



**PLUMAS COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (JJCC)/SB 823  
SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**Probation Dept. Conference Room**

**Virtual access URL:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7569297252?pwd=ZDJ3MEc1R0FxanVhU2J5bHNvZWZLZz09&omn=84779978968>

**Meeting ID: 756 929 7252**

**Passcode: 9R8BmV**

**JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**Keevin Allred, Chair**

Probation

**Todd Johns/Carson Wingfield**

Sheriff's Office

**David Hollister**

District Attorney

**Craig Osborne**

Public Defender

**Neal Caiazzo/Vacant**

Department of Social Services

**Bill Powers**

At-large Community Member

**Sharon Sousa/Keegan Hood**

Behavioral Health Department

**Nicole Reinert/Danielle Blust**

Community-based Drug & Alcohol Program

Public Health Department

**Bill Roderick/Melissa Leal**

Office of Education

**Paula Johnston**

Community-Based Organization - PRS

**Debra Lucero**

Board of Supervisors

**Vacant**

Community-Based Organization

**PLUMAS COUNTY SB 823 SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Keevin Allred, Chair**

Probation

**Judge Prouty/Debbie Norrie**

Court Representative

**David Hollister**

District Attorney

**Craig Osborne**

Public Defender

**Neal Caiazzo/Sarah McMahon**

Department of Social Services

**Bill Powers**

Community Member

**Sharon Sousa/Keegan Hood**

Behavioral Health Department

**Scott Cash**

Community Member

**Bill Roderick/Melissa Leal**

Office of Education

**Vacant**

Community Member

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Call to order
- b. Roll call/Introductions

**JJCC**

**PRESENT:** Keevin Allred, Carson Wingfield, David Hollister, Craig Osborne, Bill Powers, Keegan Hood, Melissa Leal.

**ABSENT:** Neal Caiazzo, Nicole Reinert/Danielle Blust, Paula Johnston, Debra Lucero

**SB823 Subcommittee**

**PRESENT:** Keevin Allred, David Hollister, Craig Osborne, Bill Powers, Melissa Leal.

**ABSENT:** Neal Caiazzo, Judge Prouty/Deborah Norrie, Scott Cash.

- c. Additions or corrections to Agenda

**NONE.**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

- a. Members of the public are welcome to address the JJCC on items not listed on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the JJCC. The JJCC is prohibited by law from taking action on matters not on the agenda. Individuals wishing to address the JJCC under Public Expression are welcome to do so via email at [keevinallred@countyofplumas.com](mailto:keevinallred@countyofplumas.com). All correspondence received by 8:00 A.M. the day of the meeting will be attached to the item.

**NONE/NO CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.**

3. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2024, regular meeting.

*Recommended Action:*

*Approve minutes of the March 27, 2024, regular meeting*

Attachment(s):

*March 27, 2024, minutes*

**MOTION:** Approval of minutes from March 27, 2024. **ACTION:** Approve minutes.

**AYES:** : Keevin Allred, Carson Wingfield, Craig Osborne, Bill Powers, Keegan Hood, Melissa Leal.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** David Hollister

**MOTION PASSES.**

- b. Discussion and possible action related to Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council and SB 823 vacant positions, particularly Community-based organization representative and community members.

**Discussion is had over applicants, of which there was only one. The candidate, Darin Wood of Environmental Alternatives, is put up via motion to be selected to fill the vacancy.**

**MOTION:** Approve Darin Wood of Environmental Alternatives to fill the Community-Based Organization Vacancy. **ACTION:** Approve selection.

**AYES:** Keevin Allred, Carson Wingfield, David Hollister, Craig Osborne, Bill Powers, Keegan Hood, Melissa Leal.

**NOES:** None.  
**ABSTAIN:** None.  
**MOTION PASSES.**

- c. Review, discussion, and possible action related to Plumas County Juvenile Justice Consolidated Plan and SB 823 Annual Plan modifications, approval, and submission.

*Recommended Action:*

*Approve revised and updated Juvenile Justice Consolidated Plan and SB 823 Annual plan for submission to BSCC and OYCR.*

**Attachment(s):**

*Draft of updated FY 24/25 Juvenile Justice Consolidated Plan*

*Draft of updated FY 24/25 SB 823 Plan*

**Chief Allred outlines the purpose of the JJCC and SB823 plans and how they pertain to the council and subcommittee. Some discussion is had. A motion is first presented to submit the SB823 Annual plan to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR).**

**MOTION:** Approve the submission of the SB823 Annual plan to the OYCR. **ACTION:** Approve.

**MOVED BY:** David Hollister

**SECOND:** Bill Powers

**AYES:** Keevin Allred, Carson Wingfield, David Hollister, Craig Osborne, Bill Powers, Keegan Hood, Melissa Leal.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**MOTION PASSES.**

Further discussion is held regarding the JJCC Annual plan. Certain revisions are discussed to be made, and a motion is presented to approve the plan with revisions.

**MOTION:** Approve and submit the JJCC Annual plan with revisions. **ACTION:** Approve.

**MOVED BY:** Bill Powers

**SECOND:** Melissa Leal

**AYES:** Keevin Allred, Carson Wingfield, David Hollister, Craig Osborne, Bill Powers, Keegan Hood, Melissa Leal.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**MOTION PASSES.**

4. AGENCY REPORTS/ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OPEN TOPIC

**None.**

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: To be determined

**None.**

**Meeting is adjourned to an unspecified date in June 2024.**

**ADJOURN MEETING TO JUNE, 2024 @ 3:30 P.M.**



## JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL PLAN

### MAIN CONTACT FOR PLAN

**Date:** Draft March 21, 2025

**County Name:** Plumas

**Contact Name:** Keevin Allred

**Telephone Number:** 530.283.6200

**E-mail Address:** keevinallred@countyofplumas.com

### 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. Section 1995 was amended by Assembly Bill 505 (Ting, Chapter 528, Statutes of 2023.) This template has been updated to reflect those amendments which will be in effect on January 1, 2024. All citations are to the law as amended. The statutory language can be found [here](#).

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. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(a).)

County plans are to be submitted to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration in accordance with Welf. & Inst. Code §1995. OYCR may request revisions as necessary or request completion of the required planning process prior to final acceptance of the plan. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995 (f).) Plans will be posted to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration website. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(g).)

There are nine sections to the plan:

Part 1: Subcommittee Composition	Part 6: Retaining the Target Population in the Juvenile Justice System
Part 2: Target Population	Part 7: Regional Efforts
Part 3: Programs and Services	Part 8: Data
Part 4: Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Funds	Part 9: Other Updates
Part 5: Facility Plan	

**PART 1: SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSITION AND PROCESS (WELF. & INST. CODE §§ 1995 (B) AND (C))**

List the subcommittee members, agency affiliation where applicable, and contact information:

Agency	Name and Title	Email	Phone Number
Probation	Keevin Allred, Chief Probation Officer	keevinallred@countyofplumas.com	530.283.6200
Co-Chair ( <i>If Applicable</i> )	Bill Powers, Community Member	Bpowers96122@gmail.com	Click or tap here to enter text.
District Attorney's Office Representative	David Hollister, District Attorney	davidhollister@countyplumas.com	530.283.6303
Public Defender's Office Representative	Craig Osborne, Public Defender	cosbornelaw@gmail.com	530.283.9017
Department of Social Services Representative	<u>Neal Caiazzo, Director</u> <u>Laura Atkins, Director</u>	<a href="mailto:nealcaiazzo@countyofplumas.com">nealcaiazzo@countyofplumas.com</a> <a href="mailto:Lauraatkins@countyofplumas.com">Lauraatkins@countyofplumas.com</a>	530.2836463
Department of Mental Health	Kegan Hood	khood@pcbh.services	530.283.6307
Office of Education Representative	<u>Bill Roderick, Superintendent</u> <u>An dreá White, Superintendent</u>	<a href="mailto:broderick@pcoe.k12.ca.us">broderick@pcoe.k12.ca.us</a> <a href="mailto:usawhite@pcoe.k12.ca.us">usawhite@pcoe.k12.ca.us</a>	530.283.6500
Court Representative	Doug Prouty, Juvenile Court Judge	Douglas.Prouty@plumas.courts.ca.gov	530.283.6016
Three Community Members ( <i>defined as "individuals who have</i>	Darin Wood, EA Family Services	dwood@ea.org	530.283.6990
	Bill Powers, Co-Chair, Juvenile Justice Commission Chair	See above	Click or tap here to enter text.

<p>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" (Welf. &amp; Inst. Code § 1995(b).))</p>	<p><u>Vacant</u><u>Bob</u> <u>Battistoni, Plumas</u> <u>Rural Services</u></p>	<p>bbattistoni@plumasruralservices.org</p>	<p><u>530.283.27</u> <u>35</u></p>
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#### Additional Subcommittee Participants

<p><u>Community Member</u></p>	<p><u>Cathy Rahmeyer, Plumas Crisis Intervention and Resource Center (if nominated)</u></p>	<p><u>highsierragrants@yahoo.com</u></p>	<p><u>530.283.55</u> <u>15</u></p>
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Describe the process used to determine whether to select a co-chair for your subcommittee (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b)): \_\_\_\_\_

Provide the dates of the last two meetings that the subcommittee convened to discuss your county's JJRBG plan?

Meeting Date 1:

March 27, 2024  
November 6, 2024

Meeting Date 2:

April 17, 2024  
April 16, 2025

Additional meeting dates of the subcommittee, if applicable: ~~March 22, 2023~~

Date that the subcommittee approved the plan by a majority vote. ~~April 16, 2025~~

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Describe how the plan was developed, including the review and participation of the subcommittee community members as defined in Welf. & Inst. Code § 1995(b): ~~Update after meeting: On April 16, 2025, the Subcommittee met and discussed the plan with one community member present, who is also the Co-chair. We lost one community member recently. At the meeting on April 17, 2024, a new community member was nominated by the Chair and approved as a community member representative. We are actively recruiting for additional community members. Plumas County has ~~not~~ had one youth who qualifies for the “target population” but no SYTF youth, and; therefore, revisions to this year’s plan were minimal.~~

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## PART 2: TARGET POPULATION (WELF. & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(1))

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

*The “target population” is defined as “youth who were eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure and shall further be defined as persons who are adjudicated to be a ward of the juvenile court based on an offense described in subdivision (b) of Section 707 or an offense described in Section 290.008 of the Penal Code.” (Welf. & Inst. Code § 1990(b))*

~~Plumas County’s targeted population are youth whose most recent adjudicated offense is described in WIC 707(b) and is defined under WIC 1990(b), in cases where the Juvenile Court has made a finding that less restrictive alternative dispositions are unsuitable.~~

Plumas County does not have an in-county juvenile hall or other less restrictive facility such as a camp or ranch. The county contracts with other counties in the region for these services. The county does not currently have any in-county programs or resources to serve youth requiring specialized therapeutic needs, such as sexual offenders, arson offenders, offenders with significant mental health issues, and pregnant or recent mother female offenders. For these youth, we intend to seek a partnership within a consortium of other agencies in or out of our region that address these specialized treatment needs through a contract process.

It is not expected that all the future eligible youth will need “DJJ like” replacement programming in a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) custodial setting for an extended period. Extended period will be defined as secure facility incapacitation for over one (1) year. Secure Track commitment and length of commitment will be dependent on the individual circumstances and gravity of the qualifying offenses

in conjunction with the assessed criminogenic risk and needs of the youth. If existing contracted facilities become operational as a SYTF, and they are configured and programmed to serve these youth to suitable standards of Plumas County, those facilities may be utilized.

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

Plumas County ~~has one youth does not currently have any youth that would come~~ within the provisions of realignment ~~and no youth that have been committed to an SYTF, nor does the county have any youth currently housed within the DJJ.~~

Plumas County does not have a record of demographics for the target population because the last DJJ commitment was over 20 years ago, and that data is no longer available. Generally, of Plumas County's nearly 18,660 permanent residents, 17.4% are under the age of 18, and approximately 50% male and 50% are female. Plumas County's residents identify as 90.5% White, 1.1% Black or African American, 3.2% Native, 1.1% Hispanic or Latino, and 0.2% Asian. The median household income is well below California's median income by almost \$55,359. In 2019, youth with new petitions filed, regardless of disposition, were 70% male, 30% female, 84% white, and 16% black. Plumas County does not have any verified gang activity.

Understanding that the targeted population will be dynamic, the needs of all youth, inclusive of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression (SOGIE) will be considered in the drafting of all plans and the care, custody, and supervision of all youth in an equitable and compassionate fashion

Describe the target population, disaggregated by programs, placements and/or facilities to which they have been referred.

Again, there is no data available for previous DJJ eligible/ committed youth due to the length of time since the last relevant youth.

### PART 3: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES (WELF. & INST. CODE §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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(D)(2) and (d)(8)):

Plumas County currently has contracts with ~~three four (4)~~ out-of-county juvenile detention centers located in Shasta County, Butte County, ~~and Tehama County, and Placer County~~. It is anticipated that these facilities will be utilized to house the targeted population pre-disposition and as a possible alternative to Secure Track detention centers for lower-risk youth who do not have specific treatment or other special needs. Additionally, Tehama County and Shasta County Juvenile Detention Facilities may be utilized for Secure Track detention following the disposition of youth in the target population.

Programs, placements, services, and service providers, if out of the scope of local resources, will be contracted out ~~potentially through the developing consortium of counties throughout the region and state~~ depending on the most appropriate setting for the youth and proximity to supportive family. Supervision outside of a facility will be done by existing Plumas County Probation staff.

Plumas County has a relatively low wardship rate as there is a focus on serving our youth at the lowest level of intervention as appropriate. When appropriate, local resources are utilized. Those services have consisted of probation mentoring, parenting classes, interactive journaling, community service, online educational courses, tobacco, drug and alcohol services, mental health services, family inclusive services, electronic monitoring, and school attendance assistance. Contracted out-of-county services for sexual offender counseling have also been utilized. Funding will directly support our youth in providing these specialized services and potentially enhancing services within the county when the need arises.

Plumas County Probation enjoys a strong partnership with Plumas County Behavioral Health (PCBH), the primary provider of Mental Health and Substance Use Services available in the county. If a youth involved in the Juvenile Justice system at the local level is a Medi-Cal beneficiary, as a Federal entitlement program, all Medi-Cal recipients are eligible to full-spectrum Mental Health and Substance Use Services. If a youth involved in the Juvenile Justice system at the local level is not a Medi-Cal beneficiary but still requires mental health and/or substance abuse services a variety of programs are accessed through the following specialized programming:

- Plumas Rural Services (PRS)- A Community-Based Organization that has provided counseling and mental health services for a small percentage of youth who do not obtain services from the Behavioral Health Department for various reasons. PRS also provides Nurturing for Parenting and Parent Project classes for parents of youth served by the Probation Department.
- Plumas County Intervention and Resource Center (PCIRC)- A current contract is in place with PCIRC to provide individual, family and substance abuse counseling for probation clients.
- ~~The Plumas County Public Health Department partners with Plumas County Joint Unified School District, Plumas County Behavioral Health, and the Probation Department to provide after school education services to the student body populations of high school age. Current plans are underway to extend youth based wellness activities.~~

This year, ~~Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility~~~~Shasta County Rehabilitation~~ was added to the list of contracted facilities as an additional resource.

#### PART 4: JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (WELF. & INST. CODE §1995(D)(3))

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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(A) and (d)(8))

Plumas County plans to assess eligible youth using evidence-based Noble assessments for risk and needs. A specialized sex offender assessment will be conducted using the JSORAT assessment. Due to the historically small size of the county's targeted population, unpredictable nature of juvenile crime and dynamic needs of the target population in Plumas County, it would be costly and inefficient to create robust programming for each specialized treatment need area. To be cost-effective, JJRBG funding will be used to benefit these youth by enabling the county to enhance local services when appropriate and to obtain out-of-county services that are proven in quality for specialized offenders when needed. It is anticipated that services for offenders who are experiencing significant mental health needs, severe alcohol and drug issues, sexual offender treatment needs, and/or other significant related behavioral or trauma-based needs will be contracted out to out-of-county specialized services to effectively serve the youth. Eligible youth who are not placed in Secure Track will also be eligible to receive programming and services through these funds to help decrease the risk of Secure Track placement.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address support programs or services that promote healthy adolescent development for the target population. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(B) and (d)(8))

Plumas County has a limited presence of community-based organizations (CBOs) or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) that specialize in providing services for justice-involved youth, although efforts are underway to improve upon this condition. Plumas County does have four valued nonprofit partners in the county; Environmental Alternatives Family Services (EA), Plumas Crisis Intervention and Resource Center (PCIRC), Plumas Rural Services (PRS), and Alliance For Workforce Development (AFWD). Although PCIRC does not specialize in justice-involved youth, it can offer general family services, which include housing, individual/substance abuse counseling, and food assistance, plus other emergency necessities. EA provides transitional housing services with comprehensive case management and PRS offers parenting services. AFWD offers youth employment preparation, support and training services. They also offer GED and other educational and training advancement programs.

In partnership with a local CBOs, SB 823 grant funds will be utilized to develop additional resources and programming for youth via a reentry and resource program for youth in the target population and youth at risk of becoming part of the target population. These services will likely be provided by based out of EA and PCIRC's Dragonfly Café Education and Training Center. Services via the Dragonfly Café may include: Education support, including collaboration with the Literacy Program; employment development soft skills training (Workin' It Out curriculum) and practical skill building, including collaboration with the Alliance For Workforce Development; housing assistance; mental health and SUD counseling; and cognitive behavioral journaling such as Forward Thinking and BITS journals. These services, and the provider of these services, may be determined by a future Request for Proposals.

This year, EA has provided transitional housing services for one qualified youth in the target population. In addition to housing, these services include comprehensive case management services, employment skill development, independent living skills development, and a variety of supportive services. Thus far, these services have been effective, and this youth is stable and progressing.

~~Lionheart's Power Source Program may be utilized for reentry youth, particularly those who have participated in the program through Tehama County Juvenile Detention Facility. The program may be implemented for appropriate youth as a prevention tool for those at risk of escalating criminal behavior.~~

This plan intends to reserve some funding for further development of programs capable of providing additional support for the target population or those at risk of entering the target population. Funding may be used for prosocial activities and programs to help foster healthy development for these youth, housing assistance, employment placement, and support.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address family engagement in programs for the target population. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(C) and (d)(8))

Plumas County plans to support family engagement for the target population through a variety of services and programming. In collaboration with the Department of Social Services and Behavioral Health Department, Child and Family Team meetings will be utilized to garner engagement and input from family members. With the assistance of the Department of Social Services, family-finding efforts will be utilized for youth in need of permanent connections. Parenting education and support will be provided, as well as mental health services, drug and alcohol services, and wellness services to support the engagement and growth of families of the target population Secure Track youth.

Bolstering a robust, stable family unit will be a core concept in the program. Family members are preferred to be involved in every step of the youths' programs and transition back into the community. The more involved the family is in the treatment experience, the better the understanding, respect, and trust to solidify the successful return to the community will be. Where no existing services can meet the need, grant funds may be applied towards replacement services.

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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(D) and (d)(8))

Plumas County plans to address reentry by working with county partners to support life skills development, education, housing, and employment. Long-term success and continued rehabilitation occur when the transition from custody to the community includes a seamless continuum of care and supportive aftercare supervision with accountability. It is recognized that reentry service gaps will likely be discovered in the future. Probation will attempt to address these service gaps as effectively as possible by contracting/collaborating with other county service providers and CBOs to help leverage resources and direct services based on the needs of the realigned population. As stated, the current strategy for addressing reentry needs will focus on utilization of EA's transitional living program and PCIRC's Navigation Center and Dragonfly Café Education and Training Center. Youth placed in a Secure Track facility will be prioritized to receive these services. The services will be initiated prior to release from detention to ensure a smooth transition back into the community.

The plan includes expansion or development of:

- Educational opportunities that provide access and opportunities to colleges or universities.
- Vocational programs, employment and job placement – Vocational programs in custody ~~which that~~ can transfer to the community with the goal of gaining true, local employment. Probation will partner with AFWD, EA and PCIRC for assistance in helping the realigned population obtain support and skills related

to employment and job placement. Vocational skills training available through Feather River College may be pursued and supported depending on the goals of the individual.

- Transitional and Safe Housing – Probation will partner with CBOs such as EA and PCIRC for safe and supportive housing options upon reentry. As necessary, youth under the age of 18 may be considered for foster care placement. Those over 18, who do not qualify for Extended Foster Care will be reliant on these partnerships. This year, EA has successfully provided placement and transitional living for one youth. These programs will also be considered for Less Restrictive Placements should a qualifying youth be identified.
- Life Skills Development – Referrals will be made to EA and PCIRC's Dragonfly Café Program. The Dragonfly Café This program is currently being developed as a resource for youth reentering the community following detention. Power Source programming and/or Change Company journaling programs have been will be implemented for skills development based on a needs assessment and prior programming in custody.
- Specialized Services – Reserving some grant funds for specialized purpose-purposesneeds as they arise will allow for some specialized services, such as services to aid with reentry for those target population youth who are not eligible for existing services based on age, insurance, or other factors. This funding could also be accessed for youth-specific needs such as post-secondary course enrollment and other vocational needs for Secure Track youth.
- Specialized Placements - Every effort will be made to serve the target population locally to keep them connected to their families and community; however, Plumas County has very limited local resources for placements in general. Therefore, this plan intends to reserve realignment funds for Specialized Placement each year to access Secure Youth Treatment Facilities in other counties as they become available.

Describe how the County plans to apply grant funds to address evidence-based, promising, trauma- informed and culturally responsive programs or services for the target population. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(E) and (d)(8))

The Probation Department currently uses validated risk assessment tools and provides evidence-based programming to youth in the community. This allows for individualized case plans that focus on those dynamic risk factors that lead to criminal behavior. The County's plan includes the expansion of evidence-based programming offered in the community. These are programs and other best practices that have been proven to address criminogenic needs and reduce recidivism. Examples include: Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Courage to Change/Forward Thinking journaling, Moral Reconation Therapy, and Powersource. Both sworn and non-sworn staff, as well as contracted service providers, may facilitate these treatment modalities to youth. The expansion of services and training will focus on and support trauma-informed practices and cultural responsiveness. The department is currently completing a contract for Trauma-informed Care staff training provided by Plumas Rural Services.

Most of the specialized programs and services to serve the targeted Secure Track youth will be contracted out to out-of-county providers; however, Plumas County Probation and the JJCC will endeavor to assess all programs and services prior to placement and to evaluate utilized programs at least annually.

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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code §1995(d)(3)(F) and (d)(8))

Plumas County has limited CBOs and NGOs located within the county that focus their services on justice-involved youth. Plumas County has expanded our partnership with EA for transitional living services for the target population and is currently expanding upon a partnership with PCIRC (CBO) to utilize their Dragonfly Café for reentry services for the target population, including life skills development, education support, mental

health/substance use, housing and employment services. Further development of partnerships with [EA](#), PCIRC or other CBOs such as Plumas Rural Services may be pursued for the provision of these services.

Plumas County will reserve an allocation of funding for programming and housing this population when the need arises. Provision of evidence-based programming offered by other CBOs or NBOs will be pursued and considered when available.

## **PART 5: FACILITY PLAN (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(4))**

Provide a detailed facility plan indicating which facilities will be used 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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

If currently contracted facilities (Shasta County, Butte County and Tehama County) cannot be utilized as the most appropriate facility for the targeted youth, it is anticipated that other specialized facilities may be used through other counties if necessary. Plumas County does not have oversight or control of how contracted facilities are designed or operated; however, Plumas County will be diligent in monitoring contracted facilities for the safety and protection of all potential local youth. Contracts will not be renewed to facilities that do not ensure these standards.

Decision-making on whether target population youth would be best served in an existing contracted juvenile hall or other SYTF will be based upon the least restrictive option that provides care, treatment and guidance that is consistent with the best interests of the youth and the public as required by Section 202(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC).

Considerations for the safety and protection of all youth in the facilities will take on additional importance given the probability of older (up to and including age 24) and more sophisticated target population youth now remaining in local commitment for extended periods. Youth will continue to be classified for specific housing based on requirements contained in Title 15 and the policies and procedures of the hosting county facility. These requirements are intended to provide for the safety of youth, facility staff and the public by placing youth in the least restrictive housing and program settings that can meet their needs. Classification factors include but are not limited to the following:

- Age and maturity of the youth
- Sophistication
- Emotional stability
- Court status and present offense
- Criminal offense history
- Prior behavior while in the facility or other institutions
- Gang affiliation
- Conflicts with other youth
- Court-ordered restrictions as to the association with other youth
- Medical/mental health considerations
- Gender and gender identity
- Developmental and cognitive processing disabilities
- Program needs
- Legal process status

Shasta County Rehabilitation Center was added as a contracted facility this year.

## **PART 6: RETAINING THE TARGET POPULATION IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(5))**

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. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

The Plumas County justice partners are cognizant of the need to keep youth out of the adult court system. The adult court system will be a last resort reserved for consideration in only the most serious and violent of offenses. Funding for specialized services that meet an individual's needs will incentivize keeping the youth within the juvenile court system.

It is important to note that SB 823 changed the maximum age of juvenile court jurisdiction for some target population youth. Previously, only youth who were committed to the DJJ had their maximum age of juvenile court jurisdiction extended to age 23 or 25. Changes enacted with SB 823 extend the age of jurisdiction for the entire target population, regardless of whether they become Secure Track youth, to the ages of 23 or 25, depending on the nature of their adjudicated charges. By adding a new Section, 208.5, to the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), SB 823 also provided additional restrictions on housing wards of the juvenile court in adult facilities, regardless of age. Wards 19 years of age or older cannot be detained in an adult facility without a hearing. The presumption at that hearing is that the ward will be retained in a juvenile facility. Wards serving a commitment in a juvenile facility cannot have that commitment transferred to an adult facility, regardless of age. For the purposes of this plan, that means there is the potential for more youth between the ages of 21-25 requiring services in the local juvenile justice continuum, up to and including juvenile detention services.

All requests for transfer of a juvenile to adult court will be reviewed by the Chief Probation Officer using multi-agency processes and creating a comprehensive continuum of services for the individual.

#### **PART 7: REGIONAL EFFORT (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(6))**

Describe any regional agreements or arrangements supported by the County's block grant allocation. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response: (Welf. & Inst. Code (d)(8))

Plumas County plans to use JJRBG funding to house eligible offenders in existing contracted facilities in Shasta, Butte, and Tehama County. Tehama County's detention and treatment program ~~was/is proposed to be expanded. Should the program be expanded~~ in a manner ~~that should be~~ sufficient to meet the needs of Plumas County's realigned population, or a portion thereof. Plumas County ~~would be inclined to~~ financially support~~ed~~ this expansion with JJRBG funding, ~~in the amount of not to exceed~~ \$50,000 annually, as a means of ensuring youth remain nearer to our community and their supportive relationships. This investment is in addition to daily fees paid for placement of youth in the facility.

#### **PART 8: DATA (WELF & INST. CODE § 1995(D)(7))**

Describe how data will be collected on youth served by the block grant. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response:

Absent a significant anomaly, the amount of eligible youth the Plumas County justice system will become involved with will be low enough that existing staff will be able to record data through existing case management systems. The demographics of the youth served will address age, gender, ethnicity, neighborhood, family status, and offense details.

Data other than demographics that will be collected will consist of:

- Assessment information- risk/ need
- Custody time – days spent in custody at juvenile detention facilities
- New law violations - subsequent adjudications and/or convictions for misdemeanor or felony offenses after becoming a target population youth
- Treatment programming - program referrals and completion status
- High school and secondary education status
- Employment and/or employment skills training participation
- Housing status

Describe outcome measures that will be utilized to measure or determine the results of programs and interventions supported by block grant funds. Describe any progress on this element since May 1, 2023, at the end of your response:

Measuring the success of those committed to the Secure Track realignment program will be a significant indicator of how these youth will adjust once released back into the community. Attainable and measurable goals tied to a Case Plan and Court orders will be utilized throughout the course of their program to gauge case plan goal completion, progress, and to adjust to individual needs during their stay in a detention program and upon reentry into the community. Examples of these goals would be high school graduation or equivalency, college course completion, vocational training certificate attainment, completion of Court-ordered programs and treatment, job training program enrollment, apprenticeships, and internships. The completion rate of eligible youth will be measured as well as the completion rates for programs utilized. Youth, families, and other partners will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on programs and the methods used to manage this population. Outcome measures will include, but not be limited to:

- Completion of programs
- New offenses/Recidivism
- Risk assessment level. Fluctuation, impactful programming, etc.
- Completed life skills class
- Clean and sober (drug/alcohol testing results)
- Maintain or development of positive support system (family, friends, or county mentors)
- Obtaining/maintaining employment or attending school or college

**PART 9: OTHER UPDATES: DESCRIBE ANY PROGRESS ON ELEMENTS SINCE MAY 1, 2023:  
(WELF. & INST. CODE (D)(8))**

Provide a description of progress made regarding any plan elements and any objectives and outcomes in the prior year's plan, to the extent that they have not already been described above.

As stated, Plumas County has not had any-one youth who met the description of the target population. Although resources and programming that could serve this population are currently available, they are limited, as it has been difficult to develop services for only one youth who do not currently exist in the system. Nevertheless, this youth was provided a seamless transition back into the community with transitional housing, case management and referrals to appropriate services, including specialized treatment outside of the county. The objective currently being discussed is creating a model that would meet the needs and criteria identified in this plan. Actual implementation of some aspects of the model may be dependent on receiving youth who meet the target population description. Plumas County will continue to develop programs and remain adaptable as it relates to providing services that meet each individual youth's needs.

**ADDENDUM TO PLUMAS COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT**

July 24, 2024

On July 12, 2024, the Office of Youth and Community Restoration made the following request: "Please provide the names of programs and services that Plumas County is considering for addressing the need for culturally responsive programming".

In response to this request, Plumas County offers the following information:

Change Company Forward Thinking journaling is a primary intervention tool utilized by the Department. Change Company Interactive Journaling is a person-activity fit tool, meaning areas like personality, motivation, culture, and strengths are considered when an intervention is administered (Lyubormirsky & Layous, 2013; Schueller, 2014). Interactive Journaling provides this fit for underserved populations and other groups for whom journals are customized. A sense of ownership in the journaling process also allows for an internal customization of sorts-making the practice and the Journal your own by engaging with it in your own way. Interactive Journals have been customized for a broad range of special populations and groups: Jewish youth, Native Americans, adolescent girls, veterans, transgender individuals, women in treatment, aging populations, children in foster care, and more (The Change Companies, 2022).

As previously stated, the current strategy for addressing reentry needs will focus on the utilization of PCIRC's Dragonfly Café Education and Training Center. Youth placed in a Secure Track facility will be prioritized to receive these services. The services will be initiated prior to release from detention to ensure a smooth transition back into the community. PCIRC has served Plumas County for forty years. The mission of PCIRC is to function as a safety net provider of countywide services that offer individuals and families the opportunity to live up to their own potential and be treated with dignity and respect.

PCIRC's mission includes the following statement and information:

Cultural responsiveness is a vital aspect of creating inclusive and equitable spaces. It involves understanding, respecting, and appropriately including the diverse cultural backgrounds and identities that individuals bring to interactions. In Plumas County, cultural diversity is limited as reflected in our demographics.

PCIRC staff embrace the following:

- Valuing Diversity: Cultural responsiveness requires recognizing and appreciating the richness of diversity. It involves acknowledging different cultural perspectives, traditions, and experiences. This is important in serving our Maidu and Hispanic/Latino populations within our county.
- Cultural Knowledge: Practicing cultural responsiveness means seeking to expand our understanding of various cultures. It involves learning about customs, beliefs, and practices that shape people's lives. PCIRC has been a long-time partner with Roundhouse Council in Greenville and bringing them to the table in program design, development and inclusion.
- Creating Inclusive Spaces: Cultural responsiveness extends beyond individual interactions. It involves actively working toward the creation of community spaces, workplaces, and educational environments where diversity is celebrated, and everyone feels included. PCIRC is planning a mural this summer at our Quincy site to celebrate the native plants of Plumas County along with those historically important to our Maidu neighbors.
- Cultural Competence: Being culturally competent is an ongoing process. It requires continuous self-assessment, cultural education, and openness to others' values and beliefs. It starts with understanding our own culture and evolves through interactions with people from diverse backgrounds.
- Cultural Humility: Cultivating cultural humility involves reflecting on our own beliefs and identities. It's about recognizing that we don't know everything and being open to learning from others. It's a lifelong journey of self-reflection.

Provided ~~Printed~~ By: Cathy Rahmeyer, PCIRC Director of Operations on 4/12/2024 22 of 37

In addition, the programs utilized for Secure Track youth will be contracted out to out-of-county providers. Plumas County contracts with multiple Secure Track providers and will ensure these programs provide evidence-based, trauma-informed and culturally responsive practices. As the Department contracts with multiple Secure Track providers, the individual needs of each youth referred to a Secure Track program will be considered when identifying the appropriate program.



# **Plumas County**

## **Juvenile Justice Plan**

**April 2025~~2024~~**



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## **Executive Summary**

This juvenile justice plan begins by first reviewing the legislation and requirements associated with the State's funding of juvenile justice efforts in California (primarily Assembly Bill 1913, known as the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act, and Senate Bill 81, known as the Youthful Offender Block Grant).

The report provides some demographic data for Plumas County and highlights key recent trends in juvenile justice. Referrals to the Probation Department for youth reached record lows in 2021, in line with what the rest of California has been experiencing over the past decade. A review of the Probation Department risk and needs assessments indicate that the primary criminogenic needs for Plumas County youth are is leisure/recreation and anti-social behavior, education/employment issues.

The report goes on to reflect input from several stakeholders in the community who participated in telephone interviews to gather a range of perspectives. After this section, the report then articulates the three strategies that were developed as a result of this analysis and will be deployed to develop programming for youth and families involved in juvenile justice:

- 1) Invest in prevention, intervention, and aftercare services when resources allow for it
- 2) Provide parents with the best possible tools to address their children's behaviors
- 3) Utilize evidence-based practices whenever feasible

The next segment of the report discusses the challenges confronting the juvenile justice system in Plumas County. These include the impact of SB 823, the hiring and retention of staff and a variety of complex social issues such as domestic violence, drug addiction and housing scarcity, that impact the community to a significant degree. It also covers the opportunity that comes with these challenges. New funding will allow Plumas to invest in needed programs

The report concludes with a listing of the program recommendations that Plumas County will make with both Youthful Offender Block Grant and Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act grants.

## **California Juvenile Justice Grants**

The State of California supports the efforts of its 58 counties to address juvenile delinquency primarily through the funding offered under two non-competitive grants. The history and required process for these two grants, known as the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and Youthful Offender Block Grant, are explained below.

In 2000, the California Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 1913, also known as the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA). This legislation provided the first source of substantial, non-competitive funding for counties to deliver local services to youth and families either involved in or at risk of involvement, in the juvenile justice system. Eligibility for these funds requires compliance with two important requirements. The first is the creation of a “juvenile justice coordinating council,” which has the responsibility to develop, monitor and approve a “comprehensive multi-agency juvenile justice plan” annually. The second requirement is the annual completion and submission of two reports; one discusses the plans for the programs and initiatives to be funded by this grant in the upcoming fiscal year, due to the State each year by May 1<sup>st</sup>, <sup>1</sup> and the other is primarily a fiscal report disclosing how the funds were utilized, and what outcomes were achieved, and is due October 1<sup>st</sup> of every year.

In accordance with 749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) is comprised of a minimum of individuals representing the following agencies:

- Chief Probation Officer as Chair
- Sheriff
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- City Police Department
- County Office of Education/School District
- Social Services
- Mental Health
- Community-based Drug and Alcohol Treatment Provide
- Board of Supervisors
- Non-profit CBOs providing services to youth
- At large community member

The JJCC is responsible for developing a “comprehensive multiagency juvenile justice plan,” which shall include the following components, per Government Code Section 30061(b)(4)(A):<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In 2020, the State of California extended the due date for this report to May 30<sup>th</sup> per Executive Order N-40-20

<sup>2</sup>[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=3.&title=3.&part=&chapter=6.7.&article=](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=3.&title=3.&part=&chapter=6.7.&article=)

- i) An assessment of existing law enforcement, probation, education, mental health, health, social services, drug and alcohol, and youth services resources that specifically target at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families.
- ii) An identification and prioritization of the neighborhoods, schools, and other areas in the community that face a significant public safety risk from juvenile crime, such as gang activity, daylight burglary, late-night robbery, vandalism, truancy, controlled substances sales, firearm-related violence, and juvenile substance abuse and alcohol use.
- iii) A local juvenile justice action strategy that provides for a continuum of responses to juvenile crime and delinquency and demonstrates a collaborative and integrated approach for implementing a system of swift, certain, and graduated responses for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders.
- iv) A description of the programs, strategies, or system enhancements that are proposed to be funded pursuant to this subparagraph.

JJCJA funds can be “used for programs and approaches that have been demonstrated to be effective in reducing delinquency and addressing juvenile crime for any elements of response to juvenile crime and delinquency, including prevention, intervention, suppression, and incapacitation.”<sup>3</sup>

In 2007, the State enacted Senate Bill 81, also known as Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG). The purpose of this grant was to “realign” services for some youth who had been under the supervision of the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to local probation departments. 1951(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) states that YOBG funds “...shall be used to enhance the capacity of county probation, mental health, drug and alcohol, and other county departments to provide appropriate rehabilitative and supervision services to youthful offenders...”<sup>4</sup> Unlike JJCJA, programs supported through YOBG funds are not subject to review of the JJCC. Per Welfare & Institutions Code Section 1961(a), the State requires the following to be conducted in order to be in compliance with this funding:

- (a) On or before May 1 of each year, each county shall prepare and submit to the Board of State and Community Corrections a Juvenile Justice Development Plan on its proposed programs, strategies, and system enhancements for the next fiscal year from the Youthful Offender Block Grant Fund described in Section 1951. The plan shall include all of the following:

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.bscc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/JJCJA-YOBG-FAQs\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.bscc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/JJCJA-YOBG-FAQs_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=1951.&lawCode=WIC](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=1951.&lawCode=WIC)

- (1) A description of the programs, placements, services, strategies, and system enhancements to be funded by the block grant allocation pursuant to this chapter, including, but not limited to, the programs, tools, and strategies outlined in Section 1960.
- (2) A description of how the plan relates to or supports the county's overall strategy for dealing with youthful offenders who have not committed an offense described in subdivision (b) of Section 707, and who are no longer eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Facilities under Section 733 as of September 1, 2007.
- (3) A description of any regional agreements or arrangements to be supported by the block grant allocation pursuant to this chapter.
- (4) A description of how the programs, placements, services, or strategies identified in the plan coordinate with multi-agency juvenile justice plans and programs under paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Section 30061 of the Government Code.

In 2016, Assembly Bill 1988 combined the process of submitting these two reports (the "Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan" and the "Juvenile Justice Development Plan") and allow for a single consolidated plan as long as it meets all of the required components of both grants. This report fulfills the requirements of both of these funding streams.

The process for preparing this report involved a review of data associated with Plumas County juvenile justice and demographics, along with stakeholder interviews.

## **Plumas County Demographics**

Plumas County is located in the northeastern part of California, at the meeting point between the Sierra Nevada and Cascade ranges. Plumas County's population has remained steady in recent years, due in large part to the fact that nearly 70% of the jurisdiction is controlled by the U.S. Forest Service. With less than eight residents per square mile, and an average elevation of 5,125 feet, this County is a paradise for people seeking solitude, recreation and opportunities to enjoy nature. Some of the spectacular sights of Plumas County include Feather River Canyon, Lake Almanor, and views of Mount Lassen, which lies just north of the border with Shasta County.

As of July 1, 2021, the population of Plumas County is estimated to be 19,915, and the age distribution of that population is as follows<sup>5</sup>:

<b>Plumas County Population Age Distribution</b>		
<i>Age</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Number</i>
Under 18	17.3%	3,445
18-64	52.4%	10,435
65 and over	30.3%	6,035

49.8% of the County is female. Plumas County's ethnic diversity is as follows<sup>6</sup>:

<b>Plumas County Population Ethnicity Distribution</b>		
<i>Ethnicity</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Number</i>
White	82.1%	16,350
Hispanic/Latino	10.3%	2,051
All Others	7.6%	1,514

According to recent statistics from California's Employment Development Department, just under 63% of the paid jobs in Plumas County were in the private sector, and 37% were in government.<sup>7</sup> Seventy-eight percent of those private sector jobs are in the service industry.<sup>8</sup> The following table reflects that Plumas County has had a significantly higher

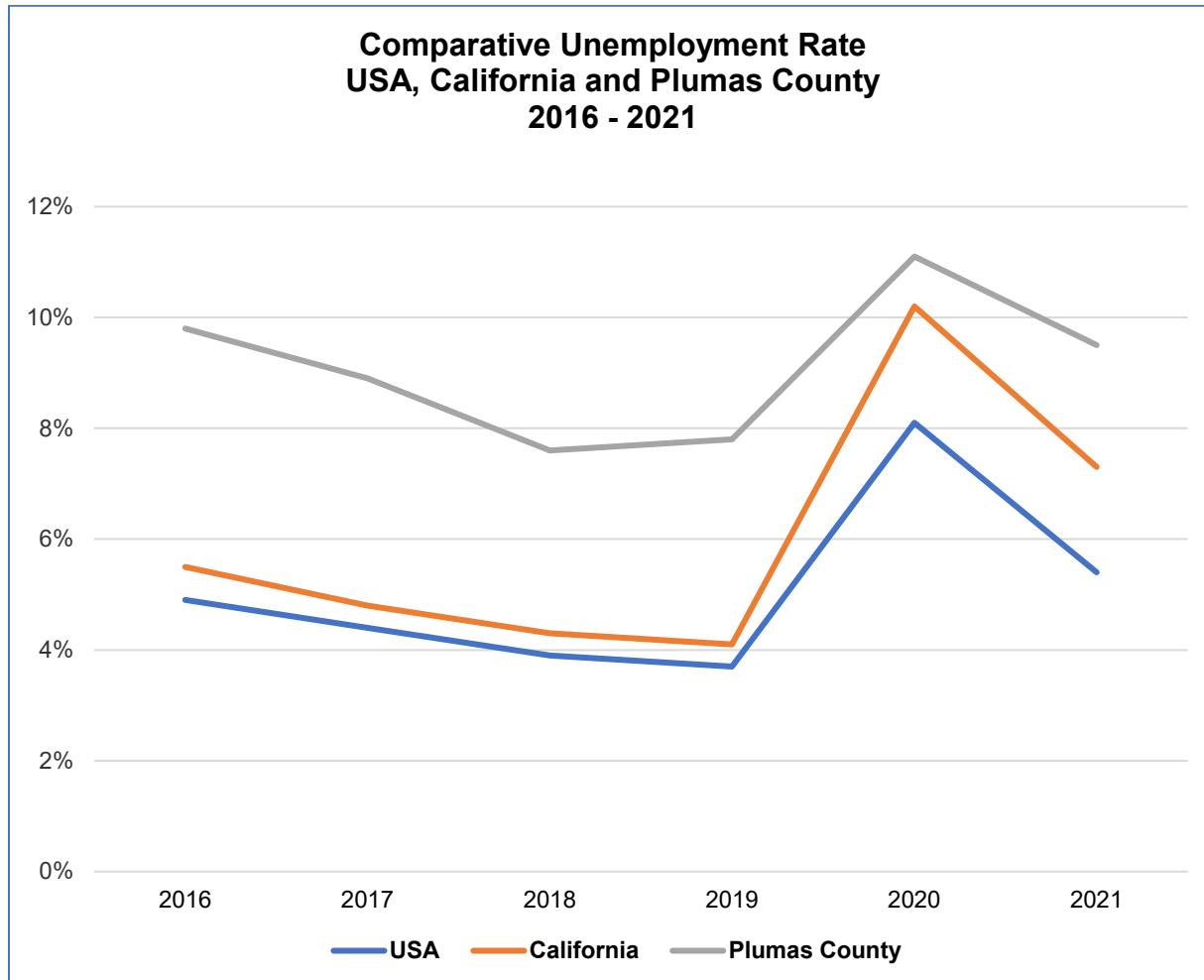
<sup>5</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/plumascountycalifornia/PST045221>

<sup>6</sup> ibid

<sup>7</sup> [Plumas County, California](#)

<sup>8</sup> ibid

rate of unemployment, even prior to the beginning of the 2020 COVID pandemic, when compared to both California and the country as a whole.<sup>9</sup>



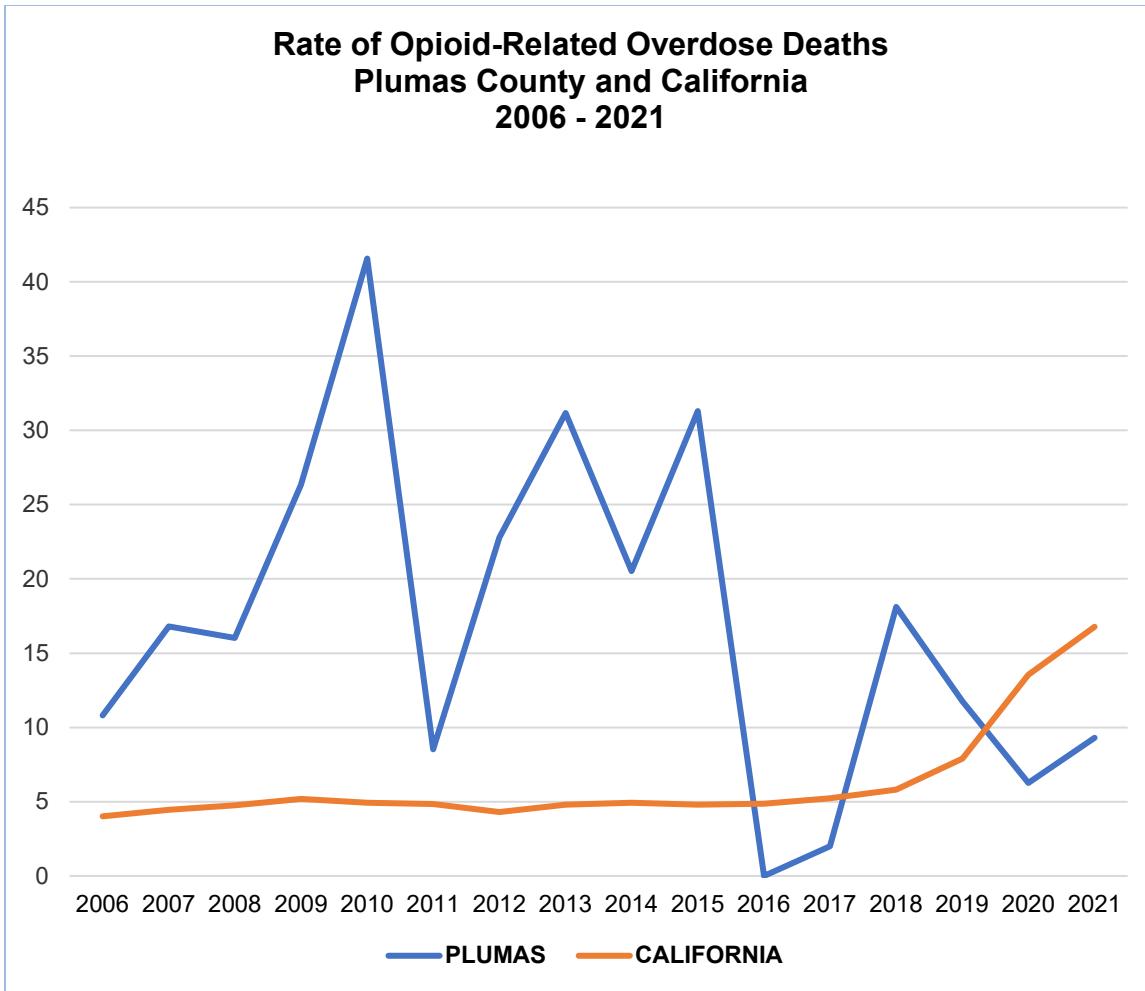
Plumas County's poverty rate of 13.5% compares to 12.3% of the population in the entire state of California.

Before focusing more on demographic information specifically related to youth in Plumas County, it is important to discuss two social issues that are likely to have an impact on the youth living in this area: opiate abuse and domestic violence.

Although the numbers of opioid-related deaths in Plumas County have dropped significantly since 2015, the mortality rate has exceeded that of the rest of California most every year since 2006.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> [Local Area Unemployment Statistics \(LAUS\) for California Areas: Annual Average | EDD Data Library](#)

<sup>10</sup> [CA Overdose Dashboard](#)



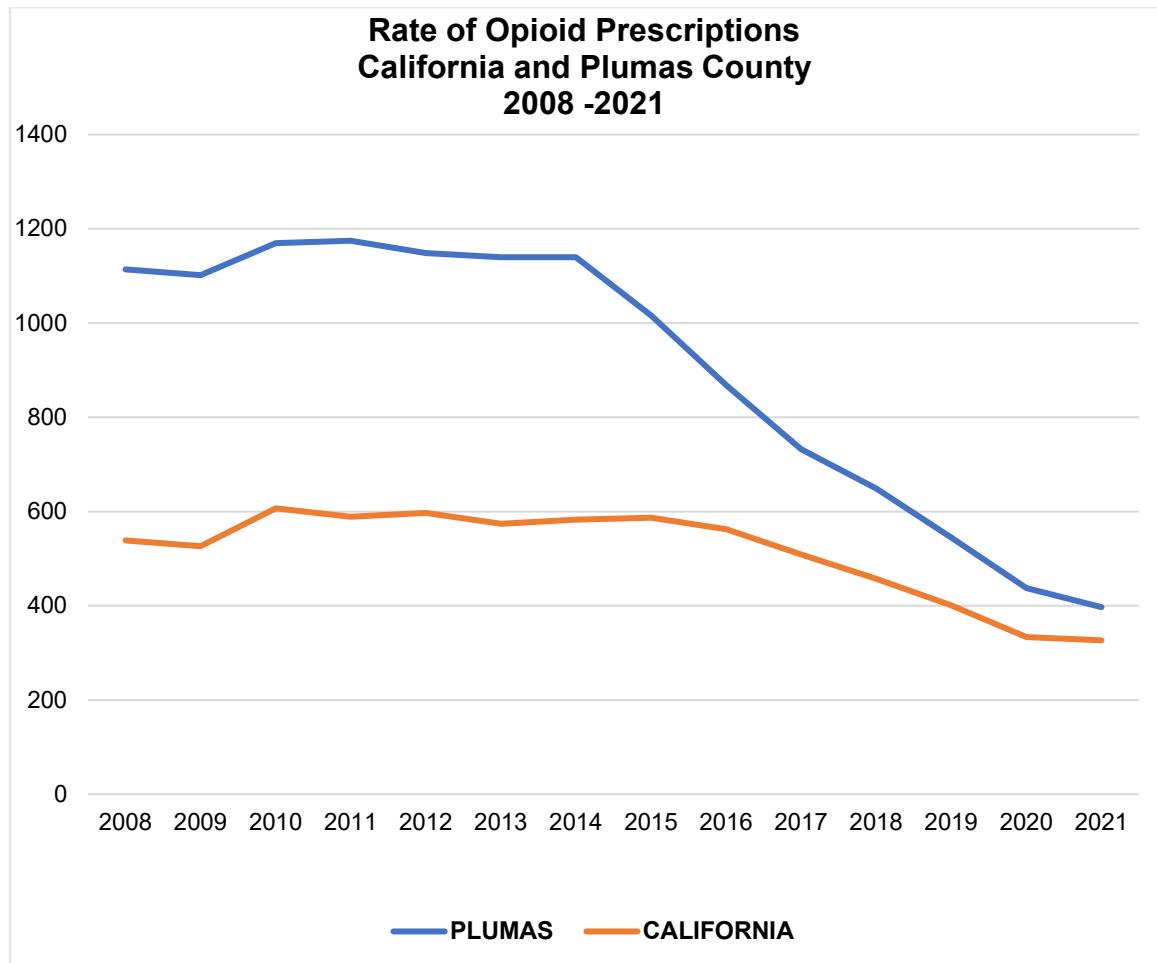
The impact of opiate use is often the reflection of a host of other ills afflicting a community. California's website for the Department of Public Health best captures this when it states:

*"The opioid epidemic continues to evolve and impose a serious threat to the health of all individuals throughout the state. In order to effectively address the opioid epidemic, it is important to recognize that opioid abuse and overdose is closely tied to other trends in the state. As California has seen rising rates of social inequities, homelessness, mental illness, and despair, the state also has seen an increase in opioid abuse, addiction, and overdose deaths, especially among those most marginalized in our society."<sup>11</sup>*

While Plumas County has seen an improvement in this area, the specter of opiates and the havoc they can raise will continue to exist if the rate of prescriptions for opiates in Plumas County exceeds that of the rest of California.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> [Opioids \(ca.gov\)](https://ca.gov/programs-and-initiatives/health-and-well-being/department-of-public-health/epidemic-prevention-and-control/opioids)

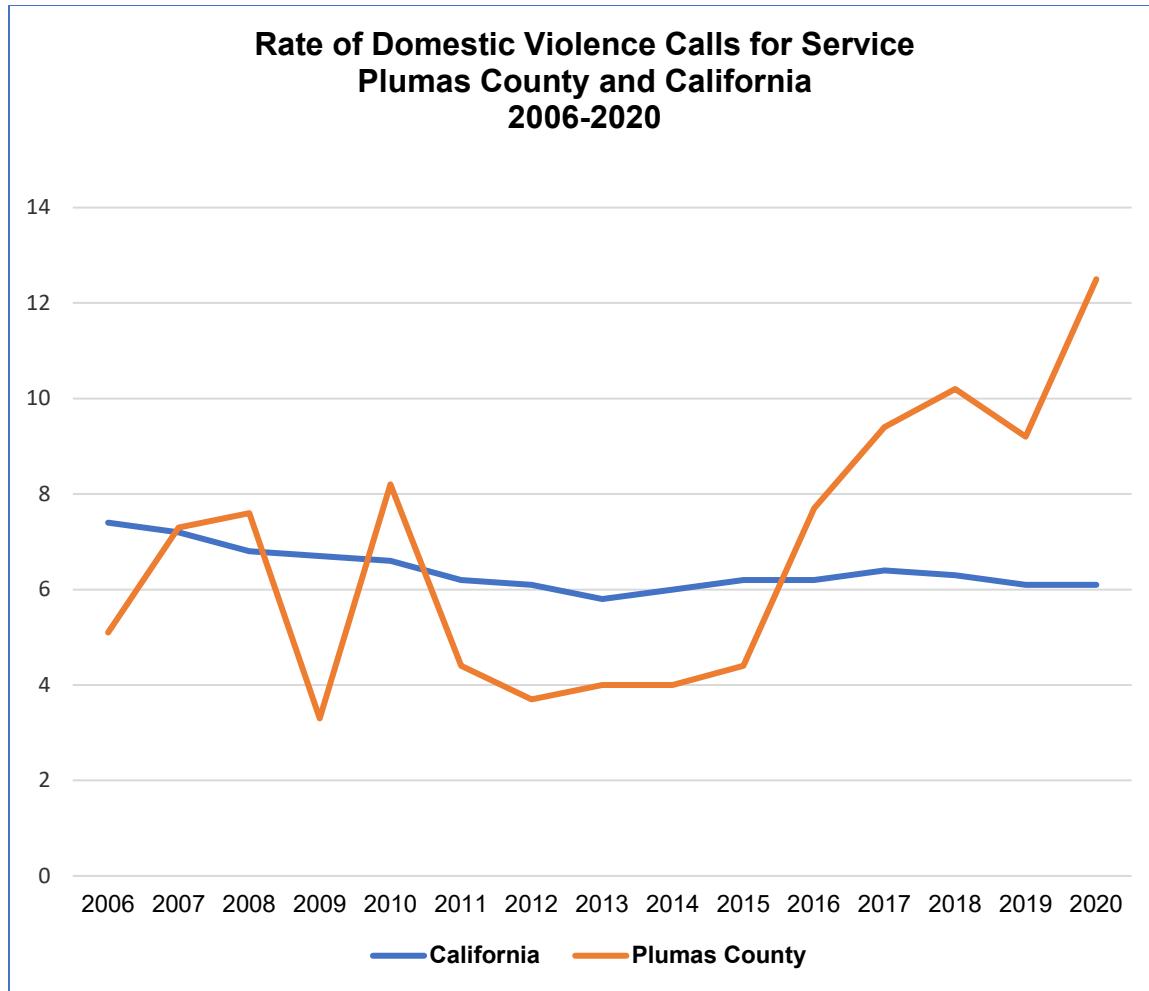
<sup>12</sup> [CA Overdose Dashboard](https://www.ca.gov/epidemic-prevention-and-control/overdose-dashboards)



Compounding the problems created by the epidemic of opiates has been an increase in instances of domestic violence. The rate of domestic violence calls in Plumas County for service increased dramatically starting in 2015, while in the rest of California they have remained relatively steady.<sup>13</sup>

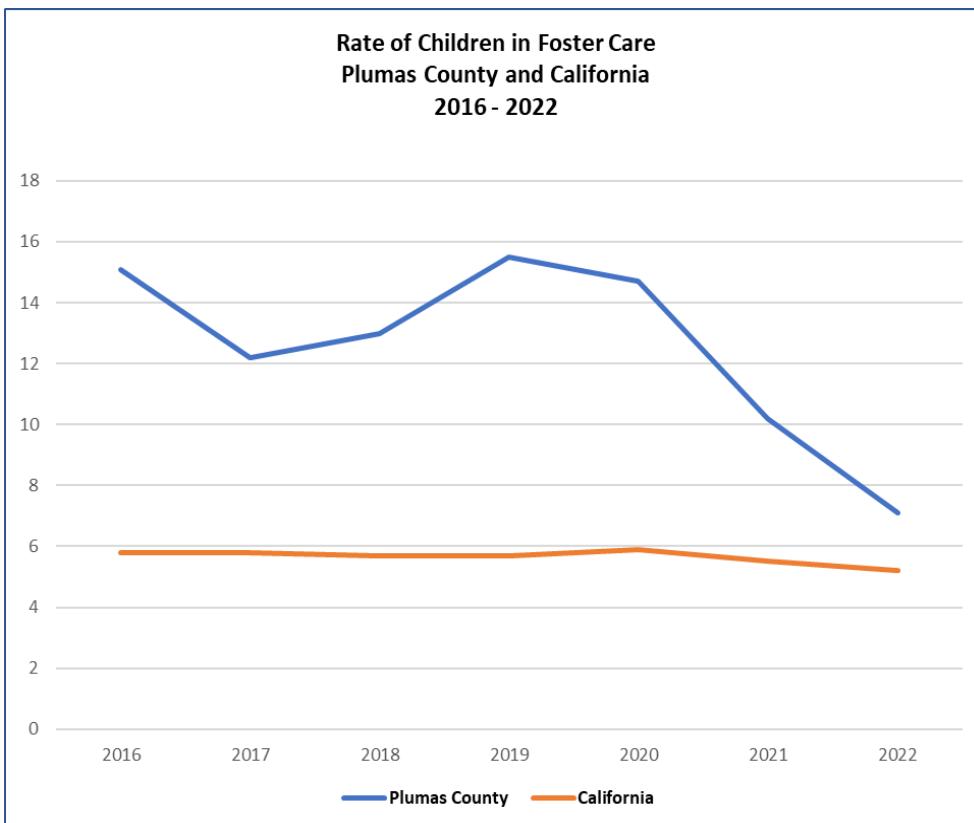
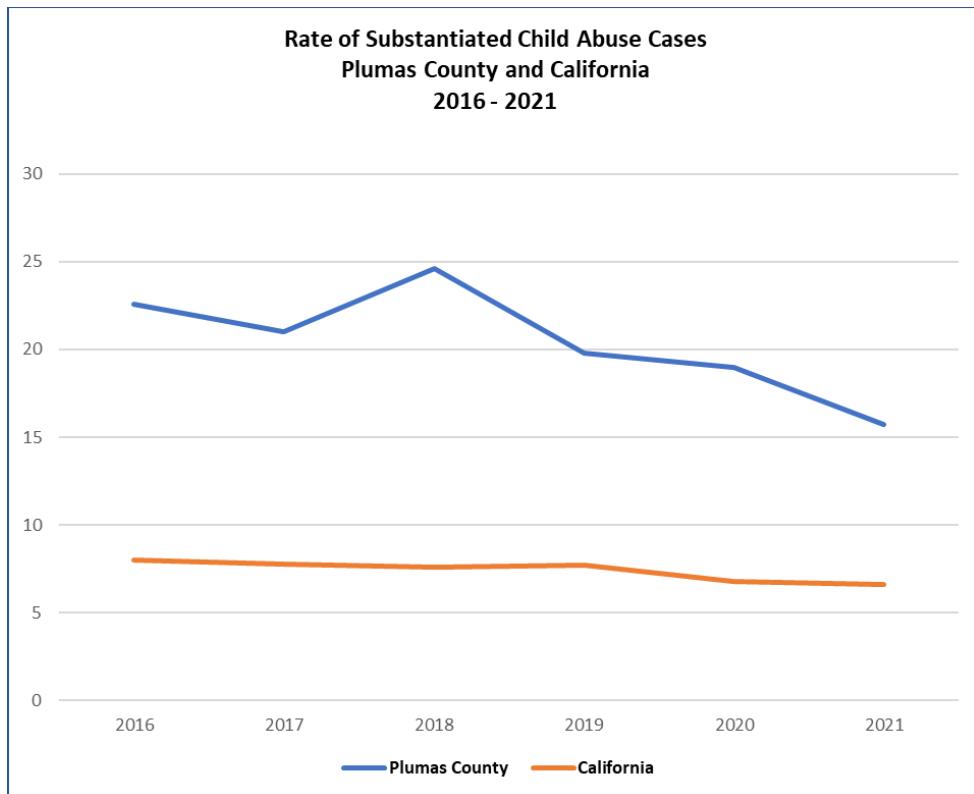
<sup>13</sup> [Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance - Kidsdata.org](https://www.kidsdata.org)

It is important to note that this source only has data through 2020. Plumas County's total number of calls for service due to domestic violence reduced from 140 in 2021 to 92 in 2021, which is a 34% reduction. Assuming the rate is reduced by the same amount, it still results in Plumas County's rate being higher than the rest of the state of California.

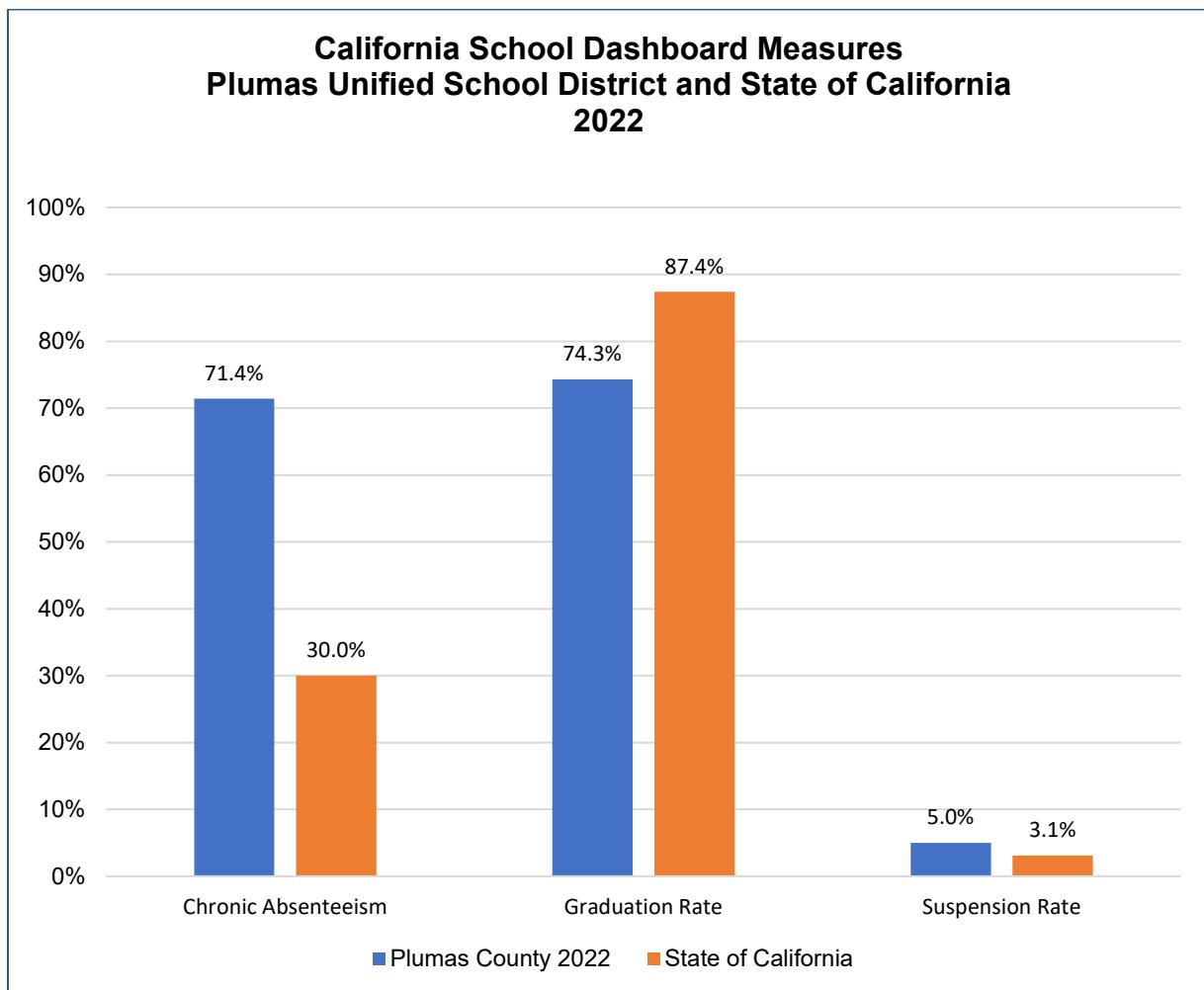


As indicated earlier in this report, there are 3,445 minors residing in Plumas County. Of the under 18 population in Plumas County, there are several important social indicators which have connections to juvenile delinquency. The rate of involvement with the child welfare system is often a reflection of the same issues that drive incidents of juvenile delinquency. The next two charts compare rates of substantiated cases of child abuse and children in foster care (this is only children placed into foster care through the child welfare system, not juvenile justice) for Plumas County and the State of California.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> [Report Index - California Child Welfare Indicators Project \(CCWIP\) \(berkeley.edu\)](http://ccwip.berkeley.edu)



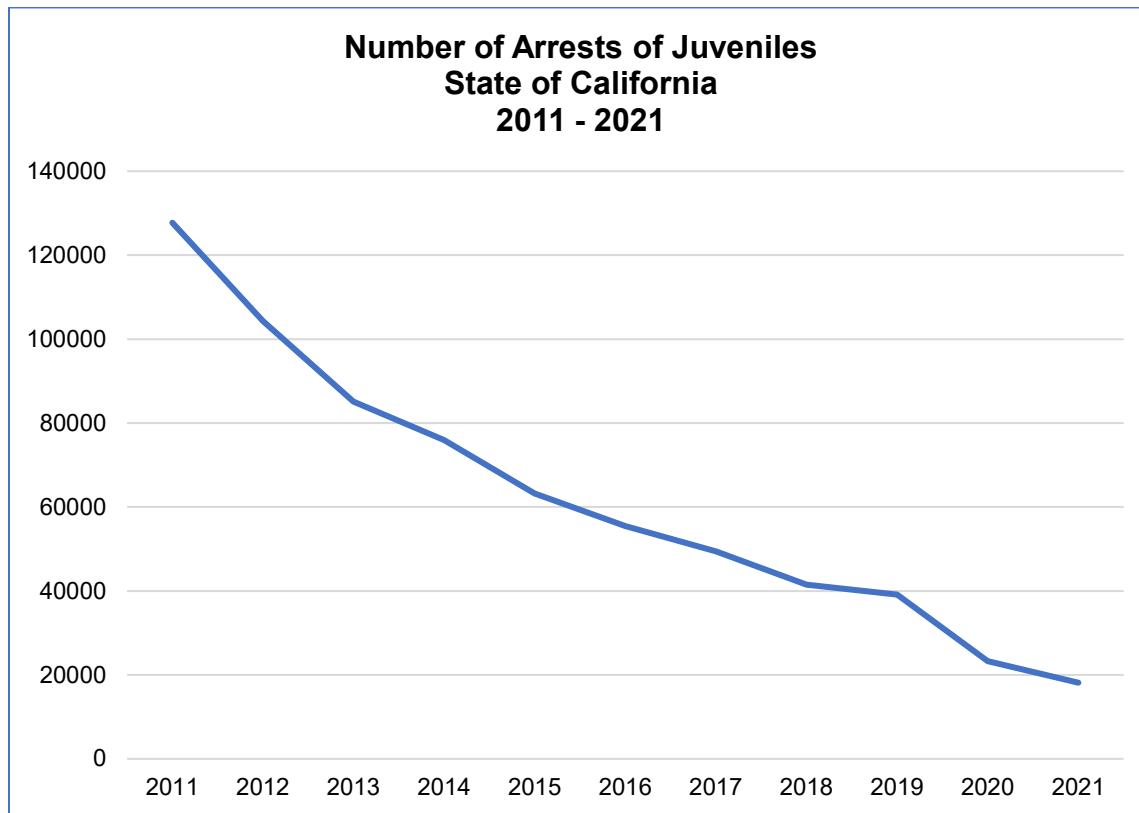
Although rates of both of these measures are improving in Plumas County, they remain higher than in the rest of the State. While there is no evidence referenced in this report that these measures are correlated to delinquency, it is reasonable to hypothesize that a relationship might exist. A similar relationship can be construed to exist between school performance and the juvenile justice system. According to the 2022 results from the “California School Dashboard,” the Plumas Unified School District has higher rates of chronic absenteeism and suspension, and a lower rate of school graduation, than in the rest of California.<sup>15</sup> In 2024, Plumas County’s Chronic Absenteeism rate had decreased to 32.6%, the Graduation Rate increased to 80%, and the Suspension Rate increased to 7.4%.



<sup>15</sup> [Plumas Unified Summary | California School Dashboard \(CA Dept of Education\) \(caschooldashboard.org\)](https://caschooldashboard.org)

## Juvenile Justice Data Trends

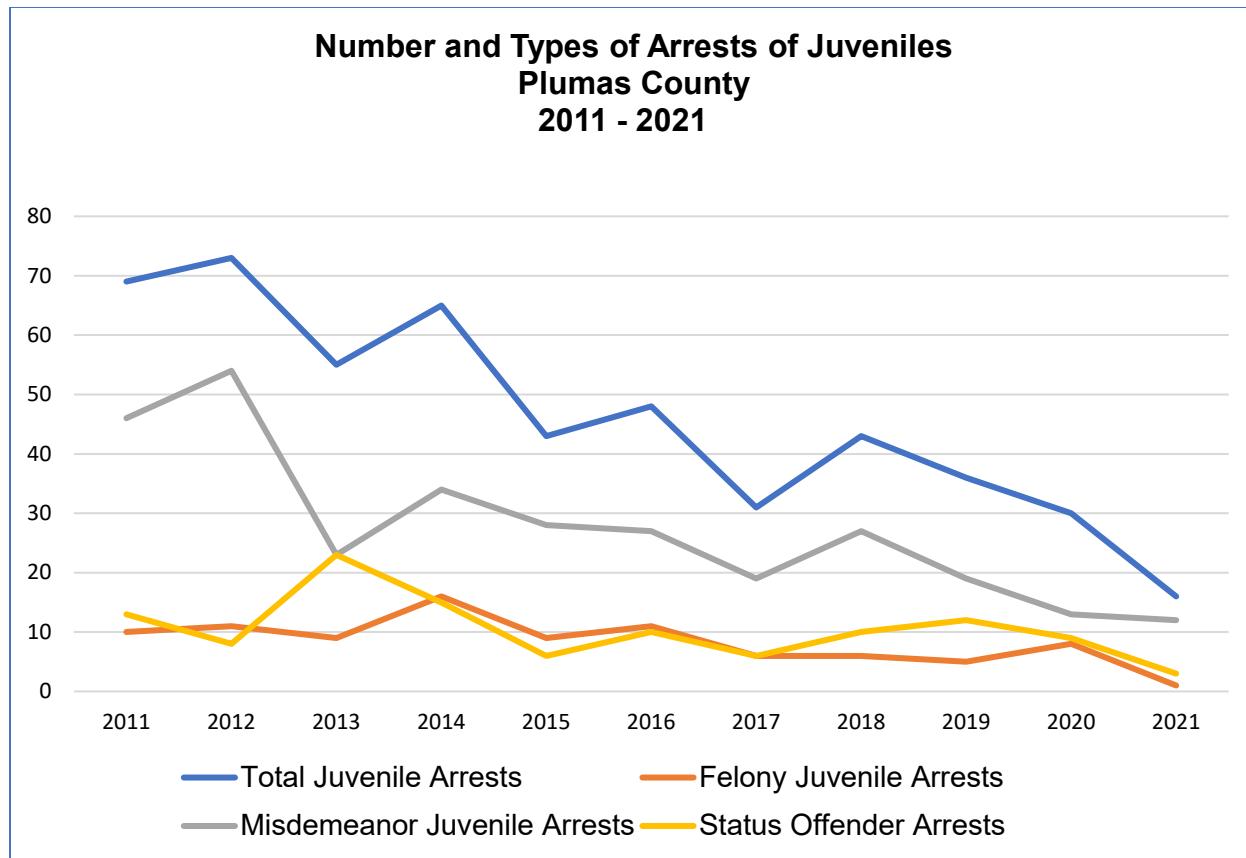
Before looking specifically at juvenile crime data in Plumas County, it is helpful to get an idea about the numbers of statewide juvenile arrests to understand what is happening in juvenile justice jurisdictions across the state. The following chart reflects the dramatic reduction in number of juveniles arrested in California in the period from 2011 to 2021.<sup>16</sup>



The 86% decline reflected above is similar to the 77% reduction experienced in Plumas County over the same time period.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>16</sup> [State of California Department of Justice - OpenJustice](#)

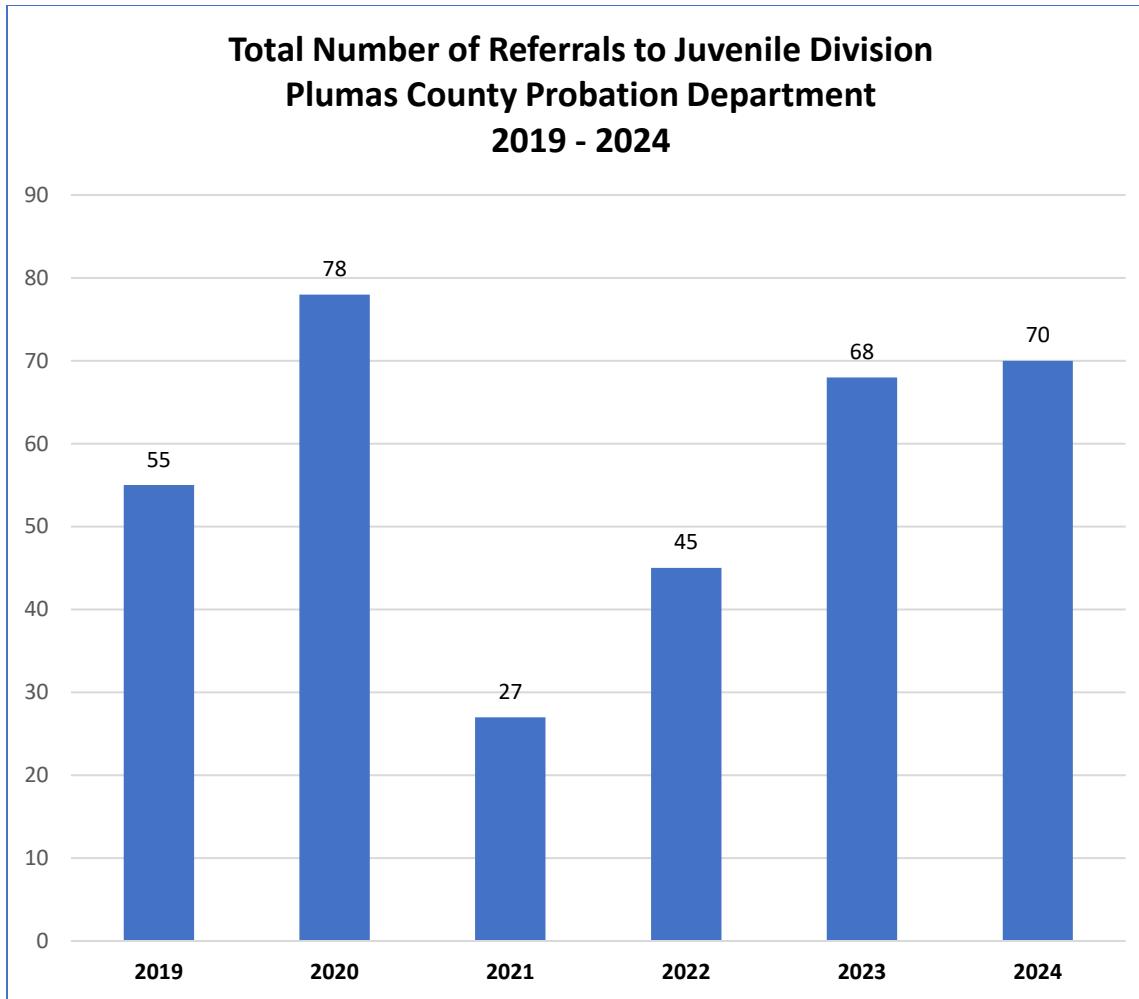
<sup>17</sup> ibid



The vast majority of arrests of juveniles result in a referral to the county probation department.<sup>18</sup> This report will now shift its focus first to the referrals recorded by the Plumas County Probation Department, and after that to the youth associated with those referrals.

The following chart reflects the trend in referrals over the past ~~six~~<sup>three</sup> years. As one might expect with the dramatic reductions in arrests of juveniles occurring all across the State, referrals to Plumas County's Juvenile Division also dropped substantially from 2020 to 2021; however, since 2021 referrals have increased to levels similar to 2020 and previous years.

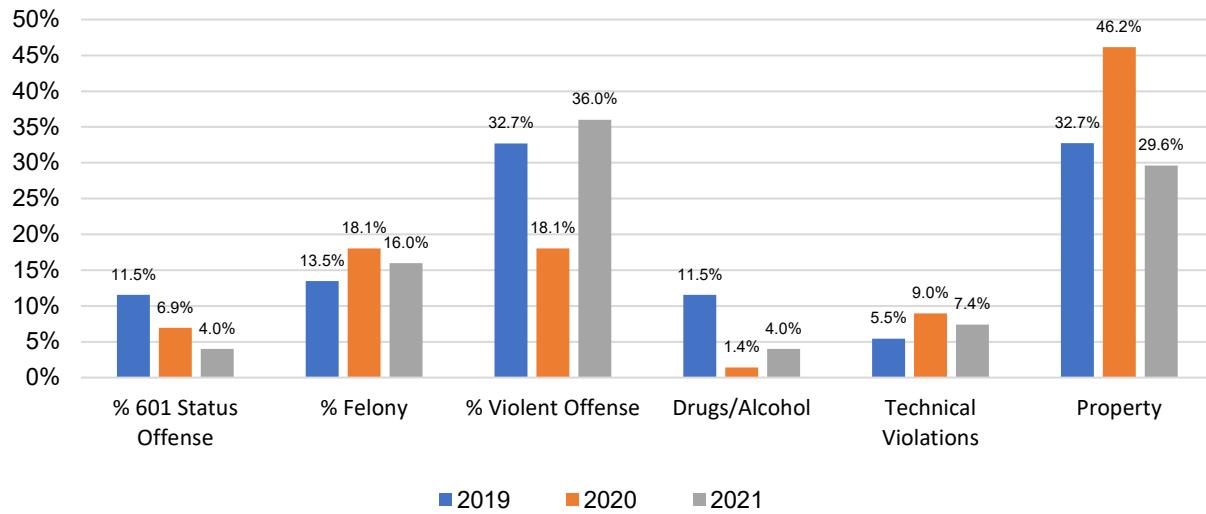
<sup>18</sup> Careful readers of this report will notice a discrepancy between the number of arrests reported to the California Office of the Attorney General and the number of referrals to the Juvenile Division of the Plumas County Probation Department. The statistics reported to the Attorney General's Office do not include infractions and arrests originating outside of Plumas County. In addition, not all of the status offenses referred to California probation departments are reported to the Attorney General.



In addition to the volume of referrals, it is important to also review the types of referrals being made. The following chart indicates the distribution of referrals involving status offenses, felony charges, any incidents alleging violence, drugs and alcohol, technical violations of probation and property.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>19</sup> These percentages will not total 100% for any given year because a referral can have more than one of these types of offenses included

**Distribution of Offenses to Juvenile Division**  
**Plumas County Probation Department**  
**2019 - 2021**



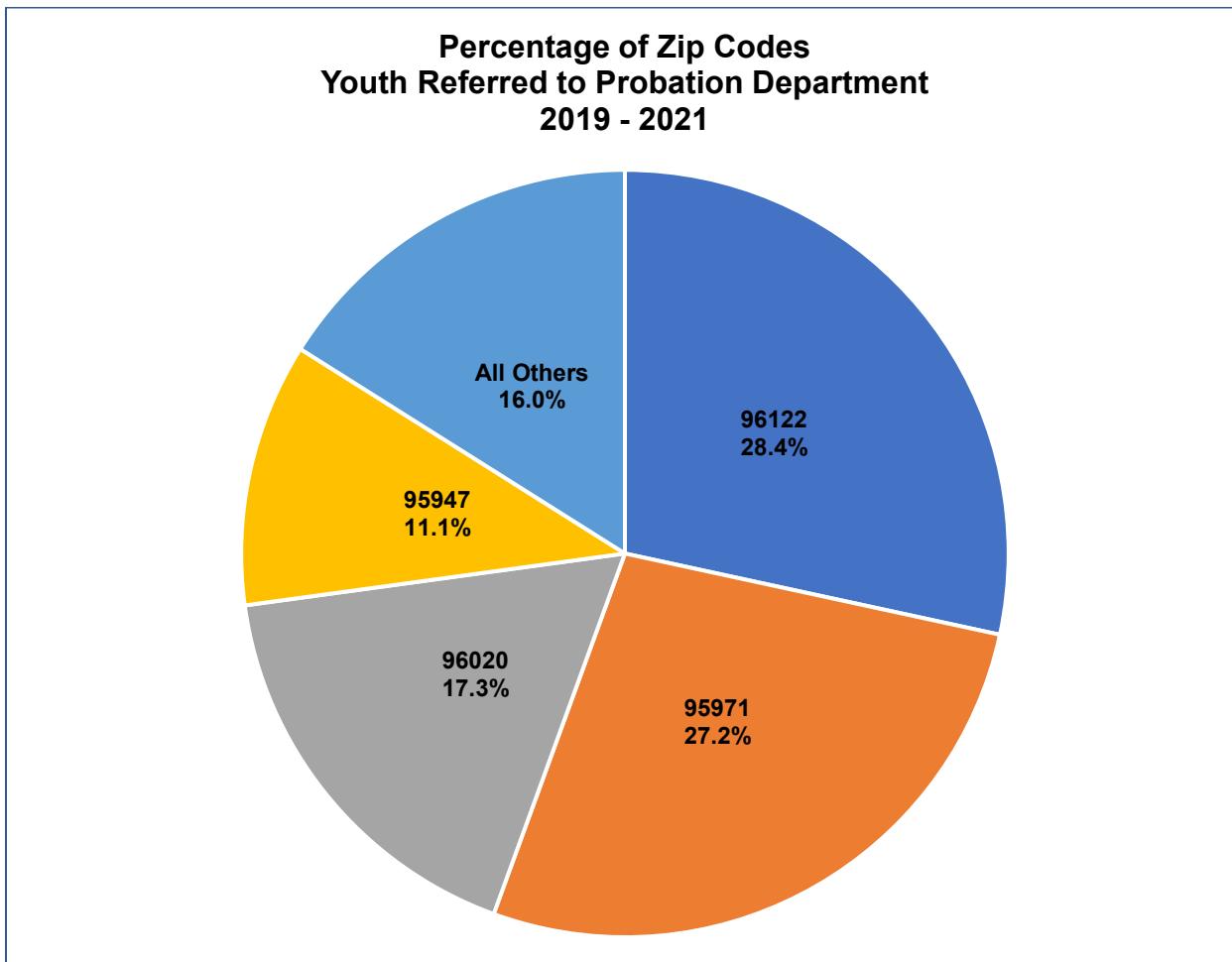
The following trends can be seen in this chart:

- The percentage of referrals that relate only to a status offense (usually meaning “beyond control of the parent” or truant from school) has gone down each of the last two years
- Property offenses and allegations involving violence are the main drivers of referrals to the Probation Department
- The percentage of referrals that include drug and alcohol violations has dropped substantially between 2019 and 2021

While the number and types of offenses referred to the Probation Department provide insight to what is occurring in Plumas County juvenile justice, perhaps the most important data points to consider are those that describe the youth associated with those referrals. By describing the characteristics and issues these youth possess, it becomes easier to envision interventions to assist in reducing their propensity to engage in delinquency. Because of the relatively small numbers involved in a jurisdiction like Plumas County, this analysis will aggregate the number of youths who comprised the referrals to the Probation Department over the three-year period 2019 through 2021. There was a total of 160 referrals over this period, and a group of 93 youth were responsible for these referrals (meaning that some were referred multiple times). Some basic demographic information of this group is as follows:

<b>Average Age</b>	14.8
<b>% Boys</b>	71.7%
<b>% Girls</b>	28.3%
<b>% White</b>	81%
<b>% Other Ethnicities</b>	19%

More than 55% of the youth for whom the zip code of their primary residence was indicated live in either 96122 or 95971 (these zip codes reflect the cities of Portola and Quincy, respectively).



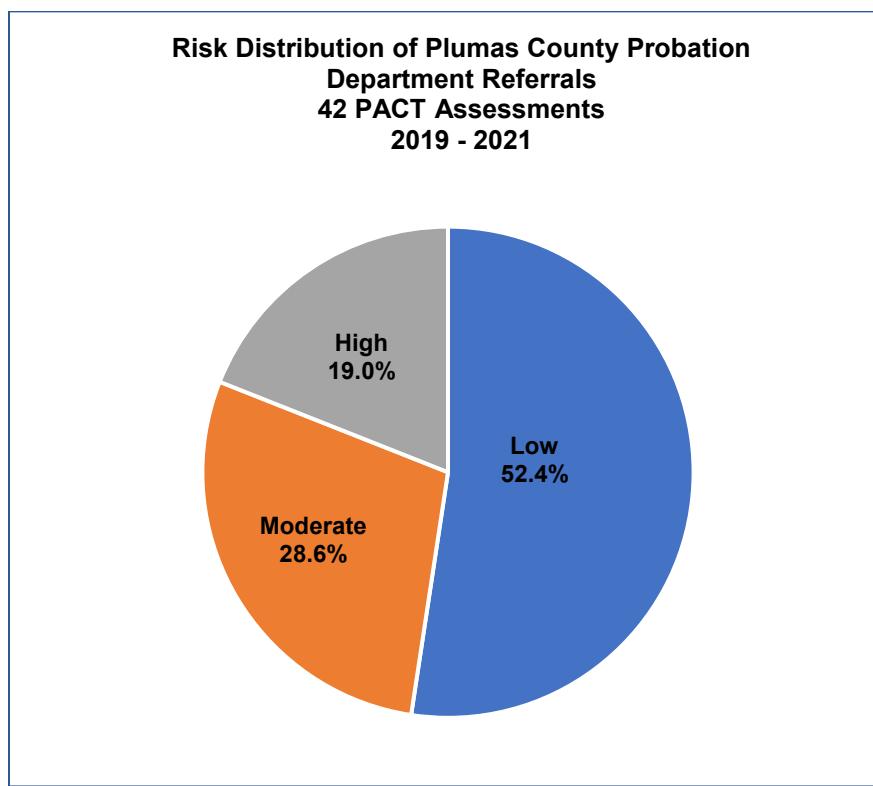
According to mental health assessments performed by the Probation Department, a high percentage of youth referred to the juvenile justice system in Plumas during this period have experienced a significant level of childhood trauma. According to the Center for Disease Control, approximately 16% of all adults will have experienced four or more traumatic experiences.<sup>20</sup> In Plumas County, 64% of the youth surveyed had four or more such experiences; this is four times the amount seen in the general population. The

<sup>20</sup> [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\) | Vital Signs | CDC](#)

correlation between trauma and juvenile delinquency has been clearly established through multiple research studies.<sup>21</sup>

As part of its investigations of youth referred to the Juvenile Division, the Plumas County Probation Department staff assess a probationer's need for services using the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT). The PACT instrument provides two critical pieces of information for the Department to utilize. The first is that assesses a child's likelihood to recidivate, rated as either "low," "moderate" or "high." This determination plays a role in how much intervention the justice system ought to deploy in a given situation. The PACT risk assessment tool also identifies the primary criminogenic needs<sup>22</sup> (among the eight that exist) that require attention in order to reduce the likelihood of recidivism.

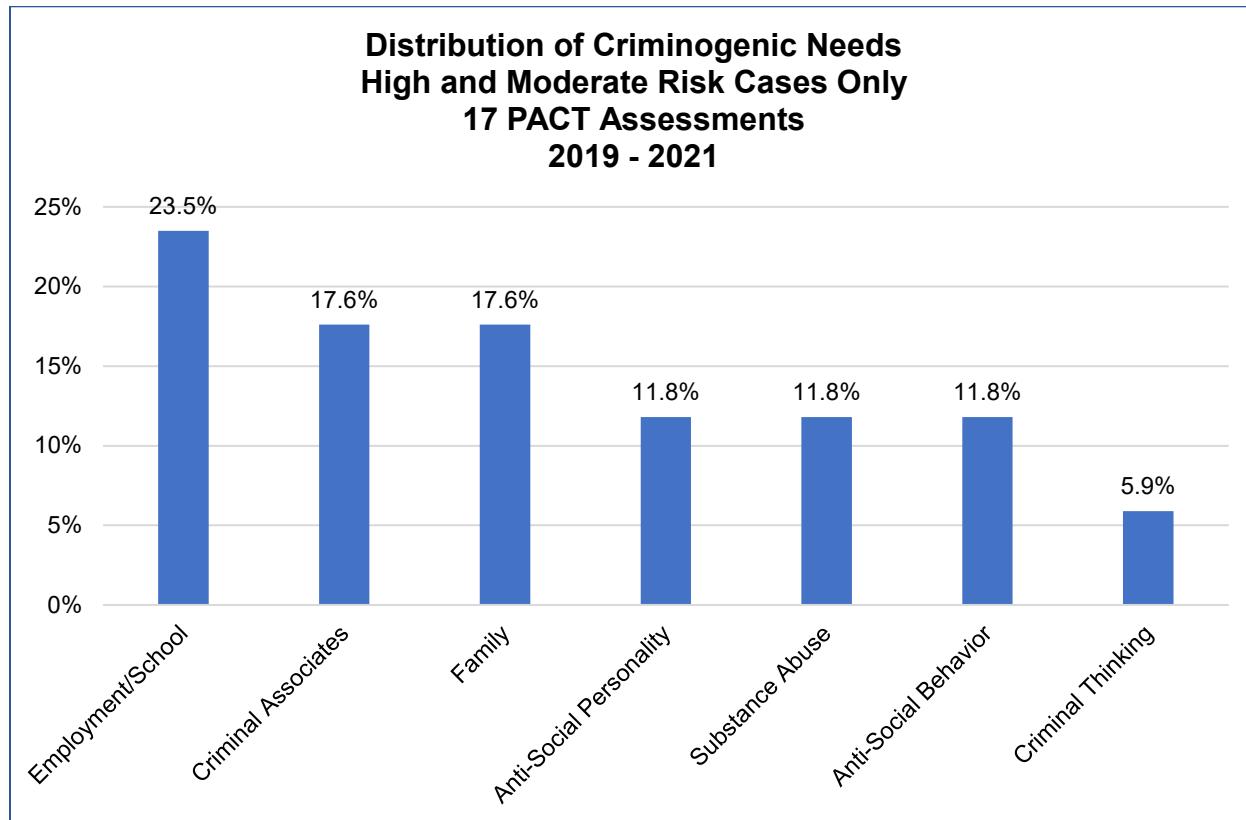
According to data from the Probation Department, more than half of the assessments indicated that the youth in question were at low risk for recidivism. This is very positive, as best practices in community corrections suggest that low risk youth require very little in terms of intervention and are unlikely to recidivate, regardless of whether an intervention is deployed or not. In 2024, risk levels changed to 12.5% High, 50% Moderate, and 37.5% low.



<sup>21</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25703485/>

<sup>22</sup> Criminogenic needs are issues, risk factors, characteristics and/or problems that relate to a person's likelihood of reoffending or recidivism. See <https://csgjusticecenter.org/jr/in-brief-understanding-risk-and-needs-assessment/> for a further explanation of how instruments such as PACT are utilized in justice systems. See <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R44087.pdf> for an explanation of the theories on how to address criminogenic needs

Best practices in community corrections require that agencies focus their resources on those youth determined to be at high and moderate risk for recidivism. Research has shown that not only is there more impact on reducing recidivism when agencies follow this principle, engaging with low-risk youth can actually *increase* recidivism. As a result, it makes sense to focus on the criminogenic needs only of those youth who are assessed to be at high or moderate risk. The chart that follows illustrates the distribution of the types of criminogenic needs demonstrated in these assessments.<sup>23</sup>



In summary, during the period from 2019 through 2021, the majority of youth referred to the Plumas County Probation Department had the following characteristics:

- Approximately 15 years old
- Male
- White
- From the cities of either Quincy or Portola
- Have experienced a significant number of adverse childhood experiences
- At low or moderate risk for recidivism
- Were referred for either a violent or property related offense
- The majority of high and moderate risk youth have as primary criminogenic needs employment/school, criminal associates, or family issues

<sup>23</sup> These figures represent only the most recent completed risk assessments for individual youth

## **Juvenile Justice Perspectives, Strategies and Resources**

### **I. Perspectives**

In order to reflect a broad view of the issues related to juvenile justice in Plumas County, this report includes summaries of conversations with key stakeholders. People were asked to reflect on the greatest strengths and issues of the County's juvenile justice system).

*Bill Powers*

*Chair of Plumas County Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission  
and Member of Plumas County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council*

Mr. Powers is a lifelong resident of Plumas County, and he has had a distinguished career in a variety of roles that have intersected with the justice system. Those roles include public administration (serving as a member of the County Board of Supervisors and Mayor of the City of Portola), education (working as a high school teacher of continuation school youth), private sector (as the owner of a small business) and justice (appointed to the California Corrections Standards Authority), among many others.

When asked about the strengths in Plumas County's juvenile justice system, Mr. Powers expressed appreciation for three specific leaders in the community. He said that both of the Superior Court judges, and the Chief of the Probation Department, all are compassionate individuals who understand the needs of the youth and families. He commented that there is a good working relationship between the County Sheriff Department and the schools; deputies are welcomed on school campuses and are able to coordinate well with staff. He also reported that as far as he can see, youth relate well to the Probation Department staff they work with, and that Chief Allred has done a good job hiring people who are effective in this role.

In terms of the challenges facing Plumas County, Mr. Powers began by describing a daunting set of conditions for many families in this community. Poverty, lack of employment opportunities sufficient to support a family, domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse and a lack of affordable housing are all prevalent circumstances that overlay the family situations of many youth referred to the justice system. He also eloquently articulated the difficulties presented with simply living in a rural environment. Extremely cold weather in the winter, long distances between residents and services all year round, and the demands of having to commute for hours in some cases to jobs with sufficient wages, all exact a toll on people in the community. For those in the community with the means to bear these challenges, living in Plumas County can be not only tolerable but also enjoyable; these people can enjoy the solitude, nature and recreation opportunities available in Plumas County. For those facing challenges that arise from both society and nature, it can be overwhelming.

Mr. Powers described some of the youth that he interacted with while working as a high school teacher at Jim Beckwourth High School, which was the continuation school where some of the students were involved with the justice system. Mr. Powers said that while few of them were involved in very serious criminal offenses, they were nearly all vulnerable to the pull of delinquency. They were prone to engage in drinking and alcohol and/or using drugs, they often came from families with parents who were struggling with their own issues (many of them justice involved themselves), and some had a cavalier attitude captured by the saying "why shouldn't I?" Mr. Powers explained this when he recalled one young man in particular who openly aspired to be heavily involved in crime in order to "get rich." Fortunately, this young man got enough of a taste of this life to decide he wanted out before he suffered more serious consequences, such as incarceration or worse. Not all youth with this attitude were so fortunate.

When asked what he would like to see changed in Plumas County in order to improve outcomes for youth and families, Mr. Powers made two suggestions. First, he recommends returning the county continuation school to the model in effect when he was still working as a teacher. At that time, there was a separate campus, staff and culture that gave expelled students a chance for a new beginning. According to Mr. Powers, today the continuation school operates as a sub-program on the same campus and lacks the distinction from the mainstream school to provide these youth with the opportunity, services and support they need to make changes in their lives. His second idea was in having more actors in the system (teachers, police, deputy probation officers, treatment staff, etc.) seek to collaborate and align themselves with both the youth and their parents, instead of creating adversarial relationships that hinder behavior change. He gave as an example the hypothetical situation of a child who is referred for truancy. Instead of approaching the parents with blame, he suggests trying to engage with them in a way where they feel supported, and involved, and are more likely to become a part of the solution for their child.

*David Hollister  
Plumas County District Attorney*

Mr. Hollister began his work as a prosecutor with the Plumas County District Attorney office in 2003 and has served as the District Attorney since 2011. When asked about strengths of the County's juvenile justice system, he said that the County does not have a significant number of serious cases of juvenile delinquency, so there are sufficient resources for the court calendar to be manageable. He said that the Probation Department does an excellent job of administering that calendar, and in particular he described Deputy Probation Officer Sarah McFadden as an asset for the County.

In terms of what he would like to see changed, Mr. Hollister mentioned three areas. First, he would like to see more resources attached to the County's truancy program. His office has an investigator assigned to this role and that person works with a School District staff person who works to address cases of truancy. Despite the statewide move towards reducing probation department influence with truancy prevention efforts, Mr. Hollister believes the Plumas County Probation Department still has an important role to play in that effort.

A second area of concern for Mr. Hollister is the lack of mental health services available for youth and families in the area. He described this as a statewide issue, and also as one that not only affects people in the juvenile justice system but also in the general population as a whole. If more funds could be made to provide that service, it would be beneficial in the effort to address delinquency.

Finally, Mr. Hollister talked about the County's successful treatment court known as the "Community Justice Court." This program has had success in supporting the efforts of its participants to make changes in their lives, however it lacks sufficient resources to also support the youth and family members of those participants. Mr. Hollister would like to see additional funding provided to address this gap in services for this particular program.

*Ronald Kelley  
Parent*

Mr. Kelley is the parent of a youth who experienced the juvenile justice system. Mr. Kelley has lived in Plumas County for 24 years and is a single parent. His child's involvement with the justice system began when she was 12 years old. She went to a party, got intoxicated and blacked out, and then was eventually treated by medical staff due to her being under the influence. She was placed on probation as a result of that incident and remained under supervision of the Juvenile Court until she turned 18 years old. Mr. Kelley said that during that time, staff from the Plumas County juvenile justice system were supportive, treated him with respect and provided him with advice and suggestions for how to help his daughter. Everyone involved, including the judge, District Attorney, Probation Department and school staff collaborated to help his daughter. They made attempts to support her but also held her accountable, including detaining her in Juvenile Hall when it was appropriate. Despite these efforts, his child progressed from alcohol to marijuana and then cocaine and methamphetamine, and her difficulty with the justice system continued until she became an adult. Soon after she turned 18 years old, she experienced great personal loss, was hospitalized after a serious car crash, became ill with covid, and realized she had "hit bottom." She made the decision to seek treatment and has now become employed and made other positive changes in her life.

Mr. Kelley said that he appreciated the efforts made by staff to help his daughter, but that there are not a lot of services available to youth in Plumas County. He said that they did

a good job with the resources they had available to them. When asked what he would like to see made available for families in the community, Mr. Kelly had several suggestions. He said there is a need for services for youth in Plumas County, particularly those who are not oriented towards sports. Youth who do not participate in a sports activity do not have many other options to pursue pro-social activities, and as a result some of them get into trouble like his daughter did. Mr. Kelly reflected on his own experiences a youth when there were programs such as D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) available to young people. For Plumas County, he suggested creating an after-school program that would offer extracurricular activities such as music, computer classes and/or independent living skills (such as financial literacy and vocational skills) that would provide an alternative for youth.

*Sarah McFadden  
Deputy Probation Officer, Plumas County*

Ms. McFadden has worked for the Plumas County Probation Department for seven years. Although she is not from Plumas originally, she has had a lifetime connection to the area as her family would vacation in the community regularly while she was growing up. She is the sole sworn staff person working on juvenile justice matters for the Department, which means that she must perform a variety of complex roles. These include conducting investigations of new referrals, supervising a caseload of youth on probation in the community, serving as a Court Officer in Juvenile Court, and managing youth who are placed in foster care through the Delinquency Court system. Each of these roles carries with them a great deal of responsibility, and larger probation departments routinely have staff assigned to only one of them due to the demands of learning the laws and practices associated with them.

Ms. McFadden reported that she very much enjoys working in the Probation Department and has good relationships with her co-workers and colleagues in other departments. She said that she knows that the people she works with always have the child's best interests in mind. She also says they are effective despite the few resources they have to assist youth and families, as the recidivism rate for probationers is very low.

In terms of the primary issues that she sees for the youth she works with, Ms. McFadden said there were two that stand out more than others. The first is poor performance in school. While truancy and inappropriate behavior are problems for some of the youth on probation, the more prevalent issue is simply the lack of motivation in progressing through high school. The second most common issue for young people in her caseload is family dysfunction and conflict. She said that most of her more challenging cases have had a history with the child welfare system, and that their parents often lack basic parenting skills. Some of these situations reach the level of assault between child and parent.

Ms. McFadden reported that she has limited access to community-based services. They will utilize Behavioral Health when possible, and occasionally are able to refer families to

Plumas Rural Services (PRS) for counseling. Her Department utilizes actuarial risk assessments to assist in decision making around supervision levels and detention, and to develop case plans for addressing criminogenic needs. They use journaling, which is an evidence-based practice to assist youth in addressing their delinquent behavior. It has been a challenge for the Probation Department to implement other cognitive-behavioral interventions such as Aggression Replacement Training (ART) because these are group-based programs. Convening groups is a challenge due to the low number of probation youth and minimal access to transportation for most families. As a result, Ms. McFadden reported, she realizes she is often “the intervention” for most of the youth she supervises.

When asked what she thinks would most benefit the youth and families she serves, she would like to have access to more services for parents. The County offers parenting classes, but it is often difficult to get the parents who most need the class to attend. She also suggests developing more access to community-based services; it is unfortunate that it becomes necessary to have a child enter foster care in order to access the level of treatment they need (usually in a short-term residential therapeutic program, or STRTP). Having a counseling and/or treatment program based in Plumas might help to avoid the need for an order from the Court for a child to enter foster care and instances of detention in juvenile hall. Finally, Ms. McFadden suggested

developing more local foster home options, particularly for those youth identified as in need of “intensive support services.”

*Sharon Sousa  
Interim Director, Plumas County Behavioral Health*

Ms. Sousa has worked for Plumas County Behavioral Health for 18 years. She began her career as a clinician, then was a unit supervisor, and has served as the Interim Director since May of 2022. When asked to reflect on her experience with the juvenile justice system, she reported that she enjoys working with staff from the Plumas County Probation Department, as they are very caring about the youth they serve.

Ms. Sousa said that there have been some very difficult cases with youth experiencing co-occurring mental health and substance abuse issues. She said that some of these youth come from chaotic homes, which creates challenges for assisting them. The structural issues for Plumas County to even offer therapeutic services to youth and families compound this problem. The Behavioral Health Department has been unable to hire and maintain clinician staff due to the low wages offered through the County, and the lack of affordable housing makes the area difficult for people with the necessary qualifications for this position to decide to live there. Her Department has had open positions for 12 months and has not been able to even interview interested candidates, much less hire them. As a result of low staffing levels, Ms. Sousa’s agency can only offer services to families that are Medi-Cal eligible. The increasing mandates from the State have added administrative burdens that interfere with the capacity to offer direct, clinical

services also. Behavioral Health has lost therapists to other agencies offering better pay, benefits, and conditions. The private sector therapists are so full at this time that they cannot contract with them for services.

Up until 2021, Plumas had a transitional-aged youth (TAY) program that was very successful. It offered both clinical services and an opportunity for youth to experience their environment, as it had an outdoor component that engaged its participants. This program ended after the person who operated it had to leave the area due to the 2021 Dixie Fire which destroyed her home. Ms. Sousa said that her agency also used to contract with four therapists from Plumas Rural Services for counseling, but over time they lost staff as well and this contract was ended when the last therapist moved out of the county. She said that the school has a contract with Tiny Eye for tele-therapy services. Ms. Sousa said she hopes one day to be able to offer Behavioral Health services to youth and families beyond those who are Medi-Cal eligible, but she is not sure how or when that would happen.

When asked what she would like to see the Plumas County juvenile justice system offer, she remarked that prevention services that connect with youth before they have contact with law enforcement would be beneficial.

*Hannah Kelley  
Former Probationer*

Hannah Kelley was on juvenile probation in Plumas County from when she was 14 years old until she turned 21 (she was in extended foster care through AB12 from 18 until 21). Hannah appreciated the support she received from many people during her difficult journey through the juvenile justice system, but she specifically talked about three women who helped her.

She said that Superior Court Judge Hilde was very supportive, and that she gave Hannah multiple chances to change her life. When Hannah did not do so, Judge Hilde held her accountable, first by placing her on the ankle monitor program and then ultimately sending her to foster care. Hannah reported that she was impressed by how much Judge Hilde cared about her, and that she was positive and expressed congratulations when Hannah was doing well. Hannah recalls that Judge Hilde went to Redding to help celebrate Hannah's high school graduation, which left an impression on Hannah.

Hannah also enjoyed her time in a Behavioral Health outdoor program run by a therapist named Taylor Storey. Hannah said this program was very helpful and that it was like an outdoor therapy program. Hannah said Taylor was very kind and supportive to her, and that she taught or showed her (rather than telling her) how to care for herself and others. Hannah recalled one episode in particular after she had relapsed and was not doing well. Taylor arrived at her house, helped Hannah to get up, get food and to start anew in her goal of sobriety.

The last person Hannah talked about in her experience in the system was Deputy Probation Officer Sarah McFadden. Hannah credits DPO McFadden with nothing short of saving her life. Hannah appreciated how Sarah was able to balance the roles of holding her accountable and also showing she cared about Hannah and her welfare. She said that Sarah did not give up on her, and in one particular incident, Sarah demonstrated sincere disappointment after Hannah relapsed. Hannah said that she felt badly for letting Sarah down, and wanted to do better in order to express her appreciation for all that Sarah had done to assist her. Hannah has as a career goal an interest in becoming a counselor or support person to people trying to achieve sobriety, and she credits Sarah in large part for having developed this career goal. Hannah hopes to go back to school some day and look for a job providing the same kind of support she got from Sarah and others in the Plumas County juvenile justice system.

When asked specifically about what she wishes there was for others who are in the same path she was on while on probation, she said that they need to have "more Sarah McFaddens." She also would like to see a return of the outdoor program (known as the Transition Age Youth Peer Employment Program; this program ended when Taylor Storey was forced to leave the area after her house was destroyed in the Dixie Fire). Hannah suggested making community service work more meaningful, perhaps by celebrating accomplishments. Finally, she recommended adding paid work opportunities for youth on probation.

*Judge Douglas Prouty  
Superior Court, Plumas County*

Judge Prouty was appointed to the Plumas County Superior Court in 2018. Prior to that, he had worked as an attorney in the area since 2000. That work included being a member of the group of attorneys that were assigned to represent youth appearing in Juvenile Court for delinquency matters.

Judge Prouty said that the delinquency court in Plumas County works well, and that issues are handled always with the best interests of the juvenile in mind. He also stated that in the 20 years that he has been connected to the system, there has not been a single instance of a youth committing an offense so serious that they were considered for a trial in the adult system. Judge Prouty also specifically cited Deputy Probation Officer Sarah McFadden as being one of the strengths of the system. He described her as being an exceptional probation officer, and that she was very caring and willing to go the extra mile to support youth. Judge Prouty said he was sorry to hear that Sarah McFadden has recently announced she will be leaving her position and that her departure will be a loss for the Probation Department.

In terms of the challenges the local system faces, Judge Prouty discussed the issues that arise when a child has to be detained. Plumas County has never had a juvenile hall facility. Over the years, they have used facilities in Lassen and Nevada Counties. Up until

a few years ago, Plumas County utilized the juvenile hall facility in Butte County, which was closer to Plumas County, and which had excellent programming available for youth placed there. That arrangement has ended, and now youth who are detained are placed in Tehama County Juvenile Hall, which is a 2 or 3-hour trip away. This has caused a burden for families seeking to visit their children, attorneys wanting to meet with their clients, and the Court in scheduling appearances for juveniles appearing before it. While technology has been adopted to allow for remote appearances and meetings, the Court wants to provide youth with the opportunities for in-person appearances as much as possible. He also described how important services, such as interviews for psycho-social reports, have to be done remotely rather than in person. Judge Prouty described this as the reality of being in a small, rural county with limited resources.

*Neal Caiazzo  
Director, Plumas County Dept. of Social Services*

Mr. Caiazzo has been with the Plumas County Department of Social Services for the past 20 years and he has served as the agency director since 2018. He described one of the strengths of the community's juvenile justice system as being the Probation Department's compassionate staff. He has known the Chief Keevin Allred since they were both line staff, and Mr. Caiazzo described Chief Allred as having a passion for the work with youth. Mr. Caiazzo also said that the Probation Department maintains good working relationships with staff from other agencies, including his own.

In terms of challenges, Mr. Caiazzo cited the lack of services available for youth in the area. Many agencies in the County are short-staffed due to the challenges in hiring, making it difficult to create programs to support young people. He said that Plumas County has very few organized, pro-social activities or programs for young people to participate in. Ideally, Mr. Caiazzo would like the county to offer some sort of wrap-around programming which could divert youth from the juvenile justice system. Programs that could offer counseling, recreational activities, and tutoring or general support around schooling, would be of benefit to Plumas County youth.

When discussing the difficulties in hiring, Mr. Caiazzo suggested considering partnering with area nonprofit agencies to develop programs. He said that often their minimum qualifications are not as rigorous as those of State and County agencies, meaning they would have a larger pool of candidates to select from for positions.

*William Roderick  
Superintendent, Plumas Unified School District and County Office of Education*

William Roderick is the Superintendent of the Plumas Unified School District and County Office of Education. He has been in this position for seven months and moved to Plumas for this job from Lake County. Mr. Roderick said that he has seen that the Plumas County

Probation Department staff have good working relationships with other agencies; they relate well with school staff, students, and families. He also described the probation officers as being very open-minded.

When asked what he would like to see changed or improved with Plumas' juvenile justice system, Mr. Roderick said he would like Probation Department staff to be available as a regular presence on school campuses. At present, deputy probation officers come to the schools to meet with youth on probation, but Mr. Roderick believes they could fill a greater role. The Sheriff's Department staffing is so low that their deputies are not able to be on campus regularly, so the schools lack routine interaction with law enforcement. Mr. Roderick would like to have Probation Department staff available to engage with the general population of the schools, not just those on probation, to help support students to be successful, and to act as a preventative deterrent to make sure they do not get into the formal juvenile justice system. Mr. Roderick said that this was the agreement in Lake County, and that Probation Department staff were on campuses regularly, checking in with staff and students. This arrangement helped to create both a presence on campus that ensures safety and an opportunity to develop positive relationships.

*Carson Wingfield  
Patrol Commander, Plumas County Sheriff's Department*

Commander Wingfield has worked for the Plumas County Sheriff's Department for 28 years. He is a graduate of Quincy High School and is raising his children in this community. Over the course of his career, he has watched as his Department's emphasis on juvenile delinquency has waned since early on in his career. At that time, deputies were encouraged to respond to incidents such as youth who were drinking, using drugs and getting into fights. That is no longer the case, as difficulty in hiring has forced the Department to prioritize how they assign their deputies, and there are more important issues than juvenile delinquency today. Responding to drug related crime, including heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine, takes up most of the Department's manpower.

Commander Wingfield stated that Plumas County's juvenile justice system has the benefit of good working relationships among staff at the different agencies. The challenges for the system are significant, however, as the community is in a difficult situation. Over the course of his time in the area, he has watched as lifestyles in Plumas have been degraded; small businesses are struggling, and some people are not faring well as a result. The combination of lack of affordable housing, low paying jobs and devastating fires has taken a toll on Plumas County. His Department had been in discussion on returning to having school resource officers in the schools, however their hiring challenges are so great now they cannot consider that idea any longer.

In terms of what he would like to see in Plumas County for youth, Commander Wingfield said that he believes more resources should be made available to youth. He suggested the development of some sort of resource center for young people that could offer them

opportunities for both counseling and other social services, but also recreation. It needs to be a place where youth want to go, and it should provide consistent support to young people over time.

## II. Strategies

As a result of the efforts of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council to assess Plumas County's juvenile justice system, three strategies have been developed to guide programming for future services:

- I. *Invest in prevention, intervention and aftercare services when resources make that possible*
- II. *Empower and support parents*
- III. *Utilize evidence-based practices whenever feasible*

### *Invest in prevention, intervention and aftercare services*

In an ideal world, communities would be able to provide services to youth and their families at a range of points along the juvenile justice continuum. Prevention services would be offered to youth before they make contact with law enforcement or school disciplinary staff, intervention services to those who are referred to Juvenile Probation, and aftercare to those who are aging out of the juvenile system. Most communities are not able to afford such a system and reserve their funding only for those children at the intervention point in the continuum, or while they are on probation.

As indicated in the Juvenile Justice Trends section of this report, the number of youths being referred to the Juvenile Division of the Plumas County Probation Department has declined significantly over the past ten years; however, referrals have increased considerably since 2021. While this is an achievement well worth celebrating, it does not mean there is not more work to be done. Just because a child avoids being arrested is no guarantee that there are not unmet needs, or that this child is not at risk for engaging in delinquent behaviors. Plumas County Probation Department will seek to invest in prevention services whenever there are sufficient resources available to cover core services for youth on probation. This will help to ensure that the number of youths being referred to the Department remains manageable, and in the long term should seek to both improve general outcomes for youth and reduce the numbers of victims of delinquency in the community.

In addition, young people who are approaching or turning 18 years old are often seeing the end of services being made available to them. This is unfortunate, as this is often the period of time when a person is entering the height of their criminal activity, and a lapse of services may increase their propensity to move quickly from the juvenile justice system

to the adult one. As stated above, when resources allow for it, Plumas County will seek to support young people aging out of the probation system by providing referrals to appropriate agencies and programs that offer support to the transition-aged youth population.

#### *Empower and Support Parents*

At times, service systems can become overly consumed with programs they offer and lose sight of the most vital resource available to a child. As important as probation officers, teachers, and treatment staff are in the lives of youth, they all pale in terms of importance when compared to the impact of parents. Plumas County has adopted a strategy of ensuring that parents are provided with as many, and the best, resources and tools as possible to address the needs of their children. Empowered parents are the first line of defense in keeping young people from entering the juvenile justice system.

#### *Utilize evidence-based practices*

Community corrections professionals are aware of the critical importance of adopting evidence-based practices and maintaining fidelity to them. It is incumbent to ensure that programs and interventions developed to support youth and families have some evidence to indicate their effectiveness. In addition, core best practices in probation such as the use of criminogenic risk assessments and application of the “risk principle” (in which youth who represent the most likelihood to recidivate receive the most intensive services) will be employed at all times.

### **III. Resources**

Plumas County does possess several resources that will help to address many of the issues raised in this report. One of the most important resources will be the regular convening of Plumas County’s Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC). The existing members of this Council are committed, engaged and excited about the potential for improving services for youth and families in Plumas County. It is not only the collaboration and coordination that will result from these meetings that will assist in improving outcomes. It is expected that this group will be able to provide additional insight, experience and input that will undoubtedly improve the effectiveness of programming.

Another asset that will assist is the Plumas County Probation Department’s agreement for detention services with ~~both~~ Tehama, Butte, Shasta, and recently added, Placer~~Shasta~~ Counties. While detention is not an intervention that is often required in Plumas County, it is important to be able to access it when necessary. This is particularly critical with the introduction of SB 823 and the need to have access to “secure track” detention facilities (Tehama County would provide this service were it necessary). These are the only regional agreements that Plumas County has in effect.

The Plumas County Probation Department has another resource which is its data information system. They have contracted two different vendors to provide this vital service. “Enterprise Case Management” is responsible for tracking referrals, assignments, activities, programming, and progress through the court system. Noble Software, which includes the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT), is utilized to manage criminogenic risk and needs assessments and to develop case plans.

Another asset that will assist in this effort is the community of agencies that already exist and provide services to youth and families in Plumas County. Attachment C at the end of this report is a list of the agencies that will likely be engaged to some degree or another in this effort and it provides a brief description of the types of programs they offer. This does not represent a complete list of all the programs and services available in Plumas County but rather only those that are utilized by most of the youth and families who are either involved, or at risk of involvement, with the juvenile justice system.

A final set of resources that will play a role in this plan are the programs planned under additional funding opportunities from the State of California. SB 823, also known as the Division of Juvenile Justice Realignment, provides California counties with ongoing funding to develop programming to meet the needs of youth either in need of or at risk of entering what is called a “secure youth treatment facility.” Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 18220-18221 explain the Juvenile Probation Activities funding opportunity.<sup>24</sup> Both of these grants will be deployed in Plumas County to assist in the development of this plan. Attachments A and B to this report provide greater details of these program proposals.

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<sup>24</sup>[Chapter 3.2. Juvenile Probation Funding :: Welfare and Institutions Code :: 2010 California Code :: California Code :: US Codes and Statutes :: US Law :: Justia](#)

## Future Challenges and Opportunities

Juvenile justice in California has undergone an unprecedented amount of change in the past ten years. SB 823, the realignment of state and county responsibilities regarding youth charged with the most serious offenses, is a significant and recent reflection of those changes. However, there is a myriad of other reforms to laws and practices that make this an almost unrecognizable system to juvenile justice practitioners of earlier eras. These dramatic changes will bring challenges, but also opportunities, for Plumas County's juvenile justice system.

The new law dictating how youth who commit the most serious offenses will be managed is one of the most daunting challenges to face Plumas, and all of the counties in California. While Plumas has not had any youth who required the services of intervention from the now defunct Division of Juvenile Justice, it would be imprudent to assume that will always be the case. Finding the balance between maintaining a sufficient reserve of funding to deal with the costs associated with a youth placed in secure track detention and investing those funds in effective programming will be critical to the success of this plan.

A second important challenge facing Plumas County is that of hiring and retaining quality staff. As expressed multiple times in the interviews with stakeholders in this report, finding and keeping staff is difficult, due to a variety of factors, including lack of adequate housing and benefits to attract candidates.

The third and final challenge is the host of complex social issues that were illustrated in the demographics portion of this report. Domestic violence, lack of housing, opiate addiction and economic vulnerability such as un- and under-employment are all major factors that impact a community and remain beyond the scope of a juvenile justice plan such as this one. Should any of those, or some other social issue, become or remain problematic, it will imperil the efforts of the programs envisioned in the report.

Along with the challenges that the new era of juvenile justice brings, there will be opportunities as well. For Plumas County, the most obvious opportunity is access to additional funding to provide services for youth and families. While a significant portion of the SB 823 grant funding will be held in reserve to meet the needs of any future youth requiring secure track detention, Plumas County will access a portion of the funds to implement new programming (described in Attachment A) to support the goal of this juvenile justice plan to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes of youth who enter the system.

## Recommended Programs (YOBG)

PROGRAM
Evidence-Based Probation Services
DESCRIPTION
<p>The use of evidence-based probation services is critical to maintain positive outcomes for youth and families and to ensure community safety. YOBG funds will be applied to core Probation Department services such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Electronic monitoring <u>program</u> and <u>Soberlink Alcohol Detection programs</u></li><li>• Juvenile Division staffing</li><li>• Contract for access to juvenile detention</li><li>• Licensing fee for Noble automated criminogenic risk assessment instrument</li></ul>

## Recommended Programs (JJCPA)

PROGRAM
<b>Parent Education and Support Groups</b>
DESCRIPTION
<p>Providing parents with the skills, tools and opportunities to experience success with adolescent children is an important component of maintaining an effective juvenile justice system. JJCPA funds will be applied in the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of The Parent Project (<a href="#">Juvenile Courts and Probation – Parent Project</a> provides sources indicating its effectiveness)</li> <li>• Providing participating parents with incentives such as gas cards and gift cards that promote healthy family activities</li> <li>• Providing parents who successfully complete the program with stipends to increase both participation and rates of completion</li> <li>• Travel costs of Parent Project facilitators</li> <li>• Family support, education, and engagement</li> <li>• Multiagency Truancy Prevention efforts</li> </ul> <p>Access to this program would be extended to partner agencies, including schools which could require completion of program for parents facing school interventions. <del>Possible collaboration with a CBO to be determined through an RFP process</del></p>
PROGRAM
<b>Various Probation Department staffing, services and supplies</b>
DESCRIPTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Probation Department staff salaries</li> <li>• Truancy program incentives</li> <li>• Drug testing</li> <li>• Psych evals</li> <li>• <del>Travel expenses</del></li> <li>• <del>Vehicle maintenance</del></li> <li>• <del>Weekly journaling groups</del></li> </ul>
UPDATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In February 2024, the <del>second</del> <u>first</u> 12-week session of Parent Project - Changing Destructive Adolescent Behavior, began. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A contract has been developed with a community-based organization, Plumas Rural Services, for the facilitation of the classes and support services. Probation staff will be assisting with the classes.</li> <li>○ <del>Two PRS staff and one Probation staff completed the facilitator training</del></li> <li>○ Participation has been low due to lack of referrals from outside agencies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <del>On February 28, 2024, the first</del> Parent Project-Preparing Our Kids for Success 2.5-hour truancy intervention parent class <del>es remain available</del> occurred. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An MOU with the Plumas County Library/Literacy Program has been created for facilitation of the monthly classes.</li> <li>• Protocol has been developed to collect data and track the outcomes of these programs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Weekly journaling groups are conducted for youth at the probation office. Topics include, but are not limited to; anger management, responsible behavior, relationships, substance abuse, and family.

## **ATTACHMENT A**

PROGRAM	FUNDING SOURCE
Plumas County Re-Entry Program	SB 823
DESCRIPTION	
<p>The Plumas County Probation Department recently received a grant in the amount of \$47,086 from the State's Youth Programs and Facilities Grant Program. The purpose of those funds is to renovate a space located at 461 Main Street in Quincy which will provide a location for a variety of services for justice-involved youth and their families through the Dragonfly Café Education &amp; Training Center. In collaboration with a community-based organization to be determined through an RFP process, the Probation Department will seek to have the following re-entry services at this center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Education support through coordination with Literacy Program <a href="https://www.plumascounty.us/635/Literacy-Program">https://www.plumascounty.us/635/Literacy-Program</a></li><li>• Employment development, e.g., soft skills training (e.g., <a href="#">Soft Skills Training   Workin' It Out (workinitout.com)</a>)</li><li>• Housing assistance/<a href="#"><b>Less Restrictive Placement</b></a></li><li>• Access to a Mental Health Practitioner (when approved by Probation Department staff)</li><li>• Probation Supervision services including cognitive behavioral interventions such as journaling (Change Companies) and interventions to address criminogenic needs (BITS)</li></ul> <p>Services will also include supporting youth who are detained in secure facilities (either short term or through Secure Youth Track) by ensuring academic continuity, arranging for ongoing visits from family members, and developing post-detention plans for re-entry. Services through this program will be prioritized for those determined to be most at risk for recidivism, and/or engaged in behavior that indicates a potential for a need for detention in a Secure Youth Treatment facility.</p>	

## **ATTACHMENT B**

PROGRAM	FUNDING SOURCE
Quincy High School	Juvenile Probation Activities
DESCRIPTION	
<p>In collaboration with Plumas Unified School District staff and a community-based organization to be determined through an RFP process, the Probation Department staff will develop a pilot project to support students at Quincy High School who are experiencing difficulties at school, due to documented incidents of inappropriate behavior and/or truancy. This program would act as an alternative to suspension and/or referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). Services to be made available through this program could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• one day per week when Probation Department staff and contractors are present on campus (assuming adequate space is provided to deliver proposed services)</li><li>• Girls' Circle curriculum</li><li>• Access to a Mental Health Practitioner (when approved by Probation Department staff)</li><li>• Participation in evidence-based intervention programs such as cognitive journaling, brief intervention tools (BITS) to address delinquent behaviors</li><li>• Recreational activities</li><li>• Incentives to encourage participation</li><li>• Employment development (e.g., <a href="https://www.workinitout.com/3-at-risk-youth">https://www.workinitout.com/3-at-risk-youth</a>)</li><li>• Coordination with Literacy Program for tutoring</li></ul> <p>This program may be dependent on hiring additional positions and/or possible collaboration with a CBO to be determined through an RFP process. There will also be a maximum number of referrals of students allowed and preference will be given to students who have been referred to the Probation Department.</p>	



## **ATTACHMENT C (pg. 1)**

AGENCY	YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Plumas County Literacy Program	A service offered through the County Library Department, the Literacy Program provides a wide range of programs including GED preparation, financial literacy, basic computer skills and assistance with academic topics such as grammar, reading comprehension and writing skills	<a href="#">Literacy Program   Plumas County, CA - Official Website</a>
Plumas County Probation Department  Juvenile Division	The Juvenile Division of the Probation Department provides traditional community corrections services such as investigation of referrals and supervision of youth placed on probation. They use evidence-based practices such as criminogenic risk assessment instruments and engage youth using cognitive journaling offered through The Change Companies. The Probation Department has historically engaged with youth and families through efforts such as Girls Circle curriculum and offering movie nights in the community. Girls Circle was discontinued due to staffing issues and movie nights was not offered during the COVID pandemic, but the Department is considering resuming both of these services in the next fiscal year	<a href="#">Juvenile Division   Plumas County, CA - Official Website</a>  <a href="#">Girls Circle / The Council   Plumas County, CA - Official Website</a>  <a href="#">Family Outdoor Movie Night   Plumas County, CA - Official Website</a>
Plumas County District Attorney	The District Attorney's office operates a truancy program in collaboration with the local school district. Along with the Superior Court, they also administer the Community Justice Court program. Although this takes place in the adult court system, several of the participants are parents and their families include youth impacted by the juvenile justice and child welfare systems	<a href="#">Truancy Prevention   Plumas County, CA - Official Website</a>
Plumas County Behavioral Health	Behavioral Health offers a variety of mental health services, including assessment, diagnosis, and treatment to individuals both for mental health and substance abuse issues	<a href="#">Plumas County Behavioral Health   Plumas County, CA - Official Website</a>
Plumas County Children and Family Services	Plumas County CPS conducts its duty to protect a child's safety from neglect and abuse with an awareness of ensuring family preservation to the extent possible.	<a href="#">Children &amp; Family Services   Plumas County, CA - Official Website</a>

## ATTACHMENT C (pg. 2)

AGENCY	YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Plumas Crisis Intervention and Resource Center	PCIRC offers a wide variety of social services, including a 24/7 crisis support phone line, housing assistance, support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and grief recovery counseling	<a href="#">Plumas Crisis Intervention and Resource Center – When You Need A Hand Up, PCIRC Is Here For You</a>
Alliance for Workforce Development	AFWD provides support to both employers and individuals looking for work. For job seekers, they offer resume writing workshops, support for youth looking to enter the workforce, and job training programs	<a href="#">Alliance for Workforce Development – Connecting Job Seekers and Employers (afwd.org)</a>
Plumas Rural Services	PRS provides support services in a number of different areas. They offer counseling, anger management skill building, parent education classes, support for families and individuals living with any form of disability, and services related to trauma. PRS has compiled a comprehensive resource guide listing all services available in Plumas County  <a href="https://plumasruralservices.org/files/galleries/PC_Resource_Guide.pdf">https://plumasruralservices.org/files/galleries/PC_Resource_Guide.pdf</a>	<a href="#">About Us (plumasruralservices.org)</a>
Plumas County Unified School District	Oversees 12 schools in Plumas County, serving approximately 2,000 students across four communities.	<a href="#">About Our District and County - Miscellaneous - Plumas Unified School District (pcoe.k12.ca.us)</a>
Rethink Industries	Provides substance abuse counseling and mental health treatment to families, adults and youth	<a href="#">Rethink Industries - Mental Health - Quincy, California</a>

