



REIMAGINING OUR MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM TO ACHIEVE EQUITY AND HEALING FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

California's Children are in a Mental Health Crisis:



Increase in inpatient visits for **suicide, suicidal ideation and self injury** for children ages 1-17 years old, and 151% increase for children ages 10-14



Increase in mental health **hospital days** for children between 2006 and 2014



Increase in the rate of **self-reported mental health needs** since 2005



California ranks **low in the country** for providing behavioral, social and development screenings that are key to identifying early signs of challenges

Everyone pays a price, and we have a fiscal and moral imperative to address the crisis:



\$11.6 billion was **spent on hospital visits** for mental health between 2006 and 2011



37% of students with **mental illness age 14 and older, dropout of school**—the highest dropout rate of any disability group



Mental health and substance use disorders are the leading causes of disease burden in the U.S.

We have a Once-In-A-Generation Opportunity to Make the System Work for Children.

California Children's Trust is Driving This Reform with a focus on Equity + Justice.

The price is higher for black and brown children, they receive the wrong services at the wrong time:



81% of children on medicaid are **black or brown**.



The **suicide rate for black children**, aged 5-12 is 2x that of their white peers.



70% of youth in **California's juvenile justice system** have **unmet behavioral health needs**, and youth of color are over-represented in the system.

The California Children's Trust is a coalition-supported initiative to reinvent how California defines, finances, administers and delivers children's mental health supports and services. Equity + Justice is at the center of our beliefs, our actions, and our strategy for change.

The Trust is Tackling Four Key Challenges to Reinvent Children's Mental Health

1

Root Causes

62% of adults have experienced at least one ACE.

1 in 2 children live in poverty

70% of children born into poverty never get out

2

The Access Gap

Over 50% of California's children are covered by Medi-Cal and EPSDT entitlement

The access rate is down to 5%

3

A Broken Model

California has fewer than 2,000 child and adolescent psychiatrists to serve more than 9 million children in the state.

Diagnosis-driven models are only appropriate for 4-7% of children with mental health issues

4

Fragmented Child-Serving Systems

Too many children fall through the cracks until there is a crisis

20% increase in crisis services utilization since 2011

THE TRUST'S FRAMEWORK FOR SOLUTIONS

Three Strategic Priorities. Centered on Equity + Justice

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:



Help us make mental health services work for children and youth:

- Support statewide advocacy efforts
- Read and share our policy briefs
- Join our coalition
- Become a champion for our vision

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