Summary of Violence Prevention Action Plan (VPAP) Effort (1997 – 2001)

The Violence Prevention Program was initiated in 1996 with a two-year grant from the David & Lucile Foundation. In January, 1997, as incoming Chair of the Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Jim Beall requested that the Public Health Department coordinate and develop a comprehensive county-wide action plan for violence prevention by working with all other entities addressing this issue.

In May 1997, the Violence Prevention Council (VPC) of Santa Clara County was established to increase awareness about the impact of violence in our community and to create a community approach to prevent and reduce violence through collaborative county-wide action. During the county's budget hearings in June, 1997, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors voted to fund and institutionalize violence prevention as a program in the Public Health Department and provided $247,000 to staff the Violence Prevention Council, its committees, and overall community planning process.

In October 1998, the Public Health Department (PHD) and Violence Prevention Council presented the Violence Prevention Action Plan (VPAP) to the Board of Supervisors. At that time, the PHD recommended that a more formalized organization/ governance structure be convened to monitor the VPAP, support community collaboration and advise the Board of Supervisors on matters relating to violence prevention.

From November 1998 through March 1999, the Board of Supervisors held a number of community hearings to assist with the modification of VPAP policy recommendations as recommendations on the prevention of gun violence and alcohol-related violence proved controversial in the community. On April 6, 1999, the Board of Supervisors approved the modified VPAP and the 1998/99 Expenditure Plan and released $350,000 in annual general fund reserves for VPAP implementation.

At the December 7, 1999 meeting of the Board of Supervisors, the Board designated a new group, the Violence Prevention Task Group (VPTG) as the organizational mechanism charged with coordinating and guiding the implementation of the VPAP. Some of the more significant VPAP Accomplishments 1999/ 2000 include:

- The PHD helped to introduce and fund the PeaceBuilders school-based violence prevention program in over 33 schools in Santa Clara County.
- The PHD & the VPAP Public Awareness & Education Committee developed a multiyear public education campaign to promote violence free relationships and provided ongoing media trainings to the community.
- The PHD & VPAP Parent Education Committee held two successful community conferences on early violence prevention which targeted childcare providers and parents.
- The PHD & VPTG joined the Santa Clara/ San Mateo SAFEKIDS Coalition to develop and implement a firearm awareness and safety campaign directed to the adult public.
- The PHD & VPTG supported the development of a more coordinated system of data collection and analysis across county departments.

Violence Prevention: Program, (1996-2001), Violence Prevention Action Plan (VPAP, 1998-2001), and Misc. Articles:

1. **Violence Prevention Action Plan (VPAP) Summary**
   (See May 4, 2001 Transmittal for documentation of efforts)

2.	May 4, 2001	VPAP: Update on Implementation
3.	April 21, 2000	VPAP Expenditure Plan FY99/00
4.	December 7, 1999	Approved Governance & Organizational Model: VPAP
5.	August 31, 1999	Report Back on VPC Rx on Governance & Org. Structure
6.	August 18, 1999	Report Back on Board-Modified VPAP Rx
7.	August 18, 1999	Report Back on the Promoting Violence Free Relationships Public Awareness & Ed. Campaign
8.	January 20, 1998	Approval of Items Relating to the VP Council
9.	November 16, 1998	Memo from Sup. Beall to VP Council
10.	November 6, 1997	Violence Prevention in SCC: Current Efforts, Statistics & Future Opportunities
11.	December 15, 1997	VP Council: Action Planning
12.	September 9, 1998	VPAP Draft (105 pages – title page & acknowledgements only)
13.	November 10, 2000	CSAC Family Violence Task Force
14.	June 22, 1999	Press Release: Sup. Beall Meets w/National Leaders at White House Summit on Children Exposed to Violence
15.	July 15, 1995	SJMN: Letter Page – "Prevention means a hand up, not a handout".