

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

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ASSESSOR – CLERK/RECORDER – REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

N/A

AUDITOR – CONTROLLER/TREASURER – TAX COLLECTOR

Auditor

- Worked with Treasurer-Tax Collector staff to integrate staff and processes into the newly consolidated Office of Auditor- Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector.
- Working closely with Information Services, Assessor and Treasurer Tax Collector offices, finished the County's data conversion/implementation for the new Aumentum Property Tax System.
- Completed all FY 22-23 Reporting including ACFR and State Financial Transaction Report
- Posted over 88 thousand direct or special assessments charges submitted by 40 Special Districts totaling over \$12.5 million to the current year's Secured Tax Roll.

Treasurer-Tax Collector

- Successfully collected an excess of \$179 million in taxes, licenses, and assessments for the County, School Districts, and Special Districts.
- Established department guides for major annual processes including BID Election, Tax Billing, Collections Type Transfer, and Power to Sell.
- Dedicated staff diligently participated in numerous Aumentum training sessions, dealing with complicated conversion and integration issues, while still performing their demanding normal duties.
- Began reorganization of Treasury functions due to the consolidation of Office of Auditor-Controller / Treasurer-Tax Collector.
- Completed significant clean-up of all Property tax payment plans.

A. Court Collections

- Collections is supportive of the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office with staff dedicated to Cannabis collection activity and reporting. Collections is supporting Treasury, Tax, and Business license functions not only during periods of staffing shortages but also to have cross-trained staff in order to improve response to the public.
- Dedicated staff work to transition to new necessary collections methodology after the revision of the Court MOU.
- Established department guide for completing the Annual Court Report for Judicial Council

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ALTERNATE DEFENDER

- Oversaw clients' participation in Drug and Behavioral Court programs.
- Investigated and prepared diligently on several most seriously charged cases where clients face lengthy or lifetime prison sentences. Through that preparation, have got results most favorable for clients, including probation, mental health diversion, misdemeanors.
- Began organizing collaborative efforts with the defense bar, prosecutors in juvenile court, and juvenile probation to educate on and promote standards required for juvenile representation and to expand and promote educational, vocational, counseling, housing programs for youth in the juvenile justice system.
- Organized and facilitated an MCLE provider coming to the county to educate the defense bar on the practice of California Department of Corrections application of custody credits against sentences.
- Made tremendous progress in digitalizing client files (20 years +, since the office opened) to preserve files as required by law, with grant-funded staff assistants, eliminating costs for the County for storage of physical files and expanding office space.

Grants

A. JAG Grant

- The JAG grant will address various priority areas of need relating to in- and out-patient substance use treatment and behavioral health treatment, co-occurring facilities, and staff Mendocino County's Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court. Funding from this grant will support personnel that will 1) Connect and monitor clients in these treatment programs; 2) Connect and monitor clients in co-occurring treatment facilities; 3) Help clients access necessary social services to reduce recidivism; and 4) Help staff Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court and serve as mental health liaisons. The funds are shared between the Alternate Defender's Office and the Public Defender's Office.

AGRICULTURE

- Prioritized and built efficiencies into department programs and strengthened relations with state agency partners to support funding and training.
- Developed increased awareness of internal operations and seasonal deadlines to build efficiency in department operations and fiscal responsibility and accountability.
- Worked to operationalize the County's Strategic Plan pillars in our department function and focus on how we serve to accomplish those goals.

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- Decreased the number of Restricted Material pesticide permits by encouraging farmers to use less toxic alternatives and conducted dozens of pesticide safety and records audit inspections to protect our community and the environment and ensure pesticides are used safely and responsibly in Mendocino County.

ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

- A total of 8,374 active dog licenses on file.
- A total of 818 animals were outcome through adoption, return to owners and transfers to rescue organizations.
- The Ukiah Animal Shelter had a live release rate of 85.5%.
- A total of 2,822 calls for service were worked by the Animal Protection Unit with 658 of the calls categorized as "priority" such as cruelties, biting animals and animals in distress.
 - A. Mobile Spay & Neuter Caravan
 - A total of 427 dogs & cats were spayed or neutered in CY-23.
 - A total of 498 rabies vaccinations were administered to dogs & cats in CY-23.
 - A total of 116 rabies vaccinations were administered at several "At Cost" vaccine clinics.
 - A total of 442 microchips were implanted into dogs & cats in CY23.

Grants

- A. PetCo Vaccination Grant
 - The grant funds are in the amount of \$3,000. The grant funds are used to administer Canine DAPP & Feline HCP vaccinations for animal owners that use our Clinic or Mobile Caravan.
- B. PetSmart Owned Grant
 - The grant funds in the amount of \$50,000, are used to support the County of Mendocino in delivering accessible veterinary care and supportive services to the community with a goal of serving an estimated 400 pet clients. Funds may be used for but are not limited to staffing; equipment, food, microchips, and supplies, medications, consumable; outreach, and marketing & administrative costs at no more than 10% of the total grant.
 - Animal Care Services primarily uses this grant to financially assist animal owners that require high-cost medical treatments or surgeries that are performed at local animal hospitals.
- C. PetSmart Tribal Grant

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- The grant funds in the amount of \$30,000 are used by the County of Mendocino to support Animal Care Services in providing veterinary care in up to 12 tribal reservations in the Mendocino County area. Veterinary services such as spay/neuter, wellness/preventative medicine, and basic veterinary care such as but not limited to eye/ear/skin infection and wound care will be provided to owned pets at a low-cost or subsidized rate. The intent of the grant is to provide subsidized veterinary care to approximately 300 owned pets through the provision of veterinary services. Grant funds may be used for but are not limited to: Veterinary exams and supplies, spay/neuter, vaccines, wellness and preventative supplies, food, dental care/surgery, minor medical/surgical treatments staffing and transportation.
- With only having (1) Registered Veterinary Technician and the couple years of going through Covid it has made it difficult to schedule on-site services for the reservations. Animal Care Services will look at returning the unused funds in FY24-25 if not able provide the services under the grant's terms.

D. UC Davis Caravan Grant

- The purpose of the \$100,000 grant is for Mendocino County to purchase a replacement for the aging spay & neuter vehicle.
- As of April 2024, there is an amendment of the grant with an extension until June 14, 2024, for the county to purchase the vehicle from Magnum Mobile the vendor. An agenda item is set to be presented to the BOS for approval of the vendors the payment method.

E. UC Davis Owned Grant

- The grant funds in the amount of \$20,000, are used to provide intake diversion by covering reclaim fees and basic wellness including but not limited to vaccines and microchips for the animal owners that need financial assistance.

AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

- Maintained Mendocino County's clear air attainment status for health-based air pollutants.
- Administrative AQMD processing improvements.
- Onboarded Deputy APCO in November of 2023 after three years of vacancy.
- Maintained at least 80% filled vacancies.

Grants

A. Carl Moyer Program

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- The Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program (Carl Moyer Program), administered by the California Air Resources Board (ARB), and implemented as a partnership between CARB and California's 35 local air districts, provides grant funding to cover an incremental portion of the cost of purchasing new replacing existing, or retrofitting existing diesel engines with cleaner, on-road, marine and locomotive engines. The focus of the program is to reduce particulate matter (PM-10) and toxic compounds contained in diesel exhaust in addition to oxides of nitrogen emissions (NOx) from mobile sources which contribute to ground level ozone. To ensure that projects are surplus to regulations, funded projects must not be required by any federal, State, or local rule or regulation. In most cases project life – the period in which surplus emission reductions are delivered – must be at least three years, so that the program does not fund actions that would otherwise be taken to comply with regulatory deadlines, as well as to help ensure cost-effectiveness.

B. Equipment Cache Grant

- The Equipment Cache Grant funds a portion of maintaining a prescribed burn program equipment cache. The grant reimburses the District for costs associated with operating and maintaining the equipment cache, and the costs associated with delivering and tracking equipment loans from the Cache.
- The Equipment Cache Grant is intended to provide resources to Air Quality Management Districts and Air Pollution Control Districts to create and maintain equipment storage caches for air monitoring equipment which will be used to measure emissions from Prescribed fires.

C. AB 617 - Community Air Protection Program (CAPP)

- AB 617 established a new program, Community Air Protection Program (CAPP), to measure and reduce air pollution from mobile and stationary sources at the neighborhood level in the communities most impacted by air pollutants. The CAPP Program grant is intended to provide resources to local air districts to cover district costs associated with actions to reduce exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants in disadvantaged and low-income communities.
- The grant program is separated into two types of activities: Incentives and implementation. Incentives funds provide project funds to reduce emissions and improve public health in communities. Implementation funds provide districts with funding to perform work such as fence line monitoring, deploying community air monitoring systems, developing community emissions reduction programs, and developing expedited schedule for requiring best available retrofit technologies.

D. AB 197 Emissions Inventory District Grant

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- The Emissions Inventory District Grant funds a portion of the cost of performing annual emissions inventories mandated by AB 197. This program is mandated by State Law, and this grant is provided to partially fund this effort. The grant reimburses the District for costs associated with reviewing and updating facility information, emission inventory calculations, updating inventory data in CARB CEIDARS system as well as updating Criteria and Toxics information. MCAQMD is required to calculate and report emissions of criteria pollutants and toxic air contaminants from the stationary sources within its jurisdiction to the Air Resources Board.
- E. AB 923 School Bus Implementation Program/ Motor Vehicle Grant 923
- The District receives funding from the State Air Board Motor Vehicle Fees program each year for implementation of programs to reduce emissions from motor vehicles. In 2005, the District received Board authorization to implement a \$2.00 increase in motor vehicle fees (was previously \$4) for funding projects to replace older diesel-powered school buses in Mendocino County in accordance with Legislation AB 923.
- F. Prescribe Burn Reporting and Monitoring Support Program
- In 2018, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, several bills to improve forest resiliency and to reduce the risk of wildfires in California. SB 1260 requires the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) and the California Air Resources Board (ARB), in coordination with local air districts, to develop and fund a program, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to enhance air quality and smoke monitoring, and to provide a public awareness campaign regarding prescribed burns. The program shall include adequate funding, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for local district participation and implementation costs.
 - This grant is intended to provide resources to Air Quality Management Districts to implement and manage enhanced smoke management programs. This includes enhanced reporting of prescribed fire activity in their regions, air monitoring of prescribed fires, improved public outreach regarding prescribed fires and benefits associated with prescribe fire in preventing major wildfires, and resources for district staff to attend regional training sessions on different elements of the State's smoke management program. Funding can be utilized for staff time and/or projects.
- G. WOODSMOKE Reduction Program Grant
- The Woodsmoke Reduction Program offers financial incentives for homeowners to replace old, inefficient, and highly polluting wood stoves, wood inserts, or fireplaces with cleaner burning and more efficient home heating devices. California residents using uncertified wood stoves or wood inserts or fireplaces as their primary heat source may be eligible for incentives towards the purchase and installation of qualifying devices. The incentive amounts vary

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depending on the location of the residence and the household income, with some households qualifying for the full replacement cost. The grant funds pay for woodstove replacement vouchers to incentivize replacement of uncertified woodstove, as well as District Staff and costs to implement the program.

- H. Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER)
- In 2017, the State Legislature allocated \$135 million to the California Air resources Board through Assembly Bill (AB) 134 and AB 109 to provide incentives for the agricultural community to reduce emissions from heavy-duty diesel equipment. The State Legislature directed the use of the monies to “reduce agricultural sector emissions by providing grants, rebates, and other financial incentives for agricultural harvesting equipment, heavy-duty trucks, agricultural pump engines, tractors, and other equipment used in agricultural operations.
 - The California Air Resources Board staff has developed the Funding Agricultural Reduction Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) Program to meet the Legislature’s objectives and help meet the State’s criteria, toxic and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals.
- I. AB 2766 Motor Vehicle Fees
- The District receives funding from the state Air Resources Board Motor Vehicle Fees Program each year for implementation of programs to reduce emissions from motor vehicles. In 2005, the District received Board authorization to implement a \$2.00 increase in motor vehicle fees (was previously \$4).
 - AB 2766 funds are designated for the reduction of air pollution from motor vehicles. The District has traditionally designated the funds for expenses related to Ambient Air Monitoring, Planning and Emissions Reduction Programs such as grants for purchasing reduced or low emission vehicles and other projects related to the District’s Particulate Matter Attainment Plan. The legislation also authorizes the use of AB 2766 funds for the District’s Enforcement Program.
- J. Clean Air Act Section 103 Grant
- The Clean Air Act Section 103 Grant funds a portion of PM 2.5 monitoring program costs. This program is mandated by EPA, and this grant is provided to partially fund this effort. The grant reimburses the District for monitoring costs, including equipment maintenance, repairs, calibrations, certifications, and some staffing costs. Periodically additional funding is provided for major equipment replacement, travel for national air monitoring conferences, and other expenses.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

- Successfully implemented CalAIM payment reform.

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- Applied for and were awarded over \$14 million in grant funds.
- Implementation of AB2275 Certification Hearing process.
- Implemented an Intern program with Cal Poly Humboldt through grant funds.
- Initiated the process of transitioning all SMH providers onto the county's Electronic Health Record.

A. Substance Use Disorder Treatment

- Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Substance Use Disorders Treatment (SUDT) provides, arranges, and pays for all medically necessary covered Substance Use Disorders Treatment Services. SUDT assist the individuals of Mendocino County whose lives are impacted by drug and/or alcohol abuse or addiction. Services offered include assessments, treatment planning, crisis counseling, individual counseling, group counseling, and discharge planning. Available treatment programs are Intensive Outpatient Treatment, Outpatient Treatment, Adult Drug Court, Family Dependency Drug Court, Jail-Based Services, Perinatal, Co-Occurring, Adolescent Education, Adolescent Treatment, and Pre-Trial Diversion. SUDT provides assessments and placements to the appropriate level of care, either in house or with Partnership Regional Model providers. Behavioral Health and Recovery Services SUDT strives to help individuals create and maintain a healthy and balanced lifestyle, free of alcohol and drugs. SUDT works to educate staff, individuals, families, and the community about substance use disorders, the impact of abuse and addiction, available treatment options, and recovery. SUDT also strives to manage fiscal resources effectively and responsibly.

B. Mental Health Services Act

- Presented the third Innovation project to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.
- Re-established our peer driven Wellness Centers.
- Expanded Cultural Diversity trainings.
- Attended community events to provide education and information on prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for Mental Health

C. Measure B

- Made significant progress towards construction of the Psychiatric Health Facility, including completing demolition of the existing structure.
- Applied for and were awarded over \$9.3 million to help offset the costs incurred while constructing the PHF.

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CANNABIS

- MCD has streamlined Mendocino County Code Chapter 10A.17, the Mendocino Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance, two separate times during the past fiscal year which has streamlined the cannabis application and review processes.
- The Department has solidified numerous policies and procedures, including the parameters for satellite inspections and Accela Standard Operating Procedures.
- MCD has improved overall communication and transparency to constituents through weekly Canna Note distribution and regular website updates.
- The Department has conducted adequate time studies and re-evaluated our fee schedule.
- Throughout the past year, the Department has worked to carefully craft the Accela Phase 2 Scope of Work.

Grants

A. Local Equity Entrepreneurial Program (LEEP)

- The State's Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions aims to advance economic justice for populations and communities impacted by cannabis prohibition and the War on Drugs (WoD) by providing support to local jurisdictions as they promote equity in California and eliminate barriers to entering the newly regulated cannabis industry for equity program applicants and licensees. The County has submitted applications for LEEP funding in the five rounds which have opened so far; four of those applications were funded. With \$6 million awarded from the State and administered by the Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development (GO-Biz) and \$100,000 in matching grant funds from the Board of Supervisors (BOS), the program offers applicants waivers of cannabis business expenses, direct grants funds for start-up and ongoing expenses, and direct technical assistance based on individual needs and circumstances.
- To date, the Mendocino Cannabis Department (MCD) has administered approximately \$5 million in assistance through direct grants and waivers to verified eligible applicants.

B. Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program (LJAGP)

- Mendocino County was one of 21 local jurisdictions awarded funds from Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) for the Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grants Program (LJAGP). This one-time funding is to assist local jurisdictions with the greatest need to transition provisional licensees to annual licenses. In January 2022, the County was awarded over \$17.5 million in assistance, a portion of which was set aside by County staff to offer direct grants and fee waivers to qualified provisional license holders located within the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County.

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- On January 11, 2024, the County received notification that the LJAGP Program Manual was approved by the DCC. The manual will ultimately guide distribution of \$4.8 million dollars to local operators to assist with the transition to annual licensure.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

- Continued to improve all internal procedures, updating and preserving all policies and processes to ensure the successful continuity of the department
- Studied and developed alternative solutions to quickly implement Clerk of the Board operations in the case of disaster to avoid customer service disruption and maintain safety.
- Made significant progress in the speed and accuracy with which Board records are processed and released to the public/staff after meetings

COUNTY COUNSEL

- County Counsel's dependency team of 3 attorneys managed a revolving case load of approximately 250 active cases, advised Family & Children's Services in prelitigation through appellate stages of child welfare matters, and provided extensive daily legal support, training and representation in and out of the courtroom.
- County Counsel defended numerous litigation matters, appeared in all departments of the Mendocino County Superior Court, argued in front of the First District Court of Appeal, assisted with the closing of 17 lawsuits filed against the County, and handled 57 bail bond matters.
- County Counsel provided daily legal support and advice, drafted numerous legal opinions, ordinances and resolutions, and provided extensive review and legal support regarding hundreds of contracts, several project bids and Request for Proposals, voluminous Public Records Act Requests, and subpoena responses for all county departments.
- County Counsel successfully defended the County in administrative appeals regarding County code enforcement and filed and obtained restraining orders entered in 3 cases.
- County Counsel represented the County Public Conservator, County Public Guardian, and Public Administrator in approximately 75 conservatorship (confidential LPS and probate) and decedent's estates matters and represented Behavioral Health in Petitions for Assisted Outpatient Treatment and responses to referrals from criminal and justice courts for LPS conservatorship investigation.
- County Counsel implemented a tracking system to better enable the Office to provide timely advice to the Board of Supervisors and the Departments.
- County Counsel collaborated with stakeholders and the courts in various areas, including implementation of dual jurisdiction protocol allowing for youth within the court's jurisdiction to be served simultaneously by the dependency and justice courts; and preparing for implementation of CARE court (required in Mendocino and 49 other counties by December 1, 2024).

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY

A. JURY TRIALS

- During calendar year 2023, the office prosecuted twenty-five jury trials with a weighted jury trial conviction rate of 80%.
- During calendar year 2024 through May 1, the office prosecuted ten jury trials with a weighted jury verdict conviction rate of 100%.

B. PRISON COMMITMENTS ANALYTICS

I. LOCAL DEFENDANTS REMOVED TO STATE PRISON

a. CALENDAR YEAR 2023

- During calendar year 2024 the office prosecuted one hundred and twenty-three defendants who were sentenced by the local courts to California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- Of that number twenty-three defendants were committed to CDCR for violent felonies, as defined in Penal Code section 667.S(c).

b. CALENDAR YEAR 2024

- During calendar year 2024 January through May 1, the office prosecuted thirty-nine defendants who were sentenced by the local courts to California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- Of that number six defendants were committed to CDCR for violent felonies, as defined in Penal Code section 667.S(c).

C. REALIGNMENT COUNTY PRISON

- During calendar year 2023 (January through December), the office prosecuted another seventy-five defendants who were sentenced by the local courts to "Realignment County Prison" (RCP).
- During the current calendar year 2024 (January 1 through May 1), the office has prosecuted seventeen defendants who were sentenced by the local courts to RCP.

Grants

A. Anti-Drug Abuse Enforcement

- The Anti-Drug Abuse Program promotes a coordinated approach between law enforcement and prosecution to combat drug sales, manufacturing, and distribution of all commercial/illegal drugs (e.g., fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine,). The assigned District Attorney Investigator, Deputy District Attorney and Legal Secretary work collaboratively with members of the Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force (MMCTF), and other law enforcement agencies with emphasis on convicting violent and serious offenders and enforcing drug control laws.

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B. Victim Witness Assistance Program

- The Victim/Witness Program provides comprehensive services to victims and witnesses of all types of crime in Mendocino County, while providing victim services within the Criminal Justice System. Victim/Witness services include crisis intervention, emergency assistance resources, referral for counseling to agencies within the community and direct counseling of the victim pertaining to problems resulting from the crime. Staff assists, as needed, with funeral/burial arrangements and in obtaining temporary/criminal protective orders. The goal of the Program is to ensure access to prosecution and services, provide sensitive treatment for crime victims (and witnesses) in the Criminal Justice System and prevent further trauma. Victim/Witness has provided these services from within the District Attorney's Office for 43 years.
- Victim/Witness staff participates in witness protection, including arranging for law enforcement protection and/or re-locating victims/witnesses in new residences. Victim Witness staff provides additional support by processing, filing, and verifying claims filed by victims of crime. Services offered include orientation to the criminal justice system, as well as court escorts. The program offers assistance in obtaining the return of victims' property that held as evidence by law enforcement agencies. Staff also assists victims in ascertaining economic losses and obtaining restitution for the same. Staff monitors appropriate court cases to keep victims and witnesses apprised of the progress and outcome of their case(s) and to notify witnesses of any changes in the court calendar that affect their transportation. At the request of a victim, staff makes notifications to friends, relatives, and employers about the occurrence of the crime and the victim's condition. Additionally, if the victim requests, staff works with employers to minimize any loss of pay or other benefits, which may result because of the crime, or the employee's participation in the criminal justice system.
- Victim/Witness provides the Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, and courts with information relevant to victims' losses, prior to the imposition of sentence.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- Responded to debris removal and emergency opening calls for downed trees, slides, snow, etc.; vehicle accident reports; and other after-hour callouts.
- Repaired drainage facilities, including culvert replacements.

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- Performed preventive maintenance practices such as: chip seals, crack sealing, Dura-patching, drainage improvements, and vegetation management on County maintained roads and bridge structures.
 - Performed prep work, tree trimming, ditching, base repairs, and leveling courses prior to corrective maintenance overlays and chip seals.
- A. Land Improvement
- Continued design for numerous trash capture devices in the Ukiah area in compliance with the NPDES Trash Amendment.
 - Continued working to expedite all permit processes, improve process for addressing permit violations, and achieve permit compliance by local utility districts and contractors.
- B. Water Agency
- Obtained grant funding to develop a countywide drought resiliency plan and increase participation in the Drought Task Force meetings.
 - Continued implementation of Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Plan for Mill Creek Ponds and applied for additional grant funding for the program through California State Parks.
 - Remained in compliance with the NPDES MS4 Permit.
 - Continued elementary education program for stormwater pollution prevention.
 - Held successful and highly attended Upper Russian River Cleanup event.
- C. Storm Damage
- Completed construction of the 2019 storm damage repairs on Mountain View Rd at M.P. 13.95 and M.P. 20.00.
 - Completed construction of the 2023 emergency opening storm damage repairs on Mendocino Pass Rd at M.P. 15.50 and M.P. 16.75.
 - Continued engineering design, environmental, and right-of-way activities for ten 2023 storm damage repair projects.
- D. Little River Airport
- Secured FAA grant funding to rehabilitate the pavement on the apron area around the hangars and terminal.
 - Worked with CalFire inmate crews and administered contract to perform vegetation maintenance and obstruction removal to ensure aircraft safety.
 - Worked to maintain facilities and provide support for air ambulance, local fire, emergency, and rescue services.
 - Continued to work with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and California State Division of Aeronautics (DOA) to ensure airport safety and eligibility for future grant funds.

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Grants

- A. County Drought Resilience Planning Assistance Program
- Senate Bill (SB) 552 requires all counties to improve drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells within a county's jurisdiction by establishing a standing Drought and Water Shortage Task Force (Task Force) and developing a County Drought Resilience Plan (County DRP).
 - Under the County Drought Resilience Planning Assistance Program, counties can request up to \$125,000 in financial assistance or direct technical assistance to support their planning efforts. All counties in California, and only counties, are eligible to apply for this specific financial assistance or direct technical assistance.
- B. Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program
- California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways administers the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program, which supports preventative plans that help protect California's reservoirs from a dreissenid mussel infestation. Through program funding, the State could avert significant damage to the water delivery system, which provides drinking water to millions of Californians and irrigation to a \$40 billion per year agricultural industry. Preventive programs can also help keep reservoirs open for recreational activities, like boating and fishing. Funding can be used to assess the vulnerability of reservoirs for the introduction of non-native dreissenid mussel species and to develop and implement a program designed to prevent the introduction of non-native dreissenid mussel species including public education, monitoring, and management of those recreational, boating or fishing activities that increase the potential for dreissenid mussel infestation. The Mendocino County Water Agency has received grant funding to implement the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Plan for Mill Creek Ponds.
- C. Trash Capture Device
- In compliance with the NPDES II general permit, trash capture devices will be installed on storm drain inlet/outlets in Ukiah, Calpella, and Redwood Valley at designated locations near industrial zones or high population areas. ARPA funds will be used to cover the cost of design and as much of the construction as feasible. The County has contracted with Schaaf & Wheeler to design the project with County support. Construction is anticipated in Summer 2024.
- D. Update the Pavement Management Plan Study
- The last pavement management plan for Round Valley Airport was completed in 2011. The airport was ineligible for Federal funding for several years, and now that it is eligible again, an updated Pavement Management Plan Study is needed to receive Federal grants for pavement rehabilitation.

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E. Design – Rehabilitate Apron at Little River Airport

- Development of plans, specifications, and cost estimate for rehabilitating the 17,200 square yards of pavement of the apron at Little River Airport. This includes drainage improvements, pavement markings, and replacement of tie-downs. The current apron pavement is deteriorating, and debris is a particular problem for aircraft. This grant is through the FAA and covers 90% of the project costs.

F. SB 1383 Local Assistance Grant Program

- In September 2016, Governor Edmund Brown Jr. set methane emissions reduction targets for California (SB 1383 Lara, Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016) in a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP). The targets must reduce organic waste disposal 50 percent by 2020 and 75 percent by 2025 and rescue for people to eat at least 20 percent of currently disposed surplus food by 2025. The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) is administering a grant program meant to provide aid in the implementation of regulations adopted by CalRecycle pursuant to Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016 and SB170 Budget Act of 2021. The current grant cycle provided \$90,000,000 of funding to local jurisdictions to assist with the implementation of regulation requirements associated with SB 1383.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Creation of full-time economic development administrative analyst position.
- Grant management for the \$250,000 CDBG Economic Development Micro-Enterprise Technical Assistance contracted through West Business Development Center, serving 112 businesses April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024.
- Completed 2023-2024 CEDS update for Sonoma Mendocino Economic Development District (SMEDD).
- Development of expanded internship programs within the County of Mendocino.
- Redesigned Economic Development Division webpages to include business resources.

Grants

A. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Economic Development '19 (ED) Program Income

- Program Income (PI) is the gross income generated by the current Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds of the County. PI retains its federal identity perpetually and must be used only for CDBG-eligible activities that meet a national objective. The County must track and report all funds received from CDBG assistance throughout the year. When PI accumulates, the State of

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California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) requires these funds to be used for eligible CDBG activities. The County must create a plan to use PI in ongoing or future projects. The County can use up to seventeen percent of annual PI receipts for the most recently completed fiscal year on general CDBG administration expenses. Like regular CDBG funds, PI or general administration funds cannot be used for facility maintenance/repair or for the general conduct of government.

B. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Economic Development '21 (ED) Microenterprise Technical Assistance

- The County of Mendocino secured a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to provide support to small-scale businesses, also called microenterprises, operating in the county. To achieve this, West Business Development Center was retained as a resource to offer specialized guidance, training, and consulting services tailored to the specific needs and challenges of these businesses. The program is designed to empower small business owners with the knowledge, skills, and support necessary to overcome obstacles and thrive in their respective industries, thus enhancing the viability and sustainability of these businesses.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- 2023 Inspections Goals Achieved:
 - All 5 Tier 1 Edible Food Waste Generator Sites – up 100% from last FY
 - 65 Underground Storage tank inspections – up 5%
 - 73 Above ground storage tank inspections – up 97%
 - 123 Hazardous Waste facility inspections – up 54%
 - 409 Hazardous materials management plans- up 230%
 - 152 Complaints Investigations – up 76% from last FY
- Upon the declaration of an emergency caused by Avian Flu in Sonoma County the EH LEA worked over the Christmas holiday to issue an emergency permit to the California Department of Food and Agriculture & the USDA to compost over 2000 tons of materials in Mendocino County.

A. FD Handler

- 8 Classes Taught in 2023
- Three Class Locations:
 - Ukiah – 3

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- Fort Bragg – 3
- Willits - 2
- Overall, 2023 79.6% Pass Rate
- 335 students in attendance:
 - English Testers - 292
 - Spanish Testers - 41
 - Mandarin Testers – 2
- B. LEA Solid Waste
 - CalRecycle Workplan Compliance. Staff worked to address the 5 main areas of concern outlined by the audit performed by CalRecycle in order to bring the program into 100% compliance. This included:
 - Conducting all mandated site inspections
 - Completion of three 5-year comprehensive site audits
 - Clean-up of the illegal dumps site on Fish Rock Rd, Point Arena. The LEA spearheaded the cleanup with assistance from Gualala Redwood Co. and C & S Waster Solution
 - Upon the declaration of an emergency caused by Avian Flu in Sonoma County the LEA worked over the Christmas holiday to issue an Emergency Waiver of Standards to the California Department of Food and Agriculture & USDA to compost over 2000 tons of materials in Mendocino County.

Grants

- A. Ocean Water Quality Monitoring
 - The State Water Resources Control Board represents the State of California for the Federal Beach Safety Monitoring Program (BSMP). The Beach Safety Grant Program provides funding for projects that restore and protect the water quality and the environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays and near shore waters. The BSMP Grant Program was initiated in response to the poor water quality and significant exceedances of bacterial indicators revealed by Assembly Bill (AB) 411 monitoring at California's beaches. A primary funding source, among others, for the BSMP Program is the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act (Proposition 84). The State Board has awarded the Mendocino County Division of Environmental Health a grant in the amount of \$29,225 per year to implement a BSMP Project to improve beach water quality on Mendocino County beaches.
- B. LEA Waste
 - The CalEPA Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) administers the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) grant program to assist LEAs

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with their solid waste facilities permit and inspection program. The grant money is used to offset the cost of conducting 202 inspections annually, at facilities such as transfer stations, closed/inactive landfills, compost facilities, and legacy burn dumps. This is a revenue contract with the State and per resolution 22-124 goes through FY26/27. The Mendocino County LEA administered by a single 1.0 FTE Registered Environmental Health Specialist. This grant funding is spent offsetting the salary of the LEA in BU 4011 Org EHLEA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Disaster Recovery

- Conducted Community Listening Sessions throughout the county to gather input directly from the community on unmet needs that will inform plans for future mitigation and resiliency projects.
- Managed over \$22M Board allocation of PG&E settlement funds

Grants

A. Fuels Reduction and Community Preparedness

- Through the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFIRE), Mendocino County is working on a multi-faceted project that will implement roadside fuel reduction in critical locations in the Covelo and Laytonville areas, complete CEQA analysis for five future fuel reduction projects to streamline and accelerate future implementation activities, fund the existing Mendocino County community
- chipper days program for an additional three years and develop a preliminary design for an emergency evacuation route serving three single-access subdivisions east of Ukiah in the WUI: Deerwood Estates, El Dorado Estates, and Vichy Springs and the Guidiville Rancheria. This project will treat approximately 66.2 acres of vegetation via roadside fuel reduction, protecting approximately 100-150 homes and other structures. The community chipper program will provide curbside chipping to County residents free of charge.

B. Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Resilient Planning and Public Services (CDBG-MIT PPS) – Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

- The current Mendocino County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (MC CWPP) was created in 2005 and was partially updated in 2015, primarily to bring in newer CAL FIRE planning data. This project will result in updating the MC CWPP with new priorities, focusing on emerging at-risk communities, and updating the information available to provide a roadmap for more effective countywide wildfire readiness. The plan will serve the critical function of helping

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to renew agency collaborations and ensure the availability of information and currently relevant plans. The plan will include data analysis of high-priority mitigation efforts to prioritize projects across the County. It will identify future projects and include plans and processes for maintaining priority projects. The project is countywide and will benefit all areas and populations, including low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons. Further potentially catastrophic wildfires are to be expected in upcoming years.

C. Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Resilient Planning and Public Services (CDBG-MIT PPS) – General Plan Safety Element Integration of the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

- This grant provides a 25% match for the General Plan Safety Element Update, and the other 75% of this project is already funded by a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grant. This plan complies with SB 244, which requires cities and counties to address the infrastructure needs of Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs) in city and county general plans, Local Agency Formation Commission Municipal Service Reviews, and annexation decisions. DUCs are unincorporated communities that may be in isolated areas, have a lower median income than other areas in the state, and are underserved by public services and utilities. The County has identified ten (10) legacy communities that qualify as DUCs. The vulnerability assessment identifies the exposure of people, infrastructure, natural systems, economic, cultural, and social resources. It evaluates the potential impacts and the ability of the people and assets to adjust to the possible damage. The assessment will assist the County in creating mitigation projects to improve the resiliency of the critically vulnerable populations.

D. Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Resilient Planning and Public Services (CDBG-PPS) Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation Planning & Capacity Building

- The purpose of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation is to develop a Planning and Capacity Building project to enable the County to implement its ordinance concerning the abatement of hazardous vegetation and combustible material to reduce fire hazards. The project will research, prepare plans, and identify future actions by gathering data on the need for abatement and developing a system or plan for addressing the problem through community training, education, and facilitated action. This planning and capacity-building project could set in place essential software and protocols for trained members of the public to log and assess potential issues and generate educational warning notices for landowners who need to reduce fire hazards on their properties. The project will result in a plan that evaluates the steps required to enforce the hazard abatement ordinance and proposes procedures for reporting and implementing abatement activities.

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- E. Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Resilient Planning and Public Services (CDBG-PPS) Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation Public Services
- The purpose of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation is to develop a Public Services project that will implement the new ordinance plan through an outreach and education campaign used to inform the public on resilience-focused activities as well as train volunteers to assess and communicate steps that need to be taken to mitigate high fire risk properties. The project includes a two-step approach, the first being to provide training to members of the countywide network of Neighborhood Fire Safe Councils (NFSCs) and other interested community members in evaluating reported fire hazards that potentially violate state or county codes. These trained volunteers would then issue practice notices, to be evaluated by program staff. The second being, after approval by the program manager, educational notices will be issued to homeowners who need to abate hazards on their properties. Staff will be available to work with and follow-up with homeowners to verify that they understand the hazards their property poses for themselves and their community.
- F. Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Resilient Planning and Public Services (CDBG-MIT PPS) – Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
- The Mendocino County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) aims to reduce property losses and avoid injury and casualties resulting from natural disasters. Hazard mitigation uses sustained, long-term actions to reduce loss of life, personal injury, and property damage resulting from a disaster. The Mendocino County LHMP includes six (6) different Mendocino County jurisdictions. The plan consists of the following hazards: dam failure, drought, climate change, earthquake, pandemic disease, flood, severe weather, slope failure, soil hazard, and wildfires. Each hazard includes a discussion of the location of the hazard, size of typical event, historical occurrences, probability of future occurrence, vulnerability assessment of assets and populations at risk, and potential mitigation strategies and actions to reduce future vulnerability. This project is already 75% funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). This grant is to cover the 25% non-federal share of the project.
- G. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Disaster Recovery Infrastructure and MIT-Resilient Infrastructure Program NOI (MIT-RIP) 911 Switching Equipment
- The Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Mitigation Resilient Infrastructure Program (CDBG-DR MIT-RIP) program assists local jurisdictions with mitigation-related infrastructure needs to support risk reduction from the three primary hazards (wildfire, flooding, and earthquake). This project is part of a three-part emergency communications project. This

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project consists of purchasing and installing a prefabricated bunker-type structure adjacent to the County Probation Department Building located at 589 Low Gap Road in Ukiah to house 911 switching equipment and updated dispatch console, which is vital to the County's emergency response activities. This will improve the effectiveness of first responders in the field by facilitating communications during events and enhancing the likelihood of successful disaster responses such as evacuation orders.

H. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Disaster Recovery Infrastructure and MIT-Resilient Infrastructure Program (MIT-RIP) - Microwave and Radio Communications Systems

- The Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Mitigation Resilient Infrastructure Program (CDBG-DR MIT-RIP) assists local jurisdictions with mitigation-related infrastructure needs to support risk reduction from the three primary hazards (wildfire, flooding, and earthquake). This project is part of a three-part emergency communications project. The County of Mendocino will improve the reliability and resiliency of its microwave and radio communications systems through the procurement and installation of higher capacity, upgraded microwave equipment, including microwave radios, waveguides, power supplies, ethernet, routers, and the establishment of a redundant microwave communications loop by adding new microwave equipment to ensure County-wide connectivity and prevent widespread communications outages should one tower location be out of operation for any reason. In total, sixteen sites will receive upgraded equipment during project implementation. This project will improve the reliability of both emergency communications and data/internet connectivity at County facilities, including public-facing facilities like public libraries. Project implementation will allow law enforcement and other first responders to communicate effectively in the field when responding to disaster events and typical calls for service.

I. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - Non-Housing (NH) Covelo and Round Valley Community Cleanup Program

- To improve specific areas of Mendocino County where unlawful dumping has occurred, the County of Mendocino secured a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The purpose of the Covelo and Round Valley Community Cleanup Program is to improve the physical environment of an area that is deteriorating, experiencing physical decay, suffering from the impacts of several hundred junked and abandoned vehicles, and in need of remediation of environmentally contaminated properties that are detrimental to public health, welfare, and safety of the community. This is also detrimental to the community itself and to the economic development of the area. Grant activities that will benefit this area include community cleanups, targeted illegal dump site cleanups, and junk vehicle removal on County and tribal lands. This is a comprehensive project that involves multiple partners. The Mendocino County

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Resource Conservation District (MCRCD) will oversee the community cleanup activities and coordinate community awareness, education, volunteer activities, and signage. The Round Valley Indian Tribes (RVIT) are another essential partner in implementing this CDBG project, as well as providing access to areas for cleanup and participating in the community activities associated with the project.

J. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Emergency Warning Siren Feasibility and Installation Project, Phase 1

- The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is to help communities implement hazard mitigation measures to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters. The Early Warning Sirens project will conduct a feasibility study to determine the siren type, mounting requirements, power sources, coordination with existing alert systems, and effective locations for installing early warning sirens at locations recommended in the feasibility study. Preliminary analysis and budgeting anticipate the installation of four sirens within the Redwood Valley-Capella Fire District. The project will be completed in two phases.

K. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Critical Generators Mitigation, Phase 1

- The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is to help communities implement hazard mitigation measures to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters. This project proposes the installation of adequately sized generators at a variety of County facilities which are critical for emergency responses, especially during disaster situations. Each of these facilities houses either 1) microwave equipment which enables radio communications, 2) IT equipment which allows for internet connectivity and access to data servers, 3) law enforcement operations, 4) fiber optic lines allowing for high-speed internet connectivity at all County facilities, or 5) the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

L. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Redwood Complex Ignition-Resistant Construction, Phase II Batch 1&2

- The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is to help communities implement hazard mitigation measures to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters. The Redwood Complex Ignition-Resistant Construction project is a rebate program intended to incentivize homeowners to replace flammable roofing with non-flammable materials to improve community resiliency in the face of wildfire and prevent loss of life and property. Specifically, homeowners shall be eligible for partial reimbursement of roofing and vents if their home is located in the high or very high fire hazard severity zone (FHSZ) as designated by the California Department of Forestry

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and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). The County of Mendocino has completed Phase I and is currently in Phase II, which is delivered in two separate batches of funding.

M. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Orr Springs Road Fuels Reduction, Phase 1 & Management Cost

- The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is to help communities implement hazard mitigation measures to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters. The mitigation action of this project is to reduce hazardous fuels along Orr Springs Road and Comptche-Ukiah Road. The project activities will consist of using mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools, tow-behind woodchippers, and potentially a masticator to clear fuels within thirty feet from the edge of both road alignments. Fuel-clearing activities intend to provide safe ingress and egress routes for residents in wildfires and other hazardous situations. This project will allow firefighting personnel to access the area during fire events, improving response and suppression efforts.

Emergency Medical Services

- Transitioned to Executive Office
- Executed base hospital contracts
- EMS Plan approved by state Emergency Medical Services Authority
- Coastal Valleys EMS completed the EMS System Review

Facilities And Fleet

- Successfully completed the first stage of long-term fire fuel mitigation throughout the 2 most highly susceptible County properties.
- Progressed on the development of a Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan and ADA transition plan, with integrated Cost of Ownership data.
- Completed extensive consolidation and relocation of operations in advance of the new Jail Construction.

Capital Projects - MHTA

- Completed the demolition of the existing building at Whitmore Lane.
- Completed Construction and Bidding documents for the Psychiatric Health Facility Project.
- Secured building permits and Issued bids for construction of the Psychiatric Health Facility Project.

Capital Improvements

- Completed the HVAC Replacement Project at the Fort Bragg Justice Center.

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- Completed the Roof Replacement Project for the Agriculture – Farm Advisor Building.
- Completed a competitive Request for Proposal solicitation, selecting the County's partner for Energy Saving measures and power generation and storage projects.
- Completed the installation of the Sheriff's Fallen Peace Officer's Memorial.
- Project.

Capital Projects

- Completed bid review and contract award for construction of the Jail Expansion Project
- Broke ground and started construction on Jail Expansion Project

Fleet Management

- Successfully installed approximately 150 Advanced Telematics Devices in non-public safety County Department vehicles.
- Continued to reduce County Garage Pool Fleet to 8 remaining vehicles.
- Implemented the integration of Enterprise Fleet Management Lease model for County fleet vehicles and leased the County's first three (3) vehicles.
- Fleet Management is now reporting on Fleet Fuel Consumption with hopes to continue to encourage a more efficient fleet.

Parks

- Completed plans for new vault toilet at Mill Creek Park.
- Completed Parks Vegetation Management and Fuel Mitigation Plan for 2023.
- Implementation of Point & Pay for reservations.
- Implementation of self-pay with credit cards at Indian Creek.
- Added new fees to help with cost recovery for large gatherings/picnic reservations.

Grants Administration

- Worked closely with County departments, grant writing consultants, and staff to submit ten grant applications and preproposals totaling \$13,115,038.
- Completed the phase one and two rollout and training on the new County grants management software, Amplifund.
- Assisted departments with grants research, application, and management.
 - Assisted the Cannabis Department with their Local Equity Entrepreneur Program (LEEP) Grant program audit, equity eligibility audit, and budget and Local Jurisdiction Assistance Program (LJAGP) Grant biannual report, program audit, program manual updates and budget amendments.

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

- Worked closely with Planning and Building Services to migrate management of CDBG grants to the Grants Division and prepared an application for the 2023 CDBG NOFA.

Grants

A. Prepare California Jumpstart Program

- The County of Mendocino was awarded California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) funding to support a resilience-focused position within a new Grants Unit within the Mendocino County Executive Office (EO). Specifically, the County added a 0.85 FTE resilience position to support the Grants Unit, which is dedicated to resilience grant functions, including research, application development, partner coordination, management and reporting, and project close-out. Additionally, the County purchased a grants management software, Amplifund, to streamline and operationalize all county grants' tracking and reporting functions, including all grants secured by the resilience position within the Grants Unit and more than \$40 million in existing resiliency grant funding. This project also includes funding for consultants to provide technical expertise and additional grant writing capacity, as needed.

Office of Emergency Services

- Transitioned our Evacuation mapping software to Genasys Protect, formerly known as ZoneHaven.
- Conducted EOC trainings for new Finance, Logistics, and Planning Sections staff.
- Completed a functional exercise- earthquake with associated fire, for the EOC.
- Transitioned the Call Center to the new EOC building.
- Participated in Cal OES Tsunami Communications Exercise and the 3 county Tsunami Communications Test with the National Weather Service, plus Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

Grants

A. FY21 Homeland Security Grant Program

- The State Homeland Security Grant is pass-through funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and down to the individual Operational Areas. Funding supports state, tribal, territorial, and local preparedness activities that address high-priority preparedness gaps across all core capabilities that support terrorism preparedness. Funding will be used to provide training for Community Emergency Response Team to increase community preparedness, automate license plate reader cameras that will assist in vehicle identification in the event of a human trafficking incident, vehicles associated with domestic extremism, vehicle theft and child abductions, to purchase portable/retractable vehicle barriers to be placed at strategic locations throughout the county to

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prevent or minimize the effects of a vehicle ramming attack, fund staff time required to develop a cybersecurity assessment process and the execution of a cybersecurity assessment, SWAT training, Everbridge Alert & Warning Application Enhancements, contract to provide County wide Public Emergency Notifications, and portable digital radios. Funding also supports grant management and administration costs.

B. FY22 Homeland Security Grant Program

- The State Homeland Security Grant is pass-through funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and down to the individual Operational Areas. Funding is used to support state, tribal, territorial, and local preparedness activities that address high-priority preparedness gaps across all core capabilities that support terrorism preparedness. Funding will be used to provide training for the Community Emergency Response Team to increase community preparedness, purchase new Live Scan Systems (applications and hardware) for the four cities and unincorporated areas, SWAT training, Everbridge Alert & Warning Application Enhancements, contract to provide County wide Public Emergency Notifications, SWAT thermal cameras & night vision devices to increase capability to respond to active threats, and to purchase additional portable radios for various response agencies to expand interoperability between agencies and improving response coordination efforts. Funding also supports grant management and administration costs.

C. FY23 Homeland Security Grant Program

- The State Homeland Security Grant is pass-through funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and down to the individual Operational Areas. Funding is used to support state, tribal, territorial, and local preparedness activities that address high-priority preparedness gaps across all core capabilities that support terrorism preparedness. Funding will be used to provide training for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to increase community preparedness, SWAT training, Everbridge Alert & Warning Application Enhancements, contract to provide County wide Public Emergency Notifications, SWAT thermal cameras & night vision devices to increase capability to respond to active threats, to purchase additional portable radios for various response agencies to expand interoperability between agencies and improving response coordination efforts, and enhanced election security camera to help law enforcement improve election security. Funding also supports grant management and administration costs.

D. FY23 Emergency Management Performance Grant

- Through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), this project will support

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staffing costs performing the full spectrum of emergency management duties in an effort to assure the county is at its optimum readiness to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards and threats events. This project will

capture the cost to Manage and Administer the EMPG Grant. This project will pay course tuition and travel costs for staff to attend various emergency management trainings. This project will provide the supplies and resources needed to run an emergency services office. This project also covers Emergency Services communications costs (Cell phones, Sat Phones, Cell phone hot spots) and communications space rentals.

Information Technology

- Creation of Cybersecurity Incident response plan
- Finance System updates and security enhancements
- Completed migration to from .org to .Gov domain
- Submitted FFA application for expanded broadband services in Brooktrails and South Coast
- Migrated from Countywide legacy file storage system

Capital Investments

- Telecom Audit – Cost saving measures
- Completion of Phase 1b Repeater project
- IT Internal Service Fund - ITSF streamlining and cost savings
- Implementation for Cybersecurity areas of focus including improved backup and resiliency, robust disaster recovery tools, and cyber threat detection

Grants

- Participated in State and Local Government Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) to implement additional cybersecurity measures for County organization. Ongoing.

FARM ADVISOR – UCCE EXTENSION

- Continued to expand and build capacity of the Mendocino County Prescribed Burn Association (PBA) by securing a grant, adding members, hosting events, collaborating on projects, and hosting prescribed burns.
- Continued to research impacts of wildfire and develop post-fire management best practices.
- Expanded community resilience. Food Systems Advisor Julia Van Soelen Kim launched a new \$1.5 million regional project to establish the North Coast Emergency Food System

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Partnership. This multi-year project seeks to increase the local food system's preparedness, recovery, and resilience to disasters and expand community resilience.

- North Coast IPM Advisor Launched monthly PCA Breakfast meetings in 2023 with Viticulture Advisor. Tailgate talk covering vineyard leafhoppers.
- Diversified Agriculture Advisor collaborating with Emeritus Advisor on Pear Rootstocks field trials.
- Increased educational and extension event offerings to grape grower clientele.
- Completed data collection on a major study addressing climate resilience in vineyards.
- Sheep Shearing School was a success with twenty-six (26) students attending and graduating

GRAND JURY

N/A

HUMAN RESOURCES

- During Calendar Year 2022, HR processed 1,636 Personnel Transactions, 246 new hires, 255 separations; 694 staffing requisitions; conducted 520 recruitments; screened 4,909 employment applications; conducted 389 employment exams; prepared 468 certifications with 134 augmented; responded to 88 applicant appeals.
- Implemented regular trainings to provide education and awareness of personnel resources and practices for all staff.
- Conducted countywide salary study including total compensation.
- Received and processed 291 requests for leave and 11 ADA requests for accommodation.
- County-wide Training Program: 199 Employees participated in 18 Virtual Workforce Development trainings, a total of 375 times (seats filled) during FY 2023/24 (July 2023 to March 2024). An additional 108 "On-Demand" courses were completed through Target/Vector Solutions online (151 times) by a total of 66 employees, in the areas of leadership, technical skills and professional development skills.

Employee Wellness

- Received the Silver 2023 American Heart Association Workplace Health Achievement Recognition Award.
- Became an approved Bluezones Worksite
- Expanded Virgin Pulse and MCWOW benefits to include Spouses & Domestic Partners
- Increased participation in county-wide wellness challenges from 25.6% to 35.3%

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- From a group of 177 high-risk participants, over 80% improved their LDL and cholesterol to low or moderate levels, and more than half lowered their blood pressure and triglycerides to similar levels.

Health Insurance

- Successfully implemented three (3) new medical plan designs, including a high deductible health plan (HDHP).
- Successfully implemented a voluntary health savings account (HSA) for employees enrolled in the HDHP.
- Successfully implemented a voluntary “buy up” category for dental and vision benefits.
- Successfully executed a supplemental Life and AD&D insurance open enrollment period.
- Successfully prepared and delivered Affordable Care Act forms 1094 and 1095 to County employees, COBRA participants, the State of California and the IRS in compliance with State and Federal regulations.

LIBRARY

- Reinstated an annual all-staff training day
- Hosted four county-wide programs
- Started Library-by-Mail for homebound patrons
- Technology skills trainings for staff provided at each branch

Capital Investments

- Made progress on the RFPs for the Willits Roof, Alternative Energy Panel and Battery Back-up Project
- Completed small project at Ukiah Branch for electrical improvement.

Grants

- A. California State Library Building Forward, Library Infrastructure Grant
- The Willits Branch of the Mendocino County Library's roof needs replacement. The new roof, alternative energy panels, and battery backup will protect the branch from inclement weather and support the community during emergencies such as fires and PSPS events which are regular occurrences in Mendocino County. The California State Library Building Forward, Library Infrastructure Grant pays for 50% of the expenses up to \$247,040 and the Capital Investment account pays for the other 50% and any additional expenses.

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MUSEUM

- Presented two popular traveling exhibits
- Created a successful docent program
- Published a Financial Support and Museum Endowment webpage
- Implemented energy reduction measures resulting in decreased costs
- Initiated research to identify alternative funding models

PLANNING AND BUILDING

- CalApp - SolarApp+ Implementation
- Class K amendments for structures under 2,000 sq. ft.
- County LCP update grant work
- Began digitization of records
- Began work on improving operational efficiency via revised organizational chart and performance management strategies
- Achieved multiple residential, commercial, and specialty certifications for our in-house building inspectors: Our Building Official and Senior Building Inspectors have successfully completed a range of certifications including those focused on residential, commercial, and specialized construction, enhancing their expertise and capabilities in ensuring compliance and safety across various types of building projects
- Efficient utilization of Scanning and Digitization Funds: We are committed to maximizing the effective use of funds allocated for scanning and digitization projects, enhancing the accessibility and efficiency of our document management processes.

Grants

- A. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM LCP-22-06
 - The goal of the project is to improve local coastal planning in Mendocino County to better address coastal resiliency and climate change adaptation by updating technical studies, descriptions, policies, maps, and the implementation plan for the Local Coastal Program (LCP) to adapt to the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and associated coastal hazards.
 - The primary objectives of this LCP update are to develop an understanding of the existing conditions and evaluate current water/sewer capacity, circulation/transportation, agricultural resources, coastal access/visitor serving facilities, rare plant/natural communities, and visual resources and recommend updated goals, policies and objectives based on the evaluations.

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- The update will allow updated sections to integrate relevant information from the proposed Sea Level Rise Resiliency Analysis (under separate grant).

PUBLIC DEFENDER

- Obtained grant funding to assist us in our work of holistic representations through a Case Worker, this is a new position to the Public Defender's Office and would not be possible without the Indigent Defense Grant.
- Obtained grant funding to hire another Deputy Public Defender within our office to reduce current attorney/client workloads.
- Obtained grant funding to hire another Legal Assistant in our office to reduce the current client/legal assistant/secretary workload.
- Behavioral Health Court and Drug Court continue to assist those clients facing mental health issues and/or addiction with pending criminal charges. All the partners work together in order to reduce or prevent recidivism.
- Provided legal defense for a significant increase in complex remands and resentencing matters.

Grants

- A. Anti-Drug Abuse Enforcement
 - The Anti-Drug Abuse Program promotes a coordinated approach between law enforcement and prosecution to combat drug sales, manufacturing, and distribution of all commercial/illegal drugs (e.g., fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine,). The assigned District Attorney Investigator, Deputy District Attorney and Legal Secretary work collaboratively with members of the Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force (MMCTF), and other law enforcement agencies with emphasis on convicting violent and serious offenders and enforcing drug control laws.
- B. Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistant Grant (JAG)
 - The JAG grant will address various priority areas of need relating to in- and out-patient substance use treatment and behavioral health treatment, co-occurring facilities , and staff Mendocino County's Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court. Funding from this grant will support personnel that will 1) Connect and monitor clients in these treatment programs; 2) Connect and monitor clients in co-occurring treatment facilities; 3) Help clients access necessary social services to reduce recidivism; and 4) Help staff Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court and serve as mental health liaisons. The funds are shared between the Alternate Defender's Office and the Public Defender's Office.

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C. Victim Witness Assistance Program

- The Victim/Witness Program provides comprehensive services to victims and witnesses of all types of crime in Mendocino County, while providing victim services within the Criminal Justice System. Victim/Witness services include crisis intervention, emergency assistance resources, referral for counseling to agencies within the community and direct counseling of the victim pertaining to problems resulting from the crime. Staff assists, as needed, with funeral/burial arrangements and in obtaining temporary/criminal protective orders. The goal of the Program is to ensure access to prosecution and services, provide sensitive treatment for crime victims (and witnesses) in the Criminal Justice System and prevent further trauma. Victim/Witness has provided these services from within the District Attorney's Office for 43 years.
- Victim/Witness staff participates in witness protection, including arranging for law enforcement protection and/or re-locating victims/witnesses in new residences. Victim Witness staff provides additional support by processing, filing, and verifying claims filed by victims of crime. Services offered include orientation to the criminal justice system, as well as court escorts. The program offers assistance in obtaining the return of victims' property that held as evidence by law enforcement agencies. Staff also assists victims in ascertaining economic losses and obtaining restitution for the same. Staff monitors appropriate court cases to keep victims and witnesses apprised of the progress and outcome of their case(s) and to notify witnesses of any changes in the court calendar that affect their transportation. At the request of a victim, staff makes notifications to friends, relatives, and employers about the occurrence of the crime and the victim's condition. Additionally, if the victim requests, staff works with employers to minimize any loss of pay or other benefits, which may result because of the crime, or the employee's participation in the criminal justice system.
- Victim/Witness provides the Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, and courts with information relevant to victims' losses, prior to the imposition of sentence.

PUBLIC HEALTH

- Continued to evaluate and apply for grant funding opportunities to support, enhance, and improve health for all Mendocino County residents.
- Continued collaboration with local agencies and community partners to address health inequities in Mendocino County.
- Continued working towards meeting the standards for achieving accreditation.
- Developed and implemented internal and external communication process.
- Implementation of Public Health Equity program.

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

A. Public Health Nursing

- Secured extended grant funding for CHVP programs through 2028.
- Expanded Home Visiting programs with new staffing and leadership.
- Implemented vaccine clinics at Public Health offices. Offering Covid19; Influenza; MPOX; and TB tests.
- Staff received Syphilis case reporting training from CDPH and improved our average days to close cases.

B. Hospital and Medical Services Program

- Continued to conduct outreach efforts and provide education to increase CMSP enrollment and enrollee participation in the primary care benefit.
- Continued to monitor impacts of health care reform and section 17000 obligations under California Welfare and Institutions code.

C. Partnerships for Health (IGT)

- Provided support for Mendocino County Harm Reduction Plan by providing medical prevention services, needle exchange and treatment referral services to substance users throughout the county.
- Provided support to all Nursing programs and physician related contracted services.
- Continued to leverage IGT funds to enhance program and services to provide continuity of care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries of Mendocino County.

D. California Children's Services

- Determined medical, financial, and residential eligibility for children who were referred to CCS.
- Determined ongoing eligibility for children already enrolled in the program.
- Provided care coordination to assist families with medical appointment scheduling, transportation, and access to diagnostic and treatment services.
- Hired physician Medical Consultant.
- Significantly reduced backlog of annual reviews and pending medical eligibility.

E. Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program

- AVERT Active Shooter training was conducted in Public Health, attended by 62 staff members.
- Trained three more staff in ICS 300 and 400, and two more staff to be HAM radio operators.
- Completed revision of Public Health All-Hazards Response Plan.
- Public Health participated in all Coalition exercises and drills, all of which were planned by Mendocino County PHEP staff.

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

F. Hospital Preparedness Program

- Single-Lane Mass Decontamination trailer was pre-deployed to Adventist Health Mendocino Coast.
- Three Disaster Continuity of Care trailers were deployed to clinics in Anderson Valley, Round Valley, and Laytonville.
- Two Alternate Communications Drills were conducted.
- HPP coalition completed one Surge Exercise.
- Revised and finalized the Disaster Healthcare Coalition (DHCC) Preparedness and Response Plan and all surge annexes to meet HPP 5-year project deadline.

G. Tobacco Education Prop 56

- Retailer compliance checks were routinely provided throughout the county.
- Provided youth advocacy and leadership training at Action Network in November 2023.
- Staff and community partner agencies were trained on YATPS protocols in March 2024.

H. Tobacco Education Prop 99

- Adult tobacco coalition meetings regularly on a monthly basis.
- Initiated youth coalition in Fall 2023.
- Staff invited by California Department of Public Health to participate in developing a detailed action plan to increase the sustainability capacity of California's comprehensive tobacco prevention efforts in January 2024.

I. HIV Surveillance

- Timely reporting to the State of all new cases.
- Obtaining insurance for clients that recently lost employment.
- Troubleshooting with pharmacies and insurance to ensure clients continue have coverage for their medication.
- Educating clients on additional insurance and other resources available to them.
- Collaborating with providers to help clients obtain care.

PROBATION

- Acquisition completed and system conversion commenced for new case management system to replace existing system which is no longer supported

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

- MOU with Social Services executed resulting in Mendocino now being a Dual Jurisdiction County creating a more coordinated and integrated service delivery by the child welfare and juvenile justice systems
- Relocated Willits Probation office to the Willits Justice Center allowing for improved law enforcement collaboration and a centralized location
- Installation of Hirsch Lock system for the Adult Pretrial building to improve safety and security of facility
- Responsive to multiple legislative changes affecting both Probation and Juvenile Hall

Juvenile Hall

- New youth programs introduced: Art & Movement Therapy and WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan)
- Continued updating of video surveillance system to expand surveillance area and further replacement of out-of-date cameras
- Acquired new electric vehicle for meal transportation between the Jail and Juvenile Hall
- Completed update of Juvenile Hall policies utilizing Lexipol system

RETIREMENT

N/A

SHERIFF-CORONER

- Continue goals reducing felony crimes against persons and property.
- Continue to recruit, hire and retain Deputy Sheriffs, CSOs and Sheriff's Office support staff for vacant positions, including Resident Deputies.
- Continue to implement policies and procedures that will improve retention and reduce hiring/recruitment timeline and costs.
- Continue to evaluate and improve organizational budget efficiencies/seek grant and alternative funding programs.
- Continue to work with partnering agencies regarding the opioid crisis, local emergencies, environmental impacts from illegal water diversions, deforestation, illegal Cannabis and drug trafficking organizations.
- Continue to implement training for multi-faceted mental health response in collaboration with Behavioral Health, Public Health and Social Services.

A. Sheriff-Coroner - COPS

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

- Continue to fund a Sheriff's Technology Specialist position, which assists in the operation and maintenance of the Sheriff's computer hardware, software and network.
- Purchase technology and supplies that will assist with investigation of crimes.

B. Sheriff-s Special Projects

- Administer funds for Wellness Program received from the State for sworn staff wellness activities.
- Continue to apply for donations which can be used for Sheriff's special project needs.

C. Jail & Rehabilitation Center

- Continue the goal of excellent care, custody and control within the Jail facility.
- Continue recruitments to fill all allocated and funded staff positions.
- Continue participating in process and construction for new wing of Jail which will be better suited to service populations with behavioral health disorders.
- Continue building a partnership with Probation and Behavioral Health for a Restorative Justice Program to be administered through Inmate Services.
- Implement Body Worn Camera technology in the Jail to improve transparency.
- Pass Prison Rape Elimination Act inspection.

D. Jail and Rehabilitation Center – COPS

- Renew Lexipol contract for Jail policy and procedure development.
- Enhance overall Jail operations.
- Use funding for anticipated equipment maintenance and replacement.

Grants

A. DEA-COMMET

N/A

B. Correctional Officers Training Grant

N/A

C. Cal-MMET

N/A

SOCIAL SERVICES

A. Adult and Aging Services

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

- Utilized Home Safe funding; assisted 17 clients by procuring housing for homeless individuals or allowing for retention of existing housing to avoid homelessness.
- Updated the Public Guardian/Public Authority fee schedule.
- Employed an Adult Protective Services on-line reporting option.

B. EFAS

- Operated two separate Disaster Calfresh campaigns in response to winter storm food loss.
- Successfully implemented the Cal-AIM 90-day pre-release Medi-Cal application process for justice-involved individuals, partnering with Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and Probation.

C. Family and Children's Services

- Encouraged and supported staff development through access to higher education opportunities for employees who are working on their Bachelor and Master Degrees in Social Work.
- Implemented Dual Jurisdiction Protocol with Juvenile Probation to serve youth who are involved in both Family & Children's Services and Juvenile Justice.
- Held our first resource parent and foster youth holiday party since the Covid-19 shut down in 2020.

D. CalWORKs/Foster Care-Adoptions

- Fully staffed Foster Care Eligibility Unit which ensures foster care payments are issued timely.
- Maintained a 92.8% timeliness rate in processing of CalWORKs applications.
- Submitted a CalWORKs System Improvement Plan to CDSS as part of the Outcomes and Accountability Review.
- Collaborated with the Department of Public Health for the Home Visiting Program.

E. In-Home Supportive Services

- Awarded certificate of achievement from California Department of Social Services for achieving 95.7% compliance rate for timely reassessments.
- Enrolled 35 IHSS Providers into the emergency back-up provider registry.
- Transitioned to a web-based independent provider enrollment center resulting in an increase in an increase of 197 new IHSS providers.

F. General Assistance/General Relief

- Screened 928 applications and granted 114

FY 2023-24 Department Accomplishments

- Provided HDAP services to 19 community members; secured permanent housing for 8 and temporary housing for 11
- Enrolled 128 clients into our Employment and Training program resulting in 57 clients obtaining permanent employment