

enterprise

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Dignity Health presents Yolo Crisis Nursery with a check for the Peer Parent Mentor Program to be shared with partners Stanford Youth Solutions and Yolo County Children's Alliance. From left are Katie Curran, community relations manager for Dignity Health/Woodland Healthcare; Heather Sleuter, executive director of the Yolo Crisis Nursery; and Liza Kirkland, manager of community health and outreach for Dignity Health.

Yolo Crisis Nursery Partners with Local Agencies to Keep Families Intact

Thanks to the support of Dignity Health, Yolo Crisis Nursery, along with partners Stanford Youth Services and Yolo County Children's Alliance, is starting a new program called "Prevention Wraparound and Peer Parent Partner Services."

Targeting at-risk families, Yolo Crisis Nursery (YCN) will provide safety planning, wraparound services and respite care for their children. Stanford Youth Solutions (SYS) will provide Peer Parent Partner Services (including advocacy, mentoring and peer-to-peer support groups for parents) and offer a series of trainings for YCN staff. Yolo County Children's Alliance (YCCA) will provide nutrition education and ensure access to fresh produce and CalFresh application assistance for families in the program.

"I am excited to lead this grant with two wonderful partners SYS and YCCA," said Heather Sleuter, Executive Director of Yolo Crisis Nursery. "We are very thankful that Dignity Health has stepped up to help our programs expand in Yolo County to provide families in crisis with the critical support they need."

Dignity Health presented a check for \$32,717 last month to YCN, to be shared with partners SYS and YCCA. In addition to underwriting the project, Dignity Health will be linked to the project through training of the Birth Center staff at Woodland Memorial Hospital, one of six Dignity Health hospitals in the region.

"We are proud to work collaboratively with nonprofit organizations to address the needs of our region through the Dignity Health Community Grants program," said Kevin Vaziri, President, Woodland Memorial Hospital. "Our partnership with Yolo Crisis Nursery, Stanford Youth Solutions and Yolo County Children's Alliance will help families at risk in the communities we serve."

For families and caregivers seemingly faced with challenges at every turn, navigating the multiple layers of the child welfare system can be a daunting task. Having a central case management contact through YCN will be an efficient stress reducer for clients.

And there's nothing better than being mentored by someone who has already been down that bumpy road. The peer partners from SYS will serve as guides and advocates for parents to increase parent engagement and give them a voice in the decision-

making process. Parents will be empowered to leverage community resources for crisis resolution and assistance with day-to-day challenges.

The Parent Partner will draw on their own experience in navigating a family crisis to deliver direct support to families receiving wraparound services. The Parent Partner knows firsthand what it's like to be involved in the available child serving systems, and will help ensure that the family's voice and choices are understood and utilized by other team members.

Another positive outcome of this collaborative prevention and early intervention strategy will be helping to reduce the long-term behavioral health consequences of child abuse and neglect, resulting in long-term cost savings for Yolo County.

Best of all, more families will stay together and grow stronger in keeping with the Yolo Crisis Nursery vision that every child in Yolo County grows up in a safe, loving and stable home.

Krustaceans for Kids Crab Feed Tickets are Selling Fast

To keep Yolo Crisis Nursery providing excellent services to families across Yolo County, the 6th annual Krustaceans for Kids Crab Feed will be held on Saturday, March 24 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Get your tickets now as this event is guaranteed to sell out again this year. We expect a large and festive crowd at the Woodland Senior and Community Center, who will enjoy all-you-can-eat crab and pasta, a no host wine and beer bar, silent auction, giant raffle, and special dessert and live auction with our auctioneer, Dr. John Chuck. To purchase tickets or a sponsorship visit www.yolocrisisnursery.org or phone 530-758-6680. See you at the Crab Feed!