

**Grand Jury Report
RESPONSE FORM**

Report Titled: Mendocino County Food Banks

Report Dated: April 3, 2013

Response Form Submitted By:

Jacqueline Williams, Executive Director
Ford Street Project
139 Ford Street
Ukiah, CA 95482

Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: June 2, 2013

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the FINDINGS portion of the report as follows:

I (we) agree with the Findings numbered:

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings numbered below, and have ***attached, as required***, a statement specifying any portion of the Finding that are disputed with an explanation of the reasons therefore.

F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the RECOMMENDATIONS portion of the report as follows:

The following Recommendation(s) have been implemented and ***attached, as required*** is a summary describing the implemented actions

R5

The following Recommendation(s) have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, ***attached, as required*** is a time frame for implementation:

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The following Recommendation(s) require further analysis, and **attached as required**, is an explanation and the scope and parameters of the planned analysis, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared, discussed and approved by the officer and/or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed: (This time frame shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury Report):

X The following Recommendations will NOT be implemented because they are not warranted and/or are not deemed reasonable, **attached, as required** is an explanation therefore:

R1, R2, R3, R4, R6

I have completed the above responses, and have attached, as required the following number of pages to this response form:

Number of Pages attached: 2

I understand that responses to Grand Jury Reports are public records. They will be posted on the Grand Jury website: www.co.mendocino.ca.us/grandjury. The clerk of the responding agency is required to maintain a copy of the response.

I understand that I must submit this signed response form and any attachments as follows:

First Step: E-mail (word documents or scanned pdf file format) to:

- The Grand Jury Foreperson at: grandjury@co.mendocino.ca.us
- The Presiding Judge: grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov
- The County's Executive Office: ceo@co.mendocino.ca.us

Second Step: Mail all originals to:

Foreperson
Mendocino County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 939
Ukiah, CA 95482

Printed Name: Jacqueline Williams
Title: Executive Director
Signed: Jacqueline Williams Date: 5-30-13

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Attachment Page 1

Responses to Findings:

Findings # 1 - 6:

While the Ukiah Community Center's Ukiah Food Bank appreciates the Grand Jury's comments related to our accomplishments and their articulated recognition of our limited resources, their investigation and findings related to operational methods of our private nonprofit corporation is improper. Under Penal Code section 933.6 the Grand Jury has the authority to investigate and report on a nonprofit corporation that is "*established or operated on behalf of a public agency.*" By its own statement, in its own report, the Grand Jury establishes that the Ukiah Food Bank operates primarily on private donation funding (in fact donations amount to 80 to 90% of our annual operating budget). To the extent that the County of Mendocino provides some \$4,275.00 per year (about 3% of the Ukiah Food Bank's total annual budget) for the specific purpose of providing some limited expanded hours of service to clients, the Grand Jury may have the authority to narrowly investigate and report to determine if those funds provided by the County are being properly utilized for their intended purpose, however under Penal Code Section 933.6 they would not have the authority to investigate and report broadly on the general operations of our nonprofit corporation, non-public agency controlled Food Bank as it was not established by a public agency and is not operated on behalf of a public agency. There is no mention in the report that any public agency funding provided to the Ukiah Food Bank is being utilized improperly or that services delivered based on that funding are not proper. The report does note that proper financial practices and audits are being performed annually by the Ukiah Food Bank. The Ukiah Food Bank Staff and its Board of Directors spent countless hours responding to and cooperating with the Grand Jury during the course of their investigation, at our organizations expense and to the detriment of our operations. The Ukiah Food Bank is always striving to create organizational efficiencies and improve services to an ever growing client population, so we do appreciate the Grand Jury's information and suggestions, however we would like to continue to provide our vital services under the direction and discretion of our Executive and by the governance of our Board of Directors.

The following is quoted from information published on the California Grand Juror's Association website: "***See Penal Code section 933.6. If a local governmental agency is providing funding or grants to a non-profit not established by it, or operated on its behalf, a grand jury can only investigate whether the agency is getting what it expected from the funding but may not conduct a general investigation into the operation and finances of the nonprofit.***"

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Attachment Page 2

Responses to Recommendations

Recommendations # R1, R2, R3, R4, R6:

Response same as above narrative to "Response to Findings"

Recommendation # R5: The Administrators of the three described Food Banks have already scheduled meetings and are to meet to exchange information.