MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At the Yolo County Children’s Alliance, we strive to work together, internally and externally, to help improve the lives of children, youth, and families in our communities. Throughout this fourth quarter, our mission as an organization has surpassed all expectations amidst a major transition of leadership. Our supporters have amplified our organization’s funding goals and given so many essential items to hundreds of families in our most recent community events. Our team has gone above and beyond to ensure that clients have the resources and services their families need. As a whole, our agency has worked together to help hundreds of families as they navigate the effects of the pandemic. Externally, our Board of Directors and community supporters have worked tirelessly with our organization to ensure we receive essential donations for our community, and have given their own time to help the community. Throughout this report we are happy to showcase the updates within our programs, successes of our staff and clients, and overall growth within our agency.

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR FOURTH QUARTER
Serving primary caregivers of children from pregnancy to age 3, the Healthy Families Yolo County program aims to improve the infant-parent relationship by enhancing skills, promoting healthy child development, and supporting bonding in a safe home environment. The program serves Yolo County’s most vulnerable mothers and provides practical support for accessing basic needs and community resources as well as activities to build parenting skills.

Currently, this program has the most families ever enrolled in the history of the program, totaling 103 Healthy Families Yolo County families. Healthy Families Yolo County has 58 families enrolled in the California Home Visiting Program (CHVP), and two pending. With these numbers, we are anticipating starting a waitlist for the first time ever. In our Road to Resilience Program (R2R), we have 45 families enrolled and three pending enrollments.

In the past month of May alone, the HFYC team has completed 18 applications on behalf of our participants for the United Way COVID Relief Funds. In total, we have secured $9,000 of financial aid to help our participants pay rent, household bills, and other essential expenses so they can continue to work and live.

COVID update
Our home visiting program is gradually beginning to increase in person visits as the public health emergency improves. We will continue to offer virtual visits for families who are not ready to resume in-person services. This hybrid approach will continue as an option indefinitely as it has many benefits and increases flexibility for the overburdened families we serve.

Internal Updates
The HFYC program is currently in the process of hiring a Family Support Specialist to replace one of our current staff who will be leaving us in August to start grad school. The position description and application are available here: https://www.yolokids.org/career-opportunities

HFYC recently was able to celebrate the graduation of one of our West Sacramento participants. M.O.B. [client's name omitted for privacy] enrolled when her baby was just 2 months old in April that baby turned 5 years old and is a healthy, joyful little girl. Their Family Support Specialist, Elsa Muratalla, supported them with many needs over the years including Emergency Food Vouchers when M.O.B. lost her job, setting goals for exercise and healthy eating, goal setting for M.O.B.’s partner to start a new job training program, and encouraging M.O.B. to access counseling services for her older child when she began to struggle in school.

During one particularly stressful time, the family was forced to leave their home after being the victims of a crime. Elsa supported the family through multiple temporary housing situations before they were successfully linked with permanent housing with the assistance of the West Sacramento Police Department’s Homeless Outreach Coordinator.

The participant introduced herself to me (the Program Manager) at an outreach event one year ago and stated that her Family Support Specialist, Elsa, “She saved my life.”

Due to the consistent support and resources that Elsa provided over the years, this family was able to cope with the challenges they faced and learn new skills to keep them healthy, strong, more stable, and together as a family.

Why We Do What We DO
Applying for the United Way COVID Relief Funds is just one example of how we support our families. We are focused on building strong, healthy families and helping them overcome challenges so they can continue to work and live.

Our Clients, Our Community
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Within YCCA’s housing programs, our team manages several programs that focus on rental assistance, homeless prevention, and case management for those who are homeless and are in need of housing services. We partner with several other community organizations, and additionally the City of West Sacramento and Yolo County to provide these services.

The housing program has enjoyed a great amount of success as of late. On the prevention side, the SIEMER family stability program is currently serving 29 families and supporting them in achieving a multitude of positive goals. Additionally, our team is helping distribute $500 United Way ‘vouchers’ to some of our most vulnerable families to use for groceries, child care, bills, and other essential financial obligations.

Outreach is beginning for the State of California’s COVID-19 Rent Relief Program. The team continues to assist nearly 20 clients per week with their applications to receive rent and utility bill support from the State. Furthermore, with regard to eviction prevention, the housing program was able to process nearly $178,812 in direct client assistance throughout the last fiscal year!

YCCA housing also oversees Project Homekey and Project Roomkey and provides clients with intensive case management. The number of clients permanently housed by the YCCA team, to date, is 54, including three clients in a span of ten days. One of these clients has been homeless since 2005; another client was living out of his car for four years before coming to the program. Lastly, the most recent client housed has a place to call her own for the first time in 14 years!

Community-building events such as barbecues and coffee/donut socials are also taking place at the motel. Other services include showers for unhoused persons on Mondays, a harm reduction trailer on Tuesdays, and a street medicine team with a doctor to provide medical care on Thursdays.

Yvette was homeless for over three years before entering Project Homekey. During this time, she battled through the loss of her husband, drug/alcohol use, and some criminal activity as a means for survival. She has not been in trouble with the law since starting the program. And she is practicing harm reduction with regard to drug and alcohol use. Also, with the help of YCCA staff, she was able to obtain gainful employment for the first time in 7 years with Mercy Coalition. She has been assisting Mercy Coalition with laundry services since February. Because of her own efforts at improving her life and the advocacy and support of YCCA staff, Yvette now lives independently in a nice apartment in West Sacramento!

Laura was homeless on the streets and couch-surfing for over 12 years, including spending nights sleeping in her car with her best friend Linda. Laura came into Project Homekey as an IHSS worker/caretaker for Linda and, when Linda passed away, Laura was allowed to stay. YCCA staff worked together with Laura to obtain housing-ready documents and increase independent living skills and, ultimately, get a Section 8 voucher and achieve her ultimate goal of living alone in her own apartment in Woodland!
The Building & Strengthening Protective Factors (BSPF) program implements the six protective factors and safety actions to support and assist parents with stabilizing their children in home placement or returning their children to the home after living in a foster/resource home. The In-Home Support Specialists use their knowledge of the Nurturing Parenting Program Curriculum and their experience with protective factors and safety actions to advocate for the children through interpersonal connections with the parents, in-home redirection, coaching, and resource support.

The Family Strengthening Program over the past three months has been able to offer services to 34 families in Yolo County between the cities of Woodland, West Sacramento, Davis, Knights Landing, and outside of Yolo County in Sacramento and Sonoma County.

Internal Updates
The Family Strengthening Program recently welcomed its new program manager, Jose Ceja, and will be reigniting the search for an additional In-Home Support Specialist, to reach a total of three staff members in the program.

Why We Do What We Do
Our Clients, Our Community
Our overall goal is to improve the relationships between parents and their children, and nurture a stronger family. Recently, some of the parents who have had their cases closed with Child Welfare Services (CWS) are finding it beneficial to continue with our program even though they no longer are legally required to do so.

One mother in our program was able to drastically increase her Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI) assessment scores for three of the categories and was able to find a part-time job. She also went from having supervised visits in a facility to now having in-home visits with her son. The mother praises the program and expresses much appreciation for the In-Home Support Specialist and the curriculum helping her parent more effectively.

CALWORKS CHILDCARE SUBSIDY PROGRAMS (CCCS)
YCCA-CCCS is contracted with the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency to provide subsidized child care for families receiving cash aid. Eligibility and days/hours of approved child care services are determined by Yolo County Social Workers who refer families to YCCA-CCCS to be enrolled. Those families and their providers are then enrolled with YCCA-CCCS who pays the provider for the approved child care.

Between the months of March and May 2021, 77 families and 128 children were served.

The CCCS program serves any family who resides in Yolo county. The majority of families currently enrolled, live in West Sacramento, Woodland and Davis; however, there are also families enrolled with us, who live in the surrounding smaller cities of Yolo county. We continue to serve a steady flow of clients going through the CalWorks Welfare to Work program.

The YCCA-CCCS semi-annual parent satisfaction survey results for Spring 2021 were great as always. Our clients are very happy with CCCS staff and our services. Our clients continue to use our services in order to have stability in their childcare needs.
The Yolo County Children’s Alliance is the lead for the Yolo County Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC). Child Abuse Prevention Councils (CAPCs) of California are community councils whose primary purpose is to coordinate the community’s efforts to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect.

The CAPC met twice in the past quarter on April 2, 2021 and June 4, 2021. On June 4, CAPC members voted to elect a new CAPC Chair and Vice-Chair nominations and re-elected the current Chair and elected a new Vice-Chair. CAPC members also voted for the creation and dissemination of a new parenting guide and parent education workshop, both in multiple languages, for the 2022 Child Abuse Prevention Month campaign.

2021 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN REVIEW
For the 2021 Child Abuse Prevention Month (CAP Month), YCCA and the Council launched a new online resource for Yolo County Families: Strong Families Yolo: www.StrongFamiliesYolo.org. The Strong Families Yolo website is a resource for everyone in Yolo County find ways to support children and families and build strong communities. The website is sectioned into sects for teachers, parents, coaches, friends, and more, with information for each demographic on how to recognize and prevent child abuse and neglect in any situation. Since launching, the website has had more than 775 site visitors.

To help promote CAP Month efforts, YCCA partnered with local media outlets on launching a press release; worked with partnering organizations to distribute the Strong Families website information through emails, flyers, social media, and posters. Additionally, YCCA worked with the Board of Supervisors and Cities of Woodland, West Sacramento, Davis, and Winters to pass individual resolutions declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. To increase promotion of the new website as well, we worked with the City of West Sacramento and had the URL printed on 14,250 utility bills.

YOLO FAMILY STRENGTHENING NETWORK (YFSN)
The Yolo Family Strengthening Network (YFSN) is a group of Yolo County family-serving organizations and agencies dedicated to strengthening families and preventing child abuse and neglect. YFSN Meetings were held on March 30 and May 25, 2021. Continuously throughout the month, YCCA worked in tandem with the YFSN Listserv and sent multiple emails with resources, trainings, events, and other materials related to child abuse prevention and strengthening families education.
FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

FAMILY SUPPORT - YOLO COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE (CHI) / OERU

CHI/CMSP \ MEDI-CAL OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Medi-Cal is a health insurance that is offered to Californians that below the 138%FPL (Federal Poverty level). This is a federal and state funded program for children and families with limited income and resources.

During the months of March-May, our program has served 102 individual clients with Medi-Cal services, including enrollments and navigation assistance.

As of March, we have hired two new CHI staff to assist with health insurance enrollment and navigation assistance. During this period, the CHI staff has been collaborating with Healthy Davis nurses during our Friday Food Distributions, to offer health education and enrollment assistance along with offering the COVID-19 Vaccine clinic enrollment opportunities. Additionally, we’ve continued phone, door-to-door outreach, and have continued sharing all Medi-Cal and MyTurn (COVID-19 Vaccine) information through the YCCA social media platforms. We’ve taken advantage of extending our services to walk-in clients at the Family Resource Center who are current clients for other services.

CALFRESH

CalFresh is a California program for low income families that meet the income requirements to help them receive healthy food and nutrition services. This program was formerly known as Food Stamps and provides monthly benefits to assist households that qualify. From March-May, we have assisted 25 individual families with CalFresh applications and navigation assistance during the pandemic. YCCA has hired two new Community Resource Specialists to assist with CalFresh applications. CalFresh outreach and enrollment is easing into providing some in-person assistance, but mostly conducting applications by phone. To increase awareness about YCCA’s CalFresh services, our team includes flyers within our weekly food distribution bags, collaborates with inter-agency and partner events, like the Spring Community Giveaway and the Holy Cross COVID Vaccination Clinics, to provide flyers to those clients, and have been consistently sharing information across the YCCA social media platforms.

“Thank you Jose, I’m not sure what I would do without you. As you know my Medi-Cal and Calfresh are really important to me, I cannot go without either of them given my health conditions. Thank you again, you are a life saver.”

-J.D.
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
COVID-19 VACCINE OUTREACH
The COVID Vaccine Outreach Program is a project that was created to implement outreach and education for vaccinations throughout Yolo County. Its main goal is to focus on areas that have a low percentage of vaccinated residents; such as the West Sacramento 95605 area. All staff members have been trained on MyTurn.ca.gov platform to assist West Sacramento residents on how to register for an appointment to receive the COVID vaccine (flexible dates/locations/vaccine option). As of today, we have gathered eight community volunteers within the West Sacramento area (specifically 95605) to be trained on and conduct vaccine outreach to their neighbors. On average, one volunteer reaches out to about 35 individuals on a daily basis.

We have partnered with Healthy Davis and Salud Clinic to reach more potential unvaccinated clients. We have also taken advantage of our social media platforms to promote the COVID vaccine flyer for MyTurn, as well as, distributing flyers and surveying clients every Friday during the food distribution. We are finding different outreach methods such as partnering with nurses and bilingual staff (Spanish, Farsi, and Russian) to reach those clients who have yet to be vaccinated, and help answer any questions they have about the vaccine.

WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA)
WIOA offers local youth internships and part-time work where clients learn career development skills, are able to build their resume, and explore other educational opportunities. The WIOA team is currently preparing for the completion of the 2019-2021 program. Currently, there are 13 clients who will soon be receiving completion documents and follow up files as their term nears the end. Most of the clients are working with our case managers to continue work after their time with WIOA is complete.

In preparation for the new program year, beginning July 1, 2021, we have been updating all documents, reaching out to all business and client contacts, and ramping up outreach to get businesses and local youth involved in the program. As part of the outreach, the WIOA team will start tabling at the library in late June. Additionally, the team has been creating various social media graphics and preparing for a social roll-out throughout the month of June. We have also created a Google Form for referrals that can be found on the WIOA website, and our updated flyer.

For our 2021-2022 program, WIOA has 15 potential youth on our referral list. To prepare them for the program, we are beginning to meet with those youth to start their applications, in an effort to have them ready for enrollment in early July.

As a program, we are anticipating restructuring and growth within WIOA, so we are considering additional training opportunities for the youth in the program, along with orientation preparation, assessments, and updating all program processes to ensure that we supply our clients with all of the tools they need to succeed.
WEST GATEWAY PLACE

West Gateway Place is our satellite site in West Sacramento that we provide services including, but not limited to, food distributions and open office hours for clients to request help for services provided by the Family Resource Center: STEAC applications, ID vouchers, application assistance for Covered CA, Medi-Cal and Cal Fresh, and most recently, Nurturing Parenting (NPP) classes for mothers and children.

As of right now, walk-in services are by appointment only, however, staff continues to provide some services virtually as well as socially distanced food distribution services. We have started our virtual NPP class in the Farsi language for our Afghan families at West Gateway Place and we have had a significant number of families interested after starting, enrolling 13 families in the class.

HELP ME GROW

Help Me Grow (HMGY) offers free and confidential developmental screenings for children ages 0 to 5. YCCA then uses the results to connect families to the resources in Yolo County that can assist in areas of concern and can help build and support healthy learning and growing.

Throughout the year, our team has served close to 200 families, all in West Sacramento, Davis, and Clarksburg. We have room for several more families, and are currently hiring for new staff within the program.

Due to Covid-19, last year we struggled to get children screened due to school closures and low enrollments. Now that the schools and daycares are opening back up, we are seeing a noticeable increase in referrals for screenings. We are working with the migrant camps and due to their increased enrollment, we have received a large number of referrals which we are tackling before the fiscal year ends. Our team continues to attend virtual trainings and webinars, hence allows us to continue educating ourselves to best support the families. We have received trainings from agency such as; ACES AWARE, A Better Way, and ADDitude.

Why We Do What We Do: Our Clients, Our Community

We are reminded of the importance of HMGY when we see clients grow and getting the help they need. One client sought out help for her child who was diagnosed with Autism. In managing her case, we were not just able to connect her with resources for the child, but we were also able to connect her adult son to resources through the YCCA. Our Community Liaisons within the HMGY programs helps build connections between families and the resources available in the community that they may not know even exist.
NURTURING PARENT PROGRAM (NPP) IMPACT PROGRAM

The NPP Impact Program is an early learning quality improvement initiative that provides coaching for a variety of childcare providers including Family, Friends, and Neighbors; family child care; and center-based providers caring for children 0-5. During the fourth quarter of the fiscal year, the NPP/IMPACT program conducted coaching sessions and enrolled a total of 30 FFN and FCCH childcare providers from the cities of Davis, Knights Landing and West Sacramento. **This was twice as many providers as the previous quarter.** These providers participated in a 20-session course of the Nurturing Parenting Program curriculum that immersed them in topics regarding early childhood development, developmentally appropriate practices and how to take care of themselves and their children’s needs during COVID-19. As part of their participation in the program, the participants are also receiving coaching and support through the county's iPinWheel, Quality Improvement Plan (QIPs) and continuous support through the Family Engagement Labs where both children and caregivers join twice a week via zoom. During this quarter, we continued to connect providers to vaccination resources and information regarding vaccination clinics available in their areas.

Currently, we are working closely with the Washington Unified School District and a Farsi speaking liaison to provide the NPP/IMPACT program to the immigrant Afghan community of Family, Friends and Neighbors (FFN) at the West Gateway Place Apartments in West Sacramento.

Amongst our many success stories and accomplishments of this quarter was the graduation of our rural providers in Knights Landing and Davis who, despite, encountering technological difficulties, were able to complete all sessions and receive their certificates. Similarly, our IMPACT coach graduated and received her certification from the Napa Infant-Parent Mental Health Fellowship through UC Davis.

THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

The Food Distribution is a program that helps strengthen families in need of food assistance, by providing them with a supply of fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, and other non-perishable groceries. This program is supported through the Yolo Food Bank, and is completely free to the community at three sites: West Sacramento, Clarksburg, and West Gateway. At all sites, we have seen an increase in the number of families we serve since the pandemic. Our team has continued to practice social distancing during the drive-thru distribution (West Sacramento) and the walk up distributions (Clarksburg and West Gateway). We have been fortunate to have a multitude of volunteers at our West Sacramento Food Distribution every Friday, with sometimes more than 280 families being served every week! The Clarksburg site serves an average of 20 families every other Tuesday, and West Gateway serves an average of 35 families weekly.

VOLUNTARY TAX INCOME ASSISTANCE (VITA)

VITA is a program that offers free tax assistance to clients that make less than $60,000 per year and meet the program qualifications. VITA is a free service offered throughout California for those who qualify. YCCA offered assistance online through GetMyRefund.org, and additionally, our team offered opportunities throughout the week, and on some weekends, to sit with clients, assist them in filing their tax returns, and opportunities to drop off their paperwork and have YCCA staff complete their returns for them. **As of May 17th, the Yolo County Children’s Alliance VITA team has successfully completed 465 tax returns.** We continue to offer our services for back year taxes (2017 being the latest).
4TH QUARTER SUMMARY
Despite the pandemic still affecting a lot of our community partners, YCCA supporters have flooded our organization with generosity. As an organization, we are so appreciative of the time, resources, items, and funds that our community has donated this quarter. Thanks to the support we received, our organization was able to hold a Spring Community Giveaway event and served more than 200 families, we surpassed our Big Day of Giving goal of donors, and nearly doubled the donations received from last year’s BDOG, and were able to create several resource packs for families in need that included personal and household hygiene items, feminine products, diapers, soaps, and more.

NOTABLE DONORS
All of our donors are the reason YCCA is able to serve as many families as we do. Every day we want to yell from the rooftops our gratitude for every single one of them. This quarter, we would like to highlight our partners who always supply us with in-kind donations for events and families.

Out of the Box Ministries
Out of the Box Ministries is a selfless organization with their hearts in the community. They organize volunteers throughout Yolo County and partner with the Yolo Food Bank to provide ‘snack packs’, including non-perishable food items and quick meals, for the families YCCA serves. We partner with this organization often at our events where their volunteers and coordinators work to ensure all children are fed throughout our communities.

Councilmember Quirina Orozco / West Sacramento Kids Give Back
Councilmember Quirina Orozco is truly a Wonder Woman. She volunteers her time for YCCA families not only at community giveaway events themselves, but by holding drives and coordinating with a newer non-profit, West Sacramento Kids Give Back. She encourages students to host supply drives for hygiene kits, backpacks and all essential items that families need.

IKEA, West Sacramento
IKEA and their community resource team donated thousands of towels for our most recent community giveaway event. Not only did this team donate, but they showed up at the event to help pack and hand out towels to the 200+ families that showed up. What an inspiration to all major businesses / employers in our community!

FUNDRAISING AND PARTNERSHIPS
This past quarter we focused our efforts on creating long-term relationships with large organizations in Yolo County. These efforts are focused towards our upcoming community events. Most recently, YCCA participated in Big Day of Giving on May 6.
This year for Big Day of Giving, together our donors raised $12,069 - nearly double the amount from 2020!

UPCOMING EVENTS
Back-to-School Backpack & Supplies Giveaway Day | Saturday, July 31
This event has many opportunities to get involved! We are looking for sponsorships for backpacks and supplies, volunteers, and organizations willing to donate their time and help host supply drives. Contact Katie.Durham@yolocounty.org to get involved with YCCA!

SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE PRESENCE

2,126 Followers  582 Followers  437 Followers  37 Followers