

**COMMISSION MEETING**  
**March 16, 2022 – 3:00-5:00pm**  
**3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA 94590**

Pursuant to the State of California Proclamation of a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic issued March 4, 2020 by Governor Newsom, and under the statutory requirements established by AB 361 (Open Meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences), **public access to the First 5 Solano Commission Meeting will be limited.**

Commissioners and public may attend via remote meeting using the following options:

**Join livestream via Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5922775330>

**Join via Phone:**

1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 592 277 5330

**Public Comments:**

Public Comment may be provided: During the meeting via the phone/computer audio when the Chair calls for Public Comment on an item; or submitting written public comments to First 5 Solano via email at [cfcsolano@solanocounty.com](mailto:cfcsolano@solanocounty.com) by 2:00pm on the day of the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER / SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**I. Public Comment**

**Information**

*This is the opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters not listed on the Agenda that are otherwise within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Please submit a Speaker Card and limit your comments to 3 minutes.*

**II. Consent Calendar (5 min)**

**Action**

- A. Approve the March 16, 2022 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the [January 19, 2022 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)
- C. Adopt [Resolution 2022-04](#) authorizing remote teleconference meetings under the State of California Proclaimed State of Emergency issued March 4, 2020, and pursuant to AB 361 requirements, for a term of March 16, 2022 to April 16, 2022
- D. Approve the [FY2022/23 Commission Meeting Schedule](#)

**III. First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Annual Budget (45 min)**

**Action**

- A. Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Proposed Budget
- B. Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2022/23 budget
- C. Consider approval of an allocation of \$620,700 to Bay Area Community Resources for the Vallejo First 5 Center for FY2022/23 (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds*)
- D. Consider approval of up to \$160,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for Summer 2022:
  - a. Up to \$10,000 to Benicia Unified School District
  - b. Up to \$20,000 to Dixon Unified School District
  - c. Up to \$50,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
  - d. Up to \$10,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
  - e. Up to \$10,000 to River Delta Unified School District

- f. Up to \$30,000 to Vacaville Unified School District
  - g. Up to \$20,000 to Vallejo City Unified School District
  - h. Up to \$10,000 to Solano County Office of Education;
- And utilize the remaining \$40,000 funds for the purchase of books for Pre-Kindergarten Academies and planning for implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)
- E. Consider approval of up to \$250,000 in allocations of funding for the Solano Shared Services Alliance Network for the period of April 1, 2022- June 30, 2023 to the following agencies:
- a. Up to \$229,453 to Solano County Office of Education
  - b. Up to \$20,547 to Solano Family & Children's Services
- (*Source of funds: First 5 California*)  
Megan Richards, Deputy Director

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| <p><b>IV. Community Indicators of Child Well-Being</b> (45 min)</p> <p>Review the Commission's data on common indicators of child well-being<br/><i>Michele Harris, Executive Director; Christina Branom, Applied Survey Research</i></p> <p><b>V. Policy and Oversight Committee</b> (5 min)</p> <p>No action items to report.</p> <p><b>VI. Executive Director's Report</b> (10 min)</p> <p><i>Michele Harris, Executive Director</i></p> <p><b>VII. Commissioner Remarks</b> (5 min)</p> <p><b>VIII. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location</b></p> <p>The next Commission meeting will be held on April 20, 2022 at 3:00PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo. Future agenda items include: Long-Term Financial Plan, First 5 CA Annual Report</p> | <p><b>Information/<br/>Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Information</b></p> <p><b>Information</b></p> <p><b>Information</b></p> <p><b>Information</b></p> |
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## ADJOURN

**Vision:** All Solano County children are healthy, eager to learn, and nurtured by strong families in safe and inclusive communities.  
**Mission:** First 5 Solano is a catalyst that strategically advances innovative, prevention-focused approaches across systems that improve the lives of young children and their families.

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. If you require a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting, please call (707) 784-1332 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Non-confidential materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission are available for public inspection at the First 5 Solano business office, 3375 Sonoma Blvd Ste 30, Vallejo CA during normal business hours.

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
Commission Meeting**

January 19, 2022, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA

**Minutes**

Commissioners present via Zoom videoconferencing: Chair Erin Hannigan, Vice Chair Tyffany Wanberg, Lisette Estrella-Henderson (joined 3:22), Amy Fabi, Jerry Huber, Tiffanee Jones, Nimat Shakoor-Grantham, Marla Stuart

Chair Hannigan called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM

**I. Public Comment**

No public comment

**II. Consent Calendar**

***Motion:***

- A. Approve the January 19, 2022 Commission Meeting Agenda.***
- B. Approve the December 15, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes.***
- C. Adopt Resolution 2022-01 authorizing remote teleconference meetings under the State of California Proclaimed State of Emergency issued March 4, 2020 and pursuant to AB361 requirements, for a term of January 19, 2022 to February 18, 2022.***

**Consent Calendar moved by Commissioner Wanberg; Seconded by Commissioner Huber**

**Approved 7-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Fabi, Hannigan, Huber, Jones, Shakoor-Grantham, Stuart, Wanberg**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**III. Introduce 2022 Officers; Chair Affirms Committee Assignments**

Commission Chair Erin Hannigan recognized outgoing Commission Chair Jennifer Barton for her service and dedication to the First 5 Solano Commission. Chair Hannigan emphasized outgoing Commission Chair Jennifer Barton's contribution in obtaining \$2 million from the State of California and her role in talks with the City of Fairfield regarding a new First 5 Center.

#### **IV. Positive Parenting Awareness Month Resolution**

***Motion: Approve Resolution #2022-02 recognizing January 2022 as “Positive Parenting Awareness Month” in Solano County***

**Positive Parenting Awareness Month Resolution moved by Commissioner Jones; Seconded by Commissioner Stuart**

**Approved 7-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Fabi, Hannigan, Huber, Jones, Shakoor-Grantham, Stuart, Wanberg**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

#### **V. 2022 Strategic Plan Update**

***Motion: Approve the 2022 Strategic Plan Update***

The Commission received a short presentation that summarized the components of the 2022 Strategic Plan Update.

**Strategic Plan Update moved by Commissioner Jones; Seconded by Commissioner Shakoor-Grantham**

**Approved 7-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Fabi, Hannigan, Huber, Jones, Shakoor-Grantham, Stuart, Wanberg**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

#### **VI. 2022 Systems Change Action Plan Update**

***Motion: Approve the 2022 Systems Change Action Plan***

The Commission received a short presentation that summarized the 2022 Systems Change Action Plan.

**Systems Change Action Plan moved by Commissioner Jones; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson**

**Approved 8-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Fabi, Hannigan, Huber, Jones, Shakoor-Grantham, Stuart, Wanberg**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

## **VII. Policy and Oversight Committee**

### **A. Fairfield First 5 Center Update**

Executive Director Michele Harris presented an update on the proposed Fairfield First 5 Center location. The City of Fairfield will be building a large sports complex on North Texas Street, which is in First 5 Solano's target area to locate our Fairfield First 5 Center. The city is building a 6,000sf building in a new sports complex and has offered that building as the new location for the Fairfield First 5 Center. The terms, in the broadest sense, are that First 5 Solano will contribute its \$2Million from the State of California toward the space. The City of Fairfield will provide the remaining cost to build the building. First 5 Solano and the City of Fairfield will develop a Facility Use Agreement for that site, part of which includes no facility cost for the space for at least a 20-year duration. This partnership is a perfect match with the agencies in that the City of Fairfield has the resources to support the infrastructure and First 5 Solano has the resources to operate programs for Fairfield's children and families. Additionally, First 5 Solano and the City of Fairfield met recently to discuss the schematics of this new build and it is comparable to the existing First 5 Center in Vallejo, including a large lobby, large rooms for classes and offices for staff. One challenge about this new build is that it does extend the original timeline for a Fairfield First 5 Center opening to Spring 2024; Ms. Harris stated that the slight delay in the timeline was well worth it, as this is a wonderful opportunity to partner with the City of Fairfield and make meaningful change in that area of the City.

Commissioners Lisette Estrella-Henderson and Commissioner Marla Stuart excitedly agreed that this center would be a huge asset to City of Fairfield families and has the ability to make a huge impact. Commissioner Tyffany Wanberg sees no downside to this proposed build and indicated that this has the potential to set a precedent for future target areas and community needs. The Commission encouraged staff to continue down this path and they would be looking forward to more information.

### **B. Foundation Giving in Solano County and the Bay Area-2022 Update**

Kim Gillette, Applied Survey Research, presented an update to the 2014 & 2016 *Foundation Giving in the Bay Area* reports. The original reports indicated that Solano County received the fewest grant dollars in the Bay Area. This still holds true with the updated report but Solano County's receipt of grant dollars has increased 185% from 2014 to 2018. To address the overall lack of resources, First 5 Solano has worked to bring in additional resources and funding which is captured in the report.

The Commission discussed the different funding sources that can be accessed, including private dollars, foundation dollars and government dollars.

## **VIII. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Michele Harris updated commissioners on two requests to Solano County to access American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars; one request is to support an Early Learning Center located at the former Beverly Hills Elementary site in Vallejo. Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD) is willing to lease the property at cost to one lessor. This site does need tenant improvements in order to convert from a K-5 site to an early learning center. This request totals \$1.87 million with a completed project cost of \$3.2 million. First 5 Solano will also be applying for a state grant to cover remaining costs. The second ARPA request totals \$888,000, over 3 years, and is to fund a program that will train 100 childcare providers on use of a business management system that can track attendance, enrollment, billing, etc

## **IX. Commissioner Remarks**

Commissioner Tiffanee Jones remarked the importance of holding VCUSD responsible for existing renovations. Deputy Director Megan Richards indicated that there have been multiple visits to this site and there will be ongoing negotiations between VCUSD and First 5 Solano in regards to who will be responsible for upgrades over the course of the lease.

Commissioner Jerry Huber plans to announce the Deputy Director replacing Aaron Crutison at Child Welfare Services this Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. In addition, Child Welfare Services will begin to implement Family First Prevention services that focus on preventing child neglect and abuse.

## **X. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location**

The next commission meeting will be held on March 16, 2022 at 3:00 PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo. Future agenda items include: FY2022/23 Proposed Budget.

## **Adjourn**

Vice Chair Wanberg adjourned the meeting at 4:53 PM.

Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III

Approved:

# *Resolution No. 2022-04*

## **A RESOLUTION OF FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 16, 2022 TO APRIL 15, 2022 AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

**WHEREAS**, the proclaimed state of emergency remains in effect; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the "Brown Act"), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and,

**WHEREAS**, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21 that clarified the suspension of the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, and further provided that those provisions would remain suspended through September 30, 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 that provides that a legislative body subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act ("Brown Act") may continue to meet without fully complying with the teleconferencing rules in the Brown Act provided the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and,

**WHEREAS**, California Department of Public Health ("CDPH") and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") caution that variants of COVID-19 are more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>); and,

**WHEREAS**, the CDC has established a "Community Transmission" metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community's COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and,

**WHEREAS**, Solano County currently has a Community Transmission metric of "medium" which is still cause for concern; and,

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION deems it necessary to find that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and thus intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing provided that all teleconferenced meetings are conducted in such a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties and the public appearing before this legislative body.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION as follows:

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION finds that meeting in person

would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees and therefore, shall conduct its meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and all other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) April 15, 2022, or such time the Board of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

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Erin Hannigan, Chair  
First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

ATTEST:

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Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III  
First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission





IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS

## **FY2022/23 First 5 Solano Commission & Committee Meeting Schedule**

<b>Commission Meetings</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm 3375 Sonoma Blvd, Ste 30 Vallejo	<b>Policy and Oversight Committee</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday 10:00 am - 11:30 am 3375 Sonoma Blvd, Ste 30 Vallejo
<b>August 17</b>	<b>August 1</b>
<b>October 19</b>	<b>October 3</b>
<b>December 14</b>	<b>December 5</b>
<b>January 18</b>	<b>January 4</b>
<b>March 15</b>	<b>March 6</b>
<b>April 19</b>	<b>April 3</b>
<b>June 21</b>	<b>June 5</b>

**DATE:** March 10, 2022  
**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
**FROM:** Megan Richards, Deputy Director  
**CC:** Michele Harris, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Proposed Budget

**Motion A:** Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Proposed Budget

**Motion B:** Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2022/23 budget

**Motion C:** Consider approval of an allocation of \$620,700 to Bay Area Community Resources for the Vallejo First 5 Center for FY2022/23 *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds)*

**Motion D:** Consider approval of up to \$160,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for Summer 2022:

- a. Up to \$10,000 to Benicia Unified School District
- b. Up to \$20,000 to Dixon Unified School District
- c. Up to \$50,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- d. Up to \$10,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
- e. Up to \$10,000 to River Delta Unified School District
- f. Up to \$30,000 to Vacaville Unified School District
- g. Up to \$20,000 to Vallejo City Unified School District
- h. Up to \$10,000 to Solano County Office of Education

And utilize the remaining \$40,000 funds for the purchase of books for Pre-Kindergarten Academies and planning for implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)*

**Motion E:** Consider approval of up to \$250,000 in allocations of funding for the Solano Shared Services Alliance Network for the period of April 1, 2022- June 30, 2023 to the following agencies:

- a. Up to \$229,453 to Solano County Office of Education
  - b. Up to \$20,547 to Solano Family & Children's Services
- (Source of funds: First 5 California)*

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### **Budget Summary**

The FY2022/23 Proposed Budget ([Attachment A](#)) represents the fifth and final year of the Commission's 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. The FY2022/23 budget includes \$5.7 million in projected expenditures and \$4.5 million in projected revenues. \$1 million of the expenditure in excess of the revenue is related to the funding received in FY2021/22 for the implementation of the Fairfield First 5 Center. Any remaining shortfall in actual expenditure over revenue will be drawn from the Commission's reserve.

## **Commission Planning Tools and Relation to Annual Budget**

In reviewing the Commission's FY2022/23 Proposed Budget, it is helpful to understand how the annual budget fits within the Commission's Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP). The following documents are fundamental Commission documents that guide staff in implementing the Commission's work:

- *Strategic Plan*-Sets the vision and priorities of the Commission. Last updated in January 2022.
- *Long Term Financial Plan*-Sets the long-term plan and assumptions for funding priorities. Last updated in 2016. Currently in process of updating. The LTFP model is updated annually.
- *Program Investment Plan (PIP)*-Communicates how funds will be allocated among the Commission's Goals over a multi-year period. This budget represents the final year of the Commission's 2018-2023 PIP.
- *Annual Budget*-Creates detailed spending plan for specific revenues and expenditures for a one-year period.

This item brings forward the FY2022/23 Annual Budget which reflects all of the planning documents and formalizes the Program Investment Plan into the FY2022/23 Budget.

## **Budget Process & Timeline**

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission FY2022/23 Proposed Budget is generally due to the County Administrator's Office at the end of February. Commission staff have notified the CAO's office that the First 5 Solano budget will be finalized after the Commission reviews and approves its budget at the March 16, 2022 Commission meeting. First 5 Solano's Proposed Budget will go before the Solano County Board of Supervisors in June 2022 as part of the overall annual FY2022/23 County Budget.

## **Budget Assumptions**

The FY2022/23 Projected Budget is built on certain assumptions:

- Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenues will be available as projected.
- First 5 California will meet its funding obligations for IMPACT and Shared Services Alliance Network grants.
- Funds from H&SS Mental Health Services Act will be available as projected.
- The State and Federal Budgets do not impact overall County, school and community services, and in turn impact First 5 Solano and its grantees.
- Funds are only included in the Commission's budget if they are secured.

Should any of these assumptions change, the Commission will have the opportunity to consider changes to this Budget as needed and appropriate.

## **Revenues**

Revenues include Proposition 10 tobacco tax, interest, matching funds, and other revenue such as donations, small grants, and providing county services to other County Departments.

Overall revenues are projected to increase slightly due to multiple factors:

- A slight increase in Proposition 10 tobacco tax based on most recent California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) from May 2021, even when considering the impacts of a potential ban on flavored tobacco products.
- A slight increase in interest income. Per the County Treasury Department, interest income in FY2022/23 is expected to be at 0.5%.
- Reinstatement of slight decrease from Mental Health Services Act funding back to approximately \$600,000.

- An increase in matching funds from First 5 California, which in FY2022/23 includes IMPACT and the Shared Services Alliance Network (and does not include Home Visiting Coordination which is currently slated to end June 30, 2022).

## **Expenditures**

First 5 Solano's FY2022/23 Proposed Budget includes \$5,676,973 in expenditures which represents an increase of \$1 million in expenditures as compared to the FY2021/22 Adopted Budget. This \$1 million increase is directly attributable to the \$1 million in expenditure related to the implementation of the Fairfield First 5 Center. The majority of expenditures (88%) remain program expenditures. Approximately 2% of expenditures are dedicated to evaluation and data collection. Administrative expenses constitute 10% of the expenditures, which is below the administrative cost cap of 15%.

## **Programs**

On-going program expenditures of \$4,999,522 are included in the proposed budget following the Commission's 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. This includes direct program expenditures, along with internal programs and staff support to operate these programs.

Program expenditures include funds dedicated to each of the Commission's priority areas (Health & Well-Being, Early Learning & Development, Family Support & Parent Education, Systems Change), as well as funds for activities across priority areas, such as Annual Grants and Help Me Grow Solano.

The majority of the program expenditure budget remains stable from FY2021/22 to FY2022/23 as the Commission is entering its fifth year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. However, the following changes should be noted:

- For last fiscal year, the Commission allocated an additional \$42,000 in unallocated funds for Pre-Kindergarten Academies to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. For summer 2022 Pre-Kindergarten Academies, the allocation is returning to the \$200,000 in the Commission's Program Investment Plan (See also Motion D).
- \$183,652 in expenditure is included for the Shared Services Alliance Network from First 5 California that was secured in FY2021/22. The majority of these funds are budgeted for Solano County Office of Education to facilitate the coordination. Since corresponding revenue is included from First 5 California, this program is no net cost to First 5 Solano. (See also Motion E).
- There is a decrease in expenditure related to evaluation as the Commission is transitioning to a lower cost data system with increased functionality.
- There is a decrease in Community Engagement expenditure to align with current activities.
- There is an increase in Systems Change to implement equity strategies.
- There is a decrease in allocation to Solano County Health & Social Services related to the expiration of the Home Visiting Coordination grant with First 5 California.

**Community Engagement:** The Community Engagement Activities budget is requested for \$75,000. This is a decrease of \$17,000 to bring the budget in line with current strategies which elevate use of lower cost messaging tools such as Facebook, and includes a decrease in promotional materials.

### **Community Engagement Budget**

<b>Description</b>	<b>FY2021/22 Amount</b>	<b>FY2022/23 Amount</b>
Parent Information Calendar	40,000	40,000
Kit for New Parent Customization	5,000	5,000
Event Partnerships	2,000	2,000
Promotional Materials	15,000	13,000
Messaging	30,000	15,000
<b>Total Projected Community Engagement Budget</b>	<b>\$92,000</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>

**Systems Change/Collaboration:** The Systems Change and Collaboration budget is included at \$483,000. This is a \$51,000 increase from FY2021/22 to providing funding to implement equity strategies.

#### **Systems Change Budget**

Description	FY2021/22 Budget	FY2022/23 Budget
<b>Staffing</b>		
Executive Director @ 0.3 FTE	76,000	76,000
Deputy Director @ 0.25 FTE	51,000	53,000
Policy Manager @ 1.0 FTE	148,000	159,000
<b>Operations</b>		
Collaboration/Resilient Solano Plan Implementation	66,000	40,000
Capacity Building	40,000	40,000
Community Training*	10,000	-
Research/Professional Services	40,000	40,000
Internal Training/Regional Travel	1,000	-
Equity Consulting/Implementation	-	75,000
<b>Total Projected Systems Change Budget</b>	<b>\$432,000</b>	<b>\$483,000</b>

\*Community Training included in Capacity Building in FY2022/23

#### **Evaluation and Data Collection**

The FY2022/23 proposed budget for general evaluation/data collection services is \$110,400. Evaluation is a required component of First 5 Programs under the Proposition 10 Statute. This is a decrease of \$35,900 which is primarily related to a change in database to the Apricot system which will provide an approximate 30% savings in maintaining the database, while providing increased functionality.

#### **Staffing**

The FY2022/23 proposed budget includes 7.0 FTEs. The proposed budget of \$1,197,876 for staffing is a \$16,238 or 1% increase from the FY2021/22 budget. The increase is primarily due to cost-of-living increases salaries and benefits. During Strategic Plan discussions, the Commission did suggest hiring an additional position to assist staff in implementing the Systems Change strategies and/or alleviating pressure of the routine/administrative tasks from the leadership team. Staff did discuss and consider the addition of a position and are recommending the Commission continue with the current staffing for the time being. Many of the projects before the Commission are time sensitive and will ebb in the later part of this year. Staff may recommend an additional position next year should the workload continue as it is currently; that said, staff would like the opportunity to further study the issue, assess ongoing level of effort needed to accomplish priorities and see whether current resources can be maximized to meet Commission objectives.

#### **Services and Supplies**

The Services and Supplies budget of \$1,321,010 is an increase of approximately \$1 million to implement the Fairfield First 5 Center.

#### **FY2022/23 Proposed Budget Summary**

Overall, the First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Proposed Budget implements the fifth and final year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. The Commission's Long-Term Financial Plan Model has been updated reflecting the FY2022/23 Proposed Budget ([Attachment B](#)).

In addition to approving the FY2022/23 Budget, as in previous years, Motion B requests the Commission delegate authority to the Executive Director to authorize incorporating grant funds into the FY2022/23 budget should they be received.

## **Allocations of Funding**

Motions C-E bring forward allocations of funding for the last year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan.

**Motion C:** Consider approval of an allocation of \$620,700 to Bay Area Community Resources for the Vallejo First 5 Center for FY2022/23 (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds*)

In 2019, Bay Area Community Resources (BACR) responded to a Request for Proposals and was awarded a 3-year contract to run the Vallejo First 5 Center. At that time, the Commission allocated a total of \$600,000 toward the Vallejo First 5 Center, including \$500,000 for direct services and \$100,000 for rent/utilities/janitorial. The Commission provided \$300,000 from First 5 Solano funds with the remaining funds coming from fundraising activities. Beginning in FY2020/21, Mental Health Services Act provided an additional \$100,000 to provide developmental screenings at the Vallejo First 5 Center for a total of \$700,00 toward the Vallejo First 5 Center.

This motion brings forward an allocation of funding for BACR for FY2022/23 to enter the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the contract for the Vallejo First 5 Center which includes \$600,000 toward direct services and \$20,700 toward janitorial services for a total allocation of \$620,700.

The Vallejo First 5 Center will be funded as follows:

<b>Secured Funding for Vallejo First 5 Center</b>		
	<b>FY2021/22</b>	<b>FY2022/23</b>
First 5 Solano	300,000	300,000
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	261,953	213,986
Kaiser Permanente	38,047	0
Mental Health Services Act	100,000	100,000
Total	\$700,000	\$638,986
Shortfall to Fund Raise		\$86,014
<b>Direct Funding to BACR</b>		
H&SS MCAH Innovation Grant	\$50,000	\$50,000

**Motion D:** Consider approval of up to a \$160,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for Summer 2022:

- Up to \$10,000 to Benicia Unified School District
- Up to \$20,000 to Dixon Unified School District
- Up to \$50,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- Up to \$10,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
- Up to \$10,000 to River Delta Unified School District
- Up to \$30,000 to Vacaville Unified School District
- Up to \$20,000 to Vallejo City Unified School District
- Up to \$10,000 to Solano County Office of Education;

And utilize the remaining \$40,000 funds for the purchase of books for Pre-Kindergarten Academies and planning for implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)

Pre-Kindergarten Academies have long been a successful strategy of the Commission to prepare children for kindergarten. The Commission has allocated \$200,000 annually for this effort. In summer 2020, many Pre-Kindergarten Academies were cancelled due to COVID-19. Subsequently, the Commission allocated the remaining funds to provide backpacks filled with learning materials to all

transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students in Solano County to assist them in distance learning. In summer 2021, most school districts reinstated Pre-Kindergarten Academies with lower class sizes and other COVID-19 related precautions. In addition, Solano County Office of Education provided 2 Academies at the First 5 Center in Vallejo to increase services in Vallejo.

This motion brings forward a recommendation for summer 2022 with each school district in the County except Travis Unified School District providing Pre-Kindergarten Academies, as well as Solano County Office of Education providing an additional Academy in Vallejo. This allocates \$160,000 of the \$200,000 budgeted for Pre-Kindergarten Academies. \$5,000 of the remaining \$40,000 will be utilized to provide books to all children who are participating in Pre-Kindergarten Academies. Through a partnership with Solano County Office of Education and Reading is Fundamental, these funds will be matched to provide \$20,000 in books.

For the remaining \$35,000, First 5 Solano staff is exploring opportunities to participate in planning and supporting the transition to Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK). Under the governor's plan, all 4-year-olds will have the opportunity to attend UTK by school year 2025-26. While this is an amazing opportunity to transform the preschool system for children, there are also many aspects that need to be appropriately planned for, including supporting child care and preschool providers who currently serve 4-year-olds. Staff will bring back a report on how the funds were utilized to support this endeavor.

**Motion E:** Consider approval of up to \$250,000 in allocations of funding for the Solano Shared Services Alliance Network for the period of April 1, 2022- June 30, 2023 to the following agencies:

- a. Up to \$229,453 to Solano County Office of Education
- b. Up to \$20,547 to Solano Family & Children's Services

*(Source of funds: First 5 California)*

In September 2021, First 5 Solano received an award of funding of \$250,000 from First 5 California to implement a Shared Services Alliance Network pilot. The allows First 5 Solano to partner with the Solano Child Care Planning Council to plan for and implement a Business Management System (BMS) to support "back-end" functions of a child care business, such as invoicing, fee collection, tax documents, enrollment, attendance, etc.

Recently, First 5 California has implemented a new contracting process which has greatly delayed receiving the contract from the state and the contract was not received until March 2022. Solano County Office of Education has begun the planning of the BMS through the Child Care Planning Council and is nearing selection of a database. This motion allocates the funding to Solano County Office of Education for planning and implementation and Solano Family & Children's Services to assist with outreach to child care providers.

### **Next Steps**

Next steps on the implementation of the FY2022/23 Budget and the fifth and final year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan include:

- Confirm the FY2022/23 Proposed Budget with the County Administrator's Office and bring it forward to County budget hearings in June 2022
- Negotiate and finalize contracts for FY2022/23 allocations of funding, including approval by county counsel, County Administrator, and Board of Supervisors (as needed)
- Continue implementation of Community Engagement and Systems Change activities
- Incorporate grant funding into budget as received

Attachment A: FY2022/23 First 5 Solano Proposed Budget

Attachment B: First 5 Solano Long Term Financial Plan Model Updated February 2022

Attachment C: FY2022/23 First 5 Solano Proposed Budget Presentation

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
Fiscal Year 2022/23**

Department 1530 - Summary  
Budget Report - First 5

Attachment A

		FY2021/22 Approved Budget (June 2021)	FY2022/23 Requested Budget	Variance	Percent Change	
Number	Description					Comments
Subobjects 1000 - Salary and Benefits						
1110	Salary/Wages RE	731,756	746,377	14,621	2%	
1121	Salary/Wages EX	-	-	0	#DIV/0!	
1131	Salary/Wages OT	-	-	0	#DIV/0!	
1210	Retirement-Employer	203,129	222,868	19,739	10%	
1211	PARS Retirement	19,394	-	(19,394)	-100%	
1212	Deferred Comp-County Match	910	650	(260)	-29%	
1213	OPEB	14,636	14,929	293	2%	
1220	FICA-Employer	54,622	56,093	1,471	3%	
1230	Health Ins-Employer	123,967	126,326	2,359	2%	
1231	Vision Care Insurance	1,161	1,042	(119)	-10%	County assigned benefits for permanent staff
1240	Compensation Insurance	6,995	6,051	(944)	-13%	
1241	Lt Disability Insurance ER	2,191	2,253	62	3%	
1250	Unemployment Insurance	2,419	-	(2,419)	-100%	
1260	Dental Ins-Employer	7,043	7,829	786	11%	
1290	Life Insurance-Employer	1,631	1,674	43	3%	
	TOTAL	1,169,854	1,186,092	16,238	1%	
Subobjects 2000 - Services and Supplies						
2021	Communication-County Telephones	4,440	3,276	(1,164)	-26%	County assigned cost
2022	Communication-Telephone System	600	600	0	0%	
2026	Cell Phone Allowance	3,600	3,600	0	0%	ED/DD
2035	Household Expense	3,000	2,000	(1,000)	-33%	Decrease based on actuals for previous year
2050	Insurance-Risk Management	7,257	20,590	13,333	184%	
2051	Liability Insurance	8,103	11,614	3,511	43%	County assigned costs based on sf--increased due to increased sf in FY2019/20
2140	Maintenance Bldgs & Improv	5,000	5,000	0	0%	
2170	Memberships	7,500	7,500	0	0%	First 5 Association dues
2175	Miscellaneous Expense	250	250	0	0%	
2180	Books and Subscriptions	500	500	0	0%	
2200	Office Expense	3,000	3,000	0	0%	
2203	Computer Components	1,500	3,000	1,500	100%	1 computer refresh
2205	Postage	100	100	0	0%	
2221	Records Storage	100	-	(100)	-100%	Eliiminated off-site file storage
2235	Accounting & Financial	14,000	14,000	0	0%	
2250	Other Professional Services	14,800	14,800	0	0%	Commissioner stipends/\$10k ED fund
2266	Central Data Processing Services	50,028	54,041	4,013	8%	County assigned cost
2271	Software Rental/Subscription		500	500	#DIV/0!	Office Suite products now subscription based
2285	Rents & Leases-Equipment	9,600	9,600	0	0%	Copier, alarm, & router leases
2295	Rents & Leases-Buildings	127,385	1,128,914	1,001,529	786%	Rent 3375 Sonoma Blvd 1.2% CPI increase
2310	Education & Training	4,000	3,500	(500)	-13%	
2312	Special Departmental Expense	725	725	0	0%	
2335	Travel Expense	3,500	3,000	(500)	-14%	
2337	Refreshments	2,000	2,000	0	0%	
2339	Management Business Expense Allowan	1,300	1,300	0	0%	
2354	Automobile Allowance	3,900	3,900	0	0%	
2355	Personal Mileage	3,000	2,500	(500)	-17%	
2360	Utilities	20,000	20,000	0	0%	Electric/gas 3375 Sonoma Blvd
2361	Water	2,500	1,200	(1,300)	-52%	Water 3375 Sonoma Blvd; Based on actuals for previous year
	TOTAL	299,188	1,321,010	1,021,822	342%	
	TOTAL SALARY AND SUPPLIES	1,469,042	2,507,102	1,038,060	71%	



**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission**  
**Fiscal Year 2022/23**

Department 1530 - Summary  
 Budget Report - First 5

Attachment A

Number	Description	FY2021/22 Approved Budget (June 2021)	FY2022/23 Requested Budget	Variance	Percent Change	Comments
<b>Subobjects 3000 - Other Charges</b>						
3007	Collaboration	300,000	300,000	0	0%	Help Me Grow
3008	Discretionary Fund	200,000	200,000	0	0%	Annual Grants
3010	Co-sponsor Conferences/Trainings	45,000	45,000	0	0%	Community Responsive Grants
3011	School Readiness Grants	242,000	200,000	(42,000)	-17%	Summer 2022 Pre-K Academies
3014	Early Mental Health Grants	365,000	365,000	0	0%	Triple P
3016	Family Support/Parent Education Grants	945,000	945,000	0	0%	Triple P; RV FRC; F5C
3018	Child Care Grants	367,172	552,337	185,165	50%	IMPACT SCOE; Beck lease; Raising a Reader; SSAN grant
3051	Data Collection/Evaluation	146,300	110,400	(35,900)	-25%	Evaluation & Database-Decrease due to move to Apricot data
3053	Community Engagement	92,000	75,000	(17,000)	-18%	Decreased community engagement budget
3054	Systems Change	157,000	195,000	38,000	24%	1.55 FTE in salary and benefits; increase to include equity
3691	Interfund Services - Acctg & Payroll	10,966	10,966	0	0%	
3692	Interfund Services - Legal Services	8,000	8,000	0	0%	
3694	Interfund Services - Professional	193,693	100,000	(93,693)	-48%	100k EPSDT; Decrease by HV Coordination
3697	Interfund Svcs - Postage	1,000	1,000	0	0%	
3710	County Administrative Overhead	69,863	50,384	(19,479)	-28%	County assigned cost A-87
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,142,994</b>	<b>3,158,087</b>	<b>15,093</b>	<b>0%</b>	

<b>Subobjects 5000 - Other Financing Uses</b>						
5040	Trans Out-POBs	11,355	11,784	429	4%	County assigned cost
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,355</b>	<b>11,784</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>4%</b>	
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,623,391</b>	<b>5,676,973</b>	<b>1,053,582</b>	<b>23%</b>	
<b>Subobjects 9400 &amp; 9500 - Revenues</b>						
9401	Interest Income	-	53,211	53,211	#DIV/0!	Interest 0.5% (per Treasury)
9569	State - Other	3,266,897	3,388,594	121,697	4%	Prop 10 revenue-State Projections (May 2021)-Ave of flavor b
9591	Other Revenue	321,402	405,054	83,652	26%	F5CA Grants-IMPACT; SSAN
9690	Interfund Svcs Provide - County	59,609	65,000	5,391	9%	1570 revenue;
9694	Interfund Svcs Pro Svcs -	536,930	598,465	61,535	11%	MHSA
9703	Misc Revenue	38,000	5,000	(33,000)	-87%	Donations; small grants;
	<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>4,222,838</b>	<b>4,515,324</b>	<b>292,486</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	
	<b>AMOUNT NEEDED FROM RESERVE</b>	<b>400,553</b>	<b>1,161,649</b>	<b>761,096</b>	<b>190%</b>	

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission**  
**2016 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN UPDATE**  
**Model Revision February 2022**

CATEGORY	FY2016-2018		FY2018/19-FY2022/23					FY2023/24 and Beyond		
	Y1	Y2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
	Actual FY2016/17	Actual FY2017/18	Actual FY2018/19	Actual FY2019/20	Actual FY2020/21	Budgeted FY2021/22	Budgeted FY2022/23	Projection FY2023/24	Projection FY2024/25	Projection FY2025/26
<b>REVENUE</b>										
<b>Fund Balance (Beginning)</b>	<b>8,107,069</b>	<b>8,385,908</b>	<b>8,353,676</b>	<b>9,751,039</b>	<b>9,721,402</b>	<b>10,795,044</b>	<b>13,025,661</b>	<b>12,147,861</b>	<b>11,803,577</b>	<b>11,359,410</b>
Tobacco Tax - Prop 10	3,371,579	2,982,978	3,280,424	3,408,631	3,616,455	3,266,897	3,388,594	3,220,238	3,123,797	3,092,559
Interest	66,782	102,534	174,281	177,419	88,432	-	53,211	121,479	118,036	113,594
Matching Funds	409,389	540,368	726,813	745,757	877,754	858,332	1,003,519			
Other	51,366	121,572	695,027	1,070,046	718,415	2,497,609	70,000			
Unexpended funds returned to LTFP						231,170	283,849	194,000	194,000	194,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>3,899,116</b>	<b>3,747,452</b>	<b>4,876,545</b>	<b>5,401,853</b>	<b>5,301,056</b>	<b>6,854,008</b>	<b>4,799,173</b>	<b>3,535,717</b>	<b>3,435,833</b>	<b>3,400,153</b>
<b>Total Available Resources</b>	<b>12,006,185</b>	<b>12,133,360</b>	<b>13,230,221</b>	<b>15,152,892</b>	<b>15,022,458</b>	<b>17,649,052</b>	<b>17,824,833</b>	<b>15,683,577</b>	<b>15,239,410</b>	<b>14,759,563</b>
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>										
<b>Program Priorities 1-4</b>	<b>2,990,005</b>	<b>3,136,389</b>	<b>2,881,203</b>	<b>4,776,218</b>	<b>3,541,597</b>	<b>3,893,311</b>	<b>4,999,522</b>	<b>3,183,000</b>	<b>3,183,000</b>	<b>3,183,000</b>
Salaries, Benefits, Services and Supplies	382,718	374,631	302,429	513,327	578,943	526,364	551,508			
Priority 1 - Health and Well Being	734,503	843,927	654,336	443,826	505,352	593,693	505,375			
Priority 2 - Early Care & Education	530,882	626,248	528,473	609,309	563,190	609,172	752,337			
Priority 3 - Family Support & Parent Education	782,382	726,160	321,823	629,414	948,672	1,075,429	1,080,595			
Priority 4 - Systems Change	297,193	450,075	442,617	531,727	324,131	432,000	483,867			
Other	262,327	115,348	631,525	2,048,615	621,309	656,653	1,625,840			
Evaluation & Data Collection	131,250	135,150	110,850	138,600	178,950	146,300	110,400	140,000	140,000	140,000
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>3,121,255</b>	<b>3,271,539</b>	<b>2,992,053</b>	<b>4,914,818</b>	<b>3,720,547</b>	<b>4,039,611</b>	<b>5,109,922</b>	<b>3,323,000</b>	<b>3,323,000</b>	<b>3,323,000</b>
<b>Administrative</b>										
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>499,022</b>	<b>508,145</b>	<b>487,129</b>	<b>516,672</b>	<b>506,867</b>	<b>583,780</b>	<b>567,051</b>	<b>557,000</b>	<b>557,000</b>	<b>557,000</b>
<b>Administrative Percentage</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>3,620,277</b>	<b>3,779,684</b>	<b>3,479,182</b>	<b>5,431,490</b>	<b>4,227,414</b>	<b>4,623,391</b>	<b>5,676,973</b>	<b>3,880,000</b>	<b>3,880,000</b>	<b>3,880,000</b>
Net Increase/Decrease	278,839	(32,232)	1,397,363	(29,637)	1,073,642	2,230,617	(877,800)	(344,283)	(444,167)	(479,847)
<b>Fund Balance (Ending)</b>	<b>8,385,908</b>	<b>8,353,676</b>	<b>9,751,039</b>	<b>9,721,402</b>	<b>10,795,044</b>	<b>13,025,661</b>	<b>12,147,861</b>	<b>11,803,577</b>	<b>11,359,410</b>	<b>10,879,563</b>

# FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

FISCAL YEAR 2022/23

BUDGET PRESENTATION

MARCH 16, 2022



1

## MOTIONS

- A. Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Proposed Budget
- B. Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2022/23 budget
- C-E. Allocate funding:
  - Bay Area Community Resources
  - Pre-K Academies
  - Shared Services Alliance Network



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## COMMISSION PLANNING TOOLS

	Strategic Plan & Systems Change Action Plan	Long Term Financial Plan	Multi-Year Program Investment Plan	Annual Budget
<b>Purpose</b>	Sets vision, mission, values, priority areas, goals, and results	Provides long-term policies and projections for funding priorities	Communicates how funds will be allocated toward strategies that contribute to strategic goals and results	Translates vision into action through detailed spending plan
<b>Key Functions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Describes vision and role of First 5 Solano in achieving that vision</li> <li>- Outlines values First 5 Solano will adhere to in its work</li> <li>- Sets strategic goals and results within priority areas</li> <li>- Offers sample strategies to achieve the goals and results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forecasts funding by type of revenue or expense</li> <li>- Quantifies amount of program investment each year</li> <li>- Establishes policies on use of financial resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reviews recent allocations against LTFP policies</li> <li>- Directs program investment funds to initiatives aligned with strategic priority areas, goals, and results</li> <li>- Provides a timeline for funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provides specific forecasts and expenditure plans by revenue and expense accounts</li> </ul>
<b>Scope</b>	Broad	Broad	Moves from broad to specific	Specific
<b>Planning Horizon</b>	Generally 5 years	10 years	Generally aligns with Strategic Plan	One year
<b>Does not...</b>	Make specific spending commitments	Obligate future Commissions to specific funding or authorize contracts	Specify grantees or contracts	Guarantee future funding to current grantees

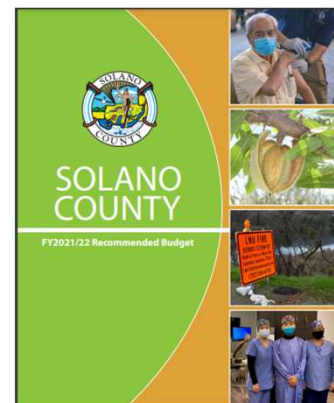


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## COUNTY BUDGET PROCESS

- Proposed FY2022/23 Budget due to County at the end of February as part of the overall County Budget process
- Commission approves budget March 16, 2022
- Supplemental budget due May 2022 (Optional)
- Incorporated in County Budget June 2022
- Funds assigned to County Reserve cannot be accessed once the Budget is approved



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## BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

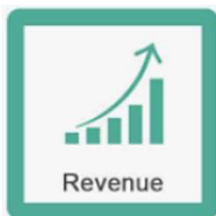
- Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenues available as projected
- First 5 California will meet its funding obligations for IMPACT and Shared Services Alliance Network grants
- Funds from H&SS from Mental Health Services Act funds will be available as projected
- The State and Federal Budgets do not impact overall County, school and community services, and in turn impact First 5 Solano and its grantees
- Funds are only included if they are secured; Budget does not include funds which are “anticipated” but not secured.



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## FY2022/23 BUDGET COMPONENTS



- Proposition 10
- Interest Income
- MHSA Funds
- State Match Funds
- Donations/Grants/Other



- Program
- Administration
- Evaluation



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## FY2022/23 PROJECTED REVENUE

		FY2021/22	FY2022/23	
Proposition 10 State Disbursements	+	3,266,897	3,388,594	Increase based on state projections
Interest Income	+	0	53,211	0.5% based on Treasury
MHSA/PEI Funds	+	536,930	598,465	Increase back to stable level of \$600k annually
State Match Revenue	+	321,402	405,054	IMPACT and Share Services Alliance Network
Other: Donations/Small Grants/County Services	+	97,609	70,000	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$4,222,838</b>	<b>\$4,515,324</b>	*An additional \$2,000,000 in revenue was received and incorporated in the FY2021/22 Budget after the adoption which is not reflected here.
<b>Increase in Revenue</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$292,486</b>		

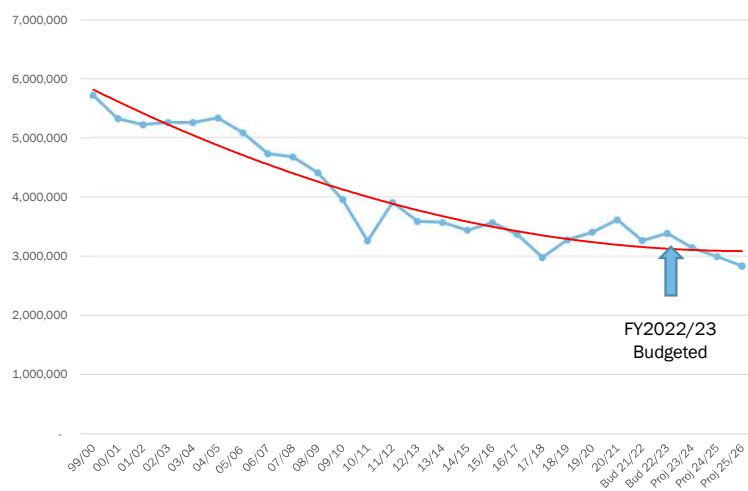


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## PROPOSITION 10 REVENUE OVER TIME

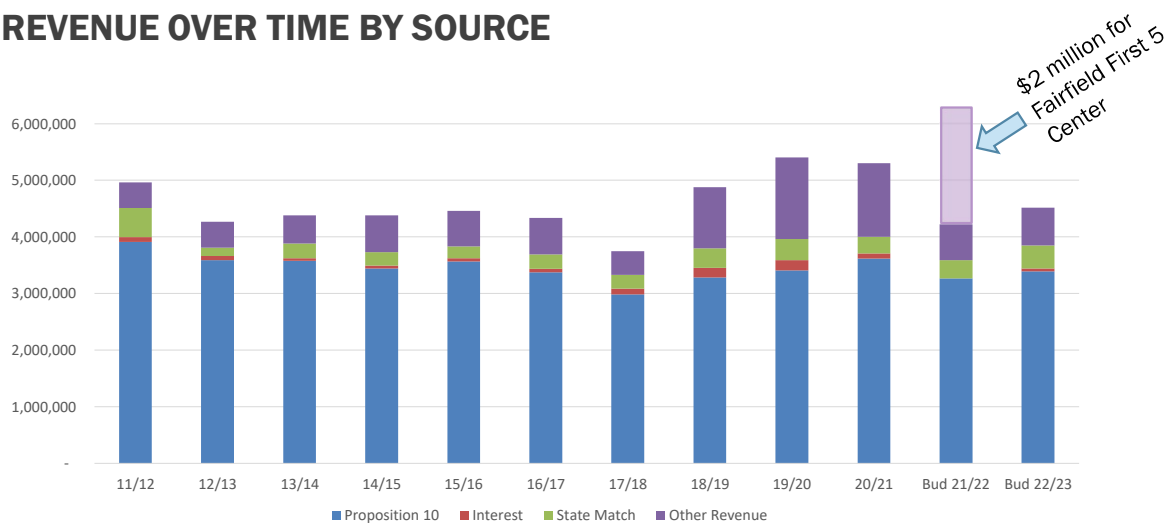
- Not as drastic decline in recent years
- Generally, revenue comes in higher than state projections
- There may be future impacts from the ban of flavored tobacco products which will be voted on in November 2022



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## REVENUE OVER TIME BY SOURCE



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## FY2022/23 PROJECTED EXPENDITURES

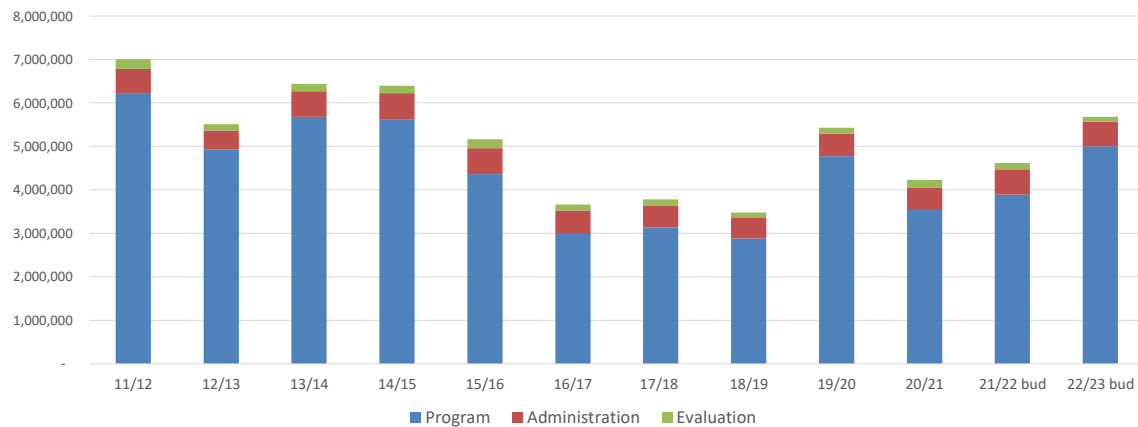
		FY2020/21	FY2021/22	
Program	+	3,893,311	4,999,522	Includes \$1 million for implementation of Fairfield First 5 Center
Evaluation & Data Collection	+	146,300	110,400	Transition to new data system; 3% of budgeted expenditure
Administrative	+	583,780	567,051	10% of budgeted expenditure; below 15% admin cap
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$4,605,932</b>	<b>\$5,676,973</b>	
<b>Increase in Expenditure</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,053,852</b>		



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## EXPENDITURES OVER TIME



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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BUDGET

Description	FY2021/22 Amount	FY2022/23 Amount
Parent Information Calendar	40,000	40,000
Kit for New Parent Customization	5,000	5,000
Event Partnerships	2,000	2,000
Promotional Materials	15,000	13,000
Messaging	30,000	15,000
<b>Total Projected Community Engagement Budget</b>	<b>\$92,000</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>



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## SYSTEMS CHANGE BUDGET

Description	FY2021/22 Budget	FY2022/23 Budget
<b>Staffing</b>		
Executive Director @ 0.3 FTE	76,000	76,000
Deputy Director @ 0.25 FTE	51,000	53,000
Policy Manager @ 1.0 FTE	148,000	159,000
<b>Operations</b>		
Collaboration/Resilient Solano Plan Implementation	66,000	40,000
Capacity Building	40,000	40,000
Community Training*	10,000	-
Research/Professional Services	40,000	40,000
Internal Training/Regional Travel	1,000	-
Equity Consulting/Implementation	-	75,000
<b>Total Projected Systems Change Budget</b>	<b>\$432,000</b>	<b>\$483,000</b>

\*Training included  
in Capacity Building  
in FY2022/23



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## STAFFING

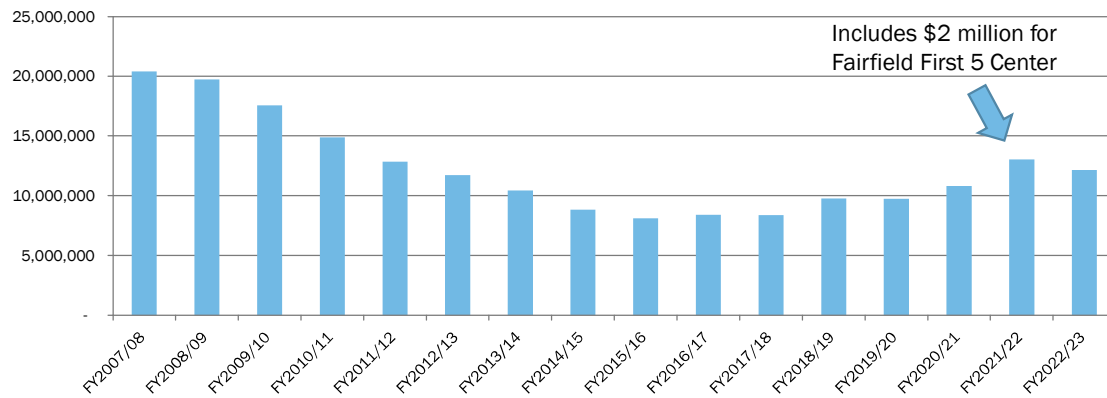
	FTE	FY2022/23 Amount
Program	5.1	884,472
Admin	1.9	313,404
<b>Total Staffing</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$1,197,876</b>



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## FUND BALANCE



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**Motion A:** Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Proposed Budget

**Motion B:** Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2022/23 budget



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**Motion C:** Consider approval of an allocation of \$620,700 to Bay Area Community Resources for the Vallejo First 5 Center for FY2022/23 *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds)*

	FY2021/22	FY2022/23
<b>Secured Funding for BACR Contract and First 5 Center Location</b>		
First 5 Solano	300,000	300,000
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	261,953	213,986
Kaiser Permanente	38,047	0
Mental Health Services Act	100,000	100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$638,986</b>
<b>Shortfall to Fund Raise</b>		<b>\$86,014</b>
<b>Direct Funding to BACR</b>		
H&SS MCAH Innovation Grant	\$50,000	\$50,000



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■ **Motion D:** Consider approval of up to \$160,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for Summer 2022:

- Up to \$10,000 to Benicia Unified School District
- Up to \$20,000 to Dixon Unified School District
- Up to \$50,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- Up to \$10,000 to Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
- Up to \$10,000 to River Delta Unified School District
- Up to \$30,000 to Vacaville Unified School District
- Up to \$20,000 to Vallejo City Unified School District
- Up to \$10,000 to Solano County Office of Education;



And utilize the remaining \$40,000 funds for the purchase of books for Pre-Kindergarten Academies and planning for implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)*



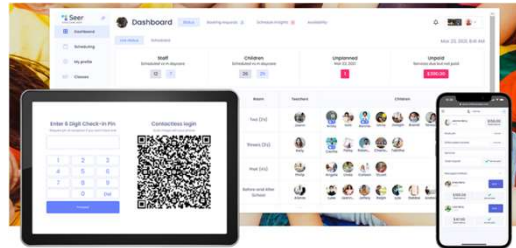
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- **Motion E:** Consider approval of up to \$250,000 in allocations of funding for the Solano Shared Services Alliance Network for the period of April 1, 2022- June 30, 2023 to the following agencies:

- a. Up to \$229,453 to Solano County Office of Education
- b. Up to \$20,547 to Solano Family & Children's Services

(Source of funds: First 5 California)



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## FY2022/23 BUDGET NEXT STEPS

- Bring FY2022/23 Proposed Budget through County budget process
- Finalize contracts
- Continue implementation of Community Engagement and Systems Change activities
- Incorporate grant funding into budget as received



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**DATE:** March 10, 2022

**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

**FROM:** Michele Harris, Executive Director

**SUBJ:** **Community Indicators Review**

In support of the implementation of the Commission's Strategic Plan, the Commission receives an annual update on the standing of common community indicators regarding the status of young children and their families. Staff is pleased to be able to share the community indicators via the First 5 Solano website, which will allow anyone to access the data, as well as update the data as new data becomes available (a minimum of twice a year). The community indicator data can be accessed at: [http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/first5/community\\_indicator\\_data.asp](http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/first5/community_indicator_data.asp).

**POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**March 7, 2022 10:00 am to 11:30 am**  
**3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA 94590**

Pursuant to the Executive Order issued by Governor Newsom (Executive Order N-15-21) and under the statutory requirements established by AB 361 (Open Meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences),  
**public access to the First 5 Solano Committee Meeting will be limited**

Commissioners and public may attend via remote meeting using the following options:

**Join livestream via Zoom:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5922775330>

**Join via Phone:**  
1-669-900-6833  
Meeting ID: 592 277 5330

**Public Comments:**  
Public Comment may be provided by: During the meeting via the phone/computer audio when the Chair calls for Public Comment on an item; or submitting written public comments to First 5 Solano via email at [cfcsolano@solanocounty.com](mailto:cfcsolano@solanocounty.com) by 9:00 am on the day of the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**I. Introductions, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment**

**II. Consent Calendar**

**Action**

- A. Approve the March 7, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the January 6, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
- C. Adopt Resolution 2022-03 authorizing remote teleconference meetings under the CA State of Emergency pursuant to AB 361, for a term of March 7, 2022 to April 6, 2022
- D. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

**III. Families First Prevention Services Act**

**Information**

Receive an update on the Families First Prevention Services Act  
*Michele Harris, Executive Director, Neely McElroy, Deputy Director Child Welfare Services, Solano County*

**IV. FY2021/22 Mid-Year Report**

**Information**

Receive the FY2021/22 Mid-Year Performance Report  
*Megan Richards, Deputy Director; Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager; Gene Ibe, Program Manager; Juanita Morales, Program Manager*

**V. Long Term Financial Plan**

**Information/Discussion**

Discuss Long Term Financial Plan decision points  
*Megan Richards, Deputy Director*

**VI. 2016 Strategic Plan Implementation Updates**

**Information/Discussion**

Receive updates on the following:

- A. Program Update
- B. Community Engagement Update
- C. Systems Change Update

*Megan Richards, Deputy Director; Juanita Morales, Program Manager; Kwiana Algere, Health Education Specialist; Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager*

**VII. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update**

**Information**

Receive a report on First 5 Solano staffing and financials.

*Megan Richards, Deputy Director*

**VIII. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location**

**Information**

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, April 4, 2022, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Future agenda items include: Long Term Financial Plan, Dimensions of Equity, FY2022/23 Systems Change Implementation Plan, Fund Development Strategies, Strategic Plan Implementation Updates, and Staffing and Finance.

**ADJOURN**

**Vision:** *All Solano County children are healthy, eager to learn, and nurtured by strong families in safe and inclusive communities.*

**Mission:** *First 5 Solano is a catalyst that strategically advances innovative, prevention-focused approaches across systems that improve the lives of young children and their families.*

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. If you require a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting, please call (707) 784-1332 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Non-confidential materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission are available for public inspection at the First 5 Solano business office, 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA, 94590 during normal business hours.

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
Policy & Oversight Committee (POC) Meeting**

March 07, 2022, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
3375 Sonoma Blvd Ste 30, Vallejo, CA

**Minutes**

Commissioners present (remotely via Zoom video conference): Tyffany Wanberg, Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Erin Hannigan (excused herself at 11:30)

Chair Wanberg called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM

**I. Introduction, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment**

Commissioner Erin Hannigan advised that there is a bill being proposed by Assembly member Lee (AB 1944) that allows, outside of an emergency, allows members of an elected body to attend meetings remotely without disclosing the address of where they are, which can include their home address, hotel room, etc. This bill will be presented at the Board of Supervisor's Meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Commissioner Hannigan is asking that the Commission send a letter of support to Assembly member Lee. Commissioner Estrella-Henderson echoed support for this bill.

**II. Consent Calendar**

***Motion:***

- A. Approve the March 07, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the January 06, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting minutes
- C. Adopt Resolution 2022-03 authorizing remote teleconference meetings under the CA State of Emergency pursuant to AB 361, for a term of March 7, 2022 to April 6, 2022
- D. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

**Moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Hannigan**

**Approved 3-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Wanberg**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**III. Families First Prevention Services Act**

Neely McElroy, Deputy Director of Child Welfare Services (CWS), presented an overview of the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), which is a federal law that was recently passed for every Child Welfare Services. FFPSA stems from the Budget Act of 2018 and amends Title IV-B of Social Security Act, subparts 1 and 2. The passing of this law authorizes Title IV-E money to be used for prevention services. With this new funding source, Counties are encouraged to opt in and build a continuum of prevention services.



The State of CA has submitted a plan to the Administration on Children and Families (ACF) in regards to children who are potentially at risk of entering foster care. There will be a standardized assessment tool for those identified and they will then be considered for prevention services.

In order to utilize federal funding, CA is encouraged to use Evidence Based Practices (EBP) such as Functional Family Therapy, Healthy Families America, Multi-Systemic Therapy, Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, etc.

Some implications of receiving this federal funding include expanding prevention services within the community, serving children before they enter foster care, and partnering with Community Based Organizations to serve families. The next steps in this process include identifying and meeting with partners, submitting a letter of intent, selecting a consultant, creating a workgroup, and conducting a capacity assessment. This work aligns with the Commission's prevention efforts and was brought forward to the Committee to share information about the process and the potential that can expand prevention services in the County.

#### **IV. FY2021/22 Mid-Year Report**

First 5 Deputy Director Megan Richards presented information on the Mid-Year Report. Ms. Richards advised that throughout the year, data is collected monthly/quarterly on grantees that tracks their progress on services being offered. One particular challenge has been the pandemic's effect on services being offered and performance output. Some programs highlighted include: Office of Education Raising a Reader, which had been struggling but is now engaged at 40 sites and has come to resolution; Bay Area Community Resources (BACR) are currently meeting 13 out of 24 performance measures. They had a large transition in leadership and challenges with COVID, which has hindered output/performance. One notable success involved a Level 4 group of Spanish speaking families where 10 families completed the program.

Gene Ibe, First 5 Program Manager, spoke about struggles with contracts that she manages as well. Three of her contracts have also experienced negative pandemic related effects and leadership/transition changes. Contracts that have experienced challenges include Rio Vista CARE, Childhaven (transitioning to Victor Community Support Services), Fairfield-Suisun Adult School, and Catholic Charities.

Ms. Richards further advised that Matrix and Safequest Solano have decided to terminate their Annual Grant contracts as they could not deliver on services.

Lorraine Fernandez, First 5 Program Manager, briefly spoke on fund development and thanked Commissioner Erin Hannigan for her work in helping secure funding for the Fairfield First 5 Center.

#### **V. Long Term Financial Plan**

Deputy Director Megan Richards discussed the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP). First 5 Solano's last LTFP was updated in 2016 and assumed the following; utilize state estimates for Prop 10 tobacco tax revenue, budget 5% over to account for unexpected funds, only budget for secured revenue, do not draw on reserve. Moving forward, Commission needs to take into account that Prop 10 funds have not declined as rapidly as projected, interest in not a significant source of income, there is an unknown regarding whether a ban on flavored tobacco products will go into effect. The committee discussed several decision points that would guide the LTFP projections, including: How should the Commission handle unknown of flavor ban and its impacts on future Prop 0 revenue? How much should the Commission plan for unexpected funds? How should the Commission plan for other funding besides Prop 10? How does the Commission want to handle/manage the reserve?

The committee provided direction to support the recommendations from staff re: a midway approach to the flavor ban and unexpended funds. Staff will bring forward the reserve discussion at the next Committee meeting.

Decisions made in regards to LTFP are not concrete and can be revisited year to year, should adjustments need to be made.

## **VI. 2016 Strategic Plan Implementation Updates**

Receive updates on the following:

- A. Program Update: Kwiana Algere, First 5 Health Education Specialist, updated the Committee on Community Responsive Mini Grant status. The Quarter 3 Mini Grant saw 4 applicants with 3 who met criteria. Solano County Family Resource Association was awarded \$3,000 for their Foster Kinship Care Education Annual Conference. The application process for Quarter 4 Mini Grant will be closing on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- B. Community Engagement Update: No update.
- C. Systems Change Update: Lorraine Fernandez, First 5 Program Manager, advised that First 5 CA recently named a new Executive Director in Jackie Thu-Huong Wong.

## **VII. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update**

First 5 Deputy Director Megan Richards advised that in February, First 5 received its \$2M from the state for the First 5 Center in Fairfield.

## **VIII. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date Location**

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, April 4, 2022, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Future agenda items include: Long Term Financial Plan, Dimensions of Equity, FY2022/23 Systems Change Implementation Plan, Fund Development Strategies, Strategic Plan Implementation Updates, and Staffing and Finance.

## **Adjourn**

Chair Wanberg adjourned the meeting at 11:42 AM.

Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III

Approved:

**DATE:** March 10, 2022

**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

**FROM:** Michele Harris, Executive Director

**SUBJ:** **Executive Director's Report for March 2022**

**Funding for Vallejo Early Learning Center:** On Tuesday, March 1, 2022 the Solano County Board of Supervisors approved \$1.87 million toward the total project budget of \$3.17 million to convert the closed Beverly Hills elementary school to an Early Learning Center (ELC) in this high-need area of South Vallejo. In partnership with the Vallejo City Unified School District, the Solano Office of Education, Child Start, Inc., and other early care and education providers, the ELC meets multiple community needs that have been identified both prior to and during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Expands facilities for early care and education for infants through transitional kindergarten for a total capacity of 298 slots directly addressing facilities as a primary barrier to expansion for child care providers.
- Transitions two Head Start classrooms on the County Campus at Virginia Street in Vallejo to a new location, freeing up a county building on a congested campus; Allows Child Start to expand to provide two Early Head Start classrooms in addition to the two preschool classrooms, providing much needed infant and toddler care for low-income families.
- Provides a continuum of care and early educational opportunities for young children from infants through age 5, as well as a continuum for families of all income levels.

First 5 Solano is pursuing additional fund development opportunities to support this project, including:

- A request has been submitted to the City of Vallejo for \$500,000 to support the upgrade of the outdoor spaces of the ELC facility. At their March 22, 2022 meeting the Vallejo City Council will consider agendaing this item for a future City Council meeting in April 2022.
- The California Department of Social Services, Child Care and Development Division will release a grant opportunity in the Spring for construction or major renovation of child care facilities. Staff is preparing for the submission of this grant application.

**First 5 California New Executive Director:** The First 5 California Children and Families Commission recently named Jackie Thu-Huong Wong, a refugee born during the fall of Saigon and the first woman of color as the incoming Executive Director of First 5 California. Ms. Wong was previously the Chief Deputy Director for F5CA. See the attached press release ([Attachment A](#)).

**Vallejo Times Herald article – Vallejo First 5 Center:** On February 15th, the Vallejo Times Herald published an article about the success of the Vallejo First 5 Center. Margaret Dubin, a freelance journalist, was asked by Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation to write an article about the Center. Ms. Dubin came to Center in December 2021 for a tour and to spend some time learning about the Center and engaging with the families. (See [Attachment B](#))

**First 5 Association of California (F5AC) Overview of Governor's Proposed January Budget FY2022-23:** On January 13<sup>th</sup>, the F5AC released a summary of highlights from the Governor's Budget proposal organized by the priority policy platforms of the F5AC strategic plan. First 5 Solano has highlighted specific initiatives that we will be tracking as there could be opportunity for accessing funds to support programming in Solano County. (See [Attachment C](#))

**Grant activity:**

- **Reading is Fundamental matching grant:** A grant application has been submitted to the Reading is Fundamental matching grant program. The matching grant will provide the Read for Success program to support students with 6 books each, a student journal, and a tote bag. First 5 Solano has applied for support for 450 students attending the Summer 2022 Pre-K Academies. If awarded RIF will match \$10,350 with First 5 Solano and Solano County Office of Education each agreeing to match the award with \$5,175 each for a total of \$20,700 and 2,700 new books into the hands of kids! Awards will be announced March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**State Budget Asks:**

- **Local Childhood Planning Councils (LPC's):** In January 2022, the Santa Clara Office of Education led a statewide effort to request California State Senator Laird champion a state budget ask to increase LPC funding by \$10 million ongoing. The funding would support the 58 counties in implementing a successful roll-out of universal pre-kindergarten, ensuring that child care providers receive materials and resources, and helping parents access early learning and care options that meet their needs. First 5 Solano provided our logo on this letter to show support along with representatives from other First 5's, Offices of Education, Resource and Referral Agencies and others. (See [Attachment D](#)).
- **Triple P Positive Parenting Program:** In January 2022, Triple P partners from throughout the state participated in a Virtual Advocacy Day which included a request for a one-time investment of \$20 million over 3 years for nine participating counties for state funding to continue and increase access to Triple P services across California. This effort has continued with the assistance of Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Senate Budget Committee received a stakeholder proposal from this Triple P collaborative. The proposal will be included for consideration along with other budget asks after the Governor releases the May Revise Budget. (See [Attachment E](#))

**Letters of Support:** First 5 Solano provided the following letters of support:

- Letters of Support were sent to Senators Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla in support of the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) community project funding request for FY2023 federal funding to deliver books and literacy resources. First 5 Solano has partnered with RIF for several years to provide books for children who participate in the summer Pre-Kindergarten Academies. (See [Attachment F](#))
- First 5 Solano signed on to an "Open Letter to the Nation on Behalf of Infants & Toddlers" from the National Collaborative for Infants and Toddlers, along with the First 5 Association and First 5 California, emphasizing priorities for families with children under 3 for 2022 and Beyond. (See [Attachment G](#))
- First 5 Solano signed on to a letter of support from the National Home Visiting Coalition in support of increased funding and the timely reauthorization of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program by September 30, 2022. (See [Attachment H](#))

**Apricot Client Database System:** In January 2022, the First 5 Solano Commission entered into an agreement with Social Solutions Global, Inc. to implement a new data management services database for Commission grantees. Apricot 360 is a web-based software solution designed to meet the needs of Commission requirements for client data collection and performance management, annual reporting to the Commission, contract management and scope of work measurement, and electronic invoicing and financial expense tracking. Staff is currently working with consultants from Social Solutions Global, Inc. on the development of the system and anticipates that the system will go live no later than July 1, 2022.

**Home Visiting Coordination:** In FY2020/21, First 5 California funded a grant for Home Visiting Coordination to help counties create a sustainable, unified system that supports families with home visiting services and maximizes available funding to serve more families. First 5 Solano was funded \$100,000 a year for two years and partnered with Solano County Health & Social Services Public Health Division and to focus on integration and strengthen coordination of home visiting program across the county. The current contract with First 5 California for Home Visiting Coordination will conclude on June 30, 2022. First 5 California has yet to determine if a new funding opportunity will be announced at a later date for future projects, but has just announced that counties may roll over unspent funds to extend the contract into FY2022/23. First 5 Solano will work with H&SS partners to determine if there will be unspent funds to continue the contract.

**Families First Prevention Services Act:** The Policy and Oversight Committee received a presentation on the Families First Prevention Services Act which will allow Child Welfare Services to draw down federal funds for prevention services. The first phase that will be implemented will allow Child Welfare Services to provide services to families who are at-risk of entering the Child Welfare System by creating a family plan which must include at least one evidence-based practice. Solano County Child Welfare will be reaching out to First 5 Solano to have staff participate on the planning team.

Attachment A: First 5 California Press Release – New ED

Attachment B: Vallejo Times Herald Article – Vallejo First 5 Center

Attachment C: First 5 Association Overview of Governor's Budget

Attachment D: Letter to Senator Laird LPC Budget Ask

Attachment E: State Budget Ask – Triple P Positive Parenting

Attachment F: Letters of Support – Reading is Fundamental

Attachment G: Nat'l Collaborative for Infants and Toddlers – Open Letter to the Nation

Attachment H: Letter to Congress – Reauthorization of Maternal, Infant, and  
Early Childhood Home Visiting Program



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jamiann Collins-Lopez, First 5 California  
916-316-1924, [jlopez@ccfc.ca.gov](mailto:jlopez@ccfc.ca.gov)

### **First 5: *Jackie Thu-Huong Wong Named Incoming Executive Director of First 5 California***

SACRAMENTO, CA (March 1, 2022) - California's Children and Family Commission recently named Jackie Thu-Huong Wong, a refugee born during the fall of Saigon and the first woman of color as incoming Executive Director of [First 5 California](#). Ms. Wong previously served as Chief Deputy Director for First 5 California.

In the last three decades, Ms. Wong has worked tirelessly as an advocate for equity, health, education and to eliminate poverty among children, youth and families in the state. Ms. Wong's training as a social worker has resulted in sharing her expertise with diverse communities, specifically as it relates to helping children thrive to achieve their full potential.

"As Chair of First 5 California, I could not be more pleased to announce the appointment of Jackie Thu-Huong Wong as the next Executive Director," said First 5 California Chair, Dr. Nadine Burke Harris. "I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Wong over the last year as we have navigated one of the most challenging times we've seen for children in a generation. Her nearly three decades of experience advocating for educational and economic equity for children, youth, and families will be of incredible value to the young children of California. But, as we welcome one leader, we say goodbye to another. I want to thank Camille Maben for her outstanding leadership at First 5 California over the last ten years, taking the Commission to new heights: putting the 0 to 5 population on the map and opening a dialogue on upstream investments and the often overlooked topic of prevention. Under Camille's leadership, First 5 has highlighted and reinforced the importance of investing in quality early care and education, and parent/child interactions for an entire generation of families. Further, she has led with compassion and empathy. I'm confident that Ms. Wong will build on the success of this work."

The Commission collaborated with First 5 California staff members during a national search process to identify candidates for the role of the executive director. The selection committee, led by Dr. Burke Harris, chair and Shana Hazan, vice chair vetted candidates who exemplify the mission of First 5 California, which is to provide equitable resources, services and programs, which are necessary for all children and families.

Ms. Wong, will take the helm from Executive Director Camille Maben, under whom she worked closely with as Chief Deputy Director in the last year. Ms. Maben has made countless contributions to First 5 California and its partners by focusing on the youngest children, parents, educators and caregivers through campaigns such as Talk. Read. Sing.®

“While it’s never easy to say goodbye, I cannot think of a better person to pass the torch to than Jackie Thu-Huong Wong,” said Camille Maben, the current First 5 California Executive Director. “I have followed Ms. Wong’s career over the years, and I’ve been fortunate to work with her as she took on the role of First 5 California Chief Deputy Director. Ms. Wong’s whole child/whole family/whole community approach – fueled by a lifelong commitment to equity and justice – is key for change that so many of our children need. Her experience in education and health and human services will further explore critical issues of early childhood mental health, economic security, and racial justice. Ms. Wong’s leadership rings in an exciting new era at First 5 California, with opportunity, and I will be cheering her, and the entire First 5 California team, on from the sidelines.”

As the incoming Executive Director of First 5 California, Ms. Wong will play an integral role in communicating the importance of why the state’s youngest children, 0-5 require safe, stable and nurturing environments and relationships to have healthy lives. Her vision, expertise and commitment to children and families are integral to implementing the policies and initiatives that are needed to positively benefit communities throughout the state. She will utilize her voice and platform to further illustrate how trauma, inequity and stress-filled situations can have negative impacts on the most vulnerable populations. Ms. Wong’s unparalleled leadership will help guide First 5 California in the future.

“I am truly humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve California as the next Executive Director for First 5 CA and to lead the organization in this new era,” said Jackie Thu-Huong Wong. “Growing up as a refugee, my parents instilled in me the importance of staying rooted in the history of our lived experiences and to center that in my service to others. I am honored to be working with a Commission and staff who are dedicated to ensuring that children 0-5, their families and communities are provided the best opportunities to live, learn and thrive. Lastly, I am thankful for Camille’s dedication to this work over the last several decades and wish her well in her retirement.”

Prior to joining First 5 California, Ms. Wong served as the Vice President of Policy and Advocacy at GRACE, a private nonprofit dedicated to reducing child poverty in California. She was also the Government Relations Director for the National Center for Youth Law, Principal Policy Consultant to the California Senate President, and Statewide Director for



the Foster Youth Service at the California Department of Education. In addition to working with these organizations, she is President of the Washington Unified School Board in West Sacramento and a Professor for California State University, Sacramento's School Nurse Credential Program.

She is a mom to two school-age children and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare and Psychology from University of California, Berkeley, and a Master of Social Work from California State University, Sacramento.

###

### **About First 5 California**

First 5 California was established in 1998 when voters passed Proposition 10, which taxes tobacco products to fund services for children ages 0 to 5 and their families. First 5 California programs and resources are designed to educate and support teachers, parents, and caregivers in the critical role they play during a child's first five years--to help California kids receive the best possible start in life and thrive. For more information, please visit [www.ccfc.ca.gov](http://www.ccfc.ca.gov).



**Emmanuel Santiago, 4, attends the Vallejo First 5 class "Eat, Play, Grow" with his mom**

**(Vallejo First 5 Center photo)**

**Vallejo Times-Herald**  
**By SPECIAL TO THE TIMES-HERALD**  
**PUBLISHED: February 15, 2022 at 3:09 p.m.**  
**— Margaret Dubin**

## **VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER**

Giant red and white mushrooms sprouting from the floor get the children and their caretakers in the door, but it's the comfortable seating areas, free classes, and comprehensive services that entice their returns to the Vallejo First 5 Center.

Solano County's first stand-alone First 5 Center location was the result of nearly four years of planning, fundraising, and building. The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, a federally recognized tribe whose reservation is located in Yolo County but whose ancestral Patwin territory extends throughout Solano County, was the first major funder, providing \$300,000 for construction and another \$300,000 for annual operating costs from the Tribe's Doyuti T'uhkama giving program. "We were excited to support this incredibly worthy endeavor," said Anthony Roberts, Chairman of the Yocha Dehe Tribal Council and the Board of Directors for the Doyuti T'uhkama. "Despite our Tribe's successes, our people have known poverty, and one of our principal missions is to help people in need."

The Center had initially opened its doors to the public in February 2020, only to close a month later due to the global pandemic. This prompted a pivot to a warehouse and distribution center, with the Center providing families with free diapers, art and activity kits, and food.

First 5 recently reopened with smaller class sizes and mandated masking. On a Thursday morning "Eat, Play, Grow" — a nutrition class led by bilingual (Spanish-English) center staffer Jessica Macario Hernandez for 3- to 5-year-olds and their caregivers — was full of energetic preschoolers wielding magic markers and cucumber sticks.

"We like coming here because my daughter learns English," Andre Raxic, 34, of Vallejo explained (in Spanish), "as well as drawing and food preparation. And I learn how to do activities with my daughter."

Stacked neatly on a paper plate in front of Raxic and his 3-year-old daughter, Emily, were the lower half of a cut bagel, cream cheese, grated carrots, and what Emily called "cucumber fries." To the side was a large, predominantly green collage depicting broccoli and a few other, less easily identifiable vegetables.



**Rebecca Morales**  
**(Vallejo First 5 Center photo)**

Emmanuel Santiago, 4, had already reached the eating phase of the class and was busy deconstructing his sandwich when he posed for a photo. "He loves playing in the mushrooms," said his mother, Elizabeth Reyes, referring to the tall fiberglass, concrete, and steel mushrooms that dominate the large indoor play area. "But it was only [at this center] that he started participating, and started sitting down in circle time, because he saw other children doing it," she added.

First 5 is a California state initiative to improve the lives of the state's children from the prenatal stage through five years of age, with a principal focus on impoverished communities. It was created in November 1998 when voters passed Proposition 10, which levied a tax on tobacco products to help fund child-development and early-education programs. While a statewide commission provides information and establishes programs, each county has its own commission to guide implementation to fit the specific needs of their communities.

Solano County Supervisor Erin Hannigan has been involved in the First 5 initiative for eight years.

"When I first got involved in 2014, we were getting about \$4 million from the tobacco tax. But as people stopped smoking — which is good! — we were getting less funding," Hannigan said. With less money from the state, the commission had to review where and how it was spending: "We asked ourselves, how could we do it differently, how could we support systemic change? We decided to create a center for caregivers and children where they could learn all aspects of child development: from nutrition to motor skills, to helping caregivers be their child's first teacher."

This required outside funding, which is how Yocha Dehe got involved. The Solano County program historically operated out of an office in Fairfield until major funding from Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation helped facilitate the construction and operation of a stand-alone center designed to offer classes and a play area. "It's not often that a government entity receives funding without a lot of restrictions; this allows us to be innovative," said Hannigan.

The goal for the Vallejo center was to create a hub where the broadest range of services would be accessible to Solano County's most needy families. During the planning stages, the city of Vallejo was identified as the county's poorest zip code, and the Sonoma Boulevard location was deemed the most accessible to the majority of families.

Strategically located between DD's Discounts and Dollar Tree in the Vallejo Plaza Shopping Center, the Center gets a good amount of walk-ins from pedestrian traffic. The fantastic polka-dotted mushrooms visible through the front and side floor-to-ceiling windows are also a draw.

"We had to take out a window to get the mushrooms in," recalled Deputy Director Megan Richards, "and we used a forklift for the largest one." The largest one is the most popular, of course, because its stem is hollowed out just enough for a small group of toddlers to gather inside. Next to this favorite fungus are two large acorn sculptures, lying on their sides as if found on the forest floor. The acorns are hollowed out as well, but they fit one or two children at most. Sprinkled throughout the rest of the indoor playground are ladybugs, log pillows, and a small bridge.

"We included the acorns to honor the Tribe [of Yocha Dehe]," explained Richards, for the center is a direct result of the Tribe's dedication to funding Solano County youth, in particular through its Doyuti T'uhkama giving program. The acorn is indeed sacred and meaningful to the Yocha Dehe people, as the name for the Tribe's program means "to give the acorn" in their Patwin language.

"We wanted to ensure our giving entity reflected the spirit and values of our Tribal community, and so the name represents that spirit in our own language," said James Kinter, Secretary of Yocha Dehe's Tribal Council. "From mere acorns come mighty oaks."

The playground is the front section of a large, carpeted room filled with comfortable couches and chairs. "We did not want this place to look or feel like an office!" exclaimed Richards. All the furniture is moveable, so that it can be cleared away for a dance party and then quickly rearranged into private seating areas for caretakers to meet with

staff members and other providers. A room to the side houses classes for children's yoga and caregiver self-care (mocktails included!). Next to this room is a smaller room with kitchen facilities where the nutrition class and anything else with the potential for mess takes place (for example, making slime). Individual meeting rooms, offices, and floor-to-ceiling shelves filled with boxed diapers line the back wall.

"We are larger than most child development centers," said Program Manager Lorraine Fernandez. "We want caregivers to be able to sit, relax, and connect with other parents while their children can play in a safe and age-appropriate space."

The larger goal, Fernandez added, is to reduce disparity in children's health and development. According to Richards, Solano County providers have space for only about 20% of the county's children who need care. "Many of our kids are not in preschool," added Fernandez. "This creates a gap in readiness for school."

One way First 5 works to close this gap by is by making it easy for clients to get all the information and resources they might need in one place. "Our resource specialist can get you signed up for Cal Fresh, or free diapers, or legal aid," said Hannigan. Developmental screenings are available for any interested families. The Center also strives to be as accessible as possible. Intake forms are printed in English and Spanish, and at least half the staff are bilingual.

In this early stage of operation, the Center measures its success in practical terms: during the first year, 369 families enrolled in services for a total of 1,111 individuals reached. This is despite intermittent closures due to the global pandemic. During the months of March to June 2020 alone, the Center distributed 700 activity bags, 1,400 books, nearly 200 produce boxes, and "countless" diapers and wipes. While Yocha Dehe was the largest single funder of the Center during its first year, other funders have since come on board, including First 5 Solano and Kaiser Permanente.

The Vallejo center has been so successful, in fact, that the Board of Supervisors is using it as a model for the second First 5 Center in Fairfield. State funding for the Fairfield Center was announced on Feb. 2; meanwhile, Yocha Dehe had already committed \$100,000.

Post-pandemic, the Vallejo First 5 Center has been particularly helpful in lifting spirits and reducing isolation. Melissa Morales, 38, started visiting the First 5 Center with her three-year-old daughter Rebecca when it first opened in February 2020. During the pandemic closure, she dropped by to get diapers. Since the Center's reopening, she has come for the parent-child classes. "We don't have little kids around us, and our [extended] family is not close. My daughter likes to spend time with children her own age." When asked what she likes most about the Center, Morales responded, "We love everything about this place!"

###



**First 5 Association of California (F5AC)**  
**Overview of Governor's Proposed January Budget FY 2022-23**  
January 12, 2022

On January 10, Governor Newsom unveiled his initial budget proposal for the 2022-23 fiscal year, a \$286.4 billion total spending plan that features a \$45.7 billion budget surplus. After accounting for statutorily required reserves, the proposed budget includes \$20.6 billion in discretionary funds available for allocation by the Governor and Legislature. The Governor emphasized that the state's financial picture is likely to change again by the May Revision, with revenues likely to rise if economic activity increases and the stock market continues to break records, and as the state receives additional federal funds.

The Governor set forth a blueprint, and nearly \$10 billion in new spending, to address what he called California's biggest challenges: COVID-19, climate change, homelessness, inequality, and safe streets.

The breadth of the Governor's blueprint puts at the center of this year's budget deliberations the importance of policy and budget choices that promote whole child, whole families, and whole communities. F5AC will work closely with members and partners to raise up the F5 experience and expertise in these areas, and to underscore the opportunity for the state to continue building toward these goals in partnership with the First 5 network.

The proposal also builds on and expands programs for children and families included in or created through the Governor's previous budgets. For example, the proposed budget includes funding to expand the California Home Visiting Program, strengthen the state's public health and behavioral health systems, train providers on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), pay for developmental screenings, hire additional community health workers, support initial implementation of dyadic care services for children and families, and continue the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) reforms.

F5AC is still analyzing the budget details but here are highlights from the Governor's proposal organized by the priority policy platforms of the F5AC strategic plan.

## ***RESILIENT FAMILIES***

### **Home Visiting**

\$50 million ongoing General Fund for the Department of Public Health (CDPH) to expand the California Home Visiting Program and the California Black Infant Health Program, serving approximately 6,000 additional families over five years, in addition to 3,700 currently served by the Home Visiting Program and 1,650 served by the Black Infant Health Program. The budget proposes greater flexibility for current home visiting models to meet the diverse needs of families across the state, expands home visiting services to additional counties, and makes the services accessible to families with the highest needs.

### **Child Poverty**

**First 5 Association of California (F5AC)**  
**Overview of Governor's Proposed January Budget FY 2022-23**  
January 12, 2022

- \$200.7 million in 2022-23, to support 7.1-percent increase to CalWORKs Maximum Aid Payment levels, funded entirely by the Child Poverty and Family Supplemental Support Subaccount of the 1991 Local Revenue Fund.
- Expansion of the Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC), created in the 2019 state budget, to include households with zero earned income. Proposes to index the YCTC for inflation starting in the 2022 tax year. This credit provides \$1,000 to every household that otherwise qualifies for the Earned Income Tax Credit and has a child aged 5-years old or younger. The Franchise Tax Board estimates that about 55,000 parents would newly qualify for the tax credit under the proposal.

### **Food Security**

- Combined Proposition 98 dedicated General Fund and other General Fund revenues of over \$500 million primarily one-time funding to expand access to nutrition support for children, such as funding for two meals per day to any student who requests it at all public schools, regardless of income eligibility, **school site upgrades to kitchen infrastructure and equipment**, and enhancements to farm to school programs and related educational programs.
- \$50 million one-time General Fund for the CalFood program to mitigate increases in food needs among low-income and food-insecure populations throughout the state.

## *QUALITY EARLY LEARNING*

### **Early Literacy**

**\$10 million General Fund to expand early literacy efforts by developing a partnership between CDPH and First 5 California to administer a statewide program to provide multilingual books and early literacy programming for families with young children in collaboration with other state programs such as home visiting, childcare, early childcare centers, and foster care.**

### **Early Care and Education (ECE) Programs**

- \$823.7 million for 36,000 additional subsidized childcare slots. When combined with the slots funded in the 2021 Budget Act, this brings the total to over 145,000.
- \$373 million to support a full year of rate increases for childcare providers, building on investments made in last year's budget.
- \$25 million to fund the Child Care Initiative Project through June 30, 2023, to address areas underserved by childcare providers, increase childcare slots, and support providers who want to become licensed.
- **\$10.6 million for the California Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program focused on the behavioral health needs of children, families, and childcare providers.**
- \$308.4 million to ensure that the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) meets the needs of students with disabilities and dual language learners. CSPP providers must serve at least 10 percent students with disabilities and provide additional supportive services for dual language learners. Additionally, all students participating in CSPP will maintain continuous eligibility for 24

**First 5 Association of California (F5AC)**  
**Overview of Governor's Proposed January Budget FY 2022-23**  
January 12, 2022

months (increased from 12 months) once eligibility is confirmed, children with an individualized education program will be categorically eligible to participate in the program, and providers that have served only eligible three- and four-year-olds will now be allowed to serve two-year-old children.

- \$1 billion to implement the first year of universal transitional kindergarten with full implementation by 2025-26, including:
  - \$639.2 million General Fund to expand eligibility for transitional Kindergarten, from all children turning five-years-old between September 2 and December 2 to all children turning five-years-old between September 2 and February 2, beginning in the 2022-23 school year.
  - \$383 million Proposition 98 General Fund to add an educator to every transitional kindergarten class, reducing student-to-adult ratios to align with the CSPP more closely.
- \$65.5 million (\$45 million general fund) to strengthen the transition process for three-year-old children with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities moving from the Early Start program (Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)) to special education (Part B of IDEA).
- \$4.8 million General Fund to support infrastructure, planning, and initial design of a childcare data system and information technology solution, referred to as California Supporting Providers and Reaching Kids (CalSPARK), as part of the Brilliant Beginnings data initiative to facilitate data-driven decisions, enhance family-provider experience, and streamline state administration of the programs.
- \$3.1 million in funding from the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Renewal from 2020 to 2023 to support the Brilliant Beginnings data initiative and the single verification hub.

Early intervention services through the state's Regional Center system:

- \$1.2 million (\$1 million General Fund) to improve California's statewide early intervention system, known as Early Start, through more inclusive services, streamlined intake processes and alignment, and increased collaboration between the Departments of Social Services and Education.
- \$3.2 million (\$2.2 million General Fund) to establish Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) specialists at every state Regional Center, to provide expertise on available services and offer other technical support.
- \$51 million (\$31.9 General Fund) in 2022-2023 and \$68.1 million (\$42.6 million General Fund) on-going to reduce Regional Center service coordinator caseloads to 1:40 for children through age 5-years old.
- \$10 million for Special Education supports for pre-school aged children, to better promote inclusion in pre-school for 3- and 4-year-olds served by Regional Centers.

## ***COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT***

### **Medi-Cal**

- \$819.3 million to expand Medi-Cal to all income-eligible adults aged 26 through 49 regardless of immigration status, no sooner than January 1, 2024, building on coverage expansions over the last decade for children, young adults, and older adults 50 years and over,



**First 5 Association of California (F5AC)**  
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January 12, 2022

- \$53.2 million (\$18.9 million General Fund) in 2022-23 and \$89 million (\$31 million General Fund) annually to reduce Medi-Cal premiums for approximately 500,000 pregnant women, children, and disabled working adults who pay a monthly share because their incomes are marginally above Medi-Cal eligibility levels.
- \$400 million (\$200 million General Fund) one-time for Medi-Cal provider payments focused on advancing equity and improving quality in children's preventive, maternity, and integrated behavioral health care.
- \$350 million General Fund to recruit, train, and certify 25,000 new community health workers (CHWs) by 2025. Last year's budget created CHWs as a support through the Medi-Cal program, and DHCS plans to make them available to Medi-Cal enrollees starting on July 1.
- \$176 million in additional funding to support access to women's health services, and developmental and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) screenings. Providing payments through Proposition 56 to providers for conducting these early childhood screenings was a benefit first created through the 2020 state budget, and in 2022-23, these Medi-Cal supplemental payments are projected to exceed revenue by \$176 million, necessitating this additional funding.
- \$135.1 million over a three-year period to extend Medi-Cal provider training for conducting ACEs screenings.

Mobile Crisis Medical Response – Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding authorized 85-percent federal matching funds for a Medicaid mobile crisis response services benefit, available for 12 quarters during a five-year period starting April 1, 2022. Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will add multi-disciplinary mobile response services for crises related to mental health and substance use disorders as a new Medi-Cal benefit as soon as January 1, 2023.

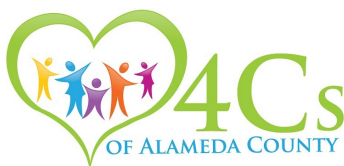
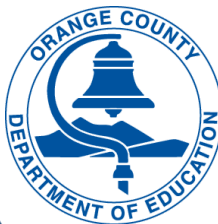
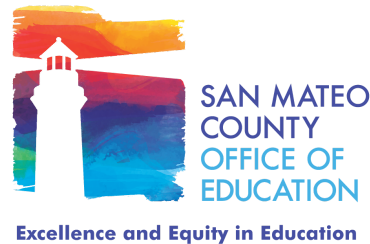
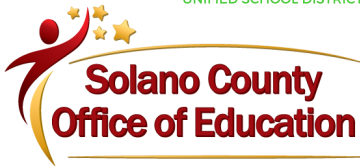
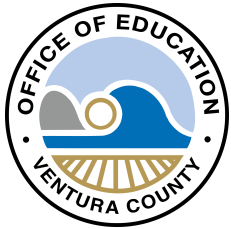
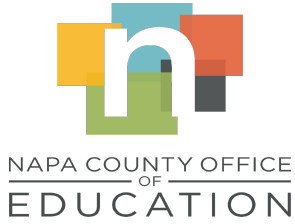
### **Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative**

- \$87 million (\$41 million General Fund) to implement Dyadic Services effective January 1, 2023. Dyadic Care Services provide integrated physical and behavioral health screening and services to the whole family, help increase access to preventive care, improve the coordination of care and maternal mental health, and strengthen child social-emotional health and safety.

### **Public Health**

- \$5.5 million to support initiatives aimed at improving maternal and infant health outcomes in California, including in-depth case reviews and data collection and publishing of findings regarding pregnancy-related deaths, severe maternal morbidity, and infant deaths.
- \$100 million General Fund to strengthen the state's public health infrastructure and improve collaboration between state and local government entities, building on an additional \$300 million for public health infrastructure provided in the 2020-21 state budget. The funding will support the establishment of an Office of Policy and Planning to lead efforts to understand emerging public health threats, expand the public health workforce and enhance communication and public education efforts to combat mis- and disinformation.







Dear Senator Laird:

The above organizations write to ask you to champion a budget request to increase Local Childcare Planning Council (LPC) funding by \$10 million ongoing. By including this budget ask in your top priorities and advocating to increase funding for the 58 LPCs, you would be facilitating the successful roll-out of universal pre-kindergarten, ensuring that childcare providers receive materials and resources, and helping parents access early learning and care (ELC) options that meet their needs.

LPCs were established in 1997 to bring together government agencies, ELC teachers, providers, and parents in each county to identify local childcare needs and priorities. In addition to being the regional coordinator and convenor of stakeholders in the childcare “mixed delivery system,” LPCs regularly collect both quantitative and qualitative data on the needs of children and families in each county and establish priorities and plans for how stakeholders can work together to address these needs. Many LPCs (including Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey) also create and coordinate their county’s individualized childcare subsidy plan. These childcare plans allow ELC providers to serve more children, raise staff wages, and increase family income eligibility to align with regional cost of living.

The LPCs further demonstrated their important role as a trusted coordinator and communicator during the pandemic. When COVID-19 hit, LPCs immediately began providing local agencies and ELC providers with emergency support and services including dissemination of critical information about health and safety requirements and program changes, distribution of childcare stipends and materials such as personal protective equipment (PPE), and support for ELC providers who needed assistance staying open and reassuring parents. During the pandemic LPCs also began to collect and report critical information to the Department of Social Services about the status and enrollment of all local licensed ELC providers so that essential workers could secure emergency childcare.

Despite playing a critical ongoing and emergency role, LPCs remain extremely underfunded. To make ends meet, LPC coordinators and the institutions that house them (primarily county offices of education) are forced to take on additional contracts and responsibilities, thus diverting focus from their important local functions. By increasing LPC funding by \$10 million ongoing, LPCs would be able to fill essential gaps in the roll-out of universal pre-kindergarten such as facilities planning and workforce coordination.

As you identify your 2022 budget priorities, we urge you to not only include, but act as the primary Senate champion for, a \$10 million ongoing increase to LPC funding. If you have questions about this request or LPCs, please feel free to contact Amanda Dickey at [adickey@sccoe.org](mailto:adickey@sccoe.org) or 530-301-3510.



## Increasing Access to Family Support Services Across California

### Budget Proposal – 2022-23

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had, and continues to have, a profound impact on California's children and families. This has led to both a substantial increase in risk factors for child abuse and neglect and demand for social, emotional and behavioral health and family support services across the state. In response to these elevated risk factors, increasing protective factors to safeguard children from maltreatment, such as expanding access to programs that are proven to prevent abuse, will go a long way in reducing maltreatment (and the trauma that accompanies it) in the immediate term, and saving state resources on more costly interventions if allowed to continue unaddressed in the long term.

If funded, this budget request would do just that. A one-time investment of \$20,362,539 over three years, would leverage the experience and networks of trusted community-based organizations in nine counties (Solano, San Benito, Contra Costa, San Diego, Napa, Tehama, Los Angeles, Santa Cruz, and Santa Clara) with proven track records of improving the mental health and physical well-being of children and families, fostering nurturing family environments, and preventing child abuse and neglect. This proposed expansion would dramatically expand access for parents and caregivers to proven behavioral health and family supports in direct response to the staggeringly increased need.

Specifically, this proposal would enable these organizations to expand their capacity to serve more families in some of the state's hardest-hit regions; fund professional development training for new and existing staff; and make available Triple P Online (TPOL), a cost-effective online parenting support program for those unable or unwilling to receive in-person services. Additionally, investing in these communities now, at a time when the state is anticipating another multi-billion-dollar budget surplus, is not only needed and doable, but will further reduce future social costs caused by the cycle not just continuing, but being exacerbated because of the pandemic.

The community-based organizations that would receive funding under this proposal are already doing this important work and are producing positive outcomes. Any funding received for these initiatives will therefore go directly into bolstering their existing

framework and will reach residents immediately. Equally as important, the funding requested is designed to conclude at the end of a three-year expenditure period through a combination of an expected reduction of need due to scaled services, built in capacity to plan for the attainment of alternative sources of sustainable funding, and a one-time purchase of a bank of TPOL codes that never expire to be spread across the providers participating in this proposal based on need to reach up to 37,500 families across the state.

TPOL, the web-based version of the Triple P Positive Parenting Program that is already being implemented by participating organizations, uses the power of the internet to reach families unable to access in-person services and is particularly relevant now because the same evidence-based supports may be delivered to reach parents at their convenience. The intervention has comparable outcomes to face-to-face delivery but is designed for parents to progress through the sessions in their own time on their home computer, smartphone, or tablet and is a particularly useful tool in responding to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic because it is accessed online by individual parents and can therefore be scaled quickly, broadly and at a relatively low cost. Coupled with these providers' in-person services, this multi-modal strategy allows for an approach that meets parents and caregivers where they are with the strategy that best aligns with their preference for parent education information. The ability to also provide access to online family support services – while families wait on behavioral health waitlists, or for the resource referral process to move forward, - will enable the organizations in these counties to provide support in the interim. In some cases, this will alleviate the need for further intervention.

The challenges brought about by COVID-19 have created a real and urgent need for additional access to family support services throughout the state. The efforts outlined in this proposal are aimed at promoting the well-being of children and addressing behavioral healthcare needs exacerbated by the ongoing pandemic while helping to build more resilient communities – it is an investment in our collective future. We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to answering any questions you may have.

**Participating Organizations: Counseling Options and Parent Education Family Support Center, (C.O.P.E., Contra Costa), First 5 Solano, First 5 San Benito, Family Impact Center, Jewish Family Service of San Diego, Napa County Triple P Collaborative (COPE Family Center, UpValley Family Centers, Child Start Incorporated, and ParentsCAN), First 5 Tehama, LA County Library, and First 5 Santa Cruz**



March 2, 2022

**COMMISSIONERS**

Erin Hannigan

*Chair*

Jennifer Barton

Lisette Estrella-  
Henderson

Amy Fabi

Erin Hannigan

Gerald Huber

Tiffanee Jones

Nimat Shakoor-  
Grantham

Marla Stuart

Tyffany Wanberg

**STAFF**

Michele Harris

*Executive Director*

Megan Richards

*Deputy Director*

Juanita Morales

*Program Manager*

Gene Ibe

*Program Manager*

Lorraine Fernandez

*Program Manager*

Kwiana Algeré

*Health Education Specialist*

Caitlin Brakefield

*Office Assistant III*



First 5 Solano is a  
Division of the Solano  
County Administrator's  
Office

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
U.S. Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Reading is Fundamental Community Project Funding Request**

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission (First 5 Solano), I am pleased to support the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF)'s community project funding request. First 5 Solano provides an array of services and resources to young children and families in Solano County. We have partnered with RIF for several years to provide books for children who participate in summer Pre-Kindergarten Academies. These Academies provide a 4-week quality early childhood education experience for children who are preparing to enter Kindergarten and have not previously attended preschool. This program is focused on children entering Kindergarten with no prior preschool experience, English language learners, special needs, and those who are considered 'high risk due to factors such as poverty, abuse or neglect.

As a 501(c)(3) children's literacy non-profit organization, RIF is a national leader in book distribution to children. In partnership with companies, foundations, organizations, and a grassroots network of literacy advocates in communities nationwide, RIF has distributed more than 425 million books and impacted the lives of over 100 million children since its founding in 1966.

In FY 2023, RIF is seeking Community Project Funding to deliver free books and literacy resources. The children and families served by First 5 Solano in the summer PreK Academies will benefit from the funding provided. RIF's program is designed to provide new, free books - print and digital - to children, helping them to build their home libraries, paired with engaging motivational literacy materials to extend learning beyond the book and support educators and families to drive literacy impact for their children.

RIF is a trusted literacy partner in the education space. For many years, they have supported local families, educators and volunteers with robust and high-quality literacy resources. RIF delivers not only books but excitement, joy, imagination and opportunity to our children and children nationwide.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request. Should you have additional questions, please contact me at [mdharris@solanocounty.com](mailto:mdharris@solanocounty.com) or (707) 784-1340.

Sincerely,



Michele Harris  
Executive Director

March 2, 2022

**COMMISSIONERS**

Erin Hannigan

*Chair*

Jennifer Barton

Lisette Estrella-Henderson

Amy Fabi

Erin Hannigan

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Tiffanee Jones

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Kwiana Algeré

*Health Education Specialist*

Caitlin Brakefield

*Office Assistant III*



First 5 Solano is a  
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The Honorable Alex Padilla  
U.S. Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michele Harris".

Michele Harris  
Executive Director

# An Open Letter to the Nation on Behalf of Infants and Toddlers - Priorities for 2022 and Beyond

*February 2022*

Our country is at a tipping point, and our children's futures hang in the balance.

As the National Collaborative for Infants and Toddlers, comprised of more than 2500 local, state and national organizations representing business leaders, pediatricians, child care providers, parents, state and local officials, advocates and researchers, we know our nation needs bold leadership to secure the futures of our youngest children. We are united and committed to educating the public and raising awareness about the urgent priorities that support pregnant people and families with children under three. Progress made in these areas will yield meaningful dividends into the future for our economy, our communities, and our families.

- **Economic Security for All.** To set children up for success, we must ensure families are able to meet their basic needs. Every family should have access to affordable health care, housing, transportation, and healthy food to help young children reach their full potential. Communities are stronger when all babies and toddlers have access to resources and services they need regardless of where they live, their family's income or education, their gender, or the color of their skin.
- **High-quality, Affordable Child Care.** A strong child care system not only provides a safe and nurturing environment for young children, but it is also essential for economic stability and growth. For every dollar we spend on comprehensive, high quality early learning programs that support young children from birth, we see a 13% annual return in economic benefits due to reduced incarceration, improved educational outcomes, better overall mental and physical health and a stronger workforce. The lack of affordable quality child care for infants and toddlers also costs our nation's economy \$57 billion annually.
- **Comprehensive Family Supports.** Scientific data shows us that additional systems of care, such as paid family and medical leave, paid sick days and other solutions such as maternal health and access to healthy food, can have lifelong positive effects for children and lead to a happier, stronger workforce, more productivity and stronger, more sustainable economic growth. Of special concern are babies and toddlers facing multiple adverse early experiences who can benefit from supports designed to strengthen families.
- **Maternal and Child Health.** Healthy babies start with healthy moms. And, yet, in the United States, more women die in childbirth than in any other developed country, and Black women are more than twice as likely to die than white women. All mothers should have access to equitable care during and after pregnancy. This includes regular well-child visits, screenings, and mental health care to give their babies the best start in life.
- **Equitable Policy Implementation.** As unprecedented and critically needed resources are being provided to states, counties, cities, and communities, we must ensure broad and equitable distribution of these investments and equitable application of these policies into the communities where the need is greatest.

The converging crises of COVID-19, ongoing racial injustice, and an uneven economic recovery threaten the success of our children and our future. For many families, lack of equitable access to basic needs like food, health care, child care, and housing has always been a challenge — made worse by COVID-19 and felt more acutely in families of color and those with lower incomes. Race, place and income should no longer be predictors of a child's future. We are at a pivotal moment, and we have a choice: we can help our babies and toddlers thrive or continue to set them up for failure. Our country is at its best when we recognize that children and their families, particularly our youngest, are our greatest resource. They must be our highest priority.

This is our chance to get it right. Our nation's leaders at every level must continue to act together with urgency and focus to support families and children in their earliest years.

February 28, 2022

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member  
Senate Finance Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Chairman  
House Ways and Means Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member  
House Ways and Means Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wyden, Ranking Member Crapo, Chairman Neal, and Ranking Member Brady:

The undersigned national, state, and local organizations thank you for your past support of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) and urge your support of a robust and timely reauthorization of the program by September 30, 2022.

The National Home Visiting Coalition is a diverse group of organizations committed to the well-being of children, united to promote federal support of home visiting to strengthen families in communities across the country. MIECHV is a federal grant program to states, territories, and Tribes that supports voluntary, evidence-based early childhood home visiting for families from pregnancy through kindergarten entry. Recognized as the gold standard for evidence-based policymaking, MIECHV-funded home visiting supports families by promoting interventions to improve maternal and infant health; creating connections between caregivers, the pediatric medical home, and other health practitioners in the community; providing screening for perinatal depression and connecting parents with appropriate community-based behavioral health care; supporting families in their child's early development and learning; providing referrals when certain risk factors, including trauma or domestic violence, are present in the home; providing resources for children who experience trauma and toxic stress; targeting the social determinants of health affecting families, such as social support, parental stress, access to health care, income and poverty status, and environmental conditions; and helping families navigate complex community-based systems of supports.

MIECHV's range of models with demonstrated effectiveness allows communities to select the approach that best addresses their needs. This local flexibility, along with strong evidence of success, enables this program to consistently yield true bipartisan support. As you work together to reauthorize MIECHV, the National Home Visiting Coalition respectfully seeks the following:

- 1) Increase MIECHV funding over the next five years to reach more families and better support the workforce.



MIECHV has received no increase since reaching its current funding level almost a decade ago, despite being recognized across the aisle as a model for evidence-based policy. Level funding year over year – with cuts for sequestration – challenges MIECHV’s ability to reach new families and ensure that home visitors earn a competitive wage. Pre-pandemic estimates showed MIECHV reached only three to five percent of eligible families each year. Statewide needs assessments required through the last MIECHV reauthorization have identified additional communities that would benefit from MIECHV, but those programs cannot be established without additional funding. Moreover, recruitment, retention, and high turnover of home visitors due to low wages, pose challenges to adequately serve families. To reach more eligible families and better serve the workforce primarily made up of women, the Home Visiting Coalition recommends scaling up MIECHV over the next five years with annual increases of \$200 million, arriving at a total of \$1.4 billion.

2) Double the Tribal set-aside.

Tribal MIECHV helps develop and strengthen tribal capacity to support and promote the health and well-being of families through home visiting in American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities, and support and strengthen cooperation and linkages between programs that serve tribal children and their families. Historical and ongoing inequities within AIAN communities have only been amplified by COVID-19. Currently, Tribal MIECHV receives \$12 million annually for the more than 600 eligible Tribes and Tribal-serving organizations. To address these inequities, the Home Visiting Coalition recommends doubling the tribal set-aside within MIECHV from three to six percent to reach more families in AIAN communities.

3) Continue to allow virtual home visiting with model fidelity as an option for service delivery.

In 2020, Congress allowed virtual home visits to count as home visits through MIECHV during the national health emergency, removing barriers to the provision of services due to health and safety concerns. Yet, virtual home visiting has demonstrated many additional benefits including greater flexibility in where, how, and when families can receive visits, and increased access in areas where families often lack an entrance point to quality maternal, infant, and early childhood programs, including rural and frontier areas. The Home Visiting Coalition recommends that virtual home visiting implemented with model fidelity continue to be an allowable service delivery modality for families who choose it, as part of their receipt of comprehensive home visiting services.

Finally, timing is of the essence- the current MIECHV statute is slated to expire on September 30, 2022. It is imperative that MIECHV be reauthorized before it expires to avoid any lapse in programming. Likewise, a five-year reauthorization will provide stability and security to the field, further preventing any disruptions to the program.

The National Home Visiting Coalition and its state and local partners look forward to working with you to ensure a timely reauthorization that expands MIECHV to reach more families and better support the workforce. Thank you again for your ongoing support of MIECHV and the families who benefit from this essential program.