

A stylized, light blue graphic of a plant with several leaves and a cluster of small, round buds on a stem, positioned on the left side of the slide.

INTERVENTION OVER DETENTION: TRANSFORMING JUVENILE PROBATION IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

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Juvenile Probation

- Probation's work with juveniles is intended to identify significant **CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS**– those needs which are drivers of criminal behavior – and address them through targeted interventions, including treatment and services. This will help to change thinking and behaviors.
- The intent of juvenile probation is to **REHABILITATE** youthful offenders using *trauma-informed, evidence-based* approaches. Juvenile probation officers recognize youth are still learning and developing throughout adolescence. This is a significant philosophical difference from adult probation, which also focuses on treatment, but is much more about compliance with the law and imposing sanctions on repeat offenders.

Juvenile Supervision Types

Welfare and Institutions Codes (WIC)

654

- Informal Probation

+ Typically 6 months

654.2

- Informal Probation with Court Involvement

+ Typically 6 months
+ Petition dismissed at successful completion

725

- Probation without Wardship

+ Misdemeanor or felony
+ Not to exceed 6 months

790

- Deferred Entry of Judgment

+ 1st felony
+ 14 or older

602

- Ward of the Court



Emerging Trends in Juvenile Probation (2010-present)

- Developmental Approach
- Positive Youth Development (PYD)
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Validated Assessment Tools
- Evidence-Based and Promising Practices
- Diversion
- Dual Status
- Harm Reduction and ongoing perception shift regarding the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC)
- Reduction in congregate care

Statewide Trends in Juvenile Probation



As of June 2018

- The number of youth in the juvenile probation system is down 42% since 2013.
- The number of bookings into juvenile halls has decreased 14% statewide since 2015.

Changes to the Juvenile Community Corrections Landscape (2000-present)

- SB 81 (2007) – Juvenile Realignment
- AB 403 (2015) - Continuum of Care Reform
- SB 1322 (2016) – Commercial sex acts (minors)
- SB 190 (2018) – Juvenile Fees
- SB 1391 (2018) – Transfers To Adult Court
- SB 439 (2018) – Jurisdiction of juvenile court in delinquency matters
- Automatic record sealing

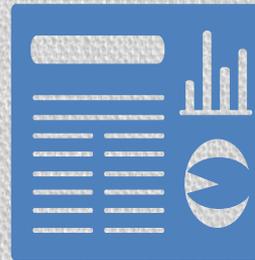
Changes In Philosophy and Terminology

- Juvenile or minor → youth
- Delinquent → at risk
- Youth problems, issues → Youth strengths and assets
- Supervision and compliance → Supports and engagement
- Accountability \neq detention

2017 – Santa Barbara County Probation Juvenile Data Mining Project

Comparative Data Collection

Culling data from our comparison counties to understand our local trends.



Strategic Planning

In collaboration with our justice partners, identifying strategies to positively impact the trends.

Data Mining Analysis

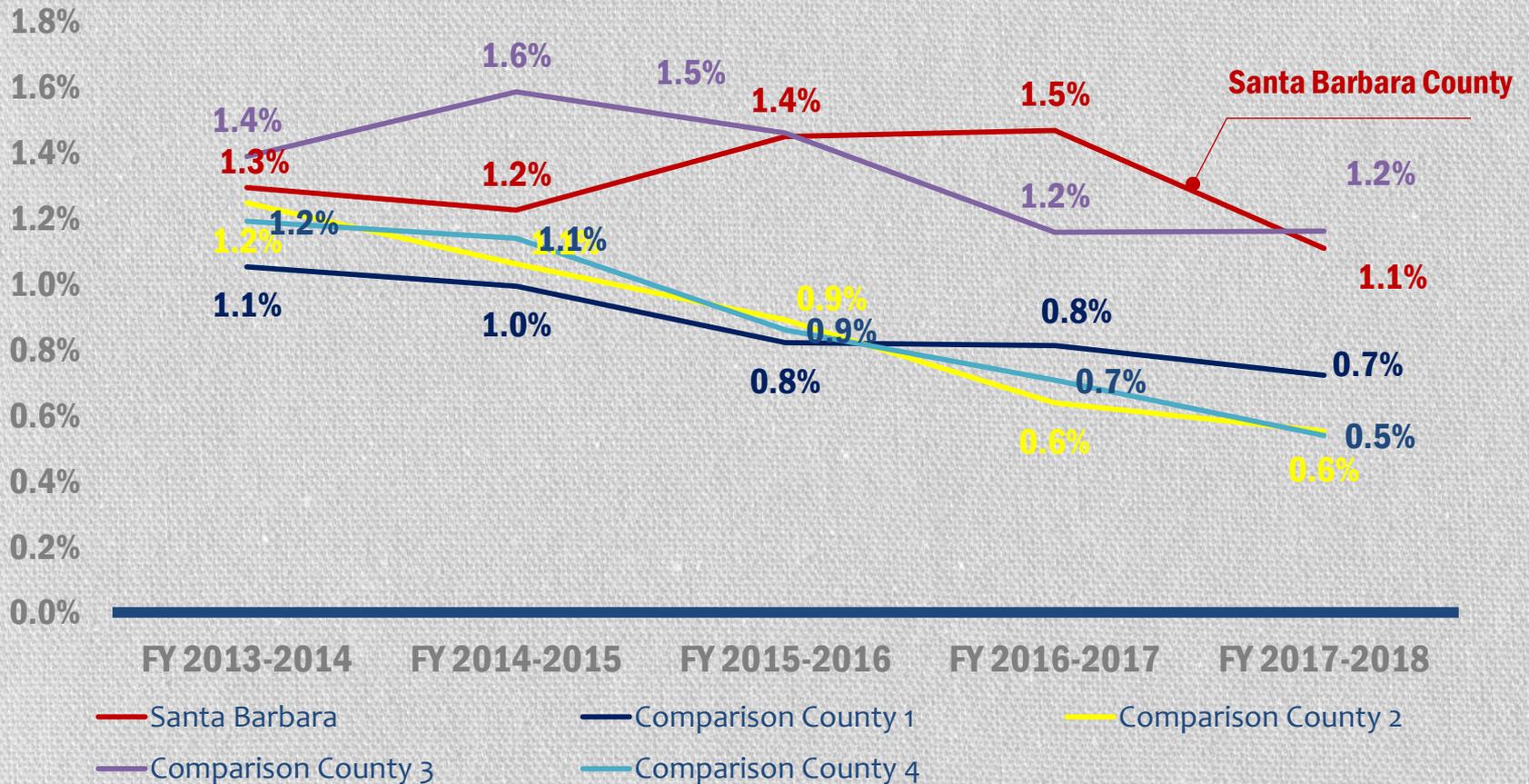
Reviewing each file to explore the drivers of local trends.

Exploring data intersections to identify opportunities to inform our practice.

Local Trends in Juvenile Probation

Percent of Juveniles Supervised by County

(age 10-17)



• Department of Finance (DOF) population projections
[\(http://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Projections/\)](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Projections/)



What did we find?

- Under-utilization of diversion options.
- Level of Court Interventions often driven by parent request.
- Detention for youth 14 years of age or younger.
- One-third of youth in Juvenile Hall were in custody for a technical probation violation.
- For over 50% of youth in Los Prietos Boys Camp, their most serious offense was a misdemeanor.

What does the research show about justice-involved youth and detention?

- Congregating delinquent youth together negatively affects their behavior and increases their chance of re-offending.
- Detention pulls youth deeper into the juvenile and criminal justice system.
- Detention can slow or interrupt the natural process of “aging out of delinquency.”
- Detained youth with special needs often fail to return to school.
- Detention may worsen mental illness or increase the propensity for self-harm.

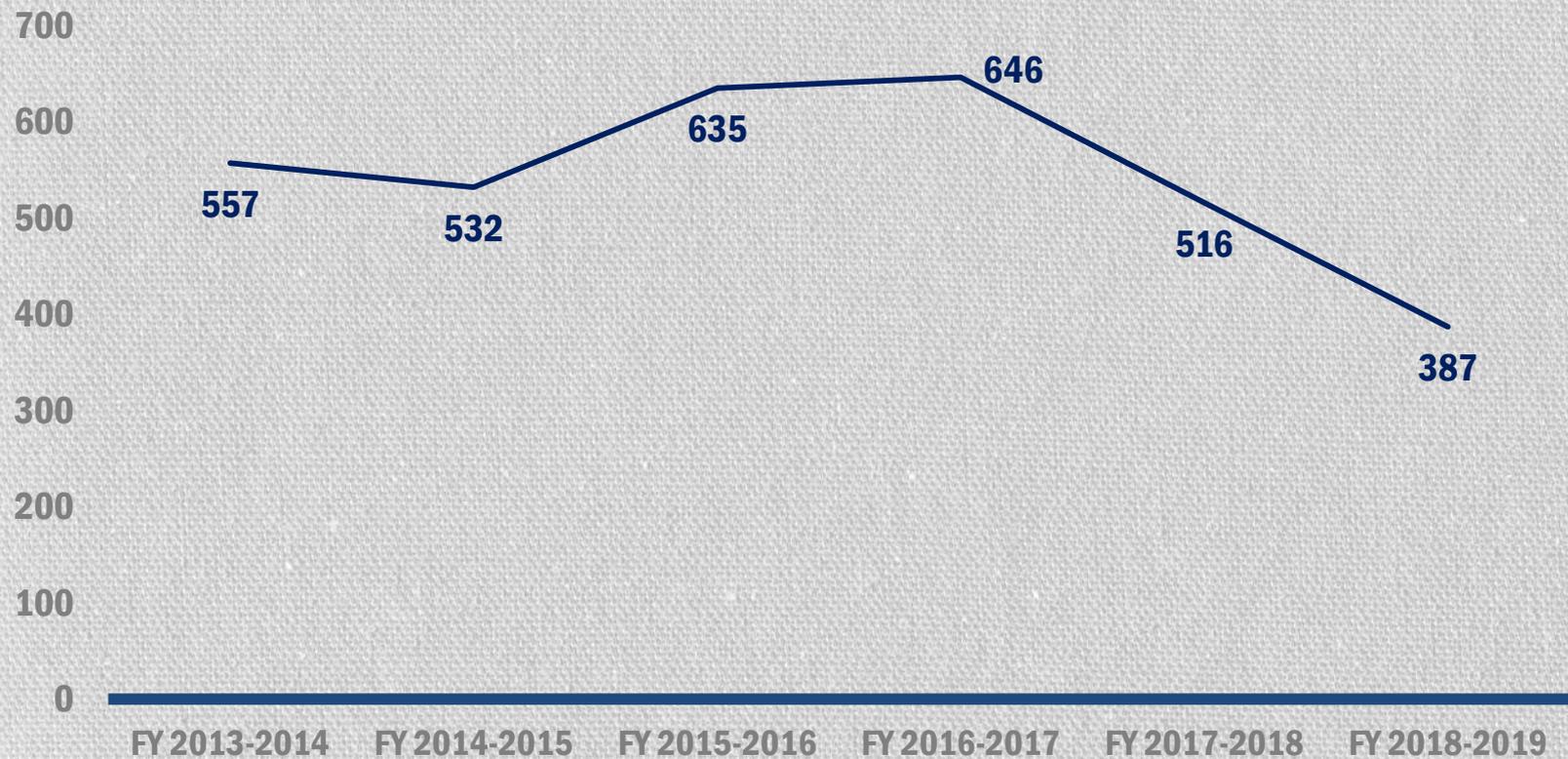
What does the research show about justice-involved youth on probation?

- Traditional models of community supervision, which are compliance- and surveillance-based and emphasize following court orders, are ineffective in changing youth behaviors.
- Conversely, programs designed to provide targeted intervention through counseling, skill-building and restorative justice have been shown to lower youth recidivism rates.
- Youth who are at low risk to reoffend are substantially more likely to reoffend if placed on probation; diversion is a better option.
- Youth respond better to incentives for positive behavior than to threats of punishment for misbehavior.

Strategies Implemented

- Deployed a new risk and needs assessment tool
- Implemented revised juvenile intake assessment process and booking criteria
- Developed and implemented an incentives and interventions matrix
- Increased use of diversion and collaboration on grant-funded diversion opportunities
- Minimized exposure of low and medium risk youth to higher risk youth
- Developed an inventory of local programs and services to which justice-involved youth are referred; determined whether those interventions were evidence-based
- Increased scrutiny of technical violations, length of time under supervision, and use of congregate care

Total Supervised Juveniles Santa Barbara County as of June 30th



- Source: CPOC (<https://public.tableau.com/profile/oconnellresearch#!/vizhome/CaliforniaCountyProbationDataDashboard-DRAFT/CPOCProbationSurvey>)

Juvenile Detention

- Changes to detention criteria to more carefully examine who is being taken into secure detention
- Juvenile Hall Intake Screening Tool (JHIA) was revised and a field test initiated
- Focusing on those youth who present a danger to the community or to themselves, or who are a flight risk
- Detention should not be a punishment; it is a temporary intervention while the court decides how a case should be handled

Juvenile Services – Youth Risk/Needs Assessment

- Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) Implementation
 - Assesses not just youth risk factors, but identifies criminogenic needs – those needs which, when not addressed, can drive behaviors which lead to re-offending
 - Provides an ACE score
 - Assists the probation officer with generating an individualized case plan which includes specific goals and objectives
 - Allows the officer to select the top needs to address through targeted interventions (services and treatment)

Juvenile Services – CCR Implementation

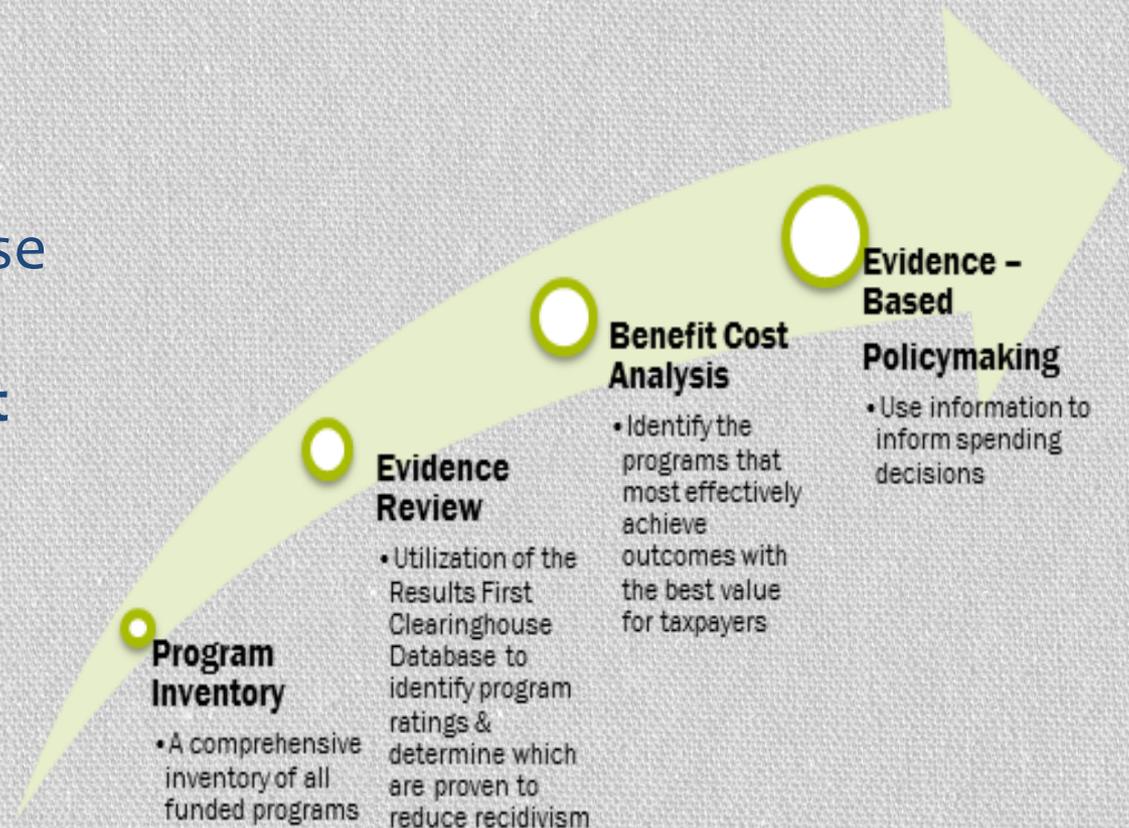
- Child and Family Team Meetings
- Interagency Placement Committee Meetings

Juvenile Services – Results First Initiative

- Program Inventory
- Provider introduction to concepts
- Use of inventory and clearinghouse to evaluate new proposed services
- Encouraging providers to use clearinghouse to select evidence-based interventions

Results First Approach

Utilization of the Results First Clearinghouse Database allows Probation to identify **programs that are proven to reduce recidivism** among individuals under supervision.



Expansion to Juvenile

- Results First was introduced to the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council on October 6, 2017 with approval to begin the development of a comprehensive inventory of all juvenile programs received in December of 2017.

Juvenile Program Inventory <small>October 8, 2018</small>															
Program Name	Rating	EBP Registry	Santa Barbara Program Description	Provider	Primary Pop.	Average Duration of Program	Service Location				Criminogenic Needs Addressed			Other Outcomes of Interest	
							Santa Barbara	Santa Maria	Lompoc	In custody	Out of Custody	Family	Substance Abuse		Education/Employment
Multidimensional Family Therapy	●	California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare. Crime Solutions.gov . NREPP	Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) is a comprehensive and multisystemic family-based outpatient or partial hospitalization (day treatment) program for substance-abusing adolescents, adolescents with co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, and those at high risk for continued substance abuse and other problem behaviors such as conduct disorder and delinquency. Working with the individual youth and his or her family, MDFT helps the youth develop more effective coping and problem-solving skills for better decision-making and helps the family improve interpersonal functioning as a protective factor against substance abuse and related problems.	CADA	11-18 (Adolescent)	12 to 16 weekly or twice weekly 60- to 90-minute sessions					✓				
Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)	●	NREPP	Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy (TF-CBT) is used to help children and adolescents recover after trauma. TF-CBT is a structured short term treatment model that is effective in improving a range of trauma related symptoms in 8-25 sessions. Symptoms addressed can include PTSD symptoms as well as problems with depression and anxiety and behavioral symptoms. In addition to being effective in reducing symptoms in the child who experienced trauma, it also has had success in improving caregiver-parent relationships by providing conjoint sessions as well as collateral sessions with the parent which often results in reducing parent's distress regarding the traumatic event, parenting skills, and supportive interactions with the child.	CALM	Sexually exploited youth	8-25 Sessions					Outreach provided	✓			



"Results First not only focuses our resources on evidence-based programs but on those that are the most effective use of county dollars."

-Tanja Heitman, Deputy Chief Probation Officer

- On August 3, 2018, local providers were invited to a Results First informational session. The session was also an opportunity to share the juvenile justice program inventory!

Juvenile Services – Trauma-Informed Approaches

- Trauma-Informed Approaches
 - CSEC – HART court
 - ACE
 - Strategies 2.0 training for officers

Juvenile Services - Diversion

- Youth Reinvestment Grant
 - In partnership with Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (CADA), Probation applied for and received a \$795K grant to provide countywide diversion services
 - Services will be evidence based, culturally relevant, trauma informed, and developmentally appropriate
 - Law enforcement agencies, school districts and probation may divert low-level offenders from the juvenile justice system through referral to this program
 - Services will last 6 months or less
 - Services will begin in early 2020 and are expected to last through February 2023
 - Program evaluation will be performed by UCSB
 - Outcomes to be examined will include: reduction in the number of misdemeanor arrests in the county; reduction in the number of misdemeanor youth on probation; low rate of recidivism for youth referred to diversion

Juvenile Services – Racial and Ethnic Equity and Inclusion (REEI)

- Gathered and analyzed demographic data about system-involved youth
- Collaborated with the Burns Institute on strategies to impact REEI for detained youth
- Continuing to look at the data in new ways to analyze the impacts of system involvement on youth of color

Juvenile Services – Evidence-Based Services

- FY 2018-19: partnered with community-based organizations to introduce a menu of evidence-based services, including Strengthening Families, Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT), Reasoning and Rehabilitation (R&R 2)
- FH 2019-20: partnered with agencies to continue services on structured fee basis
- FY 2020-21: will introduce structured performance measures to evaluate/measure program effectiveness

Juvenile Services – Collaborative Approaches

- Reimagining Juvenile Justice Initiative
- MDT casework on difficult cases where youth cross over from child welfare to Probation or vice versa



What are the results?

- Juvenile referrals from FY 17/18 to FY 18/19:
 - 11% decrease in juvenile misdemeanor referrals
 - 17% decrease in juvenile felony referrals
- **Decrease in the number of supervised juveniles in FY 2018/2019 to 387 youth as compared to 516 in the previous fiscal year (a 25% decrease). This represents a 40% decrease since FY 2016/2017.**
- **Decrease in the number of supervised 602 misdemeanants to 121 youth. This is a 42% decrease from FY 17/18.**
- **Increase in the percentage of youth on diversionary supervision.** Of the total 387 youth supervised on June 30th, 13% were supervised on a diversionary option (654, 654.2, 725 or 790). This is an **increase from 11% the year prior.**
- **Decrease in the number of youth in out of home placements to 10 on June 30, 2018 as compared to 19 the year prior.**

Where do we go from here?

- Building our menu of alternative sanctions and targeted interventions
- Full implementation of YRG
- Focus on reducing technical violations
- More training on harm reduction and trauma-informed approaches
- Continued focus on REEI
- Evaluation of the quality and usefulness of our programs and services – what impact are they making on behavior, and do they contribute to strength-based positive youth development?
- Continued focus on collaborative approaches to working with youth in our county

- We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends.

-- Mary McLeod Bethune

- I am living proof that youth possess a unique capacity to grow and change - that the child who seems hopeless today could go on to change the world.

-- Alan K. Simpson

Questions?

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