



# COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

*Gerardo Pinedo*  
County Administrative Officer

625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695  
[www.YoloCounty.org](http://www.YoloCounty.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 27, 2023

Contact: Dwight Coddington  
Email: [Dwight.Coddington@yolocounty.org](mailto:Dwight.Coddington@yolocounty.org)  
Phone: (530) 908-0186

## **Yolo County Board of Supervisors Expands Advance Peace Services to Combat Gun Violence in Additional Communities**

**(Yolo County, CA)** - The Yolo County Board of Supervisors is delighted to announce the approval of an agreement with RISE, Inc. in the amount of \$400,000 to expand Advance Peace services. This expansion will bring the highly effective gun violence prevention program to the City of West Sacramento, as well as the communities of Knights Landing, Dunnigan, and Esparto. The agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Chair Oscar Villegas emphasized the importance of this decision, stating, "On behalf of the Board, we are pleased to expand these services to areas of our county that have limited access to preventative resources. This expansion provides another viable option to mitigate gun violence in our communities. The Advance Peace program has already achieved remarkable success in Woodland, significantly reducing criminal activity involving guns. It is our goal to do everything possible to avoid another person losing their life due to senseless violence"

The expansion of Advance Peace services is made possible through the Local Innovation Subaccount, which receives funds from various accounts authorized by state law. The Yolo County Board of Supervisors, through the Local Innovation Subaccount Ad Hoc Subcommittee, has diligently prioritized the use of these funds and selected the Advance Peace program for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Advance Peace is a highly regarded community program that originated in Richmond, CA, with a mission of ending cyclical and retaliatory gun violence in urban neighborhoods by investing in the development, health, and well-being of those at the center of this crisis. It employs a team of dedicated community members serving as Neighborhood Change Agents (NCAs) and Peacekeepers. The NCAs manage participant cases and provide direct services to program participants, known as "Fellows," while the Peacekeepers offer support and maintain close connections with the community. The program collaborates closely with local police departments to identify potential Fellows who can benefit from program services.

When the program expands to a new area, comprehensive outreach efforts are conducted to engage potential Fellows. Fellows receive personalized services and resources tailored to their specific needs, with a budget of approximately \$1,500 allocated per Fellow. As Fellows demonstrate progress, commitment to the program, and positive change, they become eligible for a monthly stipend. Throughout the program, Fellows maintain daily contact with their assigned NCA. The initial half of the enrollment period includes personalized training, field trips, and excursions designed to promote positive growth and showcase alternative life paths.

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors has selected RISE, Inc. to administer the expansion of the Advance Peace program. Currently, the program operates successfully within the City of Woodland in close coordination

with the Woodland Police Department (WPD). The operations in Woodland have received overwhelming positive reports from both the WPD and the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP), which provides partial funding for the program.

###