

# MULTI- AGENCY JUVENILE JUSTICE PLAN



Lassen County

April 2020

# OVERVIEW

The Probation Department receives state funds to address juvenile justice issues in Lassen County. These funds are overseen by the Board of State and Community Corrections who requires counties to submit an annual plan and track data outcomes. Each county must also convene the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council to discuss strategies to reduce juvenile crime and provide healthy alternatives for youth.

## **Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)**

JJCPA was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 as a stable funding source for local juvenile justice issues and youth at risk of entering the delinquency system. The Probation Department applied for these funds in 2000 creating the Truancy Reduction Program, Mobile Treatment Services and the Probation Alternative Community Education.

## **Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG)**

The Youthful Offender Block Grant was enacted in 2007 through Senate Bill 81 and shifted control of non-violent, non-serious, non-sexual juvenile offenders from state to local jurisdictions and precluded commitments to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) for crimes not listed in section 707(b) of the Welfare and Institution Code. YOBG provides funding for the new responsibilities for the Probation Department.

## **Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)**

The JJCC grant created the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council outlined in section 749.22 of Welfare and Institution Code. The council is required to develop a comprehensive multi-agency plan identifying strategies and resources for prevention, intervention, supervision and treatment of juvenile offenders. The plan must include an assessment of existing resources and services, identification of areas with higher concentration of juvenile crime, strategies to address juvenile crime and descriptions of funded programs. Membership consists of county, education, community and law enforcement partners and the chair is the Chief Probation Officer.

## **Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan**

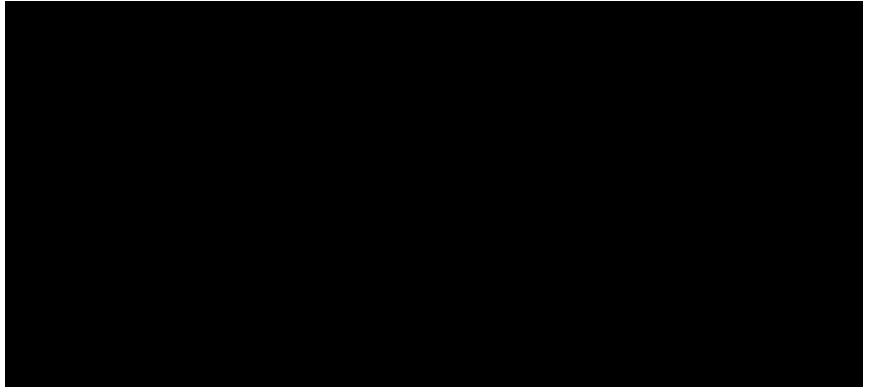
The Probation Department has submitted an annual plan to the BSCC supporting Deputy Probation Officers providing mobile probation and truancy reduction services in Westwood, Herlong and Bieber. These programs have been the most successful in linking juveniles and families to services designed to prevent entry into the juvenile justice system. Our plan must include:

1. Assessment of the services and resources provided to youth and their families.
2. Identification and prioritization of areas with significant public safety risk from juvenile crime.
3. How we will work on reducing juvenile crime, strategies for addressing juvenile crime and reducing out of home placements.

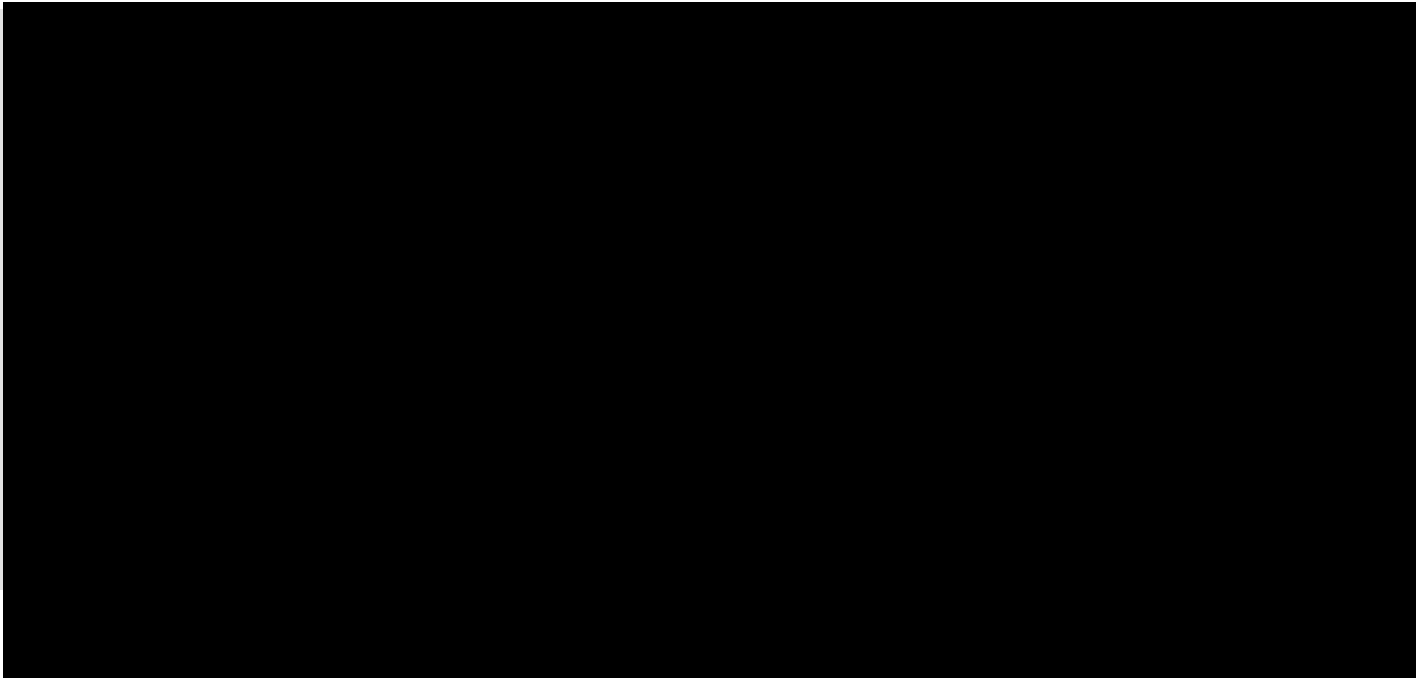
# JUVENILE JUSTICE DATA

In Fiscal Year 2018-19, there were a total of 195 referrals received by the Lassen County Probation Department. Of the referrals received, there were 82 felony charges, 163 misdemeanor charges and 26 infractions. Referrals often contain more than one charge, and this is why the number of referrals does not match the number of charges.

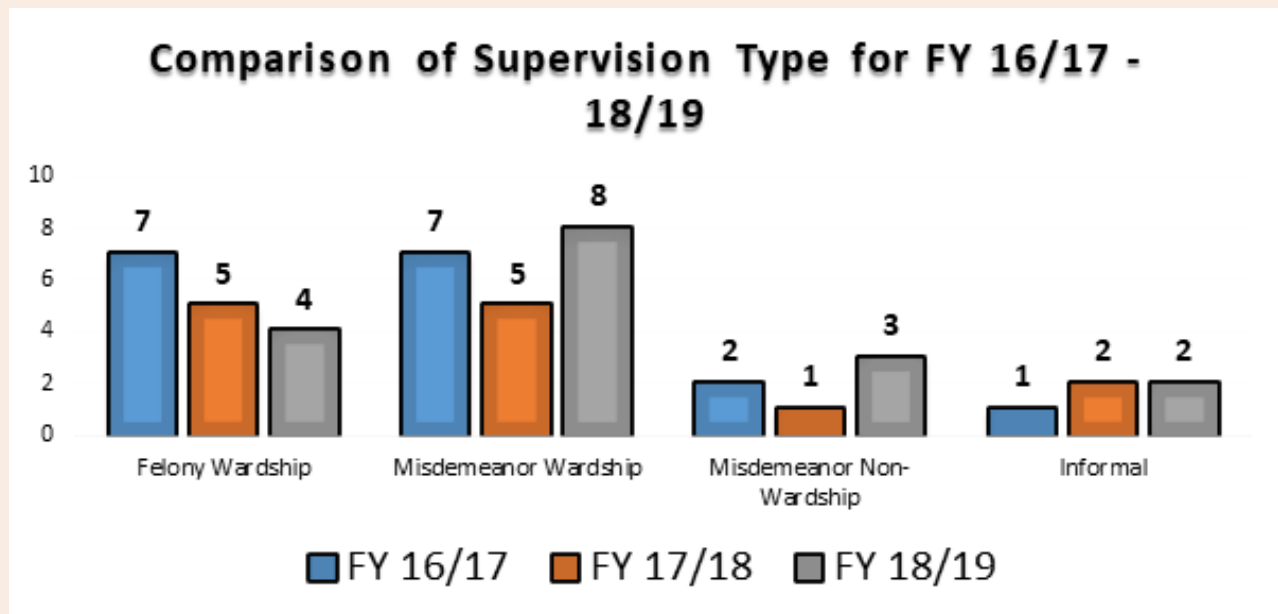
## COMPARISON OF JUVENILE REFERRALS BY OFFENSE LEVEL FOR FY 16 / 17 - 18 / 19



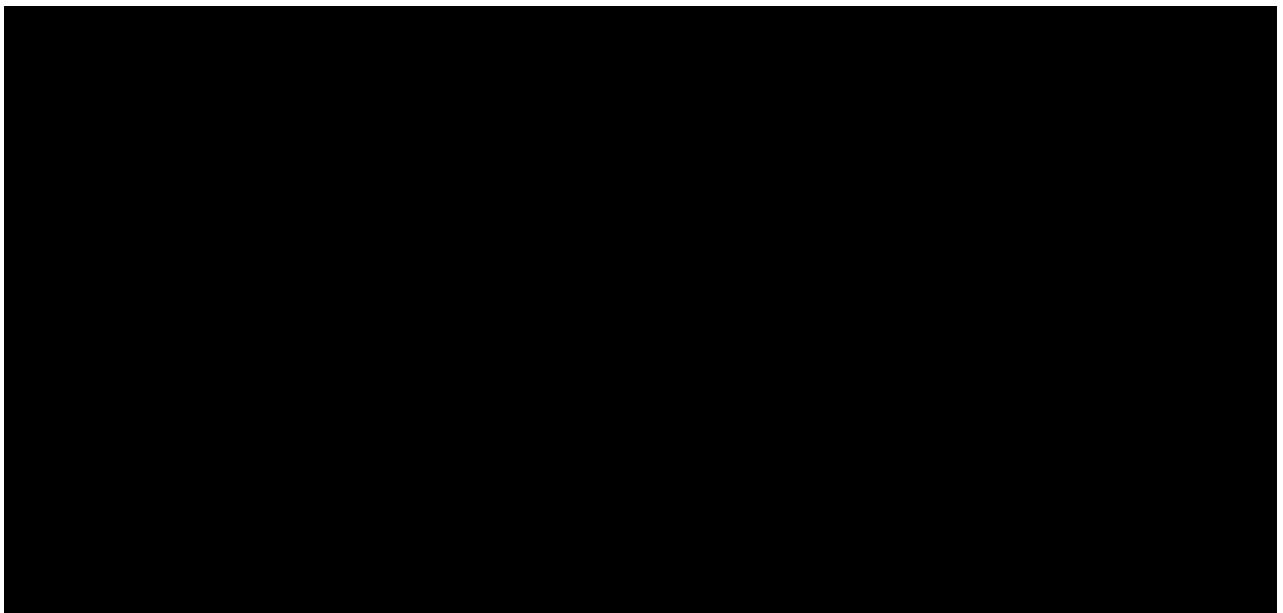
The 195 referrals resulted in 267 charges being referred to the Lassen County Probation Department. Of those 267 charges, 261 of them fit into one of the following categories: Violent/Personal - 106, Drug/Alcohol - 43, Property - 51, Sex - 39, Curfew/Minimal - 12 and Violations of Probation - 10.



As of June 30, 2019 there were 17 juveniles under supervision in Lassen County. 4 juveniles were on felony wardship, 8 on misdemeanor wardship, 3 on misdemeanor non-wardship and 2 juveniles on informal supervision.

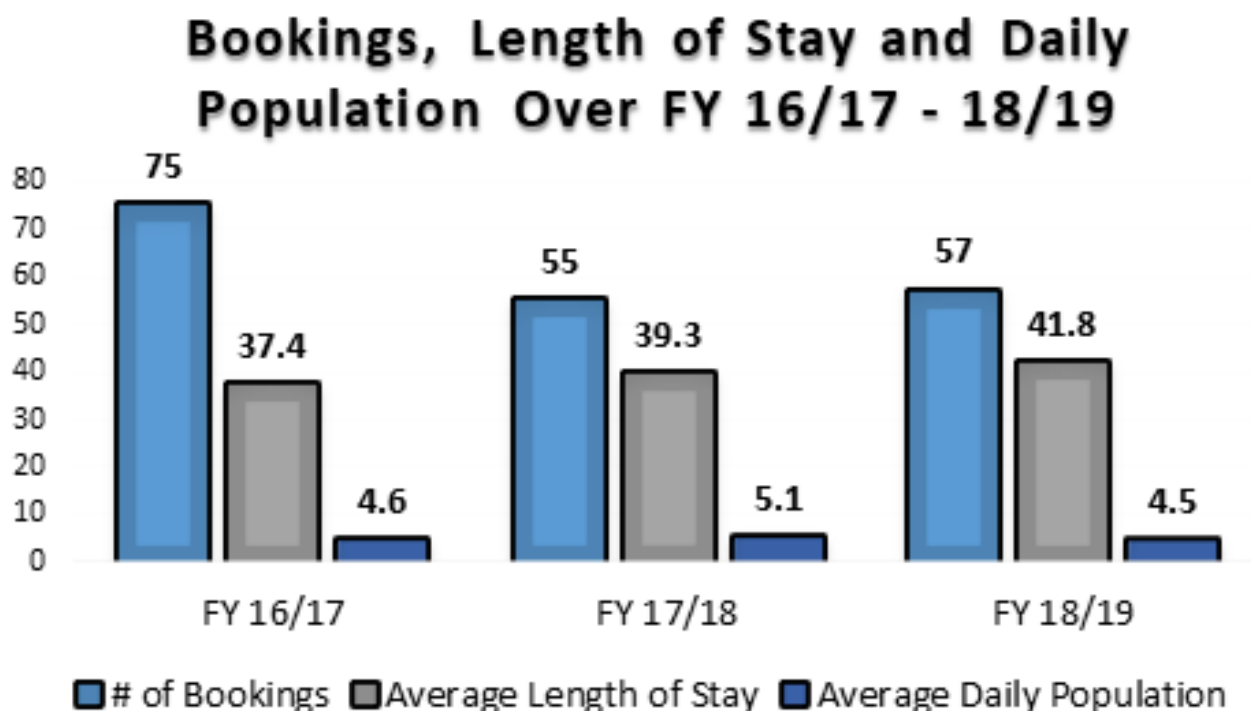


In Fiscal Year 2018-19, Lassen County Juvenile Probation had a total of 12 probation terminations. There were 5 successful wardship terminations, 2 unsuccessful wardship terminations, 4 successful on-wardship terminations and 1 unsuccessful non-wardship terminations.



## Juvenile Bookings in Lassen County

With the implementation of evidence based practices and prevention services, the average daily population decreased to 3.3 late May of 2019.



## Current Services and Resources

Lassen County has several programs and services available to prevent juvenile crime and promote healthy choices.

Multi-Agency Prevention and Education Program offers life skills training to reduce alcohol, drug abuse and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote risky behaviors.

Youth Diversion Program encourages youth to engage in more positive and constructive behaviors; intervene with participants at an early stage to avoid progression toward more serious offenses; help participants avoid formal entry to the juvenile justice system and access services and support as needed. Referrals come from schools, parents and law enforcement.

Tobacco Prevention provides tobacco prevention programs in schools and retail enforcement.

Wraparound surrounds families and youth at risk of placement with customized, strength based services.

Alliance for Workforce Development provides core services focused on meeting the needs of job seekers and employers.

Substance Use Disorder provides treatment plans, groups and assistance with addiction.

Foster Youth Services provides educational support to current and former foster youth.

Strategies to reduce juvenile justice involvement and promote successful probation terminations require the use of evidence based services and interventions. Evidence based services have been a focus of Lassen County for several years now and new programs and intervention strategies are assessed in a team environment.

## **Funded Programs, Strategies and/or System Enhancements**

### **Truancy Reduction Program**

The Lassen County Probation Department will continue to provide truancy services to participating schools. Truancy services have been the most successful at reducing absenteeism, providing targeted behavior interventions and reducing arrests in focus areas and Susanville.

### **Mobile Treatment Services**

A Deputy Probation Officer will continue providing services to youth in the focus areas of Westwood, Herlong and Bieber to reduce violations of probation and recidivism while increasing successful outcomes. Families in these outlying areas typically have barriers to transportation or accessing services in Susanville, which creates education barriers for youth and interfere with working hours for adults.

### **Strategies for Non-707(b) Offenders**

Lassen County will continue to apply the Ohio Youth Assessment System to the population in order to ensure services are targeted to the specific needs of youth. Monitoring youth in this category through Tyler Supervision database is essential to tracking outcomes and ensuring services are effective. The evidence based interactive journaling program, Forward Thinking, will be used to provide skills dealing with difficult situations, anger, peers and emotions. We will continue exploring the use of Positive Behavioral Intervention System with all populations serviced.

### **Regional Agreements**

Lassen County does not have regional agreements with any other jurisdiction at this time.

### **Information Sharing and Data Collection**

Data is used to assess program performances, exploring trends and assist in decision making. Data is reported through the annual report from the Lassen County Probation Department and is available upon request.