

2008 – 2009 CDBG/HOME APPLICANT QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

Name of Organization: **Yolo Family Service Agency**
Project Title: **Low Income Counseling Services**

1. How are YFSA clients most often referred for service. Are most self-referrals?

Referrals come in a variety of ways. Some are self-referral or word of mouth from friends or family. We receive referrals from Yolo County mental health, schools, churches, or health professionals. Other government departments will refer, such as Alta Services for the Developmentally Disabled or the DA for Victims of Crime services. We having working referral relationships with the other Yolo nonprofit service agencies. Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center and CommuniCare are two that we do a lot of referral with. We also have Employee Assistance Program (EAP) contracts, so employers will refer. We also do outreach and have some grants that focus on seeking out additional clients.

2. Are the low-income residents self-motivated for counseling or is counseling required by the school district or court?

Income level makes no difference about motivation. When a person seeks counseling services, s/he on some level is motivated to change. The success of therapy depends on how strong that is how strong it becomes in the process of therapy. School districts refer but can't require parents to seek services. We have contracts with Child Welfare Services for parenting classes with court-mandated parents trying to recover custody and for assessment and counseling with families referred by CWS social workers.

3. In the absence of a CDBG grant, would the current caseload of low-income residents be refused service?

YFSA tries in every way that we can not to turn someone away solely on the basis of finances. Low or reduced fee private pay clients may wait longer for services. In the absence of the CDBG grant, YFSA would serve fewer low income Davis residents. We track what resources we have to pay the cost of current services. When a source runs out, we can't take on other clients. YFSA seeks the support of Davis service clubs annually to support these families. A larger grant may allow us to direct some funding toward Davis clients. All of these sources subsidize what clients pay out of their own resources on our sliding fee scale. Paying something, however minimal, is an important part of the therapeutic process. It expresses that the client places some value on the services and discourages no-show or late cancelation. YFSA's proposal was written on the basis of annual statistics over several years that would project about 100 low income clients who do not have other resources for seeking service. They are low income but still above the MediCal qualification or work but without health insurance.