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EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

8/18/2015 Agenda Item: CASA El Dorado

1 message

kristin conner <kconner40@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: kristin conner <kconner40@yahoo.com>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Aug 16, 2015 at 10:26 AM

Letter of Support for CASA El Dorado

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I have been a CASA board director since 2007, and am also a resident of El Dorado County. As someone who cares deeply about abused and neglected children in our county, I implore that you reconsider your current plan and put the CASA contract and the related funding back into the budget.

Your contract with CASA and \$75,000 funding last fiscal year meant that 50 abused and neglected children had the much-needed caring support of a CASA advocate. Our county saved money and lives because, due to having an advocate, the recidivism rate of children reentering the child welfare system was cut in half. Abused children who have an advocate receive more targeted services, do better in school and are less likely to end up in prison. **Lastly, of utmost importance, 98% of kids who have a CASA advocate in El Dorado County do not re-experience abuse and neglect.**

We believe that every child deserves a safe and permanent home. And we know that you do too.

We urge you to reconsider your current proposal and put CASA back in the general fund budget - just as it is in more than 400 counties throughout the U.S. where they partner with their local CASA agency. Our county children are blessed to have a local CASA agency that serves kids at close to half the average cost-per-child, when compared to other CASA programs in California.

I believe in CASA and the work we do. We know these kids matter. We know that you believe that too. CASA saves lives and money, both in the short and long term.

I urge you to put CASA back in the budget.

Yours truly,

Kristin L. Conner - CASA Board Director



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

8/18/2015 Agenda Item: CASA El Dorado

1 message

Bill Fuser <bill.fuser@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Aug 16, 2015 at 3:03 PM

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am a resident of El Dorado County, the founder and retired Executive Director of Lilliput Children's Services and a Board member of CASA El Dorado. Having spent over thirty years in Child Welfare services, I have seen the positive outcomes that result when children in the juvenile court system are assigned an advocate. I know our Executive Director, John Adams, has provided you with documentation clearly showing the benefits and significant financial savings which occur when there is a County/CASA partnership. Therefore, I am asking for your support to continue the County contract with CASA in order to serve more children.

The efforts and involvement of the CASA advocates are recognized by the Juvenile Court Judges, the attorneys, HHS social workers, foster parents, birth parents, and particularly the children. The advocate may well be the only consistent adult in the child's life to be speaking on their behalf. Better decisions affecting a child's life are made when there is an advocate providing information to the many parties involved in the child welfare system.

It is great when an activity can provide essential services to neglected and abused children. These are children who must now depend on society/government to provide for their basic needs. An additional benefit is the reduced cost to the taxpayers. When a service can provide for both of these, the decision to continue to support the program should be an easy one. Last year CASA raised over 68% of the agency's budget (\$339,749) through donations and fundraisers. This reflects the strong community support for the mission of the agency. I am hopeful that the County will act in the best interest of our most vulnerable children and provide ongoing funding to CASA.

Thank you very much,

Bill Fuser

Placerville, CA 95667



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

6/18/2015 Agenda Item: CASA El Dorado

1 message

Karyn Huebner <karynhuebner@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: Karyn Huebner <karynhuebner@yahoo.com>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 9:54 AM

To all supervisors for El Dorado County:

I myself was a CASA for many years and am still a big supporter. I can tell you from personal experience what a difference this program makes in the lives of kids who through no fault of their own end up lost in the paper work of the system. Their lives are turned upside down. In my case I was the only stable influence in the lives of these kids. I won't go into all the details. I am only asking that you **please put funding for the CASA contract back into the upcoming budget.**

Why is it the county can afford buildings, wasteful studies and all kinds of administrative waste but it can't take care of these children?

Please reconsider.

thank you.

Karyn Huebner

Cameron Park, CA