



DATE	September 13, 2023
TIME	12:00 pm
LOCATION	CAPK Administrative Office 5005 Business Park North Bakersfield, CA 93309

## Program Review & Evaluation Committee Agenda

### 1. Call to Order

### 2. Roll Call

Ana Vigil (Chair)  
Jimmie Childress

Mia Cifuentes  
Gina Martinez

Yolanda Ochoa

### 3. Public Comments

*The public may address the Committee on items not on the agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes. If more than one person wishes to address the same topic, the total group time for the topic will be 10 minutes. Please state your name before making your presentation.*

### 4. Program Presentation

- a. Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment (MCAP), Laura Porta Program Administrator – Special Presentation (**p. 3-12**)

### 5. New Business

- a. August 2023 Program Reports – **Action Item (p. 13-50)**

Pritika Ram, Chief Business Development Officer

1. Housing & Supportive Services
  - Coordinated Entry Services (CES)
  - M Street Homeless Navigation Center
  - CalAIM – Homeless Services
2. Health & Nutrition Services
  - CalFresh Healthy Living
  - Food Bank
  - Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment (MCAP)
  - Women Infant and Children (WIC)
3. Youth & Community Services
  - East Kern Family Resource Center (EKFRC)
  - Oasis Family Resource Center
  - Energy, Weatherization & Utility Assistance
  - Friendship House Community Center (FHCC)
  - Shafter Youth Center (SYC)
  - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
4. Operations
  - Maintenance
  - Information Technology
  - Data Services
  - Risk Management
5. Community Development
  - Grant Development

- CAPK Foundation
- Outreach & Marketing
- 211 Kern Call Center
- Community Schools Partnership Program (CSPP)

- b. August 2023 Application Status Report & Funding Profiles – **Action Item (p. 51-56)** Vanessa Mendoza, Grant Administrator
1. Application Status Report
  2. Small Funding Profiles (\$50,000 and under)
- c. 2021-2025 Strategic Plan Update – **Info Item (p. 57-72)**
1. Goal Group 1 Update Susana Magana, Director of Health & Nutrition
  2. Goal Group 2 Update Yolanda Gonzalez, Director of Head Start/State Child Development
  3. Goal Group 3 Update Rebecca Moreno, Director of Housing and Supportive Services
- d. Kern County and San Joaquin Community Assessment Update 2023 – **Action Item (p. 73-162)** Robert Espinosa, Program Design and Management Administrator
- e. August 2023 Head Start/State Child Development Program Activity Report - **Action Item (p. 163-164)** Robert Espinosa, Program Design and Management Administrator

**6. Committee Member Comments**

**7. Next Scheduled Meeting**

Program Review & Evaluation Committee  
12:00 pm  
October 11, 2023  
5005 Business Park North  
Bakersfield, CA 93309

**8. Adjournment**

*This is to certify that this Agenda Notice was posted in the lobby of the CAPK Administrative Office at 5005 Business Park North, Bakersfield, CA and online at [www.capk.org](http://www.capk.org) by 12:00 pm, September 8, 2023. Sara Elias, Assistant to the Chief Program Officer.*





**Community Action Partnership  
of Kern**

# **Migrant Childcare**

*Childcare that migrates with you.*



# Program Overview

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Overseen by the California Department of Social Services, The Migrant Childcare Program (MCAP) is a unique program and the only contract of its type tasked with serving the migrant agricultural working community in the State of California.

Families can apply for services in one of our six entry counties. Once services are approved families can receive services anywhere in California.

The Migrant Childcare Program has the following offices available to help you with your application.

**Madera County**

1-559-385-2503

Office: 525 East Yosemite Ave.  
Madera, CA 93638

Fax: 1-559-664-3302

**Tulare County**

1-559-474-8902

Office: 700 Doe Ave.  
Building 200, Suite C, Door 7  
Visalia, CA 93291

Fax: 1-559-661-3311

**Kings County**

Mail: P.O. Box 1101  
Hanford, CA 93232

1-559-385-2502

Office: 216 W. 7th Street  
Hanford, CA 93230

Fax: 1-559-664-3305

**Fresno County**

1-559-334-3629

Office: 1815 Van Ness Ave  
Fresno CA, 93721

Fax: 1-559-664-3304



**Migrant Childcare**

Mail: 5005 Business Park North  
Bakersfield, CA 93309

**Regional Office - Kern County**

1-800-259-8866

Office: 5351 Olive Dr., Suite 200  
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Fax: 661-396-1746

**Merced County**

1-209-259-6556

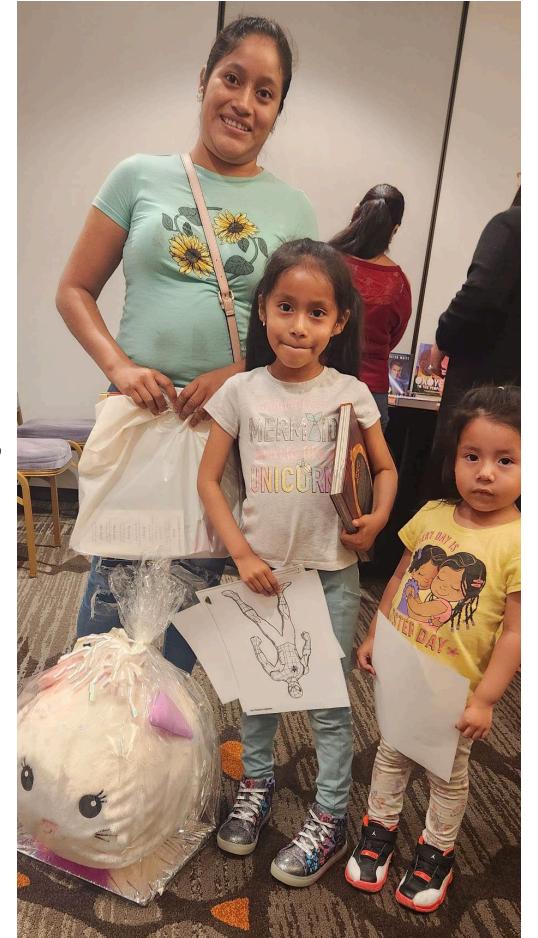
Office: 1850 Wardrobe Ave.  
Merced, CA 95341

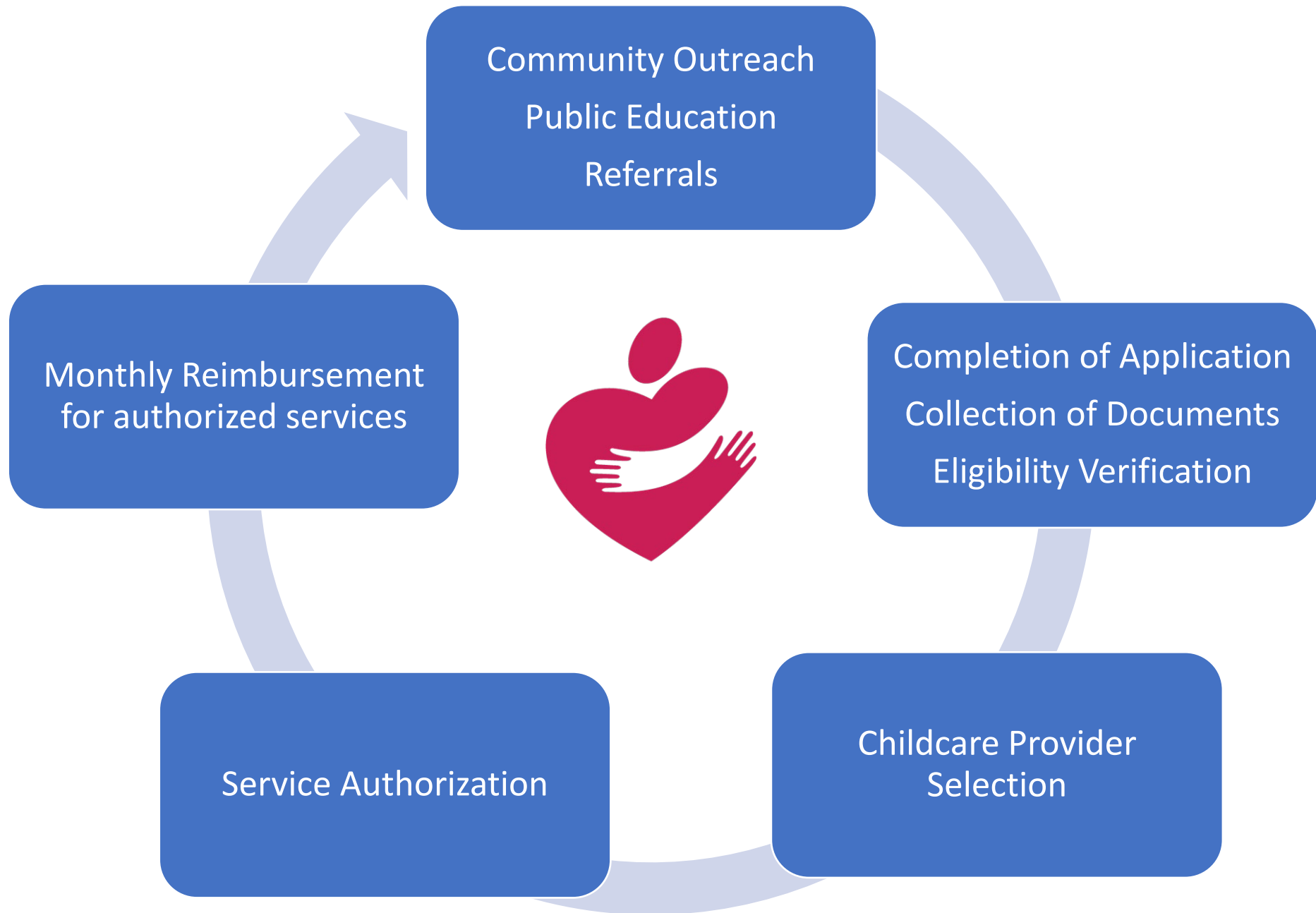
Fax: 1-209-780-4041



## Program Requirements

- ☐ Migrant Families
- ☐ 50% Family Income from Agriculture
- ☐ Children Ages 0-12 years old or up to 21 years old, if special needs
- ☐ Verifiable need for childcare services







MCAP operates as an  
alternative payment program!

## Service Options

Licensed Centers  
Licensed Childcare providers  
License Exempt Relative  
License Exempt Trust Line  
In-home Provider



# FY 2023-2024



- ❑ MCAP's current funding is \$29.2 million.
- ❑ We are operating at full enrollment, currently serving 1,500 families / 3,050 active children.
- ❑ MCAP now has a waiting list of eligible families to receive services.
- ❑ We are focused on:
  - ❑ Quality of service
  - ❑ Program compliance
  - ❑ Staff Training
  - ❑ Funding growth opportunities





# Migrant Childcare Program Team



Thank you!





## **August 2023 Program Monthly Reports**

PRE Committee September 2023



## **Housing and Supportive Services**

Coordinated Entry Services

M Street Homeless Navigator Center

CalAIM - Homeless Services

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

<b>Month</b>	August-23	<b>Program/Work Unit</b>	Coordinated Entry Services (CES)		
<b>Division/Director</b>	Rebecca Moreno	<b>Program Manager</b>	Joseph Aguilar		
<b>Reporting Period</b>	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023				
<b>Program Description</b>					
Coordinated Entry Services (CES) is the system to assist communities in ending homelessness by providing a clear and systematic pattern for helping individuals to quickly access the most appropriate services available through standardized access, a standardized assessment process, and a coordinated referral (match) process for individuals to preventions, housing, and/or other related services. The following counties are currently being served by CAPK CES, Kern County.					
<b>Homeless Referrals/Assessments (SRV 7c)</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Goal</b>	<b>Month Progress</b>	<b>Annual Progress</b>
Kern County	2,915	14,788	14,000	250%	106%
<b>Pending Assessments</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Goal</b>	<b>Month Progress</b>	<b>Annual Progress</b>
Kern Pending contact/call back	0	0	15	0%	0%
<b>Performance: Number of applicants who received a response within 24 Hours</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Goal</b>	<b>Month Progress</b>	<b>Annual Progress</b>
Kern County	2,116	11,479	11,000	231%	104%
<b>Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)</b>					
<b>Program Strategic Goals</b>		<b>Progress Towards Goal</b>			
1. Make CES more accessible for rural and non-shelter homeless individuals		Contract for Mojave Drop In Center received. HHAP 3 funding to support CES Rural Outreach team.			
2. Increase staff recruitment and retention.		Increased pay for Navigators			
3. Build provider network support with KHS-CES		Received additional funding and having conversations about expending and providing additional services.			
<b>Program Highlights</b>					

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit	M Street Navigation Center			
Division/Director	Rebecca Moreno	Program Manager	Laurie Hughey			
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
CAPK operates the 147-bed homeless Low Barrier Navigation Center in partnership with the County of Kern. This 24 hour shelter offers housing, meals and an array of mental health, medical care and economic resources to unsheltered individuals with pets and partners.						
Shelter Services		Month	YTD	YTD Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Overnight Residents (Assigned Beds) (FNPI 4a & SRV 7b, SRV 4m)		121	1,021	1,000	145%	102%
Total Clients Served		200	1,809	2,400	100%	75%
Pets (i.e., kennel, emotional support assistance and service pet)		6	53	100	72%	53%
Residents Under 90 days length of stay		73	625	700	125%	89%
Exits to Permanent Housing (FNPI 4b)		12	82	100	144%	82%
Exits-Self		25	149	150	200%	99%
Exits-Involuntary		57	614	700	98%	88%
Case Management Services (SRV 7a)		1,051	5,588	8,000	158%	70%
Critical Incidents		49	302	250	235%	121%
Shelter Residents Meals (SRV 5ii)		6,415	52,209	60,000	128%	87%
Number of Volunteers (duplicated)		98	1,000	100	1176%	1000%
Volunteers Hours (duplicated)		224	2,376	1,500	179%	158%
Safe Camping		Month	YTD	YTD Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Total clients served (SRV 7b)		44	532	500	106%	106%
Current client census		35	340	300	140%	113%
Meals (SRV 5ii)		2,063	19,615	15,000	165%	131%
Pets		10	109	75	160%	145%
Clients moved to Shelter (SRV 4m )		0	8	50	0%	16%
Exits to Permanent Housing (FNPI 4b)		1	14	40	30%	35%
Exits-Self		7	37	50	168%	74%
Exits-Involuntary		1	82	75	16%	109%
Critical Incidents		1	26	100	12%	26%
Safe Parking		Month	YTD	YTD Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Total clients served		6	68	50	144%	136%
Current client census		6	68	50	144%	136%
Clients moved to Shelter (SRV 4m )		0	0	25	0%	0%
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)						
Clients continue to be satisfied staying in the safe camp area , they enjoy the structure and no searching by security.						
Program Strategic Goals		Progress Towards Goal				
1. Number of clients participating in job training program, (i.e. Project Hire-Up, financial Literacy, Recycling Lives, Open Door Network)		15 clients are participating in various work opportunities in the community, one client participating in recycling lives and one started Project Hire- Up.				
2. Increase job retention/recruitment at M street by (1) developing job descriptions that accurately reflect job performance and (2) regrading/classification of job descriptions.		Job descriptions have been completed, Program Coordinators as well has Volunteer Coordinator have changed from grade 6, to grade 7 as of 8/2023.				



**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

3. Amend M Street policy & procedure manual, intake packet post Covid.	Program Administrator is reviewing P & P manuals.
4. Increase the number of clients who transition to permanent housing by 15% from the prior year (2022 - 99) to 114 clients.	82 clients from LBNC have received permanent supportive housing.

**M Street Navigation Center - Client Demographic Information**

Race Demographic	Month
18 - 24	17
25 - 34	34
35 - 44	59
45 - 54	43
55 - 61	27
62+	20
<b>Total:</b>	<b>200</b>

Race Demographic	Month
American Indian or Alaska Native	14
Asian	3
Black or African American	43
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
White	135
Multiple races	5
Client Don't know / Refused	
No Answer	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>200</b>

Gender	Month
Female	84
Male	115
Trans Female (MTF or Male to Female)	1.00
Trans Male (FTM or Female to Male)	
Gender Non-Conforming (i.e. not exclusively male or female)	
Client doesn't know	
Client refused	
No Answer	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>200</b>

Zip Code	Month	Zip Code	Month
93301	39	93501	1
93304	22	96001	1
93305	22	93560	1
93306	10	93263	1
93307	13	93291	1
93308	25	93280	2
93309	9	93285	1
93311	5	63132	1
93312	1	73065	1
93313	2	77904	1
93314	2		
90212	1		
93206	2		
92234	1		
90220	1		
93726	1		
93240	1		
90056	1		
93250	2		
85041	1		
93203	2		
Not specified	26		
<b>Total</b>		<b>200</b>	

**Safe Camping - Client Demographic Information**

Race Demographic	Month
18 - 24	3
25 - 34	7
35 - 44	10
45 - 54	12
55 - 61	8
62+	4
<b>Total:</b>	<b>44</b>

Race Demographic	Month
American Indian or Alaska Native	1
Asian	0

Zip Code	Month	Zip Code	Month
93301	9		
93304	3		
93305	5		
93306	1		
93307	3		
93308	7		
93309	6		
93238	1		
93556	1		
75014	1		

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## Community Action Partnership of Kern Monthly Report 2023

Black or African American	7
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
White	33
Multiple races	3
Client Don't know / Refused	
No Answer	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>44</b>

Gender	Month
Female	19
Male	25
Trans Female (MTF or Male to Female)	
Trans Male (FTM or Female to Male)	
Gender Non-Conforming (i.e. not exclusively male or female)	
Client doesn't know	
Client refused	
No Answer	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>44</b>

Not specified	7		
<b>Total</b>			<b>44</b>

## Program Highlights

One individual from Safe Camp was placed into permanent supported housing

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

<b>Month</b>	August-23	<b>Program/Work Unit</b>		California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)	
<b>Division/Director</b>	Rebecca Moreno Director of Community Services	<b>Program Manager</b>	Joseph Aguilar		
<b>Reporting Period</b>	January to December 2023				
<b>Program Description</b>					
CalAIM is a new initiative by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of Medi-Cal beneficiaries by implementing broad delivery of system, programmatic, and payment system reforms. A key feature of CalAIM is the introduction of a new menu of “in lieu of services” (ILOS), or Community Supports, which, at the option of a MediCal managed care health plan (MCP) and a Member, can substitute for covered Medi-Cal services as cost-effective alternatives. MCPs will be responsible for administering Community Supports. For this partnership, CAPK would serve as a Community Support providing rental assistance.					
<b>Housing Transition Navigation Services</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Goal</b>	<b>Month Progress</b>	<b>Annual Progress</b>
Housing Navigator to client ratio 1:75	297	598	300	1188%	199%
<b>Housing Deposits</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Goal</b>	<b>Month Progress</b>	<b>Annual Progress</b>
One time use up to \$5000 per client	6	19	25	288%	76%
<b>Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Goal</b>	<b>Month Progress</b>	<b>Annual Progress</b>
Housing Navigator to client ratio 1:75	12	36	150	96%	24%
<b>Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)</b>					
<b>Program Strategic Goals</b>		<b>Progress Towards Goal</b>			
Milestone 1: 2 FTE HN to establish caseload (1:35) by 3/31/23		Completed			
Milestone 2: 2 FTE HN to establish caseload (1:35) by 6/30/2023		Completed			
Milestone 3: 4 FTE HN to increase to full capacity (1:75) by 7/31/2023		Completed			
<b>Program Highlights</b>					



## **Health and Nutrition Services**

Cal-Fresh Health Living Program

Food Bank

Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment

Women, Infant, and Children



**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit		CalFresh Healthy Living		
Division/Director	Susana Magana		Program Manager	Alan Rodriguez		
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
The CalFresh Healthy Living (CFHL) program, Funded by the USDA and administered by CDSS, improves the nutritional health of low-income Kern County residents by providing access to nutrition education, physical activity education, and leadership within community collaboratives that focus on health and nutrition. The program does this by providing Direct Education classes, Indirect Education materials and resources, and Policy Systems and Environmental Changes (PSE's). CFHL has 3 subcontractors that assist in carrying out the goal of educating the student population.						
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education(SNAP-Ed) eligible participants, receiving Nutrition Education 10/1/2022-9/30/2023 (FNPI 5a) (SRV 5ff).	Month	YTD	YTD Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress	
Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) Direct Education provided.	264	845	2,000	158%	42%	
Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) Subcontractor Direct Education provided.	25	2,594	2,000	15%	130%	
Kernville Unified School District (KUSD) Subcontractor Direct Education provided.	115	932	1,000	138%	93%	
Lamont Elementary School District (LESD) Subcontractor Direct Education provided.	26	879	1,000	31%	88%	
Complete the Healthy Food Pantry Assessment Toolkit (HFPAT) to identify potential growth opportunities for 6 different food pantries.	1	4	6	200%	67%	
Cumulative Indirect Education: Indirect education, for SNAP-Ed purposes, is defined as the distribution or display of information and resources which involve no participant interaction with an instructor or multimedia.	1715	16,841	30,000	69%	56%	
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)						
Direct Education Numbers were lower than in prior months due to the Subcontracted school districts' barely coming back from their summer break. Direct Education #'s will rise in the upcoming month. Indirect education increased steadily as well but was slower due to subcontractor school districts being without children during the summer months. Most of the indirect education numbers came from the CAPK CFHL team during the Farmers Market Week Event. CFHL also was able to conduct another HFPAT with Delanos Food Pantry. The team also met with the Leah's Pantry Staff, The official State Training Consultants for the CFHL Program, and they clarified food Distribution sites can also join the NPP program which opens CFHL for more collaboration.						
Program Strategic Goals		Progress				

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Minimize staff turn-over and become fully staffed.	The CalFresh Helthy Living Program is fully staffed! This is the first time in the last few years there is a full team in this program. However, in August 2023, CFHL staff proposed an addition for an Outreach Specialist position to the Board of Directors which was approved. Recruitment will start for this new position in September 2023.
Partner with community agencies and collaboratives that are SNAP-Ed approved, including other CAPK Programs, to increase the amount of Direct Education, Indirect Education, and PSE's which improve the opportunities for the SNAP-Ed eligible population to have healthy food choices, physical activity, and nutrition information.	In August 2023, CFHL conducted Direct Education classes in M St. Navigation center, MCAP, BGLAD, Pacific Health Education Cognitive Health Center, Stay Focussed Ministries, Wascos public Library and Taft College. CFHL Started July 2023 by attending Food distributions in Delano, Catholic Charities, numerous Apple Core Project Food distributions, Cal City Farmers Market and F St. farmers Market, and the New Life church food pantry.
Progress with assessing Food Pantries and the progress in partnering in implementing improvement measures based on the data of the Healthy Food Pantry Assessment Toolkit (HFPAT).	The CFHL team conducted 1 HFPAT in the Month of August 2023 at the Delano Food Pantry. This pantry is also interested in joining the NPP program. The team also met with Leah's Pantry Staff, The official State Training Consultants for the CFHL Program, and clarified food Distribution sites can also join the NPP program which opens CFHL for more collaboration.
Creative a new Food Pantry Collaborative in Kern County where Pantries can collaborate, plan, and discuss ideas to improve services and strategically plan for encouraging Nutrition based decisions for clients.	The CFHL hosted the 3rd Kern County Food Pantry Collaborative (KCFPC) meeting on August 28, 2023 with a total of 24 participants. The collaborative included a presentation from Kelly Lowery, CAPK's Food Bank Administrator and highlighted work that Flood Ministries is doing in Arvin CA in their food distrobutions. As Kern County's primary provider of food distributor (for pantrys and distrobution) kelly was able to asnwer questions as needed and provide an invitation to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Food Bank Expansion.

**Program Highlights**

The month of August 2023 was another busy month for the CFHL Program. While partnering with 7 community agencies to provide direct education, we also celebrated National Farmers Market Week with the F St. Farmers Market on August 12, 2023. This is an annual event that the CFHL coordnates to increase access and attendance at the Farmers Market. There were over 20 community agencies handing out resources and providing services to the community. There were also local Farmers who were selling lcoal produce. Another special service at the F St. Farmers Market is that they offer the Market Match Program which matches funds when cleints use the EBT/Food Stamp Benifits. Thus, if clients spend \$15 in benifits, the market gives them \$15 for free which means they recieve \$30 of fresh produce without using their own money. Another amazing fact is the the CFHL program actually brought the Market Match Program to the F St. Farmers Market in 2020.

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit		Food Bank		
Division/Director	Health & Nutrition, Susana Magana		Program Manager	Kelly Lowery		
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
The Food Bank provides food assistance to low-income families and individuals through a network of more than 150 agency partner distribution sites across Kern County.						
TEFAP		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		53,532	414,299	500,000	128%	83%
Pounds Distributed		852,229	6,065,733	9,500,000	108%	64%
Pantry Program		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		56,361	461,994	500,000	135%	92%
Pounds Distributed		340,546	2,146,204	3,000,000	136%	72%
Fresh Rescue		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		20,198	148,023	150,000	162%	99%
Pounds Distributed		193,898	1,421,024	2,000,000	116%	71%
CSFP		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		4,807	38,579	57,600	100%	67%
Pounds Distributed		153,824	1,234,528	1,843,200	100%	67%
Free Farmers Markets		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		13,572	79,957	150,000	109%	53%
Pounds Distributed		193,898	704,240	1,000,000	233%	70%
Brighter Bites		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		2,560	30,098	80,000	38%	38%
Pounds Distributed		14,475	151,388	300,000	58%	50%
Snack Attack		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		1,959	4,895	2,000	1175%	245%
Pounds Distributed		786	7,767	10,000	94%	78%
Community Events & Other		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Individuals Served		5,528	14,274	20,000	332%	71%
Pounds Distributed		663,300	1,712,879	1,000,000	796%	171%
Totals		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Total Individuals Served		158,516	1,197,393	1,459,600	130%	82%
Total Pounds Distributed (SRV 5jj)		1,749,656	12,589,097	22,000,000	95%	57%
Volunteers (SRV 6f)		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Volunteers who received job skill training (e.g., paid partnership though service providers, duplicated)		48	280	250	230%	112%
Other Volunteers (i.e., general public, duplicated)		156	1,156	1,500	125%	77%

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)	
In August we partnered with several organizations doing back to school events which resulted in a spike in the community events & other category. Additionally, we began obtaining reports from snack attack which resulted in numbers much higher than estimated at the beginning of the year when 2023 goals were established. Overall,	
2023 Program Strategic Goals	Progress Towards 2023 Strategic Goals
Cultivate strong relationships with organizations working on food insecurity including the food policy council.	Held community level meeting in Lake Isabella to discuss ending food insecurity in KRV.
Re-configure the pantry program from on-site shopping to online ordering.	Goal Reached.
Create additional access points in the county by adding new pantries as well as providing night and weekend pantry access.	We added 3 pantries this month. Our total pantry partner count is 143. We started the year with 119 pantry partner agencies.
Develop a classification system for measuring, tracking and increasing the nutrition level of the food distributed.	Classification of food in nutritional categories will begin in Q4 after the completion of the expansion project.
Develop a direct to client home delivery program for emergency food assistance.	Development of this program is set to begin in Q4 after the completion of the expansion project.
Program Highlights	
The CAPK Food Bank partnered with several different organizations on special events in August including back to schools events. Also, the CSFP program fully moved out of the leased warehouse space and into the newly expanded main warehouse. The warehouse expansion project is nearing completion and staff are planning for the October 5th ribbon cutting event and open house.	



**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit	Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment (MCAP)			
Division/Director	Susana Magana		Program Administrator	Laura Porta		
Reporting Period	January 01, 2023 to December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
The Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment (MCAP) program provides childcare subsidy to migrant, agriculturally working families. Families can apply for child care services in six entry counties: Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Tulare, and Fresno. Once a family is enrolled in the program, the family can migrate anywhere in California to follow agricultural work and their childcare services can continue.						
Services		Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Number of Child Enrollments		17	1,805	500	41%	361%
Childcare Providers (SRV 7f )		4	176	120	40%	147%
MCAP Subsidies (SRV 7e )		Month of July processed in August	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Provider Payments-Subsidies Expended		\$2,723,966	\$ 16,601,273	\$14,000,000	233%	119%
MCAP FY 2022 / 2023 Progress		Current Month	FYTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Child Enrollments		17	340	600	2.83%	56.67%
Provider Payments-Subsidies Expended		\$2,723,966	\$ 22,248,286	\$23,128,446	141%	96%
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)						
MCAP subcessfully closed FY 2022-2023 with a record number of child enrollments and the highest reimbursements totals in the history of the program. July 2023 is the first month for FY 2023-2023 and our propram was able to reach a reimbursement total of over \$2.7 million dollars. MCAP is currently at full capacity and we are expecting to fully earn our contract this FY. Child enrollments and monthly reimbursement totals are being regularly reviewed and monitored to ensure target projections and goals are met.						
Program Strategic Goals		Progress Towards Goal				
1. Fill Staff Vacancies.		Management is in the process of revising our current program organizational chart and have identified additional necessary positions. In the upcoming weeks, we will be working with our finance department to budget properly for these positions.				

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2. Staff Retention and Training	Management is currently focused on implementing program quality and compliance initiatives, staff's professional development with monthly trainings and incentivising staff's retention with engagement activities and staff involvement initiatives.
3. Contingency Staffing Plan & Solidify Program Growth.	Management is currently working with our Facilities team to secure office space in the Tulare County area in Lyndsay Ca. Securing additional office space in this area will enable our program to better manage the workload and serve our families more efficiently.
<b>Program Highlights</b>	
<p>MCAP has officially reached full capacity of our family / child enrollment count and has began focusing on building a robust waiting list of eligible families in all six entry counties. Our program is at full capacity for the first time in several years and this is very positive as it will enable us to meet our current contract and be able to focus on increasing and reviewing program quality and compliance. Our current enrollment total is 3053 children actively receiving services.</p>	

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Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit		Women Infants & Children (WIC) Nutrition		
Division/Director	Susana Magana		Program Manager	Lorna Speight		
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
The Women Infants & Children (WIC) program provides education, breastfeeding support and food vouchers for families with infants, children up to age 5, and women who are pregnant, postpartum or breast feeding. CAPK WIC operates in 21 sites throughout Kern County, 5 locations in San Bernardino County, and through one mobile WIC clinic to reach hard-to-serve populations.						
Services	Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress	
Caseload (SRV 5g)	13,966		14,610	1147%		
Local Vendor Liaison-Contact Stores (contact 67 vendors 1 contact required per quarter totaling 268 contacts per year)	15	191	268	67%	71%	
Breast Feeding 30% of infants are breastfed (i.e., some, mostly or fully breastfeeding compared to formula)	1,022		900	1363%		
Outreach	Month	YTD	Goal	Month	Annual	
Online Enrollment	192	1,393	1,500	154%	93%	
WIC Presentations and Outreach Events	8	73	72	133%	101%	
Publication in newspaper, television, and/or social media postings (English and Spanish)	26	195	260	120%	75%	
Regional Breast Liaison (RBL)	Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress	
Meet with key community stakeholders (i.e., medical managed care, hospital staff, lactation support, health care providers, other WIC agencies) in Region 24 to increase breastfeeding awareness and referrals to the WIC program, as well as share WIC digital materials and utilization.	10	78	120	100%	65%	
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)						
The LVL contacts were less this month, however the LVL is on target for the quarter.						
Program Strategic Goals			Progress			
Develop strategies to increase WIC retention and re-engagement with current participants			We are continuing to reach out to our participants who have missed their recertification appointments in order to keep our participation up. Outreach has been participating in more events as well as posting on social media.			
Program Highlights						
August was World Breast Awareness month. Staff recognized Breastfeeding mothers by hosting Breastfeeding events at various WIC sites. Breastfeeding mothers were give a gift bag with various item donated by local businesses.						



## **Youth and Community Services**

East Kern Family Resource Center

Oasis Family Resource Center

Energy, Weatherization, and Utility Assistance

Friendship House Community Center

Shafter Youth Center

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

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Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit	East Kern Family Resource Center (EKFRC)			
Division/Director	Youth & Community Services	Program Manager	Anna Saavedra			
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
East Kern Family Resource Center (EKFRC) is a regional resource center based in Mojave, Ca. The EKFRC assists individuals and families from the desert and Tehachapi Mountain communities. The primary focus is on referred families with children who are at risk of abuse and neglect, and families unprepared to enter kindergarten successfully. The EKFRC also assists walk-in clients with basic needs, clothing, faxing/copying services, HEAP applications and referrals.						
Differential Response		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
DR Referrals - Received from DHS		0	201	125	0%	161%
Case Management-Families (SRV 7a)		0	41	50	0%	82%
Case Management-Children (SRV 7a)		0	115	125	0%	92%
Differential Response Total		0	357	300	0%	119%
First 5		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Parents Receiving Case Management Services (SRV 7a)		1	36	30	40%	120%
Children Receiving Case Management Services (SRV 7a)		3	58	30	120%	193%
Parents Participating in Court Mandated Classes (FNPI 5d & SRV 5mm)		0	4	10	0%	40%
Children Educational Center Base Activities (FNPI 2b)		1	11	30	40%	37%
Children Educational Home Base Activities (FNPI 2b)		0	45	30	0%	150%
Children Summer Bridge Activities (FNPI 2b)		0	12	15	0%	80%
Family Support Services for non-clients with children 5 and under		35	324			
Collaborative Meetings Participated		1	8	12	100%	67%
First 5 Total		41	498	157	313%	317%
Walk-In Community Services (Duplicated Clients & Case		Month	YTD			
Food Assistance		60	944			

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House Hold Items	6	69
Hygiene Kits	8	85
Referrals	18	309
Emergency Clothing	19	377
Administrative Services & Copies	80	2276
Transportation Services	0	26
Education Supplies	7	53
Covid - 19 Supplies	5	77
Baby Supplies	10	124

**Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)**

Our Differential Response Grant ended on June 30, 2023. We have received a new grant for \$3000,000 for the homeless population, We are currently hiring a homeless navigator for East Kern.

<b>Program Strategic Goals</b>	<b>Progress Towards Goal</b>
1. Find additional funding.	EKFRC continues to look for more funding opportunities We applied for the Stater Bros grant promoting healthy eating.
2. Participate in community events.	EKFRC collaborated with the Home Visitor program from Rosamond CA in the month of August. I had the opportunity of being the guest speaker for their Socialization Presentation. I shared information with the parents regarding the many services being offered through EKFRC. I presented in both English and Spanish since I had Spanish speakers join.
3. Expand our reach across the East Kern Communities.	EKFRC held their monthly collaborative meeting. Our guest speaker was Jason Hogan from Bartz-Altadonna Community Health Center who shared all the medical services available through their clinic for insured and non insured clients.

**Program Highlights**

EKFRC relocated in the month of August to a new location at 15662 K street Mojave CA. Staff and clients are very excited to see EKFRC expand. We will be offering more services as we settle into our new building. We will have more details to follow in September.

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Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit		Oasis Family Resource Center	
Division/Director	Fred Hernandez	Program Manager		Eric Le Barbe	
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023				
Program Description					
The Oasis Family Resource Center provides resources, education, and crisis assistance to individuals, families, and children in Ridgecrest and surrounding communities. They focus on providing case management and educational support to families to build resilience					
First 5 Kern (Unduplicated Services)	Month	YTD	Annual Goal (12 Mo)	Month Progress	Annual Progress (12 Mo)
Parents Receiving Case Management Services (SRV 7a)	0	32	30	0%	107%
Children Receiving Case Management Services (SRV 7a)	0	31	30	0%	103%
Parents Participating in Court Mandated Classes (FNPI 5d & SRV 5mm)	5	12	10	600%	120%
Children Educational Home Base Activities (FNPI 2b)	7	28	15	560%	187%
Children Summer Bridge Activities (FNPI 2b)	0	19	10	0%	190%
Family Support Services for non-clients with children 5 and under	42	176			
First 5 Total	54	298	95	682%	314%
Walk-In Community Services (Duplicated & Non First 5 Kern Clients)	Month	YTD			
Food/Household Items (SRV 7c )	131	731			
Household Items (SRV 7c )	137	829			
Baby Supplies	96	603			
Referrals/Administrative Services (SRV 7c)	63	460			
Court Mandated Correspondence	12	49			
Emergency Clothing (SRV 7n)	26	116			
Copies	25	145			
Educational Supplies	47	210			
Transportation Assistance (SRV 7d )	29	155			
COVID-19 Supplies (SRV 5oo)	0	65			
Total Community Services	566	3363			
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)					
The Oasis FRC is on track to meet First 5 Kern goals for the fiscal year 2022-2023.					
Program Strategic Goals		Progress Towards Goal			
1. Offer Court Mandated Nurturing Parenting Class every other quarter.		The Oasis FRC Started a new 12-week class in August with 6 parents (5 parents with children 0-5)			



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<p>2. Apply for three funding opportunities that would help extend range of services outside First 5 clients for under served families (Parenting, Children 6-18, seniors, and homeless individuals).</p>	<p>The Oasis FRC applied for three sources of funding this month with Albertson's for hygiene kits, Wells Fargo for emergency needs, and WACOM for the Fall funds distribution.</p>
<p>3. Participate in community outreach activities to promote CAPK &amp; Oasis FRC services and seek donations from local business partners (in-kind and monetary).</p>	<p>The OFRC received back to school supplies donated by Boeing Employees and 24 backpacks donated by Child Support Services. The Oasis FRC also received emergency supplies from Shannon Grove office, City Serve, and KSI in Bakersfield to provide help to the community to recover from the Hillary storm. The Oasis FRC also received donations of baby and toiletry supplies from the Elks Lodge 1913 and Ridgecrest College Community Services.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Program Highlights</b></p>	
<p>The Oasis Family Resource Center provided community services responding to a total of 243 inquiries in the month of August 2023 This was the busiest month ever since we first opened in May 2021; we saw an increase demand for basic necessities shortly after the Hillary Storm .</p>	

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Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit		Energy & Utility Assistance		
Division/Director	Fred Hernandez		Program Administrator	Wilfredo Cruz Jr.		
	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
The Energy Program assists income-eligible Kern County residents with utility bill payment, free weatherization, and energy education at no cost to the participant. Weatherization services include weather stripping; repair or replacement of windows and doors, heating/ cooling appliances, stoves, refrigerators, and more.						
Low-income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP) 2022 Ends December 2023		Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Households Served - Utilities Assistance			42			100%
Utility Payments			63,947			100%
Households Served - Weatherization			64	64	0%	100%
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 2021 Ends September 2023		Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Households Served - Utilities Assistance		2	2,888	2,000	1%	144%
Utility Payments		\$ 1,229	\$ 3,456,377	\$ 2,565,058	1%	135%
Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) 2021 Ends December 2023		Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Households Served - Utilities Assistance		199	1,009	2,000	119%	50%
Utility Payments		\$ 152,769.52	\$707,572	\$1,972,332	93%	36%
Low-income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP) 2023 Ends June 2024		Month	YTD	Goal		
Households Served - Utilities Assistance		1,128	3,536	1,900	712%	186%
Utility Payments		\$ 1,684,555	5,164,965	\$ 2,587,322	781%	200%
Households Served - Weatherization		14	73	106	158%	69%
Supplemental Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (SLIHEAP) 2023 Ends May 2024		Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Households Served - Utilities Assistance		25	116	145	207%	80%
Utility Payments		\$ 33,876.10	177,236	\$217,540	187%	81%
Emergency Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (ESLIHEAP) 2023 Ends May 2025		Month	YTD	Goal		
Households Served - Utilities Assistance		154	902	1,000	185%	90%
Utility Payments		\$ 246,763	879,764	\$ 799,736	370%	110%
Households Served - Weatherization		0	0	0	N/A	N/A
Totals		Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Total Households Served - Utility Assistance (FNPI 4z, SRV 4i, SRV 7b)		1,508	8,515	5,900	307%	144%
Total Utility Payments		\$ 2,119,192	10,490,325	\$ 7,124,712	357%	147%
Total Households Weatherized (FNPI4h, FNPI 4z, SRV 4q, SRV 7b, & SRV 4t)		19	142	170	134%	84%
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)						
1) 2021 ARPA - we have moved additional funds to UA over the last 6 months (\$1,106,000) to help assist more clients, hence the big difference between our YTD and goal. Will be moving another \$100,000 in September to assist additional clients.						
2) 2022 LIHEAP has been fully expended and is now a closed contract						
3) 2023 ESLIHEAP - we do not expect to complete any weatherization under this contract in 2023 - could change next year						

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Program Strategic Goals	Progress Towards Goal
1) Fully implementing online client self-application for Utility Assistance	Currently in process of testing self-application system <input type="checkbox"/>
2) Become fully staffed and trained in Weatherization and Utility Assistance	Fully staffed in both UA and WX
3) Fully expend 2022 LIHEAP and 2021 ARPA contracts by end of contract dates	2022 LIHEAP is fully expended 2021 ARPA in process and should be completed by end of September 2023 <input type="checkbox"/>
Program Highlights	

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Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit		Friendship House Community Center (FHCC)		
Division/Director	Fred Hernandez		Program Manager	Lois Hannible		
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
Located in Southeast Bakersfield, the program serves children, adults, and families through after-school, summer and mentor programs, nutrition education, sports, access to social services, and more.						
Youth Programs	Current Enrolled	Month (Added)	YTD	YTD Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Youth Mentoring (FNPI 2c.2., FNPI 2c.3, SRV 2p) Reporting ends June 30, 2023	40	0	44	100	0%	44%
Summer Program (Max Capacity due to COVID) (SRV 2m)	69	1	69	35	34%	197%
After School/Learning Pods Enroll (FNPI 2c.2., FNPI 2c.3, SRV 2p)	7	0	16	50	0%	32%
Medi-Cal Outreach		Month (Added)	YTD	YTD Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Social media emails and impressions		3349858	12,526,642	7,000,000	574%	179%
Canvassing phone calls and flyers		1846	8,979	10,000	222%	90%
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)						
The FHCC summer program ended on August 4th. The FHCC is currently facilitating an afterschool program and mentor program for community youth. In addition to providing Medi-Cal outreach to the community to assist with enrollment, program staff are also connecting with Medi-Cal recipients to ensure that they are completing their Medi-Cal renewal packets and are requesting new renewal packets for those that did not receive one. The Medi-Cal outreach campaign continues to advertise through GET and the use of billboards.						
Program Strategic Goals		Progress				
Plan and facilitate Friendship House (FHCC) Advisory Board fundraising event to benefit the Friendship House .		The Passport to Success fundraising event for the Friendship House is scheduled for October 5, 2023. Sponsorship opportunities and event tickets are available.				
Recruit and secure staffing for the Friendship House.		There are no vacant positions at the FHCC.				
Work with the CAPK Executive Team to increase the number of grants researched/submitted for the CAPK Friendship House.		FHCC Program Manager is currently assisting the grant team with completing a grant application to provide physical fitness instruction and nutrition education for program youth and families.				
Program Highlights						
A huge thank you to Omni for providing new sports equipment to the Friendship House, to support our afterschool recreational activities.						

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Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit			Shafter Youth Center (SYC)		
Division/Director	Fred Hernandez			Program Manager	Angelica Nelson		
Reporting Period	January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023						
Program Description							
The Shafter Youth Center (SYC) serves children, adults, and families through youth after-school, summer and pre-employment programs, parenting classes, nutrition education, sports, access to social services, and more.							
Youth Programs		Current Enrolled (duplicated)	Month (unduplicated)	YTD (unduplicated)	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Summer Program starting in June (Max Capacity due to COVID) (SRV 2m) June/July				43	40	0%	108%
After School Program Enroll (FNPI 2c &SRV 2I) (hours of operation: 2-5pm; 1230p - 5pm for minimum day)		20	4	29	35	137%	83%
Community Programs			Month				
Energy Program (Utility Assistance), Fitness Boot Camp, Zumba and Adult Basketball			4 groups				
Outreach Activities			Month	YTD	Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Outreach Events (presentations/informational updates)			0	9	6	0%	150%
Community Events (i.e., diaper, food, PPE distributions)			0	3	6	0%	50%
Adult basketball 4x per week; Energy Program hosts appointments 1x per month; Fitness Boot Camp meets 1x per week; Zumba class has been happening 2x per week. Zumba and Fitness Boot Camp have been drawing crowds of 25-30 people. Adult basketball is slowly coming back from summer. Starting with 2 players at the beginning then finishing the month with 20-25 playing some nights.							
Program Strategic Goals			Progress				
1. Increase youth program registration as COVID restrictions ease up while maintaining a safe environment.			Registration for After School Programming has increased since the summer session.				

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2. Increase attainment of program funding to provide larger variety of program offerings.	SYC is actively applying for funding opportunities in order to provide more services.
3. Increase community engagement, including volunteers, social media, program participation.	SYC is increasing community engagement as we are now hosting some BC interns as well as volunteers for the After School Program.
<b>Program Highlights</b>	

Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit	Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)			
Division/Director	Fred Hernandez		Program Manager	Jacqueline Guerra		
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
VITA offers no-cost tax preparation and e-filing for low and moderate-income individuals and families. VITA also assists eligible clients to take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), increasing their tax return and boosting the local economy. All VITA services are provided by IRS-certified staff and volunteers.						
Completed Tax Returns (SRV 3o) 10/01/2022 to 09/30/2023		Month	YTD	Goal Adjusted	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Federal		60	6,192	6,000	12%	103%
State		84	4,737	6,000	17%	79%
Refunds and Credits (SRV 3o) 10/01/2022 to 09/30/2023		Month	YTD			
Federal Refunds		\$41,975	\$3,293,078			
State Refunds		\$25,449	\$1,147,980			
Federal EITC (income limit \$57,414/household)		\$33,759	\$2,061,531			
CalEITC (income limit \$30,000/household)		\$10,726	\$475,741			
Total Refunds and Credits		\$111,909	\$6,978,330			
Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) (SRV 3o) 10/01/2022 to 09/30/2023		Month	YTD	Goal Adjusted	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Applications (New/Renewal)		12	167	150	86%	111%
Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)						
The difference in state vs federal returns is a result of credit eligibility for families with zero income. CA offers the Young Child Tax Credit to zero income families with a child under 6 in the amount of \$1,083. The IRS does not require or allow e-filing of returns with zero income unless it results in a refund.						
Program Strategic Goals			Progress Towards Goal			
Continue to build relationships in rural communities in order to reach more clients.			CAPK VITA is working with partners to attend back to school fairs for students and provide parents flyers regarding the VITA program and credits they may be eligible for.			
Program Highlights						





## **Operations**

Data Services

Facilities & Maintenance

Information Technology

Risk Management

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Month	August-23	Program/Work Unit	Operations Division	
Division/Director, Assistant Director	Emilio Wagner Director of Operations, Maria Contreras Assistant Director	Program Managers	Douglas Dill, Ryan Dozier, Luisa Rosa Silva, Laurie Sproule	
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023			
Division Description				
Facility repair and maintenance, information technology, risk insurance, and facility planning.				
Data Services				
Activity	Requested	In-Progress	Processed	Processed YTD
Dynamic 365 Fixes	0	0	0	3
Dynamic 365 Enhancements	0	0	0	1
Projects				
Universal Intake	Develop intake for programs that don't have an electronic process.		60%	60%
Contract Management System	Track and manage contracts within the Agency		90%	90%
In-kind Management	Application is used to track the total number of in-kind hours with built in automation. This application will eliminate the current paper process.		70%	70%
CalAIM - KHS	New grant form Kern Health Systems for the CALAIM funding. IS part is to generate flat files used to data upload and verifying SFTP is working correctly.		85%	85%
Referral Management Enhancements	1. Build the 3 referral contact attempt. 2. Build the process to close out Approval Emails 3. FRC process needs to bridge their Inquiry Process to Referral System (*This is a wish item, FRC do double work) 4. Add mentor program and medical program as new delivery frameworks and incorporate them into the workflows		100%	100%
FRC Platform Updates	Many enhancements and process updates to how the FRC capture data from walk in clients and their grant obligations.		100%	100%
Feeding America Service Insights Project	Effort to digitize the intake process for our Food Bank and partner sites.		20%	20%
Facilities				
Activity	Requested	In-Progress	Processed	Processed YTD
Facility Work Orders	420	557	337	2298

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<b>Construction Projects</b>				
18th Street - Admin		Design Development	9%	
Food Bank Expansion		Phase II - Interior Improvements & Fire Suppression System	98%	
<b>Major Maintenance Projects</b>				
Oasis Renovation			75%	
Angela Martinez			15%	
Stockdale HS			80%	
Friendship House Lighting/Pour-in-place			50%	
Playgrounds		Sterling, Angela Martinez, Pete Parra EHS	60%	

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Information & Technology				
Activity	Requested	In-Progress	Processed	Processed YTD
Help Desk Work Orders	442	65	377	#REF!
Information & Technology Projects				
Description		% Completed	Comments	
SJC WIFI Replacement		80		
SJC Firewall Replacement		100		
Head Start Expansion		60		
Risk Management				
Workers Compensation Claims		Reported	Reported YTD	
For Report Only		7	54	
First Aid		3	13	
Medical		0	8	
Modified Duty		0	5	
Lost Time/COVID		2	3	
Under Invest / Non-Ind / Students / Parents / Volunteers / Clients		1	6	
Property		2	13	
Vehicle Incident / Grand Theft Auto		1	9	
Motor Vehicle Accident		0	8	
Work Place Violence / ODs / Death		0	3	
Total		16	122	
Program Strategic Goals		Progress Towards Goal		
Develop a facility deferred maintenance program.		Initiated planning discussion for new work order system. The system will be designed to capture all deferred maintenance of facilities, incorporate associated budgets, and schedule remediation. Developing inspection check list to be applied to all facilities.		
Develop and implement a Data Governance strategy.		TBD		
Enhance customer experience —measured based on reaction time and customer		TBD		
Program Highlights				



## **Community Development**

Grant Development

CAPK Foundation

Outreach & Marketing

2-1-1 Kern Call Center

Community Schools Partnership Program (CSPP)

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Month	August-23	Program/	Community Development			
Division/Director	Pritika Ram		Program Manager			
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
The services under the Executive Division range from fund and grant development/research to outreach and						
Outreach Social Media		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Website User Sessions		17,100	177,659	230,000	89%	77%
Facebook Impressions (i.e., number of times users see content)		79,000	702,955	600,000	158%	117%
Other Social Media Impressions		30,000	161,917	150,000	240%	108%
Outreach Advocacy						
Toured Senator Padillas Staff member around M street and Food Bank.						
Met with NCAF's David Bradely to discuss future partnership and initiatives for CAPK.						
Outreach Special Projects						
Savannah Attended NCAP Conference and Spoke on the Young Professional Panel titled "Bridging the Gap: the importance of Youn Professionals in CAA's."						
Assisted the energy program with a LIHWAP outreach event McFarland that had over 200 community members in attendance						
Met with CalFresh team to discuss the planning for an updated webpage						
Assisted CalFresh with the promotion, development of collateral, and media interviews for national farmers market week event.						
Attended and hosted Northern California SoCal Regional Advisory Board for SoCal Edision						
Presented at Kern County Child Support on the initiatives and programs of CAPK						
Working alongside energy program to promote and organize the following outreach events: 9.7 MLK Rec Center, 9.13 Wasco, 10.19 Bakersfield, and 11.16 Bakersfield						
Working with HeySalty on comms plans for Feed the Need, food insecurity website, and FHCC Gala video						
Working with KGET to plan promotion for Feed the Need event, October Ribbon Cutting Event, and Holiday Food Drive in November						
Grants In Progress/Research		Projects				
Strategic Growth Council's Community Resilience Center program will fund planning activities between 2024 and 2026 for new construction and upgrades of neighborhood-level resilience centers to provide shelter and resources during climate and other emergencies. Through our proposal, CAPK will assess the demand and potential viability of the development of Shafter Youth Center as a community resilience center.		Kern County Food Insecurity Assessment has been completed. On 9/13/23 Tranforming Local Communities will present the findings to the Food Policy Council.				

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Day 1 Families will fund homeless related services. We are currently researching land/mobile unitst where permanent housing rental assistance services could be ofered.	Grimmway Farms shared a proposal for CAPK's consideration regarding an edible farm. CAPK is researching funding opportunities by way of the USDA to support the buildout of this garden near the Food Bank and payment for on-going consulting.
	The Community Resilience Economic Fund (CERF) continues to conduct monthly community-based and industry meetings. There is a new grant cycle, Catalyst Fund, that has opened and will be lead by the Kern Coalition in addition to Phase I Planning. Under CAPK, we have hired the regional convener that will support the CERF project for the agency, in conjunction with the current staff, and CERF Coalition.
<b>Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)</b>	<b>Process Improvement (i.e., ROMA, PCDD)</b>
CSD 2023 Onsite Monitoring Report - Review 2022 Annual Report. No Findings to report; however; there was a recommendation to create a (1) Failure to Follow Equipment Disposition Notification Requirement and (2) Untimely Expenditure Reporting. Finance is working on correcting these items.	Staff are preparing for cohort #3.
<b>Foundation</b>	
1) Researched Fundraising Platforms to integrate into current CRM to increase donor engagement.	5) Introductory Meeting with California Classic Events to coordinate Turkey Day Run to benefit Food Bank.
2) Introductory meeting with Danielle Oehlmann with Stater Bros. Charities for future campaigns.	6) Site visits to research location for Foundation Spring Fundraiser.
3) Coordinated with Omni Family Health for donation of sports equipment for Youth Centers.	7) Initial meeting with internal staff to develop an Employee Giving Program for CAPK employees.
4) Meeting with Nicole Vigil with Orlie's Shoe Drive to coordinate donation for Youth Centers.	8) Attended Chamber of Commerce Summer Mixer.
<b>Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)</b>	
<b>Program Strategic Goals</b>	<b>Progress Towards Goal</b>
1. Customer Relationship Management Projects, including Volunteer Management, inter-agency Referral Management, and contract management.	There is a low utilization of the inter-agency referral system. Staff plans to work with IS on how to best address this issue. Contract management has not been implemented.
2. Increase grant development and marketing activities, which are aligned with the 2021-25 Strategic Plan.	We completed a mid-point check during the August Board Retreat. No majors concerns or findings.
3. Agency-level adoption of Results Oriented Management & Accountability (ROMA) and Patient-Centered Data Driven Principles to programmatic and operational use.	As reported above, cohort # 3 is beginning in September.



**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Program Highlights

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Month	August-23	Program/Division		2-1-1 Call Center Program		
Division/Director	Pritika Ram		Program Manager	Sabrina Jones-Roberts		
Reporting Period	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023					
Program Description						
The 2-1-1 Kern is a 24/7 information and referral service that provides local residents with comprehensive information and links to community health and human services at no cost. The 2-1-1 Kern has a database of 1,500 social service agencies that are available to the public through the 2-1-1 Kern Online Resource Directory at www.211KernCounty.org. The program has over 15 years of experience in providing and linking community members to vital services, and currently serves multiple communities in the Central Valley including Kings, Tulare, Stanislaus, Fresno, and Madera through the United Way partnerships.						
Most Requested Services	Homeless Diversion Programs		Utility Service Payment		Food Pantries	
Top 3 Unmet Needs	Food Stamps		Rent Payment Assistance		Homeless Shelter	
Information and Referral Services Calls Handled		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Kern County (SRV 7c)		8,087	46,627	90,000	108%	52%
Kings County (SRV 7c)		254	2,004	4,000	76%	50%
Tulare County (SRV 7c)		1,042	7,084	18,000	69%	39%
Stanislaus County (SRV 7c)		981	6,825	19,200	61%	36%
Fresno & Madera		2,302	17,084	20,000	138%	85%
Merced & Mariposa (effective March 2022)		82	734	500	197%	147%
Total I&R Calls Handled		12,748	80,358	151,700	101%	53%
Staffing vs. Call Volume				Current Staff	Staff Needed Per Call	Staff Over/ Short
2-1-1 staff designated for calls handled across all counties contracts with the expectation of 42 calls per staff for an 8-hour shift.				12	31.8	(19.80)
Grant Funded Services		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
CalFresh Application (SRV 7b & SRV 7c)		3	60	300	12%	20%
Medi-Cal Application (SRV 7b & SRV 7c)		6	37	100	72%	37%
First 5 Help Me Grow (HMG) Ages & Stages New Children Screened (SRV 5c, SRV 7b & SRV 7c)		46	254	300	184%	85%
2-1-1 Website Visitors		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
Duplicated Visitors (i.e., accessing 2-1-1 e-services and database resources)		27,640	178,728	225,000	147%	79%
Other Calls		Month	YTD	Annual Goal	Month Progress	Annual Progress
LIHEAP (SRV 7b & SRV 7c)		6,944	44,236	45,000	185%	98%
Mental Health (SRV 7c)		423	3,003	3,700	137%	81%
Health and Human Service Referrals		11,683	69,534	110,000	127%	63%
Total Other Services		19,050	116,773	158,700	144%	74%

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)	
<p>2-1-1 consistently aims to meet or exceed monthly and annual goals for all counties. The call volumes fluctuates throughout the year depending on weather conditions, special programs, or occasions. In previous months, the program experienced high call volumes attributed to callers request for tax preparation services and associated appointment needs. Calls have decreased in recent months and have a more predictable range. Although, Kings, Tulare, and Stanislaus are under the monthly goal, the program handled more calls for each of those counties in comparison to the previous month. Call handling service continues to be a necessity for all counties served. □</p>	
Program Strategic Goals	Progress Towards Goal
1. Recruitment	<p>2-1-1 is recruiting for 3 Information &amp; Referral Specialists with the assistance of a Staffing Agency. The program conducted interviews on 9/1/23 to fill vacancies and began the process of transitioning 4 temporary employees to permanent. The program is recruiting for 1 Program Specialist and has scheduled interviews for 9/7/23. The program anticipates its Supervisor will be onboarded on 9/7/2023.</p>
2. Retention of staff □	<p>2-1-1 program offers database support, schedule accommodations, basic technical assistance and opportunities to recognize special occasions for existing employees to align with its overall objective of staff retention. The program also recognizes individuals for exemplary work and communicates appreciation.</p>
3. Contract Retention	<p>2-1-1 aims to achieve strengthened partnerships by effectively communicating, and meeting with partners and contract grantors to share performance data and discuss progress relative to its objectives, deliverables, and goals. The program is consistently working on meeting the reporting expectations of all funding sources and maintaining a trusting relationship to increase the opportunity for existing contracts to be retained.</p>
Program Highlights	
<p>The program was granted a contract for Medi-Cal Redetermination which shall allow the potential to maximize the supports provided to community members in need of renewing their health insurance coverage.</p>	

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

<b>Month</b>	August-23	<b>Program/Work Unit</b>	Community School Partnership Program		
<b>Division/Director</b>	Pritika Ram	<b>Program Manager</b>	Que'Mesha Banner		
<b>Reporting Period</b>	January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023				
<b>Program Description</b>					
The Community School Partnership Program (CSPP) provides direct wrap around case management to school families for students who are enrolled within Bakersfield City School District's Community Schools. The program links student families to community-based services addressing food insecurities, housing stability, or other related basic services. The program is modeled after the Four Pillars of a successful Community School designed to mitigate academic and social impacts of emergencies affecting its local communities and improve school responsiveness to student and family needs.					
<b>Additional Requested Services</b>	Emergency Food Boxes	Clothing	Medi-Cal Outreach		
<b>Referral Type/ Total</b>	M.T.S.S Total ( 0 )	F.A.C.E Total ( 20 )	OTHER Total ( 30 )		
<b>Services</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Annual Goal</b>	<b>Month Progress</b>	<b>Annual Progress</b>
Families referred to Program (SRV 7c)	50	220	920	65%	24%
Total Families referred internally for Employment Resources (2-1-1)	8	31	153	63%	20%
Total Families referred internally for Food and Nutrition (2-1-1 or CalFresh)	22	64	153	173%	42%
Total Families referred internally for Housing (CES)	11	44	153	86%	29%
Total Families referred internally for Childcare (Head Start)	7	45	153	55%	29%
Total Families referred internally for Utility Assistance (Energy)	21	87	153	165%	57%
Total Families referred internally for Weatherization (Energy)	2	18	153	16%	12%
Families Receiving Case Management Services (SRV 7a)	15	123	460	39%	27%
<b>Explanation (Over/Under Goal Progress)</b>					
Bakersfield City School District and the Community Schools are now open for the 23-24 academic year. The Community School Partnership Program is in progress of filling the Case Manager vacancy at McKinley Elementary School. The Program is excited to start at the beginning of the school year to improve program awareness to parents and all school faculty about our services.					
<b>Program Strategic Goals</b>		<b>Progress Towards Goal</b>			
1) Recruitment		Interviews were conducted and a candidate was selected. On 8/8/23, the candidate accepted the job offer and began the onboarding process. On 9/18/23, candidate is expected to attend New Hire Orientation.			

**Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Monthly Report 2023**

2) Increase Program Awareness	Program Supervisor will work closely with Vice Principals to ensure all school faculty are well versed with our program and understand the Case Managers role on each school site. Case Manager will continue to attend school events and meetings to promote the program and interact with student-families.
<b>Program Highlights</b>	

Application Status Report  
August 2023

Name	Description	Funder	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	Status
Affordable Housing and Supportive Services Demonstration	Abandoned - CAPK does not own housing units.  The AHSSD is available to Community Action Agencies and tribes funded directly by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) in fiscal year 2023 that own affordable housing units and provide wraparound supportive services to residents.	US Administration for Children and Families	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	Abandoned
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Consumer	Did not receive a response back from the appropriate Director to move forward with this opportunity before the deadline to apply.	U.S. Department of Energy	\$ -	\$ -	Abandoned
Domestic Violence Prevention	Abandoned: Unable to design a community-based approach during before the deadline. Close to Home (C2H) is a promising strategy that engages community members to design solutions and lead social change for DV, TDV, and sexual violence prevention. The C2H community mobilization strategy is a community driven process that engages youth, adults, and organizational leaders to develop and implement local prevention strategies through four (4) phases: Assess, Talk, Build, and Act. A critical aspect of this program is to engage youth, adults, and organizational leaders as partners in meaningful activities with other community members that contribute to the community mobilization process and develop and implement prevention strategies.	California Department of Public Health (CDPH)	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	Abandoned
Homeless Housing Assistance Prevention (HHAP 3)	Drop-In Homeless Shelter at the East Kern Family Resource Center	County of Kern	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	Awarded
Sex Education Equity (S.E.E.) Project	Sex education for women served by OFRC	Planned Parenthood	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Awarded
AB 836 Clean Air Centers Pilot Program	The Clean Air Centers Pilot Program was established by Assembly Bill 836, which provided funding to create Wildfire Smoke Clean Air Centers for Vulnerable Populations and establish a network of publicly accessible facilities with high-efficiency air filtration systems for valley residents who may not otherwise have access to clean air during wildfire events.	San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 6,408.23	Awarded
Medi-Cal Redetermination	Supporting enrollment for Medi-cal redetermination beneficiaries	Kaiser Permanente	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	Awarded
Neighborhood Grants	This grant is part of our Neighborhood Grants program, through which one or more Starbucks partners (employees) nominated your organization based on the	Starbucks Foundation	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Awarded
CAPK Foundation Sponsorship	Sponsorship to support EKFRS	Rio Tinto/U.S. Borax	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Awarded



Application Status Report  
August 2023

CalMoneySmart Grant	CalMoneySmart is a grant program created by Senate Bill 455 (Ch. 478, Stats. 2019), which established the Financial Empowerment Fund. Through this program, the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) offers grants of up to \$200,000 each to develop and deliver free financial education	Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	Denied
Walmart Local Community Grant	\$5,000 in funding is being requested to support CES programing needs. Primarily to help purchase client personal items such as clothing, hygiene kits, sleeping bags and tents.	Walmart	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	Denied
Community Resilience Center	A project development grant to assess the demand and potential viability of the development of Shafter Youth Center as a Community Resilience Center	Strategic Growth Council	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ -	Application-Draft
Walmart Local Community Grant	\$5,000 in funding is being requested to support M St. programing needs. Primarily to help purchase client personal items such as clothing, hygiene kits, sleeping bags and tents.	Walmart	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	Denied
Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)	CAPK, Grid Alternatives, and KCCD will partner on strategy 4 - energy efficiency. CAPK will weatherize 60 while, Grid will provide solar installations to 91 homes, and KCCD will train 300 students through a solar workforce program.	City of Bakersfield	\$ 2,626,492.40	\$ -	Pending
KCCD, California Renewable Energy Laboratory, and the National Cement Company	KCCD has selected CAPK as a subcontractor for this project. The Outreach team will be responsible to market and outreach the mountain areas.	Kern Community College District	\$ 27,160.10	\$ -	Pending
HUD FY 2023 Coordinated Entry System (CES)	Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Planning and Development Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Renewal or Replacement of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grants FR-6700-N-25	Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative	\$ 236,838.00	\$ -	Pending
CAPK's Family Resource Centers	Funding from this opportunity will allow FRCs to purchase bus passes, emergency supplies, and baby supplies that will assist homeless and low income individuals and families.	Wells Fargo	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	Pending
Wonderful Community Grant	Free farmers markets in the underserved communities of Shafter, Wasco, and Delano.	Wonderful Community Grants	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -	Pending
Nourishing Neighbors	This project will fund hygiene kits for homeless to low-income Oasis clients.	Albertsons	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	Pending

Application Status Report  
August 2023

Other Opportunities					
Name	Description	Funder	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	Status
Baby 2 Baby Car seat Program	Non-monetary award. Car seats were gifted for our FRCs	Baby 2 Baby	N/A	58 car seats. 18 for East Kern and 40 for Oasis Family Resource Center	Awarded
VITA Leadership Institute	Funds will be used for travel expenses. VITA's leadership staff will have an opportunity to participate in a national IRS conference free of charge.	IRS	N/A	Travel Stipend	Pending
Fall Request	WACOM welcomes requests for funds from all non-profit orgs that extend a helping hand to military and civilian members of the local community (Ridgecrest). Funds will be used for essential items including food pantry and hygienic necessities.	WACOM	N/A	Funder decides award size. \$1,050 awarded last year	Pending

**Community Action Partnership of Kern**  
**Small Funding Request (\$50,000 or less per year)**  
**August 2023**

<b>Funding Type</b>	Private	<b>CAPK Program</b>	Oasis Family Resource Center
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Albertson's	<b>Project Name</b>	Nourishing Neighbors
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	Homeless and Low-Income
<b>Request</b>	\$5,000	<b>Division Director</b>	Freddy Hernandez
<b>Award Period</b>	1 year	<b>Program Manager</b>	Eric Le Barbe
<b>Description</b>	Funds from this proposal will support the Oasis Family Resource Center with hygiene products for clients with little to no income. These hygiene products will improve the overall health and hygiene of clients.		

<b>Funding Type</b>	Private	<b>CAPK Program</b>	East Kern and Oasis FRCs
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Wells Fargo	<b>Project Name</b>	Oasis and East Kern Family Resource Centers
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	Homeless and low-income
<b>Request</b>	\$20,000	<b>Division Director</b>	Freddy Hernandez
<b>Award Period</b>	1 year	<b>Program Manager</b>	Eric Le Barbe and Anna Saavedra
<b>Description</b>	Funds from this proposal will support the Family Resource Centers by providing clients with bus passes, emergency supplies, and baby supplies. These items greatly benefit homeless and low-income clients as they have limited resources and financial stability to purchase bus passes, emergency supplies, and baby supplies.		

<b>Funding Type</b>	Private	<b>CAPK Program</b>	Friendship House Community Center
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Dignity Health	<b>Project Name</b>	Friendship House Grows Fit
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	Homeless and low-income
<b>Request</b>	\$40,973.66	<b>Division Director</b>	Freddy Hernandez
<b>Award Period</b>	1 year	<b>Program Manager</b>	Lois Hannible
<b>Description</b>	Funds from this proposal will expand FHCC current Grow Fit Program by adding Zumba classes, monthly food box distributions from our Food Bank, nutrition education from Blue Zones Project, and Medical application assistance from 2-1-1. This program will run for a year and is made for individuals of all ages to encourage participation as they work to improve their overall health.		

**Community Action Partnership of Kern**  
**Small Funding Request (\$50,000 or less per year)**  
**August 2023**

<b>Funding Type</b>	Private	<b>CAPK Program</b>	Shafter Youth Center
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Adams Legacy Foundation	<b>Project Name</b>	Adams Legacy Foundation Grants
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	Children
<b>Request</b>	\$13,365	<b>Division Director</b>	Freddy Hernandez
<b>Award Period</b>	Jan – Dec 2024	<b>Program Manager</b>	Angie Nelson
<b>Description</b>	<p>Letter of Intent (LOI) submitted. Notice of acceptance will be November 15, 2023.</p> <p>LOI describes using funds to support a program that would take Shafter Youth Center students on field trips to Sequoia National Park where student cohorts will receive a private half-day guided tour of the national park.</p>		

<b>Funding Type</b>	Private	<b>CAPK Program</b>	Friendship House Community Center
<b>Funding Agency</b>	ALDI	<b>Project Name</b>	ALDI Cares Community Grants
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	Children
<b>Request</b>	\$5,000	<b>Division Director</b>	Freddy Hernandez
<b>Award Period</b>	Jan – Dec 2024	<b>Program Manager</b>	Lois Hannible
<b>Description</b>	<p>Requesting \$5,000 in funds to support the development of a” grow fit” program at FHCC that gets children active with physical fitness via Zumba classes and helps them gain knowledge of healthy eating habits through nutrition instruction.</p>		

<b>Funding Type</b>	Public	<b>CAPK Program</b>	VITA
<b>Funding Agency</b>	IRS	<b>Project Name</b>	Leadership Institute
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	VITA Staff
<b>Request</b>	Other – Travel Stipend	<b>Division Director</b>	Freddy Hernandez
<b>Award Period</b>	1 year	<b>Program Manager</b>	Jacquelyn Guerra
<b>Description</b>	<p>Funds will be used for travel expenses. VITA’s leadership staff will have an opportunity to participate in a national IRS conference free of charge.</p>		

**Community Action Partnership of Kern**  
**Small Funding Request (\$50,000 or less per year)**  
**August 2023**

<b>Funding Type</b>	Private	<b>CAPK Program</b>	Oasis Family Resource Center
<b>Funding Agency</b>	WACOM	<b>Project Name</b>	Fall
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	Homeless and Low-Income
<b>Request</b>	\$1,050	<b>Division Director</b>	Freddy Hernandez
<b>Award Period</b>	1 year	<b>Program Manager</b>	Eric Le Barbe
<b>Description</b>	WACOM welcomes requests for funds from all non-profit orgs that extend a helping hand to military and civilian members of the local community (Ridgecrest). Funds will be used for essential items including food pantry and hygienic necessities.		

<b>Funding Type</b>	Public	<b>CAPK Program</b>	Outreach Team
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Kern Community College District	<b>Project Name</b>	KCCD, California Renewable Energy Laboratory, and the National Cement Company
<b>CFDA</b>	N/A	<b>Target Population</b>	Remote areas in Kern County
<b>Request</b>	\$27,160.10	<b>Division Director</b>	Pritika Ram
<b>Award Period</b>	2 years	<b>Program Manager</b>	Savannah Maldonado
<b>Description</b>	KCCD has selected CAPK as a subcontractor for this project. The Outreach team will be responsible to market and outreach the mountain areas.		

<b>Recommendation</b>	Staff recommends approval to submit the small funding application(s) up to \$50,000 per year and authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract if awarded, and any subsequent amendments throughout the duration of the contract term.
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**Date Presented/Approved**

Policy Council: \_\_\_\_\_ PRE Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ B&F Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Board Approval: \_\_\_\_\_



## MEMORANDUM

To: Program Review & Evaluation Committee

From: Susana Magana, Health & Nutrition Director

Date: September 13, 2023

Subject: *Agenda Item 5c*: Strategic Plan 2021-2025 – Goal 1 Update - **Info Item**

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Goal Group 1 is dedicated to promoting efforts to “increase access to healthy, affordable food to support the health of the communities we serve” (Strategic Plan, 2021-2025). This goal group is comprised of the following staff: Susana Magana, Laurie Hughey, Vanessa Cortez, Alan Rodriguez, and Kelly Lowery. These members represent various programs, and the Executive Division. Board Member, Michelle Jara-Rangel, will also support efforts through her attendance and collaboration during our monthly meetings.

### **CAPK Strategic Goal 1**

“Increased access to healthy affordable food to support the health of the communities we serve.”

### **Meetings**

Goal group 1 meets on the first Friday of every month.

### **Food Needs Assessment**

CAPK contracted with Transforming Local Communities, Inc. (TLC) in spring 2022 to conduct a gap and resource analysis that will both provide a context for understanding how food supply, distribution, access, and affordability impact the nutrition and health of Kern residents; and provide data that can be used to create a three- to five-year strategic plan to reduce food insecurity for Kern residents. The four strategic goals that the assessment will address include: (1) Locally grown foods are available through schools and food banks/food distribution centers; (2) Kern County residents have ongoing access to affordable, healthful foods that reflect their cultural values; (3) The impact of climate change, social justice, and economic resilience on food availability and access; and (4) Upon the completion of all primary and secondary data collection, TLC will conduct a SWOT analysis of CAPK's direct service programs that support nutrition and food security at the agency, family, and community levels.

The study has been completed and will be released in the coming weeks.



### **CalFresh Healthy Living Pantry Collaborative**

CalFresh healthy Living (CFHL) started Kern County's first ever Pantry Collaborative. This is a space where pantries can come together to share successes, challenges, and offer each other support.

The CFHL program hosted the 3rd Kern County Food Pantry Collaborative (KCFPC) meeting on August 28, 2023, with a total of 24 participants. The collaborative included a presentation from CAPK's Food Bank Administrator and highlighted the work that Flood Ministries is doing in Arvin CA in their food distributions.

### **Food Bank Expansion**

The expansion project is almost complete. Although there are elements that still remain to be completed, operations commenced in the expanded space in July. The CSFP program has moved out of the leased space and into the main warehouse which has added efficiency, and productivity. The official ribbon cutting ceremony and open house will take place on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Food Bank Pantry Program**

The online ordering system was launched network-wide in April. Over the course of two months, we worked with our partners to identify challenges in the system. As a result, we kept the bulk ordering online and reinstituted in person shopping for the miscellaneous items. Since making this change, agency partners have reported higher levels of satisfaction and the corresponding overall poundage distributed has increased. Finally, as an aside, we began the year working with 119 agency partners participating in our pantry program. As of September 1, we are working with 143 (This is in addition to the 54 agency partners who participate in the commodity program. Some agency partners participate in both programs).

### **Grant Funding for Added Partner Agency Capacity**

Food Bank, Procurement, Finance, and Executive team staff are working together to expand the capacity for our agency pantry partners, especially in the area of refrigeration. We are pleased to announce that we were awarded a grant for this purpose and are in the process of identifying the agency partner projects that we will complete in Q1 of 2024.

### **Attachment:**

*Action Plan by Team Member Report – Susana Magana*

# Mission Statement

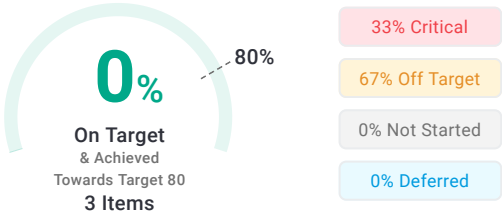
Organizational Slogan

Community Action Partnership of Kern will address underlying causes of poverty, alleviate the effects, and promote dignity and self-sufficiency in the communities we serve.

# Vision Statement

We envision communities where all people have equal opportunities to achieve greater self-sufficiency and attain their version of the American Dream.

Vision Description



# My Items

Item	YTD Actual
1.1: Enhance accessibility through expansion of food distribution sites and services.	33%
1.2: Leverage new and strengthened partnerships to reach additional families and communities.	20%

Item	YTD Actual
1.2.2: Strengthen and expand partnerships with schools to reach additional children and families	55%

## Susana Magana My Items for 2023

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/25

Community Action...  
As of September 6, 2023

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/25

Objective

**Enhance accessibility through expansion of food distribution sites and services. (1.1)** (Last updated: 07/10/23)

Aligned to: #1 Food Access

Owner

Susana Magana

Measure:

Percent Complete

33%

0%



YTD Target: 45%

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/23

Objective

**Leverage new and strengthened partnerships to reach additional families and communities. (1.2)** (Last updated: 02/03/23)

Aligned to: #1 Food Access

Owner

Susana Magana

Measure:

Percent Complete

20%

0%



YTD Target: 45%

Activity

**Strengthen and expand partnerships with schools to reach additional children and families (1.2.2)** (Last updated: 03/03/23)

Owner

Susana Magana

Measure:

Percent Complete

55%

0%



YTD Target: 85.1%

100%

## Susana Magana Contributing to for 2023

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/25

Community Action...  
As of September 6, 2023

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/23

### Objective

**Leverage new and strengthened partnerships to reach additional families and communities. (1.2)** (Last updated: 02/03/23)

Aligned to: #1 Food Access

Owner  
Susana Magana

Measure:  
Percent Complete

20%

YTD Actual

0%

10/01/21



YTD Target: 45%

12/31/23

### Sub-Activity

**Partner existing programs to support nutrition education and food distribution. (1.2.2.1)** (Last updated: 09/12/22)

Owner

Measure:  
Percent Complete

100%

0%



YTD Target: 85.1%

100%

### Sub-Activity

**Explore the potential to establish distribution sites at school sites. (1.2.2.2)** (Last updated: 10/06/21)

Owner

Measure:  
Percent Complete

0%



YTD Target: 85.1%

100%



## MEMORANDUM

To: Program Review & Evaluation - PRE-Committee

From: Yolanda Gonzales – Director of Head Start/State Child Development

Date: September 13, 2023

Subject: *Agenda Item 5c*: Strategic Plan 2021-2025 – Goal 2 Update – **Info Item**

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Strategic Goal 2 – All families in the communities we serve have access to high quality early learning and care choices to meet their diverse needs.

The team continues the process of collaborating with internal and external community partners that can help expand educational support services for the communities in Kern County. Listed below are partnership opportunities that will help us reach our goal:

- Bakersfield College students continued to be offered internship opportunities by the Friendship House and other CAPK departments in hopes of strengthening our partnerships within the community.
- The VITA program is actively seeking new volunteers for the upcoming tax season.
- Community Action Partnership of Kern continues to partner with Bakersfield College to provide staff with Professional Development opportunities. The Courses are led by Dr. Maria Wright.
- The Head Start Department is currently in the planning phase of partnering with Bakersfield College to offer online courses to entry level staff. The goal is to help staff grow in their career.
- Vineland School District is collaborating with the Head Start Program in hopes of providing Transitional Kindergarten services to 4-year-old children at their school site.
- Head Start is still in the process of opening a Toddler option at the Ridgecrest facility to ensure we meet the needs of the community.

Group 2 met on August 11<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled to meet again October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

***Attachment:***

*Action Plan by Team Member Report -Yolanda Gonzales*

## Mission Statement

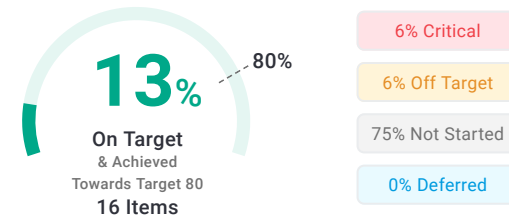
### Organizational Slogan

Community Action Partnership of Kern will address underlying causes of poverty, alleviate the effects, and promote dignity and self-sufficiency in the communities we serve.

## Vision Statement

We envision communities where all people have equal opportunities to achieve greater self-sufficiency and attain their version of the American Dream.

### Vision Description



## My Items

Item	YTD Actual	Item	YTD Actual
2.1: Expand access to services and resources for health and safety of children and youth by providing a safe environment.	90%	2.3.1: Collaborate with adult schools, community colleges, and vocational trade schools to support and strengthen education pathways and...	
2.1.1: Identify and leverage emerging funding opportunities to expand services for both early childcare and youth services.		2.3.1.1: Develop, maintain, and attract a skilled, adaptable, and diverse workforce by providing opportunities for self-sufficiency through...	
2.1.2: Assess emerging needs in geographic areas not currently served by CAPK.		2.3.1.2: Establish streamlined referral pathways and identify available point person (transition specialist and/or relevant intake personnel) at...	
2.2: Support the quality and availability of non-traditional hours of service.	30%	2.3.1.3: Obtain any relevant learning/professional pathway mapping from educational and training institutions to review with interested clients...	
2.2.1: Expand service area and services to families by partnerships with existing agencies serving the 0-17 population. Expand the number of...		2.3.2: Establish a diverse workforce committee with partnerships to formalize pathways from entry-level to advanced positions through...	
2.2.1.1: Seek new funding streams for increasing the capacity of family resource centers, youth centers, and childcare centers to support...		2.3.2.1: Develop and formalize internal pathway mapping inclusive of education/training to benefit clients and community members.	
2.2.1.2: Partner with resource agencies to identify potential providers that would benefit from a CAPK partnership to advocate for the...		2.3.2.2: Identify and implement mechanisms to provide ongoing support to participants.	
2.2.2: Continue to work with partners like the Community Connection for Child Care (CCCC) on referrals and partnerships to increase capacity of...	25%		
2.3: Support workforce development and employment opportunities for CAPK clients.	55%		

## Yolanda Gonzales My Items for 2023

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/25

Community Action...  
As of September 6, 2023

<b>Objective</b> <b>Expand access to services and resources for health and safety of children and youth by providing a safe environment. (2.1)</b> (Last updated: 08/07/23) <b>Aligned to: #2 Community Access</b> <b>Last comment:</b> The Head Start department is not collaborating with BCSD in order to provide wraparound services for families and individuals who need childcare services. (08/07/23)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete	90%	YTD Actual	0%	01/01/23	12/31/23	YTD Target: 50%
				YTD Actual		01/01/23	12/31/23	
<b>Activity</b> <b>Identify and leverage emerging funding opportunities to expand services for both early childcare and youth services. (2.1.1)</b> (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete		YTD Actual	0%	01/01/21	12/31/25	YTD Target: 66.5%
<b>Activity</b> <b>Assess emerging needs in geographic areas not currently served by CAPK. (2.1.2)</b> (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete			0%			YTD Target: 66.5%
<b>Objective</b> <b>Support the quality and availability of non-traditional hours of service. (2.2)</b> (Last updated: 08/07/23) <b>Aligned to: #2 Community Access</b> <b>Last comment:</b> The East Kern FRC was awarded a new grant to assist Homeless individuals and Families in East Kern County. (08/07/23)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete	30%	YTD Actual	0%	01/01/23	12/31/23	YTD Target: 45%
				YTD Actual		10/01/21	12/31/25	
<b>Activity</b> <b>Expand service area and services to families by partnerships with existing agencies serving the 0-17 population. Expand the number of home care childcare providers to support early childhood care and development. (2.2.1)</b> (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete			0%			YTD Target: 66.5%
<b>Activity</b> <b>Continue to work with partners like the Community Connection for Child Care (CCCC) on referrals and partnerships to increase capacity of existing and new provider networks (2.2.2)</b> (Last updated: 10/07/22)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete	25%		0%			YTD Target: 45%
<b>Objective</b> <b>Support workforce development and employment opportunities for CAPK clients. (2.3)</b> (Last updated: 08/07/23) <b>Aligned to: #2 Community Access</b> <b>Last comment:</b> In the month of June, the Oasis FRC created a partnership program that will allow disabled individuals to volunteer at the center in order to help develop their working skills. (08/07/23)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete	55%	YTD Actual	0%	01/01/23	12/31/23	YTD Target: 45%
				YTD Actual		01/01/23	12/31/24	
<b>Activity</b> <b>Collaborate with adult schools, community colleges, and vocational trade schools to support and strengthen education pathways and referral mechanisms for clients, community members, as well as staff. (2.3.1)</b> (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete			0%			YTD Target: 66.5%
<b>Activity</b> <b>Establish a diverse workforce committee with partnerships to formalize pathways from entry-level to advanced positions through comprehensive career fields. (2.3.2)</b> (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner Yolanda Gonzales	Measure: Percent Complete			0%			YTD Target: 33.1%



No goals to display.



## MEMORANDUM

To: Program Review & Evaluation Committee

From: Rebecca Moreno, Director of Housing & Supportive Services

Date: September 13, 2023

Subject: *Agenda Item 5c*: Strategic Plan 2021-2025 – Goal 3 Update - **Info Item**

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CAPK's Strategic Goal 3 is to advance economic empowerment and financial stability for low-income people in the communities we serve. We hope to achieve this goal through the following objectives as approved by the CAPK Board:

- 3.1 – Increase housing stability for people experiencing/at risk of homelessness.
- 3.2 – Increase CAPK capacity to provide long-term affordable housing solutions for low-to-moderate income people and families.
- 3.3 – Increase opportunities and supports for clients to advance through career and education pathways.
- 3.4 – Increase access to economic asset enhancement and financial educational opportunities.

Team members for Goal Group 3 include: Rebecca Moreno (lead), Keith Jackson, Savannah Maldonado, Sylvia Ortega, Bradley Fergon, Louis Gill, and Wilfredo Cruz. The group continues to meet monthly to discuss new ideas and progress on Goal 3 objectives.

During the last quarter, the group has continued to identify several opportunities being led by programs/efforts that enhance housing services for impacted populations in collaboration with the Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative and wraparound services through other departments, programs, and external stakeholders. Below is a short list of accomplishments the last three months:

- Safe Camping and Safe Parking programs continue to operate. In June a decision was made to slow the amount of intakes and reduce the amount of animals allowed which resulted in a reduction of incident reports completed. (3.1.2)
- M Street continues to function at a high capacity and quality service. (3.1.2)
  - Staff from Senator Padilla's office toured M Street
  - CSD toured M Street.
- CES processes the changes for the CoC to continue to improve "throughput" for clients who need permanent supportive housing. (3.1.1)
  - Received a draft agreement from BKRHC for \$120,000.00 to assist with CE through HHIP funds.
  - HHAP 3 contract for \$200,000.00 CES Rural Outreach team in negotiation.

- CES Cal-AIM staff have been onboarded and continue to work with KHS on the data exchange. (3.1.2)
  - Received a contract extension for IPP funds in the amount of \$142,000.00 for an additional 2 FTE's.
  - The Executive team is working on a new proposal for Day Habilitation Services through CalAIM.

The team continues to meet and identify opportunities that will effectively support CAPK's Goal 3 and the communities we serve.

***Attachment:***

*Action Plan Summary by Goal Group #3*  
*List of Abbreviations for reference*

# Mission Statement

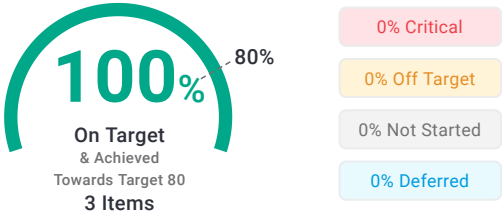
Organizational Slogan

Community Action Partnership of Kern will address underlying causes of poverty, alleviate the effects, and promote dignity and self-sufficiency in the communities we serve.

# Vision Statement

We envision communities where all people have equal opportunities to achieve greater self-sufficiency and attain their version of the American Dream.

Vision Description



# My Items

Item	YTD Actual
3.1: Increase housing stability for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.	47%
3.1.1: Strengthen community support for reducing homelessness in alignment with the "Home at Last! Kern County's Plan to End Homelessness..."	50%

Item	YTD Actual
3.1.2: Reduce impact of homelessness by ensuring continued provision of sufficient emergency shelter assistance and referral services.	45%

## Rebecca Moreno My Items for 2023

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/25

Community Action...  
As of September 7, 2023

YTD Actual

10/01/21

12/31/25

### Objective

**Increase housing stability for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. (3.1)** (Last updated: 09/07/23)

Aligned to: #3 Economic Empowerment

### Owner

Rebecca Moreno

### Measure:

Percent Complete

**47%**

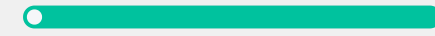
YTD Actual

**0%**

10/01/21

YTD Target: 45%

12/31/25



### Activity

**Strengthen community support for reducing homelessness in alignment with the "Home at Last! Kern County's Plan to End Homelessness by 2028" 10-year plan. (3.1.1)** (Last updated: 04/07/22)

### Owner

Rebecca Moreno

### Measure:

Percent Complete

**50%**

**0%**

YTD Target: 45%



### Activity

**Reduce impact of homelessness by ensuring continued provision of sufficient emergency shelter assistance and referral services. (3.1.2)** (Last updated: 06/06/23)

### Owner

Rebecca Moreno

### Measure:

Percent Complete

**45%**

**0%**

YTD Target: 45%



## Rebecca Moreno Contributing to for 2023

Community Action...  
As of September 7, 2023

Sub-Activity Expand the Coordinated Entry System (CES) to provide greater access to prioritized services for people who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless (3.1.1.1) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Sub-Activity Improve the evaluation and data management components of CES. (3.1.1.2) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Sub-Activity Improve economic security, health, and stability for people experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless. (3.1.1.3) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Sub-Activity In collaboration with Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) and the Continuum of Care (CoC), support collective advocacy efforts at the local and State levels. (3.1.1.4) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Sub-Activity Collaborate with BKRHC to assess and address temporary shelter needs on a perpetual basis (3.1.2.1) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Sub-Activity Increase funding streams to expand number of emergency beds/services as needed. (3.1.2.2) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Sub-Activity Expand wraparound services to reduce the number of people who return to homelessness after receiving permanent housing. (3.1.2.3) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Sub-Activity Expand upstream support to reduce the number of people who become homeless for the first time. (3.1.2.4) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Objective Increase CAPK capacity to provide long-term affordable housing solutions for low-to-moderate income people and families. (3.2) (Last updated: 09/02/22) Aligned to: #3 Economic Empowerment	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	45%	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25
Objective Increase opportunities and supports for clients to advance through career and education pathways. (3.3) (Last updated: 09/29/22) Aligned to: #3 Economic Empowerment	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	40%	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/23
Activity Strengthen and expand relationships with adult education providers (adult schools and community colleges), local employers, and industry leaders to build job skills and increase access to career and education pathways. (3.3.1) (Last updated: 04/14/22)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	42%	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/23
Sub-Activity Identify and map existing educational/career pathways and referral points. (3.3.1.1) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/23
Sub-Activity Send CAPK representatives to local Adult Education Consortium Steering Committee Meetings. (3.3.1.2) (Last updated: 10/06/21)	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	YTD Actual	10/01/21	0%	<div><div></div></div>	12/31/25

<div>Sub-Activity</div> <div>Participate in local workforce development board meetings to identify entry points, opportunities, partnerships (3.3.1.3) (Last updated: 10/06/21)</div>	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	0%	<div><div></div></div>	100%
<div>YTD Actual10/01/21YTD Target: 85.1%12/31/25</div>					
<div>Objective</div> <div>Increase access to economic asset enhancement and financial educational opportunities. (3.4) (Last updated: 09/02/22)</div> <div>Aligned to: #3 Economic Empowerment</div>	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	32%	<div><div></div></div>	0%
<div>YTD Actual10/01/21YTD Target: 45%12/31/25</div>					
<div>Activity</div> <div>Identify and pursue opportunities to address financial service gaps in Kern County including the possibility of developing new, standalone asset enhancement/ financial educational program(s). (3.4.2) (Last updated: 02/09/22)</div>	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	33%	<div><div></div></div>	0%
<div>YTD Actual10/01/21YTD Target: 45%</div>					
<div>Sub-Activity</div> <div>Complete ongoing assessment of financial service mapping and utilization (i.e., CDFI/CDC assessment) and identify potential gaps. (3.4.2.1) (Last updated: 02/09/22)</div> <div>Last comment: Staff presented the CDFI assessment during the 1/26 Board meeting and was not approved to begin the next phase of CDFI development. Instead, staff received approval to pursue a partnership with local CDFIs. PR will update the progress for this activity as 90% with the remaining 10% to be allocated on partnership development to start services (note: undetermined scope of services). (02/09/22)</div>	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	100%	<div><div></div></div>	0%
<div>YTD Actual10/01/21YTD Target: 45%12/31/25</div>					
<div>Sub-Activity</div> <div>Complete internal capacity assessment to evaluate potential for delivery of new financial services. (3.4.2.2) (Last updated: 10/06/21)</div>	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	0%	<div><div></div></div>	0%
<div>YTD Actual10/01/21YTD Target: 45%</div>					
<div>Sub-Activity</div> <div>Based on assessment findings, scope of need, and available funding, develop service delivery model to establish a new program with central focus on asset enhancement and financial education/support. CAPK will need to identify additional key action steps depending on the outcome of the assessment and the decision of the Board. (3.4.2.3) (Last updated: 10/06/21)</div>	Owner	Measure: Percent Complete	0%	<div><div></div></div>	0%
<div>YTD Actual10/01/21YTD Target: 45%</div>					



## List of Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
BKRHC	Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative
Cal-AIM	Cal-AIM Homeless Prevention Services
CES	Coordinated Entry System
CoC	Continuum of Care
CSD	California Department of Community Services & Development
FTE'S	Full-Time Equivalent
HHAP 3	Homeless Housing Assistance Program
HHIP	Housing and Homeless Incentive Program
IPP	Incentive Payment Program
KHS	Kern Health Systems



## MEMORANDUM

To: Program Review & Evaluation- PRE Committee  
From: Robert Espinosa – Program Design and Management Administrator  
Date: September 13, 2023  
Subject: *Agenda Item 5d:* Kern and San Joaquin Community Assessment Update 2023 – **Action Item**

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The Office of Head Start (OHS) requirement Part 1302 – Program Operations: 1302.11 Determining community strengths, needs, and resources, requires an annual review and update of the community assessment to reflect changes including the availability of publicly funded pre-kindergarten services. The updated assessment utilizes Census data from the newly released 2021 American Community Survey - 1 year and 5-year Estimates Data Profiles to evaluate how the community meets the needs of parents and children. Topics of special consideration, as required by OHS, include children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and children with disabilities. Head Start is requesting approval to submit the Kern San Joaquin Community Assessment Update - 2023 for 2023-2024 funding cycle of the Early Head Start (EHS) San Joaquin and Kern grant #09CH011132. Approval from the Board of Directors is a required component.

This update will inform any service gaps and necessary changes to our program options so that we may continue to provide a comprehensive service delivery plan that supports school readiness for children 0-5, while focusing on communities most in need. The program is funded by the CDE, OHS, and USDA. CAPK will manage the development, implementation, and evaluation of early learning theories that are researched-based.

This program supports state and county efforts to improve communities by promoting educational opportunities that enrich the lives of children and their families. The report will support the delivery of services for the funding period beginning on March 1, 2024, and ending on February 28, 2025.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends the PRE-Committee approve the submission of the Kern and San Joaquin Community Assessment Update – 2023 for the EHS San Joaquin and Kern #09CH011132 grant.

### **Attachment:**

*Kern County Community Assessment – 2023*  
*San Joaquin Community Assessment - 2023*



**Community Assessment**  
**Kern County**  
**2023**



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## Executive Summary

Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) has been serving low-income people and families since 1965. As the dedicated poverty fighting agency in Kern County, the Agency provides quality, life changing services through an array of programs designed to meet basic needs as well as empower people and families to improve their lives. CAPK's Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) program plays a crucial role in the fight against poverty by giving children and families the support they need for children to be successful academically and throughout their lives.

CAPK's HS/EHS mission is to "provide rich, high quality early learning experiences to a diverse population of children aged from birth to five. We will promote access to comprehensive services with a holistic focus on the family by encouraging family engagement, supporting school readiness, and instilling self-reliance in children and their families." CAPK's HS/EHS provides high quality early childhood education to children from pre-natal to five years-old through part-day, full-day, and home-based options.

For this assessment, CAPK HS/EHS used primary and secondary data sources to identify community needs of Kern County low-income children and families. Findings will assist CAPK to identify and respond to gaps in services and emerging needs in the community for low-income HS/EHS eligible children and families. The data and analysis are used to guide CAPK's strategic planning process to better serve HS/EHS children and families.

In accordance with the requirements of 45 CFR Part 1305 Section 1305.3(e), 1302.11(b), the CAPK Head Start and Early Head Start Programs 2021 Community Assessment Update was completed and approved by the Head Start Policy Council Planning Committee on August 22, 2023, and the CAPK PRE Committee on September 13, 2023.

When comparing the current findings to the previous assessment, there has been very little change in the determinants of needs affecting Head Start eligible children and families, except for homelessness. In Metro Bakersfield, the number of people who are homeless rose by 42% over the previous year, driven by a 108% jump in the number of unsheltered homeless people. Rural homelessness rose by 131%.

Another notable change is the increase in transitional kindergarten public school enrollments. There has been a 38% increase over the past several years.



## KEY FINDINGS

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The results of the needs analysis of Kern County confirm the continued need in the County for Head Start Services for low-income children and families. Head Start/Early Head Start is an important part of community efforts to break the cycle of poverty by providing low-income preschool children and their families a wholistic and culturally responsive approach to help them meet their emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs.

- Kern County is a large and geographically diverse county with a high need for services in rural communities.
- Approximately **8% (68,000) of Kern's children are ages 0-5 years.**
- The **0-5 years** population has decreased slightly overall in Kern County, California, and the United States between 2019-2021.
- An estimated 79.4% of residents are native – born in the United States, while 19.7% are foreign born.
- Of Kern County residents, **13% have less than a High School education.**
- Approximately **44% of residents that use a language other than English at home, speak Spanish.**
- The **unemployment rate has decreased in recent years but remains high at 6.7%** in comparison to the State of California.
- Kern County median household has risen over the last few years to \$58,824 in 2021, is remains **\$10,197 less than the United States and \$25,273 lower than the State of California.**
- In 2021, **18.6% of Kern residents lived in poverty.**
- Single female headed households with children under the age of 5 experienced poverty at five times the rate of married couples with children under 5.
- An estimated **21,994 of Kern Children ages 0-5 years live in poverty.**
- An estimated **89% of children ages 0-5 who live in communities served by CAPK Head Start/Early Head Start, live in poverty.**
- **At least 15.8% of working residents in Kern County are living in poverty (working poor).**
- Most **(98.7%) of Kern County residents have health insurance.**
- Access to health care remains an issue throughout the County with a **ratio of one primary care physician per 2,020 residents.**
- **Kern County Ranks 53 of 58 of California Counties for worst health outcomes.**
- The results from the **CAPK 2023 Community Needs survey are consistent with the overall needs identified in the Head Start Community Assessment.**

## METHODS

In 2021, the Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) Head Start/State Child Development (HS/SCD) Division completed a comprehensive community assessment and report detailing the most current data and source material available. The Community Assessment provided a detailed understanding of the characteristics of Kern County's children and families, their childcare needs, and the conditions that impact their health, development, and economic stability.

This Community Assessment includes updated statistics and considerations of county and incorporated community population numbers, household characteristics and relationships, estimates of income eligible children, disability, educational attainment, health, child welfare, prenatal health, homeless children, and families, and Head Start and Early Head Start program information. Wherever possible data was sought for the 0-3 and 3-5 age groups, (areas that this age breakdown for data was not available, are noted throughout the report.

The primary data source (unless otherwise cited) for the 2021 Community Assessment Update is the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS), 2019 ACS 1-year Estimates and 2017-2021 ACS 5-year Estimates. Other sources of local, state, regional, and national data and intelligence are cited throughout the report and presented in the "Work Cited" page. The CAPK Head Start & Early Head Start Program 2022/2023 Information Reports (PIR) was used for data directly related to HS/EHS.

CAPK performs a comprehensive bi-annual community needs survey of clients, staff, and Agency partners. Along with the 2023 CAPK Community Needs Survey, CAPK held focus groups in select locations representing the diversity of Kern County to gain deeper understandings and insights of the survey results. Findings from the 2023 survey and focus groups are included in this current report.

## AGENCY OVERVIEW

Established in 1965, CAPK is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. In carrying out its mission *to provide and advocate for resources that will empower the members of the communities we serve to be self-sufficient*, CAPK develops and implements programs that meet specific needs of low-income individuals and families.

CAPK is one of the largest nonprofit agencies in Kern County and one of the oldest and largest Community Action Agencies in the United States. Originating as the Community Action Program Committee of Kern County in 1965, CAPK later became the Kern County Economic Opportunity Corporation, and in 2002 became the Community Action Partnership of Kern.

CAPK operates in seven divisions, which include Head Start/State Child Development (HS/SCD); Health and Nutrition Services; Administration; Finance; Human Resources; Operations; and Community Development. Head Start and Early Head Start (HS/EHS) programs are operated under the HS/SCD Division.

As Kern County's federally designated Community Action Agency in the fight against poverty, CAPK provides assistance to over 100,000 low-income individuals annually through 16 direct-service programs including but not limited to 2-1-1 Kern County; CalFresh Healthy Living Program; the East Kern Family Resource Center; Energy; CAPK Food Bank; Friendship House Community Center; Head Start/Early Head Start; Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment; Shafter Youth Center; CAPK Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA); and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition.

CAPK has offices located in 27 cities/communities in Kern County and offers services at over 100 sites. The Agency also operates programs in other counties in the San Joaquin Valley including Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment (MCAP) Program, enrolling families through six Central Valley counties that include Kern, Madera, Merced, Tulare, Kings, and Fresno; WIC program services in San Bernardino County; and 2-1-1 Information and Referral Helpline in Kings, Tulare, Stanislaus, and San Diego Counties. In 2015 CAPK's EHS program expanded to San Joaquin County (Stockton, Lodi, Manteca, and Tracy). The information below further details CAPK's programs.

2-1-1 Kern County: 24/7 information and referral service that provides residents with comprehensive information and linkage to community health and human services at no cost. In addition to live phone operators, 2-1-1 Kern has a database of over 1,500 social service agencies that is available to the public through the 2-1-1 Kern Online Resource Directory at [www.capk.org](http://www.capk.org) > 2-1-1 Kern. Additionally, 2-1-1 Kern is the Homeless Coordinated Entry Services provider in partnership with the Kern County Homeless Collaborative.

**CAPK Food Bank:** Provides emergency food assistance to eligible food-insecure Kern County residents through a network of over 130 pantry and commodity distribution sites. Food Bank also operates a senior food program providing over 3,500 seniors with healthy and nutritious food each month. Community support as well as volunteer hours are essential to the operation of the Food Bank, which is the third largest food bank in California.

**Energy Program:** Assists income-eligible Kern County residents with utility bill payment, free weatherization, and energy education, at no cost to the participant. Weatherization services include weather stripping; repair or replacement of windows and doors; heating and cooling; and energy efficient appliances, stoves, and refrigerators.

**East Kern Family Resource Center:** Case management to east Kern County families identified by Child Protective Services as high-risk for child abuse and/or neglect. Other services and programs offered at the center include the Financial Empowerment for Families program and school readiness for prekindergarten-age children. An emergency supplies closet and referral services are also provided to individuals and families in the community who require assistance with basic and other needs.

**Friendship House Community Center and Shafter Youth Center:** Educational and recreational activities are provided to children ages 6-18 from low-income families at community centers in southeast Bakersfield and Shafter. Activities and programs for children, adults and families include youth after-school, summer and pre-employment programs, parenting classes, nutrition education, sports, mentoring, community gardens, and access to social services.

**Head Start and Early Head Start:** High quality early childhood education for children from pre-natal to age five through part-day, full-day, and home-based options. The program uses a wholistic approach by not only addressing the needs of the child, but by teaching parents to become advocates and self-reliant providers for their children through its Parent Policy Council and Family Engagement programs.

**Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment (MCAP) Program:** A voucher-based childcare program that allows migrant, agriculturally working families to choose the best childcare option for their situation. Parents can enroll one time and use the vouchers to access childcare as they travel throughout the state for employment.

**Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA):** Free tax preparation and e-filing for low- and medium-income individuals and families. VITA also assists eligible clients to take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), thereby increasing the amount of their tax return and boosting the local economy. All VITA services are provided through trained IRS-certified staff and community volunteers.

*Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance:* Provides free nutrition education, breast feeding support, and food vouchers for infants, children, and women who are pregnant, postpartum, or breast feeding and who are at nutritional risk. Foster parents, grandparents, and single parents can apply on behalf of their children.

### **CAPK's New Programs:**

*Homeless Services:* in partnership with the County of Kern, CAPK operates a new 150 bed homeless Low Barrier Navigation Center on M Street in Bakersfield. This 24-hour shelter offers housing, meals and an array of mental health, medical care and economic assistance to unsheltered homeless people including those with partners and pets.

*CalFresh Healthy Living:* CAPK CalFresh Healthy Living improves the nutrition health of low-income Kern County residents by providing access to nutrition education, physical activity education, and training that will help build a healthy, knowledgeable community.

*Community Schools Partnership Program:* in partnership with Bakersfield City School District, CAPK provides direct wrap around case management to students and families. The program links families to community-based services addressing food insecurities, housing stability, or other related basic services.

*CalAIM:* is a new initiative by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of Medi-Cal beneficiaries by implementing broad delivery of system, programmatic, and payment system reforms.

*Adult Re-Entry (ARG) Program:* this program provides funding for community-based organizations to deliver reentry services for people formerly incarcerated in state prison.

CAPK's HS/EHS serves over 2,800 children and their families at 36 locations across Kern County. Children and families also have access to CAPK's network of comprehensive programs and services, all of which are in place to assist and empower families towards self-sufficiency.

Table 1, CAPK HeadStart and Early Head Start Kern County Locations

HS/EHS Site Name	Address
<b>Administration Office</b>	5005 Business Park North, Bakersfield 93309
<b>Alberta Dillard</b>	5704 Pioneer Dr Bakersfield, CA 93306-6546
<b>Alicante</b>	7998 Alicante Ave Lamont, CA 93241-1744
<b>Angela Martinez</b>	4032 Jewett Ave Bakersfield, CA, 93301
<b>Bakersfield College</b>	1801 Panorama Bakersfield CA 93305
<b>Blanton</b>	315 E. 18th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301
<b>Broadway</b>	929 Broadway St., Wasco, CA 93280
<b>California City</b>	9124 Catalpa Ave California City, CA 93505-2781

<b>Cleo Foran</b>	1410 11th Street Bakersfield, CA 93304-1432
<b>Delano</b>	1835 Cecil Ave Delano, CA 93215-1519
<b>East California</b>	1900 E. California Ave Bakersfield CA 93307
<b>Fairfax</b>	1500 S. Fairfax Rd. Bakersfield, CA 93307
<b>Garden Pathways</b>	1130 17 <sup>th</sup> St. Bakersfield, CA 93301
<b>Harvey L. Hall</b>	315 Stine Rd Bakersfield, CA 93309-3268
<b>Heritage Park</b>	2320 Mt Vernon Ave Bakersfield, CA 93306-3300
<b>Lamont</b>	8201 Palm ave Lamont, CA 93241-2118

<b>Martha J. Morgan</b>	3811 River Blvd Bakersfield, CA 93305-1004
<b>McFarland</b>	410 E Perkins Ave McFarland, CA 93250-1230
<b>Mojave</b>	1940 Inyo St Mojave, CA 93501-1765
<b>Oasis</b>	814 North Norma, Ridgecrest, CA 93555
<b>Pete H. Parra</b>	1825 Feliz Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93307
<b>Primeros Pasos</b>	1111 Bush St Arvin, CA 93203-2056
<b>Rosamond</b>	2584 Felsite Rosamond, CA 93560-7688
<b>San Diego</b>	10300 1/2 San Diego St Lamont, CA 93241-1743
<b>Seibert</b>	2800 Agate St., Bakersfield, CA 93304-5306
<b>Shafter EHS</b>	459 E. Euclid Ave Shafter, CA 93263-2777
<b>Shafter HS</b>	452 W. Los Angeles Ave Shafter, CA 93263-2590
<b>Sterling</b>	3000 Sterling Road Bakersfield, CA 93306-4569
<b>Sunrise Villa</b>	1600 Poplar Ave Wasco, CA 93280-3405
<b>Taft</b>	819 6th Street Taft, CA 93268-2305
<b>Taft College</b>	29 Cougar Ct. Taft, CA 93268
<b>Tehachapi</b>	1120 S Curry St Tehachapi, CA 93561-2300
<b>Vineland</b>	14327 S Vineland Rd Bakersfield, CA 93307-9463
<b>Virginia</b>	3301 Virginia Ave Bakersfield, CA 93307-2931
<b>Wesley</b>	1314 Oswell St, Bakersfield CA 93306
<b>Willow</b>	401 Willow Dr Bakersfield, CA 93308-4761

Source: CAPK Operations

Kern County has an abundant list of providers of services for low-income families and children. CAPK 2-1-1 Information and Referral Helpline has a database of over 1,500 social services and other agencies that people can be linked to through calling 2-1-1 or on the CAPK 2-1-1 web page [www.capk.org](http://www.capk.org). Common resources for Kern families include Addiction Resource Center, Alliance Against Family Violence, Bakersfield Homeless Center, Clinica Sierra Vista, Department of Fair Housing and Employment, Delores Huerta Foundation, Ebony Counseling Center, Kern County Behavioral Health, Kern County Department Of Human Services, Employers Training Resources, Family Growth Counselling, Independent Living Center of Kern County, New Advances for People with Disabilities, Operation Fresh Start, Salvation army, Social Security administration, and many more.

## DETERMINANTS OF NEED

### KERN COUNTY OVERVIEW

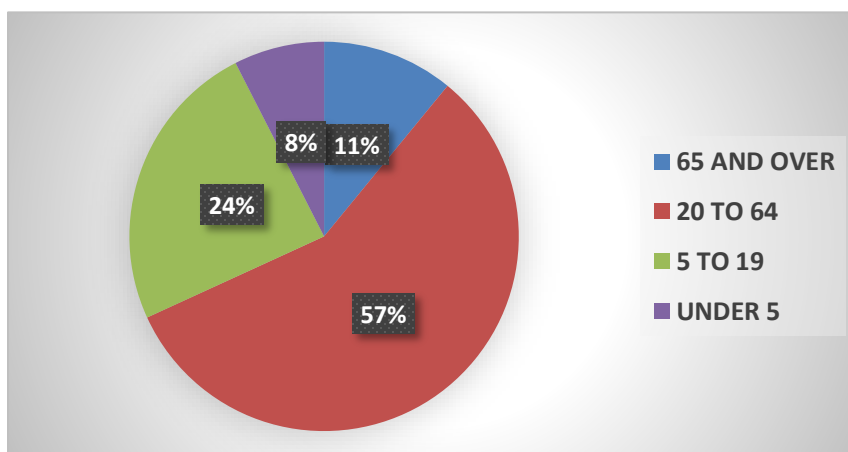
Kern County is in Central California, at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley. At 8,172 square miles, Kern is California's third-largest county by land area. Terrain varies dramatically within the County, from the valley lowlands to the mountain peaks of the southern Sierra Nevada, to arid stretches of the Mojave Desert. Because of this geographic diversity, the county has a wide range of climates, determined largely by elevation and precipitation. Summer temperatures often reach over 100 degrees on the valley floor and in the Mojave Desert, and winter temperatures drop into the teens in the higher mountains.



### POPULATION

There are 905,644 people living in Kern County with most residents living in Bakersfield, the County's major metropolitan area. A total of 10 other cities containing about 20% of the population and the remaining residents (38%) live in unincorporated mostly rural areas of the county. Approximately **68,078** of the County's residents are **under the age of 5** years; 220,293 are ages 5 to 19; 518,253 are ages 20 – 64; and 99,020 are ages 65 and over.

Figure 2, Kern Population Age Distribution



Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5-Year Estimates



Of the estimated **68,078** children ages 0 to 5 in Kern County, approximately **60% are in the 0-2 years age group** (kids.data.org). Gender for children in the 0-5 age group is almost even with 49% female and 51% male.

## POPULATION GROWTH

Kern County's overall population growth from 2012-2021 is similar to trends for the State and Nation. Noteworthy, the 0-5 population has decreased at the county, state, and nation level.

Table 2, Population Growth Comparison

Location	2012	2021	Growth
<b>Kern</b>	<b>839,631</b>	<b>905,644</b>	<b>7.8%</b>
California	37,659,181	39,455,353	4.7%
United States	309,138,711	329,725,481	6.6%
<b>Children Ages 0-5</b>			
<b>Kern</b>	<b>71,484</b>	<b>68,078</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>
California	2,527,752	2,350,335	-7.0%
United States	20,137,884	19,423,121	-3.5%

Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5-Year Estimates

## RACE/ETHNICITY

Kern County's racial and ethnic composition is diverse. After White, the largest Racial/Ethnic group is Hispanics/Latino (53.3%), compared to 39% of California's population and 18% of the United States. The smallest group are Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander at .2% in Kern County and the United States and .4% in California.

Table 3, Kern County Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	All Residents
White	62.3%
African American	5.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%
Asian	4.8%
Native Hawaiian or Other, Pacific Islander	.1%
Hispanic or Latino	54.7%
Some Other Race	13.8%

Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates 2021, 5-Year Estimates

Kern County has seen growth in most race/ethnicities with Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders seeing the highest percent rate of growth, followed by Asians. The only decrease was in American Indian and Alaskan Native groups. Whites and Hispanics grew at almost the same rate, with Hispanics seeing slightly more growth.

Table 4, Kern Population Change by Race/Ethnicity, 2017-2021

Race/Ethnicity	Percent Change
White	-15.6%
Black or African American	-1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	-1.1%
Asian	-1.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	-.5%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	6.9%

Source: US Census American Community Survey 2017-2021, 5-Year Estimates

## NATIVITY AND FOREIGN BORN

Of Kern County's population, 79.4% (719,419) were born in the United States, and 19.7% (177,999) were foreign-born. Of the county's foreign-born population, 61.3% (109,135) are not U.S. citizens.

## LANGUAGE

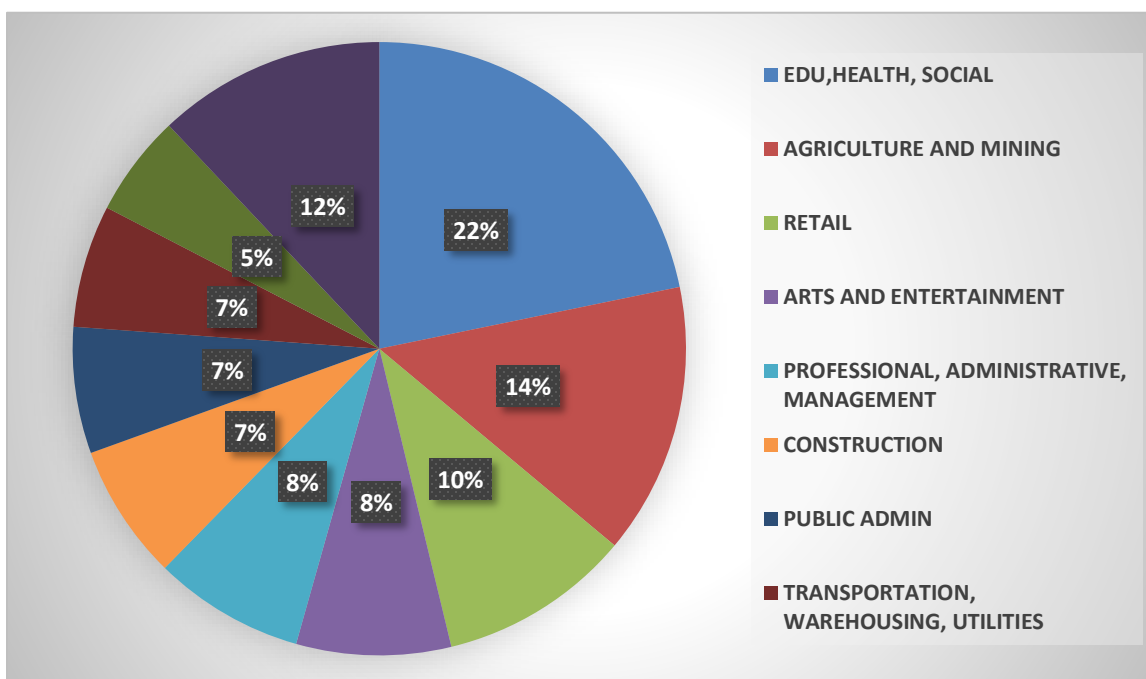
Approximately 44.3% of Kern and California's adults speak a language other than English at home, with most of these comprised of Spanish speakers (88.5%). The next most common language is Asian and Pacific islander languages at 2.9%. (U.S. Census, 2021).

## EMPLOYMENT

The petroleum and agriculture industries are the main drivers of Kern County's economy. According to the Kern Economic Development Corporation, Kern is the top agricultural producer and the second highest oil-producing county in the nation. The County also has two military bases on its eastern edge and has seen growth in the alternative energy, (wind and solar) and aerospace industries. Agriculture and oil are not consistent in employment and are affected by seasons, environmental, national, and global economic factors. For example, while most of the Country was recovering from the recession, decreases in oil production resulted in mass layoffs in Kern County and the recent California drought had dire consequences for seasonal farm workers.

There are 671,496 Kern County residents ages 16 and over. Of these, an estimated 58.1% that are in the labor force are employed. The largest employment sector in Kern is Education, Health, and Social Work which has large variances in types and pay rates of jobs. The second, Agriculture and mining (which include the oil industry), can be unstable sources of employment due to strong seasonal cycles as well as other factors discussed previously.

Figure 3, Kern County Workers by Industry

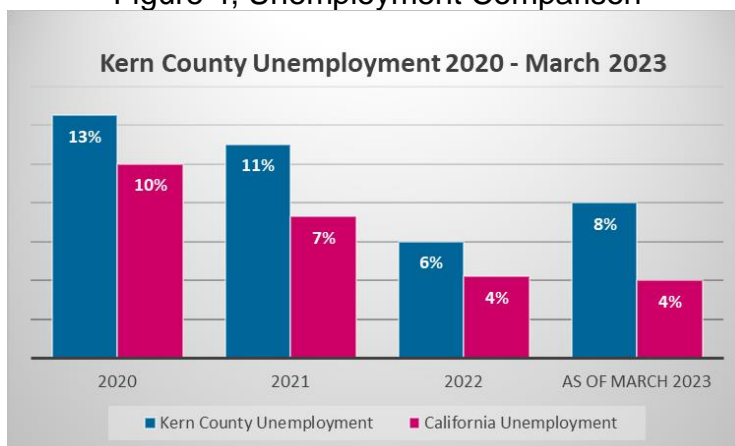


Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5-Year Estimates

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Kern County unemployment rates typically run in the double digits and about 2 to 3 times higher than the State and Nation. However, Kern saw historic lows in unemployment in 2018 and 2019. However, these gains disappeared during the pandemic when over 12% of Kern's working population became unemployed. Currently, for 2022-23, Kern County's unemployment rate has been between 6-8%, which is consistently higher than California's unemployment rate (Employment Development Department, 2023).

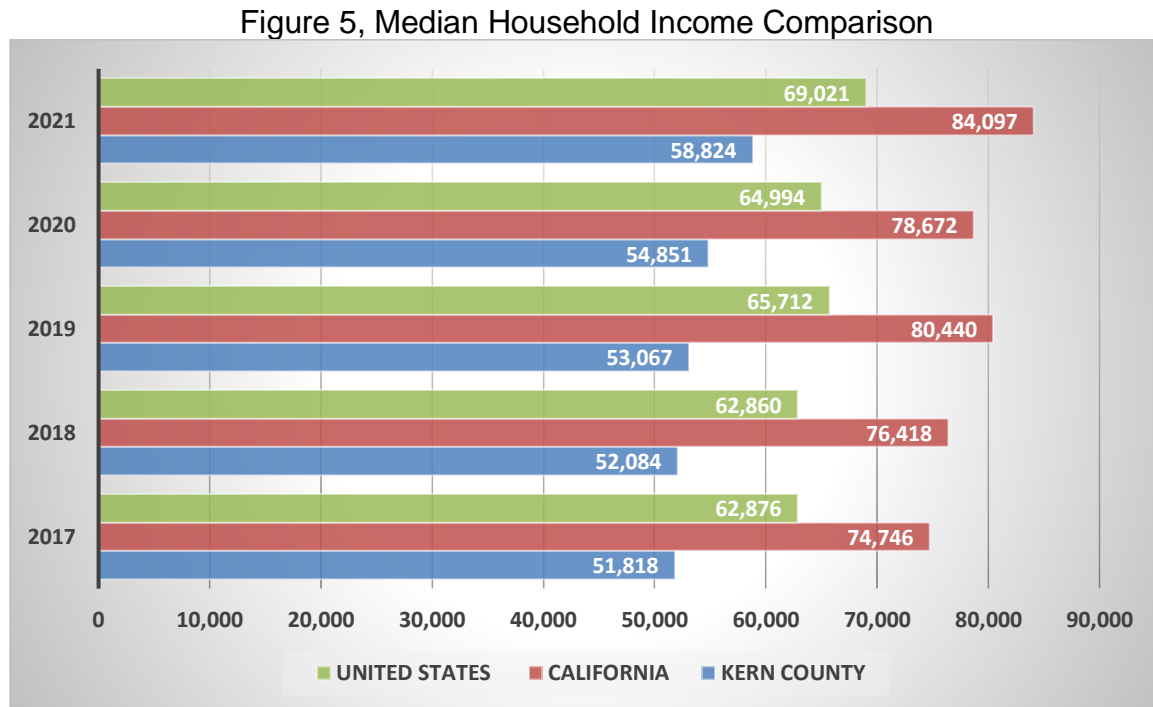
Figure 4, Unemployment Comparison



Source: California Department of Labor, 2023

## INCOME

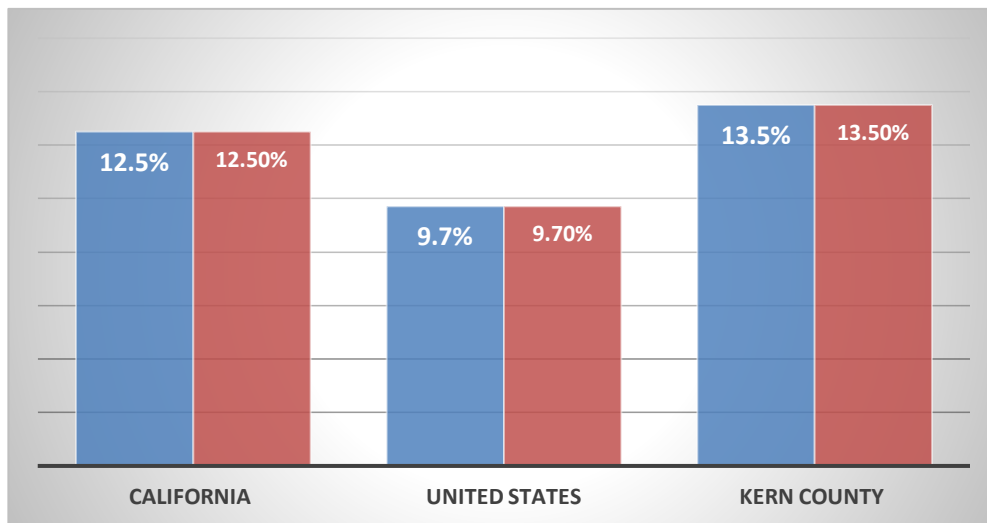
Kern County median household income, at \$58,824 in 2021, is **\$10,197 less than the United States and \$25,273 lower than the State of California.**



Source: US Census American Community Survey 2017-2021, 5-Year Estimates

Overall, the state and nation have seen a steady increase over the last 5 years. Kern's median income has steadily grown over the last three years but falls significantly behind in comparison.

Figure 6, Income Growth Comparison



Source: US Census American Community Survey 2017-2021, 5-Year Estimates

## POVERTY

According to the US Census, 18.6% of Kern County residents live in poverty; Kern County has a higher poverty rate when compared to all 58 California Counties (The Public Policy Institute of California, 2021). Within Kern County, there are pockets of extreme poverty with some communities having more than 45% of residents living below the federal poverty level.

## WORKING POOR

The face of poverty in the United States has changed greatly over the last decade. In a report presented at the National Community Action Partnership Mega Trends Learning Cluster, *Inequality in America*, former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich discusses trends of those living in poverty in the U.S. According to Reich, as the median family income continues to drop, an estimated 65% of U.S. families live paycheck to paycheck. He goes on to say that a significant number of people in poverty are working but are unable to earn enough to lift themselves out of poverty. Reich also claims that about 55% of all Americans aged 25 to 60 have experienced at least one year of poverty or near poverty (below 150% of the poverty line), and at least half of all U.S. children have relied on food stamps at least once in their lifetime.

This is also supported by the California Budget and Policy Center, *Five Facts Everyone Should Know About Poverty*, which states that most families that live in poverty are working and 67% of those families have one or more workers supporting them. The key reasons cited for working families remaining in poverty are a lack of good paying jobs and the low minimum wage. In Kern County, 15.8% of employed residents who are 16 years of age or over are living in poverty (U.S. Census, 2021).

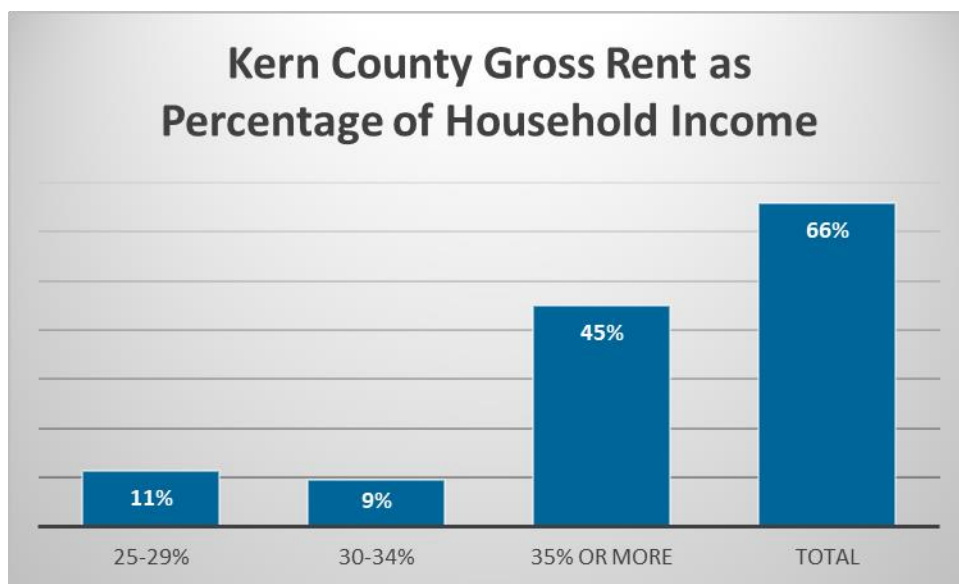
## HOUSING

According to the US Census Estimates, there are 274,705 occupied housing units in Kern County.

The Kern County Council of Governments' (KCOG) Housing Element 2015-2023 reports that Bakersfield (Kern County's most populated city) is projected to only meet 42.7% of their Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) for very low and low-income households. Other factors affecting housing, are as follows:

- Jobs to housing ratio of 1 job very every .13 of housing.
- Most of the available housing is single family homes.
- Approximately 50% of households are at 50% of the median income—51% earn less than \$50,000 per year.
- Limited inventory of Section 8 housing for larger families.
- Subsidized multifamily units are at risk of becoming market rate units.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development states that families who pay more than 30% of their income for housing are considered cost burdened and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation, and medical care. Based on the 2021 American Community Survey estimates, 26.2% of all Kern County homeowners with a mortgage paid 35% or more of their household income on housing. Renters paid an even higher percentage of their income on housing, with almost half of renters spending 45% or more of their household income on rent.



Source: US Census, 2021

## HOUSING QUALITY

Substandard housing is common in much of the County. The KCOG Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan 2013-2023, included an assessment of county housing quality which shows that an estimated 54% of Kern County Housing is substandard, ranging from a low of 30% in

Tehachapi to almost 96% of homes in California City.

Table 5, Kern Substandard Housing

City	Substandard Stock
Arvin	57.1%
Bakersfield	34.0%
California City	95.9%
Delano	42.0%
Maricopa	94.3%
McFarland	50.8%
Ridgecrest	39.6%
Shafter	44.2%
Taft	54.9%
Tehachapi	29.6%
Wasco	54.4%
Unincorporated	56.5%

Source: Kern Council of Governments, 2013-2023

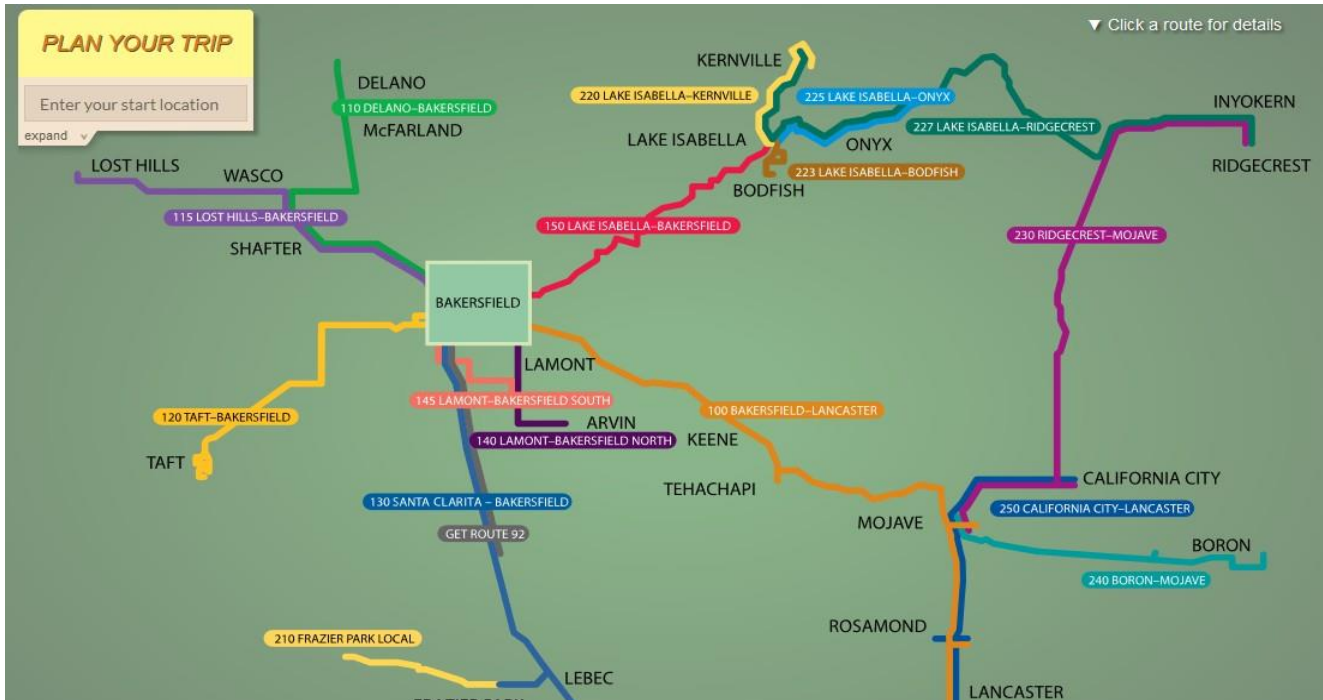
## TRANSPORTATION

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Transportation poses challenges in Kern County, particularly for those in rural areas. Bakersfield is the hub of the county where people can access employment, doctors, social services, and other needed resources. In rural areas of Kern, many low-income people with limited incomes rely on public transportation to get to Bakersfield, which in most of these areas has one trip to Bakersfield in the morning and one return trip in the afternoon.

For those who own a vehicle, the higher gas prices in California, approximately \$1.89 per gallon over the national average, can be an additional burden for low-income families.

Figure 7, Public Bus Routes in Rural Kern County



Source: Kern Transit

## MENTAL HEALTH

According to the California Health Interview Survey, over 16% of Kern County residents experienced serious psychological distress in 2020, which is slightly higher than for California as a whole. Obtaining mental health treatment can be difficult. According to the National Mental Health Services Survey, 2020, California has approximately 970 mental health treatment facilities with many of those private care facilities. In California, there are 59 psychiatric hospitals. In Bakersfield there are approximately ten mental health facilities with three of those accepting patients for in-hospital treatment. Bakersfield and the county lack mental health professionals especially those who serve low-income populations, and the San Joaquin Valley has one of the lowest ratios of behavioral health professionals to population in California.



## SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

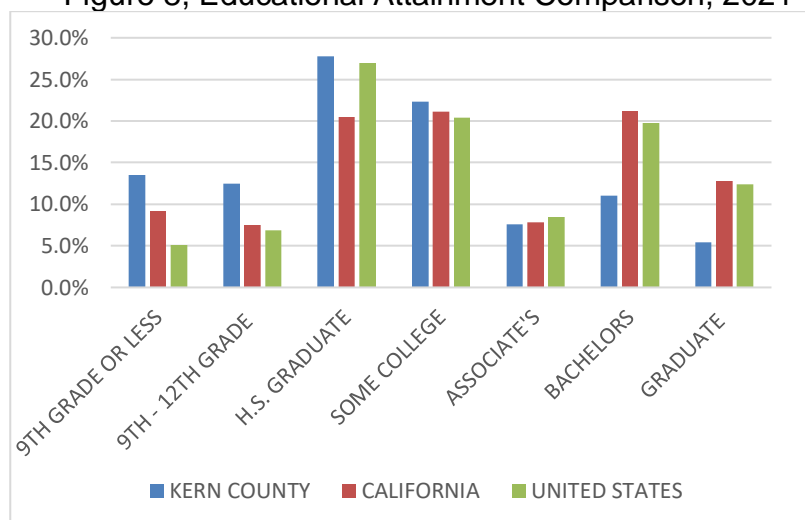
According to the California Health Care Foundation, substance use disorders are common; 8.8% of California meets the criteria for a substance use disorder. Many rural areas of the state lack access to treatment and experience significant wait times. According to the California Department of Health Care Services, seven (7) of the 50 physician appointments and four (4) out of the 50 urgent appointments did not meet timeliness standards as indicated in the 2021/2022 Kern County Mental Health Plan.

## Needs and Resources of Eligible Children and Their Families

### EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In 2021, 12.9% of people ages 25 and older in Kern County had less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education; 11.8% has between a 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade without a diploma; 27.5% were a high school graduate (or equivalent); 22.3% of residents had some college experience without a degree; 11.4% had a bachelor's degree and 5.7% had a Graduate or Professional degree. California has less residents over the age of 25 with a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education or less and with a 9<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade education without a diploma, at 8.9% and 7.2%, respectively. California has more than twice the percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree or Graduate degree at 21.6% and 13.1%, respectively. The nation fares better than the state in educational attainment for a high school graduate, though California's rates for a bachelor's degree is higher than both the county and the nation. The details of each percentage at educational level of attainments are depicted below. The most concerning for Kern County is the low attainment of college degrees—about half as many Kern residents have a bachelor's degree or higher than the state or nation. Today, college appears to be the new high school, with many entry level jobs requiring higher levels of education and skills than what can be acquired as a high school graduate.

Figure 8, Educational Attainment Comparison, 2021



Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5-Year Estimates

The lack of higher educational attainment has far reaching implications for Kern residents. According to a report by The PEW Charitable Trust, a four-year college degree encourages upward mobility from the lower rungs of society and prevents downward mobility from the middle and top. The report states that about 47% of people who are raised in the bottom quartile of the family income ladder who do not get a college degree stay at that level compared to 10% who have earned a college degree. Also, about 39% of those raised in the middle-income ladder who do not get a college degree move down, while 22% with a degree stay in the middle or advance.

According to the U.S. Census Community Data for Kern County, approximately 24,292 of people aged 25 years or older that have a high school diploma (includes GED) or less live in poverty compared to 3,217 with a bachelor's degree or higher.

Table 6 Educational Attainment by Race Ethnicity, 2021

Race/Ethnicity	Kern		CA		US	
	HS or Higher	BA or Higher	HS or Higher	BA or Higher	HS or Higher	BA or Higher
White	84.7%	22.2%	93.8%	44.6%	89.9%	33.5%
Black	84.6%	17.6%	90.7%	28%	86%	21.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native alone	74.5%	15.2%	70.5%	16.7%	80.3%	15%
Asian	88.1%	39.3%	88.6%	55.1%	87.1%	54.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	90.5%	19.6%	85.1%	19.9%	87%	17.8%
Some other race	62.4%	9.9%	64.0%	12.4%	62.7%	12%
Hispanic or Latino Origin	63.9%	10.4%	68.1%	15.9%	68.7%	16.4%

Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5-Year Estimates

## ADULT EDUCATION

In Kern County, 9.4% of residents over age 25 have between a 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade education without a diploma. Among families enrolling in Head Start/Early Head Start the figure is even higher with 44% (approximately 591) of parents not having a high school diploma. This number demonstrates a need for Adult Basic Education (ABE) or General Education Development (GED) preparation. ABE and GED preparation is available in most populated areas in Kern County. Job training is an unmet need as demonstrated in the table here.

Table 7, HS/EHS Families Obtaining Diploma, GED, Professional Training or Job Skills

Head Start			Early Head Start			Early Head Start Partnership		
In Job Training or School	Not in Job Training or School	Completing GED/Diploma, Job Training, Professional Certificate or License	In Job Training or School	Not in Job Training or School	Completing GED/Diploma, Job Training, Professional Certificate or License	In Job Training or School	Not in Job Training or School	Completing GED/Diploma, Job Training, Professional Certificate or License
833	266	117	54	103	54	47	16	47

Source: 2022/2023 PIR Data

Undergraduate education opportunities exist in Kern County with 4-year degrees offered on-campus and online in Bakersfield through several institutions and 2-year/vocational/associate degrees offered in Bakersfield via the Kern Community College District (KCCD) campuses and online learning as well as others. Locations in Ridgecrest, Lake Isabella, California City, and Tehachapi offer classes through KCCD as well. There does not seem to be a shortage of undergraduate education opportunities. Head Start families in Kern County can receive the educational services they need. It is noted that some families are already enrolled in adult education or job training upon their children's entry into the Head Start/Early Head Start programs.

Low cost or free GED preparation, ESL classes, and vocational training are often offered by the same institutions. A GED is also available online through the public schools. Some colleges also offer vocational training. Although multiple locations are available, gaps in the current training system were observed when compiling the information:

- Locations are concentrated in more populated areas and may be difficult for others to reach.
- Inconsistent options for vocational training among varying locations.
- Programs associated with the public-school system were not necessarily linked to the school district website and their websites were sometimes difficult to find.
- Schedules and offerings were not always listed on the websites.
- Programs have differing eligibility criteria.
- Some programs may charge fees.

Different directories list different programs and/or different services for the same location.

## EMPLOYMENT AND JOB TRAINING

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Employment and job training for Head Start/Early Head Start families is critical in ensuring the ability of families to become self-sufficient and capable of adequately providing for themselves and their children. According to the Kern County PIR, ***more than 1,236 parents of Head Start/Early Head Start children are employed or are active-duty military***. Head Start/Early Head Start parents can work and feel secure about the care of their children while they are working. The numbers from this report do not preclude the need for job training and education opportunities for the families served by Head Start and Early Head Start. Although many HS/EHS parents are employed, (over half), their low-income status indicates a high need for further job skills and/or education.

## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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There is a high need for English as a second language (ESL) education in Kern County with many foreign-born Kern residents indicating a low English-speaking ability. Among Head Start and Early Head Start families in Kern, approximately 29% residents stated that they primarily speak another language at home. ESL training opportunities are relatively abundant in Kern County with each city or census tract showing opportunities.

## FINANCIAL LITERACY/ASSET BUILDING SERVICES

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Financial empowerment helps families with low incomes build financial stability. Services focus on strengthening low-income people's financial position by providing access to proven routes out of poverty—education/ training, employment, entrepreneurship, safe/affordable credit, asset building, and home ownership. Financial empowerment is not a substitute for other poverty reduction programs, however, when integrated into existing programs, financial empowerment can significantly boost a family's ability to rise out of poverty. Approximately 4 of Head Start/Early Head Start families in the county had a need for services that would help them build assets or reduce debt, and 4 received these services.

In 2019, CAPK HS/EHS began staff training and implementation of the Your Money Your Goals (YMYG) Tool Kit. Created by the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the YMYG Toolkit is a collection of important financial empowerment information and tools that can be selected based on the needs and goals of families. The goal is to help someone get started on solving specific financial challenges and reaching their goals. And, when they want or need additional help, the aim is to help you refer them for financial counseling. Unlike a financial education curriculum that may have a specific set of goals and requires materials be presented in a set order, the YMYG toolkit is made up of modules that can be selected based on the family's specific needs.

## HEALTH

Lower income and fewer bachelor's degrees are linked to worse health outcomes including increases in asthma, obesity, diabetes, stroke, cancer, low birth weight, poor mental health days, and heart attack ER visits (Kern County Community Health Needs Assessment, 2019). The health of Kern County residents falls far behind residents of other California counties.

According to the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps for 2023, Kern County ranked **53 out of 58** California counties in **'Health Outcomes'** and **56 out of 58 in 'Health Factors'**. According to this study, health factors that affect people living in Kern County include many of the socio-economic factors previously discussed, such as educational attainment, unemployment, and income inequality. When comparing scores over the past five years, scores have remained dangerously high.

Table 8, Kern County Health Rankings, 2019-2023

Outcomes	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Health Outcomes</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>
Length of Life	46	46	48	49	49
Quality of Life	55	54	57	56	54
<b>Health Factors</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>56</b>
Health Behaviors	58	57	47	55	51
Clinical Care	52	54	52	51	52
Social & Economic Factors	53	54	55	57	56
Physical Environment	57	57	54	55	53

Source: County Health Rankings.org

Some of the most prevalent health conditions affecting Kern residents are asthma, obesity, and diabetes. Asthma is one of the most common chronic diseases among children in the U.S. and a leading cause of hospitalizations and absences from school. Although identifying the impact of independent risk factors for asthma is difficult, low-income and minority children are at disproportionately high risk for severe symptoms, missed school days, and emergency room visits due to asthma (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2019).

More than 30% of U.S. children ages 2-19 are overweight/obese, according to a survey from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Fryer, C. D., et al., 2018). Kern County's rates are often higher; kidsdata.org noted that 44.5% of 5<sup>th</sup> grade children were obese in 2019.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, among children and adolescents younger than 20, non-Hispanic whites had the highest rate of new cases of Type 1 diabetes compared to members of other U.S. racial and ethnic groups. Among children and adolescents aged 10-19 years, U.S. minority populations had higher rates of new cases of type 2 diabetes compared to non-Hispanic whites. The risk of developing type 2 diabetes increases with age. The number of children diagnosed with type 2 diabetes is growing due to more overweight youth. Still, it is less common in children and young adults than it is in older people.

*Asthma:* A key contributor to the high asthma rates is Kern's poor air quality (American Lung Association, 2019).

- Kern residents experiencing asthma – 17.7% (California Department of Public Health, 2020).
- **Kern children** suffering from Asthma – **7.6%** (Kidsdata.org, 2019).

#### *Obesity*

- Of Kern adults, 78% are overweight or obese.
- People of color have obesity rates higher than average at 25%.
- Children aged 11-14, nearly 44% are considered overweight or obese (Kidsdata.org, 2019)

#### *Diabetes:*

- In Kern County, 13% of adults have been diagnosed with diabetes, (County Health Rankings, 2021).
- Of the children discharged from hospitals in Kern County in 2020, 3.5% or 172 children were diagnosed with diabetes (Kidsdata.org, 2020).

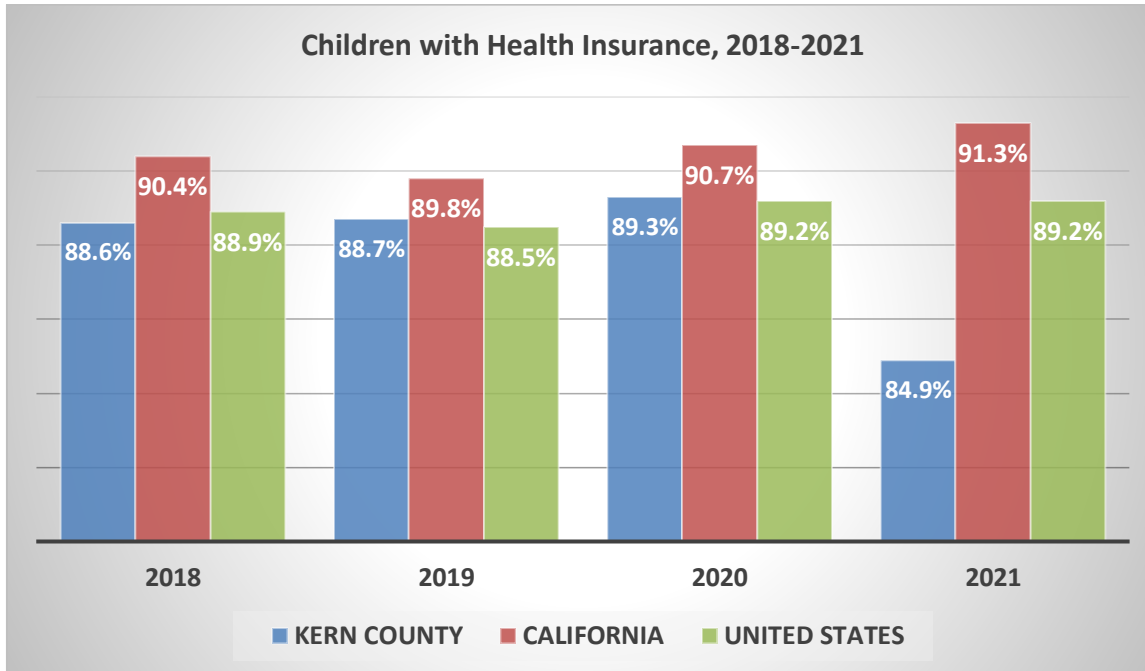
## HEALTH INSURANCE

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The US census estimates the percentage of children with health insurance each year by county. Estimates are available for children younger than 19 and living at 138% of the federal poverty level or below. Coverage rates in Kern County have been rising and are now at 98.7%, which is above national and state estimates. Data from Kern County's Head Start/Early Head Start program information report (PIR) is similar. All (100%) of children in Head Start and Early Head Start had health insurance at the end of the reporting period.

Despite these successes, there are still groups of people without health insurance. The US Census estimates above indicate that 3.7% of children do not have health insurance and the California Department of Public Health, Maternal and Infant Health Assessment found that 4% of women were uninsured during pregnancy. The survey also reported that 14% were uninsured post-partum and 2% had no infant health insurance.

Figure 9, All Children with Health Insurance in the United States, California, and Kern County



Source: US Census American Community Survey 2018-2021, 5-Year Estimates

## HEALTH CARE ACCESS

Although most of Kern Residents (and all HS/EHS children) are insured, having access to quality and timely care is an issue. In Kern County there are 2,020 people for each primary care physician (2,020:1) compared to a ratio of 1,230:1 for the State of California (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2020). Where a family lives in the county also plays a crucial role in access. According to the 2019 Kern Community Health Needs Assessment, approximately 2 out of every 3 Kern residents (over 519,000) are living in a severely under-resourced area. Communities identified in this report as majorly under resourced include Oildale, East Bakersfield, Southeast Bakersfield, Arvin, Lamont, Greenfield, Wasco, McFarland, Delano, Shafter, Taft and Buttonwillow. Pregnant women are a priority in the health care system but continue to face access issues. The California Maternal and Infant Health Assessment reported several important findings:

- Almost 63% of pregnant women had a routine source of pre-pregnancy care;
- During the first trimester, 82% initiated care; and
- Nearly 12% reported either they or their infant needed care post-partum, but they could not afford it.



Although 100% of program participants at Kern County Head Start/Early Head Start had health insurance, keeping children up to date on screenings was challenging, as shown in Table 16. This may be partially related to the access issues previously discussed.

Table 9, HS/EHS Medical Care Received

Care Type	Received Care
Pre-and post-natal care for pregnant women	80%
Medical home	100%
Received all possible immunizations or exempt	100%
Up to date on EPSDT schedule	83.5%

Source: 2018/2019 Kern PIR

## DENTAL CARE

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Kern County faces a general scarcity of dentists. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation reports there are 2,080 Kern residents for every one dentist (2,080:1). California shows a much higher rate of dental professionals per person, with a ratio of 1,200:1.

Data for Head Start/Early Head Start in Kern County show that while 99% of participants have a dental home, only 94% of Early Head Start and 87% of Head Start participants had completed a professional dental examination. A much lower percentage of HS/EHS children who were identified as needing dental treatment had received it (17%).

## EXPECTANT MOTHERS

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In addition to access to health care mentioned previously, pregnant women continue to face a variety of challenges. According to the California Department of Public Health, Maternal and Infant Health Assessment Survey, of the poorest 6,900 pregnant Kern County women, only 29% self-reported taking folic acid daily in the month prior to their pregnancy, and nearly 25% did not seek first term care. Also noteworthy is that 30.5% reported being food insecure, and almost 22% did not gain adequate weight. An additional 45% gained excessive weight.

Many poor women in Kern County experience a range of hardships during pregnancy. Some of these instances include experiencing two or more hardships during childhood, 30.3%; homelessness, 5.2%; moving locations due to problems paying rent or mortgage, 9.4%; woman or their partner losing job, 25.3%; woman or partner cut in pay or hours, 18%; becoming separated or divorced, 12%; and having no practical or emotional support during pregnancy, almost 5%. Out of this same group of women, 87% had Medi-Cal insurance pre-natal coverage with 4.4% being uninsured, and 8.4% having private insurance. In 12.4% of cases, either the mother or infant needed post-partum care but did not afford said care.



Other data for the county show 70.8% of pregnant women are unmarried, 26% did not complete high school or obtain a GED, and nearly 75% live in a high poverty neighborhood.

## AIR QUALITY

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According to the American Lung Association 2022 State of the Air Report, Bakersfield had the worst air quality in the United States for year-round particle pollution, as it has had for many years. Kern County also received failing grades for both short-term particle pollution and ozone pollution.

- Short-term particulate: Episodes of increased particulates caused by events such as wildfires.
- Year-round particulate: chronic exposure to particulates caused by things like soot, diesel exhaust, chemicals, metals, and aerosols.
- Ozone: mostly attributed to wood-burning and auto exhaust.

Kern County ranked as the worst county in the nation with the highest year-round particle pollution. These particulates are of special concern for Kern County residents because of the significant health risks. As noted in this report, Kern has a high poverty rate,

especially in our rural farming communities, which is linked to lower access to health care. Another factor to consider is that Kern's main industries (agriculture and oil) are major contributors to the poor air quality. Asthma rates for Kern County are ranked among the highest in the state as indicated by asthma hospitalizations. Children are more vulnerable to the effects on health from poor air quality due to more permeable skin and fragile systems. In addition to the health effects of the poor air quality in Kern already discussed, children are also at risk of increased cognitive defects and cancer.

## FOOD INSECURITY

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According to the United States Department of Agriculture, food insecurity occurs when there are reports of multiple indications of disrupted and reduced food intake. Although Kern County is one of the largest producers of agriculture in the world, it also hosts the city with the highest food insecurity rate in America. The Food Research and Action Center's (FRAC) identified Bakersfield as first among the 100 largest metropolitan cities in the U.S. for food insecurity.

CAPK's Food Bank is the largest emergency food distributor in Kern County. The Food Bank provides an emergency means of food for Kern County's low-income children, families, and other vulnerable people such as elderly, disabled, and the homeless. Over the last few years the Food Bank has seen dramatic increases in food needs going from 13 million lbs. of food distributed in 2015 to over 33 million lbs. in 2020.

According to the Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2021 statistics, **18.2% of children in Kern County are food insecure** compared to 13.5% of children in both California and the United States.

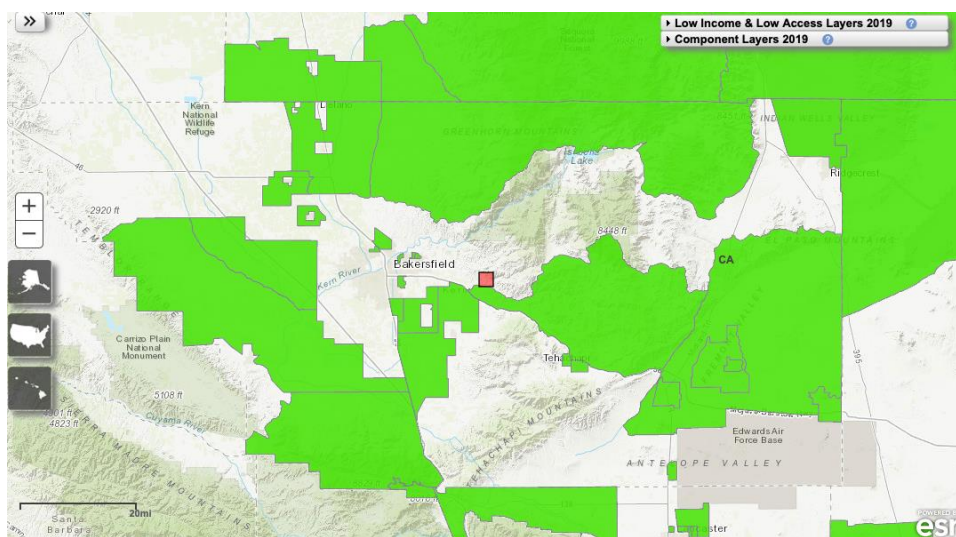
- California Department of Education: up to 140,000 Kern children receive free or reduced- price school lunch.
- California Department of Social Services: Approximately 83,589 children received CalFresh (SNAP) benefits.
- Over 25,692 children are served by WIC in Kern County

The CAPK Food Bank provides food distribution throughout the County. In 2021, the Food Bank served approximately 40,000 households per month, the majority of which include children. The CAPK Head Start Central Kitchen prepares approximately 72,000 meals and snacks each month for HS/EHS children and parent volunteers. Additionally, CAPK's Friendship House and Shafter Youth Center serve daily no- cost meals and snacks, to children and parents throughout the year.

## FOOD DESERTS

A **food desert** is an area that has limited access to affordable and nutritious food (Karpyn et al., 2019). They are most common in low-income and/or rural areas but can also appear in metropolitan areas. Racial and economic disparities in food access persist across the nation; approximately 1/3 of white residents experience limited access to food retail than their non-white counterparts. As seen in the map below, where the green areas represent low-income and low access areas, most of Kern County is considered food desert (United States Department of Agriculture, 2023).

Figure 10, Kern County Food Deserts



Source: United States Department of Agriculture 2023

The Kern County Food System Assessment reports 17 community gardens; Edible School Year program with cooking classes and a garden in Shafter, Bakersfield, and Arvin; Certified Farmer's Markets in Bakersfield, Delano, Lake Isabella, Lamont, Shafter, Tehachapi, Wasco, and Wofford Heights. Additionally, in response to the lack of fresh and healthy foods for many low-income people in Kern, the CAPK Food Bank began holding "Free Farmers Markets" — giving fresh locally sourced donated produce at no-cost to low-income people in Bakersfield. These occasional produce distributions have grown into regularly scheduled Free Farmers Markets held in Delano, Wasco, and low-income Bakersfield areas.

## HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CAPK's Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) provides services and programs that positively impact low-income children ages 0-5 years and their families. Income limits for eligibility to enroll into HS/EHS programs are set by current federal poverty guidelines. Additionally, foster children, children experiencing homelessness, and children with disabilities, as well as those receiving TANF/CalWORKs assistance, are given priority.

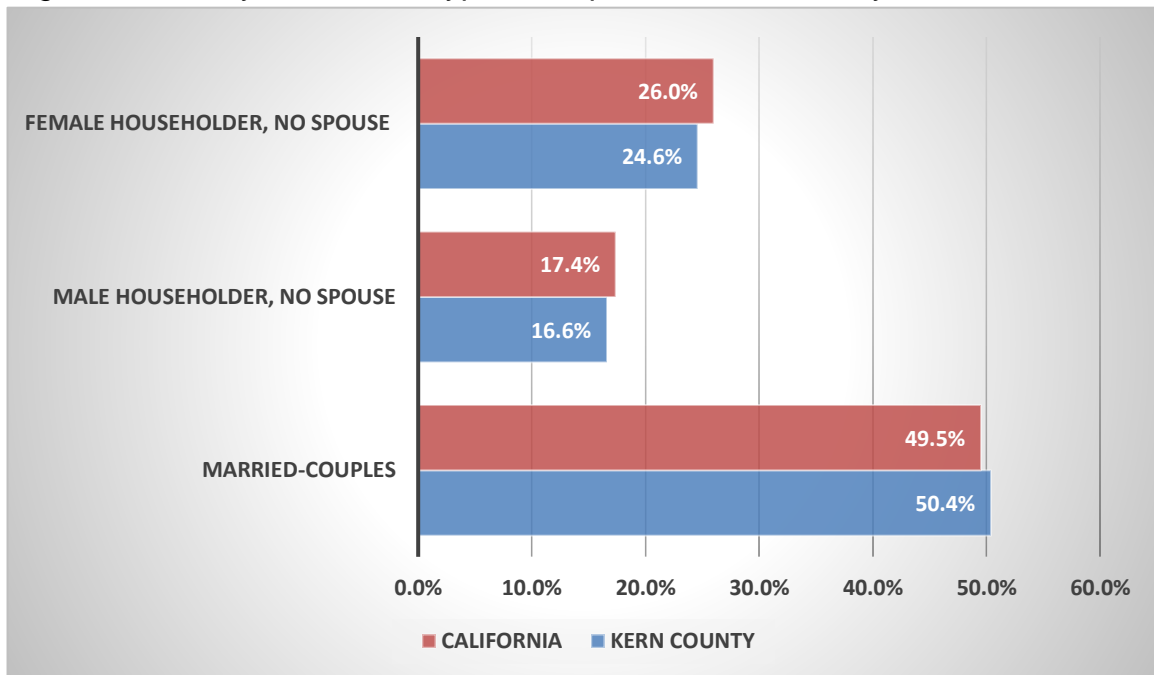
*Unless otherwise indicated in this section, the data source for the CAPK Head Start and Early Head Start programs are the 2022-23 CAPK Head Start Program and Early Head Start Program Information Reports (PIR).*

### HOUSHOLDS AND FAMILIES

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In 2021, there were an estimated 274,705 households in Kern County, California (US Census) with married-couple families making up 50.8% (138,442) of these. Single male and single female households comprising 16.6% and 24.6%% of all Kern households. Householders living alone consist of 10.4% of the population. About 24.8% of married-couple families have children under the age of 18, while about 1.9% of male householders and 28% of female householders (no spouse) have children under the age of 18.

Figure 11, Family Household Types Comparison, Kern County and California

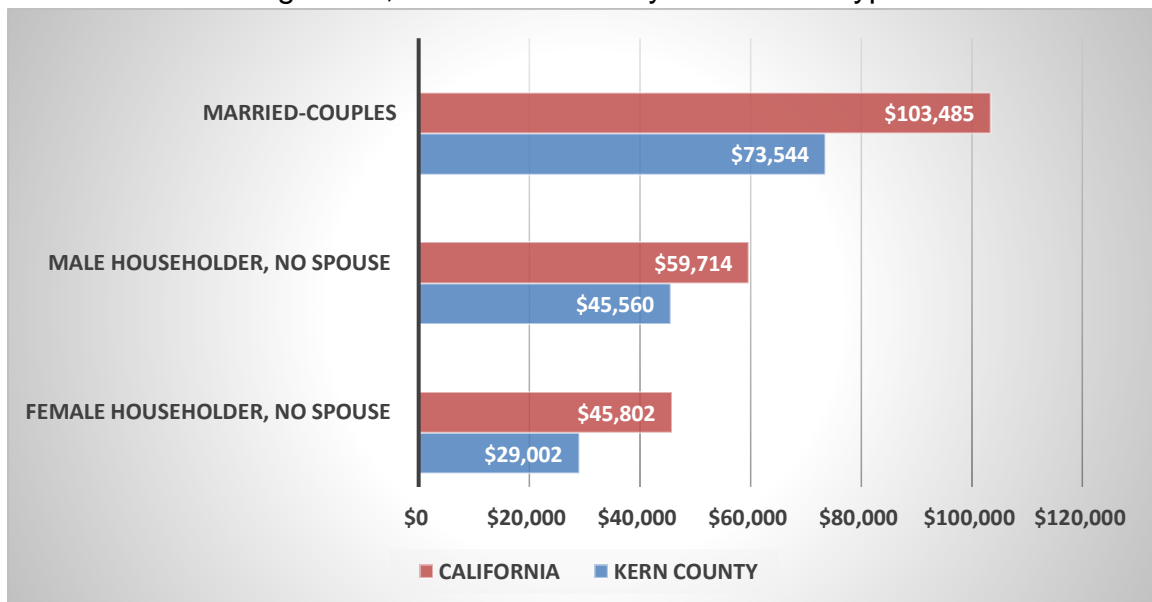


Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5- Year Estimates

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Kern County disparities in income are especially apparent when looking at family types. In Kern County, the median income for female householders - no spouse (\$29,002), was 64% of the male householder's median income (\$45,560) and 40% of the married-couple's median income (\$73,544). In each category, Kern County's median incomes are approximately \$15,000 to \$30,000 less than their respective counterparts for the state.

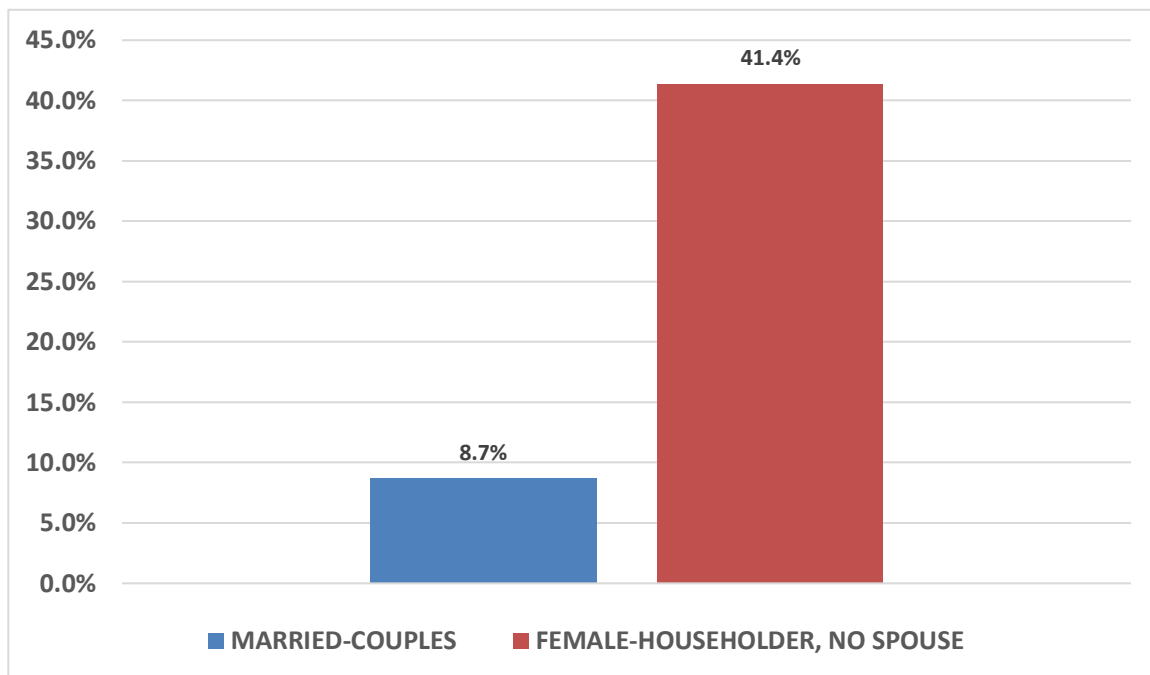
Figure 12, Median Income by Household Type



Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5-Year Estimates

There are wide inequities in poverty among family types. Single female headed households with children under 5 experiencing poverty at five times the rate for married couples.

Figure 13, Kern County Poverty by Household Type with Children under 5 years



Source: US Census American Community Survey 2021, 5-Year Estimates

## AGE-ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

According to American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, there are 68,078 Kern County children that are 5 years of age and under. Approximately half (48%) are in the 0-2 age group and 52% are ages 3-5 years.

## INCOME-ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

Of Kern County children ages 0-5 years, approximately 21,994 (31.3%) live in poverty and are Head Start income eligible. **An estimated 84% of impoverished Kern children ages 0-5 live in zip codes where HS/EHS centers are located.** Some of these communities have poverty rates for this age group as high as 58%.

## HEAD START AGE CHILDREN – RACE AND ETHNICITY

The following data from the Kern County Network for Children, *2021 Report Card*, provides the most current information for racial characteristics for children broken out by age groups. Of Kern children ages 0-5, most (61.7%) are Hispanic.

Table 10, Kern Children by Age, Race, and Ethnicity

Age Group	African American	Caucasian	Latino	Asian/Pacific Islander	Native American	Multi-Race
Under 1	0.9%	4.4%	10.4%	0.5%	0.1%	0.6%
1 to 2	1.7%	8.8%	20.5%	1.0%	0.1%	1.1%
3 to 5	2.6%	13.2%	30.8%	1.5%	0.2%	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>61.7%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

Source: Kern County Network for Children, 2021 Report Card (Numbers may not match US Census data in Table 3, due to different data collection methods.)

Other notable facts as reported by the Kern County Network for Children include:

- A small percentage (5.4%) of Kern County children were born outside the United States.
- Students in Kern County public schools are linguistically diverse—22% of County enrollments were English Learners.
- In 2021, 42% of Kern County children ages 0-17 lived with one or more foreign-born parents.

## KINSHIP CARE

Grandparents and other relatives traditionally hold a pivotal role in a child's upbringing. They shift roles between the occasional visitor with treats to becoming full-time caregivers, significantly influencing a child's life and the dynamics of the family. This familial setup is particularly prominent in Kern County, as underscored by 2021 census data revealing that 31% of local grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18 assume primary responsibility for their care. This percentage stands higher than the national average reported by the non-profit organization Zero to Three in 2017, which indicated that about 24% of America's preschool children were being looked after by grandparents. Other relatives, including siblings, also often step into the role of caregiving for these children. While such arrangements can offer convenience and stability, they may also generate conflicts due to differing caregiving philosophies. Additionally, these relatives, despite their best intentions, may not always be equipped to provide the educational and experiential benefits crucial to a child's early development. These considerations highlight the need for adequate resources and support in Kern County to assist relative caregivers in fostering optimal environments for children's growth and learning.

## HOMELESS CHILDREN

According to the annual Homeless Point-in-Time Count, conducted by the Kern County Homeless Collaborative, in 2023, there were an estimated 1,948 people living in homelessness in Kern County—a 23% increase from 2020. **Families with children accounted for 3% of the homeless population and children constituted almost 6% of homeless people counted.** Other findings from the study include:

- Over 83% of Kern County's homeless population was in Metro Bakersfield and 17% in rural cities and communities outside of Bakersfield.
- About 46% of Bakersfield's homeless population had shelter on the count night, 43% were unsheltered.

- Only 15% of rural homeless people had shelter.
- Countywide, 85% of homeless families with children had shelter; 69% of single adults were unsheltered.

## CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

Foster care is intended to provide temporary, safe living arrangements and therapeutic services for children who cannot remain safely at home because of the risk of maltreatment or inadequate care. The U.S. foster care system aims to safely reunify children with their parents or secure another permanent home, e.g., through adoption; however, too often this goal is not achieved, especially for older youth and children with disabilities. Instead, many children spend years in foster homes or group homes, often moving many times.

Children in foster care are at increased risk for a variety of emotional, physical, behavioral, and academic problems, with outcomes generally worse for children in group homes. Recognizing this, advocates and policymakers have made efforts to prevent children from entering the system and to safely reduce the number of children living in foster care, particularly in group homes. While the number of children in foster care nationally has decreased since the 2000s, it has risen in recent years, and California continues to have the largest number of children entering the system each year. Further, children of color continue to be overrepresented in the foster care system; in California, for example, African American/black children make up 35% of foster children but only 6% of the general child population (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau, 2021).

Although Kern County has slightly more children in foster care compared to the state, the numbers have remained essentially static over the years spanning 2013 to 2018 (kidsdata.org, 2020).

Table 11, Kern and California Children in Foster Care

Locations	Rate per 1,000					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
California	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.3
Kern County	5.6	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.1	5.6

Source: Kidsdata.org, 2020

## CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Among the civilian non-institutionalized population in Kern County, 11.1% reported a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age with people under 18 years less likely to have a disability and those 65 and over having the highest rates (US Census ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2021). According to Kidsdata.org, in 2020 there were **22,091 children K-12 with disabilities in Kern County, with learning disabilities being the most prevalent** followed by Speech or Language difficulties.



Table 12, Kern Children Disabilities, K-12

K-12 Disabilities	Number	Percent
Learning Disability	8,655	44.4%
Speech or Language Impairment	4,407	23.1%
Autism	3,322	15.5%
Other Health Impairment	2,652	12.8%
Intellectual Disability	2,020	10.3
Emotional Disturbance	672	3.5%
Hard of Hearing	465	2.4%
Orthopedic Impairment	206	1.1%
Multiple Disability	166	0.8%
Visual Impairment	94	0.5%
Traumatic Brain Injury	66	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,091</b>	

Source: Kidsdata.org, 2020

Resources for children who have disabilities in Kern County include California Children's Services, Clinica Sierra Vista, Kern regional Center, Kern Autism Network, and First Five Kern. CAPK 2-1-4-1 also offers free developmental screenings for any callers with children under 5 years of age. If the screening indicates that the child may need assistance, they relate to the appropriate services.

#### CHILDREN AND BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)

Body mass index is a measurement value that often can determine the health outcomes for individuals. This is especially true for children with a high amount of body fat. This high measure can lead to weight-related health problems both in the near-term and in the future. For Kern County children enrolled in Head Start, statistics show 70% at a healthy BMI with 21% of them either overweight or obese. 4% of the children enrolling in the program are underweight at enrollment. Statistics for Early Head Start are not available.

#### TRAUMA INFORMED CARE

As quoted from Child Trends, "How to Implement Trauma-informed Care to Build Resilience to Childhood Trauma", *Children who are exposed to traumatic life events are at significant risk for developing serious and long-lasting problems across multiple areas of development. However, children are far more likely to exhibit resilience to childhood trauma when child-serving programs, institutions, and service systems understand the impact of childhood trauma, share common ways to talk and think about trauma, and thoroughly integrate effective practices and policies to address it—an approach often referred to as trauma-informed care.*



Some common types of childhood trauma include abuse and neglect, family, community, and school violence, life-threatening accidents, and injuries, frightening or painful medical procedures, serious and untreated parental mental illness, loss of or separation from a parent or other loved one, natural or manmade disasters, discrimination, and extreme poverty. Any of these exposures can lead to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which can lead to aggressive, self-destructive, or reckless behavior.

Young children who experience trauma may have difficulties forming attachments to caregivers, experience excessive fear of strangers or separation anxiety, have trouble sleeping and eating and can be especially fussy. Oftentimes, these young children will show regression after reaching a developmental milestone such as sleeping through the night, toilet training, and others.

Trauma-informed care benefits children by providing a sense of safety and predictability, protection from further adversity, and offering pathways to recovery from the trauma. By implementing realization of the wide impact of trauma and understanding the paths for recovery, recognizing the signs and symptoms of trauma, responding by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into the policies, procedures, and practices surrounding trauma-informed care, and by resisting re-traumatization of children, as well as the adults who care for them, trauma-informed care can be healing and beneficial to young children. Trauma informed care must include comprehensive, ongoing professional development and education for parents, families, school staff and other service providers on jointly addressing childhood trauma.

Secondary trauma among adults working with children who have experienced trauma should be addressed. Care for staff is an important component to trauma-informed care. This is accomplished through high-quality, reflective supervision, maintaining trauma caseload balance, supporting workplace self-care groups, enhancing the physical safety of staff, offering flex-time scheduling, providing training for staff and leadership about secondary traumatic stress, development of self-care practices for staff and leadership, such as the Staff Wellness Clinic, and creating a buddy-system for self-care accountability.

<https://www.childtrends.org/publications/how-to-implement-trauma-informed-care-to-build-resilience-to-childhood-trauma>

#### CAPK EARLY HEAD START ENROLLED CHILDREN

The 2022-2023 CAPK Head Start/Early Head Start Program Information Reports (PIRs) provide a wide variety of information pertaining to enrolled children. The following information is provided to give an overview of the children in the program. As stated previously,

## PROGRAM ENROLLMENT

During the 2018/2019 school year, CAPK HS/EHS had cumulative enrollment of 3,185 children with the majority, (78%), enrolled in the Head Start program.

Table 13, Enrollment 2022/2019

	Head Start	Early Head Start	Total
Funded Enrollment	1,242	831	2,073
<i>Cumulative Enrollment</i>	1,141	1,113	2,254

Source: Kern PIR 2022/23

Head Start/Early Head Start centers are in low-income communities across Kern County's 8,163 square miles.

Table 14, Head Start/Early head Start Enrollment by Zip Code

Zip Code	Head Start	Early Head Start	Total Slots	Zip Code	Head Start	Early Head Start	Total Slots
<b>93203</b>	90	65	155	<b>93308</b>	142	81	223
<b>93215</b>	120	3	123	<b>93309</b>	133	112	245
<b>93225</b>	0	1	1	<b>93311</b>	36	42	78
<b>93241</b>	87	57	144	<b>93312</b>	51	44	95
<b>93249</b>	1	0	1	<b>93313</b>	96	83	179
<b>93250</b>	35	3	38	<b>93314</b>	15	14	29
<b>93252</b>	3	0	2	<b>93384</b>	0	1	1
<b>93257</b>	1	0	1	<b>93385</b>	3	1	4
<b>93263</b>	71	65	136	<b>93386</b>	2	0	2
<b>93268</b>	108	78	186	<b>93387</b>	0	0	0
<b>93276</b>	1	0	1	<b>93395</b>	1	0	1
<b>93280</b>	89	18	107	<b>93396</b>	0	1	1
<b>93301</b>	60	57	117	<b>93501</b>	35	0	35
<b>93302</b>	1	0	1	<b>93502</b>	1	0	1
<b>93304</b>	163	120	283	<b>93505</b>	80	0	80
<b>93305</b>	162	98	260	<b>93506</b>	1	0	1
<b>93306</b>	281	203	484	<b>93520</b>	1	0	1

<b>93307</b>	292	223	515	<b>93523</b>	1	0	1
<b>93527</b>	3	0	3				
<b>93531</b>	1	0	1				
<b>93539</b>	1	0	1				
<b>93555</b>	61	10	71				
<b>93560</b>	98	1	99				
<b>93561</b>	48	2	50				
<b>93562</b>	1	0	1				
<b>93527</b>	3	0	3				
<b>93531</b>	1	0	1				
<b>93539</b>	1	0	1				

Source Kern PIR 2022/2023

## AGE

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Of the 2,254 children who participated HS/EHS during the 2022-2023 school year, the majority, 47%, were ages 3-5 years.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

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Most children (61.9%) enrolled in HS/EHS are White origin and accounted for 74.1% of CAPK's Head Start enrollments. Of HS/EHS children, 22% were from families where Spanish is the primary language.

Table 15, Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	HS	EHS	Total
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.35%	0.18%	0.27%
Asian	0.61%	0.45%	0.53%
Black or African American	7.4%	4.4%	5.9%
Hispanic/Latino	69.2%	45%	57.3%
White	74.1%	49.2%	61.9%
Biracial/Multi-Racial	3.2%	2%	5.2%
Other Race	1%	0.27%	0.62%

Source: Kern PIR 2022/2023

## HOMELESS CHILDREN

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Within the context of Head Start and Early Head Start enrollment, approximately 43 children (42 families) experienced homelessness during the enrollment year with 5 of these families affected acquiring housing during the enrollment year.

## FOSTER CARE

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According to the Community Action Partnership of Kern's 2018-2019 Early Head Start Program Information Report (PIR), the number of children in San Joaquin County's Early Head Start categorized as a "foster child," were 25 approximately 4.4%.

## DISABLED

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CAPK Head Start had 81 children enrolled with diagnosed primary disabilities. All these children received special services. Of the children enrolled in the Early Head Start program, 73 infants and toddlers have an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) indicating they have been determined eligible to receive early intervention services.

## OBESITY

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At enrollment in the Head Start program, 7% of children of children were overweight or obese. Obesity and overweight are not measured for Early Head Start children.

## CHILDCARE AND PRESCHOOL

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### LICENSED CARE

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Childcare is a critically important need for many families in the United States. High-quality childcare centers and homes deliver consistent, developmentally sound, and emotionally supportive care and education (Cahan, 2017). Research indicates that high-quality early care and education can have long-lasting positive effects; specifically, high-quality childcare before age 5 is related to higher levels of behavioral/emotional functioning, school readiness, academic achievement, educational attainment, and earnings, with improvements particularly pronounced for children from low-income families and those at risk for academic failure (Cahan, 2017).

However, finding affordable, high-quality childcare is a major challenge for many families, and access differs based on geography, race/ethnicity, and income. These costs often require that low-income families compromise on basic expenses when choosing childcare for their children. For example, center-based infant care costs in California made up an estimated 15% and 48% of median income for married couple family or single parent family respectively in 2021 (Childcare Aware of America, 2021)

Head Start operates within the context of California’s early childcare and education system, described by the Learning Policy Institute as a “patchwork of programs” and one that “can be difficult for policymakers, providers, and families to understand because of its complexity” (Melnick et al., 2017). Childcare and preschool providers are typically divided into two categories: licensed and unlicensed.

Recent data show a gap in childcare availability across California and in comparing Kern County with other counties of comparable size and demographics as well as with larger, more metropolitan counties, it is apparent that qualified and licensed childcare is mostly unaffordable for many in California, but especially for those living in poverty. According to the 2022 State Fact Sheet of California by Childcare Aware, the average annual cost of center-based childcare for infants is \$18,201 and \$12,286 for family-based childcare. Cost is a primary factor for families in poverty finding appropriate care for their children (Corcoran & Steinley, 2017). In Kern County there are slots available across the many zip- codes, but that availability is uneven.

Capacity continues to be a factor in determining what childcare and early childhood education is available. As illustrated in the most recent California Childcare Resources and Referral Network data, it seems there are not enough available child-care slots. Overall, only 23% of children 0-12 with parents in the labor force have licensed childcare in California. Kern County families do not fare any better. As the economy continues to improve, parents going back to work may have difficulty finding care that best fits the needs of their families.

Table 16, Childcare Slots by Type of Care

Type of Care	Infant/Toddler Ages - 2	Preschool Ages 3 - 5
Center-based Private	374	5,129
Center-based Subsidized	289	6,640
<b>Total Slots</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>11,769</b>

Source: Kern County Early Childhood Council 2020/2021

The COVID-19 pandemic precipitated unprecedented disruption in California's early childhood education programs. Kern County, home to a considerable number of low-income families, was not spared these effects.

Mandated closures triggered the shift to remote learning, an uphill battle for many families. According to the 2021 American Community Survey data, about 7% of Californian households lacked a broadband internet subscription, a disadvantage accentuated in Kern County where the figure stood at approximately 9%. This digital divide affected younger learners' adaptation to online education, given that their learning typically involves hands-on experiences.

The financial impacts were also significant, as these programs operate primarily on a per-child funding model. With enrollment dropping, many faced potential closure. Notably, surveys from organizations like the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment indicated that up to 60% of providers were staring at closure sans public assistance.

For Kern County parents who relied on these services for childcare, the closures presented another set of challenges. The pressures were felt more acutely by women, often forced to curtail work hours, or leave jobs entirely to handle childcare.

However, the state of California made strides to mitigate the fallout, providing funds for sanitizing materials, personal protective equipment, and extra staffing. The state also sought to address the digital divide, improving access to technology for learners. Nevertheless, Kern County, like the rest of California, will likely grapple with the long-term ramifications of the pandemic on early childhood education for years to come.

Table 17, Kern County Childcare Providers by Type

Type	Number
Child Care Center	39
Family Child Care Home	162
Total	201

Kidsdata.org, 2020

Table 18 Head Start/Early Head Start Waitlist

Program	Average number of children waitlisted	Highest number on list	Lowest number on list
Head Start	708	839	529
Early Head Start	462	493	420

Source: HS/EHS Data Base 2022/23

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

According to the *Childcare Resource & Referral Network, 2021*, between 2019 and 2021 the number of Family Childcare slots saw a -1% decrease. As unemployment rates continue to decrease, childcare options will become increasingly important. Working parents need childcare options that support their ability to sustain a work schedule. Parents who are in school are also faced with childcare challenges, influencing their choices regarding the selection of classes and the rate by which they may complete their diploma or degree. The lack of affordable options persuades parents to pay a family member for childcare services. While these payments are lower than those required by non-subsidized centers, a payment of any size can weigh heavily on families with a limited expendable income.

Table 19, Childcare Supply in Kern County

Age and Type	Licensed Childcare Centers			Licensed Childcare Family Homes		
	2019	2021	Change	2019	2021	Change
Total number of slots	12,612	11,753	-7%	6,920	7,454	8%
Infant slots (under 2 years old)	630	599	-5%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Preschool slots (2-5 years old)	10,587	9,836	-7%	n/a	n/a	n/a
School-age slots (6 years and older)	1,395	1,318	-6%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total number of sites	190	174	-8%	635	674	6%

Early education has a great impact on a child's future by preparing them for success in school and life. The *2021 Childcare Portfolio* also provided insight into the nature of childcare requests countywide; it shows that the monthly cost for licensed childcare centers is \$1,266 and \$932 for licensed family childcare homes. In 2021, there were 599 licensed center slots in Kern County for children under the age of 2 years.

## CHILDCARE WORKFORCE SHORTAGE

According to the Early Childhood Workforce Index (2019), there is an overall shortage of childcare workers in California. For the industry in general, pay is not especially good and approximately 58% of child-care worker families in the state receive some sort of public assistance. Many child-care workers lack higher education credits as many jobs in the field do not require anything more than a high school diploma. This combination of low pay and low expectations is not a good formula for having a quality childcare workforce. There are initiatives in the works for potentially unionizing child-care providers and with that an increase in pay for



those workers. Should this come to pass, it might be good for the workers but unless it is properly funded, the cost would eventually be passed along to already strapped families.

## STAFF WELLNESS

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According to the National Head Start Association, there are seven dimensions of wellness:

- Physical
- Social
- Emotional
- Spiritual
- Environmental
- Occupational
- Intellectual

The wellness of employees in the education and childcare sector is often overlooked. Recognizing the importance of their wellness is vital to improving overall child health and development. Healthy workers make for healthier children. With teachers being role models, the classroom setting is an excellent place for promoting healthy behaviors, with life-long effect on the children. Teachers modeling nutritious eating, physical activity, happiness and other good-health attributes pass along to their students these opportunities for a healthy life.

An emphasis on staff wellness is not only good for the childcare workers but is consequently good for the children in their care, too. By addressing the seven dimensions of wellness among staff, the results across the board are good for all concerned. Reduced absenteeism, lower health care costs and workers' compensation claims, increased productivity and employee morale are just a few of the benefits. Ultimately, addressing the seven dimensions of wellness in childcare employees pays off for staff and for the children under their care.

At CAPK, wellness takes the form of activities such as the Staff Wellness Clinic featuring guided meditation, yoga, and art projects. This initiative allows staff to take a break and focus on their personal wellbeing and health.

## CHILDREN AGES 0 TO 5 WHO ARE NOT IN LICENSED CARE

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The National Household Education Survey conducted a national study of childcare choices for children not enrolled in kindergarten ages birth through 6. The study estimated the percentage of children aged 0 to 5 in each type of childcare setting. Although percentages are not given for Kern County, they are provided for the Western region. These percentages were applied to Kern County population numbers to create estimates for the number of children in Kern County, as shown in the table below (Children may be in multiple sources of care).

Table 20, Kern Children by Childcare Type

Type of Care	Percent of Children	Number of Children
Center	29%	20,378
Relative	24%	16,865
Non-Relative	12%	8,432
No Regular Weekly Arrangement	47%	33,026

Source: National Household Education Survey, 2017

The estimated number of children in center-based care is higher than the number of childcare slots in the county. Consequently, the estimates above are likely underestimates of the number of children in relative and non-relative care. Nevertheless, the table shows a very large number of relative and non-relative caregivers. There are over 16,000 children with relative caregivers and over 8,000 children with non-relative caregivers. There are also over 33,000 children with no regular childcare arrangement, although some of them may not have working parents. As seen in the table below, grandparents are the most common relative caregiver.

Table 21, Kern Children Ages 0 to 5 by Type of Relative Caregiver

Statistic	Percent	Number
Grandparent	73%	12,311
Aunt or Uncle	14%	2,362
Other Relative	13%	2,192
<b>Total</b>		<b>16,865</b>

Source: National Household Education Survey, 2017

## LOW INCOME CHILDREN AGES 3 -5 WHO ARE NOT IN PRESCHOOL

As noted above, approximately 14,663 children ages 0-5 are not enrolled in Head Start services though they are eligible given their income status. As 52% of children 0-5 fall between the 3-5 age range, approximately 7,625 children between 3 to 5 are not enrolled in Head Start services. This figure is based on current Head Start enrollment and the level of poverty in Kern County.

## PRE- KINDERGARTEN

Enacted in 2010 by the California State Legislature, the Kindergarten Readiness Act changed admission requirements for kindergarten and established a Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program. Prior to this legislation, kindergarten-eligible children were required to have their 5th birthday by December 2. The new legislation moved that date back to September 2.

Coinciding with this change was the implementation of TK, the first year of a two-year kindergarten program for 4-year-old children who would turn 5 between September 2 and December 2. TK is an early year kindergarten experience for young 5-year-old children and provides students with a year of kindergarten readiness to help them transition to traditional kindergarten. TK programs, as defined in statute, are not preschool classrooms or child development programs. They are part of the K-12 public school system and use a modified kindergarten curriculum. Each elementary or unified school district in California is required by law to provide TK classes for all age-eligible children. Enrollment in TK is optional and free to all children. Additionally, many school districts provide transportation for TK students.

Head Start-eligible families may choose to enroll their children in TK instead of Head Start because TK is a more convenient option for them. TK has no income eligibility requirements, transportation is often provided, and families may have older children already attending the same

school site. TK, however, cannot provide the same level of service to low-income families and children with disabilities as Head Start. This lack of focus on low-income and disabled children and their families means that disadvantaged children enrolled in TK may not receive the specialized services needed to prepare them to perform at or above the level of their peers when entering the K-12 system. In addition, while TK teachers must be credentialed, legislation allows the credentialing to be undetermined versus the early childhood specific credential that better serves children in the TK age group (as required by Head Start).

Head Start locations are seeing an impact from transitional kindergarten with fewer children ages 4-5 years and have re-focused their efforts on recruiting younger children for Early Head Start. As noted previously in this report, there is a high level of unmet need for childcare for children ages 0 to 3. The Early Head Start programs help to bridge that gap. This can be demonstrated by an increased enrollment of 38% in Kern County public schools' pre-kindergarten classes (California Department of Education, Data Quest).

Table 22, Kern Public School Transitional Kindergarten Enrollments

	2022/21	2021/20	2020/19	2018/19
Hispanic or Latino of Any Race	1,351	1,609	2,374	2,901
American Indian or Alaska Native	7	14	11	20
Asian	32	34	115	89
Pacific Islander	1	2	10	13
Filipino	17	25	33	34
African American	84	115	209	252
White	394	530	885	1,116
Two or More Races	51	58	82	113
Not Reported	177	9	40	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,952</b>	<b>2,396</b>	<b>3,759</b>	<b>4,573</b>

Source: California Department of Education, Data Quest

## COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Every two years, Community Action Partnership of Kern completes the Community Action Plan (CAP) as a two-year roadmap demonstrating how Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) eligible entities plan to deliver CSBG services. Like the Head Start Community Assessment, the CAP identifies and assesses poverty related needs and resources in the community and establishes a detailed plan, goals, and priorities for delivering those services to individuals and families most affected by poverty. The 2024-2025 Community Needs Survey and Focus Groups are integral components of the CAP, by assisting to identify needed programs and services for low-income residents and families in Kern County.

Three community needs surveys were administered to CAPK Clients; Partner/Community Agencies; and CAPK Staff, Volunteer and Board Members. A total of 1,108 surveys were completed.

Table 23, Survey Completion by Group

Survey	Response
CAPK Clients	920
Partners/Community Agencies	175
Board Members	13
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>1,108</b>

Source: Survey Monkey, CAPK 2024-2025 Community Needs Survey

The brief survey had a list of 26 programs/services. Respondents were asked to rank each service on a scale from 0-3 with higher scores indicating the most need. The following table shows the results, with the top five scores for each survey group.

Table 24, Survey Results

Source: Survey Monkey, CAPK 2024-2025 Community Needs Survey

Rank	Clients	Partners and Community Agencies	CAPK Board
1	Affordable Housing	Mental Health Needs	Services/Programs in Rural Areas
2	Utility Bill Assistance	Substance Abuse Treatment	Financial Education
3	Afterschool Activities	Affordable Housing	Employment for Youth
4	More Education for Children	Affordable Childcare	Leadership Skills for Youth
5	Affordable Childcare	Homeless Services	Mental Health Needs

In all three groups, **affordable childcare**, **affordable housing**, and **mental health needs** were identified as top needs. **Affordable housing** was identified by CAPK clients and partners as a top need. Clients also identified **utility assistance** as a top need, while partners and community agencies chose **mental health** and **substance abuse** as some of the most needed services.

Due to the vast geographic and demographic diversity across Kern County CAPK conducted focus groups to further explore and define the top needs in Kern's rural and/or high need communities of California City and Shafter. They were asked to choose and prioritize the top five needs for their community. After completing the individual lists, the group discussed their choices, and together, identified the top five needs for their communities. The following table shows the top five needs identified by each focus group:

In **California City**, a total of 10 work groups were established. Staff found the following need-based themes from our focus group in California City:

1. Utility Assistance
2. After-school programs for youth
3. Transportation
4. Affordable Housing
5. Affordable Childcare

Utility Assistance was the number 1 response. Five of the 10 workgroups cited utility assistance as a concern. Topics numbered 2 through 5 were equally mentioned by a total of four workgroups during the discussion.

In **Shafter**, a total of 7 work groups were established with two to three members each. Staff found the following need-based themes from our focus group in Shafter:

1. After-school programs for youth
2. Medical services/access to specialty care
3. Job skills and job training
4. Senior Services

After-school programs for youth was the number 1 response. Four of the 7 workgroups cited after-school services as a need in the community. Topics numbered 2 through 4 were equally mentioned by three workgroups.



In review of the CAPK 2019 Community Needs Survey, results are aligned with many of the identified community needs in this current report. Specifically, “Affordable Childcare” was identified as the number one top need in Kern. In focus group discussions, people discussed the need for free or affordable childcare that matches their work schedules including nights and weekends.

## CONCLUSION

Kern is a county that continues to struggle with deep poverty and disparities. However, each challenge can be seen as an opportunity for change. The County’s rich agriculture, abundant natural resources, and innovative industries can provide great opportunities for low-income families to improve their circumstances. It is clear by the research, surveys, and interviews, that low-income people want the ability to earn better wages, safe and affordable housing, and the resources to support their climb out of poverty. It is incumbent upon the community to meet these challenges with innovative programs that assist families with building stability. This not only helps those we serve, but also serves the entire community by assuring Kern has a diverse and skilled workforce to meet the challenges ahead. As a Community Action Agency, staff members have taken the initiative to be certified in a Results-Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) and serve as an implementor for our agency. ROMA provides a framework for continuous agency growth and provides accountability to how Community Action Agencies report results. Through the ROMA course, staff members identified the need for and the importance of collecting customer satisfaction data. CAPK staff are currently developing a customer satisfaction survey to be implemented and available through our website. The expected date of completion is May 2023.

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2023



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) has been serving low-income people and families since 1965. As the dedicated poverty fighting agency in Kern County, the Agency provides quality, life changing services through an array of programs designed to meet basic needs as well as empower people and families to improve their lives. CAPK's Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) program plays a crucial role in the fight against poverty by giving children and families the support they need for children to be successful academically and throughout their lives.

CAPK's HS/EHS mission is to "provide rich, high quality early learning experiences to a diverse population of children ages birth to five. We will promote access to comprehensive services with a holistic focus on the family by encouraging family engagement, supporting school readiness and instilling self-reliance in children and their families." CAPK's HS/EHS provides high quality early childhood education to children from pre-natal to five years-old through part-day, full-day and home-based options.

This assessment used primary and secondary data sources to identify service gaps and emerging needs of low-income Early Head Start eligible children and families in San Joaquin County. Findings from the assessment will assist CAPK to identify and respond to gaps in services and emerging needs in the community for low-income EHS eligible children and families. The data and analysis are used to guide CAPK's strategic planning process to better serve EHS children and families.

In accordance with the requirements of 45 CFR Part 1305 Section 1302.11, the CAPK Early Head Start Programs 2021 Community Assessment Update was completed and approved by the Head Start Policy Council Planning Committee on February 2, 2021 and the CAPK Board of Directors meeting on February 24, 2021.

### KEY FINDINGS

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As in Kern County Assessment, the results of the needs analysis of San Joaquin confirms the continued need in the County for Early Head Start Services for low-income children and families as an important part of community efforts to break the cycle of poverty by providing low-income infant/toddlers children and their families a wholistic and culturally responsive approach to help them meet their emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs. Some key findings for San Joaquin include:

- 54% of children ages 0-5 are in the 0-2 years age group.
- 40.8.% of San Joaquin residents ages 5 and over speak a language other than English at home.
- The median household income in San Joaquin County is \$74,962 and has grown approximately 17% from 2017-2021
- 11.9% of San Joaquin residents live in poverty.

- Large disparities in poverty between communities ranging from 8% in Tracy to 31% in Woodlake.
- According to the 2015-2023 Regional Household Needs Assessment in San Joaquin County Housing Element, a total of 8,301 household units were identified as needed. Of them, 1,257 are needed for those in the extremely low-income category, 1,153 needed for the very low income category, 779 needed for the low income category, 1,290 needed for the moderate income category, and 3,822 needed for the above moderate income category.
- In 2022, Mental health is a high prioritized need throughout the County.
- Asthma, obesity, and diabetes are some of the most prevalent health conditions in the County.
- 13% of the homeless population are families with children.
- 3,661 (6.5%) of children ages 0-5 years live in Foster Care in 2018.
- 68.6% of pregnant women had a regular source of care pre-pregnancy and 85% of women initiated pre-natal care during their first trimester.
- 8.7% of people ages 25 had a 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade education without a diploma, 2-3% higher than the State of California and the United States.
- 65% of Early Head Start parents are employed.
- 100% of Early Head Start enrolled families have health insurance.
- 78% of EHS families are Hispanic/Latino.

## METHODS

In 2021, the Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) Head Start/State Child Development (HS/SCD) Division completed a comprehensive community assessment of Kern County detailing the most current data and source material available. The assessment provided a detailed understanding of the characteristics of Kern County's children and families, their childcare needs, and the conditions that impact their health, development, and economic stability. For the current assessment period, CAPK is including this separate assessment of San Joaquin County, due to its unique characteristics.

This assessment includes current statistics and considerations of county and incorporated community population numbers, household characteristics and relationships, estimates of income eligible children, disability, educational attainment, health and mortality, child welfare, prenatal health, homeless children and families, and Head Start and Early Head Start program information. The information presented herein may be used by CAPK Early Head Start (EHS) for future planning and program decision-making.

The primary data source (unless otherwise cited) for the 2021 San Joaquin Community Assessment is the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2019 ACS 1-year Estimates and 2017-2021 ACS 5-year Estimates. Other sources of local, state, regional, and national data and intelligence are cited throughout the report. The CAPK Early Head Start Program 2022/2023 Information Reports (PIR) was used for data directly related to EHS.

## AGENCY OVERVIEW

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Established in 1965, CAPK is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. In carrying out its mission *to provide and advocate for resources that will empower the members of the communities we serve to be self-sufficient*, CAPK develops and implements programs that meet specific needs of low-income individuals and families.

CAPK is one of the largest nonprofit agencies in Kern County and one of the oldest and largest Community Action Agencies in the United States. Originating as the Community Action Program Committee of Kern County in 1965, CAPK later became the Kern County Economic Opportunity Corporation, and in 2002 became the Community Action Partnership of Kern.

CAPK operates seven divisions, which include Head Start/State Child Development (HS/SCD); Health and Nutrition Services; Administration; Finance; Human Resources; Operations; and Community Development. Head Start and Early Head Start (HS/EHS) programs are operated under the HS/SCD Division.

As Kern County's federally designated Community Action Agency in the fight against poverty, CAPK provides assistance to over 100,000 low-income individuals annually through 11 direct-service programs including 2-1-1 Kern County; CalFresh Healthy Living Program; the East Kern Family Resource Center; Energy; CAPK Food Bank; Friendship House Community Center; Head Start/Early Head Start; Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment; Shafter Youth Center; CAPK Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA); and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition.

CAPK has offices located in 27 cities/communities in Kern County and offers services at over 100 sites. The Agency also operates programs in other counties in the San Joaquin Valley including Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment (MCAP) Program, enrolling families through six Central Valley counties that include Kern, Madera, Merced, Tulare, Kings, and Fresno; WIC program services in the communities of Big Bear City, Phelan, Adelanto, Crestline, and Needles in San Bernardino County; and 2-1-1 Information and Referral Helpline in Kings, Tulare, and Stanislaus Counties. In 2015 CAPK's EHS program expanded to San Joaquin County (Stockton, Lodi, Manteca, and Tracy). The information below further details CAPK's programs.

**CAPK's San Joaquin Early Head Start (EHS):** High quality early childhood education for children from pre-natal to age three through part-day, full-day and home-based options. The program uses a wholistic approach by not only addressing the needs of the child, but by teaching

parents to become advocates and self-reliant providers for their children through EHS Parent Policy Council and Family Engagement programs. *CAPK San Joaquin Early Head Start served 580 children and their families in 2022/2023 at seven locations and in home-based setting.*

Table 1, CAPK San Joaquin County Early Head Start Locations

Site Name	Address
<b>California St</b>	425 N California St, Stockton
<b>Marci Massei</b>	215 W. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street, Stockton
<b>Chrisman</b>	23950 S Chrisman, Tracy
<b>Kennedy</b>	2800 S. D St, Stockton
<b>St. Mary's</b>	545 W. Sonora Street, Stockton
<b>LUCCC Lodi</b>	701 S. Hutchins, Lodi
<b>Gianone</b>	1509 N Golden Gate Ave, Stockton
<b>Lathrop</b>	850 J Street, Lathrop

## DETERMINANTS OF NEED

### SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY OVERVIEW

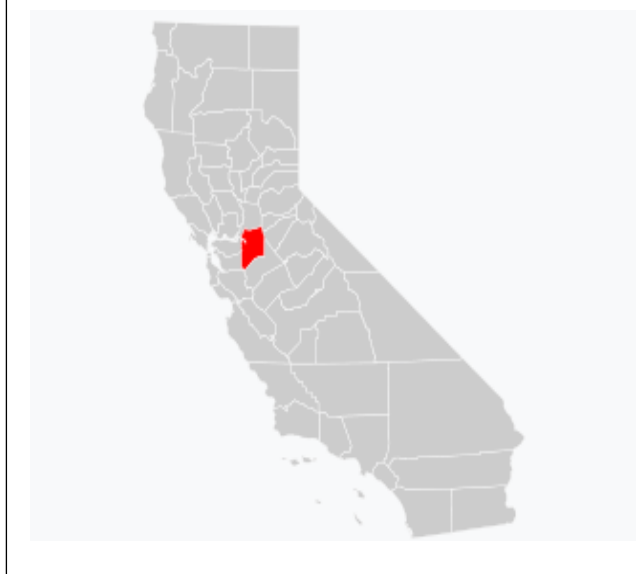
San Joaquin County is centrally located in the San Joaquin Valley, the agricultural heartland of California. The County encompasses approximately 1,440 square miles of relatively level, agriculturally productive lands. The foothills of the Diablo Range define the southwest corner of the County, and the foothills of the Sierra Nevada lie along the County's eastern boundary.

The valley was created by sediments that washed out of the major rivers that drain in the area which also created rich agricultural soils. As one of the State's top ten counties in agriculture production, the area produces a wide variety of fruit and nut crops, field crops, livestock, and poultry.

Urbanized areas comprise a relatively small proportion of the County. However, with the growing high cost of housing in the nearby San Francisco Bay Area, San Joaquin County is a highly attractive location for commuters.

The County is interlaced with a complex network of creeks, rivers, and canals. The County's major rivers, the San Joaquin, the Mokelumne, the Calaveras, and the Stanislaus, all lead to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in the western half of the County. It is in this region, at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, that about one-half of the State's entire

Figure 1, San Joaquin County

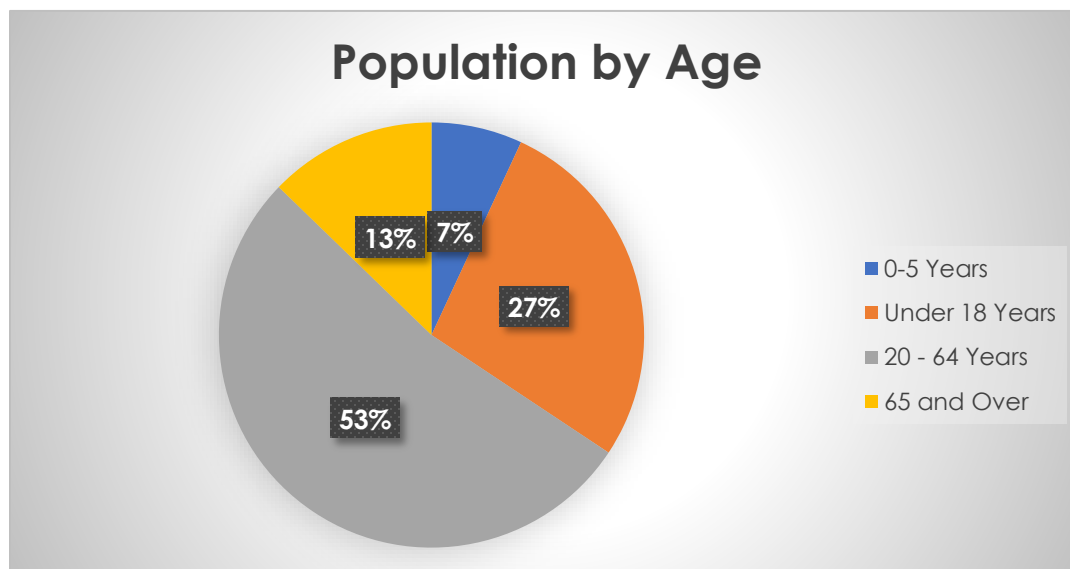


runoff water volume passes and supports the biologically and agriculturally rich Delta. The waterways provide recreation opportunities, scenic beauty, and water for municipal, industrial, and agricultural users. Both the Delta-Mendota Canal and the California Aqueduct carry tremendous volumes of water from the Delta area to the south (<https://www.sjgov.org/>).

## POPULATION

There are 771,406 people living in San Joaquin County with 317,818 residents (42%) living in the City of Stockton, the County's major metropolitan area. The next five largest cities contain approximately 36% of the County's population and the remaining residents live in small Census designated places with populations less than 8,000 people. Approximately **52,937** of the County's residents are **under the age of 5** years; 209,515 are under 18; 404,608 are ages 20 – 64; and 97,523 are ages 65 and over.

Figure 2, San Joaquin Population Age Distribution



Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

Of the estimated **52,937** children ages 0 to 5 in San Joaquin County, approximately **54% (28,709) are in the 0-2 years age group** (kidsdata.org.) Gender for children in the 0-5 age group is almost even with 49% female and 51% male.

## POPULATION GROWTH

The County's overall population growth from 2010-2021 is higher than the State and Nation. The decrease of 0-5 population in the United States (-4%) is higher than the decrease observed in San Joaquin and California at -2% and -8%, respectively. California had the highest decrease in the 0-5 population.

Table 2, Population Growth Comparison

Location	2010	2021	Growth
<b>San Joaquin</b>	<b>685,306</b>	<b>771,406</b>	<b>13%</b>
California	37,253,956	39,455,353	6%
United States	308,745,538	329,725,481	7%
<b>Children Ages 0-5</b>			
<b>San Joaquin</b>	<b>54,228</b>	<b>52,937</b>	<b>-2%</b>
California	2,545,065	2,350,335	-8%
United States	20,131,420	19,423,121	-4%

Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

## RACE/ETHNICITY

San Joaquin County's racial and ethnic composition is diverse and similar to the State of California. After White, the largest Racial/Ethnic group is Hispanics/Latino — about 2% more than California and 23% more than the United States. The smallest group are Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. There are almost three times as many people of Asian descent in the County and State, then the Nation.

Table 3, San Joaquin County Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	San Joaquin	California	United States
White	46.5%	52.1%	68.2%
African American	7.0%	5.7%	12.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%
Asian	16.5%	14.9%	5.7%
Native Hawaiian or Other, Pacific Islander	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%
Hispanic or Latino	42.3%	39.5%	18.4%
Some Other Race	10.1%	15.1%	5.5%

Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

From 2017 to 2021, the County has grown by 47,253 people. However, growth varies among race/ethnicity. Most notably, there was a -38.% decrease in the White population in this region and a 162% increase in American Indian or Alaska Native population.

Table 4, San Joaquin Population Change by Race/Ethnicity, 2017-2021

Race/Ethnicity	Population Change Percent
White	-38%
Black or African American	-2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	162%
Asian	28%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	12%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	9%
Some Other Race	59%

Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2017-2021

## NATIVE AND FOREIGN BORN

Of San Joaquin County's population, 75.3% (580,986) were born in the United States. Of the 179,920 residents that are foreign born, 52% are naturalized citizens and 48% are not U.S. citizens.

## LANGUAGE

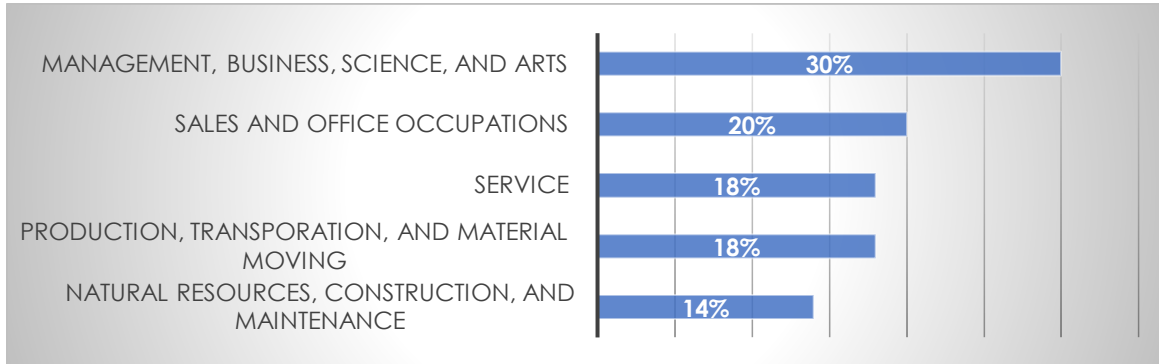
Approximately 40.8% of San Joaquin residents ages 5 and over speak a language other than English at home. The most common non-English language spoken is Spanish (26.2%). By comparison, 43.9% of Californian's speak a language other than English at home. Of the population that spoke a language other than English at home, 28.3% spoke Spanish (US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021)

## EMPLOYMENT

San Joaquin County's economy is diverse with a mix of agriculture, e-fulfillment centers, advanced manufacturing, data centers/call center and government/medical service centers. Some companies in this area include Applied Aerospace, Amazon, Tesla, Pacific Medical, Medline, FedEx, Trincherro-Sutter Home Winery and Crate & Barrel. There are an estimated 353,544 employed San Joaquin residents ages 16 and over. The occupations comprising the most employees is "Management, Business Science, and Arts" and the smallest sector is "Natural Resources, Construction, and Maintenance" occupations.



*Figure 3, San Joaquin County Occupations*

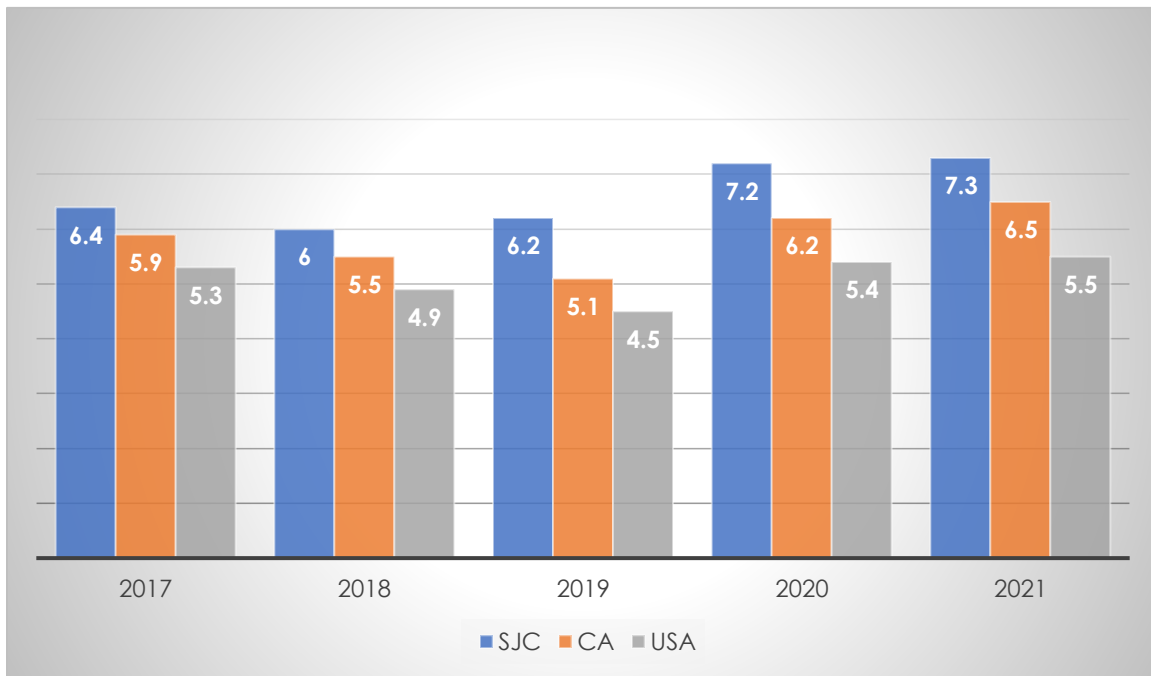


Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Although the County, State, and Nation have seen sharp decreases in unemployment since the recession, San Joaquin consistently has higher rates of unemployment than the State and Nation.

**Figure 4. Unemployment Rate Comparison, Not Seasonally Adjusted**



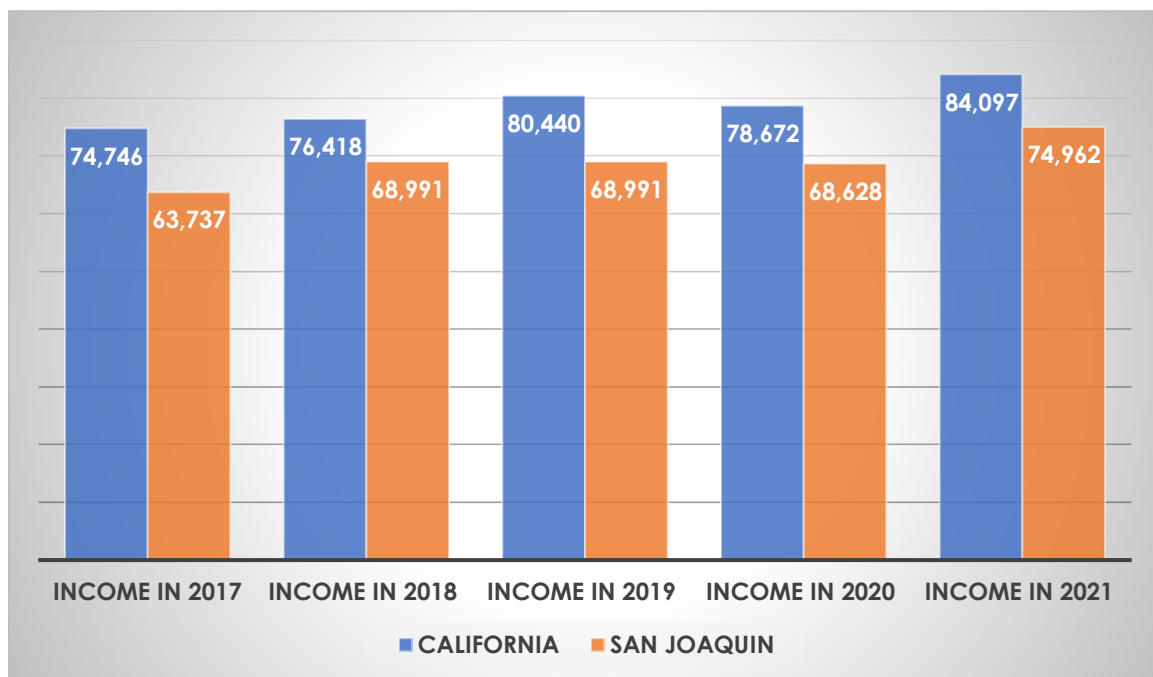
Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2017-2021

## INCOME

The median household income in San Joaquin County (\$74,962), has grown approximately 17% from 2017 to 2021. Although the US median income (\$ 69,021) in 2021, the State of California median income is still higher at \$84,097.



Figure 5, Median Household Income Comparison

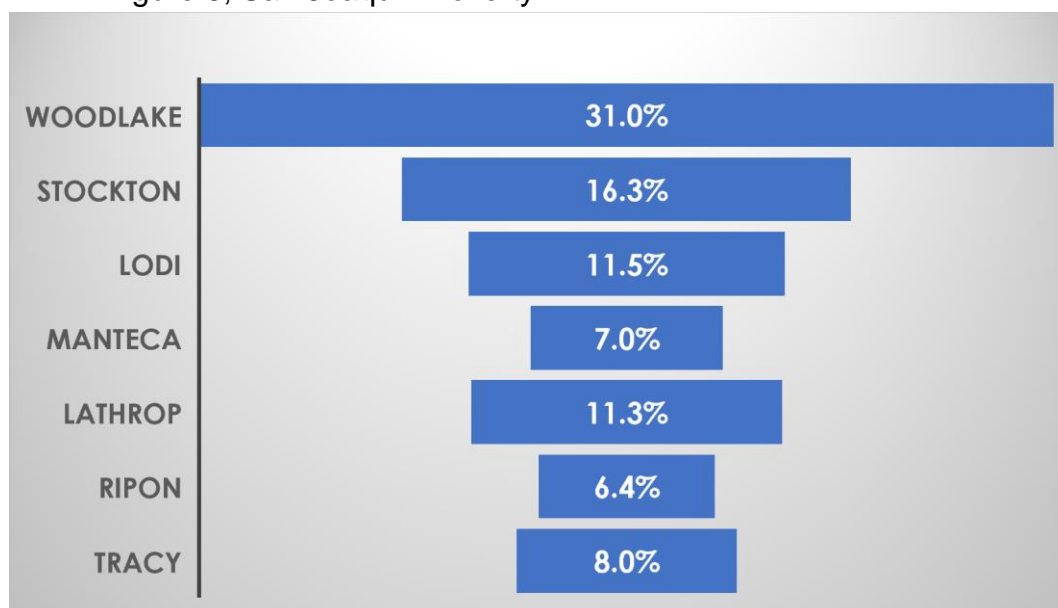


Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2017-2021

## POVERTY

According to the US Census, 11.9% of San Joaquin residents live in poverty. When looking at poverty data in the 7 most populated cities, there are large disparities between communities ranging from 8% in Tracy to 31% in Woodlake.

Figure 6, San Joaquin Poverty



Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

## WORKING POOR

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The face of poverty in the United States has changed greatly over the last decade. In a report presented at the National Community Action Partnership Mega Trends Learning Cluster, *Inequality in America*, former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich discusses trends of those living in poverty in the U.S. According to Reich, as the median family income continues to drop, an estimated 65% of U.S. families live paycheck to paycheck. He goes on to say that a significant number of people in poverty are working but are unable to earn enough to lift themselves out of poverty. Reich also claims that about 55% of all Americans aged 25 to 60 have experienced at least one year of poverty or near poverty (below 150% of the poverty line), and at least half of all U.S. children have relied on food stamps at least once in their life time.

This is also supported by the California Budget and Policy Center, *Five Facts Everyone Should Know About Poverty*, which states that the majority of families that live in poverty are working and 67% of those families have one or more workers supporting them. The key reasons cited for working families remaining in poverty are a lack of good paying jobs and the low minimum wage.

## HOUSING

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According to the US Census Estimates, of the 249,018 housing units in San Joaquin County, 234,662 are occupied and 14,356 are vacant.

According to the San Joaquin Council of Governments, 2015-2023 Regional Housing Needs Assessment and SJ County Housing Element (a County wide assessment to meet housing needs), low-income households such as people earning minimum wage, receiving cash aid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Social Security recipients face difficulties affording the rent for a one-bedroom unit or a studio unit at fair market rent. A key area of concern is the housing needs for elderly, persons with disabilities, large families, extremely low-income households, farmworkers, families with single-headed households, and families and persons in need of emergency shelter.

Other key San Joaquin County Housing issues cited in the report include:

- Between 2014 and 2015, a total of 8,301 household units were identified as needed. Of them, 1,257 are needed for those in the extremely low-income category, 1,153 needed for the very low-income category, 779 needed for the low-income category, 1,290 needed for the moderate-income category, and 3,822 needed for the above moderate income category
- Migration from Bay Area residents is associated with the rising cost of homes and rentals, negatively impacting those that are native to the community
- Housing discrimination issues continue; minority groups and low-income households are less likely to demand habitable dwellings and report issues

- SJCOG projects that from 2006 to 2035, San Joaquin County will have an estimated 327,379 additional people that will need housing and that approximately 11% of those will be in unincorporated areas
- Most market rents are out of reach for individuals and families with very low or extremely low-income
- A 4-bedroom house rental in the Mountain House communities averaged \$2,250, a cost which would not be affordable to a family of four persons at any income level
- San Joaquin County has a greater need for larger rental housing units than California
- Approximately 58% of the housing stock surveyed across the county were in sound condition with the rest needing minor or major renovations
- Most emergency shelters operate at or near capacity throughout the year; during maximum times of need there is a significantly greater number of homeless than shelter spaces
- The lack of available water is a significant concern in housing production
- Most farm working families are above average in size (household members); as a result, most migrant farmworkers live in overcrowded housing

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development states that families who pay more than 30% of their income for housing are considered cost burdened and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation, and medical care. Based on the 2021 American Community Survey estimates, 26.3% of all San Joaquin homeowners with a mortgage used 35% or more of their household income on housing. For renters, over 43% used 35% or more of their household income on rent.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) is a California requirement for nonprofit hospitals and conducted every three years. Information is gathered from a variety of sources and is used to prioritize each counties areas of need in relationship to effects on health. Through a comprehensive process combining findings from demographic and health data as well as community leader and resident input, nine health needs were identified. According to the 2022 SJ CHNA, **mental health is the highest prioritized need in San Joaquin County**. The table below shows indicators of mental health for San Joaquin compared to the State of California. As seen below, San Joaquin had worse outcomes in several key areas.

Table 5, San Joaquin and California Mental Health Indicators Comparison

Indicator	San Joaquin (Rate or %)	California (Rate or %)
<b>Deaths by Suicide, Drug or Alcohol Poisoning (per 100,000 deaths)</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>34</b>
Depression among Medicare Beneficiaries	14%	14%
Mental health Provider (Per 100,000)	238	352
Poor Mental Health days In past month	4.4	3.7
Seriously Considered Suicide	12%	10%
Social Associations	6	0.07
<b>Insufficient Social and Emotional Support</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>25%</b>
Suicide Deaths (per 100,000)	11	11
Young People not in School or Working (Disconnected Youths)	8%	8%

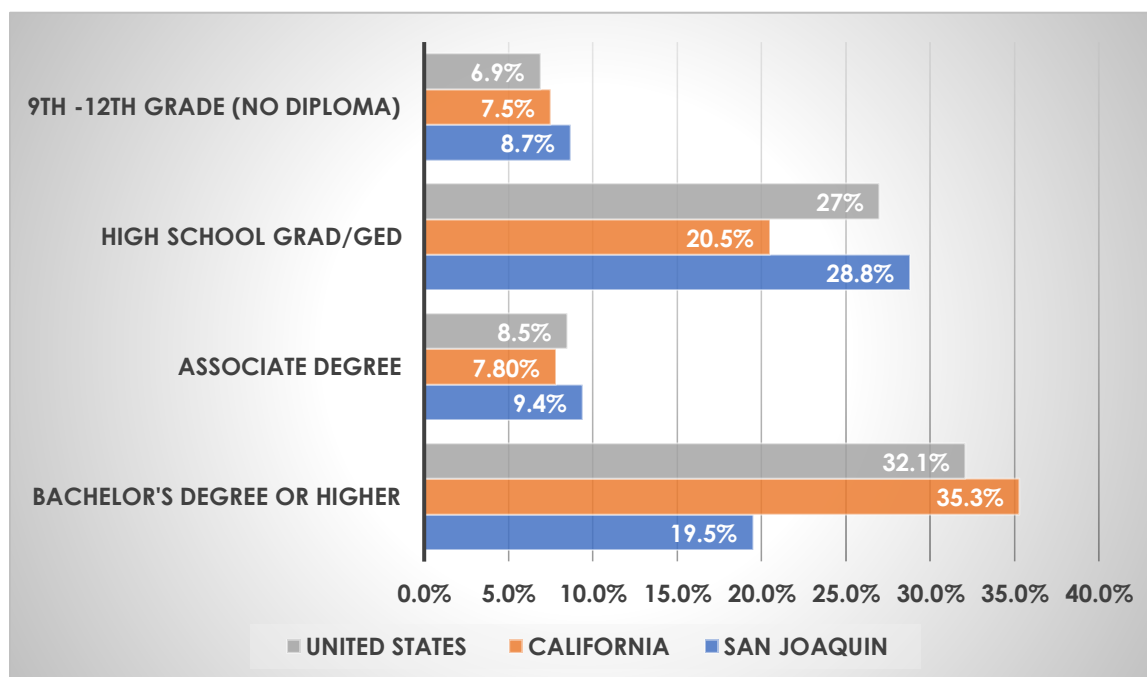
Source: San Joaquin Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA), 2022

## NEEDS AND RESOURCES OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

### EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In 2021, 8.7% of people ages 25 and older in San Joaquin had a 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade education (no diploma), 2% higher than the rate for the State of California and about 3% higher than the United States. The most concerning for San Joaquin is the low attainment of college degrees—about half as many people with a bachelor's degree or higher than the state or nation. Today, college is the new high school, with many entry level jobs requiring higher levels of education and skills than what can be acquired as a high school graduate.

Figure 7, Educational Attainment Comparison, 2021



Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

The lack of higher educational attainment has far reaching implications for San Joaquin residents. According to a report by The PEW Charitable Trust, a four-year college degree encourages upward mobility from the lower rungs of society and prevents downward mobility from the middle and top. The report states that about 47% of people who are raised in the bottom quartile of the family income ladder who do not get a college degree stay at that level, compared to 10% who have earned a college degree. Also, about 39% of those raised in the middle income ladder who don't get a college degree move down, while 22% with a degree stay in the middle or advance.

### ADULT EDUCATION

In San Joaquin County, 9.6% of residents over age 25 lack a high school diploma and 11.1% of residents have less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education. Among families enrolling in Early Head Start the figure is even higher with 41% (approximately 152) of parents not having a high school diploma.

According to the Library and Literacy Foundation for San Joaquin County, 52% of residents read below a third-grade level.

These numbers demonstrate the need for Adult Basic Education (ABE) or General Education Development (GED) preparation in San Joaquin County. ABE and GED preparation is available in approximately five cities in the county: Stockton, Lodi, Manteca, and Tracy.

Very few undergraduate education opportunities exist in San Joaquin County with 4-year degrees offered on-campus at two private universities in Stockton. Over time there have been a few for-profit colleges and technical schools but those are now closed. San Joaquin Delta College offers 2-year/vocational/associates degrees offered at the Stockton and Mountain House campuses. Both locations suffered greatly during the 2008 economic downturn but have maintained their place in higher education in the county. It is noted that a greater number of families (77%) both two-parent and single parent are either not in job training or school upon their children's entry into the Early Head Start programs.

## EMPLOYMENT AND JOB TRAINING

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Employment and job training for families with children enrolled in the Early Head Start program is critical in ensuring the ability of families to become self-sufficient and capable of adequately providing for themselves and their children. Numbers based on the San Joaquin County PIR show that out of 373 enrollees, 65 % (244), are employed. Of the total number of families, approximately 211 are not working. These totals include two-parent and single-parent families.

## FOREIGN BORN

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Of San Joaquin County's 2021 population, 76.7% (580,986) were born in the United States, and 23.3% (179,920) were foreign born. Of the county's foreign-born population, 51.2% came from Latin America.

## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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There is a high need for English as a second language (ESL) education in San Joaquin with many (40.8%) residents speaking a language other than English at home and 16.5% of these speak English "less than "very well". Among Early Head Start families in San Joaquin, 60% stated that they primarily speak another language at home, according to the PIR. ESL training opportunities are available in San Joaquin County but not as abundantly in nearby counties.

Low cost or free GED preparation, ESL classes, and vocational training are often offered by the same institutions. A GED is available online through the Stockton Adult School. Only one college with two campuses offer vocational training as several of the for-profit colleges closed their doors in recent years.

## HEALTH

The County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2023, uses several sources to determine the overall health of communities and provide a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work, and play. Of the 58 California Counties in the report, San Joaquin (SJ) is ranked in the lower middle range of counties in California (Lower 25%-50%) for health outcomes. When comparing the rankings over the past six years, the County has remained about the same for health outcomes and has improved slightly for health factors.

Table 6, San Joaquin County Health Rankings, 2018-23

Outcomes	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Health Outcomes</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>
Length of Life	40	37	38	41	40	40
Quality of Life	50	50	33	47	37	46
<b>Health Factors</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>37</b>
Health Behaviors	34	40	34	30	34	32
Clinical Care	36	37	35	34	33	33
Social & Economic Factors	45	45	44	45	48	40
Physical Environment	45	47	49	52	56	49

Source: County Health Rankings.org, 2023

Some of the most prevalent health conditions affecting San Joaquin residents are asthma, obesity, and diabetes.

**Asthma:** San Joaquin, like most of California's Central Valley has very poor air quality—a key contributor to asthma and other lung diseases. According to the American Lung Association, the county gets an “F” ozone grade with an average of 18.5 high ozone days per year. Approximately 14.6% of all San Joaquin adults aged 18+ and **19.5% of San Joaquin children** aged 0-17 suffer from Asthma (California Department of Public Health 2020).

**Obesity:** There are a host of health issues related to obesity including diabetes, heart disease and stroke. Children that are obese are more likely to be obese as adults. Unfortunately, obesity rates tend to be much higher among low-income children and families due to the over consumption of low-cost foods that tend to be high in fats, sodium, and carbohydrates.

Across the nation, children and adolescents aged 2-19 years old, the prevalence of obesity on a national level was 18.5% and affected about 13.7 million children and adolescents. (Source: CDC/obesity/data/childhood)

- 30.4% of San Joaquin adults are obese and the county ranks 34<sup>th</sup> in the state for obesity among adults (County Health Rankings 2023)

**Diabetes:** Over 2.3 million California adults report having been diagnosed with diabetes, representing one out of every 12 adult Californians. Many diabetes cases in California are type 2, representing 1.9 million adults. The prevalence increases with age—one out of every six adult Californians aged 65 and above have type 2 diabetes—and is higher among ethnic/racial minorities and Californians with low education attainment and/or family income. Compared with non-Hispanic Whites, Hispanics and African Americans have twice the prevalence of type 2 diabetes and are twice as likely to die from their disease.

- 12.6% of San Joaquin adults have been diagnosed with diabetes, (Ask California Health Survey Neighborhood Edition, 2020)

## HEALTH INSURANCE

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The US census estimates the percentage of children with health insurance each year by county. Estimates are available for children younger than 19 and living at 138% of the federal poverty level or below. Coverage rates in San Joaquin County are now at 93.6%, which is above national and state estimates. Data from San Joaquin County's Early Head Start program information report (PIR) is similar with all (100%) enrolled children having health insurance at the end of the reporting period.

In 2019, approximately 6.9% and 6% of children under the age of five did not have health insurance in San Joaquin County and California respectively. Along these same lines, the California Department of Public Health, Maternal and Infant Health Assessment found that 4% of women were uninsured during pregnancy. The survey also reported that 14% were uninsured post-partum and that 2% had no infant health insurance.



## HEALTH CARE ACCESS

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Although most of San Joaquin residents and all EHS children are insured, having access to quality and timely care is an issue. In San Joaquin County there are 1,680 people for each primary care physician (1,680:1) compared to a ratio of 1,230:1 for the State of California (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2023). Where a family lives in the county also plays a crucial role in access. Portions of Stockton is a severely under-resourced area. Communities identified as majorly under resourced include Stockton, Manteca, and Lodi. The other parts of the county seem to be better served. (California Healthy Places Index)

Pregnant women are a priority in the health care system but continue to face access issues. The California Maternal and Infant Health Assessment reported several important findings:

- 66.5% of pregnant women had a routine source of pre-pregnancy care;
- 85% initiated care during the first trimester; and
- 16.7% reported either they or their infant needed care post-partum, but they could not afford it.

Access to high quality, culturally competent, affordable healthcare and health services is essential to the prevention and treatment of morbidity and increases the quality of life, especially for the most vulnerable. In San Joaquin County, residents are more likely to be enrolled in Medicaid or other public insurance, which is a factor related to overall poverty. Latinos are most likely to be uninsured. Secondary data revealed that poor access to affordable health insurance and the lack of high-quality providers, including urgent care and mental health, impact access to care. Language and cultural barriers, including poor language access, are also a factor in access to quality healthcare.

## HEALTHY PREGNANCIES

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Receiving medical care during pregnancy greatly influences a healthy pregnancy. According to the California Department of Public Health, for 2021 approximately 68.6% of pregnant women in SJ had a regular source of care pre-pregnancy and 85% of women initiated pre-natal care during their first trimester.

## HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

In San Joaquin County, CAPK's Early Head Start (EHS) program provides services and programs that positively impact low-income children ages 0-3 years and their families. Income limits for eligibility to enroll into EHS programs follow the current federal poverty guidelines. Additionally, disabled and homeless children, as well as those receiving TANF/CalWORKs assistance, are given priority.

*Unless otherwise indicated in this section, the data source for the CAPK Early Head Start programs are the 2018-2019 CAPK SJ Early Head Start Program Information Reports (PIR).*

## HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

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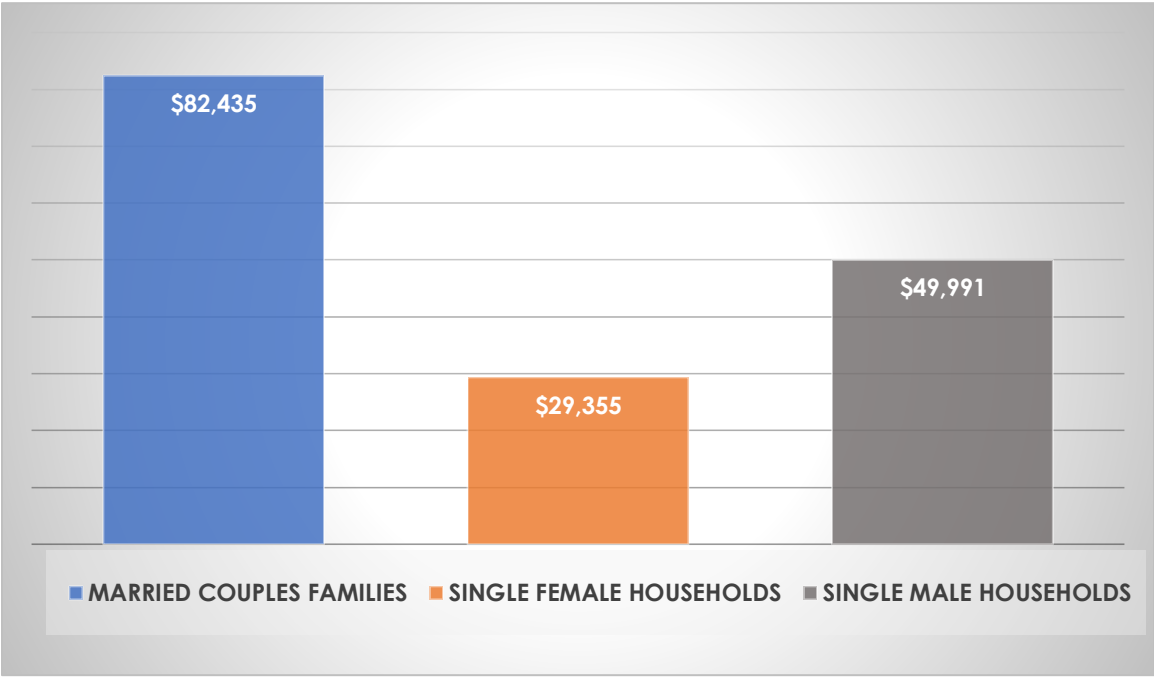
In 2021 there were an estimated 234,662 households in San Joaquin County, (US Census 2021). Married Couple Families were just over half of all households (52.4%), with Male Householder or Female Householder (no spouse) making up 15.4% and 25.1%, respectively. Approximately 41.5% of all households have one or more people under 18 years of age.

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME

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There are large disparities for income among different types of families in the county. Single ***female headed households with underage children have about 33% of the median incomes than married couples with underage children.***

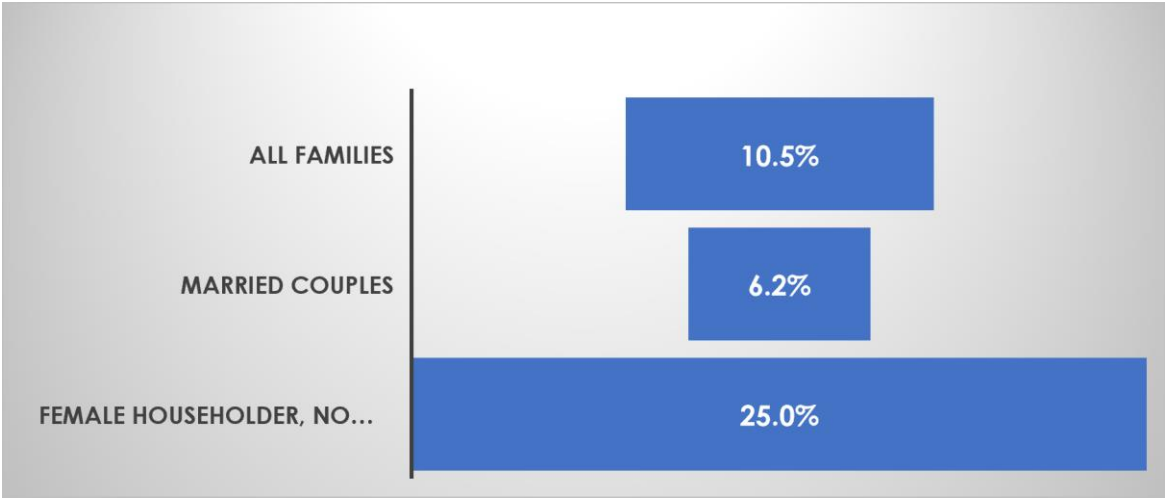
Figure 8, San Joaquin County Median Income by Household with Children Under 18 Years



Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

There are wide inequities in poverty among family types, with single female headed households with children experiencing poverty at about 175% to 300% of the rate experienced by their male and married couples counterparts, respectively.

Figure 9, San Joaquin County Poverty by Household Type



Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

AGE AND INCOME ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

There are approximately 59,942 children under 5 years of age in San Joaquin, of these, 54% (28,709) are ages 0-2 (kidsdata.org). With a poverty rate of approximately 20% 11,998 are age and income eligible for early head start services.

## HEAD START CHILDREN – RACE

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Like the overall population, the majority of San Joaquin children ages 0-5 are white. The next largest group are Hispanic.

Table 7, Approximate Distribution San Joaquin Children ages 0-5 by Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Number	%
White	29,651	56.6%
Black or African American	3,667	7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	314	.6%
Asian	8172	15.6%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	21,688	41.4%

Source: US Census American Community Survey Estimates, 2021

## HOMELESS CHILDREN

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According to the annual San Joaquin Continuum of Care Homeless Point-in-Time Count, in 2022 there were an estimated 2,319 people living in homelessness in the county—a 11.7% decrease from 2019. **Families with children accounted for 13% of the homeless population.**

## KINSHIP CARE

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Traditionally, grandparents and other relatives have played an important role in a child's life. From being the occasional visitor bearing treats to being full-time caregivers to children, these relatives contribute much to the life of a child and family. According to *Zero to Three*, a national non-profit organization that informs, trains, and supports professionals, policymakers and parents, in 2017, upwards of 24% of America's preschool children were being cared for by grandparents. Other relatives, including siblings are also often the caregiving for preschoolers. Although convenient, it can often be conflicting with relatives having different ideas for care and they may not be able to provide educational and experiential benefit to children's early development.

## CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

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In 2018, 3,661 (6.5%) of children ages 0-5 years live in Foster Care in San Joaquin, slightly higher than the percentage for the State of California at 5.3%, (kids.data.org). Foster care is intended to provide temporary, safe living arrangements and therapeutic services for children who cannot remain safely at home because of risk for maltreatment or inadequate care. The U.S. foster care system aims to safely reunify children with their parents or secure another permanent home, e.g., through adoption; however, too often this goal is not achieved, especially for older youth and children with disabilities. Instead, many children spend years in foster homes or group homes, often moving many times.

Children in foster care are at increased risk for a variety of emotional, physical, behavioral, and academic problems, with outcomes generally worse for children in group homes. Recognizing

this, advocates and policymakers have made efforts to prevent children from entering the system and to safely reduce the number of children living in foster care, particularly in group homes. While the number of children in foster care nationally has decreased since the 2000s, it has risen in recent years, and California continues to have the largest number of children entering the system each year. Further, children of color continue to be overrepresented in the foster care system; in California, for example, African American/Black children make up 23% of foster children but only 6% of the general child population. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau, 2018.)

## CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

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For 2019, among the civilian non-institutionalized population in SJ, 12.5% reported a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age, people under 18 years least likely to have a disability and those 65 and over having the highest rates. According to Kidsdata.org, between 2016 and 2018, approximately 13.9% of San Joaquin children have special healthcare needs.

## CHILDREN AND OBESITY

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Body mass index is a measurement value that often can determine the health outcomes for individuals. This is especially true for children with a high amount of body fat. This high measure can lead to weight-related health problems both in the near-term and in the future. In 2018, 42.4% of children in 5<sup>th</sup> grade were overweight or obese in San Joaquin according to Kidsdata.org, compared to 40.5% of children who were overweight or obese in California.

## TRAUMA INFORMED CARE

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As quoted from Child Trends, “How to Implement Trauma-informed Care to Build Resilience to Childhood Trauma”, *Children who are exposed to traumatic life events are at significant risk for developing serious and long-lasting problems across multiple areas of development. However, children are far more likely to exhibit resilience to childhood trauma when child-serving programs, institutions, and service systems understand the impact of childhood trauma, share common ways to talk and think about trauma, and thoroughly integrate effective practices and policies to address it—an approach often referred to as trauma-informed care.*

Some common types of childhood trauma include abuse and neglect, family, community, and school violence, life-threatening accidents and injuries, frightening or painful medical procedures, serious and untreated parental mental illness, loss of or separation from a parent or other loved one, natural or manmade disasters, discrimination, and extreme poverty. Any of these exposures can lead to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which can lead to aggressive, self-destructive, or reckless behavior.

Young children who experience trauma may have difficulties forming attachments to caregivers, experience excessive fear of strangers or separation anxiety, have trouble sleeping and eating and can be especially fussy. Oftentimes, these young children will show regression after

reaching a developmental milestone such as sleeping through the night, toilet training, and others.

Trauma-informed care benefits children by providing a sense of safety and predictability, protection from further adversity, and offering pathways to recovery from the trauma. By implementing realization of the wide impact of trauma and understanding the paths for recovery, recognizing the signs and symptoms of trauma, responding by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into the policies, procedures, and practices surrounding trauma-informed care, and by resisting re-traumatization of children, as well as the adults who care for them, trauma-informed care can be healing and beneficial to young children. Trauma informed care must include comprehensive, ongoing professional development and education for parents, families, school staff and other service providers on jointly addressing childhood trauma.

Secondary trauma among adults working with children who have experienced trauma should be addressed. Care for staff is an important component to trauma-informed care. This is accomplished through high-quality, reflective supervision, maintaining trauma caseload balance, supporting workplace self-care groups, enhancing the physical safety of staff, offering flex-time scheduling, providing training for staff and leadership about secondary traumatic stress, development of self-care practices for staff and leadership, such as the Staff Wellness Clinic, and creating a buddy-system for self-care accountability, (childtrends.org).

CAPK EARLY HEAD START ENROLLED CHILDREN

During the 2022/23 school year, CAPK EHS had cumulative enrollment of 580 in San Joaquin County.

Table 8, EHS Enrollment

	Head Start	Early Head Start	Total Enrollment
Funded Enrollment	N/A	274	274
<b>Cumulative Enrollment</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>306</b>

## AGE

Of the children and pregnant women enrolled who participated EHS during the 2022-23 school year, the majority, (36%) were 1 year of age and the smallest group were children aged 3 years and pregnant women. (7% and 8%).

Table 9, EHS Enrollment by Age

Age	Number	%
Under 1	74	27%
1 Year	99	36%
2 Years	88	32%
3 Years	21	7%
Pregnant Women	22	8%

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

The majority of children (78%) enrolled in San Joaquin County's EHS are of Hispanic or Latino origin. The primary language EHS is English (48%) and second is Spanish (46%).

Table 10, EHS Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	EHS	Total
American Indian/Alaska Native	.5%	.5%
Asian	8.3	8.3%
Black or African American	10.4%	10.4%
Hispanic/Latino Origin (Single Section)	78%	78%
White	74.5%	74.5%
Biracial/Multi-Racial	6.3%	6.3%
Other Race	0%	0%

## HOMELESS CHILDREN

In the 2022 school year EHS had 12 of children were "homeless," approximately (3%).

## FOSTER CARE

According to the Community Action Partnership of Kern's 2022-2023 Early Head Start Program Information Report (PIR), the number of children in San Joaquin County's Early Head Start categorized as a "foster child," were 10 approximately 3.6%.

## CHILDCARE AND PRESCHOOL

### LICENSED CARE

Childcare is a critically important need for many families in the United States. High-quality childcare centers and homes deliver consistent, developmentally sound, and emotionally supportive care and education. Research indicates that high-quality early care and education can have long-lasting positive effects; specifically, high-quality childcare before age 5 is related to higher levels of behavioral/emotional functioning, school readiness, academic achievement, educational attainment, and earnings, with improvements particularly pronounced for children from low-income families and those at risk for academic failure

However, finding affordable, high-quality childcare is a major challenge for many families, and access differs based on geography, race/ethnicity, and income. In 2022, licensed childcare was available for an estimated 23% of California children ages 0-12 with working parents. Center-based infant care costs in California made up an estimated 15% of the median annual income for married couples and 48% for single parents in 2022. That same year, California was ranked the least affordable state for center-based infant care in the nation.

**Sources:** *Childcare Aware of America (2022), Economic Impacts of Early Care and Education in California; UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education, Macgillvary and Lucia, 2011; US Dept. Education, A Matter of Equity: Preschool in America (2015)*

Head Start operates within the context of California's early childcare and education system, described by the Learning Policy Institute as a "patchwork of programs" (Melnick, et al., 2017) and one that "can be difficult for policymakers, providers, and families to understand because of its complexity". Childcare and preschool providers are typically divided into two categories: licensed and unlicensed.

Recent data shows a gap in childcare availability across California and in comparing San Joaquin County with other counties of comparable size and demographics as well as with larger, more metropolitan counties, it is apparent that qualified and licensed childcare is mostly unaffordable for many in California, but especially for those living in poverty. According to kidsdata.org 2021 figures, the average annual rate for childcare is \$15,000 for infants, and \$10,191 for Preschoolers. However, for family childcare homes the cost is \$11,481 for infants/toddlers and \$9,743 for preschoolers.

Table 11, Cost of Childcare by Type

Facility Type	Infant	Preschooler
Childcare Center	\$15,000	\$10,191
Family Childcare Home	\$11,481	\$9,743

Source: Kidsdata.org



Publicly funded Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs currently do not have capacity to serve all of California's children and families. In 2015–16, only 33% of children under age 5 who qualified for one of California's publicly funded ECE programs—based on family income and having working parents—were served. Many of these children were enrolled in programs that run for only a few hours each day. The state is making strides toward meeting the needs of 4-year-olds, with roughly 69% of low-income 4-year-olds enrolled in an ECE program. However, nearly 650,000 children birth to age 5 do not have access to the publicly funded ECE programs for which they are eligible.

Access to publicly funded ECE programs is extremely limited for infants and toddlers. Approximately 14% of eligible infants and toddlers are enrolled in subsidized programs—a large portion of whom are in family childcare homes or license-exempt (friend, family, or neighbor) care. Subsidized ECE for this age group is mostly limited to working families.

Full-day programs are particularly limited in scope. Many of California's largest early learning programs offer mostly part-day slots, despite a demand for full-day services, which is challenging for working families. Furthermore, few of California's ECE programs are available during the nontraditional hours that many low-income working parents need. Working evening, weekends, or overnight hours are especially challenging in getting childcare. According to the available data, only 3% of licensed childcare facilities in the state of California offer this alternative type of service. The same data shows this care is more available in licensed family childcare homes at 41%.

Per the report from the learning policy institute (Melnick, et al., 2017), California's ECE programs are too limited in scope to serve all the state's vulnerable young children, presenting a challenge for families who cannot independently afford the high cost of care, which can be as high as college tuition.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

As seen in the table below, there have been increases in the availability of childcare over the years. However, there is still a high unmet need for these services for families with untraditional work hours, which are more typical for low-income workers, including nights, split shifts, and weekends.

Table 12: Childcare Supply in San Joaquin County

### AGE/TYPE

CHILD CARE	LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS			LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES		
	2019	2021	CHANGE	2019	2021	CHANGE
Total number of spaces	12,423	11,873	-4%	6,192	5,758	-7%
Under 2 years	884	1,036	17%			
2-5 years	8,966	8,373	-7%			
6 years and older	2,573	2,464	-4%			
Total number of sites	220	195	-11%	632	566	-10%

Source California Childcare Resource and Referral Network, *2021 Childcare Portfolio*

## CHILDCARE WORKFORCE SHORTAGE

Sources indicate there is an overall shortage of childcare workers in California. For the industry in general, pay is not especially good and approximately 58% of childcare worker families in the state receive some sort of public assistance. Many childcare workers lack higher education credits as many jobs in the field do not require anything more than a high school diploma. This combination of low pay and low expectations is not a good formula for having a quality childcare workforce. One strategy observed across California to address pay limitations and education requirements is unionizing childcare providers. Research indicates that while this may positively affect workers, shortcomings in the funding channels of unions can negatively impact already strapped families. Sources: *Early Childhood Workforce Index, 2020*; Christopher, B., March 2019 article for *CalMatters*

## LOW INCOME CHILDREN AGES 3 AND 4 WHO ARE NOT IN PRESCHOOL

According to Kidsdata.org (2019), 46.3% of San Joaquin County children who are eligible are not enrolled in Preschool or Kindergarten.

## STRENGTHS OF THE COMMUNITY

As indicated in this report, San Joaquin is a high need County. However, there are many strengths in the community that can be built upon.

San Joaquin is centrally located in California and is the main region for agriculture production in the State, adding many opportunities for employment beyond field work. Additionally, due to lower housing costs and the close proximity to the Bay area, it has become an attractive place for professionals to live, which brings additional resources and opportunities into the community. The area has a lot of opportunity due to a sophisticated transportation network comprised of an international deep-water port, major interstate highways, air, and rail services which connects businesses to the global economy. CAPK Early Head Start can play a crucial role in breaking the barriers of economic inclusion and poverty for families so they can be prepared to benefit from the economic stability available in this County.

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## DIVISION/PROGRAM MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

<b>Division/Director:</b> Head Start/State Child Development/Yolanda Gonzales	<b>Month/Year:</b> August 2023
<b>Program/Work Unit:</b> Head Start/Early Head Start	<b>Program Manager/Administrator:</b> Carol Hendricks/Robert Espinosa
<b>Services:</b> Head Start and Early Head Start childhood education for low-moderate income children ages 0-5 in center-based, part-day or full-day environments and home-based options.	

Program	Funded Enrollment	Reportable Enrollment	Percentage	Disabilities	Over Income 131%+ up to 10%  101—130% Up to 35%
Head Start	<b>1,242</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 Classrooms Fully Closed</li> </ul>	215				<b>4%</b>
Early Head Start	<b>829</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>8%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14 Classrooms Fully Closed/ 2 Classrooms Partially Closed</li> </ul>	128				<b>6%</b>

Home Visiting Program	Cumulative Enrollment	Contract Enrollment Target
	<b>236</b>	<b>312</b>

Division Staffing = 701			
Currently Employed	Vacant Positions	Continuous Family Leave	Intermittent Family Leave
591	110	27	62

**HIGHLIGHTS:** 14 staff were onboarded and had 19 resignations. Five days of interviews were conducted for 10 open direct service requisitions.

#### Program Update & Compliance

The following events transpired in the month of August 2023:

- Staff participated in the Kern County Department of Child Support Services Ready-Set Back 2 School Health and Wellness Fair.
- Select staff participated in the National Community Action Partnership Annual Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.
- Two days of Pre-service training for Direct Service staff, including staff at Escuelita Hernandez Partnership center.
- Bakersfield College and Taft College Partnership centers attended active shooter training and team building activities.
- The program successfully submitted the Office of Head Start (OHS) Program Information Report (PIR) on August 31, 2023. The PIR provides comprehensive data on the services, staff, children, and families served by Head Start and Early Head Start programs nationwide.

<b>Central Kitchen August 2023</b>				
<b>Meals &amp; Snacks</b>	<b>Total # Prepared</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Snack</b>
Center Totals	<b>54,697</b>	20,060	16,875	17,682

<b>CACFP</b>						
<b>July 2023</b>						
<b>Total Meals Delivered</b>			<b>Meals Allocated</b>		<b># of Meals Served</b>	<b>% of Meals Served</b>
Central Kitchen	Vendor Meals	Total Meals	CACFP/USDA	HS/EHS	13,483	53%
31,398	7,776	39,174	22,127	17,047		