Stanislaus County Children & Families Commission

Report to the Community

Supporting Families

Cultivating Futures Through Education

Safeguarding Children’s Health

Leading Via Supportive Systems

Promoting the development and well being of children 0 through 5 in Stanislaus County

Version en Español a la vuelta – Turn report over for Spanish version
On behalf of the Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission, we are pleased to present you with our Annual Report to the Community that highlights various activities and accomplishments and presents our financial statement for Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

The Commission budgeted $7.5 million from July 2013 through June 2014 in prevention and early intervention programs in Stanislaus County. As you read through this Report to the Community, you will observe the county’s youngest children have gained health insurance coverage, have been provided with dental care, have obtained developmental screenings, or have parents who have been provided with case management, parent education classes, and additional resources. Our results show we are strengthening families!

The Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission, in partnership with committed and effective community, school, and public partners, continues to sponsor programs that impact thousands of children and their families. We have made children our top priority. We are investing in our youngest children now...for success in the future.

To learn more about our work, please contact us at 209.558.6218 or visit us at www.stanprop10.org.

Sincerely,

Denise Hunt, Commission Chair
John Sims, Executive Director

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**Children Are Our Priority:** Research shows that a child’s brain develops more in the first five years than any other time in their life. Based on this research, California voters passed Proposition 10 in 1998. The ballot measure added a 50-cent tax to each pack of cigarettes and a comparable tax on other tobacco products sold in California. It authorized the creation of the Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission and made it responsible for operating and administering the program in Stanislaus County.

**Our Vision:** All of Stanislaus County’s children will thrive in supportive, safe, nurturing, and loving environments; are healthy, eager, and ready learners; and become productive well-adjusted members of society.

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**About Stanislaus County**

- Overall Population: 518,336
- Households: 166,948
- Percentage of Households that are Families: 74.6%

Stanislaus County had 47,781 children 0 through 5 years of age in 2013. – 9% of Stanislaus County Population

The projected births in Stanislaus County totaled 7,844 in 2013.

**Ethnicity of Children 0-5 in Stanislaus County**

- 50% Hispanic
- 41% White
- 2% Asian
- 5% Multiracial
- 2% African American
- Other or Unknown

**Ethnicity of Children Served in Prop 10 Programs**

- 59% Hispanic
- 25% White
- 2% Asian
- 4% Multiracial
- 5% African American
- Other or Unknown

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**Sources:**

1. U.S. Census Bureau (2013). 2012 American Community Survey (three-year estimates)
2. U.S. Census Bureau (2012). Families and living arrangements
4. California Department of Finance, Historical and Projected State and County Births, Table 2 State and County Births, Projected births: Demographic Research Unit
5. 2011-2012 California Health Interview Survey
6. Data reported by Proposition 10 funded programs in Stanislaus County
**Supporting Families**

- **Families are seeking, finding, and receiving support.**
  The parents of 8,974 children received family support services through countywide Family Resource Centers or other programs. 2,147 received more intensive services focused on improving child abuse risk factors.

- **Parents are gaining knowledge and improving parenting skills.**
  The parents of 2,592 children attended parenting classes to increase parenting skills and knowledge.

- **Caregivers are being screened for depression and are being referred for help.**
  Caregivers of 1,636 children 0-5 were screened for depression and, of those, 387 children 0-5 had a caregiver referred for mental health services.

- **Children are achieving in stable environments.**
  420 children experienced improvements in their family environment after being enrolled in respite childcare.

**Cultivating Futures through Education**

- **Parents are reading with their children.**
  1,070 families increased the time spent reading with their children at home after receiving literacy services.

- **Children are being screened and identified for developmental delays.**
  1,377 children 0-5 were screened for educational developmental issues and 252 were reported as being referred for further assessment or services.

- **Children are preparing for successful Kindergarten entry.**
  127 children participated in the Kindergarten Readiness Program at school sites across the county that helped prepare them for Kindergarten.

**Safeguarding Children’s Health**

- **Pregnant women and children are receiving health care.**
  418 children 0-5 and pregnant women who did not have access to health care received medical attention through an interim health care program.

- **A greater number of children now have health insurance.**
  363 pregnant women and children 0-5 who did not have health insurance are now enrolled in a health coverage plan.

- **Infants are born healthy.**
  210 infants were born healthy (term and not low birth weight) after their mothers participated in a healthy birth program. Of the 230 pregnant mothers that participated in a healthy birth program and delivered, 207 (90%) of them initiated breastfeeding.

**Leading Via Supportive Systems**

- **Empowering families with knowledge.**
  The families of 5,902 children have increased knowledge and utilization of community resources.

- **Collaborating.**
  On average, Prop 10 funded programs collaborate with four or more other Prop 10 funded programs to decrease duplication and increase effectiveness of services.

- **Leveraging Prop 10 funds.**
  Prop 10 funded programs brought in more than $3 million from other funding sources during fiscal year ’13-’14, increasing the level of services for children 0-5 and their families.

**2013-2014 Fiscal Year Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total Budget: $7,515,250</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved Family Functioning (Family Support, Education, and Services)</td>
<td>$4,462,815 (59%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Healthy (Health Education and Services)</td>
<td>$1,707,160 (23%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Child Development (Child Development Services)</td>
<td>$145,000 (2%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Systems of Care</td>
<td>$82,378 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$354,926 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>$69,353 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Programs (Includes Contingency Fund)</td>
<td>$693,618 (9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Data reported by contractors

**Our 2013-2014 Community Partners**

- Aspiranet
- Center for Human Services
- Children’s Crisis Center
- Child Abuse Prevention Council of Stanislaus County
- Court Appointed Special Advocates
- El Concilio
- Keyes Union School District
- Parent Resource Center
- Patterson Unified School District
- Riverbank Unified School District
- Sierra Vista Child and Family Services
- Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
- Stanislaus County Community Services Agency
- Stanislaus County Health Services Agency
- Stanislaus County Office of Education
- Stanislaus Family Justice Center
- The Bridge
- United Way of Stanislaus County

*Stanislaus County Children & Families Commission*
George is a 48-year-old single father of a two-year-old daughter, who has been using the services of the Children’s Crisis Center for little more than a year. George was raised in the Morgan Hill area in a family he described as loving and stable. His family included his parents, who were married for 54 years before they both passed away in 2007, and eight siblings. There was no history of substance abuse in his family of origin.

Unfortunately, George began experimenting with various drugs in his late teens and by the age of 20, he was addicted to methamphetamine after being introduced to it by a co-worker.

In 2010, George found himself living in Modesto, where he met his daughter’s mother when they worked together at an ice cream shop. By then, George had an extensive criminal history, having been arrested over 20 times, and served over four years between county jails and prison. George continued his methamphetamine use, along with his girlfriend, and in 2012, they discovered she was pregnant. Despite her pregnancy, both George and his girlfriend continued their drug use, which included methamphetamine, opiates, marijuana, and alcohol. His girlfriend received no prenatal care and also began using heroin on a daily basis during her pregnancy. The evening before delivering their daughter, his girlfriend suffered a heart attack. Delivered by emergency C-section nine weeks early, his daughter tested positive for methamphetamine, marijuana, and opiates at the time of her birth.

Serena, George’s daughter, spent several weeks in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit due to drug withdrawals and prematurity. Child Protective Services suggested voluntary placement of Serena into foster care so that both George and Mom could address their drug addiction and secure stable housing.

In November 30, 2012, George entered Nirvana Outpatient Treatment Program to begin his substance recovery journey. He has since completed parenting classes, individual counseling, and a clinical assessment through Sierra Vista Child and Family Services, completing his program with a perfect attendance record. As a result of George’s perseverance, dedication to his recovery, and positive parenting of Serena, he was awarded full custody of his daughter.

George’s journey has not been an easy one. When Serena was first enrolled at the Children’s Crisis Center (CCC), she was just over a year old. She refused to eat or hold a bottle, and cried continuously as she was frightened by any change. While at the Center, Serena received assessment screenings that identified developmental delays that needed to be addressed. Serena has made substantial progress since her initial enrollment, as she is now more vocal, interactive, and socially responsive. Although she is delayed in meeting some of her developmental milestones, she is quickly closing in on the gap.

CCC’s supportive services, including case management and crisis counseling, have also been instrumental in helping George develop a positive relationship with his daughter. The Center frequently provides George and Serena with food and household items to help support his goal of maintaining stable housing, of which he is always very appreciative.

George has now been clean and sober for 19 months, and as of October 15, 2013, with the assistance of Child Protective Services and Section 8, he and Serena have their own home. He is enrolled in school, working on obtaining his G.E.D., and maintaining his sobriety.

George is also looking forward to gaining employment. Serena now has regular visits with her biological mother, who continues to work on her sobriety.

George recently shared, “I don’t know where Serena or I would be without all of you here to help us.”