

County of Santa Cruz

JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL SB823 SUBCOMMITTEE AGENDA

Monday, November 10, 2025
3:30PM – 4:30PM

Civic Plaza Community Room
275 Main St., Watsonville
Fourth Floor

For questions regarding the meeting, please contact Jose Flores at 831-454-3886 or
Jose.Flores@santacruzcountyca.gov

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: Any person may address the Council. Speakers must not exceed 2 minutes each. All public comments are to be on items listed on this agenda or within the subject matter jurisdiction of this Council. The Public Comment period is not to exceed 15 minutes. Council members may not take actions or respond immediately to any public communication but may choose to follow up later. If at the end of this period and not all people have had an opportunity to address the Council, then Public Comment may continue to the last item on the agenda. ***If you wish to comment on an Action item, then please wait until that item is heard. If you speak within the Public Comment 15 minutes on an Action item, you will not be able to comment a second time on that item. Please line up to the podium if you wish to speak at this time.***

Action Item

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Informational Items

IV. Welcome/Introduction of New SB 823 Subcommittee Community Members, Interim Chief Valerie Thompson

1. Young Person with lived experience- Marylynn Valdez
2. Family Member with lived experience- Beatriz Rito

V. SECURE YOUTH TREATMENT FACILITY YOUTH AND FACILITY UPDATES

- Current Youth in Secure Youth Treatment Facilities, by Jose Flores, Division Director
- Secure Youth Treatment Facility and Redwoods Coastal Academy presentation by Sara Berman, Juvenile Hall Division Director
- SB 823 Subcommittee Feedback/Discussion, Sara Berman, Juvenile Hall Division Director
- Secure Youth Treatment Facility Community Supervision Overview, by Jose Flores, Division Director

V. ADJOURNMENT

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, as no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. If you are a person with a disability, including a communication disability, and require special assistance in order to participate in the meeting or need language service assistance, please contact the Santa Cruz County Probation Department at (831) 454-3886 (TDD: call 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to make arrangements. People with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternate format. Para traducción en español, Por favor haga arreglos anticipadamente por teléfono al número (831) 454-3800.



County of Santa Cruz

JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL SB823 SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, April 21, 2025
11:30am – 12:30pm

Community Room
701 Ocean St., Santa Cruz
Basement Level

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 11:30am

Voting Members Present:

Community Member - Beverly Brook
Probation - Fernando Giraldo
Superior Court - Hon. Jerry Vinluan
District Attorney's Office - Tara George
Public Defender's Office - Heather Rogers
Human Services Dept. - Gloria Carroll
Health Services Agency - Lisa Gutierrez-Wang

County Office of Education - Faris Sabbah (arrived 11:50am)
Community Member Rep. – Marisol Lopez
Community Member Rep. – Eric Fuentes Diaz (arrived 11:43am)
Community Member Rep. – Maricruz Velasco-Baldwin

Non-Voting County Employees: Jose Flores, Ruby Marquez, Sara Berman, Valerie Thompson

II. Public Comment – 2 people addressed the Council

III. Approval of Minutes from October 31, 2024

Approved via voice – Motion made by **Community Member** Beverly Brook, 2nd by **Community Member** Eric Fuentes
Motion passes: 0 abstains, 0 nay's

IV. Approve presentation on the Secure Youth Treatment Facility present FY 2025-2026 Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act Plan and Budget

Approved via voice – Motion made by **District Attorney's Office** Tara George, 2nd by **Human Services Dept** Gloria Carroll
Motion passes: 0 abstain, 0 nays

Public Comment – 2 people addressed the Council

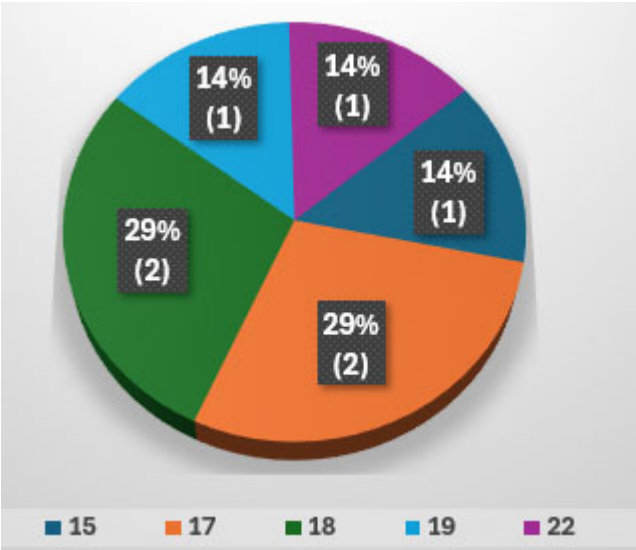
V. Informational Updates

- Presentation on the Secure Youth Treatment Facility by Sara Berman Director of Juvenile Hall
- Co-Chair Fernando Giraldo announced that there will be an expansion of Juvenile Justice Coordination Council SB823 for new Council members.

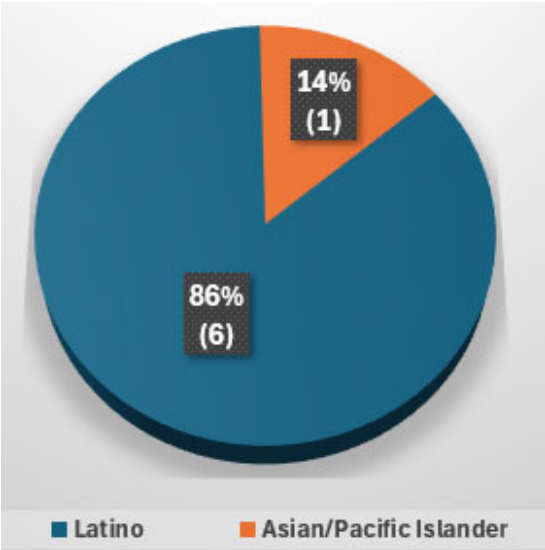
VI. Adjournment at 12:18pm

11-6-2025 SYTF Youth Demographics

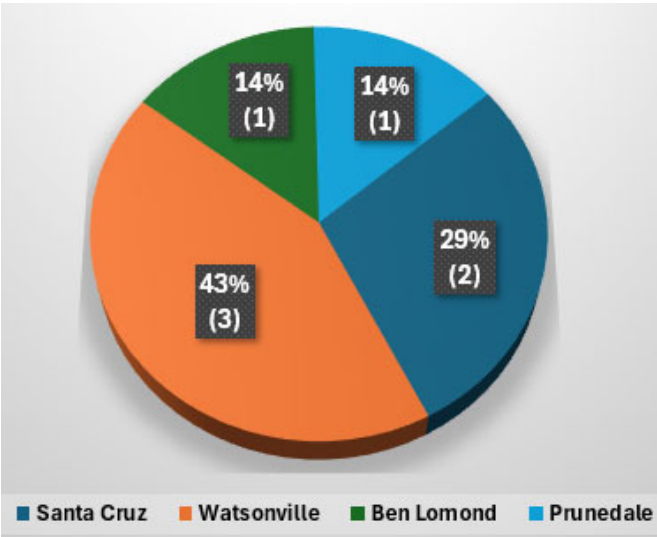
Age at Time of Adjudication



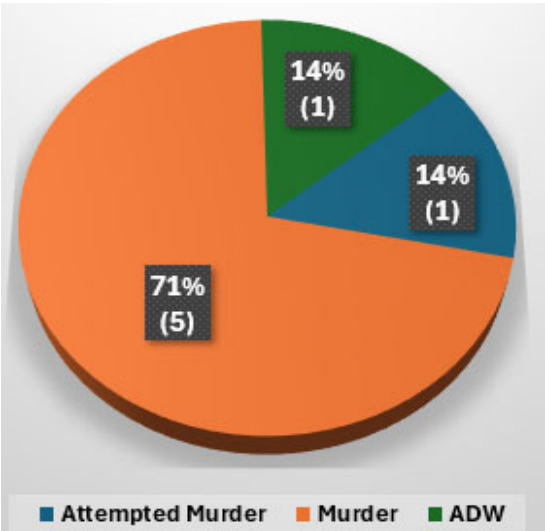
Ethnicity



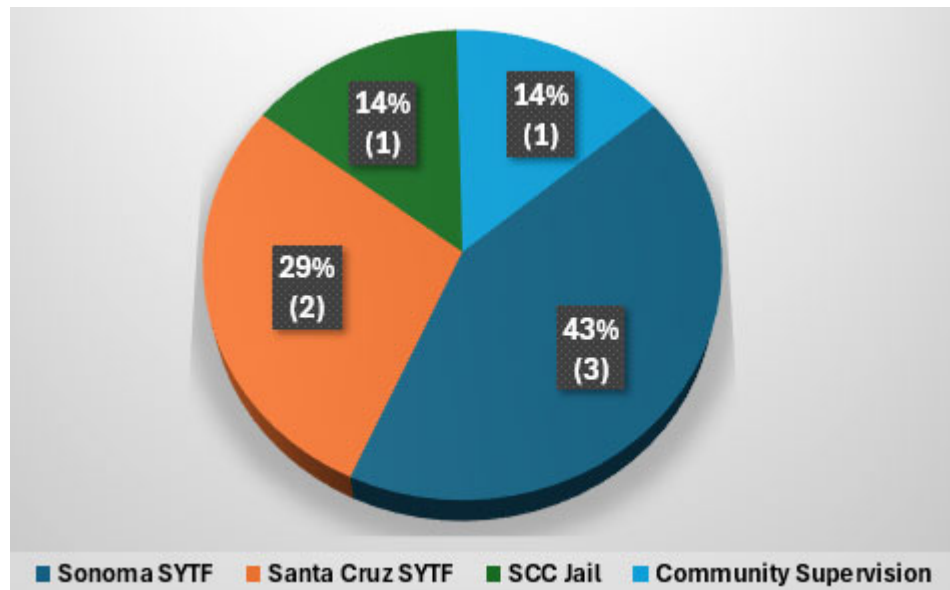
Area of Residence



Charge



Current Location of Youth



Report to Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)

SB823 Subcommittee Meeting

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act
(JJCPA) Authority to convene and
approve Multi-Agency

Juvenile Justice Plan given by Welfare
and Institutions Code § 749.22

November 10, 2025

Santa Cruz County Probation Department



2021 – November 5, 2025

4 years and 11 months

RANCH CAMP PLACEMENT

- **Total of 11 youth ordered by Court**

2021: 1 youth
2022: 4 youth
2023: 4 youth
2024: 0 youth
2025: 2 youth

SECURE YOUTH TREATMENT FACILITY (SYTF)

- **Total of 6 youth ordered by Court**

2021: 1 youth
2022: 1 youth
2023: 1 youth
2024: 1 youth
2025: 2 youth

COURT COMMITMENTS

- **Total of 5 youth ordered by Court**

2021: 2 youth
2022: 1 youth
2023: 0 youth
2024: 1 youth
2025: 1 youth

What's New: Includes Youth Input & Meeting Individual Youths' Needs

SYTF approved
December 2024

2 youth in
program

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

- One-on-One engagement and feedback from youth
- Designed and painting temporary mural in courtyard
- Incentive Phases: created and enhancing with youth input
- Level-Up Shop

EDUCATION

- Cabrillo College sweatshirts & Rising Scholars T-shirts
- Internet & personal laptops for smoother student access
- Underground Scholars tutor with lived experience
- Civil Engagement Education Group

VOCATIONAL

- Your Future Is Our Business: Career Speakers
- Serve Safe Certificates
- Future Vision Program
- Artists Workshop with La Neta

LIFESKILLS

- “Stirring Up Success”: Culinary Program
- Project Daraja: Peace Education Program
- Victim Awareness Education & Restorative Justice
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Redwoods Coastal Academy Camp Program (RCA)



Redwoods
Coastal Academy
Camp Program

Opened October
10, 2025

Journey Through RCA Includes:

HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Individual Therapy
- Transition Plan
- Restorative Justice Services- Conflict Resolution Center

EDUCATION & JOB DEVELOPMENT

- Hartman High School
- Rising Scholars College Enrollment
- Vocational Opportunities

FAMILY & NATURAL SUPPORTS ENGAGEMENT

- Child Family Team Meetings monthly, Create & review Case Plan
- Family Therapy- Behavioral Health
- Family Engagement- Community Action Board
- Parent-Teen Mediation- Conflict Resolution Center

LIFESKILLS

- Furloughs- for school/college, employment
- Home Passes
- Supervised Outings/Fieldtrips
- Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Curriculum (CBI-CY)

SYTF and RCA Programs and Services Supported with Savings of Serving Youth Locally

Starlite Program

- Community Bridges prior to OYCR lifting suspension of STAR

Conflict Resolution Center

- Restorative Justice, Parent-Teen Mediation, and Family Conferencing

Community Action Board

- Family Engagement Events

Derian Diaz- Guitar Instructor

- Therapeutic and skill-based music lessons. Youth requested program during COE summer break.

Planning for the Future

- Gym/Dedicated Exercise Space
- Youth Advisory Council
- “Seed to Table” Gardening program
- Culinary Program
- CTE Degree and Vocational Certificate Programs
- Ongoing staff training to support SYTF/Ranch
- Living Unchained level II
- Therapy Dog
- Upgraded Living Spaces and Furniture
- RCA serve as a step-down for SYTF youth
- Murals throughout facility: Artist workshops with youth

