



OUR MISSION

Children living in poverty spend almost 150 percent more time hospitalized each year than children from higher income families.

More than 4.7 million (7 percent) children in the U.S. aged one to nine years are limited in their activities because of chronic illnesses and impairments that are often preventable.

Among the more than one million child victims of maltreatment in the U.S. each year, 49 percent are neglected, 24 percent are physically abused, 14 percent are sexually abused and 23 percent suffer medical neglect, emotional maltreatment and other unknown maltreatment.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among adolescents 15-19 years old nationally. Half of the adolescent suicides in Los Angeles each year are alcohol-related.

The Center's mission is to improve society's ability to provide children with the best opportunities for health and well-being, and the chance to assume productive roles within families and communities. Through a unique partnership between university-based researchers, providers, community agencies and affiliated institutions, a critical mass of expertise has been assembled to:

- Improve the health of children, families and communities by developing innovative and responsive service programs.
- Increase the efficiency, effectiveness and distribution of health and social services.
- Assist communities in transforming themselves into healthier environments for their children.



A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP

The *UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities* unites a broad array of specialists -- in pediatrics, public health, preventive medicine, education, mental health, economics, communications, law and public policy -- with families, community groups, providers and businesses. The synergy created by the Center offers an opportunity for remarkable cooperation and teamwork to address some of the most challenging health and social problems facing children and families.