



Central Valley Health Policy Institute

**BUILDING HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES IN THE
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY:
DATA REPORT UPDATE,
2023**

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Funding and Contributions

The California Endowment, Central Valley Health Policy Institute, Fresno Building Health Communities, and Building Healthy Communities Merced commissioned this project to assess a ten-year initiative plan to assess the framework of contributions Building Healthy Communities have completed throughout Fresno and Merced County for vulnerable populations.

Suggested Citation

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Central Valley Health Policy Institute



Introduction

The California Endowment's Building Healthy Communities 10-year initiative launched with 4 Goals and 10 Outcomes, which attempted to garner quantitative findings. However, midway through the initiative TCE and BHC partner organizations soon realized there were limitations to these goals and outcomes, and recognized that these objectives needed to be expanded. The shift to the North Star Goals provide the flexibility to highlight wins and growth from each site. We focus on examples of what happened regarding each of these North Star Goals that occurred within the 10 years from the start of the program.

The broad North Star Goals can be described using qualitative descriptions of how change happened. The Central Valley Health Policy Institute (CVHPI) at Fresno State was founded in 2005 due in part to the need for an institution to collect and document local public health data and be a resource for the San Joaquin Valley. We have served as evaluators for the Fresno and Merced Building Healthy Communities sites as a resource, thought and data partner. CVHPI recognizes that although there has been widespread change as a result of the BHC program, conventional measurable indicators (quantitative data) cannot adequately capture the momentous outcomes of BHC since change takes time and measuring community connection and engagement is complex. Additionally, since BHC staff and advocates were not working in a bubble (i.e., other national, state, and local policies and changes were occurring simultaneously) we cannot make the claim that health indicators changed as a direct result of the BHC programs (causality). Moreover, CVHPI recognizes BHC has been instrumental in the efforts to increase community capacity, build people power among residents to advocate for their needs. BHC has in fact shifted the tides of change and brought awareness to organizations who have shifted their priorities, had access to data, and learned valuable skills through sharing collaboratively and working together.

Additionally, there likely were spillover effects across the BHC places into other parts of the cities, across Fresno County and Merced Counties, and the region. This is due in part to increases in funding, staff capacity and skills, technical assistance from varying organizations, and additional services/resources in the area. Equitable local leadership takes time to shape systems and policies, and policies take time to be implemented and have people onboard. Direct and indirect effects of these changes can happen months, years, and even decades later—but we do know we are moving in the right direction closer toward equity.

Through developing this report, CVHPI is cataloging the changes within each BHC place in the San Joaquin Valley. The goal of this report is to highlight the wins and continued challenges within these identified locations, and to what extent BHC has made an impact on local health and social indicators. This report is not exhaustive, but provides a scope of what changed during the initiative and aims to identify what important health and social outcomes still need to be addressed.

Purpose

This report is intended to provide updates to the previous document “Building Healthy Communities in the San Joaquin Valley: Preliminary Baseline Data Report” from March 2010. The original report was intended to support the ongoing planning efforts of The California Endowment Building Healthy Communities (BHC) sites in the San Joaquin Valley by providing the foundation of currently available data and likely data sources to support planning and implementation of the BHC strategic initiatives. Another goal was to develop a framework for evaluating the program. Since then, BHC has evolved and shifted from focusing on the “Big Four Results” with “10 Outcomes” to “The North Star Goals and Indicators.” Using the previous report as a guide, The Central Valley Health Policy Institute at Fresno State is revisiting the data that was collected and comparing them to recent health indicators to show the extent to which progress was made and provide policy context.

Background

Big Result #1		
Provide a Health Home for All Children	Direct Outcomes	» All children have health coverage (Outcome 1)» Families have improved access to a health home that supports healthy behaviors (Outcome 2) » Health and family-focused human services shift resources toward prevention (Outcome 3)
	Indirect Outcomes	» Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors (Outcome 7)» Health gaps for boys and young men of color are narrowed (Outcome 9)» California has a shared vision of community health (Outcome 10)
Big Result #2		
Reverse The Childhood Obesity Epidemic	Direct Outcomes	» Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors (Outcome 7)» Residents live in communities with health-promoting land use, transportation, and community development (Outcome 4)» Health and family-focused human services shift resources toward prevention (Outcome 3)
	Indirect Outcomes	» Communities support healthy youth development (Outcome 6)» Families have improved access to a health home that supports healthy behaviors (Outcome 2) » California has a shared vision of community health (Outcome 10)
Big Result #3		
Increase School Attendance	Direct Outcomes	» Families have improved access to a health home that supports healthy behaviors (Outcome 2)» Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors (Outcome 7) » Health gaps for boys and young men of color are narrowed (Outcome 9)
	Indirect Outcomes	» Health and family-focused human services shift resources toward prevention (Outcome 3) » Residents live in communities with health-promoting land use, transportation and community development (Outcome 4) » Communities support healthy youth development (Outcome 6)
Big Result #4		
Reduce Youth Violence	Direct Outcome	» Children and their families are safe from violence in their homes and neighborhoods (Outcome 5)» Communities support healthy youth development (Outcome 6) » Community health improvements are linked to economic development (Outcome 8) » Health gaps for boys and young men of color are narrowed (Outcome 9)» Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors (Outcome 7)
	Indirect Outcomes	» Health and family-focused human services shift resources toward prevention (Outcome 3) » California has a shared vision of community health (Outcome 10) » Residents live in communities with health-promoting land use, transportation and community development (Outcome 4)

*Notes: Table 1 shows the California Endowment's original Big Four Results, and Direct and Indirect Outcomes.

The San Joaquin Valley (SJV) encompasses several of The California Endowment's (TCE) fourteen Building Healthy Communities sites. This report will focus on the BHC sites in Fresno and Merced. At the start of the 10 year initiative, TCE set the "Four Big Results" and "10 Outcomes." These results and outcomes were intended to move communities toward health equity; however, these priorities were set without the consultation of California communities and their unique needs. Residents in the BHC places are the experts in their own experiences and neighborhoods, know firsthand what their communities need to be healthy and thriving, and are the ones who can effectively make and maintain changes. TCE acknowledged the need to pivot, adapt and assess direct community needs. TCE decided to move away from the "Four Big Results" and "10 Outcomes" to better support resident-identified priorities that matched upstream approaches to policy and decision making at the local and state levels.

The North Star Goals and Indicators are about achieving health equity and justice for all with a focus on power building and people power. Fresno's Hub and Merced's Schools, Neighborhood, and Prevention Action Teams strived to transform communities in multiple ways.

- Goal 1 is "Building voice and power for a healthy and inclusive California." Historically excluded adults and youth have voice, agency, and power in public and private decision-making to create an inclusive democracy and close health equity gaps.
- Goal 2 is "Health Happens with Prevention," through which Californians have ready access to a system that prioritizes prevention and coverage for all.
- Goal 3 is "Health Happens in Schools," which encourages California public schools to provide a positive and supportive learning environment that promotes life-long health and wellness for all students.
- Goal 4 is "Health Happens in Neighborhoods," where California cities and counties, with state and tribal partners, build health into land use decisions, stabilize neighborhoods and shift resources from punishment to prevention. These goals can be found in The California Endowment's North Star Goals and Indicators pyramid. See Figure 1.

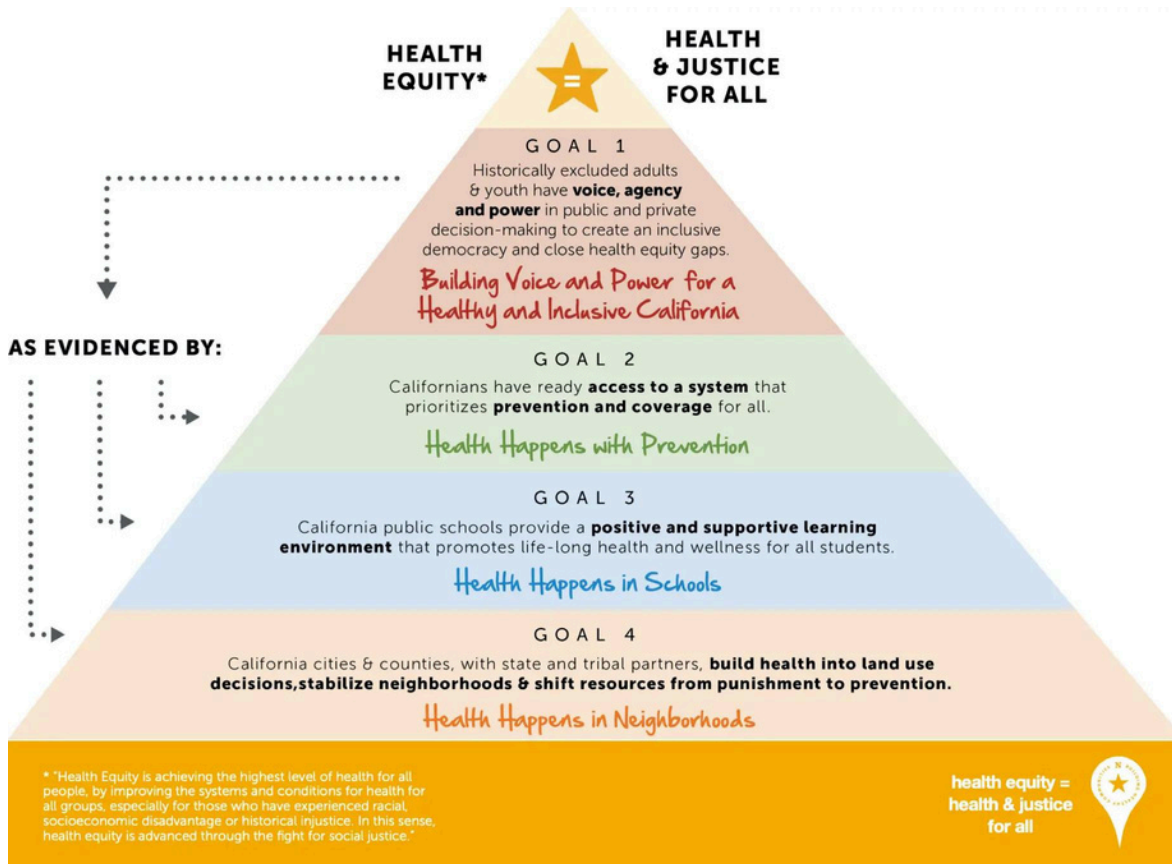


Figure 1. North Star Goals and Indicators

Those involved with the BHC work have reached the end of the 10 year initiative and are moving on to next phases of the program. This report provides perspective on the foundational work that has been done over the last 10 years and where progress still needs to be made. Throughout this report, we will still refer to and compare some of the Four Big Results and 10 Outcome indicators to provide insights into the various impacts of Building Healthy Communities within the Fresno and Merced sites.

Data Indicators and Methodology

Indicators

In the 2010 report, both primary and secondary data was highlighted on the state of the TCE “Four Big Results” as baseline data. The previous Baseline Indicator Report included results from the Community Cluster Survey, which was conducted by CVHPI and Social Science Research Lab at Fresno State, and asked participants about demographic and social data. National surveys and other secondary data sources are useful for determining health and regional insights across large geographic areas. However, among smaller populations and rural areas within the San Joaquin Valley are sometimes undersampled, or statistical significance and data accuracy cannot be determined.

Methods

Primary Datasets

CVHPI has collaborated with the Fresno and Merced BHC sites over the last decade to help with program learning and evaluation efforts. The community telephone survey was not replicated for this report. Instead, data on similar indicators, or proxy indicators, are used to provide local updated data. Data were sourced from public records and datasets, as well as a series of internal CVHPI tools that have been utilized through learning and evaluation activities, internal datasets built in partnership with Fresno and Merced BHC sites, TCE statewide tools, in concert with institutional memory kept through electronic records and previous archival analyses.

Secondary Datasets

For the updated indicator analyses that look at proxy indicators to understand differences over time, three datasets were used. To capture 2010 proxy indicator data, the American Community Survey 2010 5-year estimate and the UCLA AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition for 2012 were used. To capture differences at the ten-year mark, the American Community Survey 2020 5-year estimate and the AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition for 2016 were used.

Qualitative Methods

The method for building this report relies on qualitative data analysis of the aforementioned primary datasets, in which Fresno and Merced BHC activities were coded and categorized by North Star Goals to reflect where and how the two BHC sites' outcomes align with the goals. We identified themes by examining which activities appeared consistently and were prioritized by local leadership, with the 2010 report providing baseline context. Major themes were then also coded by North Star goal alignment including mobilized efforts to address health equity issues, support or opposition from elected and agency leadership, allocated/utilized resources, and changes in health equity narratives over time.

Post-analysis, a master table 1. BHC Four Big Results and Ten Outcomes was compiled to compare where North Stars Goals and Indicators and the Big Four Results and Ten Outcomes overlap with work over the ten-year initiative.

Quantitative Methods

The Central Valley Health Policy Institute at Fresno State (CVHPI) has collaborated with the Fresno and Merced BHC sites over the last decade to help with program learning and evaluation efforts. In the 2010 report, both primary and secondary data was highlighted on the state of the TCE “Four Big Results” as baseline data. A Community Cluster Survey was conducted within each BHC site’s county, sampling for 125 residents; this cluster survey was not replicated for the report.

Since 2010, data collection for the SJV BHC places are still somewhat limited. National surveys and other secondary data sources are useful for determining health and regional insights across large geographic areas. However, among smaller populations and rural areas within the San Joaquin Valley are sometimes undersampled while also having larger proportions of hard-to-reach populations. We worked around this by using BHC place zip code instead of census tracts, which proved to have more information about the indicators we were interested in. This report will compare the identified indicators and outcomes over the approximate BHC period.

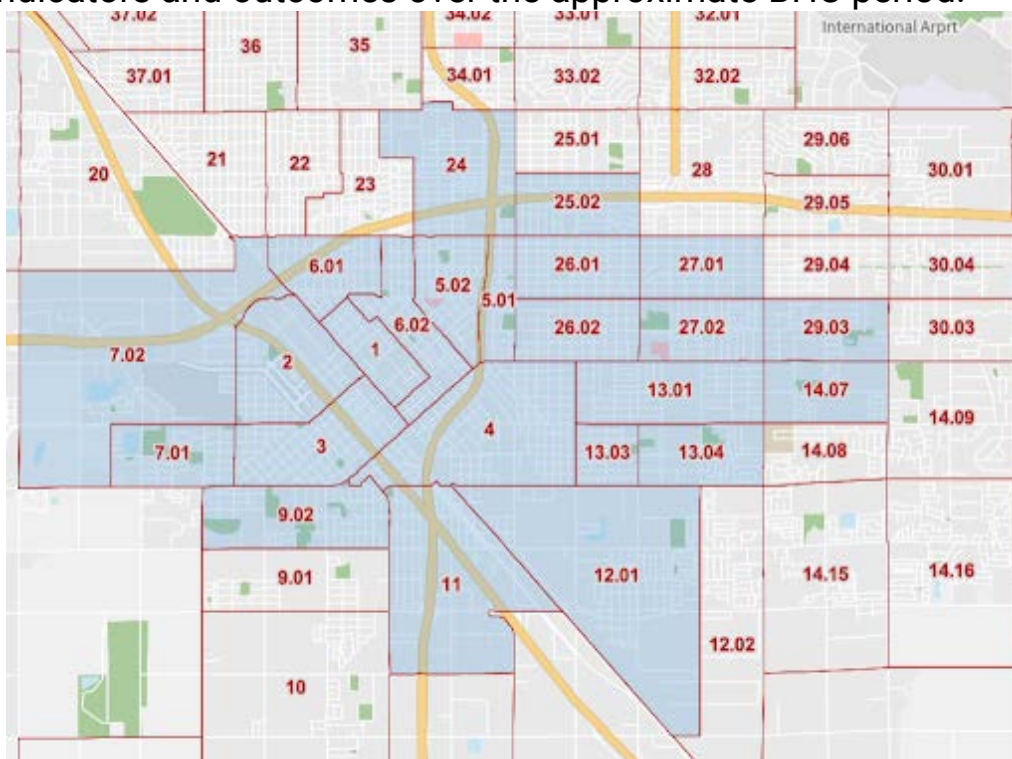


Figure 2. The Fresno BHC Place broken down by census tracts.

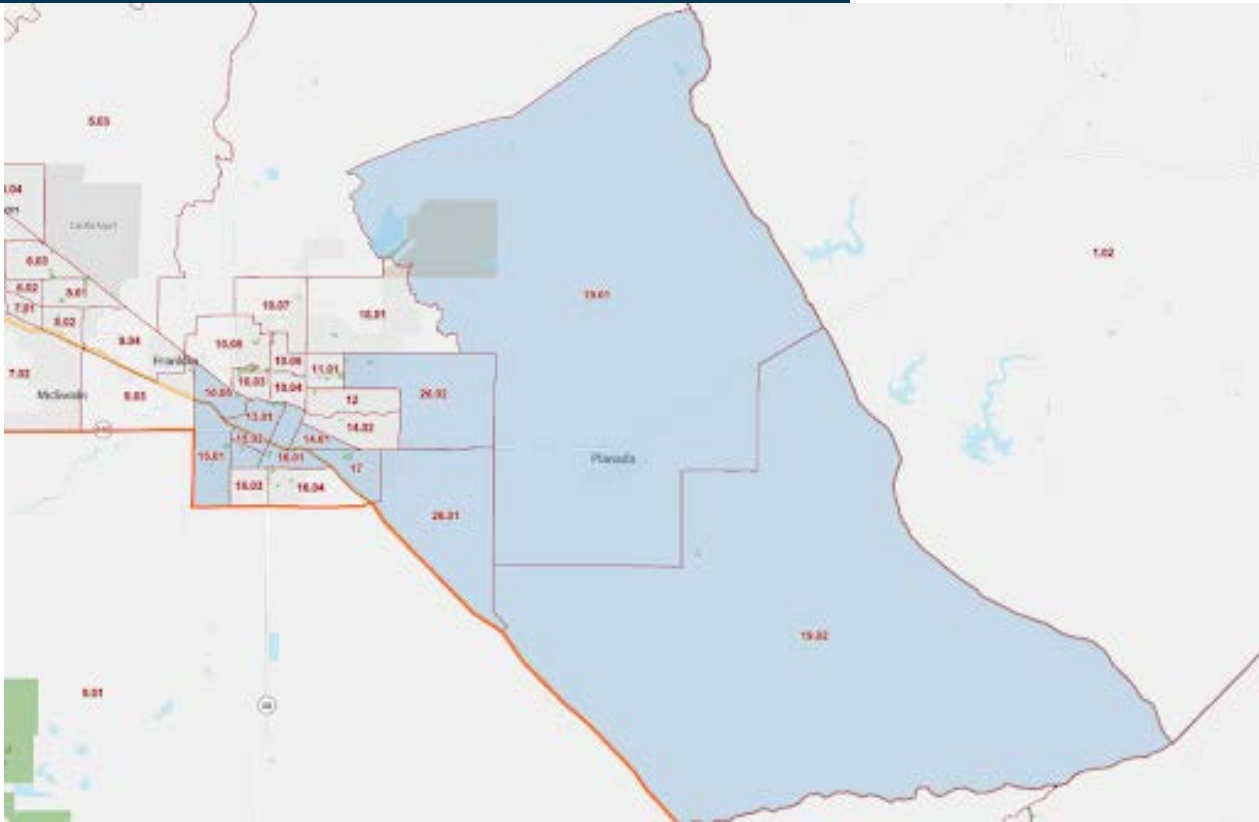


Figure 3. The BHC Merced Place broken down by census tracts.

Depending on the secondary data source, census tract data was limited for some of the indicators. As mentioned in the 2010 report, BHC places were determined using census tracts, but oftentimes zip code data was more readily available. For CHIS Neighborhood Edition, census tract data was not available for years preceding 2016. This makes it difficult to accurately compare data within the BHC Places before and after the 10 year initiative. While data measures were sought for all concepts, the following data are not intended to represent an exhaustive presentation of all appropriate data. Some data was difficult to retrieve from secondary sources, particularly at the census tract level and during the years we were most interested in. In the 2010 report, a community telephone survey was conducted to indicate the kind of measures that could be drawn from targeted new data collection. However, the community telephone survey was not replicated to assess the previously collected indicators. These indicators were reviewed by the data analysts and new data were gathered using similar or proxy indicators. For more detail on the data sources used and justification of these indicators, please see Appendix C.

Fresno and Merced BHC Community Data Analysis

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis

	Baseline (2010)				Currently Available Data (2020)			
	Fresno (Census Tracts)	Merced (Census Tracts)	SJV Average	CA Average/ Median/ Count	Fresno (Census Tracts)	Merced (Census Tracts)	SJV Average	CA Average/ Median/ Count
Demographics								
Age (yrs) - Median 9, 10	25.4	27.1	31.2	34.9	29.5	30	32.8	36.7
Female (%) 1, 2	47.90%	49.60%	49.50%	50.26%	49.00%	49.60%	49.70%	50.28%
Hispanic (%) 3, 4	69.30%	59.30%	47.20%	36.73%	70.80%	63.00%	52.50%	39.09%
Median household income 11, 12	\$25,621	\$33,776	\$48,168	\$60,883	\$28,445	\$46,986	\$59,454	\$78,672
Education Less than high school for pop 25 years or older 7, 8	52.80%	41.00%	27.70%	19.32%	42.70%	34.20%	23.60%	16.08%
Social Connectedness								
Married/Living with Partner 5, 6	26.70%	28.80%	29.60%	25.68%	20.10%	23.70%	26.50%	23.16%
Baseline (2012)								
Currently Available Data (2016/2020)								
	Fresno (Zip Codes)	Merced (Zip Codes)	SJV Average	CA Average/ Median/ Count	Fresno (Zip Codes)	Merced (Zip Codes)	SJV Average	CA Average/ Median/ Count
Overall Health								
General Well-Being								
Fair or poor health (18-64) * 16	29.30%	22.50%	22.0%	17.90%	18.4%	17.30%	18.40%	13.30%
Delayed prescriptions/medical services (18+) * 13	17.10%	22.60%	21.50%	21.50%	20.2%	23.90%	21.7%	22.00%
Serious psychological distress (18+) * 19	8.80%	9.60%	8.90%	7.90%	15.7	17.70%	14.70%	12.60%
Chronic Conditions Diagnosed								
Heart Disease * 15	6.30%	5.60%	7.10%	6.30%	5.7	6.20%	7.00%	6.90%
Diabetes * 14	11.0%	8.80%	10.30%	8.40%	15.30%	12.14%	13.40%	11.10%
Health Behaviors								
Obesity BMI ≥ 30 (%) * 18	30.90%	31.3%	31.90%	24.80%	46.30%	36.80%	40.00%	28.20%
Physical Activity								
Walked at least 150 minutes in past week (18+) * 20	33.50%	29.90%	29.0%	33.30%	36.7% **	29.7% **	34.6% **	38.9% **
Low Income Food Insecurity * 17	23.40%	13.60%	13.80%	8.40%	23.20%	16.10%	9.70%	5.00%

*Notes: Table 2 is an approximate replication of Table 3 from the Building Healthy Communities in The San Joaquin Valley: Preliminary Baseline Data Report (2009) across BHC time period.

*(By row). Health topics in Neighborhood Edition are modeled using a technique known as Small Area Estimation. To create practical, authoritative health estimates at granular levels, the Center uses auxiliary data sources (like the American Community Survey - ACS) to predict (or estimate) health topics at small geographic locations (like ZIP codes and cities). Estimates may use multiple years of historical data to increase sample size, 'borrowing strength' temporally from previous CHIS cycles. In addition, it is difficult to statistically account for the correlation between estimates across years on the fly, in an application such as AskCHIS NE.

** (By cell) No 2020 Data is available; 2016 data used in its place

Table 2 reflects an approximate replication of Table 3 from the Building Healthy Communities in The San Joaquin Valley: Preliminary Baseline Data Report (2009). As noted in the previous sections, proxy indicators were used in place of primary data collected in the original report. However, there are changes across time at the population level reflected within Table 2 that have some relationship to the Building Healthy Communities initiatives time period. Table 2 focuses on population demographics and overall health measures across four, and at times overlapping, geographies: the Fresno BHC Place, the Merced BHC Place, the San Joaquin Valley, and California overall. The San Joaquin Valley itself is defined as being comprised of eight counties: Fresno, Madera, Merced, Kern, Kings, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Tulare. More information about the health measures can be found in Appendix C, along with information about secondary data sources.

Overall, changes to demographic measures across the two time periods are small. However, there are two notable changes within this section. The first is the increase in median wage in Merced, the SJV, and California as a whole. While Fresno's median wage remains relatively stagnant, Merced's increase in median wage is more aligned with the SJV and State. This lack of growth in median wage has not gone unnoticed in Fresno, and local initiatives such as D.R.I.V.E are seeking to center racial equity within their efforts to increase higher paying employment opportunities for residents. Fresno BHC has played a pivotal role in D.R.I.V.E's development of D.R.I.V.E's racial equity components. Another noteworthy change during this time period is the growth of the University of California-Merced campus, which has provided additional and higher paying employment opportunities. Many of these positions are also protected by collective bargaining units, which have during this time period negotiated for and won higher wages and additional benefits for employees.

The second notable change to the demographic section is the decrease in the number of persons with less than a high school degree. Fresno and Merced both stand out as showing larger decreases in this measure than the SJV and State. Fresno BHC and BHC Merced both fought for and won increases in funding for educational success and additional support at school districts within their regions, which had a greater overall impact across their geographies outside their Places. Both BHC sites also advocated for the restorative justice practices implemented across both sites, which were meant to improve student success by keeping students, primarily students of color who were most impacted by punitive disciplinary practices, inside the classroom. While this data is limited and does not allow for an understanding of causal relationships, BHC efforts should be considered.

In the general well-being section of the table, Fresno shows a decline in the percentage of people reporting fair or poor health. However, when looking at psychological distress, there is a near doubling across Fresno and Merced places, with smaller but notable increases across the SJV and State overall. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), its voluntary expansion of Medicaid and California's early adoption of this expansion, may help to understand why some may have a different perception of their own health based on increased access to health care. It should also be noted that bills such as SB4, among others, expanded health care to populations including undocumented residents, which again expands health care access to populations already understood to be more at risk for exposure to social determinants associated with chronic disease and obesity risk. It may also help to better understand the increases in chronic diseases and obesity across all four geographies, as increased access to health care could produce a positive relationship with chronic disease and obesity rates.

While this table is limited in its interpretations of the data, and exclusively descriptive, there are noteworthy differences in multiple areas that reflect what changes have occurred at the population level across the ten-year timespan of the Building Healthy Communities initiative. This table also hints where there may be places to expand research to better understand the changes that have occurred over time in all four geographies, especially where changes go against the overall geographic trend.

North Star Goal 1. Building voice and power for a healthy and inclusive California

Table 3: Intersection of North Star Goal 1 and its indicators with Big Four Results and Direct/Indirect Outcomes

North Star Goal 1: Building Voice and Power		
BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno BHC	Indicator 1: Leadership Training: Client-to-advocate case studies	<i>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</i> <i>Outcome 2: Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</i>
	Indicator 2: DRIVE Initiative: Economic development with equity in mind	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 8: Community health improvements are linked to economic development</i>
	Indicator 3: BHC University-Residents to Advocates	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Outcome 4: Residents live in communities with health-promoting land-use, transportation, and community development.</i>
BHC Merced	Indicator 1: Measure T- Demanding Representation	<i>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</i> <i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Outcome 3: Health and family-focused human services shift toward prevention</i>
	Indicator 2: Merced Youth City Council: Re-investing in the Future	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 6: Communities support healthy youth development</i>
	Indicator 3: Aligning leaders to reflect communities	<i>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</i> <i>Outcome 1: All children have health coverage</i>
Both Places	Health Policy Leadership Program TCE Statewide tools	

*Notes: Table 3 demonstrated where Big Results and Outcomes overlap with North Star Goals and Indicators. The Big Results and Outcomes are indicated in italics within the North Star Goal and Indicator columns.

North Star Goal 1:

Goal 1 is “Building voice and power for a healthy and inclusive California.” Both adults and youth that have been historically excluded have worked together to bridge the gap regarding health equity matters. For many years, both Fresno and Merced residents have experienced inequities in representation, resources, and input during decision-making events. [BHC] and [CVHPI] have served to bring attention to these discrepancies by uniting stakeholders and power building leaders from organizations in these very cities.

Fresno and Merced follow a pattern that exists throughout the state, where clear lines demarcate neighborhoods that experienced investment or disinvestment. For Fresno and Merced, north-south divides demonstrate how southern areas of the cities were separated through land use and transportation plans, including the development of freeways and railroad systems that severed southern neighborhoods from the rest of the cities. Southern portions of the cities were disinvested in, neglected, and became sites where policies that discriminated against residents on the basis of race were implemented, including redlining and racial covenants that historically restricted where people could live based on race/ethnicity. Even as discriminatory policies were eliminated, their effects remained within these neighborhoods. These effects include health-related impacts such as elevated exposure to pm2.5 and industry-based toxic emissions that are associated with chronic disease.¹ In Fresno, data demonstrates that hospitalizations for chronic diseases are higher than in other areas of the City, including diabetes and respiratory-related conditions.²

Years of discrimination and disinvestment also led to a “new normal” and perpetuated stereotypes of neighborhoods and residents. Building Healthy Communities, in collaboration with built power at both sites actively combatted these narratives by giving residents the knowledge, tools, skills, and platforms to change the status quo. Long-standing systems, policies and practices that perpetuated these narratives were in many ways dismantled and changed to promote inclusivity of all residents in land use planning and decision making—particularly among populations who have been underrepresented for more than a century.

Fresno

Aligning leaders to reflect communities: Leadership Training: Client-to-advocate case studies.



**Zenaida
Ventura**



Centro La Familia



**Anne
Gaston**



**Socorro
Gaeta**

The structure of BHC is rooted in grassroots community organizing. Fresno BHC saw the value in providing non-profit organizations reaching out to their communities to promote change. A foundational aspect of Fresno BHC is the incorporation of a central Hub, which is an inclusive “group of individuals who come together to share decision-making and guide the effort at each site throughout the BHC initiative.” The Fresno BHC Hub helps individuals exercise their own power, build relationships, and visualize how to shape the future of Fresno. Diversity is at the center of the Hub. Different perspectives, lived-experiences, ideas, and expectations are captured to better understand community needs and develop creative solutions to improve them. Stakeholders of the Hub include representatives from United Way, school staff, youth, The California Endowment, the public health department, law enforcement, residents, and others, who continued to show their commitment to a shared vision for Fresno.

DRIVE Initiative: (Economic development with equity in mind)

An important component of a healthy and thriving Fresno is ensuring there is an inclusive local economy that is healthy and has ample opportunities for its residents. In 2019, the overall average annual household income in Fresno was \$53,161.³ However, parts of the city still remain underdeveloped and lack equal



opportunities for stable housing and jobs. For example, according to ACS 2019 data, the median income of northern Fresno residents living in the 93711 zip code earn \$73,930 compared to south Fresno residents in the zip code 93706, who earn on average \$32,325.⁴

Fresno's D.R.I.V.E. initiative is a 10-year investment plan with membership from over 150 organizations and 300 individuals representing a diverse group to develop an inclusive, vibrant, and sustainable economy. Their commitment to foster an inclusive and sustainable economy involves addressing poverty and neighborhood development, human capital, and economic development. The D.R.I.V.E. Initiative is funded by the James Irvine Foundation and sponsored by the Central Valley Community Foundation.



BHC University—Residents to Advocates

Goals for these trainings included:

- 1) Civic and governmental curriculum
- 2) Storytelling as an advocacy tool
- 3) Social media training
- 4) Capacity building in technical skills

Images from the Training Program

Beginning in October 2014, Fresno BHC launched BHC University, a yearly formalized civic engagement training program. The program provided advocacy training at the local and state levels, touching on issues from city ordinances to senate bills. It was also a vital part of the local and state #Health4All campaign, and a part of the movement driven by resident power to ensure access to affordable healthcare for all in Fresno and California.

Merced

Measure T: Demanding Representation

In alignment with North Star Goal 1, Measure T changed the way residents in



Merced were represented in the City Council. One of the few remaining cities to use an at-large City Council voting system, south Merced neighborhoods lacked representation in the local governing body. In practice, most members of the council lived in north Merced, which is more affluent and more resourced. Examples of resources are park space, amenities, and retail establishments such as grocery stores and banks.

Measure T changed who could run for office

Considering the city of Merced was 52.8% Hispanic/Latino there was little representation reflected in local governing bodies.⁵ The Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) was integral in assisting BHC Merced to make the argument that an at-large voting system was inequitable and unjust. In 2016, Measure T passed and the Merced City Council soon after became more representative with all neighborhoods having representation.

Merced Youth City Council: Re-Investing in the Future



Event to advocate for a youth council

“

You could really say it's been a development and a much stronger youth council in our community as a result of us pushing.

”

Perhaps one of the most important achievements made regarding youth and youth investment in Merced was reinvestment in the Youth Council in 2016, reflecting the inclusion of youth voice in local decision making. However, the initial push for an effective, meaningful youth council did not end when the council's development and funding were guaranteed. Instead, the outcome of the youth council's implementation, and its integration with the City, was explained as dysfunctional and as “almost creating trauma in youth.” BHC Merced dug in its heels and pushed harder to build capacity among youth and youth allies in an effort to align the youth council with its support from the City, strengthening the empowerment youth needed to make the council succeed.

Aligning leaders and decision makers to reflect communities



Tsia Xiong
Area 2 Provisional
Board Member



Lee Lor
Merced County Board
of Supervisors
&
Board of State and
Community Corrections



Jesse Orneles
City Council Member
District 1

Historically, campaigning efforts from mayoral candidates took place at City Hall, north of downtown Merced. Candidates did not often visit south Merced during election campaigns, leaving residents and their neighborhoods out of local discussions about important issues. Youth leaders organized and planned to hold mayoral town halls in which candidates shared their stances on issues to constituents within their own neighborhoods. This structure lent itself to providing residents the opportunity to voice their concerns, state their needs and share their visions for a more equitable city. This shift in power, along with the passage of Measure T, also laid the groundwork for aligning governing bodies to be more inclusive and reflect the communities that they serve. A number of elected leaders and decision makers emerged from these BHC Merced partner efforts, many of whom are still currently serving in official capacities throughout the region.

Fresno and Merced–Health Policy Leadership Program (HPLP)

At the regional level, the Central Valley Health Policy Institute was established in part as a regional resource for data generating, collection, and dissemination. As part of The California Endowment’s initiatives, the Health Policy Leadership Program served as a way to bring local stakeholders together to better understand health equity issues, and propose applied solutions to building leaders within organizations. The goal was to build the capacity of people who are most impacted by injustices in communities and provide them the platform to voice their concerns.



HPLP 2014-2015 Cohort

North Star Goal 2. Health Happens with Prevention

Table 4: Intersection of North Star Goal 2 and its indicators with Big Four Results and Direct/Indirect Outcomes

Goal 2: Prevention		
BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno Indicators	Indicator 5: #Health4All: Medically Indigent Support Program	<p><u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children</p> <p><u>Big Result 3:</u> Increase School Attendance</p> <p><u>Outcome 1:</u> All children have health coverage</p> <p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</p> <p><u>Outcome 9:</u> Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</p>
	Indicator 5: Enrollment Push: ACA and Medicaid Expansion	<p><u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children</p> <p><u>Big Result 3:</u> Increase School Attendance</p> <p><u>Outcome 1:</u> All children have health coverage</p> <p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</p> <p><u>Outcome 9:</u> Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</p>
	Indicator 4: Promotora programs: Advancing the Community Health Worker (CHW) Model	<p><u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children</p> <p><u>Big Result 2:</u> Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</p> <p><u>Outcome 3:</u> Health and family-focused human services shift toward prevention</p>
	Indicator 4: The Covid Equity Project and the Immigrant Refugee Coalition	<p><u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children</p> <p><u>Outcome 3:</u> Health and family-focused human services shift toward prevention</p>
National/ State context	Affordable Care Act - Medicaid expansion#Health4All	

Goal 2: Prevention		
BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Merced Indicators	Indicator 5: Enrollment Push: ACA and Medicaid Expansion	<i>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</i> <i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Outcome 1: All children have health coverage</i> <i>Outcome 2: Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</i> <i>Outcome 9: Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</i>
	Indicator 4: Health Equity Coalition: Cultural Responsiveness and Equity Policy	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
	Indicator 5: Remaining Uninsured in Merced County	<i>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</i> <i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Outcome 1: All children have health coverage</i> <i>Outcome 2: Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</i> <i>Outcome 9: Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</i>
National/ State context	Affordable Care Act - Medicaid expansion#Health4All	

*Notes: Table 4 demonstrated where Big Results and Outcomes overlap with North Star Goals and Indicators. The Big Results and Outcomes are indicated in italics within the North Star Goal and Indicator columns.

Goal 2 revolves around developing and aligning health systems and services that strive to shift resources toward preventing disease. This also includes ensuring everyone has access to health coverage. Agents involved in this process include the healthcare system, public health departments, health services, healthcare providers, and social service agencies, all of which could then prioritize prevention services. Focused on an upstream approach, BHC invested in communities instead of direct health services. Through ensuring prevention, community wellness, and access to quality health care for all Californians, the long term impacts would sustainably improve the health of communities.

Fresno

#Health4All Medically Indigent Support Program

In late 2013, Fresno County announced plans to end the Medically Indigent Services Program (MISP) despite a federal injunction that put the program



permanently into place in 1983, setting into motion the #Health4AllFresnans campaign. Fresno BHC held press conferences and rallied at County meetings in protest. Fresno BHC partner, Clinica Sierra Vista, eventually entered a lawsuit against the County.

Critical for undocumented residents, these efforts culminated in Fresno BHC and residents working with Assemblymember Henry T. Perea to secure \$5.5 million to extend specialty healthcare as an interim solution. This campaign helped to change the narrative regionally and statewide: health care for all is not only fiscally responsible, it is a human right. This campaign also provided an additional foundation for the #Health4All campaign, including Senate Bill 4, which passed in 2015 to provide health coverage access to populations aged 0-19, regardless of documentation status.

Enrollment Push: ACA and Medicaid Expansion

Fresno BHC took to social and earned media to broaden their campaign and rally support for the #Health4AllFresnans campaign, while continuing to enroll residents in expanded Medi-Cal, restricted Medi-Cal, the Kaiser Child Health Program (for undocumented children age 18 and under), and Covered California subsidized health plans. More than 1,000 people obtained coverage during the 2014 Open Enrollment period. Fresno BHC partner organization, Clinic Sierra Vista was ranked third in the State for combined enrollment and first in the State for Medi-Cal enrollment; overall, Fresno County ranked first in Medi-Cal enrollments throughout the State.

Promotoras: Advancing the Community Health Worker (CHW) Model

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A PROMOTORA
HEALTH EDUCATION MODEL FOR
IMPROVING LATINO
HEALTH CARE ACCESS IN
CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL VALLEY



Report on the promotora model in the Central Valley

The CHW model has been important in addressing the gaps in access to health care in the SJV, and laid a strong foundation to address health access inequities related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior pilot models included underserved populations, including undocumented Latino populations; in 2008, only 1% of this population had access to a medical home. Another 2008 pilot addressed ongoing inequities in access to health care faced primarily by elders.

An additional study using the model proved beneficial for undocumented Latinos prior to the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Fresno BHC knew the CHW model was a potential fit for other communities historically left out of the health systems and utilized it during the COVID-19 pandemic by integrating its approach into County programs and systems. The CHW model remains embedded within County systems today and is being utilized in a number of prevention efforts.

The Covid Equity Project (CEP) and the Immigrant Refugee Coalition (IRC)

Fresno BHC was a primary player in developing the Covid Equity Project in 2020, a CHW-centered model that has since been replicated in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties. Local community members were trained to fill gaps in access to health care information and services, providing access to testing and vaccination services.



CEP Logo

The IRC, where Fresno BHC played a pivotal leadership role, also worked to align state and federal funding to support communities who experienced financial hardships related to the pandemic, including rental and mortgage payment assistance. The CEP CHW model also created employment opportunities for communities underrepresented in health-related careers and provided both extensive training and the ability for CHWs to advance within their roles.

Merced

Enrollment Push: ACA and Medicaid Expansion



BHC Merced and its partners played a key role in an unprecedented local campaign that enrolled an additional 8,500 local residents in Covered California. They were also successful in helping to increase local Medi-Cal enrollment of newly-eligible individuals by 39%.

Health Equity Coalition: Cultural Responsiveness and Equity Policy



The Health Equity Coalition was supported by a grant from the Merced County Public Health Department. This coalition formed to provide training for resident community health leaders who connected communities to health systems by promoting health-access opportunities and other resources.

The coalition targeted populations specifically at-risk for or already experiencing hypertension and diabetes. Additionally, twelve resident leaders were trained and are now Certified Promotoras de Salud, who promote prevention services and physical activity opportunities throughout their community. An example of this work is the implementation of accessible Zumba classes. On average 50 residents were actively committed and involved in these classes four times a week for at least one hour per session.

Remaining Uninsured in Merced County



The BHC Merced PAT worked with a broader county-based coalition to increase health care and coverage access for undocumented residents in Merced. As of 2016, there were 9,583 undocumented individuals that remained uninsured within Merced county. Known as the Remaining Uninsured Subcommittee, PAT participated in strategizing with the Merced County

Department of Public Health and other agencies and non-profit organizations in Merced to identify and increase access to health care services. PAT also worked to advance statewide policy that increased access to the Medi-Cal expansion and Covered California for both undocumented residents and also DACA recipients.

Using case studies from other California counties, the subcommittee identified potential strategies that increased funding and lowered costs to provide health care access to undocumented residents. An example of these efforts included Senator Ricardo Lara's Senate Bill 4 (SB4), the Health for All Kids Act, signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown in 2015. SB4 expanded Medi-Cal to more than 170,000 undocumented children across the state.

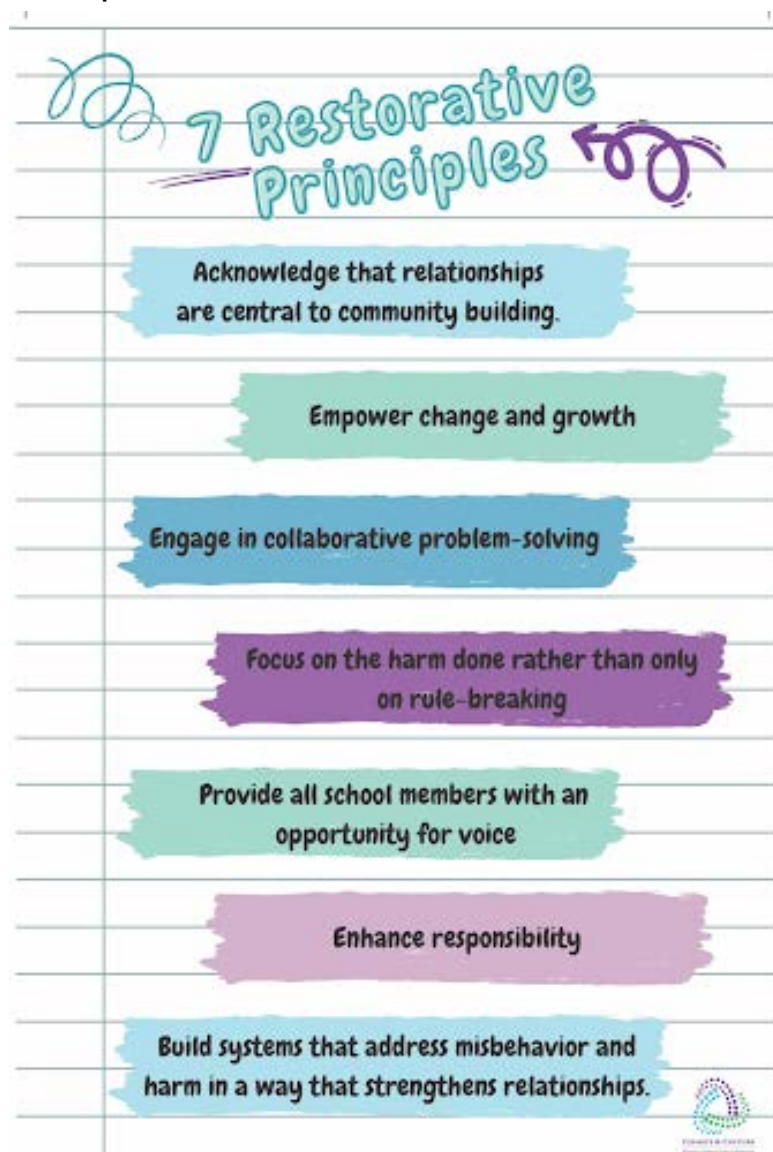
North Star Goal 3. Health Happens in Schools

Table 5: Intersection of North Star Goal 3 and its indicators with Big Four Results and Direct/Indirect Outcomes

Goal 3: Schools		
BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno Indicators	Indicator 7: Network of funded organizations that target and work with youth - Barrios Unidos, YLI, BMOC, etc.	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 6: Communities support healthy youth development</i>
	Indicator 6: Health Education and Health Access: Sex Education Programs	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 5: Children and their families are safe from violence in their homes and neighborhoods</i>
	Indicator 6: Expanding Youth Access and Health Services	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
	Indicator 6: Secondary: Barrios Unidos, YLI Restorative Justice	
Merced Indicators	Indicator 6: School Climate: Restorative Justice	<i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
	Indicator 7: Merced Youth Council	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 6: Communities support healthy youth development</i>
	Indicator 6, 7 & 9: LCFF & LCAP	<i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
National/ State context	LCFF, LCAP Reproductive Health	

*Notes: Table 5 demonstrated where Big Results and Outcomes overlap with North Star Goals and Indicators. The Big Results and Outcomes are indicated in italics within the North Star Goal and Indicator columns.

Goal 3 is “Health Happens in Schools,” which encourages California public schools to provide a positive and supportive learning environment that promotes life-long health and wellness for all students. Children spend nearly the majority of their days in schools, making schools vital for priming them to be successful as adults. However, decades of inequity in schools and school funding have left many students behind in achievement. Harmful disciplinary action has also been connected to the “School to Prison pipeline,” particularly among students of color.⁶ This pipeline is linked to structural racism and policing students at schools for behavioral issues rather than taking restorative justice approaches or addressing social-emotional health issues with qualified counselors.



Some major indicators of school performance and/or academic success have been high school graduation rates, college degree holders, suspension rates, expulsion rates, and drop out rates. However, on the surface, these indicators do not describe the often bigger picture/story around academic outcomes in the San Joaquin Valley. Structural issues like racism, discrimination, and lack of resources have been noted as undermining student success,⁷ which translates directly to their opportunities for their futures.

Multiple advocates and parents at both BHC sites have recognized these injustices in schools and have found creative ways to organize and push for reform.

Fresno

Restorative Justice

The restorative justice effort began in 2011, and came about because Fresno BHC was intentionally structured to lift youth voices and issues. According to Sandra Celedon, then Fresno BHC HUB Manager, "Fresno BHC listens to young people about their experiences within the education system." Youth shared that school policies were often punitive and most often targeted students of color.

In the Fresno Unified School District (FUSD), data reflected this. In the 2010-2011 school year, black students were suspended 52.3% of the time compared to 18.3% for white students.⁸ To address these disparities, Fresno BHC Coalition partner, Youth Leadership Institute, played a major role in the implementation of restorative justice practices adopted by the FUSD in 2013. The Students United to Create a Climate of Engagement, Support, and Safety (SUCCESS) council, a partnership of youth and student allies, formed and began to hold meetings with the FUSD Superintendent and restorative justice experts, allowing SUCCESS to present their findings and suggest new restorative approaches. These recommendations passed unanimously when brought to the FUSD board in June 2012. More than \$1m has been invested in developing and implementing restorative justice practices in Fresno Unified (see Appendix B for transformational shifts in school discipline).⁹

Network of funded organizations that target and work with youth

Womxn Empowered and Boys and Men of Color (BMOC), two youth groups supported by Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) and Fresno Barrios Unidos, came together for a common goal of identifying community transportation priorities and increasing youth capacity to engage with local policy and decision-making processes.



FRESNO “WHAT THE FAX” CAMPAIGN: A YOUTH-LED INITIATIVE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

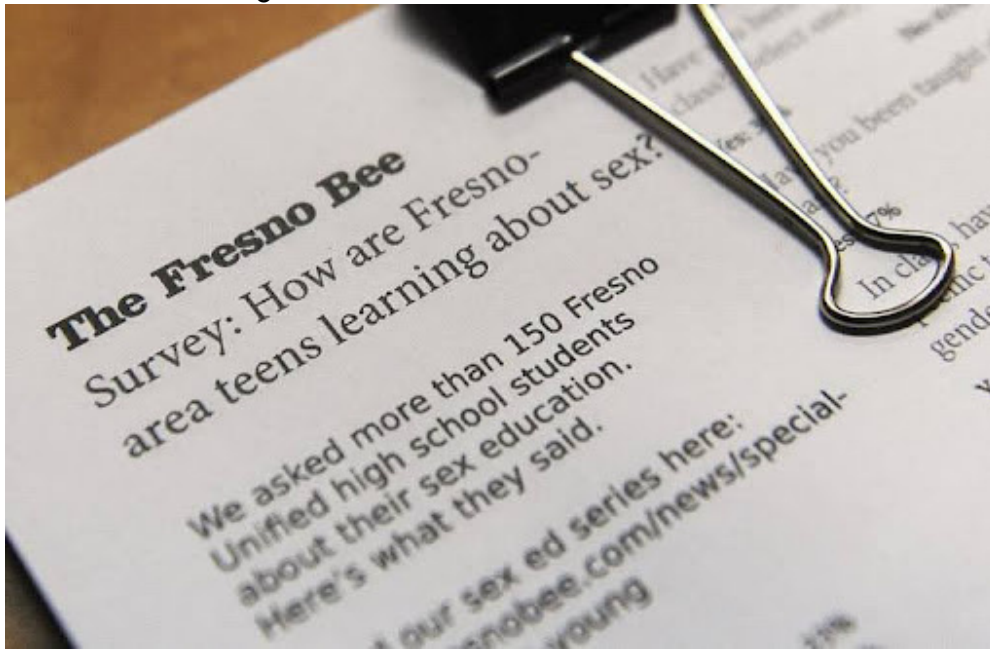
Report on the Youth Initiative for better Transportation

One example of youth power building that reflects these efforts was the “What the FAX” campaign in 2017. Sher Moua, YLI director and BMOC program manager, explained the campaign slogan was intended to reflect the frustration of youth FAX riders who felt their voices were not being heard about transportation needs.

Youth collected data through a transportation needs survey and implemented a social media campaign to spread issue awareness. Their data was presented at both public meetings and in one-on-one meetings with elected and transportation leadership. In response, the campaign secured increased investment in public transit, including a WIFI system for youth to complete schoolwork and keep in touch with their families during long commutes.

Health Education and Health Access

Sex Education Programs



Fresno Bee Survey for High Schoolers on Sex Education

Fresno BHC Coalition partner, Fresno Barrios Unidos provides a variety of health education programs that empower youth to make informed decisions regarding their health and wellbeing. These programs included a comprehensive sex education program that was implemented in the Fresno Unified School District for middle and high school students.

A primary goal, these educational opportunities were also inclusive of the LGBTQ+ communities. Some school districts in Fresno county had previously offered abstinence-only curriculums, and Fresno BHC coalition partners faced pushback from school boards regarding both the program's content and inclusivity. An additional program, the Safety First program, implemented the nation's first harm reduction drug education program for teens, whose curriculum included information about the effects of drug use, drug policies, and ways to reduce drug-related harms.

Expanding Youth Access to Health Services



Clinica Sierra Vista, a federally qualified health center and Fresno BHC Coalition partner, serves more than 200,000 people throughout the Kern, Fresno, and Inyo counties, and is committed to providing health access to communities regardless of insurance status. Clinica Sierra Vista expanded health access to youth through their Teen Clinic, where they can seek free and confidential reproductive health services without a guardian present. With two Teen Clinic locations, teens were able to request services such as pregnancy testing, STI testing, information about contraception and contraception access, or simply speak to a healthcare professional.

Merced

School Climate: Restorative Justice



In 2013 Le Grand Union High School District passed a policy that identified restorative justice as its approach to school discipline. This policy was comprehensive across the district and resulted in significant reductions in suspensions and expulsions.

Through grants, and with participation from the school's Restorative Justice League, Le Grand Union High School was able to implement a restorative justice program. The program trained students from tenth to twelfth grade to participate in the school discipline decision-making processes.

Le Grand Union High School found that shifting to restorative justice policies benefited students by utilizing mediation rather than more punitive forms of school discipline, such as suspension and/or expulsion. Despite suspensions and expulsions being a common form of disciplinary action in the past, it harmed student success as it led to students falling behind in classes with little opportunity to catch up.

Merced Youth Council



One of the most important achievements made regarding youth investment in Merced was the Youth Council, which received funding in 2016. BHC Merced and partners fought to have a youth council funded and helped guide the implementation of the council development process as well as provided support for youth post-implementation to increase youth power in decision making with city leaders.

Youth Council Functions

- Both Social and Policy Oriented
- Communicate with City's Youth to gauge needs and desires of youth
- Work with City Council to meet youth needs and wants
- Act as a liaison between the youth and the City Council
- Collaborate and/or engage with other community agencies, advisory bodies or youth groups in areas of mutual concern and benefit
- Identify concerns, interests and needs of youth and make recommendations to Parks and Recreation staff, Commission and City Council

The Merced Youth Council has seven members, aged from 13 to 19. Members were from multiple neighborhoods throughout the city and were based on Merced's three Measure C districts, with one appointed member-at-large.

LCFF & LCAP

The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) provides schools with funding to use for educational purposes, while requiring them to develop a three-year



plan known as the Local Control and Accountability Plan. The LCAP helped districts define the needs of all students, including vulnerable student populations, such as English learners, foster youth and students from low-income families.

The LCAP was updated yearly, with meetings held throughout to ensure that the community was involved and provided input. In 2016, Merced Union High School District allocated \$1 million dollars from the LCAP to hire nine new foster and homeless youth education liaisons (one for each campus). In that same year, health career pathway programs in four K-12 districts and two higher education institutions were successfully implemented. In 2017, in an effort to improve the transparency of funds with the community, Merced Union High School District implemented LCAP reporting sessions and community-friendly LCAP executive summary reports to help parents understand school-funded priorities and budgets. Merced City School District also allocated funding to provide the necessary interpretation tools for non-English speaking residents.

North Star Goal 4. Health Happens in Neighborhoods

Table 6: Intersection of North Star Goal 4 and its indicators with Big Four Results and Direct/Indirect Outcomes

Goal 4: Neighborhoods		
BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno Indicators	Indicator 8: County and City General Plan organized a robust community engaged response	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Outcome 4: Residents live in communities with health-promoting land-use, transportation, and community development.</i>
	Indicator 8: Darling meat packaging plant	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Outcome 4: Residents live in communities with health-promoting land-use, transportation, and community development.</i>
	Indicator 8: Opposition from city leaders and fighting back (TCC, SWSP)	<i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
Merced Indicators	Indicator 8: Land Use and Built Environment Improvements	
	Indicator 8: Leveraging existing funds to address inequitable built environment and infrastructure	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 8: Community health improvements are linked to economic development</i>
	Indicator 8: Re-opening and reinvesting south Merced parks	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
	Indicator 8, 9 & 10: Measure Y - cannabis business tax leveraged for youth investment and parks	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 8: Community health improvements are linked to economic development</i>
National/ State context	Recognition of historical impacts of redlining and divestment from communities; more funding opportunities for equity	

*Notes: Table 6 demonstrated where Big Results and Outcomes overlap with North Star Goals and Indicators. The Big Results and Outcomes are indicated in italics within the North Star Goal and Indicator columns.

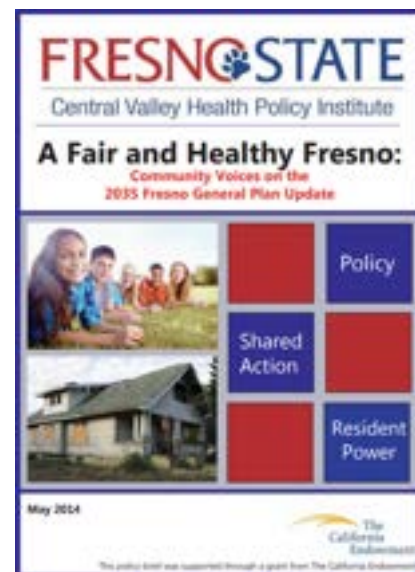
Goal 4 is “Health Happens in Neighborhoods,” where California cities and counties, with state and tribal partners, build health into land use decisions, stabilize neighborhoods and shift resources from punishment to prevention.

Neighborhoods are where people spend most of their time, and are the places that people call home. These important aspects of the community have been reinvested in and advocated for since BHC started in 2010. A long-standing goal has been to encourage health-promoting land use, transportation, and community development. This has happened in several ways. Within both Fresno and Merced, there has been a history of segregation and redlining, in which the effects of these decades-long processes still directly and indirectly persist. Both sites increased City and County capacities to leverage existing resources and funds to make improvements within BHC sites, including addressing inequitable land-use practices, prioritizing pedestrian safety projects, finding new sources of investment to address environmental concerns, and reshaping local communities based on resident-driven priorities.

Fresno

County and City General Plan Organized a Robust Community Engaged Response

City and County general plans lay out a vision for the future and guide decisions about the opportunities and challenges people face every day. The Fresno BHC Coalition organized around both plans in Fresno, securing a win for “Alternative A,” a community-based alternative plan for the Fresno 2035 General Plan. The big elements of the 2035 general plan included: Economic Development and Fiscal Sustainability, Public Utilities and Services, Parks, Open Space and Schools, Healthy Communities, Historic and Cultural Resources, Noise and Safety, Resource Conservation and Resilience, Mobility and Transportation, Urban Form, Land Use and Design.



Report on the 2035 Fresno General Plan

Advocates worked to make sure the 2035 general plan included health promoting land use and housing policies. South Fresno, a part of the Fresno BHC Place, was also made a priority for growth and investments in infrastructure.

Report on the 2035 General Plan

In concert with general plans, the Fresno BHC Coalition also worked to leverage funds to further assess existing and new land use and zoning decisions, and increase park equity in Fresno:

- \$450,000 to update the City’s Parks Master Plan (1988)
- \$1 million of the City’s general fund to develop the Environmental Impact Review of the city’s industrial development plan to identify and mitigate and/or eliminate harmful land use found to be incompatible with residential neighborhoods and schools



Parks Master Plan

Darling Meat Packaging Plant



Darling Meat Plant to permanently close by Dec 2023

According to CalEnviroScreen, southwest Fresno is home to one of the most polluted census tracts in the state. The Darling plant was a symbol of inequitable land use planning, and provided a strong example of how concentrated industrial zoning impacted the health and well being of surrounding communities.¹⁰ For decades, residents have shared that odors and fumes from the plant left them unable to open their windows or enjoy outside activities. After a 14-year legal battle, Fresno BHC Coalition partners and other community groups were able to secure the plant's closure.

The Southwest Specific Plan and Transformative Climate Communities

In 2015, the Fresno BHC Coalition played a pivotal role in securing major victories for healthy communities in southwest Fresno through participation in the Southwest Specific Plan (SWSP) process.

INVEST IN SOUTHWEST

FRESNO
STATE
Central Valley Health
Policy Institute



The SWSP was an area-specific plan based on community-identified priorities and a shared community vision for flourishing neighborhoods. Shortly after, Fresno received \$70 million from the California Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program, based on the pollution burden faced by southwest Fresno residents, and supported by organizers and advocates who work closely with south Fresno residents, including Fresno BHC.

Important Outcomes from the Southwest Specific Plan:

- Allowed for detailed assessment and modification of zoning
- Allowed for identification of community-driven priorities
 - Created a vision for planning that authentically engaged residents
 - Created space for community members to discuss issues and needs
 - Created a roadmap for how the City could support the community

Merced

Land Use and Built Environment Improvements

In 2013, BHC Merced partners worked with county officials to apply for funds to improve routes to schools. This partnership laid a strong foundation for the land use planning and investments that BHC Merced fought for and won. Wins included funding leveraged from CalTrans' Active Transportation Plan grants, safe routes to schools, improvements for pedestrian safety, and park updates and improvements. In all, BHC Merced partners leveraged nearly \$9 million in existing funds to improve land use and transportation services in Merced (see Table 7).

Table 7: Land Use and Built Environment Improvements

Infrastructure	Grant Received	Amount
Beachwood Franklin ATP Grant (Advisory Council development and technical assistance)	State grant	\$170,000
Beachwood Franklin ATP grant Safe Routes to School	Caltrans - California Active Transportation Program	\$973,000
Planada Pedestrian improvement Plan	Caltrans - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement funding	\$327,000
	Matching Local Dollars Funding	\$42,000
Planada Park Improvements (healthy spaces for physical fitness)	Safe Routes to Parks funds, Philanthropic funds	\$60,000
Beachwood Franklin Community Plan Update	County of Merced Planning Department	\$310,000
Planada - Houlihan Park improvements	Prop 68 funds	\$2.4M
South Merced - Highway 140 and Plainsburg Pedestrian Safety Project	Caltrans, Measure V funds	\$4.7M
Total Infrastructure Investment:		\$8,982,000

*Notes: Table 7 was an approximation of BHC Merced Land Use and Transportation Funding Wins

Reopening parks/infrastructure in south Merced

In 2013 residents, partners, and advocates successfully increased youth development services and funding in the City's budget, resulting in the reopening of the Youth Centers at McNamara and Stephen Leonard Parks.



Mayor Mike Murphy speaking to parents about the reopening of Applegate park in 2019

In 2017, BHC Merced advocacy secured City funding for pedestrian safety improvements, including a no parking zone and a four-way stop control. These investments improved the safety and wellbeing of surrounding communities. Additionally, in 2019, the City reopened Applegate Park with major improvements and repairs.

Measure Y - Cannabis Business Tax Leveraged for Youth Investment and Parks

Measure Y, a tax for cannabis business operators in the city, was placed on the ballot in 2018. After it passed, funds from the new tax measure were slotted toward the city's general fund to support police and fire funding. BHC Merced and residents instead saw these new funds as an opportunity for the city to invest in parks and youth. The Measure Y campaign was a part of BHC Merced's long-term work around youth investment and the community's vision for the success of the Parks and Recreation department. More broadly, it continued efforts to prioritize youth investment work, leverage partnerships, lift community voice, and ensure that community is included in decision-making processes for the future of Merced. In total, sixty percent of Measure Y funds were allocated for the Parks and Recreation Department.



Measure Y will increase funding for parks and youth

Conclusion

The accomplishments documented in this report helped pave the way for the future site work to continue, grounded by the North Star goals. The persistence of leaders and residents to continue work in these areas guided their efforts into new directions, including addressing pandemic-related health inequities that emerged in 2020. Fresno BHC helped to found the Immigrant and Refugee Coalition (IRC), which developed the Covid-19 Equity Project (CEP). The CEP utilized a community health worker (CHW) model to provide resources and protect vulnerable communities during the pandemic. These included access to government-funded resources and health education and preventative treatments, such as access to COVID-19 testing and vaccines. In tandem, Valley Onward has continued efforts to ensure that communities are reflected in local leadership roles, with many Merced BHC leaders securing local elected and appointed positions, increasing what has been referred to as the health equity infrastructure in Merced. The health equity infrastructure is a constellation of individuals and organizations who work together at decision making tables, and is a legacy built by BHC Merced efforts. In the Fresno and Merced BHC areas, there were different challenges and accomplishments that were unique to each locale. Their efforts required different types of resources and champions to get the work accomplished. Despite the differences both places were guided by the North Star Goals, to see the dream of health equity realized. Fresno and Merced have different paths in achieving their North Star goals, different challenges, and different successes to celebrate. However, they share the similarity of being guided by the same reasons to see health equity in their communities and in both locales, the work continues.

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Appendix A: North Star Goals Thematic Outline

Table 8: Intersection of North Star Goals and Indicators and Big Four Results and In/Direct Outcomes Across Fresno and Merced BHC Sites

Goal 1: Building Voice and Power		
BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno Indicators	Indicator 1: Leadership Training: Client-to-advocate case studies	<u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children <u>Outcome 2:</u> Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors
	Indicator 2: DRIVE Initiative: Economic development with equity in mind	<u>Big Result 4:</u> Reduce Youth Violence <u>Outcome 8:</u> Community health improvements are linked to economic development
	Indicator 3: BHC University-Residents to Advocates	<u>Big Result 2:</u> Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic <u>Outcome 4:</u> Residents live in communities with health-promoting land-use, transportation, and community development.
Merced Indicators	Indicator 1: Measure T- Demanding Representation	<u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children <u>Big Result 2:</u> Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic <u>Outcome 3:</u> Health and family-focused human services shift toward prevention
	Indicator 2: Merced Youth City Council: Re-investing in the Future	<u>Big Result 4:</u> Reduce Youth Violence <u>Outcome 6:</u> Communities support healthy youth development
	Indicator 3: Aligning leaders to reflect communities	<u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children <u>Outcome 1:</u> All children have health coverage
Both Places	Health Policy Leadership Program TCE Statewide tools	

Goal 2: Prevention

BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno Indicators	Indicator 5: #Health4All: Medically Indigent Support Program	<p><u>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</u></p> <p><u>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 1: All children have health coverage</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 2: Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 9: Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</u></p>
	Indicator 5: Enrollment Push: ACA and Medicaid Expansion	<p><u>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</u></p> <p><u>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 1: All children have health coverage</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 2: Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 9: Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</u></p>
	Indicator 4: Promotora programs: Advancing the Community Health Worker (CHW) Model	<p><u>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</u></p> <p><u>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 3: Health and family-focused human services shift toward prevention</u></p>
	Indicator 4: The Covid Equity Project and the Immigrant Refugee Coalition	<p><u>Big Result 1: Provide Healthy Home for All Children</u></p> <p><u>Outcome 3: Health and family-focused human services shift toward prevention</u></p>
National/ State context	Affordable Care Act - Medicaid expansion#Health4All	

Goal 2: Prevention

BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
<p>Merced Indicators</p>	<p>Indicator 5: Enrollment Push: ACA and Medicaid Expansion</p>	<p><u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children</p> <p><u>Big Result 3:</u> Increase School Attendance</p> <p><u>Outcome 1:</u> All children have health coverage</p> <p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</p> <p><u>Outcome 9:</u> Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</p>
	<p>Indicator 4: Health Equity Coalition: Cultural Responsiveness and Equity Policy</p>	<p><u>Big Result 2:</u> Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</p> <p><u>Big Result 3:</u> Increase School Attendance</p> <p><u>Outcome 7:</u> Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</p>
	<p>Indicator 5: Remaining Uninsured in Merced County</p>	<p><u>Big Result 1:</u> Provide Healthy Home for All Children</p> <p><u>Big Result 3:</u> Increase School Attendance</p> <p><u>Outcome 1:</u> All children have health coverage</p> <p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Families have improved access to a healthy home that supports healthy behaviors</p> <p><u>Outcome 9:</u> Health gaps for boys and men of color are narrowed</p>
<p>National/ State context</p>	<p>Affordable Care Act - Medicaid expansion#Health4All</p>	

Goal 3: Schools

BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno Indicators	Indicator 7: Network of funded organizations that target and work with youth - Barrios Unidos, YLI, BMOC, etc.	<u>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</u> <u>Outcome 6: Communities support healthy youth development</u>
	Indicator 6: Health Education and Health Access: Sex Education Programs	<u>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</u> <u>Outcome 5: Children and their families are safe from violence in their homes and neighborhoods</u>
	Indicator 6: Expanding Youth Access and Health Services	<u>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</u> <u>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</u> <u>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</u>
	Indicator 6: Secondary: Barrios Unidos, YLI Restorative Justice	
Merced Indicators	Indicator 6: School Climate: Restorative Justice	<u>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</u> <u>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</u> <u>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</u>
	Indicator 7: Merced Youth Council	<u>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</u> <u>Outcome 6: Communities support healthy youth development</u>
	Indicator 6, 7 & 9: LCFF & LCAP	<u>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</u> <u>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</u> <u>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</u>
National/ State context	LCFF, LCAP Reproductive Health	

Goal 4: Neighborhoods

BHC Place	Indicators	Big Results and Outcomes
Fresno Indicators	Indicator 8: County and City General Plan organized a robust community engaged response	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Outcome 4: Residents live in communities with health-promoting land-use, transportation, and community development.</i>
	Indicator 8: Darling meat packaging plant	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Outcome 4: Residents live in communities with health-promoting land-use, transportation, and community development.</i>
	Indicator 8: Opposition from city leaders and fighting back (TCC, SWSP)	<i>Big Result 3: Increase School Attendance</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
Merced Indicators	Indicator 8: Land Use and Built Environment Improvements	
	Indicator 8: Leveraging existing funds to address inequitable built environment and infrastructure	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 8: Community health improvements are linked to economic development</i>
	Indicator 8: Re-opening and reinvesting south Merced parks	<i>Big Result 2: Reverse the Childhood Obesity Epidemic</i> <i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 7: Neighborhood and school environments support improved health and healthy behaviors</i>
	Indicator 8, 9 &10: Measure Y - cannabis business tax leveraged for youth investment and parks	<i>Big Result 4: Reduce Youth Violence</i> <i>Outcome 8: Community health improvements are linked to economic development</i>
National/ State context	Recognition of historical impacts of redlining and divestment from communities; more funding opportunities for equity	

Appendix B. Fresno Unified School District Restorative Justice Transformational Shift



Transformational Shift - School Culture & Discipline

Traditional Approach		Restorative Approach
"Role-Bound" or Authoritarian/Punitive	Adult Authority Style	"Relational" or Authoritative
Obedient & focused on their individual achievement	Students should be...	Responsible, engaged, and connected members of a respectful learning community
An unnecessary focus in schools	Relationships are...	Highly valued and seen as central to all learning
Establish order	School climate/culture is to...	Provide structure, promote community values and to communicate a system of care for all members
An inconvenient and unnecessary distraction from academic learning	Conflict is...	A normal, natural part of life - it is seen as an opportunity for students & adults to learn & grow
An event requiring punishment	Misbehavior viewed as...	A learning opportunity for all involved
The rules are violated	When rules are broken...	People and relationships are also harmed
Punished with traditional, one-size-fits-all consequences - no intervention provided	Person Accountable	Takes accountability for impact & repairing harm creative strategies used for interventions/supports
Establishing guilt	"Justice" viewed as...	Identifying obligations, accountability, collaborative problem-solving & needs of all parties
Offender's punishment- the person harmed is ignored	Focus is on...	All people who have been impacted have direct roles in the repair process & rehabilitation needed
No opportunity provided	Remorse or Amends	Opportunity is given and forgiveness may occur

Appendix C. North Star Goals Revisited

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Age (yrs) - Median Baseline (2010)**
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000600, 6019000700, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tracts; 06047000902, 06047001005, 06047001301, 06047001302, 06047001401, 06047001501, 06047001502, 06047001503, 06047001601, 06047001602, 06047001700, 06047001901, 06047001902, 06047002600. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Median Age: [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Age (yrs) - Median - Currently Available Data (2020)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000601, 6019000602, 6019000701, 6019000702, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 6047000903, 6047000904, 6047001005, 6047001301, 6047001302, 6047001401, 6047001501, 6047001502, 6047001503, 6047001601, 6047001603, 6047001604, 6047001700, 6047001901, 6047001902, 6047002601, 6047002602. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Reference:

Median Age: [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2020 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Female (%) Baseline (2010)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000600, 6019000700, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 06047000902, 06047001005, 06047001301, 06047001302, 06047001401, 06047001501, 06047001502, 06047001503, 06047001601, 06047001602, 06047001700, 06047001901, 06047001902, 06047002600. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Female [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 10 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Female (%) Currently Available Data (2020)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000601, 6019000602, 6019000701, 6019000702, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 6047000903, 6047000904, 6047001005, 6047001301, 6047001302, 6047001401, 6047001501, 6047001502, 6047001503, 6047001601, 6047001603, 6047001604, 6047001700, 6047001901, 6047001902, 6047002601, 6047002602. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Female [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2020 (5-Year Estimates)
Retrieved 11 January 2023, from
<https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Hispanic (%) Baseline (2010)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000600, 6019000700, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 06047000902, 06047001005, 06047001301, 06047001302, 06047001401, 06047001501, 06047001502, 06047001503, 06047001601, 06047001602, 06047001700, 06047001901, 06047001902, 06047002600. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Hispanic or Latino [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Hispanic (%) Currently Available Data (2020)**
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000601, 6019000602, 6019000701, 6019000702, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 6047000903, 6047000904, 6047001005, 6047001301, 6047001302, 6047001401, 6047001501, 6047001502, 6047001503, 6047001601, 6047001603, 6047001604, 6047001700, 6047001901, 6047001902, 6047002601, 6047002602. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Hispanic or Latino [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Median household income Baseline (2010)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000600, 6019000700, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 06047000902, 06047001005, 06047001301, 06047001302, 06047001401, 06047001501, 06047001502, 06047001503, 06047001601, 06047001602, 06047001700, 06047001901, 06047001902, 06047002600. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Median Household Income (In 2010 Inflation Adjusted Dollars) [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Median household income Currently Available Data (2020)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000601, 6019000602**, 6019000701, 6019000702, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates. ** Data unavailable
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 6047000903, 6047000904, 6047001005, 6047001301, 6047001302, 6047001401, 6047001501, 6047001502, 6047001503, 6047001601, 6047001603, 6047001604, 6047001700, 6047001901, 6047001902, 6047002601, 6047002602. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Median Household Income (In 2020 Inflation Adjusted Dollars) [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2020 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Education Less than high school for pop 25 years or older Baseline (2010)**
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000600, 6019000700, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 06047000902, 06047001005, 06047001301, 06047001302, 06047001401, 06047001501, 06047001502, 06047001503, 06047001601, 06047001602, 06047001700, 06047001901, 06047001902, 06047002600. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Less than High School [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Education Less than high school for pop 25 years or older - Currently Available Data (2020)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tracts; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000601, 6019000602, 6019000701, 6019000702, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 6047000903, 6047000904, 6047001005, 6047001301, 6047001302, 6047001401, 6047001501, 6047001502, 6047001503, 6047001601, 6047001603, 6047001604, 6047001700, 6047001901, 6047001902, 6047002601, 6047002602. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Less than High School [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2020 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 12 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Married/Living with Partner - Baseline (2010)**
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000600, 6019000700, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 06047000902, 06047001005, 06047001301, 06047001302, 06047001401, 06047001501, 06047001502, 06047001503, 06047001601, 06047001602, 06047001700, 06047001901, 06047001902, 06047002600. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
 - Location: California; Geography: State Baseline: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Households with One or More People Under 18 Years: Family Households: Married-Couple Family [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Married/Living with Partner - Currently Available Data (2020)**

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Census Tract; 6019000100, 6019000200, 6019000300, 6019000400, 6019000501, 6019000502, 6019000601, 6019000602, 6019000701, 6019000702, 6019000902, 6019001100, 6019001201, 6019001301, 6019001303, 6019001304, 6019001407, 6019002400, 6019002502, 6019002601, 6019002602, 6019002701, 6019002702, 6019002903. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Census Tract; 6047000903, 6047000904, 6047001005, 6047001301, 6047001302, 6047001401, 6047001501, 6047001502, 6047001503, 6047001601, 6047001603, 6047001604, 6047001700, 6047001901, 6047001902, 6047002601, 6047002602. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: SJV; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: 2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Reference:

Households with One or More People Under 18 Years: Family Households: Married-Couple Family [Map]. In SocialExplorer.com. ACS 2020 (5-Year Estimates) Retrieved 11 January 2023, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/view>

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Fair or poor health (18-64) - Baseline 2012 ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Health Status, 2012; Fair or Poor Health (18-64), 95% Confidence Interval (CI).
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Health Status 2012; Fair or Poor Health (18-64), (95% CI).
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Health Status, 2012; Fair or Poor Health (18-64), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline. AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Health Status, 2012, Fair or Poor Health (18-64), 95% CI.
- **Fair or poor health (18-64) - Currently Available Data (2020) ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Health Status, 2020, Fair or Poor Health (18-64), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Health Status, 2020, Fair or Poor Health (18-64), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Health Status, 2020, Fair or Poor Health (18-64), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Health Status, 2020, Fair or Poor Health (18-64), 95% CI.

Reference:

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2020. Fair or Poor Health (18-64) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>. Exported January 17, 2023

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Delayed prescriptions/medical services (18+) - Baseline 2012 ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Delay in Receiving Care, 2012, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Delay in Receiving Care, 2012, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Delay in Receiving Care, 2012, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Delay in Receiving Care, 2012, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.
- **Delayed prescriptions/medical services (18+) - Currently Available Data (2020) ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Delay in Receiving Care, 2020, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Delay in Receiving Care, 2020, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Delay in Receiving Care, 2020, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Delay in Receiving Care, 2020, Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+), 95% CI.

Reference:

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2020. Delayed Prescriptions/Medical Services (18+) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>. Exported January 17, 2023

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Serious Psychological Distress (18+) 11 - Baseline 2012 ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Mental Health, 2012, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Mental Health, 2012, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Mental Health, 2012, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Mental Health, 2012, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.
- **Currently Available Data 2020**
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Mental Health, 2020, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Mental Health, 2020, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Mental Health, 2020, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Mental Health, 2020, Serious Psychological Distress (18+), 95% CI.

Reference:

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2020. Serious Psychological Distress (18+) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>. Exported January 17, 2023

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Heart Disease - Baseline 2012 ***

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Heart Disease, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Heart Disease, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Heart Disease, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Heart Disease, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.

- **Heart Disease - Currently Available Data 2020 ***

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Heart Disease, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Heart Disease, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Heart Disease, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Heart Disease, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+), 95% CI.

Reference:

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2020. Ever Diagnosed with Heart Disease (18+) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>.
Exported January 17, 2023

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Diabetes Baseline ***

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Diabetes, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Diabetes, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Diabetes, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Diabetes, 2012, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.

- **Diabetes - Current Available Data 2020 ***

- Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Diabetes, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Diabetes, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Diabetes, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Diabetes, 2020, Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+), 95% CI.

Reference:

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2020. Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (18+) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>. Exported January 17, 2023

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Obesity BMI \geq 30 (%) - Baseline ***
- Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Obese/Overweight, 2012, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Obese/Overweight, 2012, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Obese/Overweight, 2012, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Obese/Overweight, 2012, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.
- **Obesity BMI \geq 30 (%) - Current Available Data 2020 ***
- Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Obese/Overweight, 2020, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Obese/Overweight, 2020, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Obese/Overweight, 2020, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.
- Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Obese/Overweight, 2020, Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+), 95% CI.

Reference:

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2020. Obese (BMI \geq 30) (18+) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>. Exported January 20, 2023

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Walked at least 150 minutes in past week (18+) - Baseline ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Physical Activity, 2012, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Physical Activity, 2012, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Physical Activity, 2012, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Physical Activity, 2012, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.
- **Walked at least 150 minutes in past week (18+) - Current Available Data 2016 ***
 - (** No 2020 data available)
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Physical Activity, 2016, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Physical Activity, 2016, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Physical Activity, 2016, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Physical Activity, 2016, Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+), 95% CI.

Reference:

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2016. Walked at least 150 Minutes (18+) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>. Exported January 20, 2023.

Table 2: BHC Community Data Analysis 2010/2012 & 2020 Documentation based on row:

- **Low-income food insecurity (18+) - Baseline ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Food Insecurity, 2012, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Food Insecurity, 2012, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition; Food Insecurity, 2012, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Baseline: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Food Insecurity, 2012, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.
- **Low-income food insecurity (18+) - * Current Available Data 2020 ***
 - Location: Fresno; Geography: Zip Codes; 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Food Insecurity, 2020, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: Merced; Geography: Zip Codes; 95333, 95340, 95341, 95365. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Food Insecurity, 2020, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: San Joaquin Valley; Geography: County; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Food Insecurity, 2020, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.
 - Location: California; Geography: State. Update: AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition, Food Insecurity, 2020, Low-income Food Insecurity (18+), 95% CI.

Reference:


UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles CA, AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition 2012 & 2020. Low-income Food Insecurity (18+) Comparing Fresno and Merced Zip Codes, San Joaquin Valley Counties, and CA State. Available at <https://askchisne.ucla.edu>. Exported January 20, 2023

North Star Goals Revisited

Goal 1 is “Building voice and power for a healthy and inclusive California.” Both adults and youth that have been historically excluded have worked together to bridge the gap regarding health equity matters. For many years both Fresno and Merced residents have experienced inequities in representation, resources, and input during decision making events. [BHC] and [CVHPI] have served to bring attention to these discrepancies by uniting stakeholders and power building leaders from organizations in these very cities.

Goal 2 is “Health Happens with Prevention,” through which Californians have ready access to a system that prioritizes prevention and coverage for all. This goal focuses on providing residents with easier access to health resources, as well as ensuring that residents have the necessary coverage to access these resources. BHC has invested in communities directly rather than health services, by nurturing knowledge about prevention and wellness. The outcome to this approach would result in effective and long lasting benefits for the community.

Goal 3 is “Health Happens in Schools,” which encourages California public schools to provide a positive and supportive learning environment that promotes life-long health and wellness for all students. For many years, inequities in improper allocation of funding and resources have been a setback for students. Harsh takes on disciplinary action have also been linked to the “school to prison pipeline,” most commonly seen among students of color, a product of years of structural racism in schools. In an effort to create a fair environment for students, more schools and implementing a restorative justice approach, and addressing mental health issues. Both parents and advocates at [both] BHC sites alike, have teamed up to find solutions to these long standing issues within their communities.



Goal 4 is “Health Happens in Neighborhoods,” where California cities and counties, with state and tribal partners, build health into land use decisions, stabilize neighborhoods and shift resources from punishment to prevention. For decades Fresno and Merced have been negatively impacted by redlining and segregation. Since the beginning of BHC in 2010, the path toward improvements including health-promoting land use, transportation, and community development have been possible through hard work and community conversations.

