



Department of County Human Services



Safe, healthy, caring and diverse communities where hope, independence, learning and opportunity prevail for all.

Multnomah County Defending Childhood Initiative

Board of County Commissioners Briefing
June 16, 2011

Presentation Overview

- Introduction to Multnomah County
- Community Assessment
- Project Rationale
- Action Steps
- Project Management

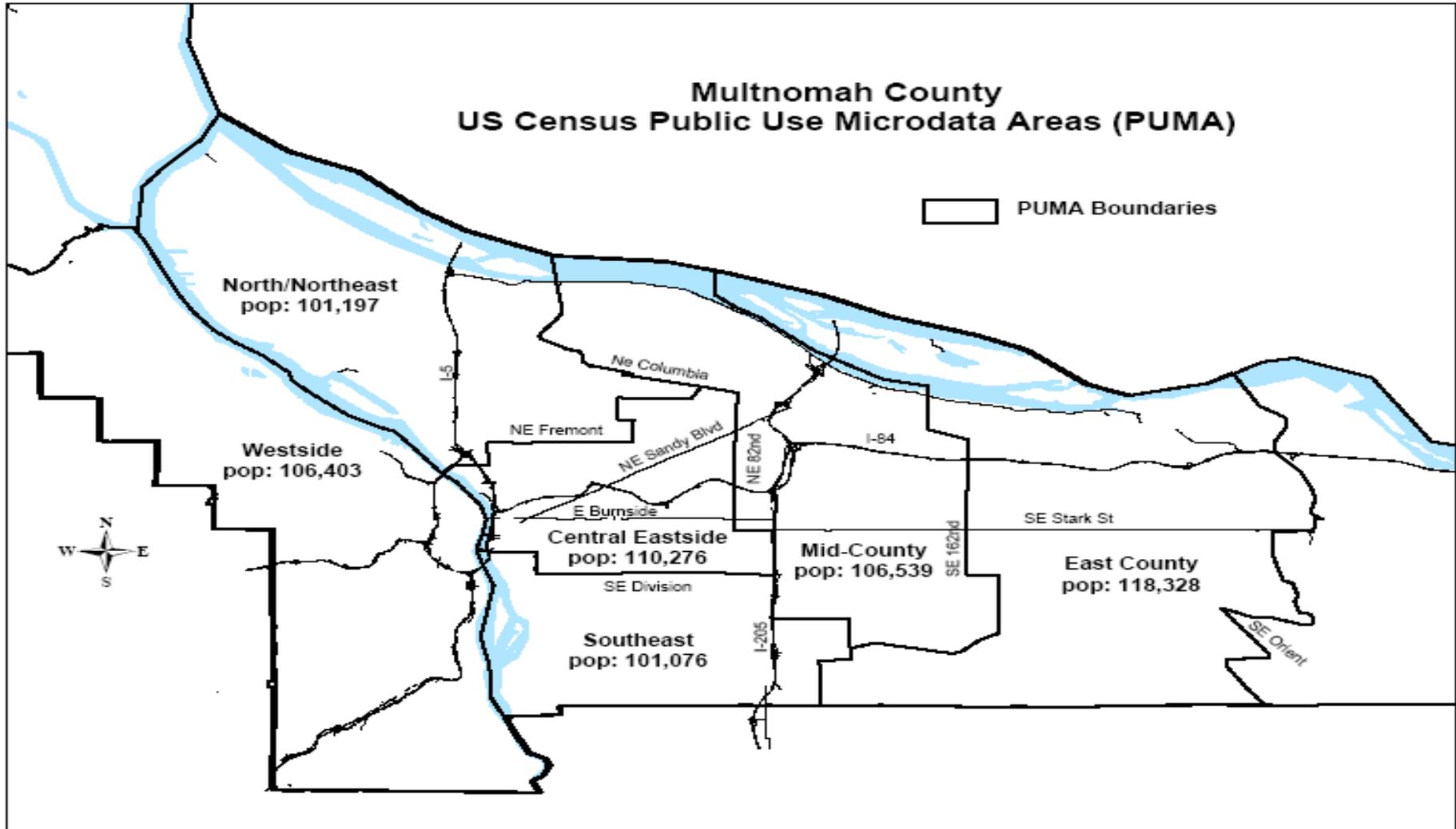
Community Assessment

Methods
and
Key Findings

Community Needs Assessment: Methods

- Existing data and reports
- Interviews and Focus Groups
- Mapping

Demographic Profile in Flux

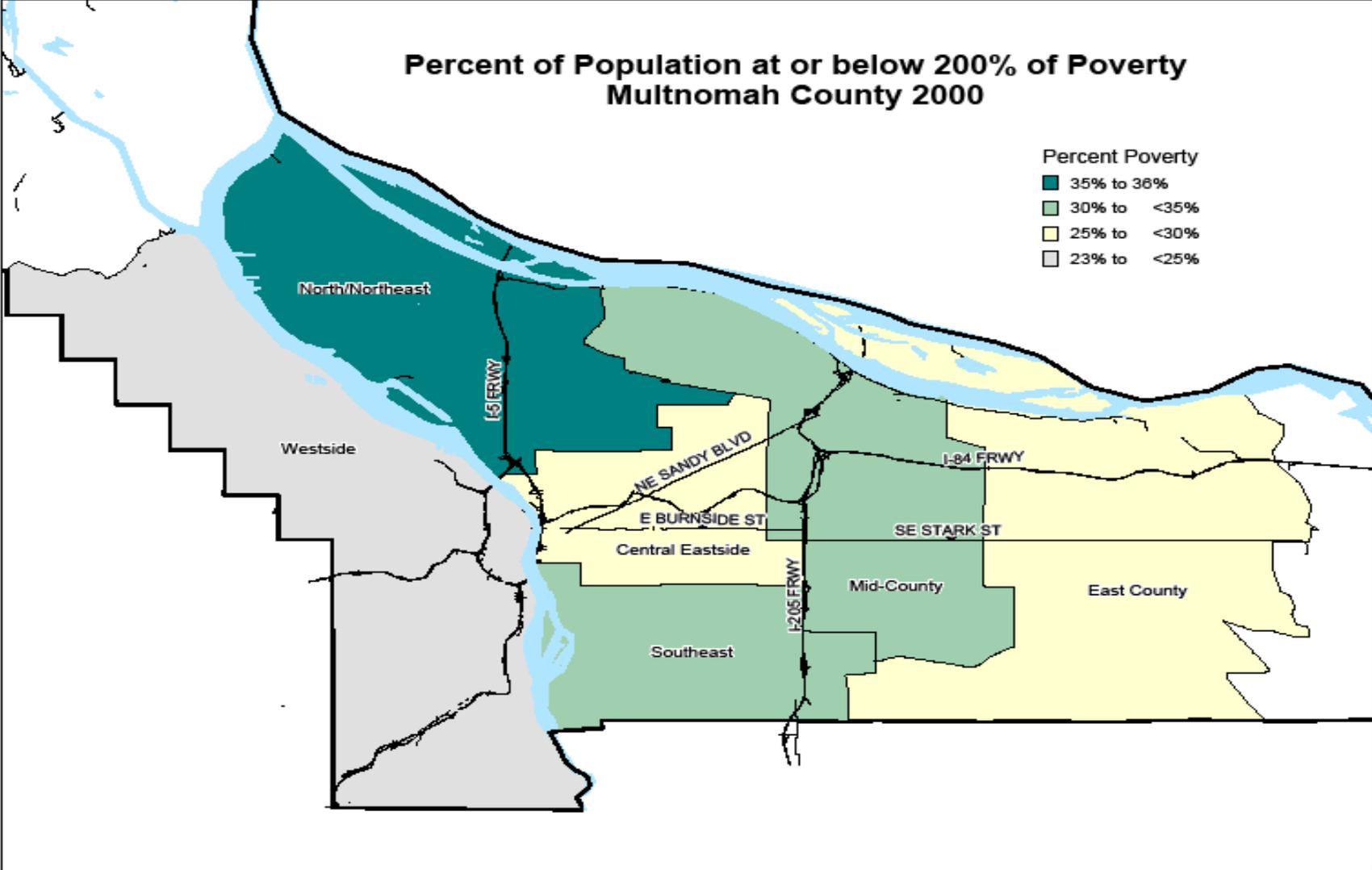


2008 American Community Survey data

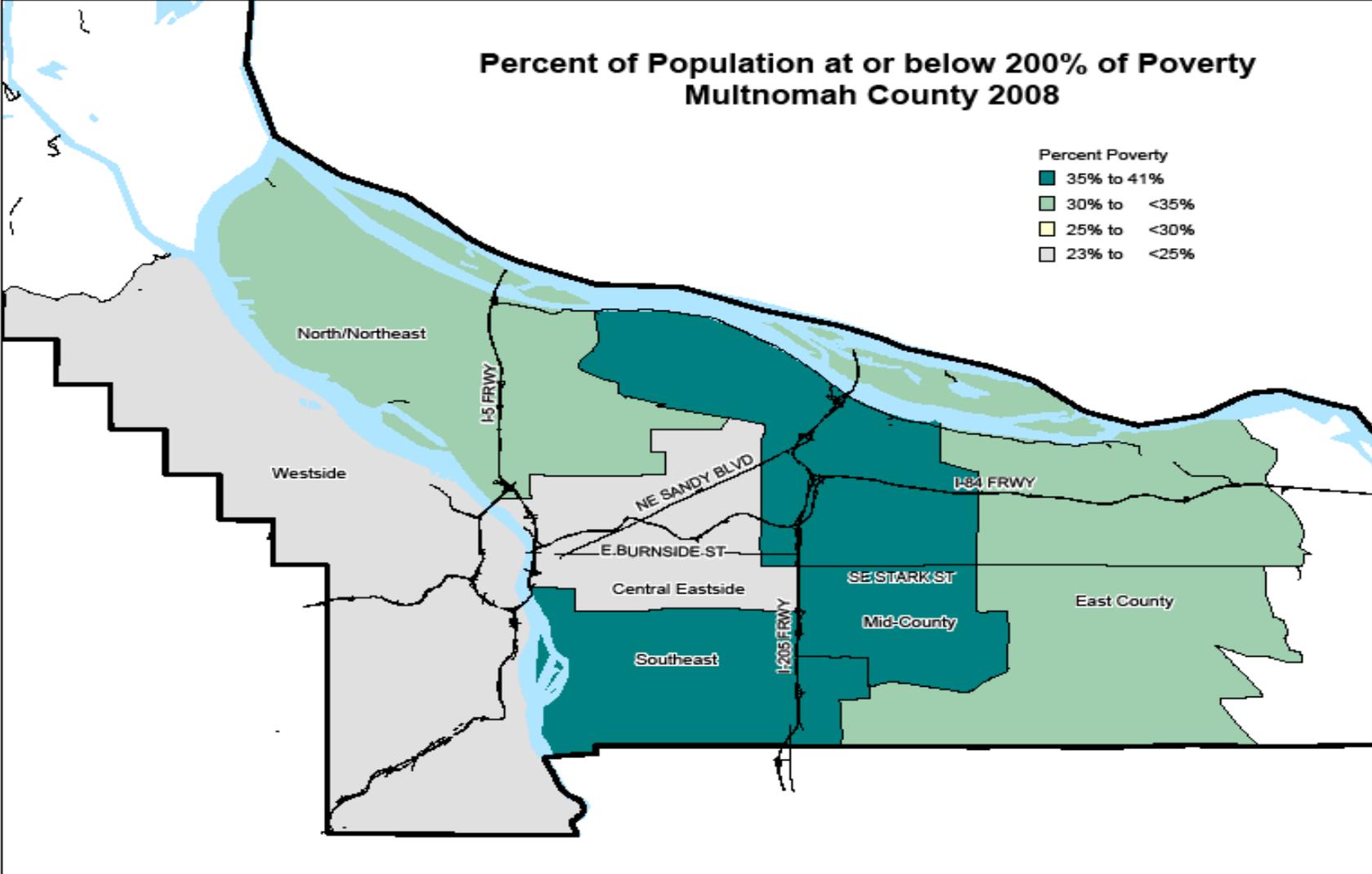
Demographic Changes: Poverty

- Poverty
 - Number of families living in poverty is increasing across the County
 - Geographic pattern of poverty is shifting away from Portland toward East County

% Population at/below 200% of FPL: 2000



% Population at/below 200% of FPL: 2008

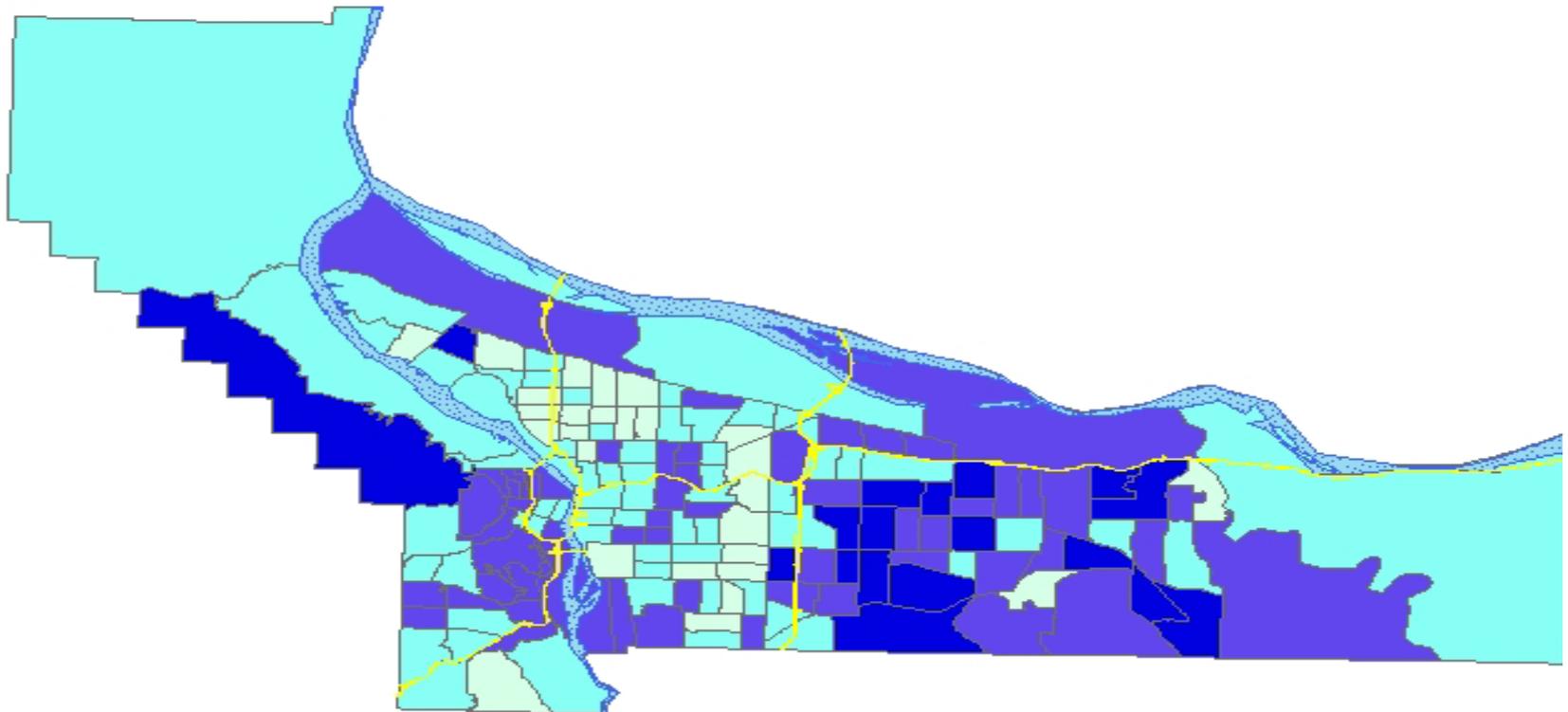
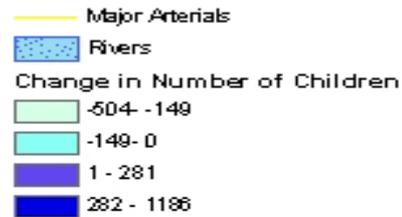


Demographic Changes: Population Shifts

- Growth areas of County have shifted east
- Fastest growing population groups are communities of color, who now comprise about 26% of total population

Changes in Child Density, 2000-2010

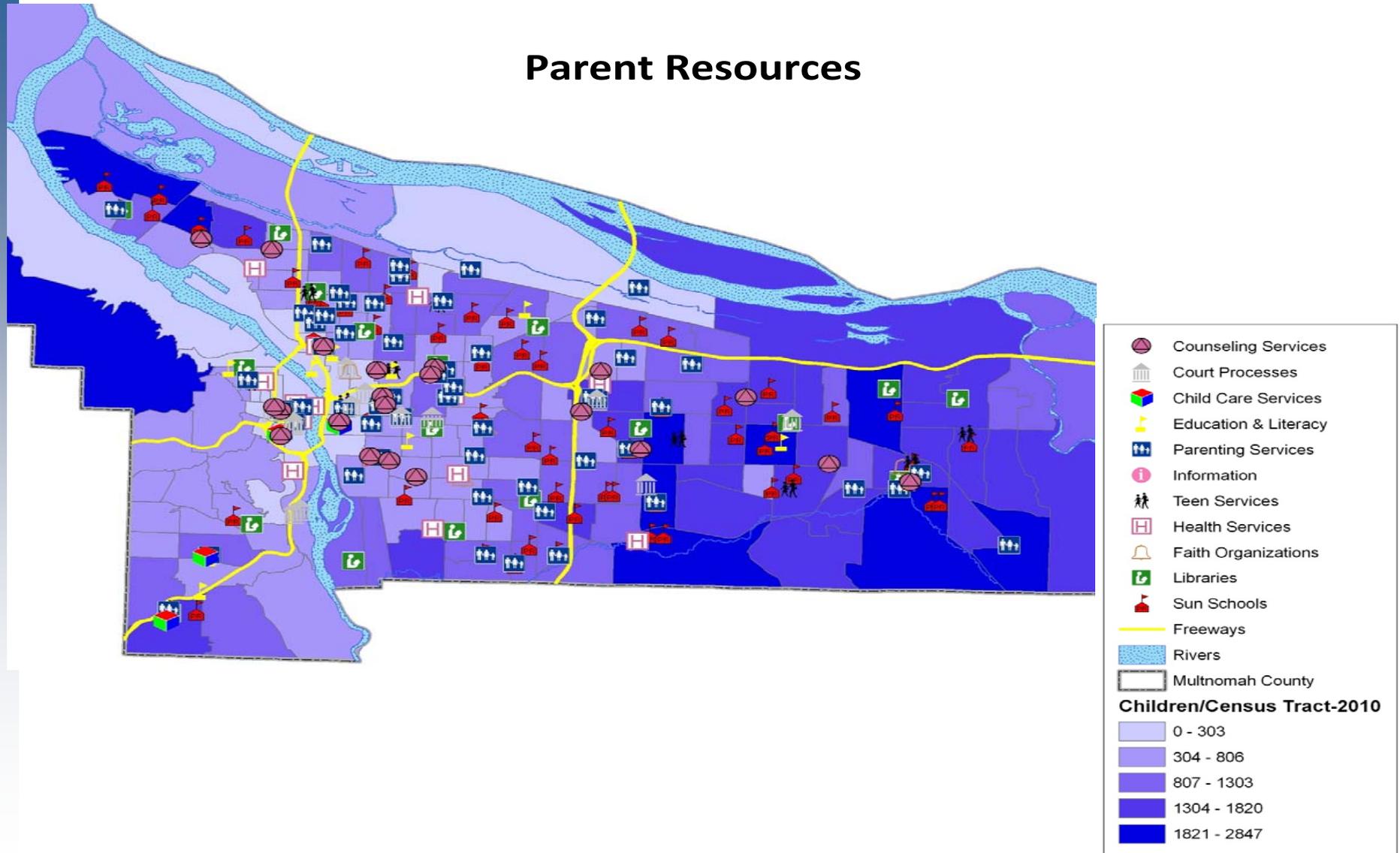
Multnomah County Census Tracts: Change in Number of Children 2000-2010



2000 US Census and 2010 US Census

Location of Resources vs. Population

Parent Resources



Key Findings

- Major demographic changes place more children at risk and present new challenges for systems
- Systems and services have not kept up with these shifts- families living in poverty in mid- and East County are under-served
- Communities of color are under-served

Most Prevalent Forms of Violence

- Child maltreatment
- Domestic violence exposure
- Bullying & peer violence
- Dating violence & sexual violence
- Gang violence has disproportionate impact on communities of color

There is limited understanding of the prevalence of violence exposure, its consequences for children and appropriate responses across systems

Gaps and Barriers

- Limited awareness of the types, prevalence and impact of children's exposure to violence
- Policies and practices need careful evaluation
- Lack of prevention and early intervention services

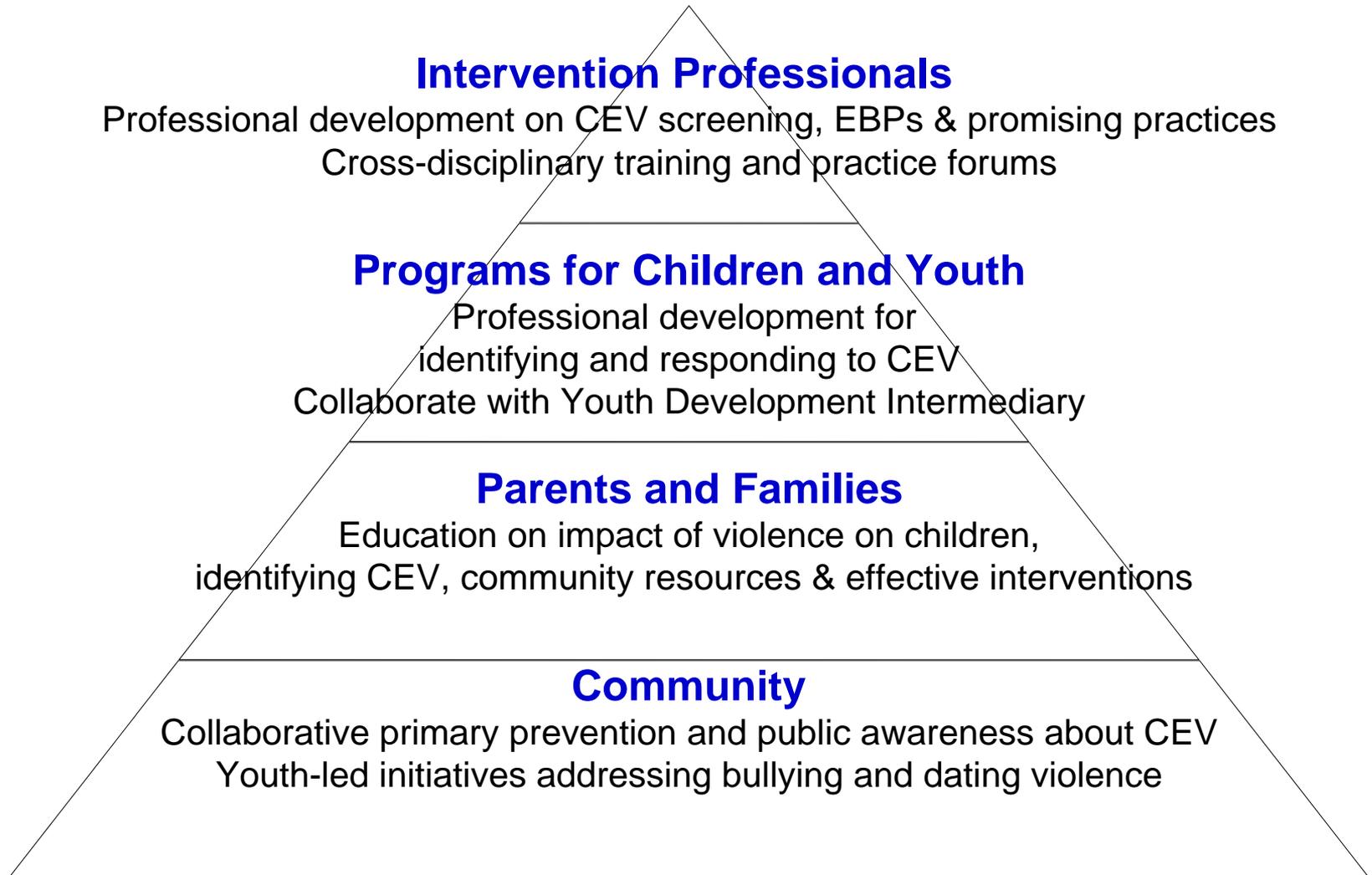
Community-Identified Strengths

- Widespread desire for increased “upstream,” preventative efforts
- Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) Service System
- Cross-system, cross-jurisdictional collaboration is normal way of doing business

Strategic Vision

- Recognize risk factors; bolster protective factors by empowering families and communities
- Leverage existing services and collaborations
- Embed expertise and practice changes in existing systems and services
- Promote primary prevention and early intervention

Training, Education & Public Awareness



Additional Strategies Under Consideration

- **Community Health Workers**
 - Train existing network (approx. 150 community health workers) in CEV to expand current scope of practice
- **Innovation Grants**
 - Grants to support creative solutions

Multnomah County's Vision

