

Children's Council Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2025

0.. Council Member	Appointed Council Member or Alternate	Affiliation	Title	Present
Alejandre, Melissa	Alternate	Family and Children Services	Program Manager	X
Arreola, Jose	Member	Community Alliance for Safety and Peace	Director	X
Askew, Wendy	Member	District #4	Supervisor	
Astengo, Berenice	Alternate	Monterey County Free Libraries	Managing Librarian	
Baldwin, Dan	Member	Community Foundation for Monterey County	President/CEO	
Bangs, Randy	Member	Soledad Unified School District	Superintendent	X
Bhardwaj, Jaskiart "Jessica"	Alternate	City of Salinas		
Blitch, Susan	Member	County Counsel	County Counsel	
Boykin, Zulieka	Member	Housing Authority	Executive Director	
Butler, Ashley	Alternate	Public Defender Office	Public Defender	
Castagna, Katy	Member	United Way Monterey County	President and CEO	X
Castro, Michael	Alternate	Community Foundation of Monterey County	Director of Community Investments	
Chapman, Susan	Member	Public Defender Office	Public Defender	
Cota, Caroline	Member	So Mo Co Joint Unified School District	Superintendent	X
Cutino, Annette	Alternate	County Counsel	Deputy County Counsel	
DaSilva, Charles	Alternate	Monterey County Sheriff's Office	Program Manager-Monterey County Jail	X
Diffenbaugh, PK	Alternate	Monterey Peninsula Unified School District	Superintendent	
Dunn, Laura	Member	Child Care Planning Council	Chair	X
Franks, Roderick	Member	Department of Social Services	Director	X

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Guss, Deneen	Member	Monterey County Office of Education	Superintendent	X
Gomez, Claudia	Alternate	Door to Hope	Director of Family Services	
Hollingsworth, Nicole	Alternate	CSUMB	Director of Governmental and External Relations	X
Jeronimo, Eva	Member	Department of Social Services	Deputy Director	X
Jimenez, Elsa	Member	Monterey County Health Department	Director of Health	X
Kenyon, Julie	Alternate	Probation Department		
Lal, Monica	Member	Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce	President/CEO	
Lavorato, Sam Jr.	Alternate	Superior Court, Juvenile Justice Division	Judge	
Luzader, Lori	Member	Special Kids Connect	Executive Director	
Madfis, Josh	Alternate	United Way Monterey County	Vice President Community Investments	
McCabe, Ramona	Alternate	First 5 Monterey County	Director of Programs	
McCrae, Robin	Member	Community Human Services	Executive Director	
Mora, Eric	Alternate	District #4	Policy Analyst	X
Moreno, Dr. Edward	Alternate	Monterey County Health Department	Health Officer & Director of Public Health	
Nassoura, Lana	Alternate	Monterey County District Attorney Office	Assistant District Attorney	
Nieto, Tina	Member	Monterey County Sheriff's Office	Sheriff	
Netniss, Jennifer	Alternate	Special Kids Connect	Education Director	
Quinones, Vanya	Member	CSU Monterey Bay	President	
Pacioni, Jeannine	Member	Monterey County District Attorney Office	District Attorney	

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Pierce, Virginia R.	Member	CAPC	Director	X
Porras, Ralph	Alternate	Monterey County Office of Education	Assistant Superintendent	
Pulido, Ruben	Alternate	Chualar Union School District	Superintendent	
Ramirez, Jose	Alternate	Probation Department	Chief	X
Rhodes, Melonie	Member	Behavioral Health	Director	
Rodd, Francine	Member	First 5 of Monterey County	Executive Director	X
Reuther, Krista	Alternate	Ohana Montage Health		
Swick, Susan	Member	Ohana Montage Health	VP/Chief Mental Health Officer	
Theyer, Hillary	Member	Monterey County Free Libraries	Director	X
Wouden, Michelle	Alternate	Public Defenders Office	Public Defender	
Koehler, Sonja	Non-Member	Bright Beginnings	Director	X
Perez Diaz, Mayra	Non-Member	United Way	Coordinator of MCCC and Community Impact Director, Early Childhood Investments	X
Diaz, Relindis	Non-Member	County of Monterey Children's Behavioral Health	RLP Facilitator	X

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Item	Summary of discussion/review	Action/deliverable
1. Welcome and Introductions	Meeting called to order at 12:05p.m. by Chair, Jose Ramirez	
2. Public Comment		None
3. Action Items a. Approve the minutes of the July 14, 2025, meeting Monterey County Children's Council meeting b. Approve Designated Alternate Eva Jeronimo for Member Roderick Franks		a. The minutes of the July 14, 2025, meeting were approved. Motion by Hilary Theyer and seconded by Eva Jeronimo. b. Designated Alternate Eva Geronimo for Member Roderick Franks was approved. Motion by Elsa Jimenez and seconded by Francine Rodd.
4. Presentations/Discussions a. County of Monterey Family and Children's Services, Home for Foster Youth Presentation	Hilary Theyer presented to the COUNCIL an overview of challenges in the mobile library program.	Council provided some ideas in supporting outreach through their respected agencies and alternatives to look into for collaboration in services.
6. Meeting Adjourned		1:31pm