

Creating a Resilient, Trauma-Informed Fresno

Fresno Community Health Improvement Project's Journey

History of collaboration to address trauma in the community. The Fresno Community Health Improvement Partnership (FCHIP), currently comprised of over 400 individuals representing over 150 entities from diverse sectors, initiated collaborative work years before establishing itself as an ACH with Fresno Metro Ministry as its backbone. At the start, FCHIP began the process of relationship building and intentionally connecting with other multi-sector collaboratives that existed across the county. As FCHIP was examining alarming data on the corrosive impacts of trauma in Fresno alongside other collaborative initiatives, local CBO leader Artie Padilla, formerly of Every Neighborhood Partnership, was seeing the adverse effects of trauma among Fresno's students, and in response, founded the Trauma and Resiliency Network (TRN). With the goal of creating a "trauma informed Fresno", the TRN experienced explosive growth in the first year and came under the umbrella of FCHIP in 2017. This laid the groundwork for the formation of the Network of Care (NoC), which began to take shape in 2021 when FCHIP received a \$2.6M ACEs Aware grant from the California, Department of Public Health to expand their work addressing childhood trauma. The formation of the NoC allowed TRN to create an actionable practice and bring in providers for creating linkages.

Building an ACH Portfolio of Interventions focused on trauma. FCHIP's initial Portfolio of Interventions focused on food insecurity, toxic stress and trauma, while delivering trauma informed training to organizational partners and successfully distributing hundreds of thousands of boxes of healthy food to Fresno residents. FCHIP leaders and partners implemented a Resilience Based Trauma-Informed approach in addressing both protective and risk factors related to trauma, with the goal of increasing community resilience to improve social determinants of health, including access to healthy food.

Community trust building and advancing equity. FCHIP has developed the capacity and relationships with dedicated, passionate cross-sector partners to garner joint action around trauma-related issues while applying a racial equity lens that enables authentic community engagement. The impact of this approach has wide reaching impacts, such as one partner's account that "FCHIP's values of health equity and racial justice are now a part of our organizational culture." FCHIP's distributed leadership model (i.e., sharing power among partner organizations) and strong governance structure has enabled them to create synergy and alignment between health care partners and CBOs to educate, share resources and leverage collaborative funding opportunities. In the words of FCHIP leader Tony Gonzalez of CalViva Health, "FCHIP has the ability to build trust with a broad set of partners, find common ground, and secure buy in."

Expanding the vision and impact in the community. Building on the momentum and success of TRN and NoC, the county provided funding for FCHIP to launch the HOPE (Health, Outreach, Prevention, Equity) Pathways Community HUB, and FCHIP continues to serve as the trusted entity and intermediary for community health focused projects being implemented countywide. The HOPE HUB contracts with seven local agencies and leverages the power of 25 CHWs as the bridge between communities and services. The HUB's launch, which is seen in Fresno as a transformative intervention, happened through the years of dedicated partnership, network building, and targeted, interlocking initiatives. As Artie Padilla describes FCHIP's evolution, "With each year, FCHIP continues to chisel and refine its focus."

Following is a journey map highlighting FCHIP's activities, growth timeline, and key outcomes.

Creating a Resilient, Trauma-Informed Fresno

Fresno Community Health Improvement Project's Journey Visualized

Establishing the Mission

Key partners in Fresno identified the need to **join forces** to address the **interlocking problems of toxic stress, trauma, and poverty** in Fresno County that harm community health and safety.

"Fresno is a little jewel of a lot of interventions"

-Tony Gonzalez, CalViva Health



FCHIP's Key Partners

FCHIP is comprised of over 400 individuals from a diverse roster of partners, such as:

- CalViva health plan
- Department of Public Health
- Fresno Metro Ministry
- CBO partners
- Hospitals
- Education partners
- Business partners

FCHIP's Key Ingredients

Collaboration: Dedicated partners working across sectors and prioritizing the value of relationship building



Strengths-based Approach: Focus on community resilience and existing community resources



Upstream Focus: Prioritize protective and risk factors to minimize rates of trauma



Equity and Distributed Leadership: Center racial equity and resident voice in all ACH activities

== Synergy, alignment & systems change

Timeline of Actions

Cross-Sector
Collaboration



Culture Shifts



Systems Change

2017

TRN formation

Trauma & Resilience Network (TRN) begins, led by local leader Artie Padilla, formerly of Every Neighborhood Partnership

TRN comes under the umbrella of FCHIP

TRN begins to build out its network

The Trauma & Resilience Network (TRN) began as an informal network of CBOs working on addressing trauma in Fresno, particularly trauma experienced by children.
Their goal: Train 2000 providers in trauma-informed practices by 2025.

2018

Trainings begin

TRN holds first conference in Spring of 2018 and sells out 200 seat venue in 2 days

TRN begins to train people, initially focusing on CBOs and quickly scaling trainings through engaging outside support and utilizing a "train the trainer" model

Through conferences and trainings, the TRN quickly expanded awareness of trauma throughout Fresno county and created true cultural transformation.
By investing in a strong foundation for trainings, the TRN trained over 500 people in their first few months.

2021

Network of Care takes shape

NoC begins and secures \$2.6M ACEs Aware grant

NoC implements interoperability plan and brings FindHelp and Unite Us, resource and referral platforms, to CBOs to support closed-loop referrals across network partners

The early work of the TRN laid the groundwork for the Network of Care (NoC) grant through its culture shifting training campaign and through building a network that the NoC could leverage.
The formation of the NoC enabled the continued expansion of the TRN and created capacity to expand strategies and focuses.

2022

HOPE HUB launches

ACEs Aware grant ends after 17 months

HOPE HUB launches, including an outcome based payment model, which FCHIP began laying the groundwork for in 2019

The launch of the HOPE HUB utilizes existing NoC relationships and marks a new chapter of innovation for Fresno. It will funnel resources to underserved communities, improve pay for CHWs, and drive outcomes.
The HOPE HUB is now the biggest HUB in the nation based on external funds invested and is well poised to align with CalAIM.

Major Accomplishments to Date

At the sunset of the CACHI grant period

- ◆ Over 5,000 individuals and providers across Fresno County have been trained in trauma-informed practices, far exceeding the TRN's original goal
- ◆ Closed loop referrals increased and Primary Care Providers are now screening for SDoH and ACEs at higher rates.
- ◆ Culture shifting efforts have resulted in an increasing number of organizations hiring and training CHWs and sectors such as law enforcement and corporations incorporating trauma-informed teachings.
- ◆ About 70 CBOs adopted the ACEs Aware milestone tracker through FCHIP's introduction of IT platforms.
- ◆ Through building backbone capacity, FCHIP has been able to effectively transition out of the grant period and continue its growth by embracing braided funding.
- ◆ The Department of Public Health, as a member of FCHIP, secured funding from the Board of Supervisors for the development of the HOPE HUB.

In the Words of FCHIP's Partners...

- ◆ "FCHIP has given me a much deeper understanding what public health is all about and how complex it is and how it weaves in other areas like housing, economy, etc" -Anonymous Partner
- ◆ "FCHIP has changed my understanding of community needs and priorities. As I hear the input from the community partners and other leaders, I gain a better understanding of the needs of the community"
-Anonymous Partner