

Overview

CADRE is a community-based, membership parent organization in South Los Angeles founded in 2001. CADRE is led by African American and Latino parents and caregivers whose children attend local schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). We work for systemic change by supporting grassroots South LA parents as the leaders in stopping the push-out crisis in schools serving low-income neighborhoods of color.

Mission

Our mission is to solidify and advance parent leadership to ensure that all children are rightfully educated regardless of where they live. We seek to effect policy change and mobilize political will through new parent participation models that preserve and expand the right to education for all South LA children and youth. – CADRE website

Constituency

- Adults (18-65+)
- African American, Latino (Mexican), Asian (Pan Asian, Southeast Asian), White,
- LGBTQ
- Foster children
- Relative caregivers
- Homeless
- People with disabilities (learning, physical, or mental)
- Immigrant
- Undocumented
- Formerly incarcerated



Local Conditions & Critical Issues Impacting 0-5 Childhood Health in Los Angeles

Poor Quality of Education (including school discipline, criminalization of youth, etc.)

“The biggest thing that we have seen and that we consider to be affecting the lives of our children is, of course, poor quality of education within South LA and particularly, criminalization through the education system.”

– Oya Sherrils, Community Organizer

Barriers to Childcare

“Different programs have different requirements that the preschool students (the 0-to-5 students) are not eligible for. Whether it's meeting birth certificates or identification, these different requirements bar families from accessing the program.”

Key Indicators of Childhood Health in Los Angeles

16.6%

of 2-4 year old WIC participants are **obese**.²

14.4%

of teens and 13.1% of children in Los Angeles County were **overweight**.¹



13.1%

of children ages 2-11 are **overweight**.²

only 28.5% of children ages 6-17 years obtain recommended amount of **aerobic exercise** each week.³

15%

of children ages 0-17 consume **fast food** 3 or more times per week.¹

CADRE's Accomplishments in Wellness & Safety

• School Climate Bill of Rights

The School Climate Bill of Rights stipulates that LAUSD school campuses should be schools that address the whole child and take into consideration the holistic nature of what it means to be educators (i.e., create clear boundaries of school police on campuses, end willful defiance policy, etc.).

Current Wellness & Safety Efforts

Schoolwide Policy Behavior Support—working to implement a policy within LAUSD that uses a Restorative Justice framework and incorporates alternatives to punitive punishments

“The program teaches children how to address conflict in a way where they understand that they don't necessarily have to be punished for their negative behaviors. More so, positive behavior is uplifted and rewarded. It's a school-wide process so there has to be a lot of buy-in at every level...the whole Positive Behavior Support System and CADRE, they promote more healthy conversations, more healthy dialogue and being able to address conflict in a way that's less damaging to communities and less damaging to families.”

Community Resilience Program—for the past three-years CADRE has been piloting a mind and body wellness program.

“We developed the Community Resilience Program so that families could have a chance to think about their own stressors and set goals, and make plans to address them. Some of the things that the parents decided to bring into the community were yoga/meditation, a mapping project where they figured out where in the community there is fresh food, fresh fruits and vegetables, and a survey of all of the different farmers markets in the community.”



Community Defined “Best Practices” to Improve Childhood Health

1. Coaching and leadership development for parents

2. Recognize and plan for the long term

“We do have parents who have been with us for 15 years. We have parents that have been with us for eight and nine years. This is a long-term journey. In order to really be our best at it, to have optimal performance, we have to have mind and body wellness. That's a part of the reason why that we decided to do [the Community Resilience Program] but then also, it's the fact that there are so many stressors in our community... there's housing and security, there's constant threat of incarceration, there are families that are dealing with substance abuse issues, there are families that are in-and-out of the DCSS (Department of Child Support Services) and foster care systems. It's just a lot of stress and trauma that families are trying to cope with. In order to be able to serve the needs of our community, especially in the long-term sight, we have been trying to expand our capacity.”

Allies/Partnerships Working on Children's Health

- Building Healthy Communities Network –Los Angeles, CA <http://www.calendow.org/building-healthy-communities/>



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YouTube: [CADREparentpower](#)

Twitter: @CADREparents



1. Children's Hospital Los Angeles. (2016). Children's Hospital Los Angeles: Community Health Needs Assessment. Retrieved from <https://www.chla.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/CHLA-Childrens-Hospital-LA-CHNA-Report-FINAL.pdf>
2. Biel, M. (2016, September 21). 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment. Retrieved from <https://share.kaiserpermanente.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/KFH-LA-CHNA-Final-5.23.16.pdf>
3. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. (2017, January). Key Indicators of Health by Service Planning Area. Retrieved from http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ha/docs/2015LACHS/KeyIndicator/PH-KIH_2017-sec%20UPDATED.pdf