



Tulare County Council on Child &
Youth Development
Strategic Plan
2019-2023

Tulare County Council on Child & Youth Development

We believe

All children and families deserve **quality care** and **education**. The Council supports quality care and education by providing the **link** between the **needs** and the available **resources**.

History

In 1991 the Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) was established by Congress and, as a result, Local Child Care and Development Councils were created for each county in California. Councils were established to help set the priorities for the CCDBG funds according to the needs of the low-income families in each county. The Council collaborates with private and public organizations, providers, and individuals utilizing child care services to address the child care needs of all families in the county.


LPC Membership:

The council is comprised of 25 members jointly appointed by Tulare County Superintendent of Schools and Tulare County Board of Supervisors. Members serve a two-year term and the composition of the council is as follows:

- 20% Consumer
- 20% Child Care Providers
- 20% Community
- 20% Public Agency
- 20% Discretionary

Local Child Care Planning Council Mandates

As set forth in the legislation the Council's mandates include but are not limited to:

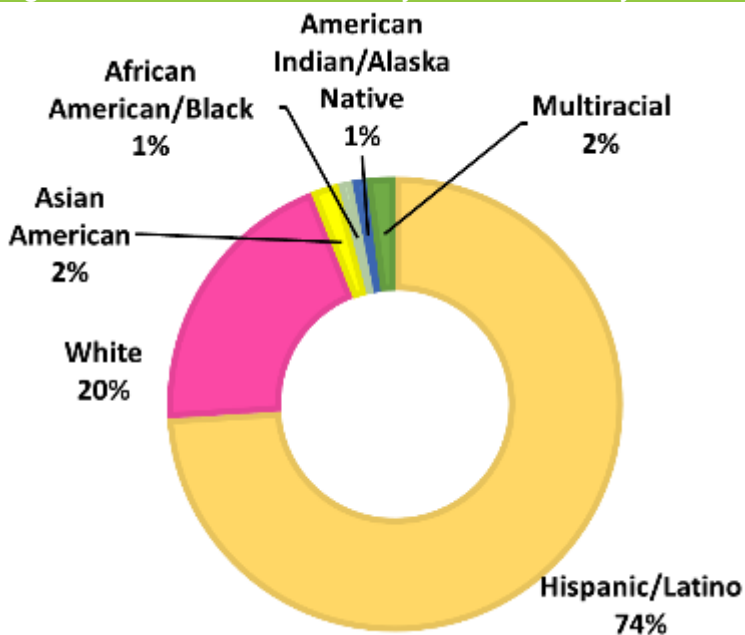
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- Conduct an assessment of child care needs at least once every five years.
 - Identify local funding priorities for child care needs in Tulare County.
 - Conduct local forums to encourage public input in the development of local priorities.
 - Prepare a local comprehensive countywide child care plan designed to mobilize public and private resources to address identified needs.
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 - Develop and implement a training plan to provide increased efficiency, productivity, and facilitation of Council Meetings
 - Foster local partnerships with subsidized and non-subsidized providers, local and state children and families commissions, county welfare departments, human service agencies, regional centers, job training programs, employers, parent organizations, early start family resource centers, family empowerment centers on disability, local child care resource and referral programs, and other interested parties.
 - Coordinate part-day programs, including state preschool and Head Start, with other child care and development services to provide full-day child care.
 - Design a system to consolidate local child care waiting lists. (Note: Nine LPCs participated in a pilot project regarding the development of a centralized eligibility list in 2001 to 2003.)
 - Collaborate with local First Five Commission and other entities to carry out child care staff retention initiatives.

Tulare County's Early Care and Education Needs Assessment

In 2018, the Council, in collaboration with First 5 Tulare and Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education Program, produced a comprehensive Early Care and Education Needs Assessment. The document provides a snapshot in time of the Early Care and Education needs in Tulare County. Highlighted below are some significant areas of need that were identified.

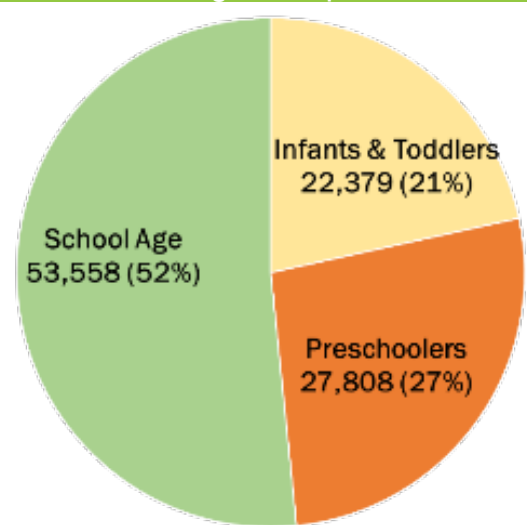
Overview of Tulare County's children

Figure 6. Child Race/Ethnicity, Tulare County, 2016



Kids Data, 0-17 years old, American Community Survey 2016

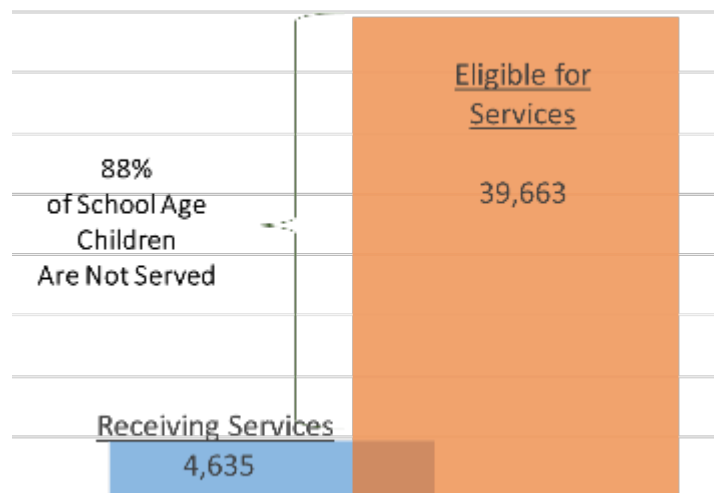
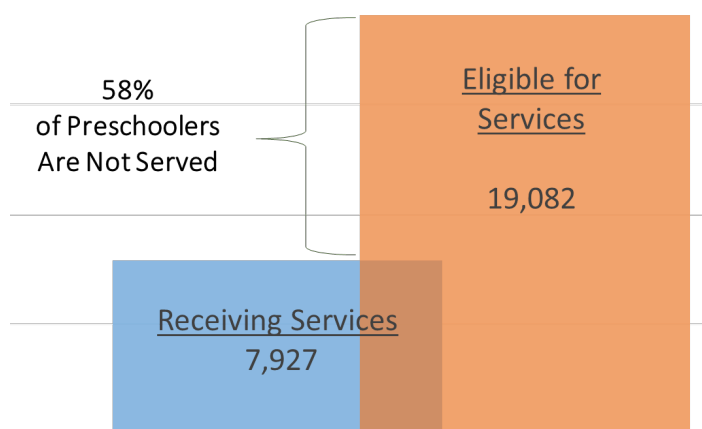
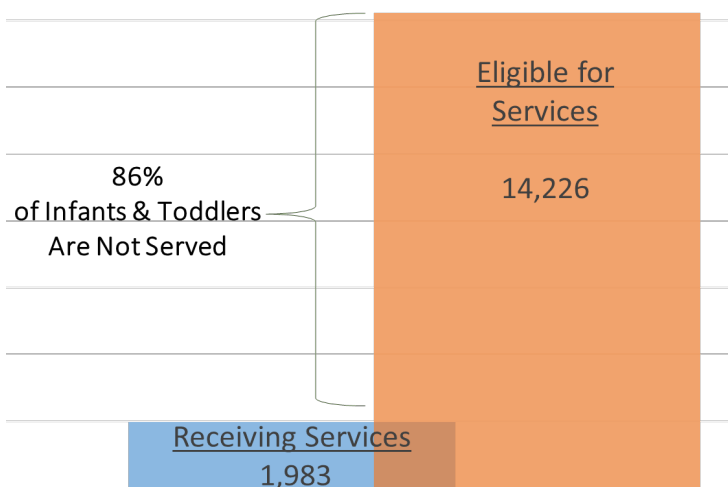
Figure 2. Tulare County Population Across Three Age Groups, 2016



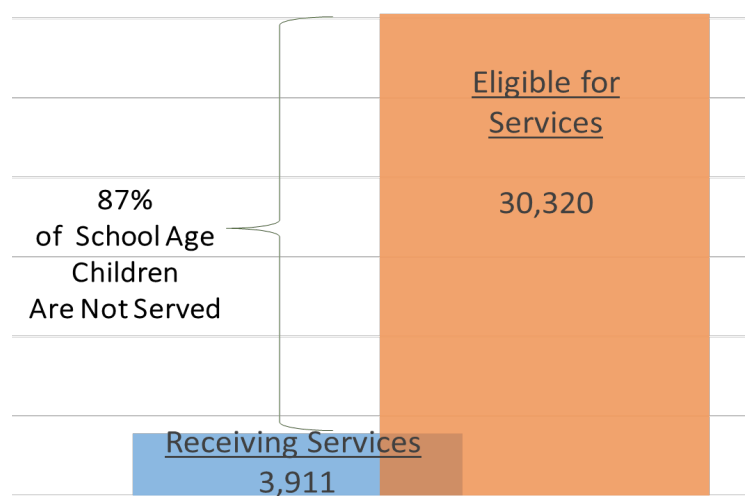
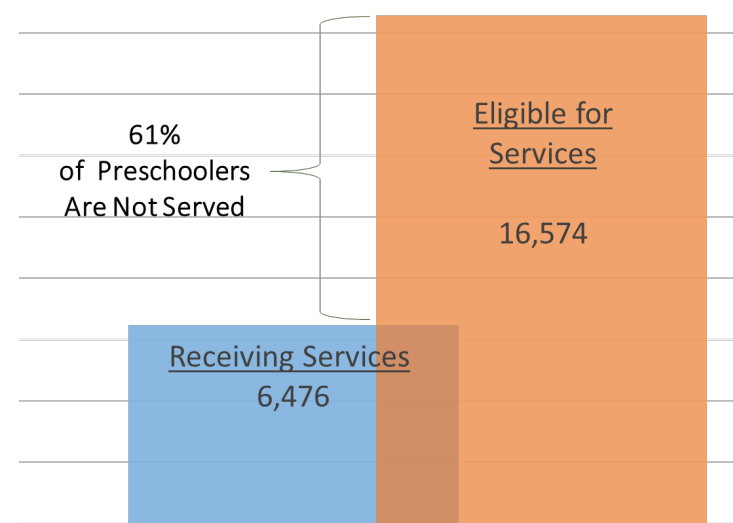
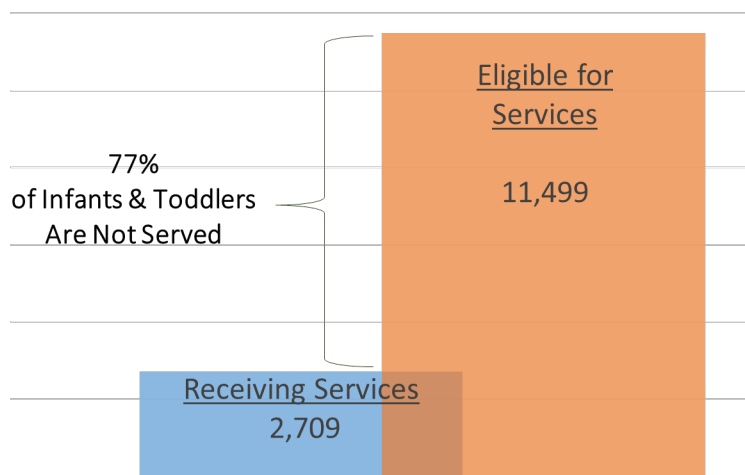
AIR Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool, 2016
America Community Survey 1-year estimates.

- **Infants and Toddlers** is children ages 0 to 2 years old
- **Preschool Age** is children ages 3 to 5 years old
- **School Age** is children ages 6 to 12 years old

Tulare County ECE Unmet Need for Children in Low-Income Families, 2016



Tulare County ECE Unmet Need for Children in Working Families, 2016



The Council's process to meet the Early Care and Education needs of Tulare County

Although, Tulare County does significant work to serve the children and families, there are still unmet needs. In 2019, the Council hosted their Eleventh Annual Legislative Event that presented the findings from the Early Care and Education Needs Assessment to the community members, legislators, administrators, and decision makers. This event highlighted the major needs that are still prominent in Tulare County and how it is influencing the children and families now and in the future.

Subsequently, the Council hosted their first Community Forum where participants discussed the Early Care and Education needs presented at the event and brainstormed ways that the needs can be met. The council utilized the needs assessment as well as the feedback from the community forum to guide their 2019-2023 Strategic Plan.



Goal 1- Support parents and providers regardless of funding

Objectives:

- Develop, collaborate, and implement supports in the area of Early Care and Education for parents and providers
- Provide professional development trainings for Early Childhood Educators
- Advocate for parent's Early Care and Education needs
- Educate community members, legislators, decision makers, and administrators on the importance of investing in Early Care and Education for all children, regardless of abilities
- Educate parents and providers on current Early Care and Education needs
- Become the hub of Early Care and Education data for Tulare County
- Advocate for Workforce Development and support for all providers

Activities:

- Provide regular Early Care and Education updates for providers
- Host Annual Private Center Based Program meetings
- Host parent meetings to advocate for the current needs
- Conduct regular Contractor meetings for State Subsidized Programs
- Collaborate with Local Resource and Referral
- Align LPC with Quality Counts California efforts
- Host annual events to advocate for quality Early Care and Education for all children
- Collaborate with local agencies to help build a unified Early Care and Education system in Tulare County
- Implement workforce efforts through grant opportunities and collaborate with local efforts to enhance the current activities



Goal 2- Raise awareness of the Council in Tulare County

Objectives:

- Educate the community about the council and its efforts to advocate for the local Early Care and Education needs
- Engage with other local agencies for collaborative efforts to meet the local Early Care and Education needs
- Become the hub of early care and education data for Tulare County
- Engage all provider types to attend council meetings

Activities:

- Participate in local community events
- Collaborate with local agencies to host informational events
- Collaborate with contractors and providers to participate in council meetings and efforts
- Collaborate with agencies to obtain current data to advocate for current Early Care and Education data
- Maintain continual communication with providers to build positive relationships



Goal 3- Stay abreast updates in the field that impact the Council's beliefs

Objectives:

- Continually align council goals to current Early Care and Education needs
- Keep Council informed of updates in the Early Care and Education field
- Stay updated on local, state, and national information regarding Early Care and Education

Activities:

- Review goals annually
- Share updates and resources with council members
- Encourage collaboration with local agencies and their efforts to improve the Early Care and Education field
- Take part in community councils, committees, etc.
- Be an active member of the local Quality Counts Consortia
- Be an active member of the California Child Care Coordinators Association
- Build relationships with local agencies to stay informed of changes that may impact the Early Care and Education field



Current Council Members

Tulare County Board of Supervisor Appointees

- **Elvira Barron**, Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education, Public Agency
- **Sherri Glenn**, Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency- Public Agency
 - Past Chair
- **Teresa Ramos**, ProYouth-Public Agency
- **Stephanie Calerda**, TCOE-Community
- **Timberly Romero**, Parenting Network-Community
 - Vice Chair
- **Michele Palermo**, Tulare County CASA-Community
- **Krissie Leach**, Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency-Consumer
- **Melissa Prado**, Parent-Consumer
 - Chair
- **Brenda Larson**, TCOE-Discretionary
- **Dianne Young**, Early Childhood Education Consultant-Discretionary
 - Board of Supervisors Representative
- **Maribel Magana**, Family Child-Care Provider
- **Rebecca Ortega**, Porterville Unified School District-Child Care Provider

Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Appointees

- **Deepa Srivastava**, University of California Cooperative Extension- Public Agency
- **Jessica Hernandez**, Lindsay Unified School District-Public Agency
- **Barbara Newman**, Central Valley Regional Center-Community
- **Christina Saucedo**, First 5 Tulare County, Community
- **Lorena Castillo**, Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education-Consumer
 - Secretary
- **Tiffany Stark**, Tulare County Office of Education-Consumer
- **Monica Pilkinton**, Early Childhood Education Consultant- Discretionary
- **Zeina Rousan**, VDA Inc.-Child Care Provider
- **Amy Sullivan**, Visalia Unified School District-Child Care Provider
- **Cheri Doria**, Lindsay Unified School District-Child Care Provider
 - Superintendent of Schools Representative

Council Meetings

The council meets the second Thursday of each month. The meeting follows the Brown Act and is open to the public.

The Council website is www.tularecountykids.org which is a source for meeting dates and times, agendas, minutes, Needs Assessment, and trainings. It also consists of links to valuable information for families with children of all ages and abilities.

For more information, please contact:
Tulare County Office of Education-Early Childhood Education
Child & Youth Development Council Manager
(559) 651-1723



“High-quality early childhood programs can boost the upward mobility of two generations by freeing working parents to build their careers and increase wages over time while their child develops a broad range of foundational skills that lead to lifelong success.”

- James Heckman, Nobel Laureate Economist
