

## **Yolo County seeks family justice center**

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Yolo County wants to start a Family Justice Center and will host a two-day strategic planning summit Thursday and Friday for local agencies and nonprofits interested in the project.

The new center is envisioned as a one-stop-shop for victims of family violence, including child abuse, domestic violence and elder abuse.

The idea is to house core services in one place instead of multiple locations in the community.

There are about 60 justice centers nationally, but each is run differently to cater to the needs of the community it serves.

Many house representatives from multiple agencies under one roof, including police, prosecutors, civil attorneys and advocacy programs. Salaries are still covered by their employers, not the center, but a committee is seeking grants to pay for a director in Yolo County.

Organizers want to use existing space instead of building new offices.

“In these tough budget times, we are working together in unprecedented ways to coordinate resources to better serve victims of family violence and protect our community,” Yolo County Supervisor Jim Provenza said in a news release.

The planning meetings will be held Thursday and Friday at the Woodland Community Center, 2001 East St. in Woodland. More than 100 representatives from local agencies and nonprofits have been invited to attend.

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