

2013

## Children's Collaborative Action Team Annual Report



### *San Mateo County Board of Supervisors*

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*Carol Groom .....District 2*

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CCAT Coordinator

8/1/2013

# Table of Contents

Child Abuse and Neglect and the Importance of a Prevention Focused Strategy.....	3
Children’s Collaborative Action Team.....	4
Our Mission & Vision.....	4
Our Collaborative.....	4
Our History.....	4
Our Funding.....	5
CCAT Leadership – Oversight Committee Members.....	5
CCAT Focus Areas.....	6
2012-2013 Accomplishments.....	7
CCAT Grantees.....	7
CCAT Collaborative Accomplishments.....	9
Mandated Reporter Training.....	9
Blue Ribbon Month Campaign.....	9
Enough Abuse Campaign.....	9
Acknowledgements.....	10
Appendix (CCAT Funding Charts)	

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## *Protective Factors For Strengthening Families\**

*Nurturing & Attachment*

*Knowledge of Parenting  
and of Child and Youth  
Development*

*Parental Resilience*

*Social Connections*

*Concrete Support for  
Parents*

*\*these factors are linked  
to a lower incidence of  
child abuse and neglect*

## **Child Abuse and Neglect and the Importance of a Prevention Focused Strategy**

The impact of child maltreatment can be profound.

Research shows that child maltreatment is associated with adverse health and mental health outcomes in children and families, and those negative effects can last a lifetime.

A history of child abuse or neglect has been associated with increased risk of:

- Mental illness
- Substance abuse
- Developmental disabilities and learning problems
- Social problems with other children and with adults
- Teen pregnancy
- Lack of success in school
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Domestic violence
- Chronic illnesses

In addition to the impact on the child and family, child abuse and neglect affects various systems – including medical and mental health, law enforcement, judicial, public social services, and non profit agencies – as they respond to the incident and support the victim. One analysis of the immediate and long-term economic impact of child abuse and neglect suggests that child maltreatment costs the nation approximately \$103 *billion* each year. ([www.childwelfare.gov/preventing](http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing))

Programs and services that are targeted towards strengthening families from the start (see side bar) have the greatest chance for success. Helping families *before* they've come into contact with the child welfare system is the most cost effective and lasting approach.

*“Social policy should be  
directed toward the  
malleable early years, if we  
want to successfully address  
these problems.”  
Professor James Heckman,  
Nobel Laureate Economist*

## **Children's Collaborative Action Team**

### ***Our Mission & Vision***

The mission of the Children's Collaborative Action Team (CCAT) is to provide leadership to prevent child abuse by advocating and coordinating resources and raising community awareness through education and training.


Our vision is to facilitate an accessible and integrated community-based, family-centered system of care for children, youth and families in San Mateo County.

### ***Our Collaborative***

The Children's Collaborative Action Team (CCAT) is an independent body authorized by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors under the authority of the Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18980, Chapter 12.5, Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council Act, whose primary purpose is to coordinate the community effort to prevent and respond to child abuse. The San Mateo County Human Services Agency acts as the Fiscal Agent for all CCAT funds.

### ***Our History***

CCAT was formed in 1988 as an adjunct to the Children's Executive Council (CEC) which itself was created under the leadership of Supervisor Mary Griffin and Judge Frank Piombo. The CEC was composed of policy makers whose job was defined in terms of setting policy direction for the county's child serving agencies. The CEC was eventually blended with the more broadly focused Peninsula Partnership and its subgroup, CCAT. CCAT continued its approach of coordinating services and distributing State mandated funds for child abuse prevention activities among County and community-based agencies. In July 2010 the Adolescent Collaborative Action Team (ACAT) was brought under the coordination of CCAT in an effort to reduce duplication of coordination efforts and monthly meetings which were often attended by many of the same individuals. In 2013 CCAT launched Enough Abuse, its first major child abuse prevention awareness initiative in several years. The Enough Abuse child sex abuse prevention campaign is part of a larger Bay Area wide collaborative and will be implemented over a two year period.



*"The monthly collaborative meetings are informational and an important way for me to connect to other service providers in the County." Ruth Pinkus-Resnik  
Family Connections*

## ***Our Funding***

The majority of CCAT funding comes from state mandated sources, which fall under the umbrella of the Child Abuse and Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA) including: the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Program (CBCAP), the Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention, and treatment Program (CAPIT), the Promoting Safe and Stable Family Program (PSSF). Additionally, CCAT receives funding through the County Children's Trust Fund in the form of Birth Certificate and Kids Plate revenue, an annual training stipend from the Greater Bay Area Coalition of Child Abuse Councils and occasional individual donations and grants.

• • •  
Over 40 agencies, non-  
profits and individuals  
represent the CCAT  
collaborative. Average  
monthly attendance for  
FY12/13 was 22  
members.

### ***CCAT Leadership – Oversight Committee Members***

Pat Bohm, Executive Director, Daly City Partnership

Cindy Famero (Parent Representative)

Kerry Lobel, M.S., Executive Director (Puente de la Costa  
Sur)

Ben Loewy, Ph.D. (SMC Office of Education)

Bernadette “Bernie” Plotnikoff (Retired Director of  
Programs, Child Abuse Prevention Center of San Mateo &  
Santa Clara Counties)

Debra Pomeroy, Human Services Analyst, Children & Family Services

Jenell Thompson, Management Analyst III, Chair, (SMC Human Services Agency)

Randy Torrijos, Legislative Aide, (representing Office of Supervisor Dave Pine)

Renee Zimmerman, M.S., Executive Director (Family Connections) Coordinator (CCAT)

## CCAT Focus Areas

### Prevention Services

- provide funding to community based organizations targeting most at-risk children & families

### Coordination

- coordinate community's efforts to prevent & respond to child abuse.
- provide forum for inter-agency cooperation and coordination
- convene meetings to provide networking, education and professional training

### Community Education & Outreach

- increase public awareness
- build a community which protects healthy families
- educate parents, community members through public awareness campaigns

### Advocacy

- serve as unified voice to influence public policy decisions

## 2012-2013 Accomplishments

### CCAT Grantees

CCAT grantees form the foundation of the collaborative's efforts to provide a well coordinated system of care throughout San Mateo County that is focused on providing programs and services which address the 5 research based "*protective factors*" (see side bar on page 3.)

Themes such as parent education, parent leadership, early childhood education, father involvement, parental self-care and nurturing and attachment, are repeated throughout the county in a number of high quality, effective programs that have been selected through a competitive grant process based on: ability to meet CCAT goals and priorities, ability to reach highest need communities in the county and quality and accessibility of the program and service being offered.

Grantee highlights are as follows:

#### *Cabrillo Unified School District*

*provided counseling services to 4 coastside schools in which 47% of the students are from migrant families (over 100 students and their families received services. Success Story: counseling services were provided to a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade boy who discovered his father's body after he committed suicide. Mother has reported that CCAT funded counseling services played a significant role in helping her son cope. Family was provided referrals for family/grief counseling.*



*provided services to children and their parent were under the care of CORA's Housing Program including: Building Emotional Understanding parent classes, safety planning activities, animal therapy classes and school readiness assessments. "Families have enjoyed activities designed to bring them closer together and heal after the trauma of domestic violence."*



*At Our Second Home, the DC partnership provided a full range of programs and services for north county children and families including: mental health and counseling services, food bank distribution, information and referral, parenting workshops, parent Yoga classes, Spanish Bilingual Domestic Violence Survivor Support Group, provider workshops, free preschool, ESL classes, kinship support, bi-lingual playgroups and special needs play groups.*



*Provided free preschool and parent education to 128 families (158 children and 255 adults in East Palo Alto, Menlo Park and North Fair Oaks. Parent Leadership, self-care, conflict-resolution and father involvement are emphasized. "By working together as a team at Family Connections, my husband and I were provided with a rich environment in which we could focus as parents on enhancing, developing and discovering not only our skills, but that of our daughters as well."*



*Focused on providing mentees with activities, healthy relationships, healthy messages and anti bullying support. Recent Mentor/Mentee Success story: Casey was the person Diane trusted to tell about the sexual abuse by dad that had been occurring for years. Casey contacted FFY staff right away and authorities were contacted immediately. This was the first report against this man and Casey was the only other adult who knew what was going on. Diane trusted Casey's decision to make the right calls and the abuse ended.*



*PCRC's "Strengthening Families" initiative had 2,316 (duplicated) parents participating in various leadership activities. 250 educational workshops were offered reaching nearly 3,000 participants (duplicated.)*



*Puente de la Costa Sur serves families in our County's most isolated region of Pescadero/La Honda. Through their Behavioral Health & Recovery services families receive: mental health counseling, parent education, assistance with work permits, food, clothing and shelter. In 2012-13 Puente was able initiate the process for three U-Visas. Additionally, Puente provides Mandated Reporter training for area professionals.*



*The Redwood City Community Schools serve 4057 students through a system of coordinated service delivery, comprehensive FRC's, family engagement activities, extended day learning, referrals, case managed care and counseling. In 2012-13 they reached over 9,700 individuals.*



## CCAT Collaborative Accomplishments

### Mandated Reporter Training

CCAT works closely with the Human Services Agency and the Mandated Reporter Training contractor, Jane Smithson, to ensure that as many individuals are trained as possible. This requires a coordinated effort of outreach by CCAT (sending out thousands of letters to all agencies, schools and religious institutions working with children, promoting training dates on the CCAT website and fielding calls and emails from those inquiring about training), funding from HSA to provide the trainings and funding from the greater Bay Area Child Abuse Prevention Coalition to provide the training booklets. ***During the fiscal year 2012-2013: 57 trainings were held with a total of 1,275 individuals completing the training.***

### Blue Ribbon Month Campaign

Each April CCAT undertakes a public outreach campaign by distributing blue ribbon pins, posters and bookmarks, sending out public service announcements, information emails and offering topical presentations to the community. This campaign serves as an important mechanism for raising awareness amongst the broader community.



### Enough Abuse Campaign

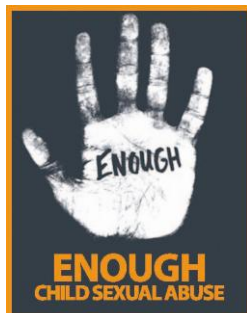
Child sexual abuse is “a silent epidemic” according to the American Medical Association. One in 4 women and 1 in 6 men report experiencing sexual abuse in childhood ([www.enouseabuse.org](http://www.enouseabuse.org).) Although substantiated cases of sexual abuse represent a small percentage of total child abuse, it is known by experts that hundreds of incidents go unreported. The “Enough Abuse” campaign will engage an entire community in the effort to stop this horrific and life altering type of abuse and motivate adults to take a stand and say “Enough!”

This evidence-based campaign began in Massachusetts in 2002 as a result of the clergy sexual abuse crisis and a subsequent report finding that MA lacked a comprehensive, state-wide strategy to reduce sexual assaults against children.

In February 2013 the Greater Bay Area Child Abuse Prevention Coalition (GBAC) partnered with the Center for Innovation and Resources (CIR) to implement this highly effective two year outreach campaign.

## Primary Campaign Components Include:

- Coordinated, Bay Area-Wide Public Awareness Campaign
- Community and Provider Trainings
- Public Policy and Systems Change Advocacy (including a pre/post public opinion poll)



## Acknowledgements

The Children's Collaborative Action Team would like to thank the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and especially the office of Supervisor Dave Pine for their ongoing support in preventing child abuse and neglect in San Mateo County.

In addition, CCAT relies tremendously on the dedication of time, resources and expertise from Dr. Loc Nguyen, Director, Child Welfare Services and the entire staff of the Children and Family Services division of the Human Services Agency.



"Happy Childhoods Last a Life Time"