

Memo

To: Commission Members
From: Alexander Khu
Re: April 12, 2021 Commission Meeting

To slow the spread of COVID-19, the Health Officer's Shelter Order of March 16, 2020, prevents public gatherings ([Health Officer Order](#)). In lieu of a public gathering, the First 5 Contra Costa Children's & Families' Commission meeting will be accessible via Zoom Meeting to all members of the public as permitted by the Governor's Executive Order 29-20.

Members of the public may participate in the meeting online, or by telephone but MUST register first (see below).

*When: April 12, 2021 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Commission Meeting*

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xVYom-fDSk-AQcGxSUuxwg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

In lieu of making public comments at the meeting, members of the public also may submit public comments before or during the meeting by emailing comments to Brian Kelley at bkelly@first5coco.org. If you have difficulty emailing a public comment, please contact Brian Kelley, First 5 Contra Costa Communications Department, at 925-289-9758.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Alexander Khu, Executive Assistant
First 5 Contra Costa
1485 Civic Court
Concord, CA 94520



Commission Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 12, 2021, 6:00 pm

To slow the spread of COVID-19, the Health Officer's Shelter Order of March 16, 2020, prevents public gatherings ([Health Officer Order](#)). In lieu of a public gathering, the First 5 Contra Costa Children's & Families' Commission meeting will be accessible via Zoom Meeting to all members of the public as permitted by the Governor's Executive Order 29-20.

Members of the public may participate in the meeting online, or by telephone but MUST REGISTER in advance in order to do so (see link below).

When: Apr 12, 2021 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Topic: April 12, 2021 Commission Meeting

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All comments submitted by email to the above email address before the conclusion of the meeting will be included in the record of the meeting. When feasible, the Commission Chair, or designated staff, also will read the comments into the record at the meeting, subject to a two-minute time limit per comment.

The Commission Chair may reduce or eliminate the amount of time allotted to read comments at the beginning of each item or public comment period depending on the number of comments and the business of the day. Your patience is appreciated.

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

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.

ACTION

3.1 Approve the Minutes from the February 8, 2021 Commission Meeting.

3.2 Accept the Minutes from the February 8, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting.

3.3 Accept the Minutes from the March 5, 2021 Special Executive Committee Meeting.

3.4 Approve the Contracts Docket

- 3.4.1 AUTHORIZE and RATIFY the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract with Contra Costa Crisis Center to support ACEs screening of children ages 0-5 and work co-jointly on 211/ Help Me Grow referrals, service connection, and resource navigation in an amount not to exceed \$796,536 for term February 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. FY2020-21 budget line: Early Intervention: Funded 100% Aurrera Health Group, LLC.
- 3.4.2 AUTHORIZE and RATIFY the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract with Contra Costa County Office of Education for the implementation of the Contra Costa County Professional Development Program (PDP) in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for term July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. FY2020-21 budget line: Early Childhood Education Initiative: Professional Development (\$555,000). Funded 100% Contra Costa County Office of Education.
- 3.4.3 AUTHORIZE and RATIFY the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract with La Clinica De La Raza, Inc. to support ACEs screening of children ages 0-5 and work co-jointly on 211/ Help Me Grow referrals, service connection, and resource navigation in an amount not to exceed \$525,946 for term February 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. FY2020-21 budget line: Early Intervention: Funded 100% Aurrera Health Group, LLC.
- 3.4.4 AUTHORIZE and RATIFY the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract amendment with Cooperative Personnel Services to increase the payment limit by \$1,414.36 (from \$63,500 to \$64,914.36) to provide all phases of hiring process for a Finance and Operations Director. FY2020-21 budget line: Administrative: Professional Services (\$133,000). Funded 100% Prop 10 funds.

3.5 Approve the Grants Docket

- 3.5.1 RATIFY grant application, ACCEPT grant funding, and APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract with the East Bay Community Foundation to provide general operating support, parent leadership and advocacy for the First 5 Contra Costa Regional Groups' work toward greater park, housing and racial equity in Contra Costa County in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for term February 15, 2021 to February 11, 2022. FY2020-21 budget line: Systems Change: Community Engagement (\$318,205). Funded 100% East Bay Community Foundation.
- 3.5.2 RATIFY and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director or her designee to accept grant funds and execute a contract from the Richmond Community Foundation on behalf of the Ensuring Opportunity to End Poverty in Contra Costa County (EO) and First 5 Contra Costa on behalf of the Family Economic Security Partnership (FESP) to support residents, direct service providers, and advocacy organizations to work in deep partnership to effect significant changes in the inequitable policies, systems, cultural norms, and narratives that prevent residents from thriving in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for term April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. FY2020-21 budget line: Systems



Change: Family Economic Security (\$15,000). Funded 100% Richmond Community Foundation.

- 3.6 **Accept the First 5 Contra Costa February 2021 Program Reports**
- 3.7 **Accept the First 5 Contra Costa March 2021 Program Reports**
- 4.0 **Consider for discussion any items removed from the consent calendar.**
- 5.0 **Consider approving a 3.00% increase in salary and up to \$1200 reimbursement every two years for memberships, subscriptions, and professional development for the Executive Director. Effective date 1/13/2021** **ACTION**
- 6.0 **Public Hearing on the First 5 California 2019-20 Annual Report** **ACTION**
The report can be found at:
https://ccfc.ca.gov/pdf/about/budget_perf/annual_report_pdfs/Annual-Report-19-20.pdf
The Contra Costa County Commission highlights can be found on page 36.
- 7.0 **Consider approving proposed First 5 Contra Costa Budget FY 2021-22** **ACTION**
Staff Report by Sandra Dalida, Finance and Operations Director
- 8.0 **Approve proposed Policy Advocacy Framework and Policy Issue Areas for 2021-2023** **ACTION**
Staff Report and Presentation
- 9.0 **Executive Director's Report**
- 10.0 **Communications**
 - Antioch Change Survey Outreach flyer
 - Child Care COVID-19 Relief Fund flyer
- 11.0 **Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates**
- 12.0 **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.



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 3.1

Approve the Minutes from the February 8, 2021 Commission Meeting



**Commission Meeting
M I N U T E S**

Monday, February 8, 2021, 6:00 pm

1.0 Convene & Announce Adjournment to Closed Session

Chairwoman Marilyn Cachola Lucey convened the meeting @ 6:17 pm and adjourned to closed session.

2.0 Closed Session

Closed session includes Commissioners (or alternates if Commissioners not present), First 5 Contra Costa Administrative Manager Shawn Garcia, County Counsel, Consultant Nicole Young.

3.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairwoman called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held on a web-based platform. The Chair introduced meeting protocols.

Commissions present during roll call were:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez

District 1 Alternate: Genoveva Garcia Calloway

District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey

District 2 Alternate: Vidya Iyengar

District 3: Lee Ross

District 4: Gareth Ashley

District 5: John Jones

Health Services: Daniel Peddycord, RN for Dr. Chris Farnitano

Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen

Children and Families Services: Kathy Marsh

EHSD: Kathy Gallagher

4.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public

5.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

Ruth Fernandez requested to remove item #5.4.1 from the docket.

Kathy Gallagher asked that item 5.4.3 pulled out of the consent calendar as it involved EHSD department, and recused herself to step away during the vote.

Gareth made a motion to approve the remaining items on the consent calendar, seconded by Lee Ross.

All in favor by roll call:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Aye

District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey – Aye

District 3: Lee Ross – Aye

District 4: Gareth Ashley – Aye

District 5: John Jones – Aye



Health Services: Daniel Peddycord – Aye
Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen – Aye
EHSD: Kathy Gallagher - Aye
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh - Aye

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
Absent: None

The Commission **APPROVED** the consent calendar as presented.

6.0 Consider for discussion any items removed from the consent calendar

The Chair asked Ruth to discuss the reason for pulling item 5.4.1

Ruth stated that the reason for pulling item 5.4.1 is because staff decided not to proceed with the contract at this time.

There were no questions, no comment from the floor.

Kathy Gallagher agreed to this statement read on her behalf by Count Counsel, Keiko Kobayashi: “I have an interest in agenda item 5.4.3 because I am employed by the County of Contra Costa, and the item directly impacts my employer, I am recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room. Because she made a statement and recused herself during this item discussion.”

Motion to approve made by Dan Peddycord and seconded by Supervisor Andersen.

All in favor by roll call:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Aye
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey – Aye
District 3: Lee Ross – Aye
District 4: Gareth Ashley – Aye
District 5: John Jones – Aye
Health Services: Daniel Peddycord – Aye
Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen – Aye
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh – Aye

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kathy Gallagher

Motion approved.

Kathy Gallagher returned to the room after the vote.

7.0 Receive presentation of the Conflict of Interest laws

Mary Anne Mason, Chief Assistant County Counsel presented the updated Conflict of Interest Laws clarifying pertinent items with regards to the Commission and Staff responsibility in disclosure, and reasons and processes of recusal.



After the presentation, she addressed some questions from the Commissioners with matters pertaining to when or how to disclose.
There were no questions from the floor.

Filers of Form 700 will be required to file electronically and all forms are due on April 1, 2021.

8.0 Receive presentation of the 2021 Governor's Budget Proposal

Presenter: Margot Grant Gould, Policy Director, First 5 Association of California.

Overview of what the Association is tracking.

Highlights of the presentation as follows:

- Overall the budget recognizes immediate needs of children and families and proposed expedited relief for those hardest hit by the pandemic and economic recession.
- Golden State Stimulus – provides \$600 rapid cash relief to individuals qualified for CalEITC in 2020.
- Extending the state's eviction moratorium enacted through AB 3088, aims to use \$2.6 billion share of the federal rental assistance for low-income households. Helps to stabilize small property owners who are also struggling.
- Budget includes \$30 million one-time funds for existing Emergency Food Assistance Program providers.
- Immediate COVID-19 Relief, budget allocate \$55 million from General Fund to support child care providers and families.
- Master Plan – highlights the work around Early Learning and Care to build long-term roadmap to universal preschool and quality affordable child care system.
- Expanded Medi-Cal post-partum eligibility for up to 12 months until July 1, 2022.
- Vape tax: Additional tax assessment on Vape products.

9.0 Consider approval of one-time Child Care Relief Fund of Proposition 10 funding

Ruth and Camilla gave the following report:

Without adequate support we stand to lose over half of child care businesses. Many of them, women-owned businesses are facing mounting financial challenges. Over 2,000 California-based ECE business, 70% said they lost income due to low attendance, or families unable to pay. Over 60% reported furloughed or laid off staff. Those who remained open have seen their costs increase with the need of PPE and cleaning supplies and stand to suffer or close without intervention.

We ask you to approve a one-time investment of matched funds of \$100,000 to support Contra Costa child care providers through the LIIF/Philanthropy partnership. This one-time allocation, if approved, will not impact the First 5 FY 20/21 Approved Budget.

Commissioner Lucey asked: Are there organizations helping providers with mortgage relief? Are there Grants that they can apply to?

Ruth responded: We actually hosted Small Business Loan Grant webinar for providers to inform and support them through the Small Business Loan application process now available through COVID-19 Relief funding.

Commissioner Ross asked if this Child Care Relief Fund group was successful in Alameda County? Camilla replied that they raised \$3 M in Alameda county and plan to continue the campaign.

Motion made by Gareth Ashley, seconded by Dan Peddycord to approve of one-time Child Care Relief Fund of Proposition 10 funding.

All in favor by roll call:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Aye

District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey – Aye

District 3: Lee Ross – Aye

District 4: Gareth Ashley – Aye

District 5: John Jones – Aye

Health Services: Daniel Peddycord – Aye

Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen – Aye

EHSD: Kathy Gallagher - Aye

Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh - Aye

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Absent: None

The motion **APPROVED**.

10.0 Executive Director's Report

Ruth Fernandez gave this report starting with a video in celebration of Black History Month. After the video Ruth gave the following Executive Director highlights:

Essential First 5 Strategies

- Continued efforts to make visible First 5 Contra Costa's intentional work to advance the strategic priorities identified in the new Strategic Plan 2020-2023.
- Strategic priorities focused on deepening and amplifying work in: Systems Integration, Stakeholder Engagement, and Policy Advocacy.
- Ruth stated that "First 5 Contra Costa is committed to addressing and shifting the conditions that perpetuate barriers and inequities."

Internal Updates

- *Systems Integration*: Ruth welcomed and introduced First 5 Contra Costa's new Finance and Operations Director, Sandra Dalida. She started this role on January 19th.
 - *Organizational Assessment*: First 5 Contra Costa is excited to initiate an internal Organizational Assessment and Reflection Process. As a result of a RFP process, the selected consulting team from The Justice Collective (TJC) will work in collaboration with a diverse Core First 5 staff team composed of staff with different roles, departments functions, and tenure within the organization, including Commission Chair, Marilyn Lucey.
- *Stakeholder Engagement*: COVID-19 Community Impact Survey – V2



- First 5 plans to release a Phase 2 COVID-19 Survey – this will be a point in time survey assessing current status, well-being, impact, and needs of Contra Costa families of children prenatal to 5 (mostly First 5 families) nearly 1 year after the Shelter in Place order.
- *Policy Advocacy:*
 - Ongoing internal work in Strategic Priority of Policy Advocacy in the Strategic Plan led to development of the Policy Advocacy Framework that will ground First 5 Contra Costa’s strategy and activities in this priority area.
 - A Special Meeting of the Executive Committee will be scheduled in March to review the draft Policy Advocacy Framework developed by staff to collect input from the committee. The goal is to bring for approval to April Commission meeting.

County Updates

Systems Integration:

- ACEs Aware Grant – First 5 Contra Costa awarded a Round 2 Implementation Grant through ACES Aware of over \$2.3 million [\$2,355,708]. The 18-month implementation grant is aimed at providing support for ACEs screening of children ages 0-5 at La Clinica Health Clinic in East County and connect families to resources.
- Ready Kids East County (RKEC) is focused on increasing the physical, academic, and social/emotional school readiness of Black and African American children in East County.
- Ruth provided a detailed overview of the planning process and highlights from a series of five Parent Cafés that engaged a group of 33 Black and African American families.

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Tax Credits: First 5 Contra Costa has begun the annual Earn it, Save it, Keep it Campaign!
- Staff have been participating at the state level with the F5 Association committee to promote the CalEITC and Young Child Tax Credit.
- First 5 Contra Costa created a EITC page on website to promote this important resource for families.
- Outreach is focused on where and how to get taxes done free of cost, and underscoring to families that even if they didn’t make so much during 2020 due to the impact of the pandemic – they can still file taxes and get a refund.
- COVID Vaccine - We’re promoting vaccine-positive messages on social media and amplifying general vaccine information.
- CA Small Businesses Relief Grants – On January 26, 5’s ECE team hosted an information Webinar about the second round of CA Relief Grants for small businesses. A partnership with the Northern California Small Business Development Center. A total of 48 providers attended the webinar. We feel fortunate to be able to provide this resource to our local FCC providers. Based on field experience and our partners we learned that navigating the grant application is not easy, we wanted to be proactive in supporting the process and promoting the availability of this relief resources among the child care provider network.
- Antioch Housing Assessment – As part of their collective Action Research process and analysis of housing needs the East County Regional Group (ECRG) selected the City of Antioch as the focus for their upcoming 2-year Community-Based Participatory Housing Assessment Project.
- The assessment project will be done in partnership with Urban Habitat, HAB45, First 5 CC, and members of the ECRG.



Policy Advocacy:

- Measure X: On Tuesday, February 2nd, the BOS approved recommendations for the Measure X Community Advisory Committee presented by Supervisor Gioia that allows the Community Advisory Committee to make general recommendations on priorities and unmet needs based on the most recent or updated Needs Assessment. The committee will not make specific budget allocation recommendations, the BOS will make the final decisions on specific funding allocations of Measure X revenues.
- Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice: First 5 continues to participate in the community planning process for the establishment of the County Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice. There have been three community meetings to date, the last meeting was held January 28th.
- During the last meeting, the discussion focused on the development of a Host Table that will be composed of residents, organizations and efforts already engaged in racial equity and justice work.

State Updates

- Systems Integration: The First 5 Association in partnership with First 5 California and other state coalitions continue to join efforts to learn, innovate and promote a more integrated approach to service delivery. As referenced by Margot Grant Gould earlier, First 5's systems integration efforts at the state level continue with a strong focus on health/well-being/equity as core to First 5's whole child: whole family approach.
- Stakeholder Engagement: On January 28th, in partnership with the United Ways of CA, the Franchise Tax Board, and the First 5 Association hosted a Trainer of Trainer webinar in Spanish
- The webinar was aimed at building knowledge and capacity of CBO organizations working with families, a robust communications Tool Kit was developed by the Association. Ruth was invited to presented on behalf of all First 5s and the role they play as a trusted broker within the community.

Policy Advocacy:

Meeting with Senator Nancy Skinner

- On January 27th, a group of First 5 staff met with Senator Skinner, Jessica Bartholow, Chief of Staff and Angela Yip, District Representative. Senator Skinner is the Chair of the Budget Committee in the current legislative session, she also is the Vice chair of the Women's Caucus. The meeting was an opportunity to provide high-level overview of First 5 Contra Costa's strategic priorities and to reiterate our disposition to support her work.

Follow-up items for going support and engagement included:

- Ongoing support and partnership as trusted messengers with outreach and dissemination of information about two critical topics: 1) COVID vaccine and 2) the CalEITIC and YCTC to families, especially in the BIPOC Communities.
- Help documenting ongoing housing challenges and needs through written examples from families and direct service providers.

Genoveva asked if the Spanish webinar can be shared out?

Ruth will find out if it has been posted on the First 5 Contra Costa website.

11.0 Communications



None Received.

12.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

None

13.0 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

The next meeting is on April 12, 2021.



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 3.2

Accept the Minutes from the February 8, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting



Executive Committee MINUTES

Monday February 8, 2021
5:00 p.m.

- 1.0 Convene and announce adjournment to closed session**
The Chair convened the meeting at 5:09 PM.
- 2.0 Closed Session**
The Executive Committee went into a closed session with the First 5 Contra Costa Administrative Manager Shawn Garcia, County Counsel and consultant Nicole Young.
- 3.0 Call to Order**
Chair called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 5:57 PM
Present were: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, Dr. Rocio Hernandez, Lee Ross, Genoveva Garcia Calloway, Ruth Fernandez, Camilla Rand, Shawn Garcia, Sandra Dalida, Nicole Young, and County Counsel Keiko Kobayashi.
- 4.0 Public Comment**
There was no comment from the public.

Commissioner Lee Ross left the meeting at this time.
- 5.0 CONSIDER accepting the report on significant program, financial or contracts matters, and on any personnel matters relating to the Commission staff.**
Executive Director, Ruth Fernandez made broad mention budget development and expenditures. She reported that First 5 Contra Costa's revenue to date is aligned with the 2021-22 budget projections.

Ruth also requested that the committee hold a special executive committee meeting to discuss draft policy advocacy framework. She proposed to have this meeting early in March. A doodle poll will be sent to determine the date.

Motion to accept the report on significant program, financial or contracts matters and on any personnel matters relating to the commission staff is made by Dr. Cio Hernandez and seconded by Marilyn Cachola Lucey.

All in favor by roll call:
Chair: Marilyn Cachola Lucey – Aye
Vice-Chair: Dr. Cio Hernandez – Aye
Additional Non-Voting member: Genoveva Garcia Calloway – Aye

NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Absent: Secretary/Treasurer, Lee Ross

Motion accepted.
- 6.0 Adjourn**
The meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM

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April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 3.3

Accept the Minutes from the March 5, 2021 Special Executive Committee Meeting



Special Meeting of the Executive Committee MINUTES

Friday March 5, 2021
2:00 p.m.

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Lucey called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM
Commissioners in attendance: Vice-Chair Dr. Rocio Hernandez, Secretary/Treasurer Lee Ross, and additional Non-Voting Member Genoveva Garcia Calloway.
Staff in attendance: Ruth Fernandez, Camilla Rand, Sandra Dalida, and Shawn Garcia.

2.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

3.0 Staff Updates: Staff will update the Executive Committee on internal Policy Advocacy conversations and planning related to 20/21-22/23 Strategic Plan

Ruth Fernandez provided an overview of the internal planning conducted by staff over the past year to operationalize Policy Advocacy strategic priorities included in the new 2020-2023 Strategic Plan. Internal discussions led to the development of a draft Policy Advocacy Framework with two primary objectives: 1) Increase coordination and alignment across the organization on policy advocacy priority issues, strategies and activities, b) Define core issue areas for the organization to guide Policy Advocacy work for a multi-year period.

Staff presented a draft Policy Framework to the Executive Committee which was included in the meeting packet for discussion.

4.0 Items for Consideration

DISCUSS staff draft Policy Advocacy Framework prepared by Commission staff.

Camilla Rand reviewed the content of the draft Policy Advocacy Framework which included:
Rationale: Policy advocacy for early childhood is a critical tool for long-term systems change and prevention.

Purpose: As First 5 Contra Costa embarks in the implementation of our new three-year organizational Strategic Plan 20/21 through 22/23, it is critical that our policy advocacy work is guided and anchored by a common organizational policy advocacy framework.

Framework Objectives: Create core document that delineates and embraces the broad array of issues impacting the well-being of young children, prenatal to 5; AND that provides a method for selecting policy focus areas and advocacy strategies grounded in partnerships with and input from staff, Commissioners, residents, and partner organizations.

Camilla presented the proposed priority issues for 2021:

1. Revenue: Looking to diversify our revenue including Measure X and other state and local resources, including funding from the vape tax.
2. Family Well-being: housing security, financial security, and health.

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3. Child Early Learning and Well-being: including mental health and trauma informed programs, early learning opportunities such as expanded access to preschool and improved Pre-K to third grade systems.

Important in developing these was the need to align with the First 5 Association Policy Agenda which is centered on a Whole Child and Whole Family which looks at children's issues from a global lens.

Executive Committee members provided the following input and comments:

Genoveva informed the group that she applied to the Measure X Community Advisory Board (deadline on March 11).

Ruth Fernandez also informed the committed that as previously reported to the Commission she also submitted an application to be considered for participation in the Community Advisory Board for Measure X. She added that First 5 Contra Costa had been active in the working group and public testimony at Board of Supervisors meetings.

Genoveva also asked if First 5 gave cash grants for rent assistance.

Ruth responded that First 5 Contra Costa coordinated a partnership with Community Financial Resources (CFR) and Healthy and Active Before 5 (HAB45) to develop a financial assistance model that proved to be very successful and providing rapid cash assistance to families impacted by the pandemic.

Lee Ross asked if item #3c in the Policy Advocacy Framework included the Family Resource Centers (FRC). Camilla said that the language allows flexibility for any potential funding allocated for FRCs.

Under Rationale:

Lee suggested to add/revise language to emphasize the urgency for "change". Specifically, he pointed to the sentence stated as: "for policies that will sustain systems change into the future." Lee suggested to say "necessary change" in the sentence.

Marilyn Lucey recommended considering calling out root causes in the body of the framework. She referenced that while the Policy Advocacy Framework described First 5's focus on system change, it looked emphasis on "root causes" in the rationale section. She added that we have an opportunity to educate constituents on how to view the problem. How can we do the work together and better? My opinion when we look at inequities in our system, "what is it rooted in?" We have the opportunity to name the root cause. Is it possible to add that into our policy advocacy statement? Can we include a statement to talk about bias, root causes racial inequity?

Ruth Fernandez responded that root cause statements are definitely the lens taken by the First 5 Network. Addressing racial equity and social justice issues such as systemic racism is the intent of the First 5 Network's REDI framework and a goal included in First 5 Contra Costa's organizational assessment currently in the works.

Marilyn states that if I were a new Commissioner, I would never think that part of our core values is that we recognize and combat racism. We need to be explicit about it on our statement.

Dr. Rocio Hernandez agrees that we need to be explicit about these root causes.

Special Meeting Executive Committee

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If we are not being explicit, it's too easy to go right over their heads. We need to spell it out to be clear about it. Spell out and amplify the cost savings of preschool vs prison. There is a savings amount when we invest in preschool vs. prison.

Ruth thanked the Executive Committee and informed that staff will integrate their input.

Next steps and process:

Commission staff will incorporate input and revisions from the Executive Committee into the draft Policy Advocacy Framework.

A staff report will be prepared to request Commission approval of the Policy Advocacy Framework at the April Commission Meeting. Staff will prepare a brief presentation.

Ruth and Camilla will update the interim staff Policy Advocacy Committee regarding Executive Committee feedback and recommendations. The Interim Policy Advocacy Committee consists of Executive Director, Deputy Director, the four Initiative Program Officers, Communications Manager, and Special Project Coordinator. Ruth mentioned that this committee has been the brain behind the development of the Policy Framework.

Moving forward the goal is to create a mechanism for the Policy Committee to present to the commission and keep the conversation alive. We will incorporate all the input you gave us today and we will prepare to have this for the April Commission meeting.

Genoveva informed that she participated in a Town Hall regarding Yemen culture. Presenters talked about their struggles, brings to light a lot of similar issues, technology, immigration issues, language issues, education... we just assumed they are well off than most but it was interesting to learn another cultural group that is needing help.

Ruth thanked Genoveva for the information. Genoveva agreed to connect Ruth with the Town Hall presenter.

In closing, Ruth shared that conversations have continued at the First 5 Network level regarding federal funding coming to Cities and Counties for pandemic relief and recovery services and resources. The First 5 Association hosted a webinar to discuss ways in which First 5 Commissions across the state are connecting with their County leaders and Board of Supervisors to elevate early childhood issues in CARES and ARP funding.

Ruth shared she intends to keep a close ear in these conversations and will continue to stay in contact with County leadership. More information to come on this subject matter and ways in which First 5s across the state can amplify their role as thought partners and experienced channels for public funds.

5.0 Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 2:59pm.



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 3.6

Accept the First 5 Contra Costa February 2021 Program Reports

Early Childhood Education

Dual Language Learner Program Launches

The DLL Coaching Institute launched Friday, February 19 with 5 Contra Costa coaches attending (First 5 and CocoKids). The Coaching Institute is meant to prepare the coaches to support the providers as they navigate together through the coursework beginning later this month. The Institute is offered once a month for the next 5 months and an orientation will be held early March with the first class launching late March. Books and materials are being delivered by the coaches to the 50 participants in the Contra Costa cohort. Commitment agreements are being sent to participants and collected over the next week. We are excited that both of the English and Spanish cohorts will be at full capacity.

Kudos to First 5 Coaches

The Teaching Pyramid training for family childcare providers has been going strong since last fall, with robust participation in each module. The effectiveness and the need for this training was evident from the latest evaluation feedback for Module 2. Of the 18 providers who completed the evaluations, all rated the coaches and the trainings as “highly effective” and “strongly agree” in each of the areas of feedback. These Saturday trainings require lots of preparation and strong facilitation to be able to handle the sometimes-difficult conversations that arise around social emotional development and children’s behavior.



Anti-Biased and Anti-Racist Train the Trainer Program

First 5 will be working with the Bay Area Consortium of counties to identify a Train the Trainer program in an effort to build capacity in each county. A small team of representatives from each county are working diligently to identify existing and effective curriculum programs to expand to other counties. Each county will have 5-7 representatives to send to be trained in the model the subcommittee chooses. The timeline is short, as these identified consortium funds need to be spent by June 30, 2021.

FESP

FESP-Related Activities

The FESP Executive Committee met via Zoom to talk about the next FESP meeting and to review the purpose and goals of FESP. There was overall agreement that FESP reached a different audience than other coalitions (mix of executive and line staff), the focus on financial stability for families is unique, and that FESP provides resources and information which helps build capacity in CBO staff.

The Executive Committee talked about some ideas for the next FESP meeting and decided that the focus should be on COVID-19’s impact on racial/health/wealth equity given that this is the primary issue of concern right now. The focus will be on connecting a variety of issues: poverty, housing insecurity/eviction moratoriums, vaccine distribution, school closures, and racial inequity to overall financial instability. We will ask FESP members what they are struggling with and provide an opportunity for meeting in small groups for discussion. The Executive Committee also felt that we could do a poll at the meeting to collect information on what FESP members think about FESP, what they value most, how engaged they are in advocacy (and if not, why not), and what would make participation more valuable for them.

PROGRAM UPDATES

FEBRUARY 2020



Measure X: Healthy and Safe Contra Costa

The Board of Supervisors finally approved a process to establish a Community Advisory Board (CAB) to provide input into how to allocate Measure X funds. Applications are now being accepted for this 17-member Board with diverse representation throughout the county. Each Supervisor will select two representatives (CAB members must either live or work in Contra Costa) and there will be seven at large seats. The CAB, after a great deal of public testimony at the Board of Supervisors' meeting on February 2, will make general recommendations for the allocation of 95% of the funds (not 50% as originally proposed); 5% will go to a reserve fund.

Earned Income Tax Credit/Earn It, Save It, Keep It Campaign

Thanks to First 5's Communication Team, we have rolled out a robust strategy for helping low-income tax filers claim the EITC and Young Child Tax Credit. Presentations are being made throughout the county (including one on March 3 in partnership with United Way for the Central/East County CARES Coalition which often reaches over 80 people). The First 5 website has tremendous resources for anyone to use (PowerPoint, newsletter copy, letters to filers, info on how/where to file online, etc.). We are doing an all-out push to promote the importance of this critical anti-poverty program. <http://www.first5coco.org/cal-eitc-putting-money-back-in-families-pockets/>



Early Learning Leadership Group (ELLG)

The ELLG, staffed by Fran, met on January 29 to discuss how to respond to the original Measure X Board Order. Talking points were prepared and distributed to ELLG members, and several members made public comment on February 2 advocating for oversight of 95% of the funds. ELLG is involved in order to make sure that there is early childhood representation on the CAB and that early childhood services are included in any funding decisions as identified in the Needs Assessment.

Fran and Camilla met with Chris Bajarias from LIIF (Low Income Investment Fund) on February 19 to discuss the Early Childhood Recovery Fund Partnership. Chris will be making a presentation to the ELLG on February 23 for members to review, discuss and approve criteria for the distribution of funds predominantly for family childcare providers. The Early Childhood Recovery Fund Partnership is a partnership between First 5, Tipping Point Foundation, and LIIF—LIIF will provide all the infrastructure support for the distribution of the funds. LIIF has a potential of \$200,000 - \$400,000 seed funding to be matched with the \$100,000 that was approved by the Commission on February 8.

Budget Justice Coalition (BJC)

The BJC, in partnership with the Bay Area Equity Atlas, made a presentation to the Board of Supervisors at their February 9 meeting on equity. The focus was predominantly on how COVID's impact is extremely unequal, that low wage workers and communities of color have been more impacted, and budgets, as moral documents, should prioritize vulnerable communities.

Enhancing the Advocacy Infrastructure in Contra Costa

Initial approval has been given for the Building Power and Impact in Contra Costa project that Fran and Mariana Moore, Senior Director of Ensuring Opportunity, have developed—final approval is expected within a month. This two-year project will focus on three primary audiences: direct service providers,

advocacy organizations, and residents. The project aims to build a broader, better-connected, and more powerful base of CBOs, residents, and allies to advocate for policies and systems that increase equity in Contra Costa.

Fran also participated on the Cal Fresh Working Group on February 4 and attended the Food Bank's legislative lunch on January 29. Fran also attended the west and east county CARES coalition meetings; First 5 and United Way will make a presentation at the March 3 meeting on EITC.

Community Engagement

CCRG Families Plead with City of Concord for Displacement Prevention

The Contra Costa Regional Group (CCRG) and numerous Concord residents appealed to the Concord City Council to protect them from displacement as the City prepares for potential improvements to Ellis Lake Park in the Monument community. If awarded a state Prop 68 grant for Ellis Lake Park, the City of Concord would spend \$6.7M on park improvements, prompting neighborhood concerns it would result in unattainable rent increases and unfair evictions. Families shared their fears at 2 separate Council meetings this month in hopes that they would not have to choose between having a beautiful new park or staying in their home. The residents urged City Council to pass meaningful anti-displacement policies to protect families from 'green gentrification', a well-substantiated risk linked to park improvements in low-income areas. [The families' concerns were covered in the East Bay Times on February 5—click here to view.](#)



ECRG and Partners Continue Planning Launch of Antioch CHANGE

The East County Regional Group (ECRG) and Community Engagement (CE) team continue planning for the Spring launch of our collaborative community-based housing assessment in Antioch. The Antioch Community Housing Assessment of Needs, Gaps and Equity (CHANGE) is a joint effort of the ECRG, First 5 Contra Costa, Urban Habitat and Healthy & Active Before 5 to identify pressing housing needs and recommendations benefitting Antioch children and families.

WCRG and Partners Continue Advancing Boorman Park Prop 68 Project

The West County Regional Group (WCRG), CE team, Healthy & Active Before 5, and the City of Richmond continue to collaborate on the Boorman Park improvement project, funded by the Prop 68 grant. In response to COVID, the State of California has extended the completion deadline to 2024. We hope the project will be completed before the deadline and are working steadily with the City to help it stay on track.

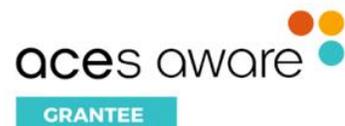
Fund Development

In February, the CE program submitted a grant proposal to the East Bay Community Foundation to support our parent leadership and organizing across the County in the areas of housing security, immigrant and racial justice, equitable representation and park equity.

Early Intervention

ACEs Round 2 Kickoff

We have lift off! ACEs Round 2 kicked off this month fast and furiously requiring a rapid response to completing updated budgets and deliverables requested by Aurrera health who is responsible for managing the grantee contracts. The First 5 team (staff across all departments) and its external partners (La Clínica Pittsburg and the Crisis Center/211) worked together to compile the needed information. This is the start of the contracts/negotiations process. We anticipate wrapping this up by the end of February/early March. We are in the process of hiring a Project Coordinator for this second phrase of work and ACEs Aware is hosted a mandatory kickoff event on February 22.



ACEs Round 1 Midterm Update

Kudos to the EI team for their timely submission (February 15) of the supplemental training materials for review by Aces Aware and Aurrera Health. The Training is titled “Changing The Lives Of Children: Attending to ACES in ages 0-5”. This has been a challenging process due to having to adapt to changes required by ACEs Aware, including the recently instituted extensive review process which may impact the proposed date for our training—the materials are also under a simultaneous review for CME approval. The fourth in a series of 6 peer-to-peer learning sessions occurred as part of our network of care activities. We are fortunate to be working through our county partnerships to offer this continuing education credit for physicians.

Strengthening Early Childhood Systems for Children

In mid-February, 45 early childhood providers received part one of First 5’s 102 module titled “Early Childhood Resiliency and Trauma” training— which was delivered by two First 5 trauma Fellows. The session was highly interactive and engaging and there continues to be a high interest in learning more about the impact of trauma and toxic stress in the community.

On February 16, the Help Me Grow (HMG) Cafe was held with 30 early childhood providers. It featured a review of the HMG phone line and the ways it can support parents by highlighting COVID-19 resources. The HMG Advisory Board also met on February 16 and discussed the lessons learned from the K-Ready Parent Cafe series around equity and African American (AA) Parent engagement—these lessons can be helpful to HMG with AA families. Our HMG Coordinator provided an ASQ overview and info session on February 10 for Kidango Child Care sites in support and collaboration with QM coaches as they work to get the three sites ready for future standardized developmental screening implementation.

First 5 continues to convene the Early Intervention and Prevention Coalition (ECPIC) which has successfully advocated for additional MHSA funding for children 0-5 resulting in the county releasing a RFP this month for \$125k for outreach and awareness targeted at the 0-5 population.

The Early Intervention RFP was released to assess the current landscape of early intervention service system countywide, to identify equitable and evidence based sustainable practices/programs along with a recommendation for future direction for the EI initiative.



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 3.7

Accept the First 5 Contra Costa March 2021 Program Reports

1. Community Engagement

Antioch CHANGE launches April 5

Antioch CHANGE, a Community Housing Assessment of Needs, Gaps and Equity, will officially launch on Monday, April 5 at 9:00AM. The community-based housing assessment seeks to understand the barriers and opportunities to housing security in Antioch. All Antioch families with young children are encouraged to fill out the survey online. Paper surveys will be available for residents unable to access the digital survey. Data collection will occur through June 2020. Antioch CHANGE is a collaborative effort, led by the East County Regional Group, First 5 Contra Costa, Urban Habitat, and Healthy & Active Before 5. We ask for everyone with friends, neighbors, clients, and networks in Antioch to please spread the word on social media and by word of mouth. Here is a link to the survey: bit.ly/AntiochCHANGE

CE featured at San Francisco State University Master of Public Health program

The CE Team's advocacy model will be featured and taught at an upcoming graduate Public Health class at SFSU. The class will be led by the CE Program Officer and a CCRG parent leader. We will explore the framework of community-led policy advocacy and how it can be used to advance public health, equity, and systems change on behalf of young children and families.

DeAnza Park renovations coming to Pittsburg

Construction on the DeAnza park renovations is set to begin this week. Soon, the park will have a new multi-use pathway and family friendly exercise equipment for families to enjoy. The renovations are the result of recommendations outlined in our *Pittsburg Parks Assessment* and a partnership between the East County Regional Group, First 5 Contra Costa and the City of Pittsburg.



WCRG and partners continue advancing Boorman Park Prop 68 project

The WCRG, CE Team, Healthy & Active Before 5 and the City of Richmond continue to collaborate on the Boorman Park improvement project, funded by the Prop 68 grant. We are working steadily with the City to help the project stay on track.

Fund Development

The CE Team recently received an East Bay Community Foundation grant to support our parent leadership and organizing across the County in the areas of housing security, immigrant and racial justice, equitable representation and park equity. We are grateful to EBCF for their ongoing support.

2. Early Intervention

Early Intervention, steady as she goes

The Early Intervention Initiative continues to move steadily along with multiple activities advancing forward. This month the Early Intervention RFP was released, and a team of readers are on deck to begin the review process. We look for to identifying the awardee and starting this process.

Continuing to uplift equitable access accountability within our contract deliverables

Triple P has served 105 African Americans in Triple P seminars. Our contractor, COPE, has done aggressive outreach targeting places and organizations that have a strong connection to the African

PROGRAM UPDATES

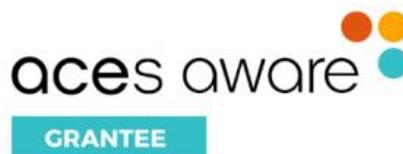
MARCH 2021



American (AA) community. They have retooled their outreach material and zoom environment to be culturally specific and have built a following of AA parents through word of mouth from attendees. Their successful work has led to us adding funding for them to continue to grow their service connection to AA parents and others under-reached parenting populations.

ACEs Round 1 and 2

Our ACEs round 1 work is progressing nicely. Our supplemental training grant is in the review process with both Aurrera and ACEs Aware and we hope to hear back within the next two weeks with what adjustments, if any, need to be made. We have asked for a no-cost extension to July 30, 2021 because of the lengthy review process and our lack of control over when it will be completed. We have completed the CME process and will be able to offer continuing education units to medical providers. This month we completed our 5th of the 6 TILT (Trauma Informed Leadership Team) sessions. We have transitioned from across-agencies breakout sessions to job-alike breakout sessions which is allowing the participants to reflect on what their organization or system (ex. behavioral health) can do to internally move the needle on implementing a trauma-informed approach as a component of the system of care—participants were asked to identify goals and benchmarks for their work. The last Tilt will bring together our West/Central Tilt group with our East/Central group to cross pollinate their learning and experience. Our communications team is partnering with Families Thrive and T2 to develop an ACEs network landing page and is creating material curated from the first ACEs convening to share. They also are working on the strategy for the Contra Costa Network of Care logo they created.



The round 2 ACEs network of care implementation grant partners are meeting weekly to move the grant deliverables forward. We have posted the First 5 Trauma and Resiliency Project Coordinator position and resumes have come in and are being reviewed. All three agencies are in the process of hiring staff and are working to complete first deliverable for the ACEs Aware network of care assessment tool which is due April 30, 2021. We are still finalizing our Aurrera contract which will be back dated to February 1, 2021.

MHSA ECMH RFP

The ECPIC committee has been meeting to develop a joint application for the \$125k RFP. The lead agency will be We Care. First 5 is on deck as a recipient of some of the RFP funds (\$25k) to do a modest outreach campaign and to host one annual community zoom training on early childhood trauma.

3. Family Support

Results Based Accountability (RBA)

On February 17, First 5 Contra Costa staff learned about Results Based Accountability (RBA) from Emily Hampshire, our Cal Berkeley second year Masters of Social Work Intern. RBA, developed by Mark Friedman, is a commonsense framework that uses a data-driven, decision-making process to help communities and organizations take action to improve the effectiveness of programs. During a Family Support all-staff meeting in the beginning of March, Emily led the First 5 Center Directors and their staff through an exercise that utilized an aspect of RBA to frame the concerning decrease in new families the Centers have experienced since the onset of the Pandemic. The 40+ attendees utilized new family data to set goals and develop plans of action. To promote “out of the box” thinking to help Centers mobilize

PROGRAM UPDATES

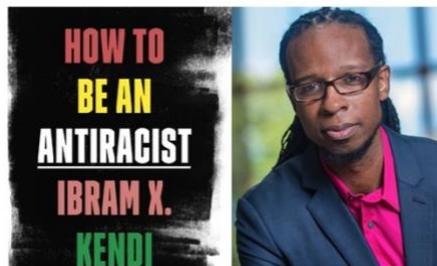
MARCH 2021



their community's assets in a plan of action, an activity adapted from Kretzmann and McKnight's [Building Communities from the Inside Out](#) sparked ideas for community partnerships that could help increase the number of new families at the Centers.

First 5 Center Leadership Launch Racial Equity Diversity Inclusion (REDI) Workgroup

The Family Support initiative, grounded in strengths-based approaches to working with families that celebrate cultural diversity through the practice of cultural humility, recognized the need to take their work to the next level. In response to the racial reckoning sweeping across our nation, the First 5 Center Directors and Supervisors came together and committed to meeting twice a month to educate themselves, discuss and reflect on their work in the context of the communities they serve. Thus far, the group has discussed how health disparities show up in the communities they serve in light of COVID and the role they have in disseminating information on the now available vaccines. Additionally, Ibram X. Kendi's book, [How to be an Antiracist](#), is being read and discussed by the group. The group has met five times since January and courageous conversations have already highlighted the need to examine "family support" from a REDI lens.



First 5 Centers Planning for Re-Opening and Envision a Hybrid Service Delivery Model

The First 5 Centers' shift to virtual services came with many obstacles and challenges to overcome, as well as lessons learned. One of the unanticipated positive outcomes of offering virtual programming and services has been the expanded reach of the Centers. After a year of offering virtual classes, support groups, workshops, individual consultations and in-person distributions of material goods (food, diapers, wipes, PPE, car seats, books, toys, program supplies, etc.) the Centers have learned a lot about what families need, want, and how staff are positioned to respond virtually. Two app-based early learning programs implemented by the Centers, Ready Rosie and Kiddapolis, have been very popular with families and will likely continue after re-opening. The use of social media has been elevated significantly during the past year, which has provided an invaluable tool for the Centers to push out Center-made content and information. As our communities begin to loosen COVID related restrictions, the Centers are planning their re-opening which will include the majority of programs and services remaining online with limited opportunities for families to participate in-person. Eventually the Centers anticipate shifting to more in-person offerings with certain programs and services remaining available to families online, reflecting a true hybrid service-delivery model.

4. Early Childhood Education

Ready Kids, East County

Ruth Fernandez and Camilla Rand met with the Leshner Foundation's new Executive Director, Devorah Levine, and Program Officer Nilofar Gardezi to provide updates on the initiative as we move into year 3 of 5. They shared the highlights and preliminary findings from the parent cafés held in November, December, and January, and discussed plans moving forward in 2021. These plans include sharing what we learned from parents and amplifying their voices; building alignment with key stakeholders around taking action based on our findings; and facilitating and cultivating relationships and connectivity within East Contra Costa County. The Steering Committee continues to meet weekly to develop these plans into action and is working closely with the East County First 5 Center staff to ensure center offerings meet the needs of Black/African American children and their families.

PROGRAM UPDATES

MARCH 2021



Early Childhood Recovery Fund Partnership with LIIF (Low Income Investment Fund)

We are thrilled to have raised \$500,000 through matched funding from the Tipping Point and Wells Fargo bank to provide relief funds to 60-80 family childcare providers in need within Contra Costa County. Eligible small family childcare homes will receive \$5,000 and large homes will receive \$10,000 in much needed support when so many programs are struggling. Our plan is to launch the application April 16 – 23 and through our partners, CocoKids and County Office of Education get the word out to those programs in priority zip codes: Concord, Antioch, Pittsburg, Richmond and San Pablo. This has truly been a team effort with support from LIIF, the Early Learning and Leadership Group, and our Quality Matters partners all working together to make this happen. Our hope is that this is just the beginning and that this first round will spur other funders to step in and support this endeavor.

Quality Matters

The First 5 coaches recently attended a Train the Trainer Inclusion Institute hosted by WestEd. This Institute provided the coaches with tools for supporting providers serving children with special needs. The coaches indicated that it is in this area they felt they needed to deepen their learning to best help struggling providers who need tools to meet the growing needs of children and their families. This learning coincides with the Dual Language Learner Coaching Institute as well as the Teaching Pyramid (social emotional curriculum) trainings. Kim Stadlander, First 5 Coaching Coordinator says, “The Inclusion ToT was so beneficial, and it became clear to me how doing DLL and Teaching Pyramid is really a part of the multi system approach to Inclusion. I was so proud of how the coaches worked hard on their prep work for each session and how they really developed a passion and excitement around this work.” We are proud of our coaches and proud that First 5’s area of focus aligns with the Master Plan for Education in advancing equity and opportunity for all children in Contra Costa.



5. FESP

FESP-related activities

FESP will host its next meeting on April 29 with a focus on COVID and its impact on financial stability. Two great presenters will share their expertise with FESP members. First, we will hear from Jamila Henderson from PolicyLink who will share regional and local data from the Bay Area Equity Atlas about the disproportionate impact of COVID on low-wage workers and communities of color. Then, we will hear from Kristen Schumacher and Eric Saucedo from the California Budget and Policy Center who will talk about data and policy options at the state level.

Following the presentations, FESP members will have the opportunity to meet in small groups to talk about what they heard (what was an “ah-ha” moment?), what they are grappling with, and what action they are willing to take based on what they heard. Also, a poll will be conducted to ascertain the value of FESP, to pinpoint barriers to engagement in advocacy, and to identify what would make FESP more valuable. In addition, as always, we will have updates on a number of important local efforts: Measure X, CalFresh, Budget Justice Coalition and more.

Fran continues to send out relevant information to FESP members on COVID, vaccines, rental assistance, and other issues as they arise.

PROGRAM UPDATES

MARCH 2021



Earned Income Tax Credit/Earn It, Save It, Keep It campaign

Presentations continue to be made and resources shared to get the word out about how low-income workers can file taxes for free and claim the EITC and Young Child Tax Credit. United Way in partnership with First 5 made a presentation in early March at the Central/East County CARES Coalition and we shared our resources and website information:

<http://www.first5coco.org/cal-eitc-putting-money-back-in-families-pockets/>. The deadline for filing taxes has

been extended to May 17.



Measure X: Healthy and Safe Contra Costa

March 11 was the deadline for submitting applications for the 17-member Measure X Community Advisory Board (CAB) and 138 applications were received. The Finance Committee will be reviewing applications at their March 29 meeting, allotting 2 minutes for each applicant to speak if they wish. If need be, the committee will meet again on April 5. Each Supervisor will have the opportunity to select two representatives and the Finance Committee will select the remaining seven at-large seats. CAB members must either live or work in Contra Costa and the CAB is expected to be diverse and representative of Contra Costa's population.

Early Learning Leadership Group (ELLG)

First 5, in partnership with LIIF (Low Income Investment Fund) and the ELLG, staffed by Fran, are anticipating the rollout of the Early Childhood Recovery Fund Partnership, which will provide funds for family child care providers impacted by COVID. Chris Bajarias from LIIF presented to the ELLG an initial list of criteria that would be used to make funding recommendations; ELLG members reviewed and offered some slight changes, but overall accepted the criteria. Tipping Point Community and Wells Fargo have each contributed \$200,000 and with First 5's contribution of \$100,000, the total amount available to distribute is \$500,000! Fran, Camilla, and CoCoKids will be talking to Chris about some of the outreach details and then the entire ELLG will be engaged and outreach will begin. LIIF will provide all the infrastructure support for the distribution of the funds, including advertising the project, developing the application, screening applications, conducting required background checks, etc.

Partnerships

FESP continues to participate on numerous coalitions/partnerships related to economic security, COVID-19, and racial justice.

Budget Justice Coalition (BJC)

Fran sits on the BJC Steering Committee, which meets monthly to discuss direction and priorities for the future monthly meetings and BJC work. The BJC will be hosting a Budget Town Hall on March 31 with the directors of Health Services (Ana Roth) and the Employment and Human Services Department (Kathy Gallagher). The meeting will help BJC members gain a greater understanding of 2021-22 departmental budget considerations, priorities and challenges.

Community Advocacy + Partnership Project (CAPP)

The San Francisco Foundation approved a \$200,000 allocation for this grant to enhance the advocacy system in Contra Costa County. The funds will go to Ensuring Opportunity, and First 5 will enter into a

PROGRAM UPDATES

MARCH 2021



contract for our portion of the funds (\$20,000). Fran and Mariana Moore, Senior Director of Ensuring Opportunity have been working on outreach tools for the newly named CAPP project to invite participation. This two-year project will create a cohort of direct service providers, advocacy organizations, and residents, with the aim of building a broader, better-connected, and more powerful base of CBOs, residents, and allies to advocate for policies and systems that increase equity in Contra Costa. A consultant will be hired to facilitate the project, working closely with Fran and Mariana. Special outreach will occur to invite children-serving agencies to participate. More on this initiative will be presented at the April Commission meeting.

West and Central/East County CARES Coalitions

Fran participates on the West and Central/East County CARES Coalitions where a tremendous amount of information is shared and later distributed to FESP members and others.



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 6.0

Public Hearing on the First 5 California 2019-20 Annual Report



**Staff Report
April 12, 2021**

ACTION: X
DISCUSSION:

TITLE: Public Hearing on the First 5 California 2019-20 Annual Report

Introduction:

First 5 California prepares an annual report each year, based in part on fiscal, program and participant information provided by each of the 58 county commissions. County Commissions are required by statute to hold an annual public hearing on First 5 California's annual report.

The report may be found online at:

https://ccfc.ca.gov/pdf/about/budget_perf/annual_report_pdfs/Annual-Report-19-20.pdf

A short summary of Contra Costa program highlights appears on page 36.

Recommendation: Accept the First 5 California Annual Report 2019-20

Contra Costa

First 5 Contra Costa County began planning *Ready Kids East County*. In partnership with the Dean and Margaret Leshner Foundation, this program is a collective action initiative that aims to address the root causes underpinning the opportunity gap for Black and African American children when it comes to being ready for kindergarten. First 5 Contra Costa serves as the backbone agency, defining the short- and long-term outcomes in the initiative. The agency established a Parent Advisory Group and Design Team consisting of parents, First 5 Contra Costa staff, and community partners. The Design Team will facilitate and plan the parent cafes, a component of the initiative that create spaces for Black and African American parents, to connect and discuss school readiness. Following the shelter-in-place order, First 5 Contra Costa conducted a COVID-19 survey to assess the state of mental health and financial standing of the families with young children in the county (<http://www.first5coco.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/F5-ContraCosta-Covid19-Brief-PrinterFriendly.pdf>). Over 400 families responded, providing critical information about their children's needs and concerns. First 5 Contra Costa has met these needs with swift efforts to supply aid to over 4,000 families with diapers, wipes, and PPE supplies from First 5 California. In partnership with Healthy and Active Before 5 and Community Financial Resources, First 5 Contra Costa made it possible for Regional Group families suffering from financial hardship to access cash assistance funds from philanthropic partners, and our partners are adapting and connecting with families virtually. First 5 Contra Costa Centers rolled out an evidenced-based online, distance-learning program known as "Ready Rosie," which seeks to increase family engagement via live videos and text messages. *Help Me Grow* hosted the first Virtual Café of its kind, in which guest speaker Jamie Nunez from Common Sense Media gave a presentation on Distance Learning Strategies and Tools for Early Childhood Providers.

Del Norte

It is hard to look back at this year without seeing COVID-19 as the primary event affecting First 5 Del Norte County's work. It may be overused, but "unprecedented" is the right word to describe the last quarter of the Fiscal Year 2019–20. Never before has the entire county experienced a community-wide trauma of this length and magnitude, shutting schools and businesses with only a few hours' notice in mid-March.

Fortunately, First 5 Del Norte's work over the past two years put it in a good position to continue to support families even while unable to be physically with them. Two of First 5 Del Norte's key programs require no face-to-face connection to families: Dolly Parton's *Imagination*

Library and *Ready4K* parent support/engagement texts. Over 600 children ages 0 to 5, approximately 40 percent of the county's total under-5 population, is enrolled in the *Imagination Library*. Children receive a free, high-quality book every month mailed to their home. The localized *Ready4K* texting program sends three texts a week to help parents support their child's learning and development, as well as supporting parental mental wellness. A few weeks after schools closed, Del Norte's countywide district enrolled all pre-K through 4th grade students giving parents a much-needed tool to support at-home learning. These two programs reach families where they are; in 2020, that meant First 5 Del Norte reached families at home.

First 5 Del Norte has also worked to support child care providers during the pandemic. It provided crisis care stipends to providers who continued to serve families throughout the spring and early summer. In partnership with First 5 California, First 5 Del Norte also distributed diapers, PPE, and cleaning supplies to home daycare providers and families through drive-through events. It distributed diapers and wipes, books, crayons and coloring pages, COVID resources, and so much more. Families needed First 5 Del Norte this year like never before. It was able to pivot quickly to serve new and ever-changing family needs.

El Dorado

The First 5 El Dorado County Children and Families Commission has always taken a regional approach to planning and service delivery, recognizing that different areas in El Dorado County have unique resources and needs. Within this framework, the Commission has identified Community Hubs as a key strategy within its 2016–21 strategic plan. In partnership with county agencies and community-based partners, First 5 El Dorado has leveraged resources to support a variety of services through five Community Hubs. During Fiscal Year 2019–20, 5,243 (duplicated across programs) individuals were provided with First 5 funded Community Hub services. The COVID-19 pandemic created increased hardships on families everywhere. In mid-March 2020, Hub services ceased to be offered in person. Community Hubs mobilized to meet the needs of the communities they served. Hub service partners shifted to virtual service delivery where possible, hosting Zoom playgroups and Storytime via Facebook live. Service providers reached out to families to connect and respond to meet basic needs requests. Hub providers partnered with other community service providers to host drive-by diaper giveaways, food distributions, and offer activity packet for families. Some of the feedback received by families who were served during the pandemic included statements of gratitude, such as:



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 7.0

Consider approving proposed First 5 Contra Costa Budget FY 2021-22



**Staff Report
April 12, 2021**

ACTION: X
DISCUSSION:

TITLE: FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget, First 5 Contra Costa

Recommendation

Commission approval of the FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget, First 5 Contra Costa.

Background

The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget reflects the priorities of the Commission's FY 2020/21 – FY 2022/23 Strategic Plan and maintains alignment with the long term fiscal strategies including:

- leveraging Proposition 10 and Proposition 56 cigarette and tobacco tax revenues as match for private sector partnerships and philanthropic grants; and
- establishing partnerships with County agencies through subrecipient grants to jointly provide essential services; and
- securing public and philanthropic grants to further enhance First 5 activities focused in support of young children and their families,

Fiscal Impact

The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget maintains focus on continuity of Program Initiatives, assures balanced revenues and expenditures, and reduces the drawdown from the Unassigned Fund Balance - - \$1.5 million drawdown rather than \$3.0 million as projected for year two of the Strategic Plan.

Also, the proposed budget exceeds the projected external funds balance in the Strategic Plan for FY 2021-22 by \$1.2 million – an additional factor in the drawdown allocation for this year.

Major Revenue

1. Proposition 10/Proposition 56/Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF) Revenue

State tax apportionments are the principal First 5 revenue sources which include Proposition 10 cigarette tax, Proposition 56 tobacco products tax (backfill funding for loss of Prop 10 funding), and SMIF apportioned interest associated with Prop 56 receipts held in State interest earning account.

- Proposition 10

The Governor's Budget, released in January 2021, reflects no change in Proposition 10 revenue projections and estimates an average annual decline in tax revenue of approximately 2.6% for FY 2020-21 through FY 2024-25. The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget includes Prop 10 revenue of \$7,583,448 - - down 38.8% from a high of \$12.8 million in FY 2000-01.

- Proposition 56

Revenue for Proposition 56 backfill experienced a significant increase in FY 2019-20. However, the State and First 5 California have advised that ongoing increases are not expected and FY

2021-22 Proposition 56 revenue is projected to remain at the same level as FY 2020-21. Therefore, the FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget includes Prop 56 revenue of \$1,983,319.

- Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)

SMIF is the interest accrued from statewide Proposition 56 receipts held in State interest earning accounts. Counties receive a share of SMIF interest earned based on the Proposition 10/56 apportionment methodology. The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget includes \$28,000 in projected SMIF revenue.

2. State Grants

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Round 2 Grant

First 5 Contra Costa is one of the successful recipients of a multi-year ACEs Round 2 Grant in the amount of \$2,355,708 for the period February 2021 – June 2022 to advance efforts to prevent and mitigate the harmful effects of adverse childhood experiences and toxic stress. The FY 2021-22 ACEs Round 2 grant funding is \$800,519 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.

- First 5 California Impact Grant

First 5 Contra Costa was awarded the multi-year First 5 IMPACT 2020 Grant in the amount of \$2,185,071 for the period July 2020 through June 2023 to support children prenatal through age 5 and their families through building statewide quality improvement systems focused on early learning and care experiences. The FY 2021-22 F5 CA IMPACT grant funding is \$712,514 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.

- First 5 California Dual Language Learner Grant (DLL)

First 5 Contra Costa was awarded the First 5 DLL Grant in the amount of \$600,624.24 for the period January 2021 through December 2021 to strengthen early childhood education providers access to high quality DLL professional development opportunities and support families with children's home language development and competency so DLL children are better prepared for kindergarten. The FY 2021-22 F5 CA DLL grant funding is \$467,934 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.

3. Subrecipient Awards

The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget includes a focus on establishing partnerships with County agencies through subrecipient awards to jointly provide the following essential services.

- First 5 partnered with Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools to support activities for the California State Preschool (CSPP) Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) project in Contra Costa County. The FY 2021-22 funding for CSPP/QRIS is \$258,830 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.
- First 5 and Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools have partnered to provide services for the Quality Counts California (QCC) Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) project in Contra Costa County. The FY 2021-22 funding for QCC/QRIS is \$229,775 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.
- First 5 has partnered with Contra Costa County Behavioral Health Services (BHS) to jointly provide Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) services to the 0-5 year old population in Contra Costa County. The FY 2021-22 funding for Triple P is 82,000 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.

- First 5 Contra Costa and First 5 San Francisco have partnered for activities related to the implementation of the First 5 IMPACT Regional Technical Assistance and Training Services Hub (T&TA Hub) for the benefit of all First 5 agencies in Region 4 (i.e. Alameda County, Contra Costa, Monterey County, San Benito County, San Francisco County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, and Santa Cruz County). The partnership enables coordination of Quality Counts California activities, integration of best practices, creation of efficiencies, and leveraging regional and local capacity. The FY 2021-22 funding for the T&TA Hub is \$107,445 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.

4. Philanthropic Grants

First 5 Contra Costa continues to identify funding opportunities with public sector and philanthropic organizations in furtherance of long term fiscal sustainability strategies. The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget includes grant awards from various philanthropic foundations in support of ongoing First 5 activities.

- East Bay Community Foundation Grant of \$50,000 in support of Community Engagement and Advocacy activities and services.
- Dean and Margaret Leshner Foundation Grant of \$235,000 in support of Early Childhood Education Initiatives or “Ready Kids – East County.”
- Sunlight Giving Foundation Grant, year 3 of 3, of \$100,000 in support of general First 5 Contra Costa activities and services.

5. Other Revenue – Interest Income

- Other revenue includes First 5 share of interest accrued from Countywide pooled investments, which includes First 5 funds in reserve accounts, managed by the Contra Costa County Treasurer-Tax Collector’s Office. The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget includes \$100,000 in projected interest earnings.

Wages and Benefits

The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget for wages and benefits totals \$3,552,431 or an increase of \$472,718 more than the FY 2020-21 budget. The proposed wages and benefits includes:

- Performance step increases for relevant staff.
- Cost of living allowance (COLA) increase of 3% for staff based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index (CPI), San Francisco Bay Area, reflecting an adjusted CPI of 2.0% for the last 12 months. However, food costs have increased 6.9%, household furnishings and operations increased 3.9% and apparel increased 2.1%.

The significant driver resulting in a “temporary” Bay Area CPI reduction is the impact of “COVID-19 stay-at-home directives” and the dramatic decrease in fuel/petroleum consumption and rates including air travel, public transportation, and personal vehicle use. However, the demand for fuel/petroleum has recovered to 95% of pre-COVID levels, and the temporary decrease in the Bay Area consumer price index has evaporated.

The FY 2021-22 cost associated with the COLA is \$90,230 and the funding associated with the COLA is included in the proposed budget. The COLA would be effective July 1, 2021

- The cost associated with three (3) new positions: one (1) Program Coordinator, one (1) Program Assistant II, and one (1) Administrative Analyst. These positions are essential to

continuity of operations and support of additional program and administrative activities and responsibilities.

Program Coordinator: The Program Coordinator position will support activities associated with new grants and programs based on needs identified in the organizational needs assessment.

The Program Assistant II will report to the Deputy Director, with primary responsibility for coordination of administrative activities and support for the Deputy Director and program units.

The Administrative Analyst will report to the Finance and Operations Director, with primary responsibility for coordination of leases, facilities maintenance and associated services, and administrative analysis duties related to the integrity of budgeting systems and facilities preventative maintenance systems and reporting.

Highlights of Program Categories

- **Program Initiatives**
Organizational and associated budget categories were changed to align with the Strategic Plan. Specifically, *Stakeholder Engagement and Policy Advocacy* is the revised header for Community Engagement, Family Economic Security Partnership and Communications. Additionally, *Coordinated System of Care and Children Experiencing Stress / Trauma* were added to the Early Intervention budget to best reflect the work being done within that initiative.
- **Communications**
The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget reflects a new Communications Category which was previously under the Systems Change Program Expenses category. Pulling out Communications activities and services as a separate budget category is in alignment with the strategic priorities in the new Strategic Plan. The Plan calls on First 5 Contra Costa's strategic imperative to elevate visibility to further sustain and amplify systems change for young children and families.
- **Strategic Information and Planning (SIP)**
SIP expenses decreased from the prior year by \$48,297 due to reduced need for contract data analysis and a reconfiguration of staffing. Overall costs are 5.45% of the total FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget.
- **Administrative and Operating Overhead**
The FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget reflects Administrative costs (which includes organization-wide equipment leases, offices supplies, etc.) increased \$153,163 and the Operating Overhead costs (i.e. County Counsel, County Risk Management, County DoIT/EHSD, etc.) increased \$38,250. Total Administrative and Operating Overhead continues at 11.35% of the total budget (same as prior four fiscal years).

Consequence of Negative Action

Should the First 5 Contra Costa Commission elect not to accept the budget report, it would result in an audit finding of non-compliance with the established Commission Bylaws – *Article II, section (g)*.

Attachment

FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget spreadsheet



Note

REVENUE	
1	State Sales Tax Sales Tax Apportionment - Proposition 10/56/SMIF
2	State Grants CA DHCS - ACEs Aware Round 1 Grant CA DHCS - ACEs Aware Round 2 Grant First 5 California IMPACT Grant First 5 California Dual Language Learner Grant (DLL)
	Subrecipient Awards CA State Preschool Quality Block Grant (CSPP) Quality Counts California (QCC) First 5 Association - HUB Training MOU MHSA-Behavioral Health Agreement (Triple P)
	Philanthropic Grants East Bay Community Fdn Grant - Community Engmt Leshar Ready Kids Sunlight Giving Grant (Yr 3 of 3)
3	Other Revenue Interest Income Other Misc Income
4	TOTAL FY 2021-22 REVENUE <i>Prop 10/56 Fund Balance Drawdown</i>
	TOTAL REVENUE
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
5	Program Initiatives
	Early Childhood Education Initiative Professional Development Early Learning Quality East County Ready Kids, Leshar (trf from Stakeholder Eng) Literacy
	Family Support First 5 Centers Home Visiting Training and Consultation
5	Early Intervention Triple P Therapeutic Services Coordinated System of Care Intervention Services (formerly ECE Consultation) Help Me Grow Services Children Experiencing Stress/Trauma Provider Support (formerly Children at Risk Stress/Trauma) ACEs Aware Training and Consultation
5	Stakeholder Engagement & Policy Advocacy Community Engagement Family Economic Security Partnership Public Information (trf to Communications) East County Ready Kids, Leshar (trf to Early Childhood Edu)
5	Program Salaries/Benefits and Overhead Expenses Program Salaries & Wages (trf out Communications' fte costs) Program Benefits (trf out Communications' fte costs) Program Expenses and Overhead (trf out % share to Comm)
	TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES
5	COMMUNICATIONS Communications Salaries & Wages (trf from Stakeholder Eng) Communications Employee Benefits (trf from Stakeholder Eng) Professional Services Purchased Services and Supplies Communications Expenses and Overhead (trf % from Prg Exp/OH)
	TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS
STRATEGIC INFORMATION & PLANNING	
	SIP Salaries & Wages SIP Employee Benefits Professional Services Purchased Services and Supplies SIP Expenses and Overhead
	TOTAL STRATEGIC INFO & PLANNING
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	
	Administrative Salaries & Wages Administrative Employee Benefits Professional Services Purchased Services & Supplies Operating Overhead (Cty Cnsl/Risk Mgmt, DoIT/EHSD, etc.) COVID-19 Supplies
	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES
	GRAND TOTAL

FY 2020-21 Approved Budget		
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Budget
7,505,758		7,505,758
	299,261	299,261
	-	-
812,500		812,500
299,407		299,407
	258,830	258,830
	229,775	229,775
	93,430	93,430
	60,000	60,000
	235,000	235,000
100,000		100,000
50,000		50,000
-	50,000	50,000
7,655,758	2,338,203	9,993,961
2,989,302	744,933	3,734,235
10,645,060	3,083,136	13,728,196
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Budget
475,000	80,000	555,000
141,869	1,105,774	1,247,643
-	-	-
-	129,262	129,262
616,869	1,315,036	1,931,905
2,840,871		2,840,871
628,000		628,000
20,000		20,000
3,488,871		3,488,871
138,240	86,741	224,981
518,452		518,452
464,713		464,713
28,200		28,200
17,300		17,300
1,166,905	86,741	1,253,646
160,000	158,205	318,205
15,000		15,000
261,500		261,500
-	235,000	235,000
436,500	393,205	829,705
1,477,320	730,434	2,207,754
539,218	542,720	1,081,938
645,658		645,658
2,662,196	1,273,154	3,935,350
8,371,341	3,068,136	11,439,477
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Budget
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Budget
306,941		306,941
205,762		205,762
237,080	15,000	252,080
28,535		28,535
44,308		44,308
822,626	15,000	837,626
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Budget
672,631		672,631
368,304		368,304
133,000		133,000
116,755		116,755
160,403		160,403
1,451,093		1,451,093
10,645,060	3,083,136	13,728,196

FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget		
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Revenue Budget
9,819,565		9,819,565
	-	-
	800,519	800,519
	712,514	712,514
	467,934	467,934
	258,830	258,830
	229,775	229,775
	107,445	107,445
	82,000	82,000
	50,000	50,000
	235,000	235,000
	100,000	100,000
100,000		100,000
-	-	-
9,919,565	3,044,017	12,963,582
1,509,511	-	1,509,511
11,429,076	3,044,017	14,473,094
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
425,000	80,000	505,000
24,000	904,725	928,725
-	235,000	235,000
117,869	52,131	170,000
566,869	1,271,856	1,838,725
3,005,391	-	3,005,391
610,000	-	610,000
20,000	-	20,000
3,635,391	-	3,635,391
83,500	82,000	165,500
563,000	-	563,000
435,990	-	435,990
29,000	-	29,000
-	399,358	399,358
-	-	-
1,111,490	481,358	1,592,848
160,000	50,000	210,000
15,000		15,000
-	-	-
-	-	-
175,000	50,000	225,000
1,369,777	947,981	2,317,758
706,102	472,470	1,178,571
619,360		619,360
2,695,239	1,420,450	4,115,689
8,183,989	3,223,664	11,407,652
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
160,130	55,558	215,688
96,837	33,084	129,921
115,500	-	115,500
146,200	-	146,200
26,298	-	26,298
544,965	88,642	633,607
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
262,984	32,711	295,695
121,484	14,581	136,065
277,800	26,461	304,261
9,000	-	9,000
44,308	-	44,308
715,576	73,753	789,329
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
723,291	-	723,291
395,012	-	395,012
118,766	37,234	156,000
83,762	85,788	169,550
121,793	66,860	188,653
10,000	-	10,000
1,452,623	189,882	1,642,506
10,897,153	3,575,940	14,473,094

Note 1	State Sales Tax revenue incls Prop 10, Prop 56, and SMIF Interest accrued while in State interest earning accts prior to distribution to counties
Note 2	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Grant Rd 1 sunset 05/31/21 ACEs Grant Rd 2 02/01/21 - 06/30/22 (18 mths)
Note 3	Interest earnings are percent of County's pooled investments (fluctuations based on investment returns)
Note 4	Prop 10/56 Fund Balance Drawdown below FY 20-21 budget due to unanticipated salary/benefit savings from vacant positions, reduction in operating costs associated with staff working from home (i.e. copier costs, office supplies, postage, etc.). FY 21-22 FBDD less than prior year due to incr in Prop 10/56 funds (% of live births) and incr State Grant funding.
Note 5	Realigned various Program Initiatives to correspond with Strategic Plan

Percent of Total Expenses FY 2020-21	
Program & Communications	83.33%
SIP	6.10%
Administration	10.57%
Total	100.00%

Percent of Total Expenses FY 2021-22		
Program	78.82%	83.20%
Communications	4.38%	
SIP	5.45%	5.45%
Administration	9.98%	9.98%
Overhead/COVID	1.37%	1.37%
Total	100.00%	100.00%



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 8.0

Approve proposed Policy Advocacy Framework and Policy Issue Areas for

2021-2023



Staff Report
April 12, 2021

ACTION: X
DISCUSSION: _____

TITLE: First 5 Contra Costa Policy Advocacy Framework and 2021 Priority Policy Issue Areas

Introduction:

First 5 Contra Costa (F5CC) has been a leader for the past 20 years supporting quality programs and services that promote young children’s optimal healthy development and support all children and their families to thrive. To achieve our vision, it is essential that we have *policies to prevent and rectify the economic, racial, health, and social inequities impeding childhood well-being*. Policy advocacy for early childhood is a critical tool for addressing root causes leading to long-term systems change and prevention.

Background:

On March 5, 2021, First 5 staff met with the Executive Committee of the First 5 Commission and presented the draft *Policy Advocacy Framework and Priority Policy Issue Areas* for consideration and discussion. The attached document incorporates their feedback and suggestions and the on-going work of the First 5 Policy Committee.

This document outlines the rationale and purpose of the framework and the Proposed Policy Priority Issue Areas for 2021-2023:

- Revenue
- Family Well-Being
- Child Health and Well Being

Recommendation:

Staff is recommending that the Commission approve the First 5 Contra Costa *Policy Advocacy Framework and 2021 Priority Policy Issue Areas* as a part of the organization’s goals over the next one to three years.

First 5 Contra Costa Policy Advocacy Framework and 2021 Priority Policy Issue Areas

March 2021

Rationale:

First 5 Contra Costa (F5CC) has been a leader for the past 20 years supporting quality programs and services that promote young children's optimal healthy development and support all children and their families to thrive. To achieve our vision, it is essential that we have *policies to prevent and rectify the economic, racial, health, and social inequities impeding childhood well-being*. Policy advocacy for early childhood is a critical tool for addressing root causes leading to long-term systems change and prevention.

As presented in First 5 Contra Costa's Strategic Plan, promoting systems change has been at the core of First 5's existence since its inception when Prop 10 was passed by voters. For over two decades, First 5 has actively worked to raise awareness and make the case for the importance of investing in early childhood and advocating for funding that afford all children the best start in life. F5CC faces the strategic imperative to leverage our credibility, strong partnerships, knowledge, and expertise *to advance policies that will promote and sustain systems change into the future to meet the needs of young children and their families*.

Purpose:

As First 5 Contra Costa embarks in the implementation of our new three-year organizational Strategic Plan 20/21 through 22/23, it is critical that our *policy advocacy* work is guided and anchored by a common organizational policy advocacy framework.

Policy Advocacy embraces a wide array of activities including research and analysis, community organizing, communications, strategic partnerships, and influencing decision-makers. Policy advocacy can result in robust funding, prevention services, family stability, and equitable outcomes for young children and families. First 5 Contra Costa is uniquely positioned as an essential and influential voice to proactively promote and affect policy change for children, prenatal to five.

We embrace the following framework for effective, coordinated, and strategic policy advocacy for optimal early childhood. This framework establishes a method for policy issue selection to ensure alignment with First 5's statutory mandates, vision, and Strategic Plan goals and priorities. Further, it aims to expressly support F5CC to advocate for young children's issues strategically, proactively, and in a timely manner.

Proposed Policy Priority Issue Areas for 2021:

These policy priority areas are proposed as a result of the following: alignment with the agency's Strategic Plan, organizational values and First 5 Network priorities; the current local, state, federal landscape; and widespread importance to and impact on families with young children, prenatal to 5, across the county with a lens on systemic root causes and equity. These criteria coupled with F5CC's current capacity and expertise and alignment with existing local efforts lead us to determine these areas of focus.

We recommend these primary policy issue areas are initially prioritized as part of the organization's goals over the next one to three years. The next steps will be to: 1) convene the Policy Advocacy Committee, comprising the Executive and Deputy Directors, Program Officers, and Communications Manager, and 2) identify specific policies to advance, strategies to undertake, and the decision-making and approval process.

1. Revenue¹
 - a. Increased revenue for services, resource, and representation benefitting young children and families including Measure X and other state and local resources.
2. Family Well-Being¹
 - a. Increased housing security for young children and their families.
 - b. Increased financial and health security for families with young children related to COVID-19 including immediate support for families and childcare workers affected by COVID-19.
3. Child Early Learning and Well-Being²
 - a. Increased mental health and trauma informed programs that support a coordinated system of care.
 - b. Early learning opportunities including expanded access to preschool, improved pre-K to 3rd grade systems alignment and workforce development support.
 - c. Safe and healthy communities and public spaces for young children and their families to thrive.

¹ First 5 Strategic Plan 2021/22-22/23; page 15, Strategic Priority 1, Integration of Early Childhood Systems; Policy Advocacy

² First 5 Strategic Plan 2021/22-22/23; page 15, Strategic Priority 1, Integration of Early Childhood Systems; Systems Development



April 12, 2021

Agenda Item 10.0

- Antioch Change Survey Outreach flyer
- Child Care COVID-19 Relief Fund flyer

ALL CHILDREN NEED SAFE, SECURE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO THRIVE.

SHARE YOUR STORY
AND IDEAS FOR BETTER
HOUSING TODAY!



Fill out the survey at: bit.ly/AntiochCHANGE

Receive a \$5 Starbucks gift card for participating.

Grants available for Family Child Care Providers!

Apply through the Contra Costa Child Care Relief Fund!

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 23!



THE CONTRA COSTA CHILD CARE RELIEF FUND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE LOW INCOME INVESTMENT FUND IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



WHO

SHOULD APPLY FOR A GRANT

Licensed Family Child Care providers in **Contra Costa County** that are experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

Grants available up to:

\$5,000 for small Family Child Care
\$10,000 for large Family Child Care

Preference will be given to applicants in the cities of **Antioch, Concord, Pittsburg, Richmond and San Pablo** serving families in special populations.

Funds may be used for:

- Operating expenses
- Employee payroll
- Rent/mortgage, taxes, insurance, utilities
- Working capital to continue operations
- Payment of outstanding business expenses
- Other expenses related to your typical program operations

WHEN

TO APPLY FOR FUNDING

Application portal opens **April 16 at 9 AM**

Application deadline **April 23 at 12 PM**

HOW

TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY

Visit <https://bit.ly/39uixis> to apply.