Program Planning & Evaluation Committee Meeting

June 26, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

Fresno EOC Board Room
1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 310
Fresno, 93721

Join By Zoom:
https://fresnoeoc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIqceqtqzIjGtJXNciT8m9bYg1n2kQ5fiLD#/registration
1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL
   A. Monthly Attendance Record

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 22, 2023, MINUTES
   A. May 22, 2023, Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes
      Approve

4. 2024-2025 COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
   A. Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan
      Approve

5. HEALTH SERVICES
   A. Community Based Approaches to Reducing Sexually Transmitted Diseases
      Approve
   B. AMOR Wellness Center
      Approve

6. SANCTUARY AND SUPPORT SERVICES
   A. Domestic Victims of Human Trafficking Services and Outreach Program
      Approve
   B. Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign
      Ratify
   C. Sisters of the Presentation
      Ratify
   D. Project HOPE Bridge Housing Update
      Information

7. TRANSIT SYSTEMS
   A. Trolley Bus Service
      Ratify

8. ENERGY SERVICES
   A. 2022 Weatherization Assistance Program Contract Amendment
      Accept

9. TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT
   A. Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program Agreement Amendment
      Accept
   B. One Fresno Youth Job Corps Program Worksites
      Ratify

10. LOCAL CONSERVATION CORPS
    A. CalFire Central Valley Forestry Corps Contract Amendment
       Ratify

11. FOOD SERVICES
A. Title III C2 Home Delivered Meals Program Contract Amendment

Accept 283

B. Title III C1 Covid-19 Emergency Meals Program Contract Amendment

Accept 284

C. Lighthouse Student Meal Services Agreement

Ratify 286

D. Summer Food Service Program

Information 287

12. ADVANCE PEACE

A. Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative

Ratify 290

13. WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN

A. Corrective Action Plan Closure

Information 292

14. PROGRAM PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

A. Grant Tracker

Information 296

15. OTHER BUSINESS

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

16. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within jurisdiction but not on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes).

17. ADJOURNMENT
## Program and Planning Evaluation Meeting
### Monthly Attendance Record
2023

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O-Present  X-Absent  T-Teleconference
1. CALL TO ORDER
Amy Arambula, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL
Roll was called and a quorum was established.

Committee Members:          Staff:             Thomas Dulin
Amy Arambula          Emilía Reyes        Kevin Williams
Alena Pacheco           Michelle L. Tutunjian  Jon Escobar
Robert Pimentel         Jack Lazzarini     Jay Zapata
                         Karina Perez        Misty Gattie-Blanco
Teleconference:          Greg Street          Joseph Amader
N/A                     Jane Thomas          Ana Medina
                        Julio Romero        Lydia Dawson
Absent:                  Patrick Turner         Andy Arredondo
                         Shawn Riggins
Linda Hayes

3. APPROVAL OF APRIL 24, 2023, MINUTES
April 24, 2023, Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pacheco Second by: Pimentel
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None

4. PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION CHARTER
A. Program Planning and Evaluation Charter

Michelle Tutunjian, Chief Operating Officer, provided an overview of the redline recommended changes to
the Program Planning and Evaluation Charter.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pacheco Second by: Pimentel
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None

5. SANCTUARY AND SUPPORT SERVICES
   A. Integrated Services for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking

Misty Gattie-Blanco, Sanctuary and Support Services Director, provided an overview of the grant application with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program, Office for Victims of Crimes for the FY 2023 Integrated Services for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking, in the amount of $613,240. Funding will help to continue partnership with Family Healing Center to provide mental health to minor human trafficking victims.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pimentel Second by: Pacheco
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None

   B. Substance Use and HIV Prevention Navigator Program for Racial/Ethnic Minorities

Gattie-Blanco provided an overview of the Substance Use and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention Navigator Program for Racial/Ethnic Minorities grant application in the amount of $300,000.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pimentel Second by: Pacheco
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None

   C. Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program Contract Agreement

Gattie-Blanco provided an overview of the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program Contract Agreement with CalViva Health and Health Net in the amount of $124,804.80, for a 10 month period. Funding will help provide street outreach services in various forms to homeless individuals and families.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pacheco Second by: Arambula
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None

   D. Services for Victims of Human Trafficking

Gattie-Blanco provided an overview of the grant application submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Victims of Crime for the Services for Victims of Human Trafficking, in the amount of $950,000.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pimentel Second by: Pacheco
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None
E. Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Contract Agreement

Committee Members and Staff engage in a brief discussion regarding the process and procedures for our Housing Programs.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pacheco Second by: Pimentel
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None

F. Project HOPE Bridge Housing Update

Tutunjian, provided an updated table on the Project HOPE Bridge Housing to include the number of individuals that entered the project.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

6. ENERGY SERVICES

2023 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Agreement Amendment

Tutunjian, provided an overview of the 2023 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Agreement Amendment, with the State of California, Department of Community Services and Development, with the increase amount of $10,207,100.

Public Comments: None heard.

Motion by: Pimentel Second by: Pacheco
Ayes: Amy Arambula, Robert Pimentel, and Alena Pacheco.
Nays: None

7. EQUITY AND IMPACT

A. Grant Tracker

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

8. COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Community Action Plan

Kevin Williams, Equity and Impact Director, provided an overview on the Community Action Plan and highlighted the focus areas of poverty, such as Housing Insecurity, Employment Opportunities, Health and Wellness, Community Safety, and Food Insecurity.

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.
9. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Comments: None heard.

No action required.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS
None heard

11. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Arambula
Committee Chair
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee approval for full Board consideration of Fresno EOC’s 2024/2025 Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan, to be submitted to the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) by June 30, 2023.

Background

Every two years, CSD requests the completion of a Community Action Plan (CAP) in alignment with a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) completed within the past three years.

The Board approved the 2022 CNA on May 10, 2023, Agenda Item 8. The draft CAP was published on the agency website on May 15, 2023 for a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing was held on June 14, 2023. Community input was addressed in the draft CAP.

Fiscal Impact

Submission of the Board approved 2023/24 CNA/CAP will ensure Fresno EOC meets compliance with the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act and continues to receive CSBG funding.

Conclusion

Upon approval by the full Board, the Executive Director (CEO) and Board Chair will certify the agency meets assurances under the Federal Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Communication Action Plan.

Fresno EOC’s 2023/24 CNA/CAP will be submitted to the California Department of Community Service Development by the June 30, 2023 deadline.
2024/2025
Community Needs Assessment and
Community Action Plan

California Department of Community Services
and Development

Community Services Block Grant
Introduction

The Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) has developed the 2024/2025 Community Needs Assessment (CNA) and Community Action Plan (CAP) template for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Service Providers network. Each agency must submit a completed CAP, including a CNA to CSD on or before June 30, 2023. Changes from the previous template are detailed below in the “What’s New for 2024/2025?” section. Provide all narrative responses in 12-point Arial font with 1.15 spacing. When the CNA and CAP are complete, they should not exceed 65 pages, excluding the appendices.

Purpose

Public Law 105-285 (the CSBG Act) and the California Government Code require that CSD secure a CAP, including a CNA from each agency. Section 676(b)(11) of the CSBG Act directs that receipt of a CAP is a condition to receive funding. Section 12747(a) of the California Government Code requires the CAP to assess poverty-related needs, available resources, feasible goals, and strategies that yield program priorities consistent with standards of effectiveness established for the program. Although CSD may prescribe statewide priorities or strategies that shall be considered and addressed at the local level, each agency is authorized to set its own program priorities in conformance to its determination of local needs. The CAP supported by the CNA is a two-year plan that shows how agencies will deliver CSBG services. CSBG funds are by their nature designed to be flexible. They shall be used to support activities that increase the capacity of low-income families and individuals to become self-sufficient.

Federal CSBG Programmatic Assurances and Certification

The Federal CSBG Programmatic Assurances are found in section 676(b) of the CSBG Act. These assurances are an integral part of the information included in the CSBG State Plan. A list of the assurances that are applicable to CSBG agencies has been provided in the Federal Programmatic Assurances section of this template. CSBG agencies should review these assurances and certify that they are complying.

State Assurances and Certification

As required by the CSBG Act, states are required to submit a State Plan as a condition to receive funding. Information provided in agencies’ CAPs will be included in the CSBG State Plan. Alongside Organizational Standards, the state will be reporting on State Accountability Measures in order to ensure accountability and program performance improvement. A list of the applicable State Assurances and the agency certification for them are found in the State Assurances section of this template.
Compliance with CSBG Organizational Standards

As described in the Office of Community Services (OCS) Information Memorandum (IM) #138 dated January 26, 2015, CSBG agencies will comply with implementation of the Organizational Standards. CSD has identified the Organizational Standards that are met through the completion of the CAP and the CNA. A list of Organizational Standards that will be met upon completion of the CAP can be found in the Organizational Standards section of this template. Agencies are encouraged to utilize this list as a resource when reporting on the Organizational Standards annually.

What’s New for 2024/2025?

**Community Action Plan Workgroup (CAPWG).** In summer 2022, CSD organized a workgroup to inform the development of the 2024/2025 CNA and CAP. Workgroup members were selected from the CSBG Service Provider network and the ROMA Coalition. The feedback CSD received from the workgroup has informed not only the 2024/2025 template but also the accompanying CAP training scheduled for mid-December 2022.

**Public Hearings – Additional Guidance.** The public hearing requirement has been modified. Two years ago, we were in an active pandemic due to the COVID-19 virus. The public health guidelines throughout the state advised communities against large gatherings. CSD advised agencies to follow public health protocols and hold public meeting virtually if an in-person meeting was not an option. For the public hearing on the 2024/2025 draft CAP, CSD requests that agencies conduct in-person, virtual, or hybrid public hearings. While transmission rates of COVID-19 remain high in many communities, agencies are requested to follow their local public health guidelines when deciding in which format to conduct the public hearing. For more information, please see the Public Hearing section of this template.

**CNA Helpful Resources.** The Helpful Resources section in Part I: Community Needs Assessment contains additional data sets and resources. On recommendation of the CAPWG, CSD has added data sets from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Wisconsin, and a point-in-time data set from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. We have also added links to the Local Agencies Portal where you can find examples of completed Community Needs Assessments and project timelines from the CSBG Service Providers network.

**Part II: Community Action Plan.** The number of questions in the Tripartite Board of Directors, Service Delivery System, Linkages and Funding Coordination, and Monitoring sections has changed. Questions were removed because it was determined that agencies meet these reporting requirements through other CSBG work products such as monitoring and Organizational Standards. In the Service Delivery System and Linkages and Funding Coordination sections, new questions were added. These questions will be covered during the template training webinar.

**Sunset of COVID-19 Flexibilities.** In the 2022/2023 template, CSD allowed agencies to indicate on selected questions whether there were changes to the response provided in the 2020-2021 CAP or whether agencies would like CSD to accept the 2020-2021 response without adaptions. This option was an effort to reduce administrative burden on agencies during the COVID-19 pandemic. While
CSD has retained some of the flexibilities developed in the previous template, the option for agencies to reference responses in their prior CAP has been discontinued.

**Response and Community Awareness.** This section replaces the “Additional Information” section in the previous template. For 2024/2025 CSD has included questions pertaining to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). The questions about disaster preparedness have been retained from the previous template. While none of this information is directly mandated by statute, CSD is requesting the information to gauge where the CSBG Service Provider network is as a whole on these topics. Responses to the questions in this section are mandatory.

**ROMA Certification Requirement.** Under section 676(b)(12) of the CSBG Act, CSD and all CSBG agencies are required to assure that we will participate in a Results Oriented Management and Accountability System “not later than fiscal year 2001.” CSD and the CSBG Service Providers have fulfilled this requirement through various approaches. With respect to the ROMA certification of the network CAPs (Organizational Standard 4.3), CSD has allowed agencies to submit their CAP without the signature of a ROMA trainer or implementer if the agency did not have a ROMA trainer or implementer on staff. CSD staff who had the requisite training would certify those CAPs on behalf of the agencies. This process will still be in place for the 2024/2025 template. However, for the 2026/2027 template, CSD will require that CSBG Service Providers provide their own ROMA certification either by staff who have the required ROMA training or in partnership with another agency or organization. CSBG Service Providers should begin formulating a plan to fulfill this requirement.
Checklist

☒ Cover Page and Certification
☒ Public Hearing(s)

Part I: Community Needs Assessment
☒ Narrative
☒ Results

Part II: Community Action Plan
☒ Vision Statement
☒ Mission Statement
☒ Tripartite Board of Directors
☒ Service Delivery System
☒ Linkages and Funding Coordination
☒ Monitoring
☒ Data Analysis, Evaluation, and ROMA Application
☒ Response and Community Awareness
☒ Federal CSBG Programmatic Assurances and Certification
☒ State Assurances and Certification
☒ Organizational Standards
☒ Appendices
COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)
2024/2025 Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan
Cover Page and Certification

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Name</th>
<th>Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of CAP Contact</td>
<td>Kevin Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Director of Equity and Impact</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(559) 263-1385</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kevin.Williams@fresnoeoc.org">Kevin.Williams@fresnoeoc.org</a></td>
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CNA Completed MM/DD/YYYY: 08/24/2022
(Organizational Standard 3.1)

**Board and Agency Certification**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this agency complies with the Federal CSBG Programmatic, and State Assurances as outlined in the CSBG Act and California Government Code, respectively for services provided under the Federal Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Community Action Plan. The undersigned further certifies the information in this Community Needs Assessment and the Community Action Plan is correct and has been authorized by the governing body of this organization. (Organizational Standard 3.5)

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<td>Board Chair (printed name)</td>
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<td>Emilia Reyes</td>
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<td>Executive Director (printed name)</td>
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**Certification of ROMA Trainer/Implementer (If applicable)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this agency’s Community Action Plan and strategic plan documents the continuous use of the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) system (assessment, planning, implementation, achievement of results, and evaluation).

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<tr>
<th>Dates CAP (Parts I &amp; II)</th>
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7 | Page
Public Hearing(s)
California Government Code Section 12747(b)-(d)

State Statute Requirements
As required by California Government Code Section 12747(b)-(d), agencies are required to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the draft CAP. All testimony presented by low-income individuals and families during the public hearing shall be identified in the final CAP. Agencies shall indicate whether or not the concerns expressed by low-income individuals and families have been addressed. If an agency determines that any of the concerns have not been addressed in the CAP, the agency shall include in its response document, information about the concerns and comment as to their validity.

Guidelines

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

Public Hearing
1. Agencies must conduct at least one public hearing on the draft CAP.
2. Public hearing(s) will be held in the designated CSBG service area(s).
3. Low-income testimony presented at the hearing or received during the comment period must be memorialized verbatim in the Low-Income Testimony and Agency’s Response document and appended to the final CAP as Appendix B.
4. The Low-Income Testimony and Agency’s Response document should include the name of low-income individual, his/her verbatim testimony, an indication of whether or not the need was addressed in the draft CAP, and the agency’s response to the testimony if the concern was not addressed in the draft CAP.
**Additional Guidance**

COVID-19 poses unique challenges to fulfilling the public hearing requirement. CSD asks that agencies continue to adhere to state and local public health guidance to slow the spread of the virus and ensure public safety. The health and safety of agency staff and the communities you serve is paramount. Therefore, for the purposes of fulfilling the public hearing requirement on the draft CAP, agencies may conduct the public hearing in-person, remotely, or using a hybrid model (in-person and remotely) based on the public health protocols in place in their communities.

**Public Hearing Report**

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<th>Date(s) of Public Hearing(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Location(s) of Public Hearing(s)</td>
<td>Neighborhood Youth Center 805 E California Avenue, Fresno, CA 93721</td>
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<td>Dates of the Comment Period(s)</td>
<td>May 15, 2023 – June 15, 2023</td>
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<td>Where was the Notice of Public Hearing published? (agency website, newspaper, social media channels)</td>
<td>Agency website, social media pages, radio advertisements.</td>
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<td>Date the Notice(s) of Public Hearing(s) was published</td>
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<td>Number of Attendees at the Public Hearing(s) (Approximately)</td>
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Part I: Community Needs Assessment
CSBG Act Section 676(b)(11)
California Government Code Section 12747(a)

Helpful Resources

In 2011, NASCSP published a Community Action to Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment Tool that supports planning and implementing a comprehensive CNA. The tool lays out design choices, planning steps, implementation practices, analysis, and presentation options.

The National Community Action Partnership has an Assessment Tool designed specifically for the community needs assessment process. Here you can select from a variety of county-specific data sets.

Examples of Community Needs Assessments and project timelines from agencies within the California CSBG Providers network can be found on the Local Agencies Portal under the CSBG – Resources tab. If you do not have an account or have not received CSD login credentials, please email CSD at ExternalAccess@csd.ca.gov.

To provide a comprehensive “picture” of the community needs in your service area(s), agencies will collect and analyze both quantitative and qualitative data. Links to several national and state quantitative data sets are given below. Local and agency data also provide information about the needs of the community.

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<th>Sample Data Sets</th>
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<td>HUD Exchange PIT and HIC Data Since 2007</td>
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<td>Massachusetts Institute of Technology Living Wage Calculator</td>
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<td>California Department of Education School Data via DataQuest</td>
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<td>California Department of Finance Demographics</td>
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<td>CSD Census Tableau Data by County</td>
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1. Describe how your agency collected and included current data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity for your service area. (Organizational Standard 3.2)

Numerous primary and secondary data sources were used to describe the demographics of the service area and the physical, social, and economic well-being of low-income families. Sources of data included population datasets such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the CARES Community Engagement Network website, California Education Agency the Kids Count Data Center, California Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy People 2020, Healthy Fresno County, the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, the California Department of Finance, KidsData.org, and the County Health Ranking reports. In addition, the assessment includes information garnered from other secondary sources such as community health and needs assessments published by other agencies in the service area.

Internal data included information necessary to create a profile of children and families, services received, and services for children with disabilities.

The community assessment includes the following information:

• **Overview of the Service Area.** An overview of the service area including the economy and trends in the community, children, and families.

• **A Complete Analysis of the Community-Wide Conditions.** An internal and external analysis of quantitative and qualitative data in order to address verified urgent and local needs.

• **A Description and Analysis of the Needs of Low-Income Families in the Service Area.** The agency staff worked with the Heartland demographer and research team to discover the needs of low-income individuals using a variety of sources.

• **A Description of the Eligible Population.** A profile of the service area’s eligible families based on authoritative information sources, including the number of eligible infants, toddlers, preschool age children, and expectant mothers, along with their geographic location, race, ethnicity, and spoken languages.
• **Special Populations.** An analysis of children experiencing homelessness in collaboration with, to the extent possible, McKinney-Vento Local Educational Agency Liaisons and an estimate of the number of children in foster care.

• **Early Childhood Education Programs.** A review of other child development, childcare centers, and family childcare programs that serve eligible children, including home visiting, publicly funded state and local preschools, and the approximate number of eligible children served.

• **Children with Disabilities.** A description of the number of children with disabilities, including the types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies such as IDEA Part C and B providers.

• **Employment, Education, Housing, Health, Nutrition, Transportation, Asset Development, and Social Service Needs.** A description of the needs of low-income families and children including prevalent social or economic factors that impact their well-being.

• **Parent Needs.** Typical work, school, and training schedules of parents with eligible children.

• **Community Resources, Assets, and Strengths.** A review of community resources available to Head Start eligible families in the service area and low-income individuals.

• **Barriers to Services.** Barriers to services identified through an analysis of data and alignment to the needs of families, the community, and agency needs/resources.

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2. Describe the geographic location(s) that your agency is funded to serve with CSBG. If applicable, include a description of the various pockets, high-need areas, or neighborhoods of poverty that are being served by your agency.

Fresno County is in central California, one of the richest agricultural places in the United States. The area includes California's San Joaquin Valley which contributes to Fresno’s designation as the top agribusiness county in the nation. Covering about 6,000 square miles, it is the sixth largest county in the California. Fresno County has 15 incorporated cities: Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, and Selma. In addition, there are 25 small, unincorporated communities; among these are: Auberry, Biola, Cantua Creek, Caruthers, Del Rey, Highway City, Laton, Pinedale, and Riverdale. Fresno County is home to 1,064,184 with Fresno City being the most populous area (990,204) and the highest population density.

As an agricultural center of the nation, Fresno County is also home to a large population of migrant workers and families. There are estimated to be 113,821 migrants and their families living in the
County. Most migrants are Hispanic (77%), but there are other migrant groups as well. The Hispanic/Latino population represents the largest ethnic group in the county and several towns and cities have a composition in which Hispanic/Latino is the majority ethnically, although they may identify under several different racial categories.

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

The significance of the large migrant population previously mentioned is revealed in that many children have at least one immigrant parent and 26% of all households are headed by an immigrant. This results in a high degree of linguistic isolation. For example, there are over 400,000 families that are headed by someone that speaks a language other than English, of which 166,000 speak English “less than very well”10. The large immigrant population is also connected to high rates of poverty as the jobs available for immigrants do not pay enough to lift individuals and families out of poverty.

Another significant population trend is a decline in births that has occurred since 2010 which should be taken into consideration when planning for early childhood program slots.

Family structure is important for Fresno EOC to consider. For example, family structure can play a role in the mental health, physical well-being, and longevity of children, adolescents and adults. The data indicates that there are a significant percent of children living in single-female headed households throughout the county, totaling 12% of all children under five years. Additionally, more than 12,000 children live with their grandparents.

The Fresno County unemployment rate has been slowly decreasing since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, like trends for both the State of California and for the United States. For example, unemployment has decreased by almost 10% for the county. However, despite significant improvement from the pandemic unemployment crisis, rates of unemployment remain high in Biola,
Mendota, Reedley, Huron, and Orange Cove. This indicates that rates of poverty are likely to remain high despite efforts to improve the economy. Employment rates are typically lower for families with young children. However, the need for two incomes to meet the range of family needs is exacerbated in the service area due to income disparities, income inequities, and the family status of low-income children, who are more likely to live in single-parent headed families. The employment characteristics of families in Fresno County show there is a significant portion of families in each community that are not working. Additionally, Huron and Biola have a higher percentage of children under six years that live in a family where no parent is working.

In terms of income, Black families have the lowest average income ($39,621), a significant disparity from White families ($70,763), Asian families ($68,274) and Hispanic families ($47,141).

3. Indicate from which sources your agency collected and analyzed quantitative data for the CNA. (Check all that apply.) (Organizational Standard 3.3)

**Federal Government/National Data Sets**
- ☒ Census Bureau
- ☒ Bureau of Labor Statistics
- ☒ Department of Housing & Urban Development
- ☒ Department of Health & Human Services
- ☒ National Low-Income Housing Coalition
- ☒ National Center for Education Statistics
- ☒ Academic data resources
- ☐ Other online data resources
- ☐ Other

**Local Data Sets**
- ☐ Local crime statistics
- ☒ High school graduation rate
- ☒ School district school readiness
- ☒ Local employers
- ☒ Local labor market
- ☒ Childcare providers
- ☐ Public benefits usage
- ☒ County Public Health Department
- ☐ Other
### California State Data Sets
- Employment Development Department
- Department of Education
- Department of Public Health
- Attorney General
- Department of Finance
- State Covid-19 Data
- Other

### Agency Data Sets
- Client demographics
- Service data
- CSBG Annual Report
- Client satisfaction data
- Other

### Surveys
- Clients
- Partners and other service providers
- General public
- Staff
- Board members
- Private sector
- Public sector
- Educational institutions

### 4. If you selected “Other” in any of the data sets in Question 3, list the additional sources.

N/A

### 5. Indicate the approaches your agency took to gather qualitative data for the CNA. (Check all that apply.) (Organizational Standard 3.3)

#### Surveys
- Clients
- Partners and other service providers
- General public
- Staff
- Board members
- Private sector
- Public sector
- Educational institutions

#### Focus Groups
- Local leaders
- Elected officials
- Partner organizations’ leadership
- Board members
- New and potential partners
- Clients
- Staff

#### Community Forums

#### Asset Mapping
- Other
6. If you selected “Other” in Question 5, please list the additional approaches your agency took to gather qualitative data.

N/A

7. Describe your agency’s analysis of the quantitative and qualitative data collected from low-income individuals and families. (Organizational Standards 1.1, 1.2, 3.3)

The purpose of the community-wide strategic planning and needs assessment is to collect quantitative and qualitative data, providing a current snapshot of the well-being of families and children in the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission service area. This document is prepared in accordance with 45 CFR 1302.11, and serves as an overall assessment of local social and economic conditions as they relate to the needs, priorities, and lives of low-income individuals and families. It provides information compiled from various local, regional, national, state, and authoritative sources for the service area. Throughout the community assessment process, the staff, board, and policy council worked collaboratively to determine the information to collect, methods for collecting data, the participants for each data collection method, the anticipated process timelines, and the data sources for each indicator in the community assessment. The community assessment was prepared by Heartland Solutions, a Colorado consulting firm.

Numerous primary and secondary data sources were used to describe the demographics of the service area and the physical, social, and economic well-being of low-income families. Sources of data included population datasets such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the CARES Community Engagement Network website, California Education Agency the Kids Count Data Center, California Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy People 2020, Healthy Fresno County, the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, the California Department of Finance, KidsData.org, and the County Health Ranking reports. In addition, the assessment includes information garnered from other secondary sources such as community health and needs assessments published by other agencies in the service area.

Internal data included information necessary to create a profile of children and families, services received, and services for children with disabilities. These sources included the Head Start/Early Head Start Program Information Report for Fresno EOC. The following table details the purposes of 1-year, 3-year and five-year data for the US Census American Community Survey (ACS).
Initial data analysis was completed by Heartland Solutions and the Fresno EOC management team. Conclusions and recommendations were formulated from these reviews and were considered by the Fresno EOC board and the Head Start policy council. These conclusions and recommendations will form the basis for planning and guide the agency vision for the next several years.

8. Summarize the data gathered from each sector of the community listed below and detail how your agency used the information to assess needs and resources in your agency’s service area(s). Your agency must demonstrate that each sector was included in the needs assessment; A response for each sector is required. (CSBG Act Sections 676(b)(3)(C), 676(b)(9), Organizational Standard 2.2)

Community-based organizations

Reports and data from community-based organizations are particularly useful for Fresno EOC’s needs assessment since these reports are focused on the same geographic region and populations that Fresno EOC serves. According to the Fresno County Rural Needs Assessment, the community-based reports show that 11% of the Fresno workforce works in farms, and 40% live in rural areas. According to the Fresno County Farm Bureau CEO Ryan Jacobsen integrative services and should be much larger in reality." Furthermore, Mr. Jacobsen said, “communities such as Mendota and Huron have at or above 50% of their population in agriculture-related industries.” Additionally, the Fresno County Rural Needs Assessment found that 71% of Fresno County residents living in rural parts of the County are Latino, 40% have less than 12 years of formal school, and 39% of rural county residents have children who live in poverty. Strong family and community relationships are identified as the greatest strength, with immigration status and language listed as the greatest obstacles. Services for youth and education were the services most often requested by rural Fresno County community members (First Five, 2016). According to the Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health report by the Fresno County Department of Public Health, Fresno County had an infant mortality rate (IMR) of 6.9 in 2018, ranking among the highest in California where the statewide IMR was 4.2. Although African American/Black residents accounted for only 5.1% of Fresno County’s total births, they accounted for 15.6% of total infant deaths. (Fresno County Department of Public Health, 2018). The African American Infant Mortality in Fresno County report found that African American residents experience an infant mortality rate 3.13 times higher than white residents, which is higher than the state (2.5) and national (2.21) averages. The cause of high infant mortality rates was identified as discrimination and unequal employment for African Americans leading to and exacerbating problems of economic uncertainty, poor housing, lack of transportation, inadequate education, and unsafe neighborhoods. (First Five, 2015). According to the Breastfeeding Promotion
Support Efforts in Fresno County report, only 18.2% of mothers in Fresno County report exclusive breastfeeding in the three months postpartum, which is well below the national average of 46.2% (First Five, 2017). The report showed a need across all demographics for more resources related to motherhood assistance, breastfeeding, and childcare.

**Faith-based organizations**

Faith-based data is important since many of Fresno EOC’s programs work with communities that have local faith-based leadership and organizations as partners. The faith-based data collected identifies poverty as the greatest threat to individuals and families in Fresno County and focuses on strategies to tackle poverty and its many ramifications. The faith-based community also reviews data from reports such as the Brookings Institute, local police reports, community-based reports, and government sites in the same way Fresno EOC collects and reviews data. One key threat identified by the faith-based community is payday loans. There are twice as many payday lenders in Fresno as fast-food restaurants. The faith-based community tried to tackle the problem through policy changes, such as capping the number or limiting proximity, but with little effect. To effect change, local faith-based organizations have begun providing financial literacy classes directly to community members. The Fresno Housing Authority has even allowed classes at many apartment complexes, despite the educator being designated as a religious organization, due to the urgent need for these services.

The needs identified in Fresno County by Faith in the Valley, a faith-based grassroots community organization operating in California’s Central Valley, include safe and decent housing, jobs and poverty reduction programs, environmental justice, more parks, police accountability reduced gun violence. Their core campaigns include paid clean energy jobs and job training pipelines, the live free campaign to promote alternatives to incarceration and end racial profiling, dignity for ALL Immigrants by advocating for pro-immigrant policies and ensuring safe and healthy communities through significant investments in disadvantaged neighborhoods and schools across the valley. Another area identified as a great need is employment readiness and workforce training. The faith-based communities created Work Life Fresno as a pilot in 2018 to offer more workforce development at local access points (churches and faith-based organizations) in each neighborhood and facilitator training to faith-based leaders and members. This new program is in addition to established work connecting residents to jobs in faith-based thrift stores and support services. Another identified need is for micro-enterprise training and opportunities for previously incarcerated
adults, especially for those who have been convicted of felonies. The Center for Community Transformation at Pacific University is working to launch a program called Urban Co-Starters and an event called Spark Tank to help address the need for better small business opportunities for all residents, but especially previously incarcerated adults. The faith-based community has also prioritized fatherhood initiatives to increase father engagement and considers services such as early adolescent education and mentoring, family counseling, and health education crucial for improving the lives of residents. The faith-based community identifies other problematic factors for Fresno County residents such as lack of education, crime, poor health, etc. but is currently focused on financial literacy, employment readiness, micro-enterprise opportunities, and family services as the greatest needs. With greater attention recently to human trafficking in the Central Valley, the faith-based community is also very concerned about the need for prevention and raising awareness of human trafficking since drug addictions and poverty make the Fresno population especially vulnerable.

**Private sector (local utility companies, charitable organizations, local food banks)**

Private sector reports are referenced often for Fresno EOC’s health-based programs that use local hospital reports and training and employment programs that use local business reports. The private sector reports show that there is a need for education, employment, anticrime/safety, and health services. Across the County, 22.5% of all residents live at below the Federal Poverty Level. However, poverty is concentrated in specific neighborhoods within rural areas and the population centers. The City of Fresno metro area’s proportional levels of extreme poverty – neighborhoods where at least 40 percent of residents live below the poverty level – is the highest in California. Among the metro area’s poor population, 33.2 percent live in neighborhoods where four out of 10 residents live in poverty. Job opportunities appear to be far more limited in Fresno’s poorest neighborhoods than in other parts of the metro area. Unemployment in parts of the metro area where the poverty rate is at least 40% stands at 14.5%, well above the average unemployment rate of 8.5% in the remaining communities in Fresno. These statistics show that Fresno has the second largest growth of poverty and the highest concentrated poverty rate of any metro area in the country. Additionally, just 6.7% of adults have a bachelor’s degree in the poorest neighborhoods while 23% have bachelor’s degrees in other, wealthier neighborhoods of Fresno. Education attainment and employment disparities points to a need in Fresno for employment opportunities, educational services, and a focus on safety in the poorest neighborhoods of Fresno. The 2022
Community Health Needs Assessment by various local hospitals identified and ranked these top ten major challenges for Fresno County and the neighboring regions: cardiovascular disease, access to care, asthma, economic security, climate and health, violence and injury prevention, oral health, obesity and diabetes, maternal and infant health, substance abuse, and mental health. The report also reviewed social and economic factors that impact health. Fresno County had a higher proportion of unemployed adults in the region and young people not in school and not working than those of the state of California. The study also found that 23.1% of Fresno County’s population received SNAP benefits while 8.4% received public assistance income. Comparatively, the averages for the state are 11.2% and 3.8% respectively. The 2022 Point-in-Time Count, an annual count of Fresno County’s sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families, found 4,216 people were homeless, with 2,338 of those being unsheltered. This represents a 15.8% increase since 2020. The study by the Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) suggests severe rent burden and a low rate of rental vacancies as two potential reasons for the increase in people who are experiencing homelessness in Fresno County. The fraction of people with a high rent burden - paying more than 35% of their income for rent - is much higher in Fresno County than in the rest of the United States.

Public sector (social services departments, state agencies)

Government and public sector reports are used most often for needs assessments since many of Fresno EOC programs base client eligibility on indicators such as the Federal poverty level, and many funding opportunities are based on State and Federal reports of poverty, crime, housing, employment rates, etc. The public records data show there is a great need for housing and shelters, employment opportunities, education services, health services, and food distribution. According to the HUD’s 2020 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, Fresno and Madera Counties have 3,641 homeless people, of which 73.6% are unsheltered. In the city of Fresno, 84% of homeless individuals were unsheltered. These statistics show a year-over-year increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness in the region and follow a national trend of increasing homelessness nationwide. Local assessments of homeless populations also suggest a larger The California Department of Public Health County Health Status Profile for 2021 showed that Fresno County is well above the state rate for overall deaths due to diabetes, coronary heart disease, influenza and pneumonia, transit accidents (involving motor vehicles, bicycles and trains), homicide, and firearm related deaths. The county is also well above state rates for reported incidence of
chlamydia, gonorrhea, Asian/Pacific and Black infant mortality, births to adolescent mothers, and persons under 18 living in poverty. Fresno County is above state rates for deaths due to all cancers, Alzheimer’s disease, strokes, chronic lower respiratory disease, liver disease, suicide, and drug induced deaths. Data from the California Department of Public Health show that Fresno County’s most urgent needs are healthcare for diabetes, heart disease, sexually transmitted diseases, prenatal care and breastfeeding, and programs to fight childhood poverty (California Department of Public Health). The highest paid jobs in the region are in healthcare, education, technical, and community service. The majority of workers in Fresno work in office and administrative support, transportation, and sales. More people work in personal care and service than on average nationwide, but they get paid significantly less in Fresno County than elsewhere (Occupational Employment Statistics). This data shows the need for more employment opportunities and civic engagement to ensure workers can obtain higher paid jobs and defend their rights as workers. According to the State of California Department of Justice, Fresno County had higher rates of adult arrest rates, deaths in custody, juvenile arrest rates, and violent crime rates when compared to statewide rates in 2022. These statistics indicate a need for crime prevention services in Fresno. The 2022 Fresno County Community Needs Health Assessment conducted by Saint Agnes Medical Center found that communities in order to address significant health needs, support should be provided to address poor air quality/pollution, homelessness, food insecurity, safety/neighborhood crim, lack of affordable housing, limited access to medical care, and lack of transportation throughout Fresno County. People of color in Fresno County are disproportionately exposed to elevated levels of pollution. Of the 20 most polluted census tracts, on average, 89% of the population is non-White. Specifically, Hispanic/Latino, African American, and Asian-American populations compose 64%, 12%, and 11%, respectively. In the 20 least polluted census tracts, on average, 41% of the population is non-White.

Educational institutions (local school districts, colleges)

Educational institution reports are critical for programs focused on education, such as Head Start, SOUL Charter School, Youth Build Charter School, and Valley Apprenticeship Connection (VAC). With Head Start, quality programs can lead to greater student achievement. One such program in Jacksonville went from the lowest 10% in scores to reaching national averages by focusing on instructional support, emotional support, and classroom organization. The greatest area of weakness identified nationwide was in the instructional support category. Teachers naturally
nurtured children but were not always rigorous about instructing them. Home visits were also identified as a positive improvement with Head Start programs (deParle, 2017). The report from University of Michigan showed that children who attended Head Start were 12% less likely to live in poverty and 29% less likely to rely on public assistance. Children who attend Head Start were more likely to complete high school, more likely to enroll in college, and were 19% more likely to complete college. Fresno Unified School District (FUSD), the largest public-school district in Fresno County and 4th largest in the state, serving about 73,000 K-12 students, reported that 87.4% of the student population were eligible for free or reduced lunch, 17.9% were English Learners, and 1% were foster youth in the 2019-20 school year. (Ed-Data, 2020) FUSD had an 85% cohort graduation rate and a 9.8% dropout rate. 53.3% of cohort graduates meet California’s UC/CSU course requirements for entrance. In the 2018-19 school year, 62% of FUSD students did not meet state standards for English Language Arts and 70% did not meet those for Mathematics. 17.1% of FUSD students were chronically absent and 4.9% were suspended at least once. Another K-12 district in Fresno with over 15,000 students, Central Unified School District (CUSD), reports that 70.8% of students are eligible for free or reduced lunch, 13.5% are English Learners, and less than 1% are Foster Youth in the 2019-20 school year (Ed-Data, 2020). CUSD had a cohort graduation rate of 87.9% and a dropout rate of 5.7%. Only 37.5% of cohort graduates met the UC/CSU entrance requirements. In 2018-2019, 55.6% did not meet state English Language Arts standards and 67.15% did not meet state Mathematics standards. 13.9% of students were chronically absent and 5.4% had been suspended at least once. According to the U.S. Department of Education’s College Scorecard, California State University Fresno reports that it retains 81% of its first-year undergraduate students and 21.4% graduated in four years. 65% of the student body received income-based federal Pell grants intended for low-income students. 54% of undergraduates (totaling 21,732) are Latino.

Overall, this snapshot of K-12 and higher education in Fresno County shows that there are major problems with academic gaps, truancy, and retention. It shows a need for alternative educational programs, increased educational services (especially early in education), mentoring/greater parent involvement, and intervention programs.

9. “Causes of poverty” are the negative factors that create or foster barriers to self-sufficiency and/or reduce access to resources in communities in which low-income individuals live. After review and analysis of the data, describe the causes of poverty in your agency’s service area(s). (Organizational Standard 3.4)
In Fresno County there are community barriers to accessing health services and an inadequate service system has resulted in disparities in health for adults and children, including maternal and child health, particularly for diverse and low-income populations.

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

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

The causes of poverty in Fresno are linked to inequitable access to employment opportunities, affordable housing, quality education, safe communities, social safety net and health services, and quality transportation. Among all Fresno County residents, 22.5% live at or below the federal poverty line. Fresno County experiences a higher level of poverty in comparison to poverty levels across the state and the San Joaquin Valley Region. The elevated levels of poverty in Fresno County are driven by a myriad of geographic, demographic, social, and economic factors. Racial and ethnic minorities experience poverty at higher rates than Whites, and race and ethnicity is seen as a factor in equitable access to resources and services. Drawing on the focus group data, both the Hmong and Native American communities have felt excluded from receiving assistance and expressed a need for
greater outreach, access, interpretation, and translation of services. According to the 2021 Census data, 54% of Fresno County is Hispanic or Latino necessitating a need to acknowledge the diverse cultural and ethnic needs of the communities and how racism could have deep impacts on multiple socioeconomic fronts.

Access to quality employment opportunities was a common need identified by clients who participated in the survey or focus groups. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated these causes with parents of low-income families being more reluctant to miss work for fear of missing out on pay or losing a job. Over a quarter (27%) of reported employment in Fresno County provides an average income of about $30,000 per year (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020) which is below several benchmarks for a sustainable income in the Fresno Area. The cost of housing in Fresno, especially for low-income families, is elevated with 58% of renters considered overburdened or spend more than 35% of their income on rent. This is more common amongst families that have both parents working multiple jobs to cover costs and fewer resources for building wealth and investing in education and other pathways for upward mobility. As one of the state’s agricultural centers, employment in agriculture makes up 11% of the workforce (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020) with a large majority of employment in agriculture made up by migrant workers. Employment in agriculture is often defined by low wages, long hours, and difficult working conditions. Many agricultural workers live in more rural areas in proximity to their work, but far from population centers which limits access to resources, services, and social supports. Migrant workers and their children often experience poorer educational outcomes than non-migratory worker families as access to stable and quality education is limited.

10. “Conditions of poverty” are the negative environmental, safety, health and/or economic conditions that may reduce investment or growth in communities where low-income individuals live. After review and analysis of the data, describe the conditions of poverty in your agency’s service area(s). (Organizational Standard 3.4)
Poverty contributes to early death, increased rates of disease, and poor health. As income inequality increases, life expectancy differences also increase. According to a recent study, low-income Americans have higher rates of physical limitations, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and other chronic conditions, compared to high-income Americans.26 Wealth supports educational attainment, housing stability, and financial security.27 The impacts of poverty on young children are particularly harmful. According to the National Academy of Sciences, a wide body of evidence indicates that a child growing up in a family whose income is below the poverty line experiences worse outcomes than a child from a wealthier family in virtually every dimension, from physical and mental health to educational attainment and labor market success, to risky behaviors and delinquency.

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

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

According to the Children’s Defense Fund, black/African American and Hispanic/Latino children continue to suffer disproportionately from poverty, with the youngest children most at-risk of being poor.35 Service area poverty trends reflect the increased likelihood that children that are members of minority groups are more likely to live in poverty.

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

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

11. Describe your agency’s approach or system for collecting, analyzing, and reporting customer satisfaction data to the governing board. (Organizational Standard 1.3)
Each program within Fresno EOC collects customer satisfaction data through surveys, customer satisfaction forms, exit forms, or informal interviews. This data is reported to the program directors who then analyze the data to use in needs assessment and self-evaluation of the program. Some programs like Early Head Start and Head Start perform extensive needs assessments and report on several areas in official reports frequently throughout the year. Many programs such as Local Conservation Corps (LCC), Training and Employment (T&E), and WIC use customer satisfaction surveys to collect and report data either bi-annually or upon program completion. Other programs that are more limited in gathering data or reporting that data use informal interviews with clients to collect their data on customer satisfaction.

This information is then reported to the Board of Commissioners and Leadership Team as part of program review and future planning. Customer satisfaction data is also reported to the Board as part of the two-year CAP report and five-year Strategic Plan. The Fresno EOC Chief Executive Officer sends out a monthly “CEO Connect” email and holds regular one-on-one meetings with individual Board Commissioners. Beyond program self-reporting to the Board about customer satisfaction, anyone can contact board members with comments and concerns. The Board receives feedback during the public hearing and during the Public Comment section of their board meetings.

Additionally, Fresno EOC works hard to keep the community informed about their programs, events, and community engagement through its website (www.fresnoeoc.org/), social media (www.facebook.com/fresnoeoc; www.twitter.com/fresnoeoc; www.youtube.com/fresnoeoc), and bi-weekly newsletter, "Poverty Fighters" (www.myfresnoeoc.org/sign-up-for-fresnoeoccommunity-newsletter/).
Community Needs Assessment Results

CSBG Act Section 676(b)(11)
California Government Code Section 12747(a)
State Plan 14.1a

**Table 1: Needs Table**

Complete the table below. Insert row(s) if additional space is needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Needs Identified</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Agency Mission (Y/N)</th>
<th>Currently Addressing (Y/N)</th>
<th>Agency Priority (Y/N)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Families are experiencing high rates of housing insecurity due to evictions, low housing market, increased rents and high energy bills.</td>
<td>Family</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families experience significant lack of access to healthy foods, especially in rural areas</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities experience a significant lack of access to health care – including physical, emotional, and mental health.</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are a lack of employment opportunities.</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High levels of crimes, including theft, gun violence and hate crimes prevent residents from feeling safe in their communities.</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities don’t have adequate educational opportunities and supports, which lead to low high school graduation rates and low post-secondary education attendance.</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Needs Identified**: List the needs identified in your most recent CNA.

**Level**: List the need level, i.e., community or family. **Community Level**: Does the issue impact the community, not just clients or potential clients of the agency? For example, a community level employment need is: There is a lack of good paying jobs in our community. **Family Level**: Does the need concern individuals/families who have identified things in their own life that are lacking? An example of a family level employment need would be: Individuals do not have good paying jobs.

**Essential to Agency Mission**: Indicate if the identified need aligns with your agency’s mission.

**Currently Addressing**: Indicate if your agency is already addressing the identified need.

**Agency Priority**: Indicate if the identified need will be addressed either directly or indirectly.
## Table 2: Priority Ranking Table

List all needs identified as an agency priority in Table 1. Insert row(s) if additional space is needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Priorities</th>
<th>Description of programs, services, activities</th>
<th>Indicator(s) or Service(s) Category</th>
<th>Why is the need a priority?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing Insecurity</td>
<td>Sanctuary Housing Services provides permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals and families, and bridge housing services for individuals and families that have an identified housing plan, but are in need of a safe and accessible place to wait until their housing plans can take place. Energy Services provides financial utility assistance through the LIHEAP and LIHWAP programs, home improvement services to increase home energy efficiency program, and free installation of Solar Panels</td>
<td>FNPI 4a-4z SRV 4i-4t</td>
<td>The 2022 Point-in-Time Count, an annual count of Fresno County’s sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families, found 4,216 people were homeless, with 2,338 of those being unsheltered. This represents a 15.8% increase since 2020. The study by the Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) suggests severe rent burden and a low rate of rental vacancies as two potential reasons for the increase in people who are experiencing homelessness in Fresno County. The fraction of people with a high rent burden - paying more than 35% of their income for rent - is much higher in Fresno County than in the rest of the United States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Achievement</td>
<td>Head Start 0 to 5 is a federally funded community-based program for income eligible pregnant women and children ages</td>
<td>FNPI 2a-2c.3, 2d.1-2h SRV 2a-2f, 2k, 2l-2q</td>
<td>In Fresno County, the rate of individuals without a high school diploma is far higher than found for the state of California or the nation. The rate of educational attainment in Huron,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
birth to five, inclusive of children with disabilities. Head Start provides comprehensive child development and family support services, including education, social, emotional, health, nutrition, family support, and disability services. Program options include individualized curriculum, parent engagement and family support, health safety, and nutrition education, and ongoing developmental assessment. SOUL (School of Unlimited Learning) Charter School provides a comprehensive learning experiences, particularly for those seeking an alternative to traditional educational settings. The program offers a standards-based curriculum with approved courses and offers Independent Study to students along with an array of social supporting

Mendota, and Orange Cove is most concerning due to the large percentage of the population that has not attained a high school diploma. Fresno County students fare poorly in math performance when compared to the state for grades 3-11. According to the data, whites are far more likely to meet or exceed grade level performance standards than Hispanic/Latinos or African American/black children. A disparity is also present for disadvantaged children. According to the data, 16.3% of children that have a socioeconomic disadvantage meet grade-level math standards, compared to 35.7% of their non-socioeconomically disadvantaged peers.
including mental health counseling, case management, access to health services, family services and childcare services. Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) addresses the social, health, educational, and economic consequences of adolescent pregnancy by providing comprehensive case management services to pregnant and parenting teens and their children. AFLP emphasizes the promotion of Positive Youth Development (PYD), focusing on and building upon the adolescents’ strengths and resources to ensure that they are able to stay enrolled in school.

| Employment Opportunities | Local Conservation Corps provides paid vocational training in landscaping, public lands conservation, recycling, solar installation, construction and healthcare. During FNPI 1a-1h.3, 1z, 2f-2h, SRV 1a-1q, 2d-2i, 2p-2bb | As a result of the pandemic, job loss, and reductions in hours or layoffs, the nation’s poverty rate increased about 25% from February to May 2020 with the rate for black/African Americans and Hispanic/Latinos increasing by 27% and 29%, respectively. As of |
this training, participants are also enrolled in academic programming towards the completion of a high school diploma or acquiring college credits. Workforce Connection Young Adult Program is designed to guide young adults 14-24 through the pathway of education, training, personal development and into a career. The program offers online tutoring, High school diploma equivalency assistance, education and career assessments, college or vocational training preparation assistance, entrepreneurial training, financial literacy workshops, leadership development and mentoring. Valley Apprenticeship Connections is a 12-week training program that trains.

January 2022, poverty rates are generally decreasing. However, at the same time the costs of living are increasing. Over the prior 12 months, the consumer price index increased 6.0% up from 5.5% in 2021, the highest rate since 1982. Price gains were broad and included food, shelter, and electricity. Food rose 0.9%; electricity is up 4.2% and shelter is 0.3% higher. Inflation for the prior 12 months equaled 7.5%, the largest increase in 40 years, and follows a 7.0% rise for 2021. Wages have risen throughout the county but have not kept pace with inflation. Thus, even though poverty has been decreased, families may not be better off. Unemployment rates in the service area are higher than the state and national rates but are continuing to improve over time. Certain areas have the highest rates of unemployment such as Biola and Mendota which are also home to some of the most impoverished census tracts with diverse populations, notably Hispanic/Latino families – many of which are migrants or immigrants. There is also a racial disparity in income and a disparity in income between married-couples.
| Health and Wellness | Community Health Center provides education, counseling and treatment services to men, women, and teens of reproductive age at risk for unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. We provide high standard, confidential, and comprehensive medical services to low-income, uninsured and underinsured adults and adolescents. African American Coalition connected Fresno’s Black Community with trusted, accurate relevant and timely public health information, particularly related to communicable diseases, particularly COVID-19. | FNPI 4a-4e, 4g, 5a-5h, 5z SRV 5a-5c, 5g, 5k-5o | Dental care is difficult to access due to a high ratio of low-income residents to dental care providers. Limited access is further exacerbated by dentists that are unwilling to accept public health insurance programs as payment for dental services. Maternal and child health factors in Fresno County and the local communities show that pregnant and new mothers and children fare similarly or worse than the indicators for the State of California and the nation. There are also persistent racial disparities that undermine maternal and child health. |
School-Based Sealant Program, in partnership with Fresno County Department of Public Health, coordinates dental sealant days at local area schools, conducts dental screenings, coordinate dental care and case management, and provides education to children related to dental health. The program also collaborates with many organization to link children to dental homes for preventative and restorative care. CA PREP provides free educational classes to inform and prevent unintended pregnancies and STI's. The program provides two curriculum for youth in family planning, increase community support, provide adulthood preparation subjects. Tobacco Education program educates the community about the dangers and increased risk of tobacco-related
diseases and smoke-free policies.

Community Safety

LGBTQ+ Resource Center provides supportive services to enhance the health and well-being of individuals of all ages in the LGBTQ+ Community. Services include access to resources in a safe and inclusive environment, Virtual Peer Support Groups, Advocacy, Case Management and Housing Needs Assessment.

Advance Peace is a public health and safety strategy program, serving the population affected by gun violence (active actors and likely victims). Services include life coaching, multiple daily touchpoints, Social Services Navigation, Career Path Programs, Elders Circles, and Intergenerational Mentoring.

CVAHT (Central Valley Against Human Trafficking) provides awareness, training, and prevention services.

High levels of crimes, including theft, human trafficking, gun violence and hate crimes prevent residents from feeling safe in their communities. Over the course of the past 20 years, more than 410 people in Fresno County reported to police that they were victims of hate crimes – people who were targets of almost 360 individual incidents of verbal or physical attacks based on their race, religion or sexual orientation or gender identity. More than three-quarters of the reported hate-driven crimes – 268 out of 355 incidents – over the two decades were reported in the city of Fresno, California’s fifth largest city. The other 87 were scattered across the rest of the police agencies across Fresno County, including 41 in Clovis, 10 for the Fresno County Sheriff’s Office, and 12 on college campuses at California State University, Fresno City College and Reedley College.

Gun homicide in Fresno mainly affects areas populated by poor people and young men of color. Nationwide, Black men are 17 times more likely than other Americans to be
technical assistance, advocacy and direct services about human trafficking and trafficking-related issues. CVAHT serves a six-county region including Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern Counties.

### Food Insecurity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Distributions, Home Delivery, Free Meals for Kids and WIC</td>
<td>Food Distributions, Home Delivery, Free Meals for Kids and WIC provide healthy and nutritious food to individuals experiencing food insecurity, including those that live in food deserts in rural areas, and those that are limited in their ability to acquire food due to financial constraints. WIC also provides nutrition education services to support the development of healthy eating habit and breastfeeding support that includes lactation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNPI 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 5g, 5h, 5z, SRV 5ff, 5gg, 5hh, 5ii, 5jj</td>
<td>The rate of food insecurity in Fresno County is 14% compared to a rate of 11% for California and 13% for the nation. Feeding America reports the national average meal costs $3.13. Due to the cost of living and the price of food the average meal cost is $3.32 per meal in Fresno County. It is estimated that more than 142,780 individuals are food insecure in Fresno County and an additional 23% of children are food insecure, totaling 64,640 children. Families and individuals with a low-income and low food access are those that live more than ½ mile from the nearest supermarket or grocery store. Data from the 2020 Food Access Research Atlas notes that 11.5% of Fresno’s low-income population fall into</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
assistance, peer counselors, and breastfeeding education

this category, totaling 49,776 individuals. This rate is slightly above the state rate of 10.3% of all residents. 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 nation.

**Agency Priorities:** Rank your agency’s planned programs, services and activities to address the needs identified in Table 1 as agency priorities.

**Description of programs, services, activities:** Briefly describe the program, services or activities that your agency will provide to address the need. Identify the number of clients to be served or the number of units offered, including timeframes for each.

**Indicator/Service Category:** List the indicator(s) (CNPI, FNPI) or service(s) (SRV) that will be reported in CSBG Annual Report.

**Why is this need a priority:** Provide a brief explanation about why this need has been identified as a priority. Connect the need with the data. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(3)(A))
Part II: Community Action Plan

CSBG Act Section 676(b)(11)
California Government Code Sections 12745(e), 12747(a)
California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 11, Chapter 1, Sections 100651 and 100655

Vision and Mission Statement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Provide your agency’s Vision Statement.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Strong Fresno County, where people have resources to shape their future free from poverty.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>2. Provide your agency’s Mission Statement.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We Fight To End Poverty.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Tripartite Board of Directors
CSBG Act Sections 676B(a) and (b); 676(b)(10)
California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 11, Chapter 1, Section 100605

1. Describe your agency’s procedures under which a low-income individual, community organization, religious organization, or representative of low-income individuals that considers its organization or low-income individuals to be inadequately represented on your agency’s board to petition for adequate representation. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(10))

To ensure Fresno EOC’s Board is diverse, inclusive, and equitable, Fresno EOC uses a tri-partite system for electing board members. Eight board members must be publicly elected officials or their designees, eight must be from the community sector, including from businesses, public agencies, and/or community groups, and eight must be elected low-income target area representatives from throughout Fresno County. Any person or organization that would like to have representation on the Board of Commissioners may apply or nominate someone for one of the eight Community Sector Representatives. Any low-income individual may apply as a one of the eight Target Area Representatives and participate in a democratic selection process. This ensures that all organizations and individuals in the community have an equal opportunity to increase their group representation on the Board of Commissioners through the democratic selection process. Any further concerns or petitions can be addressed in the public comment section of the Board of Commissioner monthly meetings.

Since the last community needs assessment, Fresno EOC has created an Equity and Impact Department to support equitable outcomes in programs and services. Each Board Member is also required to attend and Equity and Inclusion training as a part of their onboarding. Fresno EOC also have implemented policies and procedures related to ensuring adequate representation of the communities we serve at every level of the organization, understanding the importance of having the diversity of community evidenced in programs and services.
Service Delivery System
CSBG Act Section 676(b)(3)(A)
State Plan 14.3

1. Describe your agency’s service delivery system. Include a description of your client intake process or system and specify whether services are delivered via direct services or subcontractors, or a combination of both. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(3)(A), State Plan 14.3)

We are currently in the process of fully implementing a central intake system (CAP60) whereby clients will be assisted by a navigator in accessing and delivering services. In our continual pursuit to provide excellence in customer service and mobilize a coordinated entry system, we dedicated space to open a Navigation Assistance Center to launch Community Action Partnership 60 (CAP60). Fresno EOC selected CAP60 as the main database to capture CSBG data including centralizing client intake and maximizing referrals. Further, the Navigation Assistance Center was created to allow clients to come into one location and be able to apply for all the Fresno EOC services provided by the 30+ programs. Beginning in FY 2023, CAP60 will support data collection for Module 4: Individual and Family Level of the CSBG Annual Report. The process will simplify entrance into our programs, and significantly improve efficiency for and external referrals. As we continue expand this delivery system, accessibility will be key, and we are committing to ensuring that language, disability, education, legal status and transportation are not barriers to the receipt of services.

The majority of the agency's programs provide services directly to clients, using a combination of direct and subcontracted services. The client intake process varies from program to program, but generally includes an intake form and interview. Many programs need to verify eligibility and will ask for supporting documents from clients as part of the intake process. These documents may include income verification, a Medicaid card, a letter from the foster system, etc. Clients are asked to complete enrollment forms and optional demographics surveys. Some programs, including that working with the homeless and/or undocumented population(s) does not allow for formal enrollment forms and extensive documentation at intake. Fresno EOC programs with limited intake procedures verify eligibility through random sampling and interviews with clients. For example, Fresno EOC's Community Food Distribution targets areas with high concentrations of low-income families and high unemployment as demonstrated through data from the U.S. Census and Bureau of Labor. Through random sampling, staff found that at least 90% of clients were either unemployed or receiving Supplemental Security Income benefits. Additionally, community volunteers, who are often also

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beneficiaries of food distributions, volunteer for five to six hours during the day, demonstrating that
they do not have consistent employment. The CAP60 program will support increased efficiency in this
process, particularly as it relates to intake for homeless and/or undocumented populations.

2. List your agency’s proposed programs/services/activities that will be funded by CSBG. Include
a brief explanation as to why these were chosen and how they relate to the CNA. (CSBG Act
Section 676(b)(3)(A), State Plan)

Each of Fresno EOC’s programs will utilize CSBG funding, as the strategic plan calls for each
program to have at least one community-directed project/programmatic change as a result of
community feedback. Projects must be developed through an intentional community engagement
process whereby the project is developed, implemented and evaluated through partnership with
impacted community members.

CSBG Funding will directly support the community engagement process, including training for
outreach specialists on the levels of community engagement (consultation – being information and
being asked; Engagement – commenting on decisions, developing solutions, and partnership –
developing solutions and delivering services), securing community collaboration space, and
marketing and communication of projects. The programs that will benefit from CSBG funding are:
Advance Peace, Central Valley Against Human Trafficking (CVAHT), Foster Grandparents,
LGBTQ+ Resource Center, Adolescent Family Life Program, Head Start 0 to 5, School of
Unlimited Learning (SOUL), Youthbuild Charter High School, Local Conservation Corps, Summer
Internship Program, Valley Apprenticeship Connections, Workforce Connection Young Adults
Program, Energy Services, Food Services, Food Distributions, Women, Infant and Children (WIC),
Community Health Center, California Personal Responsibility Education Programs (CA Prep),
Dental Care for Kids, School-Based Sealant Program, Sanctuary and Support Services, and
Transit Systems.

Fresno EOC will also use CSBG Funding to support program administration (staff salaries/fringe
benefits, necessary facilities improvements, and health plan subsidy and indirect costs at the
approved rate), and to fund innovative programs and services to address identified community
needs. Lastly, in alignment with the agency’s vision fighting to end poverty, Fresno EOC will
leverage CSBG funds to ensure that the organization has a minimum wage of $17.00 per hour for
all employees, higher than the state minimum wage of $15.50 per hour, with the exception of any
wages as listed in union bargaining agreement with Transit Systems program.
### Linkages and Funding Coordination

CSBG Act Sections 676(b)(1)(B) and (C); (3)(B), (C) and (D); 676(b)(4), (5), (6), and (9)
California Government Code Sections 12747, 12760
Organizational Standards 2.1, 2.4
State Plan 9.3a, 9.3b, 9.4b, 9.6, 9.7, 14.1b, 14.1c, 14.3d, 14.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Describe how your agency coordinates funding with other providers in your service area. If there is a formalized coalition of social service providers in your service area, list the coalition(s) by name and methods used to coordinate services/funding. (CSBG Act Sections 676(b)(1)(C), 676(b)(3)(C); Organizational Standard 2.1; State Plan 14.1c, 9.6, 9.7)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Program Planning Director, Evaluation Director and the Equity and Impact Director work with program directors and staff to apply to foundation and government grants that closely align with program goals, including collaborative efforts with other service providers, community organizations, and governmental agencies in alignment with Fresno EOC’s vision and mission. Over 98% of Fresno EOC’s operating budget is funded through public and private origins, proving its ability to leverage non-CSBG resources. Fresno EOC's approach to service delivery leverages other local service providers and their assets to fill gaps in services to its clients. This is evident in Fresno EOC's participation in several committees, commissions, and groups, such as the Fresno County Health Improvement Partnership, Fresno Food Security Network, Fresno Madera Continuum of Care, and many others. By linking its services with other organizations and networks, Fresno EOC provides clients with necessary and effective services that meet their individual needs. Fresno EOC also coordinates funding to support grassroots community initiatives, such as Best Baby Zone which seeks to address extreme disparities in Black Maternal Health. Another example of this is the California Avenue Neighborhood (CAN) project is a partnership with the Fresno Housing Authority, to provide a wide range of services to meet the needs of the Southwest Fresno residents within the California Avenue Neighborhood. Fresno EOC also collaborated with Fresno Unified School System and others to provide Head Start preschool services.</td>
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<tr>
<th>2. Provide information on any memorandums of understanding and/or service agreements your agency has with other entities regarding coordination of services/funding. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(9), Organizational Standard 2.1; State Plan 14.1c, 9.6, 9.7)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With over 35 programs in Fresno EOC, there are several memorandums of understanding and service agreements. Many of these memorandum and service agreements are between internal</td>
</tr>
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programs, such as the partnership among Head Start, Food Services, and Transit to coordinate, prepare, and deliver the meals to children in the Head Start program. Several memoranda and service agreements exist between the agency and outside organizations such as contracts between Fresno EOC Transit Systems and the City of Fresno and Fresno County Rural Transit Agency to operate Social Service Transportation for the city and county of Fresno.

Other partnerships include regional academic providers, including training institutions, schools, colleges, charter schools, adult schools, and universities; outreach partners; substance abuse treatment providers such as West Care; life skills presenters; civic leaders promoting investment in community; health practitioners providing health screening and pregnancy prevention services; corrections and law enforcement partnerships; support services (transportation, housing); and emergency services.

3. Describe how your agency ensures delivery of services to low-income individuals while avoiding duplication of services in the service area(s). (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(5), State Plan 9.3a, California Government Code 12760)

Fresno EOC is involved in several coalition and groups to ensure that there is not a duplication of service efforts. Such coalitions ensures its services target low-income, minority communities that are disproportionately impacted by poverty conditions. This is done through targeted outreach, locating concentrated areas of poverty throughout the county, and listening to the voices of those communities. One of Fresno EOC’s values is being led by “community’s voice and direction” and planning starts with the understanding that communities know best what they need to be self-sufficient and free from poverty. Fresno EOC’s Communications Office partners with all agency programs to ensure services are being broadcast to low-income communities in the most effective way. Communication strategies include e-newsletters, social media, public transport advertisements, and events. Program staff also regularly attend outreach events, either virtually or in person to get the word out about our services. Media opportunities are also utilized. This targeted outreach ensures that existing and future clients from low income communities are aware of Fresno EOC’s range of services.

Program and agency staff are in regular communication with other service providers to ensure services are maximized, leverage resources refer clients to programs they may need. This helps avoid services duplication and ensures that resources are used in a more efficient way, in service to our community. Fresno EOC locates its services and headquarters within the communities and
neighborhoods that demonstrate the most need. For example, the Local Conservation Corps (LCC) operate community centers in Southwest Fresno, a neighborhood that experiences higher poverty and pollution rates compared to the rest of the city. Low-income individuals and families can more readily benefit from LCC services when they are close and accessible. This is especially important for rural communities, where public transportation is extremely limited. We are actively expanding our geographic presence throughout the county to increase accessibility to our services. Fresno EOC's services are directed at low-income communities. Community needs are identified by gathering information directly from its target areas through its Board of Commissioners and community group convenings. Fresno EOC's 24-member tripartite Board of Commissioners is made up of eight public elected officials or their designees, eight business, public agency, or community group members, and eight low-income target area representatives. These eight low-income target area representatives provide the necessary insight and direction for Fresno EOC services that meet the needs of low-income populations. These representatives are engaged and understand the needs of their community. Additionally, Fresno EOC programs, such as Early Head Start, Head Start, hold regular meetings with its clients and community members to ensure services are consistently addressing their needs. Programs such SOUL (School of Unlimited Learning) Charter School and the Sanctuary and Support Services have Advisory Committees made up on community members and stakeholders that inform the projects and services that the program pursues.

4. Describe how your agency will leverage other funding sources and increase programmatic and/or organizational capacity. (California Government Code Section 12747)

Fresno EOC's leadership is always engaging at the federal, state and local level to identify partnerships funding opportunities, alignment in order to increase programmatic capacity. Each of these are related to Fresno EOC's focus areas and intended community outcomes. Board members and leadership seek out philanthropic and other funding opportunities. Fresno EOC also has a Community Impact Manager that engages community to identify opportunities for investment and changing need. This, along with the Community Needs Assessment and the focus areas of programs dictate what grants are identified and considered. The department works continuously to find new funding opportunities for all 30+ programs in the agency in order to increase programmatic and/or organizational capacity. The team seeks out and pursues grant opportunities, sponsorship, fundraising opportunities, and partnerships to increase programming and agency capacity.
5. Describe your agency’s contingency plan for potential funding reductions. (California Government Code Section 12747)

Fresno EOC’s contingency plan includes anticipating funding patterns and pursuing funding to address gaps. This includes project 5-year forecast projections, and monthly financial reports. The agency periodically evaluates budget plan and makes necessary adjustments.

6. Describe how your agency documents the number of volunteers and hours mobilized to support your activities. (Organizational Standard 2.4)

Volunteer hours are recorded by individual programs and reported at the end of the year as part of the data gathering process for the agency's annual review, planning, and CSD Annual Report. A majority of Fresno EOC’s 30 plus programs provide opportunities for individuals to volunteer. For example, Fresno EOC’s Foster Grandparent Program works with senior volunteers who provide mentoring and tutoring to low-income children and young adults. Parents of children enrolled in Head Start are encouraged to contribute between 10-15 volunteer hours monthly. Fresno EOC’s Food Distributions leverage many volunteer hours frequently contributed by low-income individuals and families who benefit from the events. Volunteering is mutually beneficial because it develops shared ownership and pride of the Food Distributions and other programs when low-income Fresno County residents contribute to events and programs.

7. Describe how your agency will address the needs of youth in low-income communities through youth development programs and promote increased community coordination and collaboration in meeting the needs of youth. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(1)(B), State Plan 14.1b)

Fresno has multiple methods of addressing the various needs of youth in low-income communities, including supporting their occupational, educational, mental and social development. Adverse childhood experiences impacting youth in concentrated areas of poverty include higher rates of physical and emotional abuse, alcohol or drug use in the home, an incarcerated family member, mental health issues/chronic depression and others leading to smoking, overeating, increased sexual activity, and the development of poor coping strategies. Fresno EOC has multiple programs to help negate the impact of these experiences.

Fresno EOC's Local Conservation Corps (LCC) address the needs of youth residing in some of the poorest neighborhoods in urban Fresno through a family and community-centered, holistic approach. LCC's fatherhood component teaches and demonstrates the role of the father using local father-figure mentors. This supports the development of effective communication skills, decreasing the
occurrence of physical and emotional abuse, improving mental health, and strengthening the support network of youth, starting with their immediate family. The California Personal Responsibility ED (CA Prep) program seeks to mitigate high rates of teenage pregnancy by providing free educational classes to inform and prevent unintended pregnancies, reduce rates of sexually transmitted infections, and improve youth’s sexual health and well-being. For teens that are already pregnant and/or have children, the Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) supports teen parents to stay or enroll in school, providing prenatal and postpartum education, parenting skill training, and case management services emphasizing Positive Youth Development (PYD).

Since 2019, Fresno EOC has operated the Food Express Bus which provides nutritious food to children in the Fresno urban area. A Rural Food Express Bus was also launched in the summer of 2021 to help alleviate significant food insecurity in rural communities.

Through our Training and Employment program we provide youth with training and paid work experiences, targeting youth who would otherwise not have access to these opportunities. This training includes academic assistance, career assessments, college or vocational training preparation, entrepreneurial training, mentoring, leadership development, interview preparation workshops, and financial literacy workshops. Through this program, youth are also provided job placement assistance and summer internship opportunities. The LGBTQ+ Resource Center serves queer, transgender, genderfluid, and gender non-conforming youth, providing supportive services to enhance their health and well being. Services include providing gender affirming clothing, virtual peer support groups, case management, housing needs assessment and referral, and funding to support gender affirming medical care.

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<tr>
<th>8. Describe how your agency will promote increased community coordination and collaboration in meeting the needs of youth, and support development and expansion of innovative community-based youth development programs such as the establishment of violence-free zones, youth mediation, youth mentoring, life skills training, job creation, entrepreneurship programs, after after-school childcare. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(1)(B), State Plan 14.1b)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The implementation of the CAP60 intake system will significantly increase our ability to coordinate internally and externally to meet the needs of youth. Right now, Fresno EOC has several programs that directly work to meet the needs of youth in Fresno County. The Local Conservation Corps and Summer Internship programs provide not only job training, but also a myriad of social support and</td>
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youth development opportunities. The LGBTQ+ Resource Center also provides mental health and social support services for queer youth, supporting their health mental and social development. The School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL) charter school takes a holistic approach to learning and incorporates case management and mentoring into their programming. The Foster Grandparent Program bridges generations as senior volunteers provide one-to-one mentoring and emotional support to underserved infants, children and teens throughout Fresno and Madera Counties, promoting literacy and academic success, while also fostering social-emotional and cognitive-behavioral development. The Advance Peace program has also expanded their program to include youth directed intervention, mentoring, and mental health support.

Along with these programs, Fresno EOC will continue to develop and expand relationships with other community organizations serving youth, such as the California Youth Connection, First Five Fresno, Fresno State Black Students Alliance, and several others.

9. **Describe the coordination of employment and training activities as defined in Section 3 of the Workforce and Innovation and Opportunity Act [29 U.S.C. 3102]. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(5); State Plan 9.4b)**

In compliance with Section 3 of the Workforce and Innovation and Opportunity Act, Local Conservation Corps (LCC), Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) and Training and Employment (T&E) work as one-stop delivery system partners who coordinate programs to ensure services are not duplicated. These programs provide hard and soft skills employment training. LCC provides paid green jobs training to young adults, ages 18 to 25. T&E targets high school graduates and out-of-school youth, ages 14 to 21, with paid work-based training, career mentoring, and educational supports. Generally, T&E works with current high school seniors, youth transitioning to post-secondary education, or out-of-work youth looking for job training and internships while LCC is an educational/vocational program that works with young adults not in a traditional high school setting or transitioning to postsecondary education. The VAC has strong ties to the building trades, local unions, and employers throughout the Central Valley. The 16-week cohort offers seven OSHA certifications (OSHA Safety, Confined Space, CPR/AED First Aid, Workplace Safety, Blueprint Reading, Traffic Control and Safety, and Grading). Evidenced-based materials and approaches are included to ensure students have the best opportunities to succeed. The program is designed to serve those most in need with severe barriers to employment.
10. Describe how your agency will provide emergency supplies and services, nutritive foods, and related services, as may be necessary, to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition among low-income individuals. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(4), State Plan 14.4)

Fresno EOC has several programs that assist individuals in emergency situations. Emergency assistance services include food and hygiene product distributions, utility payments, and shelter. Fresno EOC's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides assistance to eligible households that are in crisis situations. Examples include a household that has received a 24- to 48-hour disconnect notice or service termination by its utility company or a household facing an energy-related crisis of life-threatening emergency in the applicant's household, including a combustible appliance.

Fresno EOC's Bridge Housing Program provides individuals and families with safe and accessible housing while in transition. This program is reserved for individuals and families that have an identified housing plan who are between the ages of 18-24. While in Bridge Housing, clients receive case management, access to supportive services identified through their case plan, employment and educational assistance services and referrals to other services.

The Permanent Supportive Housing program assists chronically homeless individuals and/or families with permanent housing and supportive services, in partnership with the Fresno Housing Authority, and with funding support from US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Fresno EOC's Food Services, Food Distributions, and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provide food assistance and education to low-income the summer months; Head Start, which provides lunch and snack meals to low-income pre-school children; and after-school and congregate meal programs throughout Fresno and Madera Counties. Fresno EOC hosts food distributions in both rural and inner-city areas for low-income individuals. The WIC program provides nutrition education, supplemental food, breastfeeding support, and social service referrals to pregnant women, new mothers, and children. Fresno EOC hosts food distributions in both rural and inner-city areas for low-income individuals. The WIC program provides nutrition education, supplemental food, breastfeeding support, and social service referrals to pregnant women, new mothers, and children.

11. Describe how your agency coordinates with other antipoverty programs in your area, including the emergency energy crisis intervention programs under Title XXVI, relating to low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) that are conducted in the community. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(6))
Fresno EOC is a local leader in the provision of effective and innovative programs meant to ameliorate poverty. Fresno EOC is connected to every government, CBO, funder, and private association or council with an interest in improving living conditions in the region. These include but are not limited to: City and County governments, Chambers of Commerce, the faith community, the Business Council, the Central Valley Community Foundation, United Way, the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board, health agencies and hospitals, and housing providers (Housing Authority, and local CBOs such as Best Babies Zone, The Fresno Center and Reading and Beyond. . With respect to energy crisis intervention, Fresno EOC has been administering emergency energy assistance programs since 1977. Currently, Fresno EOC manages both the LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) and the LIHWAP (Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program) programs in Fresno County. Along with these programs, Fresno EOC also provides Weatherization and Solar Installation services to help support decreased energy costs.

12. Describe how your agency coordinates services with your local LIHEAP service provider?

Fresno EOC currently operates and manages the LIHEAP program in the Energy Services Department, along with LIHWAP, Solar and Weatherization programs. All participants of these programs are entered into the CAP60 program, which allows referrals to be made to each of the other 30+ programs under the Fresno EOC umbrella that a client qualifies for.

13. Describe how your agency will use funds to support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives, which may include fatherhood and other initiatives, with the goal of strengthening families and encouraging effective parenting. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(3)(D), State Plan 14.3d)

Fresno EOC is committed to investing in community through an asset-based approach to identify innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives. Fresno EOC has and will continue to use their position in various coalitions and partnerships to identify opportunities for creative strategies to address poverty conditions in the service area. Fresno EOC will also be implementing new training and operations in community engagement with all programs. Each program’s outreach specialist will be supported with education and tools to deepen engagement to community to develop project ideas and concepts to address specific poverty issues in community. Each program will be expected to implement/support the development of at least one project that is developed by the community.

Fresno EOC currently funds a variety of innovative and community-based initiatives aimed
specifically at strengthening families and parents. These programs include:

Fatherhood Strengthening Classes were initiated by our Local Conservation Corps and now continue at a number of our programs, including the Sanctuary, SOUL, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, Adolescent Family Life Program, WIC, and our California Personal Responsibility Education Program (CA PREP). The unique role of the father is central to our efforts as support for families (children and mothers). Engaged fathers make a huge difference in the health and strengthening of the family unit. Black Babies Zone is another program housed under Fresno EOC, and is directly interested in addressing disparate rates of maternal death of Black mothers in Fresno County; Black mothers are 4 times more likely to die during childbirth than their White counterparts in the Central Valley.

Fresno EOC operates several programs that provide parenting skills. These include programs listed above: School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL, a public charter high school), Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, Adolescent Family Life Program, WIC, and our California Personal Responsibility Education Program (CA PREP). A variety of modalities are engaged for this instruction, including guest presenters, role playing, and special events bringing parents and their children together for peer support.

Fresno EOC continues to provide specialized services to formerly incarcerated and recently paroled men. It’s Local Conservation Corps and Training and Employment program have for more than 20 years offered such specialized services. They have been awarded grants specifically to provide targeted interventions for this population. Such interventions and instruction will continue for the next program year. Our key to success lies in a robust case management strategy leveraging support from the Office of the Sheriff, State Parole, affiliated academic institutions, drug rehabilitation providers, transitional housing staff, and Fresno EOC program staff. Regularly scheduled communication between these professionals assures that constant, round the clock monitoring and supervision takes place concurrent to texts and email correspondence between the involved service agencies. As a consequence, while local jails and prisons which housed these clients have recidivism rates above 65%, our Agency programs boast recidivism rates of less than 15%.
Participants may enter any one of Fresno EOC's programs - Sanctuary, SOUL Charter School, Training and Employment, Valley Apprenticeship Connections and Local Conservation Corps, and migrate between them, accessing the whole array of support and instructional services available through these programs. This means that a participant will be tracked by any and all of the programs he/she may enroll in with the benefit, for instance, of having a number of case managers convene regularly to provide the best counsel and support that a participant may need. Services are fluid, responding to needs through a flexible and coordinated service delivery system tailored to each individual.

14. Describe how your agency will develop linkages to fill identified gaps in the services, through the provision of information, referrals, case management, and follow-up consultations. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(3)(B), State Plan 9.3b)

Through the application of the CAP60 intake system, Fresno EOC will be able to quickly and effectively coordinate services across programs, making both internal and external referrals to address identified needs. The CAP60 system allows for an in depth intake process that will identify what programs and services that each person qualifies, and ask if they would like to be referred to those other opportunities. Internal follow-up with referrals will happen within 48 hours.

At the Community level, the organization has a Community Impact Manager that will lead the Community Engagement efforts of the agency, including leading quarterly Community Resource Fairs, and monthly Town Halls that will serve as opportunities to identity services gaps, areas for improvement and potential opportunities for the agency to address new and evolving community needs. Further, each program has an advisory committee made up of community members that provides feedback and advises on necessary programmatic and systemic changes to improve outcomes for people served.
Monitoring
CSBG Act Section 678D(a)(1)(A) and (B)

1. Describe how your agency’s monitoring activities are related to establishing and maintaining the integrity of the CSBG program. Include your process for maintaining high standards of program and fiscal performance.

Fresno EOC implements a tiered approval structure for incurring expenditures to ensure that all purchases are necessary to the program objectives, made in accordance with Agency and grant guidelines, and allowable within funding available. This ensures that all charges or payments are made with proper approval and aligned with maintaining high standards of program and fiscal performance. To ensure accuracy in staff compensation, the supervisors review time sheets for accuracy and the payroll staff compare the pay data against the data imported into the payroll system. This monitoring activity provides assurance that the 1,200 employees in all programs are paid appropriately.

The Quality Assurance staff within Fresno EOC Finance reviews all A/P payments before they are released and prepares regular bank reconciliations for all accounts. These activities identify any payment irregularities, which are then immediately addressed by the Finance Department. Financial variance reports are generated regularly to provide guidance to Programs Directors on their budget versus actual status. These reports ensure programs stay on budget and plan for programming in a fiscally responsible manner.

The Director of Equity and Impact, the Program Planning and Development Director, and Evaluation Director create a collaborative team that will ensure the integrity of programs in alignment with CSBG standards and outcomes. Further the Equity and Impact Program Coordinators will support programs in the implementation of ROMA.

Program Directors are responsible for monitoring their staff and programs for fiscal and program performance. They work closely with an assigned Accountant for all budgeting, grant applications, and financial reports. Program Directors report to the Chief Programs Officer who reviews budgets and makes the best decisions for enhancing program performance.

Internal audit personnel are available to the Program Directors throughout the year to provide any additional monitoring necessary. Program Directors are encouraged to use these services as often as needed.
2. If your agency utilizes subcontractors, please describe your process for monitoring the subcontractors. Include the frequency, type of monitoring, i.e., onsite, desk review, or both, follow-up on corrective action, and issuance of formal monitoring reports.

All programs complete request for proposals, create memorandum of understanding or service agreements with all subcontractors above $150,000. Program Directors are then responsible for monitoring their subcontractors and ensuring compliance with the terms of the contract. These monitoring processes vary by program, but include an onsite review of work in addition to desk reviews of progress reports and bills. Bills are approved by the program staff and then sent to the Finance Department for review. Subcontractors submit their billing to the Fresno EOC Finance Department with the supporting documentation approved by the program. It is reviewed by the fiscal staff for compliance and accuracy. Then, payments are issued and recorded. The Internal Audit Office also conducts monitoring of Fresno EOC’s subcontractors.
1. **Describe your agency’s method for evaluating the effectiveness of programs and services.** Include information about the types of measurement tools, the data sources and collection procedures, and the frequency of data collection and reporting. (Organizational Standard 4.3)

Our Agency has implemented a central intake system, CAP60, which will allow us to obtain more data which we will use in evaluating and continually improving our program delivery. In addition to the above primary quantitative and qualitative data sources, Fresno EOC references secondary data sources from various sectors to gain a holistic and intersectional understanding of our clients and community and to better inform our programs. Lastly, the organization has created three new positions – Evaluation Director, Quality Assurance/Data Manager, and Planning Director that will support programs and services in determining and their effectiveness. Staff have received training on collecting data and evaluating program performance. The agency has provided training to staff by a Nationally Certified Master ROMA Trainer to assist in their data and evaluation processes applying the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) cycle of assessments.

Fresno EOC programs use a variety of comprehensive software platforms to monitor results and conduct evaluation. Central Valley Against Human Trafficking (CVAHT), the Sanctuary Housing Program, and the Sanctuary Shelter use the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Management Information System (RHYMIS). LIHEAP and Weatherization use Hancock, and Head Start and Early Head Start use ChildPlus, to name a few programs. All programs use Excel to aggregate data for CSBG reporting.

The following programs conduct annual evaluations: Training & Employment, Sanctuary Permanent Supportive Housing, and the Local Conservation Corps (LCC); however, LCC YouthBuild also conducts quarterly evaluations. In addition to annual reports, the following programs conducts monthly evaluations: Community Services, Early Head Start, Head Start, Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP), Safe Place, Sanctuary and Support Services, Central Valley Against Human
 Trafficking (CVAHT), Weatherization, WIC, Food Services, and Transit Services. Many programs also conduct quarterly and semi-annual evaluations.

Fresno EOC Training & Employment uses an exit survey to gauge client satisfaction with the program. Most questions ask clients to rate the program on a Likert scale. Questions include: "Do you feel the Youth Program was helpful to you?" and "Was the staff helpful during your time in the program?" The survey also allows for qualitative responses by providing a short answer space for clients to make suggestions to improve the program. This survey allows clients to participate in the evaluation of the program and make their voices heard.

2. Applying the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) cycle of assessment, planning, implementation, achievement of results, and evaluation, describe one change your agency made to improve low-income individuals’ and families’ capacity for self-sufficiency. (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(12), Organizational Standard 4.2)

Low-income remains one of the key indicators of poverty within the community. The lack of financial resources limits accessibility to get basic needs met. Particularly for rural communities, a lack of access to food significantly impacts their lives and ability to be and maintain self-sufficiency. In response to an ever-growing need for access to food during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in secluded rural communities, Fresno EOC expanded food delivery. The Food Distributions now has 8 different distribution events per year in the rural communities of Biola, Parlier, Pinedale, Firebaugh, Sanger, Orange Grove, Cantua Creek, Mendota and Southwest Fresno. Further, Fresno EOC recognizes that several school-aged youth depend on schools for several meals during the day, which are not available to them during the summer and winter breaks. Therefore, to meet those needs, Fresno EOC expanded their Free Meals for Kids Program to include Summer Meals and Winter meals on the Food Express Bus, a mobile healthy-meal delivery bus that delivers meals to the most food-insecure communities in rural Fresno County.

3. Applying the full ROMA cycle, describe one change your agency facilitated to help revitalize the low-income communities in your agency’s service area(s). (CSBG Act Section 676(b)(12), Organizational Standard 4.2)

Fresno EOC seeks to support communities increasingly impacted by housing insecurity. Housing insecurity includes not only have a place to live, but also energy to maintain the essential needs.
In March 2023, Fresno EOC Energy Services launched the “Love Your Home” Solar Savings Campaign in Southwest Fresno, designed to provide residents with information about the Free Solar Panel Installation Program to help community members save money on home energy costs, improving home condition and value, and improving environmental conditions in the community. This initiative is in partnership with the City of Fresno Transformative Climate Community Program (TCC) a program to identify and implement investments that will catalyze economic and environmental transformation in Downtown, Chinatown and Southwest Fresno. This project includes resident education, no-cost quality weatherization services such as weather-stripping, roofing repairs, lighting upgrades, and heating/cooling repairs. Here is the link for more information (https://www.transformfresno.com/projects/eoc-partnerships-for-energy-savings-and-ghg-reduction-in-sw-fresno/) Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps (LCC) provides solar panel installation and technical assistance to homeowners to ensure that they can access the necessary resources to optimize their solar panel systems.
Response and Community Awareness

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

1. Does your agency have Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs in place that promote the representation and participation of different groups of individuals, including people of different ages, races and ethnicities, abilities and disabilities, genders, religions, cultures, and sexual orientations?

☒ Yes
☐ No

2. If yes, please describe.

Fresno EOC has an Equity and Impact Department that works to create, implement and evaluate DEI focused initiatives throughout the organization. The program evaluates internal policies, practices and data to ensure equity in hiring, retention, rate of separation, rates of corrective action, promotion and salary. The department creates equity and inclusion plans for each department and works to ensure that each program not only has representation of staff that mirrors the communities experiencing poverty, but also that the demographics of clients served by the programs matches their representation in the target communities (those identified as concentrated areas of poverty). Fresno EOC also provides a mandatory 10-series equity training for director-level staff, covering multiple topics related to identity, culture, equity and inclusion.

Disaster Preparedness

1. Does your agency have a disaster plan in place that includes strategies on how to remain operational and continue providing services to low-income individuals and families during and following a disaster? The term disaster is used in broad terms including, but not limited to, a natural disaster, pandemic, etc.

☒ Yes
☐ No

2. If yes, when was the disaster plan last updated?

January 2019

3. Briefly describe your agency’s main strategies to remain operational during and after a disaster.

Fresno EOC has a variety of strategies to ensure that the agency remains operational and is...
equipped to respond during and after disasters. Fresno EOC is the designated emergency response provider for Fresno County to provide food and transportation when needed. As a part of the network of local corps, the Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps (LCC) is also connected to Fresno County and can be called upon to assist in situations of disasters. At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Fresno EOC rapidly pivoted to move as many staff as possible to remote work set ups. The agency’s IT Department was instrumental in changing vendors to quickly acquire new devices and implement the necessary more stringent security measures. Another example of the agency’s adaptability is the conversion of Food Distribution programming to a drive through model during the COVID-19 pandemic. This adaptation allowed for the continued safe provision of necessary food assistance for low-income families while minimizing risks of virus spread. When disasters have hit in the past, Fresno EOC has adeptly launched new programs to meet the unique community needs related to the disaster. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the agency launched testing sites and a vaccine clinic to reach marginalized low-income populations in Fresno County. Looking ahead, Fresno EOC is prepared to exercise a similar program and staffing adaptability to ensure that it remains operational and able to meet the needs of the community for future disasters.
Federal CSBG Programmatic Assurances and Certification

CSBG Act 676(b)

Use of CSBG Funds Supporting Local Activities

676(b)(1)(A): The state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used – (A) to support activities that are designed to assist low-income families and individuals, including families and individuals receiving assistance under title IV of the Social Security Act, homeless families and individuals, migrant or seasonal farmworkers, and elderly low-income individuals and families, and a description of how such activities will enable the families and individuals--

i. to remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self-sufficiency (particularly for families and individuals who are attempting to transition off a State program carried out under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act);

ii. to secure and retain meaningful employment;

iii. to attain an adequate education with particular attention toward improving literacy skills of the low-income families in the community, which may include family literacy initiatives;

iv. to make better use of available income;

v. to obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment;

vi. to obtain emergency assistance through loans, grants, or other means to meet immediate and urgent individual and family needs;

vii. to achieve greater participation in the affairs of the communities involved, including the development of public and private grassroots partnerships with local law enforcement agencies, local housing authorities, private foundations, and other public and private partners to

–

I. document best practices based on successful grassroots intervention in urban areas, to develop methodologies for wide-spread replication; and

II. strengthen and improve relationships with local law enforcement agencies, which may include participation in activities such as neighborhood or community policing efforts;

Needs of Youth

676(b)(1)(B) The state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used – (B) to address the needs of youth in low-income communities through youth development programs that support the primary role of the family, give priority to the prevention of youth problems and crime, and promote increased community coordination and collaboration in meeting the needs of youth, and support development and expansion of innovative community-based youth development programs that have demonstrated success in preventing or reducing youth crime, such as--

I. programs for the establishment of violence-free zones that would involve youth development and intervention models (such as models involving youth mediation, youth mentoring, life skills training, job creation, and entrepreneurship programs); and

II. after-school childcare programs.
Coordination of Other Programs

676(b)(1)(C) The state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used – (C) to make more effective use of, and to coordinate with, other programs related to the purposes of this subtitle (including state welfare reform efforts)

Eligible Entity Service Delivery System

676(b)(3)(A) Eligible entities will describe “the service delivery system, for services provided or coordinated with funds made available through grants made under 675C(a), targeted to low-income individuals and families in communities within the state;

Eligible Entity Linkages – Approach to Filling Service Gaps

676(b)(3)(B) Eligible entities will describe “how linkages will be developed to fill identified gaps in the services, through the provision of information, referrals, case management, and follow-up consultations.”

Coordination of Eligible Entity Allocation 90 Percent Funds with Public/Private Resources

676(b)(3)(C) Eligible entities will describe how funds made available through grants made under 675C(a) will be coordinated with other public and private resources.”

Eligible Entity Innovative Community and Neighborhood Initiatives, Including Fatherhood/Parental Responsibility

676(b)(3)(D) Eligible entities will describe “how the local entity will use the funds [made available under 675C(a)] to support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of this subtitle, which may include fatherhood initiatives and other initiatives with the goal of strengthening families and encouraging parenting.”

Eligible Entity Emergency Food and Nutrition Services

676(b)(4) An assurance “that eligible entities in the state will provide, on an emergency basis, for the provision of such supplies and services, nutritious foods, and related services, as may be necessary to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition among low-income individuals.”

State and Eligible Entity Coordination/linkages and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Employment and Training Activities

676(b)(5) An assurance “that the State and eligible entities in the State will coordinate, and establish linkages between, governmental and other social services programs to assure the effective delivery of such services, and [describe] how the State and the eligible entities will coordinate the provision of employment and training activities, as defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, in the State and in communities with entities providing activities through statewide and local workforce development systems under such Act.”

State Coordination/Linkages and Low-income Home Energy Assistance

676(b)(6) “An assurance that the State will ensure coordination between antipoverty programs in each community in the State, and ensure, where appropriate, that emergency energy crisis intervention programs under title XXVI (relating to low-income home energy assistance) are conducted in such community.”
Community Organizations

676(b)(9) An assurance “that the State and eligible entities in the state will, to the maximum extent possible, coordinate programs with and form partnerships with other organizations serving low-income residents of the communities and members of the groups served by the State, including religious organizations, charitable groups, and community organizations.”

Eligible Entity Tripartite Board Representation

676(b)(10) “[T]he State will require each eligible entity in the State to establish procedures under which a low-income individual, community organization, or religious organization, or representative of low-income individuals that considers its organization, or low-income individuals, to be inadequately represented on the board (or other mechanism) of the eligible entity to petition for adequate representation.”

Eligible Entity Community Action Plans and Community Needs Assessments

676(b)(11) “[A]n assurance that the State will secure from each eligible entity in the State, as a condition to receipt of funding by the entity through a community service block grant made under this subtitle for a program, a community action plan (which shall be submitted to the Secretary, at the request of the Secretary, with the State Plan) that includes a community needs assessment for the community serviced, which may be coordinated with the community needs assessment conducted for other programs.”

State and Eligible Entity Performance Measurement: ROMA or Alternate System

676(b)(12) “[A]n assurance that the State and all eligible entities in the State will, not later than fiscal year 2001, participate in the Results Oriented Management and Accountability System, another performance measure system for which the Secretary facilitated development pursuant to section 678E(b), or an alternative system for measuring performance and results that meets the requirements of that section, and [describe] outcome measures to be used to measure eligible entity performance in promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization.”

Fiscal Controls, Audits, and Withholding

678D(a)(1)(B) An assurance that cost and accounting standards of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) are maintained.

☒ By checking this box and signing the Cover Page and Certification, the agency’s Executive Director and Board Chair are certifying that the agency meets the assurances set out above.
State Assurances and Certification
California Government Code Sections 12747(a), 12760, 12768

For CAA, MSFW, NAI, and LPA Agencies

California Government Code § 12747(a): Community action plans shall provide for the contingency of reduced federal funding.

California Government Code § 12760: CSBG agencies funded under this article shall coordinate their plans and activities with other agencies funded under Articles 7 (commencing with Section 12765) and 8 (commencing with Section 12770) that serve any part of their communities, so that funds are not used to duplicate particular services to the same beneficiaries and plans and policies affecting all grantees under this chapter are shaped, to the extent possible, so as to be equitable and beneficial to all community agencies and the populations they serve.

☐ By checking this box and signing the Cover Page and Certification, the agency’s Executive Director and Board Chair are certifying that the agency meets the assurances set out above.

For MSFW Agencies Only

California Government Code § 12768: Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW) entities funded by the department shall coordinate their plans and activities with other agencies funded by the department to avoid duplication of services and to maximize services for all eligible beneficiaries.

☐ By checking this box and signing the Cover Page and Certification, the agency’s Executive Director and Board Chair are certifying that the agency meets the assurances set out above.
Category One: Consumer Input and Involvement

**Standard 1.1** The organization/department demonstrates low-income individuals’ participation in its activities.

**Standard 1.2** The organization/department analyzes information collected directly from low-income individuals as part of the community assessment.

**Standard 1.3 (Private)** The organization has a systematic approach for collecting, analyzing, and reporting customer satisfaction data to the governing board.

**Standard 1.3 (Public)** The department has a systematic approach for collecting, analyzing, and reporting customer satisfaction data to the tripartite board/advisory body, which may be met through broader local government processes.

Category Two: Community Engagement

**Standard 2.1** The organization/department has documented or demonstrated partnerships across the community, for specifically identified purposes; partnerships include other anti-poverty organizations in the area.

**Standard 2.2** The organization/department utilizes information gathered from key sectors of the community in assessing needs and resources, during the community assessment process or other times. These sectors would include at minimum: community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, private sector, public sector, and educational institutions.

**Standard 2.4** The organization/department documents the number of volunteers and hours mobilized in support of its activities.

Category Three: Community Assessment

**Standard 3.1 (Private)** Organization conducted a community assessment and issued a report within the past 3 years.

**Standard 3.1 (Public)** The department conducted or was engaged in a community assessment and issued a report within the past 3-year period, if no other report exists.

**Standard 3.2** As part of the community assessment, the organization/department collects and includes current data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity for their service area(s).
Standard 3.3 The organization/department collects and analyzes both qualitative and quantitative data on its geographic service area(s) in the community assessment.

Standard 3.4 The community assessment includes key findings on the causes and conditions of poverty and the needs of the communities assessed.

Standard 3.5 The governing board or tripartite board/advisory body formally accepts the completed community assessment.

**Category Four: Organizational Leadership**

**Standard 4.1 (Private)** The governing board has reviewed the organization’s mission statement within the past 5 years and assured that:
1. The mission addresses poverty; and
2. The organization’s programs and services are in alignment with the mission.

**Standard 4.1 (Public)** The tripartite board/advisory body has reviewed the department’s mission statement within the past 5 years and assured that:
1. The mission addresses poverty; and
2. The CSBG programs and services are in alignment with the mission.

**Standard 4.2** The organization’s/department’s Community Action Plan is outcome-based, anti-poverty focused, and ties directly to the community assessment.

**Standard 4.3** The organization’s/department’s Community Action Plan and strategic plan document the continuous use of the full Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) cycle or comparable system (assessment, planning, implementation, achievement of results, and evaluation). In addition, the organization documents having used the services of a ROMA-certified trainer (or equivalent) to assist in implementation.
Appendices

Please complete the table below by entering the title of the document and its assigned appendix letter. Agencies must provide a copy of the Notice(s) of Public Hearing and the Low-Income Testimony and the Agency’s Response document as appendices A and B, respectively. Other appendices such as the community need assessment, surveys, maps, graphs, executive summaries, analytical summaries are encouraged. All appendices should be labeled as an appendix (e.g., Appendix A: Copy of the Notice of Public Hearing) and submitted with the CAP.

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APPENDICES
APPENDIX A
COPY OF THE NOTICE(S) OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 12, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission Invites Community Participation in Public Hearing

Fresno, CA - The Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC) is encouraging community members to attend and participate in our upcoming Public Hearing on June 14th. This event is a crucial platform for the community to actively engage with and provide valuable input on the Community Action Plan. By participating in the public hearing, individuals have the opportunity to play a vital role in Fresno EOC's ongoing fight against poverty. The feedback and comments shared during this event will greatly enhance our efforts to make a lasting impact and improve the lives of individuals and families in our community.

At Fresno EOC, our primary mission is to combat poverty and improve the lives of individuals and families in our community. The public hearing will be a significant opportunity for our agency to present the Community Action Plan, which can be accessed at our website: https://fresnoeoc.org/community-action-plan.

Event Details:

What: Public Hearing to review and discuss the Community Action Plan

When: Wednesday, June 14th at 5:30 pm

Where: Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps (LCC) at the Neighborhood Youth Center, located at 1805 E. California Ave, Fresno, CA 93706

The Public Hearing will be live-streamed on multiple platforms, including YouTube, Facebook, and CMAC Comcast Xfinity (Channel 93) and AT&T U-Verse (Channel 99).

For those unable to attend in person, we encourage you to join us via Zoom and share your valuable public comment. More information can be found on our website https://fresnoeoc.org.

The community's participation and feedback are crucial in shaping the fight against poverty throughout Fresno County. Together, we can create lasting change.
Appendix A: Copy of the Notice(s) of Public Hearing

Radio Commercials-English and Spanish from 6/9/2023-6/14/2023

Radio ads were strategically placed on two stations within iHeart media, namely 103.7 The Beat and La Preciosa 92.9. The Beat primarily targets individuals between the ages of 19 and 44, offering a classic hip-hop format. Within its audience, 68 percent identify as Hispanic, and 29 percent have a household income of less than $25K.

On the other hand, La Preciosa exclusively caters to a Hispanic audience, with 99 percent of its listeners being Hispanic. The station features a Spanish Oldies format. The median age of the audience is 47 years old, and approximately 65 percent of them have a household income below $50K.

English script: “Your community is our priority! Fresno EOC will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 14th, at the Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps to discuss their 2024-2025 Community Action Plan. Your feedback is key to helping better serve and support the vast needs of our diverse community. That’s Wednesday, June 14th, at 5:30 pm at the Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps, or you can also join and share your comments through Zoom. Visit FresnoEOC.org to read the draft and for more information. Let your voice be heard!”

Join the Conversation: Public Comment Open for Fresno EOC's Community Action Plan

Exciting news! Fresno EOC’s Community Action Plan (CAP) for public comment is open. This plan, updated every two years, contains crucial information about Fresno County communities, including population size and service needs.

Fresno County residents are encouraged to share their thoughts and concerns to shape our agency. All comments will be included in the public Community Action Plan.

The goal is to utilize funds from the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) to benefit the community, focusing on areas such as education, jobs, housing, and healthcare.

Public comment is open until June 15th. To learn how to share your comments and contribute to completing this year’s Community Action Plan, visit our website for more.

Poverty Fighters Newsletter Announcement 5/17/2023, 6/01/2023, 6/06/2023 The Poverty Fighters Newsletter has an audience
Your Community, Our Priority!

We want to hear from you!
To better serve our community, we need your help identifying areas where we can make the biggest impact.

LGBTQ+ Focus Group

Your input is essential to help us understand what issues matter most to our community and how we can work together to address them.

Light Refreshments will be available.

Thursday, May 18
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
LGBTQ+ Resource Center
1252 Fulton Street, Fresno, CA 93721
Learn More by visiting: FresnoEDC.org/
Strategic-Planning-2021
Or Scan the QR Code

Your Community, Our Priority!

We want to hear from you!
To better serve our community, we need your help identifying areas where we can make the biggest impact.

Youth Townhall Discussion

Tuesday, May 23
2:00 PM
Local Conservation Corps
1900 E. California Avenue, Fresno, CA 93706
Learn More by visiting FresnoEDC.org/Community-Action-Plan
Or Scan the QR Code

Your Community, Our Priority!

We want to hear from you!
To better serve our community, we need your help identifying areas where we can make the biggest impact.

Senior Community Townhall Discussion

Monday, May 22
10:00 AM
Nielsen Conference Center
9110 W. Nielsen Ave. Fresno, CA 93706
Learn More by visiting FresnoEDC.org/Community-Action-Plan
Or Scan the QR Code
PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR CAP 2024-2025

As part of the Community Action Plan and help shape our future, submitting a public comment will help inform our leadership and community. All comments will be included in the public version of the Community Action Plan.

To make a public comment, fill out the following:
- Name:
- Your feedback on the Community Action Plan

Are you low income? (check)
- Yes
- No
- Other

Are you Deaf or Hard of Hearing? (check)
- Yes
- No
- Other

You can also provide your comment by visiting FresnoEOC.org/Community-Action-Plan.
APPENDIX B

LOW-INCOME TESTIMONY AND AGENCY RESPONSE
LOW-INCOME TESTIMONY AND AGENCY RESPONSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Addressed in CAP</th>
<th>If so, what section in CAP</th>
<th>If no, indicate the reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Esther Hensley</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Services Delivery Systems — Linkages and Funding Coordination; Question 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment: I liked it. Your statement also, Mister Kevin Williams and Mister Jack, all the comments, everything they said was on T. But even though even things that you showed us, you didn't give us no detail into what each thing was, you know, was, going to transpire. The information you had on the board. You didn’t have no comments on what was going to transcribe with that, and Miss Emilia, I just want to say to the committee there 2 things I’d like to state. One is that you spoke about the property and there’s a lot of property here in Southwest Fresno that really need to be taken care of, and the other issue was you spoke about is community and the entire community with Southwest Fresno has work, people that work over at Franklin Head Start, I say, why are you only just cleaning up Franklin? Here is Southwest Fresno community, and all these alleys all these areas that need to be cleaned up.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paternovara Cruz</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Service Delivery Systems - Linkages and Funding Coordination; Question 2</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Comment: I’ve been living in Fresno for the last 22 years. This is my first time attending something like this. It was cool listening to the presentation. I remember that I was part of the Pops Program like a
century ago, when I first became a dad, was more like 8 or 7 years ago. It was very helpful, and it came in the right time in my life, so appreciate the work that you all do. I don’t have any other really critique for like program. It’s well, I mean there’s a lot fo things that really out of our control that have changed over the last couple of years, and I’ve just wondered if you all have considered a minimum wage for all of the staff that’s like a livable wage, with all the changes that have happened. It’s just really tough out there. There’s a lot of people that are bunching up trying to make ends meet.
APPENDIX C

CNA TOWN HALL FLYER
Your Community, Our Priority!

Community Needs Assessment

We want you!

To better serve our community, we need your help identifying areas where we can make the biggest impact.

Town Hall Discussion

Your input is essential to help us understand what issues matter most to our community and how we can work together to address them.

Tuesday, May 2
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Franklin Head Start 0 to 5
1189 Martin St. Fresno, CA 93706

Learn More by visiting FresnoEOC.org/Strategic-Planning-2023
Or Scan the QR Code
Fresno EOC Community Partner Survey

1. Please select the choice that best describes your organization:
   - [ ] Non-profit sector
   - [ ] Local government
   - [ ] Private sector
   - [ ] Other

2. What organization do you represent?

[ ]
3. Please check any of the services your organization provides to low-income families (check all that apply):

- Emergency food, clothing
- Temporary shelter
- Service information and referral
- Health services
- Physical services
- Employment
- Housing or housing repairs
- Childcare
- Preschool
- Financial assistance
- Transportation
- Economic/community development
- Job training
- Education (K-12, vocational or post high school)
- Mental health services or mental health care
- Family support services
- Domestic violence programs
- Youth services
- Elderly services
- Nutrition services
- Legal aid
- Financial planning, tax preparation
- Other (please specify)

4. In your opinion, what are three big problems impacting families the most?

Problem 1)
Problem 2)
Problem 3)

5. What services are missing in your community to effectively address these issues?
6. During the pandemic, did you observe an increase in the temporary needs of families?
   - Yes
   - No
   - If yes, please describe what needs:

7. How did the pandemic impact the services that you deliver?

8. Have you retained any of the changes you made in how you deliver services during the pandemic in your current service delivery model?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Please describe any changes you retained:

9. How can the partnerships between agencies in the community be leveraged to address the needs of low-income families?
10. Education is a problem in my area because (check all that apply):
- Many people lack a high school diploma
- Lack of access to programs for obtaining the HiSET/high school completion
- Lack of childcare
- Lack of programs for gaining computer skills
- Lack of vocational skills or training
- Lack of college education
- Lack of dropout prevention programs
- Cost of childcare
- Cost of transportation
- Lack of tuition money/financial aid for career/post-secondary education
- Lack of preschool programs
- Education is not a problem
- Other (please specify)

11. How would you describe access to affordable housing in your community?
- There is a large supply of affordable homes and housing options
- There are some affordable homes and housing options
- There is a very small supply of affordable homes and housing options
- Don't know

12. Money management for families is a problem because (check all that apply):
- Lack of knowledge about budgeting
- Difficulty managing money
- Lack of use of earned income tax credit
- Food stamps do not provide enough assistance
- Lack of knowledge about savings
- Money management is not a problem
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)
13. Health care is a problem for families because (check all that apply):

☐ Doctors will not accept Medicaid
☐ No clinics or doctor offices in same town
☐ Waiting list for services
☐ Hospital/Urgent Care and Walk-in Clinics or emergency room not available in same town
☐ Lack of transportation
☐ Lack of insurance
☐ Existing health conditions
☐ Lack of income to pay for prescriptions
☐ Lack of income for medical emergencies
☐ Lack of family resources for alcohol or drug abuse treatment
☐ Lack of family resources for mental health treatment
☐ Coverage gaps
☐ Health services are not a problem for families
☐ Other (please specify)

☐ [ ]

14. Have you added any additional services in the last year?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

If yes, what services?

☐ [ ]
15. Has your organization collaborated on joint projects or provided joint services with any other agency in the past year?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ Don't know

16. In your opinion, what are the collaborative strengths among agencies in your community?
   1) 
   2) 
   3) 

17. Has your organization experienced any barriers to collaboration?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ Don't know

   If yes, please describe
18. For each of the following population groups, please indicate the degree to which you believe their overall need for services has changed in the past three years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Group</th>
<th>Decreased dramatically</th>
<th>No change</th>
<th>Increased dramatically</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low income infants and toddlers (0-3 years)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low income children aged 3-5 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low income elementary aged children 5-10 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low income teens 11-15 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low income youths aged 16-24 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low income adults aged 25-54 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low income elderly aged 55+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Migrant/transient households</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minority households (e.g. African American/Black, Hispanic, Asian)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-English speaking households</td>
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<tr>
<td>Households with incarcerated family members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physically or developmentally disabled individuals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individuals with mental health challenges/Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victims of crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victims of domestic violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeless families</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural households</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please describe any other service decreases/increases
19. Have the following service needs changed in the past three years?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Needs</th>
<th>Decreased dramatically</th>
<th>No change</th>
<th>Increased dramatically</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality affordable housing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequate family living wage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need for childcare services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need for emergency shelter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teen pregnancy services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental health services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need to address children’s behavioral challenges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need for food assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need for job training or basic skills development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need for fiscal literacy</td>
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</table>

Please describe any other changes in service needs

20. What gaps in services have you encountered in serving families with a low-income?

21. What are the strengths in your community?

1)  
2)  
3)  
APPENDIX E
FRESNO EOC FAMILY SURVEY
1. What town/city do you live in?

2. What EOC services do you utilize (check all that apply)
   - Preschool/Head Start
   - Early Head Start/Infant Toddler Services
   - Community Action Programs
   - Other (please specify)

Employment

3. Are you currently (check all that apply):
   - Employed full-time
   - Employed, making minimum wage or less
   - Employed part-time
   - Employed part-time temporary
   - Unemployed, less than 3 months
   - Unemployed, more than 3 months
   - Retired
   - Homemaker
   - Disabled
   - Student
   - Seeking employment
   - Currently participating in a state work training program

4. Do you have a varied schedule of days and hours of employment?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Does not apply to me
5. Does your job require you to work weekends?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Does not apply to me

6. Employment in the town I live in is a problem because (check all that apply):

☐ People lack skills to obtain a job
☐ People are unable to find jobs in this area
☐ There are few jobs for people without skills
☐ Current jobs are low paying
☐ People lack education to obtain a job
☐ Cost of transportation
☐ Long commute to jobs
☐ Employers leaving the area
☐ Lack of transportation
☐ Employment in my town is not a problem
☐ Other (please specify)

7. Please identify your strengths for gaining employment (check all that apply):

☐ Formally trained or certified skills
☐ Positive work history
☐ Dependable transportation
☐ Skills gained from experience
☐ Education
☐ Dependable childcare
☐ Other (please specify)
APPENDIX E

8. Please identify any barriers you have to obtaining or maintaining employment (check all that apply):

☐ Lack of transportation
☐ Permanent health problem/disability
☐ Lack of high school diploma/GED
☐ Emotionally unable to work
☐ Discrimination (age, race, gender)
☐ Lack of reliable childcare
☐ Temporary disability or health problem
☐ Pregnancy
☐ I do not have barriers to employment
☐ Other (please specify)

9. Do you need any of the following employment services? (check all that apply)

☐ Unemployment assistance
☐ Support achieving goals
☐ Career search
☐ Shelter workshops
☐ Skills training
☐ Job seeking assistance
☐ Business ownership information
☐ Vocational rehabilitation
☐ Other (please specify)

10. During the COVID-19 pandemic, did your employment status change?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Does not apply to me
☐ If so, how?

☐ [space for response]
APPENDIX E

11. If your employment changed, are you now back to your pre-pandemic employment status?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Does not apply to me

Education

12. Education is a problem in the town I live in because (check all that apply):

☐ Lack of access to programs for obtaining a GED
☐ Lack of childcare
☐ Lack of programs for gaining computer skills
☐ Lack of college education opportunities
☐ Lack of dropout prevention programs
☐ Cost of childcare
☐ Cost of transportation
☐ Lack of tuition money
☐ Lack of access to programs teaching vocational skills
☐ Education is not a problem
☐ Other (please specify)

13. Please answer the following questions regarding education for yourself or family (check all that apply):

☐ Satisfied with education
☐ Would like to improve reading/writing skills
☐ Would like to improve English or speaking skills
☐ Would like to improve math skills
☐ Would like to obtain a GED or diploma
☐ Would like training in a specific area
☐ Would like to earn a college degree
☐ Other (please specify)
APPENDIX E

14. Please check all that apply regarding you or your family's barriers to education:

- [ ] Lack of transportation
- [ ] Lack of childcare
- [ ] Previous difficulty in school
- [ ] Cost of school is a problem
- [ ] Lack of high school diploma/GED
- [ ] Language issues are a problem
- [ ] Lack of financial support for education
- [ ] Other (please specify)

15. Do you need any of the following educational services? (check all that apply)

- [ ] One on one support achieving goals
- [ ] Vocational rehabilitation
- [ ] Pell grants/financial aid
- [ ] Community college/university information
- [ ] English as a second language instruction
- [ ] Adult Basic Education/GED classes
- [ ] Career counseling
- [ ] Specialized skills training
- [ ] Literacy/reading tutoring
- [ ] Do not need any services
- [ ] Other (please specify)
16. Where do you live?

- House I own
- House I rent
- Apartment
- With relatives
- Public housing
- Shelter
- Other (please specify)

17. Housing is a problem in the town/county I live in for low-income families because (check all that apply):

- Cost of rent/house payment
- Cost of utilities/rent deposit
- Housing size does not meet family needs
- Lack of temporary emergency housing
- Need weatherization
- Affordable housing not available
- Need repairs (roof, foundation, plumbing etc.)
- Where housing is available, neighborhood conditions are not acceptable
- Lack of shelters for emergency situations (domestic violence)
- Lack of shelters for emergency situations (natural disaster)
- Housing is not a problem
- Other (please specify)

18. Did you skip any rent/mortgage payments during the pandemic?

- Yes
- No

19. If you skipped a rent/mortgage payment, are you currently caught up?

- Yes
- No
- I did not skip a rent/mortgage payment
APPENDIX E

20. If you need temporary shelter, to what extent would you be able to find someplace within your community?

☐ Great extent, I would be able to find shelter in my community
☐ I might be able to find shelter in my community
☐ I would not be able to find shelter in my community

Nutrition

21. Is your food supply adequate?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Most of the time, but it runs out at the end of the month

22. Have you used a food pantry in the past 90 days?

☐ Yes
☐ No

23. Was your food security impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic?

☐ Yes
☐ No

24. Does your family eat fast food more than once a week?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Financial Security

25. Would you like to participate in financial education programs?

☐ Yes
☐ No

26. Do you have a savings account?

☐ Yes
☐ No
APPENDIX E

27. I have the following concerns in regard to my finances (check all that apply):

☐ Lack of knowledge about budgeting
☐ Difficulty managing money
☐ Lack of use of earned income tax credit
☐ Lack of knowledge about savings
☐ Inadequate income
☐ My family lives paycheck to paycheck
☐ Other (please specify)

28. Please check any bills that have been past due or paid late in the past 3 months (check all that apply).

☐ None
☐ Utility
☐ Credit card
☐ Medical
☐ Rent
☐ Other (please specify)

29. During the COVID-19 pandemic did you pay any bills late?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ If yes, which one(s) please specify

30. In the past six months have you (check all that apply):

☐ Used a food pantry
☐ Received TANF or cash aid
☐ Received Medicaid
☐ Had your TANF or aid sanctioned
☐ Paid a bill late
☐ None of the above
APPENDIX E

31. Have you lost access to any basic assistance programs due to lack of eligibility in the past year?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ I have not lost assistance or I do not use assistance

Health

32. Health care is a problem for low-income families because (check all that apply):

☐ Doctors will not accept Medicaid
☐ No clinics or doctors offices in same town
☐ Waiting list for services
☐ Hospital/emergency room not available in same town
☐ Lack of transportation
☐ Insurance does not cover all services
☐ High co-payments
☐ Lack of income to pay for prescriptions
☐ Lack of income for medical emergencies
☐ Lack of resources for alcohol or drug abuse treatment
☐ Lack of resources for mental health treatment
☐ Health care is not a problem for low-income families
☐ Other (please specify)

33. Have you had any concerns about your child's emotional or mental health in the past month?

☐ Not concerned
☐ Slightly concerned
☐ Moderately concerned
☐ Extremely concerned

34. Have you had any concerns about the mental health of a family member that lives in your home in the past month?

☐ Yes
☐ No
35. Have you felt feelings of stress accumulating or difficulties accumulating in the past month?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Transportation

36. Transportation is a problem for low-income families because of (check all that apply):

☐ Lack of knowledge on how to buy a car
☐ Cost of buying/down payment on a car
☐ Lack of credit to buy a car
☐ Cost of car maintenance
☐ Cost of gasoline
☐ Lack of help in learning to drive/getting a license
☐ Limited public transportation
☐ Not a problem
☐ Other (please specify)

Adverse Experiences - Optional

37. Have you ever been homeless or living doubled up with another family due to the cost of housing or family circumstances?

☐ Yes
☐ No

38. Has anyone in your household in the last year experienced depression or mental illness?

☐ Yes
☐ No

39. Has there been any intimate partner violence against any of your child's caregivers in the past year?

☐ Yes, physical violence
☐ Yes, psychological abuse
☐ No
APPENDIX E

40. Has anyone in your immediate family been exposed to domestic violence in the past year that required law enforcement intervention?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

41. Have any caregivers of your child in the past month used substances in response to stress in the past month?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

42. Have you engaged in any of the following self-care activities in the past month?
   - [ ] Exercise
   - [ ] Meditation
   - [ ] Prayer
   - [ ] Reading
   - [ ] Sought help from someone close to me or a therapist

Family and Community Strengths

43. What do you feel are the strengths of your community?
   - [ ] Community agencies that provide assistance when needed
   - [ ] Religious/faith-based programs
   - [ ] Recreational programs and opportunities
   - [ ] A sense of community spirit
   - [ ] Good schools
   - [ ] Safe neighborhoods
   - [ ] Other (please specify)

44. What are the strengths of the Head Start/Early Head Start program?
APPENDIX E

45. Have you engaged in any of the following activities in the past week with your child/children?

☐ Outdoor activities
☐ Reading
☐ Daily fun
☐ Family meals
☐ Working on their school readiness at home

46. What agencies do you receive services from besides Fresno EOC?
APPENDIX F
FRESNO EOC FOCUS GROUP OUTREACH
Appendix F - Focus Group Outreach

Your Community, Our Priority!
Community Needs Assessment
We want to hear from you!
To better serve our community, we need your help identifying areas where we can make the biggest impact.

LGBTQ+ Focus Group
Your input is essential to help us understand what issues matter most to our community and how we can work together to address them.

Light refreshments will be available.

Thursday, May 18
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
LGBTQ+ Resource Center
1252 Fulton Street, Fresno, CA 93721
Learn More by visiting FresnoEDC.org/Strategic-Planning-2023
Or Scan the QR Code

Your Community, Our Priority!
We want to hear from you!
To better serve our community, we need your help identifying areas where we can make the biggest impact.

Youth Townhall Discussion

Tuesday, May 23
2:00 PM
Local Conservation Corps
1805 E. California Avenue, Fresno, CA 93706
Learn More by visiting FresnoEDC.org/Community-Action-Plan
Or Scan the QR Code

Your Community, Our Priority!
We want to hear from you!
To better serve our community, we need your help identifying areas where we can make the biggest impact.

Senior Community Townhall Discussion

Monday, May 22
10:00 AM
Nielson Conference Center
3130 W. Nielsen Ave, Fresno, CA 93706
Learn More by visiting FresnoEDC.org/Community-Action-Plan
Or Scan the QR Code
APPENDIX G

PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT
Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission

2023 Community Needs Assessment Community Action Plan Public Hearing

June 14, 2023

Fresno EOC Speakers:
Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager (Moderator)
Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer
Kevin Williams, Director of Equity and Impact
Jack Lazzarini, Chief Programs Officer

TRANSLATOR:

Hello, everybody! Good afternoon. Welcome to this meeting today. We're going to be here transmitting this meeting in a bilingual format. Interpretation, simultaneous interpretation into Spanish and English. If you are here in person, we invite you to be aware that there’s going to be a Spanish interpretation, and if you have any questions or something that you may want to add or say, or comments, please be mindful there are interpreters here, that would like to be doing their best job. So remember to use a pace. That is a proper for interpretation, and remember that we have to do this in a simultaneous manner.

Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager:

Good evening, and welcome to the Fresno EOC Community Needs Assessment, Community Action Plan, Public Hearing. My name is Isaiah Green. I'm our Community Impact Manager, and we're gathered here today at our local Conservation Corps Neighborhood Youth Center in Southwest Fresno, as a vibrant community, to actively listen to one another. So I say, thank you for being here. I'd like to take a moment to extend a warm welcome to all of you who came here today in person and took your time out to join us online. We say thank you. Your presence is a reflection of your commitment to making a difference and ensuring the well-being of our communities.

Also, I want to extend a welcome to those of you who are viewing on Facebook Live and YouTube. And thank you to our partners at CMAC, who will also be translating this event from English to Spanish via Zoom.

So it is through these conversations that we can identify the challenges we face, explore potential solutions, and work towards a shared vision for our community's future.

We'll have speakers this afternoon: Emilia Reyes, our CEO, who will go over who we are as an organization; Kevin Williams, Director of Equity and Impact, who will present our community needs assessment findings; and Jack Lazzarini, Chief Programs Officer, who will share how our programs and services address and identify community needs.

The main purpose of this public hearing is to do exactly that: hear from you, the public. Our Community Action Plan has been online for the last 30 days for public view and comment. Our hope is to utilize this time and space to create opportunities for public engagement. If you're looking to leave a comment
online, please do so via Zoom or the online link: fresnoeoc.org. The comment period is closing tomorrow, June fifteenth, at 5pm.

Now, let's go over the rules of engagement. If you're leaving a public comment, we will first call on individuals here in person, and each person participating will get 3 minutes to speak. When all speakers here in person are complete, we will call our participants via Zoom in the order of request, and they will also be given 3 minutes to speak. We ask that speakers be civil and courteous, and any language or presentation that involves insults, personal attacks, accusations, profanity, vulgar language, inappropriate gestures, or other inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Comments should be related specifically to our community needs assessment and community action plan presented.

So with that said, I want to thank you again for your participation and your feedback. And without further ado, I'd like to present Emilia Reyes, our CEO.

**Emilia Reyes, Chief Executive Officer:**

Fresno EOC is a Community Action Agency – the largest one in the country - established through the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. It was created with the purpose to strengthen, supplement and coordinate efforts in the eradication of poverty. As a community action agency, we believe that it is our responsibility to create opportunities for all people to thrive, and build strong, resilient communities to ensure a more equitable society. Throughout this presentation, you will learn about the different ways that we are doing this work and what we hope to accomplish.

This is the Promise of Community Action – 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.”

Before we get into what we plan to do, it is important that you know who we are and why we do what we do. The mission of Fresno EOC is simple, we fight to end poverty. We do this to see our vision of a strong Fresno County where people have resources to shape their future, free from poverty. And we do this by committing ourselves to work together to accelerate change, centering our work around equity and inclusion, being trustworthy and transparent, being led by community’s voice and direction and doing this work with empathy, compassion and the human connection.

As a Community Action Agency every 3 years we conduct a community needs assessment to determine the underlying causes of the conditions of poverty and identify available resources to address these unmet needs. To share some key highlights of our needs assessment I would like to introduce Fresno EOC’s Director of Equity and Impact. Mr. Kevin Williams.

**Kevin Williams, Director of Equity and Impact:**

Thank you, Emilia, and thank you, Isaiah, as well for the introduction

So living in living into our values, of being led by communities, voice and direction, and also as a requirement of our federal funding, we complete a community needs assessment every two to three years, and through that process, as Amelia said, right we make sure that we know what the current needs of communities are, establish our goals in a objectives related to those needs, right, and then gather information from community on what are the priorities that need to be addressed?
And so as we can see from this first slide, the property rate in Fresno County is 48% for all families. I'm sorry. 17% and with a female household leader is 48%. These are excessively high rates of poverty right overall.

And so the work we do to fight to end poverty is starts with understanding how many people in our county are experiencing poverty. We also understand that health and wellness impacts physical, mental, and emotional health.

This is especially true for people experiencing property in Fresno County about 21% of parents have reported that their child has been exposed two or more aces, which is adverse childhood experiences, which is our experiences that are potentially traumatizing and can lead to future health risks.

So this includes witnessing violence, experiencing violence, substance, abuse problems, mental health problems, family separation things of that nature. Also what's challenging is a limited access to healthcare services and that leads to things such as lower birth rates higher, infant mortality rates higher rates of sickness, particularly in communities that are experiencing poverty.

The price of the average meal in Fresno County is about $3 and 32 cents, which is actually about 10 cents more than the State average.

The rate of food insecurity in Fresno is that 14%, but this number doesn't include immigrant and undocumented workers, particularly in rural communities.

It is estimated that more than 142,000 people, our food insecure in Fresno County, an additional 23% of children are food insecure, and through this map we can see with a highlighted in red the darker colors indicate in where the concentrated levels of food and security exist in our county.

Now although we know that educational achievement significantly increases once ability to find higher paying jobs. Many people in our communities don't have access to that education. From this chart we see that about 46% of Fresno has a high school diploma and only about 22% have a bachelor's degree above.

Again the significant limits, the ability to move out of the cycle of poverty and gain access to employment, higher levels of employment, opportunities.

Fresno County has a crime rate that exceeds most California counties.

The rates of gun violence continue to be high with 442 shootings reported in 2022 between 55% and 60% of all shootings in the City of Fresno involve gang members and highly social vulnerable areas which are highlighted in dark blue on the map. Also on the rise, and, unfortunately for us, have been hate crimes, especially targeting race, sexuality and gender identity, and in 2020, families reported some form of violence against them in the county.

Again. You see with the map, the darker areas are indicating where there's a high social vulnerability, and more likely for these things to exist.

Just having employment doesn't actually mean that you make enough to live from this chart we see that although employment rates are overall down, almost half the people with employment are not making
enough to support their basic needs, we recognize that people don't just need jobs they need jobs that pay them a living wage.

While overall the Fresno County average for Housing cost burden in lower than the state, there are communities in both rural and urban portions of the County where the burden significantly exceeds that of the state. In this slide, we see that about 38% of Fresnians are spending over 30% of their income on rent alone, with the highest rates of sever housing burden (spending at least 50% of income on housing) in Biola, Orange Cove, and Huron.

But again, our value is being directed by community's voice.

And so, while we see all this data on where we need to focus, it was important for us to ask the community, where are the places that we need to address?

What does the community think is urgent, pressing.

When we asked community members what are the most pressing needs that they need met, reaching family goals, obtaining food, and physical and emotional health were ranked highest.

So in all of this we ask ourselves, how are programs doing this work?

Our programs and services respond to all the needs of communities on the foundation of these for principles, equity based practices which means directing services intentionally to meet the needs of those most impacted by poverty conditions holistic support which is providing for the whole person understanding that poverty impacts the community in multiple ways advocacy, using our platform to amplify the perspective and experiences of people experiencing poverty.

And lastly, as we've said, and we'll continue to say, being community directed creating programs and services that are able to respond to the changing community needs and priorities.

And so with that, I will ask our Chief Programs Officer, Jack Lazzarini, to come and talk about exactly what our programs do.

Jack Lazzarini, Chief Programs Officer:

Well, thank you, Kevin, and it's a pleasure to be with all of you today. For those of you visiting us and representing the community, I want to give a special thank you for being here today and being our voice. So let's get started, and I am here to talk more about the programs. But before I do, I want to reiterate a few things.

The Community Action Plan that Kevin just spoke about covers areas of service focus that EOC looks at. So, to recap, we’re talking about health and safety, wellness, food insecurity, education, housing insecurity, employment, and community safety.

Now, let's take a look at each of these focus areas and the goals we have for them, as well as some of the associated programs here at Fresno EOC. So let's begin.

Oops, I think I went the wrong way. No, alright! Here we go. In the blue, you will see that we have listed some of the goals for health and wellness. The first one is to increase the availability of programs and services, improve referral and intake systems, and increase community outreach and engagement. Now, let's highlight a few of our programs, which are listed on the right-hand side of the screen.
We have our Family Adolescent Life program, which provides pregnancy education and parenting skills for our teenage population. The Community Health Center and California Prep programs offer education, counseling, and treatment services to those of reproductive age, regardless of insurance status. Our dental and school-based sealant programs work to increase dental care access and improve oral health. And our Rural Tobacco Education program provides education to communities about the dangers and increased risk of tobacco-related diseases, as well as advocates for smoke-free policies.

Moving on to food insecurity, all of these programs seek to address the most immediate food accessibility needs, particularly in rural communities, and they also work to support good health. These programs include food distributions, which provide weekly food pantry events throughout rural and urban Fresno County, home delivery of meals to our senior population, and our Food Express Buses, which provide free meals to children during off-school sessions. Through our WIC program, clients not only receive healthy food but also nutrition education and breastfeeding support, all at no cost.

Now, let’s talk about employment opportunities, many of which services take place right here where we are today. These programs focus on providing participants with education, training, certification, and support to increase their job prospects, readiness, and placement. So as you can see, these programs include our Local Conservation Corps, our Summer Youth Internship Program, our Valley Apprenticeship Connections, and our Workforce Connection Young Adult Program.

Moving on to housing insecurity, as most of us are aware, housing insecurity is big throughout Fresno County. Although Fresno EOC doesn’t manage any housing, we do provide services to meet immediate housing needs. Let’s talk about those. One is our Bridge Housing Program, which is for individuals and families who have identified a housing plan for themselves but just need a safe place to live until their housing operation is realized. Other services assist chronically homeless individuals and families with permanent housing and supportive services in partnership with the Fresno Housing Authority. Our other programs around housing insecurity focus on supporting people in managing housing costs. Our Energy Services includes programs that provide utility payment assistance for energy and water bills, and our Weatherization and Free Home Solar programs provide housing improvements to increase a home’s energy efficiency and help families lower their PG&E bills, something I think we all can appreciate, right?

Next is educational achievements. These services begin early in childhood. Starting with our Head Start and Early Head Start programs, which prepare children and families of preschool children, giving them a solid foundation for academic success throughout their schooling years. Our School of Unlimited Learning, affectionately known as SOUL, provides a comprehensive high school learning experience that enables students who may otherwise not do well in traditional school environments to obtain the skills, knowledge, and motivation they need to be self-directed lifelong learners. Our YouthBuild Charter School is a competency-based dropout recovery school that provides high school education for students from low-income families and underserved communities who have not found success in traditional school settings.

Lastly, community safety. As you can see by the list of programs here, safety within our community involves many layers, including battling social isolation, stigmas related to identity, and both physical and emotional forms of violence. Fresno EOC has several programs to limit the impact of adverse conditions and supports community members in feeling safe. Our goals speak for themselves: create
community spaces for safety, encourage and develop positive community relationships, and increase community safety through violence reduction. Starting with Advanced Peace, our gang intervention program, the LGBTQ Resource Center, Central Valley Against Human Trafficking, our Foster Grandparents Program, and Safe Place, which is actually a collaboration of over 20 partner organizations with physical and mobile locations throughout Fresno County. This is where you can turn to when you need help and safety. And finally, our Transit Systems provide transportation services specifically to our youth, seniors, and disabled individuals.

I hope this helps to paint a better picture and understanding of what Fresno EOC is all about. Next, we want to hear from each of you. So I’m going to turn this back over to Isaiah, who will facilitate the next steps. Thank you.

Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager (Moderator):
Thank you. James. Kevin, Amelia. First of all, again, I want to extend another. Thank you to everyone who is participating here today who showed up today to allow your voice to be heard.

We want to say, thank you. So as we open up for public comment again, we will start with those that are here in person.

First, every individual will have 3 minutes, and we will give you a signal.

The last 30 seconds of those minutes we will have Karina come and we will start from here. So if anyone has a public comment, feel free to raise your hand, and Karina will meet you with the microphone.

Community Member #1:

Community Member #2:

“What about people like me? I don't know anything about a computer I can't complain about nothing, on Facebook whatever that stuff y'all are talking about because I don’t even know how to get on. How could I complain or have something to say about something, when I don't know how to do it.”

Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager (Moderator):

And to that we say, Thank you for being here today. To allow your voice to be heard is valued, and we thank you for that comment.

Yes, we were. The microphone is headed away.

Community Member #3:

“Good afternoon. My name is Hester Hensley, and I appreciate you all, offering us the opportunity to come out and voice our comments, how are we going to know if they're then addressed? When will we know they are being addressed? Will someone let us know or are we just coming out making comments, and we will never know what happens? Will they be addressed at a certain time, or will we know that they've been addressed?”
Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager (Moderator):

So our plan is to take the public comment that we hear tonight, and we are putting together a plan in order to address the things that we hear tonight in order to make change for the future.

Community Member #3 continued:

“I’d like to say Miss Emilia, I liked your statement, and your statement also, Mister Kevin Williams and Mister Jack, all the comments, everything they said was on T, but even though even things that you showed us, you didn’t give us no detail into what each thing was, you know, was, going to, take transpire. All the information you had on the board. You didn’t have no comments on what was going to transpire with that, and Miss Emilia, I just want to say to committee there’s two things that I like to state: One is that you spoke about the property and there’s a lot of property here in Southwest Fresno that really need to be taken care of, and the other issue was you spoke about is community at the entire community with Southwest Fresno has been left out a lot. I ask some of the work, people that work over at Franklin Head start, I say, why are you only just clean up, Franklin? They said, because they’re part of EOC. I said, well, EOC is in Southwest Fresno community, and all these alleys and all these areas that need to be cleaned up, you can’t. I see you out on Herndon Then I see EOC workmen, I see them all over North and eastside Fresno now cleaning and raking, and picking up all the debris and everything.

But I don’t see anyone in Southwest Fresno doing that and that kind of you know it kind of bothers me because EOC is ready in our community, and we don’t get that type of help and we have a lot of things that need to be cleaned.”

Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager (Moderator):

Miss Hester you have 30 seconds.

Community Member #3 continued:

“Anyway, one of the young men stated you have to be a part of EOC to have these things and to contact the city and let the city, the city knows, too. Now you’re here and you’re here to work with the community and work with the poverty. Then those are the things that really need to be taken care of, especially the alleyways and the south you know a lot of debris.”

Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager (Moderator):

Thank you, Hester, for your comments.

Community Member #4:

“Hello! Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Pedro Navarro Cruz. I have been living in Fresno for the last 22 years. This is my first time attending something like this with the EOC. It was cool listening to the presentation. Actually, it brought back memories. I remember being a part of the Pops program like a century ago, when I first became a dad. It was more like 7 or 8 years ago. Those were good times. It was very helpful, and it came at the right time in my life. I appreciate the work that you all do.

I don’t have any other critiques for specific programs because I don’t feel like I’ve observed enough, but I do have one recommendation, and it pertains to the housing situation. There are a lot of things that are
really out of our control that have changed over the last couple of years. I've been wondering if you all have considered implementing a minimum wage for all EOC employees that is a livable wage. With all the changes that have happened, it's just really tough out there, right? There are a lot of people who are struggling to make ends meet. There's not enough affordable housing, and the interest rates to buy a house are ridiculous. So, I mean, there are things that are out of your control, but there are things that you can do to ensure a better workplace for folks, especially considering that these folks are the ones who make all these great programs run. Just food for thought that I wanted to share. But thank you all. Thank you.”

Isaiah Green, Community Impact Manager (Moderator):

Next Steps: Transcripts and/or testimony from the public hearing will be included in the Final Draft of the Community Action Plan and available on our website following the Board Approval of our Community Action Plan.

Public comment will be open until June 15, 2023. We will receive approval of our plan from the Board, and will submit the plan on June 30, 2023.

Again. Thank you for your time this evening. Those of us are those of you are joining online, and those of you taking your time out to join us in person.

Thank you for your participation in this process. Good evening.
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Executive Summary

Poverty in Fresno County

The Causes of Poverty

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

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

1. Children who grow up poor are more likely to be poor as adults. Furthermore, the likelihood increases with each year of poverty that is experienced.

2. Lack of equitable earning power, disproportionate family responsibilities, and complications from pregnancy keep women from achieving their optimal potential.

3. Educational inequities suppress social and economic opportunity.

4. Racial inequities are embedded in institutions, the denial of opportunities, and histories of discrimination.

5. Many health outcomes — everything from life expectancy to infant mortality and obesity — can be linked to the level of economic inequality. Greater economic inequality appears to lead to worse health outcomes.

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1 PBS Frontline; Population Studies Center and Survey Research Center; Inequality.org.
The Conditions of Poverty

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

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

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

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

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

**Community Conditions**

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

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

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

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

Maternal and child health is also concerning. Fresno County has higher rates of teen births, births to mothers without a high school diploma, births to unmarried mothers, and births to mothers with a low-income than found across California. There is also a racial disparity and black/African American babies are more likely to be born with a low birthweight and have rates of infant mortality that are triple that of babies born to white mothers. The teen pregnancy rate is also higher for black/African American mothers and Latinas. These factors are associated with poor health and development for infants and increased rates of poverty throughout life.
Condition 2: The county population demonstrates underemployment and high rates of unemployment due to lack of job opportunities that pay a living wage and limited educational attainment. Concurrently, the county cost of living is rising which has trapped families in cycles of poverty, especially single-mothers and families headed by a parent with limited educational attainment.

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

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

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

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

Housing is unaffordable for a significant percent of the population in all communities in Fresno County. Data on the housing cost burden indicates that nearly 50% of the population spends more than 30% of their income on housing costs. In total, it is estimated that just 6% of rentals in the community are affordable for families and individuals earning less than 30% of the median income and about half of all rental units are affordable for those earning the median income for Fresno County. Repeatedly in community and program data the need for affordable housing emerges. For example, between 2019 and 2022, there was a 16% increase in the homeless population in Fresno County. In other program data, 30% of families reported they needed help finding a better place to live and 27% indicated they needed help getting out of an unsafe place. Fresno County’s rate of substandard housing exceeds both the nation, and the state rates as does the rate of violent crime, which further illustrates the community’s housing challenges.
Condition 4: The early care and education system is changing rapidly and the impact of the early care and education system developments on Head Start and Early Head Start is uncertain. Despite a burgeoning preschool movement that is transitioning the state preschool program from a targeted preschool program for at-risk children to a universal preschool program serving all children aged 3 and 4 years, there is still a need for affordable childcare, comprehensive early childhood programs, and a robust system of care for infants and toddlers.

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

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

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

Another phenomenon occurring in other states with universal preschool systems is that as children transition to public preschool programs, center-based childcare programs lose the ability to operate because the financial models are disrupted. In turn, they implement infant and toddler programming at a higher cost to families or close altogether. These trends are already appearing in Fresno County. For example, there has been a 6% drop in family childcare homes between January 2020 and January 2021, and a 31% decrease in center-based childcare licenses during the same time period. While some of the trend observed was the result of the COVID-19 pandemic, expansion of public preschool is now also playing a role in the decisions of childcare providers to remain open or not.
**Condition 5: Fresno communities are socially vulnerable, and children are exposed to adverse early childhood experiences and lack protective factors such as a safe community, stable families, social-emotional resilience, and concrete social support.**

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

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

**Recommendations**

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

The reduction of health disparities and need to address substance abuse issues is a complex problem that must be addressed using multi-faceted collaborative strategies. Fresno EOC can expand on this work by increasing awareness of available resources among families and partners. For example, program staff can compile and collect information about resources and share it with doctors, hospitals, childcare providers, and community health workers. Social media can also be used to build trust and a good reputation among underutilized providers. The service landscape has also changed since the infusion of COVID-19 funds. Exploring the types of programs that have expanded as well as the programs that will be exhausted in the near future as pandemic funding supplements fall away may limit the impact of any other shifts in access to health programs and services that occur as the focus of public funding changes.
At a systemic level, Fresno EOC can support an increase in access to services by promoting the acceptance of Medicaid reimbursement among providers, particularly those for children with special health care needs. Other activities that include shortening and streamline provider enrollment processes and pooling money to avoid duplication and increase coordination can also occur through health advocacy groups that are formed to magnify the efforts Fresno EOC is already undertaking to resolve community health challenges.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Two additional strategies include:

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

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

**Recommendation 2:** Encourage broader workforce participation for individuals in poverty and Head Start families with less than two family members that are working and assess and address barriers to employment for those that are not working or in job training. Strategies to support this recommendation could include sharing poverty statistics by the number of workers in the family and poverty statistics by educational attainment levels. Information could be disseminated by family advocates or during parent meetings or by community action program case managers. Other helpful program strategies might be encouraging the use of the Employment Development Department in helping parents to obtain financial assistance with career training fees, involving Head Start parents with local business development organizations, and setting career development goals through the Family Partnership Agreement or other employment and training programs offered by the agency or agency partners. The development of social capital can help families bridge into new social networks that support employment mobility.
Families are in need of supplemental programs to support their basic needs due to lack of work activities, low-paying jobs, and high rates of single-parenthood, including high rates of births to single mothers, particularly births to single-mothers without a high school diploma. It would be beneficial to focus additional resources on assisting individuals and families receiving assistance in maintaining eligibility for supplemental programs when needed. To increase information about services, the program could circulate key information through the parent newsletter, inform parents about community events, and train family advocates and case managers to effectively connect families with benefits and programs that provide financial relief.

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

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

1. **Work hour instability and schedule unpredictability.** The nature of employment for many low-income families creates income instability because there are changes in the number of hours that low-income workers work each week. Low-income families are also impacted by “schedule unpredictability” which means they receive their work schedule with less than one week’s notice and are more likely to have jobs that place them “on call”. Nearly 60% of workers earning less than $15,000 experience these work arrangements.

2. **Delays in unemployment insurance eligibility and changes in the process for obtaining unemployment benefits.** The pandemic unemployment assistance led to a need to upgrade employment insurance systems and created staffing issues that meant delays in the receipt of assistance for weeks or months. This is especially true for workers that were part of the gig economy. While California is catching up with the backlog, low-income workers with variable jobs and earnings report they are still unable to predict the income they will receive, which has together with changing benefit levels increased income volatility for workers that earn the least.

3. **Changes in Critical Benefits Sensitive to Changing Income.** The pandemic expanded benefits for many programs such as CalFresh and TANF (Temporary Aid for Needy Families). Within the county, more than 50% of families receive some type of income support. The changing scope of benefits as the pandemic supplements expire have

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

4. **Childcare challenges continue to persist.** Low-income families face disproportionate challenges accessing safe, affordable, reliable, high-quality childcare. With the onset of the pandemic, childcare access changed abruptly. The perfect storm of changing employment, lack of ability for low-income workers to work from home and continued staffing issues have further reduced accessibility to childcare for low-income families. There is simply, not enough open, available, affordable childcare options in Fresno County.

5. **Savings and Access to Credit.** Head Start families are less likely to have a savings account and face constraints in accessing credit, making it difficult for them to adjust to unexpected expenses or fluctuations in income.

6. **Health Issues and Trauma.** It is widely acknowledged that low-income communities of color, including communities throughout Fresno County have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. In addition to the tragedies families have faced in regard to lives lost and community impacts, it is also a factor in income volatility. For example, families are still hit with unexpected illness such as covid positivity and must miss work to care for themselves or their family, when a worker gets sick, new responsibilities must be pushed to other caregivers, and families are experiencing higher levels of stress due to the trauma they experienced during the pandemic.

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

**Recommendation 4:** The program can begin to track data on the enrollment and utilization of early childhood services in each community and use this data to monitor the need for changes to Head Start and other early childhood program options. For example, the program can identify recruitment and enrollment periods for the Transitional Universal Preschool programs operating in the area and for home visiting services. This data can be compared to program enrollment along those dates to identify if the recruitment period and strategies for Head Start or Early Head
Start need to be modified. For example, recruitment may occur earlier in the year, or the program may seek to convert Head Start slots to Early Head Start slots as preschool program services expand. Another option is to become more involved in policy making so that Fresno EOC can be a larger part of the developing system for home visiting in California.

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

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

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

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

• Provide training to staff and parents that helps them recognize the importance of preventing mental health problems at an early age using the social-emotional development domains of the state early learning guidelines.

• Provide information and training related to cultural norms and expectations for young children as it pertains to mental health.
Methodology

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose of the Community Assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To guide and solidify the overall vision and direction of the agency.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To inform decision-making and program planning, including coordinated approaches.</td>
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<td>To educate staff and stakeholders.</td>
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<td>To establish the program goals and long and short-term program objectives.</td>
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<td>To address changing priorities and policies and to respond to trends and changes.</td>
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<td>To mobilize community resource and maximize community relationships.</td>
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<td>To identify the service and recruitment area served by Head Start and Early Head Start.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To identify the number of low-income children and Head Start and Early Head Start eligible children and families in the service area and appropriate locations for services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To identify community partners.</td>
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Table 1. Purpose of the Community Assessment

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

![COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT PROCESS](image_url)

Figure 1. Community Assessment Process
The community assessment includes the following information:

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

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

**Selection**
- Governing body and policy council roles
- Selection criteria
- Waiting lists

**Recruitment**
- Where to recruit
- How to recruit

**Eligibility**
- Determining eligibility
- Verifying Eligibility
- Documenting Eligibility

**Enrollment**
- Maintaining funded enrollment
- Recordkeeping and reporting

**Attendance**
- Monitoring ADA (average daily attendance)
- Recordkeeping and reporting

Figure 2. How does the CA inform?

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

Table 2. Community Assessment Process

**Sources of Data and Data Collection Methods**

Numerous primary and secondary data sources were used to describe the demographics of the service area and the physical, social, and economic well-being of low-income families. Sources of data included population datasets such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the CARES Community Engagement Network website, California Education Agency the Kids Count Data Center, California Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy People 2020, Healthy Fresno County, the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, the California Department of Finance, KidsData.org, and
the County Health Ranking reports. In addition, the assessment includes information garnered from other secondary sources such as community health and needs assessments published by other agencies in the service area.

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

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

Table 3. Distinguishing Features of ACS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of Data Sources</th>
<th>Quantitative Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topics</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Census; American Community Survey</td>
<td>Demographics, Education, Income, Healthcare/Insurance, Employment, Housing, Nutrition, Maternal and Child Health, Basic Assistance, Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S Department of Labor; Bureau of Labor Statistics and California Employment Development Department</td>
<td>Employment, Income and Wages, Industry, Workforce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Department of Health Services</td>
<td>Behavioral Risk Factors, Health, Immunizations, Oral Health, Birth Defects, Health Workforce, Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Center for Disease Control</td>
<td>Oral Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Health Foundation</td>
<td>Health Rankings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health America</td>
<td>Mental Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</td>
<td>HUD and housing information</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Initial data analysis was completed by Heartland Solutions and the Fresno EOC management team. Conclusions and recommendations were formulated from these reviews and were considered by the Fresno EOC board and the Head Start policy council. These conclusions and recommendations will form the basis for planning and guide the agency vision for the next several years. Heartland utilized the following process to analyze the community assessment data:

### Data Analysis Strategies

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

### Methods for Data Analysis

Table 4. Summary of Data Sources

**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
Service Area Description

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

Demographics

Population Density

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Total Land Area (mni²)</th>
<th>Population Density (per mni²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>1,440</td>
<td>.65</td>
<td>2,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>112,663</td>
<td>25.41</td>
<td>4,433</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Population Change

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Total Population 2020</th>
<th>Total Population 2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>1,427</td>
<td>1,463</td>
<td>-2.4% (-36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>120,124</td>
<td>98,100</td>
<td>22.4% (22,024)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>6,206</td>
<td>6,721</td>
<td>-7.6% (-515)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>12,380</td>
<td>11,657</td>
<td>6.2% (723)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>12,595</td>
<td>11,045</td>
<td>14.0% (1,550)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>9,649</td>
<td>9,652</td>
<td>-0.1% (-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>25,227</td>
<td>24,426</td>
<td>3.2% (801)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>3,477</td>
<td>3,421</td>
<td>-1.6% (-56)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td>542,107</td>
<td>500,538</td>
<td>8.3% (41,569)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>1,008,654</td>
<td>930,450</td>
<td>8.4% (78,204)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>39,538,223</td>
<td>37,253,936</td>
<td>6.1% (2,284,287)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>334,735,155</td>
<td>312,471,161</td>
<td>7.1% (22,263,994)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7. Population Change

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

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

Figure 4. Population Change by Race 2015-2020

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

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

*United States Census Bureau. *Age and Sex 2016-2020, Table S0101. Retrieved from https://data.census.gov/*.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Fresno</th>
<th>Reedley</th>
<th>Riverdale</th>
<th>Fresno City</th>
<th>Fresno County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55 to 59 years</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6,376</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>787</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 64 years</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7,191</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 to 69 years</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>5,613</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 74 years</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5,070</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 to 79 years</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,847</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 84 years</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,234</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 years and over</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,888</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Age</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>24.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Table 8. Age

---

Number of Children Under Five by City

![Bar Chart](Image)

Figure 5. Children Under Five by Area

### Population Under 5 by Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Biola</th>
<th>Clovis</th>
<th>Huron</th>
<th>Kingsburg</th>
<th>Mendota</th>
<th>Orange Cove</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 0-3 Yrs.</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>4,030</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 3 &amp; 4 Yrs.</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4,039</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>8,069</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>1,290</td>
<td>840</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Population Under 5 by Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Reedley</th>
<th>Riverdale</th>
<th>Fresno City</th>
<th>Fresno County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 0-3 Yrs.</td>
<td>1,659</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>24,695</td>
<td>43,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 3 &amp; 4 Yrs.</td>
<td>964</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>17,951</td>
<td>33,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,623</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>42,646</td>
<td>76,299</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9. Population Under Five Years By Age

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Figure 6. Senior Population by Area

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Projection Children Under Five 2022-2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 and 4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 10. Population Projection Children Under Five Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Births in Fresno County⁹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Births</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Increase/Decrease</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 11. Fresno County Births 2016-2020

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>White Non-Hispanic</th>
<th>Black/African American Non-Hispanic</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</th>
<th>American Indian/Alaska Native</th>
<th>Multiracial</th>
<th>Other Race</th>
<th>Hispanic/Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>82.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.02%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>49.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>94.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>41.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>96.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>14.20</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>79.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>69.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>53.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 12. Population by Race/Ethnicity

---


Figure 7. Fresno County Race/Ethnicity

Figure 8. Race/Ethnicity for Selected Groups by Census Tract
The percentage of Hispanic/Latino residents that comprise the population is largest in the western areas of the county that comprise the heart of the San Joaquin valley. This includes the cities of Huron, Tranquility, Mendota and Firebaugh.

The percentage of Hmong residents that comprise the population is largest in the Cities of Fresno and Squaw Valley.
Child Race\textsuperscript{13}
The race of children in Fresno is primarily white and Hispanic/Latino.

![Child Population by Race/Ethnicity](image)

**Figure 9. Child Population by Race/Ethnicity**

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

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

*Table 13. Family Composition*


Household Composition

### Household Composition by Marital Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Biola</th>
<th>Clovis</th>
<th>Huron</th>
<th>Kingsburg</th>
<th>Mendota</th>
<th>Orange Cove</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Households</strong></td>
<td>304</td>
<td>37,726</td>
<td>1,874</td>
<td>3,754</td>
<td>2,838</td>
<td>2,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married-Family</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-Male Family</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Female Family</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Family</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Reedley</th>
<th>Riverdale</th>
<th>Fresno City</th>
<th>Fresno County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Households</strong></td>
<td>7,030</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>170,137</td>
<td>310,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married-Family</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-Male Family</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Female Family</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Family</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 14. Household Composition for Children Under Six Years

**Single Female-Headed Households with Children Under Five Years**

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

### Fresno County Children in Single-Female Households Under Five Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Population</th>
<th>Under 3 Yrs.</th>
<th>3 &amp; 4 Years</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single-Female Headed Household</td>
<td>3,956</td>
<td>8,485</td>
<td>12,441 (24%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married-Couple Families</td>
<td>21,853</td>
<td>16,826</td>
<td>38,679 (76%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Household Composition of Children Under 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Biola</th>
<th>Clovis</th>
<th>Huron</th>
<th>Kingsburg</th>
<th>Mendota</th>
<th>Orange Cove</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Households with Children</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>13,534</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>1,415</td>
<td>1,663</td>
<td>1,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Children &lt; 6</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married Couple with Children &lt; 6</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Male with Children &lt; 6</td>
<td>0%*</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>0%**</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Female with Children &lt; 6</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

### Family Status of Head Start Children

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

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

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

Family structure is important for Head Start and other poverty fighting programs to consider. For example, family structure can play a role in the mental health, physical well-being, and longevity of children, adolescents and adults. According to Raley and Wildsmith, over time the rise in unmarried and stepfamily living has coincided with a rapid acceleration of family instability with more children transitioning to multiple living arrangements.16 The data indicates that there are a significant percent of children living in single-female headed households throughout the county, totaling 12% of all children under five years. Additionally, more than 12,000 children live with their grandparents.

Economic Activities

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

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

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

Industry

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

17 https://datausa.io
Most Common

The most common jobs held by residents of Fresno County, CA, by number of employees, are Office & Administrative Support Occupations (42,205 people), Sales & Related Occupations (36,131 people), and Management Occupations (33,284 people).

Figure 11. Most Common Jobs in Fresno County
Unemployment & Employment
The Fresno County unemployment rate has been slowly decreasing since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, like trends for both the State of California and for the United States. For example, unemployment has decreased by almost 10% for the county. However, despite significant improvement from the pandemic unemployment crisis, rates of unemployment remain high in Biola, Mendota, Reedley, Huron, and Orange Cove. This indicates that rates of poverty are likely to remain high despite efforts to improve the economy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>May 2018</th>
<th>May 2019</th>
<th>May 2020</th>
<th>May 2021</th>
<th>May 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 17. Five Year Unemployment Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>May 2020 Unemployment</th>
<th>July 2022 Unemployment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 18. Unemployment Rate by City

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

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

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

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

Table 19. Work Characteristics of Families

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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Type</th>
<th>Hourly Wage (Per Household Adult)</th>
<th>Monthly Wage</th>
<th>Annual Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One adult/1 Infant</td>
<td>$25.61</td>
<td>$4,507</td>
<td>$54,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One adult/1 Infant and 1 preschooler</td>
<td>$33.37</td>
<td>$5,873</td>
<td>$70,471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 adults/1 infant</td>
<td>$14.92</td>
<td>$5,251</td>
<td>$60,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 adults/1 infant and 1 preschooler</td>
<td>$18.73</td>
<td>$6,593</td>
<td>$79,115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 20. Cost of Living

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

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

Table 21. Median Income Level by Family Type

---

Median Income by Race and Ethnicity

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

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

Table 23. Median Income by Race/Ethnicity

---

Fresno EOC Community Needs Assessment

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

**Figure 13. Fresno County Income Comparison By Race/Ethnicity**

**Other Sources of Income**

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) includes Social Security, Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (CalFresh/SNAP). In Fresno County, there are 115,987 households that receive public assistance, totaling 40% of all households. The rates of dependence on public assistance are higher for female householders with children. Of families that receive public
assistance, 43% are married-couple families and 45% are single-female householders\textsuperscript{25}.

**Economic Activities Key Findings**

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

Poverty

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

![Population Below the Poverty Level](image)

**Figure 14. Population in Poverty by Census Tract**

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

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\(^{28}\) A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education; Committee on National Statistics; Board on Children, Youth, and Families; Committee on Building an Agenda to Reduce the Number of Children in Poverty by Half in 10 Years; Le Menestrel S, Duncan G, editors. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US).
almost all communities in the service area are significantly higher than the child poverty rates for either the state or nation. The only communities that have a lower poverty rate for children than found for the state or nation are Clovis and Kingsburg.

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

Table 24. Poverty Rates

![Poverty Rates by Area](https://example.com/poverty_rates.png)

Figure 15. Poverty Rates by Area

Poverty Rate by Family Type

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

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

Table 25: Poverty Rates by Family Type

Number of Families Living in Poverty

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Under 50% FPL</th>
<th>Under 125% FPL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>2,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>1,154</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Number of Families Living in Poverty**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Under 50% FPL</th>
<th>Under 125% FPL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>1,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>1,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>10,300</td>
<td>30,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>17,021</td>
<td>53,353</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 26. Number of Families Living in Poverty

**Poverty Rate by Race and Ethnicity**

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

**Poverty Rates by Race and Ethnicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black/African American</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</th>
<th>Native American/Alaska Native</th>
<th>Multi-racial</th>
<th>Other Race</th>
<th>Hispanic/Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>54.5%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>42.8%</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>30.1%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>70.3%</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
<td>43.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>30.6%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 27. Poverty Rates by Race and Ethnicity

**Child Poverty**

The map that follows shows poverty levels by census tract for children in Fresno County.
The income level for children, relative to the poverty threshold is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Level</th>
<th>2018 Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-99% of Poverty</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-199% of Poverty</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-299% of Poverty</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-399% of Poverty</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400% of Poverty or Higher</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 28. Income Level for Children Relative to Poverty

Children in Poverty by Race and Ethnicity

Among all children in the county, 30.9% live in poverty. The following chart details the rates of poverty for the child population for all major racial-ethnic groups. The rates of poverty are highest for African American/black children and Hispanic/Latino children. According to Kidsdata.org, other poverty related facts for children in Fresno County include:
- 35% of children live in concentrated poverty or in census tracts where the poverty rate exceeds 30% of all families.
- 30% of children live in low-income working families.

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

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

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

![Chart: Percent of Population in Poverty by Work Status](image)

**Figure 19. Percent of Population in Poverty by Work Status**

---

**Poverty Key Findings**

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

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

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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Population</th>
<th>&lt;1yr.</th>
<th>1 yr.</th>
<th>2 yrs.</th>
<th>3 yrs.</th>
<th>4 yrs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Children</td>
<td>13,979</td>
<td>14,649</td>
<td>14,104</td>
<td>14,120</td>
<td>14,110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 30. Total Children by Age – Fresno County

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

According to the Children’s Defense Fund, black/African American and Hispanic/Latino children continue to suffer disproportionately from poverty, with the youngest children most at-risk of being poor.\textsuperscript{35} Service area poverty trends reflect the increased likelihood that children that are members of minority groups are more likely to live in poverty. As shown below, the racial-ethnicity of Head Start children in the program is predominantly Hispanic/Latino and black/African American which is reflective of poverty rates in the area\textsuperscript{36}.

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.

\begin{center}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Race} & \textbf{Head Start} & \textbf{Fresno County} \\
\hline
White & 3\% & 2\% \\
Black/African American & 5\% & 67\% \\
Asian & 5\% & 10\% \\
Hispanic & 17\% & 4\% \\
Other & 7\% & 17\% \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{center}

\textit{Figure 20. Race of Head Start Children}

\textsuperscript{36} United States Census Bureau. \textit{Sex by Age} 2016-2020, Tables B0100H; B0100C; B0100G; B0100I; B0100F; B01001D; B01001D; B01001B; B01001A. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov.
Dual Language Learners Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/ethnicity</th>
<th>Children &lt; 5 yrs.</th>
<th>Poverty Rate for Children &lt; 6 yrs. by Race</th>
<th>Estimated HS and EHS Eligibles by Race</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>12,520</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>4,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>3,650</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>2,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>48,990</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>20,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>8,129</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>2,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3,010</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>1,023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 31. Race of Head Start Eligible Population

![Race of Head Start Eligibles](image)

Figure 21. Race of Head Start Eligible Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>EHS DLLs</th>
<th>HS DLLs</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children in Linguistically Isolated Households

Table 32. Children with Limited English Proficiency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>4,180</td>
<td>3,038</td>
<td>7,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>11,151</td>
<td>8,471</td>
<td>19,622</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 33. Primary Language of Head Start Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Head Start</th>
<th>Early Head Start</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>1,668</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>1,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Central American/South American/Mexican Languages</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Eastern &amp; South Asian Languages</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asian Languages</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Island Languages</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Sign Language</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other-Unspecified</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Homeless Children Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

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

Difficulty in accounting for the homeless population makes it challenging to estimate the number of homeless children eligible for Head Start. The Early Childhood Homeless State Profile for California states that 1 in every 12 children are homeless. Using this methodology, there are estimated to be 3,592 children aged birth-two years and 299 children aged three-to-five years who are homeless in Fresno County.
According to the 2021 Program Information Report, Fresno EOC served 22 families who were experiencing homelessness during the 2020-2021 program year. In total, 24 children experiencing homelessness were enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start because they were categorically eligible due to homelessness.

### Homelessness Services – Head Start PIR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of families experiencing homelessness that were served during the enrollment year</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of children experiencing homelessness that were served during the enrollment year</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of families experiencing homelessness that acquired housing during the enrollment year</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Children aged &lt;1 yr.</th>
<th>Children aged 1-2 yrs.</th>
<th>Children aged 3-5 yrs.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 36. Foster Care Entries by Age

Children with Disabilities Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start

The California Department of Education reports that in 2020, 20.3 per 1,000 California Students were enrolled in special education\(^{39}\). The CDC reports that approximately 17% of children aged 3 to 17 years have a disability.\(^{40}\) Using this estimate, it is likely that 7,328 infants and toddlers and 5,642 preschoolers in Fresno County have a disability. When poverty rates are applied it is likely that 2,418 infants and toddlers with a disability live in poverty and 1,878 preschoolers with a disability live in poverty.

Head Start Eligibles Key Findings

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Educational Attainment

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

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

Table 37. Educational Attainment

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black or African American</th>
<th>Native American / Alaska Native</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander</th>
<th>Some Other Race</th>
<th>Multiple Race</th>
<th>Hispanic /Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduate or Higher</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>87.7%</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
<td>90.1%</td>
<td>58.1%</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree or Higher</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 38. Educational Attainment by Race*

Poverty and Educational Attainment

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

![Percent of Individuals in Poverty by Educational Attainment](image)

*Figure 24. Percent of Individuals in Poverty by Educational Attainment*

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Student Performance
Fresno County students fare poorly in math performance when compared to the state for grades 3-11\textsuperscript{43}. The following table shows the percent of students for California and for Fresno County that meet or exceed grade-level standards in Mathematics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>California Percent</th>
<th>Fresno County</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
<td>Grade 3</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>Grade 4</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5</td>
<td>30.1%</td>
<td>Grade 5</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 7</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>Grade 7</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 8</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>Grade 8</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| All Grades Tested | 33.8% | All Grades Tested | 19.5% |

\textsuperscript{43} California Dept. of Education, Test Results for California’s Assessments (Feb. 2022).

Figure 25. Median Earnings in the Last 12 Months by Educational Attainment
Student math performance also varies by race which indicates the presence of an achievement gap. According to the data, whites are far more likely to meet or exceed grade level performance standards than Hispanic/Latinos or African American/black children. A disparity is also present for disadvantaged children. According to the data, 16.3% of children that have a socioeconomic disadvantage meet grade-level math standards, compared to 35.7% of their non-socioeconomically disadvantaged peers.\(^43\)

### Children Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Math Standards by Race

![Bar chart showing percentage of children meeting or exceeding grade-level math standards by race in Fresno County.](image)

Figure 26. Student Math Performance by Race/Ethnicity

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021 Student Reading/English Language Arts Performance(^43)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>California</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021 Student Reading/English Language Arts Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Grades Tested</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 40. Reading Performance

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

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

Adult Literacy

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report Area</th>
<th>Population Ages 16-74</th>
<th>Total At or Below Level 1</th>
<th>Lower Credible Interval</th>
<th>Upper Credible Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>675,013</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>28,700,840</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>235,567,157</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 41. Adult Literacy

Educational Attainment of Head Start Families

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The highest level of education obtained by the child’s parent(s)/guardian(s)</th>
<th>Number of families at enrollment</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An advanced degree or baccalaureate degree</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An associate degree, vocational school, or some college</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A high school graduate or GED</td>
<td>992</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school graduate</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 42. Educational Attainment of Head Start Families

Education Key Findings

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

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

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

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

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

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

\(^45\) https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health
Health and Social Services Trends
The pandemic and public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to affect the well-being of people in Fresno County. Over the course of the pandemic, thousands of residents lost jobs and income or faced difficulty meeting their basic needs. These problems affected individuals’ health and increased the need for social services. However, the data illustrated in most public data sources shows a decrease in the need for services. This trend is likely due to closures because of social distancing protocols and re-evaluated funding estimates that did not account for the infusion of pandemic assistance given to families.

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

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

Table 43. SDoH Trends and COVID-19 Impacts

Additionally, the CDC’s Violence Against Children Survey noted the following key messages:

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

---

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

### Adverse Early Childhood Experiences

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

![Adverse Childhood Experiences](image)

*Figure 29. ACEs as A Social Determinant of Health*

---

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.

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

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49 KidsData.org
50 Vera Incarceration Trends. (2022). Fresno. https://trends.vera.org/state/CA?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=statedata&gclid=CjwKCAjw9NeXBhAMEiwAbaY4lLh9DzunzcyzE6Dii8bsFcvPlorYq5Z8-9yP1ZPPy6WeO92Ag2KvksocFwCQAvD_BwE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverse Early Childhood Experiences</th>
<th>Geography, Year</th>
<th>Statistic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abusing Household Member</td>
<td>BRFSS 2022, PIR 2021</td>
<td>16% of adults report excessive drinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Violence</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>7,535 family violence reports in Fresno County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Maltreatment</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>12,749 children were impacted by child maltreatment; The Fresno County rate of abuse is 61.3 (per 1,000) compared to a state rate of 43.5 (per 1,000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 45. Adverse Experiences of Head Start Children

Child Abuse

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

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


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

**Reports of Child Abuse by Age Group**

![Chart showing reports of child abuse by age group for Fresno County.]

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

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54 https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/2/reported-abuse-age/bar#fmt=4&loc=357&tf=110&pdist=7&ch=928,924,926,927,923,925&sort=loc
Figure 31. Reports of Child Abuse by Race

Over time, the Fresno County rate of child abuse per 1,000 children has decreased for children aged 1-2 years and 3-5 years, but has increased for children under 1 year\(^\text{13}\).

Figure 32. Fresno Child Abuse Trends by Age
Thoughts from key stakeholders about the causes of foster care entry: County foster care program staff report that more children in Fresno County are entering the foster care system or being cared for by grandparents in the absence of parents who have been hooked by opioids or methamphetamine. Alcohol use or abuse is also a frequent underlying factor in general neglect.

Incidence of Drug and Alcohol Abuse
The impact of drug and alcohol abuse on children is profound. Compared to their peers, children of substance abusing parents show increased rates of anxiety, depression, oppositional behavior, conduct problems, and aggressive behavior as well as lower rates of self-esteem and social competence.57 Because the younger children are, the more dependent they are on the care of their parents. This makes drug and alcohol abuse the most harmful for the youngest children. According to the County Health Rankings dataset, about 16% of Fresno County adults report excessive drinking and 26% of driving deaths in Fresno County involved alcohol.58 The county fares worse than the state in regard to both of these measures.

Substance abuse trends indicate that for children aged 12-17 years in all regions of the county (West, East and Metro), marijuana is the primary drug of choice. Among the 18–25-year age cohort the primary drug of choice is methamphetamine.59 However, most overdose deaths are due to opioid abuse. In 2020, there were 66 overdose deaths, of which 34 were due to fentanyl and 32 were due to a combination of drugs.60 After a period of decline, the death rate due to opioid overdoses has continued to increase.61 The age-adjusted death rate for all opioid overdoses for Fresno County is 7.0 compared to 13.5 for California.61 Within the Head Start program, there were 11 families that received substance misuse prevention or treatment services.

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59 Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health. (2019). SUD Youth Convening. https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=34780
60 https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument?id=53032
The age-adjusted death rate for drug and opioid overdoses is climbing. According to the data, Fresno County has a rate of 14.0 (per 100,000) for 2020, compared to a rate of 13.2 in 2019\(^1\) and a rate of 13.7 for the State of California for the same time period\(^2\).

![Age-Adjusted Death Rate Due to all Opioid Overdose](image)

**Figure 33. Death Rate Due to Opioid Overdoses**

**Thoughts from key stakeholders about substance abuse:**

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

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

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

**Mental Health**

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

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\(^1\) FCHIP. 2020. Healthy Fresno County Community Dashboard. https://www.healthyfresnocountydata.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=10421&localeId=247&localeFilterId=7&comparisonId=6635

\(^2\) Kaiser Family Foundation. 2022. https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/opioid-overdose-death-rates/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D
explore the environment and learn. The story of children’s mental health in Fresno County is not well supported with data. In Head Start, mental health trends show that 39 children received assistance from a mental health professional during the 2021 school year. Other mental health trends show that mental health continues to be of concern as children grow older and resources are limited. According to the data:

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

Thoughts from key stakeholders about barriers to obtaining mental health care include:
- lack of knowledge about available services,
- lack of English skills,
- difficulties navigating formal systems,
- lack of bilingual/bicultural providers,
- lack of trained clinicians for young children, and
- problems with transportation to services (especially in rural areas).

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality of Life</th>
<th>Fresno</th>
<th>California</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults with.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor or fair health</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor physical health days</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor mental health days</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

64 https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/state/CA
### Health Factors

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

### Socio-economic Factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality of Life</th>
<th>Fresno</th>
<th>California</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income inequality $Equality = 0.0$</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social associations</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent crime # of offenses per 100,000 pop.</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Residents with severe housing problems</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Figure 34. Prevalent Community Health Issues_

### Child Physical Health Status and Health Challenges

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

### Insurance Status of Fresno County Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Insured</th>
<th>Private Coverage</th>
<th>Public Coverage</th>
<th>Uninsured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age Group</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 0-5</td>
<td>98.4%</td>
<td>97.8%</td>
<td>37.3%</td>
<td>56.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 6-18</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
<td>96.5%</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>57.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fresno EOC Community Needs Assessment

### Insurance Status of Fresno County Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age Group</td>
<td>Insured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for Ages 0-18</td>
<td>98.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 46. Insurance Status of Children*

63% of Fresno youth 0-20 yrs. are enrolled in Medicaid & 94% of Head Start children are enrolled in Medicaid

Comparison of Public/Private Insurance Fresno and California Children Ages 0-5 Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insured Private Coverage Ages 0-5 Yrs.</th>
<th>Insured Public Coverage Ages 0-5 yrs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno 37%</td>
<td>California 56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno 67%</td>
<td>California 46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Immunizations

Fresno County residents are also less likely to receive care in a medical home. According to the data, 37% of Fresno residents have a medical home compared to 43% of California residents, as a result, they are less likely to remain in compliance with recommended treatment schedules.
Despite these challenges, Head Start children and in general children in Fresno County maintain a high rate of immunization.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head Start children up-to-date on all immunizations at program end</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno kindergarteners with all required immunizations</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 48. Immunization Status of Children

**Chronic Health Conditions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chronic Health Conditions Among Head Start Children</th>
<th>Number of children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention Deficit Disorder (ADHD)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asthma</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life-threatening Allergies</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing Problems</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision Problems</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 49. Chronic Health Conditions for HS Children

**Thoughts from key stakeholders about child health:**

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

**Dental Health**

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

---

65 Supervising PHN Fresno County Health Department Child Health Disability Program (CHDP), interview, 7/20
### Dental Health Services for Head Start Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of children who received preventive care during the program year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of all children, including those enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, who completed a professional dental examination during the program year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of the children that received a dental exam, the number of children that needed dental treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children with a dental home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 50. Head Start Dental Health Services*

### Children with Disabilities

For preschoolers, there are three programs that serve them by providing disabilities services in accordance with IDEA. This includes Fresno Unified School District, Clovis Unified School District and the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools which serves as the umbrella agency for all other school districts. These programs reported serving 878 children aged 3-5 years (most recent data available)\(^{39}\). For infants and toddlers, the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Fresno Unified School District, and Central Valley Regional Center provide services to approximately 327 infants and toddlers annually\(^{66}\).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Preschool Children Served</th>
<th>Infants and Toddlers Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County Superintendent of Schools</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno Unified School District</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis Unified School District</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Valley Regional Center</td>
<td>327</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>878</strong></td>
<td><strong>432</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 51. Early Childhood Disabilities Services*

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosed Primary Disability</th>
<th>Number of children with this disability</th>
<th>Number of children receiving special services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Impairment</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech or language impairments</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual disabilities</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing impairment, including deafness</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Head Start Children with Disabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosed Primary Disability</th>
<th>Number of children with this disability</th>
<th>Number of children receiving special services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orthopedic impairment</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision impairment, including blindness</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autism</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Disabilities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 52. Primary Disabilities of Head Start Children

### Thoughts from key stakeholders about disabilities service needs:

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

### Maternal and Child Health

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

### Births in Fresno County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Population</th>
<th>&lt;1yr.</th>
<th>1 yr.</th>
<th>2 yrs.</th>
<th>3 yrs.</th>
<th>4 yrs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Children</td>
<td>13,979</td>
<td>14,649</td>
<td>14,104</td>
<td>14,120</td>
<td>14,110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 53. Fresno County Birth Trends

### Births by Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Births</th>
<th>Teen Births</th>
<th>Rate of Teen Birth</th>
<th>% Births to Mothers with a low-income (&lt;200% pov.)</th>
<th>% Births to Mothers with No HS Diploma</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>1,225</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6 (1.7%)</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>90 (17.5%)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>82.9%</td>
<td>No Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>93.9%</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

Table 54. Number of Births by Community

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

#### Fresno County Births by Race/Ethnicity

- **White**: 22%
- **Black/African American**: 6%
- **Asian**: 11%
- **Hispanic/Latina**: 60%

Figure 36. Fresno County Births by Race and Ethnicity
Fresno County Teen Birth Rate by Race/Ethnicity

![Bar chart showing teen birth rates by race/ethnicity.](image)

**Figure 37. Teen Birth Rate by Race and Ethnicity**

Percent of Births to Mothers with a Low-Income <200% Poverty Level

![Bar chart showing percent of births to mothers with low income by city.](image)

**Figure 38. Percent of Births to Mothers with a Low-Income**
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\textsuperscript{13}.
Low Birthweight Infants

Low birthweight is the most significant factor impacting the health of newborns and a significant determinate of post-neonatal mortality. Low birthweight is used to describe babies who are born weighing less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs. 8 oz.). Low birthweight increases the likelihood that infants will develop health issues such as respiratory disorders, neurodevelopmental disabilities, and issues related to future school achievement. Fresno has a rate of infants born with a low birthweight that exceeds the rate for the State of California. There is also a racial disparity present in relation to this indicator of maternal and child health.¹³
Prenatal Care
Prenatal care is the first step to keeping women and their newborns healthy. Babies of mothers who do not get prenatal care are three times more likely to have a low birthweight and five times more likely to die than those born to mothers who do get care. Early diagnosis of many health problems that occur during pregnancy can lead to successful treatment. Doctors can also educate mothers on what they can do to ensure a healthy start in life for their infant. Exposure to maternal stress and toxic substances such as tobacco, drugs, and alcohol can also affect development before a child is born, impacting the child’s academic, social, and physical outcomes throughout their life. Free and low-cost clinics play a critical role in addressing the needs of pregnant women. When compared to the state, Fresno County mothers are accessing prenatal care at a rate slightly below their statewide peers. There is a racial disparity in access to prenatal care for black/African American and Hispanic/Latina women.

![Rate of First Trimester Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity](image)

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

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

---


### Services Received by Pregnant Women Enrolled in EHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>% of Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal health care</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpartum health care</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A professional oral health assessment/examination/treatment</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health interventions and follow-up</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education on fetal development, breastfeeding, nutrition, infant care and safe sleep</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 55. Early Head Start Services Received by Pregnant Women*

### Social Services Used by Head Start Families

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

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

*Table 56. Social Services Used by Head Start Families*
Health and Social Service Resources
Fresno County has an array of health and social service resources. However, in some cases the agencies are overburdened while in other instances they are under-utilized. The following table details local and county initiatives that support families and children.

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

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

Table 57. Health and Social Service Resources in Fresno County

**Health and Social Services Key Findings**

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

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

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

Food Insecurity

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Food Insecure Population, Total</th>
<th>Food Insecurity Rate All Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>973,857</td>
<td>136,340</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>39,585,455</td>
<td>4,354,400</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>325,717,422</td>
<td>41,133,950</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 58. Food Insecurity

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

---

Low-Income and Low-Food Access
Families and individuals with a low-income and low food access are those that live more than ½ mile from the nearest supermarket or grocery store. Data from the 2020 Food Access Research Atlas notes that 11.5% of Fresno’s low-income population fall into this category, totaling 49,776 individuals. This rate is slightly above the state rate of 10.3% of all residents\textsuperscript{71}. 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 nation\textsuperscript{72}.

\textbf{Figure 44. Population with Limited Food Access}

\textbf{Figure 45. Food Desert Census Tracts}

Children Eligible for Free and Reduced-Price Lunch
The service area exceeds the rate of students eligible for free and reduced-priced lunch for the state and the nation.

\textsuperscript{72} 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 the Metro Ministry cooking classes in Fresno, the UC Cooperative Extension CalFresh Nutrition Education Program for families with children age four and above, individuals and seniors up to 185% of FPL and a preschool curriculum program, the West Fresno Family Resource Center; and the County Health Department’s Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention program that targets 2 areas in the city of Fresno, and Parlier, Kerman, Reedley and Sanger.

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

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

Participation in CalFresh by Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>% of Households (HH) receiving CalFresh</th>
<th>% and # of HH with Children Using Cal Fresh</th>
<th>% in HH Using CalFresh with income &lt; poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>3,789</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>2,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Participation in CalFresh by Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>% of Households (HH) receiving CalFresh</th>
<th>% and # of HH with Children Using Cal Fresh</th>
<th>% in HH Using CalFresh with income &lt; poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>1,011</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>1,554</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>1,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>37,165</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>25,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County Total</td>
<td>59,245</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>41,697</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 60. Participation in CalFresh by Community*

### WIC

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

### Use of Supplemental Nutrition Programs by Head Start Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Number of families at enrollment</th>
<th>Number of families at end of enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of families receiving services under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)</td>
<td>2,045 (75%)</td>
<td>1,569 (58%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of families receiving benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)</td>
<td>1,407 (52%)</td>
<td>1,017 (38%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Obesity and Weight Status of Head Start Children

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Status (at Enrollment according to 2000 CDC BMI-for-age growth chart)</th>
<th>% of HS Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Underweight</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Weight</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overweight</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obese</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 62. Weight Status of Head Start Children*
Thoughts from key stakeholders on obesity related issues:
Unfortunately, while local doctors follow guidelines requiring obesity screening, they often do not have time to do much nutrition counseling with the parent and there are not many referral resources.\(^6^5\)

Nutrition Key Findings
Nutritional issues can impact health and child development. Since the 1960s, changes in living standards and relative prices have reduced the average share of income spent on food from 30% to around 10%. At the same time, expenditures on many goods such as housing, utilities, medical care, transportation, and childcare have been increasing. Basic needs other than food are taking up larger shares of household budgets. Low-income households faced with allocating more of their income to the purchase of healthy diets would have to forgo many of the items on which other households currently spend almost 90% of their income.\(^7^5\) Additionally, for many households, achieving a healthy diet will require moving to more nutrient-dense foods, such as fruit and vegetables. The time it takes to prepare foods is also an issue for families and individuals with income constraints.

Nutrition is also influenced by job security. For example, one study with low-wage employed parents described sacrifices and food choice coping strategies that were made in the household. Parents describe behaviors to manage stress such as offering “quick meals” and using food as a treat to deal with stress. Additionally, employment and diet among the poor extends beyond the ability to purchase food because lower wages, work organization, and stress influenced adult eating patterns. A review of 21 studies regarding dietary intake among shift workers suggests that though overall total energy intake over 24 hours does not vary between day and shift workers, eating frequency, quality of the dietary intake, and energy distribution over the day is very different.\(^7^6\)

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

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


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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fresno County Social Vulnerability Index Ratings77</th>
<th>Socio-economic Theme Score</th>
<th>Household Composition Theme Score</th>
<th>Minority Status Theme Score</th>
<th>Housing &amp; Transportation Theme Score</th>
<th>Social Vulnerability Index Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>0.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

77 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Center for Health Statistics, CDC - GRASP. 2018. Source geography: Tract
Fresno County Social Vulnerability Index Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Socio-economic Theme Score</th>
<th>Household Composition Theme Score</th>
<th>Minority Status Theme Score</th>
<th>Housing &amp; Transportation Theme Score</th>
<th>Social Vulnerability Index Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>0.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 63. Social Vulnerability Scores

Social Vulnerability Index by Tract, CDC 2018
- 0.81 - 1.00 (Highest Vulnerability)
- 0.61 - 0.80
- 0.41 - 0.60
- 0.21 - 0.40
- 0.00 - 0.20 (Lowest Vulnerability)

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

Figure 47. Violent Crime Trends
Thoughts from key stakeholders on crime and violence:\textsuperscript{78}
Representatives of most local law enforcement jurisdictions report that there is gang activity in varying degrees throughout the county. Between 55\% and 60\% of all shootings in the City of Fresno involve gang members.

Housing Units
The age of housing indicator shows the median year in which all housing units (vacant and occupied) were first constructed. When used in combination with data from previous years this helps identify new housing construction and measures the disappearance of old housing from the inventory. Housing data also serves to aid in the development of formulas to determine substandard housing and aids in forecasting the need for future services, such as energy consumption and fire protection. According to the data, there are 333,357 housing units in Fresno County\textsuperscript{79}. Most housing was built during the 1970’s which is indicative of the suburban nature of the area and population growth patterns. The ageing housing stock is also associated with substandard conditions, as is farmworker housing which is located in the agricultural areas of the county.

Selected conditions provide information that can be used to assess the quality of the housing inventory. This data is used to identify homes where the quality of living and housing can be considered substandard. The factors include:
1) The percent of homes lacking complete plumbing facilities
2) The percent of homes lacking complete kitchen facilities,
3) The percent of homes with 1.01 or more occupants per room,
4) The cost of living in which gross rent as a percentage of household income is greater than 30\%.

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

\begin{table}
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|c|}
\hline
Location  & Total Houses with 1 or More Substandard Conditions & \% of Houses with 1 or More Substandard Conditions \\
\hline
Fresno & 131,030 & 42.5\% \\
California & 5.6M & 43.4\% \\
United States & 3.8M & 31.4\%. \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Houses with One or More Substandard Conditions}
\end{table}

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

Children’s Exposure to Lead\textsuperscript{80}

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

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

**Vacant Housing Units**

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


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

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

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

Table 65. Median Rental Costs

**Housing Cost Burden**
Nearly 50% of residents in Fresno County and 52% of residents in the City of Fresno are renters, placing them at a greater risk of having a housing cost burden\(^82\). Housing typically comprises the largest share of monthly household expenses. A housing burden creates financial insecurity. Individuals and families experiencing a housing burden often have trouble meeting basic consumption needs, may need to rely on public assistance, and have limited savings/emergency funds. Financial resources which would otherwise be used for food, clothing, medical costs etc. must be allocated to housing costs. The housing burden can be examined in two ways; first by the percent of owners that are spending more than 30% of their income on housing and by the percent of renters that are spending more than 30% of their income on housing. A severe housing burden exists when more than 50% of income is spent on housing. Within the service area, in Orange Cover, the greatest share of the population has a housing cost burden, followed by Riverdale. Fresno is also home to a large population of families and individuals with a housing cost burden.

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\(^{82}\) Evicted in Fresno-Facts for Housing Advocates (2019).
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O_CstpJhWDMioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view
### Housing Cost Burden

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

Table 66. Housing Cost Burden

### Residents with a Housing Cost Burden

Table 67. Residents with a Housing Cost Burden

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

- ![Map Image]

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102
Affordable Housing Units

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percent of Houses that are Affordable for those earning 30% of Annual Median Income (AMI) or Lower</th>
<th>Percent of Houses that are Affordable for those earning 100% of AMI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 68. Affordable Housing Units

Assisted Housing

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

Evictions

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

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84 Fresno Housing Authority (FHA) Quality Assurance Administrator, interview, 5/20
whites is lowest. The rate of eviction in non-majority white neighborhoods is 2.22 compared to a rate of eviction in majority white neighborhoods of 1.58\textsuperscript{85}.

![Neighborhood Eviction Rates](image)

Two months after the state moratorium on evictions ended in June, 2022, the Fresno City Council ended the eviction moratorium that was imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There are still several programs that can assist families such as emergency rental assistance that can pay for back rent accrued during the pandemic. The eviction rate for Fresno is 2.74\% and there were 2,326 evictions in 2016\textsuperscript{86} (most recent data available).

**Thoughts on housing issues from key stakeholders:**
Those who receive vouchers report that it is very hard to find landlords who will accept them, as most landlords prefer tenants who can pay more; local FHA Housing Choice Voucher Program staff report that the housing market in Fresno is “very tight.” Many EHS/Head Start families are waitlisted for vouchers\textsuperscript{87}.

**Homeless Students**
Within Fresno County, there were 2,294 students that were considered to be homeless\textsuperscript{88}.

\textsuperscript{85} Evicted in Fresno-Facts for Housing Advocates. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O_CstpJHwLdmioYao7OZwCk6fku9/view

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

\textsuperscript{87} FHA Housing Choice Voucher staff, interview, 7/20

Figure 51. Homeless students by School District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of Homeless Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>2,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td>763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 69. Homeless Students by School District

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

1) an individual resides in a place not meant for human habitation, such as a car, park, sidewalk, abandoned building, or on the street; or

2) an individual who resides in an emergency shelter or transitional housing for homeless persons who originally came from the streets or emergency shelters.

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

89 https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/Home/Components/News/News/10071557
- 25% of the unsheltered population was chronically homeless;
- Around 11% were children accompanied by an adult;
- Around 79% of people were single adults;
- Around 5% were veterans;
- About 15% were survivors of domestic violence;
- About 50% of those experiencing street homelessness were Hispanic;
- Roughly 60% of the unsheltered individuals who were counted were men; about 39% were women, and around 1% were transgender or gender nonconforming;
- Approximately 19% reported they have a serious mental illness.

**Housing and Homelessness Key Findings**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Preschool Program Slots 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Program</th>
<th>Slots Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>2,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State Preschool and other Alternative Payment Programs</td>
<td>10,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Preschool</td>
<td>2,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Slots Available</td>
<td>15,495</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

Table 72. Public Preschool Reach by Community

---

### Public Preschool System Overview

- **Total 3 & 4 yr. olds**: 28,230
- **Total Slots Universal Access**: 23,995
- **Total Public Preschool Slots**: 15,495
  - **Total 3 & 4 yr. olds in Poverty**: 11,053
  - **Preschool Children in Early Childhood Slots Poverty**
    - 3 yrs.
    - 4 yrs.
    - Head Start
    - FD CSPP
    - TK
  - **Universal TK Target**: 10,954
  - **Poverty Universal TK Target**: 2,750

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109
Transitional Universal Preschool (TK)

According to the California School Board Association, enrollment in Transitional Universal Preschool (TK) totaled 19% of all kindergarten students in Fresno in 2021. Fresno County programs served 2,144 children in TK, which is slightly below 19% of all kindergarten children in 2021. At full implementation of the TK program in 2025-2026, it is anticipated that 85% of all eligible children aged 3 & 4 years will be served in state-funded preschool programs.

There are several concerns that may warrant a change in scope for the Head Start program. This includes:

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publicly Funded Infant/Toddler Program Slots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Head Start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Head Start Child Care Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Tribal/Non Tribal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Visiting Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrant Early Head Start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cal-SAFE Teen Parent Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other alternative payment programs for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>infants/toddlers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 73. Infant and Toddler Program Slots

Public Infant Toddler System Overview

- 2 yrs.
- 1 yrs.
- < 1 yr.

Total Public I/T Slots 2,550

- Other
- Cal Safe
- MSHS
- Home Visiting
- Other EHS
- EHS

Infants and Toddlers 43,106

Early Childhood Slots
Licensed Childcare Slots
The availability of licensed childcare slots in family childcare homes and centers varies by community. Within the county, there are 302 licensed childcare centers and 576 family child care homes. The majority of childcare slots are available in the population centers such as Fresno or Clovis, while the rural areas are underserved or served only by family childcare homes. Of these slots, it is estimated that there are 1,185 licensed childcare spaces available for infants and toddlers and 10,706 licensed childcare spaces available for preschool-aged children.93

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supply of Licensed Childcare Slots93</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Childcare Slots Preschool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Childcare Slots Infant/Toddler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Family Childcare Homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


There are several childcare deserts identified in Fresno County. The following map shows two trends. There is a lack of care in the more rural areas and a lack of affordable childcare slots in the more urban centers.94

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94 https://childcaredeserts.org/
The COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts on Childcare Programs

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>% Families with all Caregivers Working</th>
<th>Total Children 0-3 Years</th>
<th>Total Children 3 &amp; 4 Years</th>
<th>Infant Toddler Slot Need</th>
<th>Preschool Slot Need</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biola</td>
<td>60.3%</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>4,030</td>
<td>4,039</td>
<td>1149</td>
<td>1151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
<td>53.5%</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mendota</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedley</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
<td>1,659</td>
<td>964</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
<td>60.3%</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>69.9%</td>
<td>24,695</td>
<td>17,951</td>
<td>17,262</td>
<td>12,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>43,106</td>
<td>33,193</td>
<td>15,216</td>
<td>11,717</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 75. Work Characteristics of Families*

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

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

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97 Child Care Resource and Referral Network. 2019 Child Care Portfolio.
family budget. The National Center for Children in Poverty estimates that of families that work full-time in California, 51% have a low-income\textsuperscript{98}. This indicates that there is a need for subsidies for 8,368 infants and toddlers and 6,444 preschool-aged children, totaling 14,813 children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Facility</th>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Preschooler</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Center</td>
<td>$13,206</td>
<td>$9,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care Home</td>
<td>$8,930</td>
<td>$8,334</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

**Childcare Subsidies**
Childcare subsidies are utilized by many families to offset the costs of childcare. There are two ways that childcare providers can be paid with a subsidy; by accepting vouchers from families or by contracting directly with the state. In Fresno County, there are 41 programs that offer childcare subsidies or that offer subsidized childcare programs. Supportive Services, Inc. administers the alternative payment program which pays for all or part of the cost for childcare for eligible children aged birth-to-12 years. In FY 2022-2023, Central Valley Children’s Service Network will receive $1,587,158 to administer childcare subsidies for Fresno County. It is estimated about 18,398 children receive a childcare subsidy or attend a subsidized childcare program\textsuperscript{99}. However it should be noted that this includes part-day programs and programs that are closed during the summer months that do not adequately meet families childcare needs. When these slots are extracted, the total number of slots available is estimated to be 8,749 which is much lower than the number of children that can benefit from a childcare subsidy. The estimated slot gap is 6,064 slots.


Childcare Quality
The Fresno County Early Stars rating system is the county’s quality rating improvement system (QRIS) for licensed childcare and education providers offering care to children aged birth-to-five. In 2021, the total number of children served in programs participating in Quality Stars was 8,577, up from 8,195 in 2020. Of the children served, 7,665 were preschoolers, 586 were toddlers, 234 were infants, and 120 were under 1 year. The types of programs that participated included 154 center-based providers, and 40 licensed family child care homes. Of all programs participating 2% are rated at a Tier 3, 57% are rated at Tier 4, 32 are rated at Tier 5, and 24% were not rated as of the report date.¹⁰⁰

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

Early Care and Education Key Findings

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

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

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

¹⁰⁰ https://qualitycountsca.net/ca_county/fresno/?audience=quality-partners
¹⁰¹ Supportive Services, Inc. Education Coordinator, interview, 4/20; and CSN Interim Director, interview, 6/19
ethnic group in Fresno County and many of its communities. While universal access programs do result in benefits for many children, there are unintended consequences that could result from such large evolution of the early care and education system such as loss of access to comprehensive services as families transition into programs that are less intensive than Head Start, uneven per-child funding between federal, state, and community-based early care and education programs, and diminished quality as the most highly skilled teachers leave Head Start and community-based programs for jobs in school-based preschool programs that offer a higher salary. The closures from COVID-19 and capacity limitations will also squeeze revenue from child care providers and result in additional quality issues.

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

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

- The program can gather data about how families make decisions about the types of early care and education programs they utilize. For example, first identify the factors that families consider when they decide the type of program (Head Start, community-based prek, state prek) that they will utilize and, second, what process do they go through to make their early care and education and child care decisions, i.e. what are the most important factors in selecting an early care and education provider?
- Promote Fresno EOC’s participation in the Quality Rating Improvement System and childcare subsidy programs which will open up opportunities for Head Start to expand services to include full-day, full-year childcare and to participate in developing universal early care and education systems that require high quality ratings.
- Advocate for state preschool systems to include a goal to increase workforce participation and mandates to contract out a certain percentage of slots into community-based locations. For example, NY-UPK requires that 10% of slots are allocated to providers other
than a local school system. Also, explore workforce participation for families and non-punitive programs that alleviate the costs of childcare for families by creating models for blending state preschool funds, Head Start, and childcare subsidies. Lastly, Fresno EOCO can mobilize parents to encourage local governance bodies and funders to allocate additional funds to support the massive quality lift that is needed to truly address the disparities in early learning for children in poverty.

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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report Area</th>
<th>Worker 16 and Up</th>
<th>Percent Drive Alone</th>
<th>Percent Carpool</th>
<th>Percent Public Transport</th>
<th>Percent Bicycle or Walk</th>
<th>Percent Taxi or Other</th>
<th>Percent Work at Home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>397,002</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>18M</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>153M</td>
<td>74.9%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 77. Commuter Travel Patterns

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

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

Table 78. Travel Time to Work

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

\textsuperscript{103} Community Action Partnership. \textit{Transportation}. Retrieved from https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/.

Figure 54. Households with No Motor Vehicle

Households with No Vehicle, Percent by Tract, ACS 2016-20
- Over 8.0%
- 6.1 - 8.0%
- 4.1 - 6.0%
- Under 4.1%
County, there has been an expansion of access to digital connectivity due to the focus on linking families to services that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic. Resources for families to utilize internet include the Comcast low-income household program which offers an internet connection to eligible families with children for $9.95 per month and the California Lifeline program which provides a free basic landline or cellphone. There are also training resources to support low-income populations in gaining computer literacy skills. This includes the Fresno County Library’s mobile computer classroom (the “DigiBus”) which visits many rural communities as well as some urban Fresno sites; classes at some FHA housing properties; and classes at the Fresno Dream Center, Catholic Charities, and some school districts. The Employment Development Department and other social service programs also offer access to computers for targeted programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Households with No Computer</th>
<th>% Population with a Broadband Subscription</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 79. Digital Connectivity and Internet Access

Broadband Access:
- 100.0%
- 95.1 - 99.9%
- 90.1 - 95.0%
- 70.1 - 90.0%
- 0.01% - 70.0%

Figure 55. Broadband Access in Fresno County

Transportation and Digital Connectivity Key Findings

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

Needs and Opinions of Head Start Families

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

Parent Reported Needs

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

Figure 56. Percent of Head Start Families Needing Services Related to Family Well-being
Figure 57. Percent of Families Receiving Services to Support Parent-Child Relationships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Provided</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining family routines</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving responses when child misbehaves</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing parenting stress</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding ways to support child’s good behavior</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing family conflict</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting father to join in child’s learning</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Provided</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valuing the role of their child home language in...</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding how their child learns</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding the importance of children’s regular...</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting kindergarten readiness</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouraging creative play at home</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about child’s learning needs/learning...</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities to help child learn at home</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocating for their child</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child reading support</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 59. Percent of Families Needing Services Related to Families as Learners

- Setting educational or career goals: 47%
- Learning to budget: 41%
- Learning English: 39%
- Enrolling in an educational or training program: 37%
- Creating long-term financial goals: 43%

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

- How to help their child deal with stress: 70%
- How to help their child adjust to a new school: 77%
- How changes can impact child's behavior: 80%
- Learning about their child's educational rights: 80%
- Resources about moving their child to the next school: 79%
Percent of Families Needing Services related to Family Connections to Peers and the Community

- Volunteer in the community: 45%
- Volunteer in their child's classroom: 51%
- Meet other parents: 54%
- How to connect with staff members they trust: 69%

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

Percent of Families Needing Services related to Families as Advocates

- Participating in community advocacy: 53%
- Program leadership and advocacy: 50%
- Voting: 40%

Figure 62. Percent of Families Needing Services Related to Families As Advocates
Head Start Staff Profile

Race/Ethnicity of Head Start Staff

- Hispanic (80.42%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (0.7%)
- Black/African American (6.29%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0.35%)
- White (12.24%)

Languages of Head Start Staff

- Spanish (88.24%)
- East Asian (10.59%)
- Other (1.18%)

Head Start Teacher Qualifications

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fresno</th>
<th>California</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No ECE Credential</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDA</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA Degree in ECE/Related Field</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Degree in ECE/Related Field</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Degree in ECE or Related Field</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX I

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS
STRATEGIC GOALS
APPENDIX J

PUBLIC HEARING POWERPOINT PRESENTATION
AGENDA

I. Introduction
II. Community Needs Assessment
III. Addressing Community Needs
IV. Conclusion and Next Steps
V. Public Comment
Public Hearing Guidelines

• Why we are here

• One speaker at a time.

• Please limit comments to three minutes.

• Comments should be related to the presented Community Needs Assessment and Action Plan

• Members of the public attending the meeting remotely will be called on in the order that their request to speak appears in the attendee list.

Who Are We As An Organization


AMERICA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK
The Promise of Community Action

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.

Our Mission
We fight to end poverty.

Our Vision
A strong Fresno County where people have resources to shape their future free from poverty.

We Value
Working together to accelerate change.
Centering our work around equity and inclusion.
Trustworthiness and transparency.
The community's voice and direction.
Empathy, compassion, and the human connection.
Community Needs Assessment

- Guide and solidify agency direction
- Establish program goals and long-term objectives
- Identify and address changing priorities

Poverty in Fresno County

Health and Wellness

Childhood experiences as social determinants of health
The ACE Process

Growing up in a household with adverse childhood experiences...
- Poverty
- Recurrent physical abuse
- Recurrent emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- An alcohol or drug abusing household member
- An incarcerated household member
- Household member who is chronically depressed, suicidal, institutionalized or mentally ill
- Parent or guardian having mental health issues or untreated
- Living with one or neither parent

...Adoption of health risk behaviors...
- Smoking
- Overeating
- Physical inactivity
- Heavy alcohol use
- Drug use
- Promiscuity

...Disease, disability and social problems in adulthood
- Nicotine addiction
- Alcoholism
- Overweight
- Obesity
- Chronic lung and liver disease
- Heart disease
- Cancer
- Drug addiction
- Depression
- Stroke
- Unintentional pregnancy
- Diabetes
- Suicide
- Injuries
- Sexually transmitted diseases

Food Insecurity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Food Insecure Pops</th>
<th>Food Insecurity Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>973,857</td>
<td>136,340</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>39,585,455</td>
<td>4,354,400</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>325,717,422</td>
<td>41,133,950</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Darker color indicates higher level of food insecurity

While it is difficult to estimate due to lack of data on the number of families that receive SNAP with children under five years, based on the percentage of families with children under 18 years that receive CAL Fresh (41,697) in Fresno County, the number of children eligible for Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) increases dramatically.
Educational Achievement


Community Safety

Vera Incarceration Trends (2022): https://trends.vera.org/state/CA?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=statedata&gclid=CjwKCAjw9NeXBhAMEiwAbaY4lpJY1dHsuncy66dx8bsf3xPLorYq5Z8f5yp12Py6Ww002z2hX1kscCFWoc0xg49v_eBwE

Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Five Year Unemployment Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent of Population in Poverty by Work Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Working FT</th>
<th>Working PT</th>
<th>Not Working</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno City</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Housing Insecurity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Cost Burden*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Cove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverdale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 37.9% | 40.1% | 30.3% |
| Fresno County | California | United States |

Evicted in Fresno (Facts for Housing Advocates (2019). https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w2O__CstpJHwLDmioYao7OZwCk6fKpu9/view

### Needs Communicated by Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dealing with emotional issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealing with/preventing substance abuse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding a better place to live</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding or keeping a job</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtaining Clothing for family</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtaining food</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting out of an unsafe place</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaching family goals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtaining Dental Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtaining Health Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Strategic Goals

The principles that influence our decision-making and program strategies.

- Advocacy
- Community-Directed Programs and Services
- Holistic Support
- Equity-Based Practices
Community Action Plan

• What programs do we provide to address needs?

• What are the goals and expected outcomes of each service area?

• How will we know that we are having an impact?

Health and Wellness

- Increased accessibility of programs and services
- Improved referral and intake systems.
- Increased community outreach and engagement

- Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP)
- California Personal Responsibility Education Program (CAPREP)
- Community Health Center
- Dental Care Oral Health Outreach and Educational Services
- GLOW Group Prenatal Care & Support
- Health Education and Recruitment Transportation Team (HEARTT)
- Home Visitation Services
- Rural Tobacco Education Program
- School-Based Sealant Program
- Tattoo Removal Clinic
**Food Insecurity**

- Meet immediate food accessibility needs
- Increase food access, particularly in rural communities
- Support improved health through the provision of nutritious food and education

**Employment Opportunities**

- Improve job readiness
- Increase job prospects through training and certification
- Increase rate of employment through job placement

- Food Distribution
- Food Services Home Delivery
- Free Summer & Winter Meals for Kids: Food Express Bus
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

- Local Conservation Corps (LCC)
- Summer Youth Internship Program
- Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC)
- Workforce Connection Young Adult Program
Housing Insecurity

- Addressing short-term, immediate housing needs
- Improving home conditions to prevent displacement as a result of disrepair
- Decrease energy burden
- Decrease home energy costs

- Bridge Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Sanctuary Transitional Shelter
- LIHEAP Utility Assistance
- LIHWAP Utility Assistance
- Weatherization and Free Home Solar

Educational Achievement

- Increased high school graduation rate
- Improved educational achievement
- Improved preparedness for further education

- Head Start 0 to 5 Early Care & Education
- School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL)
- YouthBuild Charter High School of California
Community Safety

- Create community spaces of safety
- Encourage and develop positive community relationships.
- Increase community safety through violence reduction

- Advance Peace Fresno
- LGBTQ+ Resource Center
- Central Valley Against Human Trafficking
- Foster Grandparent Program
- Pops 2.0 Parenting Skills
- Transit Systems
- Safe Place

Public Comment
Public Comments

Public Comment Period open until June 15, 2023

https://fresnoeoc.org/community-action-plan/

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission

THANK YOU!
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee approval for full Board consideration of the Reduction of Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Fresno County Community Colleges grant application to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for a three-year award, for a total amount of $937,970.

Background

Health Services currently implements Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) testing and treatment, as well as free transportation for students needing to visit the clinic. These services will be expanded to community college students and will be accompanied by outreach on State Center Community College District (SCCCD) campuses. This award will allow Health Services to conduct rapid STD testing and follow-up treatment for community college students.

Fiscal Impact

The proposed budget is for $324,604 in year one, $324,367 in year two, and $325,000 in year three, for a total of $937,970.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$147,789</td>
<td>$150,574</td>
<td>$149,133</td>
<td>$447,496</td>
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<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>$53,259</td>
<td>$54,916</td>
<td>$56,995</td>
<td>$165,170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$6,688</td>
<td>$2,141</td>
<td>$1,737</td>
<td>$10,566</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$25,440</td>
<td>$25,224</td>
<td>$25,368</td>
<td>$76,032</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>$23,518</td>
<td>$23,486</td>
<td>$23,523</td>
<td>$70,526</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCSF</td>
<td>$65,910</td>
<td>$66,026</td>
<td>$66,244</td>
<td>$198,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$324,604</td>
<td>$324,367</td>
<td>$325,000</td>
<td>$973,970</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion

The funds will allow Health Services to employ two health educators who will test for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and treat positive community college students.

If approved by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee approval for full Board consideration to negotiate with AMOR Wellness Center to operate a satellite location of the Fresno EOC Community Health Center.

Background

Staff proposes the Health Center to offer health care services focusing on family planning and reproductive health, school sports and physical screenings to all insured, underinsured and uninsured individuals, and programs to support healthy lifestyles and to prevent chronic care conditions. A sliding fee rate based on Federal Poverty Level Income for patients who do not meet insurance requirements will be available. We will also provide prenatal care to pregnant women.

Fresno EOC Community Health Center is excited this opportunity to expand our reach and bring our high-quality services to Mendota, a high need area.

The rural cities of Mendota and Firebaugh include many families from migrant farm worker communities. This population is vastly underserved and highly vulnerable to various health risks including housing instability, insurance status, and limited access to health services. In addition, many families are first-generation immigrants from Central America and Yemen who arrived in the area in the last 10 plus years. Community partners who have worked with the parents and school sites have observed the immigrant population have a higher risk of adolescent pregnancies, STIs, abuse, and drug usage. High poverty rates and an influx of gang activity in these communities may contribute to these elevated outcomes.

The Mendota Unified School District serves 3,543 students in grades K-12, nearly all of whom are socioeconomically disadvantaged. Most students (98%) are eligible for free/reduced-price meals (Education Partnership 2020). The district has a predominantly Latino Student Body and 63% are English language learners who primarily speak Spanish at home. Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified School District serves a community similar to Mendota, serving 2,240 students in grades K-12, with 91% eligible for free/reduced-price meals. As in Mendota, most students are Latino, with 39% being English language learners (Education Data Partnership 2020).
Although sexual health and other social services exist for youth in Fresno County, access is much more limited in the rural communities of Mendota and Firebaugh.

### Fiscal Impact

The center budget is projected at $1,000,000 per year to serve Mendota and neighboring areas. Fresno EOC will propose in the negotiations an in-kind contribution to cover 20% of the annual operating costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Year 1 (4 mos.)</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Assumptions from Health Plans and Tenant</td>
<td>$228,713</td>
<td>$1,057,331</td>
<td>$1,185,016</td>
<td>$1,208,686</td>
<td>$1,232,830</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Wages:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Director</td>
<td>$560,011</td>
<td>$570,731</td>
<td>$581,665</td>
<td>$592,818</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physician PT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Practitioner FTE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Assistants (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinic Manager - 50%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reimbursement Staff - 25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>$122,514</td>
<td>$124,964</td>
<td>$130,722</td>
<td>$136,661</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Expense</td>
<td>$231,000</td>
<td>$231,000</td>
<td>$231,000</td>
<td>$231,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Equipment Supplies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinic Furniture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptops/desktops</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Materials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Clinic Space $165,000/yr</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitorial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing Fees incl Centricity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alarm System Security</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Wifi Internet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Supplies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Start Up Cost</td>
<td>$537,694</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Cost</td>
<td>$91,353</td>
<td>$92,670</td>
<td>$94,338</td>
<td>$96,047</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$537,694</td>
<td>$1,004,878</td>
<td>$1,019,365</td>
<td>$1,037,725</td>
<td>$1,056,526</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profit and Loss</td>
<td>(-$308,981)</td>
<td>$52,453</td>
<td>$165,651</td>
<td>$170,961</td>
<td>$176,304</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Conclusion
If approved by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee approval for full Board consideration of the grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), The Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) for Domestic Victims of Human Trafficking Services and Outreach (DVHT-SO) Program to provide case management services and increase outreach efforts, in the amount of $1,500,000 for a 60-month project period ($300,000 annually), to meet the application deadline of June 30, 2023.

Background

The DVHT-SO Program's goal is to directly fund organizations that will build, expand, and sustain organizational and community capacity to deliver services to domestic adults and minors who have experienced a severe form of human trafficking as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended, through the provision of direct services, assistance, and referrals.

As required by this funding, Sanctuary and Support Services is committed to continue providing comprehensive case management to individuals who have experienced sex and labor trafficking and conducting outreach activities to identify victims of human trafficking. The DVHT-SO Program will provide services to clients and their immediate families members living in their household. This funding does give organizations a 12-month project implementation period for to facilitate optional partnerships, on-board new staff, and develop service protocols specific to domestic individuals who have experienced human trafficking.

Funding for this project will support comprehensive case management services and increase capacity for outreach efforts.
Fiscal Impact

OTIP anticipates awarding five (5) organizations up to $1,500,000 for a 60-month project period ($300,000 annually). A non-federal match of 25% is required. The 60-month project begins October 1, 2023.

Conclusion

If approved by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission Meeting.
## Fresno EOC - Sanctuary and Support Services

### Central Valley Against Human Trafficking

### Domestic Victims of Human Trafficking Services and Outreach (DVHT-SO) Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2023 Budget Period</th>
<th>10/1/2023 - 9/30/2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Personnel
- Sanctuary Director - .08 FTE  
- Central Valley Against Human Trafficking Manager - .15 FTE  
- Anti-Human Trafficking Case Manager/Advocate - 1 FTE  
- Human Trafficking Outreach Coordinator - 1 FTE  
- Program Assistant - 0.05 FTE  
- CVAHT Office Assistant - 0.15 FTE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personnel</th>
<th>$ 136,532</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Fringe Benefits
- $ 62,351

### Supplies
- $ 2,400

### Office/Computer Supplies/Lease copier
- $ 2,400

### Other
- $ 71,444

#### Facility Rental & Utilities
- $ 10,800

#### Rental Vehicle
- $ 10,200

#### Fuel/Mileage Reimb.
- $ 3,600

#### Liability Insurance/Auto
- $ 960

#### Emergency Food
- $ 2,400

#### Emergency Clothing
- $ 2,400

#### Client Transportation
- $ 1,800

#### Client Health Care Assistance
- $ 3,400

#### Emergency Shelter
- $ 7,275

#### Telephones/Mobile Phones
- $ 3,600

#### Printing/Advertisement
- $ 2,379

#### Staff Training
- $ 500

#### Staff Clearance
- $ 130

#### Emergency Financial Assistance
- $ 22,000

### Total Direct Charges
- $ 272,727

### Indirect Charges
- $ 27,273

### Indirect Cost 10%
- $ 27,273

### TOTALS
- $ 300,000
PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: June 26, 2023
Program: Sanctuary and Support Services

Agenda Item #: 6B
Director: Misty Gattie-Blanco

Subject: Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign
Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee ratification for full Board consideration of the grant application submitted on June 6, 2023, to The Center at Sierra Health Foundation for Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign in the amount of $500,000 for 24-months.

Background

The Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign was established to implement a data-driven, targeted, community-based youth suicide prevention media campaign alongside community-level suicide prevention projects. The media campaign will be developed by a media agency in coordination with the community-based organizations (CBOs) funded through this funding opportunity. Co-designing suicide prevention campaigns with young people can increase the engagement and usefulness of these youth interventions.

This program will serve youth and practice ongoing youth engagement in leadership development, social-emotional support systems, mental health, and/or peer mentoring, specifically in communities disproportionately impacted by youth suicide; prioritize public health solutions that focus on evidence-based strategies to prevent suicide, including working with or employing youth to co-create and disseminate outreach and prevention materials; develop, support, or expand culturally and linguistically appropriate suicide prevention strategies and messaging that are trauma-informed and focused on youth populations disproportionately impacted by suicide; utilize an intersectional approach to health equity through efforts to address suicide and/or mental health risk and protective factors; work in coordination and collaboration with other health and youth-serving agencies/organizations at the local and state level.

In California, the suicide rate is 8.7/100K and in Fresno County it is 10.3/100K among youth, ages 15 to 24 (Population Estimates and Projections; CDC Wonder Online
Database, Underlying Cause of Death, April 2022). The Trevor Project reported that 41% of young people that identify as LGBTQ considered attempting suicide in the past year.

Funding for this project will support program personnel, operational costs, and help develop youth leaders and increase outreach efforts.

**Fiscal Impact**

Funding will be awarded to 34 organizations (of which at least two will be made to tribes/tribal organizations) for an estimated total of up to $10,300,000 available funding. The anticipated award date is August 31, 2023. Sanctuary and Support Services intends to partner with Integral Community Solutions Institute (ICSI) for $60,000 annually to provide mental health services for clients onsite. If awarded, the anticipated project start date is September 30, 2023, for up to five years.

**Conclusion**

If ratified by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission Meeting.
# Fresno EOC - Sanctuary and Support Services
## LGBTQ+ Resource Center
### The Center at Sierra Health Foundation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2023 Budget Period</th>
<th>FY 2024 Budget Period</th>
<th>TOTAL Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>07/17/2023 - 06/30/2024</td>
<td>07/1/2024 - 06/30/2025</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Direct Charges</strong></td>
<td>$220,783</td>
<td>$233,762</td>
<td>$454,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indirect Charges</strong></td>
<td>$22,078</td>
<td>$23,376</td>
<td>$45,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indirect Cost 10%</strong></td>
<td>$22,078</td>
<td>$23,376</td>
<td>$45,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>$242,861</td>
<td>$257,138</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Personnel
- Sanctuary Director - .01 FTE
- LGBTQ+ Resource Manager - .45 FTE
- Community Outreach Educator - 2 FTE
- Program Assistant - 0.10 FTE

### Fringe Benefits
- $40,844
- $45,964
- $86,808

### Other Expenses
- Office Supplies $3,000
- Printing/Duplicating/Advertising $500
- Food $3,000
- Equipment (Leased copier & Computer supplies) $2,520
- Rent/Utilities $12,000
- Travel $1,965
- Incentives $7,200
- Youth Listening Sessions (minimum 1 year) $2,003
- In-Person Convening (two total) $503
- Insurance $720
- Telephone/Internet $3,600
- Staff Clearance $270
- Staff Training $82
- Program Supplies $3,000

### Total Direct Charges
- $220,783
- $233,762
- $454,545

### Indirect Charges
- $22,078
- $23,376
- $45,455

### Indirect Cost 10%
- $22,078
- $23,376
- $45,455

### TOTALS
- $242,861
- $257,138
- $500,000
PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: June 26, 2023
Program: Sanctuary and Support Services

Agenda Item #: 6C
Director: Misty Gattie-Blanco

Subject: Sisters of the Presentation
Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee ratification for full Board consideration of the grant application submitted on June 23, 2023, to CommonSpirit Health Foundation for the Sisters of the Presentation Grant to increase community engagement and increase trauma response assistance to victims of human trafficking, in the amount of $25,000 for a 12-month period.

Background

In partnership with CommonSpirit Health Foundation, a new community grants program, funded by Sisters of the Presentation, is being offered to support the critical work of community-based organizations located in California as well as areas impacted by Sisters of the Presentation. This partnership was made possible through the alignment of both organizations’ missions in creating a community grants program that aims to improve the overall health and well-being of people, especially those who are vulnerable, while advancing social justice for all. Based on priorities established by the Sisters, CommonSpirit Health Foundation will provide the program and administrative support to implement the grants program.

Funding for this program will support direct service delivery including therapy sessions for clients and emergency shelter (hotel vouchers). Funding will also support community engagement increasing outreach materials and efforts to community members regarding identification of human trafficking victims.

Fiscal Impact

Awards will range from $10,000 to $25,000 for a 12-month period. The anticipated award notice should be sent by September 1, 2023. Fresno EOC will partner with Family Healing Center to ensure clients have access to therapy who has continuously partnered with CVAHT to meet the service strategy deliverables.

Conclusion

If approved by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission Meeting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Category</th>
<th>Proposal Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program Cost</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Materials</td>
<td>$ 5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach staff mileage</td>
<td>1,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Shelter (Avg. $97 a night x 16 nights x 5 clients)</td>
<td>7,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Therapy Sessions (Partnership with Family Healing Center)</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Admin</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Costs - 10%</td>
<td>2,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Costs</strong></td>
<td>$ 25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: June 26, 2023

Program: Sanctuary and Support Services

Agenda Item #: 6D

Director: Misty Gattie-Blanco

Subject: Project HOPE Bridge Housing Update

Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Background

The information presented is intended to keep the Board apprised of the eight (8) rooms for Project HOPE Bridge Housing located at N Street, funded by the City of Fresno and Fresno City College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2023 Month</th>
<th>No. of Households* Entered Project</th>
<th>No. of Individuals Entered Project</th>
<th>No. of Households*Exited Project</th>
<th>No. of Individuals Exiteced Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4 2 4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4 5 2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 1 2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0 3 2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Households can include a single individual adult; more than one adult; and/or adults with children.
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee ratification for full Board approval of the Trolley Bus Service proposal to the City of Fresno, in the amount of up to $2,071,120 over a one-year period, submitted on June 9, 2023.

Background

Transit Systems proposes to provide reliable, effective, and efficient trolley fixed route transit service within the City of Fresno. Our personnel will be responsible for the daily operation and management of the services on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m., except for two holidays, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

We will provide trolley services on a fixed route with designated stops along the route at South Stadium, Brewery District, Cultural Arts District, Tower District, Fresno City College, and Campus Pointe/Fresno State.

The City of Fresno shall provide up to three vehicles (two service vehicles and one spare) and pay for fuel and maintenance of all three trolley vehicles and perform overall marketing of the services.

Fiscal Impact

The contract shall be in effect for two (2) years from the date of Notice to Proceed, with five (5) one-year optional extensions.

For the initial first year of the contract, pricing will be fixed at the proposal pricing. For years two (2) through seven (7), the rates of compensation for operations shall be negotiated between both parties.

Conclusion

If ratified by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee acceptance for full Board consideration of the 2022 Department of Energy (DOE), Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Agreement Number 22C-6004, Amendment 1 to $1,527,743. Amendment 1 reflects an increase of $1,216,496, changing the maximum amount of the Agreement from $311,247 to $1,527,743.

Background

The Board approved the 2022 WAP Agreement at the August 24, 2022, meeting, Agenda Item 14-D5.

The Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) notified Fresno EOC of the additional 2022 WAP grant funds to Local Service Providers (LSP’s). Since we have an existing 2022 DOE WAP contract, we will also receive the 2023 DOE WAP allocation as an amendment to our 2022 DOE WAP contract. The amendment includes a time extension through June 30, 2024, the additional 2023 allocation, and updated 2023 DOE WAP contract terms.

Fiscal Impact

The following contract items represent significant changes included in this 2022 DOE contract amendment:

- The Maximum Average Reimbursement per Unit (MARU) is now referenced as Contractor Average Cost Per Unit (ACPU). The definition of Contractor ACPU and the formula used to calculate it has been added to the definitions section in the amended contract.
- LSPs are required to report expenditures monthly and submit all final annual reports and adjustments no later than June 1st of each year. CSD will use the
final expenditures reported by June 1st of each year to meet federal fiscal end-of-year reporting requirements and to determine carryover funds.

- Expenditures reported no later than June 1, 2023, cannot exceed the Contractor ACPU (formally referred to as MARU) of $8,009 for the 2022 DOE WAP Program Year.
- Expenditures reported no later than June 1, 2024, cannot exceed the Contractor ACPU of $8,250 for the 2023 DOE WAP Program Year.
- Expenditures that exceed the maximum Contractor ACPU in any DOE contract fiscal year-end period reported as of June 1st will be disallowed.
- Working Capital Advances are to be liquidated by June 1st. Any remaining balance shall be returned to CSD.
- The Training Policies and Procedures Manual (TPPM) released through CPN-E-20-23 on April 21, 2023, is incorporated by reference during this amendment.
- Article 9: Training, Licensing, and Certifications has been revised to align with the DOE WAP requirements, and outdated language has been removed.

**Conclusion**

The additional funding will allow for uninterrupted DOE WAP services and 90 additional homes will receive relief from expensive home repairs, energy efficient measures and appliance replacements.

If accepted by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Committee meeting.
## ALLOCATION SPREADSHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Contract Number</th>
<th>Total Allocation</th>
<th>Allowable Admin</th>
<th>Allowable T&amp;TA</th>
<th>Allowable WRF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAA of Butte County, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6001</td>
<td>359,689</td>
<td>31,636</td>
<td>40,593</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn County Community Action Department</td>
<td>22C-6002</td>
<td>85,000</td>
<td>7,711</td>
<td>7,180</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contra Costa Employment &amp; Human Services Dept/CSB</td>
<td>22C-6003</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>11,339</td>
<td>10,559</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission</td>
<td>22C-6004</td>
<td>1,527,743</td>
<td>132,235</td>
<td>192,934</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campesinos Unidos, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6005</td>
<td>515,273</td>
<td>45,153</td>
<td>39,087</td>
<td>169,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings Community Action Organization, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6006</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>21,884</td>
<td>29,277</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maravilla Foundation</td>
<td>22C-6007</td>
<td>1,184,044</td>
<td>104,344</td>
<td>126,018</td>
<td>59,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment</td>
<td>22C-6008</td>
<td>801,496</td>
<td>71,197</td>
<td>76,952</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merced County CAA</td>
<td>22C-6009</td>
<td>2,141,051</td>
<td>190,646</td>
<td>203,106</td>
<td>124,148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Action Partnership of Orange County</td>
<td>22C-6010</td>
<td>752,491</td>
<td>65,741</td>
<td>78,108</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Resource Project, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6011</td>
<td>2,731,145</td>
<td>240,228</td>
<td>259,448</td>
<td>369,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino Co.</td>
<td>22C-6012</td>
<td>432,151</td>
<td>37,974</td>
<td>49,133</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee</td>
<td>22C-6013</td>
<td>691,705</td>
<td>60,733</td>
<td>79,125</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Joaquin Co. Dept. of Aging &amp; Community Services</td>
<td>22C-6014</td>
<td>448,997</td>
<td>39,671</td>
<td>48,807</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo Co., Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6015</td>
<td>337,993</td>
<td>29,682</td>
<td>30,966</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Coast Energy Services, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6016</td>
<td>1,837,537</td>
<td>160,602</td>
<td>191,451</td>
<td>209,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Help Home Improvement Project, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6017</td>
<td>157,566</td>
<td>13,724</td>
<td>12,217</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Valley Opportunity Center, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6018</td>
<td>743,993</td>
<td>65,579</td>
<td>79,696</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redwood CAA</td>
<td>22C-6019</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>4,271</td>
<td>6,943</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach Community Action Partnership</td>
<td>22C-6020</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>25,626</td>
<td>34,717</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Action Partnership of Riverside County</td>
<td>22C-6021</td>
<td>220,809</td>
<td>18,862</td>
<td>30,664</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Northern Services</td>
<td>22C-6022</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>2,136</td>
<td>3,472</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services &amp; Employment Training, Inc.</td>
<td>22C-6023</td>
<td>160,000</td>
<td>13,667</td>
<td>22,219</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

|               | 15,878,683 | 1,394,641 | 1,652,672 | 1,280,838 |

April 14, 2023
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee acceptance for full Board consideration of the State Center Community College District (SCCCD) Pre-Apprenticeship Training Agreement, Amendment 1 to $410,000. This Amendment reflects an increase of $150,000, changing the amount of this Agreement from $260,000 to $410,000.

Background

The Board approved the SCCCD Pre-Apprenticeship Training Agreement at the June 23, 2021, meeting, Agenda Item 14-A7.

Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC) was awarded in 2021 to provide pre-apprentice services which includes up to nine nationally recognized industry specific certifications. SCCCD will provide additional funds to extend the current contract out to November 30, 2023. This will end the current cycle of the James Irvine Foundation funds that SCCCD uses to fund programs in the community.

Fiscal Impact

The current contract expired on April 30, 2023. The Amendment reflects an increase of $150,000 over a seven month period ending November 30, 2023.

Conclusion

If accepted by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting

Date: June 26, 2023

Program: Training & Employment

Agenda Item #: 9B

Director: Patrick Turner

Subject: One Fresno Youth Job Corps Program Worksites

Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee ratification for full Board consideration of the One Fresno Youth Job Corps Program Worksites grant application to the City of Fresno, in the amount of $300,000, submitted on June 13, 2023.

Background

The City of Fresno Youth Job Corps Program is seeking agencies that provide youth workforce development programming, including wages for participants. If awarded, Training and Employment will employ youth referred by the city and place within Fresno EOC.

Fiscal Impact

The proposed budget is $300,000 for six months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>6-month term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages for Fellows</td>
<td>$253,332.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$19,395.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Cost</td>
<td>$27,273.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$300,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Wages equal 18 fellows at $18 per hr. for 960 hrs. per fellow plus taxes. This wage was requested by the City of Fresno.*

Conclusion

This funding will allow 18 youth ages, 16 to 30 to be placed at Fresno EOC according to their career interest, over a six-month term.

If ratified by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee ratification for full Board consideration of the Local Conservation Corps continued participation in the Central Valley Forestry Corps, a grant operated by the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board (FR WIB). FR WIB is seeking an extension of the grant through February 28, 2024, upon the approval of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Agency.

Background

The Central Valley Forestry Corps (CVFC), developed by the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB), is a best-practice model to recruit, train, provide work experience, and link residents to quality entry-level jobs in the forestry sector.

Through a partnership with Reedley College, the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission’s Local Conservation Corps (Fresno EOC LCC), Mother Lode Job Training, Columbia College, Sierra Resource Management, and Associated California Loggers, the program seeks to continue and expand this best practice model to provide valuable forestry training to residents in Fresno County and up to the Mother Lode region in Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, and Tuolumne counties.

The need for a well-equipped workforce to manage, suppress, or sustain fuels in this region is vital. The CVFC and CVFC – Mother Lode will train, equip, and empower the next generation of forestry and fuels management workers to help mitigate the growing concerns around wildland fire behavior and maintain the ongoing need for fuels management.

Under this grant, Fresno EOC LCC commits to the following:

- Program outreach and recruitment
- Supervision of program participants in Phase One and Phase Three of the CVFC program in Fresno County
• Industry-based training and certificates, including safety and tools training.
• Employer of Record services during Phase Three work experience
• Collaboration with FRWDB and partners for the duration of the program

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

**Fiscal Impact**

Operational funding will assist with salaries for several LCC staff members and facilities operations, including:

- Director
- Assistant Director
- Administrative and Operations Manager
- Two (2) Crew Supervisors
- Transitional Support Advisor

**Conclusion**

This grant will train community members in an industry of need and aligns with the agency’s goals of assisting low-income individuals to become self-sufficient.

If ratified by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee acceptance for full Board consideration of the Title III-C2, Home Delivered Meals for Fresno and Madera Counties Agreement Number 21695, Amendment 3 to $2,913,588. This Amendment reflects an increase of $550,000, changing the maximum amount of this agreement from $2,363,588 to $2,913,588.

Background

The Board approved the Title III-C2, Home Delivered Meals for Fresno and Madera Counties agreement at the August 24, 2022, meeting, Agenda Item 14-F7.

The Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA) notified Fresno EOC of the additional funding for the 2022-2023 Home Delivered Meals, due to increased funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Fiscal Impact

The increase in funding will generate an additional $550,000 annually for the 2022-2023 contract year beginning in July 1, 2023.

Conclusion

The additional funding will allow Food Services to provide approximately 62,358 additional meals to clients in Fresno and Madera County service area, who are unable to leave their home to purchase or prepare their own food, and who might otherwise not receive the proper nutrition during this post-pandemic transition.

If accepted by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee acceptance for full Board consideration of the Title III C1 COVID-19 Emergency Meals Program Contract Number 23-0095, Amendment 2 to $1,355,296. This Amendment reflects an increase of $300,000, changing the maximum amount of this agreement from $1,055,296 to $1,355,296.

Background

The Board approved the Title III C1 COVID-19 Emergency Meals Program Agreement at the August 24, 2022, meeting, Agenda Item 14 F7.

The Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA) notified Fresno EOC of the additional funding for the 2022-2023 Emergency Meals Program, due to increased funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Fiscal Impact

The increase in funding will generate an additional $300,000 for the 2022-2023 contract year beginning July 1, 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>FMAAA C19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Staffing Expenses</td>
<td>588,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>503,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Match (In Kind)</td>
<td>84,620</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Personnel Expenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal Cost</td>
<td>759,463</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>162,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>231,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>117,583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,355,296</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

The additional funding will allow Food Services to provide more meals to FMAAA clients who are still unable to visit sites in person.

If accepted by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: June 26, 2023  
Program: Food Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item #: 11C</th>
<th>Director: Jon Escobar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject: Lighthouse Student Meal Services Agreement</td>
<td>Officer: Jack Lazzarini</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee ratification for full Board approval to enter into a contract agreement with The Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) to provide daily student meals in the amount of $196,939.

Background

In May, Food Services was awarded to provide daily student meals to the Lighthouse for Children Child Development Center. As of June 1, 2023, students ages one to five have been receiving a total of three daily meals, including breakfast, lunch, and snack. The meals provided comply with the nutrition standards established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), meeting all state and federal nutrition and meal pattern requirements, to qualify for FCSS reimbursement.

This agreement is effective June 1, 2023, to May 30, 2024. FCSS may extend the initial contract term for a one-year period, up to two one-year periods.

Fiscal Impact

This agreement will provide an estimated revenue of $212,428 for the 2023-2024 contract year.

Conclusion

This funding will allow Food Services to provide daily meals for up to 96 students, served Monday through Friday, except Holidays.

If ratified by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Background

The information presented is intended to keep the Board appraised of the Summer Food Service Program.

Since 1991, Fresno EOC Food Services has been administering the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program. Last summer, 11,000 meals were served to children and youth ages one to eighteen years old at 46 unique locations in Fresno County.

This year the Summer Food Service Program will begin on June 12, 2022, and continue through August 11, 2022. Food Services has been approved to serve 445 sites, to ensure maximum reach and accessibility, we will also deploy our vibrant Food Express Buses to five rural locations and five locations within the City of Fresno.

A complete and up to date list of Urban and Rural site locations can be found on the Fresno EOC website including addresses and times when meals will be served. It will be updated on a regular basis and can be found at www.fresnoeoc.org/food-services/.

The program is incredibly important for our children and youth. According to California Food Policy Advocates, 2019 data, 111,000 kids residing in Fresno County are food insecure. When school is not in session, these children miss out on access to nutritious meals that combat hunger, food insecurity, and help prevent obesity.
JOIN US FOR FREE MEALS

JUNE 12 - AUGUST 11!
NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

Healthy Meals for Kids ages 1-18
CDE Guidelines are to be followed

All Participants must eat on bus

Lions Skate Park
2689 W Rialto Ave., 93705
9:45 am – 10:45 am

Franciscan Estates
2317 S. Chestnut Ave., 93725
2:05 pm – 3:05 pm

The New Manchester
1901 E. Shields Ave., 93726
11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Friends of Calwa
3980 E. Jensen Ave., 93725
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm

Parc Grove Commons
2674 E. Clinton Ave., 93703
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm

(559) 266-3663 | This institution is an equal opportunity provider | To donate, or for more information, scan the above QR code or visit us at fresnoeoc.org/foodservices
JOIN US FOR FREE MEALS
JUNE 12 - AUGUST 4!
NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

Healthy Meals for Kids ages 1-18
CDE Guidelines are to be followed

All Participants must eat on bus

Biola
4925 N. 7th Ave., 93606
9:30 am – 10:15 am

Firebaugh
1601 Thomas Conboy Ave, 93622
10:51 am – 11:36 am

Mendota
121 W. Belmont Avenue, 93640
11:51 am – 12:36 pm

San Joaquin
22058 Railroad St, 93660
1:29 pm – 2:14 pm

Del Rey
5648 S Carmel Ave, 93616
2:59 pm – 3:44 pm

(559) 266-3663 | This institution is an equal opportunity provider | To donate, or for more information, scan the above QR code or visit us at fresnoeoc.org/foodservices
Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting

Date: June 26, 2023

Agenda Item #: 12A

Program: Advance Peace

Director: Rod Wade

Subject: Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative

Officer: Emilia Reyes

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Committee ratification for full Board approval of the grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for the FY 2023 Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI), in the amount of $2,000,000, submitted on May 25, 2023.

Background

This project aims to reduce gun violence in communities with comprehensive, trauma-informed services for youth and young adults. Advance Peace reimagines community safety by centering resources on people at the center of gun-violence. Through Fresno Police Department and close connections with the local community, Advance Peace gets Fellow referrals--people who have prior firearms-related arrests before joining Advance Peace. Many Fellows have experienced previous incarceration, witness a gun homicide, or had a family member killed by a gun.

This program uses evidenced-based practices and innovative program design to prevent gun violence, such as: street outreach, cognitive behavioral therapy, intergenerational mentorship, conflict mediation, and basic needs stipends. As a result, Advance Peace has made a tremendous impact in reducing gun violence in Fresno. From 2021-2022, Advance Peace contributed to a 25% reduction in gun homicides city-wide with a 75% reduction in gun homicides for Black male homicide victims under 35 years old in Southwest Fresno. Intervention and support services break the cycle of violence, including reducing the economic harm on communities because of gun-related violence.

Fiscal Impact

Funding this project will support direct services, personnel costs, and operational costs. This includes fellow stipends and funding for travel opportunities. If awarded, the grant...
will serve an additional 20 Fellows, young adults between ages 17-24, over a 3-year period. No match is required. The 36-month project begins October 1, 2023.

Conclusion

This funding will allow Advance Peace to serve an additional 20 young adults between 17-24 years old who are at the center of gun violence. Funding will support comprehensive, trauma-informed services.

If ratified by the Committee, this item will move forward for full Board consideration at the June 29, 2023, Commission meeting.
Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting

Date: June 26, 2023  
Program: Women, Infants & Children

Agenda Item #: 13A  
Director: Annette Thornton

Subject: Corrective Action Plan Closure  
Officer: Jack Lazzarini

Background

The information presented below is intended to keep the Committee apprised of the Program Monitoring Review (PMR) results and corrective action closure as of June 15, 2023.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Division completed a biennial PMR on August 24, 2021. WIC had four findings:

1. One record was missing the required Know Your Rights and Responsibilities form which must be retained in the family record at initial and subsequent certifications;
2. One record was missing the Self Declaration Statement form when the applicant did not provide one or more required proofs for eligibility;
3. Seven newly hired staff failed to complete initial mandatory trainings within three months of employment; and
4. One staff did not have a current Conflict of Interest statement on file, which must be signed once every three years.

The PMR results listed above were presented at the Program Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting on November 9, 2021, Agenda Item 7B. PMR includes evaluation of health and nutrition services; breastfeeding and customer services; civil rights; staff training and support; referrals, health linkages, integration, and outreach; program integrity practices; WIC Card security; participant certification; program administration; and the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program.

Over the past 19 months, the CDPH WIC has been monitoring agency files. We have also increased file audits and observations and have asked staff to correct mistakes. On June 15, 2023, we received a letter of closure from CDPH WIC. The letter of closure confirms that the proposed actions included in our Corrective Action Plan (CAP) have been resolved. The next Program Monitoring Visit will be held virtually on August 8, 2023.

The Fresno EOC WIC Program no longer remains on a Corrective Action Plan with CDPH WIC.
June 15, 2023

Ms. Annette Thornton, RD
WIC Director
Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC)
1920 Mariposa Street Suite 120
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Ms. Thornton:

The California Department of Public Health, Women, Infants and Children Division (CDPH/WIC) completed a biennial program monitoring review of your agency on August 21, 2021. The results of this review were summarized in a Letter of Findings sent to Fresno EOC on October 05, 2021. There were four Areas for Required Action (ARA). Your Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address the ARA was due by December 05, 2021. It was received by CDPH/WIC on November 18, 2021, and approved on December 29, 2021.

On final review of May 30, 2023, CDPH/WIC completed a CAP implementation review that assessed whether the proposed actions in your CAP have been successfully implemented. The results from this review are as follows:

**ARA# 1**: Review of a sample of participant certifications found that in one record the Know Your Rights and Responsibilities (R&R) form was not present in WIC WISE as required in the WIC Policy and Procedures Manual, WPPM 260-14.

**Proposed Actions:**

- Retrain staff on acceptable ways to provide R&R to clients, the importance of collecting the signature, and how to retain an electronic copy by generating the R&R in WIC WISE or scanning the form into WIC WISE. Quiz provided to staff after the training—expected outcome ≥ 90%.
- RD supervisors or trainer will complete at least one certification observation per quarter per WNA to ensure the R&R is read, viewed in the video, or the participant reads the R&R themselves.
- Five files per WNA per month will be checked for completed R&R. Expected outcome of 100% of retaining R&R with signature.
Confirmed: Training on the above was completed on November 17, 2021. Overall average of training quiz results was 98% (met goal). Staff observations resulted in score of 100% - outcome met. Local agency file audits reported between 97-100%. Review of 20 records showed 100% compliance of retaining R&R with signature.

ARA #2: Review of a sample of participant certification records found one instance where the Self Declaration Statement (SDS) was not present in WIC WISE as required. Whenever an applicant or participant is given a 30-day short certification because one or more of the required proofs for program eligibility was not provided, an SDS must be created, signed, and saved in the WIC WISE record.

Proposed Actions:

- Staff will perform one file audit on self or peer/month and submit to supervisor. The supervisor will complete one additional file audit per month/WNA. Expected outcome for completing & retaining SDS will be 100%.

Confirmed: Training on the above was completed on November 17, 2021. Overall quiz score after the training was 98% - outcome met. Staff observations resulted in a score of 100% - outcome met. Local agency file audit results reported between 97-99%. Local agency continues to audit.

Results of our Local Agency Review completed of 20 records showed those certification records in need of a completed SDS form were at 100% compliance. Expected outcome met.

ARA #3: Our review of your agency’s Staff Profile found seven staff who failed to complete all their initial mandatory trainings within the timeframe required by their hire date. Per Exhibit A, the Scope of Work section of the Contract, all newly hired staff must complete the four mandatory trainings, Code of Conduct, Civil Rights, Drug and Alcohol, and National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) within three months of employment.

Proposed Actions:

- Review contract obligation for mandatory training requirements and new hire timeframe with trainer.
- Begin mandatory training with all required paperwork and required training before starting the WNA training or any other training.
Confirmed: Verified that recently newly hired staff completed their mandatory trainings within three months of hire.

ARA #4: Our review of your agency’s Staff Profile found one staff who did not have a current conflict of interest statement on file. Per WPPM 150-10, all staff must sign a California WIC Program Employee Conflict of Interest Statement upon employment and once every three years.

Proposed Actions:
- The one staff found without a signed Conflict of Interest Statement was provided the form immediately. The form was completed and signed on September 13, 2021.
- Plan to begin training of new hires with required form along with mandatory trainings before starting the WNA or other training.
- Put a calendar reminder for staff in Outlook to fill out form two weeks before due date.

Confirmed: CAP update verified that the indicated staff received and signed a Conflict-of-Interest Statement. An Outlook calendar reminder for staff to complete training is in place.

We have concluded that the proposed corrective actions were fully implemented, and the Areas for Required Action have been satisfactorily resolved. Thank you for taking the necessary steps to achieve program compliance.

If you have any questions, please contact your Nutrition Consultant, paula.etcheberry@cdph.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Jared Garbutt, MPH, RD, Chief
Bay and Central Section, Local Services Branch
Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Division
California Department of Public Health

cc: Ms. Emilia Reyes
Chief Executive Officer
Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
Emilia.Reyes@fresnoeoc.org
PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>June 26, 2023</th>
<th>Program: Program Planning &amp; Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agenda Item:</td>
<td>14A</td>
<td>Director: Ana Medina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>Grant Tracker</td>
<td>Officer: Jack Lazzarini</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Background

The information presented in the Grant Tracker is intended to keep the Board appraised of program grant activity for Fresno EOC.
### 2023 FUNDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Board Report Date</th>
<th>Date of Notice</th>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/10/2023</td>
<td>Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP)</td>
<td>AFLP 2023 - 2026</td>
<td>CA Department of Public Health</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>$1,644,525</td>
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<td>4/10/2023</td>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>Public Awareness and Community Outreach Campaign Services</td>
<td>Governor’s Office of Planning and Research</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>4/24/2023</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6/2023</td>
<td>Local Conservation Corps</td>
<td>YouthBuild Charter School</td>
<td>US Department of Labor</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>5/19/2023</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/1/2022</td>
<td>CVAHT</td>
<td>Slave 2 Nothing</td>
<td>Slave 2 Nothing Foundation</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>4/18/2023</td>
<td>4/4/2023</td>
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### 2023 NOT FUNDED

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<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Board Report Date</th>
<th>Date of Notice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/10/2023</td>
<td>African American Coalition</td>
<td>Thriving Families Partnerships</td>
<td>First 5 Fresno County</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>4/28/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/10/2023</td>
<td>WIC</td>
<td>Thriving Families Partnerships</td>
<td>First 5 Fresno County</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>4/28/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Funder</td>
<td>Amount Requested</td>
<td>Board Report Date</td>
<td>Expected Date of Notice</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/21/2023</td>
<td>LGBTQ+ Center</td>
<td>PRIR Initiative</td>
<td>CA Department of Public Health</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Will increase access for HIV diagnosis and treatment for low-income LGBT folks in Fresno through HIV screening, increase LGBT Competency Trainings for medical providers, and provide ongoing client support.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/13/2023</td>
<td>Best Babies Zone</td>
<td>INCHES Initiative</td>
<td>Central Valley Community Foundation</td>
<td>$130,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>3/6/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To participate in the CVCF cohort on racism in economic structures in Fresno.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6/2023</td>
<td>Dental Services</td>
<td>ComPASS Program</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
<td>$9,827,841</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>5/31/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation of a data system and support from community health workers to connect families in the SBSP program to needed services.</td>
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### Pending Grants

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<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Board Report Date</th>
<th>Expected Date of Notice</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/10/2023</td>
<td>Training and Employment /Advance Peace</td>
<td>Helping Justice-Involved Reenter Employment (HIRE)</td>
<td>CA Workforce Development Board</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>9/30/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Work Reentry program; Apprenticeship Programs and Case Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/20/2023</td>
<td>LGBTQ+ Resource Center</td>
<td>Minority AIDS Initiative: The Substance Use and Human Immunodeficiency Virus</td>
<td>Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/21/2023</td>
<td>Foster Grandparents</td>
<td>Advancing Innovation in Aging</td>
<td>Next 50 Initiative</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>6/26/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/23/2023</td>
<td>CVAHT</td>
<td>Sisters of the Presentation</td>
<td>Sisters of the Presentation</td>
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<td>6/26/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/27/2023</td>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>Community-Based Approaches to Reducing Sexually Transmitted Diseases</td>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>$325,000</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>STI Testing on Community College Campuses, and free transportation to clinic if treatment is needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/30/2023</td>
<td>CVAHT</td>
<td>Domestic Victims of Human Trafficking Services and Outreach Program</td>
<td>Office on Trafficking in Persons</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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### Submitted in 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Board Report Date</th>
<th>Expected Date of Notice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/13/2023</td>
<td>Training and Employment</td>
<td>One Fresno Youth Jobs Corps Program Worksites</td>
<td>City of Fresno</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>10/13/2023</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Will provide for job training and industry-required certifications for adults who are reentering into society, creating a pathway to a sustainable career in construction.</td>
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<td>6/13/2023</td>
<td>CVAHT</td>
<td>Integrated Services for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking</td>
<td>Office for Victims of Crime</td>
<td>$613,240</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>6/6/2023</td>
<td>LGBTQ+ Resource Center</td>
<td>Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign</td>
<td>Sierra Health Foundation</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/25/2023</td>
<td>Advance Peace</td>
<td>Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention</td>
<td>Office for Victims of Crime</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>6/26/2023</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Program Description</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Start Date</td>
<td>End Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/11/2023</td>
<td>CVAHT</td>
<td>Services for Victims of Human Trafficking, increase support for labor and sex trafficking victims, and increase trainings/public awareness campaigns.</td>
<td>$1,212,980</td>
<td>5/22/2023</td>
<td>9/30/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/3/2023</td>
<td>VAC</td>
<td>Construction Apprenticeship Program, provide job training and industry-required certifications for adults reentering society, creating a pathway to a sustainable career in construction.</td>
<td>$258,720</td>
<td>6/26/2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/11/2023</td>
<td>African American Coalition</td>
<td>Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH), Programs in Physical Activity, Nutrition, Breastfeeding, and Vaccinations</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>8/30/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/10/2023</td>
<td>Weatherization</td>
<td>2023 Dept of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/13/2023</td>
<td>LGBTQ+ Resource Center</td>
<td>Stop the Hate: Services for Survivors and Prevention, will provide support for LGBT victims of hate crimes, fund hate prevention workshops, and increase awareness of resources for low-income areas.</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>3/27/2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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