

CFS Volunteers Step Up to Train Mandated Reporters

By Mari Solis, CFS Staff Development Specialist

Announcing the renewed partnership and collaboration between Contra Costa County Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) and Children & Family Services (CFS)!

In late 2020, **Cristina Hickey** (CAPC) and **Mari Solis** (CFS) joined efforts with two goals in mind: 1) develop a consistent and comprehensive mandated reporter training program for agency/community partners, and 2) recruit a group of dedicated CFS social worker volunteers to co-train with CAPC. The training would also aim to clear up common misconceptions about suspected child abuse reporting, and educate audiences about CFS's mandates of child safety, permanency & wellbeing.

With more than 16 years of knowledge and experience, Cristina helped set the vision for a new and improved CAPC Mandated Reporter Training (MRT) community-outreach training program, while Mari steered the process to get there. As a

result, two separate trainings emerged: MRT 101, the Basic Mandated Reporter Training, which now integrates some CFS information; and MRT 102, which clarifies "What You Need to Know" about CFS's role upon receiving a Suspected Child Abuse Report (SCAR).

Since September 2021, the CFS social worker volunteers have co-trained at 12 schools (including 784 mandated reporters). In 2022, more MRT 101 & 102 trainings will be held virtually or in person throughout Contra Costa County. If you are a CFS social worker interested in becoming a Mandated Reporter Training volunteer to co-train with CAPC, or you have an audience for either MRT 101 or 102, please contact **Cristina Hickey at (925) 798-0546, ext. 15.**

Thank you to CAPC and our wonderful CFS social worker volunteers!



Cristina Hickey



Mari Solis



Ariel Richards



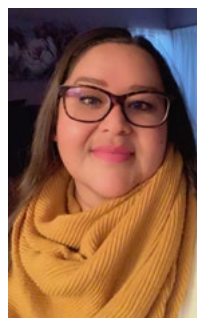
Georgette Shipe



Jamie Rucki



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Nelly Villanueva

Kudos!