



Commission Meeting

A G E N D A

Monday, April 17, 2023, 6:00 pm First 5 Contra Costa, Conference Center

4005 Port Chicago Hwy., Suite 120, Concord CA 94520

1516 Kamole Street, Honolulu, HI 96821

The Commission meeting will be accessible in-person, and via virtual webinar to all members of the public. Persons who wish to address the Commission during public comment or with respect to an item on the agenda may call in during the meeting by dialing 669-444-9171 or 669-900-6833 or use the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app. 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.

Virtual Webinar Information:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86192659855>

Webinar ID: 861 9265 9855

1.0 Convene, call to order, and roll call

2.0 Closed Session

Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code § 54957.6)

Title: Executive Director

3.0 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.

4.0 Approve the Minutes from the February 13, 2023 Commission Meeting

Action

5.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

Action

A Commissioner or member of the public may ask that any of the following consent items be removed from the consent calendar for consideration under Item 5.

5.1 Accept the Executive Committee Minutes from the February 13, 2023 Commission Meeting

5.2 Approve the Contracts Docket

5.2.1 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract with Eide Bailly, LLP to provide audit services for fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$58,000 for term April 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024. FY 2022-23 budget line: (\$28,000 year-1), (\$30,000 year-2) Administrative Expense: Professional Services (\$516,000). Funded 100% Prop 10 funding.

5.2.2 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract amendment with Tandem, Partners in Early Learning to increase the payment limit by \$38,515.63 (from \$70,500 to \$109,015.63) to implement Libraries Around Town to increase the quantity and quality of literary materials available for Black and/or African American children ages birth to five years old in

Commission Meeting Agenda

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East Contra Costa County. FY 2022-23 budget line: Early Childhood Education: East County Ready Kids, Leshar Grant (\$213,017). Funded 100% Leshar Ready Kids.

- 5.2.3 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director or her designee to execute a contract with The Regents Of The University of California to conduct an Early Care and Education Workforce Study in an amount not to exceed \$68,722 for term May 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. FY 2022-23 budget line: (\$30,000) Administrative Expense: Professional Services (\$516,000), (\$38,722) Policy, Strategy and Evaluation: Professional Services (\$361,200). Funded 100% Prop 10 funding.

5.3 Approve the Grants Docket

- 5.3.1 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Deputy Director, to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with We Care Services for Children (fiscal sponsor) for a \$5,000.00 grant to provide outreach to families with children ages 0-5 for the Everyday Moments/Los Momentos Cotidianos program for term July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. FY 2022-23 budget line: Early Intervention: Intervention Services (\$502,088). Funded 100% We Care Services for Children.
- 5.3.2 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director, or her designee, to execute an agreement amendment with Children's Council of San Francisco to increase the payment limit by \$25,055 (from \$97,986.05 to \$123,041.05) for IMPACT Region 4 Training & Technical Assistance Hub Implementation. FY 2022-23 budget line: Early Childhood Education Initiative: Early Learning Quality (\$539,606). Funded 100% Children's Council of San Francisco.
- 5.3.3 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director, or her designee, to apply for and, accept grant funding from Contra Costa County Employment & Human Services Department, in an amount up to \$810,000, to support children with disabilities for term May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2025. FY 2022-23 budget line: Early Intervention. Funded 100% Contra Costa County Employment & Human Services Department (Measure X).
- 5.3.4 APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director, or her designee, to apply for and, if awarded, execute a grant agreement with First 5 San Benito (Lead) for an Application in an amount up to \$214,924 included in a First 5 California Regional Technical Assistance for Home Visiting Coordination and Integration grant application for term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025. FY 2022-23 budget line: Family Support Initiative: Home Visiting (\$214,924). Funded 100% First 5 California.

5.4 Accept the First 5 Contra Costa February & March 2023 Program Reports

5.5 Appoint Chair to serve as negotiator for unrepresented employee: Executive Director.

5.6 Approve amended Conflict of Interest Code for the Contra Costa County Children and Families Commission

6.0 Consider for discussion any items removed from the consent calendar

7.0 Consider approving proposed First 5 Contra Costa Budget Fiscal Year 2023-24 **Action**

8.0 Public Hearing on the First 5 California 2021-22 Annual Report **Action**

The entire report can be found at:

https://www.cafc.ca.gov/pdf/about/budget_perf/annual_report_pdfs/Annual-Report-21-22.pdf

The Contra Costa County Commission highlights found on page 26.

9.0 Executive Director's Report **Discussion**

10.0 Communications **Discussion**

The Opportunity Gap for Children Across Contra Costa County

First 5 Association of California 2023 Policy Priorities

11.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates **Discussion**

12.0 Adjourn

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



**Commission Meeting
MINUTES**

Monday, February 13, 2023, 6:00 pm
First 5 Contra Costa, Large Conference Room,
4005 Port Chicago Hwy., Suite 120, Concord CA 94520

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair John Jones called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Commissioners present during roll call were:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 2 Alternate: Vidya Iyengar
District 3: Lee Ross
District 4: Matt Regan
District 5: Chair John Jones
Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Candace Andersen
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli
EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart
EHSD Alternate: Nicholas Bryant
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Commissioners not present during roll call were:

Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit Mekuria
Children & Families Services Alternate: Rosyln Gentry
District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley
Board of Supervisors Alternate: Ken Carlson

2.0 Public Comment

No comment from the public.

3.0 Approve the Minutes from the Special December 7, 2022 Commission Strategic Plan Meeting.

Commissioner Lucey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lee Ross to approve the minutes from the Special December 7, 2022 Commission Strategic Planning Meeting.

Roll call of vote:

Yes: District 1: Dr. Rocio Elisa Hernandez
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 2 Alternate: Vidya Iyengar
District 3: Lee Ross
District 5: Chair John Jones
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli
EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart

Nos: None

ABSTAIN: District 4: Matt Regan



Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Candace Andersen
EHSD Alternate: Nicholas Bryant
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Absent: District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley; Board of Supervisors Alternate: Ken Carlson; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit Mekuria; Children and Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry.

The Minutes **APPROVED**.

4.0 Approve the Minutes from the December 12, 2022 Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Dr. Marla Stuart made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rocio Hernandez to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2022 Commission Meeting.

Roll call of vote:

Yes: District 1: Dr. Rocio Elisa Hernandez
District 3: Lee Ross
District 5: Chair John Jones
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli
EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart

Nos: None

ABSTAIN: District 4: Matt Regan
Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Candace Andersen
EHSD Alternate: Nicholas Bryant
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 2 Alternate: Vidya Iyengar

Absent: District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley; Board of Supervisors Alternate: Ken Carlson; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit Mekuria; Children and Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry.

The Minutes **APPROVED**.

5.0 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.*

Item 5.3.1 was removed by the chair from the consent calendar.

Commissioner Matt Regan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Marilyn Lucey to approve the Consent Calendar.

Roll call of vote:

Yes: District 1: Dr. Rocio Elisa Hernandez
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 2 Alternate: Vidya Iyengar

District 3: Lee Ross



District 5: Chair John Jones CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli
EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart
EHSD Alternate: Nicholas Bryant
District 4: Matt Regan
Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Candace Andersen
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Nos: None

ABSTAIN: None

Absent: District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley; Board of Supervisors Alternate: Ken Carlson; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit Mekuria; Children and Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry.

The Consent Calendar **APPROVED**.

6.0 CONSIDER for discussion any items removed from the Consent Calendar.

The chair opened the discussion of item #5.3.1.

First 5 Contra Costa Executive Director Dr. Ruth Fernández made the following statement: My husband is a psychologist and had a contract with Counseling Options and Parent Education (COPE) to provide clinical consultation to the clinical staff at COPE within the last 12 months. I have an interest in agenda item #5.3.1 because the money my husband received as a result of the contract was a source of income for my household. I am therefore recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room. Please record my disclosure in the Commission's minutes. Ruth Fernandez left the meeting.

Commissioner Lee Ross made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lucey to approve agenda item# **5.3.1:**

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Board Chair, or her designee, to apply for and, accept grant funding from Department of Healthcare Services, in an amount up to \$400,000, to expand its current partnership with Counseling Options & Parent Education Support Center Inc. (C.O.P.E.) to expand Triple P throughout the county to 520 new families (primarily families who are experiencing marginalization) through Levels 2 and 3 supports for term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025. FY2022-23 budget line: Early Intervention: Triple P Positive Parenting (\$193,782). Funded 100% Department of Healthcare Services.

Roll call of vote:

Yes: District 1: Dr. Rocio Elisa Hernandez
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 2 Alternate: Vidya Iyengar

District 3: Lee Ross
District 5: Chair John Jones



Health Services CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart

EHSD Alternate: Nicholas Bryant

District 4: Matt Regan

Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Candace Andersen

Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Nos: None

ABSTAIN: None

Absent: District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley; Board of Supervisors Alternate: Ken Carlson; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit Mekuria; Children and Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry.

Agenda item #5.3.1 was **APPROVED**.

7.0 RECEIVE the presentation of the Conflict of Interest Laws pertinent to the Commissioners and staff by Kurtis C. Keller, Deputy County Counsel.

Deputy County Counsel, Kurtis Keller introduced himself and his role in advising County appointed boards, County affiliated boards, and Commissions by providing advice and guidance on issues related to Conflicts of Interest, the mechanisms for recusal and disclosure requirements. He provided information on how to identify potential conflicts and advised individuals on requirements for reporting potential conflicts.

8.0 RECEIVE overview presentation of Guaranteed Income and Its Potential Impact by Parisa Esmaili Executive Director, Community Financial Resources.

Parisa Esmaili introduced herself and gave a brief overview on Community Financial Resources (CFR) and on Guaranteed Income (GI) and its various successful models across the country and efforts conducted here in Contra Costa County. She explained the intent of GI as a means of ending poverty, reducing social inequities, and promoting gender and racial equity. Parisa highlighted increased activity of GI programs at a national level with over 100 pilot programs in 20 states and shared that efforts in Contra Costa are focused on ways to leverage funding, e.g., through ARPA, to expand GI pilots. See attached presentation.

9.0 RECEIVE staff presentation and recommendation of the Family Support Initiative: Strengthening a New Generation of Families 2023-26 by Lisa Korb, Family Support Program Officer and Camilla Rand, Deputy Director.

EHSD Commissioner Dr. Marla Stuart made the following statement:



I have an interest in Agenda Item 9.0 because I am employed by the Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department, and this item directly impacts my department. I am recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room.

Board of Supervisors Commissioner Candace Andersen made the following statement:

I have an interest in Agenda Item 9 because I am a Contra Costa County Supervisor and receive a salary and reimbursement for expenses from the County. However, I am not employed by the County Department that is directly involved in this project with First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission. I am not legally prohibited from voting on these items. Please record my disclosure in the Commission's minutes.

EHSD Alternate Commissioner Nicolas Bryant made the following statement:

I have an interest in Agenda Item 9.0 because I am employed by the Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department, and this item directly impacts my department. I am recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room.

EHSD Commissioner Dr. Marla Stuart and EHSD Alternate Commissioner Nicholas Bryant left the room.

The chair invited staff to begin their presentation.

Camilla Rand and Lisa Korb provided an overview of First 5 Contra Costa's Family Support Initiative and its annual investment of \$3.5 million in five First 5 centers across the county and Home Visiting program, Welcome Home Baby. The presentation provided proposed changes to the Initiative, which includes re-investments in the First 5 centers in an effort to better align the services with the needs of families in the county. These changes would be reflected in the upcoming First 5 Centers' RFQ to be released in February 2023.

Staff made the recommendation to the Commission to approve the release of a Request for Qualifications or RFQ to secure contractors to operate the First 5 Centers and to divert existing home visiting investments to support enhanced services and staffing infrastructure of First 5 Centers as outlined in the Staff Report in the Commission packet and the presentation.

Public Comment:

Public comment made by Mark Tiano, Division Director from Aspiranet:

"I wanted to take a moment to extend some of the sentiments from Aspiranet's leadership. First and foremost, it's been a pleasure and honor to provide these home visiting services through Welcome Home Baby for the last 22 years. During that time, thousands of children and families have been helped by First 5's support and our dedicated staff to spear in it. It has truly been a pleasure and we are proud of the work we have done with families providing their babies and young children with the tools to have a bright future. So just wanted to be able to speak to that. We are very grateful for First 5's support and stewardship, and want to thank you again."

Commissioner Lee Ross made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Matt Regan to approve staff recommendation presented in the staff report for **item #9.0**.

Roll call of vote:

Yes: District 1: Dr. Rocio Elisa Hernandez



District 2: Marilyn Echola-Alvarez COMMISSION

District 2 Alternate: Vidya Iyengar

District 3: Lee Ross

District 5: Chair John Jones

Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli

District 4: Matt Regan

Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Candace Andersen

Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Nos: None

ABSTAIN: None

Absent: District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley; Board of Supervisors Alternate: Ken Carlson; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit Mekuria; Children and Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry; EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart; EHSD Alternate: Nicholas Bryant

Agenda item 9.0 **APPROVED.**

Commissioners requested staff to provide an update on the transition of Welcome Home Baby at future Commission meetings.

Chair Jones asked staff to call back EHSD Commissioner Dr. Marla Stuart and EHSD Alternate Commissioner Nic Bryant.

10.0 RECEIVE the Executive Director's Report

Dr. Ruth Fernández provided a written Executive Director's report in the Commission packet. No verbal report provided. Ruth asked if there were any questions and Commissioner Iyengar asked Ruth to discuss the grant opportunities reference in the report.

11.0 Communications

The following documents were included in the packet:

Gavin Newson Will Not Support Mandatory Kindergarten Article

First 5 Association of California State Budget Highlights

12.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

13.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

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**Executive Committee Meeting
MINUTES**

**Monday February 13, 2023
5:00 p.m.**

4005 Port Chicago Highway, Suite 120, Concord, CA 94520

1.0 Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

In attendance: Chair, John Jones; Vice Chair Dr. Rocio Hernandez; Secretary/ Treasurer, Matt Regan; Marilyn Cachola-Lucey.

Staff present: Executive Director, Ruth Fernandez; Deputy Director, Camilla Rand; Policy and Strategy Director Sandra Naughton; Finance and Operations Director, Pankti Clerk; Human Resources Manager Tammy Henry.

2.0 Public Comment

None

3.0 Approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of October 17, 2022.

Action

Matt Regan made a motion seconded by Marilyn Lucey

Roll-call Vote:

John Jones – Yes

Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes

Matt Regan – Yes

Marilyn Lucey - Yes

Minutes **Approved**

4.0 CONSIDER accepting the report on significant program, financial or contracts matters, and on any personnel matters relating to Commission staff.

4.1 Receive updates from the Finance and Operations Director.

- Pankti Clerk introduced herself and shared her background.
- Pankti referred to and gave a brief overview of the 2023-24 Budget Assumptions in the Commission packet.
- Pankti also referred to and gave a brief overview of the Quarter 2 financial report in the packet.

4.2 Receive updates from the Human Resources Manager.

- Tammy Henry shared the upcoming requirement of the Executive Director annual performance evaluation; Chair Jones appointed Vice Chair Hernandez to lead the committee in conducting the review.
- Tammy shared that First 5 is in the process of completing a compensation and benefits study, and includes review of some classifications in administrative roles. The goal is to have the compensation and benefits study completed by early April, and noted the classification piece will likely take longer.

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- Tammy Henry shared the status of recruitment on vacant positions with and noted the target for completion is likely in May.

4.3 Receive updates from the Deputy Director.

- Camilla Rand provided a brief overview of the upcoming Family Support Commission presentation *Strengthening a New Generation of Families*
- Camilla shared First 5 efforts to build and support the early childhood workforce, including letters of support to broaden the Apprentice Program model county-wide developed by YMCA of the East Bay as well as the upcoming Early Childhood Workforce study soon to be conducted by UC Berkeley's Center for Childcare Employment.

4.4 Receive updates from the Executive Director.

- Ruth provided an update on the staff strategic planning sessions and informed the group that staff will be ready to present a draft strategic plan at the June Commission meeting. The executive committee officers agreed with the timeline presented.
- The Commission's 2023/24 budget will be presented at the April 17th meeting.
- The Children's Leadership Council, established in 2018, resumed efforts in 2021 with First 5 as the lead (in partnership with Health Services, Employment and Human Services, County Office of Education). The first convening is being planned for April in partnership with MIG Consultants. This virtual event will launch a soon to be released Children's Data Report, a collaborative report of First 5, Children Now, East Bay Leadership Council and the Leshner Foundation.

5.0 CONSIDER accepting the report on statewide activities pertaining to children 0-5, including the activities of the First 5 Association of California, First 5 California, and other statewide advocacy groups.

- Ruth provided a brief update of her participation and attendance to the First 5 Association Annual Summit in San Diego. Ruth presented on First 5 Contra Costa's Strategic Planning process alongside First 5 Los Angeles and facilitated the Bay Area Region 4 meeting held at the summit. Fifty-three of the 58 counties in California were represented.

6.0 Items for Consideration

Policy Advocacy Considerations: Ruth shared the attached article on Mandatory Kindergarten. The Executive Committee determined that this topic could be an area of potential conversation at a later date.

7.0 Communications (see attached)

- Notice of Sole Source Procurement, December 7, 2022
- Notice of Sole Source Procurement, February 8, 2023.
- *Gavin Newson Will Not Support Mandatory Kindergarten* Article
- California First 5 Association State Budget Highlights

8.0 Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

The public may comment on any agenda item or 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.

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Community Engagement Program

Our **Community Engagement Program (CE)** supports three Regional Groups made up of 200 parents and residents to make Contra Costa County safer, healthier and more equitable for families: West County Regional Group (WCRG), Central County Regional Group (CCRG), and East County Regional Group (ECRG).

Housing Advocacy Continues in Concord and Antioch

This month, ECRG and Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) partnered to bring awareness to egregious landlord abuse of families with young children in Antioch during an action on February 9 at Delta Pines apartments. The action, [covered by the East Bay Times](#), highlighted unlivable conditions and discriminatory behavior by property management towards tenants. ECRG members went before Council on February 28 to urge the Antioch City Council to agendize eviction and harassment protections and protect Antioch children.



Antioch CHANGE Report in Spanish Coming Soon

The CE team has worked diligently for months to prepare the Spanish Antioch CHANGE report that is set to release soon. The report, which lays out the findings from our Antioch community housing assessment, provides a roadmap for community endorsed solutions to the housing affordability crisis. It is an important tool that will be released soon to Spanish-speaking families and stakeholders across East Contra Costa.

Regional Groups 2023 Goalsetting

In February, the West, Central and East County Regional Groups continued their goal setting and strategic planning to identify priority advocacy efforts for families with young children. The multi-step process engages parent advocates countywide in a thoughtful review of past successes and current realities while confirming their advocacy objectives. The process is critical for leadership development and effective future advocacy on behalf of young children and families.

Family Support

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

Introducing the Talented Ms. Stacie Roundtree

The Delta First 5 Center hosted a children's book read aloud and signing by author Stacie Roundtree and her illustrator, Bryttani McGhee. Stacie is no stranger to First 5—Ms. Roundtree works as a family childcare provider in Antioch at her QRIS-rated (Quality Rating and Improvement System) site called Training Children. She also participated in the Professional Development Program (PDP) and became a Professional Growth Advisor for the PDP program and Mentor Teacher at Los Medanos College. Stacie is making a difference in the lives of children and contributing to the growth of the early childhood education workforce. Her list of projects and affiliations include: Preschool Matters, My Teaching Partner, FCC Partnership with COCOKIDS, Local Planning Committee, and Child Care Providers UNITED. "I always wanted to write a children's book," Stacie told the Delta Center Director. Her books "Where Are Mimi's Keys" and "Where is Mimi's Purse" center around a 5-year old girl named Jordan who likes to explore and have adventures. The publisher describes Stacie's books as "Celebrating the diversity and uniqueness of



PROGRAM UPDATES

February 2023



all children...a collective series of explorative adventures that allow young readers to stay engaged and encourage parents to read out loud with their children. Through the different areas of Jordan's exploration, young readers use problem-solving skills to help Jordan solve the mystery." At the event, Stacie generously gifted a signed copy to every family in attendance.

Building Relationships In Times of Insecurity

In February, the Antioch First 5 Center hosted a meet and greet with Antioch's Chief of Police, Steven A. Ford and Officer Ashley Crandall. The room was full of Center families, children, and community members who asked questions primarily related to community safety. Some issues raised focused on the families' concerns about the growing unhoused population and aggressive animals. A First 5 Center staff person said, "It is so important for our families and children to have these opportunities to be heard, ask questions and share their concerns." Families also learned about police response times, how calls are prioritized and were encouraged to sign up for informative texts from police to help residents learn about potential safety issues.



Celebrating Black History, the Present and "Black Futures"

The First 5 Centers celebrated African American and Black families during the month of February. At the Monument First 5 Center celebration, soul food was on the menu, a curated playlist created the perfect vibe, and a hip-hop version of Baby Shark stole the show. West County hosted read alouds that incorporated Black history, as well as present day and the future. "We are making a conscientious effort to embrace 'Black Futures' which does more than highlight black history, it includes the present and future of Black children and their families," said Alexina Rojas, the West County First 5 Center Director. The end of the month culminated with a scavenger hunt highlighting Black inventors at the East County Black History Extravaganza event.

Love was in the Air at the East County First 5 Center

Leading up to Valentine's Day, the East County First 5 Center hosted a "Date Night" for 12 couples. After sharing a meal with the whole family, children were entertained in the play room while the couples competed with each other in a Newlywed-like game that asked each partner to answer questions like "What do you remember from your first date?" There was laughter and smiles as the stories filled the room and everyone had a great time. No First 5 event would be complete without an art project—each couple had their portraits taken and painted a photo frame to commemorate their evening.

Early Childhood Education

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

Family Child Care Partner Program Quarterly Meeting

The Family Child Care (FCC) Partner Program is in full swing. Seventeen FCC partners are working with 50 new FCC providers in a peer-mentor capacity. On February 4, the FCC partners convened for their third quarter meeting led by Kimberly Nguyen, Quality Improvement Navigator, CocoKids. Partners shared the ways in which they support providers, including creating handbooks, rearranging the environment, interacting with kids, and sharing marketing strategies. One partner commented, "I wish I had something like this when I was starting [as a family child care provider]." The program has been a

PROGRAM UPDATES

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great way for our Quality Matters FCC partners to leverage their leadership. Many of the providers working with partners have expressed interest in joining Quality Matters as Quality Improvement sites in the fall.

Tandem, Partners in Early Learning: StoryCycles

Tandem, Partners in Early Learning continues to provide the StoryCycles program to over 85 classrooms in Contra Costa, reaching nearly 1,400 children. StoryCycles is a yearlong school-to-home book-lending program that provides children with diverse books in order to create more opportunities for book sharing experiences at school and at home. To support StoryCycles implementation, the Tandem team provides professional development to educators. Educators learn how to build on books to support early development across language, literacy, math, social emotional learning, social justice, and more. The Tandem team also intentionally develops community partners, including a collaboration with the Contra Costa Library to provide monthly read alouds at the Shields-Reid Community library as well as a collaboration with Las Hijas del Campo in Brentwood to provide bundles of books.



Quality Improvement Assessments

Carlos Lopez, certified Classroom Assessment Scoring System® (CLASS) and Environment Rating Scale® (ERS) Assessor is conducting Quality Improvement Assessments to interested sites that joined Quality Matters during the pandemic. These Quality Improvement Assessments provide sites with research-based feedback regarding child-teacher interactions and the environment. The First 5 Quality Improvement coaching team uses the feedback from the assessments to provide ongoing support to sites. The Quality Improvement Assessments launched in February with four sites receiving a full set of assessments.

Ready Kids East County (RKEC) Initiative: 3rd Annual Restoring Hope & Community Resource Fair

On February 23, First 5 Contra Costa staff members, Elida Treanor, Early Childhood Education Program Assistant, and Jessica Keener, Ready Kids East County Initiative Coordinator, attended the 3rd Annual Restoring Hope & Community Resource Fair at the Pittsburg Youth Development Center. Elida and Jessica engaged community members and providers at the in-person event. There were over 50 vendors represented, which provided an excellent opportunity for networking and interacting with current and potential future partners.

Ready Kids East County (RKEC) Initiative: RKEC Parent Group Meeting

Cherese Leblanc, a Family Support Specialist for the Care Parent Network, and Marika Hinds, the Center Director for the East County First 5 Center, joined the February RKEC Parent Group to deliver a tailored presentation about the Care Parent Network. Sixteen parents and caregivers joined the zoom call to hear about resources and programming available through the Care Parent Network designed specifically for parents, caregivers, and families of children with special needs. Cherese and Marika highlighted one of these programs, the Black Parents Raising Exceptional People (BP-REP) parent support group, which focuses on Black parents of children with special needs. They concluded the meeting by inviting parents to the Black Joy Celebration which will be hosted by the Care Parent Network and BP-REP at the East County First 5 Center on Saturday, March 25.

Early Intervention

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

Help Me Grow (HMG)

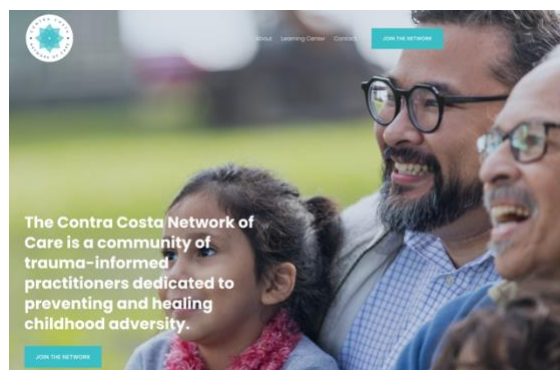
This month we provided five different training sessions for John Muir network pediatric health providers. Trainings focused on the use and implementation of Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) and Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT) developmental screening tools and resources connection via HMG. In partnership with Quality Matters coaches, we also provided an ASQ Social-Emotional, Second Edition (SE2) training for early childcare providers in West Contra Costa.

The HMG Café took place on February 21 with guest speaker Kalil Macklin. He reviewed the various member services offered at no cost to Medi-Cal Anthem Blue Cross insurance holders. Twenty attendees provided positive feedback and remarked on the very useful information shared.

Enhancing Trauma Informed Supports

First Fridays: Getting the Most Out of Your Hub Experience At the [Contra Costa Network of Care \(CCNOC\) online hub](#), there's always more to discover.

Join First 5 Contra Costa's Trauma & Resiliency Coordinator Emily Hampshire on the First Friday of each month in an open space for questions, conversation, and hot tips on how to get the most out of your CCNOC hub experience. Click "JOIN THE NETWORK" at contracostanetworkofcare.org. The hub is a space for providers of all types from across our county to connect, learn, and share trauma-informed principles and practices we hope to embed in our work, both individual and systemic. We ALL play a role in preventing and healing childhood adversity—let's continue to co-create this space together.



ACEs Pilot Promising Practice & Podcast with Aliados Health

Our ACEs Aware pilot project team, encompassing First 5 Contra Costa, La Clínica de la Raza, and the Contra Costa Crisis Center, recently finalized a Promising Practice document showcasing key features and learnings from our 2021-22 pilot that enhanced La Clínica's ACE screening efforts through integration with Contra Costa HMG care coordination workflows. The Promising Practice document is available on the [Aliados Health website](#). On March 10, you can also tune in for our team's podcast with Aliados Health, where we will discuss and expand upon the Promising Practice document and the learnings it highlights. More information can be found on [Aliados' QI Chatroom Podcast page](#).

Family Economic Security Partnership

The **Family Economic Security Partnership (FESP)** is a public, private and nonprofit collaboration dedicated to increasing the income and building the assets of low-income families and individuals living in Contra Costa County.

PROGRAM UPDATES

February 2023



Community Advocacy + Partnership Project (CAPP)

On February 8, CAPP held its next to last meeting of year two, “Learning in Action.” The focus of this meeting was to continue to identify and lift up the wide range of advocacy activities happening in the county. CAPP core member Mariana Moore shared a number of activities that were not previously mentioned at the January meeting including Measure X, the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice, Racial Justice Coalition, Budget Justice Coalition, and many more. This list provides a glimpse of “the advocacy landscape in Contra Costa County” so that anyone looking to engage in advocacy activities can access the list and identify opportunities for engagement. The CAPP core team will be working to add contact information to the list and to create the best possible way to utilize the list with easy and accessible links, sorting capability, etc.



The two equity teams continued to finalize their policy goals. The Economic Equity team drafted a letter in support of SB 9, which would raise the age for extended foster care to 25. CAPP created letterhead and the team will send the letter to the appropriate senate committee. Another letter will be sent to the county board of supervisors in support of a Guaranteed Income project for transitioning foster youth.

The CAPP core team also introduced Ceres Policy Research at the February cohort meeting. Ceres will be conducting the evaluation on the entire two-year CAPP project and will play a big role at the March 8 final retreat—the CAPP core team has been working with them to provide input into the evaluation plan.

Family Support

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

Antioch First 5 Center Makes Food Available to Families

The Antioch First 5 Center has seen an increase in the number of food-insecure families and wanted to do something about it. When the Contra Costa Food Bank informed Center Director DeAnna Granata that they were not able to take on any new partners for their food pantry program, the Center took matters into their own hands. "I have seen the need to have a food pantry for Center families for a long time. Providing the opportunity for families to contribute as well as be recipients of food items is the essence of what our community is all about. We take care of each other." The Food Pantry is available to any family who comes to the Antioch First 5 Center.

Afghan Families Celebrated During Ramadan

The UN Refugee Agency—United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)—estimates that 3.2 million Afghan refugees remain displaced from the events leading up to the Taliban's takeover of Kabul in August 2021, of these, 70 percent are women and children. The United States has become home to 76,000 Afghan evacuees, and 8,301 have made their way to California. The Monument First 5 Center has a thriving group of Afghan families that are welcomed by Aisha, a Center staff person, who speaks their language and embraces their culture. In March, the Center hosted an Afghan family time event with eight families. The families and their children were engaged with art and song from their homeland. Families received some goodies to go, and in the custom of Ramadan, received packets of dates that families will eat once they break their fast.



Spring Gardening and Nutrition

In March, the University California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Nutrition Program offered a series for Spanish speaking families attending the Monument First 5 Center and another UCCE program provided a UC Master Gardener workshop. Families learned how to start a container garden to grow their own vegetables, children planted tomatoes, peppers, cilantro, and pollinator flowers, and families were gifted seeds to take home. "The Moms were really happy with the workshop and look forward to more like these," said Marta Flores, the Monument Center Director.



The East County First 5 Center welcomed spring with a book launch event for Contra Costa County Health Educator and local author Monica Wilcox. Ms. Wilcox debuted her book *Jhonnies Greenstock and the 4 P's of Nutrition* for our families. After hearing the story, the families completed activities connected to the 4P's (planting, plate, play and palate). The children planted vegetables, made smoothies, played, and got to meet a life-size version of Jhonnies—a broccoli character. "It was so nice to see the families enjoying themselves and the children learning about where their food comes from," said Marika Hinds, East County Center Director.

PROGRAM UPDATES

March 2023



It's Never Too Early For Civic Engagement

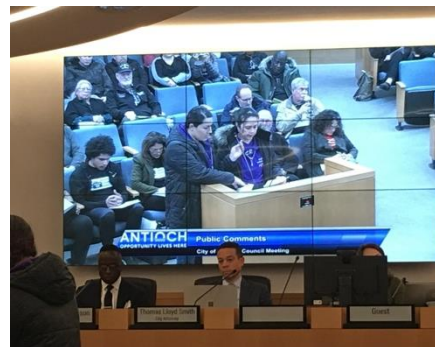
The East County First 5 Center works to encourage families to become involved in their community. Families are encouraged to vote so they can be involved in important decisions that can directly impact their family. East County children learned the importance of voting in March as a lead up to their Monday movie event. Children were excited to choose the movie the Center would show and could vote with a sticker dot for their favorite movie out of the four choices provided or could vote using the Center's social media channel. "There was even a little campaigning going on, as some children would try to influence their friends or siblings to choose the movie they wanted," said Marika Hinds, East County Center Director. Cars was the movie selected and shown to a room full of little Pixar fans at the Center "movie theatre."

Community Engagement Program

Our **Community Engagement Program (CE)** supports three Regional Groups made up of 200 parents and residents to make Contra Costa County safer, healthier and more equitable for families: West County Regional Group (WCRG), Central County Regional Group (CCRG), and East County Regional Group (ECRG).

Housing Advocacy Continues in Concord and Antioch

In March, the East and Central County Regional Groups (ECRG, top right & CCRG, bottom right) attended several council meetings to support passage of the cities' Housing Element plans and comprehensive tenant protections. Amid a slow and inequitable COVID-19 recovery process, low-income renting families continue to face high rents, evictions without cause, and harassment from landlords. Families with young children are most impacted by housing stability and need citywide protections. The Regional Groups continue advocating for young children to be in safe, stable homes.



ECRG Chair & CE present at STRONG Funders / Northern California Grantmakers Forum

This month, the ECRG Chair and Community Engagement (CE) Program Officer were invited to speak at a regional funders' forum highlighting the pressing needs and opportunities in East Contra Costa. The CE program shared a historical review of the region, including the contributions of parent organizing and advocacy for racial and economic equity. We were honored to be part of this dynamic, important forum to bring needed attention to East Contra Costa.



Regional Groups Finalize Strategic Priorities for Families with Young Children

The Regional Groups finalized a multi-month process to establish their strategic priorities for the upcoming years. In response to changing needs resulting from the pandemic, parent leaders re-assessed their focus areas and voted to add an additional focus on economic security. The Groups will explore families' advocacy priorities within this area while advancing their other focus areas of housing security, quality parks, immigrant and racial justice, and equitable representation.

Family Economic Security Partnership

*The **Family Economic Security Partnership (FESP)** is a public, private and nonprofit collaboration dedicated to increasing the income and building the assets of low-income families and individuals living in Contra Costa County.*

Family Economic Security Partnership (FESP) Activities

For the past two years, FESP has collaborated with Ensuring Opportunity on the Community Advocacy and Power Partnership (CAPP) project. On March 8, we held the last CAPP cohort meeting and Ensuring Opportunity will offer limited support as needed and FESP's role has ended.



Community Advocacy + Partnership Project (CAPP)

On March 8, CAPP held its last meeting of year two, "Learning in Action." The meeting was the first meeting to be held in person over the last two years! It was wonderful to finally meet the people in-person behind the faces on the screen.

The focus of this meeting was to review and reflect on what cohort members had learned and experienced during their time in CAPP and to provide insight and feedback about CAPP to the evaluation team. We opened with two fun games which required cohort members to interact with each other. Following the fun, cohort members participated in a data share and gallery walk led by the evaluation team from Ceres Social Research. Cohort members reviewed learnings from year one and two and answered a number of questions about their experience—what worked well and what could have been done better, did you make new connections, will you stay engaged in some sort of advocacy, etc. Cohort members roamed around the room and identified areas of agreement. Cohort members also filled out a survey prepared by the evaluators and additional focus groups were conducted following the retreat.

The cohort ended with a celebration. Every cohort member was given a certificate expressing our appreciation for their participation, a packet of seeds for the "advocacy seeds" they planted while in CAPP, a small vase to put the eventually-blooming flowers in, and a CAPP-logo pen. The two interpreters who worked with CAPP were also given certificates and deep appreciation was expressed for their work to make sure that all Spanish speaking members had language access. And, of course, there was cake!

Fran will stay working with the core team until the evaluation is complete and then will end her tenure with First 5. This will be the last program report you will receive from her—with deep gratitude and appreciation for an amazing 20+ years!

Early Intervention

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

Strengthening Supports

Pediatric Care: We continue to work with our local health service partners to strengthen and enhance referral pathways. During our ACEs Aware grant period, we were able to set up automated referral pathways for pediatric referrals coming from La Clínica de La Raza to the Help Me Grow (HMG) Call Center and we are now in the works to automate prenatal department referrals to the HMG Call Center.

Family Hui: We will be launching two additional rounds of the Parent Facilitated Support Groups, Family Hui next month. We are excited to work with two partner hosts, the Brentwood Library and the Latina

PROGRAM UPDATES

March 2023



Center. Each group will welcome 8-10 families with children 0-5, they will meet weekly for 12 weeks to discuss and reflect on various parenting topics and at the end of the series, we will collect parent feedback and learn about the impact of the groups.

ACEs Pilot Promising Practice & Podcast with Aliados Health

Our ACEs Aware pilot project team, encompassing First 5 Contra Costa, La Clinica de la Raza, and Contra Costa Crisis Center, recently finalized a Promising Practice document showcasing key features and learnings from our 2021-22 pilot that enhanced La Clínica's ACE screening efforts through integration with Contra Costa HMG care coordination workflows.

The Promising Practice document is available on the [Aliados Health website](#) under the "Child Health" category. On March 10, our team was interviewed on a podcast with Aliados Health, where we discussed the Promising Practice document and our ACEs Implementation Grant pilot project. More information can be found on [Aliados' QI Chatroom Podcast page](#), where the podcast recording will be posted soon.



Aliados Health

Access | Equity | Advocacy | Innovation

First Fridays: Getting the Most Out of Your Hub Experience

At the [Contra Costa Network of Care \(CCNOC\) online hub](#), there's always more to discover! Join First 5 Trauma and Resiliency Coordinator Emily Hampshire on the First Friday of each month in an open space for questions, conversation, and tips on how to get the most out of your experience. Do you have questions about how best to utilize the hub? Are you a new member wanting tips on how and when to post or a long-time participant looking to go deeper in your use of the space? For all of this and more, First Fridays are a great place to start! The online hub is a space for providers to connect, learn, and share trauma-informed principles and practices we hope to embed in our work, both individual and systemic. We ALL play a role in preventing and healing childhood adversity—let's continue to co-create this space together!

Early Childhood Education

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

Family Child Care Partner Program

The Family Child Care (FCC) Partner Program is continuing to offer ongoing guidance and support to other FCC Providers in Contra Costa County. Kimberly Nguyen, Quality Improvement Navigator, CocoKids, conducted monthly check in calls and a monthly email newsletter to FCC partners to provide resources in leadership, peer support, and how to build strong communities with their FCC providers.

Quality Matters (QM) Coaches

QM Coaches conducted trainings to programs focusing on the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) and the Teaching Pyramid Social Emotional development training. Several programs also welcomed Assessor, Carlos Lopez into their sites for CLASS (Classroom Assessment and Scoring System) and/or Environment Rating Scale assessments as measures of quality improvement. Coaches and sites use this data to drive quality improvement plans and provide a roadmap for coaching. Quality improvement assessments highlight site strengths and opportunities for growth.

PROGRAM UPDATES

March 2023



Ready Kids East County (RKEC) Initiative: RKEC Parent Group Meeting

19 Ready Kids East County Parent Group parents were joined by [jylani ma'at](#), a meditation and mindfulness facilitator. The purpose of this group practice was to demonstrate different tools and strategies to ground themselves as well as their children in everyday situations that might bring on feelings of stress. The session was a huge success among the participants, with many requesting jylani be brought back for another session in the near future.



Lesher Foundation Board Meeting

On March 24, Ruth Fernandez, Executive Director, Camilla Rand, Deputy Director, and Jessica Keener, Ready Kids East County Initiative Coordinator, met with the Lesher Foundation Board at the Lesher Foundation office in Walnut Creek. They delivered a presentation regarding the Initiative, which was made possible through a five-year Lesher Grant. Ruth, Camilla, and Jessica took turns speaking about some of the key strategies and activities that have led to current and potential future opportunities generated through the implementation of the initiative. The Board members asked lots of questions and remain very engaged with Lesher's largest funded initiative.



Staff Report
April 17, 2023

ACTION: X
DISCUSSION:

TITLE: Revised Conflict of Interest Policy

Background:

As part of ongoing review of the Commission’s Conflict of Interest policies and practices, staff and Counsel have revised the Commission’s Conflict of Interest Policy, first adopted in 1999, to reflect the current structure of First 5. The revision increases the number of staff required to file disclosures pursuant to the regulation adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission. Specifically, in addition to the Executive Director, the Deputy Director, Director of Finance and Operations, all managers, and all program officers will be required to report, based on the involvement in selecting and monitoring program and professional services contracts.

Recommendation:

APPROVE amended Conflict of Interest Code, dated April 17, 2023, for the Contra Costa County Children and Families Commission.



**CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE
OF THE
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

**Adopted December 6, 1999
Approved by the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors February 1, 2000
Revised and adopted February 7, 2011
Revised and adopted October 28, 2020
Revised and adopted January 5, 2021**

The Political Reform Act (Gov Code 81000, et seq.) requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate conflict of interest codes. The Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation (2 Cal. Code of Regs. 18730) which contains the terms of a standard conflict of interest code. After public notice and hearing it may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act. Therefore, the terms of 2 California Code of Regulation Section 18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission are hereby incorporated by reference. This regulation and the attached Exhibit "A" designating officials and employees and establishing disclosure categories, shall constitute the conflict of interest code of the Contra Costa County Children and Families Commission.

Designated employees shall file their statements with the Executive Director who shall transmit the originals to the County Clerk and obtain for his records conformed copies evidencing such filings. The Executive Director will retain and will make copies of the statements available for public inspection and reproduction. (Gov. Code 81008)"



EXHIBIT "A"

<u>Designated Positions</u>	<u>Disclosure Category</u>
Commissioners	1
Executive Director	1
Deputy Director	1
Director of Finance and Operations	1
Director of Policy, Strategy and Evaluation	1
Program Officers	2
Managers	2
Human Resources Manager	2
Grants and Contracts Manager	2
*Consultants	1

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*The Executive Director may determine in writing that a consultant is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to comply with disclosure requirements. The written determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection.

DRAFT



**CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE
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	FY2022-23 Adopted Budget*	FY2023-24 Proposed Budget				Notes:
		F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Revenue	% of Budget	
REVENUE ¹						
1						1
2		6,802,699		6,802,699		2
3			150,000	150,000		
4			1,031,221	1,031,221		
5			1,010,323	1,010,323		
6			405,000	405,000		
7			250,000	250,000		3
8	TOTAL FY 2023-24 REVENUE	11,691,727	6,802,699	2,846,544	9,649,243	
9	<i>Prop 10/56 Fund Balance Drawdown</i>	<i>2,242,799</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>4,870,175</i>		
10	TOTAL REVENUE	13,934,526	6,802,699	2,846,544	14,519,418	
PROGRAM INITIATIVES EXPENSES						
12						
14	Early Childhood Education Initiative					
15	Workforce Development	390,960	8,800	399,760		
16	Quality Early Learning		487,032	487,032		4
17	Ready Kids East County School Readiness Initiative		189,264	189,264		
18	Total	390,960	676,296	1,076,056	7%	
19	Family Support					
20	First 5 Centers	3,567,529		3,567,529		5
21	Home Visiting System Coordination		214,924	214,924		
22	Total	3,567,529	214,924	3,782,453	26%	
23	Early Intervention					
24	Early Childhood Mental Health Services	230,588		230,588		6
25	Triple P Positive Parenting	92,023	102,632	194,655		
26	Support for Children w/Disabilities (Measure X)	200,000	405,000	605,000		7
27	Coordinated Systems of Care					
28	Help Me Grow Services	408,947		408,947		
29	Contra Costa Network of Care Hub	20,000		20,000		
30	Total	951,558	507,632	1,459,190	10%	
31	Policy Advocacy & Communications Strategies					
32	Community Engagement	119,137	75,000	194,137		8
33	Communications Strategy & Policy Advocacy	343,348	33,960	377,308		
34	Total	462,485	108,960	571,445	4%	
35	Program Salaries/Benefits and Overhead Expenses					
36	Program Salaries & Wages	2,707,908		2,707,908		
37	Program Benefits	1,601,528		1,601,528		
38	Program Expenses and Overhead	417,533		417,533		
39	Total	4,726,969		4,726,969		
40	TOTAL PROGRAM INITIATIVES EXPENSES	10,099,501	1,507,812	11,616,113	80.0%	
41						
EVALUATION EXPENSES						
42						
43	Evaluation Salaries & Wages	254,055		254,055		
44	Evaluation Employee Benefits	141,699		141,699		
45	Professional Services	363,400	25,000	388,400		
46	Purchased Services and Supplies	42,500	2,000	44,500		
47	Evaluation Expenses and Overhead	46,423		46,423		
48	TOTAL EVALUATION	848,077	27,000	875,077	6.0%	
49						
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES						
50						
51	Administrative Salaries & Wages	777,420		777,420		
52	Administrative Employee Benefits	422,046		422,046		
53	Professional Services	462,500		462,500		9
54	Purchased Services & Supplies	159,600		159,600		
55	Operating Overhead (Risk Mgmt, DoIT/EHSD, etc.)	206,662		206,662		
56	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	1,996,868	2,028,228	2,028,228	14.0%	
57						
58	GRAND TOTAL	13,934,526	12,975,806	1,534,812	14,519,418	

*FY22-23 Adopted Budget included for context, prior year revenue/expenditure.

¹ Revenue sources are detailed in 'FY23-24 Revenue Projection Summary'.

² State Sales Tax revenue includes Prop 10, Prop 56, and SMIF Interest accrued while in State interest earning accounts prior to distribution to counties. Allocation assumes 15% decline per Prop 31 impact on projections.

³ Interest earnings are percent of County's pooled investments (fluctuations based on investment returns).

⁴ Name has been changed from Early Learning Quality; def. includes investments in Literacy & Quality Matters collaborative programs.

⁵ Sub-initiative names have been modified to reflect programmatic changes and related funding streams.

⁶ Coordinated System of Care includes comprehensive intervention services, developmental playgroups, and provider consultation services and supports. It also includes navigation and referral services through HMG and activities to support and enhance the CCC Network of Care.

⁷ Includes Prop 10 match for Measure X funding.

⁸ Activities in this category align with new organizational Policy, Strategy & Evaluation structure. It includes Community Engagement, FESP and Communication Strategies.

⁹ Professional Services includes necessary IT & equipment upgrades for organizational efficiencies.

Percent of Total Expenses (Budget)	
FY 2023-24	
Program Initiatives	
Policy Advocacy & Comm. Strategies	80.0%
Evaluation	6.0%
Admin.	14.0%
Total:	100.0%

FY23-24 Revenue Projection Summary



REVENUE		FY2023-24 Proposed Budget			
		F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Revenue	Totals
1	State Sales Tax				6,802,699
2	Sales Tax Apportionment - Proposition 10	5,185,978		5,185,978	
3	Proposition 56	1,613,229		1,613,229	
4	SMIF	3,492		3,492	
5	Federal Grants			-	150,000
6	Early Childhood Workforce Compensation Project		150,000	150,000	
7	State Grants			-	1,031,221
8	First 5 California IMPACT Grant		688,297	688,297	
9	First 5 CA Home Visiting Technical Assistance Grant		214,924	214,924	
10	Children & Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI)-- Triple P		128,000	128,000	
11	Subrecipient Awards			-	1,010,323
12	CA State Preschool Quality Block Grant (CSPP)		226,007	226,007	
13	Quality Counts California (QCC)		189,459	189,459	
14	Workforce Pathways (CCCoE)		10,000	10,000	
15	First 5 IMPACT-- HUB Training MOU		88,187	88,187	
16	MHSA-Behavioral Health Agreement (Triple P)		91,670	91,670	
17	Measure X-- Children w/Disabilities		405,000	405,000	
18	Other Public Funds				
19	Philanthropic Grants			-	405,000
20	Leshar Ready Kids East County		230,000	230,000	
21	Sunlight Giving		100,000	100,000	
22	San Francisco Foundation		75,000	75,000	
23	Other Revenue			-	250,000
24	Interest Income		250,000	250,000	
25	Other Misc. Income			-	
TOTAL FY23-24 REVENUE		6,802,699	2,846,544		9,649,243

Notes:

1

NOTES:

¹ Reflects 15% decline from FY21-22 Actuals



REVENUE	
State Sales Tax	
Sales Tax Apportionment - Proposition 10/56/SMIF	
State Grants	
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)	
MHSA- We Care Services for Children (Everyday Moments)	
Other Public Funds (COE/CLC, CCC Call to Action)	
Philanthropic Grants	
East Bay Community Fdn Grant	
Leshner Ready Kids East County	
Sunlight Giving	
Y&H Soda Foundation Grant	
Richmond Community Fdn Grant - EO (CAPP)	
Other Revenue	
Interest Income	
Other Misc. Income	
TOTAL FY 2022-23 REVENUE	
<i>Prop 10/56 Fund Balance Drawdown</i>	
TOTAL REVENUE	
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
Program Initiatives	
Early Childhood Education Initiative	
Workforce Development	
Early Learning Quality	
Ready Kids East County Initiative	
Literacy	
Total	
Family Support	
First 5 Centers	
Home Visiting	
Training and Consultation	
Total	
Early Intervention	
Triple P Positive Parenting	
Coordinated System of Care	
Intervention Services	
Help Me Grow Services	
Total	
Stakeholder Engagement & Policy Advocacy	
Community Engagement	
Family Economic Security Partnership	
Total	
Program Salaries/Benefits and Overhead Expenses	
Program Salaries & Wages	
Program Benefits	
Program Expenses and Overhead	
Total	
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	
COMMUNICATIONS	
Communications Salaries & Wages	
Communications Employee Benefits	
Professional Services	
Purchased Services and Supplies	
Communications Expenses and Overhead	
TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS	
POLICY, STRATEGY AND EVALUATION (PSE)	
Policy, Strategy & Evaluation Salaries & Wages	
Policy, Strategy & Evaluation Employee Benefits	
Professional Services	
Purchased Services and Supplies	
Policy, Strategy & Evaluation Expenses and Overhead	
TOTAL POLICY, STRATEGY AND EVALUATION (PSE)	
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	
Administrative Salaries & Wages	
Administrative Employee Benefits	
Professional Services	
Purchased Services & Supplies	
Operating Overhead (Risk Mgmt, DoIT/EHSD, etc.)	
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	
GRAND TOTAL	

FY 2022-23 Approved Budget		
F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Revenue Budget
9,573,934		9,573,934
	904,917	904,917
	-	-
	251,119	251,119
	211,905	211,905
	70,094	70,094
	81,741	81,741
	20,000	20,000
		-
	55,000	55,000
	373,017	373,017
	75,000	75,000
		-
75,000		75,000
		-
9,648,934	2,042,793	11,691,727
2,242,799	-	2,242,799
11,891,733	2,042,793	13,934,526

F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
400,000	38,929	438,929
	539,606	539,606
	213,017	213,017
178,602		178,602
578,602	791,552	1,370,154
2,823,839		2,823,839
610,000		610,000
12,700		12,700
3,446,539		3,446,539
81,741	112,041	193,782
		-
502,088		502,088
459,097		459,097
1,042,926	112,041	1,154,967
160,000	78,119	238,119
15,000		15,000
175,000	78,119	253,119
1,730,283	719,815	2,450,098
756,885	570,457	1,327,342
585,212		585,212
3,072,380	1,290,271	4,362,652
8,315,447	2,271,983	10,587,431

F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
255,208		255,208
160,772		160,772
90,000		90,000
98,000		98,000
44,148		44,148
648,129	-	648,129

F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
174,005		174,005
100,634		100,634
361,200		361,200
33,560		33,560
32,701		32,701
702,099	-	702,099

F5 Contra Costa Funds	Other Funds	Total Expense Budget
696,172		696,172
408,282		408,282
516,000		516,000
173,225		173,225
203,188		203,188
1,996,868	-	1,996,868

11,662,543	2,271,983	13,934,526
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Percent of Total Expenses (Budget)		
FY 2022-23		
Program	76.0%	80.6%
Communications	4.7%	
PSE	5.0%	5.0%
Administration	14.3%	14.3%
Total		100.00%



**Staff Report
April 17, 2023**

ACTION: X
DISCUSSION:

TITLE: FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget, First 5 Contra Costa

Recommendation

Commission approval of the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget, First 5 Contra Costa.

Background

The FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget 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;
- 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.

In addition, during the FY 2023-2026 Strategic Planning Retreat (December 2022) the Commission provided guidance to First 5 staff in support of furthering the development of a long-term fiscal model that involved re-establishing a Contingency Fund and establishing a long-term Fund Development Strategy for First 5 Contra Costa. This new fiscal model is in development and will be brought to the June 2023 Commission Meeting for approval, as part of the approval and adoption of the FY2023-2026 Strategic Plan. At which time, any adjustments deemed necessary to better align the proposed FY23-24 budget to the proposed FY2023-2026 Strategic Plan—Sustainability Element, will be brought forth at the June 2023 Commission Meeting.

Fiscal Impact

The FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget maintains focus on continuity of Program Initiatives with some programmatic changes, and assures intentionality in forecasting anticipated revenues and expenditures, and will require a drawdown from the Unassigned Fund Balance in the amount of approximately \$4.87M.

Major Revenue

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

State tax apportionments are the principal First 5 revenue source which includes 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**

A report prepared by Capitol Matrix Consulting (December 6, 2022), on behalf of the First 5 Association indicates a decline of up to approximately 15% in Proposition 10 revenue projections, which includes Prop 56, and Prop 31 considerations. Furthermore, estimates from First 5 CA average an annual decline in tax revenue of approximately 3.6% for FY 2023-24 through FY 2026-27, which includes steep declines around 10% in FY22-23 and FY23-24. In light of this

information, the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget represents a fiscally conservative approach to projecting Prop 10 revenue (\$5,185,978), which is a projected decrease of 15% over FY21-22 Year End Actuals.

- Proposition 56
Revenue for Prop 56 backfill experienced a 12% decline from \$2,046,138 in FY21-22 to \$1,792,476 in FY22-23. FY 2023-24 Proposition 56 revenue is also anticipated to decline proportionately compared to FY 2022-23. Therefore, the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget includes Prop 56 revenue of \$1,613,229.
- Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)
SMIF is the interest accrued from statewide Prop 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 2023-24 Proposed Budget includes \$3,492 in projected SMIF revenue.

Other Revenue Impacts-- Proposition 31

In November 2022, voters approved Proposition 31—Prohibition on Sale of Certain Tobacco Products (aka, the ‘Flavor Ban’) banning the sale of flavored tobacco products and flavor enhancers, with some exceptions. FY23-24 would be the first full year of steep revenue declines resulting from the flavor ban. After which, following fiscal years would experience a leveling off, or more stabilizing revenue stream.

- Federal Grants
Earlier this calendar year, First 5 Contra Costa was awarded a grant from the Federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF), within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The grant was awarded for the implementation of the “Growing and Retaining Vibrant Homegrown Early Childhood Workforce Project” that intends to conduct a childcare workforce compensation assessment for Contra Costa County providers. The project was submitted by Congressman DeSaulnier on behalf of First 5 Contra Costa as a Congressionally Directed Community Project. The funding award is in the amount of \$150,000. The project period is 12 months from the award date, which is anticipated to occur sometime between August 30, 2023 and September 30, 2023.
- State Grants
First 5 California IMPACT Grant: First 5 Contra Costa is in the process of awaiting instructions for a new application and award process for a multi-year IMPACT Grant to support children prenatal through age 5 and their families through building statewide quality improvement systems focused on early learning and care experiences.
- *First 5 California Home Visiting Technical Assistance Grant:* First 5 Contra Costa will submit a grant application as part of Bay Area Region 4 regional application for \$214,924. The purpose of the grant is to convene home visiting professionals from all the Bay Area First 5s to provide technical assistance and capacity building. In addition, at a local level, to host meetings and training for the Contra Costa home visiting system to enhance their effectiveness in meeting family needs.

Subrecipient Awards

The FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget includes a focus on establishing partnerships with County agencies through Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreements that leverage Prop 10 funds with other public and private funding sources. Funding received by First 5 Contra Costa from other County agencies are categorized as ‘Subrecipient Awards’ to jointly provide the following essential services:

- First 5 will continue to partner 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 2023-24 funding for CSPP/QRIS is estimated to be \$258,830 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures. The exact amount is pending confirmation, anticipated to be by June. These funds leverage First 5 IMPACT funding.
- First 5 and Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools will continue to partner to provide services for the Quality Counts California (QCC) Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) project in Contra Costa County. The FY 2023-24 funding for QCC/QRIS is estimated to be \$229,775 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures. The exact amount is pending confirmation, anticipated to be by June. These funds leverage First 5 IMPACT funding.
- First 5 will partner 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 2023-24 funding for Triple P is \$92,023 and the First 5 proposed budget includes the associated revenue and expenditures.
- CYBHI—First 5 has applied for round one of a multi-round grant funding process for the Children & Youth Behavioral Health Initiative to expand the Triple P Program. If awarded, First 5 could potentially receive \$128,000.
- EHSD – Measure X funding for services for children with disabilities. First 5 has been awarded Measure X funding in the amount of \$405,000 for FY23-24 through a contract with the Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD). Measure X funding will leverage Prop 10 funds to expand services.

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 2023-24 Proposed Budget includes grant awards from philanthropic foundations in support of ongoing First 5 activities. While most of the prior fiscal years philanthropic grants have sunset or will sunset by the end of FY22-23, the FY 23-26 Strategic Plan will be brought to the Commission for approval in June 2023. The Sustainability portion of the Strategic Plan, which is currently under development, will expand upon a more defined and strategic fiscal approach.
- *Sunlight Giving Foundation Grant*: FY23-24 will be year three of three, of a general purpose \$100,000 grant award in support of First 5 Contra Costa activities and services;
- *San Francisco Foundation*: FY23-24 will be year two of two, of a \$75,000 grant award in support of First 5 Community Engagement activities.
- *Dean and Margaret Leshner Foundation Grant*: \$230,000 is allotted for FY23-24 in support of the Early Childhood Education Initiative-- Ready Kids East County. This will be in addition to monies allotted, but were not able to be expended in the current fiscal year.

Other Revenue – Interest Income

- Other revenue includes First 5's share of interest accrued from Countywide pooled investments, which includes First 5 funds in reserve accounts, which are managed by the Contra Costa County Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office. The FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget includes a projection of \$250,000 in interest earnings attributable to the County's investment strategy coupled with a rise in

interest rates on more stable investments.

Wages and Benefits

The FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget for wages and benefits totals \$5,904,656, which is an increase of \$332,143 over the prior FY 2022-23 adopted budget. The proposed wages and benefits includes:

- Performance step increases for relevant staff.
- Cost of living allowance (COLA) of 3% for position classifications, based on the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 'Consumer Price Index (CPI)-- San Francisco Area (February 2023), reflecting an adjusted CPI of 5.3% for the last 12 months. Additionally, a survey of Bay Area First 5s was conducted to support this decision.
- The FY 2023-24 cost associated with providing a 3% COLA is approximately \$90,000 and the funding associated with the COLA is included in the proposed budget. The COLA would be effective July 1, 2023.
- A few vacant positions were projected to start at higher salaries due to market conditions, thus also increasing benefits.

Highlights of Program Categories

- Program Initiatives
Organizational and associated budget categories were changed to best reflect programmatic changes and related funding streams involved with a particular initiative. More specifically, under the *Early Childhood Education Initiative* header, 'Early Learning Quality' has been changed to 'Quality Early Learning' which includes investments in literacy and Quality Matters collaborative programs. 'Ready Kids East County Initiative' has been changed to 'Ready Kids East County School Readiness Initiative.' And, 'Literacy' has been removed as it is included in Early Learning Quality, as mentioned above.

The formerly titled 'Stakeholder Engagement & Policy Advocacy' which included 'Community Engagement' and 'Family Economic Security Partnership' will now be titled-- 'Policy, Advocacy & Communications Strategies (PSC)' and will include the budgets of 'Community Engagement', 'Family Economic Security Partnership (FESP)', 'Communications', and 'Policy & Strategy' activities.

- Administrative and Operating Overhead
The FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget reflects a decrease of \$13,625 in Administrative costs (which includes organization-wide equipment leases, offices supplies, etc.) from FY22-23 for a proposed budget of \$159,600. The Administrative budget also includes Professional Services (\$462,500), representing a decrease of \$53,500 from the FY22-23 Adopted Budget. Operating Overhead costs (i.e. County Counsel, County Risk Management, County DoIT/EHSD, etc.) is proposed to increase by 1.7% (\$3,474) to \$206,662. Planned Administrative and Operating Overhead is under the 15% cap allowed by State guidelines, and which also includes costs associated with improvements in technology for more efficient work tools for all staff.

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 2023-24 Proposed Budget



FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget

Children and Families Commission

April 17, 2023



Budget Approach

- Maintaining long-term fiscal strategies:
 - Leverage revenues as match for partnerships and grants
 - Establishing partnerships w/County agencies via subrecipient grants
 - Securing public & philanthropic grants to further enhance First 5 activities
- FY23-26 Strategic Planning Retreat (Commission, Dec. 2022)



Budget Approach

- Status of Prop. 10/Prop. 56/Prop. 31– Flavor Ban (impact of)
- Fiscally conservative approach, with limited information
- Environment changing with new data, esp. State grant application process and funding amounts (i.e., IMPACT, QCC, CSPP)
- FY23-24 proposed budget maintains Program Initiatives, with some programmatic changes to begin alignment w/Strategic Priorities

3



Current and Emerging Trends

Revenue - Prop 10/Prop 56 and Prop 31

- CA First 5 Projections show a 10% decline with the greatest decline in FY23-24, leveling off thereafter with continued statewide average annual decline in tax revenue of approximately 3.63% through FY 2026-27.
- First 5 Association Consultants estimate 15% decline coupling past trends in revenue disbursements and impacts resulting from the ban.

4



Budget Overview & Structure

Budget Categories:

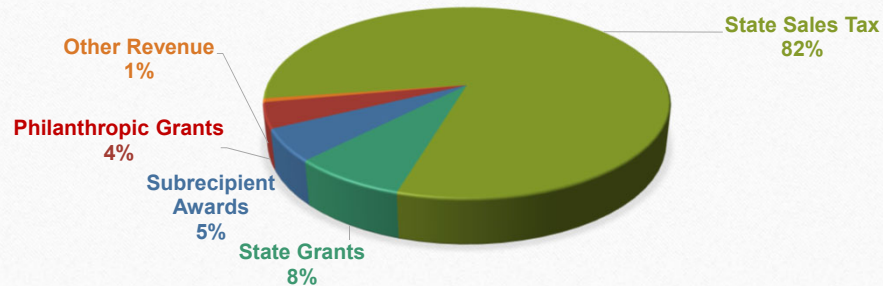
- Revenue
- Expenditures (Program Initiatives, Evaluation, Administration)
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Family Support
 - Early Intervention
 - Policy Advocacy & Communications Strategy

5



Revenue Summary

FY22-23 ADOPTED BUDGET (\$11,691,728)

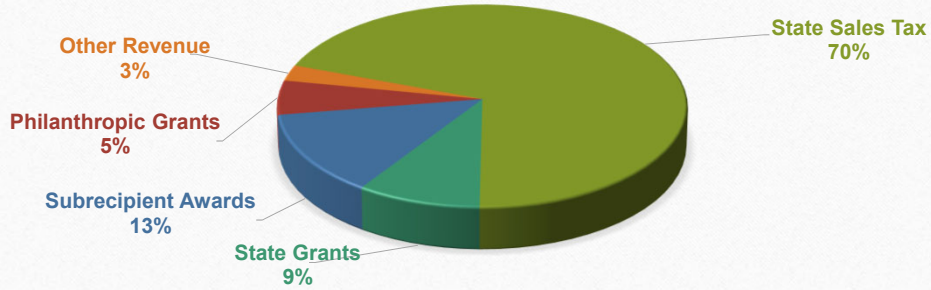


6



Revenue Summary

FY23-24 PROPOSED REVENUE (\$9,649,243)

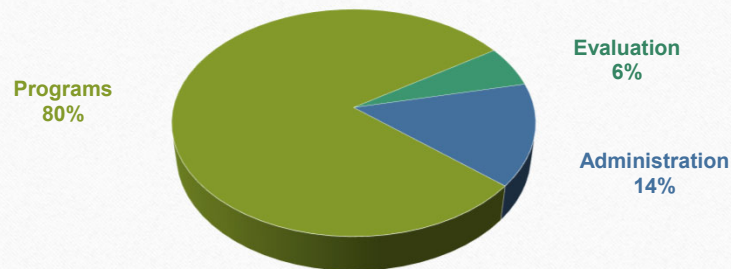


7



Expense Summary

FY23-24 PROPOSED BUDGET (\$14,519,418)



8



Personnel Projections

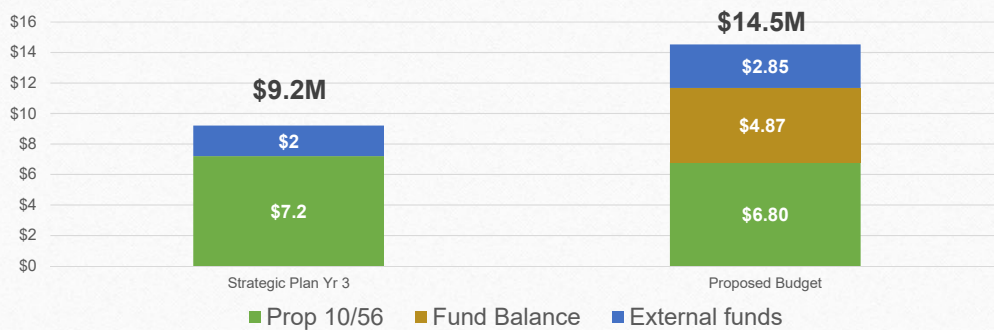
- 35 FTE Budgeted for FY23-24– no change from prior FY
- Increase of approx. of \$332,143 from FY22-23
 - COLA 3%
 - Increase in salaries and benefits
 - Vacancies projected at higher rates commensurate to market

9



Strategic Plan Comparison

Revenue by Funding Source (in Millions)



10



Summary

- Monitoring revenues & expenses closely; evaluating vacant positions based on need and function
- Continue proactive partnerships– local public entities & philanthropic entities
- Establish First 5 Contra Costa fund development strategy
- Strategic Plan, June 2023
- Begin 10-year Fiscal Sustainability Plan

11



Q & A



**Staff Report
April 17, 2023**

ACTION: X
DISCUSSION:

TITLE: Public Hearing on the First 5 California 2021-22 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.

Each County First 5 Commission is required by statute to hold an annual public hearing on First 5 California's annual report.

The report may be found online here:

https://www.cafc.ca.gov/pdf/about/budget_perf/annual_report_pdfs/Annual-Report-21-22.pdf

A short summary of Contra Costa program highlights appears on page 26.

Recommendation:

Accept the First 5 California Annual Report 2021-22

coordination and navigation services to families. This was remarkable because it marked the first time First 5 Butte County had staffed a direct-service position, sending a strong message to partners and the community about the commission's long-term commitment to ensuring that families with young children are able to access the services they request that supports their optimal development. Bringing the program internally enabled First 5 Butte County to deepen its relationships with county entities such as Child Welfare, Public Health, and Butte County Office of Education, and to leverage those relationships to conduct more effective outreach to community providers. Because it takes a village to raise a child, First 5 Butte County was proud to convene local home visiting providers and develop strategies to ensure that home visiting programs are successfully reaching the families who will benefit most from their support. Through their existing HMGB structure, and together with their partners, First 5 Butte County developed The Village, a coordinated system that provides a referral solution for all community providers. Families and referrers can submit an inquiry about home visiting, and a care coordinator will assist families in understanding program models and eligibility requirements, thereby empowering family choice when selecting a home visiting program.

Calaveras

In FY 2021–22, First 5 Calaveras County invested in prevention activities, early literacy promotion, and parent education. Grantees were able to start providing services in-person after a long period of pandemic-related remote services. Local First 5 funds were braided with disbursements from First 5 California, California Department of Education, and the local Mental Health Services Act and Prevention that provided a variety of services to families, caregivers, and teachers.

Parent support, and education and family literacy programs included an intensive home visiting program, virtual-based parent education offerings, and a variety of community-level Talk. Read. Sing.[®] approaches, including programs in remote mountainous areas of the county. The Court Appointed Special Advocate program was strengthened with local First 5 resources. Where intensive services were provided, parents reported positive learning outcomes and strong engagement in the learning process. The early learning and care system in Calaveras County was supported through Strong Start Calaveras, which motivates sites and teachers to meet quality improvement goals (through a stipend program) and provided a wide variety of coaching and mentoring to local providers.

The First 5 California Dual Language Learner Pilot program provided resources and training to cohorts of early childhood educators in Murphys and Valley Springs. Early learning and care professionals continue to participate in the program, demonstrating engagement during a difficult year as schools continued to deal with COVID-19 protocols and family frustrations.

Child Health was supported through preschool-based nutrition and safety programs, which were welcomed back for on-site activities. Teachers reported that children were fully engaged in the activities and that the lessons were incorporated into on-going curriculum. Collaborative planning and strategizing continue to be critical components in building a comprehensive service approach for young children.

Colusa

In FY 2021–22, First 5 Colusa County focused on supporting children, families, and providers as the communities rebounded from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Working with local and state partners, First 5 Colusa was able to leverage over \$225,000 in funding to provide additional support services to families in areas of parental resilience, social connections, and concrete supports in times of need.

First 5 Colusa's Family Resource Centers (FRCs) expanded essential services to families experiencing financial and emotional hardships as a result of the pandemic. Additional funding was secured to expand the Health Navigator project, address food insecurities, and coordinate systems of care. The FRCs distributed more than 498,895 pounds of food to families experiencing food insecurities. In coordination with county partners, frequency of food distributions was increased, and the development of on-site food banks were established. In addition, the FRCs secured vital resources to families such as personal hygiene products, diapers, COVID-19 test kits, and personal protective equipment.

In FY 2021–22, First 5 Colusa also focused on the expansion of its Help Me Grow (HMG) program and focused on the recruitment and enrollment of family child care (FCC) providers into the HMG screening network. With a large population of children ages 0 to 5 in FCC homes, providers were essential in ensuring access to developmental screeners. Forty-five percent of FCC providers participated in First 5 Colusa's HMG screening network. First 5 Colusa continues to work with its partners to create a systematic approach that focuses on ensuring children birth through age 5 and their families thrive. Investing in Colusa County's youngest citizens today yields long lasting results for future generations.

Contra Costa

First 5 Contra Costa County continued the whole child, whole family approach by ensuring services and systems are integrated, equitable, inclusive, and trauma-informed.

- Resource Connections: In FY 2021–22, First 5 Contra Costa served 3,687 families through services/programs including over 500 classes through the First 5 Centers. As families continued to face challenges, First 5 Contra Costa distributed 208,144 diapers; 2,340 baby wipes; 2,160 COVID-19 test kits, sanitizers, and children's masks.
- Building Capacity: Our Ready Kids East County initiative continues to gain momentum with parent cafes events that leverage partner resources to rally around Black/African American families to build school readiness and knowledge of community services. Through our Adverse Childhood Experiences Aware (ACEs) grant, First 5 Contra Costa took a holistic view of addressing ACEs structured and trauma-informed systems of care. Training, coaching, and technical assistance opportunities were provided to combine effective ACE screenings (2,474 ACE screenings for children), close loop referrals, and wellness activities.
- Stakeholder Engagement: To support quality-learning environments, First 5 Contra Costa served 1,817 providers through training and coaching. Also highlighted was the culmination of a 17-year partnership with community colleges—since 2005, First 5 Contra Costa has reached over 10,000 students with college advising, stipends, cohorts and study groups, leadership development, and quality improvement.
- Policy Advocacy: After 14 months of community engagement and advocacy by the Central County Regional Group and partners, the Concord City Council passed an anti-harassment policy protecting renters, keeping children in their homes. In East County, the Regional Group released the Antioch CHANGE report summarizing the experiences of more than 1,000 Antioch residents with recommendations for housing stability. In partnership with the Early Learning Leadership Group, a collaboration of county leaders, First 5 Contra Costa secured \$6 million in ongoing funding for teacher stipends, child care slots, and disability services through Measure X, a sales tax initiative in Contra Costa County.

A young child with dark hair in a ponytail is focused on painting a large orange shape on a white sheet of paper. The child is wearing a white shirt with small dark polka dots. The background is a blurred indoor setting, likely a classroom or playroom, with a white table and a patterned rug.

Executive Director's Report

COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 17, 2023





Internal Updates

Work in progress...

- ❖ Staffing & Recruitment (ongoing)
- ❖ Strategic Planning Process Updates (April-May)
- ❖ ENCORE Fellows to support Tactical Plan
- ❖ IT Assessment and Transition Plan in partnership with Contra Costa County Department of Information and Technology (DoIT) (April-May)
- ❖ Organizational Compensation Study (April-June)

County Updates

Highlights of local county projects...

- ❖ Re-launch of Contra Costa Children's Leadership Council (CLC)
- ❖ First 5 Centers Request For Qualifications (RFQ) progress & next steps
- ❖ Status of Welcome Home Baby Home Visiting Transition Plan FY 23/24
- ❖ First 5 CA Regional Home Visiting RFA
- ❖ Status of Measure X Children with Disabilities Project and next steps FY 23/24
- ❖ Child Care Workforce Compensation Assessment, a Community Project Federal Grant, Office of Congressman Mark DeSaulnier.





State Updates

State-level activities include...

- ❖ April 19 First 5 Network Advocacy Day
- ❖ First 5 Association Sustainability Efforts

Contra Costa County

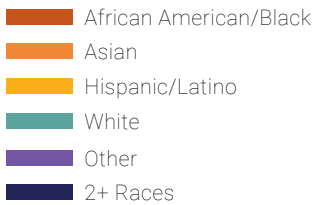


The Opportunity Gap for Children Across Contra Costa County¹

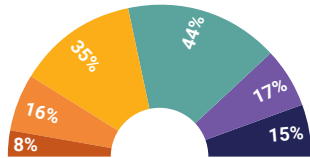
All communities and kids across Contra Costa County have strengths and talents, but opportunities for well-being and long-term success are not equally distributed. The ongoing pandemic and its varying impacts especially show that access to services and supports are not equitable – many families are feeling squeezed, but some are hurting more than others. Since countywide statistics can mask such issues, localized data disaggregated by race/ethnicity are useful for highlighting disparities in order to target resources. Disparities stem from unequal exposure to trauma, discrimination, and poverty, as well as inequitable access to wealth and resources. The statistics below demonstrate a whole-child approach, spanning many issues impacting a child's life. They also illustrate a life course trajectory, because what the county invests in to support kids makes a difference today and in their lives as adults, impacting the future of our communities.

Demographic²

(0-17 years)

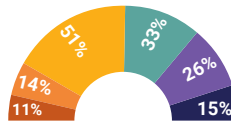


Contra Costa
259,670 kids



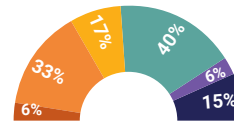
West
55,586 kids

Hercules, San Pablo, Richmond



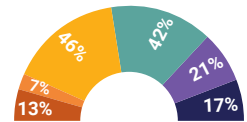
Central
127,227 kids

Concord, San Ramon, Walnut Creek



East
76,906 kids

Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood



97%

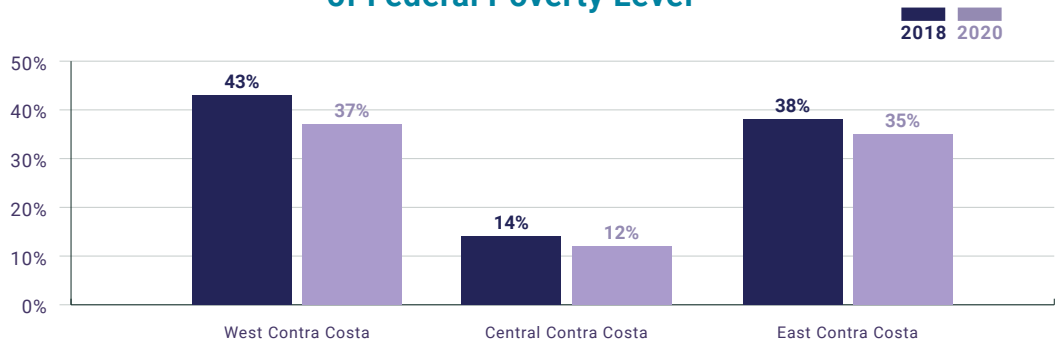
of Contra Costa families with children have at least one working parent⁸

The federal child tax credit, state young child tax credit, and earned income tax credit reduced child poverty despite the economic impacts of the pandemic.^{3,4} Yet, disparities in child poverty across the county persist.^{5,6,7}

Children in Families Below 200% of Federal Poverty Level

43%

of Contra Costa kids have at least one immigrant parent⁹



At least

13%

of Contra Costa youth identify as LGBTQ+¹⁰

1 Notes: A) Children are defined as ages 0-17, unless otherwise specified (e.g., students, kindergartners, etc.) B) To highlight countywide disparities, Contra Costa County is divided into West, Central, and East regions, unless another grouping is specified (e.g., district, entire county, etc.) These regions can include the following: West: Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Kensington, Hercules, Pinole, Crockett, Rodeo. Central: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Concord, Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda, Alamo, Danville, San Ramon. East: Pittsburg, Bay Point, Antioch, Brentwood, Oakley, Knightsen, Discovery Bay, Byron, Bethel Island.

2 U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). Children characteristics, 2016-2020 American community survey 5-year estimates. [Table S0901]. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=S0901%3A%20CHILDREN%20CHARACTERISTICS&g=0500000US0601306013%240600000&tid=ACSTSY2020.S0901> Note: Percentages do not add to 100% because the categories are not mutually exclusive. Throughout this report, West Contra Costa is comprised of ACS West Contra Costa and Briones subdivisions; Central Contra Costa is comprised of ACS Central Contra Costa and Tassajara subdivisions; and East Contra Costa is comprised of ACS East Contra Costa and Antioch-Pittsburg subdivisions.

3 Franchise Tax Board. (n.d.). California Earned Income Tax Credit and Young Child Tax Credit. State of California. <https://www.ftb.ca.gov/file/personal/credits/california-earned-income-tax-credit.html>

4 Thorman, T., Malagon, P. (2021, March 23). How the expanded child tax credit reduces child poverty. Public Policy Institute of California. <https://www.ppic.org/blog/how-the-expanded-child-tax-credit-reduces-child-poverty/>

5 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. (2020). Prior HHS poverty guidelines and federal register references. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references> Note: In 2020, 200% of the federal poverty level translated to \$52,400 annual income for a family of 4.

6 U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). Age by ratio of income to poverty level in the past 12 months, 2014-2018 American community survey 5-year estimates. [Table B17024]. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B17024%3A%20AGE%20BY%20RATIO%20OF%20INCOME%20TO%20POVERTY%20LEVEL%20IN%20THE%20PAST%2012%20MONTHS&g=0500000US06013%240600000&tid=ACSTSY2018.B17024>

7 U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). Age by ratio of income to poverty level in the past 12 months, 2016-2020 American community survey 5-year estimates. [Table B17024]. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B17024%3A%20AGE%20BY%20RATIO%20OF%20INCOME%20TO%20POVERTY%20LEVEL%20IN%20THE%20PAST%2012%20MONTHS&g=0500000US06013%240600000&tid=ACSTSY2018.B17024>

8 U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). Employment characteristics of families, 2016-2020 American community survey 5-year estimates [Table S2302]. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=Employment%20and%20Labor%20Force%20Status&g=0400000US06_0500000US06013&tid=ACSTSY2020.S2302. Data analysis by Population Reference Bureau; families at or above 200% of the federal poverty level.

9 U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). Age and nativity of own children under 18 years in families and subfamilies by number and nativity of parents, 2016-2020 American community survey 5-year estimates [Table B05009]. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B05009%3A%20AGE%20AND%20NATIVITY%20OF%20OWN%20CHILDREN%20UNDER%2018%20YEARS%20IN%20FAMILIES%20AND%20SUBFAMILIES%20BY%20NUMBER%20AND%20NATIVITY%20OF%20PARENTS&tid=ACSTSY2020.B05009> Note: To get the total amount of children living with one or more immigrant parents, the following categories were combined: 1) both parents foreign-born, 2) one of two foreign-born parents 3) single parent foreign born.

10 California School Climate, Health and Learning Surveys. (n.d.). 2013-2019 Elementary and secondary student survey. Note: Data provided and prepared by CalSCHLS through a special request. Please note that all percentages are only representative of California students in 9th and 11th grade who took the CalSCHLS survey.

Pandemic Impacts



Between 2020 and 2022, households using CalFresh increased by more than

40%

More Contra Costa families got assistance from CalFresh to help buy food. This is both a reflection of growing need due to job loss and other economic factors, as well as success in reaching more households that need help.¹³ Over one-third of Contra Costa CalFresh recipients are children; kids need proper nutrition for developmental, health, and educational success.¹⁴

Nearly

1,000

kids in Contra Costa County (2/3 of whom are Hispanic/Latino children) have experienced the death of caregivers due to COVID

The pandemic continues to disproportionately impact communities of color. When children's caregivers die, it causes trauma, dislocation, and grief.¹¹

Up to

2,000

child care slots were lost due to providers closing their doors

Almost 90 **child care providers closed permanently** due to the pandemic, resulting in up to 2,000 fewer available child care slots.¹² The reverberating impact is felt on early childhood education, parent workforce participation, and family finances.

Supervisory District	March 2020 CalFresh Households	May 2022 CalFresh Households	Change (2020 to 2022)
District 1 (West)	9,601	13,383	39%
District 2 (Central)	1,101	2,062	87%
District 3 (East)	7,678	10,376	35%
District 4 (Central)	4,871	7,454	53%
District 5 (West & East)	10,336	14,006	36%
Total	33,587	47,281	41%

The county and community partners harnessed resources and supports to meet families' needs during the initial crisis. Examples include:

1

Schools distributed food, laptops, COVID tests, and more when school buildings were closed.¹⁵ Other partners distributed diapers, infant formula, masks, and other supplies.¹⁶

2

Nearly 600 children of Contra Costa's essential workers participated in **emergency child care** between March-June 2020. State funded emergency child care subsidies were provided for over 400 essential worker families.¹⁷

3

97% of county households that applied for the **COVID Rent Relief Program** received assistance – a total of over **16,500** households.¹⁸

4

The **Contra Costa Child Care Relief Fund** provided nearly **\$800,000** in relief to over **100** licensed family child care homes who experienced pandemic-related financial hardship.¹⁹

¹¹ Global Reference Group on Children Impacted by COVID-19. (2022, February 17). COVID-19 associated orphanhood and caregiver death in the United States. Imperial College London. https://imperialcollegelondon.github.io/orphanhood_USA/

Note: Primary/secondary caregivers are co-residing parents or grandparents responsible for some or all basic needs for the child. Figure should be interpreted as a minimum estimate. The estimate was derived by calculating the proportion of children in California who reside in Contra Costa and multiplying this figure by the estimate of children in California who lost a caregiver due to COVID-19.

¹² CoCoKids, personal communication, August 24, 2022.

¹³ Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department. (2022, July 25). Employment and Human Services Department CalFresh report. http://64.166.146.245/docs/2022/FHS/20220725_1993/50395_EHS-D%20FHS%20CalFresh%207-25-22RD%20Updated%207.13.22%20FINAL.pdf

¹⁴ Hunger and Health. (n.d.). Children and families. Feeding America. <https://hungerandhealth.feedingamerica.org/explore-our-work/programs-target-populations/children-and-families/>

Note: Information about CalFresh food assistance can be found here: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/calfresh>.

¹⁵ Tadayon, A. (2020, March 18). Grab-and-go and drive-up allow families to pick up food at closed California schools. EdSource. <https://edsource.org/2020/grab-and-go-and-drive-up-allow-families-to-pick-up-food-at-closed-california-schools/626088>

¹⁶ First 5 Contra Costa, personal communication, November 17, 2022.

¹⁷ Contra Costa County Childcare Taskforce. (n.d.). COVID-19 emergency childcare response. https://ehsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/COVID-19_Emergency_Child_Care_Response_2020_report.pdf

¹⁸ Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. (n.d.). California COVID-19 rental relief program dashboard. State of California. https://housing.ca.gov/covid_rr/dashboard.html

¹⁹ Low Income Investment Fund. (2021, August). LIIF report to First Five Contra Costa.

Wellbeing



1,694

youth experienced homelessness in Contra Costa

Students disproportionately experienced homelessness in West and East county and Black and Latino families.²² The pandemic exacerbated barriers faced by youth experiencing homelessness, such as lack of access to food, health care, and Wi-Fi.

One

child maltreatment case was reported every hour in Contra Costa County in 2021²⁰

This is despite the fact that children had less contact with teachers, doctors, and others who could detect and report maltreatment during the pandemic.²¹

Reported survivors of child maltreatment

8,553

Survivors of verified child maltreatment

678

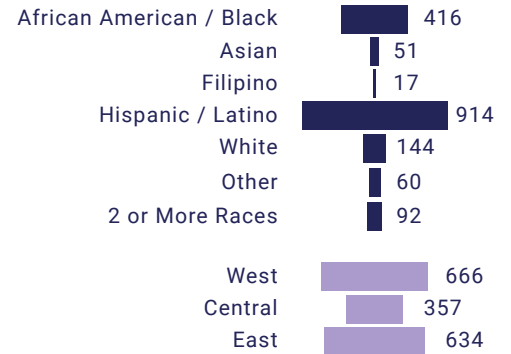
Child maltreatment fatalities

2

Financial impact of child maltreatment

\$320,000,000

Students Experiencing Homelessness in Contra Costa County, 2021-22



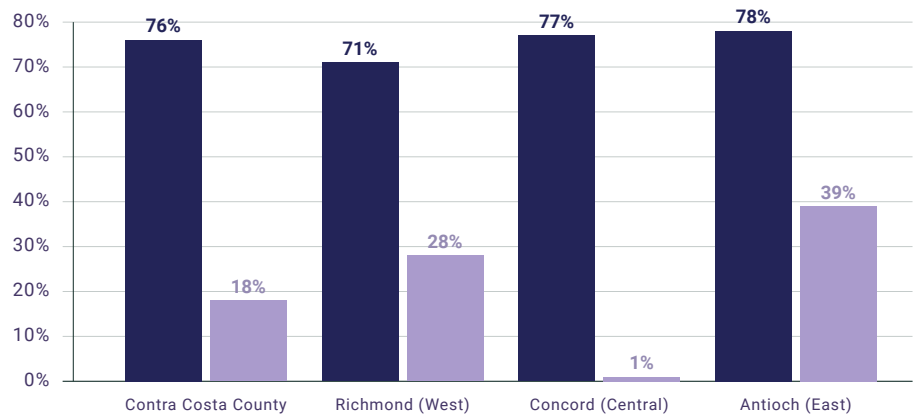
Early Learning



1

Child care can be very difficult for families to find, especially for infants & toddlers, and particularly in the West & East parts of the county.²³ Even when it is available, child care is often too expensive for families, with the state reimbursement rate for infants/toddlers at \$16-23,000/year depending on provider type, and the "true cost" of care at least \$40,000/year which includes the high cost of maintaining facilities.^{24, 25, 26}

Projected Unmet Demand for Child Care in Contra Costa County in 2027



Percent of Infant/Toddler Child Care Demand NOT Met

Percent of Preschool Child Care Demand NOT Met

²⁰ Safe and Sound. (2022). Impacts in your county, 2021. The Economics of Child Abuse: California and its Counties. <https://economics.safeandsound.org/>

Note: "Reported" child maltreatment has not yet been substantiated by an investigation that concludes the allegation of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment was supported or founded by state law or policy. Calculation of cumulative costs includes: higher incidence of chronic health problems, decreased earning potential, child welfare intervention services, higher school absenteeism rates, and more; more detail is included in the technical appendix: https://economics.safeandsound.org/static_reports/SafeSound-.2021.EconomicsReport-.Technical.Appendix.pdf

²¹ Note: See, for example, the decrease in the number of child maltreatment reports from mandated reporters (school staff, medical professionals, therapists, and others), shown in the chart on page 5 of Contra Costa County Social Service Impact & Response to the COVID-19 Crisis, https://ehsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/External_Dashboard_2020_June.pdf. Maltreatment reports by mandated reporters during the week of April 7, 2019 were almost 70% higher than during the week of April 5, 2020.

²² DataQuest. (n.d.). 2021-22 Enrollment by ethnicity with district data, Contra Costa report, homeless population subgroup [Table]. California Department of Education.

Note: The California Department of Education definition of homelessness can be found here: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sg/homelessyouth.asp>.

²³ Brion Economics, Inc. (2018, August). Contra Costa County comprehensive countywide child care needs assessment—2017 to 2027. Contra Costa County Local Planning and Advisory Council for Early Care and Education (LPC), First 5 Contra Costa, Contra Costa County Office of Education, and Contra Costa County Conservation and Development Department. https://cdn5-ss16.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1077313/File/2017LPCNeedsAssessment_PDF.pdf

²⁴ Haspel, E. (2022, July 23). America's child-care equilibrium has shattered. The Atlantic. <https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2022/07/us-childcare-programs-expensive-underfunded/670927/>

²⁵ California Department of Social Services. (2022). Reimbursement ceilings for subsidized child care. <https://rscsc.adm.dss.ca.gov/index.aspx>.

²⁶ For more information about the "true cost" of child care, referring to the "cost of operating a high-quality program with the staff and materials needed to meet quality standards and provide a developmentally appropriate learning environment for all children," please see Capito, J., Fallin Keryon, K., & Workman, S. (2022, August). Understanding the true cost of child care in California: Building a cost model to inform policy change. Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies. https://www.prenatal5fiscal.org/_files/ugd/8fd549_748c33ac7a8d4dfcb72eb5dc904d47c0.pdf

Education



1

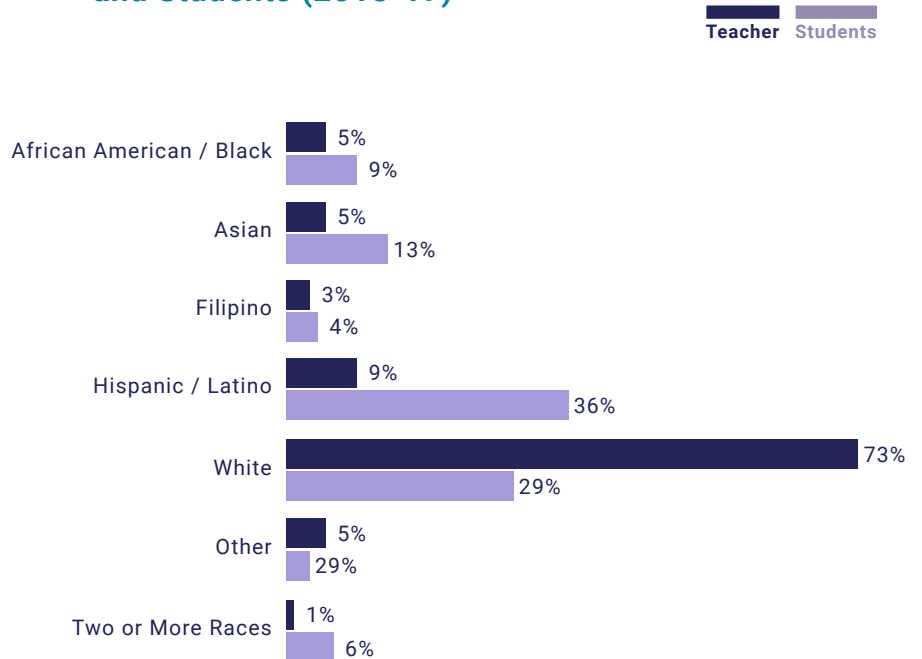
Teachers were some of our most essential workers during the pandemic, providing quality education to children. However, Contra Costa's teacher workforce does not reflect the diversity of its student population. Research shows that all students perform better academically when they have more diverse teachers, and are more likely to graduate high school if they have a same-race teacher in grades K-3.^{27,28}

2

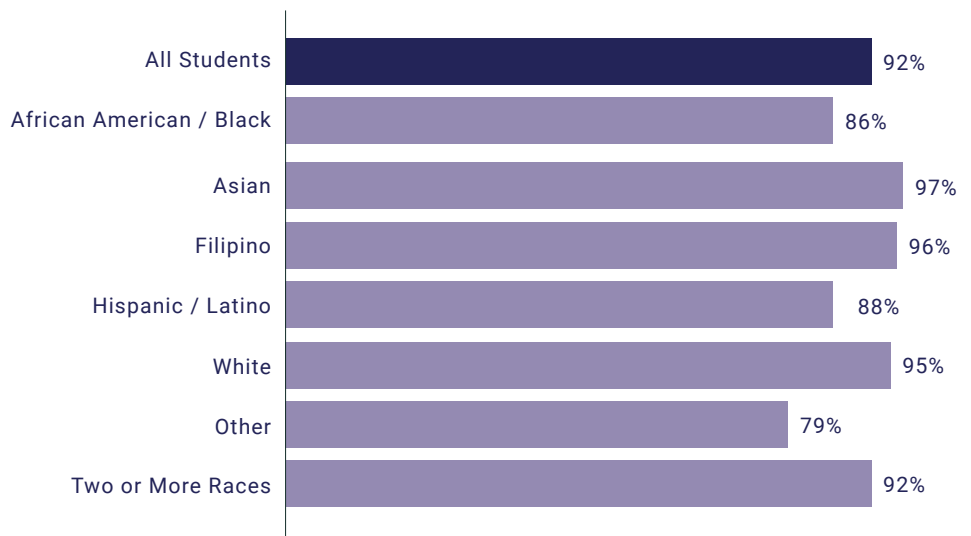
High school graduation rates show that many districts need to do more to support Black, Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Pacific Islander students.

However, countywide 53% of graduates met UC/CSU requirements and 18% earned a Seal of Biliteracy; each of these percentages were higher than the state average.²⁹

Race and Ethnicity of Contra Costa County Teachers and Students (2018-19)



Contra Costa High School Graduation Rates, 2021-22



²⁷ DataQuest. (n.d.). 2018-19 Certificated staff by ethnicity, Contra Costa report [Table]. California Department of Education. DataQuest. (n.d.). 2018-19 Enrollment by ethnicity, Contra Costa report [Table]. California Department of Education.

Note: At the time of publication, the most recent demographic data available for certificated staff was from 2018-19. Although it is unclear whether these gaps widened or narrowed during the pandemic, we do know that the gap between Latino teachers & students and between white teachers & students was the same magnitude in 2015-16 as in 2018-19.

²⁸ Gershenson, S., Hart, C., Hyman, J., Lindsay, C., & Papageorge, N. (revised 2021). The long-run impacts of same-race teachers. National Bureau of Economic Research. <https://www.nber.org/papers/w25254>

²⁹ DataQuest. (n.d.). 2020-21, Five-Year cohort graduation rate, Contra Costa report, non-charter schools subgroup [Table]. California Department of Education.

Note: Information about five-year cohort graduation rate methodology is here: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/ad/fyogrinfo.asp>. District-specific graduation rates for racial/ethnic groups are also available through the DataQuest tool.

Health

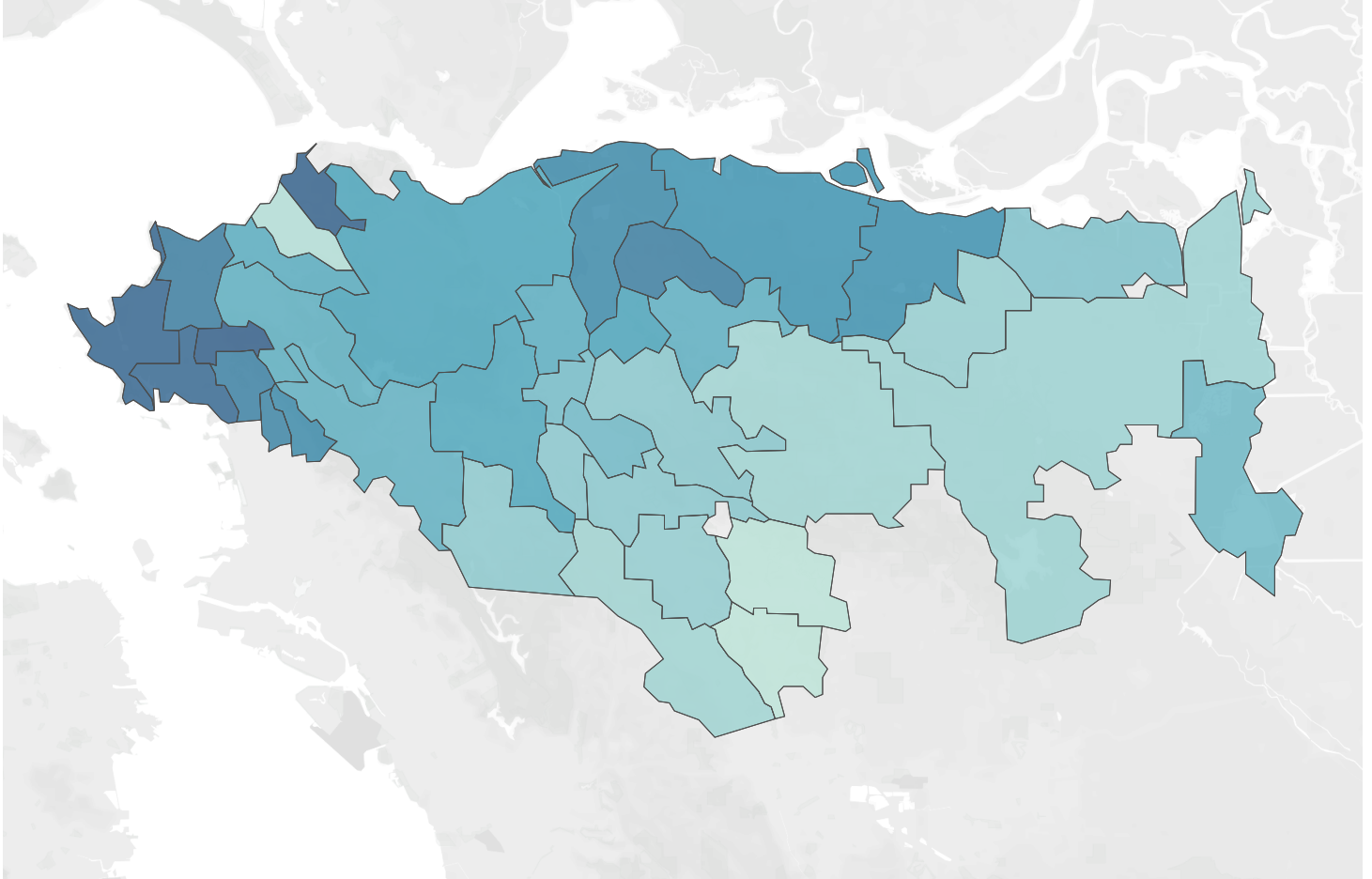


1

Environmental pollution impacts developing children through lead poisoning, increased risk of developing asthma, low birth weight, and other mechanisms. Communities with the highest lead risk for children are concentrated in the West and East parts of the county.³⁰



Children's Average Lead Exposure Risk from Housing in Contra Costa County



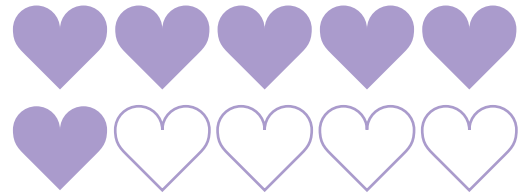
2

Infant well-child visits are critical for catching developmental delays, vision or hearing impairments, and other issues.

Only

6 in 10

infants in Contra Costa County enrolled in Medi-Cal had 2+ well-child visits before they turned 6 months old³¹



³⁰ California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. (2021, October 20). California communities environmental health screening tool: CalEnviroScreen 4.0. <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40>

³¹ California Department of Health Care Services. (2022). Percent of Medi-Cal children who had 2+ well-child visits with a primary care provider (PCP) by the time they turned 6 months old January 2020 – January 2022 [Data set]. <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/Pages/QualityMeasurementAndReporting.aspx>

Note: The Department of Health Care Services has prioritized improving the rate of infants receiving well-child visits; more info here: <https://www.childrennow.org/blog/meecoccl/>.

Health (continued)



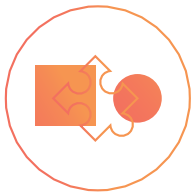
3

Some Areas of the County are Too Far From Fresh Groceries

Limited access to grocery stores can be a major problem for families trying to find healthy and affordable food. Areas of low-income and low foodstore access are concentrated in Richmond, San Pablo, Martinez, parts of Concord, Pittsburg, Antioch, and Oakley.³²



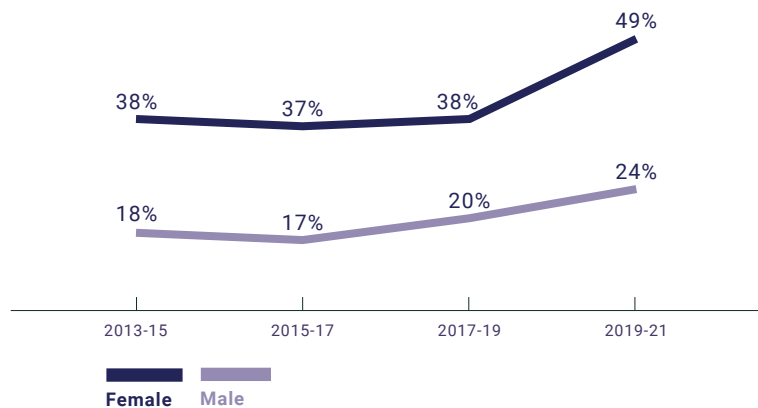
Mental Health



1

Too many Contra Costa students reported depression-related feelings, especially female students. Male and female students reported an increase in sadness/hopelessness in 2019-2021.³³

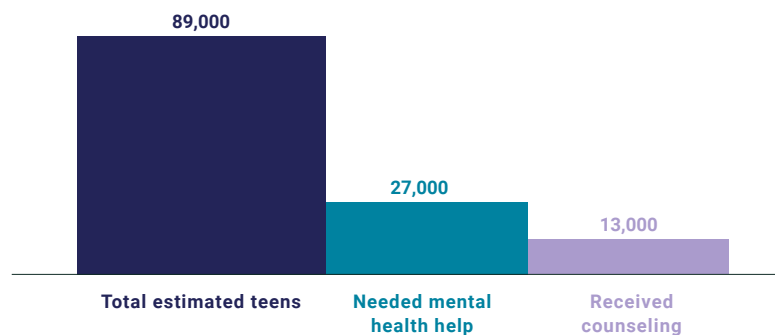
Self-Reported Chronic Sadness/Hopelessness Among Contra Costa's 9th Graders



2

Many youth need access to an array of mental health services, including peer mentoring, counseling, and coping skills workshops. Data from 2018-2021 **suggest that less than half of the teens who said they needed some kind of mental health help received counseling** within the past 12 months.³⁴

Too Few Contra Costa Teens Who Needed Mental Health Help Received Counseling, 2018-2021



³² Economic Research Service (ERS). (n.d.). Low-income and low foodstore-access Census tracts, 2015-19, EIB-236, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/>

Note: "Low-income and low foodstore access" is defined as (A) a census tract that (1) has a poverty rate of 20% or greater, (2) is at or below 80% of the greater Metropolitan Statistical Area median family income or the State's median family income, or (3) has a median family income at or below 80% of the State's median family income if outside of a Metropolitan Statistical Area, and (B) the census tract has a significant number (at least 500 people) or share of the population (at least 33%) that is more than 0.5 miles from the nearest supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if in an urban area or more than 10 miles if in a rural area.

³³ California School Climate, Health, and Learning Surveys. (n.d.). 2013-2021 Secondary student survey, Contra Costa County, trends over time, 9th graders disaggregated by gender. <https://catschis.org/reports-data/public-dashboards/secondary-student/>.

³⁴ UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles, CA. AskCHIS 2018-2021. "Teen needed help for emotional/mental health problems" and "Teen received psychological/emotional counseling in past year" (Contra Costa County). <http://ask.chis.ucla.edu>.

Note: Data from 4 years (2018-21) were pooled for a more reliable estimate. For "Teen needed help for emotional/mental health problems" (31.9%), the 95% confidence interval was 19.2% to 44.7%; for "Teen received psychological/emotional counseling in past year" (15.8%), the 95% confidence interval was 8.0% to 23.6%.

Recommendations

The County must urgently deploy all available resources and supports to close opportunity gaps for children, since such disparities have historically widened over the life course,³⁵ creating additional barriers to well-being for Contra Costans. In addition, the County should invest more resources in a coordinated, holistic way, as these issues are all interrelated. In doing so, the County should follow these tenets:

1

Meet all families where they are

Rather than a one-size-fits-all approach, the well-being of all children will improve when different families receive the specific targeted resources they need. For example, the home visiting program allowed hundreds of new and expecting Contra Costan parents to receive targeted, one-on-one support on their child's healthy development.³⁶

2

Focus on root causes

Opportunity gaps develop due to systemic, longstanding forces – not individual behavior. Similarly, closing such gaps will require a permanent commitment to anti-racism³⁷ and sustained funding to policies that improve the well-being of children and their families.

3

Take a whole child whole family approach

The pandemic has highlighted an ongoing, relentless squeeze on parents and caregivers trying to make ends meet while caring for their kids.³⁸ Research shows that protective factors (such as concrete supports for parents, social connections, and knowledge of child development) can promote the health and well-being of kids and families.³⁹

4

Recruit and support a diverse and qualified workforce

Building infrastructure includes ensuring a robust and healthy workforce through just wages, health insurance, mental wellness, work-life balance, and other supports. More workers are needed within child care, education, mental health, and other child-serving sectors; teacher vacancies across the county are especially staggering. Children are best served with a better paid, better supported, and more diverse workforce.⁴⁰

5

Invest in infrastructure and facilities

In addition to supporting the workforce, we must invest in the infrastructure that contributes to quality care. With facility expansions and upgrades, many child care providers could offer more slots and many public schools could more comfortably serve their students.

Created through a collaboration of:



35 See, for example: Odgers (2015), Income Inequality and the Developing Child: Is It All Relative? <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4784260/> & Urban Institute (2015), "Child Poverty and Adult Success," <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/65766/2000369-Child-Poverty-and-Adult-Success.pdf>.

36 First 5 Contra Costa. (n.d.). Home visiting. <http://www.first5coco.org/funded-programs/home-visiting/#:~:text=WHAT%20WE%20DO,parental%20employment%2C%20and%20children's%20development>.

37 Trent, M., Dooley, D. G., Dougé, J., Cavanaugh, R. M., Lacroix, A. E., Fanburg, J., Rahmander, M. H., Hornberger, L. L., Schneider, M. B., Yen, S., Chilton, L. A., Green, A. E., Dilley, K. J., Guiterrez, J. R., Duffee, J. H., Keane, V. A., Krugman, S. D., McKeelvey, C. D., Linton, J. M., ... Wallace, S. B. (2019). The impact of racism on child and adolescent health. *American Academy of Pediatrics*, (144)2. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-1765>

38 Applied Survey Research. (2020, August). First 5 Contra Costa: Covid-19 impact survey. <http://www.first5coco.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/First5ContraCosta-CovidSurveyReport-090120.pdf>.

39 Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2022). Protective factors to promote well-being and prevent child abuse & neglect. Children's Bureau, Administration for Children & Families, and U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/>

40 Children Now. (2022, February). California's children's mental health workforce. <https://www.childrennow.org/portfolio-posts/californias-childrens-mental-health-workforce/>

2023 POLICY PRIORITIES



First 5 Association of California (F5AC) advocates for California's youngest children and their families to ensure that they have the supports to thrive in school and life. Grounded in a whole child / whole family framework with an intentional focus on children prenatal to 3-years-old, First 5 is a conduit for change during this critical stage of development — building comprehensive and integrated early childhood systems of care that advance equity, prevention strategies and systems coordination.

F5AC works to advance state and federal policies that support the First 5 Network and infrastructure and cultivate opportunity for all of California's young children and families. We do this while centering the fact that low-income communities, communities of color, and historically marginalized Californians face disproportionate impacts due to systemic racism, wealth inequality and natural disasters.

Policy Priorities



Resilient Families

- Ensure California families have access to relevant and effective supports in a timely manner.
- Increase family economic supports, so that families can provide stable, thriving homes in which to raise children.



Sustainability and Scale

- Secure funding to offset the impact of Proposition 31 flavored tobacco ban and declining tobacco tax revenue. This declining revenue is a threat to First 5's infrastructure and service provision for early childhood health, learning and prevention strategies.
- Promote local First 5 commissions as foundational community implementers, intermediaries, fiscal agents and thought partners for programs, policies and state initiatives that seek to improve child and family outcomes.
- Preserve existing First 5 funding.
- Preserve recent California policy achievements and state investments that will improve outcomes for young children (e.g., continuous eligibility for Medi-Cal from birth through age 5, investments in home visiting and child care).



Comprehensive Health and Development

- Support investments to advance prevention, care coordination, screenings and multi-generational supports through Medi-Cal.
- Strengthen the systems of early identification and referral to appropriate intervention services for young children.
- Seek to eliminate racial inequities in maternal and infant health outcomes, including through removing systemic barriers to care for people of color, eliminating systemically racist practices and increasing culturally relevant services for birthing people.
- Increase access to community-based Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) programs that effectively prevent and respond to trauma, promote resilience and identify concerns early.
- Secure increased investments in the IECMH workforce to create a robust network of trained providers.



Quality Early Learning

- Stabilize, strengthen and scale early care and learning opportunities, with a focus on infant and toddler care.
- Promote equitable access and affordability across the mixed delivery system – system strengthening, workforce and quality improvement support to promote nurturing relationships between providers, caregivers and children.