavioral health assessments, and community-based treatment interventions. Under Probation supervision, sworn officers in all area offices provide strength-based risk-needs-responsivity and case management to approximately 215 youth identified as high-risk for reoffending. Behavioral health assessments are handled by clinicians who conduct comprehensive assessments that identify the needs and assets of clients to inform case planning and referrals. Community-based interventions are carried out by contracted private organizations providing a wide range of evidence-based services. These include diversion, as well as individual/group targeted interventions to respond to youth behaviors and address risk/needs factors.



# DEMOGRAPHIC & POPULATION TRENDS

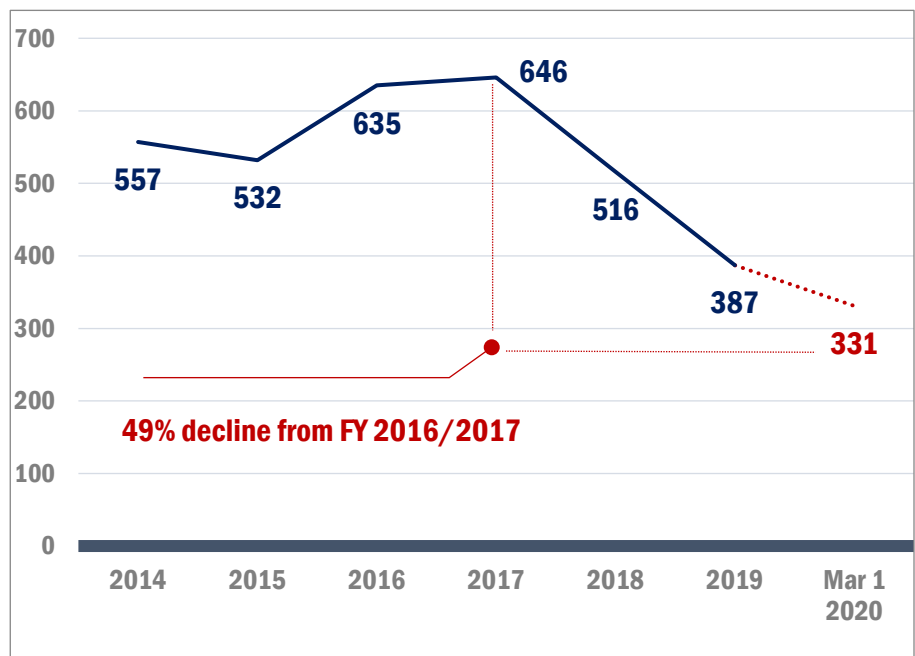
Crime rates in Santa Barbara County continue to remain below the state and national average in both violent and property crime per 100,000 people (see page 19). The violent crime rate in Santa Barbara County decreased 2.3% from 2017 to 2018 while the property crime rate decreased 12%<sup>1</sup>.

Locally, the total number of juvenile misdemeanor and felony arrests *increased* 2.5% from 1,183 in 2017 to 1,213 in 2018. *This increase was driven exclusively by uptick in misdemeanor arrests (up 4% from 892 in 2017 to 928 in 2018).* Of the local juvenile felony arrests (n=285), 35% are for violent offenses, 24% property, 8% drug and 33% other crimes.

The number of youth supervised by Santa Barbara County Probation decreased 25% from a high of 646 on June 30, 2017 to 387 on June 30, 2019. As of March 1, 2020, that number had decreased to 331 youth.

Over the last fiscal year, Santa Barbara County experienced a decrease in both misdemeanor and felony referrals (11% and 17% respectively) from FY 2017-2018 to FY 2018-2019<sup>2</sup>. Over the same time period, the Department saw a 42% reduction in supervised 602 misdemeanants and a decrease in youth in out-of-home placements to 10 as compared to 19 in FY 2017-18. As of March 1, 2020, there was one youth in out-of-home placement.

**Total Supervised Juveniles in Santa Barbara County  
June 30<sup>th</sup> of Each Year**

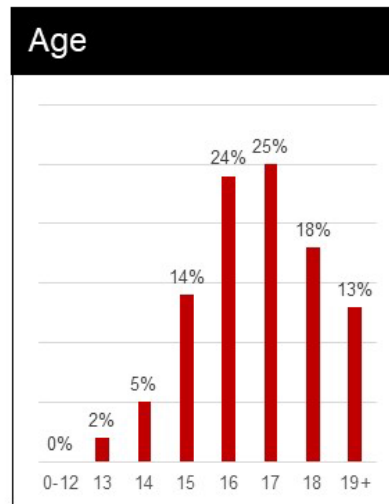
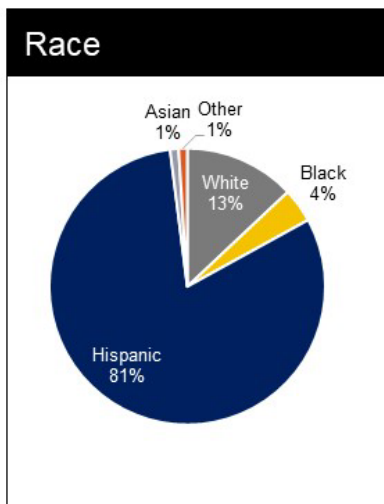
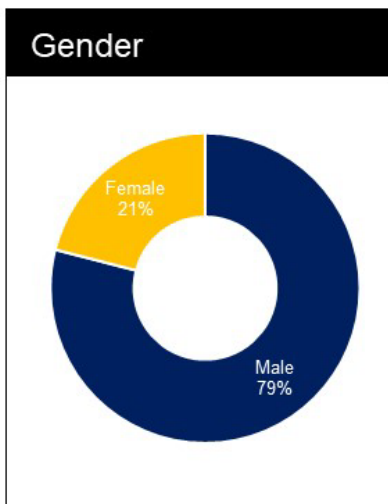


<sup>1</sup> Comparison crime data compiled from the 2018 Crime in California Report, Office of the Attorney General; 2018 Juvenile Justice in California Report, Office of the Attorney General; 2018 FBI Uniform Crime Report Tables 1 & 6

<sup>2</sup> Misdemeanor referrals in FY 2017/2018=1273 vs. 1134 in FY 2018/2019; Felony referrals in FY 2017/2018=554 vs. 461 in FY 2018/2019

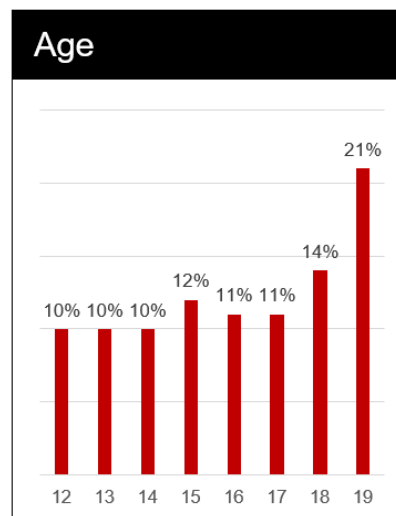
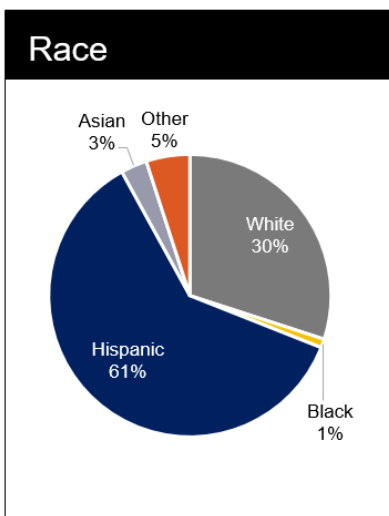
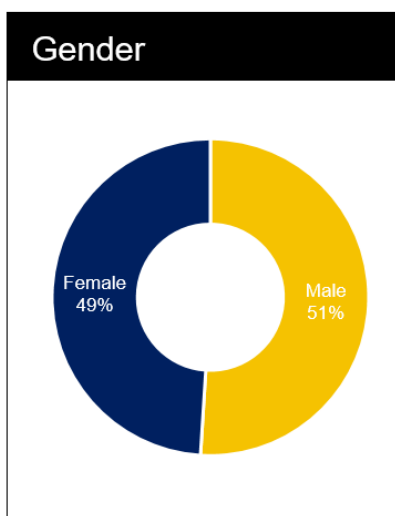
The majority of youth on supervision in Santa Barbara County are male (79%), Hispanic/Latino(a) (81%), and between 15 and 18 years of age. Approximately 61% of supervised youth have been assessed as high-risk to reoffend, 23% moderate and 16% low<sup>3</sup>.

## Supervised Juvenile Demographics



Snapshot on 7/1/2019

## Santa Barbara County Youth Demographics



California Department of Finance (DOF) youth population projections

<sup>3</sup> PACT risk level report as of 2/28/20

Through collaboration with all justice partners, effective strategies to focus supervision and services on higher-risk youth have been identified and deployed. More information regarding specific goals and objectives developed are available in the “Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas” of this document (see page 7).

## ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING SERVICES

Santa Barbara County uses Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funding for Probation risk-needs-responsivity supervision resources, health assessments, and community-based treatment interventions. Under Probation supervision, sworn Officers in all area offices provide strength-based supervision and management to approximately 215 youth identified as high-risk for reoffending. Behavioral health assessments are handled by Behavioral Wellness clinicians who conduct comprehensive assessments that identify the needs and assets of clients as well as inform case planning and referrals. The community-based interventions are carried out by contracted private organizations that provide evidence-based individual and group targeted interventions to respond to probation violations as an alternative to detention.

JJCPA funding is also being used to expand diversion services in each regional area. YOBG funding helps us to provide targeted interventions and respond to probation violations with alternatives to detention.

### I. Youth Service Gaps

The Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) annually identifies areas where gaps exist in the local juvenile justice system as well as any challenges that can impede progress toward goals and objectives, and in carrying out the operations of the local juvenile justice system locally. Ongoing service gaps have been identified in these areas, among others:

- Gang involvement by youth county-wide
- Behavioral health challenges and related treatment
- Substance abuse
- Commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and those at risk of CSEC, as well as gender-responsive interventions for these youth

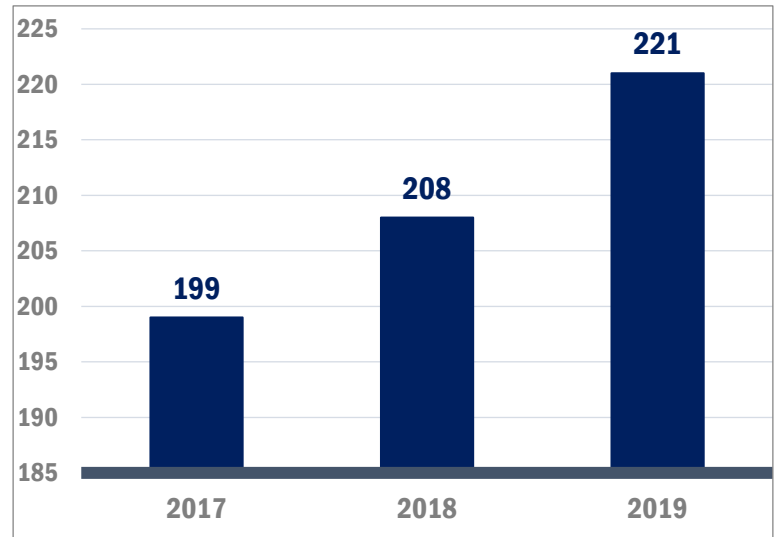


## II. Current Service Challenges

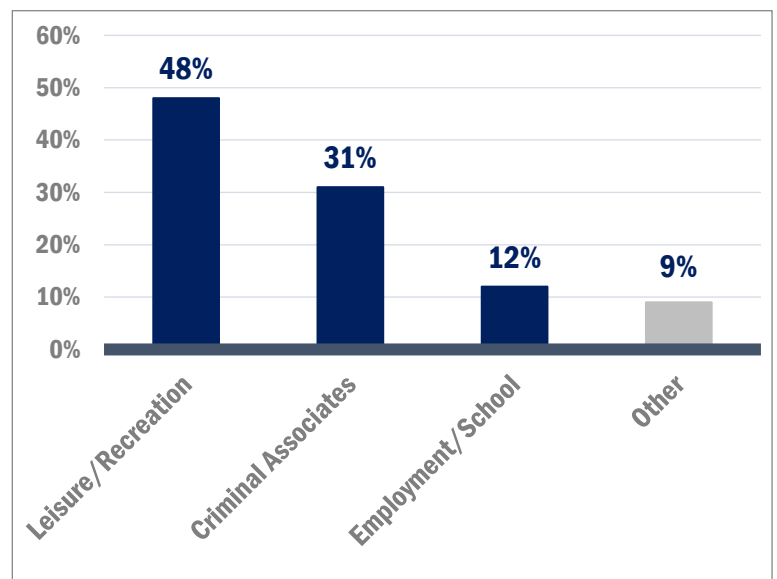
Through the efforts of County and community agencies, gaps in services have been addressed over the course of subsequent years, and been mitigated by implementation of specific services. However, our county youth continue to experience challenges, which require further assessment and evaluation:

- Many youth under probation supervision are involved directly or indirectly with gangs in all local communities. Local agencies continue to seek out effective and evidence-based/promising practice gang intervention programs and strategies for gang intervention.
- County agencies have united to combat human trafficking, as shown by the existence of the local human trafficking task force and the court calendar for CSEC- involved youth victimized by trafficking. However, treatment needs and safety concerns remain.
- Evidence-based programs for youth that rely on a group dynamic are often difficult to maintain. Efforts are being made to develop more relevant interventions that better meet the needs of the local population.
- Community-based, youth- and family-specific diversion and intervention opportunities are needed, particularly for families that are not yet justice-involved.

### Santa Barbara County Youth with Gang Terms and Conditions



### Percentage of Top Criminogenic Needs on March 1, 2020



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*Criminogenic needs are defined as needs that research has shown are associated with criminal behavior but which a person can change. These needs fit into general categories. By assessing and targeting criminogenic needs, agencies can reduce the probability of recidivism.*

# IDENTIFYING & PRIORITIZING FOCUS AREAS

Santa Barbara County's goals and objectives were developed based upon the current population and needs of youth in the county. The Reimagining Juvenile Justice (RJJ) cohort (whose work will be described in more detail later in this document) was instrumental in identifying gaps in service throughout the county, as well as strategic and inter-agency collaborative opportunities to enhance youth-focused services.

## I. Goals

- Promote public safety and reduce juvenile delinquency through individualized case planning, goal setting, incentivizing change and building upon youth strengths, and targeted interventions for accountability.
- Deploy individualized responses based on assessment of needs and risks through the use of an evidence-based tool that is both culturally informed and gender responsive.
- Use data and decision-point analysis to ensure long-term reform, detect disparate treatment, and eliminate inequity.
- Embrace and nurture collaboration, shared accountability, and increased community and family engagement, to ensure youth and families are informed and involved with all aspects of their cases, and basic needs are met.
- Utilize confinement only when necessary for the safety of the community or the youth, or to protect victims.
- Provide effective evidence-based alternatives to detention.
- Incorporate youth voice and inclusion into the various aspects of the local juvenile justice system, and identify key points in the operation of a case where youth voice is most important.
- Increase the use of diversion at key decision points in the referral process, in order to minimize the number of youth who require formal court involvement and probation supervision.

## II. Objectives

These objectives reflect Probation Department strategic initiatives, as well as recommendations by the RJJ cohort. They support achievement of the defined juvenile justice goals.

- Partner with community-based organizations to offer diversion alternatives for youth who are at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system.

- Continue to limit incarceration of low-risk youth, and use detention primarily for high-risk youth who contemporaneously present as a risk to themselves or to the community.
- Maximize potential success of interventions through the use of Risk-Needs-Responsivity model of probation supervision that increases the use of incentives and limits the use of incarceration.
- Through the use of the juvenile risk and needs assessment tool, avoid exposure of low- and medium-risk youth to higher-risk youth or intensive interventions that may negatively impact their protective factors.
- Provide ongoing training to officers and staff regarding vulnerable populations, including sexually exploited youth and youth with histories of significant trauma.
- Continue to provide training on racial and ethnic disparities and cultural responsiveness in the juvenile justice system, including the role of implicit bias in decision-making.
- Establish a youth-led, adult-guided workgroup to incorporate youth input into Department processes and services.
- Support and collaborate with the Countywide Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) and Resilience Movement.
- Examine racial and ethnic data collection methodology and determine how we can better collect more accurate and inclusive data on ethnicity and indigenous populations.
- Develop and refine a discharge planning process which will allow for family input and information sharing at the point of case termination or release from the Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC).
- Conduct exit interviews for youth terminating probation and their families, to solicit feedback on their experience and how we can work better with youth and families.
- Implement performance-based contract measures for CBOs who serve our youth, and conduct fidelity checks on contracted services.
- Research existing programs that target gang involvement and violence, and adopt a promising or evidence-based practice for local implementation in the community and at county juvenile institutions.
- Enhance transitional and vocational opportunities for youth, especially for those nearing adulthood.
- Increase agency skills and capacity for accurate data collection and reporting on lesbian, gay, bisexual and questioning (LGBQ) and gender nonconforming or transgender (GNCT) youth participants in the juvenile justice system.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE STRATEGIES

## Risk and Needs Assessment Tool

Standardized risk and needs assessments provide structure and consistency to the decision-making process and allow the juvenile justice system to focus on higher-risk youth. The Probation Department has incorporated the Positive Achievement Change Tool, or PACT, into its operations. The use of a risk and needs assessment, such as the PACT, is one of the eight evidence-based practices that together have been shown to reduce the likelihood of recidivism. Since its implementation in July 2019, over 500 total assessments have been completed (as of March 2020). The tool identifies criminogenic needs—those needs that research has shown are associated with criminal behavior, but which a person can change—that should be targeted with appropriate interventions to reduce further offending. To date, the top three criminogenic needs identified by



the PACT are: (1) leisure and recreation (48%), (2) criminal associates (32%) and (3) employment/school (12%). By assessing and targeting these needs, we can reduce the probability of recidivism.

## Risk-Needs-Responsivity Model

This model guides decision-making about supervision level and treatment interventions based on a youth's assessed likelihood for reoffending (risk), their identified highest criminogenic factors (need), and matching youth with the most appropriate interventions based on their characteristics and learning style (responsivity).

## Evidence-Based Interventions

The use of interventions proven to be effective with juveniles are prioritized to achieve the greatest benefit with youth. This includes working with providers to insure proper delivery of curriculum and fidelity in their delivery of services. In 2019-20, local providers were asked to enhance their evidence-based programs and to provide quarterly data on performance measures related to those services. In 2020-21, provider contracts will include more comprehensive performance measures, and Probation will provide fidelity checks to ensure services are in keeping with the evidence-based models on which they are based.



## **Racial and Ethnic Equity and Inclusion (REEI)**

Santa Barbara County seeks to improve its outcomes in the area of racial and ethnic equality in child-serving systems, including juvenile justice. This includes the assessment of local services to determine where disparities exist. Probation has shared REEI data with the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), the Reimagining Juvenile Justice (RJJ) cohort, and community partners via the JJCC Workgroup, and has identified areas of the data that can be further narrowed and examined. New initiatives will incorporate strategies to address disparity.

## **Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)**

Santa Barbara County has a local task force to address human trafficking through education, enforcement, interventions, and programs and services that strive to meet the unique needs of survivors. The Juvenile Court also holds a special calendar for youth victimized through trafficking. This includes collaborative multidisciplinary discussions about cases before the Court.

## **The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) Workgroup**

A workgroup of the larger JJCC comprised of representatives from public and private organizations and tasked with collaborating on the development of the Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP), as well as identifying priorities and strategies for the local juvenile justice system.

## **Marijuana Education Classes**

The Probation Department is partnering with a local organization to provide education classes and community service work opportunities for youth cited for the possession of marijuana, as required by law. The classes will include an evidence-based curriculum designed for youth and will include modules for initial and subsequent referrals.

## **Targeted Interventions/Alternative Sanctions**

The Probation Department is also partnering with local organizations to provide interventions to youth on probation who are in violation of their probation grant for minor reasons and do not require a formal response. Programming will address goals and objectives set forth in youth case plans, provide targeted interventions and alternative sanctions in the community setting, and encourage prosocial involvement in school, family, and other life domains.

## **Diversion**

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) awarded the Probation Department a grant to undertake a reform-minded approach to addressing the needs of youth involved in the local juvenile justice system. Through the Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG), the Department will receive funding over multiple years to support community-based programming and services through a local private organization (CADA) for youth contacted by law enforcement for minor offenses. Key elements of the YRG program include:

- Minimal involvement with justice-involved youth and the juvenile justice system, to decrease the likelihood that a youth will be drawn deeper into the system.
- Referrals for diversion services will go directly from law enforcement agencies, schools, and Probation to the provider, and will be handled outside of the juvenile justice system entirely, without Probation intervention.

## **Reimagining Juvenile Justice (RJJ) Strategic Initiatives**

In 2019, system partners participated in the RJJ initiative in a multi-session format spanning several months. This initiative, sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) and delivered by School and Main Institute (SMI), provided an opportunity for Probation to bring together professionals from a broad cross-section of child serving agencies, including law enforcement and community partners. This cohort considered current research on adolescent brain science, positive youth development, racial and ethnic equity and inclusion, and the power of collaborative efforts to serve youth.

Ultimately, the objective was for the cohort to recommend new strategies for delivering juvenile justice programs and interventions locally through formal collaboration and partnerships.

Through reflection and analysis activities, guided discussions, a youth panel, and other exercises led by Probation, the cohort of participants from public and private organizations collaborated on identifying strategies and goals focused on improving the local juvenile justice system and youth involvement in it.

Key focus areas of the initiative include:

- The need for youth voice in all aspects of the work performed by child-serving agencies with the idea that a youth in the system is a partner in achieving positive change and is not simply the subject of interventions.
- The importance of cultural competence and responsiveness, and concerted efforts to address



racial and ethnic disparities in all child-serving agencies and systems.

- The benefit of increased information sharing between agencies and the removal of barriers to access the important information about a youth for those working to meet youth's and family's needs.
- An emphasis on family engagement and providing more resources to families before they become system-involved.
- Cross-systems and multiagency collaboration as a way to share information and resources, eliminate silos, and merge duplicative efforts throughout the county.

In December 2019, the RJJ cohort presented over 30 specific strategies and recommendations to the JJCC in the key focus areas. Probation adopted several of those recommendations for first-year (FY 20-21) implementation, and the JJCC Workgroup continues to discuss the feasibility and timelines of the remaining strategies for future implementation.

### **South Coast Youth Safety Partnership (SCYSP)**

The Santa Barbara County Probation Department is a member of the South Coast Youth Safety Partnership (SCYSP), its Strategy Team, and its Community Engagement Team. The Probation Department is collaborating with the Safety Partnership on several goals within the SCYSP strategic plan, including:

- Coordination of youth reentry strategies, particularly as youth transition from camp to the community
- Strengthening educational and job readiness programs for young adults, juvenile detainees, and probation camp youth
- Data sharing with the SCYSP



# FUNDED PROGRAMS, STRATEGIES & SERVICES

## I. Department of Behavioral Wellness (BW) – Assessment & Aftercare

Two mental health practitioners provide services for youth and families based on referrals from Deputy Probation Officers (DPOs) for youth pending adjudication with the Court, under supervision with a field office, or are in the institutions and entering the reentry phase. Clinical activities include the following:

- **Assessments:** Practitioners conduct *Brief Mental Health Assessments* and *JJCPA Service Needs Assessments*. As the name implies, the former is a quicker assessment that generally entails a file review and clinical interview of the youth; this is more suitable for youth who present with more mild behavioral health difficulties. The later form of assessment is more in-depth and reserved for youth who have not previously been assessed or treated or whom appear to experience a greater degree of symptoms and impairment. The practitioners provide reports of these assessments to the referring DPOs. In addition, youth will be assessed to determine medical necessity and suitability for treatment at BW clinics or through community providers.
- **Engagement and Linkage:** Since justice-involved youth tend to not perceive themselves as experiencing behavioral health problems, they are less likely to pursue treatment on their own. It is often necessary to engage them in a gradual, non-threatening manner to help them identify their problems and understand how they might benefit from treatment. Practitioners achieve this in institutional settings, where they get can develop a rapport and a level of trust, and this is conducive to linkage activities with the youth post-release. They work closely with the youth, their families, their BW clinic counterparts and community service providers to facilitate follow-through on treatment referrals.
- **Treatment:** Practitioners provide short-term treatment, sometimes starting when the youth are still in Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC) or Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH), to provide a bridge until the youth can connect with a longer-term care provider in a BW clinic or other community program. For some youth, the sort term treatment is sufficient but others will require longer-term treatment, which can include individual and/or family psychotherapy.
- **Child and Family Teams (CFT):** Practitioners are invited to attend CFT meetings to participate in the discussions about treatment goals and objectives. Practitioners complete the Child Adolescent Needs Survey (CANS) and may use this tool to assist the youth, family and Probation officers in charting a course of treatment, as well as offering guidance about the presumptive transfer of specialty mental health services (SMHS) for youth in foster care.



## II. Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) Community Supervision Model

Following the deployment of an RNR model in FY 2019-2020, supervision caseloads were restructured to incorporate a differentiated approach as informed by the new risk and needs instrument. Resources are now concentrated on the youth that present with the highest need and risk to reoffend, with a smaller ratio of officer to youth for those caseloads. Additionally, youth presenting as a low- or medium-risk/need are larger caseloads, with a focus on the utilization of diversion and an increased reliance on one-time intervention referrals and/or sanctions.

RNR principles are significantly amplified by practitioners skilled in techniques proved to influence youth to change behavior. Motivational Interviewing (MI) is an evidence-based program designed to enhance intrinsic motivation. To realize the full benefit of MI, the Probation Department has committed to a program that incorporates and emphasizes the consistent use of MI techniques through adequate officer training, fidelity, and quality assurance.



## III. Evidence-Based Treatment Interventions

Since 2018, a number of evidence-based treatment interventions have been implemented, and a number of additional interventions will be established in 2020-21. These interventions either have demonstrated outcomes in reducing risk factors and addressing criminogenic needs, or they will be evaluated using performance measures to determine how effective they are with local youth:

- **Family Focused Interventions** such as Strengthening Families and Family Behavioral Therapy, which have been found to reduce depression, increase parents’ “satisfaction” with adolescents, reduce adult alcohol use, and reduce illicit drug use for both adolescents and adults, will be provided.
- **Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment (CBT) Programs** for teaching the cognitive skills, social skills and values such as “Seeking Safety”, an intervention for youth with a history of trauma and substance abuse. The program is designed to help youth improve posttraumatic stress disorder, depression, interpersonal skills and coping strategies.
- **El Joven Noble**, a trauma-informed culturally sensitive program that aids in comprehensive character development that supports and guides youth through their “rites of passage” process while focusing on violence prevention and intervention.
- **Mentoring** for high-risk youth through a community-based organization to provide support and increase resiliency has demonstrated a positive effect in the reduction of alcohol and drug use, academic failure, teenage pregnancy, and gang violence.
- **Juvenile Offender Support Funds** for additional educational or vocational needs and to incentive

reaching case plan milestones. Youth returning to the community from the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) will receive priority.

- **Sex Offender Treatment** to provide outpatient treatment for those youth assessed as appropriate to remain in or returning to their homes and under community supervision.
- **Marijuana Education Classes** for youth identified as habitual users of marijuana, or who require additional education for diversion.
- **Alternative Sanctions/Targeted Interventions** for youth to provide evidence-based, risk-level-appropriate interventions for youth on probation.
- **Youth Empowerment Services (YES)**, a Youth Reinvestment Grant-funded opportunity in partnership with the Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (CADA), which ensures low-level youthful offenders are given appropriate cognitive change classes and services, in order to prevent further involvement with juvenile justice. The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) provides the required matching funds for this grant.

#### **IV. Program Evaluation and Analysis**

As part of the ongoing work to create and support evidence-based programming, Probation has developed individualized program performance measures for providers, which are tailored to the program's stated objectives and desired outcomes for youth. In some cases, with new and promising programs, measures are developed in partnership with the provider to ensure measurement of key aspects of the program. A Department Business Specialist (DBS) will monitor these measures and conduct fidelity checks to ensure programs and services are delivered according to the program guidelines.

#### **V. Institutions Behavioral Aid**

Youth detained at Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH) often struggle with a variety of challenges, including separation from the stability of their friends and family, school, and mental health issues. Behavioral Aids can assist these youth by spending quality time with them, engaging them in positive, pro-social activities and games, and working with staff to address any case goals or objectives for their treatment.

# STRATEGIES FOR NON-707(b) WIC

Only youth with an adjudication for an offense listed in §707(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code or for certain sex registerable sex offenses, may be committed by the Juvenile Court to the State Division of Juvenile Justice for long-term treatment in a custody setting.



Many youth currently detained at the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH) are alleged to have committed serious offenses that are not eligible for State commitment. The Probation Department developed a custody-based long-term program for non-707(b) youth. The nature of the need changed and the resources available to effectively provide a program that met youth needs became limited. Youth are not routinely committed to the SMJH for lengthy periods, but when that does occur, programs and services are pursued through existing resources and/or through available community resources that can be brought to the SMJH.

The aforementioned strategies including the utilization of risk and needs assessment tools, Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) approaches to supervision, diversion of lower-risk youth and evidence-based treatment interventions, will be implemented for youthful offenders who are not eligible for a commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) for crimes not designated under section 707(b) of the Welfare & Institutions Code.

# REGIONAL AGREEMENTS

At times, throughout the State, counties may be required to consolidate or leverage resources to address gaps in services or limitations with available funding. Currently, in Santa Barbara County there are no regional treatment agreements with any other jurisdiction. However, the Department does have mutual aid agreements with Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties, for assistance in times of disaster (including housing of detained youth) and for the joint training of our staff.

# INFORMATION SHARING AND DATA COLLECTION

Locally, data is used to assess program performance, explore the drivers of Santa Barbara County trends, assist in decision-making and inform our collective practice. The data is nearly exclusively contained in the Probation Department's case management system. For youth in foster care, data is also entered in the State database utilized by Child Welfare Services (CWS). Data is used internally for a variety of purposes including research, resource management, trend analysis and also for a variety of external purposes by the Probation Department and other organizations. These include informing committees such as the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) or the Board of Supervisors (BOS) about current supervision trends, population demographics, programming and recidivism outcomes. Information is also shared with our community-based organizations to respond to grant requirement or support their mission.

Data is shared with stakeholders through presentations and written reports to prompt conversation about how to improve our practice including the services we provide to our youth to improve success on supervision. In 2019, this included a review and analysis of racial and ethnic equity and inclusion data at various decision points within the juvenile justice system; the utilization of supervised and community diversion options; and the implementation of performance-based contracting with service providers to measure progress toward identified goals. Institutions population data is also being presented to JJCC on a regular basis to help stakeholders understand that population and how it can be further reduced. The Probation Department continues to examine and reassess over time areas of the system performing well, in addition to those in need of improvement.

# CLOSING

As the Santa Barbara County Probation Department has continued its process of transformational change throughout Juvenile Services, it has embraced transparency and collaboration in its approach to systemic evaluation. The Department continues to examine data and trends, and to share this data with county and community partners where appropriate. This has included sharing data on racial and ethnic equity and inclusion. Probation has also sought new ways to examine and evaluate data, and will continue that work throughout the coming fiscal year.

In addition, through their work with the Reimagining Juvenile Justice (RJJ) Initiative, the Department was able to invite partners to join them in their change processes. The RJJ cohort explored collaborative solutions to challenges in our local juvenile justice system, and developed strategies for further discussion and future implementation. Probation has adopted several strategies for immediate implementation, and others have been incorporated into the CMJJP as 2020-21 objectives. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) Workgroup continues to explore many other promising recommendations from the RJJ work.

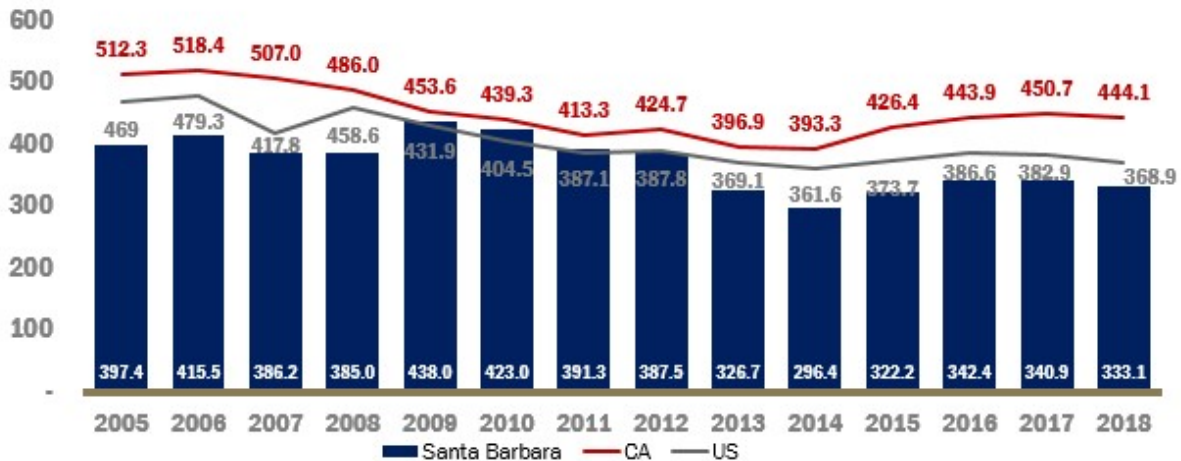


As summarized in this Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP), funding supports a number of evidence-based programs and initiatives for youth, all designed to provide appropriate interventions where they are needed, in accordance with risk-needs-responsivity (RNR) principles. With positive youth development principles as the foundation of our work – family engagement, building upon youth strengths rather than focusing on deficits, allowing youth a voice in their treatment, and taking collaborative approaches to addressing the needs of youth and families – we continue to ensure quality services and case management are in place. Our shared interest in public safety, and our strong framework of collaboration, ensures we are able to provide a comprehensive and balanced juvenile justice plan.

# ATTACHMENTS

## Violent Crime Rate

Violent crimes reported to law enforcement agencies for every 100,000 persons within a population

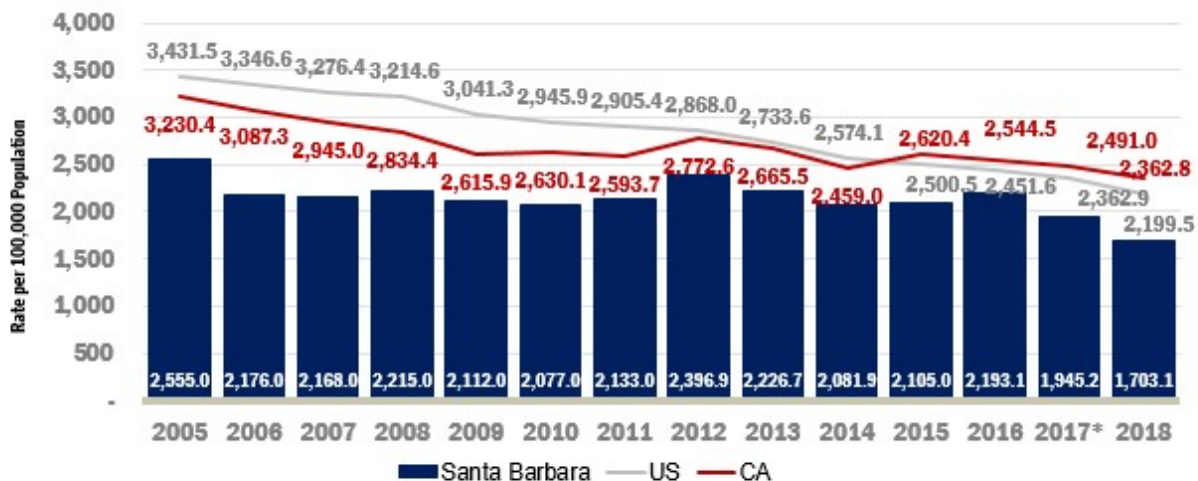


In the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, violent crime is composed of four offenses: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Violent crimes are defined in the UCR Program as those offenses that involve force or threat of force.  
 \*In the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, the 2017 US crime figure has been adjusted.

Source: Crime in California (2018), CA Department of Justice; National and County MSA data from the 2018 FBI Uniform Crime Report Tables 1 & 6

## Property Crime Rate

Property crimes reported to law enforcement agencies for every 100,000 persons within a population



\*In the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, the 2017 US crime figure has been adjusted.

Source: Crime in California (2018), CA Department of Justice; National and County MSA data from the 2018 FBI Uniform Crime Report Tables 1 & 6

# Crime in Santa Barbara County vs. California

- **Locally**, the violent crime rate decreased 2.3% from 2017 to 2018 while the property crime rate decreased 12%\*\*\*. Santa Barbara County remains below the state and national average in both violent and property crimes per 100,000 people.
- **Locally**, the total number of juvenile arrests *increased* 2.5% from 2017 to 2018. *This increase was driven exclusively by uptick in misdemeanor arrests (up 4% from 2017 to 2018).*
- 35% of the felony arrests **locally** are for violent offenses, 24% property, 8% drug, and 33% other



- **Statewide** the violent crime rate decreased 1.5% from 2017 to 2018 while the property crime rate decreased 5.1%\*
- **Statewide**, the total number of juvenile arrests *decreased* by 16% from 2017 to 2018. Felony arrests declined 12% and misdemeanor arrests decreased 19%
- 42% of the felony arrests **statewide** were for violent offenses; 28% property; 3% drug, 3% sex, and 24% other\*\*

\*From the 2018 Crime in California Report, Office of the Attorney General

\*\*From the 2018 Juvenile Justice in California Report, Office of the Attorney General

\*\*\*From the the 2018 FBI Uniform Crime Report Tables 1 & 6

