

POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
March 6, 2023 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA 94590

CALL TO ORDER

I. Introductions, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment

II. Consent Calendar

Action

- A. Approve the March 6, 2023 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the [October 3, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
- C. Receive the [Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report](#)

III. Early Learning Center

Information/Discussion

Receive an update on the [Early Learning Center](#)
Michele Harris, Executive Director

IV. Equity Audit

Information/Discussion

Receive an update on the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
[Equity Audit](#)
Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager; Pati Navalta, Navalta Media

V. Mid-Year Performance Report

Information

Receive the [FY2022/23 Mid-Year Performance Report](#)
Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager; Denise Winters, Deputy Director;
Gene Ibe, Program Manager; Juanita Morales, Program Manager

VI. 2016 Strategic Plan Implementation Updates

Information/Discussion

Receive updates on the following:
A. Community Engagement Update
Kwiana Algere, Health Education Specialist
B. Systems Change Update
Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager

VII. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Information

Receive a report on First 5 Solano staffing and financials.
Denise Winters, Deputy Director

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

Information

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, April 3, 2023, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Future agenda items include Early Learning Center update, 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**

October 03, 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

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

I. Introduction, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment

There were no public or Commissioner comments.

II. Consent Calendar

Motion:

- A. Approve the October 03, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the August 01, 2022 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting minutes
- C. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report
- D. Adopt resolution 2022-13 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 October 3, 2022 to November 4, 2022.

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Wanberg
Approved 2-0-0**

Yea: Commissioners Hannigan, Wanberg

Nay: None

Abstain: None

III. Annual Review of Policies

Motion:

Consider recommending approval of a Commission Reserve Policy

Executive Director Michele Harris presented the proposed Commission Reserve Policy, which recommends maintaining a Reserve balance of \$5M to \$8M. Should the Reserve balance be less than \$5M, the Commission will budget for no draw on Reserve until the Reserve has a minimum \$5M balance. Should the Reserve balance be in excess of \$8M, the Commission will develop a Reserve Spending Plan together with the Program Investment Plan Update. Should the Reserve balance be between \$5M and \$8M, the Commission may develop a Reserve Spending Plan. The Reserve amount and need for a Reserve Spending Plan will be reassessed with each Program Investment Plan Update.

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Wanberg
Approved 2-0-0**

Yea: Commissioners Hannigan, Wanberg

Nay: None

Abstain: None

IV. 2023-2032 Draft Long Term Financial Plan

This item was an information/discussion item. Commissioner Hannigan asked for clarification on spending categories, which are Administration, Program, and Data Collection/Evaluation. Executive Director Harris explained that Proposition 10 mandates First 5s across the state be setup with these spending categories and who/what fits into each category.

V. 2023 Program Investment Planning

Commissioners Wanberg and Hannigan concur that the 2023 Program Investment Plan (PIP) looks good and the only question raised, per Commissioner Hannigan, was when the Programmatic Investment section would be complete. ED Harris explained that after our next Commission meeting, scheduled for October 19th, 2022, this section will be complete.

VI. Year-End Contract Performance and Fiscal Report

Gene Ibe, First 5 Contract Manager, presented on Year-End performance of grantees and explained that majority of grantees met their performance measures. Bay Area Community Resources was one of the grantees who did not meet all of their expected performance measures, meeting 18 out of 25 of their measures. This was mainly due to major staffing changes, which resulted in lack of progress in the first 6 months. Another area that experienced staffing difficulty was in Triple P with two grantees (Child Haven and Fairfield-Suisun Adult School) terminating their contracts. Commissioners Hannigan and Wanberg raised the question of how to offer Triple P not only by agencies but by individuals and discussed how to possibly approach this issue.

VII. 2016 Strategic Plan Implementation Updates

A. Pre-K Academies - Juanita Morales, First 5 Contract Manager, presented an update on the 2022 Pre-K Academies. 227 children attended Pre-K Academies, with a large portion never having a prior preschool experience. First 5 partnered with Solano County Office of Education and was able to present a comprehensive orientation to all providers, a curriculum guide, and backpacks for participants that were filled with early learning supplies. As a part of this program, Solano County provided free dental exams for the children who participated.

- B. Community Engagement Update – Kwiana Algere, First 5 Solano Health Education Specialist, gave an update on the Community Responsive Mini Grants, which just concluded it's first funding cycle. This cycle funded 9 applicants with \$30,000 total. The second cycle begins October 17th and includes grants for Community Engagement Events, Professional Development, Materials and Equipment Purchase, or Limited-Time Program. The second cycle will award \$15,000 total and is for activities occurring from January 2023-June 2023. Ms. Algere also discussed the near completion of the First 5 2023 calendar. This calendar is more community focused, featuring community members, and will have a resource page and quick tips throughout the calendar.
- C. Systems Change Update - Lorraine Fernandez, First 5 Solano Contract Manager, presented two updates. Firstly, Ms. Fernandez discussed the kickoff meeting between First 5 Solano and Navalta Media, who will be handling the Commission's equity initiative. The first phase in this will include Navalta performing an audit of F5S's work, including Systems Change, annual reports, Commission meetings notes, etc. The second phase will focus on creating an internal equity strategy and implementation strategy. Additionally, Ms. Fernandez discussed F5S's meeting with Assemblymember Lori Wilson. This meeting focused on the pending build of the First 5 Center in Fairfield and beginning an advocacy effort to bring in alternate sources of funding.

VIII. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

ED Harris discussed the ongoing search for applications for F5S's new Deputy Director.

IX. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date Location

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, December 5, 2022, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Future agenda items include: Program Investment Planning, 2023 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform, Strategic Plan Implementation Updates, and Staffing and Finance.

Adjourn

Chair Wanberg adjourned the meeting at 10:59 AM.

Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III

Approved:

2023 COMMISSIONER MEETING ATTENDANCE LOG

COMMISSION MEETINGS												
	1/18/2023	FEB	3/15/2023	4/19/2023	MAY	6/21/2023	JUL	8/16/2023	SEP	10/18/2023	NOV	12/13/2023
HANNIGAN	NO MEETING	NO MEETING					NO MEETING		NO MEETING		NO MEETING	
WANBERG												
BARTON												
ESTRELLA-HENDERSON												
HUBER												
FABI												
JONES												
SHAKOOR-GRANTHAM												
McELROY												
POLICY & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETINGS												
	JAN	FEB	3/6/2023	4/3/2023	MAY	6/5/2023	JUL	8/7/2023	SEP	10/2/2023	11/27/2023	DEC
WANBERG	NO MEETING	NO MEETING			NO MEETING		NO MEETING		NO MEETING			NO MEETING
FABI												
HANNIGAN												

FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION MEETING ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Solano County Code (Chapter 7.3) and First 5 Commission Policy set forth the requirements of Commissioner meeting attendance. Per these documents, Commissioners cannot miss three Meetings in a row or more than 50% of Meetings in a calendar year, whereas "Meetings" are defined as meetings of the full Commission per the approved annual Commission Meeting Schedule. In addition, Commissioners serving on a standing Committee cannot miss more than 50% of Committee Meeting.

Date: March 1, 2023

TO: Amy Fabi, Policy and Oversight Committee (POC) Chair
Erin Hannigan and Tyffany Wanberg, POC Members

FROM: Michele Harris, Executive Director

SUBJ: **Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Staff Report**

Agenda Item III: Early Learning Center

First 5 Solano, Child Start, Inc. and the Solano Office of Education have partnered on a project to establish an Early Learning Center in Vallejo to provide high quality early learning opportunities for children and safe and consistent child care for working families. This project involves the repurposing of a surplus elementary school site, Beverly Hills Elementary, into an early learning facility in Vallejo.

The facility will provide a variety of early care and education opportunities for infants through preschoolers and families of all income levels, for a total capacity of up to 200 slots. In addition, the project is providing opportunities for Family Based Child Care homes to move from a home-based facility to a larger Center-Based facility located within the Early Learning Center.

After over a year of negotiating with the school district for a lease, it became clear to all parties that the best course of action would be to buy the building instead of leasing it. The primary driver for this is that both the renovations and ongoing operations are too cost prohibitive to keep it a school district site.

The ELC Team, First 5 Solano; Terra Realty Advisors (First 5 Solano's real estate advisor and negotiator); Child Start; Solano County Office of Education; and the Vallejo City Unified School District) have been navigating a path toward purchasing the building and deeding it to Child Start, who is the local Head Start provider and will be the owner of the building. They will operate the ELC and lease classrooms to private providers to fill the remaining classrooms.

First 5 Solano submitted a Letter of Intent on February 2, 2023 indicating interest in purchasing the site. Staff have been working with Terra Realty Advisors and Solano County Counsel to develop a Proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA) for approval by the Board of Supervisors and the First 5 Solano Commission. We anticipate bringing forward a closed-session item to this Commission at its March 15, 2023 meeting to discuss the details of this PSA.

On another front, staff have been working on raising funds to cover the renovations. The renovation estimate has been as low as \$3M and as high as \$16M. We think we are narrowing down on a reasonable estimate of \$12M for the school renovation. To date, we have commitments for \$10.9M, so we are inching closer toward our goal every day! We also have \$6M in requests that are being considered. Because we are so close to our \$12M goal, we have set a new stretch goal of \$16M, which would allow us to construct a new Resources Building. This resource building would house agencies that support the providers, children and families. Examples of what would be housed at that Community Resources Building are: Early Learning Coaches, a STEAM Lab for the children, and a Family Resource Center.

This project is so very exciting as there is nothing like the ELC in California. We would be a pilot program with a model that could be scaled across the state where there are surplus school sites and child care needs in the community.

To support fund development and community engagement for this project Navalta Media has created a Project FAQ sheet and an Information Sheet for Funders. See [Attachments B and C](#).

Agenda Item IV: Equity Audit

In August 2022, First 5 Solano selected Navalta Media to conduct an equity audit of the Commission's work and provide a workplan for equity strategies focusing on internal processes. An equity audit is a systematic, comprehensive research method that evaluates an organization's performance, capacity, and effectiveness, with a focus on communications. Phase 1 of the equity audit has been underway since September 2022.

Navalta Media has completed the following elements of Phase 1: conducting key informant interviews; and, conducting a comprehensive audit and review of external and internal documents and communications.

[Attachment D](#): First 5 Equity Report Executive Summary

[Attachment E](#): Presentation – First 5 Equity Report

Agenda Item V: Mid-Year Performance Report

To ensure high-quality services, First 5 Solano tracks grantee service counts monthly and performance measures quarterly, based on agreed-upon Scopes of Work that are incorporated into grantee contracts and Memorandums of Understanding. The purpose of the mid-year report is to inform the Committee of grantees' overall progress, any on-going challenges, and if applicable, recommendations for improvement. A more detailed report will be provided at the end of the fiscal year as part of the FY2022/23 Annual Report.

The report is included as [Attachment F](#) and is organized by First 5 Solano's Priority Areas and funded initiatives. The report includes initial performance for the first 6 months of FY2022/23 and details any challenges to effective service provision.

Overall, grantees are meeting the vast majority of their performance measures during the first half of FY2022/23. Some performance measures are annual targets that are not reported until the end of the Fiscal Year, which accounts for some of the unmet performance measures. Additionally, grantees that currently have unmet measures have been reminded of their targets and are working toward meeting their performance measures.

Agenda Item VI: 2016 Strategic Plan Implementation Updates

A. Community Engagement Update

Community Responsive Mini Grant Update: Beginning in FY2021/22, the First 5 Solano Commission developed a Community Responsive Mini Grant Fund to offer more adaptable funding of small awards to better meet community needs. Adjustments to the program were made for FY2022/23, including:

- The application period for Community Responsive Mini Grants is now open twice a year from July 2022 to December 2022 and from January 2023 to June 2023.
- The \$45,000 total budget is divided over two application periods, with \$30,000 set aside for the first application period and \$15,000 set aside for the second application period.

- If an application was not funded in the first period but scored at least 40 out of 60 points and the application is not time-sensitive, the application will be considered in the second application period.

For the second application period of FY2022/23, \$15,000 was made available between January 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 for grant requests up to \$5,000 for community engagement events, professional development opportunities, materials and equipment, and time-limited programs. The second period Community Responsive Mini Grant application was released on October 17, 2022 and applications were due November 4, 2022.

Twenty-nine proposals from nonprofits, childcare sites, and other community organizations in Solano County were submitted to First 5 Solano. Twenty-eight of those applications satisfied the requirements for consideration for funding and received preliminary evaluations from a team of reviewers made up of First 5 Solano staff. The review panel then gathered to decide on their final rankings and ratings, and six applications were recommended for funding to the Executive Director.

Community Responsive Mini Grant Awards of Funding
FY2022/23 Second Application Period

	Agency	Activity	Recommended Funding
1	A More Excellent Way	Community Engagement: Provide Zoom health presentation and drive-thru health resource fair for prenatal women and their families.	\$500
2	Solano County Community College Early Learning Center	Community Engagement: Provide a family fun event for children, families and teachers to meet and connect other parents for peer support.	\$500
3	Solano County WIC	Professional Development: Provide a training for candidates to obtain a Certified Lactation Education Counselor credential to provide breastfeeding information and support.	\$3,000
4	Fosterluv	Professional Development: Provide a conference with high quality, trauma-informed training for those who serve foster youth in Solano County. .	\$3,000
5	Solano County Family Resource Association	Professional Development: Provide annual caregiver and social worker training and appreciation event.	\$3,000
6	Mi Nido	Materials and Equipment: Purchase materials have outdoor learning space for children.	\$4,500

2023 First 5 Solano Calendar Distribution

First 5 Solano began distributing the 2023 parent and children's calendars in December, and the distribution has been completed. The calendar is community-focused, with photos of kids and families from across Solano County, monthly themes, quick tips, fun activities, and a resource page. The children's coloring calendar was a success, and it was continued for 2023. The activity calendar comes with a 6-pack of crayons and is packaged with the First 5 Solano informational calendar. First 5 Solano distributed 9,000 English calendars and 4,000 Spanish calendars in the community.

B. Systems Change Implementation Plan Updates

Legislative Visit and Vallejo First 5 Center Tour with Supervisor Wanda Wilson: On February 8th Supervisor Wanda Williams and her staff met with Commissioner Erin Hannigan and First 5 Solano staff for a legislative visit and a tour of the Vallejo First 5 Center. This discussion included a history and overview of First 5 Solano, the Fairfield First 5 Center and Vallejo Early Learning Center projects, and other initiatives.

Federal Earmark Request for funding to support the Early Learning Center: On February 14th Supervisors Hannigan and Williams met with staff from Representatives Thompson and Garamendi and Senators Feinstein and Padilla's offices in Washington D.C. To support these discussions, First 5 Solano prepared information regarding the upcoming opportunity to request a federal earmark through the Senate of \$1,000,000 to support the Early Learning Center. On February 17th, the Senate opened the opportunity to submit requests, and First 5 Solano has submitted a request through the County Administrator's office.

First 5 California Request for Applications (RFA) for Regional Technical Assistance for Home Visiting Coordination and Integration: In October 2019, the First 5 California State Commission approved up to \$24 million in funding for five years through Fiscal Year 2024–2025 to help counties create a sustainable, unified system that supports families with the home visiting services they need and maximizes available funding to serve more families. First 5 Solano received two years of funding under this initiative. On January 3, 2023, First 5 California released a grant opportunity for Home Visiting Coordination and Integration so that counties can continue this work through a regional technical assistance model. The RFA requires that the grant activities be implemented on a regional basis, and applications are to be submitted by each First 5 region. First 5 Solano is collaborating with the First 5s in our region to submit an application.

Agenda Item VIII: First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Staffing Update: First 5 Solano is fully staffed and does not anticipate any vacancies.

Finance Update: Through January 31, 2023 (58% of the year complete), \$946,401 (20%) of the budgeted revenues have been received. \$679,793 (57%) of the salaries & benefits budget has been expended, \$163,993 (12%) of the services and supplies budget has been expended, and \$1,250,939 (24%) of the grants budget has been expended.

Overall, \$946,401 (20%) in revenues have been received, and \$2,100,605 (27%) of expenses have been incurred.

[Attachment A:](#) Commissioner Meeting Attendance Log

[Attachment B:](#) ELC Project FAQs

[Attachment C:](#) ELC Information sheet for Funders

[Attachment D:](#) First 5 Equity Report Executive Summary

[Attachment E:](#) Presentation – First 5 Equity Report

[Attachment F:](#) Mid-Year Performance Report

VALLEJO EARLY LEARNING CENTER (ELC)

FAQ

WHAT IS THE VISION FOR THE VALLEJO EARLY LEARNING CENTER?

Our vision for the Vallejo Early Learning Center (ELC) is to create a hub for early learning that will provide a variety of early care and education opportunities for infants through preschoolers and families of all income levels, while creating economic opportunities for providers and filling a critical need in the county.

Realizing this vision requires a full renovation of a shuttered school site in southeast Vallejo to convert the facility to an age-appropriate site for childcare and early learning. The facility is located in one of the most under-resourced neighborhoods in Solano County. In 2020, before the school closed, 91% of the children were eligible for the free and reduced lunch program. The ELC will provide a total of 200 early learning and childcare slots. The community will be at the core of this new Center, which will house 22 classrooms occupied by up to five early care and education providers. The classrooms will be staffed by different providers and will function as a cohesive early learning facility, where children and families can participate in school events and be part of a support system of resources provided at the Center.



WHO ARE THE PEOPLE BEHIND THIS PROJECT?

There are numerous partners involved in this innovative project:

- **Child Start, Inc.** – Will be the owner of the facility and operate 5 classrooms. Child Start will lease the remaining classrooms to early education providers. All eligible children served by Child Start will be enrolled in the high-quality Head Start Program at no cost.
- **First 5 Solano** – Will be the lead facilitator on partnership-building with Vallejo City Unified School District, securing funding for renovations, purchasing the property, and working in partnership with Child Start to establish policies and procedures to ensure their success as the owner of the ELC, a service provider, and a lessor to other early learning and care providers.
- **Solano County Office of Education** – Will provide quality support for onsite providers, including coaching, professional development, child behavioral/mental health support, etc.
- **Private Child Care and Early Learning Providers** – Four to five child care and early learning providers will occupy the remaining classrooms, providing care options for infants through preschool-age children, and accepting private pay or vouchers for families receiving subsidies.
- **Vallejo City Unified School District** – Sellers of the facility for the purpose of creating an ELC.

WHY IS THIS NEEDED?

Before age five, 90% of a child's brain development occurs. These early experiences can dramatically shape brain development into adulthood. Positive early experiences are essential for children to have later success in school, the workplace and the community.

In Solano County, a primary barrier to expanding child care is the lack of physical locations. Childcare providers struggle to find suitable buildings with classrooms equipped to serve young children. Due to the lack of facilities, many children are left out of a quality early learning and care experience.

WHERE ARE YOU IN THE PROCESS?

We are currently seeking funding for the renovation of the site, which will cost a total of \$16M. We have secured \$10.9M, leaving a funding gap of \$5.1M. The next steps will be as follows:



HOW WILL YOU SUSTAIN THIS PROJECT FINANCIALLY OVER TIME?

The providers will share the cost of ongoing operations based on the number of classrooms each provider occupies.

WHY SHOULD PEOPLE SUPPORT THIS PROJECT?

The ELC will impact the lives of roughly 200 children and their families on an annual basis. This innovative approach to meeting a critical community need will be the first of its kind in California and will serve as a model in other communities where lack of childcare facilities is a barrier to early childhood learning expansion, and where there are surplus school sites. Early investors and supporters will be part of a transformative project that will serve as a national model for reimagining and repurposing closed schools to create hubs for community-centered early learning facilities that provide economic opportunities for childcare providers; critical childcare needs for families; and early learning for young children that will yield lifelong benefits toward their social and educational success.

WHAT ELSE WILL BE OFFERED AT ELC?

Beyond childcare facilities and quality early education, the ELC will be a community-centered resource hub that will feature the following:

- STEAM-focused Innovation Lab (science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math) for children ages 3 and up, operated by staff of the Solano County Office of Education;
- Family Resource Center, established by Vallejo-based nonprofit Fighting Back Partnership, where families will have access to assistance with housing, food access, utility bill assistance, youth services, parenting classes, financial literacy education and more.

CONTACT

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First 5 Solano Children and Families
Commission
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VALLEJO EARLY LEARNING CENTER (ELC)



PROJECT (WHAT, WHERE)

This project involves the renovation and acquisition of a shuttered elementary school site in southeast Vallejo for the purpose of establishing an Early Learning Center (ELC). The facility is located in one of the most under-resourced neighborhoods in Solano County. In 2020, before the school closed, 91% of the children were eligible for the free and reduced lunch program. The ELC will provide a variety of early care and education opportunities for infants through preschoolers and families of all income levels, with a total capacity of up to 200 slots. Renovations needed to convert the facility to an age-appropriate site for early learning include:

- Replace all roofs.
- Replace HVAC systems.
- Minor cosmetic updates to permanent classrooms, including paint, refinish floors, replace window coverings, lower sinks, etc.
- Age-appropriate bathroom facilities in each classroom.
- Replace 4 portable classrooms that are at the end of their useful life.
- Replace play structures to age-appropriate structures that meet current safety guidelines.
- Seal/repair blacktop and reposition fencing for appropriate outdoor play and safety.
- Update shared spaces, such as the kitchen, to meet the needs of multiple early learning providers.
- Install driveway for onsite parking to facilitate the drop-off and pick-up of children.

TIMELINE (WHEN)



PARTNERS (WHO)

Child Start, Inc. – Will be the owner of the facility and operate 5 classrooms. Child Start will lease the remaining classrooms to early education providers. All eligible children served by Child Start will be enrolled in the high-quality Head Start Program at no cost.

First 5 Solano – Will be the lead facilitator on: partnership-building with Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD), securing funding for renovations, purchasing the property, and working in partnership with Child Start to establish policies and procedures to ensure their success as the owner of the ELC, a service provider, and a lessor to other early learning and care providers.

Solano County Office of Education – Will provide quality support for onsite providers, including coaching, professional development, child behavioral/mental health support, etc.

Private Child Care and Early Learning Providers – Four to five child care and early learning providers will occupy the remaining classrooms, providing care options for infants through preschool-age children, and accepting private pay or vouchers for families receiving subsidies. families receiving subsidies.

Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD) – Sellers of the facility for the purpose of creating an ELC.

CASE (WHY)

- Before age five, 90% of a child's brain development occurs. A child's early experiences can dramatically shape brain development into adulthood. Positive early learning experiences are essential for children to have later success in school, the workplace and the community.
- A primary barrier to expanding child care in Solano County is the lack of physical locations to provide early childhood education and child care services.
- Providers struggle to find suitable buildings with classrooms equipped to serve young children (e.g., small bathrooms, outdoor play space).
- Due to the lack of facilities and other challenges, many children are left out of a quality early learning and care experience.
- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, only one out of four children in Solano County who needed child care had access to a licensed child care slot, and less than half of 3- to 4-year-olds had a preschool experience.

Impact: Beyond childcare facilities and quality early education, the ELC will be a community-centered resource hub that will feature the following:

- STEAM-focused Innovation Lab (science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math) for children ages 3 and up, operated by staff of the Solano County Office of Education.
- Family Resource Center, established by Vallejo-based nonprofit Fighting Back Partnership, where families will have access to assistance with housing, food security, utility bill assistance, parenting classes, financial literacy education and more.

OPPORTUNITY

- Ideal opportunity for public-private partnership.
- This innovative approach to meeting a critical community need will be the first of its kind in California and will serve as a model for other communities where lack of childcare facilities is a barrier to early childhood learning expansion, and where there are surplus school sites.
- Investment in this project has the potential to impact outcomes for the most under-resourced families for at least 2 decades, laying a strong foundation for positive outcomes in their lives and for the greater community as a whole.



Signs of water damage can be observed at classroom roof soffits

CONTACT

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BUDGET (HOW)

Total renovation project = \$16M

Total secured = \$10.9M

Gap = \$5.1M

Financial Sustainability: The providers will share the cost of ongoing operations based on the number of classrooms each provider occupies. As the providers occupying the space will share the cost of operations, there is no ongoing cost burden.

FIRST 5 EQUITY REPORT SUMMARY

Overview

First 5 Solano's new Strategic Plan and Systems Change Action Plan underscores its commitment to centering equity in its work, as stated in Goal 7 of its Early Childhood Systems Change Action Plan: *Early childhood systems are strong, integrated, sufficiently resourced, and equitable*. In July 2022, First 5 Solano hired Navalta Media as an external consultant to conduct an equity audit of its internal and external communications, policies and procedures. This scope of work is focused on building the internal systems and communications necessary to ensure activities toward meeting Goal 7 can be effectively communicated and executed. This work begins with an "inside-out" approach, as described below:

PHASE 1: EQUITY AUDIT

Interviews/Survey of group representing:

Board of Supervisors; staff; educator; community partner; and provider. The demographic makeup of this group included 4 females and 1 male; and three identifying Hispanic and 2 identifying Caucasian.

Content and Messaging:

Comprehensive audit of internal and external communications, including digital communication platforms.

The following is an overview of the Equity Audit key findings, recommendations, and next steps:

INTERVIEWS/SURVEY

- ▶ All responders are aligned on what equity and inclusion are; each participant can identify examples of First 5 Solano's commitment to equity and inclusion from their areas of work.

Responders identified areas where more work can be done to improve equity and inclusion, including: barriers to language, transportation and technology; increasing diversity among staff; increasing outreach to families that can benefit most from services.

- ▶ There is a noticeable racial divide among those who believe First 5 Solano Leadership is diverse and those who do not, with non-Hispanic responders believing it is diverse and Hispanic responders believing it is not.

"Leadership" was not specifically defined in the survey question. It is unclear who First 5 Solano partners, volunteers, staff, and community members *perceive* is the leadership of First 5 Solano, and if they understand the dynamic between the Solano County Children and Families Commission, which consists of 9 members appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and First 5 Solano, the administrative body of the Commission.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Use complete list of responders' recommendations to inform a discussion among representatives of the Commission, staff, educators, community partners; and providers to further identify barriers, set goals, and determine strategies and solutions.

Define who Leadership is in First 5 Solano, how decisions are made and who the decisionmakers are through internal and external communications, including "Who We Are" visuals/one-pagers, website, training materials for staff, educators, community partners, providers.

CONTENT AND MESSAGING

- ▶ There is existing language and existing practices throughout First 5 Solano’s various reports and communications that reflect First 5 Solano’s commitment to DEI, but they are not consistent throughout all materials.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Create a library of internal equity-focused communications assets for onboarding new staff, partners and providers, that will also serve as an ongoing resource for existing staff.

Create First 5 Solano equity commitment statement and place it prominently and consistently in communications, including job postings, website, onboarding materials, to demonstrate this is central to all work.

EXAMPLE: *First 5 Solano serves one of the most diverse counties in the United States. Our mission and values are deeply rooted in advancing initiatives that will improve the lives of young children today and transform early childhood systems so that children and families of all cultural and economic backgrounds have the same opportunities to learn, grow and prosper in a safe and healthy environment. First 5 Solano aims to create an equitable and inclusive culture that fosters acceptance and respect for diversity. In doing so, we seek to deepen understanding and knowledge among children, families, staff, and community partners of diverse backgrounds, cultivate empathy and collaboration, and promote the well-being among our staff, partners and the communities we serve. First 5 Solano celebrates and is enriched by the diversity of our whole community.*

- ▶ There is language across the documents that utilize deficit language (rendering one group less than another group), “savior language”, or words or phrases that are no longer in line with inclusive language guidelines and/ or do not align with Goal 7.

Staff should use the following as the beginning of a living document that should be referred to and built upon on an ongoing basis.

PHASE OUT	REPLACE WITH
Highest-need; neediest	Most under-resourced (This names the systemic inequity that has contributed to the need).
At-risk	Statements that describe a condition or situation, rather than using it as an adjective: “This’ places students at risk for ‘that.’” NO: “More resources for at-risk students”; YES: “More resources to ensure all students are successful.”
Poor; low-income; needy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People whose incomes are below the federal poverty threshold• People whose self-reported income were in the lowest income bracket

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ First 5 Solano's website is difficult to find and navigate on the county's website, causing a barrier for both First 5 Solano and for families to share and access critical information.
- ▶ Language accessibility for all communications, including grants, ads, contracts, and services, with a focus on languages predominantly spoken in communities most First 5 Solano's

Create a separate website from the county with a link from the county site that connects to it (and vice versa); or make it more prominent on the county's home page.

Engage with more partners and hire staff who can support communications and translation needs and engage with more mono-lingual and non-English speaking families.

In addition to the recommendations above, we recommend the following:

- DEI training sessions and workshops leveraging findings of this report and existing language in the 2022 First 5 Solano Systems Change Action Plan to co-create DEI policies and procedures
- Built-in processes for community input to identify priorities, gaps, and opportunities in services, and to elevate community perspectives in communications such as press releases, reports, case studies

Questions? Comments?

Contact: info@navaltamedia.com

FIRST 5 SOLANO EQUITY REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Prepared by: Navalta Media
March 2023



WHAT?

An equity audit evaluates an organization's performance, capacity, and effectiveness in reflecting and carrying out its commitment to DEI through its communications.

WHY?

Goal 7 of First 5 Solano's new Strategic Plan and Systems Change Action Plan: Early childhood systems are strong, integrated, sufficiently resourced, and equitable.

This audit seeks to provide an external analysis for First 5 Solano to deepen its understanding of DEI, with the goal of building the internal systems and communications necessary to meet Goal 7.



HOW?

Interviews/Survey

Content and
Messaging Review

WHO?

Survey respondents:

- Board of Supervisors
- Staff
- Educator
- Community partner
- Provider

Demographic makeup:

- 4 females
- 1 male
- 3 identifying Hispanic
- 2 identifying Caucasian



KEY FINDINGS - SURVEY:

Alignment on
equity and
inclusion

Able to identify
examples of First 5
Solano's
commitment to
equity and inclusion
in their work

Identified areas where
more work can be done:

- Barriers to language, transportation and technology
- Increasing diversity among staff
- Increasing outreach to families that can benefit most from services

Racial divide among
those who believe
First 5 Solano
Leadership is diverse

KEY FINDINGS - CONTENT AND MESSAGING:

Existing language and practices throughout

First 5 Solano's communications that reflect commitment to DEI, **but not consistent**

Use of deficit language (rendering one group less than another group), "savior language", or words or phrases that are no longer in line with inclusive language

First 5 Solano's website is difficult to find and navigate

Need for language accessibility for all communications



RECOMMENDATIONS

Use complete list of responders' recommendations to inform a discussion on barriers, set goals, and determine strategies and solutions

Define who Leadership is in First 5 Solano, how decisions are made and who the decisionmakers are

Create a library of internal equity-focused communications assets



RECOMMENDATIONS

Create First 5 Solano equity commitment statement and place it prominently and consistently in communications

Example: First 5 Solano serves one of the most diverse counties in the United States. Our mission and values are deeply rooted in advancing initiatives that will improve the lives of young children today and transform early childhood systems so that children and families of all cultural and economic backgrounds have the same opportunities to learn, grow and prosper in a safe and healthy environment. First 5 Solano aims to create an equitable and inclusive culture that fosters acceptance and respect for diversity. In doing so, we seek to deepen understanding and knowledge among children, families, staff, and community partners of diverse backgrounds, cultivate empathy and collaboration, and promote the well-being among our staff, partners and the communities we serve. First 5 Solano celebrates and is enriched by the diversity of our whole community.

Use the following as the beginning of a living document for staff

PHASE OUT

REPLACE WITH

Highest-need; neediest

Most under-resourced (This names the systemic inequity that has contributed to the need).

At-risk

-Statements that describe a condition or situation, rather than using it as an adjective: "This" places students at risk for "that." NO: "More resources for at-risk students"; YES: "More resources to ensure all students are successful."

Poor; low-income; needy

-People whose incomes are below the federal poverty threshold
-People whose self-reported income were in the lowest income bracket



RECOMMENDATIONS

Create a separate website from the county with a link

Engage with more partners and hire staff who can support translation needs and engage with more mono-lingual and non-English speaking families

In addition to the recommendations above, we recommend the following:

DEI training sessions and workshops

Built-in processes for community input



T H A N K Y O U

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT INFO@NAVALTAMEDIA.COM



NAVALTA
M E D I A



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS

FY2022/23 MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE MEASURES REPORT

March 2023

Introduction

The First 5 Solano FY2022/23 Mid-Year Performance Measures Report is a progress report of First 5 Solano grantees' service provision for contracted programs covering the period July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The Commission funds within four Priority Areas: Health and Well-Being, Early Childhood Learning and Development, Family Support and Parent Education, and Systems Change.

The purpose of the report is to ensure that appropriate progress is being made toward meeting contractual goals for both services and outcomes and, where needed, to provide guidance to grantees and recommendations for changes in services to ensure annual targets are met for numbers served and outcome impact.

Overall, in this fifth year of a five-year funding cycle grantees continue to provide a high level of services to the population and programs they serve. Any concerns that have come to the attention of staff are noted throughout the report. First 5 Solano staff work closely with grantees throughout the program year to ensure compliance and success of funded programs.

The following are the reports on grantee progress and mid-year performance measures under each priority area.

PRIORITY 1 HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Early Childhood Mental Health

H&SS (EPSDT) – Meeting 2 of 2 performance measures/100%

The Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program provides mental health treatment services for qualifying Medi-Cal eligible children and is a component of the overall children's mental health services system in the County. Mental health services were provided to 84 clients through mid-year. Of those clients, 72 completed a 6-month period of service, with 100% showing improvement in at least one stated treatment goal. Agency partners offering mental health services are seeing more engagement from families post-pandemic and have worked diligently to ensure access to services is readily available in an effort to support positive outcomes.

PRIORITY 2

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Quality Child Care

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) - IMPACT - Meeting 8/9 performance measures/88%
IMPACT (Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive) is a First 5 California matching fund program that provides support for a quality improvement system (Quality Counts Solano) for early care and education sites. As of mid-year, 40 out of 44 early learning and care programs are actively participating in IMPACT and are receiving support through coaching, professional development and technical supports, including site incentives. 37 sites have developed a quality improvement plan, 28 of those sites have met at least 1 goal on their plan and 36 sites report making one or more changes in their site which enhance the quality of their program. 4 out of 8 providers have received Early Childhood mental health consultations to support children's behavioral and mental health challenges. SCOE provided the 2022 Quality Counts Early Care and Education conference in person with 120 participants in attendance and coaching has also returned to in-person at 99% of early learning sites. The grantee continues to support early care and education providers through quarterly consortia meetings, and coordination of activities with First 5 CA, Region 1 HUB, and California Department of Education. The 1 measure that has not been met is related to Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation provider surveys which indicate increased knowledge and implementation of strategies and are completed at the end of each consultation cycle. These results will be included in the year-end report.

Solano County Office of Education - Raising A Reader - meeting 3/6 performance measures/50%
Raising a Reader (RAR) is an evidence-based early literacy and family engagement program. Through this program caregivers engage in a book sharing program and are supported to read with their children to foster healthy relationships, a love of reading, and the literacy skills critical for school success. This is the fifth and final year of implementation with a goal of engaging 40 early care and education sites, training/maintaining 55 implementers and providing RAR to 800 children at these sites by the end of FY2022/23. At mid-year 39 sites are participating in RAR and 49 implementers are providing the program at those sites. At mid-year 1,583 children are participating in Raising A Reader in Solano County. All programs participating were able to restart their book rotations easily and quickly once the new program year started. Annual performance measures that are assessed via an implementers survey and a point in time count in April of 2023, are reflective of the unmet measures at mid-year. Results for those measures will be included in the year-end report.

Solano County Office of Education – Shared Services Alliance Network - meeting 2/5 performance measures/40%
Shared Services Alliance (SSA) Networks are an emerging model in California and are utilized in other states to strengthen small Early Learning Childcare (ELC) businesses by supporting them to become financially sound and more efficient, which allows them to offer cost-effective and high-quality ELC opportunities to children and families. The Shared Services Alliance Network is funded by First 5 CA to implement a business management system (BMS) and provide training and technical assistance on the system to 20 ELC businesses in Solano County. The grantee has provided outreach at 3 out of 6 LPC meetings/workgroups and enrolled 10 out of 20 ELC businesses in the BMS. The grantee is working in collaboration with Solano Families and Children's Services to onboard additional providers at their "Snack and Chat" provider meetings and additional provider trainings. The remaining 10 providers will be reported in Q3 and Q4. The grantee is meeting 2 out of 3 performance measures at mid-year. The other 2 measures are related to LPC workgroup and provider surveys which will be reported at the end of the program year.

Pre-Kindergarten Academies

A comprehensive report will be covering Pre-Kindergarten Academies is provided annually as a separate document.

PRIORITY 3 FAMILY SUPPORT AND PARENT EDUCATION

Rio Vista CARE - Meeting 9/9 performance measures/100%

Rio Vista CARE provides neighborhood-based family resource center services in Rio Vista and surrounding rural areas. First 5 Solano staff worked closely with Rio Vista CARE's new executive director this past year to ensure progress was made toward meeting targeted goals. At mid-year, this grantee is meeting and/or exceeding all performance measures.

Bay Area Community Resources (BACR) – Meeting 22/23 performance measures/96%

For the first half of FY2022/23, BACR has met almost all of their performance measures for the operations of the Vallejo First 5 Center. The Center has had success in maintaining current staffing, with a number of substitute providers their success continues to improve.

During the first half of the year, BACR completed the following activities/performance measures:

- Held 60 multi-week classes and playgroups for families to participate together
- Nearly 100% of participating families learned skills to support their children's health, development, and early learning.
- Over 100 ASQ/ASQ-SE Screening Sessions completed, each child identified as "at-risk" received a referral.
- Held 6 Parent Cafes which were highly attended, exceeding our goal of number of parents attending, almost reaching the annual performance measure.
- The Parent Advisory Committee has met 7 times during quarter one and quarter two.

Other activities that were held by the Center include:

- In December, a Grinch Literacy Event was held with 34 families in attendance and over 80 books distributed to children.
- Approximately 102 families a month received diapers through the Diaper Bank Program, with 853 packages of diapers and wipes distributed.
- 368 households accessed the First 5 Family Food Pantry in partnership with the Food Bank, 31 families received a turkey dinner through the Turkey Raffle in November.

Unmet performance measures include:

- Number of enrolled parents attending one or more class session has not met the performance measures to date. The goal for each quarter is 216 parents, in Q1 89 parents were enrolled, in Q2, 227 parents were enrolled, the number from Q1 to Q2 increased, exceeding the number required for Q2, 41% in the first half of FY22/23, requiring an additional 548 parents enroll in the class sessions in FY2022/23. First 5 Solano staff will continue to work closely with the Center Director to stay on track to meet this performance measure.

Triple P Parent Education

In its fifth year of implementation, the Triple P Parenting Education Program has become a widely recognizable parent education strategy for parents in Solano County. In FY2022/23, Triple P was offered by a collaborative of 7 community providers (including Bay Area Community Resources, through the First 5 Center—see above), all offering various levels of Triple P interventions. Twenty new practitioners have been trained this fiscal year, with some additional practitioners expected to obtain accreditation by the end of June. First 5 Solano continued its role to coordinate services, provide parent materials, outreach, and convene regularly scheduled collaborative meetings for agencies to share best practices for serving Solano families. It is important to note that the Triple P contracts are all structured as fee-for-service contracts, with a minimum performance measure goal and a “stretch” goal. Below is a summary of grantee progress through mid-year, as measured against the minimum goal targets:

Catholic Charities – Met 5/5 performance measures/100% (Contract terminated in Q1)

Catholic Charities offered Level 2 Seminars and Level 3 Individual Triple P services, primarily to Spanish-speaking parents. Their sole accredited practitioner resigned at the end of September 2022. Catholic Charities chose not to backfill this position and elected to terminate their contract. The grantee met their performance targets for the quarter.

Child Start, Inc. – Meeting 4/5 performance measures/80%

Child Start offers Level 2 Seminars and Level 3 Individual in English and Spanish for parents who have a child enrolled in a Head Start or Early Head Start Program. Through mid-year, this grantee met their target to provide Level 2 Seminars, and over the next two quarters, will shift to offering Level 3 Individual, as participation in this intervention is a natural progression for families upon introduction to the Triple P parent education model.

Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District (FSUSD) - Meeting 3/5 performance measures/60%

FSUSD offers Level 2 Seminars and Level 3 Individual services by incorporating parenting education into case management activities. Early in the fiscal year, FSUSD experienced a shortage of staff accredited to provide Triple P. By the end of November, more staff received training to be accredited, and the grantee began to offer services to move toward meeting targets. First 5 Solano staff will continue to work with this grantee to ensure they are on track to meet deliverables by end of June 2023.

Parents by Choice - Meeting 7/8 performance measures/87%

Parents by Choice offers Level 2, Level 3, Level 4 Group, and Level 4 Standard across Solano County. In the first half of the fiscal year, Parents by Choice met all of their targets except for the deliverable for Level 4 Standard. The Level 4 Standard intervention is provided over ten weeks, and Parents by Choice already has several parents that began sessions in December which will be completed in early Q3 and Q4. First 5 Solano staff will work on an outreach plan with Parents by Choice to ensure this deliverable is met by the end of the fiscal year.

Rio Vista CARE - Meeting 4/4 performance measures/100%

This grantee offers Level 3 Individual to parents that seek family support services through the Family Resource Center. This grantee is meeting and/or exceeding all performance measures.

Solano Family and Children’s Services (SFCS) - Meeting 3/4 performance measures/75%

This grantee offers Level 3 Individual to parents over the phone via the Help Me Grow Solano resource and referral line. Parents have been receptive to participating in this intervention as an interim resource while waiting to receive other services offered in the county. The grantee, however, was short of meeting their mid-year deliverable to provide Triple P to 20 parents. This was due to the resignation of one accredited staff person in early Q1. Since then, two additional staff completed training in October to provide Triple P. First 5 Solano staff will continue to work with SFCS to ensure they stay on track to meet deliverables by year end.

Triple P Countywide Summary

Overall, between all partners, the following services have been provided from July 2022-December 2023:

Triple P Intervention	Number Completed by Mid-Year
Level 2 Seminar	76
Level 3 Individual Brief Intervention	71
Level 4 Group	17
Level 4 Individual	9

The Triple P model has been well-received in Solano County over the last five years, and parents are experiencing positive changes in relationships with their children. As the Commission has committed to continue its investment in this parent education strategy over the next five years, First 5 Solano staff is refining its approach to enhance the success of Triple P countywide. Beginning in the new fiscal year, Triple P will be provided by fewer agencies that have more intentional focus to provide Triple P services to parents across the county. Completed contract deliverables will continue to be reimbursed via a “fee-for-service” model at a slightly increased rate. In addition, 10% of agencies’ budgets will now be included for administration of a more robust outreach and communications plan, intended to expand the range of parents and families that participate in the Triple P program.

First 5 Solano will continue to support Triple P partners by providing materials and training, convening collaborative meetings and supporting outreach efforts to ensure partners are connected and services are coordinated.

ALL PRIORITIES

Solano Family and Children’s Services – Help Me Grow Solano - Meeting 13/18 performance measures/72%

Solano Family and Children’s Services (SFCS) is in its fifth year of full implementation of the Help Me Grow (HMG) Solano call line and referral system. As of mid-year, HMG Solano has received 778 calls out of 1,700 required calls and provided 1,863 referrals for basic needs, childcare supports and mental health concerns. HMG Solano staff have also conducted 244 out of 500 developmental screenings with children that may have developmental or behavioral concerns. HMG Solano is on track to meet these measures by the end of the program year. HMG Solano continues to provide outreach to child health care providers, children’s programs and providers of services through developmental screening and outreach events, community, group and one on one presentations informing those of the services offered by the HMG Solano program. HMG Solano has already met or exceeded all 5 measures in this area. The 7 measures that have not been met are 5 related to Family Navigation and follow/up. Two measures related to data collection and reporting to HMG CA and HMG National have been challenging due to the transition to Apricot, our new database. The contractor and First 5 Solano staff are meeting regularly along with data base support staff to address these challenges and these measures have been excluded for this report. First 5 Solano staff will continue to monitor performance to support successful implementation of the HMG Solano call line and system.

Annual Grants

First 5 Solano continued the Annual Grants Program in FY2022/23. The Commission allocated \$200,000 in funding for one-time projects to fill a community gap, pilot a new or innovative idea, and/or address a time-sensitive community need. From the Request for Applications, seven organizations were awarded up to the maximum grant award of \$20,000 for a total of \$139,832 in funding toward this effort. One organization did not request the full grant award.

Of the seven organizations that received funding six (Vallejo Historical Museum, Rocio Jamie, Suisun City Parks & Marina, Loving Care 4 Kids, Jayda Learning Center, Child Start Inc.) are on track to meet anticipated results by the end of the fiscal year. Vacaville Unified School District had challenges with availability of location and engaging participants in this first half of the fiscal year. The grantee has indicated that construction of the project location has been completed and have been offering workshops to families. They have also informed First 5 Solano staff that they have identified gaps in outreach and are addressing these challenges. Staff continues to meet with the grantee regularly to provide support and monitor performance.

PRIORITY 4 **SYSTEMS CHANGE: *INTERNAL ACTIVITIES***

Early Learning Center

First 5 Solano, Child Start, Inc. and the Solano Office of Education have partnered on a project to establishing an Early Learning Center in Vallejo to provide high quality early learning opportunities for children and safe and consistent child care for working families. This project involves the repurposing of a surplus elementary school site, Beverly Hills Elementary, into an early learning facility in Vallejo.

The facility will provide a variety of early care and education opportunities for infants through preschoolers and families of all income levels, for a total capacity of up to 200 slots. In addition, the project is providing opportunities for Family Based Child Care homes to move from a home-based facility to a largest Center-Based facility located within the Early Learning Center.

In addition to the work to establish the Center, staff has also worked with Navalta Media to develop a modular set of marketing materials for the Early Learning Center for use with stakeholders, such as funders, media, and the general public.

Equity Initiative

In August 2022, First 5 Solano selected Navalta Media to conduct an equity audit of the Commission's work and provide a workplan for equity strategies focusing on internal processes. Navalta Media is led by Pati Navalta, a woman of color local to Solano County. Navalta Media's clients are innovators, change-makers, and industry leaders who balance purpose and profit. Navalta Media offers communications and media strategy and implementation, media training, crisis communications, writing and editing support with a key focus on goals, target audiences, and value alignment. Between August and December 2022, Navalta Media conducted key informant interviews, and began the work of conducting the equity audit. Subsequent work on this project will include completing the equity audit, providing a report and recommendations based on the findings of the equity audit, creation of content and messaging, development of an internal equity strategy, and the implementation of the equity strategy.

Play for All Park

In August 2022, the First 5 Solano Commission approved an allocation of up to \$400,000 to support the completion of the Vacaville Play for All Park. This park is designed to offer play and recreational resources that are inclusive for children of all abilities with a focus on children with special needs. The play equipment and playground have many unique features, including learning panels, braille alphabet, specially designed swings for small children or those with disabilities, and much more. As the name indicates, everyone is welcome.

As part of the Play for All Park acknowledgment of major donors, a pavilion was named to acknowledge First 5 Solano's donation. This First 5 Solano pavilion is one of several spaces designed for picnics and parties. The park developers provided an opportunity for First 5 Solano to add a mural presentation on the pavilion. First 5 Solano staff worked with Navalta Media to develop the mural which will be installed in early 2023.

Syar Summit

In partnership with the Solano Economic Development Corporation (Solano EDC) and Navalta Media, First 5 Solano has participated in the planning for an upcoming Syar Summit, a conference focused on nonprofit capacity building in Solano County. The Syar Foundation has provided \$25,000 in funding to Solano EDC to support this event. The goal of this conference is to bring together nonprofit leaders, funders and community leaders to discuss the nonprofit landscape in Solano County and find ways that we can collaborate to support nonprofits who are serving the communities in Solano County.

Fund Development

In addition to work performed by grantees, First 5 Solano implements a fund development program which includes preparing and submitting direct grant applications to support First 5 Solano programs; assisting nonprofits and other agencies with preparing grant applications that are on behalf of their agencies; and, assisting nonprofits and other agencies with preparing collaborative grant applications. The following is a summary of fund development activity during this six-month period:

FUND DEVELOPMENT REPORT FOR JULY 1, 2023 – DECEMBER 31, 2023						
Date Submitted	Applicant	Funder/Program	First 5 Solano's Role	Application Amount	Funded Yes/No	Grant Amount
8/9/22	Child Start, Inc.	Irwin Foundation Funding for Early Learning Center - Furniture	Collaborated on writing the grant	270,000	Pending	TBD
11/17/22	First 5 Solano	Kaiser Permanente Diaper/Wipes Program for Vallejo First 5 Center	Wrote grant	10,000	Yes	10,000
12/13/22	First 5 Solano	City of Vallejo Funding for the Early Learning Center	Wrote grant	610,000	Yes	610,000
		TOTALS		\$890,000		\$620,000

Conclusion

For the remainder of FY2022/23, grantees will continue to provide services to children and families and maintain efforts to meet performance goals. First 5 staff will remain available to support grantees and ensure progress is made to meet desired targets.

**Summary of FY2022/23 Mid-Year Performance Measures
(July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

Grantee	Performance Measures		
	Total Number	Number Met/ Exceeded at Mid-Year	Number Unmet
Early Childhood Mental Health			
Solano County H&SS – EPSDT Mental Health Treatment	2	2	0
Early Learning & Quality Child Care			
Solano County Office of Education – IMPACT Quality Counts	9	8	1
Solano County Office of Education – Raising a Reader	6	3	3
Solano County Office of Education – Shared Services Alliance Network	5	2	3
Family Support			
Bay Area Community Resources	23	22	1
Rio Vista CARE	9	9	0
Triple P Parent Education			
Catholic Charities	5	5	0
Child Start	5	4	1
Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District	5	3	2
Parents by Choice	8	7	1
Rio Vista CARE	4	4	0
Solano Family and Children’s Services	4	3	1
Across Priorities			
Solano Family & Children's Services – Help Me Grow	18	13	5
Total	103	85	18

Community Responsive Mini Grant Applicants
Period 2- for Activities January 2023-June 2023

Organization or Business Name	Type of Applicant	What type of activity are you applying for?	Amount Requested	Funded
A More Excellent Way Health Improvement Organization	Non-Profit	Community Engagement	\$500	\$500
Tessie's Family Child Care	Childcare	Community Engagement	\$500	
Solano Land Trust	Non-Profit	Community Engagement	\$500	
Solano Community College Early Learning Center	Childcare	Community Engagement	\$500	\$500
A More Excellent Way Health Improvement Organization	Non-Profit	Professional Development	\$3,000	
Solano County WIC	Government/Local Education Agency	Professional Development	\$3,000	\$3,000
Solano County Family Resources Association	Non-Profit	Professional	\$3,000	\$3,000
Fosterluc	Business	Professional Development	\$3,000	\$3,000
Gifted Minds Home Learning and Daycare	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
Beltran, Tessie Family Child Care	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$2,300	
Vallejo First 5 Center	Non-Profit, Government/Local Education Agency	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
City of Suisun City	Government/Local Education Agency	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
Harmony Homes for Healing Foundation, Inc	Non-Profit	Materials and Equipment	\$3,873.70	
Martinez Family Daycare	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
Food is Free Solano dba Food is Free Bay Area	Non-Profit	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
Learning Land Child Care	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
Les Petits Papillons French Day Care	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
Coco's Learning Center	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	

Hernandez,loreana Fcch	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
City of Suisun City	Government/Local Education Agency	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
Lucy's Family Daycare	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$2,200	
Judy's Daycare	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$3,987.66	
Mi Nido	Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$4,514.87	\$4,500
A Place 2 Grow	For-Profit, Childcare	Materials and Equipment	\$865.92	
CANB Change And New Beginnings	Non-Profit	Materials and Equipment	\$5,000	
MNM PROJECT H.O.P.E	Non-Profit	Time-Limited Programs	\$5,000	
Opportunity House Shelter	Non-Profit	Time-Limited Programs	\$5,000	
Watch Me Grow, Inc.	Non-Profit	Time-Limited Programs	\$5,000	
African American Parent Network	Non-Profit	Time-Limited Programs	\$5,000	