

MEMBERS

Christopher Hansen
Chief Probation Officer

Linda Connelly
Community Based Org.

Elena D'Agustino
Public Defender

Deanna Cantrell
Chief, Fairfield Police

Krishna Abrams
District Attorney

Aaron Crutison
*Deputy Director, Child
Welfare Services*

Julie Hilt
Member of the Public

Erin Hannigan
*Board of Supervisors,
District 1*

Leticia De La Cruz
*Mental Health Svcs.
Admin., Behavioral
Health Division*

Lissette Estrella-
Henderson
*Superintendent of
Schools, Solano County*

Tom Ferrara
Sheriff/Coroner

SOLANO COUNTY
Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
AGENDA
Thursday, April 29, 2020
“Virtual Meeting”
1:30 p.m. Meeting

PURPOSE STATEMENT – Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

The mission of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council is to develop a comprehensive, multiagency plan that identifies the resources and strategies for providing an effective continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration of male and female juvenile offenders, including strategies to develop and implement locally based or regionally based out-of-home placement options for youths who are persons described in Section 602. Counties may utilize community punishment plans developed pursuant to grants awarded from funds included in the 1995 Budget Act to the extent the plans address juvenile crime and the juvenile justice system or local action plans previously developed for this program

The membership of the coordinating council is outlined in California Welfare and Institutions Code 749.22 and shall, at a minimum, include the chief probation officer, as chair, and one representative each from the district attorney's office, the public defender's office, the sheriff's department, the board of supervisors, the department of social services, the department of mental health, a community-based drug and alcohol program, a city police department, the county office of education or a school district, and an at-large community representative. In order to carry out its duties pursuant to this section, a coordinating council shall also include representatives from nonprofit community-based organizations providing services to minors.

This agenda shall be made available upon request in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42U.S.C.sec12132) and the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal.Govt.Code sec.54954.2). Persons requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation should contact Tami Robinson, 475 Union Street, Fairfield CA 94533 (707.784.7564) during regular business hours, at least 24 hours prior to the time of the meeting.

If you wish to address any item listed on the Agenda by written comment, please submit comments in writing to Tami Robinson at trobenson@solanocounty.com no later than 9am a day prior to the meeting. There will be opportunity during the live zoom meeting for public comment as well. Please limit your comments to 3 minutes.

This meeting will be accessible with the information listed below:

Topic: Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Meeting
Time: Apr 29, 2021 01:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98182569706?pwd=a0FtNWVtN3h1bkFPZWdoOVZzMUhcDz09>

Meeting ID: 981 8256 9706

Passcode: 952795

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,98182569706# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,98182569706# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 981 8256 9706

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aelhtIApHj>

Due to COVID-19 and to protect County staff and members of the public, this meeting is being held via “zoom”. This precaution is being taken pursuant to the authority conferred by Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20. All or some of the JJCC Committee members may attend the meeting telephonically and participate in the meeting to the same extent as if they were present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: To submit public comments, please see the options below.

Email/Mail:

If you wish to address any item listed on the Agenda by written comment, please submit comments in writing to Tami Robinson at trrobinson@solanocounty.com no later than 9am a day prior to the meeting.

The County of Solano does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. If you wish to participate in this meeting and you will require assistance in order to do so, please call Tami Robinson at 707-784-7564 at least 24 hours in advance of the event to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

ITEM

STAFF

Chief Hansen

1. **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES November 19, 2020)**
4. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Pursuant to the Brown Act, each public agency must provide the public with an opportunity to speak on any matter within the subject matter of the jurisdiction of the agency and which is not on the agency's agenda for that meeting. Comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes per speaker. By law, no action may be taken on any item raised during public comment period although informational answers to questions may be given and matter may be referred to staff for placement on future agenda.

Discussion

AGENCY/STAFF

5. **The Transformation of Juvenile Justice in Probation**
(No Action)

Probation/Dean Farrah
Probation/Amy Potter
Probation/Katie Ward

The committee will receive a report on the evolution of Probation and the collaboration with community partners.

6. **S.C.O.E Update**
(No Action)

SCOE/Lisette Estrella-
Henderson

The Committee will receive an update from the Superintendent of Schools in Solano County.

7. **Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan (SB823)**
(No Action)

Probation/Chief Hansen
Probation/Donna Robinson

The Committee will receive an update from the subcommittee regarding the finalized Juvenile Justice Realignment plan and next steps.

8. **Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)/**
Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)
(Action Item)

Probation/Amy Potter
Probation/Dean Farrah
Probation/Katie Ward

The Committee will receive information regarding the JJCPA and YOBG plans for Fiscal Year 2021-22. Consider a recommendation to approve the plans as presented.

9. **Juvenile Justice Action Plan Update**
(Action Item)

Probation/ Chief Hansen
Probation/Donna Robinson

The Committee will receive a recommendation from the Probation Department to hire a Consultant at a cost not to exceed \$30,000 to update the County's Juvenile Justice Action Plan.

Closing Comments

Chief Hansen

*The next regular session meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2021 1:30pm-3:30pm at the CAC Conference Room 6004.

ADJOURNMENT

Solano County
Comprehensive Multiagency Juvenile Justice Action Plan
June 2017
Prepared for the Solano County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

I. INTRODUCTION

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) program was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Chapter 353) to provide a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs aimed at curbing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth. The JJCPA is a collaborative effort between state, locals, and stakeholders. Local officials and stakeholders determine where to direct resources through an interagency planning process. The State appropriates funds that the Controller's Office distributes to counties based on population. As of 2016, the funds come from the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) Fund with backup from the State Sales Tax revenue.

The Solano County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) is a partnership between California State and Solano County, recognizing the need for resources and the value of local discretion and multiagency collaboration in addressing the problem of juvenile crime in communities. Solano County government agencies and community-based organizations play a critical role in delivering the determined services. The JJCC includes the Chief Probation Officer as Committee Chair, and one representative each from the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Sheriff's Department, Board of Supervisors, Health and Social Services Department, a community-based drug and alcohol program, a city police department, County Office of Education or a school district, and an at-large community representative. The Coordinating Council also includes representatives from nonprofit community-based organizations providing services to youth.

Solano County developed its Comprehensive Multiagency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) in 2000-2001 in accordance with AB 1913, The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA). JJCPA requires programs to be modeled on strategies that demonstrate effectiveness in curbing juvenile delinquency. Additionally, the JJCPA requires counties to collect and report information related to annual program expenditures and juvenile justice outcomes. At the local level, this enables stakeholders to assess progress toward desired goals, refine their programs, and target available resources.¹ The 2000-2001 CMJJP was updated in 2005, 2008, 2012, and 2014. Each subsequent report has highlighted the services currently available and provides an assessment of additional services needed.

The 2005 CMJJP highlighted that the Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) was replaced with a new 90 bed facility in 2004. The JDF held predisposition youth and housed the New Foundations program which is still in place. In 2005, New Foundations offered co-educational and treatment services with an approximate average length of stay of four months. In 2005, Solano County

¹ Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act, March 2016 Annual Report; <http://www.bscc.ca.gov/downloads/2016-3-30%20JJCPA%20Final%20Draft%20Report%20for%20DOF.pdf>

was already highlighting its move toward prevention and early intervention programs that included family and community involvement. First 5 Solano was first introduced in this report. Evidence based programming was also highlighted in the report.

The 2008 report built on the programming from the 2005 report and emphasized that additional evidence-based practices were being implemented throughout county service providers. The Probation Department created a Felony Diversion program and JDF created the Challenge Program to house youth who would have been sent to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Probation had just implemented an assessment called the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS), and offered several specialized programs including female-specific programming, drug use specific court and caseloads, and a repeat offender caseload.

The 2012 report highlighted that many of the need-specific programs (drug court, female specific, the Challenge program) had been eliminated due to a lack of funding. However, some programs were enhanced, such as the opening of a second Day Reporting Center in Fairfield in 2011. Out of home placements were also decreased and more youth were placed with extended family rather than in group homes. The 2012 report focused on improving communication and resource sharing among all juvenile service providers.

The 2014 CMJJP highlighted the Misdemeanor Diversion Program run by the Probation Department. Similar to the Felony Diversion Program, the Misdemeanor Diversion Program provides targeted intervention services to youth charged with serious misdemeanor offenses in an effort to prevent entry into the juvenile justice system and reduce future delinquency. An individualized treatment plan is developed with the youth and his/her family and services are offered for up to six months. The Challenge Academy was also opened in 2014, which is a long-term commitment program at the JDF for males. The program emphasizes cognitive based interventions, counseling, community service, and restorative justice efforts. The 2014 report emphasized that Solano County would continue to proactively implement evidence based strategies and collaborative relationships throughout the county.

Review Process

For the 2017 report, the JJCC requested an independent review of the juvenile justice continuum of care within Solano County. Through a process of interviews, focus groups, and data collection, reviewers analyzed current service provisions in the areas of Prevention Programs, Early Intervention Programs, Community Based Services and Supervision, Residential Intervention, and Secure Care. Current delivery systems were reviewed and analyzed for identification of strengths, gaps and programs recommended for expansion.

The original Scope of Work was modified when reviewers were asked to include information about evidence-based practices (see Section V) and to consider the broader role of the JJCC (see Section VI). Proposed strategies for change are based on an analysis of community risk, assessment of service gaps, and also research on successful juvenile program models.

Focus Groups and Interviews

Several groups were targeted to provide information as follows:

- Law Enforcement including police, county sheriff, and school resource officers
- Probation Department including community supervision, Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP), day reporting centers, and the Juvenile Detention Facility
- Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and local Unified School Districts (USD)
- Solano County Courts including judges and district attorneys
- Social Services including mental health and child welfare
- Treatment providers including Aldea, Healthright 360, California Forensic Medical Group, and Healthy Partnerships
- Parents and youth involved in juvenile services
- Faith based community and community based organizations

The process included gathering information through on-line research and publications, telephone interviews, focus groups, and individual meetings. Contributors to this report are listed in Attachment A. Focus groups and interviews were conducted on dates as follows:

November

- 7 – Focus group with representatives from Solano County Office of Education and Dixon, Benicia, Fairfield/Suisun, and Vacaville USD
- 16 – Focus groups (2) with Probation Department representation from all levels of staff
- 21 – Focus group at Fairfield DRC with providers from Healthright 360 and Aldea
- 21 – Interview with Judge Daniels, Juvenile Court
- 21 – Interview with Mary Smith, District Attorney’s Office

December

- 29 – Interview with Dean Farrah, Superintendent at Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF)
- 29 – Interview with Julie Hilt, Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP)

January

- 24 – Interview with Brad DeWall, Solano County Sheriff’s Office
- 24 – Focus group at Juvenile Detention Facility with JDF staff and providers from Aldea, Healthright 360, Seneca Center, and California Forensics Medical Group
- 26 – Focus group with Child Welfare Services and Solano County Mental Health
- 27 – Interview with Michele Harris, First 5 Solano

February

- 7 – Interview with Heather Rae Sanderson, PAL program representative
- 7 – Interview with Minister Farrah Dews at Bethel Community Church Youth Center
- 7 – Interviews with parents and juveniles at Fairfield Day Reporting Center
- 16 – Focus group with Vacaville USD, Law Enforcement, and Boys & Girls Club
- 16 – Interviews with parents and juveniles at JDF and New Foundations

March

- 16 – Interview with Dr. Alana Shackelford, Vallejo USD
- 17 – Interview with Damien Spieckerman, Solano County Public Defender’s Office
- 17 – Interview with Troy Oviatt, Fairfield Police Department Youth Services Division
- 17 – Interview with Charles Anderson, Director of Solano County Healthy Partnerships
- 21 – Interview with Craig Long, School Resource Officer, Vallejo USD

The intent of the focus groups and interviews was to answer three questions:

- What services are currently offered to at-risk or justice involved youth?
- Are offerings successful in providing needed services?
- What services are needed that are not currently available locally to youth?

Interviewees were also asked if current offerings are based on programs that have been shown as effective in reducing recidivism. Questions were focused on agency efforts to utilize evidence-based practices throughout the service continuum from client intake to termination. Examples of discussion topics and questions included:

- Describe your referral process.
- Do you use a tool that assesses risk, needs and protective factors at onset of services?
- Are services provided responsive to assessment results?
- Does the case plan track progress of goals?
- What is the involvement of parents or guardians?
- How is completion of services determined?

Definitions of Commonly Used Terms

To ensure that language is consistent and understood by all readers, a complete Definition of Terms used within this report is provided in Attachment B.

II. DEMOGRAPHICS OF SOLANO COUNTY

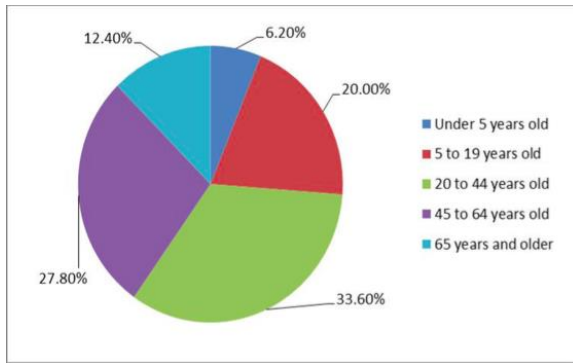
It is important to understand the foundation of the community in which we work. The diversity of Solano County's population has dictated the breadth of services offered to affected youth. In this section, Solano County's demographics are discussed in the areas of population, poverty levels, educational outlook, ethnic composition and juvenile arrests.

Population

Solano County has exhibited continued population growth. The California Department of Finance's May 2, 2016 estimate of the population is 431,498, increasing 4,794 residents or 1.1% over 2015. Of California's 58 counties, Solano County ranks number 20 in terms of population size. Solano County is comprised of seven cities including: Benicia (pop 27,501), Dixon (pop 19,018), Fairfield (pop 112, 637), Rio Vista (pop 8,601), Suisun City (pop 29,091), Vacaville (pop 97,667), Vallejo (pop 117, 322) and unincorporated areas (pop 19,661). All seven cities saw growth between 2015 and 2016, with the highest growth rate in Rio Vista at 4.2%.²

Solano County's greatest population is 20-44 year olds, representing 33.6% of the total. The smallest population group is under 5 years old with only 6.2% of the population. Current juvenile population for 5-19 years is 20%. Other age groups are represented as follows:

² State of California, Department of Finance, E-1 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State with Annual Percent Change — January 1, 2015 and 2016 - Sacramento, California, May 2016



Poverty Level

The number of residents living at or below the poverty level varies among Solano County’s seven cities, but has increased overall as a county from 8.3% in 2008 to 12.3% in 2016. City poverty rates: Benicia, 3.7%; Dixon, 11.6%; Fairfield, 9.8%; Rio Vista, 7.4%; Suisun City, 9.4%; Vacaville, 7.8%, and Vallejo, 14.4%.

Educational Outlook

Solano County has a similar pattern to the State of California overall in the number of college-ready graduates from high school since the 2007/08 academic year. Solano County saw an increase of 1.3 percentage points in the number of students eligible in the 2013/14 academic year from 35.8% to 37.1%. The data suggest that Solano County’s school districts are improving how they prepare students for careers beyond high school and for college education.

Ethnic Composition

The California Department of Finance generates population projections for all counties in California. Research has shown that over the next 30 years Solano County will become increasingly more ethnically diverse. Predictions for 2025 show that the overall population of Solano County will be 38.9% White, 26.5% Hispanic, 14.5% Asian, and 12.4% African-American, a slight shift from today’s estimates. In 2045, however, the Hispanic and White population will be closer to each other in proportions (35.4% to 31.6%).

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF SOLANO COUNTY RESIDENTS	2016 POPULATION ESTIMATES	2025 POPULATION ESTIMATES	2045 POPULATION ESTIMATES
White, non-Hispanic	40.1%	38.9%	35.4%
Hispanic or Latino	24.9%	26.5%	31.6%
Asian, non-Hispanic	14.6%	14.5%	16.5%
Black, non-Hispanic	13.7%	12.4%	10.3%
Mixed race, non- Hispanic	6.7%	7.7%	6.2%

Juvenile Felony and Misdemeanor Arrests 2005-2014

Juvenile arrests in Solano County spiked in 2006 but have decreased annually for the last eight years, with a decrease of 14.7% from 2013 to 2014 as referenced from the chart below. The California Department of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC) reports for 2014 that Solano County juveniles were arrested for 376 felony offenses and 813 misdemeanor offenses.

The most frequent felony offenses for which Solano County juveniles were arrested include burglary (86), assault (69), and robbery (54). Property offenses dropped significantly from 171 in 2013 to 102 in 2014. Sex offenses more than doubled from 4 to 10 and weapons charges increased from 24 to 42 in one year. The most common misdemeanor offenses include assault and battery (281), petty theft (140), and marijuana related charges (82). Charges associated with marijuana offenses dropped by more than 25%. Status offenses have been cut by over 50% from 113 to 55 with curfew having the largest drop from 46 in 2013 to just 7 in 2014. Consequently, as the number of arrests has decreased, the number of justice involved youth under probation supervision has dropped as well.

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Misdemeanors	2734	3628	3488	2817	2152	1979	1640	1087	942	813
Black	967	1462	1372	1043	769	663	592	354	297	328
Hispanic	661	835	920	755	577	549	407	316	266	210
Other	144	258	205	177	122	131	124	74	53	41
White	962	1073	991	842	684	636	517	343	326	234
Total Felonies	1083	1557	1474	1132	830	793	647	571	452	376
Black	494	759	717	555	339	387	304	266	175	152
Hispanic	215	328	324	254	216	155	142	117	111	105
Other	74	102	81	58	45	38	34	21	22	22
White	300	368	352	265	230	213	167	167	144	97
Total Arrests	3817	5185	4962	3949	2982	2772	2287	1658	1394	1189

Arrests are broken down by race as Solano County began an initiative with the W. Haywood Burns Institute to determine if there is racial disparity regarding arrests, response, and level of services provided. It is expected that marijuana based charges will no longer be tracked as they have become infractions due to new California law (Proposition 64). Status offenses may also cease to be tracked as curfew and other status offenses are handled separately.

III. EXISTING CONTINUUM OF CARE

Solano County has developed a continuum of care to address the issues of at-risk and justice involved youth. This section describes those services including prevention and early intervention programs, community based services and supervision, residential interventions, and secure care.

Prevention Programs

Prevention Programs are intended to avert crime by reducing risk factors in the community environment, schools, and the family, while increasing protective factors against crime and delinquency. Effective programs tend to address multiple protective factors and reflect the cultural values of the juvenile. Prevention programs should include the parents and community.

The Solano County 2016 Annual Report highlighted several prevention programs in the community that increase protective factors and reduce risk factors at the very basic needs level for youth who are experiencing family instability. Examples include:

- Healthy Food: A policy group was created to combat food deserts in Solano County
- Young Children Learning: Stay and Play Center at the public library
- Career Online High School (COHS): Adult students can earn accredited high school diplomas and career certificates while their children are at the Stay and Play Center
- County Volunteerism: A pilot program with the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership (CVNL) to connect volunteers with County departments and local not-for-profit organizations
- Housing Support for Homeless Families: Health and Social Services received several grants to provide wrap-around services for homeless families
- Crisis Residential Services: The Department of Health and Social Services new facility treats up to 15 individuals at a time with crisis residential services³

First 5 Solano

Solano County supports many prevention programs through First 5 Solano. First 5 Solano fosters and sustains effective programs and partnerships with the community to promote, support and improve the lives of young children, their families and their communities. Rather than providing direct services, First 5 Solano funds programs that provide support services to 0-5 age children that will set them up for a more successful childhood. Examples include: pregnant and new mother support, developmental assessments, caregiver and parental coaching, mental health assessments and services, school readiness programs, health insurance and a free and easy referral process to services throughout Solano County.⁴

Early Intervention Programs

Early Interventions are a system of appropriate coordinated services that support individuals and families during ‘front end’ involvement with the criminal justice system. Solano County

³ Solano County Annual Report 2016

⁴ First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Update;

<https://www.solanocounty.com/civicax/filebank/blobload.aspx?BlobID=21881>

offers a variety of early intervention programs and services. All representatives reported many services and activities available for youth and families. An extensive list of agencies and services providing early intervention services is provided in Attachment C. The following programs were created with the intent to divert youth from the formal probation system by addressing treatment needs and by responding quickly to the reason for law enforcement contact.

Diversion Programs through Law Enforcement

Police departments fund and manage local diversion programs, which have been designed to work best within their jurisdiction. Referrals are accepted from schools and law enforcement contact. The Vacaville and Fairfield Police Departments each serve approximately 150 youth per year and partner with local resources when needed to address parenting, mental health, restorative justice, and family stabilization services. Juveniles agree to a diversion contract. All police departments work with their local schools to provide School Resource Officers (SROs) to supervise the diversion programs and handle issues within the schools. The Solano County Sheriff's Office supports the schools located in the unincorporated area and has a school resource officer who rotates among county schools.

Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP)

The JCAP program began in July 2016. Low level or first time offenders are given the chance for referral to the JCAP program rather than being formally processed through the court system. The program uses restorative justice techniques to help youth understand the harm their actions have had on the community or victim, and then given an opportunity to make amends. Juveniles only remain on JCAP as long as needed to successfully complete their contract.

The Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR)

The Solano County Juvenile MIOCR project provides early intervention and diversion from formal judicial processing for mentally ill youth in Fairfield. The youth meet with a Diversion Officer at the Sullivan Center who conducts an assessment, currently the Global Assessment of Individual Needs - Short Screener (GAIN-SS) tool, to determine which youth should be referred to the MIOCR Probation Officer and Clinician. For referred youth, the clinician conducts an assessment, currently the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) tool, and completes evaluations, therapeutic interventions and subsequent referrals as appropriate. As part of the full community approach, training has been provided to probation, police, educators, community providers, and parents on youth brain development, impacts of trauma, and how to improve the health and safety of mentally ill minors while promoting alternatives to detention and improving community trust.

Felony and Misdemeanor Diversion Programs

The Probation Department began a Felony Diversion Program in 2006, which provides intensive intervention services to divert youth from the juvenile court system. Youth are screened and recommendations are made to the District Attorney's office for expedited review. A case plan is developed with the family and juvenile, and services are offered for up to 6 months. The Misdemeanor Diversion program is operated in a similar manner. Both programs are currently being revised to incorporate evidence based practices.

Unified School District Programs

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and the unified school districts proactively offer specialized school programs to meet the diverse needs of youth throughout Solano County. They understand that youth have a better chance at completing educational goals and staying out of the juvenile justice system when they regularly attend school. Probation, social services, community and faith-based resources, mental health, behavioral health, school resource officers, and law enforcement all work closely to stabilize families and youth to keep them in educational programs. Each city has its own school programs that fit the student needs in that area. An extensive list of early intervention school programs can be found in Attachment D.

Parents and Family

Parents contribute to interviews during diversion assessments and must give consent for their child to participate in programming. They are also encouraged to participate in school meetings and to work with service providers.

Community Based Services and Supervision

Community Based Services provide appropriate responses to individual needs while the juvenile remains in the home. Whenever possible, services are offered locally to limit disruption. This section includes an array of services available to youth and families who are at risk of entering the juvenile justice system or have already entered the system but remain in the community.

Mental Health Services

Solano County Mental Health, Aldea, Kaiser, and Seneca Center all provide mental health services to juveniles and families living in the community. Provider and level of service is based on results of an evidence based assessment, currently the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment, and the type of health care coverage available to the youth. Services can be offered in the home, at school, or at the provider's office as appropriate.

Drug and Alcohol Services

Healthright 360 provides counseling for drug and alcohol related issues for probation involved youth. A counselor facilitates groups at the Sullivan Center in Fairfield and the Vallejo Probation Office. Kaiser also provides multiple levels of drug and alcohol intervention programs including mental health services or inpatient treatment programs. Youth must have Kaiser Insurance to use this service provider. Healthy Partnerships has a small program at one Vallejo school location and has also agreed to start providing marijuana education classes at the Sullivan Center in Fairfield for justice involved youth. The Probation Department reported a gap in drug and alcohol services for youth outside of the Fairfield or Vallejo areas. This gap includes services for both at-risk youth and youth already involved in the juvenile justice system.

Juvenile Probation Services

The Probation Department works closely with other Solano County departments and community agencies to provide services responsive to youth needs as determined through an assessment, currently the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS). An extensive list

of community supervision programs offered by the Probation Department can be found in Attachment E.

Day Reporting Centers (DRC) in Fairfield and Vallejo

The DRC is a structured after school program for juveniles in need of treatment services. Services are provided by a community based organization (currently LCA , Inc.) and include mentoring, individual and group counseling, cognitive behavioral interventions such as Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and Thinking for a Change (T4C), tutoring, job skills, life skills, health education, recreation, community service, and reentry coordination. Probation completes the JAIS assessment and then refers for services based on assessment results. Clients can be referred for specific counseling services (a la carte) or for more comprehensive case management per their case plan. Each of the DRCs work to include the parents or guardians in treatment plans to encourage success at home. Transportation is provided.

Parents and Family

Parental consent is required to provide community based services. It was reported in focus groups that it can be challenging to make appointments with parents for assessments and approval of services. It is anticipated that parents will also be involved in their child's programs. As an example, the DRC conducts family nights to support parental involvement.

Faith Based Services

Solano County Probation and the DRC both work with local faith based organizations to offer mentoring programs for at-risk youth. These programs are limited and some are pilot programs, but the need for mentoring is recognized and effort is being made to utilize community based services to meet that gap. For example, the Bethel Community Church Youth Center offers after school tutoring and mentoring services at a drop-in center.

Residential Intervention

Residential Interventions are live-in facilities providing treatment for substance abuse, mental illness, or other behavioral problems. Examples of residential interventions include foster care, New Foundations, and group homes. This section describes briefly the continuum of care reform currently underway and the residential interventions available in Solano County.

Continuum of Care - Out of Home Placement Reform

As part of the Foster Youth Continuum of Care Reform (AB403), Solano County agencies continue to implement placement changes. AB403 emphasizes home-based family care, improve access to services without changing out-of-home placements to get those services, and increase the role of children, youth, and families in assessment and case planning. The measure establishes a core practice model to govern all services, whether delivered by a county or licensed provider organization, and provides medically necessary mental health services to foster care youth regardless of placement setting. As part of the continuum of care reforms, both probation and child welfare services are working to reduce the time youth spend in group home placements and encourage use of Resource Families who are approved to provide care for and meet the assessed needs of youth needing placement in a home-based setting.

Many youth involved in the child welfare system have access to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for support and assistance during court proceedings. Youth who are involved only with the Probation Department do not have access to these types of court support services. The Probation Department is currently working with CASA to develop a process for placement youth to receive a CASA.

Foster Care Placement

Seneca Center contracts with the Child Welfare Services Division and Probation Department to provide WRAP services and also an array of training available to Solano County and others throughout the region. Seneca Center also provides intensive treatment foster care (ITFC) for youth with emotional and behavioral challenges due to trauma, abuse and neglect.

Aldea is contracted to provide emergency foster home placement for Child Welfare Services. Aldea also provides intensive treatment foster care (ITFC) for youth with emotional and behavioral challenges due to trauma, abuse and neglect. These are both available to the Probation Department and Child and Welfare Services for referred youth.

Independent Living Programs

First Place for Youth offers an Independent Living Program to assist foster care youth who will be leaving the foster care system due to their age. Youth age 18-21 can receive housing assistance, mental health and support services, employment assistance, and healthy relationship skills. These programs are not currently available to juvenile justice system involved youth exiting secure care.

Mental Health

Solano County Mental Health provides multiple levels of mental health services to youth in placements such as foster care or other out-of-home placements when placed within the local service area.

New Foundations

The New Foundations program was established in 1996 and originally provided general treatment services. In FY2013-2014, the population was reduced from 30 to 15 beds to allow for a more focused approach in addressing youth who abuse drugs and/or alcohol. Healthright 360 uses the Teen Addiction Severity Index (TASI) to assess youth and utilizes the teen MATRIX to provide services. The program length averages four months, which includes family reunification efforts during the final phase. New Foundations will be undergoing a review in 2017 to determine best use of the program.

The Challenge Academy

The Challenge Academy Program re-opened in 2014 and serves as a secure commitment program for males age 15-17. The Challenge Academy can serve up to 20 youth and is nine (9) months in length. While in the program, youth receive mental health counseling from Aldea, vocational workshops through SCOE, and restorative justice circles conducted through a

partnership with the Solano County Bar Association. In addition, youth also work with community based organizations and businesses for vocational training and community service opportunities. The Challenge Academy works to reintegrate juveniles into the community. The staff members work closely with the youth to find jobs, finish school, reintegrate with their family or caregiver, and learn basic life skills to maintain employment and housing. These goals are attained by working with the youth in the community as well as at the facility and working with the families to improve communication while slowly integrating back into the household.

Parents and Family

Residential intervention programs invite parents to attend visitation hours and support furloughs for home visits for youth in out-of-home placements. Extended family members with stable housing are encouraged to provide foster care for relative youth. Efforts are made to get participation in family treatment services, as needed, to support reintegration.

Secure Care

Secure Care references services provided to youth when removed from home and confined in a county or state detention facility. This section describes the facilities available in Solano County.

Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF)

The JDF provides safe and secure housing for wards and at-risk youth under the care of Solano County, and offers a wide array of programs and services. The JDF also employs evidence-based interventions to include cognitive behavioral groups such as Thinking for a Change, and Aggression Replacement Training (ART). Offered on site are drug/alcohol education, medical services, mental health groups, individual sessions, and skill building. In addition, recreational activities and religious services are provided.

In 2016, consultant Dr. David Roush reviewed and assessed JDF operations to develop an action plan for continued program improvement. Dr. Roush also conducted social climate scales examining youth perceptions to identify areas of need based on youth perception, not solely staff perspective. Thus, two working groups were formed; one to address JDF programs and structure and the other to address staff training and development.

The training group has scheduled a 'Training for Trainers' regarding new practices for May 2017 and is also reviewing and updating training protocols for new staff. The programming group is analyzing the JDF schedule and identifying gaps in service that can be addressed through evidence-based programs. Also, being assessed is the messaging for rules and expectations, transitioning from a punitive model to an encouraging and more positive approach, as well as establishing a reward/point system.

Another JDF project underway is the facility manual rewrite in line with American Correctional Association (ACA) standards. Potential future steps include the formulation of a youth council and establishment of a token economy.

Educational Services

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides an accredited school program at all JDF programs so youth continue their educational path while detained. SCOE funds a Transitional Education Specialist position that helps youth transition back to their home school.

Treatment Providers

California Forensics Medical Group (CFMG) provides nursing services and medication monitoring in addition to screenings for suicidal ideations or other emergency situations. Aldea provides mental health groups and offers individual meetings to youth residing at the JDF, as well as offering family preservation services to the family in the home. Mental health and drug/alcohol inpatient programs are rare and located only outside of Solano County.

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

DJJ's population has committed serious and/or violent felonies that require intensive treatment services conducted in a structured and secure environment. DJJ remains the incarceration site of last resort for juvenile offenders adjudicated under WIC section 707(b) and other specified offenses. As of September 30, 2016, there were eleven (11) youth serving commitments at DJJ. These offenders will be supervised by the Probation Department upon return to the community.

Parents and Family

Parents and family members are offered family services while the youth are in secure care, as needed, to support successful reintegration into the family home.

IV. ANALYSIS OF CONTINUUM OF CARE

A component of this multiagency plan review was to identify strengths, gaps, needs, and programs requiring expansion. At all levels, interviewees reported a lack of parental involvement. With parents encouraged to attend and be involved with programming, it is recommended that JJCC member agencies address this issue and strategize on other options to engage families. Other feedback from interviewees was that basic services are generally available throughout the Solano County continuum of care so few gaps in specific services were identified. This section will address strengths identified by interviewees or via information analysis, and identify gaps in services and operational processes.

Prevention Programs

Solano County offers a multitude of prevention programs that adequately address protective factors and accurately reflect the cultural values of the juvenile. No recommendations are made regarding prevention programs and, based upon interviewees' information, this is a strength area for Solano County.

Early Intervention Programs

Promising early intervention programs are available throughout Solano County. Police departments facilitate diversion programs and work with schools to build relationships with

youth and divert them from the juvenile justice system when possible. MIOCR and several school-based programs address specific needs that may be an underlying issue regarding criminal behavior. JCAP provides restorative justice practices to quickly address at-risk behaviors and make amends to the community/victim. These are excellent examples of diverting youth from the system by using the least restrictive means necessary and are strength areas for Solano County.

A gap identified at the early intervention stage is the use of JDF for arrested low risk youth who are not immediately released. These youth are detained until they can be seen by an intake officer. That wait frequently causes them to be detained overnight and then released the next day, which can mean that a low risk youth spends at least one night in detention. Collaboration between law enforcement, JDF, child welfare, and foster care providers should create housing options for youth who do not meet the minimum risk level for JDF placement. It is recommended that a screening tool that measures risk to self and others be implemented to screen each arrested youth and objectively determine the least restrictive environment for release from custody. It is understood that such a process is currently in design with technical assistance through the W. Haywood Burns Institute.

Community Based Services and Supervision

Solano County provides many community based services that generally work well together toward the best interests of youth. The Probation Department administers an assessment tool, currently the JAIS, and recommends services in response to areas of risk and need. They use a team-based model to work with mental health, treatment providers, schools, and community service work programs to offer a complete approach to addressing juvenile needs. Multiagency meetings occur at the service level, as well as the administrator level, to discuss gaps and work to fill them. All agencies appear to work well together in the best interest of the youth.

The Probation Department did report few drug and alcohol services for at-risk and justice involved youth outside of the Fairfield or Vallejo areas. If youth had access to appropriate services, it may prevent deeper penetration into the juvenile justice system. It is recommended that options for additional substance abuse services throughout Solano County be explored.

Residential Intervention

Solano County has several options for both secure and non-secure residential placements. New Foundations specifically addresses drug and alcohol needs, and The Challenge Academy offers a high level of supervision while providing life skills for older youth who will be returning to the community. The Solano County Office of Education has worked with JDF to ensure educational needs are being met in all programs.

Solano County currently lacks local, short term placements that would be useful for youth while the family receives emergency services or until a relative placement can be found. An example is youth who are being processed for an arrest and cannot immediately return to their home, but do not meet the criteria to be placed in detention. Interviewees' feedback also noted that group homes lack services, are usually located out of county, and are not a positive experience.

In response to the current California statewide placement reforms, it is recommended that Child Welfare services and the Probation Department work together with placement providers to recruit and train homes that are willing to accept juveniles involved in the court system. These placements should seek to increase protective factors and avoid negative impact on the youth while encouraging reintegration with the family. An independent living program is available for foster care youth who will not be returning home to help them transition into adulthood. There is not currently an independent living program for youth in the justice system who are transitioning from secure care. It is recommended that such a program be implemented if feasible.

Youth supervised by the Probation Department do not currently have access to court support services through CASA volunteers. It is recommended that the Probation Department explore options to provide similar advocate services to justice involved youth.

Secure Care

The Juvenile Detention Facility provides a safe environment for youth who are at high risk to themselves or the community. JDF offers a wide range of services including mental health and educational services for youth who are either waiting for a court hearing or completing their court ordered sentence in a secure facility.

Alternatives to detention should be explored. Youth should only be sentenced to JDF or residential programs such as New Foundations and Challenge Academy if they meet minimum criteria for risk that recommends confinement while receiving needed services such as drug and alcohol treatment. Programs should be a therapeutic response to youth needs rather than a punitive response to technical violations. It is recommended that a committee explore options for alternatives to detention and provide recommendations to the JJCC.

V. EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

Within the field of criminal justice, research has changed the process by which we do business. It is now understood which best practices will provide a successful outcome and which services or practices are not effective in changing negative behaviors. This section defines evidence-based practices (EBP) and discusses basic principles. Interviewees were asked about their assessment practices and specific agency response to assessment results.

Criminal justice practices known as evidence-based practices are proven through longitudinal research to be effective in reducing the risk of recidivism. Core elements include the principles of risk, need, and responsivity. The Risk Principle states that individuals must be assessed to determine risk for recidivism using a validated assessment instrument. The Need Principle tells us to target interventions to individual needs and the Responsivity Principle informs us to be responsive to each client's specific needs when providing services based on identified protective and risk factors. Therefore, case plans should be individualized and responsive to the areas of highest risk and need, with referrals made to appropriate agencies for services.

Finally, data must be collected to support quality assurance, ensuring that programs are operating as originally designed, and for monitoring and outcomes analyses.

Prevention Programs

As EBP are by definition specific to 'criminal justice' systems, prevention programs are not a highlighted component in the research. Therefore, this area was not identified for an EBP review in Solano County's continuum of care.

Early Intervention Programs

Solano County has implemented programs throughout the education system and law enforcement that are based on recommended EBP guidelines. These programs have shown initial success. Our recommendations are based on continuing to improve these programs that already have a solid programming base in place.

Local police department diversion programs and the JCAP provide services based on the referral charge and an interview process. Some programs require the same contract items and time frames for all youth based on their charge, rather than varied levels of services based on the needs of the youth. Diversion programs generally include restorative justice components in which the youth completes an activity that is responsive to the harm inflicted on the victim or community. Several Police Departments conduct assessments to determine if additional treatment or mental health services are warranted. Fairfield and Vacaville all support programming based on assessed risk level, and Vacaville funds a social worker who administers the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument Second Version (MAYSI-2) during the interview.

Per EBP protocols, it is recommended that youth referred to Diversion programs for differing levels of charges receive different contract requirements for services. These levels can be responsive to supervision time and/or service. As an example, a 13-year old first time offender may contract to write a letter of apology to the victim and be complete in 14 days. However, a 17-year old may have a more serious charge that requires many hours of community service with completion due in 60 days. The principles of EBP suggest that programs should be responsive to client needs and not the same for all individuals.

Several school districts in Solano County offer a variety of specialized assessments to determine learning challenges, mental health issues, and behavioral disorders. The Fairfield and Suisun Unified School District serve youth with mental illness under the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR) grant. For referred youth, a Diversion Officer administers an assessment, currently the GAIN-SS tool, and for youth determined appropriate, a clinician then administers the CANS tool. Youth assessed with mental health needs receive services through A Better Way. Services are available for youth and parents.

Vallejo offers a multi-tiered system within their school system to encourage youth to stay in school and graduate. Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) are offered in every school to teach positive interactions and discourage negative ones. Restorative justice techniques are used to resolve behavioral issues and conflicts. Students may resolve issues

with restorative circles or may need to attend Youth Court to determine what restorative response is required. Vallejo also has a program called the Positive Youth Justice Initiative (PYJI) to provide trauma-informed services to high risk youth. All schools in Solano County currently use PBIS or are in the process of implementation. Each unified school district also provides alternative school programs to encourage high school graduation.

Each district has at least one school resource officer and most have several officers rotating among the schools. Vacaville specifically has a robust program that encourages positive interactions between law enforcement, school resource officers, and the youth. They also run a diversion program that diverts approximately 150 youth from the formal court system annually and includes social workers who conduct assessments and refer to needed services.

Community Based Services and Supervision

The Probation Department

Court Unit: The Probation Department Court Unit interviews youth to assess risk factors, strengths, and needs. Probation officers use an assessment tool, currently the JAIS, during the initial interview with the juvenile and parents, and complete a disposition report to the court. The report references JAIS components and uses scored sections to develop a recommended case plan. The judge determines whether the recommendation is appropriate and makes his/her disposition. Probation will then supervise the juvenile based on the court ordered conditions and the case plan. When under supervision, the supervising officer will complete a JAIS re-assessment every six months and at termination of supervision.

Supervision: General supervision probation officers facilitate cognitive behavioral groups using interactive journaling. The Probation Department is currently reviewing supervision strategies and creating new policies to better align with evidence based practices. New policies reinforce a model that supports less negative impact for lower risk youth and focusing supervision efforts on moderate to high risk offenders.

Sex Offenders: The Probation Department caseload serving sex offenders uses the Juvenile Sexual Offense Recidivism Risk Assessment Tool-II (JSORRAT-II). This tool is a one-time assessment and is not re-assessed.

Day Reporting Centers: Two Day Reporting Centers, located in Fairfield and Vallejo, provide services through referrals from the Probation Department. The Probation Department determines the level of services needed based on results of the JAIS.

Health & Social Services: Mental Health and Child Welfare

General Population: Youth in Solano County have mental health services provided by several agencies. Solano County Mental Health provides specialty mental health services and conducts a full Medi-Cal physical needs assessment to determine Medi-Cal eligibility. Cases that do not meet medical necessity are referred to community based providers such as A Better Way, Child Haven, and Uplift. These agencies provide services based on an assessment known as the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS). The CANS is used to reassess youth every six months and at termination of services. Child welfare youth also have support from Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) who are volunteers that support youth as they

navigate the court system. The Probation Department would like to explore the ability to provide similar services to justice involved youth.

Child Welfare Services: This agency conducts a screening to determine if youth fall within the “Katie A.” subclass⁵. They also conduct the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (C-SEC) tool which is not currently validated.

Community Service Providers

Aldea: Provides Family Preservation, general mental health services, and the STARS program at the JDF. Aldea currently uses the assessment tool known as the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS). The CANS is used to reassess youth every six months and at termination of services. Aldea is also piloting the C-Sec and the TOPS assessment tools.

Healthright 360: Drug and alcohol treatment services are offered by Healthright 360. The Probation Department and JDF contract with Healthright 360 who currently uses the Teen Addiction Severity Index (T-ASI) to assess youth. Healthy Partnerships has also agreed to start providing marijuana education classes at the Sullivan Center in Fairfield.

Interviewees reported understanding the importance of completing thorough assessments using a tool validated by research. All agencies are conducting assessments during the intake process. One service provider is administering a tool developed in-house to determine level of service, but is researching other options.

Previous CMJJP reports discussed a desire to promote one assessment tool as a constant across agencies. This would ensure that all providers working with a child would be using the same tool and corresponding case management plan. In 2012, this idea was determined to not be feasible as some providers require a specialized tool, such as a drug and alcohol assessment or a mental health screening. Mental health practitioners in focus groups shared concerns that subjecting juveniles and families to multiple assessments can cause re-traumatization. In response to this concern, assessment results are shared through MOUs between agencies and at interagency staffings.

Residential Intervention

As stated in Section III - Existing Continuum of Care, a variety of residential options are available to youth. The referral agent generally conducts assessments from which youth are referred for residential interventions. As an example, when the Probation Department refers youth to New Foundations or the Challenge Academy, it is based upon the results of the JAIS. JDF Group Counselors have access to assessments and case plans completed by probation personnel.

Youth are remanded to specialized programs by the court although reportedly, not all youth meet program requirements. Per EBP guidelines, it is recommended that juveniles be assessed appropriately and meet minimum criteria prior to being ordered into secured programs such as New Foundations and the Challenge Academy. In addition, as previously recommended,

⁵ <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Documents/KACorePracticeModelGuideFINAL3-1-13.pdf>

existing case plans should be shared, monitored, and supported while youth are in residence at any program. This will ensure that accurate services are provided across the continuum of care.

Secure Care

JDF Intake Officers gather information through an interview with the juvenile, the family, and a computer check of surrounding counties and databases. Intake Officers use the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) to determine if a youth should be detained or released to a parent/guardian. Intake Officers visit the JDF each morning to process any arrests from the previous evening. It is important to note that this process is under review and changes are being made to screen the youth prior to being admitted to the JDF. Results may determine that the youth does not fit criteria to be detained. The Probation Department implemented new booking criteria effective February 2017 and has pending changes to a new Detention Screening Tool and intake practices with assistance from the W. Haywood Burns Institute. This is all to reduce the amount of time that youth spend in custody at the JDF.

The California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG) provides nursing and treatment services to the general JDF population, but uses a basic interview only to determine suicidal ideation. It is recommended that a standardized mental health tool be conducted for youth requesting services and/or when services are indicated from the general assessment or case plan. Aldea also provides mental health services and uses the CANS to conduct their assessment.

Summary of EBP Findings and Recommendations

An excellent finding throughout the focus groups is that all service providers are conducting assessments as part of their intake process or being given a completed assessment with corresponding case plan. Based upon interviewee feedback, next steps are for each agency to review their assessment tools to determine if they are the most appropriate for the population being served. Appropriate tools are validated by research, measure protective factors as well as risk factors, and provide appropriate guidance for both that leads to a strong case plan.

Analysis of the accuracy or fidelity of case plans that are responsive to given assessment results was not possible. Analyzing specific operations would require on-site EBP reviews and audits of client files. It was reported by interviewees, however, that consistency in delivering services to youth across program areas is a concern. In the continuum of care, consistency of mental health and drug/alcohol treatment services can be difficult to maintain when youth are changing placements or moving to out of county placements. The referral agency should monitor consistency of appropriate levels and types of services. As the collaborative oversight council, it is recommended that the JJCC be involved with a response to this concern area. See the recommendation regarding a Program Review Subcommittee on Page 20.

Analyzing data collection practices and monitoring for outcomes was not a component of this review process. Data collection is, however, integral to understanding program success and/or areas for improvement. As part of their contracts with the Probation Department, Aldea, the Day Reporting Centers, and Healthright 360 track the number of youth served. It is recommended that youth be tracked over time to monitor trends as they progress through the

juvenile justice system and that the JJCC consider supporting this effort within all programs. See the recommendation within section 'Data Subcommittee'.

In Solano County, there is wide variation in agency knowledge about evidence based practices, both historical research and current best practices. The JJCC could act as a unifying entity for all member agencies to be at equal levels of understanding. The next section will discuss the JJCC's current role and recommended actions to promote and encourage EBP implementation.

VI. ROLE OF THE JJCC IN OVERSIGHT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Within this report is identification and analyses of the existing continuum of care. Also important is the role of the JJCC and its ability to provide collaborative oversight and direction to the individual membership. This section discusses areas in which the JJCC can be more supportive to the continuum.

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Overview

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) is a collaborative group responsible for overseeing services for at risk and justice involved youth. JJCC meetings occur twice annually and are well attended with broad representation of county and community juvenile programs. During JJCC events, various programs offer presentations on current services and members are responsible for ensuring programs across disciplines are reviewed regularly.

It will take a continued collaboration of all agencies to ensure programs are reviewed and assessed for best practices. The JJCC could potentially have subcommittees working to develop best practices and measure overall outcomes of the programs being offered. JJCC members could then be more engaged in assessing the programs within Solano County. While this and other recommendations may not all be possible to complete, it is hoped they provide options for the JJCC to move forward within a supportive role.

Data Subcommittee

It is recommended that the JJCC consider forming a subcommittee that includes a variety of JJCC members to design and create data reporting practices for member agencies. This is considered a best practice which allows the opportunity to track local trends and changes. Reporting data at meetings using similar elements, such as numbers of youth served, would allow the JJCC to analyze program progress and outcomes in a consistent manner across Solano County. This process would be invaluable to understanding what systems are working locally and what systems need modification.

Program Review Subcommittees

It is recommended that the JJCC create sub-committees to be more actively engaged in monitoring juvenile services as categories within the continuum of care for programs that are addressed in this plan. As an example, rather than separate programs reporting at JJCC meetings, it would be beneficial for an Early Interventions sub-committee to meet regularly to identify current services offered at this level. Data elements created by the Data Committee

could be collected, monitored, analyzed, and reported out on populations served via Early Intervention programs to the larger JJCC committee. This would ensure that the JJCC is aware of county trends and monitors outcomes. Next steps would be to track youth from entrance to departure from the juvenile justice system. This process would offer helpful information about services accessed by youth and families within the local continuum of care.

Communication of Available Services

Multiple focus group participants reported that, while services are readily available, many are not being fully utilized such as parenting classes, mentoring, and after school activities. Prevention and early intervention providers all reported numerous local programs offering after school sports, drama, or other activities, free or very low cost parenting classes, and mentoring programs throughout Solano County. However, it appears that people are not aware of these offerings and therefore referrals are not made. It is recommended that communication and resource sharing be enhanced so more at-risk families can participate.

Focus group participants stated that there is a gap between communicating services needed and services currently available through other agencies. With the addition of some basic information such as address and contact details, a model for this project can be found in Attachment C- Solano County Prevention and Early Intervention Programs.

Systems Guidebook

Parents and youth interviewed expressed confusion and frustration regarding the process of arrest, detention, and court process for their child. Several suggested a handbook or guide to help families navigate the court process and thereby understand the options available to them.

A Judicial Council Guidebook is currently available at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-delinquency.htm>, which is a general guideline for processes once a youth is accused of a crime. This resource could be made more available and be localized with contacts for services or situations so parents and youth can reach out to the proper contact and feel empowered to be a part of the solution. It is recommended that the JJCC consider opportunities to provide this guide more readily and include an addendum for any local policies or contact information.

Transportation Limitations

Lack of access to community service, appointments, court, and after school activities was a common theme throughout interviews. Juvenile mentoring and activities are provided by many agencies, faith-based groups, and non-profit groups, but they are not always accessible to youth with limited transportation. The Day Reporting Center and Boys and Girls Club both offer transportation services and, although is very time consuming and can be expensive, youth can safely get to and from these programs. Not all youth have access to this assistance.

As lack of transportation is a system-wide need, it is recommended that the JJCC review this concern. Providing transportation or developing programs close to schools and in neighborhoods that support youth participation may not be possible. However, it may be

possible that the JJCC could devise a system that supports youth in other ways to successfully complete court ordered requirements.

VII. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The continuum of care for providing services to justice involved youth in Solano County is a robust system. Through a series of interviews, focus groups, and data collection, it was determined that very few services are missing from the local continuum of care. Feedback from interviewees and analysis of the collected information does, however, suggest recommendations for the system to enhance service delivery to youth.

Continuum of Care Recommendations

1. Address the issue of lacking parental involvement and strategize on options to engage families.
2. Implement a JDF screening tool that objectively measures youth risk to self and others, allowing for release from custody after arrest.
3. Explore the need for additional substance abuse services throughout Solano County.
4. Recruit and train Resource Family homes and Short Term Residential Treatment Programs that are willing to accept juveniles involved the court system for short-term and longer term placements while working on re-integration with the family.
5. Create an independent living program for youth transitioning from secure care.
6. Create a program to support Probation involved youth like the programs run by Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) in the child welfare system.
7. Explore options for alternatives to detention and provide recommendations to the JJCC.

Evidence-Based Practices Recommendations

8. Provide youth referred to Diversion programs with differing levels of contract requirements based on differing levels of risk.
9. Assess youth appropriately and meet minimum criteria prior to being ordered into secured residential programs such as New Foundations and the Challenge Academy.
10. Share assessment results and case plans when possible to enhance communication, ensure accurate service delivery, and minimize repeated traumatization.
11. Conduct a standardized mental health screening for JDF youth requesting services and/or when services are indicated from the general assessment or case plan.
12. Review assessment tools to determine if they are the most appropriate for the population being served.

JJCC Oversight and Technical Assistance Recommendations

13. Form a committee to design and create data reporting practices for member agencies.
14. Create sub-committees to be more actively engaged in monitoring juvenile services as categories within the continuum of care.
15. Enhance communication of available resources so more at-risk families can participate.
16. Consider opportunities to create a handbook or juvenile systems guide for families.
17. Review options to enhance access and/or transportation to local services.

Attachment A

JJCC Project Contributors

The following individuals participated in focus groups and/or individual interviews with the purpose of sharing information for this report. All identified parties work within or for services connected to Solano County agencies.

Board of Education/Local Schools

Lilibeth Pinpin, Director, Innovative Programs and Student Success, Golden Hills
Victor Romualdi, PhD, Assistant Superintendent, Student Programs, SCOE
Carolyn M Patton, Ed.D., Director of Special Services Benicia USD
Michael D. Gardner, PhD Deputy Superintendent Benicia USD
Kim Govi, Program Manager, Educational Liaison, Golden Hills
Andrew Ownby, Executive Director, Pupil Services Division, Fairfield Suisun USD
Anthony Gipson, Truancy Prevention Specialist Fairfield Suisun USD
Bill Ewing, Director of Student Services Muzetta Thrower Education Center, Vacaville USD
Dr. Alana Shackelford, Ed.D., Director of Partnerships and Community Engagement, Vallejo USD

Day Reporting Center and Service Providers

Marcia Massa, LCA, Program Director
Diane Harrington, LCA, Director of Program Services
Barbara Laymance, Master RAS, CATC, Program Manager, HealthRight 360
Dr. Natasha Marina, PsyD, Healthright 360 Psychologist at JDF and New Foundations
Robert Garcia, Healthright 360 Juvenile Substance Abuse Counselor
Janelle Rose, Aldea STARS Community Program

Diversion

Julie Hilt, Executive Director, Juvenile Community Accountability Program (JCAP)

First 5 Association of California

Michele Harris, Executive Director, First 5 Solano

Early Intervention and Faith-Based Community Programs

Heather Rae Sanderson, Fairfield PAL program
Minister Farrah Dews at Bethel Community Church Youth Center
Travis Hitt, Director of Operations, Vacaville Boys and Girls Club

Health and Social Services Department, Mental Health and Child Welfare Services Divisions

Leticia De La Cruz-Salas, Mental Health Services Administrator
Christopher Cassels, Social Services Manager, Child Welfare Services
Thedora Ejimadu, MFT, Mental Health Clinician, H&SS
Anne Salassi, LCSW, Mental Health Clinician H&SS Foster Care Treatment Unit

Juvenile Court Services

Judge D. Scott Daniels, Presiding Judge, Solano County Juvenile Court
Mary Smith, Deputy District Attorney
Damien Spieckerman, Solano County Public Defender's Office

Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) and Service Providers

Dean Farrah, Superintendent
Anthony Nicks, Group Counselor
Par Dosanjh, Group Counselor
Jessica Almer, Group Counselor
Janelle Breed Grace, Senior Group Counselor
Dr. Kathy Kimsey, Aldea STARS program
Julie Falicki, Aldea Program Director
Justin Reitan, Aldea STARS program
Jennifer Dean, Nurse Manager at CA Forensics Medical Group
Maria Evripidou, LMFT at CA Forensics Medical Group
Charles Anderson, Director of Solano County Healthy Partnerships

Law Enforcement

Brad DeWall, Captain, Solano County Sheriff's Office
Todd Dye, Sergeant, Vacaville Police Department, Youth Services
Troy Oviatt, Fairfield Police Department Youth Services Division
Craig Long, Vallejo Police Department, School Resource Officer, Vallejo USD

Parents and Youth

Velicia Thomas	Parent of a child currently at Day Reporting Center & previously at JDF
Nicole Savoy	Parent of a child currently at Day Reporting Center, previously at JDF, and also participated in Probation's Felony Diversion Program
Cheryl Roberts	Parent of a child in New Foundations
Youth #1	Currently in New Foundations, previously in Napa County placements
Youth #2	Graduated from the Day Reporting Center, previously housed at JDF
Youth #3	Graduated from the Day Reporting Center, previously housed at JDF
Youth #4	Graduated from the Day Reporting Center, previously housed at JDF, and participated in Probation's Felony Diversion Program
Youth #5	Currently in New Foundations, previously in group homes, foster care, diversion programs and probation supervision
Youth #6	Currently in New Foundations, previously involved with diversion
Youth #7	Currently in New Foundations, previously involved with diversion, probation, truancy court, and group homes

Probation Department

Chris Hansen, Chief Probation Officer
Donna Robinson, Chief Deputy Probation Officer
Earl Montilla, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer
Lisa Wamble, Probation Services Manager
Adrienne Carson, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer
Julie Musto, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer
Maria Thomas, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer
Joel Quiban, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer
Silvia Elias, Senior Deputy Probation Officer
Amelia Diaz, Deputy Probation Officer
Monika Jones, Senior Deputy Probation Officer
Christine Grove, Deputy Probation Officer
Nancy Rocha, Senior Deputy Probation Officer

Attachment B

Definitions of Commonly Used Terms

Community Based Services- A system for providing appropriate services based upon individual needs while client remains in the home. Whenever possible, services are offered locally to limit disruption.

Diversion Programs - Programs designed with the intent to divert youthful offenders from the juvenile justice system, generally using restorative justice and/or other immediate interventions.

Early Interventions - A system of appropriate coordinated services that supports individuals and families during 'front end' involvement with the criminal justice system.

Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) - Criminal justice practices that are proven through longitudinal research to be effective in reducing the risk of recidivism. Core elements include the principles of risk, need, and responsivity, and identify how to best provide services to obtain the most successful outcome.

Prevention Programs - Programs intended to prevent crime by reducing risk factors in the community environment, schools, and the family, while increasing protective factors against crime and delinquency. Effective programs tend to address multiple protective factors under one roof and reflect the cultural values of the juvenile. Purpose is to keep juveniles from entering the juvenile justice system. Examples include truancy prevention, mentoring, conflict resolution skill building, etc.

Protective Factors - Elements that assist individuals in reducing risk for harm. Examples include, but are not limited to: close relationships with parents or other positive role models, prosocial peer groups, community engagement, positive school environment, social skills and a conventional belief system.

Recidivism - An individual's relapse into criminal behavior after receiving sanctions or undergoing intervention for a previous crime

Reentry - The process of returning to the community following a time period of supervision and/or confinement. Reentry planning begins when youth enter an institutional setting so that active plans for success have been made by the time release to the community occurs. Key programming occurs in the community (i.e., housing, employment and substance abuse treatment).

Residential Interventions - A live-in facility providing therapy for substance abuse, mental illness, or other behavioral problems.

Restorative Justice - a system of criminal justice that focuses on the rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community at large.

Risk Assessment Tools - A tool for obtaining information from interviews or other sources regarding risk for recidivism. A validated risk assessment tool has been proven through research to accurately predict the likelihood of future involvement with the criminal justice system.

Risk Factors - Elements that place individuals at heightened risk for harm. Examples include, but are not limited to: lack of healthy parental guidance and monitoring, disconnect with schooling, lack of prosocial peer groups, substance abuse.

Screening Tool - A simple test performed on a large number of people to identify those who have or are likely to develop a specific outcome.

Secure Care - Services provided to youth when removed from home and confined in a county or state detention facility for juveniles.

Status Offense - A noncriminal act that is considered a law violation only because of a youth's status as a minor. Typical status offenses include truancy, running away from home, violating curfew, underage use of alcohol, and general ungovernability.

Supervision – A period of time in which a client is monitored in the community as ordered by a court instead of serving time in a facility.

Transition Services - Services offered during the time period that spans the final phase of supervision and/or confinement and the first phase of community re-entry that includes pre-release planning with the offender, family, community agencies, and other involved parties.

Wrap-around Services - Services offered across multiple agencies, thereby creating a stronger opportunity for learning. Examples include, but are not limited to: cognitive behavioral therapy, family counseling, mentoring, drug and alcohol therapy, interpersonal skills training. These services should be included as needed based on risk/needs assessments at each level of service. In Solano County, wrap around services for youth in CWS, Mental Health and Probation include home based intensive mental health services provided by a contracted agency. Youth receive wrap around services through the Solano County Interagency collaborative.

Attachment C

Solano County Prevention and Early Intervention Programs

The following are examples of prevention and early intervention programs available throughout Solano County.

Program Name	Service Provision
Aldea ADAPT	Day Adolescent Program for Treatment; mental health for students grade 9-12
Aldea Foster Home Placement	Emergency foster placements, intensive treatment, and treatment foster care
Aldea SOAR	Mental health services for 12-25 year olds
ANKA Behavioral Health	Hope Program for Individuals and Family (Vallejo)
Benicia Family Resource Center	Local resource center where families can go for information, referrals, parent education, family support and other services. The resources and information are tailored to meet the needs of the Benicia community, and designed to make families feel welcome and supported
Boys and Girls Club of Vacaville	Safe place for kids to come after school providing time to do homework, healthy snacks, physical activities, and character building programs. Four centers including a teen center.
Caminar Mental Health Services	Drop in Center and Intensive Case Management services (18+ services)
Center for Positive Change	Adult program for employment and college services, but will take older youth
Child Haven	Intensive therapeutic services for children and family
Cleo Gordon Family Resource Center	Provides community based services including parenting, family recreation, job search, transportation, child care basic needs, etc. FRCs also offer parenting and resource libraries, parenting classes, computer and internet access for job search and resume writing.
Community Action North Bay	Provides housing and safety net services in Fairfield/Suisun City
Dixon Family Resource Center	The Dixon Family Resource Center (FRC) provides resources and referrals, basic needs assistance, parenting support and education, domestic violence advocacy, counseling, etc.
Uplift Family Services (formally EMQ)	PEAK program for age 0-5
Fairfield Domestic Violence Response Team	Addresses domestic violence In partnership with Fairfield Police Department
Fairfield Healthy Start	Family Resource Center
First Place for Youth	Develops independent living skills for foster kids in high school

Greater Vallejo Fighting Back Partnership	Family Resource Center provides resources and referrals, basic needs assistance, homeless assistance, mentoring, parenting support and education.
Help Me Grow Solano	Partnership with First5 Solano County provides basic needs, family support, physical/mental development, parenting classes
Liberty Church	Mentoring for youth in Fairfield
Living Hope Church	Mentoring, food, family support in Dixon
Mount Calvary church	Mentoring in Fairfield
North Vallejo Fighting Back Partnership	Family Resource Center provides resources and referrals, basic needs assistance, homeless assistance, mentoring, parenting support and education.
PAL	Services provided in all Solano County cities, Vacaville separates activities by child risk level
Positive Youth Justice Initiative (PYJI)	Vallejo USD provides services to crossover youth combining positive youth development with trauma-informed care, wraparound services, and enhanced assessment and response services based on each student's needs.
Rio Vista C.A.R.E.	Family Resource Center
SPACE-Solano Parent and Child Education	Online parenting classes, court mandated training and parent child preschool activities offered on sliding fee
Safequest Solano	Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault services throughout Solano County
Solano County Office of Family Violence Prevention	Partnership with District Attorney's Office
Solano County Health and Social Services	Parent and child treatment services
Tobacco Prevention and Education Program	Solano County
Travis Air Force Base: Airman & Family Readiness Center	Assessment and crisis counseling services
St Paul's Church	Community service opportunities in Benicia
Vacaville FIRST Office	Family Resource Center

Attachment D

Solano County Unified School District's Early Intervention Programs

The following are examples of early intervention processes and programs offered through the Solano County Unified School Districts.

- A uniform data collection system is in place county-wide to support an ongoing review of chronic absence data with timely follow up and identification of children in crisis with attention to trends and patterns (e.g., by race/gender/foster status/income).
- Monthly School Attendance Review Boards (SARB) are used to create plans to address chronic truancy
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is implemented in several schools (including the education program at JDF) and is an evidence-based practice. PBIS provides teachers with tools to better manage their classrooms by reinforcing positive behavior, discourages negative behavior, and teaches mindfulness.
- Vallejo USD supports a Youth Court to support restorative justice and keep students engaged in the education community
- Positive Youth Justice Initiative (PYJI) partners the Vallejo Unified School District, the Sierra Health Foundation, and the Probation Department to provide services to crossover youth combining positive youth development with trauma-informed care, wraparound services, and enhanced assessment and response services based on each student's needs.
- Community Day Schools provide an alternative program for students who are not successful in traditional school environments
- The JDF has an accredited school program so detained youth can catch up their credits to support timely high school graduation
- Benicia High School has a program called Isolated Classroom Environment. This program keeps juveniles on track with regular classroom work but removes the behavior from the classroom so other students are not impacted. This is for youth who have daily detention or short term suspension.
- Sierra School of Solano Day Rehab provides an intensive mental health academic program.
- Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) provides educational services to children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled from school. A disability IEP is required and affords related services so each child can benefit from educational opportunities. Available in Fairfield-Suisun, Benicia, Vacaville, Travis and Dixon
- Distance Learning Program is a web-based curriculum focused on credit recovery and earning a high school diploma-available in all Solano school districts and the JDF
- School Resource Officers (SRO)-Roles vary in each school district; funded by the district and/or the local law enforcement agency. Unincorporated Solano County Schools use an SRO from the Sheriff's Department. SRO's can build a bridge between youth and law enforcement or strictly enforce rules and remove unwanted behaviors from the school.
- Student Success Team (SST) and IEP Meetings include probation officers, academic support providers, teachers, principal, and school psychologists to track student progress.

Attachment E

Solano County Probation Department Community Supervision Programs

The following are examples of community supervision programs offered through the Solano County Probation Services.

- Case Management Services including school monitoring, home visits drug testing, and referrals for treatment services
- Community Service referrals to various providers throughout Solano County
- Electronic Monitoring as an intensive supervision for youth pending court proceedings or as an alternative to detention
- Family Preservation involves a probation officer and a family therapist to supervise and provide intensive, in-home counseling services for youth to prevent removal from the home
- Home Supervision provides limited supervision for youth awaiting court or as an alternative to detention that includes phone check-in and random home visits
- Interagency Committee staffing involves Probation, Children's Mental Health (CMH), Child Welfare Services, Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and Solano County's Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPAs) to provide multidisciplinary case management or case conferencing for youth who are in multiple systems of care. Partners also work together on placement for youth with complex and/or special needs determining, among other things, which system is most appropriate to take the lead with each individual youth and/or family. Interagency seeks to avoid out of home placement and/or to determine most appropriate placements for youth who must be removed from their homes
- Incentives and Sanctions grid provides consistency and is proven to motivate behavior change by placing an emphasis on positive behavior while applying appropriate sanctions for non-compliant behavior
- Interactive Journaling is an evidenced based structured and experiential writing process that motivates and guides youth toward positive life change that can include group or individual work
- Probation Officers are assigned to youth based on what school they attend to provide more collaboration between the Probation Department and local school districts.
- Weekend Academy is a graduated sanction used for youth who have committed probation violations or to satisfy community services hours.
- WRAP services is an intensive program with an officer and appropriate treatment providers working within the home weekly to stabilize the youth and family