

# Memo

**To:** Commission Members  
**From:** Alexander Khu  
**Date:** Monday February 11, 2019  
**Re:** February 11, 2019 Commission Meeting

---

Enclosed are the materials for the February 11, 2019 Commission meeting which will take place as follows:

**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Location:** 1485 Civic Court Suite 1200, Concord, CA  
925-771-7300

A light dinner will be provided.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Alexander Khu, Executive Assistant  
First 5 Contra Costa  
1485 Civic Court  
Suite 1200  
Concord, CA 94520  
925-771-7342 Direct  
925-771-6083 Fax



## Commission Meeting Agenda

Monday, February 11, 2019, 6:00 pm  
1485 Civic Court, Suite 1200  
Large Conference Room  
Concord, CA

### 1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

### 2.0 Public Comment

*The public may comment on any item of public interest within the jurisdiction of the First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission. In accordance with the Brown Act, if a member of the public addresses an item not on the posted agenda, no response, discussion, or action on the item may occur.*

### 3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

**Action**

*A Commissioner or member of the public may ask that any of the following consent items be removed from the consent calendar for consideration under Item 4.*

#### 3.1 Approve the minutes from the December 3, 2018 meeting.

#### 3.2 Accept the Executive Committee Report from the December 3, 2018 meeting.

#### 3.3 Approve the Contracts Docket

- 3.3.1 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director to execute a 16-month contract with Early Quality Systems, LLC to develop and implement a comprehensive Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) application and online portal in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for a term February 12, 2019 to June 30, 2020. FY2018-19 budget line: Early Childhood Education Initiative: Early Learning Quality (\$801,760). 100% F5 CA Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive (IMPACT) funds.

#### 3.4 Accept the FY 2018-2019 Second Quarter Financial Report

### 4.0 Consider for discussion any items removed from the consent calendar.

### 5.0 Presentation of the Conflict of Interest laws pertinent to the Commissioners and staff Mary Ann Mason, Chief of Assistant County Counsel

### 6.0 Continuation of Mid-Point Report on 2016-2020 Strategic Plan Indicators & Initiative Summary

### 7.0 Policy & Advocacy Report The Governor's Proposed State Budget for 2019-2020

### 8.0 Executive Director's Report



## 9.0 Communications

- Communications from Wanda Session
- Bay Area power brokers fired a major shot in the fight against the housing shortage
- California Health Report: Appointment of New Surgeon General Puts Spotlight on Early Childhood Adversity
- CalMatters.org: What Other States can Teach California About Preschool for All
- Fact-Sheet Dollars for Child Care Preschool in 2018-19

## 10.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

## 11.0 Adjourn

The First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to participate in Commission meetings who contact the Commission's offices, at least 48 hours before the meeting, at (925) 771-7300.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission to a majority of members of the First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1485 Civic Court, Suite 1200, Concord, CA 94520 during normal business hours.

In consideration of those who may suffer from chemical sensitivities or who may have allergic reactions to heavy scents, First 5 Contra Costa requests that staff and visitors refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, or the use of strongly scented products in the work place. We thank you for your consideration of others.



Monday February 11, 2019

Agenda Item 3.1

Approve the minutes from the December 3, 2018 Commission Meeting



## Commission Meeting MINUTES

Monday, December 3, 2018, 6:00 pm  
1485 Civic Court, Suite 1200  
Large Conference Room  
Concord, CA

### 1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM

Chair Gareth Ashley began the meeting with introductions from all attendees.

Commissioners in attendance were:

Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Dr. Christopher Farnitano, Kathy Gallagher, and Kathy Marsh.

Also present was Deputy County Counsel Keiko Kobayashi.

Not present were Commissioners Dr. Rocio Hernandez, PJ Shelton, Supervisor Diane Burgis, Alternates Monica Merrill, Matt Regan, Supervisor Candace Andersen, Katharine Mason and Roslyn Gentry.

### 2.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

### 3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Kathy Gallagher seconded by John Jones to approve the consent calendar.

**AYES:** Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Dr. Christopher Farnitano, Kathy Gallagher, and Kathy Marsh.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

The consent calendar was **APPROVED**.

### 4.0 Consider for discussion any items removed from the consent calendar.

There were no items removed from the consent calendar.

### 5.0 Recognize First 5 staff who have surpassed milestones and appreciate the entire staff for their continuing dedication and accomplishment.

The Commission has adopted the practice of annually appreciating First 5 staff and recognizing those who have surpassed milestones. The following staff were recognized:

Rhea Laughlin, Community Engagement Program Officer for 15 years of service.

Randy Blackstock, Family Support Program Assistant II for 10 years of service.

Edirle Menezes, Early Childhood Education Program Officer for 5 years of service.

Gabi Rivas, Community Engagement Coordinator for 5 years of service.

After the recognition, Gareth Ashley led the Commission into a brief session thanking First 5 Contra Costa staff for their work and accomplishments in making a difference in the lives of young children in Contra Costa County.



**6.0 Recognize Wanda Session's 8 years of service to First 5 Children & Families Commission.**

Sean Casey thanked and recognized Health Services Alternate Wanda Session's 8 years of service to the First 5 Children & Families Commission. Wanda's first meeting was November 1, 2010. She recently retired after over 30 years of service in the Health Services Department.

**7.0 Presentation of the 2018 Year in Review**

Sean gave a PowerPoint presentation of the 2018 Year-In-Review. He noted the following highlights:

Over 8,800 children, 1,160 parents and 2300 providers (unduplicated numbers) were directly served in First 5's principal funded initiatives.

In the Family Support Initiative over 525 parents participated in Welcome Home Baby home visiting and over 275 parents and other caregivers participated in Triple P parenting classes. Over 2,000 children and 2,100 parents participated in First 5 Centers activities. We made significant progress in East County where we broke ground on the new Pittsburg site and held the grand opening of the Antioch site. These were significant community events that brought together the community, staff, families, elected officials and other leaders.

The Early Intervention Initiative reported over 3,500 developmental screenings performed and over 375 professionals trained in screening, childhood trauma and early intervention. We mounted a significant social marketing campaign for the Help Me Grow (HMG) initiative and through 211.org received 725 calls from parents of children age 0-5 and made 500 referrals for parents and caregivers to essential services for children.

One hundred and fifty-eight sites continued to participate in the Quality Matters in FY 17-18 with 48 additional sites recruited for FY 18-19; 67% of the current rated sites are at the QRIS high quality levels.

Our advocacy efforts continued to expand, as the Family Economic Security Partnership held sessions for over 38 participating agencies on ballot initiatives, the 2020 Census, ethical storytelling, housing and poverty.

With the rollout of the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) we held our first Coffee & Kids Policy Breakfast for a broad audience of agency directors, elected officials, school district representatives and others to talk about how we can unite our resources on behalf of young children. Supervisor John Gioia and State Senator Bill Dodd were both active participants.

The Community Engagement program was a recipient of the "Movement Voice Award" from the Faith Alliance for a Moral Economy. Community Engagement provided community level data on the effects of housing insecurity on children to a report developed by the Raise the Roof Coalition. And notably, so far over \$2.5 million has been invested in park improvements by local cities as the result of the Regional Groups assessment and advocacy for improved parks in their communities.

Looking forward to 2019, we expect to roll out the "Ready Community, Ready Schools, Ready Families" project; hold the grand opening of the East County First 5 Center; have our second Coffee and Kids policy breakfast; and look forward to what the new Governor may have in mind for young children.

**8.0 Annual Report to First 5 California for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.**

- (a) Public Hearing on First 5 Contra Costa's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2017-2018  
The commission is statutorily required to have a public hearing on its annual report to the State.

Chair Gareth Ashley opened the public on the annual report to California First 5 for the fiscal year 2017-2018. He informed the Commission that the collected data from all First 5s is used by the First 5 Association to educate funders, advocates and legislators about the statewide impact of First 5.

Sean reported that the findings and data support the year-end were highlighted on the Year In Review presentation. Highlights of the summary include AR1 budget financials (our funding in their terms), essentially our annual expenditure. The format of the summary was prescribed by the state.

There were no questions from the Commission.  
The Chair closed the public hearing.

- (b) Adopt the Annual Report to First 5 California for Fiscal Year 2017-2018  
A motion was made by Kathy Marsh seconded by Marilyn Lucey to adopt the annual report to First 5 California for Fiscal Year 2017 – 2018.

**AYES:** Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Dr. Christopher Farnitano, Kathy Gallagher, and Kathy Marsh.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

The consent calendar was **APPROVED**.

**9.0 Contract Amendment No. 3 to Agreement for Architectural Design Services for Renovation of Commission's Property at 355 E. Leland Road, Pittsburg, CA**

Sean reported that the third amendment to the contract would allow the Consulting Services Agreement with Loving Campos Associates, Architects, Inc. dba LCA Architects, Inc. to increase the payment limit by \$52,674.92 to a new payment limit of \$223,679.92 to provide and install computer network (IT) and audio-visual (AV) systems for the renovation of the Commissioner's property at 335 E. Leland Road, Pittsburg CA.

A motion was made by Kathy Gallagher, seconded by Lee Ross, to approve the contract amendment No. 3 to Agreement for Architectural Design Services for Renovation of Commission's Property at 355 E. Leland Road, Pittsburg, CA

**AYES:** Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Dr. Christopher Farnitano, Kathy Gallagher, and Kathy Marsh.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

The consent calendar was **APPROVED**.

**10.0 Consider approving the Slate of Officers of the Commission for 2019:**

Nominating Committee member, Lee Ross introduced the new Slate of Officers for the Commission for calendar year 2019. He thanked them all for taking the time to serve.

**Chair:** Gareth Ashley

**Vice-Chair:** John Jones

**Secretary / Treasurer:** Marilyn Lucey

**Additional Non-Voting Member:** Lee Ross

Dr. Farnitano made a motion, and Kathy Gallagher seconded to approve the Slate of Officers of the Commission for 2019.

**AYES:** Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Dr. Christopher Farnitano, Kathy Gallagher, and Kathy Marsh.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

The consent calendar was **APPROVED**.

**11.0 Consider approving the standing meetings for 2019**

Sean proposed to the Commission to consider approving the new meeting schedule. The meetings will now occur on the second Mondays of the designated months. If approved, a calendar invite will be sent to all the Commissioners.

Marilyn Lucey made a motion seconded by Kathy Marsh to approve the consent calendar.

**AYES:** Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Dr. Christopher Farnitano, Kathy Gallagher, and Kathy Marsh.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

The consent calendar was **APPROVED**.

**12.0 Executive Director's Report**

Sean Casey provided the following report:

My report is quick, just to update you on a few staff activities. First, I'd like to welcome Brian Kelley to our midst. He is our new communications assistant and will be working on our communications plan, branding, and social media. He also did the very nice PowerPoint presentation you saw this evening. A resident of Concord, he is a distance runner, and has been a marketing and social media consultant to athletes and sports companies in the past. He was a graphic and web designer for the SF Chronicle and SFGate as well. We're happy to have him on board with us!

Last week I let you know that Sarah Crow will be leaving us at the end of December. She will be with the First 5 Association as it takes on a very exciting grant from the JB Pritzker Foundation to improve CA health policy for children 0-3. In that role she will have the opportunity to influence funding for developmental screening, early intervention, social/emotional development, home visiting and prevention of all kinds in the early



years. In the last two years she has been able to raise our local and state advocacy game, while improving our evaluation and research efforts. We will miss her, but we are glad to have had her for the time that we did and look forward to her future success.

Finally, we learned just this afternoon that the Employment and Human Services Department's application for CalWORKS funds for home visiting was accepted, with \$1.2 million for the initial 18 months of operation. This application was a collaborative effort on the part of EHSD's Workforce Services Bureau, the Community Services Bureau's Early Head Start program, the Health Services Department's Nurse-Family Partnership program and First 5. CalWORKS funding for home visiting was included in the state budget for the first time this year, as a result of advocacy on the part of our state association and other advocates. It's a great step forward for family support and strengthening efforts in Contra Costa.

**13.0 Communications**

None Received.

**14.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates**

There were none.

**15.0 Adjourn**

The next Commission meeting is on February 11, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.



Monday February 11, 2019

Agenda Item 3.2

Accept the Executive Committee Report from the December 3, 2018 meeting.



**Executive Committee  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES**

December 3, 2018

5:00 p.m.

Small Conference Room,  
1485 Civic Court, Suite 1200, Concord, CA

**1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:05.

In attendance: Commission members Ashley, Jones, Lucey and Ross; staff member Casey, Fernandez and Huddleston

**2.0 Public Comment**

There was none.

**3.0 Staff Updates**

Ruth Fernandez, Deputy Director gave the following Program Updates for October – November 2018:

**Quality Matters Initiative:** The 2017-18 ratings are underway, to be completed this month. Quality Matters enrollment was completed for 2018-2019 with a total of 45 new QRIS and three new QIS programs, bringing the total of Quality Matters programs to 189.

The California Department of Education released the Quality Counts California Grant (QCC) for 18/19 and Contra Costa's allocation is \$382,834. Staff are working on the QCC application due December 14.

**First 5 Contra Costa's Early Childhood Trauma 103 Module Kick-off:** On November 13th, F5's Early Childhood Trauma Fellows delivered their first Trauma 103 Module Workshop. The workshop was well attended with participants from Head Start, the County Public Health Department, home visiting, mental health, Family Support Centers, and child care programs.

**Wrap-around Trainings:** First 5 Contra Costa is sponsoring a series of trainings on "wrap around service model" during the month of November to support multiple early childhood mental health agencies (ARC, We Care, and ECMH). The trainings are presented by Pat Miles, a national expert on this model.

**CalWorks Home Visiting Grant:** First 5 Contra Costa was partner to the Contra Costa County CalWORKs Home Visiting Initiative County Plan, a collaborative effort seeking \$1,830,790 to expand Early Head Start (Welcome Home Baby) and Nurse Family Partnership home visiting programs to CalWORKs participants. If awarded, expansion activities would begin January 1, 2019 and serve 100 additional families per year. The Collaborative partners include EHSD Workforce Service Bureau, Health Services, and Community Services Bureau.



**California Network of Family Strengthening Networks:** Lisa Korb, Family Support Program Officer participated in this November 13th meeting, attended by a select group of professionals from around the state, to discuss how the “Network of Networks” can be reconstituted to address emerging community issues and to better align family support efforts throughout the state. The group discussed the desired organizational structure, collective impact, and sustainability.

**\$100K San Francisco Foundation Grant Award:** We received a two-year grant from the San Francisco Foundation to support our ongoing advocacy and community engagement work on behalf of low-income families to promote housing security, immigrant and racial justice, and leadership development.

**Monument Candidates Forum:** The Central County Regional Group, Monument Impact, and the Raise the Roof Coalition organized a candidates’ forum on October 10th for District 3 City Council candidates. Over 100 Monument families attended.

**Day of Action and Culture - October 20th Central County:** The CCRG organized the first Día de los Muertos themed event at Ellis Lake park to draw more attention to the housing insecurity of Concord families and to bring families to the park for a fun-filled day of grassroots action, cultural activities, and park use. Mayor Birsan spoke at the event and pledged to continue working for tenant protections on behalf of families. The event brought out approximately 200 families.

**Housing Advocacy in Concord Continues:** In response to another set of evictions (2 buildings in less than two months), the CCRG and Raise the Roof partners organized a rally and march to the October 23rd city council meeting. Parents of young children gave compelling, testimony urging the Council to offer solutions to protect tenants. The rally and march attracted over 100 supporters and filled the City Hall chambers.

**Leadership Recognition Ceremony:** The CE program will host its annual Leadership Recognition Ceremony on December 1st to honor the 3 regional group parent advocates for their phenomenal volunteerism, advocacy and commitment to promoting healthy and safe communities for children. The event will feature leadership awards, talent shows, children’s activities and gifts, and dancing.

**FESP Coordinating Council:** FESP sponsored a Coordinating Council meeting on October 3rd with guest presenter Melissa Breach, Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of California. Melissa reviewed several of the ballot propositions on the November 6 ballot that impact low income communities. Rubicon Programs shared their strategy and process for engaging in advocacy as a nonprofit service provider.

**2020 Census:** FESP has been involved in several meetings about the 2020 census and participated in a meeting on October 25th with community stakeholders and county representatives who will be in charge of creating the Complete Count Committee. FESP will also be meeting with Supervisor Burgis in early December on the need for county resources to support census outreach.



**Collaborative Partnerships:** Fran Biderman has been representing First 5 and FESP in discussions about the creation of a regional Asset Building Network, as well as participating in the Ensuring Opportunity Coalition to End Poverty, The Budget Justice Coalition, Healthy and Active Before 5's Leadership Council, the Asset Funders Network, and the East Bay Leadership Council's Awards breakfast.

#### **4.0 Commission Updates**

Sean Casey noted that Wanda Session had expressed hope in attending the Commission meet that night. We have not heard anything from Health Services regarding her successor.

#### **5.0 Statewide Updates**

Sean and Marnie informed the Committee that the Proposition 63 backfill is now projected to be lower than previous estimates. Given that we are still in the first 18 months of implementation it's still hard to know exactly what the implications are. Our revenues for the current year appear to be on track. The First 5 Association is setting up meetings with state officials to review the methodology for applying the backfill.

Sean also announced that Ruth Fernandez will be a member of the First 5 Network's second leadership development cohort this year. The Association established this program last year, with generous foundation funding, to provide a professional development boost over three, three day workshops during the year, especially for newer emerging leaders in the First 5 world. Her first session will be in late March.

Staff will be traveling to Palm Springs later in December for the annual convening of the First 5 Network, continuing the work begun last year in Asilomar.

#### **6.0 Review agenda items for upcoming Commission meetings**

Staff reviewed the potential agenda for the February, 2019 meeting.

#### **7.0 Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 5:50



Monday February 11, 2019

Agenda Item 3.4

Accept the FY 2018-2019 Second Quarter Financial Report.



Line #		FY18/19 Budget			FY18/19 Second Quarter Revenue and Expenditures			
		F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Budget	F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Revenue and Expense	% of Budget
<b>REVENUE</b>								
1	Prop 10 - Tax Apportionment	8,033,520		8,033,520	4,035,831		4,035,831	50%
2	First 5 California IMPACT		996,893	996,893		346,843	346,843	35%
3	COE/Preschool QRIS Block Grant		380,764	380,764		184,109	184,109	48%
4	COE/Infant Toddler/Quality Counts Grant		54,900	54,900		59,585	59,585	109%
5	Thomas J. Long Foundation Help Me Grow		300,000	300,000		300,000	300,000	100%
6	Sunlight Giving		100,000	100,000		100,000	100,000	100%
7	MHSA Grant/Triple P		81,954	81,954		33,846	33,846	41%
8	Interest Income	175,000		175,000	124,935		124,935	71%
9	Misc/Community Engagement Grants	-	100,000	100,000	2,319	145,000	147,319	147%
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>8,208,520</b>	<b>2,014,511</b>	<b>10,223,031</b>	<b>4,163,085</b>	<b>1,169,383</b>	<b>5,332,468</b>	<b>52%</b>
10	Fund Balance	3,797,924	567,726	4,365,650	847,980	(185,342)	662,638	15%
	<b>TOTAL REVENUES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>12,006,444</b>	<b>2,582,237</b>	<b>14,588,681</b>	<b>5,011,065</b>	<b>984,041</b>	<b>5,995,106</b>	<b>41%</b>

PROGRAM								
<b>Initiatives</b>		<b>6,942,138</b>	<b>1,402,789</b>	<b>8,344,927</b>	<b>2,918,944</b>	<b>434,122</b>	<b>3,353,066</b>	<b>40%</b>
11	<b>Early Care and Education Initiative</b>							
12	Professional Development	902,556	130,000	1,032,556	406,152		406,152	39%
13	Early Learning Quality	73,000	728,760	801,760	2,386	260,384	262,770	33%
14	Literacy	244,942	25,000	269,942	121,474		121,474	45%
15	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,220,498</b>	<b>883,760</b>	<b>2,104,258</b>	<b>530,012</b>	<b>260,384</b>	<b>790,396</b>	<b>38%</b>
16	<b>Family Support</b>							
17	First 5 Centers	2,666,812		2,666,812	1,168,877		1,168,877	44%
18	Home Visiting	1,200,000		1,200,000	540,000		540,000	45%
19	Training and support	40,200		40,200	23,697		23,697	59%
20	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,907,012</b>		<b>3,907,012</b>	<b>1,732,574</b>		<b>1,732,574</b>	<b>44%</b>
21	<b>Early Intervention</b>							
22	Therapeutic Services	233,155	81,954	315,109	57,506		57,506	18%
23	ECE Consultation	1,022,972		1,022,972	460,338		460,338	45%
24	Help Me Grow	79,350	405,825	485,175		167,738	167,738	35%
25	Children at Risk of Stress or Trauma	28,200		28,200	19,810		19,810	70%
26	Training and Consultation	24,451		24,451	3,923		3,923	16%
27	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,388,128</b>	<b>487,779</b>	<b>1,875,907</b>	<b>541,577</b>	<b>167,738</b>	<b>709,315</b>	<b>38%</b>
28	<b>Community Information and Education</b>							
29	Public Information	261,500		261,500	22,458		22,458	9%
30	Community Engagement	160,000	31,250	191,250	90,345	6,000	96,345	50%
31	Family Economic Stability	5,000		5,000	1,978		1,978	40%
32	<b>Total</b>	<b>426,500</b>	<b>31,250</b>	<b>457,750</b>	<b>114,781</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>120,781</b>	<b>26%</b>
33	<b>Program Expenses</b>							
34	Program Salaries & Wages	1,273,064	721,943	1,995,007	624,987	358,651	983,638	49%
35	Program Employee Benefits	725,694	355,431	1,081,125	323,520	185,549	509,069	47%
36	Office Overhead and Other Expenses	599,051		599,051	103,183		103,183	17%
37	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,597,809</b>	<b>1,077,374</b>	<b>3,675,183</b>	<b>1,051,690</b>	<b>544,200</b>	<b>1,595,890</b>	<b>43%</b>
38	<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>9,539,947</b>	<b>2,480,163</b>	<b>12,020,110</b>	<b>3,970,634</b>	<b>978,322</b>	<b>4,948,956</b>	<b>41%</b>

STRATEGIC INFORMATION & PLANNING								
40	Evaluation Salaries & Wages	351,387	12,167	363,554	149,520		149,520	41%
41	Evaluation Employee Benefits	188,565	6,965	195,530	68,696		68,696	35%
42	Professional Services	376,140	40,000	416,140	125,128	2,844	127,972	31%
43	Purchased Services and Supplies	27,515		27,515	12,884	2,875	15,759	57%
44	Office Overhead and Other Expenses	42,867		42,867	16,816		16,816	39%
45	<b>TOTAL EVALUATION</b>	<b>986,474</b>	<b>59,132</b>	<b>1,045,606</b>	<b>373,044</b>	<b>5,719</b>	<b>378,763</b>	<b>36%</b>

ADMINISTRATION								
46	Administrative Salaries & Wages	619,090	25,765	644,855	333,817		333,817	52%
47	Administrative Employee Benefits	343,709	17,177	360,886	175,980		175,980	49%
48	Professional Services	141,000		141,000	64,224		64,224	46%
49	Purchased Services, Equip Lease, Supplies	193,976		193,976	44,250		44,250	23%
50	Office Overhead	182,248		182,248	49,116		49,116	27%
51	<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>1,480,023</b>	<b>42,942</b>	<b>1,522,965</b>	<b>667,387</b>		<b>667,387</b>	<b>44%</b>
52	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>12,006,444</b>	<b>2,582,237</b>	<b>14,588,681</b>	<b>5,011,065</b>	<b>984,041</b>	<b>5,995,106</b>	<b>41%</b>

<b>Distribution of expenses by department:</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>83%</b>
	<b>SIP</b>	<b>6%</b>
	<b>Administration</b>	<b>11%</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Fund Balance as of 6/30/2018:</b>	
<b>Nonspendable</b>	<b>348,643</b>
Prepays and Deposits	134,643
Loans Receivable - Brighter Beginnings	214,000
<b>Restricted</b>	<b>964,834</b>
Long Foundation - Help Me Grow	964,834
<b>Committed</b>	<b>841,227</b>
Capital Assets	841,227
<b>Assigned</b>	<b>4,095,946</b>
Elimination of FY18/19 Budget Deficit	3,797,924
Leases	298,022
<b>Unassigned Funds</b>	<b>16,706,777</b>
Contingency Fund	7,500,000
Unassigned	9,206,777
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>22,957,427</b>

**NOTES:**

- 1 Third year of F5 CA IMPACT grant (4 year grant)
- 2 FY17/18 Infant Toddler and CA State Preschool grant income and expense grant funds rolled over to current fiscal year
- 3 Final Long Fdn Help Me Grow funds received; prior year spent \$756,758 of HMG grant funds
- 4 Contractors received second quarter payments
- 5 Year to date \$185,342 more of other funding was received than spent
- 6 \$544,200 of program staff salaries and benefits paid with grant funds (36%)



Monday February 11, 2019

Agenda Item 6.0

Continuation of Mid-Point Report on 2016-2020 Strategic Plan Indicators &  
Initiative Summary

### What percent of early learning professionals advance in their education and permit pathways?

**600+**

early learning professionals participate in community college advising programs each year

Colleges participating in PDP



**21%**

obtained a professional permit or degree

#### Most common teaching permits and degrees obtained, in order

##### Permits

1. Associate Teacher
2. Teacher
3. Assistant Teacher

##### Degrees

1. Associate of Science
2. Associate of Arts
3. Associate of Science for Transfer

### What percent of QRIS sites improved on individual rating elements?

**92%** of QRIS child care sites improved their score for **any of the 7 QRIS rating elements.**

**76%** of sites improved their score for **two or more elements.**

Providers who voluntarily join our QRIS program, *Quality Matters*, receive training, coaching, support and advice along the way. The process is continuous and providers can reapply for a rating every two years.

#### QRIS Rating Elements Include:

- Environment
- Health & Development
- Teacher-Child Interactions
- Ratio and Group Size
- Child Observations
- Teacher Qualifications
- Director Qualifications

### What percent of parents access parenting and developmental referrals given to them?

**286**  
adults called 211 for  
Help Me Grow support



**68%**  
of HMG-211 callers  
received a referral



**29%**  
of HMG-211 callers accessed  
one or more referral

211 operators ask all families with children ages 0-5 who call the general resource line if they have any questions or concerns about their child and **invite them to receive ongoing support and referrals** as a HMG-211 client.



#### HMG-211 clients most frequently called from:

1. Richmond
2. Antioch
3. Pittsburg
4. San Pablo
5. Concord

### What percent of parents are aware of the importance of screening and early intervention?

**We see First 5 parents prioritizing early intervention in various ways.**

By learning about how to assess their child's development with the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ), participating in Developmental Playgroups, and seeking out digital Help Me Grow resources, parents are building awareness of the importance of screening and early intervention.

**More than 1,400** Help Me Grow Parenting Resource Guides are downloaded annually



**5,600+**  
parents completed  
an ASQ for their  
children between  
2016 and 2018

## What percent of parents improve their parenting skills after completing a parenting class?

### After Triple P...

**40%** of parents were **less hostile**  
**61%** of parents were **less lax**  
**68%** of parents were **less over-reactive**

**More than 3/4** of parents felt less **depressed, anxious and stressed**

### First 5 Centers

Parents who take First 5 Center Parenting Classes **significantly improve in 5 parenting skills:**

1. **KNOWLEDGE** of child development
2. **CONFIDENCE** in parenting
3. **ABILITY** to identify & respond to needs
4. **QUALITY TIME** with children
5. **CONNECTION** to others

## What percent of training participants report increased knowledge as a result of training?

**68%**

of nearly 700 professionals reported **an increase in knowledge** as a result of a training hosted by First 5

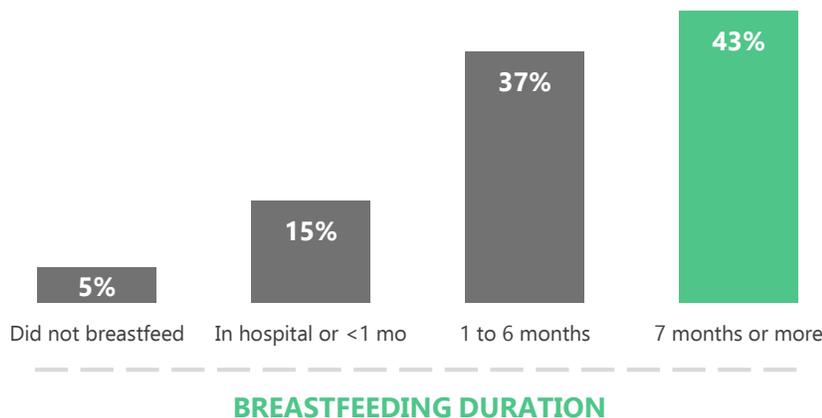
**89 professional trainings** were hosted by First 5 between 2016 and 2018

**86%** of training participants felt ready to implement what they had learned

*I will explain to parents the purpose of ASQ and help the parents fill it out. [I will] also be an advocate for parents.*

*[I will] provide and share information with my school directors, and if given the opportunity and time, present information with my colleagues.*

## What percent of Welcome Home Baby mothers breastfeed six months or more after delivery?



The Welcome Home Baby home visiting program provides **parenting education, developmental screening, and support to pregnant women and new parents.**

## What percent of home visiting participants showed an improvement in depressive symptoms?

**91%** of Welcome Home Baby participants screened for **symptoms of depression and anxiety** scored within the "normal" range

The other 9% showed the following results at follow-up:



# Strategic Plan 2016-2020 Midpoint Report

## Part Two

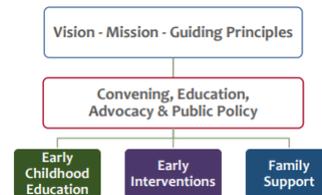
First 5 Contra Costa  
February 2019 Commission Meeting



Remember this?

## First 5 Contra Costa Strategic Plan & Long-Term Financial Plan

FY 16/17 – 19/20



## What percent of early learning professionals advance in their education & permit pathways?

# of early learning professionals participating in community college advising programs

613



# who obtained a professional permit or degree

129  
(21%)

### Most common teaching permits and degrees obtained, in order

#### Permits

1. Associate Teacher
2. Teacher
3. Assistant Teacher

#### Degrees

1. Associate of Science
2. Associate of Arts
3. Associate of Science for Transfer

## What percent of QRIS sites improved on individual rating elements?

**92%** of sites improved their score for **any of the 7 QRIS rating elements**

**76%** of sites improved their score for **two or more elements**

### QRIS Rating Elements Include:

-  Environment
-  Health & Development
-  Teacher-Child Interactions
-  Ratio and Group Size
-  Child Observations
-  Teacher Qualifications
-  Director Qualifications

## What percent of parents access parenting and developmental referrals given to them?

**286** adults called 211 for Help Me Grow support

➔ **68%** of HMG-211 callers received a referral

➔ **29%** of HMG-211 callers accessed one or more referral



### HMG-211 parents most frequently called from:

1. Richmond
2. Antioch
3. Pittsburg
4. San Pablo
5. Concord

## What percent of parents are aware of the importance of screening and early intervention?

We see **First 5** parents prioritizing early intervention in various ways

**5,600+** parents completed an ASQ developmental screen for their children between 2016 and 2018

**More than 1,400** Help Me Grow Parenting Resource Guides are downloaded annually



**1 in 4** people who clicked on a Help Me Grow digital ad visited the HMG CoCo website

## What percent of parents improve their parenting skills after completing a parenting class?

### After Triple P...

- 40%** of parents were **less hostile**
- 61%** of parents were **less lax**
- 68%** of parents were **less over-reactive**
- More than 3/4** of parents felt less depressed, anxious, and stressed



Parents participating in First 5 Center parenting classes **consistently self-reported a significant increase in 5 out of 5 of parenting skill categories**

## What percent of training participants report increased knowledge as a result of training?

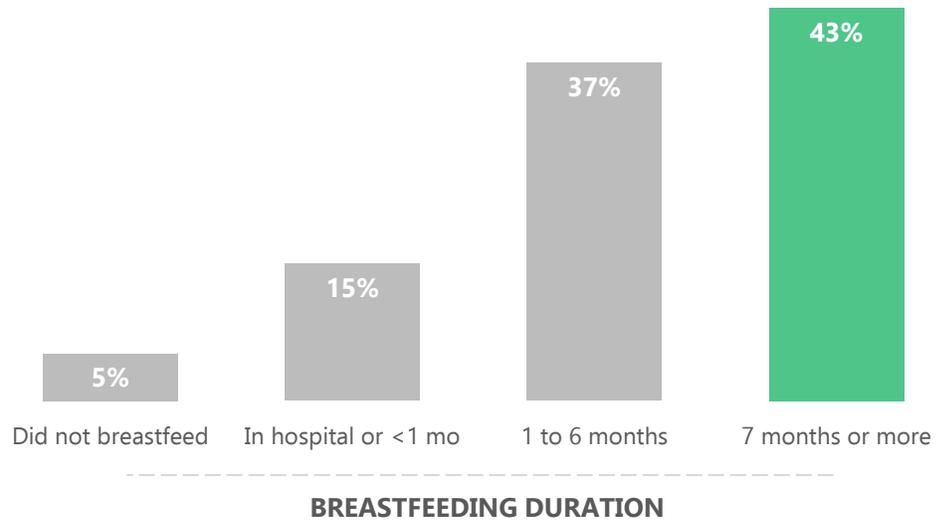
**68%**  
of nearly 700 professionals reported an **increase in knowledge** as a result of a training hosted by First 5

**86%** felt **ready to implement** what they had learned

*I will explain to parents the purpose of ASQ and help the parents fill it out. [I will] also be an advocate for parents.*

*[I will] provide and share information with my school directors, and if given the opportunity and time, present information with my colleagues.*

## What percent of Welcome Home Baby mothers breastfeed six months or more after delivery?



## What percent of home visiting participants showed an improvement in depressive symptoms?

**91%** of Welcome Home Baby participants screened for symptoms of depression and anxiety scored within the "normal" range

The other 9% showed the following results at follow-up:





Monday February 11, 2019

Agenda Item 8.0

Executive Director's Report

# Early Childhood Education 2018

We invest in programs and advocate for policies focused on children during the first five years – the most important time in their development.

Our **Early Childhood Education Initiative** aims to ensure that all children have access to high-quality, affordable child care and early learning.



## IN 2017-2018, WE SERVED MORE THAN 9,600 PEOPLE THROUGH OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SERVICES

**4,000+** children  
**4,000+** parents & other adults  
**1,600+** providers

**Majority** (44%) identified as **Hispanic or Latino**, followed by Asian (16%), Middle Eastern or North African (14%), and African American or Black (12%)

**51%** primarily spoke **English**  
**30%** primarily spoke **Spanish**

## 111 CHILD CARE SITES PARTICIPATED IN OUR QUALITY RATING & IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM (QRIS)

High-quality child care programs provide safe, healthy, nurturing and stimulating environments that support and promote all areas of a child's physical, social, emotional and cognitive development.



*Quality Matters* is Contra Costa County's **Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS)** which supports and incentivizes child care providers to offer the best care possible. Participating programs are rated on their level of quality and engage in activities to raise their ratings.

**86%** of participating sites **met or exceeded quality standards.** 

Of these sites, **19%** have reached the **highest rating level.** 

Our **111** QRIS child care sites served **more than 5,000** children

**27%** family child care homes

**73%** centers, state preschools, or Head Starts



- All QRIS sites receive:**
- Onsite Coaching
  - Professional Development Training
  - Financial Incentives

In addition to these 111 QRIS sites, **9 QIS and 38 QI sites** also participated in Quality Matters last year

- Rating criteria include the following components:**
-  Teacher-child interactions
  -  Environment
  -  Teacher qualifications
  -  Child observations
  -  Health & development

## We focus on quality child care because...

Children who receive higher-quality care show **more positive outcomes** in academics, behavior and social skills than those who receive lower-quality care

Visit [qualitychildcarematters.org](http://qualitychildcarematters.org) to learn more about quality child care in Contra Costa County

## First 5 supports capacity building for child care providers

190 child care professionals participated in First 5 trainings last year

### Topics included:

- Developmental screening
- Classroom assessments for quality improvement
- Trauma-informed care and resiliency
- Early Literacy



## MORE THAN 600 CHILD CARE PROVIDERS PARTICIPATED IN OUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Our Professional Development Program (PDP) helps child care providers advance in their early childhood degree attainment through financial support, education planning, and advising services.

608

early learning professionals participated in PDP

58%

worked at a Quality Matters child care site

94

obtained a child development permit or degree

### Colleges participating in PDP



Most common permit: **Associate Teacher**

Most common degree: **Associate of Science (AS)**

## WE SUPPORTED PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE EARLY LITERACY

### Literacy Preschools



103 families served

64% of children were 0-3

Mt. Diablo Adult Education's English Language Learning staff provide high-quality preschool for children whose parents attend classes on-site. The two programs coordinate curricula so **parents can support their children's early learning at home.**

### StoryCycles

The Tandem StoryCycles program provides **books to child care providers to distribute to families**, and provides other early literacy programs throughout the county.



3,993

children received books from Tandem

791

classrooms participated in StoryCycles

181

read-aloud demonstrations were given



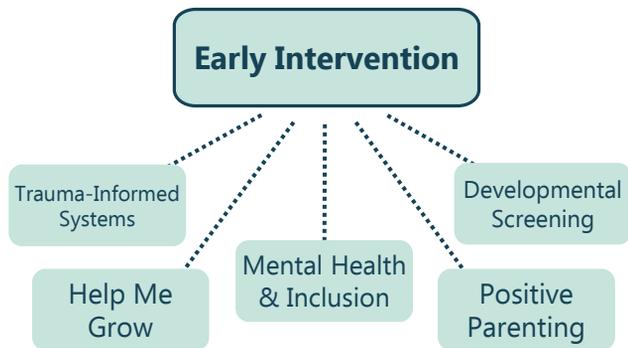
When the child was supposed to be writing her name, she would often be drawing shapes or pictures on the page. She did not want to practice tracing letters and shapes. The child did not appear to have very much interest in practicing these necessary skills. After a short period of encouraging and cajoling, the preschool teacher recognized that she had to enlist the hands-on support of the child's mom. Together, the child's mom and teacher worked as a team to help improve her skills. – MDAE Teacher



# FIRST 5 CONTRA COSTA Early Intervention 2018

We invest in programs and advocate for policies focused on children during the first five years – the most important time in their development.

Our **Early Intervention Initiative** aims to ensure that families have access to prevention and early intervention supports and services that foster the optimal development of all children.



## IN 2017-2018, WE SERVED MORE THAN 8,600 PEOPLE THROUGH OUR EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

**6,000+** children  
 Nearly **2,000** parents & caregivers  
 Approximately **675** providers

**Majority** (51%) identified as **Hispanic or Latino**, followed by White (19%), African American (13%) & Multiracial (8%)

**54%** primarily spoke **English**  
**40%** primarily spoke **Spanish**

## WE WELCOMED 928 NEW FAMILIES TO EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

New families' median household income was **\$30,001-\$45,000**

**87%** of parents & caregivers graduated high school

**98%** of children were read to in the last week, **45%** of which were read to every day

## HELP ME GROW CONTRA COSTA CONNECTED FAMILIES TO CRITICAL RESOURCES

Help Me Grow aims to identify children with developmental concerns & **link families to helpful services** as early as possible.

**FAMILIES**    **HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS**    **CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

HMG streamlines supports for kids

**501** 211 Phone Line referrals for HMG families  
**122** Professionals attended HMG Cafés

Attendees networked and discussed topics such as:  
 Father Engagement • Vicarious Trauma  
 Early Literacy • Race & Early Childhood

**HMG Developmental Playgroups supported kids with mild to moderate developmental concerns**

**225** children participated in HMG Developmental Playgroups

“The playgroup has helped me a great deal with my child's behavior and to lower my stress level. They gave me a lot of advice regarding my son's development. I feel very supported.”

## DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

**2,588** children were screened last year by First 5-funded programs



**50%** were referred for further assessment or flagged for careful monitoring

When re-screened, **55%** were on track with their development

**93%** of parents knew more about their child's growth & development after participating

## HMG Contra Costa connected with our community



We launched a digital & print media campaign, collaborated with our HMG Advisory Board, and developed a new website

Check it out at [helpmegrowcoco.org](http://helpmegrowcoco.org) for information on parenting, child development, developmental screening, family events, and more

## MENTAL HEALTH & INCLUSION SPECIALISTS HELPED KIDS TO THRIVE IN THEIR CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

Mental health consultation for behavioral problems was provided to:

355 children

at 316 total childcare sites



51% remained in their child care program

Inclusion support for special needs was provided to:

110 children

at 74 total childcare sites



74% remained in their child care program



I've seen a complete turnaround - my son is able to focus, his language has improved, and he loves going to school... I know how to anticipate and communicate what he needs.



## CAREGIVERS LEARNED POSITIVE PARENTING TECHNIQUES

Triple P parenting classes give parents simple strategies to manage their children's behavior, prevent problems and **build strong, healthy parent-child relationships**

296 caregivers took a Triple P class through First 5 Contra Costa

Nearly **two-thirds** of parents saw their children have fewer and less intense behavioral problems after Triple P

Triple P participants **improved in multiple parenting areas**

68% Over-reactivity

56% Laxness

36% Hostility

## WE'VE TRAINED 300+ PROFESSIONALS IN TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

We use a **train-the-trainer model** to increase knowledge and awareness, sustain promotion, and develop the skills of trauma-informed practices in our county and beyond.

We prepared **14 professionals** from **12 agencies** to become trauma-informed trainers and build the capacity of Contra Costa's trauma-informed system of care.

We also provide a three-part trauma training to a broader community of providers. Last year, **two-thirds** of First 5 Trauma 101 participants felt that their organization could be **more trauma-informed**.



## LOOKING AHEAD

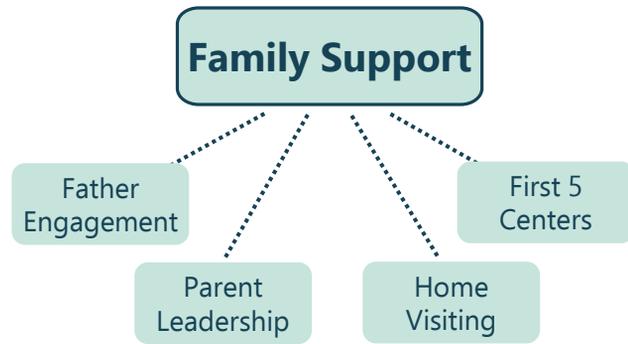
California's early intervention landscape holds new promise under Gov. Newsom. His proposed budget includes:

- \$45M for all Medi-Cal families to receive **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) screens**
- \$60M to **increase developmental screening** rates for young children

The appointment of **Dr. Nadine Harris Burke as Surgeon General**, a leader in the research and treatment of toxic stress, further demonstrates Gov. Newsom's commitment to supporting healthy outcomes for young children.

We invest in programs and advocate for policies focused on children during the first five years – the most important time in their development.

Our **Family Support** initiative helps families build healthy relationships, strengthen support systems, and nurture their children’s development.



## IN 2017-2018, WE SERVED MORE THAN 5,300 PEOPLE THROUGH OUR FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

**2,600+** children  
**2,700+** parents & other adults

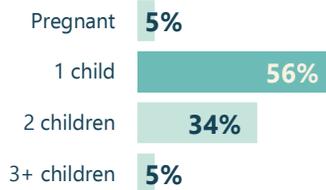
**Majority** (64%) identified as **Hispanic or Latino**, followed by White (10%), Asian (10%), African American (6%), and Multiracial (6%)

**62%** primarily spoke **English**  
**27%** primarily spoke **Spanish**

## WE WELCOMED 1,508 NEW FAMILIES TO FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

New families’ median household income was **\$30,001-\$45,000**

Most families had **one child** age 0-5



**79%** of parents & caregivers **graduated high school**

## MORE THAN 370 FAMILIES PARTICIPATED IN OUR HOME VISITING PROGRAM

The Welcome Home Baby home visiting program provides **parenting education, developmental screening, and support to pregnant women and new parents**. We partner with the Community Services Bureau to use Early Head Start dollars to provide services for families with low income in high-needs areas of the County.

**45%** of moms **breastfed** their babies **for >6 months**

**7,637** home visits

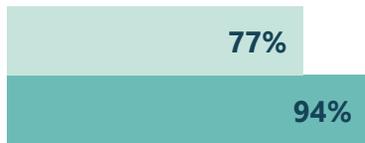
We enrolled **176 new families** and **143 parenting fathers**

**301** caregivers were screened for **depression**

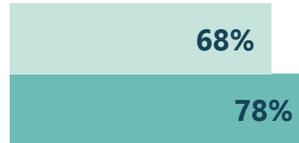
Every week, [the client] smiles and laughs more, and appears to be content with herself... [The staff] is proud that she has been able to pull herself out of a dark place, and find a few fun ways in which to expend her energy along the way.

Families participating in Family Support services began **reading with their children more often and for longer** amounts of time.

Parent read to child the **prior week**



Child is read to **10 minutes** or more per sitting



At intake (light teal)    After an average of 22 months (dark teal)



## FIRST 5 CENTERS SUPPORTED AND CONNECTED FAMILIES ACROSS THE COUNTY

First 5 Centers are family resource centers designed to support parents, bring families together, and help children grow and learn. Staff who are experts in child development lead workshops and classes to make parenting easier and help raise healthy, happy children.

The core service areas are parent education and support, evidence-based parent education, early learning and literacy, and school readiness.

Participants in First 5 Parenting Classes **significantly improve 5 key parenting skills:**

**KNOWLEDGE    CONFIDENCE    ABILITY    QUALITY TIME    CONNECTION**

**1,900 FAMILIES** participated

**62%** Of these families were **NEW** to First 5 Centers

**56 FAMILY EVENTS** were hosted

**347 CLASSES** were offered

### PARENT LEADERSHIP

**55 First 5 Center parents** volunteered on a **Community Advisory Council** to advocate for the needs of their community and advise programming at First 5 Centers.

**Recommendations included specific areas of the following protective factors:**

- Parent & child resilience • Social support •
- Socio-emotional development •

### FATHER ENGAGEMENT

First 5 Centers keep dads engaged because we know a father's role is critical for a young child's **healthy development and positive outcomes.**

**330** fathers participated in **187** First 5 Center classes

Popular classes for dads included:

- Soccer & Nutrition • Daddy & Me • Parent Café • Dads Together

### EARLY INTERVENTION

First 5 Centers partnered with our early intervention programs in numerous ways:

- 17** Triple P classes took place at a Center
- 31** HMG Developmental Playgroups were held
- 350+** children were screened with the ASQ-3
- 85** HMG referrals were processed

In the spring of 2018, the **Antioch First 5 Center** **relocated** from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to 300 H Street in Antioch



**First 5 purchased a new site** in Pittsburg for the East County First 5 Center, opening in early 2019

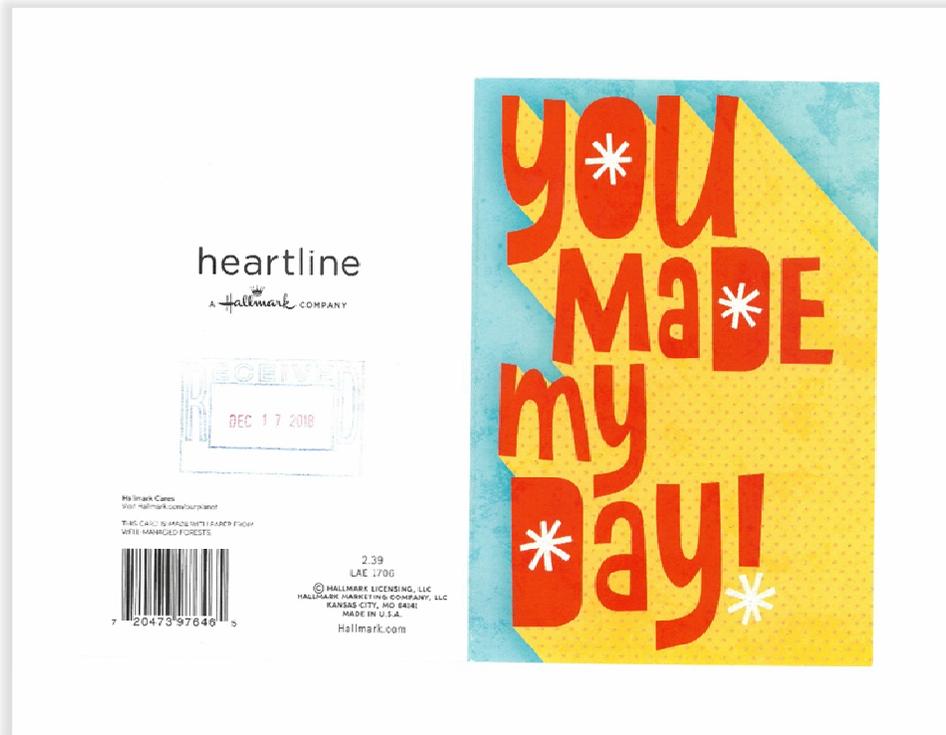




Monday February 11, 2019

Agenda Item 9.0

Communications



Dear Commissioners and First Five staff

Thank you for such a lovely gift that will be treasured for all times

you truly made my day when I opened it and shared it with my husband. It reminded me that I had served for eight years as an alternate commissioner. I thought about the tough years when the state threatened to take all of our capital reserves and critical strategic decisions had to be made while focusing on long-term, sustainable efforts to improve the lives & health of children & families in Contra

Costa. I will miss interacting with fellow Commissioners and staff, but I know that the work and sometimes the "fight" to level the playing field for low-income families will continue in all of your capable hands.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served and hopefully helped in some small way to improve health inequities for young children.

Thanks again,  
Wanda

## Appointment of New Surgeon General Puts Spotlight on Early Childhood Adversity

By Claudia Boyd-Barrett • Jan 24, 2019



Nadine Burke Harris with a young patient at the Center for Youth Wellness. Photo credit: Courtesy of the Center for Youth Wellness.

The impact of stress and trauma on people's physical and mental health looks set to become a central focus of Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration in the wake of his appointment of the state's first surgeon general.

This week, Gov. Newsom tapped Nadine Burke Harris to fill the newly created position. Burke Harris is a physician and pioneering leader in the field of toxic stress and health. She founded the San Francisco-based Center for Youth Wellness, an organization that's working with pediatric clinics nationwide to develop best practices for screening and treating children at risk for toxic stress. She will be sworn in Feb 11.

The governor's press office said Burke Harris was currently not available for interviews. However, in a press release from the Center for Youth Wellness, she praised the governor's commitment to tackling health issues through the lens of childhood adversity.

"Governor Newsom's vision to address health care from a preventive rather than reactive frame reflects a keen appreciation of the latest science as well as a deep commitment to the health of California children and families," she said. "I am honored to serve in this capacity and will work hard to support the health of all Californians."

Researchers and health experts increasingly understand that trauma in childhood, such as abuse, exposure to violence, or having a parent with a mental illness, can wreck havoc on children's brains and bodies as they grow, including their hormone and immune systems. This can lead to immediate health problems, ranging from behavioral difficulties to severe asthma, and also heightens children's risk for chronic illnesses later in life such as heart disease and diabetes.

Gov. Newsom's office said Burke Harris' role will be to focus on ways to combat these root causes of serious health conditions, and to urge policymakers and leaders across the state to consider how adverse childhood experiences affect people's health.

Ted Lempert, president of the children's advocacy organization Children Now, praised Burke Harris' appointment, saying it shows the governor is serious about making kids' health a priority.

Addressing trauma early in life helps children be more successful in the long run and ultimately reduces health care costs, he said.

“(Burke Harris) is a true national leader on kids’ health and especially the whole area of trauma. Having her in this new position at the state level is really fantastic news for kids,” he said. “She’s part of an extraordinary team the governor’s putting together that first and foremost is putting children at the top of the agenda.”

James Hickman, who is taking over for Burke Harris as the Center for Youth Wellness’ Chief Executive Officer, called the appointment “incredible.”

“It says a lot about the ambition and boldness of this next generation of California leaders,” he said. “You’re seeing a governor who is making a stand against poverty and what it does, particularly to the most vulnerable in our society, and that’s children.”

Hickman predicted Burke Harris’ work as surgeon general will have ripple effects beyond the state’s boundaries.

“I think she’s going to help not only Californians, but really I think take the national movement she’s helped build and really help us all think: how do you transfer that movement into a field?,” he said.

“This is a unique opportunity for California to lead the way when it comes to addressing the risks of toxic stress and children who are facing adverse childhood events, not just for themselves but for multigenerational families that are struggling with it every day.”

# My turn: What other states can teach California about preschool for all

 [calmatters.org/articles/commentary/my-turn-what-other-states-can-teach-california-about-preschool-for-all/](https://calmatters.org/articles/commentary/my-turn-what-other-states-can-teach-california-about-preschool-for-all/)

Guest Commentary

Guest Commentary: [Find out more](#) about submitting a commentary.

**By Tony Thurmond and Kevin McCarty**, *Special to CALmatters*

We have school age daughters who were fortunate to attend preschool and we've seen firsthand the difference it's made.

Every child in California deserves that same opportunity, and that's why we are advocating for pre-kindergarten education for all kids.

Our children are doing well academically. But too many families don't have these same opportunities and children who start behind stay behind.

More than 30 percent of California's low-income 4-year-olds and 66 percent of low-income 3-year-olds lack access to quality pre-k. According to [Stanford's Getting Down to Facts II](#) report, these children enter kindergarten unprepared for school and seldom catch up. This achievement gap has long-term repercussions, not just for children's long-term success, but also for our state's economy as a whole.

It doesn't have to be this way.

As the new legislative session opens, we intend to put the needs of the youngest Californians and their family's front and center. It's fundamental to helping California reclaim its historic tradition of leading the nation in education, especially for its most vulnerable children.

We, along with leaders in early learning and education, completed a tour to New York City, New Jersey, and Boston to listen and learn about best practices from exemplary pre-k programs. What we found during these visits is proof that investments in quality early learning help break the cycle of poverty, close the achievement gap, and stop the school to prison pipeline.

This East Coast tour casts a long shadow on how California is addressing the needs of its early learning system. It made clear that we are falling far short of supporting our youngest learners.

In New Jersey, we learned that disadvantaged children who completed two years of preschool were narrowing the gap in academic performance with their middle-class peers. All three Pre-K programs shared these key pillars of success:

- Expanded access to robust early learning programs.
- Higher teacher pay and program rates.



- Ample teacher education and training to support responsive interactions and engaging learning experiences.
- And there must be an investment in inviting facilities.

All three states stressed the importance of “mixed-delivery systems” that use schools and community providers to care for infants and toddlers through to preschool; offer “wrap-around” services that allow for longer-day child care and social services for working families; and offer dual language learner programs for kids whose home language is not English.

We came back convinced that California must institute Pre-K for All by investing in those same four pillars embraced by other states and also build upon these models to address California’s diverse landscape to serve working families and address our severe shortage in infant and toddler care.

There is a clear choice we must make. We can continue our current course of action, which helps some, or we can take bold action and help every young child in California. We can and must do more. Our collective future depends on it.

---

*Tony Thurmond is Superintendent of Public Instruction-elect, [\[email protected\]](#). Assemblyman Kevin McCarty represents Sacramento, [\[email protected\]](#). They wrote this commentary for CALmatters.*



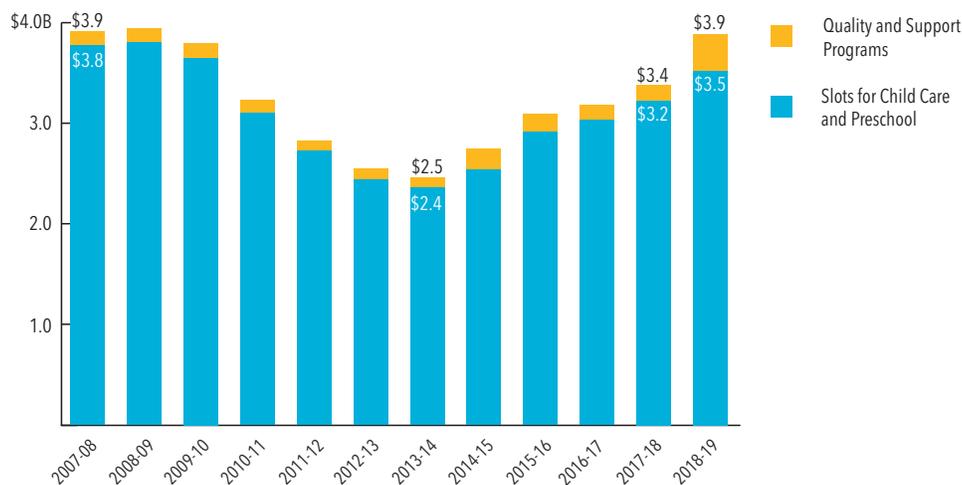
BY KRISTIN SCHUMACHER

## Dollars for Child Care and Preschool in 2018-19 Near Pre-Recession Levels With Boost From One-Time Funding

For the fifth year in a row, funding for California’s subsidized child care and development system has increased. This system provides critical child care and early learning opportunities for a limited number of children from low- and moderate-income families, but state funding was cut dramatically during and after the Great Recession, while federal funding for subsidized child care remained relatively flat.<sup>1</sup> This meant that fewer children and families received subsidized care than prior to the onset of the Great Recession. However, state policymakers have incrementally reinvested in these programs and services beginning with the 2014-15 state fiscal year, and bipartisan support for subsidized child care at the federal level has resulted in newly available federal funds, as well. Due to these investments, after adjusting for inflation, overall funding for California’s subsidized child care and development system in the 2018-19 fiscal year is \$3.887 billion, 15% greater than in 2017-18 (\$3.375 billion), and nearly even with funding levels in 2007-08, prior to the onset of the Great Recession (see chart).

The 2018-19 budget includes state funds to add 2,100 Alternative Payment Program (AP) child care slots, as well as 2,959 full-day state preschool slots, as agreed upon in the 2016-17 budget agreement. This year’s budget also adds 11,307 time-limited AP child care slots with newly available federal funds.<sup>2</sup> The 2018-19 budget also increases

### Total Funding for Subsidized Child Care and Preschool in California (Billions), Inflation-Adjusted



Note: Figures reflect the enacted budget each year except for 2008-09, which reflects the revised budget as of February 2009. Figures include federal and state funds for slots as well as for quality and support programs and are in 2018-19 dollars. Child care includes CalWORKs and non-CalWORKs programs. Preschool excludes Transitional Kindergarten.  
Source: California Department of Education and Department of Finance

payment rates for providers that contract directly with the state, including an additional increase specifically for the care of infants, toddlers, and children with special needs. Still, despite the increase in state and federal resources, overall funding for subsidized child care and preschool slots in 2018-19 (\$3.522 billion) is still nearly \$250 million lower than in 2007-08 (\$3.771 billion), prior to the onset of the Great Recession, after adjusting for inflation.

In contrast, total funding for programs and activities designed to boost the quality or support the administration of subsidized child care and preschool programs has increased dramatically.<sup>3</sup> These “quality and support programs” include a range of items such as the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) and funding for the Resource and Referral Network. Total funding for quality and support programs in 2018-19 is \$365 million – an increase of 143% compared to 2017-18, after adjusting for inflation. This dramatic increase is primarily due to the new Inclusive Early Care and Education Expansion Program, which was funded with \$167 million in one-time Proposition 98 funds that are to be administered through the 2022-23 fiscal year.

While funding for certain quality-boosting activities has increased, funding for other activities that fall within the quality and support category has decreased or been eliminated. For example, the state funded Centralized Eligibility Lists (CELs) with about \$8 million annually for the maintenance of county-level waiting lists for subsidized slots, but funding for CELs was redirected to child care programs in 2011-12 to mitigate the effects of deep budget cuts. Policymakers have not restored funding for this service. In addition, even though funding for the Resource and Referral Network has remained relatively stable at roughly \$19 million annually since 2007-08, funding has actually decreased by nearly one-fifth (19%) after adjusting for inflation.

California’s subsidized child care and development system keeps families working while providing kids with an environment that helps them learn and thrive. Yet, we know that the number of children eligible for subsidized care far outstrips the number of available slots.<sup>4</sup> As the new Governor crafts a policy agenda for the next four years, it is critical that early care and education is at the top of the list. Investing in our state’s subsidized child care and development system sets children and families up for success.

---

<sup>1</sup> The federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 included a \$2 billion boost in funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), a major source of federal funding for subsidized child care. Due to this, California received \$221 million in additional federal funds, which the state used in 2009-10 and 2010-11 to offset a portion of the state budget cuts to the child care and development system, which in turn maintained child care assistance for some families who otherwise would have lost it.

<sup>2</sup> Absent ongoing funding from the federal government, these slots will only be available through June 30, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> The 2014 reauthorization of the CCDBG, a major source of federal funding for subsidized child care, required states to increase the share of funds set aside for improving the quality of subsidized child care. See Hannah Matthews, et al., *Implementing the Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization: A Guide for States* (The Center for Law and Social Policy and The National Women’s Law Center: June 2017).

<sup>4</sup> Kristin Schumacher, *Over 1.2 Million California Children Eligible for Subsidized Child Care Did Not Receive Services From State Programs in 2015* (California Budget & Policy Center: December 2016).