



















Helping people, Changing lives





### WHO IS FRESNO EOC?

Founded in 1965, Fresno EOC is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation located in Fresno County, at the heart of California's Central Valley. Over its five-decade journey, Fresno EOC has worked towards its vision of a thriving Fresno County, where individuals have the resources to shape their futures free from poverty. Governed by a 24-member tripartite Board of Commissioners, Fresno EOC is recognized as one of the largest Community Action Agencies in the United States, with a dedicated staff of over 1,000 members committed to transforming lives.

With more than 30 programs, Fresno EOC effectively bridges gaps across various facets of the underserved population, all centered around a single mission: we fight to end poverty. Our agency boasts an annual budget of nearly \$130 million, a testament to its scale and impact. Each year, Fresno EOC's programs touch the lives of over 175,000 Fresno County residents, providing immediate assistance during crises and offering the long-term support necessary for individuals and families to construct better lives.

Fresno EOC is rooted in community action and provides essential services, resources, and opportunities that bolster education, health, economic security, and more.

In 2022 our agency began developing our Strategic Plan for 2023-2026, which serves as a roadmap to combat poverty in the coming years. It's tailored to address the unique geography and demographics of those facing poverty while delving into the underlying causes, particularly structural racism. Our strategic planning process operates across three key stages: a Community Needs Assessment, a Community Action Plan, and the Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan brings together our internal structural goals. It takes shape using insights from the CNA and the CAP. This comprehensive plan directs how our agency supports its various programs and ensures that our strategic goals are integrated into every aspect of our work. Essentially, it's the thread that weaves our goals into our day-to-day operations, driving meaningful change and progress.

Since 1965, Fresno EOC has propelled Fresno County forward. Our steadfast commitment and impactful programs fight poverty with every initiative. We forge a brighter path together with unity, compassion, and our 2023-2026 Strategic Plan guiding us.



### LETTER FROM CEO & BOARD CHAIR

It is our honor to present the 2022 Annual Report for Fresno EOC. We are proud of the positive impact we have on our community, and thankful for the hard work and dedication of our programs, partners, and supporters that have made Fresno County a better, more equitable place to live. This past year, we made significant strides in increasing access to food, housing, and healthcare, as well as providing educational and employment opportunities to those in our community who need it most. We have also continued to provide crisis assistance and promote economic stability through our various programs.

We are especially thankful to our partners who have been instrumental in helping us to meet the needs of our community. From individual donors to corporate sponsors, to local and state governments, we are grateful for their generous support and their commitment to the Fresno EOC mission. We are confident that Fresno EOC will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our community members. Thank you for your commitment to making Fresno a better place for all.

Amila Regs

Emilia Reyes, CEO

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Linda R. Hayes, Board Chair

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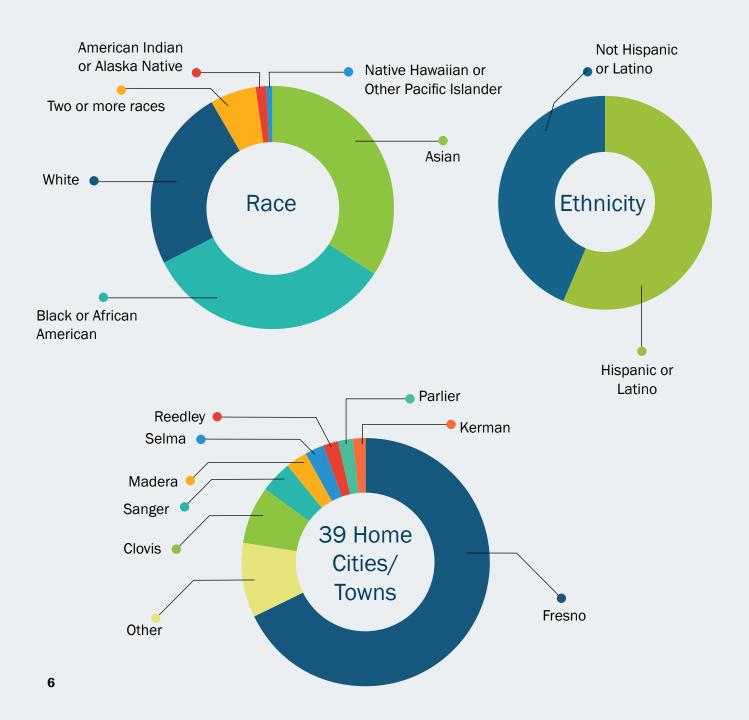


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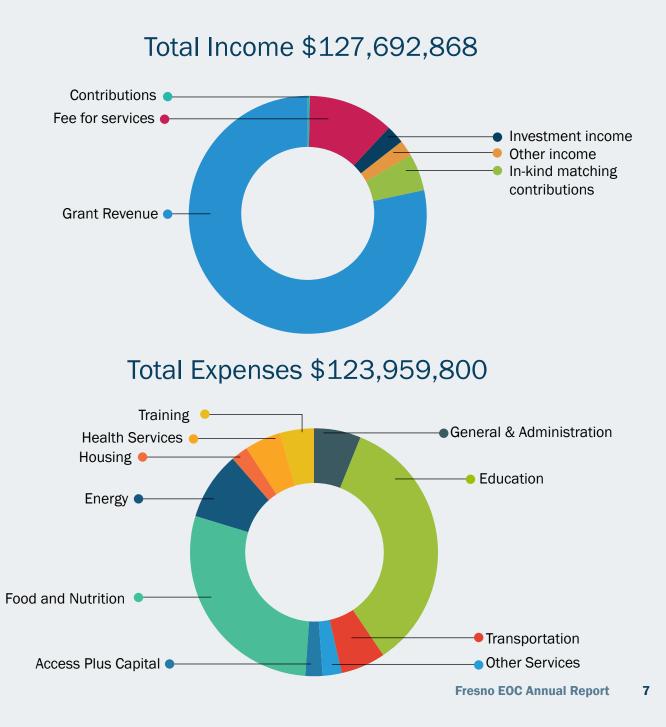
### AGENCY DIVERSITY

With an average of 1,084 employees in 2022, Fresno EOC is committed to ensuring we represent the breadth of diversity in the communities we serve.

Diversity measures include sex, gender identity, socioeconomic status, and educational status. Up to this point, we have collected data on our staff's racial diversity; however, to be accountable for ensuring we are representative of the Fresno community in its entirety, we will be adding these other categories of identity in future data.



### 2021 AUDITED FINANCIALS



# Strides Towards Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is at the

### core of Fresno EOC

In March 2022, Fresno EOC embarked on a transformative journey by launching our innovative Equity and Impact initiatives. At the heart of our efforts, Fresno EOC's dedicated Equity and Impact Department emerges as a vital contributor in the ongoing battle against poverty within our community. The department works to identify funding resources, analyze program data, foster organizational culture, spearhead community engagement, facilitate training access, and coordinate the Community Support Block Grant.



# **Strategic Plan**

As a Community Action Agency, our programs and services directly stem from community input. Our strategic planning is a threestep process involving a Community Needs Assessment, Community Action Plan, and Strategic Plan.

The foundation is the Community Needs Assessment (CNA), conducted every two years under the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act. This ensures our services align with low-income community priorities. From the CNA, we craft the Community Action Plan (CAP), directing our programming with specific, measurable goals based on CNA results. The CAP is reviewed annually by the Board of Commissioners to ensure our progress aligns with strategic goals. The strategic plan found poverty in Fresno is reinforced and sustained through structural racism. Structural racism refers to a system in which public policies, institutional practices, cultural representations, and other norms perpetuate racial group inequity.



#### **Strategic Goals:**

- Advocacy
- Community-Directed Programs
  and Services
- Holistic Support
- Equity-Based Practices

#### Fresno EOC Program Focus Areas:

- Food Insecurity
- Health & Wellness
- Community Safety
- Educational Achievement
- Employment Opportunities
- Housing Stability

### **Together We Grow**

"Together, all things are possible." "Juntos todas las cosas son posibles." - Cesar Chavez

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

In 2022, Fresno EOC had major advancements in our seven target focuses - Community Involvement, Education, Employment, Energy, Food & Nutrition, Health, Housing & Shelter, and Transportation.

Through these programs we are actively fighting poverty and improving our community's quality of life. We achieve this by providing employment opportunities, promoting educational initiatives, connecting people with resources to meet their health needs, and providing housing and shelter to those in need. We also create pathways to assist with utilities, food and nutrition, while also fostering community involvement and access to transportation.

Fresno EOC is a leader in fighting poverty and working to build a better future for the people of Fresno and its surrounding areas.















## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Community Involvement programs provide crucial impact on our local community with initiatives such as Advance Peace, Fresno GROWS! Best Babies Zone, Foster Grandparent Program, and the LGBTQ+ Resource Center. Our programs provide a much-needed lifeline to those who are struggling. We strive to ensure that everyone in our community has access to resources for building a better life.

# FOSTER GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM (FGP)

The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), in partnership with AmeriCorps, 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 as well as fostering social-emotional and cognitive-behavioral development.

FGP also conducts the Generations Serving Together Project, teaming the strengths of older and younger generations to create and facilitate workshops to address mental wellness and coping skills. Children and youth from the Boys & Girls Clubs and YouthBuild Charter school participate in these workshops. Three Foster Grandparent seniors and four young adult volunteers from the community are conducting workshops at 3 sites.





age range of volunteers



# LGBTQ+ RESOURCE CENTER

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center offers crucial support services to enhance the well-being of individuals across all age groups within the LGBTQ+ community. We serve everyone encompassing the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non-binary, queer, HIV, and questioning community members residing in Fresno County.

To foster better community bonds and cultivate valuable partnerships, the LGBTQ+ Resource Center hosted "Illuminate Our Pride." This event saw remarkable growth, doubling attendance from the previous year, with 800 community members present alongside over 50 resource vendors. Additionally, in collaboration with Fresno Chaffee Zoo, we hosted Pride Night, a gathering that drew more than 2,000 attendees, symbolizing our commitment to inclusivity and community growth.



**330** community members reached through drop-in center



LGBTQ competency trainings

**ANNUAL IMPACT** 

**621** volunteer Hours outreach events





### **ADVANCE PEACE FRESNO**

Advance Peace Fresno is a 10-person team centered on reducing retaliatory gun violence in urban neighborhoods. The five Neighborhood Change Agents (or NCAs) provide daily interaction with fellows in their neighborhoods which include life coaching, anger management, job readiness, social service support, housing assistance, and cognitive/ behavioral therapy.

### **ANNUAL IMPACT**

reduced gun-related incidents by

in 2022

# prevented

in Southwest Fresno potential shootings and saved lives by stopping armed conflicts

### saved Fresno बी **\$5** in gun violence costs and generated

\$21-\$58 in benefits for each dollar spent on the program



## CENTRAL VALLEY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVAHT)

Central Valley Against Human Trafficking (CVAHT) has significantly impacted the antihuman trafficking movement, helping victims of all genders, ages and nationalities access the services and benefits they need to begin the healing process. With comprehensive case management and advocacy services, CVAHT has been able to identify and assist 103 new victims of human trafficking in accessing resources such as food, shelter, in-person counseling, and access and referral services. CVAHT has also provided training to the community and new advocates on what human trafficking is and how to identify a potential case. Thanks to Central Valley Against Human Trafficking, victims of human trafficking can start their journey to healing and justice.





# **± 103**

victims of human trafficking have been provided outreach services, food, in-person counseling, access and referral services



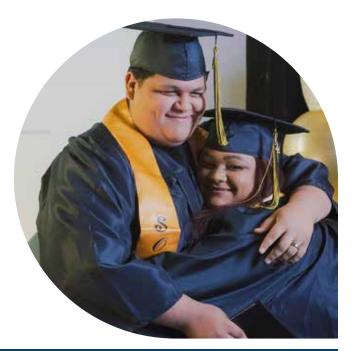
### **EDUCATION**

Education Programs provide resources and support to those who are underserved. Through these programs, students in need of all ages are able to access tutoring, college prep courses, GED preparatory courses, and more. The programs also provide leadership and development opportunities to help foster the next generation of leaders. Fresno EOC is dedicated to improving educational outcomes for all members of our community.

# SCHOOL OF UNLIMITED LEARNING (SOUL)

School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL) is a public charter school that uses a unique, innovative approach to education intended for students in 9th through 12th grades. SOUL empowers students who may have previously struggled in traditional school environments to become self-sufficient, life-long learners by providing an all-encompassing learning experience in a nurturing and supportive atmosphere.

SOUL's mission is to equip students with the skills, knowledge, and motivation they need to thrive.



### 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

average total enrollment



SOUL offers both in-classroom and independent study program.

### **Transformed Lives**

From the moment she was born, Sally\* had never known the love of her biological parents. The instability of bouncing from home to home for her first six years left her feeling unwanted and unloved.

Then she met a man who became the father figure she had always longed for, and he brought with him the stability and security she had always craved. Sadly, just as Sally was beginning to find her footing, her father figure passed away suddenly.

Desperate for a chance to start over, Sally enrolled at SOUL in the 9th grade. Despite the support and guidance she found there, she was homeless for a short time. Her poor school behavior and low grades seemed like a reflection of her inner turmoil. SOUL and its staff wouldn't give up on Sally. They encouraged her, showed her patience, and provided her with the resources she needed to succeed. Though she had been dealt an unfair hand in life, Sally was determined to take back control and make something of herself.

She worked hard, completed high school a semester early, participated in the Interact Club, and even took a college class during her senior year. At just 17 years old, Sally moved to the dorms of a nearby college where she is studying Animal Science. She learned the value of education, but more importantly she found value in herself. SOUL is proud to serve students like Sally every year.

\*To ensure the security of the students, pseudonym have been used in this story. Nevertheless, this story is based on real-life events.



Staff and students from the SOUL Interact Club decorate and deliver holiday wreaths to residents of Healthcare Centre of Fresno with the support of the Cultural Arts Rotary Club

### HEAD START 0 TO 5 Early Care and Education

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

Head Start 0 to 5 focuses on providing tailored educational, emotional, social, health, and nutritional services, nurturing children's growth and preparing them for academic success while supporting the overall well-being of families.



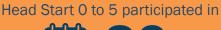
### **Transformed Lives**

Rachel Wash, a devoted mother, cherishes the benefits of enrolling her children in Head Start 0 to 5. This decision allows Rachel and her husband to dedicate themselves fully to their work, ensuring their children are in a safe environment and receiving exceptional care.

Initially, Rachel's children, Olivia and Leo, were not very social with other children. However, attending the Early Head Start program has brought about remarkable changes. Olivia, now equipped with newfound knowledge, confidently sings her ABC songs and impressively counts up to 13. Leo's vocabulary has also expanded, and he has learned the joy of playing with other children his age.

Rachel is thrilled to witness the program's impact on her children's development and social skills. Head Start 0 to 5 has not only provided a secure and nurturing environment but has also become a catalyst for their growth.







community events



Sites in 2022

**Total Families** served in 2022 **3,837** 

Age breakdown of children served by Head Start 0 to 5

prenatal

1,564

ages 4 to 5

38 475 960 ages 0 to 3

ages 3 to 4 800

**유43** 



Head Start 0 to 5 operated sites

Home base satellite offices

In 2022, two sites, La Colonia in Parlier and Richard Keyes in Fresno, celebrated their grand openings.

> **Fresno EOC Annual Report** 19

ages 5+

### **TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT**

Training & Employment Programs provide invaluable assistance to our community. Through job readiness classes, career assessments, and job search assistance, our programs help individuals secure quality employment. We also partner with employers to create job opportunities and provide financial assistance to individuals to help support their job search. We're committed to helping our community members access the resources they need to find sustainable employment and build secure lives for themselves and their families

# WORKFORCE CONNECTION YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

Workforce Connection Young Adult Program provides young people (ages 14-24) with educational and employment training opportunities to enhance their academic proficiency and to facilitate their transition into self-sufficiency.













🔊 145 post-secondary enrollments



### **Transformed Lives**

Francisco, like many participants, felt lost and was looking for direction as high school graduation was quickly approaching. With the help of the Workforce Connection Young Adult Program, he was able to identify his strengths, develop his interview skills, and gain valuable work experience (200 hours with Total Concept Enterprises Inc). Francisco's dedication and hard work paid off and he is now employed full-time; a true testament to the impact of the program. Francisco is one of many stories demonstrating how Workforce Connection is nurturing the next generation of self-sufficient, independent citizens.

## VALLEY APPRENTICESHIP CONNECTIONS (VAC)

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



adults employed



### **Transformed Lives**

Maira Hernandez had big dreams of working hard and owning a home at an early age. When she enrolled in the Fresno EOC VAC, she was determined to make her dreams a reality.

With dedication and hard work, Maira completed the 12-week program, acquiring her Class A license and nine certifications along the way. With the help of VAC staff, she landed a truck driving position at Dawson-Mauldin Company, earning an impressive \$23.10 an hour.

Maira's success is a testament to the impact of the Valley Apprenticeship Connections program. It allows people in the community to acquire new skills and secure employment, enabling them to make their dreams a reality.



## LOCAL CONSERVATION CORPS (LCC)

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

They offer career pathways in landscaping, public conservation, recycling, solar, construction and in the medical field.





### The Bye Bye Mattress Program Impact





### LCC Offers Certifications In:

- First Aid & CPR
- Forklift Operations
- OSHA-10
- Laborer's Training
- And much more!

### Safe Night Out

The Local Conservation Corps is a longstanding pillar in Southwest Fresno. With the many community partnerships built over the years, the Halloween Safe Night Out event is one of the many collaborations focused on community safety. Neighbors enjoyed haunted houses, a Trunk-or-Treat, games, and costume contests in a safe environment.





YouthBuild Fresno provides the opportunity for eligible corpmembers to attain the skills necessary to become Sterile Processing Technicians. By combining education, training and real-world experience through internships, students can qualify for the Certified Registered Central Service Technician exam. One student, for example, completed her 400-hour internship at Valley Children's Hospital and was subsequently rewarded with a full-time position at the hospital. She bravely juggled both the demands of her job and studying for the exam, and she succeeded! This inspiring story is a testament to the power of this community impact program and the potential of the students.



### **ENERGY SERVICES**

Energy program offerings include energy efficiency, weatherization, and energy bill assistance. Energy program works to ensure that community members have access to energy-saving techniques and can make their homes more energy-efficient. This program also offers energy education to help people better understand their energy usage and how to conserve. The programs are designed to empower individuals and families to save money and resources. They are proud to be a part of Fresno's effort to reduce energy consumption and create a more sustainable community.

Fresno EOC Energy Services' goal is to provide services to make clients' home energy-efficient, comfortable, and safe. Services include replacing or repairing non-operable appliances, home repairs, health and safety, insulation, and money-saving measures.

### ANNUAL IMPACT

Low Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

Providing financial help to eligible Fresno County residents for their residential water utility bills.

households served





### Weatherization

Weatherization improves home safety and comfort by installing energy conservation measures and providing energy education. We aim to reduce energy costs, enhance energy efficiency, and promote health and safety for low-income families, focusing on older people, people with disabilities, and families with young children.



energy-efficient updates



installations



homes served with weatherization



#### Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay heating or cooling in their homes, including assisting with preventing or restoring disconnection during the cold and heat temperatures.

ANNUAL IMPACT



total of households assisted

**Fa 61** households assisted with disconnection noticies

### Energy Services partnering with PG&E

In 2022, partnered with PG&E on various initiatives including:

#### Resilient Together Advisory Group (RTAG) which conducted climate-

vulnerability assessments to improve the impact of climate on households in the community.

**PG&E CARE/FERA** which extended discounts to eligible customers to help pay their energy bills.

### **FOOD & NUTRITION**

Food and Nutrition Services fights hunger in Fresno County, providing relief to families in rural and urban areas. Fresno EOC reaches people where they are-offering a range of services including food pick-up sites, low-cost home delivery, as well as free and healthy meals for kids. Programs like WIC, Food Distribution, and Free Meals for Kids empower our communities with improved food access and nutrition education.

### FOOD SERVICES

Fresno EOC Food Services provides healthy meals to low-income preschool students, child care centers, congregate senior feeding sites, and homebound senior citizens.

FO YOU BY: esno conomic portunities commission

### Food Express Bus

Fresno EOC Food Services offers free nutritious meals for children and disabled individuals during the summer break. Meals are available at various locations in Fresno and Tulare Counties. Two Food Express Buses serve 5 rural locations in Fresno County and 5 locations in Fresno City. Additionally, numerous physical sites provide free meal service. Both Food Express Buses are designated mobile Safe Place sites for youth in crisis.

PRESS

SAFE PL**A**CE



Meals Served by Purple (Rural) Bus to children

**ANNUAL IMPACT** 

### WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

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





#### National formula shortage

With the expansion of the standard four WIC formulas to over **100** different can sizes, brands, and types of formula, The Fresno EOC WIC team worked diligently to support families. They provided explanations regarding their new options, contacted stores to check formula availability, issued specialty formulas not found in stores, and aided moms attempting to relactate and increase their milk production in response to the national formula shortage.

#### **Breastfeeding rates**

On average, only **27.3%** of infants in the Central Valley were breastfed in 2021. However, with the help of in-person, phone, and video support, the breastfeeding rate was boosted to **30.5%**.

#### **Farmers Market Nutrition Program**

The Fresno EOC WIC staff returned to the RiverPark and Kern farmers markets this year and saw an increase in redemption rates from **54.1% to 60.1%**.

#### **Kings Canyon Site Decor Upgrade**

The Kings Canyon WIC site serves approximately **7,500** participants and was decorated in 2022 with murals and décor to create a family-friendly and welcoming atmosphere and environment with an outer space theme.

#### **Remote services**

Due to the ongoing public health emergency, WIC services were able to continue remotely.

**27,00**0

participants were served via phone, video, and in-person methods.

218

virtual baby showers



breastfeeding meet-ups

**30** 

ROSE\* sessions (an anti-postpartum support group)



baby showers



moms participated in the breastfeeding meet-ups



ROSE sessions referrals



#### **Books for Kids**

The Books For Kids program is aimed at enhancing literacy and child development for WIC families. In 2022, **14,000** age and culturally-appropriate books were distributed to **4,600** children in various languages such as Spanish, Hmong, Arabic, and Chinese through WIC sites, farmers markets, and drive-thru events.

#### Auto issuance for active participants

Auto Issuance- In the past, individuals were required to attend their WIC appointment to receive their benefits. This meant they would not get their benefits if they couldn't attend. To address this issue, auto-issuance was introduced in 2022 for all active participants. Now, when their benefits from the previous month expire, a full month's worth of benefits is automatically added to their WIC cards. This ensures participants always have access to their benefits, even if they cannot make their appointment.

#### **Online Nutrition Education**

The WIC program has made it easier for families to access nutrition and health information in an online format, allowing them to learn at their own convenience and on their own schedule. By creating a profile on the WIChealth.org website, families no longer have to wait for an appointment to receive this information. This update has been successful, as the number of lessons completed through the website has increased from **700** per month in 2021 to **1400** lessons per month in 2022.

\*The ROSE Program (Reach Out, Stay Strong, Essentials for new mothers)

### **HOUSING & SHELTER**

Sanctuary and Support Services offers emergency shelter for families and individuals experiencing homeless with emergency shelter and help clients find permanent housing that fits their needs. Fresno EOC connects our neighbors to housing that is safe, stable, and affordable. These programs address the root causes of homelessness by offering supportive services, such as mental and substance use disorder treatment, employment training, and crisis intervention services

# SANCTUARY HOMELESS SERVICES

Sanctuary & Support Services provide homeless services such as Safe Place, Outreach, Housing Navigation, Emergency Shelter, Bridge, and Permanent Housing to individuals and families. Services include case management, counseling, employment and educational services, and access to community resources. Sanctuary & Support Services administers the Safe Place Program with a network of 158 physical sites, along with three mobile Safe Place sites throughout Fresno County.

### Outreach Services By age







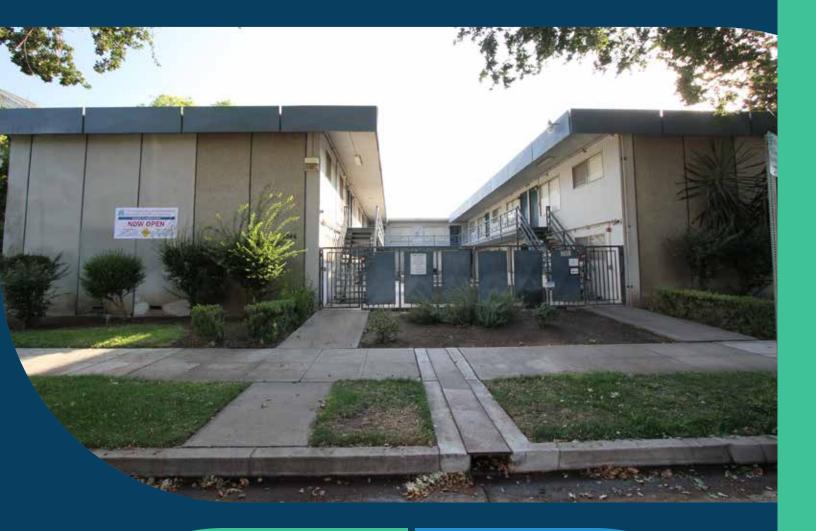




Housing Navigation SAFE

215 exits to a safe & positive destination





### Sanctuary Transitional Shelter

# exits to a safe & positive destination

### **Permanent Housing**

# exits to a safe & positive destination

# Bridge Housing

exits to a safe & positive destination

### **Transformed Lives**

Rico\*'s story is a testament to the power of Sanctuary and Support Services. After being released from prison and facing numerous barriers, he was able to take advantage of the services provided by the Sanctuary Transitional Shelter and Youth Bridge Housing program to find employment, complete his high school education, improve his credit score, pay off an eviction, and eventually move into his own apartment. Thanks to these services, Rico was able to turn his life around and was even released from parole a year early. The impact of Sanctuary and Support Services is clear and invaluable.

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

### HEALTH

Health programs provide access to preventative health screenings, nutrition and physical activities, mental health services, and health literacy initiatives. These initiatives are designed to help empower individuals and families by educating them on how to make healthy lifestyle choices. They also provide vital resources, such as financial assistance, to help people get access to crucial healthcare services. Fresno EOC's Health Education and Prevention programs are essential to ensuring that everyone in our community has the resources they need to lead healthier and more fulfilling lives.

# HEALTH SERVICES

Fresno EOC Health Services programs, such as California Optimal Health for Rural Youth and AdolescentFamily Life Program provides young adults with critical knowledge of family planning, reproductive health, healthy relationships, and life skills.

Additional programs and services include the Rural Tobacco Education Program which helps educate people on the dangers of second hand smoke exposure in multi-unit housing.

Programs such as GLOW!, Home Visitation Service and School Based Sealant Program provides community members with the tools and resources they need to build healthy lifestyles.

The Community Health Center offers COVID-19 testing and vaccines, free to low cost family planning services, STI screening and treatment, TB testing, oral health education, and tattoo removal. The goal is to ensure individuals and their families have the necessary resources to live healthy,happier and productive lives, free from poverty.



### ANNUAL IMPACT

recipients of oral health

education and treatment

community members educated on COVID-19



community members educated on Monkey Pox

**1,700** COVID-19 tests administered

**6,200** students educated on positive prevention



### In The Know! Curriculum: Global Recognition

In The Know staff were invited to the International Family Planning Conference in Thailand to showcase the In the Know curriculum that was developed and implemented with the University of California, San Francisco. The curriculum was acknowledged for its success and will now be taught globally.



#### **Monkey Pox Vaccine Program**

Over 1,000 participants were educated on the virus and 185 vaccines administered at four clinic sites. Clinics were available five days a week, plus an additional monthly session during the Art Hop Event in downtown Fresno. In partnership with Fresno County Department of Public Health, a massive media campaign took place to eradicate Monkey Pox in Fresno County.

#### **Covid-19 Outreach And Education**

The Sierra Health program is exceeding expectations, having educated more than 11,000 people on COVID-19 topics such as vaccines, testing, children's vaccines, and longhaul COVID-19.

#### Home Visitation Services: Two Year Extension Granted

Home Visitation Services exceeded program goals and expectations by serving over 100 families with children 0-5 years of age. As a result, a two-year extension was awarded. In addition, with the help of Community Services Block Grant, 34 qualifying families received \$250 grocery gift cards.

#### **Comprehensive Sex Education with FUSD**

Health Educators have provided 7th and 9th grade students in Fresno Unified School District with comprehensive sex education. Over 6,000 youth have participated in the Positive Prevention Plus curriculum, which includes the following topics: Human Trafficking, Pregnancy Prevention, Healthy Relationships, STI Transmission Prevention, and Communication Skills.

#### **Modernizing Community Health for All!**

The Community Health Center is undergoing a much-needed renovation. Its modernized and welcoming atmosphere will benefit the 13,000+ patients it sees annually. Additionally, Title X recognized the Community Health Center as a top performer for having over 90% successful screening rates for chlamydia and gonorrhea.

# FRESNO GROWS BEST BABIES ZONE (BBZ)

Fresno Grows Best Babies Zone (BBZ) is a community-driven initiative to achieve transformative solutions that will lower infant mortality in the Black /African American community. BBZ is Fresno's information hub for improving maternal and child health and creating a vibrant healthy community for all ages in Fresno.

### GOALS

Increase engagement of African American residents in 93706

2 Increase understanding of social determinants of health

Create economic and professional pathways

Engage with social, political, and medical communities





### ANNUAL IMPACT

**\* 62** 

members referred to various community partners community events attended by BBZ staff and participants

**24** 

#### Partnering with:

- Black Maternal Wellness Innovation Lab (BMWIL) on birth justice advocacy. Increased understanding of social determinants of health, racial and environmental injustices.
- Curry Environmental Justice (CEJ) Fellowship on voter engagement. Participants committed to environmental justice and/or public health careers.
- BLACK Wellness Prosperity Center (BLACK WPC) on Doula Initiative. Transformative models of care and support for Black women.

### AFRICAN AMERICAN COALITION (AAC)

The African American Coalition (AAC) fights poverty by acting as a community care linkage and response organization. They provide services and referrals to resources based on community needs. AAC operates through a unique system that includes a static site at 1025 Fulton Street, 93721, as well as mobile events called pop-ups, allowing them to reach participants wherever the need arises. With a team of twenty trained Community Care Aides, Specialists, and Leads, AAC ensures equity and inclusion by bringing resources directly to the people in the field.

### ANNUAL IMPACT

community members

engaged

**D 2,743** COVID-19 tests

community events

# COVID-19 vaccines

influenza vaccines administered

in attendance at the fall for health event





### TRANSPORTATION

Through Transportation Programs, we provide transportation to and from medical appointments, job interviews, and school. Additionally, we offer transportation services to those who are unable to drive, allowing them to access vital services and socialize with their peers. Our programs are helping to build a healthier, more connected community.

## TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Transit Systems' mission is to ensure that everyone in the community has access to the resources they need. Through the relationship with Workforce Connection, Transit Systems have been able to offer training to individuals in need of transportation services. The Taxi Scrip program provides people with an affordable door-to-door service, allowing the elderly to easily get to medical appointments and other places.





### ANNUAL IMPACT



invested in passenger prevention and safety in 43 vehicles

່ 450

clients being transported daily



transit routes across Fresno County

### THE FIGHT NEVER STOPS!

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to witness the results achieved through the collective efforts of Fresno EOC and our community partners. Together in our fight to end poverty, we have ignited transformative change in Fresno County, touching the lives of countless individuals and creating a lasting impact on our community. Community Action agencies play a vital role for individuals and families in the community.

Looking ahead, our agency has placed strategic goals to evolve our service in the community.

We want the community to be safe for everyone, that's why our community safety goals is to help reduce rates of gun violence, increase access to community support and transportation, and help improve parenting and caregiving skills.

Employment can be challenging for some, however our goal is to improve job opportunities and raise workers overall income through increasing participation in career advancement training and provide access to tools needed for success.

Education plays a big part in or agency, therefore our goals are to improve literacy, increase school readiness and provide assistance to as many children and young adults aiming to receive diplomas, credentials and certifications.

Throughout the year families count on Fresno EOC for food access, in which we will keep our goal to increase access to food and meals for families and educate the community on nutrition.

Healthcare access continues to be a struggle for many, our health and wellness goals are to enhance overall physical health and well-being of community members, increase access to health and dental care, and promote healthy lifestyle practices.

Each year we are faced with families needing shelter, and the way we will continue to fight this is by increasing access to temporary and emergency housing for individuals facing housing insecurity. Hardships come and go and we will continue to provide support towards securing permanent housing solutions and help lower the rates of utilities shut offs.

As we move forward, we carry the momentum of our achievements and the strength of our partnerships. With renewed determination, we will continue to strive for a brighter future where every individual in Fresno County can access the resources they need to thrive. Together, we can build a more equitable and prosperous community. Our journey continues, and we invite everyone to join us in creating a better tomorrow for all.

# **Team Acknowledgements**

### **2023 FRESNO EOC EXECUTIVE TEAM**

Emilia Reyes Chief Executive Officer

Michelle L. Tutunjian Chief Operating Officer/Deputy CEO

Jack Lazzarini Chief Programs Officer

Karina Perez Chief of Staff

Greg Streets Chief Information Officer

Jay Zapata Chief Financial Officer

Amanda Venegas Public Information Officer

Nelson Dibie Human Resources Officer

### FRESNO EOC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### Low-Income Target Area Elected Representatives

Alena Pacheco – Target Area A Rey Leon - Target Area B Daniel Parra - Target Area C Daniel Martinez - Target Area D Lisa Mitchell - Target Area E Alysia Bonner - Target Area F Earl Brown - Target Area G Linda R. Hayes, Board Chair - Target Area H

#### **Business and Community Sector**

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

Steven Taylor - National Assocation for the Advancement of Colored People

Lupe Jaime-Mileham - Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

James Martinez - Reel Pride

Sherry L. Neil - Fresno County Economic Development Corporation

Itzi Robles - Southeast Fresno Community Development Association

Jimi Rodgers - Association of Black Social Workers

Pastor Bruce McAlister - West Fresno Faith Based Organization

#### **Representatives of Public Elected Officials**

Amy Arambula - 31st Assembly District David Ruiz - Juvenile Court Oliver Baines - 16th Congressional District Robert Pimentel - State Center Community College District Charles Garabedian - Board of Supervisors Brian King - Mayor of Fresno Appointee Barigye McCoy - Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Ruben Zarate - 14th Senatorial District





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