

COMMISSION MEETING
March 2, 2021 – 5:30-7:30pm
3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA 94590

In furtherance of the direction from Governor Newsom (Executive Order N-25-20) and pursuant to the Executive Order issued by Governor Gavin Newsom (Executive Order N-29-20), **public access to the First 5 Solano Commission Meeting will be limited.**

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

Join livestream via Zoom:

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

Join via Phone:

1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 592 277 5330

Public Comments:

Public Comment may be provided by: During the meeting via the phone/computer audio when the Chair calls for Public Comment on an item; or submitting written public comments to First 5 Solano via email at cfcsolano@solanocounty.com by 4:00pm on the day of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER / SALUTE TO THE FLAG

I. Public Comment

Information

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

II. Consent Calendar (5 min)

Action

- A. Approve the March 2, 2021 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the January 12, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes

III. First 5 Solano FY2021/22 Annual Budget (60 min)

Action

- A. Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2021/22 Proposed Budget
- B. Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2021/22 budget
- C. Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$100,000 (\$50,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Rio Vista CARE for family support services in Rio Vista (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)
- D. Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$200,000 (\$100,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano County Health & Social Services, Mental Health Division, for Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)
- E. Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$150,000 (\$75,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano County Office of Education to provide the Raising a Reader program (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, Unallocated Funds*)
- F. Consider approval of allocations of funding of up to \$985,540 (\$492,770 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Triple P Parent Education providers as follows:
 - a. Up to \$400,960 (\$200,480 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Parents by Choice
 - b. Up to \$202,500 (\$101,250 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Child Haven

- c. Up to \$122,160 (\$61,080 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Catholic Charities
 - d. Up to \$110,560 (\$55,280 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Child Start
 - e. Up to \$41,500 (\$20,750 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Rio Vista CARE
 - f. Up to \$40,200 (\$20,100 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
 - g. Up to \$40,160 (\$20,080 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
 - h. Up to \$27,500 (\$13,750 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano Family and Children's Services
- (Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act)*
- G. Consider approval of an additional allocation of \$100,000 to Bay Area Community Resources for developmental screenings at the First 5 Center in Vallejo for FY2021/22 *(Source of funds: Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds)*
 - H. Consider approval of up to a \$200,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for summer 2021 with delegated authority to the Executive Director for final allocation amount for each provider:
 - a. Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
 - b. Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
 - c. Travis Unified School District
 - d. Dixon Unified School District
 - e. Benicia Unified School District
 - f. River Delta Unified School District
 - g. Vallejo City Unified School District
 - h. Vacaville Unified School District
 - i. Child Start, Inc
- (Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)*
- I. Consider a sole source allocation of up to \$42,000 to the Solano County Office of Education to provide additional Pre-Kindergarten Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021 *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, Unallocated Funds)*
 - J. Consider approval of delegated authority to the Executive Director to reallocate any unspent funding from the \$200,000 in Motion E to Solano County Office to provide additional Pre-K Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021

Megan Richards, Deputy Director

IV. Policy and Oversight Committee Report (Commissioner Hannigan) (15 min)

Action

- A. Consider approval the 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform
Lorraine Fernandez, First 5 Solano

V. Executive Director's Report (15 min)

Action

- A. Consider approval of the FY2021/22 First 5 Commission and Committee Meeting schedule
- B. Consider approval of an allocation of up to \$22,820 to Parents by Choice for FY2020/21 to provide additional Triple P Parent Education
Michele Harris, Executive Director

VI. Commissioner Remarks (5 min)

Information

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

Information

The next Commission meeting will be held on April 6, 2021 at 5:30PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo. Future agenda items include: First 5 Center Year 1 Report, System Change Result 14 Summary, Strategic Planning, Committee Report.

ADJOURN

Vision: All Solano County children are loved, healthy, confident, eager to learn, and nurtured by their families, caregivers and communities. **Mission:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission is a leader that fosters and sustains effective programs and partnerships with the community to promote, support and improve the lives of young children, their families and their communities.

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. If you require a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting, please call (707) 784.1332 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Non-confidential materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission are available for public inspection at the First 5 Solano business office, 3375 Sonoma Blvd Ste 30, Vallejo CA during normal business hours.

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

January 12, 2021, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present via Zoom videoconferencing: Jennifer Barton, Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Erin Hannigan, Jerry Huber, Nicole Neff, Marla Stuart, Tyffany Wanberg

Chair Barton called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

I. Public Comment

Chair Barton welcomed Commissioner Marla Stuart to the Commission. Commissioner Stuart shared some of her background and areas of focus. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves and welcomed the new Commissioner.

II. Consent Calendar

A. Approve the January 12, 2021 Commission Meeting Agenda.

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for January 12, 2021

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Huber, Neff, Stuart, Wanberg

Nay: None

Abstain: None

B. Approve the December 1, 2020 Commission Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Minutes for December 1, 2020

Moved by Commissioner Wanberg; Seconded by Commissioner Huber

Approved 6-0-1

Yea: Commissioners Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Huber, Neff, Wanberg

Nay: None

Abstain: Stuart

III. Introduce 2021 Officers; Chair Affirms Committee Assignments

Chair Barton introduced the 2021 Policy & Oversight Committee: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Barton, and Hannigan. Commissioner Hannigan will chair the Committee and

serve as Commission Vice-Chair.

IV. Positive Parenting Month Resolution

Kwiana Algeré, First 5 Solano Health Education Specialist, reported that the Solano County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution to acknowledge January 2021 as Positive Parenting Month, recognizing the vital role parents and caretakers play in raising happy healthy thriving children.

Motion: Consider approval of Resolution #2021-01 recognizing January 2021 as “Positive Parenting Awareness Month” in Solano County

Moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Hannigan

Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Huber, Neff, Stuart, Wanberg

Nay: None

Abstain: None

V. Systems Change 4-Year Summary

Michele Harris, First 5 Solano Executive Director, outlined the framework of reviewing each result area of the Systems Change Plan to see what has taken hold and what has fallen to the wayside. Christina Branom of Applied Survey Research reviewed Result 13: Systems are expanded and sustained with leveraged or new financial resources. While efforts at accessing some funding [eg. Medical Administrative Activities (MAA)] never developed, success was achieved with outreach to funders in applying for competitive grants and with the blended funding model at the Vallejo First 5 Center. First 5 Solano made a funders packet and developed a connections matrix, resulting in nearly ¾ of grants applied for being awarded, for a total of \$13,198,039 in funding awarded over the last 4 years. Having a non-governmental entity operate the First 5 Center allows a broader range of services, increased opportunities for grant-seeking, and greater sustainability. Commissioner Wanberg asked if the efforts described as unsuccessful were still in process. Ms. Harris explained that pursuing MAA funding did not justify the resources. Commissioner Estrella-Henderson described the focus on Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) funding as narrowing First 5 Solano’s reach, but said there is always opportunity for Commissioners to advocate. Commissioner Hannigan highlighted the importance of taking a holistic look at funding and results given the Commission’s 2015 decision to cut spending to not exhaust its resources.

Tracy Lacey, Senior Mental Health Services Manager and Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordinator, gave background on MHSA and detailed the components of funding. Ms. Lacey explained how MHSA can serve more children and families in conjunction with First 5 Solano funding, as the departments’ values largely align.

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VI. First 5 Solano's Emergency Response Update

Megan Richards, First 5 Solano Deputy Director, reported on staff's activities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Approximately \$1.2 million in funds and supplies were received by First 5 Solano and distributed to families and providers throughout the county. Ms. Fernandez summarized results of the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) grants and gave some examples of grants executed, expressing how crucial it was that the Commission implemented the fund policy so quickly. Ms. Richards detailed Emergency Response efforts in distributing supplies, helping essential workers access child care, and providing monthly stipends to child care providers to address the additional costs associated with providing care during the pandemic. Supplies that were often difficult to source and purchase were provided by First 5 California, Kaiser Permanente, Touro University, and Baby2Baby. First 5 Solano distributed over \$135,000 in supplies to families, providers, and partners. On behalf of the Solano County Office of Emergency Services, First 5 Solano coordinated two popup child care sites for essential workers, and assisted 76 families access child care.

VII. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Harris thanked Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation for generously giving \$500,000 to First 5 Solano toward basic needs assistance and First 5 Center operation. Ms. Harris shared that backpacks were being distributed to all transitional-Kindergarteners and Kindergarteners in the County. Ms. Richards reported on funding being pursued in cooperation with Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) to revamp Pre-K academies in response to COVID-19. Lisa Eckhoff, SCOE Senior Director of Early Learning, explained how this will allow both SCOE and First 5 Solano to serve more families. Ms. Eckhoff also thanked Solano County Library for providing materials and being a great support of early learning in the county.

VIII. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Estrella-Henderson thanked staff for the support during her tenure as Commission Chair through the challenges of 2020. Commissioner Wanberg thanked Commissioners for their concern and support in family matters.

IX. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting will be held on March 2, 2021 at 5:30 PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30 in Vallejo. Future agenda items include: Proposed Budget, System Change Result 14 Summary, Strategic Planning; Committee Report.

Adjourn

Chair Barton adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Luke Winders, Office Assistant III

Approved:

DATE: February 25, 2021
TO: First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
FROM: Megan Richards, Deputy Director
CC: Michele Harris, Executive Director
SUBJECT: First 5 Solano FY2021/22 Proposed Budget

Motion A: Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2021/22 Proposed Budget

Motion B: Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2021/22 budget

Motion C: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$100,000 (\$50,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Rio Vista CARE for family support services in Rio Vista (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)

Motion D: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$200,000 (\$100,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano County Health & Social Services, Mental Health Division, for Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)

Motion E: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$150,000 (\$75,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano County Office of Education to provide the Raising a Reader program (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, Unallocated Funds*)

Motion F: Consider approval of allocations of funding of up to \$985,540 (\$492,770 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Triple P Parent Education providers as follows:

- a. Up to \$400,960 (\$200,480 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Parents by Choice
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- c. Up to \$122,160 (\$61,080 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Catholic Charities
- d. Up to \$110,560 (\$55,280 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Child Start
- e. Up to \$41,500 (\$20,750 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Rio Vista CARE
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- g. Up to \$40,160 (\$20,080 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- h. Up to \$27,500 (\$13,750 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano Family and Children's Services

(*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act*)

Motion G: Consider approval of an additional allocation of \$100,000 to Bay Area Community Resources for developmental screenings at the First 5 Center in Vallejo for FY2021/22 (*Source of funds: Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds*)

Motion H: Consider approval of up to a \$200,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for summer 2021 with delegated authority to the Executive Director for final allocation amount for each provider:

- a. Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- b. Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
- c. Travis Unified School District
- d. Dixon Unified School District

- e. Benicia Unified School District
- f. River Delta Unified School District
- g. Vallejo City Unified School District
- h. Child Start, Inc

(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)

Motion I: Consider a sole source allocation of up to \$42,000 to the Solano County Office of Education to provide additional Pre-Kindergarten Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021 (Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, Unallocated Funds)

Motion J: Consider approval of delegated authority to the Executive Director to reallocate any unspent funding from the \$200,000 in Motion E to Solano County Office of Education to provide additional Pre-K Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021

Budget Summary

The FY2021/22 Proposed Budget (Attachment A) represents the fourth year of the Commission's 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. The FY2021/22 budget includes \$4.6 million in projected expenditures and \$4.2 million in projected revenues. This is stable with the FY2020/21 Adopted Budget (from June 2020). Any shortfall in actual expenditure over revenue will be drawn from the Commission's reserve.

Commission Planning Tools and Relation to Annual Budget

In reviewing the Commission's FY2021/22 Proposed Budget, it is helpful to understand how the annual budget fits with within the Commission's long-term financial plan. The following documents are fundamental Commission documents that guide staff in implementing the Commission's work:

- Strategic Plan-Sets the vision and priorities of the Commission. Last updated in 2016.
- Long-Term Financial Plan-Sets the long-term vision and policies for funding priorities. Last updated in 2016. Model updated annually.
- Program Investment Plan-Communicates how funds will be allocated among the Commission's Goals over a multi-year period. In December 2017, the Commission adopted a new 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan.
- Annual Budget-Creates detailed spending plan for specific revenue and expenditure for a one-year time period.

This item brings forward the FY2021/22 Annual Budget which reflects all of the planning documents and formalizes the Program Investment Plan into an expenditure plan.

Budget Process & Timeline

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission FY2021/22 Proposed Budget is submitted by the required due date to the County Administrator (February 26, 2021). Commission staff have notified the CAO's office that the First 5 Solano budget will be finalized after the Commission reviews and approves its budget at the March 2, 2021 Commission meeting. First 5 Solano's Proposed Budget will go before the Solano County Board of Supervisors in June 2021 as part of the overall annual FY2021/22 County Budget.

Budget Assumptions

The FY2021/22 Projected Budget is built on certain assumptions:

- Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenues will be available as projected.
- First 5 California will meet its funding obligations for IMPACT and Home Visiting Coordination grants.

- Funds from H&SS from Mental Health Services Act funds will be available as projected.
- The State and Federal Budgets do not impact overall County, school and community services, and in turn impact First 5 Solano and its grantees.
- Funds are only included if they are secured.

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

Revenues

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

Overall revenues are projected to remain stable. Specific offsetting factors include:

- There is a slight increase in Proposition 10 tobacco tax based on most recent California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) from May 2020. Based on that projection, both FY2020/21 and FY2021/22 are higher than projected in March 2020 when the FY2020/21 budget was approved.
- Decrease in interest income. Per the County Treasury Department, interest income in FY2021/22 is expected to be at 0%.
- Funding for joint projects with Health & Social Services has been eliminated with the exception of Mental Health Services Act, which has decreased 21%.
- Grant funding from Medic Ambulance for the Year 3 payment for the First 5 Center tenant improvements is included in the budget, but other grant funding which has not yet been secured for FY2021/22 is not included in the FY2021/22 budget.

Expenditures

First 5 Solano's FY2021/22 Proposed Budget includes \$4,605,932 of expenditure which represents virtually no net change in expenditures as compared to the FY2020/21 Adopted Budget. The majority of expenditures (84%) remain program expenditures. Approximately 3% of expenditures are dedicated to evaluation and data collection. Administrative expenses constitute 13% of the expenditures, which is below the administrative cost cap of 15%.

Programs

On-going program expenditures of \$3,879,498 are included in the proposed budget following the Commission's 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. This includes direct program expenditures, along with internal programs and staff support to operate these programs.

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

The majority of the program expenditure budget remains stable from FY2020/21 to FY2021/22 as the Commission is entering its fourth year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. However, the following changes should be noted:

- \$45,000 in funding was reallocated from Cosponsorship of Training and Conference, Community Engagement, and the Executive Director fund to create the integrated Community Responsive Mini Grant Fund which will be available July 1, 2021.
- \$100,000 in expenditure was included for the Home Visiting Coordination grant from First 5 California that was secured in FY2020/21. The majority of these funds are budgeted for Health & Social Services Public Health to facilitate the coordination. Since we receive the corresponding revenue from First 5 California, this program is no net cost to First 5 Solano.
- There is a decrease in expenditure related to the joint funding between Mental Health Services Act and First 5 Solano related to the reduction in revenue. This includes not renewing the Early

Childhood Mental Health provider training contract with A Better Way. The Commission will utilize its portion of resources dedicated toward this contract to keep the same level of Triple P Parent Education services in the community.

Community Engagement: The Community Engagement Activities budget is requested for \$92,000. While it may look like the Community Engagement Budget has decreased, the \$10,000 is being moved to the Community Responsive Mini Grants via a technical adjustment to support Community Engagement Grants, and the overall budget functionally remains the same. Other shifts between line items in the Community Engagement budget have been made in the requested budget, and they include less funding for events, and more for Kit for New Parents and Promotional Materials as these have been popular with more events focusing on distributions. In addition, First 5 Solano is working with a communications consultant who may recommend changes on the types of messaging that is being done, but keeping the overall messaging budget consistent across years.

Community Engagement Budget

Description	FY2020/21 Amount	FY2021/22 Amount
Community Engagement/April Children's Month Grants*	10,000	0
Parent Information Calendar	44,000	44,000
Kit for New Parent Customization	4,000	5,000
Event Partnerships	4,000	2,000
Promotional Materials	14,000	15,000
Messaging	30,000	30,000
Total Projected Community Engagement Budget	\$102,000	\$92,000

*This \$10,000 has been moved to the Community Responsive Mini Grants Category.

Systems Change/Collaboration: The Systems Change and Collaboration budget is included at \$432,000. As the Health & Social Services budget has been significantly impacted by impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, no joint H&SS capacity building projects are planned for FY2021/22. The Systems Change budget also reflects the reallocation of funds in the Systems Change Grantee Participation Grants, Grant Writing and Business Challenge Grants, and Systems Change Supports (nonprofit capacity building) to grants for Resilient Solano Strategic Plan Implementation and the new Capacity Building grants.

Systems Change Budget

Description	FY2020/21 Budget	FY2021/22 Budget
Staffing		
Executive Director @ 0.3 FTE	71,500	76,000
Deputy Director @ 0.25 FTE	50,000	51,000
Policy Manager @ 1.0 FTE	143,000	148,000
Operations		
Collective Impact/Resilient Solano Plan Implementation	30,000	76,000
Systems Change Grantee Participation Grants	24,000	0
Grant writing & Business Challenge Grants	15,000	0
Capacity Building Grants	0	40,000
Professional Services	50,000	40,000
Systems Change Supports	45,000 (includes 15,000 H&SS)	0
Collaboration/Community Training and Capacity Building	15,000	10,000
Internal Training/Regional Travel	3,500	1,000
Total Projected Systems Change Budget	\$447,000	\$432,000

Evaluation and Data Collection

The FY2020/21 proposed budget for general evaluation/data collection services is \$146,300. Evaluation is a required component of First 5 Programs under the Proposition 10 Statute. An addition \$6,300 is including in the FY2021/22 Budget for evaluation of the Home Visiting Coordination grant.

Staffing

The FY2021/22 proposed budget includes 7.0 FTEs. This is a decrease of an Extra Help College Intern. Should a College Intern be needed, First 5 Solano will work with Touro University for a Master of Public Health Intern as utilized in FY2020/21. The proposed budget of \$1,150,460 for staffing is a \$18,718 or 2% increase from the FY2020/21 budget. The increase is primarily due to step increases for staff, as well as cost of living increases in multiple line items.

Services and Supplies

Overall operational costs are projected to remain stable with a slight decrease by \$15,885 (5%) primarily due to reallocating \$10,000 in funds for Community Responsive Mini Grants.

FY2021/22 Proposed Budget Summary

Overall, the First 5 Solano FY2021/22 Proposed Budget implements the fourth year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan. This budget represents a stable budget in both expenditures and revenues from the prior year. The Commission's Long-Term Financial Plan Model has been updated reflecting the FY2021/22 Proposed Budget (Attachment C).

In addition to approving the FY2021/22 Budget, as in previous years, Motion B requests the Commission delegate authority to the Executive Director to authorize incorporating grant funds into the FY2021/22 budget should they be received.

Allocations of Funding

Motions C-G bring forward allocations of funding for FY2021/22 and FY2022/23.

Motion C: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$100,000 (\$50,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Rio Vista CARE for family support services in Rio Vista (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)

Motion D: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$200,000 (\$100,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano County Health & Social Services, Mental Health Division, for Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan*)

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- h. Up to \$27,500 (\$13,750 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano Family and Children's Services

(*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act*)

As the Commission is entering its fourth year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan (PIP), the allocations of funding for Motions C-F continue services with current providers for current programs for the final 2 years of the PIP. Motions C-E continues with current contractors as their current level of funding through FY2022/23. Motion C4 continues funding for current Triple P Parent Education providers for an additional 2 years based on previous years' successes and future years projections.

Motion G: Consider approval of an additional allocation of \$100,000 to Bay Area Community Resources for developmental screenings at the First 5 Center in Vallejo for FY2021/22 (*Source of funds: Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds*)

Beginning in FY2020/21, developmental screenings have been provided in a regional developmental screening coordination model whereas a screening coordinator is located at the First 5 Center for south county and Help Me Grow Solano for north county funded by MHSA and with the contracts managed by First 5 Solano. First 5 Solano allocated the funding for Solano Family & Children's Services in their current Help Me Grow contract for FY2021/22. This motion brings forward adding the funding to the current Bay Area Community Resources contract for FY2021/22.

Funding for Vallejo First 5 Center

	FY2020/21	FY2021/22
Funding for BACR Contract and First 5 Center Location		
First 5 Solano	300,000	300,000
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	248,819	232,034
Kaiser Permanente	51,181	12,500
Mental Health Services Act	100,000	100,000
Total	\$700,000	\$644,534
Shortfall to Fund Raise		\$55,466
Direct Funding to BACR		
H&SS MCAH Innovation Grant		\$50,000

Motion H: Consider approval of up to a \$200,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for summer 2021 with delegated authority to the Executive Director for final allocation amount for each provider:

- a. Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- b. Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
- c. Travis Unified School District
- d. Dixon Unified School District
- e. Benicia Unified School District
- f. River Delta Unified School District
- g. Vallejo City Unified School District
- h. Child Start, Inc

(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)

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

For summer 2021, Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) applied for a grant funded by Genentech to assist with redesigning the Pre-K Academies for summer 2021 to be consistent with COVID-19 guidelines, such as allow for alternative “classroom” settings, such as hybrid learning models. Unfortunately, SCOE did not receive the grant, but First 5 Solano is continuing to work with SCOE along with Applied Survey Research, the Commission’s evaluator, and a design team to look at models and options for the summer of 2021 to reach as many children as possible while following COVID-19 guidelines.

This motion is requesting the Commission allocate the \$200,000 identified in the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan for Pre-K Academies to the School Districts and Agencies who have provided Pre-K Academies in 2018 & 2019. Once the design model is confirmed, staff will work with the providers to identify how many children they can serve for summer 2021, keeping in mind the Commission’s previous directions of serving the communities based on high-risk/high-need factors such as number of entering kindergartens, poverty level, and third grade reading scores. Staff will report back the funding allocations by provider once they are determined.

Motion I: Consider a sole source allocation of up to \$42,000 to the Solano County Office of Education to provide additional Pre-Kindergarten Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021 *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, Unallocated Funds)*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the closure or reduced capacity of many early learning sites, it is anticipated that many fewer children participated in a preschool experience during the 2020-2021 school year. Through Quality Counts Solano, Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) has developed relationships with many family child care homes and private child care centers who, with support, may be able to provide a Pre-Kindergarten experience for children entering kindergarten.

In the First 5 Solano 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, the Commission had \$127,000 in unallocated funds. Of this, \$85,000 has been allocated for Raising a Reader and professional development for early care and education providers around providing care for children with special needs. \$42,000 is currently unallocated and staff is recommending that for FY2021/22, the Commission allocate the funding to the SCOE to work with providers who have not previously offered a Pre-Kindergarten Academy, such as family child care providers and private centers.

SCOE would be responsible for identifying early learning sites who are interested in providing an academy, training sites in the program model based on the revisions for 2021, and assisting sites with

any data collection related to the Academies. SCOE would focus on recruiting sites and serving children in communities with relatively fewer kids served by our traditional Pre-K Academy providers.

Motion J: Consider approval of delegated authority to the Executive Director to reallocate any unspent funding from the \$200,000 in Motion E to Solano County Office to provide additional Pre-K Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021

Should the previous Pre-K Academy providers not be able to provide Academies at the previously level of funding, this motion allows for a reallocation of funding from Motion E for SCOE to recruit additional non-traditional partners to serve more children.

Next Steps

Next steps on the implementation of the FY2021/22 Budget and the fourth year of the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan include:

- Confirm the FY2021/22 Proposed Budget with the County Administrator's Office and bring it forward to County budget hearings in June 2021
- Negotiate and finalize contracts for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23 allocations of funding, including approval by county counsel, County Administrator, and Board of Supervisors (as needed)
- Conduct redesign of Pre-Kindergarten Academies; Negotiate final contract amounts for provider; and report back to the Commission on progress
- Continue implementation of Community Engagement and Systems Change activities
- Incorporate grant funding into budget as received

Attachment A: FY2021/22 First 5 Solano Proposed Budget

Attachment B: Interrelation of Planning Tools

Attachment C: First 5 Solano Long Term Financial Plan Model Updated February 2021

Attachment D: FY2021/22 First 5 Solano Proposed Budget Presentation

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
Fiscal Year 2021/22

Department 1530 - Summary
 Budget Report - First 5

Attachment A

Number	Description	FY2020/21 Approved Budget (June 2020)	FY2021/22 Requested Budget	Variance	Percent Change	Comments
Subobjects 1000 - Salary and Benefits						
1110	Salary/Wages RE	707,222	731,756	24,534	3%	
1121	Salary/Wages EX	24,180	-	(24,180)	-100%	Eliminate Extra Help College Intern
1131	Salary/Wages OT	2,395	-	(2,395)	-100%	
1210	Retirement-Employer	183,632	203,129	19,497	11%	County assigned benefits for permanent staff
1211	PARS Retirement	12,426	-	(12,426)	-100%	
1212	Deferred Comp-County Match	910	910	0	0%	
1213	OPEB	14,143	14,636	493	3%	
1220	FICA-Employer	52,375	54,622	2,247	4%	
1230	Health Ins-Employer	116,619	123,967	7,348	6%	
1231	Vision Care Insurance	1,176	1,161	(15)	-1%	
1240	Compensation Insurance	5,058	6,995	1,937	38%	
1241	Lt Disability Insurance ER	2,335	2,191	(144)	-6%	
1250	Unemployment Insurance	1,050	2,419	1,369	130%	
1260	Dental Ins-Employer	6,576	7,043	467	7%	
1290	Life Insurance-Employer	1,645	1,631	(14)	-1%	
	TOTAL	1,131,742	1,150,460	18,718	2%	
Subobjects 2000 - Services and Supplies						
2021	Communication-County Telephones	4,447	4,440	(7)	0%	County assigned cost
2022	Communication-Telephone System	600	600	0	0%	
2023	Communication-Voice Mail	569	-	(569)	-100%	Voice Mail charges now included Telephone (2021)
2026	Cell Phone Allowance	7,200	3,600	(3,600)	-50%	ED/DD
2035	Household Expense	3,000	3,000	0	0%	
2050	Insurance-Risk Management	5,882	7,257	1,375	23%	County assigned cost
2051	Liability Insurance	6,949	8,103	1,154	17%	County assigned cost
2140	Maintenance Bldgs & Improv	5,000	5,000	0	0%	
2170	Memberships	7,500	7,500	0	0%	First 5 Association dues
2175	Miscellaneous Expense	250	250	0	0%	
2180	Books and Subscriptions	500	500	0	0%	
2200	Office Expense	4,000	3,000	(1,000)	-25%	
2203	Computer Components	3,000	1,500	(1,500)	-50%	No planned refreshes; budget for unplanned computer needs
2205	Postage	100	100	0	0%	
2221	Records Storage	100	100	0	0%	
2235	Accounting & Financial	15,000	14,000	(1,000)	-7%	
2250	Other Professional Services	28,000	14,800	(13,200)	-47%	Commissioner stipends/ED fund--decrease ED fund by \$10k c
2266	Central Data Processing Services	51,519	50,028	(1,491)	-3%	County assigned cost
2271	Software Rental/Subscription	500	500	0	0%	
2281	Advertising/Marketing	500	-	(500)	-100%	
2285	Rents & Leases-Equipment	7,000	9,600	2,600	37%	Copier lease. Addition of alarm system and comcast router
2295	Rents & Leases-Buildings	125,133	127,385	2,252	2%	Rent 3375 Sonoma Blvd 1.8% CPI increase
2310	Education & Training	4,000	4,000	0	0%	
2312	Special Departmental Expense	725	725	0	0%	
2335	Travel Expense	3,500	3,500	0	0%	
2337	Refreshments	2,000	2,000	0	0%	
2339	Management Business Expense Allowa	1,300	1,300	0	0%	
2354	Automobile Allowance	3,900	3,900	0	0%	
2355	Personal Mileage	3,000	3,000	0	0%	
2360	Utilities	20,399	20,000	(399)	-2%	Electric/gas 3375 Sonoma Blvd
2361	Water	3,601	2,500	(1,101)	-31%	Water 3375 Sonoma Blvd
	TOTAL	315,573	299,688	(15,885)	-5%	
	TOTAL SALARY AND SUPPLIES	1,447,315	1,450,148	2,833	0%	

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
Fiscal Year 2021/22**

Department 1530 - Summary
Budget Report - First 5

Attachment A

Number	Description	FY2020/21 Approved Budget (June 2020)	FY2021/22 Requested Budget	Variance	Percent Change	Comments
Subobjects 3000 - Other Charges						
3007	Collaboration	300,000	300,000	0	0%	Help Me Grow
3008	Discretionary Fund	200,000	200,000	0	0%	Annual Grants
3010	Co-sponsor Conferences/Trainings	25,000	45,000	20,000	80%	Community Responsive Grants
3011	School Readiness Grants	200,000	242,000	42,000	21%	Summer 2021 Pre-K Academies
3014	Early Mental Health Grants	465,000	365,000	(100,000)	-22%	Triple P; (Decrease by \$100k ECMH provider training)
3016	Family Support/Parent Education Grants	945,000	945,000	0	0%	Triple P; RV FRC; F5C
3018	Child Care Grants	385,371	367,172	(18,199)	-5%	IMPACT SCOE; Beck lease; Raising a Reader
3051	Data Collection/Evaluation	140,000	146,300	6,300	5%	Evaluation & Database
3053	Community Engagement	102,000	92,000	(10,000)	-10%	\$10k moved to Community Resonsive Grants (3010)
3054	Systems Change	167,500	157,000	(10,500)	-6%	1.55 FTE in salary and benefits
3691	Interfund Services - Acctg & Payroll	12,230	12,230	0	0%	
3692	Interfund Services - Legal Services	7,800	8,000	200	3%	
3694	Interfund Services - Professional	140,000	193,693	53,693	38%	100k EPSDT; HV Coordination (Decrease by 40k dental)
3697	Interfund Svcs - Postage	1,000	1,000	0	0%	
3710	County Administrative Overhead	50,592	69,863	19,271	38%	County assigned cost A-87
	TOTAL	3,141,493	3,144,258	2,765	0%	
Subobjects 5000 - Other Financing Uses						
5040	Trans Out-POBs	11,074	11,526	452	4%	County assigned cost
	TOTAL	11,074	11,526	452	4%	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	4,599,882	4,605,932	6,050	0%	
Subobjects 9400 & 9500 - Revenues						
9401	Interest Income	161,085	-	(161,085)	-100%	Interest decrease to 0% (per Treasury)
9569	State - Other	3,027,292	3,266,897	239,605	8%	Prop 10 revenue-State Projections (May 2020)
9591	Other Revenue	221,402	321,402	100,000	45%	F5CA Grants-IMPACT; HV Coordination
9690	Interfund Svcs Provide - County	84,396	59,609	(24,787)	-29%	1570 revenue;
9694	Interfund Svcs Pro Svcs -	715,000	536,930	(178,070)	-25%	MHSA
9703	Misc Revenue	5,000	38,000	33,000	660%	Donations; small grants; Medic grant
	TOTAL REVENUES	4,214,175	4,222,838	8,663	0.2%	
	AMOUNT NEEDED FROM RESERVE	385,707	383,094	(2,613)	-1%	

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission Interrelationship of Planning Tools

	Strategic Plan	Evaluation Framework	Long Term Financial Plan	Multi-Year Program Investment Plan	Annual Budget
Purpose	Set vision and priorities	Make the Strategic Plan measurable	Provide long-term policies and projections for funding priorities	Communicate how funds will be allocated among highlighted Goals	Translate vision into action through detailed spending plan
Key Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Priorities for 10 years • Highlight Goals for 2-5 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and attach Indicators to the Results in the Strategic Plan • Track program performance and contributions to positive movement in community-level Indicators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forecast by type of revenue or expense • Quantify amount of program investment each year • Establish policies on use of financial resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review recent allocations against LTFP policies • Direct program investment funds to grant programs and to highlighted Goals • Provide a timeline for funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide specific forecasts and expenditure plans by revenue and expense accounts
Scope	Broad	Moves from broad to specific	Broad	Moves from broad to specific	Specific
Planning Horizon	10 years	Aligns with the Strategic Plan	10 years	3-5 years	One year
Revisions	Annual Review	Annual Review	Annual Review	Annual Update	Annual Creation Continuous monitoring
Does <i>not</i>...	Make specific spending commitments	Identify all program performance indicators	Obligate future Commissions to specific funding or authorize contracts	Specify grantees or contracts	Guarantee future funding to current grantees

Adapted from Proposition 10 Financial Planning Guidebook, June 2002, page 18

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
2016 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN UPDATE
Model Revision February 2021

CATEGORY	FY2016-2018		FY2018/19-FY2022/23							
	Y1	Y2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
	Actual FY2016/17	Actual FY2017/18	Actual FY2018/19	Actual FY2019/20	Budgeted FY2020/21	Budgeted FY2021/22	Projection FY2022/23	Projection FY2023/24	Projection FY2024/25	Projection FY2025/26
REVENUE										
Fund Balance (Beginning)	8,107,069	8,385,908	8,353,676	9,751,039	9,721,402	9,538,583	9,385,786	9,855,726	9,488,521	9,021,203
Tobacco Tax - Prop 10	3,371,579	2,982,978	3,280,424	3,408,631	3,027,292	3,266,897	3,240,680	3,220,238	3,123,797	3,092,559
Interest	66,782	102,534	174,281	177,419	170,125	-	93,858	98,557	94,885	90,212
Matching Funds	409,389	540,368	726,813	745,757	921,402	858,332	821,402			
Other	51,366	121,572	695,027	1,070,046	69,396	97,609				
Unexpended funds returned to LTFP					230,054	230,297	194,000	194,000	194,000	194,000
TOTAL REVENUE	3,899,116	3,747,452	4,876,545	5,401,853	4,418,269	4,453,135	4,349,940	3,512,795	3,412,682	3,376,771
Total Available Resources	12,006,185	12,133,360	13,230,221	15,152,892	14,139,671	13,991,718	13,735,726	13,368,521	12,901,203	12,397,974
APPROPRIATIONS										
Program Priorities 1-4	2,990,005	3,136,389	2,881,203	4,776,218	3,898,479	3,879,498	3,183,000	3,183,000	3,183,000	3,183,000
Salaries, Benefits, Services and Supplies	382,718	374,631	302,429	513,327	449,108	526,364	457,000			
Priority 1 - Health and Well Being	734,503	843,927	654,336	443,826	840,000	593,693	700,000			
Priority 2 - Early Care & Education	530,882	626,248	528,473	609,309	585,371	609,172	290,000			
Priority 3 - Family Support & Parent Education	782,382	726,160	321,823	629,414	1,050,000	1,075,429	650,000			
Priority 4 - Systems Change	297,193	450,075	442,617	531,727	447,000	432,000	432,000			
Other	262,327	115,348	631,525	2,048,615	527,000	642,840	654,000			
Evaluation & Data Collection	131,250	135,150	110,850	138,600	140,000	146,300	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
Total Program	3,121,255	3,271,539	2,992,053	4,914,818	4,038,479	4,025,798	3,323,000	3,323,000	3,323,000	3,323,000
Administrative										
Total Administrative	499,022	508,145	487,129	516,672	562,609	580,134	557,000	557,000	557,000	557,000
Administrative Percentage	14%	13%	14%	10%	12%	13%	14%	14%	14%	14%
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	3,620,277	3,779,684	3,479,182	5,431,490	4,601,088	4,605,932	3,880,000	3,880,000	3,880,000	3,880,000
Net Increase/Decrease	278,839	(32,232)	1,397,363	(29,637)	(182,819)	(152,797)	469,940	(367,205)	(467,318)	(503,229)
Fund Balance (Ending)	8,385,908	8,353,676	9,751,039	9,721,402	9,538,583	9,385,786	9,855,726	9,488,521	9,021,203	8,517,974

Assumptions:

Prop 10 revenue estimates by CDTFA (May 2020)-Aprox 1% decline
Only Secured Matching Funds in Revenue and Expenditure
Interest at rate of 1.0% beginning FY2022/23

FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

BUDGET PRESENTATION
FISCAL YEAR 2021/22
MARCH 2, 2021



- **Motions:**

- A.** Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2021/22 Proposed Budget
- B.** Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2021/22 budget



- Motions-Allocations of funding:
 - C. Extend Programs in PIP
 - D. Bay Area Community Resources: Developmental Screenings
 - E. - G. 2021 Pre-Kindergarten Academies

3



COMMISSION PLANNING TOOLS

- 2016 Strategic Plan
- 2016 Long-Term Financial Plan
- 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan
- Annual Budget

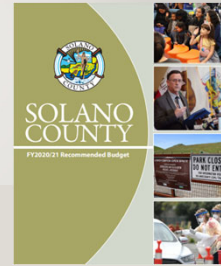


4



COUNTY BUDGET PROCESS

- Proposed FY2021/22 Budget submitted February 26, 2021 as part of the overall County Budget process
- Commission approves budget March 1, 2021
- Supplemental budget due May 2021 (Optional)
- Incorporated in County Budget June 2021
- Funds assigned to County Reserve cannot be accessed once the Budget is approved



5



BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

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

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FY2021/22 BUDGET COMPONENTS

Revenues

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

Expenditures

- Program
- Administration
- Evaluation

7



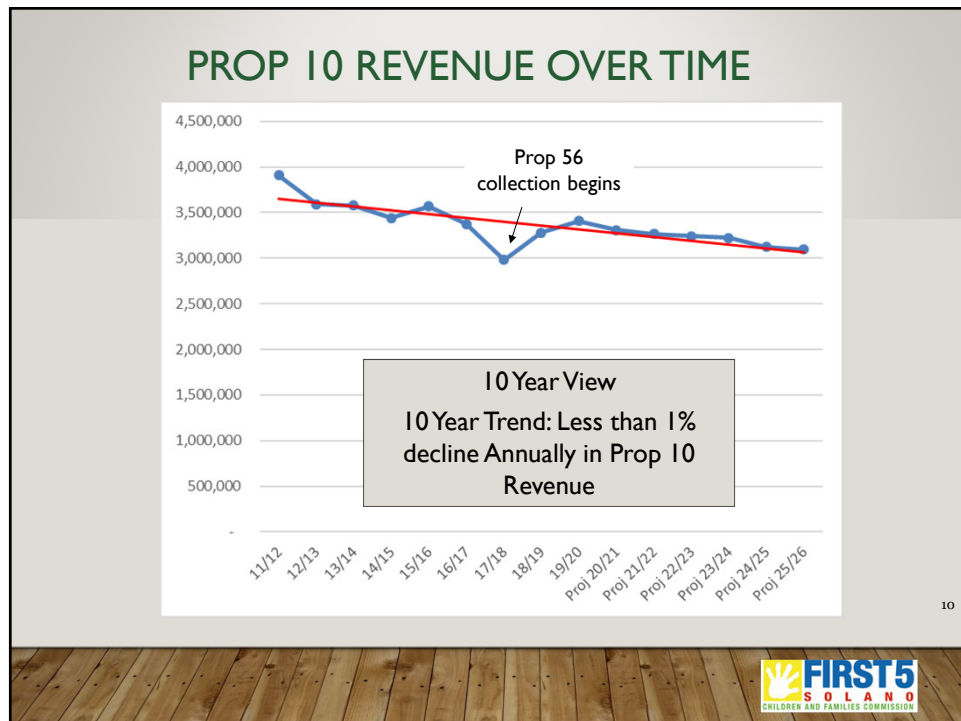
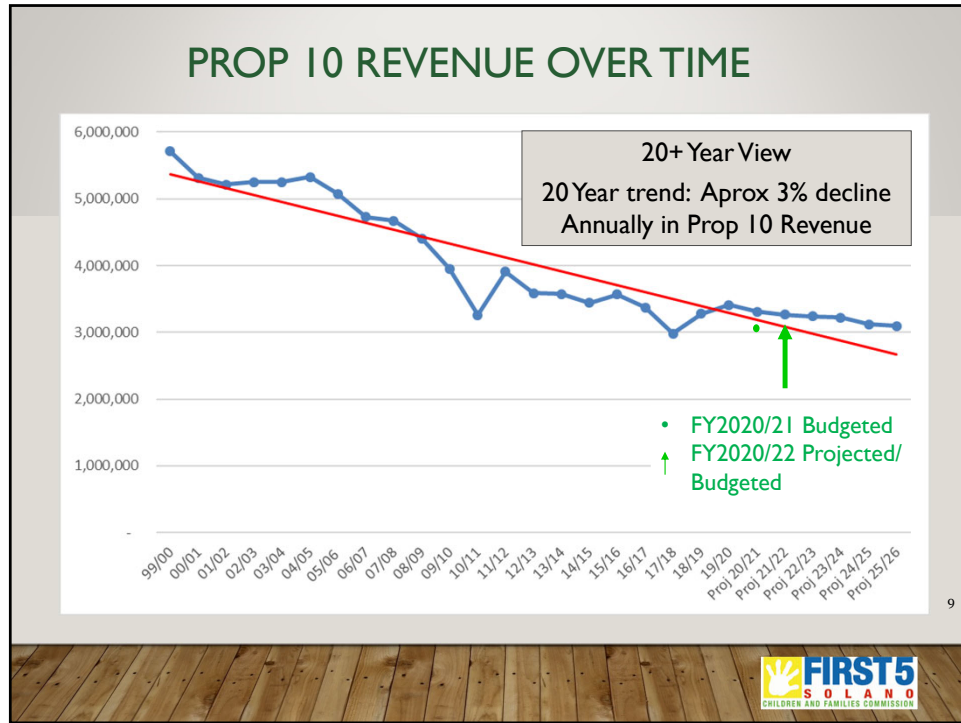
FY2021/22 PROJECTED REVENUE

- Prop 10 revenue projections-Expected decline
- Decrease MHSA revenue to \$536,930 (21%)
- Decreased interest income from 1.75% to 0% yield
- Increased state match for HV Coordination
- Other: donations, county services

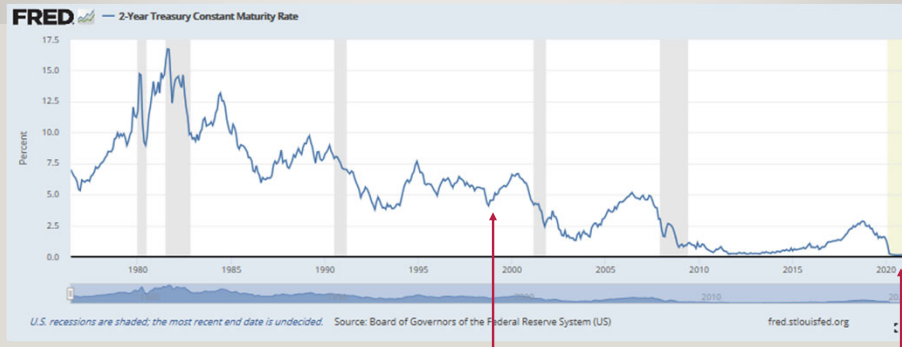


8





INTEREST YIELD OVER TIME



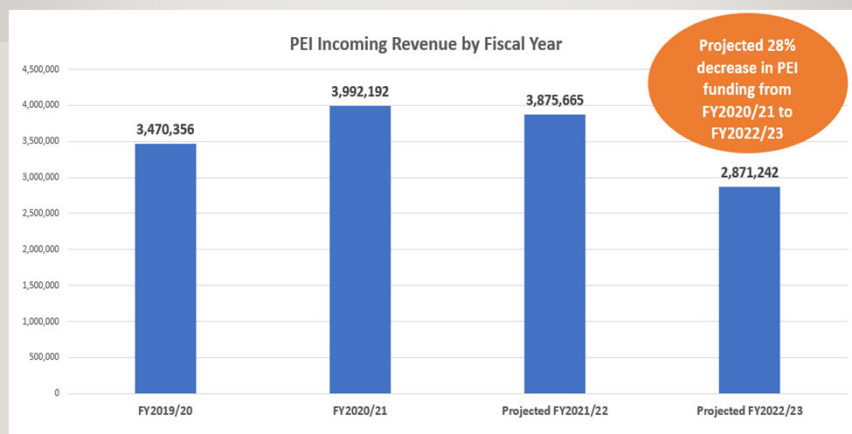
Start of Prop 10

FY2021/22

11



MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT FUNDING



12



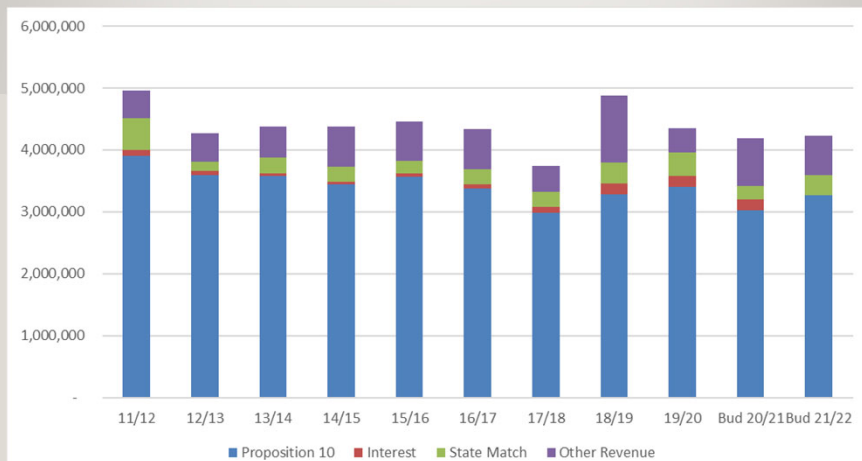
FY2021/22 PROJECTED REVENUE

		FY2020/21	FY2021/22
Proposition 10 State Disbursements	+	3,027,292	3,266,897
Interest Income	+	161,085	0
MHSA/PEI Funds	+	700,000	536,930
State Match Revenue	+	221,402	321,402
Other: Donations/Small Grants/County Services	+	104,396	97,609
Total Revenue	=	\$4,214,175	\$4,222,838
Negligible Increase in Revenue	=	\$8,663	

13



REVENUE OVER TIME

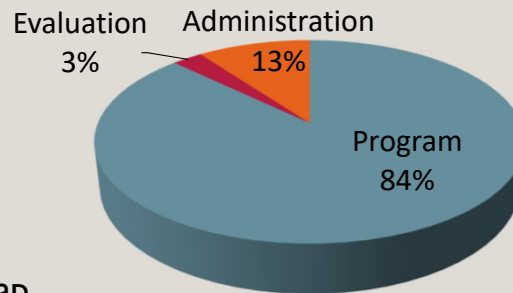


14



FY2021/22 PROJECTED EXPENDITURES

- No substantive change in expenditure by category
- Below 15% Administration Cap



15



FY2021/22 EXPENDITURES

		FY2020/21	FY2021/22
Program Expenditures	+	3,898,340	3,879,498
Evaluation & Data Collection Expenditures	+	140,000	146,300
Administrative Expenditures	+	561,542	580,134
Total Expenditure	=	\$4,599,882	\$4,605,932
Negligible Increase in Expenditure	=	\$6,050	

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FY2021/22 PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

- Fourth Year of 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan
- Reallocation/integration of funds for Community Responsive Mini Grants
- New Home Visiting Coordination funded by First 5 California Grant
- Decrease in joint funded MHSA services

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FY2021/22 JOINT MHSA SERVICES

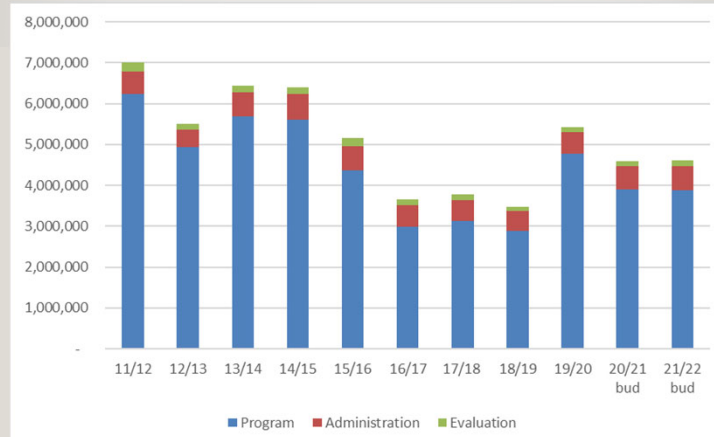
- No renewal of ECMH provider training contract
- Utilization of Commission funds in that contract to keep Triple P Parent Education services stable



18



EXPENDITURES OVER TIME



19



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Description	FY2020/21 Amount	FY2021/22 Amount
Community Engagement Fund Grants*	10,000	0
Parent Information Calendar	44,000	44,000
Kit for New Parent Customization	4,000	5,000
Event Partnerships	4,000	2,000
Promotional Materials	14,000	15,000
Messaging	30,000	30,000
Total Community Engagement Budget	\$102,000	\$92,000

*This \$10,000 has been moved to the Community Responsive Mini Grants Category.

20



SYSTEMS CHANGE

Description	FY2020/21 Budget	FY2021/22 Budget
Executive Director @ 0.3 FTE	71,500	76,000
Deputy Director @ 0.25 FTE	50,000	51,000
Policy Manager @ 1.0 FTE	143,000	148,000
System Change Grantee Participation Grants	24,000	0
Collective Impact/Resilience Plan Implementation	30,000	76,000
Grant-writing & Business Challenge Grants	15,000	0
Professional Services	50,000	40,000
Systems Change Supports	45,000	0
Collaboration/Community Training & Capacity Building	15,000	10,000
Training	3,500	1,000
Systems Change Budget (includes \$15,000 from H&SS in FY2020/21)	\$447,000	\$432,000

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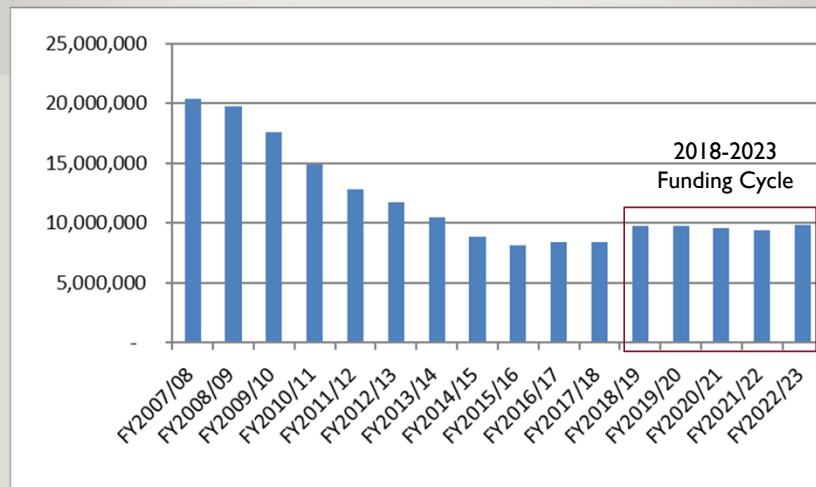
STAFFING

Program	
5.1 FTE Staff	836,238
Administration	
1.9 FTE Staff	314,222
Total Staffing	1,150,460

22



LONG-TERM RESERVE FEBRUARY 2021



23



- Motion A: Consider approval of the First 5 Solano FY2021/22 Proposed Budget
- Motion B: Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds in the FY2021/22 budget

24



- **Motion C:** Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$100,000 (\$50,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Rio Vista CARE for family support services in Rio Vista *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)*

25



- **Motion D:** Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$200,000 (\$100,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano County Health & Social Services, Mental Health Division, for Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)*

26



- **Motion E:** Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$150,000 (\$75,000 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Solano County Office of Education to provide the Raising a Reader program *(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, Unallocated Funds)*

27



- **Motion F:** Consider approval of allocations of funding of up to \$985,540 (\$492,770 annually for FY2021/22 & FY2022/23) to Triple P Parent Education providers:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Parents by Choice | School |
| • Child Haven | • Fairfield-Suisun Unified |
| • Catholic Charities | School District |
| • Child Start | • Solano Family and |
| • Rio Vista CARE | Children's Services |
| • Fairfield-Suisun Adult | |

(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act)

28



- Motion G: Consider an additional allocation of \$100,000 to Bay Area Community Resources for developmental screenings at the First 5 Center in Vallejo for FY2021/22

(Source of funds: Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds)

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FIRST 5 CENTER FUNDING

	FY2020/21	FY2021/22
Funding for BACR Contract and First 5 Center Location		
First 5 Solano	300,000	300,000
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	248,819	232,034
Kaiser Permanente	51,181	12,500
Mental Health Services Act	100,000	100,000
Total	\$700,000	\$644,534
Shortfall to Fund Raise		\$55,466
Direct Funding to BACR		
H&SS MCAH Innovation Grant		\$50,000

30



- Motion H: Consider approval of up to a \$200,000 allocation of funding to the following Pre-Kindergarten Academy providers for summer 2021 with delegated authority to the Executive Director for final allocation amount for each provider:

- Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- Benicia Unified School District
- Fairfield-Suisun Adult School
- River Delta Unified School District
- Travis Unified School District
- Vallejo City Unified School District
- Dixon Unified School District
- Child Start, Inc

(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan)

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- Motion I: Consider a sole source allocation of up to \$42,000 to the Solano County Office of Education to provide additional Pre-Kindergarten Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021

(Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan, Unallocated Funds)

- Motion J: Consider approval of delegated authority to the Executive Director to reallocate any unspent funding from the \$200,000 in Motion E to Solano County Office to provide additional Pre-K Academies in underserved areas and with non-traditional partners for summer 2021

32



FY2021/22 BUDGET NEXT STEPS:

- Bring FY2021/22 through county budget process
- Finalize contracts
- Redesign Pre-K Academies and finalize contracts
- Continue implementation of Community Engagement and Systems Change work
- Incorporate grant funding into budget as received



33



POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
February 10, 2021 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm
3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA 94590

In furtherance of the direction from Governor Newsom (Executive Order N-25-20) and pursuant to the Executive Order issued by Governor Gavin Newsom (Executive Order N-29-20), **public access to the First 5 Solano Committee Meeting will be limited.**

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

Join livestream via Zoom:

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

Join via Phone:

1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 592 277 5330

Public Comments:

Public Comment may be provided by: During the meeting via the phone/computer audio when the Chair calls for Public Comment on an item; or submitting written public comments to First 5 Solano via email at cfcsolano@solanocounty.com by 12:00pm on the day of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

I. Introductions, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment

II. Consent Calendar

Action

- A. Approve the February 10, 2021 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the November 18, 2020 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
- C. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

III. Contract Updates

Information

Receive a report on Parents By Choice and the conclusion of their compliance action plan
Gene Ibe, Program Manager

IV. 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform

Action

Consider a recommendation to approve the 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform
Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager

V. First 5 Solano Strategic Planning Update

Information

Receive an update on strategic planning activities
Megan Richards, Deputy Director

VI. Strategic Plan Implementation Updates

Information/Discussion

Receive updates on the following:

- A. Program:
 - 1. First 5 Center Update
 - 2. Pre-Kindergarten Academies Update
- B. Systems Change Implementation Plan Update
- C. Community Engagement Activities Update

Megan Richards, Deputy Director; Juanita Morales, Program Manager, Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager

VII. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Information

Receive a report on First 5 Solano staffing and financials.

Megan Richards, Deputy Director

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

Information

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Future agenda items include: Co-Sponsorships of Training and Conferences; FY2020/21 Mid-Year Performance Report; Strategic Planning; Systems Change Implementation Update; Community Engagement Update; and Staffing and Finance Update

ADJOURN

Vision: *All Solano County children are loved, healthy, confident, eager to learn, nurtured by their families, caregivers and communities.*

Mission: *First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission creates and fosters programs and partnerships with community entities to promote, support and improve the lives of young children, their families and their communities.*

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**

February 10, 2021, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
3375 Sonoma Blvd Ste 30, Vallejo, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present (remotely via Zoom video conference): Erin Hannigan, Jennifer Barton, Lisette Estrella-Henderson (arrived 3:40 PM)

Chair Hannigan called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM

I. Introduction, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment

There were no public or commissioner comments.

II. Consent Calendar

Motion:

- A. Approve the February 10, 2021 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the November 18, 2020 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting minutes
- C. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

Moved by Commissioner Barton; Seconded by Commissioner Hannigan

Approved 2-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barton, Hannigan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

III. Contract Updates

Gene Ibe, First 5 Solano Program Manager, reported that Parents by Choice had met and exceeded all targets in the first two quarters of Fiscal Year 2020/21 and are no longer in a compliance action plan. Ms. Ibe commended the agency for their positive trajectory. Dottie Nicholson, Parents by Choice Program Manager, shared her excitement with being able to still grow their Triple P Program through the COVID-19 pandemic.

IV. 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform

Motion: Consider a recommendation to approve the 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform

Lorraine Fernandez, First 5 Solano Program Manager, presented proposed changes to the First 5 Solano legislative platform addressing the COVID-19 pandemic and adding language around ACEs awareness and trauma-informed care. Commissioner Hannigan appreciated the updates and shared that the County's legislative platform made similar changes around COVID-19.

Moved by Commissioner Barton; Seconded by Commissioner Hannigan

Approved 2-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barton, Hannigan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Commissioner Estrella-Henderson arrived.

Commissioner Barton suggested the Commission should initiate discussions with the City of Fairfield regarding the legislated proposal submitted by Assm Frazier to build a First 5 Center in Fairfield. Commissioners discussed ways to engage city officials and donors. Megan Richards, First 5 Solano Deputy Director, suggested an internal discussion that would be brought back to the Committee on how to do this.

V. First 5 Solano Strategic Planning Update

Ms. Richards shared that staff would begin engaging the Commission in strategic planning starting in April. In advance of that meeting, staff from First 5 Solano and Applied Survey Research (ASR), the Commission's evaluator, plan to gather input from community providers at community meetings hosted or funded by First 5 Solano.

VI. Strategic Plan Implementation Updates

A. Program:

1. First 5 Center Update

Ms. Richards reported First 5 Center staff remained highly engaged with the community, despite in-person services being limited. Virtual sessions are well-attended, and Commissioners are welcome to schedule a guest appearance. Developmental screenings and resource appointments are occurring in person with one family at a time. Solano County Public Health has inquired about using the Center as a vaccination event site.

2. Pre-Kindergarten Academies Update

Ms. Richards reported that Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) did not receive the Reach for the Upside grant for Pre-K Academy redesign. However, staff identified some System Change funds which can be used toward research and redesigning of Pre-K Academies to work with COVID-19 guidelines for the summer of 2021.

B. Systems Change Implementation Plan Update

Ms. Fernandez shared updates from the Solano County Equity Collaborative and the Bay Area Early Childhood Funders meeting. The Committee discussed the advocacy letter from First 5 California and the First 5 Association supporting prioritization of child care workers in vaccine distribution. Commissioner Hannigan shared that there are advocacy efforts for many groups to get vaccinations earlier and it is difficult to move priorities when there are not enough vaccines available.

C. Community Engagement Activities Update

Juanita Morales, First 5 Solano Program Manager, updated the Committee on the work with a communications consultant. A marketing audit report is expected to be completed by the end of March. Ms. Morales announced the distribution of backpacks to transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students is under way throughout the county. Several Commissioners have volunteered at distribution events.

VII. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Ms. Richards iterated the information in the written report. The March Commission Meeting will feature the FY2021/22 proposed budget.

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

The next Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Commissioner Hannigan asked if an update could be provided on classes available, and data on families served at the Vallejo First 5 Center, with a timeline of activities through the pandemic. Ms. Richards said these details could be incorporated into the Mid-Year report at the next Commission meeting. Future agenda items include: Co-Sponsorships of Training and Conferences; FY2020/21 Mid-Year Performance Report; Strategic Planning; Systems Change Implementation Update; Community Engagement Update; and Staffing and Finance Update.

Adjourn

Chair Hannigan adjourned the meeting at 4:15 PM.

Luke Winders, Office Assistant III

Approved:

DATE: February 25, 2021

TO: First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

FROM: Lorraine Fernandez, Program Manager

SUBJ: **First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
2021 Legislative Platform**

Motion: Consider approval of the 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform

At the June 2017 First 5 Solano Commission meeting, the Commission approved the initial First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission Legislative Platform. Since then, the platform has been reviewed annually and has been utilized to weigh in with support or opposition to legislation impacting children and families. The platform has assisted the Commission in being responsive to opportunities which are often time sensitive.

Staff has conducted the annual review of the Commission's legislative platform. As part of this process, staff reviewed the Solano County Federal and State 2021 Legislative Program and Policy Guidelines, as well as the policy platforms from the First 5 Association, First 5 California, and Children Now. These platforms were reviewed alongside the 2016 First 5 Solano Strategic Plan and Strategic Plan Framework to assure that the platform is a best fit for the First 5 Solano Commission's Strategic Plan.

Staff is recommending some minor changes to the Commission's Legislative Platform for 2021 along with an acknowledgment of the COVID-19 pandemic at the beginning of the platform to address the unusual landscape context in which we are currently operating. The redlined draft and the final draft of the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission 2021 Legislative Platform are attached.

Committee Discussion: The Policy and Oversight Committee received a report from First 5 Solano staff at their February 10, 2021 meeting on the 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform and the recommended edits. The committee reviewed the edits and recommended bringing forward for approval to the full Commission.

Attachment A: 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform – Redlined
Attachment B: 2021 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform – Final Draft



20210



LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

PURPOSE

The ability of First 5 Solano and its partners to serve its residents and provide for a thriving and sustainable community requires support from all levels of government. As a part of this governmental structure, First 5 Solano recognizes its role as a content expert in the field of children ages 0-5 and their families. First 5 Solano has developed this legislative platform to be responsive to the changing landscape for our constituents and to allow the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission a mechanism with which to weigh in on activities that will impact children and families.

POLICY INFLUENCE PARTNERS

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission is an agency of Solano County, and as such, supports and aligns with the Solano County State and Federal Legislative Platforms. In addition, First 5 Solano partners with many outside agencies to develop and influence legislative and policy changes on behalf of the children of Solano County. This legislative platform is designed to support and enhance the work of the many partners engaged in this critical work, including Solano County, The First 5 Association, First 5 California, Children Now, The Solano County Children's Alliance, and many others.

THE LANDSCAPE FOR 2021: COVID-19 PREVENTION, PROTECTION, AND RECOVERY

First 5 Solano is deeply concerned about the severe impacts of the coronavirus on Solano's children and families, especially children of color, families in poverty, and children experiencing or who have experienced trauma. These impacts of the coronavirus are far-reaching in our community and relate to each area of the First 5 Solano Legislative Platform: Health and Well Being; Family Support, Early Childhood Learning and Development; and Strong Communities. However, we believe the policy goals that have been in the First 5 Solano Legislative Platform are still appropriate and will support prevention, protection and recovery in the coming year. For example, access to health care and strengthening safety net services for children and families were already key areas outlined in First 5 Solano's legislative platform. These do not change, but only become more important as we see continued significant economic challenges and challenges in systems such as healthcare.

As legislators and policy makers respond to the pandemic with policy solutions, we believe that approaching the 2021 legislative cycle with continued implementation of the First 5 Solano Legislative Platform will ensure that the fundamental needs of children and families are met throughout the recovery period.

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HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Health Goal 1: Children and their parents and caregivers have robust, continuous and affordable health coverage and health care services.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Protect children and families' access to health care.
- B. Ensure every pregnant mother and child ages 0-5 has affordable and comprehensive health insurance coverage, including medical, dental, vision and mental health services.

Health Goal 2: Children grow up healthy and stay on track developmentally.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Ensure that all children receive regular, routine developmental screenings, and are linked to needed supports as appropriate.
- B. Invest in and improve coordination across systems of care to efficiently connect young children to early intervention.

Health Goal 3: Pregnant women, children and their families are nourished and healthy.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Support high-quality programs and services that increase access to affordable, quality and nutritious foods for all children and families.
- B. Increase supports for breastfeeding, family leave, and baby-friendly policies in all settings.
- C. Maximize enrollment in WIC and CalFresh for eligible families and individuals.

Health Goal 4: Young children are not abused or neglected, and receive robust services to ~~foster resilience, heal from maltreatment.~~

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Ensure that all professionals working with young children and families complete training on trauma-informed practices, and the identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect, ~~and how to foster resilience.~~
- B. Expand access to evidence-based family strengthening programs, including voluntary home visiting, which optimize child development and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect.
- C. Expand access to timely, high-quality services that reduce the impact of trauma on young children.

FAMILY SUPPORT

Family Support Goal 1: Families' basic needs are met.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Strengthen the social safety-net to ensure families are self-sufficient and can meet their basic economic needs, such as food, housing, child care, transportation and health care.
- B. Support sustainability of Family Resource Centers and other community hubs for integrated services for children and families.
- C. Support streamlined application processes for critical safety net programs such as CalWORKs, CalFresh and Medi-Cal.

Family Support Goal 2: Parents and caregivers forge healthy bonds with their newborns and very young children.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Ensure that maternal and early childhood home visiting programs, including evidence-based programs for the highest-need parents and children, are available to all families who wish to participate.
- B. Support evidence-based parent education and engagement initiatives that strengthen the bond between parent and child.

Family Support Goal 3: Families experiencing risk factors or circumstances that may jeopardize their health or well-being, including Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) —are identified early and provided with the resources they need.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Ensure that every parent and caregiver has easy access to a place in their community that can guide and support them in finding the help they need.
- B. Ensure that young foster children are placed with safe, nurturing and supportive caregivers, and experience minimal placement disruptions.

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Early Learning Goal 1: Adults have the information, skills and support they need to help children learn.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Ensure every parent and caregiver has access to educational programs that offer information and guidance to aid in their child's learning.
- B. Ensure every parent and caregiver has the opportunity to learn about early social/emotional and cognitive development, and that caregiver-ready tools to promote healthy attachment, early language, numeracy and problem-solving skills are available.

Early Learning Goal 2: Child care and development programs for infants and toddlers are affordable, accessible, high quality, and meet the needs of families.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Increase the quality and number of state-funded early learning slots for infants, toddlers and preschoolers.
- B. Embed high-quality standards in all state-funded early learning programs and support state and local efforts to meet them.
- C. Strengthen the qualifications, compensation and stability of the early learning workforce.

STRONG COMMUNITIES

Strong Community Goal 1: Ensure that existing systems are sustainable so that Solano's youngest children and their families thrive.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Explore and advance opportunities to preserve and increase funding streams dedicated to early childhood, including Proposition 10 revenues.
- B. Improve state and county data systems to track children's outcomes.
- C. Promote inclusion of funding for children ages 0-5 and their families in existing and new revenue policy discussions.
- D. Promote legislation that increases taxes on combustible tobacco products, tobacco-based inhalation devices, and electronic cigarettes, and uses the revenue for children and family programs, including smoking cessation programs.

Strong Community Goal 2: Families are connected with one another and to their communities.

Policy Opportunities:

- A. Sustain efforts of local First 5 Commissions, libraries, hospitals and community-based organizations to provide family-friendly space for parents and caregivers to gather.
- B. Foster community engagement in local and state government decision-making, such as parent and caregiver councils in early learning programs and representation on public service system boards.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Children Now [Pro-Kid Agenda Policy Vision](#)

2021-20 Solano County State & Federal Legislative Platforms

First 5 Association Policy Platform

First 5 California Policy Platform



2021



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REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Children Now Pro-Kid Agenda

2021 Solano County State & Federal Legislative Platforms

First 5 Association Policy Platform

First 5 California Policy Platform

DATE: February 25, 2021

TO: First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

FROM: Michele Harris, Executive Director

SUBJ: Executive Director's Report for March 2021

Motion: Consider approval of the FY2021/22 First 5 Solano Commission & Committee meeting schedule

In an effort to allow for the possibility of more parent participation from First 5 Center participants, Commissioners were polled for availability to hold Commission meetings during business hours. The results of the poll identified 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm on third Wednesdays as the best time available for all respondents. To accommodate this schedule change, Policy & Oversight Committee meetings will be moved to 10:00 am to 11:30 am on first Thursdays, which will allow time between Committee and Commission meetings to act upon any staff direction provided. The new schedule would take effect in the new fiscal year, with the April 6 and June 8 Commission meetings remaining as currently scheduled.

Motion: Consider approval of an allocation of up to \$22,820 to Parents by Choice for FY2020/21 to provide additional Triple P Parent Education (*Source of funds: 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan and Mental Health Services Act*)

Since FY2018/19, the Triple P Positive Parenting Program has been a successful parent education model funded by the Commission and Health & Social Services/Mental Health Services Act to improve outcomes for families in Solano. In the current fiscal year, the Commission and Mental Health Services Act allocated \$700,000 in funding from the 2018-2023 Program Investment Plan towards this effort.

First 5 Solano staff has identified \$22,820 that will be unspent in Triple P Parent Education funds this Fiscal Year from funds that were unallocated from the most recent RFP and some contractor projecting underspending from another contractor. Parents by Choice is currently offering services at a faster pace than anticipated due to seeing an increased need in the community and has requested additional funds to provide additional Triple P parent education services through June 2021. Since the beginning of FY2020/21, Parents by Choice has been demonstrating their ability to exceed the targets outlined in their current contract and could serve additional families with additional funding.

First 5 Solano Funding Opportunities:

- **Resilient Solano Strategic Plan Implementation Projects RFA:** First 5 Solano has released a Request for Applications (RFA) for \$80,000 of Systems Change funds from FY2020/21-FY2021/22 for organizations who have participated in Solano Kids Thrive to apply for funding to implement strategies and activities related to the Resilient Solano Strategic Plan (RSSP). Responses are due on Monday, March 1, 2021 and staff will report out on grants awarded.
- **First 5 Solano Annual Grants RFA:** First 5 Solano will be releasing an Annual Grants RFA in early March 2021 for FY2021/22. The Annual Grants are designed to support one-time projects which address the needs of children ages 0-5, their parents/caregivers, and/or providers of services to children ages 0-5 in Solano County through a wide-variety

of activities that meet one or more of the following criteria: fills a community gap, pilots a new or innovative idea, and/or addresses a time-sensitive community need. The RFA will require that prospective applicants attend an individual grant development session with staff to help further build out their proposed idea and ultimately submit viable proposals. Recommendations for awards of funding will come before the Commission in June 2021.

Solano Kids Thrive/Resilient Solano website: This past year, Solano Kids Thrive (a collective impact effort coordinated by Solano County Office of Education), reviewed its goals and discussed potential strategies to improve the early childhood system in Solano through 2022. The priority that rose to the top was the development of a web-based Resilient Solano portal. A workgroup of SKT members focused on the development of the Resilient Solano website, a web-based hub for the Solano community to understand the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). The main focus of the website at this time is a calendar of trainings/events where both parents and professionals can find resources for preventing and healing trauma. The Resilient Solano website can be found at: <https://www.acesconnection.com/g/resilient-solano>.

Grant submittals to Syar Foundation: First 5 Solano supported 2 grants submitted to Syar Foundation by local nonprofits by referring the nonprofits and providing letters of support:

- **Bay Area Community Resources (BACR)** submitted a grant application for \$23,760 that would fund items to support the children and families at the Vallejo First 5 Center, including books to support early learning, fresh produce items to support nutrition, and new baby items for children in low-income families.
- **Solano Family & Children's Services (SFCS)** submitted a grant application for \$40,000 over two years to fund business resources and support to community members as a part of the SFCS Solano County Child Care Recruitment Campaign.

Governor Newsom released the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care – California for All Kids: Building on his commitment to support the state's young children and their families, on December 2, 2020 Governor Gavin Newsom announced the release of the *Master Plan for Early Learning and Care – California for All Kids*. This plan outlines a roadmap for building a comprehensive and equitable early learning system over the next decade. Driven by quality, equity and social justice, this Master Plan seeks to improve life outcomes for all young children and the social and economic well-being of all families by:

- *Providing comprehensive early learning and care for infants and toddlers;*
- *Ensuring that families can easily identify, access and choose care that meets their needs;*
- *Promoting school readiness through universal preschool; and*
- *Growing the quality, size and stability of the early learning and care workforce.*

The press release and the executive summary of the plan are provided as Attachment B and Attachment C.

First 5 Association supports statewide budget proposals: The First 5 Association has taken support positions on three important budget proposals to stabilize and expand the early learning and care field, bolster economic supports for families, and provide continuous health care coverage for young children and postpartum women.

- 1) **Early Care and Education (ECE) Coalition:** Supports a multi-year, multi-billion budget ask to stabilize and expand the early learning and care system. The ask includes reimbursement rate increases, funding to restore and expand child care facilities, and funding for professional development. See Attachment D.

- 2) **CalEITC Coalition:** Supports expanding the governor's Golden State Stimulus Proposal for excluded populations and centering Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) Filers in state relief efforts. See Attachment E.
- 3) **First 5 Association et al.:** Supports maintaining Medi-Cal continuous coverage postpartum and for children ages 0-5 when COVID-19 public health emergency ends. See Attachment F.

First 5 Association signs on to three Advocacy Letters: Along with supporting the budget proposals above, the First 5 Association has also signed on to three advocacy letters which aim to preserve preventative health care, expand early intervention services, and increase funding for child care facilities.

- 1) **Support Children's Health and Eliminate the Suspension of Prop. 56 Medi-Cal Payments:** Without action the Prop 56 incentive payments will be suspended in FY2022/23. These payments support well-child visits, developmental screenings, pediatric specialty care, and trauma screenings. A number of children's health advocates are requesting that this suspension language be removed. See Attachment G.
- 2) **Provide supplemental federal funding targeted to the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in the next COVID-19 relieve package:** IDEA Part C funds early intervention services, including Early Start in California. Currently, Early Start reaches less than 3% of children under age 3 in the state, while research suggests that 18% of young children have a developmental or behavioral delay and would benefit from early intervention services. The Association joined a national sign-on effort, urging Congress to include IDEA funding, including \$500 M for Part C and \$400 M for Section 619 Preschool programs, in the next COVID-19 relief package. See Attachment H.
- 3) **Child Care Infrastructure Investments:** In alignment with the ECE Coalition budget letter referenced above, First 5 Association signed on to an advocacy letter from Build Up CA emphasizing the need for child care infrastructure investments, particularly for non-Local Education Agencies and community based providers. See Attachment I.

Attachment A: FY2021-22 Commission & Committee Meeting Schedule DRAFT

Attachment B: Press Release Governor releases Master Plan

Attachment C: Master Plan Executive Summary

Attachment D: ECE Coalition Budget Letter

Attachment E: Cal EITC Coalition Budget Letter

Attachment F: Medi-Cal Continuous Coverage Budget Letter

Attachment G: Eliminate Prop 56 Medi-Cal Suspension Letter

Attachment H: Build Up CA Letter

Attachment I: IDEA EIS Funding in COVID-19 Relief Pkg Letter



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS

FY2021/22 First 5 Solano Commission & Committee Meeting Schedule

Commission Meetings 3 rd Wednesday 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm 3375 Sonoma Blvd, Ste 30 Vallejo	Policy and Oversight Committee 1 st Thursday 10:00 am - 11:30 am 3375 Sonoma Blvd, Ste 30 Vallejo
August 18	August 5
October 20	October 7
December 15	December 2
January 19	January 6
March 16	March 3
April 20	April 7
June 15	June 2

Governor Newsom Releases the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care: California for All Kids

(Press Release: Dec 01, 2020)

Master Plan outlines a roadmap for building comprehensive and equitable early learning system over the next decade

The Master Plan builds on more than \$500 million in federal funds allocated by the Governor and Legislature to increase access to child care vouchers, waive family fees and support the child care workforce with PPE

Recommendations include expanding access to paid family leave, providing universal preschool for all 4-year-olds and income eligible 3-year-olds and prohibiting suspensions and expulsions in subsidized early learning programs

SACRAMENTO — Building on his commitment to supporting the state’s young children and their families, Governor Gavin Newsom today announced the release of the *Master Plan for Early Learning and Care: California for All Kids*, which provides a strong research-based roadmap for building a comprehensive and equitable early learning and care system over the next decade. The Plan will help the state better understand the crisis families, children and early learning and care providers are facing amid the COVID-19 pandemic and identifies key policy goals to ensure that all California children can thrive physically, emotionally and educationally in their early years through access to high-quality early learning and care programs. These goals include universal preschool, enhanced workforce development and equitable career pathways for educators and caregivers, and funding reforms to promote equitable access to high-quality early learning and care.

“Every child in California deserves a shot at opportunity,” said Governor Newsom. “By investing in the development and learning needs of our kids, with a focus on equity, we are investing in the future of our state. The Master Plan for Early Learning and Care translates our aspirations into an actionable roadmap – one that centers on the success of our youngest Californians, their families and the communities and caregivers that lift them up.”

From the start of the pandemic in March through the end of October, the Department of Social Services estimates 2,030 family child care homes and 390 child care centers have closed permanently, making it harder for families to work and care for their children. In light of this, the Plan recommends the first steps seek to provide relief to parents, quality care for children and stability to child care providers as the state rebuilds an early learning and care system weakened by COVID-19. Now more than ever it is clear how important child care is to the state’s overall economic recovery.

Released by the California Health and Human Services Agency, the Plan was a collaboration of a number of experts and practitioners from WestEd, the RAND Corporation, Child Trends, American Institutes for Research, Glen Price Group, the Neimand Collaborative, Low Income Investment Fund, Stanford University and SparkPlace. In addition, the Social Policy Research

Associates and Parent Voices were instrumental in engaging families pre-COVID for this project. The Early Childhood Policy Council also provided important input such as access to 3,000 public participants, including over 300 Spanish speakers, and joining various Council meetings and discussions throughout this year.

The Plan builds upon the Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission report and others and is rooted in the understanding that access to high-quality early learning and care improves outcomes for all children and families and helps address racial and economic inequities. The Plan outlines specific recommendations for creating a comprehensive, family-centric system driven by equity, including:

- Unifying programs for infants and toddlers and improving access to Paid Family Leave;
- Providing universal preschool for all 4-year-olds and income eligible 3-year-olds and those with disabilities;
- Prohibiting suspensions and expulsions in subsidized early learning programs, which has disproportionately impacted young Black boys;
- Supporting the development of dual language learners who represent 60 percent of California's young children;
- Building a licensure and workforce development system based on the knowledge and skills of the workforce that supports and rewards the workforce;
- Implementing funding reform to address regional cost of care differences, help sustain a high-quality workforce and allow for sliding fees for more private-pay families to participate;
- Growing shared services networks to support child care providers and help their small businesses grow; and
- Improving data sharing to advance equity, efficiency and continuous improvement.

“The Master Plan for Early Learning and Care unlocks the innovative spirit of California, helping us create a comprehensive early learning and care system that produces big returns in better education, health and economic outcomes,” said Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary of California Health and Human Services. “Children, families, the future for our state—everyone wins when we build a California for All Kids.”

Transforming California's early childhood system will take time, funding and partnerships with the federal government, philanthropy and business leaders. California's philanthropic community has long sought a comprehensive early learning and care system. In fact, \$2.9 million in public-private partnership funding has already been committed, including investments from the Heising-Simons Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, First 5 California and the Silver Giving Foundation.

Today's announcement follows previous investments made to support the child care needs of families and support the child care workforce. The Governor, in partnership with the Legislature, has allocated over \$500 million in federal funds to increase access to child care vouchers, waive family fees and support the child care workforce with PPE and additional

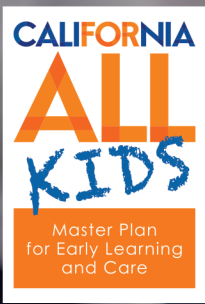
funding for non-operation days and increased costs for caring for school-aged children. New federal funds are critical to help the state recover.

In addition, a new administration in Washington presents an opportunity to increase funding and accelerate implementation. California's research-based Master Plan aligns with the early care and learning proposals made by President-elect Biden during his campaign.

Recommendations from the Master Plan position the state to implement a wide range of anticipated federal initiatives related to state expansion of high-quality early learning and care.

The Master Plan for Early Learning and Care can be read [here](#). For more information, including supplemental research and policy briefs, visit the interactive Master Plan for Early Learning and Care website at <https://californiaforallkids.chhs.ca.gov>.

###



California For All Kids.

Plan a great start for their future—and ours.

There is no greater opportunity for a better future for California than to deliver a great start for all children through quality early learning and care. The Master Plan for Early Learning and Care helps California provide immediate relief to families, children and early learning and care providers in the wake of COVID-19, while offering a research-based roadmap for building a comprehensive, equitable early learning and care system over the next decade.

The Master Plan helps California do what others think impossible

Provide relief to parents, care for children and stability to providers as we rebuild an early learning and care system devastated by COVID-19. Give each and every child a great start that prepares them for success in school and life. Advance professional development and equity for the early childhood workforce that advances opportunities for our children. And, deliver more and better services with greater efficiency through data that supports equity and continuous improvement.

“Every child in California deserves a shot at opportunity. By investing in the development and learning needs of our kids, with a focus on equity, we are investing in the future of our state.”

– Governor Gavin Newsom

Creating a California For All Kids by 2030

Driven by quality, equity and social justice, the Master Plan seeks to improve life outcomes for all young children and the social and economic well-being of all families by:

- Providing comprehensive early learning and care for infants and toddlers;
- Ensuring that families can easily identify, access and choose care that meets their needs;
- Promoting school readiness through universal preschool; and
- Growing the quality, size and stability of the early learning and care workforce.

These goals mirror the recommendations made by the Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission, the Lifting Children Out of Poverty Taskforce, California’s Transforming the Workforce for Children, the Rate Reform Working Group and input from parents, providers, advocates, community groups and researchers.



The Master Plan provides clear and specific recommendations that create a comprehensive, family-centric system driven by equity. The plan will:

- Bring together programs for infants and toddlers;
- Increase access and eligibility across programs, services and benefits, such as Paid Family Leave;
- Provide universal preschool;
- Build a competency-based licensure and workforce development system;
- Implement funding reform to increase access and sustain a high-quality workforce;
- Support shared services networks to help providers thrive; and
- Implement data sharing and coordination to advance equity, efficiency and continuous improvement.

“The Master Plan unlocks the innovative spirit of California, helping us create a comprehensive early learning and care system that produces big returns in better education, health and economic outcomes. Children, families, the future for our state—everyone wins when we build a California For All Kids.”

– Mark Ghaly, Secretary, CA Health and Human Services

The Master Plan positions California to capitalize on federal initiatives to improve early learning and care

Transforming California’s early childhood system will take time and significant resources—ranging from an additional \$2 billion to \$12 billion—supported through public investments, business contributions, philanthropy and sliding-scale family fees. Fortunately, we have an opportunity to increase funding and accelerate implementation. President-elect Joe Biden has called for comprehensive early learning and care that mirrors the features outlined in the Master Plan: integration of health and well-being with early care and learning; universal preschool for three- and four-year-olds; financial support for affordability; expanding paid family leave to low-income earners; support of dual language learners; funding for facilities expansion; and professional pathways for providers that lead to higher standards and increased knowledge and compensation.

Plan for success

Together we can create a California For All Kids, elevating the lives of families and children through quality early learning and care that has proven to help them thrive and create stronger social and economic lives for families. Learn more at:

CaliforniaForAllKids.chhs.ca.gov





February 5, 2021

Governor Newsom
State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tony Thurmond
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
1430 N Street, Suite 5000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Pro Temp Atkins
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Speaker Rendon
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Early Care and Education (ECE) Coalition envisions child care and early childhood education systems that serve and meet the diverse needs of all children, families and ECE professionals, especially Black, Latinx, Indigenous people and others harmed by systemic racism and additional injustices; integrate culturally, developmentally, and linguistically relevant and responsive high-quality care and education for children, inclusive of children with disabilities; and value and justly compensate all who serve children and families.

To achieve this vision, the Coalition advocates for state budget investments and policies that promote equity by serving the highest-need children first, are informed by current research and promising practices, and are led by the expertise of families and ECE professionals.

The ECE Coalition calls on the Administration and Legislature to adopt an equitable multi-year, multi-billion dollar investment of new general fund dollars to stabilize, strengthen and scale California's critical early care and education system by:

- Establishing comprehensive access to child care, in particular the 0-3 segment of the system;
- Elevating the need for comprehensive services addressing the whole child;
- Reforming our reimbursement rate structures;
- Addressing the on-going costs of current and future facilities;
- Increasing funding for professional development and trainings; and
- Adopting reforms for a family-focused system.

The COVID-19 pandemic has sharply illuminated what every working family already knew, **Child Care IS Essential**.

Child care is not only essential for families, but also for employers and our state's economic health. A recent study by the Council for a Strong America has shown that lost wages, business and tax revenue, due to lack of access to child care, totals \$9.1 billion annually. The pandemic has exposed the reality that women, particularly Black and Latinx women, have lost the most during this economic downturn. When families do not have access to child care, women are the ones leaving their careers to care for their children. Twenty-nine percent of Latinx and thirty-one percent of Black families with children are facing three or more economic and health-related hardships during the pandemic. This means that Latinx and Black families with children are experiencing three or more hardships at nearly twice the rate of their White and Asian counterparts (13% and 16%, respectively).

Over the last four years, California has conducted two large-scale research projects to design an accessible, affordable, and comprehensive child care system that meets all family needs and pays providers an equitable wage for their vital work. The Assembly's Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education and the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care: Making California For All Kids have estimated it could cost \$20 billion a year to achieve the goals of these plans. Given these specific findings and the devastation to current program capacity and family well-being by the pandemic, the ECE Coalition is disappointed that only \$55 million in one-time, new general fund dollars has been dedicated to child care in the proposed 2021-2022 budget. Failing to prioritize and invest in child care now will only exacerbate child care closures and inequities.

California's child care system, which is overwhelmingly provided by Black, Latinx, and immigrant women, has for decades persistently functioned in low-wage survival mode barely able to make it from year-to-year. Child care providers who are paid with state and federally funded subsidies spend an inordinate amount of time fighting from year-to-year to bring their reimbursement rates up to federally required levels. Child care teachers and aides make so little that they are frequently eligible for child care subsidies themselves. Families go on waiting lists with the promise of access to child care, but most families never actually realize the promised child care.

We appreciated the Governor's and Legislature's quick action to dedicate \$300 million to child care, based on the positive trigger in the 2020-2021 budget. **The Coalition implores the Administration and Legislature to disburse the \$300 million immediately utilizing general fund dollars and backfill those dollars once the state receives the federal stimulus dollars.** Swift distribution of these funds **directly aligns with the Governor's immediate action plan to safely reopen schools and provide relief for small businesses.** Teachers with young children must have child care to return to the classroom. Women who were forced to quit their jobs to stay home with their school-age children cannot work again if they do

not have child care during hybrid distance learning hours. Child care providers, most of whom are small business owners, also find themselves in desperate need of additional dollars to cover COVID related expenses now. Furthermore, they and other small business owners cannot reopen or stay open without their employees having child care. We look forward to engaging with the Administration and Legislature to address outstanding COVID-19 needs with the remaining \$700 million in the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

The ECE Coalition requests the Administration and Legislature take action in the 2021-22 budget and adopt the following additional investments to strengthen and expand a comprehensive child care system that is accessible, affordable, equitable, meets families' needs, and pays providers a fair wage:

- \$500 million in on-going funding for child care vouchers and center spaces;
- \$380 million in on-going funding to bring the Regional Market Rate (RMR) and Standard Reimbursement Rate up to the 2018 RMR survey levels;
- \$350 million in one-time funding over 4-years to restore and expand the facilities block grant that was swept in the 2020-21 budget for reopening grants to support: reduced enrollment, opening and reopening child care facilities with COVID modifications, and allow for the addition of wellness hubs;
- \$250 million in one-time funding over 4-years to restore and expand the professional development block grant that was swept in the 2020-21 budget;
- \$31 million in one-time funding to modernize technology systems for a family friendly system;
- Up to \$133 million to waive family fees through the pandemic as part of the economic downturn; and
- Up to \$5 million in one-time funding for the Department of Social Services to develop an Equity Index.

These new, expanded investments of general fund dollars are vital to California's ability to move out of its current economic downturn and build back stronger and toward a more equitable economy. From our collective experiences, during the pandemic, we know that child care is not only vital for working families to thrive, but is an essential element in the future of the California economy.

Sincerely,
ECE Coalition

Cc:

Keely Martin Bosler, Director, Department of Finance,
Kim Johnson, Director, Department of Social Services
Sarah Neville-Morgan, Deputy Superintendent, California Department of Education
Senator Nancy Skinner, Chair, Senate Budget Committee
Assemblymember, Phil Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

Date: January 22, 2021

Honorable Toni Atkins
President pro Tempore
California State Senate

Honorable Anthony Rendon
Speaker
California State Assembly

Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair
Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee

Honorable Phil Ting
Chair
Assembly Committee on Budget

RE: CalEITC Coalition supports expanding the Golden State Stimulus for excluded populations and centering ITIN Filers in state relief efforts.

The CalEITC Coalition—consisting of over 60 organizations—urges you to approve Governor Newsom’s Golden State Stimulus proposal, while making additional equity-informed improvements to this critical relief opportunity. Providing cash directly to low-earning workers and their families is exactly the kind of bold investment our state leaders need to make right now, as Californians remain deep in an economic crisis triggered by a once-in-a-century pandemic. Low-earning workers have been more likely to lose their jobs this past year and need every resource possible to help pay for food and other essentials. In addition, these workers are likely to spend every additional dollar they receive on things like food, rent, and basic needs; the Golden State Stimulus will rapidly benefit local businesses and the state’s economy.

We also strongly urge you to build on the Governor’s proposal by:

- 1) Extending it to more Californians with low incomes, including workers who lost their jobs or had their hours cut during the pandemic and are newly income-eligible for the CalEITC in 2020;
- 2) Providing *significantly* larger stimulus payments to families and individuals who file their taxes with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs);
- 3) Allowing ITIN filers to claim the stimulus payment retroactively after the 2020 tax filing period has ended, in case their ITIN application is pending during the normal filing period.

The case for providing substantially more than \$600 per family to Californians who file with ITINs is compelling for many reasons. ITIN filers are Californians who were denied thousands of dollars in federal stimulus payments during the Trump Administration and, as a result, are facing the greatest need for state aid. **A two-parent, two-child family that files taxes with an ITIN, for example, was denied a total of \$5,800 from two rounds of federal stimulus payments last year, regardless of whether the children were US citizens.** Without this relief, families who file with ITINs are having to make impossible choices to survive. They are cutting back on food, medicine, and other necessities, or doubling up in overcrowded housing situations with other households to cut costs, which increases their risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Table 1: Estimated loss of federal economic impact payments due to ITIN status

Families Who File With ITINs Were Excluded From Thousands of Dollars in Federal Economic Stimulus				
Total Stimulus Available From Federal Laws Enacted in March and December 2020				
	Married Couple Families		Single Parent Families	
	Both Adults Have SSNs	Both Adults Have ITINs	Adult Has SSN	Adult Has ITIN
3 Children	\$6,900	\$0	\$5,100	\$0
2 Children	\$5,800	\$0	\$4,000	\$0
1 Child	\$4,700	\$0	\$2,900	\$0
0 Children	\$3,600	\$0	\$1,800	\$0

Note: Assumes all children have Social Security Numbers. The most recent federal economic relief bill allowed certain families with ITIN filers to receive a portion of the federal stimulus but this benefit a very small share of ITIN filers and their children. Most remain excluded.

Source: California Budget & Policy Center

The Governor's proposal to provide \$600 in stimulus per family receiving the CalEITC, regardless of family size, would replace just a fraction of the federal stimulus payments ITIN filers missed out on, particularly for those with multiple children. In contrast, *doubling* the Governor's \$600 payment to \$1,200 and providing it *per parent and child* in each family that files with an ITIN would replace the vast majority of the federal economic impact payment these families were excluded from. This would be a far more equitable approach to providing state stimulus payments.

Table 2: Proportion of missed federal stimulus by ITIN filers that could be replaced by CA action

	Federal Stimulus Family Was Denied	Governor's Proposal (\$600 per family) How Much of the Missed Federal Stimulus Would be Replaced?		Alternative Proposal (\$1,200 per adult & child) How Much of the Missed Federal Stimulus Would be Replaced?	
Four-person family (2 adults with ITINs, 2 children)	\$5,800	\$600	10%	\$4,800	83%
Three-person family (1 adult with ITIN, 2 children)	\$4,000	\$600	15%	\$3,600	90%
Two-person family (1 adult with ITIN, 1 child)	\$2,900	\$600	21%	\$2,400	83%
Single adult with no children (1 adult with ITIN)	\$1,800	\$600	33%	\$1,200	67%

Note: Assumes all children have Social Security Numbers.

Source: California Budget & Policy Center

While we support expanding the Golden State Stimulus to currently excluded groups and newly income-eligible families, the case for providing substantially larger state stimulus to ITIN filers and their families is critical given that they are also excluded from most public benefits programs that other Californians are using to weather the recession. For instance, ITIN filers are denied up to \$7,000 a year from the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). They are also excluded from CalFresh food assistance, Medi-Cal if they are age 25 or older, and unemployment benefits if they lost their jobs.

All of these exclusions mean that ITIN filers and their children, which could be as many as 500,000, have missed out on thousands of dollars that could have helped meet basic needs during the pandemic and unprecedented economic crisis. As a result, these families are barely scraping by. Even *before* the economic downturn, 1 in 4 children of immigrants in working families were living in poverty – more than double the share of other children in working families, according to the California Budget and Policy Center. Furthermore, the poverty rate of children of immigrants has surely risen, considering that immigrant Californians were far more likely to lose their jobs at the onset of the recession.

In addition, providing significantly larger stimulus to ITIN filers would also help low-earning Californians who work in industries that have been hit hard by COVID-19 job losses, which includes leisure, hospitality and retail trade industries. More equitable stimulus payments for ITIN filers would also respect these workers' long-standing essential contributions to California. According to the California & Budget Policy Center, approximately 2 in 3 Californians who file taxes with ITINs and would be eligible for the Governor's Golden State Stimulus work in COVID-19 essential jobs. These workers earn very little and are more exposed to COVID-19, yet continue reporting to work in order to keep our collective food, health care, and other vital systems and services operating during the pandemic.

Our coalition is committed to ensuring that as many people as possible are included in the Golden State Stimulus and there is opportunity to distribute them through an equitable lens in support of historically excluded populations. The California State Legislature has the opportunity to equitably utilize a portion of the sizable surplus and direct resources to immigrant-tax filers through our historic legislative victory last year that includes ITIN filers in the CalEITC. While the Golden State Stimulus is not a tax credit, it creatively uses the framework of CalEITC and the Franchise Tax Board to identify eligible tax filers and disburse funds accordingly. This also provides California with the opportunity to examine how we can build additional infrastructural efficiencies when distributing relief funds to more households in a timely manner. For example, allowing retroactive stimulus payments for ITIN filers who filed after the 2020 tax period would ensure those who are still waiting to receive an ITIN are able to receive their stimulus more quickly.

Sincerely,

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. United Ways of California | 11. California Association of Food Banks |
| 2. Children's Defense Fund California | 12. CAIR California |
| 3. ACLU California | 13. California Partnerships |
| 4. Alameda County Community Foodbank | 14. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton |
| 5. Asian Americans Advancing Justice | 15. California County of Welfare Rights Organizations |
| 6. Asian Pacific Environmental Network | 16. California Employment Lawyers Association |
| 7. Bet Tzedek | 17. California Food and Farming Network |
| 8. California Catholic Conference | 18. California Food Policy Advocates |
| 9. California Interfaith Coalition | 19. California Industrial Areas Foundation |
| 10. California Immigrant Policy Center | |

20. California Labor Federation
21. California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
22. California Reinvestment Coalition
23. California Welfare Directors Association
24. California Women's Law Center
25. Childcare Law Center
26. Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)
27. Courage California
28. Dolores Huerta Foundation
29. Drug Policy Alliance
30. Economic Security Project Action
31. End Child Poverty CA/The GRACE Institute
32. Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
33. Equal Rights Advocates
34. First 5 Association of California
35. Friends Committee on Legislation of California
36. FREE SF
37. GLIDE
38. Greenlining Institute
39. Golden State Opportunity Foundation
40. Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice
41. John Burton Advocates for Youth
42. Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California
43. Justice in Aging
44. Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
45. Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition
46. Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
47. Legal Aid at Work
48. Lutheran Office of Public Affairs California
49. National Association of Social Workers
50. National Council of Jewish Women - California Policy Advocacy Network
51. NextGen California
52. PICO California
53. Pomona Economic Opportunity Center
54. San Diego Immigrant Rights Coalition
55. SEIU California
56. Silicon Valley Community Foundation
57. Stronger CA Advocates Network
58. TODEC Legal Center
59. UDW AFSCME Local 3930
60. Voices for Progress
61. Western Center on Law and Poverty
62. Young Invincibles



The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS



FIRST 5 CENTER FOR
CHILDREN'S POLICY

February 10, 2021

The Honorable Susan Talamantes Eggman, Chair
Senate Budget Sub-Committee No. 1
State Capitol, Room 5019
SBUD.Committee@senate.ca.gov

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula, Chair
Assembly Budget Sub-Committee No. 3
State Capitol, Room 6026
BudgetSub1@asm.ca.gov

RE: Maintaining Medi-Cal continuous coverage postpartum and for children ages 0-5 when COVID-19 public health emergency ends

Dear Senator Talamantes-Eggman and Assembly Member Arambula:

Under the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act, Medi-Cal is required to provide temporary continuous enrollment to all enrollees, with a few exceptions, throughout the federal COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), which will continue through at least December 2021. States will be required to develop a plan to unwind the federal PHE Medicaid flexibilities and coverage protections, such as the temporary continued coverage requirement when the PHE ends.¹ Thus, the unwinding of the temporary continued coverage requirement may begin in January, within budget year 2021-2022.

In order to protect essential continuity of care and to ensure a smooth transition from the existing PHE continuous coverage, a broad coalition of maternal, infant, and child health organizations urge you to **permanently adopt 12-month postpartum Medi-Cal eligibility and continuous Medi-Cal coverage for children up to age 5 after the end of the COVID-19 PHE.**

For administrative purposes, the continuous coverage could be staged as follows, while from the beneficiaries' perspective, their continuous coverage would be seamless between the stages:

During the Post-Pandemic Redetermination Period: Throughout the unwinding period, coverage would continue for the youngest children up to age 5, to the fullest extent and for the longest period permitted by CMS guidance. Similarly, the continuous coverage policy would also remain in place through one-year postpartum for those who are pregnant or whose pregnancies ended within

¹ CMS State Health Official Letter on "[Planning for the Resumption of Normal State Medicaid....Upon Completion of the COVID-19 PHE](#)", December 2020.

the past 60 days. These continuous coverage policies would be provided to both individuals already enrolled in Medi-Cal during the PHE as well as to those who become newly eligible or newly pregnant during the post-pandemic redetermination period.

After the Post-Pandemic Redetermination Period: On an ongoing basis, the continuous coverage policy would proceed using available federal funding, via waiver or other vehicles, by:

- Providing eligibility for 12 months of continuous coverage for all postpartum beneficiaries, without regard to mental health condition; and
- Providing for eligibility continuously for children up to age 5 so that no young child need be redetermined for Medi-Cal and risk losing coverage before age 5.

Seek Federal Funding: As part of the State's plan for post-pandemic redeterminations, the Department of Health Care Services would be directed to: (1) utilize any federal flexibilities offered as part of the federal post-pandemic unwinding guidelines;² and/or (2) adopt other opportunities to maximize federal matching funds, such as a waiver or state plan options, depending on federal legislation.

This approach would also allow the state to draw down a federal match on an on-going basis for the existing 12-month maternal mental health coverage provided under Welfare and Institutions Code § 14008.5, which at present is supported solely by state funds. The new federal revenue source would then contribute to supporting 12-month continued coverage for all postpartum individuals, not just those with a diagnosed maternal mental health condition.

These actions are more important now than ever given Medi-Cal's historically low preventive care rates for children and further drop off in pediatric health care utilization during the pandemic.^{3,4,5} Similarly, the pandemic stands to worsen maternal health outcomes and exacerbate racial inequities in maternal health.

Cycling on and off health insurance coverage—or churning—is disruptive to continuity of health care, and is especially problematic postpartum and in early childhood when frequent contact with health care is necessary.⁶ In addition, churn disrupts a family's relationship with a pediatric health care home and postpartum care, which are important—and often the sole—sources of consistent support for

² Initial federal guidance outlines states' responsibilities to ensure a smooth eligibility redetermination process once the PHE ends. The new federal administration will provide additional guidance on state flexibilities for the post-PHE redetermination process, as well as waiver guidance for continuous coverage proposals.

³ California State Auditor, 2018-111 [“Millions of Children in Medi-Cal are Not Receiving Preventive Health Services.”](#); [Medi-Cal Preventive Care Utilization Report, 2020, DHCS.](#)

⁴ <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/2020/oct/impact-covid-19-pandemic-outpatient-care-visits-return-prepandemic-levels>, and <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/NR20-090.aspx#YourActionsSavesLives>

⁵ <https://medium.com/rapid-ec-project/health-still-interrupted-pandemic-continues-to-disrupt-young-childrens-healthcare-visits-e252126b76b8>

⁶ <https://www.communitycatalyst.org/resources/publications/churn-toolkit>

February 10, 2021

Senator Eggman/Assemblymember Arambula

Page 3

families, particularly before children enter school. The attached fact sheets provide additional rationale on the need for continuous coverage for postpartum individuals and children.

To mitigate unnecessary disruptions in care during the post-pandemic redetermination period, California will need to prepare now, and adopt necessary TBL for the budget year, to wind down Medi-Cal's discontinuance moratorium at the end of the PHE in a manner that operates as smoothly as possible and protects all beneficiaries. By continuing coverage for postpartum individuals and the youngest Medi-Cal children during this PHE wind down period and beyond, Medi-Cal would: mitigate disruptions in the continuity of coverage for these populations; improve low preventive care rates for Medi-Cal children and improve maternal health outcomes; and contribute to an orderly and smooth redetermination process for all Medi-Cal enrollees.

As the State awaits further federal guidance on post-pandemic redeterminations and on continuous coverage waivers or options, we urge your inclusion of our continuous coverage proposals in the state budget for 2021-22 so that the Administration can secure a smooth plan for transition starting January 1.

Thank you for consideration of this request and for your commitment to improving the health of all women, infants, and children.

Respectfully,

American College of Obstetricians-Gynecologists, District IX

The Children's Partnership

First 5 Association of California

First 5 Center for Children's Policy

March of Dimes

Maternal and Child Health Access



February 11, 2021

The Honorable Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on
Health and Human Services

The Honorable Susan Eggman
Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on
Health and Human Services

RE: Support Children's Health and Eliminate the Suspension of Prop. 56 Medi-Cal Payments

Dear legislative budget leaders,

The undersigned organizations are writing to ask you to **take action in the FY 2021-22 budget by eliminating - not just delaying - the suspension of Proposition 56-funded Medi-Cal investments** that support children's health. The Governor's budget proposes a one-year delay (to July 1, 2022) in the suspension of Proposition 56 Medi-Cal payments that support children's health services, like well-child visits, developmental screenings, pediatric specialty care, and trauma screenings. While the delay is positive in the short-term, the threat of a future suspension of these critical payments is premature and not sufficient for kids because it:

- Creates instability in the Medi-Cal program for child health providers, who will long be addressing the repercussions of the pandemic on children, including mental and emotional health needs, delays in vaccination schedules, and lags in other preventive and specialty care services;
- Jeopardizes successful recruitment and retention of Medi-Cal medical and dental providers;
- Removes the incentive to commit to and invest in the long-term changes in Medi-Cal needed for quality improvement, making it difficult to improve upon the dire pre-pandemic utilization rates of services and screenings; and
- Establishes discord with the Administration's rhetoric and legislative action towards ensuring Medi-Cal children receive the timely and appropriate care to which they are entitled.

We call on lawmakers to eliminate, not just delay, the suspension of Proposition 56 Medi-Cal payments that support health care for children.

The Public Health Emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic has made it only more imperative that the state take all necessary steps to ensure the stability of the Medi-Cal Program, including the robustness of the provider network. The Proposition 56 funds have directly led to securing additional providers in the Medi-Cal program. The possible suspension of those funds acts as a direct threat to the progress that has been made to attract and retain providers in the Medi-Cal program and the ability of Medi-Cal members to access timely, high-quality health care that the state must guarantee under federal law.

Proposition 56 funds should be used to increase Medi-Cal access as voters intended, for example, to address the state's terribly low screenings rate for infants and toddlers. According to the state's recent report on children's preventive services, prior to the pandemic (in 2019), only 25% of infants and toddlers in Medi-Cal had a developmental screening. A one-year delay in the suspension of the payments for developmental screenings is not enough to create the stability or certainty the health care system and providers need to invest in more screening and referral for their patients.

A future suspension of Proposition 56 payments is also in direct conflict with the Administration's previous statements on prioritizing investment in young kids and supporting kids who have experienced trauma, as well as previous legislation passed to support developmental screenings for young children (by way of AB 1004 in 2019) and address the impact of childhood trauma (by way of AB 340 in 2017).

Heading into 2021, California has a healthier fiscal outlook than what was expected on the heels of the public health emergency. Continuing to delay the Proposition 56 payment suspension only causes instability and undue burden on providers heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. **Without delay, legislators should reject the Governor's proposal to suspend payments in 2022, and instead eliminate the suspension altogether and continue the Medi-Cal investments that support children's health through Proposition 56.**

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics – California
Association of Regional Center Agencies
California Academy of Family Physicians
California Children's Hospital Association
California Dental Hygienists Association
California Health+ Advocates
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
California School-Based Health Alliance
Children Now
Children's Defense Fund-CA
Children's Specialty Care Coalition
Community Clinic Association of LA County
Council for a Strong America
Early Childhood OC
First 5 Association of California
First 5 Kern
First 5 Monterey County
First 5 San Benito
First 5 Santa Clara
First 5 Sonoma County

Health Net
Health Plan of San Mateo
Kids Dental Land
LA Care Health Plan
Latino Coalition for a Healthy CA
LIBERTY Dental Plan
March of Dimes
NHeLP
Oral Health Awareness Society
Public Health Advocates
Regional Asthma Management and Prevention
Sacramento County Oral Health Program
Sacramento District Dental Society
Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education
The Children's Partnership
The L.A. Trust for Children's Health
UCLA Center for Children's Oral Health (UCCOH)
UCSF Pediatric Dentistry
United Ways of California

cc: Assembly Budget Committee members
Senate Budget Committee members
Agnes Lee, Assembly Speaker's Office
Marjorie Swartz, Senate Pro Tem
Tam Ma, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor

Richard Figueroa, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor
Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
Michelle Baass, Undersecretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
Marko Mijic, Deputy Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
Will Lightbourne, Director, Department of Health Care Services
Jacey Cooper, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Health Care Services
Keely Martin Bosler, Director, Department of Finance



February X, 2021

Governor Newsom
State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tony Thurmond
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
1430 N Street, Suite 5000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Pro Temp Atkins
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Speaker Rendon
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: The Governor's Proposed 2021-22 State Budget and Investments in Early Learning and Care Facilities Infrastructure

On behalf of *Build Up California* and the undersigned partners, we bring to your attention the critical need for state investment in early learning and care facilities infrastructure as part of the 2021-22 Budget. Facilities are a core component of creating healthy, safe, developmentally-appropriate child care settings, and the COVID-19 pandemic has only highlighted its importance.

Build Up California is a statewide network dedicated to the sustainability, improvement, and expansion of early learning and care facilities. Launched in 2020, we advocate to ensure children can learn and grow in safe and healthy environments while their parents work.

Governor Newsom's proposed budget outlines \$200 Million in early learning and care infrastructure as a one-time allocation from the General Fund *for Local Education Agencies (LEAs)* to construct and retrofit existing facilities to support TK and full-day kindergarten programs. While we agree with infrastructure investments for TK expansion, resources *should also be* directed to non-LEA organizations, especially those serving the most underserved age group: infants and toddlers. In order to preserve a mixed delivery system, increase access, and best support family choice, funds for infrastructure should be distributed equitably among all types of organizations.

Therefore, we urge the legislature to build on the Governor's proposal by **making an additional \$350 Million investment in ECE infrastructure this year**, including the restoration of the \$263 Million previously allocated in the 2019-20 state budget for the *Early Learning and Care Infrastructure Grant Program*. This investment would address the need to expand access for children up to five years of age by providing resources to build



new facilities or retrofit, renovate, or expand existing ones, including family child care homes and centers in various community settings, as the *Whole Family Wellness Hubs*. Our field needs these resources more than ever to support providers with the reopening, repair and adaptation of facilities by covering the costs of adjusting to new guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic & climate resiliency (e.g., wildfires and heatwaves), including reduced class sizes, air-filtration systems, outdoor learning, enhanced sanitation, hygiene protocol, and health checks.

The \$263 million allocated for the Early Learning and Care Infrastructure Grant Program in 2019-20 State Budget included \$245 million from the General Fund and \$18 million from the *Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund*. These funds were exclusively for community-based providers, including family child care and center-based programs. All these funds were swept into the General Fund last year in preparation for the COVID-19 pandemic crisis impact on the state's finances. In light of the significant budget windfall the state is experiencing, we urge the state to restore these funds, making this long-overdue investment in our children's education, our families' economic development, and our future.

This request is aligned with the recently released *Master Plan for Early Learning and Care*, which contains the expansion of the *Early Learning and Care Facilities Infrastructure Grant Fund* as a strategy to equitably expand the supply of early learning and care facilities: "Contingent on the availability of state funds, new resources for the *Early Learning and Care Facilities Grant* funds could prioritize facility investments in communities with a shortage of early learning and care settings in relation to the number of subsidy-eligible children." (page 42) Our ask is also supported by our fellow members of the *Early Care and Education (ECE) Coalition* as part of additional investments to strengthen and expand a comprehensive child care system that is accessible, affordable, equitable, meets families' needs, and pays providers a fair wage.

We are available to provide any additional information needed to support the decision-making processes related to the ECE infrastructure elements that are crucial for a successful and sustainable reopen and rebuilding of our field to benefit families, children, and the economic vitality of our state.

Thank you for your consideration, commitment, and collaboration on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Build Up California Partners – [Click here to add your organization as co-signer](#)

Cc: Keely Martin Bosler, Director, Department of Finance
Kim Johnson, Director, Department of Social Services
Sarah Neville-Morgan, Deputy Superintendent, California Department of Education
Senator Nancy Skinner, Chair, Senate Budget Committee
Assemblymember, Phil Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

February 8, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy and Leaders McConnell, and Schumer,

We, the undersigned organizations, write to urge Congress to provide supplemental funding specifically targeted to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in the next COVID relief package. This funding will strengthen K-12 special education, as well as IDEA Part C early intervention services for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Designed to help children from birth to 21 who have a developmental delay, disability, or health condition that may affect typical development and learning, these systems have faced serious challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Direct assistance is urgently needed in the COVID rescue package currently being debated by Congress.

To provide immediate assistance to K-12 schools, Congress created the Education Stabilization Fund (ESF) through the CARES Act and continued the framework in the subsequent COVID-19 response package enacted in 2020. The ESF helped districts transition instructional and health-related special education services to virtual platforms, enabling safe social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding did not directly support the K-12 special education system, but did allow for innovation in their education delivery methods.

However, according to survey data from the Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA), no early intervention services (EIS) agency received supplemental funding from any response package.

Therefore, we urge Congress to provide \$12.5 billion in additional funding for the IDEA, including \$500 million for IDEA Part C and \$400 million for the IDEA Part B, Section 619 Preschool Program.

Given that the current situation renders much of our direct, in-person contact impossible, EIS agencies now face a unique set of challenges. The pandemic has made referral and identification of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with a disability or developmental delay far more difficult. Pediatricians or child care professionals are the individuals who most frequently refer children for EI services. As these visits are done virtually, additional ITCA data has shown it has proven difficult to recognize whether a child is experiencing delays.

The shift to virtual evaluation, assessment, and intervention has radically altered the very basics of early intervention and preschool special education. These services are now predominately delivered through teletherapy, increasing the reliance on technological platforms, necessitating adaptations to typical

procedures, and requiring far greater parent or guardian involvement. These changes bring additional, unexpected costs. Beyond the price of the technological aspect of teletherapy services, some providers also are shipping equipment and therapy supplies to and from caregivers for use during sessions. In certain instances, funding sources like Medicaid or private insurance that were available for in-person services are not available for virtual services.

These challenges make providing the full benefits of IDEA services difficult. Therefore, additional funding for IDEA Part C and preschool special education (Part B Section 619) is needed to address the current barriers to in-person interaction and service delivery.

Since its passage 45 years ago, the IDEA has provided children with disabilities and their families services and tools to support activities of daily living and overcome instructional barriers that impact access to educational success. In the K-12 environment, students with disabilities have gained real access to the general curriculum. The IDEA fundamentally changed how students with disabilities were educated, transforming our nation's schools. As the pandemic has forced our schools to transform once again, the IDEA is a powerful and effective tool to help students in this new reality.

IDEA Part C and Part B Section 619, provide funds that allow for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities and their families to access early intervention and special education services. These early childhood programs assist in minimizing the need for special education as children enter the K-12 system and maximize their potential for independent living later in life. The early years of a child's development are the most important, as significant brain development occurs during the first 3 years of life. Early intervention targets the developmental needs of infants and toddlers during this critical time when services are most effective at minimizing the disability or delay risk in physical, cognitive, communication, social or emotional, or adaptive development, and then helping the child successfully move to preschool and beyond. Preschool special education services offer important opportunities for young children to learn and grow and meet their developmental outcomes before they enter school.

With the additional funds for Part C and Part B Section 619, Congress can ensure that infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with and at risk for disabilities, and their families, receive the services they need to live and learn as independently as possible, now and in the future. We are grateful for the prompt action taken so far related to special education and urge both chambers to include additional funding for Part C and preschool special education (Part B-Section 619) through the IDEA. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Sharon Walsh with DEC and ITCA (walshtaylo@aol.com) or Abe Saffer with AOTA (asaaffer@aota.org).

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Art Therapy Association
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
American Council for School Social Work
American Music Therapy Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Physical Therapy Association

American Psychological Association
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
American Therapeutic Recreation Association
Association of California School Administrators
Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents
Autism Society of America
Brain Injury Association of America
California School Boards Association
Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement & Research
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Closing the Women's Wealth Gap
Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Council for Learning Disabilities
Council for Exceptional Children
Community Organizing & Family Issues
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children
Easterseals
First 5 Association of California
First 5 California
The Greenlining Institute
IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association
Learning Disabilities of America
MomsRising
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Pupil Services Administrators
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Consortium for Physical Education for Individuals with Disabilities
National Down Syndrome Congress
New Leaders
School-Based Health Alliance
Start Early
WOMEN'S WAY
ZERO TO THREE

CC:

House:

The Honorable Bobby Scott, Chair
The Honorable Virginia Foxx, Ranking Member
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chair
The Honorable Kay Granger
The Honorable Tom Cole, Ranking Member

Senate:

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair
The Honorable, Richard Burr, Ranking Member
The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chair
The Honorable, Richard Shelby Vice-Chair
The Honorable Roy Blunt, Ranking Member