

Whole Child Health and Wellness

STRATEGIC PLANNING JOURNEY LAUNCHES!

December 18, 2019 marked a historic moment for California. Over 120 stakeholders representing diverse sectors, geographies, and constituencies gathered in Sacramento for the launch of the [Whole Child Health and Wellness strategic planning](#) process.

Convened by the [California AfterSchool Network](#), the seeds were sown to create a movement to link policymakers, practitioners, funders, educators, families, and youth to create “equitable and just whole child health and wellness” systems.

The primary purpose of the convening was to, “Engage stakeholders in the ongoing Whole Child Health and Wellness (WCHW) journey, develop an equity-based vision of WCHW, and identify key priority focus areas for the WCHW planning work.” Participants began by creating ways of working together that model equity-based practices and relationships to ensure that the full range of voices necessary to shape this work are heard and valued during the planning process and beyond.



They went on to create a **Draft Vision** to inspire and guide the work moving forward.

DRAFT VISION

“The roots of whole child health and wellness are founded in equitable and just relationships between people and systems. We envision compassionate communities and networks where each and every child is well known, well cared for, and well prepared to thrive. California’s Expanded Learning sites serve as vibrant nodes in these networks ensuring quality care and support for the whole child, whole family, and whole community. As a result, California sees positive mental and physical health outcomes for youth and families and a reduction in substance/opioid misuse and addiction.”

“This vision transcends job descriptions and calls upon our humanity.”



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Priority focus areas for initial planning work were also identified:

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

- Healing - Mindset Shift
- Resources
- Youth and Family Engagement as a Sector / Youth and Family-Centered Program Design
- Adult Capacity Building / Value Driven Leadership
- Multi-Sector and Level Collaboration
- Support Systems

Special thanks to the outstanding facilitation team that made this work and day possible: Diego Arancibia (ASAPconnect), Andi Fletcher (California Health Policy Strategies), Tiffany Gipson (California AfterSchool Network), Ayala Goldstein (CaSAC), Daniel Hatcher (Alliance for a Healthier Generation), Randy Mehrten (United Way of Fresno and Madera Counties), Bruno Marchesi (U.S. Soccer Foundation), Isabelle Mussard (CaSAC), Amira Resnick (Alliance for a Healthier Generation), Jason Riggs (Extended Child Care Coalition of Sonoma County), Aleah Rosario (Foundation for California Community Colleges), Femi Vance (American Institutes for Research), Troy Selvey (California AfterSchool Network) Tony Smith (Whyspeople), and David Yusem (Oakland Unified School District).

"They are all our children. When they are hurt, our children our hurt, when they thrive, our children thrive."

Groups working in these focus areas on December 18th identified key strategic directions and areas for further inquiry and planning work. The full record of their thinking, dialogue, and reflections can be [found here](#).



The work continues in 2020!

We need your voice to move this work forward - Let us know that you would like to join by [clicking here](#).



#wholechildhealthCA