La Familia Counseling Center, Inc. has been serving the South Sacramento community region for over 42 years.

To improve the quality of life for at-risk youth and families of diverse backgrounds by offering multi-cultural counseling, support and outreach services and programs to help families to overcome adversity, to become empowered and to succeed in their lives.
Services and Programs

- **Mental Health Counseling**
  - Individual, family, and group counseling, support services and resource for children 0-21 years old

- **Supporting Community Connections**
  - Early suicidal intervention and prevention program

- **Employment Programs/ Training Center**
  - Provide pre-employment workshops, computer basics, career development, subsidized On-the-Job Training opportunities, GED/ABE classes, resource and referrals

- **Birth and Beyond**
  - Family Resource Center, offering support services to parents, pregnant women and families with children 0-18 years old, including home-visitation, parenting classes, parent support group, crisis intervention specialist, school readiness liaison and domestic violence support groups.
Services and Programs cont.

- **Project Reach**
  - Case management and wrap around services for youth ages 10-21 at risk of dropping out of school, pre-gang and/or gang affiliated

- **Youth Voice**
  - Youth leadership programs for at-risk youth ages 14-21 from underserved populations to conduct community projects related to health and violence prevention.

- **Community Health Navigator Program**
  - Provide assistance to clients in accessing health care services, in understanding their chronic disease and in activities to reduce disparities

- **Covered California/Medi-Cal Enrollment**
  - Provide health coverage education, enrollment, and referral to families and individuals
Description of neighborhood/ community

- Lack of transportation
- Lack of banks
- Limited to no health care facilities
- No parks
- No designated services for seniors
- Recent industry closures (Campbell’s Soups)

**Assets:**
- Strong support for local businesses
- Small generational businesses
- Ethnic diversity
- Small walkable school – hub for many services – Maple Elementary School
Maple Elementary School

- Local Elementary School in a predominately immigrant community
- LFCC Partner in reaching parents, children and families
  - Parenting classes
  - Annually held a Health & Safety Fair at Maple Elementary School
  - Provides support and resources to school and families
  - School site was center for recreation

- 2012- School Closures announced
  - 9 schools were identified for closure
  - School Closure hearings revealed no collective voice for the community in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods
  - Decisions were made without adequate community impact evaluation
  - LFCC and others testified to keep schools open or provide better transition planning
  - In February 2013 – School Board voted to close 7 schools in predominantly low income South Sacramento neighborhoods.
Closure of Maple Elementary School
Transitioning from a School to a Neighborhood Center

School Repurposing Process

- Call to Action - Challenges to Opportunities:
- To address the social determinants of health in this community
- To address the communities needs
- Provide space to keep youth off the streets and in a safe environment
- Provide recreational space for children and community members
- Opportunity to partner with other agencies
- Create Neighborhood and collective voice for the community
Starts by Listening

- Community meetings
- Walking the blocks
- Surveys

INTRODUCTION: Center for Public Interest Design (CPID)

- Research center at Portland State University
- Seeks to investigate, promote, and engage in inclusive design practices that address the growing needs of underserved communities worldwide.

- Needs Assessment – Report of findings
A Neighborhood Center is coming:
Abandoned for 2 years has taken a toll on an already old building.
Volunteers from the community
Creating a place for community to gather

**Community Partners:**
- 916 Ink
- Fairytale Town
- ESL/Citizenship Classes
- IMBA - Ballet Folkoricó
- Theatre
- Music

**Potential Partners:**
- Fresher Sacramento
- Training Programs
- Health Clinic
- Legal Services
Transforming every day youth into published authors...
Transform the play area to an Adventure Playground

Adventure Playground
Youth Room

Keeping youth engage in the community