



SELECTED RESULTS FROM 2007-08 COMMUNITY GRANTS INITIATIVE

OVERVIEW

46 grantees were awarded \$2,646,870 for 2007-08.

Grant type	# of grantees	2007-08 funding	Range in annual awards per grantee (approx.)
Targeted	26	\$1,858,651	\$40,275 – \$75,000
Partnership	6	\$ 480,000	\$80,000
Community Support	14	\$ 308,219	\$10,000 – \$25,000

Grantees provided a broad array of services, including:

- Parenting education and support groups
- Parent-child playgroups
- Developmental screenings
- Art, music, and dance activities
- School readiness and literacy programs
- Assistance with building economic self-sufficiency
- Mental health services
- Case management services
- Lactation support
- Audiology screening
- Services for families with special needs

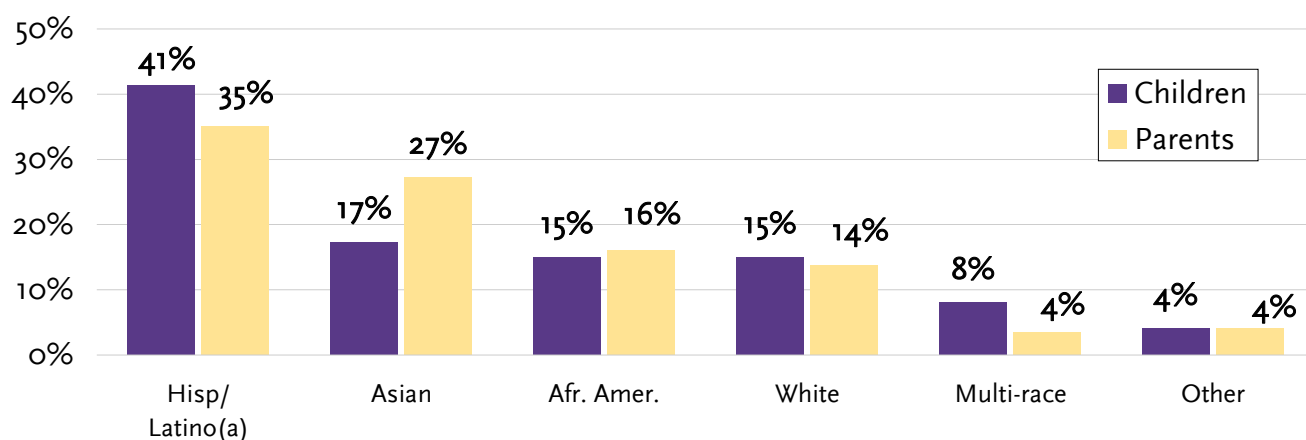
Services were provided at several locations around the county including Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda, San Leandro, Castro Valley, Hayward, Fremont and Livermore.

Collectively, the grantees served thousands of children and parents and hundreds of providers. Given the varied nature of the services provided and the needs of the families and providers served, there was a large range in the number of clients reached by each grantee. Some grantees worked intensively over a long period of time with a small number of higher risk families, while other grantees traveled to several sites, bringing artistic performances, zoomobile presentations and other programs to large numbers of families and providers.

Grant type	# of children served	# of parents served	# of providers served
Targeted	8,809	6,489	614
Partnership	263	308	75
Community Support	4,139	1,853	151

Race/ethnicity data were collected for over 2,000 children and close to 3,000 parents.

Race/Ethnicity of Children and Parents/Caregivers Served by Community Grantees



Language data are available for over 4,000 children and parents. Most of the families served spoke English or Spanish as their primary language.

Primary language	Children	Parents
English	60%	51%
Spanish	29%	26%
Cantonese	2%	8%
Hindi	2%	2%
Mandarin	1%	2%
Vietnamese	0.8%	3%
Tagalog	0.2%	0.9%
Other (e.g., Farsi, ASL, Arabic, Cambodian, Japanese, Punjabi)	5.2%	7.1%

Over 2,500 children with special needs were served.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTEES

All but one of the 14 Community Support grantees are new grantees who had not previously received Community Grants Initiative funding. During year 1, some grantees closely followed their original proposed design, while others altered or expanded their activities as they learned how best to respond to the needs of families and to program staffing and space issues.

Several grantees established relationships with other agencies and organizations, which facilitated and supported their work. Grantees were pleased with their success in using novel

approaches to bring information to children and parents and to facilitate new experiences for families. They were also proud of their efforts to connect families to needed resources in the community and with the positive changes families made.

Challenges faced by the grantees included:

- Need for additional outreach (e.g., to isolated families, teen parents, fathers, etc.)
- Need for more resources to meet the demand for services
- Serving diverse clients

“Lessons learned” included the value of “nesting” one’s program or services within an environment rich with additional support services and the importance of linking families to neighborhood assets such as libraries and farmers’ markets.

TARGETED AND PARTNERSHIP GRANTEES

At the beginning of the year, Targeted and Partnership grantees identified annual performance targets specific to their grant-funded activities. By the end of the year, a majority of the targets had been met.

Grant type	# of performance targets set	% of performance targets met at year end
Partnership	97	89%
Targeted	407	84%
Total	504	85%

In addition to meeting or exceeding performance targets, grantees noted the positive feedback they had received from families or providers. A number of grantees also reported that parents had formed supportive relationships with one another.

Challenges included:

- Difficulties in filling key staff positions, especially those requiring bilingual skills
- Serving diverse clients
- Data collection and tracking issues

“Lessons learned” included:

- Importance of securing an appropriate, stable site for delivering services at the start of the program
- Ways to engage difficult-to-reach clients, such as:
 - ◆ sponsoring family fieldtrips to the zoo as a way to build relationships between families and mental health staff
 - ◆ offering small incentives to encourage attendance at support groups
 - ◆ ensuring that parenting educators have a speaking style that is compatible with the particular group of parents being served
 - ◆ partnering with a neighborhood agency to provide more culturally appropriate parent-child activities

- Value of doing follow-up developmental screenings at regular intervals to track children’s progress and identify gaps in services
- Value of attending to and prioritizing the mental health needs of at-risk parents and children
- Need for additional support and training for event-related child care providers
- Need for continued outreach and for relationship-building with other agencies
- Usefulness of conducting ongoing program evaluation to support changes in program design

SELECTED RESULTS FROM COMMON MEASURES

Results from “common measures” collected by Targeted and Partnership grantees, organized by ECC outcome, are highlighted below.

Enhanced Parenting and Stronger Families

- 315 mothers were screened for depression; 20% screened positively and were referred to services.¹
- 740 parenting education classes, support groups, and one-on-one parenting sessions were provided in English, Spanish, Cantonese and Vietnamese to 1,623 parents/caregivers
- 493 children and their parents attended parent-child activities or playgroups
- Grantee Survey results
 - ◆ 93% (n=461) of parents/caregivers attending parenting programs reported they used what they learned
 - ◆ 60% (n=356) of parents/caregivers attending parenting programs reported the program had a large (“a lot of”) impact on their family
- Parenting Partnership
 - ◆ 96% (n=155) of parents/caregivers surveyed about their program participation reported that they play more with their child
 - ◆ 96% (n=155) of parents/caregivers reported that they feel more confident as a parent
 - ◆ Results from the Parental Stress Survey, administered to 82 parents at the beginning and end of the program, suggest that parental stress decreased over time

Children Are Free from Abuse and Neglect

- 76 children with open Child Protective Services (CPS) cases were served

Improved Child Social, Developmental and Emotional Well-Being

- 255 children were screened with the Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ); 40% scored “of concern” in at least one domain
- 167 children and 188 parents received mental health services; services were provided in English, Spanish, Mandarin and Hindi

¹ National estimated rates of depression among pregnant and postpartum/parenting women range from 5% to 40%, depending on the population.

Increased Access to Resources for Children and Families with Special Needs

- 943 children were referred to a variety of services such as speech and language assessments, school district and Regional Center services, occupational therapy, and hearing and vision screening

Increased School Readiness

- 189 school readiness parent-child activities were held; 191 children and 173 parents/caregivers attended
- 30 school readiness classes for children were held; 39 children attended
- Out of 232 families surveyed, 75% reported reading, storytelling or singing to their children at least 3 times per week
- 4,047 children's books in English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese were distributed

Increased Support for Breastfeeding Mothers

- 223 out of 244 mothers contacted 2-3 weeks after delivery reported they were breastfeeding

Increased County-Wide Training Opportunities to Promote Best Practices, Increase Provider Capacity and Assure Quality Services for Families and Children 0-5 Years

- 356 service providers were trained on the impact of domestic violence on young children
- 103 providers were trained on early childhood mental health and other topics
- 40 providers were trained on conducting parent-child dance classes