

Carol Case

From: Carol Case
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:28 PM
To: Patti Lamb
Subject: RE: RE: Request for additional information about 2022-23 Grand Jury recommendations

No I didn't receive a copy. Thank you.

Carol Case
Foreperson
Yolo County Grand Jury
2023-24

From: Patti Lamb <Patti.Lamb@yolocounty.org>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:15 PM
To: Carol Case <Carol.Case@yolocounty.org>
Cc: Patti Lamb <moira1958@yahoo.com>
Subject: Fwd: RE: Request for additional information about 2022-23 Grand Jury recommendations

Did you get a copy of this Carol? I'm not sure if I forwarded this or not.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S21 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone
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From: Tony Kildare <Tony.Kildare@yolocounty.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2024 6:46:04 AM
To: Patti Lamb <Patti.Lamb@yolocounty.org>
Subject: RE: Request for additional information about 2022-23 Grand Jury recommendations

Foreperson Case and Ms. Lamb,

I am in receipt of your request for an updated status regarding Yolo County Health and Human Services implementation of the recommendations contained in the 2022-23 Yolo Grand Jury Report: *Keeping Families Together: Strengthening a Struggling Child Welfare Service*.

- **R-4: “The Grand Jury is requesting a copy of the organization chart showing this unit [Practitioner Training Unit] within the Health and Human Services Agency.”**
 - A copy of the most recent organization chart for the Child, Youth, and Family Branch of Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) is attached. The Practitioner Training Unit (PTU) is currently supervised by Delores Hickenbottom under the manager, Meghan Morris. Incoming social workers are assigned to the PTU to receive training prior to being formally assigned to one of the other child welfare units, so the size of the PTU and the length of the training assignment is dependent on the quantity of recent hires and current Agency need to supervise caseloads. We currently have one social worker and one intern assigned to the PTU; we have two new social workers that will be onboarding in April and June of this year and are maintaining continuous recruitment efforts for new staff. It should be noted that Ms. Hickenbottom is also the training coordinator for child welfare services and continues to provide support and training to new social workers even after they have been formally assigned to another unit.

- **R-5: “The Grand Jury is requesting confirmation that this recommendation [the implementation of the Alternative Response Program] has been implemented.**
 - I can confirm that Yolo County HHSA has two active contracts to provide Alternative Response Services through First 5 Yolo and Yolo County Childrens’ Alliance. These programs utilize two evidenced-based practices (EBP), Healthy Families America and Family Check-Up, that employ a home visiting model. The current iteration of the Alternative Response Program redirects families that come to the attention of child welfare services who do not meet criteria for an investigation, but who appear to have a familial situation that could benefit from one of the EBPs. We are working to expand access to the program by developing a community pathway that would allow partners in the local children’s system of care to make referrals. More information about the rationale for the selection of the specific EBPs can be found in the Yolo County Comprehensive Prevention Plan (see also the Plan Addendum).

- **R-6: “The Grand Jury is requesting the name of the organization with whom the County has contracted the recommended services [expertise in recruitment, retention, and support of culturally diverse foster families].”**
 - Yolo County HHSA is currently contracting with RaiseAChild for these services. This contract was initiated on April 10, 2023.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this response, or if you require any additional information about child welfare services in Yolo County.

Thank you,

Tony Kildare, LCSW
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