

Agency on Aging Serving Fresno & Madera

Connecting the Community

May 16, 2014



Presiding Judge Madera County Superior Court 209 W. Yosemite Ave. Madera, CA 93637 Madera County Grand Jury PO Box 534 Madera, CA 93639

Re: Programs and Services for Madera County Senior Citizens

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge and Members of the Grand Jury:

We are in receipt of the May 2, 2014 letter from Jim Haze, Foreperson for the 2013-2014 Madera County Grand Jury, and the 2013-2014 Madera County Grand Jury Report on Programs and Services for Madera County Senior Citizens.

Our agency is one of 33 area agencies on aging in the State, all of which receive federal Older Americans Act funding through the California Department of Aging.

We provide an array of services, both directly and through contracts with service providers, for older adults and family caregivers in Fresno and Madera counties.

The Grand Jury's recommendation is that "Senior Citizen Centers provide better advertising for all services available to senior citizens."

Our agency does not fund or have jurisdiction over senior centers. We provide the meals for the congregate nutrition program at seven nutrition sites in Madera County, of which five are senior centers, and provide a small amount of funding to the City of Madera and the County of Madera for the day-to-day oversight of the nutrition program. Activities of the senior centers that are not related to the nutrition program are not funded by our agency and are determined by the organization that operates the senior center.

Senior and community centers serve as focal points for accessing the network of services available for older adults and family caregivers. To that end, our program coordinators provide presentations and conduct outreach at all congregate nutrition sites, and provide information and referrals while on-site and also via our toll-free senior information and assistance hotline, 800-510-2020.

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In addition, we conduct presentations and offer resource fairs at other locations in Madera County to reach and inform older adults and family caregivers of available programs and services. For example:

- Park of the Sierras, Coarsegold, October 28, 2013
- Golden Acres Senior Apartments, Chowchilla, October 29, 2013
- Madera Garden Apartments, November 7, 2013
- Oak Terrace II Senior Apartments, November 24, 2013
- The Meadows Mobile Home Park, February 6, 2014
- Raymond Community Church, Mobile Food Pantry, March 4, 2014
- Madera Garden Apartments, April 3, 2014
- Oakhurst Mobile Home Estates, April 9, 2014
- City of Madera Senior Appreciation Barbecue & Potluck, May 20, 2014

Some of the organizations with which we partner to conduct outreach in Madera County include the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP); the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP); Community Food Bank; Hinds Hospice; Veterans Services; and many others.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's recommendation. Please let us know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Jean Robinson

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Executive Director