

UPSTREAM RESOLUTION of ALIGNMENT
Aligning YWCA Sonoma County Practices and Activities
With the Upstream Investments Initiative

Resolution Date: Tuesday January 31, 2012

RESOLUTION of: YWCA 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.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 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 YWCA 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:

- ✓ YWCA Sonoma County is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. For more than 30 years, the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) Sonoma County has provided safe harbor and emergency services for women and child victims fleeing domestic violence. The YWCA operates the only state-designated domestic violence shelter in Sonoma County. The YWCA helps move families from chaos to competence by providing temporary shelter and linking them with critical community services. The YWCA Sonoma County also operates A Special Place Therapeutic Preschool, a healing place for young children that have witnessed or are at high risk of family violence. There are only three such facilities throughout all of California.
- ✓ As the primary provider of domestic violence programs in Sonoma County. YWCA's programs promote many of Upstream Indicators of Success including reduced domestic violence, reduced child maltreatment and reduced youth depression.
- ✓ YWCA Sonoma County intends to submit future programs to the Portfolio of Model Upstream Programs.
- ✓ Currently, YWCA Sonoma County implements two of the Portfolio's Model Upstream Programs: Motivational Interviewing (Tier 1) and Family Justice Center (Tier 2):

Motivational Interviewing (MI): The California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse (CEBC) rates MI as an effective model program when used with caregivers of children referred to the child welfare system. MI is a client-centered, directive method designed to enhance client motivation for behavior change. It focuses on exploring and resolving ambivalence by increasing intrinsic motivation to change.

Family Justice Center: YWCA Sonoma County is the YWCA is a linchpin non-profit agency partner for the newly opened Family Justice Center of Sonoma County (FJCSC) The Family

Justice Center is a proven one-stop 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.

- ✓ YWCA Sonoma County is in consideration for the 2012-2014 Strongfield Foundation Organizational Strength grant to bring outcome management to our core programs, including **new systems and/or technology for evaluation or organizational efficiencies**. YWCA Sonoma County is enthusiastic about introducing additional best practices to our constituents, helping them move towards further positive outcomes to improve their lives. If funded, these practices will be submitted to the Upstream Portfolio.
- ✓ YWCA Sonoma County is currently involved with both the **Continuum of Care** (housing/homeless prevention), and the **Child Care Planning Council**, locally relevant groups that promote values and indicators of success that reflect Upstream Investments.
- ✓ YWCA Sonoma County will **promote** community-wide knowledge and understanding of Upstream Investments by posting a link to SonomaUpstream.org on our website www.ywca.org/sonomacounty.

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

Approved and adopted the 31st day of January 2012. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution Number _____ was duly adopted by the _____ YWCA

YWCA SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Following Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 7
 Nos: 0
 Absent: 5


Clerk/Secretary for YWCA SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS: