



What are Social Determinants of Health?

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the conditions where people live, learn, work and play affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. These conditions are known as social determinants of health. Poverty is a social determinant of health. Those who live in poverty have limited access to healthy foods and safe neighborhoods. Educational attainment is one of the most important predictors of better health. The more we understand social limitations, the better we can do as a community to improve health equity.



Directions for Youth & Families' Youth Centers have been directly responding to social determinants to improve the overall health of the youth and families we serve. We believe communities can heal themselves and our vision for the new Crittenton Community Center, using our *Community Restoration* model, will increase our impact on all five determinants for the entire community's population.

How Our Impact Will Improve the Community

Economic Stability (Poverty, Employment, Food Insecurity, Housing Instability)

> The Kimberly Parkway community has the highest percentage of evictions in our County, and ranks third in highest number of families and individuals living in poverty. Working with partner organizations such as Homeport, Community Properties of Ohio and IMPACT Community Action, DFYF's new Crittenton Community Center will provide programs to stabilize households.

> Through a new, non-traditional Workforce Development program designed by DFYF, we will address the chronically underemployed residents in the Kimberly Parkway community. This program will ensure individuals are ready for sustained employment with a focus on emotional regulation and self-discipline; along with the necessary soft and hard skills.

Education (High School Graduation, Enrollment in Higher Education, Language & Literacy, Early Childhood Education)

> Kimberly Parkway's high school, Independence, has one of the lowest graduation rates in our City. According to a 2018 study by US News & World Report, 74% of the student body had limited math proficiency and 53% had limited reading proficiency. The academic scores of youth served at our Youth Centers (ages 8-17) far exceed those of their peers. DFYF's programming for youth focuses on core competencies of reading, math and science, while providing opportunities for self expression through art, music and dance activities.





Health & Health Care (Access to Health Care, Access to Primary Care, Health Literacy)

> The infant mortality rate in the Kimberly Parkway community is 11.8% - one of the highest in Franklin County. Through our 2Gen approach, DFYF partners with healthcare providers OhioHealth, Center for Healthy Families, and Moms2B, to address the lack of comprehensive healthcare for youth, adults and seniors living in the community.



Neighborhood & Built Environment (Access to Food & Support Healthy Eating Patterns, Quality of Housing, Crime & Violence, Environmental Conditions)

> The Center will offer a community garden, a farmer's market, and are studying the building of an aquaponics greenhouse to improve access to nutritional foods, year round. Healthy meals are provided for the after-school program along with "snack factory" items, all part of our nutrition education program that focuses on nutritious food and healthy cooking.



> DFYF has engaged Community Properties of Ohio and Homeport to help stabilize the eviction rate in this area; that currently ranks first in the city. Additionally, DFYF has engaged in conversations with Habitat for Humanity regarding future focus on this neighborhood.

> DFYF will utilize their *Community Restoration* model as the foundation and support for a coordinated program and service delivery system that can address individual and community needs such as mental and physical healthcare, educational attainment, economic self-sufficiency, employment, safety and healthy child development. We were the primary agency in the Weiland Park project in addressing safety focusing on crime and drug use. We provided alternatives to court in addressing delinquency and supporting families through counseling and case management services.



Social & Community Context (Social Cohesion, Civic Partnership, Discrimination, Incarceration)

> The new Center will include a full-size gymnasium, performing arts center, behavioral health counseling rooms, multi-purpose room for group activities, a Women's Center, and a commercial teaching kitchen. Our after-school program, TOP (Teen Outreach Program), meets weekly to cover a variety of topics related to adolescent health and development, including building social, emotional, and life skills; developing a positive sense of self; and connecting with others. We envision the Center being a multi-generational hub and a safe harbor where youth and families of the Kimberly Parkway community are afforded the programs and services needed to achieve their potential and thrive.

> This safe harbor will be a place where community members may gather and open a dialogue with one another, build a supportive community and meet in collaboration with community providers of service. We will address the needs of women, parents and grandparents in the community, and the ever-growing new Americans population in this area. Community walks will be an integral part of our initiative in being a visual presence throughout this community. This is a cornerstone of our *Community Restoration* model.

> Ninety-eight percent of our current program participants are people of color. There are five different African groups that have settled in this area. DFYF partners Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services and Liberians in Columbus, Inc provide services that encourage community integration centered around socio-cultural and economic growth.

> By improving school graduation rates, addressing the toxic stress variables caused by poverty, stabilizing housing, improving job readiness skills, meeting basic needs and addressing unresolved trauma and mental health issues, crime is expected to decrease, thereby decreasing incarceration rates.



Our New Crittenton Community Center

We are fortunate to live in a City rich with services and organizations addressing the needs of many under-served populations. We are the only organization in Central Ohio who offers a continuum of service that spans psychiatric and psychological services, mental and behavioral health treatment, and after-school and prevention programming. Through our partnership with like-minded organizations, the new Crittenton Community Center will become a safe harbor where youth and families of the Kimberly Parkway community are afforded the programs and services needed to achieve their unique potential and thrive.

Social Determinant	Key Issues	DFYF	Boys & Girls Clubs	Columbus Recs & Parks	YMCA
Economic Stability	Poverty	X			
	Employment	X			
	Food Insecurity	X	X		X
	Housing Instability	X			
Education	High School Graduation	X	X		X
	Enrollment in Higher Education	X	X		
	Language & Literacy	X	X	X	X
	Early Childhood Education	X		X	X
Health & Health Care	Access to Health Care	X			
	Access to Primary Care	X			
	Health Literacy	X	X		X
Neighborhood & Built Environment	Access to Food & Support Healthy Eating Patterns	X	X		X
	Quality of Housing	X			
	Crime & Violence	X	X	X	X
	Environmental Conditions	X			
Social & Community Context	Social Cohesion	X	X	X	X
	Civic Partnership	X	X	X	X
	Discrimination	X			X
	Incarceration	X		X	

