

Yolo County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) 2022-23 Program Summary

Yolo County Public Defender's Office - Adult Mitigation Unit 2022-23 CCP Funding Summary

CCP Funds: \$357,000

*Department Allocation – Public Defender

Other Funding: approx. \$272,000

*General Fund – 1 FTE Mitigation Specialist

*Indigent Defense Grant – 2 FTE Client Advocates

*CA County Resentencing Pilot Program Grant – 0.5 FTE Client Advocate (Jan 2023)

CCP Strategic Plan Outcome/Strategy(s) Supported

Build individual competency and support community reintegration by understanding clients' traumas, strengths, and needs.

Increase/enhance diversion efforts.

Enhance re-entry and community support services.

Increase understanding of and connection to the clients we serve.

Use of CCP Funding

*1 FTE Chief Mitigation Specialist

*1 FTE Mitigation Specialist

Program Description

The Adult Mitigation Unit of the Yolo County Public Defender's Office provides holistic defense services to individuals charged with, or at risk of being charged with, crimes.

Services and supports from the Mitigation Unit generally fall within three general scopes of work:

Identifying clients' needs and connecting them to necessary community-based social service agencies. Duties in this category commonly include, but are not limited to, developing post-release plans based on clients' needs & goals; short-term case management; advocacy & assistance w/ navigating local bureaucracies; referrals to community-based services; and warm hand-offs to community service providers.

Improving legal outcomes by providing expertise to assist attorneys, judges, and other stakeholders in understanding clients' circumstances. Duties in this category are performed based on goals set by the assigned attorney in conjunction w/ the client and commonly include, but are not limited to, writing social history reports & mitigation memos; developing diversion plans and alternatives to incarceration; collecting and analyzing client mental/physical health & educational records; and consulting with clients' family and circle of support, including existing community-based service providers.

Community outreach/engagement to cultivate an understanding of and connection to the clients we serve. Duties in this category commonly include, but are not limited to, attending county workgroups & advocating for improved services for the justice impacted population; supporting the office's efforts to connect w/ & hear from the community; maintaining resource directory & partnerships within the community.

This program allows the Public Defender's Office to provide client-centered defense enhanced by fuller wrap-around services that seek to identify and address the factors that prevent clients from leading healthy lives. The loss of this program would lead to poorer legal outcomes for clients, including needlessly suffering additional convictions and higher rates of incarceration, and ultimately increasing recidivism.

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PM1: Referrals

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PM2: Case Length

See chart

PM3: Accomplished Case Goals

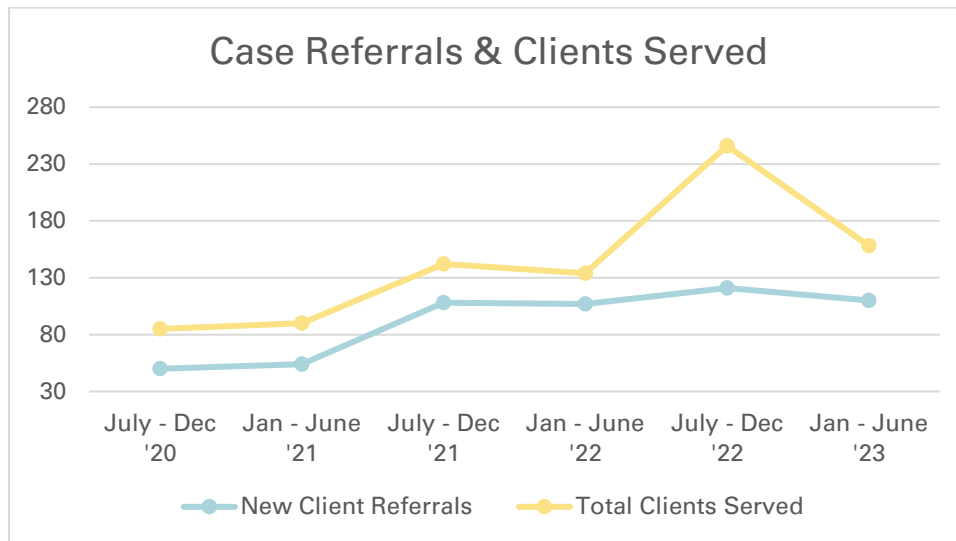
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Mitigation Unit Services Supplemental 2022-23 Performance Measure (PM) Information

Mitigation Unit Referrals

PM 1: The number of referrals to the Mitigation Unit measures how many justice-involved individuals who were provided services and supports by this division of the Public Defender’s Office.

Performance Measure	2021-22	2022-23	Trend
New Referrals to Mitigation Unit	161	231	40% Increase



In 2022-23, the Mitigation Unit received 231 new referrals. This is over 40% more referrals than were received in the prior fiscal year. One reason for the increase in referral is due to increased capacity within the unit (staffing changes outlined below):

Fiscal Year	FTE's	Breakdown
2021-22	4.5 FTE's	1 Chief Mitigation Specialist (CCP funded) 1.5 Mitigation Specialist (.5 FTE funded through CCP) 2 Client Advocates (non-CCP funded)
2022-23	5.5 FTE's	1 Chief Mitigation Specialist (CCP funded) 2 Mitigation Specialist (one FTE funded through CCP) 2.5 Client Advocates (non-CCP funded)

Mitigation Unit Length of Case

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PM 2: The average length of a Mitigation Unit case can be an indicator as to whether the Mitigation Unit is using resources effectively and efficiently. However, the complexity of the assignment is a factor that must be analyzed before making conclusions about average length.

Performance Measure	2021-22	2022-23	Trend
Cases Closed Between 1-90 days	52%	47%	5% Decrease
Cases Closed After Over 181 days	26%	26%	No Change

This data indicates that approximately half of Mitigation Unit cases have goals which were accomplished within approximately 3 months. Closing cases in a time efficient manner allows the Mitigation Unit the capacity to work with more clients and assist on more cases.

Cases which are more complex in nature and extend past 180 days continue to make-up approximately 25% of the Mitigation Unit's caseload.

Mitigation Unit Accomplished Case Goals

PM 3: The number of goals (either set by the attorney and/or the client) that were able to be accomplished, in whole or in part, due to the assistance of the Mitigation Unit.

Performance Measure	2021-22	2022-23	Trend
Accomplished Case Goals	65*	134	unknown

The Mitigation Unit's data tracking system changed in January 2022. As such, case goal data was not able to be captured between Jan – Jun 2022. The 'Accomplished Case Goals' data for 2021-22 is only for the July – Dec 2021* time period. Despite this missing data, it is presumed that there is an upward trend in the number of Case Goals Accomplished, again in part due to increased staffing (as detailed above):

