



Community Corrections

County of Yolo

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Brent Cardall
Chief Probation
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Executive Summary Yolo County Construction Program May, 2017

Overview

The Yolo County Construction Program (YCCP) is an educational, vocational and rehabilitation program designed to engage youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system.

Challenge

The Yolo County Probation Department faced a challenge of keeping youth under the jurisdiction of delinquency court engaged in education. A large portion of high risk probation youth in Yolo County are placed at Cesar Chavez Community School (CCCS). In the CCCS 2015/2016 school year only 20% of the student body attended 75% or more days of school. In fact, 53% of students attended less than half the number of days of school and the school had a 25% rate of suspension. With a significant number of our probation youth not attending school the county needed a program that would incentivize youth to attend school and remain at school.

Solution

YCCP is a collaborative multiagency program where youth attend school in the morning and paid work in the afternoon. The program is designed and run by the Probation Department but several agencies have partnered with probation including Northern California Construction Training (NCCT), Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) and Communicare treatment services. Each agency provides resources to the YCCP youth to ensure there are no obstacles to the youth being successful. The probation department provides the youth with uniforms, backpacks, work boots and money for materials and supplies. A full time probation officer is assigned to the program and provides security and transportation for the youth as well as acting as a liaison to the courts. NCCT provides a skilled craftsperson and aide to teach the youth vocational skills and oversee work projects. YCOE provides a classroom, food, teacher, teacher's aide and other educational materials.

Communicare provides a counselor to assist the youth when they are in crises. The Yolo Superior Court has also assisted by providing four volunteer tutors to help YCCP youth with assignments.

Originality

What makes YCCP unique is it is all encompassing due to the fact transportation, food, education, counseling and skill development are all provided in one program. Another unique element of YCCP is it is incentive based rather than sanction based. Youth want to engage in the program for the opportunity to earn a wage. It is also important to note YCCP requires strong collaboration with multiple organizations to deliver services that no one agency could provide.

Cost Effectiveness

Yolo County Probation realigned existing resources to staff the case management of YCCP at no additional cost. However, Probation expanded services to fund NCCT Vocational Education and equipment with \$392,183 annually. This program has increased Average Daily Attendance (ADA) for YCOE by 23% and therefore an additional \$45,439 in ADA State revenue will be received as a result of establishing this program. This revenue is in addition to the reduced cost realized by probation officers spending significantly less time responding to unexcused absences and conflicts that occurred prior to the YCCP Program. Though this is the first year of this program, and more analysis has yet to be done on its cost effectiveness, we have already identified a notable increase in Average Daily Attendance among YCCP youth going from 63% to 85%.

Results

For the 2016 to 2017 school year 100 percent of YCCP participants have met the goal of 75% or greater attendance and the average rate of attendance for participants is 85%. There have been no suspensions. Ten youth will graduate from the program this year, two of which will earn their high school diplomas. YCCP has not only been successful in motivating participants to attend school this year but has also generated excitement and interest in the regular CCCS student body as there is already a YCCP waiting list for the 2017 to 2018 school year.

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Optional Submission: Please see attached photos of YCCP projects.