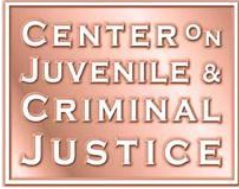


New and exciting reform initiatives for you!



New exciting reforms take shape in California

::PUBLICATIONS::

AB 109 Realignment [reduces prison population](#) but counties vary in their response

[CJCJ's recent report](#) shows that California's prison population is reducing as planned, and targeting the intended population. Eight months after AB 109 implementation, new prison commitments for low-level offenders have reduced by over 60% while there has been only a marginal reduction in commitment for violent offenders.

Interestingly, San Francisco County has experienced large reductions in their prison commitments despite existing reduced reliance on incarceration. Meanwhile, San Joaquin County has experienced lower reductions in their prison commitments and six counties saw increases in their prison commitments. More in-depth county-by-county analysis is needed to understand these varying trends.

[Santa Cruz County](#) uses systemic approach to realignment with successful outcomes

In collaboration with the Santa Cruz County Probation and Sheriff's Departments, and the County's Superior Court, CJCJ conducted an in-depth analysis of the county's arrest and incarceration trends to determine what approaches the county has taken to improve local criminal justice outcomes. The publication identified numerous deliberate strategies that have resulted in positive outcomes, and could be replicable in other counties.

In particular, the investment in pretrial services and detention alternatives has alleviated the county's overcrowded jail while maintaining public safety. More on this particular intervention can be found here: [Deliberate strategies in Santa Cruz alleviate jail space](#) and [A road map for adult realignment](#).

For more information read this opinion piece by Santa Cruz County Probation Chief Scott MacDonald: [Systems Change In An Era Of Crime Decline](#).

::JUVENILE JUSTICE::

[Sierra Health Foundation](#) launches statewide juvenile justice initiative offering counties technical assistance

The Sierra Health Foundation (SHF) has launched a first of its kind statewide [Positive Youth](#)

[Justice Initiative](#). Awarded counties will work collaboratively with other county departments to improve their wraparound services for cross-over youth, utilizing strengths-based trauma-informed care. SHF's innovative forward-thinking pursuit to ensure each youth has access to a healthy life, recognizes involvement in the juvenile justice system poses a barrier to that goal.

SHF recently highlighted San Francisco's unique community-based wraparound approach. CJCJ's panel presentation emphasized [Renewing Juvenile Justice](#)'s recommendation to maximize often underutilized wraparound funds for probation-involved youth. Watch the [video](#) to learn the hurdles a youth faced and what services he received to help him realize his own personal strengths. CJCJ's Executive Director Daniel Macallair, Juvenile Justice Clinical Supervisor, Margaret Hitchcock, and WRAP Rehabilitation Counselor Randell Lewis presented alongside Deputy Director of the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department Allison Magee, and Statewide expert on EPSDT and Wraparound funding Joseph Harrington.

Deputy Director Dinky Manek Enty attended the events and emphasized the strengths-based approach San Francisco takes to providing Wraparound services:

“We do not use the cookie cutter method. Clients receive individualized tailored services that leverage a youth's strengths and address his/her unique needs.”

[Her recent blog](#) offers additional insight into CJCJ's unique direct service philosophy.

::LEGISLATIVE UPDATE::

Governor signs juvenile justice reforms into law, ushering in new phase for juvenile justice realignment

On Wednesday, the Governor signed the \$92 billion 2012-13 California budget into law. The budget includes some of the most significant reforms in state juvenile justice policy since the passage of Senate Bill 81 in 2007. It is clear that the Governor's administration advanced the DJF reforms because of the sustained pressure from advocacy, community, and policy-based groups, like [CJCJ](#).

DJF Reform Highlights:

- 1. New \$24,000 per youth fee structure:** Charges counties \$24,000 for each *future* ward in DJF that is sentenced in juvenile court, 10 times the amount that counties paid previously. This fee change will increase disincentives for use of DJF.
- 2. Elimination of "Projected Board Date Extensions" (otherwise known as Time-Adds):** The date of a youth's parole board consideration can no longer be deferred as a disciplinary measure in DJF.
- 3. Reduction of the maximum age of jurisdiction from 25 to 23-years-old:** This policy will cut down on excessive lengths of stay in DJF, which were resulting in 7-8 years extended sentences.

These necessary reforms will provide key opportunities for counties to show leadership in improving juvenile justice outcomes, especially with their highest-needs populations.

Need a book for the summer?

Nancy Mullane's "[*Life after Murder*](#)" follows five individuals serving life with the possibility of parole sentences in San Quentin State Prison and upon their release. Here's a [quick blog review](#).

Kenny Johnson's "[*The Last Hustle*](#)" follows Kenny through his criminal lifestyle, years of incarceration, and transformation into a lawful community provider.

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