



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

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JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

WALTER J. SYMONS
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 2/2/99

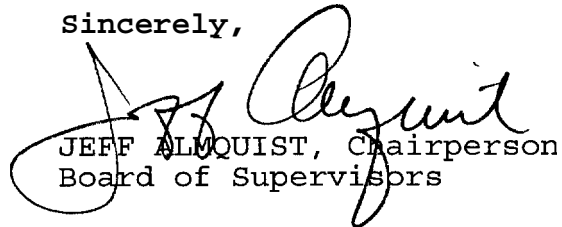
January 26, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Attached is the Annual Report of the Human Services Commission for calendar year 1998. I recommend that the Board accept and file this report and direct the Chairperson to thank the members of the Commission for their efforts on the County's behalf.

Sincerely,


JEFF ALMQUIST, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

JA:ted

cc: Human Services Commission

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County of Santa Cruz

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

(83 1) 4544062
FAX (83 1) 454-4642
1000 Emeline St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

January 15, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California

1998 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Dear Members of the Board:

We are please to submit the Annual Report of the Human Services Commission, detailing our activities and accomplishments during 1998. The Human Services Commission oversees the work of the Human Resources Agency and reviews issues regarding human services throughout the community so that we may advise your Board. The Human Services Commission has been integrally involved in the design of welfare reform, recommendations to your Board regarding Latino Equity and Child Care Fees Loans, both of which directly affect community services, and other human service concerns, including the need for additional affordable housing.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to participate in County government.

Sincerely,

PHYLLIS WASSERSTROM
Chair

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION 1998 ANNUAL REPORT

I. ROLE OF THE COMMISSION

As established in Ordinance 4 106, the Human Services Commission exercises the following responsibilities in its efforts to ensure the highest quality and maximum effectiveness of human services are provided for the benefit of the citizens of Santa Cruz County:

- A. Guide long-term planning regarding meeting the socioeconomic needs of low income, disabled, disadvantaged, and at-risk people in Santa Cruz County;
- B. Advise the County Board of Supervisors on policies and priorities that affect the socio-economic needs of the low income, disabled, disadvantaged, and at-risk people;
- C. Provide advice and counsel to the Administrator and senior management of the Human Resources Agency on best practices in the operation of the agency's programs;
- D. Provide a forum for citizens affected by County human service programs and policies;
- E. Advise the Board of Supervisors on funding decisions affecting the socio-economic needs of the low income, disabled, disadvantaged, and at-risk people, including County allocations of resources to County and Community Programs, Child Care Fees Loans, and Latino Equity;
- F. Integrate efforts and initiatives affecting the socio-economic needs of the poor which cross departmental, divisional, and interest group lines;
- G. Advise the Board of Supervisors on legislative matters concerning the County human services programs.

II. MEETING DATES, TIME AND LOCATION

During reporting year 1998, regular meetings were held on the third Wednesday of each month, except for July. A December meeting was called to consider recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on Child Care Fees Loans. The Commission's location was the conference room of the United Way of Santa Cruz County, 1220 4 1 st Avenue, Capitola. The Commission very much appreciated the United Way's generosity in making this room available. In addition, the Commission held one regularly scheduled and noticed

meeting as a retreat in the public meeting rooms at 1400 Emeline Street, Santa Cruz. In 1999, regular meetings will continue to be held monthly, except for July and December, on the third Wednesday of the month from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at United Way.

III. COMMISSION STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP

The Human Services Commission consists of 10 members appointed by the Board of Supervisors, two from each district. As of December 1998, the members of the Human Services Commission included:

- First District: Toni Campbell, one seat vacant
- Second District: Stephanie Camacho, one seat vacant
- Third District: Marilyn Moore, Phyllis Wasserstrom
- Fourth District: two seats vacant
- Fifth District: Ann Russell, Evelyn Hengeveld-Bidmon

Two commissioners resigned in December 1998. Appointees for the Fourth District will be selected by incoming Supervisor Tony Campos.

IV. COMMISSION STAFF

The Commission was staffed by Cecilia Espinola, Human Resources Agency Administrator, and Gail Groves, Senior Human Resources Analyst.

V. ATTENDANCE

Please see attached roster.

VI. ANNUAL GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Welfare Reform and Related Issues

In 1998, the Human Services Commission continued to play a leadership role in the implementation of welfare reform, beginning with its review and recommendation for approval of the County's CalWORKs Plan in January. CalWORKs implementation began in January 1998. Throughout the year, the commission discussed monthly staff reports on CalWORKs implementation, and offered valuable suggestions for data collection and presentation. The following guests spoke to the Commission on welfare reform-related issues:

- Gregg Irish, former JTPA director, on Department of Labor funds available for CalWORKs participants;
- Alvin James, Planning Director, and Mary James, Housing Authority Director, on

- affordable housing issues;
- Ellen Timberlake, Director of Early Intervention and Prevention Services, on Family Resource Center Network and program evaluation methodology
- Susan Pearlman, County Economic Development Coordinator, on Job Training Task Force and status of County economic development
- Dena Taylor, Program Manager, Fast Track to Work program, Cabrillo College, on welfare reform efforts at the college
- Mark Lane, Director of Adult, Family and Children's Services on the status of children's services programs in the county
- Eileen Stern, Director of Administrative Services, on HRA and state budget issues
- Carol Walberg and Nancy Hardy, CalWORKs staff, on progress in CalWORKS implementation
- Rama Khalsa, Behavioral Health Services Director, on draft County plan for treatment options for adolescent drug abuse
- Sue Gilchrist, Senior Analyst, on Child Care Fees Loan Program
- Tom Burns, County Redevelopment Agency Director, on the role of redevelopment in affordable housing.

Latino Equity

The Commission continued to participate in the County's ongoing efforts to improve funding and service provision to Latino residents of the County, working with HRA and the Latino Affairs Commission to develop recommendations for the allocation of Latino Equity funds. Commissioners were pleased to note that, during June budget hearings, the Board allocated \$90,000 in new funding for services to the Latino community. In December 1998, the Board of Supervisors received a comprehensive report on the Latino Equity funding program since its inception, and indicated interest in taking a more active role in this funding process in 1999.

Child Care Fees Loan Program

The Commission is charged with developing recommendations to assist the Board of Supervisors in allocating child care developer fees collected by the Planning Department under the Child care Fees and Exactions Ordinance. An ad hoc loan application review committee including members of the Human Services Commission, and Children's Commission met with the HRA Agency Administrator to review the applications, conduct site visits to all applicants, and draft recommendations, which were then approved unanimously by the Human Services Commission and forwarded to the Board for final approval. A total of \$80,000 was distributed in loans this year.

Ongoing Review and Input on Human Services Program & Issues

On a regular basis, the commission receives reports and briefings in order to stay

informed concerning Human Resources Agency programs, human service community programs and significant issues affecting disadvantaged people in the County. From time to time, the Board of Supervisors requests the Commission's recommendations on a particular program or issue. In 1998, the Commission became involved with the Women's Commission Subcommittee on Welfare Reform, attended planning sessions on child care facilities development held by the Local Child Care Planning Council, and concerned itself with affordable housing.

VII. FUTURE GOALS

The Commission continues to express serious concerns about the lack of affordable housing in the County, and plans to develop initiatives in conjunction with the Housing Commission in 1999 to address this socio-economic human services issue, which disproportionately affects low-income, disadvantaged, and at risk families.

The Commission will continue to monitor the human effects of welfare reform implementation. In addition, the Commission will continue to make annual recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding Child Care Fees Loans, Community Programs, and Latino Equity funding decisions.

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ATTENDANCE FOR 1998

COMMISSIONERS	1/98	2/98	3/98	4/98	5/98	6/98	7/98	8/98	9/98	10/98	11/98	12/98
Toni Campbell	X	X	X	X	X	E	N O M E E T I N G	X	X	X	X	X
seat vacant												
Stephanie Camacho	X	E	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Raymundo Vigil	A	A	A									
Marilyn Moore	E	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Phyllis Wasserstrom	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Chuck Carter	X	E	X	E	X	E		E	E	E		
Rafael Lopez	X	X	E	X	X	X		E	E	E	E	X
Evelyn Hengeveld-Bidman	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	E	X	X
Ann Russell	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	E	X
Total in Attendance	7	6	7	7	8	7		6	6	5	5	7

 - Not appointed to Commission during this period.

X - Present

* - Meeting adjourned due to lack of quorum

E - Excused Absence

A - Unexcused Absence