



UPSTREAM RESOLUTION of ALIGNMENT
Aligning Family Justice Center Sonoma County Practices and Activities
With the Upstream Investments Initiative

Resolution Date: Thursday April 28th, 2011

RESOLUTION of: Family Justice Center Sonoma County

WHEREAS, the County of Sonoma is sponsoring a community-wide strategic initiative called Upstream Investments with the following **mission**: To facilitate the implementation of prevention-focused policies and interventions that increase equality and reduce monetary and societal costs for all residents of Sonoma County.

WHEREAS, the Upstream Investments **vision** for all residents of Sonoma County is that poverty is eliminated and all people have an equal opportunity for quality education and good health in nurturing home and community environments.

WHEREAS, the Upstream Investments Initiative is designed to target the following **factors**:

Social and economic factors

Poverty and racial/ethnic disparities
Community conditions
Public opinion, public policy, and laws

Family and individual factors

Family dysfunction
Negative peer influences
Early antisocial behavior

WHEREAS, the Upstream Investments Initiative seeks to promote four community **goals**:

1. The whole community is engaged in supporting the healthy development of children.
2. Community members have access to education and training and are adequately prepared for the challenges of the future.
3. All community members are well sheltered, safe, and socially supported.
4. Sonoma County has a thriving diverse economy that produces economic security for all.

WHEREAS, the Upstream Investments Initiative seeks to expand **funding** for Model Upstream Programs and also seeks to promote **organizational practices** that support the Upstream Vision.

WHEREAS, the Upstream Investments Strategic Initiative promotes the implementation of **outcomes-based practices** including Evidence-Based Practices, Promising Practices, and Emerging Practices.

WHEREAS, Twenty-two **indicators of success** will inform the community about the success of Upstream Investments.

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| 1. Reduced child maltreatment | 12. Improved higher education |
| 2. Reduced youth binge drinking | 13. Improved housing affordability |
| 3. Reduced youth drug use | 14. Reduced homelessness |
| 4. Reduced youth depression | 15. Reduced juvenile arrests |
| 5. Reduced youth tobacco use | 16. Reduced adult arrests |
| 6. Reduced teen births | 17. Reduced domestic violence |
| 7. Reduced obesity | 18. Reduced gang membership |
| 8. Improved pre-school attendance | 19. Improved youth connectedness |
| 9. Improved 3 rd grade reading | 20. Reduced poverty |
| 10. Improved 3 rd grade math | 21. Reduced unemployment |
| 11. Improved high school completion | 22. Improved health insurance rates |

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Family Justice Center Sonoma County shares the Upstream Investments **mission, goals**, commitment to improving the **indicators of success**, and **vision** and has aligned its organizational practices with the Upstream Investments Initiative as follows:

The Family Justice Center Sonoma County empowers family violence victims to live free from violence and abuse by providing comprehensive services, centered on and around the victim, through a single point of access. We follow best practices in the field, track our outcomes, and meet the needs of our entire community with culturally competent services and links to remote neighborhoods. Building on strong interagency collaboration, we protect the vulnerable, stop the violence and restore hope.

The Family Justice Center is a proven model, according to the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women. Prosecution, Law Enforcement and Community Based Organizations provide a coordinated, multi-disciplinary single point of access approach to family violence services. This coordinated community response specifically addresses the splintered dispersal of services and the problems associated with it. F.J.C.'s seek improvements in victim safety and recovery, increased success in offender prosecutions, and reductions in family violence injuries and homicide. Additional collateral benefits documented as outcomes include increased service efficiencies through the provision of collaborative services, and increased community support for services being offered to victims and their children, thus reducing costs and increasing revenues.

The Family Justice Center concept also aligns with the County of Sonoma Strategic Plan. Because of the collaborative nature of the Family Justice Center model and the improved access to services it provides for victims, an F.J.C. will help meet the goal of enhancing the capacity of County programs and community systems to more effectively meet the changing needs of individuals, families, and communities in Sonoma County and its objective that County programs and services better serve Latino, seniors, and low income populations.

The Family Justice Center Sonoma County's goals are:

- Increased victim safety and increased family violence reporting;
- Reduced number of family violence homicides and significant injury cases;
- Increased numbers of successful prosecutions;
- Reduced number of case dismissals;
- Reduced recidivism in family violence cases;
- Increased public awareness of family violence;
- Increased funding amounts and sources for family violence services.

The F.J.C.S.C. will generate these outcomes through a strategic collaboration between law enforcement, prosecution and government and non-profit service providers that would involve:

- Providing easily accessible, comprehensive services to family violence victims;
- Coordinating and co-locating services including law enforcement, prosecution, victim advocacy, shelter/safety needs, restraining orders, legal assistance, counseling and support services, and possibly others, such as medical, job training, life skills, and childcare;
- Conducting comprehensive, culturally competent, and multi-lingual community outreach;
- Coordinating education, intervention and prevention initiatives that would increase public awareness of the danger signs of family violence and of the services available;
- Sharing best practices between partners through open communication and shared training and;
- Enabling operational cost reductions for service providers through efficiencies of scale.

The Family Justice Center Sonoma County is using Efforts to Outcomes, which is software designed to help measure the incremental progress of clients, understand the effectiveness of programs, and demonstrate the impacts to funders and key stakeholders. It can help in sharing referrals and other crucial resources among programs and even across community partners to improve the effectiveness of service delivery. It also actively monitors progress toward outcomes.

Our collaborative partner agencies include:

On-site partners:

District Attorney's Office
Victim Assistance Center
Sonoma County Sheriff's Office
City of Santa Rosa Police Department
Y.W.C.A. Sonoma County
Verity
Catholic Charities
Council on Aging
Legal Aid of Sonoma County
Inter-Tribal Council of California, Inc.

Off-site partners:

County of Sonoma Department of Health
County of Sonoma Human Services
Probation Department
Superior and Domestic Violence Court
Family Violence Prevention Council
Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County
Kaiser Permanente
Redwood Community Health Coalition
Southwest Community Health Center
Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs' Association

The FJCSC has been serving victims since April 1, 2011. A Project Manager, community-based organization advocates from the YWCA Sonoma County, Verity, Catholic Charities and Legal Aid of Sonoma County, as well as a Navigator (for initial client intake assessments and overseeing client tracking and monitoring) were all hired and are working as a team as part of the FJCSC. We have already enhanced the co-location of partners in advance of occupying our facility, by housing numerous advocates at the Santa Rosa Police Department. We have specifically designed outreach programs to educate the community on victim services for Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Elder Abuse, Dating Violence, Stalking and Child Abuse. Our outreach plan includes, but is not limited to, reaching out to the following communities: Elder, Latino, LGBTQ, Disabled, Tribal, and Deaf.

The Family Justice Center Sonoma County is committed to submitting our programs to the **Portfolio of Model Upstream Programs**.

Approved and adopted the 28th day of April 2011. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing was duly adopted by Family Justice Center Sonoma County Executive Management Team.

Laura Colgate
Project Manager, Family Justice Center Sonoma County