COMMUNITY SCHOOLS:

Aligning Local Resources for Student Success

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What Makes **Community Schools** Possible?

Community schools happen when a school district, local government and community partners join forces and align their resources and expertise to make sure every child has access to necessary academic, developmental, health and social supports. Through this intentional collaboration, agencies recognize that the needs of the whole child must be met in order for students to succeed. To this end, agencies work together to identify and understand the needs of children and their families, coordinating and leveraging the necessary resources to address those needs.

A community school is not a program. It's a way of doing business; a collaborative approach to supporting student success that includes components such as after school and summer programming, family engagement, social services, and physical and mental health services. With the ultimate goal of ensuring student success, a community school strives to be a fullspectrum resource for families and children, reflecting the needs and assets of the community.

Overview: Understanding How Community School Efforts are Funded Governance and Infrastructure as the Foundation

Partnering at the local level to support student success makes good sense, and it is not a new idea. What's not so obvious is how to make these partnerships truly effective and, how to pay for it.

This brief describes how community school efforts are financed—primarily, how local government agencies partner to align existing resources. Aligning resources means redeploying them—not small or easy decisions to make. In order to make these decisions effectively, partnerships need to have formal governance structures in place and an infrastructure to support the decision-making work. This brief does not simply list potential funding streams, but instead starts with the key to financing—the partnerships and the governance structures behind them. The brief outlines common characteristics of successful and sustained community school initiatives, profiling five efforts that illustrate the critical role of coordination and intentional collaboration between partners.

The Community Profiles provide insight into the depth of partnerships required for such efforts and an overview of the types of funding streams that can be used to make such collaborations possible. While not a technical "how-to" guide, this brief provides evidence and ideas from successful efforts that school districts, counties, cities, non-profit organizations, and other public entities can use to begin exploring how to make community school partnerships.



Many communities are seeking highly competitive grants, such as the Full Service Community Schools or Promise Neighborhood grants, believing that they need significant seed funding to get their efforts started. This paper provides communities with ideas and examples about how and why to begin partnering and aligning resources, even in the absence of a special grant or seed funding.

A Foundation for Financing: Collaboration Among Partners

A well-built collaborative between partner agencies and the alignment of existing resources is the foundation for financing a community schools effort. Through a coordinated delivery system, a community school offers more effective programs and services than any one of its partners could offer on its own. For children and families, partners in community schools see greater benefits with increased accessibility, scope, quality and receptivity of services delivered. Community school partners achieve better outcomes as well as fiscal efficiencies through economies of scale and eliminating duplicative efforts. To this end, first establishing a cross-agency collaborative is a necessity to make substantial systemic efficiencies possible.

Decisions about how to work together are made before decisions about what to do. Adopting a community schools approach means all partners need to adopt a new way of doing business; partners need to commit to shared decision-making and putting real resources on the table. Moreover, time and resources must be devoted to establishing working relationships among partners and creating systems which allow

Many community schools efforts have been launched in response to severe budget situations.

partners to collaboratively assess needs, share resources and make decisions. Developing these relationships and systems are critical initial steps to developing community schools. Discussions about filling service gaps and determining which services should be offered take place after each partner understands the purpose and role of the collaboration.

Successful and sustained community school efforts share important characteristics in what their governance infrastructures look like and how their collaboratives function:

Partners work as a team to design the collaborative infrastructure.
 While one or more partners may take the lead in bringing the group together, all must contribute to forming the basis of the collaboration. Partnering entities act as a collective team to design the infrastructure and the systems to support the collaboration. Together the team will: set common goals and priorities; assess needs and assets; reallocate existing resources or redeploy existing services or programs; track efforts and results; and continually improve implementation using data-based decision-making.

• Coordination and teamwork occur at each level of decision-making.

To ensure sustainability, partnering entities should build buy-in and develop coordination systems at the policy, management and site levels. Addressing coordination and working as teams at each of these levels helps the collaborative function effectively and endure organizational changes. For example, a community school typically has a steering committee with elected officials and local leaders involved in policy decisions, an executive team to manage overall operations and oversee partner agreements, and a site team to execute the day-to-day service delivery, referral and coordination.

• Partners share resources for coordination and services.

In most cases, community school efforts have been started with little to no new resources, but rather through the redeployment and reallocation of existing resources in new ways. While partners may not physically pool their respective funding, they work collaboratively to adjust their resources to meet the needs identified by the collaborative. Indeed, many services are provided on an in-kind basis. (A more detailed discussion of funding appears on page 7.)

School sites are key access points that reach clients more effectively.

Since attending school is compulsory; child, county and city agencies increase their exposure to target populations by either delivering or providing the link to services at schools. In addition, children and families may be more likely to utilize services at a school site due to: convenience, the removal of barriers to trust with service providers on-site, and the destignatizing effect of offering more universal and preventive services.

• Coordination is key.

To be effective, simply co-locating services at school sites is not enough. Community school partners must coordinate across services and fully integrate services into school systems. This effort may require major adjustments in existing service delivery and referral systems, particularly to ensure that each partner shares information about clients also served by other partners. Cross-agency sharing of information is highly beneficial as it allows for increased responsiveness to clients' evolving needs. By meeting the full spectrum of needs, the effectiveness of any single support service is increased; which in turn decreases duplication of services and frees up resources for more preventative services to be provided.

• Partners equally share responsibility for collectively achieving results.

All partnering entities—whether a county public health department, a city parks and recreation department or a school district—share responsibility for collectively achieving results and reaching identified outcomes. One partner may play a lead role in making progress toward a specific outcome, but all partners contribute to the success of reaching that outcome. For example, while a school may play the largest role in increasing students' academic learning, the county health department understands how its mental health consultant helps students address challenges that inhibit their ability to attend and focus in the classroom.



Funding Principles: Focus on Alignment of Existing Funding

Funding for community schools comes from its partners, not from a specific grant or funding stream. A community school effort can be started and sustained without new funding. The Community Profiles in this brief contain budget matrices showing the alignment that has been achieved. The funding matrix in each profile lists funding streams being utilized, sources and uses of the funding, and percentages of the overall budget represented by the funding source.

While the design of each community's efforts is unique to that community's assets and needs, some common principles regarding funding should be noted:

What Alignment of Resources Means

The core tenet of the community schools approach is that partnering entities share resources; this includes funding, time, personnel and/or other assets. Indeed, partner agencies are not just handing over their own funding, but they are allowing their partners to have a say

about how the funding they control is utilized. Additionally, funding is not always the most important asset a partner has to offer. For example, sharing buildings and other facilities make significant contributions to resources available to help meet the collaborative's goals.

Community school strategies have historically been started and sustained without new funding.

Finally, decisions about how current staff is utilized—versus adding new staff—are critical in terms of achieving maximum impact. For example, having a county-deployed mental health worker join the school's teaching staff in the Student Study Team process could significantly increase the impact of the mental health services provided, even if it means giving up an hour of time working directly with students each week.

Getting Started Without New or Additional Funding

While redeploying or reallocating services/resources to a school site can be challenging, it does not necessarily require new resources. The reality is many community schools get started with a single public agency partnering with a school district to expand its reach to a certain population. Once an effective partnership is established around one type of service, the agency and school identify another service to integrate into the school site that will help both the agency and the school meet its goals. Results from the partnership attract other entities with complementary services to join the collaborative so that they too can reach their goals.

For example, Redwood City 2020 (RWC2020)—a formal partnership among San Mateo County, Redwood City, the Redwood City School District, the Sequoia Union High School District, private funders and community-based organizations—was formed when key players from each of these entities realized that they were meeting multiple times about different topics affecting children and families.

By establishing Redwood City 2020, the partner organizations created a vehicle for having more comprehensive conversations, and at the same time, setting priorities more strategically and ultimately, implementing programs with greater impact. Despite declining budgets, RWC2020 has maintained support for its community schools—citing the significant return on investment they deliver each year.

In the current era of highly stressed public agency budgets, the community schools approach can offer a strategic method for making tough budget decisions and making the most out of community

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This Is Really Not Just School Districts' Responsibility
On the contrary, the community schools approach is about school districts turning to the community (especially county and city agencies) to help provide services and programs outside the expertise of schools.

A perusal of the funding matrices in the Community Profiles **community resources.** will show that school districts are contributing less than half of the total resources on the table. Each profile contains a leveraging ratio which represents the amount of outside resources brought in by the investment of one dollar of district controlled funding. The most common ratio is 3:1 for every education dollar invested. This ratio goes as high as just under 17:1 in the case of Redwood City. In the case of Sacramento City Unified School District, 85% of the overall budget consists of resources for services that come from partners or outside grants.

How Does Coordination Happen?

Without staff specifically responsible for coordination, maximizing the resources brought together by the partner organizations is not possible. In addition, investment in coordination must be made at both the management and site levels.

While most service delivery costs can be addressed by redeploying existing resources, many community school efforts struggle to identify resources to cover the costs of coordination. To ensure adequate coordination is in place, community schools efforts should prioritize obtaining policy and fiscal commitments from each partnering entity.

Very few public funding streams are dedicated to such coordination; although several federal, state and local funding streams can be used for such costs [refer to the Community Profiles below for examples of funding streams most commonly used to pay for coordination and administration; including: Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA), Title I and general funds].

These funding streams, however, face competing demands and may be difficult to redirect to coordination for a community schools effort. Some successful community schools initiatives have pieced together cash and in-kind resources from each of the partners to cover the costs associated with coordination.



Community Profiles

The community profiles that follow include: a description and history of the community school effort; the services, supports and opportunities being provided; the governance structure and the nature of the partnerships; how the effort is funded; and the results each community has seen. The following communities are highlighted:

- Sacramento City Unified School District Youth and Family Resource Centers
- Ontario-Montclair School District Student and Families Support Services
- Bear Valley Unified School District Bear Valley Healthy Start
- Redwood City School District/Redwood City 2020 Redwood City Community Schools
- Lake County Office of Education Lake County Healthy Start

Note to School Districts

A common misconception among school districts is that a community schools initiative will require a special start-up grant or major ongoing commitment of funding from the school district. The community profiles demonstrate successful community schools efforts relying on relatively small amounts of district funding. Indeed, most efforts leverage a majority of their resources from partner agencies and require no commitment of the district's general fund.

Note to Counties

County health and human services may find Redwood City's profile of particular interest. While Redwood City School District is the lead agency in the community school initiative, the partners in Redwood City 2020 jointly own and support the community schools initiative. Redwood City's community schools are supported by a formal partnership between the school district the city and the county—Redwood City 2020.

Rural counties may find the Lake County Healthy Start profile of particular interest to rural counties. To maximize limited resources and reach as many families as possible with support services, Lake County Healthy Start is administered by the County Office of Education—this way all seven of the County's school districts can participate and administrative costs are kept to a minimum.

Note to Cities

Cities wishing to understand the role they can play in a community schools approach may be most interested in the profile for the Ontario-Montclair community. In their effort, the school district and the City of Montclair partnered to provide the necessary resources for administration and basic infrastructure. Also of interest to cities, Redwood City 2020 is an initiative housed in the City Manager's office.

Sacramento City Unified School District Youth and Family Resource Centers

Overview

Sacramento City Unified School District's (SCUSD) Office of Integrated Support Services (ISS) operates 19 youth and family resource centers (YFRCs) at schools throughout the district to provide support to students who are struggling socially, emotionally, behaviorally and/or academically. At each center, social workers, family advocates, interns and community partners work directly with students and families to address issues of concern, drawing on school and community resources for additional support.

Services Provided

SCUSD's YFRCs provide a spectrum of integrated support that spans the areas of youth development, family services, academic enrichment, health and mental health. Targeted primarily to low-achieving students, YFRC services address critical student needs that pose barriers to learning. Services include:

Student Services	Family Services	School Services
 Advocacy Counseling Classroom Support Conflict Resolution Dental Screening Mentoring Recreational Activities School Supplies/Uniforms Tutoring Youth Development Activities 	 Case Management ESL and Citizenship Classes Health Insurance	 Attendance Services Community and School Safety Crisis Intervention SARB¹ Participation Student Study Team Support Suicide Risk Assessment Translation Services

In addition to the services at the 19 YFRCs, ISS provides support and consultation to administrators and staff at SCUSD's other 65+ schools on specific students, as well as program and policy issues related to social and emotional support. ISS also publishes a community resource directory, manages the SCUSD online resource directory and has recently launched a resource line related to LGBTQ student issues.

History

SCUSD's Youth and Family Resource Centers (YFRC) began in 1992 with support from the California Healthy Start program. Between 1992 and 2009, when the last Healthy Start grants were awarded, SCUSD received 14 operational grants to establish YFRCs at 26 schools. Of these, 19 YFRC sites remain funded and operational, including sites at 15 elementary, two middle and two high schools.



¹Student Attendance Review Board.

Governance / Partnerships

Each YFRC is governed by a combination of site-level management, district-level management and a collaborative composed of school and community stakeholders. At each site, a YFRC coordinator works closely with the principal to identify students and families in need of support (generally through the Student Study Team process), and to identify strategies for addressing these needs. The YFRC coordinator directly supervises YFRC staff and interns, manages relationships with community partners, and sits on each school's Site Council.

SCUSD's YFRCs are managed centrally through the Department of Integrated Support Services, which also coordinates a wide array of support services including foster youth, homeless services, mental health services and others. ISS staff are also called upon frequently to address policy issues within the school district and county, as well as to provide input on state and national legislation.

More than 100 community partners—which include community non-profits, city and county agencies, interns and volunteers—contribute to the success of SCUSD's YFRCs and provide over \$3 million annually in services. Though provided in-kind, community partners represent the most significant source of funding for YFRC support services.

This is made possible in part because the YFRCs provide partners with access to students, confidential working space and general assistance. Without this mutually supportive partnership, many of these services would fail to reach the students.

Results

SCUSD YFRC evaluation data provides evidence of the close connection between social/ emotional support and academic achievement. For example, data from the SCUSD Village Project (2004-05) demonstrated the following successes for students receiving YFRC services who had presented with poor grades, chronic truancy and/or extreme behavior problems:

- Over 77% (N = 705) of students at high risk of academic failure referred by teachers to SCUSD YFRC's maintained or improved their math and English scores on the California Standards Test.
- Of students referred by teachers for academic challenges who were functioning below basic proficiency in English or math, 33% improved their language skills and 27% increased their level of math proficiency.
- Of those referred to the YFRC's for behavioral challenges who were functioning below basic proficiency in math (N = 355) or English (N = 394), 30% increased their level of Math proficiency and 28% improved their language skills.

Funding

YFRC services are funded through many different sources, including grants, LEA Medi-Cal dollars, school-site contributions and leveraged funding through community partners.

Approximately six dollars in partner services are leveraged for every one dollar of direct YFRC funding. The YFRC's are funded without a single dollar from the school district general fund. In-kind resources that the YFRC infrastructure is able to leverage for school sites include: social work interns, community mental health providers, substance abuse services, language assistance and cultural brokerage, legal aid and health advocacy.

The following matrix shows the various funding sources and the activities and services they pay for:

Funding Sources/Types	Service Funded	Percentage of Total Funding
School Site Funding ² • Title I (main source) • EIA (Economic Impact Aid) • QEIA (Quality Education Investment Act)	 Family Resource Center coordination Social work and case management services Intern supervision 	7%
 School District LEA Billing Option (Medi-Cal) TIIBG (Targeted Instructional Improvement Block Grant) (AB 825) McKinney Vento³ (CDE) 	 Family Resource Center coordination Social work and case management services Intern supervision Administration Outreach and support for homeless youth and their families 	4%
 Education Related/Competitive Grants Healthy Start (CDE) School Community Violence Prevention (CDE) Lifeline Mentoring (federal – OJJDP)⁴ 	 Healthy Start site administration Violence Prevention Peer Mediation Conflict Resolution Youth Development Services Bullying Prevention School health centers 	4%
Local Government/Partner Agencies • Sacramento County Mental Health/ EPSDT ⁵ • CSUS Dept. of Social Work (interns provided in-kind) • Over 120 community partners providing a wide range of services and supports	 School-based mental services Social work and counseling services Wide range of social, emotional, academic, health, youth development and family support services 	85%
Private Donors/Foundations		Less than 1%

²Sources of school site contributions vary by school site. Title I represents the main source of funding. Some school sites contribute funds from EIA and QEIA to a lesser degree.

McKinney Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment – the Medi-Cal / Medicaid program for children.



Ontario-Montclair School District Student and Family Support Services

Overview

The Ontario-Montclair School District's vision is to ensure all students are prepared for success in school and life. This is achieved through focused academic programs and a continuum of supports services for students and families in need. These supports are especially important in Montclair and Ontario where 85% of students live in poverty, 49% of students are English Language Learners, and 39% of parents lack a high school diploma. To implement these services the Ontario-Montclair School District (OMSD) (K-8) established the Family Solutions Collaborative and Montclair Community Collaborative to serve all 32 schools in the district through outreach staff and a network of family resource centers.

Services Provided

Outreach consultants at each school site link students and families to comprehensive case management and other services. Case management includes both crisis intervention services and coordinated access and referrals to a range of supports including: housing, food, clothing, domestic violence supports, children's health insurance enrollment, health care, legal services, counseling, transportation supports, and more. Families can directly access: lice and immunization clinics, counseling services, and primary care medical services for children and adults either free or at low cost. In addition, families are offered parent education and school readiness supports.

Students from targeted schools participant in Promise Scholars, a multi-year universal college readiness program which has successfully helped students navigate the path to post-secondary education opportunities beginning in the 5th grade. Promise Scholars provides early college awareness, aspirations, and access to students with limited resources.

History

Together, the Family Solutions Collaborative and Montclair Community Collaborative have received eight Healthy Start Planning and Operational grants since 1997. As stated above, services are now provided to all 32 schools in the district.

In the winter of 2011, OMSD will be opening a new family resource center with Mental Health Services Act – Prevention and Early Intervention funds and a donated building by the City of Montclair using redevelopment funds. In addition, OMSD will be starting a school-based mental health clinic. Services in the new mental health clinic will be paid for via the children's Medi-Cal program, Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT).

Governance / Partnerships

OMSD provides district-wide coordination of the outreach consultants at each school site. The outreach consultants are OMSD staff who link students and families to the comprehensive case management and other services.

Case management is provided through a multi-disciplinary team with a lead case manager and as needed, a mental health professional, public health nurse, domestic violence shelter staff, child protective service case worker, code enforcement, etc. Case management referrals are made by outreach consultants after students have been served through either the Student Study Team or the Coordination of Service Team at the school site.

OMSD Student and Family Support Services Department coordinates ongoing community assessments and strategic planning processes that support the overall service and support system. In addition, the district organizes monthly agency partner and school staff meetings and in-service trainings. The Family Solutions Collaborative and Montclair Community Collaborative are responsible for the administration and operation of the network of family resource centers.

The City of Montclair is a key partner and has provided general fund money for a portion of a case manager since 1999. The City has aligned and coordinated its recreation programs, medical clinic, and other human services with the efforts of OMSD since the founding of the Montclair Community Collaborative in 1996. In addition, they are donating the use of a house for the new Family Resource Center in Montclair.

Results

Student and Family Support evaluation data shows improvements for families and students, especially regarding school attendance:

- Students served by intensive OMSD Case Management services in 2008-09 attended school on average 3.3 more days than before the intervention (N=380).
- Families served through Case Management services in 2008-09 exhibited the following changes:
 - o 24% improvement in parent skills;
 - o 17% improvement in employment and income;
 - o 13% improvement in mental health;
 - o 19% increase in access to community supports; and
 - o 13% improvement in access to basic needs supports (as measured by the Life Skills Progression assessment tool).
- Students served by the OMSD counseling program in 2008-09 attended school on average 3.3 more days than before the intervention (N=729).
- 64.9% of students served by the OMSD counseling program showed significant improvement in mental health outcomes (as measured by the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale).
- Since 1999, over 4,200 students have experienced increased awareness of and aspirations to attend college. Students in the Promise Scholars program attend school an average of 8.5 more days a year; have higher GPA; higher CAHSEE scores; and are more likely to attend college compared to matched/equivalent students not in the program. Approximately 54% of Promise Scholars enroll in college following high school graduation compared to 38% of equivalent non-participants.



Funding

The student and family support services system is funded by cash commitments from OMSD and the City of Montclair. These funds pay mostly for coordination, administration, staff training, assessment and ongoing service delivery system development. Support services are largely provided by in-kind contributions made by partner agencies.

For every education dollar invested (including but not limited to a current Healthy Start grant and Title I) \$2.70 is leveraged from other sources to support students. This leveraging calculation is based on amounts of cash-in-hand invested by OMSD or its shared fiscal agent, the City of Montclair. It does not included resources committed in-kind by agency partners—amounts which represents the vast majority of resources committed to the effort.

In the past, Healthy Start and Safe Schools/Healthy Students grants as well as contributions from a private foundation funded service and systems development.

The following matrix shows funding sources committed by the district, the city and the other partners:

Funding Sources/Types	Service Funded	Percentage of Total Funding
School District ⁶ • General Fund • Title I • McKinney Vento (CDE) ⁷	Administration/Coordination Case Management	27%
Education Related/Competitive Grants • Healthy Start (CDE) • MAA (Medi-Cal Administrative Activities) • LEA Billing Option (Medi-Cal)	Case ManagementOutreach consultants at each siteAdministration/Coordination	34%
Local Government/Partner Agencies	 Infrastructure / Administration Case Management/Parent education/Health service access In class behavior services Case Management / counseling/ social emotional learning curriculum and activities Mental health services for students 	38%
Private Donors/Foundations	Supplies	Less than 1%

⁶ Sources of school site contributions vary by school site. Title I represents the main source of school site contributions. However, some school sites contribute funds from EIA and QEIA to a lesser degree.

⁷ McKinney Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.



Bear Valley Unified School District Bear Valley Healthy Start

Overview

Bear Valley Healthy Start and the Bear Valley Unified School District (BVUSD) serves students and families of the Big Bear community which include the City of Big Bear Lake and county unincorporated areas. Big Bear is a rural community with a population of approximately 20,000 people scattered throughout a 12-mile long valley at the 7000 foot elevation in the San Bernardino Mountains. The community is 45 miles of mountain roads from the nearest city. Healthy Start serves over 2,700 students at three elementary schools (K-6), one middle school (7-8), one high school (9-12), one continuation high school, and a single one-room schoolhouse (1-6) located approximately 50 miles from the Big Bear Lake. The Bear Valley Healthy Start Collaborative is committed to improving student and family success at home, school and in society by maximizing access to community resources.

Services Provided

Bear Valley Healthy Start works with several local and county organizations to ensure that the youth and families of this rural, isolated mountain community have the services they need. The Healthy Start collaborative strives to nurture happy, healthy families by working with children starting in pre-school through high school to address their emotional, developmental and physical health needs. Services include:

- Health Aides: Health aides are on site at the three main elementary schools, middle school and high school to provide basic health care services. Health Aides provide vision, dental, hearing, and scoliosis screenings; and oversee daily medication management, injury and health care for students at all schools.
- Family Advisors: Family advisors at the elementary, middle and high schools work with students, their families and staff to provide support and a link to community services. Family Advisors also meet with students on either an individual or small peer group basis to discuss ways of dealing with difficulties at home and school, such as reaction to parents' divorce, a death in the family, bullying, self-esteem and social skills building.
- Peace Builders Program: The elementary schools are promoting the Peace Builders philosophy to shift school culture to one of inclusiveness, responsibility and support. Family Advisors blend research based Positive Action Curriculum with Peace Builders in classroom presentations that have reduced bullying and fighting on campus. Specially trained Family Advisors provide small group Positive Action sessions for students requiring particular assistance in developing social skills and self-management.
- Student Assistance Program and Peer Assistance and Leadership Skill Building: The
 middle school implemented the Safe School Ambassadors Program in conjunction with
 the Student Assistance Program to reduce bullying and improve school climate. These
 approaches have significantly empowered middle school students to intervene when
 they see tensions between peers begin. Students at the high school participate in Peer
 Leadership skills training program provided by Family Advisors.



- Case Management: Case management is available for families with issues which
 require more intense intervention such as, health insurance enrollment, basic needs,
 substance abuse, domestic violence, etc.. Families are referred to appropriate local
 resources outside of the school district, and Family Advisors collaborate with these
 specialists to make sure that children don't "fall through the cracks."
- Community Activities and Events spearheaded by Healthy Start include clothing exchanges, Family Fun Night, and a holiday giving collaborative among others.

Governance/Partnerships

Bear Lake Healthy Start is administered by its Healthy Start Supervisor. With 12 part-time staff at five schools, Healthy Start provides coordination and oversight for the program, including: needs assessments, data collection and analysis, program and service evaluation, collaborative/partner coordination and fundraising.

Monthly multi-disciplinary team (MDT) meetings with Children and Family Services, mental health, law enforcement and social services representatives ensure continuity in intensive case management services and coordination among services provided to children and families.

To provide a comprehensive range of services the Bear Lake Healthy Start Collaborative is made up of broad group of partners:

- Lutheran Social Services
- DOVES
- Big Bear Recovery Services (OB)
- Bear Valley Healthcare District MOM and DAD Project
- Soroptimist of Big Bear Valley
- Bear Valley Recreation and Parks District
- Hummingbird Project
- Big Bear Lake Branch Library
- Kiwanis Club of Big Bear
- Lions Club
- Bear Valley Firefighters Association
- City of Big Bear Lake
- Chamber of Commerce
- San Bernardino County Departments

Results

On an annual basis, Healthy Start is able to realize the following outcomes that help ensure children make it to school healthy and ready to learn include:

- Over 2,500 children assisted by Family Advisors to access community resources.
- Over 5,300 Positive Action sessions conducted, with 80% of the students. participating showing improvement in school preferred behaviors.
- Over 360 high school students participated in leadership skills training program.

Funding

Bear Lake Healthy Start is funded by wide range of funding streams. Through public and private grants, school-based Medi-Cal, and in-kind services provided by partner organizations Healthy Start is able to leverage six dollars in support services and programs for every education dollar invested in Healthy Start. No general funds are contributed by the school district, except funds leveraged through the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program.

The following matrix shows the funding streams and sources of these funding streams, the services they pay for and the portion of the total program they make up:

Funding Sources/Types	Service Funded	Percentage of Total Funding
School District • MAA (Medi-Cal Administrative Activities) • LEA Billing Option (Medi-Cal) • McKinney Vento ⁹	 Healthy Start Administration Family Advisors at each school site Health Aides at each school site/ basic health services Outreach and support for homeless youth and their families 	73%
Education Related/Competitive Grants		0%
Local Government/Partner Agencies City of Big Bear Lake Community Development Block Grant	Positive Action classroom presentations, parent supports and referrals to community services.	
San Bernardino County Department of Health Services • Alcohol and Drug Services Grant First 5 – as a sponsor for Family Fun Night	 Substance abuse services, Peer Leadership and Student Assistance Covers expenses for Community Family Fun Night with 60+ vendors providing FREE food, information and activities to Big Bear children and family members 	20%
Private Donors/Foundations	Core support for Healthy Start Administration and Health Aides	17%



⁹ McKinney Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.

Redwood City School District/Redwood City 2020 Redwood City Community Schools

Overview

Redwood City School District's (RCSD) Community Schools are a network of schools that unite the most important influences in children's lives—school, families, and communities—to create a web of support that nurtures their development toward productive adulthood. With its partners, the District operates four community schools with onsite family resource centers and offers extended day services at eight other sites. RCSD's community schools reflect a unique partnership among San Mateo County, Redwood City, the Redwood City School District and community-based organizations, brought together as an initiative of Redwood City 2020 (RWC2020).

Services Provided

RCSD's community schools and extended day programs reach over 1,900 students each year with a wide array of services and programs:

- Family Support Services: Through the family resource centers, students and families have access to a comprehensive set of safety net programs. Case managers help families navigate the vagaries of rules and application processes related to the various programs. As with elementary-aged families, those with children ages five and younger have access to a home visiting program.
- Parent Leadership and Involvement: RCSD's community schools are committed to
 making sure that families are involved in meaningful ways and have the tools they
 need to partner with school staff and help their children navigate the education
 system. Families are offered parenting education as well as school transition support
 for pre-K to Kindergarten, 5th to 6th grade, and 8th to 9th grade.
- Extended Day Activities: Students at 12 school sites participate in extended day enrichment activities which include literacy and science programs, sports, youth leadership, and parks and recreation activities.
- Student Leadership/Youth Development: A highlight of RCSD's community schools is their commitment to following youth development principles and offering students meaningful ways to engage in their school community. These activities include, opportunities for apprenticeships, student government activities, peer mediators, and collaboration with the City for involvement in middle school Youth Advisory Board.

History

RCSD's community schools began as Healthy Start sites in the early 1990s with family resource centers and were launched as an initiative of Redwood City 2020 in 2003. The original sites have grown into the fully operational community schools – two K through 5 schools, a K through 8, and a middle school. Two additional school sites are currently being developed as full service community schools.

Governance Structure/Partnerships

Each of RCSD's community schools has Community School Coordinator. The coordinator works closely with the principal and manages the school's partnerships and the related array of services and programs. This relationship ensures that the principal can focus on the core academics and that support services are given sufficient attention to be both effective and fully integrated into the academic plan. At the district level, RCSD's community schools are overseen by the Director of Community School Partnerships who secures funding and ensures coordination across the sites.

The partnerships created and sustained by RWC2020 make the community schools initiative possible, and site level work is reflected in the executive and policy-setting teams of RWC2020. RWC2020 started as an 'umbrella' to address in a more coordinated way the multiple issues facing students and families in the City. In 1999, RWC2020 established a formal partnership among San Mateo County, the City of Redwood City, the Redwood City School District, and the Seguoia Union High School District. Over time, other partners have joined, including the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities (Stanford University), and foundations as critical funding partners.

Results

Taft Elementary School is RCSD's most established community school. The academic progress Taft has been able to realize shows what is possible when a commitment to providing comprehensive social/emotional supports is combined with a strong instructional program. 87% of Taft's students are eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch and 64% are English language learners.

- Taft was one of only nine schools in California to exit "Program Improvement" status under No Child Left Behind (2009).
- Academic Performance Index rose to 784 in 2009, from 444 in 2000.
- 43% of English Language Learners are proficient or advanced on California Standards Test (CST) in English.
- 67% of Latino and socio-economically disadvantaged subgroups are proficient in math.

Funding

RCSD's Community Schools leverage government, foundation and partner funding as well as district general fund monies. While it is not captured in the matrix below, each of the Redwood City 2020 partners contribute \$25,000 annually to convene Redwood City 2020 and manage its initiatives.

Approximately \$16.91 in partner financial support and in-kind services are leveraged for every one dollar of core education funding committed.



The following matrix shows the various funding sources and the activities and services they pay for:

Funding Sources/Types	Service Funded	Percentage of Total Funding
School District • General fund • Title I	Community School Infrastructure/ Administration	6%
 Education Related/Competitive Grants After School Education and Safety (ASES) program 21st Century Community Learning Centers School Violence Prevention Grant 	 Community School Infrastructure/ Administration Comprehensive Extended Day Learning Opportunities Family Engagement Activities School Resource Officers Youth Development Classes 	35%
Local Government/Partner Agencies • San Mateo County Human Services Agency • Children's Collaborative Action Team ¹⁰ • City of Redwood City • Sheriff's Office/Sherriff's Activity League (SAL) • First Five • Differential Response • Early Mental Health Initiative • Health Department (Children's Health Initiative)	 Community School Infrastructure/ Administration Sports and Arts programming Nurturing Parenting Program Differential Response Case Management Primary Mental Health Intervention Program Mental Health Clinicians at the site Family Support Services (safety net services) Access to health coverage/benefits 	52%
Private Donors/Foundations	Community School Infrastructure/ Administration Safety Net Services Family Engagement Services	7%

 $[\]overline{^{10}}$ The Children's Collaborative Action Team (CCAT) is the designated Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) of San Mateo County. CCAT/CAPC is an independent collaborative mandated by the California State Welfare and Institutions Code 18967. The CCAT fiscal agent is the San Mateo County Human Services Agency.

Lake County Office of Education Lake County Healthy Start

Overview/History

Lake County Healthy Start started at one elementary school established with the support of a Healthy Start grant in 1991; and now serves 20 schools in all seven of the County's school districts. In the past school year, Healthy Start served over 2,500 students and their families, providing support, encouragement and practical assistance to help strengthen the children and families of Lake County.

The primary focus of Lake County Healthy Start is to address barriers to learning and increase student success. A team of onsite professionals is committed to supporting children and helping to build personal strengths for families. Over 70% of students enrolled in public schools across the County live below the Federal Poverty line, and that statistic increases to over 90% at select school sites. For families facing serious and multiple challenges associated with economic pressures, the Healthy Start team provides support in many ways, including:

- Increased access to health care for low income families;
- Strengthening families through parent education and support;
- Providing families with concrete support in times of need; and
- Enhanced social and emotional supports for children and families.

Services Provided

Healthy Start partners provide a wide array of supports and services to ensure that children make it to school healthy and ready to learn. Services include:

- Focused educational support for foster children and youth
- Special outreach, identification and services for homeless youth and their families
- Support services for families with school-age children delivered in the home. Including referrals for a wide array of support services, parent education, basic needs for families and access to health care.
- Parenting classes countywide, for parents of infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-age children and adolescents. Offered in English and Spanish by many agency partners.
- Dental screenings, oral health education for preschoolers and their parents, assistance in obtaining dental insurance, referral for dental treatment, and transportation to ensure access.
- Lice eradication services for CalWORKS families. Head checks at school sites to reduce absences due to head lice. Home visits for selected households and education for all families on staying lice free.



The strength of Lake County Healthy Start comes from the diverse programs, and strong collaborations developed throughout the County. The entire Healthy Start team works together in a fluid manner to ensure each child and family receives the services ideally suited to meet their unique needs. This level of personalization offers a rare depth of service, and results in strong child and family outcomes.

Governance/Partnerships

Lake County Healthy Start is administered by the Lake County Office of Education (LCOE). Oversight and direction of all Healthy Start programs are managed by the Director and Administrative Support person including: needs assessments, data collection and analysis, program and service evaluation, collaborative / partner coordination and fundraising. Administering the Healthy Start program through the County Office of Education creates a unique opportunity to ensure efficient utilization of resources, and strong collaborations and participation among the County's seven school districts. This county-level coordination provides each district access to a much wider scope of services than each district would be able to provide on its own.

To provide a comprehensive range of services Lake County Healthy Start has a broad group of partners:

- Lake County Public Health
- Child Protective Services
- Lake County Mental Health
- Lakeside Health Care Center
- Redbud Family Health Center
- Indian Child Welfare
- North Coast Opportunities
- Lake County Community Action Agency
- Lake County Health Services
- Lake Family Resource Center
- Easter Seals
- Migrant Education
- Redwood Children's Services
- Lake County Probation Department
- Redwood Coast Regional Center
- Lake County Tribal Health

The level of service integration and coordination at the site level is exemplified by the relationship between Healthy Start staff, the school and the child welfare department in the design and implementation of a local Differential Response program. This program, Family PRO, has received state and national recognition for positive outcomes in increasing parenting knowledge and skills, increasing family access to local services, and creating safer and more stable home environments.

These crucial partnerships were formed to focus on the common goal of reducing child abuse and neglect in Lake County and stabilizing families so children could attend school and be successful. Lake County Child Welfare Services, Lake Family Resource Center, Robinson Rancheria and Healthy Start joined together to develop a unique Lake County Differential Response Project. Cross trainings for all staff included: Motivational Interviewing, Family Team Meetings, Substance Abuse 101, etc. A new Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) to review students and families with multiple agency involvement, with a focus on prevention, was developed and includes: SELPA, AODS, CWS, Regional Center, Easter Seals, Probation Department, Mental Health Dept., County Office of Education, Healthy Start and others.

Several of these Healthy Start and Partners initiatives (Children's Oral Health Project, Delinquent Diversion Differential Response, Foster Youth Consortium, Nurturing Parenting Project) have created a process for open and honest communication between agencies and trusting relationships—which result in a reduction in duplication in services and improved services to families. When families are more stable, children are healthier and come to school ready to learn.

Results

Outcomes that help ensure children make it to school healthy and ready to learn include, annually:

- Almost 400 children transported to dentist and corresponding decrease in dental disease
- Just under 11,000 head checks for lice at school sites and corresponding improved attendance
- Over 200 parents taking Nurturing Parent classes

Funding

Lake County Healthy Start is supported by wide range of funding streams. Through public and private grants, school-based Medi-Cal, and in-kind services provided by partner organizations, LCOE is able to leverage three dollars in support services and programs for every education dollar invested in Healthy Start. No general funds are contributed by the participating school districts, except funds leveraged through the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program.

The following matrix shows the funding streams and sources of these funding streams, the services they pay for, and the portion of the total program they make up:

Funding Sources/Types	Service Funded	Percentage of Total Funding
School District • LEA Billing Option (Medi-Cal)	Healthy Start Services	6%
County Office of Education • MAA (Medi-Cal Administrative Activities)	Healthy Start Administration	7%
Education Related/Competitive Grants • Foster Youth Services (CDE) • McKinney Vento ¹¹	 Educational support for children in foster care Outreach and support for homeless youth and their families 	25%



¹¹ McKinney Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.

Funding Sources/Types	Service Funded	Percentage of Total Funding
Local Government/Partner Agencies First 5 – Local and State • Nurturing Parenting • Children's Oral Health Project	 Family support services Parenting classes Dental screening, education, referral for services and transportation 	62%
Lake County Department of Social Services • Differential Response (Child Protective Services) • PAL Program	Family support services Lice eradication services for Cal WORKS families. Head checks at school sites.	
Local Hospital District	Healthy Start Services	

APPENDIX A **Descriptions of Funding Streams**

The descriptions of funding streams below are arranged under the following categories:

- Education Funding Sources Formula/Entitlement
- Education Funding Sources Competitive Grants
- Funding Sources from Partner Agencies

Under these categories funding sources appear alphabetically.

Education Funding Sources – Formula / Entitlement (federal/state)

Economic Impact Aid (EIA) (state/formula)

A program supporting compensatory educational services for educationally disadvantaged students and bilingual education services for English language learners.

For more information: Economic Impact Aid, California Department of Education at http:// www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/ca/eia.asp

Foster Youth Services (state/formula)

Foster Youth Services funding supports schools in improving foster youth's educational performance and personal achievement by increasing interagency support. Among other things, Foster Youth Services funding is used to determine gaps in the provision of educational and social support services and then to provide those services, either directly or through referral to collaborative partners. Schools can use Foster Youth Services funding to provide counseling and mentoring to foster youth, to refer them to outside providers, and to coordinate services.

For more information: Foster Youth Services, California Department of Education at http:// www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Medi-Cal Billing Option (federal funding through CA Health Care Services Dept/fee for service)

Because Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) provide medical services to students covered by Medi-Cal, they are eligible for federal reimbursement for the cost of certain services. Specifically, LEAs can be reimbursed for the cost of medical services that they provide to special education students when those services are required by students' Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Reimbursement funding must be spent on health and healthrelated services for students, and there are no restrictions on the types of health services provided or students served. Reinvestments in Medi-Cal outreach, enrollment and referral activities are count as health-related and are allowed. A local interagency group decides how funding is spent.

For more information: LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option, California Department of Health Care Services at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/pages/lea.aspx



Title I-A of ESEA (federal/formula)

Title I-A, the largest ESEA formula grant program, supports schools and school districts with high numbers or percentages of disadvantaged students in improving academic outcomes and closing the achievement gap. Title I-A grants are relatively flexible, and schools can use their funding to bolster student support services, including school health services and centers.

For more information: Title I-A, CDE's website at http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/

Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) (federal funding through CA Health Care Services Dept/time study)

Because staff at Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) spend time helping students and families use the Medi-Cal program (e.g., conducting outreach, facilitating applications), LEAs are eligible for reimbursement for the cost of that time. Reimbursements through the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program can be used to support any community school activities. Reimbursements return to the district's general fund and there are no restrictions on how funding is utilized.

For more information: School-based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities program, California Department of Health Care Services at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/pages/smaa.aspx

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act¹² (state/competitive)

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act facilities the enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youth. Schools can use McKinney-Vento funds to provide student health and support services to homeless and other at-risk students, as well as to coordinate services and facilitate student referrals to community health providers.

For more information: Homeless Children & Youth Education, California Department of Education at http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/cy/index.asp

Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) (state/formula based on API)

Assists the lowest performing schools, schools with a valid 2005 Academic Performance Index (API) that are ranked in deciles 1 to 2, to increase student achievement.

For more information: QEIA, California Department of Education at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/lp/qe/

Targeted Instructional Improvement Block Grant (TIIBG) (state/formula)

Targeted Instructional Improvement Block Grant (TIIBG) program detailing AB 825 funding information.

For more information: Targeted Instructional Improvement Block Grant, California Department of Education at http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/ca/tiibg.asp

¹² School districts must apply for funds through McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act. However, schools districts are only very rarely denied funding. Therefore, this funding stream should be considered more like a formula-based funding stream.



Education Funding Sources – Competitive Grants (federal/state sources)

21st Century Community Learning Centers/ Title IV-B of ESEA (federal through CDE/competitive)

Title IV-B of ESEA, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, supports school districts and communities with high percentages of disadvantaged students in improving academic outcomes and closing the achievement gap. 21st Century Community Learning Centers operate before and after school, as well as over the summer, and must offer academic assistance, enrichment, and family literacy services. Schools can use 21st Century Community Learning Center funding to support drug and violence prevention, counseling, and character education services, as well as parent involvement initiatives.

For more information: 21st Century Community Learning Centers, California Department of Education at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ba/cp/

After School Education and Safety Program (ASES)¹³ (state/competitive)

The After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program funds after school and before school programs to ensure that students in kindergarten through ninth grade have safe, constructive opportunities during non-school hours. ASES programs must provide academic support, including literacy support, as well as an educational enrichment component designed to complement the school's overall mission. The enrichment component is flexible, based on student needs, and can incorporate youth development and health/nutrition prevention activities. ASES grants can support schools that provide, or want to provide, health education, youth development, and service coordination.

For more information: After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program, California Department of Education at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ba/as/

Early Mental Health Initiative (state funding through California Department of Mental Health/competitive)

The California Early Mental Health Initiative (EMHI) are grants to support intervention and prevention services for students in kindergarten through third grade who experience mild to moderate school adjustment difficulties. The goals of EMHI are to enhance the social and emotional development of young students; increase the likelihood that students experiencing mild to moderate school adjustment difficulties will succeed in school; increase their personal competencies related to life success; and minimize the need for more intensive and costly services as they grow older. EMHI supports Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) as they collaborate with mental health providers to implement school-based programs to enhance school adjustment, mental health, and social/emotional development. Grant funding is provided for one three-year cycle to publicly funded elementary schools.

For more information: Early Mental Health Initiative, California Department of Mental Health at http://www.dmh.ca.gov/services_and_programs/children_and_youth/EMHI.asp

 $[\]overline{^{13}}$ While school districts must apply for ASES funds, the applications are not competitive in nature. Instead, priority for funding is given first to schools with 50% or greater participation / eligibility for the free/reduced price meal program.



School Community Violence Prevention Program (state/competitive)

The School Community Violence Prevention Program (SCVP) addresses school safety and violence prevention issues. Strategies for addressing school safety and preventing violence must be selected from a pre-approved list of research-based, science-based, or promising practices. SCVP grants can support schools in preventing violence through a variety of services, such as case management, counseling, and youth development.

For more information: School Community Violence Prevention Program, CDE at http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/profile.asp?id=1211

Funding Sources from Partner Agencies (local, state and federal)

Community Development Block Grants (federal funding through local government entities/community input process – competitive)

Community Development Block Grants are federal awards to local government entities to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, providing a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities for low- and moderate- income individuals. These grants are used to support community services and facilities related to those services, including family supports, after school, child care and youth development programs. Most local entities utilize a public input process to determine how to use the funds, so interested applicants should advocate for their programs throughout the process, as well as submitting a formal application.

For more information: Review the directory of contact information for the local staff of large cities and counties that receive funding directly from HUD, known as entitlement entities, at http://www.hud.gov/local/ca/community/cdbg/index.cfm

Differential Response (state and federal funding for child welfare services delivered by county Child Welfare Services Departments/counties as partner agencies provide services in-kind)

Differential Response refers to an innovation in child welfare practice. Differential Response is an approach to ensuring child safety by expanding the ability of child welfare agencies to respond to reports of child abuse and neglect. Its focus includes a broader set of responses for working with families at the first signs of trouble, including innovative partnerships with community based organizations that can help support families that are in need – and before further problems develop. With Differential Response, social workers work with families to engage them in solutions and to provide focused services so that there is the best possible opportunity to make needed improvements. Differential Response was first piloted by eleven California counties in 2004 and is now an approach that can be offered by a county's Child Welfare Services Department. That is, funding for these supports to family would be contributed in-kind by the county.

For more information: Contact your county's Child Welfare Services Department or Children's Network

Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) (Medi-Cal program administered by county mental health departments/entitlement with 5% county contribution) Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) is the Medi-Cal program for individuals under the age of 21 who have full-scope Medi-Cal eligibility. This benefit allows for periodic screenings to determine health care needs. Based upon the identified health care need, diagnostic and treatment services are provided. In California, the term 'EPSDT' is often commonly used to refer to mental health services provided through the program. In some counties EPSDT financed mental health services are provided by county mental health clinicians and in other counties many of these services are provided by community-based providers through a contract with the county.

For more information: Contact your county's mental health or behavioral health care department.

First Five (First 5) (Local commissions)

First 5 California supports children from prenatal to age 5 by creating a comprehensive and integrated system of information and services to promote early childhood development and school readiness. First 5 funding can pay for health care and related services for children up through 5 years of age, as well as to support parent engagement and education strategies. Eighty percent of First 5 funding is allocated to county-level First 5 commissions.

For more information: California Children and Families Commission at http://www.ccfc.ca.gov/ default.asp

First 5 Association of California: An Association of County Commissions at http://www.f5ac.org

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) (state funding administered by the Department of Mental Health/allocation of funds is planned and administered by each county) Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) passed in November 2004 as Proposition 63 on the California ballot, provides funding to expand and transform California's county-based mental health care system for children, adults and seniors. Counties receive MHSA funds based on a formula and allocate those funds based on plans developed with community input. There were five components which counties included in their original plans. Prevention and Early Intervention, is a component of particular interest to schools and community school efforts. Guidelines from the state required that a portion of the PEI funds be utilized for 0 -24 year old population. In addition, schools were one of the entities required to be included in the planning process.

For more information: California Department of Mental Health at http://www.dmh.ca.gov/ prop 63/mhsa/default.asp

To see your county's current plan go to http://www.dmh.ca.gov/Prop_63/MHSA/County_Plans_ and Updates.asp





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