

Committee Actions 5/20/2019:

⇒ Approved Child Abuse Prevention Program Procurement Process and Recommendations for Funding

*Children's Trust Fund Advisory Committee*  
**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 20, 2019**  
**Santa Rosa, CA**

**I. Call to Order**

Children's Trust Fund Advisory Committee met this date in regular session.  
A quorum was present, Chair Bass Seibel called the meeting to order at 3:32pm  
*Supervisor Hopkins had not yet arrived.*

**Committee Members Present:** Kelly Bass Seibel, Jennielynn Holmes, Jeff Miller, Cynthia Murray, Socorro Shiels, Supervisor Lynda Hopkins

**Absent:** Oscar Chavez, Michele Rogers, Barbie Robinson

**Staff:** Angie Dillon-Shore, Kate Pack, Leah Benz, Andrea Carter

**II. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items**

No Public Comment

**III. Child Abuse Prevention Program Procurement Process and Recommendations for Funding**

*Supervisor Hopkins arrived at this time.*

Regina de Melo, Program Manager at Human Services Department, Family-Youth-and Children Division presented on recommendations for funding.

Ms. de Melo shared information on the Children's Trust Fund (CTF):

- CTF locally established by Board of Supervisors in 1983 in response to Assembly Bill 2994
- Funding received through vehicle license and birth certificate fees and private contributions
- Purpose is to fund child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs targeting at-risk populations
- Locally using \$183,000 in CTF funds as part of a total budget of \$671,000 for prevention services provided to families diverted from Child Welfare Services

**CTF Commission –Advisory Role**

- CTF Commission designated to act in an advisory capacity to the Board on funding decisions related to the Sonoma County Children's Trust Fund
- Collaborative effort of First 5/CTF Commissions and Human Services Department

**Sonoma County Child Welfare 2018 Data**

- 2,400 incidents of suspected child abuse were investigated
- 502 of those were substantiated allegations
- 236 children were placed in foster care for the first time because they weren't safe at home

- 135 children returned to their families once their homes were safe, after an average of 283 days in care
- 51 children were adopted by forever families

### **Child Welfare for Age 0-5 Population**

146 Children ages 0-5 were placed in foster care:

- 71% had Substance Abuse in the home
- 36% had Domestic Violence in the home
- 23% had parental mental illness as a contributing factor
- 5% were a victim or at risk of sexual abuse

38% of these children were under the age of one:

- 45% of children under one tested positive for drugs/alcohol at birth

### **The CAPS Program Serves:**

- Families involved in a child welfare investigation where children are not removed from the home
- In 2018:
  - 286 families referred to CAPS prevention services
  - Families offered parenting, housing, therapy, nursing support, resource assistance

### **Evaluation Findings**

- 33% Engagement
- Most families met their Program Goals
- No impact on re-allegation rates
- Some impact on Protective Factors

### **CAPS Program Re-Design**

- Focus on engagement
- Evidence-Based and Trauma-Informed Services
- Service Areas include Parent Education, Therapy and Resource Assistance
- Child Abuse Prevention Council is key in bringing community-wide prevention efforts

### **Contracted Services**

- **Child Parent Institute** – Engagement, Resource Assistance and Parent Education for \$465,000; Child Abuse Prevention Council for \$48,000
- **Therapeutic Services** – Contracts with LifeWorks, Verity and YWCA - \$158,000

Committee Member Murray recommended more long term tracking of families, longer than 18 months.

Staff recommendation: Accept Children’s Trust Fund Advisory Committee recommendation of Contracted Services to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors.

*MOTION: MURRAY/MILLER*

*AYES: BASS SEIBEL, HOLMES, SHIELS, HOPKINS*

*NOES: NONE*

*ABSTAIN: NONE*

*RECUSE: NONE*

**IV. Adjourn Children's Trust Fund Committee**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm.