

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INDICATORS IN STOCKTON: *BUILDING A SHARED UNDERSTANDING, DIRECTION, AND HOPE*

INTRODUCTION

This project centered on the topic of children's health in Stockton, California. Stockton faces some of the most dire health and social indicators in California, all of which directly or indirectly relate to children (e.g., childhood obesity, infant mortality, unemployment, poverty, crime, etc.). The aim of this project was to increase awareness about the most pressing health issues facing youth and to work with the community to pinpoint what stood out in the data, what was already underway to address these issues, and to discuss what else was needed. This project centered on studying data from the Lucile Packard Foundation's Kidsdata.org engine and other data sources in order to start a conversation to create clarity around children's health needs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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KEY FINDINGS AND NEXT STEPS

Data Findings on Stockton as compared to San Joaquin County and California

- Unemployment is higher
- Child poverty is higher
- Fewer 3rd graders were found to be proficient in Language Arts
- Single parent households are higher

Additional Data Findings

- Nearly 60% of all teen births are to Hispanic teens
- 13% of deaths in children are due to homicide
- Data and Geography
 - Much higher rates of poverty, low educational levels, teen births, and sexually transmitted diseases, are found in the central parts of Stockton as compared to other County locations. These poor outcomes are more pronounced in particular Census tracts (e.g., 1 and 4.02).

Resources

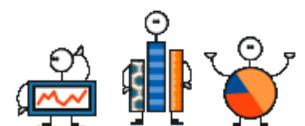
A full array of agencies, organizations, services, programs and groups were identified by convening attendees as resources/assets that are helping to assist with many of these health concerns.

Solutions

- Convening attendees brainstormed a range of specifics that were still needed in order to improve health for children in Stockton. These included ideas that centered on:
 - Health Care
 - System-change
 - Community Safety
 - Community and family involvement
 - Opportunities for youth

Next Steps

- Disseminate project findings.
- Convene a group of youth, parents, nonprofits, and agencies to discuss findings and to strategize action steps.



IN PARTNERSHIP

Kidsdata.org



San Joaquin Community
Data Co-Op



San Joaquin County
Public Health Services

Epidemiology Program



The data and health indicators presented in the table below show that the City of Stockton (in comparison with the county as a whole and the State) has a full range of health outcomes that are of concern. Knowledge of this data is only the first step, next is identifying what is already in place that seeks to address these issues and what other new strategies can be implemented. This triple combination of increase awareness, brainstorming, and additional solutions was at the heart of our Kidsdata.org project.

	STOCKTON	SAN JOAQUIN	CALIFORNIA
Child population*	89,732	202,392	9,439,758
Multi-ethnic population	77.1	64.1	
Single family households	42.9	33.3	31.7
English Language Learners (2009)	28.0	23.4	24.2
Foreign born child population	13.9	10.3	9.8
Median Family Income	\$49,061	\$59,911	\$67,038
Unemployment (2011)	19.2	15.9	10.9
Child poverty	30.0	20.6	19.9
Free and Reduced Priced Meals	72.7	50.4	51.1
3 rd Graders and Language Arts Proficiency (2010)	25.0	35.0	44.0
9 th Graders meeting all fitness standards (2010)	15.7	29.5	38.7
Truancy rate (2009)	49.0	29.0	24.2
High school graduates completing college preparatory course(2008)	13.0	26.0	33.9

*Data is from 2005 – 2009 unless otherwise stated; all data is in percentages with the exception of total child population and income.

Source: www.kidsdata.org

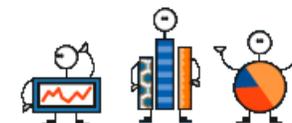
ADDITIONAL DATA FINDINGS FOR STOCKTON (provided by *San Joaquin County Public Health Services*):

- The City of Stockton has high levels of both chlamydia and gonorrhea. Youth between the ages of 15 to 19 have the highest rates.
- Nearly 60% of all teen births in the City of Stockton are to Hispanic teens.
- Approximately 1/3 of Hispanic, Black, and White teens were overweight or obese before becoming pregnant.
- Over 82% of obese pregnant teens gain more weight than they should during pregnancy.
- Over 42% of deaths in children ages 0 to 19 are due to conditions present at birth.
- Over 13% of deaths in children are due to homicide.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (provided by *San Joaquin County Public Health Services*):

- Poor health outcomes are geographically linked.
- Much higher rates of poverty, low educational levels, teen births, and sexually transmitted diseases are found in the central parts of Stockton as compared to other County locations. These poor outcomes are more pronounced in particular Census tracts (e.g., 1 and 4.02).

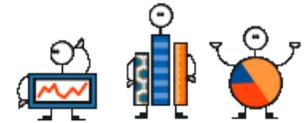
WHAT STANDS OUT?



When community members were asked what were the key issues that stood out that affect children’s health, the following details emerged.

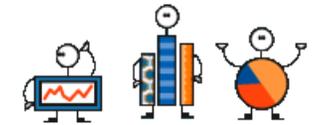
YOUTH	PARENTS	NONPROFITS	CITY AND COUNTY AGENCIES <i>(Schools, Human Services, Law Enforcement, Health Services)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STDs, genital herpes • Teen unprotected sex • Teen pregnancy • Drug abuse • Parenting • Lack of guidance • Family issues • Bullying • Stressful environments • Child poverty • Unemployment • Mothers not knowing the proper way to take care of their babies. Not taking prenatal meds. • Kids need to take more responsibility for their lives • Lack of exercise • Poor eating habits • Gang violence • No incentive to strive for the best! • Peer pressure • Lack of education • Health insurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV/AIDS • Illegal drug use • Lack of parental education • Bullying • Illness • Second hand smoke • Marijuana • Alcohol • Obesity • Anemia • Leukemia • Suicide • Depression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STDs • Substance abuse • Lack of safety/safe neighborhoods • Lack of parenting skills • Lack of mentors • Poverty • High unemployment rate • Gangs/gang involvement • Homicides • Social/recreational activities for youth • Physical activity • Poor nutrition • Lack of healthy resources in neighborhoods • Very few forums for youth • Clean air • Affordable health care • High dropout rate • Foreclosures • Lack of educational opportunities and other pathways to opportunity • Violence • Lack of county re-investment • Lack of healthy relationships • Needing a collective/shared identity • Lack of peace • Young women leadership skills • Male involvement • A vibrant downtown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teen pregnancy • Substance abuse • Parents don’t access available services • Incarcerated parents • Safety – kids don’t go outside to play • Lack of family structure • Family stress • Poverty/economic status • Housing • Transportation • Employment • Language barriers, literacy • Health literacy • Mental health issues, depression • Access • Limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables, nutrition • Lack of education related to nutrition and physical fitness • Increased “screen time” and decrease in physical activity • Limited access to group sports/fitness activities • Health • Obesity • Education • Crime • Domestic violence in home • Violence • Racism • Cultural barriers

WHAT IS ALREADY IN PLACE?



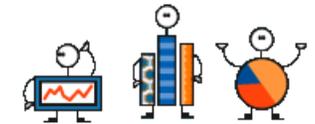
I. ORGANIZATIONS/AGENCIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Women’s Center • Family Resource and Referral Center • Teen Impact Center • YMCA • Plea for Peace Center • Boys and Girls Club • Big Brothers and Big Sisters • Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) • University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) • University of the Pacific (UOP) • Migrant Education • State Preschool • Health Plan of San Joaquin • Community Partnership for Families (family resource centers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libraries • Empire Theatre • Planned Parenthood! • Peacekeepers • Churches • Family Resources/Community Centers • WorkNet • Fathers and Families of San Joaquin • Food Banks • Family and Youth Services • CCS – Children’s Services • VMRC – Valley Mountain Regional Center • St. Joseph’s Hospital • Community Medical Centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South East Asian Recovery Services (SEARS) • Children’s Home of Stockton and other non-profit youth treatment programs • San Joaquin County Office of Education • San Joaquin County AIDS Foundation • San Joaquin County General Hospital • El Concilio Council for the Spanish Speaking • Head Start • Children’s Services Coordinating Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Joaquin County Independent Living Program/Delta College – for foster care children • Child Abuse Prevention Council • San Joaquin County Mental Health Services/Latino Mental Health • San Joaquin County Public Health Services • San Joaquin County Human Services Agency (CalWorks, CPS) • Children and Youth Services • San Joaquin County Juvenile Probation • First 5 San Joaquin (Preschool, Child Wellness, Rural Home Visitation)
II. SERVICES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelters • School-based health centers • Mental health counseling • School-based mental health services • CalFresh services and outreach • Food commodities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile health units • Mobile nutrition units • Mobile dental clinics • MediCal • Mediation Services • Foster care placement services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutoring/mentoring • Flu immunizations • Physical education programs • Foster care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotlines • Screenings (vision, hearing, scoliosis, diabetes) • General child care • General assistance • Employment services

WHAT IS ALREADY IN PLACE? (continued)



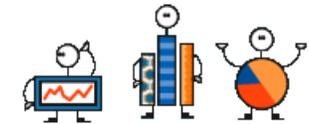
III. PROGRAMS/PROJECTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local scholarships Health centers Gyms Stockton Love Movement Free and reduced lunch program Differential Response Reconnect Day Reporting Center CITA program – mental health juvenile justice program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in Prevention Early childhood nutritional literacy programs Chronic disease education Literacy School climate projects Youth empowerment projects Probation Officers on Campus FAYS Safe House 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental health staff development Prenatal programs Parent involvement programs RITE of passage programs Afterschool programs Parent empowerment projects Children’s Health Initiative Adolescent Family Life Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parenting/fatherhood development Violence prevention programs Gang intervention TUPE tobacco prevention (6th to 12th grade) Research-based prevention curriculum Evidence-based programs for probation Medical assistance
IV. GROUPS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers that watch out for students Great kids who are stepping up to help! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth leaders Hip-Hop Congress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breast Feeding Coalition Religious community School resource officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth groups! Organizations! Young men
V. OTHER			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church aid for low income people Information centers Meetings like these Media outreach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With our Word Generous community support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our fighting spirit! Schools/parks/vacant buildings COED – School based CAPC – JJ (Group) JJAT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Jobs APS Youth advocacy

WHAT IS STILL NEEDED?



VI. HEALTH CARE AND OTHER SERVICES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teen births and STDs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protection to prevent disease ○ Help for parents ○ Information for the home, at school, and in clinics ○ Emphasizing the need to talk to your kids • Counseling • Prevention services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking and obesity prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More activities ○ More fruit and vegetables ○ More health education in school ○ Information about causes and concerns of obesity ○ Nutrition education for youth ○ Tobacco and alcohol tax for prevention ○ Social activities to prevent the use of tobacco 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance for homeless • Basic needs addressed (food/nutrition, decent housing and low income) • More intensive early intervention • More positive family services and involvement • Affordable housing for youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More on-site services ○ Parent empowerment to reach more parents ○ Safe areas for children/families ○ Vocational training • Comprehensive weight management programs
VII. SYSTEMS CHANGE/ENHANCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralized Resource/Referral – Point of Service for SJ County (Private, Public, Non-Profit, Business, etc.) • Central info exchange – One Stop Publication • Need to do a better job of linking services • More quality education • Effective collaboration between business, government, educational institutions, and non-profits • More collaboration between business and non-profits • Nutritional value of school lunch • Focus on education: Parents and teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School: Policy change to prioritize health • “Boots on the ground” to put tobacco and alcohol sellers out of business (who cater to young adults) • More culturally and linguistically accessible health care providers • Alternatives to incarceration for youth • Collaborative efforts • Increase teacher salaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Centered Services – In the schools and in the community • More foundation funding leads into more <u>coordination</u> • Prioritize early education • Access to health care • Cultural framework tailored to meet individual needs • Reentry programs (2) • Increase in manpower/resources • Better ways to notify people of services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebuild, reconnect & reevaluate: i.e., <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To rebuild Stockton from the ground up. Reconnect families & youth to opportunities, & re-evaluate. • Human services: Improved electronic access • Increase capacity to meet high levels of need • Advocating for more equitable federal, state, and private funding

WHAT IS STILL NEEDED?



VIII. COMMUNITY SAFETY			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety, violence, gangs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Saying no to violence ○ Afterschool programs (workshops – art, dance, sports) ○ More security in school parking lot ○ Teaching parents school regulations ○ No more violent parents here ○ Less gangs ○ Neighborhood watch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less crime • Safe and fun community events • More beds in safe houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crossroads Program (prevention early intervention juvenile justice program) • Intensive early intervention and accountability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold parents accountable • More honest police officers
IX. COMMUNITY/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Passion & Purpose!!</u> • Leadership/people who advocate to reduce these statistics. • Community volunteers • More parent volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding parents!!! • Teens/Adults taking responsibility for their own actions!! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kids who are willing to listen! • Understanding <u>adults!</u> • Community leaders paying attention to low income needs (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For people to care • Kids need to listen to parents, take responsibility, & get an education • More leadership • More speakers – who have been there
X. OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER COMMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlets for youths (art, music, etc.) • Places for teens to <u>express themselves & not feel pressured by others!!</u> • More places for kids to go to when they need help w/ any problems • More career opportunities & job experiences (internship, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better jobs!! • Job training • Adequate funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of programs that help reduce these statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More fundraisers to help raise money for services • Motivation • Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessible data – social media