



2009 Youth and Family Master Plan Progress Report on Community-Wide Recommendations



Claremont Human Services



Claremont Unified School District



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PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is designed to measure the outcomes of the community-wide recommendations listed as immediate action steps in the Youth and Family Master Plan. Of the 76 recommendations detailed in the Plan, 29 were identified as immediate action steps that should be acted upon within six months of approving the Plan and establishing the Committee on Youth and Family to monitor its progress. The Committee on Youth and Family was jointly established by the Board of Education and Claremont City Council in November 2007 and convened its first meeting in January 2008.

This Progress Report was called out as an immediate action step in the Youth and Family Master Plan. Data to put this report together was gathered using existing input on file with the City of Claremont and Claremont Unified School District, articles published in community-wide newsletters, and through the use of a comprehensive survey sent to 97 community organizations.

Several new activities and programs occurred in Claremont that are not listed as immediate action steps during the first year of implementation. These achievements are key to addressing the goals of the Youth and Family Master Plan and are included as additional achievements under each goal.

The Committee on Youth and Family is proud to announce the following sampling of 2008-09 achievements that were initiated by various community partners to address the immediate community-wide recommendations detailed in the Plan:

GOAL 1: GET THE WHOLE COMMUNITY INVOLVED

IMMEDIATE

- Change the name of the Youth Master Plan to the Claremont Youth and Family Master Plan.

Achievement

- ✓ The Youth and Family Master Plan was approved at the joint City Council and Board of Education meeting on July 30, 2007.

- Encourage teachers, city officials, school officials, and police officers to attend school and community events unofficially in order to be engaged in community life.

Achievement

- ✓ City, police officers, and School District staff are encouraged to attend community events.

- Develop ongoing working committees to oversee the implementation of specific recommendations of the Youth and Family Master Plan.

Achievement

- ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family was established jointly by the City Council and Board of Education on November 5, 2007.

Additional Achievements

- ✓ The Claremont League of Women Voters provided voter registration at Claremont High School.
- ✓ The Chamber of Commerce formed a Workforce Development Committee to provide workshops, training, and interaction with Claremont businesses that may lead to youth employment.

GOAL 2: INCLUDE AND RECOGNIZE YOUTH

IMMEDIATE

- Enhance efforts to recognize youth beyond academics and sports.

Achievement

- ✓ The Youth and Family Services Division hosted its annual Youth Recognition Ceremony for youth volunteers that have contributed community service hours, provided leadership, demonstrated citizenship, and participated in both the Youth Activity Center (YAC) and Tracks Activity Center (TAC) programs and activities.
- ✓ The "Be Perfect" Foundation that aids in the rehabilitation and continued physical well-being of spinal cord injury victims was established by Hal Halbrook and his family.

- Enhance efforts to establish a community-wide policy that all committees, task groups, etc. should have youth representation, where appropriate.

Achievement

- ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family have two youth at large members who bring a youth voice to the issues, needs, and interests involving Claremont youth.



Claremont High School Cycling Club

GOAL 3: VALUE DIVERSITY

IMMEDIATE

- Address the existing preconceived notions about North and South Claremont and take steps to change impressions that may be keeping residents from interacting.

Achievement

- ✓ The Claremont Unified School District (CUSD) provided Character Counts curriculum at all elementary school. The Character Counts program assists youth in making the right choices.
- ✓ The Committee on Human Relations utilized a Department of Justice grant to provide two compassion plays that created dialogue on diversity and cultural sensitivity at the YAC for Claremont High School students.
- ✓ The City implemented various anti-bias youth groups at the YAC and TAC such as GURLS group, Teen Lead, The Brotherhood, and provided workshops that address diversity issues with youth.
- ✓ The Committee for Safe and Healthy Housing values diversity among Claremont residents. Their goal is to assure that residents in multi-family dwellings have safe and healthy homes.



Youth and Family Center
Annual BBQ Event

GOAL 4: PROVIDE GOOD INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

IMMEDIATE

- Partner with realtors and landlords to provide applicants with information on programs for families and youth.

Achievement

- ✓ The City of Claremont Mobile Recreation program provides recreational, enrichment, and educational activities in partnership with Claremont After School Program at the San Jose Park and Claremont Village Commons.
- ✓ The City hosted two holiday events to build community relations and promote services for over 350 Claremont residents at Claremont Village Apartments and San Jose Park.
- ✓ Claremont Village Commons Investments donated \$2,000 to support cultural arts activities on site.
- ✓ The Advocates for Safe and Affordable Housing completed a report on the needs of residents residing in affordable housing complexes and is working with the City to develop recommendations for property manager training.

GOAL 5: ENGAGE YOUTH IN MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES

IMMEDIATE

- Increase sponsorships and youth/family scholarships and provide information and applications about them widely in the community and on-line.

Achievement

- ✓ Shoes that Fit provided over 800 pairs of shoes, over 300 clothing items, and 40 backpacks to youth in the community to ensure kids are ready for school.
- ✓ Kid Care International provided over 160 backpacks filled with clothing, toys, hygiene kits, and school supplies to youth.
- ✓ Kid Care International provided 175 turkeys for Claremont families during Thanksgiving.
- ✓ The Claremont Museum of Art offered free Family Art Day at the Museum once a month and provided free art activities to over 500 children.
- ✓ The Claremont Museum of Art welcomed 7,772 visitors of different ages, genders, and ethnicities to the Museum.
- ✓ The new City of Claremont Tiny Tot program at Lewis Park provides a high quality affordable alternative to a full day licensed program.
- ✓ The City of Claremont Human Services Department fundraised \$12,000 to support the Family Emergency Fund program that assists families in Claremont with their basic needs in times of crisis.
- ✓ Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church provided Thanksgiving meals for people who had nowhere else to go.



Claremont Museum of Art offers
free Family Art Day

- Develop additional activities and outreach that broaden appeal of the Youth Activity Center (YAC).

Achievement

- ✓ The Human Services Department was awarded the Ruth Vreeland Helen Putnam Award by the California League of Cities for the work with the Teen Committee in advocating for a FREE teen transportation shuttle.
- ✓ The University of La Verne hosted three workshops for youth that focused on getting into college, college life, and with resume building.
- ✓ The LA Works Youth Employment program provided four student interns as Jr. Recreation Leaders that provided 320 hours of service at the City's YAC and TAC.
- ✓ Intergenerational activities at the City's Joslyn Senior Center and TAC were coordinated each Wednesday and included contests and other activities.
- ✓ City Teen programs utilized youth volunteers to staff the front counter and provide customer service at the YAC and TAC centers for a total of 748 hours.



Claremont Pomona College School of Theatre Arts workshops for community youth

- Continue to observe the policy established by the 1995 Youth Master Plan that treats all children enrolled in the Claremont Unified School District as Claremont youth in the provision of programs and services.

Achievement

- ✓ The City of Claremont and its partners provided scholarship access to Human Services Programs to all youth enrolled in the Claremont School District.
- ✓ The Claremont After School Program (CLASP) provides after-school homework assistance at four sites within Claremont Unified School District three days a week.

- The City should pursue enhanced youth sports fields/facilities such as the planned Padua Avenue Park, as well as adding sports field lighting to existing fields, where appropriate.

Achievement

- ✓ The Claremont City Council allocated \$2.4 million in funding to develop elements of Padua Avenue Park Phase 1 and Phase 1A and approved a sustainable park design.
- ✓ City Council approved a partnership with Claremont Little League to light field #2 at College Park with Little League contributing \$48,000 in funds and the City contributing up to \$50,000.
- ✓ City Council approved funding for the installation of lights at Wheeler Park softball field for the girl's softball fast pitch league.

Additional Achievements

- ✓ Pomona College's School of Theatre Arts provided an opportunity for community youth to experience a real theatre and college environment-studios, workshops, and the entire theatre facility.

GOAL 6: ENSURE THAT YOUTH HAVE ACCESS TO PHYSICAL HEALTH CARE

IMMEDIATE

- Promote healthy food choices and family friendly physical fitness throughout the community with a particular focus on programs that reduce childhood obesity.

Achievement

- ✓ The City of Claremont earned a Bicycle Friendly Community designation from the League of American Bicycles Organization.
- ✓ The City of Claremont Sycamore Canyon Park is being evaluated to re-open pending approval of grant funding to help restore the natural habitat as an open park space for families to utilize.
- ✓ The City of Claremont completed several park improvements this past year. They include improving play areas for youth in El Barrio Park, Higginbotham Park, and Chaparral Park.



Improved play area at Chaparral Park

- Develop formal protocols among local mental health service providers for cross agency referrals and inter-agency communication. This should include efforts to monitor the effectiveness of services with clients.

Achievement

- ✓ The Mental Health Collaborative meets throughout the year and established a community and school based counseling program utilizing the University of La Verne interns and provided cross referrals within the community.
- ✓ Tri-City Mental Health Services emerged from bankruptcy and secured their MediCal contract to provide mental health services to qualified individuals and families and is carrying out the Mental Health Service Act Delegation to develop, fund, and oversee a system of care.

GOAL 7: ENSURE THAT YOUTH HAVE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE

IMMEDIATE

- Develop additional services to deal with bullying and mental health issues at all public schools and city programs. This should include additional staff training and additional support programs for youth who are the victims of harassment. A particular focus should be included that addresses harassment for perceived sexual orientation and other diversity issues. Services should be made available to non-profits and faith-based groups.

Achievement

- ✓ David and Margaret offers Alcohol, Drug and Anger Management (ADAM) classes to Claremont youth.
- ✓ The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) is a multi-agency non-profit group that works closely with Claremont Police, district attorney's office, DCFS, medical professionals, and mental health professionals in Claremont to provide services for youth victims.

- ✓ The City's partnership with the University of La Verne provided free counseling and family services to 48 underserved individuals at various community locations.
- ✓ University of La Verne is offering a pilot Anti-Bullying program at Mt. View School in partnership with CUSD.
- ✓ Various non-profit organizations provided health awareness classes addressing issues of SDT and SDI prevention and protection, self defense for girls, healthy dating, teen dating violence prevention, nutrition and hygiene workshops at the City's youth centers.
- ✓ National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) provided a 24-hour crisis hotline for mental health resources and referrals to all community members.
- ✓ The L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center Family Services Program is designed to support the needs of prospective and existing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents and their children by coordinating a broad range of recreational activities, public forums, educational venues, workshops, and support groups.
- Identify and publicize mental health education for parents of youth with emotional, behavioral, and mental health problems.
 - ✓ The National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) provided family to family classes educating family members on mental health issues and provided care and share meetings on a monthly basis to support families.
- Expand stress and time management classes for youth. The School District, City, and community organizations should collaborate on this effort.
 - ✓ The Claremont Wellness Professionals provide specialized services to children and adults in areas such as autism, ADD, ADHD, and many physical and mental conditions.
 - ✓ Claremont Elizabeth's Art Studio provides Expressive Arts consultations to adults and children who have been under stress.
 - ✓ The Inland Hospice Association provides programs to assist children, youth, and their families to deal with grieving issues.
- Develop and keep updated a youth-friendly resource guide on mental health resources, perhaps developed with the Claremont Mental Health Collaborative.
 - ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family developed a communitywide resource and referral website ClaremontConnect.com to provide 24/7 resource and referral information.
 - ✓ The CUSD developed and distributed Teen Guide 2 Local Resources which lists hotlines that assist teens with issues such as: suicide prevention, domestic violence, sexual abuse, child abuse, substance abuse, smoking, alcohol abuse, safety issues and crisis.
- Develop a strategy to address teen suicide. This should include partners such as the School District, the City, the Police Department, the Mental Health Collaborative, Los Angeles County Mental Health Department, the Claremont Colleges, the University of La Verne and others to develop a teen-focused suicide prevention education program and an incident response plan.
 - ✓ 3,000 El Roble and Claremont High School students participated in the suicide prevention Yellow Ribbon Campaign.

GOAL 8: PROVIDE A SAFE, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

IMMEDIATE

- The Police Department should continue to expand its community policing initiatives with additional positive, informal police interactions with youth (movies, bbqs, etc).

Achievement

- ✓ Over 3,000 residents enjoyed the Claremont Police Department's Summer Movies and BBQ's in the Park series which provided an opportunity for residents to sign up for e-watch, learn more about services, and interact with officers.
- ✓ Claremont police officers partnered with Human Services to hand out holiday gifts at the 4th annual neighborhood holiday event at San Jose Park and Claremont Village Commons.

Additional Achievements

- ✓ The City of Claremont created a staff level "Green Team" to implement the goals of the sustainable City plan and appointed a sustainable Committee for Citizen Oversight.
- ✓ Claremont Police Department implemented CodeRED high speed telephone communication system.
- ✓ The Police Department is finalizing a contract to provide an all-hazards critical incident management software system at all CUSD schools. The system will enhance the ability of law enforcement and school personnel to respond to critical incidents on school campuses. Federal grant funds are financing the project.
- ✓ The City made efficiency upgrades to City facilities that will conserve water and electricity and result in an estimated \$35,000 in annual savings to the City budget.

GOAL 9: SUPPORT FAMILIES AND EDUCATE ADULTS WHO DEAL WITH YOUTH

IMMEDIATE

- Continue and expand inter-agency meetings sponsored by the Youth & Family Support Center, such as the Mental Health Collaborative. Provide free or low cost training for local agencies and staff who work with youth.

Achievement

- ✓ CUSD provided 40 Developmental Asset staff trainings to three school sites.
- ✓ Adult Education classes offered various types of educational, self-help, enrichment, recreational classes for youth and adults.
- ✓ The City of Claremont offered parent Coffee Break and Parent Empowerment Classes to parents to assist them with family needs, parenting, and how to locate resource and referrals for services.
- ✓ The County of Los Angeles Service Planning Area 3 (SPA3) provided various programs for teens, adults, and families in areas such as: substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, parenting workshops, teen hygiene workshops, teen dating workshops, and financial assistance workshops.
- ✓ Pacific Lifeline assisted residents in preventing chronic homelessness by empowering women in crisis to rebuild their lives and regain financial independence.



Coffee Break and Parent Empowerment Classes

GOAL 10: COORDINATE EFFORTS TO REACH THESE GOALS

IMMEDIATE

- The City and School District, working with community collaboratives, should identify and pursue grant opportunities to provide sustainable funding for ALL recommendations.

Achievement

- ✓ The Claremont Community Foundation distributed more than \$85,000 to organizations in Claremont to build play equipment at local parks, enhance the Claremont pooch park, support local art shows and receptions, and provided grants for CLASP after school programming, and Claremont High School Art Department exhibit equipment.
- ✓ The City of Claremont Human Services Department solicited and received \$177,000 in funds to offset costs for its community programs and services.
- ✓ The Claremont Sunrise Rotary hosted a community 5K Turkey Trot fundraiser to assist community organizations with their needs. \$7,000 will be provided to youth sports non-profit organizations to assist them with children's registrations, equipment, uniforms, and sports needs.
- ✓ The City of Claremont Human Services Department provided Community Based funding to non-profit service providers in Claremont that provide services to families in the community that address the goals of the Youth and Family Master Plan.
- Encourage the City and School District to continue funding successful programs/program models currently receiving financial support through these public agencies.

Achievement

- ✓ City staff and community members raised over \$12,000 in funding for the Family Emergency Fund to assist Claremont families who need one-time assistance with paying bills such as rent, utilities, and medical expenses during a time of family crisis.
- ✓ The City of Claremont released applications for the first annual Homeless Funding Program to local non-profits that serve homeless populations.

- Develop an annual or biennial Service Provider Summit in order to review coordination of programs and services, and to look for overlaps and gaps in services.

Achievement

- ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family provided a summit committee to gather information from community service providers.

- The City Council should establish a Youth and Family Master Plan as a standing community committee of the Human Services Commission and charge it with monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, publicizing the Y&FMP, making an annual report to the Council and Board of Education, and coordinating the annual Report Card.

Achievement

- ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family will present the 2008-09 Progress Report to the City Council and Claremont Board of Education on the Youth and Family Master Plan action plan accomplishments for 2008 at their March 2009 joint meeting.

- The City Council and Board of Education should endorse the Youth and Family Master Plan and encourage other community organizations to endorse it also.

Achievement

- ✓ The Claremont City Council and Claremont School Board endorsed the Youth and Family Master Plan on July 30, 2007.

- The City and the School District should recommit themselves to their long-standing history of nationally recognized collaboration in areas of communication, joint programming, joint trainings, joint funding of projects/programs, and program innovation.

Achievement

- ✓ The City of Claremont and Claremont Unified School District jointly funded the school district Resource Officer, Community Outreach Coordinators, jointly staff the various Committees, and provide shared use of facilities such as Taylor Hall for Claremont High School Dance Team, Cahuilla Park for girls softball, Joslyn and Alexander Hughes Community Centers for adult education classes, El Roble pool for the learn to swim program, and various City and School athletic fields for youth sports organizations in the community.
- ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family, Claremont Unified School District and the City of Claremont collaborated to fund an online resource and referral website ClaremontConnect.com, which provides easy access to needed information for families.

- The City and School District should use the recommendations in the Y&FMP to guide decisions related to funding in their annual budgets. Public funding should be aligned with the Goals of the Y&FMP.

Achievement

- ✓ The City of Claremont successfully transitioned the Kid's Club After School Program to the Claremont Unified School District in fall of 2008.
- ✓ The Claremont Unified School District includes the goals of the Youth and Family Master Plan on agenda reports when considering action items.
- ✓ The Claremont Economy Shop provides financial and other assistance to Claremont families in need.

GOAL 11: PROVIDE DETAILED ANNUAL REPORT AND REGULARLY UPDATE THE YOUTH AND FAMILY MASTER PLAN

IMMEDIATE

- The City Council and Board of Education should convene in an annual joint public session to receive a formal update on progress in implementing the recommendations of the Youth and Family Master Plan. The community along with Y&FMP stakeholders should be invited to attend.
 - ✓ The City Council and Board of Education will host a joint meeting on May 11, 2009 to receive a formal update on the Plan's progress.

- An annual Y&FMP Report Card should be published and shared with the City Council, Board of Education, and community at large.

- ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family will provide an annual Progress Report to the City Council and Board of Education.

- Appropriate staff from the City and School District, and knowledgeable community representatives, should be charged with making presentations to community organizations on a regular basis about the status of the Y&FMP.

Achievement

- ✓ The Committee on Youth and Family Chair makes presentations to various community organizations and service providers.
- ✓ The Youth and Family Master Plan is included in the National League of Cities Tool Kit as a model plan for others to learn from in the nation.
- ✓ The City of Claremont hosted a presentation for the California Parks and Recreation Society on the Master Plan for various cities and school districts interested in developing similar plans for their agencies.

Additional Achievements

- ✓ The Claremont Unified School District completed the California Healthy Kids Survey which measures youth risk behavior and resiliency.

The following non-profit agencies, faith based communities, service clubs, sports organizations, City Departments, and School District organizations and departments assisted with the completion of this 2008 – 2009 Youth and Family Master Plan Progress Report:

Baldy View Regional Occupational Center	Claremont Museum of Art	Elizabeth's Art Studio
City of Claremont Community Development Department	Claremont School of Theatre Arts	House of Ruth
City of Claremont Community Services Department	Claremont Sunrise Rotary	Inland Hospice Association
City of Claremont Human Services Department	Claremont United Church of Christ	L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center
City of Claremont Police Department	Claremont Unified School District Board of Education	League of Womens Voters
Claremont After School Program	Claremont Unified School District Child Development Program	National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI)
Claremont Chamber of Commerce	Claremont Unified School District Directors and Principals	Our Lady of Assumption Church
Claremont Community Foundation	Claremont Unified School District Parent and Faculty Association	Pacific Lifeline <i>(women's homeless shelter)</i>
Claremont Educational Foundation	Committee for Safe and Healthy Housing	Shoes That Fit
Claremont High School ROP	David and Margaret Home	Tri-City Mental Health Center
Claremont Interfaith Council	The Economy Shop	Uncommon Good
		Yellow Ribbon Campaign



City Council Members

Ellen Taylor <i>Mayor</i>	Sam Pedroza <i>Council Member</i>
Corey Calaycay <i>Mayor Pro Tem</i>	Peter Yao <i>Council Member</i>
Linda Elderkin <i>Council Member</i>	

Board of Education Members

Mary Caenepeel <i>President</i>	Hilary La Conte <i>Vice President</i>	Beth Bingham <i>Board Member</i>
	Jeanne Hamilton PhD <i>Board Member</i>	Steven Llanusa <i>Board Member</i>



Committee on Youth and Family

	Butch Henderson <i>Chair</i>		
Beth Bingham <i>Member</i>	John Costa <i>Member</i>	Andrew Mowbray <i>Member</i>	Ellen Taylor <i>Member</i>
Mel Boynton <i>Member</i>	Cindy Duque <i>Member</i>	George Mullinix <i>Member</i>	Laurel Wilkie <i>Member</i>
Bonnie Busenberg <i>Member</i>	Mauryce Feingold <i>Member</i>	Randy Prout <i>Member</i>	Rita Wodinsky <i>Member</i>

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