



## **Fresno Residents Council Resident Leaders' Roles & Responsibilities**

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### What is The Children's Movement?

The Children's Movement of Fresno (TCM) is a community-based organization that aims to impact policy by using inclusive and continuous community engagement to ensure children of Fresno County are a priority in decision-making.

### What is the Fresno Residents Council?

The Fresno Residents Council (FRC) is a deliberative space where residents from all walks of life and from all parts of Fresno County can research, debate, negotiate, propose, and advocate for policy solutions. The FRC is composed of residents who possess a foundational commitment to social and economic justice. The makeup of the FRC seeks to reflect the racial, ethnic, age and geographic diversity of Fresno County.

The FRC aims to impact local and state policy decisions by co-creating solutions with institutional leaders. The FRC roots policy discussions in equity by offering lived experiences, ideas, and solutions. The FRC works for power to be in the hands of communities. Policy discussions are enriched and rooted in equity when the residents are fully involved in the decisions shaping their local communities.



### Fresno Residents Council mission & vision:

**Mission:** Protecting and cultivating our present and future communities

**Vision:** Building Unity & Community

### What issues are the Fresno Residents Council currently addressing?

Council members discussed and debated over 40 issues impacting their lives. In year 1, through a synthesizing process led by the Council's Core team and an Issues Assembly, the Council established five issue caucuses focused on: 1) Child care and Workers' Rights, 2) Mental health, 3) Schools as inclusive communities, 4) Digital access, 5) Affordable Housing, and 6) Health.

### What is expected of Fresno Residents Council members?

All Council members were selected to be a part of the Council because you are a leader in your community. We need your voice and knowledge to create changes you want to see, so your attendance at Council events is essential. While most events are required, some are recommended/optional. In general, the TCM team expects that to be successful in the Council and build power, members should:

- **Attend all required** FRC meetings, leadership development sessions, and events
- **Actively participate** in meetings and events by asking questions, sharing life experiences, and/or joining in the discussions
- **Keep up with research** on your caucus topic as best as possible
- Be willing to adapt to changing needs of FRC



### What does TCM provide to FRC leaders?

The TCM staff provides language interpretation for meetings, child care for in-person meetings if needed, transportation support if needed, and stipends for participation based on level of involvement and attendance. The TCM organizers will meet one-on-one (virtually or in person) with all residents on a regular basis for guidance and feedback. A TCM facilitator will assist each issue caucus with logistics, agendas, and notes. While a calendar of meetings will be provided, external circumstances or internal processes may require adjustment during the year.

### Requirements for FRC members:

Responsibility	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit <a href="#">application</a> to a TCM organizer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit W-9 and associated information to receive payment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend FRC virtual kickoff event	September 10, 2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend 1 all-FRC meeting per month (Option of attending either the Tuesday evening <b>or</b> Saturday morning training)	Sep 20th & 24th Oct 11th & 15th, Nov 8th & 12th Dec 6th & 10th, Jan-Apr (To be announced)
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend 1-2 virtual issue caucus meetings each month	Meeting dates and times will be decided by each caucus.
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend mid-year in-person event	December 17, 2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend closing FRC event	May 13, 2023

### Recommended participation for FRC members:

*(These are opportunities to network, learn, and build community. Missing any of the events will not impact receipt of a stipend.)*

Responsibility	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend optional leadership development opportunities: Topics below	To be determined
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend TCM general events including: Action Forums, Community Calls, etc.	To be determined



### Requirements for FRC Core team members:

Responsibility	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit <a href="#">application</a> to a TCM organizer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit W-9 and associated information to receive payment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend FRC virtual kickoff event	September 10, 2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend 1 all-FRC meeting per month (Option of attending either the Tuesday evening <b>or</b> Saturday morning training)	Sep 20th & 24th Oct 11th & 15th, Nov 8th & 12th Dec 6th & 10th, Jan-Apr (To be announced)
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend 1 Core team meeting each month	
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend 1-2 virtual issue caucus meetings each month	Meeting dates and times will be decided by each caucus.
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend mid-year in-person event	December 17, 2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend closing FRC event	May 13, 2023

### Recommended participation for FRC core team members:

(These are opportunities to network, learn, and build community. Missing any of the events will not impact receipt of a stipend.)

Responsibility	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend optional leadership development opportunities: Topics below	To be determined
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend TCM general events including: State of our Children breakfast, Action Forums, Community Calls, etc.	To be determined



### **If you cannot attend a meeting or event:**

Residents and core team members are expected to attend all required events and are encouraged to attend the recommended events. We know all Residents do their best to attend and participate in Council events. Most meetings are recorded on Zoom and available to watch after the event. If you miss an event or expect to miss an event, please contact a TCM organizer to find out how to catch up on information you missed.

### **Compensation:**

**Residents** receive one financial stipend of \$1,000 per year to participate in the FRC because their knowledge, experiences, and time is valued. Two (2) payments will be disbursed.

**Core team members** receive one financial stipend of \$2,000 per year to participate in the FRC because their knowledge, experiences, and time is valued. The additional amount is to compensate for time that core team members spend attending and leading additional meetings. Two (2) payments will be disbursed.



## Year 1 - A look back on 2021-2022

The Fresno Residents Council completed one year of work from July 2021-June 2022. During the first year, the Residents Council achieved:

1. Training members on leadership, community organizing, and creating policy solutions
2. Form a Core Team amongst Residents Council members
3. Creating core group of Issue Caucuses based on storytelling, listening to each other, and deliberation at an Issues Assembly
4. Researching issues that matter to residents with institutional leaders

Month	Topic
July 2021	Kickoff event / Residents Summit
August 2021	Training: Leading with a vision
September 2021	Training: Community organizing
October 2021	Training: Understanding the Fresno landscape
November 2021	Training: Problems to Policies Training: Forming a Policy Agenda
December 2021	Issues Assembly
January - March 2022	Monthly Residents Council meeting & Issue Caucus meetings
April 2022	Residents Council meeting & Issue Caucus meetings Caucuses conducted research and met with institutional leaders
May 2022	End of term celebration



## Year 2 Draft Outline

(Subject to change)

To build on the Year 1 successes, in Year 2 residents will work to establish a policy agenda that centers the issue agreed upon in Year 1. Residents will develop actionable items within Issue Caucuses that best represent their goals and connect with the institutional leaders in the Cradle to Career (C2C) Leadership Council. Additional goals will be established by the Core team and residents. The FRC will accomplish these goals through participation in the following events.

Date	Event	How to attend	
		In-person	Zoom
<b>September 10</b>	Submit application and W9		
<b>September 10</b>	Residents Council kickoff event <i>Topic: Year 1 Refresher &amp; Community Organizing 101</i>		x
<b>Week of Sep 19</b>	Issue caucus meetings		x
<b>* Week of Sep 26</b>	OPTIONAL training on technology support <i>Topic: How to use Zoom, Google Drive, emails</i>	x	x
<b>October 11 &amp; 15</b>	All-Residents Council meeting & discussion <i>Topic: Political Education &amp; Bill Becomes Law</i>		x
<b>Week of Oct 24</b>	Issue caucus meetings		x
<b>* Week of Oct 31</b>	OPTIONAL training on telling your story to institutional leaders and giving interviews <i>Topic: Storytellers' Bill of Rights</i>	x	x
<b>November 8 &amp; 12</b>	All-Residents Council meeting & discussion <i>Topic: Moving issue to policy &amp; Defining power</i>		x
<b>Week of Nov 14</b>	Issue caucus meetings		x
<b>December 6 &amp; 10</b>	All-Residents Council meeting & discussion <i>Topic: Policy agenda &amp; Building policies from joy, not trauma</i>		x
<b>December 17</b>	Mid-year celebration	x	x

\* Optional trainings

## Issue Caucus Summaries from Year 1



FRC residents formed Issue Caucuses that best represented key areas of concern that they hoped to address through discussion, deliberation, and policy creation/changes. Six issue caucuses were established. Five issue caucuses currently have focus and a facilitator moving into year 2:

1. Mental Health
2. Child care & Workers' Rights
3. Schools as Inclusive Communities
4. Digital & Broadband Access
5. Affordable Housing
6. *Healthy communities (No longer an issue caucus in fall 2022)*

### Topic: Mental Health

TCM facilitator: Pen

#### Themes being explored:

- Mental health supports in schools
- Funding for mental health support
- Training for staff, parents & CBOs on providing mental health for kids

**Potential next steps:** Reflect on Year 1, Explore current work within each theme, Understand what each caucus member goal is, Select a focus for Year 2, Collaborate with institutional leaders that align with what we wish to advocate for/ our focus

**Existing policies to consider:** [MHSA Legislation Website](#), [DBH Open Committees](#), [DBH Mental Health Services Act \(MHSA\)](#) [includes MHSA annual update and plan for 2022-2023],

**Institutional leaders:** Susan Holt (Director of Department of Behavioral Health), Trish Small (All4Youth), Jefferey Nkansah (CEO of Calviva), David Luchini (Director of Department of Public Health), Lynne Ashbeck (Valley's Children Hospital),

### Topic: Schools as Inclusive Communities





**TCM facilitator:** Current - Amanda Sciacca, Former - Heidi Rosales

**Themes being explored:**

- Early intervention services for: students with disabilities and students with special needs
- Support and safety for LGBTQIA+ students
- Addressing school safety particularly regarding drugs, bullying, and parent involvement

**Potential next steps:** Connecting with the movement and funding for Community Schools. Researching ways to address safety on school campus as connected to increase in school shootings.

**Existing policies to consider:** State funding for community schools

**Institutional leaders:** Nicole Hutchings (Administrative and Development Coordinator with Fresno Street Saints), Ashly Perry Quinata (Resource Developer with Central Valley Regional Center)

**Topic: Child care & Workers' Rights**

**TCM facilitator:** Matt Matera & Ofelia Gonzalez

**Themes being explored:**

- Increase state median income requirements so more people can qualify for subsidized child care
- Schools creating more subsidized slots
- Institutional leader roles in creating more subsidized child care slots

**Potential next steps:** Research and connect with Parent Voices' leadership for a presentation on upcoming, relevant legislation. Invite Andrea and Matilda to caucus meetings. Deeper exploration into what is being done to raise wages for providers. Discuss a school district to focus on among caucus members.

**Existing policies to consider:** TBD after meeting with Parent Voices

**Institutional leaders:** Fabiola Gonzalez (CEO of First Five), Andrea Cervantes (Fresno County Office of Ed), and Dr. Matilda Soria (Fresno County Office of Ed)

**Topic: Digital & Broadband Access**

**TCM facilitator:** Current - Estefania Avalos, Former - Mike Espinoza

**Themes being explored:**

- Fast and affordable broadband access in urban and rural areas

- Digital literacy supports

**Potential next steps:** The Issue Caucus agreed to recommend that the Fresno Residents Council resolve to officially join the Fresno Coalition for Digital Inclusion, and participate in the Fresno Digital Literacy Coalition efforts. Fresno Residents Council members participated in the recent FCDI Townhall alongside institutional leaders. There is an upcoming opportunity to collaborate with the Digital Literacy Coalition on a townhall specifically about the urgent need for digital literacy supports for Fresnoans who need it most. The date and time and details are pending for that action.

**Existing policies to consider:** Key policy decision point lies with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) which is a key decision maker about how state and national resources aimed at bridging the digital divide are meted out across the state. Our actions will be aimed at raising awareness among community about the deliberations of that body, as well as to share stories and testimony exemplifying the urgency of bridging the divide through infrastructure improvements, building stronger relationships with service providers, and lift up the absolute urgency of digital literacy instruction and support for the communities with the greatest need.

## Topic: Housing

**TCM facilitator:** Brooke Frost

### Themes being explored:

- Affordable housing, especially for undocumented
- Rent stabilization
- Concerns about displacement/gentrification
- Audit requests directly to consumers that are retroactive for years

**Potential next steps:** They want to learn about the Tenants and Renters Unions formed. There is a local conference on development of walkable housing units on Aug 23.

**Existing policies to consider:** Provided housing mortgage down payment assistance recommendations to City of Fresno

**Institutional leaders:** Fresno Housing CEO. (Need to add City of Fresno. Also Housing lead at CAOs office.)