

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



**BE A SUPER HERO  
IN A CHILD'S LIFE**

**Version en Español  
– Turn report over  
for Spanish version**

**!!!**  
**WOW!**

**OCTOBER 2016**

# MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

On behalf of the Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission, we are pleased to share with you our Annual Report to the Community. The mission of the Children and Families Commission is to promote the development and well being of children 0-5 in Stanislaus County. To achieve that goal, the Commission budgeted nearly \$7.3 M in 2015-2016 to fund services to children in three major areas: family support, health, and education. Our public and private non-profit partners used this money to provide services in multiple languages at multiple locations throughout our county.

The theme of this year's Report to the Community is Super Heroes. In our view, the parents and caregivers of all children are Super Heroes. They are the ones who go over and above the call of duty, who jump tall buildings in a single bound, and move mountains to care for and protect their children. We view the Commission's role as assisting parents and caregivers with this enormously important job. The Commission provides needed support and education to parents and caregivers as they protect the health and well-being of children.

This report will highlight the accomplishments of programs funded by the Commission in fiscal year 2015-2016. The report also serves as a reminder that the Commission and its partners are continuing to strive, as we have since the Commission was established in 1999, to provide and deliver quality, impactful services to the children of Stanislaus County.

David Cooper, Chair

John Sims, Executive Director




## OUR STORY - Children are our priority.

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

## ABOUT STANISLAUS COUNTY

- Overall Population: 538,689 <sup>1</sup>
- Households: 169,038 <sup>2</sup>
- Percentage of Households that are Families: 73.7% <sup>2</sup>
- Stanislaus County had 46,514 children 0 through 5 years of age in 2015. 9% of Stanislaus County's Population
- Projected births in Stanislaus County totaled 7,894 in 2015.



	Ethnicity of Children 0-5 in Stanislaus County <sup>3</sup>	% of Children Served in Prop 10 Programs <sup>4</sup>
Hispanic:	55%	63%
White:	33%	21%
Asian:	4%	3%
Multiracial:	5%	5%
African American:	2%	4%
Pacific Islander:	<1%	<1%
American Indian or Alaska Native:	<1%	<1%
Other or Unknown:	<1%	4%



## OUR VISION

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

## STANISLAUS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

William O'Brien, 1st District  
Vito Chiesa, 2nd District  
Terry Withrow, 3rd District  
Dick Monteith, 4th District  
Jim DeMartini, 5th District

## 2015-2016 COMMISSIONERS

Vicki Bauman  
School Representative

Vito Chiesa  
Supervisor, 2nd District

David Cooper  
Chair, Community Representative

Denise Hunt, RN, MFT  
Community Representative

Mary Ann Lee  
Health Services Agency

Nelly Paredes-Walsborn, Ph.D.  
Community Representative

Madelyn Schlaepfer  
Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

George Skol  
Vice Chair, Community Representative

John Walker, MD  
Public Health Officer

## COMMISSION STAFF

Veronica Ascencio, Accountant  
Stephanie Loomis, Program Monitor  
John Sims, Executive Director

### Sources:

- 1 California Department of Finance, State and County Total Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity and Detailed Age, 2010-2060: Release Date: December 2014
- 2 U.S. Census Bureau (2015). 2014 American Community Survey (1-Year Survey)
- 3 California Department of Finance, Historical and Projected State and County Births, Table 3 State and County Births, Projected births: Demographic Research Unit
- 4 Data reported by Proposition 10 funded programs in Stanislaus County

## IMPROVED FAMILY FUNCTIONING

- **Families are receiving support.**  
The parents of 11,782 children received family support services through countywide Family Resource Centers or other programs. 2,369 received more intensive services focused on improving child abuse risk factors.
- **Parents are exploring, gaining knowledge, and improving parenting skills.**  
The parents of 1,989 children attended parenting classes to increase parenting skills and knowledge.
- **Caregivers are screened for depression and linked to additional support.**  
Of 1,785 children 0-5 whose caregivers were screened for depression, 434 children 0-5 had a caregiver referred for mental health services as a result.
- **Children are flourishing in stable environments.**  
412 children experienced improvements in their family environment after being enrolled in respite childcare.

## IMPROVED CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- **Parents are reading with their children.**  
1,451 families increased the time spent reading at home with their children after receiving literacy services.
- **Children are being screened and identified for developmental delays.**  
1,564 children 0-5 were screened for educational developmental issues and 304 received further assessments or services.
- **Children are preparing to enter Kindergarten and be successful.**  
166 children participated in the Kindergarten Readiness Program at school sites across the county that helped prepare them for Kindergarten.

## IMPROVED HEALTH

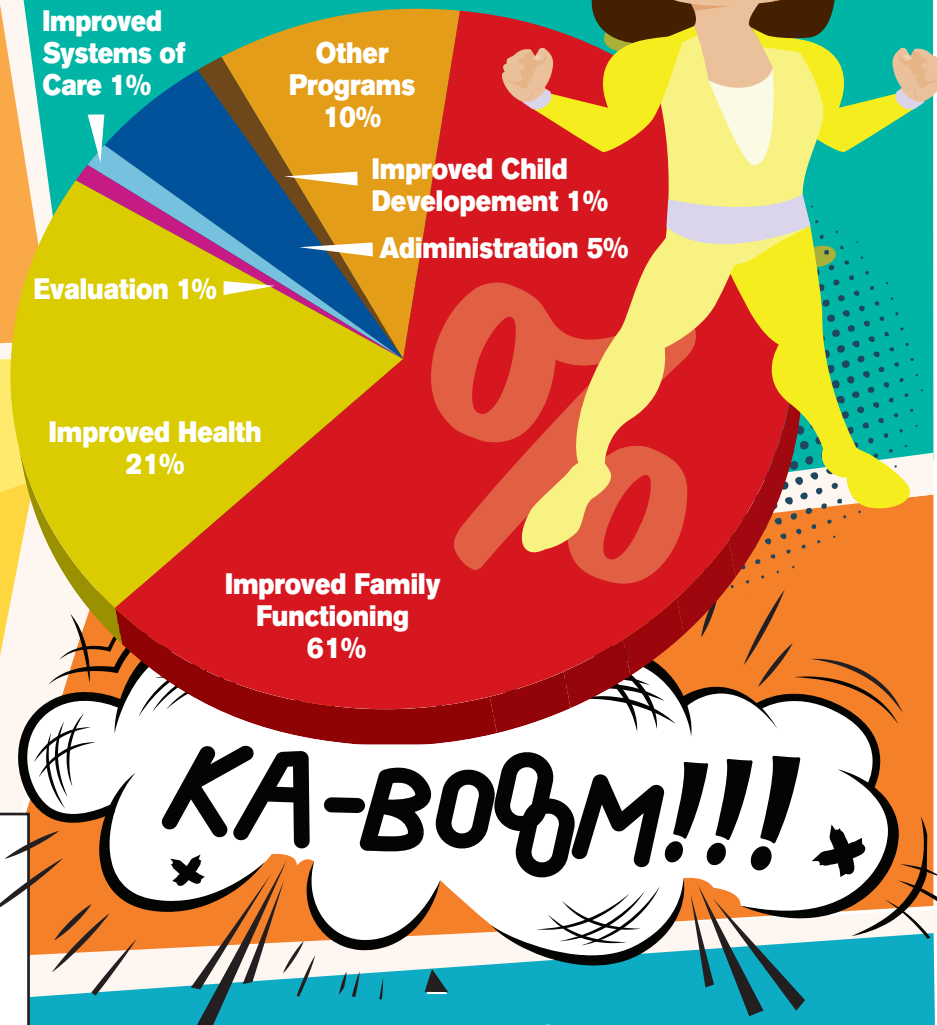
- **Pregnant women and children are receiving health care.**  
238 children 0-5 and pregnant women who did not have access to health care received medical attention through an interim health care program.
- **A greater number of children now have health coverage.**  
237 pregnant women and children 0-5 who did not have health insurance are now enrolled in a health coverage plan.
- **Infants are born robust.**  
205 infants were born term after their mothers participated in a healthy birth program. 90% of the mothers initiated breastfeeding.

## IMPROVED SYSTEMS OF CARE

- **Strengthen families with knowledge.**  
Families of 7,228 children have increased knowledge and use of community resources.
- **Leveraging Prop 10 funds.**  
Prop 10 funded programs brought in more than \$7.3 million from other funding sources during fiscal year '15-'16, increasing the level of services for children 0-5 and their families. Of that \$7 million, nearly \$5 million came from funding sources outside of Stanislaus County.

\*Data reported by contractors

## 2015 - 2016 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET



**Total Budget: \$7,287,186**

<b>Improved Family Functioning</b> (Family Support, Education, and Services).....	\$4,481,386 (61%)
<b>Improved Health</b> (Health Education and Services) .....	\$1,495,438 (21%)
<b>Improved Child Development</b> (Child Development Services).....	\$52,000 (1%)
<b>Improved Systems of Care</b> .....	\$82,378 (1%)
<b>Administration</b> .....	\$389,380 (5%)
<b>Evaluation</b> .....	\$72,848 (1%)
<b>Other Programs</b> (Includes Contingency Fund).....	\$713,756 (10%)

# COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

When Jack, 3 years old, was referred to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Stanislaus County, he was non-verbal and had aggressive behaviors towards his siblings, 9 and 6 years old, and caregivers. He would frequently bite, hit and spit. Jack and his siblings had been severely neglected by their parents who were both heavily addicted to drugs. The older children had poor school attendance and were consistently infested with lice.

The children were removed from their parents and placed with their grandparents. Unfortunately, they continued to be neglected and were placed in a foster home. When placed into foster care, Jack's frustration with the situation caused his behaviors to escalate, resulting in him being moved to 12 different foster homes in 5 months.

The CASA advocate who volunteered to work with Jack and his siblings jumped in with both feet. After many phone calls, visits, and meetings, she was able to help Jack's social worker stabilize his placement. The CASA advocate, with assistance from a CASA case manager, referred Jack to the local school district for assessment. Because of his many placement changes, the assessment was difficult to finalize. It took 5 months, dozens of meetings, and a lot of tenacity on the part of his CASA advocate to secure Jack's enrollment in a preschool for severely handicapped children. Jack received speech therapy, behavioral support, respite care for his caregiver, and wrap around services in his foster home.

Jack still has many challenges ahead but his CASA advocate has made a huge difference in his life. His placement is stable and heading for permanency. He has structure and balance in his life and his severe ADHD is being treated.

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# HEALTHY CUBS (STANISLAUS COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY)

In September 2015, Nicole, a pregnant woman, came to the Paradise Medical Office without insurance. When the medical office staff advised her of the availability of health coverage offered through the Healthy Cubs Program, Nicole was extremely hesitant. She had applied for permanent residency status with Immigration & Naturalization and was waiting for a response. She communicated to the medical staff that she was very concerned the benefits would impede or delay her application.

Nicole's pregnancy was high-risk and it was essential that she receive prenatal care to ensure the best outcome for her and her unborn child. The medical office staff informed Nicole that receiving these benefits would not affect her residency application but she refused to apply.

A Healthy Cubs staff member met with Nicole the next time she visited the clinic. The Healthy Cubs staff member discussed the application process with Nicole in person to further explain program benefits to her as well as sharing the advantages of applying for Medi-Cal benefits. Nicole agreed to complete the Healthy Cubs Program application and obtained coverage that same day. Nicole was provided Healthy Cubs benefits through the remaining months of her pregnancy as well as 60-days post-partum coverage. These benefits helped ensure Nicole was able to have a healthy pregnancy and give birth to a healthy child. Nicole was grateful for the coverage provided and pleased with the exceptional service she was provided by the Healthy Cubs staff.

## OUR 2015 - 2016 FUNDED PARTNERS

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