

Immunize LA Kids Coalition

REACHing Out to Eliminate Disparities in Childhood Immunization Coverage in South Los Angeles: Tracking Results

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Immunize LA Kids Coalition

- A REACH 2010 Project
- Funded by the CDC (1999 – 2007)
- Administered by South Los Angeles Health Projects (SLAHP), a community-based unit of the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center



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IZ LA Kids Coalition Goal

To reduce disparities in
immunization rates for
Latino & African American
children in South Los Angeles



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Diverse Partners Working Together to Reduce Disparities

Community members

- Parents from the community

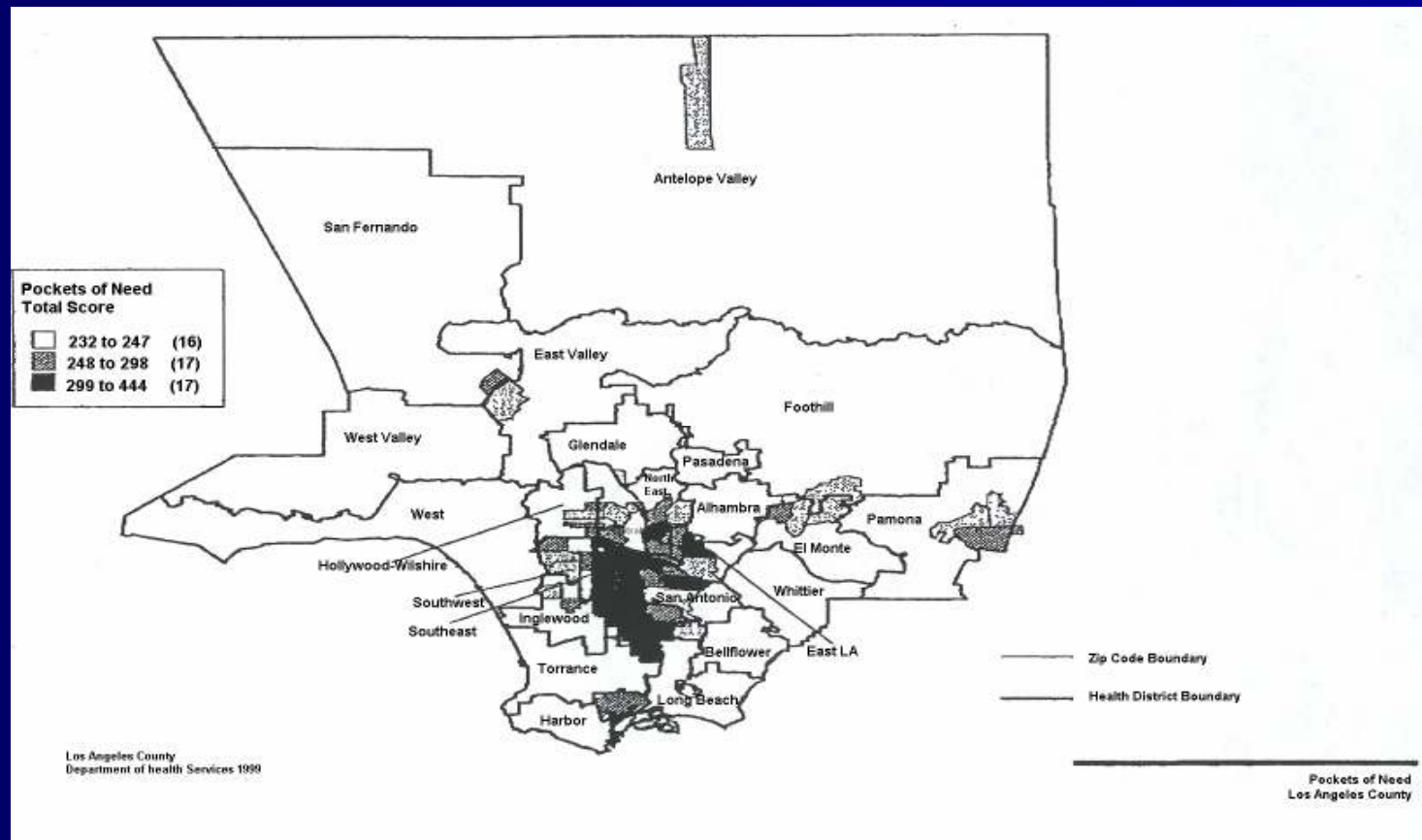
Immunization Stakeholders

- California Dept. PH, Immunization Branch
- Los Angeles County Dept. PH, Immunization Prog.
- State and County IZ Coalitions
- LA Care Health Plan
- Over 30 health care providers & CBOs



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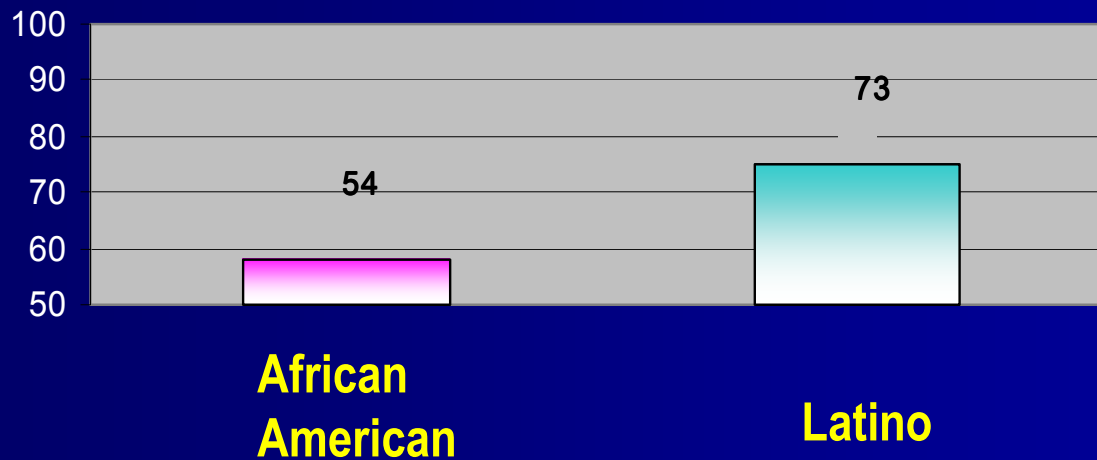
L.A. County “Pockets of Need”



African American Children Less Likely to be UTD

SLAHP WIC Sites, Jan. 2000

**% Up-to-date
with vaccines
(4:3:1:3:3
series) at 24
Months**



IMMUNIZE **LA** Kids

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Community Action Plan

IZ LA Kids Coalition developed a Community Action Plan (CAP):

- Provider intervention
- Community intervention
- WIC intervention

Complemented by:

- Outreach and referrals



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Community Intervention

Intervention designed by IZ LA Kids and four Community-based Organizations (CBOs)

- Tracking & Follow up of Under-immunized Children
 - Utilized automated tracking system, “ITSLA”
 - CHPs conducted reminder calls and home visits
- Community Outreach and Education
- Clinic Inreach



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Partner Clinic – T.H.E. Demonstrates Improvements

- Stagnation in 24 mo. UTD rates
- Leadership committed to improve
- System changes
 - Staff in service / monthly trend graphs
 - Changes in intake and backoffice
 - Integration of electronic registry
- 24 mo. UTD rate: 31% to 76% UTD

Community Outreach & Education

Clinic Activities complemented and supported by African American Task Force activities

AATF contributed to design and testing of:

- Radio PSAs (60-second)
- Posters for pediatric clinics
 - “Sick Today, Shots May Be Okay”
- Print materials:
 - “Shots by Two” flyer
 - “Getting Back on Track” brochure
- Provider Cultural Competency Assessment Tool

IZ LA Kids Print Materials

Shots By Two

Every Shot Counts!


 2
 months


 4
 months


 6
 months




 12
 months


 15
 months


 24
 months

Do your 2-year-olds have all their shots?

- 1. Take your children to get their shots at **2, 4, 6, 12, 15, and 24 months**. If you miss these dates, take your kids when you remember!
- 2. When you take your children to get shots, **YOU** protect them from preventable diseases like measles, mumps, whooping cough, and chicken pox.
- 3. Always take a shot record (yellow card) to each doctor or clinic visit.
- 4. For information about free or low-cost shots, call 1-800-427-8700.

**Keep your children healthy.
Take them to get their shots.**



African American Children
Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 504231 2010 Initiative

SICK TODAY?

Shots may be OK!

Shots are safe and effective for healthy kids and for most children with mild illnesses. So whether your child is here for a well-child visit or a visit for:

- A cold
- A mild fever
- An ear infection
- Or other mild illnesses

we'll talk to you about the shots that can protect him or her from serious diseases such as whooping cough, chickenpox, and measles.

We're here to help your child stay healthy, so we take advantage of every chance to give him or her the shots needed to stay well.

Don't put off protecting your child from deadly diseases. Talk to us about the shots he or she may be able to receive today.




For more information about shots, call

800-232-4636



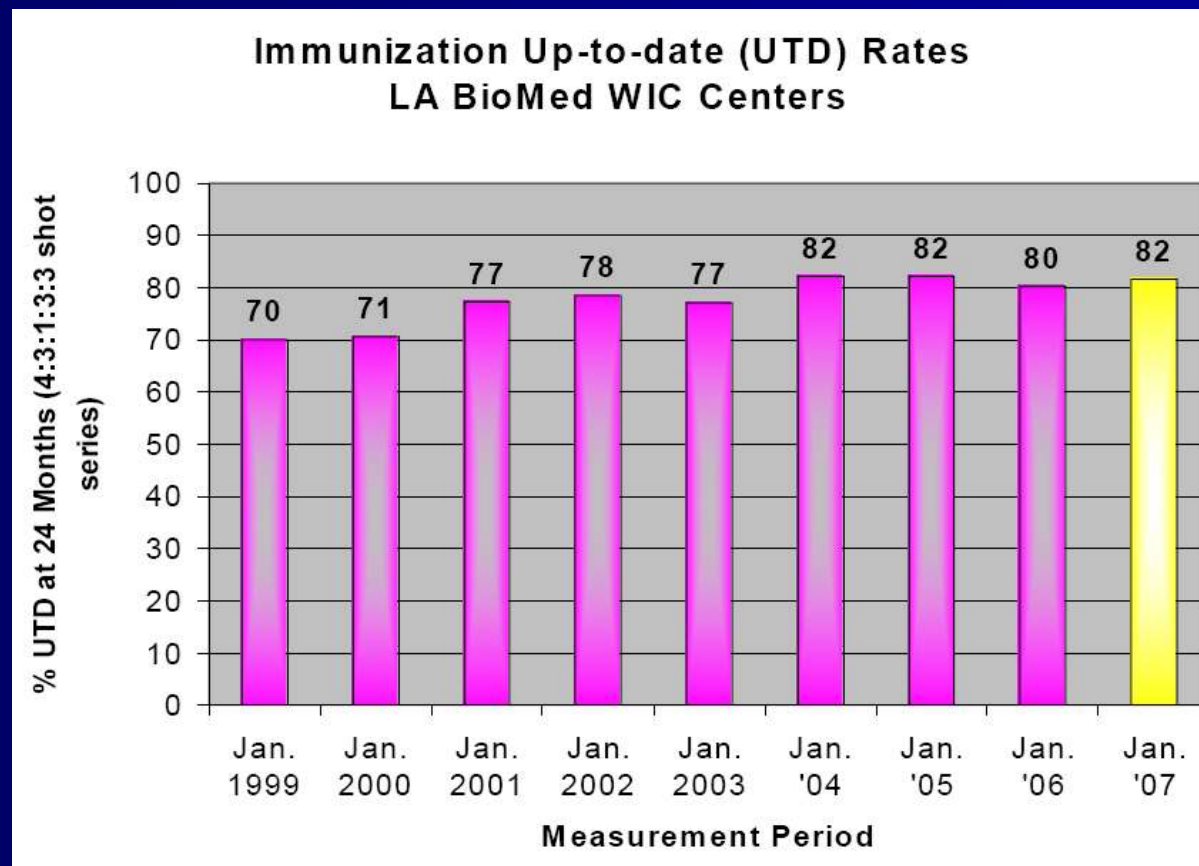

WIC – based Intervention

- 10 WIC sites in South LA
- Ongoing assessment, education, referral
- Parents receive copy of IZ report
- Monthly Voucher Pick-up (MVP) and Recall (by tel/letter) if missing shots
- Conducting disclosure to upload records to County web-based registry ([LINK](#))

WIC-based IZ Tracking

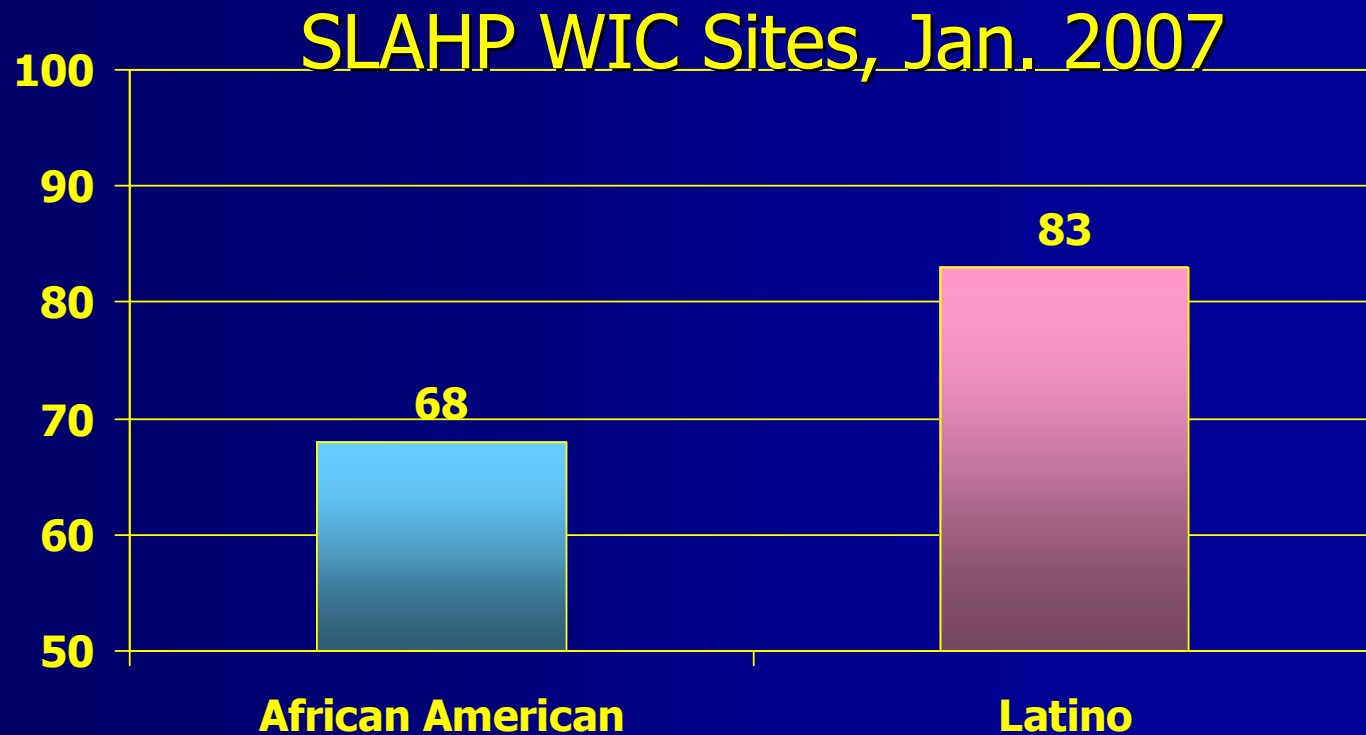
- Electronic tracking since late 1990s
- > 250,000 records
- Cohort of 15,000 infants/year
- Demographics are downloaded from State WIC data system
- Reports by age, racial/ethnic group, vaccine type, Zip code, WIC site
- Migration of records to LINK

24-month IZ UTD Rates



Racial/Ethnic Disparities Remain

% Up-to-date with vaccines (4:3:1:3:3 series) at 24 Months



Lessons Learned

- Value of multi-pronged approach
- Benefit of leveraging resources through the Coalition
 - Importance of continuously revising plan
- Buy in at all levels is critical for effective systems change
- Value of WIC-based IZ screening & tracking system
- Continued efforts are needed to identify root causes of IZ disparities in the African American community



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Challenges

- Reaching out beyond WIC
- Effective follow up
 - Children NOT recently seen in the clinic
- Changes in WIC racial/ethnic classification
- Conversion to use of County-wide registry
- Coalition member burn-out
- System and other barriers to IZ promotion
- Continued funding to address racial/ethnic disparities in childhood IZ



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