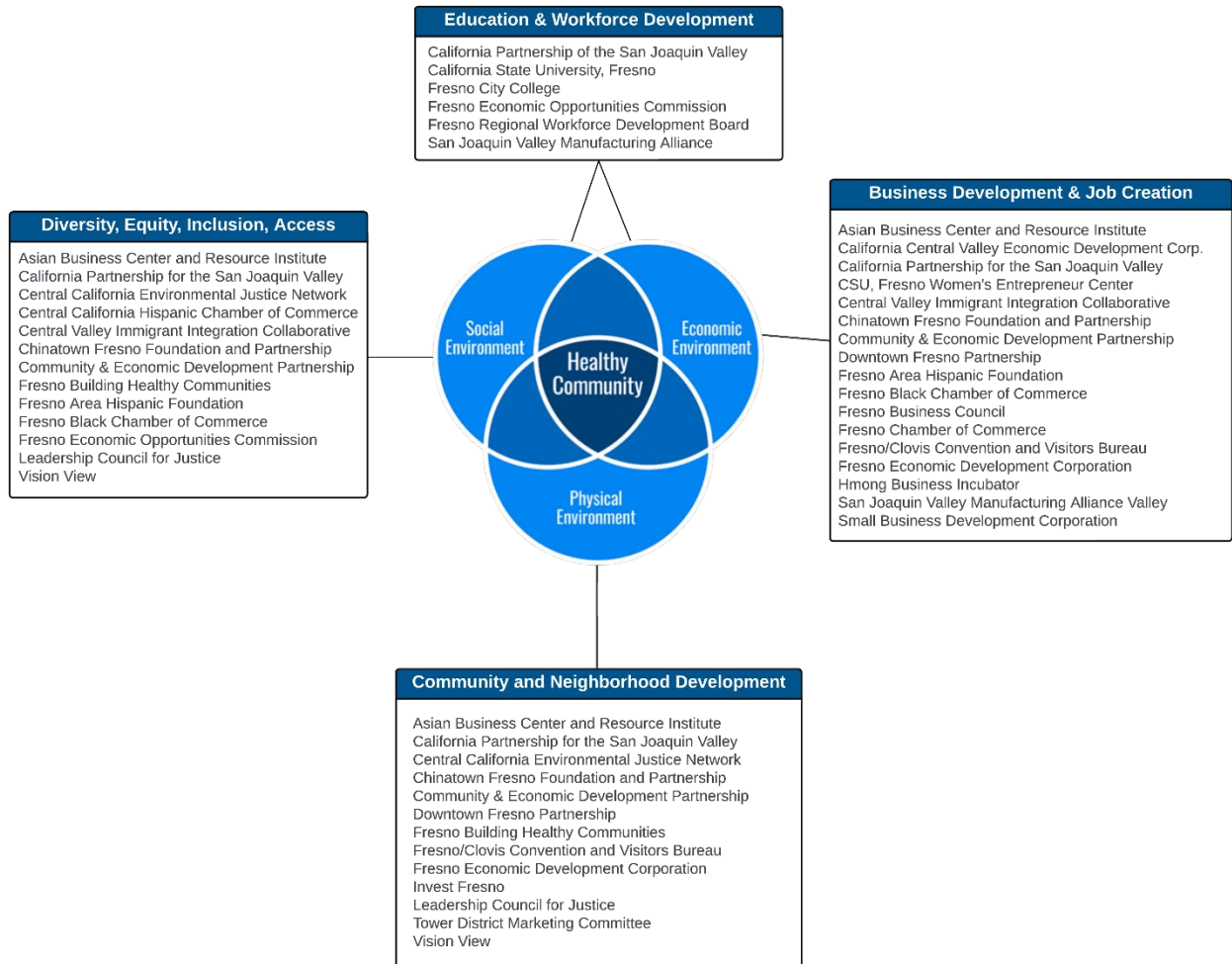


# APPENDIX C: Organizational Ecosystem

The City of Fresno and the greater Central Valley region enjoy a substantial and proactive ecosystem of organizations and initiatives working independently and collaboratively to protect and improve the economic future of the region. Below is a listing and summary of the organizations and work being done by each organization.

One of the most important roles the City of Fresno can play in this ecosystem is strategic coordination. This includes connecting groups, ensuring information flows among the organizations, protecting against duplication of efforts and conflicts.



**Asian Business Center and Resource Institute (ABIRC)** [www.fresnoabirc.org](http://www.fresnoabirc.org) supports and promotes Asian business owners in the Central California region by providing networking opportunities and programs such as the first Hmong Cohort in the Central Valley, fundraisers for local schools, and partnerships with local non-profit organizations.

**Building Healthy Communities** [www.fresnobhc.org](http://www.fresnobhc.org) is working to build a foundation for a healthier community by creating social capital, bridging diverse organizations through an informed, engaged, and active citizenry.

**California Central Valley Economic Development Corporation (CCVEDC)** [www.centralcalifornia.org](http://www.centralcalifornia.org) was formed in the late 1980s by the professional economic development organizations serving California's Central Valley counties as a marketing collaborative. CCVEDC and its members present the region as a competitive business location to companies, site selectors, brokers and developers.

**California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley** [www.sjvpartnership.org](http://www.sjvpartnership.org) is hosted by the Fresno State University Office of Community and Economic Development. The SJV Partnership provides an organizational framework for collaboration to improve the quality of life in the San Joaquin Valley by focusing on creating a prosperous economy, quality environment, and social equity throughout the valley through eleven regional work groups (Advanced Communication, Air Quality, Economic Development, Housing, PreK-12 Education, Sustainable Communities, Water Quality, Supply and Reliability and Workforce Development).

**California State University, Fresno** [www.fresnostate.edu](http://www.fresnostate.edu) is home to about 25,000 students, over 70 bachelor and 48 master programs. The University's strategic goals are to enhance personal well being and professional fulfillment, bridge the campus and community, cultivate regional progress, modernize facilities and technology, and embody full inclusivity.

**California State University, Fresno Women's Entrepreneur Center** [www.centralvalleywec.org](http://www.centralvalleywec.org) is a partnership program with the Small Business Administration (SBA) that offers a variety of business support services to assist women in starting, growing, managing, or selling their small business.

**Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)** [www.ccejn.org](http://www.ccejn.org) is a coalition of grassroots environmental justice groups and individuals dedicated to preserving natural resources, minimizing or eliminating negative environmental impacts, and supporting environmental health education, community organizing, collaborative dialogue, and political involvement in rural, low-income and underserved communities of color in the San Joaquin Valley.

**Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** [www.cchcc.biz](http://www.cchcc.biz) fosters economic growth that creates and sustains prosperity for the benefit of all people while promoting the awareness and preservation of the Hispanic culture. Services include education and networking opportunities, access to capital, and other business connections.

**Central Valley Immigrant Integration Collaborative (CVIIC)** [www.cviic.org](http://www.cviic.org) is dedicated to ensuring full participation of immigrants in building strong, vibrant, inclusive communities. Programs and services include entrepreneurship, small business support, training, grants and financing assistance.

**Chinatown Fresno Foundation and Partnership** [www.chinatownfresno.org](http://www.chinatownfresno.org) was formed to foster civic pride and enhance quality of life by generating funds to support the improvement of the social, physical, and cultural environment of Historic Chinatown Fresno.

**Community & Economic Development Partnership** (Fresno CDEP) [www.fresnocedp.org](http://www.fresnocedp.org) is a community-based organization formed to build community and economic development capacity in Fresno neighborhoods with median household incomes below the poverty. Through policy, preparation, participation, and production CDEP helps build strong leaders for the civic infrastructure in Fresno.

**Downtown Fresno Partnership** [www.downtownfresno.org](http://www.downtownfresno.org) leads efforts to create downtown as a vibrant hub of business activity by promoting its image, supporting physical improvements and development, advocating for merchants, and hosting special events that bring new life to the historic core of the city.

**Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation** (FAHF) [fresnoahf.org](http://fresnoahf.org) develops strategies and policies to better serve all Spanish and English-speaking business owners interested in the welfare of the Fresno-area Hispanic community. The Foundation offers a variety of services including office space, funding to help small business start-ups.

**Fresno Building Healthy Communities** (Fresno BHC) ([www.fresnobhc.org](http://www.fresnobhc.org)) A coalition of community members working to build a foundation for a healthy community by creating social capital, bridging diverse communities and organizations, and empowering grassroots leaders. Primary focus is on Southeast, Central, and Southwest Fresno.

**Fresno Business Council** (FBC) <http://www.Fresnobc.org> was founded in 1993 by business leaders as a catalyst for change and to tackle economic and social issues in the community. The Council creates and implements collaborative strategies and community initiatives including the Center for Advanced Research & Technology (CART), the Choosing Our Future Report, the Human Investment Initiative, and the San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance.

**Fresno Chamber of Commerce** [www.fresnochamber.com](http://www.fresnochamber.com) promotes and supports the success of the regional business community through effective advocacy, education and relationship building.

**Fresno City College** [www.fresnocitycollege.edu](http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu) as California's first community college, Fresno City College is dedicated to working collaboratively to enhance the economic and social development of the region and providing access to equity-centered, innovative educational programs.

**Fresno/Clovis Convention & Visitors Bureau** [www.visitfresnocounty.org](http://www.visitfresnocounty.org) is a destination marketing organization that is dedicated to promoting the Fresno/Clovis region to travel markets.

**Fresno County Economic Development Corporation** (Fresno EDC) [www.fresnoedc.com](http://www.fresnoedc.com) is a public/private nonprofit organization established to market Fresno County as the premier location for business locations. The EDC collaborates with business, government and civic leaders to maximize the area's economic prosperity and global competitiveness, facilitates site selection for new and expanding businesses, and assists in the retention and expansion of businesses through alliances with collaborative partners and resources.

**Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission** (EOC) [www.fresnoeoc.org](http://www.fresnoeoc.org) established in 1965, is one of the nation's largest Community Action Agency. EOC offers over 35 programs that help people become self-sufficient, including preschool education, vocational training, youth recreation, senior citizen hot meal services, energy conservation education, crisis intervention, preventive health care, prenatal nutrition education, vocational counseling and job placement.

**Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce** [www.fmbcc.com](http://www.fmbcc.com) works to advance the interests of the Black business community by delivering value-added services and opportunities to members and the community at-large with programs and resources that support an open, thriving market without social, economic or political barriers.

**Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board** [www.frwdb.net](http://www.frwdb.net) is a Joint Powers Authority between the City of Fresno and the County of Fresno established to manage Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding, and to provide services that will ensure participants find jobs and that businesses have access to a skilled workforce.

**Hmong Business Incubator Center** [www.hbicenter.org](http://www.hbicenter.org) empowers individuals in underrepresented and underserved communities to overcome challenges in navigating business systems and creates an entrepreneurial environment that encourages innovation in the Hmong community.

**Invest Fresno** ([investfresnoc.com](http://investfresnoc.com)) is a coalition of community leaders, residents, and local business owners working to create opportunities and growing the economy to help raise the standard of living, create more career opportunities, improve neighborhoods and strengthen community services.

**Leadership Council for Justice** [www.leadershipcounsel.org](http://www.leadershipcounsel.org) through community organizing, research, communications, legal representation, and policy advocacy, the Leadership Council aims to influence land use and transportation planning, public investment priorities, guide environmental policy, and promote the provision of basic infrastructure and services.

**San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance (SJVMA)** [www.sjvma.org](http://www.sjvma.org) is an organization of the Valley's manufacturing leaders working together to advance industry and create a world-class workforce at the local level by developing resources, collaborating with education, hosting special events and industry specific sector roundtables.

The **Tower District Marketing Committee** ([www.towerdistrict.org](http://www.towerdistrict.org)) is a nonprofit organization established to promote and develop commerce, community, and the cultural environment in Fresno's Tower District through special events and planned economic development.

**Valley Small Business Development Corporation (VSBDC)** [www.vsbdc.com](http://www.vsbdc.com) is a nonprofit, public benefit, small business development corporation authorized to make direct loans to farmers and small businesses, provide technical assistance and financial literacy, and to guarantee small businesses and family farms with increased access to capital.

**Vision View** ([www.communityvisionca.org](http://www.communityvisionca.org)) promotes economic justice and alleviates poverty by increasing the financial resilience and sustainability of community-based nonprofits and enterprises, creating opportunities to make socially responsible investments that revitalize Northern and Central California communities.