

## FW: Si Se Puede Collective Support for the City of San Jose Children and Youth Master Plan

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 4/8/2024 7:53 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachments (165 KB)

03april2024 sspc ltr of support to implement csj child youth master plan.pdf;

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**From:** Gabriel Hernandez <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Saturday, April 06, 2024 9:02 PM

**To:** The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

**Cc:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Marizol Romero <[REDACTED]> Maricella Fuentes <[REDACTED]> Buzo, Laura <Laura.Buzo@sanjoseca.gov>; Rios, Angel <Angel.Rios@sanjoseca.gov>

**Subject:** Si Se Puede Collective Support for the City of San Jose Children and Youth Master Plan

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Dear San Jose Mayor and Members of the City Council,

Please find the Si Se Puede Collective's letter of commitment and support for the City's Children and Youth Master Plan. We request that you each support the Plan and funding for its planning and implementation.

Thank you,

Gabriel

**Gabriel Hernandez**

*¡Sí Se Puede! Collective Director*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Cell) | [www.sspcmayfair.org](http://www.sspcmayfair.org)

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April 3, 2024

Sent via electronic mail

Mayor and City Council Members  
City of San Jose  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

**RE: Si Se Puede Collective Support for the Adoption and Implementation of the City of San Jose Children and Youth Master Plan**

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

We are grateful to the City of San Jose for the thorough engagement of stakeholders in the development of the City's Children and Youth Master Plan. We are the Si Se Puede Collective (Collective) which is comprised of five community organizations, including Amigos de Guadalupe Center for Justice and Empowerment, Grail Family Services, School of Arts and Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza, SOMOS Mayfair, and Veggjelution. Our collective investment in our communities, families and future are resulting in:

- A shared vision and sense of belonging that honors the artistic and cultural identity of Mayfair and empowers community.
- Quality learning opportunities for all children with a focus on success in school and life.
- Culturally competent youth who can navigate, experience, and contribute to the broader world.
- Culturally competent, impactful, and coordinated services and resource referrals to meet the needs of families.
- Community-led advocacy and organizing efforts for policy and systems change.
- Smart development without displacement in the Si Se Puede community.

Background

City of San Jose/County of Santa Clara Joint Meetings on Child Well-Being

Over 2 years ago, the Collective, with the leadership of Grail Family Services, participated in the Joint City of San Jose/County of Santa Clara County Meetings on Child Well-Being. Grail Family Services presented the quality childcare provided to families from the East Side San Jose. This presentation highlighted the need, lack of access, and the limited number of child care available during nontraditional hours.

City of San Jose COVID Recovery Task Force

During this same time, all five Collective organizations organized staff and community members to participate in most of the City's 9 Recovery Task Force Committees to help develop the many recommendations and establish the City of San Jose's COVID-19 Recovery Task Force Report. As part of the Task Force's recommendations to the City Council, we recommended that the City Council use this document as a "template," or a guide for the City Council to use in upcoming years to establish their priorities when developing its annual budgets. The San Jose City Council accepted and adopted this report in November 2022.<sup>1</sup>

We encourage you to review the Childcare, Early Care and Education and Youth Development Committee's five strategies, and the respective recommendations; including **Strategy 1**: Provide equitable workforce development opportunities (including living wages) to the childcare, early care and education, and youth development workforce; **Strategy 2**: Enhance facilities for childcare, early care and education, and youth development programming; **Strategy 3**: Expand outreach and access to affordable, equitable, and high-quality childcare, early care and education, and youth development programming;

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<sup>1</sup> Copy of City of San Jose's COVID-19 Recovery Task Force Report, November 2022 attached.



**Strategy 4:** Expand slots for childcare, early care and education, and youth development programming opportunities; and, **Strategy 5:** Enhance mental health and wellbeing and mentorship opportunities for all children and youth.

#### Si Se Puede Collective Community Advocacy Committee

During the City's FY23-24 budget process, the Collective organized a core group of community members representing many of the families that we work with, and we developed a campaign called, "Sin Limites Ni Fronteras," "No Limits, No Border." This campaign highlighted families' priority demands for the City to consider during that year's budget process and those that aligned with the Recovery Task Force recommendations.<sup>2</sup>

#### City of San Jose Children and Youth Master Plan

As City staff began to develop the Master Plan, two of the Collective organizations, Grail Family Services and Somos Mayfair, have led our Collective's participation in the development of this plan. These two organizations will lead the planning and implementation of our children and youth services in coordination with all the partners, the City, and the County of Santa Clara.

We support City staff's recommendations to start with the two proposed demonstration sites and request that you consider funding to support implementation of these sites with community input. We look forward to working with City staff and coordinating our efforts to provide our children, youth, and their families living here in East San Jose to create a seamless system of care from cradle to career. Please support the Children and Youth Master Plan and support our efforts to improve children and youth services for our families in San Jose.

Sincerely,

**Gabriel Hernandez**

Director, Si Se Puede Collective

**Maritza Maldonado**

Executive Director, Amigos de Guadalupe

**Veronica Goei**

Executive Director, Grail Family Services

**Jessica Paz-Cedillos**

Co-Executive Director, School of Arts & Culture

**Vanessa Shieh**

Co-Executive Director, School of Arts & Culture

**Saul Ramos**

Co-Executive Director, SOMOS Mayfair

**Victor Vasquez**

Co-Executive Director, SOMOS Mayfair

**Emily Schwing**

Acting Executive Director, Veggielution

<sup>2</sup> Copy of slide deck outlining Sin Limites, Ni Fronteras list of demands.

**FW: SVCN Letter regarding Children & Youth Services Master Plan**

City Clerk &lt;city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov&gt;

Mon 4/8/2024 7:53 AM

To: Agendadesk &lt;Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov&gt;

 1 attachments (205 KB)

Letter CSJ Children Youth Master Plan 2024.04.07.pdf;

**From:** Kyra Kazantzis <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Sunday, April 07, 2024 2:17 PM**To:** The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** Gianella Ordonez <[REDACTED]> Angel Aliano <[REDACTED]> Reed, Jim <Jim.Reed@sanjoseca.gov>; Gomez, David <David.Gomez@sanjoseca.gov>; Sandoval, Vanessa <vanessa.sandoval@sanjoseca.gov>; Nguyen, Lam <Lam.Nguyen@sanjoseca.gov>; Groen, Mary Anne <maryanne.groen@sanjoseca.gov>; Fleming, Jonathan <Jonathan.Fleming@sanjoseca.gov>; Adera, Teddy <Teddy.Adera@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughes, Scott <scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov>; Dexter, Michele <Michele.Dexter@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughey, Rosalynn <Rosalynn.Hughey@sanjoseca.gov>; Clements, Kristen <Kristen.Clements@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara <Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; Madero, Angel <Angel.Madero@sanjoseca.gov>; Dexter, Michele <Michele.Dexter@sanjoseca.gov>; Buzo, Laura <Laura.Buzo@sanjoseca.gov>; Rios, Angel <Angel.Rios@sanjoseca.gov>; Flores Shelton, Andrea <Andrea.FloresShelton@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** SVCN Letter regarding Children & Youth Services Master Plan

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Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Members of the City Council,

Please find the attached letter from SVCN regarding item 7.1 (Children & Youth Master Plan) on the City Council agenda on 4/9/2024. Thank you in advance for your attention to our comments.

Best,

**Kyra Kazantzis | CEO**

**Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits**

Phone: [REDACTED] | Web: [svcn.org](http://svcn.org) | Twitter: [@SVCN](https://twitter.com/SVCN)

Pronouns: she/her/hers

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April 7, 2024

San José City Council  
City of San José  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San José, California 95113  
*Sent via email*

Re: April 9, Item 7.1, City of San Jose Children and Youth Master Plan

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Council Members:

We write in support of the Children and Youth Master Plan, particularly the City's efforts to engage stakeholders throughout the plan development process and the Plan's focus on creating alignment between City departments, the County, nonprofit providers, and community stakeholders. This item aligns with the priorities surrounding early childhood, youth, and investments in prevention and intervention, that SVCN has been advocating for in the context of the Recovery Task Force and other contexts.

We are supportive of the letter from Si Se Puede Collective and the Memorandum from Councilmembers Torres, Davis, Ortiz, Doan, and Foley.

We also continue to believe that the City should engage in a human services/healthy community strategic planning process and coordinate human services across all departments. We also believe that the City should designate a CSA-level position, at minimum, to oversee the synchronizing of human services within the City. Given what the City learned about the health and well-being needs of the City's residents during the pandemic—and the inequitable realities of whether and how they are met—the City should move forward in this direction.

Specifically, we believe that the City should develop an enterprise-wide human services/healthy community master plan or human services element of the General Plan, based on a community-needs assessment, informed by and co-designed with residents with lived experience, and complementing and integrated with County and nonprofit services. The Children and Youth Services Master Plan is a good start in planning to effectively address the comprehensive needs of families.

Not only would an overarching plan and approach help defragment the current system of delivering human services, which isn't as efficient or effective as it could be, it would also help with data-keeping and monitoring of the effectiveness of those services, and in developing consistent and fair nonprofit contracting practices.

Thank you for your attention to these comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Kyra Kazantzis  
CEO

### **About SVCN**

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (SVCN) advances the role, voice, and capacity of the nonprofit community in Santa Clara County so it can be a force for positive social change and support the creation of equitable, vibrant, and thriving communities. SVCN has committed to be a change-agent and a model of possibility by centering racial justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion principles in everything SVCN does internally and externally. One of our strategic commitments is to support the nonprofit ecosystem by being a trusted source and hub of information, resources, and connection for nonprofits across Silicon Valley, that facilitates nonprofit collaboration and collective impact. We also leverage our power, positionality, and access, in order to partner with, amplify, and support community to influence decision-makers to change systems in ways that address the biggest challenges facing nonprofits and the communities they serve. SVCN's nonprofit membership is 170+ strong; we also offer Ally Membership to individuals, businesses, and foundations.

To learn more about SVCN please visit [www.svcn.org](http://www.svcn.org).



April 5, 2024

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

On behalf of the Library and Education Commission (“Commission”) acting in its capacity as an Advisory Body to the City Council, I write to express the Commission’s support of the proposed Children and Youth Services Master Plan (“Master Plan”) to be presented to the City Council on April 9, 2024. The Commission recommends that the City Council adopt the Master Plan and provide strong support to its implementation.

On March 28, 2024, the Commission participated in a Joint Special Meeting at Hillview Library Branch, creating an opportunity to hear from the public and the City’s Youth Commission on the needs, strengths and opportunities in “forging opportunity pathways” for the City’s children and youth. The discussion generated in the convening emphasized considerations of the impact of poverty, mental health and structural barriers for systemic transformation. In approval of the Master Plan, the Commission highlights support for the following priorities:

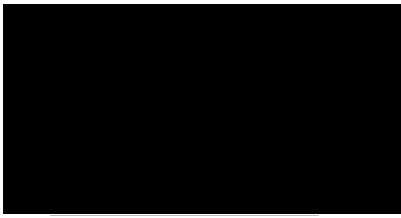
- Develop a culturally-competent, multi-modal communication plan that ensures San José’s diverse communities, across all age groups, learn about and engage with the Master Plan
- Increase mental health services for children and youth
- Draw from best practices and lessons learned for data-sharing and tools developed across stakeholders
- Continue to leverage existing systems, programs and datasets to advance this work

These priorities reflect the feedback provided during the Joint Special Meeting, as well as inputs previously provided during status updates to the Commission.

For San José to thrive as a global powerhouse, our residents must have full access to the resources that are available in our great city, which is what the Master Plan aims to address by addressing, removing, and reversing the barriers faced by so many of our residents. The Commission feels strongly that this Master Plan is so critical that it cannot simply be an exercise; it cannot sit on a shelf. The Master Plan must be fully implemented. With strong appreciation for the dedication of City staff for unrelenting focus and dedication as this Master Plan has been developed, the Commission is also grateful to the hundreds of young people, parents, caregivers, nonprofit staff, educators and other stakeholders who provided their time to guide the priorities of the Master Plan framework.

The Library and Education Commission looks forward to following progress of the Master Plan’s demonstration sites and the accompanying evaluation methodology in the coming year.

Best regards,



José Magaña

Commission Chair

On behalf of the San José Public Library and Education Commission

April 4, 2024

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

On behalf of the San José Youth Commission, I write to express the Youth Commission's support for the proposed Children and Youth Services Master Plan ("Master Plan"). As the Advisory Body charged with championing the perspective of San Jose youth to the City Council, the Youth Commission strongly recommends that the City Council adopt the Master Plan, and fully support its implementation. The Youth Commission joined the Library and Education Commission alongside members of the public for a Joint Special Meeting on March 28, 2024, to review and discuss the Master Plan draft to be presented to City Council on April 9, 2024.

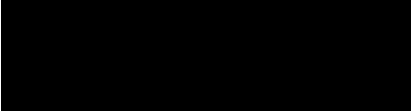
As representatives of the youth in our community, we champion young people's existing resilience and seek to ensure the Master Plan continues to empower youth and their families while reducing their vulnerabilities. We are invested in the Master Plan's commitment to the integration of programs, services, and resources to meet the needs of our diverse communities.

The Joint Special Meeting discussion highlighted key areas for further consideration in the subsequent phases of the Master Plan implementation. The Youth Commission proposes a series of requests and recommendations along the following priority areas:

- **Communications and Access to Information** – Ensure that the Master Plan dissemination efforts utilize digital and non-digital strategies for all youth outreach plans. Messaging and engagement efforts should be youth-centered, reflective of local cultures, and avoid stigmatizing young people's access to public resources.
- **Health and Safety** – Increase efforts to strengthen safety nets across Local Education Agencies, School Districts, and other stakeholders, particularly for victims of gender-based violence.
- **Resources** – Identify additional resources for schools and City departments to provide services to students for long-term sustainability. Harness Silicon Valley technology and other resources to expedite educational readiness.
- **Art, Vibrancy and Place-Based Initiatives** – Incorporate arts-based initiatives and strategies into the framework, as an important healing and development tool. Place greater emphasis on cultural representation and inclusive educational programming. Integrate geography and transportation considerations to reduce social isolation and remove barriers to access.

The feedback outlined builds on previous inputs provided by the Youth Commission during past Master Plan updates. We look forward to receiving status updates and monitoring progress on the Master Plan, including outcomes from the forthcoming demonstration sites and corresponding metrics for impact analysis.

Sincerely,



Deitra Hoang

Chair, San José Youth Commission

## FW: Letter of Support for Children and Youth Services Master Plan

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 4/9/2024 10:14 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachments (297 KB)

Children and Youth Master Plan.pdf;

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**From:** Juan Cruz <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:43 AM

**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

**Subject:** Letter of Support for Children and Youth Services Master Plan

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Please accept the district's letter of support for CYS Master Plan.

Juan

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**Juan Cruz**

**Superintendent**

Franklin-McKinley School District



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# Franklin-McKinley School District

PREPARING ALL CHILDREN AS GLOBAL LEARNERS

April 8, 2024

Honorable Mayor and City Council of San Jose,

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of San Jose Children and Youth Services Master Plan

Franklin-McKinley School District is in full support for the City of San Jose Children and Youth Services Master Plan. This comprehensive strategic roadmap is a vital step towards improving health outcomes, economic mobility, and overall well-being for children, youth, and young adults in our city. The plan demonstrates a commitment to systems transformation and collaboration among various organizations, system leaders, and community members. It is heartening to see a focus on reaching vulnerable populations and communities that have historically been disenfranchised.

I particularly appreciate the emphasis on embedding the voices of families, youth, and young adults in the decision-making process. This inclusive approach, coupled with community engagement, is key to addressing racial inequities and structural barriers. The plan's recognition of the dynamic nature of community needs and its intention to adapt and evolve over time are commendable. It is crucial to have a strategic framework that allows for flexibility and responsiveness to changing circumstances.

I want to recognize City Deputy Manager Rios and Laura Buzo for their extensive engagement process involving over 3,000 individuals from all sectors of the community reflects a commitment to inclusivity and diversity. I am confident that the priorities, goals, and strategies outlined in the plan, developed in collaboration with the community, will lead to meaningful and sustainable change. The priorities and goals in the plan directly align with the district's priorities and goals for our community.

Franklin-McKinley School District supports the City's commitment to reporting annually on the progress made in achieving the goals of the plan. This accountability is essential for ensuring that the plan's objectives are being met and that the community's needs are being addressed effectively.

In conclusion, I believe that the City of San Jose Children and Youth Services Master Plan is a crucial initiative that will have a positive impact on our community. I look forward to seeing the plan's implementation and its positive outcomes for our children, youth, and young adults.

Sincerely,



Juan Cruz  
Superintendent

Board of Education

Rudy Rodriguez

George Sanchez.

Marc Cooper

Steven Sanchez.

Milan Balinton