

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

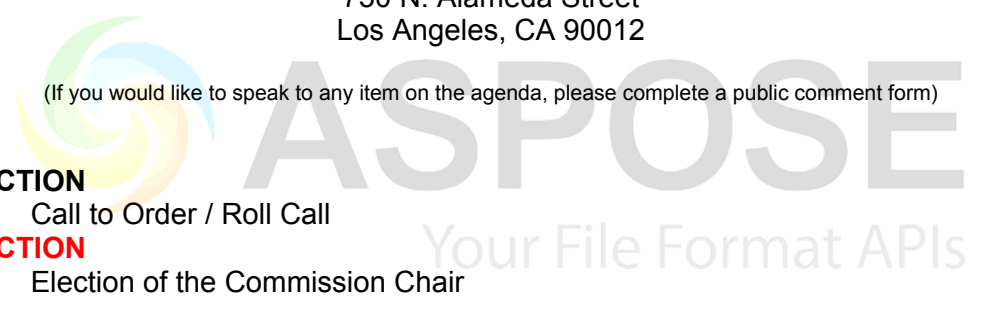
Chair: Sheila Kuehl

Thursday, February 11, 2021
1:30 PM

Meeting Location:

First 5 LA
750 N. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(If you would like to speak to any item on the agenda, please complete a public comment form)

- 
1. **ACTION**
Call to Order / Roll Call
 2. **ACTION**
Election of the Commission Chair
 3. **ACTION**
Election of the Commission Vice Chair
 4. **ACTION**
Consent
 - A. Approve Special Commission Meeting Summary Action Minutes and Transcript - Thursday, November 12, 2020 3
 - B. Approve the Monthly Financial Statements for Months Ending October 31, 2020 and November 30, 2020 80
 - C. Contract: Approve One Renewal and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Complete Final Contract Execution Upon Approval from the Board 91
 5. **INFORMATION**
Remarks by the Commission Chair

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COMMISSIONERS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Los Angeles County Supervisor | Jane Boeckmann | Yvette Martinez |
| Sheila Kuehl | Bobby Cagle | Romalis J. Taylor |
| Chair | Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed. | Keesha Woods |
| Judy Abdo | | Marlene Zepeda, Ph.D. |
| Vice Chair | | |

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

| |
|---------------------------------|
| Karla Pleitez Howell |
| Jonathan E. Sherin, M.D., Ph.D. |
| Wendy Smith, Ph.D., LCSW |
| Deanne Tilton |

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kim Belshé

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

John A. Wagner

A PUBLIC ENTITY

- Committee Assignments for 2021
- **Commission Chair**
- 6. **INFORMATION** **93**
Executive Director's Report
- 7. **ACTION** **109**
Emergency Ratification Actions Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (**Written Only**)
 - Approve Board Resolution #2021-01
- 8. **ACTION** **114**
Approve 2021 Policy Agenda

Presenters: Charna Widby-Martin, Chief Government Affairs Officer; Ofelia Medina, Senior Policy Strategist; Andrew Olenick, Policy Analyst

- 9. **Break**
- 10. **INFORMATION** **129**
Finance Update
 - Present the Proposed FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Revised Budget
 - Present the Budget/LTFP Calendar for 2021
- 11. **Presenters: Daisy Lopez, Manager, Financial Planning and Analysis & Raoul Ortega, Director, Finance**
- 12. **INFORMATION** **156**
Preview Series of Upcoming Discussions on Best Start Regions
- 13. **INFORMATION**
Public Comment (for items not on the agenda)
- 14. **ACTION**
Adjournment

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SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

**FIRST 5 LA
November 12, 2020
Meeting of the Board of Commissioners (VIRTUAL)
1:30-3:30 pm**

COMMISSIONER PRESENT

Commissioners:

Judy Abdo (Vice Chair)
Astrid Heger
Sheila Kuehl (Chair) (arrived at 2:15 pm)
Jonathan Sherin
Romalis Taylor
Keesha Woods
Marlene Zepeda

Ex-Officio Commissioners:

Helen Berberian (Alternate)
Wendy Garen
Deanne Tilton

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Bobby Cagle [Excused]
Barbara Ferrer [Excused]
Karla Pleitez Howell [Excused]
Yvette Martinez [Excused]

STAFF PRESENT:

Christina Altmayer, Vice President of Programs
Peter Barth, Interim Chief of Staff
Kim Belshé, Executive Director
Linda Vo, Board Relations Manager
John Wagner, Executive Vice President

LEGAL COUNSEL:

Craig Steele, Attorney-at-Law

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: (Item 1)

1. Commission Vice Chair Abdo called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm. Quorum was present.

COMMISSION: (Items 2– 12)

2. Consent
 - A. Approve Special Commission Meeting Summary Action Minutes and Transcript - Thursday, October 8, 2020
 - B. Approve the Monthly Financial Statements for the Month Ending September 30, 2020
 - C. Contracts: Approve Three New Agreements and Two Renewals and Authorize Staff to Complete Final Execution of the Agreements Upon Approval from the Board
 - D. Authorize Strategic Partnerships with LACOE, Child 360, and Childcare Alliance of Los Angeles for Dual Language Learner Pilot Expansion in the Amount of \$1,887,676 for a Period of 12 Months and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Execute Agreements totaling \$1,887,676 with an Anticipated Period of December 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021
 - E. Authorize a Strategic Partnership with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) in the Amount of \$6,349,422 to Implement Quality Start Los Angeles' (QSLA) IMPACT 2020 Award from First 5 CA for the Period of Three Years and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Execute an Agreement for an Amount not to Exceed \$1,305,244 with an Anticipated Period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021
 - F. Approve Strategic Partnership with California Health Foundation and Trust, fiscal sponsor for the Hospital Alliance of Southern California and Communities Lifting Communities in the Amount of \$250,000 to Implement Cherished Futures for Black Moms and Babies for a Period of 12 Months and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Execute an Agreement for an Amount not to exceed \$250,000 with an Anticipated Period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

M/S (Romalis Taylor/Marlene Zepeda)

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

Roll Call:

Judy Abdo – Aye
Astrid Heger – Aye
Jonathan Sherin - Aye
Romalis Taylor – Aye
Keesha Woods – Aye
Marlene Zepeda – Aye

Abstention from Items 2D and 2E: Keesha Woods

THE ITEMS WERE APPROVED

3. **Executive Director’s Report**
4. **Approve Extension of Executive Director’s Employment Contract**

M/S (Keesha Woods/Romalis Taylor)

Roll Call:

Judy Abdo – Aye
Astrid Heger – Aye
Jonathan Sherin - Aye
Romalis Taylor – Aye
Keesha Woods – Aye
Marlene Zepeda – Aye

5. **Emergency Ratification Actions Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (Written Only)**
 - **Approve Board Resolution 2020-11**

M/S (Marlene Zepeda/Keesha Woods)

Roll Call:

Judy Abdo – Aye
Astrid Heger – Aye
Jonathan Sherin - Aye
Romalis Taylor – Aye
Keesha Woods – Aye
Marlene Zepeda – Aye

THE ITEM WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

There was no further discussion on this item.

6. **Building a More Equitable ECE System**

Becca, Jaime, Gina, and local experts updated the commissioners on how the ECE system has been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and how First 5 LA, grounded by our Strategic Plan, is engaging to rebuild and advance a more equitable system.

Commissioners and public members got the opportunity to hear directly from informal childcare providers via video about how they are approaching the diverse and growing

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

needs of children and families in the context of COVID-19 as well as in the face of significant financial challenges and disparities.

There was no further discussion on this item.

7. **Remarks by the Commission Chair**

8. **State & Federal Policy: A Look Ahead**

Peter, Becca and Ofelia presented to the Board opportunities their team sees for First 5 LA and our partners to focus our state and federal policy efforts to advance promising and sustainable family and child-centered systems.

There was no discussion on this item.

9. **Public Comment (for items not on the agenda)**

There were no Public Comments

ADJOURNMENT:

The Commission adjourned at 3:18pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Commission meeting will take place on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

Meeting details will be posted per Brown Act Requirements

Meeting minutes were recorded by Linda Vo, Board Relations Manager

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MEETING OF FIRST 5 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, November 12, 2020

750 North Alameda Street, First Floor

Los Angeles, California 90012

STENOGRAPHICALLY REPORTED BY:
HEATHERLYNN GONZALEZ
CSR #13646

1 Thursday, November 12, 2020; Los Angeles, California

2 1:33 p.m.

3 -oOo-

4 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Why don't we start the
5 meeting. I'll call us to order and ask Linda to do the
6 roll call.

7 THE SECRETARY: Judy Abdo?

8 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Here.

9 THE SECRETARY: Astrid Heger?

10 COMMISSIONER HEGER: Here.

11 THE SECRETARY: Jonathan Sherin?

12 Yvette Martinez?

13 Romalis Taylor?

14 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Here.

15 THE SECRETARY: Linda Aragon?

16 Keesha Woods?

17 Marlene Zepeda?

18 COMMISSIONER SHERIN: I'm here now.

19 THE SECRETARY: Noted. Thank you, Dr. Sherin.

20 Marlene Zepeda?

21 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Here.

22 THE SECRETARY: Sheila Kuehl?

23 Helen Berberian?

24 COMMISSIONER BERBERIAN: Here.

25 THE SECRETARY: Wendy Garen?

1 COMMISSIONER GAREN: Here.

2 THE SECRETARY: Deanne Tilton?

3 I do see Deanne, so I'm going to mark her as
4 present.

5 Karla Pleitez Howell?

6 MS. BELSHE: Did you hear Dr. Sherin, Linda?

7 THE SECRETARY: I did. I just said that I would
8 note him as present.

9 MS. BELSHE: Okay. Thank you.

10 THE SECRETARY: You're welcome. Quorum is
11 present.

12 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. Linda, would you
13 tell us what the ground rules are for this meeting?

14 THE SECRETARY: Will do.

15 Thank you and good afternoon, commissioners and
16 members of the public. I'm Linda Vo. I'm with First 5
17 LA. Before we begin today's last board meeting of the
18 year, I wanted to go over some important information.

19 Pursuant to Governor Newsom's executive order,
20 M-25-20, members of the First 5 LA board of commissioners
21 or staff may participate in this meeting via
22 teleconference. In the interest of maintaining
23 appropriate social distancing, members of public may
24 observe this meeting telephonically or otherwise
25 electronically as posted on our website and on this

1 agenda.

2 To provide public comment, you may submit written
3 public comments by e-mail to my e-mail at lvo@first5la.org
4 or call (213) 276-9389. Please do indicate the item
5 number your comment corresponds with. All public comments
6 corresponding to an agenda item must received before 1:30
7 p.m. the day of the meeting. Any received after 1:30 p.m.
8 Will be become a part of public record. All public
9 comments received prior to 1:30 p.m. today will be read
10 aloud at the end of each item it coincides with.

11 And before we begin today's meeting, please do
12 note the following: Today's meeting will include audio
13 and video, allowing all meeting participants and public
14 members to view presentations via shared screen. To
15 minimize background disruptions, all board members and
16 staff should place their lines on mute until called upon
17 to speak.

18 Please note that commission vice chair Judy Abdo
19 will be chairing the half of the meeting, beginning with
20 roll call as we just did. To minimize multiple people
21 speaking at the same time and ensure for a coherent
22 dialogue while she is chairing, if there's an agenda item
23 board members would like to speak to or have a question
24 on, please use the hand raise function on Zoom or message
25 her directly via the chat box function.

1 Once the supervisor arrives, if board members
2 would like to speak to an item, please text her directly,
3 as we've done in the past, or you can direct message me
4 via Zoom's chat box and I will text the supervisor to
5 indicate your interest in speaking.

6 With the exception of adjournment, which will be
7 called for by the chair, a formal roll call will be done
8 for all action items. A reminder to all board members to
9 take yourself off mute prior to roll call.

10 If technical assistance is required during the
11 meeting, please do contact me at (213) 276-9389, and I
12 will connect you with IT.

13 And with that, I will be handing this back to our
14 honorable commission vice chair Judy Abdo.

15 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I don't know when I became
16 honorable, but thank you.

17 THE SECRETARY: You're always honorable.

18 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Okay. Thank you.

19 I think that I just want to welcome everybody and
20 say that I'm sorry about no cookies again and it would be
21 nice.

22 So our -- our first item is the meeting summary
23 action minutes and transcript from October's meeting.

24 MR. STEELE: All of those are about the consent
25 calendar so John can talk about all of those.

1 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. So, John, do the
2 whole consent calendar for us.

3 MR. WAGNER: Thank you and good afternoon,
4 commissioners, staff, and members of the public.

5 Similar to the last couple of months, we -- in an
6 effort to consolidate the consent item, I won't go through
7 each of the items. They have been provided in your board
8 packet. But I did want to call out three things that
9 highlight some of the broader connection to our work.

10 First is an \$800,000 contract, which is on Item
11 2C. This is with Rescue Agency, which is a result of an
12 open or competitive solicitation. And this is to support
13 First 5 LA's marketing and campaign development with our
14 communications department. This is a result of taking a
15 much larger contract that we've historically had and
16 bidding out multiple discrete functions of work to
17 increase the diversity of providers and contractors with
18 whom we work. This is a concrete example of how we are
19 leaning into our commitment to the value of DEI, diversity
20 equity and inclusion.

21 The second item is Item 2, which will allow us to
22 receive \$1.8 million from First 5 California. If
23 approved, we would use these funds to enter the strategic
24 partnerships and contracts with LACOE, the Childcare
25 Alliance of LA, and Child 360 to fund a dual language

1 learner pilot beginning in December. You'll hear more
2 about this exciting work as part of the presentation in
3 Item 6 on early childhood education.

4 And, finally, Item 2F is to approve a strategic
5 partnership with the California Health Foundation and
6 Trust, which is a fiscal sponsor for work we would fund
7 with the California Healthcare Funding to advance our in
8 African American infant and maternal mortality
9 initiatives, something we've previously brought forward
10 and discussed with the board. Specifically, this \$250,000
11 strategic partnership and contract would (audio
12 distortion) features for black moms and babies for 12
13 months. And this is the first time we've worked with the
14 California Healthcare Foundation.

15 And the final point I'll make is that LACOE is
16 conflicted on Item 2D and 2E. So Commissioner Woods
17 should abstain from voting on those.

18 With that, I'll turn it over to our chair,
19 Commissioner Abdo.

20 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Thank you.

21 Linda, do we have any public comments?

22 THE SECRETARY: There are no public comments for
23 this item.

24 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. Then I think --
25 Oh, Romalis you have a question.

1 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No. I want to make a
2 motion to approve all of -- if it's appropriate, to
3 approve all the items.

4 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes, it is.

5 All right. Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Second.

7 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Was that you, Marlene?

8 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Yes, it was.

9 COMMISSIONER ABDO: So we have a motion and
10 second.

11 So a roll call vote I guess.

12 THE SECRETARY: Judy Abdo?

13 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes.

14 THE SECRETARY: Astrid Heger?

15 I see her waiving her hands.

16 Jonathan Sherin?

17 COMMISSIONER SHERIN: Yes.

18 THE SECRETARY: Romalis Taylor?

19 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

20 THE SECRETARY: Keesha Woods?

21 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Yes, with the exception of
22 2D, 2E. I abstain from those two.

23 THE SECRETARY: Correct.

24 And Marlene Zepeda?

25 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Yes.

1 THE SECRETARY: Motion is passed.

2 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. And so we'll move
3 onto our next item which is our executive director's
4 report.

5 Turning it over to you, Kim.

6 MS. BELSHE: Thank you. Can you all hear me?

7 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes.

8 MS. BELSHE: You can, yay.

9 So Judy wave if my camera or my video gets all
10 glitchy again.

11 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I will do that.

12 MS. BELSHE: Thank you. So it's great to see so
13 many commissioners at our last board meeting of 2020.
14 And, you know, while we all recognize that 2020 is a year
15 that can't end soon enough in some respects, I do want to
16 take my moments here to, you know, express my appreciation
17 to the board and to the staff for what has been some
18 extraordinary work this past year, particularly in the
19 context of our remote work and responsiveness in context
20 of Covid-19.

21 Two of the topics that we're going to be going
22 deeply into today, what we refer to as deep dives, I think
23 really capture well for me many of the qualities of First
24 5 LA both staff and board and those alongside whom we work
25 in terms of being responsive, adaptive, and doing work

1 that is very relevant and focused in terms of helping
2 support and shape a response that meets the needs of
3 children and families in an incredibly extraordinarily
4 challenging environment.

5 COMMISSIONER ABDO: You're frozen there for a
6 moment.

7 MS. BELSHE: Okay. Am I back?

8 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes.

9 MS. BELSHE: Am I back. Excellent.

10 So two topics today really capture well the
11 qualities that have so impressed me this past year and
12 which give me great hope for the year ahead.

13 First topic we're going to hear about is, how do
14 we contribute to building an early care and education
15 system that is an equitable, accessible, and
16 high-performing system. And, secondly, where can and must
17 First 5 LA focus its federal and state and local -- we'll
18 talk about that more deeply at a subsequent meeting, but
19 where do we focus our policy efforts to advance more
20 accessible, integrated, sustainable, and equitable family
21 and child-centered systems that we know are just so
22 incredibly important to how kids do and how families do.

23 Our context, as we know, has been just
24 extraordinarily sobering one. But what gives me optimism
25 is how focused and committed the team has been. I'm so

1 grateful to how we have done I think a good job in really
2 prioritizing young children in both policy and practice
3 and adapting to our remote work environment, not just in
4 terms of our own work, but what it means for our
5 contractors and grantees and families and communities, and
6 being focused on where we can be nimble and
7 entrepreneurial and contribute to innovative solutions
8 that work for families and for children and communities.

9 All of that gives me a lot of hope. Our
10 experience working with parents, working with providers,
11 working with the broader community, county agency leaders,
12 folks in Sacramento give me a lot of hope. You know,
13 resilience is increasingly going to be a watch word, not
14 just for individuals and communities, but for
15 organizations. And I've seen a resilience in the First 5
16 LA team as we together have navigated some very complex,
17 sensitive, and consequential issues in terms of public
18 health, in terms of racial inequities and disparities.
19 And doing so in a way that acknowledges these are issues
20 and challenges that are both very personal and very real
21 individually and collectively, personally and
22 professionally.

23 The team has brought a very deep and focused
24 commitment to being family focused and child centered, and
25 do it in a way that recognizes both opportunities (audio

1 distortion) while also engaging in broader systemic change
2 efforts.

3 The nimbleness and adaptability, I don't know if
4 those have always been watch words of First 5 LA, but I
5 think the team has really stepped up and demonstrated an
6 alacrity in responding to a very, very dynamic context to
7 work with our partners to meet family needs while staying
8 disciplined importantly to our strategic plan.

9 And, finally, I've been energized by what is
10 clearly a very deep and sustained and head and heartfelt
11 commitment to our new value investment guideline focused
12 on diversity, equity, and inclusion and our collectively
13 working together to embed DEI more fully and intentionally
14 in all of our work.

15 Finally, I'm hopeful because we have a new
16 federal leadership and new opportunity to really build on
17 what's been extraordinary engagement and mobilization and
18 advocacy over the course of the past couple of years. And
19 to do so in the context of a Biden-Harris administration
20 and -- which is one we have seen articulate a very deep
21 commitment to early childhood development.

22 So we know change takes time and effort and it
23 takes sustained effort by staff and strong support and
24 leadership by our governing board. So just as staff have
25 been nimble and adaptable, deeply committed and child- and

1 family-centered and focused, so too has our board over the
2 course of the past year, particularly over the course of
3 the past seven, eight months. So I end with a note of
4 gratitude for the work done today, an appreciation for the
5 qualities of resilience and adaptability and equity that
6 continue to guide and inform our work and gives me a lot
7 of confidence that challenges we have ahead of us, which
8 we'll be talking about further with the board today, are
9 ones that we're well positioned alongside our many
10 partners to address and advance a stronger, more just and
11 equitable LA County and state.

12 So with appreciation and -- turn it back to you,
13 Judy.

14 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Thank you.

15 Do we have any public comments so far?

16 THE SECRETARY: No public comments.

17 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. So Item 4 is to
18 approve the extension of the executive director's
19 employment contract. And I'll call on Craig Steel, our
20 legal counsel, to introduce this.

21 MR. STEELE: Thank you, vice chair, members of
22 the board. There's one more ungood thing that's happening
23 in 2020, and that's that Kim Belshe's employment contract
24 is expiring. But the good news on that front is that she
25 appears to be willing to sign on again. So we need to

1 bring to the board after the expiration of her second
2 three-year employment contract, a -- an extension of the
3 current contract, which would begin in January of next
4 year. The only change to her current employment contract
5 that is proposed here is a two-year extension of the
6 current terms, with a third year mutual option to come
7 later. There's no change in compensation proposed for
8 this coming year 20-21, no salary increase, no other
9 compensation change. There's a provision that would have
10 the parties sit down at the end of 20-21 and talk about
11 compensation at that time.

12 So really what we're considering is just a
13 two-year extension of the (audio distortion) with that
14 third year option on top of it. Any other changes would
15 come to the board at the end of next year.

16 So with that -- the agreement of the executive
17 committee and Kim is agreeable to the terms as well. With
18 that, we recommend that the board approve the proposed
19 employment agreement. Be happy to answer any questions.

20 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Do we have any questions or
21 comments? Is there any public comment for this item?

22 THE SECRETARY: There are no public comments for
23 this item.

24 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. Then I think we
25 need a motion.

1 COMMISSIONER WOODS: I make a motion that we
2 approve the contract for executive director. This is
3 Keesha Woods.

4 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. We have a motion.
5 Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I second. This is Romalis.

7 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Multiple seconds. Okay.
8 Romalis wins.

9 We have a motion and a second. And a roll call
10 now.

11 THE SECRETARY: Judy Abdo?

12 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes.

13 THE SECRETARY: Astrid Heger?

14 COMMISSIONER HEGER: Yes.

15 THE SECRETARY: Jonathan Sherin?

16 COMMISSIONER SHERIN: Yes.

17 THE SECRETARY: Romalis Taylor?

18 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

19 THE SECRETARY: Keesha Woods?

20 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Yes.

21 THE SECRETARY: Marlene Zepeda?

22 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Yes.

23 THE SECRETARY: Motion is passed.

24 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. Thank you.

25 So the next item is the emergency ratification of

1 actions due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2 John, do you have anything to say about this?

3 MR. WAGNER: Just that this is similar to action
4 we brought forward in past months. And in an abundance of
5 transparency, we share with the board actions we took
6 under Kim's authority as the executive director since
7 March. So you'll see in the board materials some changes
8 to some contracts we did that are aligned to the needs of
9 this environment given Covid. And, typically, the board
10 ratifies those actions by passing the attached resolution
11 which is attached to this item.

12 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. Are there any
13 questions or comments from the board?

14 Seeing none.

15 Any public comment on this?

16 THE SECRETARY: There are no public comments on
17 this item.

18 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. Then do we need
19 to vote on this?

20 MR. WAGNER: Yes.

21 MR. STEELE: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Okay. Let's have a motion.

23 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: This is Marlene, Judy. I
24 move to have this -- what is it, the action related to
25 Covid management due to Covid-19 approved.

1 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Thank you. Is there a
2 second?

3 COMMISSIONER WOODS: This is Keesha. I second.

4 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. We have a motion
5 and a second to Covid rule.

6 Would you call the roll?

7 THE SECRETARY: Judy Abdo.

8 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes.

9 MS. BELSHE: Astrid Heger?

10 COMMISSIONER HEGER: Yes.

11 THE SECRETARY: Jonathan Sherin?

12 COMMISSIONER SHERIN: Yes.

13 THE SECRETARY: Romalis Taylor?

14 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

15 THE SECRETARY: Keesha Woods?

16 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Yes.

17 THE SECRETARY: And Marlene Zepeda?

18 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Yes.

19 THE SECRETARY: Motion is passed.

20 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. So we have done
21 Item 5. And now we're on Item 6, which is building a more
22 equitable ECE system.

23 Kim, are you going to introduce this or --

24 MS. BELSHE: No. I am going to turn it over to
25 Becca, our director of early care and education team.

1 Go for it, Becca.

2 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Becca, you're on.

3 MS. PATTON: Thank you. Thank you so much.

4 I want to go through our format of our
5 presentation today. I'm Becca Patton with the early care
6 and education team. I'm joined by two of my colleagues
7 who are going to do a presentation. And then at the end,
8 we're actually going to have a panel discussion with some
9 of our external partners.

10 So my colleagues joining me today are Jaime
11 Kalenik, program officer of the early care and education
12 team; and Gina Rodriguez, also program officer of the
13 early care and education team. And our guest for the
14 panel will do a fuller introduction at the end, but they
15 are Micaela Walker, who is a childcare provider and
16 facilitator for the LA Family Childcare Providers United;
17 and a familiar face for most of you, Debra Coleman,
18 director for the Advancement for Early Care and Education
19 from our own county Department of Public Health.

20 So today we're going to talk about building a
21 more equitable early care and education system. We are
22 going to update commissioners on what's currently
23 happening with our childcare system, what is the current
24 context, how are we fairing in the midst Covid-19, and
25 what are some of the lessons that we're learning as we're

1 going through our Covid-19 response. And then we're going
2 to talk about how those lessons are informing our work and
3 highlight two current examples of some strategies that are
4 emerging in our early care and education team,
5 particularly around home-based childcare, so family
6 childcare and family, friend and neighbor care, and then
7 support for the dual language learners.

8 And with that I'm going to hand it over to Jaime.

9 MS. KALENIK: Great. Thank you, Becca. Good
10 afternoon, commissioners.

11 We wanted to start today with the grounding in
12 what early care and education looks like in the context of
13 Covid-19.

14 As you know, the early care and education system
15 in California is a mixed delivery system, made up of a
16 number of setting types, including centers with multiple
17 classrooms, family childcare homes, or FCCs, which are
18 licensed programs serving multiple families in a
19 provider's residence, and licensed except care, otherwise
20 known as family, friend, and neighbor care, or FFN.

21 Childcare in any of these settings was deemed an
22 essential service and was never ordered closed or paused
23 by the county health officer. However, a number of
24 operational changes were mandated to prevent the spread of
25 the virus in ECE settings. Some of the most impactful

1 guidance includes reduced group size maximums, which limit
2 the number of children a facility can serve, as well the
3 staff that can interact with those groups. These limits
4 have impacted centers the most reducing some class size by
5 half. Other changes focus on individual activities and
6 physical distancing, increased screening and disinfecting
7 and face coverings for staff and children. This guidance,
8 combined with the realities of the pandemic, have put a
9 real strain on providers and the larger ECE system.

10 At end of September, less than 40 percent of
11 centers in the county were open. And this number has not
12 moved substantially since March. Family childcare is open
13 at a much higher rate at around 64 percent. Of the
14 currently closed providers, we do not know at this time
15 how many will stay closed permanently. Many of the
16 providers who are open have experienced financial strain.
17 In the case of nearly half of FCC providers across the
18 state, most of them are not paying themselves and are
19 taking on additional credit card debt to to purchase
20 cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment, or to
21 make up for fewer children attending. And while the
22 closures and group size limits means the system is
23 operating at reduced capacity, a survey of providers in
24 Best Start region 2 reported their greatest challenge was
25 low enrollment as parents worry about their children's

1 safety in group setting.

2 The data only tells part of the story so we
3 wanted you to hear directly from providers and families in
4 a short video.

5 (Video plays.)

6 MS. KALENIK: Special thanks to Micaela (audio
7 distortion) interviews with providers and families of that
8 video.

9 But we've spoken in the past commission meetings
10 about similar responses to the issues that you heard,
11 including distributing supplies, communications on
12 guidance, and system coordination. This month's executive
13 director's report also includes an update on that ongoing
14 work. So we wanted to spend our time today focused more
15 on what we've learned from the Covid-19 response and how
16 that is informing the implementation of our strategic
17 plan. I won't go through all these lessons in depth, but
18 will focus on those that effect the work presented in the
19 latter half of this presentation.

20 Receivability of the ECE system to adapt to
21 challenges and strain is based on the strengths of family
22 childcare and family, friend, and neighbor care. While
23 many centers have had to close and stay closed, a much
24 larger percentage of FCCs have stayed open to serve
25 children and families. Our research and referral partners

1 also report that many essential workers access emergency
2 childcare vouchers choose family, friend, and neighbor
3 care. But I do want to be clear. Just because these
4 providers have been able to so far stay open to serve
5 families, it does not mean that the current reality is
6 sustainable or easy on providers or parents and
7 caregivers.

8 We also know that before the pandemic, the
9 financial model for early care and education was flawed.
10 Even in the best case, what the state pays for subsidized
11 care does not cover the cost of even baseline quality.
12 Now, with limited group sizes and increased supply costs,
13 models developed in last year's comprehensive fiscal
14 analysis of the Los Angeles ECE system show larger funding
15 gaps per child per year across all ages and settings with
16 an especially large swing in center-based care for
17 preschoolers.

18 And, finally, there's been increased attention
19 about the importance of childcare, especially as the
20 cornerstone of any economic recovery. From national
21 outlets like the *New York Times* to our local public radio
22 stations, media is publicizing how essential the early
23 care and education workforce is. But this momentum has
24 not translated to better working conditions or pay for
25 providers and a further divide between early educators and

1 K-through-12 teachers has opened as schools remain closed
2 but childcare remains operational.

3 These lessons are important in informing our path
4 forward, but that path is firmly grounded in our refined
5 strategic plan and organizational values. You'll remember
6 that one of the larger shifts in our strategy supporting
7 children to have high-quality early care and education
8 experiences was to focus more specifically on family
9 childcare and family, friend, and neighbor care through
10 both our larger quality improvement work, as well as
11 pilots specifically focused on the Best Start geographies.
12 This shift was grounded in our value of diversity, equity,
13 and inclusion. When reviewing our previous investments,
14 we saw that much of our focus was on ECE centers by
15 default. But we know that family childcare and family,
16 friend, and neighbor settings are more likely to care for
17 infants and toddlers, the most underserved age groups, and
18 to offer nontraditional hours such as nights and weekends.

19 The workforce statewide is also made up primarily
20 of women of color with one-half to two-thirds making less
21 than the state median income. This move to explicitly
22 focus on FCC and FFN care seems even more important now as
23 is the home-based care providers that have been more able
24 to meet the needs of the families during the Covid-19
25 crisis.

1 At this point, I'll turn it over to my colleague
2 Gina to give us some concrete examples of how we're
3 pursuing our objectives.

4 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Jaime. And good
5 afternoon, commissioners.

6 As we heard, FCCs have remained open during the
7 pandemic. They remain flexible and adaptable. And the
8 early care and education system right now is largely
9 dependent on family childcare and family, friend, and
10 neighbor care. But do we know enough about FCCs and FFNs
11 in LA County to strengthen this mixed delivery system? Do
12 we understand our strengths to the extent to which they
13 access support services and professional development?
14 What type of practices do they naturally engage in with
15 children that could be considered quality practices,
16 especially as it pertains to dual language learners?

17 So there's more to learn. And First 5 LA, along
18 with our partners, will be launching a landscape analysis
19 with the intent of getting a full understanding of how the
20 sector can be supported and sustained. Our partners
21 include LACOE, the CCRC, the Office For the Advancement of
22 ECE, and All Our Kin.

23 A note about All Our Kin, they are is nationally
24 recognized and have expertise in working with FCCs and
25 FFNs. Funding from the Pritzker Children's Initiative,

1 they have been providing technical assistance to our LA
2 team to design a scope and develop the research questions
3 of the landscape analysis. The landscape analysis will
4 include quantitative and qualitative data and focus groups
5 with providers and parents. We'll be humbly approaching
6 this work as we building upon the work of others, taking
7 into account recent research and analysis.

8 I just want to highlight a few of the goals to
9 understand the home-base childcare sector in LA county.
10 Determine what's working well and what the barriers are to
11 increasing the supply, quality, and sustainability of
12 home-based childcare. Identify potential strategies that
13 could be piloted to increase the supply, quality, and
14 sustainability, which is an objective in our refined
15 strategic plan.

16 These are the research questions, and each of
17 them have a number of subquestions. I just want to focus
18 on a few of them. Number 1, who are LA County's
19 home-based care providers. The intention of this question
20 and the subquestions is to obtain a complete demographic
21 profile of home-based childcare providers in LA county.

22 And then also highlighting Number 6. From what
23 is learned from the landscape analysis, we hope to
24 identify the policy changes needed to build a stronger,
25 more sustainable childcare sector for the future.

1 So this past summer, as we began to work on the
2 landscape analysis with our partners, in July, First 5
3 California released an RFA for the third phase of this
4 statewide DLL study. Through our partners in Quality
5 Start Los Angeles, we applied for this funding and we were
6 awarded. As a reminder, dual language learners are
7 children birth to age five learning two or more languages
8 simultaneously or learning a second language while
9 developing their home language.

10 I also like to point -- I would also like to
11 point out the intersectionality of FCCs and DLLs and what
12 we know of this. The majority of licensed centers and
13 family childcare centers in California serve dual language
14 learners. The concentration of dual language learners is
15 greater in FCCs than in centers. The impact of Covid on
16 services for DLL is significant. School closures and
17 reduce group size requirements disproportionately impact
18 the DLL's ability to return to early learning programs.

19 in both of the goals of the expansion study, what
20 you can see that's consistent is that the building of an
21 integrated system to support dual language learners and
22 families. That is what is consistent, to build this
23 integrated system to support dual language learners and
24 their families.

25 The award is close to \$2 million. Funding will

1 run from December 2020 through December 31st, 2021. The
2 LA county project will be integrating the pilot expansion
3 within QSLA. Our focus is to utilize, adapt, and align
4 existing resources to develop a comprehensive menu of
5 training and professional development opportunities for
6 center-base and home-based providers, coaches, and
7 families. This is unique to the extent that we'll focus
8 -- that it will be focused on home-based care and align
9 efforts.

10 We'll launch a public awareness campaign to
11 promote the importance of values supporting DLLs both at
12 home and early learning environments and how to support
13 them. It will distribute language-appropriate books and
14 materials in high-poverty areas to keep DLL children
15 engaged through the pandemic. The Best Start communities
16 will be prioritized.

17 I just want to remind everyone who our partners
18 are in QSLA. We'll be leveraging lessons learned and
19 relationships and they'll be implementing the DLL
20 expansion activities. First 5 LA will administer grant
21 funds and oversee completion of the pilot. LACOE will
22 lead the training the trainer support for QSLA-rated
23 providers and other providers which include center based,
24 FCCs, FFNs, customizing curriculum for provider type. The
25 Childcare Alliance of LA will lead the family engagement

1 training for providers and families. Child 360 will
2 create and lead the countywide awareness campaign and
3 spearhead the distribution of books and materials,
4 prioritizing the Best Start regions.

5 So as you can imagine, we're very excited. We're
6 honored to move forward with this work.

7 And now I'd like to turn it over to Becca, who
8 will facilitate a discussion with some guided questions.
9 Thank you so much.

10 MS. PATTON: Thanks so much, Jaime and Gina. I
11 really appreciate it.

12 So I have the honor of introducing our panelists
13 that are joining us this afternoon. So first is Micaela
14 Walker. She's a childcare advocate, she is a childcare
15 provider herself, and she is a facilitator for the Los
16 Angeles Family Childcare Providers United. And as I said,
17 she's a childcare provider at Precious Little Heartbeats
18 Childcare.

19 Micaela, say a few words and then I'll introduce
20 Debra, and then we'll open it up for questions.

21 So Micaela.

22 MS. WALKER: Good afternoon. Can you guys hear
23 me okay? Okay. Perfect.

24 Good afternoon, commissioners. My name is
25 Micaela Walker, and I am a family childcare provider along

1 with my mother and she has been doing it for over 20
2 years. But I'm also a childcare provider -- childcare
3 provider facilitator -- I'm a facilitator over a childcare
4 provider group home. It's called Los Angeles Family
5 Childcare Providers United, and we've been meeting for
6 about four years. We strive to look after the childcare
7 providers' professional and personal goals.

8 MS. PATTON: Thanks so much, Micaela.

9 And our next panelist is Debra Coleman, wonderful
10 former First 5 LA colleague. Sad to see her go, but so
11 grateful where she is, director for Office for the
12 Advancement of Early Care and Education and the LA County
13 Department of Public Health.

14 Debra.

15 MS. COLMAN: Thank you, Becca. Good afternoon,
16 commissioners, staff, and guests.

17 It is truly an honor to be back home with my
18 First 5 LA partners. Just a few things about the Office
19 for the Advancement of Early Care and Education. For many
20 years, it was called the Office of Childcare, and is
21 really home base for improving practice, policy, and the
22 early care and education systems across LA County. We
23 were fortunate enough to be moved to the LA County
24 Department of Public Health about two years ago. Who knew
25 a pandemic was on the horizon. We are so fortunate to

1 have been very adaptable and to switch gears into
2 supporting the operations of all of our early care and
3 education providers during Covid-19.

4 So although the office continues its everyday
5 work, in addition we have the honor of writing guidelines,
6 doing briefings with all of our early care and education
7 providers and working in partnership with First 5 LA, the
8 county Office of Education, and all the resource and
9 referral agencies in leading the early care and -- early
10 -- LA County early childhood education Covid-19 response
11 team to make sure that our providers have supplies and
12 resources and the support that they need to stay open.

13 The last piece I'd like to share is something
14 also really unique happen during Covid-19 with the influx
15 of funding from CARES Acts into our early care and
16 education system. So we have been fortunate to have a
17 very supportive board of supervisors that saw the critical
18 relevance of early care and education providers during the
19 pandemic. So in August they decided to make an investment
20 of \$15 million into our existing childcare voucher system.
21 And that will be running through December 30th. In
22 addition, there also has been an allocation of \$5 million
23 and, as of Tuesday, an additional \$5 million to support
24 stabilization grants for our LA County early care and
25 education providers.

1 I'll turn it back to Becca.

2 MS. PATTON: Thanks so much, Micaela and Debra.

3 So we will open it up for questions for either of
4 our panelists or the First 5 LA staff.

5 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Sheila has returned, and so
6 she will be chairing the rest of the meeting.

7 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: But I need you to call on
8 people because I can't see their hands.

9 COMMISSIONER ABDO: All right. So Romalis.

10 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you for this
11 important work that you're doing. What I wanted to know
12 is, what are we doing at legislative level with our
13 partners to raise this level of awareness that something
14 more needs to be done and their recognition needs to be
15 identified and supported as a -- you know, as a vital need
16 for the community; in other words, a well laid-out
17 strategy. Because also we need to help them address the
18 loss that they're suffering because of the fact that they
19 cannot have the right number of kids to help offset their
20 operational costs and salaries, and raising that level. I
21 know we're working very hard to improve the quality and
22 giving them a more structured thing, but I really want to
23 know what is going to be our collective strategy from here
24 forward, including county, our partners, everyone to get
25 something done at the legislative level.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. PATTON: Thanks, Commissioner Taylor. You're
3 actually -- it's a great lead into our next presentation.
4 So I'll tell you a little bit about what First 5 LA is
5 doing, then turn it over to Debra so she can talk about
6 the great partnership we've had with the county over the
7 summer.

8 So we have, you know, in late spring into the
9 summer advocated around a lot of provisions to keep the
10 system more stable, so everything from the hold harmless
11 provisions to eliminating family fees and reopening
12 stipends. So anything we could do to make sure the system
13 remains stable. And the statewide ECE coalition met this
14 morning, and they're sort of thinking about what is
15 prioritized for them next year and thinking through, how
16 do we make sure that we keep our system whole and intact.

17 Like I said, Charna and Ofelia will speak more
18 in the next presentation.

19 But, Debra, do you want to talk a little bit
20 about what the county has done with us -- partnered with
21 us over the summer and then -- I'll hand it to Debra.

22 MS. COLMAN: Sure. I think there have been some
23 unique opportunities with Covid, first, with actually
24 accessing federal money at a local level to be infused
25 into our county. So not only did LA County provide 15

1 million into our childcare voucher system, as well as 5
2 million into stabilization of the system, LA City and Long
3 Beach City have both mirrored that investment, infusing
4 their federal funding from CARES Act also into it. So at
5 this point, we have about \$30 million that has been
6 invested into childcare vouchers which we hope will keep
7 parents able to have care and return to the workforce
8 since it's for both essential workers as well as our
9 low-income working families, but also having that
10 stabilization coming from LA County, LA City also mirrored
11 grants to really provided operational funding to childcare
12 providers as well as Long Beach. So, again, utilizing
13 federal funding. And we hope that, as soon as additional
14 federal money is approved, we'll be able to do similar
15 things.

16 Finally, the policy roundtable for childcare and
17 development, which the Office For the Advancement of ECE
18 leads and convenes in partnership with many of the folks
19 around the table and commissioners here today, including
20 county offices and local stakeholders, really is trying to
21 focus on where to put their energy around policy. We
22 recently conducted a survey with our members, and it seems
23 to light the focus area where we would like to put a truly
24 significant effort is about increasing the reimbursement
25 rate so it covers the true cost of care during Covid.

1 Jaime referred to this during her presentation.

2 But just when you're thinking of a business
3 model, and early care and education providers are
4 businesses. And, basically, their business molds are
5 under water, they are really struggling to stay afloat
6 because a program that used to care for 20 or 30 children
7 in a room can only now care for ten children in a room.

8 So as a way to really combat that, we need to
9 shift how the State reimbursement rate is working for our
10 childcare providers, as well as thinking about how to
11 develop a stabilization fund similar to other industries
12 to ensure that our system does not collapse as we are
13 finding our way out of this pandemic.

14 I think, Micaela, do you also to want to take
15 this question too. Because I think it's helpful to hear
16 sort of what's most helpful from a provider perspective as
17 well?

18 MS. WALKER: From the provider perspective, we
19 just actually just need the support from, you know, a lost
20 of the different agencies that we work with, even with
21 just more communication. So even like when the pandemic
22 happened, we were really just shut out from what we should
23 do and how we should operate. And we've really just been
24 left to fend for ourselves. So I just say, if we just
25 have a little bit more communication going forward, that

1 would really help childcare providers have more confidence
2 in providing care and, you know, we can help our
3 communities.

4 MS. PATTON: Thanks. I see a hand from
5 Commissioner Zepeda.

6 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Yes, thank you. Thank you
7 for that presentation.

8 I -- I've been saying this for a long time ever
9 since I was a commissioner, that we were not paying
10 attention to home-based childcare where some of our most
11 vulnerable children are located. Family childcare, they
12 were deemed essential workers; where as K-through-12
13 teachers got to stay home. And there was a real
14 unfairness as to the way that people were thinking about
15 family childcare versus K-through-12. And that's all --
16 this big discrepancy there.

17 But I have a question about the DLL expansion
18 project with reference to the resource and referral
19 agencies, because resource and referral agencies play a
20 major role or they should be playing a major role in
21 supporting family childcare. And many of them have very
22 little resources, unless they get soft monies, related to
23 the support of family childcare. And I'm wondering if the
24 dollars that are coming to the First 5 LA DLL expansion,
25 maybe it's through the Alliance, will support more

1 capacity within the RNR system. So that's question number
2 -- number one. Then I have another question. So I don't
3 know if you want to answer that one first and then we can
4 go to the other question.

5 MS. PATTON: Sure. Gina, do you want to talk
6 about the partnership with the Alliance through the dual
7 language learner expansion?

8 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Sure. Yes. We are working with
9 the Childcare Alliance. And as you know, they are the
10 umbrella organization to THE RNR. So we're depending on
11 the RNRs for access to disseminate information,
12 disseminate the trainings, and also disseminate the
13 materials and books for children and family and providers
14 in high-poverty areas. So we are going to be using that
15 network to tap -- to do the work.

16 It's not a lot of money, as you know. Even
17 though we were the largest award because it was LA County,
18 it's not a lot of money. So we're going to try to work
19 less in isolation so that we can maximize our resources
20 and leverage resources and do the best we can with -- with
21 what we -- with what we have -- for implementation we only
22 have a year and maybe a few months.

23 So we will be reporting back in terms of how that
24 went, but our intention is to really work within the RNR
25 network to distribute, again, information and all the

1 resources that we're going to be able to -- to share with
2 families and center-base and others.

3 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: And then the other question
4 I have, Gina and team, has to do with the identification
5 of DLLs. Part of the broader foundational problem, if you
6 will, statewide and I would even say nationwide is that
7 we're not identifying DLLs. There is no mechanism to
8 identify them. There's no protocol to identify them, even
9 though we know that the census data says that 60 percent
10 of our children under the age of five in California are
11 living in a home where English may not be the primary
12 language.

13 So without identifying them, it becomes very
14 difficult to target resources in certain geographical
15 areas, to even know what languages people are speaking, et
16 cetera, et cetera. This is not an -- and I know that the
17 DLL -- I just want to make the commissioners aware of who
18 our population is and how the -- it's been that way for a
19 long time and they were never paid attention to to a large
20 degree. And so now, they are being paid attention to.
21 Their visibility is -- the visibility of this issue is
22 rising, but yet we don't have any systematic way of
23 identifying them. And so that is one of the I think
24 foundational issues going forward within this area.
25 Without -- without knowing who our kids are, what their

1 background characteristics are, what the home languages
2 are, individual programs may be able to do that, and they
3 have been doing that, but as a system, we don't have a
4 handle on that. And I know that that's one of the goals
5 of the funding from First 5 California.

6 So I'm hoping that there's going to be within the
7 funding; and then, Debra, too within what you all are
8 doing there's going to be discussion about that and how
9 best to do that.

10 MS. PATTON: Any other questions?

11 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I don't see any other hands
12 up. Is there more to the presentation?

13 MS. PATTON: Just discussion with commission.

14 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Okay. All right. Thank you
15 -- thank you very much. I had one question to you. I'm
16 not certain to whom it might be best asked, but I am --
17 I'm aware in the past there have been a number of concerns
18 about the multiple jurisdictions that oversee, well, the
19 whole ECE system and really how they've gotten in the way
20 of, you know, family childcare and family, friend, and
21 neighbor care. And I wondered whether, in answer to
22 Romalis's question about -- I think it was his -- about
23 needed changes, if there is still the same sort of issue
24 with providers, our local family providers, about there
25 being different sets of rules and having to kind of piece

1 together how, let us say, we come out of this time of the
2 plague and get more or less back to normal, if there's
3 still a deep problem about trying to piece together how to
4 serve all the children that you want to serve given the
5 various funding streams.

6 MS. PATTON: Yeah. Micaela, do you want to speak
7 to your experience about this?

8 MS. WALKER: Yeah. So a lot of our providers, us
9 included, are very frustrated with just different rules
10 that we have to follow. And it's almost as if, you know,
11 we get a piece of information from one agency and the
12 other -- and another agency tells us that it's not
13 correct, we shouldn't follow that. So -- and that even
14 comes down to the factors scale that we use. We've
15 received so many different -- different pieces of
16 information as to what is quality for us and how
17 everything should be set up. So, yes, very frustrating
18 with all these different entities and everything not being
19 -- not everyone being on the same page.

20 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Can I make a comment?

21 MS. PATTON: Please.

22 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: I am consulting on the
23 master plan for the early childhood for the State. There
24 is discussion about alignment between the different
25 standards for home-based and center-based, which has been

1 a major source of problems for God knows how many decades.
2 I can't even tell you. There is a movement of the bulk of
3 the portfolio from the early learning division in the
4 Department of Education -- it's already been done, Sheila
5 -- to the Department of Social Services. That's going on
6 right now.

7 And so the hope is that there will be alignment
8 because the master plan folks have been hearing this issue
9 that you brought up loud and clear. So the hope is that
10 there will be some alignment and streamlining of
11 regulations to make them more user friendly and also for
12 parents because this drives parents up the wall, too, in
13 terms of all the different ways they could get funded or
14 not funded.

15 So this discussion is going on at the State
16 level. And the hope is that -- and again, you know, hope
17 springs eternal. But the hope is that there will be some
18 alignment and some more user friendly approaches to
19 creating a system of our really kind of patchwork system
20 that we presently have.

21 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Well, I think it would be in
22 our interest all of us to be more up front rather than
23 just reactive in terms of what we suggest for legislative
24 changes because I know First 5 will have a full
25 legislative program and executive branch advocacy program,

1 hopefully, by February. And the county, as you know, has
2 a full legislative program and is doing some executive
3 advocacy.

4 So I think it would be good to identify and, you
5 know, bring that more together to inform whatever at least
6 both of our entities can do in pushing. And we also
7 probably have some pretty good contacts in the State and
8 even possible we might have some in Washington.

9 So I think keeping in contact, you know, among
10 our various areas and identifying early on those things
11 that would help might be a good -- good exercise for the
12 next month.

13 So, Judy, do you see any other folks who wanted
14 to speak?

15 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes. Debra Coleman, you had
16 something to say.

17 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Please.

18 MS. COLMAN: Thank you so much for recognizing
19 me. Just a few things.

20 So, yes, Commissioner Zepeda, I completely agree
21 with you. When the master plan is complete, which should
22 be any moment, and the move takes place from the
23 California Department of Education, the majority of the
24 ECE programs to the Department of Social Services, the
25 hope is that there will be more alignment.

1 One of the things that I -- I would like to raise
2 as part of the opportunities that have been elevated
3 through Covid. There -- there have been -- this has been
4 such a challenge, but there have been so many
5 opportunities at the same time. And one of the them is
6 developing a relationship that we've never had with
7 community care licensing. Because of the pandemic, the
8 Office For the Advancement of Early Care and Education
9 really needed to develop a strong partnership with
10 community care licensing and to really navigate how we
11 were going to approach anything that happened around
12 outbreaks, how we were approaching waivers since we needed
13 more childcare. I think by forging these new
14 relationships with State and local partners, we'll have a
15 chance post pandemic to really build on that and create a
16 more aligned system.

17 The last thing I would like to share is simply
18 around outbreaks since this discussion has been about
19 home-based care. We have -- as of today, had a total of
20 18 outbreaks in early care and education settings
21 throughout the county, which is very limited considering
22 that 57 percent of our system is currently open for
23 licensed family childcare and center-based care. I would
24 like to point out that none of those outbreaks have been
25 in a family childcare setting. So that not only shows how

1 a small group setting is working in this type of
2 environment, but also showcases the diligence that our
3 family childcare providers have put forth in creating a
4 safe learning environment for our youngest children.

5 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you for that.

6 Anyone else wishing to speak, Judy, that you see?

7 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Nobody's hands are up that I
8 see. Waive frantically if you do want to talk.

9 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Not too frantically.

10 Well, thank you very, very much. Thanks very
11 much to our panelists not only for your presentation
12 today, but for your work. I think the indication that we
13 just had about how it's working in this very, very
14 stressful and unusual time I think speaks volumes about
15 the way the entire sector has really stepped up and, you
16 know, done its very best, complied with the protocols for
17 the safety of our children, our families, and our
18 providers. And thanks very much to First 5 staff who
19 presented. The issue is a very important one as we see.
20 And we'll be interested to see how it rolls out as it goes
21 along.

22 So I think given that, the next item on the
23 agenda -- and thank you for allowing me to come in late --
24 were remarks that I would normally make earlier in the
25 meeting. And I wanted just very briefly today to talk a

1 little bit about the election.

2 First of all, my termed-out colleague, Mark
3 Ridley-Thomas, has left the board, and I wanted to say
4 because he has always been a very, very good partner on
5 these issues and, of course, chaired First 5 in the past,
6 and it's great news to me that he will be returning to the
7 city council so that we'll continue to have his
8 partnership because he is a very strong advocate for our
9 zero-to-five clients in the county and their families.

10 Secondly, his replacement, my long-time friend,
11 Holly Mitchell, whom I met when she was I think maybe
12 about 20 years old working for Diane Watson in the State
13 Senate. I think she was even an intern when I first met
14 her. So I -- I know her to be incredibly talented.
15 Naturally, I'm quite pleased that we have an historic
16 five-woman board of supervisors in Los Angeles. Though
17 doesn't mean that everything will be better since my male
18 colleagues have been pretty good about these issues as
19 well. Many of you are probably though aware that Holly
20 has long been a huge advocate both for early childcare
21 education and for home visitation. And I know that she's
22 going to pay deep attention to our work here, including
23 partnerships and initiatives, staffing and needs. I -- I
24 just feel like First 5 will have a true friend, and beyond
25 First 5 even our entire population and the families that

1 we serve.

2 In Washington, I think right now we have a lot of
3 hope. I personally was pleased with the outcome, as you
4 might not be surprised. I'm really pleased that our
5 fellow Californian, Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris is
6 making her story herself. The first woman and the first
7 person of color to serve as vice president, first but not
8 the last we hope. But we don't know yet very much about
9 how the -- what the agendas and initiatives might be, so
10 -- but I'm pretty sure we can count on our own advocates
11 to track them and advocate for us. And we might have in
12 the next presentation a little bit of a look forward when
13 we talk about State and federal policy and how we're going
14 to really develop our own agenda.

15 The other interesting thing to me in the local
16 elections was how many upsets there were. It seemed
17 interesting to me -- I really don't know how this connects
18 to our work because in some cities, it got less
19 progressive and in some cities it got more progressive.
20 And, you know, George Gascón coming in as district
21 attorney. Anika Rahman won over David Rue. I don't
22 really know what that means yet for our work, but I detect
23 a sort of restlessness among people about what direction
24 we might take and how we might choose our goals.
25 And to me, that is always an opportunity.

1 As you know, I was -- or you may not know, but
2 the county put it -- the supervisors put a measure on the
3 ballot, Measure J, which the voters of the county handily
4 approved, which I find a very progressive measure to
5 direct ten percent of the flexible county generated local
6 funds for homelessness and housing, for diversion, for
7 youth services, for mental health services. And I can
8 assure you, where I see opportunities to use some of those
9 in our various communities for First 5 and our clients, I
10 will certainly advocate for them. It could generate
11 between 500 and \$800 million every year.

12 This is not new money. It's not a new tax or
13 anything like that. It is simply saying that, of the
14 billions of dollars that are generated, about 25 percent
15 of the county budget locally -- of course, it could have
16 been better if Prop 15 passed because we would have had
17 more locally-generated revenue, but it's still a pretty
18 healthy chunk. And I think there will be an appetite to
19 really look at how these services are working for our
20 families, including the very youngest members of those
21 families.

22 So, you know, regardless of these changes in
23 elective office, I know that First 5 LA will stay on its
24 steady course headed toward achieving our north star. And
25 really the board is very pleased with the work of First 5.

1 And I'm really glad that we could step up with some CARES
2 money, quite a bit as it turned out. So you can see that
3 there is a devotion to our families and our clients on the
4 board.

5 But, you know, we have to be ever vigilant. We
6 don't know what's going to happen after the end of the
7 year in terms of emergency funding. I don't believe we're
8 going to see the end of Covid by January 1. So we're
9 going to continue to push.

10 So my thanks to all of you and for all of your
11 steady work and promise to continue to make sure that
12 everybody works together to head in the direction that we
13 want to head. So with that, I would say that's the end of
14 my remarks.

15 Were there any public comments signed up for any
16 of these issues?

17 THE SECRETARY: There are no public comments.

18 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: All right. Then let's say we
19 move to Item 8, looking at state and federal policy, a
20 look back but also hopefully a look ahead.

21 Peter, do you want to start us off?

22 MR. BARTH: Yes. Thanks, chair -- mad ma'am
23 chair of the board. I will also hand it off very shortly.
24 I know you're all eager to hear more from my colleagues,
25 Charna and Ofelia.

1 What a year we have had. And I think it's
2 appropriate that we're ending our final board meeting of
3 the year much the way we started it; talking about how
4 First 5 LA can elevate the lived experiences of families,
5 of young children of our providers, as we just heard from
6 the ECE presentation, to shape and influence State and
7 federal policy. We know the decisions made in Sacramento
8 and Washington DC impact our families' lives, all of our
9 lives on a daily basis. So today our goal is to very
10 briefly close the year with reflections, but more
11 importantly, to focus on 20-21, a new year. It's our
12 first full year implementing the new strategic plan, and
13 there's a lot of work to be done. Next slide.

14 So this slide may look familiar to commissioners
15 because, for those of you who are serving on our board
16 then, this is what was shared in February. It reflects
17 what we thought through our really effective crystal ball
18 what would be the top policy priorities for the year
19 ahead. And it does elicit a bit of a chuckle because it's
20 clear that our crystal ball and everyone's could not
21 predict the massive global shifts that impacted all of us
22 in 2020.

23 I do want to highlight that a number of the
24 issues remain important issues for our work. Last month
25 we shared in the October board meeting a full write-up

1 memo about closing out our legislative session and a
2 number of these issues remained important issue because,
3 regardless of the context of the work, the need for access
4 to services remained critical. The need for us to
5 implement previous policy wins from prior years remained
6 critical. And as Commissioner Zepeda just shared, the
7 Governor is continuing to focus on developing a master
8 plan for early childhood that can help provide and chart a
9 course for policy action in the future. Next slide.

10 I do think that one piece here though is, in
11 2020, as a helpful reminder, that context will always
12 change. And we're not going to be able to -- no matter
13 how well we try to forecast the future, we're not going to
14 be able to predict everything that's going to be
15 happening. And it's why it's more important than ever
16 that we pay attention to and ground our work in the goals
17 that we seek. And this image which is very familiar to
18 commissioners is our pathway for systems change. Our
19 strategic plan provides a very clear set of goals and
20 priorities for us to focus on in the future. And these
21 goals are not going to change whether or not there's a
22 pandemic. What will change though are some of our
23 tactics, some of the opportunities to may appear in front
24 of themselves -- in front of us.

25 So I think it's appropriate that we ground our

1 conversation today as I hand it over to my colleagues in
2 our pathway for systems change in the goals that we have
3 for the families and children we have in LA County, for
4 ourselves as an organization because, regardless of what
5 happens in 2021, and we were all hopeful -- as our chair
6 and as our executive director both shared in their
7 comments, we are very hopeful that 2021 will provide new
8 opportunities for our families in LA. But we don't know
9 what's to come perfectly, but we do know that our work
10 will be grounded in our goals.

11 So with that, I am eager to hand this over to my
12 colleagues, Charna and Ofelia. Among the many changes
13 that happened in 2020, we had a number of shifts
14 internally at First 5, which pivoted a lot of my time and
15 effort away from leading the public policy and government
16 affairs team, and then also elevated Charna's role.

17 So I think we can all agree that Charna is a
18 significant value add to our organization. I'm so pleased
19 that LA County has her helping to fight on behalf of
20 children and families.

21 So with that, I'm going to hand it over to Charna
22 and to Ofelia to talk a little bit more about what's
23 happened this year and what's coming ahead.

24 MS. WIDBY-MARTIN: Thank you, Peter. And good
25 afternoon, commissioners.

1 A lot happened this year which has been more
2 detailed summary and analysis in the written item that we
3 presented last month's board meeting. But I do want to
4 call out a few, five-ish themes that shifted and refined
5 the context and the way that we approached our work and
6 how we are prioritizing opportunities for the next year.

7 All of this work I want to emphasize is grounded
8 in our investment guidelines and our values, as Peter just
9 shared to you. Our strategic plan values and guidelines
10 partly anchors so we are more disciplined in making
11 decisions about what opportunities we're going to seize.

12 The new investment guideline that was added in
13 the strategic plan is our commitment to equity. And key
14 to this work is the commitment to ensure child and family
15 serving systems promote diversity, equity, and inclusion
16 with the recognition that the structural racism threatens
17 the health and well-being of children and families of
18 color further; and that we need to further develop
19 strategies to immediately begin understanding and closing
20 disparities in every system that we work in.

21 Also, the Covid-19 changed everything, but also
22 narrowed our focus and clarified the essential
23 infrastructure of early childhood and family support
24 systems, but also brought an urgency to our work and
25 responsive recovery that will continue.

1 Third, I want to call out budget strains. Last
2 February when we presented priorities, we thought we were
3 projecting a high watermark budget with an anticipated
4 \$130 million in new investments for early child
5 development priorities. And the final budget, of course,
6 focused on emergency response being in the \$54 billion
7 budget shortfall caused by the Covid-19 recession.

8 The trigger up approach to budgeting emphasized
9 more direct federal advocacy and alignment in coordination
10 with state advocates. California's likely to continue to
11 feel deep budget pressures. And we know that the Governor
12 says he's planning next year's budget with the expectation
13 the federal government will send states more aid related
14 to Covid-19.

15 And I would be remiss if I did not highlight that
16 this was also a national election year. We have a lot of
17 -- we've done a lot of thinking about presidential
18 transition, which we will touch on a little bit more
19 later. But also the change in different opportunities
20 that federal engagement brings to the state policy as well
21 as local work, as Commissioner Kuehl so well highlighted.

22 And the last bullet speaks to the growing role of
23 our policy and advocacy work that we are developing into.
24 In previous years, we have largely focused on legislative
25 and budget opportunities that were more reactive and

1 visible. But over the last years, our updates and
2 opportunities that we've been bringing to you have become
3 a little bit more balanced. And we have some more work to
4 do here. But they've been including more administrative
5 advocacy as we've been moving into a more deliberate
6 policy shaping space. We're seeing more opportunities and
7 deeper engagement to be providing technical assistance and
8 policy proposal development and some of these
9 opportunities we'll be talking about more today.

10 So as we dive into 2021 state policy priorities,
11 we're going to highlight some of our advocacy
12 opportunities at the administrative level as well as
13 budgetary planning level, and then also give a short
14 update on some of our federal priorities as well.

15 So there's a lot on these next slides that frames
16 where we're going to be spending our time given everything
17 that's happening.

18 Prioritization is really important for us to
19 effective. I won't revisit all the different topics we've
20 already discussed, but want to emphasize that implementing
21 prior wins at the State continues to be a top priority.
22 We know that it's not just the victory of getting
23 something in included in legislation or in the budget, but
24 always paying attention to what happens next and making
25 sure it's meaningful in LA, and thus represents a

1 partnership of our work in advocating policy and state
2 level in our program grantee's work and partnering with
3 our county agencies and providers in the community. For
4 example, the home visiting, CalWorks, and public health,
5 as well as the investments in developmental screening and
6 ACEs screening were big wins. But the utilization,
7 oversight, and systems integration are the meaningful
8 pieces of this work that actually matter.

9 So we're paying attention to the implementation
10 pieces because there's a lot of expansion of programs that
11 the State had never done before, like including this year,
12 the win of paid family leave. And we know there is much
13 room for improvement, stabilization, and coordination
14 across systems to be driven.

15 We are preparing for next year to be a difficult
16 financial year. We're going to work with advocates and
17 partners to stabilize and safeguard funding. And we also
18 know that we need to focus on getting more money into the
19 ECE system where the demand is significant, in particular,
20 on focused on access to services and a focus on equity.

21 There are a lot of conversations that happen at
22 the state and county level around equity, and we are
23 looking specifically also at community level disaggregated
24 data. And this is a top priority in thinking about the
25 year ahead.

1 And influencing administrative policies
2 priorities is something that doesn't show up when there's
3 a bill number or a budget item, but this the meat of our
4 work. We're looking at the master plan for early learning
5 and care, the move of childcare programs to SDFS and the
6 managed care plan contract procurement at the important
7 opportunities that we need to get right. We need to make
8 sure that these administrative opportunities incorporate
9 the whole child and whole family perspective, and that
10 we're elevating early childhood priorities and Medi-Cal
11 conversations too.

12 We're going to pay very close attention to making
13 sure that our partners in LA County that are going to be
14 impacted have a chance to have their experiences and
15 concerns elevated and that we are at the table to inform
16 and shape proposals.

17 So I want to walk through the three opportunities
18 we just highlighted, starting with the managed care plan
19 reprocurement. This is a significant and incredibly
20 important process and is a really near-term focus. I want
21 to point out this is the first time statewide procurement
22 for managed care plans contracts has happened. So we have
23 a significant opportunity to improve statewide oversight,
24 systems coordination, and, along with the continued
25 efforts of the CalAIM Medicaid waiver renewal initiative,

1 this is going to be a large focus of our work for the year
2 ahead.

3 I will note that this is a really important
4 effort for First 5's because historically early childhood
5 and preventative health has not been a priority for health
6 care delivery systems in California. Part of that is
7 driven by the fact that Medi-Cal health plans are focused
8 on high-cost users, and high-cost users tend not to be
9 children. But we know that early intervention and
10 preventative care is incredibly important, and if we're
11 not paying attention to what's happening to children and
12 their families early, they will lead to higher users later
13 in life.

14 The Department of Health Care Services released
15 the request for information in September that included a
16 recognition that children services and reducing health
17 disparities as two of the top ten procurement goals, and
18 also made a significant emphasis on strengthening and
19 improving pediatric primary and preventative care and
20 maternal health services.

21 We submitted feedback to the request for
22 information with recommendations to strengthen plan
23 accountability through improved data collection, data
24 reporting, financial and nonfinancial incentives aimed to
25 achieve positive maternal and pediatric outcomes and to

1 close racial disparities. We expect a draft to be
2 released early next year and will continue to engage in
3 the stakeholder review process, provide feedback and
4 coordinate with partners and advocates to prioritize the
5 prenatal to five-year old population as a cohort that
6 constitute a special population even within the broader
7 landscape of children's health services.

8 And now I will turn to my colleague, Ofelia
9 Medina, to elevate two more important opportunities for
10 administrative advocacy alignment and preview our federal
11 priorities as well.

12 MS. MEDINA: Thank you so much, Charna.

13 The next two priorities have already been
14 mentioned earlier in the meeting with our colleague in the
15 ECE tem just a great alignment to our work as well.

16 The first one that I definitely want to highlight
17 is the master plan for early learning and care. With a
18 December release date or month, the master plan will
19 provide funding and recommendations as a roadmap for the
20 state to use as it aims to achieve universal preschool and
21 a comprehensive quality and affordable childcare system.
22 Again, we're anticipating a December release. So within
23 the next couple weeks, we should have more.

24 Can you move forward the slide, please? Thank
25 you.

1 For us will it be very extremely important that,
2 once the master plan comes out, we take it and together
3 with our refined strategic plan seek points and outline
4 what our administrative budget and legislative advocacy
5 will look like for the next four years. Some of our
6 initial thinking about priority consideration include how,
7 in light of the different conversations around equity, how
8 will equity inform the overall implementation of universal
9 preschool and childcare expansion, particularly in light
10 of the community level disparities that we continue to see
11 in light of Covid.

12 We're also starting to think about how the master
13 plan, not only within the context of what it will mean for
14 the early care and education field, but also how we can
15 take it a step further and even leverage the
16 recommendations we will see to advance broader child
17 development priorities and early identification and
18 intervention services.

19 We're also taking a very close look at the move
20 of all childcare programs from the California Department
21 of Education to the California Department of Social
22 Services. Like Commissioner Zepeda mentioned earlier in
23 the meeting, the work of the transition has already
24 started with the transition officially taking place of
25 July 1st next year. Both the stakeholder meetings and the

1 listening sessions, which are part of the overall
2 transition engagement process, have already begun.
3 There's actually one right now. So we started monitoring
4 that transition already.

5 The goal really is to move -- is for California
6 to have a more integrated and coordinated early learning
7 and care system. And this will first be done by moving
8 all childcare programs except California State Preschool
9 to the State Department of Social Services.

10 Having said that, because a move means all
11 childcare programs will be housed under the Department of
12 the Social Services, we ultimately want to see that this
13 leads to a greater coordination of safety net programs and
14 services for families and children. However, the
15 California State Preschool Program will remain under the
16 Department of Education, so there might be larger
17 implications to come for the early care and education
18 field in general, which is definitely something that we're
19 going to keep a close eye on as well.

20 So it will be important for us not only engage in
21 conversation with the California Department of Social
22 Services and how the move can lead to greater seamless
23 services for children and family, but also with the
24 Department of Education. CDE will be left with an early
25 learning and care division with only the California State

1 Preschool Program under the umbrella. So this would be a
2 really good opportunity to rethink what the department's
3 priorities could be for young children.

4 So those are a few of our state priorities for
5 2021. But as we think about our federal priorities going
6 into 2021, you will hear more about these come next year.
7 But as Charna mentioned before, a lot of what has changed
8 during 2020, our updated value and investment guidelines,
9 Covid, the economic recession and state budget and our
10 deeper appreciation for policy opportunities through
11 administrative action and engagement, will also be
12 reflected in our 2021 federal priorities.

13 Our federal advocacy work has become more
14 important than ever before. And since last March, we've
15 been increasing what our federal work looks like as we
16 lean into support and leverage California's administrative
17 priorities in DC. For example, those are -- those as a
18 result of Covid. Examples of these include our work
19 around the 50 billion push for childcare and the 100
20 million for the maternal, infant, and early child home
21 visiting program.

22 Another one of our new priorities include fully
23 funding the individual with disabilities education act and
24 the part C early identification and part B Section 619,
25 the developmental preschool programs.

1 So as we go into next year, our team is also
2 thinking about our role in the upcoming administrative
3 policy priorities, development and implementation. I
4 think we've all expressed how in light of the new -- of
5 the election year, we've engaged in both transition teams
6 and domestic -- and with domestic policy advisors. In
7 addition, we did support a transition memo from the First
8 5 Association.

9 Finally, we will continue to support proposals
10 under our current 2020 advocacy agenda; for example, work
11 requiring the Covid-19 racial and ethnic disparities task
12 force within the Department of Health and Human Services
13 to provide recommendations. And, again, you will hear
14 more in detail about our federal policy priorities for
15 2021 early next year.

16 But for now, I'll turn back to Charna.
17 Thank you.

18 MS. WIDBY-MARTIN: Thank you, Ofelia. So with
19 that, we heard a lot of information, and I want to share a
20 few final words and would like to open it up for
21 discussions, reflection from commissioners as well, but I
22 want to preview next steps.

23 We will be coming back to you early next year
24 with an update and action item. Our current policy agenda
25 expires at the end of this year. We're currently working

1 to update and refine our policy agenda to reflect and
2 advance our new strategic plan. So when we come back to
3 you next year, we will have a referring policy agenda for
4 approval, but also we'll have a summary of the Governor's
5 budget proposal, federal priorities, and any identified
6 legislative priorities that emerge as well.

7 I also want to say thank you to all of you who
8 have been supporting us in the last year in terms of
9 engagement with both the Governor's office and the
10 legislature. I just want to offer appreciation for all
11 that you offer in making sure that we're not doing this
12 work alone.

13 So with that, I'd love to hear questions or
14 reflections on priorities as well.

15 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Okay. Does anyone have
16 questions or comments?

17 Marlene.

18 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Ofelia, on -- thank you for
19 that presentation. That was very helpful. Again, I think
20 hope springs eternal with thinking about next year's
21 budget because it's going to be a difficult one.

22 But, Ofelia, on one of the slides you talked
23 about advancing existing proposals for First 5 LA, our
24 advocacy agenda. And you say, establish a Covid-19 racial
25 and ethnic disparities task force. What is the thinking

1 around that or have you even gotten to thinking around the
2 composition of that, how that's going to work, or could
3 you tell me more about that?

4 MS. MEDINA: I'm going to pass it over to Charna
5 because I saw her unmute herself.

6 MS. WIDBY-MARTIN: I got very excited about that.
7 That is actually a bill proposal that we've been
8 supporting since last year that Senator Harris had
9 introduced in the Senate, and also aligned with one of our
10 Covid-19 response investments to fund the We Must Count
11 Coalition to create a disparities task force and advisory
12 group, many members of which have been named in the
13 Biden-Harris administration transition team's Covid-19
14 response task force as well. We anticipated the continued
15 support of that proposal originated from Senator Harris'
16 office, but also they're working with the transition teams
17 to advise, participate, and lift up our great Barbara
18 Ferrer as well.

19 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: And, Charna, what about
20 this new office in the Department of Education under
21 Thurman on equity and something else? What do we know
22 about that and are we going to have any communication with
23 that office?

24 MS. WIDBY-MARTIN: We have had initial
25 communication with that office, mostly on special

1 education side, but we'll continue to engage and, of
2 course, happy to bring back and share contents from future
3 meetings as well. We we've done a first initial meeting
4 with the Department of Ed early learning group on
5 priorities and then also made introduction there as well.

6 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Okay. We have Romalis.

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah. My question to you,
9 Charna, is -- I have several, but I want to start with the
10 first one that's on my mind. And the one is, how are we
11 integrating in our education the integration in all these
12 systems of the SB464 which is the Dignity and Pregnancy
13 and Childbirth Act within this effort because I hear a lot
14 of things. I don't know where it plays out in your
15 strategy. I hear about this -- I want to call it
16 disparities and things. But I don't know if you're saying
17 the same thing as what I'm talking about. So that's one
18 thing.

19 And then what about the legislative action we're
20 taking to elevate the issue of the disparity and
21 reimbursement for FCCs and the neighbor childcare programs
22 as well, and the dealing of the liability issue which is a
23 huge issue for centers -- for childcare center that, you
24 know, lifting of the liability so that they can open up in
25 more and do more because the demand out there is just

1 furious and people are hesitant to do that.

2 So I think those are my two questions. And thank
3 you for the great job, you and your team. You guys are on
4 point. Anything I can do to help, let me know. Thank
5 you.

6 MS. WIDBY-MARTIN: I appreciate that.

7 I will start with the 464 implementation and
8 follow-up and send it over to Ofelia to talk about some of
9 our FFN but also rate priorities and coalition engagement.
10 And, Christina, jump in if there's a piece of the
11 implementation.

12 So SB464 is the Dignity in Childbirth Act that
13 was passed in 2019 to require implicit bias training in
14 the birthing hospitals and with staff. There is -- this
15 is the first year of implementation. So we have been
16 working with the programs team, but also through the
17 network in partnership to identify training programs or at
18 least connect and raise awareness with plans and hospitals
19 for implementation. We will not have data on compliance
20 or on trends until probably 2022. So it will have been --
21 it goes in two-year cycles of needing to have that
22 training. So we will likely come back with an
23 implementation update then. But we are certainly doing
24 outreach to providers and partners at the community level
25 and with state membership organizations to raise

1 visibility and ask for opportunities to partner. We are
2 -- Christina, do you have anything you want to add to
3 that?

4 MS. ALTMAYER: Yeah, I would just say, this is
5 work that is included within the scope of our partnership
6 with the Department of Public Health for our African
7 American infant and maternal mortality work, elevating
8 both awareness and the opportunities, as Charna said,
9 about where and how organizations can get training.

10 March of Dimes has also been a key partner in
11 this work as well to -- you know, there's still -- you
12 know, as Charna indicates, we're still in the trickle down
13 phase where providers are trying to understand both what
14 are the requirements and then understanding how they can
15 get access to training and information.

16 It's something that, when we do our convenings
17 with Medi-Cal managed care plans -- we have a convening of
18 representatives of all the managed care plans in LA County
19 about every other month. And it's something that we
20 brought to their attention as well to bring visibility.

21 But I would say, just to reiterate the comment
22 that Charna made, the field is still trying to catch up
23 and understand what this requirement is and make sure that
24 those training opportunities are available. So the action
25 the commission took on consent today related to Cherished

1 Futures, while it's not specifically endorsing that, it's
2 certainly working with key hospitals to improve their
3 practices overall to reduce disparities in birth outcomes.

4 MS. WIDBY-MARTIN: I'll also add that we will
5 have more detail about this in the policy agenda
6 refinement that we ask for approval on next year. But
7 when we think about disparities, there's many different
8 ways that we are thinking about it and embedding it in our
9 priorities: One around understanding disparities and
10 disaggregated data and quality standards and, you know,
11 oversight pieces in the health system, and the other about
12 training, support. Implicit bias training, of course,
13 comes into that, as well as on the professional
14 development side and it goes across portfolios.

15 So we can anticipate those priorities being better
16 articulated but -- or more fully articulated, but included
17 in every portfolio or priority area that we bring to you
18 in February.

19 And, Ofelia, do you want to jump in on FFNs?

20 MS. MEDINA: Specifically on the liability
21 portion, I think Becca mentioned earlier that we are --
22 the ECE coalition and our partners had a meeting this
23 morning to really start thinking about what our priorities
24 are going to be for next year, and definitely taking into
25 account everything that happened since last March, Covid

1 response and safeguarding our ECE field is going to be one
2 of them. So we discussed reimbursement rates, family
3 fees. The coalition did discussion liability for
4 providers earlier in the Covid months. And I imagine that
5 that might come up at some point during the coalition, but
6 we haven't really identified our priorities' path. We
7 know that we need to safeguard and continue safeguarding
8 the ECE field because Covid isn't going any time anywhere
9 soon, and our families and children need care. But it is
10 something that we're continuing to look into.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are the people providing
12 this service aware of this waiver that the state is
13 giving? Are they clear on that?

14 MS. MEDINA: It's part of the outreach effort of
15 the local resource and referral agencies have or have been
16 doing to other providers. So they should be aware. I
17 will say that, for the smaller family childcare providers,
18 it might be a little bit difficult to get that
19 information, but that's part of also the really good
20 outreach Debra and her team have been doing with the
21 (audio distortion) that we have in the LA Covid response
22 team that we're also part of have been definitely making
23 sure that our providers are abreast of all the information
24 that's coming down from Sacramento.

25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you both.

1 MR. BARTH: If I can just add in, I think this is
2 -- I'm really pleased to hear this conversation because
3 what's happening is a seamless connection back and forth
4 between the presentation we just heard in the local
5 systems work and the efforts that the ECE team is doing in
6 partnership with our county partners to connect directly
7 with providers and families and attempt to better
8 coordinate, acknowledging that there's still a lot of work
9 to do, and the direct connection between that work done by
10 the ECE team and the work Ofelia and Charna are speaking
11 to, which is, so what is the state policy, what is the
12 guidance that's being received.

13 We hope that more and more of this is going to be
14 the way that we can come and talk with you all as our
15 board to see in connections between the work that our
16 teams are doing locally in partnership with others and the
17 direct connection that is to the policies and priorities
18 we have at the state level and the role that Charna and
19 her team are playing.

20 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I have a question that might
21 be in the weeds a little bit, but has to do with the
22 shifting of the departments.

23 If parents come in and have a child in preschool
24 -- state preschool and they need childcare, is there going
25 to be a -- a way of communication between the two

1 departments that make it easier for parents to access each
2 of those programs on the same child?

3 MS. MEDINA: That is definitely one of the goals.
4 Part of the listening session and the stakeholder
5 meetings, they've addressed it at least one time; that one
6 of the things that they're aiming to do is really have a
7 seamless coordination of services. We understand that not
8 all parents are just going to have one child that's in a
9 childcare program, but not in a state preschool program.
10 So as more and more that they're working through
11 contracts, through different MOUs that they might have to
12 develop, that is something that at least the Department of
13 Social Services is really keeping in mind of how are we
14 actually making it easier and not harder for parents to
15 access both preschool but also childcare.

16 COMMISSIONER ABDO: And it needs to be doable
17 from the providers' perspective as well. It can get very
18 complicated.

19 MS. MEDINA: Yes. There was one listening
20 session specifically just on contracts, and this was a
21 very -- it will be an undertaking by the Department of
22 Social Services, but hoping, again, it's something that
23 they're already thinking about.

24 MS. WIDBY-MARTIN: I want to emphasize also that,
25 while they're already thinking about these things, we're

1 taking this opportunity to have as much upstream influence
2 as possible to make sure that they're not only thinking
3 about that but accelerating improvements across the system
4 so that these aren't questions when we get to July; these
5 are known and -- known results hopefully. But that is the
6 focus of our work this year.

7 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Thank you. Is there anyone
8 else who has questions or comments? Does not look like
9 it.

10 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Okay. Well. Thank you very
11 much. Thanks to. Charna and to Ofelia and to Peter, of
12 course, for the work. We really look forward to it. I
13 think this is going to be a big year for our engagement
14 both in federal and state administrative areas and federal
15 and state legislative areas and I'm looking forward to it
16 as always.

17 Thank you so much. Very clear presentation and
18 explanation. And I don't know why, but I feel very
19 hopeful maybe because 2020 was such a -- I'm just going to
20 use a bad word. No, I'm not going to. But you know what
21 I mean kind of year. I just feel like 2021 can't help but
22 be better, at least I hope so. So thanks to all of you.

23 Anyone else before we close the meeting wishing
24 to add any comments or second thoughts or last thoughts?

25 Was there any request for public testimony on the

1 -- on Item 8?

2 THE SECRETARY: No public comments on this item.

3 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Okay. Well, I think that we
4 heard today we are not having a December meeting. Is that
5 correct, madam ED? Madam everybody?

6 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Yes. We did hear that.

7 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: So I think that -- that the
8 good thing do would be not only to wish you a very good
9 Thanksgiving. It may be a little different this year than
10 it normally is. And I'm certain the holidays will be as
11 well. But, you know, we've been through difficult at
12 different times before. Nothing like this, but still.
13 And I know we'll get through this as well.

14 So my hope is that you will ring every drop of
15 joy you can out of the upcoming holidays. And if we're
16 keeping in touch with everybody we would normally see in
17 person, you know, by Zoom or phone or I don't know even
18 know all the different platforms, then that will be joyful
19 as well.

20 So with the exception of being able to eat
21 cookies together, I hope that we will see each other. And
22 until we see you next year, happy holidays, happy new
23 year, don't be a stranger, and thank you, thank you all
24 for the service you gave in a very difficult year from the
25 staff of First 5 and all of my fellow commissioners. This

1 was a tough time and I think you've all been magnificent.

2 And thank you so much.

3 And with that, I believe we are adjourned.

4 (At 3:18 PM the meeting was adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Heatherlynn Gonzalez, a Certified Shorthand Reporter for the State of California, License Number 13646, do hereby attest that:

The preceding is a true and accurate transcription of the meeting of the organization named herein;

The meeting was taken down stenographically and transcribed into English under my supervision and authority;

I have no interest, financial or otherwise, in any of the parties, issues, or individuals who are involved in this organization.

Attested to on this 3rd day of December 2020.

DocuSigned by:

Heatherlynn Gonzalez

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CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER

FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FIRST 5 LA

SUBJECT:

Monthly Financial Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the monthly financial statements for the months ending October 31, 2020 and November 30, 2020.

BACKGROUND:

Staff provides monthly financial reports for the Commission's review and approval to ensure transparency of the financial status of First 5 LA.

DISCUSSION:

October 31, 2020

First 5 LA began the month of October with a cash balance of \$342.8 million. During the month of October 2020, we received \$6.7 million in revenues. We had \$5.6 million in program expenditures, and \$1.5 million in operating expenditures. As a result, First 5 LA ended the month with a cash balance of \$342.4 million.

November 30, 2020

First 5 LA began the month of November with a cash balance of \$342.0 million. During the month of November 2020, we received \$5.9 in revenues. We had \$5.6 million in program expenditures, and \$2.0 million in operating expenditures. As a result, First 5 LA ended the month with a cash balance of \$340.4 million.

This report includes detailed financial information for the months ending October 31, 2020 and November 30, 2020. The financial statements are unaudited and reported as a "soft close." All materials in this packet and check registers are available online. Statements in this report include the following:

- Revenue and Expense Statement: Summarizes financial statements to highlight the starting cash balance, revenues received, program and operating expenses, and the ending cash balance for the month.
- Balance Sheet: Provides a "snapshot" view of the Commission's assets, liabilities and fund balance as of October 31, 2020 and November 30, 2020.
- Detailed operating and program expenditures: Shows expenses against the FY 2020-21 Budget approved on July 9, 2020, concluding with a report of expenditures related to programs functioning as pass-through agreements.

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Revenue and Expense Statement
October 31, 2020, Unaudited**

| | REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES | |
|--|--|-----|
| Cash Balance as of September 30, 2020 | \$ 342,780,477 | |
| Revenue | | |
| Monthly State Allotments | \$ 5,736,416 | (1) |
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) | - | |
| State Commission - Other Program Funds | 778,500 | |
| Interest Income - Unreserved | 186,001 | |
| Investment Income - Other | - | |
| Rental Revenue - La Petite | 22,996 | |
| Total Revenue | \$ 6,723,912 | |
| Expenses | | |
| Program Budget (Attachment A) | | |
| 2015-2020 Strategic Plan: Focusing For The Future | \$ 5,306,932 | |
| Legacy Investments | 277,312 | |
| Total Initiative/Program Expenses | \$ 5,584,244 | |
| Pass-Through (Attachment B) | | |
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) | \$ - | |
| Total Pass-Through Expenses | \$ - | |
| Operation and Administration (Attachment C) | | |
| Personnel | \$ 1,215,199 | |
| General Operating | 119,781 | |
| Consultant Services | 87,647 | |
| Professional Services | 66,397 | |
| Travel Expenses | 6 | |
| Professional Development | 9,239 | |
| Capital Improvements | 284 | |
| Total Operation and Administration | \$ 1,498,553 | |
| Total Expenses | \$ 7,082,797 | |
| Variance (Revenue - Expenses) | \$ (358,885) | |
| Cash Balance as of October 31, 2020 | \$ 342,421,592 | (2) |

NOTE:

- 1) Tobacco tax revenue for August 2020.
- 2) Cash Balance excludes fixed assets and liabilities.

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)
PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2019-20 BUDGET
OCTOBER 31, 2020, UNAUDITED**

| INITIATIVE/PROGRAM | FY 2020-21 BUDGET | OCTOBER EXPENDITURES | FISCAL YTD EXPENDITURES | BALANCE REMAINING |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: FOCUSING FOR THE FUTURE | | | | |
| Strategic Plan Priority Outcome Areas | | | | |
| Families | 37,631,000 | 3,287,424 | 6,486,084 | 31,144,916 |
| Communities | 20,200,000 | 1,073,489 | 1,654,412 | 18,545,588 |
| Early Care & Education Systems | 18,791,000 | 271,860 | 372,921 | 18,418,079 |
| Health-Related Systems | 5,768,000 | 96,196 | 167,678 | 5,600,322 |
| Strategic Plan Policy & Strategy Support | | | | |
| Policy Agenda/Advocacy | 1,515,000 | 42,834 | 344,078 | 1,170,922 |
| Communications & Marketing | 5,748,000 | 338,930 | 929,328 | 4,818,672 |
| County Partnerships | 315,000 | - | 150,000 | 165,000 |
| Strategic Partnership-Cross-Cutting Funder Partnership | 692,000 | 30,000 | 76,350 | 615,650 |
| Strategic Partnership-Grantmaking Memberships | 41,000 | - | 27,230 | 13,770 |
| Community Engagement and Advocacy | 207,000 | 9,999 | 9,999 | 197,001 |
| Integration & Learning | | | | |
| Communities of Practice | 114,000 | - | - | 114,000 |
| Data Development and Integration | 752,000 | - | 1,560 | 750,440 |
| Data Partnership with Funders | 850,000 | - | - | 850,000 |
| Dissemination | 20,000 | - | - | - |
| Impact Framework | 325,000 | - | 28,921 | 296,079 |
| Knowledge Management | 80,000 | - | - | 80,000 |
| Learning Plan Development | 100,000 | - | - | 100,000 |
| Program Evaluation | 2,082,000 | 156,200 | 199,288 | 1,882,712 |
| Staff Capacity Building | 75,000 | - | - | 75,000 |
| Subtotal 2015-2020 Strategic Plan | 95,306,000 | 5,306,932 | 10,447,849 | 84,763,151 |
| LEGACY INVESTMENTS | | | | |
| Baby Friendly Hospitals | 48,000 | 2,400 | 17,695 | 30,305 |
| Little by Little/One Step Ahead | 3,105,000 | 274,912 | 549,209 | 2,555,791 |
| Subtotal Legacy Investments | 3,153,000 | 277,312 | 566,904 | 2,586,096 |
| Emerging Opportunities Fund | 3,000,000 | - | - | 3,000,000 |
| TOTAL | 101,459,000 | 5,584,244 | 11,014,753 | 87,349,247 |

The FY 2020-21 program budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on July 9, 2020.

NOTES -PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2020-21 BUDGET:

Journal entries for FY 2019-20 accrued expenses were reversed in July 2020. The amounts reported are the actual program expenditures for October 2020.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)
 EXPENDITURES - PASS-THROUGH
 OCTOBER 31, 2020, UNAUDITED

Attachment B

| INITIATIVE/PROGRAM - PASS-THROUGH | OCTOBER EXPENDITURES | YEAR TO DATE EXPENDITURES |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) - LA County Charges | - | - |
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) - Participation Payment | - | - |
| TOTAL | - | - |

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Operating & Administrative Budget Update
October 31, 2020, UNAUDITED**

| OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE | OCTOBER ACTUAL | FISCAL YTD ACTUAL | FY 2020-21 BUDGET | FISCAL YTD VARIANCE |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Personnel Services | | | | |
| Salaries & Wages | 935,493 | 4,149,530 | 13,722,800 | 9,573,270 |
| Fringe Benefits | 279,706 | 1,110,937 | 4,081,895 | 2,970,958 |
| Total Personnel Services | 1,215,199 | 5,260,467 | 17,804,695 | 12,544,228 |
| General Operating Expenses | | | | |
| ADP Payroll Charges | 2,677 | 8,949 | 40,000 | 31,051 |
| Workers Compensation Insurance | - | 70,749 | 75,000 | 4,251 |
| Utilities | 25,195 | 36,003 | 145,000 | 108,997 |
| Corporate Insurance | 34,709 | 100,278 | 90,000 | (10,278) |
| Mileage, Parking and Other Transportation | 197 | 256 | 43,370 | 43,114 |
| Telephones | 3,055 | 9,793 | 70,000 | 60,207 |
| Cell Phones & Mobile Devices | 11,050 | 39,000 | 116,100 | 77,100 |
| Outside Printing & Publishing | 60 | 202 | 3,600 | 3,398 |
| Other Supplies | - | - | 10,250 | 10,250 |
| Postage & Delivery | (5,212) | 1,987 | 13,200 | 11,213 |
| Educational Supplies | - | 206 | 2,900 | 2,694 |
| Office Supplies | 2,349 | 4,727 | 77,870 | 73,143 |
| Subscriptions & Publication | 710 | 1,455 | 25,440 | 23,985 |
| Equipment-Rents & Leases | 1,764 | 5,827 | 27,000 | 21,173 |
| Building Repair & Maintenance | 17,079 | 28,821 | 150,000 | 121,179 |
| Equipment Repair & Maintenance | - | - | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Offsite Storage | 6,452 | 8,375 | 25,000 | 16,625 |
| Hardware & Software Maintenance | 12,782 | 20,526 | 470,730 | 450,204 |
| Miscellaneous/Contingency | - | - | 259,000 | 259,000 |
| Internal Meeting | 195 | 855 | 125,800 | 124,945 |
| Divisional Capacity Building | - | - | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Total General Operating Expenses | 113,061 | 338,010 | 1,857,260 | 1,519,250 |
| Consultant Services | | | | |
| Consultant Fees | 36,379 | 100,121 | 1,435,725 | 1,335,604 |
| Other Professional Fees | 51,268 | 83,669 | 350,500 | 266,831 |
| External Reviewers | - | - | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Total Consultant Services | 87,647 | 183,790 | 1,789,225 | 1,605,435 |
| Professional Services | | | | |
| Audit | 49,500 | 49,500 | 90,000 | 40,500 |
| Legal Fees | 14,160 | 38,302 | 150,000 | 111,698 |
| Professional Dues | 1,760 | 72,760 | 126,718 | 53,958 |
| Staff Recruitment | - | 133 | 10,000 | 9,867 |
| Commission Stipends | 5,100 | 7,200 | 25,000 | 17,800 |
| Web-Based Services | 2,598 | 5,592 | 48,000 | 42,408 |
| Bank & Other Service Charges | - | 5,302 | 35,000 | 29,698 |
| Total Professional Services | 73,118 | 178,790 | 484,718 | 305,928 |
| Travel Expenses | | | | |
| Airfare | - | - | 127,350 | 127,350 |
| Lodging | - | - | 114,225 | 114,225 |
| Per Diem | - | - | 59,745 | 59,745 |
| Other Travel Expense | 6 | 20 | 25,425 | 25,405 |
| Total Travel Expenses | 6 | 20 | 326,745 | 326,725 |
| Professional Development | | | | |
| Training Material & Supplies | - | - | 11,300 | 11,300 |
| Internal Training | - | - | 92,000 | 92,000 |
| Leadership Programs | 4,950 | 4,950 | 48,500 | 43,550 |
| Conference Registrations | 3,894 | 9,288 | 158,750 | 149,462 |
| External Education/Training | 395 | 601 | 77,300 | 76,699 |
| Total Professional Development | 9,239 | 14,839 | 387,850 | 373,011 |
| Capital Improvements | | | | |
| Capital Outlay (Equipment Purchases) | 284 | 284 | 147,000 | 146,716 |
| Total Capital Improvements | 284 | 284 | 147,000 | 146,716 |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | 1,498,554 | 5,976,199 | 22,797,493 | 16,821,294 |

NOTES - OPERATING & ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET UPDATE:

The administrative expenses are within the maximum authorized under the Board policy.

**Los Angeles County Children and Families First -
Proposition 10 Commission
Statement of Net Assets
October 31, 2020 Unaudited**

Current Assets:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Cash | \$ | 663,585 |
| Cash- Morlin Mgmt Corp | | 91,619 |
| Investment: | | |
| Operating and Allocated funds | | 324,496,670 |
| Advance - Regional Network (RN) | | 3,305,813 |
| Advance - Various | | 4,952,380 |
| Other Receivables | | 753,885 |
| Total Current Assets | \$ | <u>334,263,952</u> |

Fixed Assets:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Land | \$ | 2,039,000 |
| Building & Improvements | | 12,076,512 |
| Furniture & Fixtures | | 627,671 |
| Computer, Software & Accessories | | 2,039,785 |
| Office Equipment | | 331,033 |
| Accumulated Depreciation | | (6,485,968) |
| Total Fixed Assets | \$ | <u>10,628,033</u> |

Total Assets

\$ 344,891,985

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----|
| Other Liabilities | \$ | 515,273 | (1) |
| Total Current Liabilities | \$ | <u>515,273</u> | |

Net Assets:

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Investment in capital assets | \$ | 10,628,033 |
| Restricted | | 333,748,678 |
| Total Net Assets | \$ | <u>344,376,711</u> |

Total Liabilities and Net Assets

\$ 344,891,985

NOTES:

(1) Other Liabilities include accounts payable, and other related liabilities.

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Revenue and Expense Statement
November 30, 2020, Unaudited**

| | REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES | |
|--|--|-----|
| Cash Balance as of October 31, 2020 | \$ 342,034,977 | |
| Revenue | | |
| Monthly State Allotments | \$ 5,734,385 | (1) |
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) | 43,203 | |
| State Commission - Other Program Funds | - | |
| Interest Income - Unreserved | 139,424 | |
| Investment Income - Other | - | |
| Rental Revenue - La Petite | - | |
| Total Revenue | \$ 5,917,012 | |
| Expenses | | |
| Program Budget (Attachment A) | | |
| 2015-2020 Strategic Plan: Focusing For The Future | \$ 5,614,449 | |
| Legacy Investments | 3,505 | |
| Total Initiative/Program Expenses | \$ 5,617,954 | |
| Pass-Through (Attachment B) | | |
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) | \$ - | |
| Total Pass-Through Expenses | \$ - | |
| Operation and Administration (Attachment C) | | |
| Personnel | \$ 1,913,163 | |
| General Operating | 23,960 | |
| Consultant Services | 21,949 | |
| Professional Services | 3,713 | |
| Travel Expenses | - | |
| Professional Development | 3,913 | |
| Capital Improvements | 9 | |
| Total Operation and Administration | \$ 1,966,709 | |
| Total Expenses | \$ 7,584,663 | |
| Variance (Revenue - Expenses) | \$ (1,667,650) | |
| Cash Balance as of November 30, 2020 | \$ 340,367,327 | (2) |

NOTE:

- 1) Tobacco tax revenue for September 2020.
- 2) Cash Balance excludes fixed assets and liabilities.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)
PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2019-20 BUDGET
NOVEMBER 30, 2020, UNAUDITED

| INITIATIVE/PROGRAM | FY 2020-21 BUDGET | NOVEMBER EXPENDITURES | FISCAL YTD EXPENDITURES | BALANCE REMAINING |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: FOCUSING FOR THE FUTURE | | | | |
| Strategic Plan Priority Outcome Areas | | | | |
| Families | 37,631,000 | 2,363,782 | 8,849,866 | 28,781,134 |
| Communities | 20,200,000 | 1,020,807 | 2,675,219 | 17,524,781 |
| Early Care & Education Systems | 18,791,000 | 1,895,181 | 2,268,102 | 16,522,898 |
| Health-Related Systems | 5,768,000 | 33,450 | 201,128 | 5,566,872 |
| Strategic Plan Policy & Strategy Support | | | | |
| Policy Agenda/Advocacy | 1,515,000 | 15,078 | 359,156 | 1,155,844 |
| Communications & Marketing | 5,748,000 | 222,526 | 1,151,854 | 4,596,146 |
| County Partnerships | 315,000 | - | 150,000 | 165,000 |
| Strategic Partnership-Cross-Cutting Funder Partnership | 692,000 | 41,500 | 117,850 | 574,150 |
| Strategic Partnership-Grantmaking Memberships | 41,000 | 7,500 | 34,730 | 6,270 |
| Community Engagement and Advocacy | 207,000 | - | 9,999 | 197,001 |
| Integration & Learning | | | | |
| Communities of Practice | 114,000 | - | - | 114,000 |
| Data Development and Integration | 752,000 | - | 1,560 | 750,440 |
| Data Partnership with Funders | 850,000 | - | - | 850,000 |
| Dissemination | 20,000 | - | - | - |
| Impact Framework | 325,000 | - | 28,921 | 296,079 |
| Knowledge Management | 80,000 | - | - | 80,000 |
| Learning Plan Development | 100,000 | - | - | 100,000 |
| Program Evaluation | 2,082,000 | 14,625 | 213,913 | 1,868,087 |
| Staff Capacity Building | 75,000 | - | - | 75,000 |
| Subtotal 2015-2020 Strategic Plan | 95,306,000 | 5,614,449 | 16,062,298 | 79,148,702 |
| LEGACY INVESTMENTS | | | | |
| Baby Friendly Hospitals | 48,000 | 3,505 | 21,200 | 26,800 |
| Little by Little/One Step Ahead | 3,105,000 | - | 549,209 | 2,555,791 |
| Subtotal Legacy Investments | 3,153,000 | 3,505 | 570,409 | 2,582,591 |
| Emerging Opportunities Fund | 3,000,000 | - | - | 3,000,000 |
| TOTAL | 101,459,000 | 5,617,954 | 16,632,707 | 81,731,293 |

The FY 2020-21 program budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on July 9, 2020.

NOTES -PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2020-21 BUDGET:

Journal entries for FY 2019-20 accrued expenses were reversed in July 2020. The amounts reported are the actual program expenditures for November 2020.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)
 EXPENDITURES - PASS-THROUGH
 NOVEMBER 30, 2020, UNAUDITED

Attachment B

| INITIATIVE/PROGRAM - PASS-THROUGH | NOVEMBER EXPENDITURES | YEAR TO DATE EXPENDITURES |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) - LA County Charges | - | - |
| Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) - Participation Payment | - | - |
| TOTAL | - | - |

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Operating & Administrative Budget Update
November 30, 2020, UNAUDITED**

| OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE | NOVEMBER ACTUAL | FISCAL YTD ACTUAL | FY 2020-21 BUDGET | FISCAL YTD VARIANCE |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Personnel Services | | | | |
| Salaries & Wages | 1,632,573 | 5,782,103 | 13,722,800 | 7,940,697 |
| Fringe Benefits | 280,591 | 1,391,528 | 4,081,895 | 2,690,367 |
| Total Personnel Services | 1,913,163 | 7,173,630 | 17,804,695 | 10,631,065 |
| General Operating Expenses | | | | |
| ADP Payroll Charges | 2,836 | 11,784 | 40,000 | 28,216 |
| Workers Compensation Insurance | (9,822) | 60,927 | 75,000 | 14,073 |
| Utilities | - | 36,003 | 145,000 | 108,997 |
| Corporate Insurance | - | 100,278 | 90,000 | (10,278) |
| Mileage, Parking and Other Transportation | - | 256 | 43,370 | 43,114 |
| Telephones | 7,849 | 17,643 | 70,000 | 52,357 |
| Cell Phones & Mobile Devices | 11,100 | 50,100 | 116,100 | 66,000 |
| Outside Printing & Publishing | - | 202 | 3,600 | 3,398 |
| Other Supplies | - | - | 10,250 | 10,250 |
| Postage & Delivery | - | 1,987 | 13,200 | 11,213 |
| Educational Supplies | - | 206 | 2,900 | 2,694 |
| Office Supplies | 1,620 | 6,347 | 77,870 | 71,523 |
| Subscriptions & Publication | 194 | 1,649 | 25,440 | 23,791 |
| Equipment-Rents & Leases | 2,313 | 8,140 | 27,000 | 18,860 |
| Building Repair & Maintenance | - | 28,821 | 150,000 | 121,179 |
| Equipment Repair & Maintenance | - | - | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Offsite Storage | 770 | 9,145 | 25,000 | 15,855 |
| Hardware & Software Maintenance | 4,925 | 25,452 | 470,730 | 445,278 |
| Miscellaneous/Contingency | - | - | 259,000 | 259,000 |
| Internal Meeting | 75 | 930 | 125,800 | 124,870 |
| Divisional Capacity Building | 2,100 | 2,100 | 75,000 | 72,900 |
| Total General Operating Expenses | 23,960 | 361,970 | 1,857,260 | 1,495,290 |
| Consultant Services | | | | |
| Consultant Fees | 21,949 | 122,070 | 1,435,725 | 1,313,655 |
| Other Professional Fees | - | 83,669 | 350,500 | 266,831 |
| External Reviewers | - | - | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Total Consultant Services | 21,949 | 205,739 | 1,789,225 | 1,583,486 |
| Professional Services | | | | |
| Audit | - | 49,500 | 90,000 | 40,500 |
| Legal Fees | - | 38,302 | 150,000 | 111,698 |
| Professional Dues | (420) | 72,340 | 126,718 | 54,378 |
| Staff Recruitment | 66 | 199 | 10,000 | 9,801 |
| Commission Stipends | 2,550 | 9,750 | 25,000 | 15,250 |
| Web-Based Services | 1,516 | 7,109 | 48,000 | 40,891 |
| Bank & Other Service Charges | - | 5,302 | 35,000 | 29,698 |
| Total Professional Services | 3,713 | 182,503 | 484,718 | 302,215 |
| Travel Expenses | | | | |
| Airfare | - | - | 127,350 | 127,350 |
| Lodging | - | - | 114,225 | 114,225 |
| Per Diem | - | - | 59,745 | 59,745 |
| Other Travel Expense | - | 20 | 25,425 | 25,405 |
| Total Travel Expenses | - | 20 | 326,745 | 326,725 |
| Professional Development | | | | |
| Training Material & Supplies | - | - | 11,300 | 11,300 |
| Internal Training | - | - | 92,000 | 92,000 |
| Leadership Programs | 2,500 | 7,450 | 48,500 | 41,050 |
| Conference Registrations | 1,324 | 10,612 | 158,750 | 148,138 |
| External Education/Training | 89 | 690 | 77,300 | 76,610 |
| Total Professional Development | 3,913 | 18,752 | 387,850 | 369,098 |
| Capital Improvements | | | | |
| Capital Outlay (Equipment Purchases) | - | 284 | 147,000 | 146,716 |
| Total Capital Improvements | - | 284 | 147,000 | 146,716 |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | 1,966,700 | 7,942,899 | 22,797,493 | 14,854,594 |

NOTES - OPERATING & ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET UPDATE:

The administrative expenses are within the maximum authorized under the Board policy.

The FY 2020-21 operating budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on July 9, 2020.

**Los Angeles County Children and Families First -
Proposition 10 Commission
Statement of Net Assets
November 30, 2020 Unaudited**

Current Assets:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Cash | \$ | 1,634,139 |
| Cash- Morlin Mgmt Corp | | 91,619 |
| Investment: | | |
| Operating and Allocated funds | | 323,535,725 |
| Advance - Regional Network (RN) | | 3,305,813 |
| Advance - Various | | 3,672,880 |
| Other Receivables | | 381,378 |
| Total Current Assets | \$ | <u>332,621,553</u> |

Fixed Assets:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Land | \$ | 2,039,000 |
| Building & Improvements | | 12,076,512 |
| Furniture & Fixtures | | 627,671 |
| Computer, Software & Accessories | | 2,039,785 |
| Office Equipment | | 331,033 |
| Accumulated Depreciation | | (6,485,968) |
| Total Fixed Assets | \$ | <u>10,628,033</u> |

Total Assets **\$** **343,249,586**

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----|
| Other Liabilities | \$ | 561,831 | (1) |
| Total Current Liabilities | \$ | <u>561,831</u> | |

Net Assets:

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Investment in capital assets | \$ | 10,628,033 |
| Restricted | | 332,059,722 |
| Total Net Assets | \$ | <u>342,687,755</u> |

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$** **343,249,586**

NOTES:

(1) Other Liabilities include accounts payable, and other related liabilities.

First 5 LA

SUBJECT:
Contracts for approval

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve one contract renewal and authorize staff to complete final execution of the agreement upon approval from the Board.

BACKGROUND:
First 5 LA's approved programmatic budget for FY 2020-21 totals \$101,459,000 and the approved operating budget totals \$22,797,493. Funding for the new agreements and amendment were included in the budget which was approved at the July 9, 2020 meeting. For contracts that span fiscal years, the estimated spending amount for each fiscal year will be included in First 5 LA's annual budgets for approval. Pursuant to contract terms, if the Commission does not appropriate funds for the agreement in future fiscal years, First 5 LA may terminate the agreement. Upon approval of the agreements presented below, staff will complete final execution.

There is one **renewal** for approval.

- Staff recommends renewal of our contract with Community Partners. The contractor supports First 5 LA by serving as co-designer, facilitator, and thought partner of a peer learning structure for partners working to improve community capacity efforts in the 5 regions and 14 Best Start communities. In Year 1, the Contractor successfully convened 4 main virtual sessions with partners focused on designing and implementing the peer learning structure and a continuous improvement process. In Year 2, the Contractor will work on building upon the success of the past year focusing on capturing, documenting and sharing learnings of respective and collective work to strengthen First 5 LA's efforts to catalyze community capacity strengthening across LA County.

DISCUSSION:
Staff seeks the Commission's approval of the agreements summarized in Attachment A.

Attachment A
February 2021

| RENEWALS | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------------|---|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| | DEPARTMENT | OUTCOME AREA/ INITIATIVE/STRATEGY / PROGRAM | CONTRACT (PROJECT) INFORMATION | PROCUREMENT METHOD | PROJECT LENGTH | ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST | CONTRACT AMOUNT | ANTICIPATED CONTRACT START DATE | ANTICIPATED CONTRACT END DATE | ANTICIPATED PROJECT END DATE | *SATISFACTORY PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY CONTRACTOR? |
| 1 | Communities | Communities / Field Building/ Capacity Building Learning Consortium | <p>COMMUNITY PARTNERS (#10227) The Contractor supports First 5 LA by serving as co-designer, facilitator, and thought partner of a peer learning structure for partners working to improve community capacity efforts in the 5 regions and 14 Best Start communities. In Year 1, the Contractor successfully convened 4 main virtual sessions with partners focused on designing and implementing the peer learning structure and a continuous improvement process. In Year 2, the Contractor will work on building upon the success of the past year focusing on capturing, documenting and sharing learnings of respective and collective work to strengthen First 5 LA's efforts to catalyze community capacity strengthening across LA County.</p> <p>The funds for this contract were included in the FY 20-21 budget presented for approval at the July 9, 2020 Commission meeting. FY 21-22 funding will be included in the budget scheduled to be presented for approval at the June 2021 Commission meeting.</p> | RFP | 3 years, 4 Months | \$1,261,333 | <p>\$380,000</p> <p>Estimated FY 20-21 Spending: \$100,000 <i>Committed</i></p> <p>Impact to FY 21-22 Budget: \$280,000 <i>Assigned</i></p> | 2/24/2021 | 2/23/2022 | 6/30/2023 | Yes |

Memo

To: Board of Commissioners
From: Kim Belshé, Executive Director
Date: February 11, 2021
Subject: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome back, First 5 LA Commissioners. We look forward to reengaging with you at the Board's first meeting of the year. The team is eager to connect with the Board and share progress in implementation of our Strategic Plan for 2020-28, important learning from work well under way, and new opportunities and persistent challenges in the context of COVID-19, racial inequities and political change.

We come back together, Board and staff, at a time of continued uncertainty brought on by the global pandemic, enduring racial and ethnic disparities and political volatility. As I've emphasized with the First 5 LA team, we serve best in these dynamic and unsettling times by staying focused on where there is some control and certainty. Personally, that means exercising good public health practices and discipline to the greatest degree possible, for self and family. Professionally, that means keeping our eye squarely on the work we do and the critical role we play for the children and families in our county.

I'm enormously proud of the First 5 LA team's efforts these past eleven months to navigate the disruptions and threats of COVID-19 without losing focus on First 5 LA's mission and service to parents, communities and partners.

As we step into 2021, I am encouraged by the team's continued efforts to not just survive the pandemic, but to serve others; namely, the children and families at the heart of First 5 LA's mission. We recognize that to make meaningful progress towards First 5 LA's North Star, we must work in more focused, collaborative and aligned ways, grounded in our values.

To advance our work and impact at this pivotal moment, I've shared with my First 5 LA colleagues three "themes" that are critical through-lines in our Strategic Plan implementation efforts. First is the theme of focus and prioritization. The team is currently developing work plans, which provide an important opportunity for us to achieve clarity regarding what we will do to achieve outcomes. This requires us to be intentional and disciplined – not only about what First 5 LA will do, but also what we will say no to so we can more fully focus on the work that helps us make significant progress towards results.

COMMISSIONERS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Los Angeles County Supervisor | Bobby Cagle | Jonathan E. Sherin, |
| Sheila Kuehl | Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., | M.D., Ph.D. |
| <i>Chair</i> | M.P.H., M.Ed. | Romalis J. Taylor |
| Judy Abdo | Astrid Heger, M.D. | Marlene Zepeda, Ph.D. |
| <i>Vice Chair</i> | Yvette Martinez | |

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Jacquelyn McCroskey, DSW
 Karla Pleitez Howell
 Deanne Tilton
 Keesha Woods

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kim Belshé

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

John A. Wagner

A PUBLIC ENTITY

The second theme is alignment and integration. As we move forward with work planning, we are doing so in a manner that integrates strategic plan implementation, budget development, and the Impact Framework.

Third, we are committed to living and leaning into diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), a critical value and investment guideline. DEI is fundamental to where we focus, what we do, and how we undertake our work together and alongside our partners. We have engaged a consultant partner, Seed, to help support First 5 LA on its equity journey and look forward to engaging the Board at its March meeting regarding this important process.

Across every First 5 LA Office, Center and Team, I see the team leaning into new, more collaborative and integrated ways to do our work – within First 5 LA and with our many partners – to achieve greater impact. I see the team digging into the underlying, systemic issues that hold children back, particularly children and families of color. And, I see an adaptability and nimbleness that systems change work in our dynamic context requires.

As the Board reviews the Team Highlights which follow, I hope you'll see the reach and scope of the work underway in service of First 5 LA's results for children and families. And, I hope you'll see evidence of the team's efforts to more closely align our work with our intended results and integrate work across the organization.

At the Board's Budget and Finance Committee meeting on February 9, Committee members had the opportunity to see how the team is leaning into more integrated approaches to our work in the context of budget development for FY 2021-22. Today, the Board will hear as well about that approach, as well as engage in discussion regarding our proposed 2021 Policy Agenda and Best Start learning series – both of which are the product of close collaboration across the organization and with community partners.

We look forward to seeing the Board and our work together in the year ahead – onward to greater impact for children and families.

OPTIMIZING OUR ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Engaging Staff and Promoting Staff Health and Safety

As Commissioners will recall, in March 2020 at the onset of the pandemic I made the decision to close First 5 LA's office building to protect staff health and safety, permitting building entry only for those staff and contractors performing essential, on-site work functions. At the close of 2020, with the continued uncertainty surrounding the pandemic, I announced that staff will not be required to return to the building for work through 2021. While we hope that continued rollout of COVID-19 vaccinations will enable more on-site work flexibility in the future, we will continue to support staff working remotely and assess building access and improvement needs through the leadership of our **Workplace Management Team**.

Given our ongoing remote work context, increased staff engagement and internal communication continues to be a top priority for me. With support from the **Office of Equity, Strategy, and Learning**, **Office of Communications**, and staff within the **Executive Director's Office**, I continue to send frequent

staff messages, host informal and virtual “Coffees with Kim”, and convene virtual staff meetings featuring new ways to engage with the First 5 LA team.

With support from the **Office of Communications**, we’ve also continued to promote more intentional external communications strategies with our grantees, contractors, and partners to ensure they are aware of our ongoing evolution as an organization and our continued commitment to them and our shared work.

Work Planning and Resource Forecasting

As First 5 LA continues to implement our Strategic Plan, a continued theme for our work is meeting the urgent demands of our work today while preparing for the future. For the past month, staff across the organization have been engaged in a Work Planning and Resource Forecasting effort coordinated by the **Office of Equity, Strategy, and Learning** and the Strategic Plan Operationalization Team, or SPOT, comprised of multiple staff from across various Centers, Offices, and Teams. The goal of this effort is to align various internal processes at First 5 LA – budget development, contract planning, project planning and management – into an organization-wide, integrated, and prioritized work plan for all Centers, Teams, and Offices. An early product of the Work Planning and Resource Forecasting effort will be First 5 LA’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2021-2022, which will be discussed with the Board in future meetings this year.

ADVANCING PROGRESS TOWARD OUR RESULTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Result 1: Families have the resources, opportunities, and relationships to optimize their child’s development

Innovations in Access to Home Visiting Services and Technology Support for Families

Home visiting continues to fulfill an essential role in addressing the needs of young children by connecting families to programs, support and services. As home visiting services continue to be provided virtually, a family’s access to digital technology is a critical need. Digital equity and access efforts were highlighted in the January Program and Planning Committee meeting, including two efforts specific to home visiting. In the first, First 5 LA through the **Family Supports Team**, the County’s Center for Strategic Partnerships, Southern California Grantmakers, and the Keck Foundation partnered to host a briefing in December focused on home visiting system building efforts and the digital divide issues affecting families, with the aim of increasing awareness and leveraging philanthropic support to address family access to technology. Additionally, with the support of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, the County Department of Public Health (DPH) secured \$100,000 in funding for Chromebooks, hotspots, and hotspot gift cards for up to 200 families participating in home visiting. First 5 LA has worked closely with DPH to facilitate the process and is collaborating with Los Angeles Best Babies Network to oversee the logistics and distribution to home visiting providers and families through from now through March.

Leveraging Funding to Support Best Start Regions

The **Communities Team** continues to partner with the Prevention Institute and Resources Legacy Fund on the Built Environment Policy Advocacy Fund (BEPAF) and Link Governments Advocated Families and Parks (Link) initiatives, to strengthen the capacity of community-based organizations working to improve built environment policy issues and develop collaborations of community-based organizations, park experts, and local government officials to prioritize Measure A resources for parks and open space in Best Start communities. In January 2021, the Board of Trustees for The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert

Foundation approved financial contributions to BEPAF and Link (\$50,000 for each project, \$100,000 total), which were received by the Prevention Institute, who acts as the intermediary for both funds. Contributions from The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation will help support parks and open space advocacy in the Best Start geographies. The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation is committed to working with organizations to enhance community health through smart land use, park development, policy work and community engagement in under-resourced neighborhoods, with the goal of increasing physical activity to combat type 2 diabetes and obesity.

Fresh Ideas for CalFresh in Best Start Regions

The Fresh Ideas for CalFresh project was launched in May 2019 to better understand CalFresh access and participation barriers in the context of Los Angeles County. This has been a project between the Los Angeles Food Policy Council (LAFPC), First 5 LA, and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS, the local administrator of CalFresh). The project is designed to (1) better understand the first-hand experiences of community members accessing this benefit; and, (2) identify ways to improve enrollment and access to the program. Over the past year, LAFPC in partnership with DPSS and First 5 LA's **Communities Team** led a community engagement strategy through a "Listening Tour" with nearly 500 community residents in the Best Start Regions and solicited their feedback on ways to improve CalFresh services and expand access to nutritious food. The final Fresh Ideas for CalFresh report elevates the voices and experiences of LA County residents and provides strategies to improve CalFresh enrollment. The report will be finalized in February 2021 after First 5 LA engages staff from DPSS to review the findings and lift up recommendations for action. LAFPC, DPSS and First 5 LA staff will be presenting the Cal Fresh report recommendations at the upcoming February 25 PPC meeting.

Advocating for Public Investments in Early Childhood

On January 8, 2021 Governor Newsom unveiled his initial budget proposal for fiscal year 2021-22, proposing a \$227 billion spending plan that features \$34 billion in increased budgetary reserves and discretionary surpluses, including \$15.6 billion for the Rainy-Day Fund and \$450 million in the Safety Net Reserve. The governor's proposal focuses both on near-term, immediate needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and also long-term structural investments, including in First 5 LA strategic priorities such as early learning, early intervention, and health equity. First 5 LA's **Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy** (OGAPP), in partnership with our state advocates in Sacramento, California Strategies, statewide network of First 5s, grantees, community leaders through Best Start, and other advocacy partners, will work to influence the budget throughout the development process, advocating for organizational priorities and the needs of children and families in Los Angeles County. For an overview and analysis of the early childhood priorities outlined in the budget, see attachment (1. 2021 State Budget memo).

First 5 LA also joined the First 5 Association and First 5 California in a network statement in reaction to the release of Governor Newsom's proposed state budget. The **Office of Communications** and **Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy** worked closely with the Association and First 5 California on drafting a response statement in support for a budget. To read the joint First 5 public statement, see attachment (2. First 5 Budget Public Statement).

To ensure First 5 LA has the relationships necessary to influence public policy change, staff from the **Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy** have continued to engage with elected officials representing communities throughout LA County. Since the Board last met in November, First 5 LA has focused on engaging newly elected local, state, and federal policymakers including virtual meetings with Assembly member Suzette Valladares (AD-38), who is a former child care provider, and staff from the

Office of Los Angeles City Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas (CD-10), who recently served on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and previously served as Chair of the First 5 LA Board of Commissioners

Result 2: Children receive early and timely developmental supports and services.

Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA) Presentation to the Child Care Planning Committee

On January 6, members of the Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA) consortium, in conjunction with partners at the RAND Corporation, presented to the Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee on findings from QSLA's developmental evaluation. The presentation provided an overview of the services and supports offered by QSLA to over 800 early learning and care providers in Los Angeles County serving over 47,500 children. The presentation identified four primary findings and recommendations from the developmental evaluation including:

- Reconsider QSLA's coaching requirements and expectations given providers' needs and scheduling challenges
- Consider involving assistant teachers and other support staff in coaching
- More clearly define what constitutes coaching (e.g., virtual visits, etc.)
- Consider aligning and coordinating quality improvement supports across agencies countywide

A number of these recommendations are already being acted upon by QSLA staff in response to the COVID pandemic as well as QSLA's desire to foster a more equitable support structure that allows more providers and different types of providers, such as family childcare, to access quality improvement supports. As QSLA continues to evolve, the collaborative is prioritizing integrated supports to meet the needs of Los Angeles County's mixed-delivery system and less on assessment and rating of sites.

Result 3: Children are safe from abuse, neglect, and other trauma.

Implementing the ACEs Aware Initiative in LA County

As previously shared with Commissioners, the [ACEs Aware Initiative](#) is a statewide effort that seeks to change and improve lives by helping Medi-Cal providers understand the importance of screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and training providers to respond with trauma-informed care. First 5 LA was awarded \$225,000 in state grant funds to conduct provider engagement activities with joint applicants, the American Academy of Pediatrics – California Chapter 2 (AAP-CA2) and the LA County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH)-UCLA Prevention Center of Excellence (COE). First 5 LA through the **Health Systems Team** will partner with key stakeholders in L.A. County to implement three Provider Engagement activities: 1) Network of Care (a group of interdisciplinary health, education and human service professionals and community members and organizations that support Medi-Cal patients, providers, and families by providing access to evidence-based 'buffering' resources and supports that help to prevent, treat, and heal the toxic stress response, as defined by the ACEs Aware initiative) activities for multiple types of providers; 2) Peer-to-Peer Learning among primary care physicians; and, 3) a Practice Paper to inform large scale systems change for screening alignment, treatment and referrals/care coordination.

First 5 LA released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for consultants to support ACEs Aware in: 1) meeting facilitation (e.g., coordinate, convene and facilitate meetings); and 2) report research and development (e.g., conduct literature review, coordinate and conduct interviews with subject matter

experts, and draft proceedings reports and practice paper). Five applications for each responsibility were submitted. First 5 LA's **Contract Administration & Purchasing Team** led a virtual panel consisting of representatives from our **Center for Child & Family Impact** and **Office of Data for Action** as well as joint applicants AAP-CA2 and our **Center for Operational Excellence** in December 2020 and engaged in an extensive review process. Based on a review of the proposal and the skills, resources, and experiences that each of the proposed candidates demonstrated in their proposal, interview, and work samples, the following contracts have been awarded:

- Health Management Associates, Inc. was awarded the ACES Aware Consultant contract for Task 1: Meeting Facilitation.
- Harder + Company Community Research was awarded the ACES Aware Consultant contract for Task 2: Report Research and Development.

Peer to Peer Learning Sessions: First 5 LA Health Systems team is working closely with AAP-CA2 ACES Committee to co-develop engaging sessions that cultivate a community of practice around ACES screening in the clinical setting. The first session took place on January 7 and featured a presentation on the Physiology of Toxic Stress by AAP-CA2 ACES Committee member, Dr. Christine Thang. The 65 participants in attendance included a variety of providers (pediatricians, psychologists, and family practitioners) across different clinical settings. After the presentation, participants applied their learnings in small breakout groups through a case study and guided discussion that touched upon implementing practice change in their clinical settings.

Network of Care Activities: On November 30, First 5 LA convened a planning and advisory group of leaders across different sectors (managed care plans, county health departments, community-based organizations, education, and community clinics) to inform and co-design the Network of Care (NOC) Activities. NOC Activities are a series of cross-sector convenings where providers will come together to discuss the implementation of ACES screenings -- lifting up best practices, identifying barriers, and recommending systems level solutions. The November meeting was the first of a series leading up to the NOC convenings in late Spring 2021.

In December 2020, the state released a Request for Proposals for Trauma-Informed Networks of Care Planning and Implementation Grants. This second round of grants seeks to build on and grow a robust cross-sector system – a Network of Care – to support Medi-Cal providers and their communities in responding to ACES and toxic stress. LA County Department of Health Services (DHS) partnered with First 5 LA to apply for the grant and was awarded \$2,995,461 in January 2021. As a leadership partner, First 5 LA will support DHS to build and maintain the ACES-LA Network of Care (NoC) serving families with Medi-Cal at DHS sites.

DHS will build from the foundation set by DHS's Strong, Healthy and Resilient Kids (SHARK) Program, to which First 5 LA provides funding for a data management specialist. Learning from this work can inform Help Me Grow LA (HMG LA) in several areas including LA Care (via improved clinic practices), HMG LA Pathways (expanding community-based referrals), and the development and launch of the HMG LA centralized access point, which is being led by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH).

Result 4: Children have high quality early care and education experiences.

Advocating for Policy Change to Support Access to Early Care and Education

On January 8, 2021, staff from the **Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy** participated in a virtual site visit with Senator Connie Leyva (SD-20), most recent Chair of the Legislative Women's Caucus, and staff from the Office of Senate Pro Tempore Tony Atkins (SD-39) hosted by Child 360 at McKinley Montessori Academy in the City of Pomona. The visit demonstrated the challenges childcare centers are operating under as a result of the pandemic, and attendees also learned what policies the

state Early Care and Education Coalition, co-funded by First 5 LA and First 5 California, will prioritize in 2021. Policy priorities highlighted include extending the hold harmless provision so that providers can continue to get reimbursed based on their maximum authorized hours as opposed to attendance, which will continue to help them sustain funding through the pandemic. Senator Leyva expressed her commitment to continue championing early learning priorities in the legislature.

Increasing Media Coverage of Early Care and Education Priorities

On December 1, 2020, the state released its Master Plan for Early Learning and Care, a visioning document and roadmap to improve the supports for California's youngest children. The **Office of Communications** worked with KPCC/LAist.com Early Childhood Reporter Mariana Dale to inform the development of the LAist.com article, "[A 10-Year Plan For Early Childhood In California With Uncertain Next Steps](#)." Senior Vice President for the **Center for Child and Family Impact** Christina Altmayer was quoted, "I think the streamlining eligibility for programs is an example of 'how do we make this support easier for parents to navigate complex resources' to support their child's development." Staff from the **Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy** and **Early Care and Education Team** also informed the development of the article, which featured a number of First 5 LA partners and grantees.

CONTRACTS EXECUTED BETWEEN \$25K-\$75K AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Procurement Update

Pursuant to the Procurement Policy adopted on February 13, 2014, "The Executive Director (or designee) may approve any contract less than \$75,000 in the aggregate in a fiscal year, and will establish appropriate internal policies and controls for those awards. Copies of contracts executed in the amount of \$25,000 or more and up to \$75,000 within a fiscal year will be provided to the Commission during the course of its normal business and be provided as informational items."

The following contracts were executed between November 10, 2020 and January 25, 2021. Copies of the executed contracts can be found here:

<https://www.first5la.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/February-21-ED-Report-Agreements.pdf>

#10234 LIMOR CONSULTING, INC (DBA DATALINK PARTNERS) – Contract Amount: \$74,499

Contract Period: 5/5/2020 – 6/30/2021

Contractor will increase access to and utilization of administrative data collected and stored in iPinwheel and other sources among QSLA Leaders. The primary objective of this project is to develop standard reports and other data visualization products that QSLA Leaders can use in their planning, monitoring and decision making. The agreement was executed on May 5, 2020 for \$24,450 and amended on November 10, 2020 to include an additional \$50,049 for a new total of \$74,499.

#10272 ADVANTAGE COLORGRAPHICS – Contract Amount: \$59,207

Contract Period: 12/1/2020 – 6/30/2021

The First 5 LA parenting guide focuses on a different parenting topic every quarter and aligns with the 2020-2028 Strategic Plan's focus on parent "demand-building" strategies so that families understand the benefits of, how to access and why they should prioritize early care and education, as well as early identification and intervention services through family supports and engagement with health systems. This guide is distributed across Los Angeles County during Countywide and Best Start efforts. Also included in this project are print jobs on an as-needed basis for First 5 LA internal and external marketing purposes.

#10279 HEALTH MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC. – Contract Amount: \$60,000

Contract Period: 1/25/2021 – 6/29/2021

The ACEs Aware initiative seeks to change and save lives by helping Medi-Cal providers understand the importance of screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences and training them to respond with trauma-informed care. First 5 LA was selected and awarded to engage in provider engagement activities. First 5 LA contracted with HMA to support this initiative via meeting facilitation of Network of

Care activities. To accomplish deliverables, HMA will coordinate with First 5 LA, partners and ACEs Aware Research and Report Development consultant.

Event Sponsorships

Since our last meeting, First 5 LA has sponsored the following events:

Title: Inaugural Award Dinner

Date: January 28, 2021

Sponsorship Amount: \$5,000

Description: The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce Inaugural Awards Program gathered the region's top business, community, and government sectors to honor extraordinarily leadership helping Los Angeles County navigate through this pandemic, and build a better tomorrow, together. The event's 2021 honorees included Connie Rice, (Civic Medal of Honor); and incoming Board Chair Raul A. Anaya.

Title: 50th MLK Celebration

Date: January 15, 2021

Sponsorship Amount: \$5,000

Description: YMCA of Metro Los Angeles, The Los Angeles Dodgers and The Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation hosted the 50th Dr. Martin Luther King Brotherhood Celebration with this year's theme of "Achieving Our Dreams Together". The event honored Dave Roberts, Manager for the Los Angeles Dodgers with the Brotherhood Award; and Sharon Robinson, Vice Chair of The Jackie Robinson Foundation with the Human Dignity Award.

Title: MLK Dream Event

Date: January 16, 2021

Sponsorship Amount: \$5,000

Description: Martin Luther King Community Hospital Foundation (MLKCHF) premiered a special show, "The Dream Show": A Salute to South LA, an event honoring the vibrancy, diversity, resiliency, and spirit of entrepreneurs, musicians, and artists, who make South LA shine. The event was held virtually in partnership with KTLA-TV and featured an engaging conversation on social justice and health equity between Darren Walker (President, Ford Foundation) and Dr. Elaine Batchlor (CEO, MLK Community Healthcare).

Title: 2020 Visionaries Awards

Date: November 18, 2021 2020 Visionaries Awards

Sponsorship Amount: \$5,000

Description: Southern California Leadership Network (SCLN) hosted their annual 2021 Visionaries Awards event honoring Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health; Charlene Thomas, Chief Human Resources Officer, UPS; and Nichol Whiteman, Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation, for their trailblazing efforts in addressing diversity, equity and inclusion that have inspired action, community collaboration and solutions across Southern California.

Memo

To: First 5 LA Leadership Team

From: Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy

Date: January 11, 2021

Subject: **2021-2022 GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET OVERVIEW**

On January 8, 2021, Governor Newsom unveiled his initial budget proposal for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, proposing a \$227 billion spending plan that features \$34 billion in increased budgetary reserves and discretionary surpluses, including \$15.6 billion for the Rainy-Day Fund and \$450 million in the Safety Net Reserve. The governor's proposal focuses both on near-term, immediate needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and also long-term structural investments, including in First 5 LA strategic priorities such as early learning, early intervention, and health equity. Overall, the budget proposal recognizes the need to support at-risk families and promote equity throughout the range of services and support that children and families interact with, particularly as the pandemic disproportionately impacts communities of color in Los Angeles County and throughout California. Such components will help support the needs of the whole child and whole family.

California's financial condition is much stronger than was anticipated at the start of the fiscal year, primarily due to the stock market's strength, greater than expected tax revenue from the state's highest income residents, and lower than expected enrollment in state programs, particularly Medi-Cal. The governor's proposal is actually \$5 billion greater than his 2020 January framework, and after closing a \$54 billion budget gap resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and recession, the governor was left with one-time "windfall" revenue of \$15 billion to spend. However, Governor Newsom cautioned that California's financial situation remains in flux and could erode if the COVID-19 caused recession reaches the state's wealthiest taxpayers or stock market gains slow.

In his proposal, the governor directs significant funding to COVID response and relief. To help tame the pandemic itself and better protect the state's most vulnerable workers and families, the budget proposes to spend \$300 million on vaccine distribution, as well as a public awareness campaign to increase vaccine adoption. In the nearer term, the budget would spend \$820 million General Fund on additional personal protective equipment, testing, contact tracing and hospital surge preparation. With an eye to the pandemic's economic disruptions and immediate relief, Governor Newsom has also called for a total of \$3 billion in funding to support small businesses and low-income residents most impacted by the pandemic. This includes \$2.4 billion in total funding for a new "Gold State Stimulus" program that would provide \$600 in direct cash assistance, though tax refunds, to workers who received the California earned income tax credit (Cal EITC) in 2020 or 2021, including those filing with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs); and \$550 million for one-time small business and non-profit grants.

Governor Newsom has not included “trigger cuts” that go into effect if the state does not receive direct financial support from the federal government, a mechanism state leaders utilized in the 2020 budget. Despite this, the Newsom Administration is likely to continue its federal advocacy for both state and local funding and increased flexibility in how California can spend federal COVID stimulus funding, particularly as the administration predicts structural deficits of \$7.6 billion in 2022-2023 and \$11 billion by 2024-2025. President-elect Biden and members of Congress have said state and local funding must be a high priority for any future COVID relief legislation, and with Democrats now controlling the federal government, the probability of additional stimulus has increased. Absent further federal action, state budget deficits could threaten First 5 LA priorities in future years. As such, First 5 LA’s federal advocacy strategy will continue to focus on educating policymakers on the need to prioritize both short- and long-term improvements in essential child serving infrastructures and systems, to meet the needs of families during the pandemic and beyond.

Key highlights of the Governor’s 2021-2022 January Budget Proposal related to First 5 LA’s priorities include:

Children have high quality early care and education experiences before kindergarten

The governor’s budget proposal includes:

- A strong focus on **expanding transition kindergarten (TK)** based on recommendations made in the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care. Proposed investments are a first step in achieving universal preschool for all four-years old and all income eligible three-year-olds which would directly impact children in communities First 5 LA serves.
 - \$250 million (one-time Proposition 98 General Fund and available over years) in incentive funds for school districts to **expand transitional kindergarten programs**. The funding to school districts to develop strategies for increasing TK opportunities to students as they simultaneously weather the pandemic and continue to conduct distance learning.
 - \$200 million (one-time General Fund) in infrastructure investments for the **development or retrofitting of TK and kindergarten program facilities**. This also continues to build on the governor’s commitment to increase all-day kindergarten programs.
 - \$50 million (one-time Proposition 98 General Fund) to fund **professional development for TK and kindergarten teachers**. With the increase in TK facilities, this funding would help teachers with training on how to best meet the needs of young children by focusing on issues such as dual language learners, inclusive classrooms, and trauma-informed practices.
- **Guidance on federal relief funds:** California is set to receive \$1 billion appropriated through the latest federal COVID-19 relief stimulus bill, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act. The governor’s proposed budget features language from the 2020 Budget Act to help prioritize how the federal funds will be spent, and align the ECE Coalition’s current policy/budget priorities and are reflective of the needs First 5 LA continues to hear from local providers and families. Specifically, the budget proposes:
 - Up to \$100 million for child care vouchers to essential workers, at-risk children and eligible children;

- Up to \$90 million in child care provider stipends;
- Up to \$35 million to increase the number of paid non-operational days for providers that close due to health and safety reasons;
- Up to \$30 million to increase capacity for up to two-years for child care and preschool; and
- Up to \$15 mil to assist child care with re-opening costs.
- \$55 million (one-time General Fund) to continue supporting the **needs families and providers impacted by the pandemic**. Child care providers and families have experienced first-hand major challenges resulting from COVID-19. Providers have closed, either temporarily or permanently due to the added challenges of providing a safe environment for children, even as families have relied on child care to continue or return to work, and while specific details on how this funding will be spend has yet to be decided, they continue to be greatly needed.
- \$21.5 million (Proposition 64 in 2020-21) and \$44 million (ongoing) to fund 4,700 **new child care spaces**. The \$21 million reflects updated cannabis tax revenues which, along with the ongoing funds, will slightly increase subsidized child care at a time when families continue to experience significant child care needs.

Children receive early developmental supports and services, and are safe from abuse, neglect, and other trauma

The governor’s budget proposal includes:

- \$94.8 million (\$34 million General Fund) ongoing to **expand and make permanent certain telehealth flexibilities** for Medi-Cal providers authorized during COVID-19, and to add remote patient monitoring as a new covered benefit, effective July 1, 2021. The Department of Health Care Services says it will release a full telehealth proposal by February 1st that features additional detail on prioritized flexibilities. Telehealth can relieve patients from needing to secure transportation or take entire days off from work to visit a health care facility, significantly easing time and financial burdens low-income families face to receiving care and increasing access to vital developmental and preventative care for children.
- Restoring and expanding funding for preventative health care services, with a specific focus on **screening for adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)**. With this proposal in mind, First 5 LA will continue to advocate for specific strategies that ensure children of color receive preventative care through Medi-Cal, to close race-based disparities in the utilization of preventative health services. Children of color not receiving preventative services is a long-standing concern that negatively impacts health and development. but prioritizing care for adversity and ACEs, has only become more important as families of color disproportionately face traumas resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic like the unexpected loss of loved ones, missed educational opportunities for children and greater economic instabilities.
- A total of \$3.2 billion (\$275.3 million General Fund, \$717.8 million Proposition 56 Fund, and \$2.2 billion federal funds) in 2021-22 for **Proposition 56 programs**, as well as to delay the suspension of Proposition 56 programs by 12-months. The final 2020 state budget called for most Proposition56 programs to sunset effective July 1, 2021, but the governor is now proposing to delay this until July 1, 2022. Proposition 56 funding, for example, supports incentive payments for conducting development screens and screenings for ACEs.

- \$5.3 million (\$3.2 million General Fund) for the Department of Developmental Services (CDSS) to contract with family resource centers to **implement a health navigator model statewide, including Promotoras**. The navigator model would utilize parents of individuals in the regional center system to provide education on resources, advocacy, and mentorship to other parents of individuals being served by the regional center system. The purpose of navigators would be to increase service authorization and utilization in diverse communities, furthering health equity within the developmental services system. Promotoras, who offer language- and culturally appropriate care, are particularly effective at connecting diverse communities to vital health and supportive service and as such can help close race-based disparities in health.
- \$27.1 million General Fund in 2021-22 to delay the suspension of **Medi-Cal postpartum extended eligibility** by 12-months, to December 31, 2022. Expanded postpartum mental health services within Medi-Cal, first funded in the 2019 state budget and designed to increase access to care for individuals diagnosed with a maternal mental health condition, was otherwise expire at the end of this year. This extension is important for overcoming disparities in health, as African American mothers face much higher risks of developing maternal mental health disorders than do their white counterparts.
- \$61.1 million (\$42.7 million General Fund) to begin implementation of Part IV of the federal **Family First Prevention Services Act** (FFPSA). FFPSA prioritizes resources toward preventing the unnecessary removal of children from their families, and sets out new criteria for non-foster home placement settings eligible for federal Title IV-E Foster Care maintenance payments, limiting funding for foster youth congregate care placements, such as group homes.

Families optimize their child's development

The governor's January proposal includes:

- Several items directly related to promoting **health equity**. Structural racism harms child health and well-being, as well as broader family stability, and children of color face higher rates of development delays but are also less likely to receive developmental screenings and early interventions services. The effects of structural racism and discrimination, particularly chronic exposure to racism, can be powerfully detrimental to the mental health of children as well. Supporting the whole child and whole family first necessitates a recognition of racism's impacts on child development and physical and mental health, and efforts to promote health equity and close race-based disparities in care are central to First 5 LA's advocacy and systems change efforts. Specifically, the governor's budget proposal features:
 - \$4.1 million (\$3.7 million General Fund) in 2021-22 and \$2.1 million (\$1.6 million General Fund) ongoing for the Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) to further reorient the administration of its programs using data and the development of an **equity dashboard**;
 - \$1.7 million General Fund in 2021-22 and \$154,000 General Fund in 2022-23 and ongoing for CHHS to conduct **an analysis of the intersection of COVID-19, health disparities, and health equity** to help inform any future response;
 - A commitment to focusing on health disparities and cultural and language competencies in health plan contractual language through **Medi-Cal re-procurement**; and

- A proposal to establish, through the Department of Managed Health Care in collaboration with other entities, a priority set of standard quality measures for full service and behavioral health plans, including quality and **health equity benchmark standards**, and to take enforcement actions against non-compliant health plans.
- \$300 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund for the Special Education Early Intervention Grant to **increase the availability of evidence-based services for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers**. An understanding that children ages prenatal to 3-years old represent a special population even within the cohort of children more broadly, due to the rapid pace of brain development during this period, is a key underpinning to whole child and whole family policymaking and advocacy. As such, this proposed funding for early intervention would help promote optimal child health and development because the earliest possible Identification of and intervention for a development delay is crucial if a child is to overcome that delay.
- \$1.1 billion (\$531.9 million General Fund) in 2021-22, and \$1.5 billion (\$755.5 million General Fund) in 2023-24 to implement the **California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)** reform effort. Due to budgetary constraints resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the administration last year delayed further implementation of CalAIM, which intends to more fully wraparound services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and reduce disparities in health. First 5 LA has regularly provided feedback to the Departments of Health Care Services and Social Services, that CalAIM must more significantly focus on the needs of young children and their families, and will continue to do so as implementation restarts .
- A 1.5-percent increase to the maximum level of **CalWORKs cash grants** effective October 1, 2021, which is estimated to cost \$50.1 million in 2021-22. This higher level of aid would support family economic security, crucial for a family's ability to thrive, especially as COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted those already at-risk. Economic stability and empowerment are important components toward supporting the whole child and whole family as well.
- \$11.2 million in 2021-22, \$24.5 million in 2022-23, and \$27.3 million in 2023-24 and ongoing from the Health Data and Planning Fund to establish the **Office of Health Care Affordability**. This new office would be charged with increasing transparency on cost and quality, strengthening health care workforce stability and training needs, reporting quality performance and equity metrics on the entire health care system, advancing payment models that reward high-quality, cost-efficient care, and promoting investments in primary care and behavioral health. As such, this proposal aligns with First 5 LA's objectives around improving the quality and affordability of systems.

Priorities aligned with First 5 LA's long-term systems outcomes, LA County regional priorities, and Best Start Community Change agendas

The governor's January proposal includes:

- \$5 million in one-time funding to continue a **Rapid Response Program** at CDDS that supports community-based and non-profit organizations addressing emergent needs of California immigrants when federal funds are not available. The budget also proposes \$75 million the CDSS can disburse to non-profits that support unaccompanied undocumented minors. First 5 LA opposed now-adopted federal public charge rule

changes, which have negatively impacted how immigrant families access needed supports at the local, state, and federal levels of government.

- \$60 million in increased funding for **school nutrition**, \$10 million to provide **training for school food service workers** to promote healthier and more nutritious meals, and \$10 million to continue the **Farm to School Program** that helps expand healthy food access in schools. While these funds are not specifically targeted toward early childhood settings, school districts are one of the largest providers of early childhood development programs and provide critical food access to families throughout LA County. Local school districts have also served as critical food distribution centers for students and families experiencing food insecurity, disproportionately families of color, as result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- \$30 million in one-time funding for existing **Emergency Food Assistance Program** providers to support increased food purchases to address the potential impacts of proposed federal rule changes to CalFresh, the state's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). First 5 LA continues to oppose the proposed federal rule changes to SNAP--which would serve to reduce food security for families in LA County and require additional state resources to protect food access--and continues advocating for increasing the eligibility threshold so that more families who need it can qualify for the program
- \$1.75 billion to address a broader portfolio of housing support that intend to help end homelessness in California, including \$750 million in funding toward continuing **Project Homekey**, a statewide effort to acquire hotels, motels, residential care facilities, and other housing that can be converted and rehabilitated to provide permanent housing for persons experiencing homelessness. An additional \$2.6 billion in federal funds is proposed to support **rental and utility assistance**. Homelessness and housing affordability continue to be a critical priority for local communities First 5 LA partners with, and greater state and federal resources will help ensure that county and city leaders have the resources necessary to promote housing stability, especially for homeless or housing insecure families.
- \$16.2 million to continue **residential environmental cleanup** in response to the Exide Battery factory contamination. The state has provided \$250 million for cleanup since 2015, and addressing environmental hazards is a priority of several Best Start Communities.

Governor Newsom's January budget proposal is the first step in California's budgetary development process, laying the groundwork for negotiations between the administration and lawmakers. Now, members of the Assembly and Senate Budget Committees, in consultation with stakeholders, will have the opportunity to hold hearings, share priorities and provide feedback on what Governor. Newsom has outlined, culminating in a revised budget proposal in May. The May Revise will also reflect any updated revenue and/or policy forecasts as California continues to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. The Legislature will submit its ultimate budget proposal in June, and following negotiations with the administration, the governor must sign the state's finalized 2021-2022 budget by June 15th. Both California and First 5 LA's new fiscal year begin on July 1st.

First 5 LA's Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy, in partnership with our state advocates in Sacramento, California Strategies, statewide network of First 5s, grantees, community leaders through Best Start and other advocacy partners, will work to influence the budget throughout the development process, advocating for organizational priorities and the needs of children and families in Los Angeles County.

FIRST 5: HOLISTIC, EQUITY-FOCUSED APPROACH TO SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES EVIDENT IN GOVERNOR'S 2021-22 BUDGET PROPOSAL

ALAMEDA, CA (January 8, 2021) – Governor Newsom's budget plan demonstrates a clear commitment to addressing the holistic and pressing needs of young children and families, by supporting them on multiple fronts during the pandemic, as well as building toward a robust early childhood system in the long term, said First 5 Association of California, First 5 California, and First 5 LA today in response to the release of the governor's proposed 2021-22 budget.

"Children learn best and flourish most when their holistic needs are being met," said Melissa Stafford Jones, executive director of First 5 Association of California. "By prioritizing immediate economic relief to families with low income, housing support, food assistance, child care stability and access, and health care, this budget clearly reflects an awareness of what children need to thrive, in the immediate and long term. We look forward to working on the details with the administration and the legislature, both this year and beyond."

"In the most challenging of times, Governor Newsom continues to put children and families' well-being first," said Camille Maben, First 5 California Executive Director. "This budget proposal provides a framework for economic recovery rooted in the needs of our essential workers and their families. By investing in our families through critical investments in child care, earned income tax credits, expanded preventative services, healthcare, and housing, in conjunction with innovative proposals to improve child development and early literacy through reading and book distribution, California is meeting the moment we are in while continuing to look ahead to the future and our future generations."

The governor's clear priority for shoring up holistic family support systems, with an equity-based approach that focuses on families most in need, is evident in the following proposals:

\$2.4 billion for the Golden State Stimulus to provide economic relief to 3.9 million taxpayers with low income, as early as this February, with additional payments for those who file taxes with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs), including undocumented workers—which will reach an estimated 250,000 children alone. The additional \$600 per family from this stimulus, combined with the existing California Earned Income Tax Credit and Young Child Tax Credit, will provide significant financial relief to working families who need it most.

\$300 million in additional funding to increase the availability of early intervention services for young children with disabilities and delays

\$50 million for professional development to prepare teachers for early childhood programs, and \$200 million to expand kindergarten and transitional kindergarten facilities. In addition, the budget proposes \$250 million in one-time incentive funds for school districts to expand transitional kindergarten for all four-year-olds.

A one-year continuation of Proposition 56 supplemental payments (which were set to sunset this year) to improve care for Medi-Cal payments, including for developmental screenings for young children, and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) screening and provider training, until July 1, 2022

\$55 million to support child care providers and families as a result of the pandemic

A total of \$44.3 million to the state's cannabis fund to expand child care access for an estimated 4,500 children

Proposals to spend nearly \$300 million of the federal child care funding that California recently received aimed at stabilizing the child care field and meeting immediate needs

\$1.1 billion, with a commitment to further investment, to relaunch CalAIM, which aims to enhance and improve Medi-Cal services through an emphasis on Whole Person Care and on care coordination across systems of care—an approach that is also critical for young children and their families

\$5 million to provide books to children from families with low income, to improve child development and literacy

Multiple investments in emergency food, housing and renter assistance, and workforce development, that act as wraparound services for many families with young children

“California families continue to face many challenges, accessible and affordable child care and health care being two of the most significant. In order to rebuild our economy, we must invest in quality early learning and family strengthening systems and supports so our families can return to work when it is safe to do so. The Governor's proposed budget recognizes these urgent needs and systemic inequities facing families and communities of color that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are grateful for his leadership to meet this moment and strengthen the foundation for building a robust early child development system that ensures all children have a strong start,” said Kim Belshé, First 5 LA executive director.

“Every day in our work, we see that families, especially families of low income, are struggling mightily—from poverty, hunger, unemployment, racism, stress, and more,” said Kim Goll, president of the First 5 Association board and executive director of First 5 Orange County. “This budget aptly prioritizes children, families, and those who care for them, recognizing that they are central to California's recovery and healing from the pandemic, recession, and historic injustice.”

Together, the First 5 network looks forward to partnering with the governor and legislature on additional details of the 2021-22 budget, and prioritizing the use of and need for additional federal funds in order to meet the greatest needs of our children and families.

First 5 LA

SUBJECT:

Approve Resolution No. 2021-01 ratifying specified acts taken by the Executive Director during the declared state and local COVID-19 public health emergency.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution No. 2021-01 by a roll call vote at the February 11, 2021 Board meeting.

BACKGROUND:

After consulting with First 5 LA's Chair, Vice Chair, and legal counsel, on March 17, 2020 Executive Director Kim Belshé communicated to the Board of Commissioners her need to take emergency actions in order to protect the health and well-being of First 5 LA employees and our external contractor and grantee partners. In this communication, Executive Director Belshé outlined eight areas of actions needed to maintain critical functions, including authority to:

1. Waive the Governance Guidelines related to Board sequencing and approval of items
2. Exercise emergency provisions provided in our existing procurement policy
3. Extend contracts scheduled to expire by 6/30/20 for up to 90 additional days, with expected Board action by 9/30/20 on those contracts recommended for renewal
4. Continue to pay invoices and contracted amounts as they come due, even if work associated with those invoices is different than originally anticipated
5. Purchase necessary goods and services needed in response to COVID-19...including entering into strategic partnerships with partners focused on a COVID-19 response, in some cases in excess of the Board-delegated authority of \$75,000 but no greater than \$150,000
6. Assure conference organizers with whom F5LA has a paid sponsorship agreement that F5LA will not seek return of funds if the event has been or will be cancelled
7. Affirm the mid-year FY19/20 budget adjustment recommendations brought to the March meetings of the Finance Committee and the Board as approved for the remainder of the current budget year and for purposes of the FY20/21 budget development, and
8. Adjust F5LA's employee personnel policies and implementation of these policies, including paid time off, as deemed necessary.

In exercising these authorities, the Executive Director also communicated her intent to disclose these actions to the Board and to seek ratification by the Board at the next regular Board meeting. This action occurred at May Board meeting in compliance with the requirements set forth in that communication. Since that date, this memo, Resolution No. 2021-01, and the accompanying exhibit continue to keep the Board apprised of emergency actions taken since the last meeting of the Board.

Attachments:

- Board Resolution No. 2021-01
- Exhibit A — List of F5LA Actions Related to Management of Covid-19

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FIRST PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION RATIFYING SPECIFIED ACTS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DURING THE DECLARED STATE AND LOCAL COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

The Board of Commissioners of the Los Angeles County Children and Families First Proposition 10 Commission (“the Commission”) hereby finds as follows:

Whereas, on March 4, 2020 the Governor of California declared a state of emergency to enable the State to prepare for the broad spread of the Covid-19 virus in California; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020 the Los Angeles County Health Officer issued a Public Health Order, updated on April 10, 2020, that requires many residents to stay at home or their place of residence, with certain exceptions, and ordered many “non-essential” businesses to be closed; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020 First 5 LA Executive Director Kim Belshé, to protect the health and safety of staff and to assist with the efforts of public health officials, directed First 5 LA staff to begin working from home as of March 17, 2020; and

Whereas, on March 17, 2020 Executive Director Belshé notified the Board of Commissioners in writing that, with the concurrence of the Board Chair and Vice Chair, she intended to assert certain emergency authorities for the continuity of operations of First 5 LA subject to disclosure to, and ratification by, the Board of Commissioners; and

Whereas, on March 19, 2020 Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti issued a “Safer at Home” Public Order, also ordering Angelenos to remain at home or at their place of residence in order to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, except for essential workers; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners has received and reviewed the list of Executive Director actions taken under her emergency authority.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Each of the Executive Director actions set forth on Exhibit A attached to this Resolution, incorporated herein by this reference, is ratified by the Board of Commissioners.
2. The executed copy of this Resolution shall be retained on file as evidence of the Commission’s action herein.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 11TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners

NOES: Commissioners

ABSTAIN: Commissioners

Sheila James Kuehl
Chair, First 5 LA

ATTEST

Kim Belshé
Executive Director

Exhibit A

List of F5LA Actions Related to Management of Covid-19

Per the 3/17/20 Communication with the Board and earlier communication with the Chair and Vice Chair, the Executive Director was given emergency authority in 8 areas to ensure the protection and safety of our staff and external partners. These 8 areas are:

1. Ability to waive the Governance Guidelines related to Board sequencing and approval of items coming to the Board
2. Exercising emergency provisions and provided in our existing procurement policy
3. Ability to extend contracts scheduled to expire by 6/30/20 for up to 90 additional days, with expected Board action by 9/30/20 on those contracts recommended for renewal
4. Ability to continue to pay invoices and contracted amounts as they come due, even if work associated with those invoices is different than originally anticipated
5. Purchase necessary goods and services needed in response to COVID-19...including entering into strategic partnerships (SPs) with partners focused on a COVID-19 response, in some cases in excess of the Board-delegated authority of \$75,000 but no greater than \$150,000
6. Ability to assure conference organizers with whom F5LA has a paid sponsorship agreement that F5LA will not seek return of funds if the event has been or will be cancelled
7. Affirm the mid-year FY19/20 budget adjustment recommendations brought to the March meetings of the Finance Committee and the Board as approved for the remainder of the current budget year and for purposes of the FY20/21 budget development, and
8. Ability to adjust F5LA's employee personnel policies and implementation of these policies, including paid time off, as deemed necessary

The table below provides an inventory of authorities exercised to date and will be brought forward for ratification by the Board, per the attached resolution 2021-01:

| Emergency Authorities (EAs) Executed Typically Requiring Board Action | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Item No. | Dept. Functional Area | Description of EA Executed | Area(s) of EA (from above list) | Description/List of Items |
| 1 | Contract Administration and Purchasing | Contract authority to receive funding and purchase necessary goods and services needed to respond to the COVID-19 virus pandemic and associated issues affecting young children and families | #5 | The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) provided \$100,000 in funding for the purchase and distribution of laptops and internet connectivity for home visiting clients in need of digital access to participate in virtual home visits. DPH partnered with First 5 LA in this effort, which subcontracted the funds to Los Angeles Best Babies Network to oversee |

| | | | | coordination efforts with home visiting providers and distribution to participating families. |
|---|----------------------|--|--|---|
| Emergency Authorities Executed Typically <u>NOT</u> Requiring Board Action | | | | |
| Item No. | Functional Area | Description | Area(s) of Emergency Authority (from above list) | Description/List of Items |
| 1 | Human Resources (HR) | Adjust F5LA's employee personnel policies and implementation of these policies, including paid time off, as deemed necessary | #8 | While the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) was not renewed by Congress and expired on December 31, 2020, First 5 LA will provide eligible employees with up to 10 workdays of paid time off provided they have exhausted all of their accrued unused time off. This time off is to care for self or a family member with COVID-19. |

First 5 LA

SUBJECT:

Request to approve the 2021 First 5 LA Policy Agenda

RECOMMENDATION:

First 5 LA staff recommends the Commission approve the 2021 First 5 LA Policy Agenda

Background

First 5 LA, in partnership with others, helps to strengthen families, communities, and systems of services and supports, so every child in Los Angeles County enters kindergarten is ready to succeed in school and life. The Policy Agenda guides First 5 LA analysis, engagement and position-taking on administrative, budgetary or legislative proposals from the local, state or federal governments, all to support achievement of this organizational “North Star” goal. Now, the Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) in partnership with Center for Child & Family Impact teams, has undertaken an iterative process to more fully align First 5 LA’s Policy Agenda with the adopted 2020-2028 Strategic Plan’s Results for Children and Families, Short-Term Markers of Progress and Long-Term Systems Outcomes, as well as new investment guidelines prioritizing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI).

Prior to this effort, the Policy Agenda had remained unchanged since its adoption in 2017. However, as First 5 LA implements the adopted 2020-2028 Strategic Plan, and, simultaneously, the impacts of COVID-19 continue to disproportionately affect families of color in Los Angeles County, the need for refinement became necessary and urgent. At the January 28 Special Board/Program and Planning Committee (PPC) meeting, GAPP presented an informational item on Policy Agenda refinement efforts, and has since incorporated feedback provided there by Commissioners, and also completed another round of integrated review to finalize recommendations. At the February 11 Board meeting, GAPP will, as an action item, present the refined Policy Agenda to Commissioners for approval.

Overall, the revised Policy Agenda is centered in First 5 LA’s unique experiences and expertise; rooted in learnings from local investments; and informed by community- and family-voice. As such, foundational to all aspects of the refined agenda are acknowledgments that:

- Because the brain develops most rapidly during the earliest years of life, children ages prenatal to 5-years old represent a special population even within the cohort of “childhood” more broadly defined; and
- Structural racism threatens the well-being of families of color, and can powerfully disrupt optimal development and health.

Building upon these fundamental principles, the refined Policy Agenda embeds both equity and the need to support children holistically in the context of their families and communities, referred to colloquially as the “Whole Child and Whole Family” framework, within all aspects of First 5 LA’s policy work. In practice, the agenda reflects this by seeking to close race-based disparities in health, well-being and opportunity; utilizing full and complete data, where available, to understand which communities face the most significant barriers to resources, and so have the greatest opportunity to benefit from First 5 LA policy and systems change efforts; and promoting a holistic system of supports that is language- and culturally- appropriate.

As with previous iterations of the document, the Policy Agenda is organized around four major policy priority areas. However, the refined agenda more clearly defines First 5 LA’s perspective and expertise within these spaces. The priority areas are now:

- Promote a comprehensive system of family supports to advance positive outcomes for the whole child and whole family;
- Improve systems to promote the optimal development of children through early identification and supports that are family-responsive;
- Expand access to affordable, quality early care and education; and
- Ensure communities have the resources and environment to optimize child development.

Within these broader goals, the Policy Agenda now features specific policy areas that prioritize the creation of a comprehensive system of family supports, reflecting both First 5 LA's unique expertise as a systems change agent, and the benefits of universally targeted, strategically layered and family responsive supports that meet families where they are. As a priority within First 5 LA's effort to improve early identification and intervention systems that promote optimal child development, the Policy Agenda now highlights the need to incentivize preventative care that can close health disparities in maternal and pediatric health through disaggregated data. First 5 LA's policy change efforts will now also pursue development of a more equitable system for early learning in L.A. County, prioritizing a mixed delivery system that ensures the early care and education system is flexible and reflects family voice. Finally, the revised Policy Agenda promotes the need for local flexibility, in order to most successfully implement policies that impact families and neighborhoods.

The revised Policy Agenda is a product of the entire agency's work, which informs translating Strategic Plan goals into actionable policy recommendations. This is largely because the Policy Agenda now seeks to better incorporate both parent- and community-voice into priority setting, informed by partnership with Best Start and the community-identified priorities they have identified, and also First 5 LA's experience in systems improvement at the community and county levels. Within the now restructured First 5 LA, GAPP leads First 5 LA's policy change work, and serves as a strategic connector, facilitator and enabling partner that helps advance and leverage expertise held by every team. Furthermore, as First 5 LA embarks on both work planning related to Strategic Plan implementation, and future resource forecasting as tobacco tax revenue declines, the refined Policy Agenda will help prioritize and sequence organizational efforts. By helping to set high-level policy priorities; aligning advocacy with current investments and demonstrated impact; prioritizing children prenatal to 5-years old as a special population; and promoting equity, the refined Policy Agenda will move First 5 LA's collective work forward in an efficient, effective and aligned manner.

This year's revision process represents the first in what is intended to be an annual staff and Board review of the Policy Agenda. This will allow First 5 LA to continuously strengthen its policy change and advocacy priorities and strategies.

Refinements to the Policy Agenda are especially well-timed due to the prospect for more opportunistic federal engagement, particularly as the new Biden Administration has committed to bolstering supportive systems that help families thrive. The Policy Agenda will be critical in this pursuit, clarifying First 5 LA's policy goals and serving as a framework that connects and aligns our policy and advocacy priorities when engaging policymakers in Washington, D.C., as well as Sacramento and locally. The refined agenda will also facilitate coordination with fellow stakeholders and the statewide First 5 network, imperative for amplifying and optimizing our advocacy efforts, and thus most effectively supporting families.

An important tactical component of First 5 LA's broader policy work involves supporting and/or opposing proposed administrative, budgetary or legislative proposals from the local, state or federal governments. To accomplish this, GAPP leads a deliberative and sequenced analysis process that utilizes the Policy Agenda as a key tool for determining which policies most support progress toward First 5 LA's North Star. As a result, the refined Policy Agenda is crucial for nimble and effective policy

change efforts, bolstering First 5 LA's advocacy capacity, and allowing for timely and uniform feedback on critical proposals.

Finally, the refined Policy Agenda incorporates regulations around lobbying compliance that, as a public agency, First 5 LA must operate within. Legal requirements, for example, disallow any participation in "grassroots lobbying" activities, or broadly asking others to advocate that policymakers take action on new or existing public policy proposals. First 5 LA can, however, itself lobby policymakers and their staffs on new or existing public policy priorities that align with the organization's four results for children and families; advocate, educate, and engage partners and policymakers to understand the needs of children and families in L.A. County; and hire registered lobbyists to lobby policymakers on new or existing public policy proposals on our behalf. While pursuing Strategic Plan priorities, with the revised Policy Agenda as a crucial guide to policy change efforts, GAPP will always operate firmly within legally prescribed boundaries and guardrails.

2021 Federal, State and Local Policy Agenda

Charna Widby, Chief Government Affairs Officer

Ofelia Medina, Senior Policy Strategist

Andrew Olenick, Policy Analyst

Board of Commissioners Meeting
February 11, 2021

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Presentation Overview

- Policy Agenda background
- Policy Agenda process
- 2021 Policy Agenda review

Policy Agenda

Goal: Articulate a set of high level local, state, and federal policy goals representing First 5 LA's strategic plan priorities.

Application:

- Develop framing for First 5 LA's work to advance policy and systems change.
- Inform priority administrative, budget, and legislative engagement.
- Guide public policy development priorities.

Policy Agenda Development Process

- Reviewed existing and updated First 5 LA guiding materials.
- Co-developed policy goals with Center for Child & Family Impact teams leadership and staff.
- Integrative review with Offices and Center leadership.
- Program and Planning Committee review and reflections of priorities alignment and opportunities.

Policy Agenda Updates

The Policy Agenda will support the whole child and whole family by:

- Working to close race-based disparities in health, well-being and opportunity;
- Utilizing the best available data and advocate for the availability of full and complete data;
- Promoting a holistic system of supports that is language- and culturally- appropriate.

2021 Refined Policy Agenda

- Promote a system of family supports that layers effective evidence based, innovative and community responsive resources.
- Expand access to affordable, quality early care and education.
- Improve systems to support the optimal development of children through the earliest screenings, interventions, and linkages to appropriate supports.
- Promote parents and communities as critical voices.

Priority Area: Family Supports

Promote a comprehensive system of family supports to advance positive outcomes for the whole child and whole family.

- Build systems that strategically **layer effective evidence-based, innovative and community-responsive resources** of family strengthening supports, prioritizing home visiting and early intervention services.
- Promote and protect family supports to ensure families with young children and pregnant women are **economically secure**.
- **Improve capacity and coordination** across early identification, early intervention and family strengthening systems.

Priority Area: Health Systems

Improve systems to promote the optimal development of children through early identification and supports that are family-responsive.

- Ensure children receive **early and periodic validated developmental and behavioral screenings, and coordination to** appropriate interventions.
- Strengthen child and family serving systems to **prevent, anticipate, and respond** appropriately to adverse experiences, trauma, and toxic stress.
- Incentivize preventative care to **close maternal and pediatric health disparities** through disaggregated data.

Priority Area: Early Care and Education

Expand access to affordable, quality early care and education.

- Increase public investment in early care and education systems **prioritizing mixed delivery and family choice.**
- Align an **equitable and responsive** early care and education quality support structure.
- **Increase compensation and funded professional supports** for the early care and education workforce.

Priority Area: Communities

Ensure communities have the resources, opportunities, relationships and environment to optimize their child's development.

- Increase opportunities for **community voices to shape resources, services and other critical issues** affecting young children and families.
- Promote **local flexibility in policies and systems** that directly impact families and neighborhoods.
- Elevate and utilize **disaggregated population level and integrated service data** for effective system delivery and improvement.

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Questions?

First 5 LA Refined Policy Agenda: February 10, 2021 DRAFT

The First 5 LA Policy Agenda guides policy efforts at the local, state and federal advocacy. Supporting achievement of the adopted 2020-2028 Strategic Plan’s Results for Children and Families, Long-Term Systems Outcomes and Results Indicators, the agenda is grounded in First 5 LA’s unique experiences and expertise, rooted in learnings from local investments, and informed by community- and family-voice. Foundational to the agenda is an understanding that children ages prenatal to 5-years old represent a special population, because the brain develops more rapidly during the earliest years of life than at any other time. Concurrently, the impacts of structural racism powerfully disrupt optimal development and health, as well as broader family stability. As such, all priorities within the Policy Agenda will:

- Work to close race-based disparities in health, well-being and opportunity;
- Utilize the best available data and advocate for the availability of full and complete data; and
- Promote a holistic system of supports that is language- and culturally- appropriate.

First 5 LA, in partnership with others, helps to strengthen families, communities, and systems of services and supports so all children in Los Angeles County enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life. To achieve this, First 5 LA advances the following community-informed priority areas:

Promote a comprehensive system of family supports to advance positive outcomes for the whole child and whole family.

- Build systems that strategically layer effective evidence-based, innovative and community-responsive resources of family strengthening supports, prioritizing home visiting and early intervention services.
- Promote and protect family supports to ensure families with young children and pregnant women are economically secure.
- Improve capacity and coordination across early identification, early intervention and family strengthening systems.

Improve systems to promote the optimal development of children through early identification and supports that are family-responsive.

- Ensure children receive early and periodic validated developmental and behavioral screenings, and coordination to appropriate interventions
- Strengthen child and family serving systems to prevent, anticipate, and respond appropriately to adverse experiences, trauma, and toxic stress.
- Incentivize preventative care to close maternal and pediatric health disparities through disaggregated data

Expand access to affordable, quality early care and education.

- Increase public investment in early care and education systems prioritizing mixed delivery and family choice.
- Align an equitable and responsive early care and education quality support structure.
- Increase compensation and funded professional supports for the early care and education workforce.

Ensure communities have the resources and environment to optimize their child’s development.

- Increase opportunities for community voices to shape resources, services and other critical issues affecting young children and families.
- Promote local flexibility in policies and systems that directly impact families and neighborhoods.
- Elevate and utilize disaggregated population level and integrated service data for effective system delivery and improvement.

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FIRST 5 LA

SUBJECT:

Mid-Year Adjustments to the FY 2020-21 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve mid-year adjustments to the FY 2020-21 Budget as detailed in Attachment 1 (Program Budget) and Attachment 2 (Operating Budget).

BACKGROUND:

The Board adopts an annual budget which reflects the staff's best estimate of the financial resources that will be needed to move work forward and in alignment to the strategic direction. The \$124,256,493 million FY 2020-21 Budget, approved via Resolution by the Board of Commissioners on July 9, 2020, included \$101.5 million of funding for program costs and \$22.8 million for operating costs. This year's adjustments, reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, represent a net decrease of approximately \$444,000 to the FY 2020-21 Budget offset by funding added from non-Prop 10 revenues.

The FY 2020-21 Budget reflects not only the gradual transition to a revised 2020-2028 Strategic Plan, which refines, bridges and builds from the foundational work developed and advanced during the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan period, but also marks the first budget that was largely developed during a momentous time in history—at the brink of a global pandemic. The transition to a revised Strategic Plan as well as the unique circumstances and challenges that derive from a viral outbreak at a global-scale suggested the likelihood that an increase in budget adjustments would be needed at mid-year. Adjustments based on the impact of COVID-19 are reflected in both the program and operating budgets, as are adjustments based on the continued alignment to the revised Strategic Plan. The new strategic plan and priorities encourage the organization to work differently and optimize its performance and effectiveness to enhance our impact and sustainability. Such efforts require First 5 LA to align its structure, staffing, processes and culture with the new strategic priorities to promote the successful growth we seek. Initial budget requests were estimated using the information available at the time of budget development and were based on spending projections—rather than final negotiated contract amounts—so staff would have the flexibility to manage contracts within a budget unit without having to return to the Commission. Key themes throughout this year's mid-year adjustment requests namely include: much of the proposed spending increase for the year relies less on Proposition 10 funding and more on external alternative revenues; organizational alignment staffing changes are not evident in the mid-year but will impact future years; and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the originally proposed costs and activities and has resulted in many revised project timelines.

Although the mid-year shifts are reflective of upward and downward adjustments, it is important to underscore that these only represent the adjustment to anticipated spending in the fiscal year. A high-level overview pertaining to the various program and operating adjustments is included in the Discussion section of this memo.

As a reminder, our total budget is comprised of two components – the Program Budget and the Operating Budget. Based on updated information and analysis, the FY 2020-21 Program Budget reflects a net increase of approximately \$45,000 for a revised fiscal year Program Budget of \$101.5 million. These adjustments are detailed by priority outcome area and initiative in *Attachment 1A* and by program—which aggregate up to the amounts at the priority outcome area, strategy and initiative level—in *Attachment 1B*.

The mid-year budget adjustment also includes increases and decreases to various Operating Budget line items, the net effect of which is an approximately \$489,000 downward adjustment, for reasons discussed more fully below. As a result, the original approved Operating Budget of \$22.8 million is adjusted to \$22.3 million for the fiscal year. These adjustments are detailed at a summary level in Attachment 2.

The result is a net decrease of \$444,045 or approximately 0.4%, to the approved FY 2020-21 Budget of \$124.3 million for a revised total fiscal year budget of \$123.8 million, as illustrated in the high-level table below.

| Budget Component | Approved FY2020-21 Budget | Proposed Adjustments | Revised FY2020-21 Budget | % Change |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Program | \$ 101,459,000 | \$ 45,200 | \$ 101,504,200 | 0.0% |
| Operating | 22,797,493 | (489,245) | 22,308,248 | -2.1% |
| Total Revised FY 2020-21 Budget | \$ 124,256,493 | \$ (444,045) | \$ 123,812,448 | -0.4% |

Of the proposed increase noted above, nearly \$3.0 million in estimated costs are being offset by \$2.99 million in non-Proposition 10 revenue received during FY 2020-21 from First 5 California (F5CA) (\$2,765,000) and the Aurrera Health Group, LLC (\$225,000). Funding from F5CA will be used to support the Home Visitation Coordination development of a Common Consent form across funding streams to allow for improved and efficient data access, improving coordination and communication at the implementation level, and supporting integration efforts with other family support systems (\$100,000). Funds will also be used to support the Dual Language Learners initiative work aligned with the Quality Start L.A. Framework (\$1.9 million) and incentive layer COVID-19 funds contributed to a pooled fund with the California Community Foundation (\$777,000). Funding from Aurrera Health Group, LLC (\$225,000) will enhance First 5 LA's capacity to implement provider engagement activities that include cross-sector network of care sessions, peer-to-peer learning sessions, and a practice paper with the goal to reduce adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) by half in one generation.

DISCUSSION:

Program Budget:

Per current First 5 LA policy, any change to the spending levels approved at the initiative level in the Program Budget requires formal approval by the Board of Commissioners via Resolution. As in the prior year, staff consolidated all FY 2020-21 Program Budget adjustments into a single process for presentation to the Commission at mid-year for approval. These adjustments, including both augmentations and reductions for programs whose projected cost differs from the originally approved budget levels, are detailed by priority outcome area and initiative in Attachment 1A and by program—which aggregate up to the amounts at the priority outcome area, strategy and initiative level—in Attachment 1B.

The following are highlights of the requested changes at the strategy and initiative level. As noted during the FY 2020-21 Budget development and approval process, due to the transition of the budget from one strategic plan to another, and the timing of the budget development in the midst of a global pandemic, the budget framework mirrors the 2015-2020 outline with a focus on the activities within the four priority outcome areas. Further alignment to the 2020-2028 Refined Strategic Plan will be reflected in the forthcoming FY 2021-22 Budget.

2020-2028 Refined Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Priority Outcome Areas

Outcome 1: Families: Increase of \$587,000 or 1.6%

The net upward adjustment to this priority outcome area is driven by increases to Select Home Visiting (SHV) Programs (\$630,000), the shift of funding originally reflected in Integration & Learning (Deb Daro Consultation - \$35,000) in alignment with activities being carried out by the Families outcome area, and the receipt of new funding from First 5 California for the Home Visiting Coordination Project (\$100,000). The increase to SHV is increased to better align with the actual spending rate, based on higher staff retention and higher than usual personnel expenses. The overall increase to SHV is still within the approved contracted amount. Additionally, these increases are offset by decreases to the Family Strengthening Oversight Entity (\$50,000), Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Implementation Support (\$67,000) and Project Dulce (\$61,000), the latter of which is being updated to reflect the reconciled remaining contract amount.

Outcome 2: Communities: Increase of \$205,000 or 1.0%

The modification to this priority outcome area is primarily driven by an increase to Network Capacity Building (\$150,000), Built Environment Policy Advocacy Fund (BPAF) (\$125,000) and Data Analysis, Learning and Dissemination (\$50,000). The Network Capacity Building and BPAF budgets are being adjusted in response to COVID-19 – to address the immediate capacity building needs of nonprofits within the Best Start geographies that are being exacerbated by coronavirus and support BEPAF's Strategic Response Funds to aid current sub-grantees, respectively. A portion of these increases are offset by the downward adjustment to the Stakeholder Engagement and Leveraging budget (\$120,000), reduced due to the rescheduling of the State of the Child Summit to FY 2021-22.

Outcome 3: Early Care & Education Systems: Increase of \$2,497,000 or 13.3%

The net change to the Early Care & Education Systems priority outcome area is related to new funding received from First 5 California to support a Dual Language Learner initiative (\$1,888,000) and incentive layer funding to support Quality Start L.A. included in the QRIS Continuous Site Engagement program (\$777,000). The Dual Language Learner funding will be regranted to external partners to develop resources and strategies to support Dual Language Learners. The net increase to ECE is offset by a decrease to the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) program (\$168,000). Due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, a decision was made not to expand KRA this fiscal year and therefore funding earmarked to pilot an additional school district will not be used.

Outcome 4: Health-Related Systems: Reduction of \$193,000 or -3.3%

The downward adjustment to the Health Systems outcome area is due to a revised estimated need in support of Help Me Grow through the end of the fiscal year. The budget was largely adjusted downward to reflect the staffing shifts and reassignments at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH), to support the broader COVID-19 response, as well as adjustments based on actual expenditures during the first half of the fiscal year and revised projected needs for the remainder for the fiscal year. The decrease is offset by new external funding from Aurrera Health Group, LLC, and corresponding proposed activities and costs. These activities include: 1) Network of Care Activities (NOC) for multiple types of providers; 2) Peer-to-Peer Learning amongst primary care physicians; and 3) White Paper Development to influence large scale systems change for screening alignment, treatment and referrals/care coordination. Funds more explicitly will be used for meeting facilitation consultants, research and report development consultants, speaker honorariums, subject matter experts, and subcontract with peer-to-peer joint partner American Academy of Pediatrics California Chapter 2, all with the goal to reduce adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) by half in one generation.

Policy & Strategy Support: Reduction of \$275,000 or -3.2%

The net downward adjustment to the Strategic Plan Policy & Strategy Support area of the budget is largely the result of pandemic-related implications, such as not funding large-scale public events – like the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, CicLAvia, and the Summer Children’s Concert Series – or procuring promotional items for said events. This resulted in a downward adjustment to Strategic Marketing (\$185,000). Additionally, the Strategic Communications budget was adjusted downward (\$200,000) as an appropriate news organization was not identified. The partnership with the Los Angeles Partnership for Early Childhood Investment (LAPECI) to build newsroom capacity to cover early learning issues with a news organization is postponed to FY 2021-22. These reductions are partly offset by increased needs in the Federal Policy and Sustainability Advocate budget (\$75,000) to support the We Must Count Coalition to strengthen systems to capture and release comprehensive and disaggregated COVID-19 data, and the Strategic Plan Advocacy Strategies (\$35,000) to support coalition facilitation and an increase in coalition governance and operations procedures development costs.

Integration & Learning: Reduction of \$71,000 or -1.6%

The total downward adjustment to Integration & Learning is an aggregate result of reductions to several budgets, including Family and Community Engagement Best Practices (\$75,000), Annual Reporting (\$25,000), Impact Framework (\$200,000) and Knowledge Management (\$55,000). Adjustments to these areas are due to timeline line shifts because of priority reassessments for the year and reassessment of the timing for primary data collection and external engagement. Many of the costs removed from this year’s budget will be revisited for next fiscal year. These decreases are partly offset by an increase to the Welcome Baby Impact Study (\$284,000) due to a modification to the study design, evaluation plan and Internal Review Board (IRB) protocols and the addition of a comparison group of WIC clients.

Legacy Investments: Increase of \$80,200 or 2.5%

Baby Friendly Hospitals: Increase of \$80,200

The Baby Friendly Hospitals: Baby Friendly Hospital Project – Cycle 4 was scheduled to end in FY 2019-20, however, the pandemic delayed the Baby Friendly designation site visit and related expenses. The FY 20-21 budget is being adjusted to reflect the remaining contract amount, which is higher than originally anticipated. Consequently, a no-cost extension is necessary to extend the timeline and access to remaining funds to complete the designation as a Baby Friendly Hospital in FY 20-21. No additional funds were added to this grantee’s contract.

Emerging Opportunities Fund: Decrease of \$2,785,000 or 93.0%

The Emerging Opportunities Fund is funding dedicated to enhancing First 5 LA’s capacity to act on new developments and opportunities given the complexity of the systems and partnerships that influence our work. This funding is also used to respond to emerging needs or unanticipated opportunities when found to align with the strategic direction of the organization. In addition, this fiscal year’s centralized funding also includes COVID-19 response resources to aid with the additional costs required to respond to immediate needs resulting from a global pandemic. In the end, COVID-19 relief resources were drawn from the individual program budgets. As a result, a downward adjustment of roughly \$2.8 million is made to the Emerging Opportunities Fund.

Operating Budget:

Per current First 5 LA policy, the Executive Director has the authority to approve budget adjustments to the Operating Budget between line items in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. Adjustments to the

various line items within the FY 2020-21 Operating Budget exceed this amount specified in the policy, and as such require approval by the Board of Commissioners. Consistent with past practice, spending projections and requested adjustments are prepared at the departmental level, which support the organization-wide adjustments presented for Commission approval in *Attachment 2*. This allows for more due diligence to ensure that budgets are monitored and managed at the appropriate level. Based on analysis of actual expenditures as well as additional anticipated expenditures through June 2021, we expect that higher-than-anticipated needs in some areas will be offset by savings projected in other areas. Implications resulting from the ongoing pandemic have resulted in projected lower than anticipated net operational costs for FY 2020-21.

The following are highlights of changes within the major spending categories:

- Personnel Related Expenses – Despite staff reductions over the course of the year, Finance has completed an analysis of the current personnel budget and concluded that due to the severance payments made to the separating employees, no adjustments are needed at mid-year.
- Operating Services – This category includes several line item adjustments, both upward and downward, with a total net decrease of \$150,650. This is primarily due to a decrease of \$164,000 in Miscellaneous/Contingency costs. These resources were largely intended to support the safety of staff upon returning to the office building such as plexiglass dividers, daily cleaning and deep cleaning services, additional security and temperature testing. Since staff will not be returning to the office building in FY 20-21 due to ongoing pandemic concerns, these resources have been adjusted downward. Additional decreases include: Worker’s Compensation Insurance (\$14,000), Mileage, Parking and Other Transportation (\$8,700), Internal Meetings (\$30,800), Capital Outlay (\$2,500) and Office Supplies (\$300) based on the current burn rate and projected cost for the remainder of the year, as well as a one-time Worker’s Compensation refund payment following the evaluation of actual claims. These decreases are offset by increases to Corporate Insurance (\$11,000) and Offsite Storage (\$4,550) which were adjusted to align with the revised anticipated need. The most notable upward adjustment is \$51,300 to Cell Phone and Mobile Phone Devices which is the result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the compensation to staff as we continue to telecommute. The original approved budget included \$50 for Cellphone and \$50 for Internet per month per staff member for the first 6 months of the fiscal year, as the duration of the pandemic was still unclear. The mid-year adjustment includes an additional 6 months of Internet and Cell Phone reimbursements as staff continue to work from home for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- Consultant Services – This category includes adjustments across multiple Departments, resulting in a net overall decrease of \$17,000. This is driven primarily by a decrease in the Early Care and Education Department budget as they will not be hiring for their monthly offsite retreats this fiscal year.
- Professional Services – This category reflects a net downward adjustment in costs of \$6,900 based on a decrease to Professional Dues (\$6,900) which was adjusted based on incurred expenditure trends in the first half of the fiscal year and projected need for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- Travel Expenses – This category includes adjustments to all departments with travel budgets based on the ongoing pandemic. As such, all remaining travel related costs including Airfare, Lodging, Per Diem and Other Travel Expenses that were anticipated for the second half of the fiscal year were eliminated. The remaining budget resources will be used offset costs from FY 2019-20 that were applied to the FY 2020-21 budget due to submission delays. The net result is a decrease of \$286,195 to Travel Expenses.
- Professional Development – This category includes Training Materials & Supplies, Internal Training, Leadership Programs, Conference Registrations and External Education/Training. Downward adjustments were made to Internal Training, Conference Registrations, and External Education/Training. These line items were adjusted to align with incurred expenditures and

projected need for the remainder of the fiscal year as the ongoing pandemic has impacted the previously anticipated professional development opportunities. The adjustments to these line items resulted in a net decrease of \$28,500.

Administrative Cost:

Though it does not set or mandate a limit, Proposition 10 does require all First 5 commissions to establish an administrative cost cap. As part of the approval of the annual fiscal year budget, First 5 LA approves an annual limit on the organization's administrative spending. While this administrative cost limit represents a percentage of the overall fiscal year budget, the Commission approves the limit at the dollar amount level. This is because administrative costs are generally not as fluid as other types of costs and cannot adapt quickly to respond to changes in actual spending levels.

The administrative cost limit approved in July 2020 as part of the FY 2020-21 Budget was \$14.3 million, or roughly 11.47% of annual spending. Based on the mid-year budget revisions discussed above and detailed in *Attachment 2*, the total revised administrative cost decreased to approximately \$13.8 million, as did the percentage – relative to annual program spending – to 11.18%. It should be noted that although the administrative cost percentage will fluctuate throughout the year, as it is dependent on incurred programmatic expenditures, the administrative spending for the fiscal year will not exceed the approved amount.

Revenue:

During FY 2020-21, First 5 LA received \$2.99 million in supplemental non-Proposition 10 revenue, approved by the Board of Commissioners, to support the organization's goals and offset an additional \$2.99 million in revised expenditures at mid-year. Funding includes pass-through resources from First 5 California (F5CA) to advance and support strategies related to the Dual Language Learners initiative, Quality Counts California (QCC) and the Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA) efforts. F5CA is also providing funding to implement the Home Visiting Coordination (HVC) project. Additional funds from Aurrera Health Group, LLC (ACEs funding) will enhance First 5 LA's capacity to implement provider adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) engagement activities.

Tobacco tax revenue is projected to be roughly \$72.0 million in FY 2020-21 per the most recent estimate from the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDFTA) released in June 2020. The comparison of projected revenues is consistent with the average annual forecasted rate of decline of approximately 3-4% in tobacco tax revenue. The increase to FY 2019-20 revenues is due to an increase in Proposition 56 backfill payments which are issued in arrears and are distributed irregularly and delayed, making monthly or quarterly analysis challenging. The projected Proposition 56 backfill for FY 2020-21 is estimated to be approximately \$18.2 which is at the same level as the prior year. Recent conversations with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) and other key stakeholders suggest possible backfill methodology irregularities which may impact future payouts. Staff will continue to work with and engage other County Commissions, the State First 5 Association, and the CDTFA to monitor, evaluate and discuss any potential revenue impacts.

Interest earnings are projected to yield approximately \$4.1 million in revenue for FY 2020-21. The lease agreement with La Petite, which occupied the first floor of the Commission building, ended in FY 2019-20 and will not be renewed—this results in an approximately \$145,000 decrease in revenue.

| Projected Revenue | FY 2020-21 | | Variance |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| | LTFP Projected Estimates | Revised Mid-Year Estimates | |
| Proposition 10/Proposition 56 Allocations* | \$ 67,885,883 | \$ 70,909,108 | \$ 3,023,225 |
| Other Revenue | 4,150,000 | 4,150,000 | - |
| First 5 CA | - | 2,765,000 | 2,765,000 |
| Aurrera Health Group, LLC (ACEs) | - | 225,000 | 225,000 |
| Interest Earnings | 4,050,792 | 4,050,792 | - |
| Total Projected Revenue | \$ 76,086,675 | \$ 82,099,900 | \$ 6,013,225 |

*Includes a 2% downward internal adjustment in response to Proposition 56 trends

CONCLUSION:

First 5 LA's budget is largely built upon estimates and reflects projected expenditures for FY 2020-21. As we transition into a new Strategic Plan amidst a global pandemic, these approximations result in the need for a mid-year adjustment process to align the current year budget to revised cost estimates in response to new information and actual spending and revenues for the first half of FY 2020-21. Although historical spending is utilized in the development of proposed cost estimates, the addition of new and/or emerging investments make historical trends less applicable. Other factors that contribute to changing estimates include:

- **Contract negotiations:** Preliminary grantee/vendor contract estimates are used during the budget development process as contracts are regularly finalized after the Board has approved the budget. In many cases, providers do not have the level of detail necessary to inform future spending until the contract is being developed (negotiated) with First 5 LA. Frequently, the final contracts are lower than originally estimated.
- **New funding opportunities:** First 5 LA's work requires us to be adaptable to changing circumstances and new opportunities. The continued decline of Proposition 10 revenues means that the organization must pursue additional funding and/or partnerships to leverage resources and maximize impact. New revenues are received throughout the fiscal year, with corresponding costs and budgetary implications.
- **Real experience:** An additional year of experience and data has yielded significant information about actual project cost for many of our ongoing investments. This program implementation spending experience allows First 5 LA to use more data to inform better future estimates.

The mid-year shifts and adjustments proposed for FY 2020-21 are reflective of increased experience and adaptability. The mid-year process has allowed the organization to go back to the Board to propose refined estimates, informed by final negotiated contracts, actual expenditures, a continued transition to alignment with a revised strategic plan, implications of a global pandemic and any new information impacting First 5 LA investments. As always, we will continue to strive toward optimizing our effectiveness while adjusting to the organization's fiscal reality.

NEXT STEPS:

First 5 LA's approach to budgeting has evolved in recent years and will continue to evolve – informed by experience - to achieve greater clarity and transparency. The analysis of spending trends and project status that was conducted as part of the mid-year budget adjustment process this year will be used to inform the FY 2021-22 Budget development process. This analysis will also inform the reaffirmation process that takes place in conjunction with the approval of the FY 2021-22 Budget, through which all levels of fund balance are evaluated for appropriateness and potential modifications. The proposed FY 2021-22 Budget is expected to be presented to the Board of Commissioners on May 13, 2021 for discussion.

| BUDGET COMPONENT | FY 2020-21 APPROVED | PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT | FY 2020-21 REVISED BUDGET | % CHANGE |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 2020-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN | | | | |
| 1 Families | \$ 37,631,000 | \$ 587,000 | \$ 38,218,000 | 1.6% |
| 2 Communities | 20,200,000 | 205,000 | 20,405,000 | 1.0% |
| 3 Early Care & Education Systems | 18,791,000 | 2,497,000 | 21,288,000 | 13.3% |
| 4 Health-Related Systems | 5,768,000 | (193,000) | 5,575,000 | -3.3% |
| Sub-total: 2020-2028 Strategic Plan | \$ 82,390,000 | \$ 3,096,000 | \$ 85,486,000 | 3.8% |
| Policy & Strategy Support | | | | |
| 5 Policy Agenda/Advocacy | \$ 1,515,000 | \$ 110,000 | \$ 1,625,000 | 7.3% |
| 6 Communications & Marketing | 5,748,000 | (385,000) | 5,363,000 | -6.7% |
| 7 County Partnerships | 315,000 | - | 315,000 | 0.0% |
| 8 Strategic Partnership-Cross-Cutting Funder Partnership | 692,000 | - | 692,000 | 0.0% |
| 9 Strategic Partnership-Grantmaking Memberships | 41,000 | - | 41,000 | 0.0% |
| 10 Community Engagement and Advocacy | 207,000 | - | 207,000 | 0.0% |
| Sub-total: Policy & Strategy Support | \$ 8,518,000 | \$ (275,000) | \$ 8,243,000 | -3.2% |
| Integration & Learning | | | | |
| 11 Communities of Practice | \$ 114,000 | \$ (75,000) | \$ 39,000 | -65.8% |
| 12 Data Development and Integration | 752,000 | (25,000) | 727,000 | -3.3% |
| 13 Data Partnership with Funders | 850,000 | - | 850,000 | 0.0% |
| 14 Dissemination | 20,000 | - | 20,000 | 0.0% |
| 15 Impact Framework | 325,000 | (200,000) | 125,000 | -61.5% |
| 16 Knowledge Management | 80,000 | (55,000) | 25,000 | -68.8% |
| 17 Learning Plan Development | 100,000 | - | 100,000 | 0.0% |
| 18 Program Evaluation | 2,082,000 | 284,000 | 2,366,000 | 13.6% |
| 19 Staff Capacity Building | 75,000 | - | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| Sub-total Integration & Learning | \$ 4,398,000 | \$ (71,000) | \$ 4,327,000 | -1.6% |
| TOTAL 2020-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN | \$ 95,306,000 | \$ 2,750,000 | \$ 98,056,000 | 2.9% |
| LEGACY INVESTMENTS | | | | |
| 20 Baby Friendly Hospitals | \$ 48,000 | \$ 80,200 | \$ 128,200 | 167.1% |
| 21 Little by Little/One Step Ahead | 3,105,000 | - | 3,105,000 | 0.0% |
| TOTAL LEGACY INVESTMENTS | \$ 3,153,000 | \$ 80,200 | \$ 3,233,200 | 2.5% |
| 22 Emerging Opportunities Fund | \$ 3,000,000 | \$ (2,785,000) | \$ 215,000 | -92.8% |
| TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS | \$ 101,459,000 | \$ 45,200 | \$ 101,504,200 | 0.0% |
| TOTAL FIRST 5 LA BUDGET | \$ 101,459,000 | \$ 45,200 | \$ 101,504,200 | 0.0% |

| INITIATIVE / STRATEGY NAME | PROJECT NAME | FY 2020-21 APPROVED BUDGET | PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS | FY 2020-21 REVISED BUDGET | CHANGE |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | % |
| 2020-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN | | | | | |
| Home Visiting | Welcome Baby Hospitals | \$ 21,730,000 | | \$ 21,730,000 | 0% |
| | Select Home Visiting Programs | 10,170,000 | 630,000 | 10,800,000 | 6% |
| | Deb Daro Consultation | - | 35,000 | 35,000 | 100% |
| | Family Strengthening Oversight Entity | 3,650,000 | (50,000) | 3,600,000 | -1% |
| | F5CA Home Visiting Coordination Project | - | 100,000 | 100,000 | |
| | Funding to Support Home Visiting Health Plan Partnerships | 50,000 | | 50,000 | 0% |
| | Home Visiting Sustainability Support in Health Systems | 120,000 | | 120,000 | 0% |
| | Home Visiting Sustainability Support in Mental Health Systems | 75,000 | | 75,000 | 0% |
| | Infrastructure Support for Health Plan Reimbursement | 25,000 | | 25,000 | 0% |
| | LAC Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting Consortium | 50,000 | | 50,000 | 0% |
| | MAMA's Visits Home Visiting Program Training and T.A. Support | 265,000 | | 265,000 | 0% |
| | Stronger Families Database | 667,000 | | 667,000 | 0% |
| | Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Implementation Support | 277,000 | (67,000) | 210,000 | -24% |
| Family Engagement | Abriendo Puertas | 230,000 | | 230,000 | 0% |
| | Project Dulce | 282,000 | (61,000) | 221,000 | -22% |
| | Family Engagement Learning Community Support | 40,000 | | 40,000 | 0% |
| Sub-total Families | | \$ 37,631,000 | \$ 587,000 | \$ 38,218,000 | 1.6% |
| Best Start Networks | Neighborhood Action Councils | \$ 450,000 | | \$ 450,000 | 0% |
| | Region 1 Central-East Regional Network | 4,392,000 | | 4,392,000 | 0% |
| | Region 2 SLA Regional Network | 5,014,000 | | 5,014,000 | 0% |
| | Region 3 SFV Regional Network | 2,315,000 | | 2,315,000 | 0% |
| | Region 4 Port Cities Regional Network | 2,644,000 | | 2,644,000 | 0% |
| | Region 5 AV Regional Network | 2,180,000 | | 2,180,000 | 0% |
| | Network Capacity Building | 575,000 | 150,000 | 725,000 | 26% |
| Public Infrastructure | Built Environment Policy Advocacy Fund (BPAF) | 875,000 | 125,000 | 1,000,000 | 14% |
| | Food Security | 105,000 | | 105,000 | 0% |
| | Link Advocates Government Family and Parks (Link) | 300,000 | | 300,000 | 0% |
| Field Building | Capacity Building Learning Consortium | 400,000 | | 400,000 | 0% |
| | Data Analysis, Learning and Dissemination | 650,000 | 50,000 | 700,000 | 8% |
| | Stakeholder Engagement and Leveraging | 300,000 | (120,000) | 180,000 | -40% |
| Sub-total Communities | | \$ 20,200,000 | \$ 205,000 | \$ 20,405,000 | 1.0% |
| County Systems Building | County Liaison Consultant | \$ 75,000 | | 75,000 | 0% |
| | Early Childhood Education Credential Advocacy Project | 362,000 | | 362,000 | 0% |
| | ECE Policy Advocacy Fund | 3,350,000 | | 3,350,000 | 0% |
| | Educare Policy and Advocacy | 300,000 | | 300,000 | 0% |
| | FCC Strategy | 200,000 | | 200,000 | 0% |
| | Kindergarten Readiness Assessment | 6,309,000 | (168,000) | 6,141,000 | -3% |

| INITIATIVE / STRATEGY NAME | PROJECT NAME | FY 2020-21 APPROVED BUDGET | PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS | FY 2020-21 REVISED BUDGET | CHANGE |
|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | | % |
| Quality Improvement System | VIVA Social Impact Partners | 400,000 | | 400,000 | 0% |
| | QRIS Continuous Site Engagement | 1,300,000 | 777,000 | 2,077,000 | 60% |
| | Dual Language Learner | - | 1,888,000 | 1,888,000 | 100% |
| | QRIS Database | 600,000 | | 600,000 | 0% |
| | FFN Landscape | 200,000 | | 200,000 | 0% |
| | IMPACT 2020 | 2,760,000 | | 2,760,000 | 0% |
| | QSLA Expansion | 2,100,000 | | 2,100,000 | 0% |
| | Shared Services Support | 3,000 | | 3,000 | 0% |
| Early Childhood Educator Competencies Curriculum Project | 182,000 | | 182,000 | 0% | |
| ECE Workforce Registry | 650,000 | | 650,000 | 0% | |
| Sub-total ECE | | \$ 18,791,000 | \$ 2,497,000 | \$ 21,288,000 | 13.3% |
| Early Identification and Intervention | Help Me Grow | \$ 3,496,000 | \$ (418,000) | \$ 3,078,000 | -12% |
| | First Connections | 583,000 | | 583,000 | 0% |
| Trauma-Informed Approaches | Trauma-Informed Approaches | 289,000 | 225,000 | 514,000 | 78% |
| AAIMM Birth Outcomes and Disparities – Policy and Systems Change | AAIMM Birth Outcomes and Disparities – Policy and Systems Change | 1,400,000 | | 1,400,000 | 0% |
| Sub-total Health | | \$ 5,768,000 | \$ (193,000) | \$ 5,575,000 | -3.3% |
| Sub-Total | | \$ 82,390,000 | \$ 3,096,000 | \$ 85,486,000 | 3.8% |
| Policy & Strategy Support | | | | | |
| Policy Agenda/Advocacy | Federal Policy and Sustainability Advocate | \$ 100,000 | \$ 75,000 | \$ 175,000 | 75% |
| | State Policy and Sustainability Advocate | 440,000 | | 440,000 | 0% |
| | Strategic Plan Advocacy Strategies | 975,000 | 35,000 | 1,010,000 | 4% |
| Communications & Marketing | Strategic Communications | 2,700,000 | (200,000) | 2,500,000 | -7% |
| | Strategic Communications Partnerships | 800,000 | | 800,000 | 0% |
| | Strategic Marketing | 2,248,000 | (185,000) | 2,063,000 | -8% |
| County Partnerships | Bold Vision | 150,000 | | 150,000 | 0% |
| | County Partnership Fund | 165,000 | | 165,000 | 0% |
| Strategic Partnership - Cross-Cutting Funder Partnership | LA Funders Collaborative | 25,000 | | 25,000 | 0% |
| | LA-N-Sync | 25,000 | | 25,000 | 0% |
| | Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce | 30,000 | | 30,000 | 0% |
| | Los Angeles Partnership for Early Childhood Investment | 30,000 | | 30,000 | 0% |
| | Sector Partnership Development | 470,000 | | 470,000 | 0% |
| | Southern California Grantmakers (SCG) | 112,000 | | 112,000 | 0% |
| Strategic Partnership - Grantmaking Memberships | Grantmaking Memberships | 41,000 | | 41,000 | 0% |
| Community Engagement and Advocacy | Municipalities Engagement | 130,000 | | 130,000 | 0% |
| | Parent Advocacy and Engagement | 77,000 | | 77,000 | 0% |
| Sub-Total: Policy & Strategy Support | | \$ 8,518,000 | \$ (275,000) | \$ 8,243,000 | -3.2% |
| INTEGRATION & LEARNING | | | | | |
| Communities of Practice | Family and Community Engagement Best Practices | \$ 100,000 | \$ (75,000) | \$ 25,000 | -75% |
| | Organization-wide Learning | 14,000 | | 14,000 | 0% |
| Data Development and Integration | Data Policies & Practices | 25,000 | | 25,000 | 0% |
| | Data Requests | 5,000 | | 5,000 | 0% |
| | Annual Reporting | 25,000 | (25,000) | - | -100% |
| | Indicator Development | 150,000 | | 150,000 | 0% |
| WIC Data Mining Research Partnership | 547,000 | | 547,000 | 0% | |

| INITIATIVE / STRATEGY NAME | PROJECT NAME | FY 2020-21 APPROVED BUDGET | PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS | FY 2020-21 REVISED BUDGET | CHANGE |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | | % |
| Data Partnership with Funders | Children's Data Network (CDN) | 850,000 | | 850,000 | 0% |
| Dissemination | Dissemination | 20,000 | | 20,000 | 0% |
| Impact Framework | Impact Framework | 325,000 | (200,000) | 125,000 | -62% |
| Knowledge Management | Knowledge Management | 80,000 | (55,000) | 25,000 | -69% |
| Learning Plan Development | First 5 LA Data Strategy | 100,000 | | 100,000 | 0% |
| Program Evaluation | Best Start Learning Agenda | 540,000 | | 540,000 | 0% |
| | Early Identification and Intervention Evaluation | 150,000 | | 150,000 | 0% |
| | Quality Rating and Improvement System Evaluation | 522,000 | | 522,000 | 0% |
| | Welcome Baby Impact Study | 870,000 | 284,000 | 1,154,000 | 33% |
| Staff Capacity Building | Capacity Building and Technical Assistance | 75,000 | | 75,000 | 0% |
| Sub-total Integration & Learning | | \$ 4,398,000 | \$ (71,000) | \$ 4,327,000 | -1.6% |
| TOTAL 2020-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN | | \$ 95,306,000 | \$ 2,750,000 | \$ 98,056,000 | 2.9% |
| LEGACY INVESTMENTS | | | | | |
| Baby Friendly Hospitals | Baby Friendly Hospital Project - Cycle 4 | \$ 48,000 | \$ 80,200 | \$ 128,200 | 167% |
| Little by Little/One Step Ahead | Little by Little/One Step Ahead Program | 3,105,000 | | 3,105,000 | 0% |
| TOTAL LEGACY INVESTMENTS | | \$ 3,153,000 | \$ 80,200 | \$ 3,233,200 | 2.5% |
| Emerging Opportunities Fund | Emerging Opportunities Fund* | \$ 3,000,000 | \$ (2,785,000) | 215,000 | -93% |
| TOTAL FIRST 5 LA PROGRAM BUDGET | | \$ 101,459,000 | \$ 45,200 | \$ 101,504,200 | 0.0% |

* Emerging Opportunities/Threats resources were included throughout the programs budgets in FY 2019-20 and centralized in FY 20-21.

* Emerging Opportunities Fund also includes resources to support the COVID-19 response needs.

BUDGET SUMMARY FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Adjustments

| | Approved FY 2020-21 Budget | Estimated FY 2020-21 Expenditures | Projected Savings/ (Shortfalls) | Mid-Year Adjustments | Revised FY 2020-21 Budget |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Personnel Related Expenses | | | | | |
| Salaries & Wages | 13,722,800 | 10,402,581 | 3,320,219 | - | 13,722,800 |
| Fringe Benefits | 4,081,895 | 3,568,314 | 513,581 | - | 4,081,895 |
| Total Personnel Related Expenses | 17,804,695 | 13,970,895 | 3,833,800 | - | 17,804,695 |
| Operating Services | | | | | |
| ADP-Payroll | 40,000 | 26,846 | 13,154 | - | 40,000 |
| Worker's Compensation Insurance | 75,000 | 63,139 | 11,861 | (14,000) | 61,000 |
| Utilities | 145,000 | 108,009 | 36,991 | - | 145,000 |
| Corporate Insurance | 90,000 | 31,000 | 59,000 | 11,000 | 101,000 |
| Mileage, Parking and Other Transportation | 43,370 | 3,246 | 40,124 | (8,700) | 34,670 |
| Telephone | 70,000 | 29,379 | 40,621 | - | 70,000 |
| Cell Phone & Mobile Devices | 116,100 | 86,650 | 29,450 | 51,300 | 167,400 |
| Outside Printing & Publishing | 3,600 | 5,100 | (1,500) | - | 3,600 |
| Other Supplies | 10,250 | - | 10,250 | - | 10,250 |
| Postage & Delivery | 13,200 | 5,961 | 7,239 | - | 13,200 |
| Educational Supplies | 2,900 | 771 | 2,129 | - | 2,900 |
| Office Supplies | 77,870 | 17,169 | 60,701 | (300) | 77,570 |
| Subscriptions & Publications | 25,440 | 3,156 | 22,284 | 2,800 | 28,240 |
| Capital Outlay | 147,000 | 849 | 146,151 | (2,500) | 144,500 |
| Equipment-Rents & Leases | 27,000 | 17,481 | 9,519 | - | 27,000 |
| Building Repair & Maintenance | 150,000 | 86,463 | 63,537 | - | 150,000 |
| Equipment Repairs & Maintenance | 12,000 | - | 12,000 | - | 12,000 |
| Offsite Storage | 25,000 | 25,125 | (125) | 4,550 | 29,550 |
| Hardware & Software Maintenance | 470,730 | 61,578 | 409,152 | - | 470,730 |
| Miscellaneous/Contingency | 259,000 | - | 259,000 | (164,000) | 95,000 |
| Stipend/Honorarium | - | - | - | - | - |
| Internal Meetings | 125,800 | 19,190 | 106,610 | (30,800) | 95,000 |
| Divisional Capacity Building | 75,000 | - | - | - | 75,000 |
| Total Operating Services | 2,004,260 | 591,113 | 1,338,147 | (150,650) | 1,853,610 |
| Consultant Services | | | | | |
| Consultant Fees | 1,435,725 | 553,823 | 881,902 | (17,000) | 1,418,725 |
| Other Professional Fees | 350,500 | 251,007 | 99,493 | - | 350,500 |
| External Reviewers | 3,000 | - | 3,000 | - | 3,000 |
| Total Consultant Services | 1,789,225 | 804,830 | 984,395 | (17,000) | 1,772,225 |
| Professional Services | | | | | |
| Audit | 90,000 | 61,000 | 29,000 | - | 90,000 |
| Legal Fees | 150,000 | 114,906 | 35,094 | - | 150,000 |
| Professional Dues | 126,718 | 78,277 | 48,441 | (6,900) | 119,818 |
| Staff Recruitment | 10,000 | 396 | 9,604 | - | 10,000 |
| Commissioners Stipends | 25,000 | 21,600 | 3,400 | - | 25,000 |
| Web-Based Services | 48,000 | 16,776 | 31,224 | - | 48,000 |
| Bank & Other Service Charges | 35,000 | 32,000 | 3,000 | - | 35,000 |
| Total Professional Services | 484,718 | 324,955 | 159,763 | (6,900) | 477,818 |
| Travel Expenses | | | | | |
| Airfare | 127,350 | - | 127,350 | (116,850) | 10,500 |
| Lodging | 114,225 | - | 114,225 | (108,225) | 6,000 |
| Per Diem | 59,745 | - | 59,745 | (55,620) | 4,125 |
| Other Travel Expense | 25,425 | - | 25,425 | (5,500) | 19,925 |
| Total Travel Expenses | 326,745 | - | 326,745 | (286,195) | 40,550 |
| Depreciation Expense | | | | | |
| Depreciation Expense | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Depreciation Expense | - | - | - | - | - |
| Professional Development | | | | | |
| Training Materials & Supplies | 11,300 | - | 11,300 | - | 11,300 |
| Internal Training | 92,000 | 10,000 | 84,400 | (1,000) | 91,000 |
| Leadership Programs | 48,500 | 14,850 | 33,650 | - | 48,500 |
| Conference Registrations | 158,750 | 19,384 | 139,366 | (16,100) | 142,650 |
| External Education/Training | 77,300 | 1,803 | 75,497 | (11,400) | 65,900 |
| Total Professional Development | 387,850 | 46,037 | 344,213 | (28,500) | 359,350 |
| Marketing | | | | | |
| Advertising-Print | - | - | - | - | - |
| Advertising-Radio | - | - | - | - | - |
| Advertising-Digital | - | - | - | - | - |
| Advertising-Out Of Home | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sponsorship | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total OPERATING EXPENSES | 22,797,493 | 15,737,830 | 6,987,064 | (489,245) | 22,308,248 |

FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Revised Budget

Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

February 11, 2021



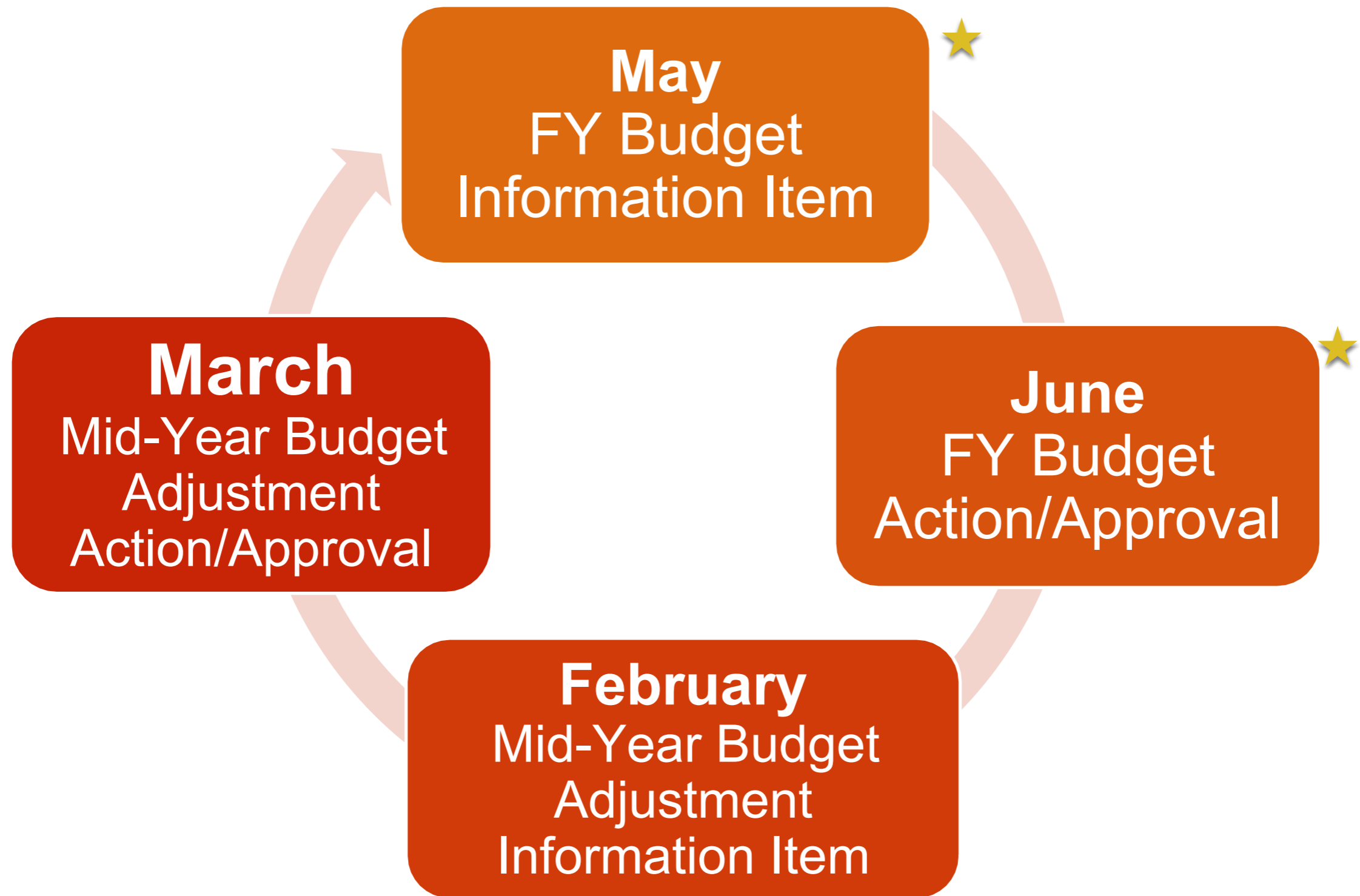
Objectives


- 1) Key Themes
- 2) Overview of Key Budget Development Dates
- 3) Mid-Year Adjustment Purpose & Process
- 4) Mid-Year Adjustment Impact to the FY 2020-21 Budget
- 5) High-level Discussion of Program and Operating Cost Adjustments
- 6) Revenue Updates
- 7) Next Steps

Mid-Year Adjustment: Key Themes

1. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the activities originally proposed for FY 20-21.
2. Additional Board approved non-Proposition 10 funding received after the development and approval of the FY 20-21 original budget (F5CA and Aurrera Health Group, LLC) is driving an increase in expenditures.
3. The net downward adjustment is largely the result of an adjustment to the Emerging Opportunities Fund which reconciled the accounting of resources within the individual program budgets and the EO Fund Budget, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commission Budget Review Process



 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Budget was presented to the Board as an Information Item in June and an Action Item in July 2020.

Purpose

The purpose of the Mid-Year Adjustment process is to adjust the current year budget (up or down) to reflect changing circumstances and updated information. It is also an opportunity to communicate any changes to revenue. Requires Board action.

Process

Consistent with prior years, we consolidated all adjustments into a single mid-year process. Proposed adjustments include both upward and downward alignment to spending authority are appropriate based on analysis of spending and updated information.

Mid-Year Adj. Board Policy Limitations

Program: All adjustments to approved Program budget amounts must be brought to the Board of Commissioners for approval

Operating: Adjustments between line items in excess of \$25,000 must be brought to the Board of Commissioners for approval

Pursuant to the above, the FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Adjusted Budget will be brought before the Board for approval.

FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Revised Budget Summary

| Budget Component | Approved FY 2020-21 Budget | Proposed Adjustments | Revised FY 2020-21 Budget | % Change |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Program | | | | |
| <i>Total 2020-2028 Strategic Plan</i> | \$ 95,306,000 | \$ 2,750,000 | \$ 98,056,000* | 2.9% |
| <i>Legacy Investments</i> | 3,153,000 | 80,200 | 3,233,200 | 2.5% |
| <i>Emerging Opportunities Fund</i> | 3,000,000 | (2,785,000) | 215,000 | -92.8% |
| Total Program | \$ 101,459,000 | \$ 45,200 | \$ 101,504,200 | 0.0% |
| Operating | 22,797,493 | (489,245) | 22,308,248 | -2.1% |
| Total FY 2020-21 Budget | \$ 124,256,493 | \$ (444,045) | \$ 123,812,448 | -0.4% |

*Expenditures are offset with \$2.99 million in funding from First 5 CA (Families and ECE) and the Aurrera Health Group, LLC for ACE's (Health)

Emerging Opportunities Fund Adjustment

| SOURCE | AMOUNT | ADDITIONAL CONTEXT |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Component 1* | \$2,435,000 | Board Approved through original budget process. Resources included in corresponding project budgets. Rounded up from \$2,434,583 |
| Network Capacity Building | 150,000 | Existing investment. Additional resources were approved through COVID Response Grant process |
| Built Environment Policy Advocacy Fund (BEPAF) | 125,000 | Existing investment. Additional resources were approved through COVID Response Grant process |
| Federal Policy and Sustainability Advocate | 75,000 | Existing investment. Additional resources were approved through COVID Response Grant process |
| TOTAL EO FUND ADJUSTMENT | \$2,785,000 | |

**Component 1 funds were identified late in the budget development in direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds were intended to facilitate our COVID-19 responsiveness by providing additional targeted support to existing contractors with unique capabilities and needs as well as offering additional support to new opportunities, including pooled or aligned funds.*

Operating Budget

| Operating Cost Category | Approved FY 20-21 Budget | Proposed Adjustments | Revised FY 20-21 Budget | % Change |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Personnel Services | \$ 17,804,695 | \$ - | \$ 17,804,695 | 0.0% |
| Operating Expenses | 2,004,260 | (150,650) | 1,853,610 | -7.5% |
| Consultant Services | 1,789,225 | (17,000) | 1,772,225 | -1.0% |
| Professional Services | 484,718 | (6,900) | 477,818 | -1.4% |
| Travel Expenses | 326,745 | (286,195) | 40,550 | -87.6% |
| Professional Development | 387,850 | (28,500) | 359,350 | -7.3% |
| Total Operating Costs | \$ 22,797,493 | \$ (489,245) | \$ 22,308,248 | -2.1% |

Operating Cost Distribution (\$22.3M):

- \$13.8M Administrative Operations
- \$8.5M Program Operations

Administrative Cost Limit (ACL)

The mid-year adjustment process resulted in a decrease to the ACL from \$14.3 million or 11.47% of the total proposed FY 2020-21 budget to \$13.8 million or 11.18%

- Decrease due to an overall reduction in operating costs

Revenue Updates

| Projected Revenue | FY 2020-21 LTFP Projected Estimates | FY 2020-21 Revised Mid-Year Estimates | Variance |
|--|---|---|---------------------|
| Proposition 10/Proposition 56 Allocations* | \$ 67,885,883 | \$ 70,909,108 | \$ 3,023,225 |
| Other Revenue | 4,150,000 | 4,150,000 | - |
| First 5 CA | - | 2,765,000 | 2,765,000 |
| Aurrera Health Group, LLC (ACEs) | - | 225,000 | 225,000 |
| Interest Earnings | 4,050,792 | 4,050,792 | - |
| Total Projected Revenue | \$ 76,086,675 | \$ 82,099,900 | \$ 6,013,225 |

*Includes a 2% downward internal adjustment in response to Proposition 56 trends

Next Steps

- Feb 9, 2021– Special Board/Committee Meeting
 - Special Board/Budget & Finance Committee: Discussion of draft FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Revised Budget



February 11, 2021– Commission Meeting

- Information Item: Overview and discussion of draft FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Revised Budget
- March 11, 2021– Commission Meeting
 - Action Item (CONSENT): Share the FY 2020-21 Mid-Year Revised Budget materials for approval

Adjustments will inform:

- The Long-Term Financial Plan (FY 20-21 Revised Budget estimates will replace the FY 20-21 Original Budget, included in the long-term financial plan)
- Development of the FY 2021-22 Budget, currently underway

Questions



FY 2020-21 BUDGET CALENDAR

| DATE | ACTIVITY | VENUE |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| February 2021 | <i>FY 2019-20 Mid-Year Revised Budget</i> Provide FY 2019-20 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment update to the Budget and Finance Committee Provide Long Term Financial <i>Plan and</i> revised Policy updates to the Budget and Finance Committee | Budget & Finance Committee |
| February 2021 | Provide FY 2019-20 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment update to the Commission | Commission Meeting |
| March 2021 | Request Commission adoption of the FY 2020-21 Revised Budget (Consent) | Commission Meeting |
| January 2021 | <i>FY 2021-22 Budget Development and Updates to the Long-Term Financial Plan</i> Provide updates re: LTFP and training to First 5 LA staff on budget process and development | Internal Staff Training |
| February - April 2021 | Complete Budget development and updated to the LTFP | Internal Staff Process |
| May 2021 | Present FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget and revised LTFP to the joint Budget and Finance/Executive Committees | Budget & Finance/Executive Committee Meeting |
| May 2021 | Present FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget and revised LTFP to the Commission (Informational) | Commission Meeting |
| May 2021 | Revise FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget and revised LTFP as necessary | Internal Staff Process |
| May 2021 | Present revised FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget and revised LTFP to the Budget and Finance Committee <i>(tentative, contingent on proposed changes)</i> | Budget & Finance Committee |
| May 2021 | Present revised FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget and LTFP to the Program and Planning Committee | Program and Planning Committee Meeting |
| June 2021 | Request Commission adoption of the FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget and revised LTFP | Commission Meeting |

FIRST 5 LA

SUBJECT:

Preview Series of Upcoming Discussions on Best Start Regions

BACKGROUND:

The North Star guiding First 5 LA's work is: *By 2028, all children in Los Angeles County will enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life.* First 5 LA supports the strengthening of public and community systems, advancing and building on community experience, and expanding influence and impact with data in 14 geographic areas in Los Angeles County through an initiative called Best Start. This investment was created in 2010 to cultivate community partnerships, i.e. collaborative spaces where community members would become powerful catalysts to achieve and sustain positive outcomes for children and families in their communities.

Through Best Start, our goal is to catalyze, strengthen, elevate and scale empowering and innovative approaches generated by communities that improve the lives of children prenatal to age 5, their families and communities. This is consistent with FY 2020-2028 Strategic Plan Objective 2.1, which focuses on demonstrating impact at a local level as "proof of concept" to inform countywide system improvement efforts.

In 2018, First 5 LA Board of Commissioners approved five Regional Network Grantees (RNGs): Para Los Niños (Region 1), Community Health Councils (Region 2), El Nido Family Services (Region 3), The Nonprofit Partnership (Region 4), and Children's Bureau (Region 5). This was the result of a comprehensive community planning process, transitioning the work into five regions, consisting of the 14 geographic areas, and supporting the emergence of regional and local networks of parents, residents, other community leaders and organizational partners, including but not limited to the Best Start community partnerships. This shift to networks recognizes the critical role networks play in developing, uplifting, and sustaining systems changes. The RNGs manage regional work and the strategic progress of the local networks, along with contracted partners.

Complementing the regional work are issues that are cross-cutting across regions. As an example, community members in the Best Start regions have elevated concerns that the lack of investment in the built environment – the human-made elements where we live, work, and play – affects early childhood development, learning, and family well-being, especially their physical and mental health and social connection, and particularly for families that are socially isolated. Strategic Plan Objective 2.4 specifically identified access to quality food as a critical challenge for all families and a focus of First 5 LA's built environment effort is food security. As part of the update of the Best Start regional work, the February PPC meeting will include a presentation on the learnings from our partnership with the Department of Public Social Services to understand the challenges and barriers that families in the Best Start communities encounter in accessing CalFresh benefits.

DISCUSSION:

Beginning in February, staff proposes to engage the Board in a series of in-depth discussions this winter and spring to share learnings and results from the initial roll-out through today under the new regional model. The February 2021 Board presentation will highlight how the Communities Department embodies First 5 LA's commitment to systems change and is catalyzing movements dedicated to effecting population results in the Best Start geographies for young children and their families. Through partnership and collaboration among families, caregivers, residents, community-based organizations, built environment advocates, and other partners, First 5 LA is committed to improving results within the Best Start geographies.

This will be an opportunity to share our learning and solicit the Board's feedback to inform development of the Communities Team's FY 21-22 work plan, budget, and related contracts which will be considered by the Board this spring.

The approach will engage the Program and Planning Committee over the next three meetings on the progress in the five Best Start regions directly related to the Regional Network Grantees support of:

- Network growth and partner cultivation: Activating an evolved Best Start structure that increases community engagement, supports a networked approach to advancing policy and systems change goals and fosters collective and coordinated action between residents and organizational partners; a networked movement that advances community change priorities
- Network capacity and leadership development: Identifying and engaging residents for capacity building that supports full engagement in systems change across regional collaboration and advocacy at the city and county levels; and identifying and engaging organizational partners to build the capacities needed to contribute to community-centered systems change efforts and work in networks toward collective action.
- Resource mobilization and network sustainability: The network's seeking and diversifying funding sources, leverage human capital, family and community resources that help advance the community priorities and system change opportunities, and to sustain and scale existing infrastructure, processes, practices and learnings long-term.

The qualitative data shared during the deep dives will be one component of a larger evaluation strategy. Other evaluation resources include: the Regional Network Grantees semi-annual contract progress reports, the Advancement Project California's Data Narrative 2.0, and First 5 LA's Pathway to Progress: Indicators of Young Child Well-Being in LA County, among others.

The schedule for the three engagements with the Program and Planning Committee is:

February 2021 PPC

- Fresh Ideas for CalFresh Discussion of Finding and Next Steps – Christine Tran, Executive Director, LA Food Policy Council and Nicole Williams, Human Services Administrator, Department of Public Social Services
- Highlights from Best Start Region 1 (Metro LA, East LA, Southeast LA, South El Monte/El Monte) – Debbie Sheen, Brenda Aguilera, Director of Community Transformation, Para los Ninos

March 2021 PPC

- Highlights from Best Start Region 3 (Northeast Valley, Panorama City & Neighbors) – Breanna Hawkins, Margie Chovan, Regional Director, San Fernando Valley, El Nido Family Services
- Highlights from Best Start Region 5 including an Update on the Antelope Valley Resource Infusion Project (Lancaster, Palmdale) – Roxana Martinez, Jose Ramirez, Director of Primary Prevention, Children's Bureau of Southern California, Kate Anderson, Center Director, Center for Strategic Partnerships

April 2020 PPC

- Highlights from Best Start Region 2 (Broadway-Manchester, Compton-East Compton, Watts-Willowbrook, West Athens) – Alex Wade, Albert Ramirez, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Community Health Councils

- Highlights from Best Start Region 4 (Central Long Beach, Wilmington) – Alyssa Gutierrez, Carolina Quezada, Community Engagement Manager, The Nonprofit Partnership

NEXT STEPS:

First 5 LA staff and representatives from various partners will present updates as indicated above at the February, March, and April 2021 Program and Planning Committee Meeting.

Best Start Regional Learning Sessions Region 1 Illustrative Example of Presentation Agenda

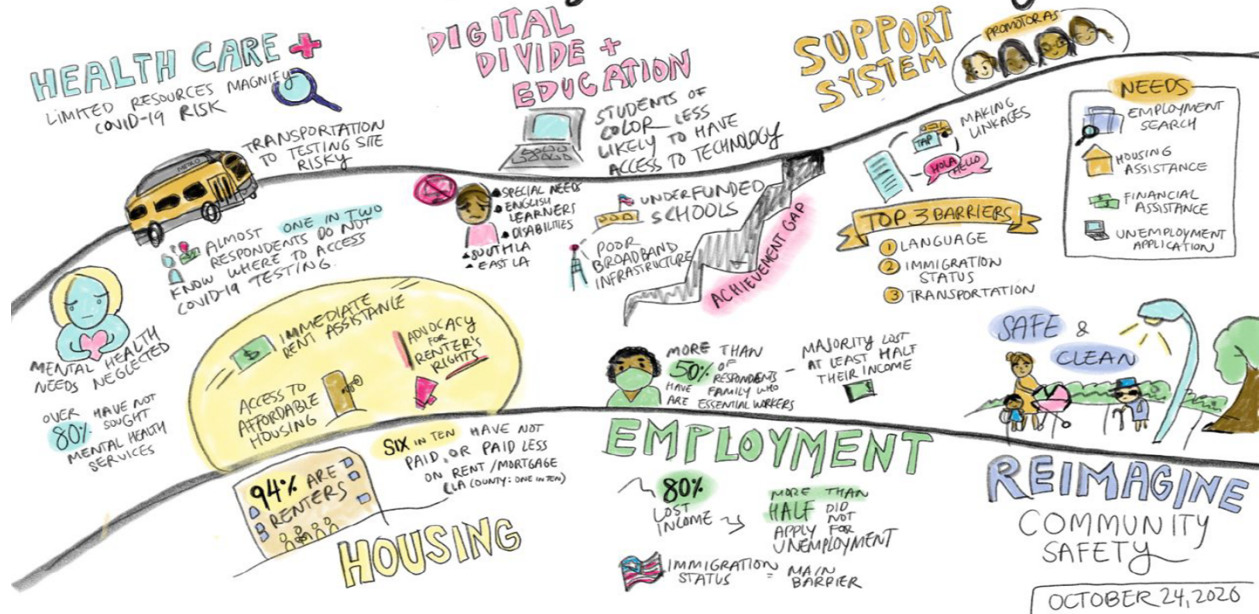
Preliminary List of Presenters:

Debbie Sheen, Program Officer, First 5 LA,
Brenda Aguilera, Director of Community Transformation, Para Los Niños
Carlos Arceo, Regional Project Manager, Para Los Niños
Alejandra Castillo, Community Promotora, Para Los Niños
Additional Community members may be included

| | Topic | Questions for Discussion |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Context Setting: Profile of Region 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does this strategy look like in Region 1? • Who are the key partners? • What has been the community experience over time ? • What has been the learning over Systems change work is grounded in community expertise and action |
| 2 | Philosophy & Approach: Best Start Framework for Community Transformation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are we doing this work? What is the alignment with PLN's mission? • How are we building power through relationships and partnership? • How is secondary and community data utilized to ground the community process and define strategies? |
| 3 | Strategy: Partnering with Parents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are we building and sustaining critical relationships with community members? |
| 4 | Strategy: Aligning with CBO Partners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are we aligning the organizational partners on the work and strengthening organizational capacity for systems change work? |
| 5 | Sustainability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are we leveraging and maximizing funding sources? • How are we building the capacity for residents and organizations to sustain this work in the long term? |
| 6 | Pivoting to a Covid-19 Response | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did COVID elevate and expose gaps in systemic infrastructure? • How did Region 1 pivot to support the community response? |



THE STORY OF OUR COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19



| BEST START NETWORK: COMMUNITY CHANGE PRIORITIES (as September 2020) | | | Attachment B |
|--|---|--|---|
| Region/RNG | Region's Current Community Change Priorities | Issues and/or Priorities That Have Emerged as a Result of COVID-19 | How the Work of the RNG/LNC Shifted in the COVID Context |
| Region 1- Para Los Ninos | <p>Community that is aware and informed of accessible housing resources that promote the comprehensive well-being of families and communities.</p> <p>Parents have the knowledge to educate children satisfactorily before they formally enter school.</p> <p>Preventing physical, verbal, emotional, and psychological abuse in children 0-5. Utilizing housing and economic security to ensure child health.</p> <p>Drugs in relation to mental health; drugs in relation to policing and vulnerable populations</p> | <p>Access to food; access to affordable housing/rental assistance; job loss or reduce pay; workplace safety concerns; difficulty helping children with online learning</p> <p>Lack of access to food, transportation, and sanitation supplies; overwhelming number of positive cases of COVID-19; fear of exposure; mental health concerns</p> | <p>RNG has developed an infrastructure of over 20 local network organizations to support families with basic needs during this time. RNG is serving in several roles: infrastructure development, learning & evaluation, capacity building, and resource mobilization. These local issues are informing the regional strategy policy agenda.</p> |
| Region 2- Community Health Councils | <p>Broadway-Manchester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transform local parks and green space • Transportation/Streetscape improvements • Access to healthy food options • Economic Security <p>Compton East Compton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to community resources and services that will support families to thrive and succeed in school and life • Coalition building • Well-funded, coordinated, and accessible system of care for homeless families throughout Compton-East Compton • Childcare providers and early education agencies are coordinating and supporting parents with resources and | <p>The need to incorporate male/father engage with AAIMM</p> <p>Digital inclusion</p> <p>Food insecurity</p> <p>Economic security</p> | <p>RNGs have had to respond the urgent need for food distribution with the 4 SLA communities in collaboration with Metro. This action has created new roles for RNG staff and immediate actions that resulted in reallocation of some of the CIP funds.</p> |
| Region 3- El Nido | <p>Panorama City & Neighbors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect young children from abuse, trauma, and neglect - Improve quality of, and access to, early care and education <p>Northeast Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Improve access to quality early care and education | <p>Food security</p> <p>Economic security</p> <p>Housing and homelessness</p> <p>Digital inclusion, Addressing racism and anti-blackness, parks, transportation, mental health</p> | <p>RNG has completely shifted to a remote engagement structure. They have been in continuous communication with parents and residents to collect data on how their needs and priorities have shifted as a result of the crisis. Racial disparities amplified through the crisis have elevated a need and priority for addressing racism and anti-blackness impacting the partnerships, communities, and systems that serve them. Community priorities have also expanded to move beyond education and trauma to focus on broader community and systems level factors that impact communities and the wellbeing of families.</p> |

| BEST START NETWORK: COMMUNITY CHANGE PRIORITIES (as September 2020) | | | Attachment B |
|--|---|--|--|
| Region/RNG | Region's Current Community Change Priorities | Issues and/or Priorities That Have Emerged as a Result of COVID-19 | How the Work of the RNG/LNC Shifted in the COVID Context |
| Region 4- The Nonprofit Partnership | <p>Central Long Beach:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to quality and affordable housing 2. Access to quality and affordable childcare 3. Economic Security 4. Preventing child abuse and neglect 5. Building community knowledge about child development and parenting skills <p>Wilmington:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transportation, mobility and safer streets 2. Environmental Justice (including air quality issues and access to parks and open space) 3. Increasing early awareness and access to services for special needs and development delays 4. Immigration 5. Health & Wellness (including mental health and access to healthy food) | <p>Digital Divide*</p> <p>Food insecurity*</p> <p>Child care access*</p> <p>Unemployment</p> <p>Housing*</p> <p>Single families with older children having to chose between employment and serving as homeschooler</p> <p>Environmental justice issues</p> <p>Wilmington: Access to COVID-19 testing</p> <p>*not new, exacerbated by COVID</p> | <p>RNG & LBF moved entirely to remote work. Providence, being a hospital system remained on site, but the activity center remains closed to the public. Having to shift gears so quickly left work that needed to be done strained (i.e. systems change work, CIP projects), and then came added issue of having to respond to immediate needs. Both BSC's are such pillars in their communities from a resoruces & community support, perspective. They have been filling those gaps in their communities. Technology has been a major challenge, how to convene community members without access to the technology or skills to utilize. In Long Beach, TNP has been supporting the infrastructure building of the network of childcare providers and serving as distribution point for diapers, supplies, etc, while LBF is the hub for advocacy efforts. Providence increased basic needs responses- e.g. Famers Market food delivery program.</p> |
| Region 5- Childrens Bureau | <p>Palmdale:</p> <p>Resource mobilization</p> <p>Lancaster:</p> <p>Child abuse prevention</p> | <p>Access to COVID-19 testing</p> <p>Housing Security</p> <p>Access to affordable child care*</p> <p>Economic security*</p> <p>Health care (including Mental Health)*</p> <p>Census outreach*</p> <p>Food security*</p> <p>AAIMM*</p> <p>Closing the digital divide</p> <p>*Not new issues but COVID-19 has exacerbated the problem</p> | <p>RNG's work has focused on solidifying staffing, relationships with LNC, and strengthened their collaboration with other organizations in region. For example, a partnership between CB and LA County Metro was formed to help address food security in Region 5 and the RNG brought in a local CBO to achieve greater impact. The RNG has also stepped into a more intentional role in creating shared knowledge in the region. They are sharing data with community partners to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 in the community.</p> |

Preview of Upcoming Learning Sessions on Best Start Regions and Related Projects

Board of Commissioners Meeting

February 11, 2021



Presentation Objective

- ✓ Preview Best Start regional-specific discussions for upcoming Special Board/Program and Planning Committee meetings which will:
 - Share how the work in the Best Start regions aligns with FY 2020-2028 Strategic Plan
 - Highlight each region's system change work
 - Solicit Board's feedback to inform development of the Communities FY 21-22 budget to be considered this Spring

Best Start: Key Milestones

2009: Para Los Niños begins providing direct operational support to one community partnership as a pilot

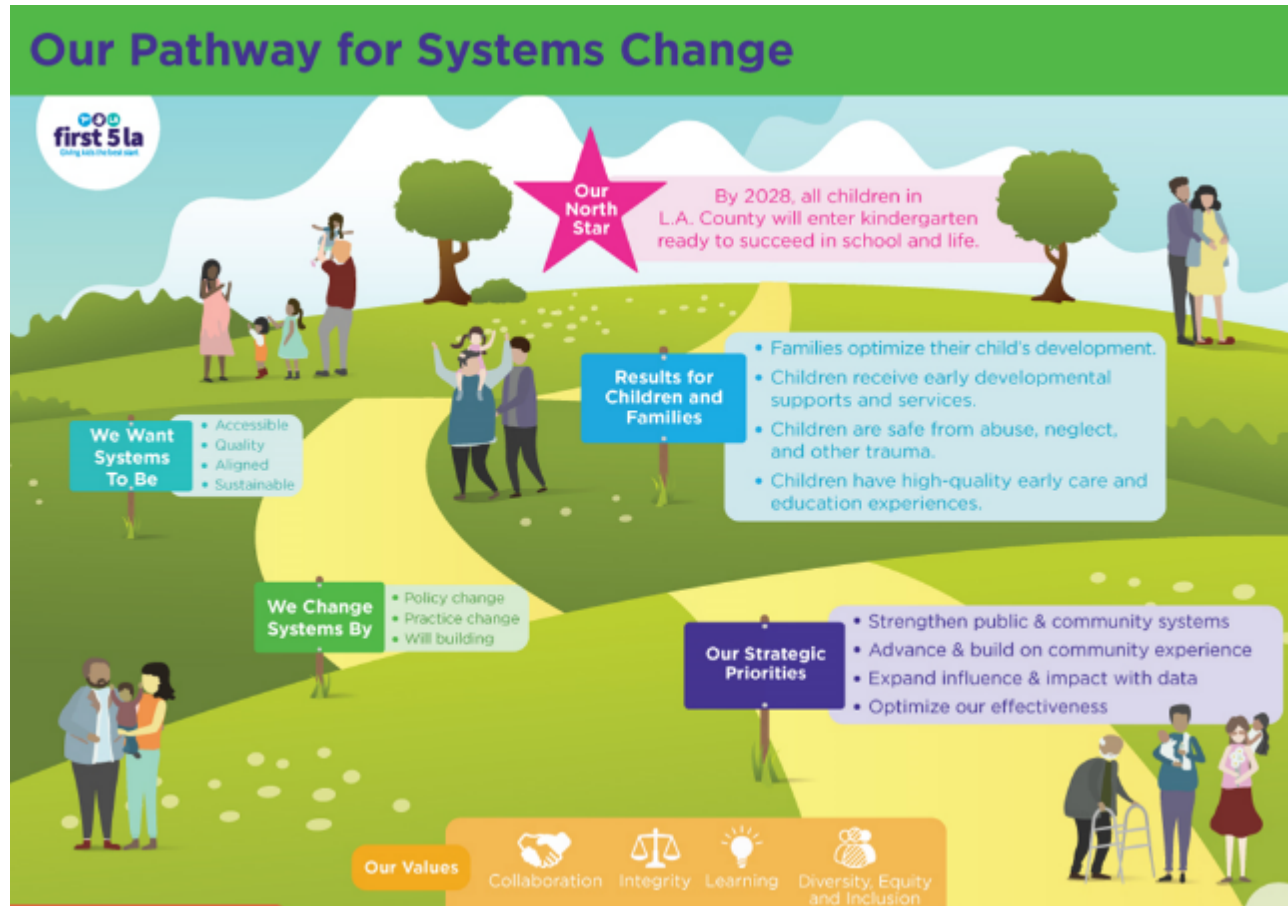
2010: First 5 LA begins providing direct operational support to 13 additional community partnerships

May 2017: First 5 LA Board approves new structure for Best Start developed through a comprehensive planning and community engagement process

April 2018: First 5 LA Board approves five Regional Network grantees recommended after a review and selection process that involved 19 community members and 19 staff.

July 2018: First 5 LA transitions operations to the five Regional Network grantees

Best Start Affirmed in 2020-2028 Strategic Plan



Strengthen Public & Community Systems

Obj 1.7 - Partner with Best Start Networks to inform County and State system improvement efforts and advance local priorities.

Advance & Build on Community Experience

Obj 2.1. - Demonstrate impact at a local level as “proof of concept” to inform countywide system improvement efforts.

Expand Influence and Impact with Data

Obj 3.3 – Generate and share learning on family and community engagement.

Optimize our Effectiveness

Obj 4.4 – Embody values and showcase in interactions internally and externally.

Implementation of Best Start Regional Networks

Through the Best Start Network Project to cultivate community voice, leadership and power to advance system change, the five Regional Network Grantees scope of work is focused on:

- Mobilizing collective, coordinated action on community systems change priorities prioritizing outcomes for children prenatal to 5 and aligned with First 5 LA's 2020-2028 Strategic Plan through:
 - ✓ Network growth and partner cultivation
 - ✓ Network capacity and leadership development
 - ✓ Resource mobilization and network sustainability

Five Best Start Regions

Region 1: Central East: East Los Angeles, South El Monte/El Monte, Southeast LA, Metro LA

- Regional Network Grantee: Para Los Niños

Region 2: South Los Angeles: Compton, Broadway Manchester, Watts Willowbrook, West Athens

- Regional Network Grantee: Community Health Councils

Region 3: San Fernando Valley: Northeast Valley, Panorama City & Neighbors

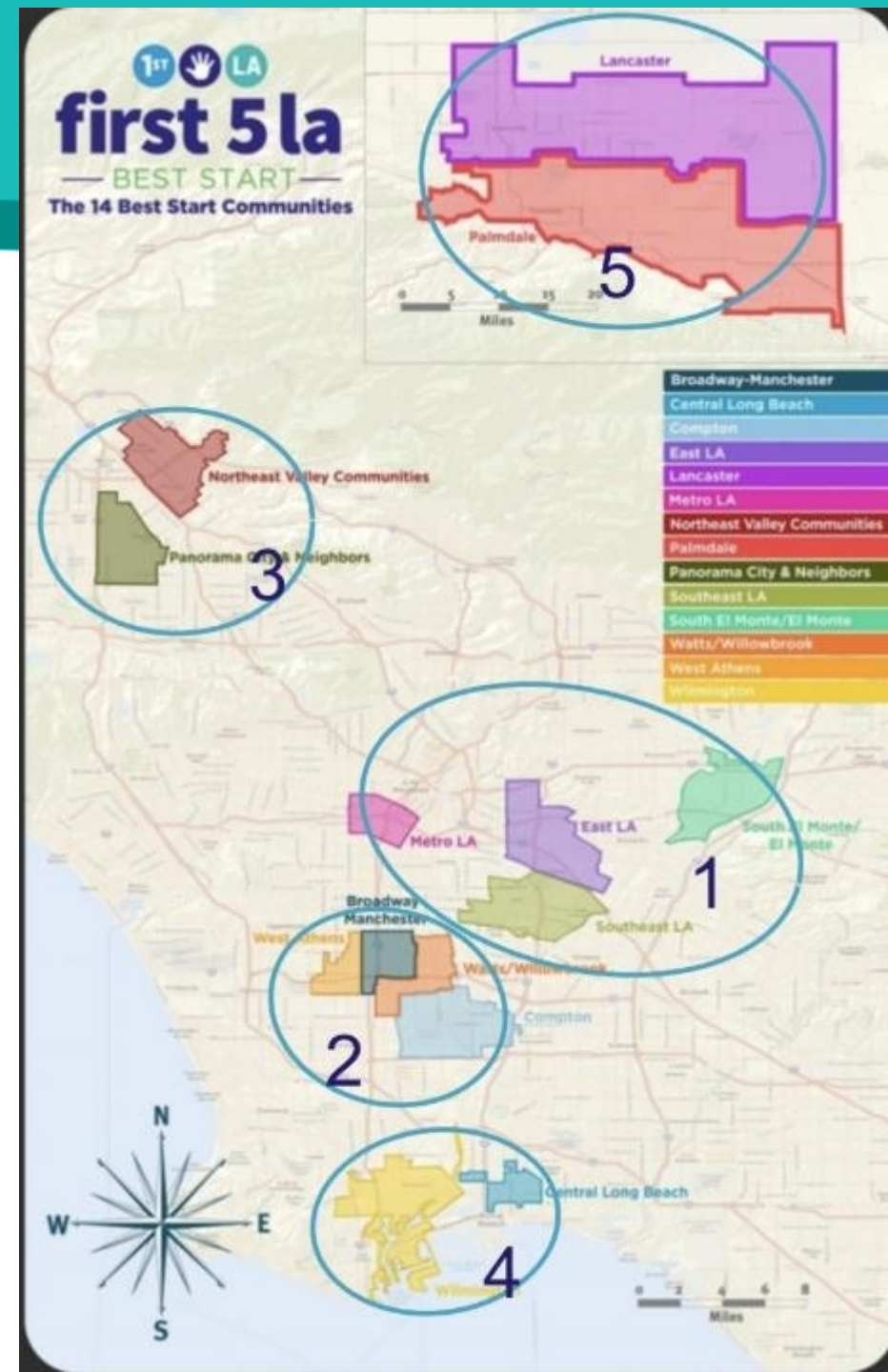
- Regional Network Grantee: El Nido Family Services

Region 4: Port Cities: Central Long Beach, Wilmington

- Regional Network Grantee: The Nonprofit Partnership

Region 5: Antelope Valley: Lancaster, Palmdale

- Regional Network Grantee: Children's Bureau



Best Start Deep Dives

- ✓ Purpose: To engage the Board on the progress in the five Best Start regions
- ✓ Format and Content: A series of in-depth discussions highlighting the regions' commitment to advancing policy and systems change goals and fostering community engagement and leadership
- ✓ How Deep Dives will inform FY 21/22 Budget development: Soliciting the Board's feedback to inform the Communities Team's work plan, budget, and related contracts that will be considered by the Board this spring

Best Start Deep Dives

What data will inform the Deep Dive discussions?

- **Qualitative Data**
 - Stories from partners, community members, staff
 - RNG semi-annual progress reports
- **Quantitative Data:**
 - Advancement Project CA Narrative 2.0
 - Pathway to Progress: Indicators of Young Child Well-Being in LA County

Next Steps

- RFP for Best Start Learning Agenda Research Team – *anticipated release in February 2021*
- Region-specific discussions at Program & Planning Committee meetings:
 - February: Fresh Ideas for CalFresh Discussion of Findings and Recommendations; Highlights from Best Start Region 1
 - March: Highlights from Best Start Region 3 and Best Start Region 5 including an Update on the Antelope Valley Resource Infusion Project
 - April: Highlights from Best Start Region 2 Highlights from Best Start Region 4

Discussion Prompt

What are your overall reflections and questions?

APPENDIX:

Schedule of Topics and Presenters



Deep Dive Presenters

We will engage the Program and Planning Committee over the next three meetings with examples of progress in the five Best Start Regions and a related project focused on food security.

✓ February

- Fresh Ideas for CalFresh -- Christine Tran, Executive Director of LA Food Policy Council, Nicole Williams, Human Services Administrator, Department of Public Social Services
- Region 1 – Debbie Sheen, Brenda Aguilera, Director of Community Transformation, Para los Ninos

✓ March

- Region 3 – Breanna Hawkins, Margie Chovan, Regional Director, San Fernando Valley, El Nido Family Services
- Region 5 including an Update on the Antelope Valley Resource Infusion Project – Roxana Martinez, Jose Ramirez, Director of Primary Prevention, Children’s Bureau of Southern California, Kate Anderson, Center Director, Center for Strategic Partnerships

✓ April

- Region 2 – Alex Wade, Albert Ramirez, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Community Health Councils
- Region 4 – Alyssa Gutierrez, Carolina Quezada, Community Engagement Manager, The Nonprofit Partnership