Research Question: How can the California Endowment (TCE) support Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) in building the work-based learning infrastructure of health academies?

Context

$21 million is coming into the Sacramento area from the California Career Pathways Trust to support work-based learning (WBL). Given their work with South Sacramento as part of the Building Healthy Communities initiative, the California Endowment is interested in expanding WBL opportunities for high school students in SCUSD health pathways by facilitating regional collaborations between their community-based grantees and the school district. Given traditional shortages of healthcare professionals in low-income communities, TCE has committed to supporting student-centered career pathways.

Methods

- Literature review of public health education curriculum, WBL, and Linked Learning policy documents;
- Key informant interviews with 4 SCUSD district and school officials; 4 TCE-funded CBOs; and 5 experts, instructors, and activists in community health;
- Site visits with 2 CBOs and 1 regional health pathway instructor.

TCE Grantees

La Familia Counseling Center, Inc.

Career Awareness: Provides mental health services, employment, and education programs, community events, as well as programs designed specifically for youth.

Career Exploration: Career Awareness framework.

Career Preparation: Career Awareness framework.

Career Training: Career Awareness framework.

SDH Framework

Broadens WBL Opportunities for Health Pathway Students

Social Determinants of Health

SDH Framework

Social Determinants of Health

Physical

Schools, Neighborhoods, Parks, Workplace, Natural environment

Economic & Political: Job opportunities, housing, post-secondary healthcare

Social: Family, community, discrimination, social norms

Recommendations

• **Broaden the health pathways** in SCUSD to align with a social determinants of health framework thereby expanding work-based learning career awareness, exploration, and preparation opportunities for SCUSD students.

• **Leverage the expertise of TCE-funded CBOs** working in community health and youth development to expand WBL opportunities, particularly the pre-internship activities available on site.

• **Support WBL infrastructure** within SCUSD to include both community health and healthcare industry partners in any district-wide advisory councils.

• **Invest in social and emotional learning** in SCUSD by incorporating it as an integral component of the health pathway.