



Special Board Meeting

May 10, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Fresno EOC Board Room

1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 310

Fresno, 93721

Join By Zoom:

<https://fresnoeoc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAucOysrzwuH9O3VllrrGefdR0jH8u-MkiA>



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

MAY 10, 2023 AT 5:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE: Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.	Action	Presenter
2. ROLL CALL A. Board and Committee Meetings Monthly Attendance Record - 5		
3. APPROVAL OF APRIL 6, 2023 MINUTES A. April 6, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes - 11	Approve	
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (This is an opportunity for the members of the public to address the Board on any matter related to the Commission that is not listed on the Agenda.)		
5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA (The Board may add an item to the agenda if, upon a two-thirds vote, the Board finds that there is a need for immediate action on the matter and the need came to the attention of the Board after the posting of this agenda.)		
6. POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (Any Board Member who has a potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter.) (FPPC §87105)		
7. TRANSFORMING AND INSPIRING A. Foster Grandparent Program - 15	Information	Struck
8. COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT A. Community Needs Assessment - 18	Accept	Reyes
9. 2023 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE A. 2023 Board Meeting Schedule - 147	Approve	Hayes

10. TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Approve

Garabedian

A. Transit Fleet Electrification - 148

11. HUMAN RESOURCES

Approve

Reyes

A. Discrimination Harassment Complaint Policy - 178

12. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Any Commissioner may pull any Consent Item for discussion or separate vote

A. Finance Committee Items: April 19, 2023

Approve

Garabedian

1. March 8, 2023, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes - 183
2. Financial Reports: February 2023 - 186
3. Health Insurance Report (Information) - 193
4. Non-Competitive Procurement (Information) - 195

B. Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Items: April 24, 2023

Approve

Arambula

1. March 27, 2023 Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes - 196
2. Training and Employment: Second Chance Act Youth Reentry Program - 201
3. Training and Employment: Construction Apprenticeship Program - 202
4. African American Coalition: Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) - 203
5. Food Services: FY 2022- 2023 Food Service Agreements Amendments - 204
6. Health Services: Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) - 206
7. Health Services: Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications - 207
8. Health Services: Rural Education and Development for Youth (READY) (Information) - 208
9. Local Conservation Corps: CalRecycle RLC 38 Grant - 209
10. Transit Systems: Fresno Rural and Urban Social Service Transportation - 212
11. Sanctuary And Support Services: Project HOPE Bridge Housing Update (Information) - 214
12. Equity and Impact: 2023 Community Needs Assessment (Information) - 215
13. Equity and Impact: Grant Tracker (Information) - 224

C. Head Start County-Wide Policy Council Items:

Approve

**Brown-
Jenkins**

1. Program Update Report (PUR) for February 2023 - 227
2. Head Start 0 to 5 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) - 231
3. Quality Improvement (QI) Application - 240
4. California Department of Education, Early Education Division
CSPP Program Self-Evaluation for FY 2022-2023 - 250

D. Advisory Board Minutes

Accept

1. April 29, 2022 Foster Grandparent Program Community
Advisory Minutes - 252
2. September 30, 2022 Foster Grandparent Program
Community Advisory Minutes - 255
3. March 7, 2023 Head Start County Wide Policy Council
Minutes - 258
4. March 14, School of Unlimited Learning Governing Council
Minutes - 263
5. April 11, 2023 Head Start County Wide Policy Council
Minutes - 265

13. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Information

Reyes

- A. CEO Report - 271

14. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENT

Hayes

15. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

16. ADJOURNMENT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ROLL CALL 2023

#	Commissioner	Term Expiration	Target Area / Appointing / Nominating Org.	1/18	2/18	4/6	5/4	5/10	8/3	10/5	12/7
1	ARAMBULA, AMY	Dec 2023	31st Assembly District	0	X	0					
2	BAINES, OLIVER	Dec 2023	16 th Congressional District	0	0	X					
3	BONNER, ALYSIA	Dec. 2024	Target Area F	0	0	0					
4	BROWN, EARL	Dec 2024	Target Area G	0	X	0					
5	BROWN-JENKINS, ZINA	Dec 2024	Head Start CWPC	0	0	X					
6	GARABEDIAN, CHARLES	Dec 2023	Board of Supervisors	0	0	0					
7	HAYES, LINDA R.	Dec 2024	Target Area H	0	0	0					
8	JAIME-MILEHAM, LUPE	Dec 2024	FCSS	X	0	T					
9	KING BRIAN	Dec 2023	Mayor's Appointment	X	0	0					
10	LEON, REY	Dec 2024	Target Area B	X	0	0					
11	MARTINEZ, DANIEL	Dec 2023	Target Area D	0	X	X					
12	MARTINEZ, JAMES	Dec 2023	Fresno Reel Pride	0	0	0					
13	MCALISTER, BRUCE	Dec 2023	West Fresno Faith Based Organization	0	X	0					
14	MCCOY, BARIGYE	Dec 2023	Board of Supervisors	X	0	0					
15	MITCHELL, LISA	Dec 2023	Target Area E	X	X	X					
16	NEIL , SHERRY	Dec 2024	Economic Development Corporation	0	0	X					
17	PACHECO, ALENA	Dec 2023	Target Area A	0	0	0					
18	PARRA, DANIEL	Dec 2024	Target Area C	X	0	0					
19	PIMENTEL, ROBERT	Dec 2023	SCCCD	0	X	X					
20	ROBLES, ITZI	Dec 2023	SEFCEDA	0	0	0					
21	RODGERS, JIMI	Dec 2023	Association of Black Social Workers	0	0	0					
22	RUIZ, DAVID	Dec 2024	Juvenile Court	N/A	X	0					
23	TAYLOR, STEVEN	Dec 2024	NAACP	0	X	0					
24	ZARATE, RUBEN	Dec 2023	14 th Senatorial District	0	X	T					
	Present = 0										
	Absent = X										

It is the Commissioner's responsibility to check the matrix, verify accuracy and inform the Secretary or designee if any changes are needed.

Audit Committee Meeting Monthly Attendance Record 2023

Daniel Martinez
David Ruiz
Ruben Zarate
Brian King
Lupe Jaime-Mileham
Daniel Parra

January	1-Feb	22-Mar	3-Apr	May	June	July	17-Aug	Sept.	Oct.	2-Nov	Dec.	Attended
	Postpone	Postpone	X									0/3
			O									1/3
			O									1/3
			X									0/3
			T									1/3
			T									1/3

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference

Bylaws Committee Meeting Monthly Attendance Record 2023

Jimi Rodgers
Oliver Baines
Lupe Jaime-Mileham
Bruce McAlister
Linda Hayes
Lisa Mitchell

Jan.	2-Feb	16-Mar	April	May	15-Jun	July	Aug.	21-Sep	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Attended
	Postpone	O										1/3
		X										0/3
		O										1/3
		O										1/3
		X										0/3
		T										1/3

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference



Finance Committee Meeting Monthly Attendance Record 2023

Charles Garabedian
James Martinez
Zina Brown-Jenkins
Itzi Robles
Linda Hayes
Alena Pacheco
Rey Leon

January	8-Feb	8-Mar	19-Apr	17-May	13-Jun	July	9-Aug	13-Sep	11-Oct	8-Nov	13-Dec	Attended
	O	O	O									3/10
	X	X	O									1/10
	O	O	X									2/10
	X	O	X									1/10
	O	O	X									2/10
	O	O	O									3/10
	O	X	T									2/10

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference

Human Resources Committee Meeting Monthly Attendance Record 2023

Barigye McCoy
Sherry Neil
Jimi Rodgers
Alysia Bonner
Earl Brown

Jan.	9-Feb	6-Mar	April	May	5-Jun	July	Aug.	11-Sep	Oct.	Nov.	4-Dec	Attended
	Cancelled	O										1/4
		O										1/4
		T										1/4
		O										1/4
		X										0/4

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference



Program and Planning Evaluation Meeting Monthly Attendance Record 2023

Amy Arambula
Robert Pimentel
Sherry Neil
Linda Hayes
Alena Pacheco

Jan.	8-Feb	27-Mar	24-Apr	22-May	26-Jun	24-Jul	28-Aug	25-Sep	23-Oct	27-Nov	18-Dec	Attended
	Canceled	O	O									2/10
		T	O									2/10
		T	O									2/10
		T	O									2/10
		O	O									2/10

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
April 6, 2023 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Linda Hayes, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:39 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Amy Arambula, Alysia Bonner, Earl Brown, Charles Garabedian, Linda Hayes, Brian King, Rey Leon, James Martinez, Bruce McAlister, Barigye McCoy, Alena Pacheco, Daniel Parra, Itzi Robles, Jimi Rodger, David Ruiz, and Steven Taylor.

Teleconference: Lupe Jaime-Mileham and Ruben Zarate.

Absent: Oliver Baines, Zina Brown-Jenkins, Daniel Martinez, Lisa Mitchell, Sherry Neil, and Robert Pimentel.

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 18, 2023 MINUTES

Public Comment: None heard

Motion by: Bonner **Second by:** J. Martinez

Ayes: All in favor.

Nayes: None heard

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comment: None heard

No action required.

5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Public Comment: None heard

No action required.

6. POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflict of interest.

7. TRANSFORMING AND INSPIRING

A. Health and Heal Services

Jane Thomas, Health and Dental Director, introduced Julio Romero Health and Dental Assistant Director and provided a brief introduction on Information and Education (I&E), Home Visitation

Services, and Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP). Romero introduced Jocelyn Constantino, Chanelle Mendoza, Marica Garcia, and Celeste Cruz, who shared their experience with the Health and Dental Services and are very thankful for the services provided by the program.

Thomas, provided a brief update on the proposal to operate the medical facility at the AMOR Wellness Center as a satellite location under the Fresno EOC Community Health Center in Mendota to provide Family Planning Reproductive Health.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

8. HEALTH SERVICES

A. Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health Call for Progress Grant Application for RWJ Foundation

Romero shared with the full Board the Robert Wood Johnson foundation on Pioneering Ideas grant application was declined.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

B. Office of Strategic Coordination, National Institutes of Health ComPASS OTA-22-007

Romero, provide an overview of the Community Partnership to Advance Science for Society grant application to allow Health Service's to provide increased oral health and nutrition security among families in Fresno County.

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Arambula **Second by:** Bonner

Ayes: All in favor.

Nayes: None heard.

9. HEAD START 0 TO 5

A. State of California Department of Social Services (CSDD) CCTR 2023-2024 Contract

Nidia Davis, Head Start 0 to 5 Program Support Director, provided an overview of the 2023-2024 Child Care and Development Program contract to provide 16 children in two classes at Erick White Head Start in Selma.

B. California State Preschool Program (CSPP) 2023-2024 Contract

Davis, provide an overview of the 2023-2024 California State Preschool Program contract to provide 120 children and families with Head Start services.

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Bonner

Second by: Rodgers

Ayes: All in favor.

Nayes: None heard.
Abstain: Lune Jaime-Mileham

10. 2023 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

A. 2023 Board Meeting Schedule

Linda Hayes, Board Chair, requested for a doodle link be sent out to Commissioner to complete to check on Commissioners availability if the 2nd Thursday of every other months work to reschedule Board Meetings.

Public Comment: None heard.

11. ACCESS PLUS CAPITAL

A. Access Plus Capital

Kenneth Price, agency Legal Counsel, provided an overview of Access Plus Capital (APC) decision to terminate the Administrative Services Agreement with Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC), effective September 30, 2023.

The Board of Commissioners inquired about concerns regarding the separation of the two entities, and the liability of the guarantor. Elliott Balch, APC Board Chair, was present to answer questions and concerns Commissioners had.

Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer requested due to Fresno EOC liability APC is not to hire new staff until the agreement is terminated. Balch acknowledged Reyes's request.

Board Chair Hayes, created an Adhoc Committee to convene regarding the APC Transition Plan. The following Commissioners will be participating, Linda Hayes, Barigye McCoy, Charles Garabedian, Daniel Parra, Alysia Bonner, and Alena Pacheco.

Public Comment: None heard

No action required.

12. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Public Comment: None heard

Motion by: Parra **Second by:** Robles

Ayes: All in favor.

Nayes: None heard.

APPROVAL OF PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

12C5 - 2023 Expiring Terms

Commissioner Amy Arambula requested to update the 2023 Expiring Terms to include Target Area G representative Commissioner Earl Brown term to expire in December 2023. Legal Counsel Price recommended this item to be presented at the next meeting for further discussion.

12D10 - 2021 – 2022 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Data Report

Joseph Amader, Energy Services Director, presented a detailed presentation for the 2021-2022 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Date Report.

12E – Audition Committee Items

Board Chair Hayes, made motion to adopt a correction to the Audit Committee.

12F3 - Program Update Report (PUR) for January 2023

Commissioner Amy Arambula stated concerns regarding the total number of vacancies for Head Start enrollment. Reyes stated the program is taking a proactive approach to provide to the Office of Head Start that includes updating policies and procedures, job descriptions to attract and retain more staff.

Public Comment: None heard

Motion by: Rodgers **Second by:** Leon

Ayes: All in favor.

Nayes: None heard.

13. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Reyes, shared with Commissioners she will be participating in the panel discussion for the Advance Peace Forum taking place on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, for Community Justice Action to reduce gun violence.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

14. COMMISSIONERS COMMENT

Commissioners Rey Leon, shared the Green Raiteros program purchase Electric Rideshares to provide transportation to young adults for West Hill College in the rural area of Huron.

No action required.

15. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Public Comment: None heard

No action required.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Foster Grandparent Program
Agenda Item #: 7	Program Coordinator: Leah Struck
Subject: Transforming and Inspiring	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Background

The information presented below is intended to keep the Board apprised on various agency programs as well as highlighting clients we serve.

Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) is an AmeriCorps Seniors Program. FGP provides opportunities for low-income seniors to enrich their lives while enriching the lives of others. The program connects senior role models with young people with exceptional needs. Volunteers provide academic support, comfort, and love that sets a child on a path to a successful future. These volunteers report better health and longevity having served their community. Locally, Fresno EOC FGP volunteers serve in Head Start centers, schools, and after school programs. AmeriCorps provides a stipend amount to enhance volunteers living circumstances, which is not taxable and does not affect any benefits.

Generations Serving Together. Based on the idea that the growing older population is not a problem to be solved but an opportunity to be seized. Funding by CoGenerate.org focuses on what the vast older population can do in collaboration with younger generations to solve our nation's most pressing problems. This Fresno EOC project includes volunteers from Foster Grandparent Program alongside volunteers from local colleges and the community ranging in age from 25-50. The co-generational team works together as peers to create and conduct workshops for children and youth addressing mental wellness. The highly interactive workshops help the children and youth define emotions and work with better ways to deal with them. The hope is to inspire other programs and workplaces to make co-generational teams a priority. Workshops are currently held at YouthBuild Charter School and Boys & Girls Clubs.

Senior Tech Training Program: Provides tech training classes tailored to seniors who are not tech native. Classes use curriculum from Senior Planet which recognizes the learning style needed to teach computer use, email, web search, online safety, and smart phone use to persons that have not been raised with technology. Over 90 seniors have graduated from the 10-week course. Short workshops cover social media, Zoom, smart phone apps and so much more. The need for tech training for seniors became especially apparent during COVID when one of the most vulnerable populations were not able to access services that were only online. The funding has currently ended but we are actively searching for funding to continue this valuable program.



Foster Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparent Program (FPG) provides seniors ages 55 and above the opportunity to provide mentoring and emotional support to children and youth in schools, Head Starts and afterschool programs. The program promotes literacy and academic success, as well as fostering social emotional and cognitive behavioral development to underserved infants, children and teens throughout Fresno and Madera Counties. The program also promotes quality of life for seniors by contributing towards and enhanced sense of purpose and self-worth and supplementing financially with an AmeriCorps stipend.

Senior Tech Training Program

**Make the Next 50 better than the first.
The second 50 years can be learning,
living and excelling!**

The Senior Tech Training Program, funded by the Next 50 Initiative, has provided senior based ten week, twice a week, computer training classes customized for seniors. The classes are provided on location in rural areas and on site at Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps building.

Tech Training serves to empower seniors to live more independently while also addressing isolation and loneliness by opening virtual ways to keep in touch with friends and family near and far.



Generations Serving Together

What if older and younger generations worked together to solve the problems that no generation can solve alone?

“We are living in the most age-diverse society in human history – and one of the most age-segregated. We are missing the complementary skills and talents people of all ages can bring to the table, the power and energy they can create, the divides they can bridge, the communities and country they can build together.” The funder, CoGenerate, envisions a world where older and younger people join forces to solve problems, bridge divides and co-create the future.



Fresno EOC Generations Serving Together Project gathers teams of Foster Grandparents ages over 55 years and college and community volunteers ages 20-40 years to join forces to address the issue of mental wellness. The team works together to create a highly interactive curriculum for mental wellness based on Brene' Brown's book *Atlas of the Heart* identifying 87 emotions. Workshops are conducted with children and youth in YouthBuild Charter School and Boys & Girls Clubs. Generations Serving together results in collaboration, creativity, learning, shared knowledge, enhancing the lives of all ages.

For more information, please contact

Leah Struck, Foster Grandparent Program Coordinator III

Address: 1805 E. California Ave., Fresno CA 93706

Telephone: 559-263-8910 * E-mail: leah.struck@fresnoeoc.org



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: N/A
Agenda Item #: 8	Director: N/A
Subject: Community Needs Assessment	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Board acceptance of the 2022 Community Needs Assessment to inform the Federal Year 2024-2025 CSD Community Action Plan (CAP).

Background

A Community Needs Assessment is a process conducted by all Community Action Agencies every three years to determine the underlying causes and conditions of poverty within the community they serve and identify the available resources to address the unmet needs of the community's most vulnerable residents. The execution of a regular Community Needs Assessment is a requirement for all Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Eligible Entities, and one of the nine category's (Category 3) of the Organizational Standards.

As a requirement of CSBG funding, a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) must be issued by a report within the past three years. A CNA serves to: a) identify service gaps; b) identify community priorities related to poverty conditions; c) evaluate program effectiveness, and d) identify poverty conditions and/or areas that may require more investment to address need(s). A Community Action Plan is then developed to respond to community priorities identified in the CNA.

On Wednesday, August 24, 2022 the Board reviewed and provided feedback on the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC) 2022 CNA. To ensure we're up to date in meeting the community needs, staff is reviewing the CNA on annual basis and hosting four town hall/community meetings. The following target populations include, Southwest Fresno, Seniors, LGBTQ and the Youth, and will be completed by May 15th.

Also, the State Statute Requirements as required by California Government Code Section 12747(b)-(d), agencies are required to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the draft CAP. Public Hearing Guidelines Notice of Public Hearing includes the following: 1) Notice of the hearing and comment period must be published at least 15 calendar days prior to the public hearing. 2) The notice may be published on the

agency's website, Facebook page, social media channels, and/or in newspaper(s) of local distribution. 3) The notice must include information about the draft CAP; the dates of the comment period; where written comments may be sent; date, time, and location of the public hearing; and the agency contact information. 4) The comment period should be open for at least 15 calendars days prior to the hearing. Agencies may opt to extend the comment period for a selected number of days after the hearing. 5) The draft CAP must be available for public review and inspection at least 30 days prior to the hearing. The draft CAP can be posted on the agency's website, Facebook page, social media channels, and distributed electronically or in paper format. 6) Attach a copy of the Notice(s) of Public Hearing as to the final CAP.

As a result, staff recommends the below CAP timeline to meet the standards and be in compliance with the CSBG Act:

- May 15 – Publish Draft Community Action Plan (CAP) for Public Comment for 30-Day period ending June 15, 2023
- May 31 – Advertise a Notice of Public Hearing
- June 14 – Conduct a Public Hearing
- June 28: Present the Draft 2024-2025 CAP to the Program Planning and Evaluation (PP&E) Committee
- June 29: Convene a Board meeting (Executive Committee and/or Special Board meeting) to certify the agency complies with the CSBG Act and California Government Code for service provided under the Federal Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Community Action Plan
- June 30: Submit Fresno EOC 2024-2025 CNA/CAP to the State of California, Community Services and Development (CSD).

Conclusion

Once approved by the Board, staff will follow the timeline above for the CNA/CNP, the final copy will be submitted to the California Community Services Division (CSD) by June 30, 2023. If not approved, Fresno EOC will be out of compliance and will jeopardize future CSBG funding.



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2022



Fresno EOC Executive Office
1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 300
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 263-1000

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Executive Summary

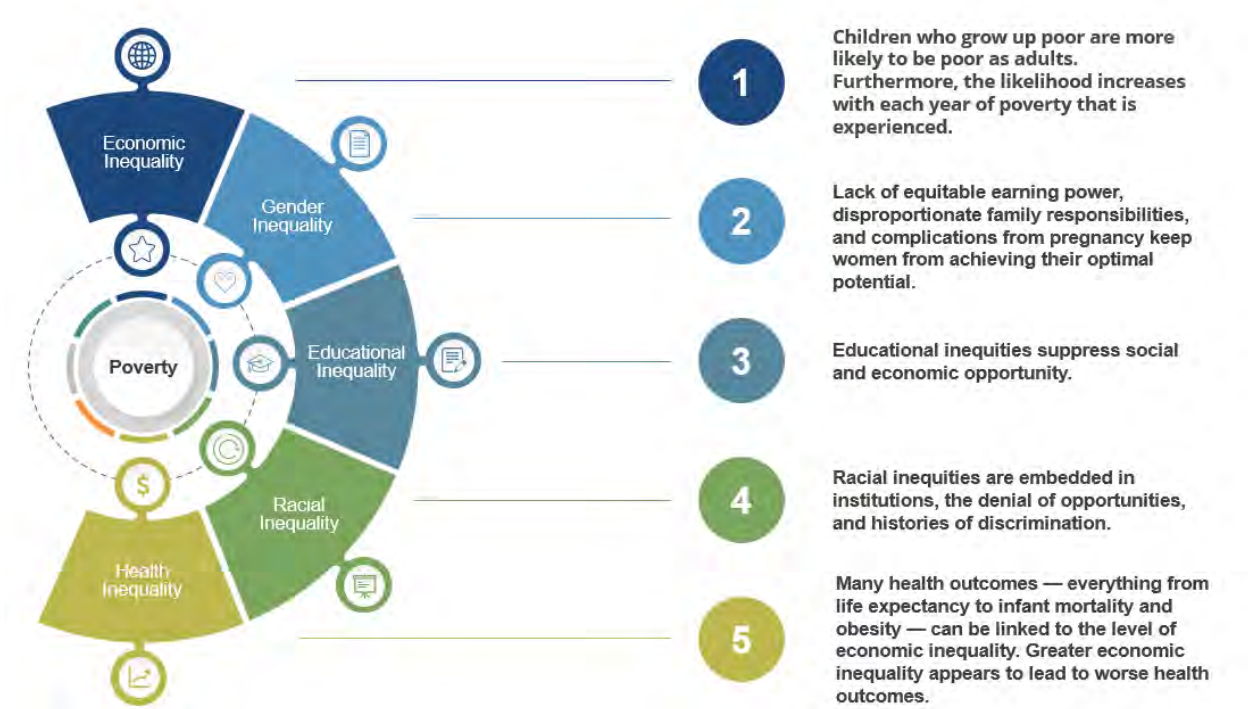
Poverty in Fresno County

The Causes of Poverty

Poverty has remained stubbornly high for decades. Throughout the nation, systemic inequities contribute to a disproportionate rate of poverty and economic insecurity for families and children. These trends are replicated and exacerbated in communities throughout Fresno County. The rate of child poverty in Fresno County exceeds 20% for the general population. However, at 30%, it is much higher for children and the poverty rate reaches 33% for children under five years. In several communities, most of the population experiences concentrated poverty. For example, in Huron, the poverty rate is almost 70% of all families. In Orange Cove, more than 50% of all families live in poverty.

Child poverty cannot be separated from adult poverty. The expenses that are required to raise children are one of the reasons that families fall into and cannot escape poverty. Family crisis such as job loss, lack of skills to earn a living wage, and family break-up further push families into both situational and generational cycles of poverty. Additionally, one crisis or a disaster can drive poverty rates even higher. Five elements of inequality that are prevalent in Fresno County that contribute to the disparate health and well-being outcomes identified in this community assessment are as follows¹:

Root Causes of Poverty in Fresno County



¹ PBS Frontline; Population Studies Center and Survey Research Center; Inequality.org.

The Conditions of Poverty

Poverty among all groups can be attributed in part to the local economic system and how it creates and reproduces poverty. If poverty were caused as a result of one's independent actions, we would anticipate that a much smaller population would be impacted. Because Fresno County's population in poverty exceeds more than 168,153 individuals, it can be assumed that there are systemic forces at work. These forces perpetuate economic inequality, gender inequality, educational inequality, racial-ethnic inequality, and health inequality that limit the potential of children and families.

Children and families in Fresno County are in a precarious position and continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, major forces shaping poverty are the economy, agricultural industry, and a changing job structure. Additionally, many of the rural communities are under-resourced and lack of adequate support programs and services. Fresno County also has high rates of community violence and housing barriers that create additional challenges that undermine family and child health and well-being.

Demographically, Fresno is diverse. The county population is 53% Hispanic/Latino, 29% white, 4% black/African American, 10% Asian, and 3% other races. Fresno also has a large population of foreign-born residents (21% of the population was not a U.S. citizen at birth). Underrepresented groups face a range of inequities that have resulted in markedly higher rates of poverty. In turn, because both the black/African American and the Hispanic/Latino population have lower rates of educational attainment and poorer health, climbing out of poverty requires a much longer ladder.

At the same time, Hispanic/Latinos and other diverse groups have higher birth rates than whites and demonstrate the most significant population growth in most communities throughout the county. Fresno County also has a significant percentage of the population comprised of immigrants and migrant workers that earn very low wages. The rural agricultural areas of the county reflect this dynamic, while the cities of Fresno and Clovis reflect the characteristics of urban poverty such as high rates of concentrated poverty, racially/ethnically segregated neighborhoods, and high rates of crime. Cumulatively, these conditions result in chronic poverty and associated public health and social problems.

Both the urban and rural areas experience common challenges such as lack of access to adequate affordable health services, educational disparities among children, high rates of poverty, substandard and unaffordable housing, elevated rates of child abuse, children's exposure to adverse experiences, and poor outcomes on the social determinants of health. However, when viewed independently, the nature of the problems change based on geography. For example, many of the problems in the rural parts of Fresno County stem from limited access to employment opportunities, lack of post-secondary education options, infrastructure deficiencies, and health services. In the urban parts of the county, hazardous living conditions, underemployment, and crime plague families. The differences in rural and urban challenges are illustrated by limited health access in the rural areas of the county that is driven lack of health care providers and long wait times for services, while in the urban parts of the county, lack of

access to health services is more frequently due to a limited number of providers that accept public insurance. The community conditions identified in this assessment offer insight into the problems most impacting families in communities throughout Fresno County.

Community Conditions

Condition 1: In Fresno County there are community barriers to accessing health services and an inadequate service system has resulted in disparities in health for adults and children, including maternal and child health, particularly for diverse and low-income populations.

Fresno ranks poorly on health outcomes such as the percent of adults with poor or fair health, and adults report an increased number of poor mental health days when compared to rates for California. The data also shows individuals' inadequate access to physical, oral, and mental health services. These conditions are important predictors of children's health because children are completely dependent on the adults in their lives and when adult health suffers, so does family resources.

For children, poor health undermines all aspects of their development. Within the county, there is a high rate of use of Medicaid and other public insurance programs which limits family's health care access to only those doctors that will accept public insurance as payment. Additionally, family survey data indicated that a significant number of children in the Head Start program did not receive health services due to lack of parent follow-up on health appointments. The lack of parent follow-up could be due to transportation, lack of communication skills, lack of understanding of the role that health plays in child development or competing responsibilities that impact the ability to attend appointments.

Additional information from key stakeholders notes systemic barriers in accessing health services such as difficulty navigating formal systems of health care, lack of bilingual/bicultural providers, lack of trained clinicians for young children, and limited English proficiency that impacts parents' knowledge of available resources. The data from parents and public health surveillance systems for Fresno County is further illustrated in Head Start program statistics. For example, in 2021, thirty-three percent of Head Start children needed dental treatment due to caries and within the program and 34% of Head Start children were overweight or obese. The data translates into adult problems as well. For example, Fresno County adults also have higher rates of obesity than their peers across California and have poorer health outcomes. An analysis of family needs indicated that 42% of program families needed assistance obtaining health care and 59% reported they needed assistance obtaining dental care.

Maternal and child health is also concerning. Fresno County has higher rates of teen births, births to mothers without a high school diploma, births to unmarried mothers, and births to mothers with a low-income than found across California. There is also a racial disparity and black/African American babies are more likely to be born with a low birthweight and have rates of infant mortality that are triple that of babies born to white mothers. The teen pregnancy rate is also higher for black/African American mothers and Latinas. These factors are associated with poor health and development for infants and increased rates of poverty throughout life.

Condition 2: The county population demonstrates underemployment and high rates of unemployment due to lack of job opportunities that pay a living wage and limited educational attainment. Concurrently, the county cost of living is rising which has trapped families in cycles of poverty, especially single-mothers and families headed by a parent with limited educational attainment.

Poverty rates vary by racial-ethnicity and by family status. The county poverty rate among the general population is 17%, however it is 44% for married couples with children, and 45% for families headed by single mothers. Throughout Fresno's communities, poverty is unevenly distributed. For example, Kingsburg and Riverdale have the highest rates of poverty among single mothers, at 66% and 62%, respectively, while the City of Fresno has the most people in poverty among all groups.

Poverty by racial-ethnicity is also variable which exacerbates already higher than average rates of poverty in the county. Of the black/African American population, 31% are living in poverty even though they only represent 5% of the total population. A significant percentage of the Hispanic/Latino population also lives in poverty demonstrating a poverty rate of 26% compared to 18% for the United States. In total, 20% of Fresno's white population also lives in poverty which is almost double the state and national average of 11% of whites in poverty.

Data for the service area illustrates the links between poverty and employment. When the population in poverty is examined, 54% of families in poverty are not working full-time. In comparison, the rate of poverty among those that work full-time that is just 4%. Head Start families also demonstrate lower rates of employment than their county peers, even though most of them work. Families are frequently underemployed where they work less than full-time or at jobs inadequate with respect to their training or economic needs. Program data indicates that many families are living on the wages of only one working family member or that they are employed less than full-time. An examination of family needs indicated that 31% of families reported they needed help finding or keeping a job, 77% needed assistance obtaining food, and 84% of families needed assistance reaching their goals.

Condition 3: Families are experiencing housing insecurity, poor living conditions, neighborhood problems such as crime and violence and there is a 16% rise in the number of homeless individuals in the county.

Housing is unaffordable for a significant percent of the population in all communities in Fresno County. Data on the housing cost burden indicates that nearly 50% of the population spends more than 30% of their income on housing costs. In total, it is estimated that just 6% of rentals in the community are affordable for families and individuals earning less than 30% of the median income and about half of all rental units are affordable for those earning the median income for Fresno County. Repeatedly in community and program data the need for affordable housing emerges. For example, between 2019 and 2022, there was a 16% increase in the homeless population in Fresno County. In other program data, 30% of families reported they needed help finding a better place to live and 27% indicated they needed help getting out of an unsafe place. Fresno County's rate of substandard housing exceeds both the nation, and the state rates as does the rate of violent crime, which further illustrates the community's housing challenges.

Condition 4: The early care and education system is changing rapidly and the impact of the early care and education system developments on Head Start and Early Head Start is uncertain. Despite a burgeoning preschool movement that is transitioning the state preschool program from a targeted preschool program for at-risk children to a universal preschool program serving all children aged 3 and 4 years, there is still a need for affordable childcare, comprehensive early childhood programs, and a robust system of care for infants and toddlers.

In Fresno County there are currently 14,354 infants and toddlers eligible for Early Head Start and 11,053 preschoolers eligible for Head Start because they live in a family with an income below the federal poverty threshold.

When at least 85% of all children are served by public preschool it is assumed that a system has reached universal access. It is estimated that through the existing public preschool programs currently operating, Fresno County has sufficient slots to serve ***all preschool children in poverty*** and 52% of ***all three and four-year olds***. To achieve universal access to preschool for all three and four-year olds, Fresno County needs a total of 23,995 public preschool slots, which when childcare programs are included, is already accommodated by the current early childhood system. The data from this assessment estimates that the city would need at least 8,500 additional public preschool slots to reach 85% of children aged 3-5 years using only state preschool or Head Start programs.

The push for universal access should also be viewed in the context of trends that may undermine its progress. These include: a decreasing number of center-based childcare programs that serve children from 8-12 hours daily, lack of a qualified workforce, lack of high-quality programs, and disparate access to high-quality programs for Hispanic/Latino children due to the cost of care, which comprise the largest racial-ethnic group in Fresno County and many of its communities. While universal access programs do result in benefits for many children, there are unintended consequences that could result from such large evolution of the early care and education system such as loss of access to comprehensive services as families transition into programs that are less intensive than Head Start, uneven per-child funding between federal, state, and community-based early care and education programs, and diminished quality as the most highly skilled teachers leave Head Start and community-based programs for jobs in elementary-based preschool programs that offer a higher salary.

Another phenomenon occurring in other states with universal preschool systems is that as children transition to public preschool programs, center-based childcare programs lose the ability to operate because the financial models are disrupted. In turn, they implement infant and toddler programming at a higher cost to families or close altogether. These trends are already appearing in Fresno County. For example, there has been a 6% drop in family childcare homes between January 2020 and January 2021, and a 31% decrease in center-based childcare licenses during the same time period. While some of the trend observed was the result of the COVID-19 pandemic, expansion of public preschool is now also playing a role in the decisions of childcare providers to remain open or not.

Condition 5: Fresno communities are socially vulnerable, and children are exposed to adverse early childhood experiences and lack protective factors such as a safe community, stable families, social-emotional resilience, and concrete social support.

Social vulnerability is a measure of the degree of risk for poor health and well-being outcomes that was created by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to assist in determining the vulnerability of populations in specific communities. The CDC vulnerability risk matrix uses a composite of theme scores in the areas of socioeconomic risk, household composition, minority status, housing, and transportation to create a score that ranges from 0.00-1.0, with 1.0 being the most socially vulnerable. Fresno County has a vulnerability index score of .95, compared to California's social vulnerability score of .65.

Children in Fresno County are exposed to multiple adverse early childhood experiences, particularly Head Start children who are more likely to live in poverty or experience economic hardship. Within Fresno County, data highlights that increase the likelihood a child will have an adverse experience include: 12% of children live with a single-mother and 18% of incarcerated individuals have at least one child under five years (estimated to be 387 inmates). The rate of mental health hospitalizations, substance abuse and family violence reports are also high. Fresno's rate of child abuse is 61.3 (per 1,000 children) compared to a rate of 43.5 for California. Further the high rates of poverty and diminished access to food and housing security increase the risk of children's exposure to at least one adverse experience in early childhood.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Low-income persons, children, and families face challenges in maintaining their health and well-being because of health disparities that are present at birth, that persist throughout life for individuals in poverty and individuals of color. During the next program year, Fresno EOC could further engage the Head Start health services advisory committee and other partners in gathering data on health challenges experienced by program families. This data could be used to develop initiatives and to develop policies, procedures, and operational guidelines. For example, in mental health the program could devise a process for assessing the number of adverse experiences a child is exposed to during the enrollment assessment and could automatically refer children and families with high rates of exposure to the program mental health team.

The reduction of health disparities and need to address substance abuse issues is a complex problem that must be addressed using multi-faceted collaborative strategies. Fresno EOC can expand on this work by increasing awareness of available resources among families and partners. For example, program staff can compile and collect information about resources and share it with doctors, hospitals, childcare providers, and community health workers. Social media can also be used to build trust and a good reputation among underutilized providers. The service landscape has also changed since the infusion of COVID-19 funds. Exploring the types of programs that have expanded as well as the programs that will be exhausted in the near future as pandemic funding supplements fall away may limit the impact of any other shifts in access to health programs and services that occur as the focus of public funding changes.

At a systemic level, Fresno EOC can support an increase in access to services by promoting the acceptance of Medicaid reimbursement among providers, particularly those for children with special health care needs. Other activities that include shortening and streamline provider enrollment processes and pooling money to avoid duplication and increase coordination can also occur through health advocacy groups that are formed to magnify the efforts Fresno EOC is already undertaking to resolve community health challenges.

Fresno EOC program staff are very skilled and knowledgeable in the areas of health and health access. They can also play a critical role in educating providers on how to communicate better with families and with low-income individuals. For example, the program could produce public fact sheets on how to explain the importance of lead testing for children, resources in the community to support health, or staff can work through the health services advisory committee and engage with other initiatives in the community to advocate for public policies that work to address complex health challenges.

Another area of concern that is underreported in data is substance abuse. To the extent possible, Fresno EOC can partner with local substance abuse coalitions to bring attention to growing rates of substance abuse, particularly in the rural areas where a small population limits the collection of data that describes the extent of the problem. Ways that Fresno EOC can support substance abuse prevention efforts include integrating substance abuse education into training programs and agency environments. Staff can also perform outreach to programs that are providing treatment and resources to families with substance abuse issues so that children in these families are prioritized for enrollment in Head Start. At the same time, caregivers experiencing substance abuse issues can be referred to and enrolled in other agency and community programs as quickly as possible. Outreach efforts can further target these high-risk families. For example, the county's family dependency treatment court, drug court, and hospitals would be a good contact for program enrollment and recruitment staff.

Another strategy for improving health is to draw attention to the role that power and race play in health equity and the profound impact of health equity on Fresno County children.

There are many factors that impact the health of Fresno children. Health equity exists when there are not unnecessary, avoidable, unjust, or unfair systemically caused differences in health status. Two additional factors also play a role in health equity these are: 1) Power – the ability to do something or act in a particular way and to influence or direct the behavior of others and 2) Racial justice - Racial justice is the systematic fair treatment of people of all races that results in equitable opportunities and outcomes for everyone. All people can achieve their full potential in life, regardless of race, ethnicity, or the community in which they live.

Data shows deep health inequities that are rooted in power and structural racism. The social determinants of health also contribute to poor health. Families are impacted by violence, poverty, hunger, and trauma that exacerbates health problems. For example, maternal child health outcomes are worse for black/African American and Hispanic/Latino mothers and educational disparities are prevalent for children of color when achievement rates are compared to the rates of achievement among all children. The direct impact of health inequities is

frequently seen first in maternal child health outcomes which are a predictor of the future health of the population. Fresno County experiences alarmingly poor maternal child health outcomes.

Three strategies that can be implemented by Fresno EOC to impact health inequities include:

Power Building: Helping low-income families become engaged in systems changes will enhance their ability to set the public agenda and participate in government decisions in new ways. The foundation for participatory roles has been laid through the Head Start shared governance framework which will support the transition of family representatives into system leadership roles. The work of the health services advisory committee can also be leveraged in support of this recommendation. To facilitate this activity the program can:

1. Engage in broad community outreach through meetings and by facilitating one-on-one meetings between parents and leaders that have a role in public health decisions;
2. recruit families for a health awareness initiative and use stories to engage core health leaders in advocacy efforts; and Fresno EOC can
3. organize an effort focused on strategy, narrative, and program-based teams where all are trained speak out about health inequities that are persistent in Fresno County.

Two additional strategies include:

Engaging in the Redesign of Health Systems: There are several efforts underway in Fresno County that are seeking to address health inequities. As a direct service organization, Fresno EOC staff have a lens of experience that is unique that can contribute to these efforts. If possible, integrating Head Start representatives into health equity programs and initiatives could benefit families by cultivating health equity champions and reframing issues so that they encompass family voice and their lived experience with the health care system.

Narrative Building: Spending time increasing public awareness about the ways that children and families are engaged in and impacted by health issues can be a driver of change. Through social media, blogs, public speaking, and campaigns the program can educate the public and normalize conversations about racism in public health and elevate stories that challenge the dominant narrative and emphasize the values of humanity and wellness in health.

Recommendation 2: Encourage broader workforce participation for individuals in poverty and Head Start families with less than two family members that are working and assess and address barriers to employment for those that are not working or in job training. Strategies to support this recommendation could include sharing poverty statistics by the number of workers in the family and poverty statistics by educational attainment levels. Information could be disseminated by family advocates or during parent meetings or by community action program case managers. Other helpful program strategies might be encouraging the use of the Employment Development Department in helping parents to obtain financial assistance with career training fees, involving Head Start parents with local business development organizations, and setting career development goals through the Family Partnership Agreement or other employment and training programs offered by the agency or agency partners. The development of social capital can help families bridge into new social networks that support employment mobility.

Families are in need of supplemental programs to support their basic needs due to lack of work activities, low-paying jobs, and high rates of single-parenthood, including high rates of births to single mothers, particularly births to single-mothers without a high school diploma. It would be beneficial to focus additional resources on assisting individuals and families receiving assistance in maintaining eligibility for supplemental programs when needed. To increase information about services, the program could circulate key information through the parent newsletter, inform parents about community events, and train family advocates and case managers to effectively connect families with benefits and programs that provide financial relief.

For families that are working, lack of income and income volatility makes it difficult for families to predict their income in each week, which forces them to make choices about which bills to pay, what housing they can afford, how to manage debt, and how to prioritize the needs of the family. All of this impacts the ability of families to build assets that help them transcend poverty. Families face new questions such as: will my employer call me into work? If I get laid off, can I collect unemployment benefits and how much will I get? How will this impact other benefits I receive? What am I supposed to do about childcare now that my center is closed? And on and on.

Six aspects of income insecurity can be used as a lens for creating strategies to reduce family financial volatility. These include:

1. **Work hour instability and schedule unpredictability.** The nature of employment for many low-income families creates income instability because there are changes in the number of hours that low-income workers work each week. Low-income families are also impacted by “schedule unpredictability” which means they receive their work schedule with less than one week’s notice and are more likely to have jobs that place them “on call”. Nearly 60% of workers earning less than \$15,000 experience these work arrangements².
2. **Delays in unemployment insurance eligibility and changes in the process for obtaining unemployment benefits.** The pandemic unemployment assistance led to a need to upgrade employment insurance systems and created staffing issues that meant delays in the receipt of assistance for weeks or months. This is especially true for workers that were part of the gig economy. While California is catching up with the backlog, low-income workers with variable jobs and earnings report they are still unable to predict the income they will receive, which has together with changing benefit levels increased income volatility for workers that earn the least³.
3. **Changes in Critical Benefits Sensitive to Changing Income.** The pandemic expanded benefits for many programs such as CalFresh and TANF (Temporary Aid for Needy Families). Within the county, more than 50% of families receive some type of income support. The changing scope of benefits as the pandemic supplements expire have

² Hunter, S. September 2018. “Unstable Work Schedules and Earnings Volatility.” Poverty Facts. University of California Davis Center for Poverty Research.

³ The Century Foundation (2020). Unemployment Data Dashboard. <https://tcf.org/content/report/unemployment-insurance-data-dashboard3/>

made it more difficult for families to predict which benefits they will qualify to receive, especially considering income fluctuations due to unstable work arrangements. Reasons that families may lose benefits include lagging or incorrect calculations in income, loss of benefits because food assistance and unemployment insurance is calculated as income, and delays in applications due to processing issues.

4. **Childcare challenges continue to persist.** Low-income families face disproportionate challenges accessing safe, affordable, reliable, high-quality childcare. With the onset of the pandemic, childcare access changed abruptly. The perfect storm of changing employment, lack of ability for low-income workers to work from home and continued staffing issues have further reduced accessibility to childcare for low-income families. There is simply, not enough open, available, affordable childcare options in Fresno County.
5. **Savings and Access to Credit.** Head Start families are less likely to have a savings account and face constraints in accessing credit, making it difficult for them to adjust to unexpected expenses or fluctuations in income.
6. **Health Issues and Trauma.** It is widely acknowledged that low-income communities of color, including communities throughout Fresno County have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. In addition to the tragedies families have faced in regard to lives lost and community impacts, it is also a factor in income volatility. For example, families are still hit with unexpected illness such as covid positivity and must miss work to care for themselves or their family, when a worker gets sick, new responsibilities must be pushed to other caregivers, and families are experiencing higher levels of stress due to the trauma they experienced during the pandemic.

Recommendation 3: To address housing security, the program can develop components of their financial literacy training to help individuals and families maintain housing. For example, topics may address credit repair, saving for a deposit, and building a strong rental history. Additionally, family service staff can collect data on the vulnerabilities that families experience regarding housing. Potential solutions could also focus on increasing the use of utility assistance among Head Start families. This strategy may include enhancing the collaboration between housing authorities, cities, service agencies and other non-profit entities, such as social services and faith-based organizations to increase access to programs that can supplement Fresno EOC's efforts. Also, an increase in collaboration between organizations within the community and educational agencies to provide information around energy tips for consumers will motivate tenants of affordable housing and those receiving energy assistance to become more informed energy consumers.

Recommendation 4: The program can begin to track data on the enrollment and utilization of early childhood services in each community and use this data to monitor the need for changes to Head Start and other early childhood program options. For example, the program can identify recruitment and enrollment periods for the Transitional Universal Preschool programs operating in the area and for home visiting services. This data can be compared to program enrollment along those dates to identify if the recruitment period and strategies for Head Start or Early Head

Start need to be modified. For example, recruitment may occur earlier in the year, or the program may seek to convert Head Start slots to Early Head Start slots as preschool program services expand. Another option is to become more involved in policy making so that Fresno EOC can be a larger part of the developing system for home visiting in California.

Recommendation 5: Fresno EOC can enhance programming to address the needs of children that are exposed to adverse early childhood experiences. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) disrupt a child's sense of safety and the nurturing they need to develop, thrive and learn. ACEs include exposure to child abuse and neglect as well as exposure to alcohol abuse, substance abuse, domestic abuse and untreated mental illness in the child's home. ACEs also include being treated differently due to race or ethnicity. Ultimately, experiencing ACEs results in lower life expectancy. Most children that have one ACE factor have at least one other ACE.

County-level data across several factors (poverty, family status, mental health, and substance abuse) indicate that there is a high prevalence of children with ACEs in Head Start, which exacerbates an already higher likelihood of experiencing multiple ACEs found among children in poverty living throughout the county. One strategy to address this finding could be to develop a system to monitor and track ACE exposure among Head Start children. For example, the program could select indicators from the annual Program Information Report and data that will be tracked within the program and compared to the characteristics of families and children in the program, as well as triangulated with attendance data, behavioral incidents, and other needs. By collecting thorough family information (poverty, divorce/family disruption, exposure to crises etc.), staff can develop ACE scorecards for the program that can be utilized for ongoing program development. For example, at in-take children that demonstrate exposure to more than once ACE could automatically be referred to a mental health services provider.

Mental health concerns are also connected to many challenges faced by individuals and families in Fresno County. Activities that could support improvements in the mental health service system include:

- To fight stigma, facilitate an education campaign that encourages people to talk more openly about mental illness, ask for help when they need it, and understand that their illness is not shameful. This strategy could also include expanding participation in mental health awareness weeks designated by the National Alliance for Mental Illness.
- Build local capacity for public mental health research in poor countries in the service area to provide county-level data on child expulsions, suicides, mental illness, and other gaps in services related to substance abuse treatment and mental health.
- Conduct a one-day community conversation about mental health using the Mental Health in My Community resources published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (<https://www.mentalhealth.gov/talk/community-conversation/>).
- Participate in health fairs and classes aimed to improve education about mental health issues, services, and resources in the community.
- Draw in hard-to-reach parents to improve their social connections and mental health protective factors.

- Provide information about substance abuse services and resources to improve awareness of how to access substance abuse assistance.
- Provide training to staff and parents that helps them recognize the importance of preventing mental health problems at an early age using the social-emotional development domains of the state early learning guidelines.
- Provide information and training related to cultural norms and expectations for young children as it pertains to mental health.

Methodology

The Comprehensive Community-Wide Strategic Planning and Needs Assessment

The purpose of the community-wide strategic planning and needs assessment is to provide a current snapshot of the well-being of families and children in the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission service area. This document is prepared in accordance with 45 CFR 1302.11. It serves as an overall assessment of local social and economic conditions as they relate to the needs, priorities, and lives of Head Start eligible children and other low-income families in the Head Start service area. It provides information compiled from various local, regional, national, state, and authoritative sources for the service area.

Purpose of the Community Assessment
To guide and solidify the overall vision and direction of the agency.
To inform decision-making and program planning, including coordinated approaches.
To educate staff and stakeholders.
To establish the program goals and long and short-term program objectives.
To address changing priorities and policies and to respond to trends and changes.
To mobilize community resource and maximize community relationships.
To identify the service and recruitment area served by Head Start and Early Head Start.
To identify the number of low-income children and Head Start and Early Head Start eligible children and families in the service area and appropriate locations for services.
To identify community partners.

Table 1. Purpose of the Community Assessment

Throughout the community assessment process, the staff, board, and policy council worked collaboratively to determine the information to collect, methods for collecting data, the participants for each data collection method, the anticipated process timelines, and the data sources for each indicator in the community assessment. The community assessment was prepared by Heartland Solutions, a Colorado consulting firm.

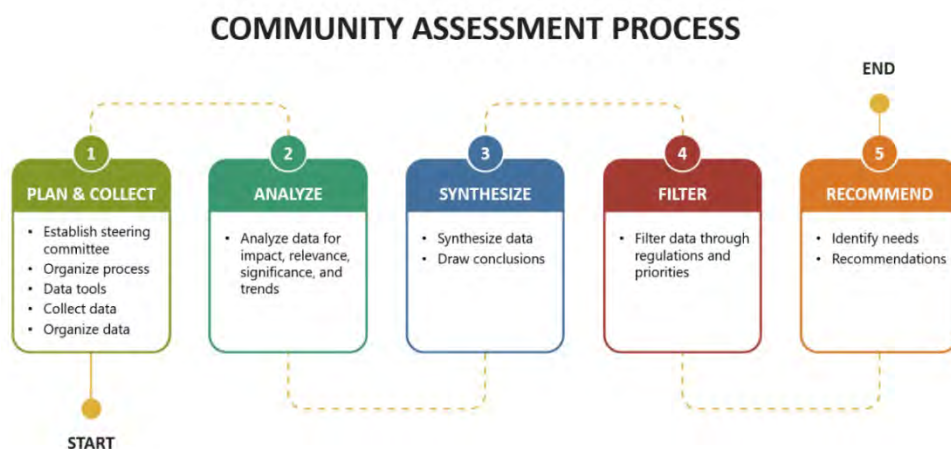


Figure 1. Community Assessment Process

The community assessment includes the following information:

- *Overview of the Head Start Service Area.* An overview of the service area including the economy and trends in the community, children, and families.
- *A Complete Analysis of the Community-Wide Conditions.* An internal and external analysis of quantitative and qualitative data in order to address verified urgent and local needs.
- *A Description and Analysis of the Needs of Low-Income Families in the Service Area.* The agency staff worked with the Heartland demographer and research team to discover the needs of low-income individuals using a variety of sources.
- *A Description of the Head Start Eligible Population.* A profile of the service area's Head Start and Early Head start eligible families based on authoritative information sources, including the number of eligible infants, toddlers, preschool age children, and expectant mothers, along with their geographic location, race, ethnicity, and spoken languages.
- *Special Populations.* An analysis of children experiencing homelessness in collaboration with, to the extent possible, McKinney-Vento Local Educational Agency Liaisons and an estimate of the number of children in foster care.
- *Early Childhood Education Programs.* A review of other child development, childcare centers, and family childcare programs that serve eligible children, including home visiting, publicly funded state and local preschools, and the approximate number of eligible children served.
- *Children with Disabilities.* A description of the number of children with disabilities, including the types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies such as IDEA Part C and B providers.
- *Employment, Education, Housing, Health, Nutrition, Transportation, Asset Development, and Social Service Needs.* A description of the needs of low-income families and children including prevalent social or economic factors that impact their well-being.
- *Parent Needs.* Typical work, school, and training schedules of parents with eligible children.
- *Community Resources, Assets, and Strengths.* A review of community resources available to Head Start eligible families in the service area and low-income individuals.
- *Barriers to Services.* Barriers to services identified through an analysis of data and alignment to the needs of families, the community, and agency needs/resources.

The community assessment will serve as Fresno Economic Opportunity Commission's (Fresno EOC) Head Start and Early Head Start program baseline for identifying current community needs, designing new plans, choosing community partners, developing strategic collaborations, evaluating the effectiveness and progress of prior strategies and interventions for serving low-income families and children in the community, and for making decisions about the program that can accelerate outcomes for children and families. The community assessment is also used to assess and identify the program recruitment and service area, develop goals and objectives, select program options and calendar, and to establish the annual selection criteria and program priorities.

How does the Community Assessment Inform?



Figure 2. How does the CA inform?

Community Assessment Process	
Project activities begin.	January 2022
Needs assessment workgroup created, assessment coordinator identified within Fresno EOC and Heartland, appointed the agency team, and created a data map, including quantitative and qualitative data and sources.	January 2022
Implement data collection plan (qualitative and quantitative data), timelines monitored, defined roles of staff, board members, agency partners, consultants.	February-April 2022
Data analysis and key findings are identified.	May 2022
1 st draft is submitted for review. Agency staff and governing body members review data and identify critical community issues, resources, and service gaps.	June 2022
Final draft is submitted for approval.	July 2022
Presentation to board and policy council and approval of the community assessment.	July 2022

Table 2. Community Assessment Process

Sources of Data and Data Collection Methods

Numerous primary and secondary data sources were used to describe the demographics of the service area and the physical, social, and economic well-being of low-income families. Sources of data included population datasets such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the CARES Community Engagement Network website, California Education Agency the Kids Count Data Center, California Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy People 2020, Healthy Fresno County, the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, the California Department of Finance, KidsData.org, and

the County Health Ranking reports. In addition, the assessment includes information garnered from other secondary sources such as community health and needs assessments published by other agencies in the service area.

Internal data included information necessary to create a profile of children and families, services received, and services for children with disabilities. These sources included the Head Start/Early Head Start Program Information Report for Fresno EOC. The following table details the purposes of 1-year, 3-year and five-year data for the US Census American Community Survey (ACS).

Distinguishing Features of ACS 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year Estimates		
1-year estimates	3-year estimates	5-year estimates
12 months of collected data	36 months of collected data	60 months of collected data
Data for areas with populations of 65,000+	Data for areas with populations of 20,000+	Data for all areas
Smallest sample size	Larger sample size than 1 year	Largest sample size
Less reliable than 3 years or 5 years	More reliable than 1 year; less reliable than 5 years	Most reliable
Most current data	Less current than 1-year estimates; more current than 5-year estimates	Least current
Best Used When	Best Used When	Best Used When
Currency is more important than precision	More precise than 1-year, more current than 5-years	Precision is more important than currency
Analyzing large populations	Analyzing smaller populations and geographies	Analyzing very small populations and tracts for which 1-year data is not available

Table 3. Distinguishing Features of ACS

Summary of Data Sources	
Quantitative Data	
Source	Topics
U.S. Census; American Community Survey	Demographics, Education, Income, Healthcare/Insurance, Employment, Housing, Nutrition, Maternal and Child Health, Basic Assistance, Economics
U.S. Department of Labor; Bureau of Labor Statistics and California Employment Development Department	Employment, Income and Wages, Industry, Workforce
California Department of Health Services	Behavioral Risk Factors, Health, Immunizations, Oral Health, Birth Defects, Health Workforce, Nutrition
U.S. Center for Disease Control	Oral Health
Annie E. Casey Foundation. Kids Count Data Center. KidsData.Org	Dual Language Learners, Maternal and Child Health, Child Abuse, WIC Enrollment
United Health Foundation	Health Rankings
Mental Health America	Mental Health
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	HUD and housing information

CARES Community Engagement Network	Population Density, Demographics, Education, Student Achievement, English Language Proficiency, Health, Neighborhood and Environment, Housing, Veterans, Insurance, Health Professional Shortage Areas, Immunization Data, Elderly Population Demographics, Nutrition
National Center for Education Statistics	Education, Student Achievement, Disabilities, English Language Learners, Economically Disadvantaged Students
Head Start Program Information Report	Head Start Demographics, Enrollment, and Services

Table 4. Summary of Data Sources

Methods for Data Analysis

Initial data analysis was completed by Heartland Solutions and the Fresno EOC management team. Conclusions and recommendations were formulated from these reviews and were considered by the Fresno EOC board and the Head Start policy council. These conclusions and recommendations will form the basis for planning and guide the agency vision for the next several years. Heartland utilized the following process to analyze the community assessment data:

Data Analysis Strategies	
Analysis Task	Purpose
Data was organized and combined according to information about each indicator that was assessed.	Although data differs slightly combining the data allows the assessment team to analyze the multiple dimensions of a single issue.
Closely related information was grouped together and organized into domains.	Issues were analyzed in order to connect conditions to the different statistical, programmatic, and opinion indicators that facilitate a complete understanding of issues.
The data was analyzed to identify similarities in findings across data sources.	The thematic analysis allows the assessment team to rank needs present in the service area.
Needs are ranked and categorized.	Classification of the needs assists in developing strategies to address each need.
The program staff determine how the program can address needs.	The comparison of data allows Fresno EOC to assess how effectively the community is meeting the needs identified in the community assessment.

Table 5. Data Analysis Strategies

Service Area Description

Fresno County is in central California, one of the richest agricultural places in the United States. The area includes California's San Joaquin Valley which contributes to Fresno's designation as the top agribusiness county in the nation. Covering about 6,000 square miles, it is the sixth largest county in the California. Fresno County has 15 incorporated cities: Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, and Selma. In addition, there are 25 small, unincorporated communities; among these are: Auberry, Biola, Cantua Creek, Caruthers, Del Rey, Highway City, Laton, Pinedale, and Riverdale. Fresno County has been noted for its livability as an amazing place to live.



Figure 3. Fresno County Map

Demographics

Population Density

Population density is important in determining the needs of the community for the following reasons:

- How many people a community has, its population, influences whether a business will have enough customers to survive, which impacts economic development.
- Whether the population grows or shrinks influences decisions on school funding formulas, employment, housing, and other allocations for public funding, as well as the resource needs of the community. Whether the population is young or old also influences the needs of the community and the economy.

Population Density ⁴			
Area	Total Population	Total Land Area (mi ²)	Population Density (per mi ²)
Biola	1,440	.65	2,226
Clovis	112,663	25.41	4,433

⁴ CARES Engagement Network (2022). *Total Population, 2016-2020*. Retrieved from <https://engagementnetwork.org/>.

Population Density ⁴			
Area	Total Population	Total Land Area (mi ²)	Population Density (per mi ²)
Huron	7,084	1.60	4,426
Kingsburg	12,116	3.72	3,260
Mendota	12,173	3.39	3,587
Orange Cove	10,120	1.79	5,648
Reedley	27,710	5.51	4,667
Riverdale	2,727	3.92	695
Fresno City	990,204	5,958.38	166
Fresno County	39,346,023	155,858.32	252
United States	326,569,308	3,533,038.14	92

Table 6. Population Density

Population Change

Population growth is calculated by measuring the difference between the rate of birth and the rate of death in an area. Population growth can impact the population in several ways. For example, population growth can positively impact the economy and negatively impact the environment. The population has changed, growing remarkably in Clovis growing by 22% and in Mendota where the population increased by 14% over the last decade. The entire county experienced population growth totaling 8% over the last decade.

Population Change ⁵			
Area	Total Population 2020	Total Population 2010	Change
Biola	1,427	1,463	-2.4% (-36)
Clovis	120,124	98,100	22.4% (22,024)
Huron	6,206	6,721	-7.6% (-515)
Kingsburg	12,380	11,657	6.2% (723)
Mendota	12,595	11,045	14.0% (1,550)
Orange Cove	9,649	9,652	-<1% (-3)
Reedley	25,227	24,426	3.2% (801)
Riverdale	3,477	3,421	-1.6% (-56)
Fresno	542,107	500,538	8.3% (41,569)
Fresno County	1,008,654	930,450	8.4% (78,204)
California	39,538,223	37,253,936	6.1% (2,284,287)
United States	334,735,155	312,471,161	7.1% (22,263,994)

Table 7. Population Change

As shown in the following charts, the county's population change was primarily due to a growth in the percent of the population that was of two or more races. There was a 5% growth in the proportion of the population that is comprised of this group. A corresponding decrease among

⁵ CARES Engagement Network (2022). *Total Population, 2016-2020*. Retrieved from <https://engagementnetwork.org/>.

those of other races occurred between 2015 and 2020. American Indian/Alaska Native residents also decreased, but this group does not comprise a significant percent of the population.

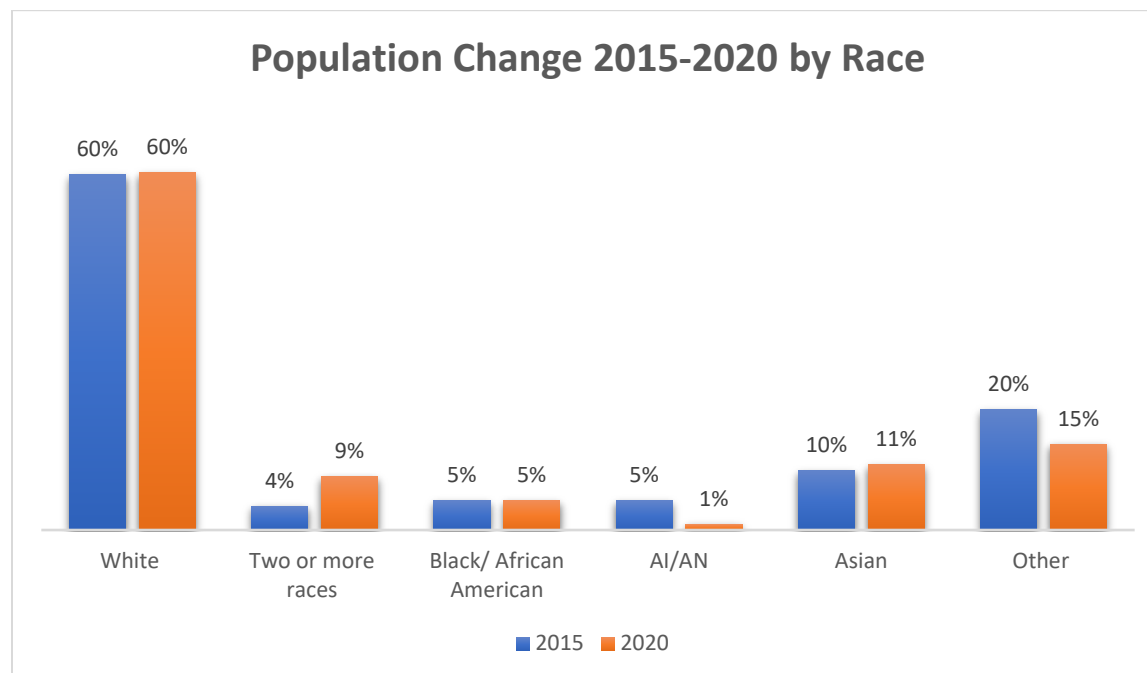


Figure 4. Population Change by Race 2015-2020

Age

Age is the single individual-level demographic characteristic that impacts the health statistics of a community most significantly. The inverse relationship between age and health is consistent across time, population groups, and disease states. The table below shows the population of the service area county and cities by age groups.

Age ⁶						
Age	Biola	Clovis	Huron	Kingsburg	Mendota	Orange Cove
Under 5 years	104	8,069	605	767	1,290	840
5 to 9 years	195	9,221	657	1,164	1,365	1,211
10 to 14 years	118	9,810	689	979	1,421	1,144
15 to 19 years	221	7,951	363	944	1,056	844
20 to 24 years	142	6,827	447	716	970	906
25 to 29 years	170	6,385	1,008	702	709	815
30 to 34 years	85	8,259	447	896	564	495
35 to 39 years	52	7,289	351	783	1,010	638
40 to 44 years	109	8,057	245	1,165	644	592
45 to 49 years	149	8,110	369	570	785	390
50 to 54 years	122	7,077	825	501	550	494

⁶ United States Census Bureau. *Age and Sex 2016-2020, Table S0101*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Age ⁶						
55 to 59 years	30	6,376	205	787	550	644
60 to 64 years	33	7,191	380	611	422	358
65 to 69 years	33	5,613	247	396	344	229
70 to 74 years	21	5,070	142	396	148	229
75 to 79 years	0	3,847	50	204	180	165
80 to 84 years	0	2,234	20	304	151	107
85 years and over	5	1,888	34	231	14	19
Median Age	23.4	34.8	28.1	34.5	24.9	25.8

Age ⁷				
Age	Reedley	Riverdale	Fresno City	Fresno County
Under 5 years	2,623	266	43,703	76,364
5 to 9 years	2,076	145	40,993	78,430
10 to 14 years	2,227	278	42,182	81,637
15 to 19 years	2,039	79	37,427	72,094
20 to 24 years	1,817	144	41,417	70,752
25 to 29 years	1,811	330	46,390	79,657
30 to 34 years	2,193	293	40,703	72,462
35 to 39 years	1,452	165	35,166	65,994
40 to 44 years	1,343	98	31,390	58,902
45 to 49 years	1,240	198	27,902	55,557
50 to 54 years	1,434	115	27,712	54,342
55 to 59 years	1,536	127	27,537	54,575
60 to 64 years	1,303	128	23,716	48,309
65 to 69 years	803	108	20,532	40,585
70 to 74 years	503	104	14,824	30,338
75 to 79 years	427	28	9,996	19,281
80 to 84 years	177	72	7,172	14,125
85 years and over	706	49	8,385	16,800
Median Age	30.7	32.2	31.4	32.4

Table 8. Age

⁷ United States Census Bureau. *Age and Sex 2016-2020, Table S0101*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

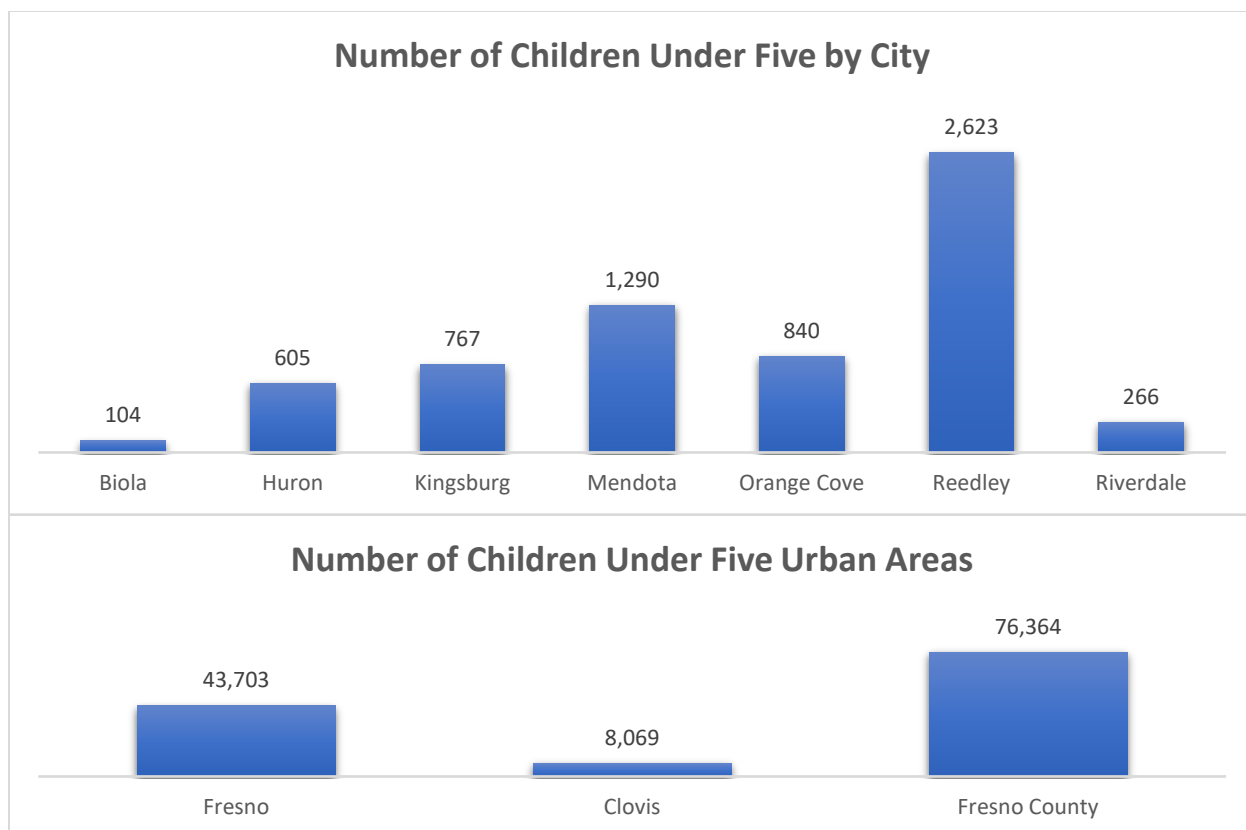


Figure 5. Children Under Five by Area

Population Under 5 by Age ⁸						
Indicators	Biola	Clovis	Huron	Kingsburg	Mendota	Orange Cove
Age 0-3 Yrs.	89	4,030	405	442	718	364
Age 3 & 4 Yrs.	15	4,039	200	325	572	476
Total	104	8,069	605	767	1,290	840

Population Under 5 by Age				
Indicators	Reedley	Riverdale	Fresno City	Fresno County
Age 0-3 Yrs.	1,659	117	24,695	43,106
Age 3 & 4 Yrs.	964	149	17,951	33,193
Total	2,623	266	42,646	76,299

Table 9. Population Under Five Years By Age

⁸ United States Census Bureau. *Population Under 18 Years by Age 2020, Table B09001*. Retrieved from: <https://data.census.gov>.

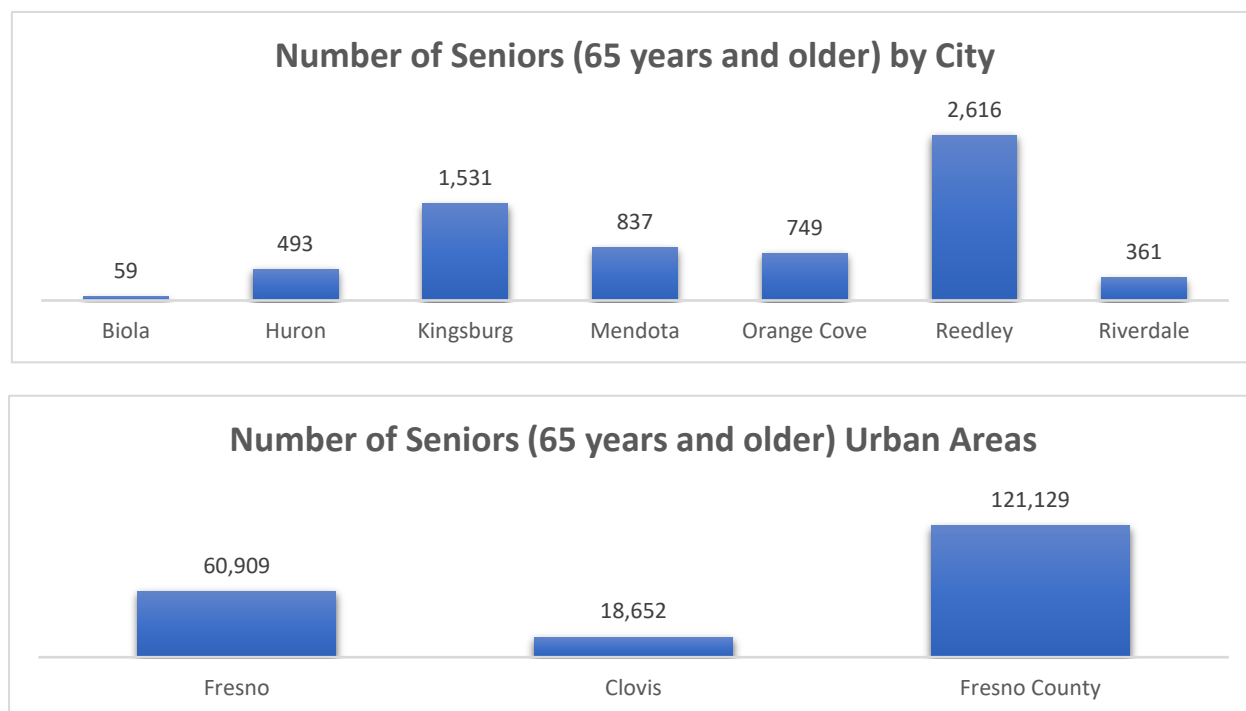


Figure 6. Senior Population by Area

Population Projections

The child population is projected to increase over the next three years. However, in 2020 the number of births in the county decreased from 2019.

Population Projection Children Under Five 2022-2024			
Child Population	2022	2023	2024
Under 3 years	44,088	44,289	44,429
3 and 4 years	29,339	29,432	29,933
Total	73,427	73,721	74,362

Table 10. Population Projection Children Under Five Years

Births in Fresno County ⁹					
Child Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
# of Births	15,324	13,990	14,427	16,759	13,979
% Increase/Decrease		-9%	+3%	+16%	-17%

Table 11. Fresno County Births 2016-2020

Race and Ethnicity

Fresno County is diverse, home to more than 70 different nationalities. In total, 211,320 (21%) residents in the county are foreign – born¹⁰. In Fresno, the largest city in the county, there are

⁹ United States Census Bureau. *Fertility 2016- 2020, Table S1301*. Retrieved from: <https://data.census.gov>.

¹⁰ United States Census Bureau. *Selected Social Characteristics 2016-2020, Table DP02*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

several ethnic enclaves in which a significant portion of the population is Southeast Asian including Hmong, Laotian, Cambodian and Vietnamese individuals. The area also has a significant refugee population primarily from Russia, Iraq, Iran, Thailand, and Syria.

As an agricultural center of the nation, Fresno County is also home to large population of migrant workers and their families. There are estimated to be 113,821 migrants and their families living in the county. Most migrants are Hispanic (77%), but there are other migrant groups as well¹¹. As shown in the following table, the Hispanic/Latino population represents the largest racial-ethnicity group in the county and several towns and cities have a majority-minority composition in which the race and ethnicity of the population is primarily non-white.

Population by Race/Ethnicity ¹²								
Area	White Non-Hispanic	Black/African American Non-Hispanic	Asian	Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	American Indian/Alaska Native	Multi-racial	Other Race	Hispanic / Latino
Biola	1.0%	3.8%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	82.7%
Clovis	49.5%	2.6%	10.7%	0.2%	.02%	3.8%	0.2%	32.7%
Fresno City	26.1%	6.9%	14.0%	0.2%	0.5%	2.5%	2.0%	49.7%
Huron	3.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	94.5%
Kingsburg	41.0%	0.3%	7.9%	0.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	47.7%
Mendota	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	96.0%
Orange Cove	3.0%	1.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.1%	12.3%	0.2%	95.3%
Reedley	14.20	1.5%	2.3%	0.1%	0.2%	2.4%	0.0%	79.3%
Riverdale	30.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	69.1%
Fresno County	28.7%	4.4%	10.4%	0.1%	0.5%	2.4%	0.2%	53.4%

Table 12. Population by Race/Ethnicity

¹¹ Migration Policy Institute. Profile of the Unauthorized Population. Fresno County, CA. <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/unauthorized-immigrant-population/county/6019>

¹² United States Census Bureau. *Demographic and Housing Estimates 2016-2020, Table DP05*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

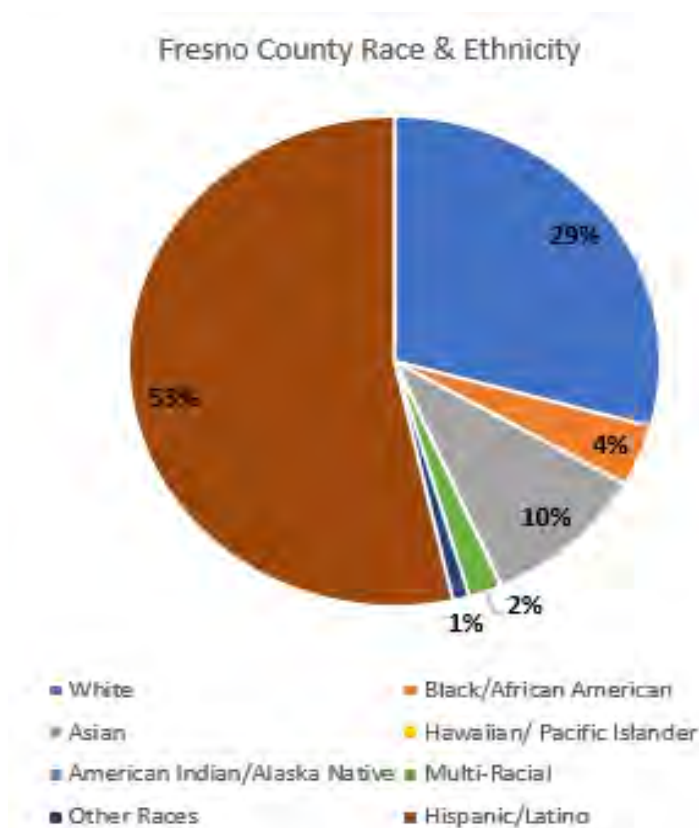


Figure 7. Fresno County Race/Ethnicity

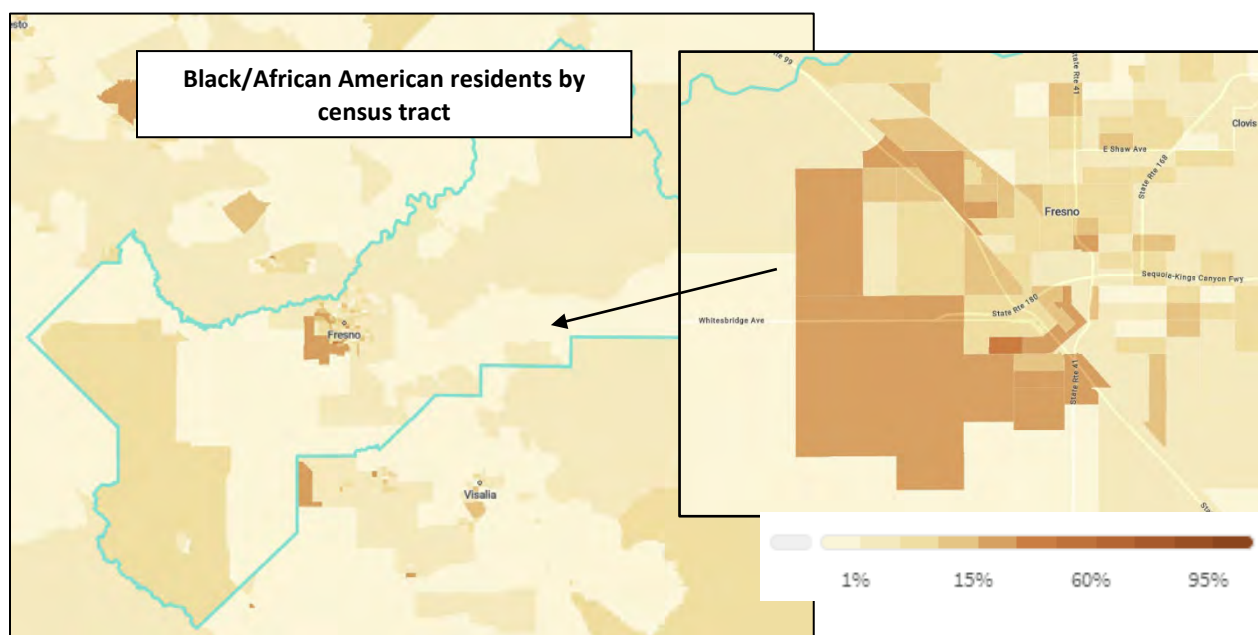
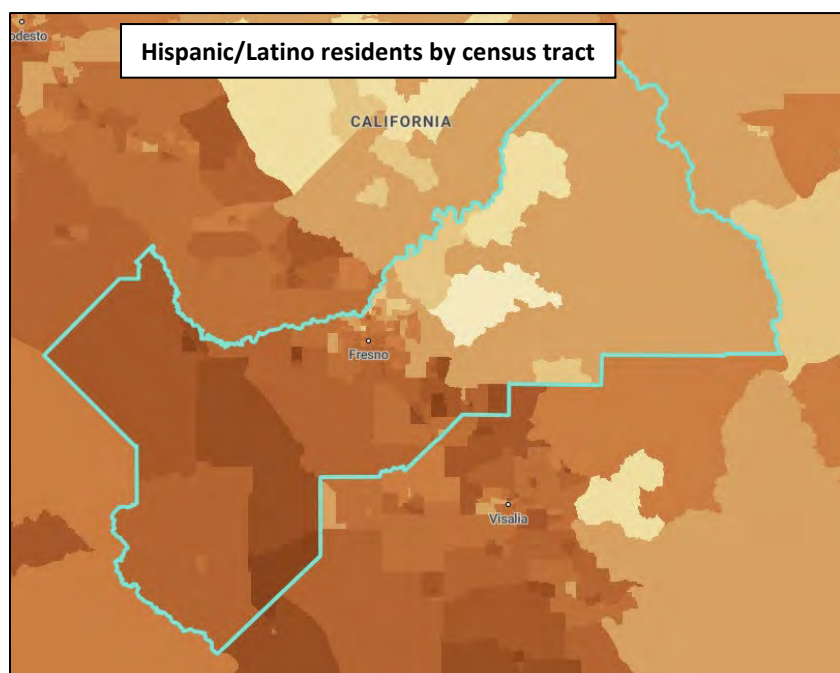
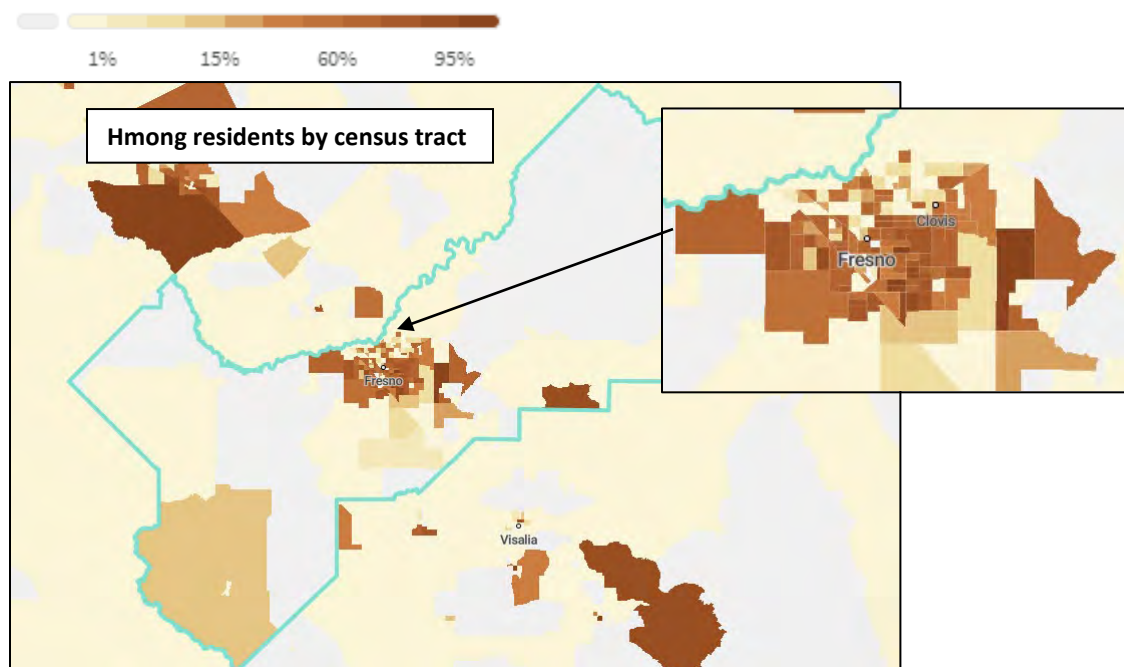


Figure 8. Race/Ethnicity for Selected Groups by Census Tract



The percentage of Hispanic/Latino residents that comprise the population is largest in the western areas of the county that comprise the heart of the San Joaquin valley. This includes the cities of Huron, Tranquility, Mendota and Firebaugh.

The percentage of Hmong residents that comprise the population is largest in the Cities of Fresno and Squaw Valley.



Child Race¹³

The race of children in Fresno is primarily white and Hispanic/Latino.

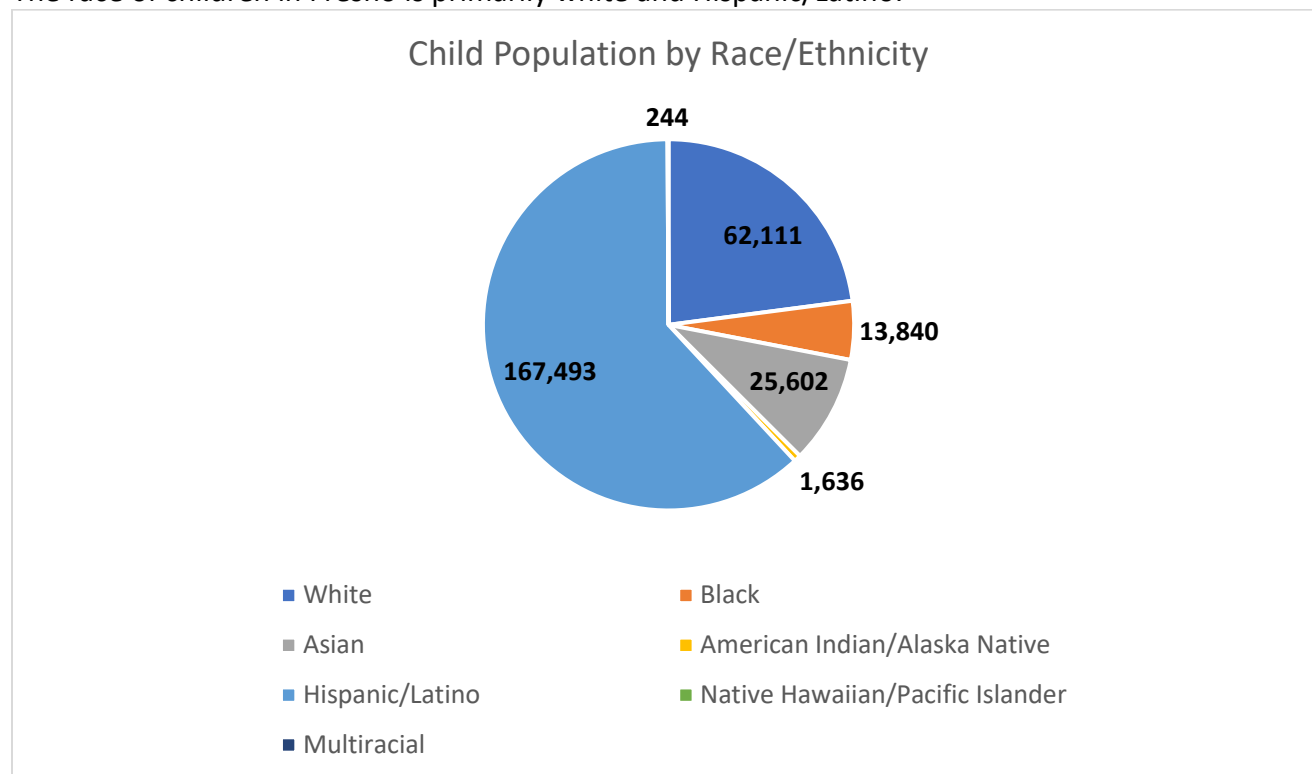


Figure 9. Child Population by Race/Ethnicity

Family Composition

The U.S. Census Bureau reports 310,097 total households and 224,051 family households in the service area.

Family Households ¹⁴			
Area	Total Households	Family Households	Family Households %
Biola	304	288	94.7%
Clovis	37,726	28,015	74.3%
Huron	1,874	1,556	83.0%
Kingsburg	3,754	2,732	72.8%
Mendota	2,838	2,408	84.8%
Orange Cove	2,682	2,235	83.3%
Reedley	7,030	5,948	85.0%
Riverdale	779	695	89.2%
Fresno City	170,137	115,275	67.8%
Fresno County	310,097	224,051	72.3%

Table 13. Family Composition

¹³ Kids Data. 2020. <https://www.kidsdata.org/region/357/fresno-county/summary#6/demographics>

¹⁴ United States Census Bureau. *Households and Families 2016-2020, Table S1101*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Household Composition

Household Composition by Marital Status ¹⁴						
Indicators	Biola	Clovis	Huron	Kingsburg	Mendota	Orange Cove
Total Households	304	37,726	1,874	3,754	2,838	2,682
Married-Family	39%	26%	24%	32%	43%	31%
Single-Male Family	7%	3%	4%	1%	6%	8%
Single Female Family	23%	10%	19%	9%	16%	22%
Non-Family	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%

Household Composition by Marital Status ¹⁴				
Indicators	Reedley	Riverdale	Fresno City	Fresno County
Total Households	7,030	779	170,137	310,097
Married-Family	32%	25%	21%	24%
Single-Male Family	7%	0%	5%	5%
Single Female Family	11%	20%	13%	12%
Non-Family	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%

Table 14. Household Composition for Children Under Six Years

Single Female-Headed Households with Children Under Five Years

Approximately 12% of children under five years live in single-female headed households. An additional 12,441 children in the county live in grandparent-headed households. Of the children living in grandparent-headed households, 5,324 are living in households with an absent parent or where the grandparent has full responsibility for their grandchild¹⁵.

Fresno County Children in Single-Female Households Under Five Years			
Child Population	Under 3 Yrs.	3 & 4 Years	Total
Single-Female Headed Household	3,956	8,485	12,441 (24%)
Married-Couple Families	21,853	16,826	38,679 (76%)

¹⁵ United States Census Bureau. *Grandchildren Characteristics*, 2016-2020, Table S1001. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Household Composition of Children Under 6 ⁴						
Indicators	Biola	Clovis	Huron	Kingsburg	Mendota	Orange Cove
Total Households with Children	203	13,534	767	1,415	1,663	1,426
With Children < 6	13.8%	17.1%	17.9%	15.3%	19.0%	11.5%
Married Couple with Children < 6	11.0%	18.5%	10.6%	14.0%	19.4%	12.1%
Single Male with Children < 6	0%*	16.1%	0%**	40.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Single Female with Children < 6	0.0%	13.1%	17.3%	19.1%	22.7%	14.9%

Table 15. Children in Single-Female Headed Households By Age

*Margin of Error is +/- 84.9 which makes this data less reliable.

** Margin of Error is +/- 53.4 which makes this data less reliable.

Household Composition of Children Under 6 ⁴				
Indicators	Reedley	Riverdale	Fresno City	Fresno County
Total Households with Children	2,965	292	58,281	109,809
With Children < 6	17.3%	11.1%	21.8%	18.4%
Married Couple with Children < 6	17.3%	22.0%	22.1%	18.3%
Single Male with Children < 6	8.7%	0.0%	27.4%	24.1%
Single Female with Children < 6	22.0%	0.0%	19.3%	16.6%

Table 16. Household Composition of Children Under 6

Family Status of Head Start Children

According to the Head Start Program Information Report (PIR) for the Fresno County Head Start program, 1,206 children live in single-parent families (44.5%) and 1,506 children live in two-parent families (55.5%). Within Head Start, a greater percentage of children live in single-parent families compared to children in the general community.



Demographic Key Findings

There are over 76,000 children under five that live in Fresno County. The service area population is changing with the most urban areas experiencing population growth. For example, in the last decade the population in Clovis grew by 22%, compared to 14% in Mendota, and 8% growth in Fresno city and county. The more rural areas experienced a population decline. For example, Biola's population decreased by 2%, compared to a decrease of almost 8% in Huron. The race and ethnicity of the population is also changing, becoming slightly more diverse over time. There are enclaves of southeast Asian's located in Fresno communities and concentrations of Hispanic/Latinos throughout the county. The child population is comprised of more Hispanic/Latino's than any other group.

Fresno also has a large migrant population due to its agricultural economic base. The significance of the large migrant population is revealed in that many children have at least one immigrant parent and 26% of all households are headed by an immigrant. This results in a high degree of linguistic isolation. For example, there are over 400,000 families that are headed by someone that speaks a language other than English, of which 166,000 speak English "less than very well"¹⁰. The large immigrant population is also connected to high rates of poverty as the jobs available for immigrants do not pay enough to lift individuals and families out of poverty. Another significant population trend is a decline in births that has occurred since 2010 which should be taken into consideration when planning for early childhood program slots.

Family structure is important for Head Start and other poverty fighting programs to consider. For example, family structure can play a role in the mental health, physical well-being, and longevity of children, adolescents and adults. According to Raley and Wildsmith, over time the rise in unmarried and stepfamily living has coincided with a rapid acceleration of family instability with more children transitioning to multiple living arrangements¹⁶. The data indicates that there are a significant percent of children living in single-female headed households throughout the county, totaling 12% of all children under five years. Additionally, more than 12,000 children live with their grandparents.

¹⁶ Brown, S. L., Manning, W. D., & Stykes, J. B. (2015). Family Structure and Child Well-Being: Integrating Family Complexity. *Journal of marriage and the family*, 77(1), 177–190. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jomf.12145>

Economic Activities

Economic activities include factors such as industry, employment opportunities and median income. Examining economics is important in making program decisions, because it has an impact on all facets of an individual's life. For example, often as income increases or decreases, so does an individual's health status. As a social determinant of health, a household's income impacts the choices about housing, education, childcare, food, and medical care. Employment also usually includes health benefits which further support healthy lifestyle choices which places those that are unemployed at a disadvantage. Underemployment and unemployment limit purchasing power and the inability to accumulate savings and assets places families more at-risk during times of economic distress.

An economic downturn as well as the types of jobs available can profoundly impact children and families. For example, within the nuclear family job loss, home foreclosure, or loss of family savings can place a strain on caregiver relationships and the families as a whole. For low-income families the shock may be even more severe with basic needs such as food security, healthcare and shelter going unmet. This contributes to increased rates of family conflict, child abuse and neglect, and intimate partner violence. On a broader level, a worsening economy results in the redirection of funding that can impact funds for Head Start, public schools and community health programs which may see their budgets constrained at a time when family services are most needed. Examining several factors of economic activity in the service area can provide insight into the needs of families and children.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on the economy and many small businesses were placed at-risk of closure with some permanently closing. Other impacts included job loss, income instability due to continued requirements for social distancing and shifts in the job market as technology is increasingly utilized to perform tasks once performed by people. This section of the community assessment provides an overview of the economic activities of Fresno County, however, in many cases the data does not yet reflect the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy.

Industry¹⁷

The Fresno County economy employs over 410,000 people. The following figure demonstrates the different industries that make up the Fresno County economy. The most common industries in Fresno County by number of employees, are Health Care & Social Assistance (65,893), Educational Services (41,509), and Retail Trade (40,405). Compared to other counties, Fresno County has an unusually high number of Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting jobs (8.1 times higher than expected), Public Administration (1.4 times), and Administrative & Support & Waste Management Services (1.2 times) industries.

¹⁷ <https://datausa.io>



Figure 10. Fresno County Industries

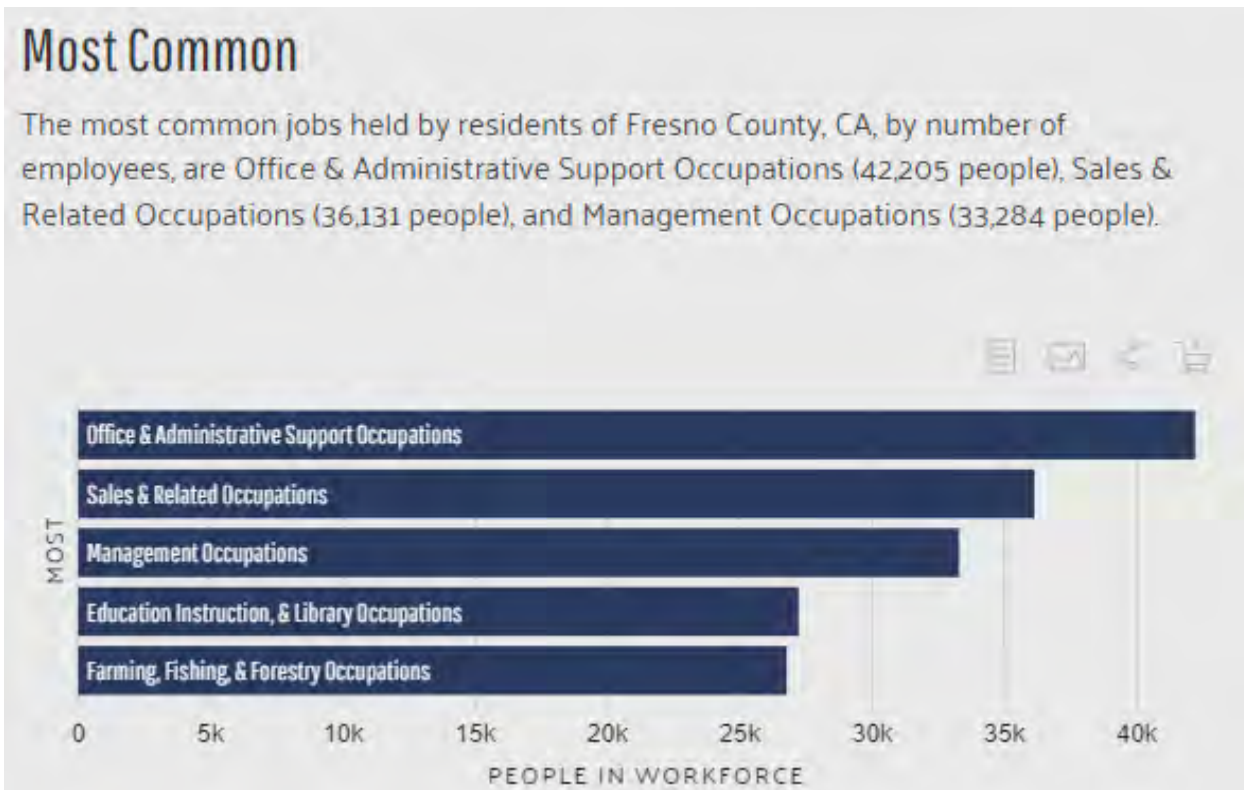


Figure 11. Most Common Jobs in Fresno County

Unemployment & Employment

The Fresno County unemployment rate has been slowly decreasing since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, like trends for both the State of California and for the United States. For example, unemployment has decreased by almost 10% for the county. However, despite significant improvement from the pandemic unemployment crisis, rates of unemployment remain high in Biola, Mendota, Reedley, Huron, and Orange Cove. This indicates that rates of poverty are likely to remain high despite efforts to improve the economy.

Five Year Unemployment Rates ¹⁸					
Area	May 2018	May 2019	May 2020	May 2021	May 2022
Fresno County	6.9%	6.6%	15.9%	9.3%	5.2%
California	3.7%	3.7%	16.0%	7.6%	3.4%
United States	3.6%	3.4%	13.0%	5.5%	3.4%

Table 17. Five Year Unemployment Rates

Unemployment By City ¹⁹		
Area	May 2020 Unemployment	July 2022 Unemployment
Fresno County	15.7%	5.8%
Biola	39.0%	12.2%
Mendota	32.5%	10.9%
Reedley	21.4%	12.5%
Huron	22.1%	12.9%
Orange Cove	23.0%	8.5%
Fresno City	15.3%	4.6%
Kingsburg	11.1%	3.5%
Clovis	13.0%	3.1%
Riverdale	7.2%	2.5%

Table 18. Unemployment Rate by City

Head Start Family Employment

Among Head Start families attending Fresno Head Start programs, 73% of parents in either two-parent or single parent families are employed or in job training or attending school. The rate of unemployment of Head Start families is 26% which is significantly higher than the service area unemployment rate.

Employment of Families with Young Children

Employment rates are typically lower for families with young children. However, the need for two incomes to meet the range of family needs is exacerbated in the service area due to income disparities, income inequities, and the family status of low-income children, who are more likely to live in single-parent headed families. As shown below, the employment

¹⁸ Community Action Partnership. *Employment*. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

¹⁹ California Employment Development Department (2022). Current Month Unemployment Rate and Labor Force Summary. City and Sub-County Places. <https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/data/unemployment-and-labor-force.html>

characteristics of families in Fresno County show there is a significant portion of families in each community that are not working. Additionally, Huron and Biola have a higher percentage of children under six years that live in a family where no parent is working.

Work Characteristics of Families ²⁰				
Area	Total Families with Children Under Six ²¹	Families with all Caregivers Working ²¹	% Single-Mothers that work ²⁰	% Families with No Workers ²⁰
Fresno County	88,232	60.3%	46.6%	13.7%
Biola	137	28.5%	34.1%	15.2%
Mendota	1,561	53.5%	54.1%	8.0%
Reedley	3,009	54.9%	54.0%	4.0%
Huron	781	35.5%	68.4%	16.0%
Orange Cove	994	68.8%	63.8%	9.0%
Fresno City	49,824	60.1%	55.3%	10.0%
Kingsburg	875	60.3%	65.1%	6.9%
Clovis	9,310	69.9%	54.3%	4.2%
Riverdale	258	35.3%	61.2%	11.8%

Table 19. Work Characteristics of Families



Thoughts from key stakeholders about employment

According to staff at the Workforce Development Board, and there is a need for workers who know how to work with technology (e.g., computer-automated warehouses, irrigation controlled by computers).

Cost of Living

As a result of the pandemic, job loss, and reductions in hours or layoffs, the nation's poverty rate increased about 25% from February to May 2020 with the rate for black/African Americans and Hispanic/Latinos increasing by 27% and 29%, respectively. As of January 2022, poverty rates are generally decreasing. However, at the same time the costs of living are increasing. Over the prior 12 months, the consumer price index increased 6.0% up from 5.5% in 2021, the highest rate since 1982. Price gains were broad and included food, shelter, and electricity. Food rose 0.9%; electricity is up 4.2% and shelter is 0.3% higher. Inflation for the prior 12 months equaled 7.5%, the largest increase in 40 years, and follows a 7.0% rise for 2021. Wages have risen throughout the county but have not kept pace with inflation. Thus, even though poverty has been decreased, families may not be better off.

The Center for Women's Welfare Self-Sufficiency Standard defines the income that low-income working families need to meet minimum, yet adequate living standards. The measure takes into

²⁰ United States Census Bureau. *Employment Characteristics 2020*, Table S2302. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

²¹ United States Census Bureau. *Selected Economic Characteristics 2020*, Table DP03. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

consideration costs such a food, housing, health, transportation, utilities, and childcare²². The following table details the hourly, monthly, and annual wage needed to earn a living by family composition.

Cost of Living ²²			
Family Type	Hourly Wage (Per Household Adult)	Monthly Wage	Annual Wage
One adult/1 Infant	\$25.61	\$4,507	\$54,089
One adult/1 Infant and 1 preschooler	\$33.37	\$5,873	\$70,471
2 adults/1 infant	\$14.92	\$5,251	\$60,015
2 adults/1 infant and 1 preschooler	\$18.73	\$6,593	\$79,115

Table 20. Cost of Living

Median Income Level

The median household income for married-couple families in the service area is significantly higher than median household incomes for single-female householders and single-male householders. On average, single-male householders have a 34.3% higher median household income than single-female householders which echoes the gender pay gap seen throughout the United States.

Median Income Level by Family Type ²³					
Area	Households	Families	Married Couple Families	Single Female Householder	Single Male Householder
Biola	304	288	\$30,250	No Data	No Data
Clovis	37,726	28,215	\$116,667	\$47,101	\$59,453
Huron	1,874	1,556	\$45,789	\$16,773	No Data
Kingsburg	3,754	2,732	\$95,235	\$65,688	\$40,063
Mendota	2,838	2,408	\$45,144	\$20,669	\$31,083
Orange Cove	2,682	2,235	\$32,303	\$18,043	\$30,455
Reedley	7,030	5,94	\$55,394	\$33,800	\$67,024
Riverdale	779	695	\$62,045	No Data	No Data
Fresno City	170,137	115,275	\$78,241	\$32,892	\$43,300
Fresno County	310,097	224,051	\$81,992	\$34,592	\$45,547

Table 21. Median Income Level by Family Type

²² Self-Sufficiency Standard at the Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington. <https://insightcced.org/family-needs-calculator/>

²³ United States Census Bureau. *Median Income in the Past 12 Months 2016-2020*, Table S1903. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Household Income Levels ²³					
Area	Under \$25,000	\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 \$99,999	\$100,000 \$199,999	\$200,000+
Fresno County	22.60%	22.01%	29.19%	20.47%	5.73%
California	15.51%	17.14%	27.66%	26.42%	13.27%
United States	18.41%	20.64%	29.95%	22.73%	8.26%

Table 22. Household Income Levels

Median Income by Race and Ethnicity

Data related to income and race/ethnicity is prone to significant variation when examined in the context of small populations. Issues can also arise when examining smaller racial/ethnic populations. Several entries in the below table provide 'no data'. However, the data we do have provides great insight into the relationship between race, ethnicity, and income.

Median Income by Race/Ethnicity of Householder ²⁴								
Area	Non-Hispanic White	Black	Asian	Native American / Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	Other Race	Multiple Race	Hispanic / Latino
Biola	-	-	-	-	-	\$71,094	-	\$53,000
Clovis	\$84,957	\$77,981	\$95,127	\$63,829	-	\$58,787	\$96,481	\$73,910
Huron	-	-	-	-	-	\$26,250	-	\$32,004
Kingsburg	\$74,006	-	\$53,125	\$39,205	-	\$78,125	\$85,400	\$81,494
Mendota	-	-	-	-	-	\$35,246	-	\$36,804
Orange Cove	\$21,161	-	-	-	-	\$35,000	\$18,682	\$26,290
Reedley	\$76,493	\$123,810	\$34,531	-	-	\$41,058	\$101,875	\$42,659
Riverdale	\$35,052	-	-	-	-	\$31,230	-	-
Fresno City	\$63,517	\$34,361	\$63,460	\$46,021	\$59,551	\$45,931	\$48,165	\$45,984
Fresno County	\$70,763	\$39,621	\$68,274	\$52,511	\$45,595	\$45,525	\$57,763	\$47,141

Table 23. Median Income by Race/Ethnicity

²⁴ United States Census Bureau. *Median Income in the Past 12 Months 2016-2020, Table S1903*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

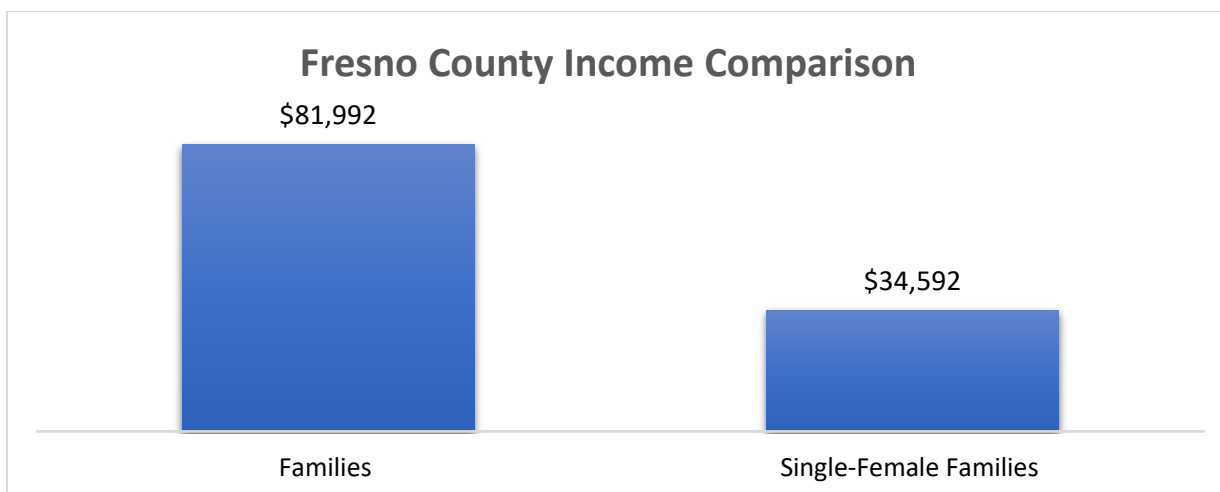


Figure 12. Married - Couple and Single-Female Income Comparison

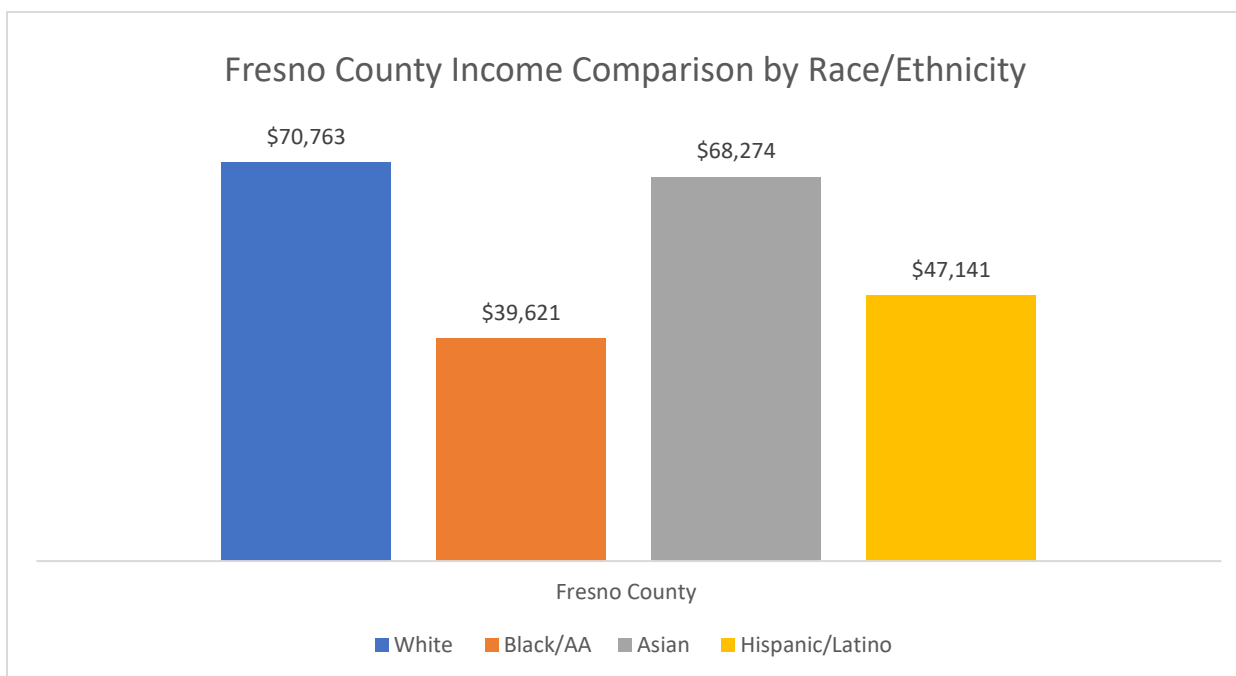
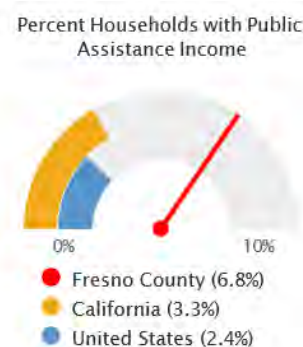


Figure 13. Fresno County Income Comparison By Race/Ethnicity

Other Sources of Income

Supplemental Security Income (Ssi) includes Social Security, Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (CalFresh/SNAP). In Fresno County, there are 115,987 households that receive public assistance, totaling 40% of all households. The rates of dependence on public assistance are higher for female householders with children. Of families that receive public



assistance, 43% are married-couple families and 45% are single-female householders²⁵.

Economic Activities Key Findings



Unemployment rates in the service area are higher than the state and national rates but are continuing to improve over time. Certain areas have the highest rates of unemployment such as Biola and Mendota which are also home to some of the most impoverished census tracts with diverse populations, notably Hispanic/Latino families – many of which are migrants or immigrants. The unemployment rate among Head Start families is extremely high, demonstrating a significant disparity in employment between Head Start families and the general population. There is also a racial disparity in income and a disparity in income between married-couples and families headed by a single-female householder. Fresno county has the 57th highest cost of living in the state, however the median income is 45th highest. When the cost of living is calculated relative to the median income, the county ranks 27th out of 58th in the cost of living.

²⁵ United States Census Bureau. *Receipt of Supplemental Security Income 2020*, Table B09010. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Poverty

Poverty in Fresno County

Poverty contributes to early death, increased rates of disease, and poor health. As income inequality increases, life expectancy differences also increase. According to a recent study, low-income Americans have higher rates of physical limitations, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and other chronic conditions, compared to high-income Americans.²⁶ Wealth supports educational attainment, housing stability, and financial security.²⁷ The impacts of poverty on young children are particularly harmful. According to the National Academy of Sciences, a wide body of evidence indicates that a child growing up in a family whose income is below the poverty line experiences worse outcomes than a child from a wealthier family in virtually every dimension, from physical and mental health to educational attainment and labor market success, to risky behaviors and delinquency.²⁸

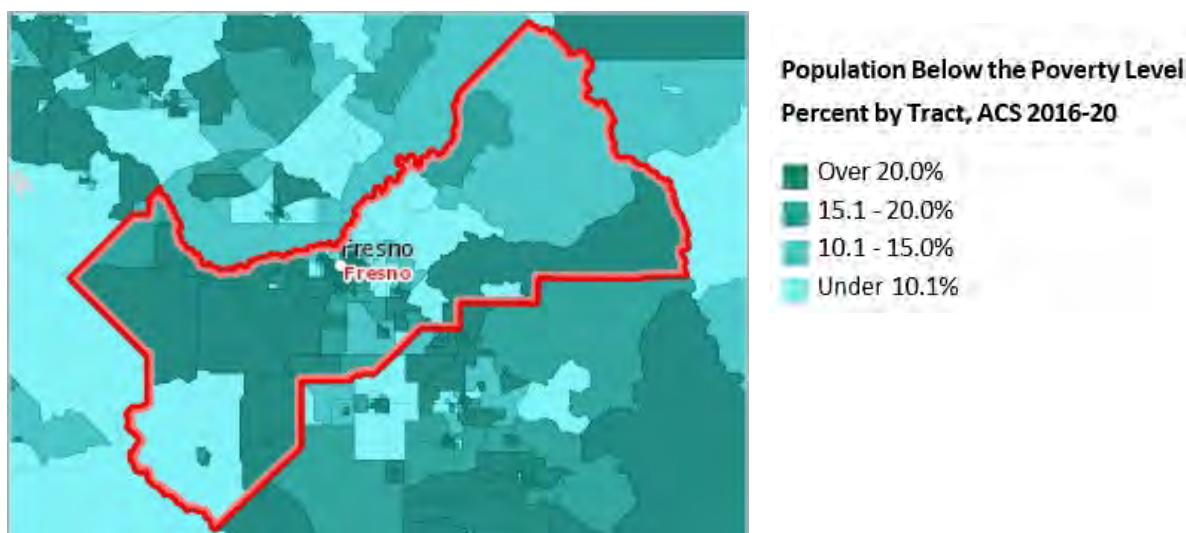


Figure 14. Population in Poverty by Census Tract

Number Below Poverty Level

In 2020, poverty estimates show that a total of 168,153 service area residents had an income below the federal poverty threshold, demonstrating a poverty rate of 17.1% for Fresno County. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are 81,804 children living in poverty in the service area, of which 25,407 are under age five. The poverty rates of children aged birth-to-five for

²⁶ Chetty R, Stepner M, Abraham S, et al. (2016). The Association Between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014. *JAMA*, 315(16):1750-1766. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.4226

²⁷ Health Affairs (2018). *Health, Income, & Poverty: Where We Area & What Could Help*. Retrieved from <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hpb20180817.901935/full/>.

²⁸ A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education; Committee on National Statistics; Board on Children, Youth, and Families; Committee on Building an Agenda to Reduce the Number of Children in Poverty by Half in 10 Years; Le Menestrel S, Duncan G, editors. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US).

almost all communities in the service area are significantly higher than the child poverty rates for either the state or nation. The only communities that have a lower poverty rate for children than found for the state or nation are Clovis and Kingsburg.

Poverty Rates ²⁹				
Area	Total Population	Poverty Rate	Poverty Rate 0-4	Poverty Rate 0-17
Biola	1,440	38.3%	62.5%	56.9%
Clovis	111,804	8.8%	13.5%	10.4%
Huron	7,084	41.2%	69.8%	65.3%
Kingsburg	12,028	5.9%	0%	3.0%
Mendota	12,112	38.5%	44.6%	50.2%
Orange Cove	10,093	44.9%	54.6%	59.3%
Reedley	25,209	23.0%	29.4%	34.1%
Riverdale	2,712	33.8%	31.4%	58.7%
Fresno City	517,104	23.4%	36.4%	33.0%
Fresno County	990,204	20.7%	33.3%	29.5%
California	39,346,023	12.5%	17.0%	16.8%
United States	326,569,308	12.8%	19.1%	17.5%

Table 24. Poverty Rates

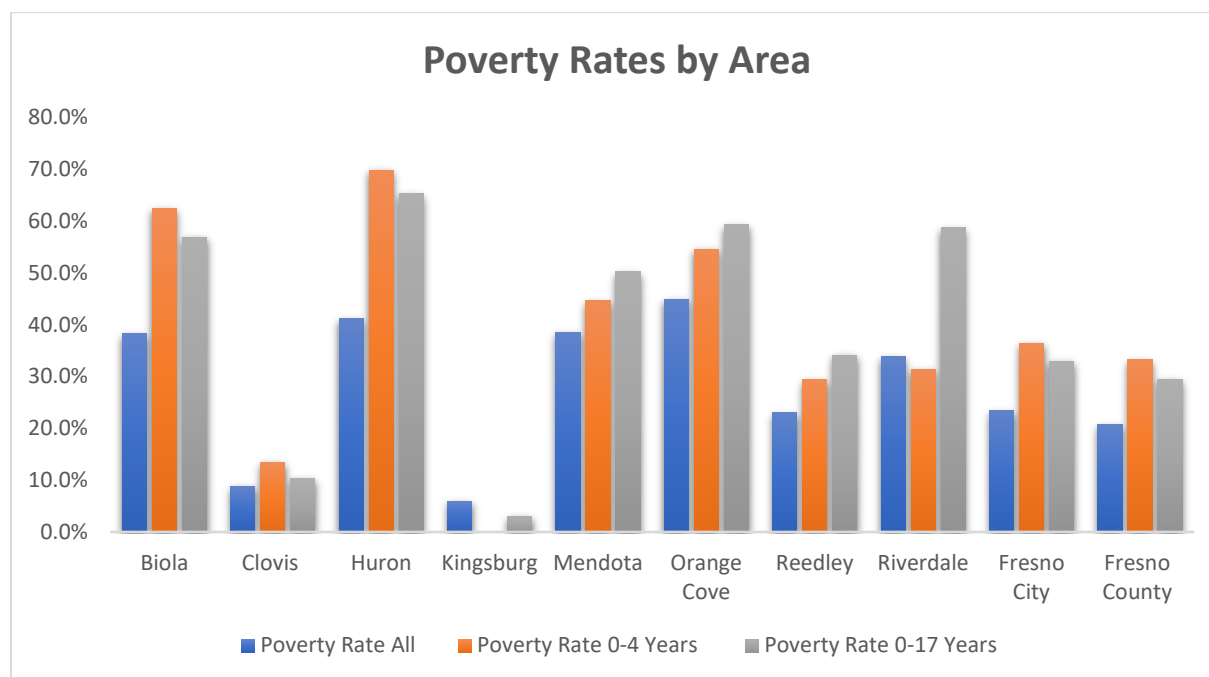


Figure 15. Poverty Rates by Area

²⁹ Community Action Partnership. *Poverty*. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

Poverty Rate by Family Type

In Fresno County, children living in single female-headed households are almost eleven or even twelve times as likely to be living in poverty than their peers. The highest rates of poverty are found among single mothers living in the more rural areas such as Kingsburg and Riverdale. The City of Fresno is significant in relation to poverty trends as there are many single-mothers and very high poverty rates. More than half of single mothers in the City of Fresno live in poverty. This is reflective of the national trend.

Poverty Rates by Family Type ³⁰				
Area	All Types	Married-Couples	Male Householder	Female Householder
Biola	41.3%	51.3%	0%	48.7%
Clovis	6.4%	34.6%	10.3%	55.1%
Huron	34.1%	39.8%	12.1%	48.1%
Kingsburg	4.0%	34.3%	0%	65.7%
Mendota	33.3%	42.8%	10.3%	46.9%
Orange Cove	44.9%	51.3%	7.0%	41.7%
Reedley	18.4%	55.1%	14.2%	30.7%
Riverdale	27.8%	38.3%	0.0%	61.7%
Fresno City	19.2%	33.5%	14.1%	52.4%
Fresno County	16.7%	39.3%	12.5%	48.2%
California	9.0%	43.5%	11.4%	45.2%
United States	9.1%	37.0%	10.6%	52.3%

Table 25. Poverty Rates by Family Type

Number of Families Living in Poverty

Within Fresno County there are 5,837 families living in extreme or deep poverty (under 50% of the federal poverty threshold (FPL)). According to Kidsdata.org, 11.5% of children live in a family with an income below 50% of the FPL. There are also 20,321 families living just above poverty (under 125% of the FPL), meaning they are at risk of falling into poverty. These families are often considered the working poor. Since the last community needs assessment, there has been a decrease in both families living under 50% of the FPL and under 125% of the FPL.

Number of Families Living in Poverty ³¹		
Area	Under 50% FPL	Under 125% FPL
Biola	94	175
Clovis	1,130	2,716
Huron	275	836
Kingsburg	153	353
Mendota	364	1,154

³⁰ Community Action Partnership. *Poverty*. S1701 Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

³¹ United States Census Bureau. *Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families*, Table S1702. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Number of Families Living in Poverty ³¹		
Area	Under 50% FPL	Under 125% FPL
Orange Cove	406	1,463
Reedley	503	1,456
Riverdale	71	267
Fresno City	10,300	30,335
Fresno County	17,021	53,353

Table 26. Number of Families Living in Poverty

Poverty Rate by Race and Ethnicity

A racial disparity in the poverty rate persists within Fresno's communities. Of the total black/African American population, 31% are living in poverty which is significantly higher than the poverty rate for California (19.6%) and the United States (22%). This makes black/African American's overrepresented among the population in poverty. A significant percentage of the Hispanic/Latino population also live in poverty at 26% compared to 18% for the United States. A total of 20% of the white population lives in poverty, which is almost double California's state average of 11% which is the same as the national average of whites in poverty.

Poverty Rates by Race and Ethnicity ¹³								
Area	White	Black/ African American	Asian	Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	Native American / Alaska Native	Multi- racial	Other Race	Hispanic / Latino
Biola	54.5%	100%	7.2%	-	12.7%	-	0.0%	41.7%
Clovis	7.5%	8.4%	5.2%	37.9%	28.8%	6.6%	22.0%	13.3%
Huron	44.7%	0.0%	-	-	46.5%	19.5%	42.8%	38.5%
Kingsburg	6.4%	19.7%	3.7%	-	0.0%	5.6%	3.4%	6.4%
Mendota	30.1%	-	-	-	-	0.0%	44.3%	36.5%
Orange Cove	41.6%	100.0%	-	100.0%	0.0%	70.3%	37.0%	43.6%
Reedley	24.3%	20.0%	35.2%	-	23.5%	6.5%	26.1%	26.0%
Riverdale	23.8%	-	0.0%	-	-	50.0%	62.5%	38.0%
Fresno City	21.9%	33.1%	21.3%	23.0%	29.6%	22.7%	27.1%	28.0%
Fresno County	19.4%	30.6%	17.9%	29.2%	26.8%	13.3%	26.0%	25.6%

Table 27. Poverty Rates by Race and Ethnicity

Child Poverty

The map that follows shows poverty levels by census tract for children in Fresno County.

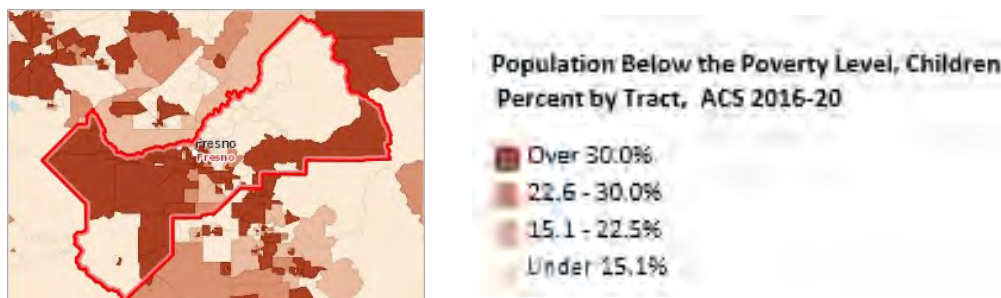


Figure 16. Child Poverty by Census Tract

Children Living Below 200% of Poverty

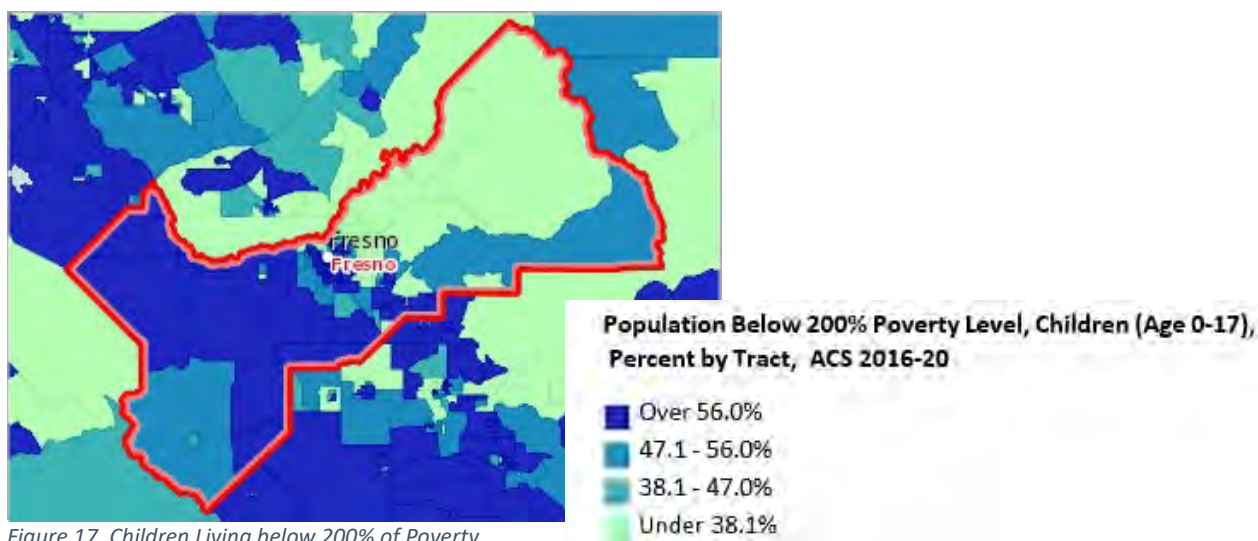


Figure 17. Children Living below 200% of Poverty

The income level for children, relative to the poverty threshold is as follows:

Income Level Relative to Poverty For Children ¹³	
Income Level	2018 Rates
0-99% of Poverty	30.9%
100-199% of Poverty	27.8%
200-299% of Poverty	15.6%
300-399% of Poverty	9.3%
400% of Poverty or Higher	16.4%

Table 28. Income Level for Children Relative to Poverty

Children in Poverty by Race and Ethnicity

Among all children in the county, 30.9% live in poverty. The following chart details the rates of poverty for the child population for all major racial-ethnic groups. The rates of poverty are highest for African American/black children and Hispanic/Latino children. According to Kidsdata.org, other poverty related facts for children in Fresno County include:

- 35% of children live in concentrated poverty or in census tracts where the poverty rate exceeds 30% of all families.
- 30% of children live in low-income working families.

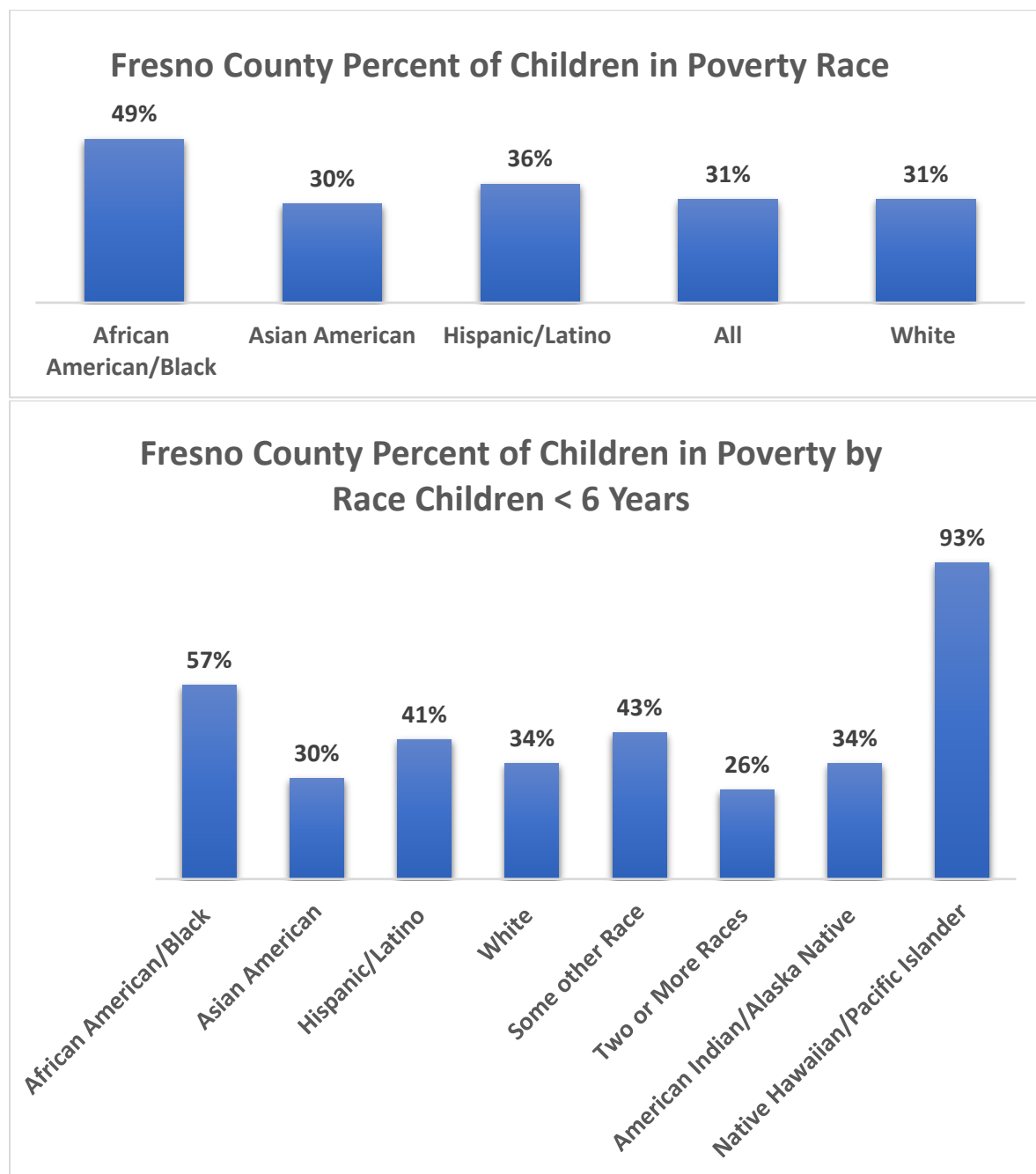


Figure 18. Fresno County Percent of Children in Poverty by Race

32

³² United States Census Bureau. *Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Ages, Table B17020A; B17020D; B17020G; B17020I; B17020F; B17020B; B17020H; B17020C; B17020E*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Poverty and Employment

Poverty is closely connected to employment. As shown in the chart below, individuals that work full-time are less likely to live in poverty.

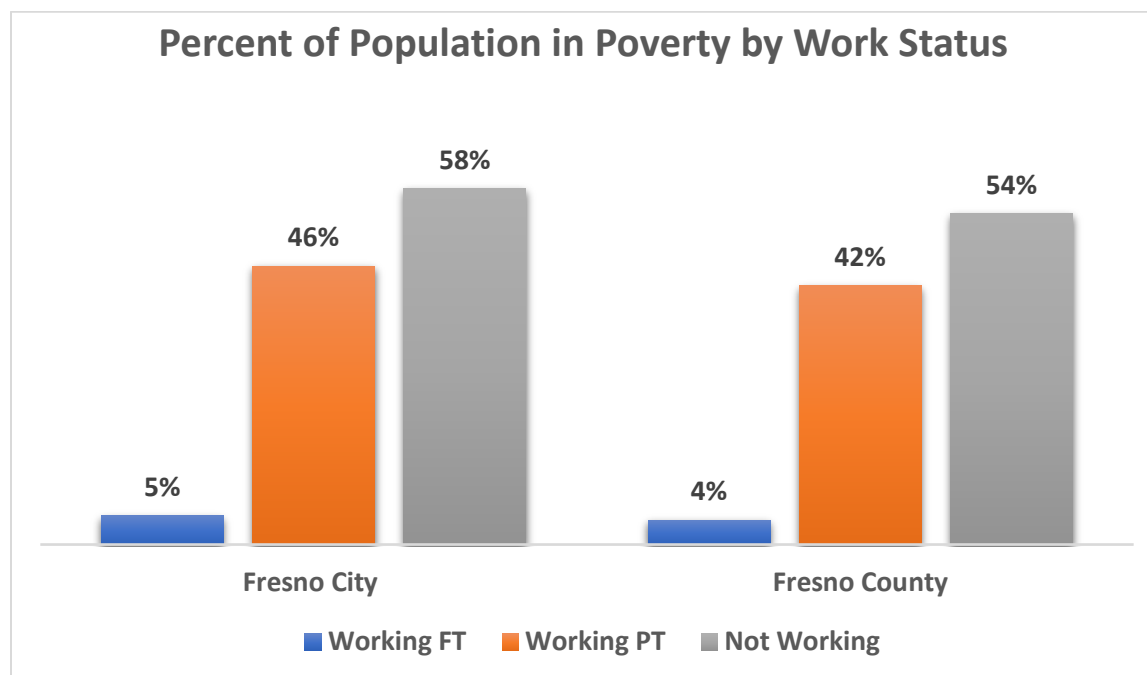


Figure 19. Percent of Population in Poverty by Work Status



Poverty Key Findings

A significant number of Fresno County families and children are living in poverty. The highest poverty rates are in Biola, Riverdale, Orange Cove, and Mendota, which are also home to large populations of Hispanic/Latinos. While these areas have the highest poverty rates, the most people in poverty live in the City of Fresno. In most cases, the child poverty rates exceed those of the general population. The highest rates are among children under five years.

Poverty is also more prevalent among certain family types such as families headed by single-mothers and non-whites. For example, the highest rates of poverty are among single-mothers where the rate of poverty is eleven or ten times that of their married-couple counterparts. Poverty by race shows that the poverty rate is highest for Hispanic/Latino and black/African American families. Poverty is also connected to work status and educational attainment. Families headed by parents that are working full-time are less likely to live in poverty.

Head Start Eligible Children and Families

Number of Children Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

In the service area communities, there are a total of 14,354 children eligible for Early Head Start and 11,053 children eligible for Head Start. Additionally, there are 4,368 pregnant women living in poverty in the service area eligible for Early Head Start pregnant women's services.

Fresno EOC Head Start and Early Head Start Eligibles ³³						
Area	# of Children Under 3	# of Children Aged 3 & 4	Poverty Rate for Children Under 5	EHS Eligibles	HS Eligibles	Annual Births to Women in Poverty
Biola	89	15	62.5%	56	9	30
Clovis	4,030	4,039	13.5%	544	545	3,131
Huron	405	200	69.8%	283	140	93
Kingsburg	442	325	0.00%	0	0	9
Mendota	718	572	44.6%	320	255	64
Orange Cove	364	476	54.6%	199	260	61
Reedley	1,659	964	29.4%	488	283	22
Riverdale	117	149	31.4%	37	47	0
Fresno City	24,695	17,951	36.4%	8,989	6,534	2,959
Fresno County Total	43,106	33,193	33.3%	14,354	11,053	4,368

Table 29. Fresno EOC Head Start and Early Head Start Eligibles

Number of Children by Age

Data on the number of children eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start can be examined using two measures, that both differ in the final count. However, examining the number of children by single years of age is helpful for classroom planning and for expansion efforts. Since there is likely to be an expansion of Early Head Start in the coming years this data has been included in the community assessment. The following table shows the number of Fresno County children under five years by age.

Number of Children by Age ³⁴					
Child Population	<1yr.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.
Total Children	13,979	14,649	14,104	14,120	14,110

Table 30. Total Children by Age – Fresno County

³³ United States Census Bureau. *Population Under 18 by Age, Table B09001*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

³⁴ United States Census Bureau. *Fertility 2016- 2020, Table S1301*. Retrieved from: <https://data.census.gov>.

Race & Ethnicity of Head Start and Early Head Start Eligible Children

According to the Children's Defense Fund, black/African American and Hispanic/Latino children continue to suffer disproportionately from poverty, with the youngest children most at-risk of being poor.³⁵ Service area poverty trends reflect the increased likelihood that children that are members of minority groups are more likely to live in poverty. As shown below, the racial-ethnicity of Head Start children in the program is predominantly Hispanic/Latino and black/African American which is reflective of poverty rates in the area³⁶.

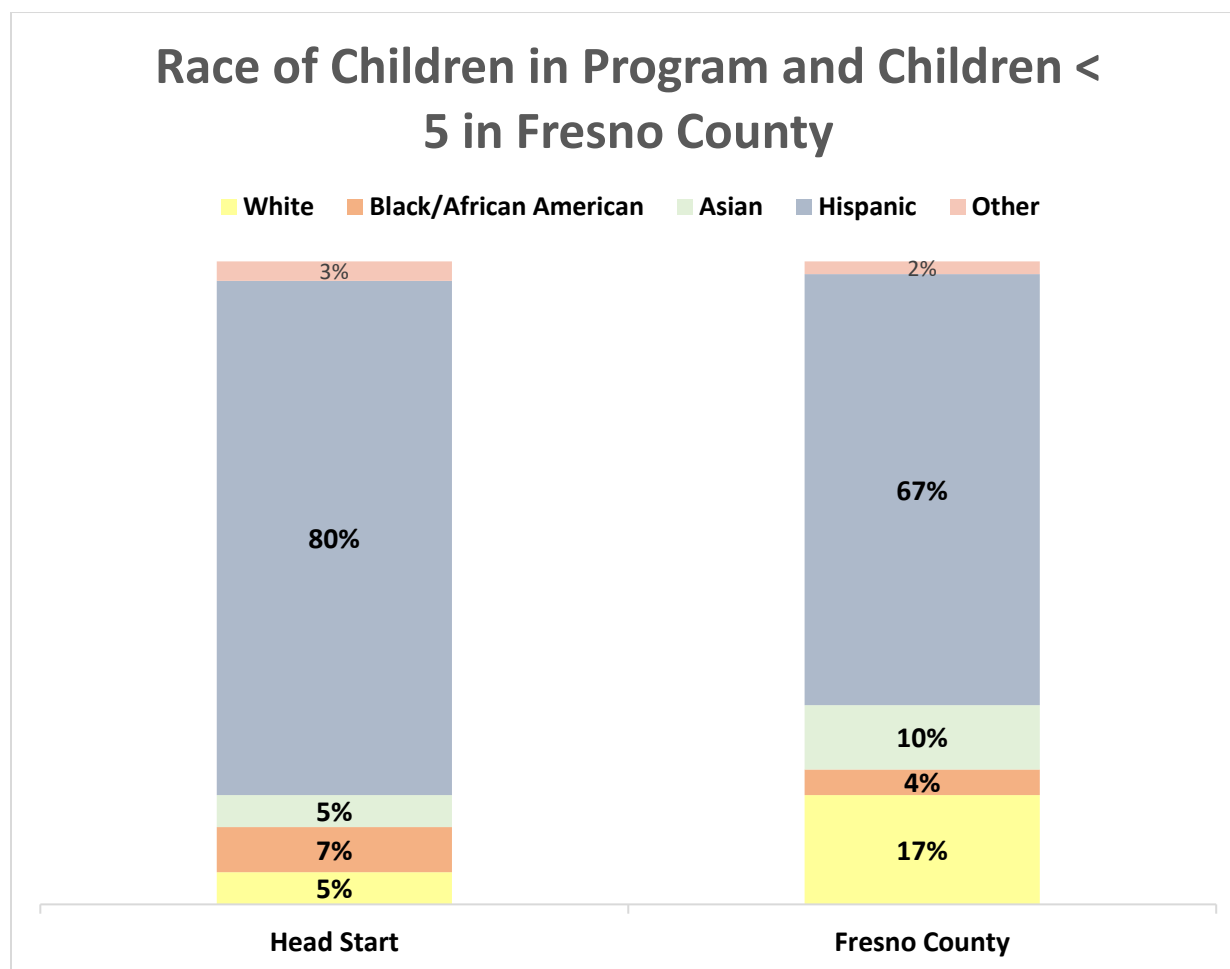


Figure 20. Race of Head Start Children

Based on the poverty rate for children that are white, black/African American, Asian, and Hispanic the following table estimates the race and ethnicity of the Head Start eligible population.

Race of Head Start Eligibles for Primary Racial Groups (racial groups comprising more than 1% of the total child population under six years)^{32 36}

³⁵ <http://www.childrensdefense.org/library/data/child-poverty-in-america-2015.pdf>

³⁶ United States Census Bureau. *Sex by Age 2016- 2020*, Tables B0100H; B0100C; B0100G; B0100I; B0100F; B01001D; B01001B; B01001A. Retrieved from: <https://data.census.gov>.

Race/Ethnicity	Children < 5 Yrs.	Poverty Rate for Children < 6 yrs. by Race	Estimated HS and EHS Eligibles by Race
White	12,520	34%	4,256
Black/African American	3,650	57%	2,080
Hispanic/Latino	48,990	41%	20,085
Asian	8,129	30%	2,438
Other	3,010	34%	1,023

Table 31. Race of Head Start Eligible Population

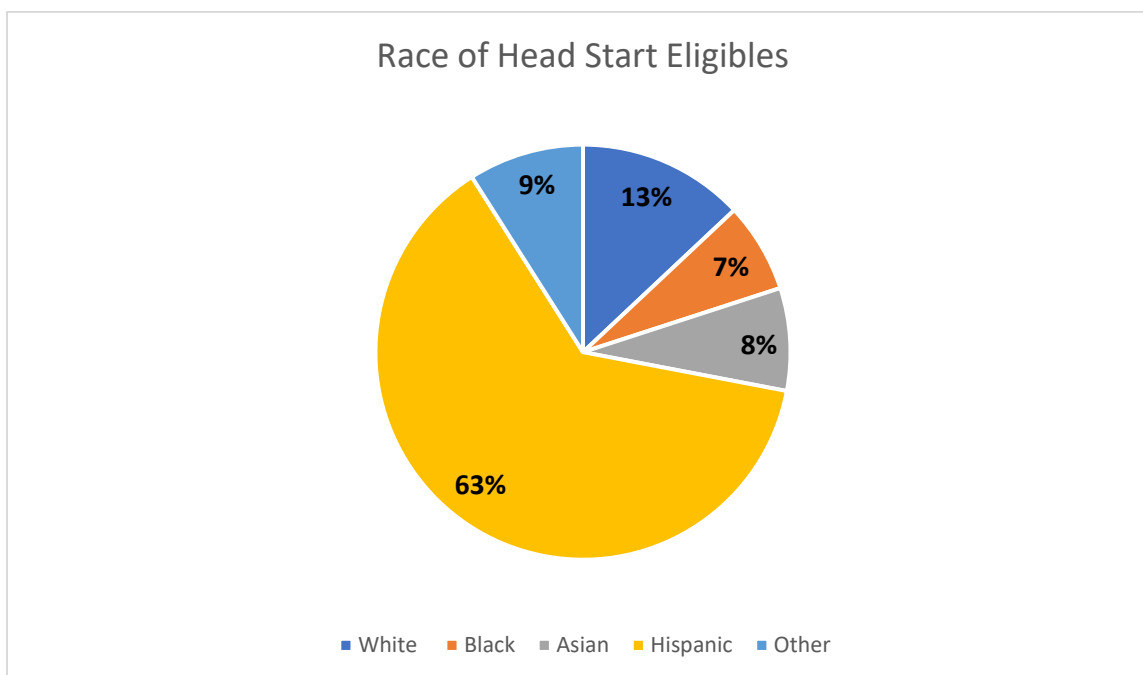


Figure 21. Race of Head Start Eligible Population

Dual Language Learners Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

In the service area, a large number of children live in a household headed by a caregiver or parent with limited English proficiency indicating a sizeable population of dual language learners. Using data from the Program Information Report and the percentages provided in the table below, it is estimated that there are 11,151 infants and toddlers eligible for Early Head Start and 8,471 children eligible for Head Start that are dual language learners. Within the Head Start and Early Head Start program, 1,992 children spoke English at home and 994 children spoke a language other than English at home. The chart that follows shows the number of children age-eligible for Head Start that live in a linguistically isolated household.

Children in Linguistically Isolated Households ³⁷			
Area	EHS DLLs	HS DLLs	Total
Biola	29	5	34

³⁷ United States Census Bureau. *Language* 2016-2020, Table S1601. Retrieved from: <https://data.census.gov>.

Clovis	275	276	551
Huron	207	102	309
Kingsburg	28	21	49
Mendota	500	397	897
Orange Cove	153	200	354
Reedley	524	305	829
Riverdale	34	44	78
Fresno City	4,180	3,038	7,218
Fresno County	11,151	8,471	19,622

Table 32. Children with Limited English Proficiency

Primary Language of Head Start and Early Head Start Families			
Language	Head Start	Early Head Start	Total
English	1,668	324	1,992
Spanish	712	199	911
Native Central American/South American/Mexican Languages	1	1	2
Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages	28	1	29
East Asian Languages	32	12	44
Pacific Island Languages	1		1
American Sign Language	1		1
Other-Unspecified	2	4	6

Table 33. Primary Language of Head Start Families

Homeless Children Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

Homeless children are particularly vulnerable and experience poor health, disruption in services due to mobility, lack of access to adequate nutrition, and exposure to trauma at a rate that exceeds that of children that live in families with secure housing.

Difficulty in accounting for the homeless population makes it challenging to estimate the number of homeless children eligible for Head Start. The Early Childhood Homeless State Profile for California states that 1 in every 12 children are homeless. Using this methodology, there are estimated to be 3,592 children aged birth-two years and 299 children aged three-to-five years who are homeless in Fresno County.

Estimate of Homeless Children Age-Eligible for Head Start

Area	Children aged 0-2 Yrs.	Children Age 3 and 4 Yrs.	Estimated Homeless 0-2 Yrs.	Estimated Homeless 3 & 4 Yrs.
Biola	89	15	8	1
Clovis	4,030	4,039	336	337
Huron	405	200	34	17
Kingsburg	442	325	37	27
Mendota	718	572	60	48
Orange Cove	364	476	30	40
Reedley	1,659	964	138	80
Riverdale	117	149	10	12
Fresno City	24,695	17,951	2,058	1,496
Fresno County	43,106	33,193	3,592	299

Table 34. Estimate of Homeless Children Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

According to the 2021 Program Information Report, Fresno EOC served 22 families who were experiencing homelessness during the 2020-2021 program year. In total, 24 children experiencing homelessness were enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start because they were categorically eligible due to homelessness.

Homelessness Services – Head Start PIR		
Subject	#	%
Total number of families experiencing homelessness that were served during the enrollment year	22	<1%
Total number of children experiencing homelessness that were served during the enrollment year	24	<1%
Total number of families experiencing homelessness that acquired housing during the enrollment year	3	14%

Table 35. Homelessness Services - HS PIR

Foster Children Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

Children that are in foster care represent a high-risk population whose negative life circumstances necessitate their placement in out-of-home alternative care. Some of the challenges they may face that impact their chances for success in school include abusive homes, increased hunger and poor nutrition, high mobility, single-parent homes, exposure to adverse early childhood experiences, among many others. Children in foster care are categorically eligible for Head Start programs and qualify for priority enrollment in the program.

The Fresno EOC Head Start program served 129 children in foster care during the 2020-2021 program year. Based on data from the Child Welfare Indicators Project at UC Berkely, there is estimated to be a total of 522 children age-eligible for the program in foster care in Fresno County. Of these children, 166 are age-eligible for Head Start and 356 are age-eligible for Early Head Start.

Foster Care Entries by Age ³⁸				
Area	Children aged <1 yr.	Children aged 1-2 yrs.	Children aged 3-5 yrs.	Total
Fresno County	227	129	166	522

Table 36. Foster Care Entries by Age

Children with Disabilities Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

The California Department of Education reports that in 2020, 20.3 per 1,000 California Students were enrolled in special education³⁹. The CDC reports that approximately 17% of children aged 3 to 17 years have a disability.⁴⁰ Using this estimate, it is likely that 7,328 infants and toddlers and 5,642 preschoolers in Fresno County have a disability. When poverty rates are applied it is likely that 2,418 infants and toddlers with a disability live in poverty and 1,878 preschoolers with a disability live in poverty.



Head Start Eligibles Key Findings

In Fresno County, there are 14,354 children aged 0-2 years eligible for Early Head Start and 11,053 children aged 3-4 years eligible for Head Start. There were 4,368 births to women in poverty in the past 12 months in the service area. The race and ethnicity of children served in the Head Start program reflects that of the county, as it is comprised of more Hispanic/Latino children than any other group. It also reflects the high rates of poverty found among this population. It is estimated there are a significant number of dual language learners eligible for Head Start as the rate of families that speak a language other than English at home in the population is more than 50% in some communities. It is estimated there are 11,151 infants and toddlers that are living in linguistically isolated households and 8,471 preschoolers living in linguistically isolated households throughout the county.

Communities in the service area show both increasing and decreasing birth rates, but they have remained around 14,000 new births every year. Many of these children are born to single-mothers in poverty, as demonstrated by poverty rates for children under five years that exceed 50% in Biola, Huron, and Orange Cove. The rate of poverty for children under five exceeds 30% in Mendota, Reedley, Riverdale, and Fresno. This means that in 7 out of the 8 primary communities in the service area, children live in deep or concentrated poverty.

An important responsibility of the Head Start program is to serve children that are the most vulnerable. To achieve this aim, the program targets children in foster care, children that are homeless, and children with disabilities. According to data provided by the University of Berkely, it is estimated there are 129 infants and toddlers in foster care and 166 children aged 3-5 years

³⁸ California Child Welfare Indicators Project (2022). Entries into Foster Care by Age. Fresno County. <https://ccwip.berkeley.edu/childwelfare/reports/Entries/MTSG/r/ab636/s>

³⁹ California Department of Education. 2022. Disabilities Enrollment by Age. 2018. <https://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>

⁴⁰ Zablotsky B, Black LI, Maenner MJ, Schieve LA, Danielson ML, Bitsko RH, Blumberg SJ, Kogan MD, Boyle CA. Prevalence and Trends of Developmental Disabilities among Children in the US: 2009–2017. *Pediatrics*. 2019; 144(4): e20190811. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/developmentaldisabilities/about.html>.

in foster care in Fresno County that would be eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start. Head Start enrolled 129 children in the program due to their foster care status.

The number of homeless children is difficult to estimate, but inferences can be made using the U.S. Department of Education Early Childhood Homelessness State Profile, which indicates that 1 in every 12 children under five in California are homeless. Using this data it is estimated there are 299 children aged 3-5 experiencing homelessness eligible for Head Start and 3,592 children aged 0-3 experiencing homelessness eligible for Early Head Start in the service area. In total, 22 children experiencing homelessness were enrolled in Fresno EOC Head Start programs due to categorical eligibility of homelessness. Of these families, 3 found housing during the year.

Children with disabilities are another population targeted by Head Start. Using data from disabilities service providers it is estimated that there are 878 children aged 3-5 with a disability in Fresno County and 4,328 infants and toddlers with a disability. The CDC estimates that approximately 17% of the child population has a disability. If this percentage were applied to the population of children under five years in Fresno County it could be estimated that as many as 7,328 infants and toddlers and 5,642 preschool-aged children have a disability.

Education

Education is a strong determinant of socioeconomic status and health outcomes. Steps taken to increase the educational level in a population can decrease poverty and improve population health. It is known that on average, those with more than 12 years of education have a higher life expectancy than those with 12 or fewer years of education. People with less education often have less income and reduced access to health insurance and other social services they may need to attain self-sufficiency. In Fresno County, 22.7% of the population lacks a high school diploma, compared to 16% of the state population.

Educational Attainment

In Fresno County, the rate of individuals without a high school diploma is far higher than found for the state of California or the nation. The rate of educational attainment in Huron, Mendota, and Orange Cove is most concerning due to the large percentage of the population that has not attained a high school diploma.

Educational Attainment Population Over 25 Years ⁴¹						
Area	No High School Diploma	High School Diploma	Some College	Associate degree	Bachelor's Degree	Graduate or Professional Degree
Biola	43.6%	26.5%	15.0%	2.1%	10.9%	1.8%
Clovis	9.1%	19.2%	27.3%	9.9%	22.7%	11.8%
Huron	72.3%	14.0%	11.0%	1.7%	0.7%	0.3%
Kingsburg	11.9%	25.6%	26.3%	9.0%	18.5%	8.6%
Mendota	64.7%	20.7%	9.4%	2.6%	2.3%	0.2%
Orange Cove	54.0%	22.5%	14.2%	5.8%	3.6%	0.0%
Reedley	33.1%	25.8%	18.6%	9.2%	9.9%	3.4%
Riverdale	39.9%	19.6%	21.4%	8.2%	5.9%	5.0%
Fresno City	21.3%	22.3%	23.7%	9.8%	15.1%	7.8%
Fresno County	22.7%	22.6%	23.5%	9.1%	14.6%	7.4%
California	16.0%	20.4%	20.9%	8.0%	21.6%	13.1%

Table 37. Educational Attainment

⁴¹ United States Census Bureau. *Educational Attainment, Table S1501*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

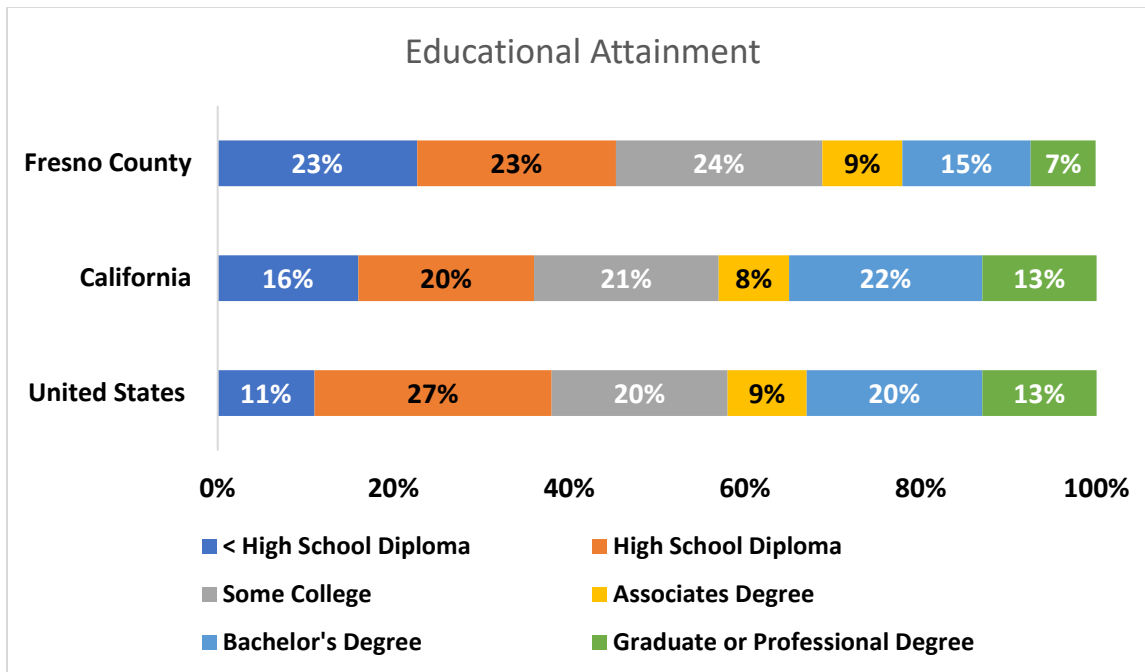


Figure 22. Educational Attainment Comparison

As illustrated by the following maps, the areas with the greatest concentration of individuals without a high school diploma are populated by a large percentage of immigrants and farmworkers.

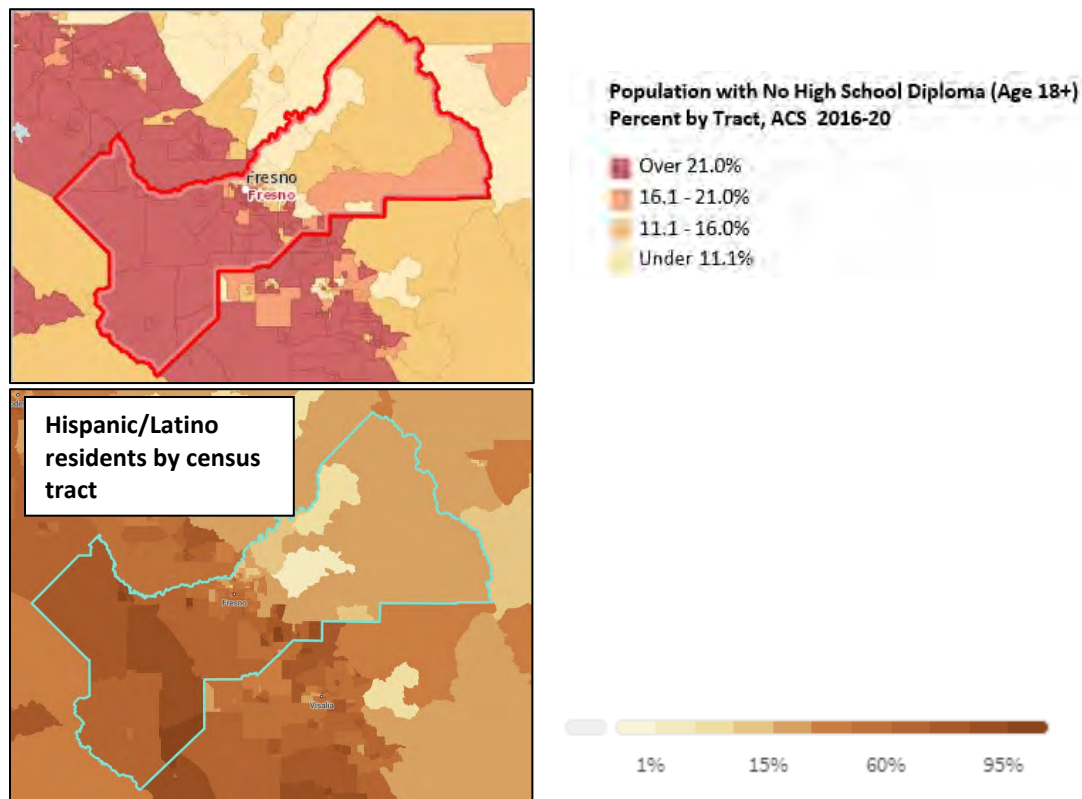


Figure 23. Educational Attainment and Race by Census Tract

Educational Attainment by Race

Educational Attainment by Race ⁴²								
Education Level	White	Black or African American	Native American / Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Multiple Race	Hispanic /Latino
High School Graduate or Higher	80.5%	87.7%	80.0%	78.3%	90.1%	58.1%	76.7%	63.9%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	23.8%	18.7%	13.5%	33.0%	11.3%	9.3%	18.3%	11.3%

Table 38. Educational Attainment by Race

Poverty and Educational Attainment

Individuals with a lower rate of educational attainment are more likely to live in poverty and have a lower income⁴².

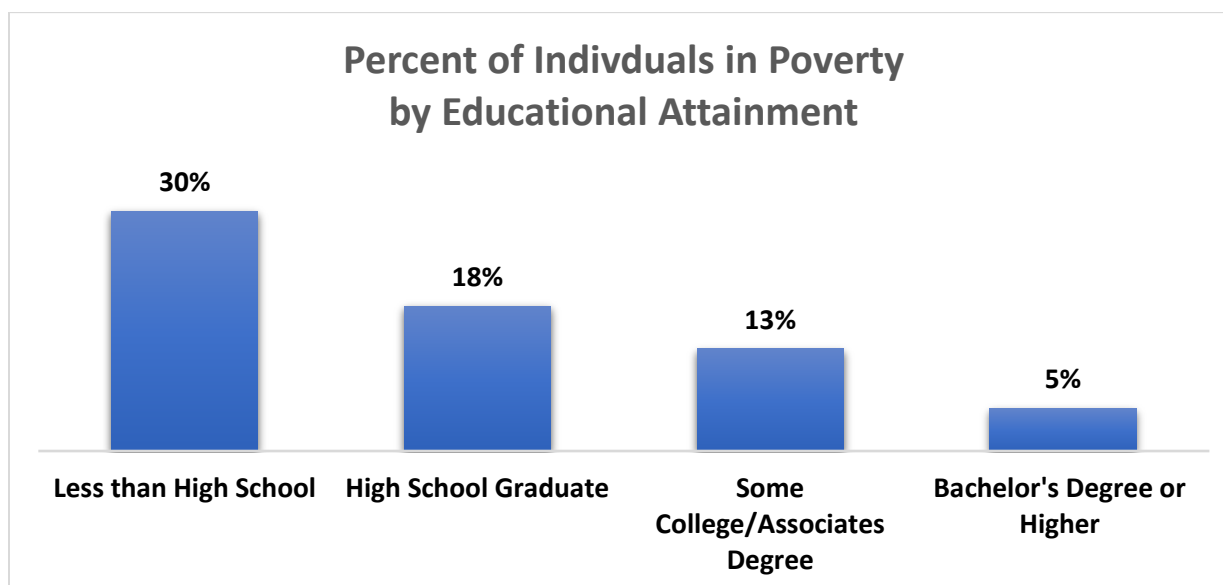


Figure 24. Percent of Individuals in Poverty by Educational Attainment

⁴² United States Census Bureau. *Educational Attainment*, Table S1501. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

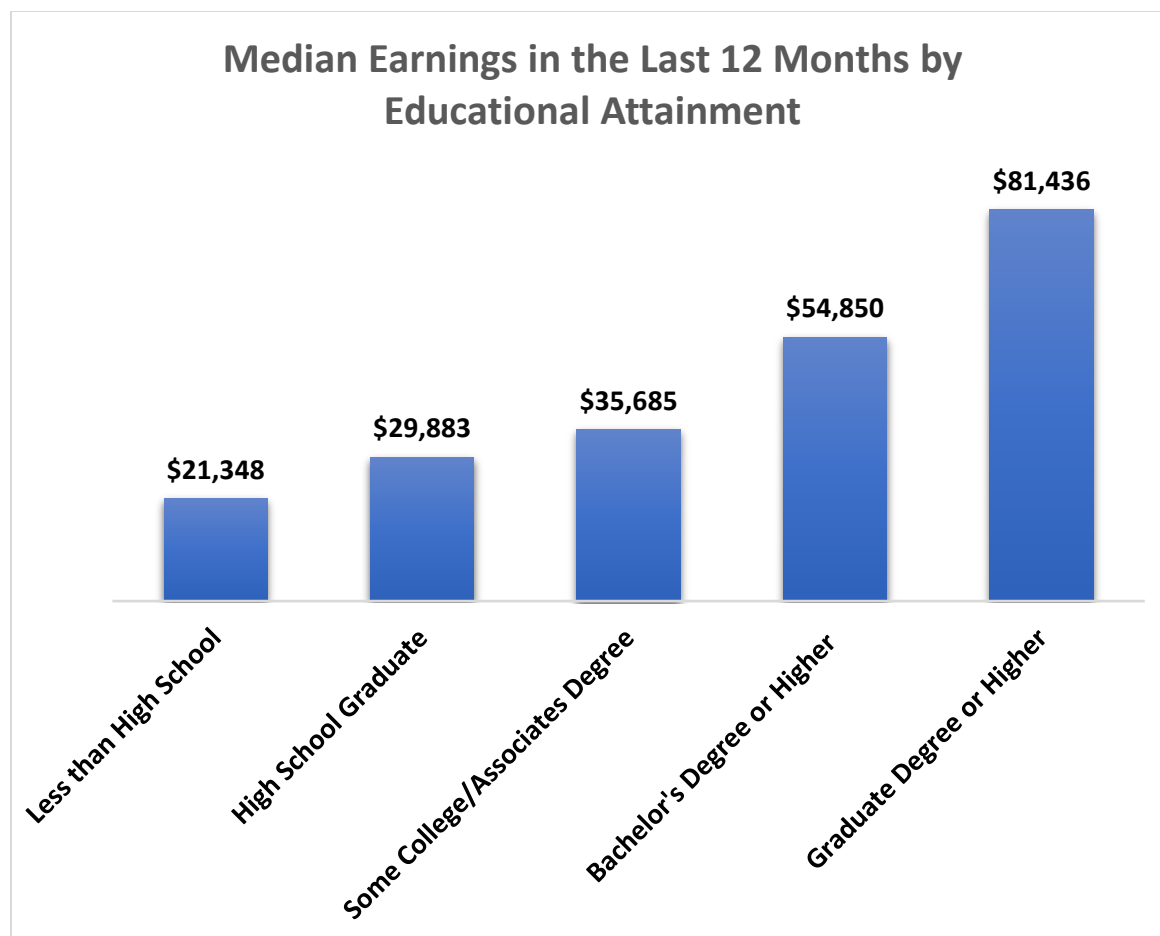


Figure 25. Median Earnings in the Last 12 Months by Educational Attainment

Student Performance

Fresno County students fare poorly in math performance when compared to the state for grades 3-11⁴³. The following table shows the percent of students for California and for Fresno County that meet or exceed grade-level standards in Mathematics.

2021 Student Math Performance ⁴³			
California	Percent	Fresno County	Percent
Grade 3	39.7%	Grade 3	22.0%
Grade 4	35.9%	Grade 4	19.8%
Grade 5	30.1%	Grade 5	16.6%
Grade 6	30.8%	Grade 6	20.7%
Grade 7	34.4%	Grade 7	22.0%
Grade 8	30.8%	Grade 8	20.0%
Grade 11	34.4%	Grade 11	18.0%
All Grades Tested	33.8%	All Grades Tested	19.5%

Table 39. Student Math Performance

⁴³ California Dept. of Education, Test Results for California's Assessments (Feb. 2022).

Student math performance also varies by race which indicates the presence of an achievement gap. According to the data, whites are far more likely to meet or exceed grade level performance standards than Hispanic/ Latinos or African American/black children. A disparity is also present for disadvantaged children. According to the data, 16.3% of children that have a socioeconomic disadvantage meet grade-level math standards, compared to 35.7% of their non-socioeconomically disadvantaged peers⁴³.

Children Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Math Standards by Race

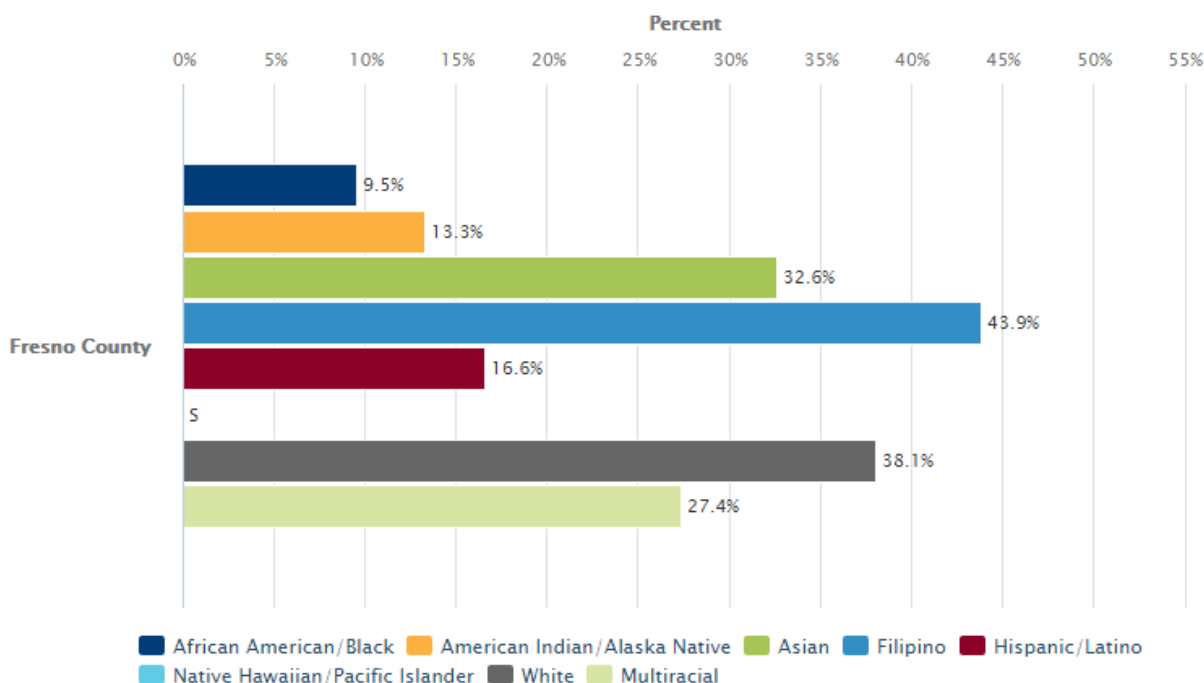


Figure 26. Student Math Performance by Race/Ethnicity

Students in Fresno County do not achieve in English Language Arts at the same rate as their statewide peers, as shown in the following tables. There is also a racial-ethnic achievement gap and a disparity in achievement for children that have a socioeconomic disadvantage. According to the data, 34% of children from socioeconomically disadvantaged homes demonstrate grade-level performance in Reading/English Language Arts, compared to 57% of students not socioeconomically disadvantaged.

2021 Student Reading/English Language Arts Performance ⁴³			
California	Percent	Fresno County	Percent
Grade 3	39.8%	Grade 3	24.1%
Grade 4	41.5%	Grade 4	27.0%
Grade 5	46.5%	Grade 5	35.0%
Grade 6	43.6%	Grade 6	34.1%
Grade 7	50.0%	Grade 7	40.9%
Grade 8	47.4%	Grade 8	38.5%

2021 Student Reading/English Language Arts Performance ⁴³			
California	Percent	Fresno County	Percent
Grade 11	59.2%	Grade 11	48.9%
All Grades Tested	49.0%	All Grades Tested	38.1%

Table 40. Reading Performance

Students meeting or Exceeding Grade – Level Reading/ELA Standards by

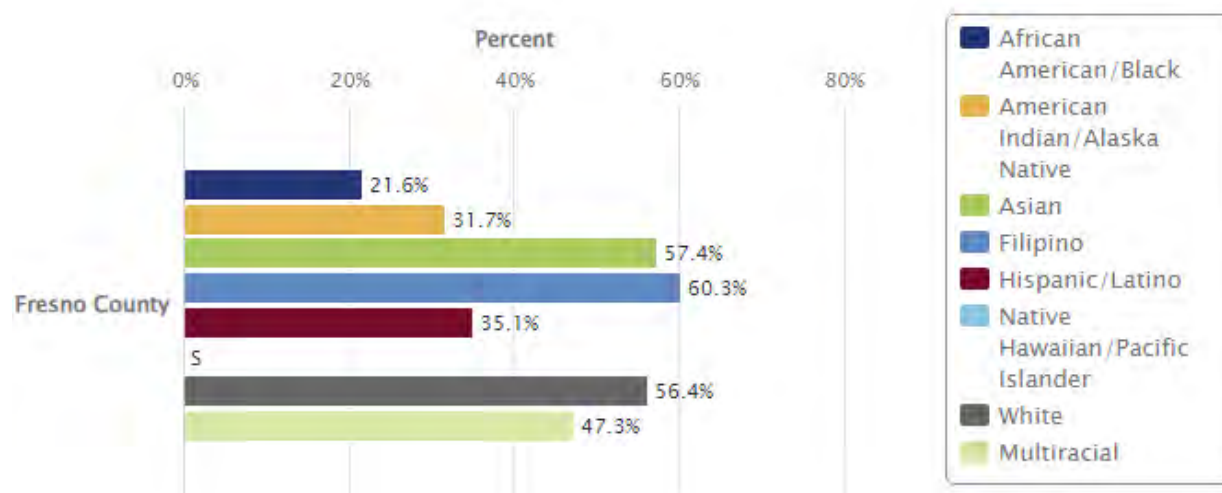


Figure 27. Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Reading Performance by Race

Adult Literacy

Literacy data published by the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIACC) breaks adult literacy into three different "Levels". Those reported as Level 1 are at risk for being able to understand printed material. Those at the upper end of Level 1 can read and understand the text well enough to be able to perform small task, but might have difficulty understanding or drawing inferences from multiple forms of text. Those at the lower end may struggle with basic vocabulary or even be functionally illiterate. Within Fresno County, there are a larger percentage of individuals in the population that read at below a Level 1 than for California and the United States.

Adult Literacy ⁴⁴				
Report Area	Population Ages 16-74	Total At or Below Level 1	Lower Credible Interval	Upper Credible Interval
Fresno County	675,013	39.3%	34.6%	44.0%
California	28,700,840	28.4%	24.9%	31.9%
United States	235,567,157	21.8%	18.1%	25.6%

Table 41. Adult Literacy

⁴⁴ Community Action Partnership. Adult Literacy. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

Educational Attainment of Head Start Families

The educational attainment of Head Start families is slightly lower than rates of educational attainment for Fresno County. Among Head Start families, there is a higher rate of school dropout and a lower rate of individuals that have attained a GED/High School diploma. There are also far fewer Head Start families that have completed some college or have attained a college degree. The program also has a low-rate of families that participate in a job training program leading to a professional certificate, apprenticeship, or occupational license (total 4 families). One reason for this could be the use of the CALWorks program which mandates that low-income families in need of assistance work to earn their benefits. This time spent in work and job training programs can limit the amount of time available to participate in continuing education programs.

Educational Attainment of Head Start Families		
The highest level of education obtained by the child's parent(s)/guardian(s)	Number of families at enrollment	%
An advanced degree or baccalaureate degree	200	7.3%
An associate degree, vocational school, or some college	713	26.2%
A high school graduate or GED	992	36.5%
Less than high school graduate	801	29.5%

Table 42. Educational Attainment of Head Start Families



Education Key Findings

Rates of educational attainment in Fresno County are lower than found nationally for rates of high school graduation and degree attainment. Further, when compared to service area educational attainment, fewer Head Start parents have completed an advanced degree or bachelor degree. Several parents participating in Head Start are engaged in advancing their education and based on the percent of parents that are participating in job training it appears that Fresno EOC Head Start is taking strides to help parents plan for and meet their educational goals. Despite the motivation of families to achieve their goals, data indicates that poor students and non-white students start school at a disadvantage. Fresno County school performance data shows that students of color and students with a low income are not achieving at-parity with their middle-income, white peers. Without intervention, the disparity does not level out in adulthood and Fresno County will fail to experience reductions in poverty and families and individuals will be less likely to bring home earnings at parity with service area family income levels.

Solutions to educational disparities include expanding early care and education programs to begin earlier to address the achievement gap. For example, Early Head Start could magnify the impact of state preschool and Head Start by providing more continuous and intensive education and school readiness services that begin earlier in the child's life. As a result, children can enter school at parity with their non-disadvantaged peers. For adults, coordinating adult education programs, working collaboratively with employers to match jobs to career development programs, and promoting education can serve as a viable pathway out of poverty.

Health and Social Services

Health starts in our homes, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and communities. Taking care of oneself, eating well and staying active, not smoking, getting the recommended immunizations and screening tests, and the ability to see a doctor when sick all influence one's health. Health is also determined in part by access to social and economic opportunities; the resources and supports available in homes, neighborhoods, and communities; the quality of schooling; the safety of the workplace; the cleanliness of water, food, and air; and the nature of our social interactions and relationships. The conditions in which we live explain in part why some Americans are healthier than others and why Americans more generally are not as healthy as they could be.

As shown in the data that follows there are significant health disparities in Fresno communities, many of which are rooted in social determinants of health. The community assessment can serve as a base for Fresno EOC to explore how programs, practices, and policies affect the health of individuals, families and communities.

The community assessment provides data that offers Fresno EOC the opportunity to view health through a lens that encompasses the “social determinants of health”.

The social determinants of health (SDoH) are defined by the CDC as “the conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, work, play worship and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks”⁴⁵. SDoHs include elements such as access to food, health services, education and employment, income, housing, environmental conditions and support networks, among others.

Social services are also important in providing a safety net for families. Resources that link low-income families to jobs, work support, housing security, family functioning, subsidies for childcare, utilities, and health services can boost the earnings of low-income workers, incentivize willingness to work and enable individuals to escape poverty.

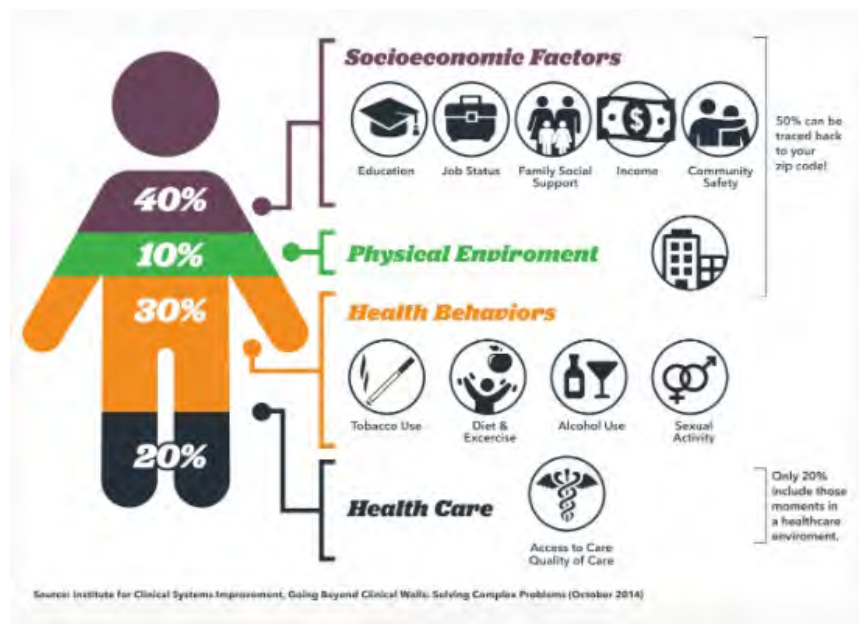


Figure 28. Social Determinants of Health

⁴⁵ <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>

Health and Social Services Trends

The pandemic and public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to affect the well-being of people in Fresno County. Over the course of the pandemic, thousands of residents lost jobs and income or faced difficulty meeting their basic needs. These problems affected individuals' health and increased the need for social services. However, the data illustrated in most public data sources shows a decrease in the need for services. This trend is likely due to closures because of social distancing protocols and re-evaluated funding estimates that did not account for the infusion of pandemic assistance given to families.

While much of the data has not caught up with the COVID-19 pandemic impacts, the U.S. Census Household Pulse Survey for California has been administered every quarter since 2020 to assess a range of ways that people's lives have been impacted by the pandemic. The following points reflect data for families in California for the period of March 2020 to March 2022 ⁴⁶:

California Trends in Factors Related to the SDoHs and COVID-19
20% of children had a telehealth appointment in the past 4 weeks
99% of children attended school in the past year virtually or using a distance learning format
48% of adults received a COVID-19 vaccine
41% of adults delayed their medical care
28% of adults in households participated in virtual health care appointments
10% of households reported food insecurity
30% of householders missed a mortgage or rental payment
21% of householders reported they were unable to pay their utility bill
59% reported a loss of employment income

Table 43. SDoH Trends and COVID-19 Impacts

Additionally, the CDC's Violence Against Children Survey noted the following key messages⁴⁷:

- Intimate partner violence (IPV) was concerning during the pandemic – 1 in 5 adult respondents reported experiencing IPV, including 11% who reported experiencing physical violence. Both men and women reported IPV. Witnessing IPV is an adverse childhood experience (ACE) and can have harmful effects on mental, physical, and behavioral health across a child's lifespan.
- Families who are experiencing economic or psychological distress reported higher rates of psychological and physical IPV.
- If families report that they have spanked their children, an inquiry into adult safety in the home is appropriate, because IPV was far more common in homes where children were spanked (61% vs 13%).

⁴⁶ U.S. Census Household Pulse Survey. https://www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/hhp/#/?s_state=00048&measures=CHILDTLELE

⁴⁷ <https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/family-snapshot-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/intimate-partner-violence-ipv-in-the-home-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

Poor outcomes on the SdoH can result in a reduced life expectancy. Within Fresno County, the average life expectancy is 78.5 years which is lower than found for other California residents (80.32 yrs.). However, the rates is comparable to the life expectancy of residents nationally (78.69 yrs.)⁴⁸.

Life Expectancy By Community	
Area	Life Expectancy
Biola	82.7 Yrs.
Clovis	79.1 Yrs.
Huron	78.2 Yrs.
Kingsburg	80.4 Yrs.
Mendota	80.4 Yrs.
Orange Cove	81.9 Yrs.
Reedley	82.7 Yrs.
Riverdale	84.3 Yrs.
Fresno City	77.7 Yrs.
Fresno County	78.5 Yrs.
California	78.6 Yrs.

Table 44. Life Expectancy by Community

Adverse Early Childhood Experiences

Links have been established between child abuse, substance abuse, income, mental health, and community violence which contribute to adverse early childhood experiences. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study is one of, if not the premier study, on early childhood trauma ever conducted. In 1995, CDC researchers discovered 10 common ACEs relating to child abuse, neglect and household dysfunction that have remarkably been proven to have costly detrimental outcomes as children become adults. Children in the Fresno EOC service area are likely to experience at least one ACE in their childhood. These adverse childhood experiences are also considered social determinants of health and are shown in the following graphic:



Figure 29. ACEs as A Social Determinant of Health

⁴⁸ Community Action Partnership. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

Fresno County Adverse Early Childhood Experiences

According to KidsData.org, 21% of parents reported their child has been exposed to two or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Additionally, 31% reported their child has been exposed to at least one ACE. The following table shows factors that contribute to adverse early childhood experiences and their prevalence in the Head Start eligible population.

Adverse Early Childhood Experiences of Fresno County Children ⁴⁹			
Adverse Early Childhood Experiences	Geography, Year	Statistic	
		Population Prevalence	Head Start Prevalence
Economic Hardship	Fresno County 2020	33% of children under five years live in poverty; 17,000 people live in deep poverty	90% of HS/EHS children
Parental Divorce/Separation	Fresno County 2020	Approximately 12% of children under five years live in single-female headed households representing over 12,000 children	45% of HS/EHS children
Incarcerated Household Member	Fresno County 2022	There are 4,585 inmates in Fresno County jails ⁵⁰ . Of these, 47% are parents (2,154) and 18% have a child under five years (387) ⁵¹	12 Head Start children had incarcerated parents
Mentally Ill Household Member and Exposure to Adverse Experiences	State BRFSS 2022	The rate of hospitalizations for mental health among children 5-14 is 2.7 per 1,000 children Adults report 4.5 days of poor mental health in the last month 31% of parents report children have been exposed to 1 ACE; 21% report children	293 Head Start children received mental health consultations and follow-up 134 Head Start parents received mental health services

⁴⁹ KidsData.org

⁵⁰ Vera Incarceration Trends. (2022). Fresno.

https://trends.vera.org/state/CA?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=statedata&gclid=CjwKCAjw9NeXBhAMEiwAbaY4lpLh9DzuncyzE6Dii8bsFcvPlorYq5Z8-9yP1ZPPy6WeO9ZAg2KvkxoCfWcQAvD_BwE

⁵¹ U.S. Department of Justice. Office of Justice Programs (2021). *Parents in Prison and Their Minor Children*. Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Adverse Early Childhood Experiences of Fresno County Children ⁴⁹			
Adverse Early Childhood Experiences	Geography, Year	Statistic	
		Population Prevalence	Head Start Prevalence
		have been exposed to at least 2 ACEs ⁵² .	
Substance Abusing Household Member	BRFSS 2022 PIR 2021	16% of adults report excessive drinking	11 Head Start children had a substance abusing family member
Family Violence	2020	7,535 family violence reports in Fresno County	1,346 Head Start families received emergency crisis intervention
Child Maltreatment	2020	12,749 children were impacted by child maltreatment; The Fresno County rate of abuse is 61.3 (per 1,000) compared to a state rate of 43.5 (per 1,000)	109 foster children served in Head Start

Table 45. Adverse Experiences of Head Start Children

Child Abuse

Child maltreatment exerts severe effects on children's cognitive, social-emotional, language, mental health, and behavioral development that can last well into adulthood. Adults who were neglected or abused as children are at a greater risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, mental health issues, and chronic disease.⁵³ In contrast, safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments enable healthy growth and development. However, in Fresno County, the rate of child abuse and neglect is far higher than found for the State of California at 61.3 per 1,000 children, compared to 43.5 (per 1,000).

Young children under the age of four are at the greatest risk for the most severe consequences of abuse and neglect. These negative outcomes include disrupted brain development, improper development of the nervous system, and serious physical injury or death. Individual, family, and community factors contribute to the risk of child abuse and neglect. The rates of child abuse are

⁵² <https://www.pacesconnection.com/g/fresno-county-ace-s-trauma-network/blog/fresno-county-data-dashboard-child-adversity-and-well-being>

⁵³ National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (2014). *Understanding Child Maltreatment: Fact Sheet*. Retrieved from: www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention

highest for children aged 11-15, but this is likely due to their ability to report abuse⁵⁴. The following chart shows the reports of abuse and neglect by age group for Fresno County.

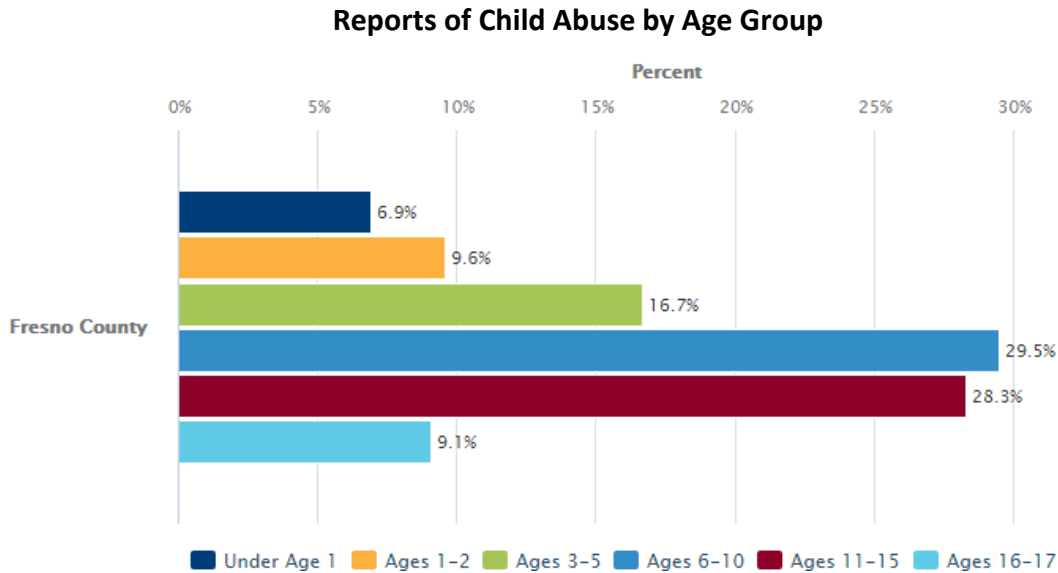


Figure 30. Reports of Child Abuse by Age Group

When abuse reports are disaggregated by race, children that are black/African American are more likely to be maltreated. Research has demonstrated that children in families of color are often over-represented among the child welfare population, even when they have the same problems and characteristics as white children due to a reporting bias and cultural differences between families and child welfare staff⁵⁵. Additionally, children in poverty are also over-represented because poverty is frequently confused with neglect⁵⁶.

⁵⁴ [https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/2/reported-abuse-](https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/2/reported-abuse-age/bar#fmt=4&loc=357&tf=110&pdist=7&ch=928,924,926,927,923,925&sort=loc)

[age/bar#fmt=4&loc=357&tf=110&pdist=7&ch=928,924,926,927,923,925&sort=loc](https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/2/reported-abuse-age/bar#fmt=4&loc=357&tf=110&pdist=7&ch=928,924,926,927,923,925&sort=loc)

⁵⁵ Ellis, K. (2019). Race and Poverty Bias in the Child Welfare System: Strategies for Child Welfare Practitioners.

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_interest/child_law/resources/child_law_practiceonline/january---december-2019/race-and-poverty-bias-in-the-child-welfare-system---strategies-f/.

⁵⁶ California Child Welfare Indicators Project, CCWIP Reports. University of California at Berkeley & California Dept. of Social Services (Oct. 2021).

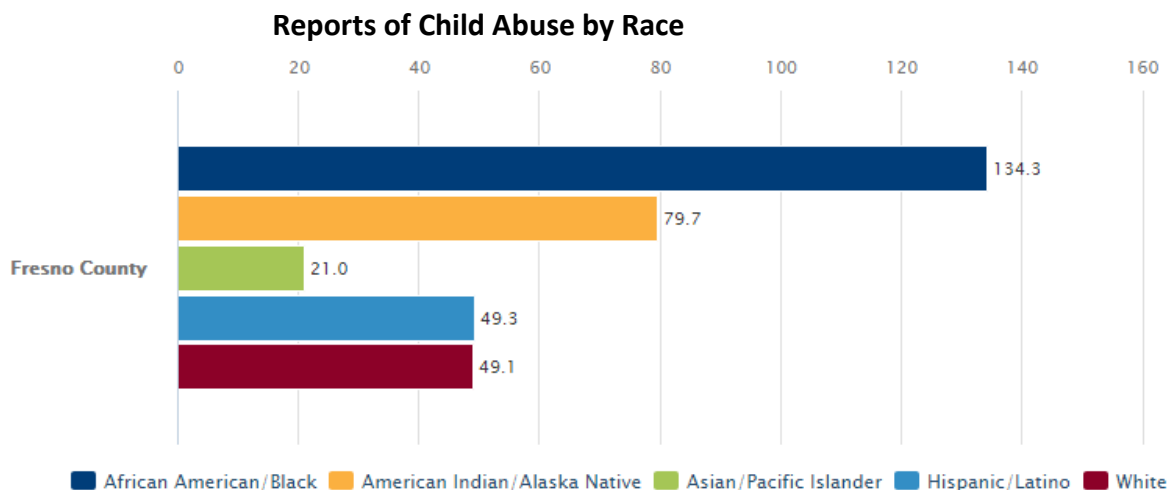


Figure 31. Reports of Child Abuse by Race

Over time, the Fresno County rate of child abuse per 1,000 children has decreased for children aged 1-2 years and 3-5 years, but has increased for children under 1 year¹³.

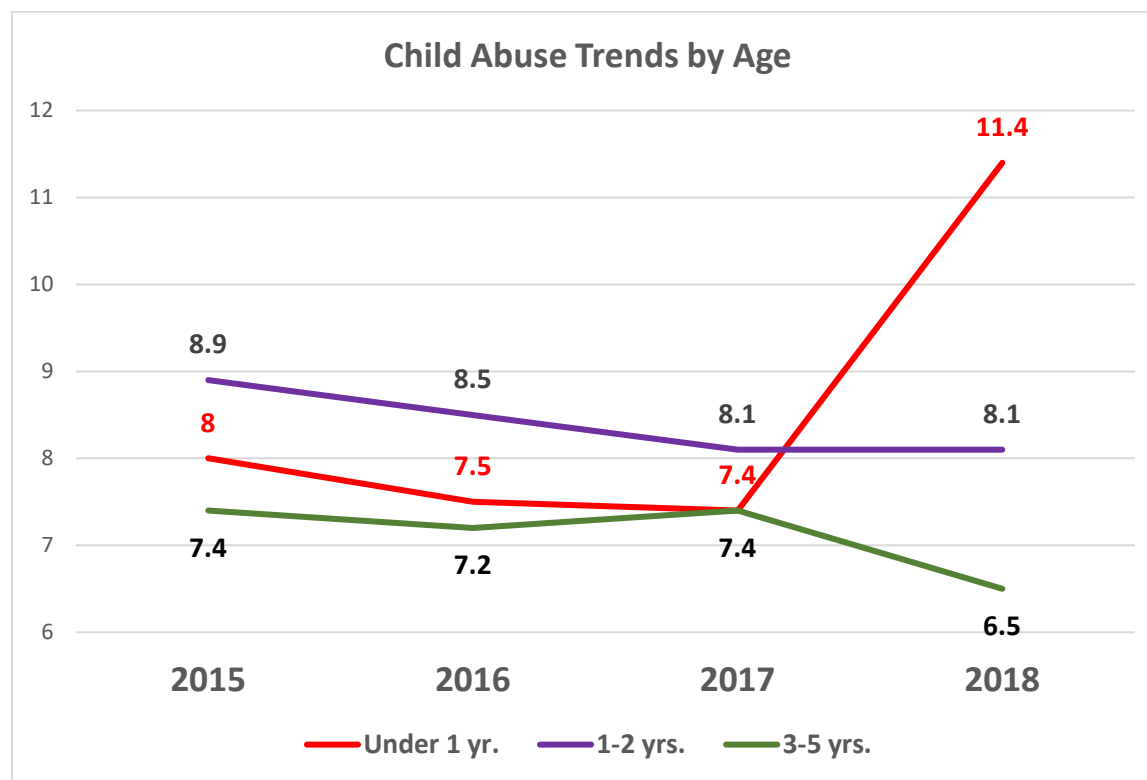


Figure 32. Fresno Child Abuse Trends by Age



Thoughts from key stakeholders about the causes of foster care entry:

County foster care program staff report that more children in Fresno County are entering the foster care system or being cared for by grandparents in the absence of parents who have been hooked by opioids or methamphetamine. Alcohol use or abuse is also a frequent underlying factor in general neglect

Incidence of Drug and Alcohol Abuse

The impact of drug and alcohol abuse on children is profound. Compared to their peers, children of substance abusing parents show increased rates of anxiety, depression, oppositional behavior, conduct problems, and aggressive behavior as well as lower rates of self-esteem and social competence⁵⁷. Because the younger children are, the more dependent they are on the care of their parents. This makes drug and alcohol abuse the most harmful for the youngest children. According to the County Health Rankings dataset, about 16% of Fresno County adults report excessive drinking and 26% of driving deaths in Fresno County involved alcohol⁵⁸. The county fares worse than the state in regard to both of these measures.

Substance abuse trends indicate that for children aged 12-17 years in all regions of the county (West, East and Metro), marijuana is the primary drug of choice. Among the 18–25-year age cohort the primary drug of choice is methamphetamine⁵⁹. However, most overdose deaths are due to opioid abuse. In 2020, there were 66 overdose deaths, of which 34 were due to fentanyl and 32 were due to a combination of drugs⁶⁰. After a period of decline, the death rate due to opioid overdoses has continued to increase⁶¹. The age-adjusted death rate for all opioid overdoses for Fresno County is 7.0 compared to 13.5 for California⁶¹. Within the Head Start program, there were 11 families that received substance misuse prevention or treatment services.

⁵⁷ Solis, J. M., Shadur, J. M., Burns, A. R., & Hussong, A. M. (2012). Understanding the diverse needs of children whose parents abuse substances. *Current drug abuse reviews*, 5(2), 135–147. <https://doi.org/10.2174/1874473711205020135>

⁵⁸ University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. (2022). *County Health Rankings and Roadmaps*. Fresno. <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/california/2022/measure/factors/134/map>

⁵⁹ Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health. (2019). SUD Youth Convening. <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=34780>

⁶⁰ <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument?id=53032>

The age-adjusted death rate for drug and opioid overdoses is climbing. According to the data, Fresno County has a rate of 14.0 (per 100,000) for 2020, compared to a rate of 13.2 in 2019⁶¹ and a rate of 13.7 for the State of California for the same time period⁶².

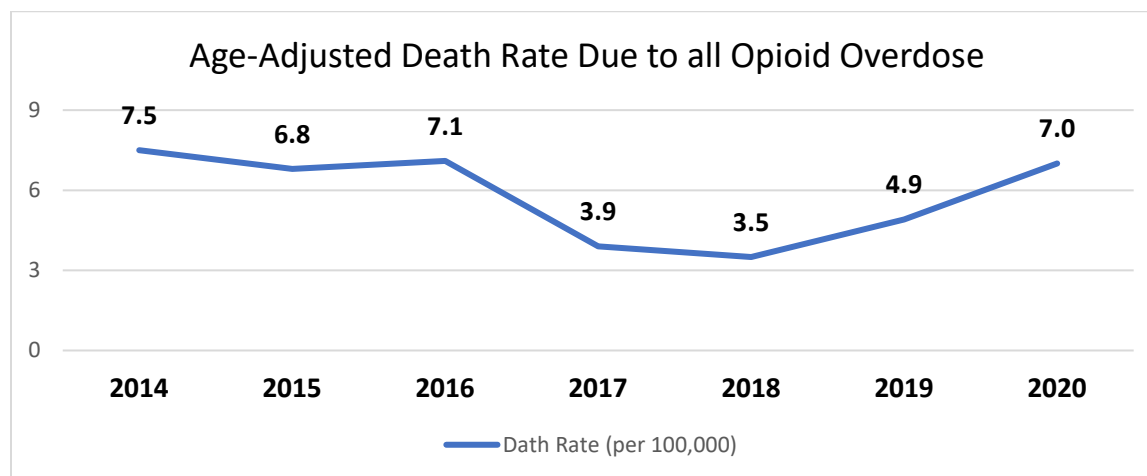


Figure 33. Death Rate Due to Opioid Overdoses

Thoughts from key stakeholders about substance abuse:



Fresno County's supervising CHDP nurse believes that substance abusing parents are the most pressing health issue for Fresno County children under age 5; A County Child Abuse administrator also reports that much child abuse is connected to meth and other drug use.

Law enforcement personnel in many jurisdictions (e.g., Orange Cove, Mendota, Kingsburg, and Parlier) report that drug use and possession is a problem and that abuse of alcohol is a factor in many deaths and injuries in automobile accidents and in many domestic abuse cases and other criminal activity.

Head Start staff report that many grandparents are raising grand-children whose parents have substance abuse issues

Mental Health

Infant and early childhood mental health is the foundation of all future development. According to Zero to Three, social and emotional development or infant and early childhood mental health (IECMH) is the developing capacity of a child from birth-to-5 years old to: form close and secure adult and peer relationships, experience, manage and express a full range of emotions, and

⁶¹ FCHIP. 2020. Healthy Fresno County Community Dashboard.

<https://www.healthyfresnocountydata.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=10421&localeId=247&localeFilterId=7&comparisonId=6635>

⁶² Kaiser Family Foundation. 2022. <https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/opioid-overdose-death-rates/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>

explore the environment and learn⁶³. The story of children's mental health in Fresno County is not well supported with data. In Head Start, mental health trends show that 39 children received assistance from a mental health professional during the 2021 school year. Other mental health trends show that mental health continues to be of concern as children grow older and resources are limited. According to the data:

- The rate of hospitalizations for Fresno County children aged 5-14 years experiencing a mental health crisis slightly exceeds the state rate at 2.7 (per 1,000 children) compared to 2.5 (per 1,000) for California.
- The age-adjusted death rate due to suicide in Fresno County is 11.0 (per 100,000) which is slightly higher than the state rate of 13.9 (per 100,000).
- 16.9% of Fresno County adults report likely serious psychological distress compared to California's rate of 12.6% of adults.



Thoughts from key stakeholders about barriers to obtaining mental health care include:

- *lack of knowledge about available services,*
- *lack of English skills,*
- *difficulties navigating formal systems,*
- *lack of bilingual/bicultural providers,*
- *lack of trained clinicians for young children, and*
- *problems with transportation to services (especially in rural areas).*

Prevalent Health Problems

The United Health Foundation ranks California as the 28th healthiest state out of all 50 states in regard to social and economic factors, 49th in physical environment measures, 15th in health behaviors, 13th in health outcomes, and 29th in access to clinical care⁶⁴.

Fresno County fares worse than the state in multiple areas related to Quality of Life; Health Factors, and Socioeconomic Factors. These include: poor or fair health, poor physical health days, poor mental health days, prevalence of adult smoking, prevalence of adult obesity, food environment, access to care dental and primary health care, degree of social integration, violent crime, and the prevalence of severe housing issues.

Quality of Life ⁵⁸		
Quality of Life	Fresno	California
<i>Adults with.....</i>		
Poor or fair health	26%	18%
Poor physical health days	4.6	3.7
Poor mental health days	4.5	3.9

⁶³ Zero to Three. (2019). <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/2674-how-to-talk-about-infant-and-early-childhood-mental-health>

⁶⁴ <https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/state/CA>

Health Factors		
Quality of Life	Fresno	California
Adult smoking	14%	10%
Adult obesity	38%	26%
Food environment index <i>0 = worst/10 = best</i>	7.4	8.9
Uninsured adults	10%	9%
Primary care physician ratio	1,450:1	1,240:1
Dentists ratio of pop. to providers	1,590:1	1,130:1
Mental health provider to pop. Ratio	240:1	240:1

Socio-economic Factors		
Quality of Life	Fresno	California
Income inequality <i>Equality = 0.0</i>	5.1	5.1
Social associations	5.2	6.0
Violent crime <i># of offenses per 100,000 pop.</i>	542	421
% Residents with severe housing problems	27%	26%

Figure 34. Prevalent Community Health Issues

Child Physical Health Status and Health Challenges

Children's lifelong success is strongly linked to their physical health status beginning during the prenatal period and throughout life. Factors such as lack of preventive care, access to health services and chronic illness can lead to poor performance across physical, social, and psychological domains of development. The following tables present data on risk factors that can impact children's health and wellness outcomes. As shown in the tables, Fresno County has a lower rate of children that are uninsured than found among California children, but a higher rate of children that are insured by public coverage such as Medicaid. Because fewer doctors accept Medicaid this trend contributes to lack of access to health services for those with a low-income.

Insurance Status of Fresno County Children ¹³								
Indicator	Percent							
	Insured		Private Coverage		Public Coverage		Uninsured	
Age Group	FR	CA	FR	CA	FR	CA	FR	CA
Ages 0-5	98.4%	97.8%	37.3%	56.2%	67.4%	45.7%	1.6%	2.2%
Ages 6-18	97.9%	96.5%	43.4%	57.9%	60.5%	42.5%	2.1%	3.5%

Insurance Status of Fresno County Children ¹³								
Indicator	Percent							
Age Group	Insured		Private Coverage		Public Coverage		Uninsured	
Total for Ages 0-18	98.1%	96.9%	41.5%	57.4%	62.7%	43.5%	1.9%	3.1

Table 46. Insurance Status of Children

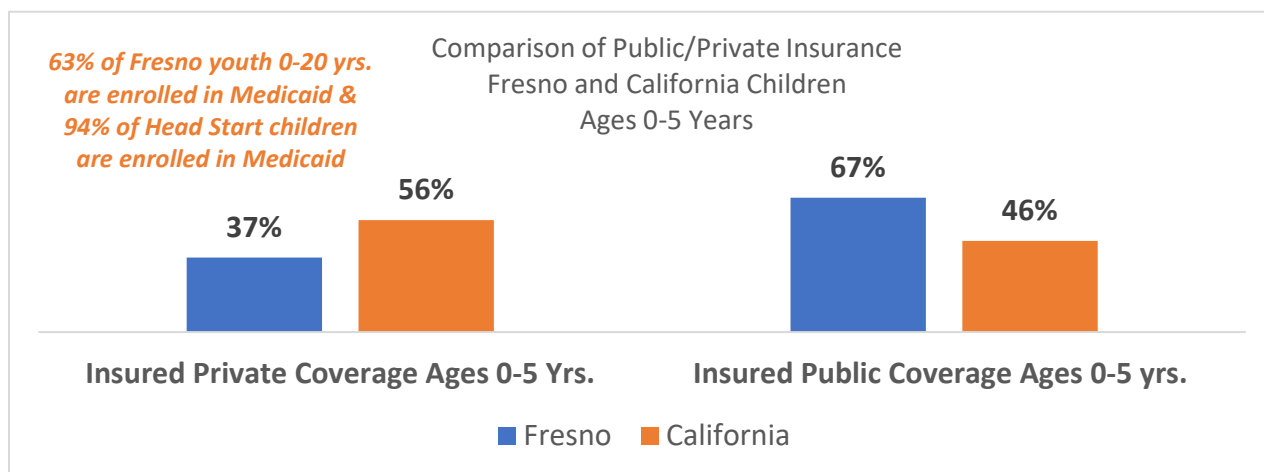


Table 47. Comparison of Fresno County Children and State by Type of Insurance Coverage

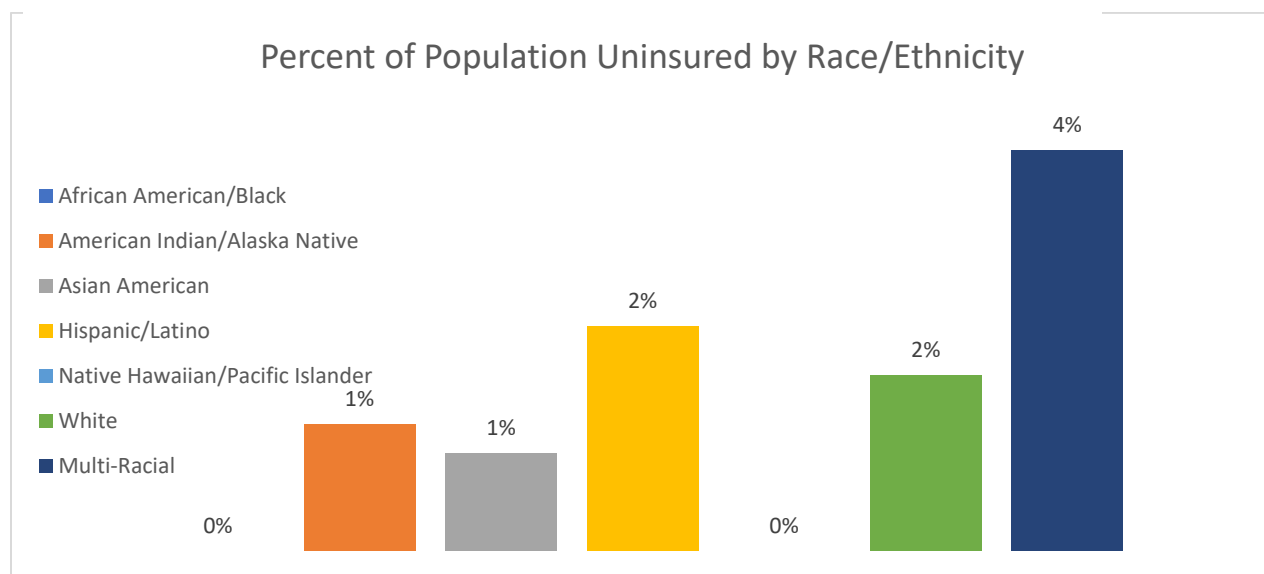


Figure 35. Percent of Population Uninsured by Race/Ethnicity

Immunizations

Fresno County residents are also less likely to receive care in a medical home. According to the data, 37% of Fresno residents have a medical home compared to 43% of California residents, as a result, they are less likely to remain in compliance with recommended treatment schedules.

Despite these challenges, Head Start children and in general children in Fresno County maintain a high rate of immunization.

Immunization Status of Children	
Status	Percent
Head Start children up-to-date on all immunizations at program end	88%
Fresno kindergarteners with all required immunizations	97%

Table 48. Immunization Status of Children

Chronic Health Conditions

Chronic Health Conditions Among Head Start Children	
Chronic Condition	Number of children
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	32
Attention Deficit Disorder (ADHD)	0
Asthma	30
Life-threatening Allergies	24
Hearing Problems	7
Vision Problems	23

Table 49. Chronic Health Conditions for HS Children



Thoughts from key stakeholders about child health:

The most common health problems for three- and four-year-old children who receive Child Health Disability Program (CHDP) screenings are: obesity, dental disease, vision problems and developmental issues. For children under three, the most common issues are: developmental issues and anemia.

65

Dental Health

Dental care is difficult to access due to a high ratio of low-income residents to dental care providers. Limited access is further exacerbated by dentists that are unwilling to accept public health insurance programs as payment for dental services. According to information from the 2021 Program Information Report for Fresno EOC Head Start, 10% of children that needed dental care did not receive it due to parents' lack of attendance at dental appointments. According to the Head Start Program Information Report, Fresno EOC achieved the following outcomes for children's dental health:

⁶⁵ Supervising PHN Fresno County Health Department Child Health Disability Program (CHDP), interview, 7/20

Dental Health Services for Head Start Children	
Indicator	Number of children
Number of children who received preventive care during the program year	1,301 (53%)
Number of all children, including those enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, who completed a professional dental examination during the program year	1,302 (53%)
Of the children that received a dental exam, the number of children that needed dental treatment	439 (33%)
Number of children with a dental home	2,070 (77%)

Table 50. Head Start Dental Health Services

Children with Disabilities

For preschoolers, there are three programs that serve them by providing disabilities services in accordance with IDEA. This includes Fresno Unified School District, Clovis Unified School District and the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools which serves as the umbrella agency for all other school districts. These programs reported serving 878 children aged 3-5 years (most recent data available)³⁹. For infants and toddlers, the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Fresno Unified School District, and Central Valley Regional Center provide services to approximately 327 infants and toddlers annually⁶⁶.

Early Childhood Disabilities Services ^{39 66}		
Provider	Preschool Children Served	Infants and Toddlers Served
Fresno County Superintendent of Schools	33	39
Fresno Unified School District	510	66
Clovis Unified School District	335	0
Central Valley Regional Center		327
Total	878	432

Table 51. Early Childhood Disabilities Services

Fresno EOC served 328 children in Head Start with a diagnosed disability and 76 children in Early Head Start with a disability. The primary preschool disabilities are detailed in the following table:

Head Start Children with Disabilities		
Diagnosed Primary Disability	Number of children with this disability	Number of children receiving special services
Health Impairment	11	11
Speech or language impairments	263	263
Intellectual disabilities	11	11
Hearing impairment, including deafness	3	3

⁶⁶ California Department of Social Services. Regional Center Oversight Dashboard. Central Valley Regional Center. Overview Report 2022. <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/dashboard/>

Head Start Children with Disabilities		
Diagnosed Primary Disability	Number of children with this disability	Number of children receiving special services
Orthopedic impairment	4	4
Vision impairment, including blindness	1	1
Autism	34	34
Multiple Disabilities	1	1

⁶⁷Table 52. Primary Disabilities of Head Start Children**Thoughts from key stakeholders about disabilities service needs:**

There is a need for more childcare personnel who do not work in publicly subsidized centers who are trained and experienced in working with children with disabilities; Children's Services Network (CSN), Fresno County's childcare and referral service staff reports that only about 125 of the providers on their referral list have that training/experience.

Maternal and Child Health

The well-being and health of mothers, infants, and children is an important indicator of the health of the next generation. It can also predict future health challenges and inform the design of early childhood programs by providing a window into the health of children that will be entering Head Start. Maternal and child health factors in Fresno County and the local communities show that pregnant and new mothers and children fare similarly or worse than the indicators for the State of California and the nation. There are also persistent racial disparities that undermine maternal and child health.

Births in Fresno County ⁹					
Child Population	<1yr.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.
Total Children	13,979	14,649	14,104	14,120	14,110

Table 53. Fresno County Birth Trends

Births by Community ⁹					
Area	Births	Teen Births	Rate of Teen Birth	% Births to Mothers with a low-income (<200% pov.)	% Births to Mothers with No HS Diploma
Biola	29	No Data	No Data	No Data	51.7%
Clovis	1,225	21	6 (1.7%)	30.8%	10.5%
Huron	120	21	90 (17.5%)	100%	55.8%
Kingsburg	82	No Data	No Data	82.9%	No Data
Mendota	132	No Data	No Data	93.9%	40.2%

⁶⁷ FCSS Director of Behavioral Health and Early Intervention, interview, 5/20; CSN staff report, 6/20

Births by Community ⁹					
Area	Births	Teen Births	Rate of Teen Birth	% Births to Mothers with a low-income (<200% pov.)	% Births to Mothers with No HS Diploma
Orange Cove	213	2	5 (1%)	85.0%	32.9%
Reedley	338	No Data	No Data	54.7%	2.1%
Riverdale	31	No Data	No Data	100%	No Data
Fresno City	8,506	380	20 (4.5%)	59.0%	19.6%
Fresno County	14,649	579	16 (4.0%)	56.8%	19.3%

Table 54. Number of Births by Community

There are more births to Hispanic/Latino mothers than any other group, followed by whites and Asians⁹.

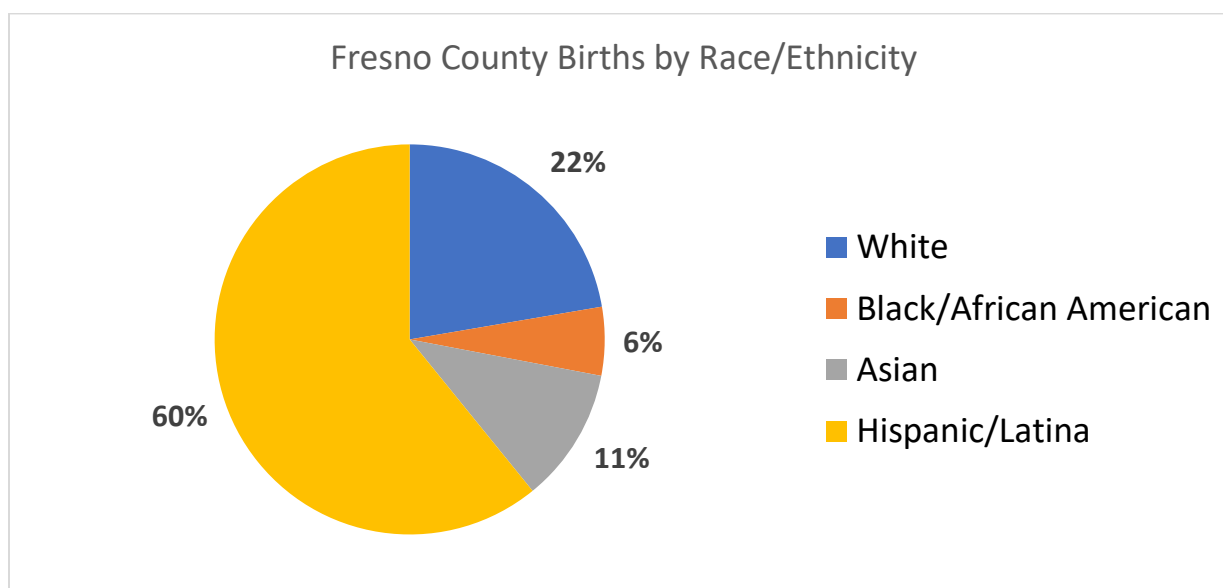


Figure 36. Fresno County Births by Race and Ethnicity

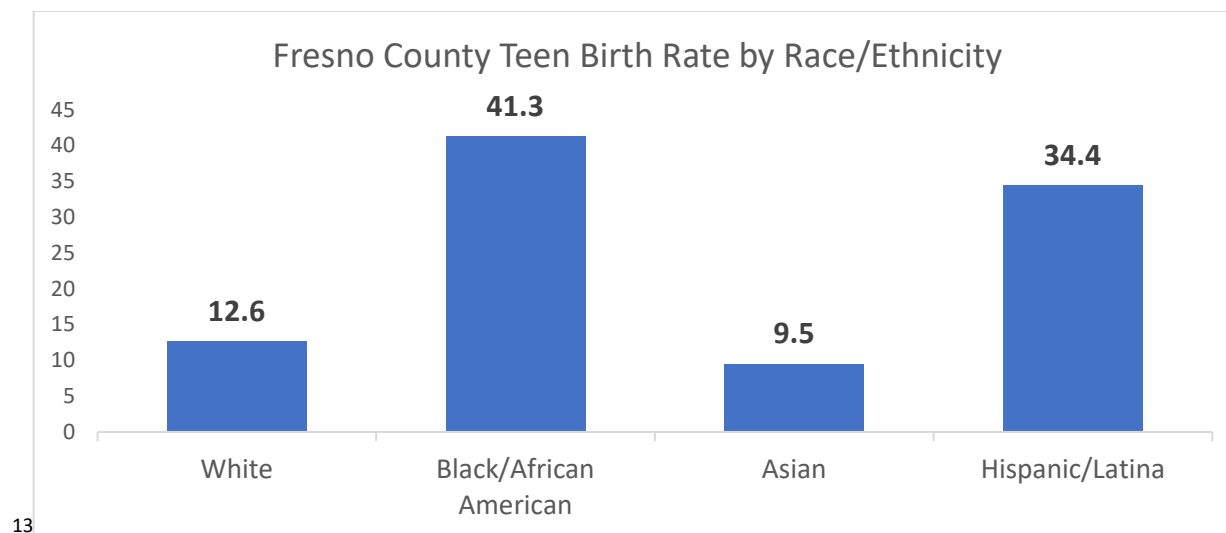


Figure 37. Teen Birth Rate by Race and Ethnicity

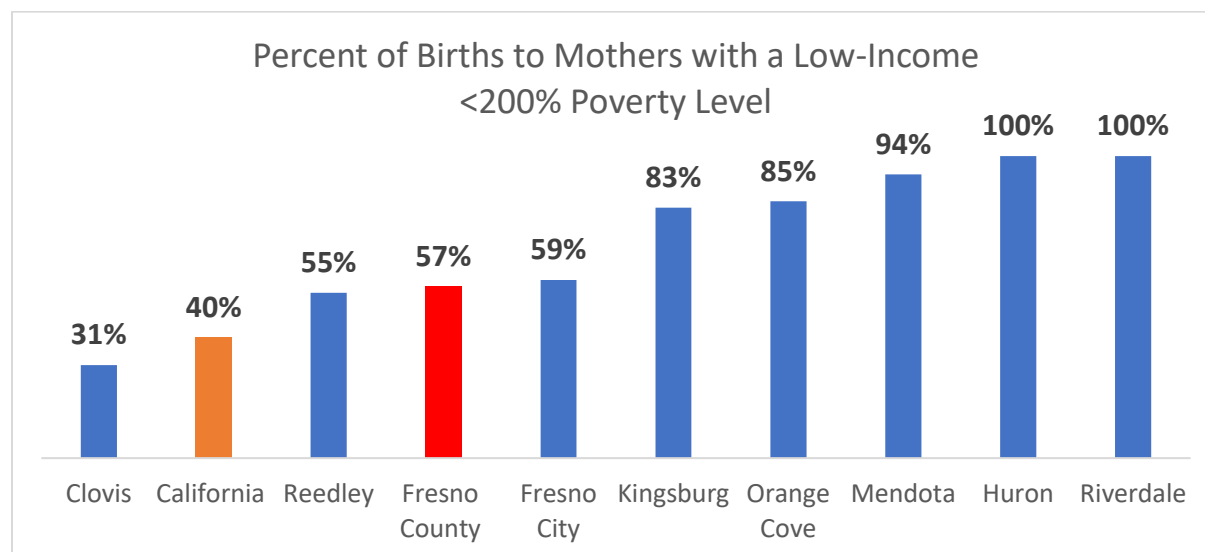


Figure 38. Percent of Births to Mothers with a Low-Income

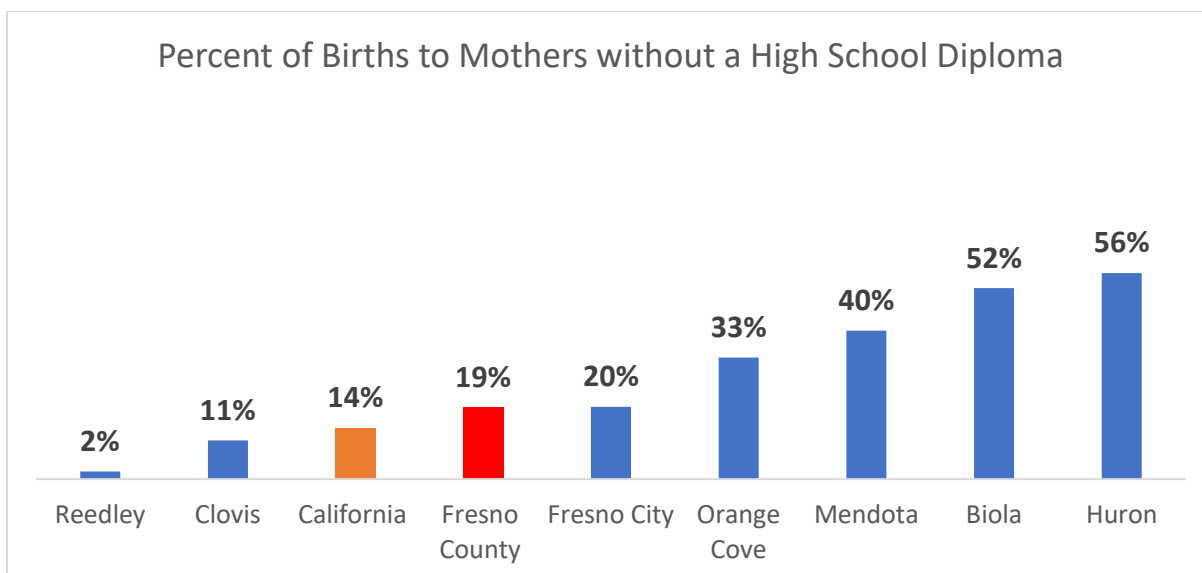


Figure 39. Percent of Births to Mothers without a HS Diploma

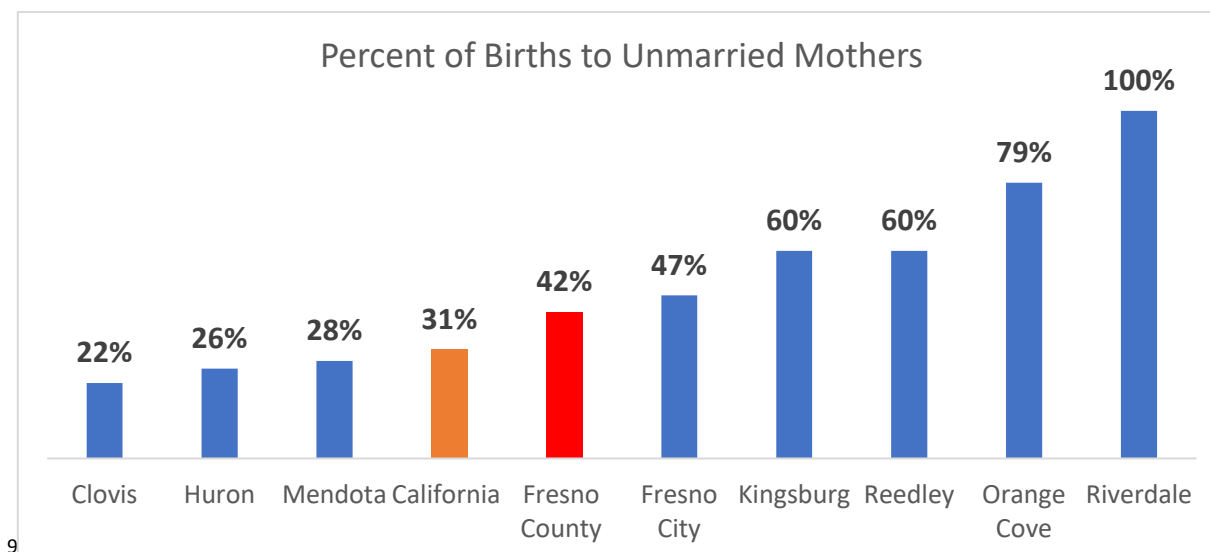


Figure 40. Percent of Births to Unmarried Mothers

Infant and Child Mortality

The infant mortality rate is the number of infant deaths for every 1,000 live births. The CDC states that “in addition to giving us key information about maternal and infant health, the infant mortality rate is an important marker of the overall health of a society.” Fresno County’s infant mortality rate is high when compared to the state and there is also a racial disparity in infant mortality¹³.

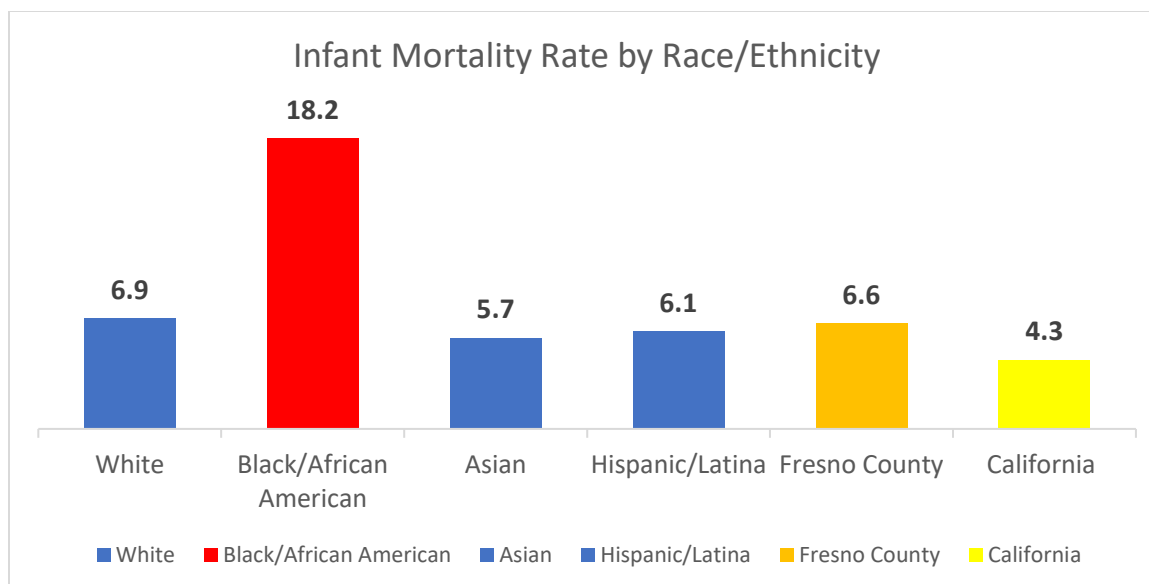


Figure 41. Infant Mortality Rate by Race and Ethnicity

Low Birthweight Infants

Low birthweight is the most significant factor impacting the health of newborns and a significant determinate of post-neonatal mortality. Low birthweight is used to describe babies who are born weighing less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs. 8 oz.). Low birthweight increases the likelihood that infants will develop health issues such as respiratory disorders, neurodevelopmental disabilities, and issues related to future school achievement. Fresno has a rate of infants born with a low birthweight that exceeds the rate for the State of California. There is also a racial disparity present in relation to this indicator of maternal and child health¹³.

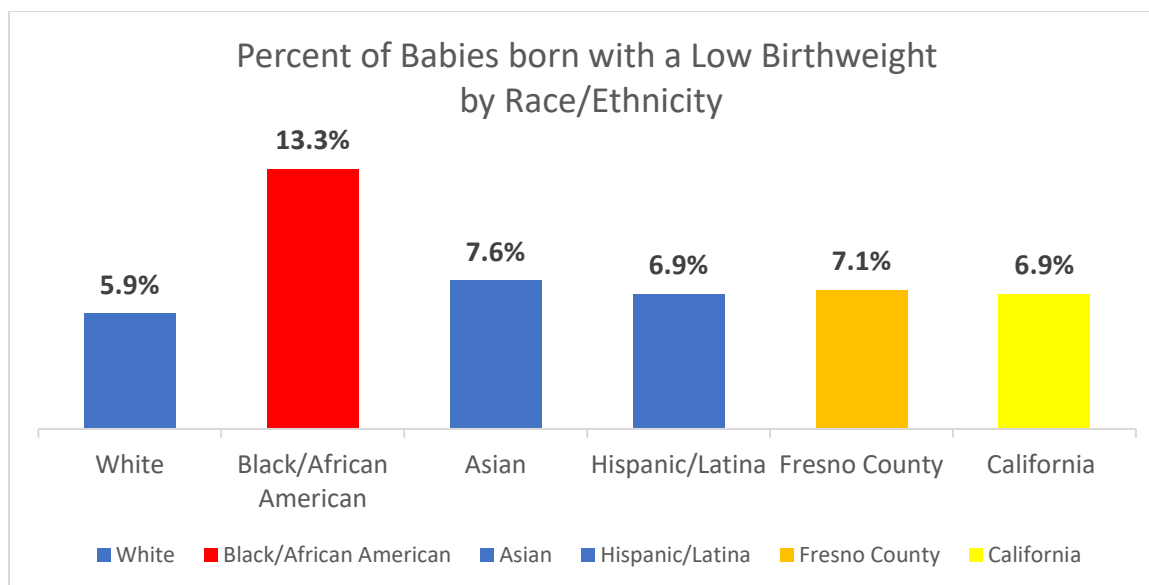


Figure 42. Percent of Babies Born with a Low Birthweight

Prenatal Care

Prenatal care is the first step to keeping women and their newborns healthy. Babies of mothers who do not get prenatal care are three times more likely to have a low birthweight and five times more likely to die than those born to mothers who do get care.⁶⁸ Early diagnosis of many health problems that occur during pregnancy can lead to successful treatment. Doctors can also educate mothers on what they can do to ensure a healthy start in life for their infant. Exposure to maternal stress and toxic substances such as tobacco, drugs, and alcohol can also affect development before a child is born, impacting the child's academic, social, and physical outcomes throughout their life.⁶⁹ Free and low-cost clinics play a critical role in addressing the needs of pregnant women. When compared to the state, Fresno County mothers are accessing prenatal care at a rate slightly below their statewide peers. There is a racial disparity in access to prenatal care for black/African American and Hispanic/Latina women¹³.

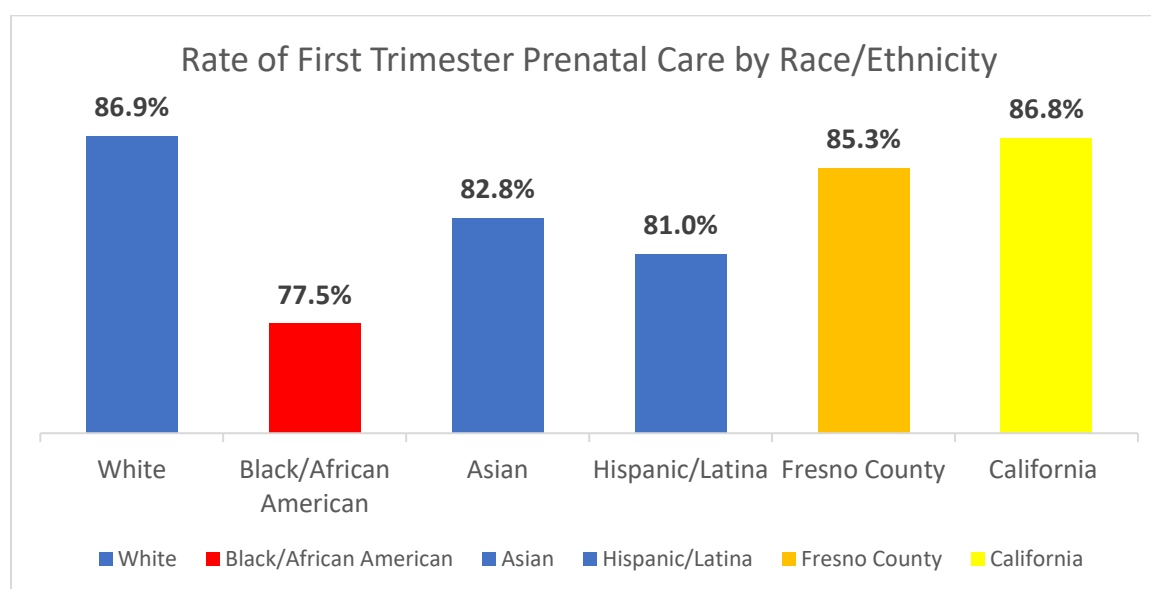


Figure 43. Rate of First Trimester Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity

Pregnant Women in Head Start

Head Start served 34 pregnant women in 2021. Of pregnant women served by the program, 91% enrolled during the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy. Among pregnant women served, 100% had health insurance (94% received Medicaid) and 100% had an ongoing source of health care.

⁶⁸ U.S. Department of Human Services. (2009, March 6). Prenatal Care Fact Sheet. Retrieved from Office on Women's Health: <http://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/prenatal-care.pdf>.

⁶⁹ Barnett, W., & Lamy, C. (2013). Achievement Gaps Start Early: Preschool Can Help. In P. Carter, & K. Welner, Closing the Opportunity Gap: What America Must Do to Give Every Child an Even Chance (pp. 98-110). New York: Oxford University Press

Services Received by Pregnant Women Enrolled in EHS	
Prenatal health care	100%
Postpartum health care	65%
A professional oral health assessment/examination/treatment	6%
Mental health interventions and follow-up	18%
Education on fetal development, breastfeeding, nutrition, infant care and safe sleep	100%

Table 55. Early Head Start Services Received by Pregnant Women

Social Services Used by Head Start Families

The program information report and community data for the Fresno EOC Head Start program indicates that families need social services at a high rate. The most frequently utilized social services used by families were parent education programs. In total, 2,104 (77%) families in 2021 received social services via the Head Start program.

Social Services Used by Head Start Families		
Services	# of Families	% of Enrollment
Emergency/crisis intervention	1,346	49.6%
Housing assistance	52	1.9%
Asset building services	55	2.0%
Mental health services	134	4.9%
Substance misuse prevention	6	<1%
Substance misuse treatment	5	<1%
English as a Second Language training	36	1.3%
Assistance in enrolling in an education or job training program	96	3.5%
Research-based parenting curriculum	15	<1%
Involvement in discussing their child's screening and assessment results and their child's progress	481	17.7%
Supporting transitions between programs	481	17.7%
Education on preventive medical and oral health	837	30.8%
Education on nutrition	481	17.7%
Education on postpartum care	481	17.7%
Education on relationships/marriage	10	<1%
Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals	12	<1%

Table 56. Social Services Used by Head Start Families

Health and Social Service Resources

Fresno County has an array of health and social service resources. However, in some cases the agencies are overburdened while in other instances they are under-utilized. The following table details local and county initiatives that support families and children.

Fresno County Health and Social Services Resources and Assets	
Focus Area	Selected Services & Resources
Teen Pregnancy	Cal-Learn provides comprehensive services to teen mothers who receive CALWorks public assistance.
Disabilities Services	Fresno Unified School District, Clovis Unified School District, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Central Valley Regional Center, Exceptional Parents Unlimited, Kings Canyon Unified School District's KC Kids, FCSS Friends program, Valley Hospital
Disabilities Assessment	All4Youth, Fresno Unified School District, Clovis Unified School District, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Central Valley Regional Center
Dual Language Assistance, Education and Literacy Programs	Fresno Language Lab, Starting Start, Starting Strong; professional development for those working with dual language learners, School districts, community colleges, Proteus, SER-Jobs for Progress, the Fresno County Library, West Hills Community College, Fresno Housing Authority Book Distribution program
Employment and Training Resources	Proteus Dislocated and Farmworker Programs, West Hills Community College, "Farm of the Future", GRID Alternatives Central Valley program for the formerly incarcerated; New Employment Opportunities Program for those transitioning from welfare to work, Fresno EOC, Fresno State University, Fresno Regional Development Workforce Board, CALWorks
Food Assistance & Nutrition Education and Assistance	CALFresh, WIC; Metro Ministry cooking classes in Fresno, the UC Cooperative Extension CALFresh Nutrition Education Program, County food distribution programs and organizations; Food Bank's Mobile Pantry, community garden programs through Metro Ministry and some rural communities, and Fresno EOC's Summer Food Service Program
Health	Fresno County Department of Health Lead Paint Abatement Program, 7 general hospitals (3 in Fresno, Clovis Community Medical Center, Sierra Kings in Reedley, & Kingsburg Medical Center; a rehabilitation hospital, a Veterans Hospital and a state maximum-security psychiatric hospital in Coalinga; the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) has a Medical Education and Research Center and a medical and dental training program in Fresno, Children's Hospital Central California, one of the nation's 10 largest pediatric hospitals, is located in adjacent Madera County; school-based health centers, FCSS and FUSD mobile health

Fresno County Health and Social Services Resources and Assets	
Focus Area	Selected Services & Resources
	units that provide physicals, immunizations and non-emergency care; Fresno American Indian Health Project, Medicaid, Covered California, Fresno's Medically Indigent Services Program; Kaiser Permanente Community Health Care Program, Centro la Familia, West Fresno Family Resource Center
Dental Health	United Health Centers, Valley Health Team, Clinica Sierra Vista, and Adventist Health Community Care Clinics have added or expanded dental health services; Healthy Smiles Mobile Dental Practice; Family HealthCare Network (FHCN) has a mobile dental unit; Holy Cross Community Clinic at Poverello House provides dental services to about 300 homeless, undocumented, or low-income adults and children each month regardless of ability to pay or insurance status; Fresno EOC Dental Transformation Initiative
Maternal Child Health	GLOW!, Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP), Maternal Wellness Coalition
Mental Health & Substance Abuse	The County Department of Behavioral Health (DBH), DBH Youth Wellness Center; United Health, Valley Health Team and Clinica Sierra Vista; school district mental health clinicians, Valley Children's Hospital; Pathways to Recovery, WestCare, Perinatal Addiction Treatment Health Services program/PATHS, Fresno First Women's Residential Treatment Center
Child Abuse Prevention	Fresno Council on Child Abuse Prevention with information dissemination and training programs, free parenting classes CYS, County DCFS, Centro la Familia, Native American TANF Project Center); adult and adolescent anger management programs (CYS); and positive child discipline classes (FCSS FRIENDS at The Lighthouse for Children)
Crime, Family Violence, and Violence Reduction	Neighborhood Watch, Safe Rout to School; Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Baack to Life, Fresno Street Saints, Advance Peace Gun Violence Reduction Program, Marjaree Mason Center or the Westside Family Preservation Network

Table 57. Health and Social Service Resources in Fresno County

Health and Social Services Key Findings



Fresno ranks poorly on health outcomes such as the percent of adults with poor or fair health, and adults report an increased number of poor mental health days when compared to the state, and inadequate access to physical, oral, and mental health services. These conditions are important predictors of children's health because children are completely dependent on the adults in their lives and when adult health suffers so does family resources.

For children, poor health undermines all aspects of their development. Within the county, there is a high rate of use of Medicaid which limits access to those doctors that will accept public insurance as payment. Additionally, family survey data indicated that a significant number of children in the Head Start program did not receive health services due to lack of parent follow-up on health appointments. The lack of follow-up could be due to transportation, lack of communication skills, lack of understanding of the role that health plays in child development, or competing responsibilities that impact their ability to attend appointments. Additional information from key stakeholders notes systemic barriers experienced in accessing health services such as difficulty navigating formal systems of health care, lack of bilingual/bicultural providers, lack of trained clinicians for young children, and limited English proficiency that impacts parents' knowledge of available resources. The data from parents and public health surveillance systems for Fresno County is further illustrated by program statistics. For example, 33% of Head Start children needed dental treatment due to caries. Within the program, 34% of Head Start children are overweight or obese and adults also have higher rates of obesity than their peers across the state. An analysis of family needs indicated that 42% of program families needed assistance obtaining health care and 59% needed assistance obtaining dental care.

Maternal and child health is also concerning. Fresno County has poorer health outcomes than the state in regard to teen births, births to mothers without a high school diploma, births to unmarried mothers, and births to mothers with a low-income. There is also a racial disparity and black/African American babies are more likely to be born with a low birthweight and have rates of infant mortality that are triple that of babies born to white mothers. The teen pregnancy rate is also higher for black/African American mothers and Latinas. These factors are associated with poor health and development for infants and increased rates of poverty throughout life.

Nutrition

Children in food-insecure households and households that struggle to afford food for their families are at an increased risk for numerous health problems and added emotional stress, impacting school readiness and ongoing school success. For a household that has difficulty making ends meet, the food budget is often the first area that is scaled back when unexpected expenses occur. Resources that support nutrition in the service area include CalFresh (formerly SNAP/Food Stamps) and the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program. Schools and many childcare programs also provide free and reduced-priced lunch to eligible children. Women with incomes at or below 185% of the federal poverty line are eligible for WIC. Three agencies offer WIC services: Fresno EOC in the City of Fresno (at 5 locations), United Health Centers in 14 rural areas, and Clinica Sierra Vista (at 5 locations).

Food Insecurity

The rate of food insecurity in Fresno County is 14% compared to a rate of 11% for California and 13% for the nation. Feeding America reports the national average meal costs \$3.13. Due to the cost of living and the price of food the average meal cost is \$3.32 per meal in Fresno County. It is estimated that more than 142,780 individuals are food insecure in Fresno County and an additional 23% of children are food insecure, totaling 64,640 children.

Food Insecurity ⁷⁰			
Area	Total Population	Food Insecure Population, Total	Food Insecurity Rate All Persons
Fresno County	973,857	136,340	14%
California	39,585,455	4,354,400	11%
United States	325,717,422	41,133,950	13%

Table 58. Food Insecurity

Although food-insecurity is linked to poverty, measuring the need for food from poverty rates alone is insufficient. Many food-insecure children live in households with incomes above the poverty level and are above eligibility for federal nutrition programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Free and Reduced-Priced Lunch program. In order to improve the estimate of food-insecure children, Feeding America has published a model that utilizes additional indicators to calculate insecurity at the county, congressional district, and state levels. This includes examining unemployment rates, child poverty, median income levels, homeownership rates, and the presence of African-American and Hispanic children. Using this model, it is estimated that 20% of the population that is food insecure in Fresno County is above the eligibility threshold for nutrition assistance programs.

⁷⁰ Feeding American. Map the Meal Gap. 2020.

Low-Income and Low-Food Access

Families and individuals with a low-income and low food access are those that live more than ½ mile from the nearest supermarket or grocery store. Data from the 2020 Food Access Research Atlas notes that 11.5% of Fresno’s low-income population fall into this category, totaling 49,776 individuals. This rate is slightly above the state rate of 10.3% of all residents⁷¹. The number of SNAP authorized food stores totals 9.2 per 10,000 residents which is above the rates for the state and nation which are 6.1 (per 10,000) for California and 7.4 (per 10,000) for the nation⁷².

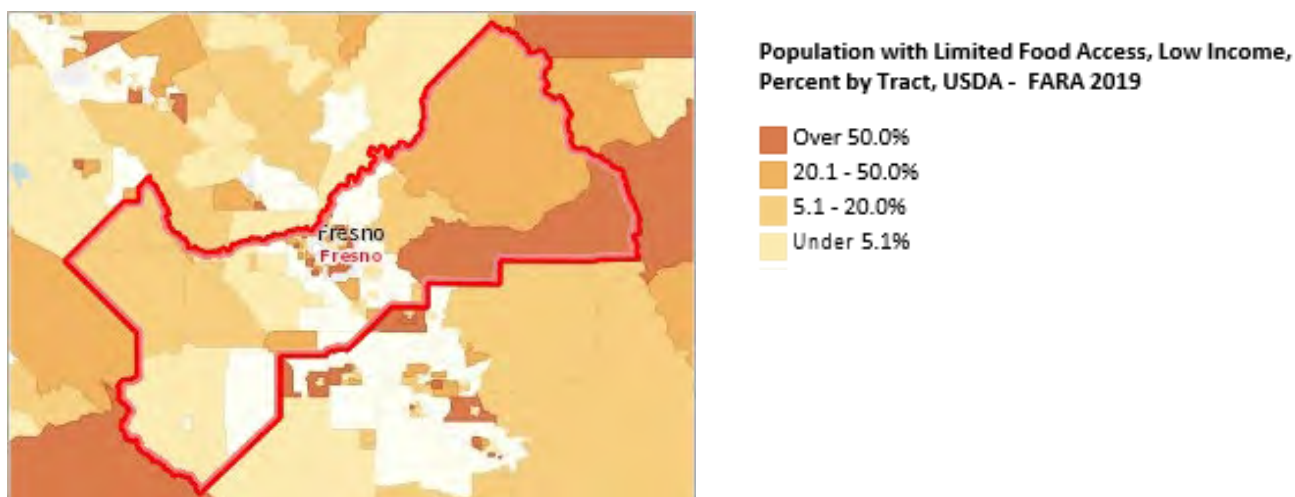


Figure 44. Population with Limited Food Access

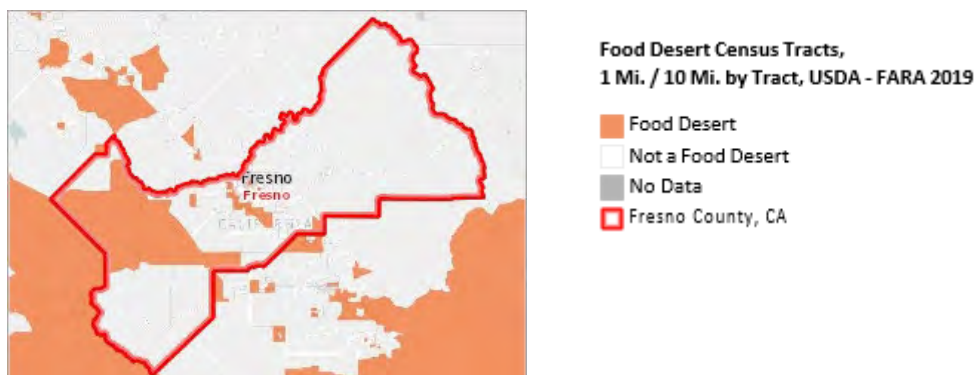


Figure 45. Food Desert Census Tracts

Children Eligible for Free and Reduced-Price Lunch

The service area exceeds the rate of students eligible for free and reduced-priced lunch for the state and the nation.

⁷¹ US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, USDA - Food Access Research Atlas. 2019. Source geography: Tract

⁷² US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA - SNAP Retailer Locator. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2021. Source geography: Tract

Children Eligible for Free and Reduced-Price Lunch ⁷³			
Area	Total Students	Students eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch	Students eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch, Percent
Fresno County	203,780	155,795	76.4%
California	5,958,941	3,536,048	59.1%
United States	53,244,287	22,445,622	42.1%

Table 59. Children Eligible for Free and Reduced-Priced Lunch

Nutrition Resources

Programs that provide nutrition education in Fresno County include the Metro Ministry cooking classes in Fresno, the UC Cooperative Extension CalFresh Nutrition Education Program for families with children age four and above, individuals and seniors up to 185% of FPL and a preschool curriculum program, the West Fresno Family Resource Center; and the County Health Department's Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention program that targets 2 areas in the city of Fresno, and Parlier, Kerman, Reedley and Sanger.

There is a wide variety of food resources in the county. These include: food distributions throughout the County; CalFresh assistance and CalFresh enrollment outreach by community organizations/service providers; food pantries; emergency food assistance and some meal services provided by churches and community organizations; the Food Bank's Mobile Pantry (fresh produce); Neighborhood Markets (produce and perishables) and support of food pantries throughout the county; community garden programs through Metro Ministry and some rural communities; and Fresno EOC's Summer Food Service Program for children 1-18 years old and the federal After-School At-Risk Program at locations throughout the county.

Participation in Supplemental Nutrition Programs

CalFresh

Within the service area 12,810 senior households participate in CalFresh and 46,435 other types of households participate in CalFresh due to food insecurity⁹³. Within the county, 102,953 children participate in CalFresh, totaling 22% of the population, compared to a rate of 13.6% for California residents¹³.

Participation in CalFresh by Area ⁷⁴				
Area	% of Households (HH) receiving CalFresh	% and # of HH with Children Using Cal Fresh		% in HH Using CalFresh with income < poverty
Biola	110	86%	95	56%
Clovis	3,789	60%	2,277	37%
Huron	639	88%	563	68%

⁷³ Community Action Partnership. Nutrition. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

⁷⁴ United States Census Bureau. Food Stamps/SNAP, Table S2201. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Participation in CalFresh by Area ⁷⁴				
Area	% of Households (HH) receiving CalFresh	% and # of HH with Children Using Cal Fresh		% in HH Using CalFresh with income < poverty
Kingsburg	354	65%	229	38%
Mendota	1,080	84%	904	60%
Orange Cove	1,011	89%	895	69%
Reedley	1,554	83%	1,288	53%
Riverdale	207	84%	174	77%
Fresno City	37,165	68%	25,386	51%
Fresno County Total	59,245	70%	41,697	51%

Table 60. Participation in CalFresh by Community

WIC

Within the service area, 28,913 pregnant women and new mothers participate in WIC. Within Fresno EOC, 34 pregnant women (100%) were provided information on nutrition in 2021. Additionally, 2,045 families (58%) participated in WIC and 38% participated in CalFresh.

Use of Supplemental Nutrition Programs by Head Start Families		
Subject	Number of families at enrollment	Number of families at end of enrollment
Total number of families receiving services under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	2,045 (75%)	1,569 (58%)
Total number of families receiving benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	1,407 (52%)	1,017 (38%)

Table 61. Use of Supplemental Nutrition Programs by Head Start Families

Obesity and Weight Status of Head Start Children

The table below details the weight status of Head Start Children in the service area for the 2021 program year. Among children enrolled in the program, 47% were deemed to be of a healthy weight at enrollment and 35% of Head Start children were overweight or obese at the time of enrollment, while 4% were underweight. The number of children that are overweight in the program totals 859.

Weight Status of Head Start Enrolled Children	
Weight Status (at Enrollment according to 2000 CDC BMI-for-age growth chart)	% of HS Children
Underweight	3.7%
Healthy Weight	46.5%
Overweight	12.3%
Obese	22.8%

Table 62. Weight Status of Head Start Children



Thoughts from key stakeholders on obesity related issues:

Unfortunately, while local doctors follow guidelines requiring obesity screening, they often do not have time to do much nutrition counseling with the parent and there are not many referral resources⁶⁵



Nutrition Key Findings

Nutritional issues can impact health and child development. Since the 1960s, changes in living standards and relative prices have reduced the average share of income spent on food from 30% to around 10%. At the same time, expenditures on many goods such as housing, utilities, medical care, transportation, and childcare have been increasing. Basic needs other than food are taking up larger shares of household budgets. Low-income households faced with allocating more of their income to the purchase of healthy diets would have to forgo many of the items on which other households currently spend almost 90% of their income⁷⁵. Additionally, for many households, achieving a healthy diet will require moving to more nutrient-dense foods, such as fruit and vegetables. The time it takes to prepare foods is also an issue for families and individuals with income constraints.

Nutrition is also influenced by job security. For example, one study with low-wage employed parents described sacrifices and food choice coping strategies that were made in the household. Parents describe behaviors to manage stress such as offering “quick meals” and using food as a treat to deal with stress. Additionally, employment and diet among the poor extends beyond the ability to purchase food because lower wages, work organization, and stress influenced adult eating patterns. A review of 21 studies regarding dietary intake among shift workers suggests that though overall total energy intake over 24 hours does not vary between day and shift workers, eating frequency, quality of the dietary intake, and energy distribution over the day is very different⁷⁶.

Within the service area, there is a high rate of food security that impacts 14% of all individuals and 23% of children. There is also an uneven distribution of food resources and although the area is rich in agricultural resources there are several food deserts. Within the program, families have a higher rate of using supplemental food programs. For example, 75% of families were enrolled in WIC upon enrollment and 52% of families utilized CalFresh. Additionally, 481 families received education on nutrition.

The weight status of Head Start children is concerning as 35% of children in the program are overweight or obese. Ways that the Head Start program can support improvements in child and family nutrition and increased food security include creating a culture of wellness that provides

⁷⁵ USDA. Economic Research Service. 2008. Can Low-Income Americans Afford a Healthy Diet? <https://www.ers.usda.gov/amber-waves/2008/november/can-low-income-americans-afford-a-healthy-diet/>

⁷⁶ Biobehavioral Factors That Shape Nutrition in Low-Income Populations: A Narrative Review. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0749379716303099>

experiential ways for families and children to learn about nutrition and examples of how they can incorporate healthy habits into their daily lives. Additionally, Head Start can lead a policy, system and environment change process that includes conducting a strength and needs assessment of healthy eating, physical activity and related best practices that are implemented in the program. Based on the assessment, agencies can then prioritize changes, develop an action plan and develop and apply a wellness policy.



Housing and Homelessness

A child's healthy growth and development is dependent on many factors, including the immediate environment in which they live. Adults are also impacted by housing and the community in which they reside. Research has demonstrated that children's life chances (the factors that affect their current and future well-being) are affected by the standard of their housing. This "housing effect" is especially pronounced in relation to health. Children and individuals living in poor or overcrowded conditions are more likely to have respiratory problems, to be at risk of infections, and to experience mental health challenges.

Housing that is in poor condition or overcrowded also threatens safety. For children, the impact on development is both immediate and long term; for example, growing up in poor or overcrowded housing has been found to have a lasting impact on a child's health and well-being throughout their life. Furthermore, neighborhood conditions have a major impact on health, birth outcomes, and exposure to risk factors such as injury, violence, and hazards. The town we live in can also limit the choices and resources available. For example, the health of adults and children's physical and motor development can be constrained by living in an urban area without access to safe places to play, such as public parks. Growing up in poor housing conditions has a long-term impact on children's life chances because of the effect it has on a child's learning and education. Homeless children are among the most disadvantaged because of disruption to their schooling caused by homelessness. Furthermore, the roots of later problems – such as behavior problems in adulthood – may be traceable to behavioral problems that emerge when children are growing up in substandard housing and poor neighborhood conditions.

Social Vulnerability

Low-income families are more vulnerable to exposure to adverse experiences, family crisis, and lack of security. The social vulnerability index, created by the Center for Disease Control is a measure of the degree of social vulnerability in counties and neighborhoods across the United States, where a higher score indicates higher vulnerability. Fresno County has a social vulnerability index score of 0.96, which is greater than California's average of 0.65.

Fresno County Social Vulnerability Index Ratings ⁷⁷					
Area	Socio-economic Theme Score	Household Composition Theme Score	Minority Status Theme Score	Housing & Transportation Theme Score	Social Vulnerability Index Score
Fresno	0.92	0.69	0.99	0.84	0.96
California	0.52	0.21	0.96	0.78	0.65

⁷⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Center for Health Statistics, CDC - GRASP. 2018. Source geography: Tract

Fresno County Social Vulnerability Index Ratings ⁷⁷					
Area	Socio-economic Theme Score	Household Composition Theme Score	Minority Status Theme Score	Housing & Transportation Theme Score	Social Vulnerability Index Score
U.S	0.30	0.32	0.76	0.62	0.40

Table 63. Social Vulnerability Scores

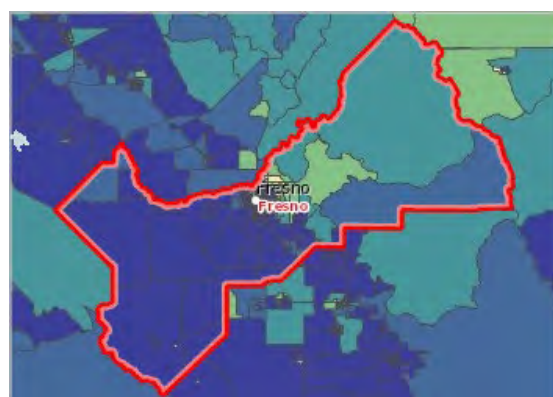


Figure 46. Social Vulnerability By Census Tract

Social Vulnerability Index by Tract, CDC 2018



Neighborhood and Community Crime and Violence

Fresno County has a violent crime rate that exceeds most California counties. The rate of crimes is 578.7 (per 100,000 residents) compared to a rate of 473 (per 100,000 residents) for California. The violent crime rate is also increasing.

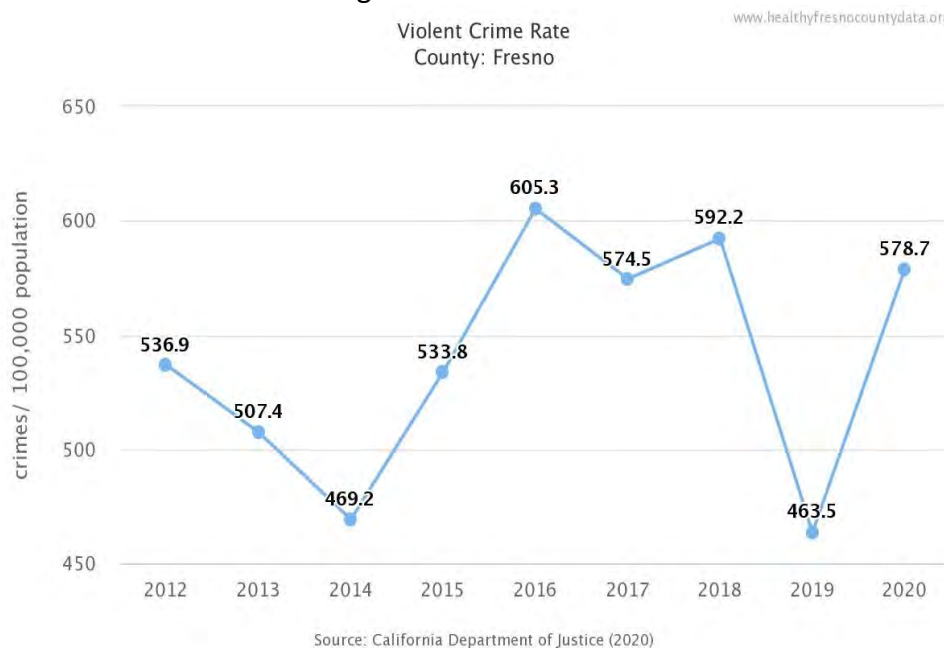


Figure 47. Violent Crime Trends


Thoughts from key stakeholders on crime and violence:⁷⁸

Representatives of most local law enforcement jurisdictions report that there is gang activity in varying degrees throughout the county. Between 55% and 60% of all shootings in the City of Fresno involve gang members.

Housing Units

The age of housing indicator shows the median year in which all housing units (vacant and occupied) were first constructed. When used in combination with data from previous years this helps identify new housing construction and measures the disappearance of old housing from the inventory. Housing data also serves to aid in the development of formulas to determine substandard housing and aids in forecasting the need for future services, such as energy consumption and fire protection. According to the data, there are 333,357 housing units in Fresno County⁷⁹. Most housing was built during the 1970's which is indicative of the suburban nature of the area and population growth patterns. The ageing housing stock is also associated with substandard conditions, as is farmworker housing which is located in the agricultural areas of the county.

Selected conditions provide information that can be used to assess the quality of the housing inventory. This data is used to identify homes where the quality of living and housing can be considered substandard. The factors include:

- 1) The percent of homes lacking complete plumbing facilities
- 2) The percent of homes lacking complete kitchen facilities,
- 3) The percent of homes with 1.01 or more occupants per room,
- 4) The cost of living in which gross rent as a percentage of household income is greater than 30%.

Substandard Housing Conditions

The rate of substandard conditions in Fresno County is higher than for the nation and lower than for the state of California.

Substandard Housing Conditions ⁷⁹		
Location	Total Houses with 1 or More Substandard Conditions	% of Houses with 1 or More Substandard Conditions
Fresno	131,030	42.5%
California	5.6M	43.4%
United States	3.8M	31.4%.

Table 64. Houses with One or More Substandard Conditions

⁷⁸ County Child Abuse Program Supervisor, interview, 8/19; police department staff throughout the County, interviews, 7/19; and Fresno County Sheriff's Department Public Information Officer, email 8/19; and Fresno County Supervising PHN/CHDP Program, interview, interview, 7/20

⁷⁹ Community Action Partnership. Housing. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

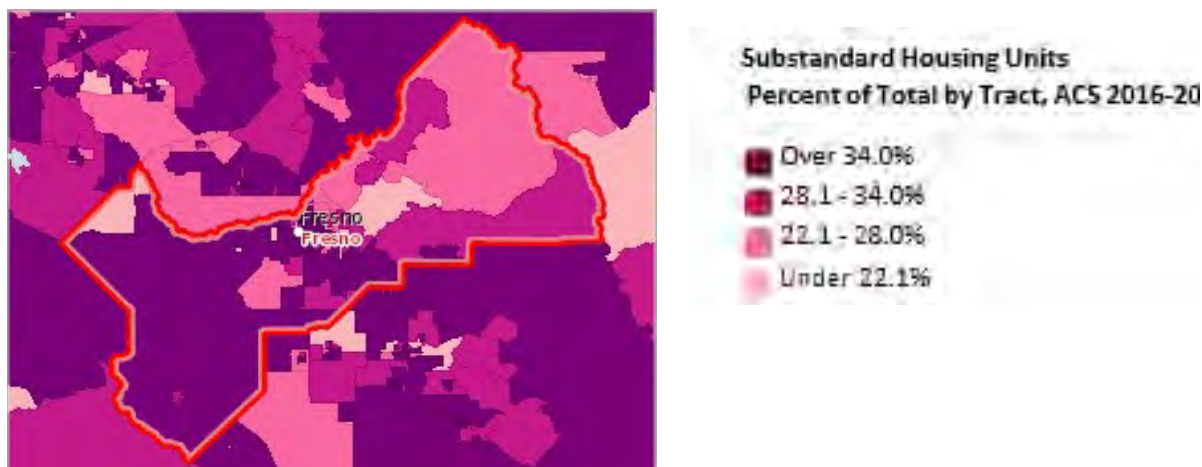


Figure 48. Percent of Households with Substandard Conditions

Children's Exposure to Lead⁸⁰

Fresno County has one of the highest rates of lead exposure in the State of California and over 200 Fresno County children have a blood lead Level of 4.5 or greater.

Children under age six are at greatest risk for lead poisoning. Lead can be found in old paint, most brass, house and car keys, jewelry, some imported candies/gum, dishes, soil, and some water systems. No amount of lead in the blood is safe; even small amounts can affect concentration and the child's ability to learn. Higher amounts can cause biological and neurological damage, including permanent damage to the developing brain and nervous system of fetuses. Studies have linked lead exposure to learning disabilities, behavior problems, kidney and liver damage, and lower IQ scores. The Fresno County Health Department has a health education specialist specifically for lead poisoning. Its Environmental Health Division received a \$1M federal grant for lead paint hazard abatement in homes throughout the county, with special focus on low-income homes where children under six are exposed to lead in ZIP Codes 93701, 93702, 93704, 93706, and 93622, including the areas of Selma and Parlier.

Vacant Housing Units

There are many reasons for a high rate of vacant housing units, some of which are not a problem and many of which are needed to sustain the housing market. However, vacant housing units have economic and social costs such as undermining the quality of life in neighborhoods, diminishing the value of nearby properties, and providing a place for criminal activity to take place. Vacant properties also signal other problems, such as concentrated poverty and economic decline. When vacancy rates approach 20% or more, "hyper-vacancy", they indicate that market

⁸⁰ Claire Cole and Adam Winsler. *Protecting Children from Exposure to Lead: Old Problem, New Data, and New Policy Needs*, Society for Research in Child Development, 2010; "New Fears about Children's Exposure to Lead" in *Preschool Matters*, NIEER, May/June 2010; and "Unsafe levels of lead still found in California youths," *LA Times*, 2/19/12. California's Progress in Preventing and Managing Childhood Lead Exposure (2022).
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/DEOD/CLPPB/CDPH%20Document%20Library/CLPPBReport2022.pdf>

conditions have deteriorated. The vacancy rate in Fresno County is 2.1% which is slightly higher than California's rate of 1.2%⁷⁹. The vacancy rate also influences the cost of housing.

Housing Costs

The median rental cost for housing in Fresno County is \$1,631 per month for homeowners with a mortgage and \$484 per month for renters. The highest housing costs are in the City of Fresno, followed by Clovis which are the most populated places in the county.

Median Housing Costs ⁸¹		
Location	Median Monthly Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	Median Monthly Rental Costs
Fresno County	\$1,631	\$484
Biola	\$1,111	\$503
Clovis	\$1,956	\$566
Fresno	\$2,418	\$474
Huron	\$974	\$379
Kingsburg	\$1,676	\$532
Mendota	\$1,234	\$380
Orange Cove	\$1,055	\$417
Reedley	\$1,349	\$461
Riverdale	\$1,161	\$338

Table 65. Median Rental Costs

Housing Cost Burden

Nearly 50% of residents in Fresno County and 52% of residents in the City of Fresno are renters, placing them at a greater risk of having a housing cost burden⁸². Housing typically comprises the largest share of monthly household expenses. A housing burden creates financial insecurity. Individuals and families experiencing a housing burden often have trouble meeting basic consumption needs, may need to rely on public assistance, and have limited savings/emergency funds. Financial resources which would otherwise be used for food, clothing, medical costs etc. must be allocated to housing costs. The housing burden can be examined in two ways; first by the percent of owners that are spending more than 30% of their income on housing and by the percent of renters that are spending more than 30% of their income on housing. A severe housing burden exists when more than 50% of income is spent on housing. Within the service area, in Orange Cove, the greatest share of the population has a housing cost burden, followed by Riverdale. Fresno is also home to a large population of families and individuals with a housing cost burden.

⁸¹ United States Census Bureau. *Selected Housing Characteristics*, Table DP04. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

⁸² Evicted in Fresno-Facts for Housing Advocates (2019).

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O__CstpJHwLDmioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view

Housing Cost Burden ⁸³		
Location	Percent with a Housing Cost Burden (30% income spent on housing)	Percent with a Severe Housing Cost Burden (50% of income spent on housing)
Fresno County	38%	18%
Biola	43%	33%
Clovis	31%	14%
Fresno	42%	20%
Huron	43%	24%
Kingsburg	27%	13%
Mendota	44%	19%
Orange Cove	58%	28%
Reedley	40%	20%
Riverdale	46%	23%

Table 66. Housing Cost Burden

Table 67. Residents with a Housing Cost Burden

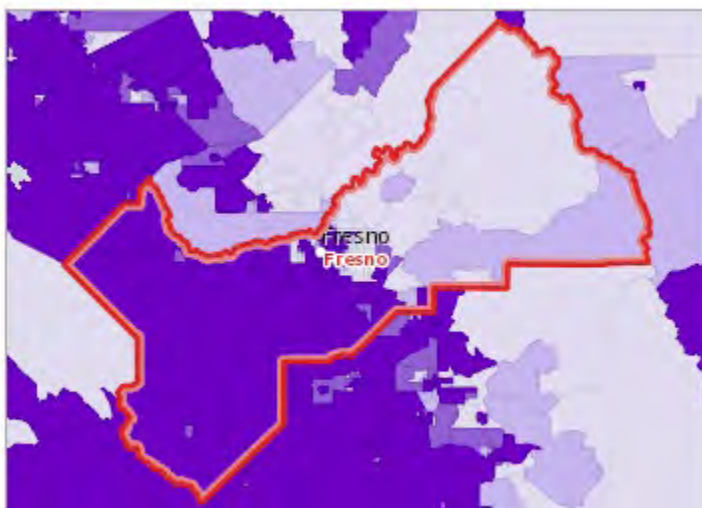
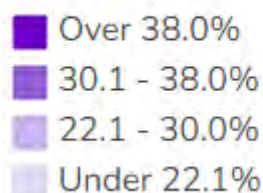


Figure 49. Distribution of Renter Occupied Housing Units

Renter-Occupied Housing Units, Percent by Tract, ACS 2016-20



⁸³ United States Census Bureau. *Selected Housing Characteristics*, Table DP04. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Affordable Housing Units

Housing, and lack there-of, can make communities more segregated by race and class, encourage sprawl, and generate clogged highways and packed busses. Lack of housing also impacts the economy as employers experience difficulty recruiting new employees. Elevated housing costs result in a generational-wealth transfer in which younger people must pay huge sums of money to the older generation for homes their elders bought at a much lower cost. Based on the rate of families that experience a cost burden, data indicates that the supply of affordable housing does not match the need for affordable housing in the county.

Affordable housing resources are offered by the Fresno Housing Authority, which develops maintains, and operates public housing, including the Section 8 rental assistance program. Affordable housing costs are expressed as the percentage of affordable units in which housing costs do not exceed 30% of the total household median income for a particular area. According to the data, just 49% of the housing available is affordable for those earning less than the median income. Fresno fares better than the state in regard to affordable housing but due to the high poverty rates, many families earn less than the median income and are priced out of housing, specifically single-female householders who earn less than 30% of the median income in all service area communities.

Affordable Housing Units ⁷⁹		
Location	Percent of Houses that are Affordable for those earning 30% of Annual Median Income (AMI) or Lower	Percent of Houses that are Affordable for those earning 100% of AMI
Fresno	6%	50%
California	7%	44%
United States	11%	61%

Table 68. Affordable Housing Units

Assisted Housing

There are 17,499 HUD assisted housing units in the county, a rate of 564.31 per 10,000 residents. Data indicates there are over 40,000 people on a waiting list for low-income housing showing that demand far outstrips the supply of housing. This indicates that many Head Start families are waitlisted for housing vouchers. Housing resources in the area include Self Help Enterprises and the Cesar Chavez Foundation which lead initiatives related to the development of affordable housing⁸⁴.

Evictions

Fresno has a higher eviction filing rate than the nation. The most evictions occur in south Fresno and eviction rates are nearly three times as high in neighborhoods with the lowest median incomes. Eviction rates also vary by race and ethnicity. As shown in the maps that follow, the eviction rate is highest in the parts of Fresno where the percent of the population comprised of

⁸⁴ Fresno Housing Authority (FHA) Quality Assurance Administrator, interview, 5/20

whites is lowest. The rate of eviction in non-majority white neighborhoods is 2.22 compared to a rate of eviction in majority white neighborhoods of 1.58⁸⁵.

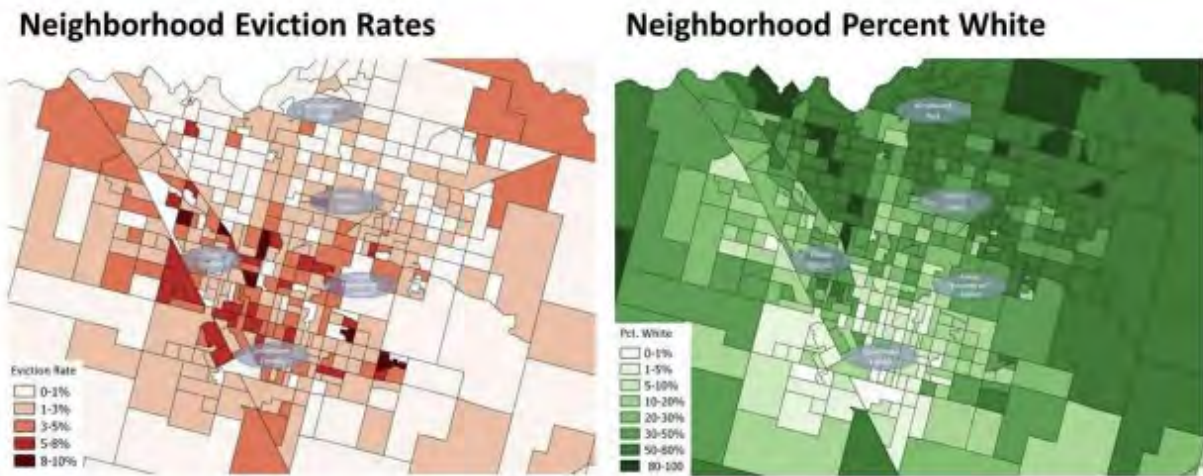


Figure 50. Neighborhood Eviction Rates

Two months after the state moratorium on evictions ended in June, 2022, the Fresno City Council ended the eviction moratorium that was imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There are still several programs that can assist families such as emergency rental assistance that can pay for back rent accrued during the pandemic. The eviction rate for Fresno is 2.74% and there were 2,326 evictions in 2016⁸⁶ (most recent data available).



Thoughts on housing issues from key stakeholders:

Those who receive vouchers report that it is very hard to find landlords who will accept them, as most landlords prefer tenants who can pay more; local FHA Housing Choice Voucher Program staff report that the housing market in Fresno is “very tight.” Many EHS/Head Start families are waitlisted for vouchers⁸⁷.

Homeless Students

Within Fresno County, there were 2,294 students that were considered to be homeless⁸⁸.

⁸⁵ Evicted in Fresno-Facts for Housing Advocates.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O__CstpJHwLDmioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view

⁸⁶ <https://evictionlab.org/rankings/#/evictions?r=United%20States&a=0&d=evictionRate&l=105>

⁸⁷ FHA Housing Choice Voucher staff, interview, 7/20

⁸⁸ US Department of Education, EDFacts. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2019-2020. Source geography: School District

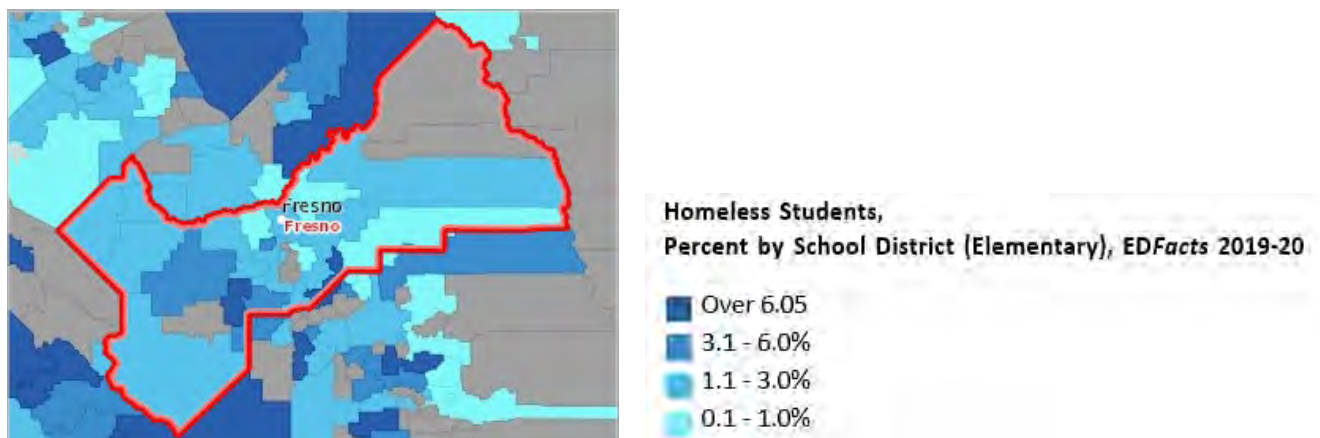


Figure 51. Homeless students by School District

Homeless Students in Public Schools by Community ⁸⁸	
Location	Number of Homeless Students
Fresno County	2,294
Biola	1
Clovis	66
Fresno	763
Huron	29
Kingsburg	263
Mendota	90
Orange Cove	7
Reedley	17
Riverdale	32

Table 69. Homeless Students by School District

Homeless Count (PIT)

The U.S. Department for Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines homelessness according to two different classifications:

- 1) an individual resides in a place not meant for human habitation, such as a car, park, sidewalk, abandoned building, or on the street; or
- 2) an individual who resides in an emergency shelter or transitional housing for homeless persons who originally came from the streets or emergency shelters.

According to the 2022 PIT count, there were 4,216 people experiencing homelessness in Fresno County, an increase from 3,600 identified in the 2020 PIT count. The growth in the number of homeless individuals represents a 16% increase in the total number of homeless people⁸⁹. The data also indicated that while there were more homeless individuals, 45% were in either emergency shelters or transitional housing. Of the people experiencing homelessness, 80% resided in the city of Fresno. The following is a breakdown of the unsheltered population⁹⁰:

⁸⁹ <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/Home/Components/News/News/1007/1557>

⁹⁰ <https://fresnoland.org/2022/07/15/homelessness-increased-15-in-fresno-madera-counties-during-pandemic-heres-what-new-report-shows%E2%82%AC%82%80/>

- 25% of the unsheltered population was chronically homeless;
- Around 11% were children accompanied by an adult;
- Around 79% of people were single adults;
- Around 5% were veterans;
- About 15% were survivors of domestic violence;
- About 50% of those experiencing street homelessness were Hispanic;
- Roughly 60% of the unsheltered individuals who were counted were men; about 39% were women, and around 1% were transgender or gender nonconforming;
- Approximately 19% reported they have a serious mental illness.



Housing and Homelessness Key Findings

There is no one single issue that is a root cause of homelessness, but simple economic factors are the most frequent issues that contribute to homelessness. These problems include lack of affordable housing, poverty, lack of employment, and low wages, all factors that impact individuals and families in Fresno County. Far too many people are living so close to the edge of economic disaster that one financial setback, such as job loss, car troubles, illness, divorce, abandonment, or any unexpected expense can lead to the loss of their home. The COVID-19 pandemic instituted many housing protections that are now falling away. This includes an expiration of the moratorium on evictions. Because of the high rate of families and individuals with a housing cost burden in the county, there is increasing vulnerability of homelessness and housing insecurity.

Housing issues such as rising home prices, rental costs and lack of affordable housing are increasingly problematic for low-income families in the service area. According to the 2022 Point-in-Time Housing Count, there were over 4,000 homeless persons, around 11% were children accompanied by adults. The rate of homelessness has risen 16% since 2019.

Housing is also unaffordable for a significant percent of the population in all communities in the service area. In Fresno County, nearly 50% of the population spends more than 30% of their income on housing costs. In total, just 6% of rentals are affordable for families and individuals earning less than 30% of the median income and about half of all units are affordable for those earning the median income for Fresno County. Repeatedly in community assessment data, families and community agency survey respondents note the cost of housing and utilities as a concern.

Early Care and Education

During the early years of children's development, rapid brain growth occurs and important bonds with caregivers are formed. Supporting children's learning and health during this time influences the degree to which they will be prepared for kindergarten and a lifetime of success. Some research indicates that a month of early childhood learning is equal to an entire year of adult learning. Additionally, children who fall behind in this stage of development often fail to catch up as they move through elementary school making high quality early childhood education all the more important. To mediate these discrepancies, early care and education needs to be of the highest quality possible. Because of the amount of time children spend in out-of-home arrangements, the quality of the setting can either significantly harm or support their development and health. Unfortunately, obtaining adequate early education and support can be an insurmountable barrier for parents and children due to several factors related to the cost, quality, and availability of care.

The Fresno County early care and education system was re-designed in 2021 due to the changes in Head Start and a decline in childcare and other early childhood program slots due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which have not yet been restored. There have been an increase in the number of children served in full-day classrooms where state preschool and Head Start funds are blended together. These slots support higher quality services and a longer duration of care. Additional children are served in state funded preschool as part of the Transitional Universal Preschool program recently approved by the State of California. Additionally, there are more opportunities for infants and toddlers to receive center – based care than in prior years due to the conversion of some Head Start slots to Early Head Start slots in 2020 and 2021. What follows is an overview of the early care and education landscape and an analysis of the need for additional early care and education programs in Fresno County.

Capacity of Early Care and Education Programs

Fresno County has several publicly subsidized preschool programs for three and four-year olds as well as services for infants and toddlers. These include: The California State Preschool Program (CSPP) where children receive full or part-day services. Transitional Universal Kindergarten (TK) which is expanding access to preschool for three-year olds; Head Start, licensed childcare centers/family childcare homes, subsidized General Child Care programs and the Migrant Child Care and Development Program. In most cases, the state directly contracts with providers to serve children under five years. For infants and toddlers, the programs include: Early Head Start, Migrant Early Head Start, and an Early Head Start Childcare Partnership program. Infants and toddlers are also served in licensed childcare centers and family childcare homes, and through the infant and toddler Cal-SAFE program serving teens. In total, there are 23,830 publicly subsidized slots. There are also other informal programs that serve children and some services for children with disabilities but we are not including them in this section of the community assessment because they do not impact Head Start enrollment.

Fresno County Early Care and Education Landscape^{93 13}	
Program Types⁹¹	Number of Slots
Infant	2,550
Preschool	15,495
School Age	5,432
Total Slots	23,830

Table 70. Fresno County Early Care and Education Landscape

Preschool Program Slots

There are 33,193 preschool-aged children in Fresno County. It is estimated the public early education can reach at least 23,830 children. Of these slots, 15,495 are designated for preschool-aged children. Based on the number of preschool program slots and the number of children aged 3 and 4 years in poverty, the system can serve all children with a low-income. For example, there are 11,053 children eligible for Head Start and 15,495 slots available (160 are Head Start/State Prek funded slots). The TK initiative aims to serve 85% of all children aged 3 & 4 years by 2026. To achieve this goal Fresno County needs 23,995 preschool slots which is 8,500 more slots than currently available. The Head Start program is funded to serve 2,750 preschoolers. Of these children, 160 receive state preschool/Head Start program funding. Thus, Head Start has the capacity to serve 24% of all children eligible for Head Start in the county.

Preschool Program Slots 2020	
Type of Program	Slots Available
Head Start	2,750
California State Preschool and other Alternative Payment Programs	10,954
Transitional Preschool	2,144
Total Slots Available	15,495

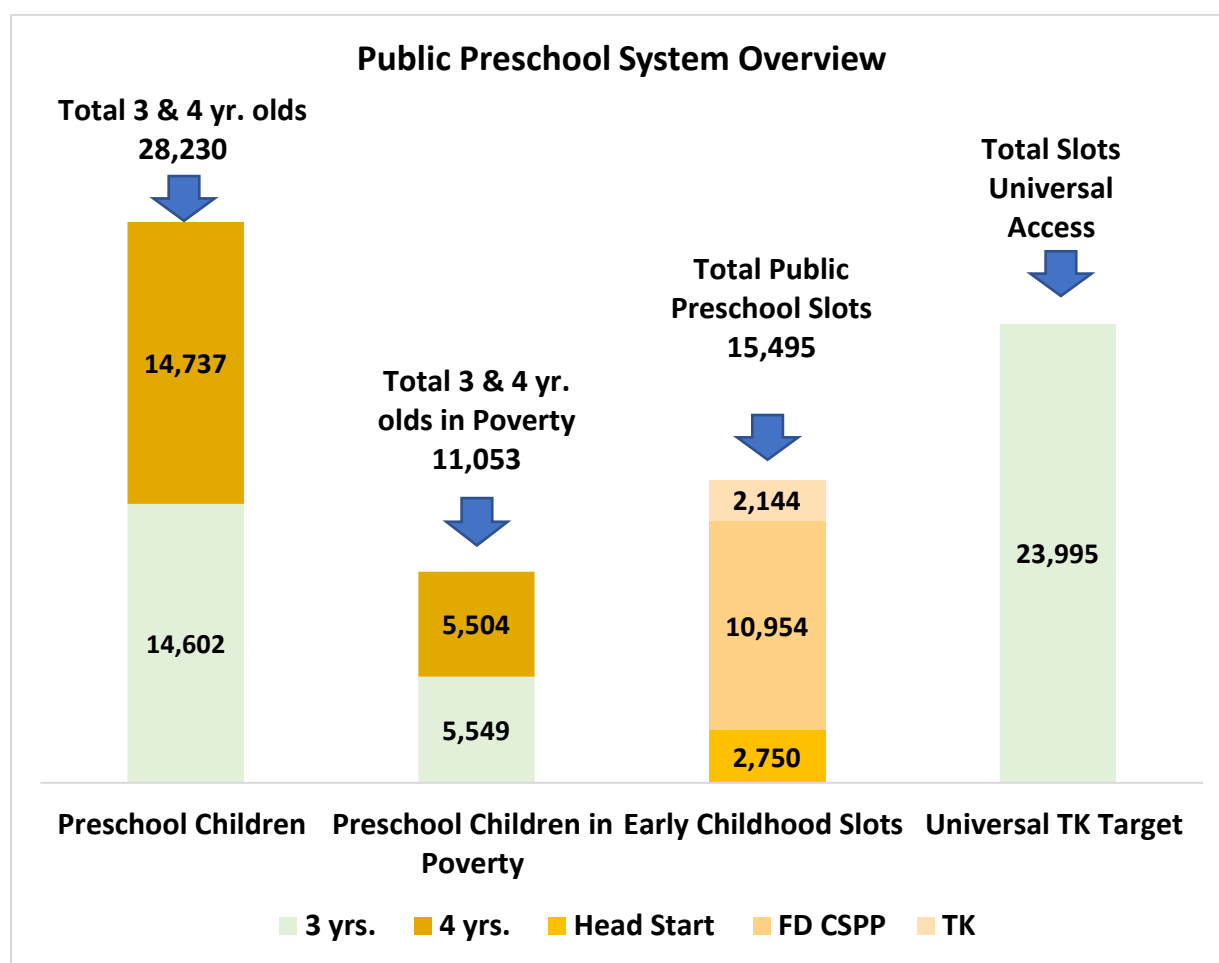
Table 71. Fresno County Preschool Program Slots

The data below analyzes school enrollment using data from the U.S. Census. Please note, the data may be underestimating the total number of slots due to a lag in collection and the rapid expansion and conversion of early childhood program slots that has been occurring. However, this information is still helpful in determining areas that are over/underserved.

⁹¹ **Subsidized slots include; TK, CSPP, CalWORKs Stage 2, CalWORKs Stage 3, General Child Care (CCTR), Family Child Care Home Education Network (CFCC), Migrant Child Care (CMIG), Alternative Payment Programs (CAPP), Head Start, Early Head Start, and CDE-administered programs in License Family Child Care Homes/Center-Based/License-Exempt.

Public Preschool Reach by Community						
Area	# Served in Preschool	# in Public Slots	# of Children 3-4 Yrs.	Capacity to Serve 3-4 yrs.	# HS Eligibles	% HS Eligibles Can be Served by Community
Biola	0	0	15	0	9	0%
Clovis	1,603	963	4,039	39%	545	100%
Huron	109	109	200	54%	140	77%
Kingsburg	112	26	325	34%	0	100%
Mendota	187	187	572	32%	255	73%
Orange Cove	321	295	476	67%	260	100%
Reedley	475	442	964	49%	283	100%
Riverdale	50	50	149	33%	47	95%
Fresno City	8,399	6,885	17,951	46%	6,534	94% ⁹²

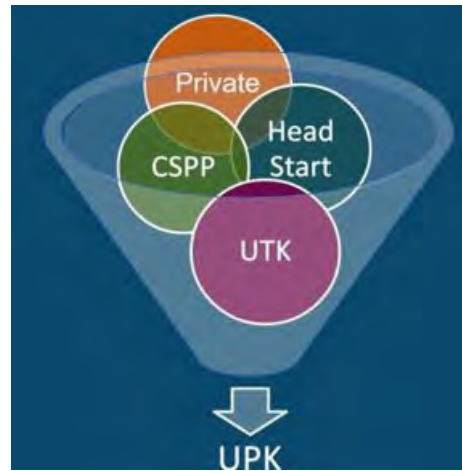
Table 72. Public Preschool Reach by Community

⁹² United States Census Bureau. *School Enrollment*, Table S1401. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Transitional Universal Preschool (TK)

According to the California School Board Association, enrollment in Transitional Universal Preschool (TK) totaled 19% of all kindergarten students in Fresno in 2021. Fresno County programs served 2,144 children in TK, which is slightly below 19% of all kindergarten children in 2021. At full implementation of the TK program in 2025-2026, it is anticipated that 85% of all eligible children aged 3 & 4 years will be served in state-funded preschool programs. There are several concerns that may warrant a change in scope for the Head Start program. This includes:

- There is a need to further create and coordinate TK plans with local school districts. This includes timelines for expansion, facilities, and staffing. Fresno EOC is well suited to expand their blended model with state preschool programs to support the expansion.
- Based on the formula funding and the anticipated number of TK slots, there will be a need for additional preschool teachers. How will the county produce newly credentialed TK teachers in the midst of a current staffing crisis?
- Do the school districts have the infrastructure necessary to expand TK. How can Fresno EOC help leverage the current childcare and Head Start systems to assist in the endeavor?
- How will TK impact current Head Start enrollment? Where are opportunities to collaborate?
- Many TK programs will run for ½ day which will not meet the needs of working families. Currently, just 29% of state preschool slots are full-day. However, there are full-day publicly subsidized slots in general childcare centers and other programs.
- How do you change the narrative so families are better able to recognize the value of the comprehensive services model?
- Could a referral system be put into place where the most at-risk families, based on the number of adverse early childhood experience are automatically referred to Head Start?



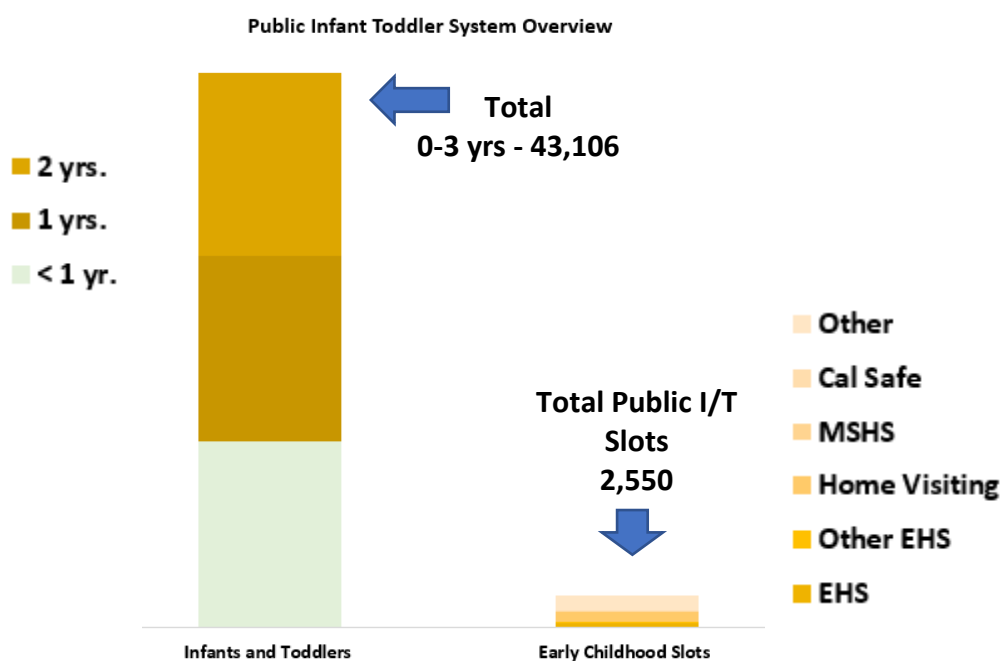
The enrollment challenges that arise with the expansion of TK are rooted in family choices. For example, families may prefer to enroll their child in TK or state preschool rather than Head Start due to the convenience of having all the children in the family attend school at one site. Also, there is an assumption that starting public school “early” will lead to increased success. There is also a trend in which families enroll their children in Head Start and then disenroll in Head Start when a state preschool program slot becomes available. The TK slots are not comprehensive which will undermine the success of the most at-risk families should they opt out of Head Start.

Infant and Toddler Early Childhood Programs

Fresno County is home to 43,106 infants and toddlers, of which 14,354 live in a family with an income below the federal poverty threshold. The infant and toddler early care and education landscape is strikingly different than the preschool landscape due to several factors that include: lack of investment in birth-to-three programs at the state and federal levels, an increased number of infants and toddlers when compared to preschool-aged children, and a limited number of infant and toddler care slots in center-based programs due to the high cost of caring for infants and toddlers. Additionally, more infants and toddlers are served in home visiting programs. Based on the number of infants and toddlers eligible for Early Head Start, the current funding for public infant and toddler services in the area can serve 17% of all infants and toddlers with a low-income and 5% of all infants and toddlers in the population. Early Head Start serves 2% of all program eligible infants and toddlers in Fresno County.

Publicly Funded Infant/Toddler Program Slots ⁹¹	
Type of Program	Slots Available
Early Head Start	308
Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (Tribal/Non Tribal)	137
Home Visiting Programs	780
Migrant Early Head Start	30
Cal-SAFE Teen Parent Programs	33
Other alternative payment programs for infants/toddlers	1,262
Total	2,550

Table 73. Infant and Toddler Program Slots



Licensed Childcare Slots

The availability of licensed childcare slots in family childcare homes and centers varies by community. Within the county, there are 302 licensed childcare centers and 576 family child care homes. The majority of childcare slots are available in the population centers such as Fresno or Clovis, while the rural areas are underserved or served only by family childcare homes. Of these slots, it is estimated that there are 1,185 licensed childcare spaces available for infants and toddlers and 10,706 licensed childcare spaces available for preschool-aged children⁹³.

Supply of Licensed Childcare Slots ⁹³	
Licensed Childcare Slots Preschool	10,706
School-Age	5,432
Licensed Childcare Slots Infant/Toddler	1,185
Licensed Family Childcare Homes	5,264
Total Centers	17,323
Total	22,587

Table 74. Supply of Licensed Child Care

There are several childcare deserts identified in Fresno County. The following map shows two trends. There is a lack of care in the more rural areas and a lack of affordable childcare slots in the more urban centers⁹⁴.

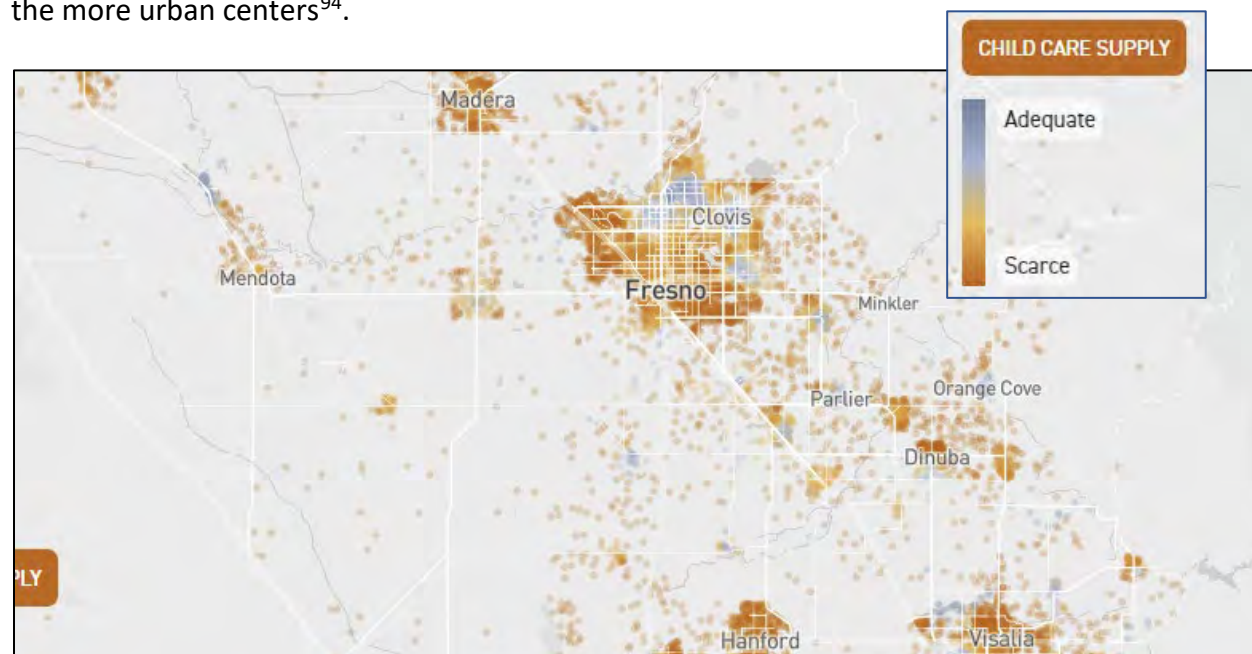


Figure 52. Childcare Deserts in Fresno County

⁹³ Child Care Resource and Referral Network. Child Care Data Tool. 2021. <https://rrnetwork.org/research/child-care-data-tool/#!0>

⁹⁴ <https://childcaredeserts.org/>

The COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts on Childcare Programs

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted childcare programs as many programs were forced to close due to social distancing restrictions. Vaccine and mask mandates, as well as concerns for their personal safety also contributed to a workforce crisis. These two trends have continued to impact the early care and education landscape. As of January, 2021 Fresno County was continuing to lose childcare slots. As shown in the following charts, there was a 31% drop in the total number of childcare centers licensed between January 2020 and January 2021. Additionally, there was a 6% drop in the number of family childcare programs⁹⁵.

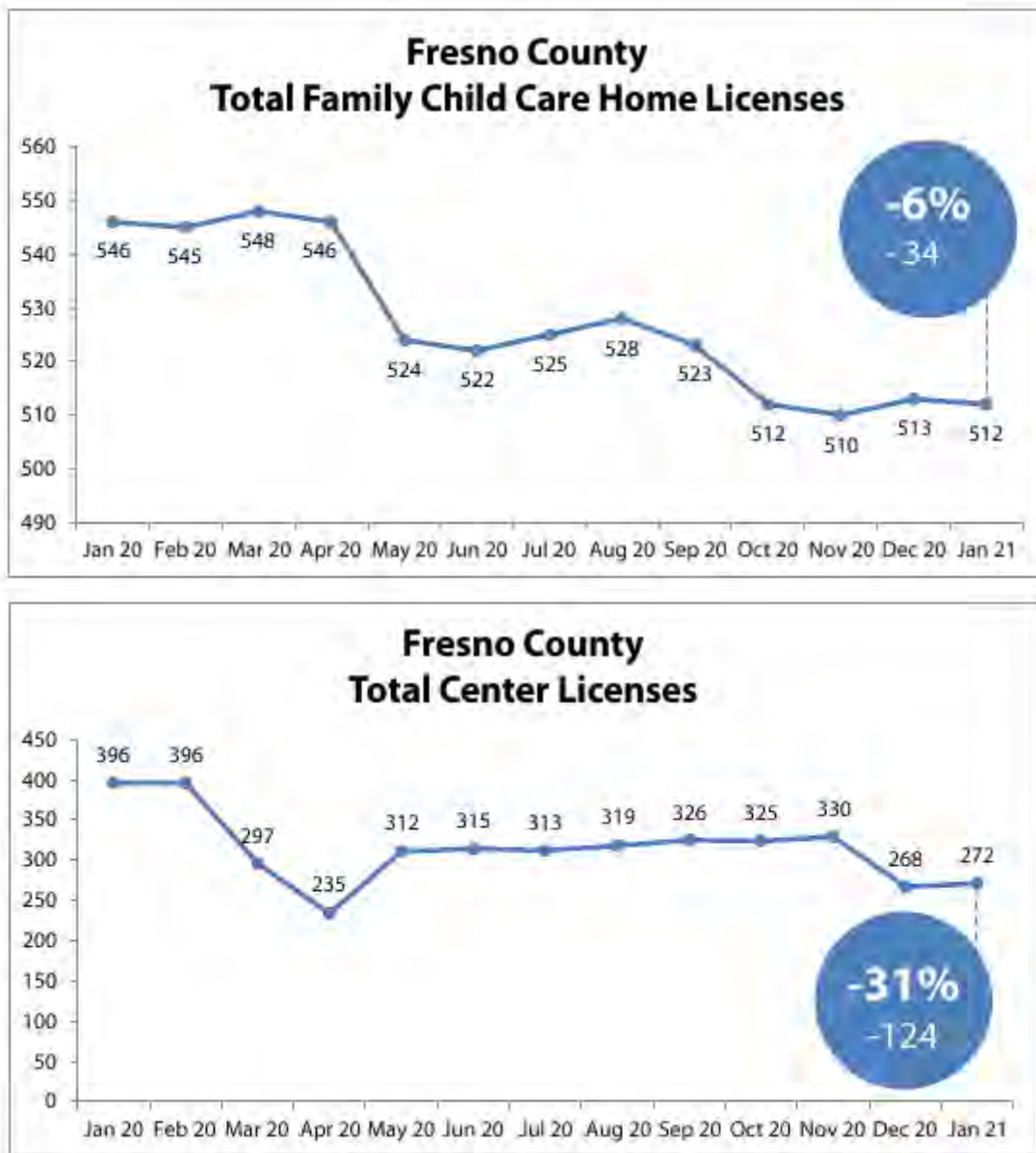


Figure 53. Changes in Childcare Supply

⁹⁵ California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. COVID-19 Supply Graphs. <https://rrnetwork.org/research/covid-19-child-care-supply-graphs>

Demand for Care

In total, the service area needs 26,934 childcare slots to serve the estimated number of children with all parents working. This data indicates there is a slot gap of 4,347 early care and education slots. According to information from KidsData, the system can only serve 18.2% of all children who need full-day/full-year childcare. It should be noted the number the system can serve is skewed lower because the base data for KidsData.org uses the need for care for all children under 12 years, while the data in this assessment utilizes data for children birth-to-five.

Work Characteristics of Families and Birth-to-Five Slot Needs by Community²⁰					
Area	% Families with all Caregivers Working²¹	Total Children 0-3 Years	Total Children 3 & 4 Years	Infant Toddler Slot Need	Preschool Slot Need
Biola	60.3%	89	15	54	9
Clovis	28.5%	4,030	4,039	1149	1151
Huron	53.5%	405	200	217	107
Kingsburg	54.9%	442	325	243	178
Mendota	35.5%	718	572	255	203
Orange Cove	68.8%	364	476	250	327
Reedley	60.1%	1,659	964	997	579
Riverdale	60.3%	117	149	71	90
Fresno City	69.9%	24,695	17,951	17,262	12,548
Fresno County	35.3%	43,106	33,193	15,216	11,717

Table 75. Work Characteristics of Families

Childcare request data indicates that in 2019 (most recent data available), 13% of childcare requests were for evening, weekend or overnight care with only 1% of centers and 41% of family childcare homes offering that type of care⁹⁶. Additionally, of all requests for care, 30% of requests were for infants and toddlers and 43% of requests were for preschoolers. The major reasons that families seek childcare include employment (71%); participation in school or training (15%), and because they are seeking employment (13%)⁹⁷.

Affordable Childcare

According to KidsData.org, the annual cost of care for children in need of childcare represents a significant portion of family income. For a married-couple with an infant and a preschooler in center-based care earning the median income for Fresno County (\$81,592), childcare would consume 27% of the family budget. For a single-mother with a preschooler earning the median income for single-mothers in Fresno County (\$34,592), childcare would consume 26% of the

⁹⁶ KidsData.Org. <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/1850/child-care-requests-offhours/table#fmt=2359&loc=2,127,347,1763,331,348,336,171,321,345,357,332,324,369,358,362,360,337,327,364,356,217,353,328,354,323,352,320,339,334,365,343,330,367,344,355,366,368,265,349,361,4,273,59,370,326,333,322,341,338,350,342,329,325,359,351,363,340,335&tf=124>

⁹⁷ Child Care Resource and Referral Network. 2019 Child Care Portfolio.

family budget. The National Center for Children in Poverty estimates that of families that work full-time in California, 51% have a low-income⁹⁸. This indicates that there is a need for subsidies for 8,368 infants and toddlers and 6,444 preschool-aged children, totaling 14,813 children.

Annual Cost of Child Care by Age Group and Facility Type		
Type of Facility	Amount	
	Infant	Preschooler
Child Care Center	\$13,206	\$9,290
Family Child Care Home	\$8,930	\$8,334

Table 76. Annual Cost of Care by Age Group and Facility Type



Thoughts from key stakeholders on affordable childcare:

Local child care resource and referral center staff report the need for childcare subsidies for low-income working parents who are not receiving assistance exceeds availability, and there are waiting lists for subsidized care throughout the county.

Head Start Family Work and Training Schedules

Among families attending Fresno Head Start programs, 73% of parents are employed or in job training or they are attending school. This data indicates that more than 1,982 families in the program are in need of childcare services. Of these families, 326 are in Early Head Start and 1,656 are Head Start families.

Childcare Subsidies

Childcare subsidies are utilized by many families to offset the costs of childcare. There are two ways that childcare providers can be paid with a subsidy; by accepting vouchers from families or by contracting directly with the state. In Fresno County, there are 41 programs that offer childcare subsidies or that offer subsidized childcare programs. Supportive Services, Inc. administers the alternative payment program which pays for all or part of the cost for childcare for eligible children aged birth-to-12 years. In FY 2022-2023, Central Valley Children's Service Network will receive \$1,587,158 to administer childcare subsidies for Fresno County. It is estimated about 18,398 children receive a childcare subsidy or attend a subsidized childcare program⁹⁹. However it should be noted that this includes part-day programs and programs that are closed during the summer months that do not adequately meet families childcare needs. When these slots are extracted, the total number of slots available is estimated to be 8,749 which is much lower than the number of children that can benefit from a childcare subsidy. The estimated slot gap is 6,064 slots.

⁹⁸ National Center for Children in Poverty (2022). <https://www.nccp.org/data-table/?state=CA&cat=employment&denom=inc&data=per&unit=Children&age=18&inc=Low-Income&submit=Create%20table>

⁹⁹ California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. 2019 Child Care Portfolio. <https://abc30.com/fresno-county-child-care-funding-california/3359547/>

Childcare Quality

The Fresno County Early Stars rating system is the county's quality rating improvement system (QRIS) for licensed childcare and education providers offering care to children aged birth-to-five. In 2021, the total number of children served in programs participating in Quality Stars was 8,577, up from 8,195 in 2020. Of the children served, 7,665 were preschoolers, 586 were toddlers, 234 were infants, and 120 were under 1 year. The types of programs that participated included 154 center-based providers, and 40 licensed family child care homes. Of all programs participating 2% are rated at a Tier 3, 57% are rated at Tier 4, 32 are rated at Tier 5, and 24% were not rated as of the report date¹⁰⁰.



Thoughts from key stakeholders on childcare needs:

Other childcare needs identified by key stakeholders included: uneven quality of licensed care (especially infant care both in centers and licensed family child care homes); a need to improve the quality of exempt care which is used often in the state subsidized system; caregiver turnover, difficulty finding staff who meet state/federal program regulations, the need for providers trained and experienced in working with children that have special needs, and the need for more training/education opportunities for families with limited English proficiency interested in child development careers.¹⁰¹



Early Care and Education Key Findings

Access to early care and education programs in Fresno County is more limited for families with a low-income and for families with infants and toddlers. The total capacity of the system including public and private programs is estimated to reach 92% of all children aged 3-5 years (15,495 state and federal preschool slots/14,918 childcare slots) and 11% of children aged 0-3 years (2,550 publicly funded slots and 4,787 childcare slots). In total, it is estimated early care and education programs offer 40,985 slots to serve over 76,000 children aged birth-to-five.

When at least 85% of all children are served, it is typically assumed that an early childhood system has reached universal access. It is estimated that there are sufficient publicly funded preschool slots to serve all preschool children in poverty and 52% of all three and four-year olds. To achieve universal access, the county needs a total of 23,995 public preschool slots, which is already accommodated by the current early childhood system, when childcare programs are included. The data from this assessment estimates that the city would need at least 8,500 slots to reach 85% of children aged 3-5 years through only state preschool or Head Start programs.

The push for universal access should also be viewed in the context of trends that include: a decreasing number of center-based child care programs that serve children from 8-12 hours daily, lack of a qualified workforce, lack of high-quality programs, and disparate access to high-quality programs for Hispanic children due to the cost of care, which comprise the largest racial-

¹⁰⁰ https://qualitycountscs.net/ca_county/fresno/?audience=quality-partners

¹⁰¹ Supportive Services, Inc. Education Coordinator, interview, 4/20; and CSN Interim Director, interview, 6/19

ethnic group in Fresno County and many of its communities. While universal access programs do result in benefits for many children, there are unintended consequences that could result from such large evolution of the early care and education system such as loss of access to comprehensive services as families transition into programs that are less intensive than Head Start, uneven per-child funding between federal, state, and community-based early care and education programs, and diminished quality as the most highly skilled teachers leave Head Start and community-based programs for jobs in school-based preschool programs that offer a higher salary. The closures from COVID-19 and capacity limitations will also squeeze revenue from child care providers and result in additional quality issues.

In Fresno County, 35.3% of the families with children under six have all parents in the workforce, a rate lower than the nation and State of California. This trend is influenced by low rates of educational attainment among families and a longer recovery period from the pandemic. However, in the Head Start program 73% of parents are either employed or in job training programs. According to the data, 1,656 Head Start children needed access to childcare because all parents were working and 326 children need childcare because their parents are in career training. The scheduling needs of Head Start families are varied, as many attend school or work rotating or alternative in the evenings and on weekends. When cross-referenced with employment data, female single householder families report an employment rate of 47% which warrants a robust and affordable early care and education system that operates for the full duration of the program-year as children living in homes headed by single-mothers are often more at-risk of remaining in poverty and the associated consequences than their counterparts living in families headed by two-working parents. It is estimated that there are 18,398 children receiving a child care subsidy that are living in a family in or near poverty, making them age and income-eligible for Head Start, but attending other early care and education programs. It is also estimated that many Head Start eligible children are attending state preschool programs (this does not account for the 160 children co-enrolled in Head Start and the state preschool program).

Head Start programs can undertake several activities to determine the need to adjust services to match emerging community needs and to leverage the resources of the program, in the context of expanding universal access to preschool. Helpful strategies may include:

- The program can gather data about how families make decisions about the types of early care and education programs they utilize. For example, first identify the factors that families consider when they decide the type of program (Head Start, community-based prek, state prek) that they will utilize and, second, what process do they go through to make their early care and education and child care decisions, i.e. what are the most important factors in selecting an early care and education provider?
- Promote Fresno EOC's participation in the Quality Rating Improvement System and childcare subsidy programs which will open up opportunities for Head Start to expand services to include full-day, full-year childcare and to participate in developing universal early care and education systems that require high quality ratings.
- Advocate for state preschool systems to include a goal to increase workforce participation and mandates to contract out a certain percentage of slots into community-based locations. For example, NY-UPK requires that 10% of slots are allocated to providers other

than a local school system. Also, explore workforce participation for families and non-punitive programs that alleviate the costs of childcare for families by creating models for blending state preschool funds, Head Start, and childcare subsidies. Lastly, Fresno EOCO can mobilize parents to encourage local governance bodies and funders to allocate additional funds to support the massive quality lift that is needed to truly address the disparities in early learning for children in poverty.

- Continue to expand access to programs serving infants and toddlers in poverty to alleviate the infant/toddler early care and education slot gap and childcare cost, quality and affordability crisis.

Transportation and Communication

The ability to travel offers the means to reach essential opportunities such as jobs, education, shops, and friends, which impact the quality of life. Providing transportation services or reducing financial (and other) barriers to travel is one solution for addressing poverty, through for example widening the range of opportunities for employment and education that can be reached.

Fresno County has a robust transportation network. In 2020, the Fresno Area Express began providing free rides, however bus fares were reinstated in September 2021, which poses as a barrier to many low-income families seeking transportation. Fresno's transportation department offers 18- fixed route bus lines and Handy Ride Parent Transport services. Fresno EOC also offers limited transportation for families to and from centers in rural locations or in locations where the program can partner with state preschool or childcare programs.

Commuter Travel Patterns

In Fresno County, the rate at which individuals drive to work is higher than the national rate of 74.9% and the rate at which residents utilize public transportation is much lower than the national rate of 5%. Residents in the service area also walk or bike to work at lower rates than the nation's rate of 3% of all workers. This trend is likely due to the rural nature of the county.

Commuter Travel Patterns ¹⁰²							
Report Area	Worker 16 and Up	Percent Drive Alone	Percent Carpool	Percent Public Transport	Percent Bicycle or Walk	Percent Taxi or Other	Percent Work at Home
Fresno County	397,002	78.3%	11.9%	0.9%	2.0%	1.2%	5.6%
California	18M	72.1%	10.0%	4.6%	3.4%	1.6%	8.4%
United States	153M	74.9%	8.9%	4.6%	3.1%	1.3%	7.3%

Table 77. Commuter Travel Patterns

¹⁰² United States Census Bureau. *Employment Characteristics, 2016-2020 Table B08141*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

Travel Time to Work

Workers in the service area have an average commute to work of 23 minutes. Car ownership is lower in the service area as 8% of households do not have a motor vehicle compared to the nation's rate of households without a vehicle available which is 4%¹⁰³.

Travel Time to Work ¹⁰²						
Report Area	Workers that Commute Age 16 and Up	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) Less than 10	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) 10 to 30	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) 30 to 60	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) More than 60	Average Commute Time (minutes)
Fresno County	374,636	13%	60%	22%	5%	23.33
California	16,710,195	9%	47%	31%	13%	29.82
Unites States	142,512,559	12%	49%	29%	9%	26.93

Table 78. Travel Time to Work

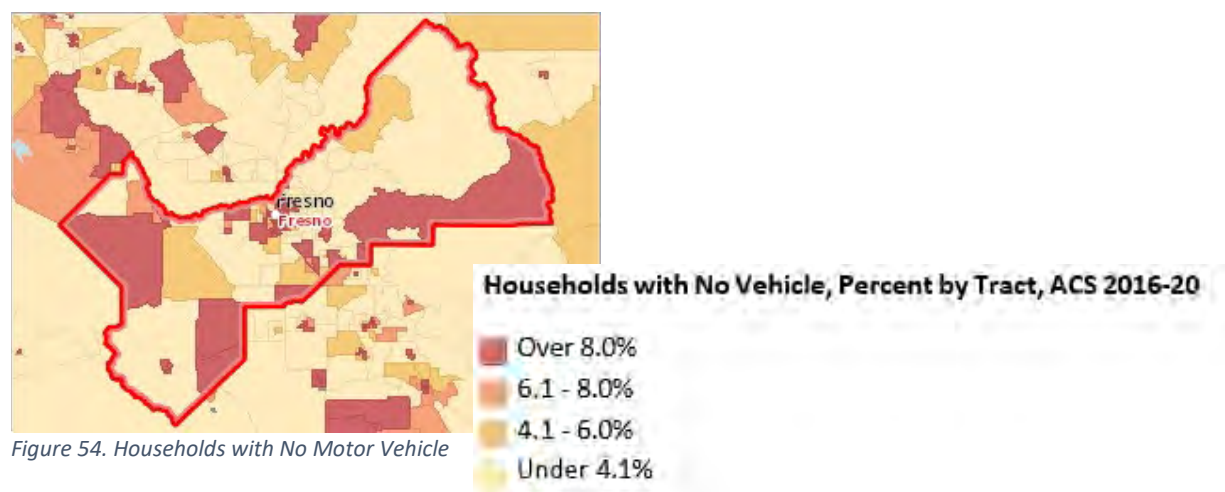


Figure 54. Households with No Motor Vehicle

Digital Connectivity and Internet Access

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for increased digital connectivity. Common barriers experienced by low-income individuals and families that increase the need to focus on digital connectivity include: lack of a reliable internet connection, lack of sufficient devices for connecting to the internet within homes, lack of appropriate devices such as a tablet when students need to work on their coursework, and the cost of broadband internet. Within Fresno

¹⁰³ Community Action Partnership. *Transportation*. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

County, there has been an expansion of access to digital connectivity due to the focus on linking families to services that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic. Resources for families to utilize internet include the Comcast low-income household program which offers an internet connection to eligible families with children for \$9.95 per month and the California Lifeline program which provides a free basic landline or cellphone. There are also training resources to support low-income populations in gaining computer literacy skills. This includes the Fresno County Library's mobile computer classroom (the "DigiBus") which visits many rural communities as well as some urban Fresno sites; classes at some FHA housing properties; and classes at the Fresno Dream Center, Catholic Charities, and some school districts. The Employment Development Department and other social service programs also offer access to computers for targeted programs.

Computer and Internet Access ¹⁰⁴		
Area	Households with No Computer	% Population with a Broadband Subscription
Fresno County	8.9%	86%
California	5.6%	91%
United States	8.1%	88%

Table 79. Digital Connectivity and Internet Access

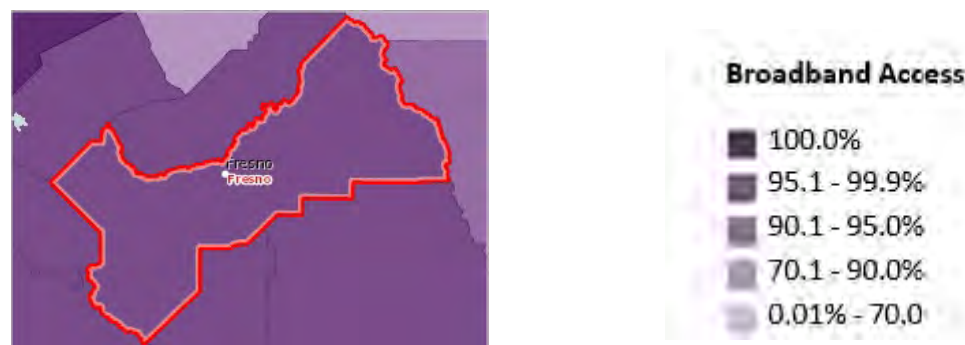


Figure 55. Broadband Access in Fresno County



Transportation and Digital Connectivity Key Findings

Fresno has a thriving transportation system, but still has a portion of residents opting-out of public transportation, bicycling, or walking to work that is lower than the state and the country. Additionally, transportation can be a major obstacle due to the cost of maintaining a car and to limited bus services in the more rural parts of the county. Bus schedules do not always meet the scheduling needs of families. Fresno County has a larger percentage of households without at least one vehicle than the nation. Fewer Fresno County households have computing devices and internet subscriptions than for the nation, but computer access is comparable to rates for the nation.

¹⁰⁴ Community Action Partnership. *Computer and Internet Access*. Retrieved from <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>.

Needs and Opinions of Head Start Families

The following information represents the opinions and experiences of Head Start families. The data was collected from 1,359 parents enrolled in both Head Start and Early Head Start.

Parent Reported Needs

During the 2021 program year families reported the following needs. The greatest needs are in relation to support reaching family goals. Other basic assistance needs included obtaining health and dental care and food. These issues reflect pandemic related closures and shortages.

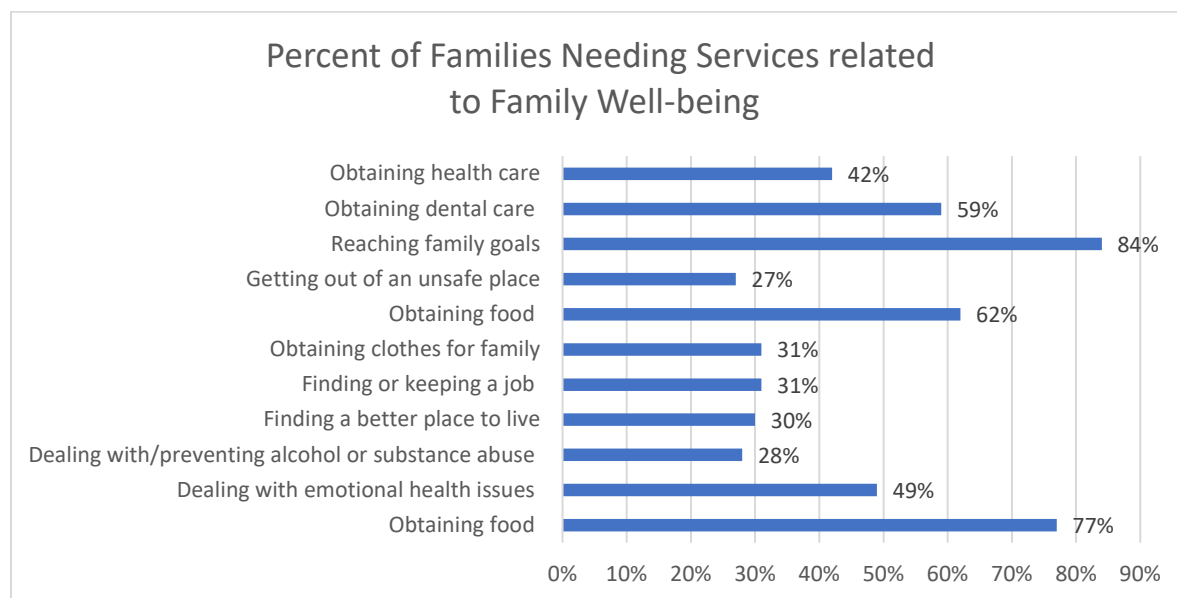


Figure 56. Percent of Head Start Families Needing Services Related to Family-Wellbeing

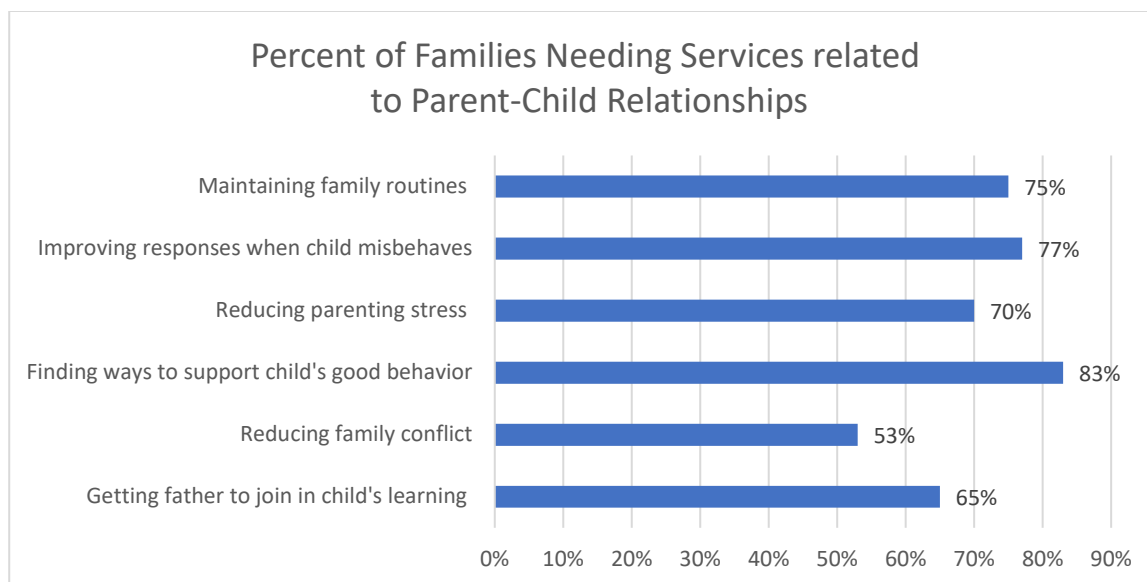


Figure 57. Percent of Families Receiving Services to Support Parent-Child Relationships

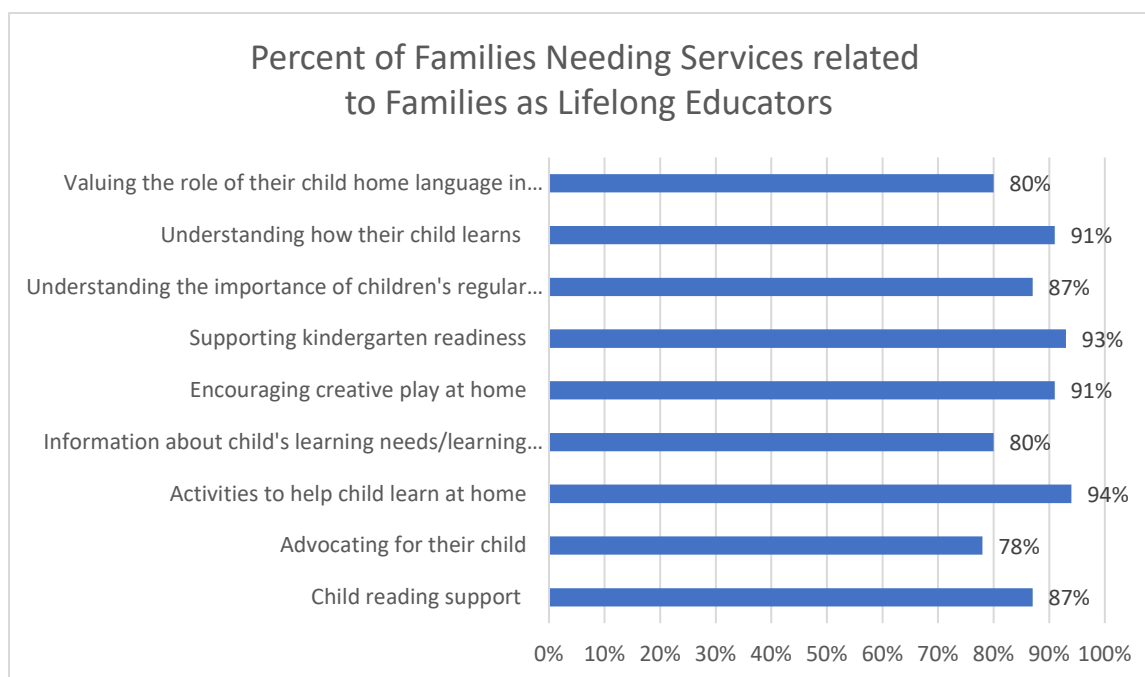


Figure 58. Percent of Families Needing Services related to Families as Lifelong Educators

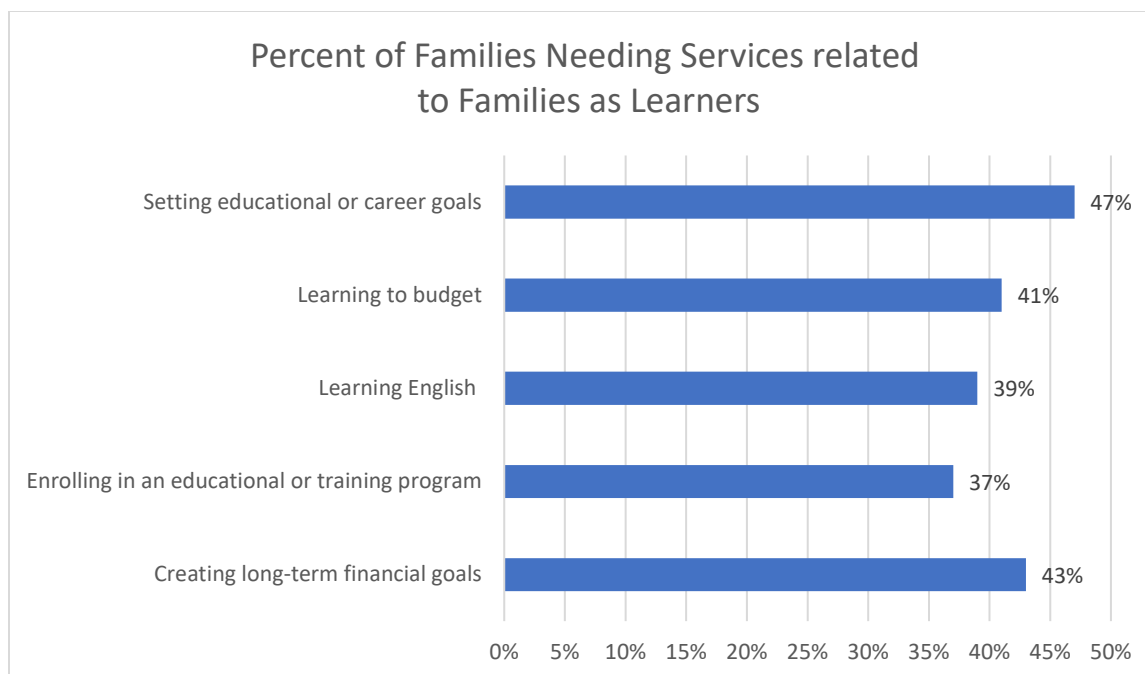


Figure 59. Percent of Families Needing Services Related to Families as Learners

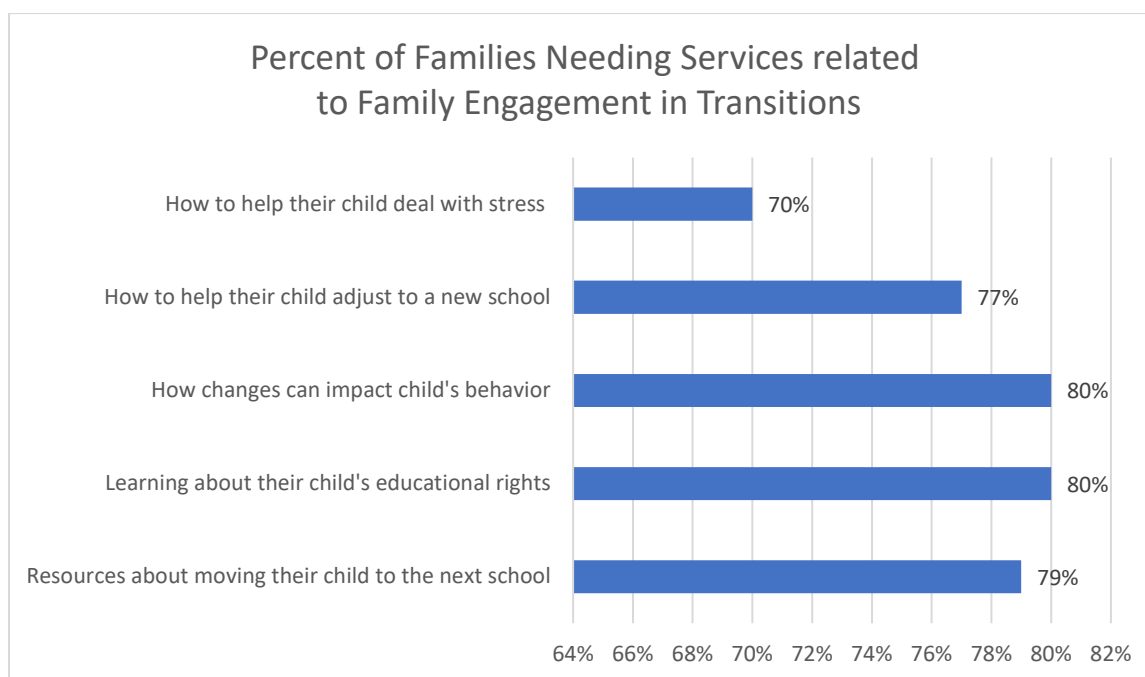


Figure 60. Percent of Families Needing Services Related to Family Engagement in Transitions

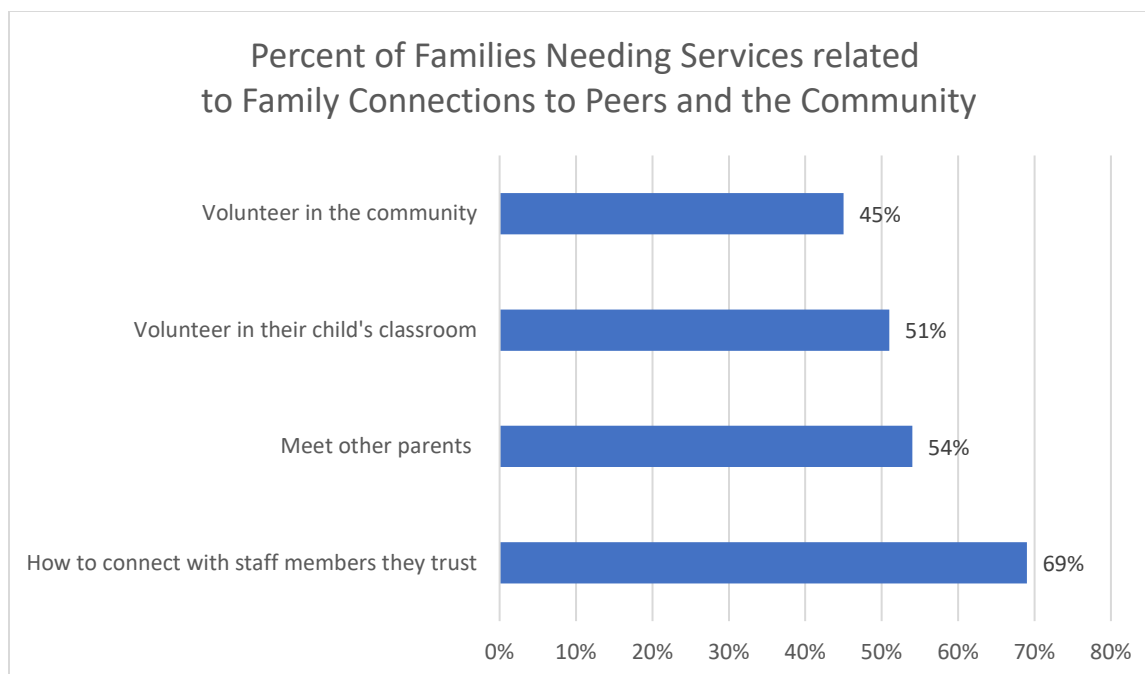


Figure 61. Percent of Families Needing Services Related to Family Connections to Peers and the Community

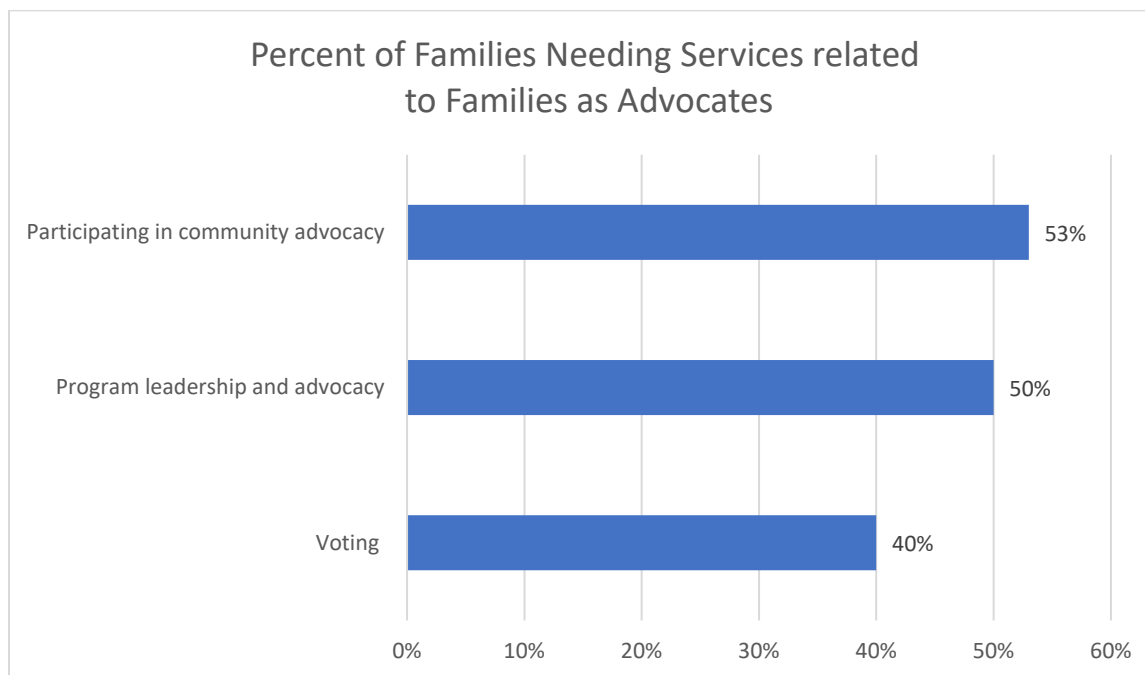


Figure 62. Percent of Families Needing Services Related to Families As Advocates

Head Start Program Profile

Total Funded Enrollment **3,108**

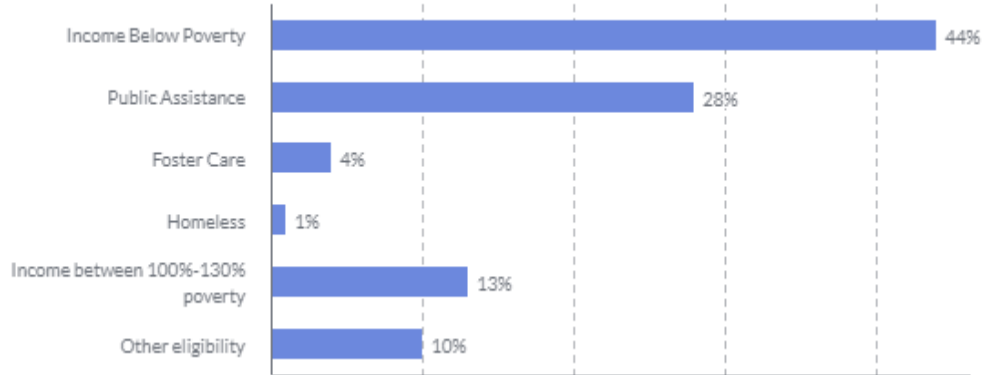
ELIGIBILITY OF HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START CHILDREN



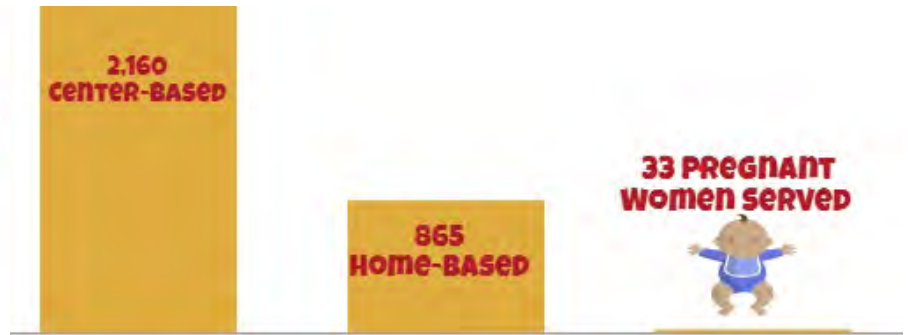
507
Early Head Start



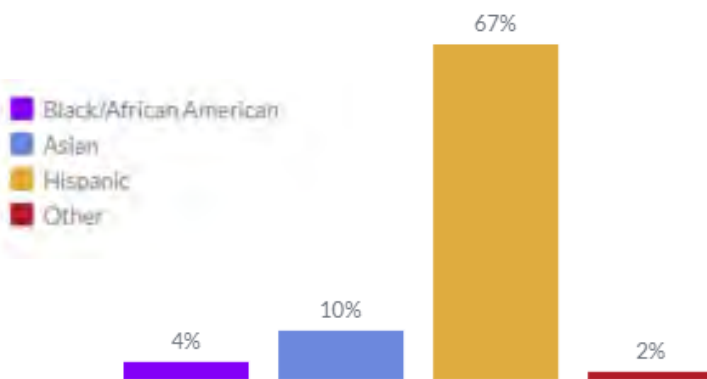
2,445 **Head Start**



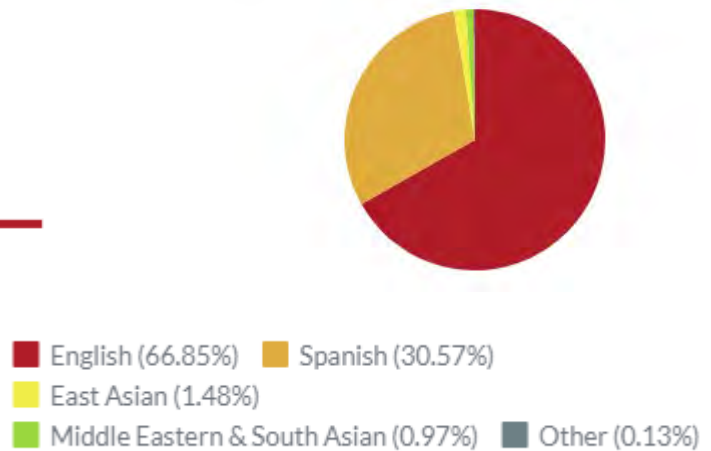
**55% OF FAMILIES
ARE SINGLE-
PARENT FAMILIES**
**45% OF FAMILIES
ARE 2 PARENT
FAMILIES**



Race of Head Start Children

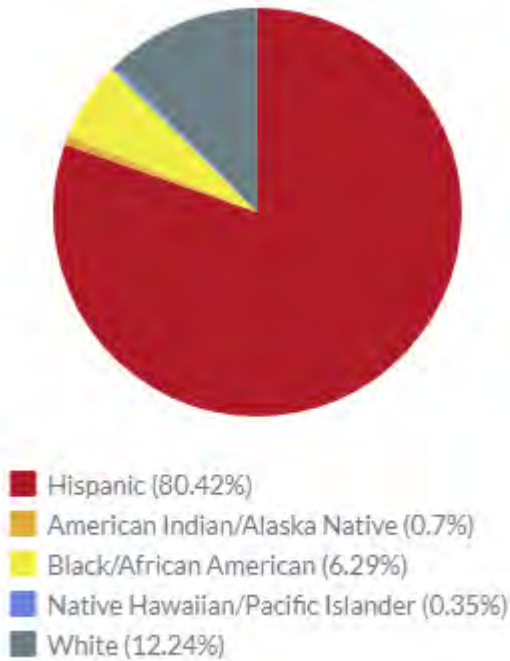


Languages Spoken by Head Start Children

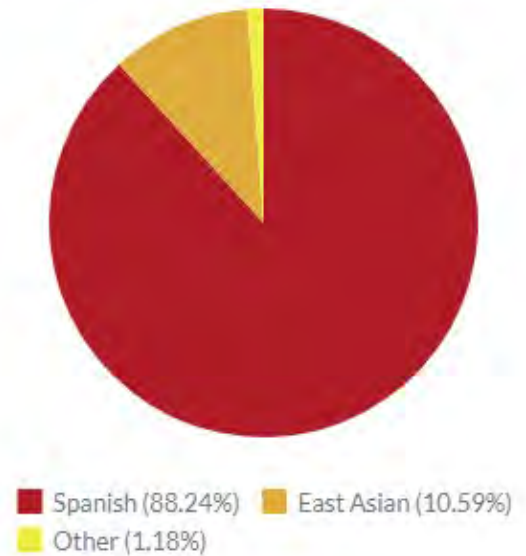


Head Start Staff Profile

Race/Ethnicity of Head Start Staff

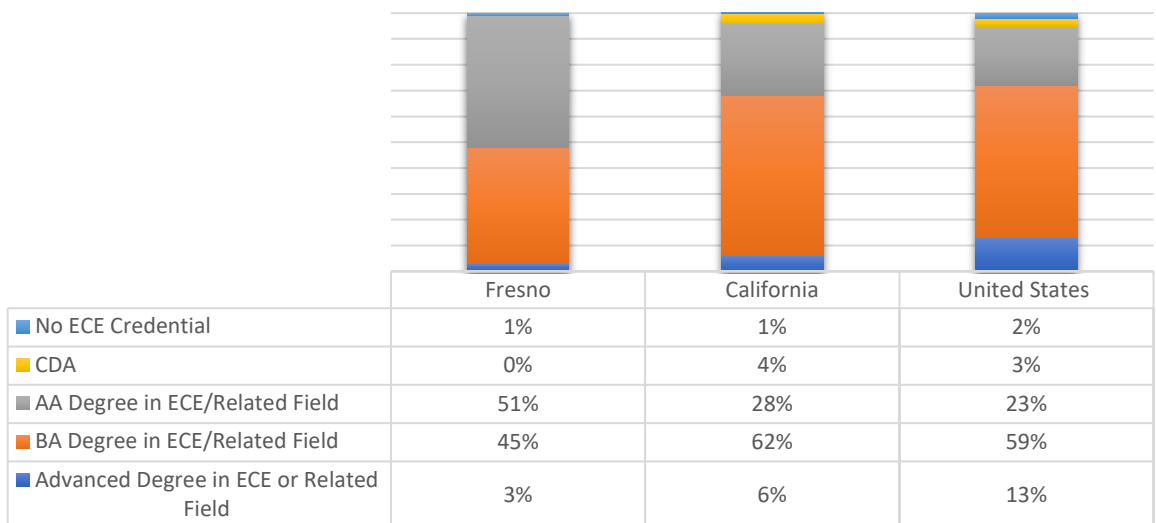


Languages of Head Start Staff



Head Start Teacher Qualifications

- Advanced Degree in ECE or Related Field
- BA Degree in ECE/Related Field
- AA Degree in ECE/Related Field
- CDA
- No ECE Credential





BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Executive Office
Agenda Item #: 9	Director: N/A
Subject: 2023 Board Meeting Schedule	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

Staff recommends review and approval of the revised Board Meeting Schedule for calendar year 2023.

Background

This item was tabled from the April 6, 2023 Board Meeting. Chair Hayes requested for a survey to be sent out to Commissioners for their availability to reschedule future Board Meetings.

As a result below is a proposed remaining 2023 Board Meeting Schedule for review and approval. August Board Meeting has been adjusted to accommodate summer time-off.

Board of Commission	
Month	Meeting Date
May	Thursday, May 4, 2023 Cancelled due to lack of quorum Wednesday, May 10, 2023 Special Board Meeting
June	June 29 *
July	No Meeting
August	Wednesday, August 30, 2023
September	No Meeting
October	Thursday, October 5, 2023
November	No Meeting
December	Thursday, December 7, 2023

*Staff is requesting a Special Board meeting or Executive Committee on June 29th to certify the agency complies with the CSBG Act and California Government Code for service provided under the Federal Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Community Action Plan.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Conclusion

If approved by the Board, the Board Meeting schedule will be effective May 4, 2023 and be taken to the next Bylaws Committee Meeting on June 15th, for further discussion on the frequency of the Board Meetings.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Transit Systems
Agenda Item #: 10	Director: Thomas Dulin
Subject: Transit Fleet Electrification	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Finance Committee recommends approval for full Board consideration to contract with Leevo to lead the development of the solar array, charging station infrastructure, and vehicle conversion.

Background

Transit Systems has identified an opportunity to provide safer and more efficient ways to transport our clients with the use of electric buses. In order to produce enough energy to power this fleet, we would need to build a 3-acre solar farm that could produce up to 2 Mega Watts per hour. Transit Systems released an RFP for a turnkey contractor to fulfill our electrification needs. Staff received one response to the RFP. Leevo was the only vendor that responded to the RFP. After reviewing Leevo's response, Transit systems seeks board approval to award the contract to Leevo.

Fiscal Impact

Full fiscal impacts are:

- Total Capital Expense of \$30.2MM
- Total Grants/Rebates of \$21.6MM
- Net capital expenses of \$8.65MM will be financed through a third-party solar loan.
- \$1.56MM reduction in annual operating expense
- Eliminate PG&E energy expense of \$130,000 on an annual basis.
- Reduce maintenance costs by \$2.80MM over 10 years.
- Reduce fuel consumption by approximately \$1.5MM per 50 buses annually.
- Grants and rebates are available through the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Pacific Gas, and Electricity to help build out the infrastructure.

- Financial assistance for the procurement of electrified vehicles is available through California's Hybrid and Zero Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Program (HVIP) and The Volkswagen (VW) Environmental Mitigation Trust and Clean Vehicle Fueling Infrastructure Program through San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

Conclusion

This project will significantly reduce annual operating expenses by generating our own energy instead of purchasing energy at the market rate. By using solar-powered vehicles and leveraging rebates, grants, and other financial incentives to assist with the project, we can realize an internal rate of return of 13.5% of our initial capital investment. If approved by the Committee, this item will move forward to full Board consideration at the next board meeting.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Human Resources
Agenda Item #: 11	Manager: Erica Reyes
Subject: Discrimination Harassment Complaint Policy	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

Staff recommends review and approval of the adoption Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Policy.

Background

Based upon Employment Legal Counsel's recommendation, Fresno EOC has developed the attached policy to ensure that all employees can work in an environment free from unlawful harassment, discrimination and retaliation. Fresno EOC's new policy outlines clear direction and responsibilities of all employees and non-employees of EOC.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Conclusion

If approved by the Board, this item will be distributed to all Fresno EOC employees for review and written acknowledgment of the policy. If not approved by the Board, Fresno EOC will default to the existing Grievance Policy, which, among other things, does not address EOC volunteers, consultants, and others who are not employees.

POLICY 1050 – DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT COMPLAINT POLICY

PURPOSE: Fresno EOC is committed to a work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to work in a professional atmosphere that promotes equal employment opportunities and prohibits unlawful discriminatory practices, including harassment, and retaliation. Therefore, Fresno EOC expects that all relationships among persons in the office will be business-like and free of explicit bias, discrimination and harassment.

POLICY: Fresno EOC has developed this policy to ensure that all employees can work in an environment free from unlawful harassment, discrimination and retaliation. Fresno EOC will make every reasonable effort to ensure that all concerned are familiar with these policies and are aware that any complaint in violation of such policies will be investigated and resolved appropriately.

Any employee who has questions or concerns about these policies should talk with Human Resources management.

PROCEDURES:

I. OVERVIEW

These policies should not, and may not, be used as a basis for excluding or separating individuals of a particular gender, or any other protected characteristic, from participating in business or work-related social activities or discussions. In other words, no one should make the mistake of engaging in discrimination or exclusion to avoid allegations of harassment. The law and the policies of Fresno EOC prohibit disparate treatment on the basis of sex or any other protected characteristic, with regard to terms, conditions, privileges and perquisites of employment. The prohibitions against harassment, discrimination and retaliation are intended to complement and further those policies, not to form the basis of an exception to them.

A. Equal Employment Opportunity

It is the policy of Fresno EOC to ensure equal employment opportunity without discrimination or harassment on the basis of race (including hairstyle/texture), color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, national origin, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. Fresno EOC prohibits any such discrimination or harassment.

B. Prohibiting Retaliation

Fresno EOC encourages reporting of all perceived incidents of discrimination or harassment. It is the policy of Fresno EOC to promptly and thoroughly investigate such reports. Fresno EOC prohibits retaliation against any individual who reports discrimination or harassment or participates in an investigation of such reports.

C. Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment constitutes discrimination and is illegal under federal, state and local laws. For the purposes of this policy, "sexual harassment" is defined, as in the equal employment opportunity commission guidelines, as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when, for example:

- submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment,
- submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual, or
- such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 recognizes two types of sexual harassment:

- quid pro quo and
- hostile work environment. Sexual harassment may include a range of subtle and not-so-subtle behaviors and may involve individuals of the same or different gender.

Depending on the circumstances, these behaviors may include unwanted sexual advances or requests for sexual favors; sexual jokes and innuendo; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; commentary about an individual's body, sexual prowess or sexual deficiencies; leering, whistling or touching; insulting or obscene comments or gestures; display in the workplace of sexually suggestive objects or pictures; and other physical, verbal or visual conduct of a sexual nature.

D. Harassment

Harassment on the basis of any other protected characteristic is also strictly prohibited. Under this policy, harassment is verbal, written or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of his or her race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law, or that of his or her relatives, friends or associates, and that:

- has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment,
- has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance, or
- otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment opportunities.

Harassing conduct includes epithets, slurs or negative stereotyping; threatening, intimidating or hostile acts; denigrating jokes; and written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group that is placed on walls or elsewhere on the employer's premises or circulated in the workplace, on company time or using company equipment by e-mail, phone (including voice messages), text messages, social networking sites or other means.

II. INDIVIDUALS AND CONDUCT COVERED

These policies apply to all applicants, employees, unpaid interns, volunteers, client, commissioner and/or customer, whether related to conduct engaged in by fellow employees or by someone not directly connected to Fresno EOC (e.g., an outside vendor, consultant or customer).

Conduct prohibited by these policies is unacceptable in the workplace and in any work-related setting outside the workplace, such as during business trips, business meetings and business-related social events.

III. REPORTING AN INCIDENT OF HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION OR RETALIATION

Fresno EOC encourages reporting of all perceived incidents of discrimination, harassment or retaliation, regardless of the accused identity or position. Individuals who believe that they have been the victim of such conduct should discuss their concerns with their immediate supervisor, director, or Human Resources management. See the complaint procedure described below.

In addition, Fresno EOC encourages individuals who believe they are being subjected to such conduct to promptly advise the accused that their behavior is unwelcome and to request that it be discontinued. Often this action alone will resolve the problem. Fresno EOC recognizes, however, that an individual may prefer to pursue the matter through complaint procedures.

Any person, employee, or manager who does not report violation of this policy will be subject to progressive corrective action, up to or including termination.

IV. COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Individuals who believe they have been the victims of conduct prohibited by this policy or believe they have witnessed such conduct should discuss their concerns with their immediate supervisor, director, or Human Resources management.

Fresno EOC encourages the immediate reporting of complaints or concerns so that prompt constructive action can be taken.

Any reported allegations of harassment, discrimination or retaliation will be investigated promptly by Human Resources management or person designated by the human resources office. The investigation may include

individual interviews with the parties involved and, where necessary, with individuals who may have observed the alleged conduct or may have other relevant knowledge.

Fresno EOC will keep the investigation as confidential as possible to the extent consistent with adequate investigation and appropriate corrective action. Upon completion of the investigation the investigator will provide an objective decision of the reported claims based on preponderance of evidence.

Retaliation against an individual for reporting harassment or discrimination or for participating in an investigation of a claim of harassment or discrimination is a serious violation of this policy and, like harassment or discrimination itself, will be subject to corrective action. Acts of retaliation should be reported immediately and will be promptly investigated and addressed.

V. RESPONSIVE ACTION

Misconduct constituting harassment, discrimination or retaliation will be addressed appropriately. Responsive action may include but is not limited to, progressive corrective action, training, referral for assistance, reassignment, temporary suspension without pay, or termination, as Fresno EOC believes appropriate under the circumstances.

If a party to a complaint does not agree with the resolution, that party may appeal the Program Director, Human Resources Director, or People and Culture Officer.

False and malicious complaints of harassment, discrimination or retaliation (as opposed to complaints that, even if erroneous, are made in good faith) may be the subject of appropriate corrective action.

Supervisors/managers responsibility supervisors and managers:

- Have a responsibility to the employees and the agency to report any concerns or complaints of misconduct under this policy to their immediate supervisor (when appropriate) and Human Resources management; must ensure that their work environment remains free of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation; coordinate and cooperate with the Program Director in disseminating this policy to all employees under their management/supervision; cooperate with the Program Director, Human Resources management and/or designated person in the investigation of complaints involving employees under their management/supervision.

When discrimination/harassment has occurred, supervisors and managers must:

- take reasonable steps to protect the complainant from further discrimination, harassment or retaliation;
- take action to remedy the effects of discrimination/harassment/retaliation.
- participate in discrimination and harassment prevention training provided by the Fresno EOC.

VI. INTERACTIONS WITH NON-EMPLOYEES

Employees are prohibited from engaging in conduct prohibited in this policy of non-employees with whom they come into contact, such as employees of contractors, customers, suppliers, and temporary employment agency employees.

VII. CONTRACTS INVOLVING NON-EMPLOYEES

When programs enter into contracts with independent contractors and persons providing services pursuant to a program grant, the Program Director shall ensure language is provided in the contract requiring those contractors to be responsible for ensuring that effective policies and procedures concerning the prevention of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation exist in their companies/businesses. Appropriate action will be taken if the employee of a customer, vendor, supplier, agency, contractor, or other entity with whom Fresno EOC does business engages in conduct prohibited by this policy.

VIII. EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

Employees that were subject to or witness violation of this policy should report the violation to their immediate supervisor or Human Resources management.

Employees shall:

- not violate any provision of this policy;
- participate in anti-discrimination/ harassment/retaliation training provided by Fresno EOC; and
- cooperate fully with investigations of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.
- verify in writing, that they have received a copy of this policy.

IX. SUPERVISOR AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Supervisors and managers that knew or should have known of violation of this policy and do not report the violation will be subject to progressive corrective action, up to and including termination.

DRAFT



**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday March 8th, 2023
5:00PM
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Charles Garabedian, called the meeting to order at 5:10pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum was established.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PRESENT	STAFF
Charles Garabedian (Committee Chair)	✓	Jay Zapata
Rey Leon		Steve Warnes
James Martinez		Jack Lazzarini
Linda Hayes	✓	Karina Perez
Zina Brown- Jenkins	✓	Jennifer Tillman
Itzi Robles	✓	Emilia Reyes
Alena Pacheco	✓	Jane Thomas

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 8, 2023 MINUTES

A. February 8, 2023 Finance Committee Minutes

Public comment: None heard.

Motion by: Hayes **Second by:** Brown-Jenkins

Ayes: Robles, Brown-Jenkins, Pacheco, Garabedian, Hayes

Nayes: None heard

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Agency Financial Statements – December 2022

B. Agency Financial Statements – January 2023

C. Head Start Financial Status Report – December 2022

D. Head Start Financial Status Report – January 2023

Motion by: Hayes **Second by:** Robles

Ayes: Robles, Brown-Jenkins, Pacheco, Garabedian, Hayes

Nayes: None heard

Jay Zapata, Director of Finance and interim CFO, along with Jennifer Tillman, Finance Manager presented the Financial Status Report for December 2022 and January 2023.

5. **NON-COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT**

A. Non- Competitive Procurements

Public Comment: None Heard

No action required

6. **HEALTH INSURANCE REPORT**

A. Health Insurance Report

Steve Warnes, Assistant Finance Director, Presented the health insurance fund reports for December 31, 2022 and January 31, 2023. At December 31st the health insurance reserve is at \$5.5 million, which would cover approximately 7.3 months of average expenditures. Contributions from programs and employees for the year total \$10,587,631 while the Fund paid out \$9,017,474 in expenses resulting in a fund increase of \$1,570,157. Medical claims paid during the month were higher than average as we expected. This increase was partially offset by increased reimbursements from our stop-loss policy.

At January 31st, the health insurance reserve is at \$5.5 million, which would cover approximately 6.8 months of average expenditures. Contributions from programs and employees for the first month of the year were \$946,636 and the Fund paid out \$979,370 in expenses.

Public Comment: None Heard

No action required

7. **AGENCY INVESTMENT REPORT**

A. Agency Investment Report

Warnes, presented the investment report for December 31, 2022. The combined interest and dividends less the market value losses netted to a \$45,565 increase to the invested balance during the year. Interest rates on the current investments range between 2.00% and 4.85%, total interest earned annually would be \$84,593.

Public comment: None heard.

No Action Required

8. **PROGRAM VARIANCE REPORT**

A. Program Variance Report

Zapata, and Jane Thomas, Director of Health & Dental Service went over the Variance Report for Health Services. They went over the Projects, contract period time, reporting periods, program cost for all programs, the budget for the programs, remaining budget and the remaining budget percentages.

Public comment: None heard

No action required.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

Public comment: None heard

No action required.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comment: None heard

No action required.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Garabedian adjourned meeting at 5:55pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Garabedian
Committee Chair



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Finance
Agenda Item #: 12A2	Director: Jay Zapata
Subject: Financial Reports	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

The Finance Committee recommends approval for full Board consideration of the interim consolidated financial statements as of Year-to-Date February 2023 as well as approval of the financial status report for the Head Start 0-5 program as of Year-to-Date February 28, 2023.

Background

In accordance with the Agency's bylaws, the Finance Committee shall advise in the preparation and administration of the operating budget and oversee the administration, collection, and disbursement of the financial resources of the organization. Additionally, the Treasurer is to ensure the commissioners understand the financial situation of the organization, which includes ensuring that financial statements for each month are available for each meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Monthly financials for Fresno EOC (consolidated) and for Head Start are provided for review and acceptance.

Fiscal Impact

(A) Agency Statement of Activities and Statement of Financial Position:

As of February 28, 2023, the Agency had preliminary revenue of \$22,083,096 million, including \$3.8 million of in-kind contributions, and net operating loss of \$343,531. In comparison, the Agency had revenue of \$22,352,712 million including in-kind of \$4.9 million as of the corresponding period of the preceding year.

(B) Head Start 0-5 Financial Status Report as of Year-to-Date February 28, 2023

This also represented in the following percentages.

Program Area	% of budget	Notes
Head Start – Basic	16%	Personnel is underspent due to unfilled positions
Head Start – Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA)	16%	Training planned for later this year

Program Area	% of budget	Notes
Early Head Start – Basic	8%	Personnel is underspent due to unfilled positions.
Early Head Start – T&TA	13%	Training planned for later this year

Conclusion

Acceptance of these financials by the Board documents the Board's oversight over the financial operations of Fresno EOC. This is part of the Board's fiduciary duty.

FRESNO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For The Second Month Period Ended February 28, 2023 and 2022

	A	B	A - B	C	D	B - D
	BUDGET JAN - DEC 2022	ACTUAL FEBRUARY 2023	BUDGET BALANCE REMAINING	ACTUAL JAN - DEC 2022	ACTUAL FEBRUARY 2022	ACTUAL 2023 vs 2022 Differences
REVENUES AND SUPPORT						
GRANT REVENUE	\$ 89,274,925	\$ 14,135,882 16%	\$ 75,139,043	78,444,415	\$ 13,367,085	768,798
GRANT REVENUE - LENDING CAPITAL	-	-	-	0	-	-
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	19,602,250	3,317,029 17%	16,285,221	21,797,159	3,459,592	(142,563)
OTHER PROGRAM REVENUE	2,854,250	597,155 21%	2,257,095	3,459,716	338,575	258,580
CONTRIBUTIONS	371,450	6,721 2%	364,729	204,416	39,726	(33,004)
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	414,350	56,571 14%	357,779	171,610	54,202	2,370
INTEREST & INVESTMENT INCOME	82,650	6,827 8%	75,823	53,391	5,928	899
AFFILIATE INTEREST INCOME	1,400,100	64,782 5%	1,335,318	1,172,120	89,676	(24,894)
RENTAL INCOME	330,650	48,335 15%	282,315	385,663	81,304	(32,969)
TOTAL CASH REVENUE	\$ 114,330,625	\$ 18,233,304 16%	\$ 96,097,321	\$ 105,688,490	\$ 17,436,087	797,217
IN KIND REVENUE	\$ 39,041,040	\$ 3,849,792 10%	\$ 35,191,248	41,372,083	\$ 4,916,625	(1,066,833)
TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT	153,371,665	22,083,096 14%	131,288,569	147,060,573	22,352,712	(269,616)
EXPENDITURES						
PERSONNEL COSTS	\$ 69,972,550	\$ 11,440,820 16%	\$58,531,730	66,091,684	\$ 10,923,573	517,248
ADMIN SERVICES	7,040,225	1,072,387 15%	5,967,838	6,574,264	833,561	238,826
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - AUDIT	0	0 0%	0	0	0	(0)
CONTRACT SERVICES	11,240,600	1,718,205 15%	9,522,395	10,766,011	1,998,739	(280,535)
FACILITY COSTS	6,093,175	839,831 14%	5,253,344	6,122,478	953,314	(113,483)
TRAVEL, MILEAGE, VEHICLE COSTS	1,772,345	447,058 25%	1,325,287	3,071,004	363,859	83,199
EQUIPMENT COSTS	946,775	181,406 19%	765,369	1,408,554	266,721	(85,315)
DEPRECIATION - AGENCY FUNDED	250,000	46,000 18%	204,000	278,602	38,363	7,637
OFFICE EXPENSE	3,129,400	575,851 18%	2,553,549	3,432,622	408,714	167,137
INSURANCE	755,250	155,140 21%	600,110	809,767	128,220	26,920
PROGRAM SUPPLIES & CLIENT COSTS	10,905,750	2,023,782 19%	8,881,968	9,087,531	1,388,439	635,343
INTEREST EXPENSE	267,900	38,840 14%	229,060	446,995	4,332	34,508
OTHER COSTS	994,600	37,515 4%	957,085	1,383,233	46,151	(8,636)
TOTAL CASH EXPENDITURES	\$ 113,368,570	\$ 18,576,835 16%	\$ 94,791,735	109,472,745	\$ 17,353,987	1,222,848
IN KIND EXPENSES	\$ 39,041,040	\$ 3,849,792 10%	\$ 35,191,248	\$ 41,372,083	\$ 4,916,625	(1,066,833)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	152,409,610	22,426,627 15%	129,982,983	150,844,828	22,270,612	156,015
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 962,055	\$ (343,531)	\$ 1,305,586	\$ (3,784,255)	\$ 82,101	(425,632)
OTHER INCOME / EXPENSE						
TRANSIT GRANT ASSET DEPRECIATION		-	-	211,983	35,330	(35,330)
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 962,055	(\$343,531)	1,305,586	\$ (3,996,238)	\$46,770	(390,301)

FRESNO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As of February 28, 2023

	2023	2022	Differences
ASSETS			
CASH & INVESTMENTS	\$ 19,395,547	\$ 19,242,633	\$ 152,914
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	15,888,668	16,476,702	(588,034)
PREPAIDS/DEPOSITS	349,350	323,581	25,769
INVENTORIES	363,769	160,138	203,631
PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	12,194,939	13,215,365	(1,020,426)
NOTES RECEIVABLE (net)	17,448,890	16,847,515	601,375
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 65,641,163	\$ 66,265,934	\$ (624,770)
LIABILITIES			
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 4,963,634	\$ 4,147,142	\$ 816,492
ACCRUED PAYROLL LIABILITIES	6,067,422	4,638,411	1,429,011
DEFERRED REVENUE	3,033,040	1,979,542	1,053,498
NOTES PAYABLE	16,797,039	15,895,287	901,751
HEALTH INSURANCE RESERVE	4,241,383	4,921,577	(680,193)
OTHER LIABILITIES	4,460,805	3,735,805	725,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 39,563,323	\$ 35,317,765	\$ 4,245,559
FUND BALANCE			
CURRENT OPERATING EARNINGS (YTD)	\$ (343,531)	\$ 82,101	\$ (425,632)
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	17,235,273	21,026,210	(3,790,937)
REVOLVING LOAN FUND	556,268	556,268	0
INVESTMENT IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS	8,629,830	9,283,590	(653,760)
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 26,077,841	\$ 30,948,169	\$ (4,870,329)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$ 65,641,163	\$ 66,265,934	\$ (624,770)

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
Head Start/Early Head Start Financial Status
Monthly Report
February 28, 2023

Description	Head Start - Basic				Head Start - T & TA			
	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining
Personnel	\$17,232,920	\$1,301,050	\$2,679,537	\$14,553,383				
Fringe Benefits	7,582,485	\$503,284	1,082,400	6,500,085				
Total Personnel	\$24,815,405	\$1,804,334	\$3,761,937	\$21,053,468				
Travel	-	-	-	-	12,928	-	-	12,928
Equipment*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies	728,136	45,703	85,966	642,170	25,000	566	1,916	23,084
Contractual	2,892,483	310,782	396,703	2,495,780	15,948	-	-	15,948
Facilities /Construction								
Other:								
Food Cost	776,852	\$192,359	\$415,440	361,412				
Transportation	45,000	\$38,967	70,122	(25,122)				
Staff Mileage	100,000	\$10,540	22,767	77,233				
Field Trips, including Transportation	3,201	\$0	-	3,201				
Space	1,211,912	\$45,130	90,280	1,121,632				
Utilities / Telephone / Internet	843,052	\$64,980	129,965	713,087				
Publication/Advertising/Printing	54,991	-	110	54,881				
Repair/Maintenance Building	108,572	\$10,201	28,771	79,801				
Repair/Maintenance Equipment	8,654	\$143	686	7,968				
Property & Liability Insurance	72,108	\$27,980	27,980	44,128				
Parent Involvement / CWPC	49,000	\$2,549	3,833	45,167				
Other Costs*	240,460	(\$108,540)	3,938	236,522				
Staff & Parent Training	3,091	(\$88,684)	-	3,091	237,568	3,149	44,364	193,204
Total Direct Charges	\$31,952,917	\$2,356,443	\$5,038,498	26,914,419	291,444	3,715	46,280	245,164
Total Indirect Charges	\$3,106,182	\$235,645	\$503,850	\$2,602,332	\$32,383	\$371	\$4,628	\$27,755
Total Federal Expenditures	\$35,059,099	\$2,592,088	\$5,542,348	\$29,516,751	\$323,827	4,086	50,908	\$272,919
% of Annual Budget Expended to Date			16%				16%	
Non-Federal Share	\$7,011,820	\$319,774	\$598,216	\$6,413,604	\$64,765	\$1,022	\$12,727	\$52,038

9%

Credit Card Expenses: Credit card statement dated 2/1/23-2/28/23		
Feb 2023 expenses		
Software Licenses	\$ 97	Adobe - Software License
Program Supplies - Disposables	\$ 579	Wal-Mart - Toiletries for Children with Disabilities
CWPC - Other	\$ 632	Dicicos - County Wide Policy Meeting
Repairs & Maintenance - Vehicles	\$ 742	City Of Fresno - Towing Fees
Program Supplies - Kitchen	\$ 3,029	Lowes - Refrigerator for Nutrition Services
	\$ 5,079	

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
Head Start/Early Head Start Financial Status
Monthly Report
February 28, 2023

Description	Head Start - Duration Start-Up/Operations			
	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining
Personnel	\$0	-	-	\$0
Fringe Benefits	-	-	-	-
Total Personnel	\$0	-	\$0	\$0
Travel	-	-	-	-
Equipment*	-	-	-	-
Supplies	-	-	-	-
Contractual	-	-	-	-
Facilities /Construction	-	-	-	-
Other:				
Food Cost	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	-	-	-
Staff Mileage	-	-	-	-
Field Trips, including Transportation	-	-	-	-
Space	-	-	-	-
Utilities / Telephone / Internet	-	-	-	-
Publication/Advertising/Printing	-	-	-	-
Repair/Maintenance Building	-	-	-	-
Repair/Maintenance Equipment	-	-	-	-
Property & Liability Insurance	-	-	-	-
Parent Involvement / CWPC	-	-	-	-
Other Costs*	-	-	-	-
Staff & Parent Training	-	-	-	-
Total Direct Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Federal Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% of Annual Budget Expended to Date				
Non-Federal Share	-	-	-	-

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
Head Start/Early Head Start Financial Status
Monthly Report
February 28, 2023

Description	Early Head Start - Basic				Early Head Start - T & TA			
	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining
Personnel	\$3,655,192	\$182,221	\$387,160	\$3,268,032	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fringe Benefits	1,608,284	\$56,990	126,376	1,481,908	-	-	-	-
Total Personnel	5,263,476	239,212	513,536	4,749,940	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-	16,898	-	-	16,898
Equipment*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies	242,877	1,703	3,133	239,744	33,488	124	421	33,067
Contractual	925,297	8,340	20,464	904,833	26,526	-	-	26,526
Facilities /Construction	-	-	-	-				
Other:								
Food Cost	50,000	4,147	10,019	39,981				
Transportation	9,536	1,001	1,576	7,960				
Staff Mileage	25,000	3,823	5,865	19,135				
Field Trips, including Transportation	1,730	-	-	1,730				
Space	84,678	4,382	8,769	75,909				
Utilities / Telephone / Internet	151,060	4,840	11,044	140,016				
Publication/Advertising/Printing	1,500	-	24	1,476				
Repair/Maintenance Building	180,781	1,004	1,527	179,254				
Repair/Maintenance Equipment	21,223	-	-	21,223				
Property & Liability Insurance	24,009	3,144	3,144	20,865				
Parent Involvement / CWPC	18,628	254	315	18,313				
Other Costs*	39,344	(16,628)	1,515	37,829				
Staff & Parent Training	2,277	-	-	2,277	96,459	12,493	21,818	74,641
Total Direct Charges	7,041,416	255,222	580,933	6,460,483	173,371	12,617	22,239	\$151,132
Total Indirect Charges	\$703,982	\$25,522	\$58,093	\$645,889	\$15,906	\$1,262	\$2,224	\$13,682
Total Federal Expenditures	\$7,745,398	280,744	\$639,026	\$7,106,372	\$189,277	13,879	\$24,463	\$164,814
% of Annual Budget Expended to Date			8%				13%	
Non-Federal Share	\$1,549,080	\$44,501	\$89,860	\$1,459,220	\$37,855	\$3,470	\$6,116	\$41,204

6%

Credit Card Expenses: Credit card statement dated 2/1/23-2/28/23

Feb 2023 expenses

Program Supplies - Disposables	\$	111	Samsclub - Diapers
Program Supplies - Food Disposables	\$	144	Wal-Mart - Baby Formula & Supplies
Staff Training	\$	11,800	Gerety Education Team Annual Membership -Staff Training
Program Supplies - Disposables	\$	460	Target - Diapers
	\$	12,515	

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Finance
Agenda Item #: 12A3	Director: Steven Warnes
Subject: Health Insurance Report	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Background

The information presented below is intended to keep the Committee apprised on the financial status of the Agency's self-funded health insurance plan.

As of February 28, 2023, the health insurance reserve is at \$5.8 million, which covers approximately 7.4 months of average expenditures. Contributions from programs and employees for 2023 total \$1,873,681 while the Fund paid out \$1,497,589 in expenses.

Changes to the health insurance plan in 2020 through 2023 include:

- Effective January 2020: 4% overall increase in Employer premiums and 22% overall increase in Employee premiums. Wellness plan now has the same annual deductible but will have a 25% discounted employee premium. The employee + child and employee + children tiers were consolidated.
- Effective January 2021: 6% increase in Employer premiums and an average 16% increase to Employee premiums.
- Effective January 2022: Tele-health service was added and 1% increase in Employer premiums and an average 8% increase to Employee premiums.
- Effective January 2023: Restructured the wellness program to include more employees; replaced wellness discounted premium by an incentive program available to all employees. 5.5% increase in Employer premiums.

This table presents a sample of the monthly health insurance premium rates for 2023. Rates vary depending on the type of coverage tier selected; the PPO option is shown but a high-deductible option is available at a 40% lower cost to the employee.

	Agency	Employee	Total Premium
Employee Only	\$ 633	\$ 150	\$ 783
EE +Child(ren)	\$ 1,146	\$ 270	\$ 1,416
EE + Family	\$ 1,521	\$ 360	\$ 1,881
EE + Spouse	\$ 1,272	\$ 300	\$ 1,572

FRESNO EOC
HEALTH INSURANCE FUND REPORT
 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2023

	2023				2022			
	January	February	March	YTD totals Jan-Feb	Mo. Avg. Prev 12 mos	YTD totals Jan-Feb	Annual Jan - Dec	Annual Mo. Avg Jan - Dec
Beginning Fund Balance	5,493,909	5,466,511	5,870,001					
Income								
Agency Contributions	753,479	747,863		1,501,342	718,091	1,508,067	8,623,821	718,652
Additional Agency Contr.	-	-		-	0	0	0	-
Employee Contributions	193,157	179,182		372,339	156,707	455,669	1,963,810	163,651
Total Income	946,636	927,045	-	1,873,681	874,798	1,963,736	10,587,631	882,303
Expenses								
Health Claims Paid	597,281	252,921		850,202	477,666	306,860	5,188,655	432,388
Dental Claims Paid	47,952	37,885		85,837	42,872	96,991	525,612	43,801
Prescriptions Paid	161,856	93,451		255,307	149,398	227,411	1,764,880	147,073
Vision Claims Paid	6,778	2,036		8,814	5,659	9,519	68,611	5,718
Stop Loss Premiums	104,348	105,262		209,610	100,954	209,429	1,211,263	100,939
Stop Loss Claims	-	(22,123)		(22,123)	(38,589)	0	(440,948)	(36,746)
Life Insurance Premiums	8,250	8,188		16,438	11,729	25,448	149,754	12,480
Pinnacle	13,309	13,579		26,888	13,069	26,015	155,949	12,996
Blue Cross	13,835	13,895		27,730	13,637	27,427	163,337	13,611
Benefits Consultant	12,083	12,083		24,166	11,868	24,166	142,419	11,868
Employee Assist. Program	2,791	1,746		4,537	1,887	3,753	21,865	1,822
Preferred Chiropractors	871	875		1,746	884	1,788	10,645	887
TeleDoc	2,474	2,485		4,959	2,510	5,076	30,232	2,519
Other Expenses	2,206	1,272		3,478	1,908	3,167	22,588	1,882
ACA Fees	-	-		0	313	0	3,750	313
Total Expenses	974,035	523,555	-	1,497,589	795,763	967,050	9,018,612	751,551
Current Fund Activity (net)	(27,399)	403,491	-	376,092	79,035	996,686	1,569,019	130,752
Ending Fund Balance	5,466,511	5,870,001	5,870,001	5,870,001				
Enrollment								
Employee only-Traditional	247	256			247		250	
High-Deduct	79	84			80		76	
Family coverage-Traditional	337	327			335		348	
High-Deduct	34	41			37		36	
Dental coverage only	42	54			45		40	
Temp/On Call Plan	-	-			0		0	
Total employees enrolled	739	762	-		744		750	
Average contributions per employee	1,281	1,217			1,176		1,176	
Average expenses per employee	1,318	687			1,070		1,002	

Estimated # months funded: 7.4



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Finance
Agenda Item #: 12A4	Director: Chris Erwin
Subject: Non-Competitive Procurements	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Background

The information presented below is intended to keep the Committee apprised on any procurements made through a non-competitive procurement process.

In accordance with the Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual, Noncompetitive Procurements are “special purchasing circumstances, in which competitive bids are not obtained. Noncompetitive procurement (purchases and contracts) are only permissible in the following circumstances (2 CFR 200.320 [f]):

- An emergency exists that does not permit delay,
- Only one source of supply is available,
- If the awarding agency expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the Agency,
- Or after solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined to be inadequate.

The key requirement for the use of noncompetitive procurement is that the other methods of procurement are not feasible and one of the above circumstances exists.” A report on the non-competitive procurement awards is to be made to the Board of Commissioners.

The agency also follows the following guidelines:

- Purchases from \$10,000 to \$150,000 require three written quotes and may be approved by the CEO.
- Purchases greater than \$150,000 require formal bid procedures and require approval from the Board.
- Purchases greater than \$10,000 without the required quotes or bids must be disclosed to the Board.

Vendor	Purpose	Amount	Justification
	No Non-Competitive Purchases to report in this period		



PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE

**Fresno EOC Board Room
1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 310
Fresno, CA 93721
March 27, 2023
12:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Amy Arambula, called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum was established.

Committee Members:

Amy Arambula
Alena Pacheco

Staff:

Emilia Reyes
Michelle L. Tutunjian
Jack Lazzarini
Karina Perez
Kevin Williams
Patrick Turner
Julio Romero

Rhoda Gonzales
Gilda Arreguin
Matt Contrestano
Joseph Amader
Elionora Vivanco
Ahime Heidari
Thomas Dulin
Annette Thornton

Teleconference:

Sherry Neil
Linda Hayes
Robert Pimentel

3. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 5, 2023 MINUTES

December 5, 2022 Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Hayes **Second by:** Pacheco

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

4. ENERGY SERVICES

A. 2023 Emergency Supplemental Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (ELIHEAP)

Joseph Amader, Energy Division Director, provided an overview of the 2023 Emergency Supplemental Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program contract with the State of California, Department of Community Services and Development in the amount of \$5,958,476 for a 26-month period, beginning April 15, 2023.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Hayes **Second by:** Pacheco

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

B. 2023 Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program

Amader, provided an overview of the 2023 Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program application submitted on March 10, 2023, in the amount of \$1,200,000 to the State of California Department of community Services and Development.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pacheco **Second by:** Hayes

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

5. **TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

A. Youth Program Services

Patrick Turner, Training & Employment Services Director, provided an overview of the four Youth Program Services grant application with the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board in the amount of \$891,800 for a 12-month period, beginning July 1, 2023.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Hayes **Second by:** Pacheco

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

6. **LOCAL CONSERVATION CORPS**

A. YouthBuild Program

Turner provided an overview of the YouthBuild program grant application with the U.S. Department of Labor in the amount of \$1.5 million for a 40-month period, beginning May 2023.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Hayes **Second by:** Pacheco

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

B. California Community Reinvestment Grants Program

Turner, provides an overview of the California Community Reinvestment Grant application with Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development in the amount of \$600,000,000 for 36-month, beginning June 2023.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pacheco **Second by:** Arambula

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

7. **SANCTUARY AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

A. PrEP and PEP Initiation and Retention Initiative

Michelle L. Tutunjian, Chief Operating Officer, shared with the Committee Members the LGBTQ+ Resource Center was not awarded for the PrEP & PEP Initiation & Retention Initiative grant application in the Central Valley.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

B. Stop The Hate Services for Survivors and Prevention Funding

Misty Gattie-Blanco, Sanctuary and Support Services Director, provided an overview of the Stop The Hate Services for Survivors and Prevention grant application with State of California Health and Human Services in the amount of \$355,000 for a 24-month period, beginning July 1, 2023. Committee Chair Arambula and Board Chair Linda Hayes suggested to expand to the Southeast Asian Community to stop the hate to focus on other hate areas.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Arambula **Second by:** Hayes

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes, and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

8. HEALTH SERVICES

A. Office of Strategic Coordination, National Institutes of Health ComPASS OTA-22-007

Julio Romero, Health and Dental Services Assistant Director, provided an overview of the Office of Strategic Coordination, National Institutes of Health Community Partnership to Advance Science for Society grant application in the amount of \$9,827,841 for a 10-year period, beginning September 30, 2023 – September 29, 2033.

Committee Chair, Amy Arambula, recommended for this item be pulled from consent and presented at the April Board Meeting.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Neil **Second by:** Pacheco

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

9. TRANSIT SYSTEMS

A. Central Valley Regional Center Urban and Rural Contracts

Thomas Dulin Transit Systems Director provided an overview of the Central Valley Regional Center Urban and Rural contract with the annual 10% increase cost rate over a three-year period due to rising fuel, maintenance and personnel costs.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pacheco **Second by:** Neil

Ayes: Amy Arambula, Alena Pacheco, Sherry Neil, Linda Hayes and Robert Pimentel.

Nays: None

10. PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION CHARTER

Committee Chair, Amy Arambula, recommended this item to be tabled and presented at the May Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

11. SANCTUARY AND SUPPORT SERVICES

A. Project HOPE Bridge Housing Update

Gattie-Blanco, provided an updated table on the Project HOPE Bride Housing to include the number of individuals that entered the project.

Committee Chair, Amy Arambula, recommended adding a column to include the number of families and eight total units.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

12. 2021 – 2022 LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) DATA REPORT

Joseph Amader, Energy Services Director, provided a detailed presentation on the 2021-2022 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Date Report to identify the total clients served by zip code, income guidelines and maps to identify the greatest concentration of poverty need in Fresno County.

Committee Chair, Amy Arambula, recommended adding a column to include the cities next to the zip code.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

13. WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN

A. Financial Management Review

Annette Thornton, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), provided an over of the Financial management Review results and corrective action plan for the fiscal year 2020-2021

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

14. EQUITY AND IMPACT

A. Grant Tracker

Committee Chair, Amy Arambula, recommended Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health Call for Progress Grant Application for RWJ Foundation be pulled from the Grant Tracker and presented at the April Board Meeting.

Arambula recommends pulling the following items from the grant tracker and be presented at the April Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting.

- African American Coalition:
 - Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)
- Health and Dental:

- 2023-2023 Adolescent Family Life Program
- Public Awareness and Community Outreach Campaign Services
- Trauma-Informed Program and Practices

Board Chair inquired the possibility to provide a summary report for grants items under \$150,000

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting is scheduled on Monday, April 24, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

16. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None heard.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Arambula
Committee Chair

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Training and Employment Services/Advance Peace
Agenda Item #: 12B2	Director: Patrick Turner
Subject: Second Chance Act Youth Reentry Program	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends approval for full board consideration to apply to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) for the Second Chance Act Youth Reentry Program in the amount of \$2,650,000 over a 36-month project period. The deadline to submit the application is May 23, 2023.

Background

The DOJ, Office of Juvenile Justice Programs (OJP), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is seeking applicants to provide opportunities for system-involved youth. Fresno EOC programs (Advance Peace, Vocational Apprenticeship Connections, Local Conservation Corps) will partner to propose a project targeting youth, ages 18-26. Services proposed will include: fatherhood counseling, mentorship, vocational training, job development services, and case management with the goal to reduce recidivism and improve the career opportunities for the youth served.

Fiscal Impact

The maximum funding amount of \$2,650,000 will support a three (3) year project period. A match of 50 percent (cash or in-kind) is required to support the budget proposed.

Conclusion

The approval of the full Board will enable Fresno EOC to leverage these and existing funds to provide expanded services and serve more families recovering from involvement in the juvenile justice system.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Training and Employment Services – VAC
Agenda Item #: 12B3	Director: Patrick Turner
Subject: Construction Apprenticeship Program	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends approval for full board consideration of the Construction Apprenticeship Program application to the County of Fresno in the amount of \$1,320,000 over a five-year project period. The deadline to submit the application is May 3, 2023.

Background

The County of Fresno has been funding the Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) program for the past five years to serve referred former offenders in training for the building trades. VAC offers pre-apprenticeship training for adults to earn nine nationally recognized certificates within a 12-week upon graduation in preparation for a career into the Building Trades Unions.

Fiscal Impact

The anticipated funding is approximately \$264,000 annually. Final contract numbers are still to be determined by County of Fresno Probation's division of the AB109 funds made available by the State of California. Selected vendor will receive a maximum term agreement of five years. There is a based period of three (3) years with two optional one-year extensions. The current agreement with the County of Fresno expires June 30, 2023.

Conclusion

If approved by the full Board, funding will allow Fresno EOC to continue existing VAC pre-apprenticeship training.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: African American Coalition
Agenda Item #: 12B4	Director: Marcie Santana / Tinicia McPeters
Subject: Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant application to the Centers for Disease Control for a 12-month project in the amount of \$1,000,000 submitted on April 11, 2023.

Background

REACH is administered by the Centers for Disease Control, overseen by the State of CA Department of Public Health. Their goal is to reach minority communities with key public health messages. If selected, the African American Coalition will work with several different community partners to implement all aspects of the proposed work.

This award opportunity will enable the African American Coalition (AAC) to conduct community health outreach on the topics of nutrition, physical exercise, breastfeeding, and adult vaccinations.

Fiscal Impact

Upon award notice, the 12-month project period will begin August 1, 2023. The total amount available is \$1,000,000. Budget will support personnel (\$447,630), travel (\$24,819), equipment (\$12,800), supplies (\$113,562), related contracts for nutrition, breastfeeding, and fitness consultants (\$83,000), Misc. expenses \$227,280 (i.e. rent, mobile WIFI, marketing), and Indirect (\$90,909).

Conclusion

If ratified by the full Board, the funds will allow the AAC to operate the REACH program, and reach minority populations with key resources and opportunities involving nutrition, physical activity, breastfeeding, and adult vaccinations.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Food Services
Agenda Item #: 12B5	Director: Jon Escobar
Subject: FY 2022- 2023 Food Service Agreements Amendments	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of two Food Services Agreement Amendments with the Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA), approved at the August 24, 2022 Board meeting, Agenda Item F7.

Background

FMAAA amended CI Covid-19, Contract No. 23-0095. This amendment will increase the grant award from \$800,000 to \$1,055,296 for the 2022-2023 contract period due to increased funding received through the Federal Older Americans Act, as well as, The American Rescue Plan to provide home delivered meals to clients who are still unable to attend meal sites in person.

FMAAA also amended Title III C2 Home-Delivered Meals, Requisition Order No. 21695. This amendment will increase the maximum funding from \$2,217,902 to \$2,363,588 for the 2022-2023 contract period due to increased funding received through the Federal Older Americans Act to provide home delivered meals to clients who are unable to leave their home to purchase or prepare their own food.

Fiscal Impact

These amendments will increase projected revenue by an additional total of \$400,982 for the 2022-2023 contract year.

Conclusion

If ratified by the full Board, this additional funding will allow Food Services to provide more meals to Home Bound clients who might otherwise not receive the proper nutrition during this post pandemic transition.

FMAAA C-19 Budget

Summary

2022-2023

Personnel Staffing Expenses

Personnel	481,019
Less Match	348,260
	<u>132,759</u>

Non-Personnel Expenses

Food Costs	514,140
Program Supplies	128,250
	<u>642,390</u>

Other Costs

Liability Insurance	4,845
Telephone	3,078
Office Supplies/Expense	4,275
Building Maintenance	8,821
Equipment Maintenance	15,390
Utilities	26,363
Uniform Cleaning	2,280
Meal Delivery	119,159
Indirect	95,936
	<u>280,147</u>

Total	<u><u>1,055,296</u></u>
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Health Services
Agenda Item #: 12B6	Director: Jane Thomas
Subject: Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP)	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends ratification for full Board approval of the 2023-2026 grant application to the California Department of Public Health. The grant award is a three (3) years term, funded at \$670,000 annually for a total of \$2,010,000. The grant application was submitted on April 10, 2023.

Background

The AFLP is a program administered by the State of California, Department of Public Health. Fresno EOC has continuously operated the AFLP program in Fresno County since 1985, and has applied to continue to operate the program for the next three years with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2023. The program will fund case management for pregnant or parenting teenagers who often find themselves in situational poverty.

Fiscal Impact

The proposed budget is for \$670,000 per year for three years, for a total of \$2,010,000.

	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26
Personnel	355,642.00	373,527.00	379,755.00
Fringes	114,410.00	120,575.00	120,584.00
Travel/Training	31,000.00	31,000.00	26,000.00
Rent	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
General Expense	45,140.00	22,283.00	18,311.00
Outreach/Education Support/Concrete Support	28,300.00	23,500.00	25,300.00
Indirect Cost	70,508.00	74,115.00	75,050.00
Total Costs	670,000.00	670,000.00	670,000.00

Conclusion

If approved by the full Board, the funds will allow the AFLP program to continue operation for the next three years.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Health Services
Agenda Item #: 12B7	Director: Jane Thomas
Subject: Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of the grant application to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications (OCPSC) in the amount of \$250,000. The application was submitted on April 18, 2023.

Background

This is an award to allow Fresno EOC to conduct community outreach on the following three topics; COVID-19, extreme heat, and water conservation. Outreach will be conducted through in-person contacts, phone banking, and social media posts.

Fresno EOC has operated similar community outreach programs in the past, as a sub-awardee of Sierra Health Foundation. Fresno EOC is the main applicant of this RFP. OCPSC is requesting applications from non-profit organizations with appropriate qualifications and experience conducting public awareness and community outreach campaigns to assist with the coordination of California's most important statewide awareness and community outreach campaigns. This was an invitation-only grant, for which we were invited to apply.

Fiscal Impact

The total budget of \$250,000 covers a six-month project period beginning June 1, 2023.

Item	Amount
Personnel	\$144,017
Payroll and Taxes	\$51,241
Operation Expenses	\$21,360
Materials and Supplies	\$7,655
Technology and Equipment	\$3,000
Indirect	\$22,727
Total	\$250,000

Conclusion

If ratified by the full Board, the funds will allow the community outreach program beginning in June 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Health Services
Agenda Item #: 12B8	Director: Jane Thomas
Subject: Rural Education and Development for Youth (READY)	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Background

The information presented is intended to keep the Board apprised of Health Services partnership with University of California San Francisco (UCSF) to support Rural Education and Development for Youth (READY).

Fresno EOC Health Services and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools were included as contracted partners in UCSF READY grant application for the Advancing Equity in Adolescent Health through Evidence-Based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs and Services to the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) submitted on April 17, 2023 for fiscal years 2023-2028.

This project aims to promote health equity and reduce adolescent pregnancy and STIs in rural communities of Fresno County by implementing evidence-based sexual health education programming, authentically engaging parents/caregivers and communities, and offering supplemental programming for older adolescents. In addition, the program will strengthen referrals to a network of adolescent-friendly supportive services, including clinics and mental health services.

UCSF will serve as the monitoring and improvement lead and responsible for administering the grant. Fresno EOC's scope of work for this project over a five-year project period is \$1,750,000. Funding will allow Health Services to provide necessary health education services to students in rural Fresno County.

	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27	FY 27-28	Total
Salary	185,385.00	190,760.00	187,679.00	188,089.00	187,248.00	939,161.00
Fringe	57,269.00	59,541.00	59,028.00	60,135.00	60,633.00	296,606.00
Mileage	11,318.00	11,318.00	11,318.00	11,318.00	11,318.00	56,590.00
Training/Conference Fee	9,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	10,940.00	11,283.00	55,223.00
Supplies	10,310.00	5,663.00	1,457.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	19,430.00
Other	44,900.00	38,900.00	46,700.00	46,700.00	46,700.00	223,900.00
Total DC	318,182.00	318,182.00	318,182.00	318,182.00	318,182.00	1,590,910.00
IDC @ 10%	31,818.00	31,818.00	31,818.00	31,818.00	31,818.00	159,090.00
TOTAL PROJECT	350,000.00	350,000.00	350,000.00	350,000.00	350,000.00	1,750,000.00



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Local Conservation Corps
Agenda Item #: 12B9	Director: Shawn Riggins, LCC Director
Subject: CalRecycle RLC 38 Grant	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action


The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) 38th Cycle (RLC 38) grant application in the amount of \$1,992,282 submitted on April 6, 2023. The Fiscal Year 2023-24 project period begins July 1, 2023.

Background

This grant establishes the Local Conservation Corps (LCC) as a Conservation Corps and continues CalRecycle's efforts to include all 14 California Local Certified Community Conservation Corps in collection and education activities of four (4) material types: CRV Beverage Containers, Used Oil, Used Tires, and E-waste. LCC maintains partnerships with the Cities and Counties of Fresno and Madera by collaborating on used tire and e-waste Amnesty Days. LCC will collect CRV beverage containers from schools, bars/restaurants and special events. LCC will also visit used oil Certified Collection Centers throughout the county to ensure state mandated signage is posted and accurate, and collect e-waste from businesses and residential homes. In addition, we continue to operate a Buyback/Recycling Center in the rural community of Friant, which redeems bottles and cans from the public for cash and accepts used tires and e-waste, in addition to exploring a potential second buyback site.

The program funding supports the following:

- Trainees: 27 trainee "corpsmember" positions;
- Personnel: Full-time Crew Supervisors (seven positions), Program Assistants (two positions), an Outreach and Recruitment staff, a Transitional Support Advisor (TSA) and a Program Manager;
- Personnel: Partial funding for the LCC Director, LCC Assistant Director, LCC Operations and Administration Manager, Facilities and Safety Coordinator, and Receptionist; and
- Supplies: New recycling containers to continue program collections.



This request aligns with the agency's goals of assisting a low-income, diverse workforce, and provide training in the effort to assist them in becoming self-sufficient.

Fiscal Impact

Per state statute, the CalRecycle grant is the program that enables youth serving programs to be considered an official "Corps", and provides funding for various LCC staff. The Buyback component helps provide funding for many corps needs, not usually included in grant budgets.

Conclusion

If ratified by the full Board, this non-competitive grant will allow LCC to remain certified through the California Conservation Corps in order to continue to receive funding.

FY 2023 -2025 CalRecycle RLC 38 GRANT

Internal Budget

	Budget	Total
Salaries & Fringes		
Staff Salaries	638,441	\$ 638,441
Corpsmember Wages	347,501	\$ 347,501
Fringe Benefits	357,444	\$ 357,444
Equipment Lease		
Recycling Carts/Sorting Equipment Maint. Serv.	17,400	\$ 17,400
Lease Trailers for Amnesty Tires Events	13,200	\$ 13,200
Operation Cost		
Program Specifice Expenses, Office Supplies,Uniforms	65,245	\$ 65,245
Laptops,Ipads,Program Training, Education, Outreach	30,400	\$ 30,400
Travel & Conference Fees	13,075	\$ 13,075
Facilities Maintenance & Utilities	204,360	\$ 204,360
Vehicles - Fuel, Insurance and Repair & Maintenance	79,200	\$ 79,200
Subcontractor		
Northern California Laborer's Training	5,000	\$ 5,000
CALCC Membership dues	10,000	\$ 10,000
Insurance,Phone,Copiers,etc.	26,400	\$ 26,400
Audit & Indirect Costs		
State Annual Audit Report (AAR)	3,500	\$ 3,500
Indirect - 10%	181,117	\$ 181,117
Total	\$ 1,992,282	\$ 1,992,282



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Transit Systems
Agenda Item #: 12B10	Director: Thomas Dulin
Subject: Fresno Rural & Urban Social Service Transportation	Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

The Program Planning and Evaluation Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of the 2023-2024 Fresno Rural & Urban Social Service Transportation proposal to Fresno County Rural Transportation Agency (FCRTA) totaling \$2,338,673 submitted on April 18, 2023. The contract shall be in effect for a total of three (3) years, with two (2) one (1) year renewal options beginning July 1, 2023.

Background

Since 1982, Transit Systems has operated as the lead Social Service Transportation Agency in all of Fresno County, except the City of Clovis. Currently, Fresno EOC is the operator of the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) with the City of Fresno (Urban) and FCRTA (Rural). As in the past, Fresno EOC proposes to use these funds to supplement transportation services for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024.

The social service contracts associated with CTSA operations constitute the majority of Transit Systems' operating costs, and are supplemented by these State Transportation Funds. Proposed CTSA operations include the following urban and rural partners:

Urban


1. Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC)
2. Fresno County Department of Social Services (CalWORKS)
3. Arc of Central California
4. United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)
5. California Veterans Home (City of Fresno)
6. Misc. Eligible Partners TBD - Special Trips for Social Service Agencies

In addition, internal partners (Head Start 0 to 5 and Food Services)

Rural

1. CVRC
2. Arc of Central California
3. UCP
4. Misc. Eligible Partners TBD - Special Trips for Social Service Agencies

In addition, internal partners (Head Start 0 to 5 and Food Services)



The Social Service Transportation proposal reflects Transit Systems' most recent list of contracted and supported transit services and provides a proposed operational plan and budget for FY 2023-2024.

Fiscal Impact

The maximum funding available is \$1,635,573 through the City of Fresno and \$703,100 through the FCTRA, to be administered by the Fresno Council of Governments (COG). The total Social Service Transportation proposal request is \$2,338,673. If Fresno EOC does not receive these funds, current transportation service budgets will need to be revised to address the reduction.

Conclusion

If ratified by the full Board, the 2023-2024 Social Service Transportation funding request will enable Transit Systems to continue to operate stable and successful social services transportation that is essential to the community.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Sanctuary and Support Services
Agenda Item #: 12B11	Director: Misty Gattie-Blanco
Subject: Project HOPE Bridge Housing Update	Officer: Michelle L. Tutunjian

Background

The information presented is intended to keep the Board apprised of the eight (8) rooms for Project HOPE Bridge Housing located at N Street, funded by the City of Fresno and Fresno City College.

2023 Month	No. of Households* Entered Project	No. of Individuals Entered Project			No. of Households* Exited Project	No. of Individuals Exited Project
		Ages 18 – 24	Over Age 25	Under Age 18		
January	6	4	2	4	3	3
February	9	4	5	2	6	10
March	4	3	1	2	3	3

**Households can include a single individual adult; more than one adult; and/or adults with children.*

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Equity and Impact
Agenda Item #: 12B12	Director: Kevin Williams
Subject: 2023 Community Needs Assessment	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Background

The information presented below is intended to keep the Board apprised of the launch for the 2023 Community Needs Assessment.

As a requirement of Community Services Division (CSD), Fresno EOC must complete a Community Needs Assessment every two years. This Assessment serves to: a) identify our service gaps; b) identify community priorities related to poverty conditions; c) evaluate program effectiveness, and d) identify poverty conditions and/or areas that require more investment (funding) to address need. The deadline for submission is on or before June 30, 2023.

Data collection process will include community forums, focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and surveys. A Staff Retreat Planning Day is scheduled for May 5, followed by the community launch on May 8, 2023. The second week of May, we will hold focus public forums in Cantua Creek, Orange Cove, Southwest Fresno, and Parlier. During the fourth week of May, we will hold Focus Groups in each of our Target Services Areas.

Following the completion of the Community Needs Assessment, we will develop a Community Action Plan that gives specific measures on how we will respond to community priorities identified in the Community Needs Assessment.

The Community Needs Assessment provides organization direction on what types of programs and services are needed, what community investments should be made, and how the agency can be effective in eliminating poverty.



Fresno
**Economic
Opportunities
Commission**

2023 Community Needs Assessment

Kevin J. Williams
Director of Equity and Impact

What is the Community Needs Assessment?

- Completed every two years.
- Community feedback to identify priorities and needed supports.
- Includes feedback from multiple groups of people and organizations
- The CNA gives community direction on how and what services will be delivered.

Purpose of the CNA

- What are our service gaps?
- Is this program needed?
- What priorities need attention?
- How do we know we are effective?



Methods

- Who do we gather information from?
 - Current and potential clients
 - Community organizations
 - Faith-based organizations
 - Government/Elected Officials
 - Partner Organizations
- Data collection
 - Focus groups
 - One-on-one Stakeholder interviews
 - Surveys
 - Community Forums



Strategies for Engaging Community

- Outreach to trusted community messengers
 - Who do we know that already has relationships in the communities we want to reach?
- Translation services - (Spanish, Hmong, Punjabi)
- Community Forums:
 - Targeted focus groups in communities with concentrated poverty
 - Specific focus on rural communities
 - More focus groups in areas with greater need (equity-focus)

Community Needs Assessment Timeline

- Staff Planning and Training Day Retreat
- Community Needs Assessment Data Collection
- Submit Data to Consultant For Analysis
- Data Analysis Complete
- Executive Team Review
- Board Approval
- Submit to CSD no later than June 30, 2023.

Public Forums

- Cantua Creek
- Orange Cove
- Fresno
- Parlier
- Mendota
- Huron
- Sanger
- Kerman



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Focus Groups Populations

- Queer Community
- Adults 50+
- Youth 25 and under

****Focus Groups will be available in-person and Zoom ****



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Equity & Impact
Agenda Item #: 12B13	Director: Kevin Williams
Subject: Grant Tracker	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Background

The information presented in the Grant Tracker is intended to keep the Board apprised of program grant activity for Fresno EOC.

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
Grant Tracker
Tuesday, April 18, 2023

2023 FUNDED							
Submitted	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Board Report Date	Date of Notice	Amount Awarded
	CVAHT	Slave 2 Nothing	Slave 2 Nothing Foundation	\$30,000	4/18/2023	4/4/2023	\$30,000
	Emergency apartment for CVAHT program.						
	LGBTQ+ Resource Center	CVS Health Foundation	CVS Health Foundation	\$25,000	3/27/2023		\$25,000

2023 NOT FUNDED						
Submitted	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Board Report Date	Date of Notice
3/1/2023	African American Coalition	Vaccine Uptake Grant	National Council on Aging	\$150,000	3/27/2023	3/8/2023
	Vaccine clinic, home visits, community outreach and awareness.					
2/13/2023	Best Babies Zone	INCHES Initiative	Central Valley Community Foundation	\$130,000	3/27/2023	3/6/2023
	To participate in the CVCF cohort on racism in economic structures in Fresno.					
3/3/2023	Dental Services	Pioneering Ideas	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	\$2,258,348	3/27/2023	
	Implementation of a data system and support from community health workers to connect families in the SBSP program to needed services.					

Notes:

PENDING GRANTS						
Submitted	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Board Report Date	Expected Date of Notice
Submitted in 2023						
4/11/2023	African American Coalition	Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)	CDC	\$1,500,000	3/27/2023	8/30/2023
	Programs in Physical Activity, Nutrition, Breastfeeding, and Vaccinations					
4/10/2023	Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP)	AFLP 2023 - 2026	CA Department of Public Health	\$500,000	3/27/2023	5/22/2023
	Continuation of the AFLP for the next 3 years - programs for pregnant and parenting teens.					
4/10/2023	Health Services	Public Awareness and Community Outreach Campaign Services	Governor's Office of Planning and Research	\$670,000	3/27/2023	4/24/2023
	Community outreach on COVID-19, water conservation, and extreme heat.					
**4/10/2023	Health Services	Trauma-Informed Programs and Practices	CA Dept of Health Care Services	\$750,000	3/27/2023	4/24/2023
3/10/2023	Weatherization	2023 Dept of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program	Department of Energy	\$1,200,000	3/27/2023	
3/10/2023	African American Coalition	Thriving Families Partnerships	First 5 Fresno County	\$120,000	3/27/2023	4/28/2023
	Vaccine clinic, home visits, community outreach and awareness.					
3/10/2023	WIC	Thriving Families Partnerships	First 5 Fresno County	\$120,000	3/27/2023	4/28/2023
	Hiring a referral coordinator to connect WIC participants with other needed resources and services.					
3/3/2023	Food Distribution	Food for Life Initiative	Kaiser Permanente	\$25,000	3/27/2023	
	Food distribution in rural areas					
2/24/2023	Workforce Connection	Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board 23-24 (Urban East)	Department of Labor	\$891,800	3/27/2023	
	Continued funding for Workforce Connection in 2023-24					
2/24/2023	Workforce Connection	Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board 23-24 (Urban West)	Department of Labor	\$891,800	3/27/2023	
	Continued funding for Workforce Connection in 2023-24					
2/24/2023	Workforce Connection	Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board 23-24 (Rural West)	Department of Labor	\$433,160	3/27/2023	
	Continued funding for Workforce Connection in 2023-24					

**Health Services did not move forward with application for this grant

2/24/2023	Workforce Connection	Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board 23-24 (Rural East)	Department of Labor	\$446,880	3/27/2023	
	Continued funding for Workforce Connection in 2023-24					
2/21/2023	LGBTQ+ Center	PRIR Initiative	CA Department of Public Health	\$1,200,000	3/27/2023	
	Will increase access for HIV diagnosis and treatment for low-income LGBT folks in Fresno through HIV screening, increase LGBT Competency Trainings for medical providers, and provide ongoing client support.					
2/13/2023	LGBTQ+ Center	Stop the Hate: Services for Survivors and Prevention	CA Department of Social Services	\$800,000	3/27/2023	
	Will provide support for LGBT victims of hate crimes, fund hate prevention workshops, and increase awareness of resources for low-income areas.					
2/6/2023	Dental Services	ComPASS Program	National Institutes of Health	\$9,827,841	3/27/2023	4/15/2023
	Implementation of a data system and support from community health workers to connect families in the SBSP program to needed services.					
Submitted in 2022						
9/26/2022	Sanctuary and Support Services	Elevate Youth California: Youth Substance Use Disorder Prevention Program	Sierra Health Foundation	\$1,000,000	10/17/2022	11/1/2022
	To expand youth and young adult substance use prevention through policy, systems and environmental change.					
9/1/2022	Sanctuary and Support Services	Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Youth Services	City of Fresno	\$483,400	10/17/2022	Not specified
	To expand Youth Bridge Housing to provide services to Fresno City College young adults that are enrolled in Project HOPE.					
8/2/2022	Foster Grandparent Program	Medicare Savings Program	AARP	\$150,000	8/8/2022	Not specified
	Educate and engage adults over 50 about Medicare Savings Programs and help enroll more eligible older adults with low income in the programs.					
8/2/2022	LCC	BSCC Title II Grant Program	Board of State and Community Corrections	\$1,050,000	8/2/2022	Not specified
	Will fund additional supportive services for corpsmembers at the LCC site, including counseling, legal services, peer support groups, and other resources, as well as an increase in referrals to other EOC programs to address barriers.					
8/2/2022	Sanctuary and Support Services	Making Spirits Bright	PG&E's Better Together Giving Program	\$2,000	N/A	Not specified
	To provide 25 families selected by a local elementary school with a Christmas Tree and decorations, along with hand-selected gifts for every child under 18 year old, personalized stockings, food and more during the holiday season.					
Submitted in 2021						
7/26/2021	Strategy & Resource Development	CSBG CARES Act Rapid Cycle Impact Project	Administration of Children and Families	\$250,000	9/22/2021	Not specified
	Provide 30 families with children enrolled in Head Start Huron with monthly supplemental incomes for a 12-month period.					
3/15/2021	Energy Services	Energy Efficiency Grant Program	Energy Upgrade California	\$20,000	3/24/2021	Not specified
	Outreach to rural and urban Fresno County residents through direct and indirect methods about energy efficiency benefits and best practices.					

Checked 3/29/23, no announcement

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Head Start 0 to 5
Agenda Item #: 12C1	Director: Rosa M. Pineda
Subject: Program Update Report (PUR) for February 2023	Chief Executive Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

The Head Start County-Wide Policy Council recommends Committee approval for full Board consideration of the Head Start 0 to 5 February 2023 Monthly Program Update Report.

Background

As per mandate, Head Start agencies provide monthly updates to the Board and Policy council, written as required by the Head Start Act of December 12, 2007, Section 642 Powers and Functions of Head Start Agencies (d) Program Governance Administration, (2) Conduct of Responsibilities, (A) through (I).

Below is a reference to the requirement.

(2) Conduct of Responsibilities – Each Head Start agency shall ensure the sharing of accurate and regular information for use by the governing body and policy council, about program planning, policies, and Head Start agency operations. . .

The report includes all areas mandated by the Head Start Act, not reported elsewhere: (B) monthly program activity summaries; (C) program enrollment reports; (D) monthly reports of meals and snacks provided through the U.S. Department of Agriculture; (H) communication and guidance from the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The excluded information reported separately includes: (A) monthly financial reports including credit cards, (E) financial audit report, (F) annual Self-Assessment (G) community-wide strategic planning (Community Assessment) and the (I) Annual Program Information Report (PIR).

The February 2023 Program Update Report is attached for review.

Fiscal Impact

Not Applicable.



Conclusion

If approved by the full Board, the February 2023 PUR will be retained for record keeping to verify the County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners had timely and accurate information to ensure programmatic and fiduciary accountability of Fresno EOC Head Start 0 to 5.



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT
REPORT MONTH: FEBRUARY 2023**

I. Head Start 0 to 5

Program Information Summary:

1. February 8-10, 2023 – Second Tri-Annual Review Self-Assessment meetings took place at Franklin Head Start Auditorium.
2. February 13, 2023 – Lincoln's Birthday Holiday observed. All Head Start 0 to 5 offices and sites were closed in observance.
3. February 17, 2023 – Head Start 0 to 5 Directors attended the Fresno EOC Board Retreat at Holland Park West.
4. February 20, 2023 – President's Day Holiday observed. All Head Start 0 to 5 offices and sites were closed in observance.

II. Communication and Guidance from the United States Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary:

On February 21, 2023 OHS released the Information Memorandum ACF-PI-HS-23-02 informing grantees President Biden signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, into law on December 29, 2022. The funding level for programs under the Head Start Act (the Act) is \$11,996,820,000, an increase of \$960 million over fiscal year (FY) 2022. This increase includes \$596 million to provide all Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnership grant recipients a 5.6% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), \$262 million for quality improvement, and \$100 million for expansion of Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CC Partnership programs. The total appropriation also includes \$8 million for Tribal College and University Head Start (TCU-HS) Partnership programs, of which \$2 million is an increase over the FY 2022 funding level.

III. Early Head Start

Program Information Summary:

1. Ongoing recruitment of staff for Center Base and Home Base positions.
2. Continue to recruit children and families for Center Base and Home Base program.
3. Community of Practices (CoP) Early Stars took place for two teachers at Jane Addams Early Head Start and eight teachers at Child Development Center (CDC).
4. Diaper Distribution continues in order to assist and support parents with monthly diaper expenses.
5. February 22, 2023 – The Electronic File Committee met and included EHS Home Base to assist and support them with transitioning children files from paper to electronic files for the 23/24 program year.
6. PIR Coaching took place and included EHS Home Base Data collection from ChildPlus. As a result, data collection for the PIR will be more accurate and easier to access.

Early Head Start Enrollment/ADA Reports/Wait List:

Monthly Enrollment: 261; Monthly ADA: Center Base: 76.78%, Home Base: N/A%

Wait List Total: 214

Total enrollment for Early Head Start (EHS) for the month of February 2023 is 261. The overall funded enrollment is 478, to which we have a total of 239 vacancies (93 for CB and 146 for HB). We currently have 108 families waitlisted (58 for CB and 50 for HB). Of those, 22 families on the waitlist are over income. EHS continues to recruit for vacant positions for Center Base and Home Base. In addition, we have sites pending clearances from Community Care Licensing (Eric White) and City Permits (Clinton & Blythe), and Mendota. Staff have been participating in community events throughout Fresno County to recruit children and staff. Analysis of all areas below the recommended 85% ADA, if any, has been done.

Early Head Start Meals/Snacks:

Total Children: Breakfasts: 447 Lunches: 478 Snacks: 437

IV. Head Start

Program Information Summary:

1. Ongoing recruitment of staff for Education, Family/Community, and Inclusion Services.
2. Continue to recruit children for Center Base and Home Base program.
3. Sanger Home Base Socialization room is ready to be used for socialization.
4. Continue to meet with FCSS-The Lighthouse to enroll children.
5. Waiting on Community Care Licensing to visit Dakota Circle and receive clearance to open new building (two classes)

Head Start Enrollment/ADA Reports/Wait List:

Monthly Enrollment: 1,658; Monthly ADA: Center Base 79.42%; Home Base: N/A%

Wait List Total: 437

Total Head Start (HS) enrollment for February 2023 is 1658. Our overall funded enrollment is 2112, to which we have a total of 502 vacancies (464 for CB and 38 for HB). We continue to recruit families and have a waitlist of 442 children, 188 families on the waitlist are over-income and 210 are three-years old. At this time, staff shortage continues to impact enrollment, where classes have been cancelled and current staff have had to be moved to cover multiple sites to serve



Fresno EOC
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&
Education

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT

enrolled children and families. In addition, several sites/classrooms (Dakota Circle- new building, Estelle Dailey, Madison, and Mendota) have been closed due to delays with construction, repairs, Community Care Licensing, and/or city permits. Children and families currently enrolled at Mendota are being provided with Home Base services until the center re-opens for in-person services. We are pleased to report that Estelle Dailey and Madison's repairs are completed and centers have reopened for in-person services. Analysis of all areas below the recommended 85% ADA, if any, has been done.

Head Start Meals/Snacks:

Total Children: Breakfasts: 15,058 Lunches: 17,931 Snacks: 13,966

Submitted by:

Rosa M. Pineda
Head Start Director

Nidia Davis
Program Support Director

(FEBRUARY 2023 BOARD PUR REPORT) bw 04/17/23 ~ CWPC (2022-2023 (PUR (BOARD))) ~



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Head Start 0 to 5
Agenda Item #: 12C2	Director: Rosa M. Pineda
Subject: Head Start 0 to 5 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)	Chief Executive Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

The County-Wide Policy Council recommends Board ratification for full Board consideration to approve a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase for Early Head Start (\$433,742) and Head Start (\$1,963,310) that includes our contractors Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) that serve EHS and HS children and families, for a total of \$2,397,052 for the fiscal year 2023.

Background

On March 15, 2023, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) released the opportunity for programs under the Head Start Act to apply for COLA funding for the fiscal year 2023. The cost of living adjustment is an increase in income that keeps staff salaries on par with increases in living expenses.

All Head Start 0 to 5 staff be given an across-the-board salary increase of 5.6% for salary and fringe benefits. This includes our contractors, Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) personnel who provide services to 134 three and four-year old Head Start children and their families and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) personnel who provides services to 20 three and four-year old Head Start children and their families. This aligns with the directive from ACF that the agency is encouraged to provide staff with a minimum salary increase of at least 5.6%.

Head Start 0 to 5 management submitted a request for authorization to apply for funds, to the Head Start 0 to 5 County-Wide Policy Council and Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners Chairperson, to which they both authorized to apply April 20, 2023.



Fiscal Impact

For Head Start 0 to 5 to continue to provide a quality program for the community's families/children by offering competitive salaries to qualified staff, a total amount of \$2,397,052 will be applied to salaries for the 2023 fiscal year.

Conclusion

If ratified by the Board, the COLA funds will be used to increase salaries and fringe benefits. If no approval is received, the unspent monies will be returned to the Office of Head Start.

Supplement
Fiscal Year 2023
Request for Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
Narrative and Budget Justification
April 20, 2023

Head Start COLA Narrative

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (dba Fresno EOC) Head Start, per the Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023, released by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) on March 15, 2023, enabled Fresno EOC to apply for a cost-of-living increase (COLA) of \$1,963,310 for the Head Start Program. The cost of living adjustment is an increase in income that keeps staff salaries on par with increases in living expenses. We propose these dollars be applied to wages, salaries, and benefits. The County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners Chairpersons have authorized Head Start to apply for a COLA, on April 20, 2023, respectively. Corresponding documentation has been uploaded under the documents tab in the COLA section of the Head Start Enterprise System.

Fresno EOC Head Start provides services to 2,112 three and four-year olds and their families throughout Fresno County, 120 in Home Base and 1,992 in Center Base. The request for an increase in funding is consistent with the provisions of Section 653 and 640(j) of the Head Start Act and the instruction received regarding the Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023. Management is aware that the funding will only become effective when a Notice of Award is received and will be applied retroactively to the start of the FY 2023 budget period. We propose that all Head Start staff be given an across-the-board salary increase of 5.6% for salary and fringe benefits. This includes our contractors, Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) personnel who provide services to 134 three and four-year old Head Start children and their families and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) personnel who provides services to 20 three and four-year old Head Start children and their families. This aligns with the directive from ACF that the agency is encouraged to provide staff with a minimum salary increase of at least 5.6%.

Head Start employs 507 staff to provide comprehensive services to enrolled children and families. To align with the recommendations of the Wage Comp Study completed April 2023, we are utilizing remaining COLA funds to further increase the wages of identified positions that have been difficult to recruit and retain staff. The Fresno EOC Head Start salary table will be adjusted correspondingly, so that the increase will be included in all future wages.

In the past year, much of our turnover can be attributed to the extensive need for a quality workforce in our community since the COVID-19 pandemic. The initial closures and subsequent uncertainty regarding reopening guidelines, health and safety measures and more, led to confusion and worry among staff. Current and former staff have reported experiencing stress, financial instability, income loss and an increase in the cost of childcare, the price increase on food, gas, and cleaning supplies, the need for personal protective equipment, and greater demand for labor. Moreover, Child Development and Early Childhood

Education programs operated by colleges, universities, school districts, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, etc. are competing with us for hires and because of their higher pay scales, numerous applicants and former staff have chosen to work for them instead. Consequently, these are just some of the factors that have contributed to the challenges of hiring and retaining staff employment.

Fresno EOC has a reputation for hiring qualified staff and providing extensive training that assists them to become more highly qualified. In April 2023, Fresno EOC Head Start completed a Wage Comp Study. The comparison documents that Fresno EOC Head Start pays salaries comparable or slightly above some Head Start programs in the California's Central Valley; however, when the wages are compared to other Early Childhood Education entities, on average the starting wages are comparable, but the ending wage is significantly less for Head Start employees. To recruit and retain our workforce, the wage that we pay must be competitive in the local economy.

Salaries for kindergarten teachers were also included within the wage survey tables researched for Fresno EOC Head Start during April of 2023. The Unified School Districts' salaries are considerably higher than the salary that a Head Start employee can earn. In Head Start, we emphasize obtaining associate and bachelor's degrees and we support staff to do so. When their degree is earned, staff frequently leave Head Start employment for higher paying positions elsewhere. Governor Gavin Newsom's plan regarding California's Universal Transitional Kindergarten continues to impact Head Start in California, as school districts are expected to quadruple their enrollment for 4-year-olds within the next five years. Consequently, the need for Early Childhood Education teachers in the school districts is inevitable.

We are aware that frequently, families and children in our programs can identify with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Increases in staff compensation are intended to enhance program quality and the resultant improvement in our ability to attract and retain qualified program staff, will provide optimal support to children and families struggling with difficult life circumstances and highly stressful experiences.

The COLA will also be applied to support benefits for staff. Among these benefits, the award of funds will support enhanced access for Head Start staff to Fresno EOC's employee assistance program. Because we encourage parents to move forward in their educational career, and often hire them, we are aware that there are unresolved traumas in the lives of staff and the mental health supports of the employee assistance system are instrumental in helping staff to resolve personal issues which empowers them. In turn, to be much more effective in assisting children and parents through a trauma informed approach. The additional indirect dollars supporting Fresno EOC will ensure that the agency's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) remains available to staff. A stable workforce promotes continuity of care which is a positive development for children in Head Start.

Budget Justification

COLA: \$1,189,880.46

Fresno EOC Head Start proposes to use \$1,189,880.46 in the personnel budget line item, the dollars requested represent a 5.6% COLA, for all positions on Fresno EOC Head Start's salary table. This includes our contractors, Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) staff who provide services to Head Start children and families as well. Accordingly, staff, children, families and the community will receive advantage as the increases in salaries translate into increased staff retention, increased staff productivity, and increased staff mental health supports through Fresno EOC's Employee Assistance Program. Supported staff will consequently be better able to support the children and families enrolled in the program, many of whom have been greatly impacted by the trauma of the pandemic.

Benefits: \$523,547.40

With the increase in wages there is a corresponding increase in funding applied to benefits. Head Start's costs for provision of benefits include:

- Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) Expense: \$167,535.17
- State Unemployment Insurance: \$62,825.69
- Workers' Compensation: \$188,477.07
- 401(a) Retirement Match: \$104,709.48

Partners: \$53,551

Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) personnel provide services to 134 three and four-year old Head Start children and their families and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) personnel provide services to 20 three and four-year old Head Start children and their families.

Non-Federal Share: \$0

Per the COVID-19 Funding Guidance: ACF-PI-HS-20-03 FY 2020, Supplemental Funds in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) received April 13, 2020: Non-federal match is not needed for this application.

Indirect Cost: \$196,331

Fresno EOC is on the 10% de minimis rate for Indirect Cost Rate with Health and Human Services (HHS) Division of Cost Allocation. A copy of the memo indicating we are following the de minimis rate is uploaded into the documents tab in HSES.

Conclusion

This information regarding the 2023 COLA application requires approval by both the County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners. Please see the corresponding attached documentation uploaded into the Head Start Enterprise System (HSES).

Supplement
Fiscal Year 2023
Request for Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
Narrative and Budget Justification
April 20, 2023

Early Head Start COLA Narrative

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (dba Fresno EOC) Early Head Start, per the Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023, released by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) on March 15, 2023, enabled Fresno EOC to apply for a cost-of-living increase (COLA) of \$433,742 for the Early Head Start Program. The cost-of-living adjustment is an increase in income that keeps staff salaries on par with increases in living expenses. We propose these dollars be applied to wages, salaries, and benefits. Fresno EOC Early Head Start management submitted a request for authorization to apply for the funds, to the Head Start 0 to 5 County-Wide Policy Council and Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners. The County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners have authorized Early Head Start to apply for a COLA, on April 20, 2023, respectively. Corresponding documentation has been uploaded under the documents tab in the COLA section of the Head Start Enterprise System.

Fresno EOC Early Head Start provides services to 478 prenatal women, infant, toddlers and their families throughout Fresno County, 384 in Home Base and 94 in Center Base. The request for an increase in funding is consistent with the provisions of Section 653 and 640(j) of the Head Start Act and the instruction received regarding the Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023. Management is aware that the funding will only become effective when a Notice of Award is received and will be applied retroactively to the start of the FY 2023 budget period. We propose that all Early Head Start employees receive at least a 5.6% COLA increase for salary and fringe benefits. This aligns with the directive from ACF that the agency is encouraged to provide staff with a minimum salary increase of at least 5.6%.

Early Head Start employs 92 staff to provide comprehensive services to enrolled children and families. ~~Our~~ To align with the recommendations of the Wage Comp Study completed April 2023, we are utilizing remaining COLA funds to further increase the wages of identified positions that have been difficult to recruit and retain staff. The Fresno EOC Early Head Start salary table will be adjusted correspondingly, so that the increase will be included in all future wages.

In the past year, much of our turnover can be attributed to the extensive need for a quality workforce in our community since the COVID-19 pandemic. The initial closures and subsequent uncertainty regarding reopening guidelines, health and safety measures and more, led to confusion and worry among staff. Current and former staff have reported experiencing stress, financial instability, income loss and an increase in the cost of childcare, due to the price increase on food, gas, and cleaning supplies, the need for personal protective equipment, and greater demand for labor. Moreover, Child Development and Early Childhood Education programs operated by colleges, universities, school districts, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, etc. are competing with us for hires and because of their higher pay scales, numerous

applicants and former staff have chosen to work for them instead. Consequently, these are just some of the factors that have contributed to the challenges of hiring and retaining staff employment this past year.

Historically, Early Head Start had few competitors for hire of a qualified workforce. In recent years, Child Development and Early Childhood Education programs operated by colleges, universities, unified school districts, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, etc. have competed with us for hires and because of their higher pay scales, numerous applicants and former staff have chosen to work for them instead. Early Head Start frequently loses staff to these community partners.

In April 2023, Fresno EOC Early Head Start completed a Wage Comp Study. The comparison documents that Fresno EOC Head Start pays salaries comparable or slightly above some Head Start programs in the California's Central Valley; however, when the wages are compared to other Early Childhood Education entities, on average the starting wages are comparable, but the ending wage is significantly less for Early Head Start employees. To recruit and retain our workforce, the wage that we pay must be competitive in the local economy.

Additionally, research has shown that continuity of care supports optimal school readiness for children. Salaries that are competitive with other Early Head Start Programs, preschools, and childcare centers throughout the central valley, will help us to retain staff who can support Early Head Start children. Subsequently, minimal staff turnover will optimize school readiness and lifelong outcomes for Early Head Start children who are part of the most vulnerable population in our Fresno County Service Area.

We are aware that frequently, families and children in our program can identify with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Increases in staff compensation are intended to enhance program quality and the resultant improvement in our ability to attract and retain qualified program staff, will provide optimal support to children and families struggling with difficult life circumstances and highly stressful experiences.

The COLA will also be applied to support benefits for staff. Among these benefits, the award of funds will support enhanced access for Early Head Start staff to Fresno EOC's Employee Assistance Program. Because we encourage parents to move forward in their educational career, and often hire them, we are aware that there are unresolved traumas in the lives of staff and the mental health supports of the employee assistance system are instrumental in helping staff to resolve personal issues which empowers them. In turn, to be much more effective in assisting children and parents through a trauma informed approach. The additional indirect dollars supporting Fresno EOC will ensure that the agency's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) remains available to staff. A stable workforce promotes continuity of care which is a positive development for children in Early Head Start.

Budget Justification

COLA: \$ 271,089

Fresno EOC Early Head Start proposes to use \$271,089 in the personnel budget line item, the dollars requested represent a 5.6% COLA, for Fresno EOC Early Head Start's salary table, plus an ERSEA Assistant position that will assist with recruitment of pregnant women and children. Accordingly, staff, children, families and the community will receive an advantage as the increases in salaries translate into increased staff retention, increased staff productivity, and increased staff mental health support through Fresno EOC's EAP. Supported staff will consequently be better able to support the children and families enrolled in the program, many of whom have suffered trauma in their lives.

Benefits: \$119,279

With the increase in wages there is a corresponding increase in funding applied to benefits. Early Head Start's costs for provision of benefits include:

- Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) Expense: \$38,169.38
- State Unemployment Insurance: \$14,313.52
- Workers' Compensation: \$42,940.55
- 401(a) Retirement Match: \$23,855.55

Non-Federal Share:

Per the COVID-19 Funding Guidance: ACF-PI-HS-20-03 FY 2020, Supplemental Funds in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) received April 20, 2022: Non-federal match is not needed for this application.

Indirect Cost: \$43,374

Fresno EOC is on the 10% de minimis rate for Indirect Cost Rate with Health and Human Services (HHS) Division of Cost Allocation. A copy of the letter stating we are following this is uploaded into the documents tab in HSES.

Conclusion

This information regarding the 2023 COLA application requires approval by both the County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners. Please see the corresponding attached documentation uploaded into the Head Start Enterprise System (HSES).



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Head Start 0 to 5
Agenda Item #: 12C3	Director: Rosa M. Pineda
Subject: Quality Improvement (QI) Application	Chief Executive Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

The County-Wide Policy Council recommends Board ratification for for Head Start 0 to 5 Quality Improvement funds; Early Head Start (\$201,554), Head Start (\$597,740) for a total of \$799,294 for the fiscal year 2023.

Background

On March 15, 2023 the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) released the opportunity for programs under the Head Start Act to apply for Quality Improvement funding for the fiscal year 2023. Each grant recipient was allocated an amount of quality improvement funding proportionate to their federal funded enrollment. A program may apply to use quality improvement funds for activities consistent with Sec.640(a)(5) of the Head Start Act. Programs are not bound by the requirement that at least 50% of the funds be used for staff compensation or no more than 10% of funds be used for transportation. However, the Office of Head Start (OHS) strongly encouraged grant recipients to prioritize investing these funds to increase compensation for staff (wages and benefits) to help recruit and retain a qualified Head Start workforce.

All Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Teacher/Caregiver, Assistant Teacher/Caregiver, Family Development Specialist and Home Base Educators will be given a salary increase of 2.4% and the remaining allocated evenly to the rest of the staff for salary and fringe benefits with the goal of preserving equitable pay, while adhering to the recommendations of the Comp Wage Study. This aligns with information from ACF that the agency may use the QI to “improve the compensation and benefits of staff of Head Start agencies, in order to improve the quality of Head Start programs.”

In April 2023, Fresno EOC Head Start completed a Comp Wage Study. The comparison documents that Fresno EOC Head Start pays salaries comparable or slightly above some Head Start programs in California's Central Valley; however, when the wages are compared to other Early Childhood Education entities, on average the starting wages are comparable, but the maximum wage is significantly less for Head Start and Early Head Start employees. To recruit and retain our workforce, the wage that we pay must be competitive in the local economy. The Fresno EOC Head Start 0 to 5 salary table will be adjusted correspondingly, so the increase will be included in all future wages in order to support ongoing efforts to minimize compression and enhance equity within Head Start.

Furthermore, additional funds from QI (HS-\$18,244; EHS-\$10,480) will be used for staff development in order to improve staff qualifications and assist with the implementation of career development programs for staff that support ongoing improvement of their skills and expertise. For example, for EHS staff, these funds will pay for the Infant/Toddler (3 units) class required for the Teacher/Caregiver and Family Development Specialist position. Head Start will use funds to support Teachers and Teacher Assistants with child development permits and/or complete postsecondary coursework.

Head Start 0 to 5 management submitted a request for authorization to apply for funds, to the Head Start 0 to 5 County-Wide Policy Council and Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners Chairperson, to which they both authorized to apply April 20, 2023.

Fiscal Impact

For Head Start 0 to 5 to continue to provide a quality program for the community's families/children by offering competitive salaries and offering professional development opportunities to staff for a total of \$799,294 for the 2023 fiscal year.

Conclusion

If ratified by the Board, the Quality Improvement funds will be used to increase salaries, fringe benefits, and staff development. If no approval is received, the unspent monies will be returned to the Office of Head Start.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT Supplement

Fiscal Year 2023

Request for QUALITY IMPROVEMENT Funding

Narrative and Budget Justification

April 20, 2023

Head Start QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (dba Fresno EOC) Head Start, per the Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023, released by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) on March 15, 2023, enabled Fresno EOC to apply for a Quality Improvement (QI) increase of \$597,740 for the Head Start Program. Fresno EOC Head Start applies for this increase in funding to improve staff wages, support employee benefits, and minimize compression in order to enhance equity within the Head Start Salary Table range. Fresno EOC Head Start management submitted a request for authorization to apply for QI funds to the County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners. These bodies authorized Head Start to apply for QI dollars on April 20, 2023, respectively. Corresponding documentation has been uploaded under the documents tab in the QI section of the Head Start Enterprise System.

Fresno EOC Head Start provides services to 2,112, three- and four-year-old children and their families throughout Fresno County, 120 in Home Base and 1,992 in Center Base. The request for QI funding is consistent with the provisions of Section 640(a)(5) of the Head Start Act and the instruction received regarding the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023. Management is aware that the funding will only become effective when a Notice of Award is received.

Improvement in Staff Wages

We propose all teachers, teacher assistants and Home Base Educators Head Start staff be given a salary increase of 2.4% and the remaining allocated evenly to the rest of the staff for salary and fringe benefits with the goal of preserving equitable pay, while adhering to the recommendations of the Comp Wage Study. This aligns with information from ACF that the agency may use the QI to “improve the compensation and benefits of staff of Head Start agencies, in order to improve the quality of Head Start programs.” The Fresno EOC Head Start salary table will be adjusted correspondingly, so the increase will be included in all future wages in order to support ongoing efforts to minimize compression and enhance equity within Head Start.

In April 2023, Fresno EOC Head Start completed a Comp Wage Study. The comparison documents that Fresno EOC Head Start pays salaries comparable or slightly above some Head Start programs in the California’s Central Valley; however, when the wages are compared to other Early Childhood Education entities, on average the starting wages are comparable, but the maximum wage is significantly less for Head Start employees. To recruit and retain our workforce, the wage that we pay must be competitive in the local economy.

Much of our turnover can be attributed to the extensive need for a quality workforce in our community since the COVID-19 pandemic. The initial closures and subsequent uncertainty regarding reopening guidelines, health and safety measures and more, led to confusion and worry among staff. Current and former staff have reported experiencing stress, financial instability, income loss and an increase in the cost of childcare, due to the restrictions on class sizes, price increase on food, gas, and cleaning supplies, the need for personal protective equipment, and greater demand for labor. Moreover, Child Development and Early Childhood Education programs operated by colleges, universities, unified school districts, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, etc. are competing with us for hires and because of their higher pay scales, numerous applicants and former staff have chosen to work for them instead. Consequently, these factors have and continue to contribute to the challenges of hiring and retaining staff employment.

Furthermore, salaries for kindergarten teachers were also included within the Comp Wage Study tables researched for Fresno EOC Head Start during April of 2023. In doing so, it was determined that the Unified School Districts' salaries are considerably higher than the salary that a Head Start employee can earn. In Head Start, we emphasize obtaining associate and bachelor's degrees and we support staff to do so. When their degree is earned, staff frequently leave Head Start employment for higher paying positions elsewhere. Governor Gavin Newsom's recent plan regarding California's Universal Transitional Kindergarten will only continue to impact Head Start in California, as school districts will be expected to quadruple their enrollment for 4-year-olds within the next five years. As a result, the need for Early Childhood Education teachers in the school districts is inevitable today and the near future.

Head Start employs 507 staff to provide services to enrolled children and families. The QI increase of wages ranges from 0.013% to 2.4% that will provide Head Start staff with an increment in wages intended to improve their compensation and lessen turnover; thus, facilitating relationship development and continuity of care for enrolled Head Start children. This stability will positively support the development of children, many of whom have suffered trauma in their lives. Subsequently, minimal staff turnover will help to optimize school readiness and lifelong outcomes for Head Start children who are part of the most vulnerable population in our Fresno County Service Area.

Historically, Fresno EOC has a reputation for hiring qualified staff and providing extensive training that assists them to become more highly qualified. Salaries that are competitive with other Head Start Programs, preschools, and childcare centers throughout the central valley, will help us to retain staff who can support Head Start children. A supported, stable workforce will provide continuity of care for children and families, which will, in turn, promote positive outcomes for children and families in our program.

Head Start Quality Improvement Budget Justification

Salary Increment: \$ 360,918

Fresno EOC Head Start proposes to use \$360,918 in the personnel budget line item. These dollars include a 2.4% increase to teaching staff in Center Base and Home Base. Staff, children, families and the community will receive an advantage as the increases in salaries translate into increased staff retention and increased staff productivity. Supported staff will consequently be better able to support the children and families enrolled in the program many of whom have suffered trauma in their lives.

Staff Development \$18,244

Fresno EOC Head Start will use these funds to provide education and professional development to enable teachers to be fully competent to meet the professional standards established in Sec.648A(a)(1) of the Act (Child Development Permits, complete postsecondary coursework)

Fringe Benefits: \$158,803

With the increase in wages there is a corresponding increase in funding applied to benefits. Head Start's costs for provision of benefits include:

- Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) funds for Social Security: \$50,817
- State Unemployment Insurance: \$19,056
- Workers' Compensation: \$57,169
- 401(a) Retirement Match: \$31,761

Non-Federal Share: \$0

Per the COVID-19 Funding Guidance: ACF-PI-HS-20-03 FY 2020, Supplemental Funds in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) received April 13, 2020: Non-federal match is not needed for this application.

Indirect Cost: \$59,774

Fresno EOC is on the 10% de minimis rate for Indirect Cost Rate with Health and Human Services (HHS) Division of Cost Allocation. A copy of the memo indicating we are following the de minimis rate is uploaded into the documents tab in HSES.

Conclusion

This information regarding the 2023 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT application requires approval by both the County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners. Please see the corresponding attached documentation uploaded into the Head Start Enterprise System (HSES).

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT Supplement

Fiscal Year 2023

Request for QUALITY IMPROVEMENT Funding

Narrative and Budget Justification

April 20, 2023

Early Head Start QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (dba Fresno EOC) Early Head Start, per the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023, released by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) on March 15, 2023, enabled Fresno EOC to apply for a Quality Improvement (QI) increase of \$201,554 for the Early Head Start Program. Fresno EOC Early Head Start applies for this increase in funding to improve staff wages, support employee benefits, and minimize compression in order to enhance equity within the EHS Salary Table range. Fresno EOC Early Head Start management submitted a request for authorization to apply for QI funds to the County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners. These bodies authorized Early Head Start to apply for QI dollars on April 2, 2023, respectively. Corresponding documentation has been uploaded under the documents tab in the QI section of the Head Start Enterprise System.

Fresno EOC Early Head Start provides services to 478, prenatal women, infant, toddlers and their families throughout Fresno County, 384 in Home Base, 94 in Center Base. The request for QI funding is consistent with the provisions of Section 640(a)(5) of the Head Start Act and the instruction received regarding the Consolidated Appropriations Act, of 2023. Management is aware that the funding will only become effective when a Notice of Award is received.

Improvement in Staff Wages

We propose that all Early Head Start teacher caregiver, assistant teacher caregiver and family development specialist staff be given a salary increase of 2.4% for salary and fringe benefits. We have added one ERSEA Assistant as a new position to assist with the recruitment of families. In addition, we have added an Inclusion Assistant position to support children and families with special needs in the classroom. The remaining monies will be given to the rest of the staff. This aligns with information from ACF that the agency may use the QI to “improve the compensation and benefits of staff of (Early) Head Start agencies, in order to improve the quality of (Early) Head Start programs.” The Fresno EOC Early Head Start salary table will be adjusted correspondingly, so that the increase will be included in all future wages to minimize compression and enhance equity within Early Head Start.

In April 2023, Fresno EOC Early Head Start completed a Comp Wage Study. The comparison documents that Fresno EOC Head Start pays salaries comparable or slightly above some Head Start programs in the California’s Central Valley; however, when the wages are compared to other Early Childhood Education entities, on average the starting wages are comparable, but

the ending wage is significantly less for Early Head Start employees. To recruit and retain our workforce, the wage that we pay must be competitive in the local economy.

Much of our turnover can be attributed to the extensive need for a quality workforce in our community since the COVID-19 pandemic. The initial closures and subsequent uncertainty regarding reopening guidelines, health and safety measures and more, led to confusion and worry among staff. Current and former staff have reported experiencing stress, financial instability, income loss and an increase in the cost of childcare, due to the restrictions on class sizes, price increase on food, gas, and cleaning supplies, the need for personal protective equipment, and greater demand for labor. Moreover, Child Development and Early Childhood Education programs operated by colleges, universities, unified school districts, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, etc. are competing with us for hires and because of their higher pay scales, numerous applicants and former staff have chosen to work for them instead. Consequently, these are just some of the factors that have contributed to the challenges of hiring and retaining staff employment this past year.

Historically, Early Head Start had few competitors for hire of a qualified workforce. However, in recent years, Child Development and Early Childhood Education programs operated by colleges, universities, unified school districts, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, etc. have competed with us for hires and because of their higher pay scales, numerous applicants and former staff have chosen to work for them instead. Early Head Start frequently loses staff to these community partners.

Research has shown continuity of care supports optimal school readiness for children. Salaries that are competitive with other Early Head Start Programs, preschools, and childcare centers throughout the central valley, will help us retain and onboard new staff who can support Early Head Start children. Subsequently, minimal staff turnover will optimize school readiness and classroom size, as we strive to meet our recruitment goals of both children and staff. In doing so, this will afford lifelong outcomes for Early Head Start children and families who are part of the most vulnerable population in our Fresno County Service Area.

Early Head Start employs 92 staff to provide services to enrolled children and families. The QI increase of 2.4% will provide staff with an increment in wages that is intended to improve their compensation and lessen turnover; thus, facilitating relationship development and continuity of care for enrolled Early Head Start children. This stability will positively support the development of children, many of whom have suffered trauma in their lives. Subsequently, minimal staff turnover will help to optimize school readiness and lifelong outcomes for Early Head Start children who are part of the most vulnerable population in our Fresno County Service Area.

Lastly, when the Office of Head Start grants the infusion of these additional Quality Improvement funds into our program resources, the expected outcome is a more stable workforce, due to enhanced coaching supports, trauma-informed service delivery, and increased wages and benefits. A supported stable workforce will provide continuity of care for children and families which will, in turn, promote positive outcomes for children in our program.

Early Head Start Quality Improvement Budget Justification

Salary Increment: \$118,694

Fresno EOC Early Head Start proposes to use \$118,694.28 in the personnel budget line item, these dollars requested represent a QI increment for all positions on Fresno EOC Head Start's salary table that ranges from 0.79% to 1.20%. In addition, an ERSEA Assistant was added to assist with the recruitment process of pregnant women and EHS children. Staff, children, families and the community will receive an advantage as the increases in salaries translate into increased staff retention and increased staff productivity. Supported staff will consequently be better able to support the children and families enrolled in the program many of whom have suffered trauma in their lives.

Staff Development: 10,480

These funds will be used to improve staff qualifications and assist with the implementation of career development programs for staff that support ongoing improvement of their skills and expertise. For example, pay for the Infant/Toddler (3 units) class required for the teacher caregiver position. In recruiting for this position, internal staff interested in applying lack the class to qualify. Monies will also be used for the assistant teacher caregivers to apply for the child development permit required for their position to improve their qualifications in order to seek promotions within the classroom.

Fringe Benefits: \$52,225

With the increase in wages there is a corresponding increase in funding applied to benefits. Early Head Start's costs for provision of benefits include:

- Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) funds for Social Security: \$16,712
- State Unemployment Insurance: \$6,267
- Workers' Compensation: \$18,801
- 401(a) Retirement Match: \$10,445

Non-Federal Share

*Per the COVID-19 Funding Guidance: ACF-PI-HS-20-03 FY 2020, Supplemental Funds in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) received April 13, 2022:
Non-federal match is not needed for this application.*

Indirect Cost: \$20,155

Fresno EOC has negotiated a 9% Indirect Cost Rate with Health and Human Services (HHS) Division of Cost Allocation. A copy of the letter approving this rate is uploaded into the documents tab in HSES.

Conclusion

This information regarding the 2022 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT application requires approval by both the County-Wide Policy Council and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners. Please see the corresponding attachments uploaded into the Head Start Enterprise System (HSES).



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Date: May 10, 2023	Program: Head Start 0 to 5
Agenda Item #: 12C4	Director: Rosa M. Pineda and Nidia Davis
Subject: California Department of Education, Early Education Division CSPP Program Self-Evaluation for FY 2022-2023	Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

The County-Wide Policy Council recommends Board approval of the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) Program Self-Evaluation (PSE) report process for the 2022-23 fiscal year as required by the California Department of Education (CDE) Early Education Division (EED) for all state child development contracts by June 1, 2023.

Background

The California Department of Education (CDE), Early Education Division (EED), implemented a monitoring system for evaluating child care programs funded through the state, called the Program Self Evaluation (PSE) done each year.

The self-evaluation process requires various data sources be conducted throughout the program year in order to arrive at the final step of Board review and approval for the final report. The five CSPP sites at the following centers in Fresno County (Cantua Creek, Dakota Circle, Franklin, Sequoia, and Wilson). The results of the program evaluation were based on findings of the following documents:

1. *Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) Summary of Findings*
A critical step toward supporting children's learning and developmental progress is for teachers to complete a Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) for each child in the classroom.
2. *Program Review Instrument Summary of Findings and Corrective Action Plans*
This summarizes all the results of the Program Self Evaluation and Corrective Action Plans associated with each section.
3. *Preschool Environmental Rating Scale Summary of Findings*
An environmental rating scale is completed at each of the five CSPP sites. The Rating Scale consists of 43 items, and the findings identified areas of strength and need for improvement.

4. *Parent Survey Summary of Findings*

Parents' input was requested about the quality of the children's care by staff, the classroom environment, the curriculum and suggestions for improvement of the services.

The CSPP Program Self Evaluation (PSE) was presented to County-Wide Policy Council for approval on May 2, 2023. The deadline for submitting this PSE to the California Department of Education (CDE), Early Education Division (EED), is by June 1, 2023.

Fiscal Impact

Monitoring of the program is conducted on an annual basis in order to measure program quality and compliance with California Department of Education (CDE) program requirements. Approval of the Program Self Evaluation (PSE) report for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year is required by the California Department of Education (CDE), Early Education Division (EED). There is no fiscal impact.

Conclusion

If approved by the full Board, Head Start 0 to 5 staff will be able to continue to serve 120 State Preschool Child Care braided with Head Start children and families in need of full day/full year services.

**FRESNO EOC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)
APRIL 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Leah Struck called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called.

Committee Members (Zoom):

Margarita Cortez
Julia Fowler
Betty Brown
Commissioner Bruce McAlister

Staff (Zoom):

Leah Struck
Raquel Padia
Luciana Lopez

Absent

Yvonne Hernandez
Amaris Castillo
Tashon Smallwood

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 29, 2022 FGP Community Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

Motion by: Fowler **Second by:** Cortez

Ayes: Fowler, Cortez, Brown, McAlister

Nays: None

IV. CAG ROSTER INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of new member Bruce McAlister Fresno EOC Board Commissioner.
McAlister shared his background and relationship with Fresno EOC.

V. GOALS OF CAG

To gather input from station staff like Head Start.
Community participation for input on community trends and senior community needs.
Fundraising.
Ideas on retention and recognition of FGP volunteers.
Data sharing for grant reporting and applications.

VI. PROGRAM UPDATES

- A.** FGP currently maintains 55 volunteers and two staff for FGP and one staff for Next 50 computer training. We are actively recruiting for volunteers

- B.** The Foster Grandparent volunteer stipend has officially been raised to \$3.15 an hour as of April 1, 2022. That is an increase of .15 cents.
- C.** We received the Next 50 initiative grant for \$100,000 to provide computer training classes for seniors. This is open to Foster Grandparents and to the public. The classes are being held here at LCC for a small group as a pilot class. The next quarter starting July we will be holding classes at the Fowler Senior Center and we are contacting the Kerman Senior Center to provide classes as well as another class at LCC.
- D.** The program was awarded the American Rescue Plan Senior Demonstration Program grant application that had been applied for. This will be \$375,000 over two years to expand into Madera, Huron, Cantua Creek, and the eastern foothill community of Auberry.
- E.** An opportunity to apply for an augmentation to current FGP AmeriCorps Seniors funding through American Rescue Plan funding became available. The purpose would be to address student learning loss due to COVID. The proposal is to add ten Volunteer Service Years (VSYs) which would be approximately eight volunteers. FGP applied for \$65,000 and it was awarded. The proposal is to expand further into Madera County. We have contacted Madera Head Start director; she is interested but not accepting volunteers yet. We will continue to do outreach to other programs.
- F.** Another grant opportunity has opened through the American Rescue Plan funding Senior Demonstration Program (SDP). FGP will be applying with the proposal to expand even further into Madera County and contact the tribal communities and outreach to the Hmong community for recruitment of volunteer grandparents. If awarded this would start July 1, 2022.
- G.** Grandparent Day Luncheon was held September 10, 2021 at Fresno EOC Neilson Conference Center. This was the first in person gathering since the shutdown. The event was well attended with 50% of volunteers in attendance.
- H.** November 2021 a turkey luncheon was held at the Fresno EOC Nielsen Center with a turkey and trimmings meal from Fresno EOC Café catering. A food distribution specifically for the FGP volunteers was also conducted. Each of the FGP volunteers in attendance received a frozen turkey along with other bags of food items.
- I.** December 2021 the annual Recognition Banquet was held at Pardini's Banquet Center. FGP volunteers were honored for their years of service with certificates, pins, and a gift. Those who have served for 20 years or over received a special award and recognition.

- J. "Story time with Grandma" video was recorded to use in classrooms and posted to YouTube. One of the Grandmas was able to read two stories and was recorded by Fresno EOC communications staff member.
- K. Project Linus, a nonprofit that gathers handmade blankets from the community to distribute to children in need, contacted the FGP Program. FGP was able to assist with the distribution of 150 blankets to children in Head Start, WIC mothers, and youth in the Central Valley Against Human Trafficking Program.
- L. The Kiwanis Club of Fresno County donated \$1000 for FGP to purchase books for children in the program and use for grandparent volunteers to read to the children on Zoom. Working through the Scholastic book club system, 461 books were purchased. This provided three books to EVERY one of the 140 students at Franklin, plus some books to keep in the FGP library for our other Grandparent volunteers that will be reading stories to their classes at other Head Starts.

VII. REVIEW OF PROPOSED BYLAWS

The draft of the FGP Bylaws were sent to Fresno EOC CAG members via email in April 2022 meeting packet. A brief review of the bylaws was covered. Explanation of fundraising efforts organizing recycling with Fresno LCC recycling program to create an accounts. Brown explained the goal of fundraising was for a chartered bus to the coast.

CAG members were not ready to vote on adopting the bylaws. Approval of bylaws moved to next CAG meeting.

Next CAG meeting will be September 30, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Marcia Logan, one of the Foster Grandparents, expressed her appreciation of the program and the things it accomplishes.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leah Struck

**FRESNO EOC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)
SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Raquel Padia called the meeting to order at 10:17 AM

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called.

Committee Members (Present):

Margarita Cortez
Commissioner Bruce McAlister
Betty Brown

Staff (Present):

Leah Struck
Raquel Padia
Blanca Alvarado
Elaine Jalomo
Michelle Tutunjian

Absent:

Yvonne Hernandez
Amaris Castillo
Tashon Smallwood
Olga Ramirez
Julia Fowler

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Quorum was not met to approve minutes.

IV. APPROVAL OF BYLAWS

Quorum was not met to approve bylaws.

V. FGP UPDATES

- A.** FGP currently has forty-five active volunteers and is in the process of recruiting more. FGP was able to add two new FGP employees: Blanca Alvarado (Volunteer Specialist) and Elaine Jalomo (Program Assistant), for a total of four staff for FGP and one staff for Next 50.
- B.** Senator Caballero came to the FGP Monthly June 2022 in-service meeting to honor volunteers for the first Tech Training graduation in June 2021. Certificates of Achievement were given to those that had graduated. After meeting with the volunteers and learning all about the full Foster Grandparent Program, the Senator later arranged to create Certificates of Appreciation for all of the volunteers. September 11 (Grandparents Day), The representative of Senators Caballero's office, delivered certificates in honor of their volunteering.

- C.** Orientation and enrollment: Eight grandparents finished orientation and training and will soon be placed. Four more volunteers are completing orientation (total of twelve). There are six potential applicants for Madera. We have a goal of twenty volunteers in Fresno/Clovis and fourteen volunteers in the rural areas.
- D.** Placements: An MOU has been completed with Madera County Superintendent of Schools Early Child Learning Centers. Nine classrooms are available for volunteers. MOUs with Big Sandy Rancheria in Auberry and Pineridge Elementary are pending. Foothill Elementary is available for placement. A MOU was created with Reading and Beyond which includes two sites.
- E.** Padia introduced partnership with encore.org in June 2022. It is proposed to launch an inter-generational mental wellness program, Generations Serving Together (GST). Volunteers consisting of seniors that are currently FGP members and college students from the Fresno community will be teaming up to create lesson plans and provide sessions to the youth at Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps (LCC), Pinedale Boys and Girls Club, and Golden State Family Services.
- F.** Outreach in Madera Frank Bergon Center has been conducted, received seven interest forms for the program, also attended Pam-American Center and Madera Community College Mexican Consultant Resource Fair. Upcoming outreach is in Kerman for their Health Fair and Flu Shot Clinic, Selma Senior Resource Fair, Senior Day at the Fresno Fair, and Fresno Center to reach the Hmong community for potential applicants. FGP will be putting together senior and youth section during the Halloween Safe Night Out.
- G.** Program expansion: Madera, Kerman San Joaquin, Cantua Creek, Auberry, and Huron. Place contacted for placements is Frank Bergon and Pam-American Centers in Madera, San Joaquin Preschool and San Joaquin Elementary. An umbrella MOU with Head Start covers San Joaquin Head Start. Kerman Preschool is pending. Kerman Migrant Head Start not accepting volunteers due to their CDC guidelines.
- H.** Next 50 Senior Tech training: Six FGP seniors took a ten week class in the first quarter (June) learning Chrome Basics, internet and computer skills. Second quarter consisted of seniors from the community and FGP in classes at LCC (six seniors one class) Fowler (four seniors in one class) and Kerman (twenty six seniors in two classes). The graduates were awarded laptops and certificates for graduations. Upcoming classes for quarter four are planned.

- I. Plant sale fundraiser during July Arthop. Over \$1,100 was raised. A Local business owner donated a plant, pot and a \$25 gift card for drawing.
- J. Fresno EOC clients received a \$250 grocery gift card if they met two guidelines: impacted by COVID-19 and met the 200% of the poverty guideline. Fresno EOC's new agency database CAP60 took the opportunity for employees to enter clients that received the gift card into the system as a goal to become paperless and transfer and refer clients to other programs amongst the agency. 85 gifts cards were issued in total: 59 went to Foster Grandparent volunteers and 26 went to Next 50 students.

VI. UPCOMING EVENTS

December Recognition at Pardini's on December 22, 2022

Bake Sale at Fresno EOC's Arthop on October 6, 2022

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Leah Struck



Fresno EOC
Head Start
0 to 5

Early Care
&
Education

**COUNTY-WIDE POLICY COUNCIL (CWPC)
MINUTES
MARCH 7, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson.
ROLL CALL	Roll Call was called by Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson. The following Representatives were present: Maria Ramos, Ramiro Espinoza, Alma Martinez-Guillen, Teresa Medel, Laura Barnes, Jesus Sanchez, Erica Silva, Stephanie Salazar, Zoua Thao, Stephanie Vasquez, Fawnda Cole, Amber Daniels, Maria Yolanda Padilla, Adrianna Corona, Kathaline Torres, Maria Rolon, Mariana Mena, Selena Dimas, Candy Rodriguez, Rebecca Ramos, Juana Cervantes, Lidia Cruz, Rom Yoeun, Antonia Garza, Clarissa Varela, Angel Macias, Angela Diaz, Brianna Jaurique, Natasha Chalk, Yoselin Cruz Maya, Silvia Ramirez Montes, Natasha Goins, Steven Taylor, Itzi Robles, Jimi Rodgers, Zina Brown-Jenkins and Sherry Neil. A quorum was present.
APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS CWPC MINUTES	Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, informed Representatives of the February 7, 2023 CWPC Minutes. This information was sent to Representatives prior to tonight's meeting. <u>Motion</u> to approve the February 7, 2023 CWPC Minutes as written and read was made by Fawnda Cole and seconded by Angela Diaz. Motion carried.
FRESNO EOC PROGRAM REPORT – RURAL TOBACCO	Martha Zarate, Education Coordinator, shared that her program educates the rural community on the dangers of smoking tobacco, and the dangers of second-hand and third-hand smoke. Rural children have been more affected by tobacco smoke because of COVID-19 and staying inside. Ms. Zarate's program educates parents on the new tobacco products coming out. Some parents are unaware of the addictive chemical nicotine in tobacco, as well as, new tobacco products such as vape pens. Some children as young as 10 years old, 5 th grade, are vaping at school. "Kick it California" is an outlet that parents can reach out to via phone or text to help them quit smoking. If parents have a child 0-5 they can receive free nicotine patches to help prevent them from smoking. Ms. Zarate's program also educates parents on how to present to city council members and complete presentations for students in elementary and middle schools to further educate them tobacco. Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, asked if there was a flyer or pamphlet to distribute. Ms. Zarate replied Representatives could find more information in the directory under Health Services.
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS	Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, welcomed the Community Representatives to tonight's meeting and asked if they had any reports to share. Natisha Goins, Community Representative, shared due to COVID-19 and quarantining WIC has been conducting all of their appointments over the phone and virtually. They are beginning to go back to on-sight appointments for enrollment and recertification. WIC is continuing to provide books for children. Those attending Kings Canyon Head Start can pick up books on Thursday, March 9, 2023. Lastly, the expanded formula options allowed WIC to offer formulas other than Similac due to the formula crisis. However, the formula crisis is coming to an end so WIC will only offer Similac again.
FRESNO EOC COMMISSIONERS' REPORT	Zina Brown-Jenkins, Fresno EOC Commissioner, informed Representatives that the CWPC and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners must have timely and accurate information to ensure programmatic and fiduciary accountability of Fresno EOC Head Start 0 to 5. The information below was discussed and mentioned during the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners meeting that took place December 14, 2022. Previous Commissioners Appreciation: Board Chair, Linda Hayes, provided Commissioner Jewel Hurtado representing Target Area C with an appreciation plaque to thank her for her two years of service as a Fresno EOC Board. 10A1 – Budget Revision for Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental

Appropriations (CRRSA) Act: Commissioner Amy Arambula inquired if Head Start was included in the compensation survey, Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer stated Head Start was not included but shortly after the agency completed the adjustments, Head Start did their own compensation adjustments and currently providing retention incentives to current and on boarding staff. 10A2 – Budget Revision for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): Commissioner Amy Arambula inquired clarification regarding the \$1.2 million that is no longer going to be used to purchase Richard Keyes, Rosa Pineda, Head Start Director stated these funds will be used for staff retention.

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2022

Fawnda Cole, CWPC Representative, informed Representatives of the Monthly Financial Status Report for Early Head Start and Head Start programs for the month December 2022. These reports were sent to Representatives prior to tonight's meeting.

Ms. Cole reported that the Monthly Financial Status Reports show all expenditures for the Early Head Start and Head Start programs for the month of December 2022 and year-to-date. The report includes Basic and Training & Technical Assistance budget and credit card expenses as required by the Head Start Act of December 12, 2007, section 642 Powers and Functions of Head Start Agencies (d) Program Governance Administration, (2) Conduct of Responsibilities, (A) through (1) and (3) Training and Technical Assistance.

Motion to approve the Monthly Financial Status Report for December 31, 2022 for Early Head Start and Head Start was made by Angela Diaz and seconded by Rom Yoeun. Motion carried.

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE (ADA) REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2023

Maria Yolanda Padilla, CWPC Representative, informed Representatives of the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Report for the month of January 2023 for Head Start and Early Head Start. This information was sent to Representatives prior to tonight's meeting.

The Head Start monthly ADA for January 2023 for Center Base was 80.56%. Head Start Home Base is now tracking number of home visits. Total Head Start Home Base Visits completed were 447.

Early Head Start's monthly ADA for the month of January 2023 was 80.63%. Early Head Start Home Base is also tracking the number of home visits. Total Early Head Start Home Visits completed were 655.

Motion to approve the ADA Reports for Head Start Center Base and Early Head Start Center Base for January 2023 was made by Fawnda Cole and seconded by Mariana Mena. Motion carried.

COVID-19 MITIGATION POLICY

Marie Sani, Health Services Manager, stated a policy was created with the help of the Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) and a health consultant from our Public Health Department. Also included is a document that outlines what we will be doing regarding our vaccination procedures. It also delineates the High, Medium and Low COVID rates.

On January 24, 2023 it was reviewed and approved by the HSAC.

At the last CWPC meeting on February 7, 2023 it was presented as an informational item.

Ms. Sani stated volunteers are still required to be vaccinated or must have a medical or religious exemption. 210 testing kits are being distributed to the centers. Head Start centers are back to Family Style meals.

Ms. Sani reviewed the COVID-19 Mitigation Policy. The Final Rule requires Head Start programs to have an evidence-based COVID-19 mitigation policy, developed in consultation with their HSAC. Since the start of the pandemic Fresno EOC has been following the below guidance:

1. Required primary series vaccinations for all staff and volunteers, and recommended for children 2 years of age and older.
2. Universal masking of all children 2 and older. We instituted a Mask Campaign and received mask donations from around the country. Since universal masking has been dropped, universal masking is no longer required but is still recommended (see matrix).
3. Implemented COVID screeners for staff and volunteers.

4. Required Weekly Mandated testing of vaccinated staff with assistance from the African-American Coalition. This was dropped in August of 2020 after guidance from the Fresno County Department of Public Health.
5. Isolation and quarantining of staff and children with + Covid tests.
6. Reporting cases of COVID to DPH SPOT website, Human Resources and later in the pandemic if three or more cases, Community Care Licensing.
7. We developed a Sanitation Schedule for staff to use for infection control and prevention.
8. Switched to individual plating as a prevention strategy instead of family style.
9. Ventilation – Filters were installed and a ventilation risk reduction strategy was adopted.

Natasha Chalk, CWPC Representative, stated Wilson Head Start parents would like to know if temperature checks are required for everyone.

Ms. Sani replied that it is not in the plan to continue to temperature check; however, the thermometers will remain at the centers in case needed. The health screenings are remaining in effect and masks are optional.

Angela Diaz, CWPC Representative, asked if wearing masks during Socialization is optional.

Ms. Sani replied yes, it is optional also.

Ms. Cole asked what is the point of approving this Mitigation Policy when California has dropped everything involving COVID, even school districts aren't funded anymore.

Ms. Sani replied Head Start 0 to 5 is under Community Care Licensing (CCL), governed by the Health and Human Services Department and must go by the more stringent rules. All of the children are not vaccinated yet, so there is more concern.

Ms. Cole asked if children have to be vaccinated in order to attend class.

Ms. Sani replied no, and there are medical and religious exemptions for parents and volunteers, if needed.

Ms. Sani read through the Low Covid Rate<10 column on the Mitigation Prevention Measures form.

Motion to approve the COVID-19 Mitigation Policy was made by Kathaline Torres and seconded by Stephanie Vazquez. Motion carried.

HEAD START 0 TO 5 COVID-19 UPDATES

Ms. Sani stated Fresno County currently has 5.9 positive cases per 100,000. Fresno County now has LOW COVID rates.

Jimi Rodgers, EOC Commissioner, asked if Ms. Sani had any rates on the Flu and RSV.

Ms. Sani replied, no, but we are monitoring these viruses closely at the centers.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, informed Representatives of the Personnel Committee Report, which is presented monthly to CWPC. This information was sent to Representatives prior to tonight's meeting.

Ms. Salazar reported on the Hiring/Personnel Action Positions, Resignations/Separations, Promotions/Status Change and Job Descriptions for Positions of Head Start 0 to 5 staff created for March 7, 2023.

All promotions, transfers, separations and new hires are to be presented to the CWPC monthly, as an information item.

COUNTY-WIDE POLICY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT OF NEW TREASURER

On January 24, 2023, Juanita Macias Arias submitted her resignation as Treasurer for the CWPC. As a result, the office of CWPC Treasurer is vacant. According to the CWPC ByLaws, "should a vacancy be of an elected member, the Chairperson will appoint a new officer" (Article III, Section 9 – CWPC Executive Board Vacancy).

At this time, Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, has appointed Jesus Sanchez to be the new CWPC Treasurer for remainder of 2022-2023 program year. The new appointed CWPC Treasurer will take office, March 7, 2023 following the CWPC meeting.

Mr. Sanchez introduced himself to the CWPC and stated he appreciates being appointed and will do his best.

FY 2022 HEAD START PACT TIME RESULTS

Tamar Grigsby, Education Manager, shared the PACT calendar is a monthly activity calendar that supports family literacy, learning in the home, and school readiness. The goal is to increase family reading and interactive literacy activities between parent and child.

Head Start program provides every family in Head Start with PACT time. Families are encouraged to complete PACT time by reading together and/or completing the activities listed. PACT time is provided year-round and is sent home at the beginning of every month, July through June. Families are asked to complete the PACT time calendar and return it at the end of each month. The time spent with PACT time is counted towards our In-Kind.

Ms. Cole asked how do you figure out the calculation for activities.

Ms. Grigsby shared the rate is based on the amount of time spent on the activity.

Ms. Salazar stated parents can mark the activity and time spent, 10 minutes, an hour, etc.

Ms. Pineda shared that the program receives credit for everything you log and the rate is calculated based on a set rate, \$17.60 per hour. Ms. Pineda encourages parents to do as many activities as possible because the program is behind for this school year. One-on-one time with your child is great for learning, interaction and for the Head Start program as well.

Ms. Chalk asked if Ms. Pineda could explain what PACT calendar and In-Kind is.

Ms. Pineda stated it is a requirement of the Office of Head Start (OHS). OHS provides the program with \$42 million dollars of federal funds and they would like volunteer hours to account for a percentage of the funds provided, In-Kind. It may be volunteer hours or businesses providing free items, such as allowing Head Start to use their church for free. Ms. Pineda informed Representatives that Family Engagement/Volunteer Services staff are going out to the Local Parent Meetings (LPM) and centers to talk to teachers more about In-Kind, so that parents can get a better understanding.

Ms. Brown-Jenkins asked if Ms. Pineda could explain why Citrus and other centers have \$0 for In-Kind.

Ms. Pineda replied it means parents haven't submitted any PACT calendars or blue In-Kind forms for that center. She would like to generate a list to show the amount of In-Kind the centers should have based on the number of enrolled children. She has asked Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez to bring back the Volunteer Luncheon to give parents something to look forward to for their volunteer hours.

Ms. Vazquez asked if volunteers need to be fully vaccinated to volunteer in the classroom?

Ms. Pineda replied, yes, but parents can also complete volunteer hours at home. She may implement a healthy competition between centers for motivation.

Audrey Metcalf, Family Engagement/Volunteer Services Specialist, stated if parents would like to submit late PACT calendars, they can ask their teacher which calendars are missing and submit.

Ms. Pineda stated parents can submit January and February's PACT time, but no months prior because In-Kind will be calculated from January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

HEAD START 0 TO 5 MONTHLY PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT (PUR) FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2023

Rosa M. Pineda, Head Start Director, stated the information attached is intended to keep the CWPC apprised of program activities on the Head Start 0 to 5 Monthly Program Update Report as required by the Head Start ACT of December 12, 2007.

As per mandate, Head Start agencies provide monthly updates to the Board and Policy council.

On January 6, 2023 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start issued communication Mitigating the Spread of COVID-19 in Head Start Programs by approval of the final rule. This final rule removes the requirement for universal masking for all individuals ages 2 and older and requires that Head Start programs have an evidence-based COVID-19 mitigation policy, developed in consultation with their Health Services Advisory Committee. This final rule does not address the vaccination and testing requirement, which is still under review. The vaccine requirement remains in effect. This final rule is effective January 6, 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson made the following Announcement:

- A. March 31, 2023 – Cesar Chavez Day Holiday
- B. April 3-10, 2023 – Spring Break – Classes Closed for Head Start and CSPP Part Day
CSPP Full Day Operate Regular Day
- C. April 11, 2023 – County-Wide Policy Council Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn meeting was made by Natasha Chalk and seconded by Rom Yoeun. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted By:

Brionna Warren
Secretary I

(CWPC MINUTES MARCH 07 2023 FINAL) bw 03/21/23 ~ CWPC (2022-2023 (CWPC MINUTES) ~

**FRESNO EOC SCHOOL OF UNLIMITED LEARNING
GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING
SanctuaryRecreationRoom
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
MINUTES**

1. Meeting called to order by Dr. Terry Allen 8:36 a.m.
2. Community Action Promise
Rena Failla guided the Governing Council in reading the Community Action Promise.
3. Roll call facilitated by Commissioner Rodgers.

Voting Members	Present	Excused	Absent	Staff	Present	Excused	Absent	Non-Voting Member	Present	Excused	Absent	Guests
Terry Allen, Ed.D., Chair, Retired Teacher Representative	X			Jack Lazzarini	X			Felicia Olais			X	
Benita Washington, Vice Chair, FSU Social Worker Representative	X			Michelle Tutunjian		X						
Jimi Rodgers, Secretary, Fresno EOC Commissioner	X			Emilia Reyes		X						
Larry Metzler, Cultural Arts Rotary Interact Club Advisor		X										
Chuck Riojas, Community Member			X									
Jeanne Starks, Retired Law Enforcement Juvenile Probation	X											
Julio Romero, EOC Health Services	X											
Steven Taylor, Fresno EOC Commissioner	X											
Parent Rep Maria Amaro Morales,			X									
Student Rep's Lauren Rodriguez, Gabrielle Perez(2) Alternate Student Rep	X		X									
Susan Lopez, Staff Representative, Principal		X										
Rena Failla, Staff Representative, Guidance Coordinator	X											
Courtney Griffin, Staff Representative, Guidance Dean	X											
Ly Ngin, Staff Representative, College and Career Counselor	X											
Sandy Lomelino, Staff Representative, Coordinator of Curriculum & Instruction		X										
Nicholas Rodriguez, Teacher Representative,		X										
Patricia Billeadeau, Interact Representative	X											

4. **Approval of Minutes**
February 7, 2023 SOUL Governing Council Meeting Minutes.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Taylor **Second by:** Billeadeau

Ayes: Allen, Washington, Romero, Rodgers, Failla, Griffin, Ngin, Taylor, Starks, Lazzarini, Rodriguez, Billeadeau.

Nays: None

5. **Public Comments**

(This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on items within jurisdiction but not on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes).

6. **Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Growth Data Report**

Failla presented the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Growth Data Report to the Council Members. She explained the comparisons between test administrations and the growth by grade level. The council discussed the data presented and shared ideas to help with increasing student participation and higher test scores.

7. SOUL Updates:PrincipalReport

Failla presented the data on SOUL demographic information for the school enrollment and updates.

SOUL has hired EdTec, Inc. to write our WASC Report.

SOUL had a very successful WASC Day reviewing and revising portions of our current self-study for our WASC Accreditation renewal. The WASC Visiting Team will be at SOUL May 9, 10, 11, 2023.

Failla read SOUL's new proposed Mission and Vision statements written by one of our students.

- SOUL's WASC and LCAP academic goals: 1) Increase Reading and Math, 2) Increase Graduation Rate, 3) Increase Student Connectedness, 4) Increase Parent Involvement
- Implement our Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLR's) as a way to encourage and recognize our student's accomplishments.
- WASC has added a new piece to the self-study, diversity and equity, which will be integrated throughout the document.

Failla shared how much she appreciated the stakeholders' participation including our Governing Council member Benita Washington for her involvement and support in our SOUL WASC Day.

Annual Career Fair to be held Thursday, March 30, 2023 from 8:30am – 1:00pm. Ly Ngin shared that a variety of Career fields that will be represented including the Military.

SOUL celebrated Black History month on Monday, February 27, 2023. Several SOUL students participated in the assembly.

Council Members shared in a lengthy discussion regarding SOUL's charter renewal. Commissioner Rodgers requested that FUSD Charter Office Director, Felicia Olais, attend SOUL Governing Council meetings.

8. OtherBusiness

Jack Lazzarini introduced Cha Vang, Fresno EOC Program support manager.

Dr. Allen announced the next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

9. AdjournmentbfMeeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 am

Submitted by Commissioner Jimi Rodgers, SOUL Governing Council Secretary



**COUNTY-WIDE POLICY COUNCIL (CWPC)
MINUTES
APRIL 11, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. by Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson.
ROLL CALL	Roll Call was called by Fawnda Cole, CWPC Vice-Chairperson. The following Representatives were present: Chloe Hiebert, Anna Fernandez, Alma Martinez-Guillen, Miroslava Woodard, Laura Barnes, Stephanie Salazar, Zoua Thao, Fawnda Cole, Silvano Rebolledo, Jose De Los Santos, Amber Daniels, Maria Yolanda Padilla, Jennifer MacDougall, Adriana Corona, Laura Castillo, Maria Rolon, Flor Juarez, Mariana Mena, Selene Dimas, Candy Rodriguez, Latrice Turton, Lidia Cruz, Rom Yoeun, Clarissa Varela, Angel Macias, Brianna Jaurique, Ashley Sierra, Natasha Chalk, Maricruz Jarquin, Silvia Ramirez Montes, Aleyda Matos, Jackie Burke, Natisha Goins, Jimi Rodgers, Zina Brown-Jenkins and Sherry Neil. A quorum was present.
APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS CWPC MINUTES	<p>Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, informed Representatives of the March 7, 2023 CWPC Minutes. This information was sent to Representatives prior to tonight's meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion</u> to approve the March 7, 2023 CWPC Minutes as written and read was made by Fawnda Cole and seconded by Maria Lemieux. Motion carried.</p>
FRESNO EOC PROGRAM REPORT – TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT	<p>Francisco Juarez, Academic & Career Advisor, gave the CWPC a brief description of his background and the reason he moved to Fresno, CA. He stated he is originally from Monterey and moved to Fresno to attend Fresno State University. Mr. Juarez was kicked out of his home at 16 years old due to religious reasons and he stated he shared this because this event in his life was the reason he chose his career path. Mr. Juarez works with 14-24-year-old individuals and helps them with personal and professional development. He is the instructor with Work Force Connections for youth, and under directorship of Patrick Turner, Training and Employment Director. He asked multiple CWPC members what was their first job. Some worked as housekeepers, picked strawberries, worked at fast food restaurants, etc. He emphasized how a lot of youth have no idea where to begin when applying for jobs, whether it's creating a resume or properly completing an application. His job consists of working with youth to help them begin the job search and application process.</p> <p>Training and Employment helps over 200 youth with work experience through paid internships. The program works with local business such as SPCA, Walgreens, WSS, etc. Many recent high school graduates struggle to obtain a job because they have no experience, so the paid internship helps them obtain respectable experience. Although the program is similar to a temp agency, Training and Employment provides quality services and helps youth obtain communication skills and become prepared for the workforce, rather than only helping them find a job. Fresno EOC's mission statement is "Fight to end poverty." Training and Employment attempts to help our youth so they don't have to live in poverty.</p> <p>Training and Employment offers scholarships through the workforce connection board for vocational training/schools. The program helps pay for vocational school tuition, fees, and even after certification helps buy work attire/clothing. The program also does referrals. If a student dropped out of high school at 16, 17, 18, they provide referrals to help youth obtain a GED or Diploma.</p> <p>Another program offered is the VACC program, a construction training program. It is a 12-week program for certification to be a construction worker. Graduates obtain 9 certifications through the state, and become a member of the Union Board. There is a 100% guarantee to obtain a job after completion of the program.</p> <p>The final program through Training and Employment is a summer paid internship program. It is a program for youth with a maximum of 160 hours from July to August. There is a limited amount of positions for this program due to high demand.</p>

Zoua Thao, CWPC Rep, asked Mr. Juarez if they also worked with Special Education youth.

Mr. Juarez replied yes and stated they work with autistic youth, youth with IEP's and other learning disabilities. They adjust for those individuals because they have different learning abilities. It helps to receive a collaborative effort with parents so that they can receive focused assistance.

Mother of Amber Daniels, CWPC Rep, thanked Mr. Juarez for sharing his personal experience. She stated it was very inspirational and encouraging to see how it pushed him to where he is today in life.

Mr. Juarez stated the program is 100% free. The program also provides supportive services such as paying for participants outfits for their interview and helping vocational employees such as nursing students pay for scrubs.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, welcomed the Community Representatives to tonight's meeting and asked if they had any reports to share.

There were no reports to share.

FRESNO EOC COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Zina Brown-Jenkins, Fresno EOC Commissioner, informed Representatives that the CWPC and the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners must have timely and accurate information to ensure programmatic and fiduciary accountability of Fresno EOC Head Start 0 to 5.

The following information was discussed and mentioned during the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners meeting that took place January 18, 2023;

- Transforming and Inspiring: Sanctuary and Support Services Misty Gattie-Blanco, Sanctuary and Support Director provided a detailed presentation on the various programs provided by Sanctuary and Support Services for the community.
- Introduction of New Commissioners: Linda Hayes, Board Chair introduced the following new commissioners to the Fresno EOC Board: Early Brown serving Target Area G and Daniel Parra Target Area C.
- Signatory Authorization Resolution: Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer, provided a brief overview of the 2023 Signatory Resolution.
- Seating of Commissioners: Linda Hayes, Board Chair announced the recommended Target Area representatives, Community Sector nominees, and Public Official appointed for a two-year term to the board effective January 1, 2023.

Motion to approve the Fresno EOC Commissioners' Report was made by Fawnda Cole and seconded by Aleyda Matos. Motion carried.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS (FSR) FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2023

Fawnda Cole, CWPC Representative, informed Representatives of the Monthly Financial Status Reports for Early Head Start and Head Start programs for the months of January and February 2023. These reports were sent to Representatives prior to tonight's meeting.

Ms. Cole stated these reports show expenditures for the Head Start/Early Head Start Programs Basic Trainings & Technical Assistance budgets, which also includes credit card expenses.

Sherry Neil, Fresno EOC Commissioner, asked for clarification regarding the line item "Other" on the reports. She asked what would be some examples of other costs.

Ms. Davis stated there are other expenses such as utility expenses, food costs, contracting, etc., and asked if those were the expenses Ms. Neil inquired about.

Ms. Neil asked for clarification regarding the "Other Costs*" expenses above the Staff & Parent Training line item.

Jennifer Tillman, Head Start 0 to 5 Finance Manager, stated she would look into the exact expenses and follow up with the CWPC.

Ms. Neil stated on the credit card statement for February for Head Start there is a \$744 towing fee. She asked if that charge was for one of Head Start's buses.

Ms. Davis shared there was an issue with two inoperable cars from an apartment complex next door to CDC, which were left in the CDC parking lot. The City of Fresno threatened to fine the program if the vehicles weren't removed. Ronnie Cantu, Support Services Manager, asked if we could pay for towing as a program in order to prevent a siting violation with a larger expense.

Motion to approve the Monthly Financial Status Reports for January and February 2023 for Early Head Start and Head Start was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Fawnda Cole. Motion carried.

AVERAGE DAILY
ATTENDANCE (ADA)
REPORTS FOR THE
MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2023
FOR HEAD START CENTER
BASE AND EARLY HEAD
START

Maria Yolanda Padilla, CWPC Representative, informed Representatives of the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Reports for the month of February 2023 for Head Start and Early Head Start.

Ms. Davis informed the CWPC that there was a typo in the summary stating Early Head Start's ADA report was for December 2022; however, it corresponds with February 2023.

Motion to approve the ADA Reports for the month of February 2023 for Head Start Center Base and Early Head Start was made by Angel Macias and seconded by Maria Rolon. Motion carried.

HEAD START 0 TO 5 COVID-
19 UPDATES

Marie Sani, Health Services Manager, shared that Fresno County currently has 4.9 positive cases per 100,000 COVID-19 rate. Ms. Sani reviewed the rates on her way to the CWPC meeting and stated the rate has gone down to 3.9 positive cases per 100,000. If any staff or children test positive, they must stay home for 5 days. She informed the CWPC if they would like further information to view the Fresno Public Health website.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
REPORT

Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, informed Representatives of the Personnel Committee Report, which is presented monthly to CWPC. This information was sent to Representatives prior to tonight's meeting.

Ms. Salazar reported on the Hiring/Personnel Action Positions, Resignations/Separations, Promotions/Status Change and Job Descriptions for Positions of Head Start 0 to 5 staff created for April 11, 2023.

All promotions, transfers, separations and new hires are to be presented to the CWPC monthly, as an information item.

COUNTY-WIDE POLICY
COUNCIL APPOINTMENT OF
NEW EARLY HEAD START
REPRESENTATIVE

Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson, stated on February 03, 2023, Destiny Serrato submitted her resignation as Early Head Start Representative for the CWPC. As a result, the office of CWPC Early Head Start Representative was vacant. At this time, Ms. Salazar appointed Zoua Thao to be the new CWPC Early Head Start Representative, effective today after the meeting.

Ms. Thao greeted everyone and stated her child attends Addams EHS.

SELF-ASSESSMENT DATA
REVIEW WEEK MAY 10 TO
MAY 12, 2023 INVITATION
TO PARTICIPATE IN SELF-
ASSESSMENT

Veronica Galvan, Quality Assurance Manager, stated she would like to cordially invite CWPC to attend one of Head Start's important meetings, Self-Assessment Data Review Week. According to the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS), our program must guarantee we are providing the best services to our families, and allowing their input in decision making. As a program, we ensure meeting the standard by gathering to review and analyze data. If targets are not met, staff examine why the target isn't being met. This consists of review monitoring, writing reports and sharing all data we are obtaining for each program area.

Ms. Galvan invited all CWPC to discuss what it takes for our program to have high quality services. She stated the meeting is May 10 to May 12, 2023, three full days of meetings. She informed the CWPC that if there is a specific program or service area they would like to know more about, they can choose a time frame according to their desired service area time. She stated the program has had a great group of parents come in the past, and she would love to see new parents participate. If any parents are interested they may contact Family Engagement/Volunteer Services.

HEAD START SCHOOL
READINESS GOALS
OUTCOME 2022-2023

Guadalupe Zuniga, Home Base Services Manager, stated per HSPPS, the Head Start Program is expected to:

- Align program school readiness goals with the Early Learning Outcomes Framework.
- Create and implement a plan of action for achieving the goals.
- Assess child progress on an ongoing basis and aggregate and analyze data three times per year, fall, winter and spring.
- Examine data for patterns of progress for groups of children in order to individualize services as well as to develop and implement a plan for program improvement.

Tamar Grigsby, Education Services Manager, reviewed the School Readiness report. The graphs show the break down from winter and fall assessments. At top of the form it states responding, exploring, building and integrating. There are different levels based on age, and different ranges based on developmental levels. There are 5 developmental levels that are reviewed when assessing children, approaches to learning, social and emotional development, language and literacy, cognition and perceptual, motor, and physical development. In Fall 3-year old children assessed at a 51% in approaches to learning; however, when reviewed in winter, numbers increased to 80%. The increase is similar in every developmental area.

Sherry Neil, Fresno EOC Commissioner, gave kudos to Head Start staff because beginning at 51% then going up to 80% is incredible.

HEAD START AND EARLY
HEAD START UNDER
ENROLLMENT LETTER 2023

Nidia Davis, Program Support Director, informed the CWPC that on March 24, 2023 Head Start received a formal letter from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) stating the program has been under enrolled for 4 consecutive months. The Head Start program is under enrolled by 454 slots and Early Head Start by 217 slots. If the program does not meet enrolment within a 12-month period, the Office of Head Start (OHS) may decrease the programs funding. Rosa M. Pineda, Head Start Director and Ms. Davis will be meeting with Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer, to create creative ways to increase enrollment. They will also meet with OHS to obtain strategies to meet enrollment goals. According to the OHS, Fresno EOC Head Start is not the only program with decreasing enrollment and it is occurring at many other Head Starts within our Region. There is a huge competition for the age group we service. Management is contemplating converting some 3-5-year-old slots to Early Head Start.

The program has until April 7, 2024 to acquire full enrollment. Staff are brainstorming ideas to expand recruitment efforts. Management is also trying to fill staff vacancies for positions to accommodate more children. Head Start Management has revised some job descriptions so that there are more opportunities to fill vacancies. There are 132 vacancies out of 530 positions.

Ms. Brown-Jenkins asked if the under-enrollment issue was based on staff positions or waitlisted children.

Ms. Davis stated currently the program has a significant amount of 3-year old children on the waitlist; however, not enough staff to accommodate them. Head Start is currently moving teachers around in order for more children to be served. Ms. Reyes would like to fill staff vacancies first because if we enroll children first, we will continue to bottle neck ourselves.

Ms. Brown-Jenkins shared that Fresno City and Fresno State have a Child Development Center on campus, so we should look into encouraging some of the young students to apply for the positions. Even some parents in the room go to school and who better to hire than those who know the system.

Natasha Goins, Community Representative, stated she was informed WIC staff aren't qualified to participate in the program.

Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez responded to Ms. Brown-Jenkins, informing her that Head Start does indeed recruit parents and encourage parents to apply for desired positions within the program.

Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez replied to Ms. Goins regarding the qualifications and stated Head Start follows the Federal Income Guidelines. Staff work closely with WIC referrals, but many parents are above those federal guidelines, so unable to enroll in the program. However, if families receive Cal Win, Cash Aid, Foster Children or EBT, they can automatically apply for enrollment no matter their income.

Ms. Cole stated if you work for the program, you cannot have a child enrolled in Head Start.

Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez added that there is process for staff to enroll their children; however, typically Head Start does not allow children of Head Start employees to enroll.

Maria Rolon, CWPC Rep, mentioned if you receive food stamps you can enroll, but how about if you receive Medi-Cal?

Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez replied yes, if you receive Cal Fresh, but at this time it does not apply for Medi-Cal or WIC recipients.

Ms. Salazar asked if the CWPC could advocate to change the guidelines?

Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez stated grantees have reach out to raise guidelines in the past, and she will look into the process parents can take to advocate for changes.

Ms. Davis stated the SNAP/EBT proposal was taken to our local congressman Senator Feinstein, and that is how it was approved. The best process is to form a committee of parents and bring the information to our local district so that they can take it to Washington DC due to us being a federally funded program. If they will listen to anyone, it will be our Head Start parents. Parents can create letters to promote change. Ms. Davis stated if parents have any more ideas, please share with Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez or other staff.

Ms. Brown-Jenkins asked if the issues could be brought up in their meeting with the OHS the following day for suggestions.

Ms. Davis stated the meeting with OHS is to inform them that we received a formal letter. The ERSEA committee could discuss the issue in their meeting, as well as issues could be advocated for at the Region 9 meeting.

Laura Castillo, CWPC Rep, asked if the staffing issue is because people aren't meeting the desired qualifications.

Ms. Davis replied yes, the barriers are not the applicants but the issue is that they don't qualify so they are knocked off of the interview pool. The Job Descriptions are currently being revised to help candidate's eligibility for positions. Some changes have been non-paid experience to support recent graduates who don't have much experience qualify.

Ms. Grigsby expanded and stated when reviewing applicants for education positions, she is noticing a lot of applicants have units but have no work experience. Staff are trying to be more innovative in the hiring process because we want to provide quality staff; however, we do not want to lower our qualifications too much because we need quality staff for our children.

Ms. Zuniga, shared that Home Base education applicants can apply without a degree as long as they are working toward continuing their education. Staff have been going to job fairs at the high school level, so that high schoolers can get an idea of what Early Child Development consists of.

Ms. Davis shared that her and upper management are in the last days of completing a COMP study, reviewing pay rates and looking to increase pay to the market rate for competitiveness. Head Start was not included in the study, so she expects to receive a COMP study for Head Start soon. She stated we are hopeful we will reach our full enrollment.

CSPP CONTINUED FUNDING APPLICATION FY 2023-2023

Helen Uyeda, Education Services Manager, stated the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) is a state funded program. The grant provides funding to braid with Head Start, which is federally funded. The CSPP program is a full year program, and extends hours up to 11 hours depending on parent's needs. Each year we must apply for funding.

CCTR CONTINUED FUNDING APPLICATION FY 2023-2024

Helen Uyeda, Education Services Manager, stated CCTR is also a state funded program. Head Start 0 to 5 applied for the funds on March 10, 2023 and the application was received and accepted on March 28, 2023 for the upcoming 2023-2024 fiscal year. This program services children 0-3 for infants and toddlers. Head Start is in the process of opening a new center in Selma, Eric White, to service toddlers. The center is pending Fire Marshall inspection and once we

receive fire inspection clearance, then Community Care Licensing (CCL) will complete their Site Visit inspection. Staff can continue with enrolling children and placing staff at the center. There will be 2 classrooms and per the HSPPS for 4 children there should be 1 staff supervising. Eric White will have 2 classrooms with 8 children in each class.

HEAD START 0 TO 5
MONTHLY PROGRAMS
UPDATE REPORT
(PUR) FOR THE MONTH OF
JANUARY 2023

Ms. Davis received communication from the OHS. She and Rosa M. Pineda, Head Start Director, are working to finalize the application for Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) so that all Head Start 0 to 5 staff will receive a 5.6% pay increase. The deadline for the application is April 21, 2023.

Early Head Start and Head Start are continuing to recruit for staff and children. Ms. Davis asked if CWPC knows anyone who qualifies for a position to please encourage them to apply on the Fresno EOC website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Salazar, CWPC Chairperson made the following Announcement:

- A. April 22, 2023 – Annual Father Conference
- B. May 2, 2023 – County-Wide Policy Council Meeting

A CWPC Representative asked when is the last day of school.

Ms. Salazar stated she should double check with the center her child is enrolled at, but she believes it is the last week of July.

Ms. Uyeda stated it depends on the program options. There are 3.5 hour, 6 hour, 7.5 and 11 hour classes. Originally 3.5, 6 and 7.5 hour class schedules last day was May 25, 2023; however, classes must operate a specific amount of days so due to some days of non-operation, the last day will extend to May 30, 2023. The full day 11 hour classes are year around and does not close for summer or winter break, operates 240 days.

Ms. Salazar reminded the CWPC to submit their reimbursement forms and informed them that Mr. Juarez left flyers for the Training and Employment information at the front table.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn meeting was made by Jose De Los Santos and seconded by Fawnda Cole. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Submitted By:

Brionna Warren
Secretary I

May 10, 2023

CEO REPORT**BACKGROUND**

The information presented below is intended to inform the reader about the Chief Executive Officer, the Agency, and the staff's involvement in serving our community.

FRESNO EOC AGENCY-WIDE EFFORTS**CalCAPA 2023 State Legislative & Advocacy Meeting**

Chair Hayes and I attended the CalCAPA 2023 State Legislative & Advocacy event from April 17th-19th. We received valuable insights on how CAPs can support justice-involved youth from Will Lightbourne, Director of the Office of Youth and Community Restoration. We also received updates on Associations & Partnerships and legislative training from CalCAPA Executive Director David Knight and guest speaker Assemblymember Vince Fong.

3rd Annual Advance Peace Forum

The 3rd Annual 2023 Advance Peace Forum took place in San Diego from April 10th to 13th where I was invited to participate in a panel discussion about policy implications for the future of Community Violence Intervention. This event is part of the Peacemaker Fellowship training portfolio and connects local teams with national Community Violence Intervention stakeholders and experts. The panel was moderated by NBA World Champion Matt Barnes and included Greg Jackson (Community Justice Action Fund) and Edward Bocanegra (US. Department of Justice).

California Association of Local Conservation Corps Government Education Day

On Tuesday, April 18th, the Local Conservation Corp (LCC) Director, Shawn Riggins, led a team of Corps students to Sacramento for CALCC Government Education Day. The students had the opportunity to meet elected officials and speak with other Core agency members, including Senator Shannon Grove, which left them feeling inspired.

Head Start 0-5 Partnership Building

On April 10th, HS 0 to 5 Program Supportive Services Director Nidia Davis and I met with Community Action Marin CEO Chandra Alexandre and Strategy Officer Gina Guillemette to discuss our partnerships with Fresno Unified School District and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools. We also discussed lessons learned and the strengths of our LEA relationships. Later that day, we held the County-wide Policy Council, attended by Commissioners Sherry Neil and Zina Brown Jenkins in person and

Jimi Rodgers via phone. We are committed to continuing partnerships with Head Start counterparts throughout the State and Nation.

FRESNO EOC COMMUNITY EFFORTS

Head Start 0 to 5 Father Conference

The 4th Annual Head Start 0-5 Father Conference targeted fathers or father figures in the program. 31 fathers attended the event with a theme based on science. The AIMS program team conducted a workshop, while Head Start nutrition staff held a gardening workshop. Darrell Hamilton, Director of SUD Services, was the keynote speaker and spoke on "Engaging as a Father," Ralph Carrillo, Our ECE Specialist, led an interactive activity focused on learning through play.

Community Learning Center Produce Box Distribution

On April 20th, the Community Learning Center had another successful produce box distribution at the Lighthouse for Children. We distributed 100 produce boxes that included cabbage, sugarcane, lemon grass, rappini, cilantro, green onion, broccoli rabe, oranges, and kale. This distribution featured a recipe incorporating lemongrass as an ingredient for families to try. We also shared a few cookbooks donated to us by First 5 in English and Spanish.

LGBTQ+ Resource Center Q Prom

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center, Fresno City College, and Fresno State Cross Cultural and Gener Center came together to host an unforgettable event for Fresno's youth. The Q Prom, open to those 17 and under, was a night of music, dance, and celebration of self-expression. The event saw an impressive turnout, with 32 young attendees participating in activities such as royalty crowning and a thrilling vogue competition. In addition, the Q Prom served as a safe and inclusive space for young members of the LGBTQ+ community to come together and enjoy a night of fun and acceptance.

Dental Services Fluoride Varnish Event for Head Start

Fresno EOC Health Services provided free dental health screenings and fluoride varnish to Head Start families at two sites on April 12th, and April 19th. The organization recently held two successful Fluoride Drive-Thru Events at Community College Head Start and Dakota Circle Head Start, screening a total of 43 children. The success of these events has prompted Fresno EOC Health Services to schedule a second event at Dakota Circle on May 3rd, hoping to serve even more families in the community.

Fresno EOC Earth Day Resource Fair

Earth Day, a global movement that began in the 21st century to advocate for environmental protection, was commemorated with a Community Resource Fair hosted by Fresno EOC at the El Dorado Park Community Garden on Saturday, April 22nd. The fair featured on-site, no-cost health and dental services, food distribution, and representatives from various organizations such as Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps, United Way Fresno and Madera, POPS 2.0 program, Head Start 0-5, WIC, and more.

The Power of Women in Business Conference

On June 1st, I am honored to be a panelist at the 7th annual 'The Power of Women in Business Conference.' The Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation leads this event and will host more than 600 business professionals and women entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds representing the Central Valley. I hope to provide inspiring insight into diverse women taking leadership roles to transform their communities.

Fresno County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

In celebration of Community Action Month, The Fresno County Board of Supervisors is proclaiming May Community Action Month. Fresno EOC will be recognized at a Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, May 23rd, at 2281 Tulare St # 301, Fresno, CA. Fresno EOC is honored to be recognized for playing an instrumental role in promoting economic stability and providing access to education, employment, housing, health, and other essential services that have improved the quality of life for many Fresno residents.

National Head Start Conference

From May 8th to May 11th, I will attend the National Head Start Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, along with over 30 of our Head Start staff members and Interim CFO Jay Zapata. This conference will offer over 100 sessions, special events, and entertainment. We will have the opportunity to network with colleagues from across the country and hear from keynote speakers who help refresh our commitment to Head Start's mission.

International Leadership Summit

Board Chair Linda Hayes and Commissioner Alysia Bonner are attending the International Leadership Summit from May 3-6th in Orlando, Florida. The summit is an annual event organized by T.D Jakes Ministries, a global leadership training and development organization. The conference features keynote speaker Nona Jones, preacher, business executive, author, and entrepreneur. There will also be many sessions on leadership development, personal growth, and business strategies.

Love Your Home: Solar Savings Town Hall Discussion

On May 6th, the Love Your Home campaign is holding a Town Hall discussion at Sunset Community Center located at 1345 W Eden Ave, Fresno, CA. The discussion will cover various topics, including understanding PG&E bill charges, uncovering what items in the home use the most energy, and how to make efficient swaps, as well as facts versus myths about solar panels. In addition, the Love Your Home initiative includes resident education and provides no-cost quality weatherization services such as weather-stripping, roofing repairs, lighting upgrades, heating/cooling, and even free solar panel installation for qualifying residents.

SPONSORSHIPS

Valley Center for the Blind Glow Ball Tournament
2023 Black Maternal Health Week

HBSA Casino Night Scholarship and Awards Banquet
AMOR Gala in the Garden
EDC 18th Annual Real Estate Forecast

Thank You to Our Partners

We continue to identify service gaps by listening to and lifting up unheard voices in our community. When we work together, we elevate the fight against injustice and poverty.