

# Proposition 47 Grant Program, Cohort 2

Funded by: California Board of State and Community Corrections  
TWO-YEAR PRELIMINARY EVALUATION REPORT

Pasadena Intervention and Directional Alternatives (PIDA) Prop 47 Grant Program



Grantee: Pasadena Unified School District, Pasadena, California

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Reporting Period: August 15, 2019 – March 31, 2021

Prepared by: SPSG, Inc.

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# TWO-YEAR PRELIMINARY EVALUATION REPORT

## 1. Executive Summary

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*The needs of traditionally underserved population are central to the design of PUSD's PIDA Grant Program.*

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Proposition 47 was a voter-approved initiative on the November 2014 ballot that reduced specified low-level drug and property crimes from felonies to misdemeanors. Each year, the state savings generated by the implementation of Proposition 47 are deposited into the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund. Sixty-five percent

of these savings are set aside annually for the BSCC to administer a competitive grant program. Proposition 47 requires that these funds be awarded to public agencies to provide mental health services, substance use disorder treatment and/or diversion programs for those in the criminal justice system. Additional legislation (AB 1056, Chap. 438, Stats. of 2015) requires that the grants be awarded competitively and specifies that funds may serve both adults and juveniles. It allows funds to be used for housing-related assistance and other community-based supportive services, including job skills training, case management or civil legal services. The BSCC further requires that at least 50 percent of the award made to grantees is passed through to community-based service providers.

In 2019, 43 public agencies responded to the Proposition 47 Cohort 2 Request for Proposals, and more than \$194 million was requested for the \$96 million that was available. The Board of State and Community Corrections approved funding for 23 public agencies from August 2019 to May 2023, which included funding for Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD).



PUSD received \$999,528 in grant funds to support their Pasadena Intervention and Directional Alternatives (PIDA) grant program to expand capacity to effectively meet the needs of juveniles in the criminal justice system. PUSD utilizes grant funds to support mental health services; substance use disorder treatment; diversion programs that include mentoring, case management, and alternatives to adjudication through the juvenile court system; supportive services for foster and homeless youth, which include transitional housing; job skills training, certification and placement; and evidence-based curricula Why Try? and Aggression Replacement Training.

The Prop 47 grant program began on August 15, 2019 and is scheduled to end on May 15, 2023. The grant period includes three phases: 1) Implementation: August 15, 2019 through December 31, 2019; 2) Service Delivery: January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022; and 3) Final Evaluation: January 1, 2023 through May 15, 2023.

PUSD had a significant need for funding for their Pasadena Intervention and Directional Alternatives (PIDA) Prop 47 grant program to expand capacity to effectively meet the needs of juveniles in the criminal justice system. Through a comprehensive Needs Assessment conducted with community partners and stakeholders PUSD identified the following needs and gaps that will be addressed in the PIDA grant program: **#1: Lack of Coordination with Diversion Programs.** Two separate community programs provide services to juvenile offenders: VIDA and JOIN. Prior to grant funding, PUSD did not coordinate with these existing diversion programs in a meaningful way and consequently their target population missed out on opportunities to address the root causes of delinquent behavior and to deter future criminal behavior. Affected youth typically don't receive the necessary interventions for underlying mental health problems. Overall, the three communities served by PUSD were not effectively reducing the number of youth detained in detention halls and camps which has a high human cost and a high financial cost.



**#2: Insufficient Resources to Support Trauma and Addiction.** Only 73% of students referred to mental health services in the 2017-18 school year received them. PUSD found that 48% of students who are receiving mental health services require treatment for longer than a 12-month period. Twenty-eight percent of students who were referred for treatment were put on a waiting list. Studies have found that for youth in the juvenile justice system, 50% to 70% met criteria for a mental disorder and 60% met criteria for a substance use disorder. J.O.I.N. and VIDA currently provide some mental health services, but only for a brief period of time (90 to 120 days and 16-weeks, respectively). While brief forms of therapy have their place, data from our needs assessment revealed the duration and dosage provided by these programs do not meet need. PUSD lacked the resources to hire or contract with a case manager or a substance counselor to provide much-needed services to youth involved within the criminal justice system. **#3: Foster Youth Need Additional Services to Bridge the Gap Between Foster Care and Self-Reliance.** The PIDA Program aims to help 30 youth who meet participant requirements of the Pasadena City College's Foster Kinship Program to bridge the gap between foster care and self-reliance. **#4: Lack of focus on factors affecting recidivism** A significant barrier to breaking free of recurring legal problems is the inability to find gainful employment and obtain financial independence. While PUSD has a successful College and Career Academy, which includes opportunities for internships and employment, they lacked a Case Manager to facilitate participation in these programs for our target population. PUSD also lacked partnerships that specialize in work-place development and training for juvenile offenders, like Homeboy Industries. Homeboy Industries is dedicated to improving the lives of juvenile delinquents, the formerly incarcerated and former gang members. **#5: Need an Evidence-Based Curriculum to Address Students Who Exhibit Violent and Aggressive Behavior.** This is critical to PUSD's preventative strategy as aggressive behavior before the age of 13 is the strongest behavioral characteristic to



predict delinquent behavior. Mental health providers and PUSD employees provide the *Why Try?* and *Aggression Replacement Training* curriculum to their target population.

PUSD's Prop 47 initiative is community-wide in scope, includes broad community involvement in planning and delivery, and employs integrated outreach support and services. The Prop 47 grant program organizes and mobilizes the communities served by PUSD using a data-driven strategy that ensures resources are directed toward effectively preventing juvenile recidivism and its associated criminal activity.

PUSD's PIDA project is aligned with the Safe Neighborhoods and School Act to maximize alternatives for non-serious, non-violent juvenile offenders. PUSD utilizes grant funds to provide their target population with mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, job skills training and certification, employment assistance and case management services to link the target population to identified supports, including transitional housing for our foster and homeless population.

This Preliminary Evaluation Report includes information on the project accomplishments to date, progress towards intended goals, and how identified obstacles are being addressed. The reporting timeframe for this report begins on January 1, 2020 and concludes on March 31, 2021.

**Progress Towards Meeting Goals.** Despite the setbacks created by COVID, PUSD has made progress towards stated goals and objectives. Goal #1: Increase systems capacity and infrastructure to address juvenile delinquency. To date, agreements and MOUs have been executed with three (3) agencies and two (2) protocols have been adopted. Goal #2: Decrease drug and alcohol abuse. To date, no individuals from our target population have received substance use disorder



treatment. Goal #3: Decrease Juvenile Recidivism Rates for the Target Population. To date, a total of 36 youth from the target population have received Prop 47 services and none of these individuals have reoffended. Of the 36 youth who have received Prop 47 interventions during this reporting period, 18 successfully completed their program, which includes 12 participants receiving their high school diploma.



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## 2. Project Background

### 2.A Prop 47 Project Information

The 28 schools of PUSD operate in a 76-square-mile area and include: 17 elementary schools (grades K-5); four middle schools (grades 6-8); one K-8 school; two 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade schools; two high schools (grades 9-12); one continuation high school; and one alternative education program. The district is spread across three cities with 18 schools in the city of Pasadena, 2 in the city of Sierra Madre, and 8 in the city of Altadena. PUSD serves a diverse student population, approximately 61% of PUSD students are Hispanic/Latino; 17% White; 12% African-American; and 10% other, with 16% being foreign-born. The percentage of English Language Learners enrolled within PUSD is 21% and 90% of those students speaks Spanish. The percentage of students qualifying for free and reduced-price meals (a federal poverty indicator) in PUSD schools is 61% — higher than the county average of 51%. The need for our project is driven by both the number of youth and young adults involved with the criminal justice system and gaps in current services prior to this grant.

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**Target Population.** The services provided under the PIDA project will aid juvenile offenders (ages 12 to 18) who have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of a criminal offense *and* have a history of mental health issues or substance use disorders. The needs of traditionally underserved populations are central to the design of the PIDA Grant Program.

**Referral Process.** The multi-disciplinary team created under PUSD's Prop 47 grant work together to ensure the appropriate referrals are made for the target population. This team reviews documents from law enforcement, the court system, and the Department of Probation. The Case Manager serves on this team and ensures that all PUSD students who meet criteria



for participation are included in these programs. All citations and arrests are vetted to identify individuals who have a mental health issue or substance abuse issue and are eligible to participate in our youth diversion program (low-level, non-violent offense).

## **2.B PUSD's PIDA Grant Program Interventions, Services and Activities**

PIDA significantly expands Mental Health services, Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Diversion Programs to the target population. The project is aligned with OJJDP's Model Program Guide, where research found that diversion programs are moving more toward community-based settings because of the tendency of programs within institutional settings to 1) reflect formal incarceration and potentially dampen any positive effects of treatment and services<sup>i</sup>; and 2) have more adverse effects through greater associations with antisocial peers. PIDA increases the amount of therapeutic services available by contracting with the agencies already in PUSD schools to provide additional staff to work exclusively with the target population. As individuals are identified in meeting the eligibility requirements to receive services under Prop 47, they will be referred to the agency that supports their specific school/geographic area. Grant funds will provide an additional 3,000 hours of therapeutic mental health services to the target population throughout the duration of the grant. Additionally, the contract with Social Model Recovery System (SMRS) will provide substance use disorder treatment for an additional 180 youth over the course of the grant using the Seeking Safety program. Drug and alcohol treatment classes provided by SMRS meet the requirements of the juvenile court. The Case Manager hired for PIDA will work closely with the target population and community partners to enroll PUSD students in existing diversion programs in the county: VIDA and JOIN. The Vital Intervention and Directional Alternatives (VIDA) program for non-violent, at-risk youth between the ages of 11 and 17 1/2 is a collaboration between the LA County Sheriff's Department and the community. VIDA staff members conduct home and school visits during the week to monitor social behaviors, reduce truancy and improve academic performance. Students spend 8 hours each Saturday at the





VIDA site, which focuses on students' perceptions of themselves in relation to the community and authority figures and tackles topics such as life responsibilities, substance abuse, negative peer groups, and gender-sensitive issues. Additionally, students spend one night per week participating, along with their parents or guardians, in a 2-hour group class that targets family issues. The LA County District Attorney's JOIN (Juvenile Offender Intervention Network) program offers a one-time alternative to juvenile court prosecution for qualifying minors. It is available only to first-time nonviolent juvenile offenders between the ages of 10 and 17. Referrals to the program come from deputy district attorneys. Supplemental and Supportive Services include contracting with Homeboy Industries to provide job skills training as well as job placement through their Workplace Development program, *Jobs not Jails*, to 24 youth from the target population. Career training will include Homeboy Industry's highly successful solar-panel installation training and certification program that has a 65% to 70% success rate, compared to 40% success rate for other programs in LA County. The Case Manager hired under this grant program works closely with Pasadena Partnership (PP) and Pasadena City College's Foster Kinship Program to refer individuals from the target population who are homeless or living in homes with domestic violence or substance abuse. PP provides coordination among the numerous local organizations and initiatives that serve the homeless population and manages the Continuum of Care from HUD and State Emergency Solutions (ESG) funds. Evidence-based curricula and interventions (*Why Try?*, and *Aggression Replacement Training*) will be provided to the target population by existing PUSD staff members and the mental health providers contracted with Prop 47 grant funds. The activities of the PIDA program advance principles of restorative justice while demonstrating a capacity to reduce recidivism and leverage other federal, state, and local funds.

The PIDA diversion program is predicated on the belief that formal system processing and/or incarceration has criminogenic effects and that alternatives such as decriminalization, deinstitutionalization, and diversion are better for long-term youth development. PUSD's program creates channels to navigate youth from the target population away from traditional processing in the justice system and provides an opportunity to correct youths' antisocial behaviors through community



programs. PIDA is designed to reduce stigma, reduce coercive entry into the system and unnecessary social control, reduce recidivism, provide the target population with services they would not have otherwise received, and connect them to broader community service alternatives. PIDA reduces the risk of criminal socialization by providing role models and positive peers, instilling discipline, improving school engagement, and increasing levels of overall youth functioning. All the programs and interventions are supported by data and research, proving efficacy and alignment with the goals and objectives. PUSD's overarching strategy for delivering a continuum of evidence-based programs and practices is built upon PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports), implemented in 2011. All the programs (curricula and interventions) provided through PIDA are evidence-based, reflect current research and effective practice, and are appropriate for the age, developmental levels and cultural diversity of PUSD's student population.

PUSD's Prop 47 program uses the Trauma-Informed Care method in providing all services and programs to the target population. Across the country, youth who become involved in the juvenile justice system are more likely than their peers to have been exposed to not just one or two traumatic stressors, but multiple types of traumatic victimization. These are not just incidents, but types of adverse stressors (e.g., physical abuse, sexual abuse, domestic violence, community violence, life-threatening neglect) that impact youth before they first come to the attention of law enforcement. PUSD students are no different, and this project seeks to address trauma when it is a factor in the target population.

**PUSD's Local Advisory Committee (LAC)** is a community-wide commitment, anchored by the Pasadena Unified School District. In building the roster for the LAC, PUSD solicited membership from community leaders who are involved with Pasadena Positive, a community-wide partnership to support the success of PUSD students from cradle to college and career. PUSD also reached out to youth and parents who have been impacted by involvement in the criminal justice system. The make-up of the LAC is reflective of the diversity of PUSD's community at large as well as the target population. The existing management structure for each



participating agency remains in effect for the Prop 47 grant program, and the LAC is utilized as the governing body for the program. The LAC provides a vehicle to expand program- relevant partnerships. Data-driven decisions drive the management organization to ensure the project supports the objectives and goals outlined in the Prop 47 grant, while providing a method for identifying what is working and what isn't working, and progress and obstacles toward meeting the goals. The Superintendent provides oversight for the Prop 47 grant program and is responsible for all legal, operational, and financial compliance of the grant. As Project Director, Dr. Julianne Reynoso oversees, and manages all aspects of this grant. She ensures all project activities are completed on time and within budget. She leads the LAC meetings and facilitates community collaboration and partnerships, supervises all program staff and service providers and works closely with the local evaluator.



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## 2.C Prop 47 Goals and Objectives.

**The project design addressed the identified needs and gaps by expanding existing programs and enhancing services to at-risk youth and youth who were already involved with the juvenile justice system.**

**The Prop 47 project design included a clear statement of goals and measurable objectives.** Grant funds are being utilized to implement a collaborative effort to decrease juvenile recidivism rates, increase diversion programs for juvenile offenders, and increase protective factors for juvenile offenders and youth who are at-risk for interaction with law enforcement, probation, and the juvenile courts through evidence-based prevention and intervention activities in coordination with a Local Advisory Committee and community-based organizations. PUSD's project design has three goals with seven corresponding objectives.

### **Goal #1: Increase Systems Capacity and Infrastructure to Address Juvenile Delinquency**

**Objective 1:** To increase the number of agreements, Memorandums of Understanding, policies, procedures and practices that address restorative practices and juvenile diversion by 6, by December 31, 2022, as measured by source documents (executed agreements/MOU and approved policies, procedures and practices).

### **Goal #2: Decrease Drug and Alcohol Abuse**

**Objective 2.a:** To decrease the number of juvenile offenses related to or involving drug and alcohol use by 75%, by December 31, 2022, as measured by citations, arrests, and court records.



**Objective 2.b:** To increase the number of participants who complete substance abuse treatment and avoid relapse by 50%, by December 31, 2022, as measured by activity logs.

**Goal #3: Decrease Juvenile Recidivism Rates**

**Objective 3.a:** To decrease juvenile recidivism rates for the target population by 25%, by December 31, 2022, as measured by citations, arrests and court records.

**Objective 3.b:** To increase the number of juvenile offenders who complete a diversion program and have not reoffended by 50%, by December 31, 2022, as measured by JOIN and VIDA records.

**Objective 3.c:** To increase the number of individuals from the target population who are placed in transitional housing by 10%, by December 31, 2022, as measured by contracts and leases.

**Objective 3.d:** To increase the number of juvenile offenders who receive Prop 47 supportive services and improve their behavior in school by 35%, by December 31, 2022, as measured by academic, attendance and behavioral reports.



### 3. Process Evaluation and Methods and Design

#### Methodology for Evaluation.

PUSD contracted with Strategic Partnership School Group, Inc. (SPSG) to perform the evaluation of their Prop 47 project to ensure an objective and impartial evaluation of the project is completed. SPSG has extensive experience evaluating state and federal grant programs to address youth violence and safe school issues and has served as the district's evaluator since 2013. Grant funds, per BSCC limits, were targeted for evaluation, which includes data collection, performance measurement, and evaluation. SPSG created and maintains the Evaluation Plan, which was submitted to the BSCC in November 2019 for approval. The Evaluation Plan describes how data is collected, reported and analyzed for process and outcome measures. SPSG creates monthly evaluation bulletins, makes evaluation presentations, and works closely with the Project Director to submit all required grant reports.

**SPSG's methodology and evaluation process relies on quantitative and qualitative data collection methods** to maintain focus on mission, purpose, goals, and objectives; develop strategic plans; maintain program fidelity; measure progress; and promote sustainability. **Research Design.** We utilize a mixed method (process and fidelity) for the outcome evaluation to ensure an ongoing review of the project's progress and a thorough assessment of its overall effectiveness. Our evaluation plan is thorough, feasible and appropriate to the goals and objectives of the program and includes both formative process evaluation and annual summative reviews. Our evaluation plan is designed to collect, analyze and use high-quality and timely data, including data on program participant outcomes, in accordance with privacy requirements, to improve practices within the framework of the evidence-based programs and service delivery. Sources of quantitative data





include crime data (including citations and arrests); disposition data (referrals to diversion programs, juvenile detention and juvenile halls); service delivery logs (mental health, case management, addiction treatment and counseling, activity logs and attendance sheets); school records (discipline and behavioral records, attendance and truancy records, academic records); and results from the California Healthy Kids Survey.

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*The evaluation methods were designed to maintain focus on mission, purpose, goals and objectives; develop strategic plans; maintain program fidelity; measure progress; and promote sustainability.*

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Sources of qualitative data include open-ended surveys, interviews, focus groups, observations, and meeting minutes. Combining qualitative and quantitative methods will increase the depth of our information and provide feedback, enabling us to

make critical mid-course corrections and program adjustments in a timely manner. These methods include performance measures clearly related to assessing fidelity and outcomes. Outcome measures are evaluated using a pre/post method to gauge our success in meeting our objectives.



**Activities, Interventions and Measurement Instruments** | The following table provides an overview of activities that support the identified goals and objectives and how each will be measured:

Activity	Responsible staff/partner	Intervention, including Evidence-based	Measurement Instrument
<b>Goal 1</b>			
Execute agreements and Memorandums of Understanding between local agencies that support juvenile diversion programs	PUSD, Pasadena Police Department, LA County Departments of Sheriff, Mental Health, and Probation		Executed agreements
Review existing policies, practices, and protocols, including relevant research and promising practices  Analyze discipline data and crime data to identify and/or prevent implicit bias  Adopt enhanced and/or new policies, practices, and protocols related to restorative justice and juvenile diversion programs			Adopted policies, practices and protocols
<b>Goal 2</b>			
Refer juvenile offenders with alcohol or drug related issues to mental health and substance use disorder treatment	PUSD and community partners will refer target population to substance use disorder services	Seeking Safety	Referrals, treatment logs and discharge forms
Provide Seeking Safety curriculum to participants with a substance use disorder	SMRS will provide substance use disorder treatment  Mental Health providers will provide therapeutic mental health services	Seeking Safety  Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	Attendance logs  Fidelity audits



Goal 3			
Refer juvenile offenders that meet participation criteria to community-based diversion and supportive services	District Attorney's Office (J.O.I.N.) diversion program for non-violent, first-time offenders. Sheriff's Department (VIDA) diversion program for non-violent offenders, includes mentoring and case management Homeboys Industries for job skills training and placement Pasadena City College for transitional housing		Attendance logs Activity Logs Training logs Employment records Housing records

**Outcome Measures |** Outcome measures for PUSD's PIDA grant include:

- Number of juvenile offenders who complete a diversion program and have not reoffended;
- Number of individuals placed in transitional and permanent housing;
- Number of individuals who complete alcohol and addiction treatment and avoided relapse;
- Number of juvenile offenders who receive jobs skills training and secure employment;
- Number of juvenile offenders who receive Prop 47 support services and improve their attendance, and behavior; and
- the juvenile crime and recidivism rates are decreased by the end of the grant period.

Progress in achieving our expected outcomes uses a pre/post format.



**Process and Outcome Measures for our Prop 47 project.** Process measures assess how program activities are being carried out in accordance with our stated goals and objectives. They are designed to identify *what the program is actually doing* and *if it's what we planned our program to do*. Process data is submitted by PUSD and all service providers to SPSG monthly. SPSG created data collection sheets that align to the data points required in BSCC's quarterly reports and smartsheet.

## Process Measures

### Goal 1

- The number of LAC meetings conducted
- The number of new partnerships made
- The number of policies written and adopted

### Goal 2

- The number and type of referrals made (individual treatment, group therapy, inpatient, etc.)
- The type and amount of services received by each participant
- The number of participants who relapse
- The number of youth who receive the Seeking Safety curriculum

### Goal 3

- The number and type of referrals made
- The type and amount of services received by each participant
- The successful completion of each intervention, by participant
- The number of PUSD and community partner employees who receive training in the Why Try? And Aggression Replacement Training curriculum



**Fidelity.** Evidence-based programs and practices form the core of PUSD’s Prop 47 grant project. Underlying our evaluation plan is the creation of a scientifically sound logic model explicating the mechanisms through which the project will achieve desired outcomes. We monitor fidelity by compiling monthly data into a quantified Fidelity Implementation Index that allows us to periodically assess the extent and quality of each component, serve as a guide to implement the project as intended and allow supervising staff to monitor quality. Immediate concerns identified through monitoring fidelity are reported to program staff and the LAC within 24 hours of discovery to ensure all obstacles to implementation are addressed immediately and do not impact service delivery or anticipated outcomes.

**Our Research Design for the Impact Evaluation is Mixed Method** and combines qualitative and quantitative techniques to triangulate multiple sources of data and significantly enhance the validity of the evaluation. Sources of quantitative data include: crime data; disposition data; service delivery logs; and school records. Sources of qualitative data include: open-ended surveys, interviews, focus groups, observations, meeting minutes, and pre- and post-surveys from evidence-based curriculum programs. Combining qualitative and quantitative methods will increase the depth of our information and provide feedback, enabling PUSD to make critical mid-course corrections and program adjustments in a timely manner. The impact evaluation determines the impact of the project on juvenile offenders across project performance indicators (goals and objectives). Using multiple regression techniques, the local evaluator analyzes the data to measure consistency of effects across groups, identify the factors, and determine other process variables that most influence youth outcomes. In addition to the day-to-day data collection and analysis, the Evaluator is responsible for the Local Evaluation



Plan (LEP), a Two-Year Preliminary Evaluation Report (TYPER) and a Final Local Evaluation Report (FLEP). These documents will adhere to the formats and timelines prescribed by the BSCC. The evaluation of the Prop 47 grant program focuses on two primary areas: 1) is the grant being implemented as intended and aligned with the requirements of the grant program? and 2) are the objectives of the grant being met? The first area of focus addresses fidelity. Fidelity to the grant requirements, fidelity to the grant application, and fidelity to the evidence-based practices that were implemented under the grant. Fidelity measures the degree to which a program is implemented as intended by the program developer, including the quality of implementation. Fidelity ensures the consistency, accuracy and integrity of programs and interventions. Fidelity is important as it ensures that programs are implemented as intended and helps in the determination of a program's effectiveness and in decision making.





## Operational Definition of Variables

The operational definition of variables is how a researcher decides to measure the variables in a study. However, it is important to note that the evaluation for Prop 47 is *not* a research project, and it would be inappropriate to assign the requirements of a research project to this evaluation. The method of evaluation for the Prop 47 uses predictive methods and is based on correlation. SPSPG will analyze the statistical relationship between two or more events, measures, and data points. This method allows for prediction but cannot determine cause and effect. The Final Evaluation Report will include ancillary outcome measures, such as attendance, graduation rates, academic performance, and disorderly conduct, with the aim of creating a correlation matrix to predict the direction/impact (positive or negative) of the interventions included in the Prop 47 grant program. However, the extent of this analysis may be limited due to the fact that the data from the preliminary report indicates that individual participants are currently only receiving one intervention. We had hoped to conduct an analysis and create coefficients based on the amount and types of interventions received and the impact on project outcomes, including the ancillary data points. The Final Evaluation Report will include a robust analysis to the extent that the data allows and is aligned with scientific standards.

Conducting research (or an experiment) of the Prop 47 program would allow the researcher to identify how one variable causes another variable to change. This type of research requires independent and dependent variables that include an experimental and control group. The research design and protocols should align with What Works Clearinghouse, Standards Handbook or similar standards universally accepted by the scientific community. A research study related to Prop 47 and/or Prop 47 grant recipients would require a significant increase in resources dedicated to this endeavor.



The outcome measures linked to the goals and objectives of PUSD's Prop 47 grant program are aligned with the BSCC's requirements for funding and include: recidivism rates, mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, job skills training, and transitional housing.



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## 4. Project Performance

### 4.A Project Modifications.

No material modifications have been made to the project since the award (September 2019). While it was a short period between the time the grant application was submitted and the time of the award, PUSD did encounter a few changes with the community-based organizations they had identified to support this grant program: Hathaway-Sycamores was identified to provide therapeutic mental health services to the target population. They had hired a licensed therapist to provide mental health services to the target position, but she left towards the end of the 2020-21 school year. Hathaway was not able to fill this role and consequently PUSD issued a Request for Proposal to identify a Community Based Organization (CBO) to provide these services. Pacific Clinics was selected from the RFP process, and they will begin providing services to the target population as soon as their contract is approved by the School Board. PUSD's mental health therapists provide treatment in the interim. The application stated that the IMPACT program would provide substance use disorder treatment to the target population, but upon award they declined to participate due to staffing shortages. Social Model Recovery System (SMRS) was hired to provide these services. PUSD also experienced a turn-over in project management. Dr. Eric Sahakian left the district in June 2021 and Dr. Julianne Reynoso replaced him in August 2021. No other changes have been made to PUSD's program staff.



## 4.B Factors that have Affected Project Goals.

COVID and the Global Pandemic are significantly affecting the Prop 47 grant program. In response to federal guidelines and mandates by the county and the state, PUSD school sites stopped in-person learning in mid-March 2020 and all employees were instructed to work from home. This practice continued through mid-April 2021 when some staff members could return to district facilities and students could opt to join in-person learning one day a week through the remainder of the school year. In person learning resumed in August 2021 for the 2021-22 school year.

The pandemic disrupted the lives of staff members, students, and their families, which resulted in an increase in unemployment, anxiety, stress, isolation and other adverse experiences.

COVID also impacted law enforcement, where the departments supporting our communities changed protocols to protect officers from contracting the disease. Consequently, patrols were discontinued during this time period and response calls were limited to calls for service that included violent crimes and felonies. It's possible that the target population was committing offenses that would have made them eligible to participate in Prop 47 programs, but individuals were not arrested or cited because COVID protocols for law enforcement eliminated these types of encounters.

It was difficult to reach youth who had already been identified as eligible to receive Prop 47 services, and when grant staff were able to connect with youth and their families, interest was extremely low. Without the connections formed at school, and the relationships that encourage program participation, families and students already under stress retreated from services rather than reaching out. Forming relationships and trust with eligible youth and their families was extremely



difficult over the phone, and while all service providers adjusted their programs to distance/tele support, participation rates were extremely low during this time period. COVID negatively impacted 12 ½ months out of 15 months of this reporting period (83%). The LAC believe that once in-person learning resumes and the restrictions are lifted on the communities and community partners, enrollment and participation levels will reach the targets included in PUSD’s grant application.

#### **4.C Progress on Goals and Objectives.**

The following provides the preliminary degree to which the goals and objectives have been achieved based on data collected and analyzed during this time period (1/1/2020-3/31/2021); broken out by the three goals with four corresponding objectives for PUSD’s Prop 47 project.

#### **Goal #1: Increase Systems Capacity and Infrastructure to Address Juvenile Delinquency**

Activities to support this goal include: 1) execute agreements and Memorandums of Understanding between local agencies that support juvenile diversion programs; and 2) review existing policies, practices, and protocols (PPP), including relevant research and promising practices. Analyze discipline data and crime data to identify and/or prevent implicit bias. Adopt enhanced and/or new PPP related to restorative justice and juvenile diversion programs.

**Objective 1: Increase the number of agreements, Memorandums of Understanding, policies procedures and practices** that address restorative practices and juvenile diversion by 6, by December 31, 2022, as measured by source documents (executed agreements/MOU and approved policies, procedures and practices).



As of March 31, 2021: PUSD has executed formal agreements and Memorandums of Understanding with three (3) agencies and created two (2) policies.

### ***Process Measures***

#### **1.a The number of LAC meetings conducted.**

The Local Advisory Committee (LAC) formally met five (5) times during this reporting period, beginning in October 2020. Prior to this date, PUSD met with LAC members on a one-on-one basis. Beginning in May 2021 the frequency changed to monthly meetings for the LAC. Each meeting is one hour, followed by a one-hour work session between CBOs and partners. Participants include: PUSD, Pasadena Police Department, LA County Sheriff's Department, LA County Department of Probation, Learning Works, Hathaway-Sycamores (through June 2021), Social Model Recovery System, and SPSG.

#### **1.b The number of new partnerships made.**

PUSD has executed formal agreements and Memorandums of Understanding with three (3) agencies: Learning Works, Social Model Recovery System, and the Los Angeles County Department of Probation.

Agreements with the Pasadena Police Department have been stalled due to concerns from the Black community regarding racial profiling and law enforcement utilizing schools to target students. PUSD continues to work with the police department and board members to resolve this issue. PUSD had executed a contract with Hathaway-Sycamores to provide therapeutic mental health services to the target population in July 2019, but their therapist quit, and Hathaway was not able to hire an individual to serve in this role. PUSD published a request for proposal for these services and selected Pacific Clinics to





provide this service. The contract for Pacific Clinics will be presented to the school board for approval in the fall of 2021. In the interim, PUSD's mental health therapists are providing this service.

### **1.c The number of policies created.**

Two (2) new policies have been created: 1) Referral process for Prop 47 participants, and 2) data collection protocol for recipients of services.

## **Goal #2: Decrease Drug and Alcohol Abuse**

Activities to support this goal include: 1) refer juvenile offenders with alcohol or drug related issues to mental health and substance use disorder treatment; and 2) provide Seeking Safety curriculum to participants with a substance use disorder.

### **Objective 2.1: To decrease the number of juvenile offenses related to or involving drug and alcohol use by 75% as measured by citations, arrests and court records.**

A total of 36 youth from the target population have received Prop 47 services during this reporting period. None included substance use disorder treatment.

### **Objective 2.2: To increase the number of participants who complete substance abuse treatment and avoid relapse by 50%, as measured by activity logs.**

No participants were referred to substance use disorder treatment during this reporting period.



## ***Process Measures***

### **2.a The number and type of referrals made (individual treatment, group therapy, inpatient).**

No referrals were made to substance use disorder treatment during this reporting period. The LAC's priority is to refer the target population to these services, as appropriate.

### **2.b The type and amount of services received by each participant.**

No referrals were made and not services were provided for substance use disorder treatment during this reporting period. The LAC's priority is to refer the target population to these services, as appropriate.

### **2.c The number of participants who relapse.**

No one from the target population received substance use disorder treatment services and therefore no participants have relapsed.

### **2.d The number of youth who receive the Seeking Safety curriculum.**

No one from the target population received substance use disorder treatment services and therefore no participants received the Seeking Safety curriculum.



**DO YOU OR  
SOMEONE YOU  
LOVE NEED  
TREATMENT OR  
COUNSELING  
SERVICES?**



**PASADENA  
COUNCIL ON  
ALCOHOLISM AND  
DRUG DEPENDENCE  
(PCADD)**

 A Program of Social Model Recovery Systems, Inc.

Funding is from  
**BOARD OF STATE & COMMUNITY  
CORRECTIONS**



**PASADENA  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**PASADENA  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**PASADENA  
POSITIVE  
FUTURES  
PROGRAM**



**SUPPORTING  
AT-RISK YOUTH**



**Prop  
47**

## PASADENA POSITIVE FUTURES PROGRAM

**PROGRAM  
AVAILABLE TO  
SUPPORT YOUTH  
AGES 12 TO 21**

### IF YOUR CHILD IS IN NEED OF SUPPORT, WE PROVIDE:

- Adult and Adolescent Treatment for Alcohol and Other Drug Problems
- Outpatient Treatment
- Group and Individual Counseling
- Teen Dating Violence Groups
- Domestic Violence Victim Groups
- Relapse Prevention
- Anger Management and Life Skills
- Mental Health Services
- and more...

Any parent/guardian needing help can contact our office for assistance.

**Daniel Lugo, Program Director**  
[daniell@socialmodel.com](mailto:daniell@socialmodel.com)

or

**Dr. Julianne Reynoso, Project Director**  
[reynoso.julianne@pusd.us](mailto:reynoso.julianne@pusd.us)

A partnership with:

### **PASADENA COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG DEPENDENCE (PCADD)**



A Program of Social Model  
Recovery Systems, Inc.

Pasadena Unified School District's Prop 47 grant program: Pasadena Intervention and Directional Alternatives (PIDA), in partnership with Social Model Recovery Systems, Inc., expands our community's capacity to effectively meet the needs of juveniles in the criminal justice system. PIDA significantly expands Mental Health services; Substance Use Disorder Treatment; and Diversion Programs that include job skills training, job placement, mentoring, and housing support to our homeless and foster population. Our Prop 47 grant program offers a second chance to teen offenders of minor crimes and provides important life skills that are needed to get their lives back on track. Our PIDA project contributes to overarching long-term policy and system change and will vastly expand our existing safety net, Pasadena Positive, to include additional services for our target population, as well as strengthen our relationship with existing diversion programs. We anticipate our Prop 47 program will also result in cultural changes that divert resources from incarceration and maximize alternatives for less serious, nonviolent offenders.



**Prop  
47**



### **Goal #3: Decrease Juvenile Recidivism Rates.**

Activities to support this goal include: 1) refer juvenile offenders that meet Prop 47 eligibility criteria to community-based diversion and supportive services.

**Objective 3.1: To decrease the number of juvenile offenders who receive Prop 47 services who reoffend to 25%, as measured by citations, arrests, and court records.**

None of the participants who received Prop 47 services during this time period have reoffended.

**Objective 3.2: To increase the number of juvenile offenders who complete a Prop 47 diversion program and have not reoffended to 25%, as measured by JOIN and VIDA records.**

None of the participants who received Prop 47 services during this time period have participated in diversion programs.

**Objective 3.3: To increase the number of individuals placed in transitional housing by 10%, as measured by contracts and leases.**

None of the participants received transitional housing services during this reporting period.

**Objective 3.4: To increase the number of juvenile offenders who receive Prop 47 supportive services and improve their behavior in school by 35%, as measured by attendance and behavioral reports.**

Thirty-six individuals received Prop 47 services during this reporting period and none of these participants recorded any attendance or behavior issues at school. Reporting for attendance and behavior was impacted by COVID and distance



learning. Attendance for all PUSD students was 99% during COVID and behavioral incidents were minimal during this same time period due to COVID. An anomaly for this reporting period was created by distance learning and PUSD anticipates that attendance and behavioral issues will unfortunately resume when in-person learning resumes.

***Process Measures***

**3.a The number and type of referrals made.**

Thirty-six individuals were referred to and received Prop 47 services during this reporting period. All 36 participants received therapeutic mental health services.

**3.b The type and amount of services received by each participant.**

The following chart identifies type and amount of services received.

	Therapeutic Mental Health Services	Substance Use Disorder Treatment	Mentors	Diversion Programs	Academic Interventions	Job Skills Training/Placement	Housing	Legal Consultation
Participants	36	0	17	0	17	8	4	0
Amount of Service (cumulative)	180	0	170	0	425	45	16 hours	0





### **3.c The successful completion of each intervention, by participant.**

Eighteen participants successfully completed their program as of March 31, 2021. All 18 of these individuals received and completed therapeutic mental health treatment. Twelve of the participants received mentoring and academic interventions and successfully graduated high school during this reporting period.

### **3.d The number of PUSD and community partner employees who receive training in the Why Try? and Aggression Replacement Training curriculum.**

None. Training was postponed due to COVID. PUSD expects to host this training in the spring 2021 semester.





### SPECIAL THANKS TO

CORRECTIONS PLANNING AND GRANT PROGRAMS  
BOARD OF STATE & COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

**PASADENA**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# PASADENA POSITIVE FUTURES PROGRAM

COMMUNITY SUPPORTING AT-RISK YOUTH



**PASADENA**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT





## IF YOUR CHILD IS IN NEED OF SUPPORT, WE PROVIDE:

- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Housing-Related Assistance
- Job Skills & Placement Services
- Mentorship
- Mental Health Services
- Legal Consultations

## PASADENA POSITIVE FUTURES PROGRAM

### A partnership with:

Pasadena Unified School District  
Pasadena Police Department  
LA County Sheriff's Department  
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office  
LA County Department of Mental Health  
LA County Department of Probation  
Learning Works  
Pasadena City College  
Social Model Recovery System

Pasadena Unified School District's Prop 47 grant program: Pasadena Intervention and Directional Alternatives (PIDA), in partnership with the agencies listed above, expands our community's capacity to effectively meet the needs of juveniles in the criminal justice system. PIDA significantly expands Mental Health services; Substance Use Disorder Treatment; and Diversion Programs that include job skills training, job placement, mentoring, and housing support to our homeless and foster population. Our Prop 47 grant program offers a second chance to teen offenders of minor crimes and provides important life-skills that are needed to get their lives back on track. Our PIDA project contributes to overarching, long-term policy and system change and will vastly expand our existing safety net, Pasadena Positive, to include additional services for our target population, as well as strengthen our relationship with existing diversion programs. We anticipate our PROP 47 program will also result in cultural changes that divert resources from incarceration and maximize alternatives for less serious, nonviolent offenders.

Any parent/guardian needing help can contact our office for assistance.

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# PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT YOUTH AGES 12 TO 21



Prop  
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#### 4.D Unduplicated Participants and Progress Towards Reducing Recidivism.

A total of 36 unduplicated participants received Prop 47 services from the period beginning on January 1, 2020 and ending on March 31, 2021. Of the total number of unduplicated participants, 18 successfully completed their program, and two exited the program without successfully completing their program. As of March 31, 2021 none of these participants have reoffended.

- Twenty-three (23) participants were male and thirteen (13) were female
- Twenty-seven (27) participants were Hispanic/Latino, seven (7) were Black, one (1) was Asian, and one (1) was White.
- Participant ages included: 1 fourteen-year-olds, 1 fifteen-year-olds, 6 sixteen-year-olds, 10 seventeen-years-old's, 1 eighteen-year-old, 7 nineteen-year-olds, 2 twenty-year-olds, and 3 twenty-one-year-olds.

**Successful Program Completion** is defined by each Community-Based Organization and individual service provider. Participants receiving therapeutic mental health services work closely with their therapist to identify goals for treatment and use the Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) to measure progress in a pre/post format. The mental health therapists report whether each participant reached his/her goal and successfully completed the program. Additional information for participants who do not meet their goals is provided (graduated, completed probation, moved, stopped coming, etc.). We organize data for participants who stop coming to treatment into two types: 1) factors that PUSD may be able to impact and 2) factors that PUSD cannot control. PUSD and the LAC review this data and strategize ways to



address factors PUSD may be able to impact such as stigma, lack of therapeutic rapport, or logistical barriers. This same methodology is utilized for participants who receive substance use disorder treatments.

What constitutes successful completion of participation in the VIDA and JOIN diversion programs is established at enrollment and included in the contract signed by the participant, his/her guardian, and the authorizing agency.

Successful completion for services that include housing, employment, mentoring, and legal aid are established by the agency during the intake process. Goals, objectives, and activities to reach goals are identified, and reported to SPSG when participants leave the program.

The definition of recidivism used for the Prop 47 grant program aligns with the BSCC and is defined as a conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody or committed within three years of placement on supervision for a previous criminal conviction (PC Sec. 6046.2(d)). "Committed" refers to the date of the offense, not the date of conviction.

PUSD's Prop 47 grant program also provides services to youth on both informal and information probation. Informal probation is for youth who are at-risk for being placed on formal probation due to previous behavior and incidents, or are participants in a diversion program with the juvenile court system. We use the same definition of recidivism, however the adjudication may not include commitment. As an example, if a youth has been previously adjudicated through the JOIN program, and then subsequently re-offends he/she will be adjudicated through the juvenile courts, which wouldn't



necessarily include commitment. Juveniles can be placed on formal probation, sent to the juvenile detention center, or assigned to a juvenile camp, depending on the offense and sentence.



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## 4.E Data Collected to Demonstrate Project Progress and Performance.

The following chart identifies the type of data, collection frequency, and responsible party for the three outcomes:

Data Source	Who will collect raw data	Frequency of raw data collection	Analysis and Reporting
<b>Increase Systems Capacity and Infrastructure to Address Juvenile Delinquency</b>			
LAC Meeting agendas and minutes	SPSG	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Executed agreements and Memorandums of Understanding	PUSD	Real-time	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Adopted policies, practices and protocols	PUSD	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
<b>Decrease Drug and Alcohol Abuse</b>			
Arrest records – including dispensation, probation records	Juvenile Court/Department of Probation	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports
Crime data	Pasadena Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Attendance records/certificates of completion	Social Model Recovery System	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Seeking Safety attendance logs	Social Model Recovery System	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
<b>Decrease Juvenile Recidivism Rates for the Target Population</b>			
Arrest records – including dispensation, probation records	Juvenile Court/Department of Probation	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports
Crime data	Pasadena Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department	Annual	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Sign-in Sheets/certificates of completion for Diversion programs	Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department: VIDA Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office: JOIN	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.



<b>Data Source</b>	<b>Who will collect raw data</b>	<b>Frequency of raw data collection</b>	<b>Analysis and Reporting</b>
Mental Health Logs	Pacific Clinics, PUSD mental health department	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Academic interventions	Learning Works	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Job training attendance sheets	Learning Works	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Job applications submitted and positions acquired	Learning Works	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Mentoring logs	Learning Works	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Legal Consultations	Learning Works	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Attendance logs for evidence-based interventions (Why Try? and Aggression Replacement Training)	PUSD	Monthly	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.
Attendance and behavior data	PUSD	Annual	Quarterly status report and annual evaluation reports.



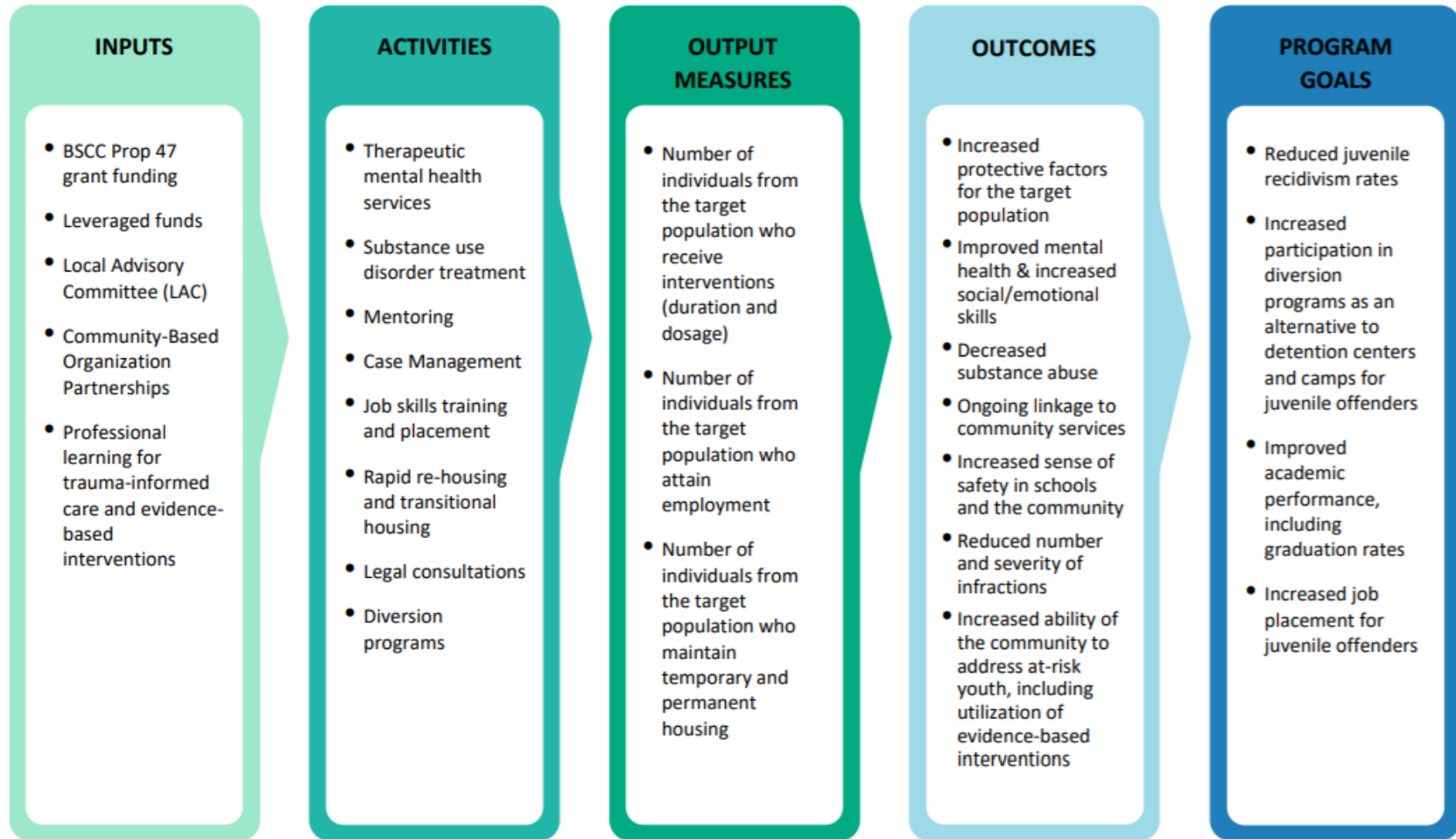


The following chart identifies how process variables and outcome variables were measured:

Primary Evaluation Questions for YDP			
To what degree and in what manner has/have:	Implementation aligned with the program model?	Key elements & approach have been described?	Participants made & maintained gains in proposed outcomes?
<b>Quantitative Measures</b>			
YDP Prop 47 Fidelity Index	√	√	
Case Management Records	√	√	
Mental Health Referrals and Treatment Logs	√	√	√
Juvenile Court/Crime Data (law enforcement, probation, courts)			√
Employment Records: interviews, placement, job skills training			√
Intervention and service records (housing, legal consultations, evidence-based interventions, etc.)			√
Surveys: Close-ended Questions			√
Student Academic and Graduation Records			√
Student Conduct Records: attendance, referrals, suspensions/expulsions			√
Attendance Logs: training and professional development			√
Personnel Records: new hires and performance reviews	√	√	√
<b>Qualitative Measures</b>			
PUSD Administrative Records	√	√	
On-Site Observations	√	√	
Focus Groups	√	√	
Key Informant Interviews	√	√	
Surveys: Open-ended questions	√	√	



# 5. Current Logic Model



## 6. Grantee Highlight

No success stories have been submitted by organizations providing services as of this report. SPSG continues to request and discuss the importance of grantee highlights and providers have indicated they will begin to submit them.



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PUSD utilizes grant funds to implement a collaborative effort to reduce juvenile recidivism rates and delinquency through the use of evidence-based prevention and intervention activities.

