

A Public Health Approach to Advancing Early Care and Education

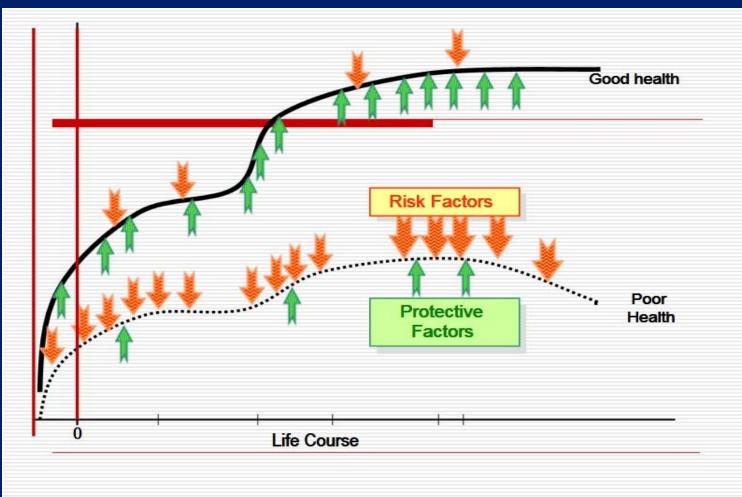
Robert Gilchick, MD, MPH

Medical Director, Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Division

CHEAC conference – October 9, 2018



Life Course Model

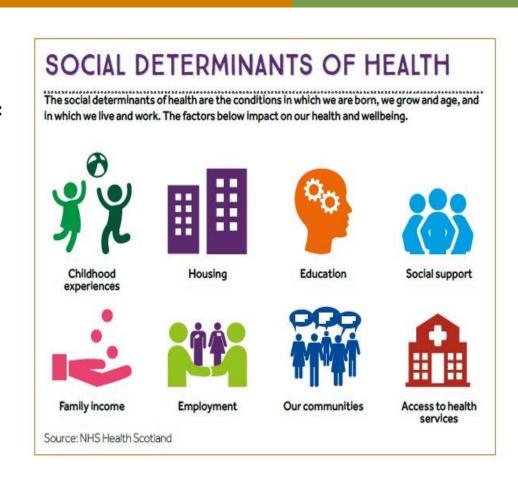


Early Education and Public Health



Perry Preschool Project participants at 40 years old compared to non-participants:

- Housing:
 - More stable dwelling arrangements and car ownership
- Education:
 - Higher high school graduation rates
- Social Supports:
 - Less use of social services
 - Fewer lifetime arrests
- Family Income:
 - Higher median income
- Employment:
 - Higher employment rates





Many Ways for ECE and Health to Collaborate

- Fresno County Public Health Megan Gunn
- City of Long Beach Health and Human Services Agency Alejandra Albarran Moses
- Los Angeles County Public Health partnering with Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies – Cristina Alvarado

Collaboration of Early Childhood Education and Public Health Nursing

Megan Gunn RN, SPHN, CCHC
Supervising Public Health Nurse
Fresno County Department of Public Health



Fresno County Early Stars Program

- ► Fresno County was selected as part of California's Early Learning Race to the Top grant. As part of this grant, Fresno County received two million dollars to implement a quality rating and improvement system for children from birth through age five.
- ► The mission of Early Stars is to increase the quality and accessibility of early care and education in Fresno County by connecting families with high quality licensed care and education providers, while supporting those providers in their efforts for continuous quality improvement of their services.
- Provides county wide coaching, training, and technical assistance to early learning programs pursuing quality improvement
- ▶ Participating agencies are Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Fresno County Department of Public Health, West Ed PITC and Fresno County Children's Services Network (local Resource and Referral agency)

Child Care Health Linkages Program

- Since 2016, Fresno County DPH has subcontracted with Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) to provide health/safety coaching and training to ECE providers enrolled in the Early Stars program
- ► Funded through First 5 Fresno County and leveraged funds from MCAH Title XIX
- ▶ 2 full time Public Health Nurses with specialized training in child care health consultation

Child Care Health Linkages Program

- Referrals received from FCSS project specialists
- PHN's provide on site observations of the child care environment and practices and provide coaching to child care staff to develop goals to improve quality
- ► PHN's work collaboratively with other Early Stars subcontracted agencies to provide comprehensive services

Outcomes

- ▶ 117 child care centers and family child care homes have been served since program started in 2016
- ▶ 385 providers received formal training on health/safety topics for FY 18-19
- ▶ 545 staff members received technical on site assistance for FY 18-19

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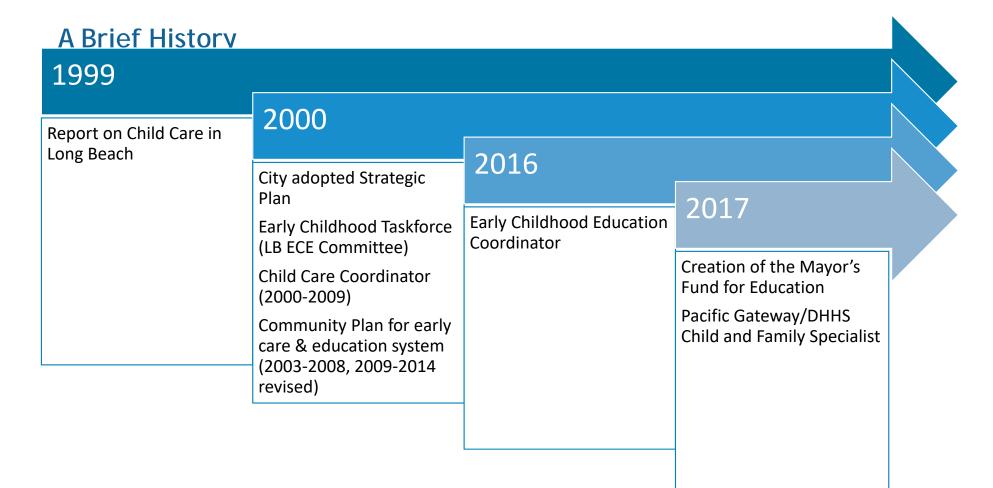




Overview

- Brief history of the relation between Long Beach Department of Health and Humans Services (DHHS) & Early Childhood Education
- Development of a City-Wide Early Childhood Education Strategic Plan
- Future work with DHHS & ECE
- Highlight Lessons Learned

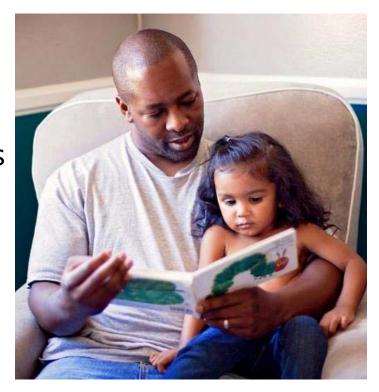






Early Childhood Matters

- 700 new neural connections formed every second
- Early experiences predict life long success
 - Strong relationships
 - Language development
 - Safe and healthy homes
- Inequities across the city lead to difference in lifelong outcomes
- Early intervention as prevention





Partnerships









Children Will Be Healthy, Safe and Educated Serving Children O - 5





Long Beach Early Childhood Education Strategic Plan Development

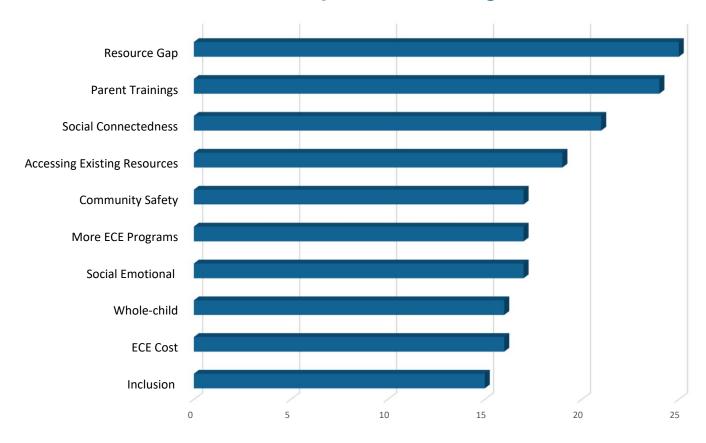
- Advisory Group
 - Department of Health and Human Services
 - Long Beach Unified School District
 - Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee Co-Chairs
- Representation across Long Beach

Who we asked	How we listened
Parents	22 focus groups
ECE Professionals	19 interviews
Community Partners	All zip codes of Long Beach
Preschool Students	
Elected Officials	





Top 10 Findings





Seven Goal Areas

Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4	Goal 5	Goal 6	Goal 7
Support and	Increase	Support the	Improve	Ensure	Promote	Strengthen
build strong	access and	development	quality of	children in	partnerships	alignment of
and resilient	affordability of	of a stronger	birth through	Long Beach	to address	existing birth
families	infant through	early	age 8	live, learn and	access to	through age 8
	pre-k early	childhood	programs and	play in safe,	quality basic	governance
	care and	workforce	services	healthy and	needs and	structure and
	education			accessible	services	early
	services			environments		childhood
						support
						systems



City-Wide ECE Strategic Plan

- Received by City Council on October 2, 2018
- Launch Event held on October 4, 2018
- Community adoption of plan and plan activities
 - Long Beach ECE Committee created an action plan to parallel the City's Strategic Plan



Long Beach Early Childhood Education



LBECE Strategic Plan Oversight Committee

- Convene monthly meetings
- Representation from:
 - Long Beach Unified School District
 - Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee
 - Long Beach Public Library
 - Parents of Long Beach Children
 - Cal State Long Beach and Long Beach City College Educators
 - Long Beach Department of Health & Human Services' Nursing Services Officer





Activities

Ongoing Activities

- Black Infant Health
- Early Learning Festival (ELF)
- Celebration of the Young Child
- Parent Leadership Academy (PLAy)
- Long Beach ECE Symposium

Short-term/Mid-term/Long-term Activities

- Parent education programming
- Consistent developmental screenings
- Trauma-informed professionals
- New Baby Tool Kits
- Development messaging campaign
- School District ID Numbers for all Children in Long Beach ECE Programs













Lessons Learned

- Center community/resident voice
 - Equity
- Shared vision
 - Working to the same goals
- Collaboration and partnerships continue
- Commitment to the work









Working together to strengthen families and ensure high-quality child care and early learning across Los Angeles County

Member Agencies of the Alliance













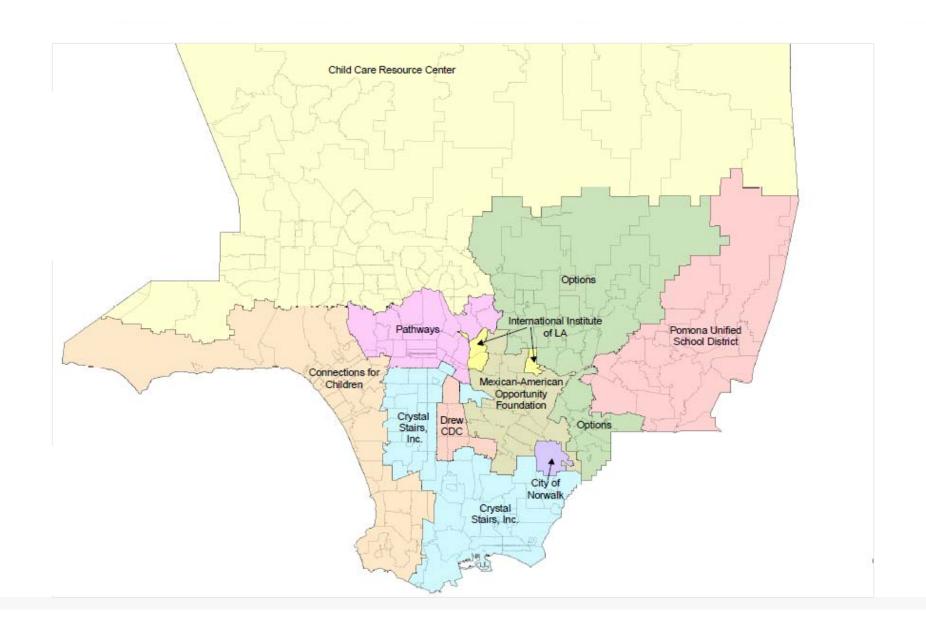












Child Care Subsidy Programs



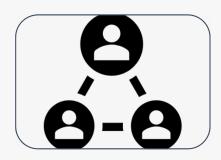
Known as Stage One, Stage Two, Stage Three and Alternative Payment

- We serve over 50,000 children monthly in 19,776 child care settings (child care vouchers)
- We invest approx. \$242 million in child care, which enables parents to earn over a half billion or \$557,005,772

Resource and Referral (R&R's)



R&Rs in California – began in early 1970s, funded by CDE



Referrals & Information



Family Engagement



Workforce Development



Child Care Data

Resource & Referral (CDE)



- Agencies have held R&R Contracts for at least 40 years
- Eight R&R's in Los Angeles County
- We annually provide over 43,000 requests for child care referrals and 26,000 requests for child care information

Resource & Referral (CDE)



- Work with a database of 10,000 licensed providers and another 9,000 exempt (families, friends, neighbors)
- R&R program is the basis for the Alliance's Professional Development and Coaching System





Partnerships

Choose Health LA Child Care (CHLA CC)



- Designed a countywide program to promote healthy eating and physical activity
- Designed a curriculum as a collaborative of the Dept. of Public Health and the CC Alliance to deliver workshops on the topic of healthy eating and physical activity targeted at Early Childhood Educators
- Designed a coaching model to follow-up with ECE Providers

Choose Health LA Child Care (CHLA CC)



- Delivered professional development trainings and coaching focused on promoting healthy eating and physical activity
- Trained **5,853** ECE professionals
- Coached 2,323 providers on individualized goals, following the trainings

Nemours National ECELC Project



Leveraged additional funding...

Nemours National ECELC Project (CDC and Nemours Foundation)

- One of three agencies selected for funding in the nation (of a total of 9 over 5 years)
- Conducted intensive training sessions to approx. 200 child care centers and family child care homes in 5 years

Influenza Prevention and Pandemic Awareness



Coordination between Dept. of Public Health and the Child Care Alliance to deliver services through the LA County Resource and Referral agencies

Influenza Prevention

- 50 Influenza vaccination clinics in 7 weeks for 1,839 children and parents
- 81% spoke Spanish
- 68% did not have a vaccine the prior year

Early Educator Training – Pandemic Awareness

336 participants in 17 training session on pandemic awareness in 2.5 months

Disaster Preparedness



Early Educator Training – Disaster Preparedness

- 352 participants in 17 training sessions on disaster preparedness in 2.5 months
 - 70% were licensed family child care providers
 - 50% of the trainings were given in Spanish
- Developed and distributed Emergency Kits with tips on what to do in an emergency
- Posted these tips on agency websites

Partnership Opportunities for You



- In your County, brainstorm about what type of partnerships can exist between your Health Department and your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency
- Every County has at least one Resource and Referral agency
- Identify funding opportunities
- Design a program that will produce results in your community



