

**COMMISSION MEETING**  
**June 15, 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 June 15, 2022 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the [May 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)
- C. Adopt [Resolution 2022-10](#) 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 June 15, 2022 to July 14, 2022.

**III. Annual Grant Awards of Funding (25 min)**

**Action**

Consider approval of allocations of funding of up to \$159,832 for [FY2022/23 Annual Grants](#) in response to Request for Applications #2022-04 as follows:

- A. Up to \$20,000 to Vallejo Naval and Historic Museum to provide story time and books during children's programming and Literacy events at the Museum
- B. Up to \$20,000 to Loving Care 4 Kids to provide a mobile book storyteller at family child care homes and provide new multicultural books to children in the homes
- C. Up to \$20,000 to City of Suisun Recreation, Parks and Marina Department to provide a series of recreation programs for children 2-4 years old free of cost
- D. Up to \$20,000 to Fairfield Adult School to provide an Early Transitional Kindergarten/Transitional Kindergarten class that includes a family/parent education component

- E. Up to \$20,000 to Child Start Inc. to provide trauma-informed, mental health based, reflective practice and supervision to Solano County Child Start staff
- F. Up to \$20, 000 to Vacaville Unified School District to provide a parent engagement series for families of children ages 3-5
- G. Up to \$19,832 to Jayda Learning Center to provide respite temporary care to families/caregivers of children aged 0-5 as a neighborhood-based family resource
- H. Up to \$20,000 to Parenting After Trauma to provide ACEs and trauma awareness and increase access to trauma-informed approaches to parents of children 0-5.

*Juanita Morales, Program Manager*

**IV. 2023 Program Investment Planning** (45 min)

Begin [Program Investment Planning](#)

*Michele Harris, Executive Director, Megan Richards, Deputy Director*

**Information/  
Discussion**

**V. First 5 Solano 2022 Community Update** (15 min)

Receive a presentation on the [First 5 Solano 2022 Community Update](#) and discuss local presentations of this information

*Michele Harris, Executive Director; Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager*

**Information/  
Discussion**

**VI. Policy and Oversight Committee** (5 min)

No action items to report

**Information**

**VII. Executive Director's Report** (10 min)

**Information**

**VIII. Commissioner Remarks** (5 min)

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

The next Commission meeting will be held on August 17, 2022 at 3:00PM via teleconference. Support staff located at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo. Future agenda items include: Program Investment Planning, Annual Grant Evaluation, Pre-K Academies, Committee Report

**Information**

## 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**

May 18, 2022, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA

**Minutes**

Commissioners present via Zoom videoconferencing: Chair Erin Hannigan (exited meeting at 4:36 PM), Vice Chair Tyffany Wanberg, Jennifer Barton, Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Amy Fabi, Nimat Shakoor-Grantham

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

**I. Public Comment**

No public comment

**II. Consent Calendar**

***Motion:***

***A. Approve the May 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Agenda***

***B. Approve the April 20, 2022 Commission Meeting Minutes***

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

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Fabi, Shakoor-Grantham, Wanberg, Hannigan**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**III. Public Hearing: First 5 California Annual Report**

***Motion:***

***Consider acceptance of the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2020-21 Annual Report, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130150***

First 5 Solano Program Manager Juanita Morales presented the FY2020/21 First 5 CA Annual Report. Outgoing Executive Director of First 5 California Camille Maben offered a message of hope and commitment to improving the lives of California's children through the pandemic and beyond.

Local First 5s are funded by Proposition 10, the tax imposed on cigarettes, and funding is based on annual number of births in the County. The County then invests in California state programs and locally designed programs. First 5 CA collaborates with local agencies, policymakers, and other advocates to strengthen advocacy efforts to realize shared goals.

**Public Hearing: First 5 California Annual Report moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Barton**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Fabi, Shakoor-Grantham, Wanberg, Hannigan**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**IV. Long-Term Financial Plan Update**

Deputy Director Megan Richards presented an update to the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP). DD Richards further presented 5 decision points to be made, which include how should the Commission handle unknown of flavor ban and its impacts on future Prop 10 revenue? Recommended course of action is to budget for average between high and low with difference going in/coming out of reserve. How much should the Commission plan for unexpended funds? Recommended action is to budget for 15% unexpended. How should the Commission account for other funding besides Prop 10? Recommended action is to conduct risk assessment. What types of time-limited funding should First 5 Solano seek? Recommended action is to seek grants or one-year opportunities. How should First 5 Solano handle its reserve funds? In comparison to counties in similar size, reserve policies from other Commission identify minimum reserve amounts. For Solano County's size, comparable counties with Policies identify 6 months in reserve. Recommended action is to establish Reserve Policy with reserves staying between \$5m-\$8m dollars, and spend excess reserve on one-time projects.

**V. First 5 Solano 2022 Community Update**

Executive Director Michele Harris suggested moving this item to the next Commission meeting, scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

*Commissioner Hannigan Departed*

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

Executive Director Michele Harris reported that Commissioner Hannigan and Program Manager Lorraine Fernandez attended Vallejo City Council meeting on 05/17/2022 and secured a unanimous vote for tenant improvements at the Vallejo Early Learning Center (ELC) in the amount of \$500,000. Additionally, ED Harris reported that the Federal request for funds associated with the \$5M HVAC and roof costs for the Vallejo ELC was declined but the State request is still in consideration.

First 5 Solano will be hosting First 5 Family Fun Zone at the 2022 Solano County Fair, running from June 17<sup>th</sup>-June 19<sup>th</sup>, 12 PM-6 PM each day. Commissioners are welcome to visit the Fair's Family Fun Zone and read to the children attendees Juanita Morales, First 5 Solano Program Manager, has additional information if interested.

Commissioner Amy Fabi and First 5 Solano Health Education Specialist Kwiana Algere recently visited Vacaville park, The Play for All Park. The developer of this inclusive park is in talks with First 5 Solano to explore opportunities in coming months.

## **VII. Commissioner Remarks**

No Commissioner remarks.

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

The next Commission meeting will be held on June 15, 2022 at 3:00 PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo. Future agenda items include: Long-Term Financial Plan, Committee Report, Program Investment Planning

## **Adjourn**

Commissioner Estrella-Henderson adjourned the meeting at 4:53 PM.

Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III

Approved:

# *Resolution No. 2022-10*

## **A RESOLUTION OF FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 15, 2022 TO JULY 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) June 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 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 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

**DATE:** June 8, 2022  
**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
**FROM:** Juanita Morales, Program Manager  
**SUBJ:** FY2022/23 Annual Grant Allocations

**Motion A: Consider approval of allocations of funding of up to \$159,832 for FY2022/23 Annual Grants in response to Request for Applications #2022-04 as follows:**

- a. \$20,000 to Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum to provide story time and books during children's programming and Literacy events at the Museum
- b. \$20,000 to Loving Care 4 Kids to provide a mobile book storyteller at family child care homes and provide new multicultural books to children in the homes
- c. \$20,000 to Suisun City Recreation, Parks and Marina Department to provide a series of recreation programs for children 2-4 years old free of cost
- d. \$20,000 to Fairfield Suisun Adult School to provide an Early Transitional Kindergarten/Transitional Kindergarten class that includes a family/parent education component
- e. \$20,000 to Child Start Inc. to provide trauma-informed, mental health based, reflective practice and supervision to Solano County Child Start staff
- f. \$20, 000 to Vacaville Unified School District to provide a parent engagement series for families of children ages 3-5
- g. \$19,832 to Jayda Learning Center to provide respite temporary care to families/caregivers of children aged 0-5
- h. \$20,000 to Parenting After Trauma to provide ACEs and trauma awareness and increase access to trauma-informed approaches to parents of children 0-5

### **Introduction**

In FY2022/23, the Commission dedicated \$200,000 toward its fifth year of Annual Grants, with the goals of:

- Providing flexibility in responding to community need between funding cycles
- Filling gaps in the community with small grants
- Pilot new and innovative ideas
- Engage with new community partners

Grants of up to \$20,000 were made available in Request for Applications (RFA) #2022-04 to meet a variety of community needs. In this cycle of funding, applicants were required to submit a Letter of Intent and attend a 30-minute mandatory grant development session facilitated by First 5 Solano staff. First 5 Solano received 23 Letters of Intent and 21 proposers attended a grant development session. In total, 11 applications were submitted in response to the RFA. Of those applications, all met the minimum criteria to be considered for funding.

A review panel consisting of representatives from First 5 Solano and other expertise in the area of early childhood, read and assigned preliminary scores to the 11 applications. The review panel subsequently met to finalize their scores and rankings.



### **FY2022/23 Annual Grant Recommendations**

This item brings forward recommendations from the review panel for allocations of funding as described below.

#### **Annual Grant Recommended Awards of Funding**

|   | <b>Agency</b>  | <b>Program Description</b>  | <b>Recm'd</b>    | <b>Strategic Plan Priority</b>                                  | <b>Geographic Location</b> |
|---|--|---|------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum                  | Enhance children's programming by providing monthly story times and a full day literacy festival                                      | \$20,000         | Early Childhood Learning and Development                        | Vallejo                    |
| 2 | Loving Care 4 Kids                                   | Provide a mobile book storyteller and new multicultural books to children in family child care homes                                  | \$20,000         | Early Childhood Learning and Development                        | Countywide                 |
| 3 | Suisun City Recreation, Parks, and Marina Department | Provide a series of recreational programs to children ages 2-4 free of cost   | \$20,000         | Early Childhood Learning and Development<br>Health & Well-Being | Countywide                 |
| 4 | Fairfield Suisun Adult School                        | Offer an Early Transitional Kindergarten/Transitional Kindergarten class that includes a family/parent education component.           | \$20,000         | Family Support and Parent Education                             | Fairfield-Suisun           |
| 5 | Child Start Inc.                                     | Provide trauma-informed, mental health based, reflective practice and supervision to Child Start staff in Solano County.              | \$20,000         | Health & Well-Being<br>Systems Change                           | Countywide                 |
| 6 | Vacaville Unified School District                    | Provide a parent engagement series for families of VUSD early learners, ages 3-5.   | \$20,000         | Family Support and Parent Education                             | Vacaville                  |
| 7 | Jayda Learning Center                                | Provide a respite care program offering temporary care to families/caregivers of children aged 0-5.                                   | \$19,832         | Family Support and Parent Education                             | Fairfield                  |
| 8 | Parenting After Trauma                               | Provide ACEs and trauma awareness to at-risk parents/caregivers through training videos, customized coaching, and a community cohort. | \$20,000         | Family Support and Parent Education                             | Countywide                 |
|   | <b>Totals:</b>                                       |   | <b>\$159,832</b> |   |                            |

The review panel made recommendations for contract negotiations, such as including additional measurable outcomes, ensuring activities are age appropriate, expanding service areas, and clarifications on budget and other proposal specific recommendations that will be shared with potential contractors during contract negotiations. Additionally, staff is making the

recommendation that agencies with a current Annual Grant must meet the Performance Measures in their current grant for FY2021/22 in order to receive a grant for FY2022/23.

### **Conclusion/Next Steps**

Should the Commission approve the recommended Annual Grant awards of funding, the next steps include:

- Negotiate Annual Grant contracts, including final budgets and scopes of works, with grantees
- Approval of contracts by County Counsel and the County Administrator
- Annual grants services begin July 2022

***Note: All awardees will be notified that the award of funds by the Commission does not constitute approval to move forward with services. Contracts for services must be successfully negotiated and executed before work can begin. Furthermore, no funds may be expended prior to the execution of contracts approved by County Counsel and the Executive Director/County Administrator, as appropriate.***

**DATE:** June 9, 2022

**TO:** First 5 Solano Commission

**FROM:** Michele Harris, Executive Director

**SUBJ:** **First 5 Solano Program Investment Plan**

In January 2022, the Commission adopted a new 2022 Strategic Plan Update and in May 2022 the Commission reviewed and provided input into its Long Term Financial Plan Update. The next document to update is the Commission's Program Investment Plan which identifies the strategies in the Strategic Plan which the Commission will invest in based on the available resources.

Today's presentation and discussion will identify strategies/initiatives which are recommended to continue with little or no change, as well as start identifying strategies in which the Commission will consider investing with available funding.

*Committee Discussion:* At their June 6, 2022 meeting the Policy and Oversight Committee, the Committee heard the presentation and provided feedback that the presentation was clear and laid out a pathway to make funding decisions. The Committee did suggest that the presentation naturally was divided into a "little or no change" pathway and a "brainstorming session" and recommended staff present the 2 sections separately, with decision points between each one. The Committee also suggested that it would be important for the commission to see a summary of the return on investment for the programs that are being recommended to continue. Staff will include the prior year annual reports as an attachment to the presentation for the full commission to see what outcomes in the community are being secured with its investment.

[Attachment A:](#) Program Investment Plan Presentation



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# First 5 Solano 2023-2028 Program Investment Plan

First 5 Solano  
Commission  
June 15, 2022

1

|                         | 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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## Annual Revenue

(5 Year Avg - Based on LTFP Assumptions)

| Revenue Sources   | Annual Amount    |
|---|------------------|
| Proposition 10  | 2,930,000        |
| Interest  | 125,000          |
| Other Funding<br>(MHSA, Kaiser, Yocha Dehe, General Fund) | 990,000          |
| Underspending   | 640,000          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>4,685,000</b> |

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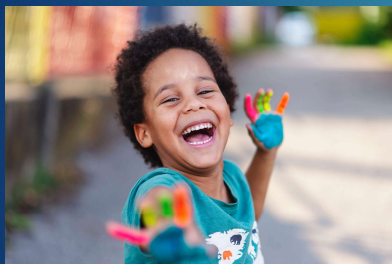
## LTFP Established Expenditure (Annual)

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| Expenditure Category            | First 5 Solano Funds | Other Funds in LTFP | Annual Amount    |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Evaluation/Data Collection      | 120,000              |                     | 120,000          |
| Administration                  | 460,000              |                     | 460,000          |
| Program Staffing and Operations | 755,000              | 65,000              | 820,000          |
| <b>Priorities 1-3</b>           | <b>1,640,000</b>     | <b>925,000</b>      | <b>2,565,000</b> |
| Priority 4: Systems Change      | 600,000              |                     | 600,000          |
| Community Engagement            | 120,000              |                     | 120,000          |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>3,695,000</b>     | <b>990,000</b>      | <b>4,685,000</b> |

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## Programs Recommended for Little or No Change



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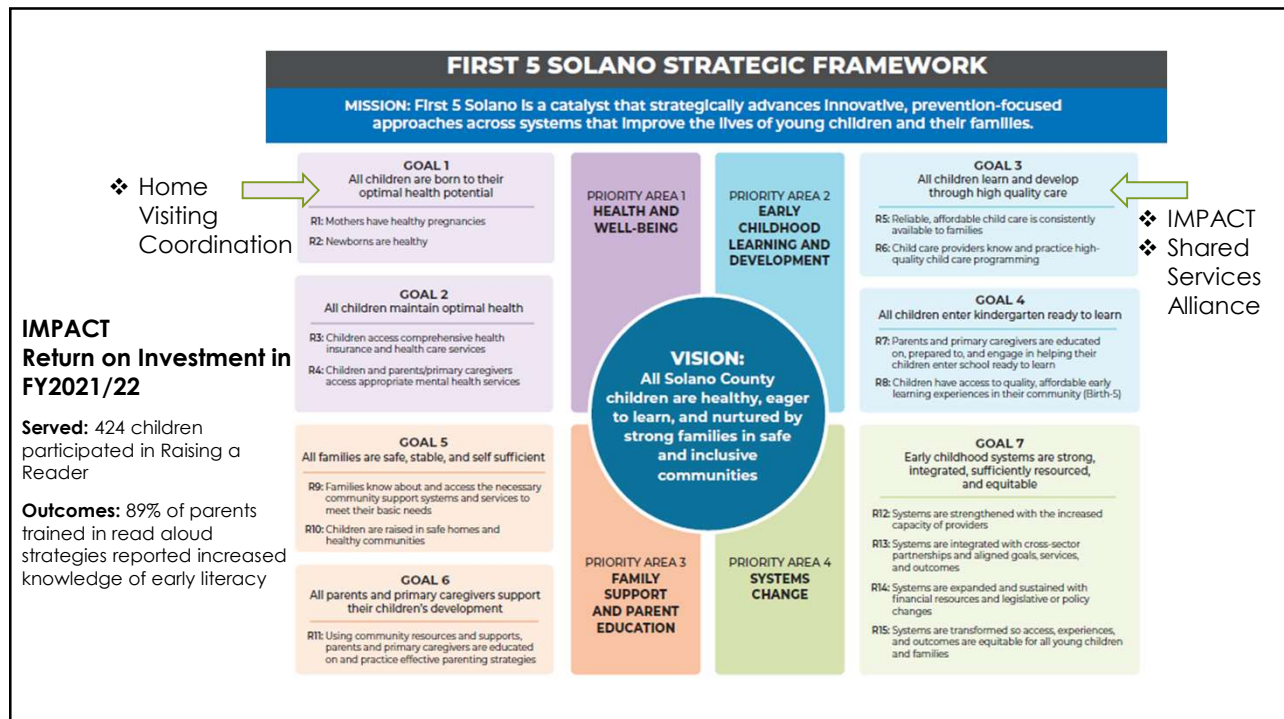
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## Programs Dependent on First 5 CA Funding

| Program/Strategy                | FY2022/23 Funding | 2023-2028 PIP Recommendation  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| IMPACT                          | \$241,735         | As funding for these programs is primarily First 5 CA driven with very little local cash resources, identify level of First 5 Solano participation when First 5 CA announces their strategy/funding |
| Share Services Alliance Network | \$183,652         |   |
| Home Visiting Coordination      | \$17,882          |   |

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## Programs with Little or No Change

| Program/ Strategy   | FY2022/23<br>Funding | 2023-2028 Program Investment Plan Recommendation |                       |           |                    |
|---------------------|----------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|
|                     |                      | First 5<br>Solano<br>Funds                       | LTFP Other<br>funding | Unsecured | Total              |
| Help Me Grow Solano | 300,000              | 138,000  | 192,000               |           | <b>\$330,000</b>   |
| Triple P            | 700,000              | 250,000  | 250,000               |           | <b>\$500,000</b>   |
| First 5 Centers     | 700,000              | 800,000  | 483,000               | 177,000   | <b>\$1,460,000</b> |
|                     | 1,700,000            | 1,188,000  | 925,000               | 177,000   | <b>\$2,290,000</b> |

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Help Me Grow  
Solano

- ▶ National Model—Solano Affiliated in 2013
- ▶ Resource and Referral line for any family and any need
- ▶ Follow up with family
- ▶ Developmental Screenings



1-844-501-5437

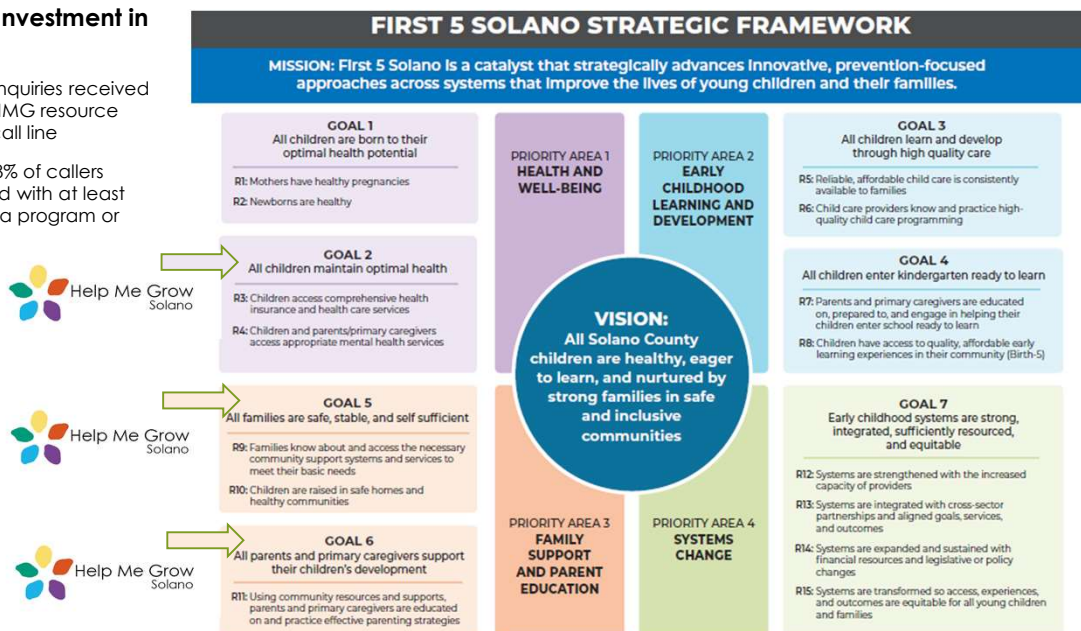
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### Return on Investment in FY2021/22

**Served:** 2031 inquiries received through the HMG resource and referral call line

**Outcomes:** 78% of callers were provided with at least one referral to a program or services



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**"I love having a refresher of positive parenting tips, especially now during this challenging time."**

-Triple P Parent

- Evidence-based parenting program that addresses common parenting challenges and more serious behavioral problems.
- Parents participate in group or one-on-one sessions.
- May be one time or multi-session.

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### Return on Investment in FY2021/22

**Served:** 1693  
parents/caregivers in  
FY2021/22

**Outcomes:** 99% of all  
participants reported  
improvement in parenting  
knowledge and skills



### FIRST 5 SOLANO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

**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.

#### GOAL 1 All children are born to their optimal health potential

R1: Mothers have healthy pregnancies  
R2: Newborns are healthy

#### GOAL 2 All children maintain optimal health

R3: Children access comprehensive health  
insurance and health care services  
R4: Children and parents/primary caregivers  
access appropriate mental health services

#### GOAL 5 All families are safe, stable, and self sufficient

R9: Families know about and access the necessary  
community support systems and services to  
meet their basic needs  
R10: Children are raised in safe homes and  
healthy communities

#### GOAL 6 All parents and primary caregivers support their children's development

R11: Using community resources and supports,  
parents and primary caregivers are educated  
on and practice effective parenting strategies

#### PRIORITY AREA 1 HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

#### PRIORITY AREA 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

#### GOAL 3 All children learn and develop through high quality care

R5: Reliable, affordable child care is consistently  
available to families  
R6: Child care providers know and practice high-  
quality child care programming

#### GOAL 4 All children enter kindergarten ready to learn

R7: Parents and primary caregivers are educated  
on, prepared to, and engage in helping their  
children enter school ready to learn  
R8: Children have access to quality, affordable early  
learning experiences in their community (Birth-5)

#### GOAL 7 Early childhood systems are strong, integrated, sufficiently resourced, and equitable

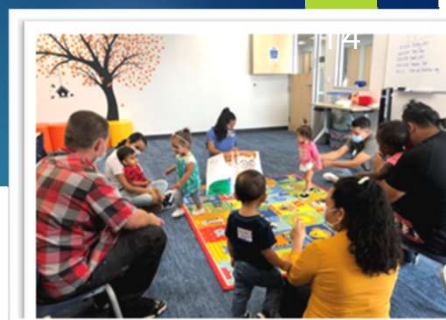
R12: Systems are strengthened with the increased  
capacity of providers  
R13: Systems are integrated with cross-sector  
partnerships and aligned goals, services,  
and outcomes  
R14: Systems are expanded and sustained with  
financial resources and legislative or policy  
changes  
R15: Systems are transformed so access, experiences,  
and outcomes are equitable for all young children  
and families

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

#### PRIORITY AREA 3 FAMILY SUPPORT AND PARENT EDUCATION

#### PRIORITY AREA 4 SYSTEMS CHANGE

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- ▶ Located in the highest need areas
  - ▶ Vallejo Center opened 2020, Fairfield Center opening 2024
- ▶ Welcoming space for parents & caregivers to participate together in learning activities
- ▶ Fun classes in early literacy, numeracy, art, science, cooking & nutrition, dance, music, kindergarten prep and more

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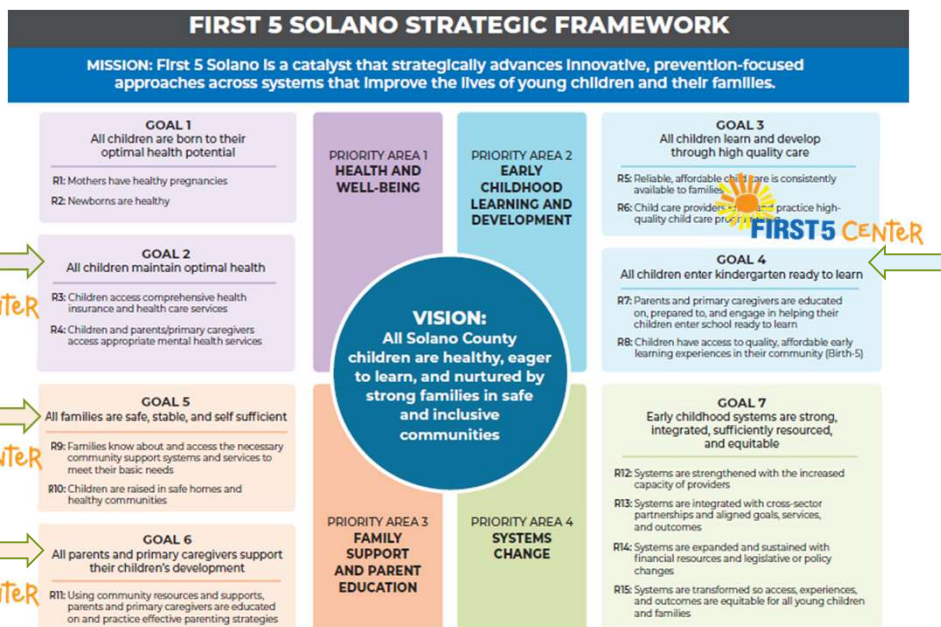
- ▶ Community Resource Specialist is on-site to consult with families and provide linkages to resources
- ▶ Provide limited basic needs, such as diaper distribution, strollers, books
- ▶ Developmental screenings
- ▶ Parent education and parent support

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### Return on Investment in FY2021/22

**Served:** 1156 individuals composed of 219 families participated in at least one class, activity, or event

**Outcomes:** 99% of families who completed a class series demonstrated increased knowledge and awareness upon completion of a post-series survey



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## LTFP Expenditure (Annual)

| Expenditure Category                            | First 5 Solano Funds | Other Funds in LTFP | Annual Amount                                |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|--|
| Evaluation/Data Collection                      | 120,000              |                     | 120,000                                      |
| Administration                                  | 460,000              |                     | 460,000                                      |
| Program Staffing and Operations                 | 755,000              | 65,000              | 820,000                                      |
| <b>Priorities 1-3 Allocated (HMG, PPP, F5C)</b> | <b>1,188,000</b>     | <b>925,000</b>      | <b>2,113,000</b><br>(plus 177,000 unsecured) |
| <b>Priorities 1-3 remaining</b>                 | <b>452,000</b>       |                     | <b>452,000</b>                               |
| Priority 4: Systems Change                      | 600,000              |                     | 600,000                                      |
| Community Engagement                            | 120,000              |                     | 120,000                                      |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>3,695,000</b>     | <b>990,000</b>      | <b>4,685,000</b>                             |

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## DISCUSSION

**Are These the Right  
Programs to Continue?**

18



## Other Strategies to Consider

19

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## Other Strategies for Consideration

20

**\$452,000**

| Strategy                           | FY2022/23 Funding | Next Steps/Considerations   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>Annual Grants</b>               | \$200,000         | ASR is conducting an evaluation of Annual Grants—will be presented at the August Commission Mtg           |
| <b>Diaper Bank</b>                 | \$50,000          | May become state funded through budget ask  |
| <b>Raising a Reader</b>            | \$75,000          | State budget includes \$10 mil for early literacy programming   |
| <b>Pre-K Academies</b>             | \$200,000         | Impacted by implementation of TK/UPK—Presentation at August Commission mtg—Problem appears to be resolved |
| <b>Family Support in Rio Vista</b> | \$50,000          | Rio Vista no longer second in Risk Factors map  |

Continued on next slide

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21

## Other Strategies for Consideration

\$452,000

| Strategy   | FY2022/23<br>Funding | Next Steps/Considerations   |
|--|----------------------|---|
| <b>Head Start—Beck Ave site</b>                  | \$50,000             | Current lease commitment through June 30, 2025  |
| <b>EPSDT-Mental Health Treatment</b>             | \$100,000            | Leverages a larger amount for services through H&SS; entitlement service; these funds ensure no wait list |
| <b>Perinatal Services for Black Moms</b>         | -                    | H&SS providing information on how Commission may be able to provide support in this area                  |
| <b>Ongoing Support for Early Learning Center</b> | -                    |   |
| <b>Others?</b>                                   | -                    |   |

Continued from previous slide

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## DISCUSSION:

Keeping in mind our  
3 lens's, are there other  
strategies to consider?

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## Next Steps:

- Receive Annual Grant Evaluation and Universal TK presentation at August Commission
- Receive program snapshots and rank other strategies for funding
- Finalize 2023-2028 Program Investment Plan

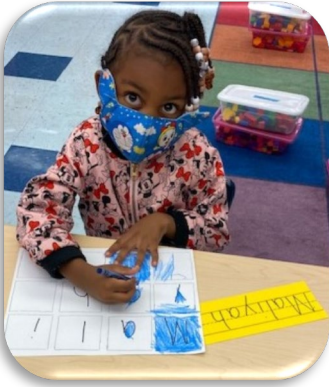
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## Questions?



# QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

FY2020/21 Outcomes



**IMPACT** (Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive) is a quality improvement program funded primarily from a grant from First 5 California. These funds are braided with funds from the California Department of Education and other funds to support Quality Counts Solano. Quality Counts Solano is delivered by Solano County Office of Education and supports quality early learning environments through professional development, coaching support, and technical assistance. In addition, the **Raising a Reader** book sharing program is offered to early childhood education programs to increase literacy and family engagement among high-risk children.



## HOW MUCH DID WE DO?

### IMPACT/Quality Counts

- 42 early learning sites participated in Quality Counts, including 9 newly enrolled this year.
- 21 professional development trainings were offered, with an average of 18 participants attending.
- Over 105 participants attended an early childhood conference hosted by Quality Counts Solano.

### Raising a Reader

- 424 children participated in Raising a Reader, with 19 sites and 27 implementors offering the program.



## HOW WELL DID WE DO IT?

### IMPACT/Quality Counts

- For the first time ever, the 2020 Quality Counts Early Education Conference was offered virtually with a keynote speaker and 16 breakout sessions.
- IMPACT sites remained consistently engaged through virtual coaching, and through deliveries of personal protective equipment, supplies and curriculum materials.

### Raising a Reader

- As sites began to reopen, modifications to the Raising a Reader book rotation included rebuilding the product supply for the program, providing literacy kits for teachers to support distance learning curriculum, and materials for families to engage in literacy activities at home.



## IS ANYONE BETTER OFF?

### IMPACT/Quality Counts

- 93% of sites developed quality improvement plans and made at least one change to enhance the quality of their program, such as adding social emotional learning curriculum materials and adding outdoor learning environments.

### Raising a Reader

- 89% of parents trained in read aloud strategies reported increased knowledge of early literacy.



# QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

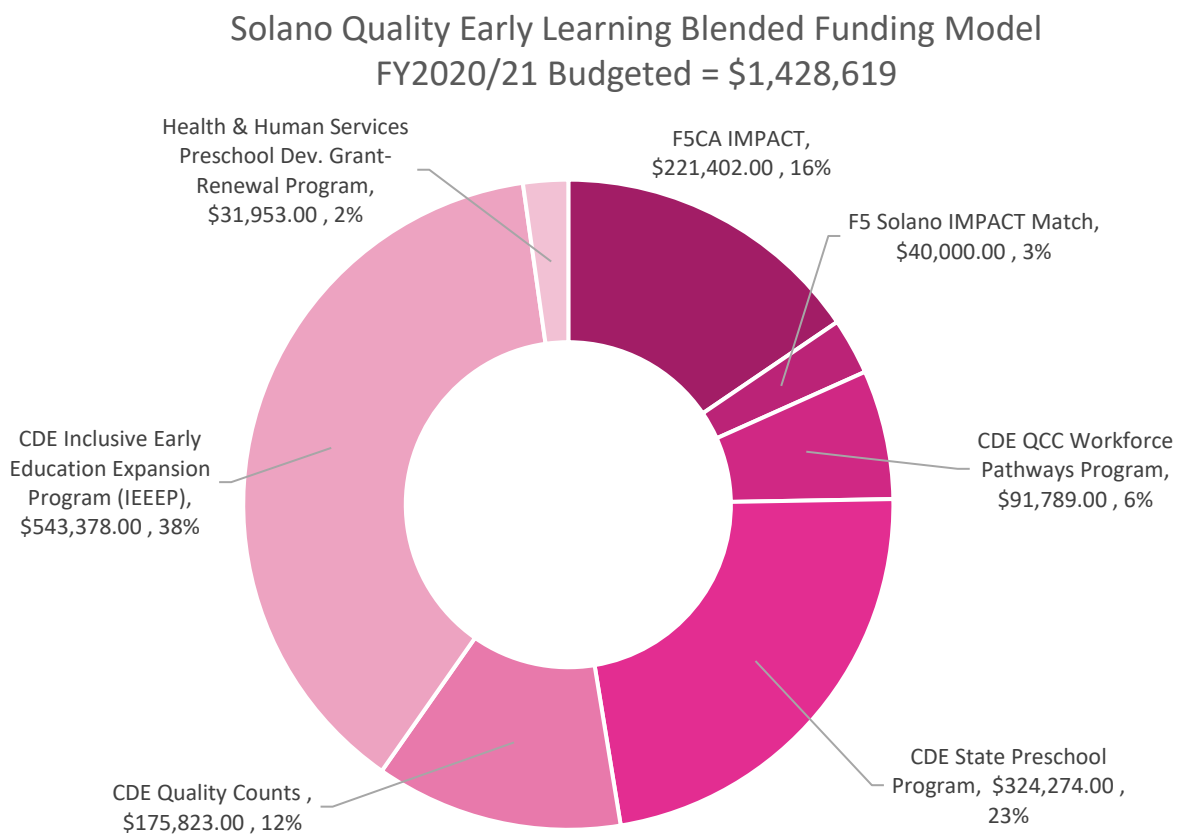
FY2020/21 Outcomes

## UTILIZING A BLENDED FUNDING MODEL

Beginning in 2015, First 5 California has provided funding for the IMPACT program. The current iteration, IMPACT 2020 will operate for three fiscal years, FY2020/21 through FY2022/23.

IMPACT operates as a component of a quality early learning system which also includes multiple grants from the California Department of Education and a grant from the federal Preschool Development program to provide support to different types of early care and learning professionals.

In Solano County, First 5 Solano partners with the Solano County Office of Education who delivers the program utilizing a blended funding model. Below is a chart of the blended funding that supports this program.



# HELP ME GROW SOLANO

FY2020/21 Outcomes



Help Me Grow Solano, an evidence-based program operated by Solano Family & Children's Services, provides a centralized access point to connect young children and families to community-based services. Family navigators provide education and support to families, referrals to resources, and follow up to ensure linkages are successful. Help Me Grow Solano also provides developmental screenings, Triple P Parent Education, and community outreach.



## HOW MUCH DID WE DO?

- 2,031 calls from families were received through the Help Me Grow Solano (HMG Solano) call line; 1,583 referrals to services were provided to families.
- 1,075 families with more than one high risk factor were provided family navigation.
- 380 developmental screens were administered electronically, and 159 screenings were completed in person
- Staff participated in 17 community outreach events or presentations and 25 community or service provider meetings.
- HMG Solano staff engaged with 50 new healthcare providers to inform them of services provided by HMG Solano.



## HOW WELL DID WE DO IT?

- 78% of callers were provided with at least one referral to a program or services.
- HMG Solano provided over 500 developmental screenings which resulted in 167 high risk referrals for significant concerns.
- HMG Solano Family Navigators provided 19 families with enhanced childcare referrals for additional support due to their child's behavior or development.



## IS ANYONE BETTER OFF?

- 91% of families that were provided a referral reported that they were successfully connected to services at follow-up.

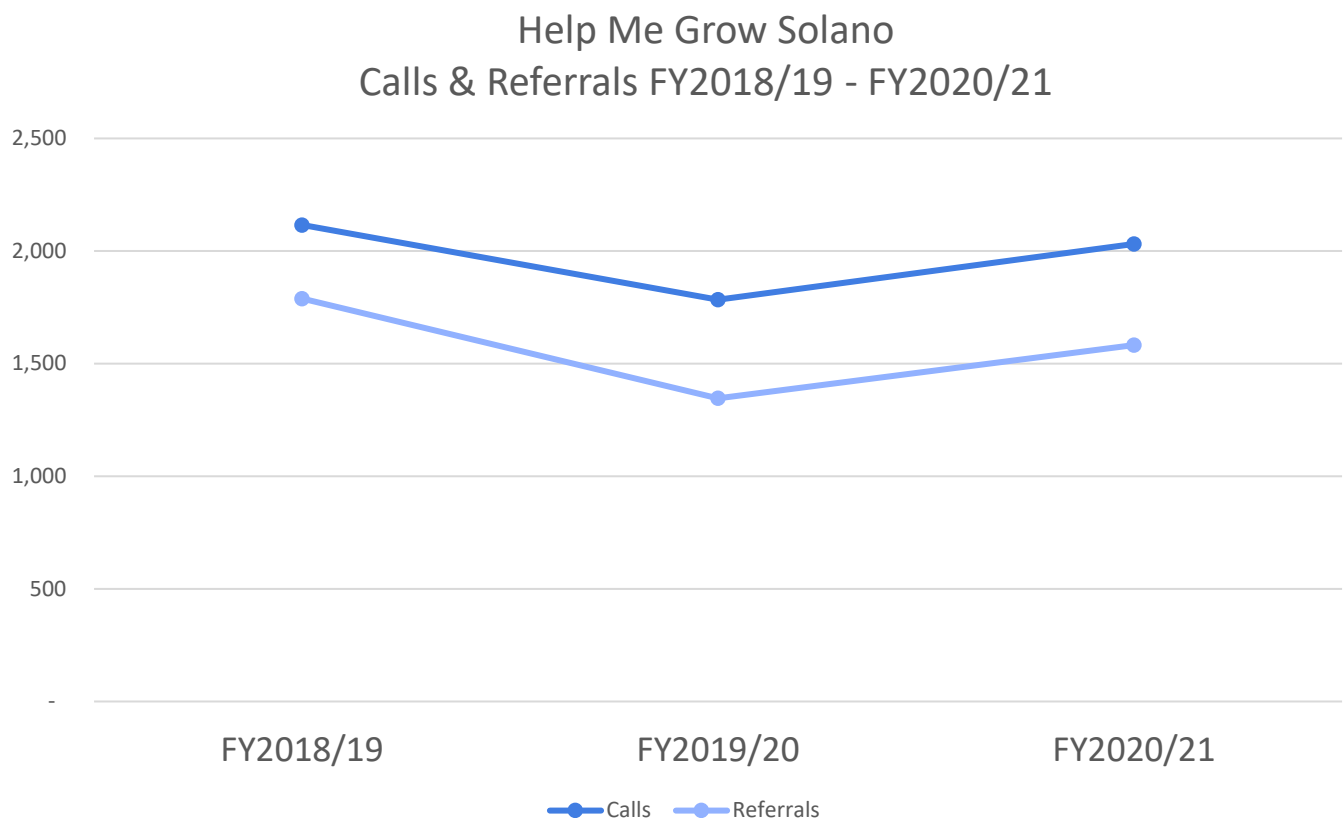
*A father reached out to HMG Solano requesting help to find a preschool for his son because he felt his son needed more opportunities to socialize with other children his age. When talking to him about his concerns, HMG Solano staff found out that he had not been working since the pandemic began. He was feeling overwhelmed with anxiety, panic attacks and depression. The family was also behind on their rent and utilities. HMG Solano staff provided resources and referrals for mental health, preschool, rental assistance and assistance for paying the utility bills. On the follow up telephone call this client was a different person over the phone! He was so happy and grateful that he found HMG Solano, and that he was able to get so many resources.*

# HELP ME GROW SOLANO

FY2020/21 Outcomes

## CONNECTIONS OVER TIME

Help Me Grow (HMG) Solano continues to support families through their call line by providing resources and referrals to appropriate agencies, and follow-up to ensure that linkages are successful. In FY2019/20 HMG Solano experienced a decrease in both calls and referrals due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The calls decreased as fewer families were calling for services due to stay at home orders and concerns about the safety of going out in public. The referrals decreased because many agencies were closed or providing limited services. In FY2020/21 HMG Solano had an increase in calls and referrals as agencies began to re-open and families became more comfortable in engaging with services.



# TRIPLE P SOLANO

FY2020/21 Outcomes



Triple P is an evidence-based parenting program that has been shown to strengthen families and improve children's developmental outcomes. The program offers varying levels of support, depending on families' needs. First 5 Solano funds classes and consultations throughout the county at three different levels: Level 2 seminars for large groups; Level 3 consultations with families who have children with mild/moderate behavioral challenges; and more intensive Level 4 group and individual positive parenting training sessions for families with greater needs. Triple P services are co-funded by Solano County Mental Health Services Act, who was also able to fund some services for families with children ages 6-12 for FY2020/21.



## HOW MUCH DID WE DO?

- **172 Level 2** seminars with **1,184** attendees
- **232** parents attended **Level 3 Primary Care**
- **35 Level 4 Groups** with **175** attendees
- **102** parents attended **Level 4 Individual**

### Solano County Triple P Providers

- Bay Area Community Resources
- Catholic Charities Yolo-Solano
- Child Haven
- Child Start
- Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
- Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- Parents by Choice
- Rio Vista CARE
- Solano County Office of Education
- Solano Family & Children's Services



## HOW WELL DID WE DO IT?

### Staffing

- 27 new facilitators were trained across multiple levels of interventions and accredited by Triple P America.

### Program Implementation

- Two new providers of Triple P services joined the collaborative of agencies offering parent training sessions in Solano County.
- Continued provision of Triple P via virtual format allowed parents flexibility to attend sessions during the pandemic, increasing parent engagement.

### Participant Satisfaction

- 98% of Level 4 participants would recommend this program to another parent.
- 99% of Level 4 participants rated the program overall as "excellent" or "good"



## IS ANYONE BETTER OFF?

Pre and post-participant surveys showed that nearly all parents improved in their parenting knowledge and skills.

*"Being able to talk to other parents about parenting issues as they arise was helpful."* -Triple P participant

### PERCENT OF PARENTS WITH IMPROVED PARENTING SKILLS



N = 1184 (Level 2); 232 (Level 3); 174 (Level 4 Group); 102 (Level 4 Ind)

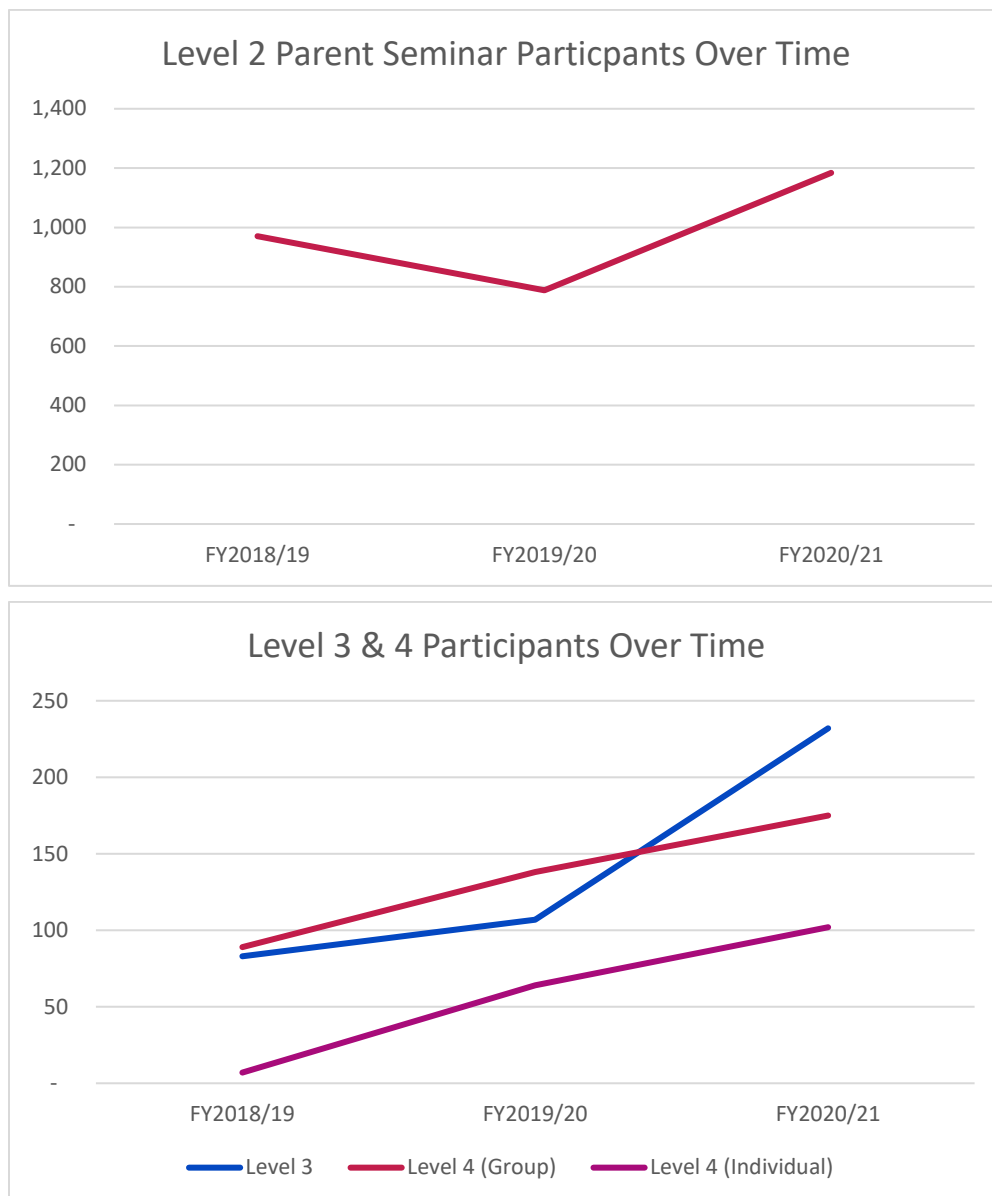
# TRIPLE P SOLANO

FY2020/21 Outcomes

## SERVICES OVER TIME

Triple P services begin in Solano County in FY2018/19 with a 3-year growth trajectory to get to the appropriate level of services needed in Solano County. The first year involved a significant amount of training for new facilitators to become accredited in all four interventions. FY2019/20 began full implementation, but was complicated by the COVID-19 pandemic and transitioning services to a virtual environment. In FY2020/21, agencies had found ways to deliver services safely with COVID-19 precautions, and the amount of services (especially more intensive services) increased significantly as seen in the charts below. It is expected that the level of services will continue at the FY2020/21 level for families with very young children.

### Number of Parent Participants in Triple P Interventions



# VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER

FY2020/21 Outcomes



The Vallejo First 5 Center is an innovative place-based hub where parents and caregivers with young children receive information and support and are connected to resources in their community. The Center promotes and supports healthy behavior, social and emotional development, and school readiness of children, as well as provide parents the tools they need to develop positive parent child-relationships and be connected to other families for peer-to-peer support. The Center opened in February 2020, and services are generously co-funded by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, Solano County Mental Health Services Act, and Kaiser Permanente.



## HOW MUCH DID WE DO?

- 1,156 individuals composing 219 families participated in at least one class, activity or event.
- The Community Resource Specialist provided consultation to 214 parents and caregivers, connecting them with community resources and providing follow up.
- 68 six-week parent/child classes and 9 Triple P Positive Parenting class series were held.
- Developmental screenings were completed for 210 children and 26 children who screened at-risk were referred for further follow up.
- Hosted 10 community events, including One Year Anniversary, Book Giveaway, Dental Days, Touro Healthy Families and Diaper Distribution.



## HOW WELL DID WE DO IT?

- In a satisfaction survey conducted February 2021, Center participants rated their satisfaction with the Center at 4.9 out of 5.
- During the COVID-19 related closures, the Center shifted services to virtual platforms, provided activities for children to do at home, and addressed families' basic needs.
- 99% of parents seen by the Community Resource Specialist reported they got their needs met.



## IS ANYONE BETTER OFF?

- 99% of families who completed a class series and completed a post series survey demonstrated increased knowledge and awareness of healthy behaviors and activities such as 1) Increased awareness of healthy eating for kids; 2) Increased ability to implement age-appropriate activities; and, 3) Increased ability to provide preschool and kindergarten readiness activities.

### A young child becomes fascinated with painting

*A two-year old attended the Fine Motor Champs class where the children participated in a finger-painting activity. The child had never painted before and was so excited about doing more painting that the family contacted the teacher to find out what type of paint and brushes they should purchase. They purchased paint, brushes, smocks, easels and paper. The child really loves painting, and the family is also painting together. They had no idea that the child was so creative and artistic.*

# VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER

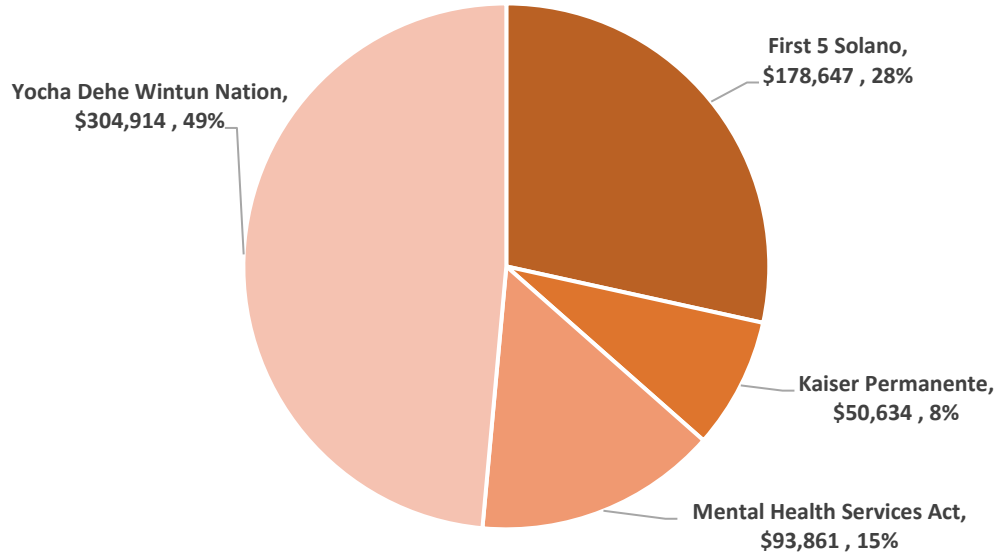
FY2020/21 Outcomes

## UTILIZING A BLENDED FUNDING MODEL

In 2017, when the Commission pursued development of a First 5 Center, the Commission envisioned a center which would take a multi-disciplinary, whole child, whole family approach. The Commission was also facing a significant decrease in annual revenues, so the Commission acknowledged that it could not fully fund the tenant improvements or programmatic implementation. First 5 Solano Commissioners and staff have prioritized creating a blending funding for the Center and made it a reality.

In FY2020/21 the Vallejo First 5 Center had four main sources of funding: Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, First 5 Solano, Solano County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), and Kaiser Permanente. The FY2020/21 expenditure by funding source is below.

Vallejo First 5 Center Blended Funding Model  
FY2020/21 Total Spent: \$628,056



### **Mother received resources and participates in activities at the Center**

*A Vallejo mother contacted the Community Resource Specialist at the Center as she was in search of diapers for her 9-month-old baby, as well as resources that may be useful to her growing family since she was 6 months pregnant. While the Center was closed due to the pandemic, the Community Resource Specialist was able to help her get what she needed and she continued to visit the Center during supply distributions to receive diapers and produce. The Center was also able to provide her with a gift card to assist her with other needs, such as purchasing a new infant car seat and clothing for her unborn child. Since the Center reopened in August, the mother has since participated in multiple classes with her child and has given birth to another healthy infant!*



**DATE:** June 9, 2022

**TO:** First 5 Solano Commission

**FROM:** Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager

**SUBJ:** **First 5 Solano 2022 Community Update**

In October 2021 the Commission received the FY2020/21 First 5 Solano Annual Report requested that staff develop a communication strategy to inform stakeholders about how First 5 Solano is making an impact in the lives of children 0-5 and their families.

In response to this request, staff worked with Applied Survey Research to develop the *2022 First 5 Solano Community Update Presentation and Brochure* to have a mechanism to widely broadcast the work that First 5 Solano is doing in our communities and share First 5 Solano's mission, vision, commitment to equity, programs, and outcomes.

Over the next several months, staff will be presenting this information to a variety of stakeholders in the community, including city councils, legislators, major healthcare organizations, nonprofit collaboratives, and more.

As part of this effort, we want to invite all Commissioners who would like to participate, along with staff, in these community update presentations.

[Attachment A](#): 2022 Community Update PowerPoint Presentation

[Attachment B](#): 2022 Community Update Brochure

[Attachment C](#): 2022 Community Update – Target Audiences



# FIRST 5 SOLANO

## 2022 Community Update





*Serving young children  
and their families in  
Solano County since 1999*

1

## Who is First 5 Solano?

Proposition 10 established in 1999  
50¢ tax on tobacco products  
Governed by Nine-Member Commission  
\$4 Million annual budget that funds programs & services for children ages 0-5 and their families



**NOW**  
Fund programs  
and services to  
support Solano  
County's  
youngest  
children (0-5)  
and their  
families

**FUTURE**  
Strengthen early  
childhood  
systems to  
support future  
generations

2

2

## What does First 5 Solano Do?

Makes investments to improve the lives of children 0-5 and strengthen early childhood systems based on:

- ☐ Data and Research
- ☐ The quality and potential impact of solutions to achieve goals and promote equity
- ☐ Leverage and partnership opportunities



3

3

## Mission and Vision

### 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*



### Vision

*All Solano County Children are healthy, eager to learn, and nurtured by strong families in safe and inclusive communities*

4

4

# Priority Areas

In partnership with the community, First 5 Solano supports efforts that contribute to its mission, vision, and goals in four priority areas



**PRIORITY AREA 1**  
**HEALTH AND**  
**WELL-BEING**



**PRIORITY AREA 2**  
**EARLY CHILDHOOD**  
**LEARNING AND**  
**DEVELOPMENT**



**PRIORITY AREA 3**  
**FAMILY SUPPORT AND**  
**PARENT EDUCATION**



**PRIORITY AREA 4**  
**SYSTEMS CHANGE**

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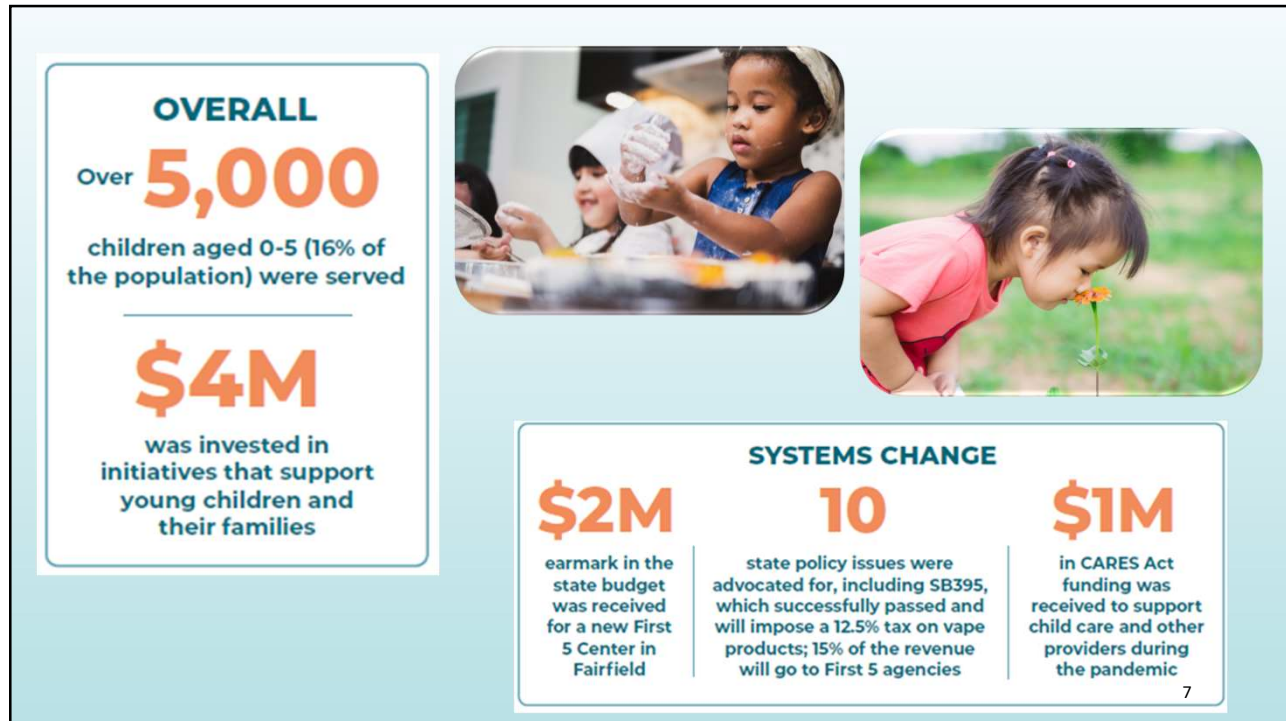
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**What is**  
**First 5 Solano's**  
**Impact in the**  
**Community?**

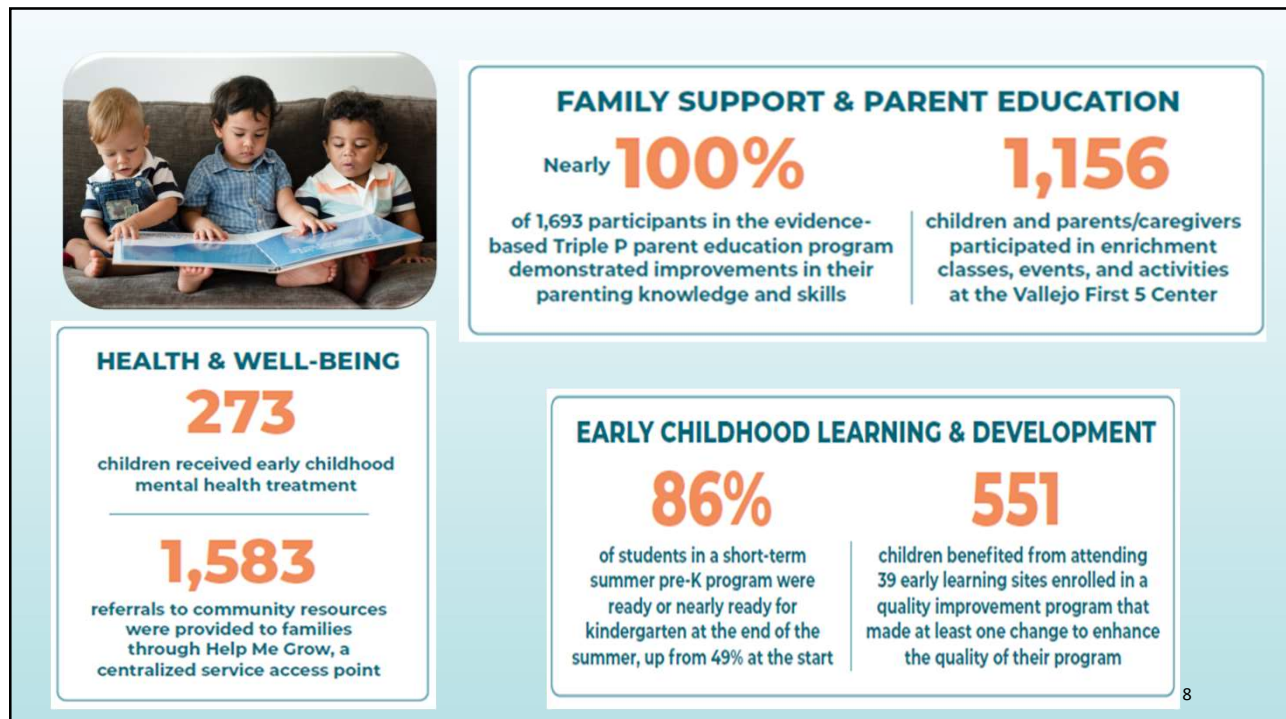


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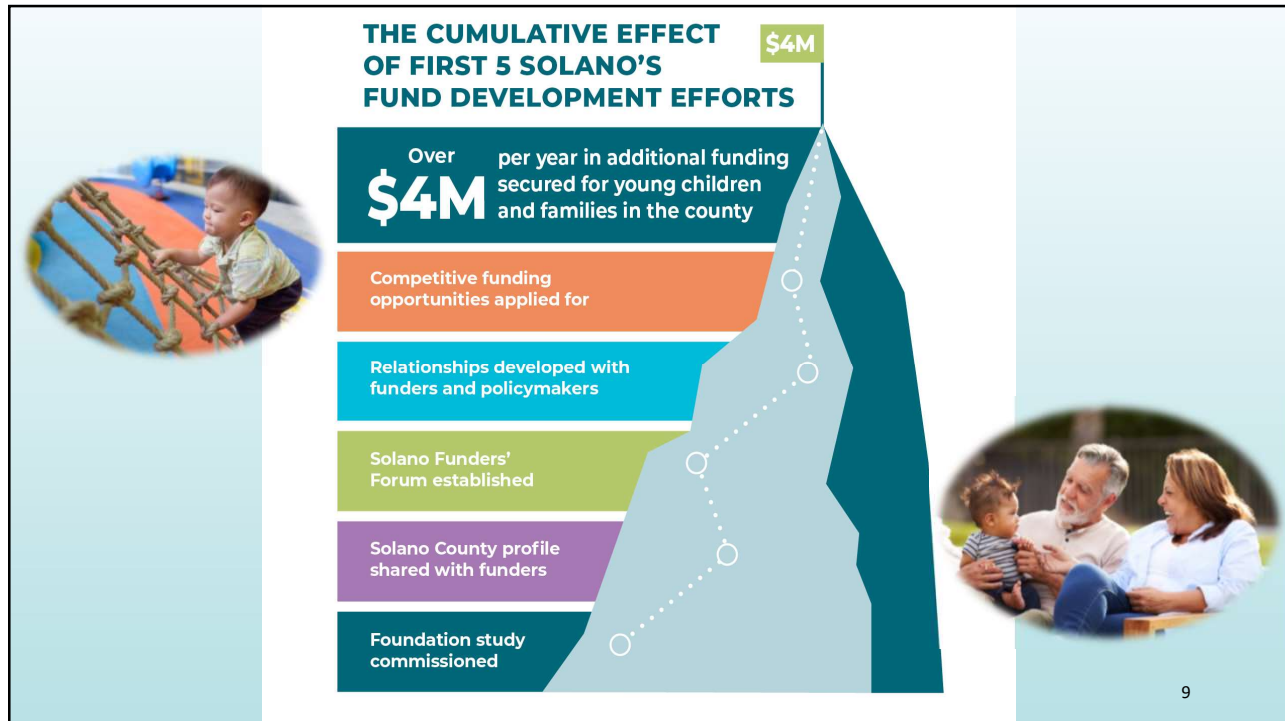


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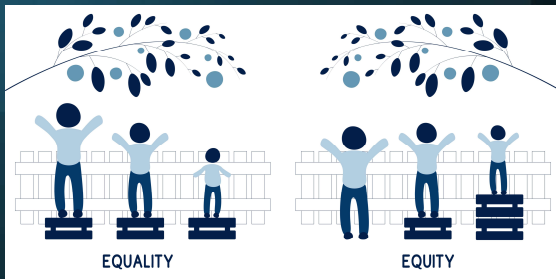
**INITIATIVE SPOTLIGHT:**  
**Vallejo First 5 Center**  
*An innovative place-based hub where children can learn, play & grow*

**STORY OF IMPACT:**  
*First 5 Solano helps a young mother*

10

10

## A Commitment to Equity



Advancing initiatives that will not only improve the lives of young children today, but will transform early childhood systems so access, experiences and outcomes are equitable for all young children and families for years to come.

11

11

## What's Next for First 5 Solano?



**Fairfield First 5 Center**



**New Early Learning Center in Vallejo**



**Child Care Business Management System**

12

12

## QUESTIONS?



# WHO IS FIRST 5 SOLANO?

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission (First 5 Solano) is an agency governed by a Commission of nine members appointed by the Solano County Board of Supervisors. It receives Proposition 10 tobacco tax dollars as well as other private and public funding to:

## NOW

Fund programs and services to support Solano County's youngest children (0-5) and their families.

## FUTURE

Strengthen early childhood systems to support future generations.

# WHAT DOES FIRST 5 SOLANO DO?

The foundation for a child's life is laid in the first five years. Before age five, 90% of a child's brain development occurs. First 5 Solano's work is guided by research demonstrating that positive early experiences are essential for children to have later success in school, the workplace, and the community. First 5 Solano makes investments to improve the lives of children 0-5 and strengthen early childhood systems based on:

- **Data and research** on community needs, such as gaps in services and disparities in outcomes, so First 5 Solano can have the greatest impact where it is needed most.
- **The quality and potential impact** of solutions to achieve First 5 Solano's goals and promote equity in the county.
- **Leveraging and partnership opportunities;** First 5 Solano is known for its ability to spark innovative initiatives and draw in partners to make these initiatives sustainable. Partners include:





## 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.

In partnership with the community, First 5 Solano supports efforts that contribute to its mission, vision, and goals in four priority areas:



### PRIORITY AREA 1 HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



### PRIORITY AREA 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT



### PRIORITY AREA 3 FAMILY SUPPORT AND PARENT EDUCATION



### PRIORITY AREA 4 SYSTEMS CHANGE

## VISION:

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

# WHAT IS FIRST 5 SOLANO'S IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY?

## First 5 Solano's Impact by the Numbers (FY2020/21)

### OVERALL

Over **5,000**

children aged 0-5 (16% of the population) were served

**\$4M**

was invested in initiatives that support young children and their families

### HEALTH & WELL-BEING

**273**

children received early childhood mental health treatment

**1,583**

referrals to community resources were provided to families through Help Me Grow, a centralized service access point

### EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

**86%**

of students in a short-term summer pre-K program were ready or nearly ready for kindergarten at the end of the summer, up from 49% at the start

**551**

children benefited from attending 39 early learning sites enrolled in a quality improvement program that made at least one change to enhance the quality of their program

### FAMILY SUPPORT & PARENT EDUCATION

Nearly **100%**

of 1,693 participants in the evidence-based Triple P parent education program demonstrated improvements in their parenting knowledge and skills

**1,156**

children and parents/caregivers participated in enrichment classes, events, and activities at the Vallejo First 5 Center

### SYSTEMS CHANGE

**\$2M**

earmark in the state budget was received for a new First 5 Center in Fairfield

**10**

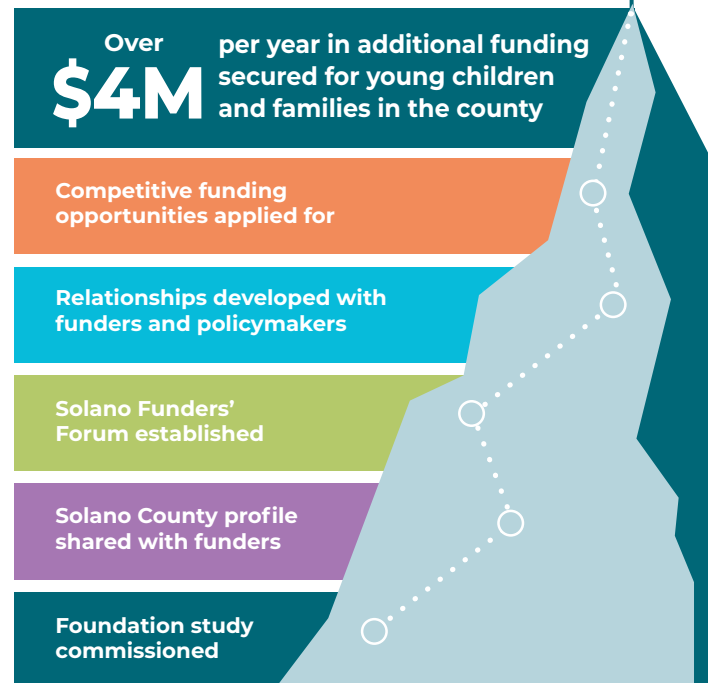
state policy issues were advocated for, including SB395, which successfully passed and will impose a 12.5% tax on vape products; 15% of the revenue will go to First 5 agencies

**\$1M**

in CARES Act funding was received to support child care and other providers during the pandemic

**First 5 Solano's success in achieving outcomes for young children and families** is the result of years of effort by First 5 Solano Commissioners and staff to research the greatest needs of children 0-5 and identify evidence-informed solutions to address those challenges. For example, First 5 Solano's success in attracting funding for early childhood began with sponsoring a foundation study in 2016 that found Solano County is significantly underfunded relative to all other counties in the Bay Area despite having the highest family poverty rate. It responded to the recommendations in the report by raising Solano County's profile with government and foundation funders; connecting funders with Solano-based agencies through the Solano Funders' Forum; developing relationships with funders and policymakers; and applying for competitive funding opportunities that align with First 5 Solano's mission. As a result, **Solano now attracts over \$4 million in additional funding for children and families in the county every year.**

## THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF FIRST 5 SOLANO'S FUND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS



## INITIATIVE SPOTLIGHT: VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER

The Vallejo First 5 Center is an innovative place-based hub in Solano's highest-need neighborhood that engages families and provides a space for children to play, learn, and grow. The success of the Center led to it being highlighted by the First 5 Association of California as a model of system integration and spawned a movement to bring a similar initiative to the highest need neighborhood in Fairfield. Following advocacy from First 5 Solano Commissioners and staff, First 5 Solano received \$2 million from the State of California and partnered with the City of Fairfield for a facility to launch this new center.

## FIRST 5 SOLANO HELPS A YOUNG MOTHER IN NEED

A young single mother recently contacted the Vallejo First 5 Center in desperate need of basic needs assistance. She had given birth much earlier than expected and was overwhelmed with mixed emotions and the many needs of her newborn. With the help of the Center, the family was able to receive a car seat and pack and play for the baby. At pick-up, with tears in her eyes, the new mom's aunt said, "I have no words to describe how grateful we are to your program for assisting us during this unexpected and challenging time. You are a blessing to our family and our community."





## A COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

As one of the most diverse counties in the nation, Solano County has been particularly affected by COVID-19 and systemic inequities, underscoring the importance of efforts to make systems fair and just for all young children and families in the county. First 5 Solano is committed to advancing initiatives that will not only improve the lives of young children today, but will transform early childhood systems so access, experiences, and outcomes are equitable for all young children and families for years to come. Equity is at the core of First 5's work; through data and evidence-informed strategies, it identifies and works towards eliminating opportunity gaps that prevent young children from reaching their potential.



## WHAT'S NEXT FOR FIRST 5 SOLANO?



### FAIRFIELD FIRST 5 CENTER

In 2021, First 5 Solano received \$2 million from the state to help launch a center in Fairfield that will provide children and families with education and enrichment opportunities and connection to community resources and supports. Modeled after the highly successful Vallejo First 5 Center, the Fairfield First 5 Center will be a hub for family support and community engagement in Fairfield's highest need neighborhood. The City of Fairfield is providing a 6,000 square foot facility on North Texas Street to house the Center.



### NEW EARLY LEARNING CENTER IN VALLEJO

Licensed child care is unavailable and unaffordable for the majority of Solano County's working families, and the pandemic only worsened this crisis. A major barrier to expanding the availability of care in the county is a lack of facilities. In response to this need, First 5 Solano is establishing an early learning center on the site of the now-closed Beverly Hills Elementary School in South Vallejo. It will provide child care and early learning opportunities for nearly 300 young children in the county.



### CHILD CARE BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The pandemic had a significant, detrimental impact on the finances of child care providers who lost income due to reduced enrollment and increased costs to operate safely during COVID-19. To help providers become more sustainable through better management of their enrollment and finance data, First 5 Solano is sponsoring a business management system that child care providers will be able to use at no cost to them.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more, see First 5 Solano's website:

<https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/first5/default.asp>

| 2022 First 5 Solano Community Update |  |                                 |          |       |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------|-------|
| Target Group                         | Audience   | Commissioner                    | Staff    | Notes |
| Solano Funders Forum                 | Solano Funders Forum-Quarterly Meeting   | NA                              | Lorraine |       |
| Government                           | Board of Supervisors   |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | City of Benicia  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | City of Dixon  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | City of Fairfield  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | City of Rio Vista  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | City of Suisun City  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | City of Vacaville  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | City of Vallejo  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
| Legislators                          | Assm. Wilson   |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | Senator Dodd   |                                 | Lorraine |       |
|                                      | Congressman Garamendi  |                                 | Lorraine |       |
| Healthcare                           | Solano Coalition for Better Health (Kaiser, La Clinica, NorthBay Healthcare, Ole Health, Partnership HeathPlan, Sutter Health, | Commissioner Huber              | Michele  |       |
| Schools                              | School District Superintendent's Meeting (SCOE) - Group Presentation   | Commissioner Estrella-Henderson | Michele  |       |
| Nonprofit Collaboratives             | Healthy Solano   |                                 | Kwiana   |       |
|                                      | Solano Kids Thrive   |                                 | Kwiana   |       |
|                                      | Child Abuse Prevention Council   |                                 | Gene     |       |
|                                      | Local Childcare Planning Council   |                                 | Megan    |       |
|                                      | System of Care Interagency Leadership Team   |                                 | Megan    |       |

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

June 06, 2022, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
3375 Sonoma Blvd Ste 30, Vallejo, CA

**Minutes**

Commissioners present (remotely via Zoom video conference): Commissioner Hannigan, Commissioner Wanberg, Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Chair Wanberg called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

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

There were no public or Commissioner comments.

**II. Consent Calendar**

***Motion:***

- A. Approve the June 06, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the April 04, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting minutes
- C. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report
- D. Adopt resolution 2022-09 authorizing 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 June 6, 2022 to July 5, 2022.

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

**Approved 3-0-0**

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

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**III. Program Investment Plan**

Executive Director Michele Harris presented the 2023-2028 Program Investment Plan (PIP) presentation for the June 15<sup>th</sup> full commission meeting. The PIP communicates how funds will be allocated toward strategies that contribute to strategic goals and results. Its functions include reviewing recent allocations against Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) policies, directs program investment funds to initiatives aligned with strategic priority areas, goals, and results, provides a timeline for funding. PIP has the following timeline: in May, LTFP decisions determine annual expenditure by category, in June PIP discussions on initiatives begin, in August there will be an annual grant evaluation, Universal TK presentation, and will discuss gaps in services with potential strategies, in October PIP strategies and funding will be finalized, and in December PIP and LTFP will be approved. Strategies to be considered with full Commission include Annual Grant evaluation, funding for Diaper Bank, Raising a Reader, Pre-K

Academies, Family Support in Rio Vista, Head Start, EPSDT Mental Health Treatment, Perinatal Services for Black Moms, and Ongoing Support for Early Learning Center. The Committee provided feedback on how the presentation should be organized and the documentation they would like to see prior to making a decision.

#### **IV. 2022 Systems Change Implementation Plan**

Lorraine Fernandez, First 5 Solano Program Manager, reviewed the updated Systems Change Implementation Plan. The implementation plan update outlines specific strategies and activities that will be implemented over the next 18 months. The new result area for equity (Systems must transform so that access, experiences, and outcomes are equitable for all young children and families) is the largest change in the implementation plan.. To implement, First 5 Solano will prioritize equity in policies, practices, and investments as well as increase the capacity of policymakers, providers, and system leaders to achieve equity.

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

##### **A. Program Updates**

No updates

##### **B. Community Engagement Updates**

First 5 Solano Health Education Specialist Kwiana Algere advised that First 5 Solano will be hosting a Family Zone at the Solano County Fair, from June 17<sup>th</sup>-June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 12-6. Also, First 5 Solano now has an Instagram account, handle @First5Solano. The Community Responsive Mini Grants, for the first quarter, are now available. Closing date is June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Grants total \$30,000 to fund community engagement, professional development, and materials for programs.

##### **C. Systems Change Updates**

First 5 Solano Program Manager Lorraine Fernandez thanked Commissioner Erin Hannigan and Vallejo City Council Member Pippin Dew for advocating for First 5 Solano at recent City Council meeting, which granted First 5 \$500,000.

First 5 was awarded \$5,000 from Genentech for Pre-K academies.

First 5 wrote a letter of support for AB 1649, which will help childcare providers receive a maximum 35 hours for attendance, per child instead of actual days and hours.

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

Executive Director Michele Harris advises that First 5 is fully staffed and on track.

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

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, August 1, 2022, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Future agenda items include: Program Investment Planning, Annual Grant Evaluation, Strategic Plan Implementation Updates, and Staffing and Finance.

### **Adjourn**

Chair Wanberg adjourned the meeting at 11:17 AM.

Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III

Approved:



**DATE:** June 9, 2022

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

**FROM:** Michele Harris, Executive Director

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

**California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Training: Leading for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) in County Government:** On May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, First 5 Solano Deputy Director Megan Richards and Program Manager Lorraine Fernandez attended a CSAC 2-day DEI training for leaders. This training focused on a systems approach to support organizational leaders and their teams in the development of deep belief systems and understanding of diversity that empowers them to be proactive and responsive to the diverse needs of the people they serve.

**Letters of Support:**

AB1649 (Quirk-Silva): On May 17<sup>th</sup> First 5 Solano submitted a letter of support for AB1649. This bill will allow community serving partners to more equitably support all income eligible families through changes to childcare vouchers in the Alternative Payment Program (APP). AB 1649 would change the APP requirements to reimburse childcare providers based upon the maximum certified hours of care instead of the actual days and hours of attendance. (See Attachment A)

SupplyBank.org: On May 25<sup>th</sup> First 5 Solano provided a letter of support to SupplyBank.org to support their efforts to continue and expand the First 5 Solano Diaper Kit Program. (See Attachment B)

**Genentech grant application approved for Pre-K Academies:** On April 18<sup>th</sup> First 5 Solano submitted a grant application for \$10,000 to support the Pre-K Academies. On May 13<sup>th</sup> Genentech approved a \$5,000 grant.

**Apricot Client Database System Update:** 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 has been working with consultants from Social Solutions Global, Inc. on the development of the system and are preparing for deployment of the new system in July. Grantee trainings have been scheduled beginning in mid-June via a phased approach for users who will immediately access the client database. Training for fiscal reporting will occur shortly thereafter, and training for performance reporting is expected to occur in September/October.

**Community Partnership Award:** Kwiana Algere represented First 5 Solano at the Solano Partnership Against Violence and the Solano County District Attorney's Office Community Partners Speed Networking event on May 24, 2022. This event provided opportunities to present information about your organization, program, and services. The event featured thirty-four agency presentations and resource tables. As a part of participating in the networking event a certificate



of appreciation was presented by the Solano County District Attorney to First 5 Solano and the other thirty-three agencies.

[Attachment A](#): AB1649 Letter of Support

[Attachment B](#): Diaper Bank Program Letter of Support



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS

May 13, 2022

## COMMISSIONERS

Erin Hannigan

*Chair*

Jennifer Barton

Lisette Estrella-Henderson

Amy Fabi

Erin Hannigan

Gerald Huber

Neely McElroy

Tiffanee Jones

Nimat Shakoor-Grantham

Tyffany Wanberg

Assemblymember Chris R. Holden  
Chair, Committee on Appropriations  
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 5650  
P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0041

### Re: SUPPORT – AB 1649 (Quirk-Silva): Childcare Services: Alternative Payment Programs

Dear Assemblymember Holden,

On behalf of the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission, I write in strong support of AB1649 (Quirk-Silva). This bill will allow community serving partners to more equitably support all income eligible families through changes to childcare vouchers in the Alternative Payment Program (APP).

AB 1649 requires the APP to reimburse childcare providers based upon the maximum certified hours of care instead of the actual days and hours of attendance. During the pandemic, families have been able to receive vouchers with a set dollar amount to purchase childcare that guarantee any providers accepting the vouchers a set payment amount, but this policy is set to expire June 30, 2022. These changes are needed because many families have work schedules that fluctuate as the current COVID-19 public health emergency continues.

First 5 Solano believes that all California's youngest children deserve to be healthy, safe, and ready for success in school and life. This legislation will ensure consistent access to high-quality early childhood care and education facilities that promote social-emotional learning and help young children build critical early literacy and math skills, setting them on the path for school readiness and long-term academic success.

AB 1649 will support fair and equitable access to childcare for our lowest income families; assures stability in the lives of children; and, reimburses childcare providers based on the maximum number of certified hours of care needed by an income-eligible family, rather than being based on attendance.

For these reasons, the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission is pleased to support AB1649 and we appreciate your consideration of this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Michele Harris  
Executive Director, First 5 Solano  
(707) 784-1340  
mdharris@solanocounty.com

## 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*



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Office



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS

May 25, 2022

## COMMISSIONERS

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Lisette Estrella-Henderson

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## Re: Support for Expansion of First 5 Diaper Kit Program in Solano County

To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing to respectfully convey our strong support for the continuation and expansion of the Diaper Kit Program administered by the nonprofit SupplyBank.org in partnership with the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission (First 5 Solano). Specifically, we are requesting support for this critical need to ensure that diapers and wipes are available to all economically vulnerable families with young children in our county.

"Diaper need" affects 1 in 3 parents in the United States and a supply of diapers for a single child can cost up to \$80 a month. This makes diapers the third or fourth-greatest cost burden for many families using CalWORKs benefits after rent, food, and sometimes transportation. With a pre-pandemic average of nearly 40,000 emergency room and inpatient visits in California per year related to diaper need, this issue causes severe health consequences for infants and toddlers and significant costs to the state. Diapers are also a requirement for most childcare providers, making diaper need a barrier to affordable childcare and thus to employment.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the demand for diaper assistance in California has exploded and continues to persist at record levels, as the enduring impacts of the pandemic continue to be felt particularly acutely by economically vulnerable families. According to a March 2021 report by the Brookings Institution, the negative economic impacts of the pandemic may last a decade, which suggests that demand for diaper bank services will remain at high levels for at least several years. Additionally, the "COVID Hardship Watch" series by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities recently reported that despite the provision of temporary federal relief programs related to the pandemic, three in ten California households still had trouble affording usual household expenses. Further, in February 2021 SupplyBank.org completed a 58-county emergency supplies assessment in which nearly every California county ranked diapers at the second-highest or highest level of need, putting diaper need at levels equal to or greater even than the need for pandemic PPE. The need for wipes was ranked even higher, on average, than diapers.

The Diaper Kit Program in partnership with SupplyBank.org provides diaper kits to 215 participants each month at several sites in our county, with each kit containing 80-100 diapers and 200 baby wipes. This program has been an asset to struggling families in the Solano County community especially during times of enduring economic hardship due to the pandemic and is worthy of expansion to support more families with these critical supplies. Furthermore, according to the California Department of Health Care Access and Information, in the four years leading up to the pandemic, there were 1,691 hospital visits in Solano County tied to the top three symptoms of diaper need, the substantial majority of which were the emergency room.

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We understand that resources are limited and feel that investing in the health of our youngest county residents, while relieving a key cost pressure for their parents, is a critical priority in our county. Further, SupplyBank.org, the nonprofit that administers the distribution of the Diaper Kit Program, has shown an efficient and effective model to address diaper need in our county. This model allows participants to receive a \$70 value of diapers and wipes each month, which SupplyBank.org can provide for pennies on the dollar due to high value purchasing agreements and efficiency in distribution infrastructure. This efficiency is passed on to our county and to families in need of financial support as SupplyBank.org is able to purchase and provide more supplies directly to families. This form of efficiency is not traditionally available to economically vulnerable families in our county and state directly, but is made possible through SupplyBank.org's programming and model.

With waitlists extending into years, we wholeheartedly support the continuation and expansion of the Diaper Kit Program in our county. Please feel free to reach out with any questions regarding this worthy investment in our community's youngest children and their families.

Sincerely,



Michele Harris  
Executive Director, First 5 Solano  
(707) 784-1340  
mdharris@solanocounty.com

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