



Annual Report for 2020
Electronically Submitted to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
April 26, 2020

The Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council of Humboldt County (CAPCC) is a broad-based non-profit advocacy organization that works to eliminate child abuse and neglect in our community through (1) striving to assure coordinated services and policies for the prevention, intervention and treatment of child abuse among agencies and organizations, (2) actively promoting and supporting high-quality programs that successfully reduce child abuse and neglect and (3) increasing public awareness of resources to help prevent child abuse and decrease family stress. Our Mission is: ***Strengthening community connections to promote safe, healthy, resilient children and families in Humboldt.***

In our report of 2019 we discussed CAPCC's participation in an initiative lead by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention, a state agency, to assist selected counties in creating a Child Abuse Prevention Plan. The work we did locally, during 2019, set the foundation for the creation of a Primary Child Abuse Prevention Plan (PPP) in 2020. Child abuse is viewed as a continuum, with prevention services occurring at three critical points; primary, secondary and tertiary. Primary prevention targets healthy individuals/families and aims to prevent harmful abuse from ever occurring. Programs such as play groups, preschool, after school programs, EBT (food stamps), financial management classes, parenting classes, and child development classes are all examples of Primary Prevention. Primary prevention strategies are designed to prevent and reduce the likelihood of abuse from ever occurring. A Primary Prevention team was assembled and held their first meeting in early March. The team consists of CWS, First 5, Changing Tides, the California Center for Rural Policy, the Humboldt Network of FRC's, Paso a Paso and Two Feathers Native American Family Services. CAPCC took the lead and over the next six months a Primary Prevention plan was created. Currently CAPCC is looking for funding to implement the plan.

April was Child Abuse Prevention month and CAPCC reached out to populations in the key cities of Eureka and Arcata by flying Child Abuse Awareness Month street banners. Caltrans's estimates 189,000 vehicles passed under the banner in Eureka. Even with the restrictions of Shelter in Place, CAPCC promoted virtual or no-attendance events on Child Abuse Awareness by advertising in various local newspapers. CAPCC also

placed announcements on local marquees to raise awareness of Child Abuse Prevention Month. We were unable to attend the Board of Supervisor's meeting for the Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month. We submitted our annual report electronically in late April. The Children's Memorial Flag Ceremony was held on the last Friday in April, at 9 a.m. at the Eureka Teen Center 3015 J Street Eureka. We honored 4 individuals selected for their exceptional work in child abuse prevention; Hannah Lippe is St. Joseph Hospital's only Maternal/Child Navigator and works in the CARE Network program, Jorge Matias was selected for this award due to his dedication to promote parent resilience, social connections and concrete support systems for Latinx families, Savannah McCarty works tirelessly at Wild Souls Ranch to ensure the safety of the kids participating in their program, and Elizabeth Kemper, LCSW, runs a Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) program in Eureka that offers group psychotherapy for parents who have committed child abuse. Their stories and pictures were featured on both CAPCC's website www.capcchumboldt.org and our Facebook page.

Throughout the year CAPCC participated in the Humboldt County Community Task Force, a collaborative between the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office and Department of Health & Human Services, to address the State Attorney General's judgement against Humboldt County. Our participation is centered on the creation of a Child Protection Reporting Guide, which should be ready for release in 2021, that we can post on our website to assist individuals in reporting abuse to Child Welfare Services.

Throughout the year we promoted, through our list serve, monthly trainings (webinars) on trauma focused care, ACE's, resiliency, child development, and service provision during COVID, to name just a few.

During December we created our e-newsletter with articles centered on how to deal with the stress of COVID and the holidays. We also partnered with First 5 to supply resource bags to their families during the month of December.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Sutcliffe, President

Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council of Humboldt County

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