

Children's MOSAIC Project

COMMUNITY SERVED¹

Springfield is an urban center in Central Illinois, with a population of approximately 116,809 and a geographic area of 59.5 square miles.

- 22.0% (26,000²) under age 18
- 74.7% White, 18.0% Black, 2.0% Latino, 2.2% Asian
- 17.6% persons below FPL
- 1,954.4 persons/square mile

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Children's MOSAIC Project is a collaborative initiative whose mission is to combine resources to cultivate the social and emotional health of children and families in Springfield. MOSAIC targets three specific settings—high-risk neighborhoods, schools, and primary care—as it develops a coordinated, integrated system where children have access to high-quality mental health care, with a focus on prevention. Goals include:

- Implement the Screening, Assessment, Referral, and Treatment (SART) model within public school boundaries
- Build the community's capacity to offer services/supports needed for children to develop to their full potential
- Enhance and expand interagency communication and collaboration

CHILDREN SERVED

Approximately 38% of the children in MOSAIC's service area were screened by the end of 2014. More than 1,600 children received interventions at home, school, or a physician's office.

CHILDREN SCREENED



Neighborhood. In partnership with The Springfield Project (TSP), MOSAIC provides mental health and professional development services in the city's Neighborhood of Hope.

Primary care. Three of the city's four large physician groups are part of MOSAIC—SIU School of Medicine's Center for Family Medicine, Memorial Physician Services-Koke Mill, and SIU Department of Pediatrics.

Schools. Five of the 31 District 186 schools participate, as do after school and summer programs of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Illinois.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

School-based interventions. Preliminary local evaluation results indicate that the MOSAIC model is effectively engaging vulnerable groups in schools. At one target school, children and families receiving MOSAIC services on-site were more likely to sustain their participation and experienced fewer crises than their peers in traditional outpatient services. Children also missed less instructional time.

Physician buy-in. Physicians engaged in MOSAIC report positive benefits, including an increase in the number of children identified at-risk for mental illness. Of 39 physicians surveyed, nearly all report that an embedded mental health clinician increases the likelihood that patients will participate in treatment. Nearly all physicians also report they would recommend the MOSAIC model to other primary care practices.

Provider training. More than 600 professionals working with children and families have participated in professional development and are better prepared to provide high quality mental health care.

LESSONS LEARNED

Neighborhood outreach. MOSAIC's initial plan to engage families in their homes through neighborhood outreach workers proved unsuccessful. Other strategies for reaching and supporting neighborhood children, such as embedding social/emotional curriculum in after school programs, were more effective and acceptable.

Stakeholder involvement. Staff transitions in key organizations and the changing social and political landscape of Springfield often disrupted stakeholder relationships. MOSAIC counters this by maintaining regular communication with stakeholders and continuously focusing on increasing community awareness and involvement.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Mental Health Centers of Central Illinois
- Springfield Public School District 186
- The Springfield Project
- Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
- City of Springfield
- Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln
- University of Illinois Springfield
- United Way of Central Illinois
- The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce
- Sangamon County Continuum of Learning
- Springfield Urban League
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Illinois
- Sangamon County Public Health Department
- Memorial Physician Services

¹ United States Census, *State & County Quickfacts*, "Springfield (city), Illinois." Accessed August 5, 2015. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/17/1772000.html>

² D. Racine, *MOSAIC Local Evaluation Report*. 31 May 31, 2015.