



County of Yolo

Health and Human Services Agency

Proposition 47 Project Summary

This project proposes to use Proposition 47 grant funds to expand Yolo County's existing continuum of criminal justice diversion programs. Specifically, the proposed project will apply the principles of restorative justice and trauma-informed care to provide wraparound services to individuals that are eligible for a diversion program, but are unlikely to succeed without intensive supports due to their history of mental health issues and/or substance use disorders.

Target Population

The project's target population will be individuals who:

- Have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of a criminal offense;
- Are currently eligible for a diversion program in Yolo County; and
- Have a history of mental health issues and/or substance use disorders
 - Per the grant stipulations, a person has a history of mental health issues or substance use disorders if the person:
 - Has a mental health issue or substance use disorder that limits one or more of their life activities;
 - Has received services for a mental health issue or substance use disorder;
 - Has self-reported to a provider that they have a history of mental health issues, substance use disorders, or both; or
 - Has been regarded as having a mental health issue or substance use disorder.

Existing Diversion Programs in Yolo County

As described below, there are two existing diversion programs in Yolo County, and one program that can operate as a diversion program in some cases.

Neighborhood Court	Proposition 47 Pilot	Mental Health Court <i>(Diversion in some cases)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diversion program for offenders who have committed low-level misdemeanors. Rather than prosecuting the offender, willing participants appear before a panel of community members, who apply the principles of restorative justice to establish an individually tailored treatment plan. Upon completion of the program the case is dismissed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diversion pilot program for offenders of a Prop 47 misdemeanor drug offense. Rather than prosecuting the offender, willing participants are assigned to community service or given an individually tailored treatment plan. Upon completion of the program their case is dismissed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Combines judicial supervision with community mental health services to prevent or significantly reduce the jailing of offenders with mental illness. Upon completion of the program, in some instances the case may be dismissed or reduced depending on if the intervention occurred pre-charge or post-charge.

Identified Gap in Supportive Services

Despite the success of the existing diversion programs, local providers have identified that the programs do not always provide sufficient supportive services to ensure the success of all eligible participants. Currently, the Mental Health Court is the only diversion program that provides intensive services directly to participants. Both the Neighborhood Court and Proposition 47 Pilot rely on linkages to existing services in the community for any supports needed by participants. This solution is often inadequate for participants with mental health issues and/or substance use disorders, making them less likely to succeed in the program.

Proposed Project Description

The proposed project seeks to address this identified gap by providing robust wraparound care for participants of the Neighborhood Court and Proposition 47 Pilot who fall within the target population. Participants of the project will be offered a range of intensive services through the following five-step process to assist them in successfully completing their diversion program, stabilizing their mental health and/or substance use disorders, and reducing their risk of recidivism.

Step One: Outreach and Assessments

Project participants will be identified and engaged through the outreach and assessment component of the project. The Outreach and Assessment Team will include a staff of two (2) full-time Clinicians and one (1) full-time Probation Officer, who will work closely with staff in the District Attorney's Office and local law enforcement agencies. The Team will conduct outreach at a range of locations to identify potential participants, and will conduct assessments on each potential participant for risk of recidivism, mental health diagnoses, substance use disorders, and eligibility for the local diversion programs.

The District Attorney's Office will have full authority to make decisions regarding eligibility for diversion programs. Once this decision is made, the Team will provide input regarding the most appropriate level of care based on assessments using several tools, including:

- *Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS)*: Determines risk of criminal justice recidivism.
- *Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS)*: Provides level of care recommendations for mental health treatment.
- *American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Placement Criteria*: Provides level of care recommendations for substance use treatment.
- *Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment (ANSA)*: Provides level of care and case planning recommendations for behavioral health treatment.
- *Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT)*: Assesses vulnerability level of individuals experiencing homelessness and provides recommendations regarding most appropriate type of housing solution.

The Matrix in Appendix A provides additional details regarding how participants will be assigned to an appropriate diversion program and level of supportive services based on their risk of recidivism and behavioral health needs.

Step Two: Diversion Program

Individuals deemed eligible and approved by the District Attorney's Office will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Neighborhood Court or Proposition 47 diversion programs. If a participant chooses to opt-in to the program, he or she will work with the existing diversion team to address their criminal offenses and become connected to the services described in the following steps. An important element of the diversion is the application of restorative justice. Using a panel of

volunteers, the project will convene conferences allowing the participant to interact with community members and repair the harm caused by his or her criminal behavior.

The existing diversion team at the District Attorney's Office will be expanded to include an additional full-time Paralegal to address the added workload associated with growing the programs.

Step Three: Intensive Case Management and Treatment

Once admitted to a diversion program, participants will be connected with the case management and treatment component of the project. The Case Management Team will utilize one (1) Clinical Program Manager, one (1) Clinician, and two (2) Case Managers to create and implement individualized case plans for each participant. Using trauma informed care and other evidence-based practices, the case plans will include wraparound planning and residential treatment when applicable. Additionally, two (2) Peer Recovery Support Specialists will provide recovery support through mentorship and educational sessions, and one (1) Employment Specialist will assist clients with job readiness, identifying potential employers, and securing employment. This component will also include the purchase of several vehicles and travel vouchers to meet the transportation needs of the participants.

Step Four (Optional): Civil Legal Services

In addition to the criminal legal issues being addressed by the District Attorney's Office, some participants may have civil legal problems. Participants with these issues will be connected with the Civil Legal Services component of the program for legal advice and assistance. The civil legal services will include assisting participants to address any non-criminal barriers to accessing basic necessities such as healthcare, housing, government benefits, employment, and educational services.

Step Five (Optional): Permanent Housing Assistance

Any participants who are unstably housed or experiencing homelessness will be connected with the housing assistance component of the project. Participants will be offered assistance with paying rent, for a period of no more than 24 months. Participants may also be offered financial assistance with paying deposits and/or utility bills to secure permanent housing and purchasing needed household items when a participant moves-in to new housing. The housing assistance will not be used to fund any temporary housing solutions, such as shelter or transitional housing.

Project Partners

While the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) will serve as the project's lead agency and the Yolo County District Attorney's Office will oversee the project's diversion component, HHSA will rely heavily on many other partnerships and collaborations. If funded, HHSA intends to subcontract approximately 70 percent of the grant award to various community-based organizations to provide the outreach and assessment, case management and treatment, civil legal services, and permanent housing assistance components.

Additionally, HHSA plans to establish a Local Advisory Committee comprised of multiple stakeholders to further ensure collaboration. When selecting members of the committee, HHSA will be mindful of numerous factors including regional equity and geographic diversity.

Appendix A: Yolo County Diversion Program Matrix

High
↑
Behavioral Health Needs (BH)
↑
Low

Level II: BH ↑ CJ ↓	Level IV: BH ↑ CJ ↑
<p>Target Population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Low to moderate risk of criminal justice recidivism ○ Moderate to High behavioral health needs <p>Diversion Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighborhood Court <p>Level of Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supports from Proposition 47 grant, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intensive case management ▪ No formal probation ▪ Mental health and/or substance use disorder treatment ▪ Rapid re-housing assistance ▪ Peer supports ▪ Employment assistance ▪ Civil legal assistance 	<p>Target Population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High risk of criminal justice recidivism ○ High behavioral health needs <p>Diversion Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mental Health Court <p>Level of Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supports from HHSA, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intensive case management ▪ Formal probation with significant oversight and reporting requirements ▪ Mental health and/or substance use treatment ▪ Housing assistance ▪ Wellness Center and Peer supports ▪ Employment assistance ▪ Civil legal assistance
Level I: BH ↓ CJ ↓	Level III: BH ↓ CJ ↑
<p>Target Population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Low risk of criminal justice recidivism ○ Mild to moderate behavioral health needs <p>Diversion Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighborhood Court OR Proposition 47 Pilot <p>Level of Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Linkages to existing community supports, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pre-Trial Adult Probation with limited oversight and reporting requirements ▪ Day Reporting Center ▪ Mental health and/or substance use disorder treatment ▪ Rapid re-housing assistance ▪ Peer supports ▪ Employment assistance ▪ Civil legal assistance 	<p>Target Population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High risk of criminal justice recidivism ○ Mild to moderate behavioral health needs <p>Diversion Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposition 47 Pilot <p>Level of Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supports from Proposition 47 grant, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intensive case management ▪ Pre-Trial Adult Probation with significant oversight and reporting requirements ▪ Day Reporting Center ▪ Mental health and/or substance use treatment ▪ Rapid re-housing assistance ▪ Peer supports ▪ Employment assistance ▪ Civil legal assistance
Low	High

← Risk of Criminal Justice Recidivism (CJ) →

Appendix B: Proposed Budget

BUDGET LINE ITEM	% OF TOTAL	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	TOTAL
Community-Based Organization Subcontracts (External)					
Outreach and Assessment	70%	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$600,000
Case Management and Treatment		\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$2.1M
Civil Legal Services		\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$300,000
Rapid Re-Housing		\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$1.2M
Lead Agency Services (Internal)					
District Attorney Diversion Programs	14%	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$345,000
Probation		\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$450,000
Grant Administration and Monitoring (Internal)					
Project Administration	11%	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$300,000
Data Collection and Evaluation		\$133,000	\$133,000	\$133,000	\$400,000
Overhead (Internal)					
Project Overhead (10% Indirect Cost Rate)	5%	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$300,000
					TOTAL \$6M