

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

Report Title: The Humboldt County Child Abuse Services Team

Report Date: June 29, 2023

Response by: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

FINDINGS

The county agrees with Finding 9.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 7 will not be implemented.

Date: _____ Signed: _____

Number of pages attached: 2



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FROM: COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO 2023 GRAND JURY REPORT "THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY CHILD ABUSE SERVICES TEAM"
DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

Intro language:

In the Grand Jury Report, "*The Humboldt County Child Abuse Services Team*," the Grand Jury has requested that the Board of Supervisors respond to Finding 9 and Recommendation 7. I am proposing the following response as detailed below.

FINDINGS

Finding 9: *We could find no evidence that regular annual reports to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors about the activities of the Child Abuse Services Team exist, nor that they are required. Having such reports would give the Board of Supervisors and the public information on the depth, breadth, and response to child abuse in our community.*

Response: Agree

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 7: *The Memorandum of Understanding described in R6 mandates that, as CAST Coordinator, the District Attorney create an annual report to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors on the accomplishments of and challenges to the Child Abuse Services Team. (F9)*

- *Funding recommendation: The Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury recommends that the Department of Health and Human Services/ Child Welfare Services, the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, and the Office of the District Attorney provide funding for R1 and R2, with appropriations for the current fiscal year. If current appropriations are not sufficient, the Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury recommends*

that the above-named agencies at their earliest convenience pursue additional funding from the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors to fund the above recommendation.

Response: This recommendation will not be implemented.

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors believes the services that the Humboldt County Child Abuse Services Team provide are crucial for the community and invites the Humboldt County District Attorney (DA) to present an annual report on the accomplishments and challenges of CAST.

Regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) referenced in this recommendation, the Humboldt County DA has worked in partnership with all agencies involved in CAST and have already finalized and agreed upon the language an MOU. This MOU is currently awaiting signatures from remaining participants and creating changes to this MOU would only delay its adoption. As such, the recommendation regarding the MOU language will not be implemented.
