

MISSION STATEMENT

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 for over 20 years.

HISTORY

SHIELDS was formed in 1987 in response to 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 30 comprehensive, family-centered, wrap-around programs addressing issues facing high-risk families in South LA.



believing, building, becoming

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SHIELDS for Families is an equal opportunity service provider that does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief, citizenship/status as a lawfully admitted immigrant authorized to work in the United States, or participation in any WIA Title I-financially assisted program or activity. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

www.shieldsforfamilies.org

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.

Family Support Services



Family Support is a collaborative program that provides supportive services to families who reside in South Central Los Angeles in order to deter them from child welfare services, protect children from abuse and neglect, and safely maintain them in their homes.





The primary goal of the Family Support program is to protect children from abuse and neglect and safely maintain them in their homes. The Family Support program provides services such as Emergency Basic Support, Structured Family Activities and Parenting to families who reside in South Central Los Angeles inclusive of the Watts/Willowbrook and Compton communities.



Family Support provides services using a comprehensive family strength based approach and is home, community and/or center-based. Services are offered in both English and Spanish, to ensure equal availability to all children, youth and families accessing the program and include but are not limited to **case management, linkage services, structured family activities, employment services, emergency basic support, parenting and health**. Length of stay in the program averages three to six months, followed by a transitional period of follow-up



services that includes emergency basic support, structured family activities, employment services, educational programs, case management and linkage services.

The immediate goals of the Family Support program are: to promote the safety of children and families; increase the strength and stability of families; increase parent's confidence and competence in their parenting abilities; provide children a safe, stable and supportive family environment; strengthen relationships and promote healthy families; and enhance child development.



In collaboration with Para Los Niños and Drew Child Development Corporation, the Family Support program provides services to families who reside in South Central Los Angeles inclusive of the Watts/Willowbrook and Compton communities and are staffed by multidisciplinary personnel with cultural sensitivity to the unique needs of the families who reside in the target community.

Program Highlights

- Staffing consists of program management, case management staff and support staff.
- Provides services to families with pregnant and/or parenting teens as well as families, who are referred by DCFS where there is an allegation of child abuse and/or neglect that is unfounded, but who are in need of services to avoid future DCFS involvement.
- Clients entering the program can be referred from other agencies or be self-referred (i.e. walk-ins).