

# SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING ORANGE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL



*Thursday, April 23, 2026, 3:30 P.M.*

PROBATION DEPARTMENT  
Multipurpose Rehabilitation Center, Classroom 2  
333 The City Drive South  
Orange, California

**DANIEL HERNANDEZ, Chair**  
Probation

**NATI ALVARADO**  
Juvenile Social Services Organization Rep.

**MELISSA DEL RIO**  
Juvenile Court Representative

**AMIR EL-FARRA**  
Local Law Enforcement

**ALICE GLEGHORN**  
Community Based Drug & Alcohol Rep.

**VERONICA KELLEY**  
Health Care Agency, Mental Health

**VACANT**  
At Large Community Representative

**ED LEE**  
Business Representative

**MARIA MARTINEZ-POULIN**  
Education Representative

**KIRSTEN MONTELEONE**  
Sheriff-Coroner

**VERONICA RODRIGUEZ**  
Social Services Agency

**VICENTE SARMIENTO**  
Orange County Board of Supervisors

**TODD SPITZER**  
District Attorney

**DARREN THOMPSON**  
Public Defender

ATTENDANCE: Members Del Rio, El-Farra, Hernandez, Monteleone, Rodriguez, Spitzer, Thompson and Smith (Alternate for Kelley)

EXCUSED: Members Alvarado, Gleghorn, Kelley, Lee, Martinez-Poulin and Sarmiento

COUNTY COUNSEL: Carolyn Khouzam, Deputy

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Jamie Ross & Sonia Acuna, Deputy Clerks

# SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS: (Items 1 - 3)

1. Welcome and Introductions

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:30 P.M., BY CHAIR HERNANDEZ**

2. Discussion and approval of Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)-Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) FY 2026-27 Consolidated Annual Plan, as presented, and authorize CBFO to make minor administrative changes as needed in order to meet established submittal date of 5/1

12 123456789 10 11 13 14 **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

x x x xx x

3. Discussion and approval of 2026-27 Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan as recommended by SB 823 Subcommittee, and authorize Probation to make minor administrative changes as needed in order to meet submission deadline of 5/1

5 14 12346789 10 11 12 13 **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

x xx xx x

## **PUBLIC & COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

## COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Chair Hernandez – Oral Re.: Mentioned current vacancy of At Large Member since Fred La Puzza resigned/retired. Also, staff have been unable to contact the Business and Drug & Alcohol Representatives. CEO will move forward with BOS agenda item to remove both members.

Alternate Member Smith – Oral Re.: Suggested BOS members add recruitment to their newsletters.

Member Monteleone – Oral Re.: Irvine PD will no longer be part of the SMART Program.

Member Spitzer – Oral Re.: recent incidents of ebike related accidents. District Attorney’s office is moving forward pressing charges against parents when ebikes are illegally modified or children are underage with an electric motorcycle.

Member El-Farra – Oral Re.: Issues in Garden Grove with ebikes; numerous citations issued.

**ADJOURNED:** 3:53 P.M.

# SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

\*\*\* KEY \*\*\*

## *Left Margin Notes*

1 Nati Alvarado	A = Abstained
2 Melissa Del Rio	X = Excused
3 Amir El-Farra	
4 Alice Gleghorn	
5 Daniel Hernandez	
6 Veronica Kelley	
7 Ed Lee	
8 Maria Martinez-Poulin	
9 Kirsten Monteleone	N = No
10 Veronica Rodriguez	C.O. = Council Order
11 Vicente Sarmiento	
12 Todd Spitzer	
13 Darren Thompson	
14 Dawn Smith (Alternate)	

*(1st number = Moved by; 2nd number = Seconded by)*

/s/

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*DANIEL HERNANDEZ*  
*Chair*

/s/

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*Jamie Ross, Deputy*  
*Clerk of the Council*



## Office of Youth and Community Restoration

# Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act & Youthful Offender Block Grant (JJCPA-YOBG) FY 2026-2027 Consolidated Annual Plan

Date:	<u>4/30/2026</u>
County Name:	<u>Orange</u>
Contact Name:	<u>Diana Chepi</u>
Telephone Number:	<u>714-834-7035</u>
Email Address:	<u>Diana.chepi@ocgov.com</u>

## INSTRUCTIONS:

[Government Code Section 30061\(b\)\(4\)](#) and [Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1961\(b\)](#) call for consolidation of the annual plans required for JJCPA and YOBG.

Please submit your most up-to-date consolidated plan.

The rest of this document is a standardized template for a consolidated county plan. Please use this template or ensure your submission meets the accessibility standards by reviewing either the Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF checklists published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services website here [Accessibility Conformance Checklists | HHS.gov](#). Your submission will be posted to the OYCR website once it is confirmed to meet the accessibility standards.

**Once the report is complete, attach the file to an email and send it to: [OYCRgrants@chhs.ca.gov](mailto:OYCRgrants@chhs.ca.gov).**

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## Part I. Service Needs, Priorities & Strategy – (Government Code Section 30061(b)(4)(A))

### A. Assessment of Existing Services

Include here an assessment of existing law enforcement, probation, education, mental health, health, social services, drug and alcohol, and youth services resources that specifically target at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families.

Orange County law enforcement consists of 26 city police agencies, the Orange County Sheriff's Department, the Probation Department, the District Attorney's Office, and the Public Defender's Office, all of which play key roles in supporting the juvenile justice system.

In addition to local school districts, the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) provides educational services throughout the County and within the Probation Department operated juvenile facilities. OCDE provides alternative schools for youth who have been expelled from the local school districts and those who need additional support offered in community day schools.

The Orange County Health Care Agency (HCA) offers mental health and substance use therapy at community clinics across Orange County, youth reporting centers, and juvenile facilities. HCA, in collaboration with the Orange County Social Services Agency (SSA), provide wraparound services for youth involved in the juvenile dependency and delinquency systems.

Additionally, numerous community-based organizations (CBOs) collaborate to support system-involved youth and their families. These CBOs include Waymakers, Project Kinship, Open Gate, Pine Grove, various faith-based organizations, and other human service focused providers.

**Describe what approach will be used to facilitate collaboration amongst the organizations listed above and support the integration of services.**

Juvenile Justice Services are coordinated by various multi-agency collaborative groups, including the Orange County Juvenile Justice Commission, the Orange County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, and the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council. These bodies make determinations and provide oversight on resource allocation and initiatives aimed at addressing juvenile dependency and delinquency services.

## B. Identifying and Prioritizing Focus Areas

Identify and prioritize the neighborhoods, schools, and other areas of the county that face the most significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.

A key priority has been focusing interventions and services in the zip codes with the highest arrest rates in Orange County. These areas, located in Santa Ana and Anaheim, the county's two most populous cities, are characterized by diverse populations and high levels of gang activity, narcotics sales, and substance use. The Probation Department, local law enforcement, and community-based partners have specifically targeted these regions for both human services interventions and law enforcement suppression efforts.

## C. Juvenile Justice Action Strategy

Describe your county's juvenile justice action strategy. Include an explanation of your county's continuum of responses to juvenile crime and delinquency as well as a description of the approach used to ensure a collaborative and integrated approach for implementing a system of swift, certain, and graduated responses for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders.

The Orange County Juvenile Justice Strategy begins with a citation or arrest by a law enforcement agency. The Probation Department screens cases through the Non-Custody and Custody Intake process and determines an appropriate course of action.

If formal court handling is required, the court has various dispositional options: informal handling, deferred entry of judgment (DEJ), or supervision; with or without wardship declared. Whenever possible, youth are diverted from the juvenile justice system. The Probation Department operates under the risk/needs responsivity principle where the focus is working with high-risk youth. Graduated sanctions are used to ensure an appropriate response to delinquent behavior. The Probation Department has developed non-custodial sanctions, including Youth Reporting Center locations (day reporting centers which provide on-site school and treatment programs). Probation Officers act as case managers, making referrals to CBOs or other county agencies to provide services, such as mental health, counseling, substance use counseling, gang intervention, or wraparound services. Probation Officers also provide cognitive-behavioral interventions proven effective at reducing recidivism, such as Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS). Probation Officers also offer incentives to youth for positive behavior and compliance with terms and conditions of probation. Should the court order a commitment to a juvenile facility, the Probation Department operates Juvenile Hall for secure detention and two (2) camp facilities where committed youth receive treatment services. The treatment provided includes mental health counseling, substance use counseling, sex offender treatment, and cognitive-behavioral programs, including Aggression Replacement Training, Thinking for a Change (T4C), Decision Points, and EPICS.

The Orange County Probation Department has been involved with Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative resulting in a significant drop in overall juvenile crime incarceration. For appropriate cases, the use of diversion programs has made an impact on juvenile detention, as well as the implementation of evidence-based practices for all youth within the juvenile justice system, including individualized risk reduction techniques which have proven to reduce recidivism.

## D. Comprehensive Plan Revisions

Describe how your Plan has been updated for this year:

The Annual Plan is a collaborative effort across county departments and highlights the programming in place under the JJCPA. The Annual Plan's main county contributors include the District Attorney's Office, Health Care Agency, Sheriff-Coroner Department, Public Defender's Office, and Probation Department. County departments request funding under the JJCPA programs based on available State funding. Funding requests are evaluated by the County Budget Office and a recommendation is made to the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council. Each year, the Annual Plan, including the budget allocations, is approved by the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, which includes input from the non-county/community-based organizations.

If your Plan has not been updated this year, explain why no changes to your plan are necessary:

N/A

## Part II. Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) – (Government Code Section 30061(b)(4))

### A. Information Sharing and Data

Describe your information systems and their ability to facilitate the sharing of data across agencies within your county. Describe the data obtained through these systems and how those data are used to measure the success of juvenile justice programs and strategies.

In alignment with countywide priorities for integrated care, information is shared with HCA and SSA as appropriate to ensure that youth and families receive timely, appropriate, and coordinated services across departments.

The Probation Department's Research Division extracts, analyzes, and reports on this data to support evidence-based decision-making at all organizational levels. This work informs strategic planning, resource allocation, and continuous quality improvement efforts. The data is also used

to evaluate the effectiveness of juvenile justice programs and strategies, including monitoring recidivism trends, assessing service utilization, and measuring overall program impact. Through this integrated approach, the department ensures that planning, policy development, and program investments remain aligned with measurable outcomes and the County of Orange's commitment to improving youth success and community safety.

## B. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils:

Does your county have a fully constituted Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) as prescribed by Welfare & Institutions Code Section 749.22?

Yes     No

If no, please explain what vacancies exist on your JJCC, when those vacancies began, and your plan for filling them:

## C. Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Using the templates below, provide details for each program, strategy, and/or system enhancement that will be funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), identifying any program that is co-funded with Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds.

To include multiple programs, copy and paste the template fields "1. Program Name," "2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based," and "3. Description" as many times as necessary.

### JJCPA Funded Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement

This template should be copied as many times as needed to capture every program, strategy, and system enhancement you plan to fund next year.

#### 1. Program Name:

Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE)

#### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

ARRIVE program focuses on family strength training and individualized support to wards of the court that are at risk of reincarceration. The program serves juvenile probation youth, ages 12 to 18, who do not meet eligibility criteria for comparable intensive programs. ARRIVE requires youth and their families to participate in individualized and multi-systemic team meetings to review progress on case plan goals. Research has shown that parent education combined with approaches grounded in the risk-need-responsivity (RNR) model can significantly reduce long-term recidivism among high-risk youth.

#### 3. Description:

ARRIVE is a collaborative initiative between the Probation Department and contracted community partners that provides individualized and group-based support to probation youth displaying increased probation-violating behaviors, such as truancy, drug use, or criminal activity. The program's primary objectives are to address problematic behavior early, stabilize the family unit, and prepare youth and families for long-term success beyond probation supervision.

Services provided through ARRIVE include, but are not limited to:

- Individualized case planning and progress monitoring.
- Substance use education and relapse prevention.
- Coping skills and emotional regulation.
- Anger management.
- Building and maintaining positive peer relationships.

Youth participating in ARRIVE are required to meet the following expectations to support progress, accountability, and successful completion:

- Participation in bi-weekly multi-system meetings with youth partner, individual case manager, and Probation to assess progress towards case plan goals.
- Attendance in weekly meetings with case manager.
- Regular reporting to probation officer for progress checks.
- Consistent engagement in pro-social activities including community service projects and regular school attendance.
- Ongoing monitoring of progress and accomplishments through the Board of Supervisors approved Probation Juvenile Incentives program.

Program Successes:

A teenage youth was referred to ARRIVE by his Probation Officer, they were struggling to comply with their probation terms including curfew, attending school, and completing court ordered individual counseling. During the youth's time participating in ARRIVE, they completed 8 individual counseling sessions focusing on decision-making and improving their relationship with the mother. Over the course of the program, the youth identified goals in various areas of their life, potential barriers to overcome, and key individuals that could support their goals. While participating in ARRIVE, the youth and their mother moved into a new apartment and the program assisted with providing dishes, cookware, and bedding. The youth improved their school attendance, completed their court orders, improved their behavior within the home, and successfully completed the ARRIVE program. Shortly after, they successfully terminated from probation supervision and did not reoffend within the three month follow up period. The youth expressed gratitude for the opportunity to participate in ARRIVE.

### 1. Program Name:

Sobriety Through Education and Prevention (STEP) and Substance Abuse Education and Recognition Treatment (ASERT) - Substance Use Programming

### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

Substance Use Programming is grounded in evidence-based practices, including the Therapeutic Community model and Aggression Replacement Training (ART), a cognitive-behavioral program specifically designed to address criminal recidivism. These approaches are supported by research demonstrating that interventions targeting both substance use, and criminal thinking significantly reduce recidivism among high-risk youth. The program continuously measures relevant processes and practices to maintain fidelity to these evidence-based models and to evaluate their impact on youth outcomes.

### 3. Description:

Substance Use Programs offer intensive intervention for youthful offenders with custody commitments and a history of drug and/or alcohol use. These gender-specific services are provided in a custodial setting, with the primary goal of reducing the likelihood of recidivism and preventing further delinquent behavior or the development of a pattern of adult criminality. The program employs a multidisciplinary approach, integrating intervention and education based on a nationally recognized substance use treatment model.

This program operates within the Probation facilities, the youth receive a comprehensive array of services designed to support behavioral change, academic progress, and successful community reentry, services include:

- Behavioral health treatment to address mental health and substance use needs.
- Integrated case assessment and planning involving unit staff, education staff, and collateral resources.
- Multidisciplinary education lab that provides computerized diagnostic evaluation of reading, language arts, and math competencies.
- Occupational training and job placement services.
- Assessment of academic skills and development of an individualized plan to address skill deficits by a school counselor.
- Expanded use of the Just Beginnings parenting education curriculum.
- Mentoring and counseling support services during post-release.
- Monthly case conferences with the youth and treatment team to discuss youth's progress in the program and transition plan for release back into the community.
- Regular monitoring of youthful offenders' success utilizing incentives as included in the Probation Juvenile Incentives program approved by the Board of Supervisors.
- Collaboration between County partners, such as HCA, Probation Department, and community partners.

These combined services strengthen program effectiveness, promote continuity of care, and support youth in achieving long-term stability and successful reintegration into the community.

#### Program Successes:

A youth at the Youth Guidance Center faced challenges in peer interactions, following staff directives, and maintaining safety behaviors, leading to additional custody time. A history of complex trauma contributed to difficulties in trusting adults. Despite initial reluctance, the youth gradually began participating in therapy and expressing concerns about their future, personal challenges, and the importance of family connections.

Through consistent therapeutic engagement, the youth gained insight into their behaviors and the critical role of maintaining sobriety. They were subsequently assessed for substance use residential treatment and were granted an early release from custody, contingent upon continued participation in behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment services.

The youth successfully completed their residential treatment program and have continued participating in outpatient services. They are currently employed, attending college courses, and maintaining stability in the community, reflecting meaningful progress and the positive long-term impact of coordinated intervention and support services.

Another youth enrolled at Youth Guidance Center expressed interest in addressing trauma, recognizing how their traumatic experiences, substance use, and mental health symptoms were interconnected. They entered treatment with significant hypervigilance, anxiety, and nightmares, and agreed to adjunct trauma-focused care, participating consistently in EMDR. Through ongoing integrated case assessment meetings, Probation and the clinical team collaborated closely to align support around their mental health, substance use needs, and overall stability. Since beginning this coordinated care, the youth has reported substantial reductions in anxiety, hypervigilance, and nightmares, describing a shift from feeling unsafe and distressed to experiencing markedly improved emotional regulation and safety. Their strong engagement, paired with effective cross-agency collaboration, has contributed to meaningful progress in their recovery and well-being.

### 1. Program Name:

Youth Reporting Centers (YRCs)

### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The YRCs are supported by research indicating that structured day-reporting models, combined with multidisciplinary services, can reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for probation youth. YRCs integrate academic instruction provided by the OCDE and individual and group therapy delivered by HCA clinicians, ensuring that education and behavioral health needs are addressed simultaneously. The Probation Department implements evidence-based and

cognitive-behavioral interventions, including EPICS and Decision Points, both of which are shown to reduce criminogenic thinking and support sustained behavior change.

Referrals to the YRCs in lieu of filing formal probation violations align with diversion strategies demonstrated to reduce deeper system involvement and increase youth engagement in services. By combining supervision, therapeutic support, and consistent accountability within a structured setting, YRCs provide an evidence-informed framework for addressing risk factors such as substance use, truancy, and negative peer associations. This integrated approach supports improved stability, enhances protective factors, and promotes successful outcomes for justice-involved youth.

### 3. Description:

The YRCs aim to reduce reliance on secure detention by offering a highly structured, community-based alternative to confinement. Staff work to promote lawful and productive lifestyles by providing evidence-informed interventions, accountability, and developmentally appropriate programming.

Operating within the local community, the YRCs give youth the opportunity to address problematic behaviors and develop skills necessary to comply with court orders and terms of probation. Youth participate in a full academic program and engage in afternoon group counseling, individual counseling, and random drug testing, with an emphasis on achieving and maintaining sobriety. On-site job coaches assist youth in seeking, obtaining, and sustaining employment and accessing vocational training. Through this model, youth receive intensive support during the day and return home under structured supervision rather than being confined in a juvenile facility.

The YRCs utilize a multidisciplinary clinical team to deliver behavioral health services aligned with the program's mission and goals. Services include:

- Behavioral health treatment to address mental health and co-occurring substance use needs.
- Trauma-informed assessment and treatment for co-occurring disorders.
- Family support services and parenting education.
- Peer and parent support services.
- Comprehensive case management.
- Substance use education, support, and linkage to substance use treatment.
- Gang intervention counseling.

- Community service and enrichment activities.
- Transportation between home and the program site.
- Structured supervision both-site and in the community.
- Regular monitoring of youthful offenders' success utilizing incentives as included in the Probation Juvenile Incentives program approved by the Board of Supervisors.
- Collaboration between county partners, such as OCDE, HCA, and Probation Department.

#### Program Successes:

Youth who participate in the Youth Reporting Center (YRC) program continue to demonstrate strong outcomes that directly support the Probation Department goals and align with JIRBG priorities, including enhanced well-being, academic progress, and increased pro-social engagement. This year, nine youths earned their high school diploma while enrolled in the YRC program. Many entered the program with a pattern of probation violations and were significantly behind in school credits.

Consistent with JIRBG focus areas (community-based interventions, reducing recidivism, strengthening family stability, and expanding access to behavioral health services) Probation, OCDE, and HCA staff work collaboratively to ensure that each youth maintains regular school attendance and receives continuous mental health and substance use support.

One youth was court-ordered to complete 45 days in the YRC program due to a sustained probation violation. At the time of enrollment, the youth and family were experiencing homelessness. The multidisciplinary YRC team provided immediate referrals for housing, food resources, and family therapy, and ensured access to individual therapeutic services that supported the youth in developing healthier coping strategies and improved emotional regulation.

Through this coordinated, community-based support, consistent with JIRBG priorities, the youth earned sufficient credits to return to a comprehensive high school and remains on track for graduation. The youth successfully completed the program and probation supervision was terminated, reflecting positive progress toward long-term stability and reduced system involvement.

Another youth was referred to the Youth Reporting Center (YRC) after long-term instability involving housing changes, Social Services involvement, school disruptions, and inconsistent mental health support. Early in the program, the youth shared that YRC's structured environment felt supportive, and ongoing collaboration among Probation, the Health Care Agency (HCA), and YRC staff helped identify risks and implement preventative plans that kept the youth engaged and out of custody. Recognizing the youth's progress and need for stability, the CASA advocate, supported by the treatment team, requested an extended program stay, which the Court approved so the youth could continue benefiting from educational consistency and trauma-focused therapy. With coordinated support from YRC staff, Probation, HCA, and the

Orange County Department of Education, the youth attended school consistently, engaged in therapy, navigated housing changes, maintained sobriety, adopted healthier coping strategies, and began working toward competitive employment. The youth regularly express appreciation for the structure, encouragement, and collaborative support that contributed to their growth and stability.

### 1. Program Name:

School Mobile Assessment and Response Team

### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The School Mobile Assessment and Response Team (SMART) is an early intervention and prevention program. SMART is focused on involvement with families and youth to prevent school-based violence and delinquency. The use of a threat assessment tool assists in determining the appropriate level of intervention needed. Family support, resource referrals, and diversion have all been shown to be effective in reducing delinquent behaviors.

### 3. Description:

SMART was established to reduce crime and violence by youths on, near, or affecting school campuses in Orange County. SMART works in conjunction with Orange County Municipal Police Departments, various collaborative partners, and agencies on incidents related to violence, threats, possession and/or use of weapons, unstable behaviors and suicidal actions or tendencies. SMART members respond day or night to calls from school and community personnel reporting violence or threats of violence. Each call for service results in an assessment of the situation, a threat assessment as needed (including home searches for weapons) and referrals to law enforcement, diversion programs, or other alternative services.

The goal of SMART is to prevent and/or detect the precursors to violence through education and awareness, preempting likely instances of violence through threat assessment, and responding quickly and effectively to violence on or around school campuses.

Services provided within SMART include the following:

- Conduct threat assessments at the school and/or community site.
- Refer at-risk youth to appropriate community resources for assessment and intervention services.
- Investigate criminal acts and make arrests if necessary or recommend to a diversion program.

- Maintain safety and security to the school and return staff and students to their daily routine.
- Collaboration between county partners, such as Orange County Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, District Attorney, Health Care Agency, and community partners (local school districts).

#### Program Successes:

In September 2025, SMART responded to a North Orange County high school regarding a telephonic bomb threat. The caller stated a bomb would detonate on campus and that they were on their way to campus with a rifle, prompting a large-scale emergency response by the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSO). The school was placed on a lockdown while OCSO patrol deputies, the bomb squad, SWAT, Air Support, and SMART responded. Although it was eventually determined that there was no active threat to the school, the threat resulted in significant panic among students, staff, and parents and disrupted school activities. SMART later determined the caller used Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and a virtual private network (VPN) to disguise their identity. Multiple emergency disclosure requests and search warrants that were obtained by SMART revealed the caller's identity and location in the state of New York. SMART coordinated with multiple local and federal law enforcement agencies and learned the caller had conducted several other telephonic threats to schools in other jurisdictions on the same day. It was also later determined that the suspect had been extorting an uninvolved student at the North Orange County high school, providing additional context for the motive behind the threat. As a result of the investigation, a juvenile suspect was identified and located in New York and taken into custody on multiple charges related to false reporting of an emergency.

In January 2026, SMART was notified of an assault that took place at a high school in North Orange County. The assault involved an adult suspect, who entered campus shortly after dismissal, and violently assaulted a special education student inside of a bathroom resulting in injuries to the student. SMART responded and through further investigation determined that numerous felony crimes were committed during the incident. These included, felony child abuse, assault with a deadly weapon, criminal threats, and false imprisonment.

The suspect was positively identified by the victim and numerous witnesses. The suspect was identified as a documented gang member on Post Release Community Supervision in lieu of serving a full jail sentence for crimes he was previously convicted of in the State of California. The suspect was unable to be immediately located, prompting SMART to collaborate with local agency apprehension detectives, School Resource Officers, Patrol Officers, and Orange County Probation Officers who assisted in locating the suspect. SMART obtained a warrant for the

suspect's arrest, and he was taken into custody within one week of the incident resulting in numerous felony charges being filed against the suspect. SMART's thorough investigation and tenacity in finding a dangerous suspect is a testament to their dedication in keeping our school communities safe.

### 1. Program Name:

Truancy Response Program

### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The Truancy Response Program (TRP) focuses on family education, support, and resource referrals to reduce truancy. Parent education and support programs have been shown to have a statistically significant impact on recidivism. Truancy has also been shown to be a stepping-stone to substance use and criminal behavior. By providing families with supportive services aimed at reducing truancy, criminal behavior is reduced.

### 3. Description:

TRP is a collaborative, three-tiered program designed to address chronic absenteeism in Orange County schools and reduce the number of youths involved in the juvenile justice system. TRP focuses on chronically truant youth and their families who have failed to respond to the traditional efforts at the school district level. Reducing school truancies and absences increases the chances of future success for the youth. By prioritizing youth at risk for delinquency, the TRP aims to reduce the number of youths who later commit crime resulting in a formal 602 application. TRP provides progression of interventions up to, and including, formal court action.

Services provided within TRP include three (3) tiers:

First Tier School Attendance Review Boards (SARB) and Parent Meetings:

- Mandatory attendance of truant youth and their parents at school-based group parent meetings conducted by the District Attorney.
- District Attorney attendance at SARB meetings based on availability and invitation by individual districts.
- Community Partners attend SARB based on availability and invitation by individual districts.
- Referrals for services, such as counseling, parenting skills, and basic housing and shelter needs are provided by collaborating agencies and individual districts during SARB.

Second Tier CBO informal intake and diversion:

- Referral to CBO from SARB for a TRP intake evaluation for informal handling.

- Placement in one of several "pre-court" TRP interventions monitored by CBO.
- Participation of both youth and parents in a Parent Empowerment Program workshop designed to coach parents in effective parenting and support skills for their children.
- Referrals for services, such as counseling, parenting skills, and basic housing and shelter needs are provided for truancy court families by collaborating agencies.

#### Third Tier Formal Filing:

- Referral by School Districts to DA for potential filing.
- Prosecution of parents and/or students, depending on age of the student. If parents plead guilty, the court can order fines. If students admit the petition, the court can order fines, community service, and/or a truancy prevention program.
- Collaboration between court partners, such as District Attorney, Juvenile Court, SSA, Public Defender, and community partners (Waymakers, Boy's and Girl's Club of Garden Grove, Orange County Department of Education, and local school districts).

### 1. Program Name:

Decentralized Intake/Sheriff's Prevention Program

### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

The Decentralized Intake (DCI) Program is modeled after diversion programs, which attempt to minimize the effects of labeling associated with offending and limit the opportunities youth have to associate with antisocial peers by reducing their contact and exposure to the juvenile justice system. Evidence-based principles of the Risk/Needs/Responsivity model support minimizing intervention by the juvenile justice system for lower risk offenders.

### 3. Description:

DCI increases the level of counseling and diversion services for at-risk youth in the unincorporated areas and cities serviced by the Sheriff's Department. DCI staff offers timely assessment and a progression of intervention services to youth and their families near their homes. The primary goal of DCI is to reduce the number of at-risk youth that progress further in the juvenile justice system through prompt assessment and linkage to appropriate services at the earliest possible point.

Services provided within DCI include:

- Expedited processing of youth arrested and referred to needed resources.
- Referral of DCI youth and their families to local resources, programs, and classes for appropriate intervention services when possible.

- Informal consultations among the on-site operations staff for purposes of making more informed decisions about certain cases.
- Collaboration between county partners, such as Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, and community partners (Pepperdine Resource, Youth Diversion and Education (PRYDE).

### 1. Program Name:

Juvenile Recovery Court (JRC)

### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

JRC is founded on a nationally recognized model in which an interactive judicial officer leads an interdisciplinary team—including the District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, HCA Contracted Full Service Partnership providers, and parents—to collaboratively address youth substance use challenges. This team-based, problem-solving approach has demonstrated effectiveness nationally in reducing substance use and improving youth outcomes.

While local evaluation efforts are ongoing, national research supports the effectiveness of the JRC model, and the County continues to track outcomes to strengthen program implementation.

### 3. Description:

JRC is a collaborative program designed for youthful offenders demonstrate an escalating pattern of drug and/or alcohol use. JRC provides intensive supervision and substance use treatment as an alternative to incarceration, with the goals of increasing sobriety, reducing recidivism, and decreasing reliance on detention. The program consists of four phases, beginning with a 30-day orientation period. Youth may remain in the program if they continue to benefit from its structure and services. Upon successful completion of JRC, wardship may be terminated and all charges and stayed time may be dismissed.

Key components of JRC include:

- Weekly reporting to the probation officer for progress checks and drug testing.
- Regular attendance in school with no behavior challenges reported.
- Compliance with all court-ordered terms and conditions including weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly court appearances for progress reviews.
- Regular monitoring of youthful offenders' success utilizing incentives as included in the Probation Juvenile Incentives program approved by the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

Waymakers' Collaborative Court Full-Service Partnership (CCFSP) program is a program funded through a contract with Health Care Agency, Behavioral Health Services, and Children and Youth Services. CCFSP provides culturally competent in-home and community-based services for youth ages 12 to 25 struggling with mental illness and/or substance use challenges. A multidisciplinary team delivers assessment, case planning, linkage, coordination, and therapeutic interventions designed to support wellness, recovery, and stability across all life domains. Services emphasize pro-social engagement, self-efficacy, and emotional resilience to help youth succeed in their homes, schools, workplaces, and communities. CCFSP is the primary provider of behavioral health services for JRC.

Key components of JRC include:

- Individual, group and family therapy
- Services are provided in the home and in the field, including schools and community settings, to help increase accessibility and engagement for clients and families that experience transportation or scheduling difficulties
- Psychiatry and medication support
- On-site services and resources at Waymakers' Guidance Center, including therapeutic groups, diverse workshops, classes, and special events to promote pro-social activities, life skills development, and emotional resilience.

Program Successes:

A youth entered the JRC program after spending several years on probation and cycling in and out of juvenile hall. The primary substance involved was fentanyl, and at first, the youth displayed defiance and reluctance to engage in services through the CCFSP. The JRC team provided intensive, consistent support, and over time the youth began attending meetings regularly and fully participating in Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). The youth demonstrated honesty about substance use, showed increased accountability, and developed healthier interpersonal skills. With sustained effort and engagement, the youth achieved sobriety and successfully graduated from the JRC program.

Another youth entered the JRC program following multiple law violations connected to substance use challenges and limited family support. While in custody, they reengaged in services, began family therapy, and were referred to Waymakers CCFSP to support their reentry and continue the progress they began while detained. Upon enrolling in JRC, they initially struggled to balance family responsibilities with prioritizing their recovery. Through consistent check-ins and coordinated support, the Waymakers team made timely therapeutic adjustments as their needs evolved and supported their active participation in intensive outpatient substance use treatment, MAT services, individual therapy, and parenting classes to develop healthier coping strategies and reduce anxiety related to becoming a young parent. Over time, they maintained sobriety, experiencing stabilization of their mental health symptoms, and

became steadily more engaged in the community. They secured employment, built a reliable support network, and grew increasingly comfortable in reaching out when they needed help. After successfully completing JRC, they continue to participate in services offered through Waymakers and other community-based providers to sustain their progress.

1. Program Name:

2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

3. Description:

## Part III. Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) – (Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1961(a).

### A. Strategy for Non-707(b) Offenders

Describe your county's overall strategy for dealing with non-707(b) youthful offenders who are not eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice. Explain how this Plan relates to or supports that strategy.

The County of Orange Probation Department addresses non-707(b) youthful offenders through a structured continuum of graduated interventions designed to promote accountability, reduce recidivism, and support rehabilitation within the local juvenile justice system. This continuum includes secure detention, when necessary, as well as community-based supervision options such as youth reporting centers, electronic monitoring for at-home pre-adjudicated youth and for adjudicated youth as necessary, and foster care placement when appropriate. Across all settings, youth receive individualized treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to their needs. Probation staff are trained in Evidence-Based Practices and use validated risk/needs assessment tools to guide case planning and match youth to the most effective level of supervision and intervention.

The Probation Departments approach is further supported through strong collaboration with CBOs, faith-based partners, and other service providers, ensuring youth have access to behavioral health services, mentoring, educational support, family resources, and other pro-social opportunities.

#### Plan Alignment

This Plan reinforces the Probation Department's strategy by promoting a coordinated, evidence-based framework for supervising and serving non-707(b) youth. It supports consistent case planning, targeted interventions, and interagency collaboration, all of which contribute to reducing recidivism and improving outcomes for youth who remain under local jurisdiction.

### B. Regional Agreements

Describe any regional agreements or arrangements to be supported with YOBG funds.

Orange County does not currently have regional agreements as part of its YOBG funded services. Being a large urban county, the needs of the youth in Orange County are significant and there is no need for a regional approach to services with other counties currently.

## C. Funded Programs, Placements, Services, Strategies and/or System Enhancements

Using the templates below, provide details for each program, strategy, and/or system enhancement that will be funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), identifying any program that is co-funded with Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds.

To include multiple programs, copy and paste the template fields "1. Program Name," "2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based," and "3. Description" as many times as necessary.

### YOBG Funded Program, Placement, Service, Strategy and/or System Enhancement

This template should be copied as many times as needed to capture every program, placement, service, strategy, and system enhancement you plan to fund next year.

#### 1. Program Name:

Pre-Detention and Pre-Disposition Program (PPP)

#### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

N/A

#### 3. Description:

The PPP provides a continuum of strategies designed to reduce the use of secure detention while maintaining community safety. The program offers electronic monitoring and structured supervision for youth who remain at home while awaiting adjudication of their cases. A validated risk assessment instrument is used to determine which youth can be safely released under this model, ensuring secure detention beds are reserved for high-risk offenders.

All youth in the program are supervised using electronic monitoring equipment, allowing pre-adjudicated youth to remain in a community-based setting rather than being housed with individuals assessed as higher risk. Participants are held accountable for complying with program expectations, including attending school according to their assigned schedule and participating in all court-ordered counseling.

Services provided within the PPP include:

- Supporting youth in the community and in their homes.
- Face-to-face contact between officers and youth assigned to their caseloads.
- Risk assessment tools used to screen youth for eligibility in the program.

- Effective Practices in Community Supervisions (EPICS).
- Electronic Monitoring, which includes 24/7 GPS and radio frequency monitoring for select youthful offenders as a deterrent and enhancement tool in community supervision.
- Regular monitoring of youthful offenders' success utilizing incentives as included in the Probation Juvenile Incentives program approved by the Board of Supervisors.

#### Program Successes:

A youth was released to the PPP pending a new law violation. During the period of PPP supervision, the youth demonstrated consistent progress and cooperation. The youth reported to scheduled office visits as directed, consistently tested negative for substance use, and maintained appropriate behavior during both office contacts and the home visit. Although graffiti-related items were found in the home early on, the youth complied immediately with directives, and no further concerns arose. Counseling appointments were attended as ordered, and engagement remained steady, with the youth's family also seeking supportive services. The youth reported no issues at home or school, maintained communication, and adhered to GPS requirements. Positive efforts were acknowledged during a recent visit, and the youth was issued an incentive gift card for following PPP expectations and to encourage pro-social behavior. Overall, the youth demonstrated meaningful improvement, accountability, and steady compliance throughout supervision, ultimately completing PPP successfully.

#### 1. Program Name:

Juvenile Facilities Programming

#### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

N/A

#### 3. Description:

Juvenile Facilities Programming provides institutional and camp programming at the Juvenile Hall facility and Camp facilities. Each facility delivers similar evidence-based cognitive-behavioral treatment programs designed to support rehabilitation and reduce recidivism. Youth participate in a tiered phase level system that offers a continuum of responses appropriate for in-custody treatment.

Camps serve youth based on age, gender, criminogenic risk factors and/or commitment length. Specialized programs within the facilities support youth who require an enhanced transition and reentry services. These programs include, but are not limited to, gang intervention, cognitive behavioral treatment, and other youth development focused interventions. Progressive

Rehabilitation in a Dynamic Environment (PRIDE) and Leadership Education through Active Development (LEAD) are two programs that are provided within the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA).

Services provided within Juvenile Facilities Programming include:

- Cognitive behavioral treatment programs to assist in-custody youth with their rehabilitation.
- Aggression Replacement Training.
- Decision Points and Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS).
- Just Beginnings parenting program and baby visits sponsored by the Youth Law Center (available to all eligible youth).
- Individual and group counseling.
- Therapy provided by a licensed clinician.
- Drug/Alcohol & Mental Health counseling.
- Educational & Vocational services to address each youth's social and behavioral needs.
- Assistance for college enrollment, employment, and family reunification.
- Other evidence-based programming.
- Regular monitoring of youthful offenders' success, including incentives as included in Probation Juvenile Incentives program as approved by the Board of Supervisors.
- Collaboration between county partners, such as HCA, Probation Department, community partners (Department of Education, Project Kinship, Waymakers, Santiago Canyon College), and the Orange County Bar Foundation.

Program Successes:

The juvenile facilities provide access to the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) Program via a college partnership to expand meaningful educational opportunities for system-involved youth, consistent with priorities that emphasize access to rehabilitative, developmentally appropriate, community-focused services. Last year, one participant successfully earned an Associate of Arts degree and is now attending a California State University. This participant chose education as a pathway toward long-term stability, was recently recognized on the Dean's List, and is on track to earn a bachelor's degree in 2026.

Two additional participants in the ADT Program are on track to complete their Associate of Arts degrees at the end of the Spring semester, and both have been accepted into a California State University. The ADT Program serves as a key component in advancing JJRBG goals by supporting

educational attainment, reducing barriers to postsecondary enrollment, and promoting pro-social, community-based outcomes. With continued support from the Probation Department and Project Rebound, these youth are positioned to begin classes at a California State University in 2026, further demonstrating the effectiveness of JIRBG-aligned strategies that place education as a pathway to long-term success and reduced system involvement.

### 1. Program Name:

Community Supervision

### 2. Evidence Upon Which It Is Based:

N/A

### 3. Description:

Formal supervision provides community-based supervision for youth who have been declared wards of the juvenile court. Deputy probation officers (DPOs) monitor youth within the community focusing on the youth's risks and needs to ensure the youth is complying with the terms and conditions of the court and ensuring the youth has necessary supportive services. The primary goal is to provide reentry services and effective supervision to ensure the youths successful integration within the community, balanced with community safety.

The level of supervision is based on individual assessments completed on each youth, focusing on risk reduction and connections within the youth community to assist in fulfilling an individual's needs. Probation officers are trained in the use of Evidence-Based Practices and Cognitive Behavioral Techniques to assist the youth in thinking differently about their actions and influencing positive decisions related to their choices and behavior.

Services provided within Community Supervision include:

- Core Correction Practices (CCP), Thinking for a Change (T4C), EPICS, and Decision Points, which assist youth in successful reentry into the community.
- Compliance with court orders, office visits, home checks, search and seizure, and random drug testing.
- Electronic Monitoring can be an option, this includes 24/7 GPS monitoring for appropriate youth as a deterrent and as an enhanced supervision tool.
- Behaviors and needs of the youth and their families are addressed through community-based referrals and through supportive case management.
- DPOs utilize graduated sanctions and incentives to encourage appropriate personal behavior and compliance with court orders.

County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan

2026- 27



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## Introduction

Senate Bill 823 (SB823), also known as the “Juvenile Justice Realignment: Office of Youth and Community Restoration,” was chaptered on September 30, 2020. Amongst several statutory changes, Chapter 1.7 (commencing with Welfare and Institutions Code (“WIC”) section 1990) was added to Division 2.5 of the WIC to establish a block grant program for the purpose of providing county-based custody, care, and supervision of youth who were eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure. Additionally, WIC section 1995 set forth guidelines for counties interested in becoming eligible for block grant funding.

As a result of SB823, the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (OCJJCC), during its regularly scheduled meeting on February 25, 2021, approved changes to its bylaws to include the creation of the OCJJCC’s SB823 Subcommittee. Nominations for the new subcommittee were then entertained by the OCJJCC Chair. During the same meeting, the OCJJCC unanimously approved individuals representing the agencies and entities identified in WIC section 1995, subdivision (b) to be part of its new SB823 Subcommittee.

The newly formed SB823 Subcommittee held its first public meeting on April 29, 2021. Over the course of several months, subcommittee members performed the needed analyses, engaged the public, and developed its local plan. The group presented its original draft SB823 plan during the regularly scheduled meeting of the OCJJCC on Thursday, October 28, 2021. The following plan is responsive to the aspects set forth in WIC section 1995, subdivisions (d)(1) through (d)(8) and is the culmination of the collective discussions and partnership between the juvenile court, community, and system stakeholders. This plan will address the needs of youth within the target population, improving the outcomes for success and reducing rates of recidivism.

The OCJJCC SB823 Subcommittee convened to discuss and update the County’s JIRBG plan on March 3, 2026, and March 17, 2026. On March 17, 2026, the subcommittee approved the 2026-2027 plan.

## Allocations

Pursuant to WIC section 1991, subdivision (a), and commencing with the 2021-22 fiscal year, and annually thereafter, counties will receive an allocation for use by the county to provide the “appropriate rehabilitative housing and supervision services for the population specified” in WIC section 1990, subdivision (b). The plan required in WIC section 1995 shall be considered by the Board of Supervisors in making allocations and any entity receiving direct allocation of funding from the Board of Supervisors for any secure residential placement for court ordered detention will be subject to existing regulations. “A local public agency that has primary responsibility for prosecuting or making arrests or detentions shall not provide rehabilitative and supervision services for the population specified in subdivision (b) of Section 1990 or receive funding pursuant to this section.” (WIC Section 1991, subd. (a).)

## Eligibility for Funds

For eligibility of allocated funds under WIC section 1991, counties must create a subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council. In Orange County, that council is the OCJCC which has been in existence since 1996. The subcommittee of the coordinating council must then “develop a plan which describes the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitation and supervision services for the population described in subdivision (b) of [WIC] section 1990.” (WIC section 1995, subd. (a).)

Pursuant to WIC section 1995, subdivision (b), the OCJCC’s subcommittee must be comprised of the following: The chief probation officer, as chair, a representative from the district attorney’s office, public defender’s office, the department of social services, the department of mental health, the county office of education or a school district, and a representative from the court. Also necessary to membership are no fewer than three community members who have experience providing community-based youth services, youth justice advocates who have expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system or have been directly involved in the system.

The OCJCC’s SB823 Subcommittee is composed of the following individuals:

Agency	Name & Title	Email	Phone Number
Orange County Probation Department	Daniel Hernandez Chief Probation Officer	<a href="mailto:Daniel.Hernandez@prob.ocgov.com">Daniel.Hernandez@prob.ocgov.com</a>	(714) 645-7001
Orange County Probation Department	Jessica Johnson Chief Deputy Probation Officer	<a href="mailto:Jessica.Johnson@prob.ocgov.com">Jessica.Johnson@prob.ocgov.com</a>	(714) 645-7004
Orange County District Attorney	Katherine David Assistant District Attorney	<a href="mailto:Katherine.David@ocdapa.org">Katherine.David@ocdapa.org</a>	(714) 935-7624
Orange County Public Defender	Darren Thompson Chief Deputy Public Defender	<a href="mailto:Darren.Thompson@ocpubdef.com">Darren.Thompson@ocpubdef.com</a>	(657) 251-8770
Orange County Social Services Agency	Scott Burdick Human Services Deputy Director	<a href="mailto:Scott.Burdick@ssa.ocgov.com">Scott.Burdick@ssa.ocgov.com</a>	(714) 245-6131
Orange County Health Care Agency	Dawn Smith Asst. Deputy Director	<a href="mailto:DawnSmith@ochca.com">DawnSmith@ochca.com</a>	(714) 834-5015
Orange County Department of Education	Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin Chief of Alternative Education, ACCESS	<a href="mailto:mpoulin@ocde.us">mpoulin@ocde.us</a>	(714) 245-6721 ext. 6721
Orange County Juvenile Court	Hon. Craig E. Arthur Juvenile Presiding	<a href="mailto:carthur@occourts.org">carthur@occourts.org</a>	(657) 622-5502
Community Member Waymakers	Hether Benjamin Chief Program Officer	<a href="mailto:hbenjamin@waymakersoc.org">hbenjamin@waymakersoc.org</a>	(949) 250-0488 ext. 254
Community Member Project Youth OC	Laura Marcum Executive Director	<a href="mailto:laura@pyoc.org">laura@pyoc.org</a>	(714) 480-1925 ext. 101
Community Member Project Kinship	Steven Kim Executive Director	<a href="mailto:steven@projectkinship.org">steven@projectkinship.org</a>	(714) 909-5225
Community Member Project Kinship	Raymond Sanchez Director of Peer Navigation	<a href="mailto:raymond@projectkinship.org">raymond@projectkinship.org</a>	(714) 941-8009

## Target Population

*(WIC section 1995(d)(1): Provide a description of the county's realignment target population including numbers of youth served, disaggregated by factors including their ages, offense and offense histories, gender, race or ethnicity, and other characteristics, and by the programs, placements, or facilities to which they are referred.)*

In fiscal year 2024-2025, the Orange County Probation Department supervised 380 active youth who met the requirements for SB823 by being adjudicated for WIC section 707(b) offenses and were between the ages of 14 and 17 at the time of the offense. These 380 SB823 youth were wards under the jurisdiction of the Orange County Juvenile Court. This includes all who have returned from the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) who remain under active supervision. The most serious 707(b) offense for each youth is listed below:

Offense or Offense History	Number of Youths
Arson	0
Assault	186
Attempted Homicide	27
Homicide	16
Kidnapping	<12
Robbery	138
Sex Offense	<12
Use of Firearm	0
Violence Against Aged	0
Weapon of Mass Destruction	0
Witness Tampering	<12
Other	0

Of the 380 SB823 youth supervised by the Orange County Probation Department, 34% identified as male (with 59% of gender identity not collected); 80% were Hispanic; and 6% were 20 years old or older at adjudication of the first, active case with at least one sustained 707(b) offense.

Gender	Number of Youths
Male	128
Female	26
Non-binary	0
Declined to identify/Did not collect	226

Race or Ethnicity	Number of Youths
White/Caucasian	21
Hispanic or LatinX	305
Black/African American	29
Asian	15
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<12
Multi-Racial	0
Other	<12
Unknown	<12

Age at adjudication	Number of Youths
14	42
15	86
16	104
17	84
18	33
19	<12
20	<12
21	<12
22	0
23	<12
24	<12
25 and older	12

The Orange County Probation Department completes an Initial Risk and Needs Assessment within 45 days after adjudication. Reassessments occur every six months. For SB823 youth active in FY 24-25, 83% were assessed to have substance use history and 67% with alcohol use history. In addition, 68% of youth associated with gangs. Overall, 82% were classified as high risk on their Initial Risk Assessment with an average risk score of 21.5. Any score 15 and above is considered high risk.

**Initial Risk Assessment**

SB823 Youth	380
<b>Initial Risk Factors</b>	
Average Initial Risk Score*	21.5
<b>Initial Risk Classification</b>	%
High	82.3
Medium	14.2
Low	3.5
<b>Prior Record</b>	%
No prior arrests or applications for petitions	45.8
Prior arrests, applications for petition or informal probation	37.7
Prior petitions sustained	16.5
<b>Institutional Commitment or Out of Home Placement</b>	%
None	37.1
One or more	62.9
<b>Substance Use (Drugs)</b>	%
No known use; occasional use	17.1
Occasional excessive use	57.1
Dependency	25.8
<b>Alcohol Use</b>	%
No known use; occasional use	32.8
Occasional excessive use	51.6
Dependency	15.6
<b>Parental Control/Influence</b>	%
Generally effective	3.2
Inconsistent/ineffective	51.9
Little or no control	44.9
<b>School Discipline/Employment Problems</b>	%
Attending school, training and/or working	21.7
School attendance or behavior problems	22.6
Truancy or illegal behavior	43.2
Not attending school/not working	12.5

<b>Learning/Academic Performance Problems</b>	<b>%</b>
No significant problems	31.9
Poor academic performance	53.6
Diagnosed learning disability or special class	14.5
<b>Runaway/Escape Behavior</b>	<b>%</b>
None	65.5
Runaway/escape risk	34.5
<b>Negative Peer Influence</b>	<b>%</b>
None	4.3
Negative peer influence or loner	27.6
Gang association	68.1
<i>*Juvenile Initial Risk Classification Score Ranges: 0-5 (Low); 6-14 (Medium); 15+ (High)</i>	

Of the 380 SB823 youth supervised by the Orange County Probation Department in FY24-25, less than 12 former minors were ordered to SYTF. These former minors were ordered to immediate step-down, as reflected in the table below. Three-hundred three (303) youth have either completed or are serving a court-ordered commitment. For these 303 youth with commitments ordered, they had a total of 346 petitions containing at least one sustained 707(b) offense where a commitment was ordered. The table below shows the first commitment ordered for a sustained 707(b) offense for youth active in FY24-25.

<b>Placement and/or Facility (Please provide the placement or facility names below)</b>	<b>Number of Youths</b>
<b>1. SYTF to immediate step-down</b>	
<i>Release to community</i>	<12
<b>2. Court-Ordered Commitment Days (SB 823, non-SYTF)</b>	
<i>30 or less</i>	16
<i>31-90</i>	96
<i>91-180</i>	89
<i>181-364</i>	34
<i>365-600</i>	25
<i>601-999</i>	14
<i>1,000 or more</i>	29

For the 303 SB823, non-SYTF youth, the average commitment length of the first 707(b) commitment ordered was 239 days; the median commitment length was 120 days. Approximately 37% of commitments were 90 days or less, and 66% were less than 6 months. Approximately 262 of the commitments ordered were one year or longer, and the longest commitment time ordered was 3,359 days.

The Orange County Probation Department gathered the following target population information for the 380 SB823 youth that were active during FY2024-2025:

Program (Please provide the name of specific programs below)	Number of Youths
Cognitive Behavioral Training services (Project Kinship)	96
Restorative Circles (Project Kinship)	236
Re-Entry Success (Project Kinship)	144
System Navigator/Peer Mentor services (Project Kinship)	127
Culinary (Open Gate)	71
Life Skills program (Partners4Wellness)	31
Automotive program (Skills Up)	<12

In Fiscal Year 2024- 2025, 13 youth had transfer hearings. Less than 12 youth were transferred to Adult Court. The majority of cases remained in Juvenile Court.

### Additional Target Population Information

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

#### Data Summary of Active SB823 Youth on February 10, 2026

In addition to the FY2024-2025 data presented above, the following data offers a one-day snapshot of the SB823 population in Orange County on February 10, 2026. On February 10, 2026, the Orange County Probation Department supervised 227 active youth who were adjudicated for WIC section 707(b) offenses and were between the ages of 14 and 17 at the time of the offense. Fifty-five (55) youth had two or more 707(b) offenses. The total number of offenses are listed below:

<b>Department of Justice (DOJ) Hierarchy</b>		
<b>Offense</b>	<b>Total number of 707(b) Offenses</b>	<b>Number of Youth by the Most Serious 707(b) Offense (per youth)</b>
Homicide	17	16
Attempted Homicide	20	≥12
Robbery	94	59
Assault	178	135
Sex Offense	5	0
Kidnapping	1	<12
Witness Tampering	6	<12
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>227</b>

Of the 227 SB823 youth supervised by the Orange County Probation Department, 58% identified as male; 82% were Hispanic; and 25% were 20 years old or older as of February 10, 2026.

<b>SB823 Demographics: Snapshot as of February 10, 2026 (N = 227)</b>		
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Gender</b>		
<i>Male</i>	130	58%
<i>Female</i>	26	11%
<i>Non-Binary</i>	0	0
<i>Declined to identify/ Did not collect</i>	71	31%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
<i>Hispanic</i>	186	82%
<i>Black</i>	12	5%
<i>Asian/Pacific Islander</i>	<12	
<i>White</i>	17	8%
<i>Other/Unknown</i>	<12	

Of the 227 SB823 youth supervised by the Orange County Probation Department, 46 were in custody on February 10, 2026, including 20 youth at the Youth Guidance Center or the Youth Leadership Academy. The remaining 181 youth were supervised in the community.

<b>Location of Active SB823 Youth on February 10, 2026</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
In Custody	46	20.3%
<i>Juvenile Hall</i>	26	
<i>Camps (Youth Guidance Center or Youth Leadership Academy)</i>	20	
Not in Custody (Supervised in the Community)	181	79.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>100%</b>

*Data Summary of Pending SB823 Youth on February 10, 2026*

On February 10, 2026, 124 youth had pending 707(b) charges and were between the ages of 14 and 17 at the time of the offense. These youth are SB823 eligible upon adjudication of their WIC section 707(b) charges. Seventeen (17) of these youth have been adjudicated of 707(b) offense(s) in the past and are also included in the active snapshot above as well as here. Forty-two (42) youth had two or more 707(b) offenses pending as of February 10, 2026. The total number of pending 707(b) offenses are listed below:

<b>Department of Justice (DOJ) Hierarchy</b>		
<b>Offense</b>	<b>Total Number of 707(b) offenses</b>	<b>Most Serious 707(b) Offense (per youth)</b>
Homicide	20	18
Attempted Homicide	23	<12
Robbery	46	30
Assault	89	58
Sex Offense	10	<12
Kidnapping	0	0
Witness Tampering	4	<12
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>124</b>

Of the 124 pending SB823 youth, 22% identified as male; 65% were Hispanic; and 18% were 20 years old or older as of February 10, 2026.

<b>Pending SB823 Demographics: Snapshot as of February 10, 2026</b>		
<b>(N = 124)</b>		
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Gender</b>		
<i>Male</i>	27	22%
<i>Female</i>	<12	
<i>Non-Binary</i>	0	
<i>Declined to identify/Did not collect</i>	≥12	
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
<i>Hispanic</i>	84	67%
<i>Black</i>	16	12%
<i>White</i>	13	10%
<i>Asian/Pacific Islander</i>	<12	
<i>Other/Unknown</i>	<12	

The SB823 subcommittee determined Orange County’s local plan would need to focus service delivery on the needs of older male youth. Given the fact that (due to the severity of offenses committed) the majority of the target population youth serve custodial commitments, in reach and reentry types of services (provided through community partnerships) are at the core of Orange County’s planning efforts.

### Programs and Services

*(WIC section 1995(d)(2): Provide a description of the facilities, programs, placements, services and service providers, supervision, and other responses that will be provided to the target population.)*

The County of Orange is committed to providing a trauma-informed approach to each youth within the target population that begins the moment a youth enters the juvenile facility. Integral to this approach is the early identification of a peer mentor/navigator who will support the youth throughout the youth’s commitment and follow the youth after release to assist in the reentry process. Both youth committed to the Secure Track Youth program and those included in the larger target population will be provided with enhanced frequency of services.

The Transitional Care Coordinators (TCC) DPCOs will meet with the youth within 72 hours of entering into the facility and begin working with the youth and gathering information for the initial case plan. A case conference meeting will be held within 30 days from the youth’s entry into a juvenile facility. In alignment with the Family Engagement Case Planning Model, the youth, parent/guardian, peer mentor/navigator, community-based organizations and designated individuals from the following agencies will participate in the case conference: Probation, Health Care Agency, and the Department of Education. The case conference will provide an opportunity for the youth’s input in the development of a robust case plan that will assist all service providers in addressing the youth’s needs and goals. This case plan will identify a youth’s immediate health and basic needs, educational goals, barriers to success (such as tickets and fines, school access or

securing vital documents), existing familial supports as well as the youth's support systems. Case plan goals may include, but not be limited to, attaining high school education or the equivalent, participating in programming to improve job readiness (i.e., college or trade school courses), and independent living skills. Any transitional, reentry support services will also be culturally responsive and whenever possible utilize evidence-based, promising, and trauma-informed practices. The case plan will continue to be assessed relying on input from the youth and reviewed every 30 days through additional case conferences.

If a youth is committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility ("SYTF"), Probation must submit an Individualized Rehabilitation Plan (IRP) to the court within 30 court days. Their existing case plan and the IRP will consider an assessment of the youth's needs and risk to recidivate as well as any mood/anxiety symptoms, risk of suicide/self-harm, history of alcohol/drug use, history of trauma, current traumatic stress symptoms, risk of violence/sexual victimization and risk of commercial sexual exploitation. Based on this assessment, additional case plan goals, including barriers to prior rehabilitative efforts, short- and long-term goals will be identified and directed at promoting successful reentry for the youth into their community. Case plan reviews for SYTF youth will be reviewed every 30 days through regularly scheduled case conferences. The youth's educational milestones/goals will be reviewed as well as all other reentry goals (e.g., participation in court-ordered treatment, job readiness classes/training). Additionally, SYTF youth will have access to behavioral health and substance use disorder professionals to address any challenges that may hinder successful re-integration back into the community.

The progress of SYTF youth will be provided to the juvenile court every six months at calendared progress review hearings regarding the youth's case plan development and the youth's progress toward completion of goals along with the youth's readiness for reentry relative to the IRP. At least six months prior to release, a reentry conference will be scheduled with the youth and case conference members. At this case conference, the youth, the youth's family and/or identified support, peer mentor/navigator, assigned deputy probation officer, service providers and community partners will review the youth's case plan progress. Additionally, transition planning (e.g., a review of parent/guardian readiness to receive the youth back home or housing options for our older youth) will be discussed. The youth's peer mentor/navigator will also be crucial to allow the youth to engage in off-site activities designed to improve the youth's successful transition. Upon release, the youth and assigned deputy probation officer will work towards completing final case plan goals until juvenile court jurisdiction terminates, or the youth completes supervision satisfactorily whichever comes first. Any transitional, reentry support services will also be culturally responsive and whenever possible utilize evidence-based, promising, and trauma-informed practices.

Presently, programs and services will be provided on site at each of the County's juvenile facilities. However, the County is currently working on strategic plans to renovate, build and potentially redesign the existing juvenile detention facilities, including a relocation of at least one juvenile camp. (This plan is detailed below in the "Facility Plan" section.) As part of this plan, specialized housing for the SYTF population as well as considerations based on a youth's gender, gender identity, age, behavioral health needs, offense, and severity of the offense are occurring. Through

this plan, the County, with input from the juvenile justice stakeholders and community partners, looks forward to creating more therapeutic, trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate, and home-like settings which would be appropriate and livable for longer term commitments when necessary. Included in these plans are step-down units or facilities that will meet the needs of the SYTF population and be conducive to the services and programs being delivered.

As for service providers and supervision for the target population, the Probation Department employs a diverse and experienced staff of direct supervision officers who will work with this population. The ratio of at least one deputy probation correctional officer (DPCO) to every eight youth during waking hours is anticipated. Additional staff may be assigned to areas housing committed Secure Track youth. Probation staff receive state approved training curriculum which includes diverse topics such as professionalism and ethics, crisis communication and de-escalation, group dynamics, responding to medical emergencies, fire and life safety, cultural diversity and ethnic disparity, gender identity, case planning, addressing and reporting child abuse, preventing sexual assault, trauma, symptomology of substance use, suicide prevention, and core correctional practices to support safety.

The County will also look to create and build upon existing relationships with service providers through local agencies as well as community-based organizations to provide appropriate programs and services to the target population.

### DJJ Realignment Funds

*(WIC Section 1995(d)(3)(A) through (d)(3)(F): Provide a description of how grant funds will be applied to address each of the following areas of need or development for realigned youth: Mental Health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs; support programs or services that promote the health adolescent development; family engagement programs; reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education; evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally response; and any services or programs that will be provided by nongovernmental or community-based providers.)*

DJJ Realignment funding will be utilized to develop robust, individualized treatment plans for the target population youth focused on the youth's behavioral health, educational and emotional needs, community-based mentorship, and family engagement/support for those youth identified as SB823 and those youth pending SB823 eligibility. Any transitional, reentry support services will also be culturally responsive and whenever possible utilize evidence-based, promising, and trauma-informed practices with an annual review of services and programs through an outside provider to measure the effectiveness of such programming. While funding may be applied to county-based custody, care and supervision of SB 823 eligible youth pursuant to the statute, priority will be given to funding programs and services if funds are limited.

#### *A. Behavioral Health, Sex Offender Treatment, or Related Behavioral or Trauma-based Needs*

Allocated funds will be used to expand the number of behavioral health clinicians serving the target population youth and to procure additional evidence-informed services for this population including treatment for violent sex offenders. As set forth above, robust,

individualized case planning will occur for each target population youth at the outset and will include information from risk/needs assessments and any behavioral health issues identified through existing screening tools.

Planned additional services in the areas of behavioral health, sex offender treatment and or trauma may include:

- Substance use education and counseling
- Evidence-based cognitive behavior therapy approaches and/or groups
- On site/on-call 24-hour behavioral health services that are available 7 days a week
- Medication Assisted Treatment (“MAT”)
- Psychiatric services
- Sex offender treatment, including treatment for violent sex offenders
- Trauma-focused clinical interventions
- Gang intervention services and support
- Socially and culturally inclusive restorative practices
- Mindfulness based programs
- Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (“EMDR”)
- Art and Music Therapy

Staff members and involved systems professionals will receive training in national best practices to support reentry needs.

*B. Support programs or Services that promote healthy adolescent development*

DJJ Realignment funds will be utilized to procure services for the target population which are evidence-informed, rehabilitative, developmentally appropriate, and support the Positive Youth Development Model. Identified services include Restorative Circles, Cognitive Behavior Training, Reentry Services, System Navigator/Peer Mentor/Credible Messenger, Educational/Vocational Services, and Life Skills. Treatment and service providers will be required to support pro-social development by including the youth’s voice in programming decisions, offering programs that support healthy relationships, financial literacy, job readiness, pro-social and adolescent development, hygiene and self-care, mindfulness, artistic expression and enrichment, and opportunities for leadership development.

To continue to promote a youth’s healthy development, appropriate medical screenings, behavioral health, and dental screenings will occur along with preventative care including dental cleanings every six months.

### *C. Family Engagement in Programs*

Recognizing that family can provide extensive knowledge about a youth and their background, the identification of a youth's family and/or familial support will be done within 72 hours from the youth's entry into a juvenile facility. Once identified, any familial support will be essential members of the case conference with a meeting held within 30 days from the youth's intake at the facility. With the engagement of the youth, family, service providers and peer mentor/navigator, a robust individualized case plan will identify a youth's immediate physical and behavioral health and basic needs, educational goals, and support systems.

The engagement of family through regular onsite visitation at the juvenile facilities is a significant source of support for youth and enabling a youth to connect to family whilst in custody oftentimes promotes the youth's well-being. In recognition of this, the Probation Department has expanded the definition of "family" to allow visitation between an in-custody youth and individuals such as aunts, uncles, cousins, adult siblings, non-biological relatives, other supportive adults, and more. In addition, the newly constructed multi-purpose rehabilitation center on the juvenile justice campus will serve as a more welcoming space for visitation.

Additionally, since some of the County's target population youth are parents themselves, programs including the Teen Parenting program and the Just Beginning and Child Bonding curriculum will be provided to youth in custody. Psychoeducation on parenting and resources in the community will also be provided. These programs allow youth to find commonality, strength, and encouragement to assist in meeting the demands of parenthood while in and out of custody. They are facilitated through use of videos, education materials, activities, and structured visits to assist in their child's development.

### *D. Reentry, Including Planning and Linkages to Support Employment, Housing, and Continuing Education*

Reentry planning for the target population youth will begin upon intake at the juvenile facility. The County will build upon the existing reentry model presently utilized by the County's Youth Development Court (YDC), which is a post-Prop 57 court developed to assist youth in making a successful transition from lengthy local juvenile commitments as well as those youth who had been committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice to their communities. Through this model, reentry case planning involving the youth that identifies the youth's support network, engages the youth's family/caregiver, services providers, and community providers begins at the time of intake. This process encourages the youth to start planning for their success both in and out of custody and immediately identifies their supportive partners. Thereafter, through regular case conferences involving the youth and identified case conference members, this reentry plan will be a fluid, working document that follows the youth throughout their commitment. Reentry plans include housing, basic needs, employment, education, counseling, behavioral health services, and any other

factors, inclusive of culturally appropriate services, involved in promoting the youth's well-being within the youth's community. A validated risk/needs assessment is also used as a valuable tool in guiding the plan.

At least six months prior to release, the reentry plan will focus on a community-centered reentry phase during which the youth will obtain supportive and transitional services from the clinical and educational teams as well as community-based providers whilst in custody. During this phase, educational, vocational, housing, and career opportunities for the youth outside of the facilities will be pursued to allow a measured transition back to the youth's community.

In collaboration with Probation, the Orange County Department of Education (DOE) provides educational opportunities to youth within the County's juvenile facilities. Target population youth engage in educational programming based upon their age and high school graduation status. Youth generally focus on completing credits necessary to earn a California High School Diploma or GED , while former youth not only obtain their diploma, but continue on with advanced studies via transferrable community college courses, career technical education sequences that lead to pre-apprentice certifications, or, depending on length of stay, may engage in upper division university coursework leading to a bachelor's degree.

Community-based organizations who partner with Probation will assist youth in finding housing and employment opportunities for the target population. Community partners will be subject to an objective process like a Request for Proposal. Orange County intends to set aside funding to support rental assistance, clothing for job opportunities, and other related issues needed to maintain or secure housing, services, or employment.

After establishing a reentry plan, assigned probation officers will work collaboratively with the youth, the youth's family/caregivers/support network, the juvenile facility staff, community reentry partners, and other stakeholders (i.e., Department of Education and Health Care Agency) from the time the youth is committed through their termination of wardship.

*E. Evidence-based, Promising, Trauma-informed, and Culturally Responsive Services and Programs*

The Probation Department is dedicated to providing evidence-informed, rehabilitative, and developmentally appropriate programming to the target population youth. The services and programs will be centered on a Positive Youth Development Model and support a youth's pro-social development by including their voices in programming decisions and working collaboratively to meet their needs.

Services and programs will be provided through existing partnerships and new contracts with providers such as the Orange County Health Care Agency and community-based organizations. Such services will include: consistent evidence-based cognitive behavior

therapy approaches and/or groups, substance use education and treatment, sex offender treatment, aggression replacement therapy, trauma-focused clinical interventions, gang intervention services and support, positive pro-social programming, creative arts programming, and mindfulness-based programs.

All probation staff are trained in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex (LGBTQI) communities and culture to ensure fairness and respect for LGBTQI youth in the facilities. Such training allows staff to promote environments of sensitivity and professional boundaries for all youth, inclusive of LGBTQI youth, and promotes competency in working with LGBTQI youth. Probation staff are also familiar/trained in corrections supervision strategies that have been proven effective by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute including, but not limited to, trauma-informed interactions, cognitive behavioral strategies that influence behavior, and incentive-based interventions.

Probation staff will have the opportunity to attend training specific to: Addiction and Recovery, Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC), Conflict Resolution, Effective Communication and De-escalation, Education as a Tool for Successful Reentry, Cultural Diversity/Humility, Implicit Bias, Racial Profiling, Avoiding Manipulation, Helping Youth Grieve, Impact of Trauma on Development, Managing Stress, Coping with Grief and Loss, Secondary Trauma, Wellness and Self-Care, Youth Trauma, DJJ Realignment: Preparing for Transitional Aged Youth, Core Correctional Practices, and many courses on youth behavioral health intervention and disorders.

Funding will be used to provide appropriate training to probation staff and collaborative partners in the areas of trauma, culturally responsive practices and other identified need areas. Additional proposed training includes areas such as restorative justice/practices and reentry focused topics.

*F. Nongovernmental or Community-based Providers*

Utilizing existing relationships with non-governmental and community-based providers through the YDC, new services and enhancements to existing programs provided through such entities will be pursued. Services and programs supported by grant funding will include mentorship, restorative circles, team building and leadership development, financial literacy, creative and culinary arts, pro-social programming, job training, furlough opportunities, enrichment activities, gang intervention services and support, and transportation to secondary education/vocational sites and/or employment.

To ensure continuity and collaboration during reentry, the development of relationships between the primary service provider and organizations such as community agencies, schools, faith-based organizations and public services will be encouraged.

Probation will continue to utilize established protocols and processes to provide linkage and collaboration between community-based providers and non-governmental entities within the County.

## Facility Plan

*(WIC section 1995(d)(4): Provide a detailed facility plan indicating which facilities will be used to house or confine realigned youth at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need, and improvements to accommodate long-term commitments. This should include how the facilities will ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics.)*

The County of Orange (through its Probation Department) operates one secure juvenile detention facility, Orange County Juvenile Hall (JH), and two juvenile camp facilities, Orange County's Youth Guidance Center (YGC) and Youth Leadership Academy (YLA). The Probation Department employs a staffing pattern at each of the juvenile facilities that exceeds state/federal recommended minimum staff to youth ratios. In addition, Probation leverages its existing partnership with the Orange County Department of Education as well as the Orange County Health Care Agency to ensure the educational and behavioral health needs of each youth are met. All sworn Probation staff at these facilities are familiar/trained in corrections supervision strategies that have been proven effective including, but not limited to, trauma-informed interactions, cognitive behavioral strategies that influence behavior, and incentive-based interventions. The environment within Probation's facilities strikes the necessary balance between maintaining safe/secure juvenile facility operations while providing resources necessary to address the rehabilitative needs of all detained youth.

With the above in mind, Secure Track youth will be housed/supported in any unit at JH. The youth's prevailing needs will determine where in JH that youth may be placed. In addition to the above-described staffing/partnership structure, JH currently has specialized housing, programs and considerations based on youth gender identity, age, behavioral health needs, offense type and severity of the offense. Target population youth and committed Secure Track youth, absent another prevailing housing need, will be housed with their like peers considering the most appropriate setting based on age, risk level and other needs. This strategy will allow Probation the flexibility to house older male Secure Track/target population youth together, while other Secure Track/target population youth, including female and younger individuals may be housed in other areas of JH to better accommodate their specific needs and/or address the different stages of maturity, and program appropriateness.

As Secure Track youth progress through the JH facility program, they can be moved/housed within YGC, or YLA to continue their custodial commitment until they are released. Should the court order a Secure Track youth directly to YGC, or YLA, the committed youth will be integrated into the YGC/YLA populations, absent extenuating circumstances.

The County of Orange is currently working on strategic plans to renovate, build and potentially redesign the existing juvenile detention facilities including the relocation of at least one juvenile camp. To this end, the County has contracted with an architectural design firm for research, development, and a design plan. Phase One of the overall redesign includes the current construction of a new facility currently called the Youth Transitional Center (YTC) on the grounds of the current Juvenile Hall, with targeted completion by Spring 2027. This new facility will be used as a replacement for the existing YGC facility once completed. The plans for YTC include up to 60

beds in living units and a transitional housing unit with 8 beds for youth preparing to re-enter the community. Phase Two of the overall redesign includes two additional 28-bed housing units for youth serving long-term commitments on JH grounds and 40 additional apartment style beds within an Independent Living Program outside the perimeter of YLA/JH. New classrooms (educational/vocational), a library and a school administration office are also proposed in the second phase of the project. The Probation Department, justice stakeholders and community partners will continue to work together to design and build facilities that create a more therapeutic, trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate setting for all youth including those committed to the SYTF. Specialized housing and considerations based on a youth's gender identity, age, behavioral health needs, offense, and severity of the offense are also being considered. The shared vision/goal of all new or renovated space for target population youth and those committed to the SYTF is a more homelike setting, appropriate and livable for longer term commitments when necessary. Included in these plans are step-down units or facilities that will meet the needs of the SYTF population.

Youth in the SYTF and in the target population will also be provided appropriate space for physical activities and the development of reentry skills as they move through the phases of their commitments. Space will be designed to enhance existing and future services. Activities will include secondary educational programs, career technical education, vocational skills training, and life skills that will assist the youth in successful reentry.

## Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System

*(WIC section 1995(d)(5): Provide a description of 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 transfers of realigned youth into the adult criminal justice system.)*

Building off the YDC model, the County has seen a reduction in transfers to the adult criminal justice system through a collaborative endeavor between the Juvenile Court, Probation, juvenile justice stakeholders, and community-based organizations. Planned enhancements to YDC through the services and programs identified in the County's realignment plan will add another layer of rehabilitative services and reentry support for youth within the target population.

Additionally, by developing a robust, well-informed, individualized case plan that also considers criminogenic needs and includes ongoing case conferences which engage the youth, their family/support network, services providers, peer mentor/navigator and any other community-based providers, the likelihood of any target population youth entering the adult system is reduced. Family engagement training and planning will continue to be offered to staff. Additional SB823 DPCO positions have been proposed to provide similar services to the remaining SB823 population when staffing levels are available. Moreover, with a focus on reentry at the outset of a youth's case, planning for continuation of care that minimizes a disruption of services and establishes community and peer support, promotes stronger ties to a youth's community and reduces their chance of entry in the adult system.

Regular assessments of the effectiveness of existing and future programs and services must also be done to ensure appropriate successful outcomes for the target population and the retention of these youth within the juvenile justice system. Programming will be evaluated with a focus on providing services that will decrease the likelihood of transfer to the adult system. Where appropriate, implementation of existing services will be enhanced through continuing education of staff in areas including trauma informed practices, implicit bias, and conflict resolution.

SYTF youth will also be provided with step-down opportunities outlined specifically within their individualized plan. Youth will be given specific target goals to effectuate the step-down process. The identification of specific goals will incentivize youth to meet those goals through positive reinforcement.

## Regional Effort

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

There are no regional agreements or arrangements that will be supported by the block grant allocation.

## Data

*(WIC section 1995(d)(7): Describe how data will be collected on the youth served and outcomes for youth served by the block grant program including a description of outcome measures that will be utilized to measure or determine the results of programs and interventions supported by block grant funds)*

The Orange County Probation Department has a data collection system. This data system has the capability to track "recidivism" related measurements such as risk/needs assessments, number of arrests, and sustained petitions. The system can also produce reports of real time data to provide outcome measures for the programs and interventions supported by block grant funding.

### Evaluation of Data

Data will be collected to evaluate the impact of the County's plan on the youth's rehabilitation, recidivism, and public safety. Data points may include youth development and wellness data, including, but not limited to, education attainment, employment, behavioral health, housing, family connections, foster care, and other wellness outcomes. Although the current system can capture some of these data points, an evaluation is necessary to determine what added programming and/or personnel resources are needed to capture additional data. Additionally, Probation has contracted with an independent data evaluator to allow for an objective review and report on the outcomes and data regarding our programs.

## Other Updates

*(WIC section 1995 (d)(8): Describe any progress on elements since May 1, 2025)*

The County of Orange has made huge strides in focusing on and fulfilling many of the proposed components of the previous realignment plan. With existing County partners, community-based organizations (CBO), and various service providers, we have implemented several evidence-based treatment programs/services and created a wide variety of supportive and youth focused resources, specific to the target population. The updates below provide specific information on the responsiveness of the County of Orange to meet the needs of the youth and the commitment to provide services, programs, and opportunities to the youth within the target population.

Contracts were signed with the community-based organization, Project Kinship (PK) to provide Restorative Circle Services, Cognitive Behavioral Training Services, Re-Entry Services, and System Navigator/Peer Mentor Services. These contracted services have been in place for two years. The services are currently being provided to youth within all juvenile facilities and referred youth within the community. Additionally, a PK Youth Transformation Program drop-in site opened in June of

2025 and is located within the Juvenile Justice complex, which allows for the availability of additional services for the target population within the community. PK staff are trained in various evidence-based practices, several staff have justice system lived experience, and they provide practice-based evidence services within both the juvenile and adult justice arenas within Orange County.

The department has maintained a contract with the Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp, as an alternative detention and program opportunity for eligible male youth who are 18-25, under juvenile court jurisdiction and serving a commitment within our juvenile facilities. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) jointly operate Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp (Pine Grove) in Amador County. Camp partners include Amity Foundation and Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) which collaboratively instill a therapeutic community for youth participating in the camp. Pine Grove provides housing, care and training to county youth. Youth who participate in the program will receive various supportive programming, as well as firefighting specific training. Comprehensive rehabilitative program services are uniquely designed to accommodate youth employment schedules, youth specific needs, and address: positive reinforcement ethics, criminal addictive thinking, violence interruption and knowledge, motivational incentives and success, restorative justice and empathy, substance abuse counseling, reentry and reintegration programs and transitional planning and housing. Additional program services include an athletic fitness/sports program, college coursework, community service, religious services, and volunteer programs. Youth will receive 96 hours of training to receive six professional entry-level wildland fire service certificates. One certificate is received from CALFIRE, and five additional certificates are received from the National Wildfire Coordination Group. Youth will use the skills they learn in training on various conservation and fire prevention projects. One youth participated in the program for several months; however, he returned due to a medical issue. To fulfill many of the proposed programs within the County's previous plan, the Orange County Probation Department (OCPD) has solicited providers for various services and resources focused on providing opportunities for the target population. Contracts are currently pending with two providers that will provide vocational certifications in Graphic Design, Construction, Culinary Arts, and Medical Billing. A contract was secured with the vendor, Skills Up to provide hands on automotive training at Probation's Multipurpose Rehabilitation Center (MRC) on site fully equipped auto shop. OCPD continues to meet with the leadership of local colleges and universities to expand existing services for the target population. Probation has recently released an additional Request for Proposal (RFP) to expand educational and vocational opportunities for the targeted population. College level classes continue to be provided to eligible youth through our partnership with local community colleges. Additionally, youth have the opportunity to attend virtual classes offered through local universities.

Probation has recently released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Theater Arts and Musical Instruction Services. Probation is looking to offer this opportunity to the targeted population by contracting services to instruct dancing, singing, and acting within the facilities. It is proposed that the performance instruction will culminate in musical productions that can be attended by the

youths' families, peers and staff.

The department continues to utilize six Transitional Care Coordinator (TCC) DPCOs. These staff work with the target population and focus on developing a robust, well-informed, individualized case plan within monthly case conference meetings that include the youth, parent/guardian, peer mentor, CBO personnel, as well as behavioral health and education representatives. TCC staff also assist with Medi-Cal and public assistance referrals for eligible youth and/or their families, in coordination with the Social Services Agency (SSA).

OCPD has contracted with Open Gate International for culinary arts vocational training. The 12-week program trains youth on the basics of kitchen procedures and focuses on the demands and requirements of food preparation, cooking, and the presentation of food. This program is provided on a rotational basis within all the juvenile facilities.

The Health Care Agency (HCA) provides behavioral health and various other supportive programs to youth within the facilities. Utilizing allocated funds, behavioral health clinicians continue to serve the target population with clinicians on site at the facilities seven days a week until 9 pm, and clinicians on call after hours. This has allowed for youth behavioral health needs to be addressed when issues are presented or during crisis situations. In addition, several clinicians have received specialized training in various evidence-based modalities to provide enhanced behavioral health services to ensure youth receive the behavioral health treatment they need. These enhanced behavioral health services include Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), and the Matrix Model, an intensive treatment designed to address substance use. HCA utilizes Peer Mentors to provide support to the target population while in-custody and for continued assistance and community linkages upon release.

Although HCA provides programming to youth that focuses on life skills such as self-respect, building healthy relationships, financial literacy, job readiness, and other pro-social and adolescent development skill building; the department has contracted with Partners 4 Wellness to provide life skills specific programming to target population youth.

To ensure an objective review of the outcomes related to our current programming, OCPD has contracted with Justice System Partners (JSP) since August 2024 to provide consulting services regarding research, as an independent data evaluator. JSP has gathered and analyzed data related to the target population over the past several months.

Construction of the new Youth Transitional Center (YTC) began in Spring of 2025, beginning with the demolition of several existing buildings. The new facility is slated to be completed in Spring/Summer of 2027. This facility will include five-12 bed units and a unit with eight transitional housing beds. The transitional housing program will allow for a step-down option for youth who are preparing to re-enter into the community. This project is considered Phase One of several phases planned as part of the Orange County Juvenile Hall Masterplan project. The County is currently in the planning stages of Phase 2, which is proposed to include two 28-bed housing units for youth serving long-term commitments and 40 additional apartment style beds within an Independent Living Program outside the perimeter of YLA/JH.

## Prior- Year Expenditures- Summary of Outcomes/ Impacts

*(WIC section 1995 (D)(9): Please use the table provided below to summarize prior-year expenditures (e.g. for the 2025 JIRBG plan the summary entered into the table below would be for FY 2024-25 expenditures) in accordance with Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(9), which requires counties to report: Total expenditures of block grant funds; Whether these expenditures were consistent with the plan described in subdivision (a); and how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment target population described in Section 1990.)*

Expenditure Subject Area <sup>11</sup>	Total Expenditures (\$)	Were the expenditures consistent with the plan described for this subject area (i.e., were the goals described for this expenditure subject area met)? (Yes/No)	Please describe why the expenditures were or were not consistent with the plan described for this subject area.	Please describe how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment of target population described in Section 1990.
<b>Behavioral Health</b>	\$1,060,676.80	Yes	Program services focus on reducing recidivism and reduction of criminal thinking.	The program team works with participants to build emotional intelligence and develop an understanding of the impact of adverse childhood experiences on identity, behavioral patterns, and psychosocial stages of development.
<b>Family Engagement</b>	\$121,349.81	Yes	Engages participants and their families to support case plans, foster healthy relationships, and provides community service support.	Focuses on relationship-building, facilitating group activities, understanding high-risk neighborhoods, and advocating for youth needs. Services also involve training in positive behaviors, creating community support networks, maintaining communication with probation officers, and providing regular reports. Additionally, the program offers community-based advocacy, follow-up on referrals, and educates families to encourage personal and social success. Connects youth to community resources, support pro-social activities, and assist with educational, employment, and vocational needs.

<b>Reentry</b>	\$638,962.08	Yes	Program provides reentry system navigation services and advocacy to Probation Youth to ensure smooth transitions back into the community.	Creating supportive relationships with youth in custody, system navigation and advocacy for youth and young adults who are transitioning back to the community, to ensure connections to resources and successful integration post-release.
<b>Evidence Based Services and Programs</b>	\$8,799,027.00	Yes	The program provides rehabilitative programs, housing, basic care, and training to Probation youth.	The program addresses positive reinforcement ethics, criminal addictive thinking, violence interruption, motivational incentives, restorative justice, substance abuse counseling, reentry and reintegration programs and transitional planning and housing. Services also include an athletic fitness/sports program, college coursework, community service, religious services and volunteer programs.

<sup>[1]</sup> This table corresponds to Part 4 of the JJRBG County Plan Template and fulfills the reporting requirements of WIC §1995(d)(9) by itemizing expenditures according to the five areas of need or development for realigned youth described in WIC §1995(d)(3)(A)–(E). CBO is excluded since it is §1995(d)(3)(F).

County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment

~~Plan~~ Plan

~~2025~~

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## Introduction

Senate Bill 823 (SB823), also known as the “Juvenile Justice Realignment: Office of Youth and Community Restoration,” was chaptered on September 30, 2020. Amongst several statutory changes, Chapter 1.7 (commencing with Welfare and Institutions Code (“WIC”) section 1990) was added to Division 2.5 of the WIC to establish a block grant program for the purpose of providing county-based custody, care, and supervision of youth who were eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure. Additionally, WIC section 1995 set forth ~~the~~ ~~guidelines~~guidelines for counties interested in becoming eligible for block grant funding.

As a result of SB823, the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (OCJJCC), during its regularly scheduled meeting on February 25, 2021, approved changes to its bylaws to include the creation of the OCJJCC’s SB823 Subcommittee. Nominations for the new subcommittee were then entertained by the OCJJCC Chair. During the same meeting, the OCJJCC unanimously approved individuals representing the agencies and entities identified in WIC section 1995, subdivision (b) to be part of its new SB823 Subcommittee.

The newly formed SB823 Subcommittee held its first public meeting on April 29, 2021. Over the course of several months, subcommittee members performed the needed analyses, engaged the public, and developed its local plan. The group presented its original draft SB823 plan during the regularly scheduled meeting of the OCJJCC on Thursday, October 28, 2021. The following plan is responsive to the aspects set forth in WIC section 1995, subdivisions (d)(1) through (d)(8) and is the culmination of the collective discussions and partnership between the juvenile court, community, and system stakeholders. This plan will address the needs of youth within the target ~~population~~population, improving the outcomes for success and reducing rates of recidivism.

The OCJJCC SB823 Subcommittee convened to discuss and update the County’s JIRBG plan on ~~March 18, 2025~~March 3, 2026, and ~~April 3, 2025~~March 17, 2026. On ~~March 17, 2026~~, the subcommittee approved the ~~2025-2026~~2026-2027 plan.

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## Allocations

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Pursuant to WIC section 1991, subdivision (a), and commencing with the 2021-22 fiscal year, and annually thereafter, counties will receive an allocation for use by the county to provide the “appropriate rehabilitative housing and supervision services for the population specified” in WIC section 1990, subdivision (b). The plan required in WIC section 1995 shall be considered by the Board of Supervisors in making allocations and any entity receiving direct allocation of funding from the Board of Supervisors for any secure residential placement for court ordered detention will be subject to existing regulations. “A local public agency that has primary responsibility for prosecuting or making arrests or detentions shall not provide rehabilitative and supervision services for the population specified in subdivision (b) of Section 1990 or receive funding pursuant to this section.” (WIC Section 1991, subd. (a).)

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## Eligibility for Funds

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For eligibility of allocated funds under WIC section 1991, counties must create a subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council. In Orange County, that council is the OCJJCC which has been in existence since 1996. The subcommittee of the coordinating council must then “develop a plan which describes the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitation and supervision services for the population described in subdivision (b) of [WIC] section 1990.” (WIC section 1995, subd. (a).)

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Pursuant to WIC section 1995, subdivision (b), the OCJJCC’s subcommittee must be comprised of the following: The chief probation officer, as chair, a representative from the district attorney’s office, public defender’s office, the department of social services, the department of mental health, the county office of education or a school district, and a representative from the court. Also necessary to membership are no fewer than three community members who have experience providing community-based youth services, youth justice advocates who have expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system or have been directly involved in the system.

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County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan  
~~2025-26~~ 2026-27

Community Member	Laura Marcum Executive Director	<a href="mailto:laura@pyoc.org">laura@pyoc.org</a>	(714) 480-1925 ext. 101
Community Member	Steven Kim Executive Director	<a href="mailto:steven@projectkinship.org">steven@projectkinship.org</a>	(714) 909-5225
Community Member	Raymond Sanchez Director of Peer Navigation	<a href="mailto:raymond@projectkinship.org">raymond@projectkinship.org</a>	(714) 941-8009

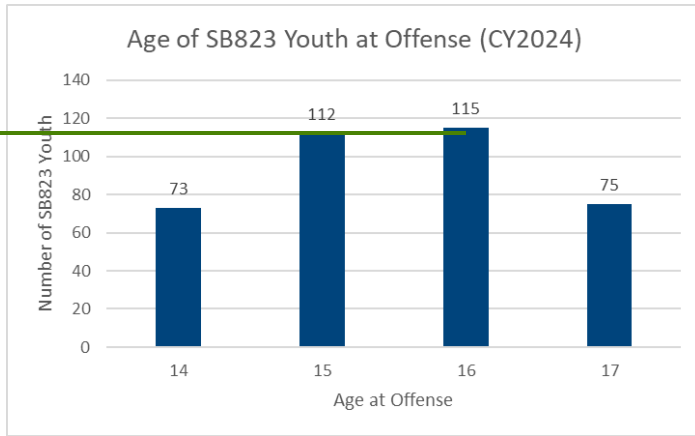
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County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan  
~~2025-26~~2026-27



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The Orange County Probation Department completes an Initial Risk and Needs Assessment within 45 days after adjudication. Reassessments occur every six months. For SB823 youth active in ~~CY2024~~FY 24-25, ~~82~~83% were assessed to have substance use history and ~~66~~67% with alcohol use history. In addition, ~~65~~68% of youth associated with gangs. Overall, ~~81~~82% were classified as high risk on their Initial Risk Assessment with an average risk score of ~~21~~21.5. Any score 15 and above is considered high risk.

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County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan  
~~2025-26~~2026-27

<u>ASERT/STEP (alcohol/substance use treatment) at Youth Guidance Center</u>	<u>67</u>
<u>Youth Leadership Academy</u>	<u>113</u>
<u>Accountability Commitment Program</u>	<u>231</u>
<u>Youth Reporting Center</u>	<u>127</u>
<u>Youth Development Court</u>	<u>41</u>
<u>Cell Dogs program</u>	<u>17</u>

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- # of youth that received ASERT/STEP (alcohol or substance use treatment) at the Youth Guidance Center — 95
- # of youth that participated in the Youth Leadership Academy — 96
- # of youth in the Accountability Commitment Program — 133
- # of youth that participated in the Youth Reporting Center — 79
- # of youth that participated in the Youth Development Court — 40

In Fiscal Year 20243- 20254 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024), 13 youth had transfer hearings. ~~two~~Less than 12 youth were transferred to aAdult eCourt. The majority of cases remained in Juvenile Court. ~~Eight youth had transfer hearings, but their cases remained in Juvenile Court.~~

Additional Target Population Information

Additional Target Population Information

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

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

Data Summary of Active SB823 Youth on ~~March 20, 2025~~ February 10, 2026

-

In addition to the ~~€FY2024-2025~~ data presented above, the following data offers a one-day snapshot of the SB823 population in Orange County on ~~March 20, 2025~~ February 10, 2026. On ~~March 20, 2025~~ February 10, 2026, the Orange County Probation Department supervised ~~274-227~~ active youth who were adjudicated for WIC section 707(b) offenses and were between the ages of 14 and 17 at the time of the offense. ~~Ninety-Fifty-five~~ (90-55) youth had two or more 707(b) offenses. The total number of offenses are listed below:

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County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan

<u>Black</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>5%</u>
<u>Asian/Pacific Islander</u>	<u>&lt;12</u>	
<u>White</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>8%</u>
<u>Other/Unknown</u>	<u>&lt;12</u>	

SB823 Demographics: Snapshot as of March 20<sup>th</sup> February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
(N = 274, 227)

	#	%
<b>Gender</b>		
<u>Male</u>	<u>243,108</u>	<u>89.8758%</u>
<u>Female</u>	<u>31,292</u>	<u>11.113%</u>
<u>Non Binary</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Declined to identify/Did not collect</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>31%</u>
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>229,186</u>	<u>84.82%</u>
<u>Black</u>	<u>15,12</u>	<u>5%</u>
<u>Asian/Pacific-Islander/Other</u>	<u>16&lt;12</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>White</u>	<u>14,17</u>	<u>5.8%</u>
<u>Other/Unknown</u>	<u>&lt;12</u>	

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Of the 274,227 SB823 youth supervised by the Orange County Probation Department, 51,934 were in custody on March 20, 2025 February 10, 2026, including 24,20 youth at the Youth Guidance Center or the Youth Leadership Academy. The remaining 223,134,181 youth were supervised in the community.



County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan  
~~2025-26~~ 2026-27

Department of Justice (DOJ) Hierarchy		
Offense	Total number of 707(b) Offenses	Most Serious 707(b) Offense (per youth)
Homicide	30-20	26-18
Attempted Homicide	29-23	<12
Robbery	54-46	40-30
Assault	101-89	57-58
Sex Offense	8-10	<12
Kidnapping	1-0	0
Witness Tampering	2-4	0<12
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>225-192</b>	<b>138-124</b>

Of the 124 pending SB823 youth, a majority 22% identified as were male; 71 65% were Hispanic; and 43 18% 22 former minors were 20 years old or older as of ~~March 20, 2025~~ February 10, 2026.

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*(WIC section 1995(d)(2): Provide a description of the facilities, programs, placements, services and service providers, supervision, and other responses that will be provided to the target population.)*

The County of Orange is committed to providing a trauma-informed approach to each youth within the target population that begins the moment a youth enters the juvenile facility. Integral to this approach is the early identification of a peer mentor/navigator who will support the youth throughout the youth’s commitment and follow the youth after release to assist in the reentry process. Both youth committed to the Secure Track Youth program and those included in the larger target population will be provided with enhanced frequency of services, compared to youth in the larger target population.

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**Additions mentioned in the SB 823 Subcommittee meeting on 3/17/26 for the below paragraph:**  
~~“the additional care coordinators will initiate a case plan with the youth within 72 hours of entering the facility”~~  
~~“a case conference meeting will be conducted within 30 days”~~

**Wording suggestion if needed:**  
~~When a youth enters a juvenile facility, the additional care coordinators will initiate a case plan with the youth within 72 hours and a case conference meeting will be conducted within 30 days.~~

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~~Part of this approach also includes a case conference meeting that will be held within 10~~The Transitional Care Coordinators (TCC) DPCOs will meet initiate the plan with the youth within 72 hours of entering into the facility and begin working with the youth and gathering information for the initial case plan. A case conference meeting will be held within 30 days from the youth’s entry into a juvenile facility. In alignment with the Family Engagement Case Planning Model, the youth, parent/guardian, peer mentor/navigator, community-based organizations and designated individuals from the following agencies will participate in the case conference: Probation, Health Care Agency, and the Department of Education. The case conference will provide an opportunity for the youth’s input in the development of a robust case plan that will assist all service providers in addressing the youth’s needs and goals. This case plan will identify a youth’s immediate health and basic needs, educational goals, barriers to success (such as tickets and fines, school access or securing vital documents), existing familial supports as well as the youth’s support systems. Case plan goals may include, but not be limited to, attaining high school education or the equivalent, participating in programming to improve job readiness (i.e., college or trade school courses), and independent living skills. Any transitional, reentry support services will also be culturally responsive and whenever possible utilize evidence-based, promising, and trauma-informed practices. The case plan will continue to be assessed relying on input from the youth and reviewed every 30 days through additional case conferences.

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If a youth is committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (“SYTF”), Probation must submit an Individualized Rehabilitation Plan (IRP) to the court within 30 court days. Their existing case plan and the IRP will consider an assessment of the youth’s needs and risk to recidivate as well as any

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mood/anxiety symptoms, risk of suicide/self-harm, history of alcohol/drug use, history of trauma, current traumatic stress symptoms, risk of violence/sexual victimization and risk of commercial sexual exploitation. Based on this assessment, additional case plan goals, including barriers to prior rehabilitative efforts, short- and long-term goals will be identified and directed at promoting successful reentry for the youth into their community. Case plan reviews for SYTF youth will be reviewed every 30 days through regularly scheduled case conferences. The youth’s educational milestones/goals will be reviewed as well as all other reentry goals (e.g., participation in court-ordered treatment, job readiness classes/training). Additionally, SYTF youth will have access to behavioral health and substance use disorder professionals to address any challenges that may hinder successful re-integration back into the community.

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The progress of SYTF youth will be provided to the juvenile court every six months at calendared progress review hearings regarding the youth’s case plan development and the youth’s progress toward completion of goals along with the youth’s readiness for reentry relative to the IRP. At least six months prior to release, a reentry conference will be scheduled with the youth and case conference members. At this case conference, the youth, the youth’s family and/or identified support, peer mentor/navigator, assigned deputy probation officer, service providers and community partners will review the youth’s case plan progress. Additionally, transition planning (e.g., a review of parent/guardian readiness to receive the youth back home or housing options for our older youth) will be discussed. The youth’s peer mentor/navigator will also be crucial to allow the youth to engage in off-site activities designed to improve the youth’s successful transition. Upon release, the youth and assigned deputy probation officer will work towards completing final case plan goals until juvenile court jurisdiction terminates, or the youth completes supervision satisfactorily whichever comes first. Any transitional, reentry support services will also be culturally responsive and whenever possible utilize evidence-based, promising, and trauma-informed practices.

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Presently, programs and services will be provided on site at each of the County’s juvenile facilities. However, the County is currently working on strategic plans to renovate, build and potentially redesign the existing juvenile detention ~~facilities~~facilities, including a relocation of at least one juvenile camp. (This plan is detailed below in the “Facility Plan” section.) As part of this plan, specialized housing for the SYTF population as well as considerations based on a youth’s gender, gender identity, age, behavioral health needs, offense, and severity of the offense are occurring. Through this plan, the County, with input from the juvenile justice stakeholders and community partners, looks forward to creating more therapeutic, trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate, and ~~homelike~~home-like settings which would be appropriate and livable for longer term commitments when necessary. Included in these plans are step-down units or facilities that will meet the needs of the SYTF population and be conducive to the services and programs being delivered.

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As for service providers and supervision for the target population, the Probation Department employs a diverse and experienced staff of direct supervision officers who will work with this population. The ratio of at least one deputy probation correctional officer (DPCO) to every eight youth during waking hours is anticipated. Additional staff may be assigned to areas housing committed Secure Track youth. Probation staff receive state approved training curriculum which

includes diverse topics such as professionalism and ethics, crisis communication and de-escalation, group dynamics, responding to medical emergencies, fire and life safety, cultural diversity and ethnic disparity, gender identity, case planning, addressing and reporting child abuse, preventing sexual assault, trauma, symptomology of substance use, suicide prevention, and core correctional practices to support safety.

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The County will also look to create and build upon existing relationships with service providers through local agencies as well as community-based organizations to provide appropriate programs and services to the target population.

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### DJJ Realignment Funds

*(WIC Section 1995(d)(3)(A) through (d)(3)(F): Provide a description of how grant funds will be applied to address each of the following areas of need or development for realigned youth: Mental Health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs; support programs or services that promote the health adolescent development; family engagement programs; reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education; evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed, and culturally response; and any services or programs that will be provided by nongovernmental or community-based providers.)*

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DJJ Realignment funding will be utilized to develop robust, individualized treatment plans for the target population youth focused on the youth's behavioral health, educational and emotional needs, community-based mentorship, and family engagement/support for those youth identified as SB823 and those youth pending SB823 eligibility. Any transitional, reentry support services will also be culturally responsive and whenever possible utilize evidence-based, promising, and trauma-informed practices with an annual review of services and programs through an outside provider to measure the effectiveness of such programming. While funding may be applied to county-based custody, care and supervision of SB 823 eligible youth pursuant to the statute, priority will be given to funding programs and services if funds are limited.

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#### A. Behavioral Health, Sex Offender Treatment, or Related Behavioral or Trauma-based Needs

Allocated funds will be used to expand the number of behavioral health clinicians serving the target population youth and to procure additional evidence-informed services for this population including treatment for violent sex offenders. As set forth above, robust, individualized case planning will occur for each target population youth at the outset and will include information from risk/needs assessments and any behavioral health issues identified through existing screening tools.

Planned additional services in the areas of behavioral health, sex offender treatment and or trauma may include:

- Substance use education and counseling
- ~~Substance use education and counseling~~

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- Evidence-based cognitive behavior therapy approaches and/or groups
- On site/on-call 24-hour behavioral health services that are available 7 days a week
- Medication Assisted Treatment (“MAT”)
- Psychiatric services
- Sex offender treatment, including treatment for violent sex offenders
- Trauma-focused clinical interventions
- Gang intervention services and support
- Socially and culturally inclusive restorative practices
- Mindfulness based programs
- Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (“EMDR”)
- Art and Music Therapy

Staff members and involved systems professionals will receive training in national best practices to support reentry needs.

*B. Support programs or Services that promote healthy adolescent development*

DJJ Realignment funds will be utilized to procure services for the target population which are evidence-informed, rehabilitative, developmentally appropriate, and support the Positive Youth Development Model. Identified services include Restorative Circles, Cognitive Behavior Training, Reentry Services, System Navigator/Peer Mentor/Credible Messenger, Educational/Vocational Services, and Life Skills. Treatment and service providers will be required to support pro-social development by including the youth’s voice in programming decisions, offering programs that support healthy relationships, financial literacy, job readiness, pro-social and adolescent development, hygiene and self-care, mindfulness, artistic expression and enrichment, and opportunities for leadership development.

To continue to promote a youth’s healthy development, appropriate medical screenings, behavioral health, and dental screenings will occur along with preventative care including dental cleanings every six months.

### C. Family Engagement in Programs

Recognizing that family can provide extensive knowledge about a youth and their background, the identification of a youth's family and/or familial ~~supports~~ support will be done within ~~10 days~~ 72 hours from the youth's entry into a juvenile facility. Once identified, any familial support will be essential members of the case conference with a meeting held within ~~10-30~~ days from the youth's intake at the facility. With the engagement of the youth, family, service providers and peer mentor/navigator, a robust individualized case plan will identify a youth's immediate physical and behavioral health and basic needs, educational goals, and support systems.

The engagement of family through regular onsite visitation at the juvenile facilities is a significant source of support for youth and enabling a youth to connect to family whilst in custody oftentimes promotes the youth's well-being. In recognition of this, the Probation Department has expanded the definition of "family" to allow visitation between an in-custody youth and individuals such as aunts, uncles, cousins, adult siblings, non-biological relatives, other supportive adults, and more. In addition, the newly constructed multi-purpose rehabilitation center on the juvenile justice campus will serve as a more welcoming space for visitation.

Additionally, since some of the County's target population youth are parents themselves, programs including the Teen Parenting program and the Just Beginning and Child Bonding curriculum will be provided to youth in custody. Psychoeducation on parenting and resources in the community will also be provided. These programs allow youth to find commonality, strength, and encouragement to assist in meeting the demands of parenthood while in and out of custody. They are facilitated through use of videos, education materials, activities, and structured visits to assist in their child's development.

### D. Reentry, Including Planning and Linkages to Support Employment, Housing, and Continuing Education

Reentry planning for the target population youth will begin upon intake at the juvenile facility. The County will build upon the existing reentry model presently utilized by the County's Youth Development Court ("~~YDC~~") ~~which, which~~ is a post-Prop 57 court developed to assist youth in making a successful transition from lengthy local juvenile commitments as well as those youth who had been committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice to their communities. Through this model, reentry case planning involving the youth that identifies the youth's support network, engages the youth's family/caregiver, services providers, and community providers begins at the time of intake. This process encourages the youth to start planning for their success both in and out of custody and immediately identifies their supportive partners. Thereafter, through regular case conferences involving the youth and identified case conference members, this reentry plan will be a fluid, working document that follows the youth throughout their commitment. Reentry plans include housing, basic needs, employment, education, counseling, behavioral health services, and any other

factors, inclusive of culturally appropriate services, involved in promoting the youth's well-being within the youth's community. A validated risk/needs assessment is also used as a valuable tool in guiding the plan.

At least six months prior to release, the reentry plan will focus on a community-centered reentry phase during which the youth will obtain supportive and transitional services from the clinical and educational teams as well as community-based providers whilst in custody. During this phase, educational, vocational, [housing](#), and career opportunities for the youth outside of the facilities will be pursued to allow a measured transition back to the youth's community.

In collaboration with Probation, the Orange County Department of Education (DOE) provides educational opportunities to youth within the County's juvenile facilities. Target population youth engage in educational programming based upon their age and high school graduation status. Youth generally focus on completing credits necessary to earn a California High School Diploma or GED, while former youth not only obtain their diploma, but continue on with advanced studies via transferrable community college courses, career technical education sequences that lead to pre-apprentice certifications, or, depending on length of stay, may engage in upper division university coursework leading to a bachelor's degree.

Community-based organizations who partner with Probation will assist youth in finding housing and employment opportunities for the target population. Community partners will be subject to an objective process like a Request for Proposal. Orange County intends to set aside funding to support rental assistance, clothing for job opportunities, and other related issues needed to maintain or secure housing, services, or employment.

After establishing a reentry plan, assigned probation officers will work collaboratively with the youth, the youth's family/caregivers/support network, the juvenile facility staff, community reentry partners, and other stakeholders (i.e., Department of Education and Health Care Agency) from the time the youth is committed through their termination of wardship.

*E. Evidence-based, Promising, Trauma-informed, and Culturally Responsive Services and Programs*

The Probation Department is dedicated to providing evidence-informed, rehabilitative, and developmentally appropriate programming to the target population youth. The services and programs will be centered on a Positive Youth Development Model and support a youth's pro-social development by including their voices in programming decisions and working collaboratively to meet their needs.

Services and programs will be provided through existing partnerships and new contracts with providers such as the Orange County Health Care Agency and community-based organizations. Such services will include: consistent evidence-based cognitive behavior

therapy approaches and/or groups, substance use education and treatment, sex offender treatment, aggression replacement therapy, trauma-focused clinical interventions, gang intervention services and support, positive pro-social programming, creative arts programming, and mindfulness-based programs.

All probation staff are trained in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex (LGBTQI) communities and culture to ensure fairness and respect for LGBTQI youth in the facilities. Such training allows staff to promote environments of sensitivity and professional boundaries for all youth, inclusive of LGBTQI youth, and promotes competency in working with LGBTQI youth. Probation staff are also familiar/trained in corrections supervision strategies that have been proven effective by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute including, but not limited to, trauma-informed interactions, cognitive behavioral strategies that influence behavior, and incentive-based interventions.

Probation staff will have the opportunity to attend training specific to: Addiction and Recovery, Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC), Conflict Resolution, Effective Communication and De-escalation, Education as a Tool for Successful Reentry, Cultural Diversity/Humility, Implicit Bias, Racial Profiling, Avoiding Manipulation, Helping Youth Grieve, Impact of Trauma on Development, Managing Stress, Coping with Grief and Loss, Secondary Trauma, Wellness and Self-Care, Youth Trauma, DJJ Realignment: Preparing for Transitional Aged Youth, [Core Correctional Practices](#), and many courses on youth behavioral health intervention and disorders.

Funding will be used to provide appropriate training to probation staff and collaborative partners in the areas of trauma, culturally responsive practices and other identified need areas. Additional proposed training ~~include~~includes areas such as restorative justice/practices and reentry focused topics.

#### F. *Nongovernmental or Community-based Providers*

Utilizing existing relationships with non-governmental and community-based providers through the YDC, new services and enhancements to existing programs provided through such entities will be pursued. Services and programs supported by grant funding will include mentorship, restorative circles, team building and leadership development, financial literacy, creative and culinary arts, pro-social programming, job training, furlough opportunities, enrichment activities, gang intervention services and support, and transportation to secondary education/vocational sites and/or employment.

To ensure continuity and collaboration during reentry, the development of relationships between the primary service provider and organizations such as community agencies, schools, faith-based organizations and public services will be encouraged.

Probation will continue to utilize established protocols and processes to provide linkage and collaboration between community-based providers and non-governmental entities within the County.

## Facility Plan

*(WIC section 1995(d)(4): Provide a detailed facility plan indicating which facilities will be used to house or confine realigned youth at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need, and improvements to accommodate long-term commitments. This should include how the facilities will ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics.)*

The County of Orange (through its Probation Department) operates one secure juvenile detention facility, Orange County Juvenile Hall (JH), and two juvenile camp facilities, Orange County's Youth Guidance Center (YGC) and Youth Leadership Academy (YLA). The Probation Department employs a staffing pattern at each of the juvenile facilities that exceeds state/federal recommended minimum staff to youth ratios. In addition, Probation leverages its existing partnership with the Orange County Department of Education as well as the Orange County Health Care Agency to ensure the ~~educational,educational~~ and behavioral health needs of each youth are met. All sworn Probation staff at these facilities are familiar/trained in corrections supervision strategies that have been proven effective including, but not limited to, trauma-informed interactions, cognitive behavioral strategies that influence behavior, and incentive-based interventions. The environment within Probation's facilities strikes the necessary balance between maintaining safe/secure juvenile facility operations while providing resources necessary to address the rehabilitative needs of all detained youth.

With the above in mind, Secure Track youth will be housed/supported in any unit at JH. The youth's prevailing needs will determine where in JH that youth may be placed. In addition to the above-described staffing/partnership structure, JH currently has specialized housing, programs and considerations based on youth gender identity, age, behavioral health needs, offense type and severity of the offense. Target population youth and committed Secure Track youth, absent another prevailing housing need, will be housed with their like peers considering the most appropriate setting based on age, risk level and other needs. This strategy will allow Probation the flexibility to house older male Secure Track/target population youth together, while other Secure Track/target population youth, including female and younger individuals may be housed in other areas of JH to better accommodate their specific needs and/or address the different stages of maturity, and program appropriateness.

As Secure Track youth progress through the JH facility program, they can be moved/housed within YGC, or YLA to continue their custodial commitment until they are released. Should the court order a Secure Track youth directly to YGC, or YLA, the committed youth will be integrated into the YGC/YLA populations, absent extenuating circumstances.

The County of Orange is currently working on strategic plans to renovate, build and potentially redesign the existing juvenile detention facilities including ~~a relocation~~ the relocation of at least one juvenile camp. To this end, the County has contracted with an architectural design firm for

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research, development, and a design plan. Phase One of the overall redesign includes the current construction of plans to build a new facility currently called the Youth Transitional Center (YTC) on the grounds of the current Juvenile Hall, with targeted completion by Spring 2027. This new facility will be used as a replacement for the existing YGC facility once completed. The plans for YTC include up to 60 beds in living units ~~and~~ and a transitional housing unit with 8 beds for youth preparing to re-enter the community. Phase Two of the overall redesign ~~proposed~~ includes two additional 28-bed housing units for youth serving long-term commitments on JH grounds and 40 additional apartment style beds within an Independent Living Program outside the perimeter of YLA/JH. New classrooms (educational/-vocational), a library and a school administration office are also proposed in the second phase of the project. The Probation Department, justice stakeholders and community partners will continue to work together to design and build facilities that create a more therapeutic, trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate setting for all youth including those committed to the SYTF. Specialized housing and considerations based on a youth's gender identity, age, behavioral health needs, offense, and severity of the offense are also being considered. The shared vision/goal of all new or renovated space for target population youth and those committed to the SYTF is a more homelike setting, appropriate and livable for longer term commitments when necessary. Included in these plans are step-down units or facilities that will meet the needs of the SYTF population.

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Youth in the SYTF and in the target population will also be provided appropriate space for physical activities and the development of reentry skills as they move through the phases of their commitments. Space will be designed to enhance existing and future services. Activities will include secondary educational programs, career technical education, vocational skills training, and life skills that will assist the youth in successful reentry.

## Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System

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*(WIC section 1995(d)(5): Provide a description of 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 transfers of realigned youth into the adult criminal justice system.)*

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Building off the YDC model, the County has seen a reduction in transfers to the adult criminal justice system through a collaborative endeavor between the Juvenile Court, Probation, juvenile justice stakeholders, and community-based organizations. Planned enhancements to YDC through the services and programs identified in the County's realignment plan will add another layer of rehabilitative services and reentry support for youth within the target population.

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Additionally, by developing a robust, well-informed, individualized case plan that also considers criminogenic needs and includes ongoing case conferences which engage the youth, their family/support network, services providers, peer mentor/navigator and any other community-based providers, the likelihood of any target population youth entering the adult system is reduced. Family engagement training and planning will continue to be offered to staff. Additional SB823 DPCO positions have been proposed to provide similar services to the remaining SB823 population when staffing levels are available. Moreover, with a focus on reentry at the outset of a youth's case, planning for continuation of care that minimizes a disruption of services and establishes community and peer support, promotes stronger ties to a youth's community and reduces their chance of entry in the adult system.

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Regular assessments of the effectiveness of existing and future programs and services must also be done to ensure appropriate successful outcomes for the target population and the retention of these youth within the juvenile justice system. Programming will be evaluated with a focus on providing services that will decrease the likelihood of transfer to the adult system. Where appropriate, implementation of existing services will be enhanced through continuing education of staff in areas including trauma informed practices, implicit bias, and conflict resolution.

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SYTF youth will also be ~~provided~~provided with step-down opportunities outlined specifically within their individualized plan. Youth will be given specific target goals to effectuate the step-down process. The identification of specific goals will incentivize youth to meet those goals through positive reinforcement.

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## Regional Effort

*(WIC section 1995(d)(6): Describe any regional agreements or arrangements to be supported by the County’s block grant allocation.)*

There are no regional agreements or arrangements that will be supported by the block grant allocation.

## Data

*(WIC section 1995(d)(7): Describe how data will be collected on the youth served and outcomes for youth served by the block grant program including a description of outcome measures that will be utilized to measure or determine the results of programs and interventions supported by block grant funds)*

The Orange County Probation Department has a data collection system. This data system has the capability to track “recidivism” related measurements such as risk/needs assessments, number of arrests, and sustained petitions. The system can also produce reports of real time data to provide outcome measures for the programs and interventions supported by block grant funding.

## Evaluation of Data

Data will be collected to evaluate the impact of the County’s plan on the youth’s rehabilitation, recidivism, and public safety. Data points may include youth development and wellness data, including, but not limited to, education attainment, employment, behavioral health, housing, family connections, foster care, and other wellness outcomes. Although the current system can capture some of these data points, an evaluation is necessary to determine what added programming and/or personnel resources are needed to capture additional data. Additionally, [Probation has contracted with](#) an independent data evaluator [is currently in the process of being contracted](#) to allow for an objective review and report on the outcomes and data regarding our programs.

## Other Updates

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(WIC section 1995 (d)(8): Describe any progress on elements since May 1, 2025)

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The County of Orange has made huge strides in focusing on and fulfilling many of the proposed components of the previous realignment plan. With existing County partners, community-based organizations (CBO), and various service providers, we have implemented several evidence-based treatment programs/services and created a wide variety of supportive and youth focused resources, specific to the target population. The updates below provide specific information on the responsiveness of the County of Orange to meet the needs of the youth and the commitment to provide services, programs, and opportunities to the youth within the target population.

Contracts were signed with the community-based organization, Project Kinship (PK) to provide Restorative Circle Services, Cognitive Behavioral Training Services, Re-Entry Services, and System Navigator/Peer Mentor Services. ~~In February of 2025 the~~ These contracted services ~~had~~ have been in place for ~~a year~~ two years. The services are currently being provided to youth within all juvenile facilities and referred youth within the community. Additionally, a PK Youth Transformation Program drop-in site ~~opened in June of 2025 and is being constructed~~ located within the Juvenile Justice complex, ~~with completion set for June 2025~~, which will allow for the availability of additional services ~~within the community~~ for the target population ~~within the community~~. PK staff are trained in various evidence-based practices, several staff have justice system lived experience, and they provide practice-based evidence services within both the juvenile and adult justice arenas within Orange County.

~~The department has maintained a contract in May 2024, the department contracted~~ with the Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp, ~~as an alternative detention and program opportunity for~~. ~~This is a new opportunity for~~ eligible male youth who are 18-25, under juvenile court jurisdiction and serving a commitment within our juvenile facilities. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) jointly operate Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp (Pine Grove) in Amador County. Camp partners include Amity Foundation and Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) which collaboratively instill a therapeutic community for youth participating in the camp. Pine Grove provides housing, care and training to county youth. Youth who participate in the program will receive various supportive programming, as well as firefighting specific training. Comprehensive rehabilitative program services are uniquely designed to accommodate youth employment schedules, youth specific needs, and address: positive reinforcement ethics, criminal addictive thinking, violence interruption and knowledge, motivational incentives and success, restorative justice and empathy, substance abuse counseling, reentry and reintegration programs and transitional planning and housing. Additional program services include an athletic fitness/sports program, college coursework, community service, religious services, and volunteer programs. Youth will receive 96 hours of training to receive six professional entry-level wildland fire service certificates. One certificate is received from ~~CALFIRE~~ CALFIRE, and five additional certificates are received from the National Wildfire Coordination Group. Youth will use the skills they learn in training on various conservation and fire prevention projects. One youth participated in the program for several months; however, he returned due to a medical issue. In early December, a youth from the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) was accepted and was transported to the program.

To fulfill many of the proposed programs within the County's previous plan, the Orange County Probation Department (OCPD) has ~~solicited for~~ solicited providers for various services and resources focused on providing opportunities for the target population. Contracts are currently pending with two providers that will provide vocational certifications in Graphic Design, Construction, Culinary Arts, and Medical Billing. A contract was secured with the vendor, Skills U-Up. A vendor has been identified to provide contracted services for vocational/educational training, specifically hands on automotive training at Probation's Multipurpose Rehabilitation Center (MRC) on site fully equipped auto shop, that will be provided in the auto-shop within the Multipurpose Rehabilitation Center (MRC). OCPD continues to meet with the leadership of local colleges and universities to ~~has released two separate Request for Proposals (RFPs) for vocational and educational services to~~ expand existing services for the target population. Probation has recently released an additional Request for Proposal (RFP) to expand educational and vocational opportunities for the targeted population. College level classes continue to be provided to eligible youth through our partnership with local community colleges. Additionally, youth have the opportunity to attend virtual classes offered through local universities.

Probation has recently released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Theater Arts and Musical Instruction Services. ~~The department is in the process of establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Segerstrom Center for the Arts (SCFTA), a local performing arts venue that hosts a wide variety of performances and provides innovative education programs. Every summer SCFTA facilitates a program with youth from Probation and DOE, which includes several days of instruction and activities in preparation for a musical performance the youth present to collaboratives, community members, and the youth's families. Probation is looking to expand this offer this opportunity to the targeted population by providing teaching artists contracting services to instruct dancing, singing, and acting within the facilities. This is proposed that the performance instruction will culminate in musical productions that can be attended by the youths' families, peers and staff.~~

The department continues to utilize six ~~The number of~~ Transitional Care Coordinator (TCC) DPCOs. positions increased from four to six staff, allowing for services to expand to all juvenile facilities. These staff work with the target population and focus ing on developing a robust, well-informed, individualized case plan within monthly case conference meetings that includeing the youth, parent/guardian, peer mentor, CBO personnel, as well as ~~behavioral~~ healthandhealth and education representatives. TCC staff also assist with Medi-Cal and public assistance referrals for eligible youth and/or their families, in coordination with the Social Services Agency (SSA).

OCPD has contracted with Open Gate International for culinary arts vocational training. The 12-week program trains youth on the basics of kitchen procedures and focuses on the demands and requirements of food preparation, cooking, and the presentation of food. This program is provided on a rotational basis within all the juvenile facilities.

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The Health Care Agency (HCA) provides behavioral health and various other supportive programs to youth within the facilities. Utilizing allocated funds, ~~the number of~~ behavioral health clinicians continue to serving the target population ~~youth has expanded,~~ with clinicians ~~now~~ on site at the ~~facilities~~ facilities seven days a week until 9 pm, and clinicians on call after hours. This has allowed for youth behavioral health needs to be addressed when issues are presented or during crisis situations. In addition, several clinicians have received specialized training in various evidence-based modalities to provide enhanced behavioral health services to ensure youth receive the behavioral health treatment they need. These enhanced behavioral health services include Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), and the Matrix Model, an intensive treatment designed to address substance use. HCA ~~has also hired~~ utilizes Peer Mentors to provide support to the target population while in ~~custody~~ and for continued assistance and community linkages upon release.

Although HCA provides programming to youth that focuses on life skills such as self-respect, building healthy relationships, financial literacy, job readiness, and other pro-social and adolescent development skill building; the department has contracted with Partners 4 Wellness ~~identified a vendor~~ to provide life skills specific programming to target population youth. ~~The contract is in the final stages of getting approved and the services are on target to begin in June 2025.~~

To ensure an objective review of the outcomes related to our current programming, OCPD has contracted with Justice System Partners (JSP) since August 2024 to provide consulting services regarding research, as an independent data evaluator. JSP has gathered and analyzed data related to the target population over the past several months.

~~Preparation for~~ Construction of the new Youth Transitional Center (YTC) began in Spring of 2025 ~~has begun,~~ ~~beginning with the demolition of s~~ several existing buildings. The new facility ~~is slated to be completed in Spring/Summer of 2027.~~ ~~need to be demolished to create space for the YTC.~~ This facility will include five-12 bed units and a unit with eight transitional housing beds. The transitional housing program will allow for a step-down option for youth who are preparing to re-enter into the community. This project ~~will be~~ is considered Phase One of several phases planned as part of the Orange County Juvenile Hall Masterplan project. ~~pending construction projects within the County's juvenile facilities.~~ The County is ~~currently~~ currently in the planning stages of Phase 2, ~~which is proposed~~ proposed to include ~~on building~~ two 28-bed housing units for youth serving long-term commitments and 40 additional apartment style beds within an Independent Living Program outside the perimeter of YLA/JH. ~~However, these two projects will now be part of Phase two of the juvenile facilities construction projects.~~

### Prior- Year Expenditures- Summary of Outcomes/ Impacts

(WIC section 1995 (D)(9); Please use the table provided below to summarize prior-year expenditures (e.g. for the 2025 JRBG plan the summary entered into the table below would be for FY 2024-25 expenditures) in accordance with Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(9), which requires counties to report: Total expenditures of block grant funds; Whether these expenditures were consistent with the plan described in subdivision

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County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan

~~2025-26~~ 2026-27

*(a); and how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment target population described in Section 1990.)*

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<u>Expenditure Subject Area<sup>[1]</sup></u>	<u>Total Expenditures (\$)</u>	<u>Were the expenditures consistent with the plan described for this subject area (i.e., were the goals described for this expenditure subject area met)? (Yes/No)</u>	<u>Please describe why the expenditures were or were not consistent with the plan described for this subject area.</u>	<u>Please describe how the expenditures improved outcomes for the realignment of target population described in Section 1990.</u>
<u>Behavioral Health</u>	<u>\$1,060,676.80</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Program services focus on reducing recidivism and reduction of criminal thinking.</u>	<u>The program team works with participants to build emotional intelligence and develop an understanding of the impact of adverse childhood experiences on identity, behavioral patterns, and psychosocial stages of development.</u>
<u>Family Engagement</u>	<u>\$121,349.81</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Engages participants and their families to support case plans, foster healthy relationships, and provides community service support.</u>	<u>Focuses on relationship-building, facilitating group activities, understanding high-risk neighborhoods, and advocating for youth needs. Services also involve training in positive behaviors, creating community support networks, maintaining communication with probation officers, and providing regular reports. Additionally, the program offers community-based advocacy, follow-up on referrals, and educates families to encourage personal and social success. Connects youth to community resources, support pro-social activities, and assist with educational, employment, and vocational needs.</u>

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County of Orange  
Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan  
~~2025-26~~2026-27

<u>Reentry</u>	<u>\$638,962.08</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Program provides reentry system navigation services and advocacy to Probation Youth to ensure smooth transitions back into the community.</u>	<u>Creating supportive relationships with youth in custody, system navigation and advocacy for youth and young adults who are transitioning back to the community, to ensure connections to resources and successful integration post-release.</u>
<u>Evidence Based Services and Programs</u>	<u>\$8,799,027.00</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>The program provides rehabilitative programs, housing, basic care, and training to Probation youth.</u>	<u>The program addresses positive reinforcement ethics, criminal addictive thinking, violence interruption, motivational incentives, restorative justice, substance abuse counseling, reentry and reintegration programs and transitional planning and housing. Services also include an athletic fitness/sports program, college coursework, community service, religious services and volunteer programs.</u>

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<sup>[1]</sup> This table corresponds to Part 4 of the JIRBG County Plan Template and fulfills the reporting requirements of WIC §1995(d)(9) by itemizing expenditures according to the five areas of need or development for realigned youth described in WIC §1995(d)(3)(A)–(E). CBO is excluded since it is §1995(d)(3)(F).

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# HIRE

Hub for  
Integration,  
Reentry &  
Employment

WHEN: MAY 13, 2026  
11am-2pm

WHERE: GROVE OF ANAHEIM  
2200 E Katella Ave,  
Anaheim, CA



## 5th Annual Reentry Resource Fair

*Connect With Community Resources & Jobs*

### Vendors include:

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- Legal Assistance
- Health & Wellness
- Employment
- Addiction Recovery & more!

Open to Anyone in the  
Community 18+  
Note, **no minors are allowed** at  
the event.

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- FREE Haircuts
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- FREE to attend and FREE to park!
- Pre-Register to save time!
- Must be present to participate in opportunity drawing for gift cards, school supplies, professional supplies & more!

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