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Our Mission: To ensure a child's opportunity for permanence in a safe and nurturing family.

UPSTREAM RESOLUTION of ALIGNMENT Aligning LILLIPUT CHILDREN'S SERVICES Practices and Activities With the Upstream Investments Initiative

Resolution No: <u>032014</u> RESOLUTION of LILLIPUT CHILDREN'S SERVICES (LILLIPUT)

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.

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

| 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 LILLIPUT 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:

Lilliput's mission is to "ensure a child's opportunity for permanence in a safe and nurturing family." Lilliput provides permanency-focused foster, adoption and kinship services to families and children throughout California with offices located in Butte, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Napa, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Solano, and Sonoma counties. Lilliput's core services are designed to improve the lives of our State's most vulnerable children by ensuring they are part of a safe, nurturing and committed family. Promoting and supporting permanency for children has a myriad of positive outcomes for children which are directly aligned with the Upstream Investments indicators of success. We also provide culturally sensitive and informed services and employ bi lingual Spanish speaking staff to meet the language needs of our clients.

Reducing child maltreatment, improving youth and family connectedness, and promoting permanency since 1980, Lilliput has maintained successful child welfare partnerships throughout California and has served as a leader in forging practices that promote early permanency for children in foster and kinship care and enhanced pre-and post-placement well-being for adoptive and kin children and families.

Lilliput provides quality foster care and permanency services, family support services, kinship support, front end family finding, training and counseling to thousands of families yearly. Our practices include evidence-based and evidence-informed strategies that include a strengths-based, trauma-informed, protective factors approach that promote permanency, stability and well-being for children and families enrolled in our programs. We utilize the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) for all children placed in our concurrent planning families.

Lilliput actively collaborates with Human Services Department of Sonoma County. Lilliput is committed to sharing our organization's programs and practices to the Portfolio of Model Upstream Programs. Several of our core practices reflect upstream principles including our therapeutic treatment philosophy and model, strategic planning, and focus on partnership building.

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