Five Years Into the Black Child Legacy Campaign

Unprecedented community conditions call for unprecedented community effort. When 2009 data showed that African American children in Sacramento County were twice or even three times as likely to die as White, Latino or Asian children—and had experienced this disparity for 20 years—community leaders at the County Board of Supervisors and Sierra Health Foundation knew it was time to act.

In 2015, the Black Child Legacy Campaign was launched with a goal of reducing the disparity in African American child deaths 10 to 20 percent by 2020.

The results have been nothing short of amazing. After just three years of implementation, the Black Child Legacy Campaign:

- Reduced the rate of African American child deaths by 25 percent
- Reduced the rate of African American infant deaths by 20 percent
- Achieved a reduction of more than 50% in disparity for infant sleep-related deaths
- Saw zero juvenile homicides in 2018 and 2019
- Assigned almost 200 Cultural Broker referrals since February 2018 through the Sacramento County Cultural Broker Program
- On March 2, 2019, the success of the Black Child Legacy Campaign was recognized by The National Association of Counties Health Steering Committee

Using a collective impact approach, the Black Child Legacy Campaign brings together dozens of partners to provide seamless family support services and youth development opportunities in seven Sacramento neighborhoods. The relationships formed—between residents and providers, among provider organizations, among the seven communities, and between communities and city and county policymakers—create a new and powerful infrastructure for lasting, equitable, systemic change.

The Big Picture

The Foundation of a REVOLUTION

Five Years of Legacy
Building a Solid Infrastructure

How We Got Here

How We Know It Works

Black Child Legacy Campaign 2020 Impact Dashboard

Reduction of African American Child Deaths

The goal of the campaign is a reduction in African American child deaths from the 2014 baseline of 462 deaths to below 200 children (a 54% reduction).

African American Child Deaths by Cause of Death

African American Child Deaths by Cause of Death 2016-2017

Local Movement Building

Community Partnerships (2019)

Resource and Capacity-Building Investments

Total Investment to The Center (2014-2020)

$10.9 Million

65 TRAINING HOURS

16 TRAINING HOURS

Community Intervention Workers provided intensive case management and crisis response through Healing the Hood. Community Intervention Workers received more than 40 hours of training and professional development in 2019.

African American individuals and families received intensive case management to reduce the stressors and risk factors that lead to unsafe sleep practices for babies, lack of prenatal care for women, child abuse and neglect, and youth violence. Intensive case management allows caseworkers to provide services and supports to address homelessness, food insecurity, substance abuse, lack of Medicaid and other challenges.

African American individuals and families received education and referrals for safe sleep practices. Parents, grandparents and other caregivers received community education and participated in forums to learn how to ensure infants are safe when they sleep. 105 families received orbits.

African American youth participated in BCLC activities. African American youth participated in transformative learning opportunities, including data collection through participatory action research (PAR) within their neighborhoods and schools, employment readiness, event planning, public speaking, civic engagement and multimedia technical skills.

African American community members were involved in leadership activities such as serving as an adult ally for youth participatory action research teams, public speaking, and serving on the Community Leadership Roundtable.

BCLC clients (including non-African American clients) needed housing-related services. African American youth were referred from Probation.

African American families with open CPS cases received BCLC services.

TRAINING HOURS

African American pregnant women received BCLC services. 137 of these women were connected to prenatal care as part of their BCLC services.

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