



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Los Angeles County Probation COVID-19 Weekly Update January 15, 2021

Efforts to address the medically fragile population in detention facilities

The Probation Department currently does not have any youth with compromised immune systems or other medical conditions placing them at higher risk for COVID-19 infection. Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) has identified 10 youth in care with underlying medical conditions which might exacerbate the impact of such infection. There are 8 youth in the juvenile halls and 2 in the camps. If infection were to occur JCHS and the Probation Department will be working together on individualized plans to address their care.

Efforts to further reduce population in adult and juvenile detention facilities while balancing public safety

The Probation Department's juvenile detention population has declined during the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 2, 2020, the juvenile detention population was 840.

On January 13, 2021 the population was 421. The population in juvenile halls was 268 and the population in camps was 153.

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has continued to schedule early releases from California prisons to the Probation Department AB109 program for supervision. The number of early releases has declined significantly in the last four months. As of December 31, 2020, there have been 2,811 early releases scheduled from CDCR.

Efforts to provide resources to support those released from jails, and juvenile detention facilities to prevent homelessness

The Probation Department continues to make efforts to reduce the population in juvenile halls by releasing youth to parents, guardians, and suitable placements when appropriate.

The Probation Department continues to partner with CDCR to receive early releases from California prisons to AB109 supervision in the communities. All homeless adult clients are provided with housing referrals to prevent homelessness.

Plans for adequate quarantining and isolation of individuals in custody

The Probation Department continues to utilize the plans for quarantine and isolation in accordance with the Public Health Order for the control of COVID-19.

All isolations and quarantines in detention facilities continue to occur in partnership with JCHS personnel. Upon entry to probation facilities, all youth will continue to be tested for COVID-19 and remain in isolation until results are received. As of January 13, 2021, 152 youth had tested positive for COVID-19. There are 89 youth who tested positive at admission. There have been 63 youth who have tested positive for COVID-19 while in care: 9 at Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC), 13 from BJNJH, 9 at Camp Glenn Rockey (CGR), 14 at Central Juvenile Hall(CJH), 4 at Camp Afflerbaugh (CBA) and 14 from Camp Joseph Paige (CJP).

As of January 13, 2021, there are 145 youth in quarantine due to possible exposure to COVID-19. There are 53 at CJH, 49 at BJNJH, 20 at CJP, 19, and 23 at CBA.

All juvenile hall living units and camps under quarantine have full programming, apart from in-person visiting. Youth under quarantine continue to have access to virtual visiting and an increase in telephone communication with families. The youth continue to participate in programming with their living unit, with limits set to avoid interaction with the non-quarantine youth. The youth under quarantine in juvenile halls have individual laptops for virtual remote learning services, provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Education (LACOE).

The quarantined youth in camp continue to have the same programming and activities. The camps under quarantine remain closed to newly admitted youth who have been given camp dispositions from juvenile court. JCHS has taken extra precautions in placing living units and camps under quarantine due to the increase in the community of COVID-19 positive cases.

Increased washing of hands, hygiene, additional cleaning supplies and custodial services

The Probation Department has continued to utilize the hygiene and cleaning plans outlined in the first weekly update. The Probation Department continues to receive additional supplies to assist with cleaning and enhanced safety measures. The field offices have safety plans in place that evolve to keep pace with local and state health orders.

Screening of youth, focus on healthy staffing in the detention facilities

The Probation Department continues to screen newly detained youth upon their arrival to juvenile hall. They are separated from other youth until negative COVID-19 results are received. Employees continue to be screened prior to their entrance into detention facilities. Youth who have tested positive remain in medical isolation and those youth who potentially have been exposed have been quarantined and continue to be monitored by JCHS.

Additions include the following:

- As of January 13, 2021, there have been 3,174 youth tested for COVID-19 since testing was initiated on May 3, 2020.
- There have been 1,685 youth tested upon admission in juvenile halls, 1069 tested from juvenile hall's general population, and 420 tested from the camp population.
- As of January 13, 2021, 619 Probation Department employees have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Of this 619, 311 employees work in detention facilities and 308 work in field offices, which includes 3 contract employees.
- As of January 10, 2021, 65 employees reported positive cases were due to work exposure.
- As of January 10, 2021, 90 percent of the employees who tested positive for COVID-19 were exposed outside of the workplace at home, family gatherings, and in communities with most reporting they were exposed by close friends and family.
- The Probation Department's Risk Mitigation Unit has conducted a COVID-19 mask awareness monitoring to support employee's compliance with Public Health guidelines.

Plan for virtual contact with visitation, keeping families connected and increased communication

As of December 7, 2020, in-person visiting has been suspended for the juvenile halls and camps, due to the current Public Health Stay at Home Order. The suspension is expected to be temporary and will resume when it is determined to be safe for the visitors and the detained youth. The facilities have increased virtual visitations and telephone calls to parents and guardians during the temporary suspension on in-person visits.

The juveniles and camps are preparing a variety of events that include essay contests, drawing contests and trivia questionnaires in remembrance of Martin Luther King Jr. In addition, Camp Paige is currently preparing to have softball practice to prepare for an upcoming tournament in early February.

Additional Information

As of January 14, 2021, there are 228 youth in STRTP's and 21 with Resource Families, and there are no longer any youth placed out of state. As of January 14, 2021, there are 5 positive COVID-19 youth in STRTP's.

There are no longer any youth in out of state placements. Of the 21 youth, from December 8, 2020, there were 10 youth who were re-placed to in state STRTP's. There were 8 youth placed home on probation, 2 youth that received terminated juvenile probation cases, and 1 youth was re-placed with dual supervision (Department of Children and Family Services lead).

Additional Information

As of December 10, 2020, 270 youth have been placed in STRTPs, 220 of whom are in California, 29 of whom are in California with Resource Families, and 21 of whom are placed in STRTP's out of California. As of December 10, 2020, there are 11 youth in quarantine in state and 12 COVID-19 positive cases in state. There are currently no youth in quarantine or positive for COVID-19 out of California.

Future Updates

The care of youth in Probation facilities is a joint effort between the L.A. County Probation Department, Juvenile Court Health Services, Department of Mental Health and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. During the COVID-19 crisis, these agencies have collaborated to create an environment of safety and stability for the youth under their care.

We are pleased that the situation in our juvenile facilities has remained largely stable during the COVID crisis and this creates an opportunity to respond to

your needs for additional information about the situation. Accordingly, we invite questions related to the County's response to COVID-19 in its juvenile probation facilities or topics you would like to see addressed in future updates. Please email any questions to COVIDquestions@probation.lacounty.gov and we will select questions and provide responses in future weekly updates. Please note that we cannot discuss the circumstances of any individual youth assigned to probation facilities or any pending litigation.

To view previous Probation COVID-19 updates, please visit <https://probation.lacounty.gov/coronavirus>



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The Los Angeles County Probation Department is committed to rebuilding lives and providing for healthier and safer communities for all 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, the Probation Department's mission is to enhance public safety, ensure victims' rights and effect positive probationer behavioral change. The Probation Department comprises nearly 6,100 employees and has an operational budget of \$900 Million as of 2019.

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