

Sonoma County Community Corrections Partnership
Funding Request and Change Form

Date: January 6, 2025
Requesting Agency: Sheriff's Office
Contact: Tory Callaway
Phone: (707) 565-2872
Email: tory.callaway@sonoma-county.org
Is Request One-time or On-going? On-going
Request Amount
 Current FY: \$0
 Annualized: \$115,423
Request Title: Sheriff's Office Programs Deputy

I. Description of Funding Request

(Address questions such as: What would the proposed program accomplish? What changes led to this request? Which populations would this program serve? Include data to justify program needs and costs.)

The Sheriff's Office requests \$115,423 to fund half of the 1.0 FTE Programs Deputy position.

The Sheriff's Office operates a Programs Unit staffed by a sergeant, correctional deputy, and administrative aide. Together they coordinate the delivery of services to Sonoma County's incarcerated population, including but not limited to education (SRJC courses and the Five Keys Charter HS), recreation, enrichment, literacy, an electronic law library, anger management classes, yoga, art therapy, parenting and job skills, puppy raising, and support in connecting families. Program offerings also include the PATHs program, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MAT) courses, therapeutic groups and religious group meetings.

The value of these programs is beyond measure. In FY 23-24, the Programs Unit was able to offer contracted services to 632 enrollees and provided volunteer-based opportunities to another 9,305 (participants may enroll in multiple classes/programs). Participants were able to receive high school diplomas, work towards a degree in higher education, receive training and skills to help them cope with trauma and stress in productive ways, and to assist them upon reentering the community. Opportunities were available in individual and group settings, and via the tablets. Eligibility is based on classification.

To provide the wide variety of programming to incarcerated persons, the Programs Unit relies heavily on the Programs Deputy. This position is responsible for reviewing the 700+ incarcerated individuals for programming eligibility, ensuring safety and security in the facility with movement between classes, scheduling classes for all programming, maintaining records of enrollment and participant progress, processing milestones in accordance with California Penal Code Section 4019, managing tablet resources, responding to requests from incarcerated

persons, processing religious requests, completing pro-per requests, liaising with 300+ program providers, facilitating inmate voting during elections, and providing trainings for safety and security and PREA compliance for providers in the facility.

The Sheriff oversees an Inmate Welfare Trust (IWT) Fund, per CA Penal Code Section 4025 for the benefit, welfare and educational needs of incarcerated adults in Sonoma County. The Trust funds the Programs Correctional Deputy and Programs Administrative Aide positions and other Programs expenses. In FY 23-24 the Trust expenses for Programs were \$531,917. The CCP currently funds the 1.0 FTE Programs Sergeant position, and \$165,000 toward Programs expenses.

The Trust's revenue comes primarily from commissary commission, bail bond advertising, and certain paid entertainment on the tablets. Prior to 2021, the primary source of revenue was commission on incarcerated persons' phone calls, but this was eliminated in October 2021 following implementation of a CPUC rate cap. Annual revenue to the Trust has decreased significantly as a result. For example, in FY 18-19 IWT revenue was \$1,074,258, compared with \$527,201 in FY 23-24. At the same time, expenses for staffing and contracted services have continued to increase, leaving an imbalance that ultimately threatens the sustainability of the Trust and the Sheriff's Office ability to provide these services. Baseline expenses for staff and services will outpace current IWT revenue streams by FY 26-27.

If approved, partial funding of the 1.0 FTE Programs Deputy position by the CCP would relieve pressure on the Trust, improve sustainability and help ensure that the Programs Unit is able to continue providing a wide variety of in-custody development and rehabilitative opportunities to incarcerated persons to assist them as they reenter the community. The Programs Deputy position benefits the AB109 population by enabling the implementation of strategies and programs using evidence-based tools that contribute to reduced rates of recidivism.

II. Staffing Requested

(Detail the requested FTEs and associated costs.)

Specifically, the funding request includes the following:

- Partial funding (50%) of 1.0 FTE correctional deputy \$111,771
 - County FTE interfund expenses @ 0.5 FTE \$ 3,652
- \$115,423

The Sheriff's Office arrived at this cost using the SCLabor tool. No overtime will be included in this request. If approved, this cost will be on-going and will be included with the Sheriff's budget in future years.

III. Services and Supplies Requested

(Detail the requested services and supplies associated with the requested FTEs.)

County interfund expenses of \$3,652 are included in the \$115,423 request. If approved, these expenses will be budgeted as CCP position-related services and supplies.

IV. This request most closely aligns with Funding Category:

Category 2: Clearly assists with County's criminal justice system overall but may not directly or exclusively impact AB 109 offenders.