

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**DATE:** May 20, 2024

**TIME:** 5:30 PM

**MAIN LOCATION:** 1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 310 Fresno, CA 93721

**ALTERNATE LOCATION:** The Western Seattle Hotel – 1900 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101  
Paris Las Vegas Hotel - 3655 S Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89109

This meeting will also be made available to the public via Zoom using the following link:

<https://fresnoeoc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvcuGopjouHtB4IE-2fJ16Abg7Mbqf6bpA>

**AGENDA**

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER	ACTION
1.	<b>CALL TO ORDER AND COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE:</b> 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.		
2. Page 4	<b>ROLL CALL</b> A. Board and Committee Meetings Monthly Attendance Record		
3. Page 8	<b>APRIL 15, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES</b>	Baines, Chair	Approve
4.	<b>ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA</b> <i>(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.)</i>		
5.	<b>POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST</b> <i>(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)</i>		
6. Pages 13-53	<b>CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS 6I – 6XIV</b> <i>See attached consent agenda.</i> Any Commissioner or member of the public may pull any Consent Item for discussion.	Baines, Chair	Approve
7. Page 54	<b>TRANSFORMING AND INSPIRING</b> A. Head Start 0 to 5	Pineda, Staff	Information
8. Page 56	<b>COMMISSIONER REINSTATEMENT: REY LEON</b> A. Supporting Document	Baines, Chair	Approve
9. Page 58	<b>FRESNO EOC ANNUAL REPORT 2023</b> A. Supporting Document	Moreno, Staff	Approve
10. Page 114	<b>COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT</b> A. Supporting Document	Tutunjian, Staff	Accept

<b>11.</b> Page 221	<b>TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT: VALLEY APPRENTICESHIP CONNECTIONS - CENTRAL VALLEY TRAINING CENTER AGREEMENT</b>	Turner, Staff	Approve
<b>12.</b> Page 223	<b>AGENCY FINANCIAL AND HEAD START FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT MARCH 2024</b> A. Supporting Document	Riofrio, Staff	Accept
<b>13.</b> Page 229	<b>HEAD START 0 TO 5: CHANGE OF SCOPE</b>	Pineda, Staff	Ratify
<b>14.</b> Page 232	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT</b>	Reyes, CEO	Information
<b>15.</b>	<u><b>PUBLIC COMMENTS</b></u> <i>(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. Limit three minutes per speaker)</i>		
<b>16.</b>	<b>COMMISSIONERS' COMMENT</b>	Baines, Chair	
<b>17.</b>	<b>CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS</b> <b>AGENCY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES: MICHELLE TUTUNJIAN, ROB BARSAMIAN.</b> <b>EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION: ATU LOCAL 1027</b>	Price, Legal Counsel	
<b>18.</b>	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Baines, Chair	
<b>NOTE:</b>	<b>NEXT BOARD MEETING: Monday, September 16, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.</b>		

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*(Any Commissioner or member of the public may pull any Consent Item for discussion)*

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER	ACTION
<b>6I.</b> Page 13	<b>AUGUST 16, 2023 LOCAL CONSERVATION CORPS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES</b>	Riggins, Staff	Accept
<b>6II.</b> Page 17	<b>SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM COMMUNITY ADVISORY MINUTES</b>	Struck, Staff	Accept
<b>6III.</b> Page 19	<b>FEBRUARY 21, 2024 LOCAL CONSERVATION CORPS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES</b>	Riggins, Staff	Accept
<b>6IV.</b> Page 22	<b>APRIL 8, 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</b>	Baines, Chair	Accept
<b>6V.</b> Page 25	<b>APRIL 9, 2024 HEAD START COUNTY WIDE POLICY COUNCIL MINUTES</b>	Pineda, Staff	Accept
<b>6VI.</b> Page 29	<b>FOOD SERVICES: FY 2024/2025 FOOD SERVICE AGREEMENTS</b>	Escobar, Staff	Approve
<b>6VII.</b> Page 31	<b>FOOD SERVICES: CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCE FUND CATALYST PROJECT</b>	Escobar, Staff	Ratify
<b>6VIII.</b> Page 33	<b>LOCAL CONSERVATION CORPS: CALRECYCLE RCL 39 GRANT</b>	Riggins, Staff	Ratify
<b>6IX.</b> Page 35	<b>TRAINING &amp; EMPLOYMENT: CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CERF CATALYST PROJECT - PARTNERSHIP WITH PROTEUS INC.</b>	Turner, Staff	Ratify
<b>6X.</b> Page 37	<b>SANCTUARY &amp; SUPPORT SERVICES: OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME ANTI-TRAFFICKING HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM</b>	Gattie-Blanco, Staff	Approve
<b>6XI.</b> Page 39	<b>PROGRAM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: GRANT TRACKER &amp; QUARTERLY GRANT SUMMARY</b> A. Supporting Document	Medina, Staff	Information
<b>6XII.</b> Page 47	<b>HEAD START 0 TO 5: PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT PUR FOR MARCH 2024</b> A. Supporting Document	Pineda, Staff	Accept
<b>6XIII.</b> Page 51	<b>HEALTH INSURANCE REPORT</b> A. Supporting Document	Warnes, Staff	Information
<b>6XIV.</b> Page 53	<b>INVESTMENT REPORT</b>	Warnes, Staff	Information





**Audit Committee Meeting  
Monthly Attendance Record  
2024  
Dates TBD**

Oliver Baines  
Robert Pimentel  
Amy Arambula  
Lisa Mitchell  
Charles Garabedian  
Earl Brown  
Alysia Bonner  
Linda Hayes  
Jimi Rodgers

	Jan.	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	<b>Attended</b>
Oliver Baines													0/0
Robert Pimentel													0/0
Amy Arambula													0/0
Lisa Mitchell													0/0
Charles Garabedian													0/0
Earl Brown													0/0
Alysia Bonner													0/0
Linda Hayes													0/0
Jimi Rodgers													0/0

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference



## Bylaws Committee Meeting Monthly Attendance Record 2024

Lisa Mitchell  
 Linda Hayes  
 David Ruiz  
 Luis Martinez  
 Zina Brown-Jenkins

	Jan.	Feb	Mar. 21	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep. 19	Oct	Nov. 21	Dec	Attended
Lisa Mitchell			O										1/3
Linda Hayes			O										1/3
David Ruiz			O										1/3
Luis Martinez			O										1/3
Zina Brown-Jenkins			O										1/3

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference



**Executive Committee Meeting  
Monthly Attendance Record  
2024**

	January	5-Feb	4-Mar	8-Apr	6-May	June	1-Jul	5-Aug	9-Sep	7-Oct	4-Nov	2-Dec	Attended
Oliver Baines		O	O	O	O								<b>4/10</b>
Robert Pimentel		O	O	X	O								<b>3/10</b>
Amy Arambula		O	O	X	O								<b>3/10</b>
Lisa Mitchell		O	O	X	O								<b>3/10</b>
Charles Garabedian		O	O	O	O								<b>4/10</b>
Earl Brown		O	O	O	O								<b>4/10</b>
Alysia Bonner		O	O	O	O								<b>4/10</b>
Linda Hayes		O	O	O	T								<b>3/10</b>
Jimi Rodgers		O	O	X	T								<b>3/10</b>

O-Present X-Absent T-Teleconference

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** April 15, 2024

**TIME:** 5:30 PM

**LOCATION:** 1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 310 Fresno, CA 93721

**ALTERNATE LOCATION:** 900 West Main Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73106

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE:**  
Oliver Baines, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Amy Arambula, Oliver Baines, Alysia Bonner, Earl Brown, Zina Brown-Jenkins, Charles Garabedian, Linda Hayes, Lupe Jaime-Mileham, James Martinez, Luis Martinez, Bruce McAlister, Barigye McCoy, Lauren Nikkel, Alena Pacheco, Daniel Parra, Robert Pimentel, Jimi Rodger, Manuel Romero, David Ruiz, and Steven Taylor.

**Teleconference:** Lisa Mitchell

**Absent:** Brian King, Rey Leon, and Daniel Martinez.

3. **MARCH 18, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Public Comment: None heard.

**Motion by:** Hayes     **Second by:** Bonner

**Ayes:** All in favor.

**Abstain:** Lupe Jaime-Mileham,

**Nays:** None heard.

4. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Chair Baines, amended the agenda and moved up item #13 Commissioners Comment to be presented before agenda item #6: Consent Agenda.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

5. **POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

13. **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENT**

The agency's Legal Counsel, Kenneth Price, provided a brief overview reminder of the Commissioner Excessive Absence Policy. Price stated the following:

On December 7, 2023, the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners approved various revisions to the Bylaws to be effective starting January 1, 2024, including revisions to Section to Article VII, Section 4 removal for excessive absences.

The approved Bylaws state that a Commissioner shall be deemed to have vacated that Commissioner's Board seat after **three (3) absences** of regular meetings during a calendar year. No later than **five (5) days** before the next Board of Commissioners' meeting after the third vacancy, a Commissioner may request in writing to the Chair and Clerk of the Board that the Board to restore the Commissioner's Board seat during the Board meeting immediately following the deemed vacancy so long as the Board takes such action upon a determination, in the Board's sole discretion, that there is "good cause" to excuse the excessive absences. What constitutes "good cause" is determined by the Board.

Commissioners have inquired if they may participate electronically in Board meeting so that they will not be removed due to excessive absences. The answer is a highly qualified, yes. Currently, the Brown Act allows for remote participation with certain rules: (i) "traditional" teleconferencing rules; and (ii) "just cause/emergency circumstances" teleconferencing rules.

For traditional teleconferencing participation, a Board member may participate in a meeting remotely (e.g., via telephone), so long as **all** of the following conditions are met: (a) a quorum of the Board members participate at the primary meeting site; (b) each teleconferencing location **is listed on the agenda**, the agenda is properly posted at each teleconferencing location at least **72 hours in advance**, and each teleconferencing location is accessible to the public (including to members of the public with disabilities) and provides for public comment; and (c) all votes are taken by roll call

Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer, thanked Commissioner Mitchell for the advance notice of letting Reyes know she will be traveling for April's Board Meeting and providing address to be included in the agenda.

Commissioner McAlister thanked Fresno EOC for participating in the Association Black Social Workers for the Community Engagement Event that took place on March 23, 2024, at the Saints Community Church.

Commissioner Nikkle thanked the Fresno EOC Human Resources department for participating in the job fair that the Fresno County EDC put together in partnership with the County Department of Social Services that was held on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at the Manchester Center from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

Commissioner Brown-Jenkins shared her grandson, a former Fresno EOC Head Start child, was the youngest member to place in Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno County Youth of the Year title and is heading to sacramento to meeting with legislatives.

Commissioner Charles Garabedian, James Martinez and Daniel Parra join the Board Meeting at 5:48 pm.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS 6I – 6XXI**

Public Comment: None heard.

**Motion by:** Bonner    **Second by:** Hayes

**Ayes:** All in favor.

**Nayes:** None heard.

Chair Baines left during this item and asked Vice Chair Pimentel to chair the remaining portion of the Board Meeting.

**APPROVAL OF PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

**6I November 29, 2023 Bylaws Committee Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Michell asked Karina Perez, Chief of Staff, to provide an overview of the new commissioner’s application process. Perez stated the Bylaws Committee recommended consolidating the Target Area, Community Sector and Public Sector nomination forms in an effort to simplify the process for community members who may wish to apply to be on the Board.

Public Comment: None heard.

**Motion by:** Mitchell    **Second by:** Bonner

**Ayes:** All in favor.

**Nayes:** None heard.

7. **TRANSFORMING AND INSPIRING**

Patrick Turner, Training & Employment Services Director, provided an overview of the Training & Employment 2023 Strategic Program Progress Report Year 1. Turner introduced intern Stephanie Ramirez, a recent graduate from University of California (UC) Davis where she shared her experiences with the Workforce Connection and the excitement of the opportunity to work and help the youth.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

8. **AGENCY FINANCIAL AND HEAD START FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT FEBRUARY 2024**

Angela Riofrio, Finance Director, provided an overview report of the Agency Financial statements and the Head Start Financial Status Report as of Year-to-Date for February 29, 2024.

Public Comment: None heard.

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

**Ayes:** All in favor.

**Nayes:** None heard.

9. **2024 AGENCY BUDGET**

Riofrio, provided a breakdown summary report of the 2024 consolidated agency budget for Food Insecurity, Health & Wellness, Education Achievements, Community Safety, Employment Opportunities, Housing Stability and Administration.

Reyes stated she appreciated Commissioner Arambula giving her a call prior to the meeting to ask questions and clarifications regarding the Head Start 0 to 5 Narrative and Budget.

Public Comment: None heard.

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

**Ayes:** All in favor.

**Nayes:** None heard.

10. **ADVANCE PEACE: FY24 VIOLENCE INTERVENTION & PREVENTION INITIATIVE**

Aaron Foster, Advance Peace Program Manager, provided an overview of the submitted 2024 Violence Intervention & Prevention Initiative grant application to the City of Fresno in the amount of \$375,000, to allow Advance Peace to serve 25 youth ages 9 to 24 with education/skill development.

Public Comment: None heard.

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

**Ayes:** All in favor.

**Nayes:** None heard.

11. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Reyes, highlighted the following items:

- Reyes remind the Commission of her office hours before the Board and Executive Committee Meetings for Commissioners to ask questions regarding the packet.
- Thanked Commissioners McAlister, Rodgers, and Taylor for the feedback provided to staff to engage with the community. Reyes stated she is proud and thanked staff for their amazing job on engaging with the community. Reyes stated 4,000 surveys have been

competed for the Community Needs Assessment and so far, have received 5,000 applications for the Guaranteed Income Project.

- Fresno EOC staff members will be heading to Sacramento to kick-off the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Community Action on May 1, 2024.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

12. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Nelson Dibie, People & Culture Officer invited the Commission to the upcoming Employee Service Award taking place on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Wedgewood Wedding venue.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

14. **CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6**

Kenneth Price, Agency's Legal Counsel, had no action to report out of closed session.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Local Conservation Corps  
Advisory Board Meeting  
August 16, 2023  
MINUTES**

Marc' Bady	P	Lisa Mitchell	P
Alysia Bonner	P	Ken McCoy	P
David Clark	A	Robert Pimentel	A
Jennifer Duran	A	Carmen Romero	A
Charles Garabedian	P	Sharon Weaver	A
Bruce McAllister	P	LCC/YouthBuild Senate Council President or Representative	P

**Staff:**

Shawn Riggins, LCC Director  
 Michelle L. Tutunjian, Chief Operating Officer  
 Elisa Sgambellone, LCC Assistant Director  
 Caroline Taito, YouthBuild Program Manager  
 Jay Fitzpatrick, Solar Manager  
 Alicia Garcia, Administrative & Operations Manager  
 Manny Brar, Fatherhood/POPs Coordinator  
 Tracy Pierce, Recycling Coordinator  
 Jeremy Ruiz, Construction Coordinator  
 Veronica Moreno, Lead TSA  
 Esmeralda Roque, TSA

Corpsmembers: Alexander Calderon, Markila Plummer

**1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Shawn Riggins, LCC Director, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was called.

**3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

May 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Motion by:** B. McAlister     **Second by:** C. Garabedian.

**Ayes:** All in favor. **Nays:** None heard.

**4. YOUTHBUILD CHARTER SCHOOL OF CALIFORNIA (YCSC)**

Shawn Riggins, stated that LCC has partnered with YCSC since 2010 and that YCSC is the educational provider for the corps. Part of California's Corps Legislation statute requires that all young people enrolled in the corps are enrolled in an educational component. The charter school is onsite and currently works with students 18-29 years old.

Riggins then introduced Ken McCoy, YCSC Counselor/Registrar and students. McCoy introduced YCSC seniors, Markila Plummer and Alexander Calderon, who shared their experiences. Markila stated that she is a student and a corpsmember and will be graduating soon, needs five credits to graduate, her goal is to go to

college and become an RN. Alexander stated that he is part of the landscaping program at LCC, this is his second year attending YCSC and after obtaining his high school diploma he would like to go to college and explore his options.

McCoy then provided an overview of YCSC's curriculum and stated the school work is community and project based, every semester has a community action project. One of the community action projects is the food distribution at LCC. YCSC offers a 50/50 model where students go to school one week and work the next, students receive work experience credit for the work week. Students are currently preparing for the upcoming project, Safe Night Out in October. One of last year's project was a "Concerto" that featured a student playing the violin, another project was a "Fashion Show" featuring staff, students and corpsmembers. McCoy stated that YCSC partners with Owens Valley to provide independent studies. August 14, 2023 was the first day of school for the 2023-2024 academic year.

## **5. PROGRAM UPDATES**

### **A. Work Training Projects**

A detailed list of work training projects was distributed at the meeting with the Advisory Board agenda packet. Several projects were highlighted. Shawn Riggins provided a brief update on LCC's activities/events since the last Advisory Board meeting, as follows:

- Veronica Moreno, Lead TSA, introduced Vouchnai "Nai" Chheang, and stated that Nai came to LCC in September of 2022 and is the first corpsmembers that has come to LCC with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. At this time Nai expressed that she was very interested in the Sterile Processing Technician training program. Nai enrolled in the YouthBuild construction program and alternated weeks between working on the construction site building homes and the classroom taking the sterile processing course. Once she completed the 8-week sterile processing tech curriculum she then began the 400-hour paid internship at Valley Children's Hospital. Nai decided to take a short break and visit family in Cambodia, and would return to attend pharmacy school. Upon returning from Cambodia Nai took and passed the sterile processing tech test and received her certification, which is recognized worldwide. Nai applied and was accepted to pharmacy School, LCC's YouthBuild program has been supporting her through this process. Nai shared her experience at LCC, stating that she came to this program knowing nothing about construction and is grateful that Jennifer and Jeremy, construction supervisors, trained her on how to use hand and power tools. Nai also stated that she appreciates the opportunity to work alongside low-income families building homes and to be part of the LCC.
- Riggins stated that on Monday, August 7, 2023, the LCC hosted members of The Corps Network from Washington DC and Miami, who were visiting the area as part of their board retreat in Yosemite. The LCC staff shared with the group how the LCC program supports young adults, ages 18-26, through education, vocational training, and supportive resources. The group was very impressed, stated that they will be reaching out to LCC for a national story.

- Riggins stated that staff will be traveling to Washington DC this month for the YouthBuild Department of Labor national conference. DOL asked LCC to be part of the presentation in DC, staff will be presenting on EOC/LCC's policies, procedures, and internal controls.
- Riggins stated that storms earlier this year disrupted water quality in the Friant area, placing residents under a boil water advisory. Senator Grove and Supervisor Nathan Magsig's office reached out to EOC requesting assistance to distribute bottled water to the Friant community. LCC distributed water once alongside EOC/Energy Service and two additional times. Certificates of appreciation were provided to corpsmembers.
- Riggins stated that the first meeting for Halloween Safe Night Out will be taking place this month.
- Riggins stated that LCC will be entering into a fee for service contract with the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District to install inlet markers at storm drains throughout the City of Fresno and Clovis. Riggins stated that he is currently working with EOC's Communications Department on a media advisory, that will be approved by the district, to inform the community that this will be taking place.
- Manny Brar, POPs Coordinator, provided an update on the POPs program. Brar stated that the Annual POPs conference will be taking place on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at the LCC, breakout session will include; Credit Counseling, Father/Daughter Bonding, a class to teach fathers how to braid their daughter's hair, local hair stylists will be teaching the class, and representatives from EOC/ WIC and Head Start 0-5, County of Fresno Child Support Services will be onsite as well. There will be free swag giveaway and raffle prizes as well.
- Tracy Pierce provided an update on LCC's recycling program. Pierce stated that this is recycling's busiest season with CRV collection at Save Mart Center events, Fresno State football games, the upcoming Madera Fair, waste tire collection events and the project with Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District.
- Jay Fitzpatrick, Solar Program Manager, provided an update on the program. Fitzpatrick stated that the solar crew is 100% full, corpsmembers have improved their attendance and are engaged in the program. Solar installs are moving along, had issues with some of the homes in the 93706 area, roofs are very old and will need to be replaced, hopefully this can be done through EOC's Energy Services Program. Fitzpatrick also stated that PG&E has changed how they credit solar customers for their energy, NEM 3.0, this may require solar customers to get battery storage. There is a program that homeowners can apply for which can provide batteries for their homes so they can have stand-alone power when the power goes out in their area.
- Caroline Taito, YouthBuild Program Manager, provided an update on the YouthBuild program. Taito stated that enrollment in the construction

program will begin very soon. Housing partnership continues with Self Help Enterprises, will continue to build homes in the Reedley area, the Fresno housing division will be ready early next year. Enrollment in the YouthBuild AmeriCorps (AMC) program continues, just completed enrollment for AMC year 1 of the 3-year grant. LCC just received the next round of funding for YouthBuild AmeriCorps. The sterile processing training will begin in October, there's a lot of students interested, as well as staff from Valley Children's and Fresno Community Hospital. This round of funding for YouthBuild/DOL also includes forestry and solar training.

- Elisa Sgambellone, LCC Assistant Director, stated that the YouthBuild Charter School graduation took place on June 23, 2023, nineteen students graduated. Sgambellone also stated that there are 10-12 potential graduates for December, may be holding a graduation ceremony in December again. LCC held Summer Education for all corpsmembers in July, corpsmembers received certifications in OSHA 10, First Aid/CPR, and Forklift, in addition to career preparation. Currently enrolling students 18-29 years old in YCSC.
- Riggins stated that this year is LCC's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The plan was to have an open house for the completion of the second floor, unfortunately the air conditioning unit on the second floor went out. Jeremy Ruiz, Construction Coordinator, has been working with PG&E to get issue resolved, parts have been ordered. As soon as the a/c unit is running again, plans will begin for the combined open house and 30<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebration.

B. Corpsmember/Student Development

Markila Plummer and Alexander Calderon shared their experience at the YCSC school and field training, as well as their future plans after graduating from YCSC.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None heard.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shawn Riggins, LCC Director  
Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps

**FRESNO EOC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)  
September 29, 2023 10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Leah Struck called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll was called by Raquel Padia.

**Committee Members**

**(Present):**

Betty Brown  
Bruce McAlister  
Yvonne Hernandez  
Richard Saldivar  
Sheri Neal  
Alena Pacheco

**Staff (Present):**

Leah Struck  
Raquel Padia  
Blanca Alvarado  
Elaine Jalomo

**Absent:**

Julia Fowler  
Margarita Cortez  
Tashon Smallwood  
Olga Ramirez

**III. CAG 2023 APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBER**

Richard Saldivar, Director of Boys and Girls Clubs, was introduced and was approved to be the new CAG member. Bruce McAlister made the motion. Sheri Neal second the motion.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Quorum approved minutes from April 28, 2023.

**V. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR AND SECRETARY**

Yvonne Hernandez nominated herself as Vice Chair. Quorum was made and approved Yvonne for position as Vice Chair. Elaine Jalomo was nominated as Secretary and quorum approved nomination for position.

**VI. FGP UPDATES**

- A. FGP currently has 62 volunteers after adding 13 new volunteers this quarter.
- B. With the Senior Demonstration Project grant, multiple attempts of outreach to recruit new volunteers have been made but no success. There is 2 new MOUS, Kerman Unified School District and Stone Soup, to add to the 3 existing MOUs.

- C. Raquel Padia was awarded the fellowship award from Eisner Foundation Fellowship to continue her vision of her intergenerational program, Generations Serving Together.
- D. Generations Serving Together continues for another year and has five senior volunteers, one current intern and interviews five more potential interns. The sites that will be serving this year is Pinedale, Clovis, and West Boys and Girls Clubs in Fresno, Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps YouthBuild Charter School, Neighbors Helping Neighbors Thrive after school program and Fresno EOC AFLP program.
- E. Generations Serving Together teams up with Neighbors Helping Neighbors Thrive and 4-H Youth Development Program to create Mindful Me after school program in a central Fresno neighborhood. Teen teachers and Foster Grandparent volunteers collaborate to accelerate reading skills and teach mindfulness to children.
- F. FGP hosted their senior trip to Monterey and Monterey Bay Aquarium on May 16<sup>th</sup>. The program had applied to the aquarium's Free to Learn program and was granted free entrance to all field trip participants. Over 30 volunteers, staff and guests participated in the trip.
- G. Access to Technology is a senior based program awarded through Fresno County Department of Social Services that will focus on teaching senior clients, whom have In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), how to navigate a technological device through workshops and one-on-one training. The program also covers two years of internet services to participants.
- H. East Fresno Kiwanis Club donated funds to FGP to donate books to children at sites where the Grandparents volunteer. In June over a 100 books were donated to Kings Canyon Head Start and Grandmas Betty, Linda and Tanya had a reading day with their class to introduce and pass out books to their classroom children.
- I. Instead of FGP's annual May Picnic, the luncheon was changed to June for an amazing Luau consisting of a presentation from CalFresh with healthy food samples, a yummy potluck and "luau" inspired non-alcoholic drinks.
- J. LCC has their annual Halloween Safe Night out and grandparents and staff put together an intergenerational kid zone. Volunteers read books and supervised a coloring station and a Halloween-inspired movie.

## **VII. UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monthly in-service meetings with training and educational presentations  
 Halloween Safe Night Out  
 November Turkey Lunch  
 December's recognition event  
 Fundraising events  
 Networking and outreach events

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.

**Local Conservation Corps  
Advisory Board Meeting  
February 21, 2024  
MINUTES**

Marc' Bady	A	Ken McCoy	P
Earl Brown	A	Manuel Romero	A
David Clark	A	Carmen Romero	P
Jennifer Duran	P	David Ruiz	P
Brian King	A	Sharon Weaver	A
Lisa Mitchell	A	LCC/YouthBuild Senate Council President or Representative	P

**Staff:**

Shawn Riggins, LCC Director  
 Jack Lazzarini, EOC Programs Officer  
 Sherry Neil, EOC Programs Officer  
 Elisa Sgambellone, LCC Assistant Director  
 Caroline Taito, YouthBuild Program Manager  
 Jay Fitzpatrick, Solar Manager  
 Alicia Garcia, Administrative & Operations Manager  
 Leah Struck, Foster Grandparent Program Manager  
 Manny Brar, Fatherhood/POPs Coordinator  
 Tracy Pierce, Recycling Coordinator  
 Veronica Moreno, Lead TSA

Corpsmembers/Students: Jocelynn Reyes-Garcia

**1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Shawn Riggins, LCC Director, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was called.

**3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

EOC Commissioners and Advisory Board Members, Manuel Romero and David Ruiz introduced themselves and shared the areas they represent.

**4. CHARPERSON SELECTION**

No quorum was established; item tabled to next meeting.

**5. APPROVAL of PREVIOUS MINUTES**

No quorum was established; item tabled to next meeting.

**6. ADVANCING FRESNO COUNTY GUARATEED INCOME PROGRAM**

Riggins introduced Andy Levine who proceeded to deliver a presentation on the Guaranteed Income Program. Levine stated that this program offers supplemental monthly income of \$500 per month, for 12 months, to low-income families who meet the eligibility criteria; must live in target area, adults who are pregnant or have children under 5 in the household, and gross income of 80% or less of the medium income for their respective zip code. A total of 150 households will be selected; seventy-five in Fresno (93706), and seventy-five in Huron, two of

the highest poverty rates in Fresno County. Recipients will be selected randomly through a lottery system conducted by Fresno State University. Applications will be accepted March 15, 2024, through May 15, 2024. Applications can be submitted online or in person. Fresno State will evaluate program results. The state has issued an income exemption waiver that excludes this income from being taken into consideration for eligibility for food stamps and cash aid benefits. Additionally, HUD has also granted a waiver for Housing Choice vouchers, allowing payments to be received for up to 12 months without impacting eligibility.

## **7. PROGRAM UPDATES**

A. Presentation of LCC's Draft Strategic Program Progress Report Shawn Riggins provided an overview of LCC's Strategic Program Progress and Impact Report, which encompasses participant demographics, educational achievements, access to wrap-around services, and the community impact of LCC's crew-based vocational training. A detailed report, including information on the Foster Grandparent Program, is planned to be presented at the upcoming EOC board meeting. This report will be extremely valuable in demonstrating program impact during meetings with elected officials at the state, local and federal levels, and will also be a valuable addition to future LCC grant applications.

### **B. Work Training Projects**

A detailed list of work training projects was distributed at the meeting with the Advisory Board agenda packet. Several projects were highlighted. Shawn Riggins provided a brief update on LCC's activities/events since the last Advisory Board meeting, as follows:

- Riggins stated that LCC recently submitted two grant applications, one for \$500,000, an earmark from Congressman Costa to increase LCC's forestry project, and one to CalRecycle in the amount of \$800,00 through SB1013, which added wine bottles to the state's CRV Recycling program.
- Leah Struck presented a report on the Foster Grandparent program. Struck stated that currently, three foster grandparents are assigned to serve at the YouthBuild Charter School, while others serve at Head Start Centers, elementary schools, and Boys & Girls Clubs. Struck also highlighted the Program Progress Strategic Report and Logic Model for the Foster Grandparent program.
- Jay Fitzpatrick, Recycling Program Manager, provided an update on the recycling program. Fitzpatrick mentioned that corpsmember enrollment is increasing, the mattress recycling project continues at Rice Road in collaboration with the Mattress Recycling Council.
- Manny Brar, POPs Coordinator, provided an update on the POPs program. Brar stated that the quarterly POPS Resource Fair took place on February 22, 2024, under the theme "The Roles of Mothers & Fathers". The event attracted approximately fifty attendees and was a significant success. Breakout sessions featured presenters who discussed the vital roles that mothers and fathers fulfill within the family unit. The fair hosted ten vendors, offered music, food, and raffle prizes. In addition, POPS staff will be participating in the 25th Annual Families & Fathers Conference, scheduled to take place in Los Angeles from April 22-25, 2024. Staff are eager to engage with a diverse panel of speakers from all over the

world to discuss the joys and challenges of fatherhood, as well as obtain valuable resources and instructional techniques for implementation.

- Caroline Taito, YouthBuild Program Manager, provided an update on the YouthBuild program. Taito stated that currently twenty-three corpsmembers are enrolled and will be heading out to the housing construction site soon. Taito also mentioned that thirty education awards slots are available in AmeriCorps. Additionally, six corpsmembers have been hired by Valley Children's Hospital as part of the healthcare component in the YouthBuild program. The success of this project has gained interest from Community Hospitals, leading to discussions about placing corpsmembers at their facilities for internships and potential employment.
- Ken McCoy, YouthBuild Charter School Registrar, reported that there are seventy-three students currently enrolled in the YouthBuild Charter School and he is now collaborating with Workforce Connection to conduct school orientations at their facility. The classes have reached maximum capacity, leading to the implementation of alternate schedules for students.

C. Corpsmember/Student Development

Jocelynn Reyes-Garcia stated that she is one of the students that came from Workforce Connection and shared her experience at the YCSC school and field training.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 2024

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None heard.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shawn Riggins, LCC Director  
Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: April 8, 2024

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: 1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 310 Fresno, CA 93721

### MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Oliver Baines, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Roll was called and a quorum was established.

**Committee Members:**

Oliver Baines  
Earl Brown  
Charles Garabedian  
Alysia Bonner  
Linda Hayes

**Staff:**

Emilia Reyes  
Karina Perez  
Michelle L. Tutunjian  
Greg Streets  
Jack Lazzarini  
Sherry Neil (T)  
Elionora Vivanco  
Ana Medina  
Rosa Pineda  
Jon Escobar

Nelson Dibie  
Angela Riofrio  
Steve Warnes  
Andy Arredondo  
Augie Quiroz  
Thomas Dulin  
Joshua Bogdanov  
Matthew Moreno

**Absent:**

Robert Pimentel  
Jimi Rodgers  
Amy Arambula  
Lisa Michell

3. **MINUTES FROM MARCH 4, 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING**

Public Comments: None heard.

**Motion by:** Bonner **Second by:** Garabedian

**Ayes:** Oliver Baines, Earl Brown, Charles Garabedian, Alysia Bonner, and Linda Hayes.

**Nays:** None

4. **FOOD SERVICES: ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM**

Public Comments: None heard.

**Motion by:** Bonner **Second by:** Garabedian

**Ayes:** Oliver Baines, Earl Brown, Charles Garabedian, Alysia Bonner, and Linda Hayes.

**Nays:** None

5. **FOOD SERVICES: CONGREGATE NUTRITION-COVID-19 EMERGENCY MEAL PROGRAM CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Public Comments: None heard.

**Motion by:** Garabedian **Second by:** Hayes

**Ayes:** Oliver Baines, Earl Brown, Charles Garabedian, Alysia Bonner, and Linda Hayes.

**Nays:** None

6. **SANCTUARY AND SUPPORT SERVICES: SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Public Comments: None heard.

**Motion by:** Hayes **Second by:** Garabedian

**Ayes:** Oliver Baines, Earl Brown, Charles Garabedian, Alysia Bonner, and Linda Hayes.

**Nays:** None

7. **TRANSIT SYSTEM: TRANSIT 5.12 DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY**

Public Comments: None heard.

**Motion by:** Garabedian **Second by:** Hayes

**Ayes:** Oliver Baines, Earl Brown, Charles Garabedian, Alysia Bonner, and Linda Hayes.

**Nays:** None

8. **PROGRAM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: GRANT TRACKER**

Ana Medina, Program Planning & Development Director, provided an overview of the grant tracker and provided an update of the following two grants that didn't get awarded.

- Food Services – Food Distribution grant with Bank of the Sierra
- Health Services grant with Fresno HOPE Pathways Community Hub

Medina stated at the next Executive Committee Meeting a quarterly report will be presented with all grants awarded, not funded, submitted and in progress. Commissioner Garabedian inquired the number of grant writer employees, Medina stated three grant writers.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

9. **HUMAN RESOURCES QUARTERLY SUMMARY REPORT**

Nelson Dibie, Human Resources Officer, provided a brief overview of the Human Resources Quarterly Summary for the month of January through March. Dibie stated out of the 25 new hires 15 of the applications were for Head Start, and that some of the challenges to hire staff for Head Start is the applications are not meeting the Head Start requirements.

Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer, announced the new Head Start Human Resources Manager accepted the job offer and started today, April 8, 2024. Commissioner Hayes inquired as to what are some of the goals for the new hire. Rosa Pineda, Program Officer/Head Start Director stated the Head Start Human Resources Manager will assist Head Start employees with the compensation studies, recognition events, developing a committee for Head Start employees to give input on how to better the work environment along with recruitment and interviews process.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

**10. 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. Limit two minutes per speaker.)*

**11. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENT**

Chair Baines inquired on the Agency Financial and Head Start Financial Status Report, as to why it's not included in the Executive Committee Packet. Reyes stated it was intentional now that the Financials reports are in the Board Commission Packet, it allows the opportunity to close out the month and provide a more accurate report.

Commissioner Garabedian thanked the Committee for re-elected him for Treasure. Garabedian shared Gov. Gavin Newsom has vetoed a bill preventing California counties from taking benefits, such as Social Security checks, from orphaned or disabled children in their custody, to pay for their foster care.

Reyes provided an update on transforming the Public Affairs Manager position, to support the agency advocacy efforts for State and Federal level.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**



**COUNTY-WIDE POLICY COUNCIL (CWPC)  
MINUTES  
APRIL 9, 2024**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Fawnda Cole, CWPC Chairperson.
- ROLL CALL** Roll Call was called by Fawnda Cole, CWPC Chairperson. The following Representatives were present: Blanca Valladolid, Betsaida Ledesma, Jalyssa McGill Jenkins, Jesus Sanchez, Cynthia Espindola, Jeanette Trejo, Maybelline Aranda, Michelle Taylor, Jonathan Cole, Silvano Rebolledo, Kristin Quintero, Alma Martinez Guillen, Jasmine Arreola, Cristina Olea, Benita Rodriguez, Maria Rolon, Joshua Barkley, Mariana Mena, Joanna Vargas Villasenor, Latrice Turton, Melanie Garcia, Gloria Martinez, Esmeralda Trejo, Clarissa Varela, Angela Diaz, Fawnda Cole, Ma Mendoza Estrada, Graciela Reyes Mendoza, Natasha Chalk, Priscilla Thompson, Maria Hernandez, Karina Padilla, Natisha Goins, Amy Arambula, Jimi Rodgers and Zina Brown-Jenkins.
- APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS CWPC MINUTES** Fawnda Cole, CWPC Chairperson, informed Representatives of the March 5, 2024, CWPC Minutes. This information was sent to Representatives prior to tonight’s meeting.  
Motion to approve the March 5, 2024, CWPC Minutes as written and read was made by Clarissa Varela and seconded by Mariana Mena. Motion carried.
- FRESNO EOC PROGRAM REPORT – HOUSING & SHELTER** No reports at this time.
- COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS FOR APRIL 2024** Karina Padilla, Community Representative for Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC), informed the CWPC of upcoming events in the Mendota area. CVRC-on-Wheels occurs once a month in Mendota at the Amor Resource Center. Representatives help answer questions and accept documents for families interested in their services. It occurs every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.  
  
On April 18, 2024, CVRC will be hosting Coffee Hour. They will provide refreshments and time for families to speak to Representatives to learn more about the services they provide.  
  
Ms. Cole added that CVRC is partnered with the Magic Merlin Program, in which families may apply for a free trip to Lego Land or Disney Land. Families only need to provide the front page of their child’s IEP report.
- FRESNO EOC COMMISSIONERS’ REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024** Zina Brown-Jenkins, Commissioner, stated Board Chair Hayes announced she will not be running to be re-elected for the board chair position. Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer/Secretary, stated Commissioner Charles Garabedian shared interest in the Treasure Office Position. The Commission nominated and approved the following Commission Officer Positions: Board Chair, Oliver Bines & Vice Chair, Robert Pimentel.  
  
Rosa M. Pineda, Head Start Director, provided an overview of the Head Start 0 to 5 monthly. Ms. Pineda announced Andrea Harvey is no longer with the Office of Head Start and Dow-Jane Pei is the new Program Specialist.  
  
The City of Police, Mayor and City Managers held a Press conference at the end of last year to announce the crime rate has drop nearly 50% in Fresno and thanked the Advance Peace for their support and dedication to help reduce gun violence.  
  
Motion to approve the Fresno EOC Commissioners’ Report for the month of January 2024 was made by Graciela Mendoza and seconded by Mariana Mena. Motion carried.
- MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS (FSR) FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2024** Fawnda Cole, CWPC Chairperson, stated staff recommends review and acceptance from CWPC for Monthly Financial Status Reports for February 2024. This funding supports personnel and operating expenses totaling \$46,498,041 (\$37,620,149 – Head Start; \$8,380,694 – Early Head Start) and the Non-Federal Share match \$10,825,424 (\$8,686,908 – Head Start; \$2,138,516 – Early Head Start) for the 2024 Fiscal Year.

Motion to approve the Monthly Financial Status Reports (FSR) for the Month of February 2024 was made by Clarissa Varela and seconded by Joshua Barkley. Motion carried.

IN-KIND MONTHLY STATUS  
REPORT FOR FEBRUARY  
2024

Jennifer Tillman, Finance Manager, stated the Monthly In-Kind Report for the month of February 2024 consists of \$823,090 (Head Start) which is accumulated by classroom and non-classroom volunteer services, consultants, goods, foster grandparents, PACT Time, and space. Early Head Start's In-Kind Status Report for the month of February 2024 is \$195,255 which is accumulated by classroom/non-classroom volunteer services, home activities, literacy/growing readers, consultants, goods, and space.

The Fiscal Impact for Head Start and Early Head Start for February 2024 is \$1,512,101 (\$1,194,280 – HS; \$317,821 – EHS). The projected monthly amount of \$902,119 has been surpassed by \$609,982.

AVERAGE DAILY  
ATTENDANCE (ADA)  
REPORTS FOR THE MONTH  
OF FEBRUARY 2024

Cynthia Espindola, CWPC Early Head Start Representative, informed Representatives of the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Reports for the month of February 2024 for Head Start and Early Head Start. Head Start's monthly ADA for February 2024 for Center Base was 83.27%. Total number of Head Start Home Base Visits completed were 452. Early Head Start's monthly ADA for February 2024 for Center Base was 85.65%. Total number of Early Head Start Home Visits completed were 1,039.

Motion to approve the ADA Reports for the month of February 2024 was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Alma Martinez Gullen. Motion carried.

HEAD START 0 TO 5  
PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT  
(PUR) FOR THE MONTH OF  
FEBRUARY 2024

Rosa M. Pineda, Head Start Director, stated the PUR is a document written to provide monthly program updates to the Board and CWPC. Ms. Pineda stated the program had Tri-Annual review for Self-Assessment II Meetings at Franklin Head Start on February 26 & 28, 2024. Self-Assessment occurs three times per year to ensure the program is meeting all needs for families based on aggregated data.

Ms. Pineda stated Budget Training for EHS Center Base and Head Start 0 to 5 Home Base took place at Franklin Head Start for parents and staff on February 13, 2024.

Ms. Pineda stated the program is currently under-enrolled; however, enrollment is steadily increasing due to the ability to enroll more 3-year-olds into classrooms.

Motion to approve the Head Start 0 to 5 PUR for the Month of February 2024 was made by Joshua Barkley and seconded by Maria Rolon. Motion carried.

HEAD START 0 TO 5  
COUNTY-WIDE POLICY  
COUNCIL BY-LAWS

Olga Jalomo-Ramirez, Family/Community Services Manager, stated there was an amendment to the Head Start 0 to 5 CWPC By-Laws. Per the CWPC By-Laws, Head Start 0 to 5 staff and parents are to review the CWPC By-Laws every two years.

On February 14, 2024, the Parent Planning and Review Committee met to review the By-Laws. Amendment of the By-Laws consists of the following: added Section 14, Meeting Reimbursement. Additionally, the committee recommended the reinstatement of the CWPC Executive Board meetings, which were removed in August 2022 as it was deemed necessary to conduct an additional meeting to prepare and review the agenda with the full Executive Board.

If approved by the CWPC, the revised By-Laws will be presented to the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners for full consideration at the April 15, 2024, Board meeting. If not approved, the By-Laws will be taken back to the Parent Planning and Review Committee for review and consideration of recommended changes.

Zina Brown-Jenkins, Commissioner, asked if staff are considering having the Executive Board meetings virtually to accommodate parents.

Floro Trujillo, Family Engagement/Volunteer Services Coordinator, stated the meeting was recommended to be In-Person by parents.

Ms. Jalomo-Ramirez stated they may revisit zoom meetings if any issues arise.

Motion to approve the Head Start 0 to 5 CWPC By-Laws was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Joshua Barkley. Motion carried.

COVID-19 MITIGATION  
POLICY REVISIONS

Marie Sani, Health Services Manager, stated the COVID-19 Mitigation Policy was reviewed by the Health Advisory Committee on January 23, 2024. In accordance with the most recent directives, on January 9, 2024, from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) updated its COVID isolation guidance and COVID testing recommendations, that now consist of infectious period is now defined as:

- COVID-19 cases may return if 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications and if their symptoms are mild and improving.

Note on changes to testing recommendations:

- All people with new COVID-19 symptoms shall be tested
- Close contacts who are at a higher risk of severe disease or who have contact with people who are at higher risk for severe disease

Ms. Sani reminded parents to complete dental exams and to get them completed as soon as possible.

Motion to approve the COVID-19 Mitigation Policy Revisions was made by Joshua Barkley and seconded by Clarissa Varela. Motion carried.

FULL ENROLLMENT  
INITIATIVE UPDATES

Olga Jalomo-Ramirez, Family/Community Services Manager, stated due to the Locally Designed Option (LDO) being approved by the Office of Head Start in March 2024, enrollment numbers have been steadily increasing.

Head Start Center Base has 1,502 children enrolled and Head Start Home Base has 80 children enrolled. Early Head Start Center Base has 50 children enrolled and Early Head Start Home Base has 326 children enrolled. This gives us a total of 1958 children enrolled in Head Start 0 to 5.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE  
REPORT FOR MARCH 2024

Fawnda Cole, CWPC Chairperson, stated the Personnel Committee report consists of a list of: Hiring/Personnel Action Positions, Resignations/Separations, Promotion/Status Change, and Job Descriptions for Positions for the month. All promotions, transfers, separations, and new hires are to be presented to the CWPC monthly, as an informational item.

Staff will continue to collaborate with Human Resources and Communication Department to advertise program vacancies until all positions are filled. Lastly, to support recruitment efforts of staff, a Job Fair is being planned for June 2024.

SELF-ASSESSMENT DATA  
REVIEW WEEK MAY 13, 15  
AND 17, 2024 INVITATION  
TO PARTICIPATE IN SELF-  
ASSESSMENT

Veronica Galvan, Quality Assurance Manager, stated Self-Assessment is conducted on a Tri-Annual basis, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Self-Assessment is quickly approaching. Self-Assessments help ensure the program is providing our children and families with quality services. As a program, we review our data to ensure our goals are aligned with our family's needs. The meetings will take place May 13, 15 and 17, 2024.

Ms. Galvan invited Head Start 0 to 5 parents, staff, and Commissioners to participate and attend the Triannual Self-Assessment Orientation Training that will be held on May 8, 2024. Participants do not have to attend all three days. Ms. Galvan informed the CWPC if there is a particular department that is interesting, they may attend that timeframe.

HEAD START SCHOOL  
READINESS GOALS  
OUTCOME 2023-2024

Felicia Amescua, School Readiness Mentor/Coach, reported on Fall and Winter DRDP School Readiness Goals. Each agency must use the five domains, represented by the central domains of the Framework, as the basis for school readiness goals. They consist of:

- Approaches to Learning
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language and Literacy
- Cognition
- Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

In comparing Fall and Winter Assessments, children showed increases in each area.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fawnda Cole, CWPC Chairperson, made the following Announcements:

- A. April 20, 2024 – Annual Father Conference

B. May 3, 2024 – Volunteer Luncheon

C. May 7, 2024 – County-Wide Policy Council Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn meeting was made by Clarissa Varela and seconded by Mariana Mena. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Submitted By:

Brionna Warren  
Secretary I

(CWPC MINUTES APRIL 9 2024 FINAL) bw 4/22/24 ~ CWPC (2023-2024 (CWPC MINUTES) ~



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Food Services
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6VI	<b>Director:</b> Jon Escobar
<b>Subject:</b> FY 2024/2025 Food Service Agreements	<b>Officer:</b> Jack Lazzarini

**Recommended Action**

The Executive Committee recommends approval for full Board consideration to enter into multiple Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/2025 Food Service agreements, for a total amount of \$6,734,220.

**Background**

Food Services is preparing to establish Food Service agreements with 18 external partners and with 3 internal programs for FY 2024-2025. The three internal programs include Head Start 0-5 (breakfast and lunch), Sanctuary and Support Services (breakfast, lunch, dinner, and brown bag) and School of Unlimited Learning (breakfast and lunch).

Food Services offers an extensive array of options, ranging from hot and cold meals to frozen meals, home meal delivery, brown bag meals, and, once again, pizza for school-youth.

**Fiscal Impact**

These agreements will add an estimated \$6,734,220 in revenue for FY 2024/2025.

#	Name of Organization	Meal Types	Estimated Revenue
1	California Indian Manpower Consortium	Home Delivery Lunch	\$8,204.00
2	Chapter One Preschool	Lunch	\$54,613.00
3	City of Selma	Congragate meals	\$21,913.00
4	Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (light house)	Breakfast, Lunch and snack	\$212,428.00
5	City of Fowler	Congragate meals	\$45,000.00
6	Kepler Neighborhood School	Breakfast, Lunch and snack	\$431,460.00
7	Learn Acadamy	lunch	\$62,370.00
8	Reading & Beyond Preschool (RFP)	Breakfast, Lunch	\$160,731.48
10	Tule River Indian Health Center, Inc.	Home Delivery Lunch	\$106,775.00
11	Valley Caregivers (Oasis)	Congratate Meals	\$40,000.00
12	University High School	Lunch	\$10,860.00
13	Community Service & Employment Training, Inc. **	Home Bound Frozen Mealz	
14	Fresno/Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA) (1) **	Congragate Meal Service	\$700,000.00
15	Fresno/Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA) (2) **	Title III Home delivered Meals	\$2,000,000.00
16	KCCOA**	Frozen Meals	\$249,000.00
17	Inyo County Superintendent of Schools (Youthbuild Charter School) **	Breakfast and Lunch	\$25,000.00
18	Buster Enterprises ***	After School Pizza	\$1,079,100.00
19	Adult Day Health Care of Madera	Breakfast and Lunch	\$277,550.00
20	School Food Service Authority/SFA Sanctuary-Shelter *	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Brown Bag	\$25,030.00
21	School of Unlimited Learning *	Breakfast, Lunch	\$24,186.00
22	Head Start *	Breakfast and Lunch	\$1,200,000.00
			<b>\$6,734,220.00</b>

\* Internal Agreements

\*\* Agreements Provided by External Organization

\*\*\* Enterprise

## Conclusion

If approved by the Board, Food Services will be able to enter into multiple food service agreements with external partners and internal programs to continue providing meals to seniors, adults, and children. If not approved, Food Services will experience a revenue loss of \$6,734,220 for FY 2024/2025.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Food Services
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6VII	<b>Director:</b> Jon Escobar
<b>Subject:</b> Central San Joaquin Valley Community Economic Resilience Fund Catalyst Project	<b>Officer:</b> Jack Lazzarini

**Recommended Action**

The Executive Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of the Food Services Expansion Project, Catalyst Request for Proposal application to the Central San Joaquin Valley Community Economic Resilience Fund (Valley CERF) coalition in the amount of \$2,000,000 for a 2-year project period from September 1, 2024, to September 1, 2026.

**Background**

The Food Services Expansion Project is a multi-phase effort to expand Fresno EOC’s ability to meet Central Valley communities’ food and nutrition needs, develop more environmentally responsible food production practices, strengthen local and ethical supply chains, and promote job creation in the Central Valley. This project will consist of expanding and upgrading Food Services’ current facilities to produce meals in a cost, time, and energy efficient manner, and implement planning measures for the creation of a USDA inspection kitchen facility that will increase meal production capacity and service offerings, create jobs and workforce development opportunities, and address important health and wellness needs in underserved communities.

The proposal was submitted on April 30, 2024, in the amount of \$2,000,000.

**Fiscal Impact**

This funding will support upgrades to the Food Services kitchen including replacing outdated, natural gas appliances with electric appliances, which will eventually be supported by the solar farm project. The budget also includes staffing and planning phase costs for the USDA inspection kitchen project, such as the hiring of an Assistant Director, Data Analyst Manager and Project Coordinator, appraisal and consulting fees, environmental site studies, and an architect. No match required.

<b>Food Services</b>			
<b>9/1/2024 - 8/31/2026</b>			
<b>2,000,000</b>			
<b>Catalyst \$2000000</b>			<b>GRANT</b>
PERSONNEL		FTE	AMOUNT
	PROGRAM DIRECTOR	1.00	\$ 170,000
	PROGRAM MANAGER	1.00	\$ 140,000
	PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1.00	\$ 140,000
	VOLUNTEER SPECIALIST	0.00	\$ -
	FRINGE BENEFITS	0.00	\$ 144,000
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>			<b>\$ 594,000</b>
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>			
	PROJECT STAFF TRAVEL		\$ -
	EQUIPMENT		\$ 652,500
	SUPPLIES		\$ -
	CONTRACTUAL & CONSULTANT SERVICES		\$ 521,700
	OTHER COSTS		\$ 50,000
	PARTICIPANT COSTS		\$ -
<b>INDIRECT COSTS</b>			<b>\$ 181,800</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>\$ 2,000,000</b>

**Conclusion**

If ratified by the Board, this item will allow Food Services to enter into a contract with Valley CERF if proposal is awarded. If not ratified, Food Services will not accept funding if awarded and will not have the funding to support the replacement of outdated appliances and required planning costs for the creation of a USDA inspection kitchen.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Local Conservation Corps
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6VIII	<b>Director:</b> Shawn Riggins
<b>Subject:</b> Local Conservation Corps CalRecycle RCL 39 Grant	<b>Officer:</b> Sherry Neil

**Recommended Action**

The Executive Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of the Local Conservation Corps CalRecycle RCL 39 grant application to CalRecycle in the amount of \$2,064,004 over a two-year project period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

**Background**

This grant will continue CalRecycle’s efforts to include all 14 California Local Certified Community Conservation Corps in the collection and education activities of four (4) material types: CRV Beverage Containers, Used Oil, Used Tires, and E-waste. The Local Conservation Corps (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, in addition to collecting e-waste from businesses and residential homes. LCC continues 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.

Per state statute, the CalRecycle grant is the program that enables youth serving programs to be considered an official “Corps” establishing the LCC as a Conservation Corps. The Buyback component helps provide funding for many corps needs, not usually included in grant budgets. LCC will continue to partner with municipalities for tire and e-waste collection events.

**Fiscal Impact**

This funding will support 27 corpsmember positions, seven (7) Crew Supervisors, a Program Assistant, an Outreach and Recruitment staff member, a Transitional Support Advisor (TSA) and a Program Manager as well as provide partial funding for additional LCC staff members, including the LCC Director, LCC Assistant Director, LCC Operations, Administration Manager, and a Facilities and Safety Coordinator. No match required.

The grant application was submitted on April 16, 2024.

**FY 2024 -2026 CalRecycle RLC 39 GRANT**  
**Internal Budget**

	Budget	Total
<b>Salaries &amp; Fringes</b>		
Staff Salaries	679,885	\$ 679,885
Corpsmember Wages	368,561	\$ 368,561
Fringe Benefits	368,439	\$ 368,439
<b>Equipment Lease</b>		
Recycling Carts/Sorting Equipment Maint. Services	12,000	\$ 12,000
Lease Trailers for Amnesty Tires Events	15,400	\$ 15,400
<b>Operation Cost</b>		
Program Specific Expenses, Office Supplies, Uniforms	51,147	\$ 51,147
Laptops, iPad's, Program Training, Education, Outreach	12,400	\$ 12,400
Travel & Conference Fees	13,075	\$ 13,075
Facilities Maintenance & Utilities	204,960	\$ 204,960
Vehicles - Fuel, Insurance and Repair & Maintenance	81,600	\$ 81,600
<b>Subcontractor</b>		
Northern California Laborer's Training	5,000	\$ 5,000
CALCC Membership dues	10,000	\$ 10,000
Insurance, Phone, Copiers, etc.	50,400	\$ 50,400
<b>Audit &amp; Indirect Costs</b>		
State Annual Audit Report (AAR)	3,500	\$ 3,500
Indirect - 10%	187,637	\$ 187,637
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,064,004</b>	<b>\$ 2,064,004</b>

**Conclusion**

If ratified by the Board, this item will move forward and provide funding for corpsmember wages and partial wages for staff. If not approved, LCC will not accept funding if grant is awarded and will not be able to continue providing training to 27 Corpsmembers.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Training & Employment
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6IX	<b>Director:</b> Patrick Turner
<b>Subject:</b> Central San Joaquin Valley CERF Catalyst Project - Partnership with Proteus Inc.	<b>Officer:</b> Sherry Neil

**Recommended Action**

The Executive Committee recommends ratification for full Board consideration of the Central San Joaquin Valley CERF Catalyst Project Scope of Services submitted to Proteus Inc. in the amount of \$300,000 for a 2-year project period from September 1, 2024, to September 1, 2026.

**Background**

Training & Employment (T&E) submitted a description of services and budget to Proteus Inc, lead applicant of the San Joaquin Valley CERF Catalyst Project Proposal on April 23, 2024, in the amount of \$300,000. Proteus Inc., a partner agency, reached out to Fresno EOC to propose aligning our workforce development initiatives, Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) and Proteus' Weatherization Training Program.

T&E will collaborate with Proteus, Inc. to develop the organizations capacity to meet local and regional training and employment needs and commits to the following:

- Refer 75 program participants to Proteus’ 8-week Sustainable Energy Efficiency Development (SEED) training.
- Enroll 100 referrals from Proteus into the Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) 12-week pre-apprenticeship construction training program.
- Work with Proteus to conduct marketing and outreach for the program.
- Provide wraparound services including case management, job search assistance, interview preparation, career development services, and employment retention efforts.
- Collaborate with Proteus throughout the program to ensure that any issues may be addressed quickly, ensuring program success.

**Fiscal Impact**

This funding will support staff time for outreach and recruitment activities, travel, and other operating expenses. In addition to the hiring of a Rural Job Developer who will serve Fresno County and assist in Northern Tulare and Kings County on a case-by-case basis.

**Central San Joaquin Valley Community Economic Resilience Fund (Valley CERF) Catalyst Project**

**Budget**

<b>Name of Applicant:</b> Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (FEOC)					
<b>Project Name:</b> Central San Joaquin (Valley CERF) Catalyst Project					
<b>Line Item</b>	<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Administrative Cost</b>	<b>Program Cost</b>	<b>Sub-Contract/Sub-Award Amount (If Applicable)</b>	<b>Total Project Budget</b>
<b>A.</b>	Staff Salaries	\$0.00	\$177,537.00	\$0.00	\$177,537.00
<b>1</b>	1.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>B.</b>	Staff Fringe Benefit Cost	\$0.00	\$60,853.00	\$0.00	\$60,853.00
<b>1</b>	Staff Fringe Benefit Rate .34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>C.</b>	Staff Travel	\$0.00	\$2,430.00	\$0.00	\$2,430.00
<b>D.</b>	Operating Expenses	\$0.00	\$31,907.00	\$0.00	\$31,907.00
<b>E.</b>	Administrative Costs*	\$27,273.00			\$27,273.00
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>		<b>\$27,273.00</b>	<b>\$272,727.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$300,000.00</b>

**CSBG Organizational Standard**

Organization has demonstrated partnerships across the community, for specifically identified purposes per Category 2, Standard 2.1.

**Conclusion**

If ratified by the Board, this item will allow T&E to enter into a subaward agreement with Proteus Inc. to support the organizations capacity to meet local and regional training and employment needs. If not ratified, T&E will not enter into a subaward agreement with Proteus Inc., a partner agency.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Sanctuary and Support Services
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6X	<b>Director:</b> Misty Gattie-Blanco
<b>Subject:</b> Office for Victims of Crime Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program	<b>Officer:</b> Sherry Neil

**Recommended Action**

The Executive Committee recommends approval for full Board consideration of the FY24 Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program grant application due on May 20, 2024, to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) in the amount of \$848,700 for a 3-year project period from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2027.

**Background**

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. With this funding, OVC seeks to provide funding for housing services for victims of human trafficking and further DOJ’s mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep the country safe and protect civil rights.

Fresno EOC’s application is identified as Purpose Area 2: Enhancing Scope of Housing Services for Human Trafficking Victims. Under Purpose Area 2, awards will be made to organizations with a demonstrated history of providing human trafficking victims with housing assistance and support services or that have a formal partnership with a victim service provider with demonstrated experience.

Fresno EOC has continuously operated the Central Valley Against Human Trafficking (CVAHT) project, administered by the Sanctuary and Support Services program providing services to victims for over 10 years. In 2001, the program was awarded with this funding to expand the program in providing housing specific services to survivors of human trafficking. Since the funding began, the program has provided three (3) households (6 adults and 7 children) with transitional housing and two (2) households (4 adults and 4 children) with rental assistance in permanent housing.

Funding for this project will support survivors in need of housing assistance including a combination of emergency shelter, transitional housing, and short-term rental assistance.

## Fiscal Impact

This funding will support personnel costs, travel, and other operating costs. A non-federal match of 25% is required and will be coming from the CA Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) in the amount of \$282,900.

<b>Sanctuary and Support Services - CVAHT</b> 10/1/24-9/30/27					
<b>OVC Housing Grant \$848700</b>			<b>GRANT</b>	<b>MATCH</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
PERSONNEL	FTE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	0.06	\$ 23,695	\$ 11,847	\$ 35,542	
CVAHT Program Manager	0.10	\$ 24,759	\$ 24,759	\$ 49,518	
Homeless Services Manager	0.08	\$ 22,296	\$ -	\$ 22,296	
Case Manager / Outreach Coordinator (match 2	1.00	\$ 160,993	\$ 47,283	\$ 208,276	
Program Assistant	0.05	\$ 6,560	\$ 6,560	\$ 13,120	
Office Assistant	0.10	\$ 11,311	\$ 11,311	\$ 22,622	
FRINGE BENEFITS		\$ 57,693	\$ 47,255	\$ 104,948	
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>		<b>\$ 307,307</b>	<b>\$ 149,015</b>	<b>\$ 456,322</b>	
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>					
PROJECT STAFF TRAVEL		\$ 4,352	\$ 1,206	\$ 5,558	
EQUIPMENT		\$ 1,080	\$ 1,080	\$ 2,160	
SUPPLIES		\$ 9,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 11,600	
CONTRACTUAL & CONSULTANT SERVICES		\$ -	\$ 96,900	\$ 96,900	
OTHER COSTS		\$ 492,985	\$ 32,899	\$ 525,884	
PARTICIPANT COSTS		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>INDIRECT COSTS</b>		<b>\$ 33,176</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 33,176</b>	
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 848,700</b>	<b>\$ 282,900</b>	<b>\$ 1,131,600</b>	

## Conclusion

If approved by the Board, this item will move forward and CVAHT will continue to provide housing assistance to survivors of human trafficking. If not approved, CVAHT will not accept funding if grant is awarded and will not be able to continue providing housing services and assistance to survivors of human trafficking.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Program Planning & Development
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6XI	<b>Director:</b> Ana Medina
<b>Subject:</b> Grant Tracker & Quarterly Grant Summary	<b>Officer:</b> Michelle Tutunjian

**Recommended Action**

The information presented in the Grant Tracker and Quarterly Grant Summary is intended to keep the Board apprised of program grant activity.

**Background**

The below information are updates from the last grant tracker presented on April 8, 2024.

<b>Awarded</b>					
<b>Program</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Funder</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Date of Notice</b>
Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)	FY2024 AmeriCorps Foster Grandparents Program Replacement and Expansion Opportunity	AmeriCorps	\$360,000	Funding will expand capacity to service low-income program participants in rural areas of Fresno County	4/1/2024
Local Conservation Corps (LCC)	FY2023 Community Project Funding/Congressional Directed Spending	Congress Appropriations	\$500,000	This will fund vehicles and heavy equipment for in the field student learning/training.	4/29/2024

Not Awarded					
Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Not Awarded Reason
Sanctuary and Support Services – CVAHT	Slave 2 Nothing Grant	Slave 2 Nothing Foundation	\$45,000	Funding will support low-barrier emergency housing for victims of human trafficking.	Not available

Submitted					
Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Date Submitted
Sanctuary and Support Service – CVAHT	OVC FY24 Services for Victims of Human Trafficking	Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)	\$950,000	The purpose of this program is to develop, expand or strengthen victim service programs for victims of human trafficking, including those that provide trauma-informed services.	4/22/2024
Health Services – Tobacco Education Program	CG 24-10056 Advancing Tobacco Cessation in Community Clinics Project (ATCP) Cohort 3	California Department of Public Health, California Tobacco Control Program	\$81,000	This grant will reduce tobacco use within the funded clinic populations. Achieving this outcome will decrease tobacco use disparities and reduce the burden of tobacco-related diseases.	4/16/2024
Food Services – Food Services	RFP No. 2425-ENP Title III C1 and C2- Congregate and Home Delivered Meals	Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAA)	\$2,700,000	Food Services will continue providing congregate	4/4/2024

Home Delivery	(Elderly Nutrition Program)			meals and home delivered meals in Fresno and Madera County through this funding opportunity.	
Advance Peace	Violence Intervention & Prevention Initiative	City of Fresno	\$375,000	Funding will provide case management for 25 Junior Fellows, offering transformative travel opportunities, mentorship, and educational and skill development.	4/5/2024
Stop the Violence (STV)	Gang Intervention Proposal for FUSD	FUSD	\$73,000	STV will conduct gang intervention programming and mentoring at FUSD school sites (sites to be determined)	3/22/24

Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission  
Grant Tracker  
Monday, May 6, 2024

2024 AWARDED								
Due Date	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Board Report Date	Date of Notice	Amount Awarded
2/14/2024	Health Services	2024 Public Awareness and Community Outreach Campaign Services	The Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications (OCPSC)	\$600,000	To effectively reach and engage Californians, especially those experiencing the greatest health and social inequities.	3/4/2024	3/18/2024	\$600,000
2/9/2024	Sanctuary and Support Services - LGBTQ+ Resource Center	American Rescue Plan Act for Community Based Organizations	City of Fresno	\$100,000	Funding will support general operating costs for the LGBTQ+ Resource Center.	N/A	3/7/2024	\$100,000
2/1/2024	Foster Grandparent Program	FY2024 AmeriCorps Foster Grandparents Program Replacement and Expansion Opportunity	AmeriCorps	\$360,000	Funding will expand capacity to service low-income program participants in rural areas of Fresno County.	2/7/2024	4/1/2024	\$360,000
1/31/2024	LCC - Local Conservation Corps (LCC)	Local Conservation Corps SB 1013	State of California Employment Development Department	\$799,665	Connect participants and applicants of Goods Job Challenge with resources, including high school equivalency programs and vocational plans.	3/18/2024	2/28/2024	\$799,665
1/31/2024	LCC - Local Conservation Corps (LCC)	FY2023 Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending	Congress Appropriations	\$500,000	This will fund vehicle and heavy equipment for in-the-field student learning.	N/A	TBD	\$500,000
1/16/2024	Health Services - AFLP	2024-25 Title X Family Planning Services	Essential Access Health	\$464,531	Title X funding is awarded to subrecipients across the nation to provide low-income women and men below 250% of poverty with quality sexual and reproductive health care services.	1/22/2024	2/5/2024	\$464,531
11/27/2023	Health Services - Community Health Center	Mpox Community-Based Organization Grant	The CA Department of Public Health	\$55,000	Funding will support Mpox vaccine administration, vaccine outreach/education and testing activities to communities at-risk for Mpox.	N/A	3/19/2024	\$55,000
9/28/2023	Sanctuary and Support Services - Homeless Services	FY23 Continuum of Care Competition and Renewal or Replacement of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grants	US Department of Housing and Urban Development	\$2,350,438	To quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.	2/21/2024	1/29/2024	\$2,019,622
6/20/2023	Training and Employment	CERF Economic Development Pilot	State of California Employment Development Department	\$150,000	Connect participants and applicants of Goods Job Challenge with resources, including high school equivalency programs and vocational plans.	3/18/2024	2/27/2024	\$150,000
6/13/2023	Training and Employment	One Fresno Youth Jobs Corps Program Worksites	City of Fresno	\$300,000	Provision of work experience for Fresno youth for a 6-month period.	6/26/2023	2/1/2024	\$200,000
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>				<b>\$5,679,634</b>		<b>Total Amount Awarded</b>		<b>\$5,248,818</b>

**2023 NOT AWARDED**

Due Date	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Board Report Date	Date of Notice
11/15/2023	Health Services	Fresno HOPE	Fresno HOPE Pathways Community Hub	\$325,000	Funding will support care coordination agencies employing community health workers, utilizing the Pathways Community HUB Institute™ Model.	12/7/2023	3/26/2024
11/1/2023	Sanctuary and Support Services - CVAHT	Slave 2 Nothing Grant	Slave 2 Nothing Foundation	\$45,000	Funding will support low-barrier emergency housing for victims of human trafficking.	N/A	5/3/2024
8/7/2023	Food Services - Food Distributions	Sierra Grant Program	Bank of the Sierra	\$5,000	Funding food distributions for 2023.	N/A	3/12/2024
6/27/2023	Health Services - Community Health Center	Community-Based Approaches to Reducing Sexually Transmitted Diseases	CDC	\$325,000	STI Testing on Community College Campuses, and free transportation to clinic if treatment is needed.	5/22/2023	1/17/2024
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>				<b>\$700,000.00</b>			

**IN PROGRESS GRANTS**

Due Date	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Board Report Date	Date of Notice
4/30/2024	Food Services - Kitchen	Valley CERF Catalyst Projects - Food Services Kitchen Expansion	Valley Community Economic Resilience Fund	\$2,000,000	Food Services is requesting funds for planning activities for a USDA inspection kitchen and upgrading current kitchen equipment to electric appliances.	5/6/2024	TBD
4/30/2024	Training and Employment	Valley CERF Catalyst Projects - Partnership with Proteus	Valley Community Economic Resilience Fund	\$300,000	VAC will partner with Proteus to provide job training in construction trades.	5/6/2024	TBD
4/30/2024	Food Services - Free Meals for Kids	No Kid Hungry Summer Grant	No Kid Hungry	\$15,000	The No Kid Hungry Community Nutrition Grant Opportunity will provide funding to community organizations and government entities to maximize the child nutrition programs to ensure children and families have access to healthy meals at school and at home during the school year and/or summer months.	N/A	TBD
5/1/2024	Health Services - Dental Care for Kids	School-Based and School-Linked Initiatives to Improve Oral Health	CareQuest Institute	\$125,000	CareQuest Institute is seeking to fund projects that are engaging schools to address systemic barriers to oral health, inclusive of access, for children and	N/A	TBD
5/20/2024	Sanctuary and Support Services - CVAHT	OVC FY24 Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program	Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)	\$837,900	Funds will support rapid rehousing for victims of human trafficking.	5/6/2024	TBD
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>				<b>\$3,277,900</b>			

SUBMITTED GRANTS							
Due Date	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Board Report Date	Date of Notice
4/22/2024	Sanctuary and Support Services - CVAHT	OVC FY24 Services for Victims of Human Trafficking	Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)	\$950,000	The purpose of this program is to develop, expand, or strengthen victim service programs for victims of human trafficking, including those that provide trauma-informed services.	4/15/2024	9/30/2024
4/16/2024	Health Services - Tobacco Education Program	CG 24-10056 Advancing Tobacco Cessation in Community Clinics Project (ATCP) Cohort 3	California Department of Public Health, California Tobacco Control Program	\$81,000	This grant will reduce tobacco use within the funded clinic populations. Achieving this outcome will decrease tobacco use disparities and reduce the burden of tobacco-related diseases.	N/A	TBD
4/4/2024	Food Services - Food Services Home Delivery	RFP No. 2425-ENP Title III C1 and C2-Congregate and Home Delivered Meals (Elderly Nutrition Program)	Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA)	\$2,700,000	Food Services will continue providing Congregate Meals and Home Delivered Meals in Fresno and Madera County through this funding opportunity.	4/8/2024	TBD
4/5/2024	Advance Peace	Violence Intervention & Prevention Initiative	City of Fresno	\$375,000	Funding will provide case management for 25 Junior Fellows, offering transformative travel opportunities, mentorship, and educational and skill development.	4/15/2024	TBD
3/22/2024	Stop the Violence	Gang Intervention Proposal for FUSD	FUSD	\$73,000	STV will conduct gang intervention programming and mentoring at FUSD school sites (sites to be determined)	N/A	TBD
3/20/2024	Advancing Fresno County Guaranteed Income	Mayors for a Guaranteed Income Proposal	Mayors for a Guaranteed Income	\$15,000	Funds will help the GI program provide gift cards to evaluation survey respondents.	N/A	TBD
3/11/2024	Foster Grandparent Program	FY2024 AmeriCorps Seniors Q4 Foster Grandparent Program Continuation or Renewal	AmeriCorps	\$495,000	Funding will support the continuation of Foster Grandparents. Older adults 55+ and over volunteer to mentor and tutor for low-income students in Fresno County.	2/7/2024	6/1/2024
3/4/2024	Food Services - Food Distributions	Kaiser Permanente Food & Nutrition Security Grant	Kaiser Permanente	\$25,000	Funding will expand capacity in rural communities to new partners and schools in Riverdale and Five Points providing 3,600 low-income families with nutritious, healthy, and fresh food commodities.	N/A	TBD
3/1/2024	Sanctuary and Support Services - LGBTQ+ Resource Center	2024 wayOut Grant	wayOUT	\$112,740	Funding will support general operating costs for the LGBTQ+ Resource Center, including case management, drop-in services, and mental health workshops.	N/A	4/1/2024
3/1/2024	Food Services - Food Distributions	Open Call Grant Application Clif Family Foundation	Clif Family Foundation	\$50,000	Funding for operational support with areas of focus: Strengthen our food system, Enhance equitable community health outcomes, Safeguard our environment and natural resources	N/A	TBD
2/27/2024	Training and Employment - Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC)	Career Skills Training	Department of Energy	\$536,626	Funding for job training to gain industry-recognized certifications in energy efficiency sector.	1/22/2024	5/20/2024
1/29/2024	Sanctuary and Support Services - CVAHT	Human Trafficking Victim Assistance	Cal OES	\$899,999	This grant will fund trauma-informed, supportive services for victims of human trafficking, including shelter, case management, and emergency assistance.	1/22/2024	TBD
1/9/2024	Sanctuary and Support Services - Homeless Services	Homeless, Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP)	County of Fresno Department of Social Services	\$4,368,334	Funding will support Bridge & Rapid Rehousing services.	1/22/2024	4/23/2024

SUBMITTED GRANTS							
Due Date	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Board Report Date	Date of Notice
10/6/2023	Health Services	Early Childhood Wraparound Services	CA Dept of Health Care Services	\$1,500,000	Funding for childhood wraparound services, could include home visitation or prenatal care.	9/25/2023	TBD
8/8/2023	Food Services - Food Distributions	Costco Charitable Giving Grant	Costco Wholesale	\$7,500	Funding food distributions for 2023.	N/A	TBD
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>				<b>\$12,189,199</b>			

Letters of Intent Submitted							
Due Date	Program	Name	Funder	Amount Requested	Summary	Board Report Date	Date of Notice
3/29/2024	Training and Employment - Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC)	FY25 Community Projects (Padilla) - Workforce Development	Senate Appropriations Committee	\$1,500,000	Funds will allow VAC to develop its training program to include energy efficiency technology training	N/A	TBD
4/2/2024	Training and Employment	FY25 Community Projects (Costa) - Workforce Development	House Appropriations Committee	\$1,500,000	Funds will allow VAC to develop its training program to include energy efficiency technology training	N/A	TBD
4/2/2024	Sanctuary and Support Services - Homeless Services	FY25 Community Projects (Costa) - Homeless Meal Distribution	House Appropriations Committee	\$1,300,000	Through the purchase of an electric bus, this funding will implement a mobile meal distribution program to serve individuals experiencing street homelessness and low-income families in Fresno County.	N/A	TBD
7/28/2023	Health Services - Dental Care for Kids	UniHealth Foundation LOI	UniHealth Foundation	\$2,258,348	Implementation of a data system and support from community health workers to connect families in the SBSP program to needed services. □	N/A	TBD
9/15/2023	Training and Employment - Summer Youth Internship Program	US Bank Letter of Interest	US Bank	\$75,000	Funding salaries for interns.	N/A	TBD
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>				<b>\$6,633,348</b>			

## 2024 Quarterly Grant Summary

<b>1st Quarter Totals</b> January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024	
<b>Metric</b>	<b>Number</b>
Grants Submitted	15
Grants Approved	9
Grants Denied	2
Funds Requested	\$9,399,895
Funds Approved	\$3,933,392
Funds Denied	\$330,000
Average Request	\$626,659.67
Request Range	\$15,000-\$4368,334

<b>Jan-24</b>		<b>Feb-24</b>		<b>Mar-24</b>	
<b>Metric</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Number</b>
Grants Submitted	5	Grants Submitted	4	Grants Submitted	6
Grants Approved	3	Grants Approved	1	Grants Approved	5
Grants Denied	0	Grants Denied	0	Grants Denied	2
Funds Requested	\$7,032,529	Funds Requested	\$1,596,626	Funds Requested	\$770,740
Funds Approved	\$1,764,196	Funds Approved	\$799,665	Funds Approved	\$1,369,531
Funds Denied	\$0	Funds Denied	\$0	Funds Denied	\$330,000
Average Request	\$1,406,505	Average Request	\$536,626	Average Request	\$128,456
Request Range	\$464,531-\$4,368,334	Request Range	\$100,000-\$600,000	Request Range	\$15,000-\$495,000

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Head Start 0 to 5
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6XII	<b>Director:</b> Rose M. Pineda
<b>Subject:</b> Program Update Report PUR For March 2024	<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b> Emilia Reyes

**Recommended Action**

The County-Wide Policy Council recommends acceptance of the Head Start 0 to 5 Program Update Report (PUR) for the month of March 2024.

**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 March 2024 Program Update Report is attached for review.

**Fiscal Impact**

Action on this agenda item will have no fiscal impact.

**Conclusion**

If accepted by the full Board, the March 2024 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. If not accepted, Head Start Director will review and make recommended changes.



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT  
REPORT MONTH: MARCH 2024**

**I. Head Start 0 to 5**

Program Information Summary:

1. March 5, 2024 – Community Needs Assessment Community Forums and Focus Groups kicked off for the month of March.
2. March 6, 2023 – Equity Training Series for all Head Start Managers is underway for the next six months. Trainings will take place once a month. In addition, they are participating in a Management Training series that takes place twice a month for the next three months.
3. March 11, 2024 – Annual ERSEA Training took place at Estelle Dailey Center.
4. March 15, 2024 – All Staff Fresno EOC In-Service took place at Clovis Veterans Memorial in Clovis, CA.
5. March 18, 2024 – Training & Technical Assistance on site meeting for Fiscal and Facilities.
6. March 19, 2024 – CPR/First Aid Training was provided to all Head Start 0 to 5 employees in need of recertification or new hires.
7. March 25, 2024 – April 1, 2024- Spring Break – All 3.5-hr, 6-hour, 7.5-hour HS sites and offices were closed. Classes resumed April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
8. March 29, 2024 – Cesar Chavez Holiday was observed. All HS 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 March 21, 2024, we received notification from the Office of Head Start informing us that we have been randomly selected to participate in an Improper Payment study to ensure that Federal funding was expended, and associated programs were implemented, in full accordance with statutory and public policy requirements as outlined in 45 C.F.R. § 75.300. A third party contractor, Guidehouse, will begin requesting information and documentation from our program for purposes of this review. Information will be provided to Guidehouse as soon as possible and no later than April 15, 2024.

**III. Early Head Start**

Program Information Summary:

1. We continue to hire to fill vacant positions for Center Base and Home Base program options, specific to EHS.
2. Home Base Services started planning for 24/25 program year.

Early Head Start Enrollment/ADA Reports/Wait List:

Monthly Enrollment: 400; Monthly ADA: Center Base: 82.25%, Home Base: NA%  
Wait List Total: 172

Our Early Head Start funded enrollment is 478. For the month of March 2024, we had an actual enrollment of 378. There was a total of 22 drops and this gives us an overall enrollment of 400 (378 + 22). There are 94 children on the waitlist of which 59 are income eligible. Staff continues to recruit children for EHS center base and home base by collaborating with local agencies that provide services to pregnant teens, mothers, and/or prenatal care services. In addition, staff continue to visit WIC offices, clinics, and schools to promote our EHS services. Early Head Start received 50 online referrals. Like Head Start, we continue recruitment efforts to hire EHS Center Base and Home Base personnel. Analysis of all areas below the recommended 85% ADA, if any, has been done.

Early Head Start Meals/Snacks:

Total Children: Breakfasts: 561 Lunches: 616 Snacks: 544

**IV. Head Start**

Program Information Summary:

1. Head Start received notification of approval for the Locally Designed Program Option, which allowed us to enroll additional three-year-old children at 17 sites.
2. March 21, 2024- 11 Family Support Assistants completed the hearing screening training certification.
3. Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified School District informed us that they will be terminating our lease for Firebaugh Head Start. We will need to vacate the premises by July 6<sup>th</sup>.
4. During the month of March, we enrolled 40 three-year old children that resulted from the Locally Designed Program Option (LDO) approval. Staff will continue to enroll more children until all LDO classrooms have been filled with three-year old children.



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT**

Head Start Enrollment/ADA Reports/Wait List:

Monthly Enrollment: 1,671; Monthly ADA: Center Base 80.81%; Home Base: NA%

Wait List Total: 406

Our Head Start funded enrollment is 2112. For the month of March 2024, we had an actual enrollment of 1660 and a total of 11 drops. As a result, we had an enrollment of 1671 (1660 + 11). We have 389 children on our waitlist, and 371 of the children are three-year-olds of which 215 are income eligible. Our data shows that the majority of children are three years old. As a result, we submitted a Locally Designed Program Option (LDO) to Office of Head Start, which was approved in March. This month we began enrolling additional three-year old children in the selected classrooms. In addition, we continue to recruit children and families and our recruitment efforts consist of canvassing, participating in community events, and facilitating presentations in the community. In March, we received 24 online referrals and participated in 4 community events. We continue to face staffing challenges that consist of the following vacancies: 1-ERSEA Liaison, 5-Family/Community Services Specialists, 15-Family Support Assistants and 4-Home Base Educators, 3- Family Development Specialist, 5-Teachers, 37- Teacher Assistants. Analysis of all areas below the recommended 85% ADA, if any, has been done.

Head Start Meals/Snacks:

Total Children: Breakfasts: 12,343 Lunches: 15,414 Snacks: 11,916

Submitted by:

Rosa M. Pineda  
Head Start Director

Nidia Davis  
Program Support Director

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Finance
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6XIII	<b>Director:</b> N/A
<b>Subject:</b> Health insurance Report	<b>Officer:</b> Steven Warnes (Interim CFO)

**Recommended Action**

The information is presented to keep the Board apprised on the status of the Agency’s self-funded health insurance plan

**Background**

As of March 31, 2024, the health insurance reserve is at \$7.4 million, which covers approximately 9.4 months of average expenditures. Contributions from programs and employees for 2024 total \$3,063,689 while the Fund paid out \$2,714,452 in expenses.

Changes to the health insurance plan in 2022 through 2024 include:

- 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.
- Effective January 2024: Kaiser HMO plan offered as an alternative to our existing PPO plan. Employer and Employee premiums will increase by 8%. Recordkeeper for FSA and HSA plans moved to Health Equity.

This table presents a sample of the monthly health insurance premium rates for 2024. 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	\$684	\$162	\$846
EE +Child(ren)	\$1,238	\$291	\$1,529
EE + Family	\$1,643	\$387	\$2,030
EE + Spouse	\$1,374	\$324	\$1,698

**FRESNO EOC**  
**HEALTH INSURANCE FUND REPORT**  
 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2024

	2024			2023		2023		Annual Mo. Avg Jan - Dec
	January	February	March	YTD totals Jan-Mar	Mo. Avg. Prev 12 mos	YTD totals Jan-Mar	Annual Jan - Dec	
<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>	<b>7,066,973</b>	<b>6,949,508</b>	<b>7,112,007</b>					
<b><u>Income</u></b>								
Agency Contributions	838,792	816,359	817,987	2,473,138	737,640	2,260,104	8,638,643	719,887
Additional Agency Contr.	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-
Employee Contributions	194,023	197,627	198,901	590,551	166,131	460,106	1,863,131	155,261
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,032,815</b>	<b>1,013,986</b>	<b>1,016,888</b>	<b>3,063,689</b>	<b>903,771</b>	<b>2,720,210</b>	<b>10,501,774</b>	<b>875,148</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>								
Health Claims Paid	701,011	381,561	246,518	1,329,090	404,072	1,127,537	4,647,314	387,276
Dental Claims Paid	45,940	41,346	58,210	145,496	45,388	127,865	527,020	43,918
Prescriptions Paid	150,425	179,445	144,053	473,923	153,193	413,646	1,778,042	148,170
Vision Claims Paid	8,667	845	837	10,349	5,529	23,642	79,636	6,636
Stop Loss Premiums	99,933	99,717	94,373	294,023	102,010	317,854	1,247,950	103,996
Stop Loss Claims	-	-	-	0	(3,459)	(22,123)	(63,636)	(5,303)
Life Insurance Premiums	9,181	9,261	9,317	27,759	9,106	24,678	106,188	8,849
Pinnacle	11,800	12,557	12,434	36,791	13,092	40,468	160,775	13,398
Blue Cross/Kaiser	103,405	103,446	124,522	331,373	37,956	41,724	165,827	13,819
Benefits Consultant	12,083	12,083	12,084	36,250	12,083	36,250	145,000	12,083
Employee Assist. Program	4,740	4,740	4,740	14,220	4,740	13,814	56,475	4,706
Preferred Chiropractors	780	782	775	2,337	846	2,627	10,442	870
TeleDoc	2,315	4,764	4,822	11,901	3,814	7,462	41,326	3,444
Other Expenses	-	940	-	940	1,616	4,209	22,661	1,888
ACA Fees	-	-	-	0	308	0	3,690	308
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,150,280</b>	<b>851,487</b>	<b>712,685</b>	<b>2,714,452</b>	<b>790,292</b>	<b>2,159,653</b>	<b>8,928,710</b>	<b>744,059</b>
<b>Current Fund Activity (net)</b>	<b>(117,465)</b>	<b>162,499</b>	<b>304,203</b>	<b>349,237</b>	<b>113,479</b>	<b>560,557</b>	<b>1,573,064</b>	<b>131,089</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b>6,949,508</b>	<b>7,112,007</b>	<b>7,416,210</b>	<b>7,416,210</b>				
<b><u>Enrollment</u></b>								
Employee only-EOC funded	310	312	306		309		341	
Kaiser	54	62	63		60			
Family coverage-EOC funded	312	314	314		313		355	
Kaiser	30	32	36		33			
Other-Dental only or Sub/On Call	42	50	50		47		48	
<b>Total employees enrolled</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>769</b>		<b>762</b>		<b>744</b>	

Estimated # months funded: 9.4

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Finance
<b>Consent Agenda Item #:</b> 6XIV	<b>Director:</b> N/A
<b>Subject:</b> Investment Report	<b>Officer:</b> Steven Warnes (Interim CFO)

**Recommended Action**

The information is presented to keep the Board apprised on the status of the Agency’s investment accounts.

**Background**

As of March 31, 2024, the Agency holds these investments to maintain cash funding items such as the health insurance reserve and accrued vacation liability.

	<b>Wells Fargo</b>
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1,710,435
Corporate Bonds	159,771
Government Bonds	596,784
Certificates of Deposit (CD)	1,175,918
Stocks	15,819
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,658,727</b>
Minus unrealized gains on CDs	(18,718)
<b>General Ledger balance</b>	<b>\$ 3,677,445</b>

Total annual interest expected from these fixed income investments is \$60,651 providing an average rate of 3.07%. Interest rates received on the Corporate Fixed Income investment is 4.45%; this holding will mature in 2026. The US Treasury Notes and Certificates of Deposit have interest rates between 2.00% and 4.85%; and a tiered maturity date structure to provide for both shorter-term maturities and longer investments past 2026.

The funds at Self-Help Federal Credit Union are returning 3.33% interest.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Head Start 0 to 5
<b>Agenda Item #:</b> 7	<b>Director:</b> Rosa M. Pineda
<b>Subject:</b> Transforming and Inspiring	<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b> Emilia Reyes

**Recommended Action**

The information presented in this item is intended to keep the Board apprised of the 2023 Strategic Program Progress Report Year 1, as well as highlight the clients we serve.

**Background**

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC) Head Start 0 to 5 has successfully provided comprehensive child development services for low income preschool children and their families since 1965. Services include education, nutrition, health, medical, dental, parent engagement and social services. Expansion of services to children ages 0-3 was implemented in 1996 through the Early Head Start Program. Over 209,598 Head Start children and 10,293 Early Head Start children and their families have received service from Fresno EOC since the program began in 1965.

The purpose of Fresno EOC Head Start is to promote the school readiness of low-income children by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development in two ways:

1. The learning environment will support children’s growth in language, literacy, mathematics, science, and emotional functioning, creative arts, physical skills, and approaches to learning.
2. Each family will be provided with health, educational, nutritional, social, and other services when necessary based on the family’s needs assessments.

Fresno EOC Early Head Start serves approximately 478 children and pregnant women in urban Fresno, Clovis, Reedley, Sanger, Parlier, Del Rey, Selma, Fowler, Biola, and Kerman. The Head Start program currently serves approximately 2,112 children throughout Fresno County in over 34 centers and 17 Home Base areas.

The participants in tonight’s presentation include two parents, who have benefited from Early Head Start and Head Start services during the current program year.

**Fiscal Impact**

Action on this agenda item will have no fiscal impact.

## **CSBG Organizational Standard**

The organization's governing board receives programmatic reports at each regular board meeting per Category 5, Standard 5.9.

### **Conclusion**

The strategic progress report highlights the poverty conditions the program sought to address, the methods used to address these poverty conditions, and how the program partnered with communities to build pathways out of poverty.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> N/A
<b>Agenda Item #:</b> 8	<b>Director:</b> N/A
<b>Subject:</b> Commissioner Reinstatement	<b>Officer:</b> N/A

**Recommended Action**

Review and approve of Commissioner Rey Leon’s petition to be reinstated as a Fresno EOC Board Member.

**Background**

According to the agency’s By-Laws, there are grounds for removal of the Commissioner per Article VII Section 4 of the bylaws upon the third absence in a calendar year.

**Article VII. Commissioners Section**

**B. Grounds for Removal by the Board.** The Board may remove a Commissioner from the Board or any Committee and from any office for the following reasons:

**5. Excessive Absences.** A Commissioner shall be deemed to have vacated that Commissioner's Board seat after three (3) absences of regular meetings during a calendar year. No later than five (5) days before the next Board of Commissioners' meeting after the vacancy, a Commissioner may request in writing to the Chair and Clerk of the Board that the Board to restore the Commissioner's Board seat during the Board meeting immediately following the deemed vacancy so long as the Board takes such action upon a determination, in the Board's sole discretion, that there is good cause to excuse the excessive absences. If the Commissioner fails to timely request restoration or is not present at the Board meeting in which the Board considers such request, the Board will not have the discretion to restore the Commissioner's Board seat. If the Board reinstates a Commissioner under this paragraph, any additional absence during the same calendar year will result in the Commissioner's seat being vacated without the option of Board reinstatement.

Attached is Commissioner Rey Leon’s appeal statement.

**Fiscal Impact**

Action on this agenda item will have no fiscal impact.

**Conclusion**

If approved by the Board, Commissioner Rey Leon will be reinstated to continue to serve on the Fresno EOC Board for the remainder of his term.

## Karina Perez

---

**From:** Rey Leon <rleon@theleapinstitute.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2024 3:06 PM  
**To:** Karina Perez  
**Cc:** Elionora Vivanco  
**Subject:** Request to be reinstated as EOC Commissioner

**Fresno EOC IT Notice:**  
**External Message. Think before you click!**

To whom this may concern,

Please accept this note to inform of my continued interest and commitment to support EOC leadership as a board member of the EOC. I am available for any questions. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Rey Leon



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Communications
<b>Agenda Item #:</b> 9	<b>Director:</b> Jose Moreno III
<b>Subject:</b> Fresno EOC Annual Report 2023	<b>Officer:</b> Nelson Dibie

**Recommended Action**

Staff recommends the board approval of the agency 2023 annual report.

**Background**

Each year, Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC) compiles an Annual Report summarizing the data from the previous program year. This report offers a comprehensive overview of our achievements and future goals. It demonstrates our commitment to transparency, accountability, and our agency's significant impact on the lives of our community members.

This year's report aligns closely with our strategic plan by highlighting our six focus areas. It clearly presents the data and objectives of each program, reflecting the progress made through the ROMA over the past year. This comprehensive approach ensures that we continue to move forward with purpose and clarity, effectively serving our community.

**Fiscal Impact**

Action on this agenda item will have no fiscal impact.

**Conclusion**

If approved by the Board, the report will be mass-printed and distributed to stakeholders, funders, and the community. Additionally, it will be accessible on our website for review and download, ensuring wide availability and transparency.



Fresno  
Economic  
Opportunities  
Commission



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



*A vision in focus*



# ABOUT FRESNO EOC

Founded in 1965, Fresno EOC is an integral part of a nationwide network of community action agencies committed to eradicating poverty. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation based in Fresno County, the heart of California's Central Valley, Fresno EOC has been pivotal in crafting a vision of a flourishing community where all residents possess the means to shape their futures free from poverty. Guided by a 24-member tripartite Board of Commissioners, Fresno EOC stands out as one of the largest Community Action Agencies in the United States. Its success is a testament to the dedication and commitment of its team of over 1,000 members, who are not just employees but passionate advocates for helping people and changing lives.

With more than 30 diverse programs, Fresno EOC strategically bridges gaps for various underserved groups, unified by a single mission: "We fight to end poverty."

The agency manages an impressive annual budget of nearly \$130 million, a testament to the scale of its operations and the depth of its impact. Each year, Fresno EOC initiatives touch the lives of over 175,000 residents of Fresno County, providing critical immediate aid during crises and the sustained support necessary for individuals and families to build better lives. Anchored in community action, Fresno EOC delivers vital services, resources, and opportunities that enhance education, health, and economic security.

# LETTER FROM THE CEO AND THE BOARD CHAIR

With tremendous pride and gratitude, I present to you the Fresno EOC 2023 Annual Report. This year, more than ever, we have felt the increased demand for our services in the wake of the pandemic. Our community's needs have intensified, and so has our determination to meet them.

Following the completion of our strategic plan, we have streamlined our efforts and focused our energies more efficiently than ever before. This plan has not only driven our work but has also brought a sharper focus to our mission—guiding the development of key focus areas that unify and enhance the impact of our diverse programs.

2023 marked a significant technological advancement for Fresno EOC with the implementation of CAP60, a central intake system. This innovation allows our clients to access all our services through a single form and process, enhancing efficiency and data management. This integration ensures that clients have seamless access to the wrap-around support we offer, tailored to their specific needs once they enter our system.

We've implemented ROMA (Results Oriented Management Accountability) training across all our programs, a structured approach devised by the Community Action Network to ensure impactful support for low-income families. Incorporating ROMA principles enhances our ability to evaluate and refine our services, allowing us to meet community needs with effective, measurable outcomes.

We extend our deepest appreciation to our local and state partners for their invaluable support, which has been instrumental in addressing the growing needs of our community and fighting poverty. With your continued support, we are better equipped than ever to make a significant, positive impact on the lives of our community members, keeping our vision sharply in focus.



**Emilia Reyes** | CEO, Fresno EOC



**Linda R. Hayes** | Board Chair

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# STRATEGIC PLAN

At the close of 2022, Fresno EOC marked a significant milestone by completing the Strategic Plan, developed from the Community Needs Assessments (CNA) and Community Action Plans (CAP). This plan is tailored to refine our internal structure and establish a unified direction across the agency, ensuring that all programs are aligned with our strategic goals. The year 2023 highlights the inaugural phase of implementing this plan, underscoring our commitment to “A Vision in Focus.”



## STRATEGIC GOALS

### Equity-Based Practices

Directing services intentionally to meet the needs of those most impacted by the poverty conditions we seek to address.

### Holistic Support

Providing for the whole person, understanding that poverty impacts the community in multiple ways.

### Advocacy

Amplifying community voice - particularly communities experiencing poverty - leading to poverty changes that disrupt systemic poverty.

### Community-Directed Programs and Services

Create programs and services that are able to respond to changing community priorities, providing support for immediate need and the infrastructure for wealth generation.

# FOCUS AREAS



Six focus areas from this strategic blueprint emerged designed to consolidate our efforts and magnify our impact. These areas include:

1. Food Insecurity
2. Housing Stability
3. Employment Opportunities
4. Community Safety
5. Educational Achievement
6. Health & Wellness

These focus areas not only help strategize our agency's framework but also facilitate a collaborative approach among our programs, steering them toward expected outcomes. By integrating the ROMA logic model, we have established clear indicators and outcomes for each program, allowing us to measure the impact of our services on individuals in the community.

By aligning our strategies, we can direct our efforts towards a greater vision, where each of our initiatives and services is a step towards creating a more prosperous and equitable Fresno County. We believe that this approach will enable Fresno EOC to effectively and sustainably address our community's most pressing needs.



# FOCUS AREAS



- **Women, Infants and Children (WIC)**

- **Food Distribution**

- **Summer Meals for Kids**

- **Food Services Home Delivery**



**Food Insecurity**



**Housing Stability**

- **Energy Services**

- **Sanctuary Homeless Services**

- **Local Conservation Corps (LCC)**

- **Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC)**

- **Summer Internship Program**

- **Workforce Connection Young Adult Program**



**Employment Opportunities**



# FOOD INSECURITY

Despite Fresno County’s status as a leader in agricultural production, it faces significant challenges with food insecurity. Currently, 14.4% of the county’s population and 22% of its children do not have reliable access to sufficient, nutritious food. This critical issue is worsened by food deserts—

areas where affordable, high-quality fresh food is scarce—alongside barriers such as limited transportation options and low-income levels. To address this, Fresno EOC programs are actively working to provide essential nutrition, education, and access to meals throughout the county.

<b>Women, Infants and Children (WIC)</b>	<b>12-13</b>
<b>Food Distribution</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Food Services Home Delivery</b>	<b>14</b>
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# WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN (WIC)

## 2023 IMPACT

Fresno EOC Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides healthy food, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and family referrals to resources to more than 27,000 women, children, and families in Fresno County.



62%

of food benefits redeemed



16,734

nutrition lessons completed



\$24,129,670

amount of WIC food benefits issued



27,116

participants served



5

sites



## TURNING PAGES, TRANSFORMING LIVES

The Books for Kids initiative aims to improve literacy and promote child development among families that are a part of WIC. In the year 2023, the program successfully distributed a total of 32,377 books in various languages, including Spanish, Hmong, Arabic, and Chinese. The books were conveniently provided at local WIC sites, farmers' markets, and through specially organized drive-thru events, ensuring easy access and support for the educational advancement of our families

## BABY SHOWERS

Fresno EOC WIC is in its tenth year celebrating baby showers for WIC clients with limited resources. Clients enjoy a day of games, gifts, giveaways, and anticipatory guidance on breastfeeding.



17

baby showers celebrated



249

participants attended



32,377

books distributed

## BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

Fresno EOC WIC has 37 lactation specialists who provide support to WIC clients with hands on breastfeeding support and breastfeeding classes.

Breastfeeding is healthier for both babies and moms by reducing the risk of many ailments and more.



232

hands-on  
breastfeeding  
participants supported



37%

breastfeeding  
rate  
(31% in 2022)



1,817

breastfeeding lessons in  
person and over  
the phone completed



20

breastfeeding  
virtual meetups with  
74 participants completed



### Nourishing Beginnings: Karen's Journey with Fresno EOC WIC

Karen shares her experience with the WIC program after the birth of her son four months ago. Having been familiar with WIC since her mother's participation, Karen was inspired to enroll herself. She recounts attending a WIC-hosted baby shower for new moms, where she received vital lactation support, which played a crucial role during her initial struggles with breastfeeding. With the encouragement and personalized advice from Julie, a International Board Certified Lactation Consultant, Karen overcame her challenges and transitioned to exclusively breastfeeding her son.

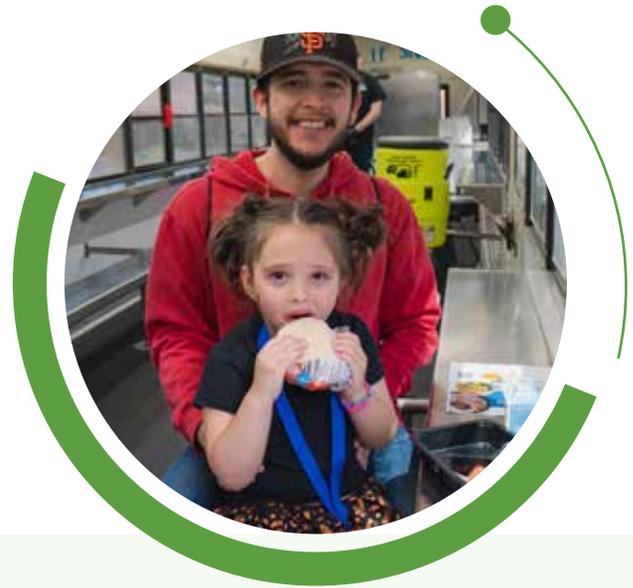


Scan to view  
Karen's story

# FOOD SERVICES

## 2023 IMPACT

Food Services aims to enhance food accessibility by providing healthy and nutritious meals to school-aged youth, seniors, and organizations needing catering services. This is achieved through strategic partnerships and collaborations with other Fresno EOC departments and the broader community, ensuring a comprehensive approach to meal services that supports the well-being of our diverse community.



## FOOD DISTRIBUTION



**13,942**

households served



**9**

sites (Pinedale, Mendota, Parlier, Cantu Creek, Biola, Sanger, Orange Cove, Firebaugh, Fresno)

The Food Distribution program is dedicated to combating hunger among low-income families in both rural and inner-city areas. By distributing essential food commodities—including fresh produce, bread, beans, rice, pasta, and other nutritious foods—we aim to enhance the health and nutritional outcomes of the families we serve.

## FOOD SERVICES HOME DELIVERY

Our Home Delivery service offers a convenient and affordable solution for those who may need help to, or prefer not to, prepare their own meals daily. Designed to meet the diverse needs of our community, this service ensures that everyone has access to balanced and nutritious meals without the hassle of meal preparation.



**528,410**

senior meals produced



**1,200**

homebound seniors served



**321,053**

homebound senior meals served

# SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS

## FOOD EXPRESS BUS

Fresno EOC Food Services offers free nutritious meals for children and disabled individuals during the summer break. Meals are available at various locations in Fresno and Tulare Counties. Two Food Express Buses serve five rural locations in Fresno County and five locations in Fresno City. Additionally, numerous physical sites provide free meal service. Both Food Express Buses are designated mobile Safe Place sites for youth in crisis.



# 445,503

meals served



# 1,616

children served

## FOOD EXPRESS BUS STOPS



# HOUSING STABILITY

Households limited by poverty struggle with utility costs, threatening their housing stability and health. The escalating energy costs and expensive home repairs, like weatherization, exacerbate this issue. Housing insecurity remains a critical concern in the Central Valley. In 2021, Fresno County experienced about six residential lockouts per 1,000

residents, with rates as high as 19.6% for renters in some city areas. This instability was evident as over 4,000 individuals faced homelessness in 2020, with 55% unsheltered. The connection between insecure housing and declining mental and physical health highlights the pressing need for integrated solutions to address these insecurities.

**Energy Services**

**18-19**

**Sanctuary Homeless Services**

**20-21**



# ENERGY SERVICES

## 2023 IMPACT

Fresno EOC Energy Services relieves rising energy costs and improves energy efficiency and safety in the home. Services include utility payment assistance to prevent disconnection or restore service and weatherization measures to improve safety and energy efficiency. Each year, Energy Services assists over 10,000 households, making a significant impact in Fresno County.



## WEATHERIZATION

Weatherization focuses on installing energy conservation measures designed to reduce energy costs, boost energy efficiency, and promote health and safety for low-income families. This initiative prioritizes support for older people, people with disabilities, and families with young children, ensuring that these vulnerable groups benefit from improved living conditions and reduced energy expenses.

 **\$2,216,856**  
in services and repairs



**380**

households served



**28**

households served with emergency heating/cooling



**19**

solar installations



## LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

One of our most comprehensive energy services, LIHEAP, helps low-income individuals manage their heating and cooling costs, especially during the peak winter and summer months when these expenses typically increase. Beyond helping with bill payments, the program also offers emergency crisis intervention and educates participants on energy conservation to further support their needs.

 **8,323**  
households served

 **\$13,245,984**  
benefits disbursed

## LOW-INCOME HOME WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHWAP)

Energy Services provides financial help to eligible Fresno County households with their water utility bill.

 **1,582**  
households served

 **\$1,307,360**  
in assistance

### Easing the Burden: Biola Receives Crucial Assistance Through LIHWAP

In the rural community of Biola, the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) provided crucial support by helping over 100 residents secure essential water bill assistance. The staff not only raised awareness but also went to Biola to intake applications and reach the community where they live.

The community manager of Biola expressed gratitude for this support: “Your unwavering dedication to ensuring Biola’s inclusion...has made a profound impact on our community,” and highlighted the exceptional commitment of staff. “Their hard work has undoubtedly made a significant difference in the lives of our residents during these challenging times.”

Thanks to LIHWAP’s efforts, Biola has experienced meaningful improvements in residents’ lives. The community manager added, “Biola is deeply grateful for all that Fresno EOC has done...Your support has been invaluable.” This partnership exemplifies the significant impact that dedicated support can have on a community, making a real difference in its people’s everyday lives.



# SANCTUARY & SUPPORT SERVICES

## 2023 IMPACT

For nearly 50 years, Fresno EOC Sanctuary and Support Services has provided transformative housing solutions, from emergency to permanent options. Using a Housing-First approach, we quickly secure safe shelter for individuals, complemented by round-the-clock onsite health and social support services.



## SANCTUARY HOMELESS SERVICES

### OUTREACH SERVICES

 **581**  
individuals Served

 **49**  
people who obtained emergency shelter

 **581**  
people obtained supportive services, such as food, basic needs, and referrals to community partners

### BRIDGE HOUSING

 **131**  
individuals served

 **92**  
people who obtained housing through reunification or housing program within six months

### TRANSITIONAL SHELTER

 **176**  
individuals served

 **154**  
people who obtained housing through reunification or housing program

### PERMANENT HOUSING

 **55**  
individuals who obtained/maintained housing within 12 months

 **33**  
people who obtained/maintained income

### HOUSING NAVIGATION

 **186**  
Individuals connected to safe & positive destination

## SAFE PLACE

Safe Place is a national youth outreach and prevention program for young people up to 25 years of age in Fresno County needing immediate help and safety. As a collaborative community prevention initiative, Safe Place designates businesses and organizations as Safe Place locations, making help readily available to youth in communities across the country. In Fresno County, the Fresno EOC Sanctuary and Support Services program administers the Safe Place locations

at various Fresno EOC sites, including Sanctuary Transitional Shelter, LGBTQ+ Resource Center, WIC, Health and Dental Services, and the Local Conservation Corps (LCC). The Food Express Buses also serve as mobile Safe Place sites.



## MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT

In 2023, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the “Making Spirits Bright” event, a festive tradition that has become a beacon of hope in the community. A festive caravan delivered holiday cheer directly to the doorsteps of 25 deserving low-income families, identified in collaboration with a neighborhood school. The caravan brought trees, gifts, personalized stockings, and gift cards, continuing a legacy that has impacted over 3,000 children since its inception. The enduring success of “Making Spirits Bright” relies on generous contributions from partners like PG&E, Target, Costco, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Asia Supermarket, and donations from the community.



## Turning Points: How Youth Bridge Housing Helped Mary Rebuild Her Life

Mary\*, a 22-year-old, and her two children entered Youth Bridge Housing after hearing about the services from her brother, who was previously assisted back in 2022. Mary was chronically homeless at the time of entry, and during her stay, she worked with her Case Manager to obtain identity documents for her and her children, obtain employment, secure childcare, and enroll in a high school completion program. Through Coordinated Entry, she was matched to a housing program and moved into her unit with her children after three months in this program.

\*To ensure the security of the clients, pseudonym and stock photos have been used to not reveal their true identity. Nevertheless, these stories are based on real-life events.



# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Fresno EOC programming is dedicated to addressing the significant disparities in income and wealth found in communities with concentrated poverty. In these areas, young adults often face many challenges, including lower household incomes, lower rates of high school and post-secondary completion, and limited job

prospects. To counter these challenges, Fresno EOC has developed targeted programs that provides job training and educational services for youth to enhance employment prospects, ultimately leading to higher-paying positions and fostering economic uplift in their communities.

<b>Local Conservation Corps (LCC)</b>	<b>24-25</b>
<b>Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC)</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Summer Internship Program</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Workforce Connection Young Adult Program</b>	<b>27</b>



# LOCAL CONSERVATION CORPS (LCC)

## 2023 IMPACT

Local Conservation Corps (LCC) provides young adults (ages 18-26) with paid job training and educational opportunities.



## CORPSMEMBERS



**141**

Corpsmembers enrolled



**24**

Corpsmembers who earned college credit while enrolled



**50**

Corpsmembers completed the program



**10**

Corpsmembers who earned a High School Diploma

## CONSERVATION, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL

**14** home/buildings retrofitted with solar panels

**54** homes and buildings weatherized or retrofitted

**12.56**

acres of hazardous fuel reduction

**11.25**

miles of trails constructed, restored, or maintained

## RECYCLING

The LCC recycled and prevented the following materials from being disposed of in landfills.



**169 TONS**

CRV Bottles and Cans



**24 TONS**

E-Waste



**6,543**

Individual Used Tires



**2,133**

Recycled used mattresses (117,315 lbs), diverted from the waste stream.

# YOUTHBUILD CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL OF CALIFORNIA



65

young adults obtained skills and work experience for employment



19

individuals ages 18-29 obtained a high school diploma



6

students were placed in healthcare related jobs through our YouthBuild USA Department of Labor Grant



## SUPPORTIVE SERVICES



93

Corpsmembers experiencing food insecurity accessed the LCC onsite Food Pantry



160

Corpsmembers experiencing stable housing challenges accessed the onsite LCC Hygiene Closet



## Water Aid to Friant Residents

In response to a water safety crisis in the Friant area, teams from Fresno EOC's Local Conservation Corps and Energy Services collaborated to deliver water directly to the homes of local residents, with a special focus on aiding senior citizens who may face challenges with mobility or managing heavy items like cases of water. This proactive initiative, supported by Fresno County Board Supervisor Nathan Magsig and Senator Shannon Grove, underscored LCC's swift response and deep commitment to supporting the community in times of need, ensuring that those most vulnerable received essential assistance directly at their doorsteps.



# TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

## 2023 IMPACT

To deliver Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) services within America's Job Centers of California, preparing young adults ages 14-24 for college, the military, and/or the workforce.

## VALLEY APPRENTICESHIP CONNECTIONS (VAC)

Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) supports the hiring needs of Central Valley's construction contractors. Students are immersed in an intense 12-week training program to prepare them for the workforce.

 **62**  
adults graduated

 **558**  
certifications earned

 **27**  
adults employed

 **13**  
adults were indentured to a trades union



## SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The summer internship program is designed to target high school graduates transitioning into post-secondary education, offering them the opportunity to be mentored by a leader in their chosen industry.

 **81**  
student interns served

# WORKFORCE CONNECTION YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

The Workforce Connection Young Adult Program guides young adults ages 14-24 along the pathway to education, training, personal development, and ultimately a rewarding career.



**441**

young adults served



**109**

in school young adults ages 14-21 served



**332**

out of school young adults ages 16-24 served



**222**

of placements in college or workforce



**\$8,060**

Median wage per participant



## From Intern to Employee: Juana's path with Workforce Connection Young Adult Program

Juana Santos came to the Workforce Connection Youth Program in December 2022, looking for assistance with employment opportunities. She had never worked before and was unsure of what she wanted to do.

During her time in the program, Juana was interviewed for an internship. On February 6, 2023, Juana was placed on an internship with the Fresno EOC LiHEAP program, primarily doing data entry. A need for assistance in the Navigation Center was presented to interns, and Juana quickly stepped into the position. She found working with the public rewarding. Although very shy, Juana was able to step out of her comfort zone to assist and guide applicants. Even when faced with a challenging client, Juana always presents with a big smile on her face. In July 2023, just before ending her internship, Juana was hired as a full time Program Assistant with the Navigation Center.

# COMMUNITY SAFETY

Fresno EOC enhances community safety by addressing critical issues affecting vulnerable and underserved populations, including the LGBTQ+ community, areas plagued by gun violence, and those at risk of human trafficking. The organization provides culturally responsive programs and essential resources like food,

healthcare, and transportation, which are vital for overall well-being. By advocating for and implementing inclusive support systems, Fresno EOC ensures that all community members, particularly the most vulnerable, have access to the support they need to thrive in safer environments.

<b>Advance Peace Fresno</b>	<b>30-31</b>
<b>Central Valley Against Human Trafficking (CVAHT)</b>	<b>32-33</b>
<b>LGBTQ+ Resource Center</b>	<b>34-35</b>
<b>Transit Systems</b>	<b>36-37</b>



# ADVANCE PEACE FRESNO

## 2023 IMPACT

Advance Peace Fresno reimagines public safety with healing-centered strategies that transform the lives of those impacted by gun violence. These strategies break the cycle of violence by placing young men into mentorship programs that instill conflict resolution skills and offer peer support. The Advance Peace Fresno team are a steadfast presence in the community, whether they are guiding program Fellows to make healthy decisions or acting as mediators in gun-related shootings.



**41**

fellows in the program



**6,425**

fellow engagement hours



**9,710**

total street outreach



**176**

conflicts mediated



**234**

community conflict mediation hours



**64**

total referrals

## ADVANCE PEACE GRANT

In 2023, Advance Peace Fresno received a \$2 million grant from the Office of Justice Programs to expand its program, which aims to reduce gun violence through mentorship. Emphasizing the broad impact of gun violence, CEO Emilia Reyes highlighted the initiative's success in transforming community safety. The program, praised by local leaders including Mayor Jerry Dyer and Police Chief Paco Balderrama, focuses on ending the cycle of violence with a strategy rooted in public health and safety, supporting Fresno EOC's mission to combat poverty and improve lives across the region.



Advance Peace teams up with Fellows to create short-term and long-term goals in their journey, called LifeMAP Milestones. In recognition of Fellow's achievements in accomplishing their goals, Fellows earn LifeMAP milestone allowances to support Fellow's journey towards healing.



**\$170,000**

in support basic needs



**4**

Fellows who receive mental health services/counseling



**19**

Fellows who got anger management



**\$30,000**

in LifeMAP stipends to support Fellows' journey towards healing



**83%**

of Fellows are young Black Men who have experienced the justice system



**6**

Fellows who got a DMV/ License



Scan to view full story



## Neighborhood Change Agents

Advanced Peace Fresno Change Agents share the motivation behind their work in mitigating gun violence in the community. Many team members share experiences of loss due to gun violence, underscoring their commitment to creating positive change. They take pride in equipping youth with resources and opportunities they themselves lacked, addressing essential needs like housing and food, and fostering a positive atmosphere in their community

# SANCTUARY & SUPPORT SERVICES



2023 IMPACT

## CENTRAL VALLEY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVAHT)



Central Valley Against Human Trafficking (CVAHT) empowers victims of human trafficking by connecting them to resources they need to begin the healing process. We help victims of all genders, ages, and nationalities—designing a personalized action plan to address their direct needs. Through our work and advocacy, CVAHT is building a rapid response network, expanding community resources, and sharing new understandings of how to best support victims of human trafficking.

 **79**  
new human  
trafficking  
survivors identified

 **28**  
sex trafficking  
survivors identified

 **30**  
labor trafficking  
survivors identified

 **6**  
both types of  
trafficking  
survivors identified

 **15**  
unknown type  
of trafficking  
survivors

 **173**  
human trafficking  
survivors served



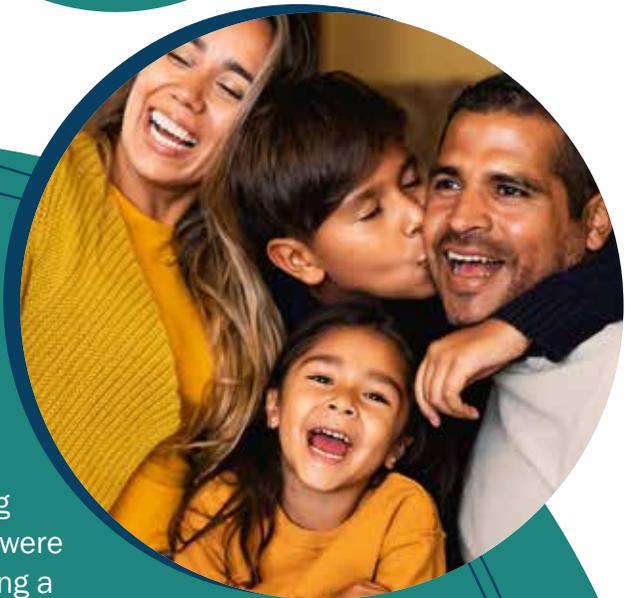
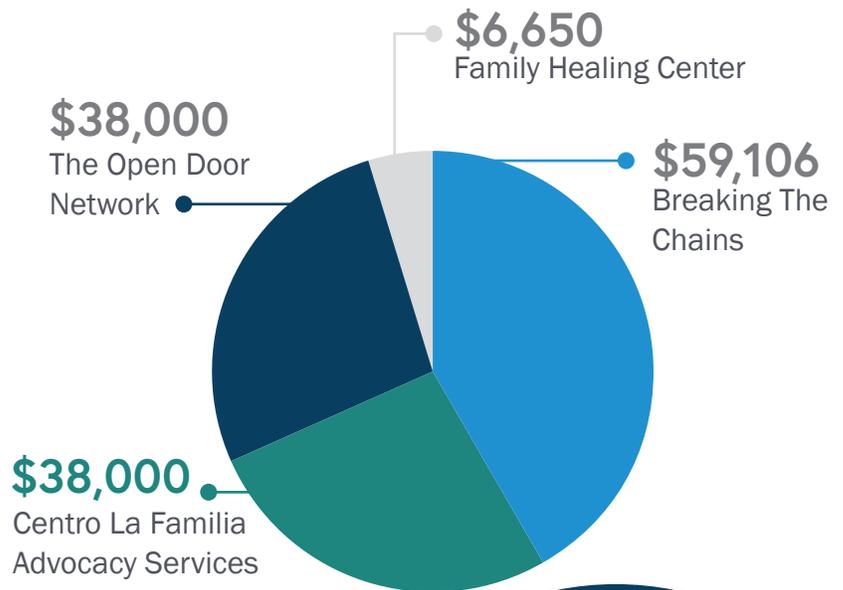
19

individuals trained in anti-human trafficking /40-hour caseworker training



15

anti-human trafficking trainings held to direct service providers



## From Peril to Promise

In the summer of 2023, three families comprising 11 individuals, including two expectant mothers, were identified as victims of labor trafficking after fleeing a war-torn country in South America for a safer life in the United States. These survivors courageously contacted the program, intending to report themselves to ICE for rescue.

Understanding the situation’s urgency, our staff coordinated a safety plan to relocate the families, providing them with much-needed temporary shelter, food, clothing, and other essentials.

In the following weeks, these families’ resilience began to shine through the darkness. Program Case Managers and Advocates worked to secure Medi-Cal and cash assistance for them, helping to rebuild their lives. Employment opportunities were found, marking a significant step towards independence and stability. The families were connected with a pro-bono attorney to navigate their immigration cases.

CVAHT utilized OVC Housing funding, and all three families were placed in transitional housing within site apartments. This crucial support provides them with a temporary home and a chance to save and plan for a permanent place to call their own.

\*To ensure the security of the clients, stock photos have been used to not reveal their true identity. Nevertheless, these stories are based on real-life events.

# SANCTUARY & SUPPORT SERVICES



2023 IMPACT

## LGBTQ+ RESOURCE CENTER

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center offers a safe place for LGBTQ folks to get expert and trusted guidance on resources, including STI screenings, gender-affirming care, and housing assistance. A queer-led staff have been key in reaching our most underserved communities. Because of our staff's shared lived experience with clients, they are able to forge meaningful connections and guide workshops tailored to the unique challenges faced by the LGBTQ community. Fresno EOC's LGBTQ+ Resource Center leads initiatives that create pathways to health.



**360**

participants who visited the drop-in center



**320**

people who attended peer support groups, gaining a safe space



**300**

people who obtained social & emotional support through mental health services



**200**

people who obtained case management



**125**

people who obtained social emotional support through social emotional workshops



**15**

LGBTQ+ competency trainings



**650**

attendees that participated in LGBTQ+ competency trainings



**\$20,000**

raised during Give Out fundraising campaign



## The Little Queer Library

In 2023, the Resource Center introduced “The Little Queer Library,” offering free access to educational and representative books. These resources, thoughtfully curated and color-coded by local librarians, ensure the community can see themselves reflected in literature. Sponsored by PFLAG, the library enhances learning and supports greater inclusion and acceptance within the community.



## Language as a Bridge: Antonio Finds Support and Opportunity

Antonio\* found the LGBTQ+ Resource Center through a Google search for resources. As a Spanish speaker, he connected with Community Engagement Coordinator Valeria Rodriguez Pedroza, who also spoke Spanish, making communication easier and more comforting. Antonio, who is trans, expressed his needs for clothing, food, and insurance and shared his background of growing up in Mexico before returning to the U.S.

Since 2022, Antonio has received comprehensive support from the center. He has accessed Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) through the Trans Medical Needs Fund, obtained clothing from the Q-Closet, and benefited from transportation services. With help from the center, he successfully applied for Medi-Cal and now regularly visits his doctor, dentist, and optometrist. He has also started seeing a mental health therapist through a referral from the center.

In addition to healthcare, Antonio was connected to a local food bank and began contributing to the community by working and volunteering at the center once a week. He enrolled in English as a Second Language courses at Fresno City College and is set to begin his first year as an official college student majoring in engineering this August, with plans to transfer to Fresno State after earning his A.S. degree. Antonio’s journey highlights the transformative impact of targeted community support.

\*To ensure the security of the clients, pseudonym and stock photos have been used to not reveal their true identity. Nevertheless, these stories are based on real-life events.

# TRANSIT SYSTEMS

## 2023 IMPACT

Transit Systems operates around the clock to oversee transportation services for clients residing in Fresno County. Its wide range of offerings includes transporting students to school and providing transportation services for individuals with disabilities. The fleet comprises a total of 127 vehicles.



**80,065**

clients transported



**900,000**

total miles



**160,131**

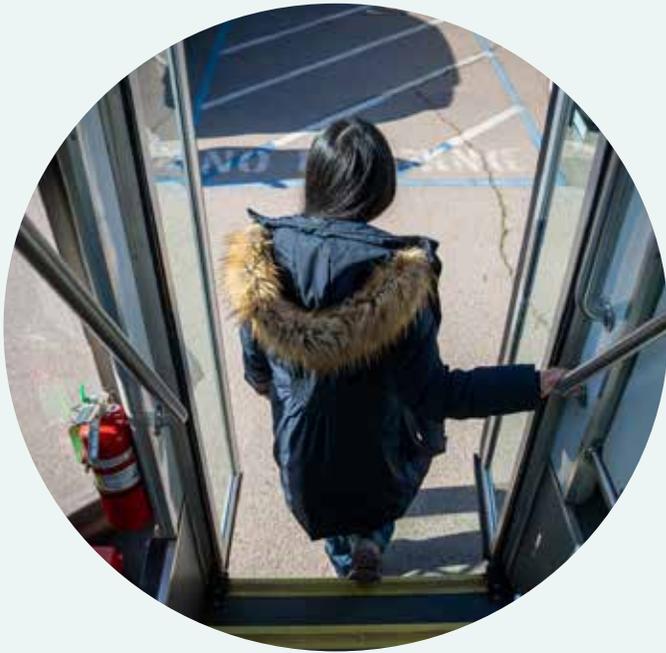
rides



**35**

routes (within Fresno County)





## On the Road to Success

In a collaborative effort to support education accessibility, Transit Systems, along with Fresno City College, have launched a shuttle service for Kerman residents who are students at Fresno City College. This new service offers a convenient and cost-effective way for students to commute to campus, initially priced at \$35 per month but currently free to alleviate financial burdens. The shuttle can seat over 20 students and operates a straightforward daily schedule with morning pickups in Kerman and evening returns from the college. This shuttle service not only eases travel challenges but also promotes educational achievement by ensuring reliable access to college resources.



## Vera and Isabel's journey

Vera and Isabel's journey to enrichment begins with safe and reliable transportation provided by Fresno EOC Transit Systems to The Arc program. The Arc, dedicated to advocating for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), becomes a beacon of empowerment for Vera and Isabel. Through The Arc's services, they discover their worth and unique abilities, embracing their right to make choices and exercise their human dignity. Surrounded by a supportive community that celebrates diversity, they thrive, contributing their strengths and talents. Fresno EOC's commitment ensures equitable access to The Arc, fostering inclusion and removing barriers to opportunities. Vera and Isabel's story exemplifies The Arc's core values, emphasizing human dignity, personhood, choice, and community integration. With Fresno EOC Transit Systems' partnership, they embody the vision of a society where every individual, regardless of ability, is valued and included.

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

In Fresno County, African American and Hispanic communities facing poverty experience profound healthcare disparities. These include high rates of teenage pregnancy and severe complications during childbirth, with Black women facing a mortality rate three to four times higher than average

and Black children experiencing triple the mortality rate of their white counterparts. These groups also suffer a life expectancy 15 years shorter than that of more affluent areas. Additionally, dental health is a significant concern, with 40% of young students having untreated tooth decay.

<b>Community Health Center</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Dental Health &amp; School Based Sealant Program</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Adolescent Health Education Programs</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Tobacco Education Program</b>	<b>42</b>



# HEALTH SERVICES

2023 IMPACT

## COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Community Health Center provides education, counseling, and treatment services to adults and teens of reproductive age at risk for unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. We offered over 300 transportation appointments to teens from their school site to our clinic. We also administered 1,496 total rapid STI tests at the LGBTQ Resource Center and various local community colleges.



**2,476**

families who received reproductive health services



**79**

total outreach events



**466**

total family cases managed



**233**

teens transported



**194**

individual cases managed



**374**

rapid STI tested



**170**

adult referrals



**246**

development screenings for children 0 to 5



**98**

child development referrals

# DENTAL HEALTH & SCHOOL BASED SEALANT PROGRAM

Dental and Oral Health services are provided to low-income families in Fresno County during in-school sessions and community outreach events. We provided education, screenings, linkages to quality dental homes, and preventative services such as fluoride varnish to children at 37 school and community events.



**2,950**  
children served



**267**  
clients who received sealants



**193**  
clients who received fluoride varnish

# ADOLESCENT HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Youth in Fresno County receive health education and case management services through various programs within Health Services. Topics include reproductive health, clinical linkages, communication, healthy relationships, LGBTQ Inclusivity, self-sufficiency, and human trafficking. It provides youth in 7th and 9th grade in Fresno Unified School District, 11th and 12th-grade students in rural Fresno County, various after-school programs such as Boys and Girls Clubs and the Juvenile Justice Center, and pregnant and parenting youth ages 13 – 21 years.



**202**  
family cases managed



**11,123**  
youth served



**952**  
youth received comprehensive sex education

# TOBACCO EDUCATION PROGRAM

This program aims to improve health and wellness by educating people about the hazards of secondhand and thirdhand smoke. It promotes smoke-free surroundings in public areas, multi-unit housing, and events. We have collaborated with county and state agencies to increase awareness of the health risks linked with smoke exposure, which has resulted in significant public health achievements.

Our approach involves educational presentations, smoke-free policy enforcement, and anti-smoking support to foster healthier living spaces and wellness in Fresno County communities.

 **30**  
outreach events

## CLINIC DAY

In 2023, Health Services successfully resumed in-person outreach with a standout Clinic Day event, bringing together resources from across the valley. The day featured free food, giveaways, and essential health resources, attracting over 200 community members. This event effectively spread awareness about the various services offered by Fresno EOC.



 **30**  
vendors

 **75**  
families

 **125**  
individuals

## SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION (STI) TESTING

In 2023, Health Services introduced free rapid STI testing in Fresno County to combat rising cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis, particularly among 15 to 29-year-olds. The program emphasized the importance of regular testing for sexually active individuals, offering immediate, no-cost treatment for positive results.

 **1,496**  
total STI test administered

# TRIP TO THAILAND

Fresno EOC Health Services team members traveled to Pattaya City, Thailand, to present their innovative “In the Know (ITK)” project at the 2022 International Conference on Family Planning. This globally recognized event, co-hosted by the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health, gathered

about 4,000 delegates from 125 countries. The ITK program, developed over five years in collaboration with the University of California, San Francisco, and Youth+Tech+Health, incorporates digital tools to teach teenagers about reproductive health, career readiness, and healthy relationships.

The program aims to make learning more engaging and accessible by using technology, such as tablets and educational games. Following a successful local pilot involving over 1,500 Fresno County youth, the ITK project showed promising results, such as delaying sexual initiation and increasing knowledge about accessing clinical services. They shared their findings on this international stage and are now focused on expanding ITK’s reach and establishing it as an evidence-based model that can be implemented nationwide.



## Charting a Path from Internship to Health Education Leadership

In the summer of 2022, Health Services welcomed a reserved but hardworking intern, Jocelyn Bocanegra Constantino, a K-Pop enthusiast with a vision to fight poverty. After graduating from the School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL) in June 2022, she aimed to enter the medical field via Fresno City College (FCC). Jocelyn joined our Training and Employment Summer Internship Program, where her dedication to serving low-income communities shined in our Health Services Division.

Jocelyn contributed to health education programs, outreach, and presentations. Supported by the Information and Education grant, we hired her as a part-time Youth Advisor, where she expanded her responsibilities to include scheduling appointments and transportation for youth, collaborating with UCSF on research, and advocating for youth rights. Her exemplary performance led to her promotion to a full-time role in Cap60 data entry, and she now thrives as a Health Educator, continually uplifting our community with her enduring commitment and vibrant spirit.



# EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Fresno EOC recognizes that overcoming educational disparities linked to poverty can profoundly impact future community outcomes. The Educational Achievement focus area addresses these disparities by enhancing access to essential resources and support for underprivileged children and youth in Fresno. This strategy includes bolstering early childhood development programs, engaging families in the

educational process, and providing interventions for academically at-risk students. By eliminating barriers to education, such as inadequate childcare, transportation issues, and limited family resources, Fresno EOC aims to improve academic achievements, increase graduation rates, and expand future employment opportunities.

<b>Head Start 0-5</b>	<b>46-47</b>
<b>School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL)</b>	<b>48-49</b>
<b>Foster Grandparent Program</b>	<b>50-51</b>





# HEAD START 0 TO 5

## 2023 IMPACT

Head Start 0 to 5 provides a range of services to support child development and strengthen families, offering valuable assistance and resources to pregnant women, families with infants and toddlers (ages 0-3), and preschool-aged children (ages 3-5).

Head Start focuses on providing tailored educational, emotional, social, health, and nutritional services, nurturing children's growth and preparing them for academic success while supporting the overall well-being of families.



 **2,500**  
children and families served

 **5,584**  
home visits

 **803**  
children who transitioned to kindergarten

 **1,535**  
volunteers (parents and community members volunteering in the classroom)

 **99,439**  
volunteer hours

 **47**  
sites (42 Center Base locations & 5 Home Base Satellite Offices)

## VOLUNTEERS BOOST SUCCESS

Head Start requires a 20% match from non-federal sources, known as in-kind contributions, which can include volunteer services, resources, and other donations. These contributions are assigned a monetary value and reported quarterly. In 2023 Head Start surpassed the matching requirement, bringing in \$10,160,505.87 in-kind contributions.



**\$10,160,505.87**

In-Kind contributions

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUCCESS

In 2023, Head Start 0 to 5 successfully organized key community events to expand its outreach and staffing. The Express Enrollment Fair provided a streamlined process for families to enroll their children, featuring classroom visits, application support, and STEAM activities. In addition, the program hosted a well-publicized job fair to recruit early childhood care professionals. This event included on-the-spot interviews, offering immediate opportunities to join a team. Both events highlighted Head Start’s commitment to innovative new ways to reach the community and ensure efficient enrollment and recruitment.



 **92** community events



## Father and Learner: Aldo Alvarado’s Transformative Journey

Aldo Alvarado’s experience with Fresno EOC Head Start 0 to 5 has been transformative for both him and his daughter. He has seen significant changes in his daughter’s social skills and enthusiasm for learning, “She plays with other kids and is more confident...She has embraced the idea of attending school and is ready to learn and excited about school.” As the County-Wide Policy Council Representative for her center, Aldo has become deeply involved in his daughter’s education and his own development as a parent. He actively participates on the County-Wide Policy Council Executive Board and the Father Conference Committee, enriching his role through various Head Start events, including the 2024 Annual Conference in Long Beach, California. Aldo emphasizes the program’s ability to provide parents with valuable information and empowerment, asserting, “Head Start has empowered me and has a lot of information for parents. If parents are willing to learn, they are able to gain knowledgeable information.” His story underscores the dual benefits of Head Start, enhancing both child development and parental involvement.

# SCHOOL OF UNLIMITED LEARNING (SOUL)

## 2023 IMPACT

The School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL), chartered in 1998 by Fresno Unified, is Fresno County's longest-running charter school. SOUL is dedicated to providing a comprehensive and fully accredited educational experience to the youth of Fresno, offering an exceptional alternative for students seeking a smaller, more personalized learning environment compared to traditional large high schools.

SOUL caters to diverse learning needs with both classroom-based and independent study options. Students attending classroom-based sessions are required to be on campus daily, while those in independent study attend on-site sessions for at least 1.5 hours weekly, in addition to their remote curriculum, with the flexibility to come in more often as needed. SOUL enriches its academic offerings with elective classes available to all students, enhancing their educational experience.

A key component of SOUL's approach is the case management assistance provided to all students, helping them overcome previous educational obstacles. This support extends beyond academics, as SOUL is committed to serving the entire family by leveraging Fresno EOC's wide array of resources, including Energy Services, Sanctuary & Support Services, Health Services, Food & Nutrition Programs, Training & Employment Services, and Head Start 0 to 5.



**268**

total enrollments



**48**

total graduated



**1,684**

total services

# TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED TO ALL STUDENTS



## From Struggle to Success

Discover the inspiring journey of Halle, a student who overcame academic challenges with the help of the School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL). Frustrated with the limitations of online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, she found a welcoming and supportive educational alternative at SOUL. This video highlights her transformation, showcasing how personalized teaching and SOUL's flexible programs helped improve her grades and supported her dreams of becoming a choir director.

# FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

## 2023 IMPACT

 **41,123**  
Volunteer hours served

 **\$141,181**  
Stipends paid to 55 active volunteers  
Stipends = \$3.15 an hour to \$4.00 an hour

 **55-90**  
Age range of volunteers

 **55**  
Grandparent volunteers

 **160**  
Children served

 **26**  
Sites



**96%** older adults served who are low-income

**70%** older adults served living in a rural area

## GENERATIONS SERVING TOGETHER

The Generations Serving Together, Fresno co-generational team work together as peers to address mental wellness. The teams consist of Foster Grandparent volunteers, local college interns and volunteer community members. The teams work together with guidance from the Generations Serving Together project leader to create lessons on emotional literacy. Lessons are used to conduct workshops with children ages 7-10 at Boys and Girls Clubs, and youth ages 18-29 at YouthBuild Charter School of California.

 **8**  
total of multigeneration volunteers

 **48**  
Total of children and youth served

Sites:  
YouthBuild Charter (current)  
Boys & Girls Club

## SENIOR TECH TRAINING

Foster Grandparents empower older adults with computer literacy skills needed to navigate the digital world. These 10-week classes, tailored to non-tech natives, teach the fundamentals of using Chromebook.



Hour workshop topics include: Identifying fake news, internet safety, online shopping, social media training, and affordable home internet.



111

Participants in senior tech training



81

Older adults completed the 10 week Chromebook basics course



## Spreading Warmth this Holiday Season: Foster Grandparents Gift Free Blankets to Head Start Kids

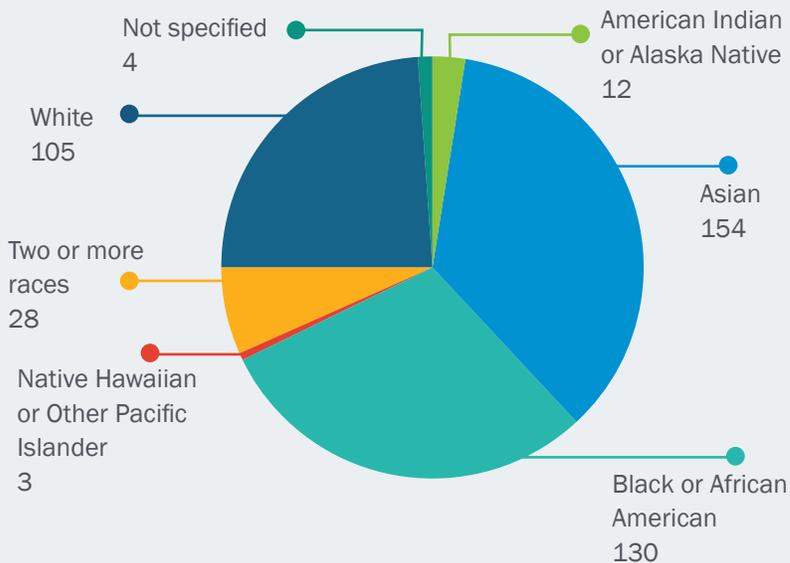
The Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission's Foster Grandparent Program, in partnership with Project Linus, brought warmth and joy to children and families for the holiday season. With a donation of over 150 blankets, Foster Grandparents delivered comfort to those in the Head Start 0 to 5 and Women, Infant, and Children programs. Project Linus has collaborated with Fresno EOC since 2021, ensuring blankets reach those in need.

The Foster Grandparent Program plays a very important role at the Head Start 0 to 5 sites providing more than just blankets—it offers invaluable time, wisdom, and compassion to children, fostering meaningful connections. In 2023, four sites were selected for blanket distribution: Caruthers Head Start, Roosevelt Head Start, Wilson Head Start, and Washington Head Start. The program will continue to build relationships with other organizations just like this one to provide families with the comfort they need.

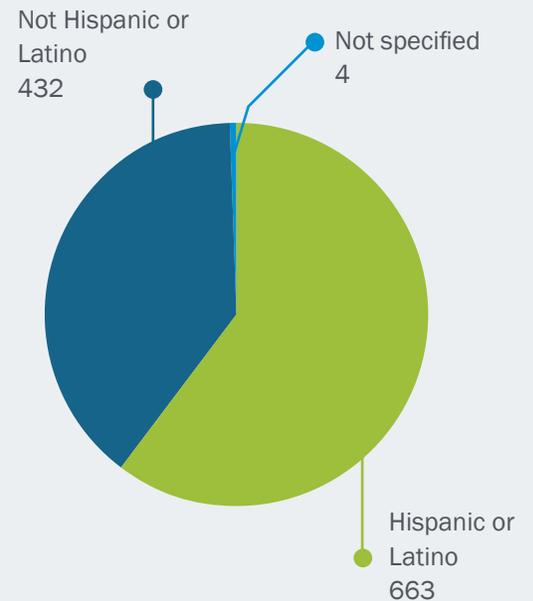
# AGENCY DIVERSITY

Fresno EOC employs over 1,000 full- and part-time staff members who are dedicated to reflecting the communities we serve. A diverse workforce is essential as it enriches our understanding and enhances our ability to address the unique needs of the community effectively. Our diversity measures encompass a range of identities, including sex, gender identity, socioeconomic status, and educational background. This broad perspective allows us to serve with greater empathy and innovation, creating a more inclusive environment.

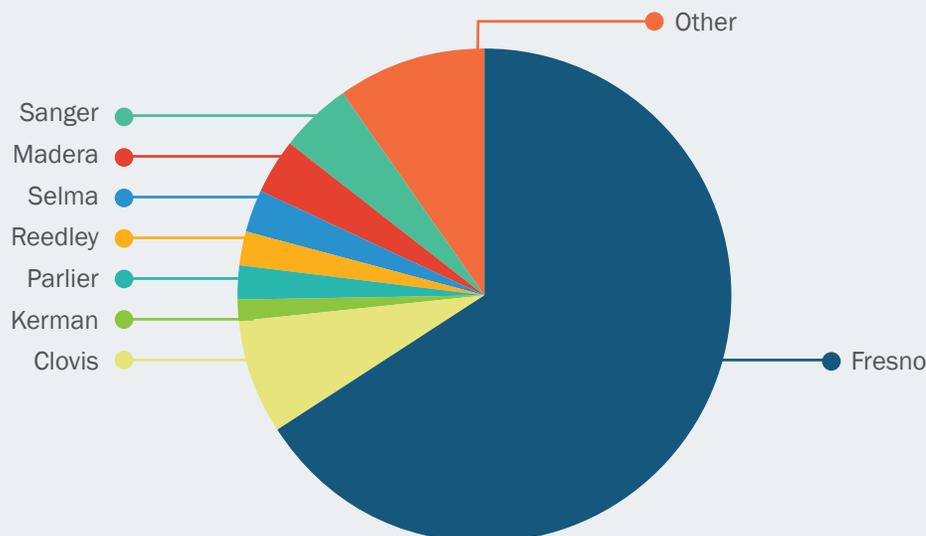
## RACE



## ETHNICITY



## HOMETOWN/CITY

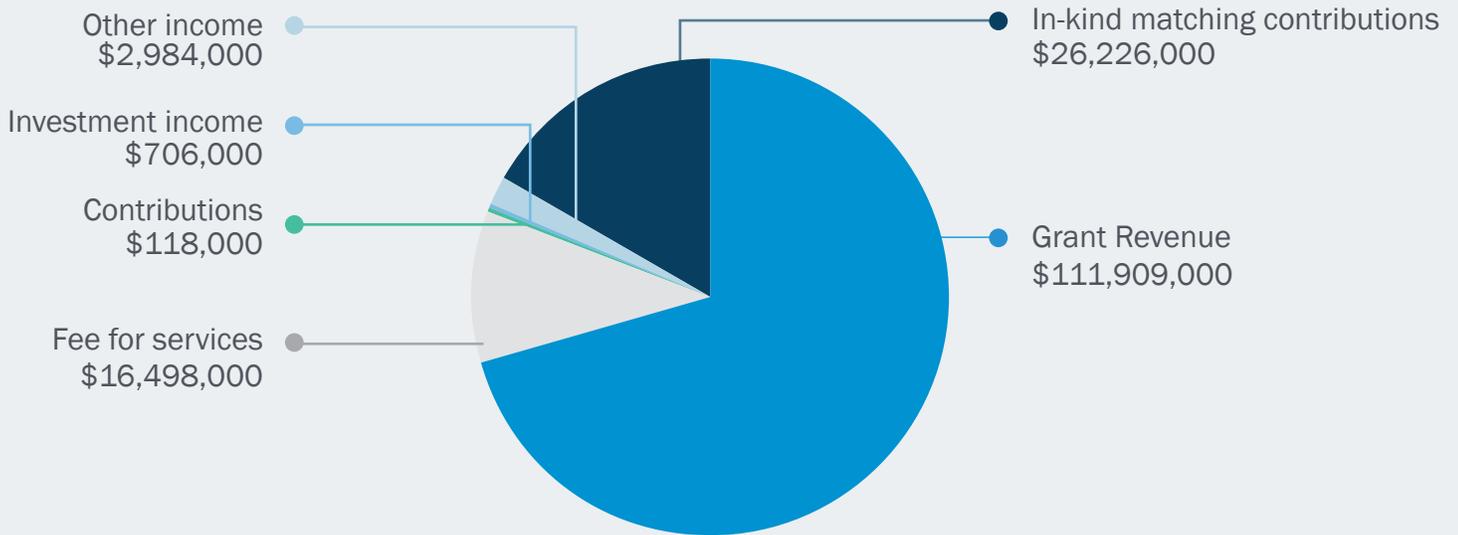


# 2023

# FINANCIALS

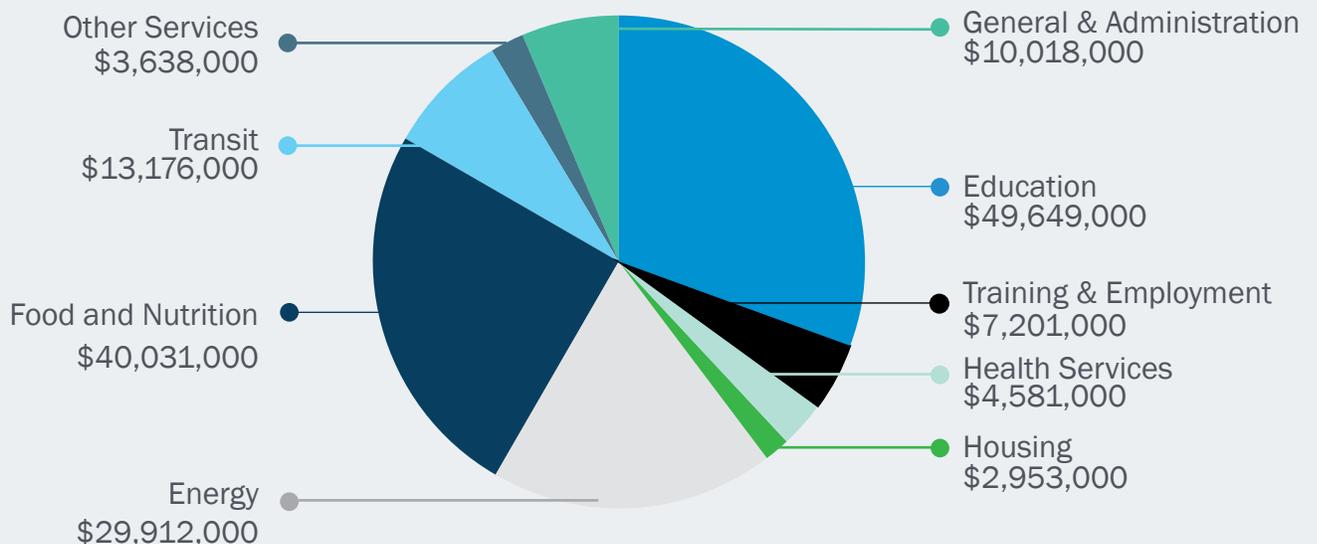
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES

## \$158,441,000



TOTAL EXPENSES

## \$161,159,000



# TEAM ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## 2023 FRESNO EOC EXECUTIVE TEAM

Emilia Reyes

**Chief Executive Officer**

Michelle L. Tutunjian

**Chief Operating Officer/Deputy CEO**

Jack Lazzarini

**Chief Programs Officer**

Karina Perez

**Chief of Staff**

Greg Streets

**Chief Information Officer**

Jay Zapata

**Chief Financial Officer**

Amanda Venegas

**Public Information Officer**

Nelson Dibie

**Human Resources Officer**

## FRESNO EOC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Low-Income Target Area Elected Representatives

Alena Pacheco – Target Area A

Rey Leon - Target Area B

Daniel Parra - Target Area C

Daniel Martinez - Target Area D

Lisa Mitchell - Target Area E

Alysia Bonner - Target Area F

Earl Brown - Target Area G

Linda R. Hayes, Board Chair - Target Area H

## Business and Community Sector

Zina Brown-Jenkins - Head Start County-Wide Policy Council

Steven Taylor - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Lupe Jaime-Mileham - Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

James Martinez - Reel Pride

Sherry L. Neil - Fresno County Economic Development Corporation

Itzi Robles - Southeast Fresno Community Development Association

Jimi Rodgers - Association of Black Social Workers

Pastor Bruce McAlister - West Fresno Faith Based Organization

## Representatives of Public Elected Officials

Amy Arambula - 31st Assembly District

David Ruiz - Juvenile Court

Oliver Baines - 16th Congressional District

Robert Pimentel - State Center Community College District

Charles Garabedian - Board of Supervisors

Brian King - Mayor of Fresno Appointee

Barigye McCoy - Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Ruben Zarate - 14th Senatorial District



*Helping people,  
Changing lives*

1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 300  
Fresno, CA 93721  
(559) 263-1000 | [fresnoeoc.org](http://fresnoeoc.org)

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> N/A
<b>Agenda Item #:</b> 10	<b>Director:</b> Andy Arredondo
<b>Subject:</b> Community Needs Assessment	<b>Officer:</b> Michelle L. Tutunjian

### Recommended Action

Staff recommends Board acceptance of the 2024-2025 Community Needs Assessment (CNA).

### Background

As a Community Action Agency, the agency is mandated to conduct a CNA in accordance with Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Organizational Standards - Category Three, Standard 3.5 and Head Start Program Performance Standard (HSPPS) § 1302.11, (2), (b). The assessment is essential for aligning the agency's mission with community needs and maintaining compliance and accountability with funding requirements.

The timeline below provides an overview of the Agency's efforts to complete a comprehensive needs assessment.

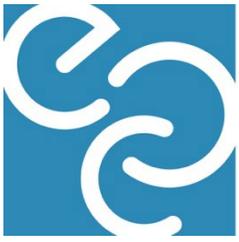
- Pre-Launch (January-February):  
Identified consultant and organized a community assessment advisory/planning committee.  
Provided formalized training (staff advisory committee and governing board)  
Created data collection plan (quantitative and qualitative data)  
Developed communication plan
- Launch (March 5 – April 5):  
CNA survey opened to the community with 3,542 surveys completed  
Conducted 57 focus groups and four (4) community forums  
Canvassed neighborhoods and conducted street outreach  
Conducted interviews with stakeholders, 12 interviews completed  
Utilized website, e-newsletter, flyers, media, and social media to communicate survey and promote community forums
- Finalize Report (April 6 – May 20):  
Community responses organized and provided to consultant  
Finalized collection of poverty data and organize key findings  
Consultant prepared draft CNA report

## **Fiscal Impact**

The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) total cost was \$80,500 which included the following: consultant (\$65,000), honorarium for the public to participate in the community forums and focus groups (\$25 per person, totaling \$9,925), printing and marketing materials (\$1,200), security services (\$600), refreshments (\$3,275) and childcare (\$500) at the community forums. In addition, 30 staff participated as in-kind administrative expense for the advisory/planning committee and support for forums and focus groups.

## **Conclusion**

Upon the formal governing board accepting the Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment, the agency will submit the report to the California Department of Community Services & Development prior to August 31, 2024, and provide to the Office of Head Start upon request.



Fresno  
**Economic  
Opportunities  
Commission**

# COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2024-2025



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

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DRAFT

# Executive Summary

Fresno County, located in the heart of California's Central Valley, is a community marked by an impressive array of strengths that contribute to its unique character and resilience. Among these strengths, the rich agricultural heritage stands out, positioning Fresno as a vital contributor to both the national and global food supply. This agricultural prowess fosters a sense of pride and tradition among residents, who benefit from and contribute to a thriving local economy.

Another significant strength of Fresno County is its diverse population, which brings together a vibrant tapestry of cultures, languages, and traditions. This diversity is celebrated through various community events, festivals, and educational programs, enhancing mutual understanding and cooperation among its residents. Furthermore, the community's commitment to education and innovation is evident in its support for local schools, libraries, and universities, which prepare future generations for a dynamic world.

Fresno County also exhibits a strong spirit of volunteerism and community service, with numerous organizations and individuals dedicated to supporting those in need. Whether it's providing shelter and services to the homeless, assisting low-income families, or preserving the natural beauty of the region, the people of Fresno are actively engaged in making their community a better place. This collective commitment to civic engagement and mutual aid not only addresses immediate needs but also strengthens the social fabric of the county, making it a heartwarming example of community solidarity and resilience.

## ***Conditions of Poverty***

Fresno County, despite its many strengths, also faces significant challenges related to inequity among its population. One of the most pronounced issues is the economic disparity that exists within the county. The overall poverty rate among individuals is 19%, however it is much more pronounced in specific communities, cultural enclaves, and among specific populations. Geographically, there is concentrated poverty in the City of Fresno and widespread poverty in the more rural areas of the county and in some communities such as Huron, Mendota, and Orange Cove.

Family status is tied to poverty rates. Among families, 15% have an income below poverty, of these families, 40% are married-couples with children and 49% are female – headed households with children. The rate of seniors living in poverty in Fresno County is higher than for California. The poverty rate for seniors is 14% compared to a rate of 11% for all of California. Poverty reflects broader socio-economic challenges, and the conditions of poverty are multifaceted impacting thousands of residents and various aspects of life.

**Inadequate Housing:** Housing was noted throughout the community data, community forums and interviews conducted for the community assessment as a condition of poverty. Fresno County has a high number of homes with substandard conditions which contribute to health

challenges, a lower quality of life and safety concerns for people who reside in those homes. According to the data, 42% of homes had at least one substandard condition. Housing Instability and insecurity is also a concern. Furthermore, housing instability and homelessness are significant problems, with many residents struggling to find affordable housing due to rising costs and limited availability. This issue is compounded by a lack of supportive services and infrastructure to assist those in need. Of the community survey respondents, 64% noted the county has a major need for temporary housing, utility assistance, home repair programs, safe multi-family housing and programs to support energy efficiency.

**Food Insecurity:** Some individuals and families that live in poverty experience food insecurity, meaning they lack consistent access to enough nutritious food to lead a healthy life. Food insecurity rates in Fresno County did not stand out in the public data as one of the top needs. However, when viewed from an equity perspective several conditions are revealed that should be addressed. First, there are many food deserts throughout the county and the communities with the highest poverty rates also have the least access to food. Since these communities are home to more diverse populations, there is a racial disparity in food access. This trend is also supported with data for Fresno County from Feeding America which notes that Black/African American and Hispanic residents experience a higher degree of food insecurity than Whites. Data shows that more than 50,000 people in Fresno County with a low-income live in an area where they also have low access to food. Food insecurity was also noted repeatedly in the community forums as a top community problem.

**Unemployment and Low-Wage Jobs:** Limited job opportunities or the prevalence of low-wage jobs make it challenging for individuals to secure stable employment and earn a sufficient income to meet their basic needs. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to changes in the job market that are fueling unemployment rates. For example, there are lingering layoffs and job losses, reskilling and upskilling needs to help the unemployed transition into new careers, and job market shifts where e-commerce, health care, and fields that involve remote work have become more desirable, yet they lack a workforce and often people do not possess the soft skills for success in these jobs. The unemployment rate in Fresno County far exceeds that of California and the nation at 9.5%.

There is also the problem of underemployment. Based on national percentages, as of March 2024, 7.3% of all workers were underemployed. If this percentage were applied to Fresno County this would mean that over 34,000 workers are underemployed. Adequate employment and good jobs were noted as a community concern in the community assessment survey responses and also in the community forums. Among community survey respondents, 64% noted the community needs better job opportunities.

There are income and employment disparities due to race/ethnicity as the result of factors such as historical injustices and discriminatory practices, low rates of educational attainment that limit earning potential, occupational segregation in which minorities are concentrated in lower – paying positions and lack business ownership, the wealth gap where individuals of color are less likely to own assets that can generate additional income, and racial discrimination practices in hiring.

**Educational Inequities:** In Fresno County, schools in lower-income neighborhoods often have fewer resources, larger class sizes, and less access to advanced placement courses or extracurricular activities compared to schools in more affluent areas. This disparity impacts the educational outcomes and future opportunities for many children and young adults. Foundational issues contributing to this problem include a school funding formula that is dependent on property taxes where low-income neighborhoods receive less tax revenue for schools versus neighborhoods that have homes with a higher value have schools that benefit from higher contributions of tax dollars to support educational programs.

**Limited access to Healthcare and Racial and Socioeconomic Disparities Contributing Social Determinants of Health:** Access to affordable healthcare services is a barrier for people in poverty. Lack of health insurance coverage and the limited availability of healthcare can result in inadequate medical care which impacts the life span and the quality of life for those in poverty. The Fresno County health care provider to low-income resident ratio for dentists, physical health, and mental health care professionals indicates that people have more limited access to health care. Data reflecting community wellbeing factors indicates that the number of providers is an issue, however transportation barriers also limit access to services. In addition, the large percentage of the population that receives Medicaid also impacts access to health care services because some providers will not accept public insurance as payment.

Data shows that residents in the economically disadvantaged areas of Fresno County often have less access to healthcare services, including preventive care. Even when people do go to the doctor, they are often told they can only address one issue if they are utilizing Medicaid and they must wait an extended period of time to see a doctor. This is exacerbated by environmental issues, such as poor air quality and pesticide exposure, which disproportionately affect low-income, rural farming communities. The result is a higher incidence of health problems like asthma, diabetes, and other chronic conditions in these populations. Other public and individual health concerns include a high rate of substance abuse and overdose deaths. In the community assessment survey, 55% of respondents noted that lack of access to health services was a major concern and 55% also reported they had inadequate insurance coverage. When data from the U.S. Census is analyzed, it was found that specific cohorts of the population are impacted more greatly by lack of access to health services such as pregnant mothers who do not receive adequate prenatal care, people using Medicaid, primarily children, and the unemployed which have an uninsurance rate of 14%. In Fresno County, more than 61,544 people are uninsured.

There are also deep disparities in maternal child health. Over 28% of births are to mothers in poverty and the teen birth rate is 4% of all babies. The rate of prenatal depression in Fresno County is 17% compared to a rate of 14% for California. Additionally, Fresno fares worse than the state in the number of babies that are born with low birthweight, a major contributor to infant death. The Fresno County infant mortality rate exceeds that of California and when disaggregated by race, the rate of infant mortality for Black infants is 9.71/per 1,000 births compared to 6.33/1,000 for Hispanic/Latino babies and 5.06/1,000 for White infants.

Addressing these inequities is vital for the overall health and cohesion of Fresno County. Efforts to reduce disparities and promote inclusivity are essential to ensuring that all residents can contribute to and benefit from the community's strengths and resources.

**Adverse Early Childhood Experiences and Family Challenges:** The rate of child abuse in the service area is rising and the rate for Fresno County is 61.3/1,000 children, compared to a rate of 43.5/1,000 for California. There are many factors that contribute to a tendency of children to be impacted by an adverse experience. In Fresno County, community risk factors include that more than 14,000 children under five years live in single-parent families. It is also estimated that more than 5,000 children under six reside in doubled-up housing or they are unhoused. There were also 8,748 domestic violence reports in the county for the time period analyzed in this report, which is a major contributor to homelessness and child and family trauma. Within the Head Start program in the past year, 445 families received assistance to resolve a crisis highlighting the vulnerability of young children and families.

### ***Causes of Poverty***

There are various causes of poverty in Fresno County. Some of these issues reflect evidence on the primary causes of poverty such as structural inequities, labor market issues, differences in educational attainment and the changing economy. However, the causes of poverty can also be attributed to and are exacerbated by political factors, individual decisions, and the restriction of safety net programs such as Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF), food assistance, health insurance, subsidized housing, and childcare subsidies. These challenges have led to an overburdened system and families and individuals lack access to the assistance they need to climb out of poverty. The lack of programs and services in the counties disproportionately impacts the poor and near-poor population.

A shifting economic landscape also drives significant changes. Data collected for this community assessment demonstrates that employment opportunities increasingly lie in jobs requiring higher level skills, including a college degree and analytical and technical skill sets. At the same time, jobs requiring physical or manual skills have faded or remain low paying. These changes have played out over decades resulting in inequities in earnings, as workers with in-demand skills experience rising wages while wages for workers without a college education have remained stagnant. Even small increases in wages have been outpaced by inflation and an increased cost of living. Barriers to upward mobility such as low-income, limited language proficiency, lack of social and/or family support, and limited self-sufficiency have been identified as contributors to poverty and are also experienced by subpopulations in the service area at disparate rates.

# Causes of Poverty

## Education

Limited access to quality education or low educational attainment levels leads to limited employment opportunities and lower wages, which contributes to poverty.

## Unemployment/Underemployment

High unemployment rates or a lack of job opportunities for specific segments of the population are persistent in the area, particularly for individuals with limited skills or education, which makes it difficult for people to escape poverty. Underemployment, where individuals work part-time or in jobs that don't match their skills, also keeps people in poverty.

## Low Wages

Fresno County data shows wages vary among specific cohorts of the population and contribute to poverty rates and inequities.

## Demographic Factors

Certain demographic factors contribute to poverty rates. For example, a high percentage of single-parent households and households where the adult has limited English proficiency face increased vulnerability to poverty.

## Affordable Housing

The availability and affordability of housing in the area plays a significant role in poverty. High housing costs or limited affordable housing options consume a significant portion of a household's income, leaving less for other essential needs.

## Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Systemic inequalities and racial or ethnic disparities contribute to higher poverty rates among certain groups, as they face discrimination, limited access to resources, and fewer opportunities for economic mobility.

## Economic Shocks and Lingering Pandemic Transitions

Economic downturns, job losses, or changes in local industries are having a significant impact on poverty rates. Inflation of the cost of goods and services is occurring at the same time as pandemic assistance is falling away returning and leaving many in poverty.



## Introduction

The community needs assessment is facilitated by Fresno Economic Opportunity Commission every three years and by Fresno Head Start 0 to 5 every five years. The intent of the community assessment is to determine the underlying causes and conditions of poverty throughout Fresno County, in the communities served by Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission. The community needs assessment is the first phase of the Results Oriented Management and Accountability Cycle. Together, the community needs assessment and the Results Oriented Management and Accountability Cycle (ROMA) create a foundation for the work to develop and deliver programs and services that improve equity and lift families and communities out of poverty.

## Methodology

### The Community 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 Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC) service area of Fresno County. The community-wide strategic planning and needs assessment (community assessment) assists the agency in designing a program that meets community needs and builds on the strengths and resources in the community. This document is prepared in accordance with 45 CFR 1302.11. This report also conforms with the regulations governing community assessments for Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) agencies which are designed to ensure that resources are effectively targeted to reduce poverty and improve living conditions for low-income individuals and families.

By requiring thorough and periodic assessments, Fresno EOC aims to be responsive to changing needs and to foster community involvement and accountability for our programs. The community assessment serves as an overall assessment of local social and economic conditions as they relate to the needs, priorities, and lives of low-income individuals, families, and Head Start eligible children in Fresno County. It provides information compiled from various local, regional, national, state, and authoritative sources for the service area.

<b>Purpose of the Community Assessment</b>
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 resources and maximize community relationships.
To identify the service and recruitment area served by Head Start and Early Head Start.
To identify the number of 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 Community Assessment

Throughout the community assessment process, the staff, Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners and Head Start 0-5 County-Wide 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.

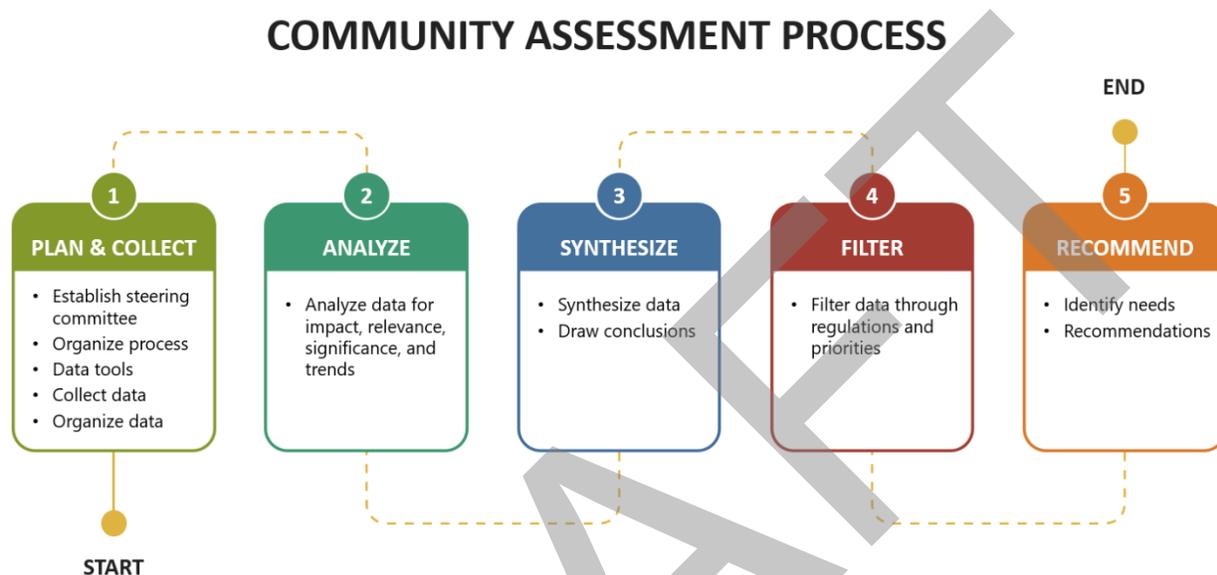


Figure 1. Community Assessment Process

To meet the requirements for the CSBG program and for Head Start 0 to 5, the community assessment includes the following information:

- *Overview of Fresno County, its communities, and demographics.* Detailed demographic data on the community, including age, gender, race, ethnicity, and family composition. This information helps identify specific groups within the community that may have unique needs. This also enables the program to determine the context for providing services and programs.
- *An analysis of community wide conditions including economics, education levels, housing, health and nutrition, and social services.* 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 individuals, their families and Head Start eligible families and children.* 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.
- *A description of special populations, targeted populations and other marginalized groups.* 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.

- *An overview of access to 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.
- *A description of the number of children with disabilities and access to services.* 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.
- *Economic, 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. This also includes a description of the specific needs of low-income individuals and families within the community. This should include barriers to economic security and opportunities for improvement.
- *The childcare and training schedules of parents of children birth-to-five.* Typical work, school, and training schedules of parents with eligible children.
- *Community resources and strengths.* Identification of resources and strengths within the community that can be leveraged to address needs, including community organizations, volunteer groups, and local businesses.

The community assessment will serve as Fresno EOC's 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 low-income individuals, children, and families. The community assessment is also used to assess and identify the Head Start 0 to 5 program recruitment and service area, develop goals and objectives, select program options and calendar, and to establish the annual selection criteria and program priorities.

Figure 2. depicts how the community assessment informs the Head Start 0 to 5 program recruitment process and other aspects of the program including selection of children, recruitment, enrollment, recordkeeping, eligibility, and attendance procedures.

## How does the Community Assessment Inform?



Figure 2. Community Assessment Information (Head Start)

Community Assessment Process	
Project activities begin.	January 2023
Needs assessment workgroup created, assessment coordinator identified within Fresno EOC and Heartland, appointed the agency planning team, and created a data map, including quantitative and qualitative data and sources.	January 2023
Implement data collection plan (qualitative and quantitative data), timelines monitored, defined roles of staff, board members, agency partners, consultants.	February-April 2024
Data analysis and key findings are identified.	April 2024
1 <sup>st</sup> draft is submitted for review. Agency staff and governing body members review data and identify critical community issues, resources, and service gaps.	May 2024
Final draft is submitted for acceptance. .	May 2024
Presentation of CNA to Board and Head Start County-Wide Policy Council. .	May-June 2024

Table 2. Community Assessment Timeline

### 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 2030, 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 and community interviews.

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 and community action service reports. The following table details the distinguishing features of the American Community Survey Data and was utilized for data consistency throughout this report and to select community areas of focus. It is important to note there are data inconsistencies due to differing data sources. The data is intended to identify trends and where appropriate examines multiple sources of data.

<b>Distinguishing Features of ACS 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year Estimates</b>		
<b>1-year estimates</b>	<b>3-year estimates</b>	<b>5-year estimates</b>
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
<b>Best Used When</b>	<b>Best Used When</b>	<b>Best Used When</b>
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 Factors of Census Data

<b>Summary of Data Sources</b>	
<b>Quantitative Data</b>	
<b>Source</b>	<b>Topics</b>
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 North Carolina Workforce Commission	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	Dual Language Learners, Maternal and Child Health, Child Abuse, WIC Enrollment
United Health Foundation	Health Rankings
Mental Health America	Mental Health

Summary of Data Sources	
Quantitative Data	
Source	Topics
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 of Commissioners and Head Start 0-5 County-Wide Policy Council. 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

### Data Limitations

It should be noted that throughout this assessment there are some inconsistencies in data due to the design of the community survey which allowed respondents to select multiple responses to specific questions. As a result, the total percentage of respondents reported for some indicators may exceed 100%.

### ***Community Engagement***

Community engagement is a crucial component of Fresno EOC's community assessment process. To effectively identify and address local needs, we rely on the active participation of the community members we aim to serve. This involvement ensures that the assessment reflects the true conditions and challenges faced by the community. Engaging the community included conducting surveys, holding town hall meetings, and focus groups that allowed specific populations to express their concerns, needs, and suggestions. This inclusive approach not only helps in gathering accurate data but also fosters a sense of ownership and collaboration among community members, increasing the likelihood of successful implementation of the agency's interventions. Moreover, by incorporating diverse perspectives, especially from underrepresented groups, Fresno EOC can tailor its strategies to be more effective and equitable, ensuring that all voices are heard and acted upon.

In interviews with Fresno County community leaders, a recurring theme was the array of obstacles faced by the economically disadvantaged population, particularly in accessing essential services. Awareness and access to services, transportation, and the need for more collaborative efforts among service providers emerged as significant challenges. Leaders emphasized the importance of coordinated data sharing, aligning funding between impact agencies, and improving coordination among institutions to enhance service provision. Furthermore, access to healthy affordable food in rural communities and improved healthcare access were identified as pressing needs, alongside access to childcare, early childhood services, and affordable housing, especially for those transitioning out of programs like foster care. There was a consensus on the necessity of expanded early childhood programs to facilitate greater economic upward mobility.

Despite these challenges, the community was recognized for its resilience and determination to overcome economic hardships. However, it was also noted that this resilience might inadvertently perpetuate the cycle of poverty because adaptation and normalization can be seen as a strength. Additionally, the lack of "soft skills" was highlighted as a formidable challenge for workforce development. Services in rural and urban areas were identified as needing differentiation based on the specific needs of each community. Throughout the discussions, Fresno EOC emerged as a pivotal provider of services for the economically disadvantaged, underlining the importance of stable leadership and Fresno EOC's role in removing barriers to accessing essential services.



Figure 4. Community Engagement Summary

# Demographics

The Fresno EOC service area, Fresno County is comprised of over 35 different communities. The 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. For this report demographic data for the smaller communities has been organized into community profiles, while this report features the larger communities in the service area for which public data is available and to allow for the comparison of community data. In some cases, the data differs due to the data source and time period collected. However, overall trends can be identified, making it a valuable contribution to the report.

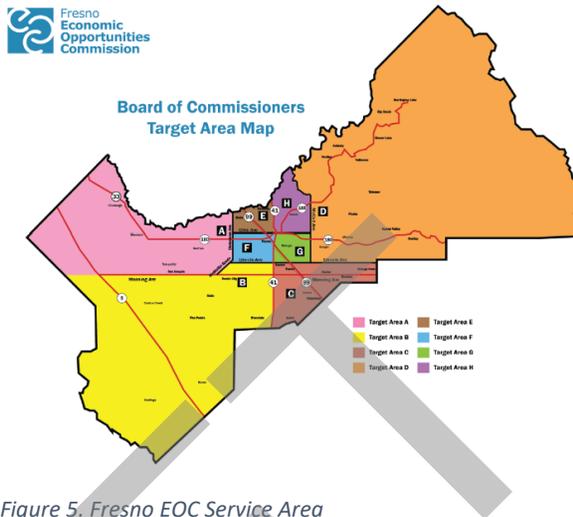
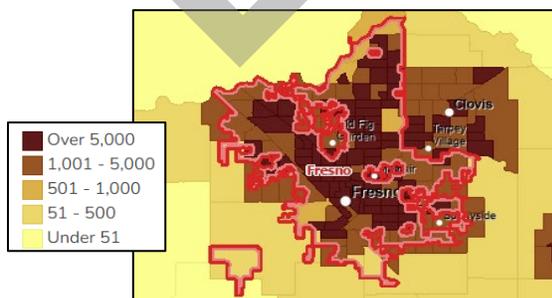


Figure 5. Fresno EOC Service Area

## Population Density

Population density is important in determining the needs of the community. How many people a community has 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. The population of Fresno County is 1,008,280, with the City of Fresno representing 541,528 residents<sup>1</sup>.

### Population Density (per sq. mi.)



Area	Population
Clovis	123,529
Coalinga	17,488
Huron	6,250
Kerman	15,980
Kingsburg	12,490
Mendota	12,603
Orange Cove	9,635
Parlier	14,554
Reedley	25,441
Sanger	26,461
Selma	24,318
Fresno City	541,528
Fresno County	1,008,280

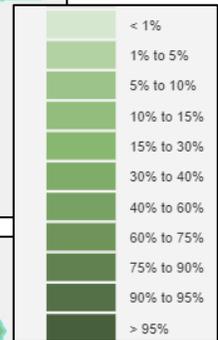
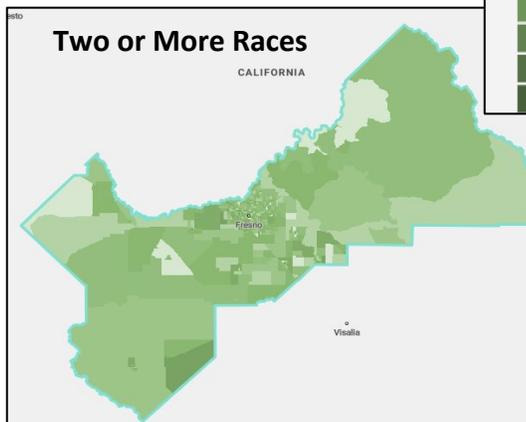
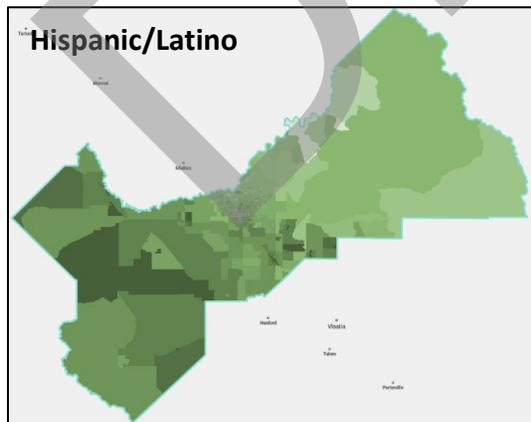
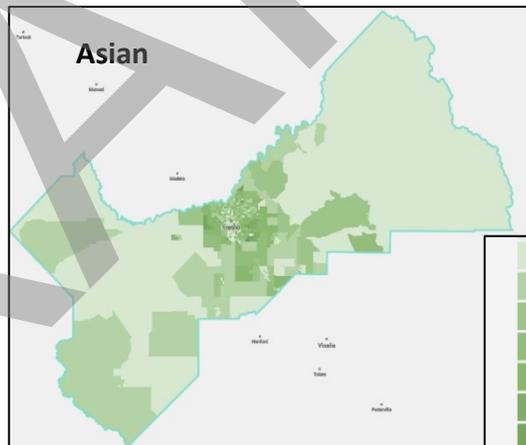
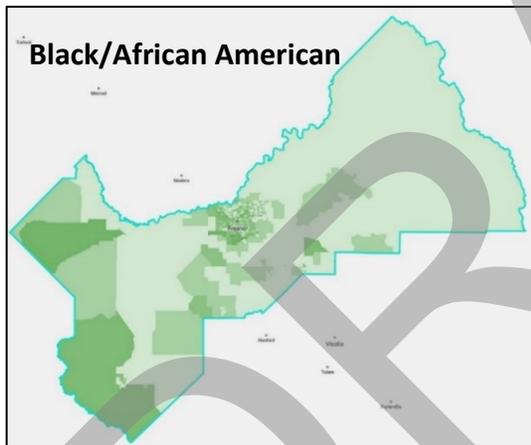
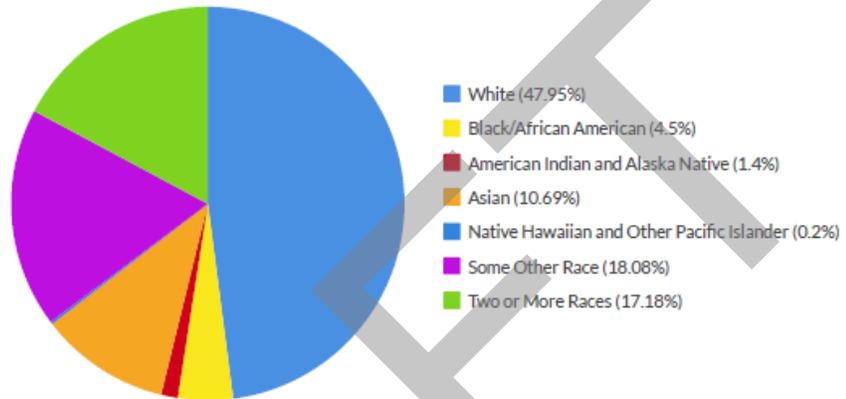
Table 6. Population

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau. *American Community Survey, 2022.*

### Race & Ethnicity

Fresno County is considered one of the most diverse counties in California, home to a generous mixture of people and cultures. The following figures provide an overview of the race and ethnicity of the county and detail the percentage of the population comprised of specific populations by census tract. In total, 54% of the county population is Hispanic/Latino<sup>1</sup>. Among the smaller communities, the population that is Hispanic/Latino is higher ranging from a low of 34% in Clovis to a rate exceeding 90% of the population in Huron, Orange Cove, and Riverdale <sup>1</sup>.

**Fresno County Race**



### Population Change

Population growth can impact the population in several ways. For example, population growth can positively impact the economy and negatively impact the environment. Since 2020, the county population has increased by 78,204 people or 8%. The fastest growing communities include Mendota (+ 12% population) and the City of Fresno (+6%). In contrast, some communities have experienced a population decline including Riverdale (-17%), Laton (-15%) and Firebaugh (-8%)<sup>1</sup>.

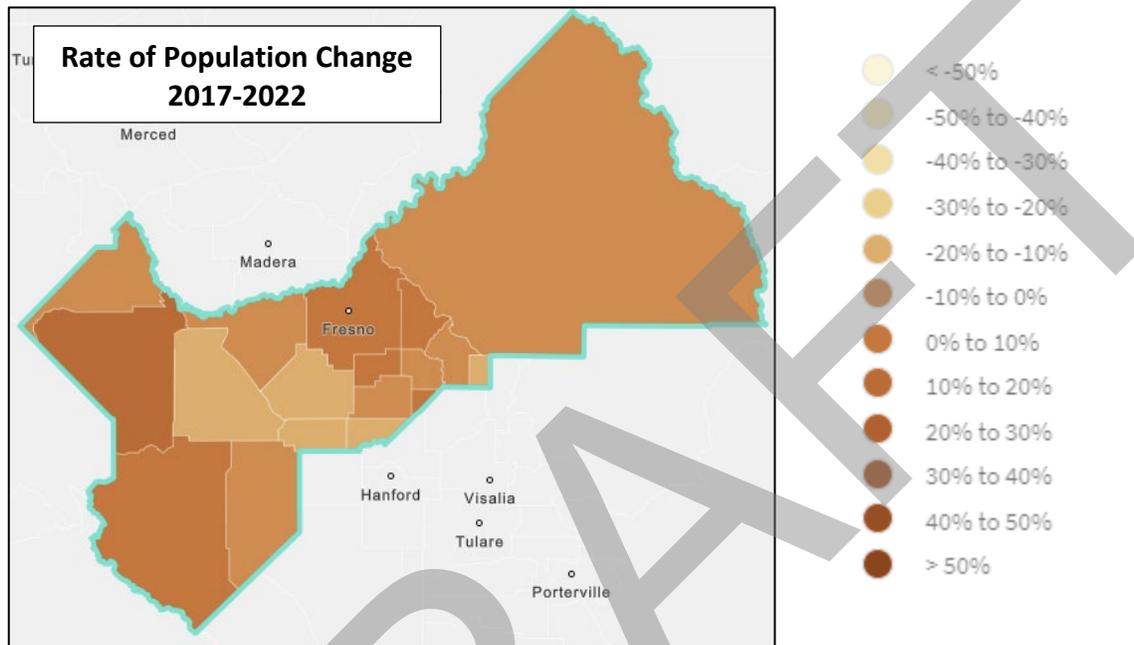
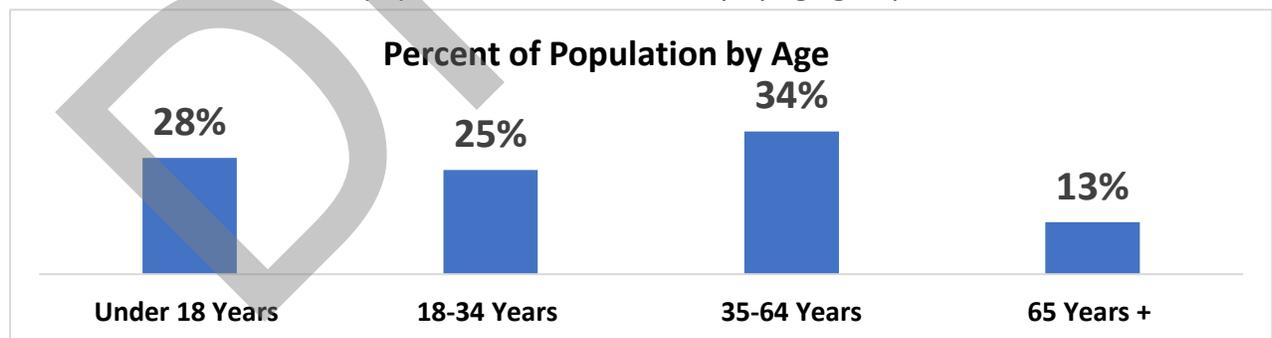


Figure 6. Rate of Population Change

### Age

The table below shows the population of Fresno County by age groups<sup>1</sup>.



Percent of Population by Age for Specific Community Areas						
Age	Biola	Clovis	Huron	Kingsburg	Mendota	Orange Cove
Under 18 Years	38.4%	28.9%	34.1%	25.9%	38.5%	37.8%
18-34 Years	35.4%	21.6%	29.1%	20.0%	26.0%	24.7%
35-64 Years	18.1%	36.4%	33.9%	36.7%	29.0%	31.5%
65 Years +	8.2%	13.1%	2.9%	17.4%	6.6%	6.1%

	Parlier	Reedley	Riverdale	Sanger	Selma	Fresno City
Under 18 Years	32.4%	30.3%	47.9%	29.2%	26.8%	27.8%
18-34 Years	28.2%	25.7%	21.3%	25.5%	27.4%	26.6%
35-64 Years	31.3%	18.1%	27.6%	34.5%	34.3%	33.6%
65 Years +	8.2%	8.2%	3.3%	10.7%	11.6%	11.9%

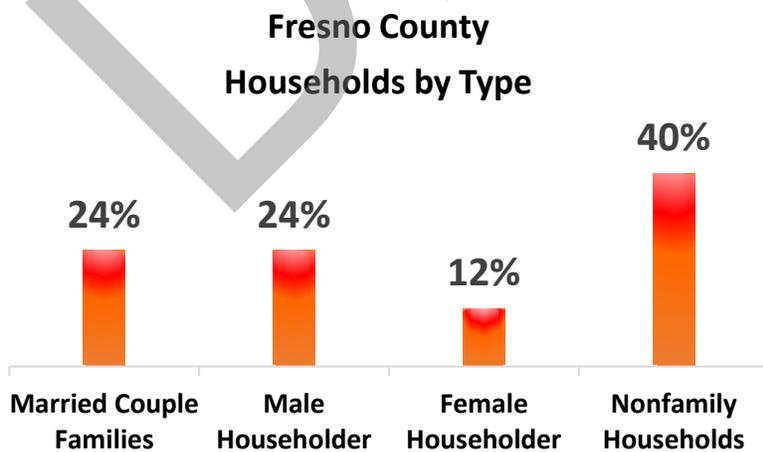
Table 7. Percent of Population by Age by Community

Population Under Five Years by Age by Specific Community						
Age	Biola	Clovis	Huron	Kingsburg	Mendota	Orange Cove
Under 3 Years	107	4,383	303	294	756	407
3 and 4 Years	47	3,935	206	310	480	405
Age	Reedley	Riverdale	Parlier	Kerman	Firebaugh	
Under 3 Years	1,335	42	468	758	314	
3 and 4 Years	1,041	24	627	485	319	
Age	Sanger	Selma	Coalinga	Fresno City	Fresno County	
Under 3 Years	1,009	886	456	23,373	40,995	
3 and 4 Years	1,113	764	342	16,906	31,582	

Table 8. Population Under Five Years by Community

### Family Composition

The U.S. Census Bureau reports there are 177,757 households, of which 118,129 are family households, comprising 66.4% of all households<sup>1</sup>.



**A total of 14,189 children under five in Fresno County live in single parent families.**

**In Fresno City, 6,035 children under three and 3 and 3,357 children 3 & 4 live in single parent households.**

Figure 7. Households by Type

### Family Status of Head Start Children

According to the Head Start Program Information Report (PIR) for the Fresno County Head Start program, 1,167 children live in single-parent families (52%) and 1,091 children live in two-parent families (48%). Within Head Start, almost four times as many children live in single-parent families compared to the general community. Six percent of children live with their grandparents<sup>1</sup>.

## Grandparents Caring for Grandchildren

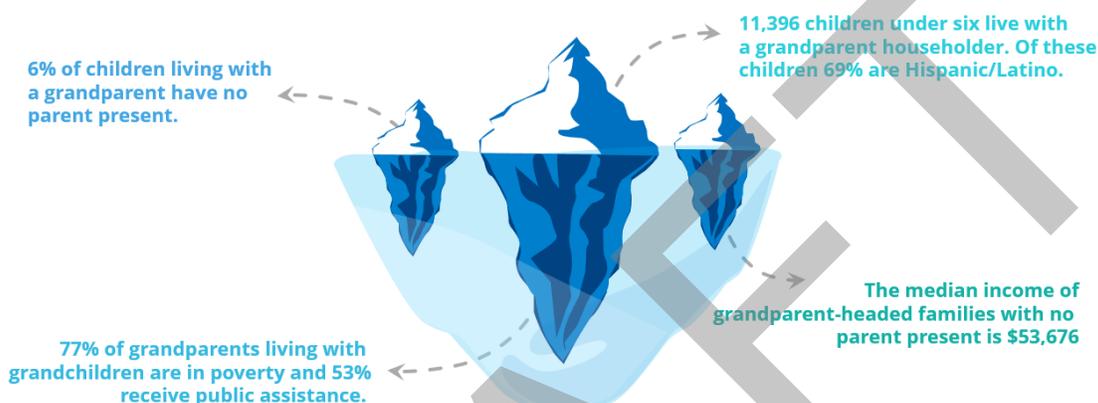


Figure 8. Grandparents Caring for Grandchildren



### Demographic Data Key Findings

The social environments of communities in Fresno County shape the experiences of those who live there and contribute to the life experiences of children who grow up. These differences can transfer into racial disparities. It is important to understand the location and make-up of various communities in the area in order to identify appropriate community partners and to direct services to geographic areas and populations that can benefit most.

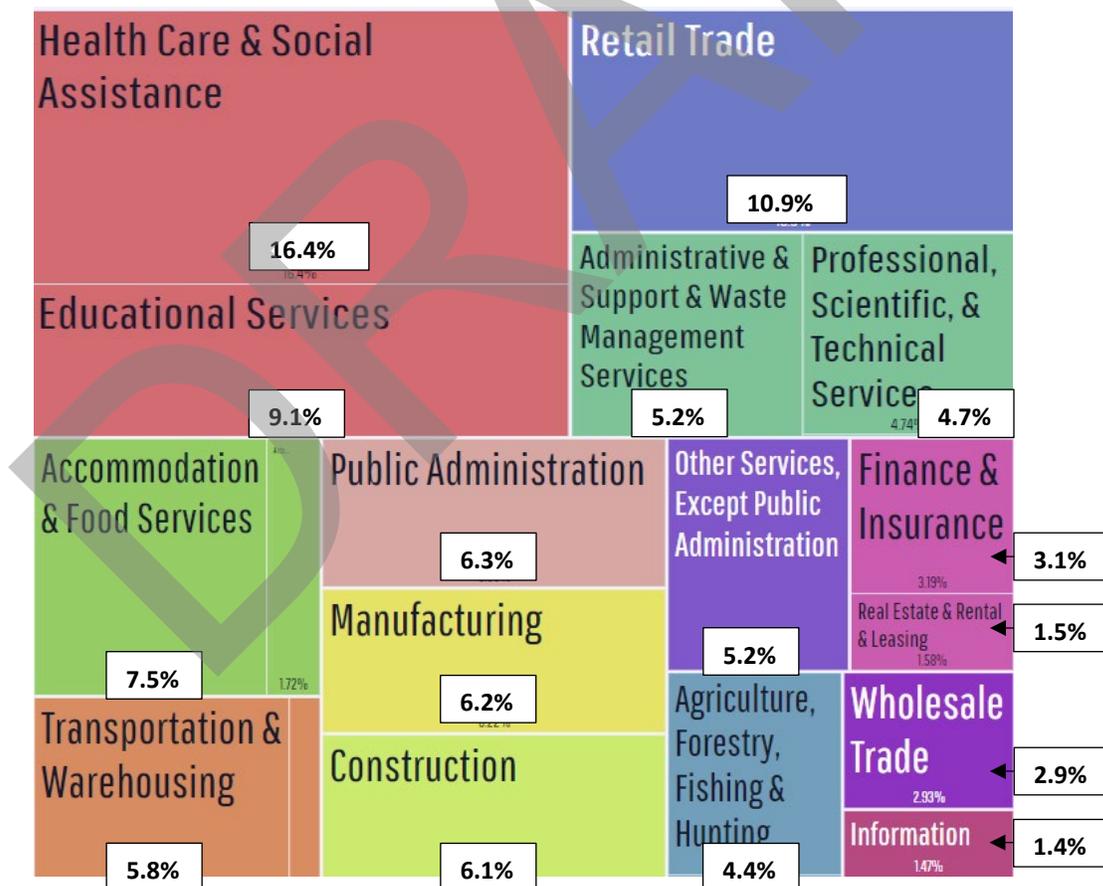
Fresno County’s population is primarily white, however there are diverse communities of culture and place. Overall, the population that is Hispanic/Latino exceeds 50%. There are a large number of Hispanic/Latinos that live in southwest Fresno County. According to Fresno State University, the City of Fresno experienced an influx of Southeast Asian refugees in the 1970’s giving rise to a diverse Asian population in the city of Fresno that today is comprised of a number of subgroups in the Asian Community, including Hmong, Filipino, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Indian, and Vietnamese-Americans. Many of the county’s Black/African American residents live in west Fresno.

## Economic Activities

The economic characteristics of the community impact job growth, employment, and can contribute to or detract from the prosperity of individuals and families. For example, cycles of growth, the types of industries, and employment opportunities available in a community can generate cycles of opportunity that advance human development as parents invest in their child’s education and adults seek career training so they can participate in a positive labor market and improve their economic status. In turn, as income increases or decreases, so does an individual’s health status. As a social determinant of health, a household’s income impacts choices about housing, education, childcare, food, and medical care. Employment also usually includes health benefits which further support healthy lifestyle choices. Underemployment and unemployment limit purchasing power and the inability to accumulate savings and assets puts individuals and their families at risk during times of economic distress.

### Industry

The following figure demonstrates the different industries that make up the Fresno County economy. Fresno County is experiencing growth in Agribusiness, Logistics/E-Commerce, Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare and Energy and Water Technology Sectors<sup>2</sup>.



<sup>2</sup> DataUSA. <https://datausa.io>.

## **Agriculture**

Fresno County is home to 1.88 million acres of the world’s most productive farmland and agriculture covers over half of the county’s geography. Fresno County growers raise more than 350 different crops, supporting 20% of all jobs in the Fresno area and the county is the second top agricultural producer in California and the nation. Many of the county’s crops are not grown commercially anywhere else in the nation. Every \$1 generated on the farm produces another \$3.50 in the local and regional economy<sup>3</sup>. According to the Department of Labor Occupational Outlook there are over 18,360 farmworkers in Fresno County who earn an average wage of \$16.86 per hour<sup>4</sup>. According to the California National Agricultural Workers Survey Research Report, farmworkers have the following characteristics:

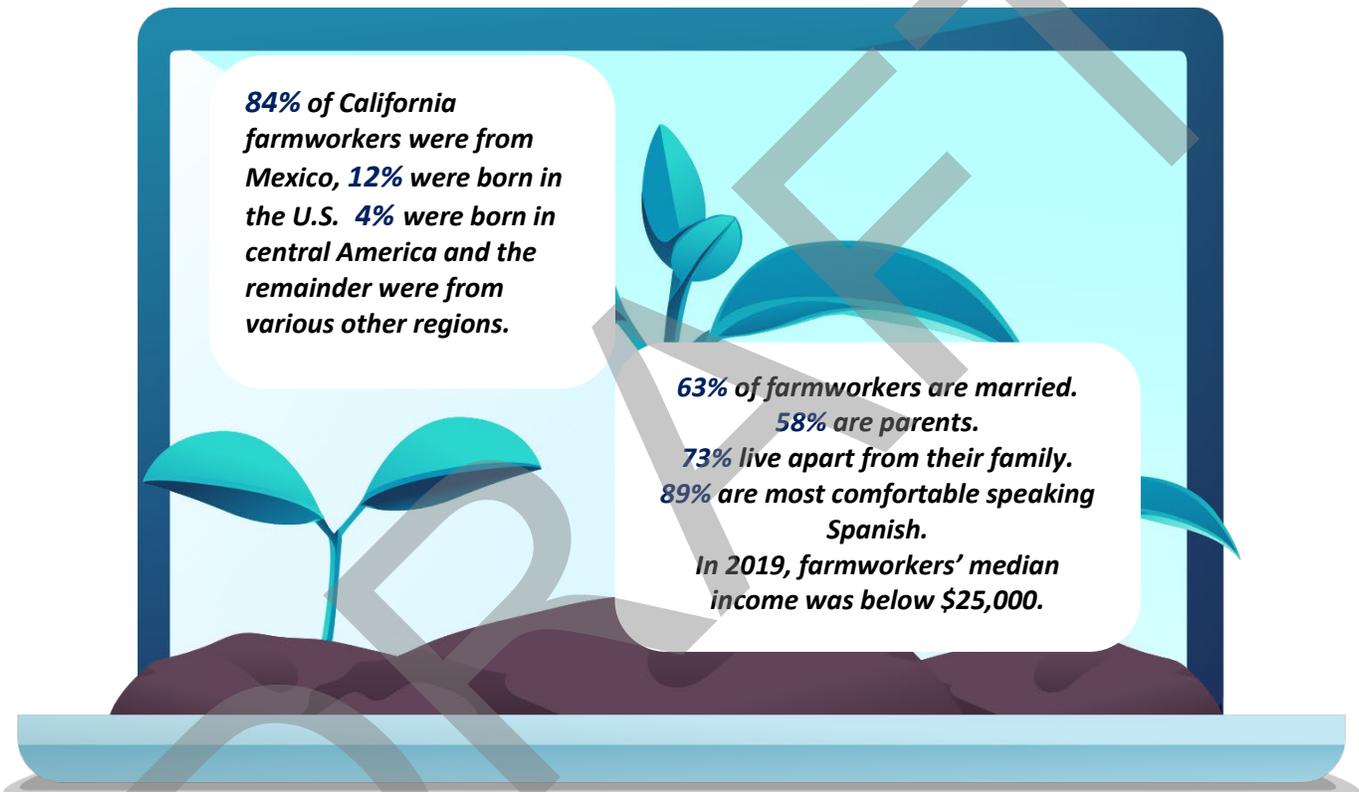


Figure 9. Farmworker Characteristics

## **Unemployment Rate**

The unemployment rate in Fresno County has now climbed to pre-pandemic rates. The unemployment rate was 7.6% in 2023, down from 8.2% in 2020. However, in 2024, the rate has increased to more than double the national unemployment rate to 8.8% (January 2024) and has risen to 9.5% as of March, 2024<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> Fresno County Crop Report, 2022.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2024. [https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_23420.htm#45-0000](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_23420.htm#45-0000)

<sup>5</sup> US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2024 - January.

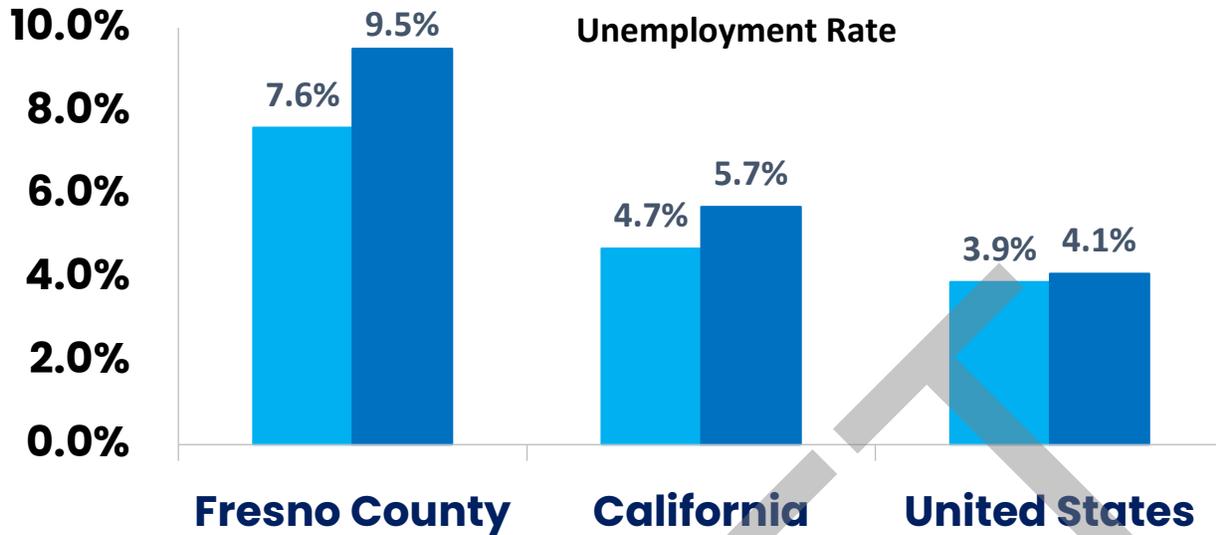


Figure 10. Unemployment Rate

### Underemployment

Visible underemployment is where an individual works fewer hours than is necessary for a full-time job. Underemployment may refer to a variety of situations, most commonly it refers to someone who is employed, but not in the desired capacity. The unmet need may relate to any or all hours of work, level of skill utilization, application of qualifications or experience, or level of compensation (i.e. working in a lower paid job than qualifications would suggest the worker is suited to). The underemployment rate (U6) includes – in addition to the Unemployment Rate – anyone who wants to work but has given up looking for employment in the last year, as well as people working part-time who would like to work full-time.

To gauge the number of Fresno County workers that are underemployed, we considered data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics on the percent of the population in the labor force that is working less than 35 hours due to economic reasons<sup>6</sup>. Based on national percentages, as of March 2024, 7.3% of all workers were underemployed. If this percentage were applied to Fresno County this would mean that over 34,000 workers are underemployed.

<sup>6</sup> Labor Force Statistics, Current Population Survey. <https://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsaat20.htm>; <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t15.htm>



### Community Survey Responses

Of the community survey respondents (2,775), 843 were currently seeing employment. Community survey respondents were asked to rank and identify the employment needs in their community. The highest rated needs were for additional job opportunities in the community, followed by financial assistance to attend training programs and access to affordable childcare. This data is consistent with feedback from the community forums.

Percent of Survey Respondents Reporting Employment Needs by Type of Need

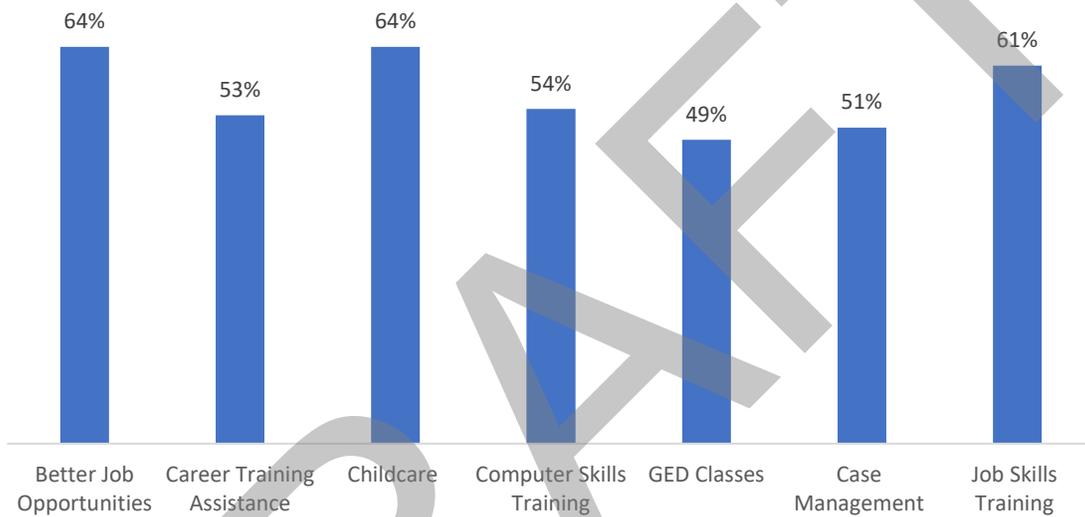


Figure 11. Employment Needs in Fresno County

A total of 2,672 respondents noted the following employment problems impacting Fresno County.

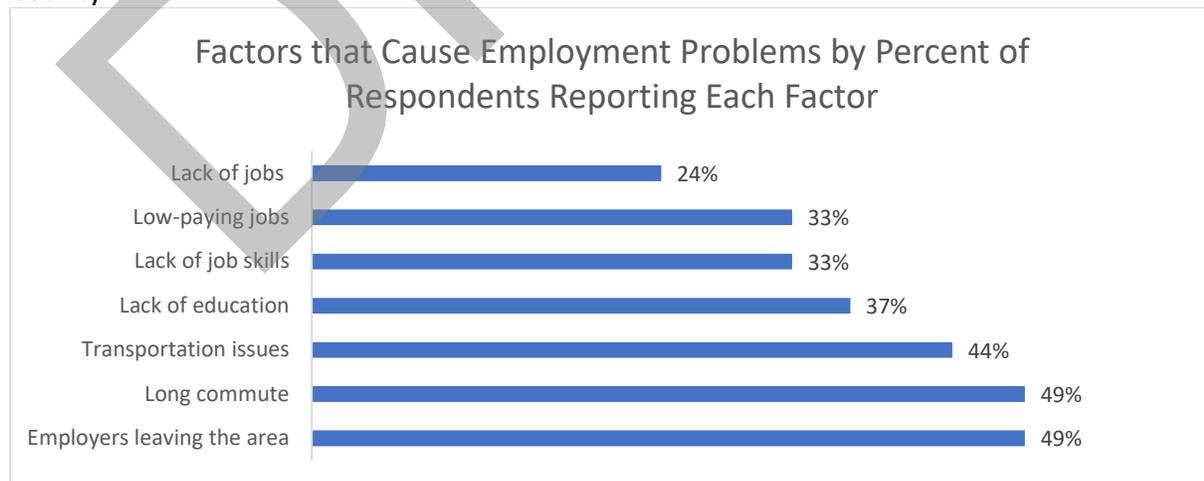


Figure 12. Factors that Cause Employment Problems

### Median Income Level

The median income for households is highly stratified by race and community. The chart below illustrates the median income by race for Fresno County households. The largest percentage of the population is comprised of Whites (54%) and Hispanic/Latinos (46%). Black/African American’s comprise 9% of the population, while Asians, who have the highest income represent 9.2% of the population. Fresno County families and households have a lower median income than their peers statewide. Family income for married couples is more than twice that of married couple families.

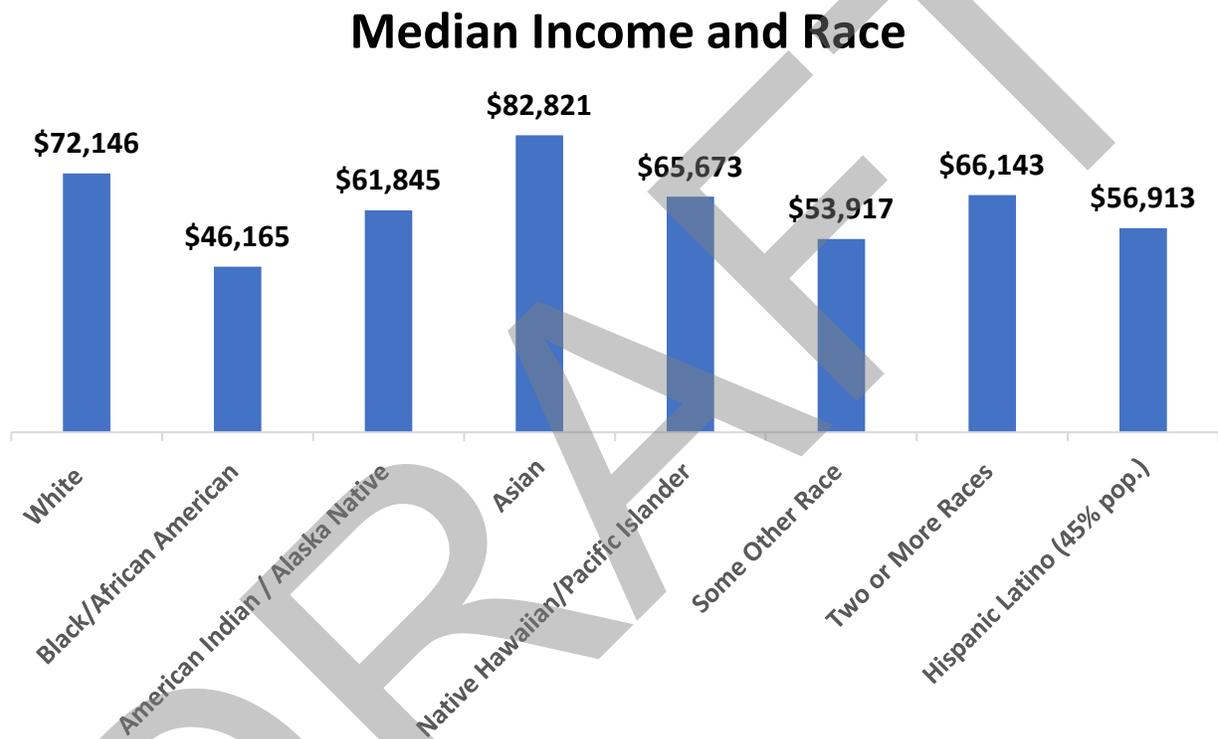


Figure 13. Median Income by Race



### Community Survey Responses

Of the community survey respondents (2,663):

- 69% earned their income from work activities
- 8% received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- 8% received retirement income from Social Security
- 6% received SSI income
- 4% were disabled
- 5% received unemployment

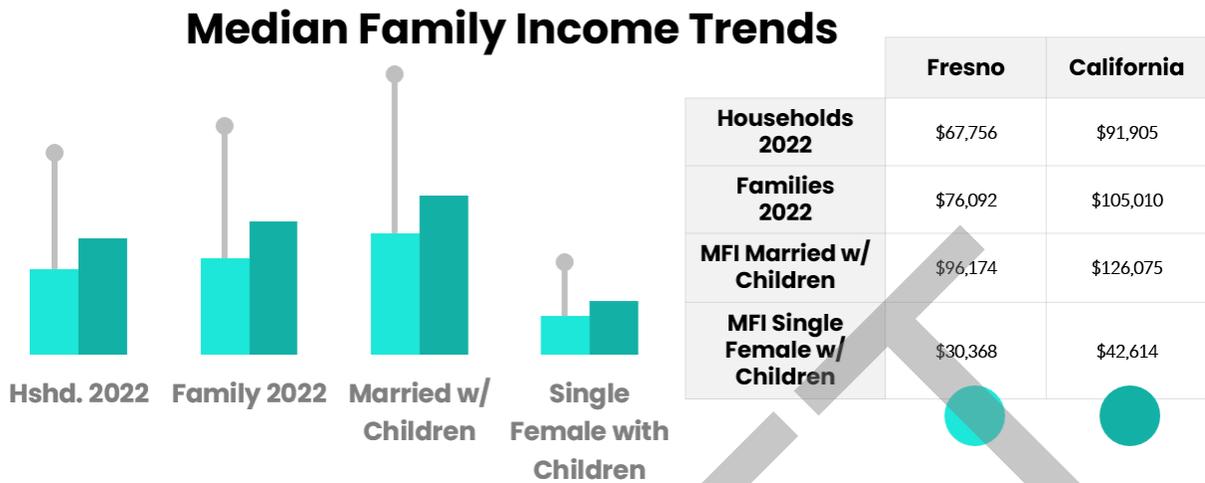


Figure 14. Median Family Income Trends

### Living Wage

Families must earn enough income to pay for their typical expenses to be self-sufficient. This includes the cost of food, childcare, medical, housing, transportation, and other necessities. The chart below shows the annual income required to achieve self-sufficiency in Fresno County for families with two adults with two children and families with one adult with two children<sup>7</sup>. When this data is compared to data for the median income in the service area it is evident that the median income for all types of families in Fresno County is insufficient to achieve self-sufficiency. This data indicates there is a large percentage of families that are vulnerable to shifts in employment, wages, and the economy.

<sup>7</sup> MIT Living Wage Calculator (2019). Living Wage Calculator. Retrieved from <https://livingwage.mit.edu/>; United States Census

## Self-Sufficiency Standard

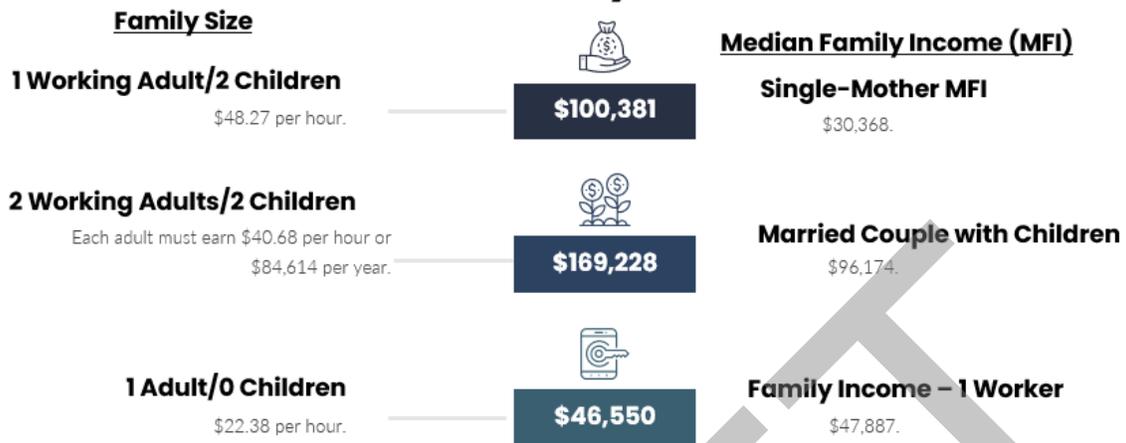


Figure 15. Self Sufficiency Standard

The cost of living was noted as a concern in the community forums and also is evidenced in the data from the community assessment survey. The following figure shows the percentage of respondents (totaling 2,658) that paid a bill late in the past six months by the type of bill paid.

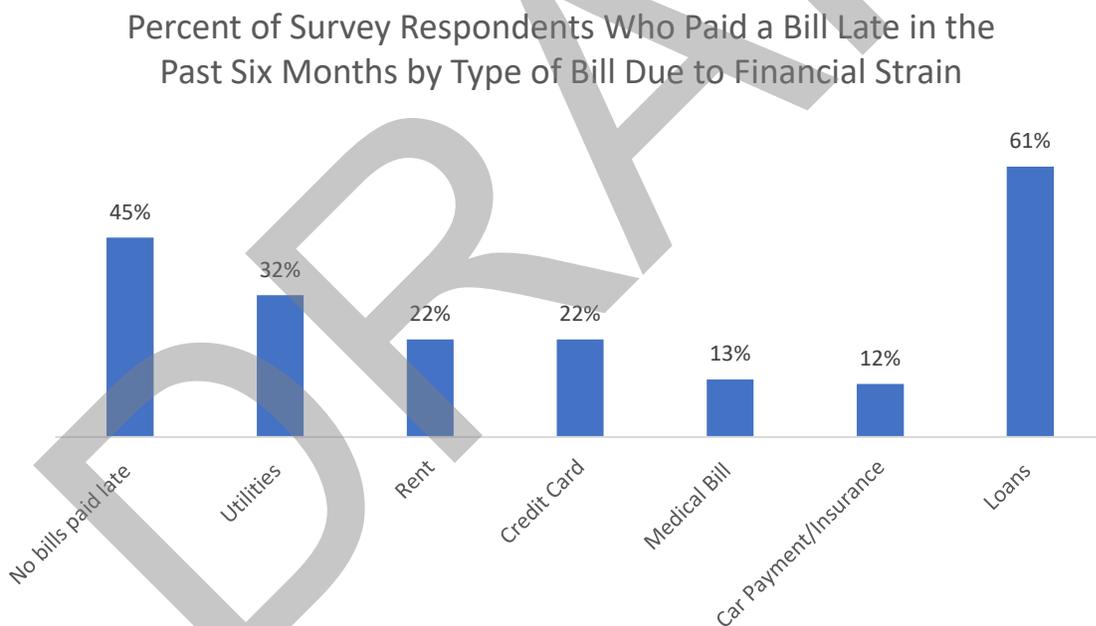


Figure 16. Bills Paid Late by Community Survey Respondents

Median Income Level by Family Type <sup>1</sup>					
Area	Households	Families	Married Couple Families	Single Female Householder w/Children	Single Male Householder
Clovis	\$98,554	\$111,257	\$132,797	\$51,617	\$67,945
Coalinga	\$68,976	\$69,500	\$86,685	\$22,351	\$59,351
Huron	\$43,664	\$48,070	\$48,070	\$19,151	\$68,281
Kerman	\$53,956	\$58,234	\$73,917	\$37,026	\$75,313
Kingsburg	\$74,897	\$83,242	\$95,154	\$60,848	\$68,750
Mendota	\$43,315	\$43,301	\$55,087	\$14,464	\$39,453
Parlier	\$50,026	\$51,592	\$65,142	\$29,133	\$42,868
Orange Cove	\$33,671	\$33,691	\$45,227	\$18,987	\$31,053
Reedley	\$61,629	\$66,774	\$76,453	\$37,513	\$87,576
Sanger	\$69,333	\$71,324	\$85,866	\$38,326	\$41,696
Selma	\$53,874	\$58,562	\$71,193	\$24,167	\$54,295
Fresno City	\$63,001	\$71,430	\$92,651	\$28,901	\$54,038
Fresno County	\$67,756	\$76,092	\$96,174	\$30,827	\$45,547

Table 9. Median Income by Family Type

### Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI), provides monthly financial payments to low-income adults that are blind, disabled, or age 65 and older. Disabled or blind children are also eligible to receive SSI benefits. Families receiving SSI are categorically eligible for Head Start services, providing the family an additional supportive resource<sup>1</sup>.

Receipt of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Cash Public Assistance (CPA), SNAP				
Area	Total	% Pop. SSI	% Pop. CPA	% Pop. SNAP
Clovis	123,529	3.1%	4.9%	12.7%
Coalinga	17,488	6.4%	5.1%	17.6%
Huron	6,250	2.6%	4.9%	35.8%
Kerman	15,980	7.5%	5.6%	24.7%
Kingsburg	12,490	6.9%	5.0%	14.6%
Mendota	12,603	5.2%	2.2%	29.3%
Parlier	14,554	8.8%	5.6%	26.5%
Orange Cove	9,635	8.2%	8.5%	36.0%
Reedley	25,441	7.0%	7.4%	18.4%
Sanger	26,461	10.8%	5.8%	17.4%
Selma	24,318	5.1%	8.1%	22.4%
Fresno City	541,528	9.3%	7.3%	22.0%
Fresno County	1,008,280	7.7%	5.8%	22.7%

Table 10. Social Security Income & Public Assistance

2023 Head Start Families Receipt of Public Assistance				
	SNAP	SSI	WIC	TANF
HS/EHS Families	1,325 (59%)	111 (5%)	1,521 (70%)	521 (23%)

Table 11. Head Start Families Receipt of Public Assistance

### Profile of Self-Sufficiency

Indicators of self-sufficiency that can be gleaned from Program Information Report (PIR) data for Head Start families include rates of parental employment and the extent to which families use public assistance. The number of families in which one parent is employed, in job training or in school totals 1,475, which is 66% of all enrolled families. Of these families, 185 are in job training (13%) and 32 are attending school to obtain a GED or a degree. This rate is higher than in 2022, in which 24% of parents were unemployed and not attending school or job training. Among children in Fresno County under six years, 62% had all parents in the labor force. Among children aged 6-17 years, 68% had all parents in the labor force. This data shows that parents in the program work at levels comparable to other families in the community.

### WHAT HAPPENS AFTER UNEMPLOYMENT TO FAMILIES?

Unemployment can be especially devastating for families with children and for individuals. Housing payments, food and transportation costs, health care needs, and even childcare costs don't end when a job ends. Research shows that children are more likely to repeat a grade when parents lose jobs, and those living with unemployed single mothers are more likely to drop out of school and to experience lower emotional wellbeing. Other studies document that unemployment often intensifies parental stress, which in turn impairs children's future outcomes.



### Economic Activities Key Data Findings

- The unemployment rate is rising over pre-pandemic levels and in March 2024 reached 9.5%, meaning that there is a total of 44,600 people that are unemployed. Additionally, there are over 34,000 workers who are underemployed.
- Fresno County is experiencing growth in Agribusiness, Logistics/E-Commerce, Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare and Energy and Water Technology Sectors. With training, these careers offer entry level career opportunities for individuals in poverty.
- Economic trends indicate that the largest sectors by industry employment are education and health care and social assistance. However, there is a significant number of farmworkers and individuals employed in agriculture. Farmworkers have higher rates of poverty and most often have limited English proficiency.
- Median income is stratified by race and Hispanic/Latinos and African American/Black residents are more likely to have a lower income than the general population.

Additionally, the median income for married-family households with children is three times that of single-female headed households. Fresno County median income is lower than the state median income for families and households.

There have been changes in the work environment and in the job structure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many people in poverty that are working are employed in the low-wage labor market in jobs that lack benefits. As shown by underemployment and growing unemployment rates. In Fresno County, a significant number of jobs are also in the retail and hospitality sector where employers schedule work hours unpredictably. These factors result in wage volatility that undergirds poverty and the ability to achieve self-sufficiency.

Single-mothers, whose families stand to gain the most from the benefits of postsecondary degrees, face obstacles to college completion which would help them move out of low-wage employment, including financial insecurity and heavy caregiving burdens. Steps that can be taken to help people transition into self-sufficiency include:

- Providing support for increasing education in alignment with job growth trends. Aligning education and employment, can help clients enter into careers that offer full-time work and benefits.
- Providing comprehensive services that buffer the impact of the caregiving burden and lack of resources experienced by single mothers. For example, offering childcare programs that meet the full-time/year-round care needs of families and creating peer support groups. The Head Start program model is particularly effective at combining mental health, financial, and other career support to help families.
- Integrating data collection efforts into HS that uncover the reasons behind unemployment, calculating underemployment among individuals, and developing targeted strategies to address the needs of people that are struggling. For example, creating surveys to uncover the barriers experienced in relation to employment barriers.

## WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT ON INDIVIDUALS'

Financial hardship that leads to difficulties covering basic expenses.

Uncertainty and a loss of a sense of purpose can contribute to emotional distress.

Loss of self-esteem and identity because work often plays a crucial role in shaping a sense of self and identity.

Health implications such as loss of insurance and physical health problems due to stress and anxiety.

Negative impacts on relationships and financial strains may affect interactions with others.

Reduced social interactions and more limited sense of community.

Delaying life's milestones such as retirement, starting a family, or buying a home.

Negative long-term career effects as the result of lengthy periods of unemployment.

## Poverty

Poverty contributes to death, disease, and health impairments. As income inequality increases, life expectancy differences also emerge. According to a recent study, low-income Americans have higher rates of physical limitation, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and other chronic conditions, compared to high-income Americans.<sup>8</sup> Conversely, wealth supports educational attainment, housing stability, and financial security.<sup>9</sup> Poverty also exerts adverse impacts on children through family stress processes because it can lead to family dysfunction, stress among caregivers, and parenting challenges. Elderly poverty can lead to depression and reduce the life span. Some individuals may ‘inherit’ poverty because of being born into a particular social group defined by race, class, and location. Others experience situational poverty from which they never escape. Poverty is interconnected along five pathways: substance abuse, educational failure, unemployment, debt, and family breakdown, making it particularly insidious.

**Population in Poverty by Tract**

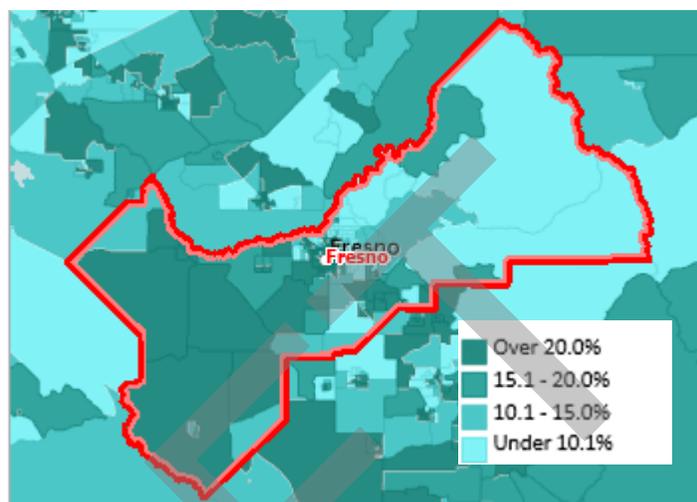


Figure 17. Population in Poverty by Census Tract

### Number Below Poverty Level

Poverty estimates for 2022 show a total of 193,675 Fresno County residents have an income below the poverty threshold. The poverty rate is 19.5% compared to a rate of 12.5% for California<sup>1</sup>.

Area	Population	Poverty Rates <sup>1</sup>	
		Population in Poverty	Percent in Poverty
Fresno County	990,821	193,675	19.5%
California	38,643,585	4,685,272	12.1%
United States	323,275,448	40,521,584	12.5%

<sup>8</sup> 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

<sup>9</sup> Health Affairs (2018). Health, Income, & Poverty: Where We Area & What Could Help. Retrieved from <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hpb20180817.901935/full/>.

Population in Poverty by City <sup>1</sup>				
Area	Total	Population in Poverty	% Population in Poverty	Individuals Income < 50% Poverty
Clovis	119,318	10,049	8.4%	4,703
Coalinga	14,185	2,654	18.7%	1,372
Firebaugh	8,139	3,521	43.3%	843
Huron	6,260	2,007	32.1%	1,051
Kerman	15,564	3,408	21.9%	1,023
Kingsburg	12,490	1,185	9.6%	472
Mendota	12,603	4,101	32.7%	1,937
Orange Cove	9,635	4,463	46.5%	891
Parlier	14,554	3,988	27.4%	1,756
Reedley	25,441	3,977	15.9%	1,219
Sanger	26,461	4,198	5.8%	1,219
San Joaquin	3,725	1,238	33.2%	242
Selma	24,318	5,157	21.2%	1,882
Fresno City	532,251	117,570	22.1%	55,948

**Poverty Rate by Family Type**

In the service area, children living in single female headed households are more than three times likely to be living in poverty than all families. Within the service area 35,096 families (15%) live in poverty. Of families in poverty, 13,985 are married couples (39.8%), 4,095 are male householders and 17,016 are female – headed households (48.5%)<sup>1</sup>.

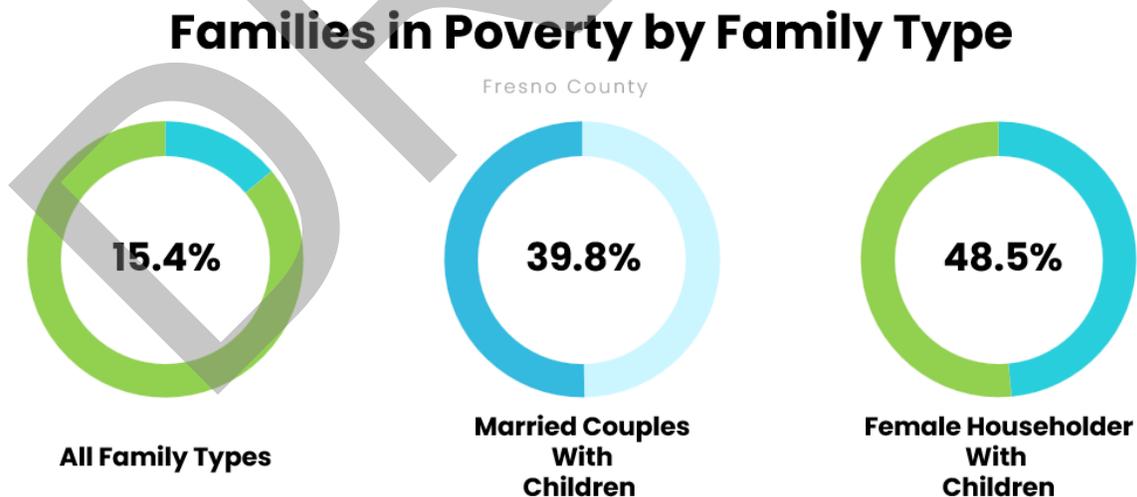


Figure 18. Poverty Rate by Family Type

### Number of Children Living in Poverty

Among Fresno County children, the poverty rate is 8%, compared to a rate of 11.9% in California and 17.0% in the U.S. The highest rates of poverty among children are in Orange Cove and Firebaugh<sup>1</sup>.

Children in Poverty by Age				
Area	Total Population	Population < 18 years.	% Children in Poverty	Total Children in Poverty
Clovis	119,318	33,821	9.6%	10,049
Coalinga	14,185	4,092	25.1%	1,026
Firebaugh	8,139	2,849	55.3%	1,575
Huron	6,260	2,135	56.9%	1,214
Kerman	15,564	4,846	28.1%	1,364
Kingsburg	12,490	3,231	7.9%	255
Mendota	12,603	4,782	41.2%	1,970
Orange Cove	9,635	3,609	61.0%	2,203
Parlier	14,554	4,677	38.4%	1,797
Reedley	25,441	7,517	21.1%	1,586
Sanger	26,461	7,765	23.2%	1,803
San Joaquin	3,725	1,444	44.0%	635
Selma	24,318	6,445	29.6%	1,908
Fresno City	532,251	148,084	30.4%	45,043

Table 12. Children in Poverty by Age

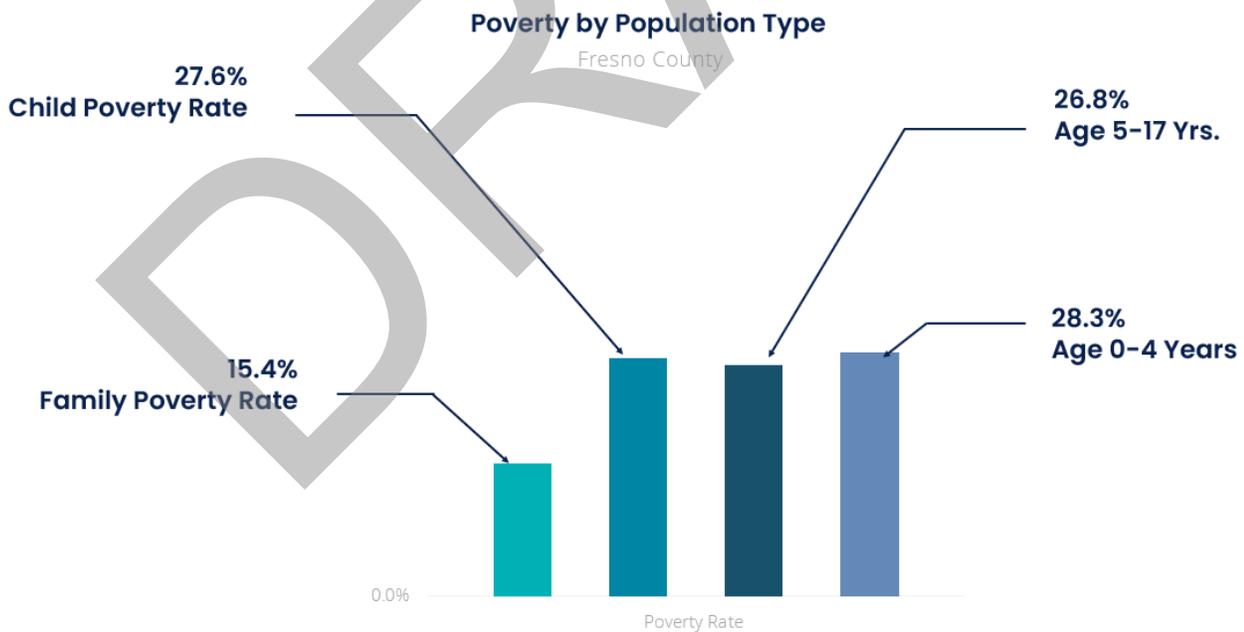
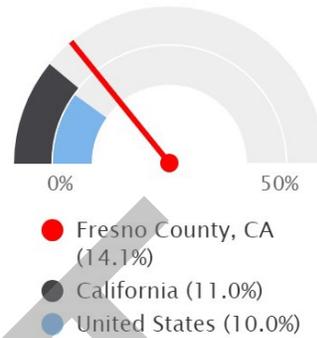


Figure 19. Poverty by Population Type

### Seniors Living in Poverty

According to the American Community Survey 5-year data, an average of 19% of people in Fresno County lived in a state of poverty during 2022. The poverty rate for seniors living in Fresno County is 14.1%, totaling 17,307 people, a rate higher than the rate for California and the rate for the nation<sup>1</sup>.

Ages 65 and Up Poverty Rate



### Poverty by Race/Ethnicity

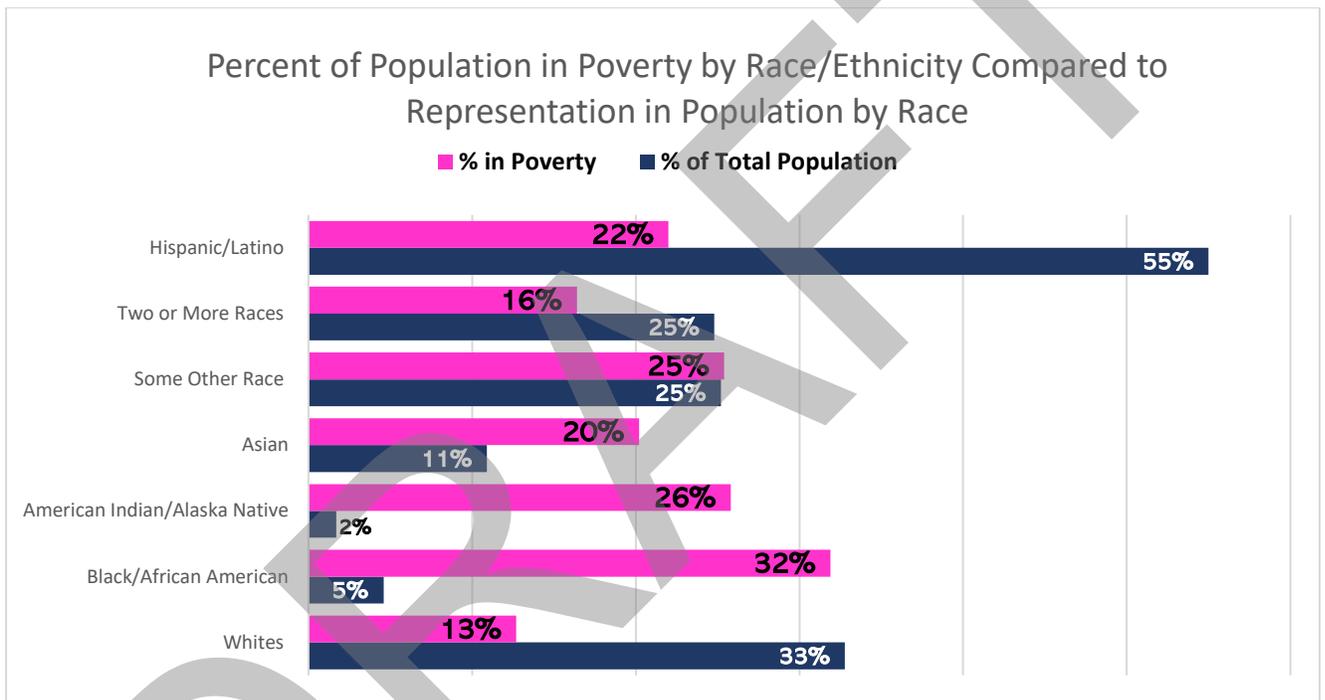


Figure 20. Poverty by Race and Ethnicity

Latino and Hispanic households are more likely to live in poverty than the general population.

Percent of Hispanic/Latino Population living in Households with an Income below Poverty

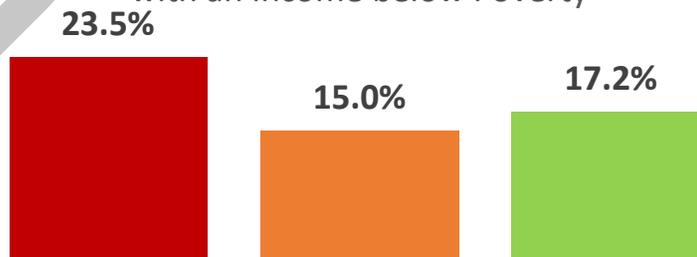


Figure 21. Hispanic / Latino Population in Poverty

### Children Age 0 to 4 in Poverty by Race (%)



Figure 22. Children Aged 0-4 Years in Poverty by Race

### Individuals and Families Near Poverty

It is important to examine the near poverty rate to identify people who have an income that may be above the poverty line, but an income still low enough to put them at significant risk of falling into poverty due to unforeseen circumstances such as job loss, major illness, or divorce. Additionally, the data can be used to create stabilization solutions that can help households before they fall into poverty. In regard to social equity, focusing on the near poverty rate can lead to more equitable social programs that address disparities in access to resources and opportunities. This focus can help mitigate systemic issues that contribute to persistent poverty.

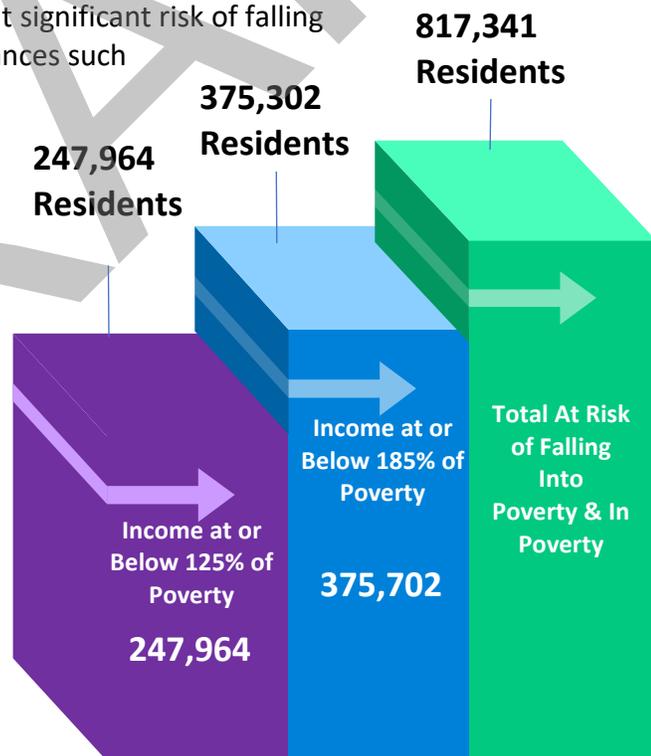


Figure 23. Population at-risk of Poverty

Poverty among racial/ethnic groups in the service area differs due to the longstanding impacts of historical injustices, discrimination, and bias in various aspects of society such as education disparities, employment discrimination, and the wealth gap. The criminal justice system and neighborhood segregation also contribute to higher poverty rates among some groups.



### **Community Survey Responses**

Community survey respondents were asked about which factors of inequity impacted their daily lives. The following data details the responses by 2,437 community survey answering this question.

- 31% of respondents reported that families of color live in specific neighborhoods.
- 17% of respondents reported that children of color do not get the same quality of education as children who are not of color.
- 17% reported they are treated differently at their job because of their color, race, or gender.

### **Poverty Rate by Educational Attainment**

Individuals who have lower levels of educational attainment are more likely to live in poverty.

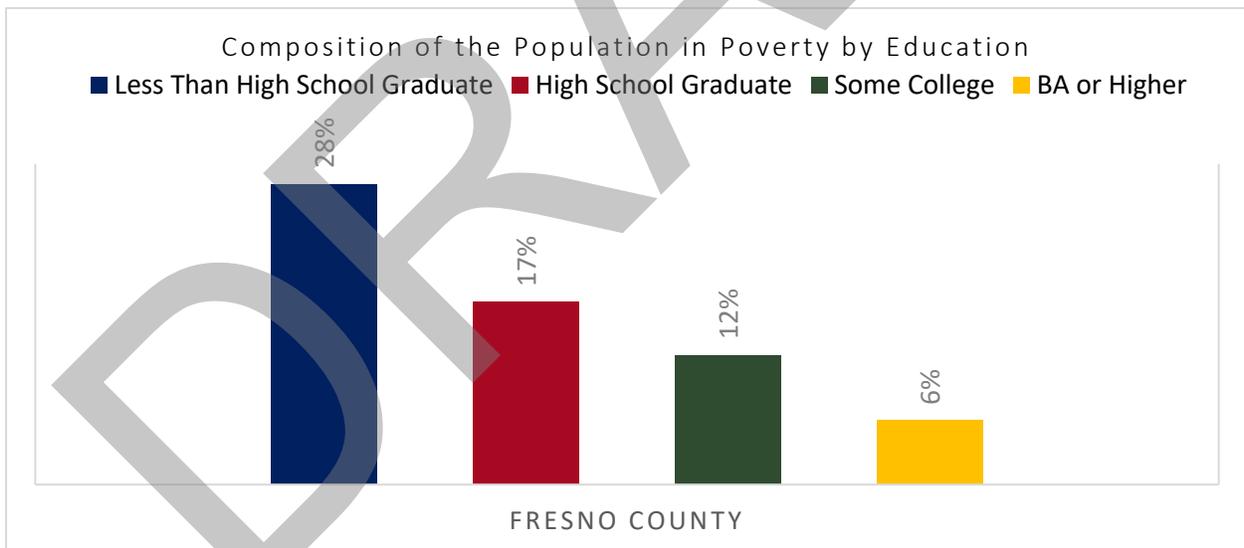


Figure 24. Poverty and Educational Attainment

### Poverty Rate by Employment Status

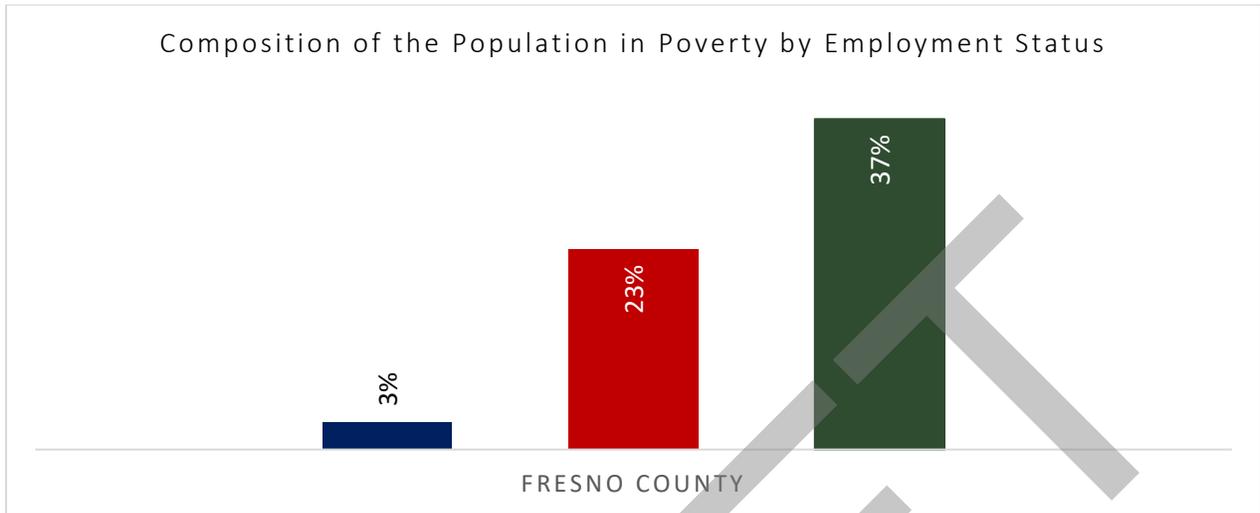


Figure 25. Poverty Rate by Employment Status

### Social Vulnerability

The Social Vulnerability Index uses census data to determine the social vulnerability of the population based on 15 social factors, including poverty, lack of vehicle access, and crowded housing. The data is grouped into four themes as follows:

- Socioeconomic
- Housing Composition and Disability
- Minority Status and Language
- Housing and Transportation

The map that follows shows Fresno County census tracts with the greatest vulnerability.

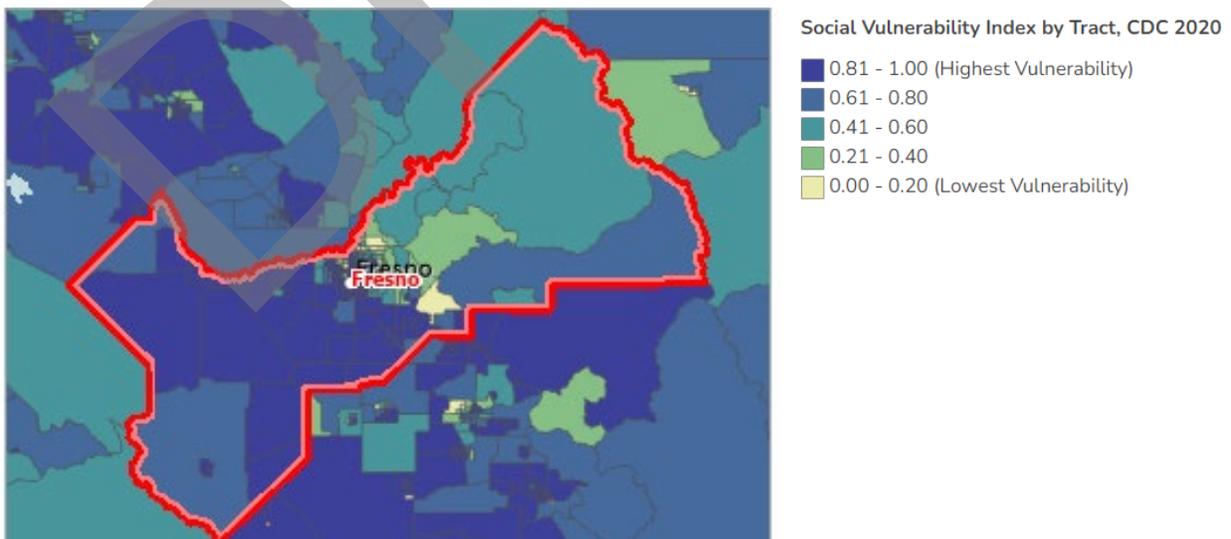


Figure 26. Social Vulnerability by Census Tract



### ***Poverty Key Data Findings***

The poverty rate indicates that 193,675 individuals live in poverty, totaling 19.5% of the population. The rate of poverty among children is higher than the general rate of poverty. The southwest areas of the county have the highest poverty rates. The data also reveals that high levels of education correlate with employment resulting in higher incomes and lower rates of poverty. For example, Fresno County householders that worked full-time had a poverty rate of 3% compared to a rate of 37% for households with no workers. Other notable trends included a wide disparity in which single-female headed households and people of color experienced higher poverty rates than Whites and married-couples.

The communities with the lowest rates of poverty are Sanger, Clovis, and Kingsburg. The communities with the highest rates of poverty are San Joaquin, Mendota, Huron, and Firebaugh. In ranking community needs it is important to consider both the percentage of the population in poverty as well as the number of people in poverty. The City of Fresno has by far the greatest number of individuals that live in poverty.

DRAFT

## Early Care and Education & Head Start Eligibles

### ***Context for Preschool Early Childhood Services***

The Fresno County early childhood landscape is changing which has provided unique opportunities and challenges for Head Start and Early Head Start. Four critical trends must be included in any effort to take stock of the developing system so that data-driven program adjustments can be made.

**Expansion of Childcare Subsidies:** Families with children under age 5, who have incomes below the federal poverty line who pay for childcare, typically spend 36% of their income on childcare costs. For many families, the high cost of childcare leaves insufficient funds for food, housing, and other basic costs. Households with incomes just above the federal poverty level spend more than 20% of their income on childcare<sup>10</sup>. In April 2024, legislative changes to the Child Care and Development Fund will lower the costs of childcare for families by allowing access to subsidies for families so that childcare costs do not comprise more than 7% of their income. The changes will also simplify enrollment in childcare programs<sup>10</sup>.

Federal policymakers began expanding access to childcare in 2020 in an effort to rebuild and stabilize the childcare system after the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the finality of the changes are still in flux both at the state level and in Washington D.C. Ambitious proposals are on the table to expand access to childcare and to fix the unsustainable childcare system, but the state is facing a budget shortfall, and the federal response is not guaranteed.

**Expansion of Transitional Preschool:** California's Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program provides an additional year of schooling within the K–12 system that aims to prepare children for kindergarten. Launched a decade ago with limited eligibility, the program will be expanded to all four-year-olds by 2025–26. The program has expanded rapidly which impacts the enrollment of four-year olds in Head Start as parents are drawn to programs offered in elementary schools. The program is expected to expand; however, the most recent state budget proposal will not be approved until May so decisions cannot be made until a final proposal is approved. In the past, and in other states facing budget shortfalls that have committed to expanding preschool programs, slot expansions have been delayed which could be the case for California as well.

**Employment Volatility:** Access to full-day childcare and early education programs impacts families' ability to work. In Fresno County, the percentage of parents that work is lower than for the state and the unemployment rate is rising. This may impact the need for extended-day early care and education programs. Many families responding to the community survey note that they work variable hours or part-time and less than two parents are working. These working parents, who often earn low wages and cannot rely on a consistent schedule (or paycheck) or who work nights or weekends, have few childcare options available to them. Within the Head Start

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/01/2024-04139/improving-child-care-access-affordability-and-stability-in-the-child-care-and-development-fund-ccdf>

program, 66% of children have at least one parent working. This factor could impact enrollment and attendance in Head Start programs in addition to impacting the stability of families.

**Early Childhood Staffing Crisis:** Research is clear that skilled early educators “are the single most important factor” in providing children with the early experiences necessary to foster positive learning and development in early childhood settings<sup>11</sup>. Despite this research, most early educators earn exceedingly low wages, sometimes at or near the federal poverty level, lack access to workplace benefits, and often struggle to meet the needs of their own families<sup>12</sup>. Despite interventions and investments in the early childhood workforce several factors have undermined the effort to resolve the early childhood staffing crisis. For example, environment related issues such as burnout from working with children and families with more intense needs and increased demand for early childhood staff as other programs expand has worsened these trends.

**Head Start Regulations:** In November 2023 the Office of Head Start related a set of proposed rules for the program that will impact the operation of Head Start programs. The rulemaking proposed to:

- Increase wages to align with preschool teachers in public school settings and to make progress toward full pay parity with elementary school teachers;
- Improve benefits for Head Start staff, including health insurance and paid leave, and to enhance staff health and wellness supports;
- Ensure better integration of mental health supports in program services;
- Improve child health and safety in program facilities;
- Improve family engagement services; and
- Modernize the processes for programs to identify and meet community needs.

The proposed changes provide a substantial shift in how Head Start programs will be required to use their limited resources. For example, the rules propose a cap of 40 for the caseloads of family service workers. The changes are not yet approved but should be monitored and plans for when the rules are implemented should be a focus of program design decisions.

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<sup>11</sup> Yoshikawa, H., Weiland, C., Brooks-Gunn, J., Burchinal, M., Espinosa, L., Gormley, J., Ludwig, J., Magnuson, K., Phillips, D., & Zaslow, M. (2013). Investing in Our Future: The Evidence Base on Preschool Education. New York, NY: Foundation for Child Development and Society for Research in Child Development.

<sup>12</sup> United States Department of Health and Human Services and United States Department of Education (2016). High quality early learning settings depend on a high-quality workforce: Low compensation undermines quality. Washington, D.C.: Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education.

### Number of Children Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

Fresno EOC Head Start and Early Head Start Eligibles <sup>1</sup>						
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	107	47	42%	45	20	29
Clovis	4,383	3,935	11%	482	433	204
Coalinga	456	342	19%	87	65	79
Firebaugh	314	319	61%	192	195	37
Huron	303	206	67%	203	138	109
Kerman	758	485	19%	144	92	73
Kingsburg	294	310	10%	29	31	20
Mendota	756	480	37%	280	178	38
Orange Cove	407	405	48%	195	194	64
Parlier	468	627	45%	211	282	49
Reedley	1,335	1,041	14%	187	146	53
Riverdale	111	149	11%	12	16	0
Sanger	1,009	1,113	14%	141	156	82
San Joaquin	225	208	52%	117	108	29
Selma	886	764	37%	328	283	65
Fresno City	23,373	16,906	31%	7246	5241	2,474
Fresno County	39,152	30,381	28%	10,963	8,507	4,150

Table 13. 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.

Number of Children by Age <sup>1</sup>				
Child Population	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.
<b>Total Children</b>	13,859	13,991	13,979	14,649

Table 14. Number of Children by Age

### Race/Ethnicity of Head Start/Early Head Start Eligible Children

According to the Children’s Defense Fund, Black and Hispanic/Latino children continue to suffer disproportionately from poverty, with the youngest children most at-risk of being poor.<sup>13</sup> The data below shows disparities among children in the U.S. by race. Fresno County poverty trends reflect the increased likelihood that children in poverty are of color.

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.childrensdefense.org/library/data/child-poverty-in-america-2015.pdf>

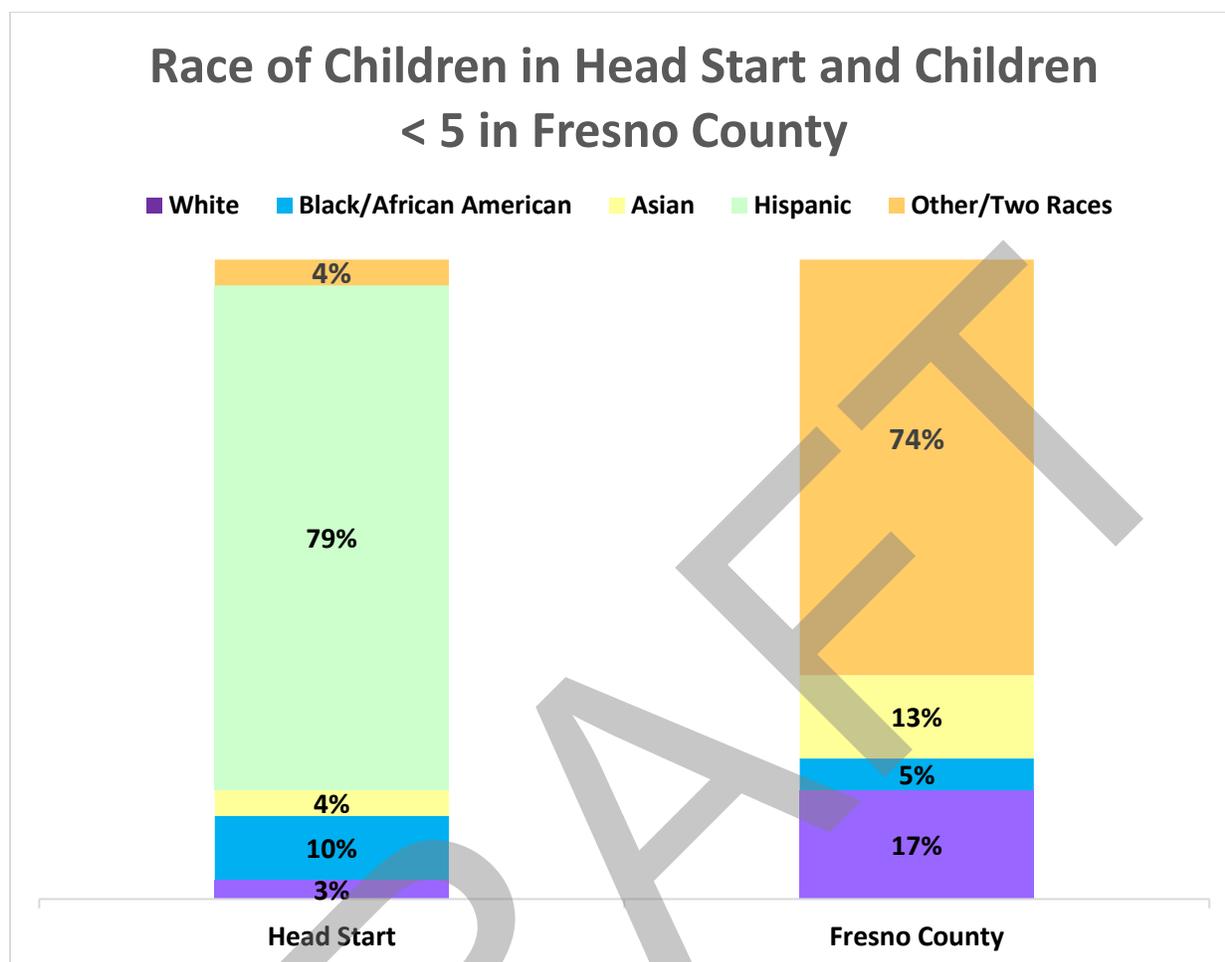


Figure 27. Race of Children in Head Start and Fresno County

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. Note - this data does not equal the total number of HS/EHS eligibles due to differing data sources and calculation methods. However, this data can be utilized to identify general trends in the race of children eligible for HS/EHS.

Race of Head Start Eligibles for Primary Racial Groups (racial groups comprising more than 1% of the total child population under six years)			
Race/Ethnicity	Children < 5 Yrs.	Poverty Rate for Children < 6 yrs. by Race <sup>14</sup>	Estimated HS and EHS Eligibles by Race
White	18,103	7%	1,267
Black/African American	3,727	24%	894
Hispanic/Latino	45,605	41%	18,698

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Census American Community Survey, 2022. B17010A; B17010B; B17010C; B17010D; B17010E; B17010F

Asian	8,278	14%	1,158
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,479	27%	399
Other /2 Races	38,420	22%	8,452

Table 15. Race of Head Start and Early Head Start Eligibles

### Dual Language Learners Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

In Fresno County a large number of children live in a household with limited English proficiency. Out of 2,590 enrollees, 68% speak English as the primary language at home. Using data from the Program Information Report and the percentages provided in the table below, it is estimated that there are 4,824 infants and toddlers eligible for Early Head Start and 3,743 children eligible for Head Start that are dual language learners. Note – this data does not equal the total number of HS/EHS eligibles due to differences in calculation methods.

Fresno EOC Head Start and Early Head Start Eligibles Dual Language Learners <sup>15</sup>					
Area	# of Children Under 3	# of Children Aged 3 & 4	% Families Speak Language other than English	EHS Eligibles	HS Eligibles
Biola	45	20	80%	36	16
Clovis	482	433	24%	116	104
Coalinga	87	65	47%	41	31
Firebaugh	192	195	80%	154	156
Huron	203	138	90%	183	124
Kerman	144	92	73%	105	67
Kingsburg	29	31	20%	6	6
Mendota	280	178	87%	244	155
Orange Cove	195	194	84%	164	163
Parlier	211	282	81%	171	228
Reedley	187	146	63%	118	92
Riverdale	12	16	73%	9	12
Sanger	141	156	52%	73	81
San Joaquin	117	108	82%	96	89
Selma	328	283	51%	167	144
Fresno City	7,246	5,241	43%	3,116	2,254
Fresno County	10,963	8,507	44%	4,824	3,743

Table 16. Fresno EOC Dual Language Learners Eligible for Head Start

<sup>15</sup> United States Census Bureau. *Language* 20122. Table S1601. Retrieved from: <https://data.census.gov>.

Primary Language of Head Start and Early Head Start Families			
Language	Early Head Start	Head Start	Total
English	317	266	583
Spanish	133	711	844
Native Central American/South American/Mexican Languages	2	4	6
Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages	6	24	30
East Asian Languages	13	44	57
European and Slavic Languages	0	1	1
American Sign Language	0	1	1
Other-Unspecified	0	5	5

Table 17. Primary Language of Head Start and Early 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 is estimated to be 3,262 children aged birth-two years and 2,531 children aged three-to-five years who are homeless in Fresno County<sup>16</sup>. Included in the table below are estimates by community.

Estimates of Early Childhood Homelessness by Community <sup>16</sup>				
Area	# of Children Under 3	# of Children Aged 3 & 4	EHS Eligibles	HS Eligibles
Biola	45	20	4	0
Clovis	482	433	40	36
Coalinga	87	65	7	5
Firebaugh	192	195	16	16
Huron	203	138	17	5

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Department of Education. Estimates of Early Childhood State Homelessness. <https://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/disadv/homeless/early-childhood-homelessness-state-profiles-2021.pdf>

Estimates of Early Childhood Homelessness by Community <sup>16</sup>				
Area	# of Children Under 3	# of Children Aged 3 & 4	EHS Eligibles	HS Eligibles
Kerman	144	92	12	8
Kingsburg	29	31	2	5
Mendota	280	178	23	15
Orange Cove	195	194	16	5
Parlier	211	282	18	24
Reedley	187	146	16	5
Riverdale	12	16	1	1
Sanger	141	156	13	13
San Joaquin	117	108	9	9
Selma	328	283	24	24
Fresno City	7,246	5,241	437	437
Fresno County	10,963	8,507	709	709

Table 18. Estimates of Early Childhood Homelessness by Community

According to the Fresno County Program Information Report, Head Start 0-5 served 25 families who were experiencing homelessness during the 2022 program year. In total, 19 children experiencing homelessness were enrolled in Head Start because they were categorically eligible due to homelessness.

**Foster Children Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start**

The Head Start program served 100 children in foster care during the 2022 program year. The rate of foster care entry for children under age 1 is 13.3/1,000 children. For children aged 1-2 years, the rate of foster care entry is 4.8/1,000 children. Among children aged 3-5 years the rate is 3.7/1,000 children<sup>17</sup>. Based on this data it is estimated there are 136 infants under 1 year; 129 children aged 1-2 years; and 105 children aged 3-5 years in foster care eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start.

**Children with Disabilities Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start**

The California Department of Education reports that in 2022, 21,987 children in Fresno County received disabilities services<sup>18</sup>. Of these children, 6.9% received services in a preschool setting. This indicates there are 1,517 preschoolers with disabilities in the county that are age-eligible for Head Start. The Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC) reported in 2022 they served 22,430 individuals of these 15% were aged 0-2 years and 12% were 3-5 years. This data indicates that

<sup>17</sup>KidsData.org. <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/17/foster-entries-age/table#fmt=2325&loc=357&tf=125&ch=928,924,926,927,923,925&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

<sup>18</sup> California Department of Education. 2022. Disabilities Enrollment by Age. <https://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/DQCensus/SPEDEnrLevels.aspx?agglevel=County&cds=10&year=2022-23>

there is estimated to be 3,364 infants and toddlers with disabilities and 2,691 children aged 3-5 years with a disability served by CVRC<sup>19</sup>.



### ***Head Start Eligibles Key Data Findings***

In Fresno County, there are 10,963 children aged 0-2 years eligible for Early Head Start and 8,507 children aged 3-4 years eligible for Head Start. There were 4,150 births to women in poverty in the past 12 months in Fresno County. 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 4,824 infants and toddlers that are living in linguistically isolated households and 3,743 preschoolers living in households where the language spoken at home is not English.

Communities in Fresno County show both increasing and decreasing birth rates, but there has remained around 13,000 new births every year. Many of these children are born to single mothers in poverty that are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start, as demonstrated by poverty rates for children under five years that exceed 40% in Firebaugh, Huron, Orange Cove, Biola, Parlier, and San Joaquin. The rate of poverty among children under five is even higher for children living in single parent families. The rate of poverty for children under five exceeds 30% in Mendota, Selma, and Fresno. This means that these communities are ideal locations for Head Start and Early Head Start services due to such a large population that lives in concentrated deep 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 the data there are 3,262 infants and toddlers and 2,531 children aged 3-5 years that are homeless in Fresno County. There are also 3,364 infants and toddlers and 2,691 preschoolers with disabilities age-eligible for Head Start. The number of children in foster care totals 136 infants under 1 year; 129 children aged 1-2 years; and 105 children aged 3-5 years in foster care eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start.

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<sup>19</sup> Summary Performance Report for Central Valley Regional Center, Spring 2022

## Social Determinants of Health and Wellbeing

Health status is disparate in Fresno County with affluent communities experiencing better health and increased access to health services while poor communities experience less access to services across a range of health needs. In research it is also well documented that people with a lower income experience a greater degree of disease and mortality, especially seniors, infants, and children. Differences in the use of health services and lack of access to health insurance also results in disproportionate health issues as individuals grow older. Higher educational attainment and incomes typically result in a higher use of health care such as preventive visits which also contributes to better health outcomes throughout life. The following graphic details the components that make up social determinants of health (SDoH) which allows for the tracking and design of solutions to mediate disparities in health outcomes.

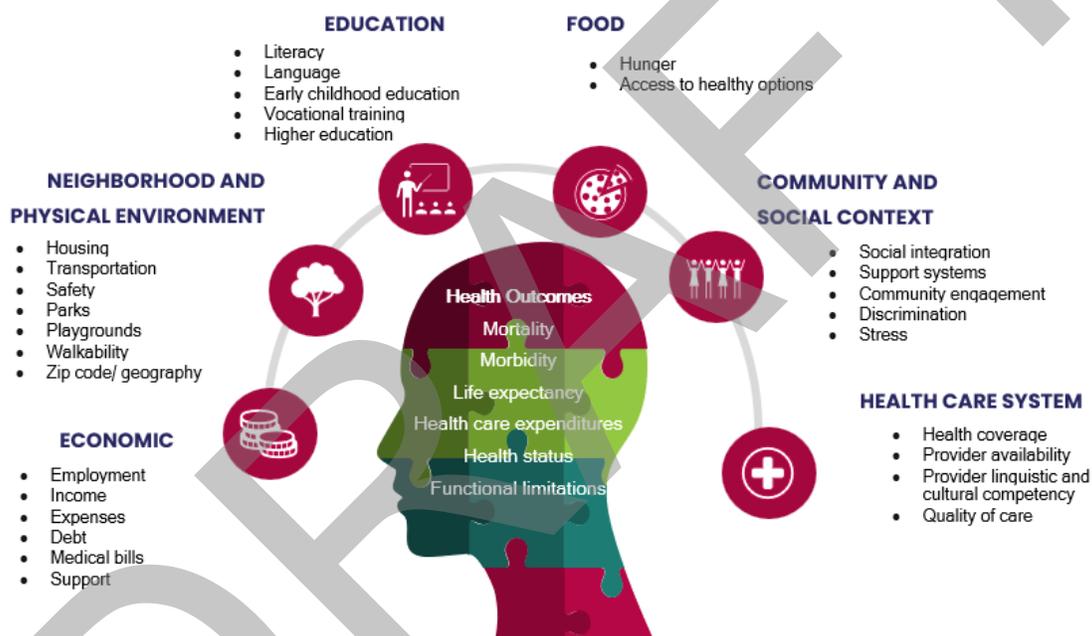


Figure 28. Social Determinants of Health



### Community Survey Responses

Community survey respondents (2,457) were asked about health problems and health needs in the community. The following notes the percentage of respondents identifying a specific health issue as a major need. The question allowed for respondents to identify more than one need.

- 55% of respondents reported lack of access to health services as a major problem, consistent with the community forums.
- 39% reported their work conditions were unhealthy.
- 48% reported there is limited help for people to enroll in public insurance.
- 55% reported inadequate insurance coverage.
- 35% reported lack of access to culturally responsive care.

## Population Health



The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute conduct an annual snapshot analysis of county health throughout the United States which helps to identify possible solutions to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The ranking also provides a broadened understanding of the many factors that shape health and provides a lens through which the social determinants of health that are impacting the population in the area can be evaluated. The following components provide information on four areas that influence health: health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment. The following charts detail health outcomes for residents living in Fresno County and California.

20

### Quality of Life Rankings

	Fresno	California
Poor or fair health	21%	16%
Poor physical health days	4.1	4.1
Poor mental health days	5.2	4.7

### Health Factors Rankings

	Fresno	California
Smoking	14%	9%
Adult Obesity	37%	28%
Food Env	7.4	8.6
Teen Births	22/1,000	13/1,000

### Physical Environment Rankings

	Fresno	California
Air Pollution	11.7/ppm	7.1/ppm
Severe Housing Problem	26%	26%

Fresno County has many health resources, but they differ in access due to the cost, the likelihood a provider will accept a public health insurance program as payment, and due to transportation barriers. Lack of access to health services was noted as a Top 5 concern in the community forums in 15 out of the 57 forums held.

Interviews with community leaders also noted additional opportunities to collaborate with Fresno EOC such as by facilitating immunization clinics.

Figure 29. Fresno County Health Factors

<sup>20</sup> County Health Rankings, 2024. <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/california/fresno?year=2024>.

Poor outcomes on the SDoH can result in reduced life expectancy. In Fresno County, the average life expectancy is 78.5 years which is lower than found for California residents (80.32 yrs.), but comparable to the national life expectancy of 78.69 yrs.<sup>21</sup>

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### Social and Economic Factors Ranking

	Fresno	California
<b>Some College</b>	58%	68%
<b>Unemployment</b>	6.4%	4.2%
<b>Children in Poverty</b>	25%	15%
<b>Income Inequality</b>	5.1%	5.2%
<b>Children in Single Parent Households</b>	28%	22%
<b>Social Associations</b>	5.2	6.0
<b>Injury Deaths</b>	68	59



Life Expectancy At Birth, Years by Tract

- Over 87 Years
- 84 - 87 Years
- 81 - 84 Years
- 78 - 81 Years
- 75 - 78 Years
- 72 - 75 Years
- 72 Years or Less

Figure 30. Life Expectancy

### Disease and Illness

The rate of communicable and other diseases in Fresno County is detailed below.

Disease and Illness <sup>22</sup>					
Area	Cancer Incidence Rate	Adults with Asthma	Chlamydia Infections Rate (per 100,000)	Hep C.	Gonorrhea Infections (per 100,000)
Fresno County	389.1	15.8%	637.3	41.1	179.1
California	394.7	14.2%	488.2	22.1	158.5

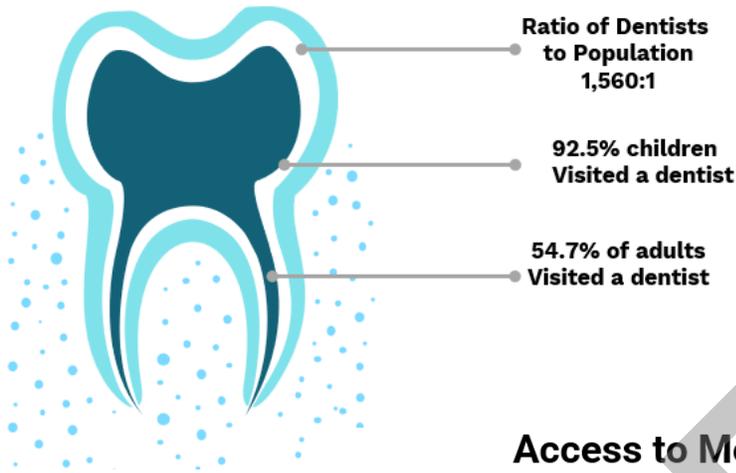
Table 19. Disease and Illness

<sup>21</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Small-Area Life Expectancy Estimates Project. 2010-15.

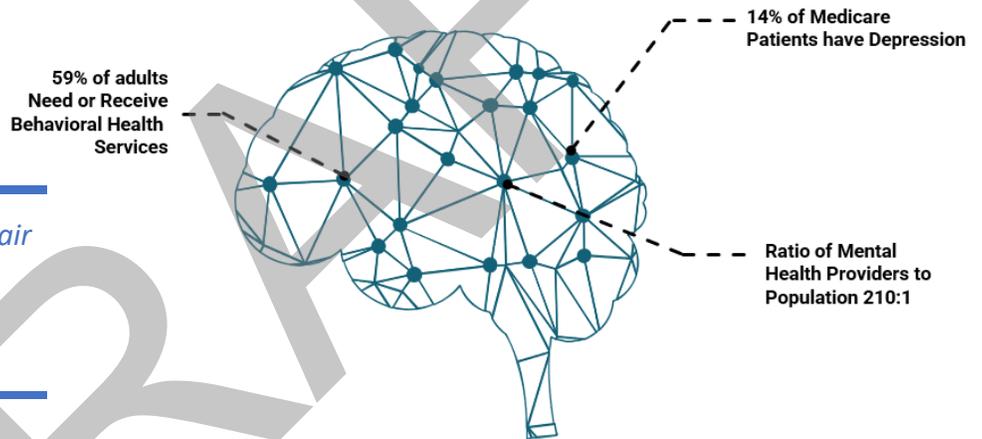
<sup>22</sup> Cares Engagement Network, Community Action Partnership, 2024

**Access to Health Services**

**Access to Dental Care**



**Access to Mental Health Providers**



23

*The rate of deaths of despair for Fresno County is 43.1/100K compared to a rate of 37.1 for California.*

**Access to Primary Care**

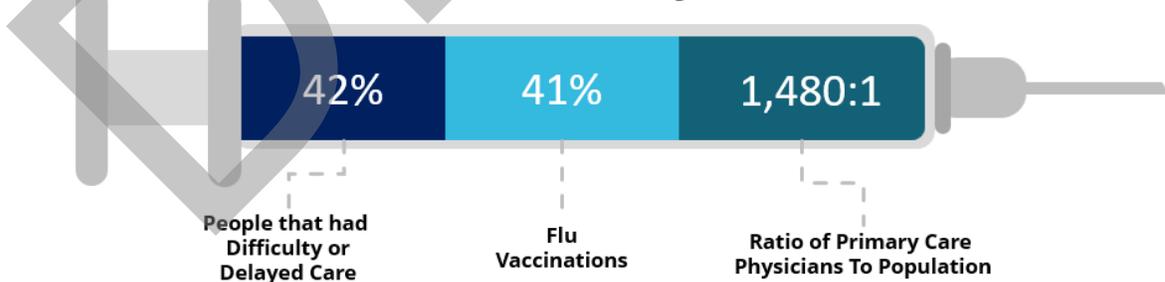
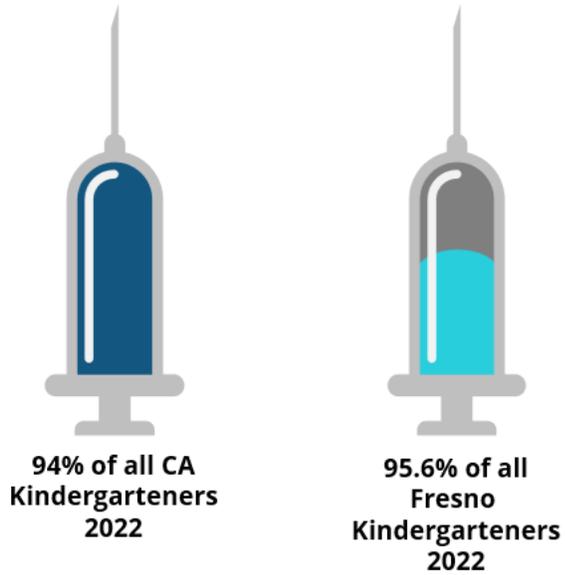


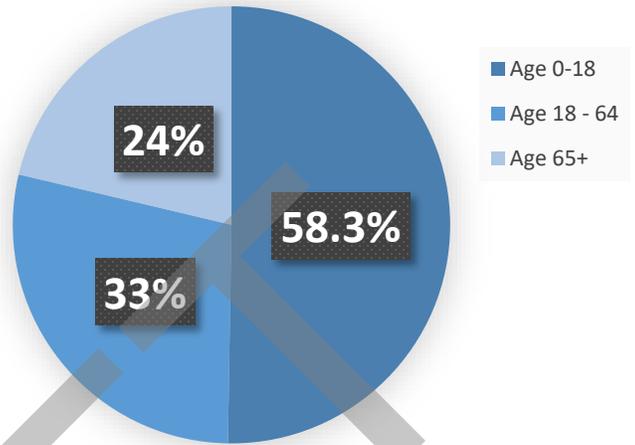
Figure 31. Access to Health Services

<sup>23</sup> Healthy Fresno County. <https://www.healthyfresnocountydata.org/indicators>.

## Immunization Rate



## Medicaid Use by Age Group



## Insurance Characteristics

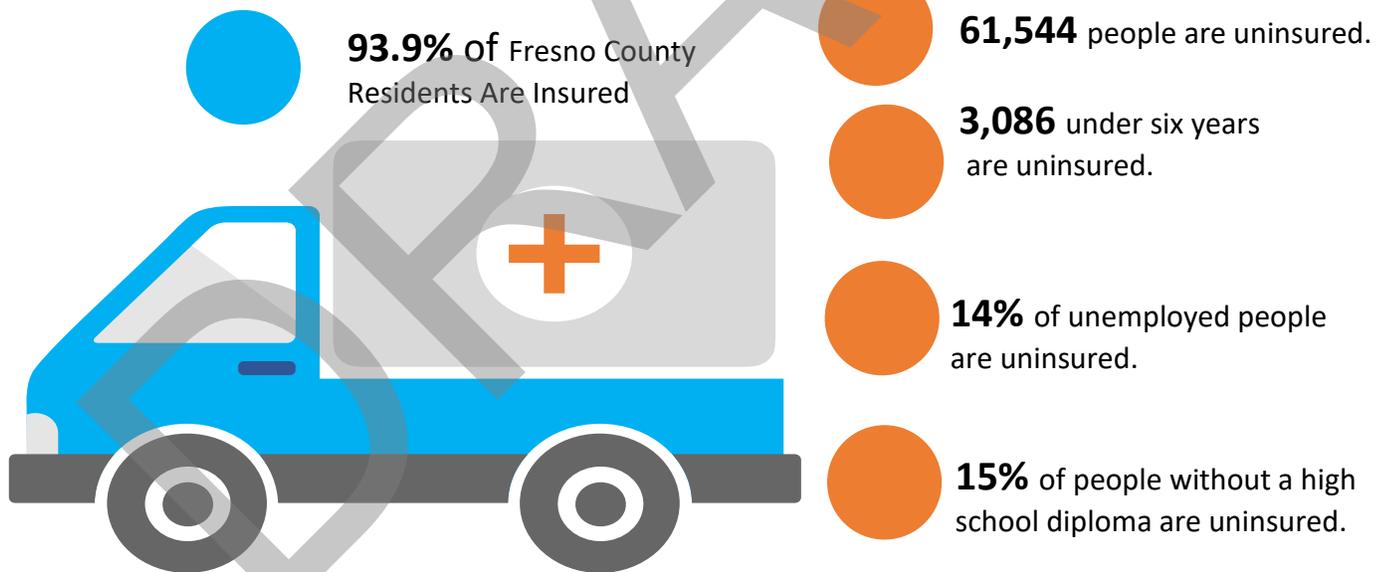


Figure 32. Insurance Characteristics

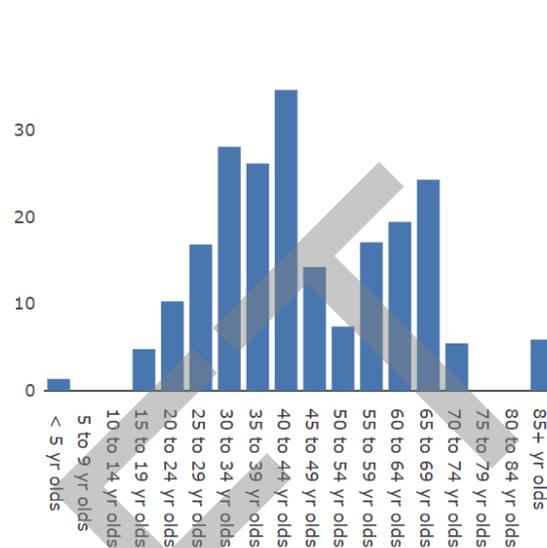
**Substance Abuse**<sup>24</sup>

The impact of drug and alcohol abuse on individuals, families, and communities 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 competence<sup>25</sup>. 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.

For adults, substance abuse contributes to depression, anxiety, chronic disease and poor mental health. According to the County Health Rankings dataset, about 15% of Fresno County adults report excessive drinking and 28% of driving deaths in Fresno County involved alcohol. The county fares worse than the state in regard to impaired driving deaths.

The most recent data analyzed for the community assessment shows an increase in substance abuse that has worsened over time. As shown below, the rate of accidental overdose deaths has been rising since 2019 and slightly declined in 2021<sup>26</sup>. Out of the total coroner cases, statistics report about 43% of them were deemed accidental deaths. Of these accidents, more were overdose-related than in prior years. In total, 232 were accidental overdoses with males making up 75% of those deaths. Methamphetamine was present in a majority of these overdoses with fentanyl following closely behind.

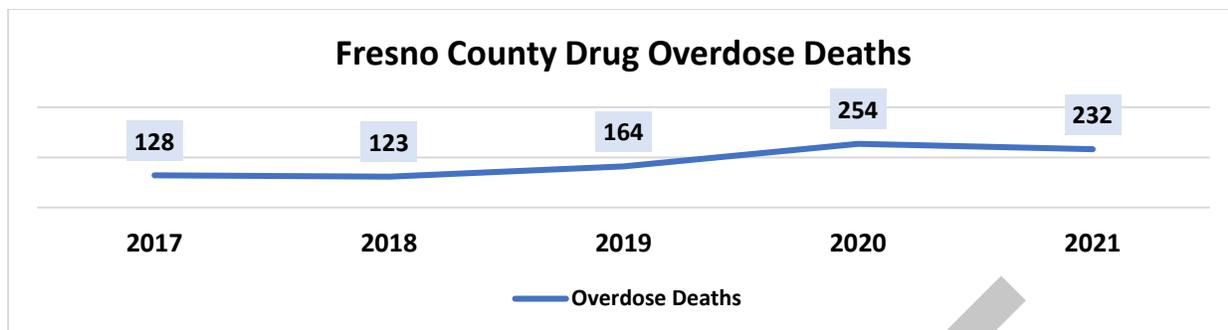
**Any Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths - Fresno County by Age Groups, 2022**  
Crude Rate per 100,000 Residents



<sup>24</sup> California Department of Public Health. Substance Abuse Dashboard. <https://skylab.cdph.ca.gov/ODdash/?tab=CTY>

<sup>25</sup> 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>

<sup>26</sup> Fresno County Sheriff's Office Coroner Unit Statistics 2021. [chrome-extension://efaidnbmnribpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.fresnosheriff.org/images/pdfs/2021\\_Coroner\\_Unit\\_Statistics.pdf](chrome-extension://efaidnbmnribpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.fresnosheriff.org/images/pdfs/2021_Coroner_Unit_Statistics.pdf)



### **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<sup>27</sup>. The illustration below shows the trajectory of the ACE process.



### **Child Abuse**

Child maltreatment is an adverse experience and 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.<sup>28</sup> In contrast, safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments enable healthy growth and development. However, in

<sup>27</sup> Fresno County Domestic Violence Dashboard. <https://mmcenter.org/domestic-violence-dashboard>

<sup>28</sup> National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (2014). *Understanding Child Maltreatment: Fact Sheet*. Retrieved from: [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention)

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<sup>29</sup>. Young children under the age of four are at the greatest risk for the most severe consequences of abuse and neglect. The rates of child abuse are highest for children aged 11-15 years, but this is likely due to their ability to report abuse<sup>30</sup>. The following chart shows reports of abuse and neglect by age group for Fresno County<sup>29</sup>.

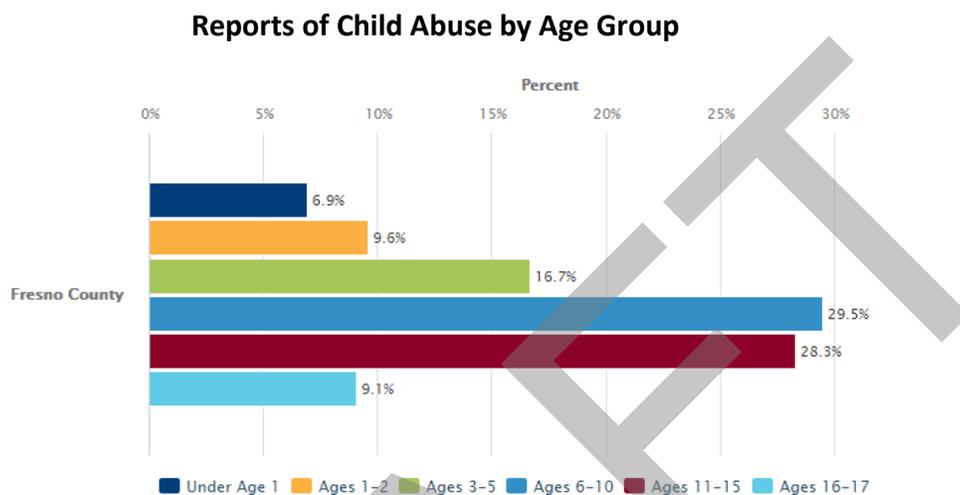


Figure 33. Child Abuse Rate by Age

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 staff<sup>30</sup>. Additionally, children in poverty are also over-represented because poverty is frequently confused with neglect<sup>31</sup>

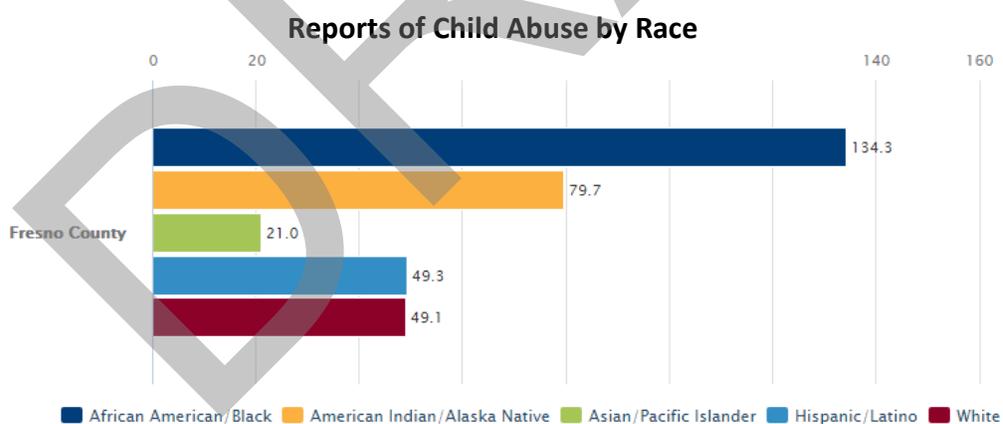


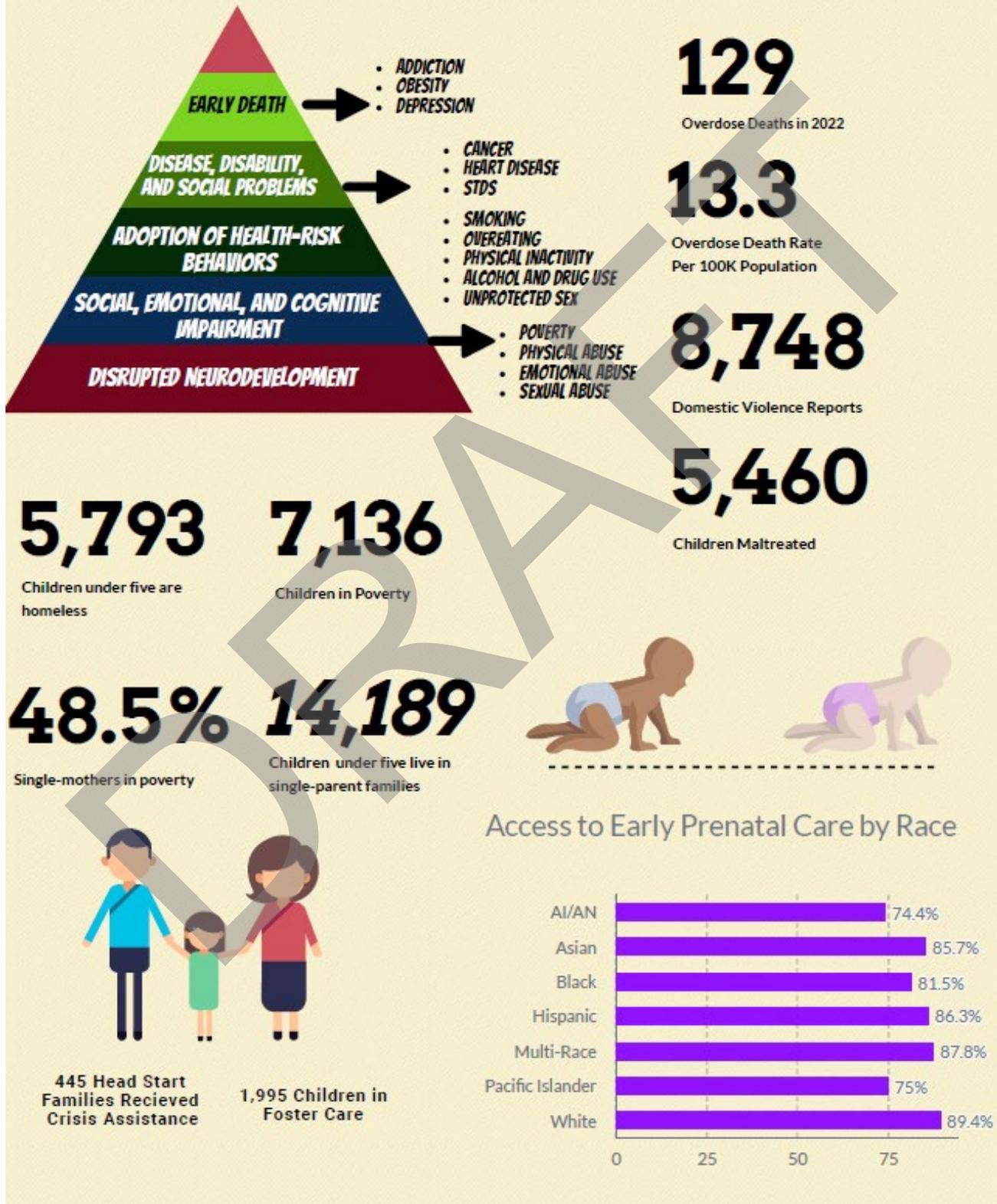
Figure 34. Child Abuse Rate by Race

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.kidsdata.org>

<sup>30</sup> 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/](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/).

<sup>31</sup> California Child Welfare Indicators Project, CCWIP Reports. University of California at Berkeley & California Dept. of Social Services (Oct. 2021).

# Fresno County Adverse Childhood Experiences



### Disabilities

Disabilities services are provided by 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<sup>18</sup>. 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 annually<sup>32</sup>. Fresno EOC served 253 children in Head Start with a diagnosed disability and 52 children in Early Head Start with a disability.

Early Childhood Disabilities Services <sup>18 32</sup>		
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>432</b>

Table 20. Early Childhood Disabilities Services

### Disability and High School Graduation

Receiving early intervention is linked to the likelihood a child with a disability will graduate from high school. The table below details high school graduation rates for youth with a disability by race and ethnicity and shows a slight racial disparity in graduation rates<sup>33</sup>.

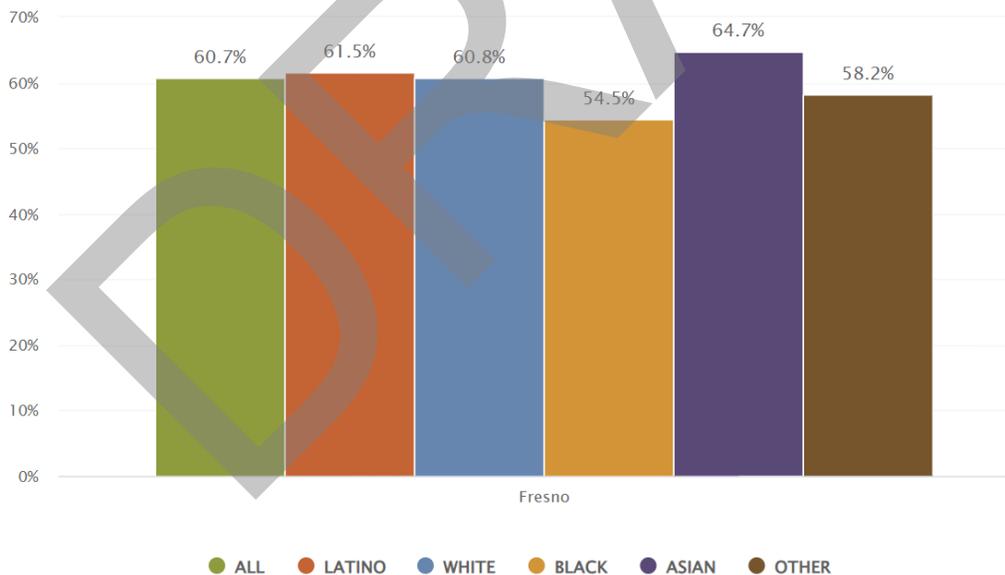


Figure 35. Disability and Graduation Rate by Race

<sup>32</sup> California Department of Social Services. Regional Center Oversight Dashboard. Central Valley Regional Center. Overview Report 2022. <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/dashboard/>

<sup>33</sup> Annie Casey Kids Count Data Center. 2023

### Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and child health factors in Fresno County and local communities show that pregnant and new mothers and children fare similarly or worse in relation to maternal child health outcomes than their peers in California and the nation. There are also persistent racial disparities that undermine maternal and child health<sup>1</sup>. One of the most significant factors impacting the health of newborns is low birthweight. In Fresno County, the rate of low birthweight babies is 7.62/1,000 compared to 7.42/ 1,000 for California<sup>34</sup>.



#### Fresno County At-Risk Births

**Births to Mothers in Poverty**  
4,187  
28.5% of Births

**Births to Mothers with Low Educational Attainment**  
2,890  
19.7% of Births

**Teen Births**  
630  
4.3%

Post-natal depression is one of several common mental health conditions experienced during pregnancy. Prenatal depression increases the risk of preterm birth, low birthweight and preeclampsia and can negatively impact breastfeeding and the ability of new mothers to bond with their baby. *The rate of prenatal depression in Fresno County is 17.1% versus a rate of 14.7% for California.*

6% of pregnant women drank alcohol during their third trimester of pregnancy and 5% used marijuana during pregnancy<sup>34</sup>.

### 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 mortality<sup>35</sup>.

#### Infant Mortality by Race/Ethnicity

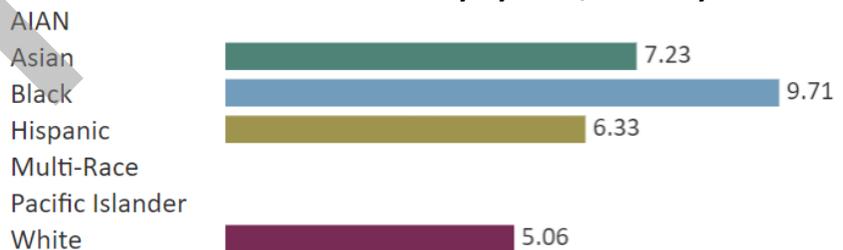


Figure 36. Infant Mortality by Race

<sup>34</sup> California Department of Public Health. Maternal Child Health Dashboard, 2024.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DMCAH/surveillance/Pages/Low-Birthweight.aspx>

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DMCAH/surveillance/Pages/Infant-Mortality.aspx>



### **Health Key Data Findings**

At first glance Fresno County residents experience far worse health outcomes than their peers in California. However in several areas the county fares at-parity with California including in the rate of children with immunizations, the ratio of mental health care providers to people in the population in need of care is lower than for the state, and the rates of uninsurance in the general population are low. Despite these factors, the data shows there is still a lack of access to care, that plays out in lower rates of life expectancy. There is also a high rate of children exposed to adverse early childhood experiences and deep racial disparities in well-being that impact the population.

The healthcare system is overburdened, likely due to the high rates of use of public health insurance and lack of transportation, a theme that was also reiterated in community feedback. The ratio of people to health care providers such as primary care physicians and dentists is greater than found for the state.

Racial disparities in health and well-being are concerning, particularly disparities in maternal and child health. Improving maternal health often involves empowering women with access to education, reproductive rights and economic opportunities. Empowered women can make informed decisions about their health and the well-being of their families. Improving maternal and child health is instrumental in breaking the cycle of poverty and in reforming systems of oppression and inequity. Healthy mothers can participate more actively in the workforce and contribute to their families' economic stability, thus improving the overall socioeconomic conditions of their communities. Maternal health and well-being plays a vital role in promoting early childhood development. A healthy and nurturing environment during a child's early years positively impacts their physical, cognitive, and emotional growth. Low birthweight babies often require more intensive medical care during infancy and childhood, leading to increased healthcare costs for families and the healthcare system.

When asked about health needs and concerns in the community, survey respondents reported the following issues: lack of access to doctors, lack of access to oral health services, lack of safe parks and streets, lack of transportation, non-responsive public systems, the cost of medical care and copays and lack of doctors that accept public insurance as payment for services.

## 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.

Low levels of educational attainment can perpetuate a cycle of poverty and economic inequality. Individuals with lower education levels often face restricted access to well-paying jobs and career advancement opportunities. This income disparity contributes to various equity issues, such as income inequality which can hinder social mobility and perpetuate intergenerational poverty cycles. Additionally, in today's digital age those with lower educational attainment may face barriers in acquiring digital literacy skills, exacerbating the digital divide, and further limiting access to educational resources and opportunities for participation in the digital economy. Furthermore, education plays a crucial role in determining access to health insurance and other social services, impacting overall well-being and exacerbating health disparities between individuals with different educational backgrounds. Thus, efforts to increase educational levels in a population can lead to improved socioeconomic status, reduced poverty, and better health outcomes, ultimately promoting equity and social justice.

### ***Educational Attainment***

Educational attainment data shows the distribution of the highest level of education achieved among Fresno County residents. This helps schools and businesses to understand the needs of adults, whether it be workforce training or the ability to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education opportunities that prepare individuals to enter into growing industries. In the following table, educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25 years old and is an estimated average for 2022. In Fresno County, 16% of the population has at least a bachelor's degree, while 23% stopped their formal educational attainment after high school. In all of the service area cities except Clovis and Kingsburg, the rate of individuals without a high school diploma is higher than for the state. Only Clovis, at 9%, has a lower rate of individuals with no high school than in the nation. Often times, when a community demonstrates this, it is indicative of lower median income due to lack of attainment of a college degree.

Educational Attainment						
Area	No High School Diploma	High School Diploma	Some College	Associate degree	Bachelor's Degree	Graduate or Professional Degree
Clovis	3.7%	19.6%	25.9%	10.3%	22.2%	13.1%
Coalinga	14.1%	26.4%	23.9%	7.7%	8.0%	4.1%
Firebaugh	38.9%	17.4%	26.1%	9.7%	4.0%	3.1%
Fowler	13.5%	8.9%	19.2%	19.6%	11.2%	8.5%
Huron	48.9%	14.8%	17.2%	11.3%	4.8%	2.6%
Kerman	25.7%	16.4%	21.4%	16.7%	6.7%	10.4%
Kingsburg	5.5%	8.8%	29.5%	26.0%	8.6%	12.7%
Mendota	47.9%	14.9%	23.6%	7.5%	2.5%	2.9%
Orange Cove	45.5%	10.0%	18.9%	13.9%	5.0%	4.8%
Parlier	36.5%	10.9%	28.6%	15.3%	3.7%	4.1%
Reedley	20.8%	12.3%	21.6%	18.9%	10.4%	10.5%
Sanger	16.9%	10.4%	27.9%	24.5%	7.6%	10.0%
San Joaquin	38.7%	15.4%	26.3%	11.3%	5.7%	2.7%
Selma	17.9%	9.8%	26.3%	26.0%	8.7%	8.1%
Fresno City	10.1%	10.1%	22.4%	23.5%	9.4%	16.4%
Fresno County	12.2%	24.0%	21.8%	9.4%	15.9%	23.4%
California	15.3%	20.5%	19.3%	7.9%	22.5%	14.4%
United States	10.4%	26.1%	19.1%	8.8%	21.6%	14.0%

Table 21. Educational Attainment

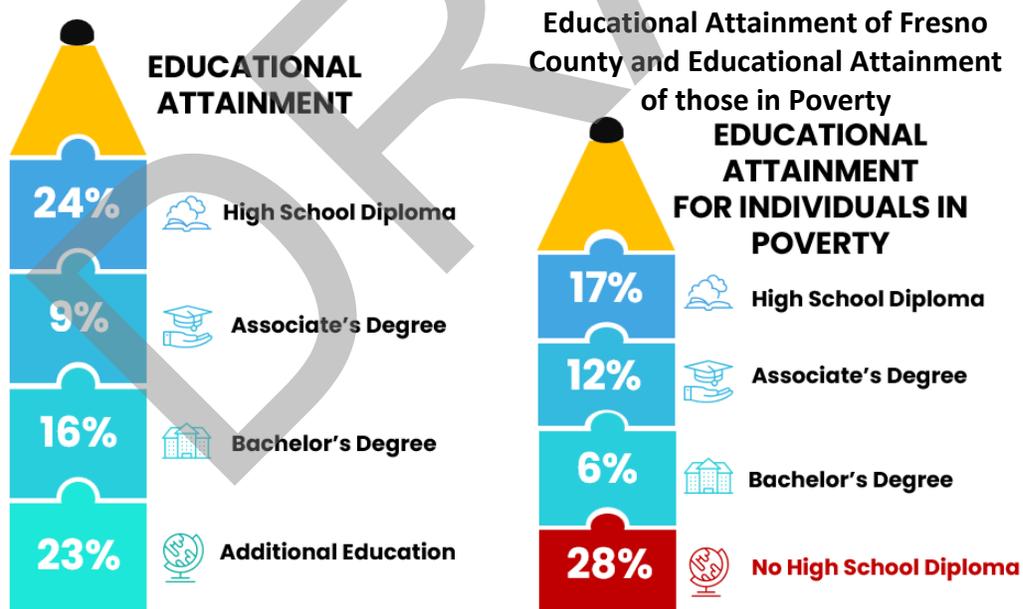
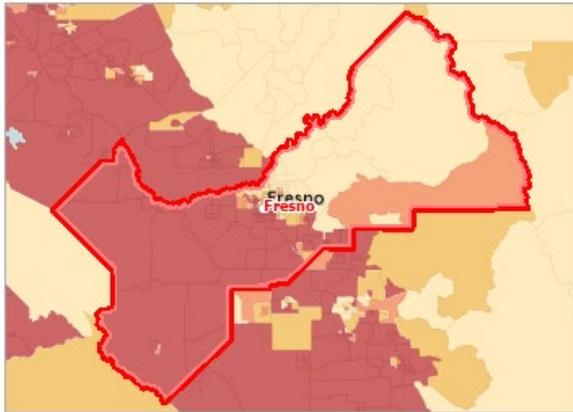


Figure 37. Comparison of Educational Attainment in Fresno County

### Population with no HS Diploma by Tract

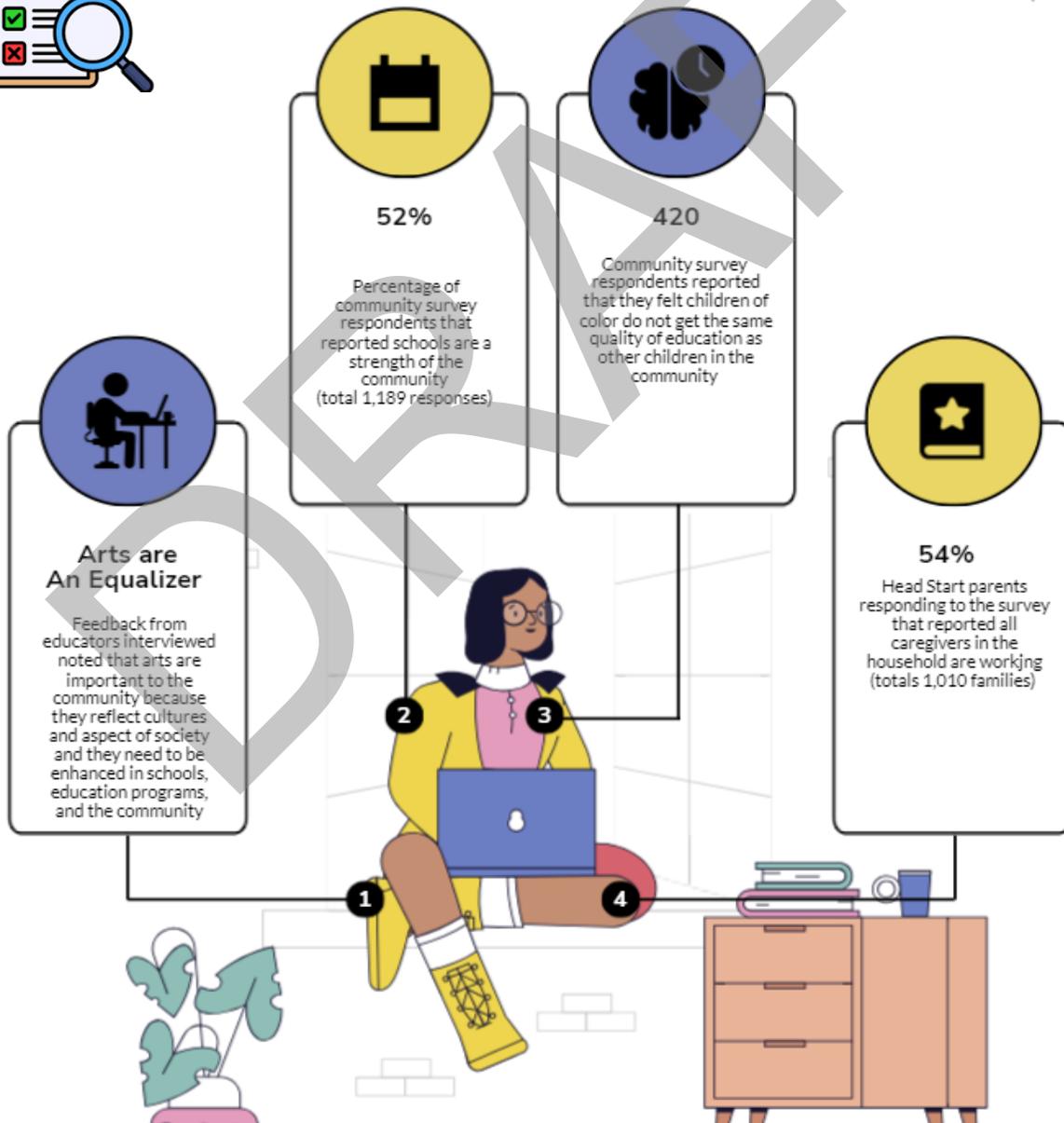


The areas that have the highest poverty rates also have the lowest rates of educational attainment.

Figure 38. Population with Low Educational Attainment by Tract



### Community Survey Responses



### **Educational Attainment by Race**

The composition of the population obscures racial disparities in educational attainment. The predominant races in Fresno County are White and Hispanic/Latino as shown in the charts that follow. Analyzing educational attainment data by race/ethnicity in reveals significant racial disparities. While 92% of White individuals hold a high school diploma, only 68% of Hispanic individuals do, highlighting a substantial gap of 24 percentage points. Moreover, White individuals are more than twice as likely as Hispanic individuals to hold a bachelor's degree, with 33% of Whites having a bachelor's degree compared to 15% of Hispanics. Asians have a higher high school diploma attainment rate at 79% compared to Hispanic individuals, but are slightly behind White individuals. However, they surpass both White and Hispanic individuals in bachelor's degree attainment, with 31% of Asians having obtained a bachelor's degree.

Black/African American individuals in Fresno County also face educational disparities. Among Black/African Americans, 90% hold a high school diploma which is a rate comparable to Whites. Black/African Americans lag behind Whites in the rate of bachelor's degree attainment at 24%. These disparities underscore the existence of systemic barriers and inequities in educational opportunities and access to resources, which perpetuate racial inequalities in Fresno County. Addressing these disparities requires targeted interventions aimed at improving educational access, quality, and support systems for marginalized communities to ensure equitable opportunities for all residents.

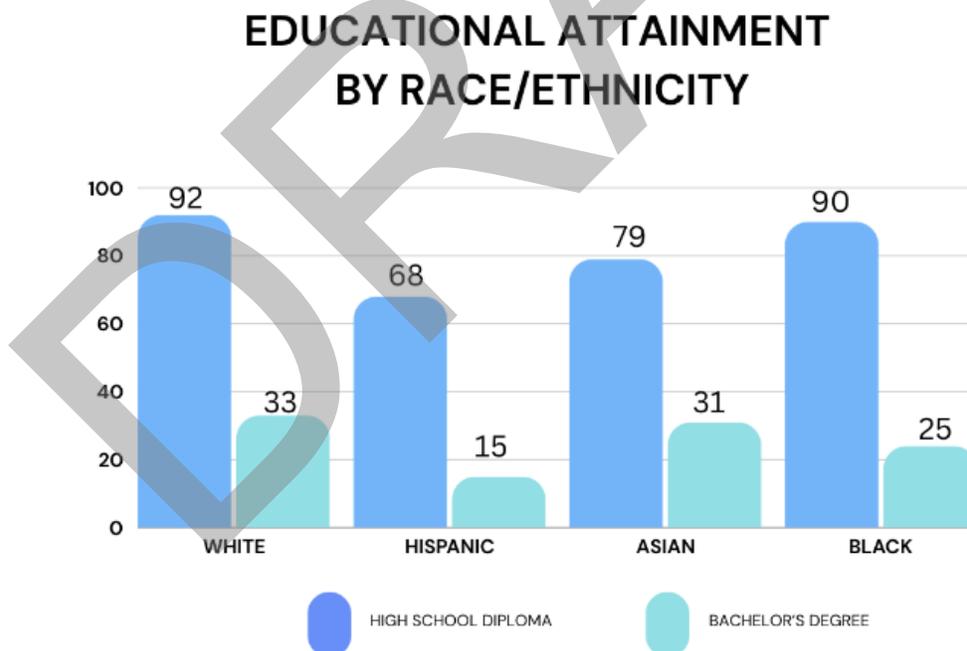


Figure 39. Educational Attainment by Race and Ethnicity

Analyzing data from the Fresno County school district CAASPP test scores alongside educational attainment rates reveals notable patterns and comparisons between county and state data. While Fresno County's educational attainment rates are slightly below the statewide averages, its CAASPP test scores in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math fall below the state averages by 3.5 and 4.2 percentage points, respectively. Among Fresno County school districts, Clovis Unified stands out with the highest educational attainment rates and CAASPP scores significantly above both the county and state averages. Clovis is also one of the highest income communities.

Conversely, districts like Parlier Unified and Laton Joint Unified have lower educational attainment rates, higher poverty rates, and notably lower CAASPP scores, indicating disparities in academic performance. These discrepancies highlight the importance of addressing equity issues in the education system to ensure all students have access to quality education and opportunities for academic success, regardless of their socioeconomic backgrounds or geographic location. Further examination of factors influencing academic achievement in these districts is crucial for implementing targeted interventions and improving student outcomes.

Student Achievement		
School District	ELA	MATH
Sierra Unified	38.0%	28.7%
Selma Unified	38.5%	23.1%
Sanger Unified	47.6%	34.5%
Parlier Unified	24.0%	12.0%
Pacific Union	42.7%	36.9%
Laton Joint Unified	19.8%	11.9%
Kingsburg Joint Union High	63.6%	30.1%
Riverdale Joint Unified	36.4%	29.1%
Kings Canyon Joint Unified	48.5%	35.6%
Kerman Unified	39.8%	24.1%
Golden Plains Unified	21.6%	15.8%
Fowler Unified	45.2%	32.3%
Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified	38.2%	18.9%
Coalinga-Huron	19.8%	10.5%
Clovis Unified	66.1%	51.0%
Central Unified	41.3%	26.5%
Caruthers Unified	43.7%	29.1%
Burrel Union Elementary	25.9%	24.7%
Washington Unified	31.1%	17.7%
Fresno Unified	33.2%	23.3%
Mendota	35.3%	20.45%
Fresno County	43.1%	30.4%
California	46.6%	34.6%

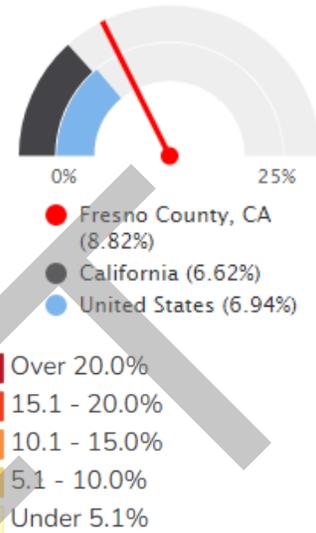
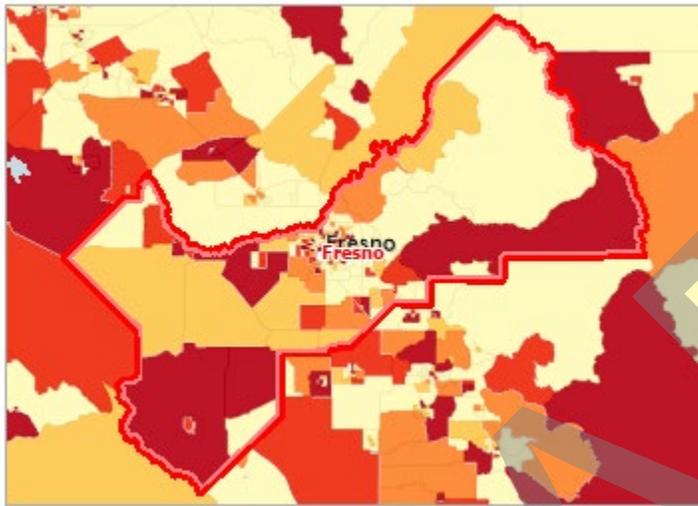
Table 22. Student Achievement by District

### Dropout Rate

High school dropout rates can be calculated by examining the number of young people not in school and not working. This measure provides valuable information regarding the educational and career outlook for young adults.

### Population aged 16-19 Not in School and Not Employed

#### Youth Not Working and Not in School by Census Tract



### Adult Literacy

Individuals with literacy skills at Level 2 still struggle to perform text based informational tasks but are nearing reading proficiency. People in this literacy level can usually read printed words and digital print and can relate to and make inferences from multiple pieces of information that can be pulled from more than one document. However, complex evaluation and inferencing may still be too difficult. The percentage of the population with a literacy level at or below Level 2 in Fresno County is estimated at 25.9%, with a 95% probability that the actual (true, unknown) percentage is between 20.3% and 31.7%.

Adult Literacy <sup>22</sup>				
Report Area	Population Ages 16-74	Total At or Below Level 1	Lower Credible Interval	Upper Credible Interval
Fresno County	675,013	39.3%	36.4%	44%
California	28,700,840	28.4%	24.9%	31.9%
Unites States	235,567,157	21.8%	18.1%	25.6%

Table 23. Adult Literacy Rate

### Educational Attainment of Head Start Families

Among Early Head Start and Head Start families the rate of households headed by someone without a high school diploma is equal to the general population. However, more Head Start families have a high school diploma or associate degree as their highest level of education compared to the general population. The data in the table reveals that 40% of families are headed

by parents who are high school graduates or parents who have obtained a GED, indicating a substantial portion of families have at least a basic level of education. Additionally, 27.6% of families have parents with an associate degree, vocational school certificate, or some college education, suggesting a moderate level of educational attainment. However, disparities persist, with 24.9% of families headed by parents with less than a high school education, highlighting significant educational challenges and potential limited opportunities. Furthermore, 7.4% of families are led by parents with an advanced degree or bachelor's degree, showing a smaller but still significant segment with higher levels of educational attainment. Understanding these educational backgrounds can inform initiatives to help families and individuals gain access to post-secondary education and career training programs that are vital for achieving a living wage.

<b>Head Start and Early Head Start Parent/Guardian Educational Attainment</b>		
<b>Of the total number of families, the highest level of education obtained by the child's parent(s) / guardian(s)</b>	<b># of families at enrollment</b>	<b>% of families</b>
An advanced degree or baccalaureate degree	168	7.4%
An associate degree, vocational school, or some college	624	27.6%
A high school graduate or GED	902	39.9%
Less than high school graduate	564	24.9%

Table 24. Educational Attainment of Head Start Families

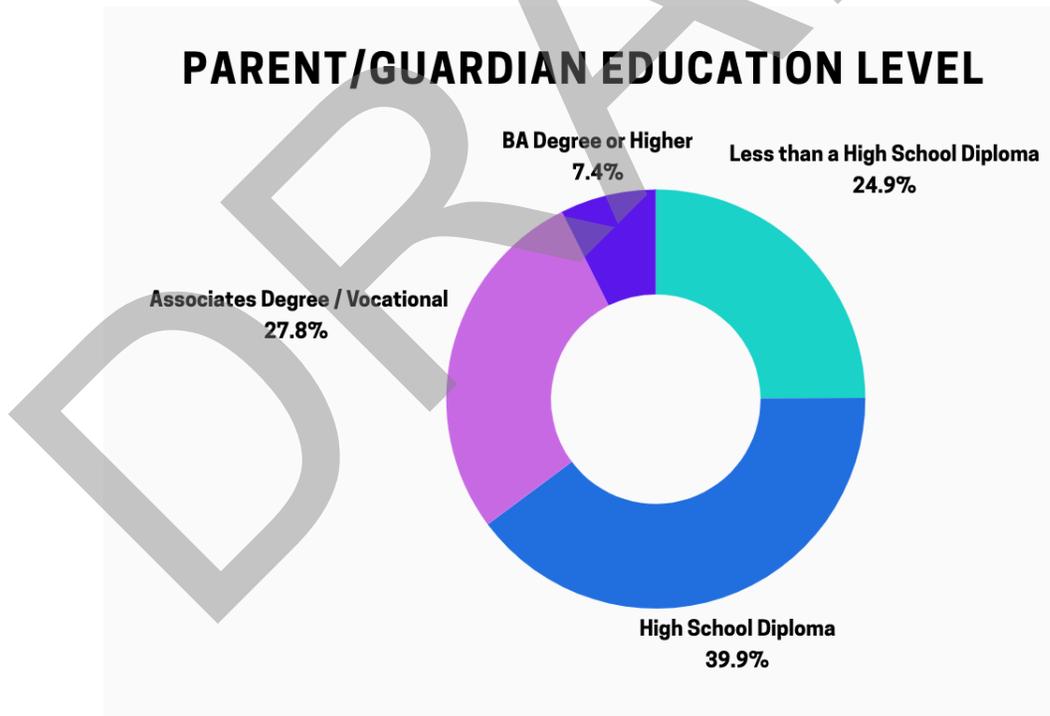


Figure 40. Educational Attainment of Head Start Families

### Population Aged 3-4 Years Enrolled in School

This indicator reports the percentage of the population aged 3-4 years that is enrolled in public and private preschools. This data helps identify geographic locations where preschool opportunities are either abundant or lacking.

Population Aged 3-4 Enrolled in School <sup>1</sup>				
Area	Population Aged 3-4	Enrolled Population Age 3-4 Public	Enrolled Population Aged 3-4 Private	% Age 3-4 Enrolled in Public School
Clovis	3,935	348	373	8.8%
Coalinga	352	133	0	37.7%
Huron	206	42	0	20.3%
Kerman	485	113	13	23.2%
Kingsburg	310	37	85	11.9%
Mendota	480	167	0	34.7%
Parlier	627	208	0	33.1%
Reedley	1,041	451	30	43.3%
Sanger	627	402	0	64.1%
Selma	764	568	50	74.3%
Fresno City	16,751	6,330	1,721	37.7%
Fresno County	30,381	9,821	3,067	32.3%

Table 25. Population 3-4 Years Enrolled in School

### 3- & 4-Year Olds Enrolled in School by Census Tract

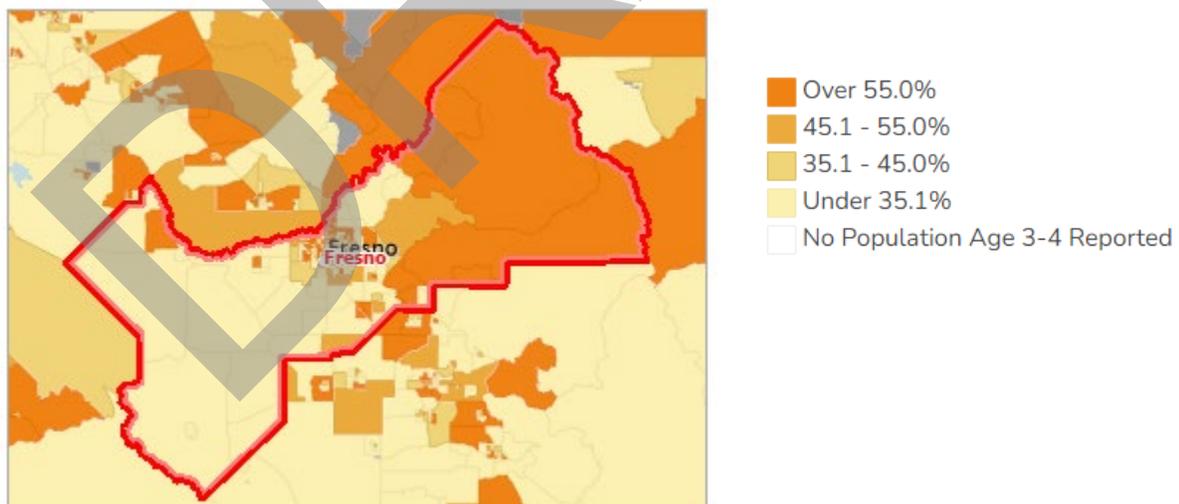


Figure 41. 3 & 4 Year-Olds Enrolled in School by Census Tract

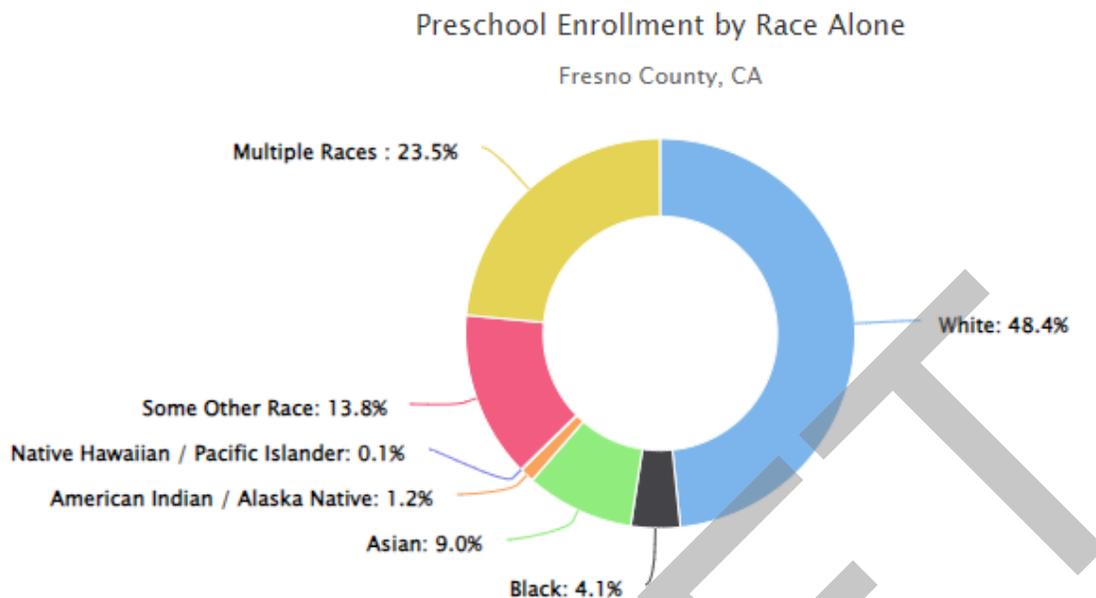


Figure 42. Preschool Enrollment by Race



### **Education Key Data Findings**

The data indicates Fresno County has a large percentage of the population that is educated with a college degree at the same time as having higher high school dropout rates and lower rates of student achievement on Math and Reading tests. The resulting social challenge in communities that experience this trend is that the education levels in the population do not necessarily lead to proportional improvements in social and economic outcomes. For example, economic and educational success are not always correlated, and people experience factors such as underemployment, wage stagnation, student debt, a mismatch between skills and job opportunities, limited access to a high-quality education and a changing job market where skills quickly become outdated.

Addressing the education paradox requires a comprehensive approach that includes aligning education with the needs of the job market, improving access to quality education, providing relevant skills training and development, and promoting lifelong learning. It also involves addressing structural barriers and inequalities that hinder individuals' ability to fully utilize their educational qualifications in the workforce. By understanding and addressing the education paradox, societies can strive to create more equitable and sustainable pathways to economic and social success for individuals of all backgrounds.

Among Early Head Start and Head Start families, the rate of families that are less than a high school graduate is equal to the rate for Fresno County. In contrast, when compared to the general population, more Head Start families have a high school diploma or associate degree as their highest level of education. Since the completion of some college education is typically required

to earn a living wage, it is important to help families and individuals gain access to post-secondary education and career training programs. At the same time, community interview participants noted that individuals need soft skills training. Prior research has found that the risk factors of living in a household without a parent who has not completed high school, living in a single-parent household, and living in poverty are associated with poor educational outcomes for students, including receiving low achievement scores, having to repeat a grade, and dropping out of high school.

Educational attainment data for Fresno County shows the following trends:

- Families in poverty demonstrate low rates of educational attainment, particularly regarding the attainment of a bachelor's degree and a high school diploma.
- The rate at which individuals in poverty have an associate degree indicates that many people are working in low-wage jobs.
- The degree attainment rates among families in Head Start is lower than found among the general population. Head Start families are more likely to have a high school diploma than other members of the population in poverty in Fresno County. Among Head Start families, 7% have a bachelor's degree, 27% have an associate degree, 40% have a high school diploma, and 25% have not attained a high school diploma.
- Educational disparities are present among children of color.

DRAFT

## Nutrition

Food insecurity is the household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food. Increases in diet-related diseases and obesity are major public health problems in communities across America. Limited access to supermarkets, grocery stores, and other sources of healthy and affordable food may make it harder for some residents to eat a balanced diet. Food security was noted as a Top 5 need in the community in 17 out of the 57 community forums conducted for the community assessment.

### Food Insecurity<sup>36</sup>

## FOOD INSECURITY

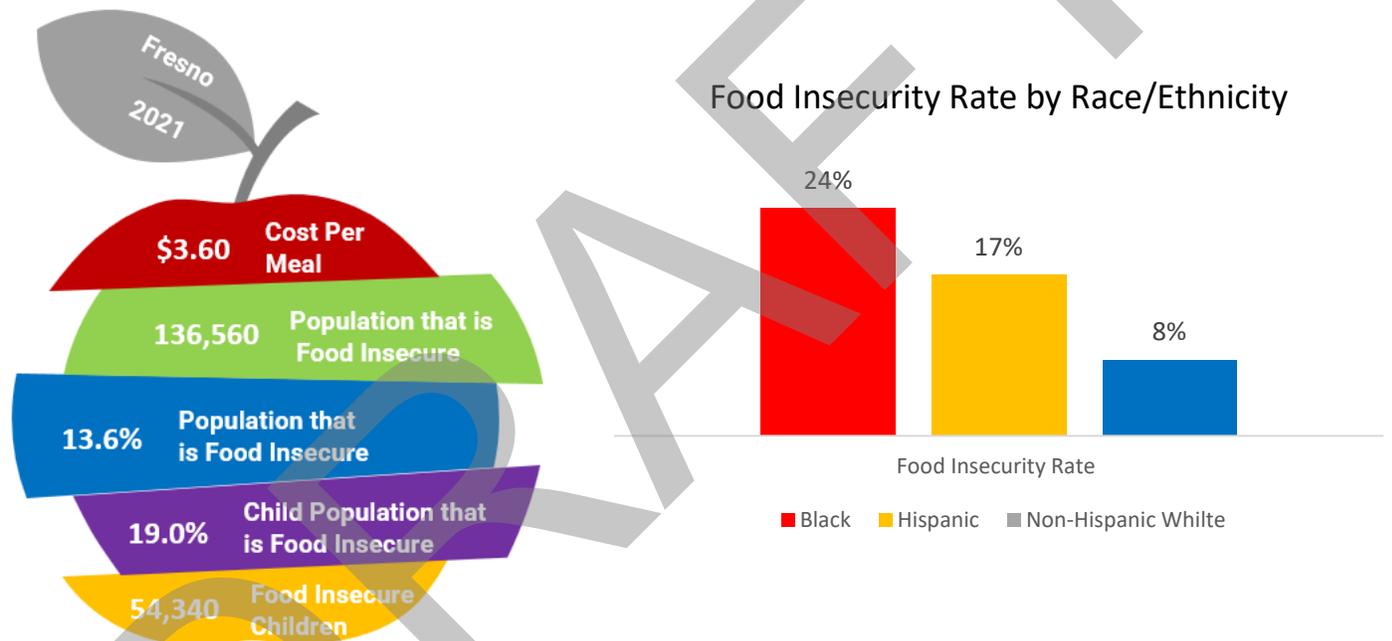


Figure 43. Food Insecurity Data

The USDA Food Environment Atlas and Map the Meal Gap from Feeding America provide statistics on three broad categories that describe food insecurity. The indicators include the following:

- **Food Choices** - Indicators of the community's access to and acquisition of healthy, affordable food, such as: access and proximity to a grocery store; number of food stores and restaurants; expenditures on fast foods; food and nutrition assistance program participation; food prices; food taxes; and availability of local foods.
- **Health and Well-Being**- Indicators of the community's success in maintaining a healthy diet.

<sup>36</sup> Feeding America, 2021.

- **Community Characteristics** - Indicators of community characteristics that might influence the food environment, such as: demographic composition; income and poverty; population loss; metro-nonmetro status; natural amenities; and recreation and fitness centers.

Children and adults living in the service area experience a higher rate of food security than children in the state and the nation. There is a racial disparity in which Black/African American residents experience more food insecurity than Whites and individuals in the community.

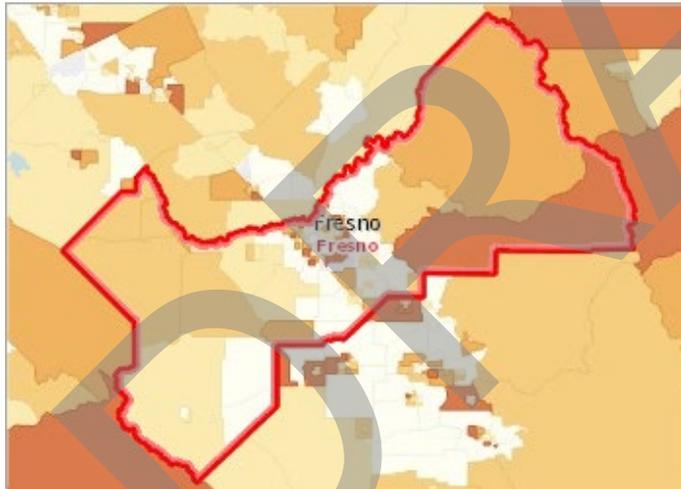


### **Food Assistance Program Participation**

#### **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 11.5% of Fresno’s low-income population falls into this category, totaling 49,776 individuals. This rate is slightly above the state rate of 10.3% of all residents<sup>37</sup>. 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 U.S.<sup>38</sup>.

#### **Population with Limited Food Access/Low-Income**



Population with Limited Food Access, Low Income, Percent by Tract, USDA - FARA 2019

- Over 50.0%
- 20.1 - 50.0%
- 5.1 - 20.0%
- Under 5.1%

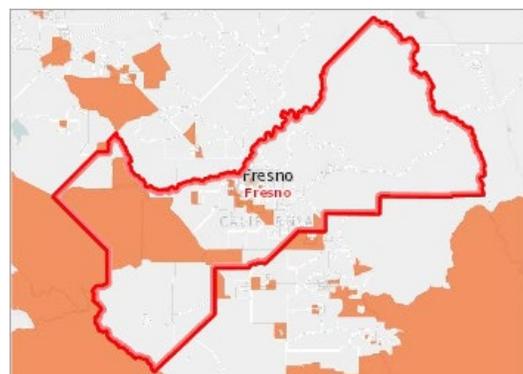


Figure 44. Food Desert Census Tracts

**THE AREAS OF THE COUNTY WITH THE HIGHEST POVERTY RATES HAVE THE LEAST ACCESS TO FOOD.**

<sup>37</sup> US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, USDA - Food Access Research Atlas. 2019. Source geography: Tract

<sup>38</sup> US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA - SNAP Retailer Locator. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2021. Source geography: Tract

### **Nutrition Resources**

Programs that provide nutrition education in Fresno County include 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 living in a household with an income up to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level; the West Fresno Family Resource Center; and the Fresno County Health Department’s Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention program which targets areas in the city of Fresno, Parlier, Kerman, Reedley and Sanger.

There is a wide variety of food resources in the county. These include: food distribution sites throughout the county; CalFresh assistance and CalFresh enrollment outreach by community organizations/service providers; food pantries; emergency food assistance and 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, 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.

### **Population Receiving SNAP (CalFresh) Benefits**

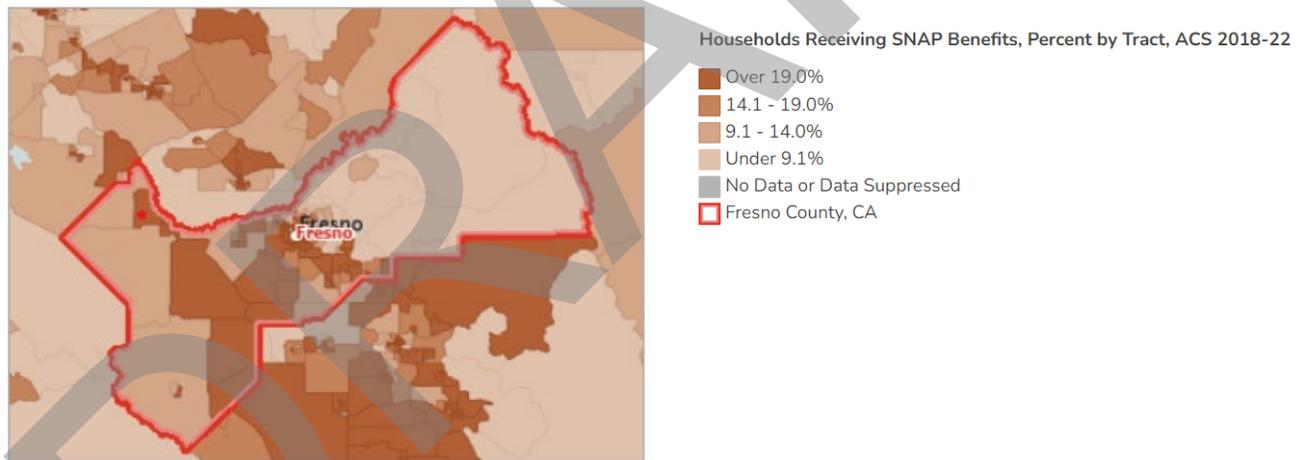


Figure 46. Population Receiving CalFresh by Census Tract

In Fresno County, 61,139 households participate in CalFresh. Of these, 26,536 are households headed by seniors totaling a rate of 36% of senior households that participate in CalFresh. Within the county, 41,799 households with children participate in CalFresh<sup>1</sup>. The table below shows the number of households that receive food assistance. A significant percentage of households receiving food assistance have an income below poverty. The areas of the county with the highest rate of people receiving food assistance are Huron, San Joaquin, Firebaugh and Orange Cove.

Participation in CalFresh by Area <sup>1</sup>				
Area	# of Households (HH) receiving CalFresh	% of HH receiving CalFresh	# HH receiving CalFresh with Children	% in HH Using CalFresh with income < poverty
Clovis	5,367	9.9%	1,954	16.3%
Coalinga	804	17.6%	492	44.4%
Firebaugh	794	33.6%	440	44.2%
Huron	595	35.8%	422	37.3%
Kerman	1,520	24.7%	1,121	30.7%
Kingsburg	620	14.6%	205	33.5%
Mendota	936	29.3%	710	55.0%
Orange Cove	894	34.1%	691	69.9%
Parlier	1,187	23.4%	972	46.8%
Reedley	1,401	18.4%	1,099	44.3%
Sanger	1,462	17.4%	1,103	42.7%
San Joaquin	382	33.9%	291	59.9%
Selma	1,814	22.4%	1,208	38.9%
Fresno City	46,614	22.0%	28,037	43.0%
Fresno County	22%	19.2%	38,121	43.6%

Table 26. Participation in CalFresh by Community

### Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

In Fresno County 28,928 pregnant women and new mothers participate in WIC<sup>39</sup>. Fresno EOC Head Start and Early Head Start programs provided 34 pregnant women (100%) nutrition information and support in 2021. Additionally, 2,045 families (58%) participated in WIC and 38% participated in CalFresh.

Head Start Families that Receive Food Assistance <sup>40</sup>		
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)	1,577	1,521
Total number of families receiving benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	1,325	1,271

Table 27. Head Start Families Receiving Food Assistance

<sup>39</sup> KidsData.Org. <https://m.kidsdata.org/table/357/fresno-county/2145/wic-participant-type>

<sup>40</sup> Head Start Program Information Report, 2022.



### ***Nutrition Key Data Findings***

Efforts to address food insecurity often involve a combination of social assistance programs, community initiatives and policy changes aimed at improving access to affordable, nutritious food for all individuals and families. The service area has disparate access and outcomes in access to healthy food for populations that are low-income and populations of color. As shown in the data the following findings are notable:

Racial Disparity in Food Security – Black/African American and Hispanic residents experience higher rates of food insecurity than their peers when compared to Whites.

Access to Food is Limited – The percentage of the low-income population that lacks access to healthy food is highest in the most impoverished and rural areas of Fresno County.

Food Programs are Not Utilized – A large percentage of the eligible population is not enrolled in SNAP or WIC. Based on family income and poverty rates cross-referenced with food insecurity data it is likely that many eligible families are not using CalFresh. Of community survey respondents, 1,534 indicated that there should be more help for people that need to apply for public assistance.

DRAFT

## Housing and Homelessness

Adequate and safe housing plays a crucial role in promoting overall well-being and in maintaining good health for individuals and communities. For example, housing is linked to physical health because safe and well-maintained housing provides protection from pests and pollutants and exposure to environmental hazards such as mold, lead, asbestos, and poor air quality which can lead to respiratory issues, allergies, and other health problems. Adequate housing also supports personal hygiene and sanitation which is essential for preventing the spread of diseases. Mental health is also connected to housing. Living in a stable environment promotes lower stress levels and improved mental health outcomes. On the other hand, overcrowded, unstable, or unsafe housing can contribute to anxiety, depression and other mental health issues.

A child’s healthy growth and development are dependent on many factors, including their living environment. The impact on children’s development is both immediate and long term; growing up in poor or overcrowded housing has been found to have a lasting impact on a child’s health and well-being throughout life. 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. Both children and adults living in poor or overcrowded conditions are more likely to experience respiratory problems, to be at risk of infections, and to experience mental health issues. Housing that is in poor condition or overcrowded also threatens safety. Further, 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, living in an urban area without access to safe public parks. Children in rural areas may have little access to recreation or other opportunities for development. Adults also suffer from poor recreational opportunities which undermines overall health and wellbeing.

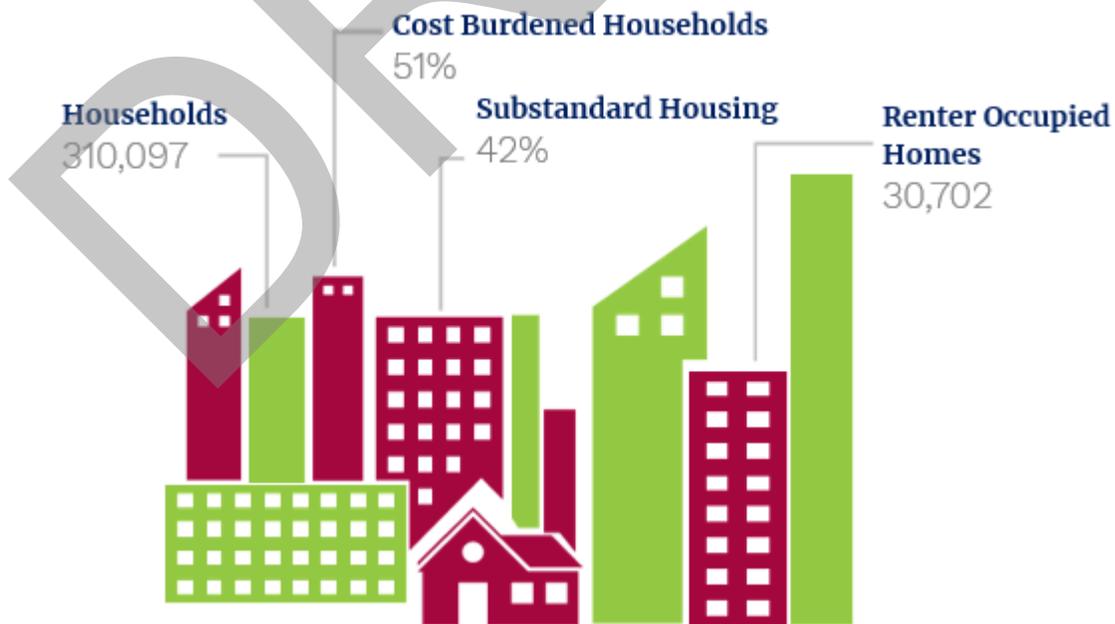


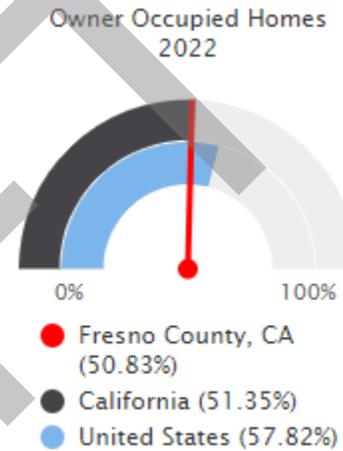
Figure 47. Housing Characteristics

## Housing Landscape



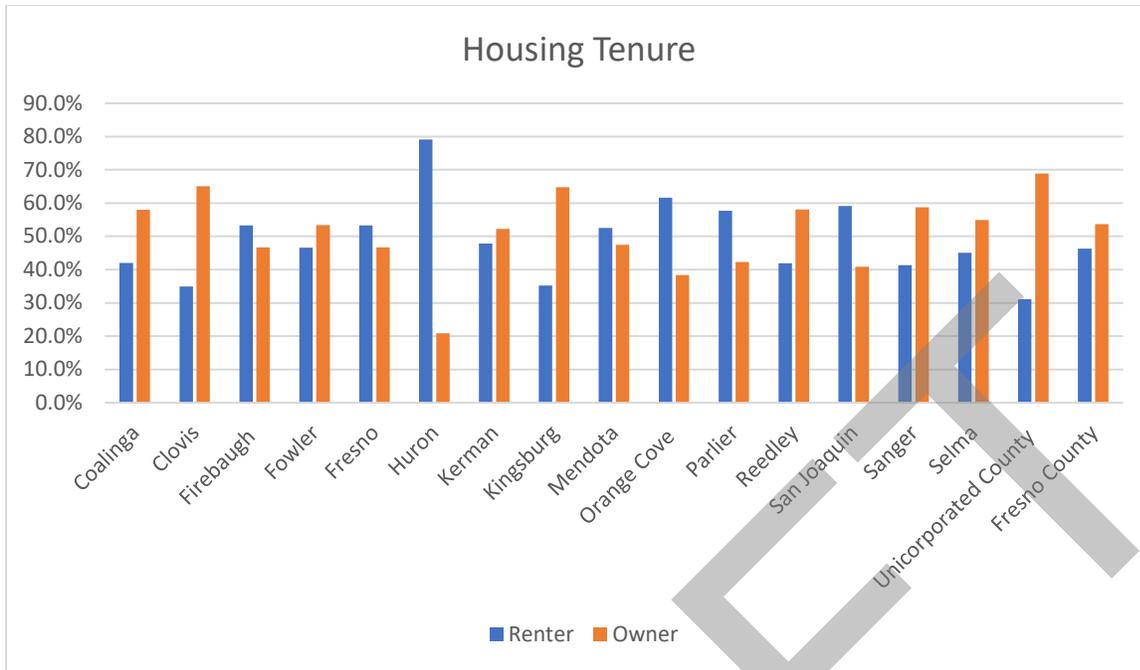
### Housing Characteristics

Homeownership is important because it provides an avenue for wealth building. As individuals build equity and make payments on their mortgage and the property value increases, the ability of a home to serve as a source of security and wealth is established. Additionally, owning a home provides a sense of belonging and security in a community and supports stable housing costs, which also contributes to wealth building. Over the past 20 years, the number of owner – occupied homes has decreased by almost 7% which has occurred in-step with rising housing costs. Beginning in 2012, the rate of home ownership leveled off around 55% which has remained consistent over time. Of, 339,270 housing units, 172,455 are owner occupied<sup>1</sup>.



Housing Characteristics – Home Ownership <sup>1</sup>				
Area	% Owner-Occupied Homes	% Renter-Occupied Homes	% Owner-Occupied Homes	% Renter-Occupied Homes
	2012	2012	2022	2022
Fresno County	55.0%	45.0%	54.2%	45.8%
California	56.0%	44.0%	55.6%	44.4%

*Data from the Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional Housing Element (December 2023) notes that asking rents increased by 10.7% between 2020 and 2021. According to the same report, renters need to earn approximately 1.6 times the minimum wage to afford the average asking rent in Fresno County. This could pose as a barrier to finding adequate housing.*



41

Figure 48. Housing Tenure by Community

### 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. Typical vacancy rates for rental units is between 5%-6% and for ownership housing a vacancy rate of 2% is considered optimum<sup>41</sup>. When vacancy rates approach 20% or more, “hyper-vacancy”, they indicate that market conditions have

### Housing Vacancy Rate by Census Tract

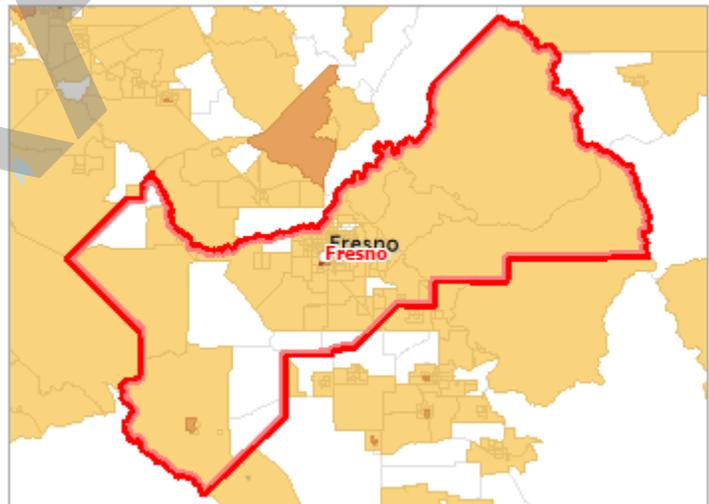


Figure 49. Vacancy Rates by Census Tract

deteriorated. The overall residential vacancy rate for Fresno is 1.5%. There are higher vacancy rates in some of the unincorporated areas of the county due to the proximity of Kings Canyon and the Sierra National Forest and the large number of vacation rentals in these areas. Vacancy

<sup>41</sup> Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional Housing Element. Dec. 2023. FCOG Data Packet, 2022 -- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2016-2020).

rates are highest in Firebaugh and Reedley at 8.1% and 6.1%, respectively indicating a low housing stock<sup>41</sup>.

### Housing Costs

Fresno County rents are significantly below the state average. The highest rental costs are in the City of Fresno followed by Clovis.

Median Housing Costs <sup>1</sup>		
Location	Median Monthly Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	Median Monthly Rental Costs
Fresno County	\$1,493	\$1,304
California	\$2,009	\$1,870

Table 28. Median Housing Costs

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 burden<sup>42</sup>. 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 additionally, 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. Orange Cove has the greatest share of the population that experiences a housing cost burden, followed by Riverdale. The City of Fresno is also home to a large population of families and individuals with a housing cost burden.

Housing Cost Burden <sup>1</sup>		
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%	18.0%

Table 29. Housing Cost Burden

<sup>42</sup> Evicted in Fresno-Facts for Housing Advocates (2019). [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O\\_\\_CstpJHwLDmioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O__CstpJHwLDmioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view)

### Housing Cost Burden by Census Tract

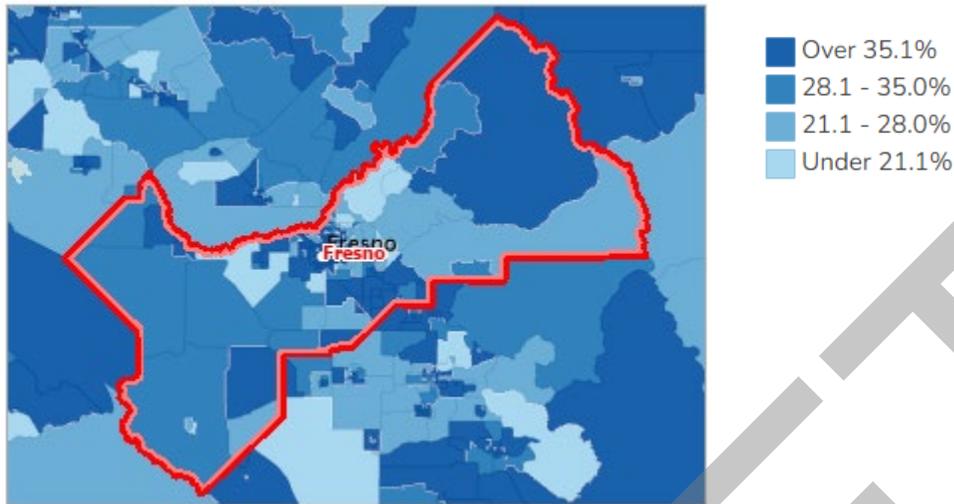


Figure 50. Cost Burdened Households by Census Tract

### Evictions

Fresno has a higher eviction filing rate than the nation. The most evictions occur in south Fresno. 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 percentage of the population comprised of 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 1.58<sup>43</sup>.

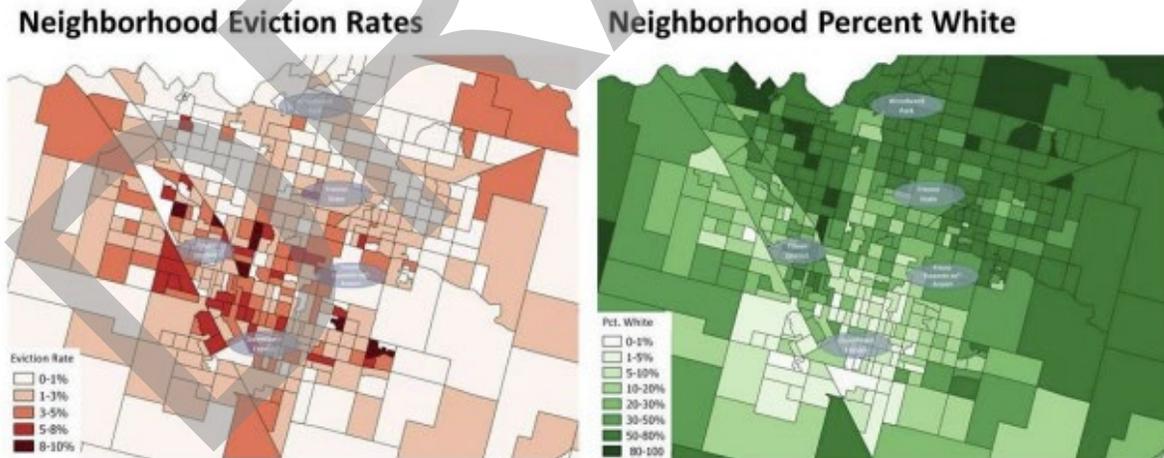


Figure 51. Neighborhood Eviction Rates

<sup>43</sup> Evicted in Fresno-Facts for Housing Advocates.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O\\_\\_CstpJHwLDmioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O__CstpJHwLDmioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view)

### Assisted Housing Units

Housing, and lack there-of, can make communities more segregated by race and class, encourage sprawl, and generate clogged highways and packed trains. Lack of housing also impacts the economy as employers experience difficulty recruiting new employees. Elevated housing costs result in a generational-wealth transfer where 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.

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 still priced out of housing, specifically single-female householder who earn less than 30% of the median income.

Affordable Housing <sup>1</sup>		
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	5.1%	47.8%
California	5.0%	52.8%
United States	8.3%	59.4%

Table 30. Affordable Housing

HUD Housing Stock <sup>44</sup>						
Area	Housing Choice Voucher Units	Project-Based Section 8 Units	Section 236 Units	Public Housing Authority Units	Section 202 Units	Section 811 Units
Fresno	13,175	3,149	157	909	279	19

Table 31. HUD Housing Stock

<sup>44</sup> HUD Office of Policy Development and Research (2023). *Assisted Housing: National and Local*. Retrieved from <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/assthsg.html>

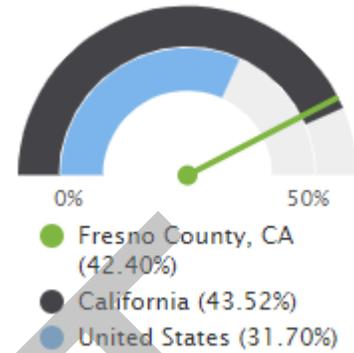
### Substandard Housing

Substandard housing is considered to be housing that is:



- lacking complete plumbing facilities,
- lacking complete kitchen facilities,
- with 1.01 or more occupants per room,
- with selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income are greater than 30%; and gross rent as a percentage of household income that is greater than 30%.

### % of Homes that are Substandard

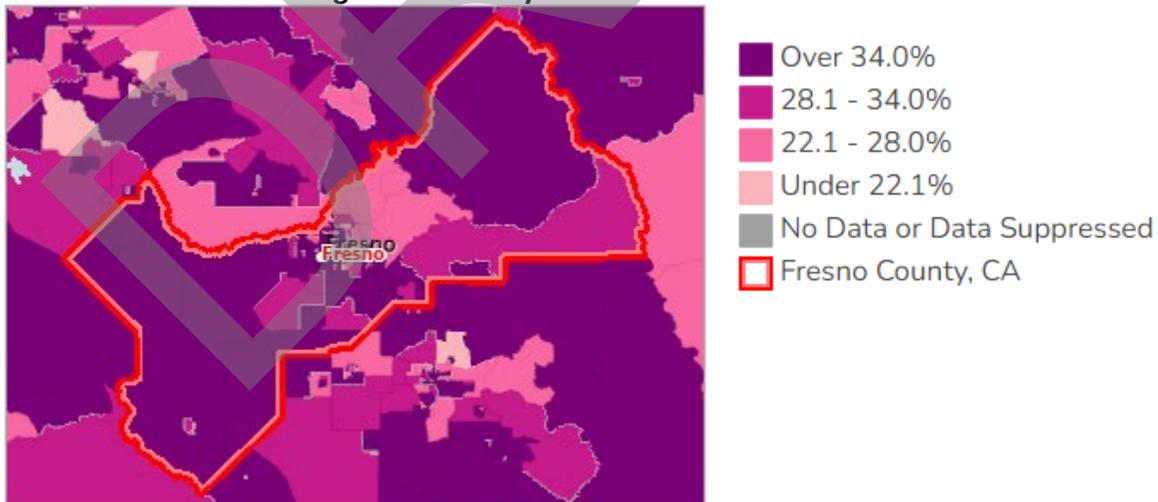


Selected conditions provide information that can be used to assess the quality of the housing inventory. This data is used to identify homes where the quality of living and housing can be considered substandard.

Substandard Housing Conditions <sup>1</sup>		
Location	Total Houses with 1 or More Substandard Conditions	% of Houses with 1 or More Substandard Conditions
Fresno	134,960	42.4%
California	5.7M	43.5%
United States	3.9M	31.7%

Table 32. Homes with One or More Substandard Conditions

### Substandard Housing Conditions by Census Tract



### 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 2023 Point-In-Time Count (PIT) for Fresno County there are 1,128 total households where people are homeless. Of these, 101 are composed of at least one adult and one child. The following graphic details the characteristics of unhoused subpopulations.

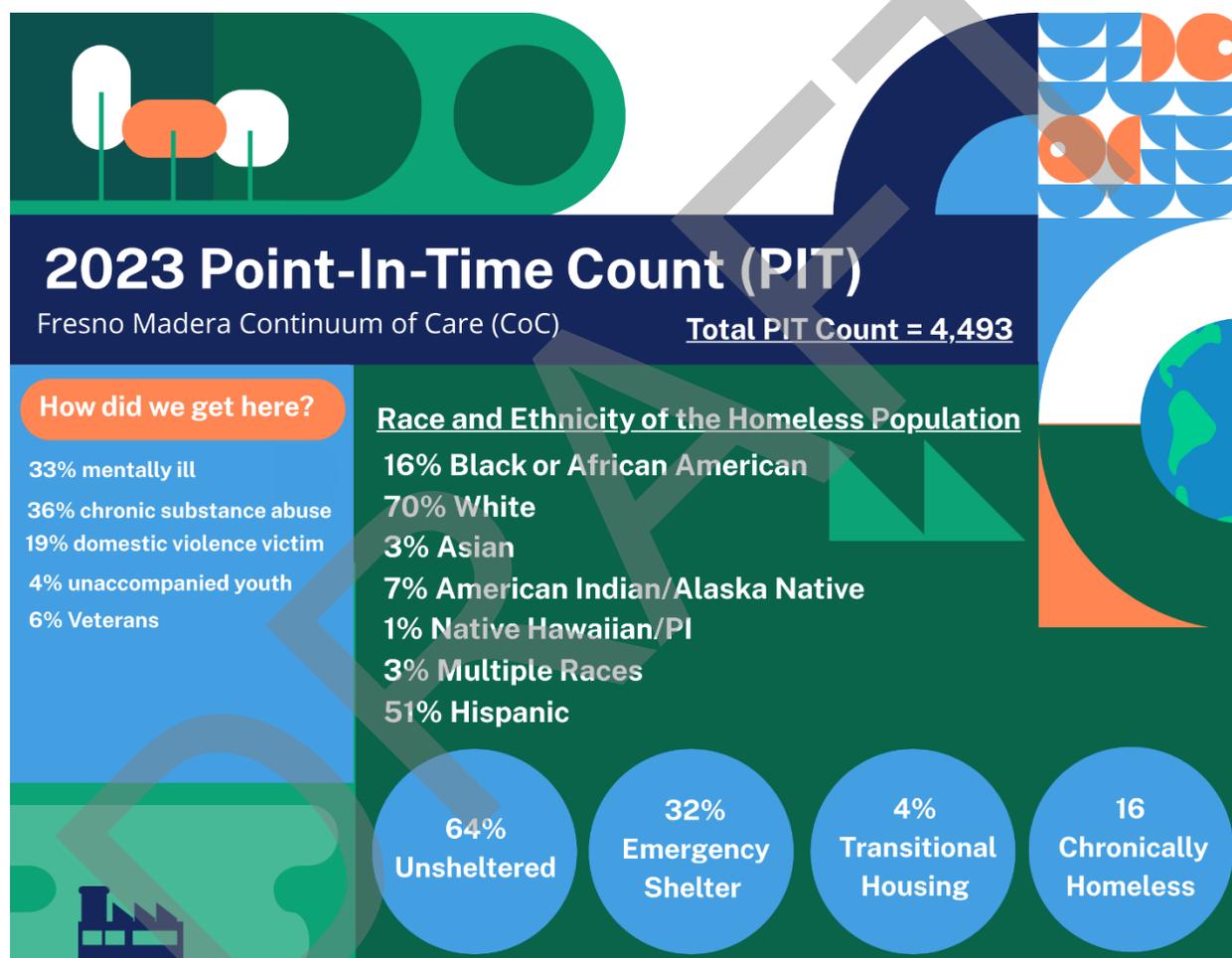


Figure 52. Point-In-Time Count (PIT)

### Homeless Students

Data from the California Department of Education indicates in 2023, there were 2,810 homeless students attending Fresno County schools<sup>45</sup>. Of students that were homeless, 71% were living in

<sup>45</sup> California Department of Education. Dataquest. <https://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/DQCensus/HmIsEnrByDTLevels.aspx?aggllevel=County&cds=10&year=2022-23>

doubled – up housing, 14% were staying in temporary shelters, 11% were in motels and 4% were temporarily unsheltered.

### Energy Assistance

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program that provides assistance to eligible low-income households with the goal of managing and meeting their immediate home heating and cooling needs. There are several program components: the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) provides one-time financial assistance to help balance an eligible household's utility bill. The Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) provides assistance to low-income households that are in a crisis situation. LIHEAP Weatherization provides free energy efficiency upgrades to low-income households to lower their monthly utility bills while also improving the health and safety of the household's occupants. The program also offers education on basic energy efficiency practices and instruction on the proper use and maintenance of installed weatherization measures and energy budget counseling.

## Energy Trends and Energy Insecurity

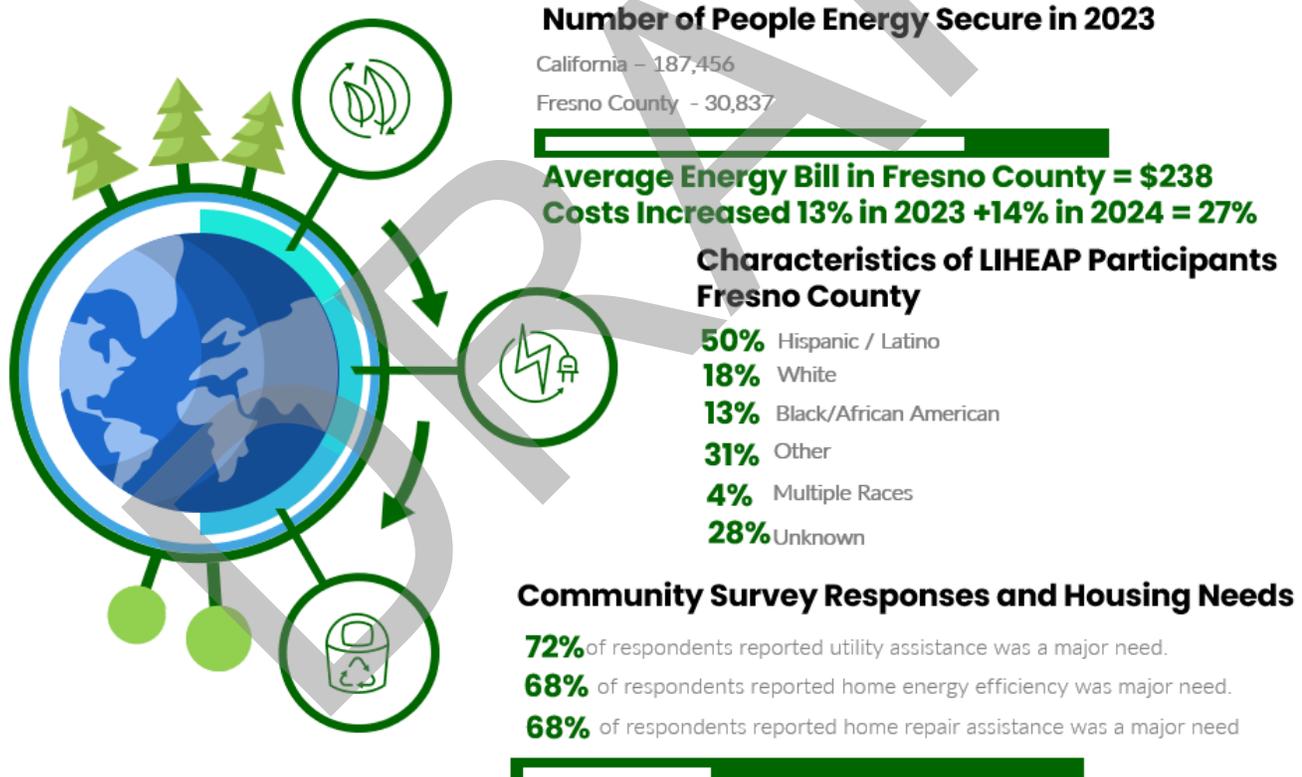


Figure 53. Energy Insecurity

<sup>46</sup> Energy Sage. 2024. Fresno EOC LIHEAP Reports. 2023-2024.

[https://www.google.com/search?q=average+electricity+bill+in+Fresno+County+CA&dq=average+electricity+bill+in+Fresno+County+CA&gs\\_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIHCAEQIRigATIHCALQIRigATIHCAMQIRigAdIBCTYyNDBqMGoxNagCCLACAQ&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=average+electricity+bill+in+Fresno+County+CA&dq=average+electricity+bill+in+Fresno+County+CA&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIHCAEQIRigATIHCALQIRigATIHCAMQIRigAdIBCTYyNDBqMGoxNagCCLACAQ&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)



### Community Survey Responses

Affordable housing was noted as a Top Five problem in 36 of the focus groups. It was also noted as a community problem in interviews with community leaders and by 73% (2,728) of community survey respondents.

Percent of Community Survey Respondents Indicating Housing as a Community Need by Housing Factor

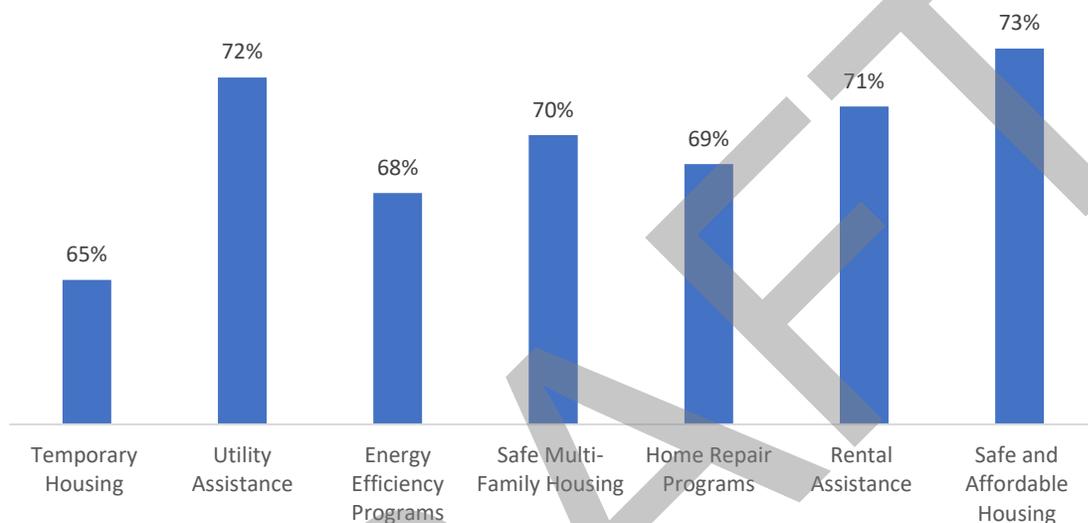


Figure 54. Housing Needs Identified by Community Survey Respondents



### Housing and Homelessness Key Data Findings

Adequate housing provides a sense of security and safety. It protects individuals from violence, crime and accidents. Unsafe neighborhoods or inadequate housing can lead to increased stress and fear, negatively affecting mental health. Access to suitable housing promotes a sense of belonging and community engagement. People who have stable housing are more likely to establish connections with neighbors, schools, and local services, leading to a support network that positively influences mental and emotional well-being.

Policies and initiatives that focus on improving housing affordability, safety and accessibility can have a significant positive impact on individual and public health. Recognizing the intricate connection between housing and well-being is essential for creating healthier, happier communities. In Fresno County the following housing needs are prevalent:

Barriers in accessing homeownership – The costs of purchasing a home is high and has increased over the past decade at a rate faster than wages have risen. Additionally, because the median income in the area is higher than the poverty rate and due to the high cost of living and low wage employment, it is difficult for people to qualify for homeownership assistance programs.

Additionally, there are few programs to assist with issues such as meeting down payment and credit score requirements.

Barriers in accessing rental housing – Some tenants living in Fresno County face a series of barriers that make it more difficult to find and keep a rental home such as involvement with the criminal justice system, limited credit history or delinquent utility payments. The eviction rate is higher for people of color than for Whites.

Cost-burdened residents– There are a significant number of individuals that experience a rental or homeownership housing cost burden. Among residents 38% are cost-burdened and 18% are severely cost burdened.

Lack of affordable housing – There are an insufficient number of affordable and assisted housing units available in Fresno County when the rate of affordable and assisted housing units is compared to the rate of people that have a low-income. Additionally, approximately 53% of all rental units are not affordable for households earning the median income for Fresno County.

Substandard conditions – In Fresno County, 42% of all homes have at least one substandard condition.

The primary strategies being used to resolve the housing challenges include community-based and state initiatives to improve housing quality and affordability, providing economic mobility initiatives, and expanding the scale of assistance to meet the needs of renters. The primary strategies used to support home owners in Fresno County are to stabilize homeowners, revitalizing existing homes, and to deconcentrate poverty.

Energy Assistance - Energy poverty is a measure of inequality because data shows that a considerable portion of income for a low-income household is spent on energy<sup>47</sup>. In turn, because low – income households in Fresno County are more likely to be households headed by single-females, Blacks, Hispanics and Asians, energy has resulted in racial disparities. The inability to afford energy costs leads to a likelihood that an individual may live in a home that has an unsafe temperature level which contributes to health conditions that could result in death due to Fresno County's high temperatures at certain times during the year. Energy costs are also a variable expense that can be cut when a household is struggling financially. Energy insecurity is a growing public health problem and could be examined as a social determinant of health<sup>47</sup>.

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<sup>47</sup> Sociodemographic disparities in energy security among low-income households before, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-020-00763-9>

## Early Care and Education

Adequate early care and education programs provide critical support to families. First, child development programs offer structured environments where children can learn skills that lay a solid foundation for lifelong success. Infant/toddler and preschool programs, in addition to childcare services enable families to pursue education and training, which can lead to better job opportunities and improved financial stability. Early childhood programs often play a role in identifying and addressing developmental delays or special needs, ensuring that children receive appropriate interventions sooner rather than later. Overall, early childhood education and childcare are crucial in supporting the well-being of both children and their families, promoting a healthy, balanced approach to family and work life. This section of the community assessment provides an overview of the early care and education system in Fresno County.

### ***The Fresno County Early Care and Education System***

#### Public Preschool Programs

Fresno County has an extensive network of 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 Childcare programs and the Migrant Head Start program. In most cases, the state directly contracts with providers to serve children under five years. The Migrant Head Start program has sites located in Firebaugh, Orange Cove, Parlier, Selma, Reedley, and Mendota.

For infants and toddlers, the programs include Early Head Start and Migrant Early Head Start. Infants and toddlers are also served in licensed childcare centers, 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 but we are not including them in this section because these programs do not impact Head Start enrollment.

<b>Public Preschool Program Slots 2023<sup>48</sup></b>	
<b>Type of Program</b>	<b>Slots Available</b>
Head Start	2,112
Migrant Head Start <sup>49</sup>	198
California State Preschool	5,633
Transitional Kindergarten <sup>50</sup>	2,954
<b>Total Slots Available</b>	<b>10,897</b>

<sup>48</sup> California Department of Education DataQuest.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/ad/cspenrollmentbyprovidercountyreports.asp>

<sup>49</sup> <https://www.cclid.dss.ca.gov/carefacilitysearch/Search/ChildCare>

<sup>50</sup> <https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/tkreports/TkLevels.aspx?cdscode=00000000000000&year=2021-22>

### Number of Programs by Type

Program Types <sup>51</sup>	
Program Types	Number of Programs
Head Start (HS)	1
Early Head Start (EHS)	1
Migrant and Seasonal HS/EHS	1
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>3</b>

Table 33. Number of Programs by Type

The Transitional Kindergarten program serves children in the year before kindergarten. There are 2,379 slots (2021-2022) offered at elementary schools throughout Fresno County. Since the last community assessment was completed there has been an increase of 575 slots, now totaling 2,954 (2023). The number of slots are awarded based on the number of kindergarteners that must be served in a given year and in response to program availability.

Transitional Kindergarten Slots by Site (2021-2022) <sup>52</sup>	
Site	TK Program Participation
Alvina Elementary	2
Big Creek Elementary	0
Burrel Union Elementary	6
Caruthers Unified	30
Central Unified	211
Clay Joint Elementary	0
Clovis Unified	491
Coalinga-Huron	25
Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified	33
Fowler Unified	28
Fresno County Office of Education	40
Fresno Unified	1,047
Golden Plains Unified	8
Kerman Unified	80
Kings Canyon Joint Unified	76
Kingsburg Elementary Charter	46
Laton Joint Unified	6
Mendota Unified	24
Monroe Elementary	0
Orange Center	20
Pacific Union Elementary	4
Parlier Unified	24

<sup>51</sup> <https://rrnetwork.org/research/child-care-data-tool#10>

<sup>52</sup> <https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/tkreports/TkLevels.aspx?cdscode=10000000000000&year=2021-22>

Pine Ridge Elementary	4
Raisin City Elementary	7
Riverdale Joint Unified	24
Sanger Unified	5
Selma Unified	54
Sierra Unified	19
Washington Colony Elementary	5
West Park Elementary	4
Westside Elementary	56

Table 34. TK Participation by Site

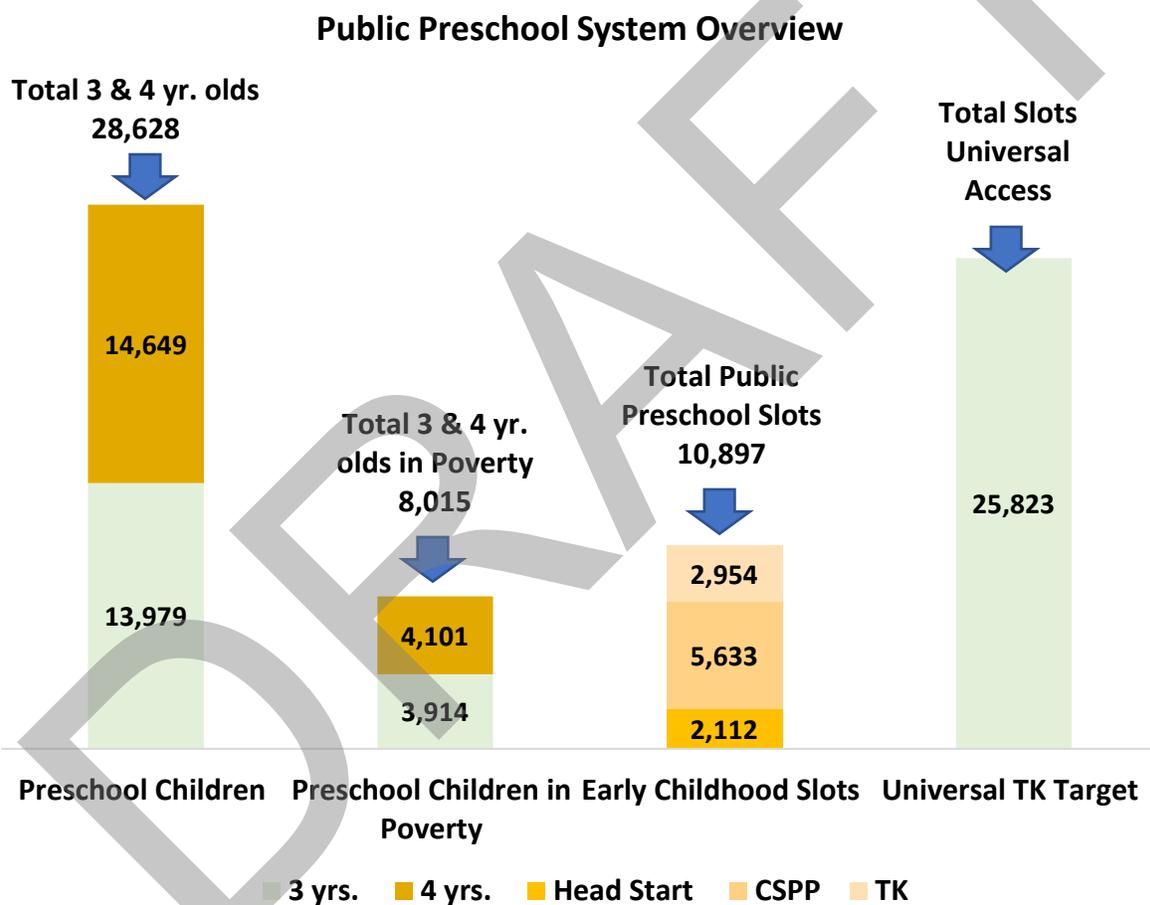
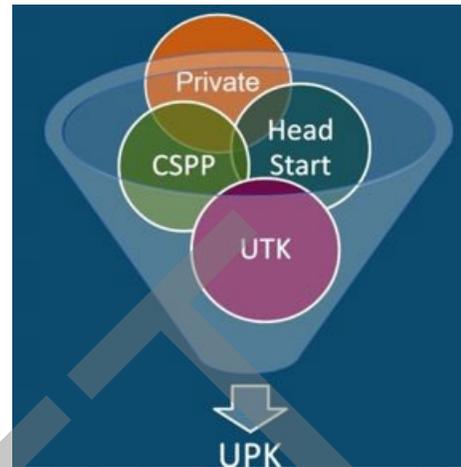


Figure 55. Preschool System Overview

### **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 in 2021 and 2,294 in 2022-2023 which shows the growing scope of the program. At full implementation of the TK program in 2025-2026, it is anticipated that 85% of all children aged 3 & 4 years will be served in state-funded early childhood programs. The impact of TK on Head Start is unknown but several considerations should remain at the forefront.



- 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 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 and they will be part-year programs. Currently, just 29% of state preschool slots operate for a full-day. However, there are full-day subsidized slots in childcare centers and other programs and some TK programs are paired with childcare and extend into the evenings.
- How do you change the narrative, so families are better able to recognize the value of the comprehensive service model offered in Head Start?
- Could a referral system be put into place where the most at-risk families, based on the number of adverse early childhood experiences, 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 and often Head Start is not seen as a “school – based program”. There is 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. It is important to convey that TK slots are not comprehensive, which will undermine the success of the most at-risk families should they opt out of Head Start.

*There are currently many other options available for four-year-olds besides TK, including the California State Preschool Program (CSPP), Head Start, other center-based care, and home-based care. Most recent estimates suggest about 40 percent of four-year-olds are in publicly provided care, about half of which is TK (Friedmann-Kraus 2023). Estimates from a few years prior (2016) find that 71 percent of four-year-olds are in non-parental care, and 62 percent are in center based care (Master Plan for Early Childhood Learning and Care). To the extent that these other options provide high quality care that promotes educational and social-emotional development, we may not expect TK to produce a relative improvement in outcomes even if it is high-quality.*

*--2023 Public Policy Institute of California*

### **Infant and Toddler Programming**

Fresno County is home to 39,152 infants and toddlers, of which 10,963 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 and in family childcare 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 6% of all infants and toddlers with a low-income and 1% of all infants and toddlers in the population. Early Head Start serves less than 1% of all program eligible infants and toddlers in Fresno County.

<b>Publicly Funded Center-Based Infant/Toddler Program Slots</b>	
<b>Type of Program</b>	<b>Slots Available</b>
Early Head Start	478
Early Head Start Childcare Partnership (Tribal/Non-Tribal)	137
Migrant Early Head Start	61
Cal-SAFE Teen Parent Programs	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>709</b>

Table 35. Public Infant and Toddler Slots

### **Home Visiting Services**

The most recent data indicates that 2,405 families were served through 19 different home visiting programs operating throughout Fresno County. The services were provided primarily to families with infants and toddlers. The programs varied from comprehensive services delivered using an evidence-based model for children birth-to-five such as Nurse Family Partnership, to visits focused solely on health and literacy<sup>53</sup>.

<sup>53</sup> Cradle to Career Fresno County, 2019. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://fresnoc2c.org/files/2020-11/C2C\_Blueprint\_FINAL%20%28corrected%201-23-20%29.pdf

### Infant Toddler System Overview

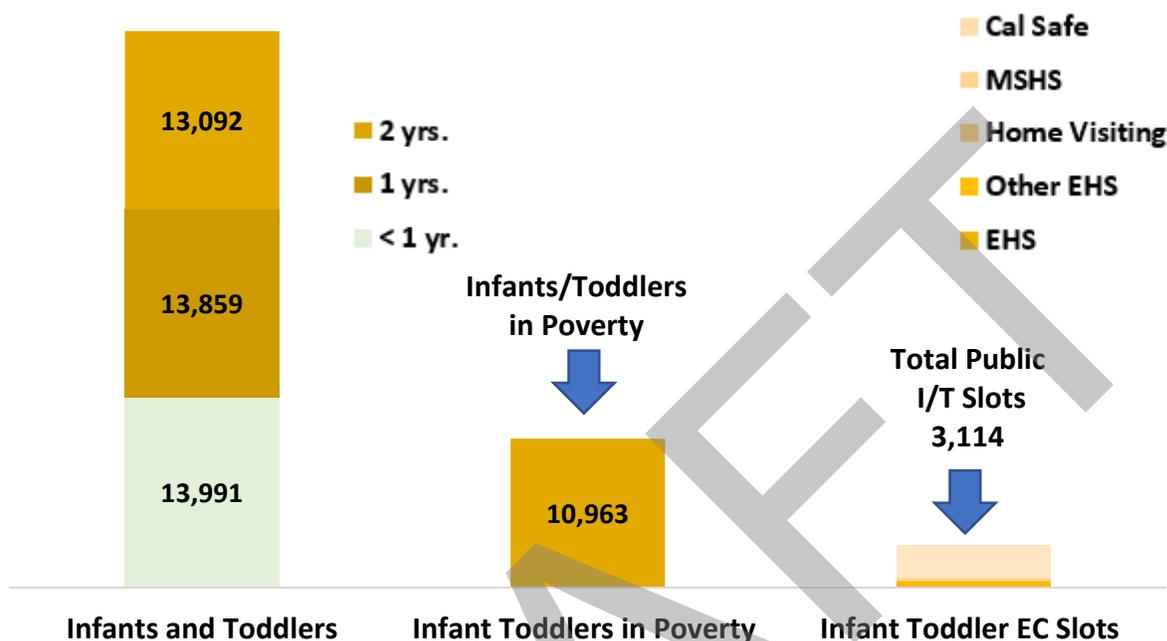


Figure 56. Infant and Toddler System Overview

### Licensed Childcare Slots

The availability of licensed childcare slots in family childcare homes and centers varies by community. Within the county, there are 798 licensed childcare centers and 503 family childcare homes. The majority of childcare slots are available in the population centers such as Fresno or Clovis, while the rural areas are underserved, or they are 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 13,366 licensed childcare spaces available for preschool-aged children.

Supply of Licensed Childcare Slots	
Licensed Childcare Slots Preschool	13,336
School-Age	2,030
Licensed Childcare Slots Infant/Toddler	1,185
Licensed Family Childcare Homes	503
Childcare Centers	798

Table 36. Licensed Childcare Programs and Slots by Age and Type of Facility

Fresno County is home to many childcare deserts. There is adequate supply in areas of Clovis, but the rest of the county remains unserved, particularly in the rural areas.

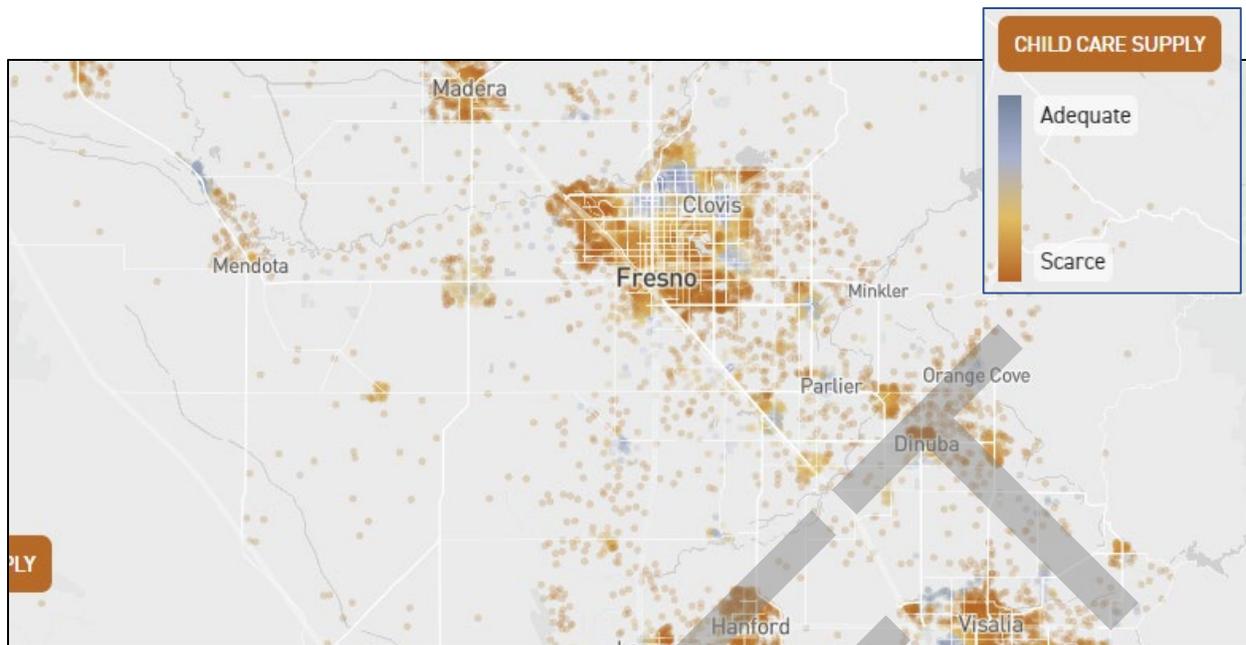


Figure 57. Childcare Deserts in Fresno County<sup>54</sup>

### Demand for Early Childhood Services

In total, the service area needs 42,971 childcare slots to serve the estimated number of children with all parents working. This data indicates there is a slot gap of 26,420 early care and education slots. It is estimated the current system can serve 38% of all children who need care. However, the greatest shortage of care is for infants and toddlers as the public and non-public child development system can only serve 4% of all infants and toddlers who have working parents while 71% of preschool-aged children can be served.

Work Characteristics of Families and Birth-to-Five Slots Needed <sup>55</sup>					
Area	# of Children Under 3	# of Children Aged 3 & 4	% of Families with all Caregivers Working	0-2 yrs. Slot Needed	3-5 yrs. Slots Needed
Biola	107	47	34.3%	37	16
Clovis	4,383	3,935	71.3%	3,125	2,806
Coalinga	456	342	67.8%	309	232
Firebaugh	314	319	38.8%	122	124
Huron	303	206	63.1%	191	130
Kerman	758	485	62.3%	472	302
Kingsburg	294	310	69.5%	204	215
Mendota	756	480	56.7%	429	272
Orange Cove	407	405	70.2%	286	284
Parlier	468	627	60.4%	283	379
Reedley	1,335	1,041	63.4%	846	660
Riverdale	111	149	58.5%	65	87

<sup>54</sup> Center for American Progress. <https://childcaredeserts.org/>

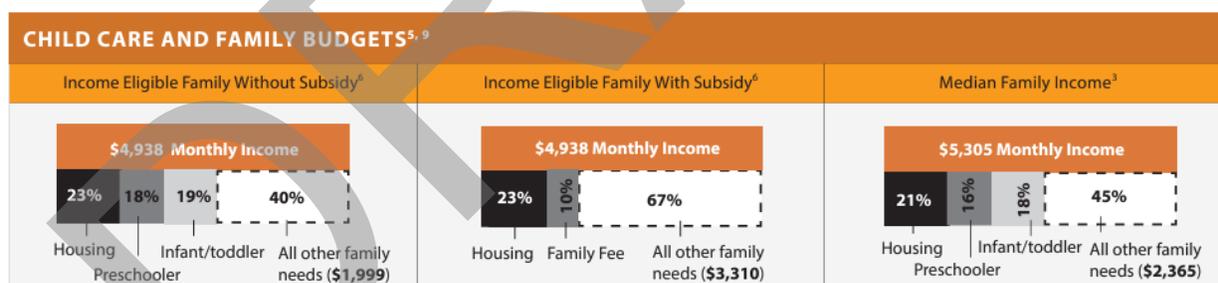
<sup>55</sup> American Community Survey, Selected Economic Characteristics. 2022.

Work Characteristics of Families and Birth-to-Five Slots Needed <sup>55</sup>					
Area	# of Children Under 3	# of Children Aged 3 & 4	% of Families with all Caregivers Working	0-2 yrs. Slot Needed	3-5 yrs. Slots Needed
Sanger	1,009	1,113	49.0%	494	545
San Joaquin	225	208	28.8%	65	60
Selma	886	764	54.2%	480	414
Fresno City	23,373	16,906	62.4%	14,585	10,549
Fresno County	39,152	30,381	61.8%	24,196	18,775

According to the 2023 Fresno County Child Care Portfolio, 6% of childcare requests were for evening, weekend or overnight care, down from 13% in 2019, with no childcare centers and 36% of family childcare homes offering that type of care. Additionally, of all requests for care, 28% of requests were for infants and toddlers, 44% of requests were for preschoolers, and 28% of requests were care for children over six years. The major reasons that families seek childcare include employment (83% compared to 71% in 2019); participation in school or training (8% compared to 15% in 2019), and because they are seeking employment (10% compared to 13% in 2019)<sup>56</sup>.

### Affordable Childcare

The annual cost of care for children in need of childcare represents a significant portion of family income. As shown below, for a family earning \$4,938 per month without a subsidy, infant/toddler care would consume 19% of the family budget. For a family with a subsidy, the family fee would consume 10% of the family budget<sup>56</sup>.



In 2021, the cost of care for infants and toddlers increased by 16% for center-based childcare and by 22% for family childcare. For preschoolers, in the past five years the cost of care increased by 43% in childcare centers and by 11% in family childcare homes<sup>57</sup>.

<sup>56</sup> Child Care Resource and Referral Network. 2023 Child Care Portfolio. chrome-extension://efaidnbmninnbpcjpcglclefindmkaj/https://rrnetwork.org/assets/general-files/Fresno\_2023-01-25-035626\_skr1.pdf

Annual Cost of Childcare by Age Group and Facility Type <sup>57</sup>		
Type of Facility	Amount	
	Infant	Preschooler
Childcare Center	\$15,552	\$14,388
Family Childcare Home	\$11,148	\$9,588

Table 37. Annual Cost of Care by Age Group and Facility Type

### **Childcare Subsidies**

In Fresno County, there are 41 programs that offer subsidized childcare. Supportive Services, Inc. administers the alternative payment program which pays all or part of the cost for childcare for eligible children aged birth-to-12 years. The 2022 Fresno County Child Care Portfolio estimates that 8,802 children received a childcare subsidy. The data indicates that 559 children under three years received a subsidy, and 8,243 aged 3-5 years received a subsidy<sup>57</sup>. KidsData notes that 32% of Fresno County families that are working have a low-income. This indicates there is a need for subsidies for 7,742 infants and toddlers and 6,008 preschoolers. The current subsidies fall short of meeting the need and the subsidy slot gap totals 4,948.

### **Head Start Family Work and Training Schedules**

Among families attending Head Start and Early Head Start, 65% of parents are employed or in job training or they are attending school. This data indicates that more than 1,599 families in the program are in need of childcare services. Of these families, 377 are enrolled in Early Head Start and 1,222 are enrolled in Head Start.

### **Childcare Quality**

The Fresno County Quality Stars rating system is a quality rating improvement system (QRIS) for licensed early care and education providers. 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 childcare providers, and 40 licensed family childcare 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 date<sup>58</sup>.

<sup>57</sup> <https://rrnetwork.org/research/child-care-data-tool#!0>

<sup>58</sup> [https://qualitycountsca.net/ca\\_county/fresno/?audience=quality-partners](https://qualitycountsca.net/ca_county/fresno/?audience=quality-partners)

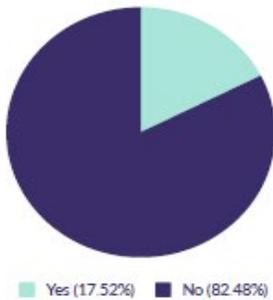


## Community Survey Responses

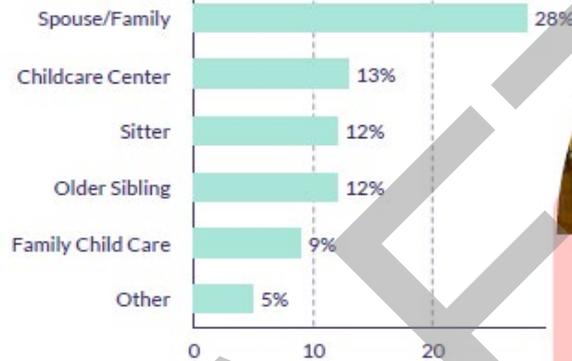
The following represents responses from families receiving Head Start services who participated in the community assessment survey.

### Community Survey Responses from Head Start 0-5 Families

Do you use childcare programs other than Head Start and Early Head Start?



#### Types of Childcare Utilized



Reported by % of HS Family Responses indicating they had a childcare challenge in the past year

#### Childcare Challenges



32% of families need childcare to attend career training (605)

#### Last Year.....

- 35% of Families had difficulty paying childcare costs
- 38% had difficulty with childcare and their work schedule
- 30% had difficulty obtaining childcare assistance/subsidy

#### Early Care and Education Program Preferences

- 36% families prefer center-based (8-10 hrs.) daily
- 21% families prefer center-based (6-7 hrs.) daily
- 21% families prefer school-year center-based program



Figure 58. Head Start Family Community Survey Responses



### **Early Care and Education Key Data 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 61% of all children aged 3-5 years (10,897 state preschool slots/13,336 preschool childcare slots) and 100% of preschoolers in poverty. The system can serve 11% of children aged 0-3 years (3,114 publicly funded slots and 1,185 childcare slots) and the public infant/toddler system can serve 28% of infants and toddlers in poverty. However, when the home-based slots are removed, the center-based infant and toddler system can serve just 2.9% of all infants and toddlers in poverty.

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 45% of all three and four-year olds. To achieve universal access, the county needs a total of 25,823 preschool slots, which is already accommodated by the current early childhood system when childcare programs are included. To universally serve all children in public preschool programs, the county would need an additional 14,296 slots.

The push for universal access should also be viewed in the context of trends that 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 children due to the cost of care. While universal access programs do result in benefits for many children, there are unintended consequences that could result from such a large and fast 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.

In Fresno County, 61.8% of families with children under six have all parents in the workforce, a rate lower than for the nation and for California. This trend is influenced by low rates of educational attainment among families. However, in the Head Start program 65% of parents are either employed or in job training programs. The number of working families in the Head Start and Early Head Start program has decreased from the prior year. According to the data, 1,599 Head Start and Early Head Start children needed access to childcare because all parents were working and or because their parents were in career training. The scheduling needs of Head Start families are varied, as many attend school or work rotating or alternative schedules 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 8,802 children receiving a childcare subsidy, and 2,816 of these children 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 childcare 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 to open 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 and Transitional Kindergarten to include 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 programs that alleviate the costs of childcare for families by creating models for blending state preschool funds, Head Start and childcare subsidies. Lastly, Fresno EOC 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 and toddler early care and education slot gap and the childcare cost, quality and affordability crisis.

## Transportation, Communication & Community Environment

The ability to travel offers the means to reach essential opportunities such as jobs, education, shops, and a personal support network which impacts the quality of life. Providing transportation services or reducing financial (and other) barriers to travel is one solution for addressing poverty and social challenges, 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, Fresno Area Express began providing free rides, however bus fares were reinstated in September 2021, which continues to pose 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 Head Start and Early Head Start 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%. In contrast, the rate of residents that 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. Bus riders report they spend a significant amount of time on buses, often more than 45 minutes to an hour while commuting. The rate of individuals that work from home increased from 5% in 2020 to 8% in 2022.

Commuter Travel Patterns <sup>59</sup>							
Report Area	Total Workers	% Drive Alone	Percent Carpool	Percent Public Transport	Percent Walk	Percent Taxi or Other	Percent Work at Home
Fresno County	409,153	76%	11%	0.8%	1%	2%	8%

Table 38. Commuter Travel Patterns

Fresno County conducted a survey to identify transportation issues in response to Measure C, a ballot initiative to expand transportation that was passed by Fresno County voters in 2022. In survey responses (2,988 respondents), close to 9 in 10 people, reported there is a great need for additional funding for the county transportation system<sup>60</sup>.

<sup>59</sup> United States Census Bureau. 2022. Table B08141. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

<sup>60</sup> <https://measurerenewal.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/220-6352-Fresno-County-Transportation-Issues-Survey-P-F-4-27-2022-sent.pdf>.

### Travel Time to Work

Workers in the service area have an average commute to work of 23 minutes. Car ownership remains high and 2% of Fresno County households do not have a motor vehicle<sup>59</sup>.

Travel Time to Work <sup>22</sup>						
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	377,707	13%	60%	22%	5%	23.35

Table 39. Travel Time to Work

### Computer and Internet Access

The residents of Fresno County have access to the internet at a rate comparable to California and the nation. Anecdotal data from the community assessment interviews indicated that census tracts with higher poverty rates have slower internet speeds than more affluent areas.

Computer and Internet Access <sup>22</sup>			
Area	Population with No Computer	Individuals with a Broadband Subscription	Population with Computer without Internet
Fresno County	4 %	88%	7%

Table 40. Computer and Internet Access



### Community Survey Responses

Community survey respondents were asked to rank their transportation needs. The following details the number of responses that noted a particular need by type of need. Transportation was also reflected in the community forums as a Top 5 need.



Figure 59. Transportation Needs in Fresno County



### Community Survey Responses

Additional community needs noted by the survey respondents related to community and neighborhood assistance were consistent with the data identified in the community forums. A total of 2,426 respondents noted the following concerns as a major need for Fresno County.

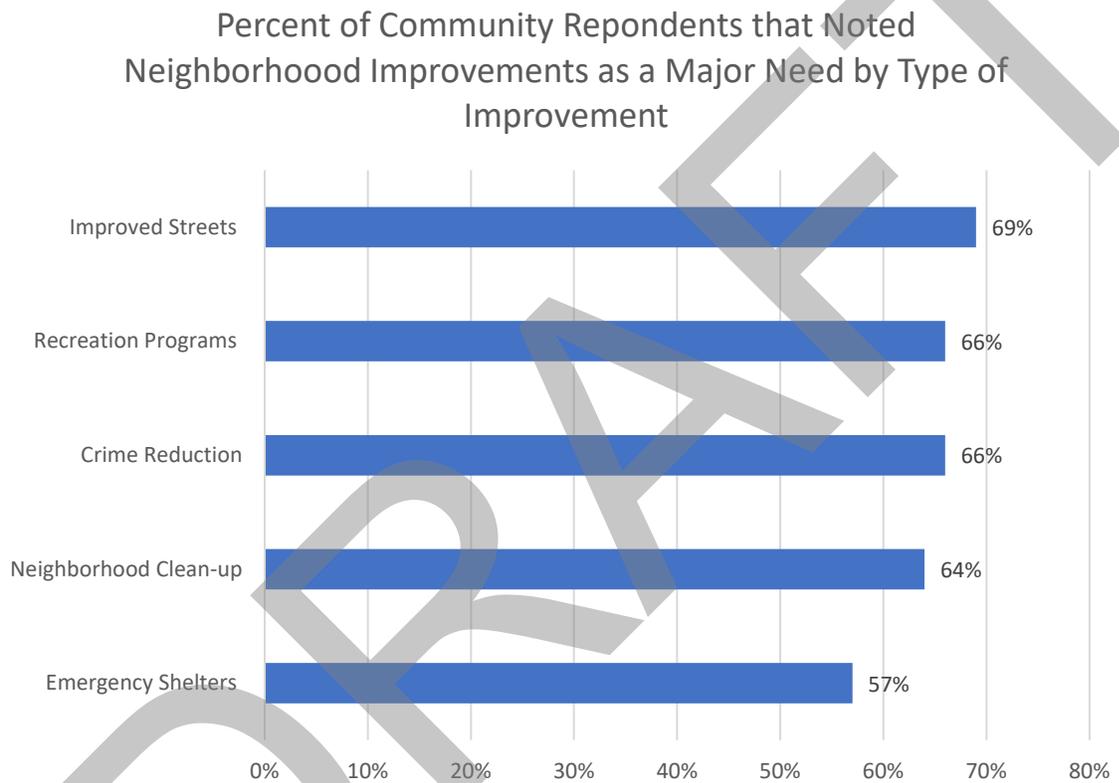


Figure 60. Neighborhood Improvements That Are a Major Need



## ***Transportation and Communication Key Data Findings***

Transportation challenges vary and are influenced by factors such as population growth, urban development, and infrastructure. Some of the general transportation challenges identified in the community assessment data and surveys in Fresno County include:

Traffic congestion – Since Fresno County has many rural areas, two lane roads are often the major commuter routes. These routes in-turn, lead to population centers. The lack of infrastructure has led to increased travel time for individuals to travel to work in these locations. The average commute time for workers is 23 minutes.

Limited public transportation - The area is composed of several rural communities and public transportation is limited to the population centers. Additionally, bus routes, the travel time from one place to another and the cost of public transportation is a barrier for residents to work, obtain assistance, attend critical appointments and socialize.

Lack of alternative means of transportation – Several parts of the service area lack a pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, such as sidewalks and bike lanes. This discourages walking and cycling as viable transportation options.

Rural-Urban Interface – Fresno County has both rural and urban areas. Balancing the transportation needs of these diverse regions can be a challenge, as rural areas may require different types of transportation infrastructure than the urban centers.

Community survey respondents were asked about the cause of transportation needs in the community. The most frequently cited causes were the price of vehicles, lack of a driver's license, people not being able to afford insurance, lack of after-hours transportation and a limited number of bus stops.

## Community Needs Ranking Sheet

### Community Needs Ranking

Community	Largest Population Increase (5= greatest increase = need for more services) (2020-2022)	Lowest Median Hs.Hold Income (1 highest income/15 lowest income)	Poverty Rate (1 lowest/15 highest pov)	HS Dropout (15 = highest rate of dropout/1 = lowest rate of high school dropout)	Births to Unmarried Mothers (15 = highest/1=lowest)	Renters with Cost-Burden (1 = lowest/15 = highest)	Scores	Community Ranking 1+ greatest need/most distress)				
Clovis	3.6%+	3	\$88,554	1	2	1	22.2%	5	41%	6	18	14
Coalinga	-3.2%	0	\$68,976	4	5	5	42.8%	13	17%	1	28	12
Huron	<1%+	0	\$48,070	11	11	15	42.7%	12	47%	7	56	3
Kerman	1.2%+	1	\$53,956	8	7	9	41.6%	11	41%	10	46	7
Kingsburg	1.8%+	2	\$74,897	2	3	2	6.6%	1	38%	2	12	15
Mendota	<1%+	0	\$43,315	13	12	14	18.1%	3	46%	9	51	4
Orange Cove	1.2%+	1	\$33,671	15	15	13	100%	15	59%	12	71	1
Parlier	<1%+	0	\$50,026	10	9	10	23.7%	6	59%	13	48	5
Reedley	<1%+	0	\$61,629	6	4	8	38.7%	9	59%	14	41	10
Sanger	<1%+	0	\$69,333	3	1	6	27.0%	7	39%	3	20	13
Selma	<1%+	0	\$53,874	9	6	7	68.2%	14	44%	8	44	8
San Joaquin	<1%+	0	\$43,750	12	13	11	10.5%	2	40%	5	43	9
Firebaugh	3.9%+	4	\$36,078	14	14	12	35.1%	8	39%	4	56	2
Fowler	11.8%+	5	\$56,410	7	12	4	18.8%	4	60%	15	47	6
Fresno	<1%+	0	\$63,001	5	8	3	39.5%	10	50%	11	37	11

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Training and Employment - Valley Apprenticeship Connections
<b>Agenda Item #:</b> 11	<b>Director:</b> Patrick Turner
<b>Subject:</b> Valley Apprenticeship Connections - Central Valley Training Center Agreement	<b>Officer:</b> Sherry Neil

**Recommended Action**

Staff recommends approval for full Board consideration of the Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) Central Valley Training Center Project Agreement from the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation (Fresno County EDC) in the amount of \$462,763 for a 21-month period from May 1, 2024, to February 28, 2026.

**Background**

Since October 2020, the Fresno County EDC has partnered with Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) providing services under the Central Valley Training Center in Selma, CA. VAC provides a customized program that caters to the unique needs of each program participant and provides pathways to apprenticeships to meet the region’s demand for construction and infrastructure projects. The previous agreement with EDC expired December 31, 2023.

As of April 30, 2024, the EDC received the Notice to Proceed (NTP)/award from the City of Selma to continue the Central Valley Training Center. The funding will support VAC to continue providing outreach, recruitment, assessment, orientations, and job placement for eight 12-week cohorts.

This agreement aligns with the agency’s strategic focus area of employment opportunities.

**Fiscal Impact**

This funding increases VAC’s overall budget by 462,763 and will support personnel, equipment, and operating expenses. No match is required. The table below provides a detailed budget by line item.

**VAC - Training and Employment  
May 1, 2024 - February 28, 2026**

<b>CVT Selma \$462763</b>	<b>GRANT</b>	
	FTE	AMOUNT
PERSONNEL		
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	0.13	\$ 65,604
PROGRAM MANAGER	0.25	\$ 115,886
PROGRAM COORDINATOR	0.35	\$ 115,886
VOLUNTEER SPECIALIST	1.00	\$ 115,886
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>		<b>\$ 413,263</b>
PROGRAM EXPENSES		
SUPPLIES		\$ 27,500
OTHER COSTS		\$ 22,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 462,763</b>

**CSBG Organizational Standard**

Organization has demonstrated partnerships across the community, for specifically identified purposes per Category 2, Standard 2.1.

**Conclusion**

If approved by the Board, funding for this project will support a total of eight, 12-week cohorts, serving approximately 20-25 low-income students per cohort with behavioral, skill building and hands on work experience. If not approved, the Subcontractor Agreement with Fresno County EDC will not be executed, and VAC will be unable to serve additional low-income students with workforce development opportunities.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Finance
<b>Agenda Item #:</b> 12	<b>Director:</b> Angela Riofrio
<b>Subject:</b> Agency Financial and Head Start Financial Status Report March 2024	<b>Officer:</b> Steven Warnes (Interim CFO)

**Recommended Action**

Staff recommends acceptance for full Board consideration of the interim consolidated financial statements as of March 31, 2024, Agency and Head Start 0 to 5.

**CSBG Organizational Standard**

The governing board receives financial reports at each regular meeting that include the following per Category 8, Standard 8.7:

1. Organization-wide report on revenue and expenditures that compares budget to actual, categorized by program; and
2. Balance sheet/statement of financial position.

**Background**

In accordance with the Agency’s bylaws, this item is intended to keep commissioners apprised of the agency’s financial situation as of March 31, 2024 (25% of the year) and to provide an opportunity to discuss and review financial statements for each month are available for each meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Enclosed are the monthly financials for Fresno EOC (consolidated) and for Head Start for review and acceptance.

**Fiscal Impact**

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

The following are key points of the attached financials for context.

Revenues: \$43,994,004 (28% received)

- In-kind Contributions \$14,126,780 (31% recorded) – Majority of the contributions are the Head Start 0 to 5 parents volunteering in the classroom.

Expenditures: (28% of budget expensed)

- Facilities Costs: \$1,820,002 (47% of budget expended) – Facilities costs currently exceed budget to date due to higher-than-average spending on energy assistance as the 2023 grant is being spent out. Though the costs are over budget, they are within the grant and will be reimbursed. If necessary, program budgets may be increased to pay for higher PGE costs.
- Equipment Costs: \$255,363 (44% of budget expended) – Equipment costs currently exceed budget to date due to the final payment on the purchase and delivery of two portable classrooms. Equipment purchases will not continue at this rate.
- Office Expense: \$703,776 (34% of budget expended) – Office expenses currently exceed budget due to software subscription expenses paid in the first quarter such as Cap 60, Coupa, and KnowB4 Inc. These costs are for the full year and will not be repeated.

As of March 31, 2024, we have received \$13,322 (7% of budget) of the anticipated donation revenue. Program groups that are reporting operating deficits are Food Services, Transit, Employment & Training, Local Conservation Corps., and Administration. Other program groups have received funds in advance that reduces the reported deficit to \$1,326,388. Fiscal and program managers are meeting to address these deficits at the program level. Additional funding, price increases for FFS, spending cuts are all open for action.

(B) Head Start 0-5 Financial Status Report as of Year-to-Date March 31, 2024  
 This is also represented in the following percentages.

Program Area	% of budget	Notes
Head Start – Basic	24%	
Head Start – Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA)	9%	Training planned for later this year.

Program Area	% of budget	Notes
Early Head Start – Basic	15%	
Early Head Start – Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA)	7%	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  
as of March 31, 2024 (25% Variance) and Prior Years 2023 Actuals**

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>A - B</b>	<b>C</b>
	<b>BUDGET JAN - DEC 2024</b>	<b>ACTUAL MARCH 2024</b>	<b>BUDGET VARIANCE (TARGET 25%)</b>	<b>BUDGET BALANCE REMAINING</b>
<b>REVENUES AND SUPPORT</b>				
GRANT REVENUE	\$ 79,335,851	\$ 22,465,071	 28%	\$ 56,870,780
FEE FOR SERVICE REVENUE	29,804,459	6,317,175	 21%	23,487,284
OTHER REVENUE	3,823,080	1,068,657	 28%	2,754,423
DONATION CONTRIBUTIONS	178,905	13,322	 7%	165,583
<b>TOTAL CASH REVENUE</b>	\$ 113,142,294	\$ 29,864,225	 26%	\$ 83,278,070
IN KIND REVENUE	\$ 45,745,161	\$ 14,129,780	 31%	\$ 31,615,382
<b>TOTAL REVENUE &amp; SUPPORT</b>	158,887,455	43,994,004	 28%	114,893,452
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
PERSONNEL COSTS	\$ 74,280,816	\$ 19,715,370	 27%	\$54,565,446
ADMIN SERVICES	7,425,959	1,833,560	 25%	5,592,399
CONTRACT SERVICES	10,546,555	3,144,694	 30%	7,401,861
FACILITY COSTS	3,909,803	1,820,002	 47%	2,089,801
TRAVEL, MILEAGE, VEHICLE COSTS	3,639,439	863,824	 24%	2,775,615
EQUIPMENT COSTS	577,288	255,363	 44%	321,925
DEPRECIATION - AGENCY FUNDED	296,000	77,159	 26%	218,841
OFFICE EXPENSE	2,099,241	703,776	 34%	1,395,465
INSURANCE	918,175	271,822	 30%	646,353
PROGRAM SUPPLIES & CLIENT COSTS	8,759,042	2,289,496	 26%	6,469,546
OTHER COSTS	689,977	168,702	 24%	521,275
<b>TOTAL CASH EXPENDITURES</b>	\$ 113,142,294	\$ 31,143,768	 28%	\$ 81,998,527
IN KIND EXPENSES	\$ 45,745,161	\$ 14,129,780	 31%	\$ 31,615,382
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	158,887,455	45,273,548	 28%	113,613,909
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	\$ -	\$ (1,279,543)		\$ 1,279,543
<b>OTHER INCOME / EXPENSE</b>				
TRANSIT GRANT ASSET DEPRECIATION		46,845		(46,845)
<b>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	\$ -	(\$1,326,388)		1,326,388
				(\$4,198,554)

**FRESNO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**As of March 31, 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Differences</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
CASH & INVESTMENTS	\$ 9,349,456	\$ 5,126,223	\$ 4,223,232
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	15,499,823	14,827,968	671,855
PREPAIDS/DEPOSITS	440,472	336,230	104,242
INVENTORIES	173,948	193,104	(19,156)
PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	13,473,845	13,532,267	(58,422)
NOTES RECEIVABLE (net)	334,523	340,570	(6,047)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 39,272,066</b>	<b>\$ 34,356,361</b>	<b>\$ 4,915,705</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 4,108,326	\$ 3,628,230	\$ 480,097
ACCRUED PAYROLL LIABILITIES	10,256,673	4,617,979	5,638,693
DEFERRED REVENUE	4,264,096	1,711,330	2,552,766
NOTES PAYABLE	3,076,031	3,128,621	(52,591)
HEALTH INSURANCE RESERVE	7,416,210	6,054,466	1,361,744
OTHER LIABILITIES	1,005,026	1,162,828	(157,802)
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 30,126,361</b>	<b>\$ 20,303,454</b>	<b>\$ 9,822,908</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>			
CURRENT OPERATING EARNINGS (YTD)	\$ (1,279,543)	\$ 606,453	\$ (1,885,996)
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(145,430)	2,795,361	(2,940,791)
REVOLVING LOAN FUND	556,268	556,268	0
INVESTMENT IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS	10,014,409	10,094,825	(80,415)
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 9,145,705</b>	<b>\$ 14,052,907</b>	<b>\$ (4,907,203)</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 39,272,066</b>	<b>\$ 34,356,361</b>	<b>\$ 4,915,705</b>

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission  
 Head Start/Early Head Start Financial Status  
 Monthly Report  
 March 31, 2024

Description	Head Start - Basic				Head Start - T & TA			
	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining
<b>Personnel</b>	\$20,210,662	\$1,636,017	\$5,028,589	\$15,182,073	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	8,468,009	554,678	1,842,853	6,625,156	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$28,678,671</b>	<b>\$2,190,694</b>	<b>\$6,871,442</b>	<b>\$21,807,229</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Travel</b>	-	-	-	-	50,644	-	-	50,644
<b>Equipment*</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Supplies</b>	665,867	45,502	128,623	537,245	14,706	-	-	14,706
<b>Contractual</b>	2,929,424	320,832	667,160	2,262,264	-	-	-	-
<b>Facilities /Construction</b>								
<b>Other:</b>								
<b>Food Cost</b>	555,870	(72,879)	145,611	410,259				
<b>Transportation</b>	200,000	69,001	114,722	85,278				
<b>Staff Mileage</b>	85,871	10,749	30,309	55,562				
<b>Field Trips, including Transportation</b>	6,600	1,569	1,669	4,931				
<b>Space</b>	642,495	43,825	131,400	511,095				
<b>Utilities / Telephone / Internet</b>	130,000	127,906	188,542	(58,542)				
<b>Repair/Maintenance Building</b>	245,600	6,522	57,899	187,701				
<b>Repair/Maintenance Equipment</b>	1,707	-	1,020	687				
<b>Property &amp; Liability Insurance</b>	180,750	17,878	76,392	104,358				
<b>Parent Involvement / CWPC</b>	32,377	1,830	4,536	27,841				
<b>Other Costs*</b>	140,422	10,764	27,654	112,768				
<b>Staff &amp; Parent Training</b>	18,244	507	757	17,487	231,739	4,824	25,474	206,265
<b>Total Direct Charges</b>	<b>\$34,513,898</b>	<b>\$2,774,700</b>	<b>\$8,447,734</b>	<b>\$26,066,164</b>	<b>297,089</b>	<b>4,824</b>	<b>25,474</b>	<b>271,615</b>
<b>Total Indirect Charges</b>	<b>\$3,106,251</b>	<b>\$249,723</b>	<b>\$760,296</b>	<b>\$2,345,955</b>	<b>\$26,738</b>	<b>\$435</b>	<b>\$2,293</b>	<b>\$24,445</b>
<b>Total Federal Expenditures</b>	<b>\$37,620,149</b>	<b>\$3,024,423</b>	<b>\$9,208,030</b>	<b>\$28,412,119</b>	<b>\$323,827</b>	<b>5,259</b>	<b>27,767</b>	<b>\$296,060</b>
% of Annual Budget Expended to Date			24%				9%	
<b>Non-Federal Share</b>	<b>\$8,622,143</b>	<b>\$271,903</b>	<b>\$1,466,184</b>	<b>\$7,155,959</b>	<b>\$64,765</b>	<b>\$1,315</b>	<b>\$6,942</b>	<b>\$57,824</b>

\*Other Costs Include:  
 DEPRECIATION EXPENSE  
 POSTAGE/EXPRESS MAIL  
 FINGERPRINTING / BACKGROUND CHECK  
 RECRUITMENT  
 MEETING COSTS - INTERNAL  
 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

Credit Card Expenses: Credit card statement dated 3/1/24-3/31/24			
March 2024 expenses:			
Staff Training	\$	3,393	Marriott - Hotel for Education Conference
Telephone	\$	1,781	Frontier Communication - Telephone Service
Program Supplies - Disposables	\$	64	Walmart - Wet Wipes for Classroom
Program Supplies - Classroom	\$	32	Walmart - Educational Supplies- Clay, etc.
Program Supplies - Medically Prescribed	\$	99	Manor Drug- Medically Prescribed Formula
Internet	\$	322	Frontier Communication - Internet Service
Staff Training	\$	180	Laura Fink - HS Coaching
Staff Training	\$	984	Emily Juricek Coaching - HS Coaching
Program Supplies - Janitorial	\$	108	Grainger - Trash Can Lids
Program Supplies - Kitchen	\$	214	Replacement of Kitchen Supplies
Program Supplies - Kitchen	\$	182	Lowes - Microwave for Sanger HS
Program Supplies - Disposables	\$	396	Target - Toiletries for children with disabilities
	\$	<b>7,756</b>	

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission  
 Head Start/Early Head Start Financial Status  
 Monthly Report  
 March 31, 2024

Description	Early Head Start - Basic				Early Head Start - T & TA YTD			
	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Balance Remaining	Annual Budget	Current Expenses	Expenses	Balance Remaining
<b>Personnel</b>	\$5,065,542	\$250,213	\$770,974	\$4,294,568	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	1,345,661	66,407	215,938	1,129,723	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>6,411,203</b>	<b>\$316,621</b>	<b>\$986,912</b>	<b>\$5,424,291</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Travel</b>	-	-	-	-	44,821	-	-	44,821
<b>Equipment*</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Supplies</b>	102,544	8,761	26,821	75,723	1,289	-	-	1,289
<b>Contractual</b>	277,288	18,723	44,206	233,082	11,526	-	-	11,526
<b>Facilities /Construction</b>								
<b>Other:</b>								
<b>Food Cost</b>	378,940	(6,166)	2,038	376,902				
<b>Transportation</b>	56,097	639	1,343	54,754				
<b>Staff Mileage</b>	34,129	4,615	12,063	22,066				
<b>Field Trips, including Transportation</b>	1,000	-	-	1,000				
<b>Space</b>	48,360	7,806	23,254	25,106				
<b>Utilities / Telephone / Internet</b>	140,000	16,754	30,951	109,049				
<b>Repair/Maintenance Building</b>	96,087	498	2,549	93,538				
<b>Repair/Maintenance Equipment</b>	3,983	-	307	3,676				
<b>Property &amp; Liability Insurance</b>	60,250	2,364	6,520	53,730				
<b>Parent Involvement / CWPC</b>	33,268	1,490	1,842	31,426				
<b>Other Costs*</b>	35,081	1,788	4,689	30,392				
<b>Staff &amp; Parent Training</b>	10,480	-	111	10,369	101,420	3,358	11,139	90,281
<b>Total Direct Charges</b>	<b>7,688,710</b>	<b>373,893</b>	<b>1,143,606</b>	<b>6,545,104</b>	<b>159,056</b>	<b>3,358</b>	<b>11,139</b>	<b>\$147,917</b>
<b>Total Indirect Charges</b>	<b>\$691,984</b>	<b>\$33,651</b>	<b>\$102,925</b>	<b>\$589,059</b>	<b>\$14,315</b>	<b>\$303</b>	<b>\$1,003</b>	<b>\$13,312</b>
<b>Total Federal Expenditures</b>	<b>\$8,380,694</b>	<b>407,544</b>	<b>\$1,246,531</b>	<b>\$7,134,163</b>	<b>\$173,371</b>	<b>3,661</b>	<b>\$12,142</b>	<b>\$161,229</b>
% of Annual Budget Expended to Date			15%				7%	
<b>Non-Federal Share</b>	<b>\$2,103,842</b>	<b>\$110,732</b>	<b>\$428,553</b>	<b>\$1,675,289</b>	<b>\$34,674</b>	<b>\$915</b>	<b>\$3,036</b>	<b>\$40,307</b>

\*Other Costs Include:  
 DEPRECIATION EXPENSE  
 POSTAGE/EXPRESS MAIL  
 FINGERPRINTING / BACKGROUND CHECK  
 RECRUITMENT  
 MEETING COSTS - INTERNAL  
 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

Credit Card Expenses: Credit card statement dated 3/1/24-3/31/24		
March 2024 expenses:		
Staff Training	\$ 2,262	Marriott - Hotel for Education Conference
Program Supplies - Disposables	\$ 275	Target - Detergent, Supplies for Eric White
Telephone	\$ 126	Frontier Communication - Telephone Service
Program Supplies - Medically Prescribed	\$ 357	Manor Drug - Medically Prescribed Formula
Staff Training	\$ 820	Laura Fink - HS Coaching
Staff Training	\$ 216	Emily Juricek Coaching - HS Coaching
Car Seats	\$ 108	Walmart - Car Seat
Program Supplies - Disposables	\$ 180	Costco - Diapers
	<b>\$ 4,345</b>	

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

<b>Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Program:</b> Head Start 0 to 5
<b>Agenda Item #:</b> 13	<b>Director:</b> Rosa M. Pineda
<b>Subject:</b> Head Start 0 to 5 Change of Scope	<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b> Emilia Reyes

**Recommended Action**

The County-Wide Policy Council recommends ratification of the Head Start 0 to 5 Change of Scope for the current Five-Year grant #09CH012031

**Background**

On March 24, 2023, the program received a letter from the Regional Program Manager of Office of Head Start for Region IX letting us know that we are under enrolled under the criteria listed in the Head Start Act. Section 641A(h)(3) of the Head Start Act "requires the government to determine which Head Start agencies are operating with an actual enrollment that is less than full funded enrollment for at least four consecutive months". The program developed and implemented a plan to eliminate under enrollment. The plan was due and provided to the Regional Office on May 12, 2023. Which identified the following four (4) factors that contributed to the under enrollment:

1. Workforce shortage, due to primarily compensation.
2. Family needs and preference to keep children at home, due to the recent pandemic.
3. Lack of infrastructure and facilities, due to significant delays because of the pandemic.
4. Lack of marketing/advertisement and overall benefit packages.

The program was given 12 months, commencing ten (10) days following the date of the letter, to attain at least 97% enrollment. The 12-month period ended on April 12, 2024; at which time the program did not meet the 97% enrollment. As a result, staff recommend a Change of Scope to reduce the funded enrollment by approximately 20%. The enrollment reduction will result in a decrease of 402 center-based Head Start (HS) slots, 20 home-based Head Start (HS) and 48 home-based for Early Head Start (EHS). The recommendation includes the closure of three sites, Area II, Mosqueda, and Reedley Head Start. The reduction of program options consists of the following:

Program Option	Current Funded Enrollment	Proposed Funded Enrollment	Difference
Head Start Center Base	1992	1590	-402
Head Start Home Base	120	100	-20
Early Head Start Center Base	94	94	0
Early Head Start Home Base	384	336	-48
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2590</b>	<b>2120</b>	<b>-470</b>

In addition, the Change of Scope will result in the elimination of 36 vacant positions. To which, layoffs will not be necessary as vacant positions supersede the number of staff reduction. All staff hired for Fresno EOC Head Start are qualified and meet the minimum qualifications specified in the job descriptions and Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS). Family service staff caseloads will remain at an average of 40 families.

If approved by the Office of Head Start, Fresno EOC HS will serve 1690 children using the HS center-based program (1590) and home-based program (100) options. EHS will also serve 430 infants and toddlers in EHS center-based (94) programs and home-based program (336) options.

Head Start 0 to 5 Director submitted a request for authorization of the Change of Scope for the current Five-Year grant #09CH012031, to the County-Wide Policy Council and Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners Chairperson on May 6, 2024, to which they both respectively authorized.

### Fiscal Impact

Fresno EOC proposes to use funding from eliminating 402 center-based Head Start (HS) slots 20-home-base Head Start (HS) slots and 48 home-based Early Head Start (EHS) slots to increase and provide competitive staff salaries based on the 2024 comp study, inflation, and infrastructure costs due to the use of life of buildings/modulars. The adjustments will concurrently modify our program to better leverage the existing early learning system and meet the needs of families in the community. The table below provides a further breakdown of the proposed changes by program name and budget line item.

Category	Current Head Start Budget	Proposed Head Start Budget	Variance Change Head Start	Current Early Head Start Budget	Proposed Early Head Start Budget	Variance Change
Personnel	\$ 20,210,662	\$ 23,150,191	\$ 2,939,529	\$ 5,065,543	\$ 5,298,969	\$ 233,426

Fringe Benefits	\$ 8,468,009	\$ 6,810,376	\$ (1,657,634)	\$ 1,345,661	\$ 1,177,336	\$ (168,325)
Travel	\$ 12,928	\$ 12,928	\$ -	\$ 16,898	\$ 16,898	\$ -
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies	\$ 690,867	\$ 568,875	\$ (121,992)	\$ 121,717	\$ 115,274	\$ (6,444)
Contractual	\$ 3,030,364	\$ 2,592,323	\$ (438,041)	\$ 651,842	\$ 651,792	\$ (50.00)
Construction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ 5,531,146	\$ 4,809,283	\$ (721,863)	\$ 1,352,404	\$ 1,293,797	\$ (58,607)
Totals	\$ 37,943,976	\$ 37,943,976	\$ -	\$ 8,554,065	\$ 8,554,065	\$ -

### Conclusion

If ratified by the full Board, Fresno EOC HS 0 to 5 will serve 2120 (1590- HS CB, 100- HS HB, 94 EHS CB, and 336 EHS HB) children using the HS center-based and home base program options. The ratios and group sizes meet the requirements of 1302 Subpart B. The program will also be in compliance with the Full Enrollment Initiative and requirements. If not approved, program funds will be reduced to reflect the current enrollment of children.



May 20, 2024

## CEO REPORT

### AGENCY-WIDE EFFORTS

#### Legislative Day in Sacramento

On May 1, 2024, more than 35 members of the Fresno EOC team went to Sacramento, marking the kick-off of Community Action Month alongside other Community Action agencies throughout the state. I along with directors representing Health Services, Food Services, and Energy Services, had the privilege to engage in discussions with Assemblywoman Esmerelda Soria and Assemblyman Joaquin Arambula. Throughout our meetings, we passionately shared the impact we're making throughout Fresno County.

#### Spring Family Fun Fest

On Saturday, April 27, 2024, Fresno EOC hosted a Spring Family Fun Fest at Mosqueda Park. The goal was to unite the community, providing them with resources, food, games, and music.

#### Health Services Clinic Day

On May 3, 2024, Health Services hosted their annual Clinic Day, a pivotal event for the community. Families gathered invaluable health resources and information aimed at enhancing their quality of life. The event also saw active participation from over a dozen Fresno EOC programs and local organizations, fostering enduring partnerships that promise sustained community support and collaboration.

#### Employee Service Awards

On Wednesday, May 15, 2024, over 200 Fresno EOC team members will be honored with awards for their dedicated service. These employee service awards recognize individuals who have been part of the agency for at least 5 years.

#### Fresno EOC Community Action Mixer

In celebration of Community Action Month, Fresno EOC will host a mixer in the courtyard on Thursday, May 30, 2024. This gathering will unite various CAP agencies from across the valley, along with other local organizations dedicated to community welfare.

## **Head Start 0 to 5 to celebrate 59<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

On Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> Head Start will celebrate their 59<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Another year to celebrate as the program continues to give children in the community a head start in their education.

## **STATE AND NATIONAL EFFORTS**

### **National Community Action Partnership Head Start Task Force**

I attended the NCAP Head Start Task Force on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The NCAP staff provided an update on the appropriations process, including final funding levels for FY24 as well as the President's proposed FY25 funding levels. Staff also discussed the House of Representatives' current prohibition on Congressional Directed Spending (CDS), i.e., earmarks, for nonprofits in FY25 funding bills. Community Action Agencies in nearly half the states/territories so the changes.

### **Central Valley Community Action Partnership Roundtable**

Community Action Partnership of Kern County hosted a Roundtable discussion for the Central Valley CAP with Denise Harlow, Executive Director of National Community Action Partnership on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Both the Chief Operation Officers, Michelle Tutunjian and I attended a tour their CAP Kern's Community Food Bank and Homeless Shelter.

### **Quarterly California Community Services Department (CSD) Meeting**

Both the Chief Operations Officers, Michelle Tutunjian and I attended the quarterly CSD meeting on Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento, CA. CSD announce the retirement of Leslie Taylor, Director of CSD and shared updated deadlines.

### **Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Annual Report Advisory**

The National Community Action Partnership convened a group of CAP CEO's and colleagues to review and respond to the proposed CSBG reporting changes recommended by Community Service Department. I was selected to participate in a series of meetings to represent CAPs for the state of California. The first meeting was held on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> which I attended.

## **Media Mentions**

4/16/24

California Residents to Receive \$500 a Month Payments: Do you Qualify?

<https://www.newsweek.com/california-residents-500-month-direct-payments-1890392>

4/19/24

Californians in two cities will soon receive \$500 monthly payments thanks to an unusual program.

<https://www.the-sun.com/money/11130608/payments-guaranteed-income-fresno-huron-california/>

[4/23/24](#)

[Fresno EOC Advancing Fresno County Guaranteed Income on KMPH 9:30 AM Newscast](#)

4/26/24

Free Family Festival will be in Fresno This Weekend

[Free family festival will be in Fresno this weekend | YourCentralValley.com | KSEE24 and CBS47 Fresno CA](#)

4/26/24

[Spring Family Fun Fest Celebrates Community | YourCentralValley.com | KSEE24 and CBS47 Fresno CA](#)

5/1/24

**Fresno EOC CEO discusses personal connection to agency**

[Fresno EOC CEO discusses personal connection to agency - ABC30 Fresno](#)

5/4/24

**California Residents Running Out of Time to Claim \$500 Monthly Payment**

[California Residents Running Out of Time to Claim \\$500 Monthly Payment | Fresno Bee](#)

5/6/24

[California Residents Running Out of Time to Claim \\$500 Monthly Payment \(newsweek.com\)](#)

[California Residents Running Out of Time to Claim \\$500 Monthly Payment | Myrtle Beach Sun News \(myrtlebeachonline.com\)](#)