

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

El Dorado County Social Services Programs General Review

Reason for the Report

The Grand Jury chose selected social service programs of El Dorado County for review.

Scope of the Investigation

The members of the Grand Jury interviewed:

- The Director of the CalWorks program;
- The Director of the Department of Social services (DSS);
- The temporary Director of Child Protective Services (CPS);
- The director of the Mental Health program;
- The director and assistant director of Community Services programs (CS);
- The recently appointed half-time directors of Child Protective Service/Child Welfare Service programs (CPS/CWS).

The Grand Jury :

- Reviewed program material from the CalWorks programs;
- Visited the offices of the Community Services programs and were given an extensive review of the Adult Protective Services programs, the Conservatorship programs, and a wide array of services for seniors;
- Reviewed the Grand Jury reports relating to DSS from 2001/2002.

Background

Members of the Grand Jury interviewed the directors and supervisory staff of programs in the Department of Social Services (DSS) and Community Services. The Grand Jury learned that the County had transferred the Adult Protective Services programs from DSS to CS. This program transfer has helped to resolve or reduce some personnel problems, which had been plaguing the DSS for several years. The Grand Jury observed that a new spirit of interdepartmental cooperation is working, allowing for better service to multi-problem populations.

The long-standing problem of lack of supervision in the CPS/CWS programs has been addressed so that program improvements will be forthcoming.

