

County of Santa Clara

Social Services Agency



353 West Julian Street
San Jose, California 95110-2335

DATE: November 4, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors
Jeffrey V. Smith, M.D., J.D., County Executive

FROM: Robert Menicocci, Director Social Services Agency *RM*

SUBJECT: Off-Agenda Report Regarding the Location of the Welcoming Center

On April 20, 2021, the Social Services Agency, Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) provided to the Board of Supervisors (Board) its quarterly report on continuum of care services. Following the presentation of the report, which included a status update on the Welcoming Center, the Board referred Administration to report to the Children, Seniors, and Families Committee on the process to consider the colocation of services provided by the Child Advocacy Center (CAC), the Supporting Protecting and Respecting Kids Clinic, and the Welcoming Center at O'Connor Hospital in San Jose as a Child and Adolescent Center of Excellence.

On August 31, 2021, DFCS provided an update on the status of the Welcoming Center in its quarterly continuum of care services report. It was reported that the Welcoming Center began serving children and youth on May 17, 2021, after receiving a provisional licensure from the California Department of Social Services. Following receipt of this report, the Board directed Administration to provide an off-agenda report relating to the final location of the Welcoming Center, or the long-term plans for placement of the Welcoming Center.

The planning process for determining the location for the permanent site of the Welcoming Center is:

- To define program requirements of the physical center, including space, amenities, and safety to assess the viability of sites under consideration.
- To include licensing requirements, as required by Community Care Licensing (CCL), in the program requirement specifications needed for the site.
- To consider space at the O'Connor campus as the preferred site for the Welcoming Center and assess site options in regard to the program and licensing requirements.

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County Executive: Jeffrey V. Smith

DFCS is working with CCL on the determination of specific licensing requirements. Recent licensing reforms relating to children's facilities have necessitated provisional licensure, which are unique and conditional, for models such as the Welcoming Center.

DFCS requests that the next status report on the location of the Welcoming Center be included in the semi-annual continuum of care status report to the Board scheduled for April 2022. Reporting on this item will continue as part of the regularly scheduled continuum of care reports.

c: Chief Board Aides
Miguel Márquez, Chief Operating Officer
James R. Williams, County Counsel
Tiffany Lennear, Acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors