



FRESNO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION
 FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (FGP) COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (FGP)
 FGP- Zoom

<https://fresnoeoc.zoom.us/j/6753026561>

Meeting ID: 675 302 6561

Phone Number (669) 900-6833

Thursday, September 30, 2021
 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Agenda

	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. CALL TO ORDER	Leah Struck		
II. ROLL CALL	Raquel Padia		
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 30, 2021	Leah Struck	Approve	2
IV. CAG 2021-2022 ROSTER Introduction of new members	Leah Struck	Information	5
V. GOALS OF CAG	Leah Struck	Discussion	
VI. FGP UPDATES: May – September. 2021	Leah Struck	Discussion	6
VII. OTHER BUSINESS The next meeting is scheduled on Friday, April 29, 2022.			
VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT (This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Advisory Group on items within jurisdiction but not on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes).			
IX. ADJOURNMENT			



**FRESNO EOC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)
Friday, April 30, 2021 10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Leah Struck called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called.

Committee Members (Zoom):

Margarita Cortez
Julia Fowler
Betty Brown

Staff (Zoom):

Leah Struck
Raquel Padia

Absent

Catherine Robles
Julia Borges

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 7, 2020 FGP Community Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

Motion by: Cortez **Second by:** Brown

Ayes: Fowler, Cortez, Brown

Nays: None

IV. PROGRAM UPDATES

First Quarter updates

A. FGP currently maintains sixty volunteers and three staff.

B. The application for FGP grant renewal was submitted March 9, 2021 for the three-year period of July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024. The result of the application submission will be known sometime in June 2021.

C. Volunteer Specialist, Raquel Padia, was hired December 21, 2020.

- D. January 2021, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between FGP and Fresno EOC Head Start Program was restructured into one umbrella MOU that is effective over all Fresno EOC Head Start sites. This replaces individual MOUs with each site. Grandparent Volunteers have been placed in several Head Start sites joining in on Zoom classes.
- E. Laptops were distributed to Grandparent Volunteers. Technology training has been conducted and volunteers are joining classrooms through Zoom. On April 28, 2021, the Certificate of Completion Ceremony was held for those volunteers that have completed training.
- F. A grant augmentation was approved for \$15,000, which provided funding for hiring the Training Specialist, Joshua Soleno, on March 2, 2021. This position was created to transition FGP into virtual service. Joshua conducts computer training in one on one and group settings for Zoom and email. He is also adding content to FGP Facebook and Fresno EOC website, FGP page.
- G. FGP is beginning a collaboration with YouthBuild Charter School for a Pen Pal program.
- H. Fresno Unified School District, Central Unified School District and Clovis Unified School District did not accept any kind of volunteers this year. We were not able to use any of these stations for placements. This is why Head Start stations are so valuable.
- I. East Fresno Kiwanis Club donation of \$1,000 was used to purchase 461 books for children. All 140 students at Franklin Head Start received three books each. Each book is related to three months of curriculum. Remaining books have been added to FGP library for volunteers to borrow to read to their classes.
- J. The second cohort of technology training will begin week of May 3, 2021.

V. RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) MEMBERS

We are currently in need of adding members to the FGP CAG. Some members have retired and some have moved on to other positions and are no longer available. An information document has been attached with this meeting packet showing ways to recruit and build a group. We would like to reach out to someone from a school district, someone from Head Start, and a community member that, as a child, had a Foster Grandparent volunteer serving in his or her classroom.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Brown discussed the idea of a future possible fundraiser. Brown suggested having a large group Grandparent yard sale with items being brought in from the Foster

Grandparents themselves and Grandparents participating on site in the sale. Struck stated that FGP will look into the details of something like that, keeping consideration of COVID regulations in mind.

Next CAG meeting will be Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leah Struck
FGP Coordinator



Foster Grandparent Program
 Leah Struck, Program Coordinator
 Jeff Davis, Program Director
 Michelle Tutunjian, Chief Operating Officer
 Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) 2021-2022 ROSTER

Last Name	First Name	Organization/Occupation	Contact Information
Brown	Betty	FGP Volunteer	Cell: 559-250-5138 Home: 559-494-0335
Cortez	Margarita	FGP Volunteer	Cell: 559-393-6177 Home: 559-638-7529 Margarita.cortezfgp@gmail.com
Fowler	Julia	FGP Volunteer	Cell: 916-873-7658 Home: 559-268-8801
* Robles	Catherine	Fresno EOC Board of Commissioner	Cell: 559-360-9332 casaroblesrealty@gmail.com
Hernandez	Yvonne	City of Fowler Senior Center Director	Office: 559-834-3113 ext. 136 yhernandez@ci.fowler.ca.us
Ramirez	Olga	Fresno EOC Head Start Family /Community Services Manager	Office: 559-263-1512 Olga.ramirez@fresnoeoc.org

* Person who will be reporting to the Board.

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (FGP)
PROGRAM UPDATES
May 2021 – September 2021

- A.** FGP currently continues to maintain sixty volunteers and three staff. Our first funding for a Technology Training Specialist was January 1, 2021- June 30, 2021. Previous Training Specialist Joshua Soleno was hired on with another program with Fresno EOC July 1, 2021. We were able to arrange other funding to continue this position and were able to hire our new Technology Training Specialist Esmeralda Roque. This funding will be through December 31, 2021.
- B.** We are welcoming new CAG members and are looking to recruit more. Yvonne Hernandez, Director of the Senior Center with the City of Fowler. We will have a Head Start representative each time. Olga Ramirez is joining us this time.
- C.** Last spring our volunteers were able to join Head Start Zoom classrooms where the children logged on to zoom at home and the tech savvy grandparents were able to join in. This fall there are no Zoom classrooms. The volunteers that are active as of this date are;
- Two volunteers with Fresno City College Disabled Students program joining by Zoom.
 - Han Phan Tilley Elementary School with Central Unified School District is accepting volunteers in person. Four grandparents are serving there.
 - A few of our grandparents are doing alternative service by picking up classroom prep materials once a week from Head Start teachers and working on them at home then returning the completed items.

Head Start will be accepting volunteers in person in the near future. The logistics of scheduling the grandparent and the children's parents and college student volunteers is being worked out so that there are not more than one volunteer in the room at a time.

Fresno Unified School District, Marjaree Mason Center, Early Learning Centers, and Boys & Girls Club stations are not accepting in person volunteers at this time.

- D.** The application for FGP grant renewal was submitted March 9, 2021 for the three-year period of July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024. The application was approved. .
- E.** The ending of the last grant cycle on June 30, 2021 showed remaining unspent funds due to COVID restrictions that kept the program from fully functioning. An opportunity to apply for a grant extension was given by AmeriCorps. We applied and were approved for the end of the previous Three-year grant to extend from June 30 – December 31, 2021. This will also helps us reach goals for working with children in the stations other than Head Start sites.
- F.** An opportunity of a grant augmentation was provided through AmeriCorps with American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to address learning loss due to COVID. We applied for \$65,000 to be added to the new grant year to provide for eight to ten more grandparent volunteers. The award notice will be given in October 2021. The money would become available in January 2022. This intention of the augmentation is to expand our services to more stations in Madera County.
- G.** Another grant opportunity through AmeriCorps ARP funding is available to expand services to communities that are underserved. We are currently putting together an application for this. We are hoping to provide services to the local tribal communities to establish volunteer stations and recruit grandparent volunteers from these communities. We also want to outreach to Hmong communities to recruit volunteers from the Hmong community to serve in our current Head Start and school stations. The application is due October 18, 2021. The funding year would not start until July 1, 2022 and run for two years until June 30, 2024. It is a demonstration grant so we always hope that it would be able to be continued.
- H.** A national Grandparent’s Day celebration luncheon was held September 10, 2021 at the Fresno EOC Nielsen Conference Center with catering from Fresno EOC Food Services. This was the first time our volunteers have been able to see a large group of each other in a long time. Not all were able to attend but over half of our grandparents were there.
- I.** BingoCize for our volunteers has begun. Rene Duarte from the Fresno County Health Department is collaborating to conduct a ten week program of ability appropriate exercise mixed with Bingo in between each Tuesday afternoon at LCC.
- J.** A FGP Zoom support group has been formed. Every other Wednesday the group meets and is able to discuss things they have been dealing with. The

mental health of our volunteers is important and hopefully this will add support during these stressful times.

- K.** Our technology training continues. For the advanced volunteers that have learned Zoom there is now Gmail training. They are learning details of sending emails and attaching pictures or documents. Two of our advanced volunteers are now conducting the Wednesday Zoom trainings. They are teaching how to share screens, pull up the white screen for showing notes, how to add reactions and customize looks.
- L.** We are planning a FGP food distribution with Gabby Romero, Fresno EOC Community Services Program Manager. Hopes are to arrange this in mid to late October 2021.