

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION



**DISPROPORTIONATE
AFRICAN AMERICAN
CHILD DEATHS**

May 7, 2013

African American children die at a rate **two times higher** than children of other races in Sacramento County.



DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Process for Developing Recommendations

Blue Ribbon Commission

Expert Presentations

Subcommittee Recommendations

Data/Research

CDRT data

DHHS, Public Health

Children's Report Card

Kidsdata.org

Literature Review

Community Input

Community forums
& focus groups

Solicit input, respond
to data, react to
recommendations

Practices

Service Provider
presentations

Law Enforcement
Panel

Program Model
literature review

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Community Input Process

280 Participants

**13 Community
Convenings**

**5 different
neighborhoods**



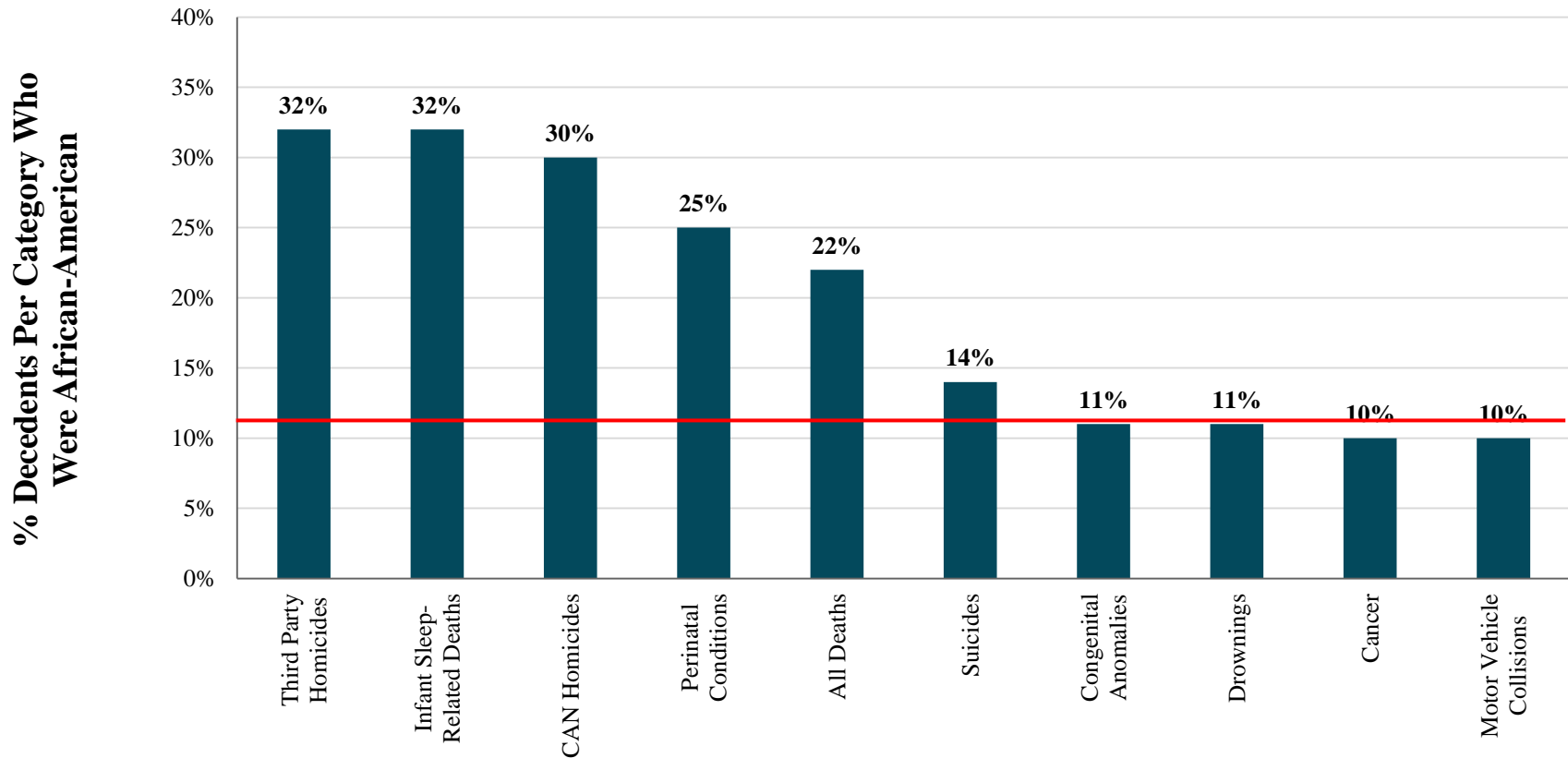
DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

**All Child Deaths by Race/Ethnicity (n=3,633)
Sacramento County Resident Child Deaths, 1990-2009**

Race/Ethnicity	# of Child Deaths	% of Child Deaths	% Race in Child Population	Death Rate per 100,000 Children
African American	816	22%	12%	102.0
Asian	402	11%	13%	44.5
Caucasian	1592	44%	48%	48.5
Hispanic	575	16%	22%	38.3
Multiracial	130	4%	4%	48.0
Total (Rate=Average)	3,633	100%	100%	53.2

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Percent of African American Child Deaths by Category Sacramento County Residents, 1990-2009



DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

32% of Third-Party Homicides, 12% of Child Population

75% of victims were 15 to 17 years of age

70% were the result of Firearms

66% of victims had known risk factors in family history

- 41% Substance Abuse
- 30% Gang Involvement
- 23% Violent Crime
- 20% Child Protective Services

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Third-Party Homicide Neighborhoods

Majority (75%)

- Valley Hi/
Meadowview
- North
Sacramento/
Del Paso Heights
- North Highlands

Greatest
Disproportion

- North
Sacramento/
Del Paso
- Valley Hi/
Meadowview
- North Highlands

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

32% of Infant Sleep-Related Deaths, 11% of Infant Population

96% Unsafe Infant Sleep Conditions

- 93% Non-infant bed
- 70% Co-sleeping

85% of infants had known risk factors in family history

- 52% Violent Crime
- 48% Substance Abuse
- 37% Domestic Violence

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Infant Sleep-Related Death Neighborhoods

Majority (53%)

- Valley Hi/
Meadowview
- North Sacramento/
Del Paso Heights
- North Highlands
- Fruitridge/Stockton

Greatest Disproportion

- Valley Hi/
Meadowview
- Oak Park
- Arden Arcade
- North Sacramento/
Del Paso Heights
- North Highlands

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

30% of Child Abuse Homicides, 12% of Child Population

77% of victims were 0-5 years of age

61% Biological Parents as Perpetrators

67% of victims had known risk factors in family history

- 40% Substance Abuse
- 29% Child Protective Services
- 29% Mental Illness

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Child Abuse Homicide Neighborhoods

Majority (73%)

- Valley Hi/
Meadowview
- North Highlands
- Arden Arcade
- Fruitridge/Stockton

Greatest Disproportion

- Oak Park
- Arden Arcade
- Fruitridge/Stockton

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

25% of Perinatal Conditions Deaths, 11% of Infant Population

9% Teen Mothers

6% Lack of/Inadequate Prenatal Care

46% of fetal-infant deaths had known risk factors in family history

- 26% Substance Abuse
- 17% Child Protective Services
- 14% Mental Illness

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

4.9 per 1,000 African American Fetal-Infant Deaths, compared to 2.4 per 1,000 Caucasian; 2.2 Hispanic

Related Maternal Health Risk Factors

- Prematurity
- Low Birth Weight
- Stress
- Chronic Disease
- Maternal Health/Age
- Smoking
- Substance Abuse
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Multiple Pregnancies

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Perinatal Conditions Death Neighborhoods

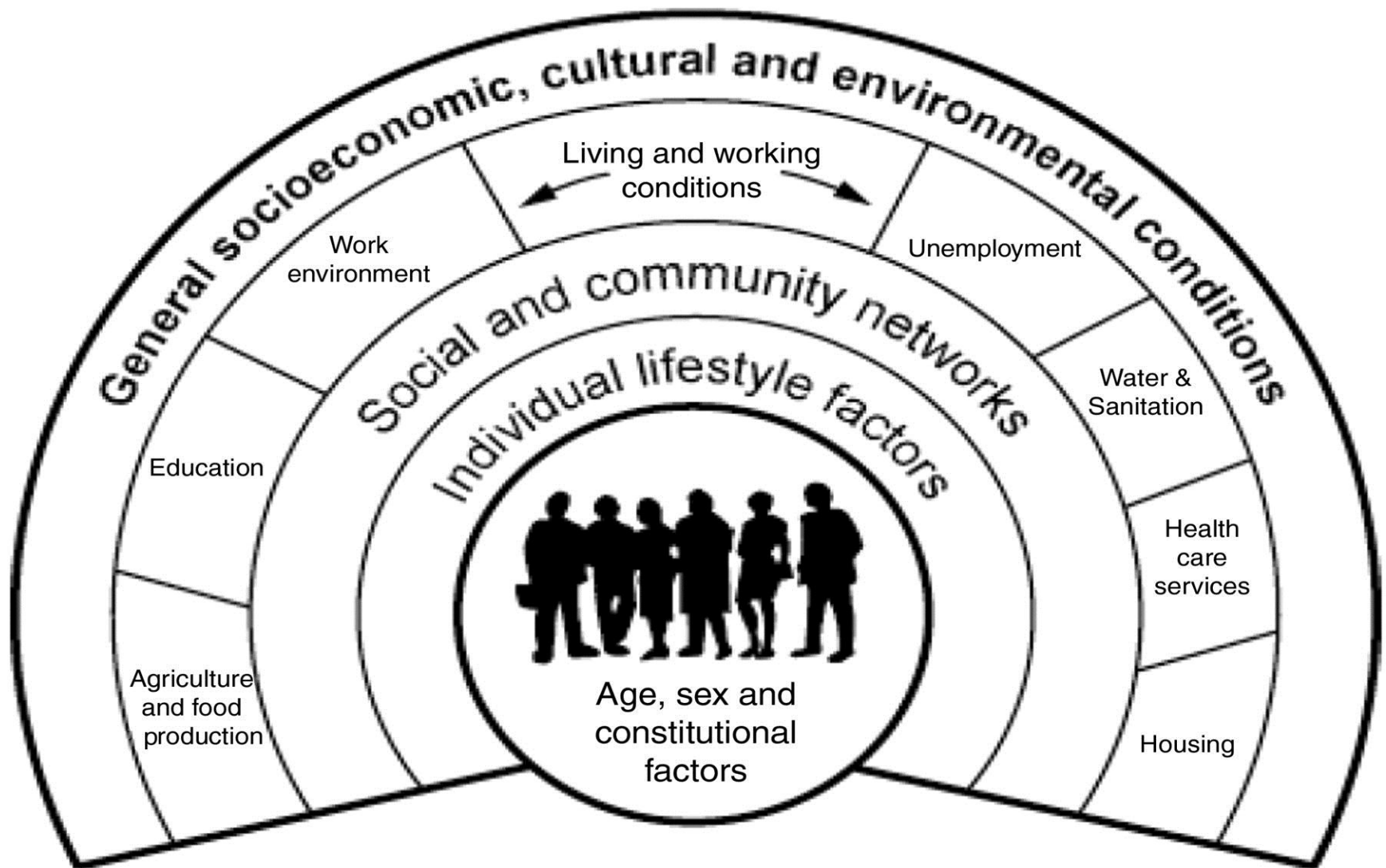
Majority (67%)

- Valley Hi/
Meadowview
- North Sacramento/
Del Paso Heights
- Fruitridge/Stockton

Greatest Disproportion

- Valley Hi/
Meadowview
- Arden Arcade
- North Sacramento/
Del Paso Heights

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS



DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Goal: Reduce the four leading causes of disproportionate African American child death by 10% to 20% over the next five years.



Child Homicides – 48% decrease

- 24 to 12 deaths over a five-year period
- Rate per 100,000 children from 12.0 to 6.3



Infant sleep-related deaths – 33% decrease

- 25 to 16 deaths over a five-year period
- Rate per 100,000 children from 12.5 to 8.4



Perinatal conditions death – 23% decrease

- 72 to 53 deaths over a five-year period
- Rate per 100,000 children from 35.9 to 27.7

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Overarching Recommendations

Consider the well-being of all children in every program, policy and budget decision.

Collaborate with other initiatives to reduce health disparities in African Americans.

Prioritize and support existing and best practices with effective outcome data to reduce disproportionate African American child deaths.

Engage and empower members of the African American community to help implement, inform, and advocate for culturally appropriate strategies.

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Overarching Recommendations

Launch a coordinated community education campaign addressing the top four causes of disproportionate African American child death.

Continue the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission by establishing a steering committee with diverse representation to engage and empower the African American community.

Improve data collection and data sharing across systems. Develop a system for internal and external evaluation.

THIRD-PARTY HOMICIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Awareness

- Targeted outreach strategies delivered by trusted messengers
- Tools, messages, resources that de-stigmatize seeking help

Direct Service

- Expand after-school programs
- Fund youth employment programs
- Develop new partnerships, promote mentoring
- Expand/replicate effective youth violence prevention programs

Policy

- Engage schools and at-risk youth to plan and implement recommendations
- Community Oriented Policing
- Programs in affordable housing developments

INFANT SLEEP-RELATED DEATHS RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Awareness

- Mobilize partnerships to raise awareness
- Educate on infant safe sleep practices in all prenatal encounters

Direct Service

- Ensure new parents have a crib, are educated on and agree to infant safe sleep practices
- Education through trained cultural brokers in existing services

Policy

- Information in high school health classes
- Infant safe sleep protocols in public safety trainings
- Hospital policies to promote infant safe sleeping through education, providing cribs when needed

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT HOMICIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Awareness

- Targeted tools and messages that normalize the need for parenting support
- Training for faith-based, providers, community, and mandated reporters

Direct Service

- Emphasize evidenced and community based prevention programs; expand existing services for children ages 6 and older
- Use trained cultural brokers in service delivery
- Prioritize Arden Arcade, Valley Hi for resources and education

Policy

- Recruit, train, retain a diverse workforce to represent/match those served
- Standardized screening tool-provide targeted interventions and prioritize families with risk factors
- Ensure Quality Childcare is affordable and accessible

PERINATAL CONDITIONS DEATHS RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Awareness

- Targeted prevention campaign
- Specific, consistent and coordinated messages addressing pre-conception health, prematurity, low birth weight, and substance abuse

Direct Service

- Targeted pre-conception education, engagement
- Build capacity of organizations that value women/girls and the role of fathers
- Increase access to care using trained cultural brokers in services such as home visitation

Policy

- Develop pre-conception, pre-natal, and post-natal health policy and standards that address disparities
- Local health systems coordinate community benefit funding and incorporate recommendations into strategic plans

DISPROPORTIONATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILD DEATHS

Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

- **Endorse the overarching themes and specific recommendations**
- **Support the formation of an on-going Steering Committee to:**
 - ✓ **Provide coordination and oversight**
 - ✓ **Create a strategic plan**
 - ✓ **Monitor implementation**
 - ✓ **Evaluate and report annually on progress**