

SHIELDS
for families



believing, building, becoming

SHIELDS for Families

is a non-profit community-based organization dedicated to developing, delivering, and evaluating culturally sensitive, comprehensive service models that empower and advocate for high-risk families in South Los Angeles for over 25 years.

SHIELDS WAS INCORPORATED

in 1991 in response to the high incidence of infants born prenatally exposed to drugs at Martin Luther King Hospital in South Central Los Angeles.

SHIELDS BEGAN

providing services to this unique population and has since grown to provide over 38 comprehensive, family-centered, wrap-around programs addressing issues facing high-risk families in South LA.

SHIELDS IS KNOWN

for our award-winning programs. Through more than 38 different programs, our services reach more than 10,000 children and parents every year. These programs encompass the full spectrum of human needs—from basic needs, like shelter, housing and transportation, to substance abuse treatment to child protective services. Our services offer children & families the chance to succeed—or children to excel in school, for families to break the cycle of poverty.

WE BELIEVE

that with education, access to appropriate services and caring guidance, families can rebuild their lives and become productive members of the community, nurturing parents and achieve all of their dreams.



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Healthy Start Program

Improve. Promote. Strengthen. Achieve.

Healthy Start is a maternal and child health program located in 100 high-risk communities that have infant mortality rates at least 1.5 times the U.S. national average. Funded by the Federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Healthy Start works to reduce the disparity in health between the general population and individuals who are members of racial or ethnic minority groups.

The **Healthy Start** Program works to reduce infant morbidity and mortality and improve birth outcomes for pregnant women, mothers with children from 0-18 months, and fathers who reside in South Los Angeles.

Services Include:

- ◆ Resource Navigation
- ◆ Case Management
- ◆ Mental Health Services
- ◆ Child Development Services
- ◆ Parenting Education
- ◆ Health Education
- ◆ Enrollment in Health Insurance
- ◆ Support Groups
- ◆ Linkage and Referral to:
 - ◆ Substance Use Disorder Treatment
 - ◆ Educational and Vocational Job Services
 - ◆ Legal Services
 - ◆ Housing, Food, Clothing, and Transportation

Community Partnerships

SHIELDS' **Healthy Start** Program works in collaboration with the Community Action Network (CAN) composed of:

- ◆ Neighborhood Residents
- ◆ Consumers
- ◆ Medical Providers
- ◆ Social Service Agencies
- ◆ Faith-based Representatives
- ◆ Business Communities



Healthy Start Program

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