Annual Report 2018

health connected™
SEX ED STARTS HERE

Photos by Mira Zaslove and Harrison Truong

STORIES OF IMPACT

What Students Are Saying

"My favorite part of the course was playing the games, asking the questions, and feeling free to ask things you were scared to before."
– 5th grade student in Pacifica, CA

"Learning about the parts of the body and being able to use words that would normally be frowned upon."
– 5th grade student in Palo Alto, CA

"I will stand up for people who are teased for their gender or sexuality."
– 7th grade student in Belmont, CA

"Make sure to ask for consent, use condoms, ask about the other person's sexual health."
– 7th grade student in San Bruno, CA

"My favorite part was learning about the different clinics I can go to if I need help."
– 9th grade student in Woodside, CA

"I was really happy the instructors validated and talked about LGBTQ+ issues."
– 9th grade student in San Jose, CA

"Not be afraid to get myself tested and to ask for advice and guidance."
– 12th grade student in Redwood City, CA

What Parents Are Saying

"I feel a bit more determined to approach sex ed with my children with openness and confidence."
– Parent in Los Altos, CA

"...it gave an extra confidence boost and provided that reminder and inspiration that I need to keep these intentional conversations in the forefront of my thoughts."
– Parent in Pasadena, CA

"It was a great icebreaker to help my kids feel comfortable talking to us (parents) in an open way with a baseline of terms/words."
– Parent in Fremont, CA

"Touched upon a lot of concepts in a fun manner."
– Parent in San Mateo, CA

OUR IMPACT

School

Our health educators provided our sexual health education courses to a total of **15,107 students**. We also served an additional **873 students** through outreach events and our youth leadership program.

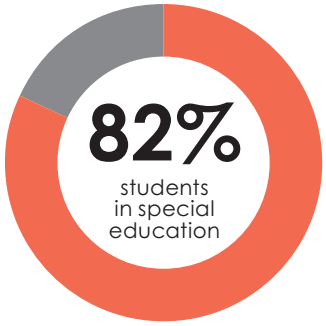
In addition to direct school-based instruction from our health educators, we trained **945 teachers** and other providers to implement our sexual health education courses in their own classrooms, impacting an estimated **58,671 additional students** across California.

Home

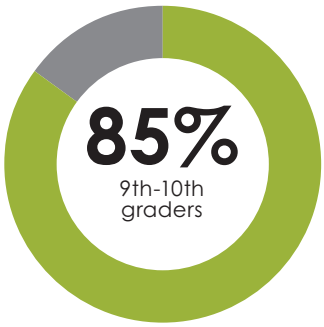
We served a total of **1,653 parents** with our workshops and information sessions.

Community

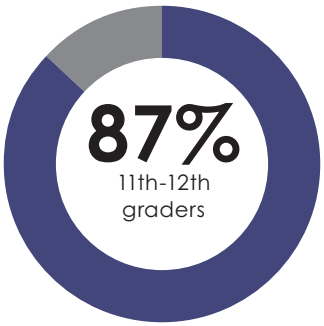
Health Connected partnered with communities in **35 of the 58 counties** in California.



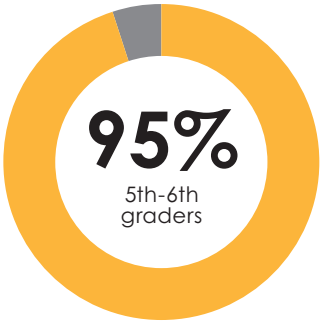
82% of students in special education classrooms now feel more comfortable talking about sexual health with a parent or trusted adult.



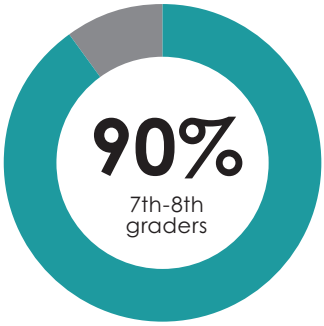
85% of 9th and 10th graders now feel more comfortable starting a conversation with a current or future partner about protection from STIs and/or pregnancy.



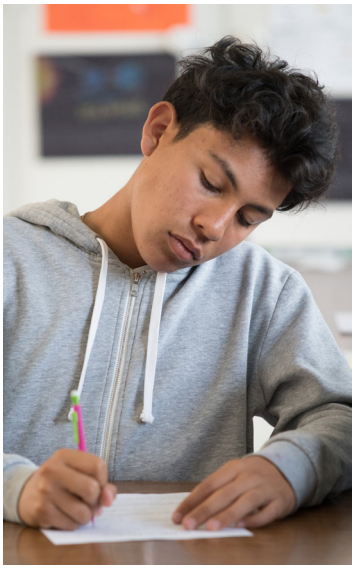
87% of 11th and 12th graders now feel more comfortable accessing clinic services.



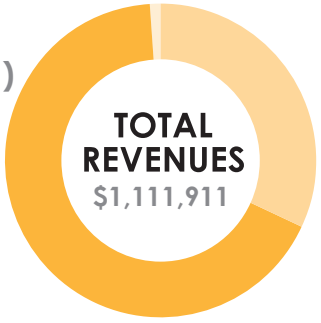
95% of 5th and 6th graders would tell a trusted adult if a person touched them in a way that made them feel uncomfortable.



90% of 7th and 8th graders now feel more comfortable talking about sexual health with a parent or a trusted adult.



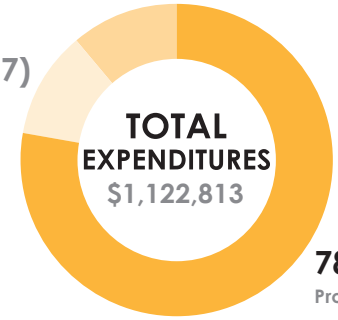
FINANCIAL REVIEW 2017-2018



1% ($12,559)
In-Kind Contributions

67% ($742,141)
Program Service Fees

32% ($357,211)
Grants and Contributions



11% ($127,968)
Administration

11% ($117,717)
Fundraising

78% ($877,128)
Program Services

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Health Connected is deeply grateful for the support of individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations whose generous contributions make our programs and services possible. The following list reflects gifts received between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. Please accept our apology for any errors or omissions. If you have any corrections, please contact us at 650.367.1937 x12.

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° Donors whose gifts were matched by their employer.

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A special thank you to our Circle of Change Society donors. The Circle of Change Society is our multiple-year giving society, in which donors have made gifts of at least $1,000 per year for five years to ensure the future of our work.

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HIGHLIGHTS 2017–2018

Equipping California's Educators

In the 2017–2018 school year, we trained 945 teachers across California, more teachers than ever before. Through our open-enrollment trainings, in-service trainings, and specialized technical assistance, we're imparting knowledge, skills, and confidence in an area educators and schools are too often resource-constrained to tackle on their own. The California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA) is the most extensive and rigorous sexual health education law in place across the country. CHYA requires that sex ed cover a vast number of essential sexual health and relationship topics, that instruction be provided at least twice during a student's educational career, must be medically accurate and developmentally appropriate, all while ensuring materials are appropriate for students of all races, genders, sexual orientations, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, pupils with disabilities, and English learners. This is an enormous responsibility and educators seek and need our support.

Let's Start the Conversation

Last year, Health Connected launched our Lets-talk.how website, an online informational resource for parents and guardians looking to gain the tools and confidence to communicate openly and honestly with their children about all aspects of sexual health and sexuality. Lets-Talk.how offers practical strategies for adults to start ongoing conversations with their kids in nurturing and age-appropriate ways that foster continued communication. The site also offers insights into Health Connected's widely used school-based puberty and sexual health education programs. Visitors can learn about the philosophies underpinning our programs, explore sample lessons from Health Connected's curricula, and read some of the thousands of questions our educators receive from students each year.

To explore our new online resource, visit www.lets-talk.how.

The Birds and the Bees Talk

Do you remember the first time you learned about the birds and the bees? Long gone are the days that parents simply give "The Talk." While educators are a trusted source of information and can nurture youths' skill-building in the classroom, parents offer incomparable support and values-based guidance at home. Over the years, more and more parents have sought our support. We hear questions like, "When I try to talk with my child, they don't want to engage—what do I do?" or "Are there age-appropriate ways to discuss consent?" That's why, here at Health Connected, we believe this is a critical area to invest in and have significantly grown our services to support parents. Equipping parents to start and continue conversations surrounding relationships and sexual health is key to enabling young people to thrive and navigate the complexities they will face in their relationships and sexual health decision-making, not only during adolescence, but throughout their lives.

To check out educational opportunities for parents and guardians, visit www.health-connected.org/parent-resources.

Onward and Upward

In the 2017-2018 school year, Health Connected served a total of 18,546 people in more than 35 counties throughout California, from Shasta County to San Diego County, and we continue to grow. This is more than double the 9,377 people we served just three years ago. We simply could not achieve this momentous impact alone. Hundreds of community partners from across the state are partnering with us to ensure young people are given essential comprehensive sex ed to help them reach their full potential, including teachers, parents, volunteers, and more. There's no slowing down. Together, we can create communities all over California in which their youth have the information, skills, and support they need to make thoughtful and informed choices about relationships and sexual health.

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