

OCTOBER 2014

Stanislaus County Children & Families Commission

Report to the Community

Strengthening Families



*Supporting
Families*



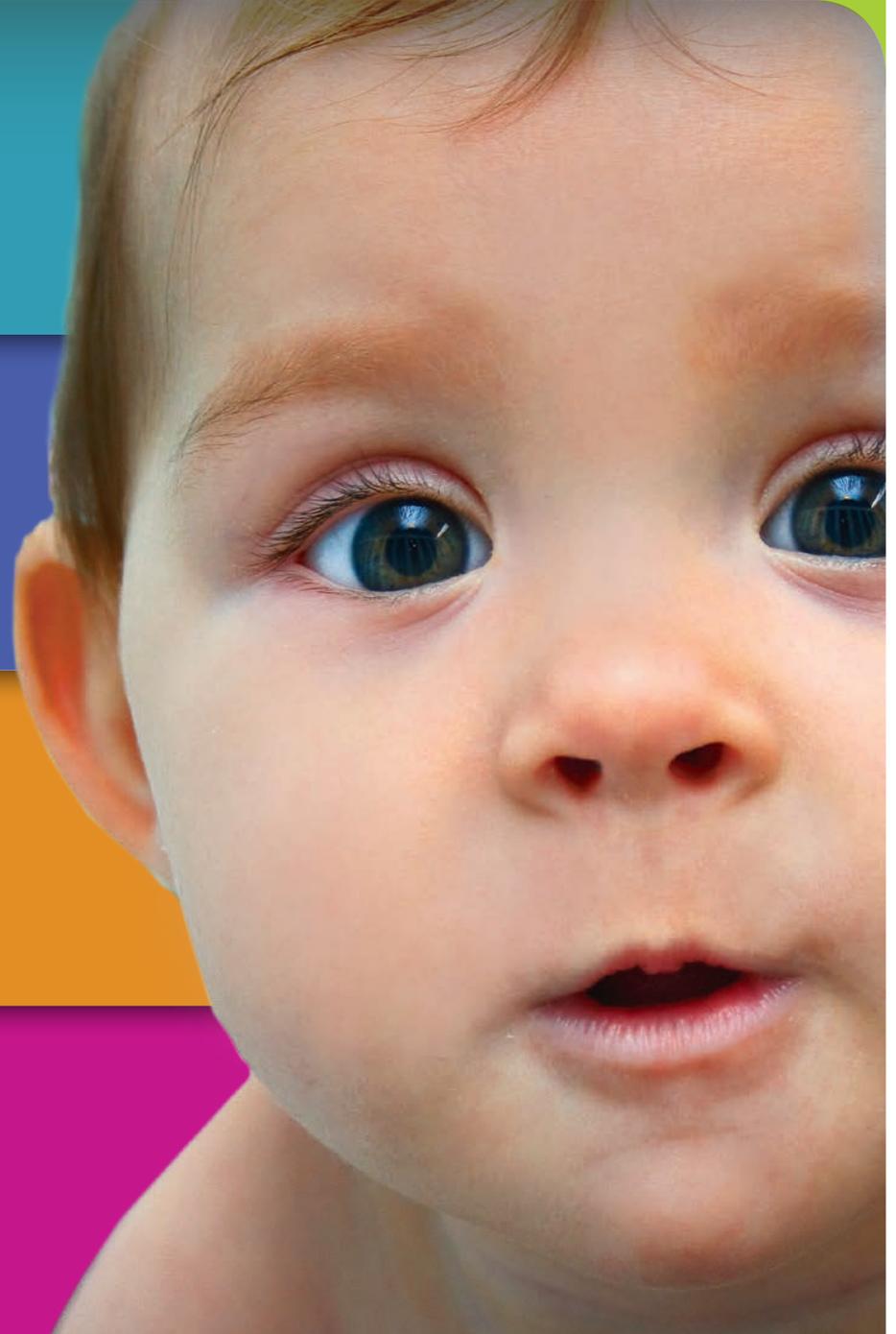
*Cultivating
Futures
Through
Education*



*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

Message to the Community

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

Our Story

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.

About Stanislaus County



Overall Population: 518,336¹

Households: 166,948¹



Percentage of Households that are Families: 74.6%¹

The Census Bureau uses the term family to refer to "those related to each other by birth, marriage or adoption."²

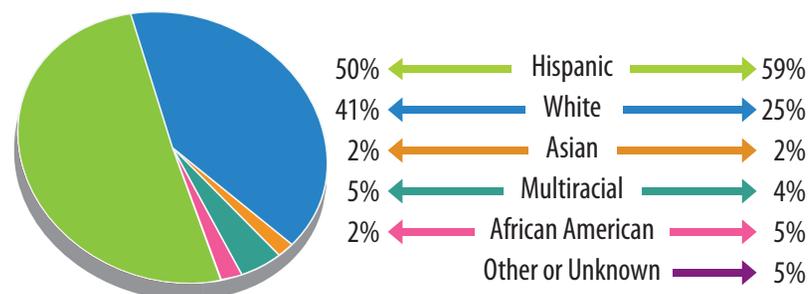


Stanislaus County had 47,781 children 0 through 5 years of age in 2013.³ – 9% of Stanislaus County Population

The projected births in Stanislaus County totaled 7,844 in 2013.⁴



Ethnicity of Children 0-5 in Stanislaus County⁵



Ethnicity of Children Served in Prop 10 Programs⁶



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Community Representative

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Community Representative

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Public Health Officer

Commission Staff

Erica Inacio, Program Monitor

Tina Jamison, Accountant

Stephanie Loomis, Executive Assistant

John Sims, Executive Director

Sources:

¹ U.S. Census Bureau (2013). 2012 American Community Survey (three-year estimates)

² U.S. Census Bureau (2012). Families and living arrangements

³ U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Selected Age Groups by Sex for the United States, States, Counties, and Puerto Rico Commonwealth and Municipalities: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013; Release Date: June 2014

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

Strengthening Families

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.

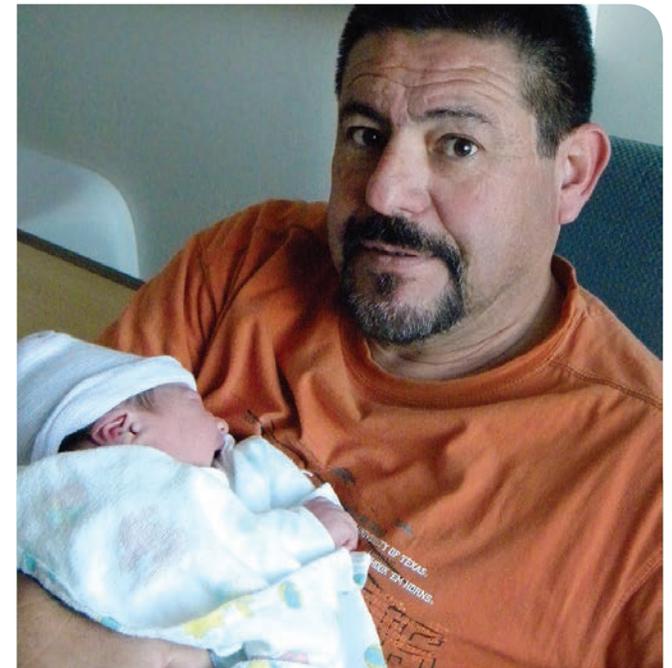
Leading Via Supportive Systems

- 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.

Data reported by contractors

2013-2014 Fiscal Year Budget

Total Budget: \$7,515,250	
Improved Family Functioning (Family Support, Education, and Services)	\$4,462,815 (59%)
Improved Healthy (Health Education and Services)	\$1,707,160 (23%)
Improved Child Development (Child Development Services)	\$145,000 (2%)
Improved Systems of Care	\$82,378 (1%)
Administration	\$354,926 (5%)
Evaluation	\$69,353 (1%)
Other Programs (Includes Contingency Fund)	\$693,618 (9%)



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



Tale of Two Fathers

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."

Children's Crisis Center, 209.577.0138



On July 23, 2013, **Delesmo Zamora**, went into the Sierra Vista Child and Family Services, Hughson Family Resource Center, seeking housing assistance. Zamora is a father of 3 young girls—a 10, 6, and 3 year old. Zamora's wife was incarcerated, making him a single parent and he shared his struggles in trying to balance work and attending to his three daughters. Zamora had a difficult time finding reliable consistent child care for his children and he didn't have a stable job, which created financial hardships. When Zamora came into the Center, he had significant concerns – one of which was about his daughters possibly being exposed to child abuse. Zamora

was heartbroken, stressed, and confused; he didn't know what steps to take as it pertained to the possible child abuse. The case manager assigned to his case was able to calm him down and gave him some guidance and potential options. With the help from the case manager, Zamora filed a child abuse report and was referred to the Stanislaus Family Justice Center. The case manager, at the Hughson Family Resource Center was able to provide Zamora with employment opportunities, utility assistance, and child care resources.

The support for the Zamora family didn't stop there. The Kicks for Kids program - a program led by community youth who raise money to purchase shoes for children returning to school – provided a new pair of shoes for two of his daughters. Zamora was thankful, less stressed, and very happy he didn't have to worry about purchasing shoes for his daughters.

During the holidays, the Zamora family was selected for the Adopt-a-Family Program from Sierra Vista. The program is made up of community members, corporations, small businesses, churches, and community groups. They adopt families in need during the holidays and provide gifts aimed at addressing the families' needs. The Zamora's received several items and Zamora could not hold the emotion – he broke down in tears. He expressed his gratitude and could not believe how generous strangers had been to his family.

Zamora recognizes the support he has received from the Hughson Family Resource Center. Through their support, he is motivated to continue on despite his hardships. Zamora has learned to trust his case manager because he feels listened to and validated. Zamora has felt a sense of love and care from the staff at the center. He also stated that being a single father is not easy, but thanks to the generous individuals he has met at the center, he has been able to move forward and has been able to care for his daughters.

Zamora continues to be a single parent, but he now knows he is not alone and that he can turn to the Hughson Family Resource Center staff for support. Zamora shared that being a male and asking for help was not his "thing", but Zamora knew it was the right thing to do for the sake of his daughters.

Sierra Vista Child and Family Services, 209.523.4573

