

**Overview:** Each Supervisorial District is a Community Hub with multidisciplinary teams providing prevention and early intervention services for families in libraries, schools and other local venues.

**Challenge:** El Dorado County exceeds state averages in measures of family violence, substance use and behavioral health. Accessing services is challenging for many residents due to distance from service centers and lack of transportation options. A variety of County agencies offer prevention and early intervention services, but families face barriers to access due to lack of knowledge, transportation or cost. Additionally, many services are eligibility specific requiring multiple agencies to serve one family.

**Solution:** We bring prevention and early intervention services to communities by maximizing local resources and reorganizing the service delivery system around Community Hubs in each of the five County Supervisorial Districts. Each Supervisorial District is considered a “Hub” with its local library branch serving as the primary service delivery location. Hubs have a multidisciplinary team consisting of a public health nurse, community health advocate, family engagement specialist and an early childhood literacy specialist. Teams offer activities to promote early literacy, child development, parenting, and preventative health activities in familiar community based locations for expectant parents and families with children birth through eighteen years of age. Family engagement activities are guided by the Family Strengthening Protective Factors to build resiliency. Families with more complex needs are offered individualized support and can be referred to a public health nurse for home visiting and case management as needed. Each team member uses a trauma informed approach and seeks to build relationships, establish trust, and encourage caregivers to seek support before crisis. Services are provided in places where families naturally gather such as libraries, schools, churches, parks and child care centers. All services are provided at no cost to the families.

**Innovation:** In total, Community Hubs invest more than \$12 million over four years to increase access to prevention and early intervention services. Multiple funding streams are leveraged: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovations Grant, Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH), Health

Realignment, Child Abuse Prevention (CAPIT, PSSF, CBCAP), Library Department, and First 5 Commission. Community Hubs are included in four strategic plans: County of El Dorado, MHSA, MCAH and First 5 Commission. Leaders from Public Health Nursing, County Office of Education, Library and First 5 have developed a charter to establish the vision, meet monthly, and guide program implementation. In its first year, public health nurses prepared community needs assessments for each of the Supervisorial Districts or Hubs. This data is updated annually as a “Community Hub Profile” and is used to guide continuous program improvement. These profiles report the population served, impact on resiliency and areas of opportunity for program development. In addition, the profiles highlight unique issues for each community including poverty rates, high school graduation rates and the number of grandparents raising grandchildren.

**Results:** In the last two years, Community Hubs have provided services to over 6,000 children ages 0-5 years and nearly 5,000 parents and caregivers. In the last year alone, they have provided 875 early literacy activities, 177 family engagements and connected 878 families with health providers. They are increasing family resiliency for at least one in four (22%-28%) families they reach, with the greatest gains in providing concrete support in times of need (9%) followed by social connections(6%) and parental resilience (4%). They are successfully reducing barriers and meeting the unique needs of our families, one by one.

**Replicability:** The Community Hub concept is highly replicable requiring a collaborative vision and leaders who are willing to bring public agencies together, outside of their walls and silos, to meet the unique needs of families in their communities.

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