

1920 Mariposa St., Suite 330 Fresno, CA 93721

## FRESNO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (FGP) COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) **Friday, April 28, 2023**

1805 E. California Ave. Fresno CA 93706 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.	CAG 2023 ROSTER Introduction of new members	Leah Struck	Discussion	2
IV.	CHAIRPERSON SELECTION	Leah Struck	Approve	
V.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 29, 2022 and September 30, 2022	Leah Struck	Approve	3
VI.	REVIEW OF CAG BYLAWS AMMENDMENTS	Leah Struck	Discussion	
VII.	APPROVAL OF BYLAWS	Leah Struck	Approve	9
VIII.	FGP UPDATES: October 2022 – April 2023	FGP Team	Discussion and Power Point	12
IX.	UPCOMING EVENTS Participation opportunities	FGP Team	Discussion	15
Χ.	OTHER BUSINESS			

The next meeting is scheduled on Friday, September 29, 2023.

#### XI. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

(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).

## XII. ADJOURNMENT











Leah Struck, FGP Program Coordinator III Elisa Sgambellone, LCC Assistant Director Jack Lazzarini, Fresno EOC Chief Programs Officer Michelle L. Tutunjian, Fresno EOC Chief Operating Officer Emilia Reyes, Fresno EOC Chief Executive Officer

## FGP COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) 2023 ROSTER

Last Name	First Name	Organization/Occupation	Contact Information
Brown	Betty	FGP Volunteer	Betty.brownfgp@gmail.com
Castillo	Amaris	Boys & Girls Club	acastillo@BGClubfc.org
Cortez	Margarita	FGP Volunteer	Margarita.cortezfgp@gmail.com
Fowler	Julia	FGP Volunteer	<u>Julia.fowlerfgp@gmail.com</u>
Hernandez	Yvonne	City of Fowler Senior Center Director	<u>yhernandez@ci.fowler.ca.us</u>
* McAlister	Bruce	Fresno EOC Board Commissioner	bruce.mcalister@fresnoeoc.org
Neil	Sherry	Fresno EOC Board Commissioner	sherry.neil@fresnoeoc.org
Pacheco	Alena	Fresno EOC Board Commissioner	alena.pacheco@fresnoeoc.org
Ramirez	Olga	Fresno EOC Head Start Family / Community Services Manager	Olga.ramirez@fresnoeoc.org
Smallwood	Tashon	Fresno EOC Head Start Volunteer Services Coordinator	Tashon.smallwood@fresnoeoc.org

<sup>\*</sup> Person who will be reporting to the Fresno EOC Board.

# FRESNO EOC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 10:00 a.m.

### **MINUTES**

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Raquel Padia called the meeting to order at 10:17 AM

## II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called.

Committee Members (Present):Staff (Present):Margarita CortezLeah StruckCommissioner Bruce McAlisterRaquel PadiaBetty BrownBlanca AlvaradoElaine JalomoMichelle Tutunjian

### Absent:

Yvonne Hernandez Amaris Castillo Tashon Smallwood Olga Ramirez Julia Fowler

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Quorum was not met to approve minutes.

## IV. APPROVAL OF BYLAWS

Quorum was not met to approve bylaws.

## V. FGP UPDATES

- **A.** FGP currently has forty-five active volunteers and is in the process of recruiting more. FGP was able to add two new FGP employees: Blanca Alvarado (Volunteer Specialist) and Elaine Jalomo (Program Assistant), for a total of four staff for FGP and one staff for Next 50.
- B. Senator Caballero came to the FGP Monthly June 2022 in-service meeting to honor volunteers for the first Tech Training graduation in June 2021. Certificates of Achievement were given to those that had graduated. After meeting with the volunteers and learning all about the full Foster Grandparent Program, the Senator later arranged to create Certificates of Appreciation for all of the volunteers. September 11 (Grandparents Day), The representative of Senators Caballero's office, delivered certificates in honor of their volunteering.

- **C.** Orientation and enrollment: Eight grandparents finished orientation and training and will soon be placed. Four more volunteers are completing orientation (total of twelve). There are six potential applicants for Madera. We have a goal of twenty volunteers in Fresno/Clovis and fourteen volunteers in the rural areas.
- D. Placements: An MOU has been completed with Madera County Superintendent of Schools Early Child Learning Centers. Nine classrooms are available for volunteers. MOUs with Big Sandy Rancheria in Auberry and Pineridge Elementary are pending. Foothill Elementary is available for placement. A MOU was created with Reading and Beyond which includes two sites.
- **E.** Padia introduced partnership with encore.org in June 2022. It is proposed to launch an inter-generational mental wellness program, Generations Serving Together (GST). Volunteers consisting of seniors that are currently FGP members and college students from the Fresno community will be teaming up to create lesson plans and provide sessions to the youth at Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps (LCC), Pinedale Boys and Girls Club, and Golden State Family Services.
- **F.** Outreach in Madera Frank Bergon Center has been conducted, received seven interest forms for the program, also attended Pam-American Center and Madera Community College Mexican Consultant Resource Fair. Upcoming outreach is in Kerman for their Health Fair and Flu Shot Clinic, Selma Senior Resource Fair, Senior Day at the Fresno Fair, and Fresno Center to reach the Hmong community for potential applicants. FGP will be putting together senior and youth section during the Halloween Safe Night Out.
- G. Program expansion: Madera, Kerman San Joaquin, Cantua Creek, Auberry, and Huron. Place contacted for placements is Frank Bergon and Pam-American Centers in Madera, San Joaquin Preschool and San Joaquin Elementary. An umbrella MOU with Head Start covers San Joaquin Head Start. Kerman Preschool is pending. Kerman Migrant Head Start not accepting volunteers due to their CDC guidelines.
- **H.** Next 50 Senior Tech training: Six FGP seniors took a ten week class in the first quarter (June) learning Chrome Basics, internet and computer skills. Second quarter consisted of seniors from the community and FGP in classes at LCC (six seniors one class) Fowler (four seniors in one class) and Kerman (twenty six seniors in two classes). The graduates were awarded laptops and certificates for graduations. Upcoming classes for quarter four are planned.

- I. Plant sale fundraiser during July Arthop. Over \$1,100 was raised. A Local business owner donated a plant, pot and a \$25 gift card for drawing.
- J. Fresno EOC clients received a \$250 grocery gift card if they met two guidelines: impacted by COVID-19 and met the 200% of the poverty guideline. Fresno EOC's new agency database CAP60 took the opportunity for employees to enter clients that received the gift card into the system as a goal to become paperless and transfer and refer clients to other programs amongst the agency. 85 gifts cards were issued in total: 59 went to Foster Grandparent volunteers and 26 went to Next 50 students.

## VI. UPCOMING EVENTS

December Recognition at Pardini's on December 22, 2022

Bake Sale at Fresno EOC's Arthop on October 6, 2022

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM

Respectfully submitted, Leah Struck

# FRESNO EOC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) APRIL 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **MINUTES**

## I. CALL TO ORDER

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

## II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called.

Committee Members (Zoom):Staff (Zoom):Margarita CortezLeah StruckJulia FowlerRaquel PadiaBetty BrownLuciana Lopez

Commissioner Bruce McAlister

#### Absent

Yvonne Hernandez Amaris Castillo Tashon Smallwood

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 29, 2022 FGP Community Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

Motion by: Fowler Second by: Cortez Ayes: Fowler, Cortez, Brown, McAlister

Nays: None

## IV. CAG ROSTER INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of new member Bruce McAlister Fresno EOC Board Commissioner. McAlister shared his background and relationship with Fresno EOC.

## V. GOALS OF CAG

To gather input from station staff like Head Start.

Community participation for input on community trends and senior community needs.

Fundraising.

Ideas on retention and recognition of FGP volunteers.

Data sharing for grant reporting and applications.

## **VI. PROGRAM UPDATES**

**A.** FGP currently maintains 55 volunteers and two staff for FGP and one staff for Next 50 computer training. We are actively recruiting for volunteers

- **B.** The Foster Grandparent volunteer stipend has officially been raised to \$3.15 an hour as of April 1, 2022. That is an increase of .15 cents.
- **C.** We received the Next 50 initiative grant for \$100,000 to provide computer training classes for seniors. This is open to Foster Grandparents and to the public. The classes are being held here at LCC for a small group as a pilot class. The next quarter starting July we will be holding classes at the Fowler Senior Center and we are contacting the Kerman Senior Center to provide classes as well as another class at LCC.
- **D.** The program was awarded the American Rescue Plan Senior Demonstration Program grant application that had been applied for. This will be \$375,000 over two years to expand into Madera, Huron, Cantua Creek, and the eastern foothill community of Auberry.
- **E.** An opportunity to apply for an augmentation to current FGP AmeriCorps Seniors funding through American Rescue Plan funding became available. The purpose would be to address student learning loss due to COVID. The proposal is to add ten Volunteer Service Years (VSYs) which would be approximately eight volunteers. FGP applied for \$65,000 and it was awarded. The proposal is to expand further into Madera County. We have contacted Madera Head Start director; she is interested but not accepting volunteers yet. We will continue to do outreach to other programs.
- **F.** Another grant opportunity has opened through the American Rescue Plan funding Senior Demonstration Program (SDP). FGP will be applying with the proposal to expand even further into Madera County and contact the tribal communities and outreach to the Hmong community for recruitment of volunteer grandparents. If awarded this would start July 1, 2022.
- **G.** Grandparent Day Luncheon was held September 10, 2021 at Fresno EOC Neilson Conference Center. This was the first in person gathering since the shutdown. The event was well attended with 50% of volunteers in attendance.
- H. November 2021 a turkey luncheon was held at the Fresno EOC Nielsen Center with a turkey and trimmings meal from Fresno EOC Café catering. A food distribution specifically for the FGP volunteers was also conducted. Each of the FGP volunteers in attendance received a frozen turkey alone with other bags of food items.
- Learning December 2021 the annual Recognition Banquet was held at Pardini's Banquet Center. FGP volunteers were honored for their years of service with certificates, pins, and a gift. Those who have served for 20 years or over received a special award and recognition.

- **J.** "Story time with Grandma" video was recorded to use in classrooms and posted to YouTube. One of the Grandmas was able to read two stories and was recorded by Fresno EOC communications staff member.
- **K.** Project Linus, a nonprofit that gathers handmade blankets from the community to distribute to children in need, contacted the FGP Program. FGP was able to assist with the distribution of 150 blankets to children in Head Start, WIC mothers, and youth in the Central Valley Against Human Trafficking Program.
- L. The Kiwanis Club of Fresno County donated \$1000 for FGP to purchase books for children in the program and use for grandparent volunteers to read to the children on Zoom. Working through the Scholastic book club system, 461 books were purchased. This provided three books to EVERY one of the 140 students at Franklin, plus some books to keep in the FGP library for our other Grandparent volunteers that will be reading stories to their classes at other Head Starts.

## **VII. REVIEW OF PROPOSED BYLAWS**

The draft of the FGP Bylaws were sent to Fresno EOC CAG members via email in April 2022 meeting packet. A brief review of the bylaws was covered. Explanation of fundraising efforts organizing recycling with Fresno LCC recycling program to create an accounts. Brown explained the goal of fundraising was for a chartered bus to the coast.

CAG members were not ready to vote on adopting the bylaws. Approval of bylaws moved to next CAG meeting.

Next CAG meeting will be September 30, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Marcia Logan, one of the Foster Grandparents, expressed her appreciation of the program and the things it accomplishes.

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Leah Struck

## FRESNO EOC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) BY-LAWS

(Revised July 12, 2016)

## ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the Board will be known as the "Foster Grandparent Program Advisory Board," hereinafter referred to as the Community Advisory Group.

#### ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

<u>Section 1:</u> The Advisory Board shall review and make recommendations regarding the Foster Grandparent Program to the EOC Board of Commissioners. The review includes discussion of volunteer demographics, reported volunteer incidents, etc. which will be documented in Board minutes and forwarded to the State Department of Social Services-CNCS office as requested.

<u>Section 2:</u> The Advisory Board shall serve as a liaison between the Foster Grandparent Program and other businesses and agencies.

<u>Section 3:</u> The Advisory Board shall assist in the development and enhancement of the Foster Grandparent Program's public image.

<u>Section 4:</u> The Advisory Board shall recommend a strategy for continued funding of the Foster Grandparent Program.

<u>Section 5:</u> The Advisory Board shall recruit and maintain a board membership to ensure the best service to the Foster Grandparent Program.

#### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

<u>Section 1:</u> The membership of the Community Advisory Group shall include members of the business community, public agencies, Foster Grandparent Program volunteers and residents of the community-at-large that are concerned with youth. These members may include:

- a. EOC Agency Commissioner(s)
- b. SeniorCorps members and Fresno EOC Foster Grandparent Program Volunteers
- Public agencies providing services in:
   Education, Health, Social Services, Human Services, Outreach and Gerontology
- d. Seniors from the community-at-large and/or from the Foster Grandparent Program.
- e. Other individuals or organization representatives who possess skills, interests and/or resources which will aid the Community Advisory Group in fulfilling its purpose.
- f. The Community Advisory Group shall give equal opportunity for membership, board participation without regard to race, religion, color, creed or national origin, sex, age, disabilities or sexual preferences to all persons otherwise qualified.

Section 2: There shall be a minimum of eight members on the Community Advisory Board.

Section 3: Each member shall be fingerprinted as mandated by CNCS

<u>Section 4:</u> All members serving on the Community Advisory Group shall be confirmed by the EOC Board of Commissioners.

<u>Section 5:</u> If a member or their alternate is unable to attend two (2) or more regularly scheduled quarterly meetings with in a calendar year, then their seat on the Community Advisory Group will be reviewed for replacement.

<u>Section 6:</u> Any member may choose to designate an alternate to attend and vote at Advisory Board meetings on their behalf. Alternate designees shall be subject to the same membership and clearance specifications as required of a primary member.

<u>Section 7:</u> The Foster Grandparent Program Coordinator and Program Coordinating Staff shall serve as an ex-officio-member of the Community Advisory Group.

#### ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

<u>Section 1:</u> The Community Advisory Group shall meet quarterly. The first of these meetings shall be the annual meeting. The time and place of any meeting shall be determined by the Program Coordinator. By agreement of the membership via e-mail, the meeting may be held by teleconference. Additional emergency meetings will be determined by the needs of the program.

### ARTICLE V. ATTENDANCE AND TERMINDATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Members who miss two consecutive meetings shall be contacted by the Community Advisory Group to determine if there is a need to replace the member. If so, the Foster Grandparent Program Coordinator shall arrange for the replacement of the Committee member. Members who may find it necessary to resign their position shall notify the Fresno EOC Foster Grandparent Program Coordinator of their intention at least thirty days prior to the next scheduled meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI. ALTERNATES

Each member shall designate an alternate to serve in his/her absence.

## ARTICLE VII. MEMBERS AND TERM OF OFFICE

<u>Section 1:</u> Officers shall be elected from among the membership during the last meeting of each calendar year. Officers will be elected by a simple majority vote. Officers will include a chair, vice chair, and a secretary

<u>Section 2:</u> Each elected officer shall serve for a period of one year and may be re-elected following a one-year lapse between terms.

<u>Section 3:</u> Community Advisory Group vacancies shall be filled by <del>nominations from the floor and a majority vote at the next scheduled meeting. Voting: A quorum will consist of a simple majority of appointed members, present at the meeting. A minimum of one active appointed FGP Volunteer must be present during a quorum. During the absence of a quorum, informational items will be discussed without a vote.</del>

Recommendations from FGP Staff or CAG members referred to FGP Coordinator. FGP coordinator will send out formal invitation.

#### ARTICLE VIII: DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEES

<u>Section 1:</u> Foster Grandparent Coordinator shall secure community participation in local project operation by establishing an Advisory Council or a similar organizational structure with a membership that includes people:

- a. Knowledgeable of human and social needs of the community;
- b. Competent in the field of community service, volunteerism and children's issues;
- c. Capable of helping the sponsor meet its administrative and program responsibilities including fund-raising, publicity and programming for impact;
- d. With interest in and knowledge of the capability of older adults; and
- e. Of a diverse composition that reflects the demographics of the service area.

## Section 2: Fundraising, Community Partnership & Volunteer Development

The committee shall be responsible for the development of an annual fundraising, community partnerships, and marketing strategy. In addition, the Committee shall be responsible for the development and maintenance of a Foundation, as deemed appropriate.

#### ARTICLE IX. DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITES OF THE MEMBERS

The members of the Community Advisory Group shall include the Program Coordinator, Volunteer Specialist, and Program Assistant (Intern).

### Section 1: Program Coordinator

The Program Coordinator shall designate the date, time and place of all meetings and affairs of the Community Advisory Group, at which he/she shall preside. He/she shall also be authorized to appoint subcommittees to undertake special tasks.

#### Section 2: Volunteer Specialist

The Volunteer Specialist at the request of the Program Coordinator or in the event of the Program Coordinator absence shall perform any and all duties of the Program Coordinator.

## Section 3: Program Assistant (Intern)

The Program Assistant shall be responsible for insuring the recording and maintenance of the minutes and records of the Community Advisory Group, which shall include a current membership listing. The Program Assistant insures that all notices are distributed to all members.

## FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (FGP) PROGRAM UPDATES October 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023

- 1. **Current Volunteer Status:** FGP currently has 55 active volunteers. Other volunteers are on temporary medical leave and some are waiting to be placed. Sixteen new volunteers have been added since September. Two grandparents have retired. Interest continues, applications are being submitted and more are in the qualification process.
- 2. Funding Streams: We currently have two funding streams, the existing Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) and a second Senior Demonstration Program (SDP) modeled after Foster Grandparent Program. SDP will be conducted for expansion areas of West Fresno County, East Fresno County and Madera. One person has completed enrollment as a Foster Grandparent for SDP. The SDP enrollment has been slower than expected but applicants in Kerman and one person at Pine Ridge, near Auberry, are completing the final needed processes. Outreach is continuing in Madera, Firebaugh, San Joaquin, Orange Cove, and Parlier.
- 3. **Stipend Amount:** The stipend the volunteers receive for hours of service was raised from \$3.15 an hour to \$4.00 an hour starting April 1, 2023. The volunteers were appreciative. This stipend is not taxable and does not affect any benefits. There was underspending of stipend funds during 2021-2022 through 2022-23 funding years due to volunteer hesitation to return in-person and a shortage of sites that were comfortable accepting volunteers. We have been able to use some of the surplus to raise the mileage rates for volunteer travel to help cover the rise in gas prices.
- 4. **Placements**: COVID restrictions and volunteer site hesitation to take on volunteers is no longer a factor. The majority of stations are with Fresno EOC Head Start. Schools we had previously had agreements with are accepting volunteers again: Tilley and Teague elementary in Central Unified, Olmos and Winchell elementary in Fresno Unified. Boys & Girls clubs are open and are accepting volunteers.
- 5. **MOUs:** An agreement with Big Sandy Rancheria and Pine Ridge Elementary have been completed. Recruitment for a volunteer from the Rancheria continues.
- 6. Generations Serving Together (GST) program: FGP was one of eight recipients in the country to receive a grant of \$25,000 from Encore.org, now known as CoGenerate, to begin a program that creates a co-generational model of service. CoGenerate and AmeriCorps Seniors teamed up to present this grant opportunity. AmeriCorps and CoGenerate would like to see less division of age groups in AmeriCorps programs. This project will pilot having age groups come together to work on solving an identified problem in the local area. Mental wellness was the topic chosen for the project here. Three Foster Grandparents and five college and community volunteers are actively meeting and are creating curriculum based on Brene Brown's Atlas of the Heart.

Workshops are being conducted with students at LCC YouthBuild charter school and Pinedale and Clovis Boys & Girls Clubs. Workshops are made up of creative, hands-on activities that identify emotions and coping skills to deal with them. Fresno EOC GST has been featured on the CoGenerate innovation Series: Changemakers Uniting three generations to Promote Mental Wellness.

- 7. **Next 50/Senior Planet Tech Training:** Six classes of Seniors learning computer basics have been completed. Quarter 4 classes in Kerman, Selma, and Fresno completed with 89 graduates. Graduations ceremonies were held for all. Family and friends of the graduates were able to attend. The Seniors learned how to use the computer, how to email, send attachments, access the internet and research on YouTube and medical websites, as well and internet safety. The program was extended into the first quarter Jan- Mar with remaining funds. Several workshops on Smart Phone usage, online banking, Social Media training, Zoom, Venmo, and others were conducted. These classes have been so important to the seniors learning. We are hoping to find a funding source to continue.
- 8. **Fundraisers:** Grandma's Goodies Bake sale was held at October ArtHop. \$600 was raised. Efforts with Panda Express fundraiser had mixed success. The first date did not earn enough to reach the required amount to receive the funds. The second date did raise \$154. We participated in the City of Fowler Spring Fest annual citywide yard sale. Donated items were brought to sell. A total of \$100 was raised. We also have a small ongoing recycle activity that adds small amounts to the overall total. All fundraising has been accumulating to provide a charter bus for a fun trip to Monterey for the volunteers. The goal has been reached and the trip is being planned. Added to this, an opportunity was found to apply to receive free passes into the Monterey Bay Aquarium with the Free to Learn program. FGP applied and was accepted. Free entrance into the Aquarium will be provided for all.
- 9. Publicity and Recognition: ABC 30 did a piece on Foster Grandparent Program filming at Dakota Head Start which showed several grandparents working with children and interviewed Grandma Ruth Beasley where she was able to share how important it is to let the children know they are loved.
  - ABC 30 later contacted us wanting to do a story on the Senior Tech Training program. They interviewed Grandma Linda Padilla who shared her struggles and success in learning how to navigate her computer and Zoom. They also filmed a Tech class in progress. Both of these segments are now included as part of an ongoing half hour program on the ABC 30 app streaming services titled Children First: Growing Up With Grandparents. This has gained attention for both FGP and the Senior Tech Training program.

Over 30 persons contacted FGP after the airing via the Fresno EOC website and FGP phone calls. Eight have completed enrollment to be a Foster Grandparent.

Grandpa JC Williams was nominated, chosen and recognized on the national AmeriCorps Seniors website as part of the AmeriCorps Uniter theme. This theme

highlights volunteers that have overcome divisive situations and are now bringing people together.

## https://bit.ly/GrandpaJC

- 10. Other Activities: FGP assisted with Local Conservation Corps Safe Night Out putting together a Kids Zone during the event. Grandparent volunteers joined the Kids Zone reading stories, assisting in the coloring station, and the movie area.
- 11. **November Turkey Luncheon**: The luncheon was provided at Nielsen Center catered by Fresno EOC Café catering during our November in-service meeting. Fresno EOC Community Services food distribution were able to coordinate the purchase of turkeys which were paid for FGP to be able to give each volunteer a frozen turkey to take home.
- 12. The Annual Recognition Luncheon: was held December 20th at Pardini's and was a great success. Certificates and Years of Service Pins were given out to recognize the volunteer's service. Two grandparents were awarded trophies for twenty-five years of service and one for twenty years. Each volunteer was given a Fresno EOC tote bag containing a photo scrapbook showing the activities from 2018-2022 and a zipper jacket with AmeriCorps Seniors Fresno EOC Foster Grandparent Program branding. Between these announcements and the plated lunch, there was fun music from DJ Ricardo from Binational Central California, a nonprofit focused on connecting farmworkers to resources by conducting outreach events. FGP had met this group at several outreach events and they agreed and were excited to host the activities at our event. A small donation went to the group, a portion of which went to prizes for the event. He led the group in games and prizes, dancing and singing. A photo booth was also available to all to be able for group photos. The photos were printed immediately to be taken home. Teachers and Site Directors contributed short videos which were put together as a Power Point showing "Shout Outs" to the grandparent volunteers that they work with in appreciation for their efforts. Grandparents were able to bring a guest. One of the guest contacted FGP afterwards to put in an application and is now enrolled. She shared that the group of seniors inspired her with the years they have served, being active working with children, and all of the fun they were having at the event. It gave her hope for her future that age is not the end of active living.
- 13. **Orientations and enrollment:** Three orientations were held with an added 16 new grandparent volunteers enrolled. Twenty-four have been enrolled since July. Recruitment continues. Our goal is 66 volunteers with FGP and 44 volunteers with SDP.

## Upcoming Events Ways to Participate

**Monthly in Service Meetings:** The first Monday of each month, FGP volunteers attend a monthly in-service meeting, which includes presenters on senior resources or skill building trainings for the volunteers. Recognition for the anniversary month of volunteer start dates are highlighted. Lunch is served which gives an opportunity to visit as a group. CAG members are always welcome to join us any month to come for a visit. We are making plans to email CAG members monthly contact with upcoming dates and events.

**Annual Recognition**: December FGP recognition luncheon event is our biggest activity. CAG members are always invited to come and join. Members would also be a welcome source of assistance with resources, in-kind, or contacts for donations to cover activities not covered by funding. A calendar invite will be sent to all CAG members.

**Fundraising:** Any kind! All help appreciated. AmeriCorps Seniors staff cannot spend work hours fundraising. Information and referrals for in-kind match also assists with the grant requirements.

**Networking:** Introduction of new potential CAG members, information on available grants, introduction to community members, business, and agencies that could further the group of FGP programing missions is helpful.