

COMMUNITY Health Report

Stanislaus County Health Services Agency 2002

A message from the Public Health Officer

The Health Services Agency is pleased to present the 2002 Community Health Report Card. This report focuses on selected current and emerging health status indicators that monitor the health of Stanislaus County residents.

This community report provides information on community health improvement projects the Agency has implemented over the last year. At the same time, the report helps to identify policy and program priorities based on trends.

A unique issue, emergency preparedness, is discussed in this report. The Health Services Agency, in collaboration with a countywide consortium, is poised to ensure preparedness in the event of a domestic incident in Stanislaus County.

Strategic planning, community involvement and partnerships continue to serve as the fundamental components of the Health Services Agency's prevention and policy development process, to ensure the community's health.

John Walker, M.D.
Public Health Officer

Notable Results

Over the past year, the Health Services Agency continued to address the four (4) identified critical health issues for the improvement of the health status of Stanislaus County residents.

Chlamydia

Assessment

A Community Programs/Providers Resource and Assessment Tool was developed and distributed by the Chlamydia Awareness and Prevention Program (CAPP) to youth-serving organizations.

Education/Outreach Awareness

Chlamydia/STD prevention education

activities have been conducted at select drug and alcohol treatment facilities, schools, detention facilities, juvenile

probation, and community-based organizations.

Chlamydia/STD information is integrated in outreach efforts conducted by a variety of programs reaching the at risk population.

Screening Projects

Public Health successfully completed the first year of the GET TESTED Chlamydia screening project. Over 2000 youth were reached; 1813 were screened (25% females; 75% males); 167 were positive for Chlamydia (9.2%).

Low Birth Weight

Low Birth Weight continues to be an issue in Stanislaus County.

Outreach and Case Management efforts are constantly being adapted to address specific populations. Perinatal Outreach efforts continued this past year and included the following:

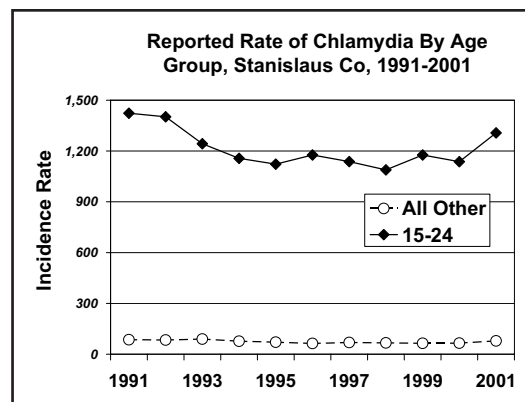
- Outreach was extended to the Turlock Swap Meet.
- Door to door outreach was expanded

to these geographic regions: Riverbank, Oakdale and Waterford.

- A 15-month calendar that provides education to pregnant women was developed and distributed. 5000 calendars were developed. The March of Dimes is

funding production of the Pregnancy Calendar in Spanish.

- The Children and Families First Commission funds to focus on case management for pregnant and smoking women.



Injury Prevention

The Department of Health Services awarded HSA an 18-month planning grant to address the prevention of motor vehicle injuries. As a result, the Safe Communities Coalition was established in April 2001, with participation from private citizens, traffic safety professionals, law enforcement, the medical community, educators, city and County leaders, and officials from community based organizations.

Coalition members have been meeting monthly and have accomplished the following:

- Participated in the “Walk Your Child to School Day” project.
- Completed extensive data analysis report on motor vehicle crashes in Stanislaus County, spanning a ten-year period.

- Drafted a community profile on motor vehicle injuries.
- Began the strategic planning process, and identified four (4) prioritized goal areas. They are: increase public awareness; decrease injuries in teen drivers and passengers, bicyclist and pedestrian safety, and child passenger safety.

It is anticipated that by the summer, the Coalition will publish a strategic plan which outlines the prevention strategies on the identified goals. This plan will be shared with residents of Stanislaus County for feedback and comments. Further funding opportunities will be explored for the plan’s implementation.

- Continued distribution of the CVD resource guide, which was developed and printed by the Coalition in 2000.
- Continued to develop and extend the three-year work plan, in continuation with the original plan which ends in the year 2002.

The Coalition will continue to review and analyze CVD



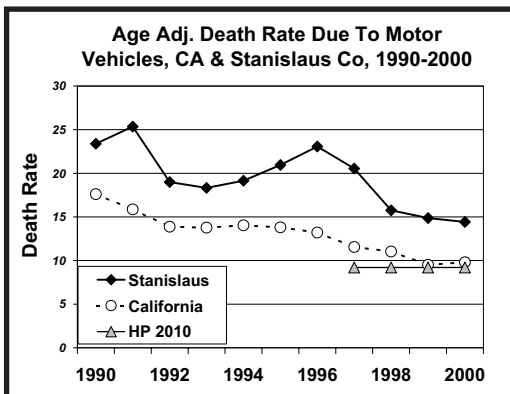
The HEART Coalition provides information designed to improve eating and exercise habits.

Cardiovascular Disease Prevention

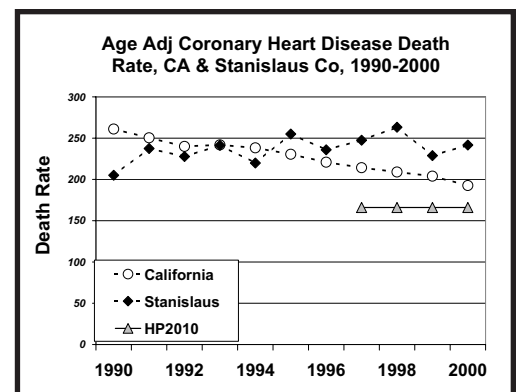
The HEART(Heart Education Awareness Resource Team) Coalition continues to be involved in heart disease and stroke prevention. Accomplishments in the year 2001 included:

- Establishment and continued maintenance of the HEART Coalition website. This website is supported by a number of Coalition members through their financial and inkind contributions.
- Increased public awareness in the prevention of heart disease by participating in various health fairs and community events.
- Expanded Coalition members to reflect the diversity and needs of our community.

health risk and behavioral data, which will be used for program planning and development.



- As a result of the analysis, identified areas in need of critical, pro-active intervention strategies. The targeted communities include: drivers under the influence, teen drivers, pedestrians and bicyclist, and children passengers.



Emerging health issues UPDATE

Hepatitis C

In 2001 the Department of Health Services, Hepatitis C Prevention and Control Unit developed The Hepatitis C Strategic Plan for the State of California. This was a collaborative approach to the emerging epidemic in California. Stanislaus County Hepatitis C rate far exceeds the statewide rate, with the African American population disproportionately impacted.

Several activities have been planned to address Hepatitis C in Stanislaus. They include:

- Convening a Hepatitis C Task Force.
- Initiating Hepatitis C screening in all substance abuse treatment facilities in collaboration with Mental Health.
- Integrating Hepatitis C education with HIV/STD education.
- Promoting staff development in the area of Hepatitis C.
- Expanding screening to other high-risk population.
- Seeking resources to support countywide plan goals and objectives.
- Strengthening Public Health infrastructure to prepare for this disease.

In December 2001 the Public Health Department HIV/STD program started Hepatitis C screening in substance abuse treatment facilities. The positive rate has been averaging 30% but sometimes reach as high as 90%.

Black Infant Health

The Black Infant Health Task Force was developed to address this issue. Partners include community residents, medical providers, faith based communities, and other community agencies. Work groups were identified and implemented to focus on: Education and Awareness; Funding; Strategic Planning and Research.

Accomplishments include:

- Met the Public Health commitment for the 21st Century to build coalitions to affect change; with community based organizations, faith based



Bay Area rapper Kuzzin Prece performs at the Black Infant Health conference.

- organizations and other community agencies.
- Developed Project Goal: To increase community and medical community awareness of Black Infant Health (BIH) as a community concern.
- Produced Black Infant Health Fact Sheet for Stanislaus County.

- Sent Maternal Child Health Alert to primary care/CHDP providers regarding BIH data.
- Held symposium in collaboration with city, community and State partners.
- Identified specific program objectives and strategies for possible funding within the year.

New health issues

Emergency Preparedness:

After the events of 9/11/01, County CEO Reagan Wilson commissioned a countywide community preparedness task force in October 2001 to address specific issues. These issues consisted of 12 agenda items, which soon grew to 24. Some agenda items and their status are:

- Designed Public Education/ internet resource to provide preparedness information.
- First Responder Training— Fire, Law Enforcement, HazMat, Public Health, and Emergency Services developed training tapes that were shown to hundreds of first responders.
- Evacuation Drills and Plans— evacuation plans were reviewed and revised accordingly.
- Business Contingency/ Resumption Plans—Plans have been finalized and are being coordinated.
- Developed City and Countywide Cooperative to enhance local capability for coping with consequences of a major disaster.
- Developed a contingency plan to respond to bioterrorism or other infectious disease outbreaks.

Childhood Obesity

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has recently declared that there is an epidemic of childhood and adolescent obesity. According to the most recent CDC nutrition surveillance data, 11.5% of the children who qualify for the

is to improve the health of people in Stanislaus County by promoting healthy eating and physical activity. In 2001, the Council has chosen childhood obesity as their number one priority, and has been planning prevention efforts.

In response to this health issue, the Families and Children First (Prop 10) Commission has funded two (2) pilot projects for the prevention of childhood obesity in this County. Both the West Modesto/King Kennedy Collaborative and the YMCA received funding for childhood obesity prevention activities. HSA

is collaborating with the West Modesto/King Kennedy Collaborative on the

implementation of their "Kids Off the Couch!" Program.

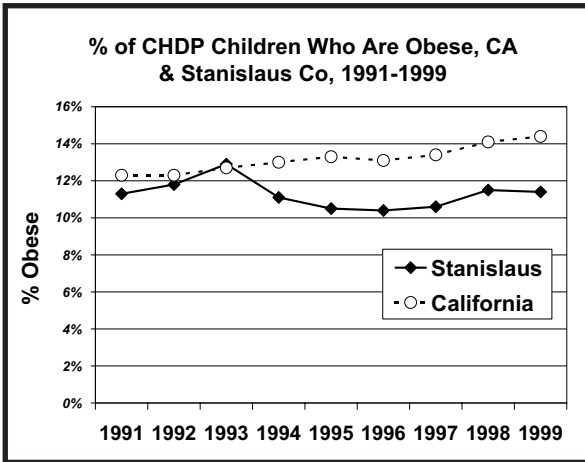
HSA plans to continue to address this health

issue by

increasing public awareness, providing community education, seeking funding opportunities, and supporting legislation on healthy eating and increased physical activity for children and adolescents.

Asthma

Another emerging Health Issue for 2002 is Asthma. As a result of new guidelines for the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program and its focus on the health of infants and children, Asthma has been included as an emerging health concern. The Public Health Department will begin assessing this critical health issue in Stanislaus County.

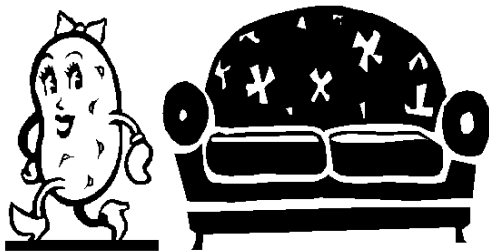


Child Health and Disability Prevention Program in Stanislaus County are overweight.

(Overweight is defined as above the 95th percentile weight for height). The youth obesity epidemic is a result of a

simultaneous increase in the availability and consumption of less nutritious foods, and a decrease in physical activity.

Through HSA's Nutrition Network Program, a Nutrition and Fitness Council was established in 1999. Its mission



Kids Off the Couch!

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