MONTEREY COUNTY
CHILDREN'S COUNCIL

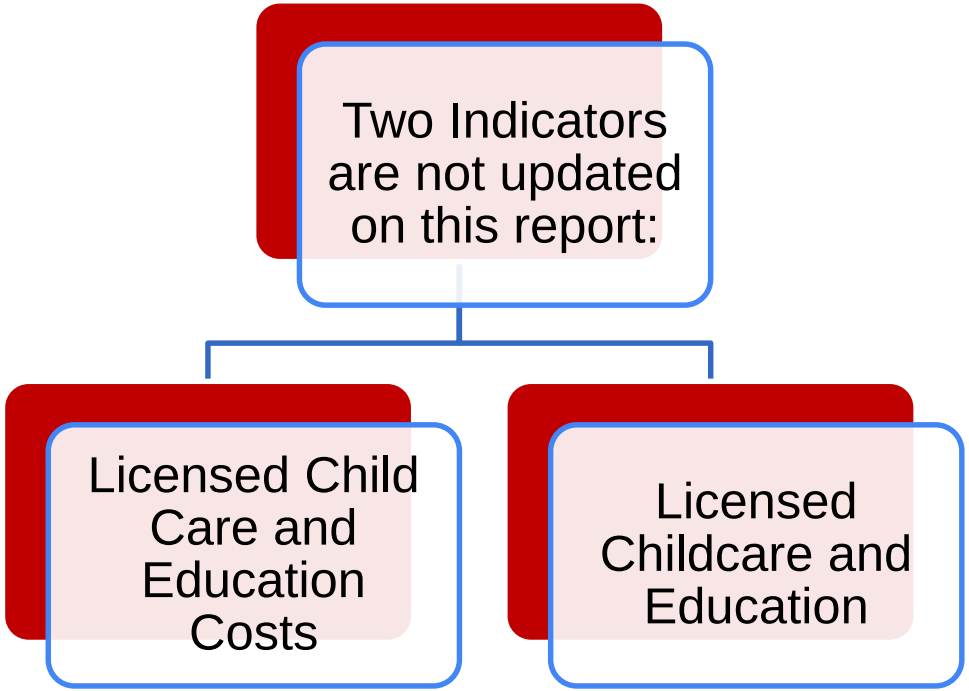
2023-2024 Annual Report Overview Presentation
March 11, 2025

Why an 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 with 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

MONTEREY COUNTY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL

Data Highlights



MONTEREY COUNTY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL

Executive Summary

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.

Birth to 18	Trend
Children Living Below Poverty Level	Fluctuating
Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Students	Increasing
Student Homelessness Enrollment	Increasing
Children Supported by CalWorks	Fluctuating
Referrals for Child Abuse and Neglect	Fluctuating
Children in Foster Care	Decreasing
Children with Health Insurance	Stable
Digital Divide	Decreasing

Birth to 5

Low Birth Weight	Stable
Early Prenatal Care	Fluctuating
Education of Mother	Fluctuating
Licensed Child Care and Education Slots *	Fluctuating
Licensed Child Care and Education Costs *	Increasing
Kindergarten Readiness	Increasing

6 to 18

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

Previous Initiatives and Areas of Focus

- All Kids, *Our* KIds
- Graduating Healthy Students
- Community Alliance for Safety & Peace
- System of Care
- Child Welfare Redesign
- Transitional Housing Program for Probation Youth in Placement

COMIENZOS BRILLANTES
INICIATIVA PARA PROMOVER EL DESARROLLO INFANTIL

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

2023-2024 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors

Presented March 11, 2025
Sonja Koehler, Director

Collective Impact

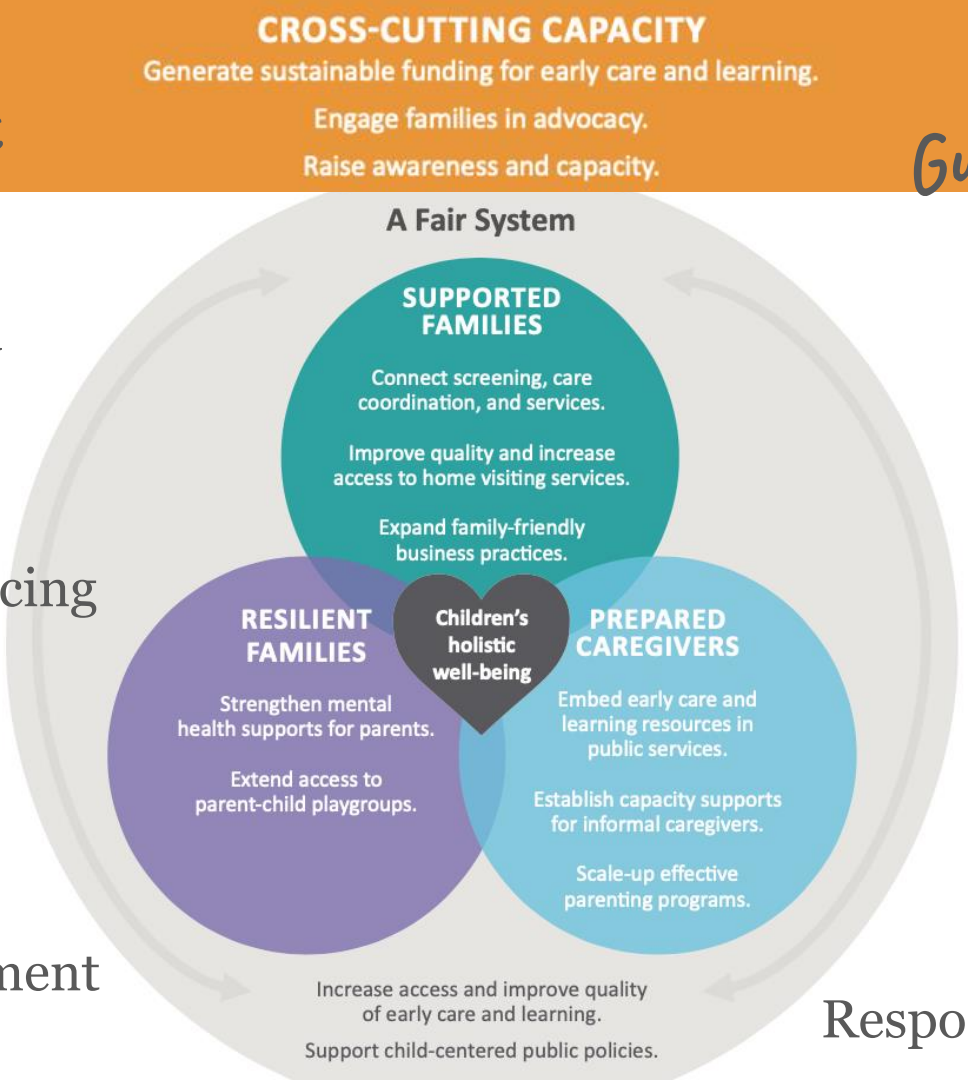
Common Agenda

Backbone

Mutually Reinforcing Action

Continuous Improvement

Shared Measurement



Guiding Principles

Equity-centered

Interconnected

Holistic

Co-creative

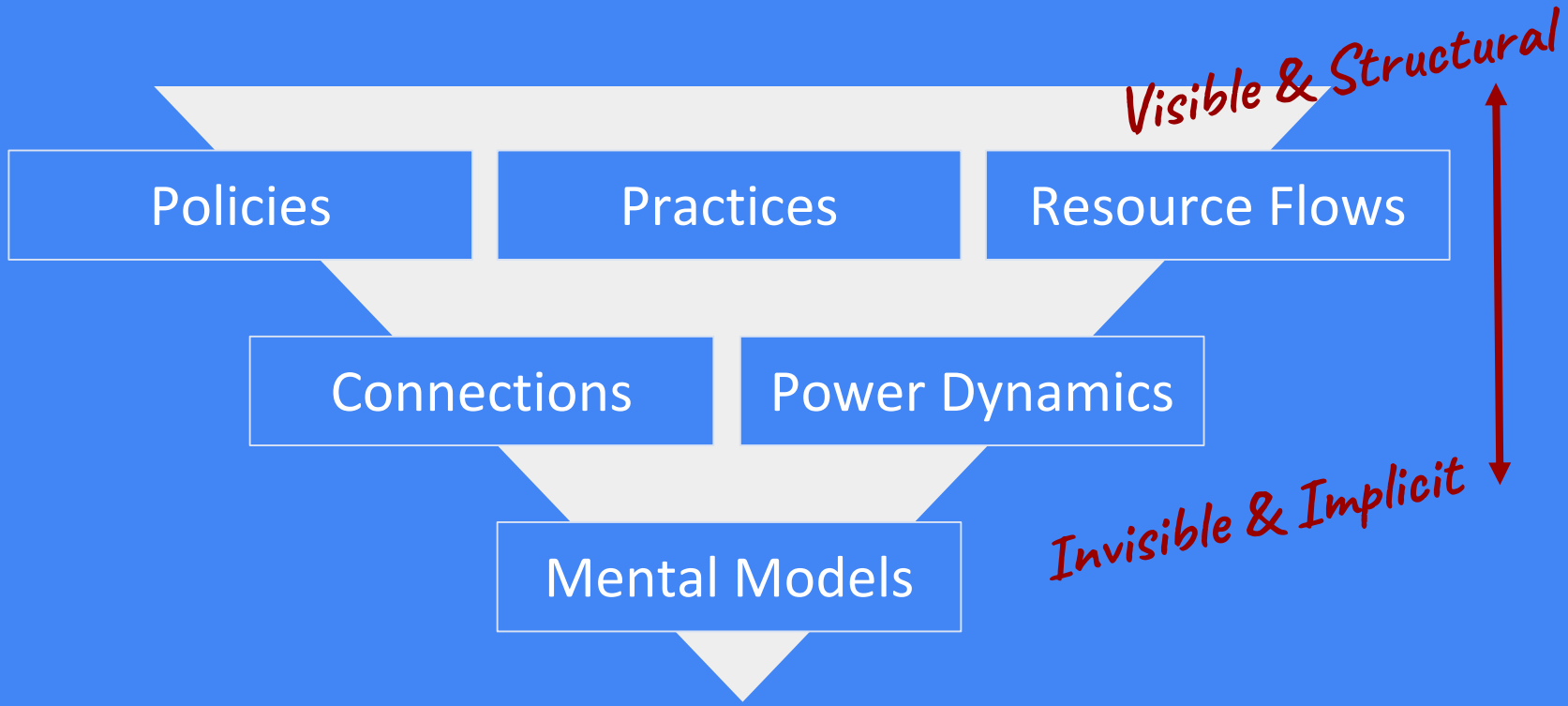
Results-based

Data-informed

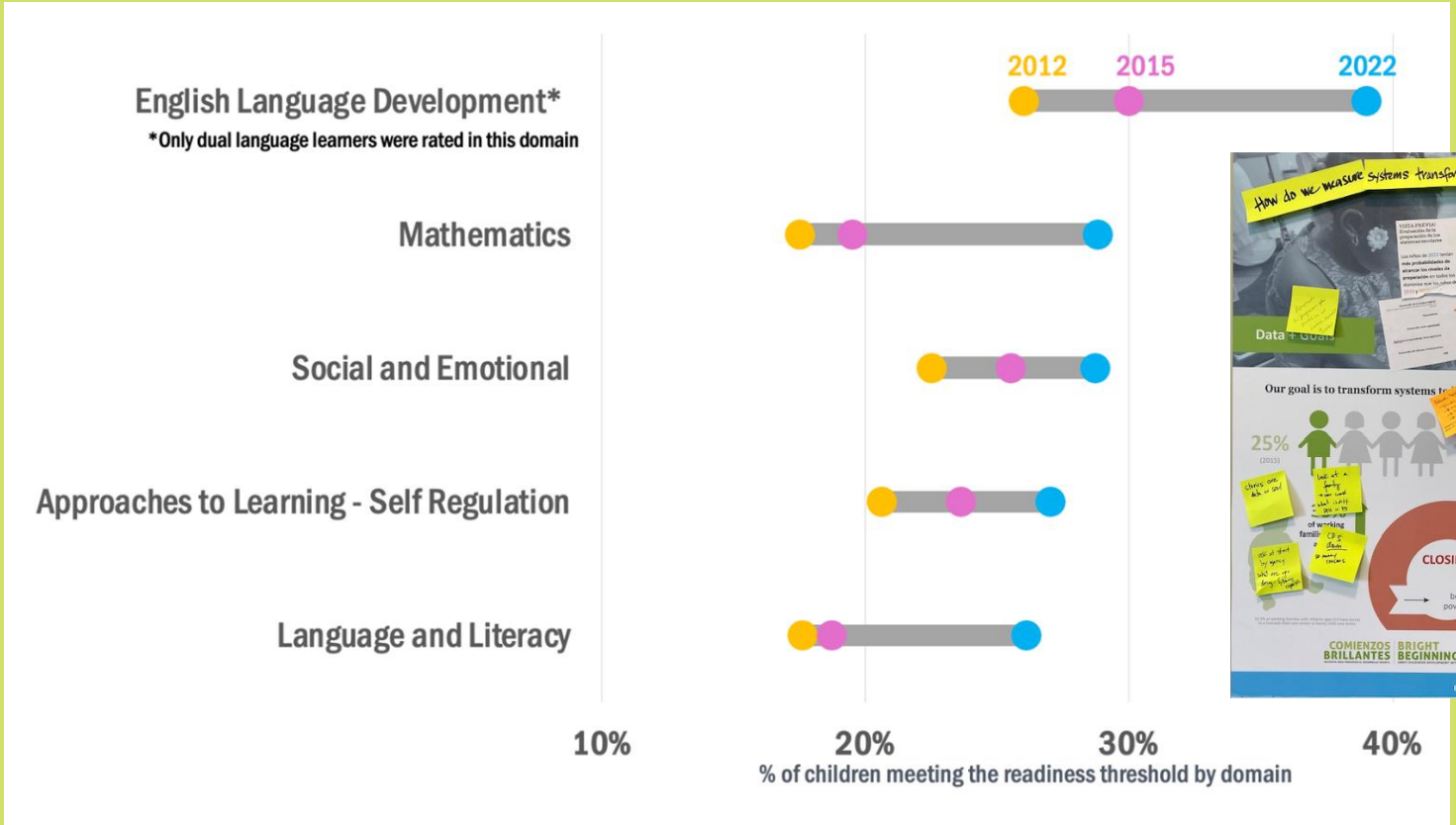
Responsive & Reflective

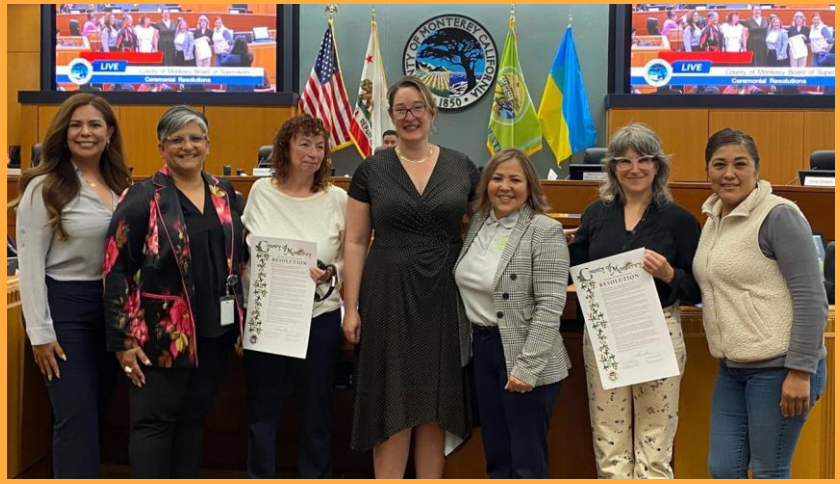
Transformational Systems Change

- Centering Young Children & Equity -



In 2022, children were **more likely to meet the readiness thresholds** across all domains than children in 2015 and 2012.





25 civic engagement capacity-building touchpoints with the Mamas de Salinas Abogan

MUJERES EN ACCIÓN

CENTRO BINACIONAL PARA EL DESARROLLO INDÍGENA OAXAQUEÑO
BINATIONAL CENTER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OAXACAN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Líderes CAMPESINAS EN CALIFORNIA

Comité PADRES UNIDOS Construyendo

Organización Mariposas

Facilitating Power

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES MONTEREY COUNTY

COMIENZOS BRILLANTES | BRIGHT BEGINNINGS
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

FIRST 5 MONTEREY COUNTY

Sesiones para diseñar la campaña

SESIÓN 1: ~~17~~ de enero 5:30 - 8:30 **Conexión y alineación**

SESIÓN 2: ~~21~~ de febrero 5:30 - 8:30 **Aprendizaje y establecimiento de metas**

SESIÓN 3: 20 de marzo 5:30 - 8:30 **Mapeo del Poder y estrategia**

Campaign Design Sessions

SESSION #1: ~~ry 17~~ 5:30 - ~~Connection~~ ignment

SESSION #2: February 21 5:30 - 8:30 **Learning & Goal-Setting**

SESSION #3: March 20 5:30 - 8:30 **Power-Mapping & Strategy**

COLIBRÍ

Conocimiento de Nuestras Conexi
Getting to Know our Connectio

...pose Proposito

To collaboratively start this campaign design process rooted in strong relationships, clear values, and aligned purpose.

Iniciar de manera colaborativa este proceso de diseño de campaña arraigado en relaciones sólidas, valores claros y propósitos alineados.

Building Community Power for Equitable Access to Child Care

2024 Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR!

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH

140+ Walked

57 Registered for MMH Forum

Maternal Mental Health Task Force

Informal Child Care Givers

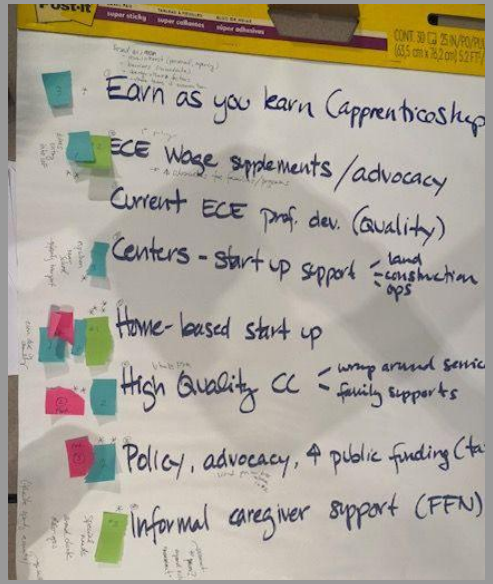
51 Family, Friend & Neighbor child care givers received CPR training & learning resources

95 families attended

89% completed enrollment

27 agencies provided resources

Greenfield Early Learning Enrollment & Resource Fair



Child Care & Early Learning in a Just & Thriving Economy

Looking Ahead . . .

COMIENZOS BRILLANTES
INICIATIVA PARA PROMOVER EL DESARROLLO INFANTIL

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Children's Bill of Rights

Trauma-informed mental health support for practitioners & immigrant families

Co-op child care

Innovation in Care

Crisis Care

Community pop-up child care

New facilities

MONTEREY COUNTY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Todd Keating - Chief Probation Officer (Council Chair)
Katy Castagna - President & CEO, United Way Monterey County
Deneen Guss - Superintendent of Schools, Office of Education
Elsa Jimenez - Director, Health Department
Lori Medina - Director, Department of Social Services

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS INITIATIVE LEADERSHIP
Edward Moreno - Public Health Officer (Initiative Co-Chair)
Francine Rodd* - First 5 Monterey County (Initiative Co-Chair)

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP
Jose Arreola - City of Salinas
Laura Dunn - Carmel Unified School District
Claudia Gomez - Door to Hope
Niaomi Hrepich - WIC, Health Department
Sonia Jaramillo - Office of Education - Early Learning Program
Caryn Lewis*- Office of Education - Ed Services
Josh Madfis*- United Way of Monterey County
Mamas de Salinas Abogan
Maria Ortiz - MAOF Resource & Referral
Ginger Pierce - Child Abuse Prevention Council
Angie Ramirez - CAPSLO
Laurie Ramirez - Office of Education - Child Care Planning Council
Mayola Rodriguez - Go Kids, Inc.
Wendy Root Askew - Office of the Supervisor – District 4
Tony Amezcua - Bright Futures Education Partnership
Shannan Watkins*- Early Development Services

** Also Steering Partners for Early Childhood Goals of the Bright Futures Educational Partnership*

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS INITIATIVE BACKBONE STAFF
Sonja Koehler - Director
Cristina De Orta - Program Support
Iris Gamez - Community Outreach, Inclusion & Advocacy Coordinator
Rebeca Zuniga - Communications Coordinator

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