



**Kern County Network for Children
Accredited Local Collaborative Summary
2018**

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Common Services & Linkages Offered by Accredited Collaboratives

Services Offered	Arvin	Buttonwillow	East Bakersfield	East Kern	Frazier Park	Greenfield	Indian Wells Valley	Kern River Valley	Lamont Weedpatch	Lost Hills	McFarland	Richardson Center	Shafter	South East Bakersfield	South Chester	Taft	Wasco
AmeriCorps Program																	
Application Assistance (MediCal, Housing, CalFresh)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	
Assistance with Tax Returns		X		X		X			X					X			
Case Management	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Citizenship Education Classes																X	
Child Care Funds & Referrals					X	X		X	X				X	X		X	
Code Compliance Reporting								X	X				X				
Collaborative Meetings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Commodity Food Distribution		X							X	X			X				
Community Garden's		X	X						X	X				X		X	
Community meeting room for AA and NA meetings					X												
Community Resource Fairs	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	
Dental Clinics				X	X	X			X	X				X		X	
Dental Screenings		X		X		X				X			X	X			
Differential Response				X	X	X	X	X					X			X	
Dog Licenses		X			X					X							
Domestic Violence Counseling & Services							X										
EDD Outreach Worker available 2x's monthly	X	X											X				
EDD – Unemployment, Disability, Parent Leave ACT	X	X							X	X			X				
Education Advocacy	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Emergency clothing, food, etc.	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
English as a Second Language Classes	X			X		X			X	X			X				
Food/Clothing Bank	X	X			X	X	X	X			X		X	X		X	
Health Care Services		X		X	X		X	X					X				
Health Insurance Outreach/Healthy Families	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
Health Screenings	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X		
Holiday Events	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Immunization Clinics				X	X	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	
Information & Referral	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Legal Assistance (GBLA)	X			X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X				
Medication Take Back Program					X												
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Counseling/Referral/Support							X									X	
Mentoring Programs					X	X							X	X			
Migrant Education & Service 5days/week										X			X				
Money Management		X	X			X	X	X	X				X		X	X	
Monthly Drought-Relief Food Boxes Distributed to the community								X									

Services Offered	Arvin	Buttontwillow	East Bakersfield	East Kern	Frazier Park	Greenfield	Indian Wells Valley	Kern River Valley	Lamont Weednatch	Lost Hills	McFarland	Richardson Center	Shafter	South East Bakersfield	South Chester	Taft	Wasco
Native American TANIF							X										
Neighborhood Clean Up's	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X		
Nutrition Classes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Parent Education	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Parent Resource Center	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Parent Support Groups		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	
Parent Workshops	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	
Policy Advocacy and Education	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X				X	X	X		
Preschool Programs		X						X	X	X			X				X
Preschool Scholarships					X												X
Prescription Drug Assistance									X								X
Public Transportation Vouchers				X	X				X		X	X					X
Recreational Activities						X		X	X	X			X	X			X
Resource Library								X	X	X			X				
Resource Library consisting of books and DVD's about child development								X	X			X	X				X
School Readiness	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Senior Citizen Nutrition & General Health Programs					X		X	X									
Spay & Neuter Clinics					X												
Town Hall Meetings		X		X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X			X
Transportation	X	X		X	X	X			X	X			X	X			X
Utility Assistance Programs					X			X	X	X			X				X
Vision Service Plan Vouchers					X				X								X
Volunteer Opportunities					X			X		X			X				
WESTEC Training Classes																	X
Youth Coalition/Leadership Training					X				X								

Collaborative Overviews

Arvin Family Resource Center (South Valley Neighborhood Partnership)

Contact: Karen Davis

Email Address: kdavis@arvin-do.com / Phone: (661) 854-6526 / Fax: (661) 854-6585

Address: 207 South A St., Arvin, CA 93203

Collaborative Meeting Date: 10:00 A.M., 1st Thursday of the month

Collaborative Meeting Location: Various locations, call for information

Original community concern(s):

- Create Safe Neighborhoods
- Community Health Clinic
- Parents would like to help children with schoolwork
- Family's food and clothing needs
- Transportation needs

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

- Collaboration with Arvin Police department and School Resource Officers and
- Collaboration with KCSOS Project 180 and Truancy Reduction Team to improve school climate are outcomes addressing the need for safe neighborhoods.
- Parent classes have been created to increase capacity of parents for student success. This school year the addition of Student Success Facilitators will connect with parents on a one on one basis.
- Collaboration with area church to provide clothing pantry and food baskets is occurring.
- Transportation needs are still an issue. Conversations with partners continue on this issue.

New community priorities:

- Decrease childhood obesity
- Provide mental health support to students

Plans to address these new community priorities:

- We have created a strong wellness policy for the schools and we are educating parents on the policy. Partners in this effort include The California Endowment, Project Lean, and Kern County Public Health.
- The school district LCAP made provision to hire Physical Education teachers for the three elementary schools in the Arvin School District. We have received a grant that helped purchase supplies. Kern Co Public Health has also provided SPARK training for our teachers.
- The Arvin district is collaborating with KCSOS and Cal State to have MSW interns at our schools to provide one on one counseling as well as group session with our Tier 2 and 3 students. The Junior High has contracted with Clinica Sierra Vista to have a full time Counselor.

Buttonwillow Local Collaborative

Contact: Susan Watkins

Email Address: swatkins@buttonwillowschool.com / Phone: (661) 764-9405 / Fax: (661) 764-9445

Address: 42600 Hwy 58, Buttonwillow, CA 93206

Collaborative Meeting Dates: 1:30 P.M. on the fourth Monday in September, November, February, and April.

Collaborative Meeting Location: Buttonwillow School Board Room

Original community concern(s):

- Access to Health Care
- Educational Opportunity
- Community Safety

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

Working with collaborative partners, the following results addressed community concerns:

- We schedule dental screenings with Big Smiles Dental, mobile dentists, who come to Buttonwillow School approximately 4 times per year to provide free dental screenings and treatments to all qualified students with signed consent forms. We now have a shared school nurse to perform vision and hearing screenings as well as other duties as the school district needs require.
- Center-based activities program for preschoolers meets 4 days per week providing free school readiness activities with meals on the Buttonwillow School campus. No qualifications are required. As the end of SY 2016-17, CAP-K Headstart left our school campus, but was replaced by Buttonwillow Union School District State Preschool in 2017-18, which serves qualified 3-5 year-olds in the community. Nurturing Parenting classes meet regularly, offering child development education and guidance to parents of children ages 0-5 years old. Other agencies, including WIC, United Way, and Taft College, also come to present topics of interest and education to the parents throughout the year.
- B-SAFE, Buttonwillow-Substance Awareness and Family Education, supported by Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and a C-BERR grant, meets once a month at the senior center to address the community's concern with underage drinking, substance abuse, and other safety issues in this community. This coalition is comprised of parents, students, community leaders, and county and local agency representatives working together to promote health, education, and legal aspects of these problems.

New community priorities:

- Money management and budgeting
- Parent education
- Nutrition

A community survey conducted on 6/20/2014 revealed these were the three top concerns of the 84 participants.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

- We actively seek presenters with money management and budgeting expertise to educate, answer questions, and provide skills to parents so that they can manage and maintain a workable budget in their homes.
- Regarding parent education, in addition to Nurturing Parenting classes, we plan enrichment classes on a variety of topics including music, reading, art, cooking. A programs expert from Taft College has come out to present services and degrees Taft College offers adults. Taft College Dental Hygiene students visit in the spring to present oral health to our young students and their parents. EDD, Employment Development Department, outreach worker shares services she can do for parents with unemployment, disability, and Parent Leave Act issues.
- In the area of nutrition, due to a Smarter Lunchroom Grant secured by BUSD, preschoolers enjoy a daily snack of either a fruit or vegetable and attend monthly nutrition classes (parents are also invited to attend) in which a puppet narrator reads a book and talks to the kids about good nutrition. They then taste a freshly-prepared snack, made of colorful vegetables and fruits. The puppet encourages them to try just one bite.

East Bakersfield Community Collaborative

Contact: Debbie Wood

Email Address: woodd@bcasd.com / Phone: (661) 631-5895 / Fax: (661) 631-5898

Address: 801 Niles, Bakersfield, CA 93305

Collaborative Meeting Date: 9:00 A.M., 4th Tuesday of the month

Collaborative Meeting Location: 801 Niles Street, Bakersfield, CA

Original community concern(s):

- Community Safety
- Access to Health Care

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

Community Safety continues to be a concern however presentations on personal safety, identity theft, etc. have been provided. Access to Healthcare has made strides in providing application assistance as well as case management and education on utilization of health insurance and preventative health care.

New community priorities:

Need for preschool programs were identified through parent input.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

Through School Readiness funds we provide early childhood education classes.

East Kern Family Resource Center

Contact: Whitney Hughes, Program Supervisor

Email Address: whughes@capk.org / Phone: (661) 824-4118 / Fax: 661-824-4150

Address: 16804 Highway 14, Unit C, Mojave, CA 93501

Collaborative Meeting Date: 2nd Thursday of the month at 2:30 P.M. (Dark in November & December)

Collaborative Meeting Location: East Kern Family Resource Center

Original community concern(s):

Concerns for the members of East Kern are the lack of health services, especially mental health, substance abuse, appropriate housing and adequate transportation.

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

The East Kern Family Resource Center (EKFRFC) was recently awarded two grants to help with childhood immunizations and provide economic empowerment education and support to members of the East Kern community.

EKFRFC continues to assist case managed clients with transportation by providing transportation and/or bus tickets. For clients who have Medi-Cal insurance coverage, they are advised to schedule transportation to medical appointments through their medical providers, utilizing Medi-Cal to cover transportation charges. The EKFRFC has also coordinates the start and end times for the court mandated parenting class so that it correlates with the public transportation schedules.

New community priorities:

The issue of appropriate housing and slum lords is not necessarily a new community priority; however, they continue to be problematic. The EKFRFC link clients experiencing landlord issues to Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance (GBLA) Fair Housing Project.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

A discussion has begun during the collaborative meeting to put together a round table meeting and invite all the agencies in the community that deal with housing and slum lord

issues. Some of the agencies would be the Housing Authority, Code Enforcement, Law Enforcement, Salvation Army, DHS and Realtors. The EKFRFC has connected with the California City Chamber of Commerce and is pending a connection with Mojave Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of addressing the housing, transportation and financial needs of the community with agencies outside of the social service circle.

Mountain Communities Family Resource Center

Contact: Anne Burnaugh

Email Address: healthystart@frzmtn.com / Phone: (661) 245-4303/ Fax: (661) 245-2516

Address: P.O. Box 1902/3015 Mt. Pinos Way, Frazier Park, CA 93225

Collaborative Meeting Date: Subcommittee/3rd Thursday at 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. each month (call for details)

Collaborative Meeting Location: 3015 Mt. Pinos Way, Suite 102, Frazier Park, CA

Original community concern(s):

- Local family access to services
- Youth prevention and intervention services for prescription drug, marijuana, and alcohol use

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

Increased and maintained local services, including access to:

- Dept. of Human Services – twice monthly
- Aging and Adult Services/HICAP – monthly
- MCFRC, Inc. is a Certified Application Assistant (CAA) for Covered California
- Two staff members are Certified Enrollment Counselors (CEC) for local assistance
- The MCFRC has created a 501(c)(3) to be able to apply for grants as a school district program or a nonprofit
- Guidestar updated to Gold Membership for better access to funding opportunities
- Partner with local Southwest Health Care District for program funding
- Field Representatives available monthly from Congressman McCarthy, Senator Fuller and Assemblyman Fong offices.

Reduce underage drug and alcohol use with prevention services and programs

- Youth conducted Leadership training at 4th grade classes and annual fundraising to sustain
- Mountain Youth Can Change Communities (MyC3) group has doubled in size involving more youth in our goals and increasing youth leaders in our community
- Continued Mental Health/Community Based Environmental Risk Reduction(CBERR),DELETE
- Continue with the Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant support
- Sustained Medication Take Back (MTB)/KC Sheriff Substation has their own MTB box – available to community 5 days a week
- Youth report that prescription drugs are harder to get (KC Sheriff)
- Continue to sell stickers to other coalitions to conduct the *sticker shock* program in their community. The sticker program is placed on refrigerator doors containing alcohol and have the fines for adults providing alcohol to youth

New community priorities:

We remain focused on the current issues listed above and hope to continue to expand local resources and services. We also are seeing an increase need for access to food and senior employment.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

To continue with the collaborative and networking processes.

- a. We are approved to be a site for the Senior Community Service Empowerment Program (SCSEP) in 2018.
- b. A new collaborative program for food is with the LDS Food Resource Program.

HELPS Community Collaborative - Greenfield

Collaborative Name: Greenfield Healthy Enriched Lives Produce Success (HELPS) Collaborative

Primary Contact Name: Jordan Green, FRC, Supervisor

Email Address: greenj@gfUSD.net / Phone: 661-837-3720/ Fax: 661-837-3723

Address: 1624 Fairview Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93307 / Physical: 5400 Monitor St., Bakersfield, CA 93307

Collaborative Meeting Date: 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Collaborative Meeting Location: 5400 Monitor St. (Greenfield Family Resource Center)

Original community concern(s):

- Promote preventative health care
- Adult Education classes and job training
- Accessible/affordable recreation and sports activities
- School readiness programs for everyone in the community
- Promoting Health & Wellness for all children and their families

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

We continue to provide services to over 700 families annually. Our successful efforts to promote health & wellness, family advocacy, and Covered CA applications services has resulted in an increased demand for these services. Parent education classes and support groups are also provided throughout the year. Referrals to job trainings help address the demand for this service. Our school readiness program continues to coordinate rotating classes to address the demand from our community. We also assist families with food referrals, clothing referrals, health screenings, housing assistance, etc.

New community priorities:

Family health & wellness and school readiness learning services are new priorities that have been identified. We are working alongside the Greenfield Union School District to increase the level of physical education students receive. This need stems from our mission of helping students and their families establish the basic skills needed for a healthier lifestyle. Our school readiness program emphasizes support with families with 0-5 children and education so that students can be properly equipped for school success. Lastly, our collaborative has partnered with the Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Program (TUPE) to promote tobacco-specific student instruction, reinforcement activities, and intervention programs for students.

Plans to address these community priorities:

We are currently working within our district to provide professional guidance to families that need health & wellness support. We have launched two initiatives to support students and help families learn the basics of healthy living. We offer nutrition classes where families can learn how to cook healthier meals, and we conduct various lessons with students through our Harvest of the Month Program to educate them on healthier food options. We also offer physical activity classes where parents and students can learn easy ways to exercise together at home. We are also working with First 5 Kern on bringing school readiness services into our schools. We conduct weekly classes for children and their parents so that they may learn the basic skills needed for success in kindergarten. In addition, we also offer case management services to families in need. By partnering with TUPE, we are able to enhance the safety of students by working to make our district 100 percent tobacco-

free. We also serve as a regional lead for seven other school districts in coordinating TUPE activities.

Indian Wells Valley Collaborative

Contact: Kandi Smith

Email Address: kandi.smith@clincasierravista.org / Phone: (760) 375-4357 / Fax: (760) 371-2446

Address: 825 N. Downs Street Ste. A, Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Collaborative Meeting Date: 10:00 A.M., 2nd Wednesday of the month

Collaborative Meeting Location: 100 W. California Ave. Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Original community concern(s):

Healthcare Reform education

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

We have had speakers several times over the past year at the collaborative meetings from GBLA and DHS covering the topic of healthcare reform and Covered California enrollment. Enrollment entities have regularly attended the meetings to give updates and remind agencies about any healthcare reform updates.

New community priorities:

Our main goal at this point of the collaborative is to bring together community partners to form a cohesive relationship with everyone for a couple of reasons. First, we are such a rural community that many of the services our clientele need to access are over 100 miles away-if we can learn more about what all the other agencies in the area provide, both existing and new, each of us could possible reduce the number of trips we and/or our clients have to make out of town thus reducing the drain on our limited resources and those of our clients. And secondly, the more each agency knows about what other agencies in the area provide, the more it reduces the likelihood that multiple agencies will be providing the same services, allowing for a better use of limited resources when collaborative partnerships are used to surround the client with all the services needed.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

IWV Family Resource Center plans to continue to hold the monthly collaborative meeting and we continue to seek out new agencies to invite to the meeting. Due to our Summer Bridge Program in July the meeting is dark for that month.

Kern River Valley

Contact: Sherry Lanza

Email Address: slanza@kernvilleusd.org / Phone: (760) 379-2556 / Fax: (760) 379-1257

Address: P.O. Box 2905, 5109 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Collaborative Meeting Date: The KRV Collaborative meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The KRV Collaborative is Dark in June, July, and August. For more KRV Collaborative information please visit <http://www.krvfrc.org> and click on the Collaborative TAB.

Collaborative Meeting Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Collaborative Meeting Location: Woodrow Wallace School, Multi Purpose Room Room #2

Original community concern(s):

- Support Existing & New Youth Programs
- Assist Parents in Improving Their Student's Academic Success
- Support & Increase Substance Abuse & Parenting classes
- Early Education Services & Childcare will be Accessible
- Senior Health Care will be Supported

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

- *Support Existing & New Youth Programs:* The KRV Collaborative continues to work with collaborative and community members to ensure that the local youth programs continue to thrive and that the new programs within the community are supported. The Collaborative has been instrumental in supporting the Kern Rio Environmental Magnet School. All Kindergarten through 8th grade afterschool programs continue to be funded and fully supported throughout the Kern River Valley and are currently seeing the highest enrollment rate to date.
- *Assist Parents in Improving Their Student's Academic Success:* Members of KRV Collaborative are still participating on the Student Attendance Review Board this year in order to provide parents with resources, tools, and referrals. Members of KRV Collaborative spent time identifying ways to assist parents in improving their student's academic success by really looking at the underlying issue of what is creating the student to have chronic absenteeism. The KRV Collaborative was also instrumental in participating in the KUSD's District Advisory Committee DAC, which suggests and votes upon where school money should be spent for the best interest of the students. The *Nutrition Olympics* is another important program in educating parents on the importance of proper nutrition and how nutrition can affect the student's ability to learn in an academic environment. At Risk students are still being identified within all afterschool programs and are receiving one-on-one tutoring in the areas that they are not proficient.
- *Support & Increase Substance Abuse & Parenting classes:* The KRV Family Resource Center was able to put on three different Parenting Classes this past year with the help of the Collaborative (two Court Approved Nurturing Parenting Classes and one Parent Project). All of the Parenting Classes were held at College Community Services which is a Collaborative Partner as the attendance of the classes has outgrown the conference room at the Family Resource Center. Family Advocates and Intensive Home Visitors were also able to provide one-on-one research based parenting skills curriculum and child development lessons within the home for case managed families, both curriculums cover substance abuse when needed. The KRV Collaborative previously partner with the Meth Task Force and continues to support Joe's House which is a substance abuse program that was created and established within the last year. A majority of the substance abuse referrals come from the Family Resource Center and link families with other collaborative partners such as College Community Services, The Center for Positive Growth, and other licensed programs. With the help of Kern Network for Children the Family Resource Center is also referring families to the Gatekeeper Program.
- *Early Education Services & Childcare will be Accessible:* The Family Resource Center, KUSD Preschool, SFUSD Preschool, Rush to Learning, and Collaborative have all partnered together to reach out to Parents whom are pregnant or who have children up to the age of five. Each agency and organization has agreed to come together in a team effort to provide each family with early childhood education under the mantra "Every Child is My Child." The team agreed that it doesn't matter which program the family accesses as long as they are using the programs that are available to them. The teams has found new ways to serve these families and since this understanding the efforts of all parties are fluid which means more referrals are made and most importantly more families are being served. The team has also realized that by creating this joint effort there are more services to offer the families.
- *Senior Health Care will be Supported:* Through the joint effort of the Collaborative, Kern Hospital District, College Community Services, Kern River Valley Revitalization, VSOP Volunteer Senior Outreach Program, and Aging Adult Services more Senior Health and Wellness programs are becoming readily available to the public. These agencies and organization have banded together to identify the needs of the aging community and have sought out new innovative ways to serve this population. More health fair's pertaining specifically to the senior population are occurring quarterly and more information is being shared about different medical options that seniors have.

New community priorities:

There are no new community priorities at this time as we are still seeking to master the ones that have already been established. Once a year the Collaborative does spend time on the goals that have been identified. Collaborative members are asked to analyze the identified goals and discuss if there should be any changes. New community partners are always welcome to join. Specific outside partners will be sought out as needed if they have not showed a previous interest in the collaborative.

South Valley Neighborhood Partnership – Lamont Weedpatch Collaborative

Contact: Jennifer Wood-Slayton

Email Address: jwood@lesd.us / Phone: (661) 845-2724 / Fax: (661) 845-5114

Address: 7839 Burgundy Avenue, Lamont, CA 93241

Collaborative Meeting Date: 10:00 AM, 1st Thursday of the month

Collaborative Meeting Location: Varies, call for more information.

Original community concern(s):

- Inadequate low cost housing and need to increase wastewater capacity to be able to pursue this
- Need for increased policing
- Inadequate public transportation within the community and between Lamont and Bakersfield
- Limited low cost medical care in the community.
- Need for more community services to be provided at the school sites.

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

- The District 5 Supervisor's office assisted the local water board in increasing wastewater capacity in 2010, which allowed new housing to be built. Both Self-Help Housing and Corporation for Better Housing have now built multi-family housing complexes, and Self-Help Housing has also built single family homes through their sweat equity program.
- The Kern County Sheriff's Department provided a dedicated Community Resource officer to support the community and address community-based policing issues in 2007. We are uncertain of the status of this position at this time due to staff transitions and backlog of filling and training positions at the Sheriff's Dept.
- Kern Regional Transit has completely re-vamped their week-day routes. It has significantly reduced travel time to Bakersfield and to many of the services that residents access in town. Although they eliminated the fixed route in-town service they did expand dial-a-ride services. We have not had any community members identifying issues with this, although we have been slightly concerned about the impact this will have on residents getting to services in town.
- Clinica Sierra Vista has worked to expand hours and appointment availability in order to best meet the needs of the local community. They also opened a clinic in Greenfield which is less than 6 miles away and easily accessible with new Kern Regional Transit routes. Although they continue to struggle with finding providers, we have heard that families are having an easier time getting served by going to that clinic when they have more immediate needs.
- Family Advocates have established office hours at each school site in order to ensure that services are available to families as needed. We have also increased the available services at the Family Resource Center through one-stop services, and schools have increased their attention to referrals to families to obtain services at the FRC.

New community priorities:

In 2009 we undertook a new community assessment in partnership with a number of community partners. During that process we created new priorities and have been working in these areas since. These priorities are:

- Increase access to better health care systems
- Create a healthy environment with clean air and water
- Improve Pre-K to adult education with preparation and local access to college/university programs
- Improve access to recreation activities, facilities, and parks.
- Create a vibrant economy including more job opportunities and economic development strategies.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

- Clinica Sierra Vista, Children’s Health Initiative, the Public Health Department, Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance, and local hospitals continue working to identify and address barriers to residents getting high-quality health care, and to increase the number of residents who know about and use both health insurance and local health care.
- California Rural Legal Assistance, Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment, Californian’s for Pesticide Reform, Dolores Huerta Foundation, and the Public Health Department continue working to identify and report environmental hazards, monitor local measuring and enforcement practices, and improve planning and the local environment to improve environmental outcomes.
- The local Family Resource Centers, Dolores Huerta Foundation, KCSOS AmeriCorps, and Bakersfield College have been continuing efforts in education to help parents understand and hold the education system accountable and to improve wellness and discipline policies in schools, provide supports and linkages for students and their families who are at-risk, and to expand access to community college programs and services in the local community.
- Boys and Girls Club, Kern County Parks and Recreation, Sheriff’s Activity League and the District 5 Supervisor have been working with residents to identify issues in local parks, as well as to create and implement plans for making local parks places where residents are more able to be active and safe, and to expand recreation and youth development opportunities within the community.

Lost Hills Community Collaborative/Lost Hills Family Resource Center

Contact: Marisol Cordero, Family Resource Center Coordinator

Email Address: macorde@losthills.k12.ca.us Phone: (661) 797-3042/ Fax: (661) 797-3085

Physical Address: 14823 Office Lane, Lost Hills, CA 93249 / Mailing: P.O. Box 158

Collaborative Meeting Date: 1st Thursday of September, January, and May at 10:30 A.M.

Collaborative Meeting Location: Lost Hills Union School District, 20951 Pavilion Way

Original community concern(s):

The most frequent community concerns obtained from a community needs survey were lack of the following:

- Housing
- Early care/education services
- Community/Youth activities
- Transportation
- Public safety (Speed of Traffic through town)
- Law enforcement presence

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

- We have a new housing development with 81 single and multifamily homes and apartments complete with a community center. The ribbon cutting took place on December 8, 2015 and applications are being accepted for the 21 single family homes. All of the phases of the project will be completed in March 2016.

- Transportation for field trips and resources for children have been provided as a result of collaboration between LHUSD and Chevron. For example, more children were able to participate in operation school bell and Chips for kids because transportation
- Monthly community health screenings

New community priorities:

- Health & Wellness (Diabetes information, vision screenings, nutrition, and physical activity)
- Immigration Education
- More supportive activities for youth
- Training for Board Members and other engaged community members

Plans to address these new community priorities:

- Chevron
- Omni
- CVIIC
- United Way
- Lost Hills Union School District
- The Wonderful Company
- Community Action Partnership of Kern
- Dignity Health

McFarland Community Collaborative

Contact: Margie Perez

Email Address: mperez@mcfarland.k12.ca.us / Phone: (661) 792-1883 / Fax: (661) 792-3934

Address: 410 Perkins Avenue, McFarland, CA 93250

Collaborative Meeting Date: 3:00 P.M., 2nd Tuesday of the month

Collaborative Meeting Location: 410 E. Perkins Ave, McFarland, CA 93250

Original community concern(s):

- Health, emotional well being, and safety of the children of McFarland
- Education preparation of children 3-5 years old of McFarland. All children will enter school ready to learn, in good health, and immunized.

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

During the Collaborative meetings the agencies that attend represent a wide variety of services and the representatives are given an opportunity to present or update their program and the services they provide. Community/Collaborative communication plays an important role in providing and accessing services that are available to the community of McFarland.

In addition, the McFarland Unified School District Family Resource Center provides supportive services that address the basic needs of a family household (food pantry, utility assistance, slightly used clothing). For the 15-16 program year the center provided center and home based activities (preschool and kindergarten preparation activities) to children 0-5 years of age.

New community priorities:

- Employment
- Food

Plans to address these new community priorities:

The Employment Development Department comes to our collaborative and they provide the center with job listings that we are able to post. We also partner with Community Action Partnership of Kern and have an emergency food pantry.

Richardson Special Needs Collaborative

Contact: Wesley Neal, Director Special Education KCSOS or Ana Gomez, Family Advocate
Email Address: weneal@kern.org (661) 636-4831 angomez@kern.org Phone: (661) 336-5481
Fax: (661) 834-9202

Address: 1515 Feliz Drive, Bakersfield, California, 93307

Meeting Dates: Collaborative meets quarterly; 5-10-18; 9-13-18; 12-6-18; 3-7-19; 5-9-19 at 2:00 p.m. The collaborative also conducts Family Advocate Support Team meetings on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month from 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Meeting Location: Richardson Family Resource Center, 1515 Feliz Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93307

Original community concerns:

- *Basic Needs:* It a goal of the collaborative to insure that all referred families served will be provided with food and clothing as needed. Additionally assistance will be provided to families in need of health insurance, housing, legal services, special education services and disability insurance. Based on Maslow's theory basic needs are critical because if a person is hungry or embarrassed because of their living situation going to counseling or to a school to discuss their child's problems is a lower priority. Basic needs are critical to the health and well-being of children and enables parents to address other family concerns.
- *Preventive/Well Child Health Care:* It is a goal of the collaborative to identify and address the health needs of children and other family members by referring them to the appropriate health providers. Examples of health services include referring families to the appropriate resources for health insurance, well childcare, immunizations, vision and dental needs.
- *Addressing the Educational Needs of the Children We Serve:* It is our goal to insure that children of the families we serve have access to a variety of services to overcome barriers blocking academic progress. Many families experience frustration because they do not understand the educational system or they are experiencing family problems, their child is not attending school regularly, his/her behavior is blocking the learning process, and he/she may need more intensive educational and/or counseling services.

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

The collaborative continues to utilize the skills, experiences and resources provided by community partners to enhance our efforts for successful outcomes. Our resources which include: Kern County Department of Public Health, Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance, Community Health Initiative, Kern Regional Center, H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection, Child Guidance Clinic and The Department of Human Services. These partners provide valuable information and consultation to our family advocates. Currently our collaborative has a student volunteer from Stockdale High School who began volunteering in September of 2017 and will continue volunteering through the end of June at which time she will be graduating from high school. This student is updating our Library inventory on Excel.

Service Outcomes

The following information describes the services that were provided to individuals and families over the last year. Our collaborative continues to believe that a "Team Approach" to problem solving continues to be the best approach to the identified community concerns.

Concern 1: Basic needs: Our collaborative provides access to basic needs like food, clothing for children and furniture. Resources for food and clothing includes the Golden Empire Gleaners and donations from individuals and groups as well as linking services to other resources as needed

Concern 2: Health care: Families can be linked to California Health Initiative application assistors as well as referrals for vision services. Additionally, families may receive transportation assistance (Gas Gift Cards) to keep medical appointments for their children outside of Kern County. Funds for these services were provided from grant money received in November 2013.

Concern 3: Addressing the educational needs of the children: Intensive case management services and agency linkage can be offered to help children with special needs in their unique circumstances.

The primary role of the advocate in this area of concern is to provide parents with support and information about special education, which includes the assessment process, time lines, and Individual Education Plan (IEP) meeting etc. This intervention also assists parents in gaining knowledge about the educational needs of their children and listening to their feelings and concerns about their child's possible need for more intensive educational services. Families are made aware of other resources in the community such as HEARTS Connection, Kern Regional Center and the KCSOS who also provide information and support to families with children with special needs.

Parent workshops are also facilitated by our collaborative staff. Workshop information focused on children aged 0-5, parenting, and understanding and managing preschooler behavior at home and at school. Currently we are also providing parent support groups for parents of infants and preschoolers with special needs.

Resource Library:

The collaborative resource library has proven to be very positive resource for staff and parents. The library consists of a variety of books and videos covering topics ranging from general child development to specific childhood disorders.

Volunteers:

During the last fiscal year, (7-1-16 to-6-30-17) volunteers provided 644 hours of service.

Staff:

Current staff include a family advocate, a family services aide and a clerk typist with assistance from the Kern County Superintendent of Schools' Director of Special Education.

New Community Priority:

SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Reliable, Timely) goals are being developed to help each family work towards meaningful outcomes that they see necessary.

Shafter Healthy Start Community Collaborative

Contact: Rosa Romero

Email Address: rromero@rsdshafter.org / Phone: (661) 746-8690 / Fax: (661) 746-8694

Address: 331 Shafter Ave Shafter, CA 93263

Collaborative Meeting Date: 3rd Wednesday of the month, (dark in December), at 9:00 a.m.

Collaborative Meeting Location: The Shafter Police Department, 201 Central Valley Hwy.

Original community concern(s):

- The need for more low-income housing
- Nutrition/Healthy Cooking Classes

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

The Shafter Healthy Start Office is addressing the low-income housing concerns by collaborating with the City of Shafter, Housing Authority, partnering with the United Way and Kern County. Clients are assisted with applications and referrals to the appropriate agencies. Low –income housing is an ongoing issue and Shafter Healthy Start is continuously helping clients with referrals.

New community priorities:

The Shafter Collaborative through collaboration with nurses of the Richland School District, community members, client surveys, and client request has identified will childhood diabetes as a priority.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

The Shafter collaborative is working diligently with the Kern County Public Health Services: Chronic Disease and Obesity Call to Action program, Public Health Nurses, The Department of Human Services, Child Protective Services, Differential Response, and Dignity Health Mercy & Memorial Hospitals: Community Health Initiative to provide health care enrollment services and health care educational services, Richland School District and School Nurses to provide affective case management services, and educational services. The goal of our collaboration is to bring systemic changes that will bring a culture of wellness and support that will provide long-term community health.

The Shafter Collaborative will continue to provide Nutrition and Health Education Classes to address the issue childhood diabetes. Through collaboration, the Shafter Collaborative will continue to develop the Richland School District/ Shafter Healthy Start Parent Education Center. The Shafter Collaborative will collaborate with the University of California to provided and continues to provide a 6 week nutrition/health class for the community .The topics the course will encompass are: physical activities, eating a variety of fruits and vegetables every day, how to keep food safe from bacteria, the importance of eating protein and dairy products, eating less fat and sugar, and how parents can set a good example for healthy eating. The class instruction with included visual items to help clients understand the amount of fat or sugar in the foods they eat. According to the instructor, the clients are open to asking questions and sharing how they have started to have healthier lifestyles.

South Chester Partnership

Contact: Debbie Wood

Email Address: woodd@bcsd.com / Phone: (661) 631-5895 / Fax: (661) 631-5898

Address: 800 Ming Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93307

Collaborative Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of the month (Dark in June, July and August at 11:30 A.M.

Collaborative Meeting Location: 800 Ming Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93307

Original community concern(s):

- Community Safety
- Access to Health Care

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

Community Safety continues to be a concern however presentations on personal safety, identity theft, etc. have been provided. Access to Healthcare has made strides in providing application assistance as well as case management and education on utilization of health insurance and preventative health care.

New community priorities:

Need for English language classes and for preschool programs were identified through parent input.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

The Bakersfield Adult School Provides ESL classes and through School Readiness funds we provide early childhood education classes.

Southeast Neighborhood Partnership (SENP)

Contact: Nicholas Umholtz, SENP Program Supervisor

Email Address: nicholas.umholtz@clincasierravista.org / Phone (661) 322-3276/ Fax: (661) 323-6259 **Address:** 1509 E. 11th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93307

Collaborative Meeting Date: Every last Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m. (no meeting in June or December).

Collaborative Meeting Location: 1000 S. Owens Street, Bakersfield, CA 93307 (MLK Center)

Original community concern(s):

The Southeast community of Bakersfield has continued to struggle to maintain a healthy quality of life due to community issues that include; high crime rate, poor nutritional habits of children, poor community network/support, amongst other social issues. The most significant disparities in the southeast area is unemployment and poverty. According to the 2009-2013 Census data, 32.8% of the families in the 93307 are below poverty level. Over 35% of the populations in this area make less than \$25,000 and have fallen below the poverty level.

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

Southeast Neighborhood Partnership (SENP) has strived to address the concerns that affect our community by forming a partnership with non-profit agencies, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, businesses, government agencies, other collaborative and residents of southeast Bakersfield. The partnership addresses the community barriers by collaborating services with each other and streamlining services to the community residents. Through collaboration, residents and clients have experienced less “red-tape” when referred to services, due to the streamlining of services.

The partnership also attends monthly collaborative meetings where presenters introduce services and information related to the barriers that hinder the southeast community. Collaborative partners have been able to pass the information to clients; therefore, improving the client’s knowledge about the community issues and the resources available to address those barriers.

In addition, SENP hosts an annual community event called the Good Neighbor Festival (GNF), to introduce resources, health related information, activities for children, and allow for residents to networks amongst residents. The GNF also celebrates and acknowledges “Hidden Heroes,” which are individuals, including children, who have shown leadership in efforts to improve the quality of life of the southeast residents.

New community priorities:

SENP continues to identify academics in young students as a priority in the southeast community. Collaborative partners have shared information that indicated the poor academics is affecting the quality of life of southeast children and will ultimately affect the future quality of life of southeast residents. During the 2015-16 more than 60% of Kern County students did not graduate ready for university admissions (source: kidsdata.org). Community violence and addressing traumatic experiences continue to be a community priority.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

SENP has included partners, in its collaborative efforts, that address academic issues.

The SENP Family Resource Center recently received funding to provide Gang Violence Prevention and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to middle-schools in Southeast Bakersfield. Students are involved in community service learning and mentoring events that provide hope and pathways to education. The Partnership also began involvement to create a trauma-informed collaborative and Kern County movement.

West Side “Together We Can” Collaborative

Contact: Sandy Koenig

Email Address: skoenig@taftcity.org / Phone: (661) 765-7281 / Fax: (661) 765-7413

Address: 915 N. 10th St. #20, Taft, CA 93268

Collaborative Meeting Date: 4:00 P.M., Bi-monthly on the 3rd Wednesday

Collaborative Meeting Location: 915 N. 10th St. #32 "The Fort" Taft, CA 93268

Original community concern(s):

- Substance abuse issues that lead to child neglect and abuse, domestic violence remove you
- Youth Substance abuse, truancy, teen pregnancy, and other negative issues associated with it
- Lack of Adequate Child Care
- Growing homeless population

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

Substance Abuse and Related Issues - The West Side Community Resource Center and Together We Can Collaborative recognizes the many impacts on children related to substance abuse. Collaborative action to reduce the negative outcomes is ongoing.

Since 2008 the West Side Community Resource Center has provided Differential Response services to families at risk of child abuse and neglect, many who have substance abuse issues. Working in partnership with Dept. of Human Services, DR provides local intensive case management services to the most at-risk children and families, many of whom substance abuse is an issue. Case managers serve over 100 families yearly with strength based, individualized, goal oriented case plans using a range of prevention and early intervention strategies. Services include working in partnership with community based organizations to provide integrated direct and social services and implementing a wide range of prevention and early intervention strategies to improve outcomes for families. A comprehensive DR management system with strict adherence to DR policies and procedures and case management best practices is used. Over the years the West Side Community Resource Center data has shown the effectiveness of the DR program in the high percentage of families accepting DR case management services, completed case managed plans, and the satisfaction with services given. The core success of DR for our local families is a dedicated staff that provides consistent one on one support services that at risk families need to prevent their children from entering the Child Protective Services system on a long term basis. This ongoing support improves family functioning by giving parents the confidence that they can stabilize their situation and achieve success for themselves and their families. The DR program has had a huge impact on our local community, especially in relation to the issues associated with substance abuse and child abuse and neglect.

- Case management for families with children 0-5 and preschool education offered through First 5 Kern.
- The West Side Community Resource Parent Education classes continue to have a positive impact on participating families, many of whom are involved in substance abuse. Research based best practices are implemented using the Nurturing Parenting curriculum.
- The WSCRC is the only agency on the West Side that offers safety net resource and referral services to families 5 days week. Providing for these immediate needs is often enough to keep a family from falling into situations that require more intense services and relieve the pressure that contributes to substance abuse and consequent child neglect. Through our collaborative and funding partnerships with Salvation Army, local food banks, the West Side Minister's Association, and local service clubs we are able to offer direct basic needs such as food, utility assistance, emergency housing, prescriptions, transportation, and more to families who are most at risk. Grants from Dignity Health provides prescription medications for disenfranchised populations living on the West Side as well as funding for bus passes to medical appointments and services.
- Provide education materials through outreach activities
- Community members from various agencies, including the WSCRC, continue to serve on the Student Attendance Review Board to address issues related to student truancy. Substance abuse, by both the parents and the children, is often the core issue contributing to the child not attending school regularly.

Lack of Child Care including After School Care - A variety of preschool and afterschool programs are now available in Taft and West Side communities:

- Taft College Children's Center offers child care for infants through 5 year olds. The program targets low income and migrant families

- The Head Start program, located on the Taft City School District campus now has 3 classrooms that provide preschool child care for qualified low income families.
- Parks and Recreation offers part time fee based preschool classes and recreation and enrichment programs for young children
- Taft Methodist Church offers preschool for 3-5 year olds 5 days a week
- West Side Community Resource Center offers free preschool 3 days a week for 3-5 year old families who do not qualify for low income programs and cannot afford to pay for fee based programs.
- The Taft City School District now provides after school care at four school sites through the ASES Program. These programs provide quality afterschool activities, in conjunction with recreation activities provided by the Parks & Recreation SPARKS Program, to over 400 local children.

Full time child care for working poor and middle income families who do not qualify for other programs, such as Head Start and Taft College Children's Center, is still lacking. Infant care and private child care has been identified as a continued need for families that have jobs but still need reliable care for their children. Supporting the provision of in home qualified and licensed home child care programs appears to be the only alternative to this challenge, as the costs and administrative process of opening a private center is too prohibitive. The collaborative continues to discuss the issues and seek solutions to these gaps in services.

New community priorities:

Homelessness has been identified as a new community priority. We have seen a marked increase in the number of chronic homeless population in Taft over the past two years. More people are seen sleeping on streets and in parks and walking around town with their belongings. The West Side Community Resource Center has experienced an increase in the number of people who are homeless and in need of emergency food and shelter than we have ever seen in past. We can supply some food and refer to two local food banks however there is no place to them to stay. Salvation Army has some funding for motels, but because of their condition, usually very dirty and carrying dirty bags, motels will not take them. We refer them to the Bakersfield Homeless Shelter but it is usually full and it is difficult for them to find transportation to get there. The issue and causes have been brought up at the local Ministers Association Meeting and the Together We Can Collaborative meetings. Mental health issues and ongoing substance abuse were seen as two primary causes for chronic homelessness, but now that the oil industry has been impacted by dropping oil prices, we are also experiencing more families accessing food banks and the resource center for food, housing assistance, and employment. Any additional expenses such as unforeseen medical costs or car repairs, could result in a family becoming homeless.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

The West Side Community Resource Center is spearheading community conversations regarding this topic to share concerns and ideas. Pastors from local churches, law enforcement, City of Taft, social service agencies, business, and other community members are participating. We have collaborated with agencies such as the Kern County Homeless Coalition, and representatives from the Bakersfield Homeless Shelter, Veterans Administration, the Mission and others to help us understand the issues related to homelessness and to give suggestions that could guide us in starting to positively address this issue. Other immediate steps we will take through the West Side Community Resource Center includes:

- Topic discussed and guest speakers related to the issue will speak at collaborative
- Apply for grants and funds related to the prevention of homelessness
- Continue to provide basic needs such as food, clothing, formula, etc. through funding from Salvation Army, Dignity Health, Chevron, and Churches
- Refer to partner agencies to provide health screenings and services
- Assist in providing insurance coverage and access to a medical home

Wasco Collaborative

Primary Contact Name: Elena Contreras

Email Address: ElContreras@wuesd.org / Phone: (661) 758-7140 / Fax: (661) 758-7110

Address: 639 Broadway, Wasco CA 93280

Collaborative Meeting Date: 8:30 A.M., 2nd Thursday of the month

Collaborative Meeting Location: 1950 Palm Avenue, Wasco, CA

Original community concern(s):

The main issue in Wasco in connecting services to children and families in need.

Outcomes in addressing these concerns:

Multiple changes in the lead position and top level administration changes have made it a struggle to reach goals. We are looking forward to reaching our goals now that we have established consistent leadership.

New community priorities:

The highest priority we have is stabilizing our collaborative and expanding its members.

Plans to address these new community priorities:

- New Leadership
- Active recruitment of attending members
- Inclusion of school site administrator at each meeting