



OUR KIDS.  
OUR VALLEY.  
OUR FUTURE.

2018

ANNUAL  
REPORT

A COMMUNITY AGENDA FOR IMPROVING  
THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**CRADLE** TO **CAREER**  
F R E S N O   C O U N T Y



## A MESSAGE FROM LINDA GLEASON

In 2018 the Cradle to Career Partnership of Fresno County (C2C) began to experience how our work is directly contributing to overcoming long-standing community challenges. We are no longer building siloed solutions, within sectors, that have limited effectiveness. Instead, we now have a strong cross-sector collaborative approach, focused on outcomes. In the past, every organization, small or large, created a strategic plan or set internal goals and objectives. Now, we have a shared vision that is moving us toward community plans where goals, budgets, and strategies are aligned. This shared purpose is allowing us to leverage the many advantages of collective impact across sectors.

Our community has always had programs and interventions with promise. What we have not had is a deeper understanding of why something is working or how it might fit into a larger picture. Now, C2C is consistently applying a systems lens to our efforts, together with concrete examples of measuring what matters and tying that data to a continuous improvement process.

For far too long our economic and academic data have clearly reflected disparities based on race, ethnicity, and income level. C2C partners are now facing this reality with courage and urgency. By putting race and equity at the center of our work, C2C is driving efforts in metro Fresno and our rural communities to develop actionable strategies for improvement, with special emphasis on the needs of families in poverty and children of color.

All of these challenges—work being done in isolation, independent planning, narrow use of data, racial inequities—have limited our ability to make a difference for children and families. Our mindsets and approaches are changing, and they are changing because of the deep commitment and collaborative spirit of C2C partnership members. We have come to a place where community transformation, always a dream for some, has become a goal for many. I am grateful for the deep commitment of all involved and look forward with growing optimism. This community has much to do, and we are showing that we are up to the task.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Gleason". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Linda" and "Gleason" being capitalized and prominent.

Linda Gleason  
Executive Director, Fresno C2C

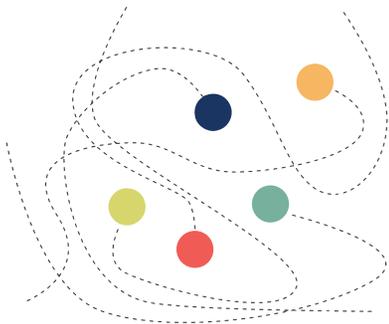
# OUR VALUES

The potential of our children is our most valuable resource. Poverty cannot be a barrier to success and race cannot define opportunity. Education is the most effective ladder for children to reach their full potential.

## C2C STRATEGY: COLLECTIVE IMPACT

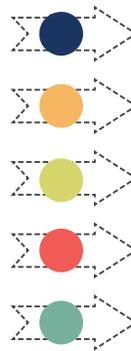
Together we can do so much more than even the best of us can do alone.

### ISOLATION



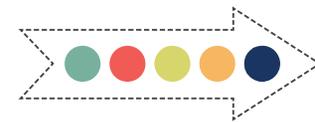
Individual pockets of excellence operate independently from one another.

### ALIGNMENT



By partnering across sectors, resources can be aligned toward a shared vision.

### COLLECTIVE IMPACT



By sharing purpose and responsibility, aligned budgets and work plans have greater impact.

# C2C GOALS: COLLABORATIVE ACTION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

**Fresno Cradle to Career** is a unique community-based partnership that brings together leaders, directors, managers and staff from ten sectors to collaboratively improve educational and health outcomes for all children in Fresno County.

## C2C PARTNERSHIP SECTORS

Early Learning  
K-12 Education  
Post-Secondary Education  
Housing  
Health  
Local Government  
Public Agencies  
Business  
Non-Profit Organizations  
Philanthropy

“Fresno County is attracting attention and potential investment because of the cross-sector cradle to career focus that C2C has created, and the Community Agenda is a powerful statement that we are committed to, and have a shared vision for, the path to success for children and families in our community.”

Ashley Swearingin  
President & CEO,  
Central Valley Community Foundation

# C2C PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

\* Indicates members of Leadership Council

## EARLY LEARNING

**Gayle Duffy**, Executive Director  
Children Services Network

**Emilia Reyes\*** Executive Director  
First 5 Fresno County  
Birth to Third Grade Challenge

**Sandra Herrera-Flores**  
Fresno County Preterm Birth Initiative

## K-12 EDUCATION

**Jim Yovino\***, Superintendent  
Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

**Mike Iribarren**, Superintendent  
Alvina Elementary Charter School District

**Toby Wait**, Superintendent  
Big Creek School District

**Elizabeth Runyon**, Superintendent  
Burrel Union Elementary School District

**Orin Hirschhorn**, Superintendent  
Caruthers Unified School District

**Andrew Alvarado**, Superintendent  
Central Unified School District

**Brenda Sylvia**, Superintendent  
Clay Elementary School District

**Lori Villanueva**, Superintendent  
Coalinga-Huron Unified School District

**Russell Freitas**, Superintendent  
Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified School District

**Scott Griffin**, Superintendent  
Fowler Unified School District

**Bob Nelson\***, Superintendent  
Fresno Unified School District

**Martin Macias**, Superintendent  
Golden Plains Unified School District

**Robert Frausto**, Superintendent  
Kerman Unified School District

**John Campbell**, Superintendent  
Kings Canyon Unified School District

**Wesley Sever**, Superintendent  
Kingsburg Elementary Charter School

**Don Shoemaker**, Superintendent  
Kingsburg High School

**Victor Villar**, Superintendent  
Laton Unified School District

**Paul Lopez**, Superintendent  
Mendota Unified School District

**Shelley Manser**, Superintendent  
Monroe Elementary School

**Terry Hirschfield**, Superintendent  
Orange Center School District

**Annette Machado**, Superintendent  
Pacific Union Elementary

**Jaime Robles**, Superintendent  
Parlier Unified School District

**Christine Skinner**, Superintendent  
Pine Ridge Unified School District

**Juan Sandoval**, Superintendent  
Raisin City Elementary

**Jeff Percell**, Superintendent  
Riverdale Joint School District

**Adela Jones**, Superintendent  
Sanger Unified School District

**Tanya Fisher**, Superintendent  
Selma Unified School District

**Melissa Ireland**, Superintendent  
Sierra Unified School District

**Jesus Cruz**, Superintendent  
Washington Colony Elementary School District

**Randy Morris**, Superintendent  
Washington Unified School District

**Ralph Vigil**, Superintendent  
West Park School District

**Baldomero Hernandez**, Superintendent  
Westside Elementary School District

## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

**Joseph I. Castro\***, President  
California State University of Fresno

**Flo Dunn**, President  
California Health Sciences University

**Birrell Hirning**, Regional Vice President  
National University

**Paul Parnell\***, Chancellor  
State Center Community College District

## C2C PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS - CONTINUED

### HEALTH

**Todd Suntrapak**, President and CEO  
Valley Children's Healthcare

**Ivonne Der Torosian\***, Director of Community  
Benefit and Outreach  
Saint Agnes Medical Center

**Greg Hund\***, CEO  
CalViva Health

**David Pomaville**, Director  
Fresno County Public Health

**Dawan Utecht**, Director  
Fresno County Behavioral Health

**Reyna Villalobos**, Director  
Clinica Sierra Vista

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT/PUBLIC AGENCIES

**Delfino Neira**, Director  
Fresno County Social Services

**Preston Prince\***, CEO  
Fresno Housing Authority

**Jean Rousseau\***, Chief Administrative Officer  
County of Fresno

**Lee Brand**, Mayor  
City of Fresno

### JUSTICE

**Kirk Haynes**, Director of Probation  
Fresno County Probation

**Elizabeth Diaz**, Public Defender  
County of Fresno

**Hon. Kimberly Nystrom-Geist**,  
Juvenile Presiding Judge  
Fresno Superior Court

**Lisa Smittcamp**, District Attorney  
County of Fresno

### BUSINESS

**Jose Elgorriaga**, General Manager  
Univision

**Marc Johnson\***, Executive Director  
Fresno Compact

**Matt Rosenfeld**, General Manager  
KSEE-24 & KGPE-47

**Todd Valeri**, General Manager  
American Ambulance

### NON-PROFIT/ COMMUNITY BENEFIT ORGANIZATION

**Becky Kramer**, Executive Director  
Comprehensive Youth Services

**Lowell Ens**, Executive Director  
EPU Children's Center

**Brian Angus\***, CEO  
Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission

**Marilyn Bamford**, Executive Director  
Uplift Family Services

**Luís Santana**, Executive Director  
Reading and Beyond

### PHILANTHROPY

**Darius Assemi**, President  
Granville Foundation

**Lindsay Callahan**, Executive Director  
United Way Fresno and Madera Counties

**Ashley Swearengin\***, President and CEO  
Central Valley Community Foundation

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“ The health and wellbeing of all children and families is our priority and their educational success matters. Building relationships and trust across sectors allows us to bring our best to the design of effective solutions. ”

David Pomaville,  
Director of Public Health Administration,  
County of Fresno

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# FRESNO COUNTY OVERVIEW

## DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION TOTAL

**984,541**

POPULATION LIVING IN POVERTY

**255,981** 26%

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN

**280,951**

\*CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY\*

**106,761** 38%

MEDIAN AGE

**32.3** 59% of the population  
is under 35

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

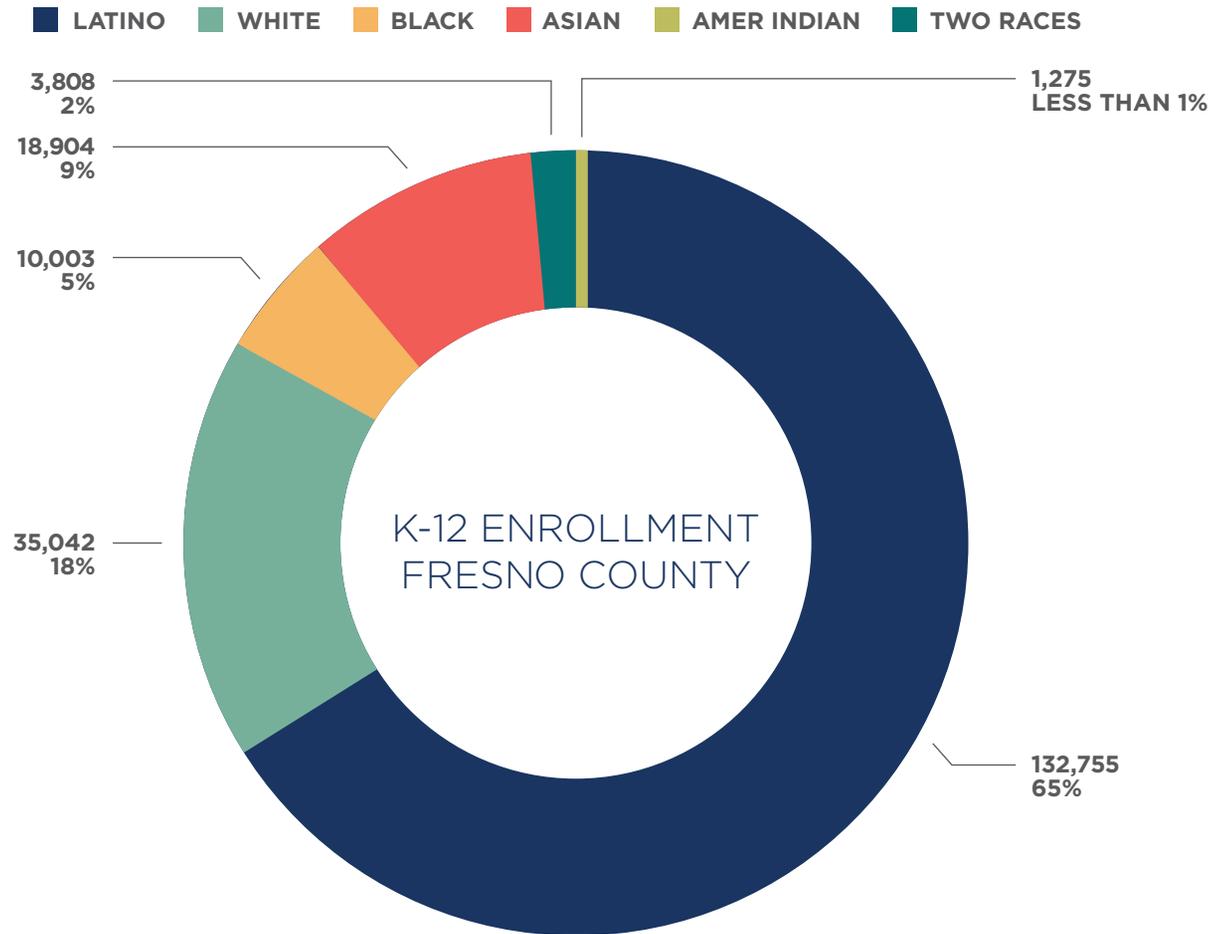
**\$45,963**

\*Estimated percentage of children ages 0-17 in living situations with incomes below the federal poverty threshold; the federal poverty threshold was \$24,600 for a family of two adults and two children in 2018.

# PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM - FRESNO COUNTY

TOTAL K-12 ENROLLMENT

## 204,418



NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS

### 32

20 OF 32 DISTRICTS HAVE

### 84%

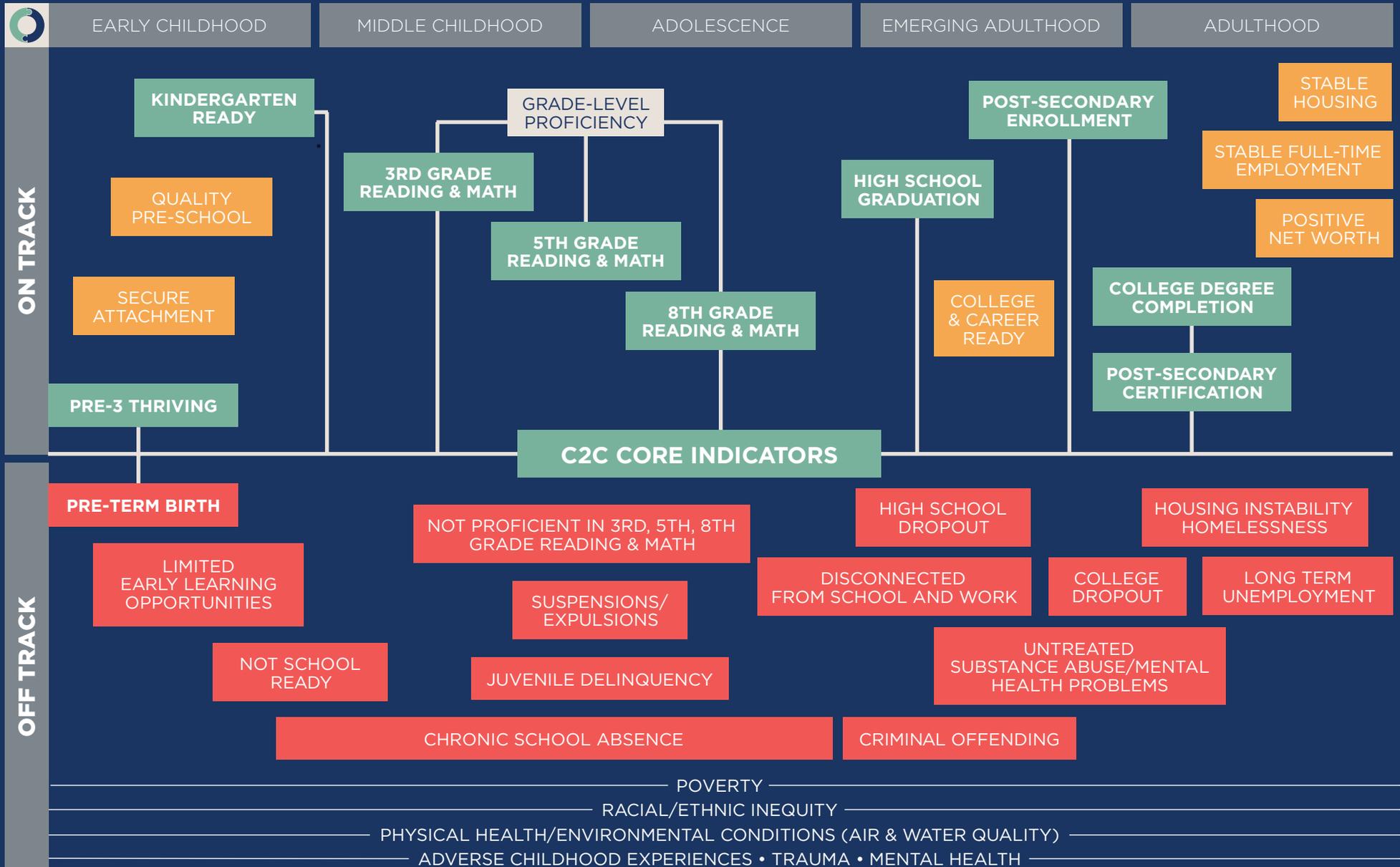
OR MORE STUDENTS RECEIVING  
FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH

13 OF 32 DISTRICTS HAVE

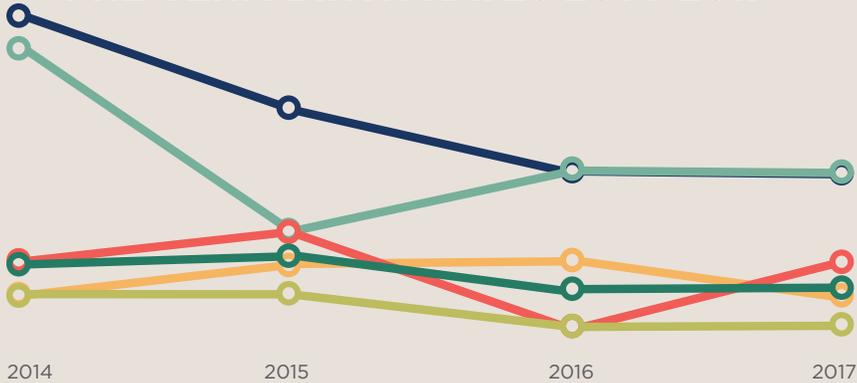
### 40%

OR MORE ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE LEARNERS

# FRESNO COUNTY COMMUNITY AGENDA



## PRE-TERM BIRTH RATES 2014-2017

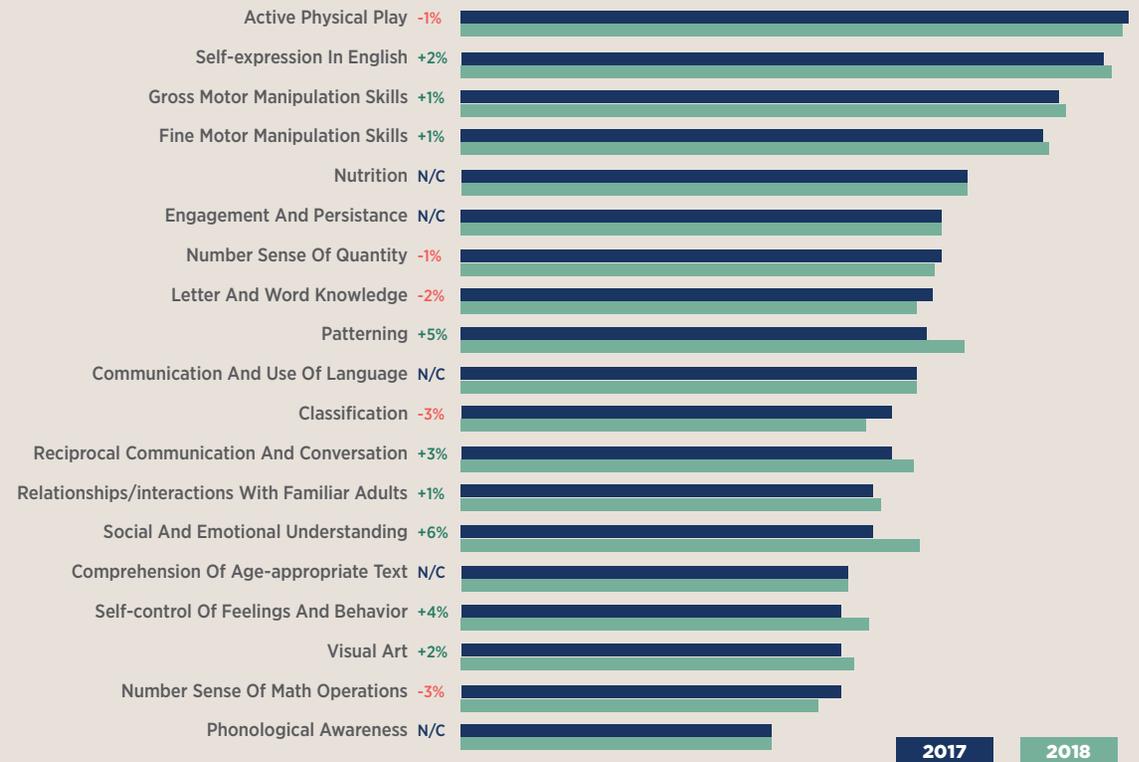


Year	BLACK	OTHER	ASIAN	HISPANIC	TOTAL	WHITE
2014	18%	17%	10%	9%	10%	9%
2015	15%	11%	11%	10%	10%	9%
2016	13%	13%	8%	10%	9%	8%
2017	13%	13%	10%	9%	9%	8%

Source: Fresno County Public Health, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (2016)

## KINDER READINESS (DRDP)

A SELECTION OF DOMAINS FROM THE DESIRED RESULTS DEVELOPMENTAL PROFILE (DRDP) - CHANGE FROM 2017 TO 2018



Source: FCSS, Spring 2018 DRDP Data retrieved from Fresno Unified School District

## THIRD GRADE READING



<b>ENGLISH LEARNERS</b>	12%	13%	17%	21%
<b>BLACK</b>	19%	24%	27%	32%
<b>POVERTY</b>	24%	30%	34%	39%
<b>HISPANIC</b>	25%	31%	35%	41%
<b>OVERALL</b>	31%	38%	41%	47%
<b>ASIAN</b>	37%	45%	49%	56%
<b>WHITE</b>	53%	62%	63%	65%

Source: CDE, Dataquest (2018)

<b>FRESNO COUNTY</b>	31%	38%	41%	47%
<b>STATE OF CALIFORNIA</b>	38%	43%	44%	48%

## EIGHTH GRADE MATH

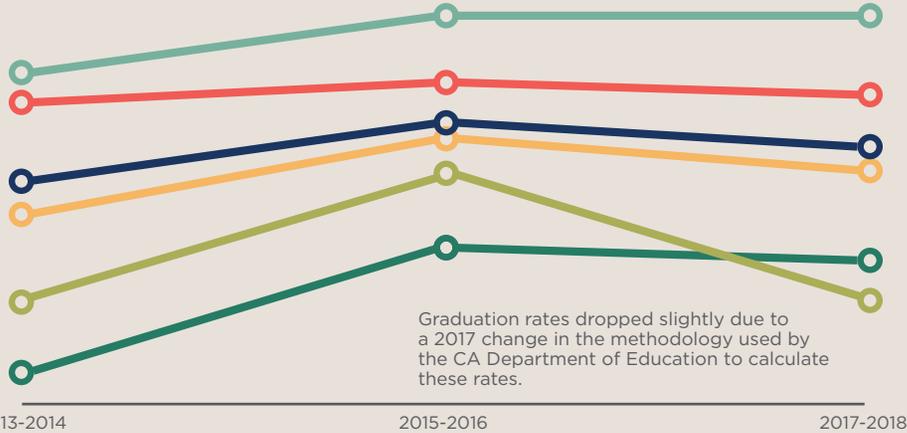


<b>ENGLISH LEARNERS</b>	3%	3%	4%	4%
<b>BLACK</b>	12%	13%	15%	15%
<b>POVERTY</b>	20%	21%	21%	21%
<b>HISPANIC</b>	18%	22%	22%	22%
<b>OVERALL</b>	27%	29%	30%	30%
<b>ASIAN</b>	43%	44%	46%	48%
<b>WHITE</b>	52%	50%	49%	50%

Source: CDE, Dataquest (2018)

<b>FRESNO COUNTY</b>	27%	29%	30%	30%
<b>STATE OF CALIFORNIA</b>	33%	33%	36%	37%

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES

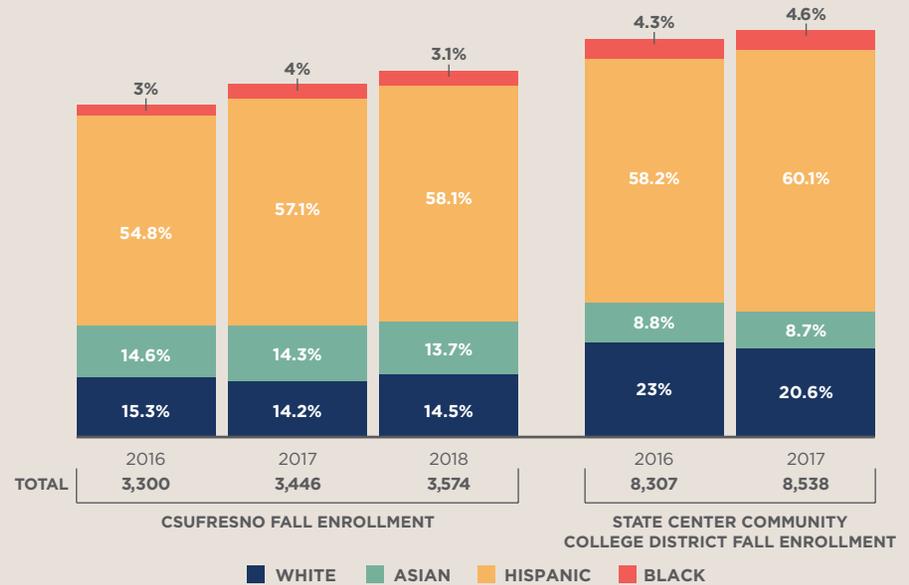


ENGLISH LEARNERS	69.6%	79.5%	69.8%
BLACK	64.3%	73.6%	72.6%
HISPANIC	76.3%	82.1%	79.7%
OVERALL	78.8%	83.4%	81.5%
WHITE	84.9%	86.4%	85.5%
ASIAN	87.2%	91.5%	91.7%

Source: CDE, Dataquest (2018)

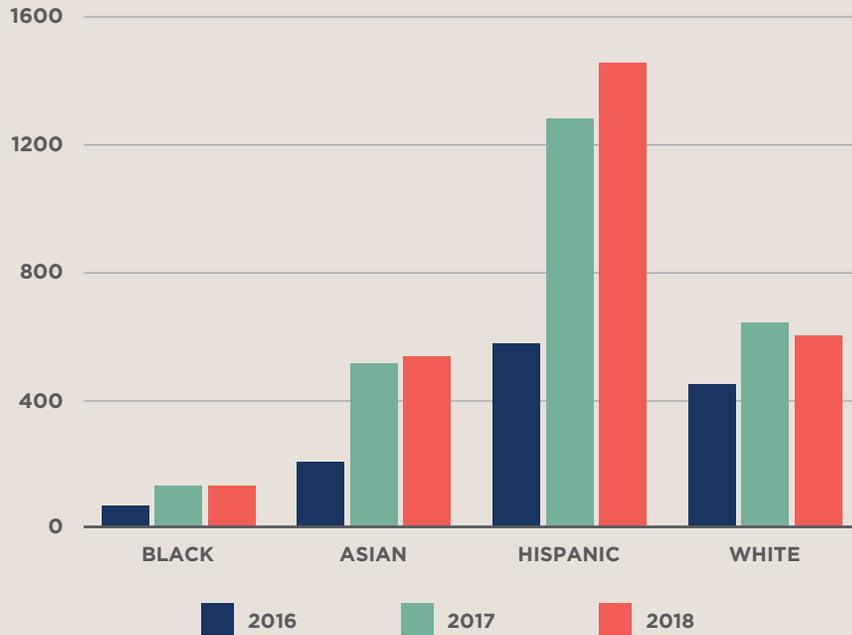
FRESNO COUNTY	78.8%	83.4%	81.5%
STATE OF CALIFORNIA	81%	83.8%	83%

## POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT



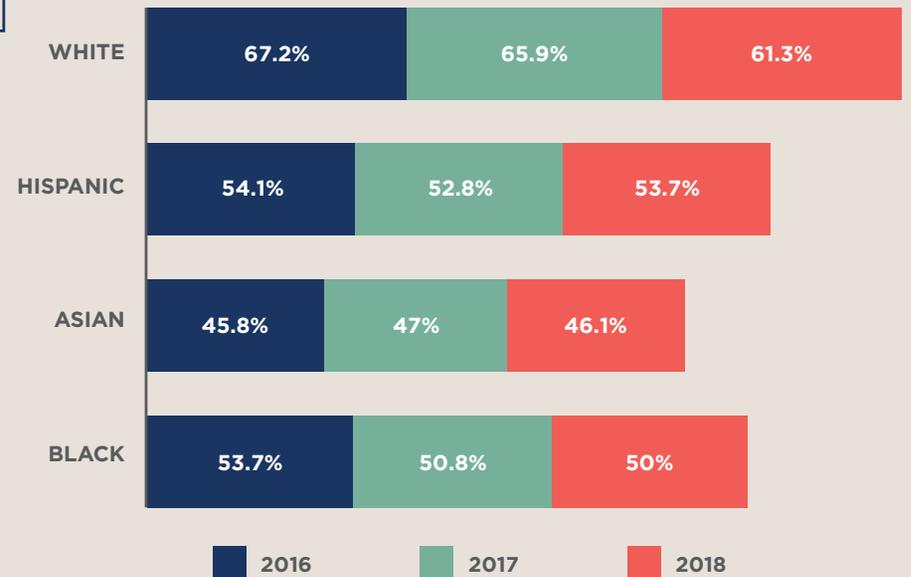
Source: CSUF: CSUF, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, New Undergraduate Cohort Demographics (Fall 2018)  
 SCCCDC: CA Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, Data Mart, Enrollment Status (Fall 2017)

## FRESNO STATE GRADUATES (FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN) WITHIN SIX YEARS



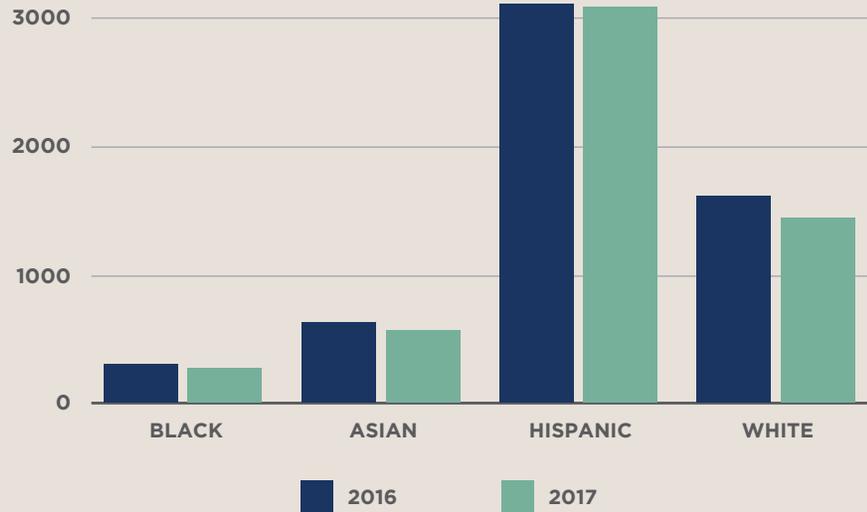
Source: CSUF, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Retention and Grad Rates (Fall 2018)

## RACE/ETHNICITY OF FRESNO STATE GRADUATES WITHIN SIX YEARS



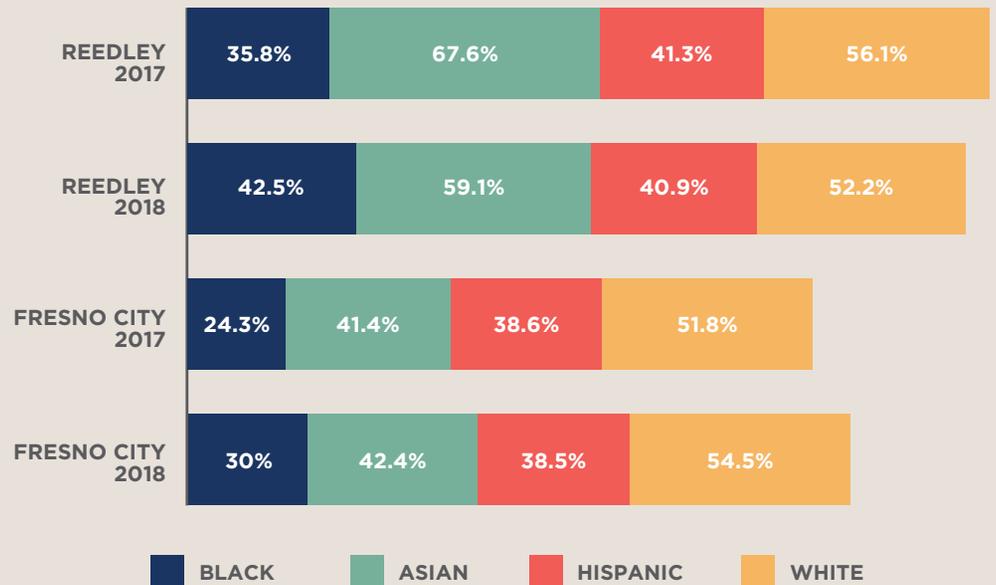
Source: CSUF, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Retention and Grad Rates (Fall 2018)

## FRESNO CITY AND REEDLEY COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO COMPLETED A CERTIFICATE, TRANSFERRED TO A 4 YEAR COLLEGE OR RECEIVED AN AA DEGREE IN 5 YEARS



Source: SCCC: CA Community Colleges, Student Success Scorecard (2018)

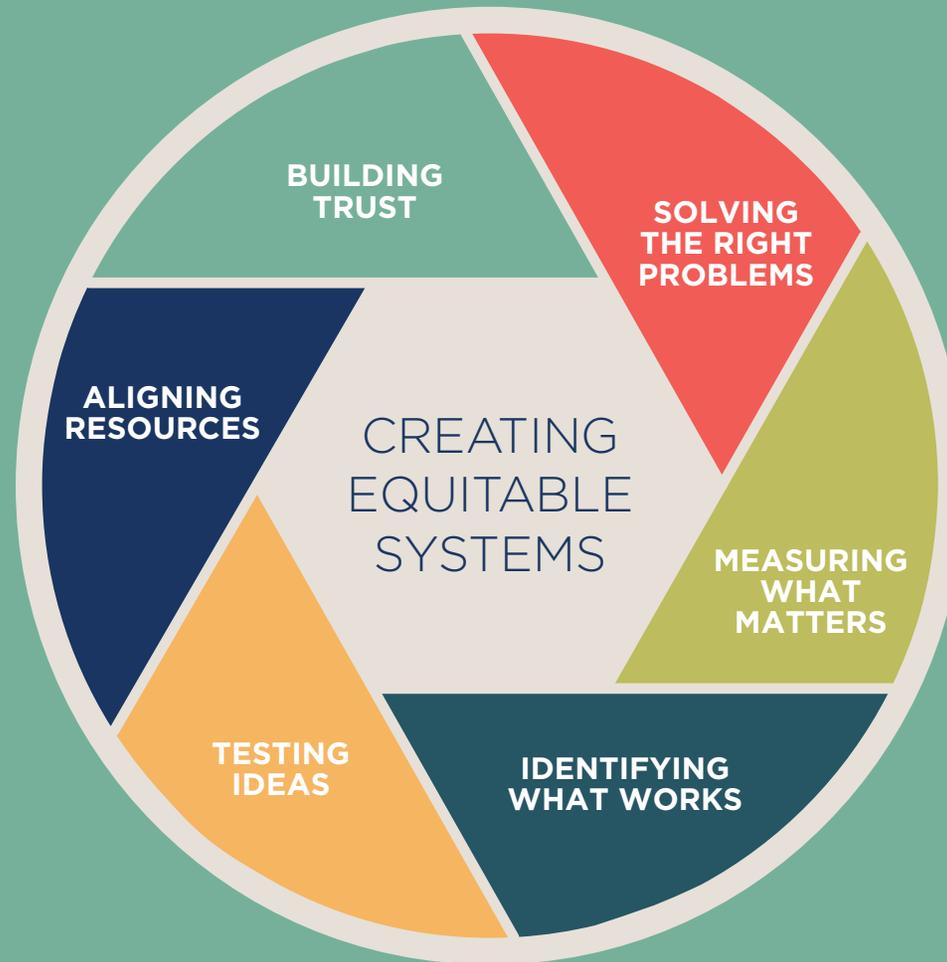
## STUDENT COMPLETION BY RACE/ETHNICITY AT FRESNO CITY AND REEDLEY COLLEGE



Source: SCCC: CA Community Colleges, Student Success Scorecard (2018)

# CREATING THE ENABLING CONDITIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

## WHAT C2C SUPPORTS



# BUILDING TRUST AND SHARED PURPOSE

## Preconception to Age 5 Blueprint for Funding and Advocacy

*Our Community's Commitment to Children*

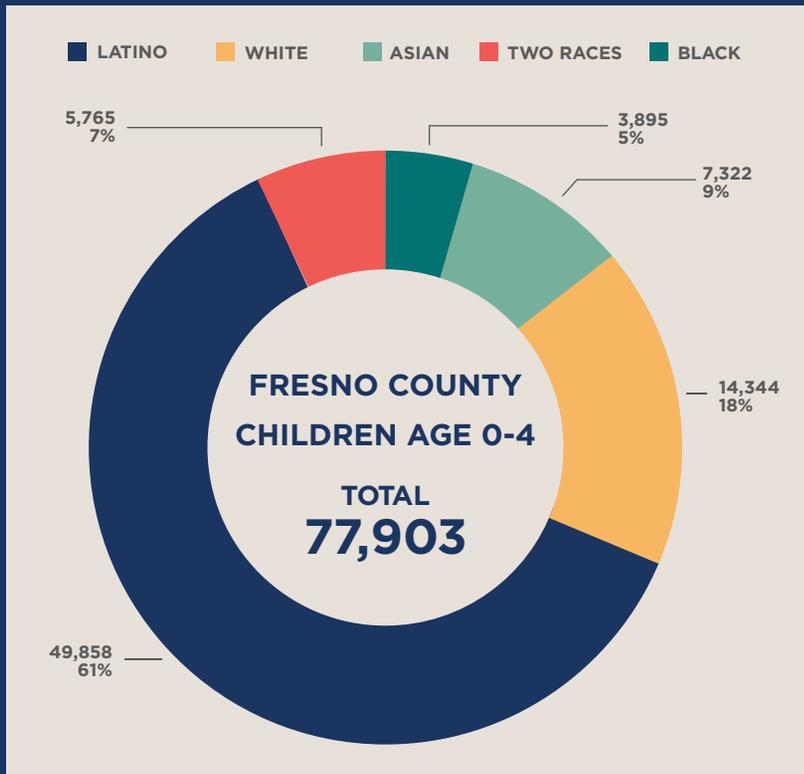
**90%**  
**OF A CHILD'S BRAIN  
DEVELOPMENT HAPPENS  
BEFORE AGE 5**



■ 90% brain development before age 5  
■ 10% brain development after age 5

The first five years play a huge role in setting the trajectory for a successful life. A strong focus on how we are serving young children and families makes sense. Their future and the future well-being of the whole community depends on it.

Data clearly shows that young children who have quality educational, social-emotional, and health experiences are likely to be ready for kindergarten. And, if they arrive kinder ready, they will likely be reading at grade level in third grade and continue to meet educational milestones. An on-track trajectory is a powerful force, one that is much easier to maintain than to create later in life.




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“ First 5 Fresno County is a committed C2C partner and part of the Steering Committee for the Preconception-5 Blueprint. This plan is a great example of the collaborative spirit that has taken hold in our community to ensure children grow up safe, healthy and ready to succeed. ”

Emilia Reyes  
Executive Director,  
First 5 Fresno County

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How do we deliver the best possible opportunities for early learning, access to healthcare, nutritional supports, developmental screenings, and safe and secure housing?

The Preconception-5 Blueprint for Funding and Advocacy is a comprehensive plan representing an essential step in our community's journey toward cross-sector collaboration and collective impact.

The Blueprint has three components:

- 1) an analysis of public funding streams that impact children and families,
- 2) key drivers for optimal early childhood and program/workforce gaps,
- 3) community engagement findings on challenges/needs and service considerations/recommendations.

The completed plan will be adopted by the community in June 2019 and institutions, initiatives, agencies, and non-profits will be able to direct their strategic plans and budgets toward a shared agenda. The Blueprint is also designed to identify and align advocacy efforts.

# Fresno Region College Pipeline Plan: College for Careers

**Education, with an emphasis on post-secondary enrollment and completion, is the key to economic mobility.** California needs 1.1 million more workers with bachelor's degrees by 2030 to keep up with economic demand. In the Central Valley lack of BA degrees is estimated at 33,000 in just the urban Fresno area. Currently, only 22% of students in the Fresno region (Fresno, Clovis, Sanger and Central Unified) earn BA degrees.

**The Fresno Region College Pipeline Plan is designed to create an integrated educational system from K-12 to community college, CSU/UC, and private colleges to ensure greater level of student success.** The collaborative effort is focused on improving access to college, increasing the number of students who transfer from community colleges to four-year institutions, and boosting overall graduation rates. It is also critically important to recognize that the projected shortfall cannot be met without substantial progress in college graduation for low-income, first-generation, Latino, and African American students.

The project has identified several **tactics** and chosen **Dual Enrollment** as an initial focus.

**PPIC MEETING CALIFORNIA'S NEED  
FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES**

(view website for link to full report)

**PPIC MEETING CALIFORNIA'S NEED  
FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES:  
THE FRESNO PERSPECTIVE**

(view website for link to full report)



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**Talent exists in every single household. The key is to unleash the talent that each and every one of our young people has, and to help them flourish, grow and become leaders in our community.**



**Joseph I. Castro  
President,  
California State University of Fresno**

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# SOLVING THE RIGHT PROBLEMS

## See2Succeed

**Children who cannot see properly cannot see the white board and fall behind in school.** A California study indicated that 95% of first graders who enter public schools needing glasses do not have them. **Parents may be unaware that their child cannot see well** since to the child it is normal. Low-income families may not have ready access to vision care and may choose not to go to the doctor. This is especially true in rural areas **where the challenges of poverty are intensified by the lack of services and transportation options.**

**See2Succeed** began in 2014 as a workgroup of The Children's Movement of Fresno to improve third-grade reading outcomes. In 2016 the program moved under the **Fresno Cradle to Career** umbrella and received additional funding from the Fansler Foundation.

SEE 2 SUCCEED





The possibilities are endless for a child that can see clearly in their learning environment.

We thank you,  
C2C and See2Succeed.



Russell Freitas, Superintendent,  
Firebaugh-Las Deltas  
Unified School District

# SEE 2 SUCCEED

## 16,294

vision screenings  
given to local Fresno  
County children



The See 2 Succeed vision program is a local nonprofit partnership that works with Fresno County schools to offer FREE eye exams and glasses to local children!

### In 2017 2018

The See 2 Succeed  
vision program  
accomplished...



### 1,126

Full Eye Exams With  
An Optometrist



### 775

Glasses Made



### 53

Mobile Unit Days



### 14

School Districts Serviced  
In Fresno County



### 43

Elementary Schools  
Serviced In Fresno County

## 2018 2019

will be even better with...



### 16

School Districts

and

### 61

Mobile Unit Days



# TESTING IDEAS

## Together for Students



**In May 2018, Fresno C2C was one of 10 communities across the country to receive an approximately \$150,000 grant** funded by three national, education-focused nonprofit network organizations — the Coalition for Community Schools, Communities in Schools, and StriveTogether. The **Together for Students** Initiative was created to bring together local partners demonstrating the will and capacity to define what student-centered learning means in their community. Three schools in Washington Unified School District were chosen for the initiative: West Fresno Elementary, West Fresno Middle, and Washington Union High.

**The project began with a review of school data and the identification of needs** through multiple meetings with parent and student groups from three cultures dominant in the schools - African American, Latino, and Hmong. The findings were then shared and refined in community meetings that included school staff, parents and non-profit organizations. The rich insights included the need for more individual attention, cultural awareness, improved communication, and trauma-informed practices in the schools. It became clear that the use of individual learning plans for all students would help address many of the issues identified.

An initial group of district and school personnel, a parent, and a student met to develop a draft Individual Learning Plan (ILP). During October Parent/Teacher conferences a pilot testing of the ILP was conducted, with a total of 10 student/parent/teacher triads in grades K-5 at West Fresno Elementary School. Feedback from the participants led to a second ILP iteration and further feedback from the full community group of organizations and parents. A third ILP iteration will be tested in a second-grade classroom January – May 2019.

**SEE TOGETHER FOR STUDENTS SUMMARY REPORT**

(view website for link to full report)

**For a full copy of the report, please contact Brooke Frost at [brookefrost@live.com](mailto:brookefrost@live.com)**

## Kindergarten Chronic Absence Pilot

If children are chronically absent in kindergarten only **41% read at grade level in third grade**, according to national data from Attendance Works. If children are chronically absent in both kindergarten and first grade **only 17% read at grade level in third grade**. Parents are often unaware or do not understand how crucial regular school attendance is to the success and well-being of their child. Kindergarten today covers much of the material that used to be taught in first grade.

This pilot began in two elementary schools in Fresno Unified and expanded to include seven schools in the 17/18 school year. Parents of incoming kindergartners were given a 20-minute orientation on the importance of attendance including detailed handouts and tools to promote the practice of good attendance. **All seven schools had significantly greater attendance by children whose parents attended the orientation and unexcused absences decreased.** The orientation was especially helpful for first-time kindergarten parents.

**The results have been promising, and the easy to duplicate pilot is now ready to expand to interested school districts.**

**SEE REPORTS FOR ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS**

(view website for link to full report)

“ Identifying what works is a big part of what C2C is all about. By implementing promising strategies and measuring outcomes, C2C is helping to ensure effective opportunities for all students. ”

Jim Yovino  
 Superintendent,  
 Fresno County  
 Superintendent of Schools

**KINDERGARTEN ATTENDANCE MATTERS**  
 ATTENDANCE EARLY-ON MEANS SUCCESS LATER

**CHRONIC ABSENCE  
 MEANS MISSING  
 MORE THAN 10%  
 OF SCHOOL DAYS**



IF CHILDREN ARE  
**CHRONICALLY ABSENT**  
 IN KINDERGARTEN



**ONLY 41%**  
 ARE READING AT  
 GRADE-LEVEL  
 IN 3RD GRADE

IF CHILDREN ARE  
**CHRONICALLY ABSENT**  
 IN KINDERGARTEN  
 AND FIRST GRADE



**ONLY 17%**  
 ARE READING AT  
 GRADE-LEVEL  
 IN 3RD GRADE

FRESNO UNIFIED  
**KINDER  
 STUDENTS**

(35 OF 62 SCHOOLS RANGED FROM  
 20% - 35% KINDERGARTENERS  
 CHRONICALLY ABSENT)

**21.7%**



**CHRONICALLY  
 ABSENT**  
 IN 2016-2017



**CRADLE TO CAREER**  
 FRESNO COUNTY

**OUR KINDERGARTEN ATTENDANCE  
 PILOT TARGETS IMPROVEMENT OF  
 3RD GRADE READING PROFICIENCY.**

# IDENTIFYING WHAT WORKS

## Rime Magic

**Reading is an essential skill for school and life success.** But many students struggle with decoding—understanding how letters translate into sounds and words. Children who go beyond third grade without mastering the ability to readily decode new words fall behind in school and data shows that they will likely never catch up. **Rime Magic is a breakthrough resource** for struggling readers that helps prevent low word recognition in grades K-2 and promotes decoding improvement in grades 3-12.

**Two pilots have been conducted with a variety of students in different settings.** An initial small pilot occurred at the Fresno County/Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) Juvenile Justice Campus in 2017, and the results were so strong that a larger pilot was put in place at schools in Fowler Unified School District during the 17/18 school year. Second-grade students receiving Rime Magic at Malaga Elementary **scored 300% better** on the DIBELS reading test when compared to the control group. **100% of the special education students** at Sutter Middle School **either maintained or increased performance** levels, and **20% of special education students met or exceeded standards on the California SBAC State test.**

In 2018/19 school year, the use of Rime Magic has expanded within Fowler Unified and has been incorporated into several reading programs in Central, Selma and Lindsay school districts and the FCSS Juvenile Justice School.

[SEE SBAC RESULTS FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING RIME MAGIC](#)

(view website for link to full report)



## Talk Read Sing

**Studies show that young children need frequent language-rich interaction from birth to develop strong language and literacy skills.** Infant human brains are wired through interaction. No digital screen can do this - it needs to be human to human. In Fresno County, many children are getting much less language-rich interaction than they need to be successful in school and life.

**Talk Read Sing (TRS) is a campaign designed to encourage parents and caregivers to do simple actions every day starting at birth** — describing objects seen during a bus ride, asking questions, singing songs, reading aloud, or telling stories — all of which can significantly improve an infant's ability to increase brain connections for word and math literacy.

The local campaign initially focused on media and general community awareness with posters and billboards. In 2017, the group **began focusing on a more targeted approach** to help people understand the media message. Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC) Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) developed a parent curriculum to use in their parent education workshops and shared the curriculum with United Health Centers WIC, Fresno Unified Early Learning trained 130 preschool teachers, and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Migrant Education incorporated TRS into their home visitation programs. A pilot in a physicians' medical practice began in January 2019.

# MEASURING WHAT MATTERS

In addition to tracking core indicators, C2C also monitors data for contributing indicators. For the core indicator Kindergarten Readiness there are several contributing indicators, including the **percentage of children enrolled in a quality preschool program and the number of programs that are committed to and achieving high quality.**

**The Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) rates early childhood settings using a matrix.** Participating entities include family child care homes, private centers, State preschools, and Head Start.

**Virginia Perez operates Manitas de Amor (Little Hands of Love), a family child care home in Parlier, a rural community southeast of Fresno.** She has been in operation for 17 years and received a QRIS rating of five stars in 2017. Virginia believes it is important to start education at a young age so that children are prepared when they enter school. She also stresses the importance of learning social skills early. “I love children and I love what I do. I have had many students for years and multiple generations of students from the same family. Many go on to colleges and universities and one is now a fourth-grade teacher in Parlier.”



**The Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center, located on the Fresno State campus, provides early care and education programs and services for children of university students, faculty, staff and the community.** The Huggins Center first received a five star QRIS rating in May of 2014. The staff believes the quality rating is important for several reasons:

1. It educates the public about the importance of the quality of early education.
2. With a framework and standards, it promotes the quality of early education for the individual programs and the whole early education system.
3. It provides parents and other stakeholders with critical information for decision making.
4. It holds program administrators, teachers, staff, and policy makers accountable.

[SEE CURRENT QRIS DATA AND MATRIX](#)

(view website for link to full report)

**Fresno C2C is part of StriveTogether**, a national movement with a clear purpose: **helping every child succeed in school and in life from cradle to career**, regardless of race, zip code or circumstance. In partnership with about 70 communities across the country, StriveTogether provides resources, best practices and processes to give **every child every chance for success**.

As a member of the StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network, Fresno C2C is able to apply for funding opportunities and technical assistance to support improvement pilots and access up-to-date research and best practices from other network members.



**SEE THE STRIVETOGETHER  
THEORY OF ACTION**

(view website for link to document)

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