

## First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, August 14, 2012, 5:30PM  
601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield, CA

### Attendance

Commissioners: Dana Dean (Chair), Dan Ayala, Jay Speck, Linda Seifert, Elaine Norinsky  
Stephan Betz present when the meeting was called to order.

Staff/Public: Commission staff and 10 members of the public

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:36PM by Chair Dean.

#### I. Public Comment

Natalie Woodard, Chair of the Solano County Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board, spoke to the Commission and public inviting everyone to attend the Solano County Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board (ADAB) hearing on September 12, 2012. During the public hearing portion of their agenda, the panel will take and address questions to the panel. A flyer was presented and distributed to the Commission. The ADAB will be meeting at the County Administrative Center in conference room 1600.

(Subsequent to the public comment period, additional public comment was received at approximately 6:35)

#### II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for August 14, 2012
- B. Approve the minutes of the June 5, 2012 Commission Meeting
- C. Approve the 2013 Commission Meeting Schedule

*A. Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for August 14, 2012. Commissioner Dean requested the Agenda be amended to move IV.A, IV.B, and IV.C down below Agenda item VII.*

**Moved: Commissioner Betz**

**Vote: 6-0-0**

- B. Motion: Approve the minutes of the June 5, 2012 Commission Meeting
- C. Motion: Approve the 2013 Commission Meeting Schedule

**Moved: Commissioner Seifert**

**Vote: 6-0-0**

#### III. Presentation to Honor Outgoing Commissioner Norma Thigpen

Commissioners, the public and staff spoke to recognize Commissioner Thigpen and her contributions to Solano County, the First 5 Commission and Black Infant Health. A PowerPoint presentation viewed and a plaque was presented from First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission.

#### **IV. 2012-2015 Funding Cycle**

- D. Collaboration and Coordination – Receive a report and recommendations for deploying funding for Collaboration and Coordination for the 2012-2015 Funding Cycle. Direct staff to develop a budget and solicitation for Collaboration and Coordination services for the 2012-2015 funding cycle (*Dr. Lori Allio, HTA/Consultant/Michele Harris, Deputy Director*)

Discussion: Cherelyn Ellington, School Readiness and Community Programs Manager, reviewed the process that resulted in the report and recommendations. Dr. Lori Allio, the consultant who prepared the report, remarked on the extensive grantee input to the report, including the recommendation that collaborative planning and outreach be facilitated by the individual that is selected to run the program, meeting collaboration and technical assistance.

[Additional Public Comment]

Congressman Garamendi thanked the Commission for their work dealing with children and early childhood education. He reminded the Commission and the Public about the risk of funding being stripped from the State in regards to the upcoming election and the serious policy choices on the platforms in the upcoming election.

[There was a short break at the conclusion of his remarks. Meeting was called back to order at 7:17.]

Public Comment on Item IV.D.

Debbi Davis, Children’s Nurturing Project, commented that Partnership for Early Access for Kids (PEAK) grantees are looking how to integrate the initiatives, better and reduce service duplication. They are looking forward to consolidating the three current collaboratives.

Kim Thomas, The Children’s Network of Solano County, commented that it is important that the individual work groups still meet to address specific initiative-level issues. She also spoke in support of technology investments for the partners. She spoke in support of the Commission’s moving forward without the plan being more specific at this time, to allow the Collaborative Coordinator to convene First 5 grantees to make decisions about “meta-collaboration.”

Commissioner Dean commented that she would like staff to report on performance measures for Collaboration/Coordination when this item is brought back to the Commission. There is a consensus that we are directing staff (per Commissioner Seifert’s comments) to move forward with a solicitation for Collaboration/Coordination services.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

- A. Systems and Policy Committee (*Commissioner Seifert*)  
(*no meeting*)
- B. Program and Community Engagement Committee (*Commissioner Speck*)  
(*Action items listed on agenda items IV. A and B*)

[The Commission reserved action on this section for after items IV. A and B.]

## VI. Executive Director's Report

(Action item listed on agenda item IV.C.)

Michele Harris, Deputy Director, reported on behalf of Christina Arrostuto. She referenced several items in the Executive Director's report, including:

- Under the leadership of Lynn Hoffman, Policy and Fund Development Manager, First 5 Solano partnered with Solano County Health & Social Services to apply for a federal grant of \$1,000,000 per year for 5 years. If Solano County is awarded this grant, 80 families known to the Child Welfare system will receive multiple interventions. It is estimated that approximately half of the families that will be participating will have children ages 0-5.
- Ms. Hoffman has been participating with Vallejo City Unified School District on its Promise Neighborhood Program planning grant, if awarded this is a \$500,000 grant that would provide funding to develop a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy for Vallejo.

## VII. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Seifert thanked the staff for bringing the Breastfeeding Friendly Express to the Solano County Fair and how wonderful the exhibit was for the fair participants.

Commissioner Betz invited the Commission to a presentation at an H&SS managers meeting on August 21, 2012.

Commissioner Dean shared that she had the privilege to speak at opening of the Pre-Kindergarten Academy in Benicia. Commissioner Dean also congratulated everyone on the Breastfeeding Friendly Express and commented that the BFF Express stood out.

## IV. 2012-2015 Funding Cycle

- A. Family Support Services – Consider approval of an additional allocation of \$16,866 for FY2012/13 (increasing the total allocation to \$74,062 for July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015) and award of funding to the Children's Network of Solano County for case management data system and technical support for the Family Strengthening Partnership (source of funding: FY 2012/13 Discretionary Fund) – recommendation and direction of the Program and Community Engagement (PCE) Committee

**Motion: Family Support Services – Approve an additional allocation of \$16,866 for FY2012/13 (increasing the total allocation to \$74,062 for July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015) and award of funding to the Children's Network of Solano County for case management data system and technical support for the Family Strengthening Partnership (source of funding: FY 2012/13 Discretionary Fund) – recommendation and direction of the Program and Community Engagement (PCE) Committee**

**Moved: Commissioner Seifert**

**Vote: 6-0-0**

- B. Prenatal Services – Consider approval of award of funding in the amount of \$20,472 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013 to Solano County Health and Social Services Department for BabyFirst Solano smoking cessation services to be approved First 5 Solano. (Source of funding: 2012-2015 Program Investment Plan – Prenatal Services Allocation) – recommendation and direction of the PCE Committee

**Commissioner Betz recused himself stating that Solano County Health & Social Services is his employer.**

Discussion: Commissioner Ayala asked if this is a pilot program and for one year. Christine Shipman, Health and Well-Being Manager, let the Commission know that this is a pilot program and the duration is for one year. Commissioner Dean asked how the program will be measured. Ms. Shipman responded that program performance measures for this pilot would be developed as they are for all First 5 grants.

**Motion: Prenatal Services – approve an award of funding in the amount of \$20,472 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013 to Solano County Health and Social Services Department for BabyFirst Solano smoking cessation services to be approved First 5 Solano. (Source of funding: 2012-2015 Program Investment Plan – Prenatal Services Allocation) – recommendation and direction of the PCE Committee.**

**Moved: Commissioner Ayala  
Vote: 5-0-0**

**Commissioner Betz returned to meeting at 7:22**

**C. Solano Child Signature Program (CSP) – awards of funding for Early Learning Systems Specials and Solano CSP classroom participants.**

Discussion: There are six action items for the Child Signature Program; the purpose of this program is to improve the quality of early learning in the classrooms. First 5 California has approved 33 classrooms throughout Solano County, and awarded First 5 Solano up to \$315,000 to support a full time Early Learning Specialist (ELSS).

- 1. Motions: Approve an award of funding in the amount of up to \$315,000 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 to Dr. Cheryl Lynn de Werff for Early Learning System Specialist services for the Solano CSP as required by First 5 California and approved by First 5 Solano (Source of funding: First 5 California)**

**Moved: Commissioner Betz  
Vote: 6-0-0**

- 2. Motions: Approve an award of funding in the amount of up to \$10,500 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 to Benicia Unified School District for Solano CSP participation activities as required by First 5 California and approved by First 5 Solano (1 classroom) (Source of funding: FY2012/13 Discretionary Fund and Long Term Financial Plan)**

**Commissioner Dean recused herself, stating she sits on the Board for Benicia Unified School District.**

Discussion: The next 5 items are to award funding to our Child Signature Partners; these funds are First 5 Solano funds and are complimentary to the First 5 California funds. This second set of awards is driven by the number of participating classrooms. Benicia will have one participating classroom.

Commissioner Beck asked if there is contract language regarding a classroom that drops out of the program during a year; does it talk about what happens? Ms. Harris answered that there is language that has each classroom is certified for each year and will be given a pro rata allocation for a year that they have not completed.

**Moved: Commissioner Betz**

**Vote: 5-0-0**

**Commissioner Dean returned to meeting at 7:29**

- 3. Motion: Approve an award of funding in the amount of up to \$21,000 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 to Solano Community College Child Development Program for Solano CSP participation activities as required by First 5 California and approved by First 5 Solano (2 classrooms) (Source of funding: FY2012/13 Discretionary Fund and Long Term Financial Plan)**

Discussion: This item is the second item for an award of funding to Solano Community College Child Development program for two classrooms.

**Moved: Commissioner Seifert**

**Vote: 6-0-0**

- 4. Motion: Approve an award of funding in the amount of up to \$31,500 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District for Solano CSP participation activities as required by First 5 California and approved by First 5 Solano (3 classrooms) (Source of funding: FY2012/13 Discretionary Fund and Long Term Financial Plan)**

Discussion: This item is the third item for an award of funding to Fairfield Suisun Unified School District for three classrooms that were approved.

**Moved: Commissioner Ayala**

**Vote: 6-0-0**

- 5. Motion: Approve an of award of funding in the amount of up to \$42,000 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 to Vallejo City Unified School District for Solano CSP participation activities as required by First 5 California and approved by First 5 Solano (4 classrooms) (Source of funding: FY2012/13 Discretionary Fund and Long Term Financial Plan)**

Discussion: This item is the fourth item for an award of funding to Vallejo City Unified School District for four classrooms that were approved.

**Moved: Commissioner Betz**

**Vote: 6-0-0**

- 6. Motions: Approve an award of funding in the amount of up to \$241,500 for the period September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 to Child Start Inc. for Solano CSP participation activities as required by First 5 California and approved by First 5 Solano (23 classrooms) (Source of funding: FY2012/13 Receive an update on Organizational Development processes for awarding Coordination/Collaboration funding and analyzing case management needs/ recommending system supports for First 5 grantees)**

Discussion: This item is the fifth item for an award of funding to Child Start Inc., for twenty-three participating classrooms.

**Moved: Commissioner Seifert**

**Vote: 6-0-0**

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

The next regularly-scheduled First 5 Solano Commission meeting is on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas St., Fairfield. Future agenda items include: FY2011/12 Annual Report Submission to First 5 California; FY2011/12 Audit; Nominating Committee for 2013 Officers; Committee Reports

Meeting adjourned at 7:33PM

Denise Winters, Office Assistant III

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

