



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LOIS M. SAHYOUN
Clerk of the Board

222 EAST WEBER AVENUE, ROOM 701
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202
TELEPHONE: 209/468-3211
FAX: 209/468-3694

VICTOR MOW
Chairman
Third District

JACK A. SIEGLOCK
Vice Chairman
Fourth District

STEVEN GUTIERREZ
First District

DARIO L. MARENCO
Second District

LYNN G. BEDFORD
Fifth District

August 13, 2002

The Honorable George J. Abdallah, Jr.
Presiding Judge, Superior Court
Courthouse
222 East Weber St., Rm. 303
Stockton, CA 95202

**Subject: San Joaquin County Response to 2001-02 Grand Jury Report –
Case #2000, Mary Graham Children's Shelter**

Dear Judge Abdallah:

Enclosed is the San Joaquin County response to the San Joaquin County Grand Jury Report Case #2000, Mary Graham Children's Shelter. Pursuant to Section 933.05 of the California Penal Code, the response is in accordance with the requirement that the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors respond in writing to the Presiding Judge of the San Joaquin County Superior Court within 90 days of the publication of the report.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact the County Administrator.

Very truly yours,

Victor Mow, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

VM
Attachment

BOS08-01

Office of the
County Administrator



COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN

Courthouse, Room 707
222 East Weber Avenue
Stockton, California 95202-2778
(209) 468-3211
Fax (209) 468-2875

August 6, 2002

Board of Supervisors
Courthouse
Stockton, CA

Dear Board Members:

Response to Grand Jury Report – Case # 2000, Mary Graham Children's Shelter

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Accept the attached response to the 2001-2002 Grand Jury Report Case #2000 regarding Mary Graham Children's Shelter; and
2. Authorize and direct the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to submit said response to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

Reason for Recommendation

The 2001-02 San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury issued a final report regarding Case #2000 — Mary Graham Children's Shelter. This case made many significant recommendations as a result of findings during their investigation. Section 933.05 of the Penal Code requires that the Board of Supervisors respond to the findings and recommendations included in that report. Approval of the above noted recommendations will comply with that requirement. The attachment to this report is submitted as the Board's suggested responses to the specific findings and recommendations.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with acceptance of this response to the Grand Jury Report.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ASSESSOR RECORDER
COUNTY CLERK
GARY W. FREEMAN

02 AUG 21 AM 10:33

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

BY *Peterson Paulsen*
DEPUTY

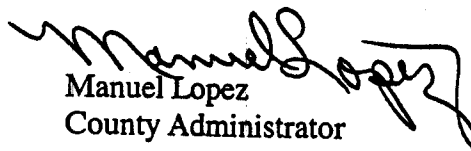
Board of Supervisors
Response to Grand Jury Report – Case #2000
Mary Graham Children's Shelter

August 6, 2002
Page 2

Action To Be Taken Following Approval

After acceptance of the response 2001-02 Grand Jury Report Case #2000 regarding the Mary Graham Children's Shelter, the Chairman will be authorized and directed to transmit the response to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

Very truly yours,


Manuel Lopez
County Administrator

ML:LW

Attachment

c: Presiding Judge, Superior Court
Grand Jury Foreperson
Human Services Agency
Mary Graham Children's Shelter
Board Clerk for Agenda 8-13

BL08-01

Before the Board of Supervisors

County of San Joaquin, State of California

B-02- 1009

MOTION: Bedford/Gutierrez

Response To Grand Jury Report
Case #2000 – Mary Graham Children's Shelter

This Board of Supervisors does hereby:

1. Accept the response to the 2001-02 Grand Jury Report Case #2000 regarding Mary Graham Children's Shelter; and
2. Authorize and direct the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to submit said response to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above order was passed and adopted on August 13, 2002, by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors, to wit:

AYES: Bedford, Sieglock, Gutierrez, Mow

NOES: None

ABSENT: Marengo

ABSTAIN: None

c: County Administrator
Presiding Judge, Superior Court
Grand Jury Foreperson
Human Services Agency
Mary Graham Children's Shelter
Board Clerk

for LOIS M. SAHYOUN
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of San Joaquin
State of California

Caroline Junco



**RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY CASE # 2000
MARY GRAHAM CHILDREN'S SHELTER**

FINDINGS:

- 1. Ground breaking for a \$10.5 million project constructing a new Children's Shelter was in October 2001, with expected completion in the fall of 2003. Funding for the Shelter is a partnership of county government, State of California and local community donations.

RESPONSE: Agree. Presently, the Board of Supervisors has approved all phases of construction to be completed. Total funding expected is a result of County committed money combined with Mary Graham Children's Foundation raised and pledged funds.

- 2. State Licensing requirement mandated in April 2001. MGCS received a provisional license July 31, 2001. Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division due to visit the facility in May, 2002 to determine if it is in compliance with state regulations. Provisional license is due to expire in July 2002, at which point either the provisional license will be extended or a State license will be granted.

RESPONSE: Agree. As a result of the recent annual Community Care Licensing (CCL) audit in July, we have been informed verbally by CCL Analyst contacts that the MGCS will be receiving its permanent Licensure during the month of August.

- 3. There was a recent staffing increase of one Administrative Assistant, one Program Assistant, five line staff, four Supervisor positions, one clerical and one housekeeper. All positions have been filled.

RESPONSE: Agree. At the time of the Grand Jury review, this statement reflected a snapshot of a point in time and was accurate. There has, however, been turnover since that time resulting in vacancies, for which recruitments are underway.

- 4. Although plans were made for residential facilities for placement of aggressive residents of MGCS, there are still no facilities and no options for the relocation of children with behavioral problems.

RESPONSE: Disagree. Please refer to response to Recommendation #5 for more specifics.

- 5. Four Personal Rights violations and one Lack of Supervision violation were found during investigation by the State.

RESPONSE: This finding is accurate, and action has been taken to address these issues. As a result of CCL and Human Services Agency(HSA) investigations, staff involved with the citations received disciplinary actions, up to and including termination of employment. Also, considerable training of staff has resulted and the MGCS Trainer and

CCL Analyst have developed an effective process to consult on content of trainings. In this latter regard, annual staff training, as confirmed by CCL, now meets and exceeds state requirements.

6. Two Directors of MGCS have resigned in the past 12 months.

RESPONSE: Agree

7. New Director hired in April of 2002.

RESPONSE: Agree

8. Management of MGCS falls under the Human Services Agency (HSA) umbrella. There are 1,043 employees assigned to the subordinate departments.

RESPONSE: At the time of the Grand Jury review of this case, this finding was accurate. However, since that time, while MGCS remains under the umbrella of the Human Services Agency, managerial oversight was transferred to the County Administrator's Office on June 4, 2002.

9. Board of Supervisors and Director of the Human Services Agency involved in a public disagreement of hiring policies and lines of accountability for the new Director assigned to MGCS.

RESPONSE: The Board of Supervisors has taken action to address the concerns associated with this finding by transferring managerial oversight of MGCS to the County Administrator.

10. Consultant from Sacramento County hired in April 2002, to study the Shelter and the departure of the Director.

RESPONSE: Agree. The consultant's report was presented to the Board of Supervisors in May of 2002.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors closely monitor the progress and timely completion to the urgently needed new Children's Shelter Facility.

RESPONSE: This recommendation has been implemented. The Board has directed that the MGCS present a report on a regular basis regarding the progress of the construction project. At the time of this response, the project remains on completion schedule.

2. San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors review adequacy of existing budget allocations and staffing levels and allow for increases were warranted.

RESPONSE: This recommendation has been implemented. The adequacy of budget allocations and staffing levels were reviewed as part of the Fiscal Year 2003-03 budget hearings. The Fiscal Year 2002-2003 MGCS budget approved by the Board of Supervisors increased floor and supervisor staff positions. The need to increase staffing levels within the new facility is under evaluation. The MGCS Director will present those needs to the Board upon conclusion of that evaluation.

3. Mary Graham staff continues to pursue potential funding through Community Development Block Grant from local communities.

RESPONSE: This recommendation is being implemented. Working with staff, the MGCS Foundation has approached the Cities of Lodi, Stockton, Tracy and Manteca. Our applications with the Cities of Lodi and Stockton are pending resolution of project coordination and the timing of funding. The City of Manteca has accepted. The City of Tracy denied our last efforts but we are going to reapply in December for the next year.

4. Individual communities are encouraged to take a leadership role in the remaining funding necessary to complete the project of the new facility.

RESPONSE: We enthusiastically support this recommendation. Mary Graham Children's Foundation has received a tremendous response from the community to assist in the completion of the new shelter, including the Child Advocacy Center.

5. San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors take immediate action to insure the Human Services Agency develop and implement a plan to provide for the relocation of the disruptive, aggressive predators in order to eliminate the possible victimization of the other residents and to assure the safety of the children and staff.

RESPONSE: We understand the critical need which resulted in this recommendation, and are moving to address that need. Presently, the "601 Program" designed to identify the aforementioned population and provide more specialized services to them in a more conducive environment is in its trial stages. The Board of Supervisors allocated approximately \$100,000 for placement of the out of control youth deemed likely to be designated "601 population." Two community-based providers have begun trial placements. However, those providers have also encountered difficulties due to the provisions of state law as to the level of custodial control which can be applied to this population. Meetings are currently being held with stakeholders from Law Enforcement, Human Services, and the local providers to refine and adjust the program to improve its efficacy. In addition, the new shelter will provide for increased supervision and separation of youth based on their individualized needs.

6. Recommend a study be conducted on the current organization structure of the Human Services Agency and explore the feasibility of a reorganization of the 1,043 personnel or