



February 5, 2024

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Clara
70 W. Hedding Street – 10th Floor, East Wing
San José, CA 95110
Sent via electronic mail

Re: Support Item 36, Report Relating to Prevention & Intervention, February 6, 2024

Dear President Ellenberg and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I write to you on behalf of the Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (SVCN), an alliance of community-based organizations working to advance 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.

We are excited by the work that has already been done by Public Health to scan and start planning to address the gaps in violence prevention and intervention services and approaches. We hope that the Board will direct the Administration to work with community stakeholders (including SVCN, BHCA, the REAL Coalition, and grassroots community leaders with lived system experience) and the City of San José to develop a community-informed and aligned plan. Investment in prevention and intervention, especially as alternatives to unnecessary policing and incarceration, are among the SVCN membership's highest policy priorities in 2024.

Feel free to reach out to me at (408) 605-6586 or kyrak@svcن.org to discuss this issue.

Regards,

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.