

Solano County
Community Corrections
Partnership

2024-2025 Public
Safety Realignment
Plan Update
(AB109)

January 1, 2025



Executive Summary

As part of the 2023 Solano County Public Safety Realignment plan, the Executive Committee of the Solano County Community Correction Partnership (CCP) commissioned an independent consultant to collaborate with the Probation Department and its partner organizations to prepare the 2024 Solano County Realignment Plan.

The plan development process involved soliciting and receiving feedback from stakeholders, community members, and persons with a lived experience via interviews and focus groups. It also included reviews of existing program components, meetings with various County staff, a community forum, and research of effective programming.

This has served as a road map for the County to continue to strengthen the approaches and partnerships to improve in-custody and community-based programs and services for justice involved individuals.

This 2024-2025 Solano County Realignment Plan Update serves as an annual review and will continue to guide services throughout 2025.

Summary of Recommended Goals

Four overarching continued goals for 2025 include:

- 1) Strengthen and expand upon existing relationships.
- 2) Expand, strengthen, and increase services to meet identified system needs.
- 3) Further refine data measures to determine impact and system needs.
- 4) Establish a mechanism for increased community involvement and engagement.

Solano County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Members

The membership of the Community Corrections Partnership is outlined in California Penal Code Section 1230 and defined by the Community Corrections Performance Incentive Act of 2009 (SB678). It includes the Chief Probation Officer (Chair), the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court or designee, a County Supervisor or County Administrator, District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff, the head of the Department of Social Services, the head of the County Department of Mental Health, the head of the County Alcohol and Substance Abuse programs, the County Superintendent of Education, a local Chief of Police, a representative of community-based organization with experience in successfully providing rehabilitation services to persons convicted of criminal offenses, and an individual who represents victims' interests.

The Members of the Solano County JJCC include the following individuals as of January 1, 2025:

Dean Farrah, Chief Probation Officer and CCP Chairperson*
Elena D'Agustino, Public Defender*
Krishna Abrams, District Attorney*
Emery Cowan, Director, Health and Social Services*
Tom Ferrara, Sheriff/Coroner*
Judge Alesia Jones, Presiding Judge*
Aaron Roth, Chief, Suisun*
Heather Henry, Workforce Development Board
Bill Emlen, County Administrator
Deanna Allen, Community Based Organization Representative
Chief Deputy, Behavioral Health Director - Vacant
Kelly Curtis, Deputy Director, Employment & Eligibility Services
Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent, SCOE
Reina Sandoval-Beverly, Victim Advocate Position

Individuals with an asterisk (*) by their names comprise the CCP Executive Committee. These seven members are responsible for approving the local plan for recommendation to the Solano County Board of Supervisors.

The current mission of the Solano County Community Corrections Partnership is "to discuss issues related to the implementation of various pieces of state legislation that focus on adult criminal offenders, including the realignment of many state public safety functions to local jurisdictions. The overall objective is to reduce the recidivism rate of adult offenders in the local criminal justice system".¹

¹ [Solano County - Community Corrections Partnership](#)

Solano County Public Safety Realignment Funding 2024/2025

The FY2024/25 Solano County Public Safety Realignment Funding Breakdown was presented during the CCP Budget Update Presentation on May 22, 2024. During this meeting, the requested budget was approved by CCP for recommendation to the Solano County Board of Supervisors. Portions of the presentation from the meeting are outlined below. The full documents are available on CCP's portion of the County's website. ²

The total funding available in FY2024/25 for Solano County under 2011 Public Safety Realignment is \$38.2 million. This total includes \$18.9 million in unspent carryforward from previous years (based on Midyear department projections for spending in FY2023/24) and an estimated State allocation of \$18.6 million in FY2024/25, at this time there is no Growth Allocation estimated for FY2024/25.

2011 Public Safety Realignment (AB109) funding from the State for Community Corrections consists of an annual base allocation and a possible growth allocation, which is based on a formula to share growth in the State funding source. The growth funds are dependent on the State's sales tax and VLF collections and are allocated based on performance measures based primarily on incarceration rates and Probation success rates. The 2011 Public Safety Realignment fiscal year period is August 16 through August 15. The projected spending at Midyear reflects additional spending of \$2.8M when compared to the requested budget. This increase is a resulting from both ongoing and one-time expenses in AB109 departments for already approved programs and services and included in the FY2023/24 Working Budget. These include \$2.7 million in the Centers for Positive Change for the purchase of a building and a \$1 million increase in the Sheriff's jail salary and benefits to keep up with the continued increased costs in the jail, these increases are offset by a savings resulting from the timing in filling staff vacancies and other one-time reductions in expenses in other AB109 departments.

The FY2024/25 Requested Budget for AB109 is \$20.7 million, which represents an increase of \$1.5 million when compared to the FY2023/24 Working Budget. This increase is primarily due to negotiated and approved labor contract wage increases, CalPERS retirement costs, and changes in health benefit costs and workers compensation rates.

In recent years, departments receiving AB109 funding have made significant effort in reducing and/or containing costs and some years relied on the use of unspent carryforward funds to balance the AB109 Budget. The FY2024/25 Requested Budget for AB109 does rely on the use of unspent carryforward of \$1.5 million from prior fiscal years. As communicated in prior years, the goal is to maintain AB109 program costs in-line with the annual State funding levels. In the Midyear projections for FY2023/24, departments achieved this goal; however, as salary costs and inflation effect budgets it will be important for Departments to continually monitor AB109 costs and State allocations and assess the ongoing impacts to carryforward funds.

The carryforward, which has a projected total of \$18.9 million, based on Midyear projections, at the end of FY2023/24 will be utilized to address future cost increases within Solano County AB109 Department budgets, be utilized for one-time expenditures, and offset any potential reductions in AB109 allocations from the state during FY2024/25 and future years.

² [blobdload.aspx\(solanocounty.com\)](https://blobdload.aspx(solanocounty.com))

Department	FY2023/24	FY2023/24	FY2024/25
	Budget	Midyear Projections	Requested
Sheriff	6,026,080	7,026,080	8,026,080
Probation (PRCS)	3,858,073	3,458,806	3,384,518
Probation (CPC's)	7,046,817	7,181,721	6,706,641
HSS (Mental Health)	212,495	39,038	227,662
District Attorney	994,529	945,168	1,057,452
Public Defender	891,959	617,897	1,009,848
Alternate Defender	55,757	52,544	58,797
CCP Planning	192,042	192,042	267,098
Total AB109 Budgeted Programs and Services	19,277,752	19,513,296	20,738,096

Recommended Goals for 2025 and 2024 Accomplishments

Goal #1: Strengthen and Expand Upon Existing Relationships

2025 Objectives:

Overarching System Supports

- Implement and include CCP Planning Sessions to identify and prioritize focus areas based on goals and objectives.
 - Allow for increased participation and buy-in amongst agencies with more conversations and feedback.
 - Solidify CCP's strategic vision - "who we want to be and where we want to go collectively".
 - Establish onboarding and orientation for new CCP members to increase understanding, buy-in, opportunities for contributions, and clarity on roles and responsibilities.
- Establish consistent point persons with Probation and amongst partners and consider mechanisms to share information (e.g., roundtable of departments or via subcommittee of CCP).
- Continue work to strengthen reentry practices, set individuals up for success, and ensure key transition points are seamless (e.g., connection to services before release, continuity of medications).
- Reactivate the Council on Reentry Solutions (CORES) to serve as the advisory group for the Proposition 47 project. CORES will be more involved in continuous improvement of reentry needs.
- Establish a mechanism to expand access to training on topics such as Motivational Interviewing, Trauma-Informed Care, and Cultural Competency to gain greater consistency in common language and shared definitions.
- Continue collaborative efforts with the Sheriff's Office and Probation Awareness and Compliance Team (PACT) on compliance check operations and other public safety efforts.

2024 Accomplishments

Focusing on collaborative efforts regarding housing needs within the community, Probation had a staff member elected to the Board for the Housing First Solano Continuum of Care as a Public Safety Representative.

Probation identified and developed an internal candidate to become a Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT) instructor. By investing and developing our own MI trainer and coach, the Department can provide MI training to Probation staff, as well as, extend the invitation to other partnering agencies or organizations. The training kickoff is scheduled for January of 2025.

In 2024, staff received specialized training to become trainers of Motivational Interviewing and Trauma Informed Care. Designated training sessions will be open to Probation staff of all classifications, our partners from community-based organizations, Solano County Behavioral Health, and local law enforcement agencies.

In 2024, the Probation Department and Sheriff's Office continued to participate in PACT joint operation efforts and training for sharing of education and fostering of teamwork.

Goal #2: Expand, strengthen, and increase services to meet identified system needs.

2025 Objectives:

- Integrate results of Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) process to identify and guide resources, determine gaps, and plan for community change. This will be instrumental in focusing on areas of the County's greatest needs.
- Design and repurpose the new site for the separate CPC and reentry center across from the existing office in Fairfield as a resource for programming and those releasing after hours from jail/custody.
- Refine the plan necessary for technology infrastructure and complete the electronic solution for the jail Medi-Cal enrollment.
- Sheriff's Office to implement a Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) in the jail. Space has been identified and repurposed and policies and procedures are being developed. In the future staff will be chosen for the unit.
- Collaborative re-entry planning meetings continue for inmates with mental health condition who are leaving jail.
- Continue investment and coordination across departments in housing and homeless services while further exploring options for dedicated housing units.
- Complete the Request for Proposals (RFP) process for housing. This will serve to identify organizations that may assist with the myriad of client needs and enhance the housing services process in 2025.
- Continue implementation work on the Mobile Probation Unit (MPU) to include process for procurement of vehicle. This project should address some of the challenges/service gaps in reducing transportation barriers, serving the chronically unhoused population, and reducing the challenges for services in more rural communities.

2024 Accomplishments

In February and September of 2024, SIM meetings occurred between different community partners and county departments. The meeting provided collaborative opportunities and helped county departments identify gaps in service and availability of resources for justice involved clients.

Probation acquired the new site for the separate CPC and reentry center.

In 2024, Jail Medi-Cal enrollment was implemented in a large process beginning around intake. Meetings are in place with the Sheriff's Office, Employment and Eligibility and the technology team to complete the technology infrastructure needed to complete the project.

The Rourk Center has continued to expand and provides a wide variety of vocational training in areas such as welding and carpentry. In 2024, staff began infusing programs such as substance abuse treatment sessions into the lunch hour, so clients can receive programming while participating in the vocational services afforded.

The Department continued contracting with Volunteers of America (VOA) to provide housing services to unhoused clients. Although partnerships with Sober Living Environments (SLE's) currently exist, resources are needed to maintain long-term housing stability.

In 2024, the Department's Resource and Barrier Removal Unit processed 290 total client referrals, identified 525 barriers to be resolved with 251 of those barriers removed/resolved to date.

Probation received grant funding for the MPU and the design and build is in process.

Goal #3: Further refine data measures to determine impact and system needs.

2025 Objectives:

- Continue participation in the Safety and Justice Challenge: IMPACT Network and participate in the Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) project. The SIM will help the County identify available resources, determine gaps, and plan for community change. This will be instrumental in focusing on areas of the County's greatest needs.
- Continue the discussion with the CCP committee surrounding information and metric collections desired to guide future data pulls.
- Convene the CCP Data Workgroup previously approved by the CCP to make recommendations to the full CCP on:
 - Establishing a set of standards to define what will be measured, how it is measured, and by whom it is measured.
 - Establishing a mechanism for systemic program evaluation and outcome measures for internal programs and contracted services.
 - Determining the need for a contracted criminal justice researcher to augment existing capacity.
- Continue the implementation plan for data management system to include assessment management and program management functions and establish a vendor portal, where contracted programs will be able to enter data (e.g., attendance, completions, outcomes) which will become part of the data record for the system.
- Create data dashboards with data on current population, number under supervision, grant types, risk and need level, and demographic make-up.

2024 Accomplishments

In 2024, the Department completed the application process with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to obtain data for future analysis with Beyond the Arc to measure recidivism rates.

Solano County continued to participate in the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge: IMPACT Network. This network not only helps communities assess available resources and determine system gaps in a methodical way, but it also helps jurisdictions "rethink local justice systems from the ground up, with forward-looking, smart solutions that are data-driven, equity-focused, and community-informed, and that safely reduce jail populations, eliminate ineffective and unfair practices, and reduce racial disparities."

In February and September of 2024, SIM meetings occurred between different community partners and county departments. The meeting provided collaborative opportunities and helped county departments identify gaps in service and availability of resources for justice involved clients.

Goal #4: Establish a mechanism for increased community involvement and engagement.

2025 Objectives:

- Establish CCP Subcommittee or Workgroup to develop a plan to engage the community in meaningful and ongoing way (e.g., a Community Advisory Board (CAB)) to include:
 - Seeking out and connecting with California Counties with an existing CAB.
 - Establishing a mechanism to include the voice of community and individuals with lived experience.
- Continue to increase participation in community engagement efforts by Probation Awareness and Compliance Team (PACT) member participation in community functions and events. This will allow for staff to share in the work we do in a positive light, with a focus on educating the community, building rapport and relationships with community members, with the ideal to foster communication and trust within our communities.

2024 Accomplishments

The 2023 Public Safety Realignment plan identified a need (and desire) for increased community engagement and involvement. Persons with lived experience voiced a desire for enhanced community and family involvement as well as a mechanism for a system navigator (preferably one with lived experience) to help match up local services and to advise on potential pitfalls. In 2024, Probation continued efforts to hire contracted and social services staff with lived experience.

In October of 2024, representatives from Probation attended a virtual regional Community Advisory Board convening hosted by Contra Costa County along with representatives from several Bay Region counties and including CBO representatives with lived experience. This meeting provided an opportunity for cross-county collaboration and discussion focused on key topics impacting our communities.

In 2024, PACT members participated in a variety of community events to include the National Night Out, Cocoa with a Cop, Resource Fair, Solano County Fair, Dixon May Fair, and July 4th celebrations.