



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2018

MISSION NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS, INC.
CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION
HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START GRANTEE

MNC delivers culturally sensitive, multi-generational, community-based services focused on low-income families. We develop and promote leadership skills that empower families to build strong, healthy and vibrant neighborhoods

*Respect, Integrity, Inclusion, Compassion,
Empowerment!*

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Executive Summary

San Francisco is an urban city with a population close to 900,000 people. The “City by the Bay” is quickly growing as people continue to move here to work in and take advantage of the thriving technology sector. The demographics have shifted over the last few years, from primarily working-class individuals and families to those earning a median wage of \$87,000. 10.2% of San Francisco’s population live in poverty. African American San Franciscans experience poverty at three times the average rate. 13% of the Latinx population experience poverty; approximately twice the average rate. There are 6,708 families below poverty with children.

City streets are congested with traffic and homeless tent cities have grown in number, as has the average amount of rent people must pay – over \$4,000 for a two bedroom apartment. The greatest need of families and children in San Francisco is lack of affordable housing and childcare. The greatest unmet need regarding childcare is for infants and toddlers who face longer waitlists for fewer numbers of slots, as compared to available preschool slots. A family of four can spend upwards of two-thirds of their monthly income on housing and childcare alone. While there are resources available to assist families in need, it can be difficult for families to navigate a complex system of care centers. This problem is exacerbated by long waitlists, language and education barriers, immigration fears due to the political climate, and varied health needs. A coordinated system of approach is needed amongst City departments and non-profit agencies in order to deliver consistent, quality, and compulsory services to those in the greatest need.

Introduction

Mission Neighborhood Centers, Inc. (MNC) a non-profit agency in San Francisco has been providing comprehensive, wrap around, and safety-net services to children, youth, families, and senior citizens since 1959. For over 40 years, MNC has provided child development/preschool services and currently serve over 400 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers through ten child development sites. A variety of preschool options are available, including part-day Head Start, full-day Head Start/Early Head Start/State Preschool, Early Head Start Home Base, and full-day tuition-based (private pay). Most of our children and families are Latinx/immigrant, however we are serving a growing number of African American and Asian/Pacific Islander families.

MNC's Children Services Division philosophy is to provide nurturing early childhood learning environments that truly reflect the values, language and cultural identity of the children served. Teachers intentionally promote and support dual language learning (Spanish and English) and actively engage children in age-appropriate, stimulating experiences to bring about optimal learning for all children to grow to their fullest potential.

MNC's goal is to successfully meet the increasing need for high-quality birth to 5 learning and development programs that help children achieve school readiness and assist families on their paths of strength and resilience.



Methodology

This community needs assessment is a culmination of three months of planning, meetings, and research of various forms. Primary and secondary data mining and research was conducted to gather the data and statistics used in much of this assessment. Parents, staff, and professionals from the community also gave their input through a series of surveys, focus groups, meetings, and document reviews.

Parent surveys, in English and Spanish, were developed using Survey Monkey and sent to all current Head Start/Early Head Start parents via the text message function using ChildPlus software. 64 parents responded to the survey with a 100% survey completion rate. The data was analyzed using the Survey Monkey analytics tool. Surveys in English and Spanish were also developed and emailed to all Head Start staff. They were asked to complete the online survey, however if they were not able to do so, they could complete and submit paper copies of the survey. Thirty-six staff completed the survey with a 70% survey completion rate. Both surveys were open for responses for two weeks.

Two focus groups with parents were conducted to get more in-depth information, thoughts, and perspectives from current Head Start/Early Head Start parents. The first focus group was held on September 27. Nine parents were in attendance; all of whom were Parent Policy Council members. The second group was held on October 3 and also had nine parents attend. Both groups were held in Spanish and facilitated by an independent facilitator who is a professional community developer and advocate.

Program managers and directors from San Francisco's three Grantee agencies, collaborated on a City-wide Thought Partner Focus Group to increase efficiencies in the community partner data collection process. The Thought Partner Focus Group was held on September 25. Forty-eight people were in attendance, including staff of all the grantee agencies. Thought Partner agencies in attendance were a part of non-profit, corporate, and government sectors, including our local Office of Early Care and Education. See *Appendix A* for the listing of participating agencies.

After all the groups were held and surveys analyzed, correlations were determined. The format of this assessment was decided and utilized the suggested outline from the Office of Head Start. While this assessment is inclusive of San Francisco in its entirety, aspects of this report will focus on those neighborhoods in which MNC serves, which includes the Mission, Excelsior, Mission Bay, and Bayview-Hunter's Point.

Proposed Service Area

San Francisco is an urban city and county located in Northern California. It's bound by the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay. San Francisco's governance structure is Mayor-Council (Board of Supervisors). The Board of Supervisors, each representing a geographic district within the city establishes city policies and adopts ordinances and resolutions. The Mayor operates in an Executive capacity, proposing budgets and policies, and overseeing city services.

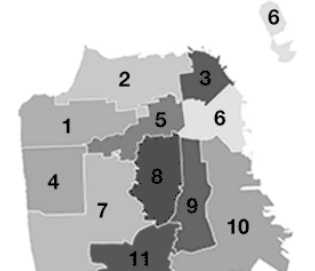


Table 1 Our centers are dispersed among five Supervisorial districts

Center	Neighborhood	Supervisorial District/Rep	Mayor	Congressional District/Rep	Senate Rep
➤ Mission Bay	Mission Bay 94107	Jane Kim, 6	London Breed	Nancy Pelosi, District 12	Kamala Harris Dianne Feinstein
➤ Stevenson	Mission 94103				
➤ Valencia Gardens	Mission 94110	Rafael Mandelman, 8			
➤ Women's Building					
➤ Alemany	Mission 94110	Hillary Ronen, 9			
➤ Bernal Dwellings					
➤ Capp Center					
➤ Centro de Alegria					
➤ Southeast Families United Child Development Center	Bayview-Hunter's Point 94124	Malia Cohen, 10			
➤ Jean Jacobs	Excelsior 94112	Asha Safai, 11			

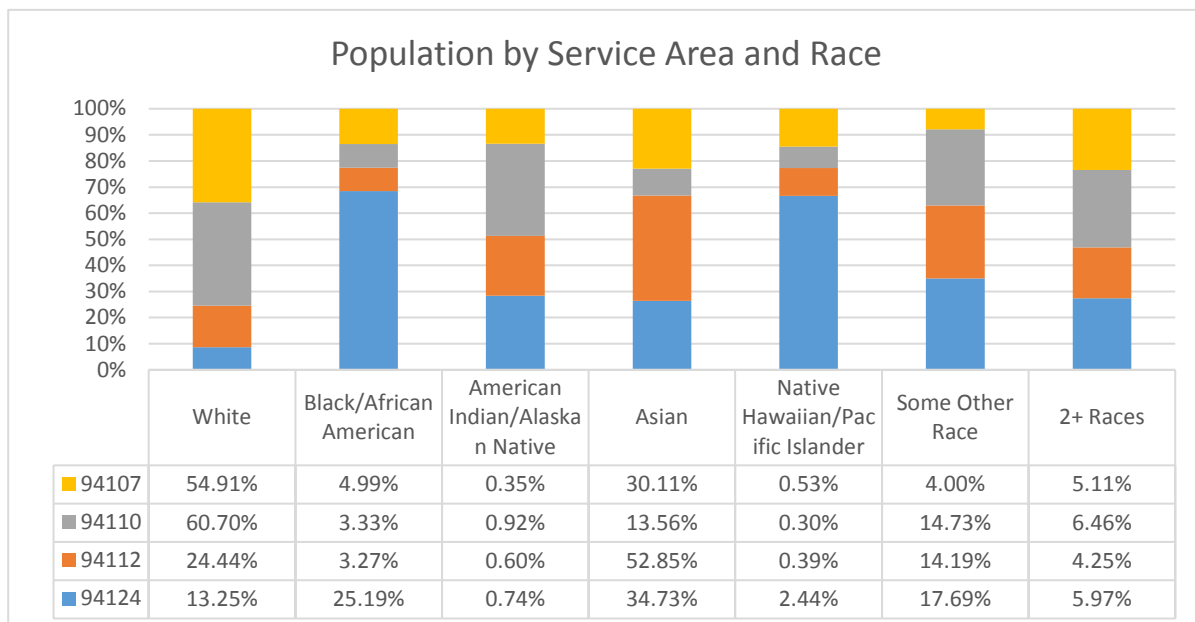
Many will extol San Francisco's fog laced hills, historic Fisherman's Wharf, and world-renowned Golden Gate Bridge as what distinguishes this world-class city from its peers. However, San Francisco's socio-economic polar dynamics and stark contrast between the rich and the poor has drastically changed the San Franciscan landscape. Affectionately known as "The City", San Francisco, the heart of the Bay Area, has transformed into a hub for international technological innovation, yet has one of the highest concentrations of homelessness ranking 7th, in the United States.¹ Homeless encampments or "Tent Cities" line the streets

¹ <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/10-us-cities-with-the-largest-homeless-populations.html>

of San Francisco, creating public health and wellness problems for people living in these encampments and those in surrounding neighborhoods.

Within only 46.87 square miles, live 884,463 people. 49% of this population are female, 54% of the population is 18-64 year’s old, and 4.6% of its population is 0-5. From 2012 – 2016 there were 356,797 households in San Francisco and 2.33 persons per household. 44% of people spoke a language other than English at home.² According to population estimates published in 2017, there were 69.7% of the population in the civilian labor force and over 60% of this labor force was female. The racial and ethnic composition of San Francisco remains diverse, although the majority population is increasingly White (see table below). Asian and Hispanic/Latinx identifying populations are increasing in the city, while Black/African American populations continue to decrease.³ Over 60,000 children in San Francisco have one or more immigrant parents.⁴

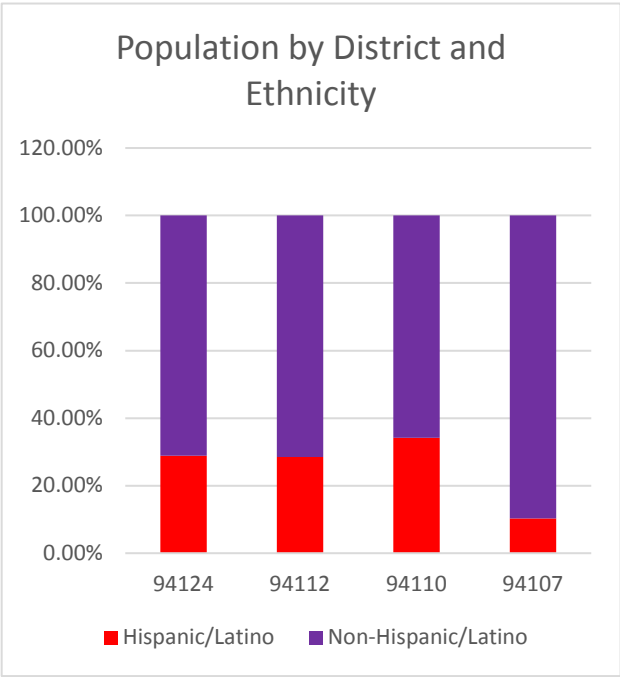
White alone	53.1%
Black or African American alone	5.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	0.7%
Asian alone	35.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.4%
Two or More Races	4.3%
Hispanic or Latinx	15.2%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latinx	40.5%



² United States Census Bureau, Quick Facts, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sanfranciscocitycalifornia/PST045217>

³ Ibid.

⁴ www.childrennow.org



The recent release of the FY 2018 Income Limits from the Housing and Urban Development Agency shows that a family of four living in San Francisco, Marin, or San Mateo counties making a wage of \$117,400 is now “low income”. A family of four with a wage of \$44,000 is now considered to be “extremely low income”.⁵ The San Francisco median household income, according to 2017 census estimates is \$87,701 which equates to \$55,567 per capita.⁶ The minimum wage in San Francisco is now \$15. At that rate, a full-time employee would earn \$31,200. Full-time minimum wage earnings exceed 130% of the federal poverty level for a family of three (\$20,780), making that family ineligible for Head Start subsidies.

Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity County: San Francisco

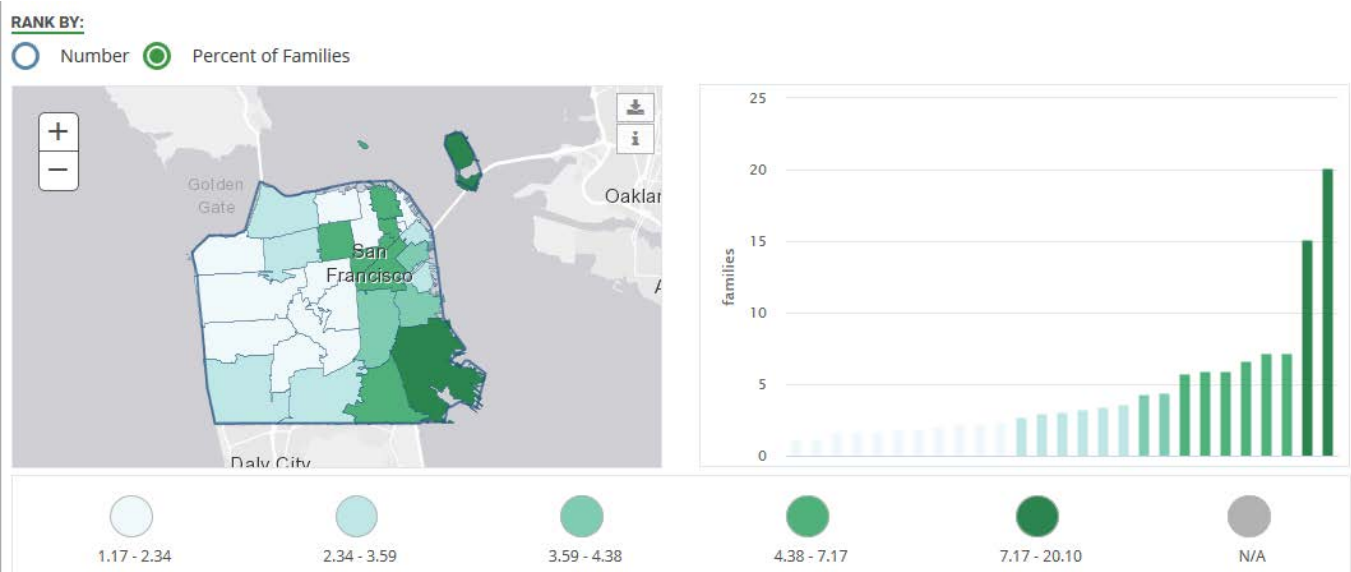


⁵ FY 2018 Income Limits Documentation System, <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2018/2018summary.odn>

⁶ United States Census Bureau, Quick Facts, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sanfranciscocitycalifornia/PST045217>

As a result of the ever-increasing housing and wage disparity, many middle-income families have been forced to leave the City, leaving behind the very rich and very poor. This is seen in the City’s Latinx population, where, according to the Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA) an estimated 8,000 Latinx people have left the Mission District in the last decade for other parts of the city and Bay Area. The City’s African American population has been in steady decline for the last two decades. This population has declined from 99,000 in the year 2000 to 59,394 in 2018 and has left for other parts of the Bay Area or out of state.⁷ Future trends data indicate that this outmigration will continue amongst the city’s African American population.

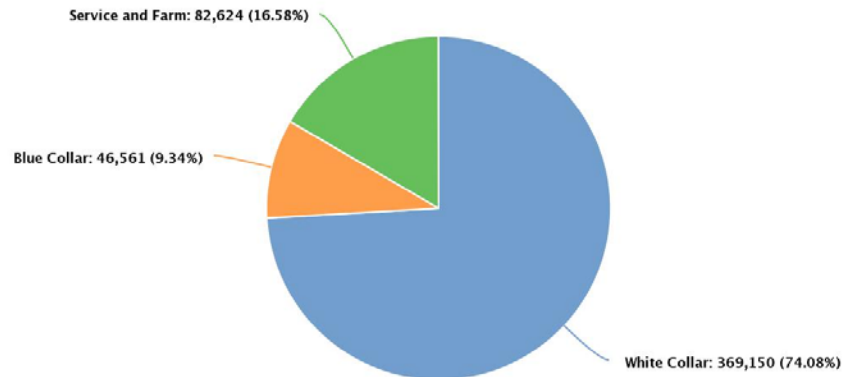
10.2% of San Francisco’s population live in poverty.⁸ There are 6,708 families below poverty with children.⁹ The map below shows the number of children under the age of 18 who are living below the federal poverty level. Compared to their peers, children in poverty are more likely to have physical health problems like low birth weight or lead poisoning and are more likely to have behavioral and emotional problems. Children in poverty also tend to exhibit cognitive difficulties, as shown in achievement test scores, and are less likely to complete basic education.¹⁰ The Bayview Hunter’s Point district has the highest number of families below poverty with children at 1,234 families or 15.12%. The Mission district ranks 8th for number of families with children below poverty with 568 families or 4.38% of the population. The Excelsior district ranks 11th with 539 or 3.08% of families with children below poverty.¹¹ Historically, the poorest areas of the city are located in the southeast sectors of the city.



Primary sources of income paint a stark contrast and highlight the disparateness of the economy in terms of housing, education, and economic well-being. San Francisco’s unemployment rate is currently 5.61%. The division of male and female is statistically equal. The majority of the population work in the “Prof/Sci/Tech/Admin” category (19%), followed by “Health Care” (11%), Retail Trade (10%), Accommodations/Food Services (9%), and Educational Svcs (7%). 74% of San Francisco’s employed occupation group are in the White Collar industry.¹²

⁷ Ibid.
⁸ Ibid.
⁹ www.sfhip.org
¹⁰ Ibid.
¹¹ Ibid.
¹² <http://www.sfhip.org/demographicdata?id=275§ionId=939>

Employed Civilian 16+ by Occupation Group County: San Francisco



Claritas, 2018. www.sfhip.org

In 2016, there were 2.33 persons per household living in San Francisco. 44% of households reported speaking another language other than English. 85% of families reported living in the same house as they did the year previous.¹³ There are 70,044 households (18.20% of all households) with children in San Francisco. Of this percentage, Bayview Hunters-Point has the largest number of households with children, currently 4,989 or 40%. The Excelsior has the 4th highest percentage of households with children at 8,648 or 36%. The Mission holds the 11th spot with 6,414 households with children at 21%.

In 2014, 71% of families with children, age 0-17 were married couples, 18% were led by a single female head of household, 5% by a male-head of household, and 5% by an unmarried couple.¹⁴

Head Start – Eligible Children and Families

The City and County is home to many families with children including 23,000 infants and toddlers (0-2) and 20,000 preschoolers (age 3-5). The total population of San Francisco’s children constitute 13.4%. The population has increased steadily. Between 2011-2014 the child population has grown by 1,095 infants and toddlers and 691 preschoolers. Bayview Hunter’s Point has the third highest percentage of children age 0-11, behind the Outer Mission/Excelsior and Inner Mission, with almost 6,000 children. 21.1% of births are covered by Medi-Cal. San Francisco’s children (age 0-11) do not have an ethnic majority, with 32% white, 28% Asian, 23% Latinx, 6% African American, and 11% other ethnicities/multi-racial. Almost half of children (age-5-17) are dual language learners with 16% speaking Spanish, 27% speaking an Asian language, and 6% speaking another non-English language.¹⁵



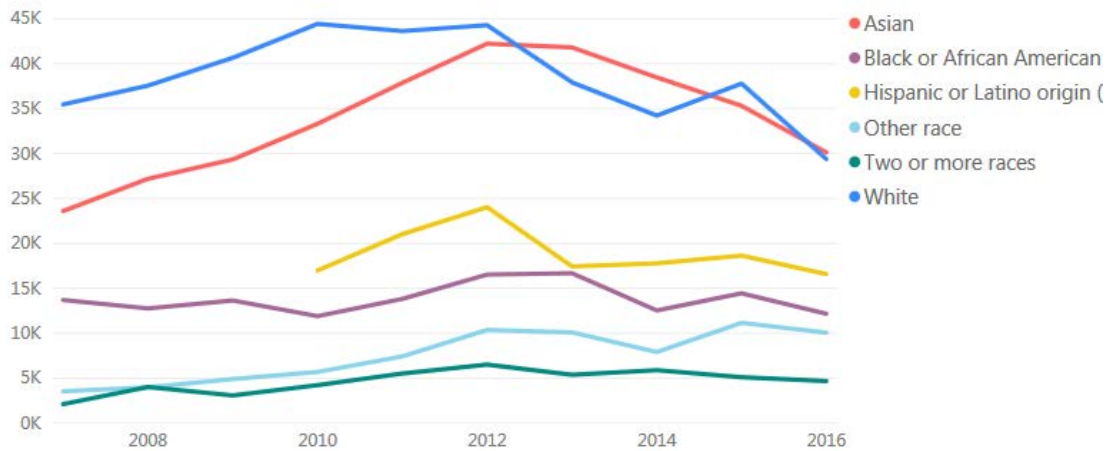
Black/African American San Franciscans experience poverty at three times the average rate. 13% of San Francisco’s Latinx population experience poverty, approximately twice the average rate. Women

¹³ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sanfranciscocitycalifornia/PST045217>

¹⁴ 2017 Early Care and Education Assessment

¹⁵ Ibid.

experience poverty at higher rates than men. In 2016, White and Asian individuals had the lowest poverty rate, while those of mixed heritage or African American had the highest rates.¹⁶



During the 2017 homeless count, there were 190 families determined to be experiencing homeless, including 1,937 children. The 2017-2018 projection is 919 children (through age 21) in the foster care system.¹⁷

The table below presents data on the extent of economic disadvantage among families with children ages 0-5 in these neighborhoods.

Neighborhood	# of children ages		federal poverty line	200% federal poverty line	70% state median income
	0-2	3-5			
Inner Mission/Bernal Heights	2,279	1,969	10%	25%	30%
Outer Mission/Excelsior/Ingleside	2,349	2,650	7%	28%	33%
Bayview/Hunter's Point	1,607	1,708	35%	69%	73%
Mission Bay	119	91	0%	35%	35%
San Francisco overall	23,254	19,766	11%	24%	27%

Fifteen percent of children ages 0-5 in our service areas, collectively, are living in poverty, compared to 11% city-wide. In Bayview/Hunter's Point, 35% of children ages 0-5 are living in poverty. All the neighborhoods we serve have higher proportions of children from families with incomes of less than 200% of the federal poverty line and 70% below the state median income than in the city overall. Family income < 70% of the state median income is the eligibility benchmark for state-subsidized early childhood care and education.

Our service areas are home to 30% of all San Francisco children ages 0-5, but 42% of children whose families receive public assistance from the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKS) program. (Note: The largest funding source for CalWORKS is the federal TANF block grant, administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Children receiving CalWORKS

¹⁶ <https://sfgov.org/scorecards/safety-net/poverty-san-francisco>

¹⁷ www.sfgov.org/scorecards

benefits are therefore eligible for EHS/HS programs.) The families of 8% of children ages 0-5 in our service areas receive CalWORKS assistance, compared to 5% of all San Francisco families with children ages 0-5 (Table 4).

Neighborhood	# of Receive			# of Receive		
	children ages 0-2	CalWORKS #	%	children ages 3-5	CalWORKS #	%
Inner Mission/Bernal Heights	2,279	96	4%	1,969	104	5%
Outer Mission/Excelsior/ Ingleside	2,349	129	5%	2,650	114	4%
Bayview/Hunter's Point	1,607	241	15%	1,708	256	15%
Mission Bay	119	17	14%	91	24	26%
San Francisco overall	23,254	1,168	5%	19,766	1,137	6%

However, these indicators do not accurately convey the extent of financial need among San Francisco families and children. The well-regarded California Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS)¹⁸ measures the minimum income necessary to cover a family's basic expenses (housing, food, child care, medical expenses, and transportation). Because of the extremely high housing costs in San Francisco, the SSS is considered a more accurate representation of financial need than the federal poverty line. The estimated SSS for San Francisco Families as of 2016 was (\$92,914). In its 2016 Community Assessment, the San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Families found that 27% of households citywide fell below the SSS in terms of annual income; among families with children, which percentage rose to 39%. Twenty seven percent of San Francisco families with children live above the poverty level but below the SSS, a strong indication that many families have trouble making ends meet. This translates to 11,000 children whose families are not making enough money to be self-sufficient, yet do not qualify for child care subsidies. The great majority of children from families living below the SSS in MNC's service areas are Latinx or African American.

11% of San Francisco's children live below the federal poverty level and 30% are in families with incomes below 70% of the State Median Income. This translates to over 23,000 children, age 0-11, that qualify for subsidized early care and education including 6,122 infants and toddlers and 5,567 preschoolers.¹⁹

Subsidies available through federal, state, and local funding include Head Start/Early Head Start, CalWorks, Preschool for All, California Department of Education Title 5, local vouchers, and more. A family qualifies for these programs through income eligibility or through categorical eligibility like homelessness or foster care. In 2016, 9,510 children age 0-11 received subsidized early care and education through these options.²⁰ There are over 275 preschools in San Francisco.²¹ In April 2016, licensed care centers in San Francisco had 1,414 infant/toddler slots and 14,774²² preschool slots. Family childcare homes provided 6,668 licensed slots for mixed age groups.

¹⁸ Insight. Center for Community Economic Development. Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool for California. <https://insightccd.org/tools-metrics/self-sufficiency-standard-tool-for-california/>

¹⁹ SF Child Care Planning & Advisory Council, 2017 Early Care and Education Needs Assessment

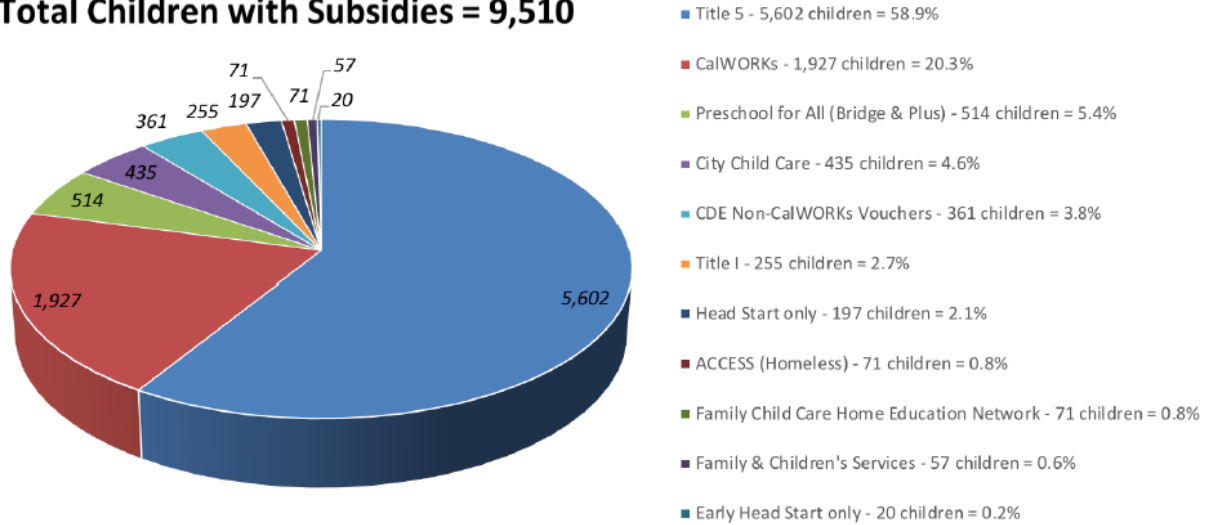
²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ www.greatschools.org

²² SF Child Care Planning & Advisory Council, 2017 Early Care and Education Needs Assessment

Due to the Preschool for All program 94% of preschool children had slots available to them in 2016. Only 1,270 out of 19,000 children were without licensed care. Infant and toddler slots numbers are drastically different. Only 15% of children had licensed slots available to them in 2016, leaving over 19,000 infants and toddlers without licensed care. 85% of needed infant and toddler care is unmet.²³

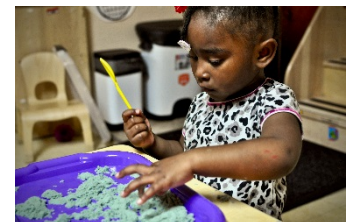
Total Children with Subsidies = 9,510



Despite the growth and wide breadth of funding available to San Francisco’s low-income children, there is a large unmet need, especially in areas of the City already underserved socioeconomically. In 2016, there were 324 families with children in the Mission waiting for subsidized care, 662 families with children in the Excelsior, and 501 families with children in Bayview-Hunter’s Point waiting for subsidized care.²⁴

In 2016, the San Francisco Unified School District served 408 children age 3-5 in 17 schools through its Transitional Kindergarten program. Most of Transitional Kindergarten children came from the Mission/Bernal Heights district (82), Bayview-Hunter’s Point (43), and Visitation Valley (34).

In recent years, San Francisco has increased access to licensed infant/toddler care and preschool. From 2012 to 2016, licensed center capacity for children ages 0-2 grew by 21% and the number of slots for children at licensed preschool centers increased by 12%, the latter with support from the city’s Preschool for All program. However, there is still a substantial shortage of high-quality, licensed programs, especially for children ages 0-2. There are only enough slots in licensed Centers for a mere 6% of all children ages 0-2, while there are slots for 75% of preschool-age children (Table 6). These percentages are lower in MNC’s service areas collectively, with licensed Center spots for only 4% of children ages 0-2 and 49% of those ages 0-5.



²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

Table 5. 2016 Licensed Center Capacity

Neighborhood	# of Children ages 0-2	Center Infant-Toddler Capacity	# of Children 3-5	Center Preschool Capacity
Inner Mission/Bernal Heights	2,279	156	1,969	1,228
Outer Mission/Excelsior/Ingleside	2,349	0	2,650	973
Bayview/Hunter's Point	1,607	91	1,708	867
Mission Bay	119	26	91	60
San Francisco overall	23,254	1,414 (6%)	19,766	14,774 (75%)

The data presented underscore the fact that MNC's service areas have the greatest need for subsidized early care and education in San Francisco. Three of the service areas for our HS/EHS programs (Bayview/Hunters Point, Inner Mission/Bernal Heights, Outer Mission/Excelsior/Ingleside) are among those in the city with the greatest gap in available subsidized slots for the infant-toddler population, while Bayview/Hunters Point has the greatest unmet need for subsidized preschool in the city.

Education Needs of Eligible Families

Overall, San Francisco has a well-educated population. There are differences and correlations between where a person lives and their higher education status. For example, 24.3% of Bayview-Hunter's Point residents have a Bachelor's degree or higher, however 82.5% of the Marina district (a very high income area) residents have a Bachelor's degree or higher.²⁵ According to the San Francisco Adult Education Consortium, 13% of adults in San Francisco did not complete high school and 134,000 residents have low basic skills.²⁶ Almost half (48%) of our families in last year's program year did not graduate from high school or have a GED. The remaining 52% had a high school diploma, associate, or advanced degree.

Graduation Rate/Degree Status <small>* 2016 data</small>	Percentage
Associate Degree	5.4
College Graduation Rate	52.4
Graduate or Professional degree	20.7
High School Graduation Rate	86.3
Percent who did not finish the 9 th grade	8.30

Over 103,000 San Francisco residents have limited English abilities.²⁷ Our families, during the focus group sessions and via the surveys, expressed the need for ESL classes for adults. There are ESL classes available at City College as well at over two dozen agencies in San Francisco. 37% of our English language parent survey respondents said they needed help with obtaining a GED, while 24% of Spanish language parent survey respondents said they needed help with obtaining a GED.

In 2017, San Francisco City College implemented Free City, a program that covers full tuition for all San Francisco residents. The program drew more than 10,000 San Francisco residents in the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters.²⁸ Classes at City College and SF State University are designed for individuals who may have work and family obligations. Classes can be taken online, in the evenings, on weekends, in addition to the traditional Monday-Friday, morning and afternoon schedule. In addition, City College has

²⁵ www.sfhip.org

²⁶ San Francisco Adult Education Consortium

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ SF Examiner, Free City Program Leaves CCSF with \$4.77 Million Deficit, September 2018

an accelerated Working Adult Degree Program (WADP) in which students taking 10-12 units a semester, plus two courses in the summer, earn three specific degrees in under three years.²⁹

Health and Social Service Needs of Eligible Families

Due to a robust City, State, and Federal subsidized medical care system, a large number 98.6% of children in San Francisco have health insurance. In addition 98.9% of children, aged 0 – 17 have a usual source of health care. In 2015, about 3% of California children had major disabilities including serious impairments in vision, hearing, walking, cognition, or self-care and 2% of children in San Francisco were diagnosed with severe disabilities or special needs. Among uninsured children, 1.9% had one or more major disabilities, compared to 3.1% of insured children. According to 2011-2012 estimates, 61% of children with special needs in California have had at least one adverse experience, including living with someone with a drug or alcohol problem, divorce of parents, or economic hardship. The tables below show the rates of special needs of children in San Francisco and ethnic breakdown.

San Francisco County	Percent
African American/Black	16.8%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.7%
Asian American	20.5%
Filipino	3.3%
Hispanic/Latino	36.9%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1.4%
White	11.8%
Multiracial	8.7%

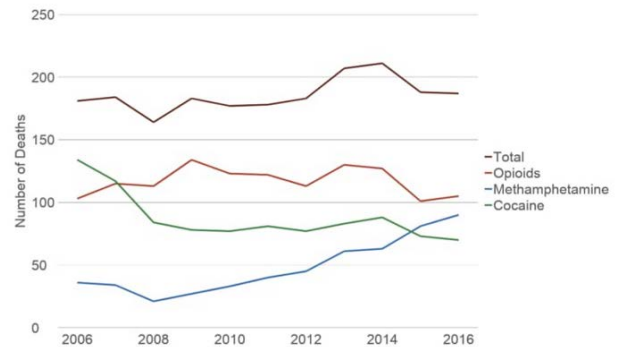
San Francisco County	Number
Autism	887
Deaf	31
Deaf-Blindness	0
Emotional Disturbance	291
Hard of Hearing	157
Intellectual Disability	394
Learning Disability	2,556
Multiple Disability	65
Orthopedic Impairment	71
Other Health Impairment	869
Speech or Language Impairment	1,560
Traumatic Brain Injury	5
Visual Impairment	45

²⁹ www.ccsf.edu

As with the increase in homelessness, open drug use has increased over recent years. According to the SF Department of Public Health there are 22,000 intravenous drug users in San Francisco, or about 470 per square mile.

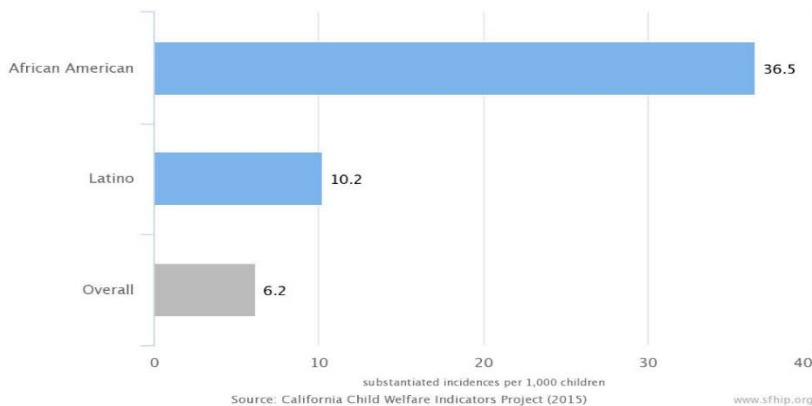
The use of methamphetamines is increasing, as well as, the number of deaths from drug overdose. Complaints related to drug use in San Francisco have skyrocketed as well. Between 2009 and 2017, the number of reports of needles and other medical waste on the streets grew from 290 to 6,363 — an increase of 2,194% — according to the city’s database of non-emergency calls.³⁰

Drug Overdose Deaths, SF



During the city’s 2014-2016 health outcomes’ measurement period, 87.6% of women received early prenatal care.³¹ At this same time, the teen birth rate was 7.4 (live births/1,000 females aged 15 – 19). This number has been in steady decline over the last decade.³² The infant mortality rate has also been in decline, apart from an uptick in 2012, and currently stands at 3.3 (deaths/1,000 live births)³³. In addition, the number of incidences of babies born with a low birth rate, has decreased and has been stable since 2013. 6.9% of babies born during the 2014-2016 assessment period were considered low weight.³⁴ Approximately 11% of infants are exposed to alcohol and/or illicit drugs before delivery. Major maternal substances of abuse that affect newborns are opiates, cocaine, amphetamines, alcohol and tobacco.³⁵ In 2016, there were 22.6 substance use diagnoses per 1,000 hospitalizations of pregnant women in the state.³⁶

Rate of children experiencing child maltreatment by Race/Ethnicity
County: San Francisco



Child maltreatment comprises both child abuse, including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, and child neglect which includes not providing adequate food, shelter, medical care, or supervision. Children most prone to suffer from maltreatment include children whose parents have substance abuse problems or mental illnesses, major stresses including poverty, domestic violence, and living in poor or unsafe neighborhoods.

In 2015 the substantiated incidents of child maltreatment in San Francisco was 6.2 (per 1,000 children)³⁷ Between the July 2012 – June 2018 reporting period, children aged 3- 5 were at greatest risk of experiencing maltreatment, amongst all age

³⁰ <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/jimdalrympleii/public-drug-use-san-francisco>

³¹ California Department of Public Health

³² www.sfhip.org

³³ Ibid.

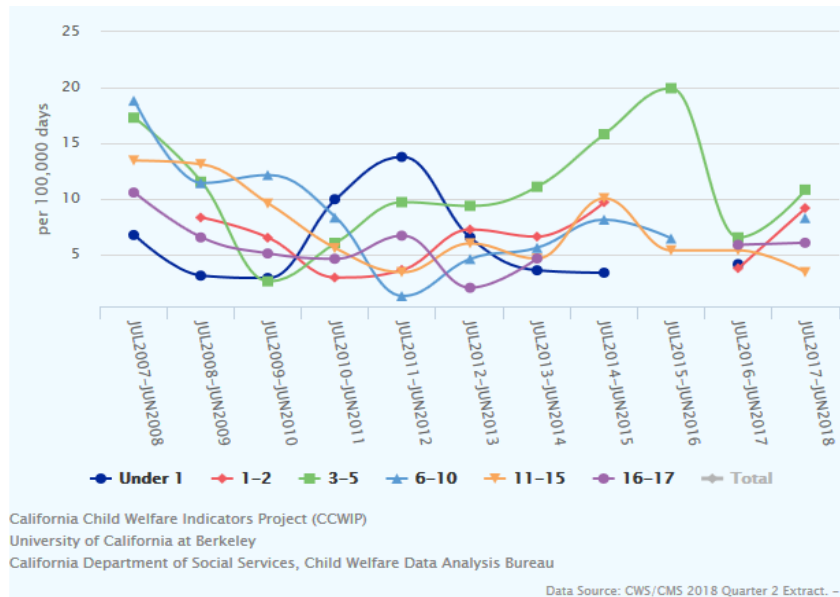
³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ UCSF Children’s Hospital

³⁶ Community Profile, 2017-2018 State of California

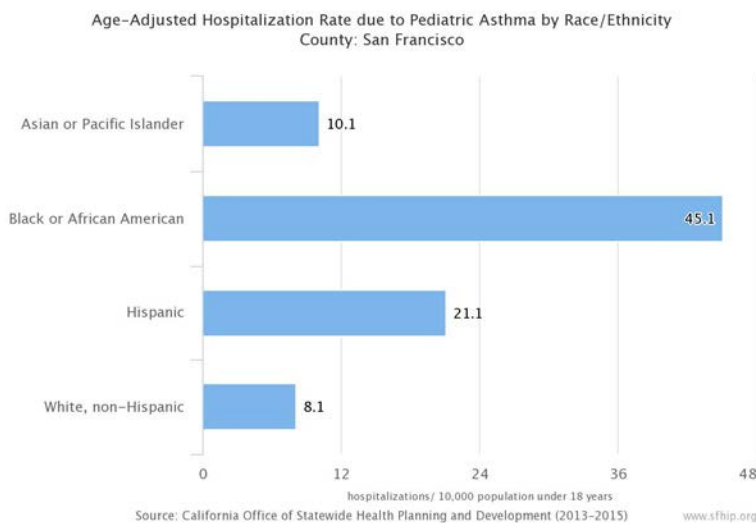
³⁷ California Child Welfare Indicators Project

groups. During the 2016 – 2018 reporting period, incidents of child maltreatment increased for age groups 1 – 2 and 3 – 5.³⁸



In 2016, there was only one recorded domestic violence related death, a three-year low, and a 75% decrease from 2014 and 2015. Also, in 2016, there was a 53% increase in 911 domestic violence calls with an assailant with a gun – from 15 calls to 23 and an 87% increase in 911 domestic violence calls with an assailant with a knife – from 46 calls to 86. Across all forms of family violence, people of color were disproportionately represented in the District Attorney’s Victim Services Division. For domestic abuse and child abuse, Black and Latinx people also comprised a disproportionate number of the clients served by community-based organizations.³⁹

Health problems that are prevalent among low income Head Start eligible families residing in San Francisco include high rates of asthma, overweight and obesity, learning difficulties, and are eight times more likely to have untreated tooth decay.



³⁸ California Child Welfare Indicators Project Data portal

³⁹ Family Violence in San Francisco Report, Fiscal Year 2016

Under the California School Immunization Law (California Health and Safety Code, Sections 120325-120375), children are required to receive certain immunizations in order to attend public and private elementary and secondary schools, child care centers, family day care homes, nursery schools, day nurseries and developmental centers. There are no longer exceptions made for religious beliefs or personal reasons. Data shows that almost 80% of infants are fully immunized at 24 months, when many begin center child care.

The air quality in San Francisco is usually safe and clean with only 1.2% of the population living in an area with 10 ug (micrograms) per cubic meter or higher of particulate matter air pollution. The table below shows the percent of the San Francisco population that live with this concentration of pollution standard.⁴⁰ The most unsafe periods for people with compromised systems is during fire season, when smoke can be blown as far away as the Northern California/Oregon border, and cause breathing difficulties and eye irritation. The Bay Area’s Air Quality district issues advisories when the air quality index is deemed unsafe.

Mission Bay	15.8%
Bayview/Hunter’s Point	4.4%
Excelsior	4.0%
Mission	0.4%

Similarly to San Francisco’s air quality, the water quality is high. Water comes from the Hetch Hetchy reservoir (located in Yosemite National Park) system, is quality tested over 100,000 times a year and adheres to high water quality standards. In recent months, there was a concern about pesticides in San Francisco’s water, however regular testing and monitoring has shown no detection of pesticides.

There are no known lead service lines in the distribution system in San Francisco; however, if a lead service line is found, it is quickly removed. All tests for lead content in the distribution system water result in non-detects. San Francisco residents may request a sampling kit and analysis for a small fee. WIC participants can request a free lead test. Since 2010, the City has installed lead-free outdoor water bottle refilling stations ("tap stations") around the city including in several public schools, to provide everyone with free access to high-quality tap water.⁴¹

Nutrition Needs of Eligible Families

41.2% of SNAP (Food Stamps) recipients have children under the age of 18.⁴² In the 2017-2018 school year, there were 30,426 children aged 0 – 17 on the Free/Reduced Price Meals program. That is 56% of all district students.⁴³ In 2016, the child food insecurity rate was 14.7 or 125,120 people. An estimated 59% of the San Francisco population do/would qualify for federal food programs.⁴⁴



Many San Franciscans participate in food bank distribution programs. The SF—Marin Food Bank distributes food through 278 weekly pantries and distributes food to over 30,000 families weekly.⁴⁵ There are 18

⁴⁰ www.sfhip.org

⁴¹ www.sfwater.org

⁴² www.kidsdata.org

⁴³ www.cde.ca.gov

⁴⁴ www.feedingamerica.org

⁴⁵ <https://www.sfmfoodbank.org/by-the-numbers/>

weekly pantries that serve the 94110 zip code (Mission), 20 weekly pantries that serve the 94124 zip code (Bayview Hunter’s Point), and 25 weekly pantries that serve the 94112 zip code (Excelsior).⁴⁶

San Francisco’s Women, Infant, Children Program (WIC) is operated by the San Francisco Department of Public Health. There are six WIC clinic locations throughout the City where women can sign up and receive supportive services. The San Francisco WIC Program serves 16,000 participants per month which includes 10% prenatal, 14% breastfeeding mom, 3% non-breastfeeding mom, 23% infants, and 50% children under 5 years old.⁴⁷

The table below, from the San Francisco Food Security Task Force⁴⁸ highlights the number of sources of food and those locations that accept CalFresh and/or WIC. WIC is far less accessible than the use of CalFresh, although this is alleviated somewhat by the fact that WIC operates its own locations. While the 2018 assessment from the Food Security Task Force has not been released, there have been recent openings of bargain grocery stores in the city. Four Grocery Outlet Bargain Market stores have opened in the city, including a location in the Mission and two in neighborhoods adjacent to the Excelsior and Bayview-Hunter’s Point.⁴⁹ All of them accept CalFresh benefits, but not WIC.

San Francisco Overall	No. of Supermarkets or Grocery Stores	Percent that accept CalFresh	Percent that accept WIC
Supermarkets	84	85	27
Grocery Stores	126	59	9
District 6 (MNC Service Neighborhood – Mission Bay)	No. of Supermarkets or Grocery Stores	Percent that accept CalFresh	Percent that accept WIC
Supermarkets	10	90	30
Grocery Stores	22	68	18
District 8 (MNC Service Neighborhood – Mission)	No. of Supermarkets or Grocery Stores	Percent that accept CalFresh	Percent that accept WIC
Supermarkets	6	83	33
Grocery Stores	7	29	0
District 9 (MNC Service Neighborhood – Mission)	No. of Supermarkets or Grocery Stores	Percent that accept CalFresh	Percent that accept WIC
Supermarkets	8	100	37
Grocery Stores	15	93	7
District 10 (MNC Service Neighborhood – BVHP)	No. of Supermarkets or Grocery Stores	Percent that accept CalFresh	Percent that accept WIC
Supermarkets	6	83	50

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oprograms/NutritionSvcs/WIC/WICFAQs.asp>

⁴⁸ San Francisco Food Security Task Force, Assessment of Food Security, 2013

⁴⁹ <https://groceryoutlet.com/circulars/storeid/306>

Grocery Stores	9	56	22
District 11 (MNC Service Neighborhood - Excelsior)	No. of Supermarkets or Grocery Stores	Percent that accept CalFresh	Percent that accept WIC
Supermarkets	5	100	20
Grocery Stores	3	67	2

Housing and Homelessness

There are currently 416,468 housing units in San Francisco. The table below shows the number of housing units available in the districts MNC serves.⁵⁰ As shown, the more housing units that are available in a particular district inversely correlates with the average household size, with the exception of the Excelsior, which had the highest percentage of overcrowding, yet ranks 5th in the number of housing units available.

MNC Service Area Neighborhood	No. of Housing Units	No. of Housing Units Ranking	Average Household Size
Bayview-Hunter's Point (94124)	12,077	18th	3.45
Excelsior (94112)	24,909	5th	3.58
Mission/Bernal (94110)	31,756	3rd	2.45
Mission Bay (94105, 94107, 94111, 94130, 94158) *includes Potrero Hill and Treasure Island	34,593	2nd	1.82

Overcrowding refers to the condition where more people are located within a given space than is considered tolerable from a safety and health perspective which will depend on current environment and local cultural norms and can have serious risks on children, including deteriorated physical health and susceptibility to communicable diseases, higher incidences of child maltreatment and accidents, and decrease in school performance.⁵¹ According to the 2018 Housing and Needs Trends Report, the highest household type facing overcrowding is households with children. The highest ethnic group living in overcrowded conditions is Latinx, followed closely by Asian Pacific Islanders. The rates of overcrowding are highest (12%) among very low-income households and decrease by each income category to less than 2% for high-income households.⁵² In short, overcrowding is much more likely to affect people of color, lower income individuals, and children.

⁵⁰<http://www.sfhip.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=view&tagFilter=0&id=1471&localeT\ypeld=11>

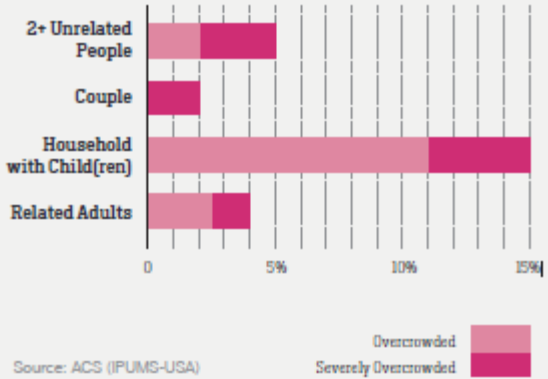
⁵¹ US HUD, Measuring Overcrowding in Housing, 2007

⁵² SF Planning Department, SF Housing Needs and Trends Report, 2018

Percentage of San Francisco Households Living in Overcrowded Conditions by Race, 2011-15

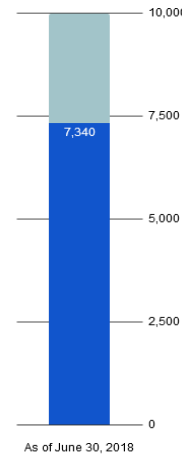


FIGURE 72. Percent of San Francisco Households Living in Overcrowded Units by Household Type, 2011-2015



San Francisco’s new housing construction has averaged 1,900 new units per year since 1990, with an accelerated rate within the last four years. Income targeted affordable housing units was 28% of the total housing produced since 1990.⁵³ A goal of the San Francisco Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development is to develop 10,000 new units of affordable housing by the year 2020. Thus far they have reached 73% of their target. Individuals apply for this housing as it becomes available and are placed on a waitlist for the specific properties they apply for. The city’s housing portal, DAHLIA, makes it easy for people to browse and apply for properties. The user-friendly site is available in four languages and is the primary method for people to apply for affordable housing.⁵⁴ Rents for these units varies by housing type and income, but is usually below \$2,000.

Affordable Housing Target
10,000 Affordable Homes by 2020



Market rate rents in San Francisco are the highest in the country.⁵⁵ The median asking rent in San Francisco is \$4,680 a month for a 2-bedroom apartment. An annual salary of \$155,000 a year is needed in order to afford this median rent (assuming 36% of income is spent on housing). The median single-family house price is \$1.7 million. An annual salary of \$115,510 is needed to purchase a house in San Francisco. According to the Housing Needs and Trends Report, 65% of homes are renter occupied, and just over 60% of all rental units in the City are rent controlled. Living in a rent-controlled unit does not necessarily mean it is affordable. A rent-controlled unit can increase in cost every year as long as it is within legal limits. In 2015, only 100,000 units (approx. 24%) were rented at rates that would be affordable to households earning less than 80% of the AMI.⁵⁶

An increasing number of renters are spending 30% or more of their income on rent. 57.7% of Bayview-Hunter’s Point residents spend 30% or more of their income on rent. This percentage is second only to the Lake Merced/Merced Manor neighborhood (65.3%). The Excelsior/Outer Mission ranks third with 56.9% of its population spending more than 30% of their income on rent. The Mission/Bernal Heights

⁵³ SF Planning Department, SF Housing Needs and Trends Report, 2018

⁵⁴ <https://housing.sfgov.org/sign-in>

⁵⁵ www.smartasset.com

⁵⁶ <https://www.businessinsider.com/san-francisco-housing-market-is-now-commonly-seen-as-being-in-crisis-2018->

neighborhood comes just under the median value of this indicator (43.2%) at 38.4% of residents paying a third or more of their income on rent.⁵⁷

There are currently 45 developments and over 6,000 units of Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) public housing in San Francisco.⁵⁸ Most continue to be plagued with societal ills that historically plague very poor neighborhoods and families including incidences of high crime and violence, low educational outcomes, and increased exposure to environmental hazards. Through public-private partnerships that included the HUD and the Mayor's Office of Housing, all of the City's public housing stock has been or will be revitalized.⁵⁹

Through the HOPE VI program, the San Francisco Housing Authority (SFHA) revitalized five public housing developments with 1,149 units of new public and affordable housing with 2,607 bedrooms. Sites included Bernal Dwellings and Valencia Gardens which were redeveloped over ten years ago. There are also several HUD properties that are currently undergoing a Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversion, in which the housing units are converted to Section 8 subsidized housing. One of these properties is the Alemany housing development, in which our Alemany center is located.⁶⁰

The SF Housing Authority currently operates separate waiting lists for the Housing Choice Voucher, Project Based Voucher, RAD, and Public Housing. Applicants are referred by supportive service agencies. The waiting list for all programs is currently closed.

The "Severe Housing Indicator" measures the percentage of households with at least one of four problems: overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of kitchen, and lack of plumbing facilities.

During the 2010 – 2014 measurement period, severe housing problems were found to be in a steady decline. However, 26.7% of all housing in San Francisco still met the conditions above.⁶¹ People who reside in these homes are forced into substandard living conditions, are at greater risk of food insecurity, higher incidences of exposure to infectious disease, and are at increased exposure risk to mildew growth, pest infestation, and other environmental hazards.⁶²

For the immigrant community, substandard housing conditions are especially difficult to navigate. Fear of eviction and threats from landlords are prevalent. This theme came up many times during the 2017 San Francisco Latino Parity and Equity Coalition's (SFLPEC) Strategic Planning Process, when housing needs and conditions were discussed. During the focus groups; people repeatedly remarked on their fears of being evicted. For many, evictions seemed outside the law and even racist. One respondent in the Mission Focus Group articulated, "Being a low-income Latino and racial discrimination go hand in hand".⁶³

For this assessment's parent survey, almost 30% of English Language survey respondents and 12% of Spanish Language survey respondents indicated that housing was too unaffordable. Many parents indicated that they often had to resort to living with multiple families and housing that was unstable. During the SFLPEC community engagement process, many people indicated how their homes were structurally and

⁵⁷ www.sfhip.org

⁵⁸ <http://sfha.org/Pages/History.aspx>

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

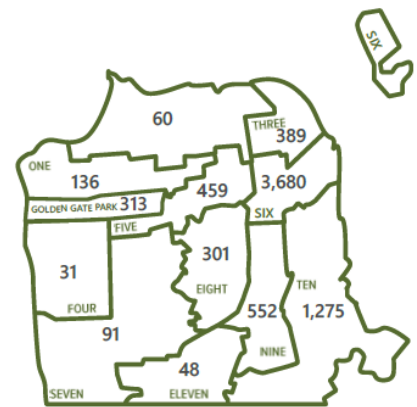
⁶¹ <http://www.sfhip.org/index.php?module=indicators&controller=index&action=view&indicatorId=2365&localeId=275>

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ SFLPEC, Report to the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, March 2017

physically unsafe, and some were infested with pests. They said they were reluctant to file complaints with their landlords on fear of eviction and deportation.

According to the 2017 San Francisco Homeless Count and Survey, there are a total of 7,499 homeless people living in shelters, Single-Occupancy hotels, and on the streets of San Francisco. 4,350 of those counted were unsheltered. There were 601 individuals in families identified by the 2017 count (190 total families). Of these 97% were staying in shelters or transitional housing programs.⁶⁴ This map indicates the geographic location where the number of homeless were found. Of the total number of unsheltered homeless individuals, slightly over 500 were unaccompanied children or transitional-age youth.



The City’s stock of supportive housing units includes SROs that have been renovated by owners or managed by non-profit organizations providing supportive services, and also includes apartment buildings that offer housing to adults based on specific income eligibility. Most permanent supportive housing (PSH) developments exist in districts with a high percentage of the city’s homeless population, but there are districts with a sizeable portion of homeless persons and few permanent supportive housing options. District 10, for example, has four permanent supportive housing developments but more than 15% of the city’s homeless population.

Additionally, the City manages a network of shelters and Navigation Centers that provide beds, mats, or rooms, for up to 90-night stays for unsheltered homeless persons. Many shelters are designed only for single adults or couples, but a few specific shelters identify as family, women, or youth only shelters. The city also operates a temporary winter shelter system for week long stays during the more extreme weather conditions of winter months. As of January 2017, the city operates four Navigation Centers, where homeless persons connect with case managers to help find more permanent housing solutions and services. Navigation Centers are generally low-barrier to entry unlike traditional shelters, which usually require referrals or have very limited capacity. Opening Navigation Centers in the city have brought over 1,150 highly vulnerable people off the streets, and a little over 70 percent of these have exited homelessness to housing.

Assistance to homeless families includes a coordinated entry system for family shelters and other housing interventions, thus prioritizing families with children for access to system resources. To address youth homelessness, the City provides supportive housing for transitional age youth (TAY), which are ages 18 to 24, by referrals from local agencies. In 2016, the City created a new community plan to build and expand housing options targeted to the needs of TAY, as well as to prevent youth from becoming homeless. In 2017, the point-in-time count identified approximately 1,350 unaccompanied children and transition-age youth, which is 18 percent of the total number of homeless individuals counted that year. Of these youth, 96 unaccompanied children and 1,020 TAY were unsheltered, thus signifying the importance of providing supportive housing for homeless youth.⁶⁵

For those not fortunate or willing to seek assistance from these navigation centers or SRO’s, or those who are in the system and waiting for housing, conditions on the streets of San Francisco are deplorable.⁶⁶ A UN fact-finding mission conducted in early 2018, found the conditions for homeless residents cruel and inhumane – and violated a number of human rights including denying access to water, sanitation and health

⁶⁴ 2017 San Francisco Homeless Count and Survey

⁶⁵ SF Planning Department, SF Housing Needs and Trends Report, 2018

⁶⁶ <https://www.businessinsider.com/san-francisco-homelessness-cruel-un-human-rights-report-2018-10>

services, and other basic necessities. In the official report published in October of this year, the United Nations Special Rapporteur compared the streets of San Francisco to Mumbai and Delhi and found areas littered with trash, feces, and discarded needles.⁶⁷

The 2018 SocioNeeds Index is a measure of socioeconomic need that is correlated with poor health outcomes. Using social and economic factors known to be strong determinates of health outcomes, the SocioNeeds Index takes these factors and generates an Index Value. All zip codes, counties, and county equivalents in the United States are given an Index Value from 0 (low need) to 100 (high need). The selected locations are ranked from 1 (low need) to 5 (high need) based on their Index Value. An Index Value of 50 would be average as compared with the rest of the country.

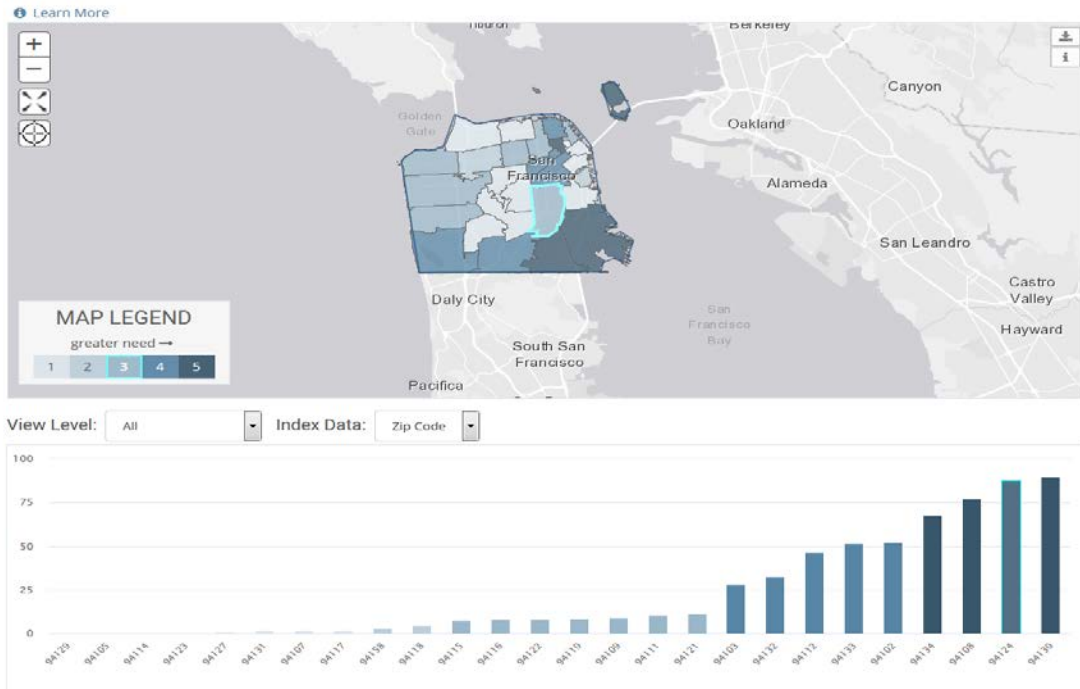
The map below, shows San Francisco’s zip codes, their ranking, and corresponding zip codes. The Treasure Island area and Bayview-Hunter’s Point shows the greatest need. The Mission district has a ranking of 3 and a corresponding Index Value of 8. Bayview Hunter’s Point was assigned a ranking of 5 with a corresponding Index Value of 87.5⁶⁸.

MNC Center	Zip Code	Zip Code Population	Index Value	Rank
➤ Mission Bay	94107	32,139	1.9	1
➤ Valencia Gardens ➤ Stevenson	94103	32,871	28.4	4
➤ Bernal Dwellings ➤ Capp Center ➤ Centro de Alegria ➤ Women’s Building	94110	75,026	8.6	3
➤ Southeast Families United	94124	38,304	87.5	5
➤ Alemany ➤ Jean Jacobs	94112	85,839	46.5	4

MNC’s Centers and Home Base program are located in areas of eastern and southern San Francisco largely populated by immigrant families with low incomes, and where the need for subsidized early childhood care and education are greatest.

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ <http://www.sfhip.org/index.php?module=indicators&controller=index&action=socioneeds>



San Francisco is a transit friendly city. There are currently over 80 bus lines that run throughout the City. There are programs and services in place where those with mobility issues, due to disabilities or lack of transportation, including low-cost, or no-cost fare programs.

Child Care Availability

There are over 275 early care and education facilities in San Francisco. This includes federal, state, and locally funded agencies, and privately funded day cares.⁶⁹ There are three Head Start/Early Head Start grantees in the City that collectively serve over 1,300 children and their families every year. Child care in San Francisco is very expensive. For a high-quality child care center, the monthly cost can be as high as \$2,459.⁷⁰

Estimated cost of full-time care in San Francisco*

	Child care center		Family Child Care Home	
	0-2 year old	2-5 year old	0-2 year old	2-5 year old
Monthly	\$2,459	\$1,880	\$1,732	\$1,700
Annual	\$29,508	\$22,560	\$20,784	\$20,400

MNC Service Area	Number of Infant Licenses 2016	Number of Preschool Licenses 2016
Inner Mission	4	31
Bayview-Hunter's Point	4	15
Outer Mission/Excelsior	0	12
Mission Bay	1	1

Many parents cannot afford to put their children in child care and work at the same time. In our parent online survey 34% of English language respondents and 45% of Spanish language respondents said they have lost a job due to lack of dependable childcare.

⁶⁹ www.greatschools.org

⁷⁰ www.childrenscouncil.org

A typical work schedule of a Head Start eligible family can be full time (ex. 8:30 – 5:00) or part time (ex. 8:00 -12:00p.m.). Many lower income individuals work in the service industry (housekeeper, nanny, waiter) where hours can vary based on shift and need of the employer. Continuing education classes such as GED and ESL are generally held in the late afternoons or weekends to allow parents who are working the flexibility needed to balance work and family obligations.

Transportation and Communication

San Francisco has a temperate climate and seasons that remain relatively constant throughout the year. The rainy season occurs during late October to May. Its summers are cool and end with a spike in temperature lasting through October. There are not usually any inclement weather occurrences that inhibit access to jobs, services, or school. Road conditions are usually good, however the increase in traffic has caused concern for many. The average commute time within the city is 32 minutes via vehicle travel.

San Francisco is a transit first city with a strong focus on pedestrian safety. Its San Francisco Metropolitan Transit Agency (SFMTA), was established by voter mandate in 1999 and has oversight over public transit, bicycling, paratransit, parking, traffic, walking, and taxis. There are currently 82 bus lines that traverse the city transporting almost 700,000 people daily.⁷¹ In addition to the SFMTA lines, there are eight Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) stops in San Francisco which transport riders to the East, Peninsula, and South Bay regions. The SFMTA, in step with the City is placing more focus on making public transportation more accessible and inclusive to all individuals. Their Free Muni Program for youth, seniors, and people with disabilities serve 71,000 residents providing eligible low-to moderate income individuals free access to Muni. This is in addition to the 20,000 individuals who access MUNI through the Lifeline (low-income) pass. In spite of reduced/free cost transportation programs, many families who must juggle bills, school, and housing costs still cannot afford transportation costs. 28% of our English language parent survey respondents and 29% of our Spanish language parent survey respondents indicated they needed financial assistance to pay for public transportation.

San Francisco is a bicycle and pedestrian friendly city and focuses on pedestrian and bicyclist safety. In 2017, there were 176 audible pedestrian signs, 1,212 signalized intersections, 960 pedestrian countdown signals, and 191 school crossing guards.⁷²

Street cleanliness is a problem in the city of San Francisco as homelessness, drug use, and crime have persisted, the safety and security of daily life in the streets has been threatened. During our parent focus groups, many parents expressed concerns over their safety. One parent stated, “I feel the streets around here are not very safe” and “Street cleanliness is a problem: urine, feces, broken glass, trash, and needles”. Other parents said they have been physically and verbally attacked as they navigate the city’s public transportation system, “The streets are not safe, there are many aggressive people. They hit us, they spit on us and they attack us publicly”.

The use of smart cell phones and tablet devices is prevalent among our families. The SurveyMonkey survey was sent to all families via text message and there were no known complications with this method. Due to low-cost plans, unlimited data plans, and easy pay phone/service contracts, the majority of the San Francisco population has access to some form of technology. The California LifeLine Program is a state funded program that provides discounted home phone and cell phone services to eligible households.⁷³ Those receiving public assistance and/or homeless individuals can receive free phones as part of their benefits package.

⁷¹ 2017 Annual Report, www.sfmta.com

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ www.californialifeline.com

Resources Available to Address Needs of Eligible Children and Families

Social Service	Health/Dental/Nutrition	Mental Health/Disability Services and Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Dolores Street Community Services•Compass Family Services•Human Services Agency•Felton Institute•Family Services Agency of San Francisco•San Francisco CASA•Catholic Charities•Children’s Council•Mission Economic Development Agency•The Riley Center•Community Crisis Services of SF•Casa de la Madres•Jewish Family and Children Services•CARECEN•La Raza Community Resource Center•Excelsior Works•Centro Latino de San Francisco•Jewish Vocational Services•Homeless Prenatal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Mission Neighborhood Health Center•Native American Health Center•North East Medical Services•Project Commotion•San Francisco State University – School of Nursing•University of the Pacific - Dental School•UCSF Nutrition Program•San Francisco Dental Hygiene Society•Asian Pacific Islanders Health Parity Coalition•CavityFree SF•SF Black Infant Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Support for Families of Children with Disabilities•Golden Gate Regional Center•Linguistic Connections•San Francisco Unified School District – Early Childhood Special Education•Instiuto Familiar de la Raza•Richmond Area Multi Servies Inc.•Native American Health Center•Mission Council•Childcare Inclusion Project

Community Strengths

San Francisco’s low-income population strength lies in the diversity, culture, and strength of its people. They are resilient and increasingly resourceful. In recent years coalitions and community advocacy organizations have formed, recognizing the severe need for coordinated systems of care that have been created.

The SFLPEC, a coalition of agencies that primarily serve the Latinx community, formed in 2016 to address the disparities experienced by the city’s Latinx and immigrant community, particularly regarding housing and access to affordable housing options. Sectors represented in this coalition include health, mental health, housing, education, workforce development, asset building, and immigration. In 2017, the SFLPEC successfully completed a community engagement process that culminated with a 5-year strategic plan and the influx of new dollars into the Latinx community. Funds are designated for public education programs for the Below Market Rate program, emergency public services, and a family resource center.

Other community coalition groups such as Our Mission No Eviction are focused on addressing the housing crisis by advocating for Mission locals to stay in their homes, prevent evictions, and advocate for the development of truly affordable housing. The 24th St. cultural district advocates for the cultural and art preservation of the Mission community and United to Save the Mission works to enhance and protect the lives of low-to-moderate income residents, Latinx culture, artists, community serving businesses, and blue-collar workers.

The Oral Health Task Force (CavityFree SF) is comprised of three task forces that each target a specific district identified by the city as high need areas. Its goal is to:

1. Improve access to, awareness of, and understanding of early preventative oral health services
2. Increase access to care by engaging DentiCal providers

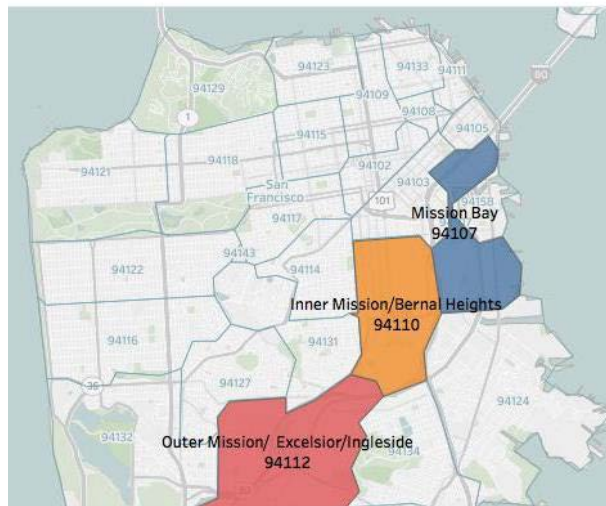
3. Increase Oral Hygiene Promotion, Outreach, & Engagement; and
4. Develop culturally appropriate messages that promote children’s oral health and address appointment compliance

San Francisco is also rich in resources and neighborhood serving organizations. Typical of other cities its size, San Francisco has a vast network of non-profit, government, and private partnerships whose missions are to address the needs of the traditionally underserved. Most city utilities have a “lifeline” program where low-income homeowners, renters, and individuals can receive discounted or free services. This includes water, gas and electric, transportation, internet/phone, and trash collection.

Head Start/Early Head Start Enrolled Children and Families

MNC’s service area includes some of the city’s poorest neighborhoods, including the Inner Mission/Bernal Heights, Outer Mission/Excelsior, and Mission Bay. This area is home to a large number of San Francisco’s Head Start eligible children and their families, particularly, San Francisco’s Latinx population, making our programming especially critical for improving these children’s well-being.

**Mission Neighborhood Centers
Head Start Service Area**



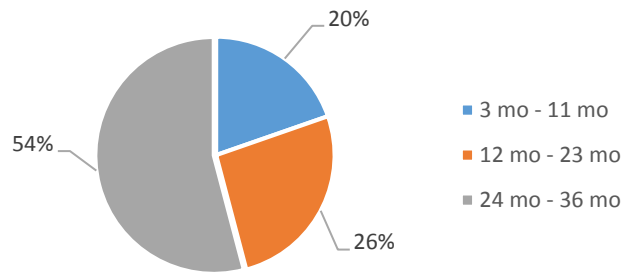
Mission Head Start/Early Head Start also has a center in Bayview-Hunter’s Point – Southeast Families United Child Development Center (SEFAU) that is comprised of 2 infant, 2 toddler, 1 preschool and a Family Resource Center. While this is not in MNC’s service area, we have a 10 year history of serving the community through SEFAU. We currently have an agreement with Wu Yee Children’s Services to operate this center in their service area.

Mission Head Start/Early Head Start is comprised of 10 centers, two of which are co-located with our Family Resource Centers (*See Appendix B*). The chart below details the number of children we have in each of our centers.

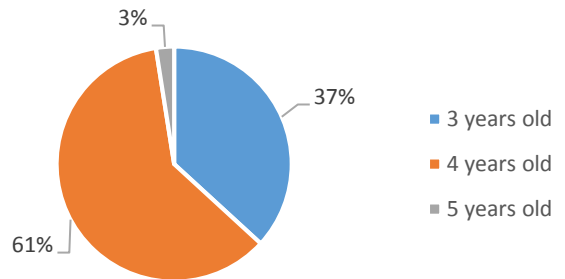
- 1 Center is located in the Excelsior District
- 1 center is located in Bayview Hunter’s Point
- 1 center is located in Mission Bay
- 7 centers are located in the Mission

2018-2019	Head Start (Part-day)	HS/CSPP (Full Day)	EHS Only	EHS / CCTR	Total
Centro de Alegria	63	1			64
Valencia Gardens		34			34
Capp	68				68
Mission Bay		40			40
Stevenson		19			19
Bernal Dwellings		24		16	40
SEFAU		14		28	42
Alemanya		18			18
Women's Building		21			21
Jean Jacobs		24			24
Home Base			18		18
Total:	131	195	18	44	388

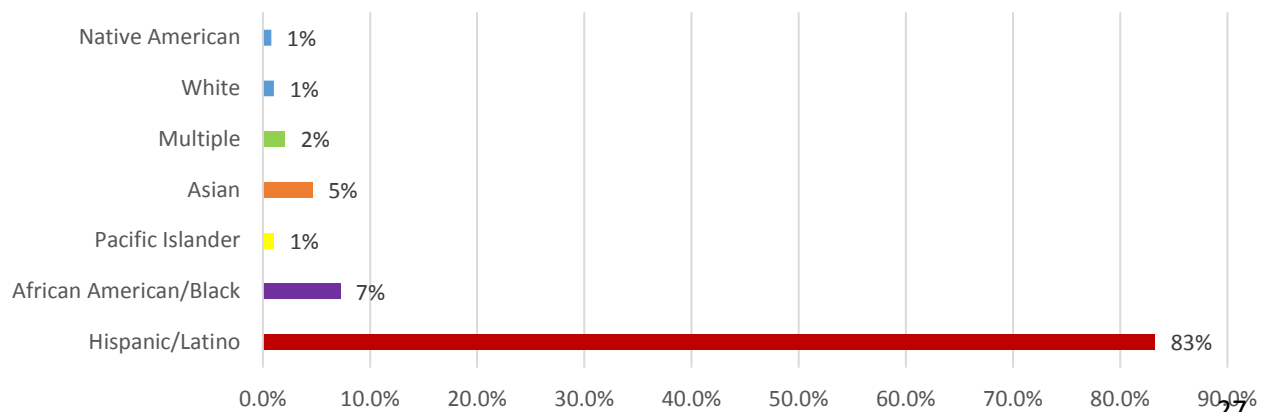
Ages of Enrolled Children - Early Head Start, as of October 2018

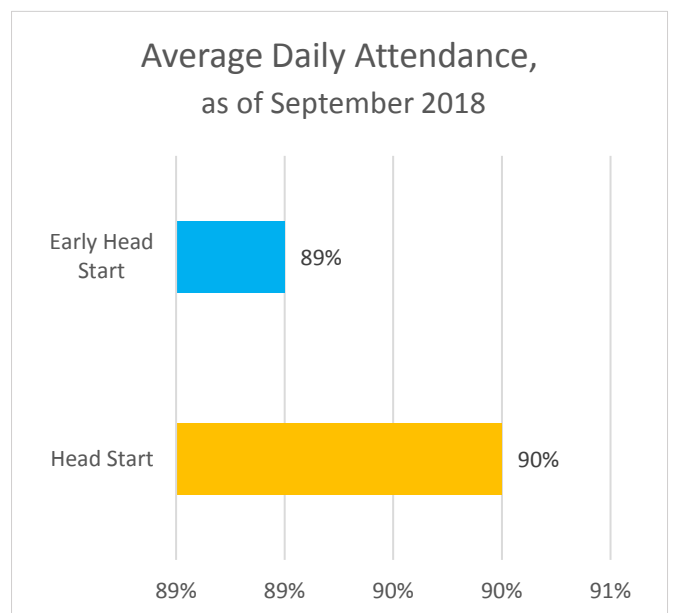
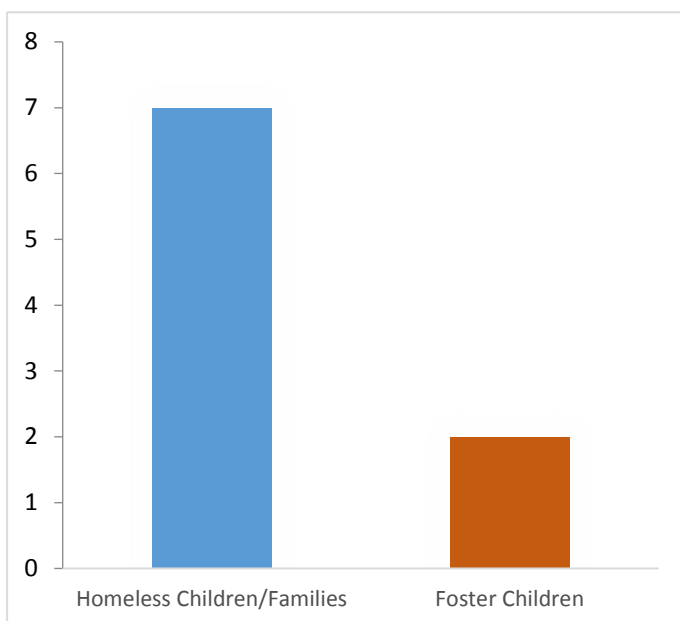
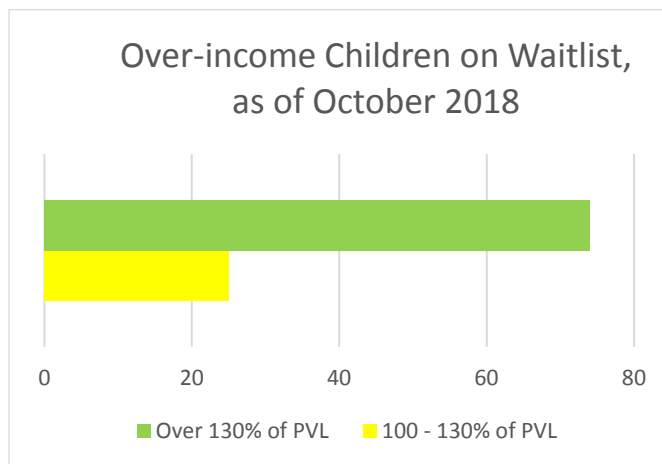
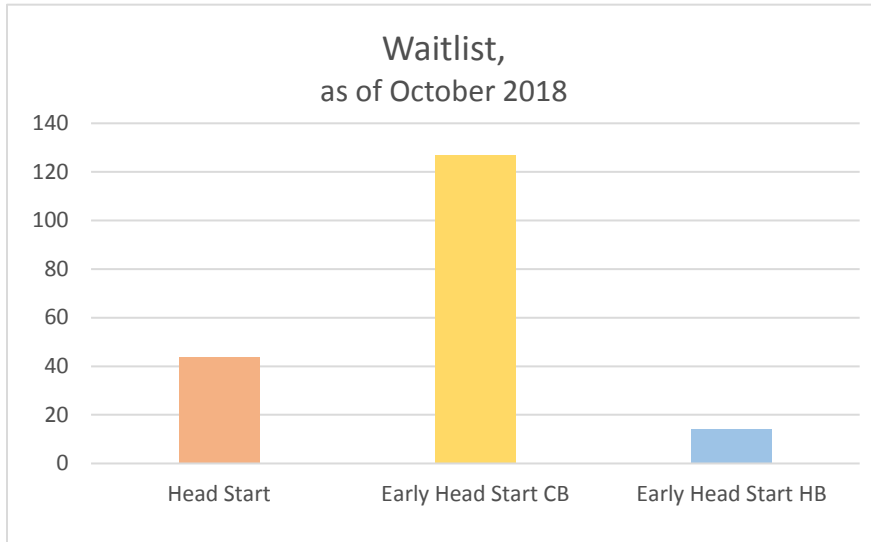


Ages of Enrolled Children - Head Start, as of October 2018



Racial/Ethnic Composition Enrolled Children, as of October 2018





We recruit our families in a variety of ways including attending enrollment fairs, partnering with local agencies, tabling at community events, and participating in the Citywide eligibility list managed by The SF Children’s Council. Our greatest recruitment method is by word of mouth and family referrals. In the 2018 Family Exit Survey, 97% of our families indicated they would recommend our program to family and friends. Our parents are involved at various levels of our programming including participating in the Parent Policy Council, participating in parent meetings, holding office on Parent Committees, and by volunteering in their child’s classroom. During the 2017-2018 school year, we had more than 700 parent volunteers.

	Start 8/8/18	Sep 9/1/18	Oct 10/1/18	Today 10/11/18
Funded Enrollment	325	325	325	325
IEP	18	28	27	27
IFSP	0	1	1	1
Total (IEP + IFSP)	18	29	28	28
Percent of Funded	5.5%	8.9%	8.6%	8.6%
Concern*	10	33	40	39

1 Number of enrolled children with disabilities

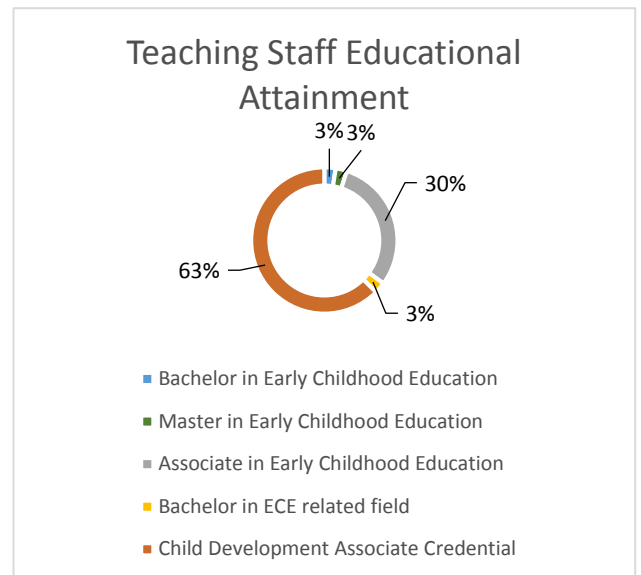
* In the grid, 'Concern' represents the number of children with one or more open concerns that do not also have an open IEP or IFSP.

Out of 27 Individualized Education Plans, 26 are for Speech and Language delays. One is for a learning disability. Of 1 IFSP, 1 is for Speech and Language delays. MNC works closely with the San Francisco Unified School District, Support for Families, the Family Inclusion Network, and the Golden Gate Regional Center to provide our enrolled children with disabilities resources to improve and provide early intervention to these children. In addition, we have MOU’s with Linguistic Connections, (speech/language assessments, referrals, monitoring) and Project Commotion (gross motor movement, therapy) to assist us in addressing the special needs of our children.

Head Start Staff

MNC Head Start/Early Head Start staff are multi-lingual and multi-cultural. 100% of our staff have some level of English language competency. Over 85% of our staff speak Spanish. 6% of our teachers speak East/South Asian languages. 9% are monolingual English speaking.

91% of our Management and Family Services staff hold a minimum of an Associate degree with the majority holding a Bachelor or Master in their career field. 88% of our Family Services Specialists have a Family Development Credential.



Primary Language of our Head Start Staff and Families



Relevant Opinions of Community Needs

Opinions of Parents

In both focus group sessions and the online parent survey, parents voiced concerns around housing, safety, job insecurity, and shifting dynamics of immigration policy.

Common themes around housing and safety were the lack of truly affordable housing that are available to them. Some parents were quoted as saying:

“The housing crisis, families are being displaced outside the city”
“That the new buildings they build are no longer low-priced for families”

Other comments included:

“The housing that we live in is undignified. They’re old, are infested with rats, roaches, bed bugs and have mold and lead”
“We can’t afford ‘Low income’ housing”
“I feel that the streets around here are not very safe”
“The only available jobs are in the service industry with very low pay”
“The available jobs are not accessible to the people that live here. They are here only for people who already work in tech industry”



Parents also discussed the political climate and the very real affects the federal administration is having on their daily lives. They feel insecure, afraid, and no longer safe in their neighborhoods. Comments included:

“Racism, lack of morals, lack of conscience, lack of appreciation, makes our families feel unsafe in the community”
“Insecurity causes our children not to want to go to school”.
“Since the new president is in power, white people feel more authoritative to mistreat us”

When discussing our program, parent focus group participants and online survey respondents said they were satisfied their children were in our program and felt that overall the program had a strong focus on child learning, socio-emotional supports, and Kindergarten preparedness. They said they can see the differences in their children and their child's growth.

"Discipline and routine helps (my child) be independent; for example, wash your hands after lunch; they learn at school and they do it at home"

"My son did not talk much, but today I see my son singing at home"

Furthermore, parents appreciated the additional services we provide such as speech and language screenings, dental check-ups, and parenting classes:

"I feel it is a very complete and well-rounded program"

"They have given us many services that help us to be better parents, such as discipline and nutrition."

"When I had a family problem, the social worker gave me resources and offered professional help to help me with my case. He also referred me to a therapist"

However, there is always room for improvement. Parents want to see more diverse activities that are based in the families' cultures, diverse classrooms with children of other ethnic backgrounds, more field trips and time to explore the natural world, and hands on activities like gardening. They also recognize the need for more in-house services and resources, specifically related to tenant counseling, legal support, migration, and housing resources.

"We also want programs, workshops, and resources to equip us to better our livelihoods such as job readiness, nutrition, and education."

Scheduling conflicts and even knowing about the various activities we offer is also a challenge. Parents want to participate more, but often cannot due to work conflicts and transportation issues. We also recognize the need to reassess our family engagement activities in order to reach as many people as possible.

"It would be supportive having activities for parents and families at different times of the day to maximize participation"

"Often we don't seek support with Head Start because we don't know what additional services are provided."

Our parents also acknowledged resources available in the community and were able to name several agencies in which they received help with housing, immigration, counseling, and services for their older children. However, a coordinated system and approach between MNC and other social service agencies is necessary to provide a better reach and resulting outcomes for our families. When asked if they would know where to go for help, if needed, for employment, housing, and finances, 59% of our English language parent survey respondents and 65% of our Spanish language parent survey respondents answered, "No or Unsure".

Opinions of Head Start staff

When asked how the needs of our children have changed over the last five years, our staff overwhelmingly highlighted the increasing number of children with challenging behaviors. The increased cost of housing, political instability of the community, and concerns over immigration have caused increased parent stress



and parental pressures. Increasing exposure to traumatic incidences, has a direct correlation to children exhibiting challenging behaviors. Parental stress, parental separation, and other negative socioeconomic factors often lead to behaviors exhibited by children that indicate lack of self-expression and articulation, incidences that trigger negative responses from children, and resulting challenging behaviors.

Our staff indicated that while we provide high quality services across all service areas, more support is needed, via training and/or additional teaching and support staff, to address the increasing/changing needs of our children and families.

“Families need more support in different areas social, emotional and therapy”

The families have experienced more trauma and less connection to their culturally relevant social support system.”

“The children have increasingly exhibited challenging behaviors, unhealthy nutrition habits, and limited speech/language development”

“We have more children with more complex development conditions”

“I observe more children with special needs”

“Families have more economic and housing problems, also with immigration and domestic violence cases”

Our staff also recognized the need for program options that address the needs of more families.

“Families need more full-time centers.”

“Families need full day, full year childcare but some do not qualify due to income guidelines and live in a city with a higher minimum wage, families are leaving the neighborhood and/or city due to gentrification”

Another potential obstacle families, particularly recent immigrants, face is the threat of the expansion of the “public charge” immigration law. The White House is proposing to change this long-standing policy by broadly expanding the forms of public assistance counted when making a public charge determination. Potentially, immigrant families, already living in fear of deportation, would be hesitant to seek programs that support basic needs – like healthcare and childcare. This would force immigrant families to make an impossible choice between meeting basic needs and keeping their families together in this country.

Opinions of Community Leaders/Institutions

During the City-wide Thought Partner Focus Group, community leaders were divided into 8 groups and asked to answer eight questions about community issues, barriers, resources, and alternatives/solutions. They were asked to look at these areas through the lens of their respective professions and in relation to early care and education/family services.

Issues - Community members identified gentrification and the increasing cost of living as some of the biggest issues facing families. Additionally, respondents said working within the dynamics of families can be difficult. Despite a desire of parents to engage in their children’s development, work and other needs take priority. Key issues mentioned from the group included:

<p><i>ERSEA</i></p> <p>Enrollment process not family-friendly</p> <p>Chronic absences</p> <p>Transportation issues</p> <p>Income disparity</p> <p>Federal poverty level and San Francisco Cost of living at odds</p> <p>Untraditional working hours of families</p>	<p><i>Education</i></p> <p>Difficult finding teachers</p> <p>Housing for teachers</p> <p>Teachers having to meet many developmental levels of children</p> <p>Self-regulation challenges of children</p>
<p><i>Family Engagement</i></p> <p>Getting families more active in programming</p> <p>Making services available so more families can access them</p> <p>Families are stretched thin</p> <p>Cultural barriers in seeking assist for family needs</p>	<p><i>Mental Health</i></p> <p>Challenging to support children with diverse needs</p> <p>Children not qualifying for special education, but still needing help</p> <p>Limited space in the city cause programs to design classroom environments that may not be suitable to early learning</p> <p>Misdiagnoses of special needs children</p>
<p><i>Health</i></p> <p>Pre-birth among African American women</p> <p>Children prefer convenience and high sugar foods making it difficult for them to eat healthfully at school</p> <p>Providing healthy, culturally diverse food for a large number of children that they will eat and enjoy</p>	<p><i>Other</i></p> <p>Staff not trained in inclusion and in supporting children with different diagnoses such as trauma, autism, physical needs</p>

Barriers - Community Leaders agreed that the cost of living and a complicated system of care were great barriers for families of young children. Bureaucracy that families must break through and waitlists families must contend with make it difficult for those who need the services most. This is compounded when there are language barriers and lack of familial supports when making connections to medical and dental homes, mental health services, or housing resources.

This is especially true when it comes to Mental Health, which is already a highly sensitive issue.

“It is difficult to address parents and child needs in a culturally appropriate way. Need Mental Health information, guides, and tips in families’ home language.”

“Stigma, lack of access, parent denial, and lack of teacher training create barriers”

“School attendance becomes poor, over stressed staff due to challenging behaviors exhibited by children facing traumatic experiences”

There was also frustration expressed with parental education and the use of technology was also seen as a barrier. The increase of children’s use of phones and other gadgets is troubling to most in the field. Too much screen time has proven to be harmful to children’s focus and developmental levels.

“Too much screen time, overly busy parents, and not enough movement opportunities”

Focus Group participants also recognized that the loss of ECE professionals in the City has made a large impact on preschool programs. The quality of the entire program (learning environment, relationships, child assessments, language competency, etc.) is affected when quality teachers leave an organization. The classroom teacher is the foundation of the classroom. Without him or her the classroom environment changes. Unsteady relationships impact children’s sense of stability, and often this results in challenging behaviors.



“Staffing is one of the things we struggle with most”

“Inconsistency in the classroom impacts children with trauma backgrounds; traumatizing children who are already traumatized”

Resources for Change - The majority of conversations focused on the shortage of qualified teaching staff. Many suggested building pathways– starting as early as High School for volunteer opportunities, and direct linkages to City and State College for pipelines from school to internship to employment. Others suggested implementing incentives to attract individuals and offering incentives for continuous study for current employees. All participants said their organizations can partner and assist with improving program quality and child outcomes. Including offering client referrals, staff training, and technical assistance.

Alternatives and Solutions - When asked how we increase opportunities for families, children, and pregnant women, people responded:

“Empower people to ask questions and advocate for themselves”
“Partner with WIC to develop formal relationship for automatic enrollment”
“Continuous-intentional handoff with SFUSD”

There was also an acknowledgement from many participants that the need for advocacy was apparent. Support and advocacy from other non-profit agencies and community groups is paramount for resources and change.

“Encourage and advocate for services. Parents and agencies need to be the squeaky wheel”

Another solution was to have the grantees partner to share ideas and resources to bolster all of the programs. One such example was the Substitute portal in which grantees establish their own substitute wait pool, rather than pay the high mark-up costs of professionals staffing agencies.

Conclusion

The greatest need low-income San Franciscans are facing is in housing, safety, and affordable childcare. The latter is addressed through a multi-pronged approach of federal, state, and city funds. While preschool remains a need, particularly for children and families living in the Bayview-Hunter's Point and Excelsior districts, the need for infant-toddler care is massive. San Francisco has increased access to licensed infant/toddler care and preschool. However, there is still a substantial shortage of high-quality, licensed programs, especially for children ages 0-2. There are only enough slots in licensed Centers for a mere 6% of all children ages 0-2. This is due, in large part to the scarcity of facilities with enough indoor and outdoor space that meets strict licensing requirements. We recognize the need for ECE in the Bayview and Excelsior districts and have plans to develop a center in the Excelsior in the future. We acknowledge that, due to property stock and expense of conducting tenant improvements, no such move will happen within the next few years.

This community assessment also shows the continued, significant need for MNC's Head Start/Early Head Start Program and the expansion of infant/toddler slots. Although San Francisco is one of the most affluent areas of the United States, it is characterized by dramatic income inequality and significant poverty rates among its children, particularly those that are Latinx, immigrant, and African American. MNC, with almost 60 years of providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services, is well positioned to continue to serve underserved populations, particularly in the Mission. While more families are moving, we find that many still return to the Mission - their "home-base" to receive services from us and other non-profit agencies. Our standing as an anchor institution in the Mission leaves us well positioned to continue providing Early Care and Education for many more years to come.

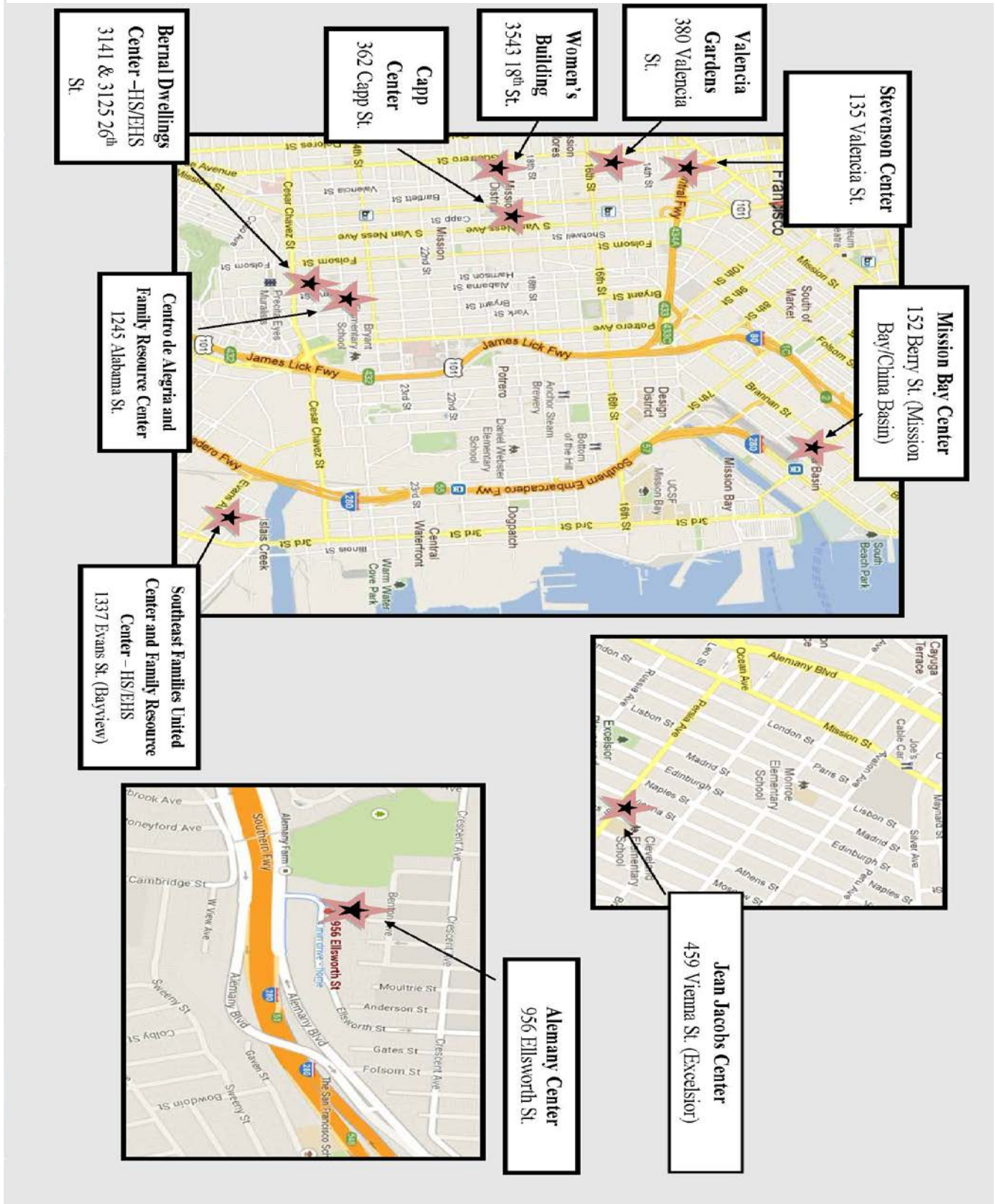
Appendix A

List of participating agencies at the Citywide Head Start/Early Head Start Thought Partner Focus Group

1. Asian Art Museum
2. Chefables
3. Children's Council of San Francisco
4. City College of San Francisco
5. First 5 San Francisco
6. Golden Gate Resource Center Early Start
7. Human Services Agency of San Francisco
8. Instituto Familiar de la Raza
9. Kai Ming Head Start
10. Linguistic Connections
11. Mission Promise Neighborhood
12. Project Commotion
13. Richmond Area Multi-Services, Inc.
14. San Francisco Office of Early Care and Education
15. San Francisco Public Library
16. San Francisco State University – Edvance
17. San Francisco State University – PATH
18. San Francisco State University – School of Nursing
19. San Francisco Unified School District – Office of Special Education
20. Support for Families SF
21. Tandem Partners for Early Literacy
22. Wu Yee Children's Services

Appendix B

Map Showing MNC Head Start, Early Head Start, and Family Resource Center locations



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