KIDS network
Santa Barbara County

Santa Barbara County KIDS Network
Progress Report
Presented December 8, 2009

Presentation Outline

- The KIDS Network – Mission and Purpose
- Goals and Accomplishments
- Key Findings
- Fiscal Challenges Affecting Our Children
- Network Recommendations

Mission and Purpose

Mission and Purpose

Santa Barbara County's Children

- 105,127 children under the age of 18 years live in Santa Barbara County in 2009
- 33% of these children are under six years old, 67% are school-aged
- Children and youth make up 24% of the total population
- 16% of children under 18 live in poverty

Children in Poverty

- In 2008, a family of two adults and two children was considered poor if their annual income fell below **$21,834**. To qualify for
  - **Food Stamps** a family's net income cannot exceed the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
  - **CalWORKS** a family's net income cannot exceed roughly half the FPL
  - **"Zero Share of Cost Medi-Cal"** depending on the age of the child, a family's net income cannot exceed between 100%-200% of FPL

Goals and Accomplishments

Goals and Accomplishments

STRATEGY 1 - Collect and analyze information on the well-being of children

- 2008 Scorecard re-organized around three major domains determined to be important to the well-being of children
- Committee reviewed and analyzed trends over eight years for chosen indicators
- Local context added to each data indicator

www.countyofsb.org/kidsnet

Goals and Accomplishments

STRATEGY 1 - Collect and analyze information on the well-being of children

- Web-based database funded by the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health continues to provide over 180 indicators to the public
  - Indicators are available in map form, trend graphs, tables and by subject, region, or demographic

www.kidsdata.org/sbc

kidsdata.org

We've got your numbers.

Regions | Demographic Groups | Topics | Resources

Find data about children in Santa Barbara County

Regions | **Demographic Groups** | **Topics**

Select a topic by clicking on ⊞.

- ⊞ Child Safety
- ⊞ Demographics
- ⊞ Disabilities/Special Health Care Needs
- ⊞ Education & Child Care
- ⊞ Emotional & Behavioral Health
- ⊞ Family Economics
- ⊞ Physical Health

A to Z List of Data

Goals and Accomplishments

STRATEGY 2 - Prioritize needs based on data to improve well-being

- 2009-2012 Three Year Plan for the prevention of child abuse and neglect, matching community needs with services based on evidence-based programs

www.countyofsb.org/kidsnet

Goals and Accomplishments

STRATEGY 3 - Network Participation

Children at Risk

- North County Summit for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Child Abuse Prevention Council

Family Support

- New Cuyama Family Resource Center

Health Care Access

- CHISB support

Key Findings

Key Findings

2008 Scorecard

- The rate of child abuse and neglect is highest for infants 0-1 years old.
- One fourth to one third of WIC pre-school kids were overweight or at risk. This trend continues with 7th and 9th graders.
- Test scores of Santa Barbara County's students mirror the state-wide achievement gap, which remains constant across grades.

Resources on the Achievement Gap

"In California, the achievement gap is defined as the disparity between white students and other ethnic groups and between English learners and native English speakers, socio-economically disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged, and students with disabilities as compared to students without disabilities."

www.closingtheachievementgap.org

www.sbceo.org

Key Findings

North County Summit

- Engage community-based and faith-based groups to help reach families that are not receiving services and to tap into their resources and supports

- Increase efforts to reach out through the media and other free or low-cost channels to increase the public's understanding of the issue and provide prevention education

Key Findings

Three-Year Plan for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

- The majority (75-80%) of the County's substantiated child abuse cases are due to general and severe neglect or caretaker incapacity. This neglect is most frequently caused by substance abuse, mental health issues or severe family stress.

Key Findings

Three-Year Plan for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

- Child abuse and neglect occurs county-wide, but the North County region shows a significantly higher need for services based on a variety of indicators, including the origin of 65-70% of all referrals.
- Prevention services available before a crisis occurs are not sufficiently promoted and/or available in the community.

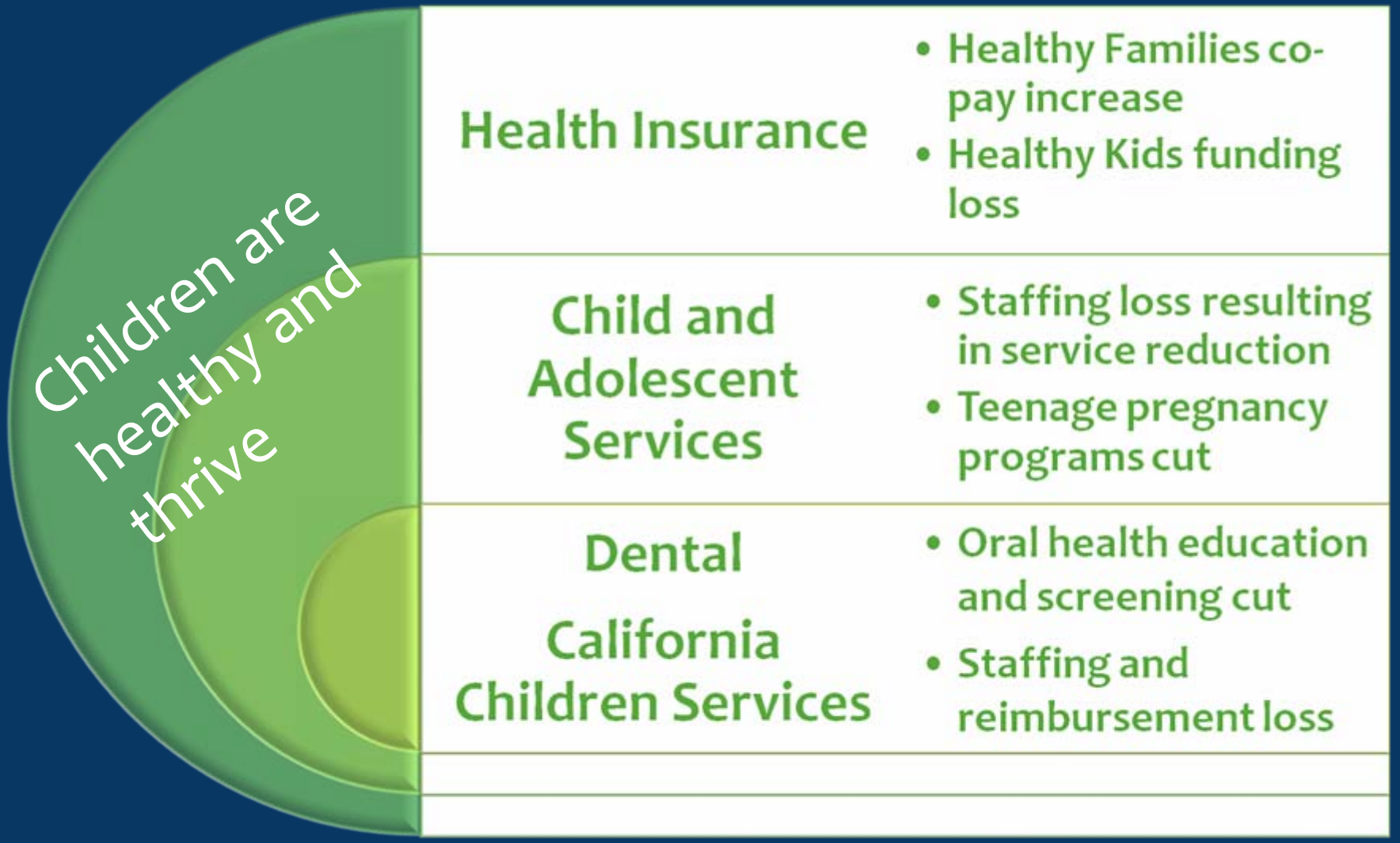
Fiscal Challenges Affecting Our Children

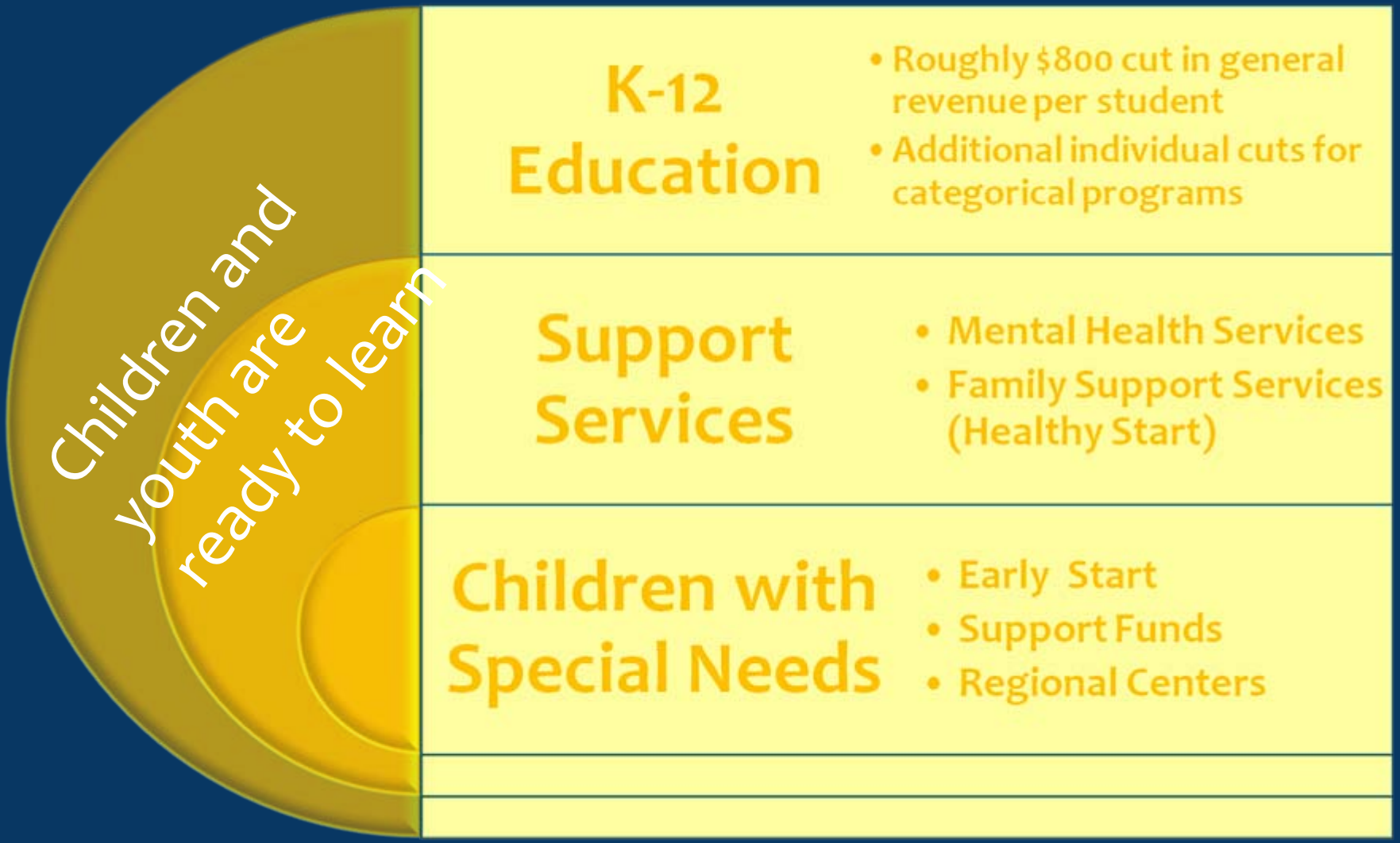
KIDS Network Domains

- Children and youth are safe and supported by families and communities
- Children and youth are healthy and thrive
- Children and youth are “ready to learn” and will succeed in school

Children are safe and supported

Child Care & Afterschool	• Latchkey Program cut • CalWORKS childcare reduced
Social Services	• Reduced CWS funding • Foster Homes underfunded • CalWORKS grants reduced to ~ 45% of FPL
Juvenile Justice	• Juvenile Probation resources reduced by 21% resulting in program changes and staffing reductions


Children are healthy and thrive
Health Insurance
• Healthy Families co-pay increase
• Healthy Kids funding loss
Child and Adolescent Services
• Staffing loss resulting in service reduction
• Teenage pregnancy programs cut
Dental
California Children Services
• Oral health education and screening cut
• Staffing and reimbursement loss


Children and youth are ready to learn
K-12 Education
• Roughly $800 cut in general revenue per student
• Additional individual cuts for categorical programs
Support Services
• Mental Health Services
• Family Support Services (Healthy Start)
Children with Special Needs
• Early Start
• Support Funds
• Regional Centers

Network Recommendations

Recommendations

- Maintain prevention-focus as though it were a mandate
- Focus attention to identify and strengthen untapped and underutilized community resources
- Target data for decision-making