

**San Bernardino County**  
**2025-26**  
**Public Safety Realignment Plan**  
**Assembly Bill 109**

**Produced by**  
**San Bernardino County Community Corrections Partnership**  
**Executive Committee**

**December 16, 2025**

**Tracy Reece**  
**Chief Probation Officer**  
**Chairperson**



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## **SECTION 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In April 2011, the California Legislature passed the Public Safety Realignment Act (Assembly Bills 109 and 117), which created a significant change to the California correctional system. Specifically, the Realignment Act transferred responsibility for incarcerating, supervising, and treating lower-level inmates and parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to the counties. Implementation took effect on October 1, 2011.

The tenets of the Realignment Act require that the state and counties use a data-driven approach to balance public safety and reduce recidivism. To accomplish this, a concerted effort has been made to invest in community corrections, evidence-based re-entry programs and services, as well as using alternative custody options.

This update affirms that San Bernardino County (County) continues to embrace the tenets of the Realignment Act and strives to implement innovative ways to reduce recidivism, foster public safety, and provide a path for our clients to become productive members of society.

#### **San Bernardino County Community Corrections Partnership:**

The fourteen-member Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) collaborates to prepare and develop an implementation plan (Plan) that will enable the County to meet the goals of the Realignment Act. The Plan is then voted on and approved by the CCP's Executive Committee, who then provides recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors (Board). The Plan is deemed accepted unless the Board rejects the Plan with a four-fifths vote.

The CCP Executive Committee is currently comprised of the following:

- Chief Probation Officer (Chairperson)
- Presiding Judge of the Superior Court or designee
- County Supervisor or CAO or a designee of the Board of Supervisors
- Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- Chief of Police
- Head of the Department of Social Services
- Head of the County Department of Behavioral Health
- Head of the County Department of Workforce Development
- Head of the County Alcohol and Substance Abuse Programs

- Head of the County Office of Education
- Representative from a community-based organization
- Representative for the interests of victims

## SECTION 2

### **FISCAL INFORMATION – Fiscal Year 2025-26**

The CCP approved allocation in the amount of \$148.5 million for the fiscal year (FY) 2025-26, which was distributed by the CCP amongst the member agencies with the understanding that all agencies are to provide a quarterly report on the financial activity and use of the realignment funds. The budgetary allocations were as follows:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>2025-26 Ongoing AB 109 Allocation</b>
<b>Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator</b>	78,443,130
<b>Probation</b>	52,257,097
<b>District Attorney</b>	5,091,784
<b>Public Defender</b>	3,698,850
<b>Behavioral Health</b>	8,214,629
<b>Public Health</b>	291,374
<b>Workforce Development</b>	320,536
<b>Law &amp; Justice Group Administration</b>	213,690
<b>Total</b>	<b>148,531,090</b>

## SECTION 3

### **SHERIFF/CORONER/PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR**

Since the passage of AB 109 in 2011, the San Bernardino County Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator (Sheriff) jail system has continually worked to improve custodial, medical, mental health and rehabilitative services for the incarcerated population. The County's jail system has dramatically increased both internal and contract staffing levels across the spectrum of services to ensure incarcerated individuals live in a safe environment, receive quality medical and mental health services and have access to resources needed to create the greatest possibility for successful reentry to our shared communities. The Sheriff also increased proactive in-reach services for the homeless and at-risk homeless population with the Sheriff's Transitional Assistance Reentry Team (START), focusing on bridging treatment and housing pathways to incarcerated persons prior to their release.

In July of 2021, the Sheriff formed the Community Service & Reentry Division (CSRD) as a hub for all services related to rehabilitation and reentry from the correctional system and to provide support and treatment for those experiencing homelessness and living with serious mental illness that is untreated or undertreated. CSRD has grown dramatically since inception and will continue to look for opportunities to increase services and programs in the years to come as the Sheriff works to expand the Department's reach and impact with these hardest to serve populations.

#### **Highlights - Fiscal Year 2024-25:**

- **Mental Health Services**

One of the challenges the Sheriff faces is the increased need for mental health services within the correctional system. Since 2016, the Sheriff has contracted with Liberty Healthcare Corporation (Liberty) to provide correctional mental health services in detention centers.

In 2024-25, West Valley Detention Center (WVDC) designated approximately 800 beds to house seriously mentally ill (SMI) inmates. With a rated total capacity of 3,344 beds, roughly 25% of WVDC's housing is designated for inmates with mental health needs, including SMI inmates. Starting in 2022, Liberty staff focused on enhancing and improving the delivery of mental health services with a specific emphasis on providing services in a private, confidential setting. In addition, Liberty enhanced a variety of other program elements, including comprehensive treatment plans for all inmates receiving mental health services, modifying the discipline process to permit additional consideration of mental health issues when determining sanctions, ongoing expansion of available mental health services, and finally, an improved, structured approach to ongoing quality improvement plans. To accomplish this, a series of Continuous Quality Improvement studies have been implemented to develop best practices as the population of inmates with mental health needs continues to grow each year.

- **Infrastructure**

In 2024-25, the Sheriff continued to invest in improving its infrastructure, including \$2.6 million to paint the WVDC and \$4.5 million additional set-aside funding for the WVDC health center. This continued investment will allow the department to improve custodial, medical, mental health and rehabilitative services for the incarcerated population.

- **CSRD Program Services**

Over 1,500 inmates completed voluntary programming for parenting, anger management, cognitive therapy, trauma, living skills, and substance abuse courses, all provided by our CSRD Social Workers and Drug and Alcohol Counselors. The Sheriff's Transitional Assistance Reentry Team (START) increased proactive in-reach services with our high utilizer incarcerated population, and the incarcerated homeless and at-risk population. START's concentrated efforts to link inmates with treatment and housing pathways before reentry to society resulted in services being provided to over 4,000 inmates. In 2024-25, START successfully housed 18 homeless and at-risk inmates with our community partners at Helping Hearts, and the River's Edge Ranch, post-release.

The Sheriff had a significant role in developing and implementing the County's Laura's Law processes in partnership with the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH). Laura's Law allows for voluntary, pre-court compelled mental health treatment for the most seriously mentally ill individuals who are treatment resistant, have a history of violence or incarceration, and meet other specified criteria. To date, over 70 Laura's Law investigations have been completed by CSRD and, as a result, approximately 55 individuals have been referred to DBH for further services and engagement. One individual is now in the Laura's Law court process and moving towards voluntary court ordered outpatient treatment.

CSRD launched the first Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST) within the Sheriff's jurisdiction during 2023-24. COAST is a collaborative team involving one Sheriff's Deputy, one Firefighter-Paramedic with a crisis response K9 and one DBH Social Worker. COAST responds to calls of individuals in mental health crisis and relieves patrol resources traditionally assigned to calls of this type while bringing mental health and supportive services to the individual in the field. Through 2024-25, COAST has responded to approximately 500 calls involving individuals in mental health crisis and successfully resolved all without a single force incident occurring.

Other accomplishments completed during 2024-25 include:

- Completing our first full year of the Acute Incarceration Management (AIM) program, using a sequential intercept model to engage high utilizers of the justice system and divert them into housing and treatment services.

- Addition of a General Educational Development (GED) program for individuals with short custody stays or who prefer a GED path in lieu of a full diploma program.
- Additional drug and alcohol counseling staff to CSRD.
- Addition of one (1) Recreational Therapist to CSRD to provide services to intellectually and/or developmentally disabled inmates.

## **GOALS – Fiscal Year 2025-26**

During 2025-26, the Sheriff will strive to meet the following goals:

1. **Continue to build a reserve fund for a new health center** - Add available funding to the existing reserve set-aside for construction of a future health center. This reserve has been established and a feasibility study for this project is currently underway.
2. **Work towards implementation of technology-driven visiting spaces for specific uses** - Installation of private booths to be used for web or other technology-based visitation between inmates and medical staff, mental health staff, attorneys and programming staff, including the necessary technological infrastructure to support these improvements.
3. **Community Service and Reentry Division** - Continue to look at rehabilitation holistically, offering intensive psychotherapeutic, vocational, and self-development programming to incarcerated persons, as well as providing formerly incarcerated persons with continued programming and services following their return to the community.
4. **Continue outreach efforts to work with the unhoused, seriously mentally ill, and justice involved populations and strengthen the use of Laura's Law across the County to move individuals who meet specific criteria into court ordered treatment and/or conservatorship** - To meet this goal, CSRD will continue outreach and in-reach efforts across the County and partner with individual city police departments to implement Laura's Law processes within their jurisdictions. CSRD and partner agencies will continue to provide Laura's Law training to government and community partners. CSRD will partner with the Department of Behavioral Health to monitor the progress of Laura's Law candidates and collaborate in order to continue to conduct field contacts with these subjects through the deployment of the HOPE team. For incarcerated candidates, START will facilitate in-custody assessments for the Department of Behavioral Health and collaborate with jail mental health to create a continuum of care for candidates. START will also work with the Department of Behavioral Health to work as an in-reach provider to create an effective continuum of care once the



candidate is released. This collaboration also aims to prevent lapses in treatment or observation of candidates as they cycle in and out of custody.

5. **Partner with the Department of Behavioral Health to develop business processes and implement a collaborative SB 43 program across the County** - On October 10, 2023, the Governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 43, which made substantive changes to the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act. SB 43 amended the LPS Act's definition of "gravely disabled" to include a condition in which a person, as a result of a severe substance use disorder, is unable to provide for their own personal safety or necessary medical care. An SB 43 program will allow staff to place individuals who are gravely disabled, as a result of severe substance use disorders, under an involuntary hold and move these individuals toward compelled substance use disorder treatment. CSRD will continue to monitor and collaborate with area LPS facilities, and the Department of Behavioral Health, to enhance efficiency of service delivery to this at-risk population.
6. **Partner with Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC) Street Medicine Team** - In collaboration with ARMC, CSRD HOPE teams will safely facilitate contact between those suffering severe mental health disorders with medical doctors and pharmacists for the purposes of proper and efficient diagnosis and delivery of dispensable long-acting medication. More robust engagement with qualified medical and mental health professionals will allow for on-site treatment of this vulnerable population.

## SECTION 4

### PROBATION

Research supports that a combination of systematic interventions and evidence-based practices culminate in an overall reduction of recidivism. This premise represents a primary goal of the Probation Department's (Probation) community corrections efforts. While there continues to be challenges, such as the number of clients with increased diverse criminogenic and sociogenic needs, Probation remains dedicated to the mission of protecting the community by assisting clients in becoming productive members of society. Probation achieves this through progressive supervision strategies, proactive rehabilitative efforts, and collaborative efforts with stakeholders.

#### REALIGNMENT SERVICES PROVIDED:

- **Day Reporting Centers:** Located in three of the main regions of the County in the Cities of San Bernardino (Central Valley), Fontana (West Valley), and Victorville (High Desert), each Day Reporting Center (DRC) represents a multi-agency collaboration designed to reduce recidivism by identifying and addressing the factors that can often lead to re-offending. In essence, these centers are a "one-stop" concept that offers a variety of comprehensive treatment services to assist clients in successfully transitioning back into the community.

Each DRC provides opportunities for clients to receive services that address concerns such as substance abuse, physical and mental health issues, finding and maintaining employment, and resources for family needs. Probation Officers located at the DRCs play a significant role in coordinating services. A critical component for Probation Officers in the success of DRC functions is developing a rapport with clients and being part of a more significant support group. Other County agencies co-located at the DRCs include the following:

- Department of Behavioral Health (Behavioral Health)
- Transitional Assistance
- Workforce Development
- Department of Public Health

For example, the Department of Public Health has a Health Specialist assigned to the DRCs. This specialist provides educational services that include:

- Nutrition/Diabetes Management
- Tobacco, Alcohol, and Substance Abuse Education
- Basic Hygiene
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Education

Each DRC is also assigned a Correctional Nurse that provides additional medical services, including:

- Basic medical triage
- Blood pressure checks
- Diabetic checks
- Assistance with obtaining prescribed medications
- Physician referrals
- Dental referrals

DRC functions include, but are not limited to, the following program components:

- Orientation upon release from prison or County jail
- Classification via an evidenced-based risk and assessment tool
- Development of a comprehensive treatment plan
- Daily check-in with DRC staff
- Individualized and group counseling
- Substance abuse and alcohol testing
- Cognitive and Life Skills Development
- Health screenings
- Work programs
- Discharge planning
- Aftercare

DRC functions include making referrals for programming and service to the Multi-dimensional Anti-recidivism Partnership (M.A.P.).

- **Supervision:** In addition to the need for providing services and resources, Probation is also responsible for continuing supervision of offenders in the community and ensuring they meet their required terms and conditions. Over the years, with the increase in the community corrections population, as well as the diversity of client needs, Probation has continued to develop several specialty supervision units to address specific areas of concern and to better allow for targeted supervision based on particular risks and needs. These include, but are not limited to:
  - Mental Health Supervision
  - Treatment Courts
  - Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
  - Domestic Violence
  - Sex Offender
  - Homeless Outreach/Housing

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS – Fiscal Year 2024-25:**

- **Multi-dimensional Anti-recidivism Partnership (M.A.P.):** M.A.P., administered by Community Solutions, Inc. (CSI) is an innovative, community-based initiative designed to reduce recidivism rates by addressing the complex needs of justice impacted individuals through evidence-based practices, personalized support, and community collaboration.
  - The goal of M.A.P. is to engage community-based organizations (CBOs) and treatment providers to offer services to justice-impacted clients in the community. M.A.P. continues to work with our local community colleges to generate collaborative partnerships for trade and certification programs to obtain certification and job placement services. For FY 2023-24, M.A.P. has obtained over twenty (20) CBOs committed to providing services to our clients.
  - Referrals to M.A.P. have been streamlined using electronic options, including a web link and a QR code, available to all county agencies. For FY 2024-25, one hundred eighty-nine (189) referrals were received through the M.A.P. program.
  - Clients referred to M.A.P. are assessed to identify and determine evidence based therapeutic services that promote pro-social behavior and address individualized treatment needs. For FY 2024-25, five hundred twenty-one (521) clients were enrolled, and seventy-eight (78) percent of those clients completed the M.A.P. programming successfully.
  - Probation secured a site for the San Bernardino M.A.P. campus to include classrooms and a warehouse for expanded vocational training.
    - Probation continues to collaborate with Real Estate Services to locate and obtain properties to facilitate the growth of the M.A.P. program in the West End and High Desert areas as well as satellite campuses in Barstow, Joshua Tree, and Needles. Probation is in the process of renovating a property in the City of Barstow for the M.A.P. campus. In the meantime, to provide M.A.P services in those areas, M.A.P. is utilizing Probation's Adult Day Reporting Center sites as temporary service locations. Strong partnerships were forged with CBOs to offer evidence-based interventions and support at these temporary sites.
- **Vocational Welding Program:** The Welding Trailer is a mobile program that provides clients with the opportunity to earn industry recognized certifications throughout all areas of the County. This fiscal year, the welding trailer provided welding certification services to Fontana, Joshua Tree, San Bernardino, and Victorville.

- **GED/HS Diploma through Five Keys Charter School:** Students were enrolled in the Five keys Charter School and there were graduates who earned their general education/high school degrees across all County regions. The Five Keys Charter School is housed within the MAP campuses to provide students opportunities to obtain their GED or High School Diploma, with additional services for continuing education after graduation.
- **Mobile Tattoo Removal Program:** This is a mobile program that covers all areas of the County and allows Probation clients who wish to have tattoos removed for improved confidence in their appearance. This opportunity can often provide a chance at a new life by allowing access to additional opportunities for employment and education that may have been prevented previously by their choice of body art. In FY 2024-25, the mobile tattoo service completed treatments to clients throughout the County.
- **Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program (FFRP):** This program aims at providing training, skills, resources, and experiences needed to secure gainful employment in the Wildland and Forestry sector to those who have been incarcerated in state correctional Conservation Camps ("Fire Camps"). The program is an eight to twelve (8-12) week paid rigorous wildland firefighter training and credentialing program. Participants are provided with holistic case management, legal support, and financial literacy training as they deal with the challenges of reentry.
- **Linking Homeless Clients to Housing Opportunities:** For FY 2024-25, Probation has provided temporary housing to approximately four hundred thirty-five (435) clients through our seventeen (17) housing provider contracts.
- **Community Action Response Engagement Program:** The Community Action Response Engagement (CARE) Program was developed to assist our local Law Enforcement partners in improving the delivery of services and resources to the homeless and vulnerable client population. CARE was launched in January 2022, and by June of 2025, the program expanded to include six (6) Probation Officers assigned to local city law enforcement agencies who work collaboratively to provide outreach to the homeless population. The CARE Unit also has one (1) Probation Officer assigned to the Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator (Sheriff) HOPE team.
  - CARE officers are committed to improving the quality of life in our communities by providing resources, assistance with housing, referrals for mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and basic hygiene needs.
  - CARE officers assist the Homeless Outreach Unit with Shelter Court events and Quality of Life operations focused on the homeless population.
  - CARE Officers participate in community outreach events developed to increase communication, education, and the delivery of services to various

communities throughout our County. These events include collaboration with community and religious based organizations for the delivery of resources. CARE Officer activities also include drug presentations and assisting individuals with housing opportunities and detox/rehabilitation programs.

- During the 2024-25 fiscal year, the CARE Unit participated in eight (8) CARE operations in the cities of Rialto, Redlands, Fontana and Ontario. The purpose of these operations is to collaborate and conduct wellness checks on homeless and transient individuals within these jurisdictions. Housing and referrals for services are provided. There was a total of three hundred seventy-eight (378) contacts, eighty-five (85) referrals made to services, one hundred twelve (112) hygiene kits distributed, and thirty-four (34) arrests.
- **Mental Health Outreach Initiative:** This initiative, spearheaded by the Mental Health Supervision Unit, aims to enhance community awareness of mental health and available resources by engaging and educating the local population on the importance of mental wellness through outreach events in collaboration with DBH and M.A.P. The goal of these initiatives is to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health by fostering open dialogue, understanding and support. The Mental Health Supervision Unit serves as a frontline community resource bridging justice-involved individuals with services that promote stability, recovery, and support for both clients and their loved ones. The inaugural Mental Health Community Outreach Event was held in May 2025 at the DBH Clubhouse in Barstow. During the event, over seventy (70) community members and clients were served.
- **Homeless Outreach Events:** Our Homeless Outreach Unit engaged the community by linking services through our onsite DRCs, which include housing services, medical services, workforce development classes, transitional assistance, providing clothing and hygiene items, and food incentive cards.
  - Officers from the Homeless Outreach Unit planned, coordinated, and participated in numerous events throughout the year to help at risk community members stabilize themselves through treatment and services offered. A sampling of such events include:
    - **Shelter Court:** A collaboration between Probation and the Courts wherein a temporary courtroom is set up in a local community location to allow homeless clients the ability to deal with outstanding court concerns. During FY 2024-25, Shelter Courts were held in Ontario, Rialto, Barstow, Fontana, Colton, San Bernardino and Victorville where over nine hundred (900) clients were served and over two thousand (2000) court cases were heard and mitigated.
    - **Encampment Response Events:** Probation worked in collaboration with the Office of Homeless Services to provide Encampment

Response Events. These events linked the homeless population to available resources such as housing, medical services, haircuts, showers and referrals for county provider agencies and community-based organizations.

- The Homeless Outreach Unit participated in various resource fairs and events bringing services to this vulnerable population in the community. Locations included Seccombe Lake, Victorville Wellness Center, Ruben Campos Park, Redlands Salvation Army and various other locations throughout the county.
- **Logistical Support Warehouse:** Probation continues the process of constructing a centralized logistical support warehouse. The warehouse will be used to help re-entry clients with an emphasis on the homeless population. Its purpose is to support the rising needs of these clients by providing the resources needed to expedite our response. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the warehouse has been approved and the location for the warehouse has been selected.

#### **GOALS - Fiscal Year 2025-26:**

1. When fully operational, the M.A.P. sites will serve as comprehensive, one-stop wrap-around service hubs. We aim to integrate and expand services, strengthen community partnerships, and provide clients with a more comprehensive path to reintegration. The goal is to create an all-inclusive continuum of care that caters to the unique and diverse needs of the reentry population.
2. Foster strong relationships with all law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, promoting a culture of community and partnership. It is anticipated that stakeholders represented at the Community Corrections Partnership will continue to refer clients to M.A.P. sites countywide, helping to lower recidivism rates.
3. Identify and establish partnerships with sobering centers to provide safe, supportive services for justice impacted clients. Sobering centers provide a secure and medically monitored environment for individuals under the influence of substances, reducing the risk of harm to themselves and others, while also providing a diversion option for law enforcement. These centers promote recovery opportunities and support reintegration, reducing recidivism among justice impacted individuals.
4. Enhance ongoing community collaborations and outreach for Mental Health Awareness and Education by holding additional outreach events in various regions of the County. These events will enhance community trust and support, while strengthening the department's commitment to all-inclusive, trauma-informed, and culturally competent services for the Mental Health impacted population. The goal of these events is to promote awareness while building sustainable relationships

that empower clients and their loved ones to seek help and resources for mental health without fear or stigma.

5. Continue to decrease the potential for recidivism in the justice involved homeless population by linking them to housing opportunities and conducting homeless outreach events and providing supplemental services throughout the County utilizing our Homeless Outreach Enhancement Trailer at events and in the community. The goal is to utilize the trailer on a monthly basis at local parks and areas that are known for encampments.
6. Expand access to probation services by reaching hard-to-reach clients in remote and desolate areas through three Probation Mobile Service Center vans. These units serve as a vital resource to bridge geographic barriers, ensuring justice-impacted individuals have access to supervision, support, and essential services. By bringing probation officers and resources directly to the underserved communities, the mobile service centers promote compliance, enhance public safety and foster stronger connections between clients and needed support systems.
7. Expand CARE operations to other law enforcement agencies and locations and promote the collaboration between our law enforcement community partners to improve the quality of life for the homeless populations in San Bernardino County.
8. Efforts remain focused on advancing the approval of the building plans to allow the project to move into the construction phase. While construction has not yet started, the goal for FY 2025–26 continues to be securing plan approval and initiating construction activities.



## **SECTION 5**

### **DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

Since the passage of AB 109 in 2011, the responsibilities of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office continue to increase significantly.

#### **Highlights – Fiscal Year 2024-25**

##### **Additional Staffing due to Increased Litigation**

The District Attorney's Office (DA) continues to face challenges in meeting AB 109 requirements for Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) and Parole Revocation Hearings. The volume of these hearings steadily has increased following the passage of AB 109 in 2011. As the DA reported in 2012, the average number of hearings was 155 per month. In 2013, it more than doubled to 365 hearings per month. After July 1, 2013, when parole revocation became an activity handled by the DA, the department started to experience increases averaging over 385 monthly hearings. Since 2012, the DA has added positions such as deputy attorneys, paralegals, investigators, victim advocates, clerical and support staff. Many of the additional clerical and support staff were approved in January 2022. FY 2023-24 saw additional implementation of staff addressing the increased workload and providing needed services.

In 2024-25, the DA reallocated several attorneys to attend contested parole revocation hearings created by AB 109. While case filings are increasing, cases are not settling at the same rate as had occurred before the passage of AB 109. Specifically, due to jail overcrowding, defendants and their attorneys opt to take cases to trial or further litigate matters, possibly with the knowledge of limited available jail space. At times, matters will progress to trial simply because of disagreements between parties, such as sending a defendant to state prison versus County jail/prison. Staff assisted victims through these challenges.

The DA continues to provide support to victims of crime through its Victim Advocates, both in court and in other capacities. With the jail overcrowding described above, defendants in cases involving victims of crime that would normally be housed in state prison can now potentially be sent to County prison. This increased population in local jails means that in cases of traditionally lower-severity victim crimes (such as many domestic violence cases), defendants are released sooner than they would otherwise have been prior to the imposition of AB 109. Victim Advocates within the DA spent additional time explaining court processes, the status (i.e., capacity issues) of the jail system, and the likelihood of defendants being released earlier, as a result. Additionally, Victim Advocates assisted victims of crime in registering for the National Victim Notification Network (VINELink) program. Victim Advocates currently process more claims for assistance in shorter timeframes than they have done in the past (including processes for relocation of victims and other such services), given the possibility of early releases for defendants.

## **GOALS - Fiscal Year 2025-26**

### Further assistance for Victims

- 1 The DA continues to make progress on its ongoing project to locate and reestablish contact with victims of crime to distribute stale-dated Court-ordered restitution collected from defendants. Over time, contact with victims can be lost when victims change names and move locations without leaving a forwarding address. The DA coordinates with the Auditor-Controller's Revenue Recovery Division to identify outstanding restitution due to victims of crime, conduct research to locate victims, and arrange for victims to receive the restitution funds. The DA continues to focus efforts on effectively managing the process of requesting and obtaining restitution by Court order.
- 2 The DA continues to develop a portal to its case management system for applicable County departments to research victims' contact information and for victims to provide their current contact information. Part of the portal has been built for the Auditor-Controller's Revenue Recovery Division to research victim contact information. Updating their records will ensure victims continue to receive restitution that is owed to them according to Court order. If the Auditor-Controller is not able to find them, the DA assists by conducting further research to find victims. The DA is still developing the aspect of the portal to enable victims to directly update their contact information and to receive notifications from the DA's office.

## **SECTION 6**

### **PUBLIC DEFENDER**

The Public Defender (PD) allocates its Realignment funding to improve its clients' ability to transition from County jail detention to the community. By strategically allocating human and technical resources, the PD seeks to avoid the release of clients into the community without access to appropriate resources and support services. To do so, PD attorneys identify vulnerable and underserved clients who may benefit from social services and support. Attorneys then refer each client to PD's social service practitioner team which coordinates with service providers, such as Behavioral Health, Probation, and Veterans Affairs to assist clients with accessing housing resources, substance abuse programs, transportation services, health care, and other support services. The process requires significant information sharing, which, in part, is coordinated by PD's legal support assistants. By prioritizing early needs assessments, PD staff work diligently to connect clients to services to prevent vulnerability impediment to success.

PD's commitment to holistic representation enables its clients to begin the process of change. The holistic and client-centered approach facilitates early needs assessments, allowing clients to benefit from support services, diversion programs, and other opportunities to exit the criminal justice system and regain stability in the community. Knowledgeable, responsive, and experienced PD staff improve client well-being and provide a roadmap to access social services that will decrease recidivism and improve the safety of our communities. Realignment funds the process of change within PD's office.

## SECTION 7

### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

The Choosing Healthy Options to Instill Change and Empowerment (CHOICE) program provides mental health services to Probation clients with severe mental illness (SMI) and substance use disorder (SUD) within San Bernardino County.

CHOICE is funded through the CCP Behavioral Health allocation of AB 109 funding, serving Probation clients located throughout the West Valley Region, Central Valley Region, and High Desert Region of the County.

#### **REALIGNMENT SERVICES PROVIDED:**

- **Day Reporting Centers:** The CHOICE program is co-located in the three County Probation DRCs in Fontana, San Bernardino, and Victorville. CHOICE also offers intensive mental health treatment for Probation clients identified as needing a higher level of care in the Adult Justice Involved Program Services (AJI) Clinic, located in Colton.

The CHOICE program is designed to enable “whole-person care” in a single, convenient location for Probation clients with mental health needs. Probation and the CHOICE program work collaboratively to ensure clients receive optimal results with minimal access barriers and a reduced risk of recidivism, while addressing each client’s mental health, substance use, case management needs, and housing. Additionally, the efforts of the CHOICE program support justice involved individuals by assisting and encouraging seamless transitions into their communities, promoting overall health and success for each client served.

Mental health services include, but are not limited to, screening and assessment, development of individualized recovery plans, individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, and case management services. Additionally, SUD services include, but are not limited to, screening and assessment, treatment plan development, individual and group counseling, relapse and recovery support, case management support, and linkage to appropriate levels of care.

- **Barstow Probation Office and Joshua Tree Probation Office:** For the Barstow CHOICE population, Victorville DRC staff continue to successfully screen and link clients to the Barstow Counseling Center for mental health and SUD services. Previous allocations of CCP funds for the Barstow CHOICE program were reincorporated into the overall CHOICE program to allow for continued service delivery for the AJI population in Barstow. The Joshua Tree Probation Office offers SUD Supplemental Services, which include an Alcohol and Drug Counselor and a General Service Worker II.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS - Fiscal Year 2024-25:**

- Achieved significant growth in staffing levels by successfully hiring and filling critical vacancies over the past year. This achievement ensured reliable program operations and enhanced our ability to meet client needs with continuity and quality care.
- DBH purchased 8 ADA accessible vans with CCP funds and have received all 8 of the vans.
- Increased support for unsheltered clients in obtaining and maintaining sustainable housing, significantly reducing the risk of recidivism among justice involved individuals experiencing homelessness. This accomplishment strengthened client stability and promoted long-term community reintegration.
- Successfully fostered stronger relationships with community partners, resulting in improved communication and resource sharing that significantly strengthened our case management efforts, provided more comprehensive support, and allowed clients to have more timely access to care.
- Successfully expanded the mental health active caseload increasing access to CHOICE behavioral health services. This reflects the strengthening of collaboration with community partners and enhanced client engagement.
- CHOICE referrals and active caseload continue to support Probation clients in need of mental health and SUD treatment. Furthermore, CHOICE was able to successfully support the transportation needs of an increased number of clients actively participating in treatment.

<b>FY 2024-25 CHOICE MH Mental Health and SUD Data</b>				
<b>Month/Year</b>	<b>Number of Referrals</b>	<b>Mental Health Active Caseload</b>	<b>SUD Active Caseload</b>	<b>Client Transports</b>
<b>July-24</b>	156	140	31	86
<b>August-24</b>	167	147	26	106
<b>September-24</b>	150	164	32	71
<b>October-24</b>	132	175	24	77
<b>November-24</b>	134	192	19	72
<b>December-24</b>	142	190	12	94
<b>January-25</b>	189	197	18	115
<b>February-25</b>	146	167	18	107
<b>March-25</b>	140	88	15	168
<b>April-25</b>	177	104	15	189
<b>May-25</b>	187	85	14	187
<b>June-25</b>	162	72	14	47
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>156.8</b>	<b>143.4</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>109.9</b>

\*Estimated values

- The CHOICE program made significant strides in supporting individuals through comprehensive Mental Health (MH) and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services during FY 2024-25. Below are the key highlights and achievements:
  - Group Sessions and Participation:
    - Mental Health Groups: A total of 452 mental health groups were conducted, involving 2,665 participants in group-based therapy and rehabilitation activities. (These figures may reflect duplicate participants).
    - SUD Groups: CHOICE led 425 SUD-focused groups, providing recovery education and support to 1,166 participants and 204 Open Educational Groups for 1,645 CHOICE and Non-CHOICE participants (These figures may reflect duplicate participants).
  - Client Graduations: Throughout the year, CHOICE celebrated significant milestones for several clients who successfully completed their outpatient programs and recovery groups. These graduations are a testament to the dedication of both the clients and the CHOICE team in supporting their journey toward long-term recovery and personal growth.
  - Emergency Housing Support: CHOICE placed 365 clients in need of immediate housing into emergency shelter beds throughout the County, helping to stabilize individuals facing housing crises.

#### **GOALS - Fiscal Year 2025-26:**

1. Increase client retention by 50% from previous years, through strengthening collaboration between CHOICE and community providers, to ensure a more streamlined service delivery to clients that fosters engagement in the CHOICE program, resulting in improved client outcomes as measured by retention rates, successful program completion and the number of classes attended.
2. Enhance the pre-release screening and professional handoff process in collaboration with community providers to ensure individuals are transitioned into the CHOICE program and linked with housing supports upon release as indicated by tracking client housing placements and transition to care upon completion by 50% from previous year.
3. Expand access of evidenced-based group and individual interventions designed to reduce recidivism by addressing behavioral health needs and support positive decision-making upon community reintegration through a decrease of rearrest by 80% from previous year.
4. Enhance quality assurance in intake and assessment processes by reducing client wait times for initial consultations and follow-up appointments, ensuring increased timely access to services as measured though timely access measured from the previous year.

5. With the addition of Opioid Settlement Funding, CHOICE San Bernardino DRC will be expanding its service provision to include an outpatient SUD treatment clinic to provide care coordination and recovery services to those Probation clients with a SUD need or co-occurring diagnosis as measured by an increase of 50% of the number of services provided from the previous year.
6. Continue to assist clients with obtaining and maintaining sustainable housing for 95% of those unsheltered to decrease the potential for recidivism in the justice involved homeless population.
7. Enhance the operational capacity and effectiveness of the CHOICE mental health program staff by promoting professional development, ongoing skill development in evidenced-based treatment approaches, and trauma-informed training programs as measured by the number of staff trainings attended with an increase of 25% from previous year.
8. Hire and fill vacancies to maintain 80% of staffing over the next year.

## **SECTION 8**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

For Fiscal Year 2025-26, the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (DPH) has allocated \$291,374 in Realignment funding to support health education, care coordination, and reentry services for justice-involved individuals transitioning from County jail detention back into the community.

Through this funding, DPH employs a Health Education Specialist I and a Registered Nurse (RN) who provide on-site health education, care coordination, and follow-up support at the County's DRCs located in the Central Valley, West Valley, and High Desert regions. These staff work collaboratively with other SB County departments and community partners to deliver integrated services that promote health, wellness, and successful reintegration.

The Health Education Specialist provides group and individual education sessions focusing on nutrition and diabetes management, tobacco, alcohol, and substance abuse prevention, basic hygiene, and sexually transmitted disease education. These services help clients build healthy lifestyle habits, increase disease prevention awareness, and develop the personal skills necessary to maintain stability in the community.

The Registered Nurse offers care coordination and follow-up services for Probation clients requiring medical attention. This includes education, reinforcement, and reminders to encourage clients to complete necessary laboratory tests, x-rays, and medical appointments. The RN's engagement ensures continuity of care, supports adherence to treatment plans, and reduces preventable health complications among high-risk individuals.

By integrating public health education and medical coordination into the reentry process, DPH enhances client well-being, reduces recidivism, and contributes to safer, healthier communities across San Bernardino County. Realignment funding sustains this client-centered approach by supporting early intervention, cross-agency collaboration, and long-term community health outcomes.

During the Fiscal Year 2024-25, DPH made over 900 unique contacts with individuals at the DRCs in the Valley and Desert Regions, providing Health Center information, Health Education, and scheduling of appointments for Medical and Dental services. In Fiscal Year 2025-26, Public Health is already on track to make a 20% increase in unique contacts.

#### **Highlights Fiscal Year 2024-25**

- Health Education Specialist I increased individual interactions by providing health center resources such as creating appointments and/or referring clients to the health centers to ensure clients establish care
- HES I main goal is to minimize health care disparities by reducing barriers to access healthcare



- Collaboration with Correctional Nurse and DBH to provide Health Education presentations in Victorville covering a variety of topics:
  - Sexually Transmitted Infections
  - Narcan/Naloxone Training
  - Importance of Routine Doctor Visits
  - Nutrition Basics
  - Understanding Hyperemesis
  - Heat Awareness
  - Stress Management
  - Oral Health
  - Substance Abuse Disorders vs. Brain Functions
- Participated in monthly Shelter Court Events
- Building network connections between public health and probation (during and outside of scheduled probation days)
- Participated in Provider Meetings
- Communication with the OA staff to ensure Public Health is contacted to service the clients

#### **Goals for Fiscal Year 2025-26**

- Increase the number of presentations at Victorville DRC
- Expand health education presentations among all the DRC sites
- Increase number of individual encounters at San Bernardino DRC site
- Increase number transient/ uninsured referrals to the health centers

## **SECTION 9**

### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

One of the strongest determinants for preventing recidivism is being gainfully employed and receiving a reliable source of income to meet one's basic needs and wants. The Workforce Development Department (WDD) plays a critical role in providing support and resources to help individuals on probation reenter the workforce and become employed.

The WDD utilizes Realignment to fund the staffing of three full-time Workforce Development Specialists (WDS) who are assigned to the Day Reporting Centers in San Bernardino, Fontana and Victorville. These WDS provide a wide array of employment supporting services and resources to probationers utilizing the DRC's to remove barriers and assist with securing gainful employment.

Those seeking services at the DRC's can participate in employment preparation workshops, receive career coaching, and may be enrolled in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs where they can access funds for training, education and paid work experience opportunities.

## **SECTION 10**

### **LAW AND JUSTICE GROUP ADMINISTRATION**

The Law and Justice Group Administration (L&JG) allocates its Realignment funding to advance collaboration, coordination, and data sharing among San Bernardino County's Law and Justice departments. These efforts directly support the County's mission to enhance public safety, promote the principles of justice, and improve the overall quality of life for residents.

The L&JG's Realignment allocation is dedicated to supporting data-driven initiatives that strengthen the County's justice system. Funding may be used to establish and sustain data sharing initiatives, which can include funding a Data Analyst position, contracting professional services, or supporting other internal efforts. These investments enable the collection, organization, and analysis of data across multiple departments to identify trends, improve transparency, and inform strategies aimed at reducing recidivism and enhancing public safety.

In addition to these analytical efforts, the L&JG serves as a coordinating body that facilitates interdepartmental collaboration and strategic planning. A key priority is the development of a countywide data sharing agreement among Law and Justice agencies. This agreement will establish a secure and efficient framework for information exchange, providing the foundation for future data warehousing and advanced analytical capabilities.

Through these initiatives, the L&JG reinforces San Bernardino County's commitment to informed decision-making, accountability, and transparency. By leveraging Realignment resources effectively, the County continues to build a coordinated, data-informed approach to improving justice system outcomes and advancing the long-term goals of the CCP.

## **SECTION 11**

### **SUMMARY**

As the State of California continues to transition to local agency responsibility for monitoring populations historically supervised by state entities, the CCP will continue to address changes as needed with available funding. Undoubtedly, this is a population with diverse and complicated needs, which often requires additional and varied resources than the historical local community corrections population. As such, the County CCP will continue to monitor and adjust opportunities to provide the best service to all residents of the County. By addressing the holistic needs of individual justice involved adults and providing them with the services and supervision most amenable to the successful reintegration into the community, the CCP will continue to work together to balance public safety and reduce recidivism.

County agencies and community stakeholders collaborate to provide these services and have developed unique and evidence-based solutions. It is the goal of the CCP to assist all justice involved persons with respect, to offer focused and appropriate services, and provide the opportunity for individuals to succeed in a pro-social manner.