

Coalition for Family Harmony

ROPP Budget Presentation

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COALITION
FOR FAMILY HARMONY

Background

- Coalition for Family Harmony is a 48- year- old nonprofit agency that provides comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault through intervention, prevention, and education.
 - Housing
 - Rape Crisis Center
 - Legal Team
 - Counseling: Individual/Families/Children
 - Probation/HSA/CFS
 - Groups
 - Education/Outreach
 - LGBTQ+ counseling program

ROPP: Repeat Offender Prevention Program

- ROPP is an intensive, comprehensive, multidisciplinary program that provides services to first time formal wards, informal probationers, and DEJ youth who are 16.5 or younger at the time they are placed on supervision, and who demonstrate at least 3 to 4 risk factors associated with chronic delinquency. The ROPP team is comprised of four probation officers, one SrDPO, one SDPO, one marriage and family therapist, and 3 youth advocates. The primary objective of ROPP is to provide early identification and services to eligible youth. ROPPs broadly defined objectives include breaking the pattern of delinquency, antisocial behavior and domestic violence, by providing services before the youth become entrenched in the juvenile justice system.

Target Population

- The target population is known as the "8%". These are youth who are identified as having specific characteristics which make them a high risk for reoffending.
 1. 16.5 years of age or younger at the time of their initial case disposition
 2. Declared wards of the Court at their initial system referral
 3. Found to have significantly more problems in 4 composite areas:
 - ◆ Significant family problems such as domestic violence, child abuse and family criminality
 - ◆ School attendance or performance problems
 - ◆ Drug and or alcohol use
 - ◆ Pre delinquent behaviors such as runaway, theft, and gang involvement
- It was found that chronic juvenile offenders have a significantly higher rate of incarceration and recidivism. More than half of the families of high-risk youth have significant problems impeding their ability to provide adequate supervision, structure or support to their children. Youth are reviewed periodically throughout the time spent in the program.

ROPP Advocacy Program

- ROPP Advocacy Program: Goals
 - Increase pro social activities and connections
 - Cavalia Horse Show
 - Sporting Events
 - Channel Islands Adventures
 - Group Activities
 - Restaurants
 - Movies
 - Bowling
 - Museums
 - Volunteer
 - Transportation
 - Positive rapport with mentor
 - Exposing youth to new and positive experiences
 - Help complete probation terms (education, volunteering, drug and alcohol counseling, therapy)
 - Ongoing family support including food boxes, Holiday presents and meals
 - Decrease recidivism

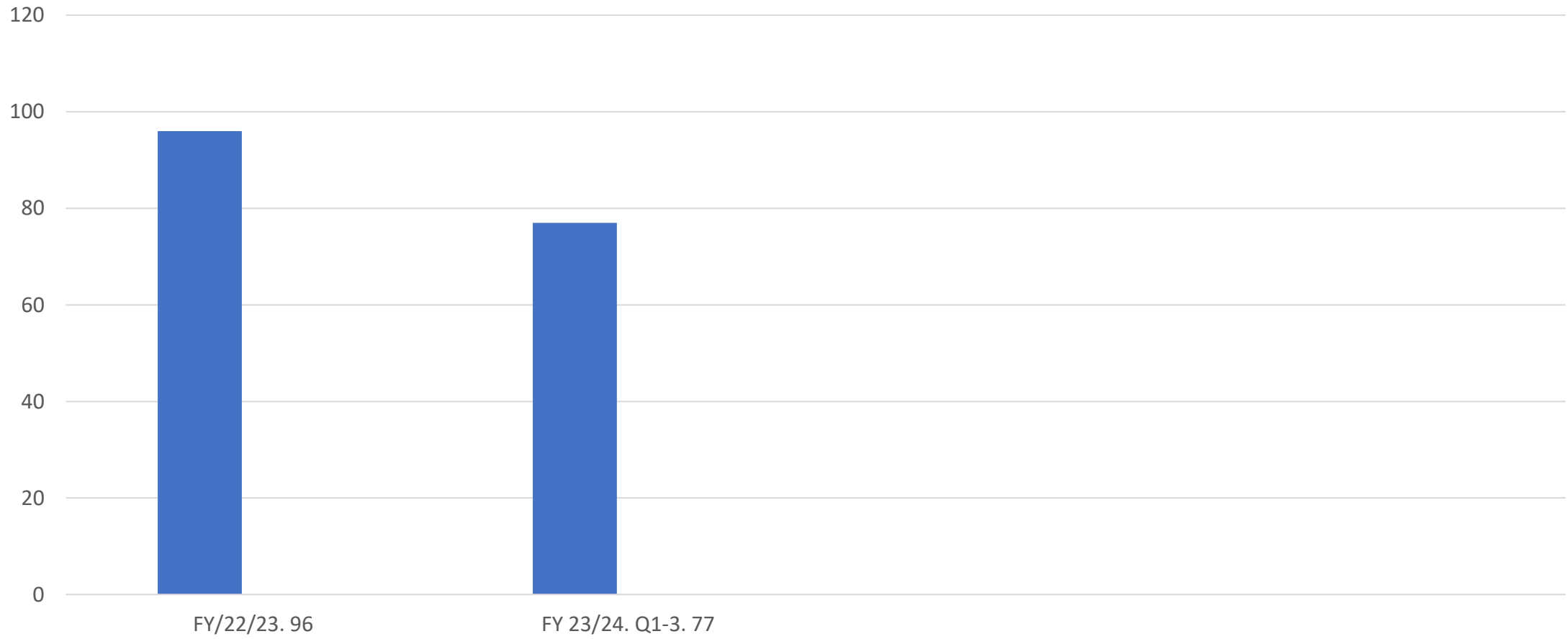


Other Advocate Duties

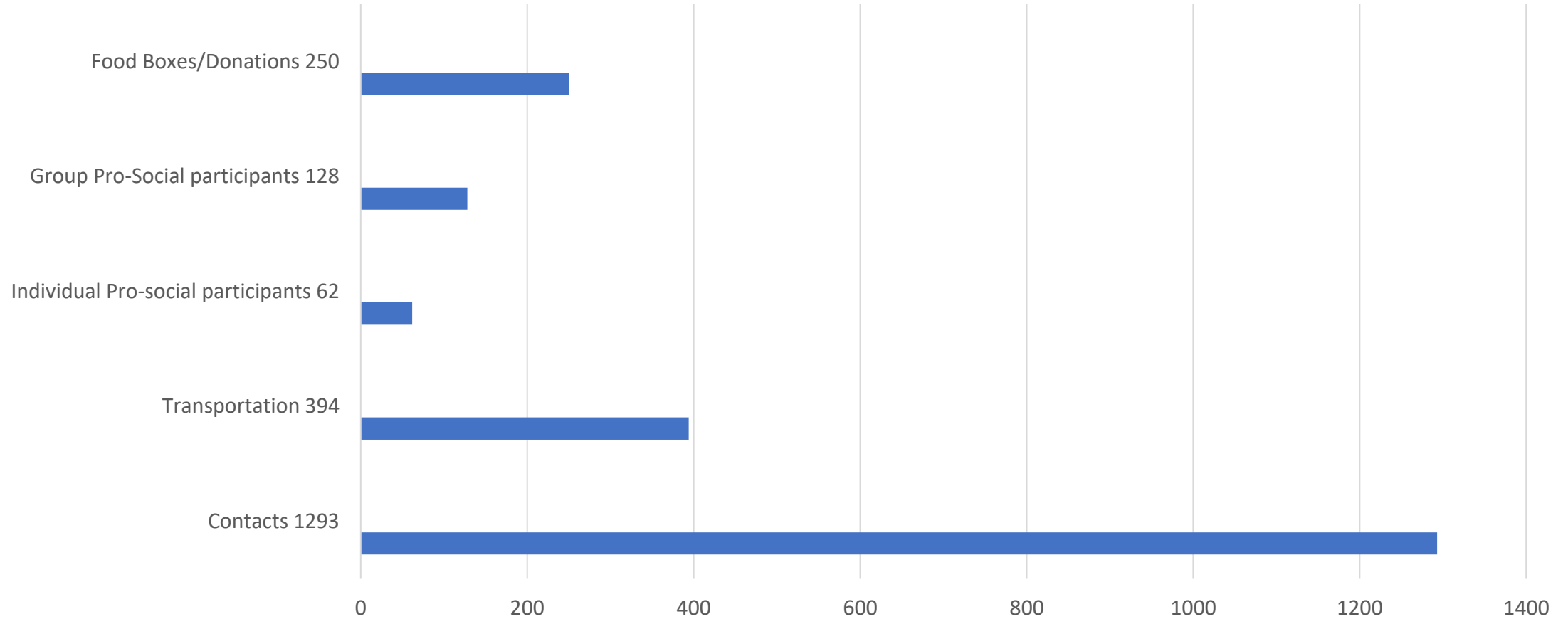
- Assisting Other Units with
 - Transportation
 - Complete Community Service



Youth Served



Activities and Outreach: FY 23/24 Q1-3



Impact-DPO Statements

- *“ROPP is important for our clients because it provides them support from the youth advocates. The youth advocates build relationships with some of our clients and obtain information from them that they may not want to share with their DPO. A lot of our kids need food, clothing, and transportation, ROPP staff provide all those things and can sometimes identify clients who are in more need than others. ROPP staff also provide awesome pro-social activities for our clients and expose them to places they have never been to, which is crucial so they can see that there is more to life than just their town.” –DPO, Garcia*
- *“ROPP is beneficial to our clients because it brings resources in house rather than a waitlist to receive services that are needed. For example, therapy can begin as soon as days after the referral is sent, but if we do a referral to outside sources, it may take weeks to a few months due to a waitlist. ROPP often sees clients weekly and if a parent had to transport them to every appointment, this could severely impact the family financially where they could lose housing or not have enough money for food. This would also be a burden for parents who do not have a driver’s license. ROPP takes that obstacle away by having youth advocates who provide the rides to and from appointments. Along with that, youth advocates take clients to pro-socials and show them what life outside of crime is. No other juvenile unit offers these resources that ROPP and this allows our 13–17-year-old thrive on probation.” –DPO, Endo*

Impact- Youth Statements

Still on probation

- Youth has been on probation in the Repeat Offender Prevention Program since late 2022. This client has been in and out of custody. Youth advocates have tried to gain his trust but due to the nature of his upbringing, it has been a challenge to work with him. However, in recent months, the youth has participated in activities coordinated by youth advocates and has been a bit more compliant with probation. The youth has participated in a total of four (4) activities in recent weeks and is more open to work with youth advocates. Youth has also requested assistance with finding a job. Youth advocate will assist the youth with finding the right job.

1. What are the benefits of having a youth advocate assigned to you by your probation officer?

A: Chill person to vibe with. Helps with transportation to and from probation office.

1. What do you enjoy the most about having a youth advocate assigned to you?

A: Same as number 1.

1. How is the youth advocate helping you to get off probation?

A: Helping with community service hours.

Impact- Youth Statements

Probation served time May 2022 to February 2023. Currently off probation.

- Youth was put on probation for theft (alcohol). Youth was a bit resistant to work with youth advocate when she was assigned one. However, once the youth advocate was able to gain her trust, she was able to participate in pro-social activities and work on her community work hours. Youth participated in a total of eight (8) activities during her probation. Youth completed her community service hours with youth advocate's help. In February of 2022, youth was ready to get off probation and continue with her life. In August of 2023, youth advocate learned that the youth was still working at a restaurant in Ventura.

1. What are the benefits of having a youth advocate assigned to you by your probation officer?

- *A: The benefits were that they helped me out to get a job and helped me mentally.*

1. What do you enjoy the most about having a youth advocate assigned to you?

- *A: The best thing was getting along with them and being able to talk to them about things going on.*

1. How is the youth advocate helping you to get off probation?

- *A: When I was on probation, they helped me out to get off probation by giving me advice and help me get on track by letting me know what I had to do.*

Assessment

According to the Juvenile Justice Plan Assessment of the Gaps, Needs and Opportunities for Ventura County Probation Juvenile Services (2022-2025), *“Several youth had positive things to say about the Youth Advocate that they have come to know and appreciate through ROPP. ROPP’s Youth Advocates were said to provide strong emotional support, are there for youth whenever they need them, help youth understand things more clearly, and were described as “cool people” who are fun to talk to and “just to hang with”, and have a positive vibe. The youth rely on these positive, supportive adults and wanted to remain connected to them upon release.”* Furthermore, this assessment also found that youth advocates are important for youth in providing life skills.

Need for Budget Modification

- Youth Advocate Retention
 - 3FTE (Including Manager)
 - Competitive Rate*
 - Growth
 - Consistency for Youth/Rapport*
 - Less Turnover
 - Ability to serve full caseloads



Budget Proposal

Fiscal Year	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	
Increase: NTE \$275,000		\$69,034	5%	5%	5%	
Contract Amount: Includes Salary/Benefits/Insurance	\$153,526	\$222,560	\$233,688	\$245,372	\$257,640	
Pro-Social Stipend	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Total	\$153,526	\$227,560	\$238,688	\$250,372	\$262,640	



Questions?

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