

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT NO. 68

NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR THE PREGNANCY AND PARENTING AWARENESS PROGRAM, VALLEJO, CA

During the Winter of 1997, North Bay Health Resources Center was awarded a California Community Challenge Grant to develop, implement, and evaluate a Pregnancy and Parenting Awareness (PAPA) Program in Vallejo. The grant included a 5-month needs assessment phase (February-June, 1997) that was intended to assess community needs and develop appropriate programs and services. An important goal of this assessment phase was to better understand youths' perceptions of the environmental factors leading to early sexual involvement (and its consequences) and what strategies might be most effective in addressing these issues.

As part of the needs assessment process, PAPA carried out a Youth and Adult Survey. PAPA hired a group of youth interns who were responsible for planning and implementing the survey, with assistance from staff at PAPA and Sociometrics. Sociometrics completed the following activities:

- designed survey questionnaires for adults and teens;
- trained the youth interns to conduct the survey;
- analyzed the data; and
- reported on the findings.

The sample of participants was chosen to represent populations targeted by the grant (e.g., pre-sexually active teens, sexually active teens, teen mothers, boys at risk of becoming fathers). Sociometrics worked with the PAPA Project Director to identify the sample of more than 400 Vallejo residents.

Sociometrics also worked with PAPA to conduct an outcome evaluation of the two-year project.

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Duration: 04/01/97—06/30/99

Budget: \$50,000

Staff: J. Park, M. Kelley