

Child Abuse Prevention Services in Fresno County

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Background

- Between October 2016 and September 2017:
 - 490,000 children in California were alleged victims of abuse or neglect.
 - 20,191 of those children were residents of Fresno County.
- Child Abuse is often the result of parental mental health, substance abuse and/or domestic violence issues.
- The CDC estimates the national lifetime costs associated with child maltreatment to be \$124 billion.



DSS Child Abuse Prevention Services

- On March 7, 2017, your Board approved a Strategic Plan for enhancing Child Abuse Prevention efforts and contracts with four organizations were approved.
- On July 1, 2017, the four contracted organizations began providing services at six NRC sites in rural and metro areas of Fresno County.
- Neighborhood Resource Centers (NRCs) are recognized as a strength-based, research validated approach used nationally to improve the well-being of children and families.

NRC Services

NRCs serve as the hub of prevention and early intervention activities in their designated geographic areas. By strengthening families, NRCs help build strong, healthy communities.

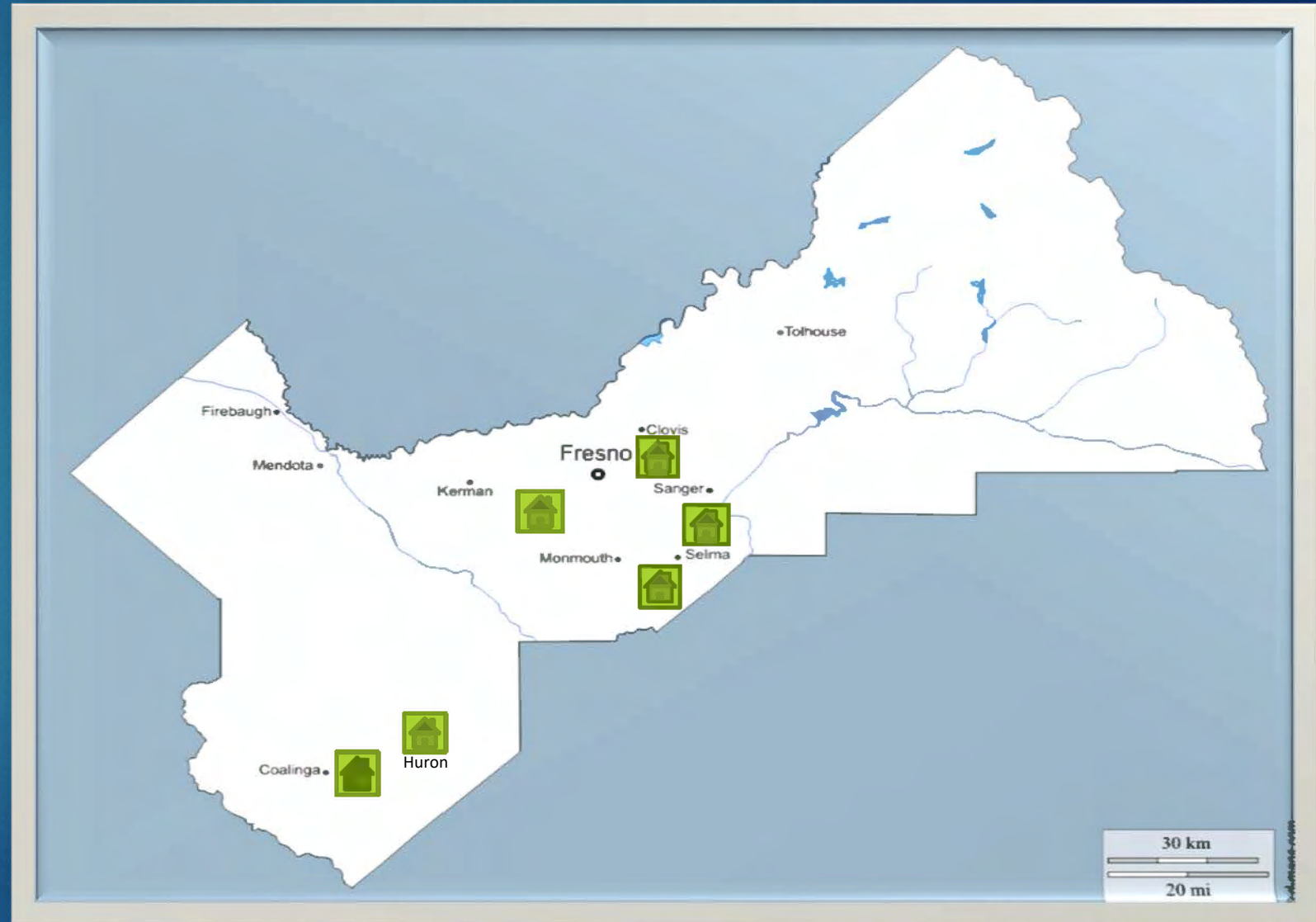
Core NRC services include:

- Parent Education
- Child Development Activities
- Resource and Referral
- Peer-to-Peer Supports
- Drop-in Availability
- Life Skills Advocacy
- Case Management
- Community Development Activities



Fresno County NRC Locations

- ❖ Coalinga - Westside Family Preservation Services Network
- ❖ Huron - Westside Family Preservation Services Network
- ❖ East Fresno - Valley Dream Center in partnership with Exceptional Parents Unlimited
- ❖ West Fresno - West Fresno Family Resource Center in partnership with Centro La Familia Advocacy Services
- ❖ Sanger - Comprehensive Youth Services
- ❖ Selma - Comprehensive Youth Services



Coalinga NRC- Westside Family Preservation Services Network



Huron NRC- Westside Family Preservation Services Network



East Fresno NRC- Valley Dream Center (VDC)

In partnership with Exceptional Parents Unlimited



West Fresno NRC-West Fresno Family Resource Center

In partnership with Centro La Familia Advocacy Services



Sanger NRC- Comprehensive Youth Services



Selma NRC- Comprehensive Youth Services



NRC Impacts

- NRCs lower the risk of child abuse and neglect by providing access to support and resources
- Anticipated long-term program outcomes include:
 - Decrease in children abused/neglected
 - Reduced number of children in Foster Care
 - Reduced number of subsequent allegations of child abuse and neglect
- Since July 1, 2017, the 6 NRC locations in Fresno County have provided:

Services and support to over 3,757 families

Going Forward

- DSS is developing a plan to expand its child abuse prevention services by broadening the network of NRCs to additional rural and metro areas
- The goal of this expansion is to grow the number of NRCs in Fresno County and support more communities
- You can expect to see items related to the NRC expansion coming to your Board in the near future