

Fresno County Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Plan



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Main elements of Senate Bill 823

- Closes Dept of Juvenile Justice to new commitments effective July 1, 2021
- Permanently closes DJJ on July 1, 2023
- Creates a state Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR)
- Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council subcommittee to be created in each county to develop and implement plan.
- JJCC approved the Fresno County plan on April 13, 2021
- Local Plans not submitted to OYCR until 2nd year-FY 22/23
- Funding at full implementation: \$208.8 million
- New disposition track to be created by March 2021

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Retaining Youth in the local Juvenile Justice System

- Lower recidivism associated with retaining youth in the Juvenile Justice System rather than transfer to adult system
- The rehabilitative efforts put forth in this plan further support the benefits of keeping youth in the Juvenile Justice System
- Judicial Services sub-committee includes representation at all levels of the court system to ensure that the need for more restrictive confinement is reserved for those cases that continue to pose a serious risk to public safety

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Subcommittee Composition

Chief Probation Officer (Chair)
District Attorney's Office
Public Defender's Office
Department of Social Services
Department of Behavioral Health
Fresno County Superintendent of Schools
Superior Court
City of Fresno, Mayor's Office

Community Justice Center (CJC)
Focus Forward
Fresno Barrios Unidos
GEO Group
Rising Star Baptist Church
Wellpath Health Services
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
Brown Girl Healing
Youth Advocate



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Target Population

Youth with serious criminal convictions – approximately 30 youth at any given time in DJJ custody

2019 Fresno DJJ Commitments: (may not be representative of future commitments)

- Average age was 17 at commitment with an age of release of 20 years old.
- 85% were assessed high or moderate risk to recidivate by the PACT risk assessment
- 59% of committed youth were Hispanic, 30% black, 6% white, and 6% Native American.
- Offense
 - 65% Robbery
 - 18% Assault with a deadly weapon
 - 12% Manslaughter
 - 5% Attempted homicide

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NEEDS, PROGRAMS, and PLACEMENTS

- 20% - History of Out of Home Placement
- 35% - History of mental health needs
- 20% - Current Individualized Education Program



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Programs and Services

- Comprehensive assessment utilizing a multi-disciplinary team
- Provide supportive and treatment services to address family, mental health, educational, and engagement needs of youth in our care
- Ensure the environment is safe and comfortable for extended stay
- Provide comprehensive transition and reentry services to youth through entire length of custody and supervision

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Implementation Planning

- Subcommittees continue to inform process and monitor results
- Training and coaching with JJC staff and community-based organizations
- Development of outcomes, measures and a plan to improve services based on data



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Addressing the needs of the realigned population

- Mental Health and Trauma-Informed
- Sex Offender Treatment Services
- Healthy Adolescent Development
- Family Engagement
- Reentry Planning

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Addressing the needs of the realigned population (Continued)

- Evidence-Informed and Evidence-Based Interventions
- Trauma-Informed Approach
- Gender and Culturally Responsive Services

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Facility Plan

- Separate Orientation Unit being planned
- Cultural responsiveness that reflects the target population
- Facility upgrades needed to create a more normative and comfortable environment without compromising safety
- Initial \$9.6 million grant available for facility upgrades.



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Regional Agreements or Arrangements

- Fresno County Probation Department anticipates approximately 15-30 youth year one and may expand to accommodate youth from other counties (up to 60 beds)
- Girls will be in custody in a regional facility for females

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Data collection and outcome measures

Modern data collection system currently in use for probation case management and quality measures

Tentative outcome measures include:

- % of youth with new law violations within 3 years of release
- % of youth graduating with high school equivalency at release
- % of youth connecting with mental health services within 30 days of release
- % of youth completing in-facility programming as referred, by program

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Funding Formula for FY's 2021/22 thru 23/24 as follows:

- 30% DJJ pop as of Dec 2018, June 2019, and Dec 2019
- 50% local population who have committed certain violent and felony
- 20% distribution of youth age 10-17

Fresno County SB 823 funding allocations by year:

- Fiscal Year 2021-22: \$1,548,816
- Fiscal Year 2022-23: \$4,587,984
- Fiscal Year 2023-24: \$7,600,904

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QUESTIONS