



Annual Report 2014-2016



Children's Network

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INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Children's Network team, we are thankful for the support of the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive Officer, and proud of our many valuable partners, working towards a better tomorrow for our children.

We are especially appreciative of our continued partnership with First 5 San Bernardino without whose support many of our projects, programs, campaigns, and events would not be possible.

Sincerely,

Kathy Turnbull
Children's Network Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1985, the San Bernardino County Grand Jury recommended an inter-agency council be established to study and coordinate services for the children in the County of San Bernardino. The following year, 1986, the Children's Network was formed. On October 3, 1988, the Board of Supervisors formally established Children's Network and approved the Powers and Duties of the Children's Policy Council (Council) in an effort to improve outcomes for children and their families.

Children's Network helps to establish and support partnerships with other public and private child-serving agencies throughout San Bernardino County and beyond. The Council serves as the directing board of the Children's Network and is comprised of representatives from the Board of Supervisors and child-serving County departments and private sector agencies.

Under the Council's guidance, Children's Network works to improve coordination, planning, communication, and collaboration among children and youth-serving agencies; identifying gaps and overlaps in services; providing a forum for clarifying perceptions and expectations among and between County agencies and the community, setting priorities for interagency projects; implementing collaborative programs, both public and private, to better serve children and youth.

Much like the San Bernardino County Community Indicators Report of 2015, which views our community as a system of interconnected elements, this year's Children's Network Annual report will focus on the connectivity and coordination between the child serving agencies in San Bernardino County. We will showcase our projects, programs, and accomplishments as collaborative efforts made possible through close working relationships with County and community partners.

Vision of the Children's Policy Council

We envision strong, sustainable systems that insure good outcomes for children in San Bernardino County.

Mission of the Children's Policy Council

Members will work together to improve the lives of San Bernardino County child through communication, coordination and collaboration.

COUNTY VISION STATEMENT

We envision a complete county that capitalizes on the diversity of its people, its geography, and its economy to create a broad range of choices for its residents in how they live, work, and play.

We envision a vibrant economy with a skilled workforce that attracts employers who seize the opportunities presented by the County's unique advantages and provide the jobs that create countywide prosperity.

We envision a sustainable system of high quality education, community health, public safety, housing, retail, recreation, arts and culture, and infrastructure, in which development complements our natural resources and environment.

We envision a model community which is governed in an open and ethical manner, where great ideas are replicated and brought to scale, and all sectors work collaboratively to reach shared goals.

From our valleys, across our mountains, and into our deserts, we envision a county that is a destination for visitors and a home for anyone seeking a sense of community and the best life has to offer.

Children's Network would like to thank the County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Officer for their continued support of the Children's Policy Council



Robert A. Lovingood
Chair,
First District Supervisor



Curt Hagman
Vice Chair,
Fourth District Supervisor



Janice Rutherford
Second District Supervisor



James C. Ramos
Third District Supervisor



Josie Gonzales
Fifth District Supervisor



Gregory C. Devereaux
Chief Executive Officer

Children's Policy Council

Children's Policy Council provides overall direction to the partnerships established through the Children's Network, with the intention of improving services to vulnerable children and their families. The Children's Policy Council was established by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 18986.10 and is composed of department heads or designees of San Bernardino County agencies and other non-County organizations that either provide services to children or administer such programs. Council members include representatives from the each of the following agencies:

- Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
- Assistant Executive Officer, Human Services
- Behavioral Health Department
- Board of Supervisors
- California State University San Bernardino
- Chief Executive Officer
- Child Care Resource Center
- Child Support Services
- Children and Family Services
- Children's Assessment Center
- Children's Fund
- County Counsel
- County Library
- County Superintendents of Schools
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (C.A.S.A.)
- District Attorney's Office
- First 5 San Bernardino
- Inland Empire Health Plan
- Inland Regional Center
- Loma Linda University
- Molina Health Care Plan
- Office of Homeless Services
- Preschool Services Department
- Presiding Judge, Juvenile Court
- Probation Department
- Public Defender's Office
- Public Health Department
- Sheriff's Department
- Superintendent of County Schools
- Transitional Assistance Department
- United Way 2-1-1

Committees, Boards and Collaborations

Administrative Joint Management Steering Committee

The Children's Policy Council is currently tasked with making recommendations to the San Bernardino County CEO regarding new group homes, changes/expansions to existing group homes for children and also legislation effecting the out-of-home placement for all children in SB County. In an effort to keep the Council and the CEO current on changes to the Group Home Continuum of Care Reform, the Children's Network Officer, or Associate Network Officer, attends the Administrative Joint Management Steering Committee. AJMSC was established in response to Katie A. to ensure that Children and Family Services (CFS) and Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) collaboratively provide regular mental health screenings to every child with an open CFS case and, when necessary, appropriate mental health assessment and/or treatment. In July 2016 CFS and DBH expanded the scope of this committee to include oversight of all CFS/DBH/Probation collaborations and the implementation of AB 403 (Continuum of Care Reform) and AB1299, which makes it easier for the mental health money to follow a child in the foster care system.

AB403 was designed to ensure that children in the foster care system grow up in home based settings by providing foster children with access to mental health treatment and transitional supports in all types of placements. To accomplish this, all foster families, including relative, adoptive, county licensed, and Foster Family Agencies (FFA) will convert to resource families, who go through the same approval, home study and training process. FFA's will be accredited and certified to provide mental health services to children in their care when needed or partner with a provider who can. Counties can contract with FFA's to provide the same mental health services to other resource families.

Group homes will be required to transform into accredited Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs, which will provide individualized, intensive treatment designed to transition the child back to a home-based setting within 6 months. Mental health services are expected to remain in place for at least 30 days after the transition to a new placement to eliminate gaps in treatment. Another important CCR change is the rate structure, which will now be related to the child's need for services, not their age, and will have the same home-based foster care rates for all resource families. CCR starts on 1/1/17 and must be fully implemented by 12/31/18. AB 1299 provides for the presumptive transfer of responsibility from the county of original jurisdiction to the foster child's county of residence for proving or arranging mental health services for foster youth.

Court Appointed Specials Advocates (C.A.S.A.) Board Of Directors

The Mission of C.A.S.A. of San Bernardino County is to improve the quality of life for foster youth and youth on probation through stable and consistent advocacy and mentoring provided by trained community volunteers. In 1984 Judge Patrick Morris established the program in SB County to serve the growing numbers of children entering the County's child welfare system. Because Children's Network houses a Mentoring Resource Coordinator, the Network Officer is an active member of their Board to ensure that the mission and goals of the Network align with and enhance the services that they provide.

The C.A.S.A. CEO is the vice chair of the Mentoring Taskforce which steers the work of the Mentoring Resource Coordinator. The two groups have worked collaboratively on a number of projects that are referred to under the Program Description of the Mentoring Taskforce. Children's Network also provides training to C.A.S.A. volunteers on child abuse prevention, the ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.) We have enjoyed a 30 year working relationship with this organization and look forward to working with them well into the future.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COLLABORATIONS

Children's Fund Board of Directors

In 1988, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors established the Children's Fund as the nonprofit component of Children's Network. It was designed to be a true private-public partnership. Every dollar raised by the Fund goes directly into a trust account to meet the needs of children that are at risk. Goods and services that are not available through other agencies are provided by Children's Fund. Although they are no longer a component of Children's Network, there still exists a strong, collaborative relationship. The CEO of Children's Fund is an active member of the Children's Policy Council and the Children's Network Officer is an appointed member of their Board of Directors

Children's Fund Program Committee

In keeping with the mission of Children's Fund, the Program Committee seeks to invest in organizations and programs that benefit San Bernardino County at-risk youth primarily in the areas of prevention of child abuse, early intervention, homelessness, substance abuse and social and personal development. Non-profit organizations, schools and government agencies that serve at-risk children are invited to submit a proposal to the Program Committee for a grant to help their needs. The Program Committee meets bi-monthly to review the requests and to determine whether the proposed project fits within the Children's Fund guidelines. The Children's Network Officer participates on this committee along with Children's Fund staff and various other community partners that have an interest in the well-being of at-risk children.

This committee is also interested in the gaps in services and needs, especially in remote areas such as Adelanto. A recommendation for the committee was to conduct a needs assessment of the High Desert area, with a focus on Adelanto. *A summary of The High Desert Stakeholders Forum is highlighted in this report under Children's Network Collaborative accomplishments on page 50.*

Children's Assessment Center Governing Board

The Children's Assessment Center of San Bernardino is a public-private partnership between San Bernardino County and Loma Linda University Children's Hospital established in 1994. They provide forensic interviews and evidentiary medical examinations in the evaluation of child abuse allegations. They coordinate services in a child-focused atmosphere, thus reducing trauma to child victims and their families. The Governing Board is chaired by the San Bernardino County CEO, Greg Devereaux and co-chaired by the Human Services Executive Officer, CaSonya Thomas.

The main purpose of the Governing Board is to review and advise on staffing and funding concerns. Membership includes representation at a directors level from Law Enforcement, Children and Family Services, Loma Linda Medical Center Pediatrics, Public Health, Department of Behavioral Health, Children's Fund, Children's Network and of course, the Children's Assessment Center Forensic Pediatrician and Program Manager.

Domestic Violence Council

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisor acknowledged this newly formed Council with a proclamation recognizing their formation and importance to the community at the April 19th, 2016 Board meeting. The first official meeting of the Council took place in May 2016. The Council was formed as a call to action that arose out of the Domestic Violence Summit hosted by the San Bernardino Superior Court. The Council is tasked with ensuring County-wide coordination and enhancement of domestic violence education and prevention efforts.

As a member of the Council, Children's Network will address the 'effects of violence' on children. All marketing material and trainings are approved by Children's Policy Council prior to dissemination. Our current campaign on the effects of violence on Children includes posters, billboards, brochures, trainings, and bus advertising.

Foster Youth Advisory Council

In 2008, the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court and the DBH Director took action at the Children's Policy Council meeting to form the Foster Care Advisory Council. The Council took on the task of coordinating the Foster Care Summit. The primary purpose of the Summit was to address the needs of children in SB County that were placed in out-of-home care. The Council continued to meet monthly after the first summit in order to devise solutions to the needs that were identified by the youth at the summit.

Head Start Shared Governance Board

The purpose of Head Start Shared Governance Board is to serve as a representative of and on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County in the development, participation, and monitoring of Head Start shared decision making with the Head Start Policy Council. This includes the development, review and approval of various program procedures and objectives as described in the Federal Head Start performance Standards.

The Board is comprised of the following: one member of the SB County BOS; the Network Officer for the Children's Network; The Superintendent of County Schools; the Director of Public Health or County Health Officer; The Director of the Department of Behavioral Health; and three advisory representatives from the Head Start Policy Council.

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Foster Youth Services was chairing a similar meeting to address the needs of foster youth. Many of the same county departments were being represented at both meetings. A decision was made to combine the two committees with three co-chairs: Children and Family Services, SB County Superintendent of Schools, and Children's Network. This council continues to meet monthly to discuss needs and solutions and to share resources.

Interagency Placement Council (IPC)

IPC is a legislatively required county meeting for the purpose of providing a forum for partners to discuss service and placement options for children and youth who are dependents and wards. Membership includes a supervisory personnel or designee from the following departments: Children and Family Services (CFS), Department of Behavioral Health (DBH), Probation, County Schools, Inland Regional Center, and Children's Network.

Beginning in 2017 with implementation of the AB 403 Continuum of Care Reform, (described above in AJMSC) community based organizations that provide specific programs will be invited to attend IPC. They will be encouraged to present their available options in order to meet the needs of the children in the timeliest manner possible.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COLLABORATIONS

Child Death Review Team

The Child Death Review Team (CDRT) is an interagency, multidisciplinary, team comprised of professionals who are knowledgeable about child abuse and neglect from specific County agencies and the private sector.

The purpose of the CDRT is to:

- Improves public policy and public safety relating to child welfare.
- Increase the thoroughness and effectiveness of system processes related to the following children's services: child protection, public health, prevention, intervention, investigation, and legal representation of abused/neglected children.
- Support cooperation and communication between agencies providing services to children at risk of abuse/neglect.
- Ultimately improves the delivery of services to children and families in the County of San Bernardino.

The data trends observed during the review of the cases directly impacts what child safety campaigns Children's Network will highlight. For example, for the past few years, we have seen a rise in the number of sleep related deaths in infants in unsafe sleep environments. After observing such a trend in our case reviews, Children's Network put together an awareness campaign that informs parents about the safe sleeping practices with their infants.

The goal of CDRT is to review all child deaths, through 17 years of age, which fall within the criteria established by Government Code 27491, Penal Code Section 1164.9 of the Child Abuse Reporting Law, and as determined by our local CDRT. CDRT will continue to track the data trends seen during the CDRT case reviews and hopefully see a decline in the number of cases we review related to any awareness campaign that is highlighted.

First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee

The First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee was created to satisfy the mandate of Proposition 10 legislation. The function of the Advisory Committee is to provide information to the Commission for the use in making its policy and funding decisions. The Committee is composed of diverse community representation reflecting the diverse backgrounds and abilities of San Bernardino County and represent different ethnic, linguistic, cultural, socio-economic, religious, geographical and/or currently under-served communities. The Children's Network Officer has been an active member of this committee since its inception.

The 28th Annual Children's Network Conference

Children's Network hosted our 28th annual conference on Wednesday, September 24th and Thursday, September 25th of 2014 at the Ontario Convention Center.

Workshops

Over 500 social workers, mental health professionals, counselors, health care providers, resource parents, kin caregivers, teachers, and law enforcement and safety personnel attended the 54 workshops offered this year. The workshops were offered over six sessions with each workshop being 75 minutes in length. This year, there were workshops on autism, family strengthening strategies, collaboration and capacity building, suicide prevention for youth, various therapeutic treatments, children's mental health, mentoring, healthy eating for families, evidence-based approaches to positive parenting, commercially sexually exploited youth, preventing shaken baby, fetal alcohol disorders, trust, and vicarious trauma.

This year, 335 attendees provided valuable feedback by completing overall evaluations on their experience at the conference. Approximately 92% of the respondents reported feeling 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the workshop variety. 93% felt 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the content of the 54 workshops and 95% 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the content of the workshops was informative. 93% of the respondent 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the conference raised their awareness on issues that impact their jobs and/or life. Additionally, 99% of the respondents 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that they gained additional knowledge on topics that will help them in their job and/or life. Children's Network will continue to recruit and present information on topics relevant to our attendees and the variety of settings they work or live in.

Keynote Speakers



Day one's keynote speaker, Dr. Jeff Duncan-Andrade, discussed the multiple traumas children in urban settings are exposed to on a daily basis and how these can easily affect their ability to self-actualize. He spoke of using the kids' traumatic experiences in order to help with their self-discovery and exploration, thus providing chances for self-actualization. Dr. Duncan-Andrade gave numerous examples of kids that he has worked with who have overcome a number of traumatic events in their life by using those events to help them grow; he referred to these youth as "roses in concrete". One respondent wrote, "Dr. Duncan-Andrade was great! His message was so simple, but yet how in the busy schedule one forgets."



Day two's keynote speaker was Jennifer Rodriguez, attorney and Executive Director of the Youth Law Center. Her story of growing up in foster care and juvenile institutions with government agencies as her family brought tears to the eyes of the attendees. She spoke of her drive to make positive changes to the child welfare and juvenile justice systems in order for children, in either system, to receive the proper services for their individual and specific needs. An attendee noted on the evaluation sheet that, "Jennifer is a beacon of hope and a wakeup call. Our teens need to hear her. She is a "solutions not excuses" person. Someone like Jennifer can show them they can choose to succeed, can take charge, they have power."

CHILDREN'S NETWORK CONFERENCE

"I really enjoyed this conference. Everything was well put together beginning from registration, breakfast, lunch, guest speakers, and also the workshops were very beneficial and very informative."

"I will share some of my conference workshop experience to my coworkers. The conference was very informative. Thank you!"

"Keynote speakers were amazing and inspirational. They instill hope."

"Great Conference. Clearly very organized, ran smoothly. Great, educated speakers, presenters. Shared some awesome and helpful information and ways to integrate strategies and tips into everyday life."

"What a wonderful experience this was! The content was thought-provoking and really aimed at the core/critical issues surrounding authentically supporting and engaging all children."

Children's Network Conference Sponsors:

Due to the generous contributions from a variety of funders and supporters, Children's Network was able to successfully celebrate our 28th annual conference. Without these continued partnerships we would not be able to provide such valuable information and resources on a wide variety of topics. The support of our funders helps to make this a quality conference, with something for everyone. This year's funders included:

First 5 San Bernardino

San Bernardino County Children and Family Services

Children's Policy Council

Loma Linda University Children's Hospital – Department of Pediatrics

Mental Health Systems Inc.

Children's Fund

Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

Department of Behavioral Health

Inland Empire Health Plan

Molina Healthcare

Kaiser Permanente

Arrowhead Regional Medical Center

Department of Public Health



The 29th Annual Children's Network Conference

Children's Network hosted our 29th annual conference on Wednesday, September 23rd and Thursday, September 24th of 2015 at the Ontario Convention Center.

Workshops

Over 600 social workers, mental health professionals, counselors, health care providers, resource parents, kin caregivers, teachers, and law enforcement and safety personnel attended the 44 workshops offered this year. The workshops were offered over 5 sessions with each workshop being 75 minutes in length. This year, there were workshops on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, the status of homeless youth in San Bernardino County, Neurofeedback, mentoring, helping children and teens through loss, various therapeutic treatments for trauma exposed children, self harming versus suicide, father engagement, human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, pet therapy, self empowerment, and the importance of movement in brain development

This year, 479 attendees provided valuable feedback by completing overall evaluations on their experience at the conference. Approximately 93% of the respondents reported feeling 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the workshop variety. 91% felt 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the content of the 44 workshops and 95% 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the content of the workshops was informative. 95% of the respondent 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the conference raised their awareness on issues that impact their jobs and/or life. Additionally, 94% of the respondents 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that they gained additional knowledge on topics that will help them in their job and/or life. Children's Network will continue to recruit and present information on topics relevant to our attendees and the variety of settings they work or live in.

Keynote Speakers

Day one's keynote speaker, Father Boyle, discussed the vision of those in attendance as wanting the world to look differently than it currently does and the reason they do the jobs they do is to make something happen. Father Boyle spoke a lot about creating a community of kinship. He explained that kinship is not necessarily about blood relations but about a circle of compassion. He explained that if you have kinship, peace and justice find their way into the community. Father Boyle spoke about the measure of health in the community; particularly the community of poor. Father Boyle stated that we have the ability to stand in awe of what the poor have to carry rather than judge how they carry it. He said one has to overcome their own wound(s) in order to help the wounded.

Father Boyle gave a brief history of Homeboy Industries while interjecting humor and stories of various gang members he has worked with over the years. He told the attendees that when kids join gangs, they are fleeing something and he defined the three profiles of kids who go into gangs: despondent, damaged (cannot see clearly), and mentally ill. He ended his presentation stating mental illness is real and he encouraged the attendees to continue to work for transformation to dismantle the barriers that exclude others.

After a short break, the two trainees from Homeboy Industries took the stage. The audience was riveted by Jose and Steve's stories and life experiences. Jose was a new trainee; with only two weeks as part of Homeboy Industries. Steve had been with Homeboy Industries for a number of years and is now a supervisor and recruiter. His life story of loss and trauma had the audience in tears. Father Boyle and the trainees provided hope and inspiration to the attendees.

On the overall conference evaluations, many attendees commented about how much they enjoyed hearing father Boyle and the trainees. Some of the comments received are below:

"I loved the Homies and Father Boyle!" and "Father Boyle and his two young men made the conference exceptional."

Day two's keynote speaker was Dr. Robert Anda, co-founder and co-principal investigator of the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACE). He shared the history and results of the Ace Study with the conference attendees. He talked about the importance of one's ACE score but made sure to let the attendees know that it does not define one's self. However, he did say that we may be more comfortable around one another or better understand one another if we knew each other's ACE score. He explained that one does not need to know the details of others' adverse experiences, but knowing another's score may bring a better understanding to the situation and help with the way we treat others. For example, when a child or adult is having behavioral issues, instead of asking the question, "Why are you like that?"; we should instead ask, "What has happened to you?" This message was very similar to Father Boyle's discussion about measuring the health of a community and how we should stand in awe of what others carry rather than judge how they carry it.

One attendee summed up how she felt about the keynote speakers like this, *"The guest speakers are phenomenal. The overall experience is awesome."*

Attendees appreciated Father Boyle and the trainees' messages and stories due to the hope these inspired. Dr. Anda's presentation was more data-driven with personal stories interwoven. Even though it was more data based, the information was highly relevant to all who attended. The feedback from conference attendees about the messages of the keynote speakers was positive. 94% of the respondents indicated they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with Father Boyle and the two trainees with 75% reporting they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with Dr. Robert Anda's keynote message.

FATHER GREGORY BOYLE



DR. ROBERT ANDA

Overall Conference Evaluation

In addition to attendee satisfaction with conference workshops and keynote speakers, Children's Network also obtained attendees' feedback regarding their overall conference experience. 91% of the respondents agreed that the conference met their expectations and 93% felt it was worth their time and money. Moreover, 91% of respondents were satisfied with the overall organization of the conference. 95% of the respondents reported they would recommend the Children's Network Conference to others with 96% reporting they would like to attend a future Children's Network Conference. As part of this year's overall evaluation, respondents were asked if they had previously attended a Children's Network Conference, for 52% of the respondents this was their first time attending a Children's Network Conference. When asked how many Children's Network Conferences they have previously attended; most have attended at least 3 with one attendee reporting they have attended every single conference for the past 29 years.

"These couple days were so well worth the time and money. I have information to really make some changes in how I work with children and community."

"Love this conference!
It is a treat for me each year."

"Always leave feeling I have information to share."

"This conference was even better than last years.
Great set of vendors, presenters, and topics."

Children's Network Conference Sponsors:

Due to the generous contributions from a variety of funders and supporters, Children's Network was able to successfully celebrate our 29th annual conference. Without these continued partnerships we would not be able to provide such valuable information and resources on a wide variety of topics. The support of our funders helps to make this a quality conference, with something for everyone. This year's funders included:

First 5 San Bernardino

San Bernardino County Children and Family Services

Children's Policy Council

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

Loma Linda University Children's Hospital – Department of Pediatrics

Mental Health Systems Inc.

Children's Fund

Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation

Crittenton Service for Children and Families

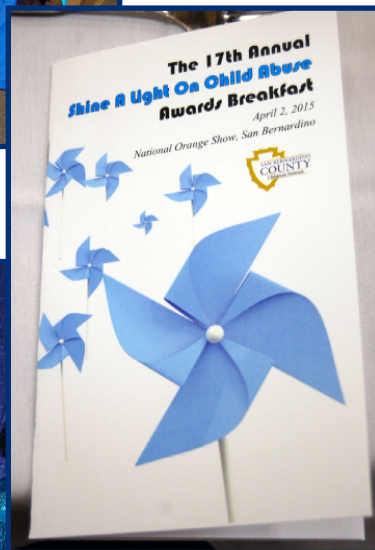
Department of Behavioral Health

The 17th Annual 'Shine a Light' on Child Abuse Awards Breakfast

On Thursday, April 2, 2015, the Valencia Room at the National Orange Show was filled to capacity when Children's Network held its 17th Annual "Shine a Light" on Child Abuse Awards Breakfast. This annual awards breakfast honors individuals and organizations for their outstanding dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of at-risk children in our communities. The breakfast is a way to "shine a light" on those who are making a difference in the lives of children and youth. Twenty individuals and organizations that make a difference by selflessly giving and going that extra mile for at-risk children in San Bernardino County were honored this year.

The morning started off with the presentation of the Lifetime Advocate award to Behavioral Health Deputy Director, Micheal Schertell. Mike has dedicated his life to helping children and families impacted by mental illness. Since joining Behavioral Health, Mike has been responsible for numerous programs and projects designed to improve the lives of children in San Bernardino County.

A moving video of interviews with Mike Schertell's friends and colleagues congratulating him on this award and talking about what great work he has done in helping the mental health of the community's children was played for the 600 attendees. It allowed others to see what kind of impact Mike has made on others with his often 'out-of-the box' way of thinking. Mike's acceptance speech was brief but powerful with plenty of humor interjected.



Lifetime Advocate
Michael Schertell



SHINE A LIGHT BREAKFAST

The celebration continued with guests clapping and cheering as the remaining 19 honoree's stories of commitment and compassion to helping others was told. As each honoree walked across the stage, they were greeted by Board of Supervisors Chair and Third District Supervisor, James Ramos, Children's Network Officer, Kathy Turnbull, and CEO and President of Children's Fund, Erin Phillips. Each honoree was given a beautiful engraved plaque with a blue ribbon on it signifying this acknowledgment as an effort in preventing child abuse.

This year's additional 'Shine a Light' on Child Abuse honorees included:

U.S. Bank Foundation

Business

Hugo Castellanos

Children and Family Services

Howard Booker

Community-Based Provider

Emily Dickson

Community-Based Provider

The Unforgettables Foundation

Community-Based Provider

Westside Kinship Support Services Program

Community-Based Provider

Tim Hougen, Ph.D.

Department of Behavioral Health

Amelia Sanchez-Lopez

Public Health

Arwyn Wild

Education

Principal, Serrano Middle School

Jeff and Kristi Hall

Foster Parents

Rob Rose

Law Enforcement

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Dept

Jane Templeton

Legal

Deputy District Attorney

Joy Hlavenka

Legal

Deputy Public Defender

Dr. Mark Massi

Medical

Charles Ramirez

Probation

Matt Payne

Public Safety

Carlynn Christian

Volunteer

Specialized Investigations Unit:

Crimes Against Children Detail

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department

Children's Assessment Center

In addition to the honorees, ten (10) students were awarded scholarship checks from Children's Fund. The scholarship recipients included current and former foster and probation youth who continue to demonstrate their ability to work through the challenges they have encountered. The youth were proud to be honored for their hard work and beamed as they walked across the stage to receive their certificate and scholarship funds.

As has become tradition, the morning ended with a performance of *This Little Light of Mine* by the Mill Center Head Start State Preschool. As the lights dimmed, the children held glow sticks, the guests shined their light pens, and the children and guests joined together in singing the signature song. It was a touching and enjoyable moment.

The 18th Annual 'Shine a Light' on Child Abuse Awards Breakfast

On Thursday, April 7, 2016, over 600 attendees filled the National Orange Show's Valencia Room to support the honorees of the 18th Annual "Shine a Light" on Child Abuse Awards Breakfast. This year, twenty individuals and organizations that go that extra mile for at-risk children in San Bernardino County were honored.

This year, in support of San Bernardino County Vision 2 Read campaign, the centerpieces consisted of books donated by Arrow Children and Family Ministries, First 5 San Bernardino, and Children's Fund. The books were layered in the center of the table. The top book was one of our Sleep Safe and Snug books with a paper cover on it which said, The 18th Annual Shine-a-Light on Child Abuse Awards Breakfast on it. The 18 was done in a bacon and egg design. Each place setting had a blue ribbon that stated April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and that Every Child Matters. Each attendee received a nice lapel pin which said "Stand Up for Children" and had a picture of a little boy and girl holding a pinwheel. Last, each place setting had a package of gummy worms deemed 'book worms'. The attendees were able to take the books after the event.

After a few words from San Bernardino County Sheriff John McMahon and Children's Network Officer, Kathy Turnbull, the awards ceremony started off with the presentation of the Lifetime Advocate award to Educator, Policy maker, and former County of San Bernardino Fourth District Supervisor, Gary C. Ovitt. Mr. Ovitt has dedicated his life to giving back to the community, from his years as a teacher to serving as a Councilman and Mayor of Ontario, and finally, Fourth District Supervisor. In 2010, the Ontario Library was renamed the Ovitt Family Community Library.

A video presentation, put together by one of Mr. Ovitt's former staff members, gave a small glimpse at what Mr. Ovitt has done for the community's children over the years; from creating sidewalks for safe places for children to walk to the development of parks. Mr. Ovitt's acceptance speech was brief but heartfelt.

After the presentation of the Lifetime Advocate Award, the celebration continued with brief summaries of the amazing things the other 19 honorees do to help the at-risk children in our community. As each honoree walked across the stage, they were greeted by 5th District Supervisor, Josie Gonzales, presiding Juvenile Court Judge, Annemarie Pace, Children's Network Officer, Kathy Turnbull, and Children's Network Associate Network Officer, Linda Revoner. Each honoree was given a beautiful engraved plaque with a blue ribbon on it which signifies their dedication and effort in preventing child abuse.



Lifetime Advocate
Gary Ovitt

SHINE A LIGHT BREAKFAST

This year's additional 'Shine a Light' on Child Abuse honorees included:

Landeros Furniture

Business

Bernadette Beltran

Public Health

Bob and Laura Breitel

Foster Parents

Beth Gill

Children and Family Services

Olga Valdez

Education

Karen Schmauss

Legal, Deputy District Attorney

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

Maria Flores

Children and Family Services

Ana Lee

Legal, Deputy Public Defender

Rochford Foundation – Burrage Mansion

Community-Based Provider

San Bernardino City Unified School District

Valerio Mejia

Education

Michael A. Markel

Legal, Office of the County Counsel

Aaron Conley

Law Enforcement

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Dept

Linda McDonald

Medical

Iris Robertson

Legal

Victim Advocate, Bureau of Victim Services

Lynda Scherer

Probation

Revolution Youth Advocates

Organization

Dianne Wolkenhauer, Ph.D.

Department of Behavioral Health

Chris and Amy Hernandez

Volunteer

Behind-the-Scenes Awards

In 2016, there were a couple of groups acknowledged for their behind-the-scenes work. These groups were the **San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Polygraph Detail** and the **Human Services Warehouse Distribution Center Staff**. The Polygraph Detail assists detectives in obtaining confessions from child abuse suspects and help with ruling out potential suspects. Almost every arrest made by the Crimes Against Children Detail is made possible by the work of one of the four polygraph examiners. The HS Warehouse Distribution Center Staff provide support for Children's Fund, First 5 San Bernardino, Children and family Services, and Children's Network. They assist with events, loading and unloading materials, setting up canopies and taking everything down after an event. Without their assistance, many events would never run as smooth as they do.

As in years past, ten (10) students were awarded scholarship checks from Children's Fund. The scholarship recipients included current and former foster youth who continue to demonstrate their ability to work through the challenges they have encountered. Unfortunately, due to school responsibilities, only 6 of the youth were able to attend the morning's ceremony. The youth beamed with pride as their names were called and they walked across the stage to receive their certificate and scholarship funds.

As has become tradition, the morning ended with a performance of *This Little Light of Mine* by the Mill Center Head Start State Preschool. As the lights dimmed, the children held their stuffed animal flashlights; the guests shined their lights, and the children and guests joined together in singing the signature song – *This Little Light of Mine*. It was a touching and enjoyable moment.

Collaborative Efforts

Between July 2014 and June 2016, Children's Network was involved in a number of collaborative efforts with our community partners. The following events are highlighted in this report: Children's Assessment Center's *Keep Me Safe Parenting Conference*, Safe Kids Inland Empire water safety awareness event, Safe Kids Inland Empire hot car media awareness event, health and resource fairs, *Safe Sleep for Infants* campaign and crib program, and the hospital-based *Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome* program.

Keep Me Safe Parenting Conference

The 9th Annual *Keep Me Safe Parenting Conference* was held on Friday, April 10th, 2015 and the 10th Annual *Keep Me Safe Parenting Conference* was held on Friday, April 29th, 2016. Both conferences were held at the Wong Kerlee Conference Center on the campus of Loma Linda University. The *Keep Me Safe Parenting Conference* focuses on teaching parenting strategies, developing new skills, positive relationship building, and understanding child developmental milestones to 200 young and first-time parents.

The 9th annual conference featured speaker Captain Danielle Boldt of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. She spoke to the group about ways to prevent child abuse, to reach out to others when feeling overwhelmed, and the importance of safe, secure relationships. The 10th annual conference had Detective Floyd Blue, an investigator with the Rialto Police Department, who is currently assigned to the Special Victims Unit speak to the group about child abuse prevention. Both conferences had Chad Daniel, International Youth Communicator, as a guest speaker. His message of focus to the youth in attendance was of "A Life Worth Living". He used humor, stories and live reptiles to let the attendees know their lives and matter to reach out to others if they need help. Dr. Amy Young, Forensic Pediatric and Associate Medical Director of the Children's Assessment Center, also spoke at both conferences and her message was about positive parenting.

The ABCs of Safe Sleep for Infants was presented to the attendees and a 5-minute DVD was shown. The group accurately responded to questions asked about the importance of safe sleep for infants after the video was shown. There were also two DVDs shown on what can happen when a person shakes an infant. Children's Network's Shaken Baby Prevention DVD, *A Life in Your Hands*, was shown to the attendees. The group paid close attention to the video and asked relevant questions when asked about the video. There were 16 vendors at the 9th annual conference that attendees visited during their breaks. The vendors included: San Bernardino County Children and Family Services, First 5 San Bernardino, Molina Healthcare, SAC Health Systems, Workforce Development Department, and Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. At the 10th annual conference, there were 19 vendors set up that attendees visited during their breaks. The vendors included: San Bernardino County Children and Family Services, First 5 San Bernardino, Molina Healthcare, SAC Health Systems, Safe Kids Inland Empire, United Way 211, Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, and Victor Community Support Services.



CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Safe Kids Inland Empire Water Safety Awareness Event

On May 27, 2015, Children's Network assisted Safe Kids Inland Empire with the water safety awareness media event. The goal of this event was to help prevent drownings and bring water safety awareness to the community. This media event took place at Splash Kingdom in Redlands. The event consisted of a water recovery mission with Splash Kingdom's life guards rescuing the mannequins placed in the large pool. The recovery was supported by Redlands and Rialto Fire Departments who provided rescue efforts and CPR to the 'victims'. The number of drowning victims (mannequins) was equivalent to the number of children in San Bernardino County who lost their lives in drowning incidents the year before. The total number was 7.

While the recovery efforts were taking place, a representative from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department talked to the media about the ABCs of water safety. **A** is for active watching, **B** is for Barrier (i.e. such as a fence and /or alarm on the pool), and **C** is for classes – swimming lessons and CPR classes. There was discussion about what a drowning person looks like as television and movies have led society to believe that those who are struggling to stay afloat in the water will be splashing, making noise, and it will be obvious they are having trouble treading water. The truth is, drowning is often silent and the victim is rarely splashing uncontrollably or yelling for help. Additionally, two pediatricians from Loma Linda University Medical Center spoke to the media about what happens to a child's body when he is drowning and the lifelong physical and neurological results if a child is submerged for an extended period of time but survives the near drowning.

This event included a CPR demonstration by Rialto Fire Department and media coverage was provided by a number of television news stations and local newspapers. The heavy media coverage that day, the articles of water safety awareness in local newspapers the following day, and the afternoon/evening clips of this water safety awareness event shown on Los Angeles based news stations indicated the efforts to get the message about the ABCs of Water Safety to the community was successful.

Safe Kids Inland Empire Hot Car (Hyperthermia) Awareness Event

On August 12, 2015, Children's Network, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Yucaipa Fire Department, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, and American Medical Response ambulance, assisted Safe Kids Inland Empire with a hot car – hyperthermia awareness media event. The goals of this combined effort was to bring community awareness to how hot the inside of a car can get, what can happen to a child if left inside of a car, what to do if you see a child alone in a car, and ultimately, to prevent a heatstroke death of a child in our community.

In 2014, there were 31 U.S. heatstroke deaths of children left in cars. According to Department of Meteorology & Climate Science at San Jose State University (<http://noheatstroke.org>), an examination of media reports about the 700 child vehicular heatstroke deaths for a 19-year period (1998 through October 2016) shows the following circumstances:

- 54% - child "forgotten" by caregiver (376 Children)
- 28% - child playing in unattended vehicle (198)
- 17% - child intentionally left in vehicle by adult (120)
- 1% - circumstances unknown (6)

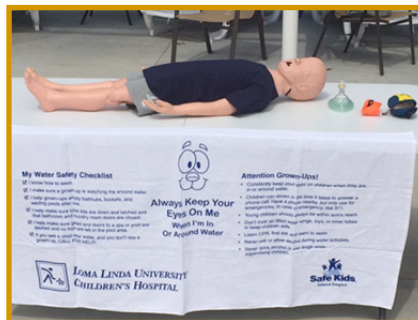
This year's hyperthermia awareness event was held at a local residence and the story line was taken from recent headlines: A family arrives home from running errands, they unload the groceries while talking on their cell phones, the kids exit the vehicle while playing their handheld games, and all persons go into the house while the infant remains asleep in her car seat in the locked car. A neighbor, out for a walk, hears the baby crying, tries to open the car door, but it is locked. The neighbor rings the doorbell, but there is no answer, so she dials 9-1-1. First responders arrive and evaluate the situation. Law enforcement is also not able to reach anyone in the house so fire department personnel break the car window and rescue the baby. The baby is evaluated by medical personnel who find the baby to be in extreme duress. The baby is then placed on a gurney, loaded into the ambulance and rushed to a local hospital.

CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

A large number of local television stations and newspaper reporters were present at this event. Before and after the recovery efforts took place, a representative from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department spoke to the media about the number of hyperthermia deaths the year before and what precautions one can take to prevent this from happening to them. For example, it is recommended that someone transporting a child, leave a needed item, such as a purse, cellphone, or even one of their shoes, in the backseat with the child. This way, when the person stops to retrieve the item, they are also aware of the baby in the back seat. The Sheriff's Department spokesperson reminded the community to call 9-1-1 if they see a child alone in a parked car. Dr. Richard Chinnock, a Pediatrician from Loma Linda University Children's Hospital also spoke to the media. He described in great detail what happens to a child's body when a child is left in an enclosed car. Dr. Chinnock explained that infants are unable to regulate their body temperature like adults do, so they are much more susceptible to heat stroke.

That afternoon and evening, the television stations played an edited version of the event and shared information about the dangers of leaving a child in a car. Later that week, the *San Bernardino Sun* newspaper ran an excellent article about not leaving children in cars and what to do should you see a child alone in a car. The heavy media coverage at the event, along with the newspaper article, and the afternoon/evening television clips points to successful collaborative efforts in getting the message about the dangers of leaving children in cars out to the community. If the message helped save the life of one child, then the work was all worth it.

DROWNING EVENT



HOT CAR EVENT



CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Community Resource Fairs

An integral role of Children's Network is the dissemination of child abuse prevention material to the greater community. From July 2014 through June 2016, Children's Network staff participated in 86 community resource fairs and events where we distributed material regarding child safety, positive parenting, and appropriate child discipline.

We are particularly proud to have participated in the following events:

First 5's **Talk. Read. Sing. Fest** held on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at the Highland Branch Library. This event was a great opportunity for families to find out about resources available to them and allow for children and families to become familiar with their local library. Children were provided with two free books and there were several activities to keep the children busy. It was a well-attended event with families genuinely interested in the information available to them.

First 5's annual **Swim Fest** which took place on Friday June 5, 2015 and Friday, June 3 2016 at the Jerry Lewis Family Swim Center at Perris Hill Park in San Bernardino. Not only is this a health and resource fair for local families, but the families enjoy a day of free swim. However, the families are not able to gain entrance into the pool until they have visited the Safe Kids Inland Empire booth to learn about the ABCs of Water Safety AND receive their Water Watcher tag. It was a hot day, perfect for swimming. Children's Network assisted the Safe Kids Inland Empire booth in talking to the families about the ABCs of Water Safety – **A** is Active Supervision (Water Watcher), **B** is Barriers (i.e.-fences, locked gates, alarms on and around the pool), and **C** is for Classes – Swimming classes and CPR classes and handing out Water Watcher tags. The families were grateful to receive this information and be able to go swimming.

One of the important pieces of information shared at this event is the dangers of blow-up water wings. Water wings often create a false sense of security for parents and children and it is highly recommended they not be used. In fact, any flotation device that consists of air is not recommended due to the high failure rate. Instead, parents should provide their children with Coast Guard approved Personal Floatation Devices, namely a life vest or life jacket. It was great to see that after providing families with this information, they had their children throw their water wings in the trash, as seen in the picture below.



Children's Network's Safe Sleep for Infants Crib Program

"One of the more innovative projects that our Community and Event Coordinator has had an opportunity to develop through the First 5 San Bernardino Community Engagement grant is the Pack n' Play program in collaboration with the Department of Public Health Student Nurses and Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. With the assistance of student nurses, families with newborns have their homes evaluated to see if there is a safe sleeping environment for their infant. If the nurses find there is not a safe sleeping place they contact the Community and Event Coordinator and she helps to coordinate a pack n' play pick up for the family. It is the goal of Children's Network to help reduce the number of infant deaths related to unsafe sleeping environments."

— Janki Naik, Staff Analyst II

Children's Network's Safe Sleep for Infants Crib Program offers community organizations mobile cribs for distribution to families whose babies need a safe place to sleep.

Data from San Bernardino County's Child Death Review Team showed a rise in infant deaths due to unsafe sleep practices. From 2009 to 2015, there were 152 infant deaths in their sleep environments. Children's Network had developed informational brochures on the ABCs (Alone, Back, Crib) of Safe Sleep for Infants to distribute, but we recognized that while we can educate families about a safe sleeping option, if families cannot afford the alternatives, parents will continue to use the methods they are familiar with, such as co-sleeping. The biggest challenge we faced was that we had funding to purchase the cribs, but our agency does not provide direct services to families and we were tasked with how to distribute the mobile cribs.

With funding provided by First 5 San Bernardino, Children's Network became a partner of the Cribs for Kids Program (based in Pennsylvania) and purchased mobile cribs at the partner rate. We reached out to our Public Health Department's Family Health Services Program and found that they have two programs where Public Health Nurses (PHN) visit families in their homes; the Partnership for Healthy Mothers and Babies and the Student Coordination Clinical Placement. Both of these programs were perfect opportunities for nurses to see where the infant sleeps and provide educational information to the family about the importance of a safe sleep environment for their baby.

A Children's Network staff member provides hands-on training to the PHNs and nursing students, demonstrating how to set up and take down a mobile crib. Each PHN and student is required to demonstrate the set up and take down of the mobile crib to each family and requires each member of the household to set up and take down the mobile crib. In addition to providing a mobile crib to the family, an important component of the Safe Sleep for Infant Crib Program is educating families about the importance of a safe sleep environment for their baby. Children's Network's recommendations mirror those of the American Academy of Pediatrics' ABCs of Safe Sleep. That is, a baby should sleep Alone (no toys, blankets, bumper pads, other children or pets in the sleep area), be placed on their Back, and in their own Crib.

Children's Network is the child abuse prevention arm of San Bernardino County and while we do not provide direct services, we partner with other County agencies and community-based organizations to assist in their child abuse prevention efforts. There is no other agency in San Bernardino County distributing mobile cribs and safe sleep education materials to families whose baby is in need of a safe place to sleep. Children's Network's Safe Sleep for Infants Program has led to partnerships between other San Bernardino County Departments and community-based providers, whose collaborative efforts may not have happened otherwise. In addition to the Department of Public Health nursing staff and students, Children's Network is now collaborating with Public Health Nurses in San Bernardino County Preschool Services Department's Low Income First Time Mothers (LIFT) Program and San Bernardino City Unified School District's Cal-Safe Program.

Responses to the three-month follow-up phone call survey with families who have received mobile cribs included:

"The best thing is the convenience of having baby sleep alone, but close by."

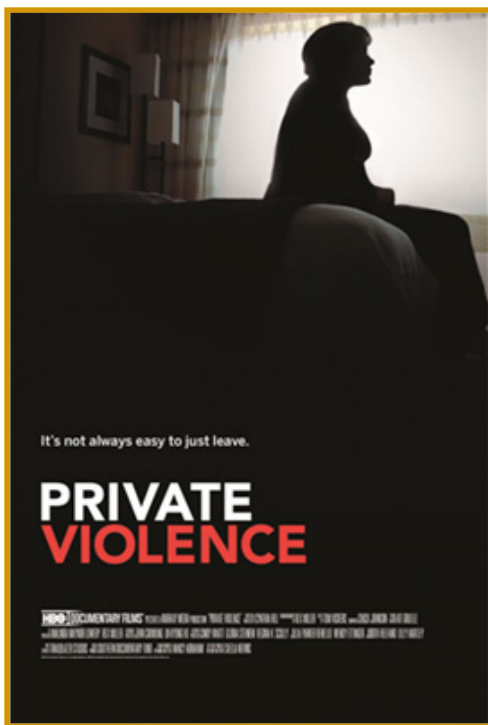
"The baby's happy there because on the floor she can grab things."

"The best thing about it that that I am able to take it anywhere - park, kitchen."

Family Violence

In our efforts to bring awareness about about violence in the home and its effects on children, on April 9, 2015, Children's Network held a screening of the film, *PRIVATE VIOLENCE*, accompanied by a panel discussion. This documentary features a survivor and advocate of battered women helping others who are affected by domestic violence. Approximately 200 people attended the screening and panel discussion. Those in attendance included survivors of domestic violence, those currently experiencing violence in the home, service providers and community members who work with families whose lives are or have been touched by violence. Vendors who assist victims of domestic violence handed out information about their agencies to the attendees.

The produce, and survivor herself, Kit Gruelle, was present at the screening and available to answer questions afterwards. Additional panel members included, Jennifer Richardson, survivor and advocate; Florida Alarcon, San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office Chief of Bureau of Victim services; and Melissa Monrreal, Deputy District Attorney in the Family Violence Unit. The discussion after the film was engaging and moving. Most of those in attendance had been touched by violence in their lives and were eager to share their story and quick to seek answers from others. It was evident from the questions being asked and the experiences shared by those in attendance that discussion on the topic of violence in the home needs to continue.



Animal Abuse and Dangerous Animals as Risk Factors for Child Abuse and Other Family Violence

In Children's Network's ongoing efforts to keep the discussion about violence in the home and its effects on children open, we hosted a training titled, *Animal Abuse and Dangerous Animals as Risk Factors for Child Abuse and Other Family Violence*. The February 9, 2016 training was presented by Phil Arkow, Coordinator, *The National Link Coalition*; Chair, *Animal Abuse & Family Violence Prevention Project*, The Latham Foundation; Lecturer, Animal-Assisted Interventions and Violence Prevention at the University of Pennsylvania, University of Florida, Harcum College, and Camden County College. Two additional presenters from the area included, Claudia Swing from San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office Animal Cruelty Taskforce, and Dr. Amy Raines, Veterinarian with the Humane Society of San Bernardino Valley.

The training discussed how pets are part of ecosystems of an overwhelming majority of children. Evidence-based research connects animal abuse and neglect with other family problems including child abuse, child sexual abuse, domestic violence, and elder abuse. Acts of cruelty to animals, whether perpetrated or witnessed by children and youth, frequently are an indicator and predictor of interpersonal, family, and community violence, and are strongly linked to the criminal histories of juvenile offenders.

The area where animal cruelty, child maltreatment, domestic violence, and elder abuse intersect is called "The Link." By focusing on the prevention of family violence through this multi-species lens, child and family services workers can gain a greater perspective of the needs, resources and environments of clients. Whether approaching families through a strengths-based, family-centered or ecological systems model, The Link offers improved opportunities to guide effective prevention, assessment, intervention, and treatment strategies.

This workshop was designed to explore children's emotional attachments to animals and how The Link adversely impacts child welfare. This presentation described clinical and direct care policies and procedures in Child Protective Service agencies, children's advocacy centers, courtrooms, domestic violence shelters, and psychological assessment and counseling settings.

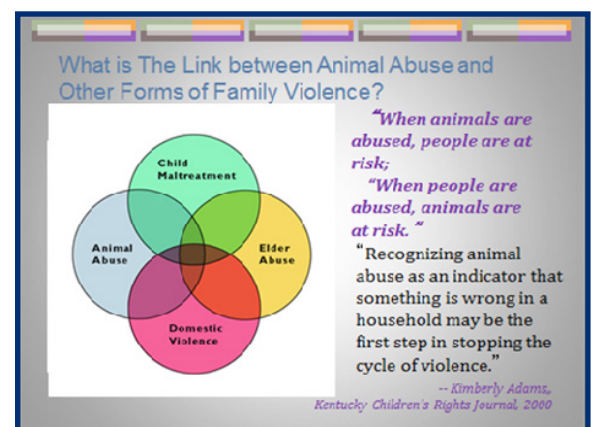
Feedback received from the 125 people that attended this training was Very Good or Excellent. Some of the comments written on the evaluation forms included:

"Wonderful training. It brought plenty of awareness that I can take back to my agency."

"This workshop was very well thought out, planned and presented. Thank you Children's Network for providing us with such valuable info."

"Great training! Enjoyed the multidisciplinary approach to the subject, and what as social workers we can do to use this new knowledge to better serve our clients."

"Great presentation. Extremely informative. Speakers were resourceful as well as entertaining. This would be an ideal training for our school systems (CPTA's, back-to-school, therapy/crisis centers, etc.)"



Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome Program

Shaken baby syndrome (SBS) is the leading cause of death in abusive head trauma (AHT) cases. An estimated 1,200 to 1,400 children are injured or killed by shaking every year in the United States. Actual numbers may be much higher as many likely go undetected. Over 300 babies a year die from being shaken in the United States. Approximately 25 percent of all SBS/AHT victims die as a result of their injuries. Of those who survive 80% suffer permanent disability such as severe brain damage, cerebral palsy, mental retardation, behavioral disorders and impaired motor and cognitive skills. Many survivors require constant medical or personal attention, which places tremendous emotional and financial strain on families. Medical costs associated with initial and long-term care for these children can range from \$300,000 to more than \$1,000,000. (NATIONAL CENTER ON SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME, www.dontshake.org)

In an effort to educate parents about the dangers of shaking their baby and what to do before reaching this point, Children's Network implemented a hospital-based shaken baby syndrome prevention program in San Bernardino County. With funding for training and materials provided by First 5 San Bernardino, several prevention programs were reviewed by the Children's Policy Council. Ultimately, the prevention model developed by Dr. Mark S. Dias was chosen for the hospital-based program.

In March 2014, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, in collaboration with Children's Network, began the hospital-based Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Program. This program is comprised of 4 components:

- Prior to a newborn's discharge from the hospital the parent(s)/caregivers/family members /friends are asked to watch a 12-minute video titled, *A Life in Your Hands: Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome*
- The parent(s) have a one-on-one discussion with the nurse about shaken baby syndrome with the nurse answering any questions the parent(s) may have
- The parents are provided the easy-to-read "Never Never Shake a Baby" brochure which has the 24/7 Childhelp Hotline number on the back
- The parents sign a Certificate of Commitment which states they received information about, and understand what happens, if they shake their baby and what they can do to prevent shaken baby syndrome. The parents are given the beautiful certificate to display in their home.

Attached to each Certificate of Commitment is a small demographic card that is filled out by the nurse and deposited in a designated box in the hospital nursery. Children's Network collects the cards each month and records and stores the data.

In March 2015, Barstow Community Hospital (BCH) implemented the Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Program. The monthly births at BCH may be significantly lower than those at ARMC; however, the important factor is simply that more families are learning ways to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome and what they can do when they get frustrated when their baby is crying.

The feedback from nurses and patients about this program has been positive. Children's Network plans to continue our efforts to reach out to local hospitals in an effort to bring the Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome Program to other hospitals in San Bernardino County.

Baby's Date of Birth (fecha de nacimiento) _____

Sex (Sexo) ☐ Male ☐ Female **Ethnicity (Etnia)** _____

Age of Mother (Edad de la madre) _____ **Age of Partner (Edad del padre)** _____

Zip Code (Código postal) _____ **Language (Idioma)** ☐ English ☐ Spanish ☐ Other _____

Demographic Card (Tarjeta demográfica) (This card is provided to the parent(s) when they receive information about the syndrome of the shaken baby.)

☐ I discussed with nurse (hablé con el personal de enfermería) ☐ I viewed video (Vi el video)

☐ I received brochure (Recibí el folleto)

Notes (Notas) _____

Certificate of Commitment

The people who love me learned how to keep me safe by attending a class called "Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome."

My loved ones learned that even though I may not quit crying after being comforted and they may feel discouraged or frustrated, it is okay to let me cry, but it is never okay to shake or hit me.

By signing below, the people who love me commit to ensuring that

I, _____,

am never shaken or hit by them or any other caregiver.

Signature _____ Relationship _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Relationship _____ Date _____

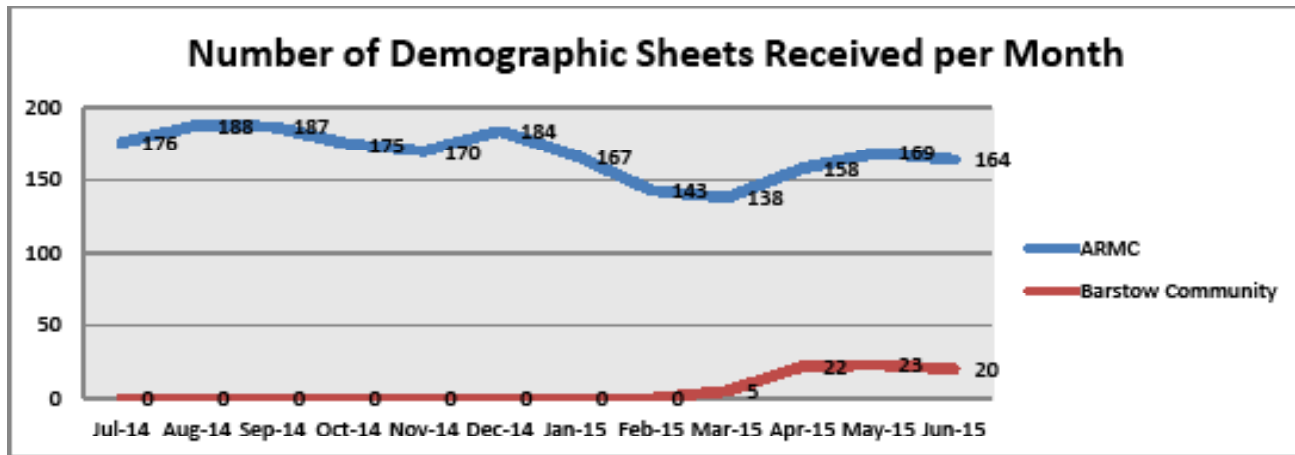
Arrowhead Regional Medical Center

First 5 San Bernardino

Demographic Sheets Collected from July 2014 through June 2015 for the Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome Program

According to the demographic sheets collected from July 2014 through July 2015, there were 2,019 babies born at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center whose parents received the preventing shaken baby syndrome information prior to their infant's discharge from the hospital. Barstow Community Hospital implemented the Shaken Baby Prevention Program close to the end of the 2014-2015 fiscal year; however, in a little over three months, BCH was able to provide Shaken Baby Prevention information to the parents of 70 babies born at their hospital.

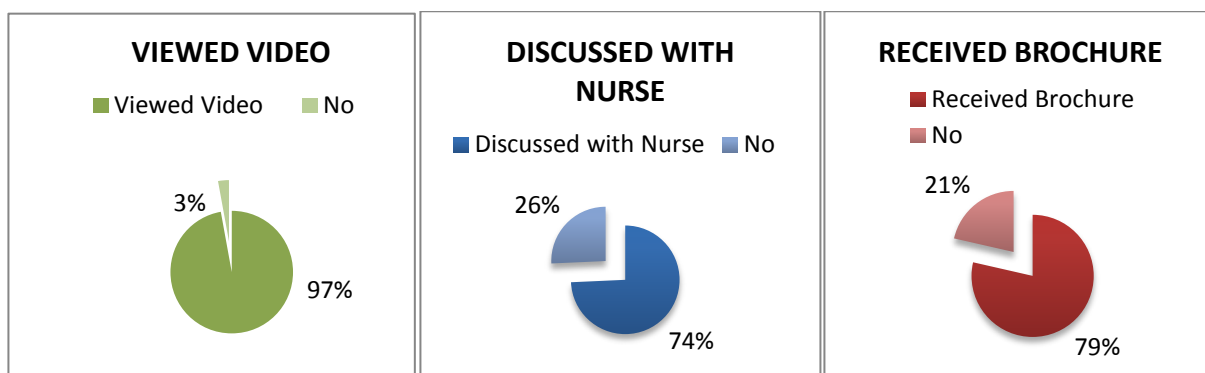
Information captured from the demographic sheets of the Prevention Shaken Baby Syndrome program for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 is reflected in the charts and graph below:



ARMC



BARSTOW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

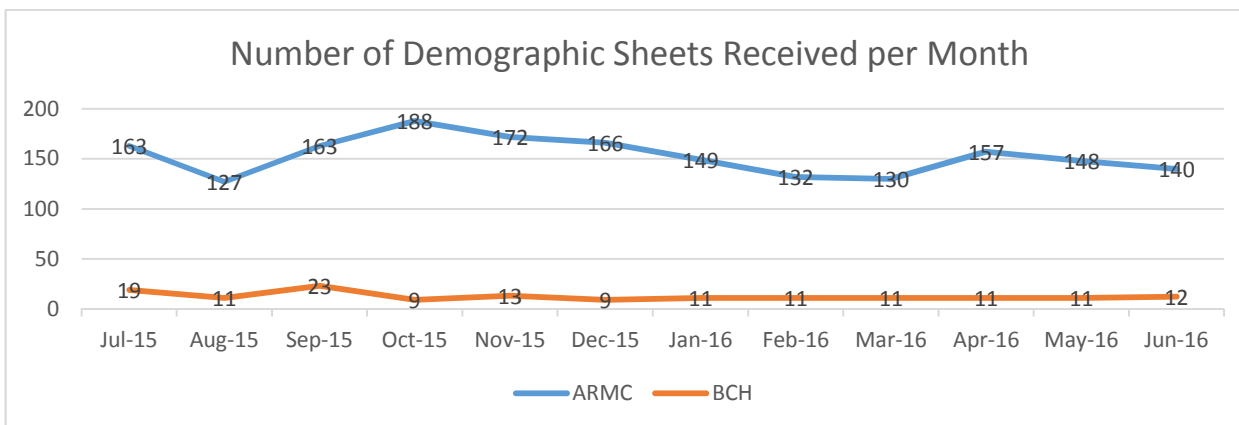


CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

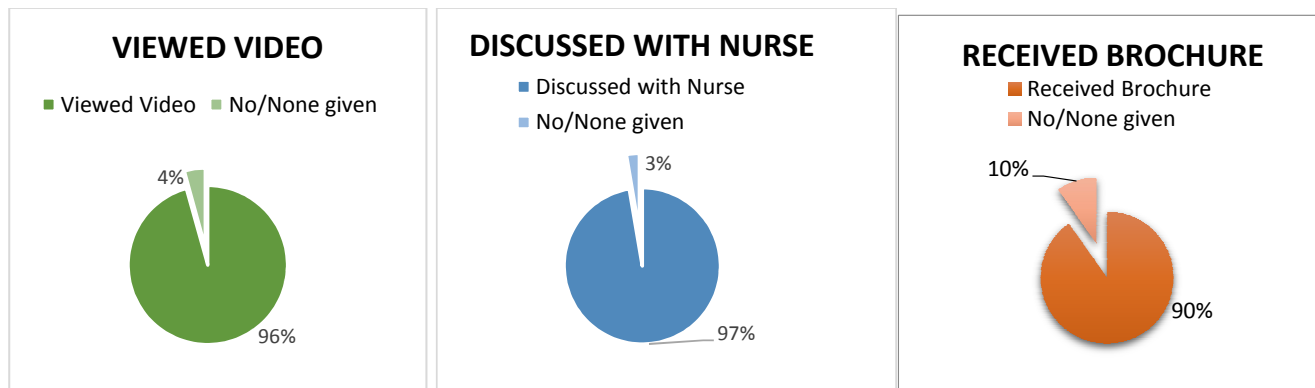
Demographic Sheets Collected from July 2015 through June 2016 for the Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome Program

According to the demographic sheets collected from July 2015 through June 2016, there were 1,834 babies born at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center whose parents received the preventing shaken baby syndrome information prior to their infant's discharge from the hospital. For fiscal year 2015-2016, nurses at Barstow Community Hospital provided Shaken Baby Prevention information to the parents of 164 babies born at their hospital during this time period.

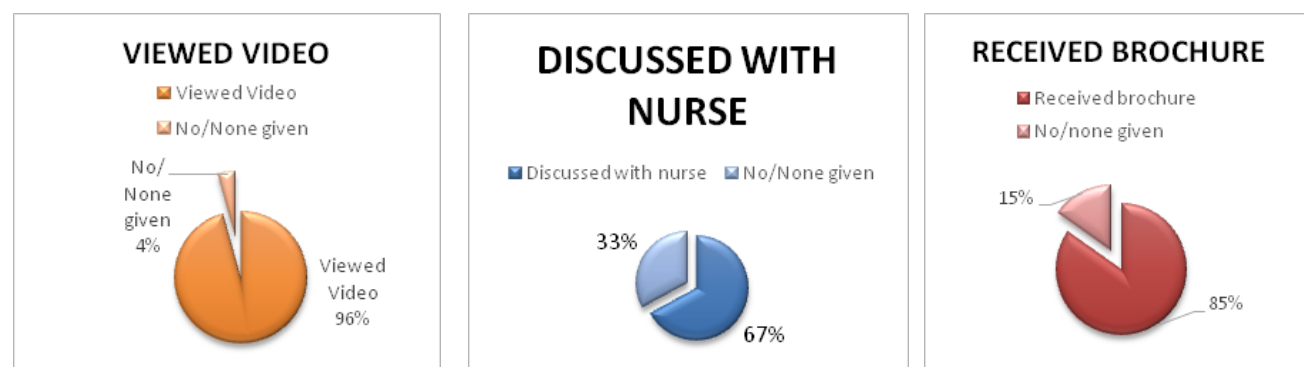
Information captured from the demographic sheets of the Prevention Shaken Baby Syndrome program for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 is reflected in the charts and graph below:



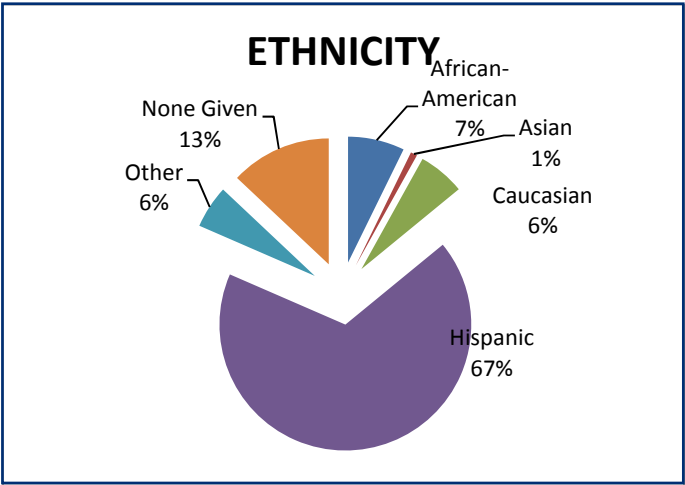
ARMC



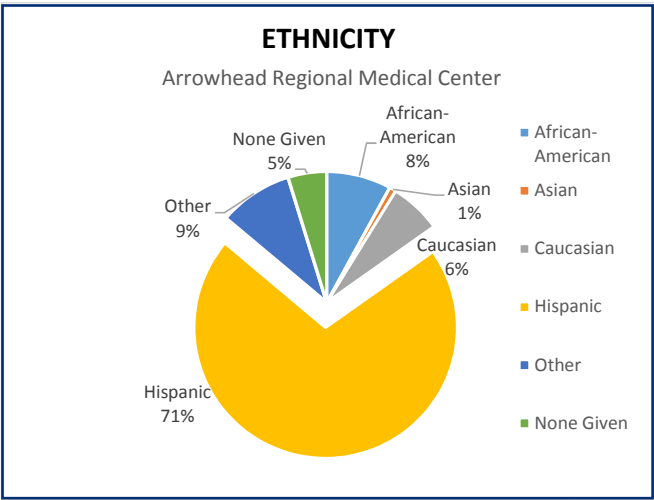
BARSTOW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



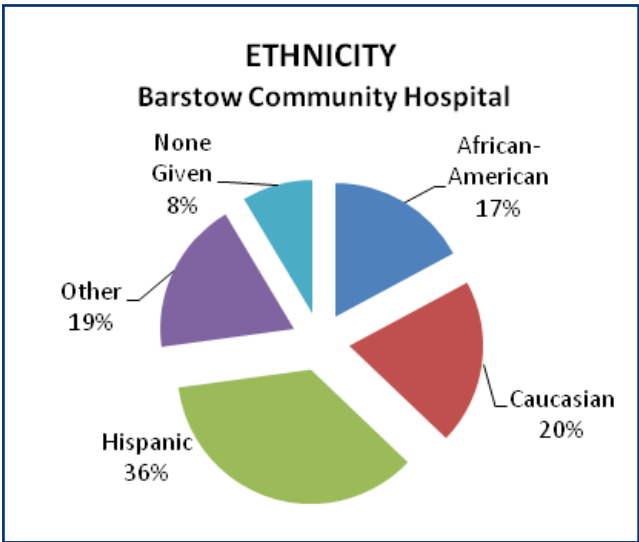
ARMC 2014-2015



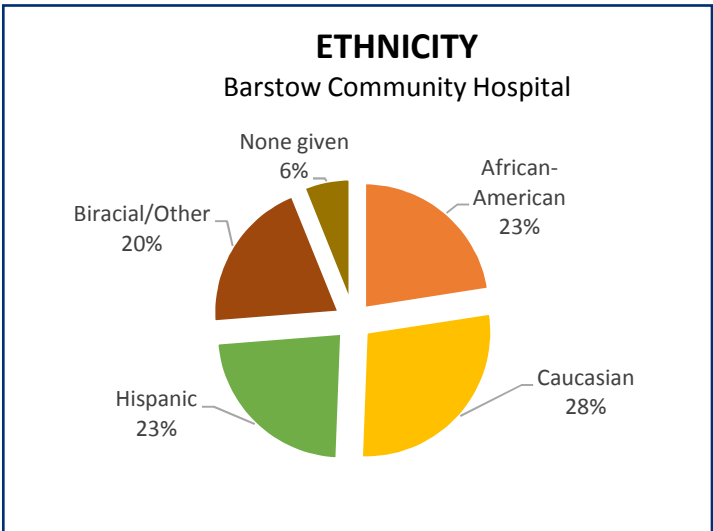
ARMC 2015-2016



BARSTOW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL 2015



BARSTOW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL 2015-2016



Media Campaign

The 2014-2015 year focused on cities in the High Desert, the City of San Bernardino and immediate surrounding cities, and Ontario. The child death review data indicated the City of San Bernardino and surrounding cities, Colton, Rialto, Bloomington, had the highest rates of infant deaths related to unsafe sleep environments. Child Welfare data from San Bernardino County Children and Family Services showed the High Desert cities of Victorville, Adelanto, and Apple Valley, received some of the highest numbers of suspected child abuse referrals in our County. In 2015-2016 Children's Network continued to focus on the High Desert and moved some of the marketing closer to the west end of the County.

This campaign was funded through our Community Engagement Grant from First 5 San Bernardino. The areas of focus were: safe sleep for infants, Dial 211 to report child abuse, and maternal mental health awareness, violence in the family, and father engagement.

Children's Network chose to utilize a three-fold approach to the dissemination of the educational message throughout the County; an audio, visual, and tangible medium. That included movie theater advertisement, billboards, Spanish radio broadcasting, and framed posters in the lobbies of child-serving agencies. The intention of this project was to saturate selected areas of San Bernardino County with the same campaign messages in different mediums. For example, in the month of October, all selected areas ran radio commercials, had billboards up in the area, had movie theaters playing advertisements, and had a poster up in all participating offices with the message about safe sleeping habits for infants.

Movie Theaters

For the safe sleep campaign, we chose to use the 30 second video that was created by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as part of their "Baby Room to Breathe" safe sleep campaign. As mentioned in 2014, San Bernardino County developed a memorandum of understanding with Texas Department of Family and Protective Services that allowed for us to modify the videos to reflect California data and use them in our County's safe sleep campaign.

For the Dial 211 to Report Child Abuse campaign and the Maternal Mental Health campaign, Children's Network worked with National CineMedia to develop two 30 second commercials. These videos had the tag lines that we were using to associate our outreach with the campaign message about child safety. We also bought the rights to the two movie theater ads that were created in collaboration with National CineMedia.

Together: ABC's of Safe Sleep, Dial 211, and Maternal Mental Health, we would distribute all three videos in DVD form to various County and Community agencies to have them running in their waiting rooms.

There were four movie theaters that were chosen to run these videos in both the High Desert region and the Central region of the County. As mentioned above, there were higher numbers of suspected child abuse referrals in the High Desert Region and more unsafe sleep environment cases in the Central region. It is for this reason the following cities with movie theaters were chosen: Apple Valley, Victorville, Ontario Mills, and San Bernardino.

Ontario Mills, has 30 screens with approximately 95,000 visitors a month. We were given premium play time, which means, our message was played when 75-77% of the seats are full. The use of a larger movie theater with an expanded attendance connected our message to a highly populated mall, which allowed our message to reach more people. Similarly, San Bernardino Theatre Square was a 14 screen theater with about 46,000 visitors per month. These two combined targeted a large portion of the County in this region and allowed for our messages to be played in October – November 2014 and February 2015.

Cinemark Hess Ranch Apple Valley had 12 screens with about 33,000 visitors a month and Cinemark Victorville had 16 screens with 53,000 visitors a month. Again, these two were chosen for the number of visitors to the these particular theaters that would allow for our messages to reach a wider audience.

Radio Broadcasting

In 2014-2015, we chose to focus on the Spanish speaking community by utilizing the local Spanish speaking radio station for all of our campaigns. The Spanish speaking community is not an area we have specifically targeted before; however, our child death review data showed that 30% of the infants who died due to unsafe sleep practices in 2012 were Hispanic and approximately 75% of babies born at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center are Hispanic. With this data, we felt it was an appropriate time for us to focus our child safety messages on the Hispanic communities of San Bernardino County. Lazer Radio (101.7) broadcasts Top 40 Mexican-regional hits with their primary target demographic being Hispanic adults 18-49. Lazer Radio serves several cities in the IE and is the primary Spanish speaking radio station in the area that was able to promote our various messages to the cultural, ethnic and age demographic we are trying to reach. Lazer Radio reached as far as Yermo, Phelan, and Yucca Valley, but also local cities such as Fontana, Bloomington, Victorville, Rialto, Rancho Cucamonga, and Ontario, to name a few.

Our 60 second radio commercial played during the week between 6 am and 6 pm in an effort to capture a larger audience that would be listening. The ads were played 18 times per week, for a total of 72 times in a month.

In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, Children's Network contracted with two local radio stations for radio commercials. One is an English speaking station, KQIE 104.7 FM and the other is a Spanish speaking station, Que Buena 96.1 FM.

The radio commercials began to play from January 2016-May 2016. Both radio stations played our 60 second commercials throughout the day. With KQIE, the 60-second spots played 2, 3 or 5 times during the day, between the hours of 6 am-7pm, 7pm-midnight, 8 am-7 pm, 5 am-12 midnight, 12 midnight-5 am. With Que Buena, the 60-second spot played 24 times between 5 am-8pm, 4 times between 10 am-8 pm, and 14 times between 12 am-5 am.

In June 2016, Children's Network contracted to work with KGGI, 99.1 FM to promote the fatherhood engagement/involvement message. We decided to work with this particular radio station because their listener demographics indicated that this was the target population we are trying to reach. KGGI ran our commercial with the message "Be the Hero of their Story" along with some facts about children who grow up without a male figure in their life. Furthermore, KGGI's disc jockeys also did three radio endorsements during the week where of their most popular DJ's, DJ ODM, spoke about the importance of father engagement and involvement. The radio station ran our 30 second commercial 132 times during the three week period; 42 times on KGGI FM and 90 times on RGGI FM. Furthermore, the radio station ran ROS banners that generated approximately 65,000 impressions.

PSAs

Children's Network has developed two public service announcements (PSA's) for the Maternal Mental Health campaign in English and Spanish. The English PSA focused on the overall facts about maternal depression, statistics, and where to call for help. The second PSA was longer and included the same information as the English one, but this one included a testimonial from a Spanish speaking mother about her experience with post-partum depression and how she was able to get help. These PSA's were developed free of production cost through the County's ISD-Multimedia Services. PSA's will continue to be distributed through County and community-based partners for them to share with their clients directly through presentation or to air on screens in lobby areas. In the past two years, we have distributed more than 250 copies of the DVDs to various community partners.

CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Billboards

Billboards were selected as a part of our media campaign based on their high visibility and reach. For the first 6 months of the 2014-2015 fiscal year, we selected 20 billboards to be displayed throughout the Eastern Region of the County. This was done to saturate the message within surrounding communities for families and individuals to see when they were moving about. A second billboard was chosen to be placed off of the I-15 freeway on the Bear Valley Road exit. This was strategically chosen because the I-15 freeway is heavily traveled by commuters and locals and would catch the eyes of individuals.

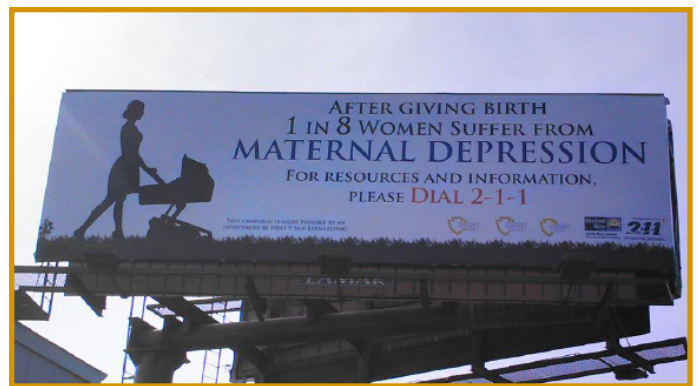
For the latter 6 months of the year, we decided to pick two large billboards, one on the I-15 freeway, but this time North of Main Street and the other in Colton at the I-10 and I-215 interchange. We chose to change our strategy because we found that the 20 small billboards, while a good effort, were not catching the eyes of the community as we would like. Instead, with the two large billboards on the freeway, we found that we had generated more interest and were told more often that our billboards were seen and were a topic of discussion.

In 2015-2016, Children's Network used digital billboards to run our campaigns. The campaigns ran from January 2016 through May 2016. We picked three billboards for this time period. One billboard was in the High Desert along the I-15 freeway, north of Eucalyptus Street. This billboard had an advantage of being near shopping centers that are frequented by locals. Two other billboards were picked in the West End of San Bernardino County. We had not advertised our campaigns in this area and aim to make sure that all areas of the County are utilized. The billboards were along the I-10 freeway, one at Riverside Avenue in Rialto, Ca and the other at Citrus Avenue in Fontana, Ca. The billboards were located on opposite sides of the freeway, in hopes of catching commuters to and from work.

We redesigned the ABC's of Safe Sleep billboard and message this year. We have been using the "Alone, Back, Crib" message for about seven years and felt that a revamped message would revitalize the message and importance of safe sleeping; while still promoting the ABC's of Safe Sleep. The newly redesigned billboard has a new message of "This Side Up", with a baby lying on its back. We also took an opportunity to design a campaign message for the newly added Family Violence education focus for Children's Network. The message we used was "What you teach a child about violence, you teach a child for life". It is a simple, but powerful message that will be displayed on a billboard that shows the impact of violence in the family and its effects on children.

As in years past, we continued to promote "Dial 211 to Report Child Abuse" and "You Are Not Alone" to promote May as Mental Health Awareness month. The maternal mental health billboard was redesigned to match the images that are seen on our posters and brochures that are being passed around in the community. This is to ensure that we have the same exact messaging in all of our visual mediums.

In addition to our digital billboards, Children's Network in collaboration with Jesse Hunt, a IEFIC board member, developed a fatherhood involvement message entitled "Be the Hero of Their Story" and this was developed into a billboard. As with our above billboards, two locations were chosen: one in the High Desert and the other more centrally located in Colton. The permanent billboards were displayed in the month of June on the I-15 freeway and the I-10 freeway.



CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Concourse Signage

Children's Network contracted with the Inland Empire 66'ers 2015 season, to have our ABC's of Safe Sleep poster and the Postpartum Depression posters to hang over 1st and 3rd base at the stadium. The dates for this were April 1, 2015-March 31, 2016. There were many events that took place at the stadium that involved children and families and we found that it was a great opportunity to help in raising awareness on these two important campaigns.

For the 2016-2017 baseball season at the Inland Empire 66er's Stadium, Children's Network has secured concourse signage (billboards) to be placed over 1st and 3rd base. The campaigns that will be highlighted for this season are Safe Sleep for Infants with our new slogan "This Side Up" and the Family Violence message. It is our hope that families will be able to see these messages while attending games with their families.

Framed Posters

A concerted effort was also made to make sure that our message was seen in County and community agencies that are frequented by our target population. We printed our messages on large posters that would be handed out in a bundled package, along with instructions about when to post each of the messages. We also gave large poster hangers that would be affixed to a wall so that the message was visible to the community and a pamphlet holder that would hold our more detailed brochures and give more information regarding the campaign. Agencies that took part were:

- Children and Family Services offices
- Women, Infant, and Children offices
- Family Resource Centers
- Department of Behavioral Offices
- Department of Public Health Clinics
- Participating Hospitals and medical offices
- Participating dental offices
- Community-based organizations

For a child, family violence lasts a LIFETIME

LOW SELF-ESTEEM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TEEN PREGNANCY ALCOHOLISM
FAILURE TO THRIVE FAILURE AT SCHOOL
LACK OF EMPATHY ANXIETY
DEPRESSION HOMELESS
IMPRISONMENT
ANIMAL ABUSE
ANGER SUICIDE BULLYING

DIAL 2-1-1 FOR RESOURCES

This campaign is made possible by an investment from First 5 San Bernardino

San Bernardino County United Way 2-1-1

What you teach a child about VIOLENCE....

GET OUT OF MY LIFE

SHUT UP I'M SICK OF YOU
YOU'RE STUPID
DON'T MAKE ME.... I HATE YOU

..... you teach a child for life.

DIAL 2-1-1 FOR RESOURCES

San Bernardino County United Way 2-1-1

This campaign is made possible by an investment from First 5 San Bernardino

THIS SIDE UP

Babies are safest Alone, on their Backs, in an empty Crib

For more information, please call (909) 383-9677

San Bernardino County United Way 2-1-1

This campaign is made possible by an investment from First 5 San Bernardino

"I'm too small to make the call"

To Report Child Abuse in San Bernardino County

Dial 211 or 800-827-8724

Para Reportar el Abuso de Niños en el Condado de San Bernardino

Marque el 211 o 800-827-8724

First 5 San Bernardino San Bernardino County United Way 2-1-1

Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition

"I'm a former client of, and now Parent Partner with, Children and Family Services. I come from a lifestyle of extensive substance abuse, which led me to be involved with CFS from 2000 to 2004. In 2004, I decided to utilize the services that the department was offering to make the life changes necessary to deal with my substance abuse issues and to gain the life skills that I was lacking to be the father and the husband that I needed to be for my family. After completing all services and benefiting from them, I now work for the department as a Parent Partner to assist, motivate and support parents going through the Child Welfare System. I am involved with Supporting Fatherhood Success which supports fathers and helps them understand their role and responsibility as fathers and the importance of being involved in the lives of their children. I am honored to be a part of the Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition which is a committee of different organizations and community partners that come to the table to bring ideas and fathers together. This collaboration holds events such as the Fatherhood Breakfasts and Fatherhood Conferences, in order to help fathers who are willing to better themselves so that they can be the role models that their children need them to be and become good productive citizens in the community."

- Michael Levario, CFS Parent Partner and IEFIC Member

The Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition (IEFIC), started in 2013, is a group of County, community-based and faith-based organizations collaborating and pooling resources, services, and expertise to reduce father absenteeism and support father engagement. One of the most consequential social trends of our time is widespread father absence in the lives of children. According to U.S. Census data reported for 2008-2012, 34.3% of households in San Bernardino County were single-parent homes. This is significantly higher than the national average of 24.4% according to the same census. Of all households in San Bernardino County without a father and with children under the age of 18, 43.5% were below the poverty level (compared to the average poverty rate in San Bernardino County of approximately 20%). An absent father increases a child's risk for experiencing a host of poor outcomes in the short and long term, such as poverty, poor school performance, child abuse and neglect, emotional and behavioral problems, and incarceration. Fathers in our communities report a lack of support and father-friendly resources, a presence of barriers both within the home and from our systems, and an increase in destructive images portraying "deadbeat dads" in the media. The Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition emerged as a true collaboration between multiple sectors, addressing these issues and reducing barriers.

The mission of the IEFIC is to encourage healthy child development by promoting the involvement, necessity, and value of the role of fathers in the family and community. The vision is that men fully engage as stable, supportive educators and providers, and serve as healthy family role models. We do this by providing:

- Education opportunities for fathers
- Support services that are accessible and father-friendly
- PR/Outreach to develop community partnerships and to promote positive images of fatherhood through media
- Evaluation of our program's outcomes, and identification of best practices for father engagement

On August 15th, 2015, the IEFIC hosted the Inaugural Inland Empire Fatherhood Conference at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, CA. This conference was a celebration of fatherhood that inspired, educated, and equipped fathers and father-figures with the tools necessary to actively engage in the lives of their children. We did this through inspirational keynote presenters Actor Richard T. Jones and Author Barry E. Knight, 9 topical workshops addressing the specific needs of fathers and their families (i.e., navigating the child welfare systems, parenting children with disabilities, addressing mental health issues, etc.), and over 30 relevant exhibitors (community-based organizations) that were able to meet the needs of fathers or appropriately refer to services on the spot. The target audience of this conference included: young/new fathers, fathers of low socioeconomic and disadvantaged backgrounds, fathers of children with special needs, and fathers who have been or were currently involved in the system (child welfare, probation, child support services, etc.). Over 250 fathers and families attended the inaugural conference, and provided great feedback on their post-conference evaluations.

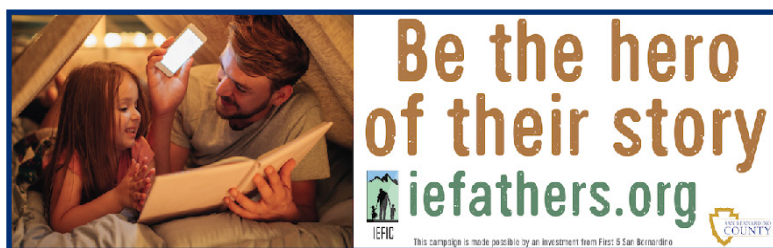
CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

The Fatherhood Conference supplemented the work of our partners at San Bernardino County Children and Family Services who host an annual Supporting Fatherhood Success Breakfast geared mainly towards CPS-involved dads. The IEFIC has partnered to support the ongoing success of both events, and to make a greater impact collectively. Our goal together is to provide year-round opportunities for fathers to be educated and supported.

Also under the goal of providing educational opportunities for fathers, the Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition adopted the nationally-accredited, 13-week Nurturing Fathers Program Curriculum and has provided a Facilitator Training with the support of one of our partners and Master Trainer, Jeffrey Tunnell, from the Mom and Dad Project. In May 2016, we trained and certified 11 individuals (9 organizations) to provide the Nurturing Fathers Program at their respective sites.

The goal of replacing negative images of “deadbeat dads” with images of positively engaged fathers has been a challenging one, but one that we haven’t shied away from. This goal has been achieved first through our outreach to organizations and agencies that provide (or could provide) support services to fathers, and through encouraging “father-friendly practices”, such as marketing and services that are specifically tailored to fathers. We have done this by providing presentations and trainings to various government agencies and community-based organizations, both in our region and across the country. Secondly, we’ve promoted positive media on father engagement through our Facebook page, Fatherhood Conference PSA’s, television and radio interviews, newspapers and blogs, and community outreach events. In June 2016, the IEFIC launched its first billboard and radio ad campaign through an investment by First 5 San Bernardino. The theme of this campaign was “Be the Hero of their Story”, emphasizing the importance of fathers engaging with their children through reading, playing, and other positively challenging activities.

The Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition has represented our County’s Vision to utilize collaboration to make a collective impact. We have established a model of partnership across systems and communities that other counties and regions have looked at and adopted. The issue of father disengagement is a national epidemic, but has had a very serious negative local impact. Our partners have recognized this, and agree that the only way to change the culture of fatherhood in the Inland Empire is by working together. The IEFIC has been recognized by the National Association of Counties (NACo) with a 2016 NACo Achievement Award and by San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors as a project that demonstrates innovation, collaboration, efficiency and cost-savings.



Maternal Mental Health Work Group

"The San Bernardino County Maternal Mental Health Work Group has had a positive impact on improving patient care at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC). Children's Network provides educational brochures, posters and PSA DVD's highlighting the signs and symptoms to postpartum depression, anxiety and psychosis. Women who deliver at ARMC are provided with these educational resources from the moment they begin their prenatal care, and receive follow-up after delivery. ARMC has incorporated the Maternal Mental Health Work Group's "You Are Not Alone" PSA DVD into the hospital patient education plan. The DVD is viewed by all postpartum mothers prior to their discharge from the hospital. Patients leave knowing the importance of seeking treatment the moment they begin to develop signs and symptoms of any maternal mental health related issues. As the Clinical Social Worker in the Women's Health Department, I have seen an increase in patients talking about their experiences with depression during pregnancy and postpartum. The Maternal Mental Health Work Group has made this a possibility with their collaborative efforts to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness within the county."

- Kendra Carter, MSW

The San Bernardino County Maternal Mental Health Work Group was established in 2014 to address gaps in services and barriers to accessing maternal mental health care, especially for postpartum depression. Up to 80% of new mothers experience the "baby blues", a temporary condition including feelings of irritability, stress, and mood swings. However, 1 in 7 new mothers will experience postpartum depression. When unaddressed, postpartum depression may lead to difficulties for the mother in developing secure bonds with their child during the years most critical to their development. This leads to higher risks of child abuse and neglect. In rare cases (1-2 in 1,000), new mothers may develop a severe postpartum mood disorder known as Postpartum Psychosis within the first several weeks after delivery that may include symptoms of delusions, hallucinations, rapid mood swings, paranoia or thoughts of hurting themselves or their baby.

Prior to the development of the Maternal Mental Health Work Group, San Bernardino County experienced a lack of coordinated services for, and effective outreach efforts geared towards, mothers experiencing maternal mental health issues. The goal of the Maternal Mental Health Work Group, led by the County's Children's Network, Department of Behavioral Health, Department of Public Health, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, First 5 San Bernardino, and Inland Empire United Way 211, is three-fold:

- To identify and pull together existing resources in the community that support mothers experiencing postpartum depression
- To build the capacity of organizations, such as family resource centers, healthcare providers, and SART (Screening Assessment Referral and Treatment) centers, through training on maternal mental health
- To reduce the stigma that exists around maternal mental health issues through general and culturally-relevant campaigns and to encourage mothers to reach out for help

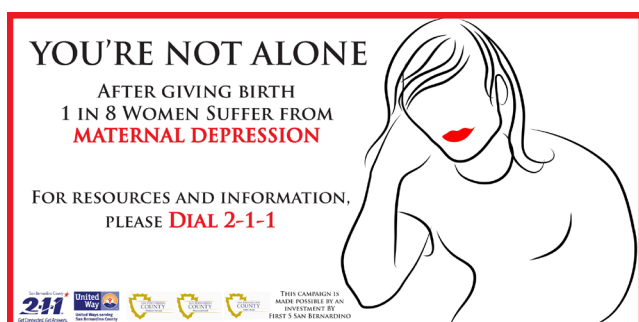
In its initial meetings, the MMH Work Group conducted an informal asset mapping by surveying members of the work group and collecting information on existing programs and services that each of the agencies either provided or referred to. The resource directory that was established from this list grew as more outreach was done to organizations in the community. The evolving product of this directory is now available through our County's social service call center Inland Empire United Way 2-1-1, as well as on the Department of Behavioral Health's website.

CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

In order to meet our goal of building the capacity of organizations to appropriately screen, serve, and/or refer mothers experiencing postpartum depression, the MMH Work Group provided 3 trainings in 2015 and 2016 for over 500 social service and healthcare practitioners. These trainings were provided by our subject matter expert, Dr. Katayune Kaeni, and her colleagues. Dr. Kaeni is a licensed psychologist specializing in maternal mental health, offering pregnancy and postpartum therapy, as well as grief, anxiety and depression counseling. Dr. Kaeni, as well as Emilia Ortega-Jara (therapist with Corazon Counseling), and Kendra Carter (Medical Social Worker with ARMC), also provide technical assistance to member agencies of the MMH Work Group, especially in developing postpartum support groups and effective outreach strategies. We have also partnered with community groups to host awareness events and film screenings of *Dark Side of the Full Moon*, a documentary telling the intimate story of maternal mental health, and exploring postpartum depression and other pregnancy and postpartum mood disorders.

Children's Network with the input of the MMH Work Group also developed a culturally-relevant, multimedia campaign to reach mothers and families experiencing the effects of maternal mental health issues, and to reduce the stigma around reaching out for help. The tagline of this campaign is "You Are Not Alone", emphasizing the fact that 1 in every 7 mothers experience postpartum depression and that there should be no fear or hesitation in reaching out for help from family and friends, and from a healthcare professional. Some of the campaign media used included: PSA's in English and Spanish, billboard ads, radio ads, brochures, and posters. Our English PSA *Maternal Mental Health – 'You Are Not Alone'* (4.5 minutes) and Spanish PSA *'No Estan Solas': Reconociendo la Depresión Postparto* (7 minutes), have been viewed and shared widely. Over 300 DVD's were distributed to County and community organizations and service providers. They've been aired in loop in agency lobbies and the San Bernardino County Board Chambers, as well as on social media and as a part of health education classes.

In 2016, the San Bernardino County Maternal Mental Health Work Group received recognition from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for our collaborative efforts to address a perceived public health concern, and to ensure adequate maternal mental health services are provided to mothers and families in need.

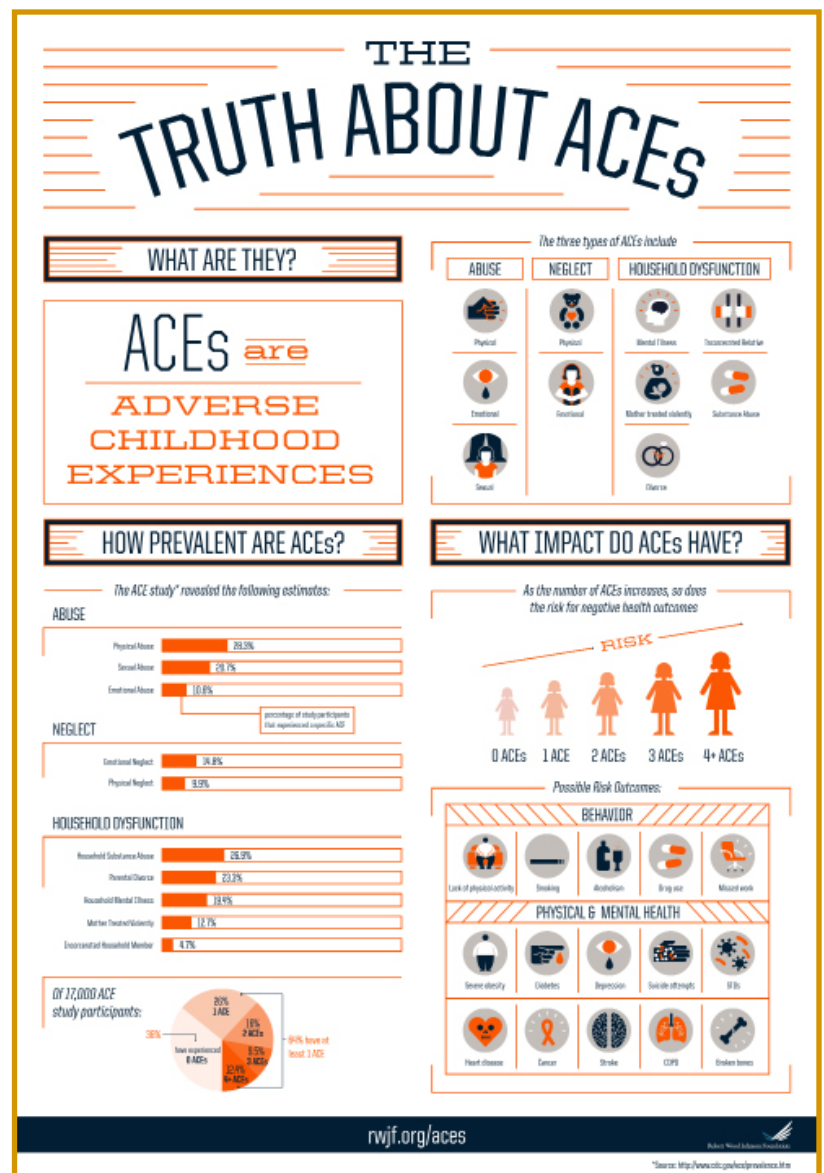


Child Abuse Prevention and the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study

According to the former president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Robert Block, adverse childhood experiences (ACE's) are the single greatest unaddressed public health threat facing our nation today. Child abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction are epidemics in our community that require a collaborative approach, including all members of the community, to be addressed. In order to better inform our community about the effects of ACE's and to strengthen our efforts in child abuse prevention, Children's Network has provided 2-hour trainings as well as shorter presentations to over 2,000 social service and healthcare providers, educators, law enforcement agencies, and community members throughout the County. These presentations highlight the major forms of childhood maltreatment; their impact on the child, prevalence within our community, and effects on individuals and communities over the long term. We've shared the findings of the Adverse Childhood Experience Study, conducted by Drs. Vincent Felitti and Robert Anda, in a very practical way that has added meaning to professional practice and increased awareness for parents, caregivers, and concerned community members.

Some of the agencies and venues we have offered this training at include:

Loma Linda University Healthy People Conference
Inland Regional Center
Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
Children and Family Services Building Community Partnerships
First 5 San Bernardino
Desert Mountain Children's Center
Inland Empire United Way
Bear Valley Healthcare District
Local civic organizations (i.e. Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs)
and many other community groups



SART/EIIS

"Attending "Clinic Day" at the SART centers is one of the most interesting aspects of my role as Children's Network, SART Coordinator. The SART clinicians engage and guide young children through a series of 'fun' activities developed to screen and assess various aspects of the child's functioning and age appropriate interactions with their environment and others; and providing, if indicated, referrals to treatment which can assist the young child with developing a strong foundation preparing them for successful school, personal and social readiness."

- Linda Revoner, SART Coordinator

The SART program's contracted Pediatric Neurodevelopmental Psychologist, Dr. Kiti Randall who provides clinical training to SART center staff, shared: *"The SART centers are reporting benefits receiving trainings on the NCAST Parent Child Interaction Scales in terms of both use as an assessment tool and a clinical treatment tool. A recent case included using the NCAST evaluation tool to assist in the CFS reunification process and the parent's impact on the child. The SART program was able to provide CFS information that was useful to them and the court's in determining the best current placement and treatment recommendations for both child and caregiver."*

- Dr. Kiti Randall

These are two distinct, but similar programs that provide services county-wide by six different agencies.

Screening, Assessment, Referral, Treatment (SART) serves children between the ages of 0-5 who are experiencing social, physical, cognitive, behavioral, developmental, and/or psychological issues. It is an intensive program that serves at-risk children, many of whom have been exposed to abuse, neglect, and/or substances in utero.

Early Identification and Intervention Services (EIIS) serves a similar, but less severe population than the SART population. These services are intended to improve the social, cognitive, emotional, behavioral, and developmental functioning of these children. In addition, these children may or may not have experienced abuse or trauma, but are perceived as being at-risk for manifesting problems in the above areas without the provisions of attachment enrichment activities.

10th Anniversary of SART System of Care

The 2014-2015 year was the 10th anniversary of the SART System of Care in San Bernardino County. In July 2014, in lieu of the SART Countywide Advisory Committee, we decided to recognize some of the original architects, current funders and providers, and community partners and to celebrate the accomplishments and expansions, both physically and sustainably since the inception. Several of the SART providers shared stories about the beginning and how far we have come in the past ten years. Many others shared stories about how the lives of children 0-5 have been positively impacted by SART.

SART Annual Trainings

The SART Coordinator plans various trainings that would help the SART/EIS providers develop their skills to better help our children. Below are the trainings that took place in the 2014-2016 year.

Prenatal Exposure to Substances- Impact on the fetus and Infant Mental Health: This training series focused on substance abuse; impact on parent, fetus and infant. It addressed the impact on mental and developmental health in terms of long term consequences. Strategies for interventions were provided. This intervention further built the community capacity to effectively intervene with drug endangered children from an ecological approach.

Watch Wait & Wonder: This training series was based on attachment theory and is an Infant/child-led approach to psychotherapeutic intervention. The approach is relational, and therapists use questioning to put parents in the role of "expert."

Parent-Infant Dyadic Art Therapy: This course is in dyadic art therapy for 6 month through 6 year olds. This intervention is based on the technique and book written by Lucille Proulx. This therapeutic modality is based on certain principles from the fields of child psychiatry, psychology, and art therapy. This intervention proposes creative, imaginative, visually oriented experience for both the parent and the child and a non-verbal and symbolic self-expression. It enhances attachment and interaction.

NCAST Parent Child Interaction Scales training on the FEED and TEACH: The Parent Child Interaction (PCI) Scales are the most widely used scales for measuring parent-child interaction today. It is a well-developed set of observable behaviors that describe the communication of and interaction between, caregiver and child in either a feeding or a teaching situation. The course teaches the participant how to observe and assess parent child interaction in the areas of sensitivity to cues, response to distress, social emotional growth fostering, cognitive growth fostering, clarity of cues and responsiveness to caregivers and to use the Feeding and Teaching scales.

Infant Development & Mental Health: This course covers development from conception through age 5 and covers developmental stages (neuro and psychological) as well as how adverse childhood experiences can impact mental health during the age of development under discussion. Treatment suggestions are also offered during each session. The course is practical and cases are discussed and consultation offered throughout the course.

CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Specialized SART Trainings

Effective Use of Music with Young Children who have Experienced Trauma : In March 2015, Bronwen Landless presented on the effective use of music therapy with children who have experienced any sort of trauma. The training was a synopsis of the neurology of trauma, music, and the possible impact of music on the trauma brain. Attendees were able to spend time practicing, implementing, and debriefing about the various music interventions that are geared towards addressing non-musical goals, growth, and skill acquisition for young children who have experienced trauma. Ethics regarding scope of practice was also discussed.

Complex Trauma in Children and Their Families: An Integrative Approach to Assessment and Treatment: In May 2015, Dr. Cheryl Lanktree provided an all day training on the assessment and treatment of child trauma. This training described the principal components and interventions of the evidence-based, comprehensive, multi-modal treatment model, Integrative Treatment of Complex Trauma for Children (ITCT-C) developed by Drs. Cheryl Lanktree and John Briere. This model for children aged 6 to 12 years impacted by multiple traumatic exposures compounded by primary caretaker and placement issues addresses: safety interventions, therapeutic relationship building and support, attachment/relational issues, cognitive and emotional trauma processing, affect regulation and distress reduction, advocacy and systems issues, behavioral self-control, and caretaker/family issues. ITCT-C is assessment-based and systemically-oriented, involving individualized/customized interventions attentive to cultural, developmental, and economic disadvantage issues.

Finnegan Neonatal Abstinence Score: In June 2015, the SART providers were provided a training by Dr. Loretta P. Finnegan about the needs of prenatal exposed infants. The training focus on how neonatal abstinence syndrome is a drug withdrawal syndrome that often occurs after exposure to heroin or prescription narcotic painkillers during pregnancy. This syndrome presents with symptoms that can negatively impact infant regulation and early care giving. Few professionals (medical and mental health) have had specific training in how to assess and intervene on behalf of these infants. The SART centers in our County are facing the need to assess and intervene on behalf of these infants on a daily basis. This training was able to address identification of symptoms, methods for assessment, and supportive interventions to ameliorate outcomes and interactions for the vulnerable infants.

"The Impact of Trauma and Neglect on the Developing Child" by Dr. Bruce Perry : On January 6, 2016, Children's Network had Dr. Bruce Perry come speak to our SART/EIIS providers on "The Impact of Trauma and Neglect on the Developing Child". The training focused on the development of a young child and how it is profoundly influenced by experience. Experiences – good and bad – shape the organization of the brain. The ultimate effect is to impact emotional, social, cognitive and physiological functioning. Insights into this process come from understanding brain development. Both trauma and neglect, the absence of essential developmental experiences required to express a fundamental potential of a child, are pervasive problems in our culture. There was also an overview provided that suggests new directions for clinical practice, program development and policy.

"Mindfulness and Compassion in Work with Caretakers of High Risk Children" by Dr. John Briere: On May 31, 2016, we had Dr. John Briere come present to our SART/EIIS providers on the psychological trauma and how it can be broadly defined to include threats to psychological integrity, including major losses, events that were very upsetting, and early and severe childhood neglect. This presentation reviewed challenges often experienced by caretakers and clinicians working with high risk children. Compassion techniques will be described and its effects on distressed clients, clinicians, other workers, and caretakers. This presentation included the definition of mindfulness and how the worker can use it in their work with clients, as well as a discussion of mindfulness techniques for the caretaker of the high risk child. Information was also provided explaining the components of the RAIN algorithm including the techniques of trigger management and urge surfing.

Mentoring

"The Mentoring Task Force is essential in creating a single voice for our County that is increasing awareness, supporting capacity building, and advocating for the needs of all mentoring agencies across the county to ensure quality services are provided to the youth in our communities."

- **Cesar Navarrete**, Executive Director CASA of San Bernardino

"The Mentoring Task Force is dedicated to promoting the County-wide Vision. Mentoring serves the community as a whole, benefitting the mentor, as well as, the mentee on many levels. A mentoring relationship increases a sense of stability and trust between two individuals that can be life-changing. Mentoring instills a sense of belonging to something larger than themselves - their community."

- **Doreen Ivery**, Mentoring Resource Coordinator Children's Network

Inspire, Challenge, Motivate....Become a Mentor



CHILDREN'S NETWORK PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

The Mentoring Resource Coordinator position was designated to bring together existing mentoring programs and resources, sharing information, and faceting mentoring relationships between youth being served by the Department of Behavioral Health, Children and Family Services, Probation, and community based mentoring programs.

Conferences

In the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the Mentoring Taskforce hosted their inaugural girl's conference for girls between 5th and 12th grade in July 2014, *Ban Bossy*. This conference was held at the Jack Bulik Teen Center in Fontana and focused around girls developing skills to be an effective leader, without being bossy. Some of the topics focused on were: the difference between bossy and strong leadership, workshops around developing leadership skills specifically for girls, and keynote speakers who spoke to this topic as well.

There was also an inaugural boy's conference that was held in March 2015. The conference was entitled the *Don't Judge Me Conference* and was for young men aged 15-18 years old. The focus of this conference was to teach young men techniques about how to overcome preconceived notions about them. It was to give the young, impressionable individuals tools to overcome adversity and to successfully show their individuality. The theme of the conference was to not judge a person, until you get to know them.

In July 2015, the 2nd Annual Girl's Conference was held at the TAY One Stop in San Bernardino, CA. The conference was entitled, *Real Girls: Real Beauty* and it was a young women's conference designed for Junior High School girls who wanted to learn about the difference between what is real beauty and media's 'standard of beauty'. The girls were able to engage in important discussions about the negative influences about media's portrayal of what is beautiful and the effects it has on the self esteem of a girl growing up in the real world. It was an opportunity to reinforce the message that beauty goes far deeper than just make-up, hair, and clothes. Being respectful, pursuing an education, college and work are also definitions of beauty.

Mentoring Recognition Awards

The second annual Mentoring Recognition Awards took place in January 2015 at the Steelworkers Auditorium in Fontana, CA during National Mentoring Month. The event was an opportunity to recognize both individuals and organizations that do exceptional work around mentoring. The groups and individuals who were recognized for their work served youth County-wide and provided one-on-one, group, and education based mentoring. Some of the organizations that took part in making this event a reality include: Cit of Fontana, Girls Scout Troop, Colton Joint Unified School District student Polynesian Dancers, the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court, Department of Behavioral Health, Children and Family Services, and many more.

In January 2016, the Mentoring Task Force held the third Annual Mentoring Recognition Awards during National Mentoring Month. This year, Dr. Dale Marsden from San Bernardino City Unified Schools was the Keynote Speaker for the conference and spoke about the value of mentoring youth, how school resources (i.e., teachers and school staff) can help foster successful relationships, and shared examples about how mentoring youth resulted in a better trajectory for the youth and their life. There were a total of 14 awards given out to recognize the work of individuals and agencies around mentoring youth in our County.

Spring Jam

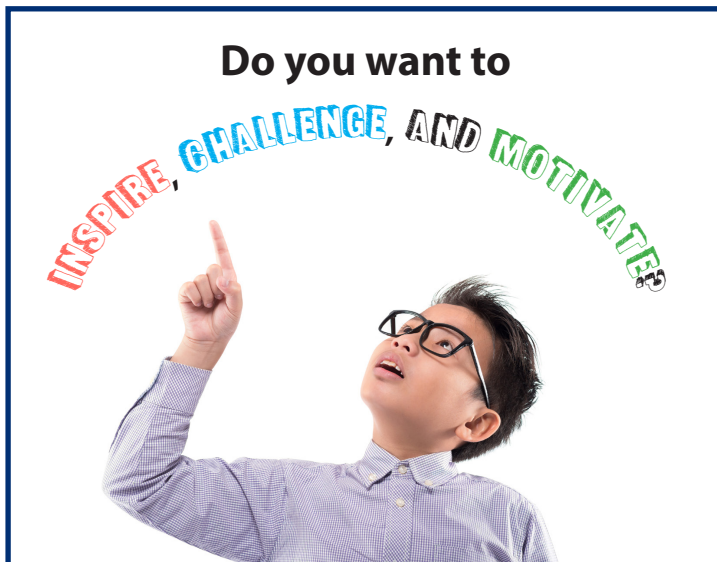
The fourth Spring Jam event was held at Jurupa Hills Regional Park in Fontana, CA on May 2, 2015 in collaboration with various community and County agencies. This event replicated the mentoring experience for both adult mentors and youth mentees. It was an opportunity for adults and youths to participate in activities that are based around the fundamental concept of mentoring. Adults experienced what it is like to be a mentor and youth experience with it is like to be a mentee. It was a beneficial event to promote mentoring in the County.

Trainings

An important facet of the Mentoring Taskforce is to continue building the capacity of our mentoring agencies and partners. This year, this was achieved through various trainings held throughout the year. Two notable trainings held this year were: *Cyber Bullying* and *Latest Trends of Teens* by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and *Understanding the Culture of Poverty* trainings by the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.

Media Campaign

In 2015-2016, the Mentoring Network decided to develop a media campaign that would help bring awareness to the Mentoring Network Taskforce around the County. We decided to develop a tagline that would summarize the importance aspects of mentoring a youth. The tagline was, **"Inspire, Challenge, Motivate... Become a Mentor"**. We felt that a mentors responsibility to their mentee was to inspire them, challenge them, and motivate them to be the best possible version of themselves. To further drive the tagline and message, we developed a 30 second PSA that is available to County and Community agencies that share the importance of mentoring, as well. This was done in collaboration with Multimedia Services of the County. Lastly, we developed postcards that are used as part of our outreach to the County, so that anyone with questions has a way to contact the Mentoring Resource Coordinator.



Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE)

The Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE) program is a collaborative approach between ten (10) public agencies that serve commercially sexually exploited children (ages 12-15), TAY (ages 16-25), and those at risk for sexual exploitation through a centralized referral mechanism managed by the CASE Coordinator and Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT). The program coordinates community outreach and education as well as direct services. Services include mental health assessments, crisis intervention, case management, school enrollment assistance, therapeutic interventions, transportation, placement, and linkage/referral to community resources.

The collaborative partners include: Behavioral Health, Public Health, Children and Family Services, Children's Network, District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, Public Defender, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Sheriff Department, and Superior Court of California Juvenile Court.

The California Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) legislative goals and related key outcomes of the CASE program were to: reduce prolonged suffering, improve life satisfaction, decrease hopelessness/increase hope, increase resiliency, decrease impairment in general areas of life functioning (e.g., health/self-care/housing, occupation/education, legal, managing money, interpersonal, social).

CASE was originally a MHSA Innovations project introduced in 2010 through the approved MHSA plan. The County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health conducted an extensive Community Program Planning (CPP) process involving a variety of community stakeholders. After careful review of the Innovation component intent, principles and priorities, Innovations dedicated efforts on building from prior stakeholder input received during the CPP process for Community Services and Supports (CSS) and Prevention & Early Intervention, as well as solicited new input specifically for Innovation projects. Through the CPP process, CASE was identified as a project necessary to address the need in "specialty" communities.

The initial intent was to develop a model of collaborative care that facilitated clinical rehabilitation for a specific group of children/youth who had been commercially sexually exploited, and to develop approaches to mental health education that assist in the prevention of future exploitation. The long-term goal of the project is to make use of an innovative collaboration to strengthen clinical practice for systems that serve sexually exploited children/youth, by developing creative clinical strategies and combining best practices in trauma care with local collaborative expertise.

With stakeholder support, CASE was transitioned into a PEI program in July 2014 to continue to provide effective elements of the project. Since that date, the CASE program has been collecting data consistent with the other PEI programs. To date, in FY 2014/2015, 3,717 individuals and 3,006 individuals in FY 2015/2016 have participated in either CASE education or therapeutic services.

Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Walk

The Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation continued its efforts to raise awareness about human trafficking in San Bernardino County by building on previous years' successful Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Walk. In January 2015 and January 2016, CASE hosted its annual Walk Against Human Trafficking. Held at the Children's Network on Hospitality Lane in 2015 and in Ontario in 2016, both walks were attended by over 300 community members and dignitaries.

County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors Proclamation

In December 2015, the County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation that designated January as "Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month" bringing our County's efforts in line with those at a national level and bringing attention to the issue of the commercial sexual exploitation of children in our community. We are very grateful to the Board of Supervisors for all of their support in the work we do!

Outreach & Education Committee

In FY 2014/2015 and 2015/2016, the CASE Outreach and Education Committee met on the second Tuesday of each month. This meeting provides the community an opportunity to come together to learn more about the commercial sexual exploitation of children in the county and to network with other community members and professionals who are also interested in these issues. It also provides CASE the opportunity to present guest speakers and reports from the CASE Team members who work with sexually exploited minors on their case loads. Traditionally held in the City of San Bernardino, in 2015, CASE began holding the meeting in Victorville every other month to allow community members from the High Desert to more easily attend.

Training

In 2014/2015 and 2015/2016, CASE continued to be dedicated to providing training to anyone in San Bernardino County interested in learning more about the commercial sexual exploitation of children. This included social workers, therapists, probation officers, law enforcement, medical professionals, community members, educators and others. Since 2011, CASE has continued facilitating monthly four-hour trainings on the "Identification & Assessment of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation." In addition, CASE continues to partner with the County Departments and local community-based agencies to provide training to professionals and community members throughout the County.



High Desert Stakeholders Forum

The purpose of the High Desert Stakeholders Forum was to gain the perspective of current stakeholders in identifying the needs and the strategies to strengthen the High Desert communities. While research and data can quantify the strengths and needs of this region, the stakeholders hold a perspective that is more personal. These individuals live, work, and have a vested interest in seeing this region blossom; it is a perspective that cannot be readily measured. On March 24, 2015, 51 stakeholders participated in the High Desert Stakeholders Meeting held at Adelanto Elementary School District Board Room.

The stakeholders were chosen to participate in the meeting because they lived in the area, worked in the area, and/or had insight to speak to the strengths and needs of the area. They were either hand selected by the planning committee or were invited on the recommendation from someone in the region. This method ensured that a sampling of organizations, County departments, and the people were represented. Those in attendance from the High Desert Region at the meeting included: San Bernardino County agencies, the Presiding Judge of Juvenile Courts, community based organizations, Head Starts, parents, kinship parents, students, kinship youth, retired community members, faith-based organizations, local school districts, a local hospital, and health insurance providers.

The results from this stakeholders meeting showed us that there are some strong community based and County agencies in the area that are providing the resources that the community needs. And the large consensus was that transportation is an issue, given the sheer size of the High Desert and our County, especially for families that need to travel a great distance to and from appointments. Overall, while some of the wishes that were mentioned during this meeting are just that, many of the desires from the stakeholders are possible through collaboration with community members and existing agencies. This group of stakeholders was enthusiastic and shared some great ideas. There was a sense of unity in a collaborative forum where the stakeholders could envision a fully connected High Desert Region and have their voices heard.





Children's Network

About The Children's Network

The Children's Network of San Bernardino County concerns itself with at-risk children who are defined as minors who, because of behavior, abuse, neglect, medical needs, educational assessment, and/or detrimental living situations, are eligible for services from one or more of the member agencies of the Children's Policy Council.

The overall goal of Children's Policy Council is to help at-risk children by improving communications, planning, coordination, and cooperation among youth-serving agencies.

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Network Officer

Linda Revoner
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Kristy Loufek
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Compliments of



Children's Network



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