



KCNC Local Collaborative Accreditation

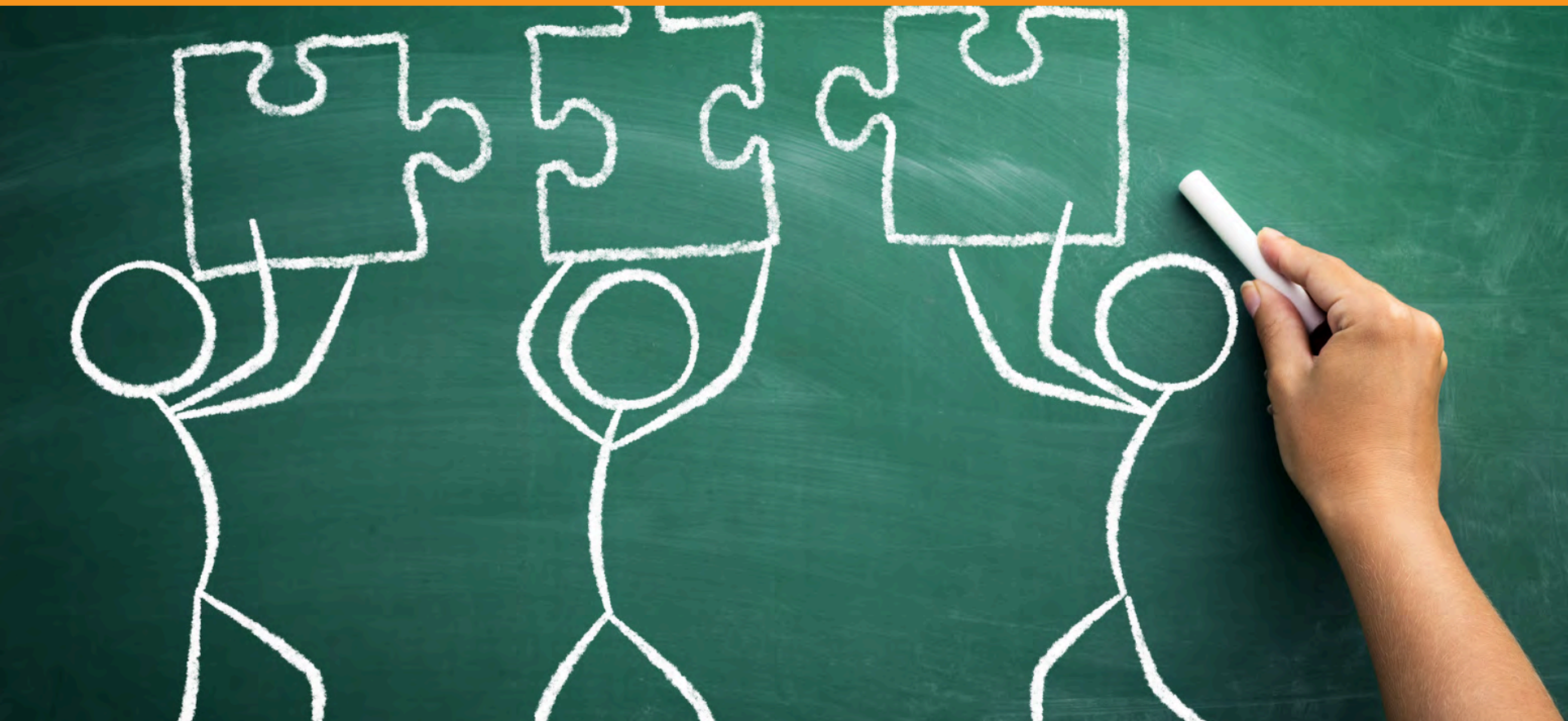
2025 Annual Report



[www.https://kern.org/kern-county-network-children/collaborative/](https://kern.org/kern-county-network-children/collaborative/)



PURPOSE



Issues like safety, healthy families, and economic development can't be solved by one organization alone. Local collaboratives bring together businesses, government, nonprofits, schools, and residents passionate about children. Working with partners and the Kern County Network for Children's boards, they create real solutions that meet community needs.

Strong Collaboratives Built to Serve Children and Their Families

Most Kern County Collaboratives have completed accreditation, a voluntary self-study and evaluation process that strengthens commitment, promotes a shared child well-being agenda, and engages stakeholders. Its ultimate goal is to improve outcomes for all children and families.



There are two types of accreditation offered by Kern County Network for Children

Local Community Collaborative Accreditation

This accreditation recognizes groups that unite community members around local child and family concerns, address issues identified by their own community, and engage key partners to drive positive change.

Local Community Collaborative with Integrated Services Accreditation

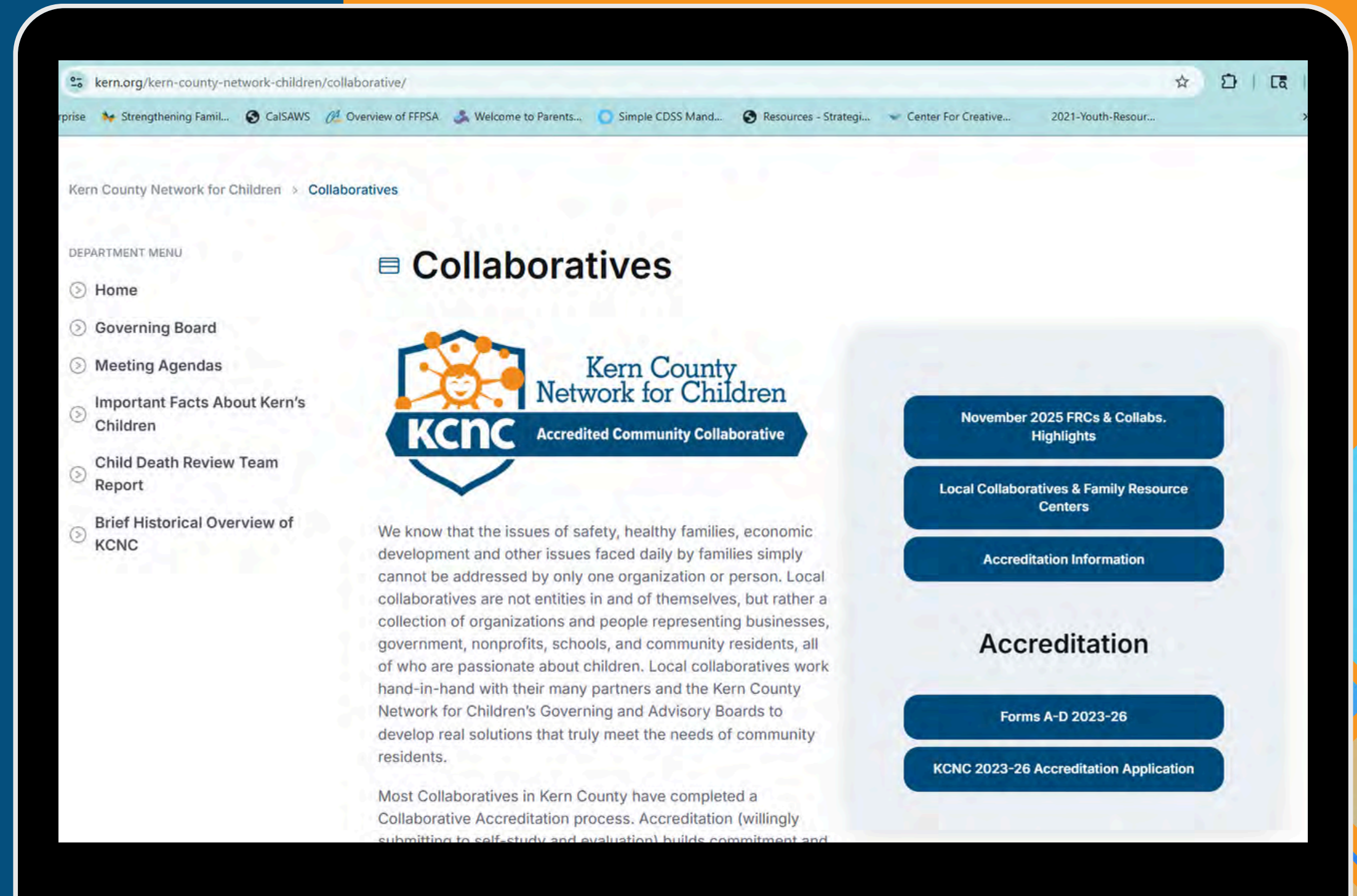
This accreditation is for groups as described above that are also utilizing an integrated service delivery system for providing families with multi-disciplinary, strength-based case management and support services.

Accreditation Benefits:



- Recognized countywide for upholding KCNC excellence.
- Regular communication and partnership opportunities.
- Access to public policy makers and child well-being advocates.
- Hands-on training and education in child and family services.
- Leadership development opportunities.
- Technical assistance in planning, delivery, and evaluation.
- Grant writing and sustainability assistance.
- Enhanced communication with child service providers.
- Stronger credibility with funders and local leaders.

KCNC Monthly Recognition



KCNC General Collaborative

The Kern County Network for Children believes, based on the long-standing success of established community collaboratives, that empowered people coming together to make successful changes in their neighborhoods and effectively turn a shared vision into reality.

- ➔ Every Third Thursday of the month
- ➔ In-Person Only at Larry E. Reider Ed. Center
- ➔ Integrated services for Foster Youth and supporting families referred to Differential Response and Parents as Teachers



KCNC
Kern County
Network for Children
Our Children. Our Community.



Buttonwillow Collaborative & Family Resource Center

Community Concern: High living costs are increasing **food** and **healthcare needs** for local families.

Key Strategies:

- **Provide temporary food assistance** through an emergency pantry and monthly distributions.
- **Partner with Kern Family Health and Omni for healthcare resources.**
- When services aren't available locally, refer families to 211 for additional help.



New building that opened up to the public in February 2025



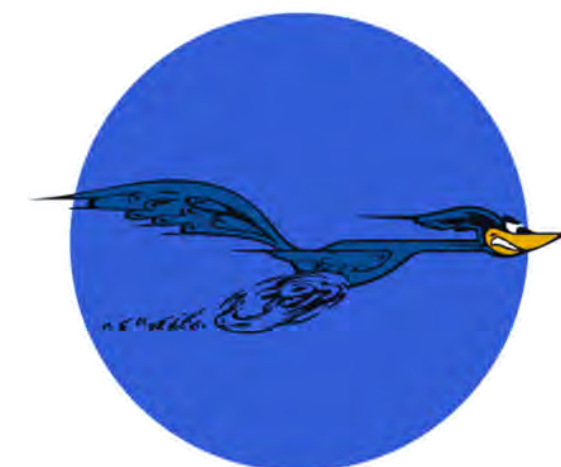
Community food distribution every 3rd Friday, 9:30–11:30 AM



Food basket distribution for local families in need



8th graders participating in a community cleanup



East Kern Collaborative & Family Resource Centers

East Kern FRC (Mojave) & Oasis FRC (Ridgecrest)

Food Distribution



capk Oasis Family Resource Center

Preschool Program



Ribbon Cutting East Kern FRC Expansion



Community Concerns: East Kern faces ongoing challenges with **food insecurity**, **lack of affordable housing**, and **limited medical and mental health services**.

Key Strategies:

- In **Quarter 1 (July–September 2025)**, we served **2,888 individuals** with **food assistance**, **emergency clothing**, **baby items**, **utility help**, **laundry services**, and **more**.
- Referring families to **Mobile Clinics** and to **medical offices** in East Kern County, provide **bus tickets and gas cards** for families facing a medical condition and needing immediate medical care.
- Refer individuals to our **M Street Navigation program**, **Flood Ministries**, and the **Open-Door Network** if families are involved. Continue to seek more resources for unhoused clients within East Kern County.



Youth 2 Leaders Parent Workshop



Greenfield *HELPS* Collaborative & *Family Resource Center*



Listos California Workshop for Parents

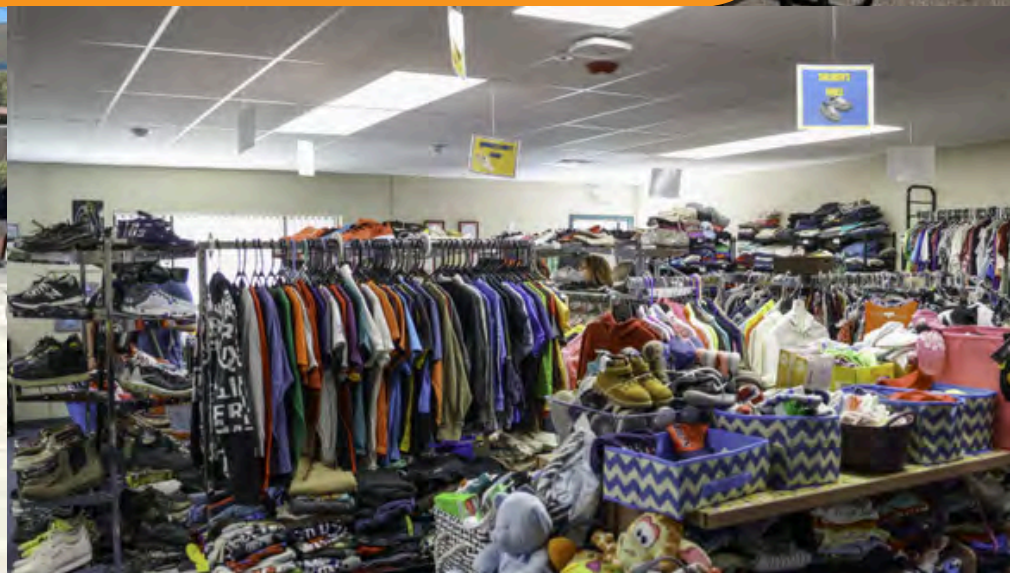
Community Concern: The greatest current need is **health services**—driven by rising referrals for **mental health, general care, immunizations**, and increased demand for **food and clothing**.

Key Strategies:

- We've partnered with **Omni Family Health, Kern Medical, Clinica Sierra Vista, Kern Family Health Care**, and others to bring **mobile health units** to Greenfield, providing essential care directly to the community.
- Partnered with **CAPK's Food Bank**, which provides families with food baskets monthly. Have an on-site district-wide **clothing bank** to provide essentials to families in need.
- Collaborate with multiple partners to deliver innovative **workshops** on family health, mental health, nutrition, and substance use prevention.



Kindergarten Enrollment event at Greenfield SD



Clothing Bank at Greenfield FRC

Indian Wells Valley (IWV) Community Collaborative

IWV Community Collaborative meetings bring local agencies together to share resources and services—critical in these rural, isolated areas. Regular participants include **behavioral health providers, domestic violence resources, early childhood education agencies, veteran services, local churches, and employment agencies**, ensuring families know what support is available.

The largest incorporated community is Ridgecrest, with other unincorporated communities including Inyo Kern, Pearsonville, and China Lake—the population of 4.76K and growing at a rate of 1.04% annually. **All of these resources have been problematic in accessing for the outlying areas.** The availability of affordable rental homes has decreased dramatically, making it difficult for the lower-income families we serve to find appropriate housing. We continue to support organizations working with families/clients that way they are aware of the resources that are available to them.



Kern River Valley Family Resource Center Collaborative



Community Concern: Family Support Services and **Healthcare Needs.**



Key Strategies:

- Provide **workshops that support early child development**, such as Parents As Teachers, Nurturing Parenting Classes, Diabetes Prevention, Red Cross CPR & Child/Infant CPR Course for Parents/Caregivers, and Emergency Preparedness Training.
- Provide **mobile clinics in partnership with CSV**, offer **telehealth services for Kern Family Health Care** members, and collaborate with local sites to recruit specialists and expand access to mental health and primary care.
- Provide **Toys for Tots, Angel Program** for the holiday season, and host **Family Nights Activities** throughout the year.



Easter Hunt, April 17th

Kern River Valley FRC, Great Beginnings, and Kern Valley High School FCCLA hosted an Easter Egg Hunt for over 100 children, featuring sensory stations and take-home activities for ages 0-5.



Valentine's Day Family Picnic, February 14th

families were provided with lunch and fun activities to strengthen family bonds.



We moved in February 2025!

Please come see us at our new location at 2810 Nugget Ave. All your community services will be here with us at the new location for the Family Resource Center.

Lost Hills Collaborative & Family Resource Center

Community Concerns:

Family Supportive Services such as **Food, Clothing, and Healthcare**. As well as **Early Childhood Education**.

Key Strategies:

- Monthly food commodities distribution in partnership with the **CAPK Food Bank**, food resources through partnership with **Gleaners Food Bank**, and **Chevron** for food during the holidays.
- Collaborate with agencies to connect families to essential supports, including **medical enrollment outreach, renewals, wellness workshops**, and **Kern Family Health Care's Enhanced Care Management services**.
- Case Manage families to provide services through the **home-based and center-based programs using the Parents As Teachers evidence-based curriculum**.
- Collaborated with **Kern County Library, Chevron, Kern County Child Support, and Lost Hills Parks & Recreation** to host some Back to School Events and provide a backpack giveaway with school supplies and books.



**Promoting Education and Literacy
As well as Family Bonds in the Community**



McFarland Community Collaborative & Family Resource Center

2025 Toys for
Tots Toy Drive



Community Concerns: Healthcare, Emotional Well-being, and the Safety of the children of McFarland. As well as the need for **Early Childhood Education**, Stable **Jobs**, **Housing**, and **Utility Assistance**.

Key Strategies:

- Provide **school readiness** for children 3-5 years of age.
- **Work with collaborative partners** to bring programs to McFarland that promote positive children's health and wellness services.
- **Link families to services** available in the community and educate parents about community programs.



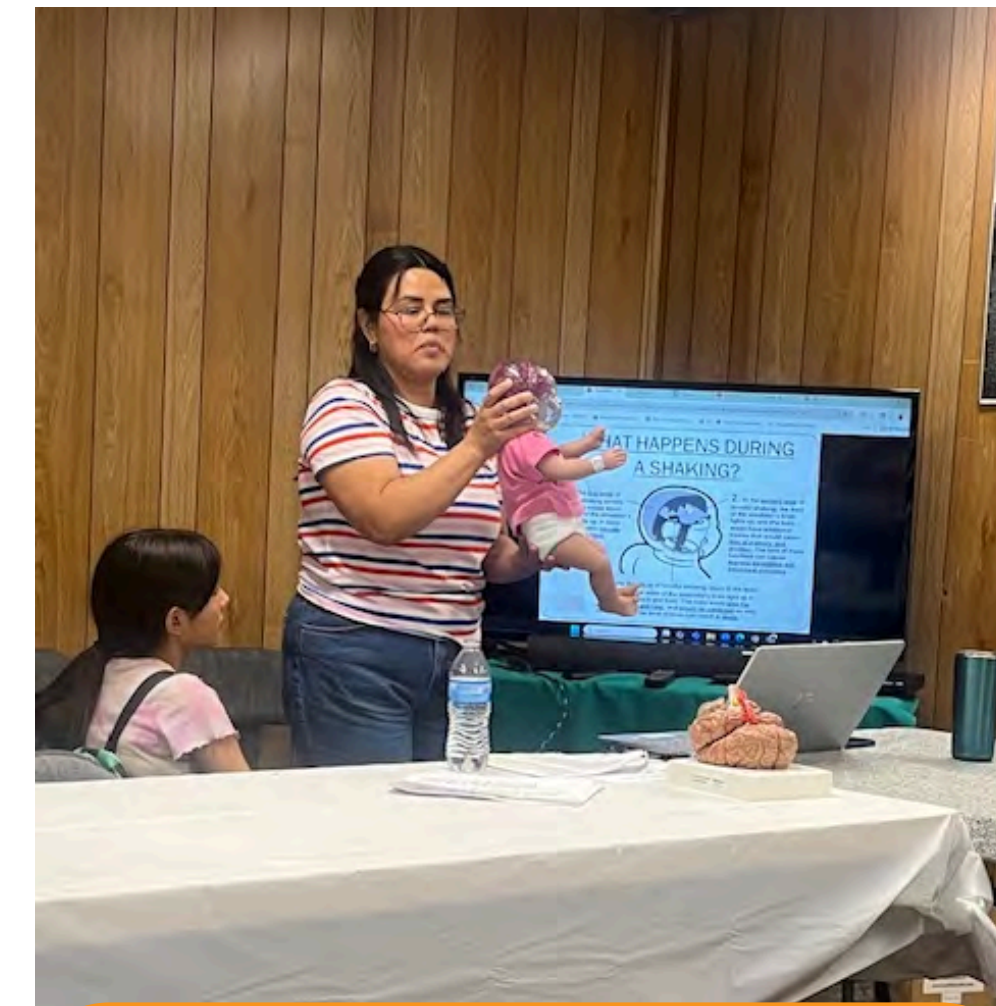
Mountain Community Collaborative & Family Resource Center

-Fraisier Park

Community Concern: The community is located in the mountains, which can distance families from accessing **health services, stable housing,** and other supportive services such as **food** and **basic needs.**

Key Strategies:

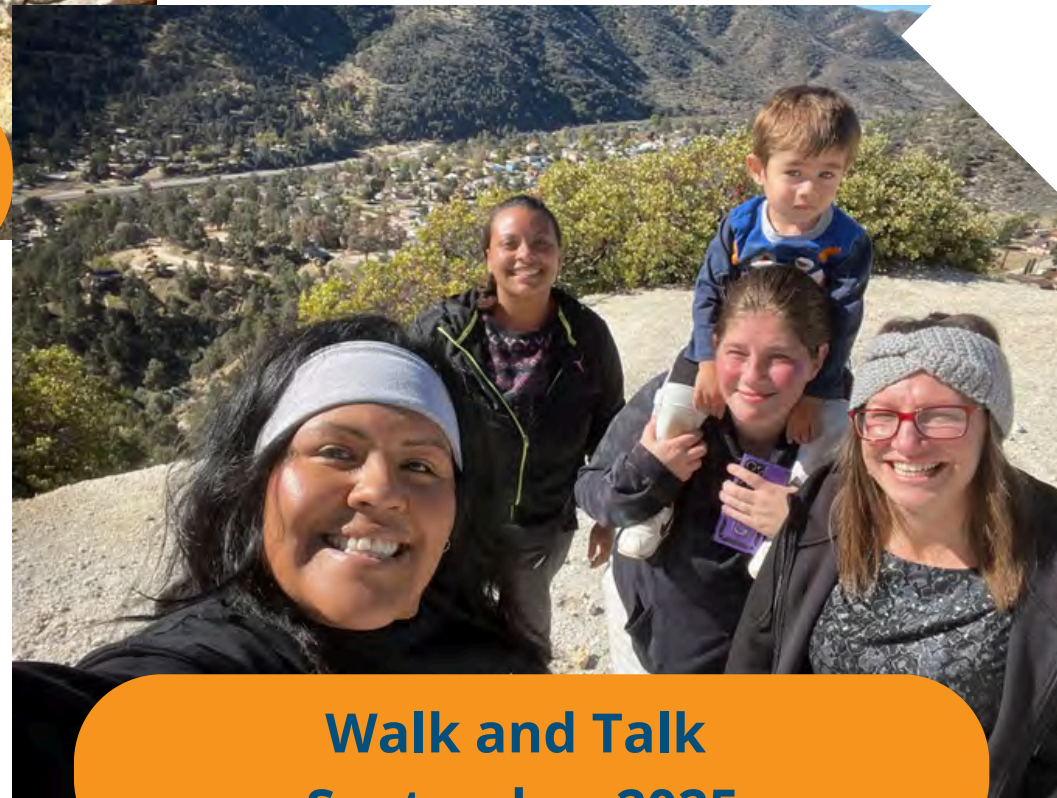
- We provide families with linkage to temporary **food assistance** through local churches and resources.
- Continue to link Medi-Cal recipients that are covered by **Kern Family Health Care** to local resources and **transportation** assistance to get **basic healthcare needs** met.



Abusive Head Trauma (Shaken Baby Syndrome) Prevention Training



MCFRC Park Day and Resource Fair - June 2025



**Walk and Talk
September 2025**



**Wearing Blue for Child Abuse
Prevention Month**

Richardson Special Needs Collaborative & Family Resource Center



Richardson Special Needs Collaborative



Community Concern: The collaborative is observing several trends developing in the needs of the families we serve. We have noticed an increase in **housing**, growing needs for **childcare**, **basic needs**, and **financial needs**.

Key Strategies:

- Working closely with **Health insurance**, **Behavioral therapists**, and partnering with **food banks**, this helps communication to ensure the needs of the families are met.
- We are providing **parent training** for those who have children with special needs, some of the topics are **behavioral**, **knowledge of child development**, and **safety**.
- We are also providing families with **basic needs** and **referrals to resources**.



Shafter Collaborative & Family Resource Center

Community Concern: The collaborative is observing several trends in the needs of more **low-income housing & utility assistance**. Also, have noticed a growing need for **basic needs** and **financial needs**.

Key Strategies:

- Have collaborative speakers on **housing options** and **work with community members/landlords**.
- Partnered with **Catholic Charities of Bakersfield** to host **food drives every other month**, providing up to **250 bags** of food at each event.
- Provides office space to **Medi-Cal Assistance** representative who assists clients with Medi-Cal needs and office space to **EDD** representative who assists with **unemployment benefits and/or disability insurance benefits**.



Community Resource Fair
(May 2025)



Back To School Events



Food Distributions



School Readiness Initiative
Preschooler

South Valley Neighborhood Partnership & Family Resource Centers

Arvin/Lamont/Weedpatch Collaborative

Community Concern: The collaborative is observing several trends in the need for more **low-income housing & utility assistance**. Also, have noticed a growing need for **basic needs** and **resources linked to educational institutes**.

Key Strategies:

- Improvement of the system of care for children and families by increasing coordination and collaboration of providers and connecting services and resources to families and children in schools. We are working on this primarily through providing regular meetings to support awareness of and collaboration with partner agencies, professional learning for staff providing direct family support, as well as through the above mentioned FRC-based one-stop resource centers that connect families to available resources.



Monthly SVNP Collaborative
Meeting - October 2025

South Valley
Neighborhood Partnership



STEM Family Night - March 2025



Annual Open House - September 2025



TK/Kindergarten Enrollment Resource Fair: May 2025



Karl Clemens Caring Closet: September 2025



Wasco Collaborative: October 2025



Wasco Collaborative & Educational Resource Center

Community Concern: The need for more **low-income housing, health and wellness, and food/clothing banks** in the community. Also, have noticed a growing need for **basic needs** and **transportation**.

Key Strategies:

- We are working to understand the needs of families experiencing housing insecurity and developing supports to **prevent displacement and improve stability**.
- Focusing on access to **local healthcare, mental health services, and wellness programs. (Partnerships with Omni Mobile Clinic, Kern Family Health, etc)**
- Partnered with multiple agencies to develop and launch a centralized Resource Hub (both online and on-site) to connect families with services such as food assistance, healthcare, mental health support, academic resources, housing referrals, utility assistance, etc.

Other Collaboratives & Family Resource Centers in Kern County

(Although not accredited by the Kern County Network for Children, they are doing an outstanding job serving families and children within their service areas in Kern County.)



Delano Community Connection Center & Delano Partnership Collaborative



Safe Haven Kids League & Community Resources of California City



Sierra Sands USD Family Resource Center of Ridgecrest



South Kern USD Parent & Community Center of Rodemond



West Side Outreach & Learning Center of Taft



Bakersfield American Indian Health Project



The Center of Sexuality & Gender Diversity



H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection Family Resource Center



Exceptional Family Center Early Start Resource Center



34th St Neighborhood Partnership Collaborative



Kern Disability Collaborative



Oildale Community Partnership Collaborative



Veteran's Collaborative