

# ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, September 29, 2014

12:00 p.m.

Supervisor Nate Miley, Chair  
Supervisor Richard Valle

Location: Board of Supervisors' Chambers – Room 512 – 5th Floor

County Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

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## Summary/Action Minutes

### I. Fatherhood Initiatives

Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency and Michelle Love, Assistant Agency Director, Children and Family Services, presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the engagement of males and fathers in the Social Service Agency, as part of the Agency's Fatherhood Initiatives.

The Social Services Agency is in the process of establishing an advisory council to assist in the development of a male/father engagement platform. The Agency is also collaborating in the expansion of the Father's Corps program and preparing to host screenings of the film 'Fatherhood 101' for agency staff.

The Children and Family Services Division has increased the identification of father's at the child abuse hotline; Increase the percentage of contact with father's by Emergency Response Child Welfare Workers Increase the percentage of fathers that attend Team Decision Making Meetings Increase the percentage of fathers receiving Family Reunification Services Increase the use of paternity testing of extended relatives when the fathers' whereabouts are unknown.

Matthew Brega, Director, Department of Child Support Services, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Departments Fatherhood Initiatives. The Department of Child Support Services fatherhood activities include:

Fatherhood Appreciation Event at the Castro Valley Library, which included a sports equipment giveaway  
Real Men Grill Culinary event, in partnerships with First 5 and Black Infant Health  
Daddy and Me Event at Children's Fairyland in collaboration with First 5 and Black Infant Health and Fathers Corps;

In addition, the Department of Child Support Services collaborates with several community based organizations and County Departments and Agencies, referred to as their tool belt, intended to refer and education individuals and connect to services.

Gary Thompson, Family Health Services Coordinator, Manager, Fatherhood Initiative, Public Health Department, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Public Health Department's Fatherhood Initiative program.

The Family Health Services Fatherhood Initiative was established in November of 2012 and is intended to strengthen, coordinate and grow existing male and fatherhood efforts within the Health Care Services Agency and other public/private service systems in Alameda County.

The goal of the Fatherhood Initiative is to improve the quality of life for Alameda County children, families and communities by promoting responsible fatherhood and healthy relationships through skill-

based parenting education. In addition, the program provides male centered case management and support programs.

From 2012 until this present time, the Fatherhood Initiative has provided case management to 94 fathers; 235 male participants in support groups; 217 fathers participated in Boot Camp for New Dads, which had 35 male providers who facilitated trainings at the boot camp.

The Fatherhood Initiative will continue to work with fathers of all ethnic groups and ages and cultures.

Jeff Gillenkirk, Communications Specialist, First Five Alameda County, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Fathers Corps. In addition, Mr. Gillenkirk showed a YouTube video titled "Alameda County Fathers Corps: Supporting Fathers Strengthening Families".

Fathers Corps was established in August of 2013, as a partnership with First 5 Alameda County and the Alameda County Public Health Department, and has expanded to include the Social Services Agency and the Department of Child Support Services. Fathers Corps is a learning community of male services providers that work with fathers in various capacities, including advocacy, mentorship, clinicians, case management, counseling and therapy.

The Fathers Corps has developed father friendly principles that it incorporates into its family service programs and will obtain endorsements of the Father Friendly Principles from leadership at First 5, the Public Health Department and Social Services Agency to be used as leverage for subsequent endorsements from legal, medical and other service agencies.

Michael Shaw from the Urban Male Initiative who was unable to attend the Social Services Committee meeting submitted written documentation regarding the role of fathers in the home and the proposed Urban Male Initiative Mentoring Partnership.

The Urban Male Initiative Mentoring Partnership proposed to develop a collaborative action plan for fatherhood engagement and convene County-wide mentoring partners for the initiative.

[Attachment](#)  
[Attachment](#)

**Purpose:**

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

**Recommendation from the Social Services Committee:** The Social Services Committee will bring the Father Friendly Principles to the full Board for adoption; begin to pull together a Countywide effort, enlist the county will meet and confer and research, and an emphasis on the Ohio program. Work session as an item to be agendaized with the Board of Supervisors.

## II. Title IV-E Waiver

Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency presented introductory comments and Michelle Love, Assistant Agency Director, Department of Children & Family Services presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Title IV-E Waiver.

The Title IV-E Waiver began in July of 2007 with a five year agreement between Federal, State and County Governments, to capture federal and state funds that would be otherwise lost due to declining

caseloads. The Waiver redirects funds to improve services for families at risk of entering the child welfare system, reuniting families, reducing placements and emancipating youth.

An extension of the original Waiver is set to begin on October 1, 2014, the California Department of Social Services received approval from the federal Department of Health and Human Services to extend the waiver beginning October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2019. There are nine (9) participating counties: Alameda, Los Angeles, Butte, Lake, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara and Sonoma.

The presentation included new Waiver strategies, objectives and expected outcomes for the extension.

### **Waiver Financing**

The Waiver extension has a five-year budget of \$806 million, of which \$299 million is Federal funding and \$507 million is State Realignment and County funding. The annual allocations are approximately \$161 million dollars however money not spent is rolled forward to the next year. The funding pays for activities previously covered in Children and Family Services and Probation, but also allows the agencies to sue any savings in out-of-home placement costs to support investments that improve the systems.

The Social Services Agency will report quarterly to the Social Services Committee on the Title IV-E Waiver.

### [Attachment](#)

#### **Purpose:**

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- Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other

**Recommendation from the Social Services Committee:** This item was informational only as it was already approved by the Board of Supervisors.

### **III. Social Services Integrated Reporting System (SSIRS)**

Don Edwards, Assistant Agency Director, Social Services Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Interoperable Health and Human Services using the Social Services Integrated Reporting System (SSIRS).

Interoperability is defined as the ability of making systems and organizations work together. SSIRS has multi-purpose functions including: communication, fraud detection and prevention, identity matching, monitoring and product reporting.

Currently SSIRS is working with the Data Sharing Committee, the Medi-Cal Inmate Eligibility Program & Medi-Cal Enrollment and Collections for interoperability.

The Social Services Committee requests the Committees' approval to authorize a contract with IBM for purchase of hardware and software to enhance and maintain the SSIRS system.

### [Attachment](#)

#### **Purpose:**

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- Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

**Recommendation from the Social Services Committee:** Approve, unless there are objections by the Information Technology Department. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

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