

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING ORANGE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL



Thursday, October 23, 2025, 3:30 P.M.

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

DANIEL HERNANDEZ, Chair
Probation

MELISSA DEL RIO
Juvenile Court Representative

KATRINA FOLEY
Orange County Board of Supervisors

IAN KEMMER
Health Care Agency, Mental Health

FRED LA PUZZA
At Large Community Representative

KIRSTEN MONTELEONE
Sheriff-Coroner

TODD SPITZER
District Attorney

NATI ALVARADO
Juvenile Social Services Organization Rep.

AMIR EL-FARRA
Local Law Enforcement

ALICE GLEGHORN
Community Based Drug & Alcohol Rep.

VACANT
Education Representative

ED LEE
Business Representative

VERONICA RODRIGUEZ
Social Services Agency

DARREN THOMPSON
Public Defender

ATTENDANCE: Members Alvarado, Del Rio, El-Farra, Foley, Hernandez, La Puzza, Monteleone, Spitzer, Thompson, Burdick (Alternate for Rodriguez) and Smith (Alternate for Kemmer)

EXCUSED: Members Gleghorn, Kemmer, Lee and Rodriguez

COUNTY COUNSEL: Carolyn Khouzam, Deputy

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

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS: (Items 1 - 7)

1. Welcome and Introductions

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIR HERNANDEZ AT 3:31 P.M.

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

2. Approve recommendation to Board of Supervisors to appoint Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin to Education Representative position, two-year term; and direct Probation Department to work with Chairman's office for submission to Board of Supervisors for final approval

6 15 12345789 10 11 12 13 14 **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

XX X X

3. Receive and file the Office of Youth & Community Restoration expenditure and data Report for FY 2024-25 Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act & Youthful Offender Block Grant

RECEIVED

4. Receive and file OCJJCC Annual Report, FY 2024-25

RECEIVED

5. Receive and file FY 2024-25 Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) ending balances and 2025 Strategic Financial Plan projections

RECEIVED

6. Discussion and approval of 2025 Funding Opportunity for Unallocated funds requests and recommendations

12 412356789 10 11 13 14 15 **APPROVED AS AMENDED TO FUND AMOUNTS REQUESTED BY APPLICANTS "RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING"; AND APPROVED TO FUND APPLICANTS "RECOMMENDED IF ADDITIONAL FUNDS AVAILABLE" (IN RANKED ORDER) AS FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE**

A X X X X

(Member Alvarado abstained from discussion and vote on this item and declared his affiliation with Neutral Ground).

7. Discussion and approval of District Attorney request of funds for Juvenile Justice related programs
(Continued from 7/24/25, Item 2)

NO ACTION TAKEN

PUBLIC & COUNCIL COMMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Heather Choi – Oral Re.: Project Kinship; thanked the Council for their funding approval and introduced Leadership Team.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Member Foley – Oral Re.: Requested a "yes" vote to be recorded for her on item 2.

Chair Hernandez – Oral Re.: announced cancelation of November 13, 2025 special meeting.

ADJOURNED: 4:49 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 Katrina Foley	
5 Alice Gleghorn	
6 Daniel Hernandez	
7 Ian Kemmer	
8 Fred La Puzza	
9 Ed Lee	N = No
10 Kirsten Monteleone	C.O. = Council Order
11 Veronica Rodriguez	
12 Todd Spitzer	
13 Darren Thompson	
14 Scott Burdick (Alternate)	
15 Dawn Smith (Alternate)	

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

/s/

DANIEL HERNANDEZ
Chair

/s/

Jamie Ross, Deputy
Clerk of the Council



APPLICATION FOR COUNTY OF ORANGE
BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE

(FOR COUNTY USE ONLY)

Return to: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
400 W. Civic Center Dr., 6th Floor
Santa Ana, California 92701
Email: response@ocgov.com
Website: <https://cob.ocgov.com/>

Instructions: Please complete each section below. Be sure to enter the title of the Board, Commission or Committee for which you desire consideration and attach a resume. For information or assistance, please contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisor's Office at (714) 834-2206. Please print in ink or type.

NAME OF BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE TO WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP. SEE LIST AT <https://cob.ocgov.com/boards-commissions-committees/bcc-name-list-and-contact-information>

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT IN WHICH YOU RESIDE: ☐ First ☐ Second ☐ Third ☐ Fourth ☐ Fifth

APPLICANT NAME AND RESIDENCE ADDRESS:

Maria

Martinez-Poulin

First Name

Middle Name (Optional)

Last Name

Street Address

Seal Beach

CA

City

State

Zip Code

Home Phone Number

Cell Phone Number

Email Address

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Orange County Department of Education

OCCUPATION/JOB TITLE: Chief of Alternative Education - ACCESS

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

BUSINESS PHONE NUMBER:

☒ **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:** Please attach a resume to this application and provide any information that would be helpful in evaluating your application. **A RESUME MUST BE ATTACHED TO YOUR APPLICATION.**

ARE YOU A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES: ☒ YES ☐ NO

IF NO, NAME OF COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP:

ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER? ☒ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, NAME COUNTY YOU ARE REGISTERED IN:

USA

LIST ALL CURRENT PROFESSIONAL OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIETIES OF WHICH YOU ARE A MEMBER.

ORGANIZATION/SOCIETY

FROM (MO./YR.)

TO (MO./YR.)

Whole Child

WITHIN THE LAST FIVE YEARS, HAVE YOU BEEN AFFILIATED WITH ANY BUSINESS OR NONPROFIT AGENCY(IES)? ☒ YES ☐ NO

DO YOU OWN REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY OR HAVE FINANCIAL HOLDING WHICH MIGHT PRESENT A POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST? ☐ YES ☐ NO

HAVE YOU BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR CRIME SINCE YOUR 18TH BIRTHDAY? YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: ARRESTS OR DETENTIONS THAT DID NOT RESULT IN A CONVICTION; CONVICTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN JUDICIALLY DISMISSED, EXPUNGED OR ORDERED SEALED; INFORMATION CONCERNING REFERRAL TO AND PARTICIPATION IN ANY PRETRIAL OR POSTTRIAL DIVERSION PROGRAM; AND CERTAIN DRUG RELATED CONVICTIONS THAT ARE OLDER THAN TWO YEARS, AS LISTED IN CALIFORNIA LABOR CODE § 432.8 (INCLUDING VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 11357(B) AND (C), 11360(C) 11364, 11365 AND 11550 – AS THEY RELATE TO MARIJUANA)?

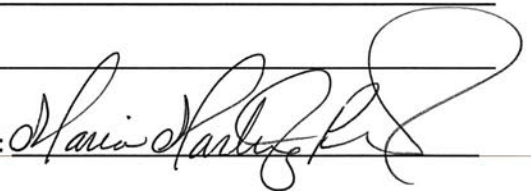
☐ YES ☒ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN AND ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, IF NECESSARY.

PLEASE BRIEFLY EXPLAIN WHY YOU WISH TO SERVE ON THIS BOARD, COMMITTEE, OR COMMISSION. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, IF NECESSARY.

DATE: 07/29/2025

APPLICANTS SIGNATURE:



CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS USE ONLY – DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Date Received: _____ Received by: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Date referred: _____

To: ☐ BOS District 1 ☐ BOS District 2 ☐ BOS District 3 ☐ BOS District 4 ☐ BOS District 5

☐ All BOS ☐ BCC Contact Person Name _____

Maria Martinez-Poulin, Ed.D.

Objective: To serve where my educational experience and background can contribute to building a thriving educational community in alignment with values of collaboration, integrity and student success.

Education

- Doctorate of Education: University of Southern California
- Master of Arts in Secondary Education: Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles
- Bachelor of Arts in English: California State University, Los Angeles
- School Business Management Certificate: Sponsored by Fiscal Crisis and Management Assessment Team (FCMAT), School Services of California (SSC) and Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs (ASCIP): Certificate Completed
- Clear Administrative Credential
- Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential, English, CLAD

Professional Employment Experience

Director of Instruction and Curriculum

ACCESS – WASC-Accredited Public Education Program, Orange County, CA

March 2024 – Present

Compassionate and visionary instructional leader responsible for advancing academic excellence, system-wide improvement, and equitable learning opportunities across 11 educational areas serving TK–12 and adult learners. Led initiatives to develop responsive, inclusive curriculum and expanded hands-on learning experiences that support student engagement, skill-building, and college and career readiness. Fostered a culture of collaboration, trust, and transparency through active listening, staff empowerment, and strategic communication—aligned with ACCESS’s Vision 2030 and WASC accreditation standards.

- Chaired the ACCESS Steering Committee to restore confidence and credibility in administration by actively listening to educators, validating staff expertise, and fostering respectful collaboration across teams and areas.
- Established and refined systems for accountability, transparency, and clear communication between instructional leadership and area principals to align efforts and drive continuous improvement.
- Founded and led the ACCESS Curriculum Committee with teacher and counselor representatives from all 11 areas. Guided the cleanup and standardization of course codes, development of accurate and inclusive course descriptions, and the establishment of equitable academic expectations. Course catalog currently being drafted for cohesion of practice and support for students and staff.
- Expanded Career Technical Education (CTE) programming through new pathways and hands-on learning opportunities.
 - Launched four new Digital Media Centers and Esports labs at HLC–South and Lyons to promote creativity, digital literacy, and collaboration.

- Oversaw construction of a new culinary kitchen at Central YRC and development of drone and construction tech courses.
- Broadened CTE elective offerings leading to industry-recognized certificates and micro badges.
- Established and facilitated a Principal PLC to support the growth of site leaders as instructional and operational leaders. Grounded in the tenets of Professional Learning Communities, the PLC fostered collaboration, shared leadership, data-driven decision-making, and continuous improvement in service of student achievement
- Supported the transition toward electronic report cards and electronic master scheduling to promote equity, operational efficiency, and accessibility for staff and students. Allocated professional development and transition time, provided clear communication about the rationale for change, and collaborated with Curriculum Committee members to plan the implementation. Activated key resources to ensure a comprehensive and successful transition.

Interim Superintendent

Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) | October 2023 – March 2024

Provided visionary leadership during a critical transitional period, focused on strengthening community trust, advancing student outcomes, and ensuring operational excellence.

- Successfully led a community-centered campaign resulting in the passage of a \$358 million facilities bond (March 2024) to modernize and enhance learning environments.
- Partnered with Educational and Fiscal Services to present Mid-Year LCAP updates to stakeholders and the Board, reinforcing accountability and transparency in monitoring program goals and student progress.
- Designed and evaluated professional learning systems that promoted continuous growth for faculty and staff.
- Supervised elementary and secondary leaders as well as Executive Cabinet personnel with a focus on collaboration, communication, and alignment to student-centered goals.
- Facilitated cross-department collaboration to align goals, strengthen operations, and prioritize student achievement within strategic planning efforts.
- Maintained a strong governance partnership by preparing board agendas, presentations, and policy updates in accordance with new legislation and education code.
- Initiated transition toward electronic report cards and electronic master scheduling to support equity, streamline school operations, and enhance access for families and staff.

Deputy Superintendent

Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) | July 2021 – June 2023

Served as second-in-command of the nation's largest regional education agency, ensuring operational integrity and educational quality across diverse programs and divisions.

- Supervised Chiefs of Divisions overseeing more than 2,600 employees and a \$640 million budget.

- Acted as Executive-in-Charge in the Superintendent's absence, maintaining continuity and responsiveness.
- Led oversight of two specialized high schools and educational programs in court and community schools, emphasizing equity and access for justice-involved youth.
- Provided districtwide professional development and internal capacity-building programs for LACOE staff.
- Promoted trust and clarity through intentional communication and consistent engagement with stakeholders.
- Served as a spokesperson in both English and Spanish media, increasing family access to educational resources.
- Advanced district equity goals by championing anti-racism, DEIA practices, and culturally responsive environments.
- Offered governance support on complex matters including interdistrict appeals, boundary adjustments, and expulsions.

Superintendent

Whittier City School District | July 2018 – June 2021

Led the district through a period of innovation and crisis response, with a commitment to excellence, equity, and community connection.

- Reopened schools safely during the COVID-19 pandemic and ensured uninterrupted instruction through successful distance learning rollout, device and hotspot distribution, and meal service coordination.
- Increased student achievement by promoting high expectations, instructional alignment, and whole-child development.
- Modernized facilities, completed one middle school renovation, and initiated a second through successful bond oversight.
- Fostered leadership and instructional capacity by launching academies with robust technology, dual immersion, AVID, and Leader in Me initiatives.
- Closed deficit spending while protecting instructional quality and program sustainability.
- Facilitated vision and mission alignment through intentional board presentations, policy leadership, and strategic communication.
- Prioritized cultural respect and inclusive practices across all schools.
- Managed all negotiations and labor agreements with certificated and classified associations.

Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

Centralia School District | December 2014 – July 2018

Directed all instructional programs, driving significant gains in student learning and wellness.

- Led the district to the highest ELA growth in Orange County in 2016 (10% increase).
- Secured over \$2.5 million in external funding for physical education, preschool, and school readiness.
- Oversaw state and federal programs, LCAP, and categorical budgets to support instructional equity.
- Guided administrators and teachers in data-driven decision-making and instructional alignment.

- Coordinated ELA and math textbook adoption and vertical curriculum articulation.
- Provided leadership for policy development, enrollment matters, and student services.
- Participated in and supported collective bargaining processes.

Principal

Centralia School District | July 2009 – December 2014

Created a high-performing school culture focused on safety, academic excellence, and professional growth.

- Led the school to California Distinguished School recognition (2014) by exceeding academic performance targets.
- Mentored teachers and principals using data-informed coaching and professional development.
- Managed school operations including staffing, scheduling, evaluation, and school climate initiatives.

High School Assistant Principal

Garden Grove Unified School District | July 2007 – June 2009

Supported student success through effective discipline systems, instructional leadership, and extended learning opportunities.

- Coordinated state and district assessments and led school-wide attendance interventions.
- Integrated community partnerships such as Boys and Girls Club to enhance enrichment programs.
- Managed master scheduling, staff supervision, and contractual compliance to ensure equitable learning conditions.

High School English Teacher & Department Chair

Bellflower Unified School District | July 1999 – June 2007

Delivered rigorous, standards-based instruction while supporting colleagues through mentorship and leadership.

- Taught Honors and college-prep English courses (Grades 9, 10, 12); served as Department Chair and BTSA mentor.
- Advised yearbook and supported a campus culture of academic and creative expression.

Elementary Teacher

Saint John of God School | July 1994 – June 1999

Taught Kindergarten and Grade 5 with a focus on foundational literacy, student engagement, and integration of technology.

Selected Skills and Accomplishments

- Bilingual/Bi-literate, Spanish
- 57th Assembly District Distinguished Women of the Year Award: Honoring Resilience and Excellence, March 29, 2021
- Hispanic Outreach Taskforce, Positive Image Award for Education, 2021

- Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 17 Curriculum and Instruction Administrator of the Year Recipient, 2017

Professional Memberships

- Rio Hondo Community College Foundation Board Member
- The Whole Child Board Member
- Rotary, Executive Board Member
- USC Rossier Dean Superintendent Advisory Group Executive Board Member
- Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Member



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

FY 2024-2025 Expenditure and Data Report

Date:	<u>9/29/2025</u>
County Name:	<u>ORANGE</u>
Primary Contact Name:	<u>Daniel Hernandez</u>
Telephone Number:	<u>714-645-7001</u>
Title:	<u>Chief Probation Officer</u>
Email Address:	<u>Daniel.Hernandez@prob.ocgov.com</u>
Secondary Contact Name:	<u>Diana Chepi</u>
Telephone Number:	<u>714-834-7035</u>
Title:	<u>Fiscal Manager, Senior</u>
Email Address:	<u>Diana.chepi@ceo.oc.gov</u>

INSTRUCTIONS:

Report Submission Process

On or before October 1, 2025, each county is required to submit to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) a report on its Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) and Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) programs during the preceding year. For JJCPA this requirement can be found at [Government Code \(GC\) Section 30061\(b\)\(4\)\(C\)](#) and for YOBG it can be found at [Welfare & Institutions Code Section \(WIC\) 1961\(c\)](#). These code sections both call for a consolidated report format that includes a description of the programs and other activities supported by JJCPA and/or YOBG funds, an accounting of all JJCPA and YOBG expenditures during the prior fiscal year, and countywide juvenile justice trend data.

This template should be used to ensure your submission meets the accessibility standards published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The standards are outlined here, [Accessibility Conformance Checklists | HHS.gov](#).

Your submission will be posted to the OYCR website once it is confirmed to meet the accessibility standards. We encourage you to review your report for accuracy before sending it to the OYCR. Please review your submission for spelling and do NOT change the report form to a PDF document prior to submission.

Prior to submitting this report save the file using the following naming convention: "(County Name) 2025 JJCPA-YOBG Report." For example, Sacramento County would name its file "Sacramento 2025 JJCPA-YOBG Report".

Once the report is complete, attach the file to an email and send it to: OYCRgrants@chhs.ca.gov.

Expenditure and Data Report Content

The report consists of several sections. Complete the report by providing the information requested in each worksheet.

1. **Report I. Countywide Juvenile Justice Data**
 - a. Provide data directly from your Juvenile Court & Probation Statistical System (JCPSS) Report 1 that you received from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) for 2025.
2. Similarly, for **Report III. Countywide Juvenile Justice Data** you will pull information directly from your 2025 JCPSS Report 3.
3. For **Arrest Data: Countywide Juvenile Justice Data** you will obtain data from the DOJ's Open Justice public website.
4. **Analysis of Countywide Trend Data**
 - a. Describe how the programs and activities funded by JJCPA-YOBG have, or may have, contributed to the trends seen in the data included in REPORT 1, REPORT 3, and ARREST DATA.
5. **Accounting of JJCPA-YOBG Expenditures**
 - a. You are required to provide a detailed accounting of actual expenditures for each program, placement, service, strategy, or system enhancement that was funded by JJCPA and/or YOBG during the preceding fiscal year. This worksheet is also where you are asked to provide a description of each item funded.

Contents

FY 2024-2025 Expenditure and Data Report 1

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Report I. Countywide Juvenile Justice Data

Please use your Department of Justice (DOJ) “Report 1”—titled Referrals of Juveniles to Probation Departments for Delinquent Acts, January 1–December 31, 2025: Age by Referral Type, Gender, Race/Ethnic Group, Referral Source, Detention, Prosecutor Action, and Probation Department Disposition—to complete the blank fields below. Enter all relevant data exactly as reported under each category.

Probation Department Disposition

Informal Probation	0
Diversions	0
Petitions Filed	2,719
Total	2,719

Gender (Optional)

Male	3,571
Female	866
Total	4,437

Race/Ethnicity Group (Optional)

Hispanic	3,168
White	525
Black	259
Asian	151
Pacific Islander	19
Indian	1
Unknown	314
Total	4,437

Please use this space to explain any exceptions and/or anomalies in the data reported above:

Report III. Countywide Juvenile Justice Data

Please use your Department of Justice (DOJ) “Report 3” —titled Juvenile Court Dispositions Resulting From Petitions for Delinquent Acts, January 1–December 31, 2025: Age by Petition Type, Gender, Race/Ethnic Group, Defense Representation, Court Disposition and Wardship Placement —to complete the blank fields below. Enter all relevant data exactly as reported under each category.

Petition Type

New	1,341
Subsequent	1,378
Total	2,719

Court Disposition

Informal Probation	258
Non-Ward Probation	236
Wardship Probation	1,650
Diversion	0
Deferred Entry of Judgement	34
Total	2,178

Wardship Placements

Own/Relative's Home	626
Non-Secure County Facility	0
Secure County Facility	1,024
Other Public Facility	0
Other Private Facility	0
Other	0
Total	1,650

Subsequent Actions

Technical Violations	6
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Gender (Optional)

Male	2,258
Female	461
Total	2,719

Race/Ethnicity Group (Optional)

Hispanic	2,029
White	286
Black	169
Asian	73
Pacific Islander	15

Indian	0
Unknown	147
Total	2,719

Please use this space to explain any exceptions and/or anomalies in the data reported above:

Arrest Data: Countywide Juvenile Justice Data

In the blank boxes below, enter your juvenile arrest data from last year (2024).

Arrest data by county can be found at <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/data> or use your County's recorded information:

Arrests

Felony Arrests	997
Misdemeanor Arrests	1,382
Status Arrests	19
Total	2,398

Gender (Optional)

Male	1,890
Female	508
Total	2,398

Race/Ethnicity Group (Optional)

Black	125
White	411
Hispanic	1,648
Other	214
Total	2,398

Please use this space to explain any exceptions and/or anomalies in the data reported above:

Analysis of Countywide Trend Data

Provide a summary description or analysis, based on available information, of how the programs, placements, services, strategies or system enhancements funded by JJCPA-YOBG have, or may have, contributed to, or influenced, the juvenile justice data trends identified in this report. Government Code Section 30061(b)(4)(C)(iv) & WIC Section 1961(c)(3):

From 2015 to 2024, Orange County experienced an overall decrease of 50 percent for juvenile arrests. This decline may be partially attributed to the passage of Proposition 47 in 2014, which reclassified some nonviolent felonies to misdemeanors. However, the law had minimal effect on serious and violent felonies. As a result, the proportion of arrests for serious and violent felonies increased, making up about 36 percent of total arrests between 2015 and 2024 compared to roughly 19 percent before Proposition 47, even though the actual number of serious and violent arrests did not rise significantly. In other words, the decline in nonviolent arrests reshaped the overall arrest profile, causing serious and violent offenses to represent a larger share of the total.

Juvenile arrests were on a steady decline in Orange County through 2018. The number of arrests in 2019 were similar to 2018, potentially beginning what could have been a leveling off of juvenile arrests if not for the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning in 2020 through 2022, statewide and local emergency policies led to fewer arrests in Orange County. In 2024, juvenile arrests were 15% lower than in 2018 and 8% lower than in 2019. This indicates that even accounting for temporary fluctuations, the long-term downward trajectory of juvenile arrests has remained steady over the past decade.

Accounting of JJCPA-YOBG Expenditures

Use the template(s) below to report the programs, placements, services, strategies, and/or system enhancements you funded in the preceding fiscal year. Use a separate template for each program, placement, service, strategy, or system enhancement that was supported with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds. If you need more templates than provided, please use the Instructions for Additional Usage of Funds section at the end for copy and pasting more tables.

1. Start by indicating the name of the first program, placement, service, strategy, or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds last year.
2. Next indicate the expenditure category using the list below:

List of Expenditure Categories and Associated Numerical Codes			
	Code	Expenditure Category	Code Expenditure Category
Placements	1	Juvenile Hall	5 Private Residential Care
	2	Ranch	6 Home on Probation
	3	Camp	7 Other Placement
	4	Other Secure/Semi-Secure Rehab Facility	
	Code	Expenditure Category	Code Expenditure Category
Direct Services	8	Alcohol and Drug Treatment	26 Life/Independent Living Skills Training/Education
	9	After School Services	27 Individual Mental Health Counseling
	10	Aggression Replacement Therapy	28 Mental Health Screening
	11	Anger Management Counseling/Treatment	29 Mentoring
	12	Development of Case Plan	30 Monetary Incentives
	13	Community Service	31 Parenting Education
	14	Day or Evening Treatment Program	32 Pro-Social Skills Training
	15	Detention Assessment(s)	33 Recreational Activities
	16	Electronic Monitoring	34 Re-Entry or Aftercare Services
	17	Family Counseling	35 Restitution
	18	Functional Family Therapy	36 Restorative Justice
	19	Gang Intervention	37 Risk and/or Needs Assessment
	20	Gender Specific Programming for Girls	38 Special Education Services
	21	Gender Specific Programming for Boys	39 Substance Abuse Screening
	22	Group Counseling	40 Transitional Living Services/Placement
	23	Intensive Probation Supervision	41 Tutoring
	24	Job Placement	42 Vocational Training
	25	Job Readiness Training	43 Other Direct Service
	Code	Expenditure Category	Code Expenditure Category
Capacity	44	Staff Training/Professional Development	48 Contract Services
Building/	45	Staff Salaries/Benefits	49 Other Procurements
Maintenance	46	Capital Improvements	50 Other
Activities	47	Equipment	

3. For each program, placement, service, strategy, or system enhancement, record actual expenditure details for the preceding fiscal year. Expenditures will be categorized as coming from one or more of three funding sources:
 1. JJCPA funds
 2. YOBG funds
 3. Other funding sources (local, federal, other state, private, etc.)

Be sure to report all JJCPA and YOBG expenditures for the preceding fiscal year irrespective of the fiscal year during which the funds were allocated. Definitions of the budget line items are:

- **Salaries and Benefits** includes all expenditures related to paying the salaries and benefits of county probation (or other county department) employees who were directly involved in grant-related activities.
 - **Services and Supplies** includes expenditures for services and supplies necessary for the operation of the project (e.g., lease payments for vehicles and/or office space, office supplies) and/or services provided to participants and/or family members as part of the project's design (e.g., basic necessities such as food, clothing, transportation, and shelter/housing; and related costs).
 - **Professional Services** includes all services provided by individuals and agencies with whom the County contracts. The county is responsible for reimbursing every contracted individual/agency.
 - **Community-Based Organizations (CBO)** includes all expenditures for services received from CBO's. NOTE: If you use JJCPA and/or YOBG funds to contract with a CBO, report that expenditure on this line item rather than on the Professional Services line item.
 - **Fixed Assets/Equipment** includes items such as vehicles and equipment needed to implement and/or operate the program, placement, service, etc. (e.g., computer and other office equipment including furniture).
 - **Administrative Overhead** includes all costs associated with administration of the program, placement, service, strategy, and/or system enhancement being supported by JJCPA and/or YOBG funds.
4. Use the space below the budget detail to provide a narrative description for each program, placement, service, strategy, and/or system enhancement that was funded last year.

Repeat this process as many times as needed to fully account for all programs, placements, services, strategies, and systems enhancements that were funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG during the last fiscal year. Keep in mind that this full report will be posted on the OYCR website in accordance with state law.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Substance Use Programming		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$ 4,833,083	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$ 15,983	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$9,104	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$ 6,055	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$ 4,864,226	\$	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. Substance Use Programming (SUP) provides institutional and camp programming at the Juvenile Hall facility and Camp facilities and offers a consistent array of evidence-based, cognitive-behavioral treatment programs designed to support youth rehabilitation and personal development. Youth engage in a structured, tiered phase-level system that provides a continuum of care tailored to their individual needs. Programs provide continuum of response for the in-custody treatment of youth. Camps target youth based on age, gender, criminogenic risk factors and/or commitment length. Specific programs within the facilities target youth who require a higher level of need for transition and reentry services. Services provided within SUP include: • Cognitive behavioral treatment programs to assist in-custody youth with their rehabilitation. • Aggression Replacement Training. • Decision Points and Effective Practices in Community Supervision. • 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 the Health Care Agency (HCA), Probation Department, community partners (OC Department of Education (OCDE), Project Kinship, Waymakers, Santiago Canyon College), and the Orange County Bar Foundation.

Program Success:

The youth referenced entered Juvenile Hall at age 17 and was later transferred to a camp facility, where she is currently 20 years old. Her journey has been complex, but her educational accomplishments speak volumes about her determination and the support she received while in custody.

With no prior college credits upon entry, she earned her high school diploma and (through the educational and vocational services provided within the SUP and in collaboration with County partners- began pursuing her Associate of Arts degree. Despite the challenges of incarceration, she successfully completed her AA degree, demonstrating exceptional perseverance and academic commitment. Her long-term goal is to transfer to a university and enter a veterinary program, a dream she has actively worked toward throughout her time in custody.

This month (August 2025), she received confirmation from Underground Scholars at UC Davis that she qualifies for transfer into the Animal Sciences Major for the Winter 2026 quarter. Her transcripts were reviewed and verified, and she meets all requirements for admission. Underground Scholars will continue to support her through the application process, which begins this August.

The SUP program, along with consistent mentorship and academic advising, played a critical role in preparing her for reentry and higher education. Her story is a testament to what is possible when we invest in the potential of our youth and provide them with the tools to succeed beyond confinement.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Juvenile Recovery Court		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$ 765,434	\$	\$8,891
Services & Supplies:	\$ 16,754	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$ 22,032	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$ 6,055	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$ 810,276	\$	\$8,891
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. Juvenile Recovery Court (JRC) is a collaborative program for youthful offenders demonstrating an escalating pattern of drug and/or alcohol use. JRC provides intensive supervision and treatment for substance use to these youth as an alternative to incarceration. There are 4 program phases, including an initial 30-day orientation period. The primary JRC goals are to increase sobriety and reduce recidivism while reducing the reliance on incarceration. Participants may remain in the program as long as they can derive a benefit from it. On successful completion of JRC, wardship may be terminated and all charges and stayed time are dismissed. Services provided within JRC include: • Weekly individual and group therapy sessions. • Weekly self-help meetings. • Weekly reporting to the probation officer for progress checks and drug testing. • Regular attendance in school with no behavior problems reported. • Compliance with all court-ordered terms and conditions and regularly scheduled 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 the primary provider of behavioral health services for JRC. CCFSP provides culturally competent in-home and community-based services for youth ages 12 -25 struggling with mental illness and/or substance use issues. A multidisciplinary team wraps around a consumer through assessment, care plan implementation, case management linkage and coordination, treatment intervention to build upon skills and maintenance of wellness and recovery phases of treatment. CCFSP addresses the needs of consumers and their families across all life domains to encourage alternative positive activities that empower, improve self-efficacy, and build social competence to promote recovery, success, safety and permanence in the home, school, workplace, and community.

The following services are provided to JRC youth:

- Individual therapy and family therapy in the client's home or other field-based location to reduce barriers to treatment such as transportation difficulties.
 - Linkage to psychiatry and medication support
 - Group therapy at Waymakers focused on topics specific to this population.
- 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 participant started in JRC after being on probation as a juvenile for several years. While enrolled in JRC and in CCFSP, the participant actively engaged in weekly therapy, case management, and attended social and wellness activities to support their treatment goals. They were able to abstain from opioid and cannabis use long enough to successfully graduate from JRC. Alongside completing probation, they maintained steady employment, secured stable housing, and advanced their career. Over the year, they demonstrated increase compliance with probation, applied learned skills to improve their relationships, and addressed maladaptive partnership behaviors. They also established boundaries with their peer group to minimize negative influences and prioritize personal goals. After completing JRC, they maintained their progress for a period and felt confident that they no longer required weekly intensive mental health services with CCFSP.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Decentralized Intake/Sheriff's Prevention Program		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$ 431,150	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$ 6,055	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$ 437,205	\$	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. Decentralized Intake (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 youths 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)). Intervention services provided by PRYDE include: • Intake assessments with at-risk youth and their families.			

- Individual youth, parent and family counseling services.
- Restorative justice services including facilitating community service and restitution to victims.
- Drug and alcohol education and prevention classes.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Truancy Response Program		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$ 339,298	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$ 6,815	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$ 460,836	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$ 6,055	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$ 813,005	\$	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. Truancy Response Program (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 the District Attorney's Department 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, Social Services Agency, Public Defender, and community partners (Waymakers, Boy's and Girl's Club of Garden Grove, OCDE, and local school districts).

Instructions for Additional Usage of Funds

To include additional tables, copy and paste the template below as many times as necessary.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	School Mobile Assessment and Response Team		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$ 3,085,199	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$ 127,141	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$ 6,055	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$ 3,218,396	\$	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for.			
School Mobile Assessment Response Team (SMART) was established to reduce crime and violence by youth 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, HCA, and community partners (local school districts).

Program Success:

In March 2024, SMART became aware of a 13-year-old student who attempted to purchase a firearm online with a credit card provided by his father. At that time, he was attending a private school in south Orange County but was then excused because of this incident. SMART conducted a threat assessment, obtained a Gun Violence Restraining Order, and carried out a residential search warrant at their Irvine home. In the following months, the student was a suspect in at least two vandalism cases, multiple vehicle code violations (on e-bikes). Multiple WIC 5585 holds occurred after there was a call for service at his home and his mother volunteered to take him to the hospital for evaluation. On the way to the hospital, he jumped out of the moving vehicle. He is on probation and has active cases pending. Throughout the investigation, SMART worked closely with Probation, the District Attorney, Children's Hospital Orange County, and other local & federal law enforcement partners in monitoring this student's behavior and case.

After several residential searches at his home, SMART learned that the student and his family were planning to move back to China. Due to the student's level of concern to the community, SMART conducted surveillance on the family during the transit through & departure from LAX International Airport in February 2025. SMART has since worked with law enforcement partners to put safeguards in place to be alerted in the event the student attempts to return to the United States.

In September 2024, SMART responded to a south Orange County high school for an anonymous online tip regarding an event titled "weapons". The tip was provided by a third-party anonymous application that allows community members to submit information regarding school safety. The tip stated, "There was a person in all black and it looked like they were holding a gun. They were by the M building bathrooms before 1st period." The school listed was "Capistrano Valley High School Mission Viejo, California, Orange."

Due to the threat of life and safety of the school community, SMART was able to obtain the IP address related to the tip. The tip system received a second and third tip. The second tip event type selected was "Planned School Attack" listing the same high school as the school. The third tip was titled "Planned fight/assault" and stated, "i can't do this anymore everyone hates me and i don't know if I can keep going on like this I'm going to shoot up the school

you can't stop me my life is a wreck i bought a Glock 19 from my dealer you should leave as fast as you can."

SMART submitted emergency disclosures requesting subscriber information of the IP addresses and conducted threat assessment interviews of identified people/students of interest related to information gathered throughout the investigation. A Public Defender was contacted and responded to the high school once the suspect was identified and detained. Based on the three separate tip submissions, the IP address confirming two tips had been sent from the suspect's phone, the response and impact on the high school's community, and the resources absorbed in responding to this false emergency, the student was charged with three (3) separate counts of "Reporting a false emergency." Despite the impact that the incident had on the school's community, SMART's thorough investigation allowed the school and community to return to normal without lasting impact.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Youth Reporting Centers		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$4,022,334	\$	\$1,255,081
Services & Supplies:	\$1,436,209	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$31,938	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$60,000	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$6,055	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$5,556,536	\$	\$1,255,081
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for.			
The Youth Reporting Centers' (YRCs) mission and goal is to reduce the use of secure detention by providing a highly structured community-based alternative confinement program. The staff at the YRC strive to promote lawful and productive lifestyles of its students by providing proven intervention and programming. The YRCs operate within the local community to provide the youth population with the opportunity to modify poor behavior and learn the skills needed to comply with their court orders and terms of probation. The youth attend a full academic program and participate in afternoon group counseling, individual counseling, and random drug testing with an emphasis on obtaining and maintaining sobriety. On-site job coaches assist youth in seeking, obtaining, and maintaining employment as well as vocational training access. The YRCs also provide an alternative to the traditional incarceration model. Youth receive support services during the day and return home on alternative monitoring versus confinement in a juvenile facility.			

Services provided within the YRCs include:

- Mental health assessment and treatment.
- Trauma informed assessment and treatment for co-occurring disorders.
- Family services and parenting education.
- Peer mentor services
- Case management
- Substance use programming and linkage to substance use treatment.
- Gang intervention counseling.
- Community service and enrichment activities.
- Transportation to and from home to the site.
- Close supervision on the site and supervision 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:

During this last year, nine youth who participated in the YRC program earned their high school diplomas and participated in graduation ceremonies. Two of these youth were twins, and they were the first in their family to earn high school diplomas. Both youths participated in anger management classes, individual therapy, parenting, and career development. Upon completing the YRC program, both youths gained employment, enrolled in college classes, and strengthened their relationships with their parents. At the graduation, their parents thanked the YRC staff for giving their children guidance, tools and the chance to earn their high school diplomas.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$ 13,386	\$	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$ 1,202	\$	\$
Professional Services:	\$ 83,580	\$	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$ 245,099	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$ 6,055	\$	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$ 349,322	\$	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. The Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement program (ARRIVE) is a collaborative program consisting of the Probation Department and contracted community partners that offers individualized/group support to probation youth and their families that exhibit an increase in probation violation type of behavior (e.g., drug use, truancy, criminal behavior). The primary focus of ARRIVE is to immediately address any deleterious behavior, stabilize the family unit, and prepare the youth and his/her family for life beyond probation supervision. Services provided include, but are not limited to case planning, parent empowerment/resilience training, substance abuse/relapse prevention and education, coping skills, anger management, and building positive peer relationships. Mandatory requirements for youth in ARRIVE include: • Participation in bi-weekly multi-system meetings with youth partner, individual case manager, and Probation to review progress towards case plan goals. • Attendance in weekly meetings with case manager. • Regular reporting to probation officer for progress checks. • Regular attendance in pro-social activities (e.g., community service projects, regular school attendance). • 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 referred to ARRIVE by his Probation Officer as he was struggling to comply with his probation terms such as abiding by curfew, attending school, and completing court ordered individual counseling. During the youth's time participating in ARRIVE, he completed 8 individual counseling sessions focusing on decision-making and improving his relationship with his mother. Over the course of the program, the youth identified goals in various areas of his life, potential barriers to overcome, and key individuals that could support his goals. While participating in the ARRIVE program, the youth and his mother moved into a new apartment and the program assisted with providing dishes, cookware, and bedding through Waymakers, the CBO facilitating ARRIVE. The youth improved his school attendance, completed his court orders, improved his behavior within the home and successfully completed the program. Shortly after, he successfully terminated from probation supervision and has not reoffended within the three-month follow up period. The youth expressed gratitude for the opportunity to participate in ARRIVE.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Juvenile Facilities Programming		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$	\$13,208,977	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$	\$1,786,915	\$
Professional Services:	\$	\$227,182	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$	\$224,302	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$	\$4,129,432	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$	\$19,576,808	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. Juvenile Facilities Programming provides institutional and camp programming at the Juvenile Hall facility and Camp facilities. Each facility provides similar evidence-based cognitive-behavioral treatment programs. Youth participate in a tiered phase level system of various programs. Programs provide continuum of response for the in-custody treatment of youth. Camps target youth based on age, gender, criminogenic risk factors and/or commitment length. Specific programs within the facilities target youth who require a higher level of need for transition and reentry services. Programs include, but are not limited to, sex offender therapy and counseling, pre-camp readiness, gang intervention, Progressive Rehabilitation in a Dynamic Environment (PRIDE), and Leadership Education through Active Development (LEAD). 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.			

- 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 & Vocation 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 (OCDE, Project Kinship, Waymakers, Santiago Canyon College), and the Orange County Bar Foundation.

Program Successes:

The Juvenile Facilities launched the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) Program several years ago to provide system-involved youth with meaningful educational opportunities. In June 2025, one of the program's participants successfully earned an Associate of Arts degree—a remarkable milestone that reflects his resilience and determination in overcoming significant personal challenges. This achievement also marked a proud moment for his family, as he became the first in his household to obtain a college degree.

By choosing education as a path forward, this youth has demonstrated a deep commitment to personal growth and has become a source of hope and inspiration for others within the probation system. The ADT Program served as a critical launching point toward his long-term goal of earning an advanced degree. Building on this momentum, he has been accepted to California State University, Fullerton, and—with support from the Probation Department and Project Rebound—will begin classes in August 2025.

Throughout his journey, dedicated officers have played an instrumental role, offering consistent guidance, support, and access to collaborative resources. Their efforts continue to empower this youth as he pursues academic and personal success.

Program, Placement, Service, Strategy, or System Enhancement			
Name of program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement (Required):	Pre-Detention and Pre-Disposition Program		
Expenditure Category (Required):			
	JJCPA Funds	YOBG Funds	All Other Funds (Optional)
Salaries & Benefits:	\$	\$787,247	\$
Services & Supplies:	\$	\$16,732	\$
Professional Services:	\$	\$17,609	\$
Community Based Organizations:	\$	\$	\$
Fixed Assets/Equipment:	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Overhead:	\$	\$190,915	\$
Other Expenditures (List Below):			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$	\$1,012,503	\$
Provide a description of the program, placement, service, strategy or system enhancement that was funded with JJCPA and/or YOBG funds in the preceding fiscal year. For example, you might want to include information on the types of youth served, prevention services you provided, your accomplishments, any barriers encountered, and what specifically JJCPA and/or YOBG funds paid for. The Pre-Detention and Pre-Disposition Program (PPP) provides a continuum of strategies to reduce the use of incarceration while providing for electronic monitoring and supervision of youth at home while awaiting adjudication of their cases. Using a validated risk assessment instrument to determine which youth can be safely released home under this program protects the community and allows secure detention beds to be used only for high-risk offenders. All participants in the program are supervised utilizing electronic monitoring equipment. This allows pre-adjudicated wards to be served in a community-based setting rather than being detained with youth assessed to be high-risk offenders. Youth are held accountable to the rules of the program and expected to attend school according to their school's schedule as well as comply with all counseling orders from the court. Services provided within 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.			

- 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 in early 2024 pending a new law violation. He was a ward of the court and had a history of non-compliance with the terms and conditions of his probation prior to being ordered released on PPP. The youth also struggled with alcohol abuse and had an extensive history of being truant from school. While on PPP, he attended AA meetings three times each week as ordered by the Court, his drug tests were negative of all substances, and he attended school daily with no noted concerns. The youth was commended by school officials regarding his improvement in school attendance and completion of school assignments while on PPP. The youth successfully terminated from the program a month later.

ORANGE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Annual Report FY 2024-25

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

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Probation

Amir El-FARRA
Local Law Enforcement

VACANT
Education Representative

SARA NAKADA
Public Defender

ALICE GLEGHORN
Community Based Drug & Alcohol Rep.

NATI ALVARADO
Juvenile Social Services Organization Rep.

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Orange County Board of Supervisors

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Social Services Agency

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Business Representative

MELISSA DEL RIO
Juvenile Court Representative

IAN KEMMER
Health Care Agency, Mental Health

KIRSTEN MONTELEONE
Sheriff-Coroner

TODD SPITZER
District Attorney

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

In FY2024-25, the actual spending for the Prevention/Early Intervention Programs was slightly lower than what was budgeted for the fiscal year (FY) (\$4,450,440 vs \$4,812,631). The total entries for the Prevention/Early Intervention Program decreased compared to previous FY (630 vs 831). The total exits for these who participated in a program for more than one day is slightly lower as well (583 vs 612). Despite the drop in total program exits, successful exits did increase in the past FY (440 vs 381), indicating participants were able to meet program requirements at higher rates. Of those who disclosed city of residence, the top three cities were Mission Viejo, Anaheim, and Rancho Santa Margrita (78, 55, and 51 respectively).

- **School Mobile Assessment & Resource Team (SMART):** The actual spending (\$3,212,340) for SMART program was \$297,259 less than the approved budgeted, although \$155,290 more was spent compared to the previous FY. The SMART program conducted less youth assessments as reflected in their youth enrollment numbers (223 vs 266).
- **Truancy Response Program:** The actual spending (\$806,950) was \$64,932 less than budgeted, although \$41,494 more than last FY. Overall, there was more family involvement in Tier1 services. For Tier 2 services, there were less program entries (123 vs 181) and successful exits (108 vs 119). For Tier 3 services, there were more program entries (46 vs 33) and successful exits (26 vs 17).
- **Decentralized Intake – Youth Diversion Counseling Services:** The actual spending matched what was budgeted (\$431,150), and \$11,924 lower than previous FY. There were less program entries (238 vs 252) and successful exits (198 vs 245) compared to FY2023-24.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM

The total actual spending for Intervention/Treatment Programs was less than what was budgeted for the FY (\$11,556,139 vs \$13,663,411). The total entries for the Intervention/Treatment Programs decreased (433) compared to previous FY (520), as well as the total exits (436 vs 529) and successful exits (264 vs 327). Of those who disclosed city of residence, the top three cities Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Orange remained the same as the previous FY (154, 95, and 25 respectively) with Santa Ana has the biggest increase (51 to 154), and Mission Viejo the biggest decrease (89 to 0).

- **Substance Use Programming (SUP):** The actual spending (\$4,858,171) for SUP was \$1,431,916 less than the approved budget and decreased by \$1,215,229 compared to the previous FY. This was mainly due to Probation spending \$1,268,542 less than the previous FY, and a slight increase of funds spent by the Health Care Agency (HCA). Probation had a marginal decrease in program entries (98 vs 88), but more successful exits than the previous FY (41 vs 43). The program entries from HCA dropped (188 vs 82), as well as successful exits (0 vs 59) compared to the previous FY.
- **Youth Reporting Centers (YRC):** The actual spending (\$5,550,481) for YRC program was \$351,815 less than budgeted, but \$1,516,824 more than the previous FY. This was largely due to Probation spending \$1,574,712 more than the previous FY, and a decrease from HCA of \$57,888. There were less participants for both Probation (252 vs 321) and HCA (252 vs 309), and less successful exits (152 vs 222 and 40 vs 136, respectively).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CONTINUED

- **Juvenile Recovery Court (JRC):** The actual spending (\$804,220) was \$237,021 less than budgeted, but represents a 99% increase from the prior FY (\$401,802). This is mainly due to Probation and HCA. The total program entries from both Probation and HCA dropped from the previous FY (14 vs 17 and 15 vs 27, respectively).
- **Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE):** The actual spending (\$343,267) for ARRIVE program was \$86,520 less than budgeted and \$105,267 less than the previous FY. Similarly, there was slightly decrease in youth enrollment (80 vs 84) although there was a slight increase in successful exits (65 vs 57) compared to the previous FY.

2024 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

On July 25, 2024, the OCJJCC approved the proposed process and allocated money from JJCPA funds for FY 2024-25 to solicit proposals from CBOs. A total of nine project submissions were funded, seven of which started in January 2025. The following summarizes the seven programs for the first two quarters of implementation (Jan – March and April – June):

- **Carpenter Training Partners:** \$57,349 out of \$137,524 approved yearly budget was spent. There were 15 program participants in total with less than 12 successful completions.
- **Project Kinship:** The program began in the second quarter and spent \$61,009 out of \$225,000 approved budget. There were 35 program participants in total with 0 successful completions.
- **The PRISM Way:** \$137,465 out of \$161,442 approved yearly budget was. There were 70 program participants in total with 38 successful completions.
- **Project Youth OC:** \$22,622 out of \$50,000 approved yearly budget was spent. There were 217 program participants in total with 168 successful completions.
- **Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove:** \$5,607 out of \$15,000 approved yearly budget was spent. There were 21 program participants in total with less than 12 successful completions.
- **Human Works Foundation:** \$61,924 out of \$225,000 approved yearly budget was spent. There were 106 program participants in total with 34 successful completions.
- **Hub for Integration, Reentry & Employment (H.I.R.E):** \$22,963 out of \$85,532 approved yearly budget was spent. There were 13 program participants in total with 0 successful completions.

The other two funded programs H.I.R.E and Waymakers GRIP were deferred to begin implementation in FY2025-26.

INTRODUCTION

The Orange County (OC) Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (OCJJCC) Annual Report presents an update on programs funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) and the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program (SB 823 Block Grant). This report highlights the funding and expenditures as of the fiscal year-end, along with metrics and outcomes for each program comparing them to previous fiscal years.

The purpose of the report is to provide timely relevant information to the OCJJCC to allow for proper oversight of the programs funded. The report is organized by the two funding sources, SB 823 Block Grant and JJCPA with JJCPA programs grouped by section, centered on prevention and treatment programs. Each program section includes the objective, lead agencies and partners, amount awarded and amount expended as of the fiscal year end, and program outcome measures. These program details are all included in this report.

OC Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Background

The OCJJCC was established per Welfare and Institutions Code Section 749.22, as a requirement for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program funding. The OCJJCC is chaired by the Chief Probation Officer and other members include representation from the Board of Supervisors (BOS), District Attorney's Office (OCDA), Public Defender's Office, Sheriff-Coroner's Department (OCSD), Social Services Agency (SSA), Health Care Agency Behavioral Health (HCA), Department of Education (OCDE), local law enforcement agency (currently Garden Grove), and the community including an at-large representative and non-profit community-based organizations providing drug and alcohol programs and services to minors.

The OCJJCC serves to maintain a continuation of County-based responses to juvenile crime and set priorities and approve the use of grant funds. This is accomplished through a comprehensive multi-agency plan that identifies resources and strategies for providing an effective continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration of juvenile offenders, including strategies to develop and implement local out of home placement options for the offender. The OCJJCC is responsible for the following: Assisting the Chief Probation Officer in developing a comprehensive, multi-agency juvenile justice plan to develop a continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration of juvenile offenders. Serving as the Local Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition as required by Title 28 Code of Federal Regulations – Chapter 1, Part 31, Section 31.502, for the County to receive Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant funding.

- Serving as the parent body for the realignment subcommittee as required by the Welfare and Institutions Code Division 2.5, Chapter 1.7, Section 1995, for the County to receive Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant funding.
- Providing oversight for the Juvenile Justice Realignment Subcommittee and annual plan update process.

SB 823 JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT

SB 823 Subcommittee

Senate Bill 823 (SB 823), also known as the “Juvenile Justice Realignment: Office of Youth and Community Restoration,” was chaptered on September 30, 2020. This new chapter created a block grant program to support counties in managing the custody, care, and supervision of youth who were previously eligible for the Division of Juvenile Justice before it closed. Additionally, WIC section 1995 outlined the requirements for counties to qualify for this block grant funding. To qualify for funding, the County was required to establish a subcommittee to develop a plan detailing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision, and reentry strategies planned to provide appropriate rehabilitation and supervision for the realigned youth and transitional age youth (TAY) populations. This subcommittee was formed under the OCJJCC. The SB 823 Subcommittee also oversees the implementation of Senate Bill 823, known as the “Juvenile Justice Realignment: Office of Youth and Community Restoration,” which was enacted in 2020. This bill established a block grant program to assist counties in managing realigned youth by providing appropriate facilities, programs, services, and reentry strategies. To maintain eligibility, the subcommittee must update and resubmit the County’s plan annually by May 1, regardless of any changes.

The SB 823 Subcommittee presented its draft SB 823 plan during the regularly scheduled meeting of the OCJJCC. The plan is responsive to the aspects set forth in WIC section 1995, subdivisions (d)(1) through (d)(7) and is the culmination of the collective discussions and partnership between the juvenile court, community, and system stakeholders. The complete Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant County Plan for OC can be found here: <https://ocprobation.ocgov.com/communications/committees/orange-county-juvenile-justice-coordinating-council>.

SB 823 Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant

Pursuant to WIC section 1991, subdivision (a), and commencing with the 2021-22 fiscal year, and annually thereafter, counties 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 annual statewide allocation is determined by law, and each county's allocation is calculated annually using a formula outlined in the statute. This funding process started in FY 2021-22, and every year thereafter on July 1, the Department of Finance (DOF) calculates the total amount from the General Fund, and the State Controller distributes these funds by August 1, following the schedule provided by the DOF. For FY 2024-25, the County’s allocation was \$11 million which is fully allocated to Probation to be expended compliant with the state-approved plan. The table shows the allocations received as of FYE 2024-25 by the County and the use of the funds as of the fiscal year-end. Probation continues to actively work towards service implementation consistent with the approved annual plan.

SB 823 Actuals and Available Balance

Fiscal Year	Allocation	Actuals	Balance
FY 2021-22	\$ 2,237,981	\$ 0	\$ 2,237,981
FY 2022-23	4,622,596	115,485	4,507,111
FY 2023-24	9,012,312	365,432	8,646,880
FY 2024-25	11,064,942	10,600,077	464,865
Total	\$ 26,937,831	\$ 11,080,994	\$ 15,856,837

JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION ACT

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 to provide a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs aimed at curbing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth through accountability-based programs focused on juvenile offenders and the juvenile justice system. For FY 2024-25, the OCJJCC allocated \$16.8 million in JJCPA funds to support seven existing programs. These programs focus on accountability-based approaches targeting juvenile offenders and addressing broader issues within the juvenile justice system to mitigate delinquency and improve outcomes for at-risk youth.

Government Code Section 30061(b)(4) and Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1961(b) mandate that counties develop a combined annual plan for the JJCPA and the YOBG to enhance coordination and reduce duplication in addressing juvenile justice needs. The JJCPA-YOBG plan is a strategic document prepared by the County to outline the use of state-provided funds to implement evidence-based programs that prevent juvenile crime and reduce recidivism. The plan details the services and strategies that target at-risk youth, focusing on community-based solutions that support rehabilitation and positive development.

The current JJCPA-YOBG plan for OC can be found here:

<https://ocprobation.ocgov.com/communications/committees/orange-county-juvenile-justice-coordinating-council>

JJCPA Funded Programs

Prevention/Early Intervention Programs

- **School Mobile Assessment and Resource Team (SMART)** is an early intervention and prevention program focused on involvement with families and youth to prevent school-based violence and delinquency.
- **Truancy Response Program** focuses on family education, support, and resource referrals to reduce truancy.
- **Decentralized Intake – Youth Diversion Counseling (previously reported as Sheriff's Prevention Program/Decentralized Intake)** 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.

Intervention/Treatment Programs

- **Substance Use Program** is based on the Therapeutic Community model for substance use treatment programs with the addition of the Aggression Replacement Training cognitive-behavior program specific to addressing criminal recidivism.
- **Youth Reporting Centers** are day reporting centers that include a multidisciplinary team focused on reducing the use of secure detention by providing a highly structured community-based alternative confinement program.
- **Juvenile Recovery Court** is based on a model where an interactive judicial officer leads an interdisciplinary team, including the District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, Health Care Agency clinicians, and parents to address a youth's substance use issues.
- **Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE)** program focuses on family strength training and individualized support to wards of the court that are at risk of reincarceration.

JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION ACT

Funding Summary

The FY 2024-25 budget allocation was based on an estimated \$19.7 million in available funding, \$16.5 million from the State along with a prior-year carryover balance of \$4.0 million. On February 29, 2024, the OCJJCC allocated the entire \$19.7 million of available funding for FY 2024-25 to the existing programs based on funding requests submitted by each lead agency.

For FY 2024-25, actual JJCPA funding received was \$16.8 million from the State, \$0.3 million more than estimated, and the actual prior year carryover was \$4.0 million. Total program costs for FY 2024-25 were \$7.1 million. The tables below details the FY 2024-25 funding allocation and actuals by program and department, including the full time equivalent (FTEs) for each department.

	FY 2024-25	
	Allocation ^[1]	Actuals
Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act Funding		
Carryover Funds from Prior Year	\$4.0M	\$4.0M
Block Grant Allocation (Base + Growth)	\$16.5M	\$16.8M
Total Available Funding	\$20.6M	\$20.8M
Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act Programs		
Prevention/Early Intervention	\$4.8M	\$4.5M
School Mobile Assessment and Response Team (SMART)	\$3.5M	\$3.2M
Truancy Response Program	\$0.9M	\$0.8M
Decentralized Intake/Sheriff's Prevention Program	\$0.4M	\$0.4M
Intervention/Treatment	\$13.7M	\$11.6M
Substance Use Programing	\$7.1M	\$4.9M
Youth Reporting Centers	\$5.1M	\$5.6M
Juvenile Recovery Court	\$1.0M	\$0.8M
Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement	\$0.4M	\$0.3M
Subtotal	\$18.5M	\$16.0M
Administrative Cost	\$0.1M	\$0.0M
Total JJCPA Allocation to County Sponsored Programs	\$18.6M	\$16.1M
2024 JJCPA Funding Opportunity (Community-Based Organizations)	\$1.1M	\$0.37M
Total JJCPA Allocation	\$19.7M	\$16.4M
Ending Balance	\$0.9M	\$4.4M

[1] Includes adjustments approved by the OCJJCC as of October 24, 2024.

[2] 2024 Funding Opportunity term is through December 2025.

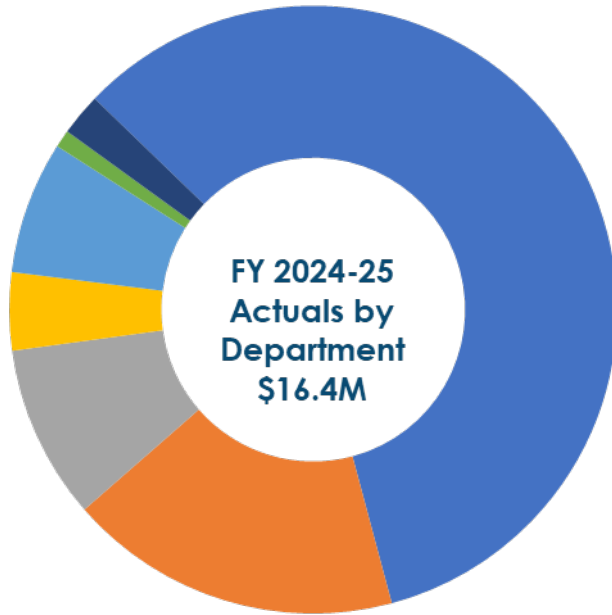
JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION ACT

FY 2024-25 JJCPA Funding Allocation by Program

Programs	FTE	FY 2024-25 Approved Budget ^[1]	FY 2024-25 Adjusted Budget ^[1]	FY 2024-25 Actuals as of 06/30/25
Prevention/Early Intervention		\$ 4,812,631	\$ 4,812,631	\$ 4,450,440
School Mobile Assessment & Resource Team (North & South)				
Sheriff's Department	6.20	3,191,776	3,191,776	2,912,336
District Attorney	1.00	317,823	317,823	300,004
Program Total	7.20	3,509,599	3,509,599	3,212,340
Truancy Response				
Public Defender	0.25	20,000	20,000	19,085
District Attorney	1.70	411,212	411,212	327,028
OC Dept of Education	0.00	40,670	40,670	60,836
Boys & Girls Club of Garden Grove	5.95	400,000	400,000	400,000
Program Total	7.90	871,882	871,882	806,950
Decentralized Intake/Sheriff's Prevention				
Sheriff's Department	--		-	-
Pepperdine University	4.00	431,150	431,150	431,150
Program Total	4.00	431,150	431,150	431,150
Intervention/Treatment		\$ 13,663,411	\$ 13,663,411	\$ 11,556,139
Substance Use Programming				
Probation	42.70	6,420,268	5,620,268	4,255,307
Health Care Agency	4.00	669,819	669,819	602,864
Program Total	46.70	7,090,087	6,290,087	4,858,171
Youth Reporting Centers				
Probation	23.75	4,202,628	5,002,628	4,892,091
Health Care Agency	8.00	899,668	899,668	658,390
Program Total	31.75	5,102,296	5,902,296	5,550,481
Juvenile Recovery Court				
Probation	4.00	594,676	594,676	465,477
Health Care Agency	0.00	260,000	260,000	260,000
Public Defender	0.50	75,000	75,000	24,665
District Attorney	0.50	111,565	111,565	54,078
Program Total	5.00	1,041,241	1,041,241	804,220
Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement				
Probation	0.79	429,787	429,787	14,588
Waymakers	3.50		-	328,679
Program Total	4.29	429,787	429,787	343,267
Subtotal - JJCPA Programs		\$ 18,476,042	\$ 18,476,042	\$ 16,006,578
2024 JJCPA Funding Opportunity - CBO Programs				
2024 Award Allocation ^[2]	0.00	-	1,134,498	368,938
Total	0.00	-	1,134,498	368,938
Subtotal - 2024 Funding Opportunity		\$ 18,476,042	\$ 19,610,540	\$ 16,375,517
Administrative Cost (0.5%) ^[3]		82,739	82,739	48,444
Total JJCPA Allocation	106.84	\$ 18,558,781	\$ 19,693,279	\$ 16,423,960

Note 1: On 2/29/24, the OCJJCC approved the FY 2024-25 JJCPA budget and for CEO Budget to make adjustments between the programs as needed to maximize funding. NOTE 2: 2024 JJCPA Funding Opportunity allocation approved by the OCJJCC 10/24/24. Grant Agreements approved by the BOS 1/14/25. NOTE 3: Administrative Costs includes administrative support services provided by CEO Budget and Clerk of the Board. Government Codes 30062(c)(1) and 30062(d)(2) indicates administrative costs is up to 0.5% of the total allocation for the year.

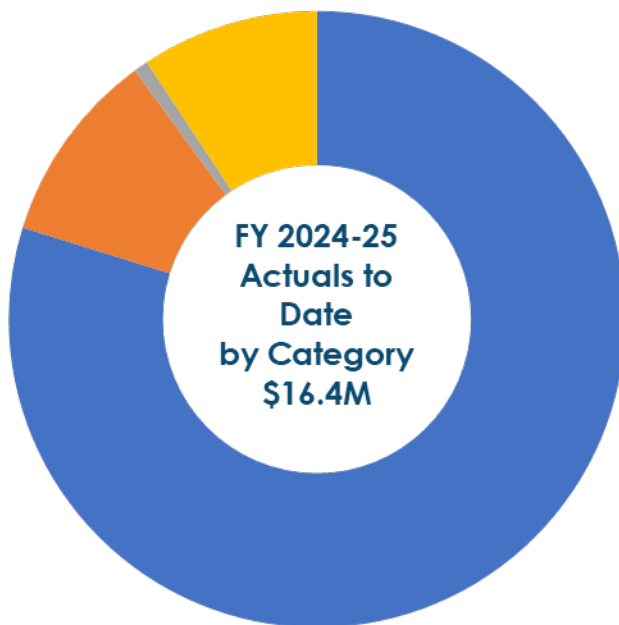
JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION ACT

JCPA FY 2023-24 Actuals by Department and Expenditure Category

	Department	Actuals
59%	Probation	\$ 9,627,463
18%	Sheriff	2,912,336
9%	Health Care Agency	1,521,254
4%	District Attorney	681,111
7%	Community-Based Organizations	1,159,829
1%	Other *	153,030
2%	2024 JJCPA Funding Opportunity	368,938
	Total	\$ 16,423,960

*** Other:**

0.4%	OC Dept of Education	60,836
0.3%	Public Defender	43,750
0.3%	Administrative Cost (0.5%)	48,444
	Total	\$ 153,030



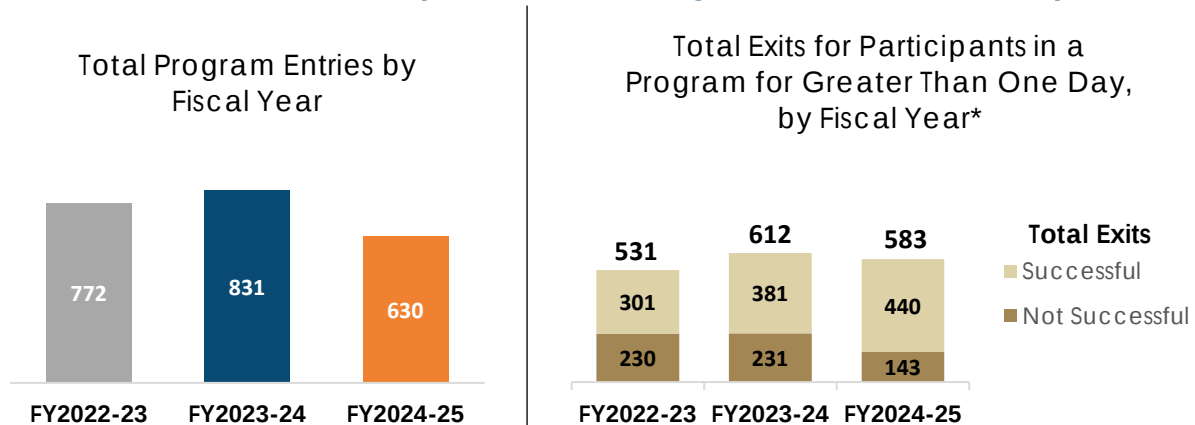
	Expenditure Category	Actuals
80%	Salaries & Employee Benefits	13,107,174
10%	Services & Supplies	1,664,940
1%	Professional Services	123,074
9%	Community-Based Organizations	1,528,767
	Total	\$ 16,423,955

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM SUMMARY

Outputs & Participant Demographics

The graphs below include program entries and exits for FY 2022-23, FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25. There were less program entries in FY 2024-25 compared to the previous two years, although there were more successful program completions. Please note that program exits do not represent all participants based on length of time for program and fluctuation of participants between fiscal years.

JJCPA Prevention/Early Intervention Program Entries and Exits by FY



*The definition of program participant differs based on program. Exit data does not include SMART and Truancy Response Program Tier 1. Unknown numbers due to "less than 12" entries are also not included.

The details for program outputs, participant demographics and city of residence are presented below. The tables provide an overview of program services provided to youth enrolling and exiting for all prevention/early intervention programs. Participant demographics are presented for those enrolled in the program, those successfully completing the program and those who did not successfully complete the program. In compliance with federal and state privacy laws, including HIPAA and California's Information Practices Act, data for small sample sizes—counts under 12—are typically suppressed or masked to protect privacy. Responding Agencies/Organizations reporting "less than 12" were not included in overall totals related to enrollment or exit. Overall totals may include duplicated individuals based on services provided to those who re-enter a program during the fiscal year. Additionally, enrolled counts may not match exiting totals due to program length not aligning with fiscal year timeframes. City of residence is captured at time of enrollment.

Per guidance from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), counts of less than 12 have been suppressed to protect participant confidentiality.

The DHCS public reporting guidelines can be found here:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/Pages/PublicReportingGuidelines.aspx>

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM SUMMARY

JJCPA Prevention/Early Intervention Program Enrollment with Youth Demographics

Youth Enrollment					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY2023-24 Total	FY2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred		1,060	991	817	-174
Program Entries		772	831	630	-201
Program Participants		1,244	950	1,378	428
Participant Demographics					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Gender	Male	513*	532	414	-118
	Female	315*	246	181	-65
	Transgender/Non-binary	<12	<12	12	<12
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	382*	342	280	-62
	White	224*	239	150	-89
	Black	22	19	19	0
	Asian/Pacific Islander	43	32	37	5
	Other	54	71	103	-32
Age	11 years old or younger	56	90	59	-31
	12-15 years-old	370*	413	312	-101
	16-17 years-old	221*	221	181	-40
	18 years-old	12	<12	16	**
	19 years-old	0	<12	<12	<12
	20-25 years-old	0	<12	14	**

Note: Only known demographics are reported for participants, therefore demographic totals will not equate to program participants. Note: Only known demographics are reported for participants, therefore demographic totals will not equate to program participants.

*The total reported may be slightly higher because entries marked "less than 12" were not included in the calculations. This means that numbers below 12 have been omitted, potentially increasing the overall total when considered.

** Numbers were omitted for de-identification purposes.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM SUMMARY

JJCPA FY 2022-23, FY 2023-24, and FY2024-25 Prevention/Early Intervention
Youth City of Residence at time of Program Entry

	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25		FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Aliso Viejo	53	44	23	Newport Beach	0	<12	0
Anaheim	60	58	55	North Tustin	0	0	0
Anaheim Island	0	0	0	Olive	0	0	0
Big Canyon	0	0	0	Orange	29	59	<12
Brea	<12	<12	0	Orange Hills	0	0	0
Buena Park	0	<12	<12	Orange Park Acres	0	0	0
Costa Mesa	19	19	16	Placentia	<12	<12	<12
Country Club Island	0	0	0	Portola Hills	0	0	0
Coto de Caza	<12	<12	<12	Rancho Mission Viejo	<12	<12	<12
Covenant Hills	0	0	0	Rancho Santa Margarita	41	53	51
Cypress	<12	<12	<12	Robinson Ranch	0	0	0
Dana Point	28	18	<12	Rossmoor	0	<12	0
Dove Canyon	<12	0	0	San Clemente	43	31	35
East Irvine	0	0	0	San Juan Capistrano	72	<52	30
El Modena	0	0	0	San Juan Hot Springs	0	0	0
Emerald Bay	0	0	0	Santa Ana	67	51	39
Fountain Valley	<12	<12	<12	Santa Ana Heights	0	0	0
Fullerton	13	22	16	Santiago Canyon	0	0	0
Garden Grove	33	23	30	Seal Beach	<12	<12	<12
Huntington Beach	25	21	<12	Shady Canyon	0	0	0
Irvine	0	<12	<12	Silverado	0	<12	<12
La Habra	<12	<12	0	Stanton	<12	<12	<12
La Palma	0	0	0	Stonecliffe	0	0	0
Ladera Ranch	22	32	33	Tonner Canyon	0	0	0
Las Flores	<12	0	<12	Trabuco Highlands	<12	<12	<12
Laguna Beach	<12	<12	<12	Tustin	<12	18	16
Laguna Hills	30	31	18	Tustin Foothills	0	0	0
Laguna Niguel	30	28	0	Villa Park	0	<12	<12
Laguna Woods	<12	0	<12	Wagon Wheel	0	13	0
Lake Forest	76	41	33	Westminster	19	18	<12
Los Alamitos	<12	<12	<12	Yorba Linda	21	<12	<12
Midway City	<12	0	<12	Out of County	<12	<12	<12
Mission Viejo	86	89	78	Out of State	0	0	0
Modjeska Canyon	0	0	0				

Note: Truancy Response Program did not report geographical information for Q1.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM SUMMARY

JJCPA Prevention/Early Intervention Program Exits with Youth
Demographics

Exiting Youth					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY2023-24 Total	FY2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits		531	612	618	6
Completions		301	381	440	59
Not Successful		230	231	143	-88
Partial Completion of Program		17	20	78	58
No Progress		90	90	67	-23
Left Program for Unrelated Reason		138	121	88	-33
Demographics of Participants who Completed the Program					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Gender	Male	189*	227	300	73
	Female	123*	153	119	-34
	Transgender/Non-binary	0	<12	<12	<12
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	132*	174	174	0
	White	79*	99	107	8
	Black	<12	<12	14	**
	Asian/Pacific Islander	12	13	27	-14
	Other	15	<12	106	**
Demographics of Participants who did not Successfully Complete the Program					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Gender	Male	118*	133	12	-121
	Female	111*	98	<12	**
	Transgender/Non-binary	<12	0	0	0
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	86*	117	<12	**
	White	44*	63	<12	**
	Black	<12	<12	0	<12
	Asian/Pacific Islander	<12	<12	<12	<12
	Other	<12	<12	<12	<12

*The total reported may be slightly higher due to "less than 12" entries not being included in the calculation. Numbers below 12 have been omitted, potentially increasing the overall total when considered.

**Numbers were omitted for de-identification purpose.

Note: Truancy Response Program did not report demographic data for those participants who did not successfully complete the program.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

School Mobile Assessment & Resource Team

Program Goal

The School Mobile Assessment and Resource Team (SMART) is a program aimed at preventing school-based violence and delinquency by working closely with families and youth. The primary goal of SMART is to prevent violence through education, awareness, and rapid response to potential threats.

Lead Agency and Partners

Sheriff-Coroner Department – Conducts K-12 threat assessments and criminal investigations primarily for OCSD contracted cities and areas and responds day or night to calls from school and community personnel reporting violence or threats of violence.

District Attorney – Reviews and vertically prosecutes SMART cases and advises SMART investigators on legal issues.

Partner Agencies - Garden Grove; Anaheim; Irvine Police Agencies – These agencies provide staff that are part of the multi-disciplinary teams that respond to incidents.

Program Staffing

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)				
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	
	Actuals	Actuals	Requested	Actuals
OCSD	5.11	6.20	6.20	5.66
OCDA	0.41	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total	5.52	7.20	7.20	6.66

Financial Input

Funding Allocation					
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25		
	Actuals	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Actuals
OCSD	\$ 2,662,266	\$ 2,771,226	\$ 3,191,776	\$ 3,191,776	\$ 2,912,336
OCDA	274,374	285,824	317,823	317,823	300,004
Total	\$ 2,936,640	\$ 3,057,050	\$ 3,509,599	\$ 3,509,599	\$ 3,212,340

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

School Mobile Assessment & Resource Team

Objective & Program Details

Established to reduce crime and violence on or near school campuses, SMART collaborates with various partners including OCDA, Probation, and OCDE. The team may also work closely with school districts, cultivating a direct relationship with district directors in order to discuss teaming and information gathering. This assists in addressing incidents involving violence, threats, weapons, unstable behaviors, and suicidal tendencies. The team responds to calls from school and community personnel at any time, conducting assessments and threat evaluations, and making referrals to law enforcement or other services as needed. Aiming to ensure safety and support youth progress, SMART generally conducts one-time threat comprehensive school threat assessments and sometimes manages cases requiring mental health or clinician involvement.

Program Achievements

Program Output

Youth enrollment for this program is measured by youth assessments performed by the SMART team throughout the fiscal year. The SMART team was able to respond to all school requests for threat assessments as displayed in the table below. The number of threat assessments decreased slightly from FY 2023-24 to FY 2024-25.

Youth Enrollment*				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	243	266	223	-43
Program Entries	243	266	223	-43
Program Participants**	243	266	223	-43

*Youth enrollment numbers represent the number of threat assessments conducted on youth

**This row represents the number of youths assessed throughout the quarter for this program and may be duplicative as sometimes there is a need to assess the same youth, though repeat occurrences are generally rare.

Program Outcomes

The majority of threat assessments were resolved by school/parents in FY 2024-25. Many of these assessments went through case management through follow-up investigation and partnerships with outside resources.

Assessment Disposition	FY 2022-23 (n=243)	FY 2023-24 (n=266)	FY 2024-25 (n=237)	Difference 23-24&24-25
Resolved by School/Parents	51%	42%	53%	11%
Health Care Agency (HCA)	23%	23%	7%	-16%
Unfounded/No Action	-	14%	14%	0
Probation/District Attorney	7%	10%	7%	-3%
Diversion (PRYDE/ShortStop/FYOP)	16%	8%	12%	4%
Arrest	3%	3%	7%	4%

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

School Mobile Assessment & Resource Team

Success Story

OCSD patrol deputies responded to a call for a student in distress at a school with possession of a knife and attempted to attack a teacher on campus. Ultimately, the student was placed on a W&I 5585 hold. SMART was notified a day later and the investigation revealed multiple law violations by the student throughout the incident. The team collaborated with the hospital and juvenile probation for proper disposition and placement. SMART, OC Juvenile Probation, and the school administration worked with the student and family to provide ongoing resources, supervision, and a residential treatment program for the student.

Challenges and Solutions

- Though the SMART team faces daily challenges that are unique to each incident, the largest roadblock has been not having a clinician on the team as in previous years.
 - o To remedy this issue, SMART is in the process of obtaining a grant in hopes to add a clinician to the team once again.

Truancy Response Program

Program Goal

The Truancy Response Program (TRP) is a three-tier program designed to decrease the number of system-involved youth by returning students to the classroom, without formal court involvement, through early intervention and support.

Lead Agency and Partners

District Attorney – OCDA coordinates the Truancy Response Program to educate parents and students about the importance of classroom engagement by attending DA Parent Meetings and School Attendance Review Board (SARB) hearings. If students are unsuccessful in Tiers one and two, the office reviews and files truancy petition requests that meet legal and TRP requirements. OCDA also attends TRP staffing meetings to collaborate with various agencies and brainstorm solutions to improve attendance.

OC Department of Education (OCDE) – Boys & Girls Club of Garden Grove (BGCGG): The BGCGG handles the truancy mediation at Tier 2 through various options relative to the specific needs of the student and their family, including the mandatory parent empowerment classes and Teen Group (for students 13 and older). In addition, BGCGG supports Tier 1 by attending the SARB panels and DA Meetings, when possible, and supports Tier 3 by continuing to provide support and resources to the students and families in truancy court. Appendix A.1 provides additional information on the contract with BGCGG.

Public Defender – Represents student and/or family members who have been charged in violation of WIC Section 601(b) and/ or Education Code Section 48293. Attends all TRP Staffing meetings to collaborate with various agencies and brainstorm solutions to improve attendance.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

Program Staffing

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)				
	FY 2022-23	FY2023-24	FY 2024-25	
	Actuals	Actuals	Requested	Actuals
OCDA	1.51	1.50	1.70	1.40
PD	0.10	0.03	.25	.12
Total	1.61	1.53	1.95	1.52

Financial Input

Funding Allocation					
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25		
	Actuals	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Actuals
OCDE	\$ 367,621	\$ 440,670	\$ 440,670	\$ 440,670	\$ 460,836
OCDA	297,531	320,349	411,212	411,212	327,028
PD	14,406	4,437	20,000	20,000	19,085
Total	\$ 679,558	\$ 765,456	\$ 871,882	\$ 871,882	\$ 806,950

Tier 1

Objective & Program Details

Tier 1 aims to educate parents and students early about the importance of classroom engagement by attending DA Parent Meetings and SARB hearings. DA parent meetings are scheduled for most OC school districts, with an open invitation for other districts to participate (e.g., smaller districts), to inform families regarding:

- Truancy laws
- The direct relationship between school attendance and overall academic success; and
- The short-term and long-term effects of truancy on literacy, academic achievement, school discipline history, and increased risk of involvement with gangs, substance abuse and violence.

At SARBS, the program collaborates with families, educators, administrators, and community resources, in order to encourage a connection between the families and appropriate school resources.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

Program Achievements

Program Output

Objective 1: To ensure 100% participation in all OCDA Parent Meetings hosted by each school district. This objective was fully met, with TRP representatives attending every DA Parent Meeting during the 2024–25 academic year.

Objective 2: To strengthen family engagement by participating in SARBhearings. At these hearings, TRP volunteer attorneys work collaboratively with parents, educators, administrators, and community partners to connect families with appropriate school-based interventions and community support systems. To meet this goal, the OCDA committed to providing volunteer deputy district attorneys. In the 2024–25 school year, 45 in-kind DA volunteers were mobilized to attend SARB hearings. Of the 646 families referred to SARB, DA representatives participated in 625 hearings, a 97% attendance rate.

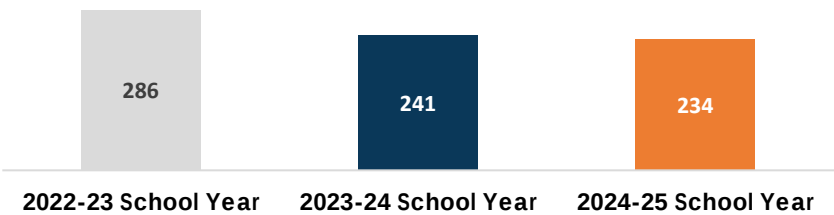
Involvement in Tier 1 Services

School Year	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Families Attending DA Parent Meetings	1,583	1,136	1,883	747
Families Attending SARB Hearing	719	523	646	123

Program Outcomes

Following DA Parent Meetings and SARB hearings, support resources are provided to help students avoid being referred to Tier 2. The primary outcome measured is the percentage of students who are not referred to Tier 2. Referral decisions are made on a case-by-case basis, depending on available district resources and the individual needs of each student and their family. During the 2024–25 school year, 64% of those in the TRP program returned to the classroom after reassessment. The remaining 36% were referred to Tier 2 services, which are administered by the BGCGG.

Number of Tier 1 Students Referred to Tier 2



PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

Success Story

At a SARB hearing, an elementary student was facing ongoing challenges with both attendance and classroom behavior. His mother, a single parent, was doing her best to manage work responsibilities while getting her son to school on time. Her work schedule required her to use her short break to prepare her child, drop him off at school, and return before her shift resumed. This unsustainable routine led to frequent absences and was having an impact on the student's classroom behavior.

Recognizing the strain on the family, the SARB team stepped in to offer practical support. They connected the mother with childcare resources at the school site and financial assistance programs. The impact was immediate and significant: the student's attendance improved substantially, his behavior in class stabilized, and he began to build positive relationships with peers.

At a follow-up meeting, the mother expressed deep gratitude for the support she received, sharing that the assistance not only helped her son thrive at school, but also enabled her to maintain her employment without fear of losing her job. This case highlights the power of early intervention and collaboration in addressing the root causes of truancy and supporting long-term family success.

Challenge and Solution

- One of the primary challenges faced during the reporting period was lack of attendance or low engagement from youth and their families in the DA Parent Meetings and SARB hearings. This lack of participation made it difficult to establish meaningful connections between families and school-based resources, limiting the program's ability to provide early intervention and support.
 - To address this, the TRP encouraged school districts to proactively contact families prior to each DA Parent Meeting to emphasize the importance of attendance and provide reminders. Additionally, to reduce barriers to participation, the program will offer virtual meeting options to families that are unable to attend in person. These efforts aim to accommodate varying family schedules, transportation limitations, and other obstacles, to ultimately increase accessibility and improve engagement with the program's educational resources.

Tier 2

Objective & Program Details

Tier 2 seeks to prevent youth from entering the justice system, or Tier 3, through various options relative to the specific needs of the student and their family. This tier offers a 5-series parent empowerment class, a focus on rebuilding relationships between students, families, and schools, and provides case management and community connections. Typically, Tier 2 involves 90 days of participation, though this can vary based on the specific needs of the youth and family.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

Program Achievements

Program Output

All youth that are referred to Tier 2 by the district are also referred into the Tier 2 program. However, if a student/ family chooses not to enroll in truancy mediation or the BGCGG is unable to make contact with the student/ family they will not be entered into the program. Youth referred, program entries and program participants for Tier 2 tend to fluctuate across timeframes due to external factors and circumstances of each individual youth.

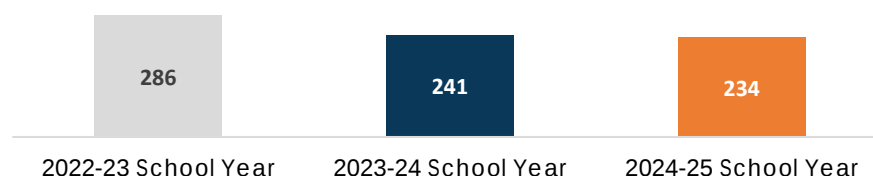
Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	285	241	234	-7
Program Entries	117	181	123	-58
Program Participants	285	241	165	-76

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	235	300	256	-44
Completions	98	119	108	-11
Not Successful	137	181	148	-33
Partial	0	0	0	0
No Progress	75	82	63	-19
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	62	99	85	-14

Program Outcomes

The outcome tracked for Tier 2 is prevention into Tier 3. The timeline for placing a student into Tier 3 is typically determined on a case-by-case basis. Prior to placing a student in Tier 3, the DA reviews each student's case to ensure that all prevention efforts have been exhausted and ensures compliance with legal requirements. In the 2024-25 school year, 172 students participating in Tier 2 services, were not referred to Tier 3.

Number of Tier 2 Students Not Referred to Tier 3



PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

Success Stories

As a result of years of the same ongoing truancy issue of tardiness and absenteeism, siblings were referred to Truancy Mediation as the last attempt by School District to help them improve their attendance. Their Family Advocate worked closely with the family, especially the students, and ensured to highlight and recognize any accomplishments and improvements they had made. Additionally, their Family Advocate would check in with family and school to ensure children felt safe, seen, and heard. The Family Advocate had also assisted the family with various basic needs resources like food pantry, school supplies, housing assistance, etc. which the parent identified was a stressor in her life and, at times, a barrier towards getting her children to school on time, daily. With visible improvements throughout the months, the siblings have drastically improved their attendance, have gained motivation to consistently attend school, and have gained the added sense of safety when attending school everyday.

Challenges and Solutions

- **Capacity Limitations:** The population of students referred to Tier 2 continues to require more intensive, individualized services.
 - The program has strategically expanded its support team by integrating interns and volunteers, allowing for a broader reach and more consistent support for students in need. Additionally, heightened data protection protocols mandated by OC school districts have required the program to adjust its information-sharing processes. In response, the program has proactively begun establishing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with school districts to ensure compliance while maintaining effective collaboration.
- **Political Climate:** Increased fear and uncertainty among mixed-status families that contributed to increased absenteeism.
 - The program has offered virtual meetings as an alternative to in-person visits and worked closely with school staff to keep students engaged in their education while at home. This flexible approach has proven effective and is planned to continue into the upcoming school year, with an emphasis on developing creative service delivery models that accommodate families' unique circumstances.
- **Transportation:** A consistent barrier for many families.
 - In response, the program has implemented practical solutions such as providing bus passes, identifying school bus routes within the city, and offering bikes and scooters as incentives to encourage participation. These combined efforts reflect the program's adaptability and commitment to overcoming challenges in order to best support its students and families.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

Tier 3

Objective & Program Details

TRP's Tier 3 goal is to stabilize school attendance to enhance future academic success and reduce risks like criminal behavior and substance abuse. It involves reviewing and filing 100% of truancy petition requests that meet legal and TRP requirements as well as attending all TRP staffing meetings to collaborate with various agencies and brainstorm solutions to improve attendance. Tier 3 deals with the most complex cases, requiring significant time, services, and inter-agency collaboration.

Program Achievements

Program Output

Petitions are not be filed unless they meet the legal requirements set forth in WIC §601 and all intervention efforts at Tiers 1 and 2 have been exhausted. Petitions that are not filed are sent back to the district with an explanation as to what would be needed in order for it to be filed in court. During the 2024–25 reporting period, OCDA reviewed 100% of all submitted truancy petition requests. Of these, 66% met the filing requirements and were submitted to the court; 34% were returned to the school district with an explanation as to why it did not meet the TRP filing requirements, with the opportunity to resubmit if the requirements could eventually be met with additional efforts.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	83	81	62	-19
Program Entries	38	33	46	13
Program Participants	38	33	242	209

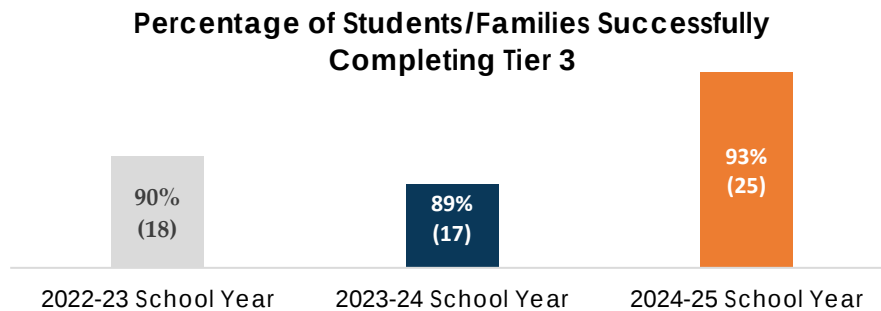
Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	21	19	27	8
Completions	18	17	26	9
Not Successful	<12	<12	<12	<12
Partial	<12	<12	<12	<12
No Progress	0	0	0	0
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	<12	0	0	0

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

Program Outcomes

The success of students participating in Tier 3 of the TRP is measured through demonstrated improvements in school attendance and active participation in supportive services. These outcomes are assessed on a case-by-case basis, with final determinations made by the presiding judge and the TRP DA, based on the student's overall progress and compliance with their individualized plan. Success is defined as active participation in community support services and/or measurable improvement in attendance throughout the Tier 3 process. Based on these criteria, approximately 93% of students and their families successfully completed Tier 3 during the 2024–25 school year, reflecting the program's effectiveness in linking youth to appropriate resources and/ or stabilizing attendance.



Challenges and Solutions

- Challenges included ensuring that 100% of truancy petition requests submitted by school districts met both legal standards and the OCDA's internal filing criteria; securing consistent participation from school district representatives at all TRP Staffing meetings; and addressing the complex needs of students and families whose cases were not resolved through earlier Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions.
 - Improving Petition Quality and District Understanding:** The OCDA provided detailed written feedback to school districts when petitions did not meet legal or program requirements. In addition, follow-up meetings were offered to district personnel to clarify filing standards and outline the level of intervention efforts expected prior to submission. These proactive efforts led to a significant improvement in the quality of petition submissions, resulting in 66% of TRP petition requests being approved for filing in FY 2024–25 which was a dramatic increase from just 41% in FY 2023–24.
 - Strengthening Communication and Participation at Staffing Meetings:** To improve collaboration, the TRP team contacted school districts directly prior to each TRP Staffing meeting to request the presence of a school representative familiar with the student's case. In situations where in-person attendance was not possible, districts were asked to submit written updates so their insights could be shared during the meeting. This ensured that each case was informed by the most up-to-date and relevant school information.

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Truancy Response Program

(challenges and Solutions Continued)

- **Coordinating Immediate Support Services and Encouraging Engagement:** Community partners, including Waymakers, the BGCGG, and SSA, attended almost all court hearings to provide immediate follow-up with families. This allowed for timely referrals to appropriate programs and resources tailored to each student's specific needs. Additionally, to reinforce positive behavior and ongoing engagement, students were recognized with small incentives throughout their participation and received a gift card upon successful case dismissal.

Decentralized Intake - Youth Diversion Counseling Services

Program Goal

The primary goal of the Sheriff's Decentralized Intake (DCI) program is to reduce the number of at-risk youth that enter the juvenile justice system through prompt assessment and linkage to appropriate services such as individual/family counseling, drug and alcohol prevention and parenting classes.

Lead Agency and Partners

Sheriff-Coroner Department – Provides oversight of the contract with Pepperdine University to operate the Pepperdine Resource Youth Diversion Education (PRYDE) Program which serves as their decentralized intake program.

Pepperdine University – Operates the PRYDE program which is a counseling prevention program available for at-risk youth and their families. In collaboration with the OCSD, the program provides services and resources that help youths and their families make positive changes in their lives, as well as prevent first time youth offenders from entering the juvenile justice system. Refer to Appendix A2 for additional information on the contract through OCSD with Pepperdine University.

Program Staffing

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)				
	FY 2022-23	FY2023-24	FY 2024-25	
	Actuals	Actuals	Requested	Actuals
OCSD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Probation	1.07	0.01	0.00	0.00
Total	1.07	0.01	0.00	0.00

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Decentralized Intake – Youth Diversion Counseling Services

Financial Input

	Funding Allocation				
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25		
	Actuals	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Actuals
OCSD	\$ 431,150	\$ 394,939	\$ 431,150	\$ 431,150	\$ 431,150
Probation	102,337	48,135	0	0	0
Total	\$ 533,487	\$ 443,074	\$ 431,150	\$ 431,150	\$ 431,150

Objective & Program Details

The DCI program is a partnership between the OCSD and PRYDE. DCI services include expedited processing of arrested youth, making PRYDE referrals and informal consultations between OCSD and PRYDE to make better-informed decisions about cases. Providing a range of intervention services and intervention referrals close to the youths' homes is another important aspect of this partnership.

This individualized early intervention and prevention program emphasizes education, family involvement, and community support. Services begin with a comprehensive intake assessment, leading to an individualized program that may include counseling, legal education, substance abuse education, restorative justice, and more. Youth are in the program for an average of four months. A high ratio of staff-to-youth ensures tailored support for each youth's unique needs with a strong emphasis on mental health. Group classes are conducted with low class sizes to minimize deviant peer influences. Youth are referred to PRYDE through various avenues, including OCSD (law violations) with other at-risk youth referred from public and private schools, school districts, and direct referrals from educators, parents and youth. This program is available to youth and their families referred by OCSD.

Program Achievements

Program Output

During FY 2024-25, 76% (238/315) of those referred to PRYDE entered the program. Of those that completed the program (all referral sources) during this period, 92% (198/215) completed successfully. Of those referred by OCSD, 92% (142/154) also completed successfully. Details of the youth served are provided in the table below.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	336	304	315	11
Program Entries	261	252	238	-14
Program Participants	438	311	321	10

PREVENTION/EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM DETAILS

Decentralized Intake – Youth Diversion Counseling Services

Program Output

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	268	292	215	-76
Completions	178	245	198	-47
Not Successful	90	48	17	-31
Partial	15	<12	<12	<12
No Progress	15	<12	<12	<12
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	75	22	<12	*
Avg. Stay (Days)	157	145	122	-23

*Numbers were omitted for de-identification purposes

Program Outcomes

To assess the reduction in juvenile justice system involvement, each OCSD referred youth that entered the PRYDE program from 7/1/2024 to 2/28/2025 (n=127) was tracked for six months after entering the program for new law violation referrals to PRYDE or new law violations reported to PRYDE in order to close their case as “Unsuccessful” for re-offense. Youth who were 18 years of age or older during the follow-up period were excluded (n=14). Findings showed that only 1 youth had a new law violation within six months of entering the program and was re-arrested less than a month after intake. Three juveniles received a second law violation during the period between the initial referral and the juvenile entering the program.

Success Story

A youth was referred by OCSD to PRYDE for assault and battery. At intake client struggled with fighting, difficult peer relationships, and anxiety. These struggles made it difficult to feel comfortable in school and to succeed academically. The client was able to complete the program successfully with counseling and other interventions to help them develop effective coping strategies and learn how to build and maintain positive peer connections. Today, client has successfully transitioned back to public school, where they are performing well academically and engaging in healthy social interactions.

Challenges and Solutions

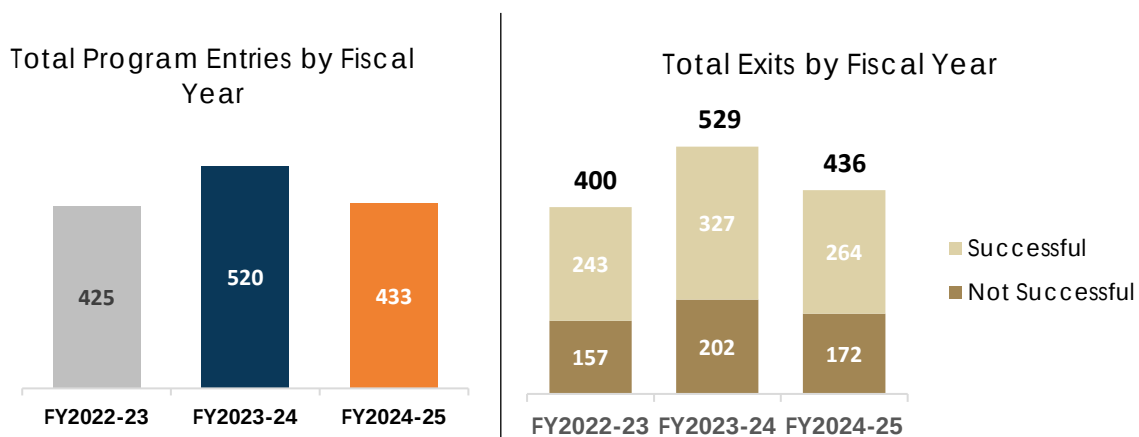
One of the greatest challenges has been dealing with collecting restitution for the increasing volume of and large loss amounts related to criminal vandalism. Incidents resulting in thousands of dollars of restitution to be paid to victims are occurring on a regular basis. New policies have been established including not accepting restitution money orders other than from the US Post Office.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

Outputs & Participant Demographics

The graphs below represent the overall program participants and details of program participation for FY 2022-23, FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25. There was a decrease in program entries, as well as in successful exits for FY 2024-25. Please note that program exits do not represent the number of participants based on length of time for program and fluctuation of participants between fiscal year. Per guidance from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), counts of less than 12 have been suppressed to protect client confidentiality.

JJCPA Intervention/Treatment Program Entries and Exits by FY



Note: numbers less than 12 from each program were omitted from the calculation of the totals.

The details for program outputs, participant demographics and city of residence are presented below. These tables provide an overview of program services provided to youth enrolling and exiting youth for all prevention/early intervention programs. Participant demographics are presented for those enrolled in the program, those successfully completing the program and those who did not successfully complete the program. Responding Agencies/Organizations reporting “less than 12” were not included in overall totals related to enrollment or exit. Overall totals may include duplicated individuals based on services provided to those who re-enter a program during the fiscal year. Additionally, enrolled counts may not match exiting totals due to program length not aligning with fiscal year timeframes. City of residence is captured at time of enrollment.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

JJCPA Intervention/Treatment Program Enrollment with Youth Demographics

Youth Enrollment					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY2023-24 Total	FY2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred		403	472	396	-76
Program Entries		425	520	433	-87
Program Participants		513	626	820	194
Participant Demographics					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Gender	Male	408	431	361	-70
	Female	105	120	82	-38
	Transgender/Non-binary	**	**	**	**
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	438	467	375	92
	White	32	**	17	**
	Black	15	**	25	**
	Asian/Pacific Islander	24	**	<12	**
	Other	<12	**	<12	**
Age	11 years old or younger	0	0	0	0
	12-15 years-old	141	191	140	-51
	16-17 years-old	285	299	239	-60
	18 years-old	58	**	36	**
	19 years-old	18	**	<12	**
	20-25 years-old	<12	**	<12	**

Note: Only known demographics are reported for participants, therefore demographic totals will not equate to program participants.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

JJCPA Intervention/Treatment Program Exits with Youth Demographics

Exiting Youth					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY2023-24 Total	FY2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 and 24-25
Exits		400	529	436	-93
Completions		243	327	264	-63
Not Successful		157	202	172	-30
Partial Completion of Program		<12	<12	13	**
No Progress		108	17	111	94
Left Program for Unrelated Reason		47	175	48	-127
Demographics of Participants who Completed the Program					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 and 24-25
Gender	Male	202	266	222	-44
	Female	41	61	42	-19
	Transgender/Non-binary	**	**	**	**
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	203	256*	235	-21
	White	20	**	12	**
	Black	<12	**	<12	**
	Asian/Pacific Islander	<12	**	<12	**
	Other	<12	**	<12	**
Demographics of Participants who did not Successfully Complete the Program					
		FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 and 24-25
Gender	Male	116	129*	132	3
	Female	41	46*	37	-9
	Transgender/Non-binary	**	**	**	**
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	133	138*	147	9
	White	<12	**	<12	**
	Black	<12	**	14	**
	Asian/Pacific Islander	12	**	<12	**
	Other	<12	**	<12	**

Note: Only known demographics are reported for participants, therefore demographic totals will not equate to program participants.

* The total reported may be slightly higher because entries marked as "less than 12" were not included in the calculations. This means that numbers below 12 have been omitted, potentially increasing the overall total when considered.

** The total amount is not displayed because there are multiple entries labeled as "less than 12." This means that several entries fall below this threshold, which prevents the total from being accurately calculated and displayed. Without these entries, the sum might not reflect the actual overall count.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

JJCPA Intervention/Treatment Youth City of Residence by Fiscal Year at Time of Program Entry

Fiscal year	22-23	23-24	24-25		22-23	23-24	24-25
Aliso Viejo	53	44	<12	Newport Beach	0	<12	0
Anaheim	60	58	95	North Tustin	0	0	0
Anaheim Island	0	0	0	Olive	0	0	0
Big Canyon	0	0	0	Orange	29	59	25
Brea	<12	<12	<12	Orange Hills	0	0	0
Buena Park	0	<12	<12	Orange Park Acres	0	0	0
Costa Mesa	19	19	21	Placentia	<12	<12	<12
Country Club Island	0	0	0	Portola Hills	0	0	0
Coto de Caza	<12	<12	0	Rancho Mission Viejo	<12	<12	0
Covenant Hills	0	0	0	Rancho Santa Margarita	41	53	<12
Cypress	<12	<12	<12	Robinson Ranch	0	0	0
Dana Point	28	18	0	Rossmoor	0	<12	0
Dove Canyon	<12	0	0	San Clemente	43	31	<12
East Irvine	0	0	0	San Juan Capistrano	72	<52	<12
El Modena	0	0	0	San Juan Hot Springs	0	0	0
Emerald Bay	0	0	0	Santa Ana	67	51	154
Fountain Valley	<12	<12	<12	Santa Ana Heights	0	0	0
Fullerton	13	22	27	Santiago Canyon	0	0	0
Garden Grove	33	23	28	Seal Beach	<12	<12	0
Huntington Beach	25	21	<12	Shady Canyon	0	0	0
Irvine	0	<12	<12	Silverado	0	<12	0
La Habra	<12	<12	<12	Stanton	<12	<12	<12
La Palma	0	0	0	Stonecliffe	0	0	0
Ladera Ranch	22	32	0	Tonner Canyon	0	0	<12
Las Flores	<12	0	0	Trabuco Highlands	<12	<12	<12
Laguna Beach	<12	<12	0	Tustin	<12	18	22
Laguna Hills	30	31	<12	Tustin Foothills	0	0	0
Laguna Niguel	30	28	<12	Villa Park	0	<12	0
Laguna Woods	<12	0	0	Wagon Wheel	0	13	0
Lake Forest	76	41	<12	Westminster	19	18	<12
Los Alamitos	<12	<12	0	Yorba Linda	21	<12	<12
Midway City	<12	0	<12	Out of County	<12	<12	<12
Mission Viejo	86	89	0	Out of State	0	0	0
Modjeska Canyon	0	0	0				

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Substance Use Programming

Program Goal

The main objective of the Substance Use Program is to address underlying substance use issues. By doing this, the program aims to lower the chances of offenders reoffending, thereby preventing further delinquency and the development of adult criminal behavior. Additionally, the program aims to connect youth with ongoing community resources upon their exit from the Youth Guidance Center (YGC).

Lead Agency and Partners

Probation – Manages integrated case assessment and planning involving unit staff, education staff and collateral resources, assesses academic skills and development of an individualized plan to address skill deficits by a school counselor, and holds 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.

Health Care Agency – Provides a range of mental health services including case management, therapy, psychological assessments, and medication support to children and adolescents.

Program Staffing

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)				
	FY 2022-23	FY2023-24	FY 2024-25	
	Actuals	Actuals	Requested	Actuals
Probation	41.2	28.9	42.7	25.92
HCA	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.14
Total	45.2	32.9	46.7	29.06

Financial Input

Funding Allocation					
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25		
	Actuals	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Actuals
Probation	\$ 6,800,442	\$ 5,523,849	\$ 6,420,268	\$ 5,620,268	\$ 4,255,307
HCA	527,216	549,551	669,819	669,819	602,864
Total	\$ 7,327,658	\$ 6,073,400	\$ 7,090,087	\$ 6,290,087	\$ 4,858,171

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Substance Use Programming

Objective & Program Details

Substance Use Programs provide intensive drug and alcohol use intervention for youth offenders who have custody commitments and a history of drug and/or alcohol use. Treatment is offered through YGC, where individualized treatment plans are geared towards a youth's specific needs. Programs include Sobriety Through Education and Prevention (STEP) for female youth and Substance Abuse Education and Recognition Treatment (ASERT) for males.

HCA staff at the YGC provide co-occurring mental health treatment and substance use prevention to reduce mental health symptoms, increase coping skills and/or decrease substance use. An important component of these co-occurring services is to link youth to on-going community resources when they exit the YGC.

Program Achievements

Program Output

Probation

While youth are typically referred to YGC by a court order, youth can be referred by other means such as a DPO referral or a recommendation while in custody. Due to the varying referral pathways, it remains difficult to capture a true number of youths referred. While referral information is not captured, the program has slightly decreased in program entries and participants compared to the previous year. The

total number of completions increased slightly by two compared to the previous year. The average days of program completion for the youth that were considered "Not Successful", not in custody long enough to complete the program, participated in the program for an average of 42 days.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	0	0	0	0
Program Entries	99	98	88	-10
Program Participants	118	117	103	-14

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Substance Use Programming

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	98	103	87	-16
Completions	60	41	43	-2
Not Successful	38	62	44	-18
Partial	*	*	*	*
No Progress	<12	15	17	-2
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	34	47	27	-20
Avg. Stay (Days)	123	110	118	-8

*Probation does not track partial completion for this program. Success is gauged by the length of time in the program, requiring at least 72 days for females and 90 days for males. If participants remain in custody for less time, they are deemed unsuccessful and counted in the no progress or left program for reasons unrelated category.

Health Care Agency

An important component of services provided by HCA staff is to link youth to on-going community resources when they exit the YGC. HCA defines successful completion as meeting treatment goals, transitioning to a lower level of care, no longer requiring services, or linkage to other community mental health or substance use providers.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	114	74	62	-12
Program Entries	200	188	82	-106
Program Participants	137	103	93	-10

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	126	90	72	-31
Completions	<12	59	0	-41
Not Successful	125	31	0	-62
Partial	0	0	0	0
No Progress	0	0	0	0
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	125	31	72	-20
Avg. Stay (Days)	176	169	NA	-169

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Substance Use Programming

Program Outcomes

Probation

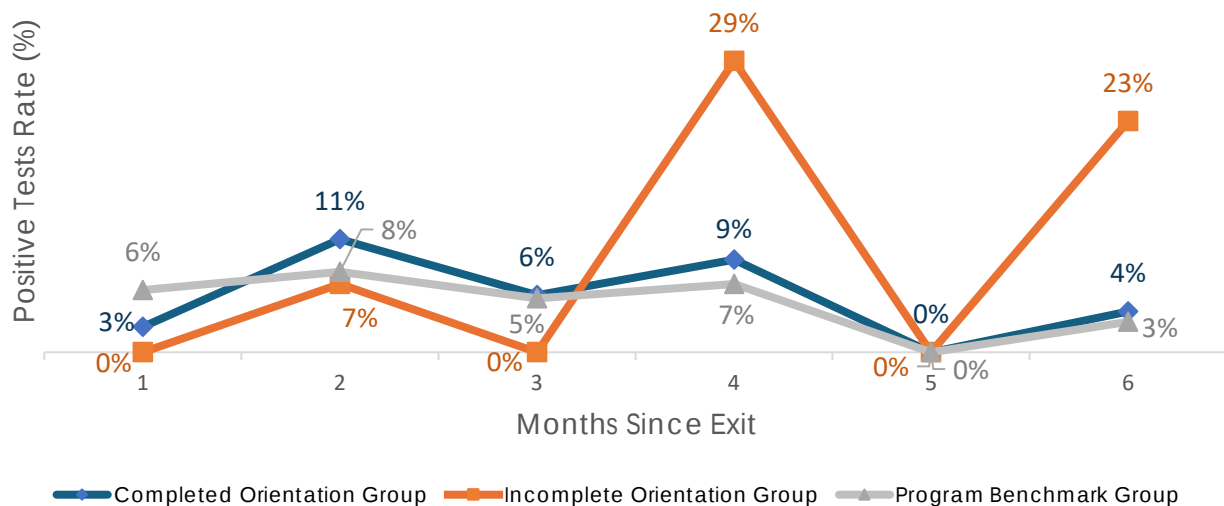
Probation investigated the post-release Drug Testing Results of participants who exited the ASERT/STEP program for a six-month follow up time. Between January and December 2024, 42 participants in ASERT/STEP were released to field supervision for at least six months. Youth that were in custody 30 or more days after release from YGC but within the six-month follow-up period were excluded because they were missing at least a month's worth of drug testing under field supervision.

These 42 participants had a total of 493 drugs tests in the six-month follow up period (an average of approximately 12 tests per youth) and were categorized into three groups:

- **Program Benchmark Group:** males who stayed 90 days or more and females who stayed 72 days or more
- **Completed Orientation Group:** participants who stayed 30 days or more but didn't reach the benchmark time
- **Incomplete Orientation Group:** participants who stayed less than 30 days

The group of youth that did not complete the orientation phase of ASERT/STEP had the highest overall positivity rate (10.4%) after the six-month follow-up. The group that completed orientation but didn't meet the benchmark days and the group that met the benchmark days had significantly less positivity rates (5.5% and 5.1%, respectively).

Positive Tests Over Time (THC Tests Excluded)



INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

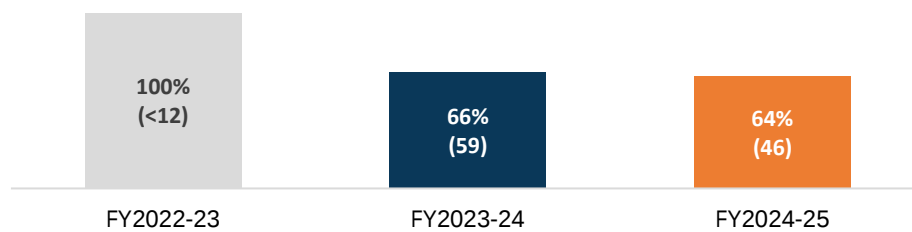
Substance Use Programming

Health Care Agency

In FY 2024-25, 64% (n = 46) of youth who exited the program were linked to County or contracted mental health and substance use treatment services within 10 business days of exiting the program.

Due to the timing of the report, the Fiscal Year of data is not typically finalized until October or November, so the number of linkages is likely higher than reported.

Percent of Youth Linked to Behavioral Health Services



Success Stories

Probation

YGC participants thrive within the program. They attend drug programs, NA/AA, and work to improve other skillsets such as developing leadership skills by acting as a mentor to the other youth in the unit. In addition, they are able to attend community college while still at YGC, and some participants receive scholarships. One youth as an example is planning to transfer to a prestigious university after release. The YGC coordinators and staff applaud this youth's tremendous personal growth.

Health Care Agency

A youth experiencing significant mental health issues and substance use disorders initially struggled to adjust after being transferred to the Youth Guidance Center. They had difficulty interacting with peers, often resisted staff directives, and were frequently returned to Juvenile Hall for disruptive behavior. The youth was initially hesitant to engage in services. However, through consistent trauma informed and person-centered care, the youth gradually became more open to behavioral health interventions. They were assessed for residential placement and expressed a willingness to engage in ongoing treatment, including individual therapy, group therapy, psychiatric services and medication assisted treatment for reported opioid use. Although the youth later declined residential placement, the youth participated in intensive outpatient services for his substance use treatment disorder and enrolled with a Full-Service Partnership (FSP) program to continue treatment.

Challenges and Solutions

Probation

- **Continued Challenges with Shorter Commitments and Unexpected Release:** Designed as a 120-day program to help youth with substance abuse issues, unexpected releases limit the effectiveness of the treatment. The first 60 days are crucial for youth to recognize their need for help, making the full duration essential for successful outcomes.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Substance Use Programming

- We need to continue advocating for consistent sentencing practices that match the program's 120-day duration could help maintain its effectiveness.
- **"Declining" Transfer to YGC:** There are challenges in encouraging youth to transfer to the Youth Guidance Center (YGC), even when it may serve their long-term rehabilitation more effectively. One key factor is the perception of YGC as a more intensive and demanding program, where phase and point-based systems offer relatively easier access to incentives. This structure is appropriate given juvenile hall's shorter stays and rapidly changing population, but it inadvertently reduces motivation for youth to pursue transfer to YGC, where the program calls for deeper personal commitment and sustained behavioral progress.
 - To address this concern, an informative video that highlights the benefits, structure, and supportive environment of YGC for the courts was developed.
 - In an effort to smooth transitions and increase engagement, flexible practices were adopted—such as allowing select incentives earned at Juvenile hall to carry over to YGC on a case-by-case basis. Still, the broader challenge remains without clear and consistent messaging about the long-term value of YGC's rehabilitation model, youth may continue opting out of transfer opportunities that could positively impact their futures.
- **Alignment on incentive decisions:** The program is built on a system of earned incentives, including furloughs, which are awarded based on consistent positive behavior and meaningful progress in each youth's individualized rehabilitation plan. Collaboration in awarding incentives reinforces program goals, encourages accountability, promotes personal growth, and enhances fairness among participants. Ensuring incentive decisions align with the therapeutic and behavioral standards of the program helps maximize each youth's potential for lasting success.

Health Care Agency

Youth prescribed Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid use while in custody often face challenges with maintaining compliance after release, frequently missing pre-scheduled follow up appointments for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. To address this, HCA clinicians and Juvenile Health Services medical staff work collaboratively to ensure care coordination while the youth is still in custody. These coordinate efforts include communicating with youth and their families about upcoming SUD appointments and arranging transportation as needed. Additionally, a peer support specialist is integrated into the care team to meet with the youth's family in the community prior to the youth's release, providing in person psychoeducation and access to Naloxone and Fentanyl strips. Meeting with the family in the community has shown an increase in family engagement, which in turn helps improve the youth's follow through with treatment recommendations and compliance post-release.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Youth Reporting Centers

Program Goal

The Youth Reporting Centers (YRCs) aim to minimize the reliance on secure detention by offering a well-structured, community-based alternative confinement option. Its goal is to encourage lawful and productive lifestyles among students and to link youth to on-going community resources when they exit the YRC.

Lead Agency and Partners

Probation – Regular monitoring of youthful offenders' compliance and success utilizing incentives as included in the Probation Juvenile Incentives program approved by the BOS and collaborates between County partners and OCDE.

Health Care Agency – Provides services to youth with severe emotional disturbances and transitional-age youth with serious mental illness which includes case management, therapy, psychological testing, and medication support to children and adolescents, aiming to improve their skills for community functioning and manage the impact of disabilities.

Program Staffing

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)				
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	
	Actuals	Actuals	Requested	Actuals
Probation	18.7	13.9	23.8	22.38
HCA	7.0	7.0	8.0	5.82
Total	25.7	20.9	31.8	28.20

Financial Input

Funding Allocation					
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25		
	Actuals	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Actuals
Probation	\$ 3,206,535	\$ 3,317,379	\$ 4,202,628	\$ 5,002,628	\$ 4,892,091
HCA	601,379	716,278	899,668	899,668	658,390
Total	\$ 3,807,914	\$ 4,033,657	\$ 5,102,296	\$ 5,902,296	\$ 5,550,481

Objective & Program Details

Youth at the YRC attend a full academic program and participate in afternoon group counseling, individual counseling, and drug testing with an emphasis on obtaining and maintaining sobriety. On-site job coaches assist youth in seeking, obtaining, and maintaining employment and vocational training access.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Youth Reporting Centers

Additionally, for those YRC youth serving a commitment, the Accountability Commitment Program offers an alternative to traditional incarceration, allowing youth to complete custodial commitments while participating in educational and support services and being supervised via electronic monitoring.

HCA staff at the YRCs provide mental health and substance use services to reduce mental health symptoms, increase coping skills and/or decrease substance use. An important component of these time-

limited services is to link youth to on-going community resources when they exit the YRC to support their recovery.

Program Achievements

Program Output

Probation

The number of youth referred, program entries, and program participants slightly decreased compared to the previous year, and the proportion of those youth successfully completing the program also decreased from 68% (222/327) to 59% (152/259).

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	301	318	265	-53
Program Entries	290	321	252	-69
Program Participants	314	363	287	-76

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	271	327	259	-68
Completions	161	222	152	-70
Not Successful	110	105*	107	-2
Partial	0	0	0	0
No Progress	99	105	96	-9
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	<12	0	<12	<12
Avg. Stay (Days)	47	45	40	-5

* This number was combined with the "Left Program" total due to the value being less than 12

Health Care Agency

The number of youth referred and program participants rose, but the number of program entries dropped compared to the previous year. The percentage of those youth successfully completing the program also decreased from 51% (136/267) to 22%(40/184).

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Youth Reporting Centers

HCA staff at the YRCs offer mental health and substance use services to all youth at the centers, aiming to alleviate mental health symptoms, enhance coping skills, and reduce substance use. A key aspect of these short-term services is connecting youth with ongoing community resources when they leave the YRC and therefore the definition for “Completions” and “Not Successful” may differ compared to Probation.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	191	248	169	-79
Program Entries	251	309	252	-57
Program Participants	201	282	213	-69

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	171	267	184	-83
Completions	54	136	40	-96
Not Successful	117	131	0	-131
Partial	0	0	0	0
No Progress	0	0	0	0
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	117	131	144	13
Avg. Stay (Days)	63	71	61	-10

Program Outcomes

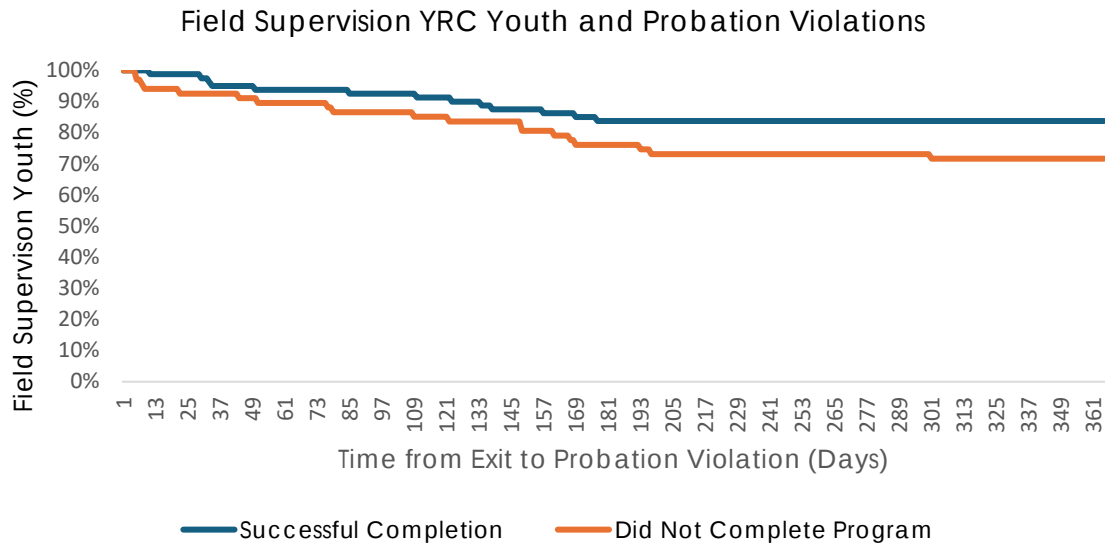
Probation

Outcome data examined youth who exited YRC in FY 2023-24 to allow for up to one-year of follow-up. At the time of reporting, there were 340 exits from YRC in FY 2023-24. Of those 340 exits, 135 were under field supervision. Youth who successfully completed YRC were consistently less likely to get a formal probation violation. At the end of one year, 83.8% of participants that successfully completed YRC did not have a probation violation, compared to 71.6% of participants that were unsuccessful in the program.

For the 205 youths exiting in FY 2024-25 to the Accountability Commitment Program, they were enrolled for an average of 38 days resulting in a total of 7,740 days not served in secure detention. This enrollment supports the efforts of the YRCs to reduce the use of secure detention of youth and provide greater impact from services including counseling, education and skill building, and relational interventions.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

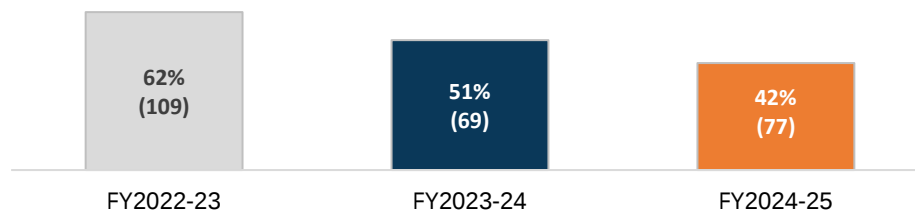
Youth Reporting Centers



Health Care Agency

In FY 2024-25, 42% (n = 77) of youth who exited the program were linked to County or contracted mental health and substance use treatment services within 10 business days of exiting the program. Due to the timing of the report, the Fiscal Year of data is not typically finalized until October or November, so the number of linkages is likely higher than reported.

Percent of Youth Linked to Behavioral Health Services



Success Stories

Probation

During this fiscal year, Central Youth Reporting Center moved into a newly renovated site that offers more space for career and technical education programs, two wellness rooms for youth, and a washer and dryer for youth to use. There were nine youth who earned their high-school diploma while attending one of the YRCs this fiscal year.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Youth Reporting Centers

Health Care Agency

A youth with a history of multiple incarcerations, complex trauma, and significant life stressors was referred to the YRC. The youth initially struggled to engage in services with HCA clinicians, often requesting to end sessions early. Through the use of art therapy and other group therapies, the youth disclosed trauma related incidents and stressors negatively affecting their mental health. The youth learned and applied healthy coping strategies to manage stressors, along with positive communication skills to share their experiences with family members, which strengthened relationships and enhanced their sense of support around treatment needs. The youth successfully completed their time at the YRC and continue treatment services with a Full-Service Partnership (FSP).

Challenges and Solutions

Probation

Success Rate Challenges: The rate of youth successfully completing the program decreased slightly by 10% during this fiscal year compared to last fiscal year. Probation plans to review multi-year data trends to uncover any root causes behind the decline, explore enhancements in program design, and consider support mechanisms to improve participant outcomes.

Health Care Agency

Referrals to the YRC have been low over the past year. In response, collaborative partners, including the OC HCA, Probation, and OCDE, have proposed presenting to the Court to share information on available programming, coordinated services, and collaborative efforts at the YRCs. This presentation would highlight the benefits of the supportive and safe environment offered to youth, with the goal of increasing awareness and encouraging appropriate referrals.

Juvenile Recovery Court

Program Goal

Juvenile Recovery Court (JRC) is a court-based intervention program for youth with substance use issues who need specialized assistance and treatment services. The primary goals are to increase sobriety and reduce recidivism while reducing the reliance on incarceration.

Lead Agency and Partners

Probation – Collaborates between county partners reporting to the Probation Officer for progress checks and monitors youthful offenders' success utilizing incentives as included in the Probation Juvenile Incentives program approved by the OC BOS.

Health Care Agency – Provides various mental health services, including therapy, assessments, and medication support to children and adolescents, focusing on improving their community functioning and managing their disabilities.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Juvenile Recovery Court

Public Defender – Represents juveniles in the justice system who opt in to participate in this intensive supervision program and ensures that the juvenile's needs are being met by collaborating with HCA, community partners, OCDA, Probation and the Juvenile Court to help the juvenile attain sobriety, stability, and support in the community and ultimately terminate wardship after successfully completing the program.

District Attorney – Manages caseloads and participates in the JRC.

Waymakers – Waymakers Collaborative Courts Full Service Partnership (CCFSP) receives no funding from JJCPA but rather is funded by the Mental Health Services Act in collaboration with HCA. CCFSP provides culturally competent in-home and community based services for youth ages 0-25 struggling with mental illness, truancy and substance abuse issues.

Program Staffing

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)				
	FY 2022-23	FY2023-24	FY 2024-25	
	Actuals	Actuals	Requested	Actuals
Probation	2.2	1.2	4.0	2.13
HCA	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
PD	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.08
OCDA	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.39
Total	4.4	2.9	5.0	2.59

Financial Input

Funding Allocation					
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25		
	Actuals	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Actuals
Probation	\$ 330,808	\$ 226,676	\$ 594,676	\$ 594,676	\$ 465,477
HCA	124,109	101,332	260,000	260,000	260,000
PD	54,301	26,594	75,000	75,000	24,665
OCDA	47,397	47,816	111,565	111,565	54,078
Total	\$ 556,615	\$ 402,418	\$ 1,041,241	\$ 1,041,241	\$ 804,220

Objective & Program Details

JRC is a collaborative endeavor between the Juvenile Court, OCDA, Probation, Public Defender's Office (and other defense counsel), HCA, and Waymakers. The JRC program uses a combination of substance use treatment; therapy (individual, group, and family); sanctions; and incentives to rehabilitate youth;

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Juvenile Recovery Court

empower their families; and prevent reoffending. Program length is dependent upon youth engagement with their services.

The role of the Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) within the JRC collaboration is to monitor progress of the youth within the program, hold the youth accountable through incentives or informal sanctions as needed using an evidence-based approach, administer the drug testing regularly, and provide supervision of the youth in the community. Due to the rapport built with the youths, the DPO has a good understanding of the needs of the youths and can articulate them to the other collaborative partners to ensure the youth's needs are being met by having the right services in place. HCA assigns a clinician to the JRC collaborative to coordinate all clinical services for youth during their time at JRC. This clinician attends all court sessions and provides updates on therapeutic services to the Court. The primary role of the HCA liaison is case management, ensuring connection to community-based mental health and substance use treatment.

The Waymakers CCFSP offers in-home and community-based services for youth. The program provides comprehensive support through assessment, care planning, case management, and treatment interventions. CCFSP aims to empower youth and their families by promoting recovery, self-efficacy, and social competence across various life domains, ensuring safety and stability at home, school, work, and in the community.

Program Achievements

Program Output

Probation

Though program participants decreased slightly compared to the previous year, average length of stay increased by over three months.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	25	26	22	-4
Program Entries	15	17	14	-3
Program Participants	25	29	28	-1

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	13	15	14	-1
Completions	<12	<12	<12	<12
Not Successful	<12	<12	<12	<12
Partial	0	0	0	0
No Progress	<12	<12	<12	<12
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	<12	<12	<12	<12
Avg. Stay (Days)	397	279	386	107

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Juvenile Recovery Court

Health Care Agency

The number of youth referred to and participating in the program decreased compared to the previous year, leading to fewer exits. HCA does not provide direct treatment but focuses on linking youth to appropriate treatment services, with successful linkage being a key measure of success for the program.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	12	23	14	-4
Program Entries	12	27	15	-3
Program Participants	25	40	24	-1

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	<12	31	<12	**
Completions	0	<12	<12	<12
Not Successful	<12	0	0	0
Partial	0	0	0	0
No Progress	0	0	0	0
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	<12	22	<12	**
Avg. Stay (Days)	NA	371	51	-320

** Numbers were omitted for de-identification purposes.

Program Outcomes

Probation

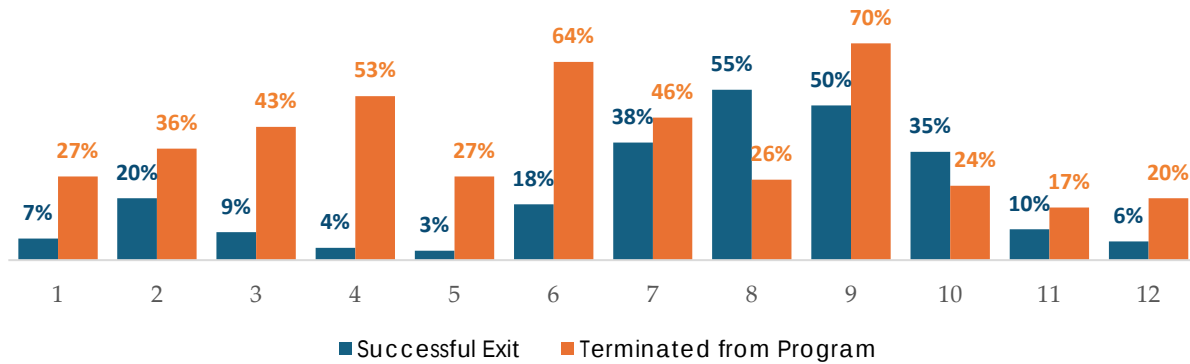
Between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2025, 21 youth exited JRC either by successful completion or terminated and returned to field. Rates of positive drug tests for a year post JRC start date were compared between the two groups. Subsequent drug tests of youth that terminated the program and continued to field supervision were included in the sample. For the 21 youth, there was a total 1,498 drug tests: 1,146 (77%) negative, 348 (23%) positive, and 4 inconclusive. As seen in the graph below, youth who successfully completed the program had generally lower rates of positive tests compared to youth that terminated from the program. Regardless of exit type, there was an overall decrease in positive drug tests rate after the nine-month mark.

An entrance and exit interview were developed and administered during the 2024-25 FY to better understand participant-experience in the JRC program. During their entrance interview, all interviewed youth indicated that they looked forward to “maintaining” or “working on” their sobriety; however, some youths indicated that it would be the most challenging part of the program. Interviewed youth expressed a desire to work on their anger/frustration/general coping issues. During their exit interview all youth indicated that they had developed coping skills and had a plan for maintaining their sobriety. Also, most youth indicated that drug testing was an effective tool for maintaining sobriety during the program.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Juvenile Recovery Court

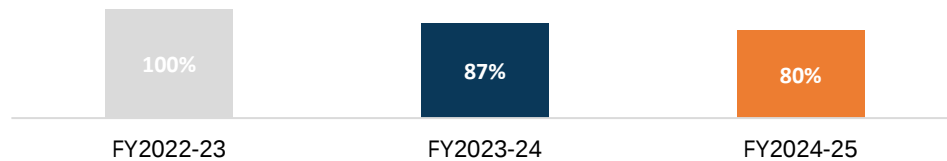
Positive Drug Test Rates by Month(s) after Program Enrollment



Health Care Agency

In FY 2024-25, 80% of youth who exited the program were linked to County or contracted mental health and substance use treatment services within 10 business days of exiting the program. Due to the timing of the report, the FY of data is not typically finalized until October or November, so the number of linkages is likely higher than reported.

Percent of Youth Linked to Behavioral Health Services*



*Percentages are only represented in the figure above due to low participant numbers.

Success Stories

Probation

For one participant who entered and graduated successfully from JRC, before their acceptance into JRC, they were on informal probation and experimenting with fentanyl and associating with negative peers. They were also testing positive for methamphetamine and their school performance was declining. Once the youth entered JRC, they did not test positive for fentanyl and was engaged with their treatment team and attending school. They mentioned that JRC was strict but was aware that they needed help because they felt they were spiraling out of control. The youth did test positive for methamphetamine one time and attempted to rationalize how they tested positive, but they were encouraged to be honest with themselves to assist in their recovery. The youth acknowledged the problem and was able to get back on track. In their graduation speech, they mentioned it was difficult to stay sober, but since the treatment team was holding them accountable to their actions and encouraged them to stay on track, they fought for their sobriety and made it a goal to keep moving forward.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Juvenile Recovery Court

Health Care Agency

A JRC youth referred to CCFSP initially struggled to engage in services due to years of being on probation, compounded by a history of complex trauma, limited family support, and family history of mental illness and substance use. Trust was a barrier, but consistent outreach from the treatment team helped build rapport. Over time, the youth began attending sessions regularly, including group attendance with Waymakers. The youth made significant progress in treatment, including abstaining from substance use and maintaining active participation in mental health services. Throughout the year, this youth enrolled in college courses and obtained employment, successfully completing JRC. This youth remains enrolled with CCFSP and continues to make positive and lasting changes in life.

Challenges and Solutions

Probation

Low referral rates for JRC participation: Though the JRC referral rates are low, we have seen a steady increase throughout the FYs. In FY 22-23, Probation completed 11 referrals. In comparison to this FY, Probation has completed 22 referrals. Probation will continue to work collaboratively with the program to discover new ways to continue to increase the referral rate.

Lack of residential facilities for male, youth 17 and under with a substance use issue: Over the past year, Probation contracted with one residential facility for males of this age group and under in Lancaster, CA. Probation will continue working collaboratively with the program to look for other facilities within OC.

Health Care Agency

Some youth change their mind about participating in substance use disorder treatment once they fully understand the level of commitment required, particularly when it involves intensive residential placement. The two to three-week window between their initial agreement to services and actual enrollment in residential placement becomes a time of hesitation. Youth may begin to reconsider residential placement, feeling overwhelmed by the structure and intensity of residential care or no longer being interested, and may ultimately choose to disengage before residential placement begins. The solution has been for CCFSP to maintain active engagement with the youth during this critical period and provide psychoeducation on the benefits of residential placement as a structured and supportive level of care that serves as a foundation for sustained recovery and relapse prevention. The treatment team also provides continued support by meeting with the youth while in residential placement.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE)

Program Goal

The goal of the Waymakers ARRIVE program is to provide restorative justice practices and intervention services that hold youth accountable for their behaviors while encouraging positive change.

Lead Agency and Partners

Probation – Regular reporting and progress checks of youth at-risk of reincarceration, attends pro-social activities and offers support for youth and family.

Waymakers – Waymakers provides comprehensive support for at-risk youth and their families to reduce recidivism and promote positive development. It offers administrative oversight, therapeutic interventions, and case management services. Appendix A.3 provides information on the contract with Waymakers.

Program Staffing

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)				
	FY 2022-23	FY2023-24	FY 2024-25	
	Actuals	Actuals	Requested	Actuals
Probation	0.13	0.03	.08	.03
Total	0.13	0.03	.08	.03

Financial Input

Funding Allocation					
	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25		
	Actuals	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Actuals
Probation	\$ 312,817	\$ 448,534	\$ 429,787	\$ 429,787	\$ 343,267
Total	\$ 312,817	\$ 448,534	\$ 429,787	\$ 429,787	\$ 343,267

Objective & Program Details

The six-month program aims to support the youth, their families, victims, and the community by addressing criminogenic needs and helping youth complete court-ordered sanctions. By focusing on maximizing strengths, the program seeks to reduce recidivism and promote long-term positive outcomes. The main components of the program include clinical assessment, individual and family counseling, case management, career and educational support, community service support, and various specialized counseling services.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE)

Program Achievements

Program Output

This program was only partially operational from in FY 2022-23. Other years listed in the table below reflects full year program implementation.

Youth Enrollment				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Youth Referred	77	128	112	-16
Program Entries	56	84	80	-4
Program Participants	56	117	110	-7

Exiting Youth				
	FY 2022-23 Total	FY 2023-24 Total	FY 2024-25 Total	Difference 23-24 & 24-25
Exits	18	84	79	-5
Completions	16	57	65	8
Not Successful	<12	27	14	-13
Partial	<12	0	14	14
No Progress	0	<12	0	<12
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	0	17	0	-17
Avg. Stay (Days)	183	160	157	-3

Program Outcome

By the end of a the 6-month ARRIVE program, 68% of youth who successfully completed the ARRIVE program in FY 2024-25 showed a decreased risk level or remained low risk to re-offend as measured by the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI).

Success Story

A youth was referred following a charge of battery with serious bodily injury. To support them in meeting the terms of their probation, they were encouraged to participate in counseling. Initially, they were guarded and hesitant to engage in services, but over time, that hesitation gave way to trust and personal growth. They participated in individual counseling focused on improving decision-making skills and processing life stressors and emotions. They demonstrated a strong commitment to growth, identifying the triggers that contributed to their offense and exploring the values that influence their choices. With the support of their Case Manager, they began setting clear goals for their future. They obtained a Real ID, secured employment, and enrolled in the Rising Scholars program to pursue college. At 90 days after program closure, they remained free of further legal involvement and continue to move forward with confidence and purpose.

INTERVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM DETAILS

Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE)

Challenges and Solutions

Waitlist: In FY 2024-245, ARRIVE received 112 referrals for the 50 slots. 80 of 112 were enrolled into the allowed 50 contracted slots. At times there is a waitlist to enroll in ARRIVE services because the need is greater than the staffing pattern. Hiring an additional Clinician would reduce the waitlist time and allow for more referrals to meet the need. Probation is tracking referrals from the South County, North County, and Santa Ana Offices to ensure all Probation-involved youth have the same opportunities.

6-Month Time Limit: The program could offer additional impact on decreasing the risk level for youth to re-offend. Proposal of expanding the program limit from 6 months to 1 year, to build rapport, engage, practice skills and maintain change. Expanding the program timeframe would most likely require an additional Case Manager and Clinician to reduce the waitlist.

2024 JJCPA FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

On February 29, 2024, the OCJJCC directed the CEO's office to develop a project proposal and approval process whereby community-based organizations (CBO) may submit a request for funding for new juvenile-based prevention and intervention programs. On July 25, 2024, the OCJJCC approved the proposed process and allocated \$225,000 from JJCPA funds for FY 2024-25 to solicit proposals from CBOs. On August 1, 2024, the JJCPA Funding Opportunity was made publicly available for the submittal of applications for funding requests. The submission period closed on August 31, 2024, with nine project proposals received.

A working group consisting of one representative each from the Courts, OCDA, Probation, Public Defender, and OCSD, reviewed the applications and provided recommendations to the OCJJCC at the October 24, 2024, Regular meeting. The OCJJCC approved an increase to the total funding from \$225,000 to \$1,134,498 and awarded funding to all nine proposals. On January 14, 2025, seven of the nine agreements were presented to and approved by the BOS. The agreements are effective through December 31, 2025. The remaining two agreements will be presented for Board approval at a later date.

Presented below is a list of the seven programs set to launch in FY 2024-25 and the two pending programs. The submitted proposals are included in the OCJJCC Meeting Agenda packet for the October 24, 2024, meeting, which can be found online.

2024 JJCPA FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Award Recipient	Program	Award Amount	Actuals [3]
Carpenter Training Partners	Construction Training	\$ 137,524	\$ 57,349
Project Kinship	Kinship Center	225,000	61,009
The Prism Way	Criminals and Gang Members Anonymous (CGA), Whole Integration of Self Education (WISE) program	161,442	137,465
Project Youth OC	SHORTSTOP	50,000	22,622
Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove	Family and Youth Outreach Program	15,000	5,607
Human Works Foundation	RISEUP Pre-Vocational Training Program	225,000	61,924
H.I.R.E	TIME Mentoring	85,532	22,963
Effective January 2025		\$ 899,498	\$ 368,938
H.I.R.E ^[1]	Youth Resource Fair	10,000	
Waymakers ^[2]	OC GRIP Case Management	225,000	
Deferred to FY 2025-26		\$ 235,000	\$ -
Total 2024 JJCPA Funding Opportunity		\$ 1,134,498	\$ 368,938

[1] One-time event anticipated to occur in FY 2025-26.

[2] The existing contract with HCA will expire on June 30, 2025. This request is to establish a new agreement, effective 7/1/25 - 6/30/25 when funding from MHSA ends.

[3] Actuals as of June 30, 2025 including year-end accruals.

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAMS SUMMARY

JJCPA Funding Opportunity Youth Enrollment with Demographics

The 2024 JJCPA funding opportunity became effective on January 1, 2025, supporting programs that will run through December 31, 2025. These newly funded programs are off cycle, reporting quarterly through the end of the calendar year (Quarter 2, FY 2025 -26).

Youth Enrollment		
	FY 2024-25	
	Q3	Q4
Youth Referred	154	224
Program Entries	170	232
Program Participants	170	246

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAMS SUMMARY

Demographics of Participants at time of Program Entry			
		FY 2024-25	
		Q3	Q4
Gender	Male	145	208
	Female	25	40
	Transgender/Non-binary	0	<12
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	147	213
	White	12	13
	Black	<12	<12
	Asian/Pacific Islander	<12	11
	Other	<12	<12
Age	11 years old or younger	<12	<12
	12-15 years-old	56	108
	16-17 years-old	58	77
	18 years-old	17	20
	19 years-old	10	<12
	20-25 years-old	26	31

Note: The Prism Way and Project Youth OC were not able to capture demographics for all participants for Q3.

JJCPA Funding Opportunity Program Exits with Youth Demographics

Exiting Youth			
		FY 2024-25	
		Q3	Q4
Exits		139	152
Completions		101	126
Not Successful		38	37
Partial Completion of Program		25	<10
No Progress		<12	0
Left Program for Unrelated Reason		<12	41
Demographics of Participants who Completed the Program			
		FY 2024-25	
		Q3	Q4
Gender	Male	84	105
	Female	17	20
	Transgender/non-binary	0	<12
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	82	107
	White	<12	<12
	Black	<12	<12
	Asian/Pacific Islander	<12	<12
	Other	<12	<12

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAMS SUMMARY

Demographics of Participants who did not Successfully Complete the Program				
		FY 2024-25		
		Q3	Q4	
Gender	Male	29	29	
	Female	<12	<12	
	Transgender/non-binary	0	0	
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic	35	31	
	White	<12	<12	
	Black	0	<12	
	Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	
	Other	<12	<12	

Note: The Prism Way and Project Youth OC were not able to capture demographics for all participants for Q3.

Program Output

Youth Enrollment Totals for Q3 and Q4									
	Carpenter Training Partners	Project Kinship	The PRISM Way		Project Youth OC	Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove	Human Works Foundation	H.I.R.E.	Total
			WISE	CGA					
Youth Referred	17	41	<12	16	221	24	53	<12	378
Program Entries	15	35	<12	50	217	16	53	<12	402
Program Participants	15	35	20	50	217	13	53	13	416

Exiting Youth Totals for Q3 and Q4									
	Carpenter Training Partners	Project Kinship	The PRISM Way		Project Youth OC	Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove	Human Works Foundation	H.I.R.E.	Total
			WISE	CGA					
Exits	<12	0	22	21	217	<12	27	<12	291
Completions	<12	0	>12	>12	168	0	>12	0	227
Not Successful	<12	0	<12	<12	49	<12	<12	<12	75
Partial	<12	0	<12	<12	19	<12	<12	0	35
No Progress	0	0	<12	<12	0	0	<12	0	<12
Left Program for Unrelated Reason	<12	0	<12	<12	30	<12	<12	<12	52

Note: ">12" and "<12" were used for de-identification purpose

Timeframes for programs with youth completing services:

The PRISM Way: WISE and CGA are 12-week programs.

Project Youth OC: SHORTSTOP sessions start each month and youth receive 9-21 hours of services.

Human Works Foundation: RISEUP is a 2–3-month program.

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAMS SUMMARY

JJCPA 2024 Funding Opportunity Programs
Current City of Residence (FY 2024-25)

	Q3	Q4		Q3	Q4
Aliso Viejo	<12	<12	Newport Beach	<12	0
Anaheim	24	46	North Tustin	0	0
Anaheim Island	0	0	Olive	0	0
Big Canyon	0	0	Orange	17	22
Brea	0	0	Orange Hills	0	0
Buena Park	<12	<12	Orange Park Acres	0	0
Costa Mesa	<12	<12	Placentia	<12	<12
Country Club Island	0	0	Portola Hills	0	0
Coto de Caza	0	0	Rancho Mission Viejo	0	0
Covenant Hills	0	0	Rancho Santa Margarita	<12	0
Cypress	0	<12	Robinson Ranch	0	0
Dana Point	0	<12	Rossmoor	0	0
Dove Canyon	0	0	San Clemente	<12	<12
East Irvine	0	0	San Juan Capistrano	<12	0
El Modena	0	0	San Juan Hot Springs	0	0
Emerald Bay	0	0	Santa Ana	46	31
Fountain Valley	0	<12	Santa Ana Heights	0	0
Fullerton	<12	<12	Santiago Canyon	0	0
Garden Grove	13	25	Seal Beach	0	0
Huntington Beach	<12	<12	Shady Canyon	0	0
Irvine	<12	<12	Silverado	0	0
La Habra	<12	12	Stanton	<12	<12
La Palma	0	0	Stonecliffe	0	0
Ladera Ranch	0	0	Tonner Canyon	0	0
Las Flores	0	0	Trabuco Highlands	0	0
Laguna Beach	0	0	Tustin	<12	<12
Laguna Hills	<12	0	Tustin Foothills	0	0
Laguna Niguel	<12	0	Villa Park	0	0
Laguna Woods	0	0	Wagon Wheel	0	0
Lake Forest	<12	<12	Westminster	<12	<12
Los Alamitos	0	0	Yorba Linda	<12	0
Midway City	0	0	Out of County	<12	<12
Mission Viejo	<12	<12	Out of State	<12	<12
Modjeska Canyon	0	0			

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Carpenter Training Partners

Program Goal

Carpenter Training Partners (CTP) offers a construction training program for youth and adults, including justice involved individuals, who are interested in pursuing a career in the construction industry. The mission of CTP is to develop students into marketable, hard-working, driven, industry-ready carpenters who can apply for, and successfully obtain entry-level positions in the workforce.

Financial Input and Program Output

	FY 2024-25					
	Approved Budget	Adjusted Budget	Q3 Actuals		Q4 Actuals	Total
S&EB	\$ 79,737	\$ 79,737	\$ 8,139		\$ 38,994	\$ 47,133
S&S	\$ 57,787	\$ 57,787	\$ 3,699		\$ 6,517	\$ 10,216
Total	\$ 137,524	\$ 137,524	\$ 11,838		\$ 45,511	\$ 57,349
Program Participants			<12		<12	15
Exits			0		<12	<12
Successful Completions			0		<12	<12

Note: "<12" were used for de-identification purpose

Objective & Program Details

Designed to support students in becoming competitive and skilled carpenters, CTP staff dedicate at least 12 hours per week to building rapport with students, assessing their skills and goals and tailoring development strategies. The 20-week program emphasizes safety, safety certifications, tool identification and usage, and physical conditioning. Training is conducted three days a week, with one day focused on virtual classes covering industry theory, financial literacy, soft skills and leadership development, while the other two days involve hands-on building sessions. The program fosters a safe and structured environment where students focus on immediate goals, such as class projects, while developing a long-term vision for sustained employment and career advancement. Alongside carpentry skills, participants build self-esteem, enhance their outlook, and learn to make thoughtful, long-term decisions.

Mid-Year Updates

CTP is a newer program so additional time and effort was required to develop connections with OC probation officers (the primary source of referred candidates). At the start of the first grant cohort, seven students were enrolled in the program. In addition to construction training, case management services were also provided between CTP and non-profit partners like H.I.R.E. OC, and Ready. Get. Go. OC. The student's probation officers were informed of their client's CTP progress at least once a month. Four students successfully completed the program. Two of which have already tested their marketability in the workforce. CTP will continue to work with these alums. The grant funds were used to purchase hand and

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Carpenter Training Partners

power tools for the students for use at the training site. These tools were essential in training the students on how to be effective carpenters.

In reaction to the events that occurred with this first cohort, CTP has maintained communication with probation officer and partners and attended career fairs for the next cohort to ensure that the target number of students complete the training.

Project Kinship

Program Goal

Kinship Center will provide a robust foundation of programming to maximize positive impact on youth in Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove and other areas of OC. Essential resources, skill-building, connections and trusted relationships will redirect behaviors and misguided decisions from the past and develop new pathways of hope that lead to positive, thriving futures.

Financial Input & Program Output

		FY 2024-25				
		Approved Budget	Adjusted Budget	Q3 Actuals	Q4 Actuals	Total
	S&EB	\$ 171,630	\$ 171,630	-	\$ 43,449	\$ 43,449
	S&S	\$ 53,370	\$ 53,370	-	\$ 17,560	\$ 17,560
	Total	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	-	\$ 61,009	\$ 61,009
Program Participants				0	35	35
Exits				0	0	0
Successful Completions				0	0	0

Objective & Program Details

Kinship Center utilizes mentorship and Positive Youth Development (PYD) based in restorative justice approaches to facilitate mentorship and relationship building, provide leadership opportunities, cultivate connection and a sense of community and provide preparation and growth with life skills and societal integration. This includes after-school and weekend programming providing extensive mentorship, life skill-building and connections during engagement in the program. Participants are referred by the juvenile justice networks and staff have access to background information for each participant to ensure a trauma-informed, individualized approach to supportive services. Kinship Center is open 46 weeks of the year and staff monitors the growth and outcomes of participants on an ongoing basis.

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Project Kinship

Mid-Year Updates

With support from OCJJCC, Project Kinship has created a restorative, trauma-informed setting that addresses the needs of system-impacted youth – particularly during a time of increased community violence and heightened risk throughout the summer months.

Progress Updates as of Q4

- **Education & Career Readiness:** Youth have completed resume-building sessions, enrolled in high school diploma/GED support, and began job placement planning. Several are preparing for community college or vocational training programs.
- **Behavioral & Emotional Growth:** Staff have documented improved emotional regulation, increased conflict resolution skills, and reduced high-risk behaviors among frequent attendees.
- **Community Safety & Engagement:** During a period of elevated street violence, the Kinship Center has provided a daily safe haven. Youth often cite the center as the one place where they feel safe, respected, and “seen”.

Outcomes as of Q4

- 88% - 31 out of 35 participants enrolled in school or have a job replacement
- 88% - 31 out of 35 participants remain enrolled in school/employment with positive attendance
- 28% - 10 out of 35 participants have been trained to provide peer to peer support groups
- 100% - 35 out of 35 have not been incarcerated/recidivated since enrollment

The PRISM Way

Program Goal

The Prism Way offers programming designed to empower high-risk youth and young adults to break the cycle of criminal behavior and build meaningful, productive lives. Rooted in the principles of empathy, resilience and accountability, programs offer a comprehensive approach that addresses the underlying causes of criminal behavior and promotes long-term personal growth.

Financial Input & Program Output

	FY 2024-25				
	Approved Budget	Adjusted Budget	Q3 Actuals	Q4 Actuals	Total
S&EB	\$ 147,524	\$ 147,524	\$ 24,587	\$ 90,421	\$ 115,008
S&S	\$ 13,918	\$ 13,918	\$ 2,036	\$ 20,421	\$ 22,457
Total	\$ 161,442	\$ 161,442	\$ 26,623	\$ 110,842	\$ 137,465
Program Participants			25	45	70
Exits			25	30	55
Successful Completions			15	23	38

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

The PRISM Way

Objective & Program Details

The Prism Way offers the Whole Integration of Self Education (WISE) Curriculum and Criminals and Gang Members Anonymous (CGA) at the Youth Guidance Center (YGC) as well as at the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA). The WISE program emphasizes developing cognitive and emotional skills by fostering self-awareness. Participants explore the thought patterns and behaviors that have shaped their past choices, gaining insight into the root causes of criminality and addictions. This understanding helps them break negative cycles and work toward positive transformation. Criminal Gang Members Anonymous (CGA) serves as a restorative practice via a 12-step, 12-tradition program that treats criminal behavior as an addiction. It focuses on fostering personal responsibility and accountability, encouraging participants to examine and take ownership of their actions.

Mid-Year Updates

Since the start of this funding cycle, the Prism Way continued to engage and support transition-aged youth (TAY) across both sites, providing weekly in-person sessions focused on addressing criminal thinking, emotional regulation, and challenging negative belief systems related to masculinity, criminal thinking, and personal accountability. The consistency of showing up for the youth every week—made possible by this funding—is allowing us to build trust and offer reliable programming that aligns with the JJCC’s commitment to reducing recidivism through targeted interventions.

Beyond attendance, youth exhibit early signs of impact in how youth show up for themselves and each other. In one WISE session, a participant bravely shared his struggle with his identity and identified that his substance abuse is a negative coping mechanism rooted in his shame. His willingness to be vulnerable encouraged his peers to share their challenges. What was also encouraging was that his peers began offering affirmations and support, indicating that they all felt safe and free of judgment.

This reflects a positive shift in peer dynamics that we strive to cultivate through WISE, focusing on developing emotional awareness, empathy, and healthier coping strategies. These emerging outcomes demonstrate that youth are practicing key skills, such as self-reflection, empathy, and peer support, essential competencies that help reduce reliance on criminal thinking and mitigate future system involvement.

Project Youth OC

Program Goal

SHORTSTOP offers juvenile crime diversion services to at-risk youth, ages 10-18, and their family members. The goal is to reduce the number of juveniles that have contact with the juvenile justice system through early intervention services, strengthening family support, and providing community linkages.

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Project Youth OC

Financial Input & Program Output

	FY 2024-25				
	Approved Budget	Adjusted Budget	Q3 Actuals	Q4 Actuals	Total
S&EB	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 8,332	\$ 14,290	\$ 22,622
S&S					
Total	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 8,332	\$ 14,290	\$ 22,622
Program Participants			96	125	217
Exits			96	121	217
Successful Completions			75	93	168

Objective & Program Details

For 45 years, Project Youth OC has been a direct provider of youth diversion, behavioral health, and substance abuse services that are trauma-informed; recovery-oriented; equity-based; and culturally, linguistically and age appropriate for Latino youth and families. Held at courthouses and Project Youth OC offices, with additional sessions piloted at Hoag Hospital's Newport/Mesa campus and plans for expansion into the Anaheim community, SHORTSTOP sessions begin monthly and are offered in English and Spanish. While the program includes a comprehensive intake assessment and two 3.5-7-hour program sessions featuring a booking processes and trial simulation, a panel of incarcerated youth from OC Probation and extensive legal education, the majority of the time is spent participating in discussion groups and family-strengthening exercises. Participants also complete mandatory assignments at home, such as reading educational materials, writing reflective essays, setting goals, practicing family communication, exploring career options and navigating court processes. Each youth receives an individualized exit plan with referrals to partner agencies for behavioral health services and potential access to Project Self for educational and career support.

Mid-Year Updates

Since receiving JJCC funding through July 1, 2025, 168 youth participants have completed our evidence-based youth diversion program, helping to deter their further involvement with the juvenile justice system and promoting personal growth, accountability, and opportunity. This investment enabled us to expand our staffing structure, bringing on additional case management support to provide more focused, individualized case planning, restorative justice education, and behavioral health support for every youth and family we serve. We also strengthened our model by expanding to additional program sessions and continuing to find new and innovative ways to deepen our impact, enhancing the legal education component for both youth and caregivers. This change has improved participants' understanding of the justice system while reinforcing family engagement as a key protective factor.

Equally impactful, JJCC funding allowed us to broaden our geographic reach, expanding into cities and communities previously underserved by diversion programming. Through new partnerships with law

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Project Youth OC

enforcement, school districts, and health agencies, we have established stronger referral pipelines and positioned Project Youth OC as a trusted regional partner. These early impacts reflect the critical role JJCC funding plays in advancing our shared goal of reducing youth justice system involvement through proactive, family-centered interventions. Additionally, this work is paving the way for new goals of expansion and scalability, keeping youth out of the system and creating safer, healthier communities across Orange County.

Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove

Program Goal

The Family and Youth Outreach Program (FYOP), a program of BGCGG , operates in collaboration with Garden Grove Police Department (GGPD) and Garden Grove Unified School District to provide diversion programs for juvenile offenders in Central OC. FYOP aims to equip youth with essential life skills and redirect their behavior in positive ways, avoiding further involvement in the justice system.

Financial Input & Program Output

FY 2024-25					
	Approved Budget	Adjusted Budget	Q3 Actuals	Q4 Actuals	Total
S&EB	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 941	\$ 4,370	\$ 5,311
S&S	\$ 10,500	\$ 10,500	-	\$ 296	\$ 296
Total	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 941	\$ 4,666	\$ 5,607
Program Participants			<12	>12	21
Exits			<12	>12	21
Successful Completions			0	<12	<12

Note: "<12" and ">12" were used for de-identification purpose

Objective & Program Details

The program leverages the Boys & Girls Clubs' community-based approach while enhancing its impact with Master's level social workers and therapists who deliver intentional, evidence-based programming. Key programs include *Anger Management*, helping youth manage emotions constructively, and *Juvenile Offender Education*, aimed at preventing repeat offenses. The *Alcohol, Marijuana & Other Drugs* program educates on substance risks, while *Parent Education* supports families on topics like discipline and communication. *Character Building* equips youth with life skills like empathy and emotion regulation to guide better decisions. Collectively, these programs address underlying behavioral issues and foster positive outcomes for at-risk youth and their families.

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove

Mid-Year Updates

With support from JJCPA funding, BGCGG continues to advance its Family and Youth Outreach Program (FYOP), a diversion-based initiative designed to prevent deeper system involvement by supporting youth referred through school districts, law enforcement, and other community partners. The program promotes early intervention through services that build protective factors and equip youth with the tools to make healthy, constructive choices.

One core component, the *Character Building* class, uses a strengths-based, trauma-informed approach to foster leadership, emotional regulation, and positive peer relationships. Facilitators have observed significant progress in participant engagement and confidence. Youth who were initially reluctant to speak are now actively contributing to collaborative activities. As one participant shared, “One of the most important things I’ve learned in the class is how to be a leader, not just a follower... it’s helped me understand how to step up and support others in a positive way.”

Human Works Foundation

Program Goal

The RISEUP program is designed to assist justice-involved youth in exploring various vocational opportunities by helping them identify the fundamental skills required for success in employment. Through personalized guidance, RISEUP helps participants navigate employment and career opportunities while simultaneously identifying and addressing additional supportive services they may need.

Financial Input & Program Output

	FY 2024-25					
		Approved Budget	Adjusted Budget	Q3 Actuals	Q4 Actuals	Total
	S&EB	\$ 189,000	\$ 189,000	\$ 18,635	\$ 38,154	\$ 56,789
	S&S	\$ 36,000	\$ 36,000	\$ 2,539	\$ 2,596	\$ 5,135
	Total	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 21,174	\$ 40,750	\$ 61,924
Program Participants				62	44	106
Exits				32	22	54
Successful Completions				22	12	34

Objective & Program Details

The RISEUP program is designed to assist justice-involved youth in exploring various vocational opportunities by helping them identify the fundamental skills required for success in the employment world. It takes a holistic approach, addressing the overall needs of the youth to ensure they can become self-sufficient. Comprehensive assessments evaluate participants' current skills, interests, and needs, creating a tailored plan for each individual. Participants receive training in essential employability skills,

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Human Works Foundation

such as resume writing, interview techniques, and workplace etiquette, while engaging in pre-vocational training tailored to specific industries through hands-on workshops, online courses, or internships. Collaborative efforts with Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) ensure youth are connected to needed resources like educational programs, mental health services, and housing assistance, supporting their long-term success.

Mid-Year Updates

During the first half of 2025, efforts anchored in community collaboration and trauma-informed care have continued to make a meaningful difference in the lives of system-impacted youth. The RISE UP program plays a vital role in fortifying these initiatives, providing a robust framework for the work. To ensure accessibility and recude barriers to program completion, RISE UP training was delivered the following ways based on participant needs and availability both in person and virtual. Sites include: Youth Leadership Academy, YGC, TAY Mod at Theo Lacy, juvenile hall, Human Works Foundation office and other flexible community locations.

Hub for Integration, Reentry & Employment (H.I.R.E.)

Program Goal

The Transforming Integration into Meaningful Experiences (T.I.M.E.) program is a holistic, community-driven initiative that aims to transform the lives of at-risk youth through positive mentorship, resource access, and skill development. By addressing the complex needs of these young individuals, the program seeks to reduce recidivism, foster personal growth and build a safer, more supportive community.

Financial Input & Program Output

	FY 2024-25				
	Approved Budget	Adjusted Budget	Q3 sActuals	Q4 Actuals	Total
S&EB	\$ 75,632	\$ 75,632	\$ 1,050	\$ 21,710	\$ 22,760
S&S	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,900	\$ 12	\$ 191	\$ 203
Total	\$ 85,532	\$ 85,532	\$ 1,062	\$ 21,901	\$ 22,963
Program Participants			<12	<12	13
Exits			0	<12	<12
Successful Completions			0	0	0

Note: "<12" were used for de-identification purpose

Objective & Program Details

T.I.M.E. is a strength-based mentorship program designed for youth aged 16+ who are currently in custody within the juvenile justice system, who are at risk of going into the system, or who have been recently

2024 JJCPA ADDITIONAL FUNDED PROGRAM DETAILS

Hub for Integration, Reentry & Employment (H.I.R.E.)

released. The program specifically targets youth who have committed crimes and are either serving sentences or awaiting sentencing. The T.I.M.E. program empowers youth by offering mentorship from adults with firsthand experience in the justice system, fostering trust-based relationships through one-on-one and group settings. It connects participants to critical resources such as mental health services, educational support, vocational training and legal assistance while addressing underlying issues like trauma or addiction. Additionally, the program focuses on educational and career development with workshops on resume building, interview preparation and GED attainment, ensuring pathways for success. Creative outlets like writing and meditation are also incorporated, promoting self-expression and providing a constructive way to address and heal from past traumas.

Mid-Year Updates

Thanks to the support of JJCPA funding, H.I.R.E.'s T.I.M.E. Mentor Program has been able to significantly expand and deepen its impact on system-involved youth. Three part-time staff were hired, lived experience mentors—formerly volunteers—and a contracted mentor consultant to formalize and strengthen the program model. These additions have allowed delivery to be more consistent with personalized support, as well as implement mentor training, onboarding protocols, and surveys to assess both mentor and mentee progress.

Youth participants have demonstrated early signs of meaningful growth: practicing emotional regulation, developing detailed reentry plans, exploring educational and vocational paths, and shifting from reactive to reflective behaviors. Mentors are actively supporting youth in cultivating remorse, challenging gang mentalities, and building the skills needed for healing and success beyond the justice system. This funding has been pivotal in professionalizing the program and creating more structure to serve youth with purpose and accountability.

Appendixs

Appendix A – Community-Based Organizations Funded by JJCPA

A.1 Boys & Girls Club of Garden Grove

In January 2022, the BOS approved a Subrecipient Agreement with the OCDE for the Truancy Response Program (TRP). The TRP is a cooperative effort to address the problem of chronic truancy in OC schools, the primary goal of which is to reduce school trancies and absences in order to increase the change of youths' future success. Through the Subripiient Agreement, the County provides JJCPA grant funds, as approved annually by the JJCPA for the OCDE to administer services for the TRP.

In turn, the OCDE has contracted with the BGCGG to perform work described in Attachment A, Scope of Work, to Agreement Number 10000535 to administer the TRP. The information below pertains to the agreement between the OCDE and BGCGG.

JJCPA Program: Truancy Response Program

OCDE Contract With: BGCGG

Contract #: OCDE Agreement # 10000535

Contract Term: 01/03/2022 – 06/30/2025

JJCC Metrics Included in Contract?: Yes

Annual Amount: \$400,000

FY 2024-25 Actual: \$400,000

Boys & Girls Club Staffing	FTE
VP Community Impact	0.10
Program Director	1.00
Field Liason	3.00
Parent Instructor	1.00
Clinical Supervisor	0.25
Intake Coordinator	0.50
Finance Manager	0.10
Total	5.95

A.2 Pepperdine University, PRYDE

In June 2021, the BOS approved a contract between OCSD and Pepperdine University to operate the Youth Diversion & Education (PRYDE) program, a juvenile diversion and counseling program in collaboration with OCSD and Probation Department. The PRYDE program aligns with the OCSD's Juvenile Services Bureau approach, focusing on diverting juveniles from criminal behavior and substance abuse. The program emphasizes early intervention, evaluation, treatment and referral.

JJCPA Program: Decentralized Intake /

Youth Diversion Counseling

Contracted with: Sheriff's Department

Contract #: MA-060-21011079

Contract Term: 07/01/2021 – 06/30/2025

JJCC Metrics Included in Contract?: Yes

Annual Amount: \$431,150

FY 2024-25 Actual: \$431,150

PRYDE Staffing	FTE
Program Manager & Psychologist (50/50%)	1.00
Psychologist	0.10
Administrative Diversion Specialist	1.50
Senior Diversion Specialist	1.00
Total	3.60

A.3 Waymakers

In April 2022, the BOS approved a contract between Probation and Waymakers to provide services under the Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE) program to youth referred by Probation. The program aims at reducing the risk of youth reoffending or violating the terms and conditions of their probation by providing them with individual and group services such as parent empowerment/resilience training, substance abuse/relapse prevention and coping skills to support positive peer relationships.

JJCPA Program: ARRIVE
Contracted with: Probation
Contract #: MA-057-22011069
Contract Term: 05/01/2022 – 04/30/2025
JJCC Metrics Included in Contract?: Yes
Annual Amount: \$329,882
FY 2024-25 Actual: \$328,679

Waymakers Staffing	FTE
Director of Youth Development	In Kind
Program Director	In Kind
Diversion Supervisor	0.50
Licensed Clinical Supervisor	In Kind
Diversion Counselor (Bilingual)	1.00
Diversion Specialist (Bilingual)	1.00
Youth Partner (Bilingual)	1.00
Total	3.50

Appendix B – Links to Resources

Council/Subcommittees:

- **Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council**
<https://ocprobation.ocgov.com/communications/committees/orange-county-juvenile-justice-coordinating-council>
- **SB 823 Subcommittee of the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council**
<https://ocprobation.ocgov.com/page/sb-823-subcommittee-orange-county-juvenile-justice-coordinating-council>

SB 823 Juvenile Justice Realignment:

- **Senate Bill 823 - DJJ Realignment Implementation**
https://www.bscc.ca.gov/s_djjrealignment/
- **Orange County's Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant County Plan**
<https://ocprobation.ocgov.com/communications/committees/orange-county-juvenile-justice-coordinating-council>

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA):

- **Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and the Youthful Offender Block Grant Program**
https://www.bscc.ca.gov/s_jjcpayobgjuvjuscrimeprevact/
- **Board of State and Community Corrections 2023-2024 County JJCPA-YOBG Plans**
<https://www.bscc.ca.gov/2023-2024-county-jjcpa-yobg-plans/>
- **Orange County's JJCPA-YOBG Plan**
<https://ocprobation.ocgov.com/communications/committees/orange-county-juvenile-justice-coordinating-council>

**2011 Public Safety Realignment - JJCPA
Strategic Financial Plan Forecast - 2025
Summary of Department Requests and Projected Balances**

PROGRAM	FY 24/25	FY 25/26	FY 26-27	FY 27-28	FY 28-29	FY 29-30	FY 30-31
	ACTUALS	ESTIMATED	REQUESTED	REQUESTED	REQUESTED	REQUESTED	REQUESTED
Estimated Carryover Funds from Prior Year	4,017,044	3,619,762	2,807,727	1,638,984	458,765	515,777	496,082
Anticipated Allocation for FY	16,792,239	17,623,856	17,988,024	18,222,116	18,462,061	18,708,004	18,960,095
Total Funds Available	20,809,283	21,243,619	20,795,750	19,861,100	18,920,826	19,223,781	19,456,177
Department Requested Program Funding:							
Substance Use Programming	4,858,171	5,159,315	5,384,448	5,448,257	5,526,240	5,532,309	5,582,139
Juvenile Recovery Court	804,221	967,647	1,034,930	1,039,846	1,047,734	1,046,654	1,051,106
Decentralized Intake/Sheriff's Prevention	431,150	448,396	470,816	470,816	470,816	470,816	470,816
Truancy Response	806,949	880,793	886,487	891,348	894,614	896,178	900,021
School Mobile Assessment & Response Team - North & South	3,212,341	3,661,848	3,830,674	3,922,455	4,017,676	4,202,680	4,398,800
Youth Reporting Centers	5,550,481	5,597,656	5,891,557	5,969,610	5,985,897	6,115,306	6,194,514
Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE)	343,267	433,953	367,915	368,892	369,761	370,216	370,998
Administrative Costs (0.5%)**	48,444	86,284	89,940	91,111	92,310	93,540	94,800
Total Department Requested Program Funding	16,055,022	17,235,892	17,956,767	18,202,335	18,405,048	18,727,699	19,063,194
Future Obligations for Consideration by Committee							
2024 JJCC Funding Opportunity Balance***	765,560						
2024 JJCC Funding Opportunity Actuals	368,938						
2025 JJCC Funding Opportunity		1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	-	-	-
Anticipated Balance of Funds Available	3,619,762	2,807,727	1,638,984	458,765	515,777	496,082	392,983

Totals may not foot due to rounding.

* Indicates one-time funding request.

** Administrative Costs includes administrative support services provided by CEO Budget and Clerk of the Board. Government Codes 30062(c)(1) and 30062(d)(2).

*** 2025 Funding Opportunity term ends 12/2025, assuming allocation amount will be fully spent.

2011 Public Safety Realignment - JJCPA
Strategic Financial Plan Forecast - 2025
Period Through FY 2030/31

PROGRAM	FY 24-25 ACTUALS	FY 25-26 ESTIMATE	FY 26-27 PROJECTION	FY 27-28 PROJECTION	FY 28-29 PROJECTION	FY 29-30 PROJECTION	FY 30-31 PROJECTION
Substance Use Programming							
Probation	\$ 4,255,307	\$ 4,349,446	\$ 4,540,277	\$ 4,583,279	\$ 4,627,143	\$ 4,597,728	\$ 4,610,655
Health Care Agency	602,864	809,869	844,171	864,978	899,097	934,581	971,484
Total Substance Use Disorder	4,858,171	5,159,315	5,384,448	5,448,257	5,526,240	5,532,309	5,582,139
Juvenile Recovery Court							
Probation	465,477	517,727	580,880	584,592	591,634	590,187	593,650
Health Care Agency	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000
Public Defender	24,665	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
District Attorney	54,078	114,920	119,050	120,254	121,100	121,467	122,456
Total Juvenile Recovery Court	804,220	967,647	1,034,930	1,039,846	1,047,734	1,046,654	1,051,106
Decentralized Intake/Sheriff's Prevention							
Sheriff*	-	448,396	470,816	470,816	470,816	470,816	470,816
* <i>Pepperdine Univ Contracted services</i>	431,150						
Total Decentralized Intake/Sheriff's Prevention	431,150	448,396	470,816	470,816	470,816	470,816	470,816
Truancy Response							
Public Defender	19,085	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
District Attorney	327,028	420,123	425,817	430,678	433,944	435,508	439,351
OC Dept of Education*	60,836	440,670	440,670	440,670	440,670	440,670	440,670
* <i>BGCGG Contracted services</i>	400,000						
Total Truancy Response	806,949	880,793	886,487	891,348	894,614	896,178	900,021
School Mobile Assessment & Response Team (North & South)							
Sheriff	2,912,336	3,332,472	3,499,096	3,587,509	3,680,343	3,864,360	4,057,578
District Attorney	300,004	329,376	331,578	334,946	337,333	338,320	341,222
Total SMART (North & South)	3,212,341	3,661,848	3,830,674	3,922,455	4,017,676	4,202,680	4,398,800
Youth Reporting Centers							
Probation	4,892,091	4,625,857	4,927,218	4,981,058	4,947,203	5,024,464	5,049,438
Health Care Agency	658,390	971,800	964,339	988,552	1,038,694	1,090,842	1,145,076
Total Youth Reporting Centers	5,550,481	5,597,656	5,891,557	5,969,610	5,985,897	6,115,306	6,194,514
Active Recidivism Reduction Initiative via Engagement (ARRIVE)							
Probation *	14,588	433,953	367,915	368,892	369,761	370,216	370,998
* <i>Waymakers Contracted services</i>	328,679						
Total ARRIVE	343,267	433,953	367,915	368,892	369,761	370,216	370,998
JJCC Funding Opportunities (New Aug 2024)							
CBOs	1,134,498	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	-	-	-
Total Funding Opportunities	1,134,498	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	-	-	-
Administrative Cost (0.5%)*	48,444	86,284	89,940	91,111	92,310	93,540	94,800
Total JJCPA Program Expenses	\$ 17,189,521	\$ 18,435,892	\$ 19,156,767	\$ 19,402,335	\$ 18,405,048	\$ 18,727,699	\$ 19,063,194

DEPARTMENT	FY 24-25 ACTUALS	FY 25-26 ESTIMATE	FY 26-27 PROJECTION	FY 27-28 PROJECTION	FY 28-29 PROJECTION	FY 29-30 PROJECTION	FY 30-31 PROJECTION
Probation	\$ 9,956,142	\$ 9,926,982	\$ 10,416,290	\$ 10,517,821	\$ 10,535,741	\$ 10,582,595	\$ 10,624,741
Sheriff	3,343,486	3,780,868	3,969,912	4,058,325	4,151,159	4,335,176	4,528,394
Health Care Agency	1,521,253	2,041,668	2,068,510	2,113,530	2,197,791	2,285,423	2,376,560
Public Defender	43,751	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000
District Attorney	681,111	864,418	876,445	885,878	892,377	895,295	903,029
OC Dept of Education	460,836	440,670	440,670	440,670	440,670	440,670	440,670
JJCC Funding Opportunities	1,134,498	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	-	-	-
Administrative Cost (0.5%)*	48,444	86,284	89,940	91,111	92,310	93,540	94,800
Total JJCPA Program Expenses	\$ 17,189,521	\$ 18,435,892	\$ 19,156,767	\$ 19,402,335	\$ 18,405,048	\$ 18,727,699	\$ 19,063,194



COUNTY OF ORANGE

BUDGET & FINANCE OFFICE

Memorandum

October 23, 2025

To: Chair Daniel Hernandez, Chief Probation Officer
Members, Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

From: Berta Tapia
County Budget & Finance Office

Subject: 2025 OCJJCC Funding Request and Recommendations for Unallocated Funds

At the regularly scheduled meeting on July 24, 2025, the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (OCJJCC) approved the 2025 Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) Funding Opportunity for unallocated funds for Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and local agencies. In addition, the Council directed the County Budget & Finance Office (CBFO) to establish an ad hoc committee to review and make recommendations of the proposed programs and projects for OCJJCC consideration.

Item 2. Discussion and approval of 2025 JJCPA Funding Opportunity

Approved as presented; CAP of \$225,000 per approved new Community Based Organization Program funded not to exceed total of \$1.2M; Chair Hernandez to work with CEO to establish an ad hoc of less than a quorum of the members of the Council; ad hoc to provide recommendations at 10/23/25, 3:30 P.M., regular meeting

To implement as approved, a funding application process was initiated to solicit project proposals on a standard form and allow for submission via an online portal housed on Probation's website which was enhanced to include relevant information and direction for this funding opportunity. The County reached out to known CBOs and those that have participated in Community Reentry meetings sharing the funding opportunity and

2025 OCJJCC Funding Requests and Recommendations

October 23, 2025

Page 2

emphasizing that projects should support the OCJJCC's Plan to promote juvenile justice in the areas of prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment and/or incarceration of system involved youth.

The application window was open from August 1 to August 31, 2025, during which time 15 applications were received. An ad hoc committee consisting of one representative from the Board of Supervisors, 5th District, Health Care Agency, Probation, OC Sheriff's Department, and Social Services Agency was established to review these applications and provide recommendations to the OCJJCC. The Committee met on two occasions focusing on how the proposed programs aligned with OCJJCC objectives and offered new or enhanced services, and the requested funding amount. Their recommendations are summarized below:

Control #	Applicant's Name	Program Name	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Recommended for Funding				
2025-2	Carpenter Training Partners Inc	Orange County Juvenile Construction Training	213,072	213,072
2025-4	Cell Dogs, Inc.	Cell Dogs-Rehabilitation through Education (Concepts and Practical Dog Training)	146,320	146,320
2025-16	Waymakers	OC GRIP Case Management	225,000	225,000
2025-15	The Prism Way	The Prism Way: Transformative Programming for Transitional Aged Youth and Young Adults	189,100	189,100
2025-10	Orange County Bar Foundation dba Project Youth OC	Post-Diversion Support Services: College & Career Success and Parent Enrichment	224,939	224,939
2025-12	Project Kinship	Kinship Youth Center	225,000	201,569
Total			1,223,431	1,200,000
Recommended If Additional Funds Available				
2025-6	Hub for Integration, Reentry & Employment (HIRE)	Transforming Integration Into Meaningful Experiences (TIME)	207,610	-
2025-3	Casa Youth Shelter	STEP: Stability, Transformation, Empowerment, Possibility - Focused on taking one step at a time toward a new path	225,000	-
2025-11	Orange County Department of Education	Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program	225,000	-
Total			657,610	-
Not Recommended for Funding				
2025-7	Human Works Foundation	RISEUP Pre-Vocational Training Program	225,000	-
2025-14	Synergy Foundation	"Elevate" Mentorship	195,000	-
2025-9	Neutral Ground	Neutral Ground	220,090	-
2025-13	Skills Up Program LLC	Skills Up Program	225,000	-
2025-5	CROP Organization - Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs	Credible Messenger Youth Prevention & Mentorship Program	225,000	-
2025-1	Between Two Worlds	Between Two Worlds Mentoring, Coaching and Consulting Services	100,000	-
			1,190,090	
Grand Total			3,071,131	1,200,000

Application Details:**#2025-2 – Construction Training (Carpenter Training Partners, Inc.)****Amount Requested:** \$213,072**Amount Recommended:** \$213,072

Project Summary: A construction training program for 25 transitional aged youth students, 17-25 years old, including justice-involved individuals, focusing on building carpentry skills and personal development. The program prioritizes reentry individuals providing student-instructor rapport, career support, resume building, job placement resources, and alumni networking opportunities.

Comments: This type of programming goes beyond technical skill building with system impacted youth, often supporting rehabilitation, providing a sense of purpose, and promoting self-sufficiency. Program is part of a comprehensive and practical job training in trades.

#2025-4 – Rehabilitation Through Education - Concepts and Practical Dog Training (Cell Dogs)**Amount Requested:** \$146,320**Amount Recommended:** \$146,320

Project Summary: A 14-week dog training program lead by adults with lived incarceration experience for youth aged 13-24 at local correctional institutions. Program to be offered year-round, serving 25-30 youth. Upon completion, youth receive a Certificate of Completion from Santiago Canyon College Continuing Education Department and Rancho Santiago Community College District. To further aid the post-release needs of the youth population, Cell Dogs will develop a Job Readiness Workshop (B.A.R.K. – Behavior modification, Attitude adjustment, Re-entry skills, and Knowledge) to set up participants for successful employment in this specific industry. Cell Dogs will work to establish relationships with potential employers to guide youth toward community employment opportunities.

Comments: This type of program offers great emotional and therapeutic benefits and has promoted responsibility and accountability for youth in custody, positively contributing to behavioral and personal growth.

#2025-16 - OC GRIP Case Management (Waymakers)**Amount Requested:** \$225,000**Amount Recommended:** \$225,000

Project Summary: The Orange County Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (OC GRIP), led by the OC District Attorney's Office in collaboration with law enforcement and over 400 community partners, aims to prevent gang involvement among at-risk 4th-8th grade students through education, early intervention, and family support. Serving around 500 students annually, the program provides gang awareness education, safe and healthy lifestyle workshops, and character-building activities. OC GRIP Case Managers engage schools, parents, and students to improve attendance, behavior, and academic performance, while also offering incentives like sports camps and mentorship programs. The program promotes media literacy, conflict resolution, and community engagement, reducing gang-related crime and fostering safer environments.

Comments: OC GRIP has a long-standing record of collaboration with various agencies, stakeholders, schools, and community programs, all aimed at enhancing community safety through the implementation of research and evidence-based practices.

#2025-15 – The Prism Way: Transformative Programming for Transitional Aged Youth and Young Adults (The Prism Way)**Amount Requested:** \$189,100**Amount Recommended:** \$189,000

Project Summary: The Prism Way offers transformative programs for high-risk youth and young adults, empowering them to break the cycle of criminal behavior and build productive lives. Whole Integration of Self Education (WISE) curriculum and Criminals and Gang Members Anonymous (CGA) programs address the root causes of criminality, fostering long-term personal growth. Funding would provide for four certified Peer Support Specialists with lived experience in the justice system and a clinical supervisor, to administer these programs to help youth overcome negative influences, benefiting families, communities, and reducing strain on law enforcement and judicial systems.

Comments: This program has been well received by youth in custody and emphasizes the value of "lived experience" as a pathway to becoming a certified peer through CalMHSA, creating opportunities for employment in programs that recognize and benefit from their experience and insight.

#2025-10 – Post-Diversion Support Services: College & Career Success and Parent Enrichment (Project Youth OC)**Amount Requested:** \$224,939**Amount Recommended:** \$224,939

Project Summary: Project Youth seeks to strengthen the outcomes of its flagship juvenile diversion program, SHORTSTOP, which operates at courthouses by expanding the continuum of services available to youth and their caregivers. The expansion includes two evidence-based supports: Project Self, a college and career success program, which assist youth to build the essential life and career skills to thrive in adulthood, and Parent Enrichment Program, which provides culturally responsive workshops for caregivers of diversion youth developed with input from the Parent Advisory Group. Program is looking at serving 30 post-diversion youth and offering 8+ parenting workshops annually, each attended by 50+ caregivers of post-diversion youth.

Comments: Program has a unique focus on parent or caregiver engagement that aligns with strengthening a youth's support system, which fosters positive outcomes for justice involved youth and their families.

2025-12 – Project Kinship (Kinship Youth Center)**Amount Requested:** \$225,000**Amount Recommended:** \$201,569

Project Summary: The Kinship Center's proposed after-school program will offer mentorship, life skills training, and structured activities by providing prevention, intervention, and resocialization services to at-risk and justice-involved youth, including reentry youth from juvenile facilities. The programs are offered during critical after-school hours when youth are most vulnerable to crime and other risky behaviors. Program to serve at least 100 youth participants ages 13-18.

Comments: Project Kinship is a well-established program that demonstrates a strong collaborative approach with other community programs and agencies to effectively support system involved youth. It's important to note that coordinating care with other programs is crucial to ensure services remain complementary and distinct, preventing duplication and overlap. Program is recommended with partial funding due to the amount of funds available for this funding opportunity and Project Kinship already having other contracts with the County.

#2025-6 – Transforming Integration into Meaningful Experiences (TIME) (H.I.R.E)**Amount Requested:** \$207,610**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: TIME is a strength-based lived experience mentorship program designed for youth aged 14+ who are currently involved within the juvenile justice system. Program targets specifically youth who have committed serious crimes and are waiting 707 hearings. Program provides mentorship, resource connection, educational and career development, creative and therapeutic activities to successfully reintegrate into society and reduce recidivism. Program to serve at least 45 justice-involve youth yearly.

Comments: Mentorship, access and linkage to mental health services, and career development is already being provided by other community-based programs and local agencies. CBO currently receiving funds for workforce re-entry contracts from the County.

#2025-3 – STEP: Stability, Transformation, Empowerment, Possibility - Focused on taking one step at a time toward a new path (Casa Youth Shelter)**Amount Requested:** \$225,000**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: STEP is a structured diversion program designed to support justice-involved youth and youth at risk of juvenile justice involvement. Casa Youth Shelter to provide 24/7 crisis shelter, counseling, and case management to youth on formal and informal probation. The objective of the program is to serve at least 100 justice-involved or at-risk youth who are referred as an alternative or are doing dead time custody; provide 3,000 hours of counseling annually; deliver four quarterly cycles of its eight-week skills curriculum, enrolling at least 120 unduplicated youth annually; other objectives are family engagement and resocialization.

Comments: Casa Youth Shelter is already partnering with the County for other diversion services and the purpose of this request is to expand their current programs. Some of the services resemble other already provided services by existing CBOs.

2025-11 – Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (OC Department of Education)**Amount Requested:** \$225,000**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: OC Department of Education (OCDE) seeks to expand its Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP), which is dedicated to serving children and youth who are dependents or wards of the Court and placed in foster care settings, including those supervised by Probation. OCDE FYSCP is seeking JJCPA funding to continue targeted educational support services for system-involved youth in imminent risk of removal as defined by AB 3223. Program addresses prevention, intervention and reengagement by ensuring school stability, promoting academic achievement, facilitating transition to post-secondary education, and providing socio-emotional supports.

Comments: Although these services are already in place, granting additional funding to increase staffing would enhance educational support and much needed advocacy for system involved youth. However, services are not guaranteed unless additional funding is awarded aside from this funding opportunity.

#2025-7 - RISEUP Pre-Vocational Training Program (Human Works Foundation)**Amount Requested:** \$225,000**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: The RISEUP Pre-Vocational Training Program helps justice-involved youth explore vocational opportunities by focusing on essential skills for employment while addressing their broader needs. Through personalized assessments, interactive workshops, and vocational training, participants learn employability skills and explore various career paths. Each participant is paired with a case manager and connected to supportive services such as mental health, education, or housing assistance. The program also provides mentorship and on-the-job training opportunities, helping youth secure employment and offering ongoing support to ensure job retention and career advancement. Continuous evaluations help refine and improve the program.

Comments: Organization is currently receiving funds from the 2024 OCJJCC Funding Opportunity, Committee recommends to wait for more metrics to become available to evaluate current services before providing additional funds.

2025-14 – Elevate Mentorship Program (Synergy Foundation Inc.)**Amount Requested:** \$195,000**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: Elevate is an athletic training program targeting low-income, at-risk, middle school and high school students in Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Buena Park and surrounding areas. Elevate partners with PRO-Athletics Training facility, Play It Again Sports, and Alliance Prep Academy to provide athletic training, a financial literacy course and mentorship in a safe environment. Elevates also provides students with weekly mentorship meetings with designated college student athlete mentors that previously benefited from the program and are currently attending to University of Texas, Cal Poly SLO, Cypress College, Holy Cross University among others.

Comments: Committee agreed that this is a good community program but not necessarily focused on serving the at risk or justice involved individuals.

#2025-9 – Neutral Ground (Neutral Ground)**Amount Requested:** \$220,090**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: Neutral Ground proposes implementation of a trauma-informed, culturally responsive Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program to serve youth at risk if justice system involvement and those already engaged with the juvenile justice system across Santa Ana, Anaheim, Tustin, and Costa Mesa. The program leverages the credibility and lived experience of trained Intervention Specialist placed at school sites, alongside Community Intervention Specialist who conduct outreach in high-need neighborhoods, homes and known gang-impacted areas.

Comments: Other community-based programs offer a broader re-entry focus, wider variety of services, operate across multiple age groups, and offer unique drop-in resources. While this program offers valuable components, there is potential for overlap with existing services.

2025-13 – Skills Up Program (Skills Up Program LLC)**Amount Requested:** \$225,000**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: Vocational training and mentorship initiative serving system-involved youth in Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove, and Westminster. Program to equip youth with industry-recognized automotive certifications and essential job readiness skills. The program addresses both, the workforce gap in the automotive sector and the need for resocialization among youth who have been involved with the justice system. Program is looking to provide up to 25 system-involved youth annually with hands-on learning experiences, career exploration, and structure mentorship.

Comments: Organization currently has a contract with the Probation Department for a similar program. Feedback received from youth and staff indicated that the program is not very popular among the youth.

#2025-5 – Credible Messenger Youth Prevention & Mentorship Program (CROP Organization – Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs)**Amount Requested:** \$225,000**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: The Credible Messenger Youth Prevention & Mentorship Program leverages the lived experience of CROP's Ready 4 Life Fellows, formally incarcerated leaders who have successfully reintegrated into society to mentor at-risk youth in Orange County. Program to host Community Days to bring youth together for mentorship, storytelling, skill-building workshops, and positive peer engagement.

Comments: Mentoring services are already being provided at the County. Also, Committee is questioning the fact that CROP is proposing only 4 quarterly mentoring meetings

#2025-1 – Between Two Worlds Mentoring, Coaching and Consulting Services (Between two Worlds)**Amount Requested:** \$100,000**Amount Recommended:** \$0

Project Summary: A coaching and mentoring program designed for youth between the ages of 12 and 17. Organization to select 10 youth to mentor and coach on a weekly basis

to build trusting relationships, offer emotional support and model pro social behaviors. Coaches will focus on goal setting, accountability and the development of life skills. Ongoing assessments and progress tracking to make sure youth are meeting all goals. Also, family engagement to ensure future success.

Comments: Funding Request form did not provide enough details to evaluate the program. It did not appear to be a structured program.



JJCPA Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Carpenter Training Partners - Orange County Juvenile Construction Training

Total Funding Requested: \$213,072.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Carpenter Training Partners Inc

Contact Name: Vaughn Bernardez **Phone:** 909-859-0591

Contact Email: vaughnbernardez@ctpartnersinc.com

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

Carpenter Training Partners (CTP) offers a construction training program for youth, including justice-impacted individuals, who are interested in pursuing a career in the construction industry.

As part of the program, each student receives Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including a hard hat, safety goggles, gloves, and heavy-duty construction boots. Every student is provided with an assortment of hand tools and a tool belt upon graduation.

An essential component of the CTP training program involves staff building rapport with each student. Instructors and administrative staff dedicate at least 12 hours per week to becoming familiar with the students, assessing their skills, assisting them in meeting their goals, and determining the best ways to develop them into carpenters who will be competitive in the job market.

CTP focuses on the reentry youth population, ages 17-25, who reside in Santa Ana, Anaheim, and other communities in Orange County. CTP partners with H.I.R.E. OC, Project Kingship, READY. SET. GO. OC, Waymakers, and Orangewood Foundation, as well as a host of deputy probation officers to provide quality construction training for their clients.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

The mission of CTP is to develop students into marketable, hard-working, driven, industry-ready carpenters who can apply for, and successfully obtain, entry-level positions in the workforce. The base pay for an entry-level union carpenter is \$20.70 per hour, and approximately \$19-\$45 per hour for non-union employment. Various pathways to secure employment are presented throughout the training program, including union, non-union, and entrepreneur-based opportunities.

CTP serves Orange County ("OC") by training students who participate in the OC Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council ("OCJJCC") training program. CTP also partners with Juvenile Hall, Theo Lacy Jail, James Musick Jail, and Central Men and Women's Jail to identify qualifying students who are committed to completing the training program. CTP also receives student referrals from non-profit organizations, including Hub for Integration Reentry, and Employe ("H.I.R.E."), READY-SET-GO-OC, Orangewood Foundation, Project Kinship, and Waymakers to train their justice-impacted clients. CTP utilizes the platforms Unite Us and 21IOC to create referrals and obtain supportive services for clients' needs, including housing, transportation, and food pantry, the three most prevalent student needs, in addition to securing employment.

With this grant, CTP will train 25 students from the above demographic in 2026. With commitment from students, CTP will ensure they graduate from the program and are provided resources to either enroll in further

union training or identify employment opportunities.

Past CTP cohorts have revealed that it may take students some time and ongoing reinforcement to achieve their goals. Most students from this demographic encounter barriers such as drug usage, not possessing a valid driver's license, and/or lack of access to reliable transportation, and unpredictable living situations. For these reasons, CTP's alumni network, employment readiness sessions, and constant encouragement from the staff will help to motivate students to overcome these barriers post-graduation.

With every cohort that CTP has trained, students ultimately experience an undeniable sense of camaraderie, achievement, and intrinsic motivation to capitalize on their second chance.

INTERVENTION

The skills acquired throughout the CTP training program are transferable to other vocational trades. CTP prioritizes training for juveniles seeking a second chance to become productive, working citizens in their communities. Ninety percent of students who register for CTP training are members of the re-entry population.

CTP training provides a safe and structured learning environment that keeps students focused on short-term goals (class projects and deliverables) as well as a long-term vision (sustained employment with possibilities for career advancement). CTP has a proven track record for motivating students to develop character and act positively amongst their trainers and classmates, and this often leads to the same attitude outside of training.

After graduation, students have an increased opportunity to join a carpenter union boot camp and undergo a four-week training program, which further enhances their job opportunities and earning potential. Eighty percent of CTP alums become members of a trade union after completing the boot camp and union training.

SUPERVISION

Throughout the course of the training program, CTP staff provide ongoing oversight of the student's progress in the following manner:

- Assessing proficiency with tape measure and various hand and power tools.
- Evaluating cutting and binding wood together, safe methods to lifting, carrying, and setting down material.
- Providing resources to practice interview skills and create or update their resume, based on the skills they acquired during the program.
- Presenting them with resources to identify and apply for jobs.
- Students become part of the CTP alumni network, which further increases their opportunities to advance their careers and build connections with fellow CTP graduates.

Additionally, to the extent that information is available, CTP keeps track of the students' job search status in various ways once they graduate from the program. CTP alumni often send communications to current and former students informing them of career fairs and job opportunities.

Alumni are invited to join a monthly networking meeting on Zoom to discuss job opportunities and stay connected to our program, as well as share information with other alumni.

Sixty-six percent of CTP alumni work non-union jobs, while thirty-four percent are employed by a trade union. The main employment positions CTP graduates are employed in include farmers, millwrights, laborers, and general and finish carpenters.

What needs are being addressed through this program?Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☒ Supervision | ☐ Other (If other, please describe): |

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

CTP will monitor student attendance to ensure that they attend 90% of the classes. If they are unable to attend, make-up options will be provided

CTP will develop a customized post-training plan for 100% of graduating students

100% will contribute to hands-on carpentry projects and will build two individual projects (e.g., foot stool, and sawhorse) and at least 3 larger group projects (e.g., picnic tables, garden shed, mock-up house)

Students will give back to the community by donating at least one small and one large project to a non-profit organization.

What is the target population?

The target population includes recruiting justice-involved individuals on parole or probation from James Musick, Theo Lacy, and Central Men and Women jails. Carpenter Training Partners received referrals from H.I.R.E. OC, READY-SET-GO-OC, Project Kinship, and Waymakers. CTP continues to build on its relationships with various Orange County Deputy Probation Officers.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

The intended goals include successfully training and graduating 25 students with criminal records and ensuring their employability. Additionally, we aim to raise awareness among CTP trainees about their transferable skills that can be applied to any trade, helping them to make the most of their second chance. Another objective is to reduce recidivism and enhance the safety of Orange County's communities and businesses by cultivating a workforce capable of contributing to the repair and construction of communities in Orange County.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Worker's Compensation	For 8 months	\$35,000.00
Mileage	For 8 months	\$8,000.00
Trainer #2	Position is for 8 months (2 cohorts)	\$33,336.00
Trainer #1	Position is for 8 months (2 cohorts)	\$33,336.00
Grant & Program Manager	Position is for 8 months (2 cohorts)	\$56,000.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Insurance	Carpenter Training Partners Insurances	\$3,200.00
Site Fees	Rent, storage	\$13,200.00
Operational	Including accounting, office supplies, communication, tools, and graduations	\$15,000.00
Training Materials	Building materials, building tools, and equipment for projects	\$10,000.00
Student Equipment	including individual tools, belt, boots, hard hats, safety goggles	\$6,000.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$213,072.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
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Total In-Kind Cost: \$0.00

Total Cost of Program: \$213,072.00



JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement
FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Cell Dogs - Rehabilitation through education (Concepts and Practical Dog Training)

Total Funding Requested: \$146,320.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Cell Dogs, Inc.

Contact Name: Hanna Kiss **Phone:** 9498774882

Contact Email: hanna@celldogs.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

Cell Dogs, Inc. based in Orange County, California, is the only organization of its kind, providing transformative programming at local correctional institutions – including Orange County Juvenile Hall and Jails – since 2009. Our mission is to harness the power of human-animal bonds and transform lives by setting a new course for shelter dogs and incarcerated youth and adults through training and education. (Moreover, rescuing and training unwanted, unruly dogs reduces euthanasia and proves they can become loving and obedient companions.)

Our collaborative model includes partnerships with OC Probation and the Sheriff's Department. Our partnership with Probation takes place in Juvenile Hall where youth aged 13-24, led by adults with lived incarceration experience, train dogs for 14 weeks (4 weeks of instruction and 10 weeks of hands-on training) consisting of two parts: Concepts in Dog Training and Practical Dog Training. This curriculum teaches program youth soft skills (empathy, care, responsibility) and hard skills (animal behavior, dog training and wellness). Both courses are endorsed as continuing education courses by the California Community Chancellor's Office. Upon successful completion, youth receive a Certificate of Completion from Santiago Canyon College Continuing Education Department and Rancho Santiago Community College District.

The program is offered year-round, serving 25-30 youth, providing both life and workforce skills development – needed for successful reentry. Canines live in the housing units with program participants during the entire training cycle – shown to lower stress levels for the youth and staff. Anecdotally, partnering agency staff have reported improved work environments and lower levels of stress and depression for program participants. Additionally, youth in the program acquire marketable job talents with valuable, practical skills for future employment opportunities in the fields of dog training, grooming, doggie daycare and veterinary practice facilities. To further aid the post-release needs of the youth population, Cell Dogs will develop a Job Readiness Workshop (B.A.R.K. - Behavior modification, Attitude adjustment, Re-entry skills, and Knowledge) to set up participants for successful employment in this specific industry. Cell Dogs will work to establish relationships with potential employers to guide youth toward community employment opportunities.

The 4-week programming (Concepts in Dog Training) and the B.A.R.K. workshop can be replicated in OC Probation's Youth Guidance Center to meet the needs of youth with sentences averaging 53-54 days, possibly raising the number of youths served to 50.

Funding is requested to support growth, development of additional Job Readiness programming through the B.A.R.K. workshop, as well sustainability and longevity for this program by covering staffing and training needs.

Cell Dogs has been running training programs for justice involved youth and adults in Orange County for 16 years, staffed mostly by volunteers, and funded by the generosity of private donors and small independent foundations. One of the largest in-kind donations is the uncompensated time of the single employee of the organization.

To ensure the longevity of these programs and the organization, we are requesting funding to cover compensation for program staff and minor program costs. Without this funding, the program relies on individuals' personal passions and free time and is at constant risk of discontinuation.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

While there is a county-wide challenge in tracking recidivism rates for individuals due to privacy issues, research has shown education and workforce readiness are key to success and provide a path to leaving a formerly incarcerated life behind; in fact, a study by UC Irvine, CA shows our programs' participants are far less likely to reoffend than the general justice involved population. Approximately 85% of the youth who participated did not re-offend in the first 12-month post-release.

A recent report, published in The American Journal of Criminal Justice, (<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12103-023-09747-3>) analyzed hundreds of research papers on the topic of education programs in prisons, and found "that prison education decreases recidivism and increases post-release employment and wages. The largest effects are experienced by prisoners participating in vocational or college education programs." In addition, the analysis finds that "each form of education yields large, positive returns due primarily to the high costs of incarceration and, therefore, high benefits to crime avoidance."

Participants in dog training programs (DTPs) have lower recidivism rates compared to those in more traditional vocational programs or the general prison population, according to a study on the benefits of dog training programs. (A New Leash on Life: Benefits of Dog Training Programs in Prisons by Sarah Leslie, Department of Law, Societies, and Justice Honors Report, University of Washington, March 2021). This research paper studied the program Cell Dogs' curriculum was originally based upon.

DTPs foster a sense of responsibility, build interpersonal skills, and improve emotional regulation in inmates, and have been linked to decreased violent behavior which can be beneficial for successful re-entry into society. Inmates show improved self-esteem, and reduced stress levels. The skills learnt through this program may also be transferable to employment in the pet industry or in other fields as well.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☐ Supervision | ☒ Other (If other, please describe): |

Education, Re-socialization, Restorative Justice

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

S – At least 80% of youth enrolled in the program will complete the 14-week curriculum (Concepts in Dog Training and Practical Dog Training) earning a Certificate of Completion endorsed by the California Community College Chancellor's Office. 100% of the dogs will be adopted in the community or advanced to service dog training (outside of this funding request). 100% of program participants (including Juvenile Hall and YGC) will be offered to participate in the B.A.R.K. workshop for a minimum of once a year.

M – Progress will be tracked through attendance records, completion of weekly curriculum modules and both in-class, and 'homework' assignments to pass, and receive a certificate of completion. Cell Dogs will work with OC Probation Department for data to track recidivism rates and conduct two surveys annually to document observations of staff and participants regarding gained skills, stress levels and behavior improvement.

A – Each cycle Cell Dogs instructor(s) teach weekly class and Orange County Probation staff supervises day to day activities. Cell Dogs and OC Probation staff agree on start and completion dates for the program and work together on guiding the selected participants to successfully work through the full curriculum. B.A.R.K. workshop timing will complement core programming as deemed necessary by stakeholders.

R – Cell Dogs programs have been running successfully for more than 15 years with completion rates averaging over 75% in prior cycles. The B.A.R.K. workshop will be developed and presented in 2026 Q2.

T – Each training cycle runs 14 weeks, 3-4 cycles will be conducted annually per facility, with results reported semi-annually. First B.A.R.K. workshop will be held before 2026 Q4.

What is the target population?

In-custody youth at Orange County Probation aged 13-24. Programming is adaptable to groups serving both longer and shorter sentences, and hence applicable both in Juvenile Hall, Youth Guidance Center and/or other units as preferred or available by Probation.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

The primary desired outcome of Cell Dogs' programming is to ensure that youth participants successfully reenter society with the tools, confidence, and skills necessary to avoid reoffending and thrive as contributing members of their communities. By combining accredited dog training education with workforce development and therapeutic support, Cell Dogs provides a restorative justice model that directly reduces recidivism and promotes resocialization.

Through the 14-week program, participants will:

- Earn certificates of completion (endorsed by the California Community College Chancellor's Office), qualifying them for entry-level employment in the \$14B California pet industry – including opportunities in dog training, grooming, walking and daycare.
- Acquire critical life and work skills, including accountability, responsibility, time management, perseverance, empathy and self-confidence.
- Benefit from the therapeutic impact of working closely with dogs, reducing stress, depression, and behavioral challenges while building emotional regulation.
- See tangible outcomes of participants' efforts, as program dogs are adopted into loving homes or advanced into service-dog training to support veterans and first responders – reinforcing the lesson that, like the dogs they train, they too can succeed when given a second chance.

With the addition of the new B.A.R.K. Job Readiness Workshop, participants will also graduate with practical employment tools such as completed resumes, interview practice, and direct connections to community employers in the pet care field. This added component strengthens pathways to sustainable employment, one of the most effective strategies for reducing recidivism among justice-involved youth.

Together, these outcomes support the OCCJCC's mission by addressing the root causes of juvenile crime – lack of opportunity, employable skills, and social connections – while fostering accountability, rehabilitation, and reintegration. By pairing therapeutic engagement with vocational preparation, Cell Dogs not only reduces juvenile crime, but also builds healthier communities through the transformation of both youth and shelter dogs.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Program Director (1.0 FTE)	Design new curriculum, oversee hiring/training/supervision of training staff: \$90,000 + 15% taxes/benefits: \$108,000	\$108,000.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Program Operations Support (Contract)	Program support, college liaison, record keeping, survey creation and analysis, grant management, procurement, recruitment, \$50/hr x 10 hours/week x 52 weeks/year = \$26,000	\$26,000.00
Program Administrative and Communications Support (Contract)	Management of professional services such as legal, financial and IT, as well as compliance, public relations, events management, transportation, etc. as related to the youth programs at Orange County Probation, \$35/hr x 6 hours/week x 52 weeks/year = \$10,920	\$10,920.00
Program supplies	Photo printer and supplies – graduation events, certification, study materials, and iPhone with internet access - picture, videos, editing	\$1,400.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$146,320.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
Executive Director for the non-profit	The sole full time employee of Cell Dogs	\$150,000.00
Legal and Financial services	Both services (including legal guidance, accounting, budgeting, and tax) are provided to our nonprofit as an in-kind donation.	\$4,000.00
Veterinarian/grooming services	We are partnering with a local veterinarian and receive discounted services for all program dogs.	\$4,000.00
Dog trainers, nonprofit operations and administration	Our contractors all offer a number of volunteer hours to cover program management. We also have outside volunteers dedicating their time and talent. Total hours: approximately 500 hours at \$34/hour.	\$17,000.00
Program dog toys & supplies	Donated supplies (toys, leashes, crates, treats, etc.) benefit the programs.	\$400.00

Total In-Kind Cost: \$175,400.00

Total Cost of Program: \$321,720.00

JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement

FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Please complete and submit your completed requests to ceobudget@ocgov.com.

Program Name:	OC GRIP Case Management		
Total Funding Requested:	\$225,000-\$500,000	Fiscal Year(s) Covered	July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

Requesting Entity:	Waymakers
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Contact Name:	Kristen Dimeo	Phone:	949-697-1091
Contact Email:	kdimeo@WaymakersOC.org		

Provide the Program Description and Structure:

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

The mission of the Orange County Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (OC GRIP) is to work in the largest collaboration in the history of Orange County to continue to develop and implement prevention and early intervention service models for Gang Prevention. OC GRIP, by the Orange County District Attorney's Office, in partnership with the Orange County Sheriff's Department and Orange County Probation, partners with schools, alternative education sites, after school programs and over 200 community agencies and partners, including Waymakers for Case Management services. OC GRIP serves approximately 500 at-risk 4th-8th grade students and their families annually identified by educators, law enforcement officers, mental health care professionals, parents and community partners, as being at-risk of joining a criminal street gang, or coming into contact with the juvenile justice system. Group education and case management services have been extremely effective and in 2024-2025, 81% of assessed participants improved/did not decline in their school attendance.

The five (5) goals of Waymakers OC GRIP Case Management services focus on education, prevention and intervention strategies for students, parents and faculty in the areas of:

Goal #1 Gang Education, Prevention, Intervention and Suppression

The OC GRIP Program is an existing community-based education, prevention and intervention program that has established school and community-wide approaches that replicate proven reduction strategies to prevent violence and support competencies in the mental and emotional health for youth. The Faculty at all GRIP schools are educated on how to identify and refer students in need of early intervention and gang prevention services. Once educated on what risk factors to look for on school campuses, faculty are more aware of indicators that can lead to crime on campus and how to prevent it. Waymakers Case Managers support the following gang education, prevention, intervention, and suppression activities components: Student Self-Esteem and Gang Awareness Education Curriculum, faculty and parent education, Parents Supporting Parents meetings, Mentor Programs, Greeter Programs, Incentives, Career Development & Youth Development, and Enrichment Activities.

Goal #2 Safe and Healthy Lifestyles

The OC GRIP Program has created educational opportunities that are conducted with students, teachers and parents that focus on safe and healthy living to improve family functioning and social support. Waymakers GRIP Case Managers focus on educating the students, faculty members and parents on gang prevention at each of the OC GRIP schools. The GRIP Case Managers educate over 7,000 Orange County residents, including faculty, students and parents, on an annual basis. The topics that are covered may include; school safety, negative consequences of criminal behavior, truancy and narcotics use, domestic violence, negative consequences of bullying, identifying depression and mental health issues, parenting skills, signs of high stress, and indicators of suicide and violence risk. Each of the 37 OC GRIP elementary schools, holds a support group two-three times per year called Parents Supporting Parents Meetings (PSPs). Each of the OC GRIP schools has an average of over 20 parents in attendance at each of the monthly PSP meetings. The educational awareness focused part of the meetings involve Orange County experts teaching the parents about topics that may include gang prevention, appropriate parental discipline, criminogenic factors, mental and physical health education, immigration laws, domestic issues, school safety, graffiti, sex offenders, internet safety and a variety of other topics that the parents request. Several of the GRIP partners provide English Language Classes to each of the OC GRIP parents throughout the county on the school campuses and at local community centers.

The Waymakers GRIP Case Managers have worked with each of the OC GRIP partners and local resources to create a Resource Guide that is used by the Case Managers to refer OC GRIP families to each of the available facilities that can provide services. Community Resource Fairs and Events attended may include the Annual National Night Out Events and Police Department Open Houses in local communities, in which the OC GRIP team conducts a Meet & Greet, shares information and resources and develops positive relationships within the community. In August, OC GRIP partners with local non-profits in back-to-school events to provide school supplies and grooming opportunities to Orange County youth. In December, OC GRIP partners with community groups to provide gifts and resources to GRIP students. Waymakers GRIP Case Managers involve Orange County professionals and businesses mentoring to OC GRIP students and encourage them to stay away from gangs/drugs and to receive an education. The OC GRIP program encourages the Orange County business community to become involved with GRIP by mentoring students and providing information about higher education and future career opportunities.

Goal #3 Character Education

The Waymakers GRIP Case Managers focus on educational workshops and provide direct student services focusing on building character to improve social behaviors and school performance. These workshops are in the form of Athletic Enrichment Activities and Student Intervention Meetings. Student Intervention Meetings involve the Waymakers GRIP Case Managers and other OC GRIP team members meeting with the identified at-risk students on the school sites on a monthly basis. The schools provide the Waymakers GRIP Case Managers with attendance records, discipline records and grades on a monthly basis. Waymakers GRIP Case Managers also coordinate a Faculty-Student Mentor Program and referrals to Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Orange County (BBBS) mentor matching. Along with GRIP law enforcement, a Waymakers GRIP Case Manager meets with the students individually to discuss their behavior, grades and attendance. A plan for improvement and incentives is developed for each student with individual goals in mind. Along with GRIP law enforcement, the Waymakers GRIP Case Managers meet with the students to discuss their progress on a monthly basis. The Student Intervention Meetings have been effective in assisting with student improvement in academics, attendance and/or attitude.

Incentives for the students and parents who have changed their behavior are an important component of the OC GRIP Program. OC GRIP incentives have received both local and national news coverage because they are so effective. GRIP students are provided several opportunities

to participate in incentive programs throughout Orange County. Examples of these incentive programs include the GRIP Angels Baseball Event, the Thanksgiving Event, Athletic Enrichment Soccer Programs, Dance Enrichment Programs, and Bicycle Incentive Programs. Up to 1,600 OC GRIP students per year have earned the privilege to attend a GRIP Angels Baseball Event. The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim Baseball Club invites the GRIP students who have earned the privilege to attend a baseball game and a private viewing of the batting practice to meet the ball players. The students must have improved their attitude, attendance or academics from the date of goal setting to the date of the game to participate. The Thanksgiving Incentive provides an opportunity for up to 200 GRIP students to earn the right to a Thanksgiving Dinner that feeds their family. Thanksgiving dinners have been awarded to GRIP students for improving their grades, homework and behavior on and off campus.

Goal #4 Media Literacy

The purpose of media literacy is to improve how the student, parent and faculty respond to critical incidents, gang recruitment and acts of violence. The model for the OC GRIP Program relies heavily on education for the faculty and parents of the students who have been identified as being at-risk of joining a criminal street gang, or becoming involved in the juvenile criminal justice system, using identifiers such as irregular attendance, truancy, poor grades and behavioral indicators. OC GRIP also provides direct student services focusing on media literacy. Student Curriculum Groups are in the form of Student Self- Esteem and Gang Awareness Curriculum which includes school safety, negative consequences of criminal behavior, truancy and narcotics use, and negative consequences of bullying. These groups are held throughout the school year and utilize a dream box project to implement learned material. The OC GRIP Case Managers and the GRIP team coordinate a Greeter Program that creates educational opportunities to be conducted with parents to focus on safety for students and the Orange County community. Waymakers GRIP Case Managers build relationships with the Greeters and connect them to Parents Supporting Parents meetings and community resources. Each of these parents is trained on safety and how to contact law enforcement if any issues arise while the parents are acting as GRIP Greeters. The OC GRIP Greeter Program empowers parents, many of whom are English language learners, to take responsibility for the safety of their community and to send a message to the criminal street gangs that their acts of violence will not be tolerated.

Goal #5 Conflict Resolution

The OC GRIP Case Managers focus on educating the faculty members, parents and students on conflict resolution to improve self-esteem and overall well-being. The topics that are covered in the Faculty Presentations, Parent Educations (PSP's) and Student Curriculum Groups at the 48 OC GRIP schools may include school safety, negative consequences of criminal behavior, truancy and narcotics use, domestic violence, negative consequences of bullying, identifying depression and mental health issues, parenting skills, signs of high stress, indicators of suicide and violence risk. These services are taught by the GRIP Officers, Waymakers GRIP Case Managers, Probation Officers, Deputy District Attorney's and District Attorney Investigators. Parent Project, is taught by Waymakers and many of the GRIP parents are encouraged to participate in this twelve-week parenting class. Once the parents are educated, they are to implement and follow through on said changes at the home to institute and maintain an ongoing parent/child component.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.
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Juvenile gang members commit serious and violent offenses at a rate several times higher than non-gang affiliated adolescents do. In addition, they are often actively involved in drug use, drug trafficking, weapon possession, and violence. The gang problem has continued to increase nationwide and unfortunately, California seemed to set the trend when it came to gang violence. The 2008-2009, Orange County Grand Jury investigated the influence of criminal street gangs on the Orange County community. The Grand Jury found that eleven and twelve year-old children were frequently charged with violent gang-related crimes and concluded that prevention activities must be focused on the very young child. The grand jury wrote a report on the status of gangs and prevention activities in Orange County. In their report, the Orange County Grand Jury referred to a paper published by Vanderbilt University Law School, entitled, *New Evidence on the Monetary Value of Saving a High Risk Youth*, in which the author stated, "If juveniles can be prevented from becoming career criminals, the savings will be enormous." The Grand Jury findings also support a holistic approach to gang prevention, which includes working with the entire family unit as opposed to individual youth. Most data highlights the need for law enforcement to look at other methods, other than enforcement, to combat the ever-increasing gang problem. Data attributes the rise of gang membership and violence to a number of factors. Highlighted among the contributing factors are the increased incarceration rates of older members and the aggressive recruitment of juveniles in schools. Gangs have traditionally targeted youths because of their

vulnerability and susceptibility to recruitment tactics, as well as their likelihood of avoiding harsh criminal sentencing and willingness to engage in violence. California has been one of the states where juvenile gangs are responsible for a majority of the crime in various jurisdictions within the state.

OC GRIP utilizes an evidence-based gang prevention model replicating the OJJDP Model Program, Gang Reduction Program of Los Angeles, that focuses on providing educational, social and behavioral intervention to youth and families identified as being "at-risk" of joining a criminal street gang. Due to consistent implementation of this model, the Orange County District Attorney's Office was recognized by the National Association of Counties (NACo) with a 2016 Achievement Award in the category of Children and Youth for the development and success OC GRIP. The award recognizes all agencies and organizations that contribute to OC GRIP, an innovative and effective collaborative designed to prevent youths from joining criminal street gangs.

Since its implementation in 2007, OC GRIP has likely contributed in part to an 81% *decrease* over 10 years of the number of known gang members between 10 to 17 years of age from 1,766 in 2007 to 342 in 2016. Between 2014 and 2023, the total number of juvenile gang-related prosecutions in Orange County decreased by 71.2%. The rate of juvenile gang-related prosecutions declined 72.0% between 2014 and 2023. Older teens accounted for the majority of gang related activity in 2023, with teens ages 15 to 17 comprising 81.5% of the total number of juveniles who were prosecuted for gang-related offenses. This emphasizes the need for earlier intervention at the elementary and junior high school levels. (Statistics from The Conditions of Children in Orange County Report, 2017, 2022, and 2024). The OC GRIP Program is cost effective, efficient and shows immediate positive results.

What needs are being addressed through this program?
Check boxes below.

- ☒ Prevention
- ☒ Intervention
- ☐ Supervision
- ☐ Treatment
- ☐ Incarceration
- ☐ Other (If other, please describe):

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

The below logic model links the goals of the OC GRIP program to the activities provided by the Waymakers GRIP Case Managers and explains how these activities will be measured to demonstrate the achieved outcomes and positive impact on the program participants.

OC GRIP Purpose: To reduce risk factors that lead to gang activity and membership for the youth, families, which impact schools, neighborhoods and the community.

Goal 1		Gang prevention, intervention and suppression	
Objective	Activities	Process Indicator	Outcome Measure
To improve identification and referral of students in need of early intervention services	• Faculty training conducted by the GRIP Team that will include education on identifying and referring students in need of early intervention services and gang prevention • Assessment of Risk Factors	These outcomes are measured through Faculty Surveys and Interviews with school staff and administrators	• 90% of the faculty will report an improved ability to identify and assist/refer students in need of early intervention services.
Goal 2		Safe and Healthy Lifestyles	
Objective	Activities	Process Indicator	Outcome Measure
To improve family functioning and social support	• Student and parent curriculum that focuses on safety, gang prevention and overall healthy lifestyles • Parents Supporting Parents Groups • Parent Intervention Meetings • Resource Fairs, National Night Out/PD Open Houses • Resource Guides • Coordination of Care with Community Partners • Community Building	• These outcomes are measured through parent self-reporting in pre/post surveys using the Protective Factors Survey • Referral and Incentive Tracking Form	• 70% of parents will report an increase in family functioning and social support after completion of a case management action plan • 85% of referrals made to families for community services will be linked

Goal 3		Character Education	
Objective	Activities	Process Indicator	Outcome Measure
To improve attendance and school performance	• Outreach & Engagement • Student Intervention Meetings • Career Enrichment Activities (Dream Boxes) • Athletic Enrichment Activities • Incentives	These outcomes are measured through self-reporting in pre/post surveys, through both verbal and written reports, monitoring at the school site and data received from school grade reports and attendance	• 70% of the GRIP students will have increased school attendance, increased grade report and/or decreased discipline on campus
Goal 4		Media Literacy	
Objective	Activities	Process Indicator	Outcome Measure
To improve ability to respond to critical incidents and reach out for help	• Faculty, student, parent and mentor workshops on how and when to report crimes, acts of violence, bullying and graffiti • Mentor Program • Greeter Program	These outcomes are measured through self-reporting by their mentors and school staff and through student self-report in pre/post tests using the Youth Resiliency Survey	• 70% of the GRIP students receiving intervention services will be reported as having higher resiliency after critical events
Goal 5		Conflict Resolution	
Objective	Activities	Process Indicator	Outcome Measure
To improve self-esteem and overall well-being	• Student Self-Esteem and Gang Awareness Curriculum • Parent Project	These outcomes are measured through student and parent self-reporting in GRIP Satisfaction Survey	• 70% of GRIP students will report an increase in self-esteem and overall well-being

What is the target population?

OC GRIP is a school-based program that works with 4th through 8th grade students and their families, at 48 targeted elementary and middle schools with high truancy and disciplinary rates, and gang crime statistics, who have displayed signs of being at-risk of participating in a criminal street gang.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

Truancy violations are an excellent indicator of a risk of becoming a gang member or a juvenile delinquent. 50% of all truants end up with a criminal charge by the time they turn 18, compared to 12% of non-truant students. Truancy is one of the greatest predictors of juvenile delinquency. The Orange County District Attorney's Office initiated the current School Attendance Review Board (SARB) program that is in effect at schools throughout Orange County. Although an effective program, there are simply not enough Truancy Officers and courts to meet the needs of the county. OC GRIP addresses this service gap to support the resocialization of students exhibiting risk factors for joining a gang, committing crime and becoming involved with the juvenile justice system.

To achieve the goals and objectives of the OC GRIP Program, all Waymakers GRIP Case Managers funded by different sources will *collaboratively* provide evidence-based strategies to contribute to the overall goals of the program listed below. Services will be provided at at-risk schools, which are facing increasing challenges keeping kids in school and out of gangs, each school year during the funded period, which include:

Service	Annual Units of Service	Service	Annual Units of Service
Unduplicated Youth Participants	500	Case Management Sessions	12,000
Curriculum Groups	170	Faculty Workshops	48
Student Intervention Meetings	1,000	Enrichment Activities/Events	100
Parent Intervention Meetings	15	Parent Supporting Parents	70

OC GRIP works as a collaborative and therefore, units of service and outcome results are a product of the combined contribution from each of the partners. Numbers served are based on historical need data since 2007 in relation to the number of schools served. OC GRIP has provided two scenarios for funding based on need. OC GRIP is requesting either 2.0 FTE Case Managers for *or* 4.40 FTE (if additional funds are available) for Case Managers as proposed in this application. The request of 2.0 FTE *or* 4.40 FTE Case Managers is a result of the School Districts (through the Orange County District Attorney's office as the lead agency) who planned to fund up to 4.40 FTE other Case Managers, that contribute to and share in the success of OC GRIP's results, were unable to contribute. OC GRIP's desire is to continue to provide services to youth in those School Districts. Below are the proposed GRIP Case Management Outcomes as well as the results from the 2024-2025 school year:

- By the end of the period, 90% of faculty will report an improved ability to identify and assist/refer students in need of early intervention services

FY 24-25 Actual Outcome: 92% of the faculty reported that they have more access to support services for students in need.

- By the end of the period, 70% of parents will report an increase in family functioning and social support after completion of a case management action plan as measured by pre-post results using the Protective Factors Survey.

FY 24-25 Actual Outcome: 71% of parents reported an increase in family functioning.

- By the end of the period, 85% of referrals made to families for community services will be linked (i.e. attending at least one appointment) as measured by the Referral & Linkage Log.

FY 24-25 Actual Outcome: 94% of the referrals made to families were linked to a community resource.

- By the end of the period, 70% of the students will have increased school attendance as reported by school attendance data.

FY 24-25 Actual Outcome: 81% of the students had increased school attendance as reported by school attendance data.

- By the end of the period, 70% of students/youth receiving gang prevention and resiliency building curricula will report an increase in resiliency and well-being as measured by pre-post results using the Youth Resiliency Survey.

FY 24-25 Actual Outcome: 95% of participants reported an increase in resiliency.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request FY 2026-2027

Item 6b

Presentation for 2.0 FTE Case Managers at \$225,000

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salaries & Benefits		
1.0 FTE Case Manager	\$5,618 per mo. X 12 mos. X 1.0 FTE	\$ 67,416
1.0 FTE Case Manager	\$5,618 per mo. X 12 mos. X 1.0 FTE	\$ 67,416
Benefits	Are calculated based on individual employee benefit election plan and represent approximately 32.825% of the annual salary cost. The benefit plan includes: FICA, SUI, Worker's Compensation, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Long term Disability Insurance, Retirement Plan, Employer Contribution to flexible benefits plan, Paid Leave Payout.	\$ 44,259
Services & Supplies (Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Professional Fees: Audit	For the allocated agency-level annual audit and single audit report preparation. Agency-level audit fees are allocated to each program based on the program's total expenses, meaning program expenses divided by total agency expenses budget to get the % for the allocation.	\$ 747
Recruitment (background check, fingerprinting, etc.)	Include expenses for annual background check, fingerprinting, etc.	\$ 175
Staff Training	Include expenses for staff training and training related expenses.	\$ 1,200
Office Equipment	Include expenses for office equipment used by the program staff: cell phones, laptops and misc. repairs/replacements	\$ 700
Program Supplies/ Expenses	Include Program Supplies used to support the project strategies and activities.	\$ 750
Office Expenses	These funds will be used for items necessary for the daily operation of the program staff.	\$ 1,500
Cell phones	For cell phone usage and communication	\$ 1,200
Subscriptions	Include the following subscriptions: email, cyber training and payroll subscription.	\$ 1,148
IT	IT support of the server and computers for Program staff.	\$ 2,060
Local Travel	For mileage reimbursement to program staff for attending meetings and other program activities that involve the use of a personal vehicle based on the IRS rate of \$0.7 per mile.	\$ 5,280
Liability Insurance	These funds will cover an allocated portion of the Agency's overall cost for General and Professional Liability Insurance including Owned and Non-Owned Automobile Insurance, Directors and Officers Insurance including Errors and Omissions Insurance, Fidelity Bond, and Property Insurance. Sexual misconduct insurance is included as part of the general liability insurance. This allocation is based on this program's proposed FTEs in proportion to the total agency's FTEs.	\$ 1,801
INDIRECT COST	Waymakers elects to exercise the option to use the 15% de Minimis of the Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC). Per OMB Uniform Guidance the Federal 15% de Minimis MTDC indirect cost rate calculation is the total direct salaries, wages, fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first \$25,000 of each sub-award minus the total amount of equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships, and fellowship, participant support cost and the portion of each award in excess of \$50,000. Indirect Cost=\$29,348: Total MTDC (\$195,652) x 15%. The administrative costs that fall in this indirect cost line item are administrative staff salary and benefits and corresponding share of the occupied office rental space, telephone usage, IT Maintenance, office expenses, equipment lease and maintenance, and other expenses needed to support day-to-day operations.	\$ 29,348

		Item 6b
	Total JJCPA Funding Requested	\$225,000
In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:		
Category	Brief Description	Cost
Collaborative Funding	Contribution from participating schools via the District Attorney as the lead agency	\$462,827
	Total In-Kind Cost	\$462,827
Total Cost of Program		\$ 687,827

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request FY 2026-2027

Presentation for 4.40 FTE Case Managers if up to \$500,000 of funds are available

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salaries & Benefits		
1.0 FTE Case Manager	\$5,618 per mo. X 12 mos. X 1.0 FTE	\$ 67,416
1.0 FTE Case Manager	\$5,618 per mo. X 12 mos. X 1.0 FTE	\$ 67,416
1.0 FTE Case Manager	\$5,618 per mo. X 12 mos. X 1.0 FTE	\$ 67,416
1.0 FTE Case Manager	\$5,618 per mo. X 12 mos. X 1.0 FTE	\$ 67,416
0.4 FTE Case Manager	\$5,618 per mo. X 12 mos. X 0.4 FTE	\$ 26,933
Benefits	Are calculated based on individual employee benefit election plan and represent approximately 34.443% of the annual salary cost. The benefit plan includes: FICA, SUI, Worker's Compensation, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Long term Disability Insurance, Retirement Plan, Employer Contribution to flexible benefits plan, Paid Leave Payout.	\$ 102,167
Services & Supplies (Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Professional Fees: Audit	For the allocated agency-level annual audit and single audit report preparation. Agency-level audit fees are allocated to each program based on the program's total expenses, meaning program expenses divided by total agency expenses budget to get the % for the allocation.	\$ 1,654
Recruitment (background check, fingerprinting, etc.)	Include expenses for annual background check, fingerprinting, etc.	\$ 225
Staff Training	Include expenses for staff training and training related expenses.	\$ 1,500
Office Equipment	Include expenses for office equipment used by the program staff: cell phones, laptops and misc. repairs/replacements	\$ 6,425
Program Supplies/ Expenses	Include Program Supplies used to support the project strategies and activities.	\$ 1,000
Office Expenses	These funds will be used for items necessary for the daily operation of the program staff.	\$ 2,000
Cell phones	For cell phone usage and communication	\$ 2,700
Subscriptions	Include the following subscriptions: email, cyber training and payroll subscription.	\$ 2,306
IT	IT support of the server and computers for Program staff.	\$ 3,620
Local Travel	For mileage reimbursement to program staff for attending meetings and other program activities that involve the use of a personal vehicle based on the IRS rate of \$0.7 per mile.	\$ 11,034
Liability Insurance	These funds will cover an allocated portion of the Agency's overall cost for General and Professional Liability Insurance including Owned and Non-Owned Automobile Insurance, Directors and Officers Insurance including Errors and Omissions Insurance, Fidelity Bond, and Property Insurance. Sexual misconduct insurance is included as part of the general liability insurance. This allocation is based on this program's proposed FTEs in proportion to the total agency's FTEs.	\$ 3,522
INDIRECT COST	Waymakers elects to exercise the option to use the 15% de Minimis of the Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC). Per OMB Uniform Guidance the Federal 15% de Minimis MTDC indirect cost rate calculation is the total direct salaries, wages, fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first \$50,000 of each sub-award minus the total amount of equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships, and fellowship, participant support cost and the portion of each award in excess of \$50,000. Indirect Cost=\$65,217: Total MTDC (\$434,783) x 15%. The administrative costs that fall in this indirect cost line	\$ 65,217

	item are administrative staff salary and benefits and corresponding share of the occupied office rental space, telephone usage, IT Maintenance, office expenses, equipment lease and maintenance, and other expenses needed to support day-to-day operations.	Item 6b
	Total JJCPA Funding Requested	\$500,000

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Category	Brief Description	Cost
Collaborative Funding	Contribution from participating schools via the District Attorney as the lead agency	\$462,827
	Total In-Kind Cost	\$462,827

Total Cost of Program	\$ 962,827
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JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/ or System
Enhancement

FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Please complete and submit your completed requests to ceobudget@ceo.oc.gov.

Program Name:	The Prism Way: Transformative Programming for Transitional Aged Youth and Young Adults		
Total Funding Requested:	\$189,100.00	Year(s) Covered:	2026

Requesting Entity: The Prism Way

Contact Name: Allen Burnett

Phone: 3105707490

Contact Email: allen@theprismway.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

The Prism Way delivers programming inside the Youth Guidance Center (YGC) and Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) for Transitional-Aged Youth and Young Adults (TAY), focusing on prevention, intervention, and resocialization through evidence-based, trauma-informed, and peer-led programming. Grounded in positive youth development, we see each young person as capable of growth, recovery, self-actualization, and leadership. We nurture those abilities through concrete skills building, accountability, and peer support. Our approach emphasizes dignity, lived experience, and the belief that positive transformation is possible for everyone. Programs are facilitated by our Medi-Cal Certified Peer Support Specialists and both registered and certified Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counselors, all of whom have lived experience in the justice system. The Prism Way partners with probation staff, facility leadership, families, schools, survivors of crime, and community organizations to ensure continuity of care and real-world application of the skills youth gain inside. Area of Focus. A continuum spanning:

- Prevention: WISE (Whole Integration of Self-Education)—cognitive/emotional skills (automatic negative thoughts, empathy, window of tolerance, growth mindset, trauma awareness, accountability).
- Intervention: CGA (Criminals & Gang Members Anonymous)—12-step, spiritual-principle framework addressing criminal thinking (Obsession, Compulsion, Progression), amends, restorative accountability.
- Resocialization & Workforce Development: Peer Support Specialist (PSS) Training—CalMHSA-approved Medi-Cal pathway (asynchronous coursework in custody; online state exam accessible pre-release). Structure & Dosage. Weekly, peer-led groups (typ. 90 minutes) at YGC/YLA facilitated by Medi-Cal Certified Peer Support Specialists and registered/certified SUD counselors with lived justice-system experience. PSS Foundations (12–16 hours per cohort) runs quarterly at YLA; eligible youth may complete the CalMHSA online certification exam prior to release. All cohorts include warm hand-offs to community support and The Prism Way Alumni Network to ensure continuity of care. Involved Partners/Stakeholders. Orange County Probation; YGC and YLA facility leadership and staff; The Prism Way Organization, Orange County Health Care Agency (HCA); families and caregivers; local schools and alternative education programs; employers and workforce boards; community-based organizations (including recovery and youth-serving agencies); public safety partners; survivors of crime; and CalMHSA (for certification standards and exam access). These partners coordinate referrals, scheduling, data sharing (as available), and post-release linkages to reinforce resocialization and public

safety. The Whole Integration of Self-Education (WISE) curriculum focuses on cognitive and emotional skill development. Meeting weekly in 90-minute sessions, WISE invites youth to take a deep dive into the thought patterns, emotional triggers, and learned behaviors that drive their choices. Through WISE, participants learn to recognize automatic negative thinking, increase empathy for others and themselves, and expand their window of tolerance so they can better manage stress and conflict. They are introduced to the difference between a fixed and a growth mindset, which helps build persistence and resilience when faced with setbacks. Trauma resolution is woven throughout the program, giving youth a safe space to name their adverse experiences, develop empathy, and begin to practice self-actualization and accountability. WISE is not simply about naming problems but about cultivating solutions. By focusing on accountability and recovery, participants build a renewed sense of purpose and direction. Many youth describe WISE as their first opportunity to understand why they think the way they do—and to choose a different future. Criminals and Gang Members Anonymous (CGA) is a 12-step, 12-tradition program that treats criminal behavior as an addiction. Like Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA), CGA is rooted in spiritual principles. It challenges youth to confront the destructive patterns of Obsession, Compulsion, and Progression that define the criminal lifestyle. Through weekly sessions, participants reflect on their choices, their accountability, and their impact on others. They learn to dismantle destructive belief systems and replace them with prosocial thinking and behaviors. Youth practice the principles of amends—direct, indirect, and living—exploring how they can repair harm in ways that are safe, authentic, and sustainable. CGA frames criminality not as an identity, but as an addiction that can be addressed through honesty, accountability, and community. In this structure, youth begin to see themselves not as “offenders” but as individuals capable of recovery and contribution. By addressing criminal behavior at its roots, CGA empowers youth to break cycles of violence and foster safer, stronger communities. Peer Support Specialist (PSS) Training The Prism Way is certified through CalMHSA to provide Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist (PSS) training. This certification pathway creates a direct workforce track in behavioral health and recovery services, aligning with the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council’s (OCJJCC) focus on prevention, intervention, treatment, and resocialization. We offer PSS training because many justice-involved youth carry lived experience with trauma, addiction, and mental health challenges. When transformed, these experiences become assets that position them as community healers—capable of supporting recovery in others while building purpose and stability for themselves. PSS certification is asynchronous and accessible online. Youth begin training in custody through our PSS Foundations curriculum and are eligible to complete the CalMHSA online certification exam prior to release. This allows participants to leave custody as fully certified Peer Support Specialists, workforce-ready and credentialed for employment in behavioral health services. Graduates automatically become a part of The Prism Way’s PSS Alumni Network, a resocialized ecosystem of mentors, peers, and workforce partners that extends beyond custody. It also supports their own reintegration and recovery journey, which helps reduce the likelihood of recidivism. This structure ensures that certification is not just a credential but a doorway into long-term stability, employment opportunities, and resocialization.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

The Prism Way’s programming is rooted in well-established evidence-based practices and enriched by lived experience and communication theory that explain how transformation happens in group contexts. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). Meta-analyses in juvenile justice consistently show CBT as one of the most effective approaches for reducing recidivism (Lipsey, Chapman & Landenberger, 2001). Our WISE curriculum integrates CBT by helping youth identify distorted thoughts, connect feelings to actions, and practice healthier alternatives. Participants learn to reframe automatic negative thoughts and strengthen decision-making—skills shown to lower delinquency. Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). Large-scale research (CASEL, 2017) demonstrates that SEL improves empathy, emotional regulation, and reduces aggression. WISE builds these same capacities: participants explore empathy, growth vs. fixed mindset, and accountability, directly aligning with the protective factors SEL is known to foster. Trauma-Informed Care (TIC). SAMHSA’s TIC principles—safety, trust, empowerment—guide all our facilitation. Justice-involved youth often carry unresolved trauma; addressing it directly increases engagement and reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression. By teaching youth to notice physical cues of stress and regulate responses, WISE provides tools that trauma literature identifies as central to recovery. Restorative Justice (RJ). Meta-analyses confirm that restorative

practices reduce reoffending and strengthen community bonds (Latimer, Dowden & Muise, 2005). CGA incorporates restorative justice by teaching the three forms of amends—direct, indirect, and living—and guiding youth to repair harm and practice accountability, both to peers and to their communities. 12-Step Adaptation (CGA). CGA applies the long-established 12-step framework to criminal behavior. Like AA and NA, it treats behavior as an addiction, helping youth understand Obsession, Compulsion, and Progression as drivers of destructive choices. Research on 12-step–facilitated recovery supports its role in sustaining long-term behavior change (Kelly et al., 2020). Notably, California’s parole board requires CGA participation for adults seeking release, underscoring its recognized value in resocialization. Peer Support (PSS). National studies (SAMHSA, 2019) and California’s CalMHSA certification process identify peer support as an evidence-based practice that improves retention and recovery. Our Medi-Cal PSS training prepares youth for a state-recognized certification and workforce entry, converting lived experience into leadership and career opportunities. Social Learning Theory (Bandura, 1977). Bandura’s work demonstrates that behavior is learned through observation, modeling, and reinforcement. In our groups, youth observe Peer Support Specialists—mentors with lived experience in the justice system—modeling vulnerability, accountability, and recovery. As youth witness peers showing empathy and honesty, they mirror these behaviors, developing insight into their own choices. Group Therapy Dynamics. The power of the group itself is supported by extensive literature. Group interventions offer a sense of belonging, accountability, and normalization (Yalom & Leszcz, 2005). We see this daily: youth who have never trusted others become vulnerable, express empathy toward peers, and practice new behaviors. This relational trust is both evidence-based and essential to the recovery process. Coordinated Management of Meaning (CMM). CMM explains the communication process by which these practices take root (Pearce, 2007). The youth shift not only their behaviors but also the “stories lived” and “stories told” about themselves. Through dialogue, they renegotiate identity—from offender to community member, from problem to healer. Together, these approaches address cognition, trauma, addiction, and meaning-making in the community. They align with the practices most widely recognized in juvenile justice while also highlighting the deeper communication dynamics that allow youth to resocialize, build trust, and step into new roles as leaders and healers. In this way, The Prism Way offers a comprehensive continuum of prevention, intervention, resocialization, and workforce development—pillars that directly align with the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council’s priorities to reduce juvenile crime and support long-term community safety.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- ☐ Prevention
- ☐ Intervention
- ☐ Supervision
- ☐ Treatment
- ☐ Incarceration
- ☐ Other (If other, please describe):

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

(WISE) Goals and Objectives Goal 1: Strengthen self-awareness and emotional regulation. Objective: By week 8, at least 65% of participants will be able to identify three emotions and demonstrate one calming skill during group sessions. Goal 2: Reframe and replace negative thought patterns. Objective: By week 8, at least 70% of participants will be able to identify three automatic negative thoughts and provide healthier alternatives. Goal 3: Build coping strategies and resilience. Objective: By week 8, at least 70% will complete a written Resilience Plan that includes two triggers, three coping strategies, and three positive supports. Goal 4: Develop a growth mindset and accountability. Objective: By program completion, at least 65% will show improvement on a brief growth-mindset checklist and describe one way accountability supports their goals. Criminals and Gang Members Anonymous (CGA) Goals and Objectives Goal 1: Understand and reflect on criminal thinking. Objective: By week 8, at least 60% of participants will complete a

reflection that identifies root causes of their criminal behavior and connects them to O/C/P patterns. Goal 2: Build accountability through understanding and practicing amends. Objective: By week 8, at least 60% will describe the three forms of amends—direct, indirect, and living—and complete a short plan for how they could practice at least one in their own life. Goal 3: Strengthen relapse prevention through support networks. Objective: By week 8, at least 70% will complete a Relapse Prevention Plan that includes at least 10 positive supports, three replacement strategies for high-risk behavior, and steps for ongoing accountability. Goal 4: Develop healthy conflict resolution skills. Objective: By week 8, at least 65% will identify and demonstrate at least three healthy conflict resolution strategies (e.g., pause, deep breathing, peer support, seeking staff help). Peer Support Specialist Training: Goals and Objectives Goal 1: Build workforce readiness through PSS Foundations training. Objective: By quarter's end, at least 75% of enrolled participants will complete the asynchronous PSS Foundations curriculum (12–16 hours) delivered inside custody. Goal 2: Prepare participants for the state certification exam. Objective: By completion of the Foundations module, at least 70% will pass a practice exam with a score of 80% or higher, demonstrating readiness for the official CalMHSA certification exam. Goal 3: Support pre-release certification opportunities. Objective: At least 60% of eligible participants will sit for the CalMHSA online certification exam before release, and at least 50% will earn full Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist certification while still in custody. Goal 4: Develop leadership and career pathways. Objective: By week 8, at least 65% will lead a 5–10 minute peer activity (check-in, share, or co-facilitation) and outline two education/employment goals aligned with workforce entry. Goal 5: Ensure continuity and alumni engagement post-release. Objective: At release, 100% of PSS graduates will be welcomed into The Prism Way PSS Alumni Network (resocialized ecosystem), with at least 80% receiving a documented warm handoff to a CalMHSA-approved provider, employer, or alumni mentor.

What is the target population?

Transitional-aged youth and emerging adults currently housed at Orange County's Youth Guidance Center (YGC) and Youth Leadership Academy (YLA). Participants are system-involved and justice-impacted young people motivated to build skills for recovery, accountability, and successful re-entry. Participation is voluntary and coordinated with Probation and facility staff. Common risk/need indicators (non-exhaustive): Prior petitions/adjudications or gang exposure Substance use disorder Trauma/ACEs and unresolved grief School disruption/credit deficits limited vocational connection Unstable housing/family conflict limited prosocial supports Impulsivity/emotion regulation challenges criminal thinking patterns

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

In the short term, participants demonstrate improved decision-making, increased emotional regulation, and a greater sense of personal accountability. Youth complete Resilience and Relapse Prevention Plans, identify positive support networks, and—through CGA—begin to practice amends and restorative accountability. For those engaged in PSS training, the outcomes extend even further: young people leave custody not just with insight but with a recognized Medi-Cal certification, ready to enter the behavioral health workforce as community healers. Over time, these programs reduce impulsive behavior, lower the likelihood of reoffending, and prepare youth for successful reentry. Families benefit from renewed hope and stability, while communities experience greater safety and cohesion as participants transition into positive roles. The Prism Way Alumni Network provides ongoing mentorship and connection, creating a resocialized ecosystem where young people remain supported long after release. By linking prevention (WISE), intervention (CGA), and workforce development (PSS), The Prism Way creates a continuum of care that addresses immediate needs while opening long-term opportunities. These outcomes—youth who are accountable, workforce-ready, and resocialized into their communities—speak directly to the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council's mission of reducing juvenile crime and promoting safer, healthier communities across Orange County.

**2011 Realignment
OCJCC Funding Request**

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salaries & Benefits		
incl. 1 Medi-Cal PSS, 4 PSS/SUDC, 1 SUDCC	Full one day on site program & service delivery one year	\$78,000.00
6 Staff	Half day planning & prep weekly (curriculum, case notes, coordination)	\$39,000.00
Exec. Director oversight	Two hour weekly supervision meeting with staff coordinating with stakeholder comms probation facility staff	\$21,000.00
Program operations Manager	Reporting coordinating attendance tracking pre/post assessments JJCPA quarterly & annual report prep scheduling clearance	\$12,000.00
Salary & Benefits	Includes 15% of costs to account for healthcare, liability, 401K	\$18,050.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Travel	60 miles round trip from The Prism Way for 48 weeks	\$11,750.00
Printing Cost	Books assignments, Certificates Other additional Reading Material	\$5,250.00
Books & resources	CEU material for three programs WISE, CGA, and PSS Training	\$4,050.00
Total JJCPA Funding Requested		\$ \$189,100.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Category	Brief Description	Cost
	Total In-Kind Cost	\$ 0.00

Total Cost of Program	\$ \$189,100.00
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JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement
FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Post-Diversion Support Services: College & Career Success and Parent Enrichment

Total Funding Requested: \$224,938.69 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Orange County Bar Foundation dba Project Youth OC

Contact Name: Manuel Gutierrez **Phone:** 714-480-1925

Contact Email: manuel@pyoc.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

Project Youth OC (PYOC) is committed to ensuring that justice-involved youth in Orange County are not defined by their mistakes but are empowered to build brighter futures. Through this proposal, PYOC seeks to strengthen the outcomes of its flagship juvenile diversion program, Shortstop, by expanding the continuum of services available to youth and their caregivers. This expansion includes two evidence-based supports: Project Self, our college and career success program, and our Parent Enrichment Program. Together, these programs align directly with the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council's (OCJJCC) goals to reduce juvenile crime, promote youth resocialization, and close critical service gaps for justice-involved youth and their families in underserved communities.

For over forty-five years, Shortstop has provided at-risk youth, ages 10–18, and their caregivers in Orange County with evidence-based diversion services. Shortstop serves as a powerful entry point for early prevention and intervention for juvenile delinquency and substance use. Yet after the program ends, many of our youth continue to face complex challenges (such as limited access to higher education or job pathways, disengagement from school, unaddressed behavioral health needs, and family instability) that place them at heightened risk of further justice system involvement. This proposal addresses those needs by providing youth and their caregivers with long-term, individualized services designed to extend the gains made during diversion. It ensures that Shortstop is not a standalone intervention, but rather a launching point for sustained youth development and family resilience.

College and Career Success

PYOC's Project Self program assists at-risk, transition-aged youth (ages 16+) to build the essential life and career skills needed to thrive in adulthood. Most of our diversion youth do not have a clear pathway to higher education, job training, or employment, factors that are key protective mechanisms against reoffending. Project Self helps youth overcome barriers, explore career interests, and successfully enroll in a post-secondary educational or career pathway that aligns with their goals.

Project Self's services are offered on an ongoing basis and provide up to 12 sessions of trauma-informed, individualized case management, adapted from the evidence-based Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach. Case management focuses on future planning, career exploration, and post-secondary educational access. Participants engage in mentorship, paid internships, and life-skills workshops that encourage stability, self-confidence, and a sense of direction. Case managers walk alongside each youth, helping them to create a vision for their future and take concrete steps toward their career and educational goals. With the encouragement of these culturally responsive adult mentors, youth learn to view themselves not by past mistakes, but through the lens of their purpose, talents, and potential.

Project Self is administered by trauma-informed, bilingual, bicultural case managers with lived experience. Case managers guide youth through nine transformative milestones designed to promote long-term self-

sufficiency and post-diversion success.

1. **Intake & Rapport Building**—Services begin as case managers meet with youth and caregivers to lay the foundation for meaningful engagement. Case managers evaluate youth's strengths, needs, and goals, enabling the creation of an individualized service plan.
2. **Personalized Planning & Goal Setting**—Youth identify meaningful academic and career goals. Case managers introduce goal-setting strategies that emphasize the power of small wins to build momentum.
3. **Stress Management and Problem-Solving**—Youth develop skills to navigate challenges while continuing their career exploration.
4. **Career Exploration & Career Planning**—Youth put their goals into action by applying to college, securing internships, or exploring apprenticeships. Youth are introduced to experiential opportunities like job shadowing/informational interviews and are connected to community resources including job fairs and mentorships.
5. **Job Readiness and Interview Skills**—Youth receive hands-on support with resume writing, mock interviews, and job applications. They are also introduced to community support systems that include mentors, networking groups, and peer connections.
6. **Financial Literacy**—Youth gain financial management skills (including budgeting, understanding credit, navigating debt) and learn how to access scholarships and financial aid.
7. **Networking & Community Connection**—Youth expand their network by connecting with mentors, professionals, and peer support systems.
8. **Transition Planning & Adjustments**—Staff provide continued guidance with job interviews, college or internship applications, and financial aid. Concrete steps are taken toward youth's chosen post-secondary education or career choice.
9. **Final Review & Long-Term Career Planning**—The program concludes with a session to celebrate achievements and focus on long-term career planning, continued education, and the next steps toward self-sufficiency. Youth are invited to join our alumni network, which offers optional ongoing mentorship, professional connections, and peer support.

Parent Enrichment

Family involvement is one of the strongest predictors of positive outcomes for justice-involved youth. With this in mind, caregivers of our diversion youth are invited to participate in our Parent Enrichment Program, which provides culturally responsive workshops that are offered monthly in English or Spanish. Developed with input from our Parent Advisory Group, comprised of families who have directly experienced the justice system, this support service is more than just a series of parenting classes. Workshops are designed to meet caregivers where they are and equip them with practical tools to create safer, more structured home environments. Caregivers leave the program with an improved understanding of their rights and responsibilities and greater awareness of how to support their child's long-term success.

Trauma-informed, bilingual, bicultural educators with lived experience lead each 90-minute session. Workshop topics, chosen by our parent committee, include family communication, emotional health, navigating legal and school systems, adolescent mental health, suicide prevention, substance abuse, domestic violence, sexual health education, financial literacy, housing stability, and community resources.

Together, Project Self and our Parent Enrichment Program create a dual-generation approach that fosters sustainable change for both youth and families. They directly advance the OCJJCC's mission to reduce juvenile crime and promote resocialization by providing essential support during the critical post-diversion period. Youth gain purpose. Families gain confidence. Communities gain empowered youth that are prepared to thrive in school, succeed in the workforce, and break the cycle of system involvement.

Area of Focus

Project Self and our Parent Enrichment Program will be accessible to residents across all Orange County

8/28/2025

cities, with particular focus on high-need communities such as Santa Ana, Anaheim, Fullerton, and Costa Mesa.

Beneath its image of prosperity, Orange County faces stark racial and geographic disparities in income, education, healthcare, and public safety. Immigrant communities, people of color, and residents in North/Central Orange County are hardest hit by poverty and limited opportunity. These inequities often compound into greater challenges, including housing instability, high crime neighborhoods, food insecurity, and limited access to education and employment.

Santa Ana, the heart of Central Orange County and home to Project Youth OC, illustrates these realities. With numerous Opportunity Zones and burdened with multiple community-level risk factors, Santa Ana faces some of the highest hardship indicators in the region. The city's crime rate exceeds 80% of California communities, and it has the county's lowest median income coupled with the highest rates of youth crime, violent gang activity, and drug trafficking.

Educational disparities mirror these challenges. While Orange County overall boasts a high share of residents with college degrees, it also has some of the highest rates of adults without a high school diploma. Only 20% of Latino adults in the county have attained an associate's degree or higher, and in Santa Ana nearly 45% of adults lack even a high school diploma. These conditions place Latino youth at heightened risk for justice system involvement and reinforce cycles of poverty and disadvantage that our programs are designed to disrupt.

Partners/Stakeholders

For 45 years, PYOC has partnered with local law enforcement agencies for referrals of at-risk youth. Such partnerships include: police departments (currently Santa Ana, Tustin, Anaheim, Placentia, Brea, La Habra, Fullerton, and Orange Police Departments); OC Probation Department; and the OC District Attorney's office.

PYOC also has longstanding partnerships with local school districts (currently Anaheim, Orange, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Newport/Mesa, Brea, Placentia/Yorba Linda, Buena Park, Tustin, and Santa Ana) to provide diversion services to Tier 1 and Tier 2 students who exhibit behavioral concerns. Our efforts have led to a system of early identification of students that need intensive behavioral and mental health services.

PYOC is committed to collaboration and dedicated to improving outcomes for at-risk youth in Orange County. We have developed a comprehensive Referral Partner Book featuring over 50 established and preferred referral partners throughout the county. Created through asset mapping, this resource book serves as a valuable tool to connect clients with supportive services (mental, emotional, and behavioral health, delinquency, substance abuse, and pro-social activities) tailored to their needs. The following are some of our key partnerships:

- Hoag Hospital (10-year partnership) provides additional behavioral health and substance abuse treatment. We are fortunate that through our formal collaboration with Hoag Hospital we also have access to over 30 partner agencies including mental health providers for clinical services.
- Occupational Health and Safety Services (10 years) is a resource for parents who want to drug test their child.
- The Purpose of Recovery (5 years) provides guest speakers to discuss the dangers of drug use and support groups for youth in recovery.
- Project Kinship (9 years) offers MEB health counseling and case management.
- Radiant Health Center (24 years) provides free HIV/VH counseling, testing, and referral services.
- Orange County Re-entry Partnership (5 years) links youth and families to community-based programs that fit their needs.
- The OC Health Care Agency (5 years) partners to provide tobacco/nicotine cessation programming.
- Families and Communities Together (18 years), a network that offers family therapy, crisis counseling, life skills workshops, and counseling.

- Human Options (20 years) and Planned Parenthood (23 years) offer additional sexual health education and HIV/STI testing.
 - HopeBuilders (4 years) offers certificate programs and job placement services.
 - Santa Ana Parks and Recreation (17 years) gives youth access to arts, music, nature, and sports programs.
 - Phoenix House (15 years) and Twin Towers (11 years) provide inpatient substance abuse services.
- LBGTQ Center OC (24 years) offers mental health, HIV testing and educational services.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

Project Youth OC's Project Self and Parent Enrichment Program are built on proven, evidence-based practices that drive lasting change for justice-involved youth. Together, these programs create a comprehensive post-diversion model that directly supports resocialization and prevents recidivism. Guided by the Risk-Need-Responsivity model, Project Self and the Parent Enrichment Program address critical risk factors, including school disengagement, unemployment, family instability, and trauma exposure, which are key predictors of repeat justice involvement (Andrews and Bonta).

This dual-generation approach reinforces the progress youth make in our diversion program while equipping caregivers with the tools to support long-term success. Family-focused approaches like this have been shown to consistently deliver better outcomes than youth-only interventions, significantly reducing recidivism and supporting healthy development (Henggeler and Schoenwald 1-20).

College and Career Success Services

Project Self is rooted in an intensive case management framework adapted from the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA), a SAMHSA-recognized intervention proven effective for adolescents with behavioral health challenges. The A-CRA model helps youth replace risky behaviors with prosocial alternatives through goal-setting, skill-building, and community engagement. Research shows A-CRA improves school engagement, reduces substance use, and increases job readiness (Godley et al. 511–518; Dennis et al.).

Youth also gain life skills, paid internships, mentorship, and financial literacy support, which are tools proven by the National Reentry Resource Center to reduce reoffending by boosting confidence and connection to the workforce (NRRC). By helping youth envision a positive future and build the skills to achieve it, Project Self empowers youth to thrive and successfully break the cycle of justice involvement (Cauffman et al. 1155-1171).

Parent Enrichment Program

The Parent Enrichment Program draws on the proven principles of Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT), an evidence-based model that emphasizes the critical role of strong family relationships, open communication, and engaged parenting in guiding positive youth behavior. Research shows that BSFT effectively reduces delinquency and substance use among justice-involved youth (Robbins et al. 261-269; Szapocznik and Kurtines 400-407). Delivered in English and Spanish by bilingual, bicultural educators, our Parent Enrichment Program is culturally tailored for the primarily low-income Latino families we serve.

Workshop topics, chosen by our parent committee, include family communication, emotional health, navigating legal and school systems, adolescent mental health, suicide prevention, substance abuse, domestic violence, sexual health education, financial literacy, housing stability, and community resources. Workshops enhance parents' understanding of available resources, legal processes, and positive parenting strategies, which fosters greater family stability. These outcomes are directly tied to higher rates of school engagement and reduced likelihood of reoffending among youth (OJJDP).

Citations

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- Cauffman, Elizabeth, et al. "Future Orientation and Legal Decision-Making Capacity in Justice-Involved Youth." *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, vol. 49, 2020, pp. 1155–1171.
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- Godley, Mark D., et al. "Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach for Adolescent Cannabis Users: A Randomized Controlled Trial." *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, vol. 43, no. 4, 2004, pp. 511–518.
- Henggeler, Scott W., and Sonja K. Schoenwald. "Evidence-Based Interventions for Juvenile Offenders and Juvenile Justice Policies that Support Them." *Social Policy Report*, vol. 25, no. 1, 2011, pp. 1–20.
- National Reentry Resource Center. *Reentry and Employment: Strategies to Support Young Adults*. Council of State Governments Justice Center, 2020.
- Robbins, Michael S., et al. "Brief Strategic Family Therapy for Adolescent Drug Abusers: A Review of Evidence-Based Treatments." *Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology*, vol. 35, no. 2, 2006, pp. 261–269.
- Szapocznik, José, and William Kurtines. "Family Psychology and Cultural Diversity: Opportunities for Theory, Research, and Application." *American Psychologist*, vol. 48, no. 4, 1993, pp. 400–407.
- U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). *Family Engagement in Juvenile Justice Systems*. U.S. Department of Justice, 2019.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Prevention | ☒ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☐ Supervision | ☒ Other (If other, please describe): |

Resocialization

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

SMART Objectives

Objective 1: Provide up to 12 sessions of intensive case management to 30 post-diversion youth.

- Measure: 80% of participating youth will report increased readiness to pursue college, career, or trade pathways
- Timeline: Within 6 months of enrollment in Project Self

Objective 2: Offer 8+ parenting workshops annually, each attended by 50+ caregivers of post-diversion youth.

- Measure: 75% of participating caregivers will report improved communication and parenting confidence.
- Timeline: Year-round delivery, tracked quarterly

Objective 3: Provide 30 post-diversion youth with access to paid internships, job readiness workshops, or post-secondary enrollment.

- Measure: 90% of participating youth will enroll/plan to enroll in a vocational program, trade school, community college, or 4-year university.
- Timeline: Ongoing, with peak delivery during summer (June–August)

Objective 4: Conduct six-month post-exit follow-ups with 30 post-diversion youth.

- Measure: 80% of participants will report no new justice involvement
- Timeline: 6-month post-diversion follow-up

What is the target population?

The proposed Project Self program and Parent Enrichment Program are designed to serve at-risk youth, ages 16+, and their caregivers who have participated in our Shortstop diversion program. By targeting both youth and caregivers, we have created a comprehensive approach that recognizes the critical role families play in influencing youth behavior change and long-term success.

Our diversion youth typically present with moderate to high risk factors, including truancy, prior system involvement, family dysfunction, behavioral health disorders, substance use, housing insecurity, and/or lack of engagement in education or employment. These risk factors greatly increase their risk of socio-economic disconnection, social marginalization, and involvement in the criminal justice system. Most of their caregivers are recently immigrated, Spanish-speakers who face significant barriers in accessing community resources and navigating healthcare and educational systems.

Currently, 84% of our diversion youth are Latino, a population that is particularly vulnerable in Orange County. Latinos represent 44% of the county's youth but account for 82% of teen mothers, 65% of high school dropouts, 63% of the youth receiving behavioral health services, 77% of youth receiving county substance abuse services, 71% of youth probationers, and 92% of youth gang members.

The majority (85%) of our diversion youth reside in federally designated Opportunity Zones in North and Central OC cities and 98% are from low-income households (per HUD guidelines). Seventy percent (70%) of our youth are justice impacted and/or involved. Both males and females are targeted. Additionally, approximately 5% of our youth are gay, bi-sexual, or non-binary.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

Project Youth OC's Project Self and Parent Enrichment Program are designed to generate lasting, measurable outcomes that directly advance the OCJJCC's mission to reduce juvenile crime and promote youth resocialization. Through individualized case management, mentoring, paid internships, and family-centered workshops, the programs target critical protective factors such as educational engagement, career readiness, emotional regulation, and family stability, all of which are proven to lower the risk of recidivism.

Short-term Project Self outcomes will include:

- 80% of participating youth will gain clarity on their educational and career goals within 6 months of entering the program.
- 80% of youth will complete at least two key workforce or education milestones within 3-months of enrollment
- 90% of youth will remain free from new system involvement at a six-month follow-up post-diversion.

Short-term outcomes for our Parent Enrichment Program will include:

- 80% of participating caregivers will report increased confidence in navigating their child's needs at a six-month follow-up post-diversion.
- 70% of caregivers will report improved family communication at a six-month follow-up post-diversion.
- 70% of caregivers will report strengthened parenting skills at a six-month follow-up post-diversion.

Long term, these outcomes are intended to lead to lower rates of reoffending, increased financial independence, higher rates of high school and college graduation, and reduced burden on the justice system. By extending support beyond diversion services, Project Self and the Parent Enrichment Program provide youth with clear pathways to success while equipping caregivers with the tools needed to maintain structure and accountability at home. This approach creates a multi-layered support system that aligns directly with the OCJJCC's goal of fostering a coordinated continuum of care for justice-involved youth in Orange County.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Salaries & Benefits	Salaries for key staff, including benefits at 28%.	\$149,938.69
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Services & Supplies	Funds for services and supplies will supplement items up to and including the following: Program materials; General office supplies and technology for program staff; Training costs for staff (trauma informed interviewing skills; presentation skills; substance abuse issues); Travel and Mileage Costs; Costs associated with renting out the satellite office spaces for service delivery; Administrative Costs; Indirect costs at the 15% de minimis rate.	\$75,000.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$224,938.69

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
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Total In-Kind Cost: \$0.00

Total Cost of Program: \$224,938.69



JJCPA Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Kinship Youth Center

Total Funding Requested: \$225,000.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Project Kinship

Contact Name: Aden Jordan **Phone:** 657-705-5606

Contact Email: Community@projectkinship.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

On behalf of Project Kinship and the lives impacted by incarceration, gangs, and violence we train and support, we thank Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council again for the \$225,000 grant award that we received in December 2024, in support of our new Kinship Youth Center. Project Kinship is applying for \$225,000 from Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council in support of our now-open and ongoing Kinship Youth Center in Santa Ana which will provide after-school programming including social-emotional support and education resources to 100 at-risk youth participants ages 13-18 in 2026.

Since our founding in 2014, the mission of Project Kinship has remained the same: to provide support and training to lives impacted by incarceration, gangs, and violence through hope, healing, and transformation. Our Co-Founder and Executive Director Steve Kim is himself formerly incarcerated and upon his release from prison he faced many barriers to re-entry and employment as he was trying to support himself and his young family. At his lowest point, he met community members who walked him back to hope. He went on to earn a Criminology, Law & Society degree from the University of California, Irvine, and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Southern California. After hearing Father Greg Boyle from Homeboy Industries speak in one of his classes over 20 years ago, Steve dedicated his life to serving the community as he was helped.

Today, we are the Orange County sister agency to Los Angeles-based Homeboy Industries. Through our five core, comprehensive wraparound service programs — Youth Programming, Adult Re-Entry Success, Education & Employment Pathways, Substance Use Recovery/Behavioral Health, and Safety Net Assistance — we worked with 14,826 youth and adult participants last year. Our organization reduces recidivism and makes our communities safer through strengthening individuals and families impacted by gangs and incarceration; providing access to supportive and rehabilitative services; offering prevention, intervention, and treatment programming; advocating for system solutions; and training service providers on evidence-based practices and trauma-informed care. We envision a world where hope lives and the cycle of despair ends.

Our Kinship Youth Center addresses a pressing need in our community — the shortage of safe, after-school drop-in spaces and resources for youth at risk of being impacted by gangs, violence, and incarceration during the late afternoons and evenings when middle and high schools are out of session. Between 2013 and 2022 felony juvenile arrests in Orange County increased 58.8%, and between 2022 and 2023 the total number of juvenile gang-related prosecutions in Orange County increased 25% (Conditions of Children in Orange County, 2024). Once an individual has been justice-impacted, they are more likely to experience recidivism during their lives. 82% of formerly incarcerated individuals will be arrested again within ten years (Prison Policy Initiative, 2024) and are five times more likely to be unemployed (Ferguson, 2024). Intervention programs like Kinship Youth Center exist to prevent crime and arrests from happening in the first place so youth participants don't have to experience these long-lasting consequences that occur when good people make bad decisions.

Located on-site at our new 17,503-square-foot building, our Kinship Youth Center is a safe haven for

vulnerable middle school and high school age youth in Orange County, many of whom reside in historically low-income areas in cities including Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove, and Westminster. While we offer Restorative Practice intervention services at 35 schools in five school districts and every unit in Juvenile Hall. Many of our youth participants do not have safe, supportive places to be after school and on the weekends where their social-emotional skills and educational and vocational knowledge can be nurtured. Often youth who feel misunderstood or are mistreated at home fall into gang activity in the search of belonging. The Kinship Youth Center provides a pro-social alternative to these activities.

Through after-school programming and Saturday excursions, participants can work on social-emotional goals through individual and group counseling sessions, improving family relationships through family re-unification support and monthly family re-unification events, academic support including tutoring, other educational and employment pathways services, gang disassociation support, and much more. Additionally, Kinship Youth Center has been providing art therapy, presentations on subjects including financial literacy and entrepreneurship, group journaling, and more. We are grateful to have volunteers regularly provide academic tutoring on a variety of subjects and take participants on excursions including fishing and sailing. As we continue to raise awareness of this program, we anticipate hosting many more volunteers with an even wider breadth of knowledge and experience to share with our participants.

We opened our Kinship Youth Center this May and have witnessed continuous growth and enthusiasm for this critical program. Since opening the doors of our after-school drop-in center, we have supported nearly 40 youth participants and we anticipate that this number will grow to over 100 participants in 2026. Kinship Youth Center is open between 11 am and 7:30 pm on Tuesdays through Saturdays. We are averaging about eight youth participants a day. To ensure that at-risk middle school and high school age youth can participate in Kinship Youth Center programming, we provide transportation when available so participants can be safely transported to and from our after-school drop-in center. One of the challenges we've experienced in this program is our limited ability to transport participants to and from Kinship Youth Center. We are currently raising funds to purchase a vehicle that can be dedicated to transporting participants to and from our drop-in center.

After-school programming at Kinship Youth Center continues to meet "Criteria A. Supporting the Council's plan to promote juvenile justice in the areas of prevention, intervention of incarcerated or system involved youth, and B. Support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support the resocialization of at-risk youth." At-risk youth who benefit from the Positive Youth Development Model (PYD) that is integrated within our programming include youth from Alternative Education, such as OCDE/ACCESS and comprehensive school districts; and youth returning to their communities from Juvenile Hall, Youth Guidance Center, and Youth Leadership Academy. In addition to the 35 schools where we are present and every unit in Juvenile Hall, we also collaborate with community partners including Orange County Sheriff's Department, the Orange County District Attorney's Office, Orange County Health Care Agency, and other local government agencies.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

Kinship Youth Center continues to prioritize mentorship and Positive Youth Development (PYD) based in Restorative Justice approaches to facilitate relationship building, provide leadership opportunities, cultivate connection and a sense of community, and provide preparation and growth with life skills and community integration. Mentorship when incorporating the individual goals of the mentee has been shown to improve both academic and social outcomes for mentees (Samuels, J., Davis, A.L. & McQuillin, S.D., 2023).

The program utilizes a Positive Youth Development Model (PYD) basing structure and intervention on the Big Three components of PYD: 1) fostering positive and sustained adult-youth relationships (mentoring), 2) building life skills essential to participant success, and 3) providing opportunities for youth contribution and leadership (Ba'yah Abdul Kadir, N. & Helma Mohd, R., 2021). These Big Three components are the foundation of PYD (Santos, T., 2021) and emphasize a strengths-based perspective in supporting vulnerable populations of youth that highlight unique individual skills, strengths, diversity, and resiliency to instill a sense of hope for participants rooted in their own abilities, qualities, and experiences (Search Institute, 2024). Research has demonstrated that individuals who participate in programs that utilize a PYD model are significantly less likely to engage in behaviors that place their health and safety at risk, while increasing positive social and emotional outcomes, indicating it as a solid foundational element for program structure in the prevention and intervention for youth involved in the juvenile justice system (Youth.gov, "The Effectiveness of Positive Youth Development Programs").

Knowing that no two youths are exactly alike, our Kinship Youth Center takes a highly individualized approach to supporting every at-risk youth in our care while offering a continuum of care that meets our participants wherever they are on their journey. Every new Kinship Youth Center participant engages in an initial

assessment with our Wellness Coordinator to determine their unique strengths and needs. Youth participants begin the program with an orientation that outlines behavioral norms and expectations including an honor code agreement, boundaries for relationships with adults and peers, how progress through the program will be monitored and measured, and individual goal setting and planning for support. To promote engagement from all stakeholders, caregivers of new participants attend an orientation with a designated staff member that outlines: program description and length, expectations for participation and engagement from youth and families, and resource connection to support participation (transportation, health, basic needs, etc.).

Participants have the opportunity after six weeks of active participation in the program to begin a training process to take on leadership roles as “Circle Keepers.” These trainings expand over the course of three to four weeks to include these essential topics to protect the safety, well-being, and integrity of the Kinship Youth Center: boundaries and ethical guidelines for relationships with adults and other youth; definitions of leadership and expectations for leadership roles; foundational elements of Restorative Justice; guidelines for facilitation, maintaining group norms, and de-escalation/redirection strategies; and an accountability system with frequent check-ins to protect fidelity and maintain safety for all program stakeholders.

After this initial period, Circle Keepers continue to participate in circles and observe from a perspective of leadership. They check in to debrief after circles with leadership and process key points of focus for what was done well, what could be done differently, etc. After observation and processing for a minimum of three weeks, Circle Keepers prepare to lead circles with a staff observer for support. Circle Keepers attend weekly check-ins specifically for peer leaders that provide the opportunity to discuss and debrief on their experiences and to obtain feedback from supervisors and other peer leaders. This emphasis on communication, accountability, and alignment of goals and strategies for leadership ensures the fidelity and integrity of the program and the safety and well-being of participants, leaders, and staff. Upon completion of training from participant to Circle Keeper, graduates are honored with a “graduation ceremony” to acknowledge their diligent efforts and commitment to personal growth and excellence. This recognition is essential in providing motivation towards milestones and the achievement of personal goals, as well as building a sense of individual accomplishment and a strong sense of community and belonging (E L Education, 2024).

Kinship Youth Center is an after-school drop-in center offered in response to research that highlights after-school hours (late afternoon to early evening) as the time of day young people are most likely to engage in risky and illegal behaviors (Austin, G., Wendt, S. & Klinica, L. 2021). Studies show that structured after-school programming is a key prevention and intervention strategy to reduce juvenile crime and to support resocialization and positive outcomes for youth.

Our program incorporates evidence-based elements and standards for quality after-school programming as outlined by the California Department of Education (CDE) that promote a safe and supportive environment, actively engage youth in learning opportunities, build skills with high expectations, promote youth voices and leadership opportunities in programming, encourage and educate in healthy choices and behaviors, and ensure diversity, access, and equity in program modeling, facilitation, and implementation. These standards support in prevention, intervention, and supervision of justice-involved youth participants. Staff are trained in evidence-based practices such as Motivational Interviewing to build and sustain effective communication with participants.

One area of our program that we want to improve next year is substance use recovery. We currently do not have a substance use support group at Kinship Youth Center. We are raising funds to hire and retain a certified Substance Use Disorder counselor who can lead these groups.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☒ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☐ Supervision | ☐ Other (If other, please describe): |

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

During the twelve-month grant period, we anticipate supporting over 100 youth participants ages 13 to 18, and achieving the following objectives:

80% of participants will access, be placed in, and/or maintain a positive standing in an educational or vocational program within three months of enrollment at the Kinship Youth Center.

70% of participants will complete their personal, vocational, and educational Goal Plan. Their individualized plan is monitored monthly, and might include school improvement plans and maintenance, placement and/or vocational placement/exploration within three months of enrollment at the Kinship Youth Center, and more all tailored to the strengths and needs of each participant.

After each quarter, 20% of the youth enrolled will be trained as certified Circle Keepers and begin peer leadership roles at the start of the fourth quarter.

What is the target population?

Kinship Youth Center's target population are youth between the ages of 13 and 18 years old residing in Orange County. Our participants have primarily resided within historically low-income neighborhoods in Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Westminster, and neighboring communities. Kinship Youth Center participants are currently, formerly, or at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system. This program is open to both male and female youth and we make strong efforts to ensure there is a level of gender equity for safety and engagement purposes. The diverse racial and ethnic makeup of our program participants reflects the demographics of our local community.

Recently released youth from juvenile facilities, youth who are on probation, and youth at-risk of being justice-impacted are among those considered eligible for the program. In the short amount of time this program has been in operation, life-changing opportunities and support have been experienced by at-risk youth from Alternative Education, such as OCDE/ACCESS and comprehensive school districts, and youth returning to their communities from Juvenile Hall, Youth Guidance Center, and Youth Leadership Academy. Potential participants may self-refer or be referred by juvenile justice partners, districts, and families.

Participants will meet with Kinship Youth Center staff for an initial assessment to determine their unique strengths and needs such as youth development options, mental health support, substance use services, or connection to educational/vocational resources. The target population is particularly in need of safe spaces and the engaging activities of the after-school and Saturday programming we provide. The majority of our youth participants have never had the opportunities needed to thrive and seek positive challenges during early childhood development. Kinship Youth Center's programming fosters healthy and effective re-socialization for our participants.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

Kinship Youth Center increases authentic and impactful evidence-based supports, innovative intervention strategies, and culturally responsive prevention methods for participants. Kinship Youth Center utilizes a PYD foundation. Kinship Youth Center outcomes, in alignment with the goals of OCJJCC, decrease juvenile crimes and support re-socialization for justice-impacted and at-risk youth.

We hope that OCJJCC will choose to partner with Project Kinship again in shared support of our Kinship Youth Center and the following desired outcomes:

Reducing crime and recidivism by fostering positive trajectories for justice-involved youth, diverting participants from high-risk situations and facilitating the development and progress of individual goals through support in education, career paths, healthy familial and community relationships, and a positive sense of self.

Reducing crime and recidivism by assessing individual progress and facilitating connections based on the expressed needs and goal-setting of the youth involved in the program. Local community partners, role models, and Project Kinship Peer Navigators provide inspiration and guidance through extensive group mentoring opportunities.

Supporting resocialization through the development of positive relationships, healthy personal boundaries, ethical decision-making, and character development as modeled in mentoring from highly skilled Project Kinship Peer Navigators and other mentoring staff.

Empowering youth to embody leadership qualities through education and training as Circle Keepers in their ethical beliefs, values, and how they interact with their peers, adults, and others in their communities.

The outcomes listed above demonstrate the multi-faceted positive impacts of the Kinship Youth Center which equip participants with the knowledge, skills, and experiences to cultivate a unique path to personal success filled with meaning and hope for the future.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Director of Youth Services (.20 FTE)	Overall program oversight, reporting, and coordination	\$23,748.00
Program Manager (.15 FTE)	Day to day program oversight	\$11,666.00
Restorative Practice Intervention Specialist (1.0 FTE)	Conduct youth circles, check ins, art activities	\$52,000.00
Credible Messenger (1.0 FTE)	Youth mentorship, engagement & outreach	\$45,760.00
Fringe Benefits (22% of Salary)	Medical, Dental, Worker's Comp, etc	\$29,298.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Office Space	Allocated cost of rent based off FTE assigned to space	\$11,264.00
Utilities	Cost of internet and cell phone line	\$1,140.00
Insurance	Allocated cost of insurance as contractually required	\$6,584.00
Subcontractors	IT security, CRM system	\$4,285.00
Program Supplies	Group supplies, art supplies, outings, outreach supplies, etc.	\$5,500.00
Office Supplies	Pens, printer paper, folders, binders, etc. as needed	\$500.00
Staff Mileage	Reimbursement for program related mileage	\$1,800.00
Transportation Flex Fund	Bus passes, gas cards, etc. to support transportation to facility	\$6,000.00
Food Flex Fund	Reducing food insecurity barriers to participant engagement	\$1,000.00
Clothing Flex Fund	Support participants in need of clothing	\$1,500.00
Misc. Flex Fund	Miscellaneous support to reduce barriers to successful program completion	\$2,500.00
Indirect	10% of Program Cost	\$20,455.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$225,000.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
Total In-Kind Cost:		\$0.00
Total Cost of Program:		\$225,000.00



JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement
FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Transforming Integration into Meaningful Experiences (TIME)

Total Funding Requested: \$207,610.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Hub for Integration, Reentry & Employment (HIRE)

Contact Name: Meghan Medlin **Phone:** 714-784-7920

Contact Email: mmedlin@hireoc.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

Region:

The Transforming Integration into Meaningful Experiences (T.I.M.E.) lived experience mentorship program operates in Orange County, California, serving justice involved youth across the county.

Area of Focus:

T.I.M.E. is a strength-based lived experience mentorship program designed for youth aged 14+ who are currently involved within the juvenile justice system, who are at risk of going into the system, or who have been recently released. The core of the program specifically targets youth who have committed serious crimes and are awaiting 707 hearings to determine whether they are tried as a minor or adult. T.I.M.E. provide these youth with positive mentorship, support, guidance, and the necessary resources to successfully reintegrate into society, pursue educational and career goals, and reduce recidivism.

Program Structure:

1. Mentorship:

The program pairs each youth participant with an adult mentor who has lived experience with the justice system. The majority of our mentors are former juvenile offenders who have served life sentences. These mentors are carefully selected and trained to provide guidance, share their personal transformation stories, and support mentees through their journey. Due to their personal experience, our mentors have a unique perspective to offer the youth as someone who has been in their shoes/situations (or something similar). Mentorship is provided both one-on-one and in group settings, in custody and in the community, fostering a trust-based relationship that is essential for meaningful impact.

Mentors meet with their mentees on a bi-weekly basis, creating goal plans, discussing any challenges that the youth is facing – either personally or with regards to being in custody, helping with reentry planning, testifying in court and providing support post-release. Mentor relationships can last from weeks to years depending on the youth's individual case.

Youth participate in ongoing surveys after their first session, at six-month intervals, and at program completion to measure emotional and behavioral growth. Mentors also track qualitative and goal-based progress using individualized case plans.

2. Resource Connection:

T.I.M.E. offers comprehensive access to a variety of resources, including mental health services, therapy, educational support, vocational training, and legal assistance. The program ensures that youth have the necessary support to address underlying issues, such as trauma, addiction, and family instability, which may have contributed to their involvement in criminal activities.

3. Educational and Career Development:

The program emphasizes educational attainment and career readiness. It includes workshops on resume building, job search strategies, interview preparation, and soft skills development. For those without a high school diploma or equivalent, T.I.M.E. facilitates pathways to obtain a GED or other educational qualifications (as appropriate).

4. Creative and Therapeutic Activities:

To help youth process their experiences and emotions, the program incorporates creative outlets like writing and meditation. These activities encourage self-expression and provide a constructive way to address and heal from past traumas.

Involved Partners/Stakeholders:

- **Juvenile Justice System / Public Sector:** T.I.M.E. collaborates closely with the Orange County Alternate Defender and Public Defender offices to identify eligible participants awaiting 707 hearings and match youth with adult mentors through H.I.R.E. based on needs/experiences. T.I.M.E. also partners with the Orange County Probation and Orange County Sheriff's Departments for access to youth in the system.

"H.I.R.E.'s TIME program has been an invaluable resource for our young clients. Its consistent, dedicated mentors have built meaningful relationships – providing the connection and support our young clients deeply need and seek." – Veronica M; Investigator, County of Orange Alternate Defender

"The H.I.R.E. TIME Mentor program offers invaluable 1:1 mentorship by adults with lived experience, providing guidance, support, and a path to personal growth for youth in Juvenile Hall and adult clients in Orange County Jail (in the juvenile system). This program empowers individuals to break cycles, build resilience, and create lasting positive change in their lives." – Ashley G., Social Worker, County of Orange Alternate Defender

- **Community-Based Organizations:** Partners include local nonprofits and service providers specializing in mental health, education, legal aid, and vocational training. Collaborations with organizations like Project Youth OC, Waymakers, and Cell Dogs help to facilitate group sessions with diversion-based youth or youth currently in custody where mentors can share their stories, answer questions and connect with youth in a less formal environment. We also collaborate with organizations like the Mend Collaborative who help to facilitate speaking engagements for our mentors in prisons and other community locations.

- **Mentors:** The program relies on a dedicated team of trained mentors who all bring their personal experience and professional expertise to guide youth through their reentry process.

T.I.M.E. is a holistic, community-driven initiative that aims to transform the lives of justice involved youth through positive mentorship, resource access, and skill development. By addressing the complex needs of these young individuals, the program helps to reduce recidivism, foster personal growth, and build a safer, more supportive community.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

The Transforming Integration into Meaningful Experiences (T.I.M.E.) program is built upon a robust foundation of evidence-based practices and theories, drawn from research in juvenile justice, mentorship, and psychosocial support. The following are key components of the evidence underpinning the program:

1. **Mentorship and Recidivism Reduction:** Research has consistently demonstrated that mentorship programs are effective in reducing recidivism among justice-involved youth. A study by the National Institute of Justice found that mentoring can reduce recidivism rates by as much as 50% for mentees who maintain a stable relationship with their mentors. The T.I.M.E. program's emphasis on one-on-one mentorship with individuals who have lived experiences provides relatable role models and fosters trust, which is critical in encouraging positive behavioral change and supporting successful reentry.
2. **Strength-Based Approaches:** The strength-based approach, which focuses on the inherent strengths of individuals rather than their deficits, has been shown to be particularly effective in juvenile justice settings. Research published in the "Journal of Offender Rehabilitation" suggests that programs emphasizing strengths, resilience, and competencies are more successful in promoting positive outcomes compared to deficit-focused approaches. T.I.M.E. leverages this framework to empower youth by recognizing and building upon their existing strengths, fostering a sense of self-efficacy and purpose.
3. **Holistic Wraparound Services:** The comprehensive provision of wraparound services, including mental health support, reentry planning, and educational opportunities, is grounded in the Wraparound Model, an evidence-based approach used in juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Studies, such as those conducted by the National Wraparound Initiative, have shown that wraparound services significantly improve outcomes for youth with complex needs by providing coordinated, individualized support. The T.I.M.E. program integrates these services to address the multifaceted needs of youth, facilitating their reintegration and long-term success.
4. **Therapeutic and Creative Interventions:** Therapeutic interventions, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) and meditation are well-documented in literature for their efficacy in addressing trauma and promoting mental health. CBT, in particular, has been widely recognized for its effectiveness in reducing criminal thinking patterns and promoting prosocial behavior. Meditation and other creative outlets have been shown to help youth process emotions, develop coping strategies, and express themselves in a non-verbal manner, contributing to emotional healing and stability.

Conclusion: The T.I.M.E. program's design and implementation are deeply rooted in evidence-based practices that have been proven effective in addressing the needs of justice-involved youth. By combining mentorship, holistic services, therapeutic interventions, and a strength-based approach, the program provides a comprehensive support system that promotes positive development, reduces recidivism, and facilitates successful reentry into society. The integration of these evidence-based components ensures that T.I.M.E. not only meets the immediate needs of youth but also lays a strong foundation for their long-term success and well-being.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☐ Supervision | ☒ Other (If other, please describe): |

Reentry/Reentry Planning

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

Specific: The T.I.M.E. Mentor Program will pair at least 45 justice-involved youth (aged 14+) with trained adult mentors who have lived incarceration experience, while also connecting participants to supportive resources, assisting with reentry planning and providing therapeutic activities to promote personal growth and successful reentry.

Measurable: Success will be tracked through mentor case notes, youth surveys, and partner reports, with targets of at least 85% of youth maintaining consistent bi-weekly mentorship and 80% of participants will report improved pro-social behaviors and attitudes, as measured by pre- and post-program surveys.

Achievable: The program leverages trained mentors, established community partnerships, and structured case planning to ensure youth have consistent access to support and opportunities.

Realistic: By addressing trauma, building resilience, and fostering positive mentorship, the program directly reduces recidivism and supports long-term community safety and youth empowerment.

Timebound: The objectives are to be achieved within a 12-month period from the start of the program, with progress assessments conducted throughout the program as new youth are enrolled/exit to ensure alignment with goals and make necessary adjustments.

What is the target population?

Youth in Orange County who are justice involved (in custody) or at risk of going into the system (ex. enrolled in a diversion program or community program due to behavior). The majority of youth currently in the program (aged 14+) are in the juvenile system awaiting 707 transfer hearing cases. These youth are referred primarily through the Alternate Defender's Office. Many of these youth have prior gang involvement, substance use histories, are parents, or who have limited familial support.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

The T.I.M.E. program aims to increase positive, pro-social behaviors and attitudes among justice-involved youth, enhancing their readiness for eventual reentry into the community. Desired outcomes include improved emotional regulation, increased participation in educational and therapeutic activities, and the development of positive social skills. Almost all program participants express their desire to become a T.I.M.E. mentor post-release which emphasizes their desire to give back and also how much their mentor has impacted their life.

Through post-program surveys, 100% of mentees express that they trust their mentor and feel their mentor can relate to their situation. 100% strongly agree that their mentor has encouraged participation in programs/activities while in custody. 95% strongly agree that mentorship has contributed to their personal development (5% somewhat agree). 100% report having a mentor has benefited their mental health.

"Because I can express to him [Mentor] my situation on what I've been going through and he gives me advice and helps put my mind at ease. I can't really talk to anyone in here about what's going on in my life, so when my mentor sees me, I share with him what's going on. It helps you not stress out and relaxes my mind." - T.I.M.E. Mentee (July 2025).

"It would be good to have more mentors who have done time themselves because it helps them connect & relate more with mentees such as myself... I was fortunate my mentor did time like me so he understands what it is to go through change and by me knowing he's been through similar situations as myself, I feel comfortable heeding his advice and I can open up about personal issues and I know I can trust his approach to dealing with situations." - T.I.M.E. Mentee (July 2025)

Support for OCJJCC's Objective: By fostering positive behavioral changes and providing structured mentorship, the T.I.M.E. program supports the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime by addressing root causes such as lack of positive role models and support systems. The program aids in resocialization by preparing youth for successful reintegration, thus reducing the likelihood of recidivism.

Since inception of the program in November 2021, T.I.M.E. has provided services for 190 youth in the community. Thus far, 100% of TIME mentees who have sat for 707 hearings have been granted release, in which it was noted by presiding judge's that their mentor's testimony, participation in the program and reentry plans put in place played a key role.

**2011 Realignment
OCJJCC Funding Request**

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
TIME & Volunteer Manager (1.0 FTE)	Oversee program, coordinate mentors/sessions, coordinate surveys and group sessions. \$75,000/yr + 20% fringe = \$90,000	\$90,000.00
TIME Mentors (5 Part-Time Mentors - 0.09 FTE ea)	Provide mentorship/workshops/direct support to youth (1:1 and group), participate in trainings and development, \$25/hr x 5 hrs/week (avg)x 5 mentors x 52 weeks + 20% fringe = \$39,000	\$39,000.00
Director of Programs (0.1 FTE)	Oversee program/staff, collects data, completes reports; \$100,000/yr + 20% fringe = \$120,000 x 0.1= \$12,000	\$12,000.00

		Item 6b
Outreach Coordinator (0.1 FTE)	Conduct outreach to community partners for group sessions and resource referrals, help recruit mentors \$41,600/yr + 20% fringe x 0.1 FTE= \$4,160	\$4,160.00
TIME Consultant	Advises infrastructure/programming, provides mentor training; and mentorship as needed. \$55/hr x 20hrs/week x 52 weeks = \$57,200	\$57,200.00

Services & Supplies

(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Program Supplies	Include mileage, parking, snacks/water for group meetings, printing/copying, office supplies, background checks for mentors, postage to mail surveys, materials for mentees (ex. books, learning tools, journals) etc. \$437.50/month	\$5,250.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$207,610.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
Program Specialist (0.2 FTE)	Provides therapy/counseling and therapeutic advisement; assists with training mentors and providing group sessions. \$28.37/hr + 20% fringe x 0.2 FTE = \$14,162	\$14,162.00
Case Manager (0.15 FTE)	Provides case management, referrals to resources, assists mentors with referrals and reentry planning. \$29.72/hr + 20% fringe x 0.15 FTE = \$11,127.17	\$11,127.00
Business Development Manager (0.2 FTE)	Provides employment readiness support (including worksheets for while in custody) and job placement post-release. \$88733/yr + 20% fringe x 0.1 FTE = \$10,678	\$10,678.00
Phone	Phones for mentors/staff \$22/mo x 6 staff x 12 months = \$1584	\$1,584.00
Overhead	Overhead costs - administrative, accounting, software costs (10% of budget)	\$24,516.00

Total In-Kind Cost: \$62,067.00

Total Cost of Program: \$269,677.00



JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement
FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: STEP: Stability, Transformation, Empowerment, Possibility – Focused on taking one step at a time toward a new path.

Total Funding Requested: \$225,000.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Casa Youth Shelter

Contact Name: Genevieve Cerda **Phone:** 626-975-4665

Contact Email: Gcerda@casayouthshelter.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

STEP: Stability, Transformation, Empowerment, Possibility (STEP) is an expansion of Casa Youth Shelter's (CYS) 47-year-old Residential Shelter Care model, explicitly designed to support justice-involved youth and youth at risk of juvenile justice involvement. While CYS has long provided 24/7 crisis shelter, counseling, and case management to youth on formal and informal probation, STEP formalizes and enhances this work into a structured diversion program aligned with the JJCPA's goals of prevention, supervision, intervention, and treatment.

Research and experience indicate that three major factors contribute to youth entering the juvenile justice system:

1. Home environment (family conflict, trauma, lack of supervision)
2. Schooling (truancy, suspension, low engagement)
3. Policing/system contact (arrests, probation involvement)

STEP intentionally targets all three through coordinated response and in-house full-circle support.

Program Activities & Structure

STEP begins with school collaboration and early identification. Casa Youth Shelter partners with school counselors, school resource officers, and alternative or remedial schools in Orange County to identify youth who are at risk of becoming justice-involved. We train and consult with school personnel to recognize early warning signs. When a referral is made, CYS immediately deploys a Clinical Responder to conduct a lethality assessment and family risk screening. This rapid response prevents delays that often cause at-risk youth to slip through the cracks, ensuring they are connected to support right away. By responding in the moment, STEP reduces the toll on overwhelmed school staff and provides schools with a direct, reliable pathway to care. Youth are linked immediately to the most appropriate services, either through placement in our licensed residential shelter or through non-residential services.

Diversion and crisis response services extend beyond the schools. The program accepts referrals directly from probation officers, law enforcement, the Orange County Health Care Agency's Crisis Assessment Team, and the Sheriff's School Mobile Assessment and Resource Team (SMART). Youth who qualify for diversion receive individualized care: CYS may admit them into our licensed 12-bed residential shelter, or, if full-time care is not necessary, provide non-residential counseling and case management. For youth who need stability after leaving juvenile detention, CYS also provides "dead time" placements while families and/or probation officers develop safe reunification plans. In addition to youth referred from probation, schools, law enforcement, and

county partners, STEP will also serve youth placed on house arrest. These youth often face the same risk factors—family instability, school disengagement, and system contact—but lack structured support during their restriction period. STEP provides an alternative pathway by offering counseling, case management, and structured activities that can be tailored to fit probation conditions.

At the heart of STEP is our residential shelter care, CYS's core service. Youth receive 24/7 supervised care in a safe, home-like environment where they can begin to heal and imagine a future of their own design. Daily life is structured to promote accountability and pro-social behavior, including chores, hygiene routines, and family-style meals. Just as importantly, the program provides opportunities for mastery and success, counteracting the constant messages many justice-involved youth have heard that they are "bad" or incapable. Through positive reinforcement strategies—such as our "Caught Ya" Store, where youth earn rewards for being recognized for doing good things—STEP rewrites the narrative. Here, youth learn that their choices matter, and they can take control of their next chapter.

Youth also receive academic support as part of their stay. CYS staff re-enrolls them in the proper school setting, connects them to services under the McKinney-Vento Act and other school resources, and sets aside daily time for academic tutoring and educational goal-setting. Twice-weekly life-skills sessions equip youth with practical tools for adulthood, covering topics such as budgeting, job readiness, social media safety, and navigating essential tasks, including obtaining a birth certificate, identification, or work permit.

Mental health challenges often go unaddressed for justice-involved youth, increasing their risk of incarceration and recidivism. STEP reduces that risk by providing immediate and intensive mental health care. In a typical year, a young person attending weekly therapy might receive 30–40 hours of counseling. At CYS, youth receive an average of 30 hours within their first two weeks, ensuring immediate stabilization and support. STEP provides high-quality, trauma-informed counseling tailored to each youth's needs. Individual counseling helps youth identify stressors, develop coping skills, and enhance their resilience. Group counseling fosters peer connection while addressing common challenges faced by justice-involved youth.

Equally important, STEP offers counseling for parents and caregivers, recognizing that families also need opportunities to succeed and build mastery. Family counseling creates a structured space for healing and communication, while parent sessions allow adults to process their own trauma, learn new skills, and strengthen supervision at home. Many of these parents have also been told implicitly or explicitly that they are failing; STEP rewrites that narrative, showing families that they, too, can grow, change, and become stronger together. By investing in both the child and the family, the program helps reduce cycles of conflict, instability, and involvement in the justice system.

Additionally, expressive therapies, such as art, music, yoga, and other creative outlets, promote healing through play and movement. Counseling also incorporates substance-use prevention, anger management, and trauma-informed care to address the underlying causes of justice involvement, ensuring that youth and families receive both immediate crisis stabilization and long-term tools for growth and resocialization.

For youth who do not require full-time residential care, non-residential diversion services provide a flexible alternative. These participants benefit from trauma-informed counseling and family support, while still maintaining consistent case management.

Additionally, we also offer parents the opportunity to participate in their own individual counseling, recognizing that healing must happen on both sides. By addressing challenges in the home—the very environment that often drives youth deeper into system involvement—we help parents process trauma, learn new skills, and build healthier dynamics. This breaks cycles of conflict and instability, strengthens family resilience, and reduces the likelihood that a young person will return to crisis or reenter the juvenile justice system.

Every youth in the program, whether residential or non-residential, is assigned a dedicated diversion case manager. This staff member monitors school attendance, supports job exploration, tracks probation compliance, and provides consistent encouragement. The case manager also maintains regular family contact and ensures that aftercare plans are implemented, allowing youth to transition smoothly out of the program while still receiving guidance and accountability.

STEP also delivers a specialized eight-week curriculum offered once each quarter for justice-involved youth. While CYS may host the program in partnership with probation or juvenile facilities, participation is not limited to youth currently in detention; it is open to young people who have recently exited the system or who are otherwise justice-involved. The curriculum consists of weekly 90-minute sessions focused on nonviolent communication, anger management, and the development of pro-social behaviors. To encourage consistent

engagement, youth receive incentives, such as gift cards, for attending and successfully completing sessions. More than a workshop series, this curriculum provides an intentional space for young people to rewrite the narrative about who they are and who they can become. Through practice, reinforcement, and recognition, participants begin to see themselves not as “troublemakers,” but as capable individuals with the power to make different choices and shape their future. This structured, skills-based model equips youth with practical coping strategies and prepares them for successful reintegration into school, family, and community life.

In addition to counseling, case management, and structured diversion activities, STEP connects youth to CYS’s existing scholarship program. Scholarships support academic and vocational goals by covering expenses such as school fees, trade certifications, or career development opportunities. By reducing financial barriers, this incentive encourages justice-involved youth to pursue education and employment, further supporting long-term resocialization.

Finally, the program operates a 24/7 Youth Access Direct Line that provides direct, immediate support. Youth in crisis, or those at risk of reoffending, can call to receive guidance and intervention. The line is also available to probation officers, school staff, and law enforcement, who may use it to connect a child to shelter, counseling, or case management services without delay.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

STEP is grounded in nationally recognized, evidence-based approaches shown to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for justice-involved youth.

Diversion Models

Research from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Annie E. Casey Foundation shows that diversion programs reduce reoffending more effectively than detention for non-violent youth. Community-based alternatives decrease recidivism, improve school re-engagement, and strengthen family stability. STEP applies this model by diverting youth from detention into structured residential care or non-residential counseling and case management.

Trauma-Informed Care

Studies consistently demonstrate that most justice-involved youth have experienced significant trauma. Trauma-informed practices improve emotional regulation, reduce aggressive behavior, and enhance long-term outcomes. STEP embeds trauma-informed principles across counseling, case management, and residential routines, ensuring youth feel safe, supported, and empowered.

Family Systems Approach

Research confirms that outcomes are strongest when families are actively included in treatment. Without changes in the home environment, youth are more likely to reoffend. STEP integrates family counseling and offers parents individual sessions to process their own trauma, develop new skills, and strengthen supervision, breaking cycles of conflict and instability that contribute to justice involvement.

Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT)

CBT is recognized by OJJDP and the National Institute of Justice as one of the most effective interventions for justice-involved youth. It reduces recidivism by teaching coping skills, anger management, and problem-solving strategies. STEP integrates CBT techniques into individual, group, and family counseling.

Structured Environment & Life Skills

Evidence indicates that structured, pro-social environments—emphasizing consistent routines, life-skills, and peer connection—reduce delinquent behavior and support successful reentry. At STEP, youth live in a highly structured residential setting that mirrors real-world expectations and accountability. Each day includes designated wake-up and meal times, family-style dining, and consistent schedules. Youth are responsible for making their beds, keeping their rooms clean, and completing chores around the house. They can also sign up for additional household jobs that provide a sense of responsibility and reinforce work habits.

Twice-weekly life-skills sessions equip youth with practical tools for adulthood, including budgeting, job readiness, social media safety, and navigating essential tasks such as obtaining a birth certificate,

identification, or work permit. These lessons are reinforced daily through the structure of the program, creating a safe environment where youth practice responsibility, build resilience, and experience the rewards of pro-social behavior. In addition, youth have the opportunity to participate in an eight-week curriculum offered once each quarter, focused on healthy communication, anger management, and the development of pro-social skills, preparing them for stronger reintegration into school, family, and community life.

Casa Youth Shelter's Outcomes Support This Evidence:

Provides over 3,700 hours of counseling annually across individual, group, family, and expressive therapies.

91% of youth exit to safe and stable housing.

95% report at least one supportive adult connection post-program.

78% of residents and families engage in aftercare counseling services after exiting.

93% report improved social-emotional well-being at exit.

100% are connected to school staff to support their educational needs.

By combining diversion, trauma-informed counseling, family engagement, CBT, and structured resocialization, STEP is firmly rooted in approaches proven to prevent reoffending and sustain long-term stability for justice-involved youth.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☒ Prevention | ☒ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☒ Supervision | ☐ Other (If other, please describe): |

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

1. Diversion Objective

Between January and December 2026, STEP will serve at least 100 justice-involved or at-risk youth who are referred as an alternative to detention or are doing dead time in custody. At least 75% of these youth will remain engaged in residential or non-residential services through completion of their individualized diversion plan.

2. Counseling Objective

The program will provide over 3,000 hours of counseling (individual, group, and family) annually, with each youth receiving an average of 30 hours within their first two weeks of placement. Counseling outcomes will be measured through intake and exit assessments of coping skills and emotional regulation.

3. Curriculum Objective

STEP will deliver four quarterly cycles of its eight-week skills curriculum, enrolling at least 120 unduplicated youth annually. Success will be measured by how participants exit the program, with the majority demonstrating improved pro-social skills, anger management, and communication abilities as documented through pre- and post-assessments and staff observations at discharge.

4. Family Engagement Objective

At least 80% of families will participate in individual or family counseling within one year. Outcomes will be measured by pre- and post-surveys, with at least 75% of participants reporting improved communication and stronger supervision in the home.

5. Resocialization Objective

Youth will demonstrate improved resocialization, measured by:

at least 90% exiting to safe and stable housing;

a 80% reduction in re-arrest or probation violations among participants compared to baseline; and

school re-enrollment for 100% of youth.

What is the target population?

STEP serves justice-involved youth and youth at risk of juvenile justice involvement, ages 12–17, in Orange County. Probation officers, law enforcement, schools, and county partners such as the Crisis Assessment Team and the Sheriff's School Mobile Assessment and Resource Team (SMART) refer participants into the program. Many of these youth face challenges in the home environment, school engagement, and prior system contact, which increase their risk of deeper juvenile justice involvement.

In Orange County, disparities are evident. Among youth adjudicated for serious offenses under SB 823 in 2023, 79% were Hispanic and 7% were Black (Orange County Probation Department, FY 2024–25 Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan). While the county data does not provide a gender breakdown, research shows that the majority of youth in custody statewide are male, particularly Hispanic and Black boys. Studies link these disparities in part to untreated trauma and unmet mental health needs, which drive delinquency and recidivism.

STEP directly addresses these inequities by providing trauma-informed counseling, family engagement, and structured diversion services that strengthen protective factors, reduce reoffending, and support successful resocialization.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

STEP achieves outcomes that directly align with the OCJJCC's objective of reducing juvenile crime and supporting resocialization. The program reduces re-arrest rates and probation violations by diverting youth from detention into structured community-based care. Youth exit the program to safe and stable housing, and all participants benefit from intensive, trauma-informed counseling that fosters stronger coping skills, improved emotional regulation, and healthier decision-making. Families also participate in counseling, which strengthens communication, improves supervision in the home, and reduces the likelihood of youth returning to crisis or reoffending.

The residential program supports resocialization through daily structure and accountability, including chores, scheduled routines, family-style meals, and twice-weekly life-skills sessions. These sessions equip youth with practical tools for adulthood, including budgeting, job readiness, social media safety, and navigating essential tasks such as obtaining identification or a work permit. Additionally, youth have the opportunity to participate in an eight-week curriculum, offered quarterly, that focuses on communication, anger management, and the development of prosocial skills. Within this framework, youth are encouraged to rewrite the narrative of their lives—seeing themselves not as “troublemakers,” but as capable individuals who can succeed, contribute, and design their own fulfilling future. Families share in this opportunity for mastery and healing, breaking the cycles of instability that often lead to deeper involvement in justice issues.

By intervening quickly, STEP prevents youth from slipping through the cracks and eases the toll on already overwhelmed school staff and community resources. The program bridges the gap between justice involvement and independence, providing the stability and structure youth need to dream bigger, begin setting goals, and build a future defined by choice and possibility. By strengthening family dynamics, addressing mental health needs, and reinforcing accountability, STEP reduces juvenile crime, promotes reintegration, and gives both youth and families a genuine opportunity to succeed.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Diversion Case Manager	1 FTE - Provides case management to justice-involved youth (Residential Care & Non-Residential)	\$90,170.00
Clinical Supervisor	.50 FTE- Oversees counseling services and supervises Clinical Responders	\$63,500.00
Youth Supervisors	part time staff covering shelter shifts (2)	\$25,000.00
Executive Director	.02 FTE Oversees the program's strategic direction	\$4,000.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Clinical Responder Intern Stipends	MSW/MFT Interns, 3 @ \$1,250	\$3,750.00
Shelter Support	meals, utilities, hygiene products, daily living supplies	\$22,000.00
Transportation	maintenance, insurance, and operational costs for youth transport van.	\$2,080.00
Training and Professional Development		\$3,000.00
8 week curriculum supplies (4)	printing, refreshments, stipends, incentives, etc.	\$4,000.00
Evaluation and Data Tracking	software, tools, and outcome measurements	\$2,500.00
Counseling Materials	therapy tools/resources, workbooks, etc.	\$5,000.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$225,000.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
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Total In-Kind Cost: \$0.00

Total Cost of Program: \$225,000.00

JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/ or System
Enhancement

FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Please complete and submit your completed requests to ceobudget@ceo.oc.gov.

Program Name:	Orange County Department of Education, Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program		
Total Funding Requested:	\$225,000	Year(s) Covered:	2026

Requesting Entity: Orange County Department of Education

Contact Name: Raina Lee

Phone: (714) 668-7830

Contact Email: rlee@ocde.us

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

The Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP), as outlined in Education Code §§42920–42926, is dedicated to serving children and youth who are dependents or wards of the court under Welfare and Institutions Code §§300, 601, or 602 and placed in foster care settings, including those supervised by Probation. These youth may be temporarily detained in juvenile courts, camps, or other county-operated juvenile justice facilities, and FYSCP plays a critical role in supporting their educational stability and reentry planning. Beginning January 1, 2025, through Assembly Bill 3223, eligibility expanded to also include youth on probation identified in a juvenile court petition as being at imminent risk of foster care placement.

Across all regions of Orange County, the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) FYSCP maintains a particular focus on educational continuity, academic achievement, and postsecondary planning. The program provides coordination, individualized case management, and direct supports such as credit transfer assistance, re-engagement supports, transition planning and supports, and cross-agency collaboration to address the needs of each youth holistically. These services are designed to promote high school graduation, postsecondary readiness, and career pathways while reducing barriers to school connectedness, attendance, and long-term stability.

OCDE FYSCP serves as the educational liaison among local educational agencies (LEAs), the County of Orange Juvenile Court, Social Services Agency, Probation, and community-based organizations, promoting cohesive collaboration and coordinated services that advance the academic success of system-involved youth. The program emphasizes multi-agency teamwork, data-informed decision

making, and youth-centered interventions, empowering foster youth to achieve their full educational and vocational potential.

Aligned with the goals of the 2024–25 County of Orange Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan and the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), OCDE FYSCP provides prevention, intervention, supervision, and reentry supports for system-involved youth, particularly those crossing over—or at risk of crossing over—between child welfare and probation. The program ensures that youth receive individualized educational case management and access to services that promote school stability, academic achievement, and postsecondary readiness.

OCDE FYSCP is currently staffed by one Program Specialist and nine Specialists, FYSCP who provide educational case management services. Five Specialists, FYSCP serve youth in foster care and probation placements under the County of Orange Juvenile Court, who are in resource family settings and out-of-county Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs). The one Program Specialist serves as the educational liaison for the Juvenile Court Collaborative Courts Programs – GRACE Court, Teen Court, and Crossover Youth Court, and participates in court staffings and hearings. The four remaining Specialists, FYSCP provide educational case management to youth in Orange County STRTPs, Orangewood Children and Family Center, and youth in foster care and/or probation placement in OCDE ACCESS schools, including the ACCESS Juvenile Hall (AJH) schools. Recognizing the elevated needs of these youth, OCDE FYSCP provides intensive, direct educational supports, including school re-engagement, school transitions, targeted academic interventions, high school graduation support, and college and career guidance. These Specialists, FYSCP also participate in multidisciplinary meetings to support and advocate for youth and coordinate services across agencies. Through this comprehensive, collaborative approach, OCDE FYSCP ensures that system-involved youth have the support necessary to achieve educational and vocational success. This grant would allow these intensive, direct educational supports to continue beyond the 2025-2026 school year, and build OCDE FYSCP's capacity to expand support to probation youth who are at imminent risk of removal in accordance with AB 3223.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

The OCDE Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) is grounded in both statutory mandates and a robust body of research highlighting the unique educational and behavioral challenges faced by foster and system-involved youth. Studies consistently demonstrate that these youth experience higher rates of school mobility, chronic absenteeism, disciplinary actions, and lower graduation rates compared to their peers. Between 33% and 50% require special education services—a rate nearly four times higher than the general student population—and less than half graduate from high school, with only 11% attaining a bachelor's degree.

Foster youth are also at significantly higher risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system due to trauma, placement instability, mental health and behavioral challenges, and limited access to consistent adult advocacy. Frequent changes in foster care placements and schools disrupt educational continuity and social supports, increasing the likelihood of behavioral issues and interactions with law enforcement. Youth involved in both child welfare and probation systems—often referred to as “crossover youth”—face compounded risks, including heightened exposure to trauma, system instability, and gaps in resources. Studies indicate that by age 17, over 50% of foster children will have an encounter with the juvenile legal system through arrest, conviction or detention. In addition, 25% of youth in foster care will be involved with the criminal legal system within two years of leaving foster care. Furthermore, if a child has moved to five or more placements, they are at a 90% risk of being involved with the criminal legal system (Perez, 2023). These findings underscore

the critical need for targeted, evidence-based interventions to support educational stability and reduce justice involvement.

FYSCP employs evidence-based strategies aligned with best practices from the California Department of Education, the Child Welfare League of America, and frameworks for high-risk youth. Strategies include multi-agency collaboration, individualized case management, re-engagement supports, and transition planning. Indirect services include intensive case management, educational summaries, progress monitoring through Educational Progress Reports (EPRs), and participation in cross-agency meetings, such as School Of Origin Best Interest Determination meetings, Child and Family Team meetings (CFT's), Interagency Placement Committee meetings (IPC's), Transitional Planning Conferences (TPC's), Individual Education Program (IEP) meetings, and Student Intervention Team/Student Success Team (SIT/SST) meetings. Direct services align with the California Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) framework across seven areas: school attendance, high school graduation, postsecondary readiness, career readiness, advocacy, individualized support, and strengths-based case management.

Local 2024–25 program data on foster youth and probation placement students who received ongoing direct educational services demonstrate measurable impact: among 21 students in grades 9–11, the average GPA increased from 1.53 to 1.68, failing students decreased from 6 to 4, passing students increased from 7 to 9, 8 student GPA's stayed at 1.0 - 1.9, and 90.48% earned high school credits. The Specialists, FYSCP providing direct educational services supported 43 seniors in accessing over \$739,293 in financial aid, resulting in 35 college commitments. Eight youth transitioned to Orange Coast College and The Harbour, receiving housing supports and over \$11,000 in Orangewood Foundation grants. Four of these eight students had experience being in Juvenile Hall at some point during the 2024-25 school year. The 2024-2025 school year was the first time OCDE FYSP helped students complete financial aid and college applications while in Juvenile Hall. In addition, OCDE FYSCP provides consistent intensive educational case management to youth in foster care and in probation placement throughout their senior year of high school. 155 of the 185 eligible students (84%) graduated high school. These outcomes confirm that FYSCP's MTSS-aligned direct services and robust indirect supports produce measurable improvements in educational engagement, credit attainment, and postsecondary success for foster youth, including those involved with probation.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- ☒ Prevention
- ☒ Intervention
- ☐ Supervision
- ☐ Treatment
- ☐ Incarceration
- ☒ Other (If other, please describe): Educational Support to Improve Outcomes of System-Involved Youth

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

The OCDE Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program will achieve the following **Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timebound Objectives** during the grant program year:

- **Probation Youth at Imminent Risk of Removal from Home**

Objective: By the first quarter reporting deadline, collaborate with Orange County Probation to define and identify the probation youth who are at imminent risk of removal from home, and

establish a notification process of new youth meeting this definition. The report will include the number of youth identified.

- **Increase School Connectedness**

Objective: By July 30, 2026, establish a baseline measurement of school connectedness for participating system-involved youth, and increase the percentage of these students reporting higher feelings of connection to their school community, as measured by pre- and post-surveys.

- **Improve School Attendance**

Objective: By July 30, 2026, establish a baseline measurement of school attendance for participating system-involved youth, and improve the attendance rate of these students, as measured by school attendance reports in the Foster Focus database.

- **Boost High School Graduation Rates**

Objective: By July 30, 2026, establish a baseline measurement of high school graduation rates for participating system-involved youth who are in their senior year of high school, as measured by graduation transcripts and CALPADS. Also, improve 9-11th grade students' ability to graduate high school with their cohort through coordinating academic interventions and credit recovery options with school teams.

- **Support Postsecondary Planning and Career Exploration**

Objective: By July 30, 2026, 100% of participating high school graduates will complete a postsecondary plan, which may include college applications, financial aid application, vocational program enrollment, and/or documented career exploration activities.

- **Ensure Continuity of Services for Foster Youth, Probation Placement Youth, and Crossover Youth**

Objective: 100% of youth served will be supported through individualized educational continuity plans, striving to reduce learning gaps during transitions. This will be tracked and measured by logging services provided to each student in the Foster Focus database.

- **Reduce Recidivism Risk**

Objective: The program will establish a baseline using school discipline, expulsion, and suspension data, while collaborating with community based organizations, such as Project Kinship, Orangewood Foundation, Project Youth OC, Waymakers, and Olive Crest, to provide enrichment, extracurricular, and school engagement opportunities that promote academic growth, positive relationships, and a sense of belonging. Success will be measured by reductions in discipline incidents and increases in student participation, using school records and surveys of students and educational partners.

Impact Measurement Tools:

- **Educational Partner Satisfaction Surveys:** The program will implement a satisfaction survey to gather feedback on the services provided from partner agencies, including but not limited to County of Orange Juvenile Court, Probation, Social Services Agency, Orangewood Children and Family Center, STRTP, ACCESS Schools, Orange County school district partners,

and other community partners. The survey will help guide improvements in collaboration, service delivery, and support for system-involved youth.

- **Student Pre-Surveys & Post-Surveys:** The team will create a pre-survey and post-survey to establish a measurable framework. Pre-surveys and post-surveys will collect pre-survey student feedback when educational services begin and will conclude post-survey data collection at the end of the reporting cycle. The post-survey will also include student satisfaction questions and provide an opportunity for youth to share their thoughts on how direct services have impacted their educational journey.
- **Foster Focus:** This report will also include data from the Foster Focus customer relationship management (CRM) platform that communicates with CWS-CMS and CALPADS and houses educational records used by OCDE FYSCP (including IEPs, discipline reports, attendance records, progress reports, and transcripts). Additionally, FYSCP case management services will be tracked and maintained in this system.
- **Data Sampling:** For the pilot year providing comprehensive services under the guidelines of this grant, the assigned Specialists, FYSCP will select a targeted data sample from their caseload based on youth who receive ongoing services to track academic performance, attendance, and service engagement within a spreadsheet to measure impact.
- **Student Success Highlights:** The report will include foster youth senior highlights and short narratives, providing the opportunity to share college transition impact.

The intention of these established SMART objectives and data collection is to measure and highlight program impact through comprehensive services offered and facilitated by Specialists, FYSCP assigned to this target population.

What is the target population?

The OCDE Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) serves youth who are dependents or wards of the court under Welfare and Institutions Code §§300, 601, or 602 and placed in foster care settings, including those supervised by probation, and will begin serving youth on probation identified as being at imminent risk of foster care placement under AB 3223. Youth involved in the juvenile justice system face disproportionate barriers to educational success, including frequent placement changes, school disengagement, trauma, and limited access to stable supports. Many experience multiple school transitions per year, resulting in significant learning loss, and a large portion enter facilities already behind academically and emotionally. Without targeted intervention, these youth are at increased risk for recidivism, chronic absenteeism, and school dropout. Research consistently demonstrates that these youth experience higher rates of absenteeism, disciplinary actions, and academic challenges compared to their peers. Many require special education services, and youth involved in both child welfare and probation—often referred to as “crossover youth”—face compounded risks due to trauma, system instability, and gaps in supports.

Why Target Foster Youth for JJCPA-Funded Programs

Foster youth are disproportionately represented among system-involved youth and face significantly higher risks for school disengagement, behavioral incidents, and juvenile justice involvement compared to their non-foster peers. Studies indicate that by age 17, over 50% of foster children will have an encounter with the juvenile legal system through arrest, conviction or detention. In addition,

25% of youth in foster care will be involved with the criminal legal system within two years of leaving foster care. Furthermore, if a child has moved to five or more placements, they are at a 90% risk of being involved with the criminal legal system (Perez, 2023). Research consistently shows that these risks are compounded by frequent placement changes, educational disruptions, trauma exposure, and limited access to consistent supports.

In Orange County, data trends align with statewide findings:

- Foster youth are more likely to experience chronic absenteeism, lower academic achievement, and higher rates of school discipline and suspension.
- The instability of home and school placements can lead to reduced protective factors—such as positive peer and adult relationships—that are critical for preventing delinquency.
- A history of trauma and systemic barriers can increase vulnerability to behaviors that may result in juvenile justice contact.

These realities underscore the critical need for evidence-based, individualized interventions that support educational stability, school re-engagement, and long-term academic and social success.

By prioritizing foster youth, JJCPA-funded initiatives can:

- Address an overrepresented, high-need population within the juvenile justice system.
- Interrupt cycles of justice involvement by providing targeted prevention, intervention, and reentry supports.
- Leverage multi-agency collaboration (Probation, schools, child welfare, mental health, community-based organizations) to create stable, connected, and supportive environments.
- Align with state mandates requiring evidence-based, locally driven strategies that address the highest-risk youth.

Targeting foster youth directly supports the JJCPA's intent—creating a continuum of effective responses that reduce juvenile justice involvement—while addressing systemic inequities that disproportionately affect this group.

Furthermore, OCDE FYSCP specifically targets youth placed in Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs), Orangewood Children and Family Center (OCFC), and enrolled in OCDE ACCESS Schools because these youth face heightened educational instability and risk factors. Youth in STRTPs and OCFC often experience frequent placement changes, trauma, and disrupted schooling, which contribute to gaps in academic progress and social-emotional development. Similarly, youth in alternative education programs frequently require intensive academic support, credit recovery, or individualized interventions to stay on track for graduation. By focusing on these settings, FYSCP can provide targeted, intensive educational case management, support school re-engagement, promote academic achievement, and coordinate cross-agency services. These supports not only improve educational stability and postsecondary readiness but also serve as critical prevention and intervention strategies, reducing the risk of juvenile justice involvement and/or repeated involvement by addressing academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs and empowering youth to build positive pathways for success.

OCDE FYSCP seeks funding through the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) to continue targeted educational support services for system-involved youth. This would also allow for an expansion of services already offered to foster youth at STRTPs, ACCESS Community Schools Sites, and the Orangewood Children and Family Center (OCFC), to system-involved youth in imminent risk of removal, as defined by AB 3223. Our program directly addresses prevention, intervention, and re-engagement by ensuring school stability, promoting academic achievement, facilitating transitions to postsecondary education, and providing socio-emotional supports. With JJCPA funding, OCDE FYSCP will strengthen educational pathways and reduce recidivism by addressing root causes of disengagement, educational disruption, and social isolation.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

The proposed initiative aims to strengthen educational stability, re-engagement, and postsecondary readiness for system-involved youth, directly supporting the OCJJCC's mission to reduce juvenile crime and promote successful resocialization. By providing individualized educational case management, advocacy, and targeted supports, the program addresses the root factors that contribute to juvenile justice involvement, including school disengagement, academic instability, and limited access to supportive resources.

Core Program Components Include:

- **Educational Case Management:** Specialists, FYSCP provide ongoing, individualized academic support, including credit recovery planning, grade monitoring, and school stability advocacy, supporting youth to remain on track toward graduation.
- **Re-Engagement and Transition Support:** Youth exiting the ACCESS Juvenile Hall schools, OCFC or STRTPs receive coordinated re-enrollment assistance, transitional counseling, connections to school teams, and referrals to community-based supports, reducing the risk of educational disruption and subsequent justice involvement.
- **Postsecondary and Career Pathways:** Guidance on college readiness, vocational programs, workforce entry, financial aid, and career exploration equips youth with the tools to transition successfully into adulthood.

Desired Outcomes:

1. **Increased School Connectedness:** Participating youth will demonstrate measurable growth in feelings of connection to their school communities, fostering engagement and reducing risk factors associated with juvenile justice involvement.
2. **Improved Attendance:** Attendance rates will increase relative to baseline data, contributing to academic continuity and reducing chronic absenteeism.
3. **Higher High School Graduation Rates:** Youth will achieve improved graduation outcomes through targeted academic supports, strengthening long-term educational and vocational prospects.
4. **Enhanced Postsecondary Planning and Career Exploration:** Graduates will complete documented postsecondary plans, including college or vocational applications, financial aid steps, and career exploration activities, creating pathways for stable, self-sufficient futures.
5. **Continuity of Services for Foster Youth, Probation Youth in Placement or At Imminent Risk of Placement, Crossover Youth:** Individualized continuity plans will minimize learning disruptions, supporting smoother transitions and sustained academic progress.

6. **Reduced Recidivism Risk Through Engagement and Enrichment:** Youth will experience fewer school discipline incidents and increased participation in enrichment and extracurricular activities, promoting positive relationships, a sense of belonging, and life skills development.

By prioritizing education as both a prevention and intervention strategy, OCDE FYSCP, in collaboration with County of Orange Juvenile Court, Probation, Social Services Agency, schools, and community-based organizations, disrupts the cycle of juvenile justice involvement, supporting OCJJCC's continuum of responses under WIC 749.22. OCDE FYSCP will collect and analyze data to demonstrate measurable improvements in educational outcomes, engagement, and behavioral indicators, striving for system-involved youth to not only return to school but thrive, develop critical life skills, and successfully reintegrate into their communities.

**2011 Realignment
OCJCC Funding Request**

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salaries & Benefits	Three (3) Specialists, FYSCP will provide educational case management to youth in Orange County STRTPs, Orangewood Children and Family Center, and youth in foster care and/or probation placement in OCDE ACCESS schools, including the ACCESS Juvenile Hall (AJH) schools. Salaries: Three (3) Program Specialist, FYSCP (33% FTE each) = \$130,023 Benefits: Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), ARS, Medicare, Medical, Dental, Vision, State Unemployment, Worker's Compensation, Life Insurance = \$64,582	\$194,605
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)	Evaluation Services - Research, Evaluation, and Data Inquiry (REDI) will provide the following: • Student Pre- and post-surveys to measure school connectedness indicators and include student satisfaction questions • Educational Partner Satisfaction Surveys to gather feedback on the services provided from partner agencies • Analyze data to demonstrate measurable improvements in educational outcomes, engagement, and behavioral indicators	\$11,250
Indirect Costs	Indirect Costs at OCDE's approved rate of 9.30%	\$19,145
Total JJCPA Funding Requested		\$ 225,000 -

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Category	Brief Description	Cost
	Total In-Kind Cost	\$ 0

Total Cost of Program	\$ 0
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JJCPA

Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: RISEUP Pre-Vocational Training Program

Total Funding Requested: \$225,000.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Human Works Foundation

Contact Name: Megan Langston **Phone:** 9499230221

Contact Email: megan@human-works.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

The RISEUP program is designed to assist justice-involved youth in exploring various vocational opportunities by helping them identify the fundamental skills required for success in the employment world. This program not only focuses on specializing vocational skills but also takes a holistic approach by addressing the overall needs of the youths to ensure they can become self-sufficient. Through personalized guidance, RISEUP helps participants navigate employment and career opportunities while simultaneously identifying and addressing additional supportive services they may need. These supportive services are then referred to the appropriate Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to qualify the youth for existing resources and assistance.

The youth participants undergo a comprehensive assessment to evaluate their current skills, interests, and needs. This includes academic, vocational, and personal assessments of the individual's "soft" social skills to create a tailored plan for each individual.

The orientation session introduces participants to the RISEUP program, its objectives, and the various vocational pathways available. It sets the stage for their journey through the program.

During the RISEUP program the youth are exposed to various vocational fields through interactive workshops, guest speakers, and site visits. These sessions provide insight into different career options, focusing on industries that offer living wages and opportunities for advancement.

Participants will receive training in essential employability skills, such as resume writing, interview techniques, and workplace etiquette, to prepare them for the job market.

Each participant is assigned a case manager who works with them to identify needed support services, such as mental health services, educational support, housing assistance, or substance abuse counseling. These services will be coordinated with the RISEUP program's collaborative partners through Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to connect youth with existing services. This could include enrolling them in continuing educational programs, Work Experience Training (WEX)/ On-The-Job Training (OJT) employment opportunities, providing access to healthcare and housing, or securing transportation assistance.

The RISEUP program provides pre-vocational pathways based on participants' interests and assessment results. Participants engage in pre-vocational training tailored to specific industries, which may include hands-on workshops, online courses, or internships.

The youth may be paired with mentors from the industry or adjacent industry of their interest who provide guidance, encouragement, and insight into the field. Mentors help bridge the gap between education and real-world experience.

Human Works Foundation will assist youth in finding suitable employment opportunities by matching their skills and interests with job openings in the community, utilizing existing partnerships that will include PPP WEX and OJT opportunities.

Participants receive ongoing support after the youth is placed to ensure job retention and career advancement. This includes follow-up meetings, additional training, and access to a support network.

The effectiveness of the program is continuously assessed through participant feedback, employment outcomes, and other key performance indicators. The insights gained from evaluations are used to refine and improve the program, ensuring it meets the evolving needs of justice-involved youth.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

The RISEUP program is designed to address the complex needs of justice-involved youth by focusing on employment and self-sufficiency, while recognizing and addressing the heightened mental health barriers and psychological trauma that this population often faces. The program's approach is grounded in evidence from two key studies:

Silke Tophoven, Nancy Reims, and Anita Tisch. Vocational Rehabilitation of Young Adults with Psychological Disabilities. *J Occup Rehabil.* 2019; 29(1): 150-162.(Springer) (Published online 2018 May 10. Dot 10.1007/s10926-018-9773-y)

GIM. Fix, H.T. M. Ritzen, J.M. Pieeters and W.A.J.M.Kuiper. Effective Curricula for At-Risk Students in Vocational Education: a Study of Teachers' Practice. 2019. (Springer Open) (<https://doi.org/10.1186/s40461-018-0076-5>)

Vocational Rehabilitation of Young Adults with Psychological Disabilities

The Vocational Rehabilitation of Young Adults with Psychological Disabilities study explores the vocational rehabilitation (VR) process for young adults with psychological disabilities, highlighting the unique challenges and strategies for supporting this population. The research emphasizes the importance of tailored interventions that address both the psychological and vocational needs of young adults to improve their employment outcomes.

The study underscores the need for an integrated approach that combines vocational training with psychological support. Young adults with psychological disabilities often require more than just job skills; they need comprehensive support that includes mental health services, counseling, and a stable support network. Trust-building is crucial in VR programs, especially for those who have experienced psychological trauma. A supportive and trusting relationship with VR counselors can significantly impact the success of the rehabilitation process.

The effectiveness of VR is enhanced when there is a strong support network in place, including family, peers, and community resources. For justice-involved youth, who often have broken or dysfunctional support systems, creating a new, healthy support network is vital.

The study also highlights that successful vocational rehabilitation, when combined with psychological support, can reduce recidivism rates among young adults with psychological disabilities, as stable employment and self-sufficiency are key factors in preventing re-offending.

Effective Curricula for At-Risk Students in Vocational Education: A Study of Teachers' Practice

This study examines the practices of vocational education teachers who work with at-risk students, focusing on the elements of effective curricula that promote engagement and success in this population. The research identifies strategies that effectively support at-risk youth in vocational settings.

The study finds that personalized learning or curricula tailored to student's individual needs and interests are more effective in engaging at-risk youth. This personalization helps students see the relevance of their education to their future careers and lives, increasing motivation and participation.

Effective vocational programs emphasize the development of both hard and soft skills. While hard technical skills are essential, at-risk youth also benefit from training in soft skills such as communication, problem-solving, learning how to work cooperatively with peers, and other socializing skills essential for workplace success and resocialization.

Hands-on, practical learning experiences are critical for at-risk students. Programs that include real-world applications of skills, such as internships or on-the-job training, are more successful in preparing students for employment.

The study highlights the importance of a supportive educational environment that fosters positive student-teacher relationships. A nurturing environment can be transformative for at-risk youth, many of whom have experienced negative educational experiences.

The research indicates that effective vocational education can have a long-term impact on reducing dropout rates, increasing employment, and lowering recidivism among at-risk youth.

The RISEUP program draws directly from the evidence presented in these studies to shape its approach: By addressing both the vocational and psychological needs of justice-involved youth, RISEUP mirrors the integrated approach recommended in the vocational rehabilitation study. This holistic support is critical for overcoming the unique challenges faced by this population.

The program emphasizes the importance of building trust and fostering healthy relationships, as highlighted in both studies. This is particularly important for justice-involved youth, who often have a history of distrust and broken support systems.

RISEUP's curriculum is designed to be personalized, catering to the specific needs, interests, and abilities of each participant, similar to the effective practices identified in vocational education for at-risk students.

The program incorporates hands-on learning and real-world applications, ensuring that participants not only acquire job skills but also see the immediate relevance of their training to their future success.

By providing a comprehensive, supportive, and practical vocational training program, RISEUP aims to reduce recidivism among justice-involved youth, aligning with the findings that successful vocational and psychological

support can lead to lower re-offending rates.

The RISEUP program is grounded in robust evidence highlighting the need for an integrated, supportive, and personalized approach to vocational training for justice-involved youth. By addressing both the psychological and vocational barriers these youth face, the program aims to foster self-sufficiency, reduce recidivism, and ultimately support their successful reintegration into society.

For further details, please refer to the studies available at:

- [Vocational Rehabilitation of Young Adults with Psychological Disabilities]

(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6510857/>)

- [Effective Curricula for At-Risk Students in Vocational Education: A Study of Teachers' Practice] (<https://ervet-journal.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40461-018-0076-5>)

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

☒ Prevention

☐ Treatment

☒ Intervention

☒ Incarceration

☐ Supervision

☐ Other (If other, please describe):

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

SMART Goals for The RISEUP Program

The RISEUP program is designed to provide justice-involved youth with comprehensive support that addresses both vocational and mental health needs. It implements trust-building workshops and one-on-one activities within the first three months to establish a supportive network, while also developing a system of counseling, mentorship, and peer groups tailored to justice-involved youth. Additionally, it delivers job readiness programming, resume building, interview skills, and vocational training, aligned with local labor market needs.

Measurable Objectives:

- Achieve a 75% participation rate in trust-building activities within the first six months.
- Ensure each participant attends at least one mental health counseling or mentorship session per month.
- Reach 60% of youth engaged in employment, internships, or education pathways within six months of program completion.

The RISEUP program achieves these objectives by collaborating with its core Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) established in 2024, including the Orange County Health Care Agency, Orange County Community Foundation, Project Kinship, the Department of Rehabilitation, Ready Set OC, CASA, Truth Recovery Advocate Project, the courts, and Probation, as well as other vocational training centers and community-based partners.

Expanded Partnerships Since 2025

Since receiving JJCPA funding in 2025, RISEUP has expanded its network in Orange County to include Young Adult Court of Orange County (YAC) Department of UCI Health, Cal State Fullerton CICE and Project Rebound, HSE Academy, Project SAT of Anaheim, Mira Loma Family Resource Center, Network Anaheim & City of Anaheim Neighborhood and Human Services Division, OCDE Community Schools Network, Project SAY, Solidarity, and Recovery Roads (Cypress, Fullerton, and Santa Ana). These collaborations have strengthened the program's referral pipeline, enabling it to connect with youth more directly in schools, family resource centers, and community programs. Together, these partnerships allow Rise Up to reach more youth, provide tailored services, and ensure continuity of support both in and out of custody.

Program Outcomes 2025

To date, 67 youth have been served through RISE UP. Of these:

- 28 youth have completed training,
- 9 have secured employment, and
- 30 youth (14 still enrolled + 16 in ongoing services) remain actively progressing toward graduation and placement.

Taken together, this represents nearly 60% of youth already engaged in employment, education, or transitional services, demonstrating strong momentum toward JJCPA's placement benchmark. With current cohorts advancing and expanded partnerships generating additional referrals, RISEUP is on pace to fully meet and potentially exceed the 60% goal by year's end.

Evidence-Based Foundation

RISEUP's design is grounded in research showing that effective vocational rehabilitation must combine practical skill-building with psychological support. Studies highlight that personalized curricula, trust-based relationships, and hands-on vocational experiences reduce recidivism and increase long-term self-sufficiency for at-risk youth. This evidence base supports RISEUP's holistic approach to addressing both the psychological and vocational barriers justice-involved youth face.

Evaluation and Long-Term Goals

All core components, trust-building, supportive services, and employment pathways are now operational. Human Works Foundation conducts quarterly evaluations to monitor participation, counseling sessions, training outcomes, and placement rates, adjusting services as needed. Over the next two years, the program aims to reduce recidivism by 30% while increasing participant self-sufficiency as measured by stable employment, school enrollment, and improved mental health.

By integrating evidence-based strategies with measurable outcomes and a strong network of partners, RISEUP ensures that justice-involved youth not only complete programming but also transition into meaningful employment and education opportunities, reducing their likelihood of reoffending and promoting long-term stability.

What is the target population?

The RISEUP Pre-Vocational program is designed to serve justice-involved and justice-impacted youth who are in need of direction and support in pursuing vocational career opportunities. These young individuals often face significant barriers, including a lack of resources, confidence, and family support, which hinder their ability to successfully reintegrate into society and avoid recidivism. The majority come from underserved communities characterized by lower levels of math and reading comprehension, where English may be a second language. Many also contend with one or more diagnosed mental or physical conditions.

Due to these challenges, these youth often have negative experiences with traditional educational institutions and may have struggled academically. The RISEUP Pre-Vocational program is tailored to meet these youth where they are, offering a supportive and empowering educational environment. The program aims to build self-confidence and expose participants to vocational career paths that offer a living wage and opportunities for advancement, thereby fostering their resocialization and contributing to the reduction of juvenile crime.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

The RISEUP Pre-Vocational program aims to achieve several key outcomes that directly support the OCJJCC's mission to reduce juvenile crime and facilitate the resocialization of justice-involved youth:

By providing vocational training and career pathways, the program equips youth with practical skills and employment opportunities, reducing their likelihood of reoffending. When youth gain meaningful employment, they are less likely to return to criminal activity, contributing to a decrease in juvenile crime rates.

The program addresses the whole person by focusing on mental health alongside vocational training. Through individualized support and mentorship, participants build the confidence and resilience needed to overcome personal challenges, leading to improved mental well-being and a greater sense of self-sufficiency.

RISEUP provides an alternative to traditional education, offering a learning environment that is more aligned with the needs and strengths of justice-involved youth. By improving their basic literacy and numeracy skills, and offering hands-on learning experiences, the program helps youth overcome academic barriers and develop a positive association with learning.

The program exposes youth to high-demand vocational careers that offer living wages and opportunities for advancement. By guiding them toward stable employment, RISEUP not only improves their economic prospects but also reduces the social and economic factors that contribute to criminal behavior.

These outcomes align with the OCJJCC's mission by addressing the root causes of juvenile crime—such as lack of education, unemployment, and mental health challenges—and providing a comprehensive approach to youth resocialization. By focusing on vocational training and holistic support, RISEUP helps justice-involved youth build a foundation for a productive, crime-free future.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Salary	Compensation for Human Works Foundation team members supporting program operations and implementation.	\$189,000.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Services & Supplies	Includes subscriptions for program tools and platforms, insurance, participant vouchers, tracking and compliance systems, and essential support services such as interpretation, printing, or rentals. Also includes workbooks, licensing fees, classroom supplies, and technology needed for instruction and engagement.	\$36,000.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$225,000.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
Total In-Kind Cost:		\$0.00
Total Cost of Program:		\$225,000.00



JJCPA

Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: "Elevate" mentorship program

Total Funding Requested: \$195,000.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Synergy Foundation Inc.

Contact Name: Jimmy Olguin **Phone:** 626-327-0416

Contact Email: jolguin@synergy-foundation.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

Our Elevate program is specifically targeting low-income, at-risk, middle school and high school students in Orange County specifically Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Buena Park and surrounding areas. Our partnership with PRO - Athletics Training facility (Garden Grove), Play It Again Sports (Los Alamitos), Alliance Prep Academy (Garden Grove) helps us provide athletic training, a financial literacy course and mentorship in a safe environment. The Focus of "ELEVATE" has three components that are extremely important in fostering confidence, a change in positive mindset and an accountability factor. Mentorship, athletic training and a financial literacy education are all programs less afforded to low-income families due to high cost. The requirements for our program include:

Athletic speed, strength and agility camps once a week with the PRO-Athletics trainers

Virtual attendance to the financial literacy course provided by Alliance Prep Academy.

Weekly mentorship meeting with their designated college student athlete mentors. We have commitments from many college student athletes from different sports that are committed to our program for example Anthony Pack (University of Texas), Devin Porch (Cal Poly SLO), Aiden Olguin (Cypress College) Owen Stelzer (Holy Cross University) to name a few. These are also athletes that benefited from being recipients of our program. Attendance to our special guest speaker events either in person or virtual. We have commitments from Major League baseball professionals Chase Darnaud (Former Major Leaguer) Travis Darnaud (Current Major League catcher for the Anaheim Angels) Darren McCaughan (Minnesota Twins Pitcher) Dante Kidd (Hip Hop video producer Xhibit, Snoop Dogg, Ice Cube and many more), Aleena Garcia (Softball shortstop UCLA softball), Tiare Jennings (4 time national champion Oklahoma Sooner softball, Gold medalist USA Softball) and many more. The program is designed to not have a specific start date or end date as we believe development at those ages is a different process for each child.

Since 2018 we have had many success stories that have changed the trajectory of at-risk students.

Oscar Lopez - At risk student from orange county with a past in drug use, burglary and gang ties benefited from our program by focusing on his basketball skills that earned him a scholarship with DePaul University. He transferred to Central Michigan and recently graduated with a bachelors in youth development.

Julien Gomez - attended Alliance Prep Academy as a middle schooler and was having behavioral and academic issues. By being a part of our program, he earned a college scholarship from the University of Texas Rio Grande, graduated from La Mirada High School with a 3.3 GPA and is also not committed to mentor our middle school students in our program.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

The "ELEVATE" program is focused on providing imperative skills through mentorship, education and sports training to increase confidence and create a sense of belonging in at-risk youth. Low-income families have less access to these types of programs due to income barriers. Statistically young adults with mentors are 55% more likely to attend college, are 78% more likely to participate in community volunteer work, are 130% more likely to hold leadership positions and are less likely to use alcohol or try illegal drugs.

Young adults that take a financial literacy course tend to have reduced debt, have an increased confidence to make financial decisions and have a better chance of reaching financial independence.

Youth that have speed, agility, strength and sports training teaches kids mental resilience, learn how to handle competitive pressure, learn teamwork leadership and a strong work ethic. Training in groups provides opportunities to social interaction and builds a strong sense of belonging.

These are all skills that build a more confident individual that changes their general mindset and life path.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☒ Supervision | ☒ Other (If other, please describe): |

Mentorship, financial literacy and athletic training.

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

Our specific goal is to provide specific tools that will impact transitional age youth to make better choices in the important years of choice development. We want to give access to low-income families to services that are typically afforded to more affluent families. Research has shown that trying to access these trainings individually is financially challenging. Giving consistent access will impact our specific target by increasing confidence, exposing kids to a different network and connecting with mentors that they are familiar with. Pro-Athletics is located in Garden Grove which is within 10-15 minutes from our target areas. We offer virtual access to all our programming, so students do not miss out on any part of our program. Our partnerships, alumni and access to recognized speakers will keep students engaged and motivated to change their mindset for more positive choices.

In order to measure our students progress we implement physical and academic testing every six weeks. The students go through basic athletic testing, grade checks and intentional meetings to check on progress. This data not only gives us progression data but also gives students an insight on what their hard work is producing. The relationship they build with the college mentors is designed to encourage the positive results and also overcome any setbacks. Our program is very intentional to celebrate positive outcomes but also overcome failure.

The Elevate program has evolved since 2018 and it has proven results of positive development in numerous students. The balance of mentorship, accountability and committed resources ensures continued success in at risk youth.

This is a perfect partnership between Orange County and Synergy Foundation Inc as we are aligned in youth development, prevention and intervention through skill building and providing resources that are not typically available to families in these neighborhoods. Our motto of "Building Blocks 4 Success" is a testament of alignment with the needs of the community. We have established our program and developed winners from San Diego to Los Angeles and Orange County.

Typically, there are time frames for objectives but here at Synergy Foundation we feel there is no specific timeframe for development. If there is constant support, then the overall goal will be achieved to develop high character individuals. Each individual has a different path, and our program is constantly developing to foster individual growth. Our mission is to Develop Winners by building blocks for success through mentorship, accountability and developing self-worth. With this funding, alongside our other partners we will be able to impact 200 students for a 12-month program. Our organization is constantly creating additional partnerships to continue the funding of this program. Since 2018 we have serviced over 2500 kids through funding from San Diego Foundation, Healthnet, NAHREP, Manny Mota Foundation, EPM wholesale and numerous private donors with in-kind donations.

What is the target population?

Our target population are middle school to high school students between the ages of 11-18 years old that are low-income and at-risk. Our program is designed to empower students, so they stay out of trouble through the critical years of middle school and high school which is when the majority of incarcerated adults first enter the system. Targeting this age group will reduce the number of people entering the system overall. Exposing students from Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Buena Park and surrounding low-income neighborhoods to our program will make an impact in their choices.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

Some of the biggest impacts on youth today are social media, financial barriers, lack of resources, lack of accountability and a lack of self-worth. Intervening at a critical age where kids start to decide who they want to be based on their environment is very important. Our desired outcome is to impact 200 students by exposing them to more than the environment they are surrounded by. Developing confidence and self-worth will prepare kids to be independent thinkers in their daily choices and will help them change the trajectory of their life path not just for themselves but for their families. In partnership with OCJJCC, the County of Orange and our multiple partners we will make an impact in reducing juvenile crime and exposing kids to skills that will enforce positive resocialization.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Project Coordinator, hourly staff, college athletes' compensation, sports trainers,	We will have a full-time project coordinator that will manage the students. We will compensate the college athletes, pay the sports trainers and the credentialed professional for the financial literacy course.	\$105,000.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Facility rental, subscriptions, training aids, marketing,	Pro Athletics which is located in Garden Grove has agreed to a discounted rate to provide a safe space for athletic and academic training. We also have a partnership with Play It Again Sports to ensure we are fully equipped to service our students with all their training needs. Alliance Prep Academy has agreed to provide the curriculum for the financial literacy course with a credentialed professional. We will allocate funds towards social media marketing.	\$90,000.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$195,000.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
		Total In-Kind Cost: \$0.00
		Total Cost of Program: \$195,000.00



JJCPA

Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Neutral Ground

Total Funding Requested: \$220,090.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: Neutral Ground

Contact Name: Samuel Lazalde **Phone:** 818-935-9754

Contact Email: samuel.lazalde@ngservices.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

Program Description and Structure

Neutral Ground proposes the implementation of a trauma-informed, culturally responsive Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program to serve youth at risk of justice system involvement and those already engaged with the juvenile justice system across Santa Ana, Anaheim, Tustin, and Costa Mesa. The program leverages the credibility and lived experience of trained Intervention Specialists (IS) placed at school sites, alongside Community Intervention Specialists (CIS) who conduct outreach in high-need neighborhoods, homes, and known gang-impacted areas.

Services will include:

Intensive Case Management (ICM) for probation-involved and high-risk youth

Restorative justice circles and school-based support to reduce suspensions and campus violence

Street-based outreach and gang intervention using a credible messenger model

Leadership development and culturally grounded group sessions focused on emotional regulation, healing, and positive identity

Neutral Ground's model ensures that youth are not only diverted from the justice system but also equipped with the tools, support, and relationships needed for long-term success. All services are trauma-informed and align with evidence-based models such as wraparound support, motivational interviewing, cognitive-behavioral strategies, and the Cure Violence public health model.

Neutral Ground has also submitted a Diversion proposal to serve youth in Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Costa Mesa, which—if awarded—will directly complement and strengthen the services outlined in this JJCPA proposal. Together, these two funding sources would work in tandem to build a seamless continuum of care for at-risk and justice-involved youth, from pre-arrest diversion through to community reintegration and long-term development.

Geographic Region Served

Primary Cities: Santa Ana, Anaheim, Costa Mesa, and Tustin

Secondary Coverage: Additional high-need areas across Orange County, as needed

Area of Focus

Juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention

Gang prevention and outreach

Restorative justice and school re-engagement

Diversion, community reintegration, and youth leadership development

Program Delivery Structure

Intervention Specialists (IS): Embedded in school campuses, providing daily check-ins, restorative circles, case planning, and academic advocacy

Community Intervention Specialists (CIS): Conducting outreach, home visits, gang intervention, family engagement, and hot spot monitoring across city neighborhoods

Partners and Stakeholders

Orange County Probation Department

Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD)

Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD)

Tustin Unified School District (TUSD)

City of Santa Ana

City of Costa Mesa (pending diversion collaboration)

Congressman Lou Correa's Office (46th Congressional District)

Life Center OC (community-based group programming site)

Local law enforcement agencies (Santa Ana PD, Anaheim PD, Costa Mesa PD, and OC Sheriff's Department)

Neutral Ground's program design offers a high-impact, relational approach that builds long-term safety and opportunity in Orange County communities most impacted by gang activity and youth violence. JJCPA funding will significantly bolster this framework, ensuring expanded capacity, consistent intervention, and data-informed outcomes.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

Evidence-Based Foundation of the Program

Neutral Ground's Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program is grounded in a multi-tiered framework of evidence-based practices and community-informed strategies proven effective in reducing juvenile delinquency, gang involvement, and recidivism. Our program draws from nationally recognized models in trauma-informed care, credible messenger intervention, cognitive-behavioral therapy, restorative practices, and motivational interviewing—each adapted to reflect the lived experiences and cultural realities of the youth and families we serve.

1. Trauma-Informed Care and Youth Brain Development

Neutral Ground integrates principles from the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study and research on adolescent brain development to deliver trauma-informed services that prioritize emotional safety, regulation, and healing. Staff are trained to identify behavioral symptoms of trauma and respond with strategies that reduce reactivity and build trust, especially with justice-involved youth who have experienced chronic adversity.

Evidence: Trauma-informed youth programming has been shown to reduce aggressive behaviors and improve treatment compliance (SAMHSA, 2014).

2. Motivational Interviewing (MI)

All Neutral Ground staff are trained in Motivational Interviewing, a client-centered, evidence-based approach to enhancing intrinsic motivation for behavior change. MI is particularly effective with resistant or ambivalent youth, including those on probation or with histories of arrest, as it supports autonomy, builds rapport, and increases the likelihood of voluntary engagement in services.

Evidence: Studies show that MI significantly improves treatment retention and reduces recidivism among juvenile justice populations (McMurran, 2009; Stein et al., 2006). It is recognized by the OJJDP and SAMHSA as a best practice for justice-involved youth.

3. Intensive Case Management (ICM) and Wraparound Support

Neutral Ground's ICM model is built on national best practices, including Wraparound Milwaukee and other family-centered case management systems that emphasize individualized planning, interdisciplinary coordination, and youth voice. ICM includes goal-setting, probation collaboration, family advocacy, and warm handoffs to behavioral health and educational resources.

Evidence: Youth in wraparound programs are more likely to remain in their communities and avoid residential placement (Bruns et al., 2010).

4. Restorative Justice and Circle-Based Mediation

Our restorative practices model is rooted in the Oakland Unified School District's Restorative Justice Guide and indigenous peacemaking traditions. Trained staff facilitate restorative circles to reduce suspension, repair harm, and support accountability without punitive discipline. These practices are critical for youth impacted by generational trauma, school pushout, and gang retaliation.

Evidence: Restorative practices have been linked to reductions in suspensions, improved school climate, and lower rates of violent incidents (Gonzalez, 2012; IIRP, 2016).

5. Credible Messenger Intervention and Street Outreach

Neutral Ground's Community Intervention Specialists (CIS) are trained in the Cure Violence public health model and the Los Angeles GRYD (Gang Reduction & Youth Development) approach. These models employ interventionists with lived experience to mediate conflicts, prevent retaliatory violence, and guide youth through transformational relationships.

Evidence: Evaluations of Cure Violence and GRYD show 40–70% reductions in shootings and gang-related violence in target areas (Butts et al., 2015; Braga et al., 2018).

6. Cognitive Behavioral Approaches

Neutral Ground incorporates tools from Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS) and Thinking for a Change (T4C) in group and individual settings. These programs build emotional regulation, problem-solving, and decision-making skills—all of which are linked to long-term reductions in risky behavior and criminal thinking.

Evidence: Youth receiving CBT-based interventions show improved behavior, reduced aggression, and fewer justice contacts (Lipsey et al., 2007).

7. Developmental Relationships and Protective Factors

Underlying all programming is the Search Institute's Developmental Relationships Framework, which emphasizes the protective power of long-term, caring relationships between youth and adults. These bonds foster resilience, increase engagement, and serve as buffers against high-risk environments.

Evidence: Strong developmental relationships are associated with higher academic success, reduced violent behavior, and improved self-regulation (Search Institute, 2018).

What needs are being addressed through this program?Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☐ Supervision | ☒ Other (If other, please describe): |

Neutral Ground has submitted a Diversion Proposal designed to serve youth in Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Costa Mesa who are at risk of arrest, citation, or formal juvenile justice involvement. The proposal outlines a trauma-informed, culturally responsive diversion program that provides credible messenger mentorship, restorative justice circles, intensive case management, and family engagement as alternatives to prosecution or detention. Youth referred through law enforcement, schools, or probation would be supported through structured, community-based services that promote accountability, healing, and long-term success—ultimately reducing recidivism and strengthening public safety across Orange County.

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.**SMART Objectives****Objective 1: Youth Enrollment and Engagement**

Specific: Enroll and engage a minimum of 75 at-risk or justice-involved youth in intensive case management services.

Measurable: Track enrollment, service hours, and participation using daily and monthly logs.

Achievable & Agreed: Based on current staffing and referral capacity across Santa Ana, Anaheim, Tustin, and Costa Mesa.

Realistic: Neutral Ground has a proven track record of enrolling over 100 youth annually across multiple cities.

Timebound: Within 12 months of the JJCPA funding period.

Objective 2: Reduction in Recidivism

Specific: Achieve a 30% reduction in re-arrests or new probation violations among enrolled participants.

Measurable: Collaborate with Probation to track recidivism rates and compare pre/post enrollment data.

Achievable & Agreed: Program design incorporates evidence-based practices shown to reduce justice involvement.

Realistic: Based on outcomes from similar programs operated by Neutral Ground in Santa Ana and Anaheim.

Timebound: Within 12 months of initial youth enrollment.

Objective 3: School Reengagement and Academic Progress

Specific: Ensure that at least 60% of participants improve school attendance, re-enroll, or show academic progress.

Measurable: Use school records, attendance logs, and student self-reporting in coordination with school district partners.

Achievable & Agreed: Staff provide weekly check-ins, school advocacy, and family mediation to support academic goals.

Realistic: Neutral Ground currently partners with SAUSD, AUHSD, and TUSD to support academic outcomes.

Timebound: Within 9 months of participant enrollment.

Objective 4: Restorative Practice and Group Facilitation

Specific: Facilitate a minimum of 150 hours of restorative justice circles, healing groups, and leadership sessions.

Measurable: Track group rosters, session logs, and pre/post assessments.

Achievable & Agreed: Facilitated by trained Intervention Specialists and Community Intervention Specialists.

Realistic: Based on current program delivery capacity at school sites and community hubs.

Timebound: Within the 12-month JJCPA grant cycle.

What is the target population?**Target Population**

Neutral Ground's Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program is designed to serve justice-involved and high-risk youth ages 12 to 21 residing in or attending school within the cities of Santa Ana, Anaheim, Costa Mesa, and Tustin, with flexibility to support youth across broader Orange County as needed.

The target population includes:

Youth currently on juvenile probation

Youth eligible for or referred to diversion in lieu of citation, arrest, or filing

Youth identified as gang-involved, gang-affiliated, or at risk of recruitment

Youth with histories of chronic absenteeism, expulsion, or school pushout

Youth reentering from juvenile detention, alternative schools, or group homes

Youth exposed to community violence, family trauma, or substance use

Transitional age youth (18–21) who may not be eligible for other juvenile services but remain vulnerable to justice involvement

Priority will be given to youth residing in high-need neighborhoods with elevated rates of violence, gang activity, or justice system involvement, such as Artesia Pilar in Santa Ana, parts of West Anaheim, and underserved areas of Costa Mesa and Tustin.

Neutral Ground also works closely with school districts, probation officers, law enforcement, and families to identify youth who may benefit from early intervention before formal justice system entry.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

Desired Outcomes and Alignment with OCJJCC's Mission

The desired outcomes of Neutral Ground's Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program are focused on reducing juvenile crime, interrupting cycles of violence, and supporting the successful resocialization of justice-involved and high-risk youth across Orange County. These outcomes are directly aligned with the mission of the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (OCJJCC) to improve youth outcomes through prevention, accountability, and rehabilitation.

Core Desired Outcomes:

Reduced Juvenile Crime and Recidivism:

At least 30% of enrolled youth will avoid new arrests, citations, or probation violations during and after program engagement.

CIS staff will respond to community conflicts and conduct street-level mediation to prevent retaliatory violence and gang-related offenses.

Successful Resocialization and Community Reintegration:

Youth will engage in services that promote identity development, emotional regulation, and prosocial decision-making.

Participants will increase their connection to positive adult mentors, family supports, and community resources.

Improved Educational Outcomes and School Reengagement:

At least 60% of participants will improve school attendance, re-enroll in school, or access alternative education pathways.

Expanded Access to Trauma-Informed, Culturally Relevant Services:

Youth and families from historically underserved communities will gain access to credible messenger mentorship, restorative justice practices, and culturally grounded support systems.

Reduction in System Involvement through Upstream Intervention:

Through its complementary Diversion proposal, Neutral Ground will strengthen early intervention pathways to prevent deeper system involvement.

How This Supports the OCJJCC Mission

Neutral Ground's model supports the OCJJCC's mission by:

Preventing crime before it starts through outreach, mentorship, and trusted relationships in high-risk neighborhoods.

Providing alternatives to arrest, detention, and prosecution through school-based restorative practices and community-based case management.

Facilitating healing and accountability through trauma-informed, relationship-driven services that help youth repair harm and reclaim agency.

Supporting the long-term resocialization of system-involved youth by rebuilding connection to school, family, and purpose.

This program not only addresses the immediate safety concerns in impacted communities but also invests in the long-term transformation of youth who are most likely to be system-involved without targeted, relational, and culturally responsive intervention. JJCPA funding will enhance the capacity of this work, expand access across multiple cities, and directly contribute to a safer, more equitable Orange County.



JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement
FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Skills Up Program LLC

Total Funding Requested: \$225,000.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: \$225,000

Contact Name: Saul Garcia **Phone:** 714-785-3980

Contact Email: skillsupmentorprogram@gmail.com

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

The Skills Up Program is a vocational training and mentorship initiative serving system-involved youth in Santa Ana, Orange, Anaheim, Garden Grove, and Westminster. Our mission is to equip these young individuals with industry-recognized automotive certifications, essential job readiness skills, and access to positive, professional mentors. By combining technical training with personal development, the program addresses both the workforce gap in the automotive sector and the need for resocialization among youth who have been involved with the justice system.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

Evidence-Based Program Foundation;

The Skills Up Program is grounded in research and best practices demonstrating that vocational training, mentorship, and workforce development are highly effective interventions for justice-involved youth.

Vocational Training and Employment as Crime Reduction Strategies;

Research by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) shows that programs providing industry-recognized vocational training and direct employment pathways significantly reduce recidivism. Employment increases stability, builds self-efficacy, and creates positive alternatives to criminal behavior. The Skills Up Program mirrors this evidence by providing training aligned with California State automotive industry standards and the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) standards, ensuring participants graduate with recognized, portable skills.

Mentorship and Positive Adult Relationships;

Studies from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) demonstrate that mentorship fosters resilience, accountability, and prosocial behavior among system-involved youth. Youth with consistent mentorship are more likely to remain employed and less likely to reoffend. Skills Up leverages local industry mentors to provide real-world role models who support both career development and personal growth.

Cognitive-Behavioral and Life Skills Integration

Programs that integrate life skills and cognitive-behavioral strategies alongside vocational training show greater long-term success (Lipsey & Cullen, 2007). Skills Up incorporates workshops on financial literacy, communication, time management, and conflict resolution, helping participants strengthen decision-making skills essential for workforce readiness and community reintegration.

Alignment with State and County Standards

By embedding its curriculum within statewide automotive industry standards and OCDE guidelines, Skills Up ensures its training is evidence-based, measurable, and consistent with regional educational and workforce goals. This alignment strengthens the program's credibility and supports seamless collaboration with schools, probation, and employers in Orange County.

What needs are being addressed through this program?Check boxes below.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☐ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☐ Supervision | ☒ Other (If other, please describe): |

Youth in Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Orange face limited access to positive mentorship, workforce opportunities, and vocational programs that meet California State automotive industry standards and OCDE standards. Many of these system-involved youth cycle in and out of probation without clear career pathways, contributing to higher rates of recidivism. At the same time, Orange County's automotive industry struggles with a shortage of qualified entry-level technicians, creating an opportunity to bridge both challenges.

The Skills Up Program addresses these needs by delivering hands-on automotive training, industry-recognized certifications, and structured mentorship to underserved youth. By filling service gaps in central Orange County, the program equips participants with portable skills, workforce readiness, and positive adult connections—reducing juvenile crime and supporting long-term resocialization.

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

Specific: Provide up to 25 system-involved youth annually from Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Orange with hands-on learning experiences, career exploration, and structured mentorship. Training will take place in conference room settings with guest speakers, workshops, and visits to automotive facilities. Participants will have the opportunity to earn industry-recognized certificates such as MACS 609 Air Conditioning, SP2 Safety & Pollution Prevention, and NAPA Training credentials. All mentors and guest speakers will be paid for their time and expertise.

Eligibility Requirement: Participants must have a clean driving record and the ability to transport themselves to and from training sites and facility visits. For internships, participants must sign and agree to the terms of a program contract, if the host employer/program allows.

Measurable: At least 75% of participants will complete all workshops, mentorship sessions, and site visits, with 50% earning one or more industry-recognized certificates. At least 50% will secure internships, apprenticeships, or employment opportunities within six months of program completion.

Achievable & Agreed: A small cohort size (under 25) allows for strong support and accountability. Paid mentors and guest speakers ensure consistent delivery, while employer and certification partnerships (MACS, SP2, NAPA) create practical opportunities.

Realistic: Delivering training in community conference rooms and arranging site visits reduces infrastructure costs while still providing industry exposure. The eligibility and contract requirements help ensure participants are prepared and committed.

Timebound: Each program cycle will run for 12 months, with workshops, mentorship, and site visits scheduled quarterly. Certifications, internship agreements, and employment outcomes will be tracked and reported annually.

What is the target population?

The Skills Up Program serves system-involved youth ages 16–24 from Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Orange who are at risk of reoffending or referred through schools, probation, or community partners. Participants must have a clean driving record, be able to transport themselves to program sites, and agree to a contract for internships when required. The program prioritizes underserved youth, providing them with workforce training, mentorship, and industry-recognized certificates to support resocialization and career readiness.

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

The Skills Up Program will reduce recidivism by giving system-involved youth in Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Orange access to certifications (MACS, SP2, NAPA), mentorship, and career pathways. At least half of participants will secure internships or employment within six months, while all will gain life skills and exposure to professional environments. By offering paid mentors, real workplace visits, and structured support, the program prepares youth for successful reintegration. This directly supports the OCJJCC's mission to reduce juvenile crime and promote resocialization through prevention, intervention, and workforce development.

**2011 Realignment
OCJJCC Funding Request**

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
\$188,000	Salaries and Benefits cover compensation for the CEO, who manages daily operations, curriculum delivery, partnerships, and compliance with standards. This category also includes employer payroll taxes and benefits, ensuring program leadership is supported to deliver consistent, high-quality services for youth participants.	\$188,000.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
\$37,000	(\$15,000) Services and Supplies provide training materials, certification fees, and essential office items to support workshops, site visits, and participant learning. (\$22,000) Office Lease / Conference Room Rentals	\$37,000.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$225,000.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
\$30,000	The Skills Up Program will also leverage in-kind contributions from industry and community partners. These contributions provide significant value and demonstrate strong community support. Free tours and training visits at local dealerships and automotive shops. Donated training resources, manuals, and supplies from industry partners at no charge.	\$30,000.00

Total In-Kind Cost: \$30,000.00

Total Cost of Program: \$255,000.00



JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement
FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Program Name: Credible Messenger Youth Prevention & Mentorship Program

Total Funding Requested: \$250,000.00 **Year(s) Covered:** 2026

Requesting Entity: CROP Organization – Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs

Contact Name: Terah Lawyer **Phone:** 4158271852

Contact Email: terah.lawyer@croporg.org

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

The Credible Messenger Youth Prevention & Mentorship Program leverages the lived experience of CROP's Ready 4 Life Fellows—formerly incarcerated leaders who have successfully reintegrated into society—to mentor at-risk youth across Orange County.

The program will host quarterly Community Days that bring youth together for mentorship, storytelling, skill-building workshops, and positive peer engagement. Fellows will share their personal reentry journeys, highlighting the consequences of incarceration and the opportunities of pursuing positive life paths.

Program activities include:

Community Days in partnership with schools, probation, and community-based organizations.

Mentorship circles pairing fellows with youth for ongoing relationship-building.

Career readiness and leadership sessions to introduce pro-social opportunities.

Collaboration with stakeholders such as probation officers, educators, parents, and local nonprofits.

Region/Area of Focus: Orange County – underserved communities most impacted by youth justice involvement.

Involved Partners/Stakeholders: Orange County Probation Department, local schools, community-based organizations, families, and CROP Fellows.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

This proposed program will be modeled after the Credible Messenger Mentoring approach, which has been implemented nationally (in New York City, Washington D.C., and Los Angeles) with demonstrated effectiveness in reducing recidivism and preventing justice involvement. These programs show that when youth are paired with mentors who share lived experience, they are more likely to build resilience, improve decision-making, and strengthen positive community connections.

CROP proposes to adapt elements of this model for Orange County prevention efforts, with an emphasis on community mentorship and storytelling from individuals with lived experience of incarceration. While CROP's Ready 4 Life reentry program currently serves over 250 fellows annually and has shown strong outcomes in supporting formerly incarcerated adults, this proposed initiative would expand our expertise into the youth prevention space. By piloting this prevention-focused program, CROP aims to test and refine a model that draws on proven national strategies and local experience, while building an evidence base tailored to Orange County youth needs.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Prevention | ☐ Treatment |
| ☒ Intervention | ☐ Incarceration |
| ☐ Supervision | ☒ Other (If other, please describe): |

Youth mentorship through credible messengers: Providing lived-experience mentorship and storytelling as a prevention tool.

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

By December 2026, CROP will:

Host 4 Community Days across Orange County, engaging at least 400 at-risk youth.

Ensure 80% of youth participants report increased awareness of consequences of incarceration and positive alternatives (measured through surveys).

Launch 6 ongoing mentorship circles with a minimum of 60 youth receiving sustained mentorship.

Track school attendance, referrals, or probation diversion outcomes, with a target of 70% of youth showing improved engagement in pro-social activities within six months of participation.

What is the target population?

At-risk youth ages 12–24 in Orange County

Youth identified through schools, probation referrals, and community partners as vulnerable to justice involvement

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

This program supports the OCJJCC mission by:

Reducing juvenile crime through early prevention and mentorship.

Supporting resocialization by connecting youth to positive community role models.

Filling service gaps in credible messenger, lived-experience prevention models not widely available in Orange County.

Building a continuum of care that reduces reliance on incarceration and supervision by intervening earlier in the cycle.

Desired Outcomes:

Reduced likelihood of youth entering the juvenile justice system.

Increased engagement in school and community programs.

Stronger pro-social networks and family/community connection.

2011 Realignment OCJJCC Funding Request

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salary & Benefits		
Program Manager	Full-time manager to oversee program implementation, reporting, and coordination with partners.	\$95,000.00
Mentor Stipends	Stipends for 50 Ready 4 Life fellows to serve as peer mentors, facilitators, and storytellers during prevention activities.	\$120,000.00
Administrative Support	Part-time admin to support scheduling, data tracking, and reporting.	\$35,000.00
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Training & Curriculum	Development and delivery of mentoring curriculum, leadership training, and materials for fellows/youth.	\$25,000.00
Professional Services	Contracted evaluation partner to design performance metrics and measure impact.	\$30,000.00
Program Supplies & Events	Food, space rental, transportation, and materials for youth engagement/community days.	\$45,000.00

Total JJCPA Funding Requested: \$225,000.00

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Department	Brief Description	Cost
Total In-Kind Cost:		\$125,000.00
Total Cost of Program:		\$350,000.00

JJCPA
Program, Strategy and/or System Enhancement

FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Please complete and submit your completed requests to ceobudget@ceo.oc.gov.

Program Name:			
Total Funding Requested:		Year(s) Covered:	

Requesting Entity: _____

Contact Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Contact Email: _____

Provide the Program Description and Structure.

Include the region, area of focus, and involved partners/stakeholders in the description.

Provide a detailed description of the evidence upon which the program is based.

What needs are being addressed through this program?

Check boxes below.

- ☐ Prevention
- ☐ Intervention
- ☐ Supervision
- ☐ Treatment
- ☐ Incarceration
- ☐ Other (If other, please describe):

Describe the Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Agreed, Realistic and Timebound (SMART) Objectives of your project.

What is the target population?

What are the desired outcomes and how will this support the OCJJCC's objective to reduce juvenile crime and support resocialization?

**2011 Realignment
OCJCC Funding Request**

Please provide the budget requests for the programs and services to be offered by your organization for 2026 to be funded through the OCJCC as described above. Please ensure that the amount requested for each program and/or service identified is inclusive of any and all associated salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and any other associated expenses.

Expenditure Category	Brief Description	Amount Requested
Salaries & Benefits		
Services & Supplies		
(Contracted services, professional services, supplies)		
Total JJCPA Funding Requested		\$ -

In-Kind Costs Associated with Program:

Category	Brief Description	Cost
Total In-Kind Cost		\$

Total Cost of Program	\$
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