
Brawley Public Library

Project Name: Literacy and Mobile Book Service (LAMBS)

Contact: Marjo Mello

Phone Number: (760) 344-1891

Fax: (760) 344-0212

Award Amount: \$191,833.00

Email: mmello@brawleyonline.com

Website: N/A

Description

The Literacy And Mobile Book Services (LAMBS) Project will address the issue of academic achievement and work to impact educational success in Imperial County by working toward focusing on child literacy at various sites throughout the county. Using the “*Families for Literacy*” model, the LAMBS will provide direct outreach services to children 0-5 years of age, their parents and caregivers. The focus will be based on *story time* activities, which revolve around the concept of exposing children, as young as six weeks of age, to language and literacy in order to better prepare them for reading when they enter school. Increasing pre-literacy and preschool-age literacy levels is a critical component for achieving levels of school readiness for children entering the K-12 education system. Therefore parents and caregivers, as well as LAMBS staff, learn the value of reading aloud to their children, and the essential role each will have on the early development of the child. In addition, one key element that will be an important factor in reaching families, an element that is research based, will be to increase children’s access to books by including all children involved in *story time* activities in a free book giveaway. The project expects to provide up to 10 books per child per year, and further anticipates to have reached the 100,000 book mark under the book giveaway component this year.

LAMBS services will range from as far as Salton City to Calexico (North/South), and from Winterhaven to Ocotillo (East/West). Activities by the mobile unit will involve site visits to preschools, childcare settings, public buildings, homes and other locations selected throughout the course of the project. These visitations will include one hour of *story time*, bilingual/age-appropriate services, guest presenters, and additional time to browse through the LAMBS Library.

Services Offered

- LAMBS site visitations to diverse areas throughout the county
- Direct literacy activities that focus on *story times*, training on the importance of reading aloud, and the use of kits and manipulative items to promote literacy
- Access to literacy services to parents and caregivers of children 0-5 years of age
- Distribution of free books at caregiver sites focusing on each child participant age 0-5
- Referrals for testing for Literacy Volunteers of America-Imperial County placement
- An extensive collection of children’s books that promote literacy and that are culturally/linguistically appropriate for the community, which further provides access to individuals with disabilities
- The offering and processing of library cards to participants
- Resources and pamphlets on social services available throughout the county
- Active participation in community events that target children 0-5 years of age, including the ICCFFC’s School Readiness health fairs

Prop 10 Partners

Burn Institute; Center for Families Solutions; El Centro Elementary School District; Imperial County Public Health; Riverside County Office of Education, Migrant Head Start Program; The Family Treehouse

Other Community Partners

Literacy Volunteers of America; Imperial Irrigation District; Women, Infants and Children Program; El Centro and Calexico Public Libraries; County of Imperial Library; Child Abuse Prevention Council; Imperial County Food Bank; Tobacco Education Project; San Pasqual School District; United Families, Inc.; Westmoreland School District; Saint Anthony’s Parish; and Sacred Heart Mission

The Burn Institute

Project Name: Imperial County Initiative Phase V Fire & Burn Prevention Program

Contact: James A. Floros/ Art Garcia

Phone Number: (760) 355-3175

Fax: (760) 355-3833

Award Amount: \$63,473.00

Email: jfloros@burninstitute.org

Website: burninstitute.org

Description

The Burn Institute, a nonprofit health agency that works toward decreasing the number of burn victims in both San Diego and Imperial Counties, will focus on providing comprehensive, culturally appropriate assessable fire and burn prevention education to the parents and caregivers of children 0-5 years of age throughout Imperial County. A significant percent of children in Imperial County have suffered from burn injuries IN RECENT years, mostly due to scald burns from hot liquids, which are usually associated with cooking. Therefore the Burn Institute expects to address issues related to burn injuries by offering extensive educational outreach efforts on the topic of burn prevention throughout Imperial County; these services will further be offered in both English and Spanish in order to address the cultural and linguistic needs of the community. Program components will feature burn prevention strategies in the form of presentations that focus on education that looks at burn/scalding related to household cooking; and injuries that cause scalds, arson and fire setting. These presentation/educational activities will take place at community resource centers; preschools; childcare centers and family childcare homes; health agencies; and libraries.

Phase I of the initiative began in 1998, where burn and fire prevention services were offered to mostly residents of the City of El Centro. With funding provided by the Imperial County Children and Families First Commission, Phase II reached families with children 0-5 years of age throughout the County; therefore providing significant expansion services to these children, and offering education that expects to work toward developing long-term prevention outcomes, and a significant decrease in the number of children suffering from burn injuries in the county. Phase III and IV was a two-year effort (July 2004 to June 2006) that continued to focus on fire and burn prevention strategies targeting children 0-5 years of age, their parents and family members through puppet show presentations, community outreach, and fire extinguisher trainings. This year, Phase V will continue to provide the families and children 0-5 of Imperial County with extensive presentations and materials that help prevent fire burns and safety. This will include collaboration with local fire departments that will contribute their experience in training childcare providers and families with children ages 0-5 how to properly handle and use a fire extinguisher.

Services Offered

- Parent education/outreach services designed to prevent burn injuries provided in English and Spanish, which includes the “*Burni the Dragon*” Preschool Curriculum Guide; “*Let’s Stay Safe From Fires and Burns*”
- Literature and other items on fire safety and burn injury prevention in English and Spanish
- Education/outreach services to childcare providers/caregivers throughout the county
- Pre and Post-tests that propose to measure an increased retention of basic knowledge
- Collaboration of local fire stations to assist in training family childcare providers and families with children 0 to 5 years of age
- Participation in local community events that target families with children 0-5 years of age and their families

Prop 10 Partners

Brawley Public Library; El Centro Regional Medical Center; and the Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP)

Other Community Partners

Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo; Imperial County Fire Chiefs’ Association; Imperial County Employment Development Department – One Stop; Imperial County Office of Education (Migrant Child Development Centers, Even Starts); Wee Care Too! Infant/Toddler Program; Calexico Family Resource Center; Imperial County School Districts; United Families; Pioneers Memorial Hospital; Neighborhood House of Calexico; Imperial Valley College; and the Calexico Community Action Council

Court Appointed Special Advocates of Imperial County

Project Name: Safe, Healthy, Educational and Nurturing Environment (SHEANE)

Contact: Nancie Lee Rhodes

Phone Number: (760) 353-7456

Fax: (760) 353-4465

Award Amount: \$65,833.00

Email: nanlee7@inreach.com

Website: N/A

Description

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Imperial County serves a significant number of children 0-5 years of age; children that have been abuse or neglected and whose cases are both in and out of the Juvenile Court System. Through Imperial County Children and Families First Commission funding, CASA proposes to implement the Safe, Healthy, Educational and Nurturing Environment (SHEANE) Project for a fifth and sixth year. This project will provide services that greatly improve the physical, psychological and educational development (including the school readiness of these children) and opportunities of children 0-5 that are dependents of the Juvenile Court System. During the 2004-2006 funding cycle, CASA reports to have served up to 218 children 0-5 years of age that were identified as being wards of the court system over a 2-year period.

Services through the SHEANE Project are reflected in the assigning of a court-appointed special advocate for each child referred to CASA. These advocates are referred to as CASA Volunteers; all volunteers are placed through a detailed screening process, and then are required to complete a rigorous 40-hour training program. After completion of training, CASA staff conducts a final screening in order to place the Volunteer with a child. Many children caught up in the process supported by the Juvenile Court System are in need of care that reflects stability and a positive experience, which is entailed by a healing process for the child that has been subject to abuse or neglect. Therefore the CASA Volunteer is assigned only one child that is between 0-5 years of age, and devotes a minimum of 18 hours per month to the child, which greatly enhances the environment that surrounds the child at that time. The CASA Volunteer is responsible for the welfare of the child, and in many cases is the only consistent adult throughout the child's case. The focus of SHEANE will further expect to increase the number of new cases of children 0-5 years of age assigned a CASA Volunteer; increase the number of preschool/kindergarten enrollments of CASA children; and will provide comprehensive, culturally appropriate parent/caregiver activities for the caregivers of CASA children.

Services Offered

- Court-appointed advocacy to children 0-5 years of age in the juvenile court system
- Standardized CASA Volunteer training, including special, age-appropriate training for volunteers assigned a child that is 0-5 years of age
- Intervention services by CASA Volunteers based on an Individual Family Service Plan for children 0-5 years of age
- CASA Volunteer matches that are culturally/linguistically appropriate
- Intensive CASA Volunteer training programs designed for individuals working with children 0-5 years of age
- Age and culturally appropriate education activities for caregivers offering services or support to CASA children that are 0-5 years of age
- Caregiver referrals to appropriate agencies
- Recommendations to the Juvenile Court System regarding caregiver and child placement

Prop 10 Partners

Imperial County Probation Department

Other Community Partners

Imperial County Juvenile Court System; Imperial County Department of Social Services; Imperial County Public Health Department; Imperial County Behavioral Health Department; Child Abuse Prevention Council; Imperial County Office of Education; and Literacy Volunteers of America

Center for Family Solutions

Project Name: Identifying Home Violence/ Healing Families

Contact: Barbara Shaver/ Frank Marquez

Phone Number: (760) 353-6922

Fax: (760) 353-8441

Award Amount: \$57,031.00

Email: bshaver@womanhaven.org

Website: womanhaven.org

Description

This project will provide educational services in teaching anger management/conflict resolution skills to members of families identified by home visitors (promotoras, teachers, counselors, health care professionals) as needing these services in order to eliminate violence and create a mentally and physically healthy environment for the children ages 0-5 growing in the family.

The Identifying Home Violence/Healing Families Project will focus on Goals 1 and 2 as stated in the Commission's Strategic Plan. Activities will focus on delivering anger management/conflict resolution and parenting classes to adults that have been identified as living in violent homes in order to answer the problem of violence and assist these families in leading 'healthier' lives. The project anticipates serving a minimum of 120 families during the fiscal year, through a series of three 2-hour workshops, in addition to coaching and a follow-up contact throughout the year to participant families. Topics discussed are as follow: Week One – Listening and Communication, Anger Management, Conflict Resolution; Week Two – Socialization, Bullying, Domestic Violence/Cycle of Violence, Effects of Domestic Violence; Week Three – Local Resource Collaborative Plan, Workshop on local resources, Presentations by local providers; Health Education & Resource Tables, and Referrals & Appointments.

Services Offered

- Identify domestic violence and provide prevention through a series of three educational workshops
- Assessment of domestic violence, anger management and conflict resolutions through pre and post-testing instruments
- Materials and instruction available in English and Spanish
- A follow-up process of coaching will occur quarterly over the course of one year after the classes have ended

Prop 10 Partners

El Centro Regional Medical Center, and the Imperial County Probation

Other Community Partners

Campeos Unidos, Department of Social Services CAL WORKS Program, Housing Authority of Imperial County, and the Imperial County Department of Behavioral Health

El Centro Elementary School District (FACT)

Project Name: Families And Community Together Early Intervention Program (FACT)

Contact: Janice Lau/Mary Morris

Award Amount: \$166,447.00

Phone Number: (760) 352-5712 Ext. 534

Email: jlau@ecsd.k12.ca.us

Fax: (760) 370-3221

Website: N/A

Description

The Family and Community Together Early Intervention Program (FACT EIP) proposal is designed to address the mental health and social service needs of children 0-5 and their families providing the following: family support groups to increase education and family functioning; work with FACT Center families to develop multidisciplinary service plans, and provide therapeutic services to 20 families with children identified as being highly at risk.

The Family and Community Together (FACT) Program was established by the District in 2001 in order to serve families with psychosocial, health, and educational needs throughout the county. Referrals are made usually by the school district; however, there are other agencies that also partake in these referrals. These referrals include: poor academics, attention problems, health and vision problems, families needing health insurance, and even greater needs, such as sexual abuse and death/loss of a parent. The ultimate goal for this program is to have students become successful, productive, and contributing adults, and therefore contribute to the overall school readiness of the child.

Services Offered

- The FACT Program will provide forty (40) families with children ages 0-5 with family support groups to increase education, family functioning and communication
- FACT will provide case management services to seventy (70) Families with children ages 0-5 to enable them to become more stable, have greater access to health services and/or become more economically independent.
- A Licensed CSW will provide 20 families with children 0-5 years of age with therapeutic interventions designed to improve family functioning
- All materials and communications are in both English and Spanish
- FACT case managers will develop multi-disciplinary family service plans with each family that will address family-identified goals for each of their issues; each case manager will meet monthly in order to monitor, update service plans, and establish a Family Service Plan

Prop 10 Partners

Court Appointed Surrogate Advocates (CASA); Center for Family Solutions; Imperial County Probation; and the March of Dimes

Other Community Partners

Imperial County Behavioral Health Services; Imperial County Department of Social Services; SURE Helpline; and Special Education Local Plan

El Centro Regional Medical Center

Project Name: Bridges for Newborns and Families

Contact: Roberta Webster

Phone Number: (760) 339-7108

Fax: (760) 339-7177

Award Amount: \$85,591.00

Email: rwebster@ecrmc.org

Website: N/A

Description

The Bridges for Newborns and Families Project, funded under the Commission's Lactation Initiative, proposes to provide a number of pre and post natal breastfeeding activities to support new mothers that give birth through El Centro Regional Medical Center, and address the need to increase breastfeeding rates in the county as identified through the Commission's Strategic Plan Goal 1 and the Lactation Initiative. Strategies under this project will include in and out of hospital support and education programs with a follow-up contact component for mothers and parents considered to have been identified by project staff to be 'high-risk' through support by Certified Lactation Consultants; a revise of the hospital's current breastfeeding curriculum in Spanish; an increase in the availability of breastfeeding workshops offered in Spanish; establish home visitation programs for new parents up to six months post delivery to support breastfeeding efforts.

Services Offered

- Breastfeeding support through Certified Lactation Consultants to up to 1,000 parents of newborns at El Centro Regional Medical Center
- Training/education for expectant and new mothers
- Comprehensive training related to lactation for nurses working with new mothers at El Centro Regional Medical Center
- Curriculum support and education materials in English and Spanish
- Home visitation services by hospital personnel trained in breastfeeding support services
- Follow-up contacts to new mothers identified by the project and hospital as breastfeeding mothers
- A comprehensive Website with current information on lactation and breastfeeding support

Prop 10 Partners

The Imperial County Public Health Department; the Imperial County Breastfeeding Coalition; the March of Dimes; and the Imperial County Office of Education

Other Community Partners

Campeños Unidos; Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo; Children's Hospital of San Diego; Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District; National Latino Resource Center; ABC Pediatrics; and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program

El Centro Regional Medical Center

Project Name: Imperial County Child Asthma Project 0-5

Contact: Aide Fulton

Phone Number: (760) 482-0978

Fax: (760) 339-7177

Award Amount: \$156,013.00

Email: afulton@ecrmc.org

Website: N/A

Description

The Imperial County Child Asthma Project 0-5 will improve the health of low income, Latino children 0-5 with Asthma; by providing community education, case management and a quality home visitation program. There will also be a Community Health worker doing one-to-one family education with families, as the worker disseminates and encourages the adoptions of standards of care for asthmatic children 0-5.

An asthma tool kit will be enhanced and distributed to families with children 0-5 who have asthma. All of the criteria in these kits will be clear and understandable in both English and Spanish. There will be an increase of knowledge and awareness of asthma management through the programs aggressive social marketing, community forum and information distribution. The hospital, providers and CAASA (California Asthma among School Aged) for ages 5-18 have there own referral system which will now expand its services to children 0-5 years of age. There will be extra attention focused by the Project Coordinator on children 0-5 who have been diagnosed with asthma for the first time.

Services Offered

- Program will develop and implement a client centered education based on national standards and culturally and linguistically appropriate education material
- Asthma tool kits will be available to families with children 0 to 5 ages (English and Spanish)
- A monthly asthma class (Asthma 101) will be held to focus on the early signs of impending asthma attack
- Update pediatric physicians with the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) and National Institute of Health (NIH) guidelines for asthma treatment
- The coordinator will implement a case management program for at risk asthmatic children ages 0-5
- The coordinator and/or community health worker will proceed with follow up visits with promotoras

Prop 10 Partners

Burn Institute, and the Imperial County Public Health Department

Other Community Partners

American Cancer Society; California Office of Border Health; Clinicas Del Salud del Pueblo; El Centro Regional Medical Center; Imperial County Board of Supervisors; Imperial County Department of Social Services; Imperial Valley Health Resource Authority; Imperial County IPA; Imperial County Office of Education; Imperial County Veterans Services; Imperial Irrigation District; Imperial Valley Home Health Care; Physicians for Better Care; Pioneers Memorial Health Care District; and Valley Independent Bank Services

Family Treehouse

Project Name: miPOD – Measuring and Improving Pediatric Outcomes of Development

Contact: Rosie Nava-Bermudez

Phone Number: (760) 355-0175

Fax: (760) 355-0174

Award Amount: \$209,522.00

Email: rnavab@brawleyonline.com

Website: myfamilytreehouse.com

Description

The mi-POD Project proposes to address the need to increase developmental screening for children 0-5 years of age. Through the developmental screening process, parents will be assisted by Family Treehouse staff, on age appropriate intervention activities aimed at improving the development of the individual child through specific intervals of time; a period of 6, 12 and 18 months. Activities through this project will therefore focus on the following: a) screening children 0-5 for developmental delays, b) identifying their developmental service needs, and c) improving the child's development through daily activity. This project primarily targets "stay-at-home" mothers, and has the potential to significantly benefit that group by identifying essential service needs for infants and young children.

Project staff will conduct these screening services by incorporating the "Ages and Stages Questionnaire" as the primary developmental screening tool; an instrument designed to screen children for developmental delays from birth through age 5. The tool will measure communications, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, problem solving, and personal-social adaptation. It is estimated that each questionnaire takes from 15 to 20 minutes to fill out by the parent. The Director for the Family Treehouse is trained in the assessment process and will individually score all questionnaires under the five topic areas to spot general weaknesses, areas of concern, and evaluate the overall development of the child with the parent. Parents will be encouraged to share the results of the questionnaire with their pediatrician, and work with parents to develop an education plan.

Services Offered

- Identify and recruit parents, primarily stay-at-home parents, interested in screening children of developmental delays.
- The project will incorporate the *Ages and Stages Questionnaire* as the primary screening tool for the miPOD Project.
- The Director for the project will evaluate screening tools along with parents in order to determine the developmental status of the child during specific stages of that child's development. Findings will be discussed through a parent training/consultation.
- Developmental recommendations will be made through a 3-tier level of intervention for the child.
- Staff will work with parents to develop individual education plans, and encourage parents to share the results of screenings with pediatricians.
- Two instructors will implement an intervention component for Family Treehouse families screened through the miPOD Project; all interventions will be age appropriate, culturally responsive, and provided in English or Spanish.

Prop 10 Partners

Brawley Public Library LAMBS; Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP); and the Riverside County Office of Education Migrant Head Start (Proyecto Familia Campesina)

Other Community Partners

FOOD Program (Family Options and Opportunities for Dining); SER for Jobs Progress; Imperial County Cal-Works; Youth Programs: Family 4-H; Key Clubs; Girl Scouts; and the United Way.

Imperial County Child Abuse Prevention Council

Project Name: Little STEPS/Giant STEPS

Contact: Yvette Garcia

Phone Number: (760) 353-8300

Fax: (760) 353-8380

Award Amount: \$84,774.00

Email: iccap@ivnet.org

Website: N/A

Description

The Little STEPS/Giant STEPS Project will increase the number of families with children 0-5 years of age in Imperial County that are involved in parenting classes and parent education. This project will be offered in a bilingual and multi-cultural format that includes STEP parenting classes and parent support activities designed for the target population. Services will be offered to all eligible families in the county and may range from as far as Salton City to Calexico (North/South), and from Winterhaven to Ocotillo (East/West). Trained facilitators will target specific audiences under Goal 1 of the ICCFFC's Strategic Plan, where the overall objective of the CAP Council, as stated above, will be to increase the number of parents with children 0-5 years of age that participate by up to 49% of the total baseline population served from previous years; approximately 150 parents with children 0-5 years of age.

Specific groups that the project will target through STEP parenting classes include the following: teen parents; single parents; parents with newborns; parents of children in blended families; Native American parents; parents currently in shelters for women; and children that have been identified as being at risk will participate in the Giant STEPS component. STEP Parenting classes have been or will be modified for the purpose of reaching these specific groups in the most appropriate manner.

Services Offered

- Parenting classes using the Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP) curriculum; 2 to 3 hour classes a week for 8 to 10 weeks
- Advanced parenting through the GIANT STEPS curriculum for children that have been identified as being 'at-risk'; an additional 12 weeks of support/instruction
- Providers training in STEP techniques will be offering childcare services to participants during class sessions
- No-cost workbooks and materials to parents with children 0-5 years of age participating in project services
- Facilitators will work with parents through the use of a view window; the purpose of this window will be to observe children interacting in a particular setting
- Modified instruction based on language and cultural factors
- Project services will focus on reaching seven groups of parents: 1) teen parents; 2) single parents; 3) parents of newborns; 4) parents of blended families; 5) Native American parents; 6) mothers housed in women's shelters at the time of enrollment; and 7) parents that have children that are deemed as being 'at-risk'
- Translator services will be offered as needed by the project

Prop 10 Partners

Court Appointed Special Activists; Center for Families Solutions; the March of Dimes; Imperial County Office of Education; and the Imperial County Public Health.

Other Community Partners

Volunteers of America; Neighborhood House of Calexico; CalWORKS – Department of Social Services; Early Care and Education Planning Council; Cal-SAFE; Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo; Teen Violence Prevention Coalition; Domestic Violence Coalition; United Way; Imperial County Behavioral Health Department; and Child Protective Services.

Imperial County Office of Education

Project Name: Kids-R-Us Inclusion Model Preschool Project

Contact: Mike Castillo

Phone Number: (760) 312-6431

Fax: (760) 312-6577

Award Amount: \$179,452.00

Email: mcastillo@icoe.org

Website: icoe.k12.ca.us

Description

The Kids-R-Us Inclusion Model Preschool Project, under Imperial County Office of Education's Special Education Department and Child Development Services, proposes to establish preschool services through an inclusive preschool demonstration model program. The inclusion program will target children 3-5 years of age that have been identified as being "at-risk" of developing or have mild disabilities and are not eligible for enrollment through other preschool programs due to the fact that they do not meet income for special education criteria established for serving children through similar services. Up to 16 preschool age children throughout the county will be identified and served through a specially designed intensive preschool services program at the Child Development Services Kids-R-Us Preschool Program, which currently operates through the Imperial Valley Center for Exceptional Children (IVCEC).

The preschool program offered to the 16 eligible children will consist of a two 3-hour half-day program for 200 days serving 8 children per shift. The curriculum will be selected from pedagogical materials designed for working with children with special needs and will be administered by a preschool teacher with a Bachelor's Degree in child development and Special Education Credential. The project will incorporate an adult to student ratio of 3 to 8 (one teacher and two instructional aids). Staff will be involved in a set minimum of professional development activities that will be used to enhance the preschool program.

Services Offered

- Inclusion model preschool services to 16 children identified as being 'at risk' of developing or having been diagnosed with mild disabilities
- A comprehensive curriculum designed for children with special needs
- Professional development for project staff, in addition to training/coaching for teachers serving similar populations
- Use of developmental matrices that reflect skills needed to support development of children that are 'at risk'

Prop 10 Partners

(None identified)

Other Community Partners

California Preschool Instructional Networks CPIN, California Department of Education

Imperial County Probation Department

Project Name: Betty Jo McNeece Shelter Home Proposal

Contact: Ramona Campos

Phone Number: (760) 339-6264

Fax: (760) 339-6401

Award Amount: \$113,217.00

Email: ramonacampos@imperialcounty.net

Website: N/A

Description

The Betty Jo McNeece Shelter is a licensed temporary shelter facility, administered by the Imperial County Probation Department that offers care, education, and health services to children referred to the facility by law enforcement and social service agencies. This facility operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and essentially offers shelter to infants and children who have been neglected, abused, and/or abandoned and are in need of emergency care services. The shelter may expect to serve as many as 600 infants and children this year, with an average attendance approximating 14 days. The Betty Jo McNeece Shelter, through its Imperial County Children and Families First Commission grant, will provide much needed services to children 0-5 years of age, their parents/caregivers and expectant teen mothers.

Four limited-term Juvenile Officer Receiving Home Staff will work at the shelter. These individuals will be specifically trained to work with children 0-5 years of age, expectant mothers and teen mothers in the care of the facility. Services will range from health issues to early childhood education through Goals 2 and 4 of the ICCFFC's Strategic Plan. In addition, the Imperial County Probation Department will purchase equipment to meet the child safety and play standards of State Title 22 programs, as well as to offer transportation for children at the facility that need to attend medical, dental, legal, and/or other appointments.

Services Offered

- Emergency shelter services for children 0-5, expectant mothers, and teen mothers that are abused, neglected, and/or abandoned
- Referrals and scheduling for medical, dental, and behavioral health services for children 0-5, expectant teenagers, and teen mothers
- School Readiness education programs for children 1-5 years of age, which include coordination programs; reading readiness skills; identification of numbers; letters and color recognition; and social/emotional development and interaction
- Activities for infants 0-2 years of age that propose to develop interaction and their readiness to learn
- Transportation and interpreter services are provided to children housed at the facility that have been scheduled an appointment for services with an outside agency
- A comprehensive referral process has been developed for children 0-5 and their parents that are in need of behavioral health, or other social/public health services within the community
- Staff training in the areas of child assessment; early childcare and development; infant care and development; play therapy; pre-natal care; parenting classes for teen mothers; behavior modification programs/activities; and drug and alcohol counseling

Prop10 Partners

Court Appointed Special Advocates; Imperial County Public Health Department

Other Community Partners

Betty Jo McNeece Young School; Department of Social Services; San Diego Regional Center; Behavioral Health; and SELPA.

Imperial County Public Health Department

Project Name: Immunization Collaborative Project

Contact: Jannette Angulo

Phone Number: (760) 482-4467

Fax: (760) 482-4757

Award Amount: \$135,060.00

Email: jangulo@imperialcounty.net

Website: N/A

Description

The Imperial County Public Health Department is responsible for providing promoting and protecting the general health and well being of the community and works toward achieving objectives that focus on public health. The Immunization Collaborative Project seeks to increase the proportion of children 0-2 who complete the basic immunization series. This will be performed through the following strategies: the enhancement of the current immunization registry reporting capabilities, dissemination of the use of the immunization registry to local providers, providing education on supplemental healthcare services to caregivers and parents and through the establishment of a local immunization coalition. Client information will be entered into the Immunization Registry by medical providers and other agencies providing immunizations to families throughout the county. Users inputting data into the system will be trained on data entry and the reporting capabilities of the system. In addition the project will continue to organize activities with the Immunization Coalition in the county, and participate in other community activities for the purpose of disseminating information related to immunizations.

Services Offered

- Provide and continue to enhance a countywide immunization registry that will allow all medical providers in Imperial County to access immunization records.
- Provide trainings to local providers on the use of the Immunization Registry, which will involve the following: new provider trainings; existing provider trainings for new staff; and “refresher” trainings for existing providers.
- Provide user manuals to all providers/users inputting client data into the system.
- Customized and enhanced immunization coverage reports for clinics, medical providers, and other uses that provide immunizations to local residents.
- Sponsorship and organization of the county-wide Immunization Coalition meetings on a quarterly basis.
- Plan and organize a variety of community based immunization and vaccine preventable disease activities.
- Conduct quarterly audits on records entered into the Immunization Registry.

Prop 10 Partners

March of Dimes; El Centro Regional Medical Center Asthma Program; Riverside County Office of Education Migrant Program; and the School Readiness Program

Other Community Partners

El Centro Regional Medical Center; Imperial Valley Health Council; American Cancer Society; Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo; Mexicali Department of Health; Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC); UC-Cooperative Extension (UCCE); Brawley Elementary School District; Imperial Valley College; Imperial County Office of Education; Cal-SAFE Program; Option for Better Health Project; local physicians; and local housing authority agencies

Imperial County Public Health Department

Project Name: I.C. Breastfeeding Coalition Advocacy and Support System for Healthier Tomorrow

Contact: Ginger Fifield

Award Amount: \$117,158.00

Phone Number: (760) 482-4455

Email: gingerfifield@imperialcounty.net

Fax: (760) 482-4750

Website: N/A

Description

The Imperial County Breastfeeding Coalition Advocacy and Support System for a Healthier Tomorrow Project proposes a number of activities to expectant and new parents under the Commission's Strategic Plan Goal 1 and the Lactation Initiative. The objective under these activities will be to increase the percentage of mothers in Imperial County that are breastfeeding up to 6 months after delivery. Components for this project will work toward: 1) increasing the capacity of the current healthcare system to provide accurate information and support during pre and post natal periods; 2) increase in knowledge related to breastfeeding for professionals working within the local healthcare system; 3) enhancing skill development activities and resources to increase breastfeeding; 4) establishing and formalizing a method to collect, analyze and report local data related to breastfeeding duration rates; and 5) implementing a media breastfeeding focus campaign.

Strategies identified by the Imperial County Breastfeeding Coalition Advocacy and Support System for a Healthier Tomorrow Project to address the proposed components consist in the following: the planning and realization of the World's Largest Baby Shower; breastfeeding in-services support for local provider offices; planning and the implementation of a media campaign focusing on promoting breastfeeding at a local level; development of the Imperial County Breastfeeding Coalition Website; data collection efforts on local breastfeeding initiation and duration rates; dissemination of information, including manual breast pumps, supplies and other resources; professional development opportunities to local health care professionals that focus on training for lactation specialists and educators/counselors; local breastfeeding workshops; and scholarships for local Certified Lactation Consultants to take the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners test.

Services Offered

- The World's Largest Baby Shower event designed to target a minimum of 350 expecting and breastfeeding parents
- Two Certified Lactation Specialist Trainings
- Support for Lactation Educator training and National Certification for Lactation Consultants through scholarships
- An annual Breastfeeding Workshop targeting healthcare professionals working with expectant or new mothers
- In-services and support sessions for local healthcare provider staff on topics related to breastfeeding
- A media campaign that will focus on broadening the acceptance of breastfeeding throughout the local community
- A bilingual Website for community members to access for current breastfeeding information and resources

Prop 10 Partners

The March of Dimes; El Centro Regional Medical Center; the Family Treehouse

Other Community Partners

Pioneer's Memorial Healthcare District; Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo; Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program; and local medical providers

Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program

Project Name: NENES

Contact: Wendy Rosales

Phone Number: (760) 482-2604

Fax: (760) 482-2751

Award Amount: \$157,740.00

Email: wrosales@ivrop.org

Website: ivrop.org

Description

Through Project NENES, Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP) will target and recruit parents and Stage 1 Exempt providers and offer these participants with in-home instruction to children ages 3-5 by using the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) curriculum. This Internationally recognized program will be delivered through trained home parent visitors to help prepare children for kindergarten entry by developing the overall school readiness of these children.

Project NENES is currently beginning its third year of funding through the Commission, and is the only HIPPY based program in the county. Therefore for its third year, the program plans to target 60 families that have children 3 to 5 years of age within the identified communities, including as many as 15 children from School Readiness School Districts. The intent will be to continue serving up to 60 families during the fourth year of operation. The Project is designed to address the issue of stay-at-home children that generally do not receive preschool instruction and enter the school system unprepared. The curriculum used by the project, established by HIPPY USA, is an internationally recognized program and it has been tested on many parents that are culturally and linguistically diverse; which will be suitable for the program's target population in the community.

Services Offered

- Provide school readiness in-home instruction (HIPPY) program to parents and Stage 1 Exempt providers through in-home instructions
- Work to assess all HIPPY children through the use of the *Ages and Stages Questionnaire* in order to work with parents in identifying any developmental delays
- Establish a parent support group (also with guest speakers)
- Provide health education information
- Increase the number of children receiving basic immunization and other health services
- Provide referrals for health, mental health, and other human services
- Offer training for Parent In-Home Visitors in the HIPPY curriculum
- Provide all services in English and Spanish

Prop 10 Partners

The Family Treehouse; Imperial County Public Health Department; El Centro Regional Medical Center – Child 0-5 Asthma Project

Other Community Partners

Department of Social Services and local churches

March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation

Project Name: Healthy Babies: Healthy Communities

Contact: Cheryl Anderson

Phone Number: (760) 312-5751

Fax: (760) 312-5757

Award Amount: \$162,863.00

Email: CAAnderson2@marchofdimes.com

Website: marchofdimes.com

Description

The mission of March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. March of Dimes through the Healthy Babies: Healthy Communities Project funded by the Imperial County Children and Families First Commission will work toward offering a variety of services aimed at women who are pregnant and in need of prenatal care, improved perinatal outcomes in the county and offer related services. The program proposes to increase the proportion of women in the county who receive prenatal care in the 1st trimester of pregnancy. The foundation will develop multi-disciplinary services designed to: assist in the prevention of prematurity rates, reduce the incidence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, increase cigarette smoke cessation and abstinence from tobacco and decrease the use of alcohol, cocaine and marijuana by pregnant women. In addition, March of Dimes will assist in the development of a consumer-oriented delivery system by working toward establishing community health care standards, as well as increasing the number of individuals/families enrolled in health insurance plans throughout the county.

During its fourth year of funding through the Commission the Healthy Babies: Healthy Communities Project reached over 6,800 individuals. Local outreach efforts included contacts through a number of community events, speakers' presentations, and efforts through Community Based Organizations. In addition the March of Dimes reached 415 expectant mothers through facilitators trained in the "*Comenzando bien*" curriculum - a prenatal education program for Hispanic women. The "*Comenzando bien*" curriculum is a good example of the cultural/linguistic appropriateness of the program, which is designed to meet the specific needs of Hispanic families.

For this funding cycle the March of Dimes will focus on two components that are consistent with the first year of operation. Healthy Babies: Healthy Communities is - 1) to provide education and outreach services to pregnant women and their families; and 2) to offer education to healthcare professionals on topics related to birth defects, premature labor, the effects of the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco during pregnancy; access to healthcare; environmental exposures; the impact of infections on pregnancy; the importance of folic acid; and other topics that are vital to having a healthy baby. The project's main objective is to improve birth outcomes for all pregnant women and families in the area, with a focus on low-income Hispanic families residing in Imperial County.

Services Offered

- Community outreach efforts designed to provide information related to birth outcomes and the importance of prenatal care to a minimum of 2,500 families during the 2006-2007 fiscal year
- The inclusion of an additional 300 women through partnerships with ten agencies that use the *Comenzando bien* prenatal care curriculum
- Training for 10-12 March of Dimes Speakers Bureau Volunteers to present information at 9 community events
- Provide 12 agencies with information for up to 1,000 families of childbearing age with information related to prematurity
- Host 2 Women's Health Day events to reach 100 women each year
- Organize two community workshops that will target 100 women of childbearing age, to include a College Student Health Event and an Expectant and Parenting Teen Conference
- Provide outreach through the use of multi-media campaigns
- Organize meetings through the local Perinatal Forum in collaboration with the Regional Perinatal Program for the purpose of facilitating interagency communication and planning related to service output for expectant families
- Coordinate prenatal specialty education instruction for up to 10 MCAH health care professionals
- Conduct professional development opportunities for at least 300 health and human services professionals
- Provide facilitated sessions using web based technology to reach 20 local nurses
- Include health insurance access information in all project activities

Prop 10 Partners

Riverside County Office of Education – Migrant Head Start; Burn Institute; and the El Centro Elementary School District-Family and Community Together (FACT)

Other Community Partners

San Diego/Imperial County Regional Perinatal Program; Neighborhood House of Calexico; Imperial County Public Health Department (ICPHD) – Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH), Imperial County Breastfeeding Coalition (ICBFC); ICPHD-Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP), ICPHD-Child Health and Disability Program (CHDP); California School Age Family Education (Cal-SAFE), Farmworker Services Coalition of Imperial County; Imperial County Children and Parents (CAP) Council; Imperial County Comprehensive Perinatal Services (CPSP); Imperial Valley College; Imperial County Behavioral Health Department – Perinatal Substance Abuse Services; Early Care and Education Planning Council (ECEPC); Youth Well-Being Collaborative Project; Local Coordinating Committee of Imperial County; Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo; Imperial County WIC; El Centro Regional Medical Center; Pioneers Hospital – Women’s Center; Pioneers Health Clinics; Imperial Valley Women’s Clinic; Brawley Family Resource Center; Calexico Family Resource Center; Niland Family Resource Center; Rutter Media; El Centro Elementary School District; Employment Development Department; Campesinos Unidos; and California Rural Legal Assistance

Riverside County Office of Education – Migrant Head Start

Project Name: Proyecto Familia Campesina
Contact: Jose Martinez: Regional Director
Phone Number: (760) 337-1555
Fax: (760) 337-1478

Award Amount: \$102,493.00
Email: emartinez@rcoe.k12.ca.us
Website: N/A

Description

Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) Migrant Head Start will continue to implement the *Proyecto Familia Campesina* with funding made available by the Imperial County Children and Families First Commission. RCOE Migrant Head Start is a comprehensive, culturally competent program that promotes school readiness activities to migrant farmworker families in the Riverside and Imperial County Region, with an emphasis on Imperial County farmworker populations. Through *Proyecto Familia Campesina*, RCOE Migrant Head Start proposes to significantly enhance existing services to Imperial County farmworker children ages 0-5 and their families.

Migrant Head Start will provide the following through *Proyecto Familia Campesina*: a) an extension of program year and daily hours of operation by contracting with family day care providers; b) provide on-site school readiness services to MHS children and families. The program has determined that a significant number of migrant families working in the county view this area as their “home base,” their primary area of residence. Therefore many services available to these families are based on the fact that these families generally move out of the area to follow crop cycles. The mandated program community assessment process has identified the need to offer services beyond the federal contract period (law) of 147 days, and therefore add 15 days of child development/care and parent outreach services.

Services Offered

- Extension in the business days of operation for the program year from 147 to 166 days
- Provide orientations and establish contracts with up to 40 Family Child Care Providers
- Comprehensive and culturally competent child development services to migrant farmworker children
- Teacher conferences and home visitations for each enrolled child
- Comprehensive health services and screening assessments for newly enrolled children
- An emphasis on the child’s transition from the preschool center to public school kindergarten programs
- An early literacy component that offers literature meant to increase language acquisition
- Complete services for children with disabilities and/or special needs

Prop 10 Partners

Brawley Public Library; March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation; the ICCFFC School Readiness Program

Other Community Partners

Early Care & Education Council; SELPA of Imperial County; University of California Agricultural Extension Services; Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program; Imperial County Farmworkers Services Coalition; Bi-National Health Commission; and AMIGOS for special education.