



# SANTA CRUZ COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE, SANTA CRUZ, CA

- **County Structure**
  - Governed by County Board of Supervisors representing five County districts
  - Chief Probation Officer appointed by Superior Court Judges
- **Santa Cruz County, CA -- Demographics**
  - Central Coast
  - Mid-Sized Population: 269,871
  - Agriculture, Tourism, Government, and High Tech
  - 50% Latino Court-Aged Youth
  - 42 Bed Detention Facility
- **JDAI Workplan**
  - Data-Based Decision Making
  - Adopted Detention Criteria
  - Revised Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI)
  - Improve Use of RAI-Expediter
  - Improve Detention Alternatives
  - Administrative Responses
  - Improve Post Disposition Case Processing
  - Address DMC at all decision points
  - Improve Conditions of Confinement
- **JDAI Impact Results**
  - Juvenile Hall Average Daily Population 1996-2014 - 65% Decrease
  - Admissions to Juvenile Hall 1996-2014 - 38% Decrease
  - Juvenile Hall Average Length of Stay 1996-2014 - 31% Decrease
  - Average Length of Stay, Dispo to Placement 1996-2014 - 37% Decrease
  - Latino Youth Detention Average Daily Pop 1996-2014 - 54% Decrease
  - Use of Alternatives 2000-2014 - 190% Increase in Bed Days Saved
  - Relationship and shared funding with Community Based Organizations

## Jurisdictional Focus and Highlights

- **Cutting Edge Work on DMC**
  - Moved DMC data collection and analysis to all levels of Probation.
- **Evolved placement screening committee**
  - Probation, Mental Health, CBO's and Health Services at the Table
  - Parents and Youth Invited and Encouraged to Participate
- **Wraparound Program**
  - Multi-system, treatment approach, aimed at keeping high criminogenic, high needs youth in their own homes and community
- **System of Care**
  - Santa Cruz County Juvenile Justice Services fully integrated with Children's Mental Health Services to create a full continuum of services at all levels of the process
- **Evening Center**
  - Government and CBO Run

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