

RECEIVED

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Partnership for Children, Youth and Families  
SUBJECT: **Recommendations to Support Pasadena's Marginalized Communities**

2020 JUN 15 AM 10:55

STEVE CLARK  
CITY OF PASADENA

**BACKGROUND:**

As many of you know, the Partnership for Children, Youth and Families is a network of youth-serving agencies that provide services and programs throughout our community and has been active in the city for more than 20 years. As such, it has a direct and intimate connection to youth and families in our city and thus uniquely understands the current challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As such, the purpose of this letter is to inform you and City staff about what our agencies are experiencing with regards to service provision as well as issues and challenges we are observing and learning about from our youth and families. This letter will cover the familial concerns and experiences first. Next, it will provide examples of how our organizations are meeting the needs of those families. Finally, it will culminate with a series of recommendations that the City Council and City Manager could take action on to help alleviate some of the stress and anxiety that community members are experiencing today.

**FAMILIAL CONCERNS AND EXPERIENCES:**

To begin, as the result of a series of phone calls, direct interaction, service provision and other forms of connections, here is a list of issues that have been raised with organizations:

- **Food** – Food insecurity has increased. For many families simply accessing sufficient nourishment has become more and more difficult. Organizations have observed that the one meal that is distributed to families each day is being stretched into three meals. They have very little other food on hand to eat.
- **Employment** - With unemployment rates reaching 15-20% nationwide there are hundreds of families in Pasadena whose main breadwinners are out of work. This impacts many of the other issues on this list, including food, rent, emotional/mental health, etc.
- **Rent** - While the City of Pasadena has passed a moratorium on evictions there are many households that still fear the threat of eviction due to unscrupulous property owners or even those who are unfamiliar with the moratorium. A significant number of families, many undocumented, are extremely worried that they will be placed on the street or alerted to ICE if they were to miss rent payments.
- **Emotional/Mental Stress** – Many families are living in extremely crowded conditions. Many sharing a space with multiple families. With 'sheltering in place' there are few opportunities for family members to find the privacy and space needed to find a peaceful moment, or engage in activities that support one's mental health. It has become more challenging for students to find a quiet space to study. Additionally, there have been

06/15/2020  
Item 12

numerous cases of domestic and familial violence that have resulted from the strain of these living situations.

- **Child Care** - Both for those families who still have jobs and for those who are ending working from home, there is a huge demand for high quality, affordable child care. There is also a huge concern about how safe child care facilities are as potential transmitters of COVID-19 and how they are being supervised by City and County departments.
- **Technology** - The digital divide is highly visible in many households in Pasadena, particularly those with children. Access to technology is an equity issue. Students have expressed frustration with not being able to complete homework due to bad internet connections, and not having headphones to help them quiet the noisy households. Issues that they are facing include: lack of reliable internet connection or Wi-Fi; ability to have the technology needed as some families share laptops and do not have headphones; and computers that are unable to provide complete service (i.e. PUSD Chromebook provides limited access to sites).
- **Immigration** - With reports of ICE activities throughout the country many Pasadena residents are worried that ICE agents have become active in our community. As a result, these families are hesitant to utilize emergency resources, access medical care, shop, work, engage in physical activity, walk in their neighborhoods, and even to worship.
- **Social Distancing/Personal Protective Equipment/Sheltering in Place** - As mentioned above, crowded conditions in many households do not allow for effective 'social distancing'. In addition, some families have members who are 'essential workers'. Families have shared that access to Personal Protective Equipment is a serious challenge as supplies are low and costs mount after months of purchases.

#### **HOW COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS ARE HELPING:**

Member organizations of the Partnership for Children, Youth and Families are attempting to address many of the issues raised in the list above. Here are a few of those activities to date:

- **PACTL** - Has been delivering daily PUSD meals to 250 children. Providing food to approximately 200 families per week. Every Tuesday, there is a bread pantry for 150 families. On Thursday, 130 families receive a box full of either basic dry goods or fresh vegetables, fruits and meats. Food is either picked up or delivered to homes. Providing parenting and opening doors classes on-line. Providing information for immigrant families as well as rent assistance. PACTL Needs more space and access to refrigeration, to be able to expand its services as the need grows. PACTL is also calling 130 families weekly to see how they are and what needs they may have. In addition, they are meeting via zoom with 12 youth who are advisors for their youth programs.
- **STARS** - Is partnering with the Pasadena Education Foundation to also provide access to food for hundreds of PUSD families; has provided over 125K meals in the past two months largely with community volunteers.
- **Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena** - Providing food distribution to a small number of Club families; developed a virtual and interactive Club that is serving youth/children via technology. Following all State child care COVID-10 guidelines, looking for guidance and sign-off from PPHD and/or other City Departments to open one Clubhouse in northwest Pasadena for a modified 70-child, 8-week Summer Session.

- **Flintridge Center** - Flintridge Center continues to support youth and families with virtual case management, connecting them to supportive services through the Covid 19 crisis. Staff also provide weekly youth meetings, game and movie nights as well as financial assistance for rent and food. The delivery of art supplies allow youth to participate in virtual A Windows Between Worlds classes with staff to express emotional challenges through art. In June, Flintridge will launch the Career Preparation Program to support those exiting incarceration in gaining strong employment skills and connecting people to employment opportunities.
- **Day One** - Developed togetherpasadena.org increasing knowledge of resources in the community; leading a headphone drive to support youth in finding the quiet space needed to complete school work, developed the #DOdetox immunity challenge; partnered with the Armory for live online art classes - delivered art supplies to student homes; partnered with library to host youth book club, convening weekly youth advocate meetings and parent education classes. Hosting meetings with community partners to coordinate Pasadena Summer Series, where families will be able to engage in fun, safe, local summer activities.
- **Armory Center for the Arts** - Providing on-line arts programming for families.
- **Collaborate PASadena/Pacific Oaks** - Identifying resources unity; partnering with STARS/PEF; discussing possibility of home visits; supporting Senior to Senior program with PEF.
- **Young & Healthy** - Providing teletherapy, medical and dental services to uninsured children; health insurance enrollment to families who have lost jobs. Also, partnering with other agencies to provide mindfulness and parent workshops online who have lost jobs. Also, partnering with other agencies to provide mindfulness and parent workshops online.
- **College Access Plan (CAP)** - Offering virtual assistance to students and families in the areas of financial aid assessment and application, bridging to college, preparing college applications, online SAT prep, and navigating changes in the postsecondary landscape due to COVID-19.
- **Planned Parenthood** - For its clients, it is using tele-health systems to provide health care.
- **Adelante Youth Alliance** - Meeting with students three times per week, offering social connection which includes educational games, STEM activities and mindfulness. Also providing group and individual academic assistance, mostly in Math and English.
- **A Step Ahead** - Coordinating a free meal at noon everyday at New Revelation Church for pick up in partnership with World Food Kitchen.
- **SKILLZ Summer School** – Day One, Lake Avenue Church and CAP will continue to partner to offer on-line this summer.

#### **Early Childhood 0-5:**

- Pacific Clinics and Families Forward are frequently calling their families to check-in regarding needs and to promote their virtual programming. Pacific Clinics is collecting survey responses from their parents about how the pandemic is affecting them.
- Most center based child care centers in the area closed the week of March 16 and are just beginning to reopen. During this period of closure, the Centers provided online early childhood education experiences, connecting with children and families via Facebook, Zoom and other virtual platforms. This provided learning experiences for children as well as support for families who were sent home to work.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that City Council:

1. Determine how quality access to wifi/internet can be expanded to more parts of the city, especially where there is high need. (EdTech Committee, Public Works, City Manager)
2. Partner with the PUSD to ensure that all students have access to the technology they need (exp. Chromebooks with expanded access, headphones) to be successful in school. (Information/Technology, Library)
3. Improve enforcement of the eviction moratorium; ensure that all property owners in the city know about it and the significant consequences of violation. Identify a point person in the City administration for reports of violations and assistance separate from the Housing Rights Center. (Housing, City Prosecutor)
4. Coordinate with local and regional food banks to increase supplies and thus ensure that all Pasadena families have access to food. Offer families in need supermarket gift cards to buy food, cleaning supplies, baby essentials, etc. (Public Health, Housing, Recreation)
5. Reduce the fear of immigration detention by requiring ICE to register with City officials prior to starting operations. Reinforce the message that the City of Pasadena does not support ICE operations nor coordinate with ICE on any initiatives. (Police, City Attorney)
6. Expand mental health and violence prevention services through collaboration with community-based organizations like Peace Over Violence, Pasadena Mental Health, Pacific Clinics, etc. (Police, Housing, Public Health)
7. Provide access to low-cost, quality personal protective equipment, particularly face coverings and gloves. Open more sanitation stations around the city, including at youth-serving agencies. (Public Health)
8. Identify and publish guidelines/protocols and timelines for a safe return to on-site service provision for after-school programs and child/day care centers. (Public Health, Recreation/Human Services)
9. Offer varied and engaging on-line educational programs that provide residents with opportunities for job training/career development. Expand community outreach efforts to link community members to employment. (Housing/WIB, Library)
10. Activate City Staff to assist on-going efforts to support residents by delivering food, activity supplies and essential needs to families with no access to transportation. (All)
11. Identify spaces that can be utilized to help support food distribution efforts.
12. Consider expanding testing accessibility to the community in addition to the Rose Bowl. (Public Health)

13. Stay up-to-date - Invite the PCYF to provide regular reports to committees and City Council on trends in the community as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. (All)
14. Early Childhood (0-5) need for safe play space, childcare as parents return to work , Support for parents who are juggling homeschooling and working from home with no breaks, continued access to resources such as cleaning supplies. (All)
15. Support for Childcare Providers - There is currently the potential loss of over half of child care programs across the nation. Pasadena is on the brink of losing one long time preschool in Pasadena, Fair Oaks Preschool, due to lack of facility space. This can be the beginning of many closures. Although, most of the centers are starting to reopen- we are doing so with very low enrollment due to group size limitations imposed by licensing and parental fears. Although many agencies received the PPP funds, that will only provide for a couple of months of assistance. Agencies will have to rebuild enrollment to our budgeted capacity for sustainability. (All)
16. Early Childhood Leadership - It is urgent for the City to fill the position of the Early Childhood Development Coordinator. Leadership is needed to provide support to the child care provider community. Agencies need individual help in navigating municipal systems. The Directors' Alliance has been meeting weekly to provide support to one another, to share resources and to plan together. We need someone who can see the big picture and help to address the big needs. (All)

**COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

The Partnership for Children, Youth and Families finds that this action is consistent with the City Council's goal to support and promote the quality of life for all Pasadena residents.

We know that this is an extremely difficult time for city government as it is for all of our community's residents. With this in mind, we hope to work together by bringing the knowledge and expertise of our nonprofit organizations with that of City departments to solve some of these daunting problems. Please let us know how we can work together to meet the needs of our community. Our chair is Christy Zamani from Day One, so please contact her at [Christy@goDayOne.org](mailto:Christy@goDayOne.org) with your response to this letter. We are stronger together!

Respectfully,

The Partnership for Children, Youth and Families

A Step Ahead  
 Adelante Youth Alliance  
 Armory Center for the Arts  
 Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena  
 College Access Plan (CAP)

Day One  
 Flintridge Center  
 PACTL  
 Planned Parenthood  
 Options for Learning  
 STARS  
 Young & Healthy

cc: Field Reps., CM, Department Heads,  
 Partnership Organizations

June 11, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Partnership for Children, Youth and Families  
SUBJECT: Recommendations to Invest in Youth

RECEIVED  
JUN 15 11:10 AM  
CITY OF PASADENA  
CITY CLERK

Dear Pasadena City Council,

As the result of COVID-19 and the subsequent necessary shutdown of our state's economic system all nonprofit organizations have seen a dramatic drop in revenue. Like municipal governments, nonprofit funding has dropped anywhere from 10% to 40% of what it was at pre-pandemic levels. The corona virus has been devastating for all of us, so this is an important time to evaluate our priorities and examine where the most urgent places are to dedicate our limited resources.

The Partnership for Children, Youth and Families recommends that within the context of budget discussions, the needs of our community's least advantaged members must be prioritized. These include the children and youth of working class and poor families who utilize numerous City services (in normal years) like summer day camps, swimming pools, parks, recreation programs, library services, etc. It is our recommendation that the City of Pasadena look for ways to provide these programs this summer in order to serve parts of the community that are under great stress educationally, psychologically and economically.

In general terms, it is obvious why any community should invest in its youth. For example, improved education, greater access to sports/exercise, provision of health care, leadership training, nutrition awareness and many other indicators all lead to a higher standard of living - both for young persons as well as the overall community. Nevertheless, it is important to be able to measure how those efforts will ultimately provide significant benefits for everyone. In this document there are examples of how dedicated efforts to ensure that all young people have access to quality education, proper nutrition, adequate health care, engaging social activities, etc. will lead to their complete growth and development.

To be more specific, when youth have more assets dedicated towards them there are significant positive measurable outcomes that result from those investments. These include improvements in their ability to thrive in finding education and employment, significant decreases in engaging in high-risk behaviors, and a greater ability to be resilient in the face of challenges.

"Youth development is an ongoing growth process in which the community engages to help youth meet their basic personal and social needs to be safe, feel cared for, be valued, be useful, be spiritually grounded, and to build skills and competencies which allow them to function and contribute in their daily lives." (Karen Pittman, Forum for Youth Investment)

**Key Components for Effective Youth Development** (Gambone, Connell):

1. Emotional and Physical Safety—meeting youth's basic needs as well as building trust and respect.
2. Caring Relationships—from at least one adult in each youth's life, and the existence of positive relationships with peers.
3. Youth Participation—includes opportunities for youth to have a voice, multiple choices, leadership, a say in decision-making and a sense of belonging.

06/15/2020  
Item 12

4. Community Involvement—genuine opportunities for the youth to connect and impact their community in positive ways.
5. Skill building—that is challenging, relevant and engaging across a core set of competencies (cognitive, social, vocational, civic, physical and creative/cultural).

However, youth “problems” are often caused by underlying issues that are widespread and chronic: persistent poverty, racism, homophobia and transphobia, lack of access to parenting resources and support, inadequate public transportation, and unsafe places to play and learn. As a result, many youth experience difficulties in school and may be struggling with mental health. The Partnership uses a coalition model to address these myriad issues in order to address the root causes that marginalize youth in our city. We believe that young people have the capacity to transform communities, and we want to transform Pasadena into the model city it has the potential of being.

The systemic barriers we create for youth can be remedied if the city makes a true commitment to uplifting the lives of young people. We know that investing in youth and supportive systems to build up youth will have lasting impact on our entire community. Closing the education gap is one way we can help youth in our community since, according to the CDC, “academic success is an excellent indicator for the overall well-being of youth and a primary predictor and determinant of adult health outcomes.” By supporting education programs and wraparound services to support educational success, we are also supporting investments in public health.

What can our city government do to reduce the negative impacts of inadequate attention to developing our community’s youth and focus on building assets?

#### **Recommendations:**

1. Partner with nonprofit youth-serving agencies to identify needs of young people and then develop collaborative programs
2. Invest in high quality city-wide internet to support equity in education & learning.
3. Identify a point person from the Recreation and Parks Department to coordinate youth activities (similar to the Early Childhood Coordinator position) who would attend all PCYF meetings/events in addition to representing youth needs in the community
4. Draft and submit a report every year on the ‘State of Our Youth’ with the PCYF
5. Adopt the youth led ‘Youth Master Plan’ that not only prioritizes youth development and priorities, but also assigns city staff members to help achieve its goals
6. Expand park and community center programs and hours for children and youth
7. Invite non-profit partners to use City facilities for programs/events/activities free of service/usage fees associate with hosting positive programs for Pasadena Youth.
8. Work with the PUSD to coordinate service provision during out-of-school hours, including addressing the technology gap that limits online education and access for many students.
9. Expand the Summer Rose Program into a year-round program and provide extensive internship opportunities by placing youth at local nonprofits and City Departments.
10. Develop video production training program for teens through Pasadena Media
11. Create community service opportunities and projects through City departments/ programs/agencies for area youth
12. Coordinate with local and regional food banks to increase supplies and thus ensure that all Pasadena families have access to food. Offer families in need supermarket gift cards to buy food, cleaning supplies, baby essentials, etc. (Public Health, Housing, Recreation)
13. Provide access to low-cost, quality personal protective equipment, particularly face coverings and gloves.
14. Open more sanitation stations around the city, including at youth-serving agencies.
15. Offer varied and engaging on-line educational programs that provide residents with

- opportunities for job training/career development. Expand community outreach efforts to link community members to employment. (Housing/WIB, Library)
16. Re-assign underused City Staff to assist on-going efforts to support residents by delivering food, youth program supplies and essential needs to families with no transportation.
  17. Identify spaces that can be utilized to help support food distribution efforts.
  18. Support for Childcare Providers - There is currently the potential loss of over half of child care programs across the nation. Pasadena is on the brink of losing one long time preschool in Pasadena, Fair Oaks Preschool, due to lack of facility space. This can be the beginning of many closures. Although, most of the centers are starting to reopen- we are doing so with very low enrollment due to group size limitations imposed by licensing and parental fears. Although many agencies received the PPP funds, that will only provide for a couple of months of assistance. Agencies will have to rebuild enrollment to our budgeted capacity for sustainability.
  19. Early Childhood Leadership - It is urgent for the City to fill the position of the Early Childhood Development Coordinator. Leadership is needed to provide support to the child care provider community. Agencies need individual help in navigating municipal systems. The Directors' Alliance has been meeting weekly to provide support to one another, to share resources and to plan together. We need someone who can see the
  20. Fund Youth Month – Day One has collaborated with community partners to keep this legacy program going- without financial support from the city for over 13 years.

Certainly, there are many other ways for the City of Pasadena to provide support for positive youth development as these are just a few examples.

The Partnership for Children, Youth and Families looks forward to working even more closely with City staff and City Council Members in order to develop these goals together. Please let us know what the next step would be in the process to form a deeper partnership with the City of Pasadena in order to better serve the youth of our community. Please contact our chairperson Christy Zamani [Christy@goDayOne.org](mailto:Christy@goDayOne.org) with this information.

Sincerely,

The Partnership for Children, Youth and Families

A Step Ahead  
 Adelante Youth Alliance  
 Armory Center for the Arts  
 Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena  
 College Access Plan  
 Day One

Flintridge Center  
 Options for Learning  
 PACTL  
 Planned Parenthood  
 STARS  
 Young & Healthy

cc: Field Reps., CM, Department Heads, Partnership Organizations



June 14, 2020

Honorable Mayor and City Council  
Pasadena City Hall  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91109

Re: Office of the Young Child

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

**As part of the budget recommendations for the Fiscal Year 21 Operating Budget, we respectfully request that you, as the elected leaders of our City, confirm filling the vacant position of the Early Child Development Coordinator and continue funding the Office of the Young Child as an essential service and system in our City with you as the elected Council serving as the leaders in this effort. During this critical time of pandemic and social unrest, it is necessary that this receive your immediate attention as critical to a total social and racial justice system of the City.**

It has come to our attention that City staff may be in the process of discussing with PUSD the District's interest in the Office of the Young Child and some form of partnership on the staffing and management of the Office, either directly through the District or with another organization. We strongly advise against this approach.

The undersigned and the organizations making this request are the leaders and organizations in our City who represent our youngest children and their families, several of whom were part of developing the original policies of the City regarding children.

We believe that the City of Pasadena must continue to implement the Early Child Development Policy (attached) adopted by the City Council on March 23, 2015, and continue to support the Resolution (attached), also adopted on March 23, 2015, in support of *Developing An Early Learning City By The Year 2025*.

#### **An Update**

The Early Child Development Policy as adopted by the City Council in March of 2015 is a systemic vision for the City of Pasadena based on a Master Plan for the Young Child. The Policy unites diverse programs and services in the City of Pasadena and melds them into a cohesive coordinated family-centered system that focuses policy, services and pursuit of public and private funding options to improve the lives of young children, ages birth to five. Systemic is the operative word to define our policy. It is not a program that can simply be administered by a department or a school district.

We recognize that over the last two years The Office of the Young Child has served an important initiative, by focusing on a national program, *All Children Thrive*. However, what has been lost is the implementation of the systemic policy as adopted by the City Council with Eight Building Blocks intended to be implemented on a five-year timetable.

06/15/2020  
Item 12 1

Unfortunately, one of the foundations and the basic support of the Policy, the Pasadena Council for the Young Child, was dismantled by City staff, using a technical glitch as a reason for eliminating the Council and, in effect, the Policy, as adopted. The end result is a loss of the community input and momentum that we had strategically developed to become an Early Learning City by the Year 2025. An example of what we lost is demonstrated by the Launch of the Early Learning Policy in September of 2017 held in Brookside and attended by several thousand + families and community. That significant initial demonstration of support lost momentum with the disbanding of the Council.

The City also lost the ability to access local, county and state funding supporting our systemic effort, such as through the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education in Los Angeles County. Just prior to the election of Governor Newsom, Assembly Member Chris Holden met with leaders of the Pasadena Council for the Young Child. He emphasized supporting the Early Learning effort in Pasadena as part of the Governor's focus on early child development efforts throughout the State. With the dismantling of the Pasadena Council for the Young Child, this has not been realized.

This is an example of the worst kind of administrative failure in the system, resulting in failure to accomplish goals/objectives to assist those we are most trying to support: Our youngest children and their families.

Council's commitment to this critical work, and to filling the vacant position, will ensure that this important Policy will be implemented as adopted. It will require a renewed focus on the Policy, but we as leaders of this effort are ready to present to the City Council strategic ways in which this can be accomplished while continuing what is already taking place.

### **The Urgency**

We ask you as leaders of our City to reflect on this most important thought: With you as our leaders and as we as the community work together with you to create systemic ways and changes that will end the cycle of racism and inequality and as we focus on social justice, please remember this: Do not forget this generation of infants, toddlers, children and their families as critical to ending this cycle. Essential to the current movements and changes that are necessary for social justice to be successfully accomplished in our City, all of us **MUST** consider the adopted Vision for Pasadena: *A City that nurtures every child and creates an environment where young children are healthy, safe, and find early success in school and life.*

We urge you to read an article in today's (Sunday, June 14, 2020) Calendar section of the Los Angeles Times, titled, ***Baby's first steps toward building a better country.*** The article interviews Ibram X. Kendi, one of the country's leading proponents of antiracism. He has a 4-year-old daughter. His most recent book, "Antiracist Baby", a colorful board book for the 0-3 population, is aimed to educate people about race and racism as early in life as possible. **He believes that "the real hope for social change has to be seeded by a new generation if we are to truly become a more just country."** This is exactly the cycle of change in all aspects of the lives of our children, our families, and our City that was intended when our Early Child Development Policy was written in 2014-2015 and adopted by the Pasadena City Council on March 23, 2015.

The considerations that are relevant to our request require a much longer discussion and planning than this letter allows. Let us begin by (1) filling the vacant Early Child Development Coordinator position and (2) continuing funding the Office of the Young Child as the foundation for achieving the

Vision and Master Plan in the City of Pasadena on behalf of our youngest children and their families. An important addendum to the requests above is (3) to request that city staff provide a detailed report as of June 30, 2020, on the implementation of the Early Child Development Policy, including implementation of the Vision of the Policy and Core of the Master Plan, the Eight Building Blocks (Pages 9 through 13 of the Early Child Development Policy).

We know that if we are able to realize the City Council's Vision and the Master Plan, this young generation will not experience the inequities that our City and country are experiencing today.

Sincerely,

\*Toni Boucher, Chair of the Child Care Directors Alliance  
Director, Altadena Children's Center

Jacques Bolton, Chair of the City of Pasadena Human Services Commission  
Director, *A Step Ahead*

Lisa Cavellier, Chief Executive Officer, The Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena  
former Director, Collaborate Pasadena

Lila Guirgis, former Coordinator of the Office of the Young Child & Pasadena Resident

\*Dr. Dianne Philibosian, Professor Emeritus, California State University, Northridge,  
former Associate Dean and Acting Dean, College of Communication, Health & Human Services  
Director of the Institute for Community Health and WellBeing

\*Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC  
Chief Psychologist, General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles  
Governor Appointed Chair, California Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention

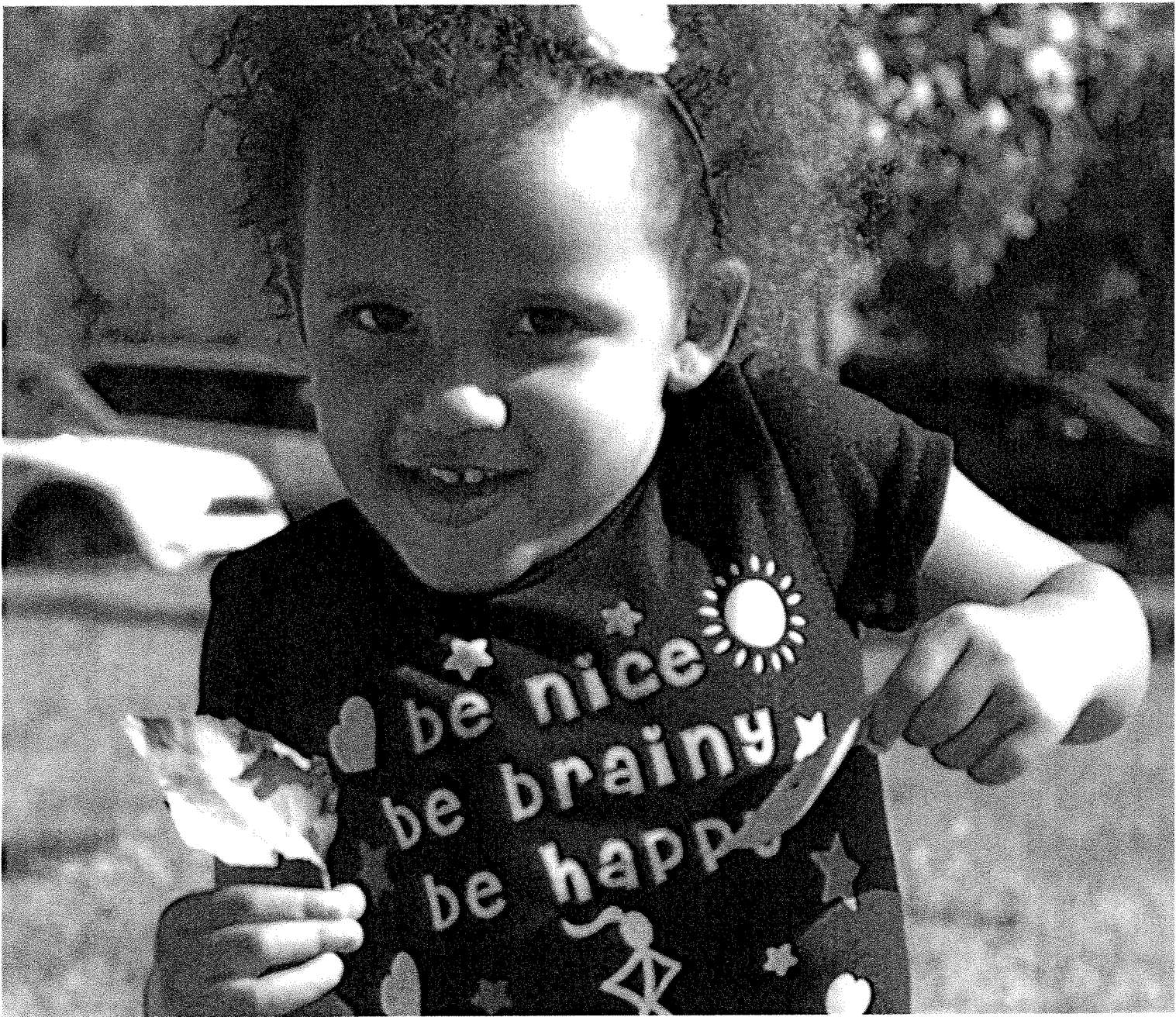
\*Tony Santilena, former Director of the Pasadena Youth Council, Nonprofit Board Member  
Community Activist and Advocate for Youth

Christy Zamani, Executive Director, Day One  
Chair of the Partnership for Children, Youth and Families

\*Dr. Vera Vignes, former Superintendent of Schools, Pasadena Unified School District  
Nonprofit Board Member and Community Activist for Children, Youth, and Families

A Step Ahead	Adelante Youth Alliance
Armory Center for the Arts	Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena
College Access Plan (CAP)	Day One
Flintridge Center	PACTL
Planned Parenthood	Options for Learning
STARS	Young & Healthy

\*Members of the team led by Dr. Vignes who authored the 2015 Early Child Development Policy of the City of Pasadena



# Early Child Development Policy

City of Pasadena

developed by

THE CITY OF PASADENA'S HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL ON MARCH 23, 2015



For children to perform better in school and in life, we cannot wait until they enter kindergarten to promote their health, safety and learning.

*A wealth of research clearly demonstrates the importance of early brain development, the effectiveness of best practices in early learning and child rearing, and the cost-effectiveness of investing in early childhood development. This presents a compelling rationale to concentrate on children's early years.*

## Background

The City of Pasadena has a long history of introducing policies and investing in strategies that support the overall well being of everyone living within its borders. The City has also long recognized that the quality of life of its residents is enriched when every member of the community has access to shelter, food, protection, health care, education, recreation and creative opportunities. The City's Policy on Children, Youth, and Families originating in 1989, affirms this commitment and acknowledges that every child is a person worthy of the opportunity to develop to his or her fullest potential.

Since establishing the Policy on Children, Youth and Families, the City has evolved its thinking and understanding of how best to approach improved outcomes for children, youth and families. As is evidenced by the updated Policy on Children, Youth and Families in 2012 – 2013, along with recently adopted 2013 -2016 School/City/Community Work Plan, recently renamed Collaborate PASadena, there is renewed recognition that efforts to improve the lives of Pasadena residents will require a comprehensive approach that involves cross sector policies and comprehensive service strategies. These policies and service strategies must also address the changing needs throughout the life course and respond to the differing developmental needs of children, youth, and adults as they age.

While the School/City/Community Work Plan established goals from early childhood into early adulthood, City leaders recognize that more than ever before, it is understood that the first five years of a child's life shape their future learning, behaviors and health. There is also a great potential for improving the health of the population through a focus on early childhood outcomes as several decades of research has established the critical influence of early childhood experiences and environments on health and well-being throughout one's life course. Further research has also established that Investments in young children's health, early childhood education, and well-being pay high dividends for taxpayers and the economy as a whole. Yet, while we are well aware of the lifelong societal implications of children being healthy, doing well in school, and getting along with others, many children are not reaching these goals.

## New Understanding of Child Well-being

We have long recognized, and new research and understanding of brain development and functioning have even further confirmed, that the early years of a child's life are vital when it comes to child development, and a child's early experiences have effects that last a lifetime. Healthy brain development in the early years provides the building blocks for educational achievement, economic productivity, responsible citizenship, lifelong health, strong communities, and successful parenting of the next generation. The crucial period for brain development is between late pregnancy and age three, well before children enter pre-school or kindergarten. Further, the

physical, mental and social well-being of children will be determined to a large extent by whether they are brought up in nurturing, low stress environments that expose them to healthy activities and positive social relations.

The greatest impacts will come from policies, and investments, that support service strategies and other efforts that improve family and community environments in which all children grow up. Policies and service strategies that empower parents and caretakers and ensure that they have adequate financial resources, stable housing, access to quality health care, adequate nutrition, high- quality early childhood programs and K-12 education are necessary. There is also a need to have policies that support a family's ability to live in, and contribute to, safe and healthy neighborhoods. Both a family and neighborhood approach is what is needed to help children grow into healthy thriving adults: healthy adults who are not only able to support themselves and their families, but who are also able to contribute to the economic viability of the City overall.



## Our Local Context

Pasadena currently has a population of approximately 8,274 children between 0-5 years of age. In 2013 there were 1,973 births to Pasadenans. This a slight decrease in overall births that is reflective of a national trend that has been occurring since a small peak in 2007. In 2007, Pasadena had a total of 2,221 births.

According to Pasadena Public Health Department, of the babies born in 2013, 32% were Hispanic, 32% were White, 25% were Asian, 7% were Black, along with 3% identified as other. The race/ethnicity of newborns highlights the on-going change in demographics and diversity of the City's population. Of the total births in 2013, close to half (approximately 49%) or 966 babies were born to first time mothers. The majority of women are accessing prenatal and infant health care with 88% of women accessing care in the 1st trimester, 8.5% in the 2nd and 1.9% in the 3rd, with 6 women not accessing any prenatal care and the remaining 23 women's history of care was unknown. Half of the babies born in Pasadena are born at Huntington Hospital.

By the end of 2013, Pasadena Public Health Department had 4,850 families enrolled in the federally-funded Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. Pasadena's WIC offers supplemental food, nutrition education and breastfeeding support to families in Pasadena, Altadena, and Sierra Madre with women and/or children who are at nutritional risk by providing nutrition education along with monthly food coupons. Participating family's income must meet 185% of the current federal poverty guidelines. Families with low or moderate-income levels may qualify. Participants must also be in one of the following categories: pregnant woman, breastfeeding woman, postpartum woman up to 6 months (if not breastfeeding) or up to 12 months (if breastfeeding), children under 5 years of age, and fathers, grandparents, or foster parents taking care of children under the age of 5 may be eligible. The far majority of children seen by the WIC are between the ages of 0-3. Just over 70% are Hispanic, approx. 11.5% African American, along with 7.5% White, close to 7% Asian and close to 4% women and children more than one race.

As poverty is generally considered a risk factor and is associated with poor childhood outcomes, the following map (MAP 1) shows the correlation between households with income below poverty and Pasadena's population of children age 0-5 by neighborhood.

This past year the City and School District teamed with UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities to introduce a measure of children's developmental progress at age 5. The Early Developmental Index (EDI) captures children's outcomes across 5 developmental domains including physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills, communication skills and general knowledge. These domains correspond to the national indicators used to determine school readiness. The EDI

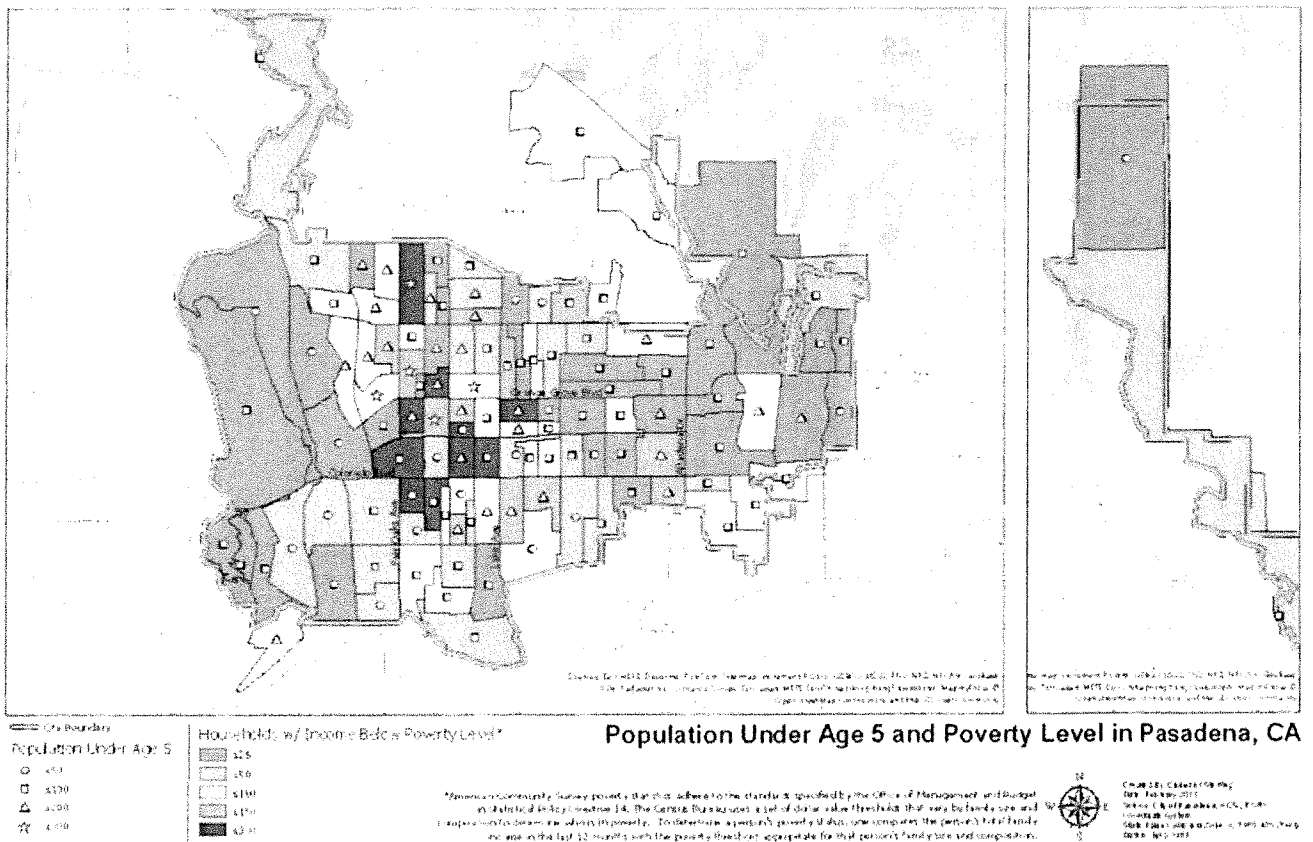
was administered to all kindergarteners within the Pasadena Unified School District. Recognizing there are children with the community who are not attending public schools, there still remains the opportunity to engage the private schools in the area to participate in this data capture on behalf of the City and to have the most complete picture possible of the developmental progress of all young children residing in Pasadena.

Working with the data available, the City's Department of Information and Technology was able to map the data of Pasadena's public school students to view children's developmental outcomes in relationship to the neighborhood conditions in which they live. EDI provides the City with data on early childhood outcomes that are the result of the corresponding family actions, and family and neighborhood conditions influencing young children's lives.

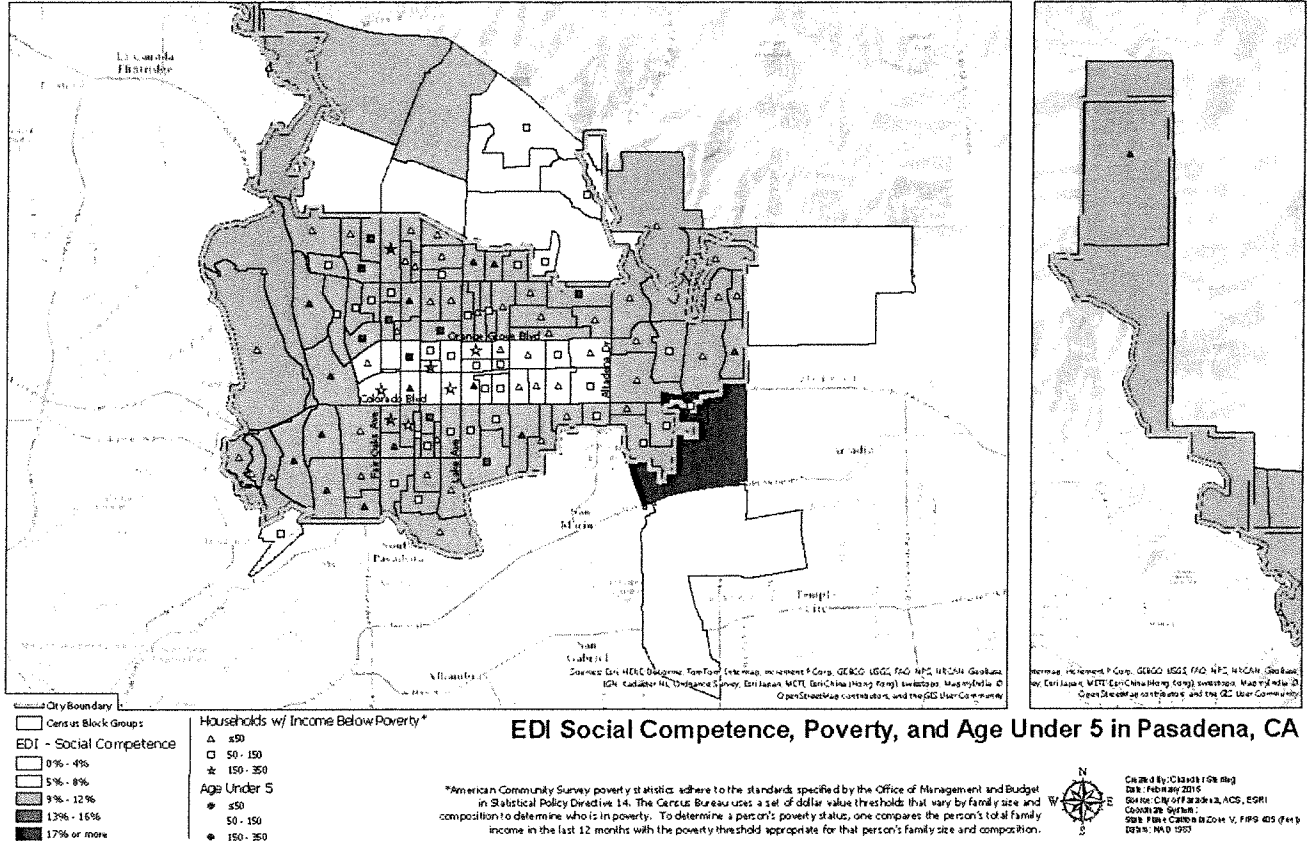
The maps provided help demonstrate the opportunity now available to the city to focus and align efforts of the broad array of the providers offering services, guidance and support to families with young children. The following two EDI maps presented focus on different domains (MAP 2: Social Emotional Competence, and MAP 3: Communications Skills) to underscore that the types of early childhood vulnerability differs by neighborhood and childhood vulnerability does not simply correlate to those neighborhoods with more of a concentration of households in poverty. These two domains were highlighted as many have come to recognize that social emotional competence is the basis for cognitive skills. For example, social-emotional competence refers to a child's capacity for self-confidence, trust, and empathy as well as the capacity to develop competencies in language usage and cognitive curiosity. Strong social-emotional development is a predictor of later academic, social and emotional success.

The maps highlight what we know as the reality for many of Pasadena's families regardless of income. Many families are experiencing stresses and strains that have an impact on their time and ability to continuously nurture and further their child's development.

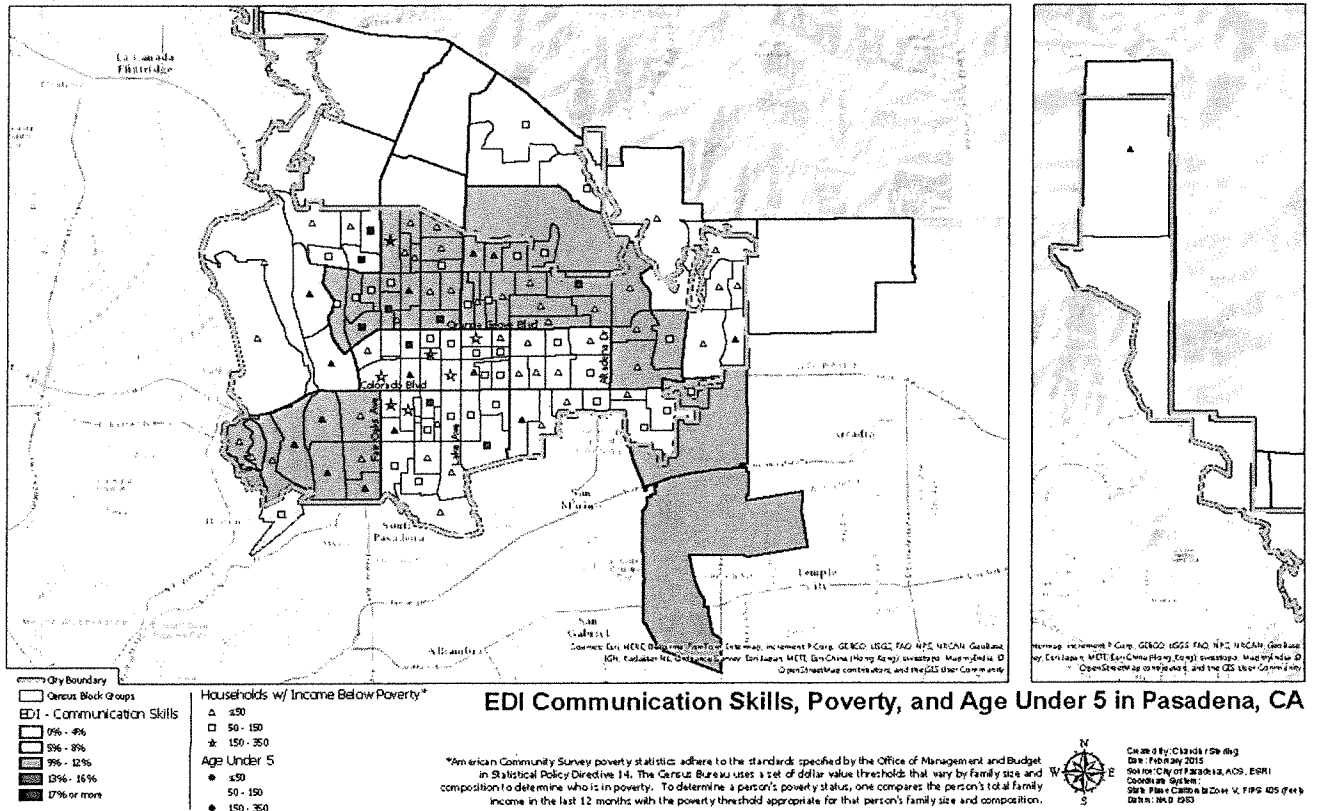
Map 1: Under Age 5 Poverty Level



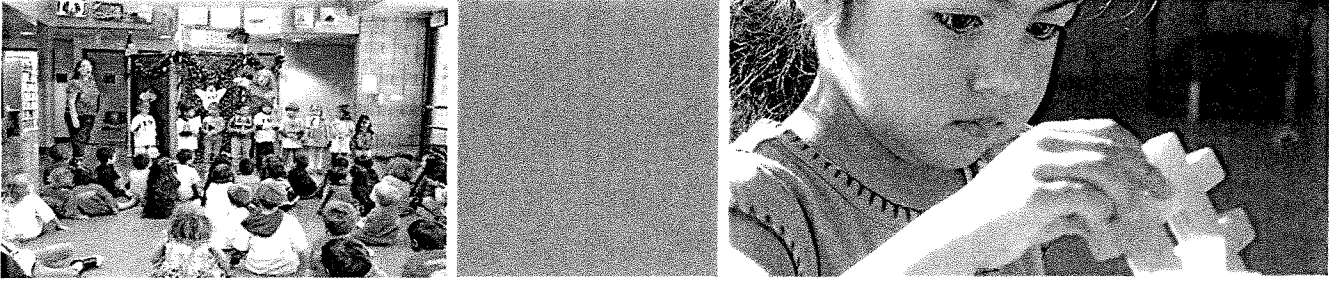
Map 2 Social Emotional Competence



Map 3: Communication Skills







## Our City's Assets

In 1994, the City of Pasadena demonstrated its commitment to providing quality services and care for its young children by adopting its second Child Care Policy. Within the past twenty years, our community can point to important “assets” as a result of this policy and commitment.

- Model early childhood programs and after school programs
- Deep resources of early learning and early childhood experts who are actively engaged in the lives of our young children
- A unique community: very involved across all sectors, all geographic areas of the city, active citizen involvement
- Major institutions of higher education: Cal Tech, Pasadena City College, Pacific Oaks, Fuller
- In Pasadena, more non-profit agencies per capita than anywhere else and organizations serving children, youth, and families
- The Pasadena Public Library offers events and activities (such as STORYTIMES) for infants and toddlers and their families
- The City's approach to neighborhood improvement and civic engagement that is supported through the City's Neighborhood Connections
- The City has its own Public Health Department. The Department recently launched the Live Well Campaign that also contributes to improving the overall health and well being of Pasadena residents at the individual level and through neighborhood-based strategies
- **Collaborate PASadena:** The School/City/Community Work Plan, the purpose of which is to help children succeed through the alignment of community resources and focuses on meeting the early developmental needs for infants and children, birth to five, through Result Area #1
- Pasadena is starting with data that provides a much clearer and more comprehensive picture of our children's population

# Our Opportunities

The City of Pasadena has a diverse array of services and supports available to young children and their families. This provides an incredible opportunity to link health, early childhood education, child welfare and family support services to reach all families with young children with information and support at the earliest possible moment and have services available as needed for those that require more help and support. The challenge and opportunity is to align, coordinate, and improve the quality of services and supports available to families with young children. Ideally, we should be seeing far fewer children experiencing vulnerabilities and far more children developmentally ready or "on track" when entering into kindergarten.

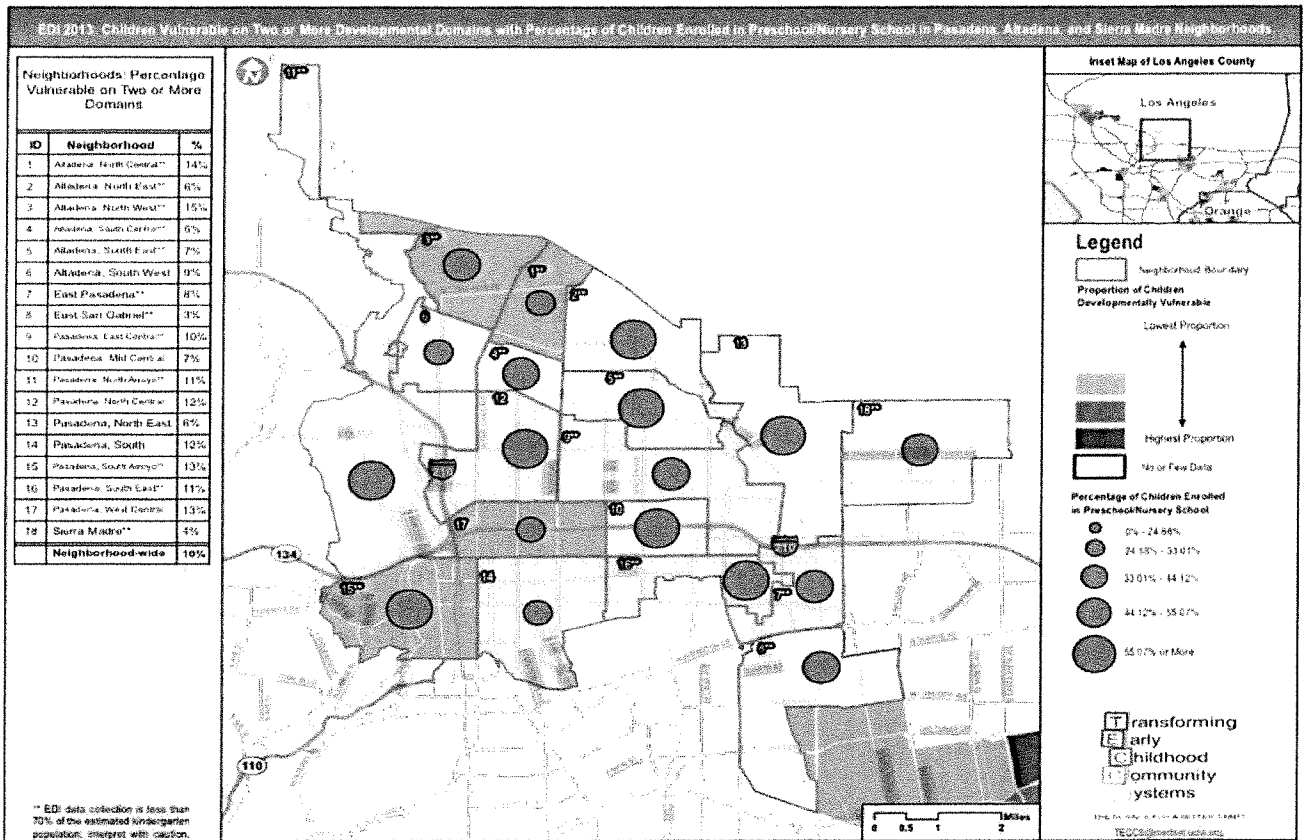
The City also has the opportunity to reach all families with young children very early in the child's life. Over 88% of women are already seeking prenatal care. Half of the newborns in the City are born in one location. WIC is serving close to 88% of women and children eligible for its program. Looked at collectively, this provides an almost universal reach to families at the critical time of development, when children are 0-3 years of age. If these services alone were coordinated to offer mutually re-enforcing messages on early brain development, guidance and support on nurturing and care, milestones of child development, the sign and impact of maternal depression, and linkage to neighborhood resources for on-going family support and activities, a huge burden would be lifted on families needing to find these services and critical information on their own. Also, considering half of the children born in Pasadena are born to first time parents, the need to reach out to new families with child development information and parenting support should occur prior, or as close as possible, to the time of birth and throughout a child's first years.

Assuming children's developmental outcomes can be improved once entering pre-school or kindergarten, these post 0-5 years miss the critical early years of brain development. This is not to say that a child's participation in a quality pre-school program will not improve children's development. These programs simply come too late and cannot fully replace the overall gains from nurturing children's healthy brain development within their earliest years.

That being said, quality pre-school programs and kindergarten remain important opportunities to support children's development and learning. Knowing how well children are doing developmentally and by neighborhood, provides the early childhood community the information they need to improve their programs and offer information to families, and home day care providers, and family, friends and neighbor child care to enhance strategies that can address particular vulnerabilities.



Map 4: Developmentally Vulnerable Children



As an example, the map above (Map 4) shows EDI results of children vulnerable on two or more domain of the 5 domains as well as the population of children participating in pre-school.

Again, Pasadena is a city with a rich array of services and supports from which to build upon to more effectively improve the outcomes of Pasadena's youngest residents. Like many other U.S. Cities, Pasadena is grappling with changing demographics, a changing economy and a new and growing knowledge base on how best to prepare our children and youth for future success. Revising our policies and investments in ways that most contribute to optimizing young children's healthy development has a direct benefit in the lives of young children but is also a long term investment in the future health and well being of the City as a whole.

## Other Cities Approaches

A review of the most advanced efforts in cities across our country reveals that municipal leaders are increasingly aware that the learning experiences and opportunities available to children early in life are key predictors of their future academic success and well-being. The National League of Cities, Educational Alignment for Young Children, provides excellent models of emerging city strategies (Boston, Hartford, San Antonio, San Jose, Seattle) for ensuring that more children are succeeding by the end of third grade and on the road to achieving their potential throughout their life course.

An examination of the early childhood/early learning landscape in our city reveals these findings:

- **A Non-System:** Pasadena's public/private "system" of early childhood services and policies is a complicated and uncoordinated collection of programs. More information and focus is needed to help track children and measure overall progress.
- **Little Cohesion/Leadership:** No cohesive, coordinated system exists to guide early childhood policy, implementation and services. Day-to-day, no entity is accountable for overall alignment and coordination of programs and activities affecting infants and young children and their families.
- **Outcomes Needing Improvement:** Most outcomes for young children and their families – especially in health care, school performance, and early learning quality experiences – severely lag state and national benchmarks.
- **Quality Services and Resources:** Quality early learning and care services do exist as do use of "best practices" for some children, but we have too many families struggling to get the information and services they need to best care for their children. More early care and learning spaces and opportunities are needed, health services and infant care require improved availability and coordination, and family support services are in great need of expansion and availability. Much more can be done to coordinate these services and to get services as early as possible to those children and families who most need the support.
- **Fragmented Spending and Resources:** Though the City has limited financial resources to meet the large need, in taking leadership through this policy and its implementation, it can maximize its own resources and leverage others which currently exist or which may become available in the future. This role maximizes the City's impact with minimum financial commitment.

Ultimately, City institutions – city government, schools, community organizations, business – can do more. To make the city a thriving community, positive early childhood and early learning experiences must happen for every child in Pasadena. Pasadena's future depends on healthy and successful young children. To achieve this, we must work together to nurture young children and strengthen each family's capacity to take the lead in supporting their child's healthy development and well-being.

With increased public will, coordination of policy and services, with political leadership, and with a long-term commitment, the community can make a difference. We must have city-wide emphasis on the young child. The City of Pasadena will be a catalyst to address the early care and development, health and early learning needs of the Pasadena Community. By using its resources as a model employer, educator and facilitator, the City of Pasadena can continue to work toward its commitment that every child has the opportunity to develop to his or her fullest potential. The City must make good on its promise to our young children.

# VISION FOR PASADENA

**A City that nurtures every child and creates an environment where young children are healthy, safe, and find early success in school and life.**

*The **Master Plan for the Young Child** is a five-year plan to unite diverse programs and services in the City of Pasadena and to meld them into a cohesive coordinated family-centered system that focuses policy, services, and pursuit of public and private funding options to improve the lives of young children, ages birth to five. The Master Plan will bring direction and a comprehensive approach to early childhood policy and services in Pasadena.*

The Master Plan identifies the following action steps:

1. **Approve the Master Plan and the Eight Building Blocks** that will form the foundation for achieving the vision of our City for the health, safety, and success of our young children. The building blocks will form a comprehensive framework to advocate and deliver services to young children and their families.
2. **Create an independent Office of the Young Child** that will coordinate and implement early childhood policy, services, and the Master Plan to form a cohesive strategy with a single goal. The Office of the Young Child would be an independent office that works across all City departments similar to how the Northwest Programs Office functions. This policy statement and Master Plan expresses the City's commitment to expand early childhood services throughout Pasadena. All relevant City departments, commissions, committees and boards will foster and support this policy.
3. **Rename and redefine the position of the Child Care Coordinator as the Early Child Development Coordinator** whose focus is to develop a systematic approach to support the healthy development of the young child. The Coordinator will guide the work of the Office of the Young Child. The Coordinator and Support Staff will be responsible for developing and implementing the action steps for the important building blocks of the five-year Master Plan and will act as staff liaisons to the early childhood leaders and organizations within our city and community.
4. **Create an Early Child Development Standing Committee of the Human Services Commission** that will support the work of the Office of the Young Child, will serve in an advisory capacity to the Human Services Commission on the implementation of the Master Plan, and will provide regular reports to the Human Services Commission. The Committee will be broad-based and include cross-sector representatives from the school district, business, public and private community agencies and organizations concerned with the needs and welfare of children and families, and representatives from City Departments. Membership of the Committee composition will be the responsibility of the Human Services Commission.
5. **Continue to build and strengthen practices that engage parents, families and other adults.** This means inviting parents to help govern programs, build parental capacity to participate, and build their skills to make their families stronger.

## Core of the Master Plan: Eight Building Blocks

At the core of the Master Plan are the eight Building Blocks, constituting a comprehensive continuum that addresses early childhood needs of children birth to five years old, and those of their families. The complete plan will outline the strategic actions to implement the building blocks and a five-year timetable. The strategic actions of the Plan will be developed by the Early Child Development Coordinator in partnership with the Early Child Development Standing Committee of the Human Services Commission, and in collaboration with the early childhood leaders and organizations within our city and community.

### Elements of An Aligned System for Young Children

1

A collaboration of early childhood education professionals, child development advocates, health professionals, community members and civic leaders will guide the development of the Master Plan, a five-year action planning tool, implementation guide, and resource for greater accountability. The strategic actions of the plan will focus on the elements of an aligned system for young children:

- Formal partnerships and collaboration
- Access to high quality early education, health, and family support programs
- Parent engagement and family supports
- Programs to facilitate smooth transition to school
- Communication and data-sharing
- Leveraging funding

### Partnerships/ Collaboration

2

The City will work collaboratively with the school district, early childhood community and other community partners (a) to maximize the utilization of available child development resources, (b) to support quality improvements in early learning/child care, and (c) to promote the delivery of integrated services for children and their families. The purpose of relationships fostered is to develop creative, cost effective and affordable solutions to the problem of accessibility to quality child care within the community. The City recognizes that resource and referral information is a benefit to families and employers and will not duplicate the work of existing agencies.

This policy statement and Master Plan expresses the City's commitment to expand early childhood services throughout Pasadena. All relevant City departments, commissions, committees and boards will foster and support this policy.

### Data Collection - Measure of Success

3

The Master Plan recommends building an information system (1) to enable the city to set goals for childhood outcomes and to measure the results, (2) to support continuous improvement through data collection and evaluation, (3) to promote increased understanding and engagement of parents/family in their role of the child's developmental success, (4) to improve the retention, preparation, and professional development and quality of the early learning workforce, and (5) to articulate with other local, state and national initiatives.

**Health and  
Wellness  
Strategies for  
Infants/Young  
Children**

**4**

The young child's physical health, social and emotional health, and developmental screening and monitoring are critically important. Since the well-being of children is dependent on those who care for them, the most important measures that can be taken to improve health support are those that enhance the capacity of parents and caretakers to nurture and care for them. Some strategies that can contribute to health and wellness include:

- Ensure parent and caregiver access to a primary care medical home, which includes patient-centered healthcare, comprehensive, coordinated care, and preventive counseling and services, including prenatal care, developmental and maternal depression screenings, well child visits and vaccinations, all of which are of high quality and are affordable.
- Provide linkages to early intervention services and supports for infants and toddlers with disabilities.
- Establish linkages with Child Welfare Services and Infant and Toddler Mental Health Services to improve early access for families eligible for home visiting programs for children 0-5, especially for families at risk. Home visits and support from paraprofessionals using "best practice" models produce measurable benefits in parental attitudes toward children, improve parent-child interaction, significantly reduce child abuse and neglect, and increase readiness for school.
- Empower parents and caregivers to be engaged and proactive for the health and wellness of their child.
- Improve knowledge and skills in child development for families, beginning prenatally, giving them the tools to increase participation in the child's physical, education, and emotional growth.
- Promote improved early childhood nutrition by promoting breast-feeding and baby-friendly policies throughout the City.
- Ensure that all City departments, contractors, and community partners use the most current age-appropriate nutrition and physical activity guidelines and encourage and facilitate adoption of these practices by parents and caregivers of infants and young children.
- Create a bridge between early learning, family support and healthcare, ensuring that children arrive at school having received necessary exams and screenings, because healthy children feel better and learn better.
- Provide an environment in each child care center that supports healthy eating, promotes physical activity, and reduces screen time for young children, who spend a large part of their day and may receive half or more of their daily nutritional needs while in child care.

**Access to  
High-Quality  
Early Education  
Experiences in  
Variety of  
Settings**

**5**

Quality early childhood experiences are fundamental to the social, emotional, cognitive and physical development of every child. Affordable, dependable, quality early childhood care and education are an integral part of family life in the 21st century.

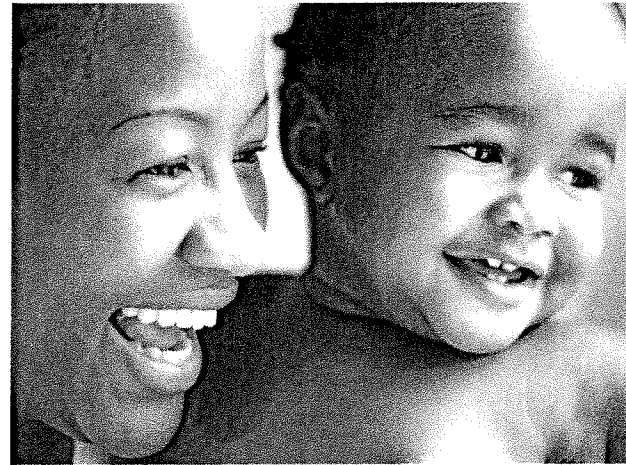
Structured childcare and early education opportunities provide children with experiences that set the stage for later school success. Within five years, the implementation of the Master Plan and its strategic actions should assure (1) that every pre-school age child in Pasadena has the opportunity to enroll in a quality, full-time early childhood education program, (2) the expansion of available licensed infant and

toddler care for Pasadena residents in programs that meet national quality standards, (3) that every center-based early care and learning program in Pasadena meets the quality standards as defined by nationally accrediting organizations, and (4) improvement of the quality of family childcare services, both formal and informal providers of care.

## Neighborhood -Based Parent Engagement & Family Supports **6**

This has been identified as one of the common elements of effective early learning systems alignment: Parent engagement and family supports to ensure that parents are empowered to be their child's first teacher and most important advocate, and to connect families with the diverse supports that they need for a safe, healthy and economically secure household. The Master Plan will focus on initiatives promoting parent engagement, including parent leadership training and professional development for family support workers. The research developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy in Strengthening Families serves as an informed approach and guide to increase family strengths, enhance child development and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect. It is based on engaging families, programs and communities in building five protective factors:

- **Parent Resilience:** Managing stress and functioning well when faced with challenges, adversity and trauma
- **Social Connections:** Having a sense of connectedness with constructive, supportive people and institutions
- **Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development:** Understanding parenting best practices and developmentally appropriate child skills and behaviors
- **Concrete Support in Times of Need:** Identifying, accessing and receiving needed adults, child and family services
- **Social and Emotional Competence of Children:** Forming secure adult relationships; experiencing, regulating and expressing emotions



## Culturally Specific Programs for English Language Learners **7**

The Master Plan should focus on high-quality bilingual and culturally appropriate family support services. The City in partnership with community leaders and organizations must foster culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate programming and practices. The following principles should be embodied in program standards, parent engagement and family supports, including requirements that include the following:

- Programs' support must support children in the essential domains of school readiness by providing an environment of acceptance that supports and respects language, culture, ethnicity, gender, and family composition.
- Teachers and providers must demonstrate an understanding of the child's family culture and, whenever possible, speak the child's language.
- Programs must integrate meaningful engagement practices that help families foster home language and literacy development. Interactions with families must be respectful of each family's diversity and cultural and ethnic background, and goals for their children.
- As with screening and assessment of all young children, a comprehensive assessment system for young English language learners should be guided by specific, beneficial purposes, with appropriate adaptations to meet the needs of children whose home language is not English.



**Transition from  
Pre-School to  
Kindergarten**

**8**

Effective transition from pre-school to kindergarten is a critical pathway in a young child's development. Through its Master Plan, the City, in partnership with the school district, early childhood leaders and teachers, and parents and families, will foster the following:

- Continuous communication among the family, the school, and early childhood providers during this important time in a child's educational life.
- Helping families understand school registration processes and making children and parents feel comfortable and welcome in the new school environment.
- Sharing pre-school experience information at the right time with the family and the child's kindergarten teacher.

prepared by:

AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

DR. VERA VIGNES, CHAIR

TONY SANTILENA, CO-CHAIR

PEGGY SISSON

TONI BOUCHER

DR. DIANNE PHILIBOSIAN

VANNIA DE LA CUBA

CONSULTATION PROVIDED BY:

PATRICIA BOWIE, UCLA CENTER FOR HEALTHIER CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

# References

## Data:

Birth Data, WIC and Demographic Data

Source: Pasadena Public Health Department

Source: Collaborate PASadena – School and Community Workplan

Map Data

Source: Population Age 0 to 5 – 2014/2019 Esri US Demographic Updates

Source: Households with Income below Poverty Level – 2008-2012 American Community Survey (ACS)

Estimates Source: Social Competence – 2014 Early Developmental Index – Pasadena Unified School District

Source: Communication Skills – 2014 Early Developmental Index – Pasadena Unified School District

## Written References:

Center for the Study of Social Policy, *Strengthening Families: A Protective Factors Framework*, 2006, Washington D.C. City of Pasadena, *Child Care, Policy*, Adopted April 11, 1988 & July 11, 1994

Fellitti, V., Anda, R., Nordenberg, D., Williamson, D., Spitz, A., Edwards, V., Koss, M., Marks, J., "Relationship of childhood abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading causes of death in adults: The adverse childhood experiences (ACE) study." *American Journal of Preventative Medicine*, Vol. 14, (4): 245–258. 1998.

Governor's State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care, *California Comprehensive Early Learning Plan*, 2013

Heckman, J.J. "The case for investing in disadvantaged young children. Big ideas for children: Investing in our nation's future." Washington, D.C.: First Focus: 49-58. 2008. Retrieved October, 2014, from <http://www.heckmanequation.org/content/resource/case-investing-disadvantaged-young-children>

National League of Cities Institute for Youth, Education & Families, *Educational Alignment for Young Children, Profiles of Local Innovation*, 2012

Office of the President of the United States, *Playbook For Becoming An Early Learning Community*, December 2014

**RESOLUTION NO. 9419**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA IN  
SUPPORT OF DEVELOPING AN EARLY LEARNING CITY BY THE YEAR 2025**

WHEREAS, development of human capital through high-quality learning and K-12 education is critical to the long-term vibrancy of the City of Pasadena, and key City priorities such as economic development, public safety, civic engagement and the stability of families and neighborhoods all hinge on whether children enter kindergarten ready to succeed, develop to their full capacity during the school years and graduate from high school prepared for postsecondary education and a career;

WHEREAS, social researchers and sociologists are identifying babies born between 2010 and 2025 as 'Generation Alpha', and are claiming this generation will be the most formally educated generation in history, beginning school earlier and studying longer than those of previous generations;

WHEREAS, Generation Alpha members will be second only to the Baby Boomer generation in population numbers, consisting of more than 70 million children aged between birth to 15 in the year 2025;

WHEREAS, scientific research clearly shows positive parenting and caregiving in early childhood, starting at birth, is a key contributor to lifelong health and productivity;

WHEREAS, high quality early learning in the critical years from birth to five has been proven to reduce placements in special education, reduce grade retention, boost graduation rates, decrease teen pregnancy rates, reduce violent crime, juvenile delinquency and incarceration, and increase odds of long-term employment;

WHEREAS, early childhood learning has risen in priority and prominence at the National level with President Obama's stress on early learning and preschool for all and the National League of Cities' platform to emphasize a unified direction and prioritization of early learning across the nation through their Institute for Youth, Education and Families. Local agencies, such as the County of Los Angeles, are also turning their attention to this important area. Pasadena's own School/City/Community Work Plan, known now as Collaborate PASadena, combined with the City's Quality of Life Index, Policy on children, Youth and Families and the Revised Early Child Development Policy, collectively exists to align resources to ensure all children in Pasadena attain educational success, are healthy and live in a safe and stable community, by meeting persons ages 0 to 5, where they are at developmentally; and

WHEREAS, researchers from UCLA teamed up with PUSD and the City to administer the 2013 Early Development Instrument (EDI), a population measure of school readiness, and is based on information about kindergarten age children for the

purpose of creating a snapshot of their development progress, to measure social competence and physical health and well-being, and a significant portion scored as "developmentally vulnerable."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Pasadena that it:

1. Supports a movement committed to engaging the community, particularly parents, teachers and caregivers in brain-development industries, in a meaningful way; and
2. Supports designating the decade of 2015-2025 as an era of community focus in building an Early Learning City so, in turn, the children of Generation Alpha emerge equipped and prepared to resolve issues, assume leadership positions, while generating innovative and long-term solutions for previously intractable and seemingly unsolvable challenges.


Adopted at the regular meeting of the City Council on the 23rd day of March, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers, Gordo, Kennedy, Madison, Masuda, McAustin, Tornek, Vice Mayor Robinson, Mayor Bogaard

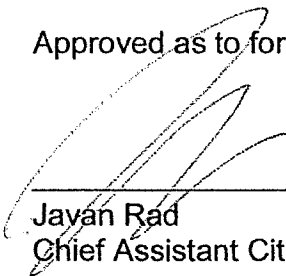
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK JOMSKY, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jayan Rad  
Chief Assistant City Attorney

## Martinez, Ruben

---

**From:** Aiden Aizumi <aaizumi@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 10:30 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Public comment

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

-----

In times like now, with continuing acts of police brutality and years of systemic racism, we cannot continue to reward the police department by increasing their budget. We need police but we need them to actually serve and protect all people not just the wealthy or the white. We're in the midst of a pandemic. We're nowhere near through it, and you are wanting to cut the public health department budget? To me this just screams that the priorities of the city of Pasadena are to continue supporting a broken system that has only lead to more harm. It saddens me that this is even an consideration in this amazing city. I hope you consider flipping those numbers and supporting the health of a community that needs it.

Sent from my iPhone

**06/15/2020**  
**Item 12**

## Martinez, Ruben

---

**From:** Vincent De Stefano <vdestefano54@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 10:37 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Proposed Budget

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

After spending nearly half a million dollars on a replacement camera for one of the four city helicopters the city is now about to increase the PPD's budget by a whopping 1.5 million more than last year. This as during the ongoing pandemic as they cut the Public Health Department by just about the same they chose to spend on the aforementioned camera. Let me be frank; this insane and must stop. Our fine city is already one of the most highly policed cities in Southern California. It also has a severe homeless problem that is not even being addressed. That 1.5 million for what is the largest part of our budget, the PPD, should be immediately reallocated to serve the needs of our citizens by putting our tax dollars where they best serve our citizens, especially those who are struggling. Put that money and more in better health services, assistance for the unemployed, homeless and financially insecure. It should be used to address the shameful situation in our elder care facilities. Let me close by adding that the reallocation of the 1.5 million should be just the start and the PPD budget should get a serious haircut so it is not our largest expenditure at this time of crisis where our health and wellbeing are at stake

Vincent De Stefano  
CICOPP and ACLU Board member  
Sent from my iPhone

**06/15/2020**  
**Item 12**

## Martinez, Ruben

---

**From:** Mohammad Tajsar <MTajsar@aclusocal.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 11:27 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Public comment for today's special meeting (item #12)

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello, I'd like to submit this public comment for today's special council meeting for Item #12 regarding the city's proposed budget:

My name is Mohammad Tajsar, and I am a senior staff attorney at the ACLU of Southern California. The ACLU of Southern California supports the call of many local civil society organizations, organizers, activists, and community members in the city of Pasadena to reject the current proposed budget, and calling for the City Council to shift funding from the Pasadena Police Department. We also join the calls of other community members calling for a 20% reduction of the Police Department's budget into social services and the public health department. In this time of a pandemic, the City can afford to take money out of an already bloated police department budget and reinvest in much needed social services that are desperately underfunded during the extraordinary recession that people are coping with in this time. To be frank, increasing the police department's budget during this time is wrongheaded and tone-deaf given the extraordinary crisis Pasadena residents are facing every day, and given the historically low crime rates that we have enjoyed in recent years across the Southland. The ACLU of Southern California calls for this Council to meet the challenge of the moment and reinvest in the people of this City.

06/15/2020  
Item 12