

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
PROBATION & BHS

Youth Detention Facility
Department of Health Services

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
SACRAMENTO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT AND
SACRAMENTO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES -
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOR SERVICES AT THE
YOUTH DETENTION FACILITY**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Sacramento County Probation Department (PROBATION) and the Sacramento County Department of Health Services - Division of Behavioral Health Services (BHS) is for the provision of program services at the Probation Department's Youth Detention Facility.

I. BACKGROUND / PURPOSE / OBJECTIVES

As a result of Senate Bill 823, PROBATION developed a local commitment program, the Valley Oak Youth Academy (VOYA), located within the Youth Detention Facility (YDF) to provide county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to DJJ prior to its closure. PROBATION intends to work collaboratively with BHS to provide mental health assessment and treatment, as well as linkages to community services, to VOYA youth in the YDF, located at 9601 Kiefer Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95827, based on identified needs.

II. TERM

The term of this MOU is from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, subject to the continuation of the program and the availability of funding.

III. PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES

A. PROBATION shall do the following:

1. Retain control over and set policies for maintaining security and safety within the YDF.
2. Provide the following to BHS staff members assigned to the YDF VOYA unit:
 - a. Space and furniture appropriate for counseling services (with visual and auditory privacy for face-to-face and telephone contacts);
 - b. Access to the internet/Wi-Fi for virtual sessions, when necessary;
 - c. Mental Health documentation, reports and information received at intake and at time of commitment for the purpose of BHS mental health service functions; and

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- d. Right-to-know and Need-to-know Information related to the youth committed to the VOYA Program.

B. BHS shall do the following:

1. Program Services - Provide five (5.0) FTE Senior Mental Health Counselor (SMHC) positions to provide the following services for youth committed to the VOYA:
 - a. Behavioral health screening and assessment from which the behavioral health services shall be tailored to address the youth's individual treatment needs;
 - b. Develop individualized client plans, including crisis/safety plans;
 - c. Evidence based individual services and, when appropriate, group services grounded in interventions known to have a greater likelihood of reducing recidivism; addressing risk, need, treatment and responsivity (including Juvenile Sex Offender treatment and other Evidence Based Behavior Modification models);
 - d. Alcohol and Drug screening/assessment and determination of service needs; Drug and Alcohol group services provided in partnership with BHS Substance Use Prevention and Treatment (SUPT) clinicians;
 - e. Case Management, linkage, and referral to adjunct services, community-based organizations when necessary and/or appropriate to meet the youth's treatment needs;
 - f. Case Consultation: psychoeducation to clients, caregivers and probation staff;
 - g. Attend multi-disciplinary team meetings; provide Probation with right-to-know and need-to-know information related to youth's progress in treatment;
 - h. Participate in the development of an individual rehabilitation plan for each youth committed to VOYA;
 - i. Completion of documentation in the electronic health record (EHR) meeting utilization review requirements approved by the County for all encounters with juvenile justice-involved youth, caregivers, other individuals or agencies involved in the treatment of the youth; and
 - j. Due to a critical statewide workforce shortage of available licensed behavioral health clinicians, prioritization of the above services could be needed during periods of reduced staffing. Any adjustment to services and coverage would be discussed in advance with Probation

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administration; BHS will make all efforts to prioritize advertising, recruitment and hiring of YDF VOYA clinicians.

2. Provide 0.4 FTE Psychiatrist to provide the following services:

- a. Psychiatric assessment when indicated by the screening process; perform an initial psychiatric evaluation for juvenile justice-involved youth not previously seen within the YDF and conduct a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation on an annual basis, as applicable;
- b. Crisis intervention and management of acute psychiatric episodes during scheduled on-site hours;
- c. Stabilization of individuals with mental disorders and the prevention of psychiatric deterioration within the facility setting via Psychiatric interventions where clinically indicated;
- d. Provision that youth who are taking psychotropic medications prescribed in the community are continued on their medications when clinically indicated; re-evaluation and further determination of continuing psychotropic medication, as needed;
- e. Prescribe medications in partnership with the facility health clinic and facility pharmacy;
- f. Order and review the results of laboratory tests in partnership with the facility health clinic;
- g. Initial and periodic medication support services including medication monitoring in partnership with facility health clinic;
- h. Provision that the necessity for uninterrupted continuation of psychotropic medications is addressed in pre-release planning and prior to transfer to another facility or program, including authorization for transfer of prescriptions;
- i. Coordination of care and transition planning for juvenile justice-involved youth undergoing behavioral health treatment, including arrangements for continuation of medication and services from behavioral health providers, with providers in the community, where appropriate, at intake, during the course of treatment, and for the purpose of re-entry to the community; and
- j. Completion of documentation in the electronic health record (EHR) meeting utilization review requirements approved by the County for all encounters with juvenile justice-involved youth, caregivers, other individuals or agencies involved in the treatment of the youth.

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3. Provide access to a computer, internet, and telephone. In the event BHS employees require specific software to perform their duties, BHS will be responsible to provide hardware, software, and associated IT services.

C. Joint Responsibilities:

1. PROBATION and BHS shall meet as required to ensure services continue to be provided in the most effective and efficient manner possible. This includes discussing options for maintaining adequate staffing levels for delivery of mental health services as described above during an extended leave or extended absence of any of the SMHC or Psychiatrist positions.
2. The Senior Mental Health Counselors and Psychiatrist shall work under the day-to-day operational supervision of the BHS Mental Health Program Coordinator (MHPC) and shall receive matrix supervision on documentation and clinical issues from the MHPC.