



# The County of Sacramento

## 2025-2026 Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Plan





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## Chair's Message

The Juvenile Justice system in California has evolved considerably over the last 20 years. At the Sacramento County Probation Department, this has created opportunities for us to lead stakeholders and system partners through substantive reform and implementation of research-based practices, all while aligning our policies and practices with the tenets of adolescent brain development and better understanding of trauma and its disproportionate impact on the communities we serve. During this same 20-year period, we realized a precipitous drop in the number of youths under our jurisdiction – declining from nearly 4000 to just over 1200 today.

As our state and local juvenile justice systems grapple with continued change, we find ourselves with the monumental opportunity to better address the needs of youth who are at the far-end of our juvenile justice continuum. Senate Bill 823 realigns youth who are committed to the state Division of Juvenile Justice and requires them to remain largely under county jurisdiction effective July 1, 2021. With implementation of this landmark legislation, we have the opportunity to correct a seemingly obvious system flaw. We can better address the needs of youth locally who would have otherwise been committed and delivered to state facilities throughout California. Sacramento County youth will now remain in closer proximity to our community, family, friends, providers, clinicians, teachers, faith leaders and probation officers who understand individualized needs, treatment, and how best to support adolescent behavior. We believe this will result in a positive/successful outcome.

Fortunately, Sacramento County's performance with reform efforts and the resultant downsizing of our justice footprint has created both capacity and strengths, which we can leverage in our response to realignment. Our deep connection with education ensures that quality academic programming is offered, such as accredited junior high/high school, college options, and fully functioning library and vocational services. Further, our partnerships with local providers support an array of services including youth advocates with lived experience, recreation, and positive alternatives. Our trauma-informed group programs, commercial sexual exploitation programming, and our robust reentry services beginning at intake ensure youths' successful reintegration back into the community.

With these existing services and assets in mind, it is our goal to continue supporting healthy adolescent development and wellbeing, improve youth outcomes, collaborate with community-based providers, and maintain public safety.

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Julie Wherry

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Chair

Interim Chief Probation Officer



## Executive Summary

On September 30, 2020, the California State Legislature enacted Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1990-1995, the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Program (JJRBGP). The JJRBGP diverts the custody, care, and supervision of youth convicted of certain Welfare and Institution Code Sections to the local county level. Realignment legislation also directs the state to give counties funding to develop a local program for the qualified youth offenders. To receive this funding, counties are required to create a subcommittee of the multiagency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council. The purpose of this council is to develop a plan describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision, and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitation for the youth. This report incorporates Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 1995 (a) – (g) and the recommendations of Sacramento Counties Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Realignment Subcommittee (JJCCRSC).

Recommendations for the 2025-2026 JJRBGP Plan are summarized as follows:

1. Each youth committed to VOYA shall have an individual rehabilitation plan (IRP) developed within 30 days of their commitment order. The 30-day IRP is based on comprehensive assessment of the youth. The comprehensive assessments are shared with a multi-disciplinary team who will develop the IRP within 30 days. The MDT will include input from the youth, the youth's family, Community Advocates/credible messenger, mental and behavioral health clinicians, educational professionals, treatment providers, District Attorney, defense council, and any other person the Court deems appropriate. The IRP will identify the needs of the youth based on the comprehensive assessments and describe the rehabilitation treatment, plan for education, programming, and be trauma informed, evidence based, and culturally responsive.
2. Youth committed to VOYA will receive services and support in accordance with their IRP. Specifically, youth will receive treatment for all their needs, including but not limited to health, mental, emotional, any disabilities, any gender issues, and special needs. Youth will also be provided education in accordance with their IRP and be approached in a trauma-informed, evidence-based, and culturally responsive manner.
3. The Sacramento County Office of Education provides high school education services to both general population and VOYA youth through El Centro Jr./Sr. High School, the Juvenile Court school within YDF. SCOE provides additional educational services to youth in VOYA with a greater focus on advanced studies and career development compared to what is offered to the general population, based on their age and high school graduation status. To further support youth in VOYA, Probation and SCOE desire to provide liaison services for VOYA youth transitioning and/or living in the community with a Project Specialist 1, staffed by SCOE and reimbursed by Probation. The Project Specialist will connect VOYA youth and families to educational services within the community and will provide support to assist in the transition process upon release from the YDF.
4. To prepare each youth for re-entry into the community, each youth at VOYA shall be given a Re-entry Team at the time of admission into VOYA. This team, when fully staffed, shall be comprised of a Project Specialist, Community Advocates/Credible Messenger, and dedicated Probation Officer. Together this team will work with the youth in making progress towards their IRP. This team will also help create a Re-entry Plan <sup>1</sup>for transition back into the community. Once the court finds the youth can be discharged into the community, this team will continue to work with the youth in the community and to implement the Re-entry Plan.
5. JJCCRSC will continue to meet regularly to track, discuss, and assess information to identify gaps and opportunities to make adjustments needed for effective implementation of the 2024 Realignment Plan. Data will be collected utilizing various applications from all county agencies and evaluated to determine appropriate funding allocations for the following year.

<sup>1</sup> The verbiage "non-residential community-based plan (NRCBP)" was replaced in 2024-25 plan.



County has both strong county leaders and Community Advocates/Credible Messengers dedicated to achieving the goals of the JJRBG, rehabilitating our youth, and improving public safety. Below is a summary of Priority Recommendations for the JJRBG.

### **Sacramento County JJRBG Plan-Priority Recommendations**

#### Individual Rehabilitation Plan (IRP) and Comprehensive Assessments

- IRP will be based on a comprehensive assessment using an MDT approach
- Progress towards IRP will be reviewed at a minimum every 6 months
- Each youth will be given a Re-entry Team to facilitate in the IRP process and MDT

#### Youth Detention Facility Housing, VOYA

- Provide housing and supervision for realigned youth

#### Youth Detention Facility Services, VOYA

- Education/vocational/employment opportunities
- Adolescent development programs (peer-relations, life skills, journal program, mentor program)
- Pro-social activities and recreation (swimming, basketball, track and field)
- Community-based organization support services
- Spiritual and tribal support services
- Re-entry Team Support (Project Specialist, Community Advocate/Credible Messenger, Probation Officer)

#### Youth Detention Treatment, VOYA

- Behavioral Health (individual and group therapy: cognitive, family reunification, trauma, anger)
- Substance Use Prevention and Treatment (individual and group therapy)
- Sex Behavior Treatment Program (SBT)

#### Re-entry

- Education (Transition Specialist assigned to each youth to support with linkage to continuum education)
- Employment (Re-entry Team will work with employers to link and support youth to opportunities upon discharge)
- Housing (a housing plan will be developed for each youth using grant funds and county/state resources)
- Supervision

#### Community Engagement

- Community Advocate/Credible Messenger will be assigned to each youth
- Community-based organizations provide support to VOYA youth

#### Family Engagement

- Family Therapy provided to support family dynamics
- Family Visiting

#### Data Analysis and Reporting

- Collect and analyze data to inform stakeholders



## Background and Instructions

Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Sections 1990-1995 established the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program to provide county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the California Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to the DJJ prior to its closure.

To be eligible for funding described in WIC Section 1991, a county shall create a subcommittee of the multiagency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), to develop a plan describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision, and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitation and supervision services for the population described in Section 1990(b).

County plans are to be submitted and revised in accordance with WIC 1995, and may be posted, as submitted, to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website.

## Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Realignment Sub-Committee (JJCCRSC)

The JJCCRSC is tasked with developing the plan per WIC Chapter 1.7, Section 1995(a). According to WIC Section 1995(a), the committee shall be composed of the chief probation officer, as chair, and one representative each from the district attorney's office, the public defender's office, the department of social services, the department of mental health, the county office of education or a school district, and a representative from the court. The WIC also indicates that the subcommittee shall include no fewer than three community members who shall be defined as individuals who have experience providing community-based youth services, youth justice advocates with expertise and knowledge of the juvenile justice system or have been directly involved in the juvenile justice system. Sacramento County has four community members on their sub-committee.

To receive 2025-2026 funding pursuant to WIC Section 1991, the county plan shall be filed with the Office of Youth and Community Restoration by May 1, 2025.



## VOYA Vision

The vision of Sacramento County's Valley Oak Youth Academy (VOYA) is to develop individual rehabilitation plans (IRPs) for each youth using comprehensive assessments and a multi-disciplinary team approach to support positive outcomes for youth and public safety, reduced transfer of youth to the adult criminal justice system, reduced racial and ethnic disparities, and reduced confinement in the juvenile justice system.

A commitment to VOYA will constitute a safe and secure environment consistent with trauma informed care, equity, promising and evidenced based practices that meet the individual treatment, education, and service needs of each youth. Through this approach, VOYA seeks to establish conditions that are trauma informed and provide emotional safety for the youth in order to allow the youth the opportunity for:

- Self-expression
- Discovery
- Healing
- Empathy
- Conscious Choice
- Natural Logical Consequences
- Hope
- Accountability and
- Corrective Experiences



*Valley Oak Youth Academy – The Valley Oak tree is native to the Sacramento area. It symbolizes lasting strength and endurance. The acorn of the tree symbolizes unlimited potential that something so small has the potential to grow into a large majestic oak tree. A tree mural is painted in the program-housing unit.*

During initial orientation, a tree-focused activity identifies all the supports youth have when they enter the program. This visual tree continues to “branch” out with additional supports (e.g. family, advocates, providers, teachers, etc.) as they progress through the program. When youth leave the program, the visual reminds them they are not alone, they have support from many areas of their life, and they are growing into strong individuals capable of making healthy positive decisions that benefit themselves and the community.



## Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Realignment Subcommittee Plan Overview

WIC Section 1995(a)-(g) requires counties to identify 10 specific areas of their plan. These 10 areas include:

1. Subcommittee Composition
2. Subcommittee Process Information
3. Target Population
4. Program and Services
5. Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds
6. Facility Plan
7. Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System
8. Regional Efforts
9. Data
10. Progress Report

Sacramento County's JJCCRSC has carefully considered each one of these 10 areas pursuant to WIC Section 1995(a)-(g) and outlined the plan accordingly. Sacramento County is confident the plan created will meet our youth's rehabilitation goals and improve public safety.

**Contact information for this plan includes the following:**

County Name: Sacramento  
Contact Name: Jenny Ng, Administrative Services Officer III  
Telephone Number: 916-875-9843  
Email Address: [NgJe@Saccounty.gov](mailto:NgJe@Saccounty.gov)





# 1 Subcommittee Composition – Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1995(b)

List the subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information. If the subcommittee has opted to select a co-chair, identify the co-chair:

Agency	Co-Chair	Name and Title	Email	Phone Number
Chair, Probation Chief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interim Chief Probation Officer Julie Wherry	<a href="mailto:WherryJ@saccounty.gov">WherryJ@saccounty.gov</a>	(916) 876-8838
Court Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presiding Judge Kristina Linqvist	<a href="mailto:JuvenileCourtAdmin@saccourt.ca.gov">JuvenileCourtAdmin@saccourt.ca.gov</a>	(916) 875-5200
District Attorney's Office Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Principal Criminal Attorney John Grimes	<a href="mailto:GrimesJ@sacda.org">GrimesJ@sacda.org</a>	(916) 874-6632
Co-Chair, Public Defender's Office Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Supervisor of Public Defender Juvenile Division Reuben Moreno	<a href="mailto:MorenoR@SacCounty.gov">MorenoR@SacCounty.gov</a>	(916) 874-6411
Department of Social Services Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Director Human Services Melissa Lloyd	<a href="mailto:LloydM@SacCounty.gov">LloydM@SacCounty.gov</a>	(916) 874-9589
Behavioral Health Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Behavioral Health Director Dr. Ryan Quist	<a href="mailto:QuistR@SacCounty.gov">QuistR@SacCounty.gov</a>	(916) 875-9904
Office of Education Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Assistant Superintendent Jacqueline White	<a href="mailto:Jwhite@scoe.net">Jwhite@scoe.net</a>	(916) 228-2507
Children's Law Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Member Raechel Ibarra	<a href="mailto:raechelibarra916@gmail.com">raechelibarra916@gmail.com</a>	(530) 368-9401
FosterHope Sacramento, Justice2Jobs Coalition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Member Shanalle Patterson	<a href="mailto:spatterson@fosterhopesac.org">spatterson@fosterhopesac.org</a>	(510) 734-0632
Burning Bush Moments	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Member Richard Matulia	<a href="mailto:Richard@highmarkdigital.com">Richard@highmarkdigital.com</a>	(916) 402-7561
Anti-Recidivism Coalition	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Member Abel Diaz	<a href="mailto:ivargas@arc-ca.org">ivargas@arc-ca.org</a>	(916) 942-9080
Subcommittee Designees				
Probation (Chair designee)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Assistant Chief Probation Officer Marc Marquez	<a href="mailto:MarquezM@saccounty.gov">MarquezM@saccounty.gov</a>	(916) 874-4682
District Attorney's Office Designee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deputy District Attorney Michelle Becker	<a href="mailto:beckerm@sacda.org">beckerm@sacda.org</a>	(916) 874-7145
Public Defender's Office Designee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Assistant Public Defender Ashley Burg	<a href="mailto:BurgA@saccounty.gov">BurgA@saccounty.gov</a>	(916) 874-6411
Court Designee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Director of Operations, Juv. Div. Sarah Davis	<a href="mailto:DavisS@saccourt.ca.gov">DavisS@saccourt.ca.gov</a>	(916) 875-2555
Office of Education Designee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Director Wesley Marshall	<a href="mailto:wmarshall@scoe.net">wmarshall@scoe.net</a>	(916) 860-4794
Department of Social Services Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Services Program Planner Lisa Clark	<a href="mailto:Farrl@saccounty.gov">Farrl@saccounty.gov</a>	(916) 874-9501



2025-2026 Juvenile Justice  
Realignment Block Grant Plan



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Behavioral Health Services Designee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health Program Manager Jennifer Reiman	<a href="mailto:reimanj@saccounty.gov">reimanj@saccounty.gov</a>	(916) 876- 3230
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## Subcommittee Process Information

### **Define process utilized by subcommittee to determine whether a co-chair was desired (WIC 1995(b)):**

The subcommittee employed a procedure to ascertain its preference for having a co-chair by posing the question during a scheduled meeting. After discussion, it was established that the subcommittee favored the notion of having a co-chair. Subsequently, it was agreed upon to initiate the nomination process among fellow subcommittee members, followed by a voting procedure, during odd years. In the fiscal year 2024-25, there were two co-chairs appointed, with one position designated for a community member. This arrangement enables the community member to shadow the representative from the county agency while fulfilling the co-chair responsibilities. Members serving as co-chairs would hold their position for a term of two years or until their departure from the subcommittee, whichever occurs first. Fiscal year 2025-26, will begin the official nominating and voting process.

### **Provide dates of subcommittee meetings held during the year (WIC 1995(e)):**

<b>FY 2024-25 Subcommittee Meetings</b>	
July 16, 2024	January 21, 2025
October 15, 2024	April 15, 2025

### **Provide date plan was updated (WIC 1995(e)) and approved by the majority of the subcommittee (WIC 1995(c)):**

The 2023-24 plan was approved by the majority of the subcommittee on April 18, 2023. The 2024-25 plan was approved on April 16, 2024. The 2025-26 plan was approved on April 23, 2025.

## 2 Target Population – Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1995

### (d)(1)

**Describe the realignment target population that is to be supported or served by allocations from the block grant program, including the numbers of youth served, disaggregated by factors including their ages, offense and offense histories, gender, race or ethnicity, and other characteristics, and by the programs, placements, or facilities to which they are referred.**

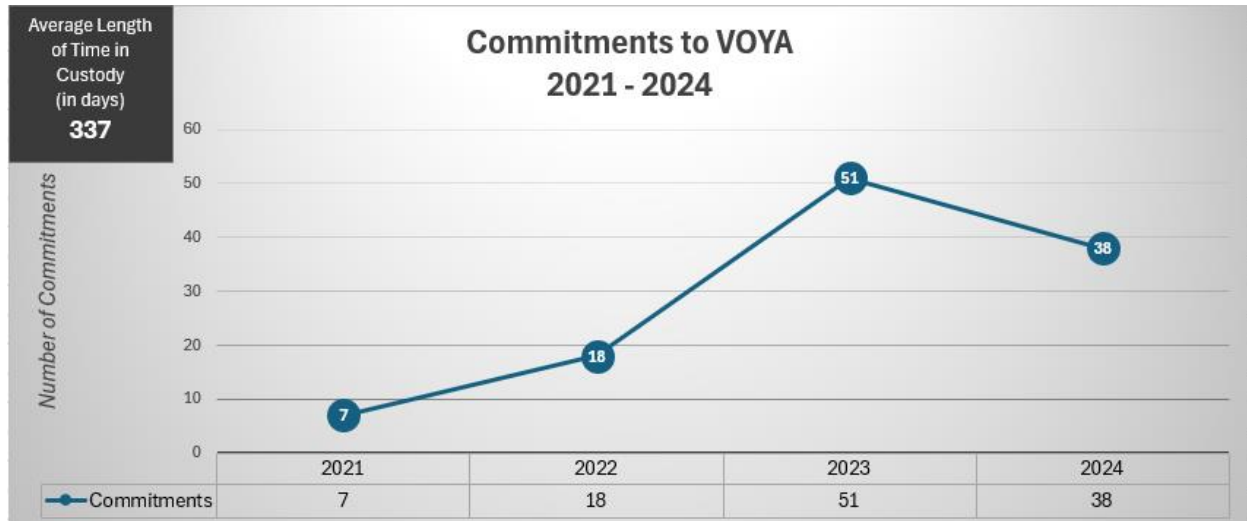
Sacramento County’s VOYA population includes youth (age 15 to 25) adjudicated as wards of juvenile court for serious violent felonies as described in WIC Section 707 (b) or sex offenses as described in Penal Code (PC) Section 290.008 (c).

Currently, the County does not plan to secure resources to address the needs of the following commitments

- Youth with acute psychiatric symptoms and mental health needs as committed youth would not benefit from the YDF programming due to specific treatment needs in these areas.



The following information depicts Sacramento County's VOYA population as of January 1, 2025. VOYA secure track numbers require staffing of 10.2 staff per unit, which equates to a total of 4 housing units, approximately 60 youth.



As of January 1, 2025, Sacramento County's VOYA population was 63. Of those youth, 57 youth have graduated high school or obtained a GED, 36 are enrolled in college courses, and three have already received their associate degree. All youth within VOYA participate in vocational training as a part of their regular program.

EDUCATION	
	VOYA
Enrolled in El Centro	6
GED	4
HS Diploma	32
College Courses	36
AA Degree	3
Project Rebound	1

AGE	
	VOYA
Age 16 - 18	36
Age 19 - 20	19
Age 21 +	8

CHARGES	
	VOYA
Robbery	29
Assault	10
Homicide	14
Sex Offense	5
Attempted Homicide	4
Carjacking	1

ETHNICITY	
	VOYA
Asian	2
Black	38
Hispanic	5
Multiracial	12
Native American	2
Pacific Islander	1
White	3

VOCATIONAL	
	VOYA
NCCT	22
Culinary	43
Has Food Handler Card	41
Art Sessions	16

GENDER	
	VOYA
Male	59
Female	4

Characteristics of Sacramento County VOYA Population



## Study of Sacramento’s VOYA youth

To further understand the population in VOYA, Sacramento County sought additional information regarding our VOYA youth. As such, Sacramento County compiled a list of all VOYA youth at YDF as of January 1, 2024, reviewed each youth’s case, and did a deeper dive into their needs. This review is being used in developing priority needs for the 2024-2025 plan. In summary, the data reviewed indicated:

Data Area	Outcome	Priority Identified
Demographics	85% of our youth are either African American/Black, Hispanic/Latinx, or Native American/Indigenous	Programs and services must be culturally competent with a race equity lens.
	50% of our youth are over the age of 19	Programs and services should be focused on meeting the needs and interest of this age group.
Gang History	65% of our youth had documented gang history prior to admission into VOYA.	Peer-relations support groups must be part of the treatment programs at VOYA
Zip Codes	50% of our youth lived within six zip codes throughout Sacramento County at the time of commitment.	In planning re-entry support, and understanding of services, additional focus should be given to those six zip codes; 95660, 95815, 95823, 95827, 95838, and 95843.
Risk Assessments	Approximately 54% of these youth were either high or very-high risk to reoffend.	VOYA services and support must address rehabilitation needs of youth



### **3 Programs and Services – Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1995(c)(2)**

***Provide a description of the facilities, programs, placements, services and service providers, supervision, and other responses that will be provided to the target population.***

Sacramento County provides VOYA participants with safe facilities, robust programs, supportive re-entry placements, a wide array of services and service providers, and trained supervision. Below is a short summary of each of these areas. A more detailed summary can be found in Sections 3-8 of this plan.

#### **Facilities**

The Sacramento County Probation Department operates the Youth Detention Facility (YDF). Deputy Probation Officers and Assistant Probation Officers provide custody, care, and supervision of youth while in custody. The YDF serves both pre- and post- adjudicated youth, between the ages of 10 and 25 years old who stay an average of 141 days.

The YDF also has an outdoor field, gymnasium, and pool for physical activities, programs, and organized sports. The current rated holding capacity is 416.

The facility consists of 17 housing units, booking/intake area, medical clinic, mental health offices, a visitor center, outdoor field, gymnasium, and pool. Housing units include general population, Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF), and maximum security units. General population units have consolidated due to the growing VOYA population, resulting in an increased population in the general population units.

The remaining four units are dedicated to the VOYA population. These housing units are self-contained and include classrooms, day space, dining tables and showers. Each room is equipped with a sink and toilet.

The location of these units is optimal as they have access to the 24-hour clinic, vocational units, and higher educational programs. The identified units also have a larger day space for programming needs as well as a connected and enclosed outdoor area for recreation.

All VOYA youth have their own dedicated sleeping space. The rooms in the single-tiered unit do not allow for double capacity. Although the two-tiered unit allows for double capacity, the intent is to keep youth in individual rooms.

#### **Programs**

Youth at VOYA have an opportunity to participate in an array of different programs. Programs are offered to meet the youth's needs regarding:

- Mental Health/Substance Use and Prevention
- Education, Vocation, and Employment
- Health Adolescent Development
- Re-entry
- Family Engagement
- Community Engagement
- Pro-Social Activities
- Cultural Awareness
- Parenting
- Life-Skills
- Job Readiness/Employment



Sacramento County is confident that the programming available to VOYA meets the needs of our youth as Sacramento County has already gained national recognition for programs currently offered at the YDF.

## Placements

Each youth is provided a dedicated Re-entry team. This team includes a Project Specialist, Community Advocate/Credible Messenger, and a Probation Officer. Together this team explores placement options and opportunities for the youth during their commitment to VOYA. The goal for placement is to be with family or independent living. Sacramento County is exploring housing options for our youth in community placement. Although Sacramento County does not currently have any dedicated housing, Sacramento County is committed to providing alternatives to incarceration consistent with the legislation act and is fortunate to have strong community resources. By using existing community resources, the Re-entry Team has a wealth of options for our youth and the ability to truly create individual rehabilitation plans. Further, by having an individualized Re-entry Team incorporating the lens of three different perspectives, a placement plan within the community can be created that not only meets the needs of the youth but also ensures public safety.

The three different perspectives making up the Re-entry Team includes a Probation Officer, Project Specialist, and Community Advocate/Credible Messenger. Examples of Youth Community Based Resources that pre-exist and are used to develop housing options and resources include, but are not limited to:

- Youth Forward
- Youth Explosion
- Black Child Legacy Incubator Sites
- Oak Park Community Center
- Waking the Village
- Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center
- Simmons Community Center
- Anti-Recidivism Coalition
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex and Allies (LGBTQIA) Center
- Burning Bush Moments
- Gang Awareness and Prevention
- Alternative to Violence
- The Beat Within
- The Bridge Network
- Contract for Success
- Foster Grandparents
- Gun Violence Information for Teens
- Man Alive
- Pine Grove Youth Fire Camp
- Self-Awareness and Recovery (SAR)
- Beautiful Evolutions
- La Familia
- Brother to Brother
- Foster Hope Sacramento
- People Working Together

## Services

### Multi-Disciplinary Model

The case managing Senior Deputy Probation Officer leads the Multi-disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings in the development of the youth's Individual Rehabilitation Plan through a trauma informed and strength-based lens. The IRP identifies the needs and strength of the youth in relation to treatment, education, mental and physical health, and their overall well-being. The IRP establishes the objectives required to achieve their



individualized treatment goals. The IRP is prepared with the youth, family, and their supportive network, thereby giving them a voice in the development and the ongoing management of the individualized rehabilitation plan.

### Medical

Sacramento County Correctional Health medical staff provides evaluation and assessment to identify the medical needs of youth upon entry/booking into the Youth Detention Facility (YDF). The medical needs identified may include but are not limited to vision, dental, substance use and medical health. Medical staff provide ongoing care to address the medical needs of all youth at YDF. After the youth is committed to VOYA, medical staff re-evaluate the youth's medical needs and provide medical care for needs not previously identified or addressed. Currently, medical staff are available on site 24 hours daily, 7 days a week.

### Mental Health/Substance Use

Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services (BHS) clinicians provide assessments and ongoing support and services to youth with mental health and substance use needs upon entry/booking into the Youth Detention Facility. After the youth is committed to VOYA, BHS clinicians reassess the youth and address needs not previously identified while continuing to provide services for ongoing needs. Currently, BHS clinicians are onsite 7 days a week.

### Education

The Sacramento County Office of Education provides year-round instruction in terms of GED, High School, vocational, and employment opportunities. Education services include assessments of the youth to monitor growth and progress.

In 2023, the Sacramento County Office of Education implemented the Prison Education Project (PEP). The program offers 7-week introductory courses in different subjects, to include Career Development, Intro to Soft Skills, Intro to Financial Literacy and Business 101, to add to their current college program. These courses are taught by university students and professors from 20 regional universities e.g. USC, UCLA, Cal Poly Pomona, Pitzer College, and various Cal State Universities. These volunteers are mentors for the VOYA youth and guide them through the contours of re-entry once they are released from custody. If the VOYA youth want to pursue college, the PEP assists in getting 100% of their tuition paid for. PEP has volunteers from Rising Scholars, a governor-sponsored program for formerly incarcerated students at 85 California Community Colleges and volunteers from Project Rebound, a governor-sponsored program for formerly incarcerated students at 15 CSU campuses. If the VOYA youth want to pursue a vocation such as driving or some other trade, PEP will help them pay for 100% of the training through their partnership with the Department of Rehabilitation.

### Re-entry

Re-entry services include a Re-entry Team consisting of a Project Specialist, Community Advocate/Credible Messenger, and a Probation Officer. This team delivers services to the youth to ensure appropriate re-entry services are planned for and are in place upon discharge.

### Family Engagement

Family engagement services include programs focused on family therapy, family engagement and family visiting.

### Community

Community Based Organizations are brought into the VOYA program to ensure community resources and services are provided to the youth to support healthy adolescent development and a smooth transition into the community.





## Housing Unit Supervision

Sacramento County recognizes that supervision of this target population requires a supervision model that incorporates both traditional probation supervision and a team that helps support accountability and opportunities. The following staffing model provides supervision of the VOYA population:

Positions	Duties
40 - Assistant Probation Officers (APO)	Supervise the youth throughout the entire day including mealtimes, during education and exercise. Frequently conduct or lead different program activities, for example, sports, art, or other recreational activities. Additionally, APO's counsel youth regarding their behavior. Document youth's behavior daily. Respond to emergency situations and provide written documentation to on duty Supervising Probation Officers.
6 - Senior Deputy Probation Officers (Sr. DPO)	Conduct assessments and develop a case plan for the youth upon commitment to a program. Regularly meet with the youth regarding their progress in the programs and court ordered treatment. Communicate with outside agencies, treatment providers and volunteers that are involved in the unit program. Supervise the unit to ensure communication between shifts occurs and a schedule is maintained. Responsible for first line facilitation of MDT's and review of court orders and reports. Order items for the unit as necessary. Ensure the unit and programs are running in a consistent manner. Provide performance evaluations of staff. Responsible for the evaluation of program efficacy.
2 - Supervising Probation Officer (SPO)	Responsible for the final review and approval of court orders and reports. Oversee the operations of the VOYA program, including the supervision of all VOYA staff. Communicate between administration and unit staff if necessary. Handle grievances from the public and maintenance requests from the unit. Review and provide disposition in an Institutional Incident Report.

*Unit Supervision Model*

### Supportive Supervision Model

Funded Positions	Duties
Project Specialist	The Project Specialist will connect VOYA youth and families to educational services within the community and will provide support to assist in the transition process upon release from the YDF.
Community Advocates/Credible Messengers	Provide mentor support to youth and work with youth on developing a permanent support system within the community. Once youth are transitioned into the community, meet with youth and family regularly to support and advocate for the youth needs surrounding food, clothing, shelter, pro-social activities, and life skills.

*Supportive Supervision Model*

Since creating the initial Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) Plan, Sacramento County has not created or filled the position of the Community Advocate/Credible Messenger, and thus has not implemented its full Supportive Supervision Model.

Because the Plan envisions that Community Advocates/Credible Messengers will play a critical role regarding numerous aspects of the plan, Sacramento County will prioritize the implementation of the Community Advocate position in FY 2024-25 by accomplishing the following:

- By no later than November 1, 2024, the JJCCRSC shall, using a deliberative process decided upon by the subcommittee, create and fill enough Community Advocate/Credible Messenger positions to effectively serve all VOYA youth. These positions shall be full-time and shall be funded by the JJRBG. Community Advocates/Credible Messengers shall have access to youth in their units in the secure treatment facility. The Community Advocates/Credible Messengers duties will include



participation in the development of the youth's IRP, serving on the youth's Re-entry Team, linking the youth with community-based programs and organizations and coordinating access to such programs and organizations pursuant to the IRP, and developing less restrictive program/placement options and reentry plans addressing housing, transportation, and connections with community-based services and programs, as described in more detail through the Plan.



## 4 Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address the mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of the target population.**

Sacramento County plans to apply grant funds to address the mental health, sex offender treatment, or related behavioral or trauma-based needs of this target population. Studies indicated that 85% of our youth were either African American/Black, Hispanic/Latinx, or Native American/Indigenous which indicated a need for cultural competency delivery of services. Below is a chart describing the application of these grant funds and a summary of how they will be applied.

Block Grant Need	Use of Funds	Allocation of Funds	Implemented
Mental Health, Substance Use Treatment, Family Therapy, Individual/group therapy, and sex offender treatment	Hire Senior Mental Health Clinicians and psychiatric services to deliver mental health and substance use treatment to youth committed to VOYA including individual, group, and assigned counselors. Maintain industry standards of 1:10 ratio of clinician to youth	Department of Behavioral Health	Yes
Sex Offender Treatment Program	Hope for Healthy Families	Community Based Organizations	Yes
Community Advocates/Credible Messengers	Provide Credible Messengers to support delivery of services that are culturally competent, trauma informed, and provided through a race equity lens.	Community Based Organizations	

### Mental Health and Substance Use Prevention and Treatment

Science documents the need for addressing mental illness, substance use, criminal thoughts, and behaviors from a co-occurring framework. VOYA hired clinicians licensed to specifically address mental illness, substance use, and criminal thoughts/behaviors simultaneously with cognitive behavioral therapy methods. Staffing for mental health needs to be consistent with industry standards of one counselor to ten youth in a treatment setting.

#### Individual Counselor

Each youth will be assigned an individual clinically licensed mental health counselor to help support individual therapy and counseling. Upon a recent survey of youth currently in VOYA, youth have indicated that they may be more willing to share past trauma in an individual session as opposed to a group setting.

#### Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT)

Family-based treatment and substance use prevention programs for adolescents impacted by drug and behavior problems as well as delinquency. This program is based on the recognition that many factors contribute to the initiation of drug use/abuse. This program focuses on four areas of treatment: adolescent, parents, family, and community.

#### Dialectical Behavioral Therapy Groups

Groups focused on skill building, mindfulness, emotional regulation, and distress tolerance. This group provides the opportunity to learn and work on utilizing skills prior to release.



### Transition to Independence Process Model

Curriculum that is developed for youth/young adults with emotional/behavioral difficulties. The program is set up to engage youth in their own future planning.

### Community Advocates/Credible Messengers

Sacramento County recognizes that delivery of mental health services is key to the success of the youth. In order to ensure mental health treatment is being received by the youth, Sacramento County will fund Credible Messengers to work with and teach alongside Behavioral Health in the instruction and interaction with the youth.

## **Sex Behavior Treatment Program**

Sacramento County offers different programs used to address therapy for juvenile sex offenders.

### Multisystemic Therapy-Problem Sex Behaviors (MST-PSB)

MST-PSB is the only evidence-based model for youth over nine (9) and under 18, who have committed sexual offenses. The curriculum includes an individualized safety plan for each youth and family. Intensive therapy addresses the multiple systemic factors associated with youth who commit sexual offenses.

### Behavioral Health Services

To address the needs of juvenile sex offenders, Behavioral Health Services provides Juvenile Sex Offender (JSO) treatment services inside the Youth Detention Facility with a 1 to 10 capacity.

### Hope for Healthy Families (FY 23/24)

Hope for Healthy Families Counseling Center is currently providing services for youth transitioning out of YDF/VOYA for FY 23/24. Hope for Healthy Families provides a high-quality outpatient program design consisting of sexually abusive juvenile treatment services aimed at preventing recidivism and promoting the prosocial development of youth. Hope for Healthy Families is a state-certified treatment provider for sex offender registrants. The program for this specialized service is referred to as The Phoenix Program. This program offers therapeutic services and has four state-certified associates to licensed providers. If youth have not yet completed their programming at the time of release, counseling will be continued in the community, during re-entry under supervision of Re-entry Probation Officers.

The treatment program uses a collaborative approach and includes the following elements:

- Individualized treatment plans for each youth driven by the Youth Level of Service / Case Management Inventory (Y-LSCMI) assessment;
- Juvenile sex offender risk assessments using both a validated static and dynamic assessment tool;
- Assessment of youth and family functioning;
- Trauma indicator screening;
- Relevant background, psychiatric diagnostic, cognitive and academic functioning;
- Intellectual capacity; and
- Physical functioning.

All factors of the treatment plan, including duration and intensity, must be customized for each sexually abusive youth, be collaborative in approach and include elements that have been demonstrated to be predictors of treatment success and reduced recidivism. Assessments are conducted using a cross-validated assessment tool appropriate for each youth's age group. The results of each assessment are used to inform the individualized treatment plan. An initial risk assessment is conducted prior to the development of the treatment plan followed by subsequent assessments at regular intervals and a final assessment is conducted prior to the termination of the treatment program. All treatment plans are reviewed through a collaborative process with Probation and the family prior to implementation.

With current contracts for JSO services ending, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for JSO services was sent out, however no proposals were received.



## Trauma Informed and Focused Care

VOYA is dedicated to providing trauma informed and focused care through training, services, and facility accommodations.

### Training

All newly hired sworn staff are trained in Universal Trauma Informed Care; additional trauma-focused training opportunities are available throughout the year. The training is countywide for local county departments and community agencies and addresses the impact of community childhood trauma and establishes a standardized common language and definition of trauma. Training includes implicit bias, race and equity, LGBTQTI, conflict resolution, and Two Spirits training.

Additionally, Department of Behavioral Health clinicians and Community Advocates/Credible Messengers, are trained in delivery of trauma informed care and committed to delivering culturally competent services.

### Services

In addition to providing individual and group therapy for youth committed to VOYA, the DHHS Division of Behavioral Health Services (BHS) provides an abundance of services directed at trauma informed and focused care.

BHS is a designated contact bureau and liaison to:

- Participate in the IRP and MDT processes;
- Research lists submitted by the Probation Department to identify Medi-Cal eligible juveniles;
- Determine the eligibility of the juveniles;
- Research Medi-Cal coverage for any juveniles who may be eligible for and/or entitled to such coverage based on disability or other linkage;
- Notify the Probation Department of the outcome of the Medi-Cal determination and issue a paper Medi-Cal card for the juveniles as soon as eligibility is established.

In addition, BHS delivers the following services:

- Crisis intervention
- Suicide Prevention
- Medication Support Services
- Skills Training
- WIC 5150 Applicant Designation
- Child and Family Team Meetings
- Re-entry Team Meetings
- Special Needs Meetings



**Trauma Informed and Focused Facilities**

VOYA includes a Multi-Sensory De-escalation Room (MSDR) which allows residents to process their emotions by engaging their senses through activities within the room. Unit staff submit a referral for an assessment, proactive, or de-escalation session. During an assessment, a resident is introduced to all items in the room, and through mutual conversation, a resident’s strengths, supports, and triggers are identified. When used proactively or for the purpose of de-escalation, staff will help a resident find ways to cope that may be utilized immediately or at a later time. Sessions are conducted on a one-on-one basis to provide individualized attention to the youth. A second youth may be present to provide additional emotional support and mentorship.



MSDR

**Support Programs or Services**

**WIC Section (c)(3)(B): Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population.**

Sacramento County provides youth in the VOYA with an array of comprehensive support programs and services. In addition to the mental health services outlined in Section 4, Sacramento County also provides support programs and/or services with medical services, education services/programs, and adolescent development. Sacramento recognizes a need for vocation/education, peer-relations programs, community advocates/credible messenger, and a project specialist to support our youth’s complex lives. Below is a chart describing the grant funds that will be allocated towards support services and programs and a description of the program and services that will be provided outside of mental health and treatment.

Block Grant Need	Use of Funds	Allocation of Funds	Implemented
Educational Support and Services	Development of vocational programs, increase of educational instructors, and supported services surrounding IEP’s.	Sacramento County Office of Education and Community	Yes
Community Advocate/Credible Messenger	Provide Community Advocate/Credible Messenger to support youth throughout their admission to VOYA and post-discharge in connecting and linking youth to community support.	Community Based Organizations	
Project Specialist	The Project Specialist will connect VOYA youth and families to educational services within the community and will provide support to assist in the transition process upon release from the YDF.	SCOE	Yes
Journaling Program	Develop a journaling program to support youth in self-reflection, awareness, and goal setting.	Probation Department	Yes
Defense Attorneys	Provide Defense Attorneys to support the statutory required advocacy of youth throughout their VOYA commitment.	Public Defenders/Conflict Panel	Yes
Probation Officers	Provide Probation Officer to support housing, re-entry, classes, services, visitation, and supervision needs of youth at VOYA and released into the community.	Probation Department	Yes
Peer-Relations Program	Create a program that can address healthy peer relationships to address gang issues and/or other peer-relations concerns	Community Based Organization(s)	Yes

**Medical Service - Sacramento County Correctional Health**



Under the umbrella of the Department of Health Services, Primary Health Division, Juvenile Correctional Health employs an interdisciplinary team of healthcare providers, registered nurses, and administrative staff responsible for providing legally mandated, relevant, and continually evolving healthcare practices that ensure high quality services and efficient service delivery to youth. Services include health screenings, immunizations, optometry, dental, routine and specialty care. Procedures are in place to provide care for any youth who appears to be in need of or who requests medical, mental health, or development disability treatment. In accordance with Title 15 minimum standards, medical, dental, and mental health matters involving clinical judgments are the sole province of the responsible physician, dentist, psychiatrist, or psychologist, respectively.

In August 2021, the Sacramento County Probation Department's Youth Detention Facility (YDF) received accreditation through the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCCHC). The YDF was evaluated based on NCCCHC Standards for Health Services in the Spring of 2021. As part of its review, the NCCCHC toured the YDF clinic area, housing areas, and intake/receiving areas. They reviewed health records, policies and procedures, provider licenses, administrative services or systems, health staff, and continuous quality improvement meeting minutes, job descriptions, statistical and environmental inspection reports, and health services personnel and training records. They also interviewed multiple administrators, medical doctors, staff, probation officers and juveniles selected at random. NCCCHC's standards have helped correctional facilities improve the health of their youth and the communities to which they return, increase the efficiency of their health service delivery, strengthen their organizational effectiveness, and reduce the risk of adverse patient outcomes and legal judgements.

Correctional Health operates with a correctional specific electronic health record system to provide innovative medical technology, thereby increasing efficiency in healthcare and service delivery. Staff include:

- Physicians
- Dentist and Dental Hygienist
- Supervising Registered Nurse
- Registered Nurses
- Pharmacist and Pharmacy Tech
- Office Staff
- Clinic and Program Manager

**Medical Service Components include:**

- Health Screenings
- Health Education
- Vision Exams and on-site optometry
- Dental Sick Call
- Immunizations
- Referral to mental health services
- Routine Medical and Emergency Care
- Infirmary Care
- Physician Sick Call
- Psychiatric Referrals
- Nurse sick call
- Access to healthcare treatment within the facility

**Education Services and Programs**

Youth at VOYA are offered education services and programs to support adolescent development. Education support and services are offered through an educational program at VOYA called El Centro Junior/Senior High. In daily collaboration with the Sacramento County Probation Department (Probation), El Centro Junior / Senior High School (El Centro) provides three educational pathways to residents within



the Sacramento County Youth Detention Facility. Juvenile and young adult residents engage in the pathways based upon their age and high school graduation status. General population residents generally focus on completing credits necessary to earn a California High School Diploma, while Valley Oak Youth Academy (VOYA) residents not only finish their diploma but continue on with advanced studies via transferrable community college courses, career technical education sequences that lead to pre-apprenticeship certifications and depending on length of stay, may engage in upper division university coursework leading to a bachelor's degree.

El Centro is operated by the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) in collaboration with Probation. In 2021 the school was awarded a six-year accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Additionally, El Centro partners with Lake Tahoe Community College and Los Rios Community College, to provide post-secondary courses that are transferrable to the California State University or the University of California. El Centro also offers high quality career technical education courses that lead to pre-apprenticeship certification. Non-profit partners provide a host of additional educational support services to students attending El Centro programs.

Displayed in the table below are the components of the current El Centro High School Diploma program, the current expanded El Centro programs offered to VOYA residents and future El Centro plans to enhance education for VOYA residents.

General Population and VOYA Residents: High School Diploma Program	VOYA Residents - High School Graduates: Current Expanded Offerings	VOYA Residents - High School Graduates: Future Education Offerings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intake Assessments:</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Math</li> <li>• Career Interest</li> <li>• Electronic Student Success Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily 21<sup>st</sup> Century Career Center Engagement</li> <li>• Career Exploration</li> <li>• Financial Literacy</li> <li>• Computer Science/ Information Technology</li> <li>*21<sup>st</sup> Century Competencies for College and Career</li> <li>• Author and speaker visits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual Reality Career Exploration</li> <li>• Google Expeditions Virtual Field Trips (museums, historical landmarks, time-travel through history)</li> <li>• Virtual vocational training</li> <li>• Maker Space STEAM Center (Square Root/916 Ink)</li> <li>• Robotics</li> <li>• *Digital Citizenship</li> <li>• *Computer Programming and Technological Science</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic Program</li> <li>• 245-day school year leading to a WASC Accredited CA HS diploma</li> <li>• Individualized based upon student need</li> <li>• Full complement of Special Education Services</li> <li>• Credentialed HS Counselor support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-secondary degree courses</li> <li>• SOAR College Program</li> <li>• Online AA Courses</li> <li>• Correspondence Courses</li> <li>• Hybrid courses (in-person instruction and online)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associate degree from Los Rios Community College</li> <li>• Post-secondary degrees</li> <li>• Bachelor's Degree from Sacramento State</li> <li>• Bachelor's Degree from Lake Tahoe Community College (in collaboration with LTCC and guidelines of AB 927)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career Technical Education</li> <li>• Introductory coursework: Culinary Arts and Construction Trades</li> <li>• SCOE Enterprises</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career Technical Education</li> <li>• eDynamic Learning CTE courses in all industry sectors</li> <li>• Advanced capstone courses in Culinary and Construction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer Science and Tech Certifications</li> <li>• Coding</li> <li>• Drone Technology</li> <li>• 3D Printing</li> <li>• Robotics</li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certifications towards Apprenticeship Required Knowledge and Skills Competencies</li> <li>• Guest Chef speaker series</li> <li>• Pre-apprentice certification Culinary and Construction</li> <li>• SCOE Enterprises</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career Technical Education</li> <li>• Full Culinary Apprenticeship with social enterprise component</li> <li>• Full Construction Apprenticeship with social enterprise component</li> <li>• 2-year Barbering State Licensure Program)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident mentoring support</li> <li>• Earth Mama Healing</li> <li>• Mentoring and/or Social Emotional Learning Series</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident Expanded Mentoring/Career and Post-secondary planning</li> <li>• Mentoring and/or Social Emotional Learning Series</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident Additional Mentoring Services</li> <li>• Mentoring and/or Social Emotional Learning Series</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-release support</li> <li>• Earth Mama Healing</li> <li>• Arts Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual arts</li> <li>• Spoken Word</li> <li>• Media arts</li> <li>• Music</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-release post-secondary support</li> <li>• Arts Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual arts</li> <li>• Spoken Word</li> <li>• Media arts</li> <li>• Music</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-release mentoring</li> <li>• My Brother's Keeper</li> <li>• Arts Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual arts</li> <li>• Spoken Word</li> <li>• Media arts</li> <li>• Music</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High School Graduation Ceremony</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CTE Certificate Completion Ceremony</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AA Degree Ceremony</li> <li>• Bachelor's Degree Ceremony</li> </ul>



## **Adolescent Healthy Development Services and Programs**

### VOYA Individual Rehabilitation Plan Program (IRP)

Each youth is enrolled in a VOYA IRP program. The purpose of this program is to develop a youth's individual rehabilitation plan. Through this program, youth undergo a comprehensive assessment of mental health, substance use, educational, criminogenic risk needs, medical, family, housing, and treatment needs. Through an MDT process that includes the youth, an individualized treatment plan is developed and submitted to the court. Further assessments and development of this plan are reviewed every six months with the youth and their family. Through this program, the youth remain engaged in their own adolescent development and re-entry process.

### Project Specialist

The Project Specialist will connect VOYA youth and families to educational services within the community and will provide support to assist in the transition process upon release from the YDF.

### Journaling Program

Each youth will be offered a journaling program while at VOYA to work towards self-reflection, goals, and a re-entry plan.

### Chaplaincy - Juvenile Justice

Chaplaincy volunteers provide non-denominational chaplaincy services.

### Community Based Organizations and Member Services

Community members provide emotional support and connection for youth while at VOYA and during the re-entry community setting, in the least restrictive non-residential community setting. Community members can enhance services for youth with a permanent support system within their own community that supports youth through a community lens.

### Probation Officers

YDF Probation Officers (in-custody) provide case management and supervision for youth who reside in the VOYA unit. Re-entry Probation Officers (in the community) provides accountability, supervision, and opportunity, connecting youth to community services and support during their transition into the community. Prior to commencing employment in the facility, all sworn staff receive 320 hours of training after completing a comprehensive background and psychological evaluation. Training includes cultural competency and LGBTQIA. Additional training above the Standards of Training for Corrections requirements will be evaluated and funding recommended, if necessary and supported.

### Re-entry Team

At the point of a VOYA commitment, a Re-entry Team comprised of multi-disciplinary partners, community members, the youth, the youth's family, YDF and Re-entry Probation Officers work collaboratively supporting the youth while at VOYA and upon re-entry into the community. The team works together in developing a Community Based Re-entry plan to include supportive community services and partners.

### Youth Advocates/Credible Messenger Service

Youth Advocates assist in developing and facilitating programs for youth that initiate the rehabilitative process and promote social awareness. Youth Advocates provide a liaison service between the youth, the Probation Department and / or other departments operating within the YDF by representing the welfare and best interest of the youth. Youth Advocates ensure essential and mandated services are provided to youth in a timely, unbiased, consistent, and effective manner; assist with coordination and implementation of changes to programs or service needs; assist with mediation and resolution of peer conflicts; and assist with coordination of resources for youth who have difficulty during their stay at YDF.



### Visiting Center

Opened in 2005, a dedicated Visitor's Center is open 7 days / week. Staffed by Probation Officers and Assistant Probation Officers, visits occur anytime during the Visitor Center's operational hours of 8:00am-8:00pm. Families may bring personal items for youth which are identified on the public webpage. Visitors may also purchase items from vending machines for youth to eat during their visit.

### Defense Attorneys

All VOYA youth will be assigned a Defense attorney to represent them during their VOYA commitment. Defense Attorney's will meet with the youth, participate when requested in the MDT process, and file appropriate motions upon request from the youth.

### Volunteers

The Youth Detention Facility continuously seeks volunteers 21 years of age and older to positively impact youth in custody. Volunteers who have a special skill set or talent are encouraged to contact the volunteer program coordinator. Volunteers are a valuable resource and can be involved in recreational activities, tutoring, diversion programs, chaplaincy, and/or just be there to listen. Information on how to become a volunteer is posted on the department's webpage under Youth Detention Facility.

### Tribal Advocates

Youth will be provided tribal advocates if they request one.

### Social-Emotional Learning Specialist

Sacramento will provide a social-emotional learning curriculum to youth who need support in developing social and emotional skills and behaviors that they may not have learned yet.

### Tutoring Service

If youth are struggling with academics, tutoring services will be provided if the youth choose to seek help.

### Peer-Relations Program

Youth are provided an intensive gang intervention program based on cognitive behavioral health, motivational interviewing, and social learning philosophies aimed at reducing resistance to behavioral change and decrease antisocial behaviors.

### Empowerment Mentor Program

Provide an opportunity to participate in an empowerment program designed to lift youth's confidence and build a sense of identity and strength. VOYA youth may be partnered with other youth through a peer support model. This model allows the youth to gain support from other peers that are also going through or have finished the VOYA program.

### Boys and Girls Club

In 2014, the Boys and Girls Club opened within YDF and is only one (1) of five (5) clubs inside the walls of a detention facility within the state. Studies have shown Boys & Girls Club programs in youth detention facilities can be linked to a reduction of serious incidents within the facility, as well as a reduction in recidivism rates. YDF Club staff work closely with probation officers to ensure the safety of residents, and to ensure the program offers opportunities for personal growth and development. Youth who participate in the Boys & Girls Club set and reach goals and engage in positive, pro-social activities that promote respect, creativity, and education.

### Garden

The Garden Program teaches youth about germination, composting, seasonal planting, harvesting skills, and healthy eating habits. Youth are able to enjoy salads from the produce they harvest.



### Leadership, Education & Athletic Program (LEAP)

LEAP emphasizes teamwork, and challenges residents both physically and mentally.

### Library

Located within an unoccupied housing unit in YDF, the library has over 11,000 books and promotes reading, improved literacy, and provides youth with resources to help them prepare for the transition back into their communities. Most of the books are donated or purchased through grant funds. All youth leave the facility with a Sacramento City Library card. The library creates an atmosphere of learning, education, and creativity.

### Parenting Visitation - Just Beginnings

Just Beginnings is a media-based parenting visitation program offered to youth in custody who are parents. It is designed to foster the connection between young parents and their children during incarceration. The primary goal of the program is to improve the quality of the parent/child interaction, and to foster a continued relationship during and after their release.

### Pool

Designated Probation Officers provide swim lessons to youth during summer months. Designated Probation Officers receive training to become lifeguards. The swim program is an opportunity for exercise and promotes positive social engagement. It builds confidence and increases water safety skills, which can prevent drownings and water-related accidents.

### Skills Training Enrichment Program (STEP)

STEP is a multi-disciplinary youth program encompassing education, mental health, recreational therapy, and physical fitness to build the youths' skills and improve their behavior. Program components include individual and group therapeutic activities that encourage pro-social behavior. Probation staff supervises and facilitates the STEP program with support and programming for mental health, recreational therapy, athletics, and the garden.

### Sport Competitions

Youth showcase their athletic abilities by participating in various sport competitions. The youth learn sportsmanship and teamwork while participating in friendly competitions. Sport competitions include, but are not limited to, 5 on 5 basketball, flag football, running relays and individual sports, swimming relays and individual swim competitions, and weightlifting.

### Community Outreach

Probation collaborates with Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks, Sacramento County Animal Shelter, and Consumnes River Preserve to provide no-cost, supervised VOYA work crews to provide youth life and work skills preparing them for re-entry into the community.

### Multicultural Journey: Who's This, What's That

The Multicultural Journey: Who's This, What's That, is an 11-week course on multiculturalism developed and facilitated by Officers at the Youth Detention Facility. Through group discussion and various engaging activities, the youth learn the importance of different cultures within society and develop knowledge to support other cultures as well as their own. The youth receive a certificate of completion at the conclusion of the course.



## Family Engagement – Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1995 (c)(3)(C)

***Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs.***

The Valley Oak Youth Academy is an opportunity to embrace our local justice-involved youth by collaborating with family, evidence-based organizations, and justice partners for positive outcomes. While addressing public safety, VOYA also aims to empower, support, and improve family relationships and services. Family participation is not limited to biological parents but can extend to non-related support persons/caregiver, spouses, and children. The JJCC Realignment Subcommittee developed a framework that supports partnership with family input at every step in the program planning related to the youth. This plan also includes a partnership with community members, justice involved youth, and other supports for successful re-entry back into the community. Sacramento County intends to use grant funds to address family engagement in programs. Below is a chart on how Sacramento intends to allocate grant funds towards family engagement and a brief description of the family engagement component of our plan. Please refer to the Proposed Budget document at the back of the plan.

Block Grant Need	Use of Funds	Allocation of Funds	Implemented
Family Therapy	Hire county clinical licensed professionals to deliver mental health and substance use treatment to youth committed to VOYA	Senior Mental Health Clinicians.	
Family Visitation	Probation officers will supervise family visits to support family engagement.	Probation Officers to monitor visitation.	

To address family engagement in programs, Sacramento County has developed the following family engagement programs:

### Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT)

Family therapy is offered to youth and family in order to improve family dynamics and ensure a smooth transition upon release from custody.

### Just Beginnings

A program offered to youth in custody who are parents. This is a media-based parenting visitation program designed to foster the connection between young parents and their children during incarceration. The primary goal of the program is to improve the quality of the parent/child interaction, and to foster a continued relationship during and after their release.

### Family Visitation

Family engagement is supported by offering families the opportunity to visit during visiting hours.

## Reentry – Employment, Housing, and Continuing Education – Welfare and Institutions Code Section (c)(3)(D)

***Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing, and continuing education.***

The County intends to apply grant funds in order to address reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing and continuing education. After studying the data regarding our current youth at the VOYA, Sacramento recognized that our youth need significant re-entry support and this area must be a priority of funding. Specifically, Sacramento recognizes our youth may need housing, funding for re-entry, and a supportive Re-entry Team. Below is a chart on how Sacramento intends to allocate grants funds for re-entry purposes and an overview of the re-entry program, linkage to employment, housing, and continuing education. Please refer to the Proposed Budget document at the back of the plan.



Block Grant Need	Use of Funds	Allocation of Funds	Implemented
Re-entry Team	Hire Project Specialist, Community Advocate/Credible Messenger, and Probation Officer to be part of the youth's Re-entry Team to support with linkage to housing, employment, and services.	Community Based Organization, Probation Department, Project Specialist (SCOE)	Yes
Probation Supervision in the community	Probation officers will supervise youth in the community.	Probation Department	Yes
Education Facilitator	Funding will be set aside to provide youth with an education facilitator to ensure linkage to continued education, vocation, and job opportunities.	Sacramento County Office of Education.	Yes
Housing and Supportive Services	Funding will be set aside to support costs of housing and providing youth with necessary essentials upon re-entry into the community.	Funding for housing (emergency and long term), clothing, transportation, cell phones, and/or other essential support.	
Incentive Funding	Funding will be set aside so that youth can work towards incentives.	Funding for items the youth may need upon discharge, such as, chrome book, work shoes, clothing, and cell phones.	Yes

## Overview of Re-entry Program

### Start of the Re-entry Process

For youth committed to VOYA, re-entry starts at the time the youth is committed to VOYA. At the time the youth is committed to VOYA, a comprehensive assessment is completed evaluating the youth's needs for: mental health, medical, education, family support, substance use, community support, housing, criminogenic risk needs, and the youth's identified goals. Once this comprehensive assessment is completed, a Project Specialist will connect VOYA youth and families to educational services within the community and will provide support to assist in the transition process upon release from the YDF.

The rehabilitation plan will be reviewed at a minimum of every 6 months to ensure that progress is being made towards rehabilitation. Members of the initial IRP MDT team and on-going six-month evaluation MDT team will include:

- Project Specialist
- Community Advocate/Credible Messenger
- Probation Officer
- Educational/Employment Transition Support Facilitator
- Department of Behavioral Health Clinician
- Any family supports
- The youth
- Defense council or District Attorney when requested

### Re-entry Team



Each youth in VOYA will have a dedicated Re-entry Team. This Team will include their Project Specialist, Probation Officer, and Community Advocate/Credible Messenger. Together, this team will support the youth throughout their entire commitment to the VOYA through post-discharge. This team will focus on 1) continual comprehensive assessment of the youth's strengths, needs, and IRP, 2) Community-based service support and connection, 3) Family engagement, 4) Employment Linkage, 5) Housing Linkage, 6) Education Linkage, and 7) any other transition support including clothing, transportation, and continued mental health and/or substance use needs.

### Preparing Youth for Re-entry

Sacramento County intends to support youth towards transitioning into the community through a variety of step-down programs. These options may include:

- Mentorship
- Work Release/Community Service
- Integration to general housing unit programs
- Non-residential Community Based Program
- Incentive Program: Youth can earn funds towards items they need upon discharge
- Work Furlough
- Passes

### VOYA Probation Supervision Upon Re-entry

VOYA Re-entry Officers provide field supervision once the youth return to the community. This is a key component of the process. The Officers assist with the implementation of the youth's re-entry plan and guide any decisions to adjust it. VOYA Re-entry Officers continue to collaborate with Re-entry partners to help the youth overcome any obstacles that arise.

### **Re-entry Housing**

Sacramento County recognizes that youth leaving VOYA will need to have secured housing. Secured housing for youth exiting their commitment at VOYA will be founded in efforts to:

- Link the youth to family
- Utilize state and county housing initiatives
- Explore renting bed space or buying housing to secure permanent supportive housing for our youth
- Temporary housing vouchers
- Funding set aside for housing needs and other supportive services

### **Re-entry Employment**

While the youth are committed to VOYA, youth will be given the opportunity to engage in vocational trainings that will provide them skills sets to gain employment upon exiting VOYA. An employment transitional worker through SETA will come into VOYA to meet with the youth and help connect youth to employment. VOYA will also hold job fairs and work with employers who are willing to employ a juvenile with a delinquency record. All efforts from the youth's Re-entry Team will be made to ensure employment opportunities upon discharge of VOYA. Youth will also be eligible for a work furlough program and passes.

### **Re-entry Continuing Education**

Each youth receive an educational transition facilitator. The role of this facilitator is to review the youth's academic standing and help link, coordinate, and facilitate the youth's admission into further continuing education or vocational opportunities. This facilitator will remain with the youth until there is a warm hand off into the community.

### **Other Community Re-entry Services**



In addition to housing, employment, and education, VOYA is committed to provide the youth with as many re-entry services and support available upon discharge. These additional supports include:

#### The Alternatives to Violence (ATV) program

Provides a curriculum offering youth a new perspective on life to foster mindset change from a fixed to a growth mindset and to cultivate hope that keeps moving forward, regardless of the adversity. ATV equips participants with tools needed to peacefully resolve conflicts inside and outside the detention center and utilizes Alternatives to Violence strategies to facilitate meaningful discussion.

#### Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC)

The mission of ARC is to change lives and create safe, healthy communities by providing a support and advocacy network for, and comprised of, formerly incarcerated men and women. ARC serves more than 300 formerly incarcerated men and women committed to living a crime, gang and drug-free life. Members are enrolled in school, work or are actively seeking employment and are of service to their community and the ARC network. To help members transition back into society, ARC provides counseling, case management, mentorship, supportive housing, employment and education assistance.

#### Black Child Legacy Campaign (BCLC)

Re-entry youth who are living within one of the seven community incubator leads (CIL) are referred to BCLC to receive assistance in identifying unmet needs/gaps in services (shelter, food, health care) and view, assess, and serve families in a holistic manner, which identifies their strengths and empowers them to work together towards greater safety, self-sufficiency, independence and improved physical and mental health. Deputy Probation Officers are embedded in the CIL-MDT community sites and collaborate with each incubator site to provide support, supervision and resources to youth participating in BCLC's prevention and intervention efforts.

Seven Community Incubator Leads:

1. Arden Arcade---Mutual Assistance Network
2. Del Paso Heights---Roberts Family Development Center
3. Fruitridge/Stockton---Building Healthy Communities (HUB)
4. Meadowview---Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center
5. North Highlands/Foot Hill Farms---Liberty Towers
6. Oak Park---Greater Sacramento Urban League
7. Valley Hi---South Sacramento Christian Center

#### Burning Bush Moments

Specifically designed for at-risk male youth, with focus on redirection of life choices through advocacy, reeducation and one-on-one mentoring.

#### Eligibility Specialist – Department of Human Assistance

When returning to the community, Re-entry clients are often unaware of their existing health insurance status, eligibility for general assistance and/or other government-assisted programs. Re-entry officers ensure the connection between the client and the eligibility specialist located within the adult probation office. The Re-entry officer contacts the eligibility specialist or medical nurse representative to receive approval and help facilitate an appointment for the client either in-person or telephonically.

#### Gang Awareness & Prevention (G.A.P.)

Dedicated to helping at-risk youth in the Sacramento area escape violence, crime, and desperation found in their relationships and neighborhoods. GAP offers assistance to parents and guardians and aims to find alternatives for youth to keep them from recidivating.





### Northern California Construction Training (NCCT)

The NCCT program is offered to the Re-entry youth prior to their release from custody. The dynamic of in-custody connections assists further connectivity once released. The entry level training is provided in multiple disciplines including: carpentry, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, electrician and welding programs. Re-entry youth may attend class in-custody while in the VOYA program and transition into the community-based NCCT program upon their release. Youth who attend NCCT may become members of various labor unions and learn lifelong skills leading to sustainable career opportunities. Re-entry officers work with the VOYA officers to assist in referral and participation in the NCCT program.

### Registered Nurse - Department of Health and Human Services

Re-entry clients who have questions related to their health and/or other specific care needs are referred to our Registered Nurse (RN) located within Probation's office at 8745 Folsom Blvd. Re-entry officers work to ensure connections are made between the RN and youth either in-person or telephonically.

### Sex Offender Therapeutic Services

Re-entry youth who did not complete their Juvenile Sex Offender counseling while at VOYA will be referred to an approved contracted provider (currently HOPE Therapeutic Services who work with the adult population of 290 PC registrants and DJJ population Re-entry youth). The contractor provides therapists who are specialized to counsel both adult and youth sex offenders in the community.

Other specialized therapeutic services are determined based on individual needs of each youth.

### Transitional Specialist - Sacramento County Office of Education

The Sacramento County Office of Education currently provides a transition specialist who helps ensure each re-entry youth has a clear pathway to make their educational transition as seamless as possible. The specialist safeguards every youth who leaves the facility with a library card, proper identification card, Social Security card, or other necessary documents.

### Wind Youth Services (Wind)

Re-Entry youth who are at risk of being homeless upon release from custody can be referred to the Wind Youth Services program. Wind is in downtown Sacramento and offers transitional age youth emergency housing and assistance with employment throughout the day. Once the referral process is completed by the Re-Entry officers, the youth is checked in at the main Wind office. If the youth need continued housing, two additional housing options for placement are considered. Each location is staffed with housing managers and Wind youth services staff to ensure a safe and efficient living situation for all the youth. Re-Entry officers routinely transport and make house visits to the locations to meet with the youth and staff members. During daytime hours, the youth are expected to seek employment outside the housing unit or work on educational advancement. If a youth is employed, the staff will assist in maintaining employment and are taught financial responsibility.

Sacramento County has not yet established a dedicated, stable set of resources to provide for the basic needs of every youth reentering the community from VOYA. To ensure that these youth are equipped to successfully transition to living independently in the community after lengthy commitment in a secure facility, the County shall set aside funding in the amount \$150,000 during FY 2024-25 JJRBG funds, and the use of these funds shall be restricted to paying for the cost of stable and secure housing (not an emergency shelter or hotel voucher), transportation, and other basic necessities (including food, clothing, toiletries, mobile phone, and service, household basics, and cleaning supplies) for youth reentering the community from VOYA. These funds may be used for youth reentering upon either discharge from VOYA or transfer from a secure facility to a community-based less restrictive program or placement.

The Probation Department, or an alternative designee chose by the JJCCRSC, shall track all expenditures from this set-aside reentry funding and shall provide an updated report accounting for these expenditures at each meeting of the Subcommittee.



## Trauma Informed and Culturally Responsive Services WIC(c)(3)(E)

**Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive services.**

Sacramento County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma informed and culturally responsive services by paying for mandatory training for staff and partners regarding trauma informed and culturally responsive care. Upon review of the data, Sacramento County recognizes that 85% of our youth are Black/African American/Hispanic/Latinx/Native American/Indigenous, and there is a need to be trained in trauma informed and culturally responsive services and deliver appropriate trauma informed and culturally responsive services. Below is a chart on how Sacramento intends to allocate grants funds trauma informed and culturally responsive purposes and an overview of our plan to ensure these services are provided. Please refer to the Proposed Budget document at the back of the plan.

Block Grant Need	Use of Funds	Allocation of Funds	Implemented
Community Advocate/Credible Messenger	Hire members of the community to serve as Credible Messengers when delivering trauma informed and culturally responsive services to the youth at VOYA.	Community Advocates to serve as Credible Messengers with youth.	
Peer-Relations, empowerment, and rehabilitation	Community Based Organization to deliver culturally responsive services surrounding peer relations, empowerment, and rehabilitation.	Community Based Organizations to support community groups.	Yes
Training	Funding will be set aside to provide youth with an education facilitator to ensure linkage to continued education, vocation, and job opportunities.	All justice partners and community-based organizations involved with delivery of services.	Yes

### Community Advocate/Credible Messengers

Community Advocates/Credible Messengers, individuals with direct lived experience will be hired to ensure that the delivery of services at VOYA are trauma informed and culturally competent. They will be used with the delivery of mental health services, substance abuse, and family engagement.

### Peer-Relations Group

Peer-Relations Group will be available for youth who have prior gang history or issues in their background with creating positive peer relationships. This group will be trauma informed and also culturally competent in order to deliver services that youth will relate to and move towards a rehabilitative process.

### Training

All YDF staff participate in continuous training to equip them with the necessary tools to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive services to the target population. Some of the training received by Probation staff is listed below.

### **Prison Rape Elimination Act - PREA**

All staff, volunteers, and residents in the YDF must adhere to PREA guidelines. The Sacramento County Probation Department is committed to providing a safe, humane, secure environment, free from sexual misconduct. There is zero tolerance for sexual misconduct in the Youth Detention Facility. All sexual misconduct is strictly prohibited.



## **LGBTQI Training**

The YDF provides all staff training in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) community/culture to ensure fairness and respect for LGBTQI youth in the facility. The training addresses the following: creating an environment of sensitivity and professional boundaries for all youth and especially towards LGBTQI youth (harm reduction), discussing the experiences and the challenges of LGBTQI youth and promoting competency in working with LGBTQI youth. Additionally, this training will include identification and training on Two Spirits.

## **Academy Training**

All new employees receive 320 hours training prior to commencing employment in the facility. Training includes:

- PC 832 – Laws of Arrest, Search and Seizure
- Evidence based motivational interviewing techniques
- Juvenile Correction Officer Core (JCO Core)
- Evidence based motivational interviewing techniques
- Trauma Informed Care provided by UC Davis CAARES
- Culture Diversity/Implicit Bias Training
- De-escalation Techniques
- Mental Health/Suicide Education
- Professionalism/Ethics

In addition to the extensive training, the YDF will continue collaborating with justice partners and Juvenile Court. Keeping collaborative partners informed of the broad range of services afforded to the target population in our facility is the primary goal.



## Services and Programs: Community-Based Providers – WIC (c)(3)(F)

**Describe whether and how the County plans to apply grant funds to include services or programs for the target population that are provided by nongovernmental or community-based providers.**

Sacramento County intends to apply grant funds to contract with community-based providers to support Community Advocates/Credible Messengers. YDF currently utilizes an array of nongovernmental and community-based providers to further support youth in custody. Sacramento County recognizes that funding community services and programs are essential. We will need paid Community Advocates/Credible Messengers to help support youth, provide groups, deliver mental health support, and be Credible Messengers from within our own community. Below is a chart on how Sacramento intends to allocate grants funds to community-based providers and an overview of our plan to ensure these services are provided. Please refer to the Proposed Budget document at the back of the plan.

Block Grant Need	Use of Funds	Allocation of Funds	Implemented
Community Advocates/Credible Messenger	Hire members of the community to serve as Credible Messengers when delivering trauma informed and culturally responsive services to the youth at VOYA.	Community Advocates to serve as Credible Messengers with youth	
Peer-Relations Group, empowerment, and rehabilitation	Community Based Organization to deliver culturally responsive services surrounding peer relations, empowerment, and rehabilitation.	Community Based Organizations to support community groups	Yes
Mental Health	Sacramento County intends to bring into VOYA mental health providers that are community based to provide groups.	Community Based Organizations to support delivery of mental health groups and therapy.	Yes

### Alternatives to Violence (ATV)

ATV curriculum is provided to residents as part of a collaboration with the Health Education Council and the Sacramento Minority Youth Violence Prevention Collective to link law enforcement, public health, and community organizations to reduce minority youth violence in and out of custody.

### The Beat Within

Provides literacy workshop program for youth with consistent opportunities to share their ideas and life experiences in a safe space that encourages literacy, self-expression, some critical thinking skills, and healthy, supportive relationships with adults and their community.

### Boys and Girls Club

In 2014, Boys and Girls Club opened within YDF and is only one of five inside the walls of a detention facility within the state. Studies have shown Boys & Girls Club programs in youth detention facilities can be linked to a reduction of serious incidents within the facility, as well as a reduction in recidivism rates. YDF Club staff work closely with probation officers to ensure the safety of residents, and to ensure the program offers opportunities for personal growth and development.

### Burning Bush Moments

Founded on the principle that there is a greater purpose and strength in all of us. Their goal is to intervene on behalf of our youth to help build character, influence behavioral changes, and assist in their developing a sense of what that life path might be.



### Conflict Resolution

Provides services to the YDF residents that include techniques for conflict resolution and violence prevention via the Alternatives to Violence curriculum. Program components include examining ways to handle conflict appropriately, discussing awareness and acknowledgment of violence prevention, and developing resolutions using goal setting and identifying solutions to potential roadblocks.

### Contract for Success

A program that consists of attorneys and judges donating their time to positively influence residents and provides youth a chance to talk to attorneys and judges outside of the courtroom, which is a new experience. Speakers share their struggles to demonstrate how we learn from our mistakes.

### Foster Grandparents

Volunteers who come into the facility and work in the unit to socialize and provide mentorship with residents. They conduct book clubs, one-on-one visits, and play games.

### Gang Awareness & Prevention (G.A.P.)

Dedicated to helping at-risk youth in the Sacramento area escape violence, crime, and desperation found in their relationships and neighborhoods. They offer help to parents and guardians and find alternatives for children to keep them from getting into trouble. These are taught by those who have learned the hard way how to make the right choices. G.A.P. provides alternatives to finding trouble by reaching the youth on the 'outs'. They have a team of men and women who counsel youth in changing their destructive lifestyle, as well as helping them grow spiritually.

### Northern California Construction Training (NCCT)

Prepares youth for careers in construction with practical applications. A credentialed, experienced teacher provided by Sacramento County Office of Education teaches job safety, industry terminology, reading blueprints. Upon release, youth can transition to the NCCT program, which also operates in the community.

### Yoga Certified instructor

Weekly classes are held for YDF residents. These classes help residents create strength, awareness, and harmony in both the mind and body.

### YMCA

Provides swim instruction to youths during summer months

### 916 INK writing program

Allows youth to explore their thoughts, feelings, and inspirations. 916 INK transforms everyday youth into published authors by inspiring youth to write stories, essays, and poems for publication in beautiful books. 916 INK is dedicated to promoting youth development and health by empowering residents to engage in literacy arts.



## 5 Facility Plan – WIC(c)(4)

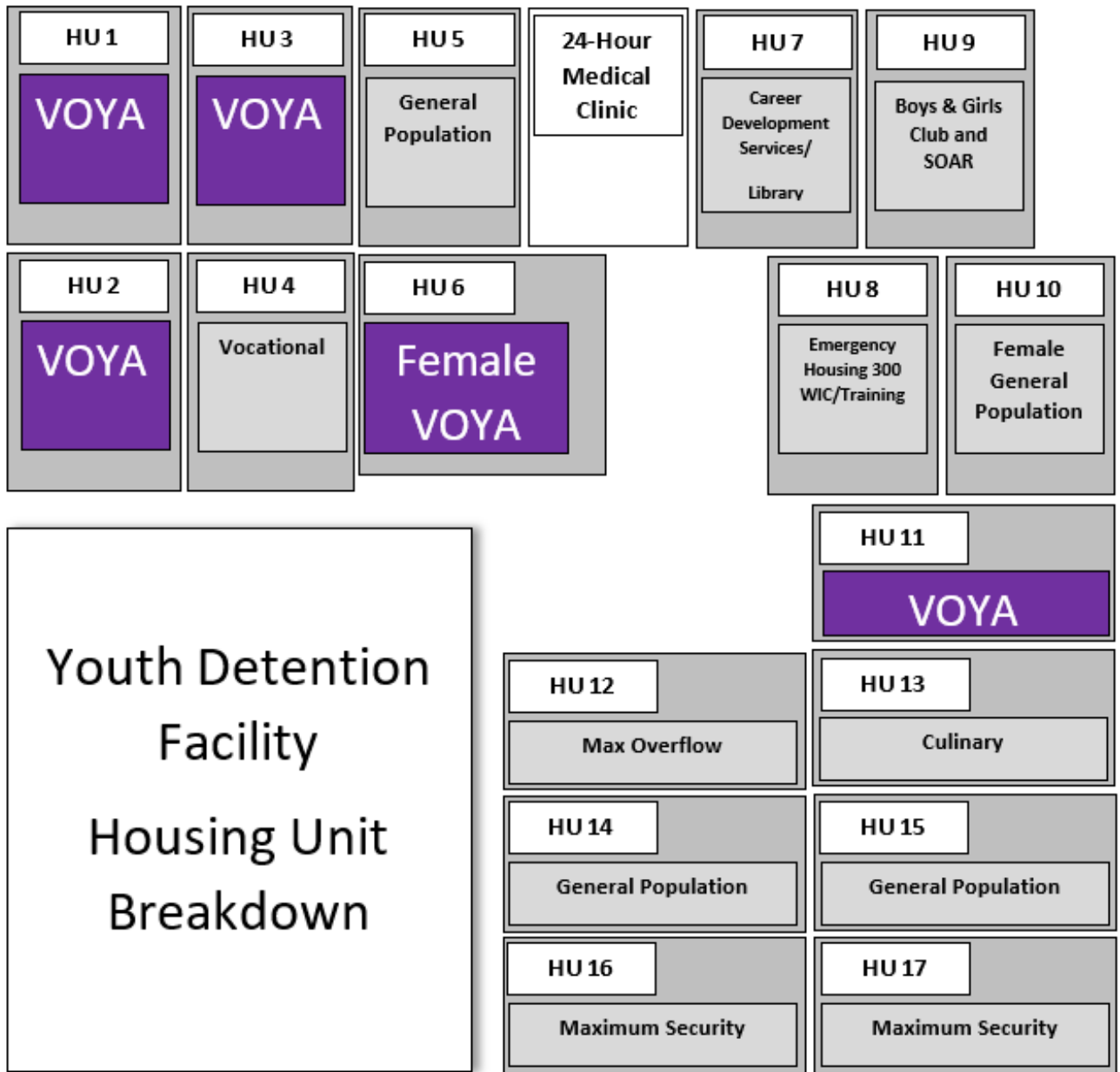
***Describe in detail which facilities will be used to house or confine realigned youth at varying levels of offense severity and treatment need, and improvements to accommodate long-term commitments. Facility information shall also include information on how the facilities will ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics.***

Probation is using four (4) housing units for the males, and one (1) unit for the female VOYA population. As of January 2024, there were fifty-five (55) youth in VOYA units. Housing units are self-contained, including classrooms, day space, dining tables and showers. The maximum capacity for these specified units, in which each room has its own sink and toilet is 60 youth. The location of these units is optimal, as they have access to the 24-hour clinic, vocational units, and higher educational programs. The identified units also have a larger day space for programming needs and a connected and enclosed outdoor area for recreation.

Probation Officers properly classify the VOYA population, considering risk assessments and other potential identifiers. All VOYA youth will be housed together, and officers who supervise this population receive additional training. A Senior Deputy Probation Officer (Sr. DPO) is the assigned caseworker for each unit.

The VOYA youth are distinguished from the general population residents by clothing color and housing location. Both staff and youth are oriented with the program to ensure knowledge of the program guidelines and processes.

The YDF applied for and was awarded funding from the Regional Youth Programs and Facilities Grant that enabled upgrades to the outdoor athletic field, including a track and additional space for bleachers. The upgrade allows for the opportunity to have an athletic program teach youth the importance of physical health and provide additional physical outdoor activity and wellness.



As of March 2025



## 6 Retaining The Realigned Youth Within the Jurisdiction – WIC Sections 1995(c)(5)

*Describe how the plan will incentivize or facilitate the retention of realigned youth within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system, in lieu of transfer to the adult criminal justice system.*

Sacramento County’s JJCCRSC plan will incentivize or facilitate the retention of realigned youth within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system by providing a strong rehabilitation program that offers our youth new opportunities not otherwise provided by our current juvenile justice system. This includes: 1) development of individual rehabilitation plans through a MDT approach; 2) the creation of a non-residential community based team and program; 3) robust, need-trauma-evidenced-based treatment program(s) focused on rehabilitation; 4) new step-down approaches to incentivize youth participating in treatment and services; 5) continuing education in staff training; and 6) a dedicated JJCCRSC who will continue to meet, advise, and evaluate the data of our program through the use of both qualitative and quantitative data.

### Development of Individual Rehabilitation Plans through an MDT Approach

Sacramento County recognizes that caring, supporting, and treating youth with some of the greatest criminogenic factors and needs require a team approach in developing a youth’s IRP. Sacramento is dedicated to developing the youth’s IRP by identifying their needs and then bringing in all partners, youth, youth family and community to the table to develop a comprehensive and measurable plan.

### Creation of a Re-entry Team and Non-Residential Community Based Program (NRCBP)

Sacramento County currently has a great Re-entry program through their Youth Detention Facility called Redy-Go!. However, JJCCRSC recognizes that this target population needs a different approach to re-entry. As such, JJCCRSC wants to build off Probation’s Redy-Go! and create a Re-entry Team incorporating a Project Specialist, dedicated Community Advocates/Credible Messenger, and a probation officer who will immediately start working with the youth towards the development of a NRCBP. This NRCBP will support youth at all levels of re-entry, provide case management within the community, provide support and linkage to services while living in the community, facilitate and support family dynamics upon re-entering, and ensure the youth is following all probations terms and conditions while out on supervision.

### Provide Robust, Need-Trauma-Evidenced-Based Treatment Program(s) Focused on Rehabilitation

VOYA will provide new, robust, need-trauma-evidenced-based treatment programs that focus on rehabilitation. These services and treatments will ensure that the youth will remain in the juvenile halls of justice and not be transferred to our adult system.

### New Step-down Approaches to Incentivize Participating Youth Participating in Treatment and Services

VOYA will introduce new step-down approaches to incentivize youth participating in treatment and services. These incentives will help motivate youth to participant in their rehabilitation plan in order to discharge to the community sooner. Probation is partnering with County Parks and Recreation to enable VOYA youth to have day releases to learn landscaping skills outside of the facility with a Court Order.

Probation finalized contracts with Pine Grove, Project Rebound, and Reignite Hope so eligible youth can participate in these programs.

### Continuing Education

All justice partners continue to be trained in trauma informed care, implicit bias, adolescent development, and conflict resolution. This continual training will facilitate the retention of our realigned youth.





## 7 Regional Efforts – Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1995

### (c)(6)

***Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation.***

Due to the extensive number of commitments to Sacramento requiring up to four (4) housing units, Sacramento does not have any regional agreements with neighboring counties to house their youth. Regional agreements will need further discussion regarding the potential impact on current programming capacity and treatment needs.

At this time, the County does not plan to secure resources to address the needs of the following commitments

- Youth with acute psychiatric symptoms and mental health needs as committed youth would not benefit from the YDF programming due to specific treatment needs in these areas.
- In December 2022, Sacramento County received their first female VOYA commitment. As of March 2024, there are now three (3) female youth in the VOYA program. These youth are currently housed with the female general population unit.

Regional discussions with other counties may have to be explored to house the above-mentioned youth to ensure they receive the proper treatment and programming necessary for their specific needs should one be committed to VOYA program.



## 8 Data – Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1995 (c)(7)

***Describe how data will be collected on the youth served and outcomes for youth served by the block grant program, including a description the outcome measures that will be utilized to measure or determine the results of programs and interventions supported by block grant funds.***

Outcome measures are a system-wide effort and require all agencies and providers directly involved with individuals to proactively work in conjunction with one another to create measurable and meaningful data points that will continually inform programmatic and systemic changes with the realignment population. The purpose of collecting and reviewing all data is to evaluate the impact VOYA has on the youth's rehabilitation, recidivism, and public safety. Data points may include youth development and wellness data including, but not limited to, education attainment, employment, mental health, housing, family connections, foster care, and other wellness outcomes.

The Sacramento County Probation Department has an internal robust data collection system supported by the Department of Technology. Our existing applications, which are utilized in conjunction with one another to provide a full case management system, include but are not limited to the following:

- Juvenile Probation Information Program (JPIP),
- Booking Intake Classification System (BICS),
- Juvenile Arrest Record System (JARS),
- Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS CMI)(LS CMI),
- Programs 2.0, and
- Power BI

These applications allow a comprehensive look at a case from intake/citation to commitment and beyond. Basic demographics, intake, and charge information, will be held within our JPIP, BICS and JARS applications. Each client undergoes various assessments during their stay at the YDF. Probation utilizes the YLS CMI/LS CMI to determine the risk and needs of individuals. Probation utilizes the findings from these assessments to inform proper delivery of programming and services to address the risks/needs of each individual. The Programs 2.0 application allows us to track all VOYA specific data points, including but not limited to the following:

- Maximum Confinement Date
- Commitment Date
- VOYA Start Date and End Date
- VOYA Level System
- 30-Day Individual Rehabilitation Plan
- 6-Month Review
- Multi-Disciplinary Team Meeting Dates
- Progress Report Dates
- Commitment Source – DJJ, Court Order, YDF, other counties
- Closure Reasons
- Courses taken by client (treatment or services)

Power BI will act as our management reporting tool to track the progress of IRP, as well as providing information for upcoming reviews and court hearings. Other areas of data that will be collected by agency partners and reviewed include educational, medical, mental health, and Child Protective Services records.

In 2008, the Center for Improving Youth Justice, previously known as Performance Based Standards (PbS), accreditation program began at the YDF. Center for Improving Youth Justice combines juvenile justice research, best practices, and extensive field experience to offer a data-driven continuous improvement process customized for youth facilities, residential programs, and reentry services. Center for Improving Youth Justice provides goals and standards that set the expectation for conditions of confinement, quality



of life, staff-youth relationships, healthy cultures, and effective services and an on-line system of data collections and reporting to continually monitor performance.

In April 2022, Sacramento County transitioned from the Center for Improving Youth Justice’s detention facility data analysis to corrections. This transition allowed Sacramento County to track the data specific to the VOYA population. The candidacy period for this transition ended October 2022. Data reporting periods take place in April and October of each year. The data contributed by Sacramento County is now included in the field average and compared to like-sized facilities.

### Outcome Measures

Sacramento County will measure various outcomes of the youth participating in VOYA. These outcome measures will include both qualitative data and quantitative data. Sacramento County intends to use the Project Specialist position to collect data from various agencies and gather the following outcome measures:

Quantitative data will include:

Outcome	Outcome Measure	Impact of outcome measure
Impact services and programs had on rehabilitating youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of services offered to youth</li> <li>• Number of programs offered to youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth’s participation in services</li> <li>• Youth’s participation in programs</li> </ul>
Impact Treatment had on Rehabilitating Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of Treatment offered to youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth’s participation in the treatment</li> </ul>
Impact Project Specialist had on youth’s Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of touches with youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth’s participation in the treatment</li> </ul>
Impact Community Advocates/Credible Messenger had on youth’s Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of touches with youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth’s participation in the treatment</li> </ul>
Impact Education Services had on youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achievement level of youth’s education at the time of admission</li> <li>• GPA prior to entering into VOYA</li> <li>• Academic status upon entering into VOYA</li> <li>• Level of vocational training, if any, upon entering VOYA</li> <li>• Engagement in Education Transition Specialist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth’s achievement level after participation in VOYA</li> <li>• Youth’s GPA after participating in VOYA</li> <li>• Youth’s level of academic success upon exiting VOYA: GED, Diploma, enrolled in college classes</li> <li>• Achievement in vocational training</li> <li>• Whether youth continued with education post VOYA</li> </ul>
Impact Employment Services had on youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth employment status at VOYA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth’s linkage or employment status in VOYA</li> <li>• engagement in YDF work release program</li> </ul>



Impact Housing Services had on youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth housing status prior to VOYA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth linkage to housing post VOYA</li> <li>Temporary housing vouchers</li> <li>Permanent supportive housing</li> </ul>
Impact VOYA had on recidivism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of prior petitions prior to VOYA</li> <li>Number violations of probation prior to VOYA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of new petitions post-VOYA</li> <li>Number of new violations of probation post VOYA</li> </ul>
Impact VOYA had on rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Length of stay in custody prior to VOYA</li> <li>Number of youths serving max baseline</li> <li>Number of youths that had baseline extended for one year</li> <li>Number of days reduced at 6-month hearings</li> <li>Baseline risk assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Length of stay at VOYA</li> <li>Number of youths serving max baseline</li> <li>Number of youths had baseline extended</li> <li>Number of days reduced at 6-month hearings</li> <li>Risk assessments every 6 months</li> </ul>

**Qualitative Data**

Sacramento County collects qualitative data annually. This data will be conducted through surveys of the youth and the youth’s family. Youth will be surveyed regarding this experience at VOYA. The survey will be conducted by Community Intervention Advocates/Intervention Workers.

**Evaluation of Data**

The purpose of collecting and reviewing all data will be to evaluate the impact VOYA has on the youth’s rehabilitation, recidivism, and public safety. Future funding will be tied to the successes of the impacted youth participants.

The County has not yet implemented the plan to collect qualitative data annually. Additionally, none of the collected data or other quantitative data described above has been independently evaluated to measure outcomes and to ensure that Sacramento County is rigorously pursuing evidence-based and promising practices and programs in rehabilitating VOYA youth.

To ensure that the collected data is meaningfully evaluated and that the outcomes of current VOYA practices and programs are truly measured, the JJCCRSC shall prioritize identifying and retaining the services of a qualified independent data evaluator in FY 2024-25. The Subcommittee shall, through a deliberative process decided upon by the Subcommittee, select an independent evaluator by no later than January 1, 2025. The independent data evaluator shall report its findings to the Subcommittee.



## 9 Progress Report

**Provide a description of progress made regarding any elements described in Parts 2-9 and any objectives and outcomes in the plan that was submitted to the Office of Youth and Community Supervision in the previous calendar year. (WIC 1995 (d)(8)).**

The Project Specialist position noted in Section 9 - Outcome Measures, is the identified position responsible for compiling the quantitative outcome measures for this progress report. That position has recently been acquired and filled. The identified outcome measures in that section will be reported on in future revisions.

The information below is a cumulative representation of youth who are currently participating in or have participated in the Valley Oak Youth Academy program.

EDUCATION	
	VOYA
Student	11
Diploma	80
HiSet	4
College Courses	41
AA Degree	10
Project Rebound	4

VOCATIONAL	
	VOYA
NCCT	36
Culinary	36
Has Food Handler Card	49
Welding	2
Art Sessions	7

AGE	
	VOYA
Age 15 - 18	66
Age 19 - 20	25
Age 21 +	12

ETHNICITY	
	VOYA
Asian	3
Black	61
Hispanic	27
Pacific Islander	2
White	9
Asian Indian	1

GENDER	
	VOYA
Male	97
Female	6

CHARGES	
	VOYA
Robbery	40
Assault	27
Homicide	17
Sex Offense	9
Attempted Homicide	4
Arson	2
Burglary	2
Kidnapping	1
Domestic Violence	1

### **Reduction in Baseline Terms**

Of 32 releases, there were approximately 844 cumulative months or 70.3 years established for baseline terms. On average, youth completed 50% of their baseline terms prior to being discharged.

### **Education**

Of the youth taking college courses, there were over 408 collective quarter units completed. The average GPA for those youth is 2.71.

### **Less Restrictive Placements (LRP)**

Less Restrictive Placements were implemented for youth to begin reintegration into the community when the courts identify the youth qualify to participate. These LRP options currently include; Pine Grove, Electronic Monitoring (EM), Global Positioning System (GPS), People Working Together, Project Rebound, NCCT, and Re-Ignite Hope. Although the Sacramento County Juvenile Justice Court does not recognize it as an LRP, the Youth Community Outreach Unit (YCOU) was established to provide an opportunity for youth under the commitment of VOYA to be ordered for temporary release to participate in a graduated step towards community reintegration. Youth participating in the YCOU go to places such as the Bradshaw Animal Shelter, Bureau of Land Management, and Sacramento Parks and Recreation to learn about and



perform vocational skills. YCOU projects benefit the youth and community by fostering responsibility, accountability, self-esteem, and work-related skills, while in custody.

Of the total youths who have been involved with the VOYA program, 22% have been transitioned into an LRP. Some of the successes have included youth attending Sacramento State living in the Project Rebound House and completing their baseline term. Other successes have included community reentry, employment with the US Department of Agriculture and Forestry, and employment with Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps.

Youth participating in NCCT have participated and successfully completed over 940 hours of programming in traffic control, confined space training, flagging, OSHA 10, CPR, and shop safety.

### **Treatment**

Youth have been receiving in custody treatment, including Sexual Based Treatment Programming with Behavioral Health staff since the beginning of 2024. Due to the minimal number of youth having completed this treatment, this statistic has not been provided.

### **Re-Entry Process**

The VOYA Reentry Unit supports youth transitioning back to the community from the Valley Oak Youth Academy. VOYA Reentry Officers have been collaborating with VOYA Case Managers, stakeholders, and the youth's personal supports, following the youth's case from commitment to the end of their Juvenile Wardship.

The reentry process begins at commitment, with the VOYA Reentry Officers establishing a relationship with the youth and overseeing their case upon return to the community. They meet regularly with the youth during their custodial period and participate in 6-month progress reviews. The officers are available via phone, email, or visits and may serve as Case Managers for community-based step-downs.

As discharge approaches, the leadership of multidisciplinary team meetings shifts to Reentry Officers, focusing on refining the reentry plan with realistic goals. They assist with gathering vital records, arranging housing, and developing plans for pro-social living, conducting home evaluations, and coordinating community support.

Over 95% of VOYA residents leave with original copies of their birth certificates; 98% of residents leave with a social security card.

Of the reentry youth completing supervision, 27% were successful. Of the remaining youth completing supervision, 36% were transferred to another jurisdiction and the other 36% were unsuccessful and either violated their probation terms or acquired new charges. Additionally, of the total number of youths in the reentry program, 32% have received new charges.

### **Community-Based Organization**

Youth have received programming through community-based organizations, some youths have successfully completed programs with Parenting Encounter and Reaching Back to Our Youth. These services are relatively new, so we continue to ramp up the programs and expand the service capacities.

### **Current Obstacles**

- Housing issues for those without viable housing options (recently addressed with OYCR grant).
- The need for school supplies (i.e. computers, and general school supplies).
- Facility space (commitments are becoming more frequent; running out of bed space in living units). The VOYA program has surpassed the original projection of residents and continues to grow.

Probation received the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) Grant to address the biggest hurdle of housing residents who do not have viable housing upon their transition to the community.



## 10 Future Enhancements / Goals

*The following goals / items of discussion are derived from JJCCRSC meetings and discussion boards.*

Sacramento County recognizes that absorbing our realigned youth was a huge lift. We also recognize that we need to continue to engage youth, family and community in developing and growing our plan. Below is a list of some suggested recommendations for future enhancements and goals. Our hope is to continue to add to this list and evaluate our program to incorporate, learn, and grow.

Recommendation	Discussion	Action	Implemented
<b>PERSONNEL</b>			
Social Workers, therapy	It is important to have professionals who are not probation staff in the units to de-escalate, mediate, and advocate for young people through difficult situations that arise. A social worker would be able to practice coping skills with the young people and support them in their healing and rehabilitation.		
Non-probation staff in unit	To assist with de-escalation, mediation, and advocate during difficult situations. Probation staff are trained in this area. Other trained non-probation staff are welcomed.	Requires in-kind resources and/or additional funding.	
Career Coach / Specialist	Dedicated person for job placement. A career coach could be responsible for developing an interdisciplinary, project-based approach, the culinary youth develop a menu, the business youth develop a restaurant plan, the graphic design youth make a logo and the coding youth develop a website.	Requires in-kind resources and/or additional funding	
Transitional Specialist	Need to ensure there is funding to support youth re-entry (i.e. housing) upon return to the community. Funding to have dedicated personnel.	Requires in-kind resources and/or additional funding.	
<b>EMPLOYMENT / EDUCATION</b>			
Pine Grove Fire Camp	Probation finalized a contract with the State to allow eligible youth to attend Pine Grove	Governor's FY 21/22 budget supports DJJ's continued operation of the Fire Camp.	Yes
Certification Programs	Barber, truck driving, HVAC, electrician – Provide skills while inside so upon release, youth can gain employment	Sacramento County Office of Education will explore	



Mobile Welding Lab		Sacramento County Office of Education will explore	
Bachelor's Degree	Project Rebound with California State University Sacramento	Sacramento County Office of Education will explore	Yes
Financial Literacy Program	Learn budget, bills, credit, taxes, savings, and investments Is this self-taught curriculum or taught by instructor?	Habitat for Humanity has literacy curriculum, Neighbor Works Sacramento.	Yes
Coding / Technology	Partner with Square Root Academy; Amazon AWS program; Salesforce CRM		
Lifeguard training			
Graphic Design	Independent study in conjunction with college courses		
Cosmetology	Partner with BluTruck Cuts		
Social Media	Independent Study in conjunction with college courses		
Engineering	Partner with Green Tech Edu		
Career program guide	Create to aid VOYA in selecting career pathway		
Community service	Practice learned skills, planting trees / community garden, supporting afterschool program	Sacramento Probation has implemented the Youth Community Outreach Unit (YCOU)	Yes
<b>VOYA PROGRAM / UNIT / FAMILY</b>			
Incentives for programming	Opportunities to reduce time, commissary		Yes
Food Intake	Probation's dietician increased food caloric intake for VOYA population		
Step-down program	Pine Grove is an option.		Yes
<b>RE-ENTRY SUPPORT</b>			
Wrap Around Family Support	Support for families while youth is in custody to prepare for return to home setting	Offer wrap around support. Outline specific needs	
Expungements	Have records expunged automatically when eligible		
Financial support	Provide financial support to youth as they re-enter community		

*Future Enhancement / Goals*





## 11 Budget

The SB 823 allocation is not provided to counties until after the date in which this plan is due to the OYCR for approval, May 1<sup>st</sup>. Therefore, the budget represented below is indicative of the previous year's budget.

<b>SB 823 DJJ REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT - VALLEY OAK YOUTH ACADEMY (VOYA)</b>			
FY 2025-26 Services	Description	SB 823 Funds	Other Funding Sources
Youth Detention Facility (YDF) Housing Units (Mandated)	Four VOYA housing units - male	9,829,718	765,712
YDF Housing Units (Mandated)	One VOYA housing unit - female		2,199,340
Embedded County Staff - Behavioral Health Services (BHS) (Mandated)	Senior Mental Health Clinicians provide mental health assessment and treatment, and Psychiatrist provides part-time psychiatric assessment and treatment, to VOYA residents in the		1,134,161
Community Supervision (Mandated)	Provide supervision to youth transitioning into the community upon release from the YDF.		518,615
Administrative Support	Fiscal, Data reporting, Contracts, Construction		419,190
Direct Care (clothes, incentives, family unification, etc.)	Direct care includes supplies for youth, such as food, clothing, incentive purchases, family unification, etc.		331,343
Community Outreach (Work Furlough)	Supports community engagement and life skills programming for youth by providing graduated steps towards community reintegration and employment opportunities.		819,208
Contracts	Re-entry housing, Public Defender position, SCOE Project Specialist, Northern California Construction Training, Culinary, and Pine Grove.		1,130,628
Less Restrictive Placements (OYCR Grant)	Transitional housing from Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) placement to Less Restrictive Placements with People Working Together.		1,000,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>9,829,718</b>	<b>8,318,197</b>
State - DJJR Block Grant Projected Allocation		9,829,718	
<b>*TOTAL</b>		<b>18,147,915</b>	
*For Board of Supervisors approval on September 23, 2025			