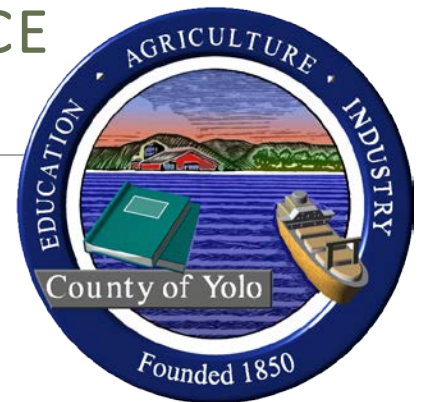


2022-23 Annual Update

YOLO COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

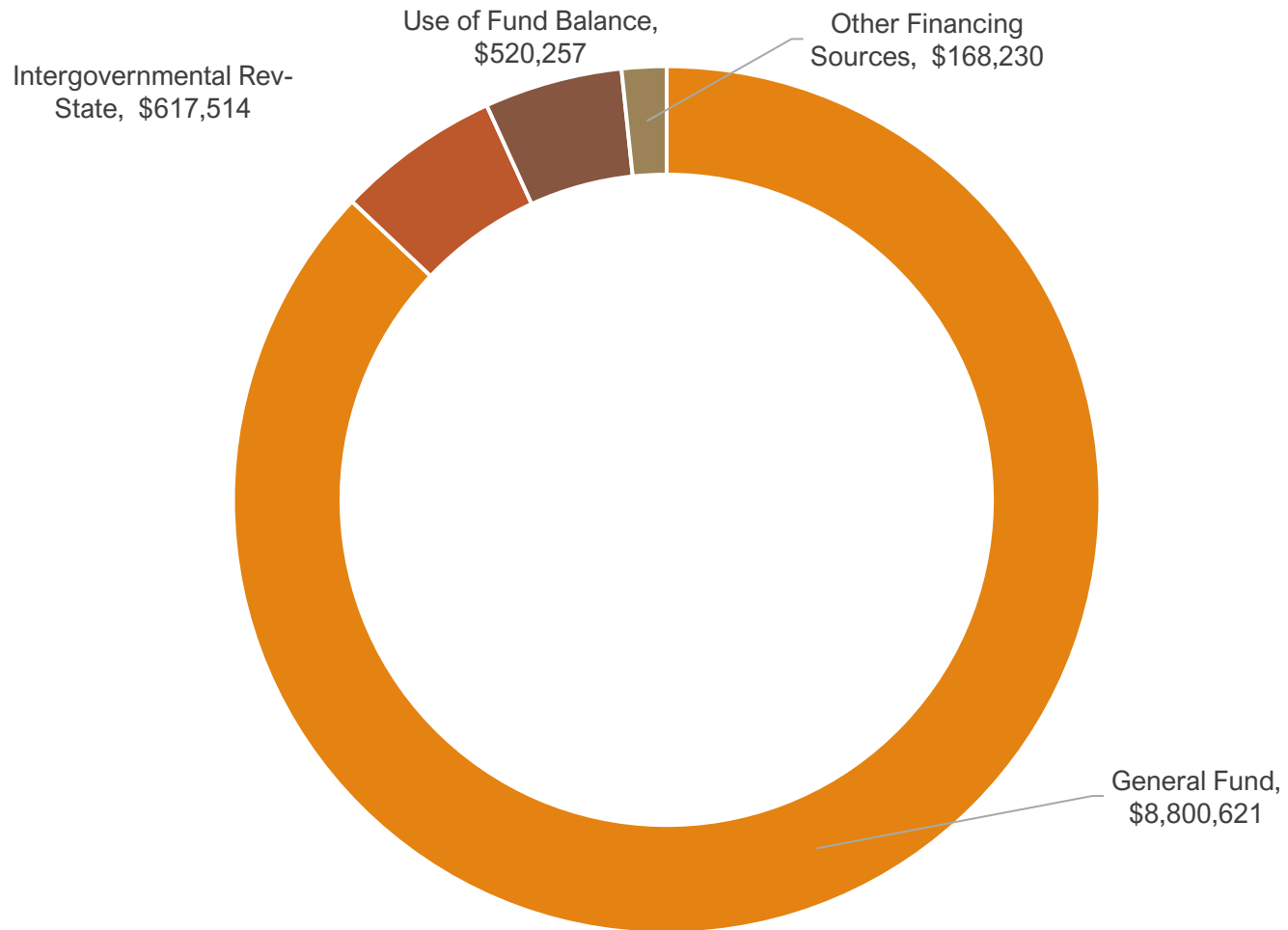


MARCH 2023

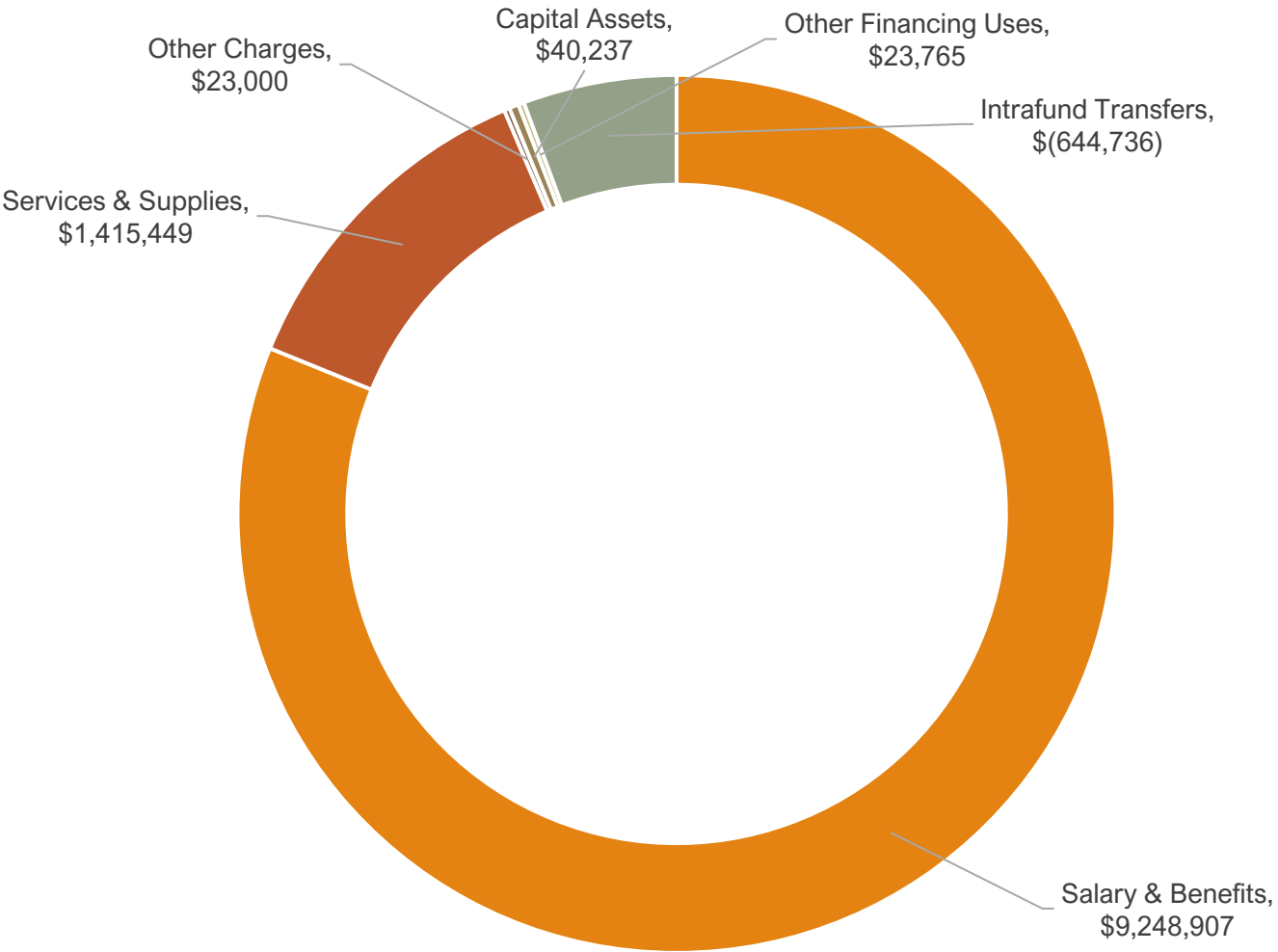
2022-2023 Budget Summary

Operating Budget	\$10,066,385
Capital Budget	\$40,237
General Fund Contribution	\$8,800,621
Full-Time Equivalents	47.0

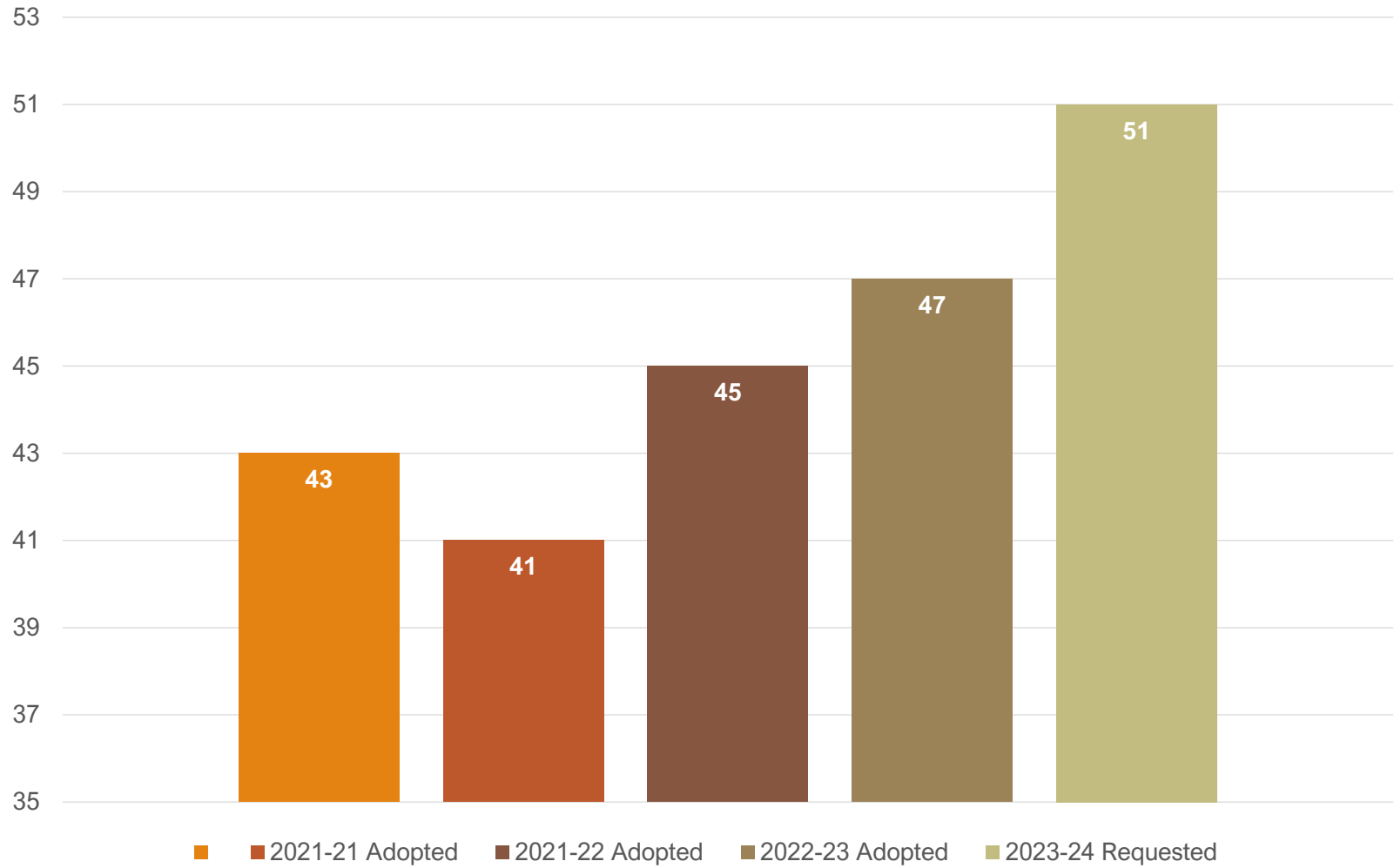
Source of Funds



Use of Operating Funds (by Major Object)



Staffing Summary



Key Challenges & Emerging Issues

- **Staffing levels** are below standards as established by **independent indigent defense workload studies**.
- **Unexpected potential loss** of year-3 Public Defense Pilot Program grant money in the face of **increased workload on post-conviction cases** due to newly enacted laws.
- Maintaining DEI efforts by funding the **paid intern program** to attract and retain qualified staff.
- Maintaining the **client advocate and client fund programs** to provide support services to clients to reduce recidivism.
- Potential insufficient funding for legal representation associated with **CARE Court**.
- Continue county partnerships with **collaborative court programs** (Mental Health Court, Addiction Intervention Court, Mental Health Diversion) and backfill loss of grant funding for Mental Health Court with Mental Health Services Act dollars.
- **Secure office space** that meets the business needs of the department.

Anticipated Major Accomplishments

FY 2022-23

- In addition to **core casework**, implemented **innovative collaborative programs**:
 - Mental Health-Diversion (in addition to Mental Health and Addiction Intervention Courts);
 - Free expungement clinics and immigration consultations;
 - Project HomeKey with West Sacramento Police Dept.;
 - Underground Scholars partnership;
 - Racial Justice Committee hosted Defenders of Tomorrow program, Holiday Toy Shop event, and education campaigns;
 - Voter registration events;
 - Yolo County Public Defender CARES (Community Assistance and Re-Entry Services) fundraiser to help meet clients' needs.
- **Paid intern program** that attracted and retained qualified attorney staff, reducing the impact of the “Great Resignation” while deepening office diversity; a truly **successful DEI strategy** .
- Will complete process of **digitizing discovery** by transitioning to DA Office’s NICE Justice platform for **audio/video discovery**.

Department Major Goals & Objectives

FY 2023-24

- Pursue essential funding to augment staffing to **comply with independent indigent defense workload study standards**. Applying the standards requires the addition of attorneys and support staff to handle the adult felony and misdemeanor caseload.
- Current proposal is a **phased-in approach** to maintain and then expand attorney and other staffing. Gaps in service include:
 - **Support court teams** with additional lawyers, paralegals, and other necessary support.
 - Hire staff to implement **post-conviction laws** and the **Racial Justice Act**.
 - Hire a **case manager** to advocate for and assist clients with reentry needs.
 - Add resources to ensure **mitigation is properly presented** in all clients' cases.
 - **Improve technology capacity** to ensure efficiency and quality of representation while not falling behind other legal system stakeholders.
 - Create a **research and training position**.

Department Major Goals & Objectives

FY 2023-24

- Implement training and practices that focus on **building soft-skills** across leadership positions.
- Continue to implement strategies that improve the **diversity of our workforce**, taking care to achieve deep-level diversity and respect intersectionality.
- **Diversity** of current Public Defender employees:
 - Persons of Color: All=42%; Attorneys=35%
 - Bilingual: All=27%; Attorneys: 23%
 - Women: All=63%; Attorneys: 46%
 - Leadership positions: 42% POC & 75% Women
- Support completion of **Community Corrections Partnership's new three-year strategic plan** to include implementation of robust **services in the jail** and **seamless reentry** to the community with sufficient suitable **housing** options.

Long Range Goals

- Assist in **streamlining current diversion and related activities** to reduce wait-times for services and improve client outcomes.
- Collaborate to **expand the scope of the “365 SOR Program”** to a wider net of criminal convictions.
- Through collaboration and litigation, **identify and fix systemic problems that contribute to racial disparities** and harm clients, families, and communities.
- Partner with stakeholders to design targeted interventions for **transitional age youth**.

- The End -