

TRINITY COUNTY

Office of the County Administrator

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SEP 6 - 2013

TRINITY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

TO:

The Honorable Elizabeth Johnson,

Judge of the Superior Court

ROM: Wendy G. Tyler, County Administrative Officer

CC:

Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT:

Response to Grand Jury Judicial Committee Final Report

Re Juvenile Detention Facility

JUR-2012-2013-001

DATE:

September 5, 2013

The Grand Jury Judicial Committee has requested a written response to their final report on the Juvenile Detention Facility. In my capacity as County Administrative Officer my response is as follows:

Finding #1: The leadership of the Center has formed a Community Advisory Committee in an effort to improve and coordinate the various services available to youth and their families. Participants in the monthly meetings include but are not limited to the District Attorney's office, Judge Elizabeth Johnson, as well as representatives from the Trinity Alps Unified School District, Trinity County Behavioral Health and the Human Resource (sic) Network.

Response: I agree with the finding.

Recommendation #1: Continue with the expansion and solidification of the Community Advisory Committee.

Response: Has been implemented.

Finding #2: The Juvenile Detention Center is fortunate to be housed in a modern and efficient facility.

Response: I agree with the finding.

Recommendation #2: In the not so distant future some maintenance procedures may be required for the first time as the building reaches "middle age." Assuming the building has a "life expectancy" of 50 years, the building is 25% of the way to obsolescence. Preventative maintenance in the near future may be a key to the continuation of such as nice facility.

Response: Has been implemented. The Department continually works with General Services to develop preventative maintenance programs for the facility and to identify areas of greatest need.

Finding #3: The visiting committee was pleased to learn that the staff is actively pursuing grants and other alternative sources of funding to enhance the program offerings.

Response: I agree with the finding.

Recommendation #3: Continue to investigate sources of alternative financial support. Maximize the use of underutilized bed space to house out of county inmates as a way to support some of the fixed costs of the facility.

Response: Has been implemented. The Department applies for a variety of grants and is always on the lookout for more. Other jurisdictions are aware of our ability to "rent" beds, and several utilize the option.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this report.

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