



Children's Health

Community Benefit Report

for Fiscal Year 2024 and
2025 Implementation Strategy





Words From Our President and CEO



“By supporting successful programs out in the community, we are better able to help families in their pursuit of health and wellness.”

Caring for our community has been an intrinsic part of the mission of Stanford Medicine Children’s Health since our beginnings. We put action to our words through our extensive local engagement work, which includes investment in our community in myriad ways, including partnerships with area nonprofits. By supporting successful programs in the community, we are better able to help families in their pursuit of health and wellness.

With each year that passes, we deepen our commitment and extend our reach to support families where they live, work, and play. Our commitment to increase health care access for children, mothers, and their families is an ongoing motivation. Yet, we understand that good health is also influenced by economic stability—access to stable housing, healthy food, livable wages, and higher education.

To deepen our impact in improving social determinants of health in our region, we have appointed our first chief health equity officer, Ndidi Unaka, MD. Additionally, we have been enhancing economic stability by increasing our support of nonprofits dedicated to providing a solid foundation for families.

I am extremely proud of our collaborative efforts with key partners in our community. You can read more about these nonprofits in the upcoming pages.

In 2024, Stanford Children’s invested nearly \$286 million in services and activities to improve the health of local residents through charity care, health education, community health improvement, safety programs, and advocacy for improved regional, state, and national health laws and regulations. On top of this investment, we provided another \$1.6 million in grants for 16 local nonprofits to support the vital work they do, every day, to increase health and stability for families in the communities that we serve.

There is an incredible spirit of compassion at Stanford Children’s among our staff and leaders, which shines through not only in this report, but also in the care we provide our patients and families. I celebrate our Community Benefit work, which helps us reach beyond our doors to improve the lives of neighbors, friends, and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul A. King". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot at the end.

Paul A. King
President and CEO
Stanford Medicine Children’s Health

Contents

Words From Our President and CEO.....	3	2024 Community Health Improvement Grant Recipients.....	15	Engaging to Improve Health	46
About Community Benefit.....	5	A Deeper Pledge to Economic Stability	17	Community Health Programs	48
Our Community Investment.....	6	2023–2025 Community Health Initiatives	19	<i>Spotlight:</i> Offering Classes at Partner Programs	48
About Our Health System.....	7	Access to Primary Health Care	20	Advocacy and Outreach Programs and Efforts.....	50
Centers of Emphasis	8	Partner Programs That Improve Health Care Access	22	<i>Spotlight:</i> Partnering to Promote Bike Safety	50
Our History	9	<i>A Deeper Look:</i> Sonrisas Dental Health	24	Workforce Development Programs and Efforts.....	52
Patient Care Highlights 2024	10	Economic Stability	26	<i>Spotlight:</i> Promoting Car Seat Safety in the Community	52
Choosing Our Health Initiatives	12	Partner Programs That Improve Economic Stability	28	Volunteering at Ronald McDonald House	54
Community Benefit in Action	12	<i>A Deeper Look:</i> Sacred Heart Community Service	30	Thank You!	58
The Four-Step Community Benefit Process	13	Social, Emotional, and Mental Health	32	Community Benefit Oversight	59
Awarding Community Health Improvement Grants	14	Partner Programs That Improve Mental Health	34		
2023–2025 Community Health Initiatives	15	<i>A Deeper Look:</i> Stanford Early Life Stress and Resilience Program	36		
		Maternal and Infant Health	38		
		Partner Programs That Improve Infant and New Mother Health	40		
		<i>A Deeper Look:</i> Roots Community Health Center	42		
		A Look Ahead to 2025: Our Implementation Strategy	44		

About Community Benefit

From the start, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford has been committed to improving the health of the communities we serve. Over the past three decades, the hospital has asked the community—through forums, focus groups, and surveys—to identify health and wellness needs, and then we work to address those needs.

“From the beginning, Packard Children's has been ingrained in the community, and we engage in several community outreach efforts to improve the health of our community,” says Melissa Burke, Packard Children's director of Community Relations.

Community Benefit was created to provide health care services to underrepresented members of our community, with a focus on helping children and young mothers. An undercurrent of our work is addressing social determinants of health and removing barriers to care and life success. Barriers involve housing, education, a livable wage, child care, and social support.

To address these needs, we partner with local community-based organizations and government to fund programs that improve the health of our community. We work together to meet the diverse needs of the communities we serve. Our Community Benefit Report describes the success of these partnerships over the previous fiscal year; it also describes our strategies to achieve improved community health over the coming year.

We are driven to provide exceptional Community Benefit to all the communities we touch, whether in

our primary hospital service area or in our growing network service area. Via our partners, we carry out four prioritized health initiatives determined every three years. We provide them with grant funding, and they reward us with innovative, direct care programs that help create healthy, whole children; adolescents; and families.

Our community engagement efforts also include community building, workforce development, advocacy, and health education and prevention. By supporting and advocating for positive systemic change, we help create health equity now and in the future.

Financial Assistance to Families and Serving Vulnerable Populations

We are proud to be part of the safety net that provides care to our community's most vulnerable. Despite living in one of the wealthiest regions in the country, many children and families in our community still struggle, and they go without necessary health care services and community support. Along with our Community Engagement and Community Benefit work, Packard Children's provides financial assistance to families who qualify and includes those efforts in our Community Benefit valuation as undercompensated costs of medical care and charity care costs.

To read more about our financial assistance programs, please visit financialassistance.stanfordchildrens.org.



“Caring for our community has long been a part of our mission at Stanford Medicine Children's Health.”

—Joey Vaughan, Manager of Community Partnerships and Community Benefit, Stanford Medicine Children's Health

Giving Back

In 2024, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford engaged in Community Benefit services and activities to improve the health status of infants, children, adolescents, and expectant mothers, and to provide care beyond our hospital walls.

Total net value of quantifiable benefits provided to the community:

\$285,911,193



Our Community Investment



Financial assistance and charity care: \$231,893,876

- Includes undercompensated costs of medical services for patients enrolled in Medi-Cal, out-of-state Medicaid, and other means-tested government programs (Healthy Kids, CCS, CHDP, etc.): **\$229,177,532**
- Charity care: **\$2,716,344**



Community health improvement: \$8,759,897

- Center for Youth Mental Wellness
- Care-A-Van for Kids
- Child Life and Creative Arts
- Child safety programs
- Community health education programs
- Early Life Stress and Resilience Program
- Hospital School
- Housing support
- Mobile adolescent health services—Teen Van
- Pediatric Weight Control program
- Practical Assistance for Families
- Project Safety Net and HEARD Alliance



Health professions education: \$35,366,280

- Resident physicians, fellows, medical student education costs (excludes federal CHGME reimbursement)
- Nurse and allied health professions training
- Stanford Office of Child Health Equity
- Perinatal outreach and consultation services



Subsidized health services: \$2,075,880

- Care Coordination Liaisons
- Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Team



Financial and in-kind contributions: \$3,356,640

- Community clinic capacity building and support
- Community Health Improvement Grants
- Nonprofit sponsorship support



Community-building activities: \$3,822,694

- Advocacy for children's health issues
- Marguerite Shuttle
- Economic development activities
- Service club activities
- Support for community emergency management
- Workforce development efforts



Community Benefit operations: \$635,926

- Dedicated Community Benefit staff
- Reporting and compliance costs
- Training and staff development

About Our Health System

What started as a freestanding community hospital has grown into one of the most technologically advanced and family-friendly children's hospitals in the nation, supported by a world-class network of primary and specialty care locations. Enhanced by our relationship with Stanford Medicine and made possible through the support of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, Stanford Medicine Children's Health is dedicated to healing humanity through science and compassion, one child and family at a time.



Children's Health

Stanford Medicine Children's Health, with Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford at its center, is the largest health care network in the San Francisco Bay Area—and one of the few in the country—exclusively dedicated to children and expectant moms. Our physicians and health care teams offer comprehensive clinical services, from treatments for rare and complex conditions to well-child care, at more than 65 Northern California locations, including specialty service locations, general pediatric and obstetric practices, partnerships with community hospitals, and regional centers.

As a top-ranked children's hospital by *U.S. News & World Report*, we are a leader in providing world-class, nurturing care and achieving extraordinary outcomes in every pediatric and obstetric specialty. Thanks to our academic affiliation with the Stanford School of Medicine, we have some of the most innovative minds in medicine, science, and research working to develop groundbreaking advances and new discoveries.



Children's Health

The Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health works in alignment with Stanford Medicine Children's Health and the child health programs of Stanford University. The foundation's mission is to elevate the priority of children's health and to increase the quality and accessibility of children's health care through leadership and direct investment. The Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health works to improve the health and well-being of children and expectant mothers by fundraising on behalf of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford and child health programs at the Stanford School of Medicine.



Stanford Medicine integrates research, medical education, and clinical health care at its three enterprises—the Stanford School of Medicine, Stanford Health Care, and Stanford Medicine Children's Health. The Stanford School of Medicine is the West Coast's oldest medical school and a worldwide leader in patient care, education, research, and innovation. Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford, the centerpiece of Stanford Medicine Children's Health, proudly serves as the pediatric and obstetric teaching hospital of the Stanford School of Medicine.



Bringing together
breakthrough
scientific research
and the best minds in
medicine to provide
compassionate,
life-changing
care to families in
Northern California.

Centers of Emphasis

Our internationally recognized Centers of Emphasis bring focused care and expertise in key medical specialties. The centers provide research, best practices, and leadership in their focus areas. In the 2024–2025 *U.S. News & World Report* survey of best children’s hospitals, we were once again ranked in all 10 specialties. Stanford Medicine Children’s Health, with Packard Children’s Hospital at our core, offers comprehensive clinical services, from treatments for rare and complex conditions to well-child care. We provide care in more than 150 medical specialties.



Bass Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases

Our Stanford Medicine physicians and researchers make discoveries that influence and inspire treatments, at home and around the world.



Betty Irene Moore Children’s Heart Center

Internationally recognized for offering advanced diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to cardiac care, it draws families from around the globe seeking the best possible care for their children.



Johnson Center for Pregnancy and Newborn Services

Our physicians provide innovative, extraordinary care for expectant mothers and newborns and conduct world-leading research.



Brain and Behavior Center

We are one of the fastest-growing neurology centers in the United States. Our researchers are known for investigating the rarest of childhood neurological cancers.



Pulmonary, Asthma and Sleep Medicine Center

We are No. 1 in California, the best on the West Coast, and part of the only Northern California children’s hospital where the care team performs lung transplants.



Children’s Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center

Our pediatric orthopedic surgeons, physical therapists, and athletic trainers form a comprehensive team to give kids the foundation for healthy, active lives.



Pediatric Transplant Center

We are a national transplant leader in volume of pediatric transplants performed with exceptional outcomes. For more than 25 years, we have performed more than 1,800 pediatric organ transplants.

Our History

Our roots started from a heartfelt gift, and today we reach beyond our hospital walls to continue this tradition of giving through our grants program to better the community as a whole. In 1986, David and Lucile Packard generously donated \$70 million to construct a new children's hospital devoted entirely to the care of children and expectant mothers.

The hospital opened in 1991 and was named in memory of our visionary, Lucile Salter Packard. Today, we honor her vision by providing outstanding care and giving back to community nonprofits to strengthen and uplift youth in the communities we serve.



1919

Our beginning

Stanford Home for Convalescent Children is founded to provide a place for children with chronic illnesses to receive care.

1959

Stanford University Medical Center opens

Stanford University Medical Center opens a 420-bed facility in Palo Alto, moving from San Francisco. The "Con Home" strengthens its teaching and research ties to the medical center and begins providing care for more seriously ill children.



1969

Children's Hospital at Stanford opens

The \$5 million, 60-bed Children's Hospital at Stanford opens, replacing the Stanford Home for Convalescent Children and further expanding its roles in teaching and research.

1986

Construction on new children's hospital begins

David and Lucile Packard donate \$70 million to begin construction on a new children's hospital.



1991

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford officially opens its doors to the community

Packard Children's is one of the only children's hospitals in the country to incorporate labor and delivery and newborn nurseries, setting us up to become a national leader in neonatology research and care.

2017

Our expanded hospital opens

The debut of our new hospital building marks the opening of the United States' most technologically advanced, family-friendly, and environmentally sustainable hospital for children and expectant mothers.



2018

The Bonnie Uytensgu and Family Surgery and Interventional Center opens

Our state-of-the-art Bonnie Uytensgu and Family Surgery and Interventional Center includes a collection of the latest and most advanced imaging and surgical technology dedicated to pediatric patients. It allows us to offer the highest-quality, coordinated care available anywhere.

2021

Meeting the moment

We establish 25 COVID-19 vaccine sites for our patients and engage our hard-hit underserved populations to provide educational outreach to improve pediatric health inequities.



Patient Care Highlights 2024

At Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford, we are proud to provide the best, most nurturing care possible for every patient and family that walks through our doors. This requires providing both top-ranked clinical care and a stellar hospital experience.

Extraordinary family-centered care is the ultimate goal of our doctors, nurses, and specialized support staff, every single day.

Packard Children's is located on the Stanford University campus in the heart of Silicon Valley.

Our growing Stanford Medicine Children's Health network reaches far beyond the hospital walls throughout more than 65 locations across the San Francisco Bay Area and 85 locations in the U.S. Western region.

705,791
clinic visits

10,135
pediatric inpatient stays

Patients from
46 states

6 territories

35 countries



More than
6,400
employees

+850
medical staff

4,865
births

394
licensed beds



248
CHECK-IN

1960



“By adding economic stability as a health initiative, we are helping families establish a strong base from which to thrive.”

—Dani Rey Ardila, MPH,
Community Partnerships
Program Manager, Stanford
Medicine Children’s Health

Choosing Our Health Initiatives

Our Community Benefit work starts with an exhaustive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) every three years to determine the four greatest health needs of our community. To find the answers, we collaborate with public health departments, hospital partners, community-based organizations, and community leaders to conduct the CHNA—while listening closely to people who live in the communities we serve. The CHNA and our Implementation Strategy Report are then used to create strategies to tackle our community health initiatives for the coming three years.

By partnering with community organizations who are already addressing each health need, we move forward our selected health initiatives. Through community health improvement grants, we participate in their good work to support area families to overcome the barriers to care that they face and achieve health and wellness.

Community Benefit in Action

Every three years, when we talk with our community about their greatest health and wellness needs, we often hear community members share stress around making ends meet. We understand that economic stability—holding a steady job, having a stable home, and being able to afford food and rent—is at the crux of what helps families thrive.

“As a hospital, we are understanding the effects of social determinants of health more and more,” says Joey Vaughan, manager of Community Benefit at

Packard Children’s. “This year, we have added a health initiative to take action to address them.”

During this assessment, certain needs bubbled to the top—in 2022, as in 2019, health care access was named a top need, with mental health care closely following, along with health and social needs of mothers and infants. In 2022, conversations and research pointed to economic stability as a driver of these health needs. We added it as a new item for our Community Benefit focus for 2023–2025.

In 2023, we started a new three-year grant-funding cycle. We are pleased with our initial work on our new fourth health initiative and look forward to the progress we can make in the coming year on all four health initiatives.

View our most recent CHNA at communitybenefit.stanfordchildrens.org.

The Four-Step Community Benefit Process



1 CHNA is conducted to determine community health needs.



2 Community Benefit team analyzes report and implements plan.



3 Health initiatives are determined for coming three years.



4 Packard Children's partners with local nonprofits to deliver care.



The following goals drive our Community Benefit work:

- Meaningful and sustainable community investment.
- Services that meet the needs of vulnerable populations.
- Partnering to build strong, healthier communities.
- Continued advocacy for children's and maternal health issues.



Awarding Community Health Improvement Grants

Some of our most exciting work is selecting nonprofits and providing funding to carry out our Community Health Initiatives. By partnering with experts in the community who are already providing related care, we carry out our mission to impact health in our community. Our grantees, receiving \$1.6 million from Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford, are located throughout our service area. Their efforts reach well beyond keeping kids physically and mentally healthy; they also serve to elevate socioeconomically sensitive children and their families so they can lead productive, satisfying lives.

Our Community Health Improvement Grants program funds a wide array of programs and projects. In upcoming pages, you will meet our grantees and get to know the work they do.

“By engaging with community members and understanding their experiences, we’re able to provide meaningful care.”

—Melissa Burke, Director of Community Relations,
Stanford Medicine Children’s Health



2024 Community Health Improvement Grant Recipients

At Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford, we believe organizations like ours have a duty to go above and beyond providing funding—that’s why we offer an extensive grants program to area nonprofit organizations. Each grantee was selected with care. Together, we aligned goals and listed desired impacts for the three-year grant cycle. We empower our grantees to carry out their mission by building deep and authentic relationships, providing expert advice through service on boards and committees, and focusing our work on building ongoing sustainability. By joining forces with our grantees, we move the needle on health needs in our community far beyond what we could ever do alone.



2024 Grant Recipients

- Acknowledge Alliance
- Adolescent Counseling Services
- Fresh Approach
- LifeMoves
- Legal Aid
- My Digital TAT2
- Puente
- Ravenswood Family Health Network
- Roots Community Health Center
- Sacred Heart
- Santa Cruz Community Health Centers
- Second Harvest of Silicon Valley
- Shine Together
- Sonrisas
- Stanford Early Life Stress & Resiliency Program
- Stanford Psychiatry Center for Youth Mental Health & Wellbeing

2023–2025 Community Health Initiatives



Access to primary health care



Social, emotional, and mental health



Economic stability



Maternal and infant health



A Deeper Pledge to Economic Stability

In order to thrive, people need a steady job, a home, food on the table, a safe neighborhood, and access to good schools and higher education. Without these, families face roadblocks to health and wellness.

To achieve these necessities for well-being, people require a job that pays a livable wage and provides access to high-quality health care. All of this adds up to economic stability. When that falls into place, the lines of inequality start to get erased.

“When families have economic stability, they can focus on growth, on improving, on healing. They can engage in life with less worry and more emphasis on helping their kids reach their full potential,” says Rick Majzun, executive vice president and chief operating officer for Stanford Medicine Children’s Health.

Every three years, Stanford Children’s determines which health initiatives to prioritize for community investment through a detailed, informed process. In 2022, it became obvious that economic instability was undermining the ability of underrepresented people in our communities to achieve health and wellness; it was adopted as a health initiative.

“We recognize that economic stability is vital for achieving health, wellness, and a brighter future. That’s why we are committed to an increased, sustained investment in the coming years in programs that help create economic stability,” says Joey Vaughan, Packard Children’s manager of community benefit and partners.

Over the past few years, Stanford Children’s has made good progress toward helping to create economic stability for our community. The investments we have made address underlying social determinants of health, such as housing, food security, and a livable wage.

We have invested in several nonprofit organizations that help residents achieve housing security. There’s Puente, which fosters economic prosperity in many ways, including short-term rental assistance, and Santa Cruz Community Health Centers, which provide health care and also affordable housing for families. New this funding period is LifeMoves, whose mission is to end homelessness in Silicon Valley with interim housing and tailored supportive services.

We actively address food insecurity by investing in organizations that provide healthy food for families. This includes Sacred Heart, featured in this report for its expansive food pantry, and Fresh Approach. It also includes our partnership with Second Harvest of Silicone Valley, a food network of 400 partners that offers a grocery program, fresh produce, school meals, CalFresh outreach, advocacy, and education. “Right now, food insecurity is at an all-time high. As a result, a record number of people in [our] counties are turning to us for food assistance,” says Sunita Jethmalani, foundation philanthropy manager for Second Harvest.

Lastly, Shine Together helps us empower young moms with higher education, and our Workforce Development Programs provide youth and young professionals with training and career direction.

“We can’t do our important work alone. We are so grateful for Stanford Children’s generous support.”

—Leslie Bacho, CEO, Second Harvest of Silicon Valley



2023–2025 Community Health Initiatives

When choosing which four health initiatives to focus on for a three-year time period, we listened to the community. By completing a thorough Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in both San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, we identified the top health and wellness needs.

The assessment involves focus groups and surveys of those in the know—health departments, nonprofit organizations, community and hospital leaders—and, most important, citizens.



Access to Primary Health Care

In the 2022 CHNA, health care access was once again identified as the top community need. We help create health equity by providing primary health care close to home. Through our partnerships, we are strengthening comprehensive medical homes (primary care clinics) and increasing access and services for children, youth, and expectant mothers.



Economic Stability

More and more, we are working to address social determinants of health, and economic stability rose to the top. People whose incomes do not adequately cover the basic needs of food, housing, and health care have an economic disadvantage and experience poorer health and more stress. This is especially true for the high-cost Bay Area.



Social, Emotional, and Mental Health

Mental health is equally as important as physical health. Our assessment revealed a lack of access to mental health services in nearly all of the communities we serve. Suicide rates, depression, and substance abuse are on the rise among youth. In response, we are providing access and removing barriers to care for children and youth.



Maternal and Infant Health

Regional data revealed disparities for certain groups of mothers and infants, including low birth weights among infants of Asian and African ancestry and high rates of teen births among Latinx populations. By partnering with nonprofits that deliver vital services, we increase access to health care for infants and mothers.



Access to Primary Health Care

Why It Matters

Access to primary health care was identified as our No. 1 community need. It is vitally important for families to have affordable health care from a consistent provider nearby. In the CHNA, community informants closely linked health care access with economic stability and other social determinants of health. Affordability, including health insurance, was a common concern. Optimal health care should occur within a medical home that's family centered, comprehensive, and accessible. With regular care, children stay on track developmentally and educationally and adopt healthy lifestyle habits.

What the Research Says

- Low-income, vulnerable children are much less likely than higher-income children to have a well-child visit annually.
- Barriers and ethnic disparities exist that limit access to care, including long wait times, linguistic isolation, and transportation challenges.
- More than half of children in California lack a medical home, which is higher than the nationwide average.
- There is an acute shortage of student nurses in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties compared to state benchmarks.
- There is a need for workforce education to deliver care in a sensitive manner to all groups, including LGBTQ+ youth, as well as low-income and non-English-speaking residents.





How Many Served:

34,616+ individuals
for physical health and
dental health care

Who We Served:

Youth **ages 0 to 25**
and expectant mothers

Our 2024 Investment:

\$3,063,964

**Number of
Programs: 7**

Years Funded:

2010–2024

Our Solutions

- Partner with community nonprofits to provide health care services at neighborhood clinics (medical homes).
- Bring health care and oral health care to select neighborhoods and schools.
- Increase access by supporting innovative approaches including telemedicine, after-hours care, etc.
- Continue to provide uncompensated Medi-Cal care.
- Advocate for health care policy change at local, state, and national levels, and provide diverse health care trainings.



Partner Programs That Improve Health Care Access

In 2024, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford supported the following programs to expand health care access to our community.

Care-A-Van for Kids

A no-cost transportation service for low-income children receiving medical treatment at Packard Children's. Care-A-Van collaborates with transportation programs to expand access for those traveling a long distance or out of state.

Our investment: \$229,818

Individuals served: 550

Gardner Packard Children's Health Center

This lowers costs and increases access for uninsured and underinsured children in our service area. Services include pediatric care, physical exams, acute care, education, social services, and mental health and nutrition counseling.

Our investment: \$1,300,000

Individuals served: 18,000+

Mobile Adolescent Health Services: Teen Van

High-risk youth ages 10 to 25 rely exclusively on the Teen Van for their primary and mental health care. Free care includes family planning, prenatal care, STD testing, immunizations, nutrition, and counseling.

Our investment: \$1,059,146

Individuals served: 1,813

Peninsula Family Advocacy Program

Part of the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County, the Peninsula Family Advocacy Program provides no-cost legal representation to low-income families. Services include disability support, advocacy, and education.

Our investment: \$50,000

Individuals served: 90



Ravenswood Family Health Network

A Federally Qualified Health Center that spans multiple services, including pediatric medical and dental visits. Services include culturally competent pediatric services for uninsured or underinsured children and mothers.

Our investment: \$250,000

Individuals served: 8,486



Santa Cruz Community Health Centers

An affordable comprehensive primary care center for all ages, genders, ethnicities, abilities, and sexual identities and orientations. The center is committed to social justice and access to health care for all.

Our investment: \$100,000

Individuals served: 5,147



Sonrisas Dental Health, Inc.

Dental health is a challenge for low-income families. Sonrisas helps children access preventive and acute dental care. Via school programs, kids receive oral screenings, oral health kits, and dental education.

Our investment: \$75,000

Individuals served: 530



Access to comprehensive, quality health care is important for everyone. Our latest CHNA found that barriers to receiving high-quality health care, such as inadequate insurance coverage and lack of cultural competency, continue to persist in our community.



“At Sonrisas, our culture is to jump in to serve our patients and make families feel at home.”

—Spandan Chakrabarti,
Director of Development,
Sonrisas Dental Health
Community Service

A Deeper Look:

Sonrisas Dental Health

In 2023, 5-year-old Mirna* developed a tooth infection. She and her family had recently arrived from Guatemala, and gaining access to affordable care was difficult. Hope was found when her mom, Araceli,* heard about a dental screening program at Mirna’s school. Mirna received a screening by a dental hygienist, and Araceli was given information on Sonrisas Dental Health, a community-based clinical dentistry and oral health education provider.

Araceli called Sonrisas’s San Mateo clinic the next day, saying that Mirna was in pain. Despite a full clinic schedule, Sonrisas fit her in during the lunch hour. Because Mirna was seen right away, Sonrisas professionals were able to save her teeth. Subsequently, Araceli’s entire family became patients at Sonrisas. “This story goes to show how deeply our staff is rooted in the community we serve,” says Spandan Chakrabarti, director of development, Sonrisas Dental Health.

That day, Araceli was given a pathway to dental care for her children. Because Sonrisas has long paired community outreach with clinic-based care, they were there for Araceli’s family right when she needed them. “Many of our patients don’t speak English as a primary language, which keeps families from reaching out. We find that if we do the outreach, they are more willing to come forward,” Chakrabarti says.

Araceli expressed gratitude, saying that because of what Sonrisas did for her, she felt welcome in her new country. “That stopped me in my tracks. She was talking about how we made her feel as a human being, not just about dental health,” Chakrabarti says.

Sonrisas Dental Health has been offering quality dental care and oral health education to low-income communities in San Mateo County for 23 years. It was founded by concerned citizens and has grown into a major provider for economically vulnerable families.

Its programs and services include school screenings, oral health education, outreach, preventive dental care, general and cosmetic dentistry, geriatric dentistry, pediatric dentistry, and accommodations for special needs patients. To expand access to dental care and education for area kids, Stanford Children’s Community Partnerships program provides a grant to Sonrisas.

Sonrisas’s children’s screening initiative serves 20 schools in San Mateo. In 2024, it served 3,700 kids. Along with oral health screenings, dental professionals hold an educational story hour with props to demonstrate daily dental care. Each child gets an oral health kit to take home, with a toothbrush, toothpaste, education materials, and a timer.

Sonrisas’s vision is that “every adult and child in San Mateo County has a dental home, including those with physical, developmental, or economic challenges.” Each year, the nonprofit has grown and stretched its reach. In fiscal year 2011, Sonrisas served 1,200 patients at 4,000 visits. In 2024, that number increased to 4,700+ patients at 14,000+ visits.

Sonrisas has clinics in Half Moon Bay and San Mateo. They also have a pop-up clinic in Pescadero that serves farmworkers once a week, with hopes to expand in the future.

*A pseudonym



2024 Program Highlights

14,000

total dental visits provided

3,700

school-based screenings

75%

of patients are economically vulnerable



Economic Stability

Why It Matters

Economic stability is a widely recognized social determinant of health. Nearly one-third of Silicon Valley households are not meeting economic self-sufficiency standards, and income inequality is 1.5 times higher here than at the state level. When families in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties spend more on housing, there is less for healthy food, health care, child care, and reliable transportation. Economic stability drives a high quality of life and improved physical and mental health outcomes for children and families in our community.

What the Research Says

- Black, Indigenous, and people of color are less likely to earn the median household income in the Bay Area.
- Access to economic stability programs, such as food programs, results in better long-term health outcomes.
- Education correlates with income, and educational disparities by race/ethnicity are concerning.
- A shortage of affordable homes increases the risk of eviction and the ability to secure permanent shelter, putting people at risk for homelessness.
- Rent in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties is more than 40% higher than the median home rental cost in California.
- CHNA participants linked COVID-related economic insecurity with stress and anxiety, due to job loss.





How Many Served:
188,516 individuals

Who We Served:
Youth **ages 0 to 25**
and families

Our 2024 Investment:
\$625,000

**Number of
Programs: 5**

Years Funded:
2014–2024

Our Solutions

- Partner with community nonprofits to increase housing stability with access to short-term rentals and interim housing.
- Support homelessness prevention programs that provide temporary financial assistance, legal support, and case management, including helping homeless children stay on track with education.
- Reduce food insecurity by increasing access to social services and supporting food banks, food drives, community gardens, and farmer's markets.
- Support local efforts to increase workforce-related educational attainment and community health education.





Stable Economy, Stable Families

Economic stability is one of the most widely recognized social determinants of health. Higher incomes and a secure social support system play a significant role in people's overall well-being. In the Bay Area, the cost of living is outpacing household incomes, especially for people of color, directly affecting their ability to thrive.

Partner Programs That Improve Economic Stability

In 2024, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford supported the following programs to improve economic stability.

Fresh Approach

An innovative nonprofit that collaborates with area farmers to bring locally grown produce, nutrition education, and gardening skills to Bay Area communities. Services include farmer's markets, community gardens, and cooking classes.

Our investment: \$75,000

Individuals served: 12,370

LifeMoves

With 26 sites in the Bay Area, LifeMoves is working to end homelessness in Silicon Valley. The large nonprofit creates pathways to stable housing and self-sufficiency through interim housing, customized supportive services, and resources.

Our investment: \$100,000

Individuals served: 1,500

Puente

Puente is the only community resource center in four San Mateo County South Coast cities. Puente advocates for its community and leverages resources that foster economic prosperity, health, and wellness.

Our investment: \$100,000

Individuals served: 1,238

Sacred Heart

Sacred Heart's vision is to free all residents of Santa Clara County from poverty by moving families toward economic self-sufficiency. The nonprofit provides rental assistance, homelessness response, food, clothing, education, and more.

Our investment: \$100,000

Individuals served: 34,521

Second Harvest

Second Harvest works to end hunger in Silicon Valley. Via a food network of 400 partners at 900 sites, they provide a grocery program, fresh produce, school meals, CalFresh outreach, advocacy, and education.

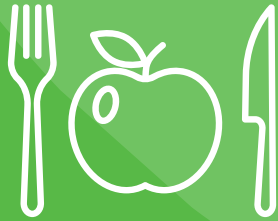
Our investment: \$250,000

Individuals served: 138,887



“Through community support, we help advance affordable, safe, and dignified housing for South Coast farmworkers and their families.”

—Rita Mancera,
Executive Director, Puente



A Deeper Look:

Sacred Heart Community Service

It's a bold vision, but one we can all get behind: ensuring that every child and adult in our community is free from poverty. That's the vision of Sacred Heart Community Service in San Jose, California. The multifaceted organization believes that poverty is not inevitable. Rather, that it is a result of a lack of commitment to build a just society and economy. That boldness changes lives.

Take just one of Sacred Heart's many programs: the Essential Services Pantry Program. To help combat hunger among area residents, the program supplies members three days' worth of healthy food per week.

"There's a misconception that people have what they need in order to survive and meet basic needs, especially in our affluent area," says Dalenna Hughes, associate director for programs for Sacred Heart.

The pantry helps people experiencing a range of food insecurity. "We serve people who are literally trying to survive the day, those who can't access nutritious food due to the cost, and even those who might be OK, but getting food eases stress and lets them live more efficiently," Hughes adds.

Instead of handing out boxes of food, the pantry more recently switched to a shopping experience to allow people to pick and choose foods in a farmer's market setting. The pantry caters to people from many backgrounds and works hard to stock culturally appealing foods, often surveying its members for ideas.

"Letting them choose gives them respect and dignity," says Sofia Rocha, director of essential services for Sacred Heart.

Sacred Heart partners with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, a major food bank, and another community partner with Stanford Medicine Children's Health. The pantry stocks fresh produce, dairy, meat, legumes, and grains. In addition, the pantry distributes 300 lunches and non-cook food bags daily to the unhoused.

"Our members know they can come here and make dinner that evening. That eases their stress. They tell us the pantry enables them to think about food differently," Rocha says.

The ultimate goal of the Pantry Program is to be a starting point for community members toward self-sufficiency. "We survey our members, and they consistently say that their income situation has improved due to our programs," Hughes says.

The Essential Services Pantry was one of the first food pantries in the area, and it is celebrating 60 years. It relies on grants like the one from Community Benefit, donations, and private donors to ensure that they always have enough food on hand.

"We serve all of Santa Clara, but people come from all over the Bay Area. The county has been working on improving access to nutritious foods, and we are able to help them achieve that outcome," Hughes says.

Besides the food pantry, Sacred Heart Community Service also provides rental and deposit assistance, homeless prevention, utility help, clothing, education, job assistance, financial coaching, community gardening opportunities, and leadership trainings to increase economic stability and self-sufficiency.

"Because of our suite of services, just one visit for food can turn into a whole lifestyle change."

—Dalenna Hughes, Associate Director for Programs, Sacred Heart Community Service



2024 Program Highlights

35K+
members served

17,887
households served

747K+
meals served



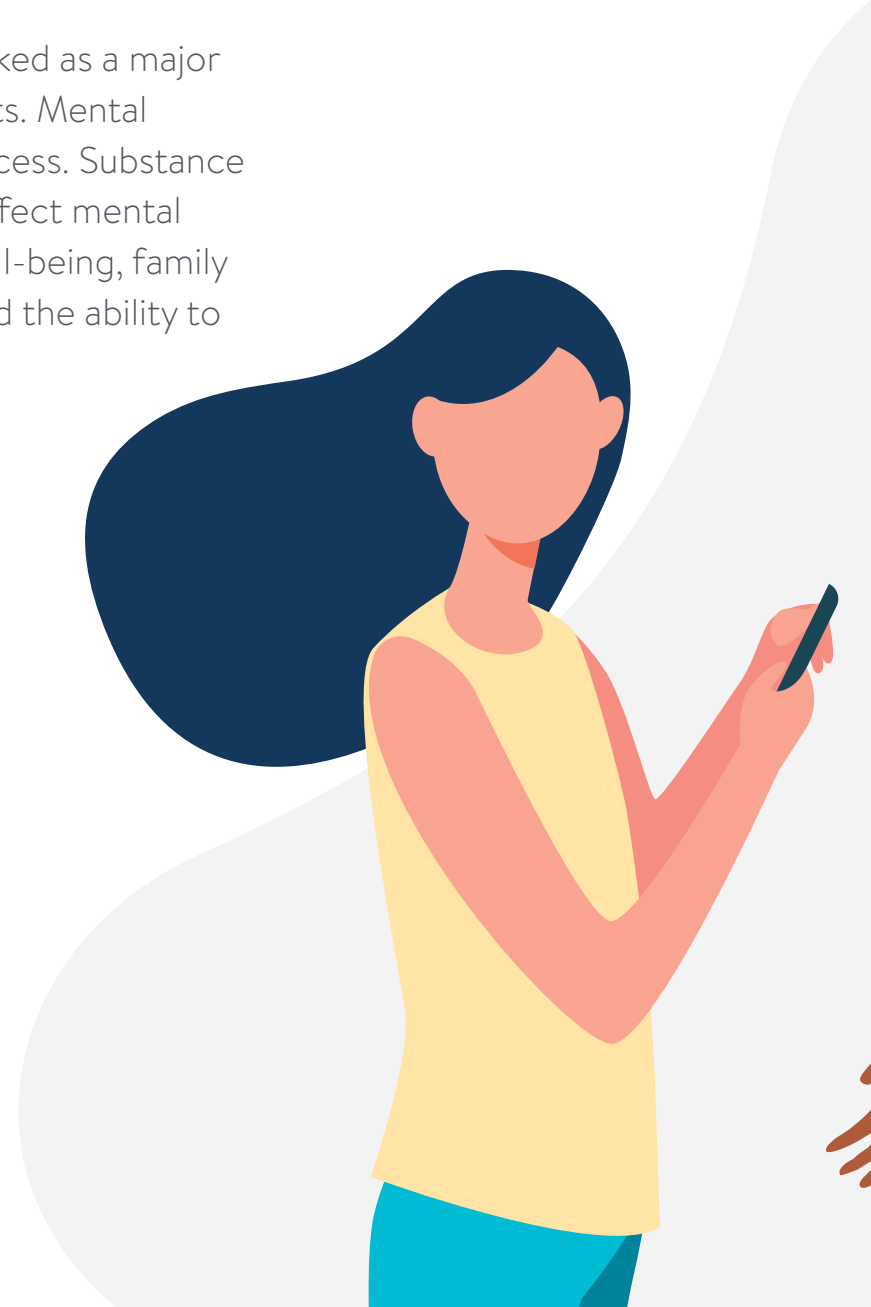
Social, Emotional, and Mental Health

Why It Matters

Behavioral health, which includes mental health, was ranked as a major health need by 75% of the CHNA community participants. Mental health is key to personal health, satisfaction, and life success. Substance abuse, chronic disease, bullying, and financial troubles affect mental health. Positive mental health is essential to personal well-being, family and interpersonal relationships, good physical health, and the ability to contribute to the community and to society.

What the Research Says

- Since the pandemic, the CHNA found an increase in youth suicide attempts, especially by overdose, in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.
- In our two counties, self-harm is substantially higher for children ages 0–17 across all ethnic groups.
- San Mateo County, bullying and cyberbullying statistics among youth are higher than the state average.
- In Santa Clara County, suicidal ideation among high school students is higher than the state average.
- San Mateo County reports Latinx and African American students experience depressive symptoms at higher rates than white or Asian students.





How Many Served:
17,686 children and
family members

Who We Served:
Youth ages 0 to 25

Our 2024 Investment:
\$395,000

**Number of
Programs: 5**

Years Funded:
2010–2024

Our Solutions

- Provide high-quality mental health services to youth and address the systemic barriers to mental health.
- Improve media literacy among youth and parents around mental health.
- Expand access to programs and counseling to improve mental health and reduce stress.
- Support school-based interventions to improve school climate and reduce bullying.
- Increase coordination of behavioral health care and physical health care among providers, educators, and social workers.



Partner Programs That Improve Mental Health

In 2024, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford supported the following programs to improve behavioral health in children and youth.

Acknowledge Alliance

A K-12 school-based program that uplifts youth and strengthens educator skills. Resilience is integrated at all levels by mentoring educators, counseling at-risk youth, and providing social and emotional classroom lessons.

Our investment: \$50,000

Individuals served: 1,794

Adolescent Counseling Services

An inviting place for youth to receive affordable individual and group counseling, psychotherapy, substance abuse treatment, and LGBTQQ+ peer support and education in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.

Our investment: \$100,000

Individuals served: 15,225

Stanford Early Life Stress and Resilience Program

A research-based program that explores the biological and sociological risk factors of stress. It strives to prevent long-term effects of trauma in children and adolescents with treatments, interventions, and community engagement opportunities.

Our investment: \$75,000

Individuals served: 308



My Digital TAT2

Program that focuses on building healthy technology habits, critical thinking, and thoughtful online behavior in children. It partners with families to establish guidelines around responsible use of online tools, apps, and devices.

Our investment: \$50,000

Individuals served: 359



Stanford Center for Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing

Implementing a new model for youth mental health centers across the region and eventually the state and nation. Care includes education, advocacy, counseling, and suicide prevention.

Our investment: \$120,000



“We look at youth who are struggling, and we say we hear you, we love you, and we want to support you in sticking around one more day.”

—Phillipe Rey, Executive Director, Adolescent Counseling Services





“Immigrant youth and families struggle to get their needs met within our systems. We bring community together to improve, support, and promote their strength and resilience.”

—Ryan Matlow, PhD, ELSRP
Director of Community Programs

A Deeper Look:

Stanford Early Life Stress & Resilience Program

The Stanford Early Life Stress and Resilience Program (ELSRP) is using collective impact and interdisciplinary collaboration to help improve the lives of newly immigrated children in San Mateo County.

Through its Immigrant Child Health Program, the Stanford Medicine team is applying research on the biology and behavior of childhood stress and trauma and creating programs and initiatives to help providers increase resiliency in this unique group of children with complex needs.

“This program focuses on the specific experiences of these kids who often go unseen and struggle through our systems,” says Ryan Matlow, PhD, clinical psychologist and director of community programs for ELSRP.

The Immigrant Child Health Program aims to lessen the negative psychological impacts of immigration stress, such as being separated from families, being put into detention, or experiencing an ongoing fear of deportation. Child trauma exposure and immigration status have both been identified as social determinants of health and have been associated with increased risk for negative health outcomes, including mental health challenges, disease, and disability. In addition, child trauma and immigration status impact social outcomes, such as educational attainment, economic advancement, and food and housing security.

“Immigrant youth and families often struggle to get their needs met within our systems. We are bringing the community together to improve how we support them,” Matlow adds.

The Immigrant Child Health Program has held several “convening sessions” with nonprofit leaders from a range of disciplines (health, mental health, law, education, and social service). During these meetings, they discuss how to align on best practices and partner to support each other’s work, seeking to break down the traditional silos that often serve as barriers to interdisciplinary collaboration and comprehensive care. A collective design process helps to innovate and evaluate service programs that are tailored specifically for newcomer youth.

“It gives us an opportunity to take a step back together and ask how we can meet the needs of these newcomer kids as a whole,” Matlow says.

The program is holding cross-disciplinary provider trainings to ensure that everyone is on the same page on how to provide mental health support for these newly immigrated children. An important solution to lessening stress for these kids is improving their legal status. That’s why the team works directly with lawyers, helping to train them in trauma-based interview techniques and provide them written protocols.

Together with the Immigration Health Equity and Legal Partnership (ImmHELP) collaborative, program leaders have provided professional development training for hundreds of health and legal practitioners.

“We are putting our research on childhood trauma and stress into action in a meaningful way that will directly change the lives of this especially vulnerable group of children,” Matlow says.



2024 Program Highlights

268

providers attended
trauma-based trainings

40

providers participated
in multidisciplinary
convening sessions

308

individuals served



Maternal and Infant Health

Why It Matters

A healthy life starts with a healthy pregnancy. When young mothers do not receive adequate prenatal care, they are at a higher risk of delivering low-birth-weight infants. Health disparities that arise due to social determinants of health, such as poor access to health care, poor maternal nutrition, and low family income, contribute to these health disparities. Helping young mothers finish school and secure a livable wage, as well as adopt strong parenting skills, improves the health of both the mother and her child.

What the Research Says

- Past efforts to improve maternal and infant health have helped, with both counties experiencing better results compared with state benchmarks.
- Teen births are significantly higher among Latinas in both counties and Black teenagers in San Mateo County.
- Low infant birth weight is more frequent among Asian and Black babies in both counties compared with state benchmarks.
- Black and Latina mothers in Santa Clara County receive less early prenatal care than other California mothers.
- Health care access for Black, Indigenous, and women of color who are pregnant still needs improving.





How Many Served:

93 young moms
and children

Who We Served:

Infants and mothers

Our 2024 Investment:

\$150,000

Number of
Programs: 2

Years Funded:

2020–2024

Our Solutions

- Increase care for newborns, infants, and young mothers before, during, and after pregnancy.
- Expand access to teen pregnancy prevention, enhanced prenatal care, and prenatal health education through local programs.
- Provide depression screenings for expectant teen mothers.
- Engage in advocacy to reduce unintentional injuries, child abuse, and neglect.
- Expand parenting programs, home visits, and nurse-family partnerships.



Partner Programs That Improve Infant and New Mother Health

In 2024, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford supported the following programs to improve infant and young maternal health.

Roots Community Health Center

To improve birth outcomes for African American women, Roots recently launched a nurse-led birthing prep class and doula program to educate and support women through pregnancy, labor, and delivery. Doulas attend births and are lactation-education certified.

Our investment: \$75,000

Individuals served: 27



Shine Together

A program for underserved teen mothers, helping them become educated and self-sufficient in order to break the cycle of poverty. Services include one-on-one coaching, peer learning groups, and postsecondary education scholarships.

Our investment: \$75,000

Individuals served: 66



The Why Behind the Initiative

The decision to add a focus on caring for infants and young mothers arose from the inequity of prenatal and maternal health care for women of color in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. The 2019 CHNA shows that infants born to mothers of Asian and African ancestry have lower birth weights than the state average. It also found that infant mortality rates for mothers of Pacific Islander and African ancestry are higher than the state average, and mothers of those ethnicities have correspondingly low rates of adequate prenatal care. In addition, the level of inadequate prenatal care for all teen mothers in our area is high.

“Young moms face barriers in reaching their educational goals, and we address those barriers head-on.”

—Sara Ponce Reyes, Executive Director, Shine Together





“We’re giving women knowledge and understanding of the birthing process and the power to speak up for themselves.”

—Alma Burrell, MPH, Chief Administrative Officer, Roots Community Health Center, South Bay

A Deeper Look:

Roots Community Health Center

For decades, research has shown that African American women have poorer birth outcomes than their peers. They have a greater chance of experiencing life-threatening conditions like preeclampsia, postpartum hemorrhage, and preterm births.

Roots Community Health Center in Santa Clara County is working to change this trend. Recently, they launched an innovative effort called the Birthing Preparation and Education Project. The pilot project provides birthing classes and doulas for late-trimester pregnant women and their birth partners. The goal is to improve infant and maternal morbidity and mortality rates for Black women in our area. Stanford Medicine Children’s Health is proud to support the program through Community Investment Grant funding.

“In our community, there are not a lot of child birthing classes, especially classes that are culturally congruent and taught by someone who looks like us and is from our community,” says Nkemka Egbuho, MPH, program and navigation services manager, Maternal Health, Roots, South Bay.

“Knowledge is power, so when women understand the birthing process and know what to expect, they feel some control, and that’s power,” says Alma Burrell, MPH, chief administrative officer, South Bay.

Expectant moms begin the doula program at 27 weeks’ gestation and are offered the birth education course for six weeks. An International Childbirth Education Association-trained birth educator provides pregnancy education on healthy living habits and what to expect through labor and delivery. Women create birth plans,

prep for childbirth, and learn the stages of active labor. “We teach them terms like effacement and dilation, so they understand what to expect,” Egbuho adds. Participants also receive comfort measures for labor and education on postpartum care and breastfeeding.

A special part of the project is that women who are eligible for the doula program can be matched anytime during the course with a doula, a “sister friend” who gives guidance and support during pregnancy. A 2023 study found that community-based doulas can provide culturally and linguistically congruent care that supports communications between expectant mothers and their health care team. In the program, doulas provide three sessions of care before, during, and after labor and delivery. Roots is one of the first community centers in the Bay Area to offer a doula service.

“We train our doulas to partner with our expectant moms so they can walk them through the birthing experience. Our doula component has really taken off. In the last year, we have matched doulas with close to 100 women. And our doulas were there for about half of those births,” Burrell says.

All of the pilot project’s doulas are certified or trained in lactation education and offer postpartum care visits with new moms and babies at home.

Roots’ mission is to uplift people in Northern California who are impacted by systemic inequalities and poverty, specifically African Americans. The center offers medical and behavioral health care, health navigation, workforce enterprises, housing, outreach, and advocacy.



2024 Program Highlights

27

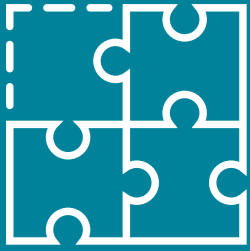
expectant mothers completed birthing classes

100%

of participants showed increased knowledge in critical health indicators

100%

of participants showed increased understanding of pregnancy, labor, and delivery



A Look Ahead to 2025: Our Implementation Strategy



Access to Primary Health Care

Goal: Increase the number of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults who have access to needed health care services.

Strategies

- Support nearby neighborhoods that have low socioeconomic status.
- Increase equitable access to care with convenient approaches.
- Provide uncompensated Medi-Cal care.
- Train diverse health care professionals.
- Advocate for health care policy change at all levels.

Anticipated Impacts

We expect our strategies to increase health care access, preventive medicine, and vaccination rates for children and expectant mothers in the communities we serve. In doing so, we anticipate increasing health equity and creating systemwide improvements. These efforts include improving patient-physician relationships, reducing unnecessary emergency visits and hospitalizations, and decreasing preventable diseases.



Economic Stability

Goal: Increase the number of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults who experience economic stability and related improved health outcomes.

Strategies

- Support efforts to improve equitable access to services that address housing insecurity and financial instability.
- Reduce food insecurity by increasing access to food via food banks and healthy-eating education.
- Increase social determinants of health screenings and referrals in hospitals and clinics.
- Support vulnerable families with basic needs, education attainment, and employment.

Anticipated Impacts

We expect these strategies to improve health equity by increasing access to social services that address housing, food, education, and financial needs. By doing so, we anticipate increased youth and family stability and improved health outcomes. By reducing racial and ethnic disparities, we strive to reduce inequities and poverty rates in the communities we serve.

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford is implementing strategies to meet our four health initiatives through a combination of grants, sponsorships, in-kind support, and collaborative partnerships with selected community-based organizations, as well as with community health centers, clinics, federally qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and area schools. Our ultimate goal is to improve community health and increase health equity. We believe that by addressing the underlying social determinants of health (health care, affordable housing, child care, education, and a livable wage), we can help lift our community to a place of better health and wellness.



Maternal and Infant Health

Goal: Improve the health of infants and new mothers.

Strategies

- Expand access to programs that help prevent teen pregnancy.
- Increase depression screening programs for pregnant and teen mothers.
- Expand access to prenatal care to Black women and other populations with historically poor birth outcomes.
- Increase prenatal health education efforts.
- Improve home environments to better infant health.

Anticipated Impacts

We expect our strategies to lower the rate of teen births and improve the mental health of pregnant teens and teen parents. We anticipate that Black and Latinx women and other women from populations with disparities in birth outcomes will experience improved prenatal health, better birth outcomes, increased infant health and safety, and greater economic stability.



Social, Emotional, and Mental Health

Goal: Children, adolescents, and young adults experience good social and emotional health and are able to cope with life's stressors.

Strategies

- Expand access to services that prevent poor mental health.
- Support programs to improve school climate, reduce bullying, reduce domestic violence, and improve healthy relationships.
- Increase care coordination between health care and mental health professionals.
- Support programs that promote media literacy and critical thinking.

Anticipated Impacts

We expect our strategies to improve access to mental health programs for youth. As a result, we anticipate that the youth we serve will experience improved social and emotional health, coping skills, media literacy, and critical thinking skills. In doing so, we anticipate healthier youth, better coordination of care, and improved school climate.



Engaging to Improve Health

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford was founded on the belief that we need to go beyond our hospital doors to care for our community. To improve health for children and families in our communities, we partner, collaborate, and advocate to enhance access to care, create positive social change, provide health and safety education, and strengthen the workforce to promote economic stability. Our Community Benefit work is just one way we engage to bring care out into the community.

Through our Community Relations efforts at Stanford Children's, we connect with local families and organizations, build meaningful partnerships, and support programs that promote health and wellness across our region.

Instead of creating community programs and implementing them as a hospital, we rely on trusted partner nonprofits to carry out their good work to improve community health and wellness. These partners work directly with area families and intimately know the health needs they have and the barriers to care that they face.

“We evolve our programming every year based on partner feedback. We listen, then adjust our programming in lockstep to our partners’ stated needs,” says Melissa Burke, Packard Children’s director of Community Partnerships and Community Benefit.

As described in this report, Community Benefit grantees work on specific challenges, such as health care access, improving mental health, food insecurity, housing, and economic stability, which all adds up to addressing social determinants of health. By listening to our partners, we gain an understanding of health needs, then work toward health equity for our underserved community members.

“At our hospital, health equity work and influence should not focus solely on what happens within our walls. We need strong community partnerships and policy priorities to address the social and structural determinants of health,” says Ndidi Unaka, inaugural chief health equity officer for Packard Children’s.

To promote better health for community members, we provide health and safety education; offer classes and programs on pregnancy, childbirth, parenting, and car, sleep, and bike safety equipment for the community; and partner to bring perinatal and adolescent programs close to home for area families.

We not only want to increase health and wellness directly, but also want to change the laws that guide them at the local, state, and national levels. That’s why our leaders serve on committees and boards to

advocate for better public health policy and health care access. They also connect with other community leaders to move forward positive societal changes and work with leaders in schools, government, fire, and police departments to understand community needs so we can respond with targeted programs.

As a large employer in the Bay Area, we have workforce development programs to train the next generation of doctors and nurses and to give youth and young mothers a strong economic start. Our workforce development efforts are part of our mission as a teaching hospital.

These community engagement efforts are combined with broader hospital endeavors, such as our partnership with March of Dimes and our large investment in the Teen Van, which provides free health services to uninsured and underinsured youth in the Bay Area. Each year, we deepen our underlying drive to expand health equity in the communities we serve.

2024 Community Outreach Outcomes

5,000

youth and families served through community health programs and classes

60+

community and advocacy partners

16,000

doctors, nurses, and allied health workers trained



Spotlight

Offering Classes at Partner Programs

Recently, our Community Health Education program connected with two of our community nonprofit partners to provide free community classes at their location.

Our education team partnered with My Digital TAT2 and Shine Together to offer a class titled, “Parenting in the Digital Era.” Fifty families attended and gained a deeper understanding of what young people face online and learned ways to approach digital use with their children. My Digital TAT2 empowers students, educators, and families to understand technology, and Shine Together helps support and educate young moms in the Bay Area.

Community Health Programs



In 2024, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford supported the following programs to enhance the lives of parents and children through education and community programming.

Safety and Injury Prevention Programs

Packard Children’s is dedicated to preventing injuries in children. Through collaboration with the Pediatric Trauma Program, our Injury Prevention Program addresses the leading mechanisms of injuries facing children today with community education programs.

Our investment: \$256,243

Individuals served: 4,016

- **Safely Home car seat–fitting program**
Bilingual certified technicians and volunteers provide weekly child passenger safety education and training sessions to the public on proper car seat fit and installation, along with continuing education for child passenger safety technicians.
- **Social Work Fund**
By partnering with Social Services at Packard Children’s, we provide vulnerable patients with safety education and equipment.

Support Groups and Community Classes

We provide hundreds of wellness and preventive care classes each year for all ages and stages of pregnancy, childbirth, childhood, and teenage life. Our free community lectures from clinical experts help families stay updated on how to keep their children safe and healthy.

Our investment: \$33,695

Individuals served: 960

- **Pedestrian and bike safety**
Through our partnership with Safe Routes to School programs across our region, our pedestrian and bike safety program provides helmets, resources, and education to keep kids safe while biking and walking.
- **Supporting new parents**
Our Injury Prevention team partners with Nurse Family Partnership of San Mateo County, Puente, and Sacred Heart Community Service to provide education and safety equipment to expectant and new parents.
- **Safe Kids Coalition**
Packard Children’s serves as the host agency for the Safe Kids Santa Clara/San Mateo Coalition. The coalition brings together local public and private family-serving entities to collaborate on prevention activities that keep children safe.





Spotlight

Partnering to Promote Bike Safety

Our Community Relations team was thrilled to support Viva CalleSJ, which temporarily closed miles of San Jose’s streets to bring communities together to walk, bike, skate, and play. Our Injury Prevention team partnered with the city’s Vision Zero initiative to fit 350 children with bike helmets on the spot at the event.

“We’re thrilled to partner with organizations like Viva CalleSJ that share our mission to meet families’ needs in underserved communities,” says Salvador Vargas, community program manager.

Advocacy and Outreach Programs and Efforts



Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford is committed to the principle that all members of our community deserve a healthy life, while prioritizing children and expectant mothers. To move this belief forward, we lobby to improve laws and policies, and we support area nonprofits in building the infrastructure of a healthy community.

Advocacy for Children’s Health

As part of our mission, Packard Children’s advocates on behalf of children, teens, and expectant mothers before governmental bodies at the local, state, and national levels so that all children and their families can have access to quality care. Our advocacy includes educating the community and policy leaders on the health needs of children and expectant mothers, being involved in legislation that affects children’s health, and supporting physicians as they advocate for their patients and families.

Our investment: \$414,507

Community Development

As part of our ongoing advocacy efforts, leaders and faculty at Packard Children’s play an active role in local and regional organizations—including regional chambers of commerce, economic development associations, and service clubs—working to build economic vitality and ensure improvements in the social determinants of health for all residents.

Our investment: \$83,105

Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford Leadership on Boards and Committees

Members of our leadership team and faculty play a pivotal role across the nation with nonprofit groups. Some of the organizations are listed below:

- Health Plan of San Mateo
- Health Improvement Partnership
- Jacob’s Heart Children’s Cancer Support Services
- Kids in Common
- March of Dimes
- National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research
- Parents Helping Parents
- Project Cornerstone
- Ravenswood Family Health Center
- Ronald McDonald House
- Santa Clara Family Health Plan
- San Mateo County Health System—Nurse Family Partnership

Nonprofit Sponsorship Support

To further improve the overall health of our community, we contribute financially to community organizations through sponsorship of events and support of fundraising efforts. By leveraging our initial support, these nonprofits are better positioned to raise funds for programs and activities from others to further their missions, which align with our community health initiatives.

Our investment: \$152,690

Santa Clara County Children's Agenda

We actively support the Kids in Common Children's Agenda, with one of our faculty as co-chair. This countywide network, a project of Planned Parenthood of Mar Monte, works to improve outcomes for children by providing a common framework that helps ensure that every child is safe and healthy so they can succeed at learning and life.



“At Stanford Children’s, we advocate to improve the health of our community and promote health equity.”

—Michele Lew, Government and Community Relations Director, Stanford Medicine Children’s Health

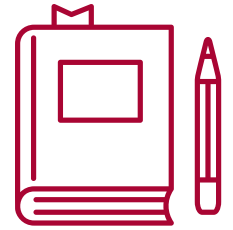


Spotlight

Promoting Car Seat Safety in the Community

Stanford Children's has a robust Injury Prevention Program, and we regularly provide car seat inspections and fittings to area families, as well as offer car seats for those who need one. This year, we hosted a Safe Kids Santa Clara San Mateo Community Car Seat Event at the site of a partner organization, Palo Alto Community Child Care Center (PACCC).

Workforce Development Programs and Efforts



Ensuring that health professionals receive the latest training translates to higher-quality care for our community. Empowering youth and young professionals with training and career direction makes for more engaged, self-sufficient citizens. In 2024, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford participated in the following efforts to help train the next generation of health professionals and youth.

Cristo Rey San Jose Work Study Program

To give youth a chance at their best future, Packard Children's partners with Cristo Rey San Jose Jesuit High School to provide workforce development training to disadvantaged high school students. Students learn a range of skills, from administrative to research, that help prepare them for college.

Our investment: \$90,000

Individuals served: 10

Mid-Coastal California Perinatal Outreach Program (MCCPOP)

This far-reaching program seeks to improve birth outcomes through education, consultation, and collaboration. MCCPOP advocates for exceptional family-centered care in our 25 affiliated hospitals in six counties. MCCPOP is a partnership of the Department of Pediatrics at Stanford University and the Johnson Center for Pregnancy and Newborn Services at Packard Children's.

Our investment: \$67,325

Individuals served: 15,800

Nurse and Allied Health Professionals Training

Packard Children's is committed to training the many professionals who make exceptional family-centered care possible. This includes nursing students and allied health professionals such as social work fellows, audiology professionals, pharmacists, clinical nutritionists, and others.

Our investment: \$8,873,202

Individuals served: 597

Residency and Fellowship Training

As a top destination for physician training, we provide clinical training for medical students, residents, and fellows from Stanford University's medical school through our robust and well-rounded pediatric residency training program. We also train the next generation of fellows in nursing, pharmacy, social work, audiology, occupational and physical therapy, and clinical nutrition.

Our investment: \$26,425,753

Individuals served: 259



3747
INFANT
NUTRITION

3749
TEAM ROOM

A group of four diverse volunteers, including a woman with glasses, a man, and a woman with long brown hair, are wearing red aprons and working in a kitchen. They are gathered around a counter, looking at a bunch of fresh green herbs held by one of the women. The background shows a bright, clean kitchen environment with blue pendant lights.

Volunteering at Ronald McDonald House

When families come from far away to get their children the best care possible at Stanford Medicine Children's Health, Ronald McDonald House at Stanford offers them a warm place to stay with nutritious meals, the comforts of home, and emotional support.

This year, the Community Relations teams formed a new partnership with Ronald McDonald House to support their work. What started out as an outlet for a hospital-wide annual volunteer event is growing into a stronger volunteer commitment in the future.

When families, especially those from far away or out of state, learn their child requires a long hospital stay at Stanford Children's, they can feel overwhelmed. Ronald McDonald House at Stanford has provided a nearby home for our parents and families for 45 years and counting.

“We chose to partner with Ronald McDonald House charities because they play such a critical role in supporting and providing essential services to our families whose children have medical needs or are facing medical crises,” says Melissa Burke, director of Community Relations at Stanford Children’s.

One challenge parents and families face is simply taking time to eat nutritious meals during long stays at their child’s bedside. That’s why Stanford Children’s employees volunteered time on their days off to help prepare and serve a delicious meal on Saturday, April 27, 2024, as part of the Ronald McDonald House megaBITES volunteer program. Our Community Partnerships team recruited employees to serve nearly 70 delicious, nutritious meals, which were appreciated by families. The plan is to expand volunteer days in coming years, something that should be easy to do, since the team had more volunteers come forward than there were volunteer slots to fill.

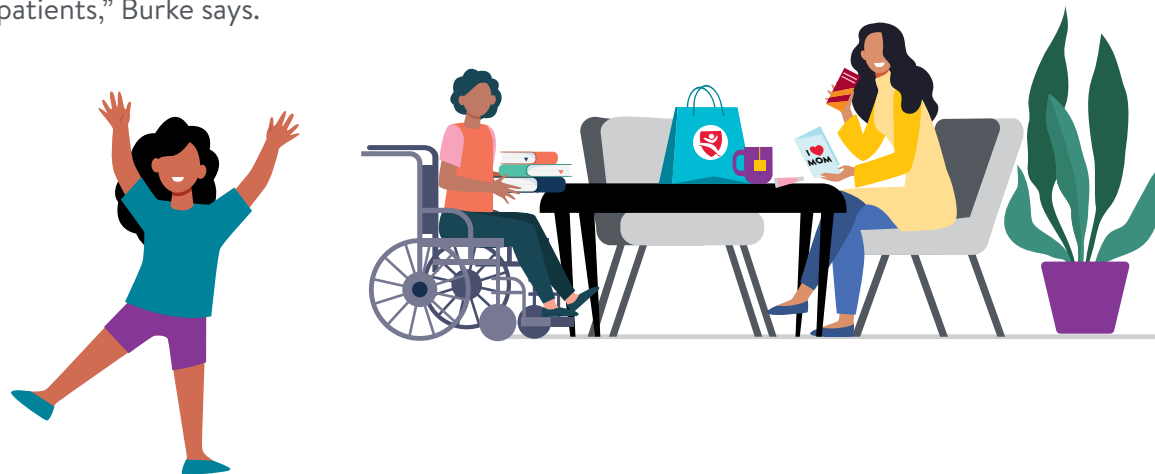
“Our employees are eager to help our community and our patient families, and Ronald McDonald House allows them to connect with an organization that does so much for our patients,” Burke says.

The Stanford Children’s team didn’t stop with organizing a meal. They also called on dozens of hospital volunteers to help assemble a special surprise for moms staying at Ronald McDonald House for Mother’s Day.

“Our crew assembled upwards of 400 care kits for moms who stayed at Ronald McDonald Houses across our locations in Palo Alto, San Francisco, and Oakland,” says Dani Rey Ardila, MPH, Community Partnerships program manager at Stanford Children’s.

The kits featured Mother’s Day cards, chocolates, lip balm, scrunchies, hair clips, face masks, and tea bags. The moms were thrilled to receive the kits and grateful to be remembered on Mother’s Day.

The team is excited to strengthen their volunteer efforts with Ronald McDonald House in the coming year, which will include cooking more meals and providing more care kits for families.



“Our employees are eager to help, and Ronald McDonald House allows them to connect with an organization that does so much for our patients.”

—Melissa Burke, Director of Community Relations, Stanford Medicine Children’s Health





Thank You!

We sincerely thank the 2024 members of our advisory council for their invaluable guidance:

Janine Bruce	Stanford Office of Child Health Equity
Leslie Bulbuk	Office of Assemblymember Marc Berman
Dana Bunnett	Kids in Common
Anand Chabra	San Mateo County Health
Maria Garcia	The Health Trust
Vicki Harrison	Stanford Psychiatry Center for Youth and Mental Wellbeing
Brooke Heymach	Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Lee Pfab	Palo Alto Community Child Care
Rachael Wyley	Culture Kinesis
Jessica Yee	Ravenswood Family Health Center



Community Benefit Oversight

The Packard Children's Board of Directors reviews and approves Community Benefit programs, activities, and funding. Our Community Benefit Advisory Council, composed of local community leaders, advises Community Benefit staff throughout the year.

This report was approved by the full Board of Directors on Feb. 12, 2025.



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Learn More

communitybenefit.stanfordchildrens.org