



# CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA

## Legislative Priorities and Vision for 2021-2022

### To Serve & Support Our Communities, Our Clients, and Our Staff.

Support, listen and communicate to demonstrate:

- Probation is the *alternative to incarceration*;
- Probation successfully *connects service and need to enhance safety and restoration*;
- Probation delivers *sustainable community safety*.

#### **Build trust in probation and government systems**

- Strengthen our service centered model, elevate crime survivors, and bridge systems of care to better serve probation clients and our communities to improve sustainable outcomes.

Expand the use of restorative justice programming as a part of the individualized treatment and rehabilitation plans to reduce future victimization.

Support and promote efforts to provide system responses and resources to achieve sustainable safety and wellness.

Support legislative efforts on training and practices that instill confidence in the system including transparency and accountability efforts.

#### **Enhance equity**

- Expand response frameworks to prevent harm and reduce disproportionality.

Sponsor legislation to address and support emerging young adults in the criminal justice system and bridging systems, services, and supports to achieve better outcomes for the community.

Support best practices that lead to reducing and eventually eliminating disparities. Seek to partner on legislative changes that would enhance probation's ability to make positive impacts supported through research.

Continue to seek ways to support pretrial services to balance safety, fairness, and the rights of defendants and victims.

**Support stronger re-entry**

- Enhance a client-centered focus on wellness, assistance, and coaching to improve lives within community corrections.

Continue to educate on probation’s role as a conduit for reentry services. Support legislative efforts that provide reentry supports and services proven to enhance improved outcomes.

Continue to promote the use of graduated sanctions, behavior matrices to guide responses, and client-centered approaches to align probation terms with successful outcomes.

Support state funding at levels to sustain front loaded services and evidence-based practices to incentivize success with supervised populations.

**Strengthen youth and families**

- Support continuums that keep youth from entering the justice system and utilize strategies to further limit the use of detention through adoption of the Elevate Justice Act.

Sponsor a bill to establish a pilot program for counties to develop a peer youth counsel program for youth and family intervention and diversion.

Identify ways to redesign local juvenile facilities to continue to address the secure, trauma-informed, and therapeutic system needed for the previously DJJ eligible youth.

Partner with stakeholders to enhance opportunities, continuity, and pathways to higher education for youth in, or formerly in the juvenile justice system

Support services such as mental health and/or substance use treatment for those in need without having to be pulled into the justice system to access.

Sponsor bill(s) to institute use of decision risk instrument to determine whether custody is appropriate for juvenile probation violations; ensure probation terms and conditions are specific to the specified risk-factors of the youth and the offense committed; and create incentives and structure to earn early completion of probation.

**Enhance workforce development**

- Promote quality training and education for professionals in probation and enhance staff wellness.

Develop a program to provide tuition assistance and workforce development to postgraduate students to enter into the probation profession.

Support training and programs that focus on employee wellness and self-care.

Support opportunities to further enhance the probation profession to attract a diverse and elevated workforce and maintain the highest standards in service to the counties and the court