



MONTEREY COUNTY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Katy Castagna, CEO, United Way Monterey County (Josh Madfis, Alternate)
Elsa Jimenez, Director, Health Dept. - Chair (Dr. Edward Moreno, Health Officer, Alternate)
Deneen Guss, Ed. D., Superintendent, Monterey County Office of Education (Ernesto Vela, Alternate)
Lori Medina, Director, Dept. of Social Services (Roderick Franks, Alternate)
Todd Keating, Chief, Probation Department (Jose Ramirez, Alternate)

MEMBERS

José Arreola, Community Alliance for Safety and Peace (Jaskiart "Jessica" Bhardwaj, Alternate)
Dan Baldwin, Community Foundation for Monterey County, (Laurel Lee-Alexander, Alternate)
Stephen Bernal, Sheriff (Jayne Surbeck, Alternate)
Susan Chapman, Public Defender (Ashley Butler, Alternate)
Dan Burns, Superintendent, Salinas Union School District (Randy Bangs, Alternate)
Laura Dunn, Child Care Planning Council (TBD, Alternate)
Katy Eckert, Health Department, Behavioral Health (Marni Sandoval, Alternate)
Les Girard, County Counsel (Annette Cutino, Alternate)
Tory Gunsolley, Housing Authority of Monterey County (TBD, Alternate)
Monica Lal, Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Sam Lovorato Jr., Judge, Superior Court, Juvenile Justice Division (TBD, Alternate)
Lori Luzader, Special Kids Connect
Robin McCrae, Community Human Services (Shirley Milleco, Alternate)
Laura Neal, Department of Social Services (Jessica Perez-Martinez, Alternate)
TBA, CSUMB (Michael Applegate, Alternate)
Jeannine Pacioni, District Attorney (Marisol Mendez, Alternate)
Virginia Pierce, Child Abuse Prevention Council (Julie Cooper Altman, Alternate)
Francine Rodd, Monterey County First 5 Commission (Beth Reeves-Fortney, Alternate)
Wendy Root Askew, Supervisor District 4 (Eric Mora, Alternate)
Susan Swick, Ohana Montage Health
Hillary Theyer, Monterey County Free Libraries (Berenice Astengo, Alternate)
TBD, Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce
Gina Uccelli, Washington Union School District (Daniel Stonebloom, Alternate)

Mission

The Children's Council provides leadership and policy direction to encourage the development of a comprehensive and collaborative delivery system of services to children and youth in Monterey County.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 11, 2022
8am to 9am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81810119554>

AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions**, Lori Medina, Chair
Public Comment for items not on the agenda (limit to 3 minutes per person)
- Action Item:**
 - Approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022, Executive Meeting – *Attached*
- Discussion:**
 - Debrief of October General Assembly meeting and finalize plan for November meeting
 - MCCC Champion for Children Award
- General Assembly Agenda Setting for November**
Action Items:
 - Approve adoption of Resolution Number XV, pursuant to AB 361 to find that as a result of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom, holding Children's Council meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees
 - Approve the minutes of the October 11, 2022, MCCC meeting minute

Discussion/Presentation:

 - TBD
- New Business/Announcements**

Next Meeting: November 15, 2022

Monterey County Children's Council Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Zoom Virtual Meeting
September 13, 2022

Executive Members Present: Katy Castagna, Deneen Guss, Lori Medina and Todd Keating

Others Present: Mayra Perez-Diaz, Sonja Koehler, and Francine Rodd, Monica

Item	Summary of discussion/review	Action/deliverable
1. Welcome and Introductions	Meeting called to order at 8:05 am. Chair, Lori Medina	
2. Public Comment		None
3. Action Items a. Approve the minutes of the August 9, 2022, Executive Committee meeting		a. The Executive Committee meeting minutes of August 9, 2022, were approved. Motion by Todd Keating. Seconded by Deneen Guss. Vote. Passed.
4. Presentations/Discussions a. Debrief of September General Assembly meeting and finalize plan for October meeting b. Annual Report planning	Members debriefed on September meeting and planned for October meeting.	Deneen will check task Dr. Vela to present on community schools initiative for MC and invite Alma Cervantes of BHC to co facilitate. Deneen informed there will be schools' data available to update. All indicators will remain, and EC will review at next meeting if any other indicators should be added. Plan is to have draft of report complete by January 2023 and present to BOS late February 2023 or early March 2023.

Monterey County Children's Council Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Zoom Virtual Meeting
September 13, 2022

General Assembly Agenda Setting for September	<p>General Assembly Agenda Setting for October</p> <p>Action Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a. Adoption of a Resolution Number XIV, pursuant to AB 361 to find that as a result of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom, holding Children’s Council meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees 2. Approve the minutes of the September 12, 2022, General Assembly meeting <p>Presentations/Discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Setting the Stage: Using a Reflective Approach – West Ed b. Community School Local Initiatives presentation – Dr. Vela, MCOE and Alma Cervantes, BHC 	
5. New Business for Next Meeting		
6. Announcements	No announcements	
7. Meeting Adjourned		9:03 am



MONTEREY COUNTY
CHILDREN'S COUNCIL

2020-2021 Annual Report

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Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles

Vision Statement

All children in Monterey County live in safe, nurturing homes and communities; they are healthy, valued, succeed in school and realize their full potential.

Mission Statement

The Children's Council provides leadership and policy direction to encourage the development of a comprehensive and collaborative delivery system of services to children and youth in Monterey County.

Guiding Principles

Collaborative – promoting cross-agency policies and procedures that enhance seamless service delivery; encourage interdisciplinary problem-solving and support; and address the barriers to success;

Comprehensive, Coordinated and Integrated – recommending a full array of services and supports where the entire range of needs is addressed in an efficient, responsive and effective manner;

Family-Centered and Family-Driven – honoring, respecting and empowering families as their child's first teacher and strongest advocate;

Culturally Responsive – ensuring diverse populations receive culturally responsive services and supports;

Community-Based/Community Driven – ensuring that services are available and accessible in a variety of settings and locations;

Participatory – ensuring that program recipients participate in making and shaping decisions; and

Outcomes-Oriented – measuring outcomes for children, youth and families and using data to facilitate decision-making, identify obstacles and improve services.

A Message from the Children's Council Chair

Honorable Board of Supervisors and Monterey County residents,

The Monterey County Children's Council (Children's Council) is pleased to present its FY 2020-2021 Annual Report, a snapshot documenting the status of children and youth in our County in an effort to not only have a better understanding of their needs, but to help incite continued and enhanced commitment in meeting these needs. Public comment and feedback on the work of the Children's Council is welcomed and strongly encouraged.

The Children's Council membership includes the executive leaders from major public, private, and non-profit sectors of the County whose agencies and organizations serve children and youth in a wide variety of ways. The Children's Council members meet monthly to coordinate cross-sector work focused on addressing systemic issues that are impacting the health, education, and well-being of children and youth in Monterey County. The Council is guided by its purpose and its vision: To provide leadership and policy direction to encourage the development of a comprehensive and collaborative delivery system of services for children and their families so that all children in Monterey County live in safe nurturing homes and communities; they are healthy, valued, succeed in school and realize their full potential.

This report reflects current efforts in support of the Children's Council's purpose and vision. The report presents a comprehensive data set which offers an understanding of the status of children and youth in Monterey County and more importantly, provides a context for focusing the work that needs to be done to improve the conditions and success of our children and youth. I am pleased to report that the Children's Council continued to focus on its Bright Beginnings Initiative, primarily funded by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, and this critical work is highlighted in this report. This year, the Children's Council kicked off its series of presentations by receiving an overview of efforts happening in our community to advance racial equity with the goal of sharing a common language and commitment to applying a racial lens to our work. Based on its self-assess priorities, the Children's Council continued to focus on behavioral health and COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, focusing on strategies to improve resiliency of our children, families, and caregivers. Presentations were delivered both by its membership and other community stakeholders and partners and can be found on our [Website](#). The report concludes with the historic record of previous Children's Council Initiatives and areas of focus that have successfully impacted the health, education, and well-being of children and youth in Monterey County.

The Children's Council Annual Report is a call to action for all of us to prioritize the health, education, and well-being of our children and youth, particularly now as we continue to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic which has further exacerbated the challenges faced by many of our young residents who are already disparately impacted. We believe that this report reflects the Children's Council's goal of connecting its work to a broad group of stakeholders and community members. Only through collective action, can we ensure every child and youth in Monterey County thrives and is prepared for success.

Sincerely,

Elsa Mendoza Jimenez, Chair, Monterey County Children's Council

Acknowledgments

The Monterey County Children's Council would like to acknowledge and extend its deepest appreciation to the honorable Judge Stephanie Hulsey and Superintendent Tim Vinoli, for their years of service and dedicated support on the Council. Judge Hulsey has moved to a different division in the courts in June 2020. Tim Vinoli retired as Superintendent of Soledad Unified School District in December 2020.

Why this Children's Council Annual Report is Important

The Annual Report was created to help our community understand the needs of our children and youth, in order to build community commitment to meet these needs. It is a local and state "snapshot" documenting the status of our children and youth. This Annual Report is intended to help community members make informed decisions regarding public policy issues, volunteer efforts and support for nonprofit organizations.

The Annual Report has four goals:

- To serve as a benchmark to measure how children and youth are faring over time
- To serve as a catalyst to mobilize community wide efforts to address the most critical challenges to children and youth's circumstances
- To recognize areas in which services and initiatives have been successful in improving children and youth's quality of life in order to maintain continued support for these efforts
- To present multiple indicators in a simple arrangement and location

Methodology

This Annual Report serves as a benchmark to measure the relative success of efforts to improve conditions for all children ages 0-24. The Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Annual Report is based exclusively on secondary data reports. A list of indicators was created by the Children's Council in 2018. Secondary data was then collected from local and state-level published reports. The quality of the data was evaluated and then it was determined whether it addressed pertinent indicators for this Annual Report. Data was collected from a variety of sources as indicated on the specific pages and data series with historic trends and comparison between state and local rates were preferred.

Measuring Results

Thirty indicators have been selected and organized into three major age ranges: birth to 18 years of age, birth to five years of age, and six to 18 years of age for which conditions for children are assessed as "stable", "fluctuating", "increasing", "decreasing", or "N/A" (not available) for Monterey County and the State of California. You will find this assessment on the Executive Summary page for each particular indicator.

Three new indicators (Digital Divide, Suicide Rates in Youth and Substance Abuse and Overdoses in Youth) were added to this year's report based on COVID-19 impacts on children and youth to assure we continue to monitor these indicators as our community shifts to recover from COVID-19 impacts.

Executive Summary

Birth to 18	Monterey County Trend	State Trend
Children Supported by CalWORKs *	Decreasing	N/A
Children Living Below Poverty Level *	Decreasing	N/A
Children with Health Insurance	Fluctuating	N/A
Child Abuse and Neglect *	Fluctuating	Stable
Children in Foster Care *	Decreasing	Stable
Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Students *	Decreasing	N/A
Student Homelessness *	Increasing	N/A
Digital Divide*	Year 1 Data Trend Unavailable	N/A

Birth to 5		
Low Birth Weight	Stable	N/A
Early Prenatal Care	Increasing	N/A
Education of Mother	Increasing	N/A
Child Care Slots Available	Fluctuating	N/A
Child Care Costs	Increasing	N/A
Kindergarten Readiness	N/A	N/A

6 to 18		
Public School Enrollment *	Decreasing	N/A
Children Enrolled in Special Education *	Increasing	N/A
English Language Arts	N/A	N/A
English Language Learners *	Increasing	N/A
Math CAASPP Scores	N/A	Increasing
Graduation Rates Over Time *	Fluctuating	Fluctuating
Student Suspension Rates Over Time *	Decreasing	Decreasing
Student Expulsion Rates Over Time *	Decreasing	Decreasing
Student Drop Out Rate *	Decreasing	N/A
Births to Teens	Decreasing	N/A
Sexually Transmitted Infection Cases	Increasing	N/A
Juvenile Misdemeanor and Felony Arrests *	Decreasing	N/A
Suicide Trends in Youth*	Increasing	N/A
Substance Abuse and Non-Fatal Overdoses in Youth*	Increasing	N/A
Substance Abuse and Overdoses in Youth*	Increasing	N/A
College Going Rate	N/A	Fluctuating

Note: When an indicator has been assessed as “stable”, this means that the trend line is flat, indicating that there is not much change or inconsistency on the data figures. On the other hand, when an indicator is assessed as “fluctuating”, this means that the data figures are inconsistent from year to year. An assessment of “increasing”, refers to higher numbers in the value of the data and an assessment of “decreasing”, refers to lower numbers in the value of the data. When looking at the assessment of “increasing” or “decreasing”, please keep in mind that these terms reflect how the rate or number in each particular trend is changing. They do not indicate improvement or worsening.

Due to the continued Covid-19 pandemic and timing to complete this report, much of the data remains the same from previous versions of this report. Indicators with an * have updated data in this report.