

## **West Contra Costa Youth Service Bureau ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009**

More than 25 years ago, the Youth Service Bureau (YSB) began providing services to children and families in Contra Costa County. Originally based in West County, YSB currently provides Wraparound services in collaboration with Contra Costa Mental Health (Children's Services Division) and the Contra Costa Probation Department (Juvenile Division) impacting the entire County. We continue our commitment to promoting the healthy development of children in strong, loving families in safe and nurturing environments.

### **Message from Board President John Ziesenhenn**

On behalf of the West Contra Costa Youth Service Bureau, our wonderful, dedicated staff and Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our friends and supporters a very happy New Year.

The Bureau is involved in a number of different programs to assist our kids and their families. One of our successful programs is offered in local schools to assist students and their parents with mentoring and encouragement to stay in school, get good grades and be role models for their fellow students. We promote the replication of such programs as the Harlem Children's Zone identified nationally as a "Best Practice" model.

As President of the Board, I know I speak for my fellow Board members, of being much honored that year in and year out, our major funding sources have confidence in the Bureaus professional ability to deliver our services and expertise with quality while receiving favorable results. As we enter 2010, we look forward and are committed to our overall goal of improving the quality of life for children, youth and families in Contra Costa County.

John W. Ziesenhenn  
President, Board of Directors

### **YSB Philosophy**

From our beginnings in 1984, YSB programs were designed to achieve four (4) basic goals using a collaborative approach:

- 1) Coordination of community/justice support systems;
- 2) Delinquency prevention;
- 3) Diversion and reduction of recidivism; and
- 4) the Enhancement of youth opportunities

With the overall goal of reducing delinquent behavior and diverting youth from the juvenile justice system, we partner with law enforcement and community based agencies as well as Contra Costa County Departments of Probation, Employment & Human Services and Health Services (Children's Service Division). Using the Wraparound process (a nationally recognized Best Practice model), YSB individual clients and their families demonstrate measurable improvements in their life skills development.

### **Probation**

Using individualized treatment plans, the Bureau provided counseling services to probation department referrals in a community setting, assisting juveniles to comply with the terms of their formal or informal probation 16 individual clients were served.

### **Family Enhancement Collaborative**

#### Kinship Mentoring Program

The Family Enhancement Collaborative started in 1995, provides Kinship Services to families in West Contra Costa County. Composed of the Bureau, Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services, the Family Stress Center and FamiliesFirst-E.M.Q., the Program provides services to relative caregivers to address their needs and enable them to care for children in their own communities. Included in these services is the Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP) that promotes self-awareness, and fosters self-sufficiency in youth aged 11-17. During FY 08/09, 96 caregivers and 122 children were served.

#### ALL THAT Program

The *All That* Collaborative consisting of the YMCA, the Bureau, and the Contra Costa County Early Childhood Mental Health Program, committed to promoting the development of stronger families in the Coronado community served 16 young women through *Teen to Women Transition Classes*.

## **Early Periodic Screening and Diagnostic Testing (EPSDT) Wraparound Services**

### **Mentally Ill Offender Criminal Reduction Program (MIOCR)**

Beginning in 2008 and funded by the Contra Costa Health Services Department, MIOCR consists of a collaboration of the Probation Department, Mental Health and YSB. Wraparound services were provided to Probation referred clients who have a mental health diagnosis.

### **West County Community Collaborative (EPSDT I)**

Another Collaborative partnership with Contra Costa Health Services – Children’s Services Division, this program is committed to increasing the independence of families needing mental health services using Wraparound services. During FY 08/09, 44 individual clients and their families were served.

### **West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Collaborative (EPSDT II) Wraparound Services**

Needs driven and consisting of the West Contra Costa Unified School District, Bay Area Community Resources (BACR), Community Health for Asian Americans (CHAA), and the YMCA, the WCCUSD Collaborative provides mental health services to children and families with multiple problems who are referred by school-based therapists. 42 individual clients and their families were served this past fiscal year.

## **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

### **Children, Youth and Families in Transition (CYFIT) Project**

Adding resources that will also serve non-MediCal children and youth, scheduled to begin in the fall of 2009, CYFIT provides wraparound services to youth (and their families) that are transitioning from The Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (OAYRF) to their communities.

### **Building Blocks for Kids (BBK)**

Another huge Collaborative effort, the BBK program seeks to replicate the success of the much heralded and successful Harlem Children's Zone. Here in Richmond, 27 Agencies have collaborated to "support the healthy development and education of all children and self-sufficiency of all families by engaging the community block by block". Multiple strategies and activities have been designed to "touch" families in the Iron Triangle with education, health, safety and social programs that elevate children and families.

### **One Family at a Time**

A Prevention and Early Intervention program that connects outreach workers and Community Navigators to BBK families to ensure that these families have access to needed services and connections to a community system of self-sufficiency, safety, and health and wellness.

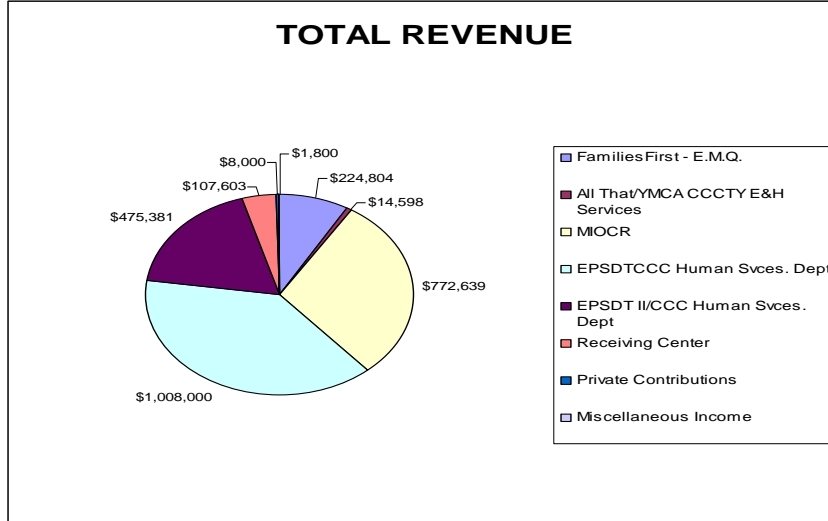
### **California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)**

Scheduled to begin in late Fall of 2009, CETF is a program designed to close the digital divide by providing computers, computer training, and broadband access to 1,000 BBK families and small businesses around Peres, Nystrom and Lincoln Elementary Schools.

### **Students as Prevention Partners**

Funded by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration, SAPP will provide counseling and recreational activities at Helms Community School for the middle school siblings of Peres Elementary School students at risk for drug and/or alcohol abuse

## Program Funding Sources



### A Special "Thanks" to Our Contributors

Area Agency on Aging - Contra Costa County  
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