

Best Start: A Place-based Approach to Strengthening Families

July 20, 2015

Presentation to the
Commission for Children and Families

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles



Commitment to Place-based Strategies

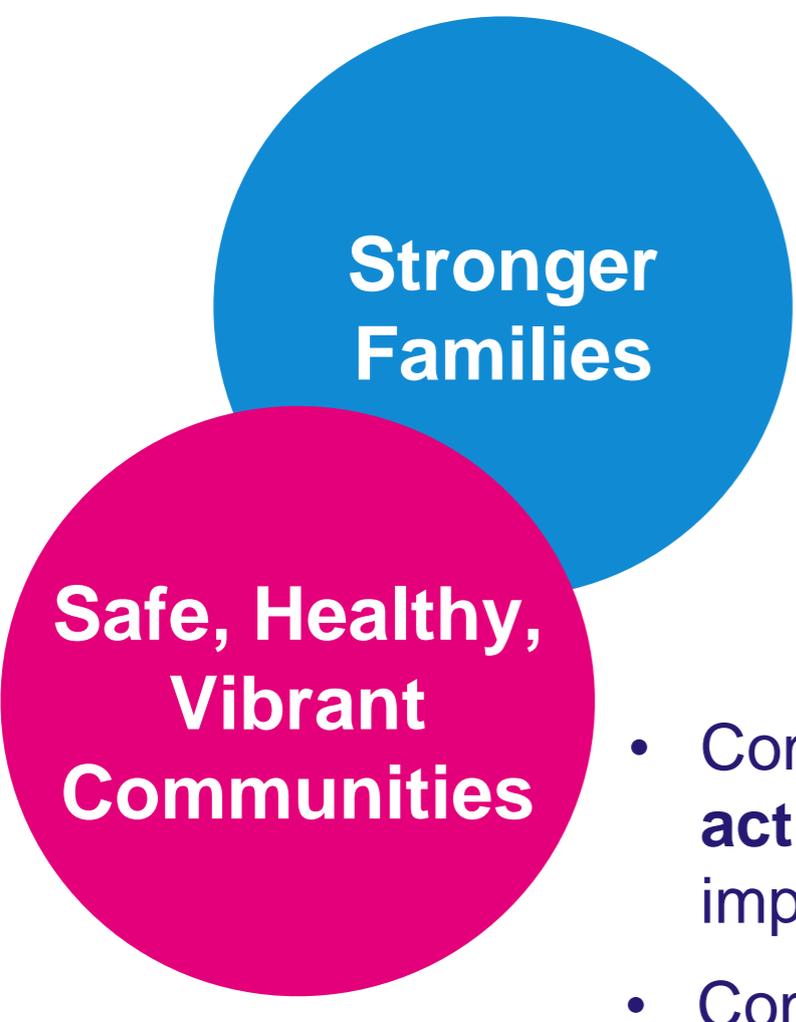
*Best
Start
Communities*



- First 5 LA has made a **five-year commitment** to *Best Start* in its **2015-2020 Strategic Plan**.
- Central to First 5 LA's work in *Best Start* communities is the engagement of parents, residents, local organizations and others to **support families, create social connections**, promote parent/caregiver participation in **community action**, improve **coordination of the systems** that serve them, and **enhance the environments** in which children live, learn, and play.

Building Stronger Families Framework (BSFF)

The BSFF is grounded in the Strengthening Families protective factors and is designed to achieve long-lasting change in six core results:



Stronger Families

**Safe, Healthy,
Vibrant
Communities**

- **Family capacities** – knowledgeable, resilient, and nurturing parents
 - **Social connections** – families participating in positive social networks
 - **Concrete supports** – access to services and supports in times of need
-
- Community members have a **shared vision and collective action** to improve the policies, services, and environments that impact families
 - Communities have **ECE- and health-related supports that meet family needs**
 - Communities have **physical places and spaces** that promote healthy living and encourage interaction

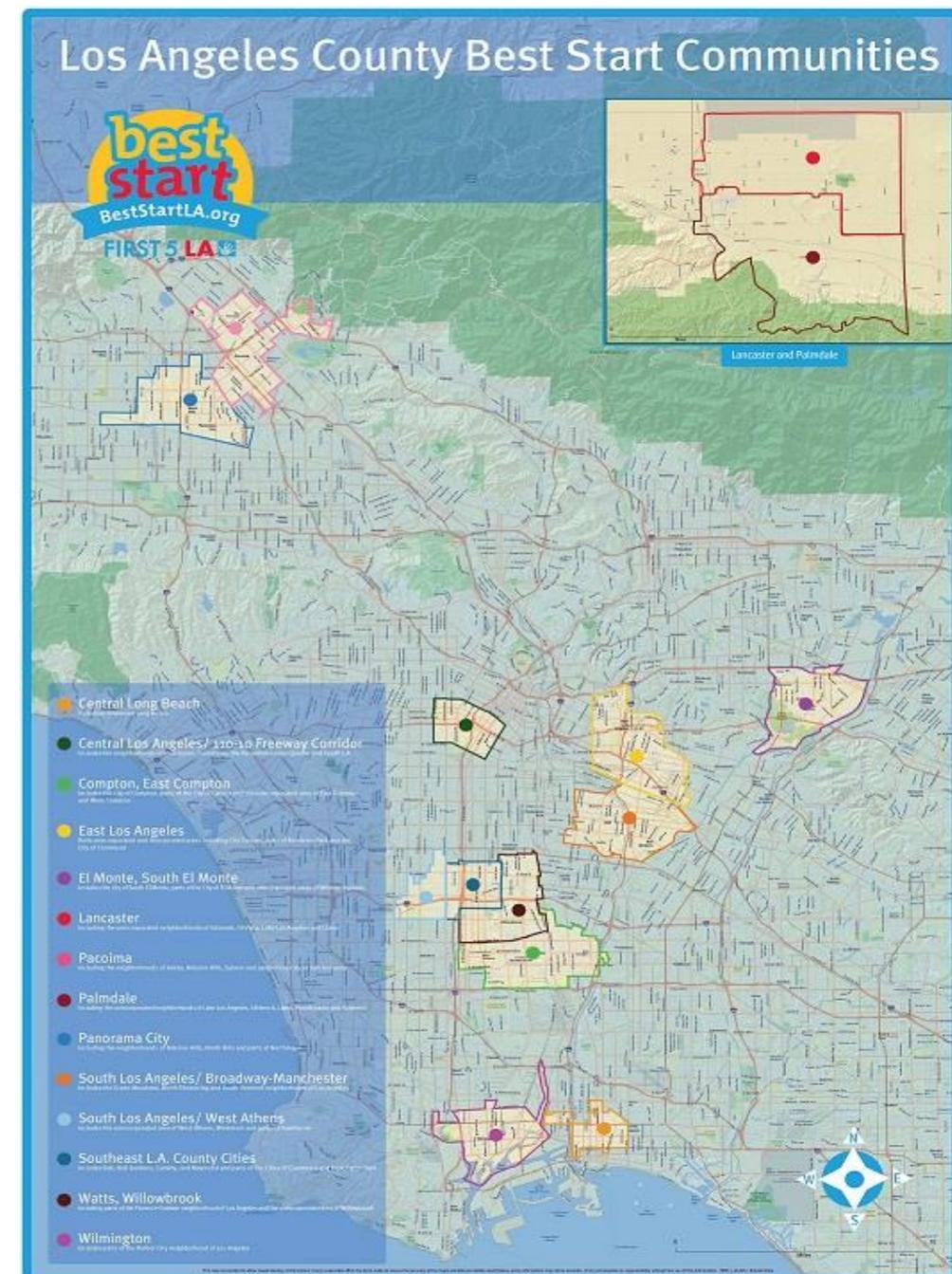
Place-based Strategies to Strengthen Families

- Support opportunities for cross-sector visioning and collective action via Community Partnerships
 - ✓ Parents/Caregivers
 - ✓ Residents
 - ✓ Organizations/Institutions
 - ✓ Civic Leaders
- Coordinate ECE and health-related services and supports to better meet the needs of families
- Support policy and advocacy opportunities to create new and/or improve existing public places and spaces to encourage social interaction between families

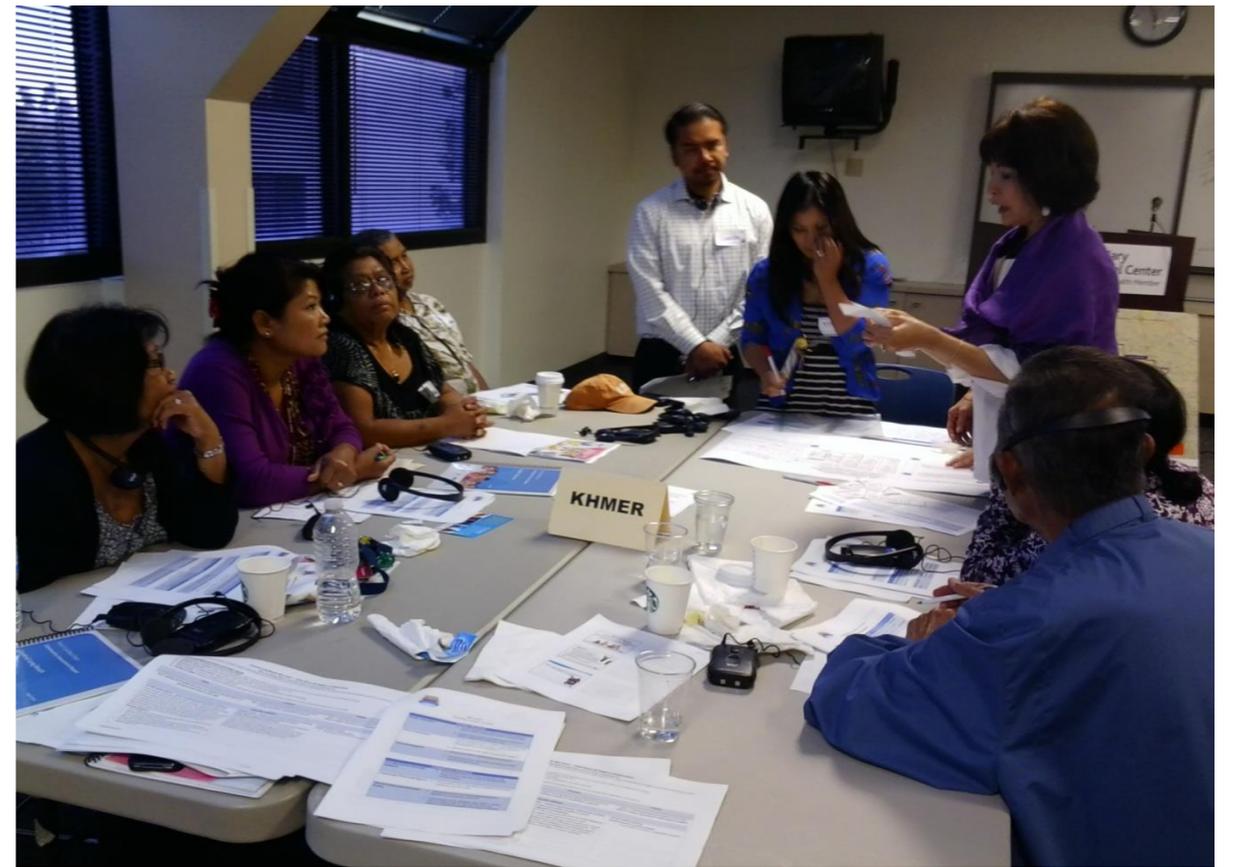
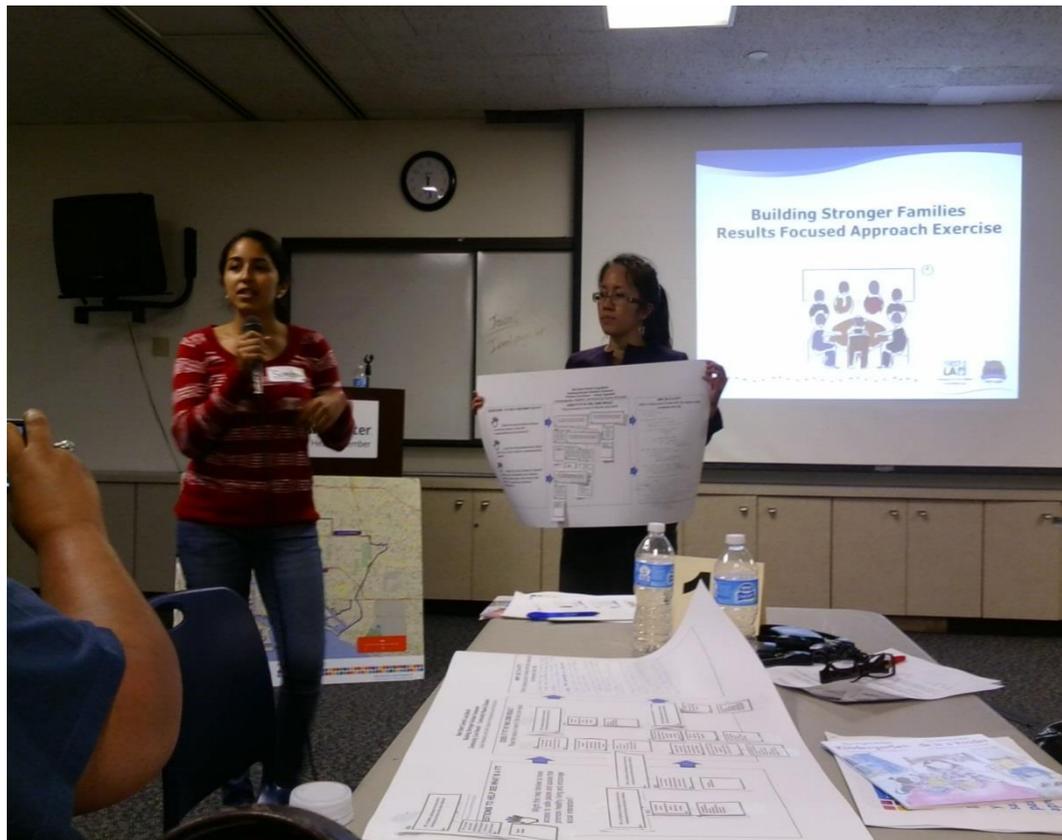
Best Start Communities

- Broadway-Manchester
- Central Long Beach
- Compton/East Compton
- East LA
- El Monte/South El Monte
- Lancaster
- Metro LA
- Northeast Valley (Pacoima)
- Palmdale
- Panorama City
- Southeast LA
- Watts-Willowbrook
- West Athens
- Wilmington

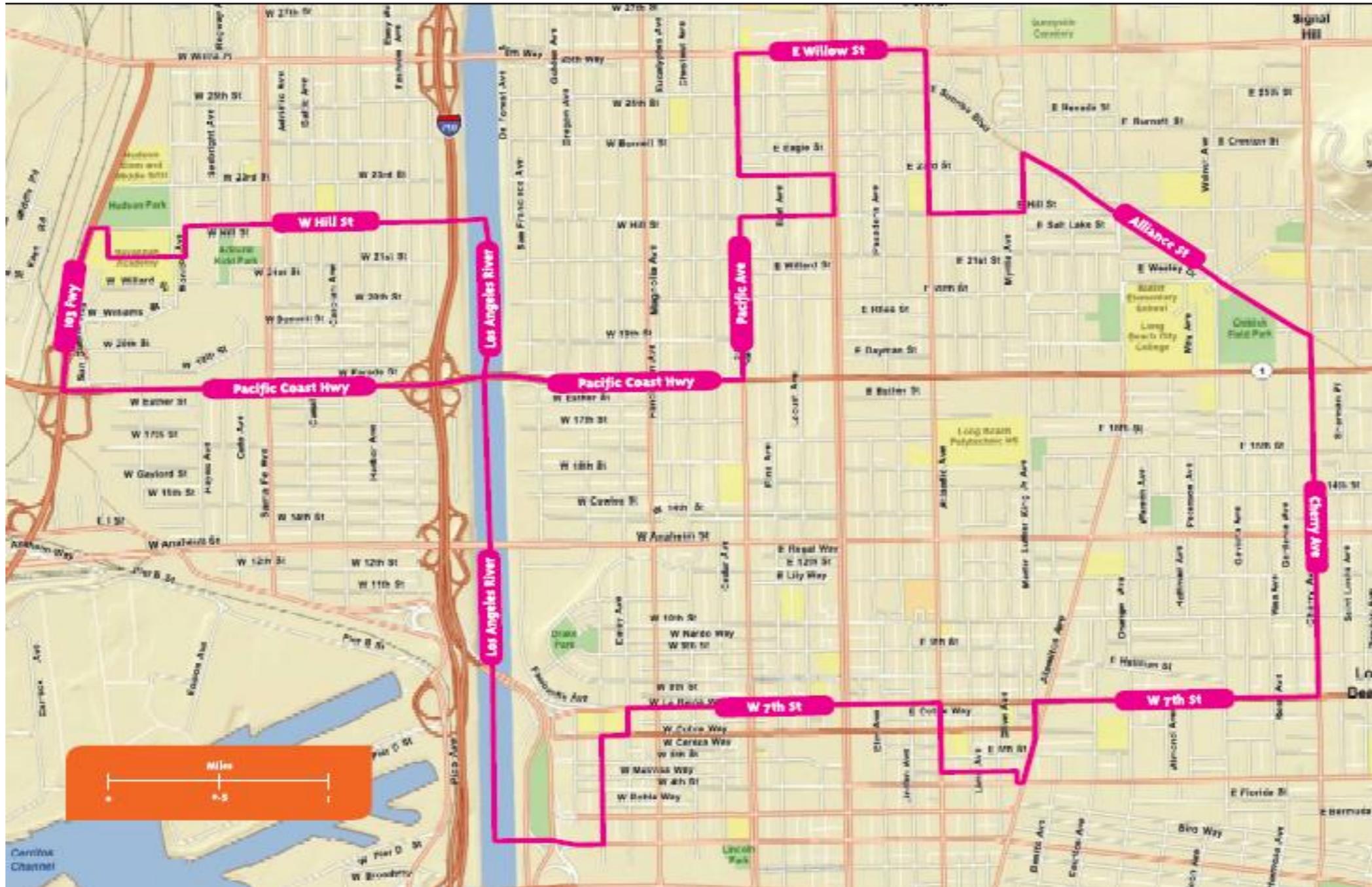
<http://beststartla.org/find-your-community>



Spotlight on Best Start Central Long Beach



Where is Central Long Beach?



Central Long Beach (CLB) Data

Demographics

- 86,486 residents
- 8,075 children under age 5
- 62% Latino/Hispanic
- 16% Asian & Pacific Islander
- 14% Black/African-American
- 7% Caucasian
- 2% Other



Child Abuse & Neglect

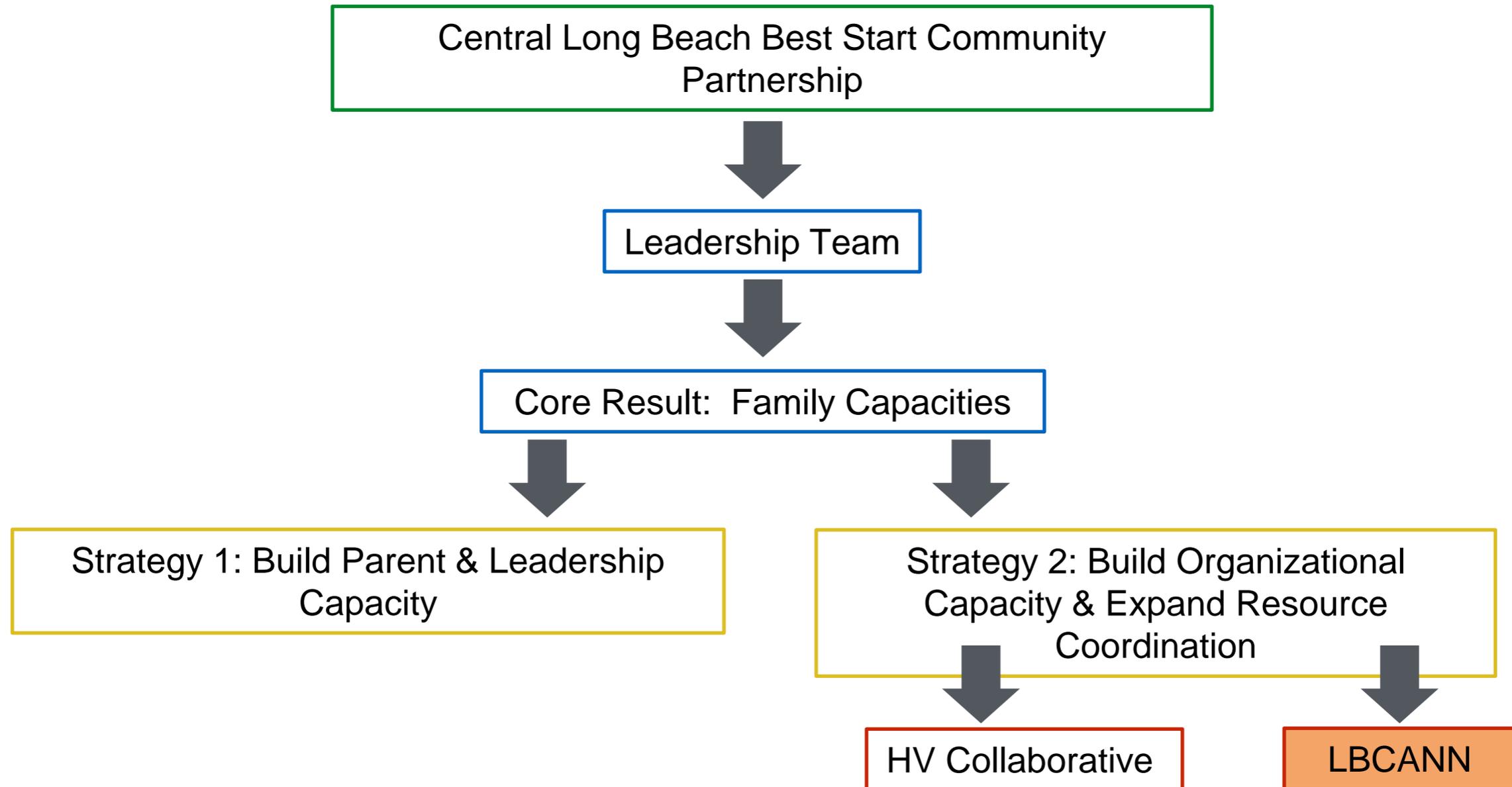
- Rate of substantiated child abuse & neglect cases was 25.3 per every 1,000 children 0-5, compared to 16.5 in the County
- 2,157 child abuse allegation referrals, 32% 0-4 year olds
- 41.5% of children in out-of-home placement are placed with relatives

CLB Community Partnership Vision Statement

Central Long Beach is a community where babies, children and their families are healthy and safe, with a passion for life and learning.



CLB Community Partnership



A Place-based Approach to Prevent Child Maltreatment

Long Beach Child Abuse & Neglect Network (LBCANN)

- Formed during early stages of Best Start in 2011/2012
- Is a collaborative, collective response to system-wide concerns
- Addresses abuse & neglect by taking a system-wide approach to improve delivery of service
- Aims to impact citywide policy concerning matters that impact young and vulnerable children and their families.

A Place-based Approach to Prevent Child Maltreatment

Long Beach Child Abuse & Neglect Network (LBCANN)

- Works across sectors and brings to the table non-traditional partners such as law enforcement
- Elevates the importance of prenatal to 5 issues among civic leaders
 - Example: Mobilized parents and service providers to work with the Long Beach City Council to pass a resolution to explicitly include families with children prenatal to 5 in citywide violence prevention efforts



LBCANN Members

- Parents & residents in CLB
- Legal Aid Foundation
- ChildNet Youth and Family Service
- For The Child
- Olivecrest
- LB Health Department
- St. Mary Medical Center
- LB Parks & Recreation
- Department of Children & Family Services
- Black Infant Health Program
- The Children's Clinic
- M&I Consulting
- Faith Based Leaders

LBCANN Current Activities

- Police department convenings
- Child Abuse Prevention Public Education Campaign
- Continued development of LBCANN formal structure
- Leveraging efforts of other existing groups focused on reducing violence to children

Contact

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Thank You!

Learn more at [First5LA.org](https://www.First5LA.org)

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Giving kids the best start