

1920 Mariposa St., Suite 330
Fresno, CA 93721

**FRESNO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION
FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (FGP) COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)
Friday, April 26, 2024
1805 E. California Ave. Fresno CA 93706
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
AGENDA**

	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. CALL TO ORDER	Betty Brown		
II. ROLL CALL	Elaine Jalomo		
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 29, 2023	Betty Brown	Approve	2
IV. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS 2024 Fresno EOC Board FGP CAG appointees Luis Martinez, Zina Brown-Jenkins Returning Alena Pacheco Head Start Volunteer Services Coordinator Floro Trujillo	Leah Struck	Roster	4
V. PRESENTATION: Advancing Fresno County Guaranteed Income Program	Amanda Venegas	Information	5
VI. FGP UPDATES: October 2023 –April 2024	FGP Team	Information Power Point	8
VII. UPCOMING EVENTS: May 8, 2024 Potluck		Information	10
VIII. OTHER BUSINESS The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 27, 2024 @ 10:00 AM.			
IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS (This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Advisory Group on items within jurisdiction but not on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes).			
X. ADJOURNMENT			

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

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called by Raquel Padia.

Committee Members

Present):

Betty Brown
Bruce McAlister
Yvonne Hernandez
Richard Saldivar
Alena Pacheco
Sherry Neil

Staff (Present):

Leah Struck
Raquel Padia
Blanca Alvarado
Elaine Jalomo

Absent:

Julia Fowler
Margarita Cortez
Tashon Smallwood
Olga Ramirez

I. CAG 2023 APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBER

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Quorum approved minutes from April 28, 2023.

III. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR AND SECRETARY

Yvonne Hernandez nominated herself as Vice Chair.

Motion by: McAlister, Seconded by: Neil, Ayes: All in favor, Nays: None heard. Motion was carried Yvonne Hernandez was voted in Vice Chair

Elaine Jalomo was nominated as Secretary Motion by Hernandez, Seconded by McAlister Ayes: All in favor, Nays: None heard Motion carried. Elaine Jalomo is now the Secretary

IV. Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) UPDATES

A. FGP currently has 62 volunteers. 13 were added this quarter.

B. Multiple outreach attempts have been made with the Senior Demonstration Project grant to recruit new volunteers but have met with little success. Two new MOUs with Kerman Unified School District and Stone Soup were added. This gives a total of five MOUs available for placement.

C. Raquel Padia was awarded a Fellowship Award from Eisner Foundation Fellowship to continue her vision of an intergenerational program, Generations Serving Together.

- D. Generations Serving Together continues through June 2024 and has five senior volunteers, one current intern, and five more potential interns. The sites to be served this year include Pinedale, Clovis, and West Fresno Boys and Girls Clubs, Fresno YouthBuild Charter School of California at Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps, Neighbors Helping Neighbors Thrive after school program and Fresno EOC Adolescent Family Life Program.
- E. Generations Serving Together teams up with Neighbors Helping Neighbors Thrive and 4-H Youth Development Program to create Mindful Me after school program activities in a central Fresno neighborhood. Teen volunteers and Foster Grandparent volunteers collaborate to accelerate reading skills and teach mindfulness to children.
- F. FGP hosted their senior trip to Monterey and Monterey Bay Aquarium on May 16, 2023. The program applied to the aquarium's Free to Learn program and was granted free entrance for all field trip participants. Over 30 volunteers, staff and guests participated in the trip.
- G. Access to Technology is a senior focused program awarded through Fresno County Department of Social Services. The program will teach senior clients, who receive In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), how to navigate a technological device through workshops and one-on-one training. The seniors receive an iPad that becomes their own and the program also covers up to two years of internet services for participants.
- H. East Fresno Kiwanis Club donated funds to FGP to provide books to children at sites where the grandparents volunteer. In June over 100 books were donated to Kings Canyon Head Start children. Grandmas Betty, Linda and Tanya had a reading day with their class to introduce and present books to the children in the classrooms they serve.
- I. Instead of FGP's annual May Picnic, the event was moved to June for an amazing Luau consisting of a presentation from CalFresh with healthy food samples. The event included a yummy potluck and "luau" inspired non-alcoholic drinks.
- J. LCC will hold their annual Halloween Safe Night out on October 31st. Grandparents and staff are putting together an intergenerational kid zone. Volunteers will read books and supervise a coloring station and show Halloween-inspired movie.

V. UPCOMING EVENTS

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

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.



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

**FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)
 2024 ROSTER**

Last Name	First Name	Organization/Occupation	Contact Information
Brown	Betty	FGP CAG Chair FGP Volunteer	betty.brownfgp@gmail.com
Saldivar	Richard	Boys & Girls Club	richards@BGClubfc.org
Cortez	Margarita	FGP Volunteer	Margarita.cortezfgp@gmail.com
Fowler	Julia	FGP Volunteer	Julia.fowlerfgp@gmail.com
Hernandez	Yvonne	City of Fowler Senior Center Director CAG Vice Chair	yhernandez@ci.fowler.ca.us
Jenkins- Brown	Zina	Fresno EOC Board Commissioner	zina.brown-jenkins@fresnoeoc.org
Martinez	Luis	Fresno EOC Board Commissioner	luis.martinez@fresnoeoc.org
Pacheco	Alena	Fresno EOC Board Commissioner	alena.pacheco@fresnoeoc.org
Trujillo	Floro	Fresno EOC Head Start Volunteer Services Coordinator	floro.trujillo@fresnoeoc.org

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Commission**



Advancing Fresno County
Guaranteed Income

Are you eligible?

- Must live in the zip codes of either 93706-Southwest Fresno or 93234-Huron
- Must be 18 years old or older, pregnant and/or have one or more young children between the ages of 0 to 5
- Earn \$30,615 or less annually for 93706-Southwest Fresno or \$35,103 or less for 93234-Huron

APPLY IN PERSON



Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps
1805 E California Ave, Fresno, CA 93706
Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm



Huron Family Learning Center
36602 Central Ave. Huron , CA 93234
Monday-Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

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Advancing Fresno County
Guaranteed Income

¿Eres elegible?

- Debe vivir en los códigos postales 93706- Suroeste de Fresno o 93234-Huron
- Debe tener 18 años o más, estar embarazada y/o tener uno o más niños pequeños entre 0 y 5 años
- Ganar \$30,615 o menos anualmente para 93706- Suroeste de Fresno o \$35,103 o menos para 93234-Huron

APPLICA EN PERSONA



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APPLICA EN LINEA



[Fresnoeoc.org/guaranteed-income](https://fresnoeoc.org/guaranteed-income)

APLICACIONES CIERRAN EL 15 DE MAYO

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (FGP)
PROGRAM UPDATES
October 1, 2023 – April 26, 2024

1. Foster Grandparent Program current status:

Fifty volunteers are currently placed in classrooms and ten are in the process of being placed. Four are out for medical issues, three are on hold, and 10 are in the process of enrolling. The current three-year grant cycle ends June 30, 2024. The renewal application has been submitted for three more years and is awaiting approval.

2. Senior Demonstration Program (SDP) status:

Five participants enrolled, two currently in classrooms, three are out due medical issues. One participant in enrollment process. The SDP two-year grant, through AmeriCorps Seniors American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding, ends June 30, 2024. ARP funding is no longer available to AmeriCorps Seniors and will not be renewed.

3. Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) partnerships: The program is able to add other benefits to childrens' lives through outside partnerships that approach the program to share resources. Project Linus Fresno Madera and Tulare County contacts FGP each December to bring handmade blankets donated by community members for Foster Grandparents to hand out to children at Head Start sites. Blankets are also provided to WIC to give to expectant mothers at WIC baby showers, as well as to Local Conservation Corps members who are parents.

East Fresno Kiwanis Club is able to donate funds for FGP to purchase books for children in Head Start classrooms to take home, encouraging early literacy and interest in reading.

4. The Annual Recognition Luncheon was held at Pardini's once again. All Foster Grandparent volunteers are recognized for their years of service. Two trophies were handed out for 20 years of service. Two volunteers achieved 26 years of service. Unfortunately, we lost Grandpa JC Williams who was 94 and served through the end of 2023. The program was privileged to have him for so long.

The volunteers were gifted Walmart cards from the program along with an additional card to Save Mart /Food Maxx thanks to a donation from SCAN Health Plan was to encourage healthy eating.

5. Generations Serving Together Fresno: Intergenerational Teams including eight seniors (Foster Grandparents and senior community members) and twelve interns from local colleges work together and create lessons and activities related to mental wellness. Activities are held at Clovis, Zimmerman, Pinedale and West Fresno Boys and Girls Clubs, Neighbors Helping Neighbors Thrive / Mindful Me program, YouthBuild Charter School High School at Fresno EOC LCC and Soul School. Overall, 130 youth and young adults were able to participate.

This year GST was able to sponsor the remodel of a room at the Pinedale Boys and Girls Club into a calming room. The room was cleared and painted in a research

proven soothing color. The carpet was cleaned and relaxing furniture was provided with the funding from the Eisner Foundation Fellowship funds.

The GST volunteers participated in the large B&G Club Torch Summit where all Fresno County Clubs' youth come together for various activities and workshops.

Mindful Me Gardening at Neighbors Helping Neighbors Thrive after school program house has begun. This new project brings together all generations to share being outdoors, creating and learning all aspects of gardening. A recent addition is Grandma Jane who spent several years volunteering with the Fresno City College Disabled Students Program Horticulture Class.

- 6. Access to Technology Program (ATP):** Through funding from California State Department of Aging provided to Department of Social Services (DSS) Fresno EOC has been contracted to provide senior technology training to clients of DSS who receive In Home Supportive Services or Adult Protective Services. Six staff are hired and have started enrollment processes, conducting classes in group settings and one-on-one training. Clients' internet services are assessed then arrangements are made for program funding to pay for up to two years of that service. Each student is given and iPad purchased by DSS through this same funding. This curriculum has been used with the previous Fresno EOC Senior Tech Training program through other funding and has been very effective.

Nine students have completed the five week course. We were able to hold our first graduation! The students were awarded their iPads. Currently over 50 people have participated, are participating or are beginning the process.

Referrals from DSS have been slow but strategies to simplify the referral process have been implemented and will increase referrals.

Outreach has been successful. Classes are currently being held at Silver Crest Senior Apartments, Senior Village Apts., Silver Ridge Apts., and Oak Park Senior Apts. Several one-on-one classes are being conducted in homes for those who cannot travel. Internet plans have been pre paid ahead for 28 participants

The goal of the program is to enroll 200 participants before the end of the program in September 2024. We are currently looking at a grant opportunity from State of California Public Utilities Department for digital literacy training and our previous funder, Next 50 will be opening up a grant opportunity that includes digital literacy in July.

- 7. Fresno EOC Community Needs Assessment:** Foster Grandparent Program was able to be the first group to participate in the Community Needs Assessment. The volunteers shared valuable insight into what they see as needed in the community. One of the main points brought out was the need for a centralized way to find out what existing programs and resources are available. They expressed their appreciation for the opportunity have input. The survey was also given to each person in attendance to complete and a gift card was given to everyone that returned their written survey.

8. Other Breaking News: Fresno EOC Foster Grandparent Program applied and on 4/22/24 was notified of the award of the AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Replacement & Expansion opportunity grant.

This will provide an additional \$396,000 to our existing FGP program of \$401,468 that was just submitted for renewal. This funding will continue for three years to match our existing grant renewal cycle.

The current grant provides for 44 volunteer counts. The expansion grant will provide for another 44 volunteer counts. This will allow us to keep all of our current volunteers and merge those that were enrolled under SDP, and continue to add more volunteers and sites while retaining all four FGP staff.

With both grants running, the need for Match/In-kind will be greatly increased. All ideas, referrals, fundraising and donation opportunities will be needed.



Fresno EOC
**Foster
Grandparent
Program**



Spring Fling Potluck!

**May 8th 2024
10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

HOLLAND PARK WEST

**3855 N Bryan Ave
Fresno, CA 93723**

Please bring a side dish if you plan on attending

