



COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

Probation Department

8745 FOLSOM BOULEVARD, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95826
TELEPHONE (916) 875-2347
FAX (916) 875-3366



MARLON YARBER
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER
COUNTY PAROLE OFFICER

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Chief Deputy Lynsey Semon
SemonL@sacounty.gov
916-876-6229

SACRAMENTO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT RECEIVES FUNDING TO HELP REDUCE AND ELIMINATE GIRLS' INCARCERATION IN CA

Sacramento, CA. – The Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) and the California Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) have partnered to support the Ending Girls' Incarceration in California (EGI-CA) Action Network. This groundbreaking collaboration has identified four California jurisdictions to receive technical assistance from the Vera Institute of Justice and grant funds from the OYCR to implement equitable policies and gender-responsive programs for girls and gender-expansive youth. The Sacramento County collaborative, led by the Probation Department, has been awarded \$125,000 to support local implementation.

Most girls and gender-expansive youth in detention do not pose a public safety risk. Rather, they are detained as an attempt to protect them. Many of these youth have experienced abuse or housing instability, have faced significant conflicts within the home or have been involved in sex trafficking. Sacramento County Probation will work with Vera to examine local data, identify system and programmatic gaps, and implement policy and program solutions. If the first year of program implementation is successful, additional funding from OYCR may be available to support ongoing efforts to reduce and end girls' incarceration.

Research shows that low level offenses can be addressed through community-based services. Vera works with mental health, child welfare, housing services, advocates, and other local service providers. In addition, they help develop court-based policies and solutions to stop girls from entering detention or out-of-home placement via foster care.

“The Sacramento County Probation Department has a long history of leading local reform efforts and systems change. We are excited for the opportunity to engage our system partners with the expertise and support from Vera and the OYCR. The Probation Department is committed to implementing equitable policies and gender-responsive programming to immediately reduce girls' incarceration.” –Marlon Yarber, Chief Probation Officer

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