SOUTH WEST EDMONTON COLLABORATIVE

Why Collaborate?

- South West Edmonton professionals had an interagency meeting and started the South West Edmonton Collaborative
- Wanted opportunities to have social and professional networking to benefit clients and agencies
- All addressing similar issues; poverty, mental health, early childhood development, family services and crime prevention
- Members include a variety of social service professionals
- Meeting attendee numbers vary from 10 to 25 currently

How it all began

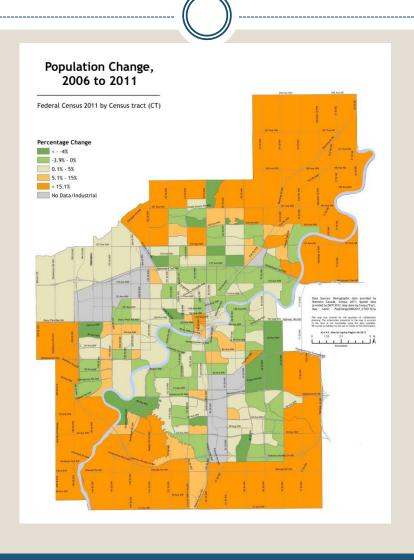
- 2009 MAPS became a part of South West Edmonton Collaborative
- MAPS facilitated a community engagement meeting at Ellerslie Baptist Church
- Highlighted the community profile and lack of services in south west that required action to facilitate change

Subcommittees established

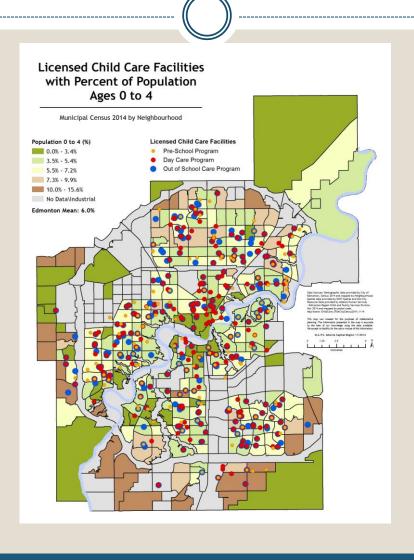
Three committees were established following the MAPS meeting. We evaluated the data to determine the needs that appeared the most evident.

- Newcomers
- Resource Centre
- Faith Based

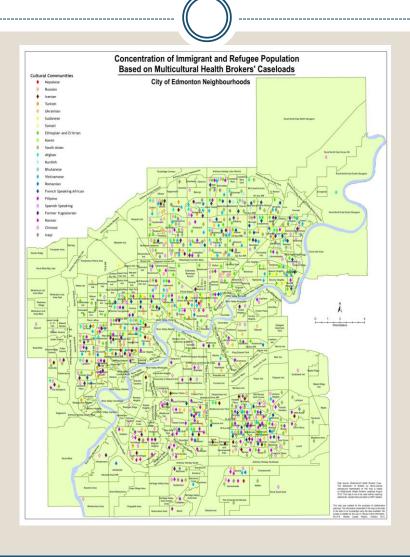
Population Change, 2006 to 2011



Licensed Child Care Facilities with Percent of Population Ages o to 4



Concentration of Immigrant and Refugee Population



Main themes that were considered

- Committees did not want to reinvent the wheel; wanted to help existing Edmonton agencies expand their services into south west Edmonton
- Expand proven programming and best practices
- Funding climate at the time was not to create new agencies but support existing ones

Newcomers Subcommittee

- ASSIST started on the committee in April, 2010
- Supported ASSIST to expand into south west Edmonton
- ASSIST opened a location in Pleasantview
- Supported application to help ASSIST expand the New Horizons weekly drop-in program in southwest Edmonton
- Through the relationship with the South West Edmonton Collaborative, ASSIST and the YMCA collaborated to offer an 8 week summer camp for newcomer children and youth in the summer of 2015 and 2016

Resource Centre Subcommittee

- Mill Woods Family Resource Centre (MWFRC) started on the committee in December 2012
- Supported MWFRC's offer to deliver pilot projects in south west Edmonton
- Supported MWFRC's application to establish a Parent Link Centre in south west Edmonton which precipitated a name change to Family Futures Resource Network
- In 2014, Family Futures Resource Network opened a new Parent Link location at 25 Fairway Drive to serve parents with children aged 0-6

Currently

- Members reviewed the purpose of South West Edmonton Collaborative and any outstanding gaps in services after newcomer services and Parent Link Centre were established
- Decided that further discussion made it apparent that more services needed to be looked at for south west Edmonton
- Created a youth focus group to explore the needs of youth in south west Edmonton
- MAPS developed a tool to gather information from youth, currently being implemented
- With the support of the subcommittee Family Futures Resource Network is expanding and developing their child & youth and family support services in south west Edmonton