

Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan¹

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County Name: Lassen

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Background and Instructions:

Welfare & Institutions Code Section(s) 1990-1995 establish the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program for the purpose of providing county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure.

To be eligible for funding allocations associated with this grant program, counties shall create a subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council to develop a plan describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitative services for realigned youth.

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.

¹ Updated November 2023 to add elements required by AB 505 (Chapter 528, Statutes of 2023)

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Part 1: Subcommittee Composition (WIC 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	Check box if Co-Chair	Name and Title	Email	Phone Number
Chief Probation Officer (Chair or Co-Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sara Gould-Deputy Chief	sgould@co.lassen.ca.us	530-251-8412
District Attorney's Office Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Melyssah Rios-District Attorney	mrrios@co.lassn.ca.us	530-251-8432
Public Defender's Office Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tim Prentiss-Public Defender	tprentiss@tprentiss.com	530-691-0245
Department of Social Services Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Longo-Health and Social Services Director	blongo@co.lassen.ca.us	530-251-8134
Department of Mental Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tiffany Armstrong-Mental Health Director	tarmstrong@co.lassen.ca.us	530-251-8108
Office of Education Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Megan Gray-Mental Health Coordinator	mgray@lcoe.org	530-251-8718
Court Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Stalter-Court Executive Officer	teresa.stalter@lassencourt.ca.gov	530-251-8205 Ext. 153
Community Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Samantha Ngotel	Samantha.ngtoel@lassencourt.ca.gov	530-310-3836
Community Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Langslet	alangslet@sir-nsn.gov	530-257-2688
Community Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brandon Trau	btrau@co.lassen.ca.us	530-251-2725
Additional Subcommittee Participants				
Community Member		Kim Collinsworth	kcollinsworth@co.lassen.ca.us	530-251-8455

Susanville Indian Rancheria- Community		Elizabeth Krier- Tribal Representative	ekrier@sir-nsn.gov	530-257- 2688
Community Member		Jessica Jimenez	jjimenez@co.lassen.ca.us	530-251- 8214

Part 2. Subcommittee Process and Meetings

Define process utilized by subcommittee to determine whether or not a co-chair was desired (WIC 1995(b)):

In the initial process of creating the subcommittee it was determined a co-chair was necessary for Lassen County. The Chief Probation Officer attends to a multitude of local and statewide business and fiscal matters. In order to ensure operations continue a co-chair was selected early on when the subcommittee was formed, which is currently held by the Deputy Chief Probation Officer.

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

The subcommittee held a meeting on December 8, 2023, to review the annual plan and data for the fiscal years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023.

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

The plan was updated, in November of 2023, and approved in December of 2023.

Part 3: Target Population (WIC 1995 (d) (1))

Briefly describe the County's realignment target population supported by the block grant:

Target population will be youth who commit serious or violent felonies described in subdivision (b) of section 707 or 290.008 PC and adjudicated to be a ward of the juvenile court. The population will also include any youth described above that are referred to probation from the Court for eligibility of supervision under section 645.2 WIC.

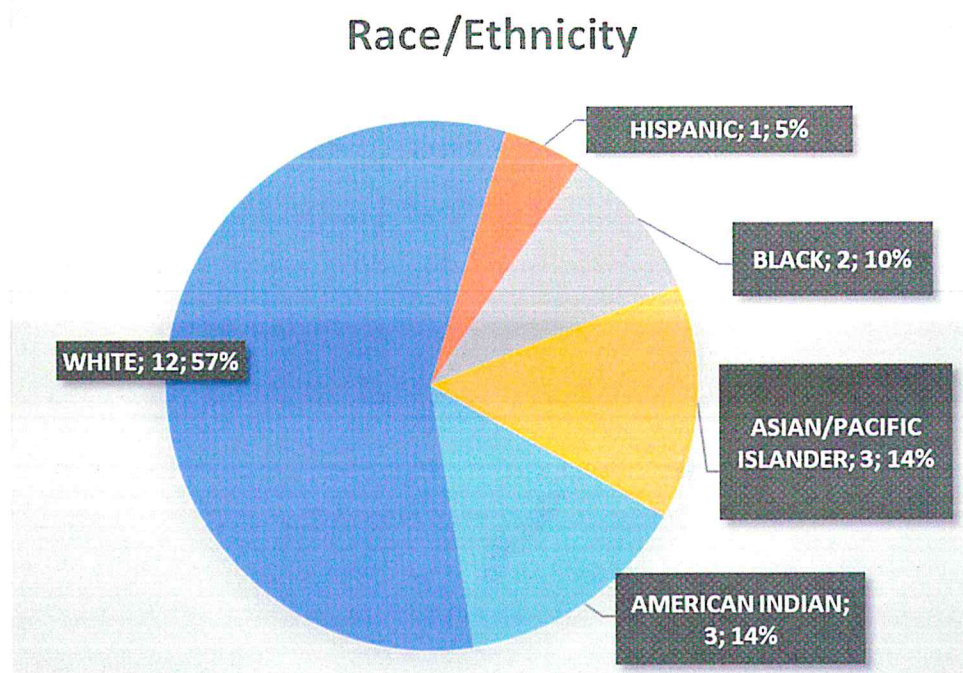
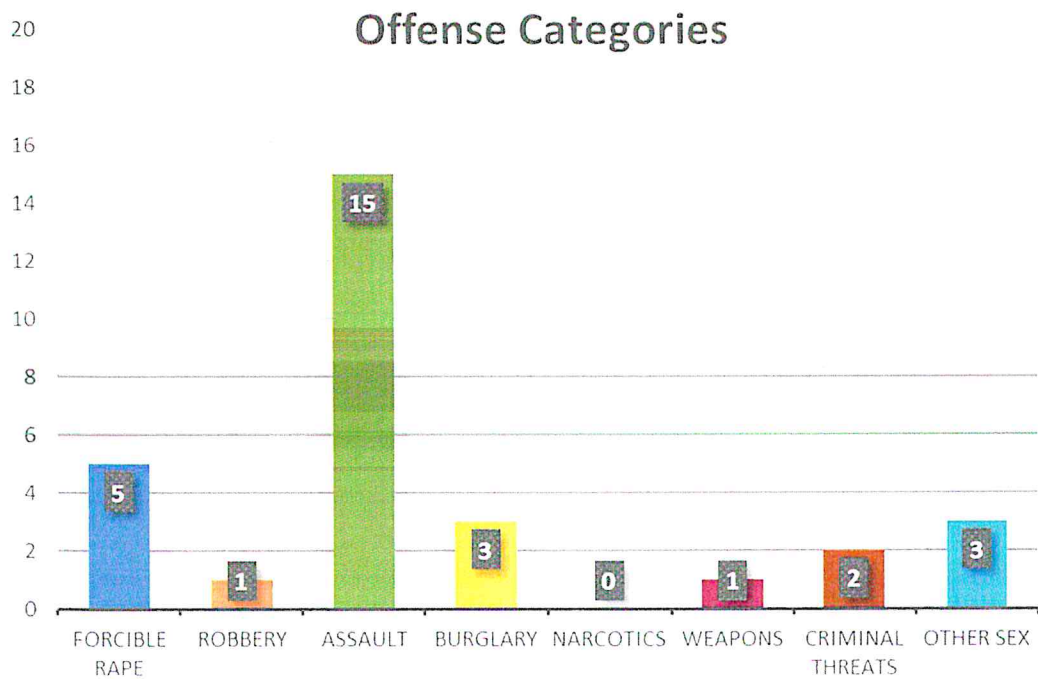
Demographics of identified target population, including anticipated numbers of youth served, disaggregated by factors including age, gender, race or ethnicity, and offense/offense history:

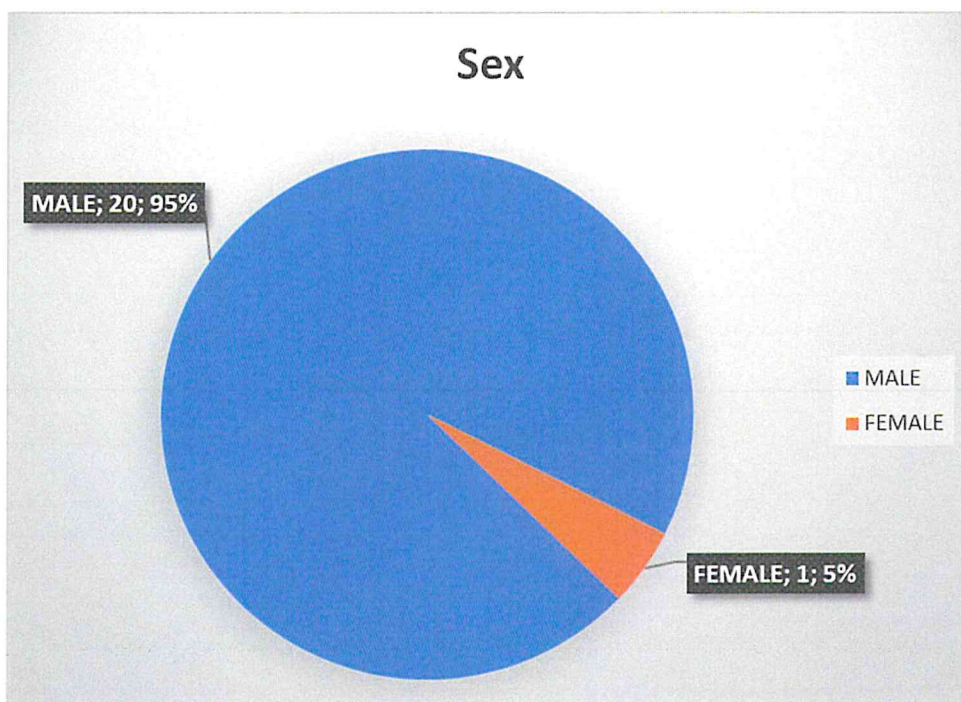
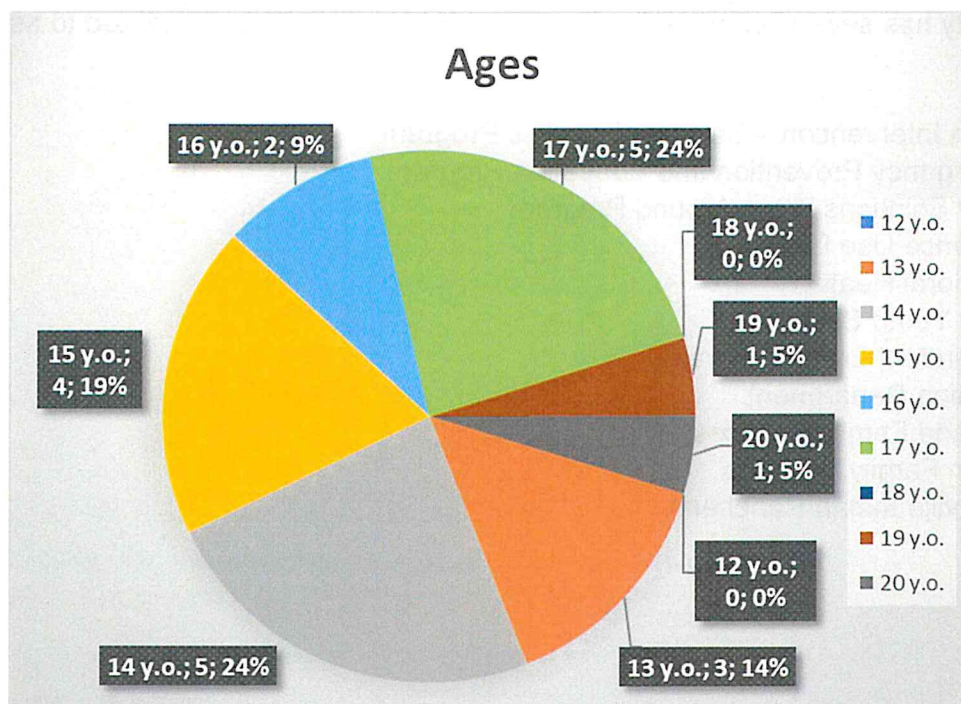
Youth charged with serious or violent felonies in 707(b) of the Welfare and Institution Code move further into the juvenile justice system by recidivating at a higher frequency. In 2022, there was a total of 108 new referrals received by the Lassen County Probation Department. Of those 108 referrals, there were 106 misdemeanors/infractions and 37 felony referrals.

The 33 felony referrals were sent to the District Attorney's Office. Of those, 21 petitions were filed on by the District Attorney. The other 12 referrals were returned to Probation for informal handling.

From the referrals petitioned, there were 5 with 707(b) offenses. Of those petitions, 1 was dismissed, 1 was adjudicated, 1 was not filed on, and 2 were still pending court proceedings during the reporting period.

The following charts show the offenses and demographics seen on the 21 petitions filed by the District Attorney.





Describe any additional relevant information pertaining to identified target population, including programs, placements and/or facilities to which they have been referred:

Lassen County has several community programs and services that are utilized to assist the 707(b) youth:

- Lassen Intervention – Stronger Families Program
- Multi-Agency Prevention and Education Program
- Family Solutions Wrap Around Program
- Substance Use Disorder
- Behavioral Health
- Foster Youth Services
- Independent Living Program
- Probation Department
- Child and Family Services
- Lassen Family Services
- Susanville Indian Rancheria

Part 4: Programs and Services (WIC 1995 (d)(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:

Multi-Agency Prevention and Education Program

- Offers life skills training to reduce alcohol, drug abuse and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote risky behaviors.

Family Solutions Wrap Around Program

- Surrounds families and youth at risk of placement with customized, strength-based services.

Substance Use Disorder

- Provides treatment plans, groups and assistance with addiction.

Behavioral Health

- Provides counseling, groups and assistance with mental health needs.

Mental Health Student Services Act program

- Collaboration between Behavioral Health and Lassen County Office of Education for local school to provide low-level tiered Mental Health services to students.

Foster Youth Services

- Provides educational support to current and former foster youth.

The Probation Department

- Conducts programming using the evidence-based interactive journaling program, Forward Thinking, which provides skills for dealing with difficult situations, anger, peers and emotions.
- The Juvenile Work Program works with non-profit, local, state and federal agencies in the community and surrounding areas. There are several benefits for the youth and community partners that participate in the JWP. The youth benefits from being in a less restrictive environment, while learning necessary life and work skills. The youth will also be involved in a positive, supportive and team-oriented atmosphere. The community partners receive support in reaching their project goals, while performing necessary work that most agencies do not have the resources to address.

Child and Family Services

- Integrated Child Protective Services

Lassen Intervention's Stronger Families Program

- Stronger Families Program will provide classes utilizing the evidence-based ARISE Anger Management Program (18 sessions) and Strong Teens (Social Emotional Learning (six sessions of 12 weeks of curriculum).

Lassen Family Services

- Clothing assistance
- Parent Education Program teaches the evidence-based Love and Logic curriculum to parents (12 group sessions and 12 individual sessions).
- Parent Partner Program works with Wrap Around to promote self-reliance, empowerment, while providing advocacy, support and help to the family.

Crossroads Ministries

- Feeds 500 nutritional meals for breakfast and lunch each week, Monday through Friday.
- Food assistance
- Summer Feeding Program for children who are dependent on school lunches.

Salvation Army

- Rent and utilities assistance
- Food assistance
- Hygiene assistance
- Clothing assistance
- School Supplies

Susanville Indian Rancheria

- Education Support
- Health Care
- Substance Abuse
- Dental Care
- Nutrition
- Behavioral Health

Trauma Therapy Services

- Provides Child Trauma Therapy Services-Community based provider.

Part 5: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds (WIC 1995(d)(3)(A))

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:

The Lassen County Probation Department will utilize funding to contract with juvenile detention or consortium facilities to provide supportive programming, special services, specialized treatment if needed, access to facility programming and re-entry services.

The Lassen County Probation Department utilizes grant funding and continues to partner with Lassen Intervention, LCC. Lassen Intervention has created a Juvenile Realignment Program, Stronger Families that is centered on the identified social-emotional needs of 707(b) youth entering the system.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population: (WIC 1995(d)(3)(B)):

The Lassen County Probation Department will utilize funding to contract with juvenile detention or consortium facilities to provide supportive programming, special services, specialized treatment if needed, access to facility programming and re-entry services.

Lassen Intervention plans to utilize evidence-based curriculums with a direct focus on social-emotional concepts and coping skills that have been proven to decrease problematic symptoms and increase the following skills:

- Identify, comfortable and uncomfortable feelings, and increase emotional vocabulary
- Focus on appropriate ways to express various feelings
- Teach Juveniles to understand and manage anger, using a cognitive-behavioral model
- Development of empathy skills, or ability to identify feelings that other people may have
- Teach Juveniles strategies to identify negative and maladaptive thinking patterns and common thinking errors
- Techniques for dispelling irrational negative thoughts and replacing them with more realistic and constructive cognitions
- Teach Juveniles more strategies to offset negative thinking styles and to use an optimistic style of approaching problems
- Teach Juveniles to solve interpersonal problems and deal with conflicts effectively and without violence
- How to identify stressors, cognitive and behavioral strategies for managing stress, anxiety and worries
- Teach Juveniles basic steps for setting and achieving realistic goals, and strategies for increasing positive and appropriate activities
- Provide Juveniles with the skills necessary for emotion and anger management
- Peer family mentoring to ensure successful transfer of skills to parents and Juveniles.
- Whole Family health and restoration
- Intensive re-entry services
- Parenting solutions
- Co-dependency
- Reduce incarceration

- Substance Abuse

Families work with trained professionals to create an individualized success plan. The plan focuses on learning targeted skills to help families overcome their unique barriers to success. Lassen Intervention will work with families to identify strengths to determine goals that are specific to the distinct challenges of the families, while building a strong foundation they can utilize to gain independence. Lassen Intervention added substance abuse services component as this was an unmet need amongst the population. This addition to the program has been successful with youth referred under the target population.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population (WIC 1995(d)(3)(C)):

Lassen Intervention will provide youth wellness services to youth and their families, which includes assessments, emotion management, anger management, parenting solutions, codependency, peer and family mentoring, whole family health and restoration. The program is centered on the needs of youth who commit 707(b) WIC offenses from going further into the Juvenile Justice system, while providing intensive re-entry services and reduction in incarceration. Services will be supported by a trauma-informed therapist to facilitate family therapy. Caregivers will be provided an educational group that parallels the juvenile curriculum in a "train the trainer" format. This will provide caregivers of this population the skillset to help with the juvenile's biopsychosocial needs. Families will be provided with an individualized family success plan that is measured on the family's unique strengths, while addressing their barriers and measuring their improvements throughout the process. Additionally, the families have the opportunity to complete the family therapy component to further focus on whole family health.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address reentry, including planning and linkages to support employment, housing and continuing education for the target population (WIC 1995(d)(3)(D)):

Lassen County Probation Department will utilize funding to contract with juvenile detention facilities to provide supportive programming, special services, specialized treatment if needed, access to facility programming and re-entry services.

The Lassen County Probation Department will continue to refer to community partners who provide these services to Lassen County. Deputy Probation Officers will ensure that the juvenile's on their caseloads will educate families and perform necessary referrals to the following agencies:

Lassen County Housing and Grants

- Advocacy and support with housing

Alliance for Workforce Development

- Provides comprehensive employment and training services to job seekers. The resource center provides access to computers, fax machines, copiers and telephones. In addition, with assisting with networking opportunities, job search workshops, on-site and virtual interviews with local employers, job leads and community resource referrals.

Lassen WORKS

- Provides employment, food, medical and cash aid assistance to Lassen County.

Lassen County Office of Education – Workability Program

- Provides comprehensive pre-employment skills training, employment placement and follow-up for high school students in special education who are making the transition from school to work, independent living and postsecondary education or training. Program services are appropriate to individual student needs, abilities, and interests.

Department of Rehabilitation

- The California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) works in partnership with consumers and other stakeholders to provide services and advocacy resulting in employment, independent living, and equality for individuals with disabilities.

Susanville Indian Rancheria

- Provides educational assistance and tutoring for GED.

Lassen Community College HiSET Program

- The HiSET exam is an option for out-of-school youth and adults without a high school diploma to demonstrate their skills and knowledge and earn a state-issued high school equivalency credential.

Lassen County Library

- English Learner Program
- Family Literacy Program
- GED Testing/Tutoring

Lassen Intervention Re-entry services

- Stronger Families program designed to prevent youth who commit 707(b) WIC offenses from going further into the juvenile justice system, provide intensive re-entry services, and reduce incarceration.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma-informed and culturally responsive practices for the target population (WIC 1995(d)(3)(E)):

The Lassen County Probation Department will utilize funding to contract with juvenile detention or consortium facilities to provide supportive programming, special services, specialized treatment if needed, access to facility programming and re-entry services.

The Lassen County Probation Department will contract with Lassen Intervention. Lassen Intervention will be utilizing the Strong Teens and ARISE evidence-based curriculum. Both curriculums provide a education that acknowledges, responds and celebrates the different lenses of culture with equitable access to education for all juveniles from all types of cultures.

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 (WIC 1995(d)(3)(F)):

The Lassen County Probation Department will continue to work with community partners to ensure juveniles are receiving needed services, while conducting follow up assessments with the families to ensure accountability and follow-through of services. Deputy Probation Officers will manage their caseloads in addition to performing risk assessments utilizing the Ohio Youth Risk Assessment System to determine what the barriers to success are, while creating a comprehensive case plan to ensure positive outcomes in addition to educational programs. Deputy Probation Officers will continue to refer to services or programs based upon risks and needs of individual.

Part 6: Facility Plan

Describe in detail each of the facilities that the County plans to use to house or confine the target population 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. (WIC 1995(d)(4))

The Lassen County Probation Department believes in utilizing the least restrictive options first, while increasing or decreasing interventions based on the juvenile's behavior or needs.

The Lassen County Probation Department currently contracts with the following Juvenile Detention Facilities:

- Tehama County
- Shasta County
- Sonoma County
- Butte County

Butte County Detention Facility provides the following services to the Juveniles in their facility:

Staff Provided

- Aggression Replacement Therapy
- Forward Thinking Journaling
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

Boy's and Girl's Club

- Leadership Development
- Team Building Skills
- Date Smart
- Career Launch
- College 101
- STEM
- Lyricism 101
- Image Makers
- Triple Play
- Forward Thinking Journaling
- Aggression Replacement Therapy

Northern Valley Catholic Services

- Aggression Replacement Therapy
- Book Club
- TRIP drug and alcohol
- Teenage Parenting Project
- Life Skills

Alliance for Workforce Development

- Job seeking skills
- Job readiness
- Life Skills

Rape Crisis

- Victimology
- Basic sex education
- PREA Programming
- Date Smart

California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG)/Wellpath

- Basic sex education

Shasta County Detention Facility provides the following services to the Juveniles in their facility:

Staff Provided

- Moral Recognition Therapy
- Boy's Council
- Aggression Replacement Training
- Girls' Circle
- WINGS/Juvenile Drug Court
- Project Toward No Drugs

Prosocial Activities

- GROW Program
- Religious Services
- Mentoring
- Culinary Skills
- The Leaders of Tomorrow (The LOT)
- Book Club
- Boys' Talking Circle
- Life Skills
- Cardio Dance
- Arts and Crafts
- Lassen College Correspondence Course Program
- Juvenile Court School

All Juvenile Detention Centers provide rehabilitative services to the juveniles housed. They work in unison with the Lassen County Probation Department to determine the needs of the juvenile placed and work with the Deputy Probation Officer on the individualized needs of the juvenile to ensure positive re-entry into the community.

All facilities offer behavioral counseling, educational programs and social-emotional education programs. Deputy Probation Officers will communicate with the facilities often and the juvenile to

ensure their needs are being met, to conduct case management, case planning and make adjustments as necessary to ensure positive outcomes.

The Lassen County Probation Department will also work with California licensed Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs when placements are necessary. These programs provide mental health services, crisis intervention, medication support and targeted case management to the juvenile based on their needs. The Deputy Probation Officer will monitor the juvenile and ensure care is being provided to the juvenile placed, by conducting monthly visits, while maintaining communication and working collaboratively with the family to ensure a positive re-entry to the community and reunification with the family.

Least restrictive options will be utilized increasing or decreasing based on severity of behaviors, needs, levels of offense and treatment need.

Part 7: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System

Describe how the plan will incentivize or facilitate the retention of the target population within the jurisdiction and rehabilitative foundation of the juvenile justice system, in lieu of transfer to the adult criminal justice system (WIC 1995(d)(5)):

The Lassen County Probation Department utilizes the least restrictive services and a risk/needs assessment to ensure high-risk youth are receiving the opportunity to participate in preventative services in the community. The Lassen County Probation has an open dialog with its community partners by attending regular meetings such as the System Allocation Team (SAT) and the Interagency Placement Committee (IPC). These meetings are held within the county to ensure consistent collaboration and engagement with local service providers, Lassen County Office of Education, School Districts, Juvenile Court Judge, District Attorney, Public Defender, Criminal Justice Community Partners, Behavioral and Public Health. Criminal Justice partners are committed to keeping most 707(b) offenders under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. In fact so few juveniles transfer to adult court that we do not collect data.

Part 8: Regional Effort

Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation (WIC 1995(d)(6)):

The Lassen County Probation Department currently has an agreement with the County Probation Consortium. This is a statewide Inter-County collaboration to locate specialized programming or facilities when there is not services available in the county.

Part 9: Data

Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant (WIC 1995(d)(7)):

Lassen County Probation Department will collect and review the following data:

- Number of 707 (b) offenses referred to Probation
- Number of 707 (b) cases adjudicated or dismissed by Court
- Number Violations of Probation
- Number of detentions
- Number of placements
- Number of transitions between placements for juveniles
- Incarceration reduction days

Describe outcome measures that will be utilized to determine the results of the programs and interventions supported by block grant funds (WIC 1995(d)(7)):

The Lassen County Probation Department will track:

- Number of 707 (b) offenses referred to Probation
- Number of 707 (b) cases adjudicated or dismissed by Court
- Number Violations of Probation
- Number of detentions
- Number of placements
- Number of transitions between placements for juveniles
- Incarceration reduction days

This data will be used to determine outcomes and success of programs and interventions in which the youth has been placed.

Part 10: Progress Report

Provide a description of the 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 Probation Department has seen great progress through referrals to Lassen Intervention, Stronger Families program. All youth and parents have successfully completed the program developing sustainable skills to implement and utilize to prevent violations and recidivism. The program has been effective in meeting the needs of each unique family, while considering cultural sensitivities.