

Santa Cruz County
Commission on Justice & Gender
2023-2025 Biennial Report

1. History of the Commission

The County Commission on Justice and Gender (JAG) was born out of the Task Force on Justice and Gender's a two-year effort to identify and better meet the unique needs of justice system-involved women and their families in Santa Cruz County.

In April 2017, Dr. Susan Greene presented to the Board a report supported by the Sheriff's Office entitled, *Gender Matters: A Profile of Women in Santa Cruz County Jail*, based on 31 interviews with women in the Main Jail and Blaine Street. In response, the Board convened a 24-month Advisory Task Force on Justice and Gender. The Board appointed health and justice leaders from county agencies, community-based organizations, and the community at large as representatives to address the needs of justice-involved women and their families. The Task Force met 18 times, made two presentations to the Board by January 2020, and recommended 13 actions that were unanimously approved by the Board to reduce recidivism for justice-involved women and help prevent intergenerational cycles of trauma and incarceration, one of which was to establish a new Commission on Justice and Gender to replace the Domestic Violence Commission. The new commission focuses more broadly on reducing harm to women and girls directly impacted by the criminal legal system and/or gender-based violence and preventing harm to their children.

The Commission centers lived experience and the principle "Nothing about us without us" to ensure reform efforts are successful at reducing harm to individuals and their families. There are several commissioners who either themselves or whose family members have been directly impacted by the criminal legal system. The Commission is committed to representing the diversity of our community and recognizing the intersections of gender, race, culture, class, sexual identity, and sexual orientation (see Attachment A for Commission membership).

2. Role of the Commission

For the benefit of the citizens of the County of Santa Cruz County, the Commission on Justice and Gender is responsible for advising and making recommendations on reducing harm to women, girls, and the families impacted by the justice system and/or gender-based violence. The Commission was established to advise on:

(A) Increasing coordination between agencies, community-based organizations and the courts; identify ways to improve access to family services, healthcare, housing, education, and employment services; and conduct outreach with an equity focus to underserved populations of women and girls impacted by the legal system and/or gender-based violence.

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(B) Promoting effective and accessible education, prevention, and treatment with a gender focus that is responsive to racial and cultural differences, and is based on trauma-informed, evidence-based practices to prevent cycles of violence and incarceration.

(C) Examining issues relating to women and girls directly impacted by the criminal legal system and/or gender-based violence, including trauma, domestic violence, homelessness, sexual abuse, and intergenerational incarceration, and make recommendations for administrative and legislative action to be taken by the Board of Supervisors to reduce harm to these women and their families.

3. Commission Structure and Subcommittees

The JAG Commission is composed of 17 voting members including 5 at-large representatives. Co-chairs serve a two-year term and are elected every other year.

Three subcommittees were formally established in February 2025:

Housing & Healthcare

Families, Youth, & Prevention

Release & Reentry

Each subcommittee planned commission meetings and coordinated guest speakers for one Commission meeting per year.

4. Meeting Dates, Time, and Location

During the reporting period, the Commission on Justice and Gender met quarterly on the third Thursday of the month from Noon – 1:30 p.m. Locations alternated between the Community Room at Simpkins Family Swim Center/Live Oak Library Annex or the Community Room at the Watsonville Civic Plaza.

5. Commission Staff

Dr. Susan Greene (independent contractor) staffed the JAG Task Force and Commission to help guide the implementation of recommendations through June 30, 2025. Nicole Coburn, Sven Stafford, and Gina De Martini-Kuhns of the County Executive Office also helped to staff this commission.

6. Attendance

Please see attached Commission on Justice and Gender 2023-2025 Attendance Report (Attachment C). Approximately 40 people including members of the public regularly attended the JAG Commission meetings.

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7. Commission Activities and Accomplishments

The Commission's activities build upon the JAG Task Force recommendations and prioritize the pressing issues and needs identified by incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women, survivors of gender-based violence, community members and commissioners.

During the reporting period, Commissioners conducted the following business:

- Held 12 Commission meetings and 34 subcommittee meetings.
- Developed guiding principles for outreach to guest presenters.
- Received, reviewed, and responded to correspondence about issues related to conditions of incarceration for women, available healthcare, visitation with children and families, and impacts of incarceration on families.
- Hosted presentations about resources available to incarcerated parents and their families.
- Provided a platform for women to share their lived experience.

During the reporting period, Commissioners monitored the following issues:

- The number of incarcerated people, including women, in all County facilities.
- The establishment, availability, and frequency of contact visits for incarcerated parents with their families at County facilities.
- The number of incarcerated women with bench warrants and bench warrants with new charges.
- County implementation of the Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Act and Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT).
- The psychological impact of solitary confinement.
- The number of safe releases and bed nights provided by Monarch Services' Safe Release Program.
- The number of women enrolled in and graduating from Women's Recovery and Reentry Program, vocational programs, and completing general education or other educational achievements.

"Having the WRRP program gave me the confidence to stay sober and showed me that if I really try and commit, I can learn and grow. I'm so grateful for all the classes—they helped me work through losing [my children], and made me realize that with resilience, integrity, and growth, I can build a new life. Not the life I had before, but a better one."

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During the reporting period, the Commission also focused on the recommendations from the 2021-22 reporting period are listed in Table 1. Corresponding County work is provided for context. This report is not an evaluation of existing programs and does not constitute endorsement; it is intended to inform the development of new work and updated recommendations.

Table 1. 2021-22 Recommendations and 2025 Status

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
Open Blaine Street Facility and request that the Sheriff's Office host family visiting days at Blaine Street and Rountree.	<p>Blaine Street reopened and a new incarcerated population entered custody at Blaine in May 2023.</p> <p>On September 7, 2024, it was reported that contact visits were being offered one Saturday per month. Visits have been offered 16 Saturdays from September 2024 through December 2025. 11 visits were requested, and 7 were held. The Sheriff's Office reports that the four visits that did not occur were due to visitors not appearing for or arriving late to the visit. Further visit details are listed in Tables 1a-1c.</p> <p>Beginning in April 2025, the Sheriff's Office dedicated additional staff to support contact visits between parents and their children one Saturday per month at both Blaine Street and the Rehabilitation & Reentry facilities.</p> <p>On August 21, 2025, the commission requested visits be expanded to weekly or four times per month. The commission also recommended expanding contact visits to other friends and family. A lieutenant in attendance told the commission the Corrections management would be notified of the requests. County staff followed up with the Sheriff's Office and confirmed the lieutenant escalated the question to Sheriff Clark and Undersheriff Ainsworth. At this time the Sheriff reports there are not enough</p>

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<p>The Bill of Rights for Children of Incarcerated Parents includes the rights of children to speak with, see, and touch their parent.</p>	<p>requests to increase the number of visiting days.</p> <p>The Board of Supervisors adopted the Bill of Rights for Children of Incarcerated Parents in 2023.</p>
<p>Additional Comments from the Families, Youth & Prevention Subcommittee)</p>	
<p>The Families, Youth, & Prevention subcommittee recommends developing a process for reporting on the participation in contact visits, barriers to participation, and education and information provided about visits to incarcerated parents.</p> <p>Neighboring counties have varying visitation options. In preparing this report, the subcommittee directed staff to seek out data reporting for visitation in comparable counties. Findings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alameda County Santa Rita Jail: Non-contact visits only, and visits are by appointment only. • Santa Clara County Main Jail: Incarcerated persons (IPs) are allowed two thirty-minute non-contact visits per week. • Santa Clara County Elmwood Complex: IPs are allowed two thirty-minute visits per week. Contact visits at Elmwood are allowed for minimum security IPs and those participating in programming. • Contra Costa County (all facilities): By appointment only and scheduled by incarcerated person(s). No contact is permitted. • San Mateo County Maple Street and Maguire Correctional Center: All IPs at this location will be offered two 45-minute in-person non-contact visits per seven-day period, no more than one per day. These in-person visits are in addition to the two virtual video visits currently offered. • San Mateo County Maguire Correctional Center: Two 45-minute in-person visits per seven-day period, no more than one per day. <p>Santa Cruz County staff contacted these agencies and requested data on participation in non-contact visits and contact visits where applicable.</p> <p>A Bill of Rights for Incarcerated Parents could be a next step for the county.</p>	
<p>Corresponding County Work</p>	
<p>The Sheriff's Office suggests conducting further inquiry to identify barriers to visitation and opportunities for improvement.</p> <p>The Sheriff's Office can inquire with incarcerated women eligible for visits and when the women consent to the release of their responses, report to the Commission the reasons why a visit may not occur. If visitation requests increase, the Sheriff's Office can assess whether more frequent family visits are feasible.</p>	

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The Sheriff's Office contacted San Benito and Monterey Counties. Both counties confirmed that they do not offer contact visits for incarcerated people, including parents.

Table 1 break: Tables 1a-1c. Visitation Details during the Reporting Period

The data in the tables below show data provided by the Sheriff's Office on visits during the reporting period. The average population at Blaine Street Facility is 14 women. All women are eligible to participate unless there is a legal reason. To date the assumption has been that all interested women have requested visits. As tracking and reporting become more regular and closely monitored, this assumption may change with new information.

Table 1a. – Total Visits Requested vs. Held from September 2024 through December 2025 (Months when Visits were Available during Reporting Period)

	2024	2025	
<i>Months Available</i>	4	12	<i>TOTAL</i>
Visits Requested	1	10	11
Visits Held	0	7	7
<i>Ratio of Held to Requested Visits</i>			64%

Table 1b. – 2024 Visit Details

Individual	Requested	Held	Not Held	Percent of Visits Held to Requested	Percent of Visits Not Held to Requested	Reason
Incarcerated Woman 1	1	0	1	0%	100%	Visitor did not appear; individual may have been released prior to visit

Table 1c. – 2025 Visit Details

Individual	Requested	Held	Not Held	Percent of Visits Held to Requested	Percent of Visits Not Held to Requested	Reason
Incarcerated Woman 1	7	5	2	71%	29%	Visitor did not appear

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Incarcerated Woman 2	2	1	1	50%	50%	Visitor did not appear
Incarcerated Woman 3	1	0	1	0%	100%	Visitor was late

Table 1 continued:

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
Provide education and vocational opportunities equitable at Blaine to what men in custody at Rehabilitation and Reentry at Rountree Campus are receiving.	<p>At the Blaine Street Facility, there is psycho-educational programming, including trauma-informed substance use disorder (SUD) and cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) curricula tailored to justice-involved women. Additional offerings include educational programming and activities, such as crocheting, horticulture, culinary classes, and employment development programs through Cabrillo College. Yoga, mindfulness, poetry, and library services are also offered.</p> <p>The Sheriff's Office has provided an inventory of In-Custody Programs at all Santa Cruz County facilities (Attachments D and E).</p>
Corresponding County Work	
<p>Launched in 2018, the Women's Recovery and Reentry Program (WRRP) is a primary program serving incarcerated women at Blaine Street. It was established in response to the high rate of SUD among women in Santa Cruz County, changes under AB 109 that shifted certain individuals from state prison to county jail custody and affected length of stay, and the Board of Supervisors' directive to address identified needs of incarcerated women. WRRP is a 12-week program designed for women, focusing on factors that influence their substance use, health, and reentry, while reducing substance use and recidivism. (Recidivism data from the Sheriff's Local Evaluation Plan submitted for funding cycle July 2021 through June 2024 is included in Attachment F.)</p> <p>While in custody, participants receive stabilization support, classes, and weekly case management to develop a Relapse Prevention Plan and an individualized Treatment and Reentry Plan (TRP).</p> <p>Following release, women may receive up to 12 months of wraparound case management from the Volunteer Center's Friends Outside while pursuing TRP goals. Janus of Santa Cruz provides SUD treatment at the LITE House recovery residence</p>	

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(formerly the Gemma House) and through other treatment programs. Funding is available to help remove barriers to independence, such as fees, education or DUI classes, vocational training, and employment-related costs

19 women have graduated from WRRP while in custody (most women are in custody for less than 40 days) since 2018 and 32 women have graduated while in aftercare.

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
Consider a new model of staffing that includes a healthcare provider. Opening Blaine Street is the single most critical need for the health and wellbeing of incarcerated women and their families.	In 2025, the County entered a new contract with a new healthcare provider, NaphCare.
Corresponding County Work	
<p>The Sheriff's Office is pursuing accreditation through the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC). NCCHC sets standards for jails and prisons that are higher than the minimum requirements of Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations. To apply, policies and procedures must be in place for at least one year.</p> <p>NaphCare's policies adhere to NCCHC standards, and the jail is expected to achieve accreditation sometime in 2026. Once the application is submitted, it typically takes 6–8 months for NCCHC to conduct the inspection and audit.</p> <p>NaphCare has a team dedicated to the accreditation project. The application is expected around April 2026.</p>	

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
As <i>Medi-Cal for justice involved</i> individuals (Cal-AIM) is being implemented, ensure eligible individuals are enrolled in Medi-Cal pre- release and expand capacity of community support such as housing.	<p>Estimated number of applications completed while in custody based on the average daily population (5-10% of the incarcerated population is women):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: 76 (estimated 5 women) • 2024: 293 (estimated 19 women) • 2025: 134 as of 07/31 (estimated 9 women)
Corresponding County Work	
<p>In-custody Medi-Cal applications are handled by the Cal-AIM Program Coordinators. Program Coordinators are available from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM, 7 days per week. The Sheriff's Office plans to track Medi-Cal applications submitted by incarcerated women. The current data is not disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>Those who did not apply for or enroll in Medi-Cal are often released before enrollment can occur (i.e., less than 24 hours vs. in- custody for several days). The reasons for not enrolling are documented when possible. In 2024, 541 people wanted to apply and 172 could not complete an application. 72% of the 172 who could not complete</p>	

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the application were booked and released when program coordinators were not available. Staff could not meet with the remaining 28%, likely due to a short time spent in custody. 19 out of the 541 interested parties (4%) later declined to complete the application.

The Sheriff's Office can report on the number of people offered Medi-Cal at the time of intake, the number of people who already have Medi-Cal at the time of intake, and the number of people who do not have Medi-Cal at the time of intake.

On October 31, 2025, the County closed the request for proposal (RFP) for Cal-AIM Justice-Involved Pre-release Medi-Cal Application Outreach. At the time this report was drafted, proposals were being evaluated.

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
Require that any medical provider in custody provide 2 weeks' medication upon release to individuals who have been receiving prescription medicine in custody and may not have access to continue taking their medicine post-release.	<p>In August 2024, it was reported to the Release & Reentry Subcommittee that the discharge support would include discharging with medication.</p> <p>Incarcerated people are released with 30 days of medication – MAT or other prescription medication.</p>
Corresponding County Work	
<p>This practice will be a CalAIM requirement in October 2026.</p> <p>As of January 12, 2026, 99 incarcerated people are on MAT including five women at Blaine Street and six at Main Jail for a total of 11 women. These individuals are either continuing from an outside program or have been inducted after completing a medically supervised detoxification. Approximately one-third of population is on MAT, including 30-day injectables.</p> <p>Countywide data-sharing project (BRIDGE) is underway. In October, the County published a Request for Proposals (RFP) to support automated billing and claims processing. Submittals are due November 24, 2025, and the Board is expected to approve the contract in April 2026. The system is expected to go live in June 2026.</p>	
Challenges & Risks Related to this Recommendation and Corresponding Work	
<p>The Sheriff's discharging staff do not always know when individuals will be released. Staff need to know 5-7 days prior to release. At a minimum, staff attempt to get information about individuals' preferred pharmacy. It can be difficult to get information from an individual during intake. The current lack of data-sharing infrastructure makes it difficult to get pharmacies and prescription information easily.</p>	

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2022 Recommendation	2022 Status
Request that the Sheriff's Office research and consider implementing emerging practices across the nation for reducing the use of solitary confinement to jail cells.	<p>The May 2025 meeting included a presentation on the psychological impact of solitary confinement, as well as written submissions from women with lived experience in solitary confinement. Sheriff staff provided some comments on Santa Cruz County's practices.</p> <p>The Sheriff's Office has interventions in place to minimize Administrative Separation (formerly solitary confinement).</p>

Corresponding County Work

Segregation and solitary confinement were removed from Title 15 of California Code of Regulations and have been replaced with "Administrative Separation." Title 15 establishes minimum standards for local detention facilities.

The Sheriff's Office can present to the Commission on the process to ensure incarcerated people are in the least restrictive environment possible. A high level summary of these interventions include regular review by Sheriff staff of the status, progress, and next steps to bring the individuals in administrative separation into a less restrictive environment. Multi-disciplinary staff conduct three rounds per week to review health, mental health, and other criteria. Every morning, mental health and medical health report on the people placed in separation the night before.

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
Increase access to individual and/or group therapy as requested by women in custody.	<p>Psychiatric mental health is provided by NaphCare and significant psycho-educational group support is available through In-Custody Programs.</p> <p>The Return Project provides therapy and mental health services for AB109 eligible probation clients while incarcerated and in the community.</p>

Corresponding County Work

Psycho-educational programming, also known as psychological education or behavioral education, is provided in place of traditional therapy. This substitution reflects the short average time women are in custody (approximately 35 days). Programming is structured using a trauma-informed framework and focuses on skill development, stabilization, and present-focused strategies. Content includes mental health education, coping skills, and behavioral strategies related to navigating daily

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life while in custody, and to release planning. Community-based organizations provide services to facilitate referral to community resources following re-entry.

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
<p>Develop permanent supportive housing specifically for women, including women with children to reduce cycles of homelessness and incarceration.</p>	<p>2026 will see the opening of the following affordable housing locations (about 322 units):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvey West Studios (bathroom and kitchen), with 120 units. • Pacific Station North, a 125-unit building with different sized units from studios to three-room apartments. • Park Haven Plaza will have 36 units, including units for youth exiting foster, care, families and veterans. • Veterans' Village will have 20 units and one manager unit. • There will also be a 21-unit transitional age youth (18-25 years old) transitional housing project opening early in 2026. <p>Prioritized populations include families with children who have experienced homelessness, Veterans, and youth exiting foster care.</p> <p>In 2024, the fourth cohort for Proposition 47 funding was awarded to Santa Cruz County's Health Services Agency. Titled RENEWPath (Reentry, Engagement, New beginnings, Empowerment, Wellness), the program will provide transitional supportive housing (following the recovery residence model) and care coordination for both men and women. The program will launch in December 2025.</p>
Corresponding County Work	
<p>Human Services, Housing for Health Division reports that Medi-Cal recipients with serious behavioral health conditions experiencing or at-risk of homelessness may be eligible for a transitional rent benefit beginning in January 2026. The benefit is only</p>	

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available to those in the eligible population that will have a stable living situation at the end of the maximum six-month rent period. The County is in negotiations with Kaiser and the Central California Alliance for Health to manage this benefit.

RENEWPath, managed by Health Services, Behavioral Health, will connect incarcerated individuals to temporary supportive housing and enhanced care management (ECM). County Substance Use Disorder (SUD) team conducts the in-custody American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) assessment and will connect individuals to RENEWPath. JANUS provides a connector team, which is the same connector team that works with the CAFES program through the Probation Department. Materials will also be sent to people in custody, who will be able to self-refer.

Challenges & Risks Related to this Recommendation and Corresponding Work

Housing cannot be restricted according to gender because of state and federal laws against discrimination.

The federal administration could be cutting Housing & Urban Development (HUD) programs. 250 homeless households and 550 people around Santa Cruz County could lose emergency housing vouchers (EHVs) by December 2026. This population will be prioritized for any new turnover units or vouchers that become available. As a result, very few new households will have an opportunity to secure Housing Authority subsidized housing opportunities.

Santa Cruz receives approximately \$7.7 million per year in Continuum of Care (CoC) for permanent housing and other services to address homelessness. \$6.8 million supports permanent housing programs. This funding could be reduced to 30% or \$2.04 million and the program would need to be reviewed accordingly.

2022 Recommendation	2025 Status
Encourage the Sheriff's Office to establish an outside reporting mechanism, separate from Monarch Services, for Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) related concerns. According to a report by Just Detention International, "The outside entity is not tasked with providing emotional support or crisis intervention..." Monarch Services provides emotional support an crisis intervention in the Santa Cruz County jail, an outside reporting mechanism is different. "It is important not to conflate the roles of a reporting line and a counseling support" (Five Years of	<p>The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) was established in 2023. The first annual report was published in October 2024. Incarcerated people in Santa Cruz County facilities can reach the OIG directly through their tablets.</p> <p>The grievance systems allow for anonymous complaints to be filed through hard copy. Third parties can also file claims.</p> <p>The OIG is a third-party contractor hired to investigate community complaints; to review Internal Affairs investigations,</p>

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the National PREA Standards, May 2017, Just Detention International, p. 2).	Officer-involved shootings, and in-custody deaths, among other issues; to conduct independent investigations; to audit and make recommendations to policies, procedures and trainings, to meet with the County Executive Officer or delegate, and to help develop and participate in community outreach.
Additional Comments from the Families, Youth, & Prevention subcommittee	
Commission concerns include reporting mechanisms, including reporting to the Sheriff's Office and utilizing Monarch as the reporting entity.	
The Sheriff's Office currently holds a contract with Monarch Services to receive PREA reports via tablets issued to incarcerated people. Incarcerated people can also request PREA support and advocacy from Monarch Services. The Commission has recommended separate providers for the counseling and reporting services.	
Other Information on PREA Reporting:	
The OIG is conducting a review of all PREA complaints filed in 2025 for their 2026 annual report. The OIG can also present to the commission on their function and findings.	
VIA LINK is a specialized third-party vendor that markets external PREA hotline services to Sheriffs and correctional facilities. The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) offers a service to build a confidential reporting platform or hotline, although their services are more support-oriented than reporting-oriented.	

The Commission's other accomplishments include:

- Continued to raise money annually to put on the books of incarcerated women for holiday and Mother's Day cards.
- Women with lived experience were compensated for their expert contributions to commission and subcommittee meetings.
- Continued to distribute Safe Release Cards: In response to the JAG recommendation to reduce risk of sexual assault upon release from jail, a system was developed with partners including Monarch Services, jail staff, and the District Attorney's office to offer women a safe place to go upon release from jail. Each woman in custody in Santa Cruz County now receives a 2-sided Safe Release Card in English and Spanish from jail staff before they are released from custody. These cards include the crisis and support phone number for Monarch Services as well as information about their available services. The District Attorney's office helps reprint and distribute cards, the jail staff helps implement and communicate this available resource, and Monarch Services provides

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someone to escort released women to a motel and offers additional services that help meet individual needs.

The total number of women served as well as the total number of bed nights provided in 2024 and 2025 because of this program are shown in Table 2.

Table 2.

DATE RANGE	NO. WOMEN	NO. NIGHTS
February-March 2024	4	6
April- May 2024	7	22
June-July 2024	9	17
August-October 2024	9	14
Oct-2024	7	8
November-December 2024	9	11
Jan-March 2025	16	24
April-May 2025	10	13
June-July 2025	10	24
August-October 2025	20	44
TOTALS:	101	183

“No matter how many times you fall, I had support to get a new start, a new chance. I’m making positive choices. I am out of the system, no probation, working on expunging my charges and feel free.”

8. Commission Subcommittees

Commissioners initially chose to establish subcommittees among appointed commissioners. After the first year, each committee decided to invite members of the public who attend Commission meetings, who work for entities providing services directly to population the Commission aims to serve, and who are interested in participating in subcommittees to join the meetings. The rosters for the three subcommittees formally established in 2025 are included in Attachment B.

During the reporting period, the subcommittees engaged in the following actions:

- Planned Commission meetings and topics, including the importance of contact visits with family members, the effects of solitary confinement, and Cal-AIM.

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- Notified members of services and support through programs such as Rising Scholars (Cabrillo College) available to residents at Rountree and began providing services to women at Blaine Street; reported on the number of women at Blaine Street and the Main Jail, and the total population of men at Rountree
- Reported on how many women are participating in WRRP.
- Monitored access to contact visits and how often they occurred.
- Monitored relevant legislation, such as Propositions 36 and 47, funding sources, such as opioid settlement funding distribution, and related programs such as CAFES.
- Studied impacts of limited supportive housing available for women released from incarceration.
- Discussed the impact on a child who witnesses the arrest of a parent.

Challenges facing Santa Cruz County include:

- Absence of infrastructure for consolidated, confidential, and effective data-sharing between County agencies serving the same people with Medi-Cal/Cal-AIM, though a database project is in process.
- Splintering between similar community-based organizations with the same mission leads to competition for funds and increased administrative inefficiency, minimizing impact.
- No regional support hub providing administrative support for Cal-AIM billing for nonprofits that are signing people up for Cal-AIM. Non-profits are not supported in navigating highly technical processes.
- Not enough sober beds for women in Encompass program, and with funding impacts, it is uncertain if the existing beds can be sustained.
- Housing is the biggest issue when people are released.
- The cost of living in Santa Cruz County is a barrier for recruiting and retaining staff that can provide supportive services for community partners.
- Decreased funding from the federal and/or state government in the coming years.

9. Future Goals and Recommendations:

- Request a presentation from the Sheriff's Office on current reporting and tracking functions for participation in contact visits, including but not limited to, what information is shared with the incarcerated population, when it is shared, and how frequently information is made available.

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- Develop a process for reporting contact visit data and in accordance with best practices, hire an outside entity to survey and report on contact visit barriers and areas of improvement.
- Hire a neutral third party to survey women across all sectors of the justice system to identify what has helped, what hasn't helped, and what the Commission should work on in the next reporting period.
- Examine how every organization and agency with which justice-involved women come into contact can provide housing or shelter connection or support and develop recommendations to standardize providing this service.
- Request the Sheriff-Coroner report on the interventions to minimize the use of Administrative Separation, or solitary confinement. Solitary confinement, whether someone is there for voluntarily for safety concerns or as disciplinary action, is psychologically harmful to incarcerated women. Shared lived experience includes a lack of privacy for toileting, limited access to showers and hygiene, only one hour a day outside of their cell, and trauma from sustained isolation.

The commission is developing a workplan for next reporting period. Recommendations made above may be repeated or expanded upon in the workplan.

This report was prepared by County staff and approved by the Commission on Justice and Gender on February 12, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leeann Luna

Date

Co-Chair, Commission on Justice & Gender

Jesse Silva

Date

Co-Chair, Commission on Justice & Gender

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Attachment A: JAG Commission Membership as of November 2025

Representative	Name
Sheriff-Coroner or their designee	Kristie Clemens
District Attorney or their designee	Tara George
One judge or their designee, to be chosen by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of County of Santa Cruz	Sasha Morgan
Chief Probation Officer or their designee	Sarah Fletcher
Public Defender or their designee	Hannah Taylor
Superintendent of the County Office of Education or their designee	Rebecca Garcia
Director of the Health Services Agency or their designee	Jen Herrera
Director of the Human Services Department or their designee	Gloria Carroll
Community and At-large Representatives	
Monarch Services	Leeann Luna
Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center	Lynn Boule
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Santa Cruz County	Lynne Petrovic
An organization representing the target population, as determined by the Commission - Housing Matters	Evyn Robles
A survivor of gender-based violence	Jesse Silva
A representative of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ+) community	Shelby Mason
A representative of the Latinx community	Celeste Gutierrez
Rep of Black or African American community	Sheryl Norteye
A woman who has experienced incarceration	Sarah Kocjan

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Attachment B: Subcommittee Rosters as of February 2025

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Release & Reentry
Esmerelda Torres
Hannah Taylor
Jesse Silva
Kristie Clemens
Sarah Fletcher
Sarah Kocjan
Savannah Hayes Desai
Stacey Palau
Tara George
Families, Youth & Prevention
Celeste Gutierrez
Emma Ledvina
Gloria Carroll
Lynne Petrovic
Rebecca Garcia
Sarah Kocjan
Sarah Marschall
Savannah Hayes Desai
Susan Nilsson
Housing & Healthcare
Amber Williams
Brenda Campbell
Evyn Robles
Janna Rivas
Jen Herrera
Leeann Luna
Sarah Kocjan
Sheryl Norteye

Santa Cruz County
Commission on Justice & Gender
2023-2025 Biennial Report

ATTACHMENT C: Attendance Report

2023 Attendance		Mar 3/9/23	May 5/18/23	Aug 8/24/23	Nov 11/16/23
Representative	Name				
Sheriff-Coroner or designee; or a chief of a policy agency, or that police chief's designee as designated by the Law Enforcement Chiefs Association of the County	Kristie Clemens	P	P	A	P
District Attorney or their designee	Tara George	P	P	P	A
One judge or their designee, to be chosen by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of County of Santa Cruz	Sasha Morgan	Not noted in minutes	Not noted in minutes	Not noted in minutes	Not noted in minutes
Chief Probation Officer or their designee	Sarah Fletcher	Not noted in minutes	P	A	P
Public Defender or their designee	Sarah Schumacher	A	P	A	P
Superintendent of the County Office of Education or their designee	Rebecca Garcia	vacant	P	P	P
Director of Health Services Agency or their designee	Jennifer Herrera	ALT	A	P	A
Director of the Human Services Department or their designee	Amanda Geipe	ALT	P	P	A
Community and At-Large members					
Monarch Services	Leeann Luna	A	P	P	A
Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center	Julie Macecevic	Not noted in minutes	P	A	P
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Santa Cruz County	Lynne Petrovic	A	P	P	P
An organization representing the target population, as determined by the Commission – Housing Matters	Evyn Robles	P	P	P	P
A survivor of gender-based violence	Theresa Cariño	P	A	Not noted in minutes	A
A representative of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ+) community	Ashlyn Adams	A	A	Not noted in minutes	A
A representative of the Latinx Community	Celeste Gutierrez	P	P	P	P
A representative of Black or African American community	Sheryl Norteye	P	P	P	A
A woman who has experienced incarceration	Sarah Kocjan	P	P	P	P
Key: P – Present, A- Absent, Alt - Alternate					



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Commission on Justice & Gender
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2024 Attendance		Feb 2/15/24	May 5/9/24	Aug 8/15/24	Nov 11/21/24
Representative	Name				
Sheriff-Coroner or designee; or a chief of a policy agency, or that police chief's designee as designated by the Law Enforcement Chiefs Association of the County	Kristie Clemens	P	P	P	P
District Attorney or their designee	Tara George	P	A	P	ALT
One judge or their designee, to be chosen by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of County of Santa Cruz	Sasha Morgan	Not noted in minutes	P	Not noted in minutes	P
Chief Probation Officer or their designee	Sarah Fletcher	P	P	P	P
Public Defender or their designee	Sarah Schumacher/ Hannah Taylor	A	A	P	P
Superintendent of the County Office of Education or their designee	Rebecca Garcia	P	P	P	P
Director of Health Services Agency or their designee	Jennifer Herrera	A	P	A	ALT
Director of the Human Services Department or their designee	Amanda Geipe/Gloria Carroll	A	A	A	Not noted in minutes
Community and At-Large members					
Monarch Services	Leeann Luna	P	P	ALT	Not noted in minutes
Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center	Julie Macecevic/M' Randa Bounds	P	P	Not noted in minutes	P
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Santa Cruz County	Lynne Petrovic	P	P	P	P
An organization representing the target population, as determined by the Commission – Housing Matters	Evyn Robles	P	P	P	A
A survivor of gender-based violence	Theresa Cariño/Jesse Silva	A	P	A	P
A representative of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ+) community	Shelby Mason	P	P	P	P
A representative of the Latinx community	Celeste Gutierrez	P	P	P	P
Representative of Black or African American community	Sheryl Norteye	P	P	A	P
A woman who has experienced incarceration	Sarah Kocjan	P	P	P	P
Key: P – Present, A- Absent, Alt - Alternate					

Santa Cruz County
Commission on Justice & Gender
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2025 Attendance		Feb 2/20/25	May 5/8/25	Aug 8/21/25	Nov 11/20/25
Representative	Name				
Sheriff-Coroner or designee; or a chief of a policy agency, or that police chief's designee as designated by the Law Enforcement Chiefs Association of the County	Kristie Clemens	Not noted in minutes	P	P	P
District Attorney or their designee	Tara George	P	P	P	P
One judge or their designee, to be chosen by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of County of Santa Cruz	Sasha Morgan	P	P	Alt	P
Chief Probation Officer or their designee	Sarah Fletcher	P	P	P	P
Public Defender or their designee	Hannah Taylor	P	ALT	P	P
Superintendent of the County Office of Education or their designee	Rebecca Garcia	P	P	P	P
Director of Health Services Agency or their designee	Jennifer Herrera	P	ALT	P	ALT
Director of the Human Services Department or their designee	Gloria Carroll	A	A	P	A
Community and At-Large members					
Monarch Services	Leeann Luna	P	P	P	P
Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center	M'randa Bounds/Lynne Boule	A	A	P	P
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Santa Cruz County	Lynne Petrovic	P	P	P	P
An organization representing the target population, as determined by the Commission – Housing Matters	Evyn Robles	P	P	P	P
A survivor of gender-based violence	Jesse Silva	P	P	P	P
A representative of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ+) community	Shelby Mason	A	P	P	P
A representative of the Latinx community	Celeste Gutierrez	A	A	P	P
Representative of Black or African American Community	Sheryl Norteye	P	P	P	P
A woman who has experienced incarceration	Sarah Kocjan	P	P	P	P
Key: P – Present, A – Absent, Alt – Alternate					

ATTACHMENT D

	Women's Blaine Street Class Schedule November 2025					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Classroom 2	Classroom 2	Classroom 2	Classroom 2	Classroom 2	Classroom 2	Classroom 2
	10:00-11:30 Power in Poetry	10:00-11:30 WRRP: Heartmath	9:00-9:30 Monarch Services	10:00 - 11:30 Anger Management	10:00-11:30 UC Master Gardeners Horticulture Program	10:00-11:00 AA Weekly Meetings Open Enrollment
			10:00-11:00 Outreach Services			
	12:00 LUNCH		12:00 LUNCH		12:00 LUNCH	
	1:00-2:30 WRRP: Seeking Safety	1:00-2:30 WRRP: Healing Trauma	1:00-2:30 WRRP: Substance Use Disorder	1:00-2:30 Knitting/Crocheting	1:00-2:30 Culinary Arts for Adults (11/14/25-1/16/25)	1:00-2:30 Peace Education Project
3:00-4:30 Women of Grace (2nd & 4th Sunday) See Schedule Below	3:00-4:30 People and Stories Library Services	3:00-4:30 COE HS Diploma	2:30-3:30 WRRP: Getting Motivated to Change	3:00-4:30 WRRP: DBT	3:00-4:30 Healthy Relationships	
			3:30-4:15 Cabrillo Rising Scholars			
	5:00 DINNER		5:00 DINNER		5:00 DINNER	
6:30-7:30 Mindfulness/ Mindful Movement	6:00-7:00 AA Step Workshop (4th Monday) See Schedule Below	5:45-7:45 Cabrillo College Success in the Workplace (See Schedule Below)	6:00-7:00 Prophets of Hope (1st & 3rd Wednesday) See Schedule Below	7:30-8:30 NA Weekly Meetings Open Enrollment	5:45-7:45 Cabrillo College Success in the Workplace (See Schedule Below)	6:30-8:00 Yoga for All Restorative Yoga
NO CLASSES Tuesday Nov. 11th - Veterans Day, Nov. 27th & 28th - Thanksgiving Holiday						
Facilitated Weekly - Managed and Open Enrollment Periodic Prgrams - Open Enrollment 11/4, 11/7, 11/14, 11/18, 11/21, 11/25 Cabrillo College Success in the Workplace 11/9, 11/23 Women of Grace Religious Services 11/5, 11/19 Prophets of Hope Religious Services 11/24 AA 4th Step Workshop			Outreach Services - Open Enrollment 11/5 Janus of Santa Cruz Presentation 11/5 Cabrillo College Rising Scholars Presentation 11/12 Monarch Services Announcements 11/12 A Window Between Worlds Art Class 11/19 Homeless Garden Project 11/26 Goodwill Presentation		Monarch DV & Sexual Assault Services Wednesdays and Fridays - Schedule TBD Spiritual Support - CIC Ministries Tuesdays/Thursdays Liz Milner or Angel Hernandez	

Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau In-Custody Programs Inventory



The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office offers programming for incarcerated persons (IPs) across our four facilities:

- **Main Jail:** Maximum security for men and women.
- **Rountree:** Medium security for men.
- **Blaine Street:** Medium security program facility for women.
- **Rehabilitation and Reentry Facility:** Medium/minimum security program facility for men.

Types of Programs

Classes are organized into three categories: **Programs**, **Activities**, and **Services** with specific curricula outlined for each.

- **Programs:** Skills-based curriculum, including cognitive behavioral treatment, education, employment development, life skills, mental health, parenting, and substance use disorder support.
- **Activities:** Enrichment options like arts, mindfulness, recreation, and yoga.
- **Services:** Community resources such as benefits enrollment, health services, legal aid, 12-step programs, library services, re-entry planning, spiritual support, veteran services, and voting resources.

Program Overview

Total Offerings: There are currently 50 programs, services, and activities across all facilities, categorized as:

24 Programs, 6 Activities, 20 Services

- **Class Frequency:** Approximately 75 classes are offered across the facilities, with most scheduled on a weekly basis. Some classes are offered monthly or quarterly, with many programs available in multiple facilities and offered in both English and Spanish.
- **Service Providers:** Over 35 providers, including community-based organizations, educational institutions, and religious groups, support these offerings across the four facilities. Around 150 volunteers and program staff deliver these services annually.
- **Community Integration:** Many in-custody programs are also accessible to IPs in the community post release, ensuring continuity of care.

Oversight and Coordination

The **In-Custody Programs** unit within the Division of Reentry (DOR) oversees all programming, services, and activities in the Corrections Bureau. DOR staff, including Correctional Officers and Program Coordinators, assess IPs' needs, match them with appropriate programming, and facilitate transfers to less restrictive settings as needed. The team manages the scheduling, support, facilitation, and evaluation of these offerings across all facilities.

Programs, Activities and Services Inventory

PROGRAMS	
ANGER MANAGEMENT	<p>Providers: Volunteer Center – Friends Outside Facility: Main Jail, Rountree and R&R Post release services available Funding: AB 109</p> <p>The Anger Management 12 -week class is a structured to help individuals recognize, understand, and manage their anger in healthy ways. Weekly sessions focus on different aspects of anger and emotional regulation. Throughout the course, participants engage in discussions, role-playing and exercises to practice and reinforce the skills learned. The goal is to develop healthier responses to anger triggers and to improve overall emotional well-being.</p>
BUILDING TRADES PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM	<p>Provider: County Office of Education (COE) Facility: R&R Post release services available Funding: COE</p> <p>The Building Trades program utilizes the North America's Building Trades Union's nationally recognized and certificated Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) to provide students with an introduction and a pathway into the building trades industry. This intensive 10-week program includes 4.5 hours of instruction 3 days a week. The MC3 is used in conjunction with several hands-on labs, in addition to instruction on soft-skills and resume building, to provide students the knowledge and experience needed to enter the workforce as an entry level apprentice with a local union or merit contractor. Students earn their MC3 and OSHA 10 Construction Safety and CPR/First Aid certifications if exams are passed.</p>
COMPUTER LITERACY: DIGITAL MEDIA DESIGN WORKSHOP	<p>Provider: UCSC Everett Program - Gateways Facility: Blaine and R&R Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>Participants learn computer and media skills, as well as strengthen their leadership, practical, and collaborative skills. Classes cover design elements, Canva, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, WordPress, and HTML. Each topic includes a small project, such as an infographic, a personal website, a collage, and a resume. Participants assemble projects into a personalized portfolio.</p>
COURAGE TO CHANGE	<p>Provider: Volunteer Center - Friends Outside (English/Spanish) Facility: All facilities Post release services available Funding: AB 109</p> <p>This Interactive Journaling course using <i>The Change Company</i> curriculum is designed to guide each participant at their own pace to find their motivation and move toward positive behavior change. In this 12-week course, participants engage in activities which promote positive self-talk, a more confident view of themselves and establish self-regulation skills They gain strategies that produce stronger decision-making and problem-solving skills. Participants explore their own unique reasoning behind <i>Why</i> they want to change and <i>How</i> they will make changes.</p>

<p>CULINARY ARTS FOR ADULTS</p>	<p>Provider: County Office of Education (COE) Facility: Blaine Post release services available Funding: AB 109, COE</p> <p>This 8-week cohort introduces foundational culinary skills, meal preparation on a budget, and nutritional literacy, emphasizing California Career Technical Education (CTE) standards for hospitality, tourism, and recreation pathways. Students will also prepare for and work toward earning a ServSafe Food Handler Certification.</p>
<p>DIALECTICAL BEHAVIORAL THERAPY (DBT)</p>	<p>Provider: Janus of Santa Cruz Facility: Blaine Post release services available Funding: BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>DBT is a modified type of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). Its main goal is to teach people how to live in the moment, develop healthy ways to cope with stress, regulate their emotions, and improve relationships with others. Participants develop skills in mindfulness, distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness, and emotional regulation. DBT is effective in treating symptoms of substance use disorder and PTSD.</p>
<p>EMPLOYMENT SERVICES Cabrillo College</p>	<p>Provider: Cabrillo College Facility: Blaine and R&R Post release services available Funding: Cabrillo College - Rising Scholars</p> <p>Cabrillo College offers three non-credit skill development classes. These classes are DMCP 401 Foundations of Teams - focusing on developing effective strategies needed for academic success, DMCP 404 Success in the Workplace - focusing on developing skills necessary for success in a professional workplace environment and DMCP 405 Creating Career Satisfaction and Success - focusing on the role of personal accountability and goal setting to ensure workplace satisfaction. All courses will address the importance of relationship and communication skills in the classroom, workplace, and beyond. Cabrillo offers in-custody Student Services as well as enrollment assistance for continued college education when released.</p>
<p>EMPLOYMENT SERVICES Goodwill Industries</p>	<p>Provider: Goodwill Industries Facility: Blaine and R&R Post release services available Funding: AB 109</p> <p>Pathways is a client-centered workshop that focuses on highlighting skills and work experience gained before or during incarceration, enabling individuals to address work history gaps, and allowing self-advocacy during the interview process. The program curriculum provides assessments and identification of interests, identifying strengths and transferable skills, cognitive behavior techniques to develop a strong work ethic and confidence, effective resume writing, job interview skills, preparing for job search, and job retention. These skills allow individuals to manage workplace challenges thus increasing their job retention. Completing Pathways will prepare individuals for successful job placement opportunities upon release.</p>

<p>ENNEAGRAM PRISON PROJECT</p>	<p>Provider: Enneagram Prison Project (EPP) Facility: Blaine, R&R Post release services available Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>The Enneagram is a psychological system that provides a very specific “map” to recognize the cognitive, emotional, and behavioral habits that people have unconsciously used to survive, since childhood. EPP is an intensive 8-week program with 3 hours of instruction weekly that provides a compassionate explanation of the ways in which these predictable strategies develop and are acted out in healthy or self-sabotaging ways. Students will understand and identify the why behind their behaviors and develop tools for self-awareness, self-compassion, and self-regulation.</p>
<p>GETTING MOTIVATED TO CHANGE</p>	<p>Provider: Volunteer Center – Friends Outside Facility: Blaine Post release services available Funding: BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>Participants are introduced to strategies for strengthening their commitment to change by exploring aspects of motivation and decision-making processes. Structured exercises support participants to identify personal goals and values and build internal motivation for making positive life changes.</p>
<p>HEALING TRAUMA</p>	<p>Provider: Volunteer Center - Friends Outside Facility: Blaine Post release services available Funding: BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>This gender-responsive curriculum seeks to empower women and increase their sense of self. The group focuses on emotional development, supporting women to identify their strengths and increase the skills they need to heal from traumatic events they’ve experienced. It is facilitated through cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), expressive arts, body focused exercises, mindfulness, and relational therapy. Participants go through a process of understanding what has happened to them and explore how abuse has affected them. They also learn coping mechanisms to help them feel grounded, safe, and more confident in their lives.</p>
<p>HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS</p>	<p>Providers: Walnut Avenue Family & Women’s Center Facilities: Blaine Post release services available Funding: BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>Healthy Relationships class highlights core values and skills for safer, healthier relationships and discusses what these subjects would look like in practice with partners, relatives, friends, and children. Participants will have the opportunity to explore power dynamics, healthy vs unhealthy vs abusive relationships, the definition of domestic violence, communication styles and practice, consent, sexual and otherwise, healthy anger and expression, defining, setting and communicating boundaries, accountability, building relationships with dependents and managing the power dynamic safely, red and green flags in interpersonal relationships, values that lead to abusive behaviors and perspectives and values that lead to relationships build on equity, trust and shared power.</p>

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENCY CERTIFICATE	Providers: County Office of Education Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: AB 109 <p>Instruction in language arts, math, social studies, and science to prepare students to earn their high school diploma or take the high school equivalency exams.</p>
HORTICULTURE	Provider: University of California/ Master Gardeners of Monterrey and SC Counties Facility: Blaine Funding: IWF, Volunteer <p>The horticulture program educates incarcerated participants on all aspects of gardening while also supporting the care and maintenance of the beautiful garden at the Blaine Street facility.</p>
IN2WORK	Providers: Aramark Facilities: R&R Post release services available Funding: Aramark <p>In2Work is an eight-week program designed to teach students job-ready food service skills while working in the kitchen facility during their incarceration. Students participate in a weekly classroom course, as well as work in the kitchen facility three days a week. Graduates of In2Work earn a nationally recognized accreditation and certification upon completion of the program and can request job search support directly from Aramark once released.</p>
MENtors FATHERHOOD PROGRAM	Provider: Mentors Program Facilities: R&R Post release services available Funding: AB 109 <p>The MENtors program supports father involvement and serves boys, young men, men, and fathers to develop and nurture healthy social and emotional qualities for a productive adulthood. Group sessions support men in their journey through manhood and couples' relationships by developing healthy masculinity, supporting father involvement and co-parenting for the well-being of children.</p>
ORIENTATION TO PROGRAM FACILITIES	Provider: Division of Reentry (DOR) (English/Spanish) Facility: Blaine and R&R Funding: SCCSO <p>Program Coordinators meet with IPs prior to or immediately following transfer to all Programs Facilities to orient IPs to the expectations and structure of Programs Facilities. IPs receive information about programming that is offered, get inspired, and enroll in classes.</p>
PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAM	Provider: Prem Rawat Foundation Volunteers (English/Spanish), Project Daraja Facilities: All Funding: Volunteer <p>An educational program to help participants explore the possibility of personal peace and discover tools for living such as inner strength, choice, appreciation and hope.</p>

<p>PEOPLE AND STORIES</p>	<p>Provider: Santa Cruz Public Libraries Facilities: Blaine, Rountree and R&R Post release services available Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>People and Stories, a literature reading and discussion program, encourages participants to encounter literature through the lens of their own life experiences, revealing an inherent ability to tackle difficult themes, issues, and texts often reserved for the college classroom.</p>
<p>PROJECT FOR INMATE EDUCATION (PIE)</p>	<p>Provider: UCSC Astronomy Department Facility: Main Jail Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>A semester of college level pre-algebra, algebra, or physics for course credit.</p>
<p>PROCESS GROUP Women's Recovery & Reentry Program (WRRP)</p>	<p>Provider: Volunteer Center – Friends Outside Facility: Blaine Post release services available Funding: BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>Participants in WRRP meet weekly to share their experiences including challenges and accomplishments. The WRRP Case Manager provides therapeutic interventions related to issues brought up in group. The power of the process group lies in the unique opportunity to receive support, encouragement, and feedback from others participating in the program in a safe and confidential environment.</p>
<p>SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) Finding Your Best Self A Woman's Addiction Workbook</p>	<p>Provider: Volunteer Center – Friends Outside Facility: Blaine Post release services available Funding: BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>Finding Your Best Self and A Woman's Addiction curriculum use a gender-specific approach that offers step-by step approach to recovery from addiction, trauma, or both. This group addresses underlying thinking and feelings that contribute to substance abuse and increases awareness of the patterns of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that have led to addiction and relapse in the past. Participants prepare for treatment post release by building motivation for lifestyle changes. Each week the course introduces practical tools for women to learn to: Build coping skills so that the future is better than the past; Keep themselves safe and find support; Set their own goals and plan to achieve them at their own pace; Choose compassion over self-blame and shame and move towards their best self- the person they want to be.</p>
<p>SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) SUD GROUP SEEKING SAFETY</p>	<p>Provider: Encompass Community Services & Volunteer Center – Friends Outside Facility: All facilities Post release services available Funding: AB 109 & BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>Seeking Safety (SS) is an evidence-based cognitive-behavioral curriculum for post-traumatic disorder (PTSD) and/or substance use disorder (SUD). The SS curriculum includes 25 topics focused on present-focused coping skills and topics focus on five principles: (1) safety as the overarching goal (relations, thinking, behavior, and emotions), (2) integrated treatment if a person has both PTSD and SUD, (3) focus on ideals to counter loss of ideals—strengths based, (4) four content areas: cognitive, behavioral, interpersonal, case management, and (5) attention to clinician processes and responses. Groups will include evidence-based grounding exercises, check-ins, educational elements, dialogue, and commitments for the following week.</p>

<p>WOMEN'S REHABILITATION & REENTRY PROGRAM (WRRP)</p>	<p>Provider: SCCSO, Friends Outside, New Life Gemma House and Janus of Santa Cruz Facilities: Blaine Street Post release services available Funding: BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>Women at Blaine Street have an opportunity to participate in the gender specific WRRP which includes both in-custody and aftercare support. The in-custody portion of the program focuses on stabilization. Participants attend core curriculum classes: HeartMath, substance use treatment, healing trauma and dialectical behavioral therapy, a peer support process group, as well as other classes they choose. In addition, they receive weekly comprehensive case management to create a Relapse Prevention Plan and an individualized Treatment and Reentry Plan (TRP) to manage issues that arise while incarcerated and prepare for release to community. Post release women have two options. They can transition to the New Life/Gemma House where they live in a sober, safe, stable, and supportive environment for 12 to 18 months to establish a solid foundation for themselves prior to living on their own. Or, if residential SUD treatment or other housing options are required, women can receive 12 months of wrap around case management support with Friends Outside while completing programs and progressing on their TRP goals. This program is designed to serve women, where they are at, with what they need to improve safety, functioning and quality of life.</p>
<p>ACTIVITIES</p>	
<p>A WINDOW BETWEEN WORLDS</p>	<p>Provider: Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center Facilities: Blaine Post release services available Funding: BSCC- RSAT Grant</p> <p>A transformative healing arts program for trauma survivors of all ages. The hands-on creation of art has been shown to reduce distress, increase self-reflection and self-awareness, alter behavior and thinking patterns, have positive physical effects and build resilience – all of which play a key role in life transformation. Women are guided through creating various art projects in a safe environment which can empower the healing process.</p>
<p>INSIGHT MEDITATION</p>	<p>Provider: Boundless Freedom Project Facilities: R&R Post release services available Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>Groups assist participants to build present time awareness, increase overall mindfulness including mind-body awareness, emotional management, coping skills, stress reduction.</p>
<p>KNITTING AND CROCHETING</p>	<p>Provider: Knitting Guild of Santa Cruz County Facility: Blaine Post release services available Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>Participants develop knitting and crocheting skills with donated yarn. The therapeutic effects of knitting range from reduced stress to better cognitive functioning, self-confidence, and the ability to focus on the present moment as well as community building. Participants make hats, scarves and blankets to donate to community organizations supporting various causes.</p>

POWER IN POETRY	Provider: William James Association - Poetry Project Facility: All facilities Post release services available Funding: Volunteer <p>Through poetry, students find their voice to tell their story. Students study the craft of modern English and Spanish language poets and uncover the images that bring experiences and dreams to life. Students write original works using prompts and their own experiences. Students receive copies of their work, or their work is included in the bi-annual anthology.</p>
WILLIAM JAMES ASSOCIATION JAIL ARTS PROJECT	Provider: William James Association Facilities: All facilities Funding: Volunteer <p>Local professional artists provide in-depth art experiences for incarcerated individuals as they create their own mixed media pieces, learn to play guitar or engage in other art experiences.</p>
YOGA & MINDFULNESS	Provider: Yoga for All Movement Facilities: Blaine, Rountree and R&R Post release services available Funding: BSCC-RSAT Grant, IWF, Volunteer <p>Yoga and mindfulness are a practice of developing moment-by-moment awareness of one's thoughts, feelings, body sensations, and environment. These classes offer a trauma-sensitive approach to stretching and meditation. Stretching sequences are combined with breath to create flexibility, strength, concentration, body-centered awareness and best of all, relaxation.</p>
SERVICES	
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS CHAPLAINCY (CIC MINISTRIES)	Provider: CIC Ministries (English/Spanish) Facilities: All facilities Funding: Sheriff's Office <p>CIC Ministries provides oversight and support for religious programming in custody to facilitate and ensure that the IP's constitutional right to worship is honored. Chaplains provided individual spiritual consultation to IPs as needed for check in, grief counselling, etc. Chaplains approve religious diets and accommodations and distribute religious materials of various faiths upon request.</p>
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES	Provider: Family and Children Services (English/Spanish) Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: HSD Staff <p>Social workers inform participants about the rights and obligations to pay child support. Participants can get assistance to establish paternity, calculate child support, determine eligibility to have child support reduced or eliminated due to incarceration and complete and file court documents.</p>
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES	Provider: Goodwill Industries Facility: Blaine and R&R Post release services available Funding: AB 109 <p>This workshop is an introduction to Goodwill Industries employment services. Information is provided on their 3 core programs, Opportunity Platform, Digital Literacy, and Pathways to Employment as well as the support available at the Career Service Centers. Participants are led through a resume building activity to identify their strengths and skills to include in a resume and complete a resume template.</p>

HIV/HCV TESTING	<p>Provider: Jail Medical Facilities: All facilities Funding: Jail Medical Contract</p> <p>IPs who have exhibited symptoms or those who are concerned they have been exposed to a blood-born illness may request confidential testing services.</p>
HOMELESS GARDEN PROJECT	<p>Provider: Homeless Garden Project (HGP) Facilities: Blaine and R&R Post release services available Funding: Homeless Garden Project</p> <p>HGP provides job training, transitional employment, and support services to individuals in Santa Cruz who are experiencing homelessness. HGP outreach services provide IPs with information on the programs offered in the community and support for IPs to engage post release.</p>
HOW TO SUCCEED ON PROBATION	<p>Provider: Santa Cruz County Probation Department (English/Spanish) Facilities: All facilities Post release services available with Probation Funding: Probation</p> <p>Valuable information on the Probation Officers role, probation forms and the expectations of community supervision is provided by a Probation Officer. This provides an opportunity for participants to understand how to succeed upon release.</p>
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES	<p>Provider: Legal Research Associates Facilities: All facilities Funding: IWF</p> <p>Provides legal research assistance to IPs. Participants may request information concerning their case or other legal issues. The requests are immediately forwarded to Legal Research Associates who copy or download the information and return it via courier directly to the IP.</p>
LIBRARY SERVICES	<p>Provider: Santa Cruz Public Libraries (SCPL) (English/Spanish) Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: SCPL, Volunteer</p> <p>Santa Cruz Public Libraries comes to each facility at least once per month to interact with IPs and distribute library books. IPs receive a library card and can check out books at each visit. Participants may request books via tablet and the SCPL will deliver them. Books are available in English, Spanish and large print.</p>
MEDI-CAL ENROLLMENT	<p>Provider: Jail Program Coordinators Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: CalAIM</p> <p>Assistance is available to enroll in Medi-Cal or complete an Inter County Transfer of Medi-Cal benefits. IPs are supported either individually or in a Medi-Cal clinic which is offered monthly.</p>

<p>MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT)</p>	<p>Provider: Jail Medical Facilities: All facilities Post release services available</p> <p>Qualifying IPs may receive MAT, a combination of medications and counseling and behavioral therapies, to treat alcohol and substance abuse disorders. MAT medications relieve the withdrawal symptoms and psychological cravings over an extended period to assist in the transition into recovery.</p>
<p>MONARCH SERVICES</p>	<p>Provider: Monarch Services Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: AB 109 / IWF</p> <p>Tablet, 24-hour hotline, and individual services are available to speak with an advocate about domestic violence / sexual assault / human trafficking. Monarch Services also provide confidential reporting and support for the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).</p>
<p>RE-ENTRY PLANNING</p>	<p>Providers: Jail Behavioral Health, Friends Outside, WRRP Case Manager (English/Spanish) Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: Jail Behavioral Health/ AB 109/ BSCC, RSAT Grant</p> <p>Jail staff determines if IPs are receiving case management from any entity (Probation, Parole, Specialty Mental Health, etc.) and if so, they provide system navigation services to connect IPs to their primary case manager. For those who are not otherwise case managed, jail staff will refer IPs to case management providers based on their eligibility.</p>
<p>RETURN PROJECT</p>	<p>Provider: Encompass Community Services Facilities: All facilities *By referral from Probation. Post release services available Funding: AB 109</p> <p>Return Project provides brief one on one counseling to 1170 participants or participants at high risk of being 1170 status while in custody and upon release to the community.</p>
<p>RISING SCHOLARS</p>	<p>Provider: Cabrillo College Facility: All facilities Post release services available Funding: Cabrillo College - Rising Scholars</p> <p>Rising Scholars is committed to supporting justice-impacted students with the goal of removing barriers and building community with Cabrillo students. They offer various services to assist students in their academic journey. Rising Scholars outreach services exposes IPs to the benefits of education and how they can engage with the program post release.</p>

<p>SPIRITUAL SUPPORT SERVICES</p>	<p>Provider: Various Community Providers (English/Spanish) Facility: All facilities Post release services available Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>Volunteers from various religious practices provide non-denominational spiritual support services for groups of IPs to provide a message of faith, hope, and community. A variety of endorsed volunteers are available to meet with individual IPs in all facilities to provide confidential spiritual support. IPs may request to meet with a representative of their faith.</p>
<p>SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT PROGRAMS</p> <p>Program Information and Intakes</p>	<p>Providers: Encompass Facilities: R&R Post release services available Funding: Organized Delivery System (ODS) Providers</p> <p>Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs provide an overview of residential and outpatient treatment programs, sober living environments (SLEs), and other services. The cost and intake process are explained. Participants can meet with program staff to apply and get on waitlists.</p>
<p>TWELVE STEP MEETINGS</p> <p>AL-ANON ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS</p>	<p>Provider: Hospitals & Institutions (English/Spanish) Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: Volunteer</p> <p>Twelve Step groups are non-profit fellowships or societies for men and women for whom addictive behavior has become harmful. People in recovery meet regularly to help each other.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALANON is for all who have been affected by addiction whether by family of origin, spouse, partner, parent or child, whether alcoholic or not. • AA - ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS is for harmful habitual behavior related to alcohol. • NA - NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS is for harmful habitual behavior related to drugs.
<p>VETERAN'S SERVICES</p>	<p>Providers: Veteran's Support Services Facilities: All Facilities Post release services available Funding: In-kind Veteran's Services</p> <p>Veteran's support services provide assistance and information on enrollment in VA services, Veterans benefits, medical care, mental health services, substance abuse programs, housing, employment and more.</p>
<p>VOTING</p>	<p>Provider: Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections (English/Spanish) Facilities: All facilities Post release services available Funding: In-kind County Clerk</p> <p>In cooperation with Division of Re-Entry staff, IPs are provided information regarding voting eligibility, voter registration opportunities, ballot information and materials, polling information as well as Vote-By-Mail ballots for all elections.</p>

WINGS HOMELESS ADVOCACY	<p>Provider: Wings Homeless Advocacy Facilities: R&R Post release services available Funding: Wings Homeless Advocacy</p> <p>Wings supports individuals and families in their walk out of homelessness by removing barriers to housing and stabilization once housed. Assistance is provided to complete tasks and obtain resources needed to become housed and self-sufficient. The Vital Docs Program helps people experiencing homelessness get a birth certificate. This is an essential step for hundreds of people each year on their journey out of homelessness by allowing people to get housed quicker. Wings provides monthly workshops to assist individuals to complete paperwork required to get a birth certificate and coordinates pick up of document once completed.</p>
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Attachment F: From the Sheriff's Local Evaluation Plan submitted for funding cycle July 2021 through June 2024

Recidivism after WRRP Participation

Results

Recidivism data was collected for all In-Custody participants for this funding cycle. Among all In-Custody participants, 43% (27/63) experienced incarceration after engaging in WRRP, but ultimately only 15 individuals or 24% of WRRP participants received new charges after participating in the jail-based program. Of those reincarcerated, 44% (12/27) were in custody related to bench warrants, 41% (11/27) were incarcerated on new charges related to drugs and/or alcohol, and one individual was in custody due solely to a technical violation/revocation. As stated previously, data that would have allowed for analysis on shifts in frequency or severity was not collected.

Figure 22. Recidivism After WRRP Enrollment

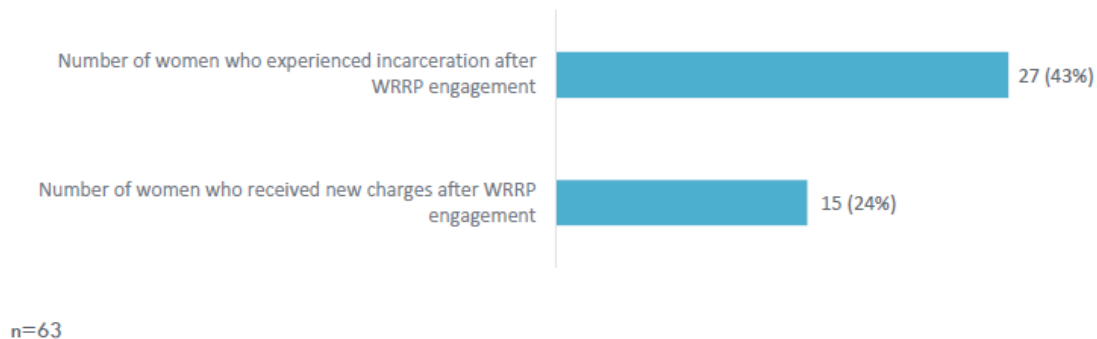
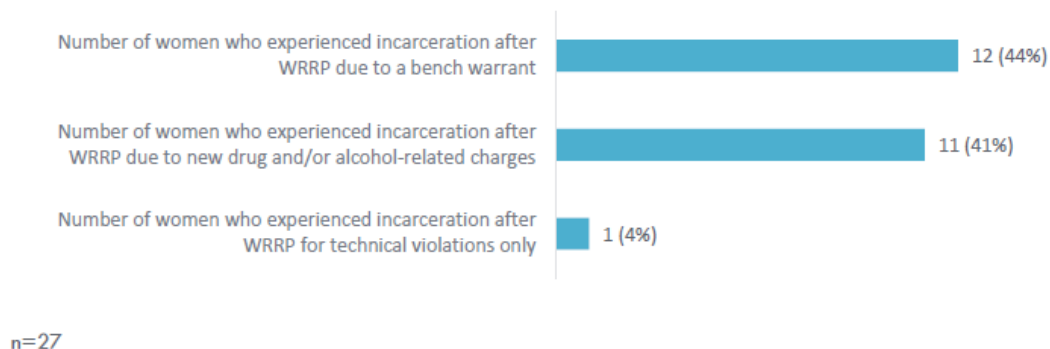


Figure 23. Reason for Return to Custody Post-WRRP Engagement, by Type



Note: A technical violation is defined as a range of activities in which a supervisee violates the terms of release but does not commit new crimes. Examples include failing to report to a probation officer, failing a drug test, refusing to engage in mandated substance abuse, mental health, or sex offender treatment, and possessing weapons or other forms of contraband (e.g., illegal drugs).