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Friday Memo for 4/14/2017

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Nevada County Child Protective Services Meets 6 out of 7 Federal Outcome Measurements for 4th Quarter 2016

In 2001, the California State Legislature passed the *Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (AB 636)*. This innovative legislation was designed to improve outcomes for children placed in the child welfare system while holding county and state agencies accountable for standardized national performance outcomes. The new statewide accountability system went into effect in California on January 1, 2004.

In order to maintain accountability, seven Federal Outcome Measures were created to gauge compliance with the objectives of safety, permanency and well-being for children involved in the child welfare system. Each Federal Outcome Measure is a performance indicator that has a set National



Standard based on actual performance related to each standard by all child welfare departments in each state nationwide. The nationwide performance data is compiled to evaluate performance on a quarterly basis.

The seven nationwide Federal Measurements track outcomes on the following metrics:

S1: Maltreatment in Foster Care - Measures how many instances of child abuse or neglect per 100,000 days in foster care.

S2: Recurrence of Maltreatment - Measures the percent of children with substantiated allegation of child abuse or neglect to have another substantiated allegation within 12 months of the first allegation.

P1: Timely Exits to Permanency (i.e. reunification, adoption, and guardianships) Within 12 Months - Measures the percentage of children who enter foster care within a 12 month time period who then exited foster care in the following 12 months.

P2: Timely Exits to Permanency in Care 12-23 Months - Measures the percentage of children who were in foster care for 12-23 months that exited foster care in the following 12 months.

P3: Timely Exits to Permanency in Care 24+ Months - Measures the percentage of children who were in foster care 24 months or more who exited foster care in the following 12 months.

P4: Reentry into the Foster Care System - Measures of the percent of children who exited foster care within 12 months of entering foster care who reentered foster care in the following 12 months.

P5: Stability of Foster Care Placements - Measures the number of foster care placement moves per 1000 days in foster care.

Nevada County Child Protective Services (CPS) just received the latest performance data for the Federal Outcome Measures for the fourth quarter of 2016. Regarding P5: Stability of Foster Care Placements, CPS fell short by 0.3% of the National Standard. This was contributed to some foster care children transitioning from a higher level of care (foster home) to lower level of care (permanent adoption), which is an important accomplishment for CPS, yet counts against their federal outcome measurements.

California as a whole is meeting only 4 out of the 7 Federal Outcome Measures during this review period.

Meeting the National Standards of providing safety, permanency and well-being for children involved in child welfare could not have been accomplished by CPS without the help of all the dedicated foster parents and extended family members that step up in a moment of crisis to help the children in our community by providing the continuum of care so all the children can have a chance to become stable and successful in their new homes. This great work could also not be possible without the dedication of the CPS staff and a wide array of devoted community members who pledge their lives towards safety and stability of our children. From prevention, to emergency intervention, all the way through aftercare and family maintenance, we are all here for the children of Nevada County and meeting these high standards show we are doing it right!

If you have any further questions or inquiries or wish to learn more about becoming a foster parent in the child welfare process, please feel free to contact Nevada County Child Protective Services Program Manager, Nicholas Ready at (530) 265-1654 or nicholas.ready@co.nevada.ca.us.

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Increased Road Funding for Nevada County

Governor Brown's transportation funding package (SB-1 Beall) cleared the Legislature late last week and will result in increased funding for city and county roads statewide. Nevada County expects to receive \$3.8 million per year, increasing the available funding for Road Maintenance and Improvement activities.

Although Nevada County has continuously rated as one of the top counties in the [California Department of Transportation's](#) Road Pavement Condition Index, funding for roads has declined due to low gas prices and an increase of hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles on the road. This decrease in funding has caused pavement conditions to deteriorate across the State, and Nevada County has seen a similar decline from "Good" in 2014 to "At Risk" in 2016, although we continue to rank among the best pavement conditions in the State. Increased funding from SB-1 will allow Nevada County to improve our current road conditions and continue to provide safe transportation for our community.

As a result of this package, counties will also be able to access grant funding from active transportation, congested corridors, and goods movement programs funded by SB-1, which also includes significant ongoing funding for transit services and state highway maintenance.

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Coordinated Community Response Training for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) refers to a range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for anything of value (including monetary and non-monetary benefits) given or received by any person. It is estimated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that 100,000 children in the United States are sold for sex each year and as many as 300,000 more are at risk of being a CSEC child. It has been recognized that this is a growing problem in California.

Nevada County Child Protective Services (CPS) is hosting a [Coordinated Community Response \(CCR\) Strategy Session](#) which will engage multi-sectorial community stakeholders to work together in identifying the community problems and sustainable solutions that will create a safer and healthier Nevada County community. The strategy session will address commercial sexual exploitation, human trafficking, and other intersecting issues.

The California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA) assists local programs by providing the best possible services to sexual assault survivors and supports prevention efforts by providing technical assistance services to its member centers and other constituents. CALCASA takes a proactive technical assistance approach, aimed at building capacity in developing practice-based evidence and evidence-based practice models, organizational infrastructure, content-based education and skills development. CALCASA will serve as the CCR Strategy Session facilitator and provide ongoing technical assistance to community partners.

Where: Grass Valley Veterans Memorial Building

South Auburn Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Date: May 11, 2017

Time: 8:30-4:30

Lunch will be provided to registered attendees.

Please RSVP to Faye Hignight, CPS Staff Services Analyst at Faye.Hignight@co.nevada.ca.us or (530) 265-1728 by **May 3, 2017**.

For more information or questions please contact Nicholas Ready, CPS Program Manager at Nicholas.Ready@co.nevada.ca.us or (530)265-1654.

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U.S. Bicycle Route 85 proposed through Truckee



The [Adventure Cycling Association](#) and the [American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials \(AASHTO\)](#) are working together to designate a nationwide system of bicycle routes called the U.S. Bicycle Route System (USBRS). These proposed routes will allow cyclists to ride an officially numbered and signed bicycle route "from your backyard to anywhere in the United States." When complete, the USBRS will encompass more than 50,000 miles of routes and open up new opportunities for cross-country travel, regional bicycle touring, and commuting by bicycle. Currently U.S. Bicycle Route 85 (USBRS 85) is proposed to run from the Canadian border near Sumas, Washington to Tecate, Mexico, roughly following the route of the Pacific Crest Trail.

A portion of the proposed USBRS 85 would utilize State Route 89 and local roads within the Town of Truckee. Nevada County's District 5 Supervisor, Richard Anderson, the Town Manager of the Town of Truckee, Tony Lashbrook, and the Truckee Trails Foundation have all expressed their support for this project, recognizing the \$47 billion a year that the bicycle tourism industry contributes to local economies throughout North America. No physical changes or expenditures are requested and the proposal remains consistent with the [Nevada County Bicycle Master Plan](#).

When implemented, USBRS 85 is expected to help grow [bicycle tourism](#) in Nevada County and enhance our [local economies](#) with very little investment.

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Crisis Intervention Team

Nevada County has created a Crisis Intervention Team comprised of Law Enforcement Officers, Probation Officers and a Nevada County Behavioral Health Forensics Specialist who outreach to chronically homelessness and addicted individuals. This team is funded by the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction grant that the Probation Department received from the Board of State Community Corrections. This grant created a pilot project aimed at reducing recidivism and overrepresentation of individuals with Mental illness in our jails. Estimates vary but in our county 30-40% of inmates receive some kind of medication for mental illness. State wide and nationally, we know that a high percentage of persons in custody suffer from mental illness.

This street based team works together to identify individuals in the community who have co-occurring mental illness, complex service needs and have a high risk of getting arrested. This team offers referrals to appropriate resources, shares information and builds case plans in hopes of diverting these individuals from arrest. If there is a need, the Behavioral Health Forensic specialist will follow these individuals into the courts and jail continuing to offer appropriate services, such as substance use treatment, transportation to physical health providers, mental health treatment and referrals to housing resources. Because of this program, a number of homeless individuals have gotten treatment and are starting to create new lives for themselves.

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Property Compliance Workshop



The Nevada County Community Development Agency is welcoming in the spring season by hosting a Property Compliance Workshop. The workshop is designed to help improve understanding of how to bring properties into compliance with Nevada County Land-Use standards for new and existing property improvements. A panel of Community Development Agency Departments will be there including the Building, Code Compliance, Planning, Public Works and Environmental Health Departments to discuss land-use related topics. The topics covered will include greenhouse permitting,

as-built structures, common code violations, building zoning/setbacks, and tips/tricks for easy resolution and much more.

The Property Compliance Workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, from 3:00 to p.m. 5:00 p.m. at the Eric Rood Government Center located at 950 Maidu Avenue in Nevada City. If you would like additional information for this free workshop opportunity please contact the Nevada County Community Development Agency at (530) 265-1222 or email at ComDevAgency@co.nevada.ca.us.

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Project LAUNCH is Launching!

The Board of Supervisors recently approved contracts for the Public Health Department to initiate Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health). A key strategy in this project is *Parent Cafés*, gatherings that provide a positive place for meaningful engagement. Service providers for parents are key partners for encouraging parents to attend, so they need to be aware of the benefits of *Parent Cafés*.



The goal for *Parent Cafés* is to help parents be the best they can be for children to thrive. The Strengthening Families Framework, which is the basis for the Cafés utilizes 5 protective factors:

parental resilience; social connections; knowledge of parenting and child development; concrete support in times of need; social and emotional competence of children. Café participants are encouraged to look within themselves to identify their strengths and challenges, engage in meaningful conversation with other parents and parent leaders, and explore solutions that lead to stronger families and communities.

First 5 of Nevada County will be hosting *Be Strong Partner Cafés* to introduce people working with families to the *Parent Café* format. In western Nevada County, it will be held April 18th, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Training Room at 380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley. Truckee's *Partner Café* will be April 19th, 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Tahoe/Truckee Unified School District 11601 Donner Pass Road, Room A. Please RSVP to sandi@first5nevco.org or (530) 274-5361. If you have questions about Project LAUNCH, please feel free to contact Cindy Wilson, Director of Public Health Nursing, at (530) 265-7269.

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Family Resource Center of Truckee

For some community members, life in the Tahoe Truckee area can be isolating with long winters and transportation challenges. For residents who are new to the country, maybe don't speak English and are trying to navigate a new culture, the stressors can be overwhelming. For the past few years, Nevada County Behavioral Health has contracted with the Family Resource Center of Truckee (FRCoT) to provide critical outreach to engage the local Latino community in mental health services. Typically Latino community members have a hard time accessing health and mental health resources due to barriers ranging from language challenges to cultural norms and stigma around mental illness. The FRCoT uses a best practice model of a Promotora Program, which utilizes paraprofessionals to help Latino families learn about healthy behaviors and supportive resources.

Traditionally Promotoras are "community health workers" who are lay members of the community and usually share ethnicity, language, socioeconomic status, and life experiences with the community members they serve. Promotoras in Nevada County are Spanish-speaking, bi-cultural, and/or bi-lingual paraprofessionals who help Latino families connect to resources in the community. Promotoras offer interpreter services, provide culturally appropriate physical and mental health education and information, give informal support and guidance on health behaviors, and advocate for individuals and community health needs. They also conduct outreach and educational groups for Latino families in Spanish about mental health care. The Promotoras link individuals and the families that they serve to needed services in the community which include mental health services. When necessary, they accompany individuals to their first appointment for a warm handoff to a mental health professional. Promotoras can refer individuals and families to Nevada County Behavioral Health Spanish-speaking therapists in Truckee. The therapists provide services to individuals, or if the consumer is a child, services are provided to the child and their family.

Specifically in this last year, The Promotoras have conducted 9 Workshops to a total of 102 participants. In addition, this team helped spread the word in the community about parenting classes, the Family Room, Family Resource Center immigration clinics, and other critical services. They also solicited Latino community input into the Community housing needs survey and the health survey for Tahoe Forest Hospital District. The Truckee community is lucky to have this incredibly successful program to help bridge the gaps that contribute to a sense of isolation for some of our more vulnerable residents.

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Gold Country Stage Free Fare Days April 21 & 22

County of Nevada Transit Services will provide system wide “free fare days” on all routes Friday, April 21, 2017, from 5:50 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, April 22, 2017, from 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. with free fares for all.

The “free fare days” will celebrate “Earth Day Weekend” by providing public transit Gold Country Stage service that supports clean air, a clean Nevada County and a clean earth!

Funding for this service is through a Low Carbon Transit Operations Program air quality grant that provides public transit funding assistance for projects that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility.

Bus schedules are available in the Gold Country Stage Rider’s Guide on the [Transit website](#) or call the office at (530) 477-0103 x0 for travel planning information.

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Racial Literacy World Cafe at the Madelyn Helling Library

Join *Racial Literacy* and the Nevada County Community Library for a World Cafe-style community conversation to explore issues of race and diversity. The event will take place on Thursday, April 20, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Gene Albaugh Community Room at the Madelyn Helling Library. World Cafe programs involve small groups of four discussing specific questions, with the option of sharing insights, opinions, and observations with the entire group. Advance registration is recommended, as the event will be limited to 60 participants. Sign up on the [Library's website](#). For more information, please contact Laura Pappani, County Librarian, at (530) 265-1407.

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