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Yolo County

District 4

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Supervisor Provenza Urges Community Members to Help Save Vital Crisis Nursery

For 13 years the Yolo Crisis Nursery has provided a safe haven for infants and children during times of extreme family stress or crisis. Now the nursery is facing a crisis of its own.

Due to an unexpected loss of funding, the Crisis Nursery, located in Davis, needs to raise \$100,000 by June 15, 2014, or it will be forced to close its doors.

The nursery's vital programs address the needs of hundreds of children and families that often come from an environment of domestic violence, abuse and trauma. Services include emergency overnight care, emergency day care, life skills training for parents and case management by an onsite social worker. "If the nursery were to close, families would not have access to these resources and parents would not be able to provide a safe place for their child during their time of stress and crisis," said Heather Sleuter, Associate Director of the Yolo Crisis Nursery.

The nursery is also a part of the Universal Preschool program that provides high quality preschool to children from low-income families who wouldn't otherwise have access to any early education. Unlike most preschools in the area, they accept special needs children who are on the autism spectrum or have behavioral challenges. If the nursery closes in June, it would be devastating to the families who depend on it for the education of these children. "They don't have anywhere else to turn to in Yolo County," said Sleuter.



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Community Support and How You Can Help

The Friends of the Yolo Crisis Nursery, a community group that has supported the center from the beginning with donations, volunteer work and community outreach, is working overtime to prevent the closure. Heidy Kellison, head of the Friends of the Yolo Crisis Nursery, says the group has a plan, and the first step is to raise \$100,000 by June 15.

Supervisor Jim Provenza is asking everyone to participate in the Friends' online campaign, titled "One Child, One Day," to help them secure funding to keep the nursery's doors open (details below). "The Yolo Crisis Nursery is too important to our community to close, and if we pull together, it won't. Together we will not only save families, we'll save lives," Supervisor Provenza said.

How to Help

One Child, One Day Just \$50 sponsors a child for one day of emergency respite care

Donating is simple (and tax deductible)

Go to https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/friendsofYCN/

The nursery is also in need of volunteers and donations of items such as diapers and food.



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