

Solano County



JOINT WORKSHOP

Board of Supervisors & First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

Agenda - Final

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

2:00 PM

Special Meeting

**Solano County Events Center
Conference Room A
601 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533**

SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

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If you wish to address any item listed on the Agenda, please submit a Speaker Card to the Board Clerk before the Board considers the specific item. Cards are available at the entrance to the meeting. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER - 2:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

JOINT WORKSHOP

Board of Supervisors/First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

- 1 [18-16](#) Receive a presentation on the status of children and youth in Solano County and discuss the future direction of services across multiple agencies to achieve the best outcomes for children and youth

Attachments: [A - Presentation](#)

ADJOURN



Solano County

675 Texas Street
Fairfield, California 94533
www.solanocounty.com

Agenda Submittal

Agenda #:	1	Status:	Regular Calendar
Type:	Presentation	Department:	First 5 Solano
File #:	18-16	Contact:	Michele Harris, 784-1332
Agenda date:	1/9/2018	Final action:	
Title:	Receive a presentation on the status of children and youth in Solano County and discuss the future direction of services across multiple agencies to achieve the best outcomes for children and youth		
Governing body:	Board of Supervisors		
District:	All		
Attachments:	A - Presentation		

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Published Notice Required? Yes _____ No X
Public Hearing Required? Yes _____ No X

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:

The Departments of First 5 Solano, Probation, and Health & Social Services (H&SS), in partnership with Solano County Office of Education recommend the Board of Supervisors and the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission receive a presentation on the status of children and youth in Solano County and discuss the future direction of services across multiple agencies to achieve the best outcomes for children and youth.

SUMMARY:

One of the stated goals of Solano County is to "Invest in and for the future." To that end, Solano County offers significant prevention, early intervention, and safety net services targeted toward children, youth, and their families.

This presentation includes information from three County Departments (First 5 Solano, Probation, and Health & Social Services) and the Solano County Office of Education on the status of children and youth in Solano. While these agencies play a key role in providing services in the community, it should be noted that there is a large cohort of partners, including community based organizations, school districts, other government services and, most importantly, families working toward ensuring all children and youth meet their full potential and achieve success in life.

Solano County is home to approximately 100,000 children and youth representing nearly one-quarter of the total population. The population of children and youth has a diverse racial and ethnic make-up and one in five children and youth are living in poverty. Outcomes for children and youth vary significantly by race/ethnicity and socio-economic status.

There are several milestones that research has shown are critical to later childhood successes and success in life. A number of factors, such as parental relationship and involvement, toxic stress, and socio-economic status have significant influence over children achieving these milestones. These factors are where agencies and communities can assist families in supporting their children and youth to thrive.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact of receiving the presentation.

DISCUSSION:

The presentation provides an overview of the Departments of Health & Social Services, Probation, and First 5 Solano, along with Solano County Office of Education, including the state of the population, what the agency does for children and youth, what outcomes have been achieved, and where the agency is headed related to children and youth services. This presentation also provides information on a public health framework for reducing health inequities, along with details on emerging public health practice. Lastly, the presentation provides information regarding Solano's strengths, gaps and opportunities related to children and youth services, along with examples of systems interactions that are working well.

A brief summary of the information included in the presentation is below.

Childhood Milestones, Later Outcomes:

There are several milestones that research has shown are critical to later childhood successes and success in life, including: healthy birth, parent-child attachment, kindergarten readiness, third grade reading, eighth grade math, and high school graduation.

Research shows that addressing only one milestone along the pathway is not sufficient alone to tip the odds in favor of future success. There is a cumulative, compounding impact of these milestones on child and youth outcomes. Supporting children and youth can impact the trajectory of a whole lifetime; what happens as a child (such as participation in high-quality preschool) shapes the adult (increased likelihood of high school graduation) and the rest of society (more skilled workforce).

Solano Demographics:

Solano County is home to approximately 100,000 children and youth representing nearly one-quarter of the total population. Over the next 15 years, the Solano County population is expected to grow by 80,000 people; however, the child/youth population is only expected to grow by 6,000, which is less than 8% of the overall projected growth.

The population of children and youth has a diverse racial and ethnic make-up, including Hispanic/Latino (35.4%), white (28.7%), black (12.5%), Asian (11.7%), and multi-racial (10.8%). Nearly one in five (18.9%) of children and youth are living in poverty. Poverty can have a significant impact on child development: by age 3, poor children have heard 30 million fewer words than non-poor children; poor children are more likely to be hungry and less likely to have affordable quality healthcare; poor children are less likely to graduate from high school; and child poverty increases the risk of unemployment and poverty as an adult.

Outcomes for children and youth in Solano vary significantly by race/ethnicity and socio-economic status. For example, over 50% of White, Filipino and Asian children meet 3rd grade math and reading standards, while less than 30% of Hispanic/Latino and less than 25% of Black children meet those same standards. Similarly, over 50% of children who are not economically disadvantaged meet 3rd grade math and reading standards, while less than 30% of children who are economically disadvantaged meet those standards.

In addition, an analysis of 9 factors of child and youth well-being (e.g., rates of child maltreatment, poverty, unemployment, children without health insurance) revealed that zip codes in Vallejo and Rio Vista fare worse than the rest of the county, while Benicia and some zip codes in Fairfield have far fewer risk factors. These inequities across the county contribute to a cumulative picture of risk for children and youth.

First 5 Solano:

First 5 Solano is one of 58 county commissions funded by Proposition 10 tobacco tax. First 5 Solano funds programs and activities based on a community and data driven strategic plan. Over 2014 and 2015, the First 5 Solano Commission underwent an extensive 18-month planning process and adopted its 2016 Strategic Plan Update. The Plan included direct services in the areas of Health & Well-Being, Early Childhood Learning & Development, and Family Support and Parent Education, as well as a newly adopted Systems Change Priority with the intention of strengthening, expanding, integrating and sustaining early childhood systems in an era of diminishing resources. In addition, at that time the Commission directed staff to bring its future budget in line with its on-going revenue, communicate with community partners about upcoming funding reductions, and provide a vehicle for innovation.

Over the last 2 years, First 5 Solano has been holding quarterly meetings with leadership of its community partners to inform the community of changes that will be taking place and involve community partners in opportunities for systems change. In December 2017, the Commission adopted its 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan which brings Proposition 10 expenditures in line with ongoing revenue for the next 5 years at \$3.4 million annually. In addition, the plan focuses on investing to fill gaps as part of a larger system of care, transitioning service strategies toward evidence-based models that are shown to deliver successful results, addressing inequities by directing resources to the highest need areas of the County, and implementing an annual grants program.

Solano County Office of Education:

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) is one of 58 county offices of education throughout the state. Its goal is to provide effective leadership and services that support schools and the community to provide equitable access to the highest quality education and ensure a positive outcome for every Solano County student.

In addition to providing academic support and assistance to school districts and monitoring school district fiscal stability, SCOE also provides a range of direct services to students, including:

- Regionalized educational services for students with moderate to severe disabilities for districts served under the Solano Special Education Local Planning Area (SELPA)
- Skill development, job experiences, and job placements (in collaboration with the Department of Rehabilitation, local businesses, and the Workforce Development program) for students with disabilities
- A Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accredited instructional program for students in the Juvenile Detention Facility designed to support progress toward graduation and offer diplomas for students who complete all graduation requirements (in partnership with Juvenile Probation)
- School based social-emotional support services to students from throughout the County (in partnership with H&SS)
- Support services to foster and homeless youth (in partnership with school districts and community agencies).

In 2015, SCOE partnered with First 5 Solano and numerous other community partners to launch the Solano Quality Early Learning System with the purpose of aligning efforts to have a greater impact on increasing the quality of early education classrooms and bettering outcomes for Solano's youngest learners. SCOE is also the lead for Solano Kids Thrive, a Collective Impact approach currently addressing childhood trauma and resilience. Both of these efforts are aimed at maximizing and leveraging resources and aligning our efforts intended to support positive outcomes for children and families.

Probation:

Solano County Probation Department is dedicated to promoting community safety, client responsibility and providing safe, secure, and effective detention and treatment programs.

For the youth of Solano County, the Probation Department collaborates with a wide array of community partners to provide targeted services that address a youth's assessed needs. As indicated above, SCOE operates a WASC accredited instructional program for students in the Juvenile Detention Facility. The school

program has assisted countless youth in credit recovery resulting in 39 detained youth earning high school diplomas in the past two years. In the fall of 2017, SCOE partnered with Probation to enable detained youth the opportunity to participate in online classes through Solano Community College. H&SS and Probation work collectively to assure that out of home placement services are met, recently completing the Peer Quality Case Review process which established new goals in the System Improvement Plan. Probation has been an active partner in the multi-department effort to address Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in Solano County, participating in workgroups, planning meetings, community presentations and protocol development in an effort address the many needs of this population.

Partnerships with local law enforcement and contracted service providers have expanded diversion programs and increased targeted intervention efforts to address youth needs early, precluding many from formally entering the justice system. Additionally, Solano County Probation utilizes a combination of contracted services and volunteers to provide mental health counseling, community intervention coaching, restorative justice, and transitional services.

Health & Social Services:

H&SS is comprised of multiple Divisions that provide a range of services to children, youth and families, including:

- **Public Health:** Provides mandated community health services as well as prevention programs, such as home visiting programs, and obesity prevention. In addition, some children qualify for In-Home Support Services under Older & Disabled Adult Services, a program now part of the Public Health Division.
- **Medical Services:** Provides pediatric medical and dental services via Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) clinics and mobile vehicles, as well as programs for high risk children, such as California Children's Services.
- **Behavioral Health:** Provides a spectrum of mental health services for children and youth from prevention and early intervention to wrap-around treatment for seriously emotionally disturbed youth and child welfare-involved youth. Behavioral Health also includes Substance Abuse Services for youth.
- **Employment and Eligibility:** Promotes self-sufficiency by assisting low income families with obtaining employment, access to health care, food, and cash assistance.
- **Child Welfare Services:** Protects children from abuse and neglect by preventing, identifying and responding to allegations of child abuse and neglect. Child Welfare provides services so that children can remain safely in their homes, reunify with their families, or find permanent homes.

H&SS offers many of these services in collaboration with a wide variety of community partners, both contracted and through formal and informal collaborations. Areas of communitywide success include the number children with health insurance, reducing food insecurity and reduction of child welfare substantiated maltreatment rates. Additionally, the number of children in group homes has significantly decreased over the past year, which is a key indicator in Continuum of Care Reform. However, despite the wide variety of programs and services available, certain indicators, such as rates of child obesity and asthma, still show Solano County is lagging behind the rest of the state.

Many of the services offered by H&SS are intensive and costly interventions for high-risk families. However, many of these services could be lessened or avoided if upstream prevention or early intervention services were provided. Public Health's upstream impact is shifting the "frame" of how H&SS provides health and social services to children and youth in Solano County. Additionally, H&SS is also utilizing the social determinants of health framework to transition service delivery to a more upstream, preventative, model of care.

Conclusion:

Overall, the system of care provided for children and youth by the County and its community partners provides a safety net of services; however, gaps still remain in the continuum of care with many children, youth, and families still struggling to meet milestones. Opportunities exist to further support our youngest residents, and partners are working together to problem-solve and enhance system integration. Examples include the Children and Youth Leadership Council, Pathways (Continuum of Care Reform), and co-location of services to

holistically address the needs of children and youth (such as mental health services onsite at schools).

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board could choose not to receive the presentation. This is not recommended as the presentation provides important information on how children in Solano County are faring and how Solano County Departments are addressing the needs of its children, youth, and families.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Many agencies in Solano County are working within the system of care for children and youth. SCOE assisted in preparing this presentation.

CAO RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION