

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Children's System of Care

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Richard S. Knecht, Director of Children's System of Care

DATE: December 11, 2012

SUBJECT: Placer County Children's System of Care Self-Assessment

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the State-mandated Placer County Children's System of Care "Self-Assessment", and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services and the county Chief Probation Officer to submit the assessment to the California Department of Social Services.

BACKGROUND:

As part of Children's System of Care (CSOC) state mandated quality improvement measures, CSOC has recently completed a "Self-Assessment" of its child welfare and youth probation services. Nearly a dozen community partners and consumers, including representatives from KidsFirst, Child Advocates of Placer County, Sierra Mental Wellness Group, and others participated in this tri-annual review.

This process confirmed that Placer County Child Welfare and Probation professionals are timely and thorough in response to reports of suspected neglect or abuse, and comprehensive in providing crucial supports that enable more families to adopt and bring permanency and stability to foster youth.

A number of outcomes continue to be evident. Since 2009, there has been a 25 percent reduction in the number of children needing to be removed from their homes and a 30 percent reduction in children needing to be placed in group homes because of the severity of their behavioral challenges.

These successes are, in part, the direct result of the collaborative approaches used by Placer County Children's System of Care, known as The Placer Model. The innovative family-oriented services result in youth and families being able to successfully address their challenges in the context of the wealth of supportive resources within the community and move quickly to greater long term self-sufficiency and healing.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to this request.

The Placer County Self-Assessment is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

