



# county of santacruz

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## HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

CECILIA ESPINOLA, ADMINISTRATOR

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March 16, 1999

Agenda: March 23, 1999

Board of Supervisors  
Santa Cruz County  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

### ***INVESTING IN CHILDREN & FAMILIES – WHAT WORKS!***

Dear Members of the Board:

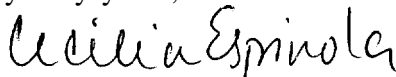
Your Board recently received a letter from the United Way of Santa Cruz County apprising you that the United Way is submitting a collaborative funding proposal to the David and Lucile Packard Foundation to support the *Investing in Children and Families-What Works!* project. As you know, this initiative is an outgrowth of the Community Assessment Project (CAP) which your Board has supported through funding and participation on the CAP Steering Committee for the past four years. The aim of *What Works!* is to use research and evaluation to enhance the safety of children: identify effective strategies to keep children safe in their families and communities; apply the knowledge, helping providers to use best practices; and build community support for what works so that funders can support these strategies. The *What Works!* collaboration includes representation from the Human Resources Agency, the Health Services Agency, the Probation Department, the Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services Department and the County Administrative Office, in addition to a wide variety of community and CBO representation. The Human Resources Agency will serve as a liaison to the *What Works!* Project.

The United Way is approaching Packard as part of a multiple source funding strategy, which will include the California Endowment and other sources. Should the Packard proposal receive funding, HRA will work with the United Way to provide a full report to your Board at that time.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Accept and file this report on the Investing in Children and Families-What Works! project; and
2. Authorize the Human Resources Agency to serve as the public agency liaison to the What Works! project and continue to work with representatives of other County departments on the What Works! project.

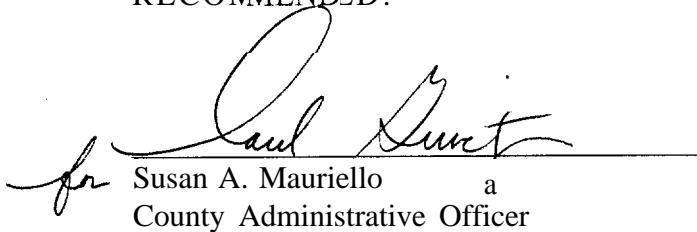
Very truly yours,



Cecilia Espinola  
Administrator

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RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello                      a  
County Administrative Officer

cc:     United Way  
         Health Services Agency  
         Probation Department  
         Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services Department