AGENDA
PUBLIC NOTICE
Regular Meeting of the Finance Sub Committee
Wednesday, March 11, 2026
2:00 PM
First 5 Riverside County
585 Technology Ct
Riverside, California 92507

This notice shall confirm the Regular Meeting of the Finance Sub Committee of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission.

Note: If special accommodations are needed to participate in this meeting, please contact Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV, at (951) 955-0200 during regular business hours of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.).

Note: Public Comments will be taken on agenda items at various times during the meeting. Please submit a Request to Speak form to the Executive Assistant IV at any time before or during the meeting indicating the item you wish to address.

Note: Please place all cellular phones on vibrate or off mode during the meeting.

A. **Call to Order – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Commission Chair**
   A.1. Pledge of Allegiance
   A.2. Roll Call – Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV
B. **Public Comments (for items not listed on the agenda) – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**
C. **Commission and Advisory Committee Business – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**
   C.1. Advisory Committee Comments
   C.2. Director's Report – Charna Widby, Executive Director; Michael Knight, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director
   C.3. Public Information Report – Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist, and Michelle Rodriguez, Public Information Specialist

C.4. Commissioner Comments

D. **Presentations/Information Items – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all Presentations/Information Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

D.1. Drowning Prevention: Advancing Strategy and Impact — Cathryn Van Der Linden, Director of Drowning Prevention Initiatives, and Larissa Wills, Regional Manager

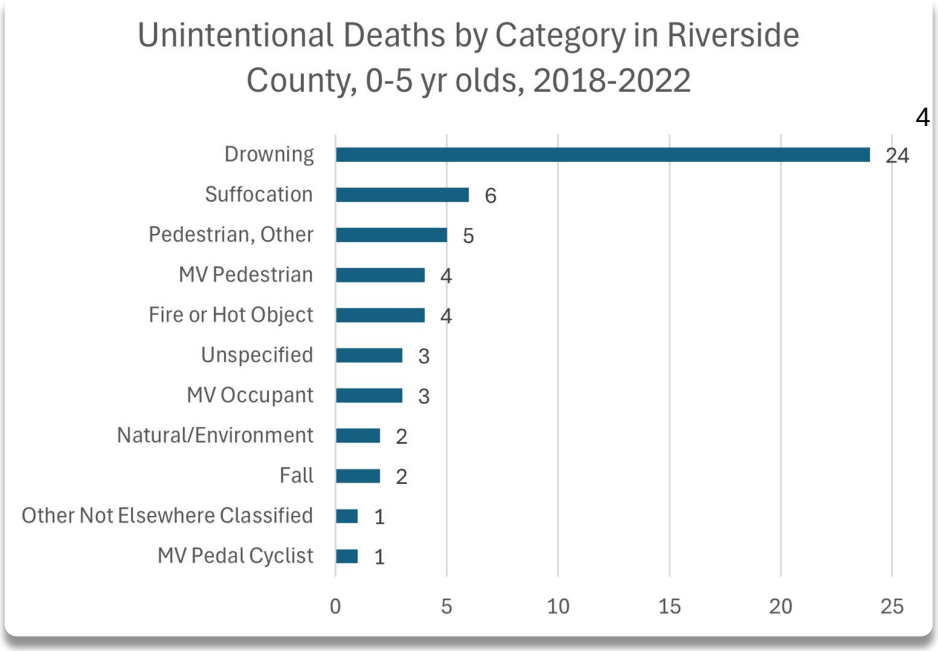
Drowning Prevention: Advancing Strategy and Impact

March 11, 2026



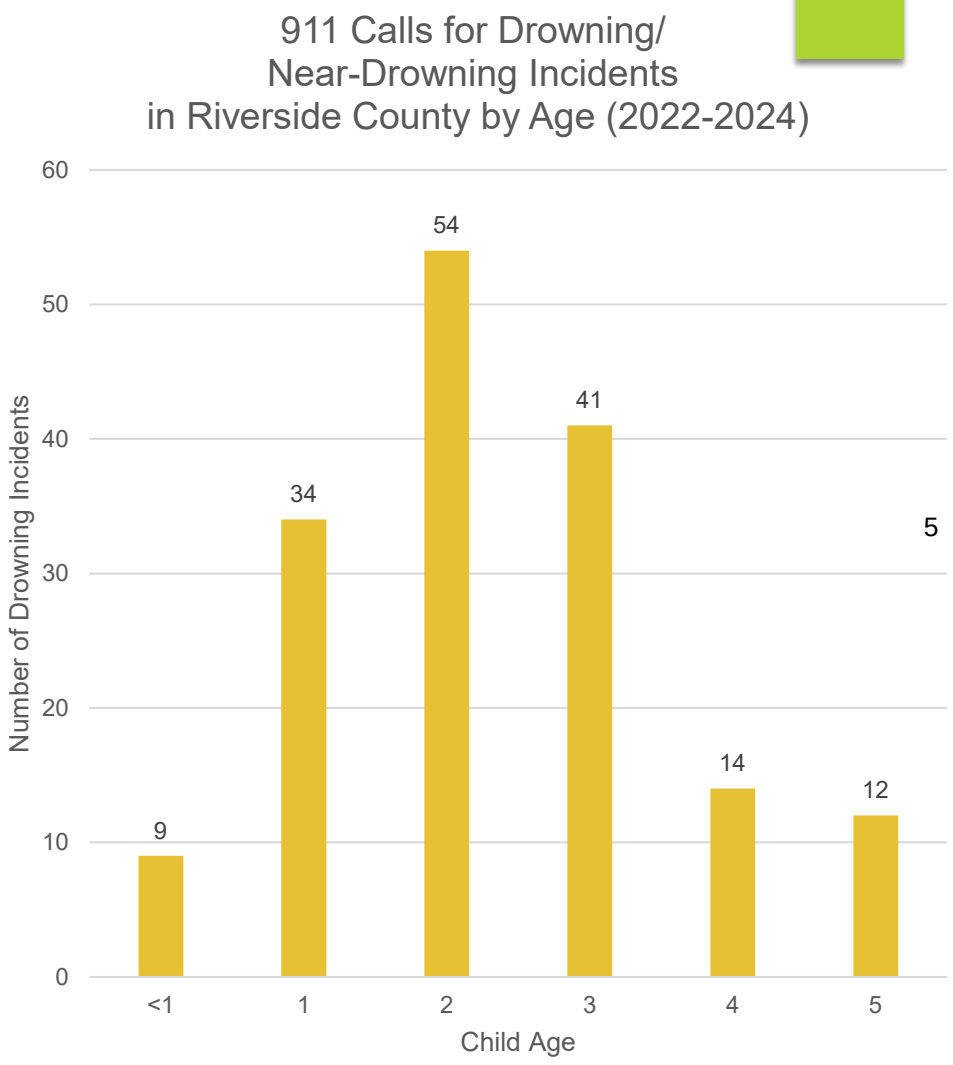
Why This Matters

- Drowning = #1 cause of accidental death for children under 5
- Fast, silent, preventable
- Misconceptions about what drowning looks like



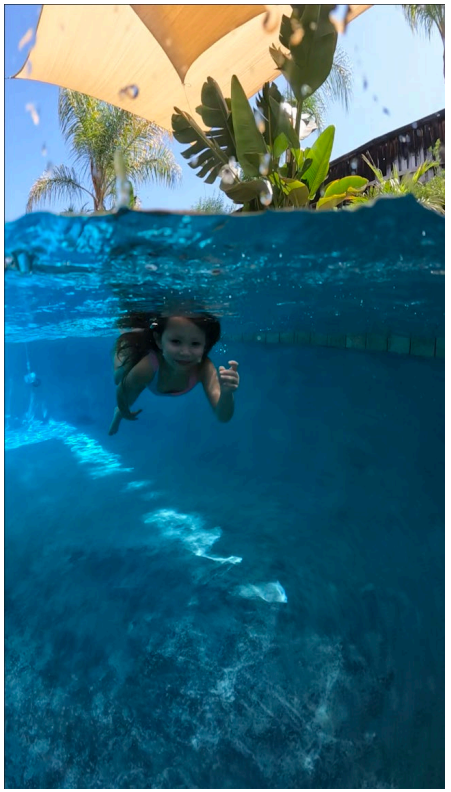
Understanding Risk & Barriers

- Children under 5: high risk
- Barriers: cost, transportation, access, caregiver swim skills



Evidence-Based Prevention

- Swim lessons reduce risk by 88%
- Multi-layer approach:
  - Swim lessons
  - Parent education
  - Physical barriers
  - Community awareness



Community Impact

- Partnerships with Head Start, preschools
- Free CPR classes
- Removing accessibility barriers
- Outcomes: survival skills, confidence, safety culture



Prevention vs Response

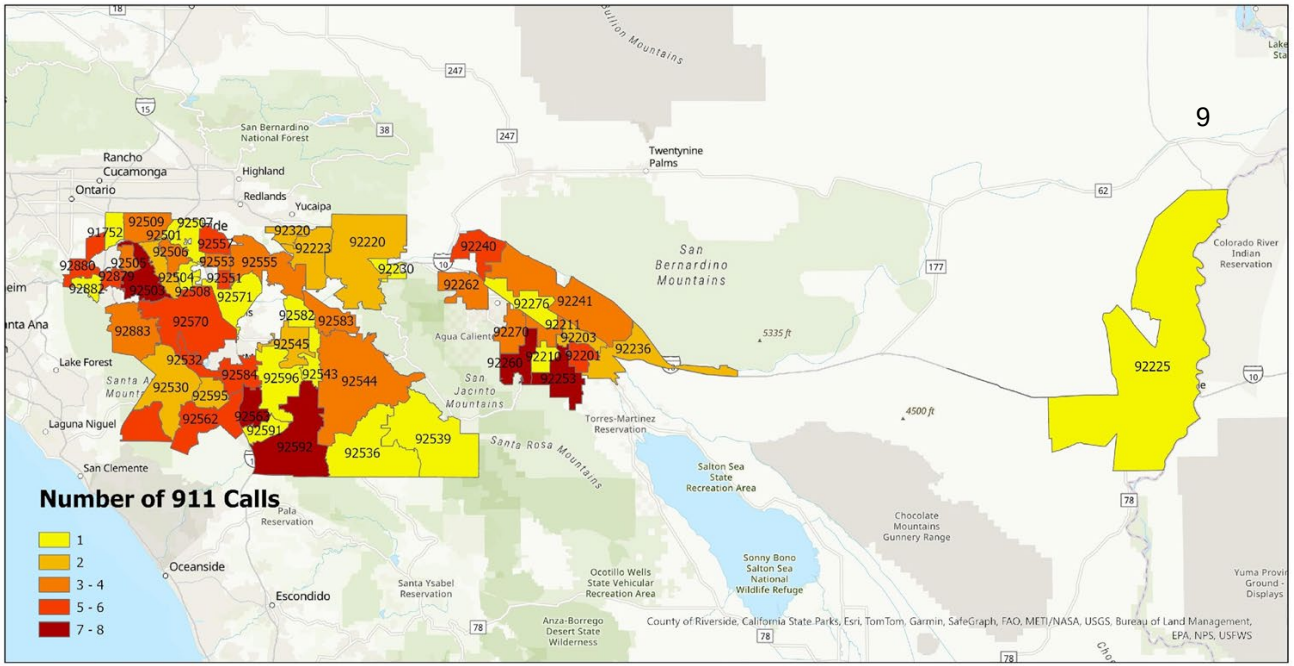
- Swim lessons: $475 per child
- Near-drowning: tens of millions in costs
- Prevention is cost-effective



Equity & Access

- Target high-risk areas (e.g., District 5)
- Expand access = expand safety

911 Calls for Drowning/Near-Drowning Incidences of 0-5 Yr old Children in Riverside County (2022-2024)



Measurable Outcomes

- Children completing swim benchmarks
- Caregivers trained
- Increased access
- Reduction in drowning incidents



Water Safety: Not Just Lesson Anymore

New Model: Crisis Response After Near-Drowning

- **Near-drowning referrals now go directly** from Children's Services to our FRC
- **Immediate caregiver contact,** often same day
- **Full FRC intake** to assess family needs
- **Stabilizing the home**, not just offering swim lessons:
  - Pool fencing & door alarms
  - Safe sleep & childcare support
  - Trauma-informed care for the whole family



Golden Ticket Access





Golden Ticket = fastpass to swim lessons for highest-risk kids

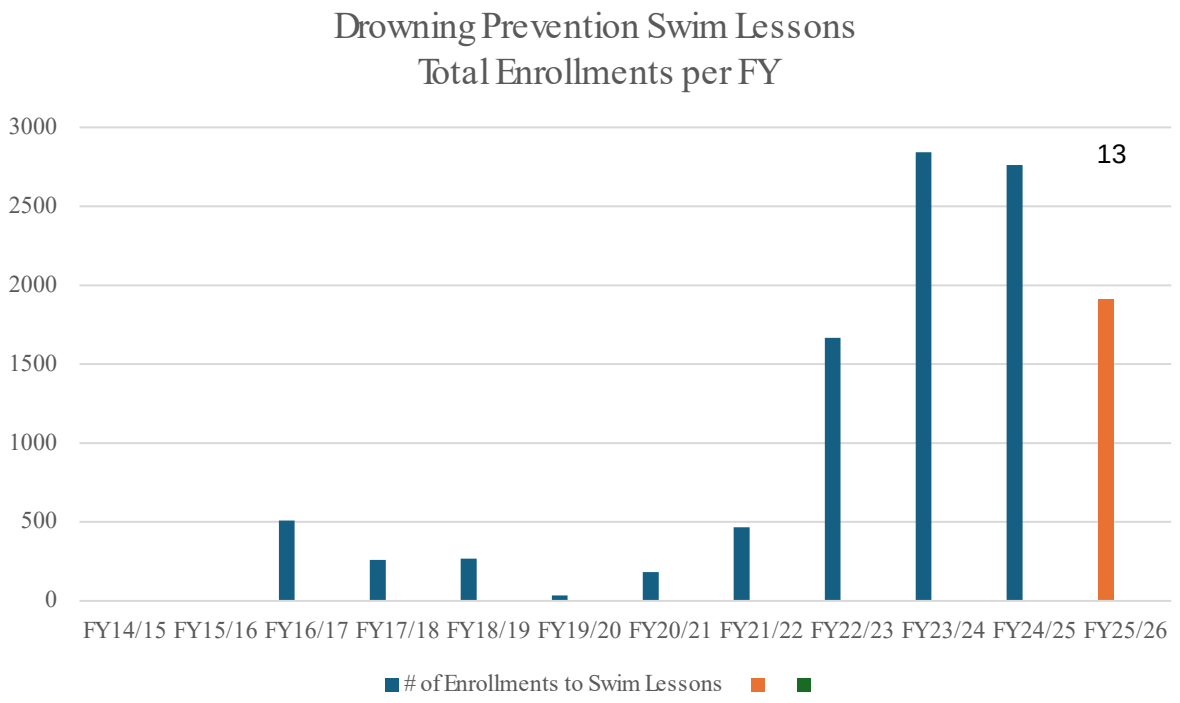
Co-designed with Children's Services to prioritize the most vulnerable families

No long waitlist, no extra hoops

This is targeted equity in practice, not just outreach messaging

Drowning Prevention Data

Fiscal Year	# of Enrollments to Swim Lessons
FY 14/15	N/A
FY 15/16	100
FY 16/17	510
FY 17/18	259
FY 18/19	268
FY 19/20	35
FY 20/21	182
FY 21/22	466
FY 22/23	1,666
FY 23/24	2,842
FY 24/25	2,762
FY 25/26	1,910
Grand Total	**11,000**



Where Water Safety Is Going Next

Adapting our rapid support model to serve veteran households with water hazards

Exploring partnership with Fire Department for **proactive prevention** including safety barriers *before* an incident occurs

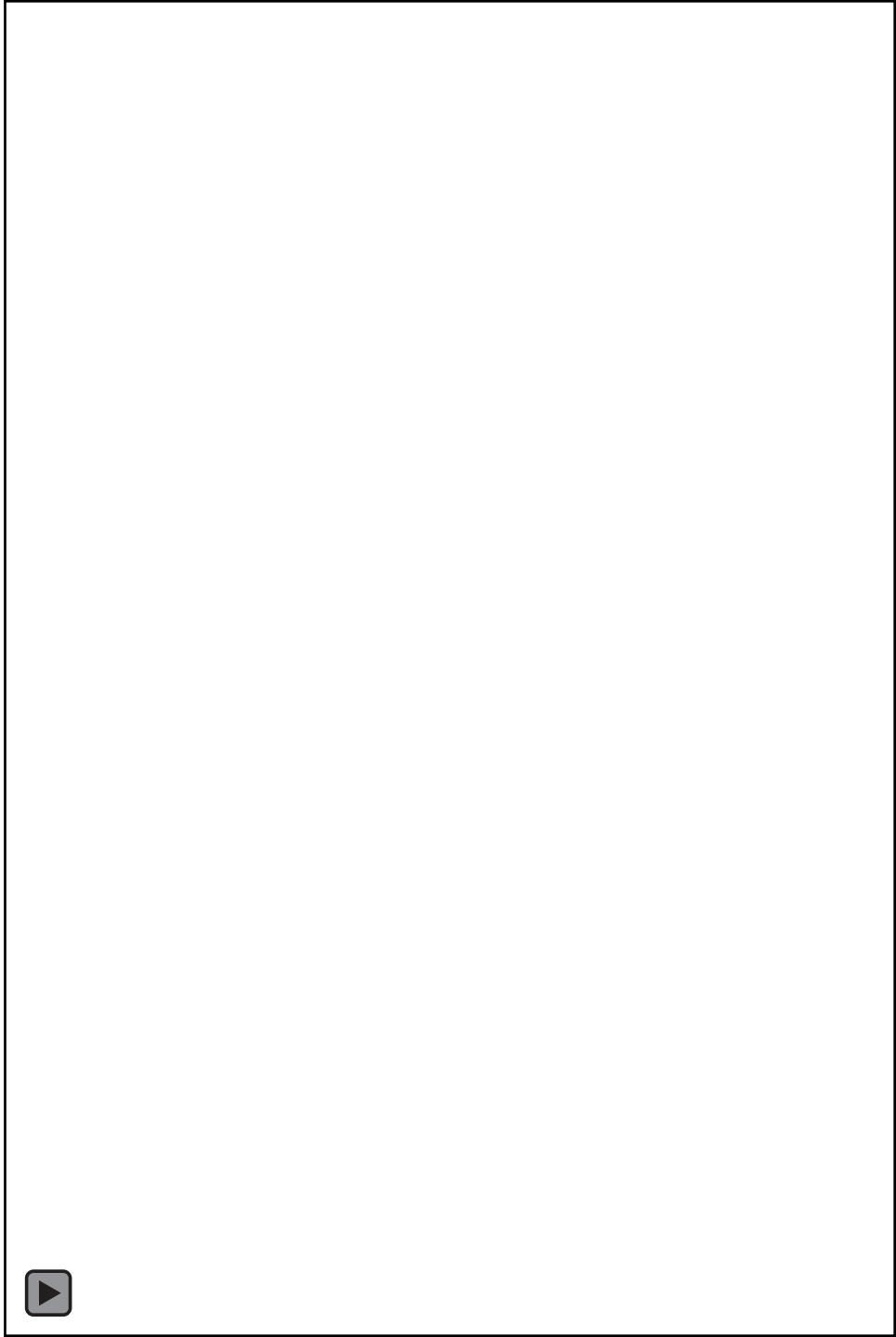
Demonstrating that FRCs are the County's rapid wraparound arm, not just "a program"

Hard-wired swim lesson referral form now in **A360**

PSA to include **billboards** and other **community messaging** around water safety

Closing

- Every child deserves ***water as joy, not danger***
- Your investment = ***confidence, equity, lives saved***



D.2. Brown Act Training and 2026 Updates Presentation — Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

THE BROWN ACT

Kristine Bell-Valdez

Deputy County Counsel

March 2026

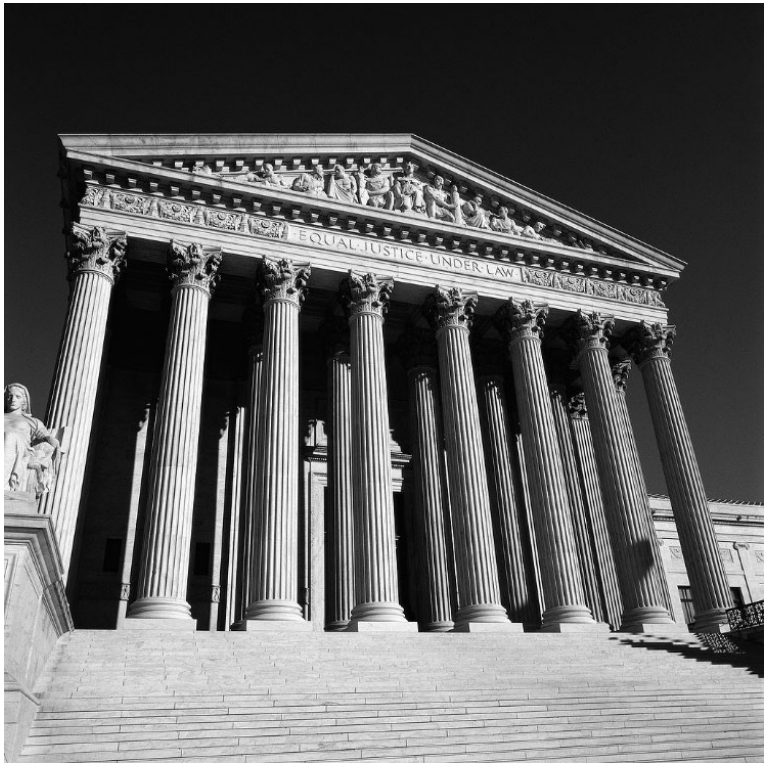
Running a Meeting

- Governing procedures for meetings:
  1. Ralph M. Brown Act and
  2. Robert's Rules of Order

- Members should use parliamentary procedures as guidelines when conducting a public meeting.

- The presentation only provides some general meeting and voting guidelines.

Robert's Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure



19

Overview of the Robert's Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure

- It is a set of rules for conduct at meeting
- It allows everyone to be heard
- It allows decisions to be made without confusion

Quorum & Voting

- Membership: 9 members

- Quorum: A simple majority (5 members) of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of members.

- Voting: Decisions shall be reached through majority voting which is defined as a majority of the quorum members present.
  - Ex. 10 members present would require a vote of 6 for a motion to carry

Quorum & Voting

- Late arrivals: Members will count towards the quorum upon their arrival and should be noted as such in the meeting minutes.

- Absence of quorum at the start of a meeting: The secretary may take steps to try to secure a quorum or may adjourn the meeting.

22

- Absence of quorum during the meeting: If the body loses a quorum, then the meeting must be adjourned.

- Only actions you can take in the absence of a quorum:

  (1) Take measures necessary to obtain a quorum;

  (2) Fix the date and time to which to adjourn;

  (3) Adjourn or take a recess; and/or,

  (4) Continue the entire agenda to the next meeting.

Conflicts of Interest

- Members are required to comply with all conflict of interest laws including, but not limited to, general conflicts of interest, the doctrine of incompatible offices, self-interested contracts, predetermination/implicit bias, and the California Political Reform Act.

- Determining a general conflict of interest: if you, your spouse or dependent children (including your property, business, or financial interests) will benefit financially in the action/discussion

- Procedure:
  - a. Publicly state the nature of the conflict in sufficient detail to be understood by the public;
  - b. Recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the item;
  - c. Leave the room until the item is concluded.

- **Members declaring a conflict shall not be counted towards determining a quorum for that particular action item

The Brown Act

Open and Public

The People's Business

24

Purpose of the Brown Act: Open and Public

To ensure that almost all aspects of the decision-making process of legislative bodies of local agencies are conducted in public and open to public scrutiny.

25

> *"All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter." (Gov't Code §54953)*

Key Principles of Brown Act

- It's the public's business.
- The people only trust a process they can see.
- Conduct the people's business in open and publicized meetings.
- Allow the people (the public) to participate in the meetings.



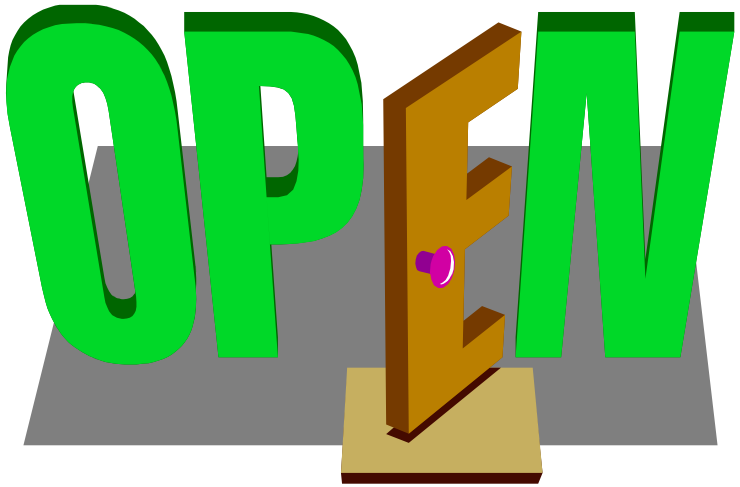
Brown Act - Legislative Bodies

The Brown Act applies only to legislative bodies:

1. Governing body of the agency (Board of Supervisors/ Children and Families First Commission)
2. Subordinate boards or commissions created by formal action of the governing body Standing committees with regular meeting schedule and continuing subject matter jurisdiction
3. Any board of directors for a private entity, if the governing body of the agency created it and delegated some authority to it.
4. Persons elected to legislative bodies, even prior to assuming office.

27

Brown Act - Meetings



All meetings of the Legislative Body of a Local Agency shall be open and public and all persons shall be permitted to attend

- Government Code §54953

Brown Act Meeting



What is a meeting?

- Any congregation of a majority of the members at the same time and location to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action upon any matter under their jurisdiction.

- No action needs to be taken for a meeting to occur; conversations or deliberations about issues confronting their agency is sufficient.

- Includes “workshops,” “study sessions,” and retreats.

Brown Act – Meeting Exceptions

When is a meeting not a meeting?

(1) Individual contacts
be careful of serial meetings & social media

(2) Conferences and seminars - open to the public on issues of general interest to the public or public agencies

(3) Community Meetings - Town meetings or similar gatherings which are open, noticed and originated by a person or organization other than the local agency

(4) Purely social or ceremonial occasions

*Be careful and remember appearances matter.

30

Brown Act – Meeting Exceptions

(Continued) When is a meeting not a meeting?

(4) Attendance at a standing committee meeting (observation only)

31

(5) Attendance at meetings with other legislative bodies

- A majority of the body may attend an open and noticed meeting of another legislative body as long as they do not discuss among themselves, other than part of the scheduled meeting, issues under their jurisdiction.

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

Serial meetings are expressly prohibited and illegal

Serial meetings are:

- A series of communications, direct or indirect, each of which involves less than a quorum of the legislative body, but when taken as a whole, involves a majority of the members and develops concurrence on a topic.

- "Concurrence" includes the following:
  - Advances or clarifies understanding of an issue
  - Facilitates agreement or compromise among members
  - Advances ultimate resolution of an issue

32

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

How does a serial meeting arise?

- The members discuss, deliberate, or take action on an issue through personal intermediaries, emails phone calls, letters, written proposals, or other method.

- This also includes social media interaction or use of other group or chatting apps.

33

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

Types of Serial Meetings

Hub and spoke



Telephone, email, social media



34

* Individual briefings are permitted but members should avoid making inquiries about what other members thought or said.

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

Hub and spoke

- Member A (hub) contacts Member B (a spoke); Member A (hub) contacts Member C (a spoke); and so on until quorum of spokes have been contacted regarding discussion, deliberation, decision of a issue
- Staff member or other intermediary can serve as hub
- Briefing of members prior to formal meeting and in that process information about individual views are revealed

Daisy chain

- Member A > Member B > Member C > etc until a quorum has discussed, deliberated or decided a issue

35

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings - Emails

- **Email communication is considered a "technological device" within the meaning of "meetings" under the Brown Act**

- **An email violates the Brown Act when:**
  - It is used by a majority of the members to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any upcoming agenda item or anything that would be an item of business

*Beware of potential for serial meetings via "reply all" or email chains.

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings - Emails

Opinion of the Attorney General:

A majority of the members may not e-mail each other to develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken

- Even if the e-mails are sent to the secretary and the agency chair
- Even if the e-mails are posted on the agency website and printed versions are reported at the next public meeting

Reason: Such e-mails deprive the public of the opportunity to attend and comment on the proposed action.

37

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings – Social Media

AB 992 (2020):

- Members may communicate on social media to answer questions and provide information to the public or to solicit information

38

- Members cannot post, comment, share or use digital icons to react to communications made by other members of a legislative body.

- Single contact between members of the same legislative body on social media is prohibited.

Brown Act – Meeting Tips To Avoid Serial Meetings

Tips for Members:

- Do not take a position or make a commitment on public matters yet to be decided.
- Do not use people or technology as a "go between" to transmit collective concurrence on a public matter.
- Be careful with social media and refrain from responding to any posts within the scope of official business.
- Only e-mail the entire to provide information. Do not request a response.
- Refrain from replying to an e-mail directed to a majority of the members concerning a public discussions or deliberations.
- Use e-mail as a means of passively receiving information.

39

Brown Act – Meeting Tips To Avoid Serial Meetings

Tips for Members:

- Remember: e-mails and social media posts can be forwarded without your knowledge, including to the local newspaper

- Develop and institute policies and regular trainings to ensure the use of e-mails and other emerging technologies comply with the law.

40

Brown Act – Meetings Location

- No meeting can be held in a facility that prohibits attendance based on race, religion color, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability, or that is inaccessible to the disabled.

41

- No meeting can be held where the public must make a payment or purchase in order to be present. This does not mean however that the public is entitled to free entry to a conference attended by a majority of the legislative body.

Brown Act – Meetings Location

- General rule: Must be held within the jurisdiction of the body

  Exceptions: (Gov't Code §54954)
  - Inspection of real property
  - Pursuant to federal law or court order
  - Participation in meetings with multi-agencies after proper notice is given

- **Teleconferencing (next few slides)**

42

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

Normal Teleconferencing requirements:

- At least a quorum of the members must to participate within the area of jurisdiction.
- Votes by roll call (i.e., each member state name and vote, one by one)
- Each teleconference location specifically identified in the notice and agenda, including a full address and room number, as may be applicable.
- Post the agenda at each teleconference location per Brown Act rules - 72 hours prior to the meeting in a spot that is available for viewing (i.e. window or glass case outside) 24 hours a day, free of charge.
- Each teleconference location must be accessible to the public and have technology, such as a speakerphone, to enable the public to participate.
- Opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly at each teleconference location.

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

AB 2449 (2022)/SB 707 (2026) Teleconferencing/Virtual Meetings:

5 exceptions:

1. State of emergency (AB 361 rules) – remote or hybrid
2. "Just Cause" – hybrid with quorum in person
3. "Emergency circumstances" – hybrid with quorum in person
4. "Health Authority"
5. ADA Accommodation

44

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

AB 2449 Requirements for "Just Cause" & "Emergency Circumstances"

From January 1, 2023 through January 1, 2026, Brown Act bodies may conduct hybrid meetings (member participation both in-person and virtual) under the following circumstances:

45

1. At least a quorum of the members must participate from a physical location within the jurisdiction; and

2. Reason for a member's remote participation = "just cause" or "emergency circumstances".

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

"Just Cause"

Qualifying Reasons:

1. Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse or domestic partner;
2. Contagious illness;
3. Need related to a physical or mental disability; or
4. Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

Number of Instances Permitted: limited to 2 instances per calendar year.

Request Procedure:

1. Notify the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible (including, at the start of the meeting) of the "just cause" and provide a general description of the circumstances.
2. The member may then participate remotely. No formal action needs to be taken.

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

"Emergency Circumstances"

Qualifying Reasons: Member has a physical or family medical emergency.

Request Procedure:

1. Make a request to the legislative body of the "emergency circumstances" and provide a general description. Personal medical information does not have to be disclosed.
2. Legislative body takes formal action to allow the member to participate remotely.

47

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

Additional Requirements

- Number of Instances Permitted (Combined Participation of "Just Cause" & "Emergency Circumstances")
  - Not more than 3 consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings within a calendar year.
  - Limited to 2 instances per calendar year, if there are only 10 meetings.

- Member Disclosure.
  - Before any action is taken, identify whether any other individuals at least 18 years of age are present in the room with the member and the relationship with any such individuals.

- Member Participation.
  - Remote participation through both audio and visual technology.

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

Additional Requirements (continued)

- Public Access/Notice/Agenda.
  - Notify on the agenda and allow the public to participate in-person and either via a two-way audiovisual platform (e.g. Zoom, Teams) or a two-way telephonic service (i.e. conference call line) and live webcasting.

- No action taken during disruption of broadcasting of the meeting.
  - Actions taken during this type of disruption may be challenged and, if successful, be declared null and void.

- No requirement to submit public comment in advance.
  - Must allow the public the opportunity to address the legislative body in real time.

- AB 557 signed by Governor in October 2023
  - Effective 1/1/24
  - Allows teleconferencing with a Declaration of Emergency is active.

Brown Act – Meeting Agenda for Regular Meetings

Agenda Rules for Regular Meetings:

- Posted 72 hours prior to the meeting
  - Physically post in a location "freely accessible to the public" 24 hours per day and on website, if agency has website.
  - Include the time and location of the meeting

- Brief general description of each item to be discussed or addressed – including closed session.

- Publicly accessible and distributed in advance to those that request copies. A fee may be charged to recover the cost.

50

Brown Act – Meeting Agenda for Regular Meetings

Agenda Rules for Regular Meetings:

- List the location (with address) where the public is able to inspect public documents related to an agenda item when such documents were distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

51

- If requested, the agenda must be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability.

- The agenda must include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation may be made in order to participate in the public meeting.

- Tip: put the meeting dates at the bottom of the agenda for the members and public.

Brown Act – Meeting Agenda for Special Meetings

Agenda Rules for Special Meetings:

- Special Meetings: meetings called by the presiding officer or a quorum of the members for a time that is not a regularly scheduled time to discuss discrete agenda items. **Special meetings are not the norm**.

52

- Agenda contains: time, location, brief general description of each item

- Posted no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting in same manner as regular posting

Brown Act – Meeting Member Participation

- Meetings shall not begin before the publicly noticed meeting time
- Follow the agenda – only speak on those items.
- Action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final, is flatly prohibited.
- Teleconferencing is allowed under specified circumstances. **Votes are by roll-call. (For both, virtual meeting and regular teleconference.)**

Brown Act – Meeting Member Participation

Members can only discuss items that are on the publicly noticed agenda

Exceptions:

- Adding items by majority vote for emergency situation.
- Adding items by 2/3 vote of the members of the members present at the meeting (or a unanimous vote if less than 2/3 of the members are present) because of need for immediate action that came to the attention after the agenda is posted.
- Item continued to another meeting within 5 calendar days.

54

Brown Act – Meeting Member Participation

(Continued…)

More exceptions:

- Brief response to statement or question from public.
- Questions to staff for clarification of a matter based upon public comment.
- Brief announcement or report on member's or staff's own activities.
- Provide reference or information to staff.
- Ask staff to report back at a future meeting on any matter.

55

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation: Regular Meetings

The Public's Right to Comment at Regular Meetings:

- At every **regular** meeting, members of the public have the right to directly address the body on **any item of public interest if that item is under the jurisdiction of the body.**

- For agenda items, the public must be given an opportunity to comment **before or during** the body's consideration of the item.

56

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation

SB 1100 (2022):

- Authorizes the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee to remove, or the cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting

57

- Procedure:
    1. Individual disrupts the meeting
    2. Presiding member (or their designee) warns the individual that their behavior is disruptive & failure to cease the disruption may result in removal
    3. Individual fails to cease disruptive behavior
    4. Presiding member (or their designee) may have the individual removed

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation

Public Participation Guidelines:

- Can speak on any item in subject matter jurisdiction
- Can criticize the policies, procedures, programs, services, or omissions of the body
- Cannot be unruly
- Not required to register
- Speaker cards are not a prerequisite
- Time limits and prohibiting disruptive conduct okay
- Rules of decorum and reasonable restrictions upon public comment are permitted, if not too broad and do not constitute "prior restraints" – Ex. 3 minute limitation is ok
- Recording permitted
- If the body reviews documents, copies of those documents must be provided without delay when requested

58

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation Virtual Meeting

Conducting a teleconference/virtual meeting:

Duties of Chairperson or designee:

- Read public comments into the record or introduce public speaker before comment.
- Open phone line for individual public speakers.
- Remind each speaker how many minutes they have to provide public comment.
- Alert each speaker when their time is up. You can give them a few extra seconds, if you wish, but be fair with everyone.
- Close phone line for individual public speakers when their time ends.

59

Brown Act - Closed Session

Limited exceptions for closed session for matters requiring confidentiality:

- Must be expressly authorized by statute.
- Must be narrowly construed.
- Examples: real property negotiations, existing or anticipated litigation, labor negotiations, public employee issues (appointment, employment, evaluation, discipline, dismissal or release).

60

Brown Act – Violation and Consequences

Civil violation and consequences:

- A civil suit to have the action declared "null and void"
- Need to be given chance to cure and correct the problem (Government Code section 54960.1)
- Repeated violations: injunction prohibiting future violations
- A civil violation does not require that the members actually vote or take action on an item.
- Court fees and attorneys costs are recoverable.

Criminal violation and consequences:

- A member takes action, intending to deprive the public of information to which the public is entitled.
- Guilty of a misdemeanor
- Criminal sanctions (up to 6 months in jail; $1,000 fine)

Brown Act
Summary of Key Points

- A majority may not consult outside of a noticed meeting.
- Meetings include any communication among a majority to hear, discuss, or deliberate on public business (e-mail, telephone calls, serial meetings etc.).
- Legislative Body includes committees, commissions and advisory boards (except ad hoc committees of less than a quorum).
- Attendance of quorum at other events not a violation as long as no business of the Committee is discussed (conferences & seminars, community meetings, another body of agency, social or ceremonial events).
- Assume all information is public or will become public.
- APPEARANCES MATTER.

D.3. 2027-2030 First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan Update — Charna Widby, Executive Director

D.4. **Information Only:** First 5 Riverside County 2nd Quarter Financial Highlights and Vendors Over 25K List — **Receive and File**

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION - FIRST 5 RIVERSIDE COUNTY
FY 25/26 - 2nd QUARTER
(July 2025 - December 2025)

Revenue and Expenditure Balances

		Year-To-Date Budget	Actuals as of 12/31/2025	Projections through 06/30/26
Revenues				
740020	Interest-Invested Funds	$ 1,233,343	$ 314,077	$ 1,233,343
740200	GASB 31 FMV - ACFR Only	$ 175,320	$ (82,744)	$ 175,320
754000	CA-Tobacco Tax Prop.10 (+CECET+SMIF)	$ 10,201,820	$ 3,964,668	$ 9,477,155
754020	CA-Prop 56 Tobacco Act 2016	$ 4,604,336	$ -	$ 4,604,336
755870	IMPACT (F5CA Initiatives)	$ 3,464,384	$ -	$ 3,457,634
777520	DPSS (CalWORKs)	$ 3,480,049	$ 968,065	$ 3,289,382
777540	DPSS (FRCs)	$ 2,500,000	$ 1,020,246	$ 2,500,000
781480	Program Revenue (RCOE, IEHP)	$ 815,500	$ 17,776	$ 930,500
790600	Contrib Fr Other County Funds (UCI)	$ -	$ -	$ 211,520
Total Revenues		**$ 26,474,752**	**$ 6,202,088**	**$ 25,879,190**
Expenditures				
Approp 1	Salaries & Benefits	$ 9,152,074	$ 3,772,893	$ 8,788,681
Approp 2	Services & Supplies	$ 22,254,680	$ 6,661,710	$ 25,758,312
Approp 4	Capital Assets	$ -	$ -	$ 75,000
Total Expenditures		**$ 31,406,754**	**$ 10,434,603**	**$ 34,621,993**
Total		$ (4,932,002)	$ (4,232,515)	$ (8,742,804)

Expenditure Allocation

Program		**8,453,707**	**27%**
CalWORKs Home Visit Initiative	42200	1,535,518	
IMPACT	92930	395,104	
Comprehensive Health & Development	92945	2,196,006	
Quality Early Learning	92950	1,238,478	
Resilient Families	92960	278,759	
RCOE	92965	8,325	
HUB	92970	451,824	
Family Resource Centers	92975	1,772,814	
Countywide Programs	92980	576,879	
Evaluation		**322,798**	**1%**
Evaluation	81250	322,798	
Administration		**1,658,098**	**5%**
Countywide Impact	92955	1,658,098	
		10,434,603	**33.2%**

Administration	**1,658,098**
Evaluation	**322,798**
Program	**8,453,707**

PERCENTAGE OF COST BY DEPARTMENT

Within approved cap of 13% (Action Item #18-13)

In Q2, December program expenditures and a portion of November expenditures will not post to the general ledger until Q3. Proposition 10 revenue reflects receipts from July through October. Proposition 10 projections are reduced based on average monthly receipts and anticipated tobacco tax declines related to the flavor ban and include projected e-cigarette tax revenue. Proposition 56 backfill has not been received. Revenue projections include approximately $1.9 million in pass-through funds with offsetting expenditures.

DONATIONS RECEIVED BY DEPARTMENT Policy No: COM-25-001

Organization	Donations	25-Apr	25-May	25-Jun	25-Jul	25-Aug	25-Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec
F5 QEL	Learning Toys						5			
Community Member	Candy							3 bags		
JV FRC Staff (WIC, F5, DCSS)	Games/Prizes (for families)									12 small prizes
JV FRC Staff (WIC, F5, DCSS)	Non-perishable foods during the gov't shutdown								2 boxes	
Client	NEW, sealed, Enfamil powdered formula									1 box
Community Member (childcare provider)	Children's clothing and shoes									1 bag
Community Member (WIC staff relative)	Crochet beanies									1 bag
Mast Family (Advisory Member)	Toys									100
Mast Family (Advisory Member)	Gift Cards									40 cards $25 each
Radial	Backpacks w/ School Supplies					200				
CVAG	Bus Passes		30			15		30		15
Variety of the Desert	Family Gift Baskets									20
Martha's Village & Kitchen	Hygiene Kits							50		
Variety of the Desert	Food Baskets									
California Department of Public Health- California AIDS Clearinghous	Condoms			2000						
Riverside County Sherriff	Backpacks w/school supplies					350				
CVAG	Bus Passes	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		150
Variety of the Desert	Holiday Family Gift Baskets									20
Mission Springs Water District	Water bottles- (24 pack per case)			5	5		5	5		

FIRST 5 Riverside County

FY 2025/2026 Cumulative Vendor List

	Vendor	Description	Action Item #	Commission Meeting Date	Approval by	Total	Action Item#	Commission Meeting Date	Approval by	Additional	Revised Total	YTD Expenditures as of 02/18/26*
1	First 5 Association of California	Membership	25-25	05/14/25	Commission	$ 50,000						$ 50,000
2	Totalplan and/or GM Business Interiors	Office Reconfigurations	25-25	05/14/25	Commission	$ 165,000						$ 31,003
3	Absolute Security International Inc	Mecca FRC Security Guard Services	25-25	05/14/25	Commission	$ 85,000						$ 43,464
4	US Bank	County Credit Card and Travel Program Bank	25-25	05/14/25	Commission	$ 100,000						$ 49,977
5	Social Solutions Global, Inc.	A360 Licenses	25-25	05/14/25	Commission	$ 100,000						$ 67,463
6	Taborda Solutions Inc.	Salesforce Licenses	25-25	05/14/25	Commission	$ 123,234						$ 123,234
7	S A Partners USA Inc	Countywide Leadership Shingo Professional Training	25-34	09/10/25	Commission	$ 60,000						$ 57,500
8	Raising A Reader	Early Literacy Affiliate Sites	25-34	09/10/25	Commission	$ 75,000	26-06	01/21/26	Commission	$ 120,000	$ 195,000	$ 75,000
9	S A Partners USA Inc (US Bank)	All Staff Foundation Shingo Professional Training	26-06	01/21/26	Commission	$ 4,600						$ 4,600
10	Regional Access Project Foundation	Keynote Speaker	26-06	01/21/26	Executive Director	$ 30,000						$ 30,000
11	C & C Interpreting Services	QEL Conference	26-06	01/21/26	Executive Director	$ 30,000						$ 14,955
12	Konica Minolta Business Solutions or TBD Copier Vendor	Copier replacements & operational maintenance	26-06	01/21/26	Executive Director	$ 40,000						$ 14,429
13	UCR Extension	UCR Extension – Accounting for Governmental & Nonprofit Organizations Training	26-06	01/21/26	Executive Director	$ 45,000						$ -
14	Crash Creative Studios	Videography	D-4	03/11/26	Executive Director	$ 27,500						$ 7,500
15	RCIT** (County Department Internal Transfer)	Commission Meeting Conference Room Audio System Repair & Upgrade	D-4	03/11/26	Executive Director	$ 75,000						$ -
16	Facilities Management** (County Department Internal Transfer)	Roof Repair & Sealing	D-4	03/11/26	Executive Director	$ 65,000						$ -
17	Facilities Management** (County Department Internal Transfer)	Carpet Removal & Replacement	D-4	03/11/26	Executive Director	$ 75,000						$ -

* YTD reflects expenditures under previously authorized agreements or delegated authority; Commission action is requested to approve the revised cumulative annual amounts shown.

**Per Commission policy, Facilities Management fees may be included in the adopted annual budget; however, due to the size and unplanned nature of these repair costs (roof, carpet, and conference room audio), they are being presented on the Cumulative Vendor List to ensure Commission visibility and transparency, consistent with the policy expectation that significant changes be presented to the Commission.

E. **Consent Items – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all Consent Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

E.1. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Commission January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes

MINUTES
FIRST 5 RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Commission Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 21, 2026
2:00 PM
First 5 Riverside County
585 Technology Ct
Riverside, California 92507

Commissioners Present: Supervisor Chuck Washington, Jose Campos, Zachary Ginder, Edwin Gomez, and Takashi Wada (Arrived at 2:07 p.m.)

Commissioners Absent: Kimberly Saruwatari, Charity Douglas, Cheryl-Marie Hansberger, and Elizabeth Romero

Administrative Staff Present: Charna Widby, Executive Director; Michael Knight, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director; Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV; Carol Abella, Regional Manager; Larissa Wills, Regional Manager; Charity Webb, Regional Manager; Alicia Corona, Regional Manager; Estella Briseno, Regional Manager; Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist; Victor Lopez, Business Process Analyst II; Steven Hernandez, Administrative Services Analyst II; Michael Avalos, Support Services Technician

Legal Counsel: Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

A. **Call to Order – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Commission Chair**

1. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Vice Chair Campos
2. Roll Call – Conducted by Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV

B. **Public Comments (for items not listed on the agenda) – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**

Ms. Cathryn Van Der Linden, representing SoCal Water Babies, provided public comment and shared an update on the drowning-prevention partnership with First 5 Riverside County. Her comments included current program data, outcomes, parent education, instructor capacity-building efforts, and future priorities with an emphasis on expanding equitable access, particularly in underserved areas.

A brief discussion with Chair Washington and Ms. Van Der Linden noted the absence of program presence in the Hemet Valley due to access and facility limitations. Potential solutions discussed included school and host-pool partnerships, instructor training support, and coordination with the Fifth District Supervisor's office and public health staff. Demand continues to exceed available funding.

(Commissioner Wada arrived at 2:07 p.m.)

C. **Commission and Advisory Committee Business – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**

1. Recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. and Rob Reiner

Presented by Ms. Widby

- In Remembrance – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- In Remembrance – Rob Reiner

2. Advisory Committee Comments

Ms. Widby provided an update on the meeting held earlier today.

3. Director's Report – Charna Widby, Executive Director; Michael Knight, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director

Presented by Ms. Widby

- Blue Ribbon Recognition
- Jan Peterson Progress
- Quality Counts Innovative Practices Conference (Dr. Gomez provided a call to action)
- FRC Emergency Basic Needs Efforts
- Employee Recognition
- County Employee Recognition (3 of 6 awards in the Human Services Profile)
- F5CA Impact Legacy – Renewal (Final Year)

Supervisor Washington, Chair, congratulated all staff award winners.

4. Public Information Report – Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist

Presented by Mr. Pravica

- (PSRA) Polaris Award
- CFRA Showcase Event at Mead Valley FRC
- State of the County Sponsorship
- F5CA Stronger Starts Tour in Corona – F5RC first local F5 Commission to join F5CA on their tour
- Public Information Partnerships – Countywide and work with RicCoONE

5. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Ginder expressed his confidence in Ms. Widby's first meeting and congratulated the First 5 Team on their awards.

Commissioner Ginder asked whether the Impact Legacy funding with this year's extension was the same amount spread over two years or a block of funding. Ms. Widby responded that it is technically a new block of funding, but reduced from last year.

Commissioner Ginder expressed appreciation for the water safety program, noting it as a strong example of First 5's community collaboration, and requested a more detailed update in the future.

Chair Washington echoed appreciation for the swim program and highlighted the positive impact of partnering with Children's Services and DPSS to engage additional family members.

Ms. Widby noted that the Children's Services Deputy Director, who also serves as Director of the Office of Child Abuse and Prevention, was present. She highlighted ongoing efforts to build on the near-drowning referral process and to pilot FRC wraparound support for families screened out of the child welfare investigation process.

Vice Chair Campos reported that he participated in a rapid improvement event at the Mead Valley Family Resource Center. He applauded the team for organizing the event and stated he looks forward to participating in future events.

6. First 5 Riverside County Commission Annual Chair and Vice Chair Process/Elections — Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

Ms. Bell-Valdez provided an overview of the process.

Ms. Widby confirmed Commissioner Chuck Washington has accepted the nomination to serve as Chair for 2026, and Commissioner Jose Campos has accepted the nomination to serve as Vice Chair for 2026.

Commissioner Ginder moved to approve the Chair nomination for Chuck Washington. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (5) Washington, Campos, Ginder, Gomez, Wada*
- ***Nayes**: 0*
- ***Abstentions**:* None
- ***Absent:*** (4) Kimberly Saruwatari, Charity Douglas, Cheryl-Marie Hansberger, and Elizabeth Romero

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

Chair Washington moved to approve the Vice Chair nomination for Jose Campos. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (5) Washington, Campos, Ginder, Gomez, Wada*
- ***Nayes**: 0*
- ***Abstentions**:* None
- ***Absent:*** (4) Kimberly Saruwatari, Charity Douglas, Cheryl-Marie Hansberger, and Elizabeth Romero

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

D. **Presentation/Information Items – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all Presentation/Information Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Evaluation Report, "A Weight Off Our Shoulders", "Pandemic Payments to Early Educators in Riverside County" Anna Powell, and Wanzi Muruvi, Associate Directors, Research & Policy Center for the Study of Child Employment, Associate Director, University of California, Berkeley — Carol Abella, Regional Manager

Ms. Muruvi and Ms. Powell provided highlights on the evaluation report.

Chair Washington asked for the total Board allocation. Ms. Perez noted the Board of Supervisors approved $23 million in ARPA funds.

Commissioner Gomez commended Ms. Powell and Ms. Muruvi for their detailed report and asked whether it could be published online to share protocols and best practices. Ms. Widby noted that legislative briefings are planned, and the state ECE Budget Coalition will help amplify messages. Ms. Powell and Ms. Muruvi are available to participate in virtual meetings as needed.

Commissioner Wada asked whether a return on investment could be projected if the funds had not been available. Ms. Powell noted that statewide projections might be available.

2. 2027-2030 First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan Update — Charna Widby, Executive Director

Ms. Widby highlighted the process and design intended to maximize the Advisory Committee's role in advising the Commission.

E. **Consent Items – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all Consent Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Commission and Advisory Committee Finance Workshop October 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes
2. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Regular Commission October 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes
3. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Strategic Plan Workshop December 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes
4. **26-01:** Approve Termination of **CONTRACT NO. CF25103** with American Academy of Pediatrics, District IX, Chapter 2 for Reach Out and Read - Inland Empire (ROR-IE) Effective December 31, 2025
5. **26-02:** Approve 2026/2027 First 5 Riverside County Finance Subcommittee Members
6. **26-03**: Approve Second Amendment with Sidekick Solutions LLC for Technical Assistance from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026 **(CONTRACT NO. CF25129) [$186,626 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**
7. **26-04:** Approve Fourth Amendment with Poder Consulting Group, LLC, for Professional Services from February 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 **(CONTRACT NO CF25118) [$115,000 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

Vice Chair Campos moved to approve consent items 1-7 as presented. Commissioner Ginder seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (5) Washington, Campos, Ginder, Gomez, and Wada*
- ***Nayes**: 0*
- ***Abstentions**:* None
- ***Absent:*** (4) Kimberly Saruwatari, Charity Douglas, Cheryl-Marie Hansberger, and Elizabeth Romero

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

F. **Presentation/Action Item/Public Hearing – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all Presentation/Action Items/Public Hearings and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Conduct a Public Hearing of First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission Strategic Plan 2023-2026 Pursuant to the California Children and Families Act, Health and Safety Code Section 130140, and Ordinance 784, and Adopt First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission Current 2023-2026 Strategic Plan - Charna Widby, Executive Director

    a. **Public Hearing:** First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan 2023-2026 — Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed.

    b. **26-05:** Review and Adopt First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan 2023-2026 — Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair

Commissioner Gomez moved to approve presentation/action item/public hearing 26-05 as presented. Commissioner Ginder seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (5) Washington, Campos, Ginder, Gomez, and Wada*
- ***Nayes**: 0*
- ***Abstentions**:* None
- ***Absent:** (4)* Kimberly Saruwatari, Charity Douglas, Cheryl-Marie Hansberger, and Elizabeth Romero

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

G. **Presentation/Action Item – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all Presentation/Action Item and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. **26-06:** Approve and Adopt the Revised Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Annual Budget and Vendor List of First 5 Riverside County Children & Families Commission — Patricia Perez, Deputy Director, and Hui Serafina Wang, Principal Accountant

Ms. Perez presented the FY 2025/26 Revised Budget, summarizing key updates to revenues and expenditures, including timing-related entries for previously approved projects and minor reclassifications.

Vice Chair Campos moved to approve presentation/action item 26-06 as presented. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (5) Washington, Campos, Ginder, Gomez, and Wada*
- ***Nayes**: 0*
- ***Abstentions**:* None
- ***Absent:** (4)* Kimberly Saruwatari, Elizabeth Romero, Charity Douglas, and Cheryl-Marie Hansberger

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

H. **Future Agenda Items:**

1. First 5 Riverside County 2026 Policy Priorities
2. First 5 Riverside County 2026 Communications Plan
3. First 5 California Annual Report Review and Public Hearing
4. 2027-2030 First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan Update

I. **Adjournment:** Adjournment at 3:17 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission to be held on March 11, 2026, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at:
First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission Office
585 Technology Court — Conference Room A
Riverside, CA 92507

Meeting Minutes Recorded by Lynn M. Stephens, Executive Assistant IV.

DRAFT

E.2. **26-07:** Approve Contract with Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies for Home Visiting Financing and System Building Strategies from March 11, 2026 – June 30, 2027 **(CONTRACT NO. CF26122) [$243,375 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

AGENDA ITEM: 26-07
DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2026
ACTION: ☒
INFORMATION: ☐

**APPROVE CONTRACT WITH
PRENATAL TO FIVE FISCAL STRATEGIES
FOR HOME VISITING FINANCING AND SYSTEM BUILDING STRATEGIES
FROM MARCH 11, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027 (CONTRACT NO. CF26122)
[$243,375 – PROP 10 FUNDS]**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Approve Contract No. CF26122 with Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies (P5FS) in an amount not to exceed $243,375 for the period March 11, 2026 – June 30, 2027. P5FS will provide fiscal mapping, cost modeling, and financing strategy development to support implementation of Riverside County's Home Visiting System Plan and strengthen sustainable system infrastructure.

BACKGROUND

Since 2021, First 5 Riverside County has led a countywide effort to strengthen and integrate the county's home visiting system through partner alignment and a structured, equity-centered systems planning process. This contract moves the work from planning into implementation by building the financing and cost infrastructure needed to scale and sustain services.

Through this scope, P5FS will assess current and potential funding sources and develop practical financing mechanisms to improve sustainability and equity in access. The work will also produce direct service and system infrastructure cost models to clarify the true cost of delivering home visiting and operating a coordinated system. In parallel, the contract will support system capacity-building efforts essential to implementation, including governance refinement, workforce and quality infrastructure supports, and alignment with Riverside County's coordinated "one-door" approach to family access and navigation, so families connect to the right services at the right time.

This scope requires a specialized skill set that is not widely available in the field. P5FS developed the Home Visiting Cost Model (HVCM), which includes 16 home visiting program models and incorporates model-specific requirements to estimate true costs. The HVCM can be tailored to local conditions and used to model multi-model system scenarios. This tool and the expertise behind it, is central to producing defensible cost estimates and practical financing recommendations for implementation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Commission:

1. Approve Contract No. CF26122 with Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies for an amount not to exceed $243,375, effective March 11, 2026 – June 30, 2027, to support Home Visiting Financing and System Building Strategies, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Commission, subject to County Counsel approval as to form; and

2. Authorize the Executive Director, based on the availability of fiscal funding and as approved by County Counsel to sign amendments that exercise the options of Contract No. CF26122, on behalf of the Commission including modifications of the scope of work that stay within the intent of said contract without requiring further action from the Commission.

BUDGET IMPACT

Adequate appropriation is included in the approved budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 and will be included in the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 (525440-25800-938001-92945).

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE

Goal Area 2 - Comprehensive Health and Development

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None Known

ATTACHMENT

1. 26-07 Attachment: CF26122 Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies

CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
Contract No. CF26122
Riverside County Children and Families Commission
and
Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies

This Contract for Professional Services is made and entered into by and between the Riverside County Children and Families Commission ("RCCFC") aka First 5 Riverside County (hereinafter the "COMMISSION" or "COUNTY") and Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies ("CONTRACTOR"). The parties hereto mutually agree as provided herein, including Attachments attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

1. **PROJECT**: CONTRACTOR shall perform services for the COMMISSION as stated in Attachments A and B and incorporated into this contract. CONTRACTOR shall perform these services in a complete, skillful and professional manner. CONTRACTOR shall not provide any services which shall cause COMMISSION to incur additional costs beyond those stated in this Contract without the proper advance written consent of COMMISSION.
2. **TIME FOR PERFORMANCE**: The project shall begin on **03/11/2026** and shall be completed on or **before 06/30/2027**, or at such other time as is mutually agreed upon in writing by COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR as provided herein.
3. **COMPENSATION**: The total amount of compensation to be paid to CONTRACTOR for the services to be provided pursuant to this contract (including any and all costs incurred by CONTRACTOR) shall not exceed **TWO HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE ($243,375)** for this contract.
4. **TERMINATION**: This contract may be terminated by CONTRACTOR or COMMISSION, for no cause, with a thirty (30) days written notice to the other party, as provided herein. In addition, it is mutually agreed and understood that the obligation of COMMISSION is limited and contingent upon the availability of Proposition 10 funds for payment to CONTRACTOR; and that this contract may be immediately terminated by COMMISSION if funds are no longer available. In the event COMMISSION abandons or postpones the project, or terminates the project for lack of funds, then COMMISSION shall make payment for all services provided by CONTRACTOR to the date of written notice of termination.
5. **LICENSES: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**: CONTRACTOR, including its employees and agents, shall maintain all licenses required by law or regulation while performing services under this contract. CONTRACTOR shall at all times comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the services provided pursuant to this contract.
6. **CONFIDENTIALITY**: CONTRACTOR shall maintain the confidentiality of information, including protection of names and other identifying information from unauthorized disclosure, except for statistical information which shall not identify any individual person and which shall be used only for carrying out the obligation of CONTRACTOR under this contract. CONTRACTOR shall not disclose any information, except as specifically permitted by this contract. CONTRACTOR shall observe all Federal, State, County and COMMISSION regulations concerning confidentiality of records.
7. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**: The parties hereto and their respective employees or agents shall have no interest, and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which will conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required under this contract.
8. **WORK PRODUCT**: All reports, preliminary findings or data assembled or compiled by CONTRACTOR under this Contract shall become the property of COMMISSION. COMMISSION reserves the right to authorize others to use or reproduce such materials. Therefore, such materials may not be circulated in whole or in part, nor released to the public, without prior, written authorization from the COMMISSION.
9. **ADMINISTRATION**: The Executive Director of COMMISSION (or designee) shall administer this contract on behalf of COMMISSION.

10. **RECORDS AND REPORTS**: Contractor shall maintain accurate and complete financial and performance records for a minimum of two (2) years from the date of final payment under this contract, or until any relative County, State, and/or Federal audits of which Contractor is made aware of are completed, whichever is later, and shall maintain such records locally, to be made available for inspection by Contractor upon reasonable request.

11. **INSURANCE**: Without limiting or diminishing the CONTRACTOR'S obligation to indemnify or hold the COUNTY harmless, CONTRACTOR shall procure and maintain or cause to be maintained, at its sole cost and expense, the following insurance coverage's during the term of this Contract. As respects to the insurance section only, the COUNTY herein refers to the COUNTY, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts, and Departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents or representatives.

    A. Workers' Compensation:

    If the CONTRACTOR has employees as defined by the State of California, the CONTRACTOR shall maintain statutory Workers' Compensation Insurance (Coverage A) as prescribed by the laws of the State of California. Policy shall include Employers' Liability (Coverage B) including Occupational Disease with limits not less than $1,000,000 per person per accident. The policy shall be endorsed to waive subrogation in favor of COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE.

    B. Commercial General Liability:

    Commercial General Liability insurance coverage, including but not limited to, premises liability, unmodified contractual liability, products and completed operations liability, personal and advertising injury, and cross liability coverage, covering claims which may arise from or out of CONTRACTOR'S performance of its obligations hereunder. Policy shall name COUNTY of RIVERSIDE as Additional Insured. Policy's limit of liability shall not be less than $2,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit.

    C. Vehicle Liability:

    If vehicles or mobile equipment are used in the performance of the obligations under this Contract, then CONTRACTOR shall maintain liability insurance for all owned, non- owned or hired vehicles so used in an amount not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit. Policy shall name the COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE as an Additional Insured.

    D. General Insurance Provisions - All lines:

    1) Any insurance carrier providing insurance coverage hereunder shall be admitted to the State of California and have an A M BEST rating of not less than A: VIII (A:8) unless such requirements are waived, in writing, by the County Risk Manager. If the County's Risk Manager waives a requirement for a particular insurer such waiver is only valid for that specific insurer and only for one policy term.

    2) The CONTRACTOR must declare its insurance self-insured retention for each coverage required herein. If any such self-insured retention exceeds $500,000 per occurrence each such retention shall have the prior written consent of the County Risk Manager before the commencement of operations under this Contract. Upon notification of self-insured retention unacceptable to the COUNTY, and at the election of the County's Risk Manager, CONTRACTOR'S carriers shall either 1) reduce or eliminate such self-insured retention as respects this Contract with the COUNTY, or 2) procure a bond which guarantees payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense costs and expenses.

    3) CONTRACTOR shall furnish the COUNTY with 1) a properly executed original Certificate(s) of Insurance and certified original copies of Endorsements effecting coverage as required herein, and 2) if requested to do so orally or in writing by the County Risk Manager, provide original

Certified copies of policies including all Endorsements and all attachments thereto, showing such insurance is in full force and effect. Further, said Certificate(s) and policies of insurance shall contain the covenant of the insurance carrier(s) that thirty (30) days written notice shall be given to the COUNTY prior to any material modification, cancellation, expiration, or reduction in coverage of such insurance. In the event of a material modification, cancellation, expiration, or reduction in coverage, this Contract shall terminate forthwith, unless the COUNTY receives, prior to such effective date, another properly executed original Certificate of Insurance and original copies of endorsements or certified original policies, including all endorsements and attachments thereto evidencing coverages set forth herein and the insurance required herein is in full force and effect. *CONTRACTOR shall not commence operations until the COUNTY has been furnished original Certificate (s) of Insurance and certified original copies of endorsements and if requested, certified original policies of insurance including all endorsements and any and all other attachments as required in this Section. An individual authorized by the insurance carrier to do so on its behalf shall sign the original endorsements for each policy and the Certificate of Insurance.*

4) It is understood and agreed to by the parties hereto that the CONTRACTOR'S insurance shall be construed as primary insurance, and the COUNTY'S insurance and/or deductibles and/or self-insured retentions or self-insured programs shall not be construed as contributory.

5) If, during the term of this Contract or any extension thereof, there is a material change in the scope of services; or, there is a material change in the equipment to be used in the performance of the scope of work; or, the term of this Contract, including any extensions thereof, exceeds five (5) years; the COUNTY reserves the right to adjust the types of insurance and the monetary limits of liability required under this Contract, if in the County Risk Manager's reasonable judgment, the amount or type of insurance carried by the CONTRACTOR has become inadequate.

6) CONTRACTOR shall pass down the insurance obligations contained herein to all tiers of subcontractors working under this Contract.

7) The insurance requirements contained in this Contract may be met with a program(s) of self-insurance acceptable to the COUNTY.

8) CONTRACTOR agrees to notify COUNTY of any claim by a third party or any incident or event that may give rise to a claim arising from the performance of this Contract.

12. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**: CONTRACTOR and its employees and agents shall act at all times in an independent capacity with regard to performance of services rendered pursuant to this contract; and CONTRACTOR shall not act as, shall not be, and shall not in any manner be construed to be, agents, officers or employees of COMMISSION and/or of the COUNTY. There shall be no employer-employee relationship between COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, or between the COUNTY and CONTRACTOR; and CONTRACTOR and its employees and agents shall not be entitled to any benefits payable to the COMMISSION employees. CONTRACTOR is responsible for payment and deduction of all employment-related taxes on CONTRACTOR's behalf and for CONTRACTOR's employees, including but not limited to all federal and state income taxes and withholdings. COMMISSION shall not be required to make any deductions from compensation payable to CONTRACTOR for these purposes. CONTRACTOR shall indemnify COMMISSION, and/or COUNTY against any and all claims that may be made against COMMISSION, and/or COUNTY based upon any contention by a third party that an employer-employee relationship exists by reason of this contract; and CONTRACTOR shall indemnify COMMISSION for any and all federal or state withholding or retirement payments which COMMISSION may be required to make pursuant to federal or state law.

13. **INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS**: CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold harmless COMMISSION, the COUNTY, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts and Departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and representatives (individually and collectively hereinafter referred to as "Indemnitees" or "COUNTY") from any liability whatsoever, based or asserted upon any services of CONTRACTOR, its officers,

employees, subcontractors, agents or representatives arising out of or in any way relating to this Contract, including but not limited to property damage, bodily injury, or death or any other element of any kind or nature whatsoever arising from the performance of CONTRACTOR, its officers, employees, subcontractors, agents or representatives Indemnitors from this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall defend, at its sole expense, all costs and fees including, but not limited, to attorney fees, cost of investigation, defense and settlements or awards, the Indemnitees in any claim or action based upon such alleged acts or omissions.

With respect to any action or claim subject to indemnification herein by CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTOR shall, at their sole cost, have the right to use counsel of their own choice and shall have the right to adjust, settle, or compromise any such action or claim without the prior consent of COUNTY; provided, however, that any such adjustment, settlement or compromise in no manner whatsoever limits or circumscribes CONTRACTOR'S indemnification to Indemnitees as set forth herein.

CONTRACTOR'S obligation hereunder shall be satisfied when CONTRACTOR has provided to COUNTY the appropriate form of dismissal relieving COUNTY from any liability for the action or claim involved.

The specified insurance limits required in this Contract shall in no way limit or circumscribe CONTRACTOR'S obligations to indemnify and hold harmless the Indemnitees herein from third party claims.

In the event there is conflict between this clause and California Civil Code Section 2782, this clause shall be interpreted to comply with Civil Code 2782. Such interpretation shall not relieve the CONTRACTOR from indemnifying the Indemnitees to the fullest extent allowed by law.

A. Where CONTRACTOR is a public entity, as defined by applicable law, the COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, to the extent that liability may be imposed on the COMMISSION by the provisions of Government Code Section 895.2, shall be liable for their own acts or omissions, including all claims, liabilities, injuries, suits, and demands and expenses of all kinds which may result or arise out of any alleged malfeasance or neglect, caused or alleged to have been caused by either the COMMISSION or CONTRACTOR, their employees or representatives, performance or omission of any act or responsibility of either party under this Contract. In the event that a claim is made against both the COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, both parties shall cooperate in the defense of said claim and to cause their insurers to do likewise.

B. CONTRACTOR agrees to indemnify the COMMISSION for all federal/state withholding or state retirement payments, which the COMMISSION may be required to make by the federal or state government as a result of this Contract. If for any reason, CONTRACTOR is determined not to be an independent contractor to the COMMISSION in carrying out the terms of the Contract, such indemnification shall be paid in full to the COMMISSION upon sixty (60) calendar days written notice to CONTRACTOR if a federal and/or state determination is made that such payment is required.

14. **NONDISCRIMINATION**: The CONTRACTOR shall not discriminate in the provision of its services, recruiting, hiring, promotion, demotion or termination practices on the basis of ethnic group identification, race, religious creed, color, ancestry, national origin, sexual preference, sex, marital status, medical condition, or physical or mental handicap, and shall comply with all other requirements of law regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.

15. **NOTICES**: All correspondence and notices required or produced by this contract shall be delivered to the respective parties at the addresses set forth below, and are deemed submitted one (1) day after their deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid:

COMMISSION:

Charna Widby
Executive Director
First 5 Riverside County
585 Technology Court
Riverside, CA 92507

CONTRACTOR:

Jeanna Capito
Principal & Board President
Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies
3102 Pendleton Court
Saint Charles, Illinois 60175

or to such other address as may be designated by the respective parties.

16. **GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE**: This contract is to be construed under the laws of the State of California. The parties agree to the jurisdiction and venue of the appropriate courts in the COUNTY, State of California. Should action be brought to enforce or interpret the provisions of this contract, the prevailing party shall be entitled to attorney's fees in addition to whatever other relief is granted. The provisions of the Government Claims Act (Government Code section 900, et seq.) must be followed first for any disputes under this contract.
17. **ASSIGNMENT**: Neither this contract nor any part thereof shall be assigned by CONTRACTOR without the prior written consent of COMMISSION.
18. **WAIVER**: Any waiver by COMMISSION of any one or more of the terms of this contract shall not be construed to be a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or of any other term of this contract.
19. **ALTERATION AND/OR AMENDMENT**: No alteration or variation in the terms of this contract shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by both parties; and no oral understanding or Contract not incorporated herein by specific reference shall be binding on the parties. The terms contained in this contract shall represent the entire contract between the parties with respect to the services to be provided by CONTRACTOR.
20. **SEVERABILITY**: In the event any provision in this contract is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way.
21. **DISALLOWANCE**: In the event CONTRACTOR receives payment for services under this contract which are later disallowed for nonconformance with the terms and conditions herein, CONTRACTOR shall promptly refund the disallowed amount to COMMISSION upon written request. COMMISSION retains the option to offset the amount disallowed from any payment due to CONTRACTOR under this contract, or under any other contract or agreement between CONTRACTOR and COMMISSION.
22. **CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE CONTRACT**: CONTRACTOR certifies that the individual signing below has authority to execute this contract on behalf of CONTRACTOR, and may legally bind CONTRACTOR to the terms and conditions of this contract, including Attachments A and B.
23. **COUNTERPARTS**: This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be an original, but all of which together will constitute one instrument. Each party of this Contract agrees to the use of electronic signatures, such as digital signatures that meet the requirements of the California Uniform Electronic Transactions Act ("CUETA") Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1633.1 to 1633.17), for executing this Contract. The parties further agree that the electronic signatures of the parties included in this Contract are intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as manual signatures. Electronic signature means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with an electronic record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the electronic record pursuant to the CUETA as amended from time to time. The CUETA authorizes use of an electronic signature for transactions and contracts among parties in California, including a government agency. Digital signature means an electronic identifier, created by computer, intended by the party using it to have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature, and shall be reasonably relied upon by the parties. For purposes of this section, a digital signature is a type of "electronic signature" as defined in subdivision (i) of Section 1633.2 of the Civil Code.

Signature Page Follows

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused their duly authorized representative to execute this contract.

Authorized Signature for COMMISSION:	**Authorized Signature for CONTRACTOR:**
Charna Widby, Executive Director	Jeanna Capito, Principal & Board President and Authorized Signatory
Date Signed:	Date Signed:
585 Technology Court Riverside, CA 92507-2423	3102 Pendleton Court Saint Charles, Illinois 60175
APPROVED AS TO FORM SIGNATURE:	
Kristine Bell-Valdez Supervising Deputy County Counsel	
Date Signed:	
ATTEST SIGNATURE:	
Lynn M. Stephens Executive Assistant IV	
Date Signed:	

ATTACHMENT A: SCOPE OF SERVICE

Contractor: Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies
Program: Comprehensive Health and Development
Contract #: CF26122
Term: 03/11/2026 – 06/30/2027

CONTRACTOR shall, under the direction of the Executive Director of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission, or designee, provide services in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and scope of work identified in this Attachment A, incorporated herein by reference.

Program Overview:

The purpose of this engagement is to provide system assessment, financial and implementation analysis, cost modeling, and embedded technical assistance to strengthen home visiting and related early childhood systems. Work will include facilitation, analysis, coordination, and capacity-building support to promote sustainable system improvements.

Planned meetings with leadership and ongoing project management are integrated across all work areas.

Scope of Work Details:

System Assessment, Planning, and Readiness Building

Timeline: March 2026 – June 2027

Facilitation, synthesis, and coordination activities to establish a strong foundation for system change. This work aligns partners around shared priorities, decision-making processes, and definitions of success.

Activities

- Document and system landscape review
- Constituent and partner engagement
- Convenings and facilitation sessions
- Development of governance structures and workgroups
- Alignment support around priorities and success metrics

Deliverables

- Summary of system assessment findings
- Governance/workgroup structure framework
- Meeting summaries and planning materials

Funding Mechanisms and Implementation Analysis

Timeline: March 2026 – February 2027

In-depth examination of how public funding sources operate in practice, with attention to implementation realities.

Activities

- Review of funding guidance, contracts, and administrative requirements
- Interviews with funding administrators and partners
- Working sessions with implementing agencies
- Analysis of eligibility, claiming, and reporting processes
- Infrastructure and systems review

Deliverables

- Funding analysis summary
- Findings related to eligibility, claiming, and reporting
- Recommendations for improved funding implementation

Home Visiting Direct Service and System Cost Modeling

Timeline: April 2026 – June 2027

Development of customized cost models reflecting service-level and system-level costs.

Activities

- Model design and methodology development
- Data analysis and validation
- Assumption development
- Scenario testing
- Technical documentation preparation
- Technical assistance for model use

Deliverables

- Direct service cost model

- System cost model
- Technical documentation and user guidance

Embedded Technical Assistance, Implementation Support, and Sustainability

Timeline: April 2026 – June 2027

Ongoing implementation-focused support to strengthen administrative, operational, and governance capacity.

Activities

- Hands-on technical assistance
- Facilitated learning and peer exchanges
- Support for funding implementation
- Guidance on claiming/reporting processes
- Cross-system coordination support
- Workforce readiness assistance
- Development of coordinated intake, referral, and enrollment processes

Deliverables

- Technical assistance summaries
- Capacity-building tools and resources
- Implementation support documentation

ATTACHMENT B: PAYMENT PROVISIONS

CONTRACTOR shall be compensated for services rendered pursuant to this contract as follows. Total payments shall not exceed **TWO HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE ($243,375)** for this contract.

A. **Fee**: COMMISSION shall reimburse CONTRACTOR, upon submission by CONTRACTOR, of an acceptable invoice for actual expenses incurred under the terms of this contract. Payment shall be due to CONTRACTOR within thirty (30) days of COMMISSION's receipt of the invoice.

1. Payment shall be made in accordance with satisfactory completion of the Milestones below and upon receipt of an acceptable invoice to include:

    a. CONTRACTOR's name,
    b. CONTRACTOR's address,
    c. Contract number,
    d. Assigned invoice number,
    e. Supporting documents (if applicable), and
    f. Payment amount due.

B. Fiscal expenditures are required to be input into the data management system by CONTRACTOR on a Monthly basis with input and submission completed by the 20th calendar day of the month following Contract performance. Fiscal expenditures occurring in the 4th quarter (April, May and June) may be required to be input into the data management system on earlier modified due dates to support COUNTY internal deadlines and external audit requirements. These due dates will be communicated to CONTRACTOR through the COMMISSION'S Contracts and Grants Analyst assigned to the CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR is required to report expenditures on a monthly basis and apply accruals at year-end. Accruals show costs for services that have occurred but have not yet been paid. If the reporting due date falls on a weekend or County, State or nationally recognized holiday, the due date will be on the following business day. Any changes that occur with expenditures must be reported to COMMISSION staff and adjusted within the data management system before the end of the Quarter following the expense occurrence.

ATTACHMENT C: BUDGET

Budget Start Date: 03/11/2026

Budget End Date: 06/30/2027

Total Amount: $243,375

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026		
Category	**Description**	**Amount**
Operational Expenses	System Assessment, Planning, and Readiness Building	**$31,429**
Operational Expenses	Funding Mechanisms and Implementation Analysis	**$24,754**
Operational Expenses	Home Visiting Direct Service and System Cost Modeling	**$18,704**
Operational Expenses	Embedded Technical Assistance, Implementation Support, and Sustainability	**$4,125**
SUBTOTAL:		**$79,012**

FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027		
Category	**Description**	**Amount**
Operational Expenses	System Assessment, Planning, and Readiness Building	**$23,571**
Operational Expenses	Funding Mechanisms and Implementation Analysis	**$49,496**
Operational Expenses	Home Visiting Direct Service and System Cost Modeling	**$74,796**
Operational Expenses	Embedded Technical Assistance, Implementation Support, and Sustainability	**$16,500**
SUBTOTAL:		**$164,363**

TOTAL CONTRACT BUDGET	**$243,375**

E.3. **26-08:** Approve Contract with Eide Bailly, LLP for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Independent Audit Services from May 1, 2026 – January 31, 2027 **(CONTRACT NO. CF26117) [$57,500 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

AGENDA ITEM: 26-08
DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2026
ACTION: ☒
INFORMATION: ☐

APPROVE CONTRACT WITH
EIDE BAILLY, LLP
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 INDEPENDENT AUDIT SERVICES
FROM MAY 1, 2026 – JANUARY 31, 2027
(CONTRACT NO. CF26117)
[$57,500 – PROP 10 FUNDS]

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Approve Contract No. CF26117 with Eide Bailly, LLP, in an amount not to exceed $57,500, effective May 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027, for the performance of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission's Fiscal Year 2025/2026 independent financial and compliance audit. The audit will include an opinion on the Commission's financial statements, evaluation of internal controls, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, preparation of management letters, and attendance at a public hearing to present audit findings.

BACKGROUND

Health and Safety Code Section 130140 requires that any county receiving funding and implementing the California Children and Families Act of 1998 (Proposition 10) prepare and adopt an annual audit and report and conduct at least one public hearing prior to adoption. In addition, Health and Safety Code Section 130150 requires that the annual audit and report be submitted to the State Children and Families Commission no later than November 1 following the end of the fiscal year.

Accordingly, staff recommend entering into a new agreement with Eide Bailly, LLP, a qualified certified public accounting firm with experience conducting Proposition 10 audits, to ensure timely completion of the audit and compliance with all applicable statutory requirements.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Commission:

1. Approve Contract No. CF26117, with Eide Bailly, LLP for Audit Services in an amount not to exceed $57,500, effective May 1, 2026, through January 31, 2027, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Commission, subject to County Counsel approval as to form.
2. Authorize the Executive Director, based on the availability of fiscal funding and as approved by County Counsel, to sign amendments that exercise the options of Contract No. CF26117 that modify the scope of work within the intent of the contract and do not exceed the authorized contract amount without requiring further action from the Commission.

BUDGET IMPACT

Adequate appropriation is included in the approved budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 and will be included in the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 (525440-25800-938001-92955).

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE

Goal Area 4 - Countywide (92955)

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None known.

ATTACHMENT

1. 26-08 Attachment: CF26117 A0-EBLLP-AUDIT SERVICES

CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
Contract No. CF26117
RIVERSIDE COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION
AND
EIDE BAILLY, LLP

This Contract for Professional Services is made and entered into by and between the Riverside County Children and Families Commission ("COMMISSION"), also known as First 5 Riverside County and Eide Bailly, LLP ("CONTRACTOR"). The parties hereto mutually agree as provided herein, including Attachments A through C, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

1. **PROJECT**: CONTRACTOR shall perform services for the COMMISSION as stated in Attachments A through C and incorporated into this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall perform these services in a complete, skillful, and professional manner. CONTRACTOR shall not provide any services which shall cause COMMISSION to incur additional costs beyond those stated in this Contract without the proper advance written consent of COMMISSION.
2. **TIME FOR PERFORMANCE**: The project shall begin on **05/01/2026** and shall be completed on or before **01/31/2027**, or at such other time as is mutually agreed upon in writing by COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR as provided herein.
3. **COMPENSATION**: The total amount of compensation to be paid to CONTRACTOR for the services to be provided pursuant to this Contract (including any and all costs incurred by CONTRACTOR) shall not exceed **FIFTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS ($57,500.00)** for this Contract.
4. **TERMINATION**: This contract may be terminated by CONTRACTOR or COMMISSION, for no cause, with a thirty (30) days written notice to the other party, as provided herein. In addition, it is mutually agreed and understood that the obligation of COMMISSION is limited and contingent upon the availability of Proposition 10 funds for payment to CONTRACTOR; and that this Contract may be immediately terminated by COMMISSION if funds are no longer available. In the event COMMISSION abandons or postpones the project, or terminates the project for lack of funds, then COMMISSION shall make payment for all services provided by CONTRACTOR to the date of written notice of termination.
5. **LICENSES: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**: CONTRACTOR, including its employees and agents, shall maintain all licenses required by law or regulation while performing services under this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall at all times comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the services provided pursuant to this Contract.
6. **CONFIDENTIALITY**: CONTRACTOR shall maintain the confidentiality of information, including protection of names and other identifying information from unauthorized disclosure, except for statistical information which shall not identify any individual person, and which shall be used only for carrying out the obligation of CONTRACTOR under this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall not disclose any information, except as specifically permitted by this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall observe all Federal, State, County and COMMISSION regulations concerning confidentiality of records.
7. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**: The parties hereto and their respective employees or agents shall have no interest, and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which will conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required under this Contract.
8. **WORK PRODUCT**: All reports, preliminary findings or data assembled or compiled by CONTRACTOR under this Contract shall become the property of COMMISSION. COMMISSION reserves the right to authorize others to use or reproduce such materials.

Therefore, such materials may not be circulated in whole or in part, nor released to the public, without prior, written authorization from the COMMISSION.

9. **ADMINISTRATION**: The Executive Director of COMMISSION (or designee) shall administer this Contract on behalf of COMMISSION.

10. **RECORDS AND REPORTS**: CONTRACTOR shall maintain accurate and complete financial and performance records for a minimum of two (2) years from the date of final payment under this Contract, or until any relative County, State, and/or Federal audits of which CONTRACTOR is made aware of are completed, whichever is later, and shall maintain such records locally, to be made available for inspection by COMMISSION or County upon reasonable request.

11. **INSURANCE**: Without limiting or diminishing the CONTRACTOR'S obligation to indemnify or hold the County harmless, CONTRACTOR shall procure and maintain or cause to be maintained, at its sole cost and expense, the following insurance coverages during the term of this Contract. As respects to the insurance section only, the COUNTY herein refers to the County of Riverside, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts, and Departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents, or representatives as Additional Insureds.

    A. Workers' Compensation:

    If the CONTRACTOR has employees as defined by the State of California, the CONTRACTOR shall maintain statutory Workers' Compensation Insurance (Coverage A) as prescribed by the laws of the State of California. Policy shall include Employers' Liability (Coverage B) including Occupational Disease with limits not less than $1,000,000 per person per accident. The policy shall be endorsed to waive subrogation in favor of The County of Riverside. Policy shall name the COUNTY as Additional Insureds.

    B. Commercial General Liability:

    Commercial General Liability insurance coverage, including but not limited to, premises liability, unmodified contractual liability, products and completed operations liability, personal and advertising injury, and cross liability coverage, covering claims which may arise from or out of CONTRACTOR'S performance of its obligations hereunder. Policy shall name the COUNTY as Additional Insureds. Policy's limit of liability shall not be less than $2,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit. Policy shall name the COUNTY as Additional Insureds.

    C. Vehicle Liability:

    If vehicles or mobile equipment are used in the performance of the obligations under this Contract, then CONTRACTOR shall maintain liability insurance for all owned, non-owned or hired vehicles so used in an amount not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit. Policy shall name the COUNTY as Additional Insureds.

    D. Professional Liability

    CONTRACTOR shall maintain Professional Liability Insurance providing coverage for the CONTRACTOR's performance of work included within this Contract, with a limit of liability of not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 annual aggregate. If CONTRACTOR's Professional Liability Insurance is written on a claims made basis rather than an occurrence basis, such insurance shall continue through the term of this Contract and CONTRACTOR shall purchase at his sole expense either 1) an Extended Reporting

Endorsement (also, known as Tail Coverage); or 2) Prior Dates Coverage from new insurer with a retroactive date back to the date of, or prior to, the inception of this Contract; or 3) demonstrate through Certificates of Insurance that CONTRACTOR has Maintained continuous coverage with the same or original insurer. Coverage provided under items; 1), 2), or 3) will continue as long as the law allows. Policy shall name the COUNTY as Additional Insureds.

E. General Insurance Provisions - All lines:

1. Any insurance carrier providing insurance coverage hereunder shall be admitted to the State of California and have an A.M. BEST rating of not less than A: VIII (A:8) unless such requirements are waived, in writing, by the County Risk Manager.
2. The CONTRACTOR must declare its insurance self-insured retention for each coverage required herein. If any such self-insured retention exceed $500,000 per occurrence each such retention shall have the prior written consent of the County Risk Manager before the commencement of operations under this Contract. Upon notification of self-insured retention unacceptable to the COUNTY, and at the election of the County's Risk Manager, CONTRACTOR'S carriers shall either; 1) reduce or eliminate such self-insured retention as respects this Contract with the COUNTY, or 2) procure a bond which guarantees payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense costs and expenses.
3. CONTRACTOR shall cause CONTRACTOR'S insurance carrier(s) to furnish the County of Riverside with either 1) a properly executed original Certificate(s) of Insurance and certified original copies of Endorsements effecting coverage as required herein, and 2) if requested to do so orally or in writing by the County Risk Manager, provide original Certified copies of policies including all Endorsements and all attachments thereto, showing such insurance is in full force and effect. Further, said Certificate(s) and policies of insurance shall contain the covenant of the insurance carrier(s) that a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice shall be given to the County of Riverside prior to any modification, cancellation, expiration or reduction in coverage of such insurance. If CONTRACTOR insurance carrier(s) policies does not meet the minimum notice requirement found herein, CONTRACTOR shall cause CONTRACTOR'S insurance carrier(s) to furnish a 30 day Notice of Cancellation Endorsement.
4. In the event of a material modification, cancellation, expiration, or reduction in coverage, this Contract shall terminate forthwith, unless the County of Riverside receives, prior to such effective date, another properly executed original Certificate of Insurance and original copies of endorsements or certified original policies, including all endorsements and attachments thereto evidencing coverages set forth herein and the insurance required herein is in full force and effect. CONTRACTOR shall not commence operations until the COUNTY has been furnished original Certificate (s) of Insurance and certified original copies of endorsements and if requested, certified original policies of insurance including all endorsements and any and all other attachments as required in this Section. An individual authorized by the insurance carrier to do so on its behalf shall sign the original endorsements for each policy and the Certificate of Insurance.
5. It is understood and agreed to by the parties hereto that the CONTRACTOR'S insurance shall be construed as primary insurance, and the COUNTY'S insurance and/or deductibles and/or self-insured retention's or self-insured programs shall not be construed as contributory.
6. If, during the term of this Contract or any extension thereof, there is a material change in the scope of services; or, there is a material change in the equipment to be used in the performance of the scope of work; or, the term of this Contract, including any extensions thereof, exceeds five (5) years; the COUNTY reserves the right to adjust the types of insurance and the monetary limits of liability required under this Contract, if in

the County Risk Management's reasonable judgment, the amount or type of insurance carried by the CONTRACTOR has become inadequate.

7. CONTRACTOR shall pass down the insurance obligations contained hereinto all tiers of subcontractors working under this Contract.
8. The insurance requirements contained in this Contract may be met with a program(s) of self-insurance acceptable to the COUNTY.
9. CONTRACTOR agrees to notify COUNTY of any claim by a third party or any incident or event that may give rise to a claim arising from the performance of this Contract.

12. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**: CONTRACTOR and its employees and agents shall act at all times in an independent capacity with regard to performance of services rendered pursuant to this Contract; and CONTRACTOR shall not act as, shall not be, and shall not in any manner be construed to be, agents, officers, or employees of COMMISSION and/or of the County. There shall be no employer-employee relationship between COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, or between the County and CONTRACTOR; and CONTRACTOR and its employees and agents shall not be entitled to any benefits payable to the COMMISSION employees. CONTRACTOR is responsible for payment and deduction of all employment-related taxes on CONTRACTOR's behalf and for CONTRACTOR's employees, including but not limited to all federal and state income taxes and withholdings. COMMISSION shall not be required to make any deductions from compensation payable to CONTRACTOR for these purposes. CONTRACTOR shall indemnify COMMISSION, and/or County against any and all claims that may be made against COMMISSION, and/or County based upon any contention by a third party that an employer-employee relationship exists by reason of this Contract; and CONTRACTOR shall indemnify COMMISSION for any and all federal or state withholding or retirement payments which COMMISSION may be required to make pursuant to federal or state law.

13. **INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS**: CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold harmless COMMISSION, the County, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts and Departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and representatives (individually and collectively hereinafter referred to as "Indemnitees" or "COUNTY") from any liability whatsoever, based or asserted upon any services of CONTRACTOR, its officers, employees, subcontractors, agents or representatives arising out of or in any way relating to this Contract, including but not limited to property damage, bodily injury, or death or any other element of any kind or nature whatsoever arising from the performance of CONTRACTOR, its officers, employees, subcontractors, agents or representatives relating to this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall defend, at its sole expense, all costs and fees including, but not limited, to attorney fees, cost of investigation, defense and settlements or awards, the Indemnitees in any claim or action based upon such alleged acts or omissions.

    With respect to any action or claim subject to indemnification herein by CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTOR shall, at their sole cost, have the right to use counsel of their own choice and shall have the right to adjust, settle, or compromise any such action or claim without the prior consent of COUNTY; provided, however, that any such adjustment, settlement or compromise in no manner whatsoever limits or circumscribes CONTRACTOR'S indemnification to Indemnitees as set forth herein.

    CONTRACTOR'S obligation hereunder shall be satisfied when CONTRACTOR has provided to COUNTY the appropriate form of dismissal relieving COUNTY from any liability for the action or claim involved.

    The specified insurance limits required in this Contract shall in no way limit or circumscribe CONTRACTOR'S obligations to indemnify and hold harmless the Indemnitees herein from third party claims.

In the event there is conflict between this clause and California Civil Code Section 2782, this clause shall be interpreted to comply with Civil Code 2782. Such interpretation shall not relieve the CONTRACTOR from indemnifying the Indemnitees to the fullest extent allowed by law.

A. Where CONTRACTOR is a public entity, as defined by applicable law, the COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, to the extent that liability may be imposed on the COMMISSION by the provisions of Government Code Section 895.2, shall be liable for their own acts or omissions, including all claims, liabilities, injuries, suits, and demands and expenses of all kinds which may result or arise out of any alleged malfeasance or neglect, caused or alleged to have been caused by either the COMMISSION or CONTRACTOR, their employees or representatives, performance or omission of any act or responsibility of either party under this Contract. In the event that a claim is made against both the COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, both parties shall cooperate in the defense of said claim and to cause their insurers to do likewise.

B. CONTRACTOR agrees to indemnify the COMMISSION for all federal/state withholding or state retirement payments, which the COMMISSION may be required to make by the federal or state government as a result of this Contract. If for any reason, CONTRACTOR is determined not to be an independent Contractor to the COMMISSION in carrying out the terms of the Contract, such indemnification shall be paid in full to the COMMISSION upon sixty (60) calendar days written notice to CONTRACTOR if a federal and/or state determination is made that such payment is required.

14. **NONDISCRIMINATION**: The CONTRACTOR shall not discriminate in the provision of its services, recruiting, hiring, promotion, demotion, or termination practices on the basis of ethnic group identification, race, religious creed, color, ancestry, national origin, sexual preference, sex, marital status, medical condition, or physical or mental handicap, and shall comply with all other requirements of law regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.

15. **NOTICES**: All correspondence and notices required or produced by this Contract shall be delivered to the respective parties at the addresses set forth below, and are deemed submitted one (1) day after their deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid:

COMMISSION:	**CONTRACTOR:**
Charna Widby	Roger Alfaro
Executive Director	Partner
First 5 Riverside County	Eide Bailly, LLP
585 Technology Court	901 Via Piemonte Suite 450
Riverside, CA 92507	Ontario, CA 91764

or to such other address as may be designated by the respective parties.

16. **GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE**: This Contract is to be construed under the laws of the State of California. The parties agree to the jurisdiction and venue of the appropriate courts in the County of Riverside, State of California. Should action be brought to enforce or interpret the provisions of this Contract, the prevailing party shall be entitled to attorney's fees in addition to whatever other relief is granted. The provisions of the Government Claims Act (Government Code section 900, et seq.) must be followed first for any disputes under this Contract.

17. **ASSIGNMENT**: Neither this Contract nor any part thereof shall be assigned by CONTRACTOR without the prior written consent of COMMISSION.

18. **WAIVER**: Any waiver by COMMISSION of any one or more of the terms of this Contract shall not be construed to be a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or of any other term of this Contract.

19. **ALTERATION AND/OR AMENDMENT**: No alteration or variation in the terms of this Contract shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by both parties; and no oral understanding or Contract not incorporated herein by specific reference shall be binding on the parties. The terms contained in this Contract shall represent the entire Contract between the parties with respect to the services to be provided by CONTRACTOR.

20. **SEVERABILITY**: In the event any provision in this Contract is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

21. **DISALLOWANCE**: In the event CONTRACTOR receives payment for services under this Contract which are later disallowed for nonconformance with the terms and conditions herein, CONTRACTOR shall promptly refund the disallowed amount to COMMISSION upon written request. COMMISSION retains the option to offset the amount disallowed from any payment due to CONTRACTOR under this Contract or under any other contract with COMMISSION.

22. **CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE CONTRACT**: CONTRACTOR certifies that the individual signing below has authority to execute this Contract on behalf of CONTRACTOR, and may legally bind CONTRACTOR to the terms and conditions of this Contract, including Attachments A through C.

23. **COUNTERPARTS**: This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be an original, but all of which together will constitute one instrument. Each party of this Contract agrees to the use of electronic signatures, such as digital signatures that meet the requirements of the California Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (“CUETA”) Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1633.1 to 1633.17), for executing this Contract. The parties further agree that the electronic signatures of the parties included in this Contract are intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as manual signatures. Electronic signature means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with an electronic record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the electronic record pursuant to the CUETA as amended from time to time. The CUETA authorizes use of an electronic signature for transactions and contracts among parties in California, including a government agency. Digital signature means an electronic identifier created by computer, intended by the party using it to have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature, and shall be reasonably relied upon by the parties. For purposes of this section, a digital signature is a type of "electronic signature" as defined in subdivision (i) of Section 1633.2 of the Civil Code.

[Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused their duly authorized representative to execute this Contract.

Authorized Signature for COMMISSION:	Authorized Signature for CONTRACTOR:
Charna Widby, Executive Director	Roger Alfaro, Partner, and Authorized Signatory
Date Signed:	Date Signed:
585 Technology Court Riverside, CA 92507-2423	901 Via Piemonte Suite 450 Ontario, CA 91764
APPROVED AS TO FORM SIGNATURE:	
Kristine Bell-Valdez Supervising Deputy County Counsel	
Date Signed:	
ATTEST SIGNATURE:	
Lynn M. Stephens Executive Assistant IV	
Date Signed:	

ATTACHMENT A: SCOPE OF SERVICE

Contractor: Eide Bailly, LLP
Program: External Audit
Contract #: CF26117
Term: 05/01/2026 – 01/31/2027

CONTRACTOR shall, under the direction of the Executive Director of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission (COMMISSION), or designee, provide services in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and scope of work identified in this Attachment A, incorporated herein by reference.

Scope of Work Details:

Perform audit functions for the fiscal year covering July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America as promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to financial audits set forth in Government Accounting Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The audits must also comply with the California Controller's Office 'Standards and Procedures for Audits of California Counties participating in the Children and Families Act' (as amended), to include the following activities:

I. ANNUAL AUDIT AND REPORT

A. Service Required

1. An opinion on the COMMISSION's financial statements.
2. A report of the COMMISSION's compliance with applicable laws, regulations and requirements contained within the applicable portions of the California Health and Safety Code Sections 130100 through 130155.
3. A report of the COMMISSION's compliance with internal control procedures, based on minimal testing performed by the auditors, disclosing any material weaknesses identified during the scope of the audit work.
4. A meeting with COMMISSION management staff, at a time to be determined prior to public hearing, to review findings.
5. Presence at a public hearing set in October following the end of the audited fiscal year or other date as may be determined by COMMISSION staff, to provide an overview of the findings and answer questions from the COMMISSION and general public relating to the report and any findings expressed in the audit prepared.
   a. Issue a pre-audit letter (Letter of Intent).
   b. Issue a Management Review Letter.
6. A report on the status of prior year findings.
7. The audit shall be conducted for the purpose of determining whether the financial statements fairly present, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations of the COMMISSION in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).
8. Audit for FY 25/26: Prepare, on behalf of COMMISSION, the year-end financial statement for presentation to the COMMISSION in October 2026. Management retains

responsibility for the financial statements and for establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting.

9. The CONTRACTOR will provide technical assistance and attend COMMISSION meetings, as necessary, related to the scope of services.

10. As the CONTRACTOR schedules staff to perform annual services, CONTRACTOR shall give the COMMISSION consideration to the following staffing requirements to support independence, continuity, and audit quality:
    a. Assign a new engagement Partner to the audit engagement if long-term Partner involvement so dictates, in order to maintain independence and comply with generally accepted government auditing practices.
    b. Retain the same Audit Manager, where practicable, to provide continuity of institutional knowledge, efficiency in audit execution, and consistency in communication with COMMISSION staff.
    c. Ensure that all assigned staff meet applicable independence, qualification, and objectivity requirements under Government Auditing Standards.
    d. Nothing in this section shall be construed to impair the CONTRACTOR's responsibility to assign personnel in accordance with professional standards.

11. Single Audit services as may be required by the County of Riverside, State and/or Federal Agencies related to the disbursement of Federal Grants shall be subject to mutual written contract.

B. Reports

The Annual Audit and Report shall consist of the following components:

1. The independent auditor’s report on the financial statements.

2. The independent auditor’s report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards.*

3. The independent auditor’s report on state compliance.

4. Status of Prior Audit Findings.

The COMMISSION requires twenty-five (25) bound copies of the final audit report to be submitted to the COMMISSION Office no later than two (2) weeks prior to the Commission meeting at which the audit will be presented.

Management Letter – A draft management letter advising the COMMISSION of opportunities observed for economy of operations and improvement in internal controls shall be submitted to the COMMISSION’s Office within fifteen (15) days from the audit opinion date. The CONTRACTOR shall be available for any scheduled meetings that may be necessary to discuss the draft Management Letter. The Final Management Letter is to be submitted to the COMMISSION within 60 days from the audit opinion date.

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ATTACHMENT B: BUDGET

PROJECT BUDGET		
Category	**Description**	**Amount**
Operational Expenses	Audit Services	**$57,500**
		$57,500

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ATTACHMENT C: PAYMENT PROVISIONS

CONTRACTOR shall be compensated for services rendered pursuant to this Contract as follows. Total payments shall not exceed **FIFTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS ($57,500.00)** for this Contract.

A. **Fee**: COMMISSION shall reimburse CONTRACTOR, upon submission by CONTRACTOR, of an acceptable invoice for actual expenses incurred under the terms of this Contract. Payment shall be due to CONTRACTOR within thirty (30) days of COMMISSION's receipt of the invoice.

1. Payment shall be made upon receipt of an acceptable invoice to include::

    a. CONTRACTOR's name,
    b. CONTRACTOR's address,
    c. Contract number,
    d. Assigned invoice number,
    e. Supporting documents (if applicable), and
    f. Payment amount due.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

E.4. **26-09:** Approve Two Amendments with Family YMCA of the Desert **(CONTRACT NO. CF25108)** and SoCal Water Babies, Inc. **(CONTRACT NO. CF24101)** for Drowning Prevention **[$104,705 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

AGENDA ITEM: 26-09
DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2026
ACTION: ☒
INFORMATION: ☐

APPROVE TWO AMENDMENTS WITH FAMILY YMCA OF THE DESERT (CONTRACT NO. CF25108) AND SOCAL WATER BABIES, INC. (CONTRACT NO. CF24101) FOR DROWNING PREVENTION [$104,705 - PROP 10 FUNDS]

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Approve two (2) amendments (Attachment 1 – Table 1) to increase the not-to-exceed amounts for (1) Family YMCA of the Desert (Contract No. 25108) and (2) SoCal Water Babies, Inc (Contract No. CF24101) by a combined total of $104,705 in Proposition 10 fund, consistent with the Commission's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan.

BACKGROUND

Family YMCA of the Desert and SoCal Water Babies, Inc., (Attachment 1 – Table 1) provide drowning prevention swim lessons funded by the Commission. The proposed amendments increase capacity to meet seasonal demand and maintain continuity of services through June 30, 2026. The Commission's FY 2025/26 drowning prevention investment is delivered through ten provider agreements countywide; this item recommends amendments to two agreements to expand capacity and maintain continuity of services through June 30, 2026.

Family YMCA of the Desert (CF25108) has fully expended allocated funds and requests an additional $64,375 to continue services through June 30, 2026. This increase is expected to support approximately 515 additional children receiving swim instruction and water safety skills. Families in these underserved areas face practical barriers to swim instruction (cost, transportation, limited local providers). This investment reduces those access barriers in the county's highest-risk communities and directly supports the drowning prevention strategy by expanding swim lesson availability where need is greatest.

Additionally, due to increased provider capacity and demand, SoCal Water Babies, Inc. (CF24101) requests an additional $40,330 to support expanded swim lessons and related program costs (including registration fees, insurance, and staffing) through June 30, 2026. This increase is expected to serve approximately 72 additional children.

Together, these amendments are anticipated to serve approximately 587 additional children and reduce projected unspent drowning prevention funds for FY 2025/26. The Commission approved a countywide FY 2025/26 drowning prevention investment of $1,000,000. This action increases planned expenditures from $800,234.41 to $904,939.41. While expenditures vary by district based on provider capacity and enrollment demand, this amendment advances the Commission's intent to maximize the approved investment and improve safety outcomes countywide.

On May 14, 2025 (Action Item 25-19): The Commission approved the first amendment to Contract No. CF25108 with Family YMCA of the Desert, increasing the contract amount from $50,000 to $100,000 for the period of November 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026, to meet the growing demand for water safety skills.

November 18, 2024, Contract No. CF25108 with Family YMCA of the Desert was executed under the Executive Director's spending authority for $50,000, with a contract term of November 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, to provide swim lessons.

November 6, 2023, Contract No. CF24137 with SoCal Water Babies, Inc was executed for an amount not to exceed $60,000 in CID funds for the period of July 17, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This investment increased county capacity by training four additional instructors in the Infant Rescue Swim method. As a result, newly trained providers were able to become First 5 contractors and deliver additional swim lessons, increasing the number of specialized Infant Rescue Swim providers available in Riverside County and supporting higher participation and utilization.

On July 17, 2023 (Action Item 23-41): The Commission approved the acceptance of Community Improvement Designation (CID) funds allocation in the amount of $60,000 for the funding of infant survival swim lesson scholarship and training of three instructors.

On May 10, 2023 (Action Item 23-24): The Commission approved Contract No. CF24101 with SoCal Water Babies, Inc., for an amount not to exceed $450,000, for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026, to provide drowning prevention swim lessons.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Commission:

1. Approve the funding for two (2) amendments (Attachment 1 – Table 1) in an amount not to exceed $104,705 and authorize the Executive Director to execute the amendments on behalf of the Commission, subject to County Counsel approval as to form; and
2. Authorize the Executive Director, based on the availability of fiscal funding, to execute non-material amendments to Contracts CF25108 and CF24101 that exercise the options of the executed Contract No. CF25108 A2 and CF24101 A1, on behalf of the Commission, including modifications of the statement of work that stay within the intent of said contract without requiring further action from the Commission.

BUDGET IMPACT

Adequate appropriation is included in the budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 (527980-25800-938001-92945).

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE

Goal Area 2 – Comprehensive Health and Development (92945)

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Drowning Prevention Partner Agencies – Table 1
2. CF25108 A2 – Family YMCA of the Desert
3. CF24101 A1 – SoCal Water Babies, Inc.

FIRST 5 RIVERSIDE COUNTY
DROWNING PREVENTION PARTNER AGENCIES
FUND 25800

Item #	Contract #	Action Item #	Partner Agency	F5RC Strategic Plan Goal	Contract type	Program #	Contract Start	Contract End	Funding	Initiative/Program Brief Description	Proposed Funding Request				
											FY23/24 Budget	FY24/25 Budget	FY25/26 Current Budget	Amendment Increase	Total FY 25/26 Amount
1	CF25108	26-09	Family YMCA of the Desert	CHD	Investment of Funds	92945	11/1/2024	6/30/2026	Prop 10	Drowning Prevention	N/A	$29,892	$ 70,108	$ 64,375	$ 164,375
2	CF24101	26-09	SoCal Water Babies, Inc	CHD	Investment of Funds	92945	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	Prop 10	Drowning Prevention	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	$ 40,330	$ 490,330
										TOTAL:			**$ 220,108**	**$ 104,705**	**$ 654,705**

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION
CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT OF FUNDS
SECOND AMENDMENT

Contractor: **Family Young Men's Christian Association of the Desert**

Contract No.: **CF25108 A2**

Address: **43930 San Pablo Ave**
Palm Desert, California 92260

WHEREAS, the Riverside County Children and Families Commission ("Commission") has entered into a Contract for Investment of Funds ("Contract") with Family Young Men's Christian Association of the Desert ("Contractor") for the provision of services, and the parties now wish to amend the Contract, to be effective as of **March 11, 2026.**

Now, therefore, the parties agree to amend the Contract as follows:

A. The contract term is unchanged and remains:
November 01, 2024 - June 30, 2026
B. The previous version of the Budget has been deleted in its entirety and replaced as outlined in Attachment B-2. All references to the maximum reimbursable amount shall be amended from **$100,000** to **$164,375**

All other terms and conditions of the Contract, including prior amendments, shall remain in full force and effect.

Signature Page Follows

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused their duly authorized representative to execute this second Amendment.

Authorized Signature for COMMISSION:	**Authorized Signature for CONTRACTOR:**
Charna Widby Executive Director	Paula Simonds CEO and Authorized Signatory
Date Signed:	Date Signed:
585 Technology Court Riverside, CA 92507-2423	43930 San Pablo Ave Palm Desert, California 92260
APPROVED AS TO FORM SIGNATURE:	
Kristine Bell-Valdez Supervising Deputy County Counsel	
Date Signed:	
ATTEST SIGNATURE:	
Lynn M. Stephens Executive Assistant IV	
Date Signed:	

ATTACHMENT B-2: BUDGET

Budget Start Date: 11/01/2024

Budget End Date: 06/30/2026

Total Amount: $164,375

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026						
Category	**Description**	**Quanity**	**Unit Cost**	**FY 24/25**	**FY 25/26(A1)**	**FY 25/26 (A2)**
Operational Expenses	Swim Lesson Scholarship	400	$125	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000
Operational Expenses	Swim Lesson Scholarship	400	$125		$50,000	$50,000
Operational Expenses	Swim Lesson Scholarship Spring *	300	$125			$37,500
Operational Expenses	Swim Lesson Scholarship Summer *	215	$125			$26,875
Total Contract Budget				**$50,000**	**$100,000**	**$164,375**

ATTACHMENT C-2: PAYMENT PROVISIONS

CONTRACTOR shall be compensated for services rendered pursuant to this Contract as follows. Total payment shall not exceed **$164,375**, which includes all expenses.

A. **Fee**: RCCFC shall reimburse CONTRACTOR, upon submission by CONTRACTOR of an acceptable invoice for actual expenses incurred under the terms of this contract. Payment shall be due to CONTRACTOR within thirty (30) days of RCCFC's receipt of invoice.

1. Payment shall be made monthly in accordance with satisfactory completion towards Deliverables below and upon receipt of an acceptable invoice to include:

    a. Contractor's name, address, contract number, an assigned invoice number, supporting documentation (if applicable), and payment amount due.

CONTRACTOR shall submit invoices to the Riverside County Children and Families Commission, Accounts Payable, 585 Technology Court, Riverside, CA 92507 or via email to RCCFC-accountspayable@RIVCO.org

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION
CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT OF FUNDS
FIRST AMENDMENT

Contractor: **SoCal Water Babies, Inc.**

Contract No.: **CF24101 A1**

Address: **9168 Santa Barbara Dr**
Riverside, CA 92508

WHEREAS, the Riverside County Children and Families Commission ("Commission") has entered into a Contract for Investment of Funds ("Contract") with SoCal Water Babies, Inc. ("Contractor") for the provision of services, and the parties now wish to amend the Contract, to be effective as of **March 11, 2026.**

Now, therefore, the parties agree to amend the Contract as follows:

A. The contract term is unchanged and remains:
July 01, 2023 - June 30, 2026
B. The previous version of the Budget has been deleted in its entirety and replaced as outlined in Attachment B-1. All references to the maximum reimbursable amount shall be amended from **$450,000** to: **$490,330**

All other terms and conditions of the Contract, including prior amendments, shall remain in full force and effect.

Signature Page Follows

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused their duly authorized representative to execute this first Amendment.

Authorized Signature for COMMISSION:	**Authorized Signature for CONTRACTOR:**
Charna Widby Executive Director	Cathryn Van Der Linden Owner and Authorized Signatory
Date Signed:	Date Signed:
585 Technology Court Riverside, CA 92507-2423	9168 Santa Barbara Dr Riverside, CA 92508
APPROVED AS TO FORM SIGNATURE:	
Kristine Bell-Valdez Supervising Deputy County Counsel	
Date Signed:	
ATTEST SIGNATURE:	
Lynn M. Stephens Executive Assistant IV	
Date Signed:	

ATTACHMENT B-1: BUDGET

Budget Start Date: 07/01/2023

Budget End Date: 06/30/2026

Total Amount: $490,330

FISCAL YEAR 2023-2026					
CATEGORY	**DESCRIPTION**	**FY 23/24**	**FY 24/25**	**FY 25/26**	**TOTAL**
Personnel Expenses	Saleries MV	$16,214.27	$23,275.40	$19,004.08	**$58,493.75**
Personnel Expenses	Saleries BB	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$1,912.59	**$5,912.59**
Operational Expenses	Advertising/Outreach Mkg	$912.29	$1,200.00	$2,000.00	**$4,112.29**
Operational Expenses	Office Supplies	$100.00	$500.00	$500.00	**$1,100.00**
Operational Expenses	Postage & Printing	$140.00	$0.00	$1,600.00	**$1,740.00**
Operational Expenses	Material & Incentives	$1,400.12	$2,697.82	$3,545.12	**$7,643.06**
Operational Expenses	Professional Services	$3,512.95	$2,122.60	$4,000.00	**$9,635.55**
Subcontractor Expenses	Students in Riverside County	$96,967.08	$96,911.39	$121,000.00	**$314,878.47**
Subcontractor Expenses	Refresher Lessons	$9,250.00	$7,500.00	$12,916.67	**$29,666.67**
Subcontractor Expenses	Registration Fee	$10,850.00	$10,411.25	$14,050.00	**$35,311.25**
Indirect Expense	Insurance	$7,311.75	$2,040.00	$8,460.00	**$17,811.75**
Indirect Expense	Indirect Rate 5.5%	$1,341.54	$1,341.54	$1,341.54	**$4,024.62**
Total Contract Budget		**$150,000.00**	**$150,000.00**	**$190,330.00**	**$490,330.00**

ATTACHMENT C-1: PAYMENT PROVISIONS

CONTRACTOR shall be compensated for services rendered pursuant to this Contract as follows. Total payment shall not exceed **$490,330**, which includes all expenses.

A. **Fee**: RCCFC shall reimburse CONTRACTOR, upon submission by CONTRACTOR of an acceptable invoice for actual expenses incurred under the terms of this contract. Payment shall be due to CONTRACTOR within thirty (30) days of RCCFC's receipt of invoice.

1. Payment shall be made monthly in accordance with satisfactory completion towards Deliverables below and upon receipt of an acceptable invoice to include:

    a. Contractor's name, address, contract number, an assigned invoice number, supporting documentation (if applicable), and payment amount due.

CONTRACTOR shall submit invoices to the Riverside County Children and Families Commission, Accounts Payable, 585 Technology Court, Riverside, CA 92507 or via email to RCCFC-accountspayable@RIVCO.org

E.5. **26-10:** Approve the Second Amendment for Match Funds to Inland Southern California United Way for the Guaranteed Income Program Pilot Grant from the California Department of Social Services from October 25, 2023 – June 30, 2026 **(CONTRACT NO. CF24136) [$2,313,871.12 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

AGENDA ITEM: 26-10
DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2026
ACTION: ☒
INFORMATION: ☐

APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT FOR MATCH FUNDS TO INLAND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UNITED WAY FOR THE GUARANTEED INCOME PROGRAM PILOT GRANT FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FROM OCTOBER 25, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2026 (CONTRACT NO. CF24136) [$2,313,871.12 - PROP 10 FUNDS]

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Approve the Second Amendment to Contract No. CF24136 with Inland Southern California United Way to increase the not-to-exceed amount by $105,271.12 (from $2,208,600.00 to $2,313,871.12) to cover required payment platform and related technology costs that were determined to be non-reimbursable, enabling the completion of the pilot through June 30, 2026.

BACKGROUND

Inland Southern California United Way (ISCUW) is implementing a Guaranteed Income (GI) Pilot Program in Riverside County, providing monthly stipends to pregnant individuals.

As part of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)-funded GI pilot, grantees are required to use a standardized payment platform to support consistent program administration, participant payment delivery, and reporting. CDSS award guidance and eligibility determinations subsequently clarified that certain platform and related technology costs are not reimbursable under the CDSS funding, creating a funding gap for required implementation infrastructure.

The proposed Second Amendment increases Contract No. CF24136 by $105,271.12 (from $2,208,600.00 to $2,313,871.12) to cover these required technology costs and enable the pilot to be completed and closed out through June 30, 2026 without reducing participant support or shifting required implementation costs to the contractor's unrestricted resources. These costs support program operations and closeout, including

payment administration and reporting requirements. The total contract amount remains within the Commission's originally approved not-to-exceed amount of $2,500,000.

On September 11, 2024 (Action Item 24-28), the Commission approved an amendment to Contract No. CF24136 reducing the allocation to $2,208,600 due to a revised CDSS award supporting 409 participants instead of 500.

On October 26, 2022 (Action Item 22-36), the Commission approved Proposition 10 match funds in an amount not to exceed $2,500,000 for the GI Pilot.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Commission:

1. Approve the Second Amendment to Contract No. CF24136 with Inland Southern California United Way to increase the not-to-exceed amount by $105,271.12, to $2,313,871.12, for the Guaranteed Income Program Pilot, in essentially the same form as the Second Amendment attached hereto, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the Amendment on behalf of the Commission, subject to County Counsel approval as to form.
2. Authorize the Executive Director, based on the availability of fiscal funding, to sign amendments that exercise the options of executed Contract No. CF24136 on behalf of the Commission, including modifications to the statement of work that remain within the intent of the contract, without requiring further Commission action.

BUDGET IMPACT

Adequate appropriation is included in the budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 (527980-25800-938001-92960).

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE

Goal Area 3 - Resilient Families (92960)

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None Known.

ATTACHMENT

1. Contract CF24136 Second Amendment Inland SoCal United Way for Guaranteed Income Pilot

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION
CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT OF FUNDS
SECOND AMENDMENT

Contractor: **Inland Southern California United Way, Inc.**

Contract No.: **CF24136 A2**

Address: **1835 Chicago Avenue Suite B**
Riverside, CA 92507

WHEREAS, the Riverside County Children and Families Commission ("Commission") has entered into a Contract for Investment of Funds ("Contract") with Inland Southern California United Way, Inc. ("Contractor") for the provision of services;

WHEREAS, certain technology expenditures were excluded from the original CDSS funding, creating a funding shortfall, and

WHEREAS, the parties now wish to amend the Contract, to be effective as of **March 11, 2026,**

Now, therefore, the parties agree to amend the Contract as follows:

A. The contract term is unchanged and remains: **October 25, 2023 - June 30, 2026**
B. All references to the not-to-exceed amount shall be amended from $2,208,600 to **$2,313,871.12,** an increase of **$105,271.12** for Technology Expenses.
C. Attachment C: Budget as amended is deleted in its entirety and replaced with Attachment C-2: Budget.

All other terms and conditions of the Contract, including prior amendments, shall remain in full force and effect.

[Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused their duly authorized representative to execute this Second Amendment.

Authorized Signature for COMMISSION:	**Authorized Signature for CONTRACTOR:**
Charna Widby Executive Director	Kimberly Starrs President & CEO and Authorized Signatory
Date Signed:	Date Signed:
585 Technology Court Riverside, CA 92507-2423	1835 Chicago Avenue Suite B Riverside, CA 92507
APPROVED AS TO FORM SIGNATURE:	
Kristine Bell-Valdez Supervising Deputy County Counsel	
Date Signed:	
ATTEST SIGNATURE:	
Lynn M. Stephens Executive Assistant IV	
Date Signed:	

ATTACHMENT C-2: BUDGET

Budget Start Date: 10/25/2023

Budget End Date: 06/30/2026

Total Amount: $2,313,871.12

FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024		
Category	**Description**	**Amount**
Operational Expenses	Technology Expenses	**$0.00**
Operational Expenses	Participant stipend payments (match share) - 409 participants	**$675,000.00**
SUBTOTAL:		**$675,000.00**

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025		
Category	**Description**	**Amount**
Operational Expenses	Technology Expenses	**$0.00**
Operational Expenses	Participant stipend payments (match share) - 409 participants	**$1,265,700.00**
SUBTOTAL:		**$1,265,700.00**

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026		
Category	**Description**	**Amount**
Operational Expenses	Technology Expenses	**$105,271.12**
Operational Expenses	Participant stipend payments (match share) - 409 participants	**$267,900.00**
SUBTOTAL:		**$373,171.12**

GRAND TOTAL	**$2,313,871.12**

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E.6. **26-11:** Approve Contract with Nava PBC for Form-Filling Agent Pilot - Operations and Evaluation and Acknowledgment of Active No-Cost Data Sharing MOU CF26112 From March 15, 2026 - October 31, 2026 **(CONTRACT NO. CF26125) [$175,000 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

Lynn M. Stephens,
Executive Assistant IV

Digitally signed by
Lynn M. Stephens,
Executive Assistant IV
Date: 2026.06.01
14:43:33 -07'00'

FIRST 5
Riverside County
Children & Families Commission

AGENDA ITEM: 26-11
DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2026
ACTION: ☒
INFORMATION: ☐

**APPROVE CONTRACT WITH NAVA PBC
FOR FORM-FILLING AGENT PILOT – OPERATIONS AND EVALUATION AND
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ACTIVE NO-COST DATA SHARING MOU CF26112
FROM MARCH 15, 2026 – OCTOBER 31, 2026 (CONTRACT NO. CF26125)
[$175,000 – PROP 10 FUNDS]**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Approve Contract CF26125 with Nava PBC in an amount not to exceed $175,000 for the period March 15, 2026, through October 31, 2026, to continue the Form-filling Assistant pilot in production, provide operational support, and complete a structured evaluation and final deliverables; and acknowledge the existing Data Sharing MOU with Nava PBC (CF26112).

BACKGROUND

Since late 2025, First 5 Riverside County (F5RC) and Nava PBC have collaborated to develop and pilot an AI-powered Form-filling Assistant that supports benefits intake by drafting application entries in real time during caseworker–client conversations under human supervision. The early pilot, funded through a Google.org grant, has produced strong staff-reported preference and early indications of workflow value, and F5RC seeks to extend the pilot through a defined operational period with structured measurement and evaluation to inform future adoption and implementation decisions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Commission:

1. Approve Contract No. CF26125 with Nava PBC for an amount not to exceed $175,000, effective March 15, 2026 – October 31, 2026, to continue the Form-filling Assistant pilot in production, provide operational support, and complete a structured evaluation and final deliverables, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Commission, subject to County Counsel approval as to form; and
2. Acknowledge that the existing no-cost Data Sharing MOU with Nava PBC (CF26112), effective October 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, remains active and continues to govern data access, confidentiality, and data transfer obligations for the pilot; and
3. Authorize the Executive Director, based on the availability of fiscal funding and as approved by County Counsel, to sign amendments that exercise the options of Contract No. CF26125, on behalf of the Commission including modifications of the scope of work that stay within the intent of said contract without requiring further action from the Commission.

BUDGET IMPACT

Adequate appropriation is included in the approved budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 and will be included in the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027.
(525440-25800-938001-92960)

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE

Goal Area 3 – Resilient Families

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None Known

ATTACHMENTS

1. 26-11 Attachment 1: CF26125 Nava PBC
2. 26-11 Attachment 2: CF26112 Nava PBC

CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
Contract No. CF26125
Riverside County Children and Families Commission
and
Nava PBC

This Contract for Professional Services is made and entered into by and between the Riverside County Children and Families Commission ("RCCFC") aka First 5 Riverside County (hereinafter the "COMMISSION" or "COUNTY") and Nava PBC ("CONTRACTOR"). The parties hereto mutually agree as provided herein, including Attachments attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

1. **PROJECT**: CONTRACTOR shall perform services for the COMMISSION as stated in Attachments A and B and incorporated into this contract. CONTRACTOR shall perform these services in a complete, skillful and professional manner. CONTRACTOR shall not provide any services which shall cause COMMISSION to incur additional costs beyond those stated in this Contract without the proper advance written consent of COMMISSION.
2. **TIME FOR PERFORMANCE**: The project shall begin on **03/15/2026** and shall be completed on or **before 10/31/2026**, or at such other time as is mutually agreed upon in writing by COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR as provided herein.
3. **COMPENSATION**: The total amount of compensation to be paid to CONTRACTOR for the services to be provided pursuant to this contract (including any and all costs incurred by CONTRACTOR) shall not exceed **ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($175,000)** for this contract.
4. **TERMINATION**: This contract may be terminated by CONTRACTOR or COMMISSION, for no cause, with a thirty (30) days written notice to the other party, as provided herein. In addition, it is mutually agreed and understood that the obligation of COMMISSION is limited and contingent upon the availability of Proposition 10 funds for payment to CONTRACTOR; and that this contract may be immediately terminated by COMMISSION if funds are no longer available. In the event COMMISSION abandons or postpones the project, or terminates the project for lack of funds, then COMMISSION shall make payment for all services provided by CONTRACTOR to the date of written notice of termination.
5. **LICENSES: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**: CONTRACTOR, including its employees and agents, shall maintain all licenses required by law or regulation while performing services under this contract. CONTRACTOR shall at all times comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the services provided pursuant to this contract.
6. **CONFIDENTIALITY**: CONTRACTOR shall maintain the confidentiality of information, including protection of names and other identifying information from unauthorized disclosure, except for statistical information which shall not identify any individual person and which shall be used only for carrying out the obligation of CONTRACTOR under this contract. CONTRACTOR shall not disclose any information, except as specifically permitted by this contract. CONTRACTOR shall observe all Federal, State, County and COMMISSION regulations concerning confidentiality of records.
7. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**: The parties hereto and their respective employees or agents shall have no interest, and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which will conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required under this contract.
8. **WORK PRODUCT**: All reports, preliminary findings or data assembled or compiled by CONTRACTOR under this Contract shall become the property of COMMISSION. COMMISSION reserves the right to authorize others to use or reproduce such materials. Therefore, such materials may not be circulated in whole or in part, nor released to the public, without prior, written authorization from the COMMISSION.
9. **ADMINISTRATION**: The Executive Director of COMMISSION (or designee) shall administer this contract on behalf of COMMISSION.

10. **RECORDS AND REPORTS**: Contractor shall maintain accurate and complete financial and performance records for a minimum of two (2) years from the date of final payment under this contract, or until any relative County, State, and/or Federal audits of which Contractor is made aware of are completed, whichever is later, and shall maintain such records locally, to be made available for inspection by Contractor upon reasonable request.

11. **INSURANCE**: Without limiting or diminishing the CONTRACTOR'S obligation to indemnify or hold the COUNTY harmless, CONTRACTOR shall procure and maintain or cause to be maintained, at its sole cost and expense, the following insurance coverage's during the term of this Contract. As respects to the insurance section only, the COUNTY herein refers to the COUNTY, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts, and Departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents or representatives.

    A. Workers' Compensation:

    If the CONTRACTOR has employees as defined by the State of California, the CONTRACTOR shall maintain statutory Workers' Compensation Insurance (Coverage A) as prescribed by the laws of the State of California. Policy shall include Employers' Liability (Coverage B) including Occupational Disease with limits not less than $1,000,000 per person per accident. The policy shall be endorsed to waive subrogation in favor of COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE.

    B. Commercial General Liability:

    Commercial General Liability insurance coverage, including but not limited to, premises liability, unmodified contractual liability, products and completed operations liability, personal and advertising injury, and cross liability coverage, covering claims which may arise from or out of CONTRACTOR'S performance of its obligations hereunder. Policy shall name COUNTY of RIVERSIDE as Additional Insured. Policy's limit of liability shall not be less than $2,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit.

    C. Vehicle Liability:

    If vehicles or mobile equipment are used in the performance of the obligations under this Contract, then CONTRACTOR shall maintain liability insurance for all owned, non- owned or hired vehicles so used in an amount not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit. Policy shall name the COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE as an Additional Insured.

    D. General Insurance Provisions - All lines:

    1) Any insurance carrier providing insurance coverage hereunder shall be admitted to the State of California and have an A M BEST rating of not less than A: VIII (A:8) unless such requirements are waived, in writing, by the County Risk Manager. If the County's Risk Manager waives a requirement for a particular insurer such waiver is only valid for that specific insurer and only for one policy term.

    2) The CONTRACTOR must declare its insurance self-insured retention for each coverage required herein. If any such self-insured retention exceeds $500,000 per occurrence each such retention shall have the prior written consent of the County Risk Manager before the commencement of operations under this Contract. Upon notification of self-insured retention unacceptable to the COUNTY, and at the election of the County's Risk Manager, CONTRACTOR'S carriers shall either 1) reduce or eliminate such self-insured retention as respects this Contract with the COUNTY, or 2) procure a bond which guarantees payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense costs and expenses.

3) CONTRACTOR shall furnish the COUNTY with 1) a properly executed original Certificate(s) of Insurance and certified original copies of Endorsements effecting coverage as required herein, and 2) if requested to do so orally or in writing by the County Risk Manager, provide original Certified copies of policies including all Endorsements and all attachments thereto, showing such insurance is in full force and effect. Further, said Certificate(s) and policies of insurance shall contain the covenant of the insurance carrier(s) that thirty (30) days written notice shall be given to the COUNTY prior to any material modification, cancellation, expiration, or reduction in coverage of such insurance. In the event of a material modification, cancellation, expiration, or reduction in coverage, this Contract shall terminate forthwith, unless the COUNTY receives, prior to such effective date, another properly executed original Certificate of Insurance and original copies of endorsements or certified original policies, including all endorsements and attachments thereto evidencing coverages set forth herein and the insurance required herein is in full force and effect. *CONTRACTOR shall not commence operations until the COUNTY has been furnished original Certificate (s) of Insurance and certified original copies of endorsements and if requested, certified original policies of insurance including all endorsements and any and all other attachments as required in this Section. An individual authorized by the insurance carrier to do so on its behalf shall sign the original endorsements for each policy and the Certificate of Insurance.*

4) It is understood and agreed to by the parties hereto that the CONTRACTOR'S insurance shall be construed as primary insurance, and the COUNTY'S insurance and/or deductibles and/or self-insured retentions or self-insured programs shall not be construed as contributory.

5) If, during the term of this Contract or any extension thereof, there is a material change in the scope of services; or, there is a material change in the equipment to be used in the performance of the scope of work; or, the term of this Contract, including any extensions thereof, exceeds five (5) years; the COUNTY reserves the right to adjust the types of insurance and the monetary limits of liability required under this Contract, if in the County Risk Manager's reasonable judgment, the amount or type of insurance carried by the CONTRACTOR has become inadequate.

6) CONTRACTOR shall pass down the insurance obligations contained herein to all tiers of subcontractors working under this Contract.

7) The insurance requirements contained in this Contract may be met with a program(s) of self-insurance acceptable to the COUNTY.

8) CONTRACTOR agrees to notify COUNTY of any claim by a third party or any incident or event that may give rise to a claim arising from the performance of this Contract.

12. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**: CONTRACTOR and its employees and agents shall act at all times in an independent capacity with regard to performance of services rendered pursuant to this contract; and CONTRACTOR shall not act as, shall not be, and shall not in any manner be construed to be, agents, officers or employees of COMMISSION and/or of the COUNTY. There shall be no employer-employee relationship between COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, or between the COUNTY and CONTRACTOR; and CONTRACTOR and its employees and agents shall not be entitled to any benefits payable to the COMMISSION employees. CONTRACTOR is responsible for payment and deduction of all employment-related taxes on CONTRACTOR's behalf and for CONTRACTOR's employees, including but not limited to all federal and state income taxes and withholdings. COMMISSION shall not be required to make any deductions from compensation payable to CONTRACTOR for these purposes. CONTRACTOR shall indemnify COMMISSION, and/or COUNTY against any and all claims that may be made against COMMISSION, and/or COUNTY based upon any contention by a third party that an employer-employee relationship exists by reason of this contract; and CONTRACTOR shall indemnify COMMISSION for any and all federal or state withholding or retirement payments which COMMISSION may be required to make pursuant to federal or state law.

13. **INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS**: CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold harmless COMMISSION, the COUNTY, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts and Departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and representatives (individually and collectively hereinafter referred to as "Indemnitees" or "COUNTY") from any liability whatsoever, based or asserted upon any services of CONTRACTOR, its officers, employees, subcontractors, agents or representatives arising out of or in any way relating to this Contract, including but not limited to property damage, bodily injury, or death or any other element of any kind or nature whatsoever arising from the performance of CONTRACTOR, its officers, employees, subcontractors, agents or representatives Indemnitors from this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall defend, at its sole expense, all costs and fees including, but not limited, to attorney fees, cost of investigation, defense and settlements or awards, the Indemnitees in any claim or action based upon such alleged acts or omissions.

    With respect to any action or claim subject to indemnification herein by CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTOR shall, at their sole cost, have the right to use counsel of their own choice and shall have the right to adjust, settle, or compromise any such action or claim without the prior consent of COUNTY; provided, however, that any such adjustment, settlement or compromise in no manner whatsoever limits or circumscribes CONTRACTOR'S indemnification to Indemnitees as set forth herein.

    CONTRACTOR'S obligation hereunder shall be satisfied when CONTRACTOR has provided to COUNTY the appropriate form of dismissal relieving COUNTY from any liability for the action or claim involved.

    The specified insurance limits required in this Contract shall in no way limit or circumscribe CONTRACTOR'S obligations to indemnify and hold harmless the Indemnitees herein from third party claims.

    In the event there is conflict between this clause and California Civil Code Section 2782, this clause shall be interpreted to comply with Civil Code 2782. Such interpretation shall not relieve the CONTRACTOR from indemnifying the Indemnitees to the fullest extent allowed by law.

    A. Where CONTRACTOR is a public entity, as defined by applicable law, the COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, to the extent that liability may be imposed on the COMMISSION by the provisions of Government Code Section 895.2, shall be liable for their own acts or omissions, including all claims, liabilities, injuries, suits, and demands and expenses of all kinds which may result or arise out of any alleged malfeasance or neglect, caused or alleged to have been caused by either the COMMISSION or CONTRACTOR, their employees or representatives, performance or omission of any act or responsibility of either party under this Contract. In the event that a claim is made against both the COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR, both parties shall cooperate in the defense of said claim and to cause their insurers to do likewise.

    B. CONTRACTOR agrees to indemnify the COMMISSION for all federal/state withholding or state retirement payments, which the COMMISSION may be required to make by the federal or state government as a result of this Contract. If for any reason, CONTRACTOR is determined not to be an independent contractor to the COMMISSION in carrying out the terms of the Contract, such indemnification shall be paid in full to the COMMISSION upon sixty (60) calendar days written notice to CONTRACTOR if a federal and/or state determination is made that such payment is required.

14. **NONDISCRIMINATION**: The CONTRACTOR shall not discriminate in the provision of its services, recruiting, hiring, promotion, demotion or termination practices on the basis of ethnic group identification, race, religious creed, color, ancestry, national origin, sexual preference, sex, marital status, medical condition, or physical or mental handicap, and shall comply with all other requirements of law regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.

15. **NOTICES**: All correspondence and notices required or produced by this contract shall be delivered to the respective parties at the addresses set forth below, and are deemed submitted one (1) day after their deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid:

COMMISSION:

Charna Widby
Executive Director
First 5 Riverside County
585 Technology Court
Riverside, CA 92507

CONTRACTOR:

Megan Ingram
Director of Contracts
601 13th Street Northwest, Floor 12
Washington, DC 20005

or to such other address as may be designated by the respective parties.

16. **GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE**: This contract is to be construed under the laws of the State of California. The parties agree to the jurisdiction and venue of the appropriate courts in the COUNTY, State of California. Should action be brought to enforce or interpret the provisions of this contract, the prevailing party shall be entitled to attorney's fees in addition to whatever other relief is granted. The provisions of the Government Claims Act (Government Code section 900, et seq.) must be followed first for any disputes under this contract.
17. **ASSIGNMENT**: Neither this contract nor any part thereof shall be assigned by CONTRACTOR without the prior written consent of COMMISSION.
18. **WAIVER**: Any waiver by COMMISSION of any one or more of the terms of this contract shall not be construed to be a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or of any other term of this contract.
19. **ALTERATION AND/OR AMENDMENT**: No alteration or variation in the terms of this contract shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by both parties; and no oral understanding or Contract not incorporated herein by specific reference shall be binding on the parties. The terms contained in this contract shall represent the entire contract between the parties with respect to the services to be provided by CONTRACTOR.
20. **SEVERABILITY**: In the event any provision in this contract is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way.
21. **DISALLOWANCE**: In the event CONTRACTOR receives payment for services under this contract which are later disallowed for nonconformance with the terms and conditions herein, CONTRACTOR shall promptly refund the disallowed amount to COMMISSION upon written request. COMMISSION retains the option to offset the amount disallowed from any payment due to CONTRACTOR under this contract, or under any other contract or agreement between CONTRACTOR and COMMISSION.
22. **CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE CONTRACT**: CONTRACTOR certifies that the individual signing below has authority to execute this contract on behalf of CONTRACTOR, and may legally bind CONTRACTOR to the terms and conditions of this contract, including Attachments A and B.
23. **COUNTERPARTS**: This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be an original, but all of which together will constitute one instrument. Each party of this Contract agrees to the use of electronic signatures, such as digital signatures that meet the requirements of the California Uniform Electronic Transactions Act ("CUETA") Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1633.1 to 1633.17), for executing this Contract. The parties further agree that the electronic signatures of the parties included in this Contract are intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as manual signatures. Electronic signature means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with an electronic record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the electronic record pursuant to the CUETA as amended from time to time. The CUETA authorizes use of an

electronic signature for transactions and contracts among parties in California, including a government agency. Digital signature means an electronic identifier, created by computer, intended by the party using it to have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature, and shall be reasonably relied upon by the parties. For purposes of this section, a digital signature is a type of "electronic signature" as defined in subdivision (i) of Section 1633.2 of the Civil Code.

Signature Page Follows

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused their duly authorized representative to execute this contract.

Authorized Signature for COMMISSION:	**Authorized Signature for CONTRACTOR:**
Charna Widby, Executive Director	Megan Ingram, Director of Contracts and Authorized Signatory
Date Signed:	Date Signed:
585 Technology Court Riverside, CA 92507-2423	601 13th Street Northwest, Floor 12 Washington, DC 20005
APPROVED AS TO FORM SIGNATURE:	
Kristine Bell-Valdez Supervising Deputy County Counsel	
Date Signed:	
ATTEST SIGNATURE:	
Lynn M. Stephens Executive Assistant IV	
Date Signed:	

ATTACHMENT A: SCOPE OF SERVICE

Contractor: Nava PBC
Program: Resilient Families
Contract #: CF26125
Term: 03/15/2026 – 10/31/2026

CONTRACTOR shall, under the direction of the Executive Director of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission, or designee, provide services in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and scope of work identified in Attachment A, incorporated herein by reference.

Program Overview:

Since late 2025, Nava has partnered with F5RC to develop and pilot an AI-powered Form-filling Assistant that supports benefits intake by listening to caseworker–client conversations and generating draft entries for benefit application forms in real time, under human supervision. This Scope of Work provides for continuation of the active pilot in production, ongoing operational support, structured data collection, and a formal evaluation with deliverables suitable for internal decision-making and external funding/partner communications.

Scope of Work Details:

Objectives

Continue the pilot in production with F5RC staff and collect real-world usage and workflow data.

Maintain stable tool availability and address critical issues to ensure reliable operation throughout the project period.

Conduct a structured evaluation of pilot outcomes (time savings, accuracy, staff satisfaction, and family experience where feasible). Produce documentation and evidence to support future funding, Commission presentations, and an expansion roadmap.

Scope of Services

Task 1 – Pilot Operations and Maintenance (Months 1–3)

- Host and maintain the Form-filling Assistant in a production environment for active F5RC staff use.
- Provide operational support and triage to address critical bugs, stability issues, and high-severity user-impacting defects.
- Conduct weekly check-ins with designated F5RC project leads to gather qualitative feedback, confirm priorities, and document user experience.
- Collect production metrics (e.g., application completion time, error/exception rate, and caseworker intervention frequency), consistent with CF26112 data sharing MOU and County IT/security requirements.

Task 2 – Data Collection and Measurement

- Define and maintain a measurement plan and metric definitions (e.g., baseline comparison approach, inclusion/exclusion rules).
- Implement data collection processes for quantitative and qualitative measures, including staff feedback notes and usage analytics.

- Maintain audit logging and monitoring appropriate for an AI-assisted workflow, consistent with CF26112 data sharing MOU and County security protocols.

Task 3 – Evaluation and Final Reporting (Month 4)

- Analyze pilot outcomes, including time savings, accuracy improvements, usability, and staff satisfaction; include limitations and data quality notes.
- Produce a Final Pilot Evaluation Report with methods, findings, and recommendations.
- Develop a next-phase roadmap describing prioritized capabilities (e.g., cross-application memory, program referral screening, expanded benefit coverage) and implementation considerations (policy, security, resourcing).

Task 4 – Communications and Dissemination Support (Month 4)

- Develop funder-ready case studies and impact data excerpts suitable for philanthropic outreach and partner briefings.
- Provide presentation-ready talking points and/or slide content to support F5RC Commission updates and partner communications.
- Coordinate with F5RC's communications team for review and approval before any external dissemination referencing F5RC.

Deliverables and Schedule

- Weekly check-in notes/action log (pilot progress, findings, priorities)
- Monthly progress report with usage data
- Throughout the project period, production tool to be maintained in stable operation
- No later than October 31, 2026:
    - Final Pilot Evaluation Report
    - Next-phase roadmap and recommendations
    - Funder-ready case studies and impact data package

Project Management and Meetings

Standing weekly check-in (30–60 minutes) with designated F5RC project leads.

Ad hoc working sessions as needed for evaluation design, troubleshooting, or deliverable review.

Nava will maintain a shared action log capturing decisions, risks, issues, and owners.

F5RC Responsibilities and Dependencies

Provide access, credentials, and technical coordination consistent with CF26112 data sharing MOU and County IT/security requirements.

Identify designated project leads and ensure weekly participation for timely decisions and feedback.

Recruit participating staff and support onboarding/training for the tool during the project period.

Provide access to relevant workflows, test cases, and (where feasible) quantified estimates of time savings and operational impacts for evaluation and case study development.

Support communications review/approval for any external-facing materials referencing F5RC.

Data, Security, and Consent

All data access, use, storage, confidentiality, and data transfer/return obligations remain governed by CF26112 data sharing MOU, including any requirements related to recording consent, approved storage environments, and deletion timelines. This Scope of Work does not expand data access beyond what is authorized under CF26112 data sharing MOU and County IT/security oversight.

Out of Scope

Expansion to County systems not owned/managed by F5RC, unless separately authorized in writing and subject to required approvals.

Development of new production integrations beyond the pilot environment, unless mutually agreed in writing.

Ongoing operations beyond October 31, 2026, unless amended/extended via separate agreement.

Review and Acceptance

F5RC will have ten (10) business days to review each formal deliverable (Monthly reports, Final Evaluation Report, Roadmap, Case Study Package) and provide written acceptance or consolidated revision requests. Nava will address reasonable revisions and resubmit within a mutually agreed timeframe. Deliverables will be deemed accepted if no response is received within the review window.

ATTACHMENT B: PAYMENT PROVISIONS

CONTRACTOR shall be compensated for services rendered pursuant to this contract as follows. Total payments shall not exceed **ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND ($175,000)** for this contract.

A. **Fee**: COMMISSION shall reimburse CONTRACTOR, upon submission by CONTRACTOR, of an acceptable invoice for actual expenses incurred under the terms of this contract. Payment shall be due to CONTRACTOR within thirty (30) days of COMMISSION's receipt of the invoice.

1. Payment shall be made in accordance with satisfactory completion of the Milestones below and upon receipt of an acceptable invoice to include:

    a. CONTRACTOR's name,
    b. CONTRACTOR's address,
    c. Contract number,
    d. Assigned invoice number,
    e. Supporting documents (if applicable), and
    f. Payment amount due.

B. Fiscal expenditures are required to be input into the data management system by CONTRACTOR on a Monthly basis with input and submission completed by the 20th calendar day of the month following Contract performance. Fiscal expenditures occurring in the 4th quarter (April, May and June) may be required to be input into the data management system on earlier modified due dates to support COUNTY internal deadlines and external audit requirements. These due dates will be communicated to CONTRACTOR through the COMMISSION'S Contracts and Grants Analyst assigned to the CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR is required to report expenditures on a monthly basis and apply accruals at year-end. Accruals show costs for services that have occurred but have not yet been paid. If the reporting due date falls on a weekend or County, State or nationally recognized holiday, the due date will be on the following business day. Any changes that occur with expenditures must be reported to COMMISSION staff and adjusted within the data management system before the end of the Quarter following the expense occurrence.

ATTACHMENT C: BUDGET

March 15, 2026 - October 31, 2026		
Category	**Description**	**Amount**
Operational Expenses	Operations, Evaluation, and Documentation	**$175,000**
		$175,000

DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

This Data Sharing Agreement, including Exhibits "A" and "B", attached and incorporated herein by this reference is made and entered into by and between Riverside County Children & Families Commission, herein after referred to as, "RCCFC" or "First 5 Riverside" or "F5RC", having its principal office at 585 Technology Ct. Riverside CA 92507, and Nava PBC hereinafter referred to as "CONTRACTOR", having its principal office at 601 13th Street Northwest, FL 12 Washington DC 20005, each being a "Party" and collectively the "Parties".

RECITALS

A. Proposition 10, an initiative measure enacted by the voters of California in 1998, established an excise tax on cigarettes and tobacco products, the proceeds from which are to be expended on promoting, supporting, and improving the early development of children from the prenatal stage to five years of age. (See Health & Safety Code §§ 130100-130155 and Revenue & Taxation Code §§ 30131-30131.6)

B. A State Children and Families First Commission ("SCFFC") was established to administer the program statewide, and local commissions were authorized to be created by ordinance to administer programs locally.

C. Riverside County Children and Families Commission (RCCFC) is the local commission established by ordinance enacted by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors to receive tobacco tax revenues and implement early childhood developmental programs in Riverside County.

D. RCCFC desires to engage CONTRACTOR to provide a pilot that is to develop and test an agentic AI system that supports the automatic completion of benefit applications across multiple programs. The system will work under human supervision, ensuring that navigators retain control at all critical decision points. The pilot implementation will involve F5RC's team and data systems, focusing on improving service delivery to the families they support.

AGREEMENT

1) **Contractor Services.** Contractor will perform and complete the following services:

   Contractor shall perform the services set forth in Exhibits A and B, which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

2) **Term of Agreement**. This Agreement is effective on the date this Agreement is fully executed by both parties or on October 1, 2025, whichever date is later, and will terminate June 30, 2026, unless earlier terminated or modified as provided herein.

3) **Independent Contractor Status.** In performance of the work, duties, and obligations and in the exercise of the rights granted under this Agreement, it is understood and agreed that Contractor is at all times acting as an independent contractor in providing services pursuant to this Agreement. Neither Contractor nor any other person performing services for Contractor pursuant to this Agreement shall have any claim against RCCFC for sick leave, vacation pay, retirement benefits, social security, workers' compensation, disability, unemployment insurance benefits, or employee benefits of any kind.

   Contractor agrees to hold RCCFC harmless and compensate RCCFC for payment of state or federal income tax obligations relating to Contractor's compensation under the terms of this Agreement. Contractor shall be solely responsible for all income taxes or other such taxes related to any payments received by Contractor from RCCFC.

   It is understood and agreed that Contractor is to assure that the work and services covered by this Agreement shall be performed and rendered in a competent, efficient, and satisfactory manner and in accordance with all applicable laws and community standards. RCCFC shall not have any control or direction over the method by which Contractor shall perform these services.

4) **Indemnification and Hold Harmless.**
   a. Contractor Indemnification. Except as is excluded in Section 4.b, Contractor hereby agrees to defend and pay any damages awarded in a final judgment against RCCFC, its officers, directors and employees (each, an "Indemnified Party" and collectively the "Indemnified Parties") against any loss or damage arising out of or resulting from any

claim, action or demand (collectively, a "Claim") from a third party alleging that the use of the Services or Software infringes the intellectual property rights of a third party under United States law. Upon notice of a Claim or if, in Contractor's opinion, such a Claim is likely, Contractor shall have the right, at its option, to (i) replace or modify the Services or Software so that it is functionally equivalent and no infringing, (ii) obtain a license for RCCFC to continue the use of the Services or Software, or (iii) return the fee paid by RCCFC therefore.

b. Limitations. Contractor will have no obligation hereunder for any Claim to the extent to which the Claim arises out of or result from: (i) the Indemnified Party's use of the Services or Software in a combination with materials or products not supplied by Contractor, (ii) Indemnified Party's use of the Services or Software in breach of this Agreement, (iii) Indemnified Party's negligence or willful misconduct, (iv) violation of any applicable law by RCCFC or any of its authorized users, or (v) RCCFC Information, except to the extent of any loss or damage directly resulting from Contractor's sole gross negligence or willful misconduct in complying with its then in effect published data and security policy.

c. Indemnification. Except for third party claims which are subject to Contractor's indemnification obligations set forth in Section 4.a., RCCFC hereby agrees to defend and pay any damages awarded in a final judgment against Contractor, its officers, directors and employees (each, an "Indemnified Party") against any loss or damage arising out of or resulting from any claim, action or demands from a third party as a result of RCCFC violating any right of any individual or entity, including without limitation any rights of privacy, or violating any applicable law or regulation.

d. Notice to the Indemnifying Party. In the event that any claim, action or demand is made against the Indemnified Party, the Indemnified Party will promptly upon becoming aware of any such claim, demand or suit, notify Contractor (in the case of Section 4.a.) or RCCFC (in the case of Section 4.c.) (each, an "Indemnifying Party", as applicable), in writing as to the nature and particulars of the same and will promptly furnish the Indemnifying Party with copies of any and all documents (inclusive of all correspondence and pleadings other than attorney-client communications) pertaining thereto. The Indemnified Party will also keep the Indemnifying Party continuously and fully informed in a timely manner as to the status of the same and will provide the Indemnifying Party with copies of any additional documents pertaining thereto in a timely manner. The Indemnifying Party shall employ a single counsel to represent all Indemnified Parties, which counsel may also be counsel to the Indemnifying Party. Each Indemnified Party is entitled to engage independent counsel, at such Indemnified Party's sole expense.

e. Obligations of the Indemnified Party. The obligation of the Indemnifying Party under Section 4.a. (Contractor Indemnification) and Section 4.c. (Indemnification) is contingent upon each Indemnified Party (i) giving prompt written notice to the Indemnifying Party of any such claim, action or demand as required in Section 4.d. above, (ii) allowing the Indemnifying Party to control the defense and related settlement negotiations, and (iii) fully assisting in the defense so long as the Indemnifying Party agrees to pay such Indemnified Party's out-of-pocket expenses.

5) **Contractor Warranties and Representations.** Contractor represents and warrants to RCCFC that:

a. All work performed by Contractor under this Agreement shall be in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and standards applicable to the services provided under this Agreement, and in accordance with requirements of applicable federal, state and local laws.

b. Contractor has no interest which would conflict in any manner or interfere with the performances and services contemplated by this Agreement. Contractor further agrees not to acquire any such interest during the term of this Agreement.

6) **Use of RCCFC Data/RCCFC COMMISSION Representations and Warranties.** RCCFC shall be solely responsible for all RCCFC Information, and shall allow Contractor, for the sole purpose of its performance under this Agreement, to copy, display, distribute, download, and otherwise use RCCFC Information to transmit over the Internet. RCCFC represents and warrants that its information does not and will not include anything that infringes the copyright, patent, trade secret, trademark or any other intellectual property right of any third party; contains anything that is obscene, defamatory, harassing, offensive, malicious or which constitutes child pornography; or otherwise violates any other right of any third party.

7) **Obligations of RCCFC.**
The maximum amount payable under the terms of this contract shall not exceed the maximum obligation set forth in Exhibit A.

8) **Insurance.** Contractor, at its sole cost and expense, shall obtain and maintain in full force, during the term of this Agreement, the following types of insurance:

   a. Commercial General Liability "occurrence" coverage in the minimum amount of $1,000,000 each occurrence and $2,000,000 General Aggregate. Personal and Advertising Injury liability, in the amount of $1,000,000 per occurrence, Products/Completed Operations aggregate in the amount of 1,000,000 and $100,000 limit for Damage to Premises Rented To You, if applicable.

   b. Commercial Automobile Liability coverage in the minimum amount of $1,000,000 CSL bodily injury and property damage, including owned (if any, which requires symbol 1 coverage), non-owned and hired automobiles.

   c. Personal Automobile Liability coverage, in the minimum amounts of $250,000 per Person and $500,000 each Accident Bodily Injury and $100,000 each Accident Property Damage for each vehicle to be operated in association with this contract that is not insured under Commercial Automobile Liability.

   d. Workers' Compensation coverage, in full compliance with California statutory requirements, for all employees of Contractor and Employer's Liability in the minimum amount of $1,000,000, and a waiver of subrogation in favor of RCCFC.

   e. Professional Liability coverage in the minimum amount of $1,000,000 each claim and $1,000,000 annual aggregate with a maximum deductible of $2,500 per claim. Policy shall be maintained for one year after the end of the contract period.

   f. All the insurance companies providing coverage under this Agreement must be A.M. Best rated A: VIII with the exception of the workers compensation insurance if provided by State Compensation Insurance Fund. Insurance coverage must be provided by California licensed and admitted carriers, with the exception of Professional Liability.

All insurance required under this Agreement shall be primary coverage as respects RCCFC, and any insurance or self-insurance maintained by RCCFC shall be in excess of Contractor's insurance coverage and shall not contribute to Contractor's coverage. RCCFC is to be notified immediately if any aggregate insurance limit is exceeded. Additional coverage must be purchased to meet requirements. If Contractor is self-insured, Contractor shall maintain the insurance enumerated in paragraph 7 herein during the term of this Agreement to pay covered claims which may arise as a result of Contractor's performance of this Agreement.

RCCFC is to be named as **Additional Insured** with respect to work done by Contractor under the terms of this Agreement on all policies required. However, this paragraph 7 shall not be construed to apply to Workers' Compensation coverage.

Contractor agrees to provide RCCFC with the following insurance documents within 14 days after the execution of this Agreement: **Certificates of Insurance for coverage required under this Agreement and Additional insured endorsements.** Failure to timely provide these documents shall be grounds for immediate termination or suspension of this Agreement.

It is the responsibility of the Contractor to confirm that all terms and conditions of the Insurance Provisions are complied with by any and all Subcontractors that Contractor may use for the completion of this Agreement.

Insurance coverage in the minimum amounts set forth herein shall not be construed to relieve Contractor for liability in excess of such coverage, nor shall it preclude RCCFC from taking such other actions as are available to it under any other provisions of this Agreement or otherwise in law. The minimum amounts set forth herein do not reflect RCCFC opinion of the adequacy of such coverage.

If the Professional Liability coverage is "claims made," Contractor must, for a period of three (3) years after the date when contract is terminated, completed or non-renewed, maintain insurance with a retroactive date that is on or before the start date of contract services OR purchase an extended reporting period endorsement (tail coverage). RCCFC may withhold final payments due until Contractor provides satisfactory evidence of the tail coverage to RCCFC.

9) **Termination.** This Agreement may be terminated as follows:

   a. RCCFC may terminate this Agreement, with or without cause, upon 30 days prior written notice. In the event of RCCFC's termination, payment for the Contractor's services shall be prorated for actual delivery of services up to the termination date.

   b. Contractor may terminate this Agreement by giving RCCFC written notice 90 days prior to the end of the initial term as stated in section 2 above or 90 days prior to the end of any renewal term for this Agreement.

   c. Either party may terminate this Agreement immediately by written notice if the other party materially breaches this Agreement and fails to cure its breach within 30 days after receipt of written notice.

   d. Disposition at End of Contract: Upon termination of this Agreement, each party agrees to assist the other party in the orderly termination of the Agreement and the transfer of all RCCFC data, as set forth in Exhibit C, Data Transfer Upon Expiration or Termination of Agreement.

10) **Confidentiality; Proprietary Information; Ownership.**

   a. RCCFC acknowledges that, in the course of meeting its obligations under this Agreement, it may obtain information relating to Contractor's products and services that is of a confidential, trade secret or proprietary nature ("Contractor Proprietary Information"). Contractor shall be solely responsible for identifying, clearly marking and otherwise indicating what information relating to Contractor's products and services constitute confidential, trade secret or proprietary information. Such Contractor Proprietary Information may include, without limitation, trade secrets, know-how, inventions, techniques, algorithms, programs, documentation and data, (except for RCCFC data), including the Program. "Program" means Contractor's software programs, centrally hosted and managed by Contractor, and described in the exhibits hereto, including all modifications, versions, improvements, updates, error corrections, bug fixes, or other enhancements with respect to the functionality or performance of the Program and services, and all related documentation (printed or electronic). RCCFC acknowledges that Contractor Proprietary Information (including the Program), as identified by the Contractor, is the intellectual property of and is owned by Contractor. RCCFC acknowledges that the structure, organization and code of the Program are valued trade secrets and confidential information of Contractor. RCCFC agrees that any and all patent rights, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, or other intellectual property or proprietary rights related to the Program, including any modifications, customizations, enhancements, or derivative works arising out of this Agreement, are exclusively owned by Contractor. This Agreement does not grant RCCFC any intellectual property rights or title of ownership in Contractor Proprietary Information (including the Program) and all rights not expressly granted are reserved by Contractor. Contractor may place copyright and/or proprietary notices, including hypertext links, within the Program. RCCFC may not alter or remove these notices without Contractor's written permission.

b. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor acknowledges that all RCCFC data is the intellectual property of and owned by RCCFC or persons under RCCFC's control and shall be held in confidence and deemed RCCFC proprietary information. Contractor and RCCFC will at all times, both during the term of this Agreement and for a period of at least five (5) years after its termination, keep in confidence and trust the other party's proprietary information which is confidential in nature, and will not use such proprietary information other than as permitted under the terms of this Agreement, nor will one party disclose any of such other party's proprietary information without the written consent of that party and pursuant to a standard proprietary information agreement. Notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, however, each party's proprietary information is not considered confidential in nature to the extent that it includes: (a) information that is in the public domain prior to the disclosure or becomes part of the public domain through no wrongful act of the party receiving the confidential information, (b) information that was in the lawful possession of the receiving party prior to the disclosure without a confidentiality obligation, (c) information that was independently developed by the receiving party outside the scope of this Agreement, or (d) information that was disclosed to the receiving party by a third party who was in lawful possession of the information without a confidentiality obligation.

c. Information exchanged or received by RCCFC and Contractor pursuant to this Agreement may be subject to public disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the California Public Records Act (PRA). RCCFC agrees to provide notice to Contractor if Contractor's Proprietary Information is being requested under the PRA to allow the Contractor opportunity to seek protection in a court of competent jurisdiction.

11) **Warranty and Disclaimer.**

a. Limited Warranty for Services. Contractor shall use reasonable commercial efforts consistent with prevailing industry standards to maintain the security of the Services as set forth in Contractor's then in effect published data and security policy and minimize errors and interruptions in the Services, provided that:

i. RCCFC uses the Service and the Software strictly in accordance with the Documentation.

ii. RCCFC pays all amounts due under this Agreement and is not in default of any provision of this Agreement, and

iii. RCCFC makes no changes (nor permits any changes to be made other than by or with the express approval of Contractor) to the Software or Service.

In addition, RCCFC acknowledges that the Services may be temporarily unavailable for scheduled maintenance, for unscheduled emergency maintenance, or because of other causes beyond Contractor's reasonable control. Contractor will not be liable to RCCFC as a result of these temporary service interruptions.

b. Warranty Against Infringement. Contractor warrants and represents that the Service and the use of the Software for its intended purpose by RCCFC does not and will not infringe any patent, copyright or other intellectual property right of a third party nor misappropriate any trade secrets or other intellectual property of a third party.

c. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES FOR SERVICES AND SOFTWARE. NEITHER CONTRACTOR NOR ITS SUPPLIERS OR SERVICE PROVIDERS WARRANT THAT THE SERVICES OR SOFTWARE WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED OR ERROR FREE, NOR DO THEY MAKE ANY WARRANTY ABOUT THE RESULTS THAT MAY BE OBTAINED BY USING THE SOFTWARE OR SERVICES. EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY AND UNAMBIGUOUSLY PROVIDED IN SECTION 12 above, THE SOFTWARE AND SERVICES ARE PROVIDED "AS IS" AND CONTRACTOR, ITS SUPPLIERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS DISCLAIM ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE,

INFORMATIONAL CONTENT, SYSTEM INTEGRATION, ENJOYMENT AND NONINFRINGEMENT. RCCFC'S SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR ANY BREACH OF THE WARRANTY DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION WILL BE, IN THE DISCRETION OF CONTRACTOR, THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF THE SOFTWARE, OR A PRORATED REFUND OF THE FEES PAID BY RCCFC IF CONTRACTOR IS NOT ABLE TO REPAIR OR REPLACE THE SOFTWARE.

12) **Limitation of Liability.** THE AGGREGATE LIABILITY OF CONTRACTOR FOR DAMAGES RELATED TO THIS AGREEMENT, IF ANY, WHETHER ARISING IN CONTRACT, TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE), WARRANTY OR ANY OTHER LEGAL THEORY, SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT PAID BY RCCFC TO CONTRACTOR UNDER THIS AGREEMENT OR $7,000, WHICHEVER IS LESS. CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH PARTY HAS BEEN INFORMED OF THE LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH DAMAGES. CONTRACTOR SHALL HAVE NO OBLIGATION OR LIABILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY BREACH OF SECURITY OR PRIVACY RELATING TO THE SERVICES, PROGRAM OR DATA THAT (A) IS NOT WITHIN THE SOLE CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITY OF CONTRACTOR, OR (B) ARISES FROM ANY RECONFIGURATION, MODIFICATION, MISUSE OR ABUSE OF THE PROGRAM OR SERVICE BY RCCFC OR ITS AGENTS.

13) **General Provisions.**

a. Entire Agreement of the Parties. This Agreement supersedes any and all agreements, either written or oral, between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter contained herein. Each party to this Agreement acknowledges that no representations, inducements, promises, or agreements, oral or otherwise, have been made by either party, or anyone acting on behalf of either party, which are not embodied herein, and that no other agreement, statement, or promise not contained in this Agreement shall be valid or binding.

b. Amendments. Any amendment must be expressly set forth in writing and signed by both Contractor and RCCFC.

c. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction or applicable state or federal law and their implementing regulations to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will nevertheless continue in full force and effect.

d. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

e. Assignment. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and shall inure to the benefit of, the parties to it, and their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns. Neither party may assign any of his or her respective rights or delegate any of his or her respective duties hereunder without receiving the prior written consent of the other party.

f. Waiver. The waiver of any provision, or of the breach of any provision, of this Agreement must be set forth specifically in writing and signed by the waiving party. Any such waiver shall not operate or be deemed to be a waiver of any prior or future breach of such provision or of any other provision.

g. No Third-Party Beneficiaries. The obligations created by this Agreement shall be enforceable only by the parties hereto, and no provision of this Agreement is intended to, nor shall any provision be construed to, create any rights for the benefit of or enforceable by any third party.

h. Headings. The subject headings of the articles and paragraphs of this Agreement are included for purposes of convenience only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of any of its provisions.

i. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one (1) or more counterparts, all of which together shall constitute only one (1) Agreement.

j. Survival. All provisions of this Agreement relating to proprietary or confidential information rights, confidentiality, non-disclosure, or payment of prorated fees by

RCCFC shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

k. Remedies. Unless otherwise specified herein, the rights and remedies of the parties set forth in this Agreement are not exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies available to it at law or in equity.

l. Enforceability. If for any reason a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision of this Agreement, or portion thereof, to be unenforceable, that provision shall be enforced to the maximum extent permissible so as to affect the intent of the parties, and the remainder of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

14) **Notices.** Any notice provided pursuant to this Agreement, if specified to be in writing, shall be in writing and shall be deemed given (i) if by hand delivery, upon receipt thereof; or (ii) if mailed, three (3) business days after deposit in the U.S. mails, postage prepaid, return receipt requested. All notices shall be addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth on the signature page hereof or at such other address as a party may from time to time designate in writing to the other parties. Electronic notification may be used if it is in addition to one of the two methods described above, in which case the notice shall be addressed to the following email addresses (or to such other email address as a party may from time to time designate in writing to the other parties): if to Contractor: contract-ops@navapbc.com and, if to RCCFC: tngraham@rivco.org.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, COMMISSION and CONTRACTOR have executed this Agreement.

Authorized Signature for COMMISSION:	**Authorized Signature for CONTRACTOR:**
Tammi Graham, Executive Director	Megan Ingram, Director of Contracts and Authorized Signatory
Date Signed: 10/02/2025	Date Signed: 10/02/2025
585 Technology Court Riverside, CA 92507-2423	601 13th Street Northwest, FL 12 Washington DC 20005
APPROVED AS TO FORM SIGNATURE: Kristine Bell-Valdez	
Kristine Bell-Valdez Supervising Deputy County Counsel	
Date Signed: 10/01/2025	
ATTEST SIGNATURE: Lynn Stephens	
Lynn Stephens Executive Assistant IV	
Date Signed: 10/02/2025	

EXHIBIT A

SCOPE OF SERVICES, DELIVERABLE & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Project Overview

This Scope of Work (SOW) outlines the framework for data sharing and collaboration between First 5 Riverside County (F5RC) and Nava PBC for the development and pilot of an AI-powered system designed to streamline the benefits application process. This project does not cover the broader County of Riverside systems or data and is limited to systems and data managed by F5RC.

The goal of the pilot is to develop and test an agentic AI system that supports the automatic completion of benefit applications across multiple programs. The system will work under human supervision, ensuring that navigators retain control at all critical decision points. The pilot implementation will involve F5RC's team and data systems, focusing on improving service delivery to the families they support.

Note: F5RC has a separate contract with Imagine LA; this MOU pertains solely to F5RC's collaboration with Nava PBC.

Project Phase Overview:

No Charge, Maximum Reimbursable Amount $0

While the project timeline is intended to guide the progression of activities, it remains flexible and may be adjusted as necessary throughout the duration of the project. All changes to project activities or scheduling shall be made collaboratively and in consultation with F5RC. Notwithstanding this flexibility, all project activities must be completed no later than June 30, 2026, which shall serve as the final project end date.

Phase	Overall Project Activities
Development October-December 2025	● Build and test ● Pilot coordination ● Early pilot with staff ● Refine workflows
Pilot & Scaling December 2025 - March 2026	● Demo with Google.org ● Monitor performance, measure usage, and iterate based on feedback ● Roll out pilot to more staff
Analysis & sharing out April - May 2026	● Analysis of findings and outcomes ● Dissemination via briefings and press coverage

First 5 Riverside County (F5RC) Responsibilities

As the primary implementation partner for the pilot, F5RC will:

- **Data Provision & Access**
    - Provide secure access to designated F5RC systems and documentation
    - Facilitate technical integration with existing F5RC case management workflows
    - Ensure data sharing complies with County security and privacy policies
    - Live data use will remain subject to F5RC security protocols, anonymization where possible, and County IT oversight.
- **Pilot Participation**
    - Assign staff for project management coordination and technical consultation capacity
    - Recruit navigators/staff to participate in pilot testing
    - Provide subject matter expertise related to relevant benefit programs
    - Facilitate staff training and onboarding for AI tools
    - The tool will connect to live Apricot360 data through approved extracts, reports, or Applicable Programming Interface (API) connections, and may also connect to other F5RC-owned databases (e.g., Hubbe, Salesforce, or successor systems) as mutually agreed in writing, provided such connections comply with County IT security standards.
- **User Research Support**
    - Collaborate with Nava PBC team to recruit staff and families for ongoing user research and usability testing
    - Support feedback sessions and system refinement processes
    - Provide access to organizational outcome data for comprehensive evaluation
- **Integration Support**
    - Collaborate on integrating AI tools into existing staff workflows
    - Provide necessary technical configuration support
    - Share program/organizational data for pilot evaluation (anonymized as appropriate)

Data	System	Access needed	Purpose
Sandbox/test environment credentials arranged with the vendor/state: Form	BenefitsCal	Test user access	Testing environment to train and test AI capabilities
Home Visiting & Family Resource Center (FRC) Intake Data (anonymized)	Apricot360	Read	Improve understanding of family needs assessment process
Record SSP client conversations	Recording	Client-driven consent to record	Learn natural conversation flow patterns to improve AI assistance (Recordings of SSP client conversations, or staff-led demonstration and role-play sessions simulating client interactions, may be used to learn natural conversation flow patterns and improve AI assistance. All such recordings require prior consent (from clients or staff participants, as applicable), will be stored only on approved servers, and will be deleted within a defined timeframe. Staff demonstration and role-play sessions may also be used to provide feedback on real-world application and usage).
Apricot 360 AWS data warehouse details	Apricot 360 & AWS	Read	Make sure Nava PBC's software could integrate with Riverside's systems. Nava PBC will be provided access to the existing sandbox environment for development and testing.

Systems Integration Components

- Secure API connections between relevant F5RC systems and AI submission agent during pilot period
- Connections limited to F5RC–controlled systems, configured with County IT oversight and in compliance with County security standards
- F5RC may arrange and develop partnerships with community providers and County departments where applicable to support implementation
- Real-time monitoring and audit logging of all AI submission agent actions during the pilot period

EXHIBIT B

DATA TRANSFER UPON EXPIRATION OR TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

The Parties acknowledge and accept the fact that they both have an interest in the orderly transfer of RCCFC data upon the termination of this Agreement, either as a result of one party's exercise of its termination rights under Paragraph 9 of this Agreement, or upon the expiration of the contract therm. Therefore, the Parties hereby agree to the following:

1. **Data Transition Plan**. Upon notification of termination as set forth in Paragraph 9, Contractor will develop and deliver a transition plan to RCCFC within fifteen (15) days. The transition plan shall include a timeline listing key transition events and activities, including the tasks described below.

2. **Data Transfer**.

   2.1. Contractor shall assign key personnel and provide information to manage the contract close-out process and data transfer. Contractor shall respond to RCCFC inquiries within 24 hours.

   2.2. Contractor shall provide a detailed data directory, including, but not limited to the names and descriptions of various tables and their contents/fields; relationship between fields; and additional details such as the type of length of each data element.

3. **Data Sharing and Return.**

   3.1. Any data extracted by CONTRACOR from RCCFC shall be treated as confidential. Upon contract termination or at the request of RCCFC, all such data obtained by CONTRACTOR must be promptly returned to RCCFC and permanently deleted from CONTRATCOR's systems. CONTRACTOR shall ensure that no copies, backups, or derivatives of RCCFC's data are retained beyond the point of return, maintaining strict compliance with data privacy and security requirements. Documentation of the data deletion and return process shall be provided to RCCFC upon completion.

Within seven (7) days of the end of the contract, CONTRACTOR shall confirm data has been permanently deleted from CONTRACTOR's system.

F. **Presentation/Action Item/Public Hearing — Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**

F.1. Conduct a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Annual Report of the California Children and Families Commission (a copy of the report may be obtained at https://rccfc.org/About-Us/Impact and can be viewed at the Commission Business Office). Pursuant to the California Children and Families Act, Health and Safety Code Section 130140 — Charna Widby, Executive Director

F.1.a. **Public Hearing:** Annual Report of the California Children and Families Commission for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 - Supervisor, Washington, Chair

F.1.b. **26-12: Receive and File:** Annual Report of the California Children and Families Commission for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 - Supervisor, Washington, Chair

AGENDA ITEM: 26-12
DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2026
ACTION: ☒
INFORMATION: ☐

RECEIVE AND FILE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 AND CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Receive and file the California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California) 2024/2025 Annual Report and conduct a public hearing pursuant to the California Children and Families Act, as required by California Health and Safety Code section 130140(h).

BACKGROUND

The annual report provides an overview of the California Children and Families Commission structure, vision, mission and goals, priority areas, signature programs, program results, and accomplishments.

March 11, 2026: A copy of the FY 2024/2025 State Commission Annual Report is provided to Commissioners as part of the meeting packet and is available for public review on the Commission's website. The report also features highlights from local county commissions. Riverside County highlights are included on pages 83 and 84. These pages reflect Riverside's focus on strengthening prevention infrastructure—embedding HealthySteps in pediatric practice; aligning Prop 10, CalWORKs, and Medi-Cal home visiting; leveraging the County's START system to reach families earlier; scaling Quality Start and workforce scholarships; and using shared dashboards and continuous quality improvement to prevent harm and measure systems change.

February 23, 2026**:** The Fiscal Year 2024/2025 State Commission Annual Report was posted to the First 5 Riverside County website (rccfc.org/impact) for public review.

The California Children and Families Act (Proposition 10) requires that:

1. The State Children and Families Commission shall prepare a written report that consolidates, summarizes, analyzes, and comments on the annual audits and reports submitted by all 58 county commissions for the preceding fiscal year. The report must be transmitted to the Governor, the Legislature, and each county commission.

2. Each county commission must conduct at least one public hearing on each annual report distributed by the state commission.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Commission:

1. Conduct a public hearing in compliance with California Health and Safety Code section 130140(h); and
2. Receive and file the report (no Commission approval or adoption is required).

ATTACHMENT

1. California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

2024 – 2025





FIRST 5 CALIFORNIA®

Annual Report

2399 Gateway Oaks Dr, Suite 120, Sacramento, CA 95833

www.ccfc.ca.gov

Our Mission

First 5 California will convene, partner in, and help lead the movement to create and implement a comprehensive, integrated, and coordinated system for California's children prenatal through age 5 and their families. It will promote, support, and optimize early childhood development.



Table of Contents

Message from First 5 CA 4

Ensuring Californian Children Receive the Best Start in Life 6
Proposition 10 and the Legacy of First 5 California 6
Accountability: Funding & Audit Results 7

Building Public Will and Investment 10
North Star 11
Audacious Goal 11

Legislative and Budget Engagement 12
2025–26 State Budget Environment and Key Outcomes 13
2024-25 North Star Policy Agenda 14
State Legislative Highlights 15
Federal Budget Engagement 16
PR and Government Relations 17
Media Campaign 18
Public Relations 24
Events 25

Programs and Research 26
Kit for New Parents 27
IMPACT Legacy 28
Early Math Project 34
Early Literacy Initiatives 35
Tobacco Education and Cessation 39
Small Population County Funding Augmentation (SPCFA) . . 40
Research: California Health Interview Survey 41
Children's Data Network (Strong Start Index) 42

Key Results and County Highlights TOC 43

First 5 County Commission Result Areas 44
First 5 County Highlights 52

Appendix 107

Message from First 5 CA Executive Director, Jackie Wong

It is my privilege to open this year's Annual Report by reflecting on a year of work in service to California's children and families, and by honoring the visionary whose leadership made that work possible. This report captures both the impact of the First 5 Network over the past year, across communities, systems, and generations, and the enduring legacy of Rob Reiner, whose courage and conviction forever changed how California invests in our youngest children. As we look back on the progress made and the challenges navigated, we do so with deep gratitude for the foundation he built as the Commission's first Chair and with a shared responsibility to carry his vision forward.



Rob Reiner believed in a California that invests in children by making early childhood a priority across government and society. That vision was not the reality in 1998. Through Proposition 10, he helped chart a new course, establishing a permanent commitment to children ages 0–5 and their families by creating the framework for what would become First 5 California and the statewide First 5 Network.

Over the last 26 years, that vision has translated into measurable, lasting impact. Proposition 10 has generated more than $12 billion dedicated exclusively to young children and families, and First 5 investments have helped directly serve an estimated 30 million children in every corner of California. This does not include the tremendous impact on a generation of children and families who have benefited indirectly by transforming the systems that serve our communities to become more early childhood centered in their design. These resources have supported prenatal and early child health care, developmental screenings, early learning and care, parent education, and school readiness, helping the systems to be more prepared to support the complex and comprehensive needs of children and families. This vision of a unified voice and shared heartbeat, anchored in advancing the health, readiness, and long-term success of California's youngest children, is operationalized through the collective leadership and accountability of the First 5 Network.

Proposition 10 served as seed money for enduring systems change. Many of the supports California families rely on today, from developmental screening and early identification to trauma-informed health care and Universal Transitional Kindergarten, would not exist in their current form without the leadership of First 5 California, county commissions statewide and our early childhood partners at the State and local levels. Collectively, these systems now support children and families across health, education, and economic stability in ways that were once unimaginable.

Rob Reiner also understood that lasting change requires winning both public policy and public will. First 5 California remains one of the only state agencies mandated to invest significantly in early childhood public education and media, ensuring that parents and caregivers have access to tools and resources while also elevating early childhood as a shared public responsibility. Campaigns such as Talk. Read. Sing.® and today's Stronger Starts® initiative reflect this commitment and have helped shift how Californians understand and support the earliest years of life. The growth in public support for children's issues over time reflects the power of that long-term investment in hearts and minds.

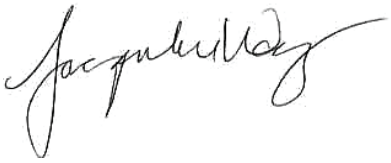
This year's Annual Report reflects how that legacy continues amid a changing and complex landscape. Despite declining tobacco-tax revenue, an outcome of a historic public health success, the systems strengthened over decades, the policies advanced, and the partnerships built across state and local government remain firmly in place and focused on sustained investment in the holistic needs of our children, families and communities.

Throughout the past year, First 5 California and county commissions across the state continued advancing equity-driven systems change, strengthening early learning and health supports, elevating parent and caregiver voices, and advocating at the state and federal levels to protect and expand investments in young children. This work reflects both innovation and resilience, grounded in data, community partnership, and an unwavering commitment to children.

Rob Reiner's legacy is not only one of vision, but of shared stewardship. First 5 was built to outlast any one leader, campaign, or moment. Because of his courage and foresight, we inherit both a gift and a responsibility to protect, evolve, and recommit to this work for future generations.

As you read this Annual Report, I invite you to reflect on what has been accomplished, the challenges that lie ahead, and the opportunity we share to continue shaping a California where every child has a strong start. Together, guided by purpose and inspired by legacy, we will continue advancing a future in which all children and families can thrive.

Sincerely,



Jackie Thu-Huong Wong (she/her)
Executive Director
First 5 California



Ensuring Californian Children Receive the Best Start in Life

Proposition 10 and the Legacy of First 5 California

In 1998, California voters passed Proposition 10—the California Children and Families Act (the Act)—and declared the importance of investing in a better future for California's youngest children.

Proposition 10 imposes a 50-cent tax on tobacco products to generate revenue. **80% of the revenue is allocated to the 58 First 5 county commissions based on annual birth rate data, and 20% is allocated to the California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California).** County commissions allocate their portion of the funds based on the specific needs and priorities of their communities. First 5 California's funds are used to advance statewide systems change efforts including making additional strategic investments in counties across the state.

For 25 years, First 5 California has invested in the development of programs, services, and systems emphasizing improvement in early care and education, child health and development, family resiliency, research, and community awareness.

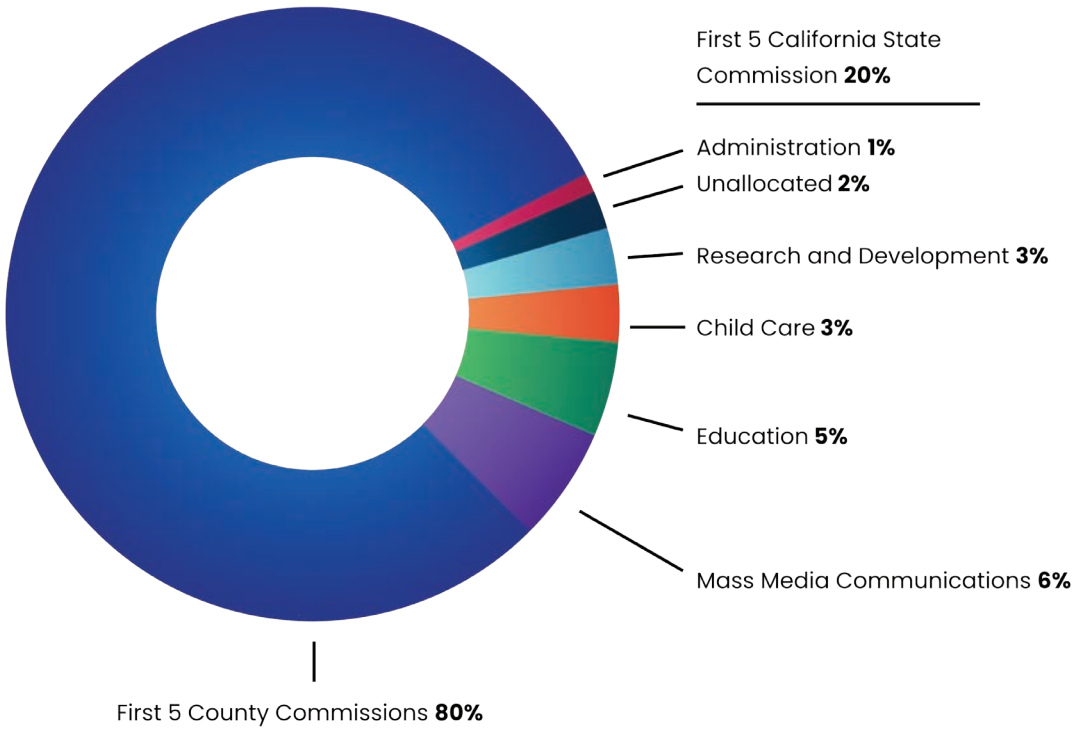


Accountability: Funding & Audit Results

Under the California Children and Families Act, the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) collects an excise tax on all cigarette and tobacco products. After refunds, administrative expenses, and statewide assessments are deducted, the remaining revenue is deposited into the California Children and Families Trust Fund, with 20 percent allocated to First 5 California and 80 percent allocated to county commissions.

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 First 5 California received **$53.7 million** while county commissions received **$214.7 million** in combined Proposition 10, Proposition 56 (backfill), and California Electronic Cigarette Excise Tax (CECET) revenues.

Exhibit 1: First 5 California Children and Families Commission Funds Allocation of State Portion



Source: Health and Safety Code Section 130105

The annual funding allocated to each county commission is based on the number of births in the county relative to the statewide total. Counties invest their funds in locally designed programs aligned with community priorities, as well as in First 5 California's statewide programs that focus on priorities such as child health, child development, and family resiliency for California's children prenatal through age 5 and their families.

Accountability: Funding & Audit Results

The State Controller's Office conducts an annual audit review of the 58 county commissions' independent audits to ensure accountability and transparency in the use of public funds. **In December 2025, the State Controller's Office published its review of FY 2023–24 county audits, confirming no findings warranted funding withholdings.** The results demonstrate continued adherence to the California Health and Safety Code and can be viewed on First 5 California's website at: *https://ccfc.ca.gov/pdf/about/budget_perf/annual_report_pdfs/etc/Annual_Report_to_the_First_5_Commission_FY_2023_24.pdf*

First 5 California's organizational structure is designed to foster collaboration, efficiency, and statewide alignment. Through its Executive Office, External and Governmental Affairs Office, Program Innovation and Evaluation Division, Administration and Governance Office, Fiscal Services Office, Contracts and Procurement Office, and Information Technology Services Office, First 5 California provides coordinated oversight of:

- Fiscal management of the California Children and Families Trust Fund
- Tax revenue disbursements to county commissions
- Audits and annual fiscal reports
- Local agreement and program-disbursement management
- Public education and outreach initiatives
- Evaluation of First 5 California programs
- Procurement and contract management
- Workforce recruitment and professional development
- Information technology
- Business services
- Legislative advocacy efforts

In alignment with its mission, First 5 California continues to invest in programs, services, and systems that support California's youngest children and their families. While the Home Visiting and Small Population County Funding Augmentation (SPCFA) programs sunsetted on June 30, 2025, previously approved multi-year investments, such as Impact Legacy, continued.

> **This year, the new iteration of the Kit for New Parents began with an investment of $15 million to continue providing resources statewide to parents and caregivers. Additionally, the Commission approved $18 million starting July 2025 to continue the SPCFA investment, allocating $15 million to the program and $3 million to the First 5 Network Resilience Initiative.**

CALIFORNIA'S 59 FIRST 5 COMMISSIONS. ONE SHARED VISION.

Our 2025–2028 Strategic Plan strengthens the First 5 Network — ensuring every county has the resources and partnerships to help young children thrive.

FIRST 5 CALIFORNIA

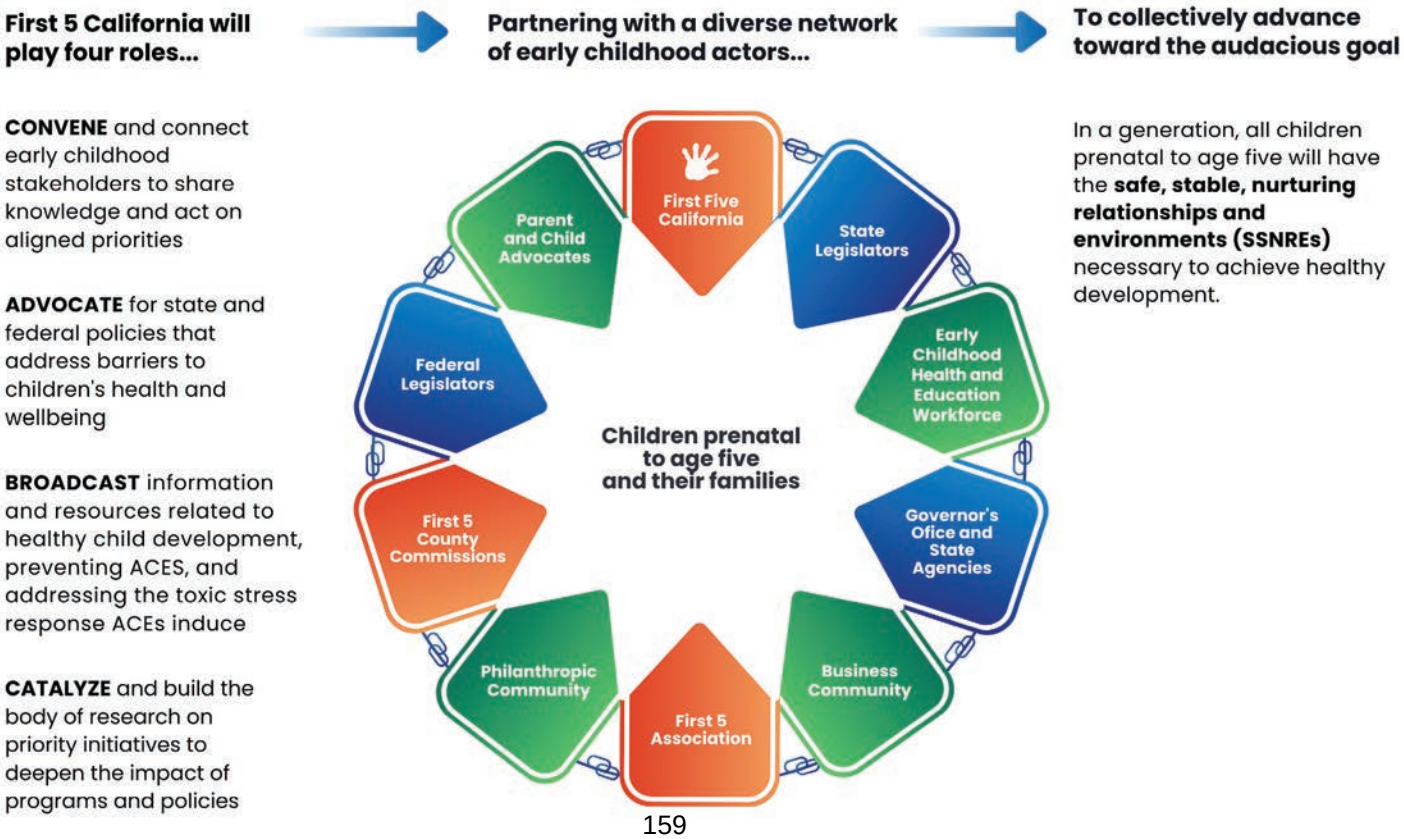
Building Public Will and Investment

In 2021, First 5 California adopted a North Star and Audacious Goal, supported by a theory of change and the identification of key system levers to guide the organization's work. To more fully integrate this foundation into the new Strategic Plan, First 5 California developed a Results-Based Accountability (RBA) framework that outlines the process for establishing population-level indicators, Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely (SMART) goals, and performance measures aligned with the North Star and Audacious Goal.

The following graphics show how we bring our North Star and Audacious Goal to life in a measurable way through policymaking, programs, and agency leadership to holistically serve our children and families:

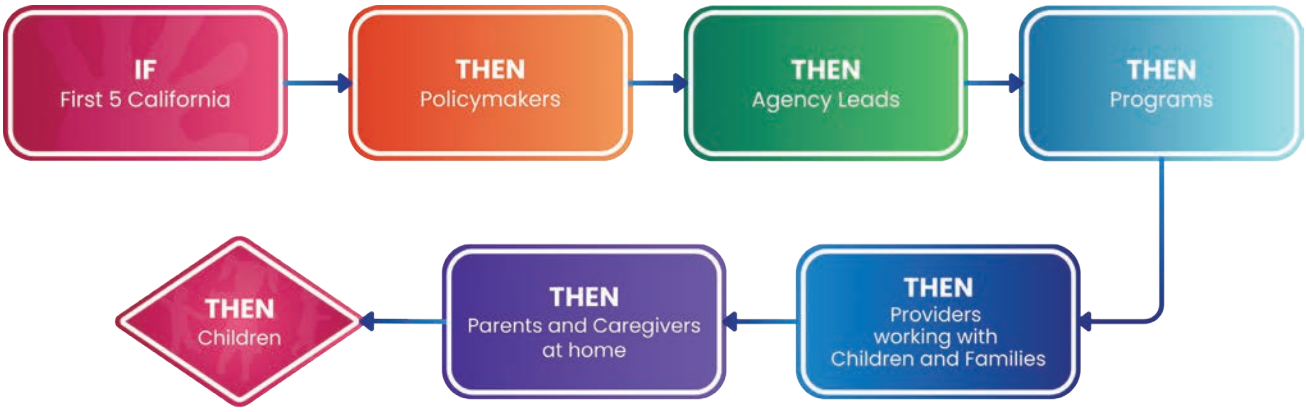
STRATEGIC PLAN: FIRST 5 CALIFORNIA ROLES

The 2025-2028 Strategic Plan developed by First 5 California is designed to guide First 5 California's investments and priorities over the next four years, ultimately working toward real positive impact for families. As part of this plan, First 5 California plays many roles in the advancement of the wellbeing of children prenatal to age five and their families.



THEORY OF CHANGE

Theory of change describes the levers, actions, and outcomes of First 5 California's work:



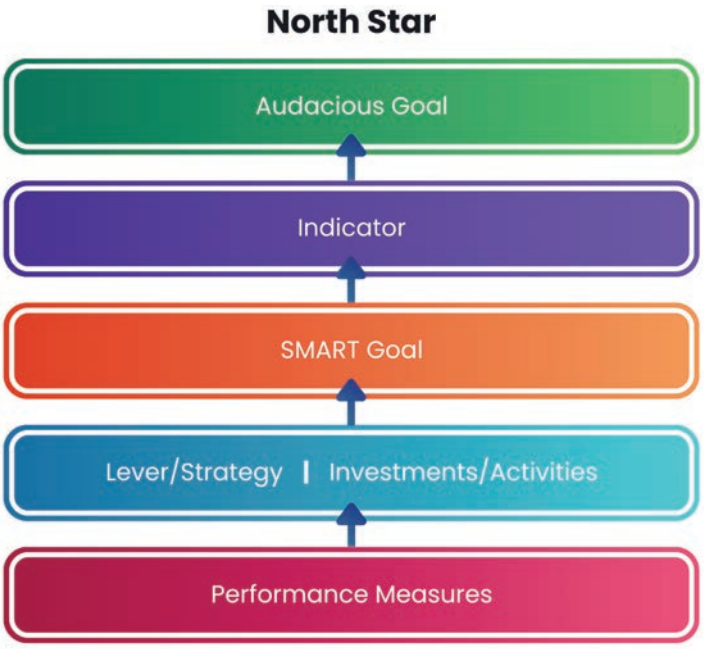
North Star

- Trauma-informed, healing- centered, and culturally responsive systems promote the safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments necessary to eliminate inequities and ensure healthy development for all children.

Audacious Goal

- In a generation, all children 0–5 will have the safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments necessary to achieve healthy development.

RESULTS-BASED ACCOUNTABILITY (RBA) FRAMEWORK: PRINCIPLES



- North Star orients all our work
- Population-level indicator informs us about statewide well-being
- SMART goals are developed for each audience (parents, providers, programs, state agency leaders, policymakers)
- Multiple investments/activities may support the same SMART goal
- Investments/activities operate as levers
- Performance measures may be similar across programs and be project specific
- Staff workplans will detail source of data for performance measures, baseline, and frequency of collection

Legislative and Budget Engagement

First 5 California continued advancing policies that strengthen the well-being and development of the state's youngest children. The legislative agenda remained firmly aligned with First 5 California's North Star and Audacious Goal, guiding advocacy toward initiatives that reduce toxic stress, expand access to early learning and health resources, strengthen the safety net, and promote equity across communities.



2025–26 State Budget Environment and Key Outcomes

The 2025–26 budget cycle took place against the backdrop of an approximately $12 billion state budget deficit. Despite this challenging fiscal landscape, the Budget Act maintained critical early childhood investments while avoiding deep cuts to programs that support children and families. The final budget included $228 billion from the General Fund, $89 billion from special funds, and $4 billion from bond accounts, supported in part by responsible use of reserves, including $7.1 billion from the Rainy Day Fund.

Throughout the process, First 5 California's External and Governmental Affairs (EGA) team collaborated with partners to protect core programs for children ages prenatal to five. The team closely tracked the Governor's Extraordinary Session on federal immigration actions and supported the Legislature's approval of $50 million one-time General Fund to the Department of Justice for legal defense efforts, including direct legal assistance for immigrant families.

EGA also supported efforts within the childcare and early learning system by working alongside the Early Care and Education Coalition to maintain commitments made in prior budgets.

The 2025 Budget preserved the state's plan to expand subsidized childcare to serve 200,000 additional children by 2028. It also protected investments such as enrollment-based childcare funding beginning in 2026 and continued implementation of the Cost of Care Plus rate system. Additional investments included $10 million to expand tools for identifying multilingual learners and $160 million for Universal School Meals.
First 5 California also supported the continuation of programs critical to the health, development, and stability of young children and their families. These included $1 million for additional ACEs training and $7.4 million one-time General Fund for the Diaper Access Initiative. The Mental Health Wellness Act, which provides $20 million for community response and maternal behavioral health, was also preserved.



2024–25 North Star Policy Agenda

First 5 California's North Star Policy Agenda outlines the agency's commitment to building ***trauma-informed, healing-centered, and culturally responsive systems*** *for young children.* The agenda guides all state and federal advocacy and is organized around four core pillars:



1. Build Resilient Families

First 5 California supports policies that stabilize and uplift families by promoting economic security and reliable access to food and housing. Progress Made:

- Supported legislation that expands access to childcare and early learning for low-income and migrant families.
- Advocated for financial supports that reduce material hardship for families with infants and toddlers, including funding for Universal School Meals and the Diaper Access Initiative.
- Advanced efforts to elevate the role of fathers in policy and narrative change.



2. Optimize Child Health

First 5 California works to ensure families have access to equitable health care, screenings, and behavioral and mental health supports. Progress Made:

- Supported legislation improving maternal health services and expanding perinatal access in rural regions.
- Advocated for continued funding for ACEs training and for early identification of developmental and behavioral needs.
- Amplified awareness through campaigns such as Raise CA Strong and sponsored ACR 67, which established Stronger Starts for Children Day.



3. Strengthen the Early Learning System

First 5 California promotes sustainable, high-quality early care and education and a supported, well-paid workforce. Progress Made:

- Supported legislation expanding eligibility for early learning programs and supporting working families.
- Continued advocating for statewide rate reform and the full implementation of childcare slot expansion.
- Supported the enrollment-based funding transition and statutory COLA protections in the state budget.



4. Promote Sustainability of Early Childhood Investments

First 5 California advocates for stable funding structures that sustain early childhood investments at both the state and local levels. Progress Made:

- Advocated for policies that strengthen the First 5 Network through increased fiscal resiliency.
- Strengthened relationships with state and federal policymakers to advance long-term sustainability.
- Expanded collaboration with state agencies to improve alignment and maximize the impact of existing resources.

State Legislative Highlights

First 5 California supported a targeted set of bills that advanced family stability, child health, early learning, and immigrant family protections. Key bills signed into law included:

BUILDING RESILIENT FAMILIES

- **AB 495 (Rodriguez): Family Preparedness Plan Act**
  Strengthens support for children when parents face immigration-related detention or absence.
- **SB 669 (McGuire): Perinatal Services in Rural Hospitals**
  Expands maternity care access in rural communities through a pilot program.

OPTIMIZING CHILD HEALTH

- **AB 55 (Bonta): Alternative Birth Centers**
  Improves access to perinatal services by streamlining Medi-Cal reimbursement rules.
- **AB 1261 (Bonta): Right to Counsel for Undocumented Minors**
  Ensures unaccompanied children have access to legal representation.

STRENGTHENING THE EARLY LEARNING SYSTEM AND ACCESS TO EARLY LEARNING

- **SB 98 (Pérez): Immigration Enforcement Notification**
  Requires schools to strengthen notification processes during immigration enforcement activity.
- **SB 778 (Limón): Migrant Childcare Eligibility**
  Broadens access to early learning programs for migrant agricultural worker families.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENTS

- **AB 607 (Rodriguez): CalWORKs Home Visiting Program**
  Extends program participation to improve outcomes for infants and caregivers.
- **SB 792 (Arreguin): CalWORKs Childcare Income Threshold**
  Aligns eligibility and supports more working families in accessing childcare.

Together, these measures advanced family resiliency, protected ALL families which include immigrant families, expanded health access, and strengthened early learning opportunities.

Federal Budget Engagement

First 5 California deepened its engagement with federal policymakers in 2025 focusing on the preservation of critical supports for young children and their families. This work became especially important as Congress advanced H.R. 1, the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," which enacted significant reductions to federal safety-net programs that directly affect family stability, child health, and early development. Several major federal programs experienced substantial cuts or eligibility restrictions under H.R. 1, including:

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**
  The law significantly reduced overall SNAP funding, eliminated the SNAP-Ed nutrition education program, and restricted eligibility for several immigrant categories. These changes are projected to reduce food security for millions of families nationwide, including many with children prenatal to age five.

- **Medicaid**
  H.R. 1 introduced new work and administrative requirements that are expected to cause coverage loss for millions of low-income adults, including parents of young children. The bill also reduced state flexibility to fund Medicaid, increased cost-sharing for some enrollees, and tightened immigration-related eligibility pathways. These provisions threaten access to prenatal care, developmental screenings, behavioral health services, and early-intervention supports that young children rely on for healthy development.

- **Other key early childhood safety-net programs**
  Cuts and structural changes in H.R. 1 reduced support for programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), childcare and early learning resources tied to federal block grants, and funding for health and nutrition programs serving low-income and immigrant families.

Given these sweeping changes, First 5 California elevated federal advocacy to protect programs essential to early childhood well-being. EGA continued to support efforts that provide assistance to children and families in California and opposed federal proposals that would weaken access to health care, nutrition, and economic supports for vulnerable families. This federal advocacy ensured that California's state-level efforts remained informed by national developments that could disrupt services for children prenatal to age five.

PR and Government Relations

In 2025, the External and Governmental Affairs division elevated First 5 California's leadership in both public policy and strategic communications. Through integrated PR and government relations efforts, EGA increased statewide visibility, strengthened policymaker engagement, and ensured alignment with First 5 California's 2025 to 2028 Strategic Plan.

A major focus of the year was building and deepening relationships with policymakers. EGA met with new legislators, introduced First 5 California's policy priorities, and strengthened ongoing partnerships throughout the Capitol. EGA hosted an awards event honoring champions for early childhood, further embedding First 5 California's presence as a trusted voice.

These efforts extended beyond the Legislature. EGA partnered with state agencies, community-based organizations, and philanthropic leaders to advance family resiliency policies grounded in whole-child and whole-family approaches. Public-facing engagement increased through the Conversations with Champions for Children video series, spotlighting lawmakers and partners' commitments to early childhood.

EGA's PR work expanded dramatically in 2025 following the launch of a three-year strategic communications contract. This investment broadened First 5 California's public reach, strengthened bilingual media engagement, and supported the North Star communications strategy. In addition, EGA hosted a successful screening of the documentary Make a Circle at the IMAX in Sacramento, which brought together policymakers, childcare providers, and community members to highlight the importance of early learning.

Throughout the year, EGA elevated data, stories, and research that reinforced early childhood as a statewide priority. This included amplifying information on economic hardship, supporting statewide food access efforts during the federal shutdown, and contributing to major convenings and events.

By year's end, First 5 California had significantly strengthened its legislative influence and public presence. These efforts created a policy environment that prioritizes early childhood and ensures that young children and their families remain central to California's long-term vision.



Media Campaign

During Fiscal Year 2024–2025, First 5 California continued its statewide effort to raise awareness about toxic stress and the long-term effects of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) through its Stronger Starts campaign. The media strategy during this time period built on past momentum while expanding reach across multiple languages, cultures, and platforms to ensure that all California parents and caregivers have access to trusted, practical information.

Paid media extended across TV, radio, digital, social, out-of-home, and print, reinforcing the campaign's presence in both English and Spanish and additional in-language executions for Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino, Black/African American, Hispanic, Arabic, Armenian, Persian, and Russian audiences. Digital partnerships reinforced the media plan by continuing activities with Zynga, Reddit, and Snapchat, expanding the campaign's presence in high-engagement online spaces.

First 5 California's presence on social media included ongoing evergreen social and digital storytelling on First 5 California's social media channels and websites. Educational companion articles were promoted on social media as well. Web articles that talk about understanding and supporting your child's mental health, tips on how to spot stress in your child, the role of fathers and father figures in supporting early development and First 5 California's Stronger Starts powered by Cell-Ed; a program that provides family support through courses, coaching and micro-learning for caregivers.

Creative development introduced refreshed work across several waves. Wave 2.5 relaunched the "Prepared for Battle" and "Doctor 2.0" ads, expanding the AAPI effort with new "Doctors Know" videos in Mandarin and Vietnamese, accompanied by print and out-of-home placements.

A set of explainer videos were produced in English and Spanish in April of 2025 to strengthen parent education through short, accessible online learning experiences. These videos will live on the First 5 California parent website, YouTube channel, and the Stronger Starts microsite.

Complementing these efforts, First 5 California also began production on a Fatherhood Campaign (September 2024). A video was produced highlighting the importance of dads in the early years of children. A special section was added to the website and microsite to promote this effort.

During this fiscal year, work began on our Wave 3 strategy and creative messaging to advance the campaign's storytelling and implement the necessary steps in our Stronger Starts communications plan. This effort will outline the future direction of Stronger Starts into the launch of Wave 3 creative messaging and what is to come for Wave 4.

"The Four B's that you shared are a good foundation to help build trust between adults and children."

- Parent/Caregiver at Sacramento Kings event

To reach parents and caregivers at scale, First 5 California strategically partnered with trusted sports organizations and media to deliver the Stronger Starts campaign message in environments where families are already engaged. By aligning with teams and voices that resonate across generations and cultures, these partnerships shared guidance on how parents and caregivers can help children ages 0 to 5 buffer against the effects of toxic stress response, the body's prolonged stress reaction to repeated or ongoing exposure to adversity in early childhood.





Through its partnership with the Sacramento Kings, First 5 California connected with families during Slamson's Birthday takeover, one of the largest annual celebrations at Golden 1 Center. In addition, First 5 California sponsors halftime court activities with parents and infants throughout the season. Across three game-day event activations, the program generated more than 2,800 guest interactions and distributed over 5,400 educational giveaways, including informational brochures and early childhood learning items. These activations paired joyful, family-centered experiences with Stronger Starts campaign messaging in a trusted, in-arena setting. Beyond game-day activations, the Kings' community relations team also supported and participated in First 5 California's first Statewide Day of Action on May 8, 2025, underscoring a shared commitment to families and early childhood well-being.

Media Campaign



A collaboration with Dodgers Radio extended this impact throughout Southern California, the Central Valley, and the Desert Communities statewide through bilingual media, social, and in-person engagement. In 2025, World Series champion Kiké Hernández was featured in English- and Spanish-language videos that ran in-stadium during Sunday home games. He also recorded radio spots in both languages, which aired during Dodgers Radio broadcasts, reaching one of baseball's most loyal, multigenerational, and multicultural fan bases. This partnership garnered 53.1 Million cumulative impressions, amplifying the Stronger Starts campaign message to parents and caregivers across California. A social media post on Dodgers Radio's social platform featuring Kiké Hernández further extended reach, generating over 12,000 likes and strong audience engagement that drove clicks to the First 5 California website. In addition, Dodgers Radio digital placements on the station's website drove listeners to the First 5 California website, including new visitors, achieving an 83 percent engagement rate. In-person activations at Dodger Stadium also took place, engaging over 1,200 families with 1,400 educational items distributed by our brand ambassadors.

Together, these partnerships helped First 5 California meet families where their passions and daily lives intersect, reinforcing the Stronger Starts campaign and increasing awareness of toxic stress response, how it affects young children, and how parents and caregivers can help buffer its long-term effects.



"We were just talking about anxiety the other day and what it means."

- Parent/Caregiver at Dodger Stadium event

The Cell-Ed micro-learning program, powered by First 5 California, was relaunched in May 2025 to deliver free, on-the-go education about toxic stress prevention and early development. Since then, Cell-Ed has partnered with the CA State Libraries, Child Care Resource Centers, WIC, and other partners to expand the access of the program and content. Additionally, the Los Angeles Public Library granted First 5 California permission to include their 'Know Your Rights' course, a course designed to learn about rights under the U.S. Constitution and how to confidently exercise them at home and in public, in the Stronger Starts learning program, absolutely free.

Evaluation findings released in July 2024 demonstrated the campaign's measurable impact on awareness, knowledge, and behavior across California families. Familiarity with the term toxic stress rose from 22% in 2022 to 74% in 2024, while familiarity with ACEs grew from 20% to 60%. Campaign awareness reached 92% overall, surpassing CDC benchmarks for public education campaigns, with 95% awareness among Spanish-speaking parents and caregivers.

Parents and caregivers who had experienced toxic stress showed strong engagement with campaign messages. Eighty-seven percent recognized how toxic stress affects the way they parent, and 90% reported being motivated to take actions to help themselves overcome it. These encouraging results give hope for the future, as 93% of participants said they are continuing to take steps to manage stress.

Behavioral data reinforced these findings. Sixty-four percent of caregivers exposed to ACEs actively sought information about toxic stress in 2024, compared to just 14% in 2022. Overall, 84% of those aware of the campaign said it showed them that parents can stop their own toxic stress from affecting their children, and 82% said it motivated them to protect their families. These results confirm that Stronger Starts is achieving its long-term goal of helping California families take meaningful steps toward resilience and healing.






wide
Action

Public Relations

First 5 California strengthened its leadership role in early childhood advocacy through a series of strategic public relations initiatives and statewide partnerships.

The highlight of the year was the Statewide Day of Action (SDOA), held on May 8, 2025, in Sacramento. The press conference brought together approximately 65 attendees, including state and local leaders such as Executive Director Jackie Thu-Huong Wong, Commissioner Elsa Mendoza Jimenez, Sacramento Mayor Kevin McCarty, Deputy State Treasurer Stephanie Tom, Sacramento County Supervisor and First 5 Sacramento Chair Phil Serna, and other dignitaries. The event featured participation from the Sacramento Kings, including legend Olden Polynice, team dancers, and mascot Slamson, emphasizing the partnership between early childhood advocacy and community engagement.

Following the Sacramento event, First 5 San Diego hosted its own regional Day of Action with Assemblymember LaShae Sharp-Collins, who also introduced Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 67 – "Stronger Starts for Children Day." The California Assembly recognized the First 5 California team on the floor in honor of its work, and Governor Gavin Newsom's office issued a commemorative letter designating May 2025 as Children's Mental Health Month.

Additional earned media and thought-leadership highlights included a publication of a National Association for the Education of Young Children Chapter for a Leadership book , spotlighting First 5 California's community education approach and the release of the organization's Strategic Plan, reinforcing its long-term vision for improving early childhood well-being across the state.



Events

After the success of the Toxic Stress Takedown experiential events, First 5 California refreshed and reimagined its in-person outreach with the launch of First 5 California's Stronger Starts Roadshow. This interactive, tactile experience was designed to help families learn about toxic stress and introduce families to educational play and emotional-regulation tools through sensory-based activities.



The new Stronger Starts Roadshow setup debuted in June 2025 at the Pista Sa Nayon Festival in Vallejo, offering hands-on learning stations such as Roar's Soothing Scales, Pop & Play Zone, and Sound Journey. The Stronger Starts Roadshow continues to travel statewide, with the long-term goal of reaching all 58 counties through local partnerships and county collaborations.

Experiential and cultural events remained at the heart of community engagement. Highlighted appearances included:

- Pista Sa Nayon Festival – Vallejo (June 7, 2025)
- Atascadero Pride in the Park – San Luis Obispo County (June 14, 2025)
- Juneteenth Celebration of Ventura County (June 21, 2025)
- Fiestas Patrias (September 14, 2025)
- San Francisco Chinatown Autumn Moon Festival (September 27–28, 2025)

The Stronger Starts Roadshow also participated in other cultural and family-focused events statewide, including Cinco de Mayo & Care-Fest and the International Kids Festival. Counties continue to request participation and collaboration with First 5 California to bring the Stronger Starts Roadshow to local communities, reflecting the agency's ongoing commitment to reaching all 58 counties and ensuring equitable access to early childhood resources.

Together, these efforts continue to advance First 5 California's mission to give every child a stronger start in life, through education, engagement, and connection across every corner of the state.





Programs and Research

First 5 California continued advancing programs that strengthen the well-being and development of the state's youngest children. Through strategic partnerships and statewide and local implementation, these programs translate policy and vision into meaningful, measurable impact for children ages 0–5 and their caregivers.

Kit for New Parents

The award-winning Kit for New Parents (Kit) targets hard-to-reach and low-income families, providing key information and resources for first-time parents, grandparents, and caregivers. The Kit is a foundational resource to support parents during the early stages of parenting. To date, First 5 California has distributed ***over 5 million Kits free-of-charge*** *to local hospitals, physicians, and community groups to reach new parents statewide. Kits are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese.*

In Spring 2025, First 5 California collaborated with First 5 Association of California to form and facilitate a working group including representatives from state agencies, First 5 counties, and community-based organizations to explore ways to make First 5 California the Kit more accessible, culturally responsive, healing-centered, and trauma informed. This collaborative effort identified a clear need for the kit to offer materials that are tailored to specific communities *(e.g., Black families, fathers, rural families)*, designed with caregiver voices in mind, more interactive and usable, and strategically distributed and marketed through trusted channels.

First 5 California is incorporating this feedback into its **next edition of the Kit** and will strive to:

- Continue distribution to parents of children ages 0 to 5 across California
- Expand its reach to more low-income families
- Strengthen relationships with First 5 county commissions and community partners
- Evaluate the Kit's effectiveness in engaging and educating parents and caregivers

Parents, caregivers, and community members can request Kits to be shipped directly to them by emailing *parentkit@first5.ca.gov* and are encouraged to visit the California Parent Guide website for helpful information and resources for new parents.



IMPACT Legacy

In October 2022, the First 5 California Commission approved the current iteration of the investment, Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive Legacy (IMPACT Legacy), at $125,828,000 for four years, FYs 2023–2027. This represented a continued commitment to the innovative First 5 IMPACT approach to quality improvement and professional development systems for early learning and care (ELC) providers. Funding was awarded to 10 regional lead grantee agencies, reducing the number of grants to 10, while continuing to provide funding to all 58 counties and the Tribal Child Care Association of California.

IMPACT Legacy works in cooperation with all ELC quality improvement efforts and investments in California to support the implementation of the Quality Counts California (QCC) Quality Continuum Framework. IMPACT is designed to fund quality improvement expansion and support providers serving high-impact communities and populations not already receiving support. IMPACT Legacy participation within QCC focuses on the expansion of access to high-quality ELC in private centers, family childcare (FCC) homes, family friend and neighbor caregivers, and in alternative settings such as home visiting programs and libraries. For FY 2024-25, local consortia reported 10,195 sites participating in QCC, which is an increase of nearly 500 sites from FY 2023-24. Of participating QCC sites, about two-thirds (7,411) continue to be fully or partially supported by IMPACT Legacy funding.



Building Equitable Early Learning Systems (BEELS)

In January 2024, First 5 California launched the Building Equitable Early Learning Systems (BEELS) work with WestEd. BEELS provides Early Learning and Care (ELC) Workforce Supports and Technical Assistance (TA), and works to transform California's ELC systems with a strategic focus on equity in alignment with First 5 California's North Star. Workforce supports focus on increasing the development of and access to more equitable learning opportunities and resources for the ELC Workforce, specifically, coaches, trainers, and providers. In addition, WestEd leads outreach and engagement of collaborative partnerships with institutes of higher education and key state partners to ensure ongoing communication and alignment in joint efforts supporting workforce capacity building. WestEd, in partnership with First 5 California and local/regional communities, will co-design systems equity building efforts that flexibly support the evolving needs of the QCC system and position First 5 California as a leader in responding to the call for dismantling barriers to access and equity and responding to the needs of the local ELC system. Advisory membership for these efforts includes county First 5s, county offices of education, local planning councils, early learning and care providers, parent voices, and institutes of higher education faculty. These efforts will leverage the collaborative strengths of the First 5 network to advance First 5 California's whole child/family focus while supporting the state's strategic priorities for ELC and aligning with the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care (MPELC). This will help local and state leaders and agencies to transition to an equitable ELC system that balances statewide cohesiveness and efficiency with local contexts and needs.

Regional Hubs

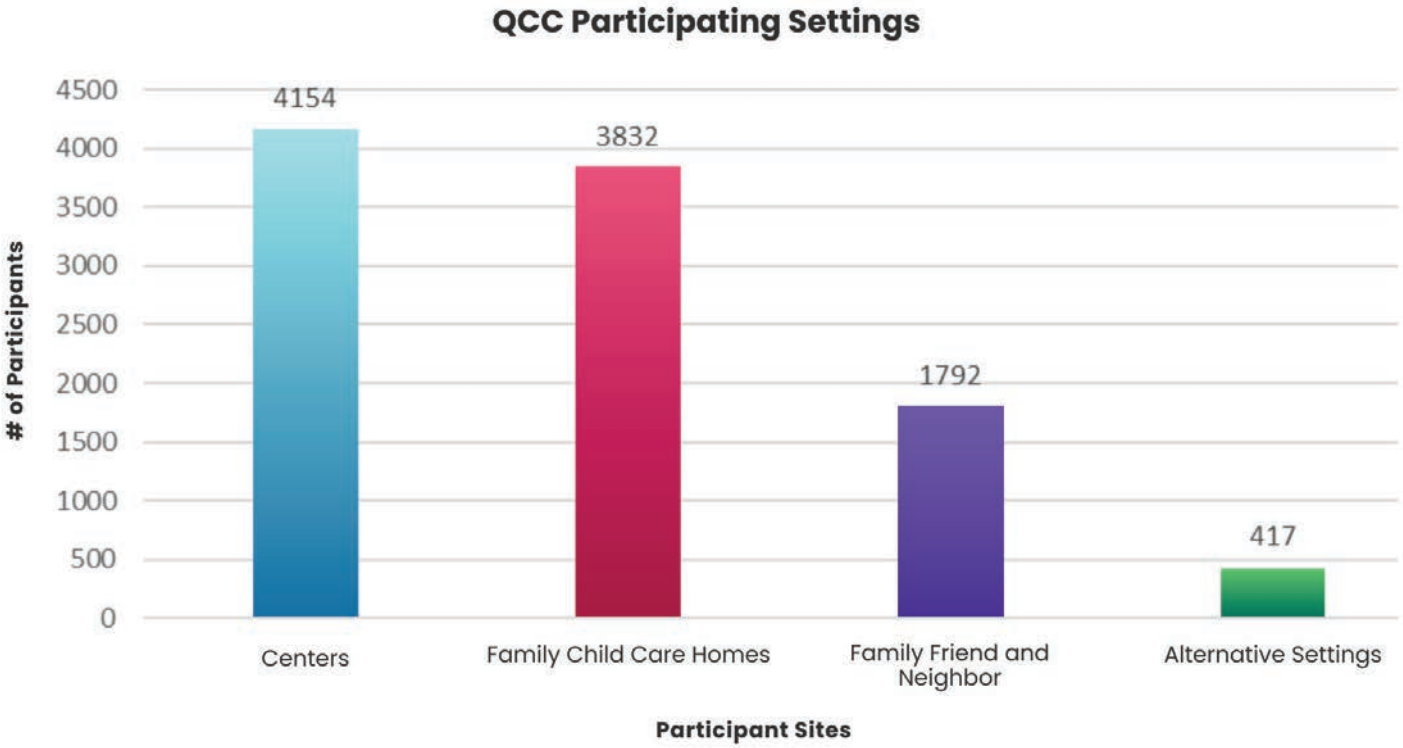
Funded through IMPACT Legacy dollars, regional hubs streamline the collection of data and management of expensive data systems, saving substantial administrative dollars and improving the availability of data. The regional hubs provide trainings, facilitate communication, share best practices, and promote access to and consistency in coach, trainer, and administrator supports.

Regional hub support continues to be deemed particularly beneficial by small and rural consortia that would not otherwise be able to access certain trainings or have the critical mass needed for Communities of Practice (CoP) and other professional learning opportunities.

In FY 2024–25, regional hubs reported the top successes as improved communication and partnerships, data coordination, and providing greater access to professional development, trainings and communities of practice. The hubs continue to report that almost 80 percent of all counties within a region rely exclusively or partially on the regional hub for ELC workforce professional development offerings.

Quality Counts California

Quality Counts California (QCC) is a statewide system of locally implemented Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) that provide resources and support to ELC providers so they can create engaging and effective experiences that help children grow and thrive. QCC is funded by IMPACT Legacy as well as state and federal funding administered by the California Department of Education and the California Department of Social Services. All ELC participant sites in QCC are reported in the statewide common data file, which is inclusive of all the state's QRIS funding streams. This data provides the state with an efficient and coordinated method for receiving information about each county participating in QRIS. As of June 30, 2025, there were 10,195 participant QCC sites across the state, including 3,832 family childcare homes and 1,792 family, friend, and neighbor providers. In total, 39,995 teachers received individualized professional development to improve quality of care and early education knowledge, and 310,491 children ages 0–5 benefited from the quality improvement support provided by QCC.



For more information on QCC, visit the website at https://qualitycountsca.net

Home Visiting Regional Technical Assistance Grants

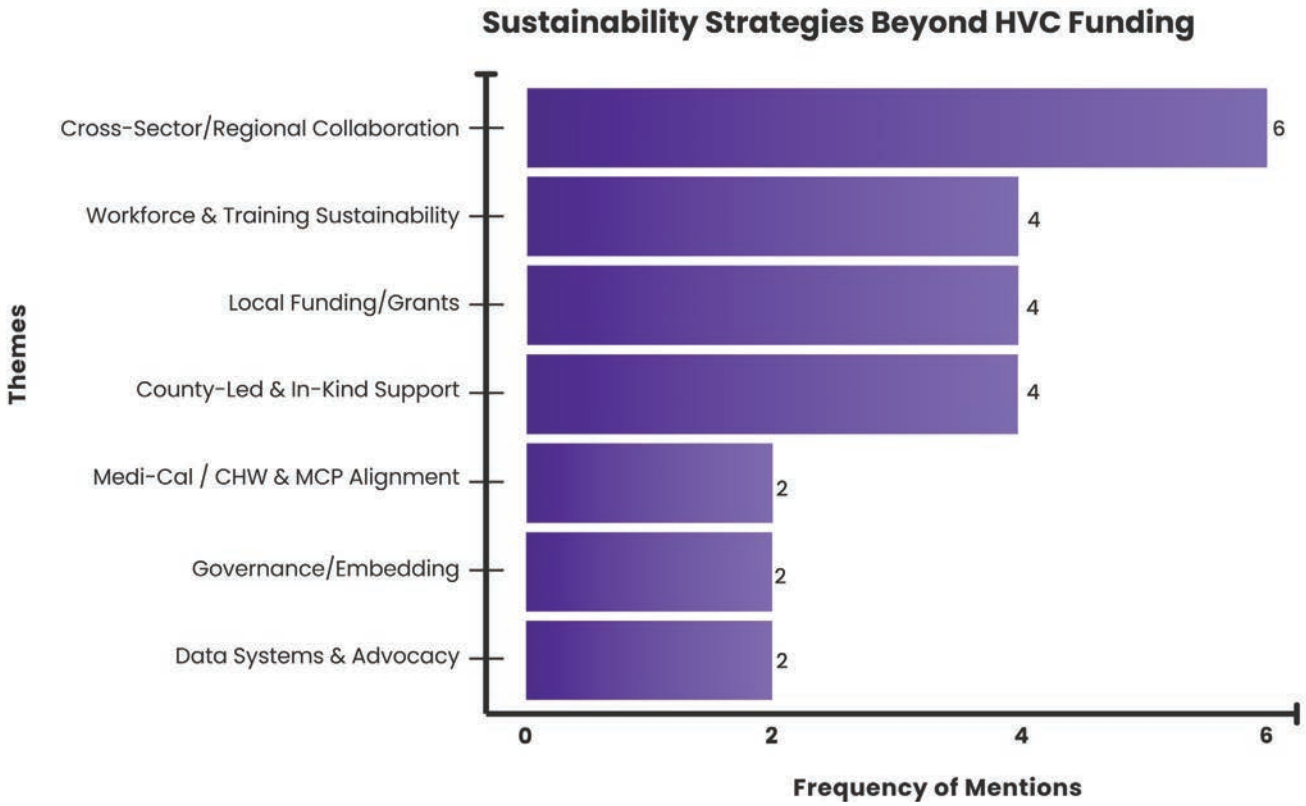
In FY 2022–23, First 5 California funded an extension of the original Home Visiting Collaboration grants and offered new Regional Technical Assistance for Home Visiting Coordination and Integration (HV-RTA) grants to begin the following fiscal year. The HV-RTA offered $14.5 million in regional funding for home visiting technical assistance and coordination in much the same way that IMPACT Legacy's grant regionalized funding for IMPACT consortia. Nine regions were granted funding and began work in July 2023.

The FY 24-25 annual performance report describes themes that emerged in response to questions on capacity building tied to performance measures and sustainability efforts, being that this was the final year of funding. Overall, counties described strengthening partnerships and successful transitions for post funding activities. Many reported successes in communicating and collaborating with one another and having some level of sustainability following the end of this grant.

The data showed that cross-agency collaboration and consistent communication were the most consistent tools that regions utilized. This highlights the importance of the network that has been built through the regional structure of this grant.

The regions were asked to report how they plan to continue their programs beyond the HVC funding. The graphics below show the common themes and frequency of mention.

THEMES	DESCRIPTIONS
Medi-Cal / CHW & MCP Alignment	Sustaining services by contracting with Managed Care Plans and billing through Medi-Cal CHW benefit.
Data Systems & Evidence for Advocacy	Leveraging data systems and evaluation to demonstrate impact and secure future funding.
Cross-Sector / Regional Collaboration	Continuation of collaboratives, advisory boards, and regional meetings for shared problem-solving and advocacy.
County-Led & In-Kind Support	Local entities (counties, nonprofits) committing staff, space, facilitation, or embedding HV in existing structures.
Workforce & Training Sustainability	Ongoing Communities of Practice, quarterly training, summits, and professional development as part of post-HVC sustainability.
Local Funding / Grants (Prop 10 & Philanthropy)	Using Prop 10 funds, philanthropic support, or new grants to sustain home visiting programs.
Governance & Embedding into Coalitions	Folding HV into broader coalitions and boards to sustain momentum.

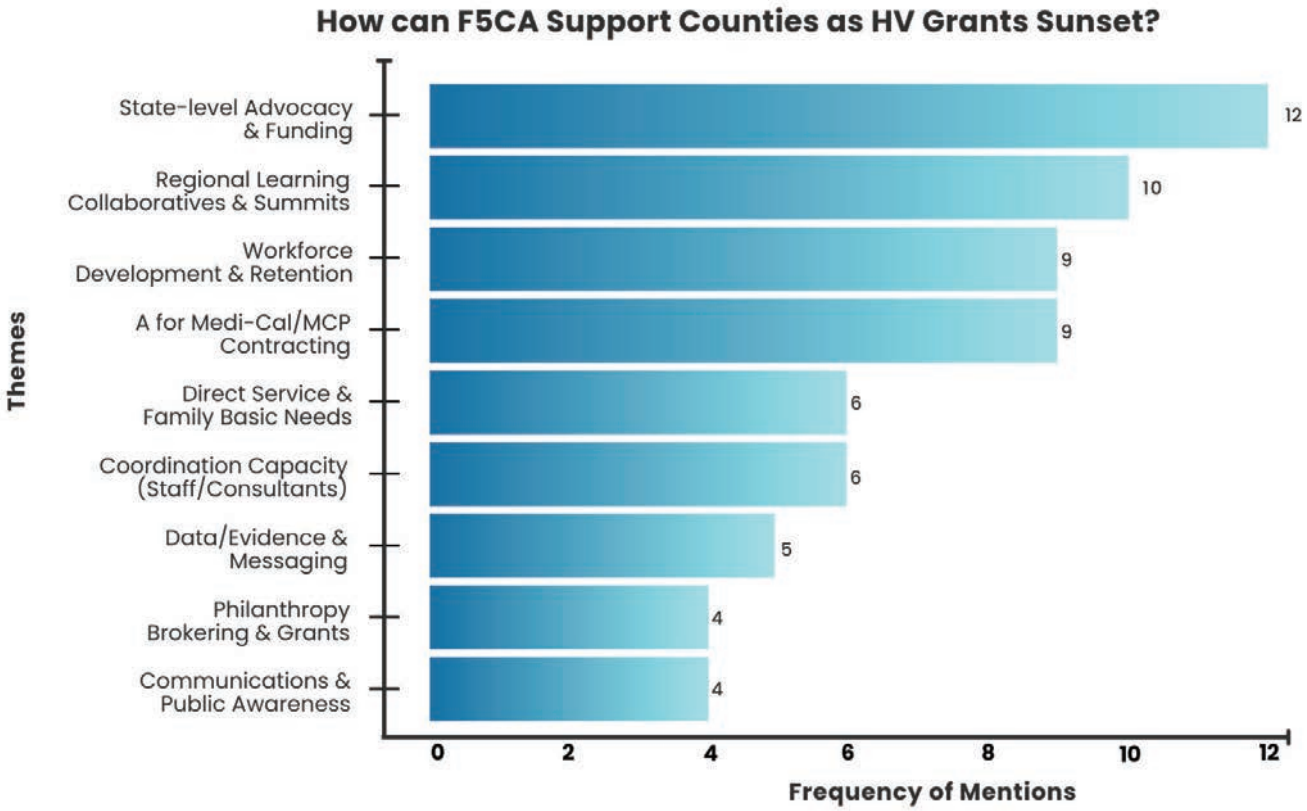


Promisingly, over half of the regions have committed to continuing cross-sector/ regional collaboration through regional meetings, shared file drives/resources, and shared training/professional development opportunities.

Regions were asked how First 5 California can support county commissions with their local home visiting systems now that this funding is sunsetting. There were various themes that arose, with the top 2 being State-level Advocacy & Funding, and Regional Learning Collaboratives & Summits. The graphics below show the common themes and frequency of mention.

In First 5 California's new Strategic Plan, the agency highlights its strategies for systems change which include advocating for state and federal policies that strengthen early learning, health, and family economic stability to ensure all children prenatal to age five can thrive. The data shows this will be the key method First 5 California can continue to support local commissions with their home visiting programs. There is also an opportunity to host a home visiting system breakout room or mini summit during First 5 California's next Child Health, Education and Care summit. First 5 California will continue to be a partner/ advocate for home visiting, bringing us closer to achieving our audacious goal.

First 5 California's home visiting coordination investment has enhanced local commission home visiting programs throughout the state by providing counties with resources to find alternative funding sources, build regional systems to help their fellow counties, and further increase home visiting access/resources across California. Advocacy at the state and federal levels to showcase and fight for this important work that is changing the lives of children and families throughout California is essential.



THEMES	DESCRIPTIONS
State-Level Advocacy & Funding	Champion HV within CalWORKs, CalAIM/DHCS, DPH/DPSS; pursue budget asks and policy fixes; keep HV central to P–5 systems.
TA for Medi-Cal/MCP Contracting	Provide hands-on TA (billing, compliance, privacy, IT, contracting) to secure CHW/ECM reimbursement and MCP agreements.
Workforce Development & Retention	Fund PD, PLCs/CoPs, certifications, incentives/tuition; focus on trauma-informed, reflective, culturally responsive practice.
Regional Learning Collaboratives & Summits	Resource regional summits and quarterly cross-county learning to spread what works and support morale.
Direct Service & Family Basic Needs	Fill gaps for diapers, food, housing, childcare, mental health, employment supports where other funding is absent.
Coordination Capacity (Staff/Consultants)	Underwrite coordinator time/consultants to convene HVC/CABs, align referrals, and maintain shared infrastructure.
Communications & Public Awareness	Run statewide campaigns; share toolkits, stories, and media assets to boost awareness and uptake.
Data/Evidence & Messaging	Create one-pagers on outcomes/ROI; provide evaluation/fiscal templates and language banks for grants.
Philanthropy Brokering & Grants	Identify funders, share opportunities, and broker relationships to diversify revenue.

Early Math Project

First 5 California actively participates in the ongoing development and maintenance of the multi-state agency effort to elevate the importance of early science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) activities to support children's success and understanding of STEAM. These efforts include seminars; symposiums and conferences for parents, teachers, and other ELC professionals; publication of STEAM-related literature; newsletters; book reviews, and web-based supports.

Early Math Project (EMP) is working more collaboratively with Count Play Explore (a statewide Early STEM Initiative supported and authorized by California as part of the System of Support) and began developing and co-branding STEM resources in 2025. EMP will have a new home page on the Count Play Explore website soon.

During 2025, EMP helped plan and organize an early math spring seminar, summer symposium, and fall forum. The most recent event took place on October 28, 2025 and focused on Family Engagement and the importance relationships play in children's learning and success. The seminar provided tangible ideas and resources for everyday STEM for children from birth to third grade. EMP's next Early Math Event is scheduled to take place on February 26, 2026.

EMP also partnered in the development of over 20 video guides related to the I'm Ready Video series that will support parents and early education and care providers.

The EMP team added 43 book guides and related activities during 2025 and anticipates completing up to 5 additional guides by the end of 2025.

Ongoing resources that are shared on the EMP website (*www.earlymathca.org*) and the Count Play Explore application (*www.countplayexplore.org*) include:

- EMP Substack Newsletter.
  The newsletter can be accessed at:
  https://carolynpfister.substack.com/
- STEAM Resources
- Book guides and activities
- "I'm Ready" Video Series



Early Literacy Initiatives

Imagination Library

First 5 California has long supported the expansion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL) as a proven, evidence-based early literacy strategy aligned with California's school readiness and equity goals. In 2022, the Legislature authorized a historic statewide expansion through Senate Bill 1183, envisioning a California-centered implementation model supported by state infrastructure, local partners, and culturally responsive outreach.

Legislative and Administrative Changes Affecting Program Delivery

Since enactment, a series of statutory and budgetary changes materially altered the implementation structure originally contemplated by the Governor and Legislature. While initial appropriations were awarded through the California State Library to the California-based nonprofit established to support statewide implementation—now known as Strong Reader Partnership (SRP)—subsequent trailer bill actions redirected the majority of remaining funds directly to the Tennessee-based national DPIL organization.

As a result of these changes, California public funds intended to build and sustain in-state capacity were ultimately transferred out of state for centralized administration. This shift removed the California nonprofit intermediary model that had been designed to provide localized technical assistance, multilingual outreach, and operational support to counties with the greatest literacy gaps. The multiple changes to the program have stalled progress overall to California's program delivery that meets the state's linguistic, geographic, and demographic complexity.



Program Reach and Current Enrollment Status

Despite these structural changes, DPIL enrollment in California has increased since the enactment of the statewide expansion in September 2022. As of Fall 2025, the program is serving approximately **142,000 children**, representing roughly **5 percent of the 2.7 million children ages 0–5 statewide**. Of those enrolled, **more than 25,500 children—approximately 18 percent**—are receiving the bilingual English/Spanish book collection, reflecting progress toward linguistic inclusion.

The program is currently **fully implemented in 32 counties**. While this progress is meaningful, it also underscores the distance between current reach and the Legislature's original goal of universal statewide access. At present enrollment levels, the majority of California's youngest children—particularly those in rural, low-income, and multilingual communities—remain unreached.

Lessons Learned from California's Implementation Experience

Strong Reader Partnership's direct involvement in program development and early implementation provides several clear, evidence-based insights relevant to the program's future success in California:

- **State-specific infrastructure matters.**
  California's scale, diversity, and regulatory environment require localized technical assistance and operational support that cannot be fully addressed through a centralized, out-of-state model.
- **Program requirements can be burdensome for local partners.**
  Libraries and community-based organizations reported administrative and compliance challenges that slowed enrollment and limited participation.
- **Culturally and linguistically responsive outreach is essential.**
  Multilingual, community-rooted engagement significantly increases awareness and enrollment, particularly among families facing time, cost, and trust barriers.
- **Capacity-building accelerates impact.**
  Counties benefit from modest, targeted investments that strengthen local readiness rather than relying solely on passive enrollment models.

Recommendations for Legislative and Programmatic Consideration

Based on this experience, First 5 California offers the following recommendations that future investments in DPIL or similar early literacy initiatives:

1. **Restore or establish a California-based implementation partner** to provide technical assistance, outreach, and accountability aligned with state priorities.
2. **Ensure funding structures support local capacity-building,** not solely book distribution.
3. **Require regular, transparent reporting** on enrollment penetration relative to the eligible population, disaggregated by language and geography.
4. **Align early literacy investments with broader school readiness and family engagement strategies**, including First 5 county systems.

First 5 California remains committed to advancing early literacy outcomes and ensuring that public investments deliver maximum benefit to California families. The experience of the DPIL expansion demonstrates both the promise of the model and the importance of implementation structures that reflect California's unique needs.

PEARLS

The *Program for Equitable Access to Resources for Literacy Support (PEARLS)* was approved by the Commission in the Spring of 2022 with the primary goal to enhance early literacy development among children aged zero to five in families through family engagement, culturally responsive programming, and community partnerships. With over $100 Million in investments made by the State, the Commission assessed the best way to leverage its role with the new opportunities created by the state. The objectives for PEARLS funding are:

- Provide accessible, culturally relevant literacy resources and programs in the families' home languages.
- Foster parent/caregiver knowledge and confidence in supporting early literacy at home.
- Promote cultural pride and multilingual skills as valuable components of children's literacy growth.
- Build sustainable partnerships with community organizations, cultural groups, and local service providers.

To best serve these objectives, and support the current literacy efforts without duplication, additional time was taken to understand local needs, revise funding structure and review current data on literacy science. First 5 California entered into an agreement with Pitaya Consulting to assist in the development of the Request for Proposal (RFP).

State Literacy Partnerships

First 5 California staff participated on the State Literacy Team for the Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) grant to revise the comprehensive State Literacy Plan (SLP) with updated evidence-based practices and guidance documents, as well as promising practices and implementation guides. With the team's feedback incorporated, the State Board of Education approved the California Comprehensive SLP in May 2025. First 5 California will continue this partnership to implement the plan over the life of the CLSD grant.



To achieve the goal of grade-level reading by third grade, First 5 California staff participated in the Communications and Campaign Work Group, sharing expertise and existing relationships. The group met periodically to review efficacy of early literacy development tools, curriculum and educational outreach. The group recommended designating funds to engage a communications agency to create and launch a comprehensive public information campaign. This campaign would utilize available research, build on the success of past messages, and expand to impact children 5-9 years of age.

Carrying an evergreen message to a broader audience strived to educate not just about the academics of reading as a skill, but the importance of the social / emotional bonds and sense of security that powerfully impact brain development and on-going success in school.

Tobacco Education and Cessation

First 5 California continues to fund Kick It California (KIC), an ongoing tobacco education and cessation activity, to meet the statutory requirement of the Children and Families Act (Health and Safety Code Section 130125 A, 130125 C). Kick It California (the "Quitline," formerly known as the California Smokers' Helpline) provides evidence-based tobacco cessation services to help users who are pregnant, or parents and caregivers of children prenatal to five, to quit tobacco.

On January 25, 2024, the First 5 California Commission approved up to $2.5 million for three years (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027) to continue tobacco cessation services for priority populations. As a result of this investment, First 5 California funds support services to focus specifically on pregnant smokers, smoking parents, and caregivers of children prenatal to five, and reduce/eliminate secondhand smoke exposure to young children. Quitline services have since been expanded to include vaping (electronic cigarettes) cessation, coaching for non-tobacco-using proxies, and the development of materials that address the danger of vaping during pregnancy and the danger to children of secondhand exposure to vape aerosol, vape cartridges, and vape juice (liquid nicotine).

KIC enrollees are ethnically diverse (over 70% identify as other than white) and primarily low income (over 80% are Medicaid recipients). Nearly ninety percent have not obtained a college degree, and 58% report one or more of the following mental health conditions—anxiety (49%), depression (42%), bipolar (18%), schizophrenia (6%), or drug/alcohol addiction (12%).

From July 1, 2024 to September 27, 2025, KIC serviced a total of 4,585 intake clients via phone and web, exceeding the monthly goal of 150 with an average of 304. During this timeframe, KIC coached 2,219 clients by phone and exceeded the monthly goal of 85 with an average of 147. Lastly, KIC evaluated 522 clients, exceeding the monthly goal of 17 with an average of 35.

KIC provides one-on-one telephone coaching for smokers, vapers, and non-tobacco-using proxies. Services are available in English (1-800-300-8686) and Spanish (1-800-600-8191) and through the Asian Smokers' Quitline (*www.asiansmokersquitline.org*) in Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin) (1-800-838-8917), Korean (1-800-556-5564), and Vietnamese (1-800-778-8440). For those who might not be ready to work one-on-one with a coach, KIC services also include live chat, mobile apps, online videos, and an automated text program, with content relevant to tobacco users who are pregnant or have a young child in the home. KIC also has an interactive and user-friendly website (*www.kickitca.org*).

Small Population County Funding Augmentation (SPCFA)

The Small Population County Funding Augmentation (SPCFA) for Fiscal years 2021-2025 concluded on June 30, 2025. On January 28, 2021, the First 5 California Commission approved up to $20 million over 4.25 years beginning April 1, 2021 (through June 30, 2025) to focus on systems change and system efficiencies. Through this grant, twenty-one small population counties have received base funding to support county commission activities needed to fulfill the statutory requirements and for Proposition 10 to be a statewide effort that promotes, supports, and improves the early development of children ages 0 to 5.

In April 2021, twenty-one SPCs whose annual birth rates are less than 1000 received the funding for 3.25 years and all of them received a fourth-year funding starting July 2024 through grant extension process.

SPCs offered services to address the diverse needs of children ages 0-5 years and their families. Of the counties who completed their Annual Performance Report for FY 2024-25, majority of them reported implementing the following:

- Early Learning programs such as playgroups
- Early literacy including Imagination Library and book distribution
- Home visiting programs including Healthy Families of America and Parents as Teachers
- Supporting families through family resource centers
- Mental health, social-emotional, and trauma-informed supports



Research: California Health Interview Survey

First 5 California partners with the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) to access a comprehensive source of statewide data on the health and well-being of children and families. This collaboration provides First 5 California and First 5 county commissions with critical measures of health and key social indicators, directly supporting the implementation of First 5 California's 2025–2028 Strategic Plan. The partnership strengthens the statewide evidence base that guides efforts to advance equity, strengthen systems of care, and improve outcomes for California's youngest children and their families.

CHIS is the nation's largest state health survey and a vital resource for understanding the needs of Californians, including diverse racial and ethnic groups. Since 2001, First 5 California has relied on CHIS for credible, population-level data to inform early childhood research, policy, and practice. Each year, CHIS surveys approximately 20,000 California households, providing robust insights that inform public health priorities across the state. To ensure continued access to this critical resource, First 5 California has entered into a three-year, $2.7 million contract (FY 2025–2028) with CHIS.

In 2025, CHIS delivered a policy brief on childcare, a priority area that explored disparities in access and affordability, and examined how limited childcare availability affects parental stress, employment stability, and child development. These findings are helping to inform First 5 California's strategic focus on equitable access to early learning and family support.

Under the 2025–2028 contract, CHIS and First 5 California will expand their collaboration to include new areas of inquiry, including fatherhood involvement and child mental health. These topics will explore the social, emotional, and behavioral factors that shape early childhood outcomes, as well as the role of family engagement and supportive systems.

Together, CHIS and First 5 California are advancing a shared vision: using high-quality, population-based research to drive data-informed decisions that improve the lives of children ages 0–5 and their families across California.



Children's Data Network (Strong Start Index)

First 5 California has established a multi-year partnership with the Children's Data Network (CDN) at the University of Southern California to implement the Supporting a Strong Start for California Kids initiative.



This collaboration integrates linked administrative records with newly collected, representative input from recent parents to strengthen the statewide evidence base for children prenatal to five and to guide equity-focused policy and investment. Core activities include enhancements to the Strong Start Index and a comprehensive landscape analysis of early-childhood data efforts. Using a population-based frame derived from vital birth and death records, the project will invite recent California birthing parents to complete a survey on service needs, barriers to uptake, and experiences with community supports, capturing perspectives from families who do and do not engage with services. This direct, statewide data collection complements administrative analytics and dashboard development, advancing First 5 California's equity goals and informing decisions that affect California's youngest children.

This three-year agreement (FY 2024–2027), authorized up to $3 million, seeks to close California's evidence gap by illuminating the needs, barriers, and service experiences of all families, enabling equity-focused policies and system improvements to better support children prenatal to five.

Key Results & County Highlights

First 5 County Commission Result Areas **44**
First 5 County Highlights. 52

Alameda. 52
Alpine. 52
Amador. 53
Butte 55
Calaveras 55
Colusa. 57
Contra Costa. 58
Del Norte. 59
El Dorado 60
Fresno 61
Glenn 62
Humboldt. 63
Imperial. 63
Inyo 65
Kern. 68
Kings. 68
Lassen 69
Los Angeles. 71
Madera 72
Marin. 73
Mariposa 74
Mendocino 75
Merced 75
Modoc 76
Mono 77
Monterey 77
Napa. 78
Nevada 79
Orange 81
Placer. 81
Plumas. 82
Riverside. 83
Sacramento 84
San Benito 84
San Bernardino. 85
San Diego 85
San Francisco 86
San Joaquin 87
San Luis Obispo. 88
San Mateo 89
Santa Barbara. 90
Santa Cruz. 91
Shasta 92
Sierra 93
Solano 94
Sonoma 95
Stanislaus. 96
Sutter 98
Tehama 99
Trinity 100
Tulare. 101
Tuolumne. 101
Ventura. 103
Yolo 104

Appendix **107**

First 5 County Commission Result Areas



For annual reporting, First 5 California and First 5 county commissions track progress in four result areas to inform evidence-based funding decisions, program planning, and policies.

Four Result Areas

1. **Improved Family Resiliency**
2. **Improved Child Development**
3. **Improved Child Health**
4. **Improved Systems of Care**

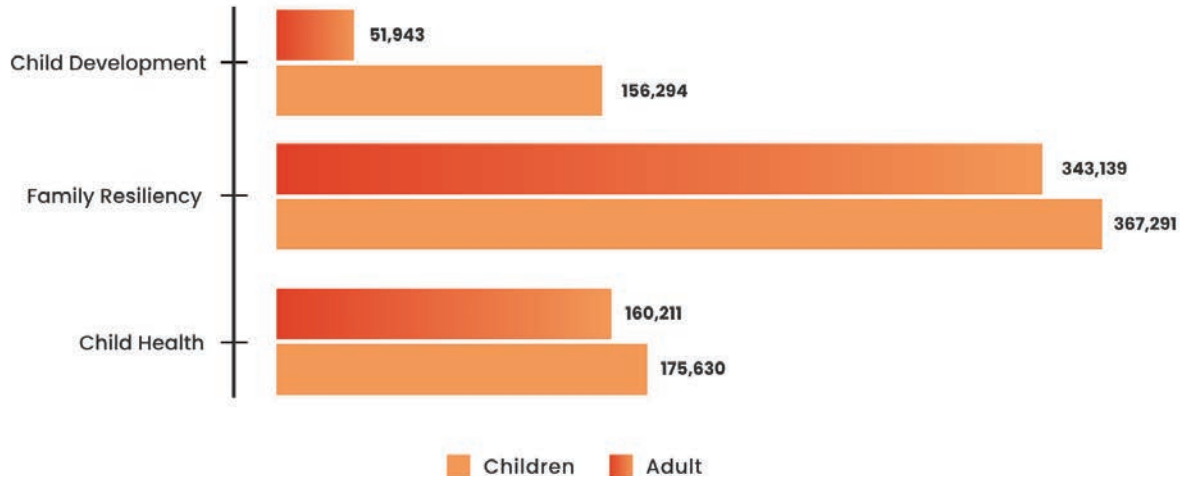
These result areas comprise a framework for reporting early childhood investments and provide an overview of the number, type, and cost of services to children and adults. Stakeholders can use this information to assess statewide resource allocation and impact of First 5 county commissions.

First 5 County Commission Result Areas

Exhibit 1 contains the total numbers of services provided to children ages birth to 5 and adults (including primary caregivers and providers) for Improved Family Resiliency, Improved Child Development, and Improved Child Health. During FY 2024–25, First 5 county commissions provided a total of 699,215 child services and 555,293 adult services. The distribution of expenditure in these three result areas totals $298 million.

Exhibit 1: Total Number of Services Provided to Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024–25 Across Result Areas

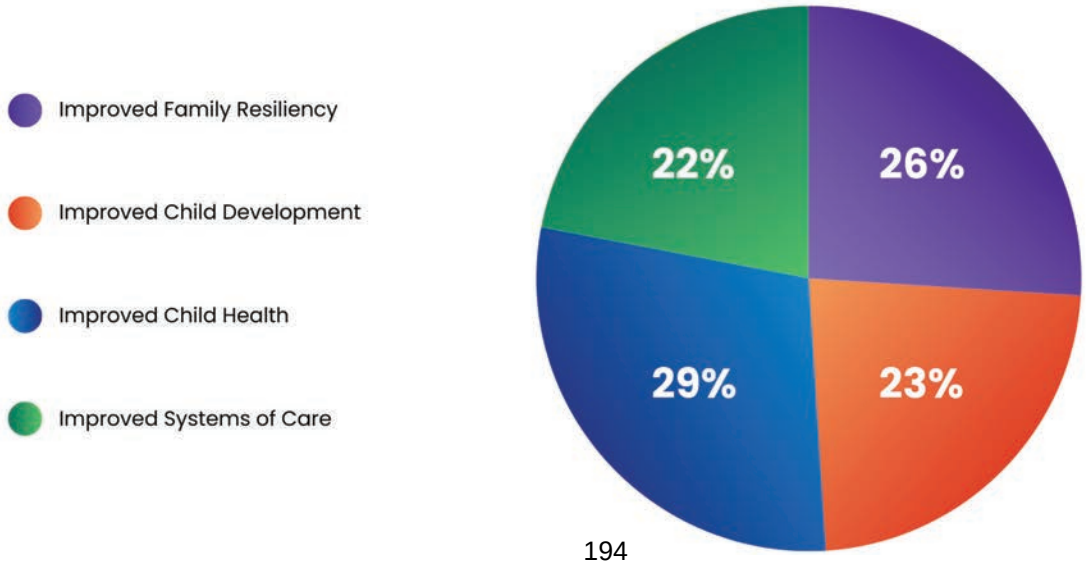
*Totals for Adults include both Primary Caregiver and Provider counts



The result area, Improved Systems of Care, with expenditures of $83 million, differs from the others. It consists of programs and initiatives for system-wide structural supports for efforts within the other three result areas. The four resulting areas combined show total expenditure of $381 million.

Exhibit 2: Total Expenditures for Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024–25 by Result Area

*Adults include both Primary Caregivers and Providers



First 5 County Commission Result Areas

First 5 county commissions are required to report to First 5 California revenues, expenditures, and fund balances. In collaboration with the First 5 Association, First 5 California annually develops and adopts annual reporting guidelines to standardize data collection. County commission revenues are reported in Appendix A1. For expenditures, county commission fiscal and service data are aggregated to the statewide level under four result areas (Appendix A2) using specific definitions for each result area with service category detail (Appendix B).

1. Improved Family Resiliency

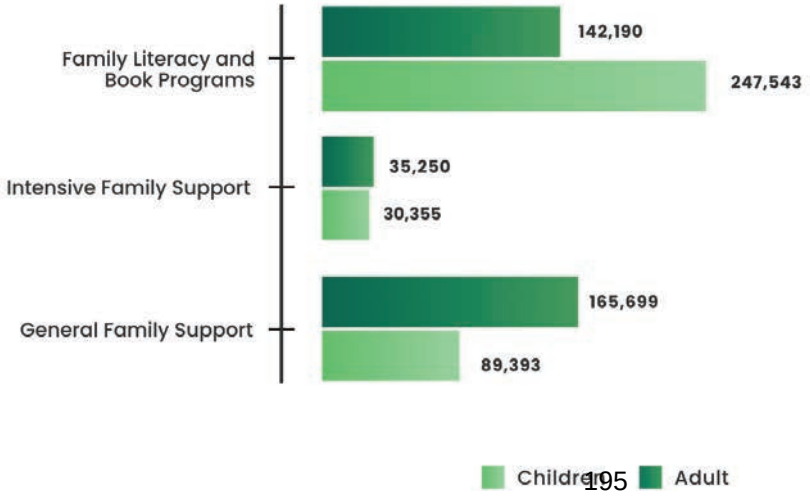
Family Resiliency includes Family Literacy and Book Programs, General Family Support, and Intensive Family Support. Services include instruction on general parenting topics, support for basic family needs and case management, parent education and literacy, referrals to community resources, assistance for parents and families, and support to schools and educational institutions, nonprofit community-based agencies, government agencies, and private institutions.

In FY 2024–25, First 5 county commissions provided a total of 367,291 services to improve family resiliency for children ages birth to 5, with 247,543 child services in Family Literacy and Book Programs, 89,393 child services in General Family Support and 30,355 child services in Intensive Family Support.

First 5 county commissions provided a total of 343,139 services to adults (parents, guardians, primary caregivers, relatives, and providers), with 142,190 adult services in Family Literacy and Book Programs, 165,699 adult services in General Family Support, and 35,250 adult services in Intensive Family Support. Exhibit 3 displays the number of services provided.

Exhibit 3: Family Resiliency—Total Numbers of Services Provided to Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024–25 by Service

*Totals for Adults include both Primary Caregiver and Provider counts

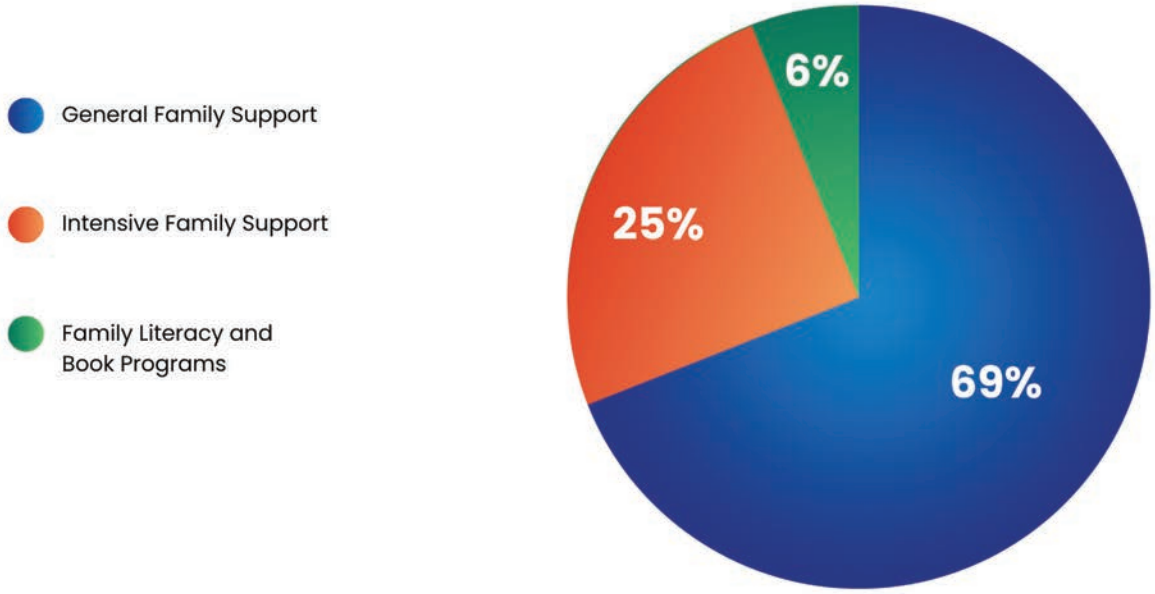


First 5 County Commission Result Areas

First 5 county commissions expended $98 million to improve Family Resiliency, with 6 percent of expenditures in Family Literacy and Book Programs, 69 percent of expenditures in General Family Support, and 25 percent of expenditures in Intensive Family Support. Exhibit 4 shows the distribution of expenditures by service category.

Exhibit 4: Family Resiliency–Distribution of Expenditures for Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024–25 by Service

*Adults include both Primary Caregivers and Providers

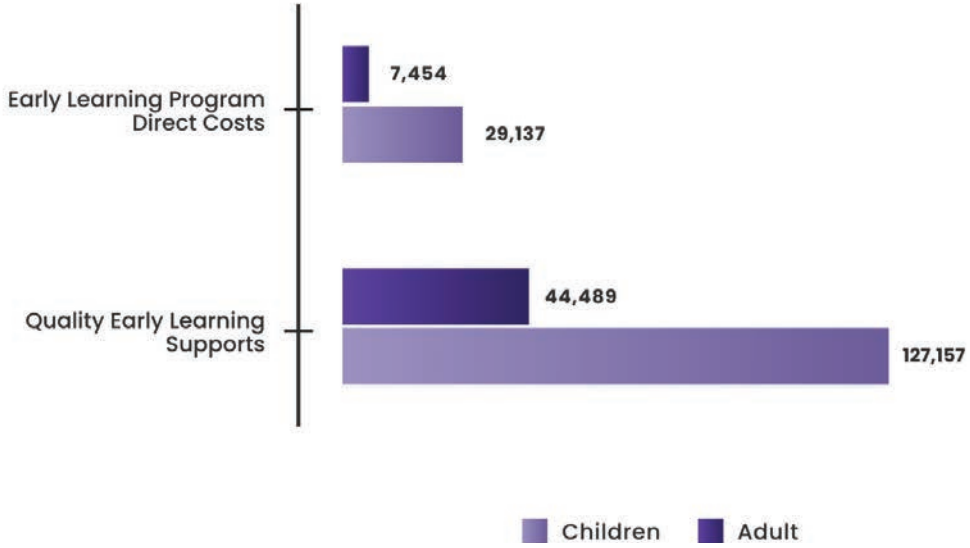


2. Improved Child Development

Child Development includes Early Learning Programs Direct Costs and Quality Early Learning Supports. Programs include professional development for educators, high-quality preschool, services for diverse populations, and school readiness. In FY 2024–25, First 5 county commissions delivered 156,294 child development services to children ages birth to 5, with 29,137 child services in Early Learning Program Direct Costs and 127,157 child services in Quality Early Learning Supports. First 5 county commissions provided 51,943 services to adults (parents, guardians, primary caregivers, relatives, and providers), with 7,454 adult services in Early Learning Program Direct Costs and 44,489 adult services in Quality Early Learning Supports. Exhibit 5 displays the number of services provided.

Exhibit 5: Child Development—Total Number of Services Provided to Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024-25 By Service

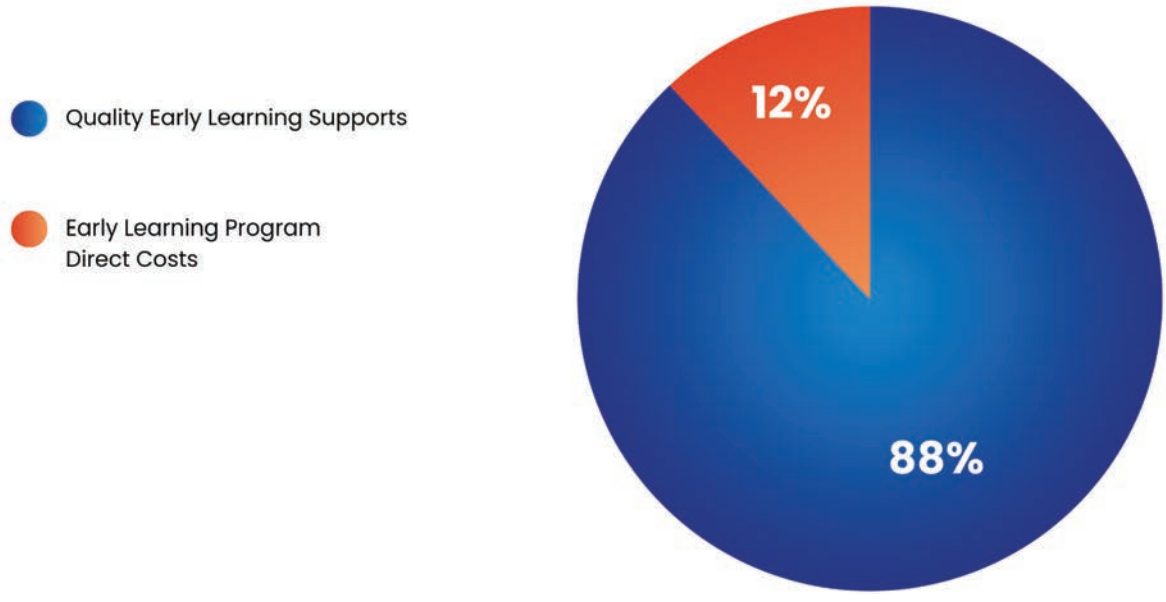
*Totals for Adults include both Primary Caregiver and Provider counts



In FY 2024–25, county commissions expended $90 million to improve Child Development, with 12 percent of expenditures in Early Learning Program Direct Costs and 88 percent of expenditures in Quality Early Learning Supports.

Exhibit 6: Child Development—Distribution of Expenditures for Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024–25 by Service

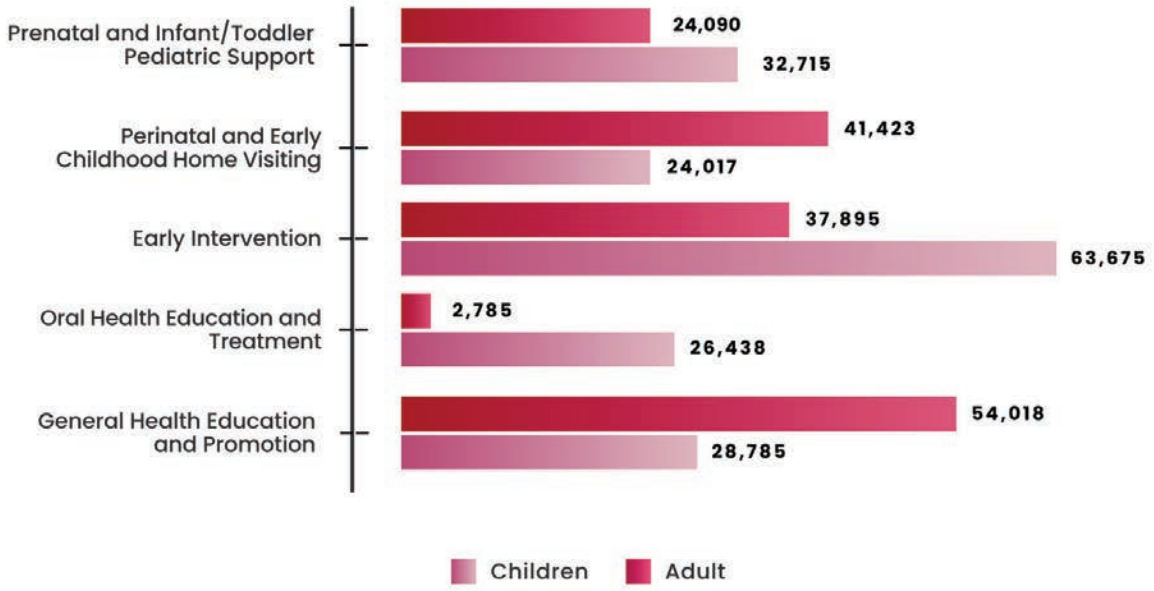
*Adults include both Primary Caregivers and Providers



3. Improved Child Health

First 5 county commissions fund a variety of Child Health services promoting identification, treatment, and elimination of risks that threaten health and may cause developmental delays and disabilities. First 5 Child Health services are far-ranging and include the categories of Early Intervention, General Health Education and Promotion, Oral Health Education and Treatment, Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting, and Prenatal and Infant/Toddler Pediatric Support.

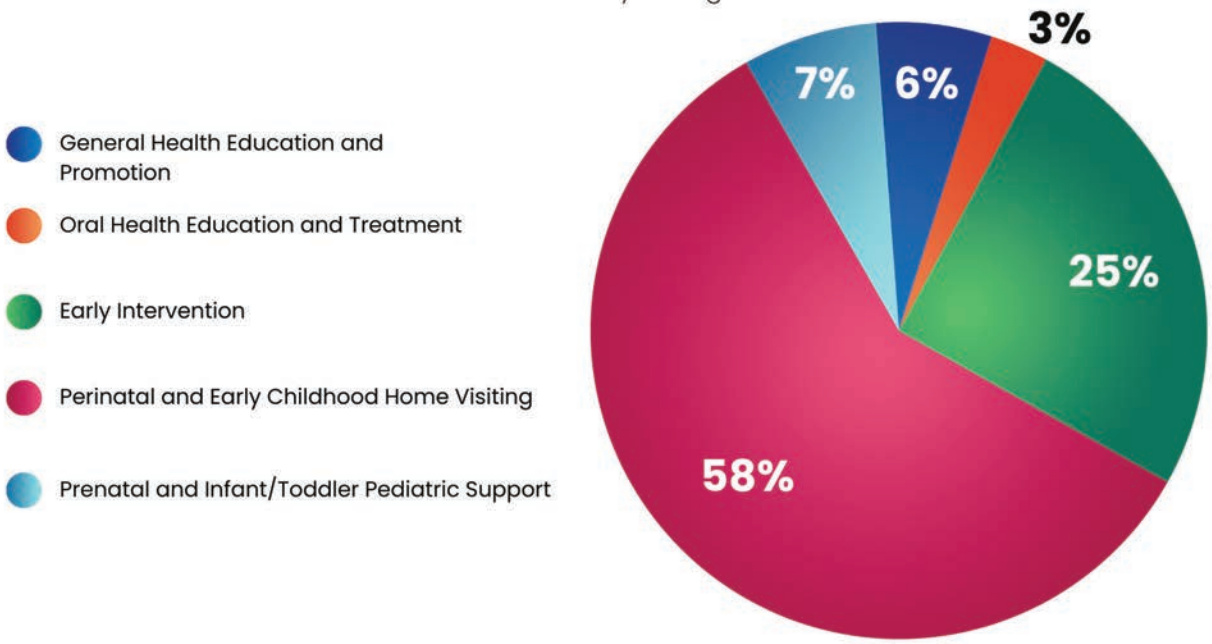
Exhibit 7: Child Health—Total Number of Services Provided to Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024-25 By Service



In FY 2024–25, First 5 county commissions provided a total of 175,630 services to children ages birth to 5, with 63,675 child services in Early Intervention, 28,785 child services in General Health Education and Promotion, 26,438 child services in Oral Health Education and Treatment, 24,017 child services in Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting, and 32,715 child services in Prenatal and Infant/Toddler Pediatric Support. First 5 county commissions provided a total of 160,211 services to adults (parents, guardians, primary caregivers, relatives, and providers), with 37,895 adult services in Early Intervention, 54,018 adult services in General Health Education and Promotion, 2,785 adult services in Oral Health Education and Treatment, 41,423 adult services in Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting, and 24,090 adult services in Prenatal and Infant/Toddler Pediatric Support.

Exhibit 8: Child Health— Distribution of Expenditures for Children Ages 0 to 5 and Adults* in FY 2024–25 by Service

*Adults include both Primary Caregivers and Providers



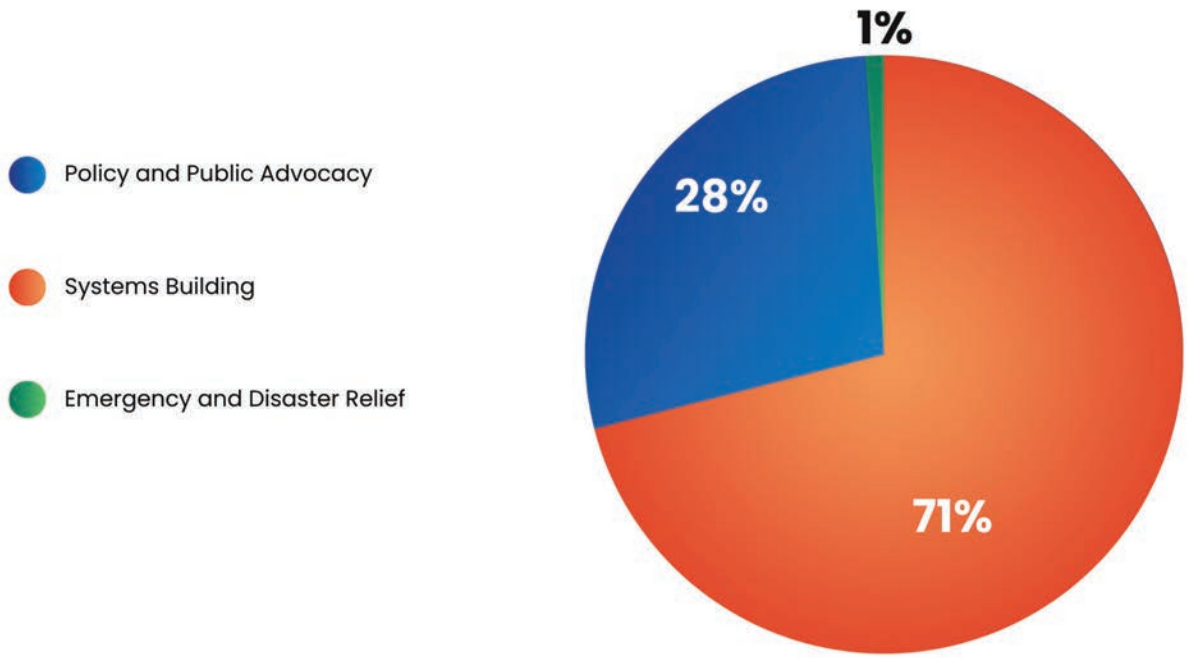
In FY 2024–25, county commissions expended $110 million to improve Child Health, with 58 percent of expenditures in Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting, 25 percent of expenditures in Early Intervention, seven percent of expenditures in Prenatal and Infant/Toddler Pediatric Support, six percent of expenditures in General Health Education and Promotion, and 3 percent of expenditures in Oral Health Education and Treatment.

4. Improved Systems of Care

Systems of Care addresses system-wide structural supports as county commissions focus efforts within the result areas of Family Resiliency, Child Development, and Child Health. For example, interagency collaboration allows coordinated wrap-around efforts from multiple organizations providing focused client services. Since this result is at a systems level, counties do not report numbers of children and adults served.

Expenditure data indicate that for FY 2024–25, county commissions expended $83 million to improve Systems of Care, with one percent focused on Emergency and Disaster Relief, 28 percent on Policy and Public Advocacy, and 71 percent of expenditures toward Systems Building.

Exhibit 9: Systems of Care—Distribution of Expenditures in FY 2024–25 by Service



Populations Served

County commissions served a diversity of populations by age, race/ethnicity, and language (Appendix C). Statewide, 641,015 children were served by county commission programs. The total of 511,241 adults served included primary caregivers such as parents and other family members (464,436) and service providers (46,805).

By age, 32 percent of children served were under three years old, 28 percent were ages 3 through 5 years old, and 40 percent were of unknown age.

By race/ethnicity, children served included Hispanic or Latino as the largest group (31 percent), followed by White (nine percent), Asian (four percent), Black or African American (four percent), Other (two percent), Two or More Races (two percent), Alaska Native or American Indian (less than one percent), Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (less than one percent) and unknown race/ ethnicity (47 percent).

With respect to primary language of children served, the two largest groups served were speakers of English (37 percent) and Spanish (20 percent), followed by speakers of Asian languages (Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, one percent), other (three percent) and language unknown (39 percent).

First 5 County Highlights

Alameda

Fueled by additional revenue from the Oakland Children's Initiative (OCI) and Alameda County Measure C, this was a year of rapid growth for the agency, with a total budget increase of 216 percent.

Through the OCI Early Education Fund, we continued investing in public system partners Oakland Unified School District and City of Oakland Head Start, to build a stronger early care and education system that was informed by multiple community listening sessions. Since FY 2022-23, $2.3 million has been spent in facilities improvements, and $1.1 million was invested in teacher training and curriculum.

In collaboration with a Community Advisory Council, we facilitated 60+ hours of community listening sessions to shape the ~$1 billion Measure C 5-Year Plan, which was adopted by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in June. This paved the way for the launch of our ECE Emergency Grants, bringing much-needed relief to child care providers.

Continuing our partnership with Alameda Alliance for Health, we became a Medi-Cal CalAIM provider under the Community Health Worker Benefit this year. Our Pediatric Care Coordination Team supported over 9,800 families in FY 2024-25 through outreach and care navigation, including supporting 1,944 members in connecting to their well-child visits and referring 1,349 families to early intervention services. Several partner school districts committed to participating in our first year of Early Development Instrument implementation for our Kindergarten Readiness Study.

We also continued our birth equity work, funding lactation training and peer support groups for 500+ parents and caregivers. Our Fathers Corps initiative hosted learning communities for 200+ service providers and launched a pilot Prenatal Black Fathers Group to support new dads' well-being. Our Trainings initiative also provided learning opportunities to 800+ partners and providers to expand early childhood knowledge in our local systems. Through our placed-based Neighborhoods Ready for School initiative, we invested $3million plus in community organizations to provide programming and basic needs support to families.

Alpine

Starting in FY 2023-24, First 5 Alpine partnered with the Woodfords Indian Education Center to host playgroups, "Beziyezing Payti'l" that included story time and literacy activities in a space that is accessible and known to the Hung-A-Lel-Ti community. Participating families were given a copy of the book to build home libraries, of children's books that represented native beliefs, practices and traditions. Through playgroups, First 5 Alpine has actively invested in increasing its understanding of the tribal community's needs as well as its efforts to make services available within the community. This continued engagement has allowed the First 5 Executive Director to build relationships with families in the

community and to tailor services to better meet families' expressed needs.

Additionally, First 5 Alpine positioned itself for the FY 2025-26 implementation of the Mobile Family Resource Center (MFRC) through its Home Visiting Coordination and outreach efforts. Through Home Visiting Coordination funding, the First 5 Alpine Executive Director attended an Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) refresher training and Parents as Teachers (PAT) curriculum training to support direct service offerings that will be available through the MFRC in the future, including county-wide developmental screenings through the MFRC and services to support children's development incorporating the PAT curriculum in activities offered through the MFRC will help First 5 Alpine work toward its expected outcome that parents of children ages 0 through 5 use positive strategies to guide and teach their child.

First 5 Alpine's multi-faceted approach to outreach this fiscal year strengthened its position within the county as a trustworthy, meaningful resource for children ages 0 through 5 and their families. Connections made and trust built through outreach will serve as the foundation for community interaction with the MFRC as it is established.

Amador

First 5 Amador has continued to collaborate closely with county agencies and community-based organizations, effectively utilizing local resources to maximize the impact of our initiatives.

Our primary investments included:

Weekly playgroups throughout the county including Messy Morning offer developmentally appropriate activities in both indoor and outdoor learning environments for children, parents, and caregivers. Our playgroups are held at three separate locations to ensure broad access.

WELCOME BABY PROGRAM

This universal home visiting program has served 70 families in-person and 14 through kit deliveries (28 percent of total births). The program provides customized First 5 California Parent Kits and connects families to essential resources. Notably, 59 percent of in-person visits included the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale screening, with 20 percent of those screened referred to clinical services.





IMAGINATION LIBRARY

This program maintained a 70 percent participation rate among age-eligible children, with data indicating that 94 percent of Amador's four-year olds; 82 percent of 3-year-olds, 75 percent of two-year olds,

First 5 County Highlights

and 52 percent of our one-year-olds participated this fiscal year. Over 20 years of research conducted by the Imagination Library demonstrated parents read aloud more to their children as a result of this program. First 5 Amador's surveying of parents aligns with this research and utilizes the program as an introduction to First 5 Amador to families with newborns, those new to the community, etc. Grandparents, businesses, service organizations, etc. are well-versed in the program and refer families on a regular basis.

This robust program helps to reinforce our relationships with the local library, foundation, non-profits, etc..

QUALITY FOR KIDS (Q4K INITIATIVE)



Thirty-one sites participated in this initiative, aimed at improving the quality of early learning and care programs and educating parents on the importance of quality early childhood experiences. Participants, including family, friend, and neighbor caregivers, as well as family child care and centers, received financial incentives and early education materials aligned with their quality improvement plans.

AMADOR DENTAL PARTNERSHIP

A collaboration with Public Health resulted in an incentive program for providers who implemented dental care at their sites. Five participants implemented an ASQ/ASQ-SE screening initiative and received monetary incentives for 70 percent or higher parent participation. A new initiative through Amador College Connect has helped in the promotion and recruitment of individuals to the ECE field. Through Amador Quality for Kids, we have assisted in connecting interested individuals at a significantly higher rate than prior years. Q4K participated in the creation of a dedicated page on Amador College Connect's website, promoted the higher education classes and connected individuals with Quality for Kids opportunities. Six hundred forty-four children were cared for at Q4K participating sites.

AMADOR/CALAVERAS PERINATAL WELLNESS COALITION

First 5 Amador continues to lead this coalition, which provides education, outreach, screening, and treatment for families experiencing perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (PMADs). Clinical support is offered through First 5 Amador for county residents. The coalition remains focused on system improvements, including referrals, trauma-informed provider education, and increased access to care.

COMMUNITY HUB AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER (FRC)

Our site has become a vital community hub, offering a comfortable setting for children, families, and service providers. Amador Child Abuse Prevention Council, three weekly events -- music and movement, playgroups and Messy Morning, as well as parent and early care and education events are offered at our FRC. This site accommodates on-site child care, making it possible for more to benefit from adult education offered during off-hours.

Butte

Tobacco tax revenue accounted for only 39 percent of total Commission revenue and funded 36 percent of program expenditures in the past year. As this revenue source continues to decline and fund fewer initiatives, the Commission remains committed to strengthening its leadership in data-driven coordination of federal, state, and local prevention investments. This strategic focus aims to sustain an integrated system of care that supports the county's most vulnerable families with young children.

With support from the Butte Strong Fund of the North Valley Community Foundation and the County of Butte, the First 5 Family Center network has completed its inaugural year of service to families across Butte County. The network provides consistent, no-cost support to individuals who are pregnant or parenting young children, offering inclusive and welcoming spaces that promote family stability and child well-being. Services include parenting education, developmental screenings, early literacy and STEAM activities, playgroups, and warm referrals to community resources, all designed to support early relational health and to meet the unique needs of each family.

In addition, the Commission provided training to dozens of Family Center partner staff to deliver Triple P caregiver education classes, supported by funding from the California Department of Health Care Services.

First 5 Butte County has continuously funded the Healthy Families America™ home visiting program since 2009. In response to declining tobacco tax revenues, the Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services allocated funding to implement the Child Welfare Protocol, expanding eligibility criteria to serve more families referred through Children's Services. This partnership ensures continued access to critical prevention services while maintaining program sustainability.

For more information about First 5 Butte County's programs, services, and impact, please visit www.first5butte.org.

Calaveras

In FY 2024–25, First 5 Calaveras advanced its mission to support the health, learning, and well-being of young children and families through strategic investments in family support, early learning, health promotion, and systems coordination. Evaluation activities—including surveys, performance tracking, and narrative analysis—guided policy alignment, funding decisions, and integration efforts with the Calaveras County Public Health Division (CCPH), enhancing sustainability and cross-agency collaboration.

Programs under Family Functioning focused on building resilience, strengthening parenting skills, and connecting families to community resources. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) expanded services for foster children, ensuring consistent adult advocacy. Children showed

developmental gains and improved well-being, while families received support navigating placements and early learning needs. Volunteers were trained in trauma-informed care. Strengthening Families Initiative, funded by MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention, offered high-quality parenting and professional education. Participants reported learning skills in emotional regulation, communication, and positive discipline, with meaningful improvements in family dynamics. Community Playgroups provided safe, engaging spaces for caregivers and children to learn and socialize. Families built peer networks and accessed local resources, promoting early development and school readiness.

Child Development Programs enhanced early learning environments and supported professional growth among educators. Strong Start Calaveras offered coaching, training, and quality improvement incentives to early learning providers. Participants improved classroom environments and advanced inclusion and diversity practices. Social-Emotional Coaching and Mentoring supported educators and families in promoting children's emotional well-being. Teachers implemented strategies for positive behavior and emotional regulation, leading to calmer classrooms and stronger peer relationships.

Child Health-focused initiatives emphasized prevention, education, and early intervention. Smile Keepers Oral Health Program delivered dental screenings, fluoride treatments, and parent education at early learning sites. Families were connected to follow-up care, reducing untreated dental issues and increasing access to dental homes. SAFE-Self Preschool Safety Program taught personal safety, assertiveness, and kindness through songs, puppets, and stories. Caregivers reinforced lessons at home, building awareness of injury prevention in age-appropriate ways. Metta Services provided trauma-informed mental health support for young children and families. Evaluations showed improved social-emotional functioning, fewer behavioral challenges, and stronger parent-child relationships. Caregivers reported increased confidence in supporting emotional growth.

A major milestone in Systems of Care was the structural integration of First 5 Calaveras within CCPH, improving efficiency, reducing duplication, and enhancing coordination across child- and family-serving agencies. Collaborative efforts with the Family Wellness Coalition, Strong Start Calaveras, and Healthy Calaveras Collaborative strengthened trauma-informed, prevention-focused systems countywide. Evaluation findings confirmed improved communication, data sharing, and joint planning, informing updates to the First 5 Calaveras Strategic Plan 2025–28.

First 5 Calaveras programs and partnerships continue to drive meaningful, lasting change. Families are gaining essential skills, children are entering school healthier and more prepared, and systems are working together more

effectively. Evaluation results affirm that local investments are improving family stability, early learning quality, child health outcomes, and community collaboration—laying a strong foundation for every Calaveras child to thrive.

Colusa

This year, First 5 Colusa made a profound impact on families in our rural community, serving 1,238 children and 1,252 primary caregivers through programs designed to strengthen early childhood development and family well-being. These numbers represent more than data—they reflect the trust families place in us and the resilience of a community working together to ensure every child has the opportunity to thrive.

One of the most transformative efforts was the implementation of the CalAIM Incentive Payment Program (IPP) Grant through Partnership HealthPlan. This funding allowed First 5 Colusa to integrate Community Health Workers (CHWs) into our service delivery model, creating a bridge between health systems and families. Staff completed CHW certification, equipping them with the skills to provide culturally responsive care, navigate complex health and social service systems, and advocate for families in need. This initiative aligns with CalAIM's vision of whole-person care and has strengthened our ability to address health disparities in Colusa County.

Recognizing the economic challenges faced by many families, First 5 Colusa partnered with Tri-Counties Community Action Partnership to provide monthly diaper distributions to low-income families. This collaboration addressed a basic yet essential need, reducing financial stress for caregivers and promoting health and dignity for young children.

Amid these successes, we remained deeply committed to creating safe and welcoming spaces for all families, especially in light of political rhetoric that has heightened fear among undocumented communities. First 5 Colusa responded by reinforcing confidentiality, implementing trauma-informed practices, and partnering with trusted local organizations to ensure families could access services without fear. Our message was clear: every family belongs here, and every child deserves support.

These accomplishments reflect more than program milestones—they represent a community united in its commitment to equity, resilience, and opportunity. Through collaboration, innovation, and compassion, First 5 Colusa continues to stand as a trusted resource for families, ensuring that every child and caregiver has the tools and support they need to thrive.



First 5 County Highlights

Contra Costa

In FY 2024-25, First 5 Contra Costa advanced two key initiatives to promote equity, inclusion, and school readiness for young children and their families. Through Ready Kids East County (RKEC), we implemented the Womb to Classroom strategy to support African American/ Black children ages 0–5 with culturally responsive efforts from pregnancy through early childhood.

A kick-off event with 45 community partners identified three guiding priorities:

- Womb to Community
- Bolster Prenatal & Postnatal Supports
- Center Black Parents & Caregivers

Key activities included the "Motherwork Summit", which brought together 42 Black women to reflect on health, wellness, and lived experiences; a CoCo Doulas session with 11 parents exploring culturally affirming birth options; and creation of 100 culturally relevant welcome totes with books and resources for expecting Black families in partnership with the Contra Costa County Library.

Families affirmed the importance of culturally specific spaces and programming, including the "I Believe in Black Family Leadership Series", which supported 16 parents in navigating early education systems. As well, a summer LEGO education camp served 20 children, 15 of whom were Black, fostering STEM learning in hands-on ways.

Collaboration with school districts increased through shared tools like the Ages and Stages Questionnaire and connections between child care providers and TK–12 educators. A RKEC Resource Fair drew 60+ Black parents and caregivers, connecting them to 33 service providers and on-site supports such as health screenings, food distribution, and WIC registration. A digital RKEC Resource Kit extended access to these resources. Community impact was evident through strong participation and feedback.

Simultaneously, First 5 Contra Costa led the Inclusion in Early Learning Project to improve the capacity of child care providers to support children with disabilities, developmental delays, and social-emotional concerns. The project had two main parts: (1) engaging families, educators, and advocates to understand community needs and create recommendations, and (2) providing training, materials, and support to early educators. Community engagement included five meaning-making/validation sessions with 53 participants and two convenings with over 140 people, producing recommendations for more inclusive early childhood programs.

Training reached 380 providers from 267 sites on topics such as special health care needs, neurodiversity, child development screening, and inclusive teaching strategies. Over 200 providers attended 14 inclusion-focused trainings, joined peer learning cohorts, or a yearlong Inclusion Specialization program. A major convening on neurodivergence drew 100+ participants, including expert speakers and a parent panel. Evaluations showed

99 percent rated trainings positively, and nearly all planned to apply what they learned.

To support implementation, providers received over 200 shopping passes for classroom supplies and 350 "inclusion toolkits" with materials and guides. We also launched a new early childhood mental health consultation program, serving 11 sites and nearly 800 children, and partnered with five community groups to expand outreach on early intervention and special education services, reaching 1,550 providers and 1,106 families. These culturally and linguistically responsive approaches targeted African American/ Black and Latinx communities. A technical assistance pilot helped seven child care sites adopt the Ages & Stages Questionnaire, with providers reporting immediate benefits for children and families.

These efforts reflect First 5 Contra Costa's commitment to building inclusive, responsive systems where all children and families are supported to thrive.

Del Norte

During this fiscal year, First 5 Del Norte advanced several landmark initiatives aimed at improving child health, family resilience, and early learning across our rural county. The year marked both the culmination of years of collaborative planning and the launch of new, community-rooted systems that will benefit children and families for decades to come.

A major milestone was the successful implementation of Healthy Families America (HFA)—a long-anticipated, evidence-based home visiting program delivered in partnership with Del Norte County Public Health. After nearly four years of coordinated planning, training, and infrastructure development, the program officially launched this year, bringing comprehensive, relationship-based support to expectant and new parents. Through HFA, families now receive individualized guidance on healthy child development, parent-child bonding, and access to community resources, ensuring that every family has the tools to build a strong foundation from the very beginning.

First 5 Del Norte also took a leadership role in oral health education and outreach, strengthening prevention and screening efforts countywide. In collaboration with public health, school districts, and community dental providers, First 5 helped ensure that all Kindergarten Oral Health Assessments were completed, while also expanding outreach to families through educational events, classroom presentations, and resource distribution. These efforts reflect a communitywide commitment to early intervention and equitable access to dental care—key to long-term health and academic success.

Building on our ongoing focus on family resilience and trauma-informed systems, First 5 Del Norte delivered a robust series of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Trauma-Informed Care workshops throughout the year. These trainings were open to parents, caregivers,

early educators, service providers, and teachers, offering a shared foundation for understanding how early adversity affects development and how communities can promote healing and resilience. This countywide effort continues to cultivate a trauma-informed culture, equipping both families and professionals with strategies to support children's emotional well-being.

Our commitment to early literacy and family engagement also remained strong. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library continued to thrive, providing free, high-quality books to children from birth to age five. Participation in this program grew again this year, helping to nurture early reading habits and family bonding through shared story time. Complementing this, Ready4K, our school readiness texting program powered by ParentPowered, reached families with evidence-based tips, local resource information, and encouragement to engage meaningfully with their children through everyday activities. Together, these initiatives strengthen the home learning environment and empower parents as their children's first and most important teachers.

Across all initiatives, First 5 Del Norte's work continues to be guided by collaboration, equity, and community voice. By focusing on prevention, connection, and education, the Commission remains steadfast in its mission to ensure that every child in Del Norte County enters school healthy, confident, and ready to learn.

El Dorado

FY 2024–25 marked the final year that First 5 El Dorado focused its FY 2021-25 Strategic Plan efforts on the implementation of the Community Hubs initiative. A primary aspect of this initiative was the establishment of a navigational system that would connect expectant parents and families with children birth through five years of age to services and supports prior to crisis. Despite financial and county-level constraints, the program continued to deliver high-impact services to families across El Dorado County during this final year, providing 1,300 individuals or families with at least one navigation service, and offering over 3,300 total navigation services.

First 5 El Dorado worked with its long-standing evaluation consultant to assess and document how Hubs 2.0 was implemented in FY 2024-25, including gathering qualitative and quantitative data to support close out evaluation activities and the development of a FY 2024-25 Evaluation Report. That report evolved to become the FY 2021-25 Strategic Plan Summary Evaluation Report, which reflected on the four-year implementation period covered by the 2021–25 Amended Strategic Plan and captured the evolution of the Hubs 2.0 model during that time. It brought together findings from multiple years to provide a more holistic summary of activities, highlighted shifts in



practice, and illuminated lessons learned as the Commission's leadership role in establishing the Hubs 2.0 model came to a close.

The FY 2021–25 Strategic Plan Summary Evaluation Report highlighted Hubs 2.0 as a transformative systems-change effort that prioritized access, equity, and community voice. Key lessons included the importance of balancing flexibility with structure, investing in authentic engagement, and planning early for sustainability. These insights directly informed the development of the FY 2025–28 Strategic Plan, which strategically embeds the most impactful elements of Hubs 2.0 into new initiatives.

Specifically, the Commission has committed to:

- Designing a caregiver/child resiliency strategy that incorporates protective factors and universal developmental screening.
- Launching a Community Health Worker Network to provide individualized, community-based services for expectant parents and families with children ages 0–5.
- Centering community voice through needs assessments, public convenings, and inclusive planning processes.

By carrying forward the core components of Hubs 2.0—navigation services, inter-agency collaboration, and continuous quality improvement—First 5 El Dorado ensures that the legacy of this initiative continues to shape a more resilient and responsive system for children and families.

Fresno

At First 5 Fresno County (F5FC) we believe it takes all of us working together to build a community where every family has the support they deserve. The following are examples of new ways we're working cross-sector to improve community outcomes through leveraged funding and intentional partnership:

This fiscal year, F5FC activated our nonprofit, Lighthouse for Children, Inc., and established community partnerships to launch Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL) in Fresno County. DPIL is a book gifting program aimed at providing young children with direct, universal access to free, age-appropriate books each month. In 2023, the governor signed legislation to expand DPIL across California – providing a cash match to local communities and the opportunity to leverage state funds to bring this early literacy program to local families. In January 2025, we secured $400,000 to launch the program, and by the end of the fiscal year over 20,300 books were mailed to more than 7,800 children.

This past fall also marked the beginning of a new partnership with BLACK Wellness & Prosperity Center (BWPC). This Fresno-based organization is focused on improving Black maternal and infant health outcomes in the Central Valley where Black families experience disproportionality high rates of preterm birth and life-threatening childbirth complications. Among multiple unique initiatives, BWPC is building their on-site capacity to provide clinical prenatal

care and birthing services. Through this partnership BWPC provides culturally affirming and evidence-informed group care for pregnant individuals. Group sessions are complemented with client-centered support, goal setting and referrals to help participants reduce stress, enhance life skills and build social support. In the future, BWPC will implement Glow! Group Prenatal Care and Support Program, a locally enhanced group prenatal care model.

Glenn

During FY 2024–25, First 5 Glenn County focused on strengthening internal systems to ensure long-term program stability, compliance, and readiness for future evaluation activities. This foundational year emphasized accuracy, consistency, and improved coordination across funded programs and community partners.

STRENGTHENED EVALUATION AND COMPLIANCE SYSTEMS

Significant progress was made in reconciling prior-year program and fiscal documentation to meet state reporting standards. Internal reporting templates and data collection procedures were updated to enhance accuracy and consistency, laying the groundwork for improved evaluation practices. These efforts position the Commission for more timely and comprehensive reporting in future cycles.

ENHANCED FAMILY RESILIENCE AND EARLY LEARNING SUPPORTS

Despite the focus on stabilization, funded programs continued to provide meaningful services to families. Nurturing Parenting classes supported nine caregivers, positively impacting 27 children through improved family functioning and resilience. Additionally, the distribution of First 5 Book Bags and New Baby Kits promoted early literacy, parent-child engagement, and school readiness across the community. A total of 476 children and 189 caregivers received services.

STRENGTHENED SYSTEMS OF CARE AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Partnerships among county agencies, health providers, and early childhood programs were reinforced, improving coordination and referral systems for families. These collaborative efforts enhanced the community's capacity to deliver preventive health and family support services, while also aligning local evaluation practices with state-level indicators.

Overall, FY 2024–25 marked an important year of rebuilding and preparation—ensuring that First 5 Glenn County is well-positioned for future outcome evaluations, data-driven decision-making, and continued service to families with young children.



Humboldt

The combination of a dip in local birthrate and a greater than predicted tobacco tax decline has resulted in a 41 percent decline in tobacco tax revenue for First 5 Humboldt over the past four years. Although the Commission has judicially reduced funding to community partners over the years to match declines, FY 2024-25 represented a fiscal cliff. As our primary direct service program, playgroups provide parent education, developmental screening, and crucial connection opportunities for isolated rural parents and their children. The 0-5 population in Humboldt is around 7,400; in 2024-25, playgroups saw more than 15,000 visits at 21 sites. At the end of FY 2024-25, the Commission reduced playgroup funding by nearly half. News stories in every local news outlet emphasized how parents have relied deeply on the local playgroup network.

First 5 Humboldt also established a 501(c)3 non-profit at the end of the 2024-25 fiscal year. The new Humboldt Children and Families Foundation will support the vision and purpose of First 5 Humboldt. It will also allow us to apply for those funding opportunities that exclude government entities.

Since 2017, we have benefited from partnering with Vesper Society, an operating foundation which supports a full-time position in our office focused on ACEs, parent support, and community engagement. Vesper is planning a spend-down in anticipation of closing in three years. They have generously committed to donating $450,000 to our 501(c)3, towards the purchase of a building to house First 5 Humboldt's office and programs. The initiative, titled "The Belonging Project," will emphasize community connectedness, empathy and critical thinking development, and provide a tangible symbol to the community that, in spite of tobacco tax declines, we intend to continue working on behalf of our youngest children and their families for years to come.

Imperial

First 5 Imperial continued to place emphasis on expanding home-visitation and strengthening systems that support these efforts and recognizes that home visitation remains one of the most impactful ways to reach families with young children that are facing stressors or barriers to accessing resources. Locally, this work was carried out through collaboration with numerous partners, including the IVROP Home Instruction Program, ICOE Early Head Start and Home Visitation Program, Court Appointed Special Advocates, the 24/7 Dad Program, and other community-based organizations.

Each partner contributed unique strengths to the effort; however, one program in stood out for its comprehensive approach and impact—the El Centro Elementary School District's Next Steps Project. Next Steps, operated by the district's family resource center, has distinguished itself by integrating home visitation with intensive case management and developmental

screening and intervention services. The program targets "high-needs" families who exhibit developmental or behavioral concerns or who may benefit from support services. Case managers conduct developmental screenings using the ASQ and provide developmental surveillance for children flagged as having potential delays. This ensures early identification and referral to appropriate services.

Through a multidisciplinary approach, case managers develop family service plans tailored to each household's needs and provide services in English/Spanish. During FY 2024-25, approximately 110 families within the district's catchment area received intensive case-management. Environmental assessments conducted during home visits identify major stressors affecting families, such as economic hardship, behavioral-health needs, housing instability, or challenges related to parenting and child development. As a result, families were linked to essential supports including behavioral-health services, basic-needs assistance, family therapy, preschool enrollment, parenting classes, and other community resources. Data indicated that 24 percent of families were experiencing multiple stressors, underscoring the importance of outreach and follow-up.

Home visitation strengthened the ability of case managers to connect with families in a comfortable and familiar environment. Visits allowed case managers to conduct assessments, develop service plans, and build relationships that encouraged parents to engage more openly and consistently. These interactions often led to identification of developmental concerns. The developmental screening component reached 122 children, with more than 42 percent identified as having a developmental delay. Nineteen percent of children screened were referred for early-intervention services, most commonly speech/language therapy provided through the District or Regional Center. A number of these assessments were completed during home visits, making the process accessible to families who may otherwise struggle with transportation or scheduling.

Outreach and referral support also extended to early-education placement. Case managers assisted by referring families to Head Start, Early Head Start, and California State Preschool Programs, ensuring that children gained access to early-learning environments.

Both First 5 Imperial and its community partners recognize the value of Next Steps, particularly its commitment to intensive, family-centered services that address the needs of children 0-5. Parent feedback reinforces this: survey results show that a majority of families felt supported, respected, and informed about available resources. Parents also reported feeling comfortable sharing their concerns and appreciated that services were offered in their preferred language.

Next Steps continues to evolve in meaningful ways, First 5 Imperial is encouraged by the progress made when families are engaged early through home

visitation, which strengthens family-school relationships and builds trust that can extend well into the elementary school years.

Inyo

First 5 Inyo advanced key initiatives across systems building, family resilience, and community engagement during FY 2024–25. Significant progress was made in Systems Building through continued coordination of the Perinatal Taskforce and the launch of two major cross-agency groups: the Maternal Mental Health Workgroup, aligned with the 2025–28 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and the Comprehensive Prevention Plan Team supporting FFPSA implementation. These efforts strengthened countywide collaboration and deepened Inyo County's commitment to culturally responsive, integrated family support systems.

A major accomplishment this year was the continued growth and impact of LIFE Night, a monthly family engagement event led by First 5 and Inyo County Prevention. LIFE Night provided families with free, accessible activities focused on literacy, inclusion, family bonding, and early childhood development. The program's multi-room model offered targeted activities for children of different ages, while connecting caregivers with community resources and creating a welcoming environment for families across the county. LIFE Night demonstrates First 5 Inyo's commitment to building resilient families through regular, community-centered programming.

In direct services, the Inyo County Home Visiting Program delivered 160 home visits to 24 children and 21 caregivers, while Triple P Positive Parenting supported four caregivers and four children and resulted in a measurable 4 percent increase in parent resilience. Early learning and literacy initiatives remained strong, with 385 children enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and Reach Out and Read participation consistent with previous years.

Developmental screening capacity remained stable with continued training for home visitors and community providers on Ages and Stages Questionnaires. Despite persistent challenges in the early childhood education workforce, First 5 Inyo sustained quality improvement supports through IMPACT Legacy, helping maintain a foundation of high-quality practices across early learning environments.




Napa County
StoryWalk®
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First 5 County Highlights

Kern

In FY 2024–25, First 5 Kern supported 39 programs across three key focus areas: health and wellness, parent education and support services, and early childcare and education. An estimated $7.5 million was invested in these areas to strengthen and support 13,223 children from prenatal to age five and 12,579 caregivers in Kern County. Key highlights include:

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Funded programs served 930 caregivers and 4,643 children. The dental program provided oral health screenings to 3,241 children, and 163 received restorative dental care. Immunizations were administered to 434 children, while 118 mobile clinics were held throughout the county. Additionally, the Nurse Family Partnership and Black Infant Health programs delivered home visitation services to 167 mothers and 121 children.

PARENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

A total of 10,584 caregivers and family members, along with 7,138 children, were served. Case management services were provided to 1,737 parents and 2,473 children. Parent education classes/ workshops had 927 participants, and 148 parents attended court-mandated education sessions.

EARLY CHILDCARE AND EDUCATION

Services reached 1,442 children and 1,065 parents. Of these, 622 children participated in center-based activities, while 116 received home-based services. Additionally, 122 children took part in summer bridge activities aimed at supporting school readiness.

On May 21, 2025, First 5 Kern hosted its 3rd Annual ACEs Conference: Raising Resilience of Families, drawing over 270 attendees for a day of learning, collaboration, and trauma-informed practice. The success of this conference reflects the same spirit of partnership and commitment that drives First 5 Kern's investments in health, family support, and early education. Together with community partners, these efforts touched more than 25,000 children and caregivers in FY 2024–25, underscoring our mission to give every child the strongest possible start in life.

Kings

This past fiscal year, the most significant accomplishment of First 5 Kings was establishment of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL). Commission staff successfully brought together a variety of community partners, including children's mental health services, local service clubs, Kings County Departments of Public Health, Human Services and County Library, and numerous family-serving organizations, to brainstorm how to bring DPIL to Kings County. Registration opened on March 28, 2025, and 539 children were registered in time for the April 1 processing for the May book mailing. Eight hundred sixty-five books were mailed to children 0-5 in June – the number of books that could be expected from a program operating for six months. We could not have reached this many children in such a short period of time, without the help of our dedicated partners.

First 5 Kings was heavily involved with all aspects of home visitation in Kings County.

Staff participated in regional workgroups, the local home visitation advisory committee, and assisted another partner in their successful application for Tribal MIECHV funding, increasing the capacity of home visitation services available. The Commission was also awarded one of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative grants: Early Childhood Wraparound Services. Our project included a start-up Home Visitation program, centralized intake & referral hub and development of an Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program.

First 5 Kings values regional and statewide collaborations with other First 5s and family supportive organizations. We executed a Help Me Grow Regional Partnership with Valley Children's Healthcare and three Central Valley First 5s (Fresno, Madera & Merced) to increase developmental screenings, improve local community outreach and care coordination as well as productivity and efficiency, with hopes of developing a long-term sustainable plan to support this project. Commission staff participated in a First 5 Communities of Practice facilitated by Strategies TA consultants, discussing how other Commissions support Family Resource Centers. This COP led to a local FRC/Family Support Network Development project that met to explore the purpose of a network, mapping community services, defining network benefits, decision-making and timeline planning, and pulling it all together to make recommendations to organizational leaders.

First 5 Kings is engaged in other statewide initiatives including activities related to the Families First Prevention Services Act and DHCS' Birthing Care Pathway and Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH), to ensure representation for pregnant persons, children 0-5 and their families.

First 5 Kings County and its funded partners are also continuing to concentrate on (1) building partner capacity to pursue new funding opportunities to supplement declining revenues, (2) adopt and implement evidence-based programs (EBPs) and practices with fidelity for parents and caregivers and young children, (3) increase visibility and coordination of First 5 and other early childhood and family services, and (4) strengthen data collection and reporting systems to demonstrate programmatic outcomes more effectively.

Lassen

The Pathways Home Visiting program operated in quarter one (July-September 2024) of FY 2024-25. The information included for Pathways is limited to that which was collected and recorded in the program's online databases managed by the Pathways Director and staff. These data were provided to the evaluation team in October 2024 but could not be validated with program staff due to the timing of program closure. That being said, 16 families and 17 children were served.

First 5 County Highlights

This resulted in 60 home visits, 98 points of contact, 25 additional services, and 6 referrals to other community resources.

The Commission supports the distribution of diapers and wipes through a partnership with Lassen County Public Health by investing funds for the purchase of these essential supplies. Public Health staff distribute the items at no cost to families across the county. Individuals simply describe their needs at the distribution point and are matched with the appropriate sizes and quantities for the children in their household. Beyond meeting immediate needs, this program also serves as a low-barrier entry point for families to access additional supports through the Lassen Links referral system (e.g., WIC, Lassen Works, or MCAH). To support the low-barrier intent of the program, limited information is collected from families when they seek these supplies. During the FY 2023-24, 149 families were given 906 packages of diapers and 537 packages of wipes. These families represent 231 children 0-5. In addition, this helped refer 14 families to additional services that they needed.

In FY 2024-25, First 5 Lassen continued serving a lead role in building and expanding the Lassen Links network to connect children, families, and individuals to services that they need. Key activities and successes include:

Providing over 250 referrals, via which 31 families that included a child zero through five were referred to community services. Refining referral reporting and tracking with closed-loop systems and automated dashboards to improve data accuracy and sustainability.

Applying for funding through the Partnership Health Plan, although ultimately this funding source was not a fit for First 5 Lassen due to county capacity constraints.

Convening partners at regular meetings (10 Lassen Links meetings and three Strategic Partner meetings) to support Lassen Links viability and integrate the program into county-wide systems.

Promoting and facilitating a Community Health Worker (CHW) training to educate partners on billing processes and managed care plan contracting, with more than four individuals participating.

Contracting with SEI to develop a robust evaluation plan to assess the impact of the Commission's investment in the Lassen Links referral network. While this evaluation was designed and will be conducted at the request of First 5 Lassen, it is intended that evaluation activities and findings can be used by all partners in the system to understand the impact of the service and engage in continuous quality improvement activities. As such, the plan was presented to key partners in May 2025 for review and feedback before being finalized.

In FY 2024-25 the Commission responded to community-identified needs for expanded early care and learning options in the Janesville area by issuing a Request for Applications (RFA) to fund start-up costs for a new preschool in the region.

This contract was subsequently awarded to Sierra Cascade Family Opportunities (SCFO), who will use the funds to source equipment and supplies, perform capital improvements, and obtain child care licensing. The establishment of this center is aligned with Commission goal one: Every child served by First 5 funded programs, prenatal through five, will reach his or her developmental potential and be ready for school. Financial support and monitoring of the contract will continue into FY 2025-26 as described in the following section of this report.

Los Angeles

RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

This year, LA County was hit by devastating wildfires and other unexpected emergencies. To help support impacted communities, First 5 Los Angeles (F5LA) provided El Nido Family Centers with the flexibility needed to respond quickly using their existing funds. El Nido helped more than 330 families meet urgent basic needs during sudden disruptions to income and safety caused by regional emergencies through food and diaper distributions, utility and rent support, and other financial assistance through gift cards. Home Visiting programs also utilized their funding from F5LA to provide resources such as food, baby essentials, and baby gear to families impacted by wildfires and supporting families facing stress due to recent immigration policies.

F5LA BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES EQUITY INDEX (INDEX)

In response to disparities from historic under-investment, system inequities, and the fiscal reality of declining revenue, F5LA began development of the Index. The Index is an important tool that will help F5LA advance equity and make informed decisions about future investments by directing resources towards improving the well-being of young children and families, prioritizing communities experiencing the greatest disparities. In FY 2024-25, "Version 1.0" of the Index was drafted, incorporating indicators related to the 2024-29 Strategic Plan, such as infant mortality, rent burden, access to parks, and other measures.

HOME VISITING (HV)

Home Visiting is a proven prevention strategy supporting pregnant moms and new parents to promote infant and child health, foster educational development, and prevent abuse and neglect. For over 15 years, F5LA has invested in three HV program models—Welcome Baby, Healthy Families America, and Parents as Teachers—while also funding infrastructure and oversight activities to sustain and strengthen this network. Together, the program models represent a network working across funding streams to identify and connect



families to the right program and level of support to meet their unique needs, including how to navigate and advocate within systems that support families. F5LA continued to strengthen collaborations with LA County Department of Public Health (DPH) and Department of Mental Health to provide resources for communities and families through HV services. This included system wide efforts, including coordination on DPH's Centralized Billing System to support the ability to maximize utilization of available funding streams for HV. Highlights of collective HV activities in FY 2024-25 include: ensuring continuity of care; promoting parent-child bonding and healthy attachment; engaging fathers, recognizing their essential role in development; training Parent Educators in Domestic Violence Counseling; screening new moms for postpartum depression; and other activities to support parents and their children. These efforts demonstrate F5LA's ongoing commitment to strengthening families, promoting resilience, and improving outcomes for young children.



Madera

In 2024–25, First 5 Madera County (F5MC) launched a new strategic plan and shifted from funding multiple smaller programs to funding larger, more intentional initiatives to better leverage declining Proposition 10 funds. Despite facing numerous challenges stemming from changes in the social climate and funding landscape throughout the year, F5MC and its contractors served substantially more children and providers than last year. Services were delivered through the Family Resource Center, Preventive Services Program, Mobile Vision Clinic, Child Passenger Safety Program, IMPACT (Improve and Maximize Programs for All Children Thrive), and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Additional services were funded through sponsored events, community trainings, the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P), and the Raising a Reader Program. F5MC also strengthened the system of care through the Regional Home Visitation Initiative and its participation in the county's Breastfeeding Coalition.

Funded services included the implementation of Triple P by Centro Binacional Para El Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño (CBDIO), a program centered on resilience, parent education, and improved access to services for Indigenous parents and caregivers. The program's unique strength lies in its cultural and linguistic accessibility, offering support in multiple Indigenous languages including Chatino, Zapoteco, Mixteco, Triqui, Amuzgo, Tzotzil, and Spanish. Grounded in social learning, cognitive-behavioral,

and developmental practice, Triple P helps parents build confidence and self-reliance by equipping them with tools to manage family dynamics and challenges independently. Its flexible design allows for varying levels of engagement, from light-touch interactions at Level 1 to more targeted and intensive interventions at Levels 2 and 3.

The program achieved notable outcomes, including 464 light-touch contacts and 77 individualized parenting interventions. Additionally, 28 caregivers were connected to essential resources through closed-loop referrals for basic needs, social services, and child development support. These results underscore the program's meaningful impact in strengthening Indigenous families through culturally responsive and empowering approaches.

During the fiscal year, F5MC also introduced a new funded program and partnership, collaborating with United Way of Fresno-Madera Counties to launch Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL) countywide in April 2025. Through this program, children from birth to their fifth birthday receive a free book each month, helping foster early childhood literacy, strengthen parent-child connections, and promote a rich literacy environment in the home. DPIL provides a unique opportunity to reach children in remote and rural areas of the county, helping overcome barriers such as transportation, weather, and financial limitations—advancing equity and embedding literacy into daily family life. Since its inception, participation has steadily grown, with 1,601 children enrolled and more than 1,700 books mailed by the end of the 2024–25 fiscal year.

Marin

First 5 Marin Children and Families Commission's 2024–25 accomplishments demonstrate systems leadership across three strategic domains: collaborative strategy development for behavioral health integration, innovative financing and infrastructure building for sustainable service delivery, and strategic reinvestment in community partners despite declining revenue. Through facilitated partnership, strategic funding braiding, and results-based accountability practices, First 5 Marin is advancing an early childhood system that is equitable, coordinated, and sustainable.

In Fiscal Year 2024–25, First 5 Marin strengthened its role as a systems leader by convening five funded partners across sectors to co-develop a shared vision and collaborative strategy for trauma-informed behavioral health services for birthing people, infants, and children ages 0–5. Through neutral facilitation, shared decision-making structures, and strategic investment of First 5 resources, partners produced a joint budget and coordinated grant approach that aligns funding, improves care coordination, and expands opportunities for long-term, equitable financing. This work represents a significant step toward an integrated behavioral health system where all young children and families in Marin can access the services and support needed to thrive.

First 5 County Highlights

First 5 Marin's Help Me Grow program also became a recognized supervising Community Health Worker (CHW) agency—a critical credential enabling CalAIM billing, reimbursement, and long-term financial sustainability for CHW services supporting birthing people and young children. To reach this milestone, First 5 Marin braided state and local funding. This investment supports partner agencies through CHW contracting, providing mentorship to emerging CHW organizations, aligned training and certification pathways for CHW's, and established a monthly CHW cohort working on alignment, shared learning and visioning. As a result, Marin County now has developed infrastructure to sustain CHW-led, CalAIM-billable early childhood behavioral health services.

Despite declining Proposition 10 funding, First 5 Marin launched an innovative Community Funding initiative in FY 2024–25, investing more than $1 million in year one to strengthen programs serving children 0–5 and their families. Investments addressed root causes of inequity while supporting community-driven, culturally responsive, and scalable solutions.

Additionally, First 5 Marin implemented new accountability practices to increase transparency and support continuous improvement. Funded partners now use Results-Based Accountability™ to track progress, strengthen service delivery, and articulate outcomes. Quarterly convenings create shared learning, cross-agency collaboration, and alignment toward countywide goals. This model reflects a shift from transactional grantmaking to transformational partnership—building organizational capacity, strengthening the early childhood ecosystem, and laying the groundwork for lasting impact.

Mariposa

During this past year, the most significant accomplishment of First 5 Mariposa was the School Readiness Program, which serves two preschools (Catheys Valley and Lake Don Pedro) located in remote areas of Mariposa County. The two preschools provide an outstanding play-based program that prepares the children for kindergarten. The facilities, curriculum and activities are creative, educational and focus on developmentally appropriate activities using Science, Engineering, Art, Technology and Math (STEAM curriculum). This program is free of charge to children in Mariposa.

A growing and successful program in Mariposa is the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The 330 children enrolled make up almost 45 percent of the children 0-5 in Mariposa County.



Mendocino

In FY 2024-25, First 5 Mendocino demonstrated significant and expanding impact across all strategic result areas, effectively serving young children and strengthening the county's early childhood ecosystem. Despite fiscal setbacks and declining Prop 10 revenue, strategic advocacy and active grant writing enabled sustained growth. First 5 Mendocino's comprehensive reach is shown by its service to 8,927 children ages 0-5 and in providing over 1,000 professional development hours to increase the capacity of 117 agencies and 1,159 service providers. The Perinatal Coalition further strengthened the system of care by engaging 15 agencies and 121 participants.

Our Raise & Shine Family Resource and Empowerment Center, a key program of First 5 Mendocino, saw a 3.8 percent increase in Early Start referrals and a 27.6 percent expansion in the reach of the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P). At the same time, the Imagination Library successfully served over 1,500 children. The BreastStart support line experienced an unprecedented 81.6 percent surge in calls, underscoring a critical community need. Overall, the number of children served increased by 16.6 percent. Our focused commitment to an integrated and equitable system of care ensured that services reached a broad cross-section of the county, with data showing increased access for marginalized groups. First 5 Mendocino continues to invest in a cohesive network of Family Resource Centers, early learning programs, and professional collaborations to ensure continued positive outcomes for every child in Mendocino County.

Merced

During the fiscal year, First 5 Merced County child development and enhance the overall system of effective family support.

As part of its system-strengthening strategies, First 5 Merced County led capacity-building and regional coordination initiatives to enhance the home visitation system within Merced County and across the broader San Joaquin Valley region.

Among direct service strategies, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library book distribution program successfully completed its second year, increasing access to books and supporting daily reading for children and families. In FY 2024-25, a total of 83,628 books were mailed to 7,392 children.

During the Week of the Young Child, funded partners and community agencies hosted activities in Applegate Park and Los Banos to improve access for families on the west side of the county. The celebration was attended by 774 adults, 647 children ages 0–5, and 442 youth ages 6–18. Additionally, 200 families received food boxes during the event. All attendees who completed a satisfaction survey reported finding the event valuable.

First 5 Merced continued its collaboration with local municipalities to build and

improve parks and recreation facilities. Fourteen shade structures were added in the City of Los Banos, and twelve additional structures were installed throughout Merced County.

Modoc

In FY 2024–25, First 5 Modoc executed its final two direct programmatic grant contracts with Strong Family Health Center and T.E.A.C.H., Inc., completing a transition that began in 2020 from traditional grantmaking toward building in-house programs and strengthening long-term systems-change partnerships.

STRONGER STARTS FOR STRONG FAMILIES – STRONG FAMILY HEALTH CENTER
Provided culturally responsive early prevention services and developmental playgroups for children ages 0–5 and their families, including Native American communities. Weekly playgroups offered culturally centered activities supporting motor, cognitive, and social-emotional development, parenting support and education, healthy snacks and meals, referrals to home visiting and other early intervention services.

BUDDING TREE PRESCHOOL – T.E.A.C.H., INC.
Expanded access to high-quality preschool for families who do not qualify for subsidized programs. Transitioned from part-day/part-year to full-day, year-round, added snacks and meals consistent with Child and Adult Care Food Program nutrition standards, and integrated scheduled rest time to support early learning and development.

While direct funding concluded in FY 2024-25 for these programs, First 5 Modoc will continue collaboration through technical assistance and systems support. Additional program investments included the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, which served 186 children, mailing 1,662 books to local families (1,599 in English; 63 in Spanish), promoting early literacy and school readiness. Systems efforts included Community Health Worker (CHW) Development with support from the First 5 Sonoma Regional TA Grant; CalAIM Incentive Payment Program – Partnership HealthPlan of California supported development of internal infrastructure for Enhanced Care Management (ECM), CHW service delivery, and implementation of the local Welcome Baby home visiting model; Quality Counts North State (QCNS) – Lead County & Coaching providing direct coaching, professional development, and social-emotional learning supports to 18 early learning and care sites, including family child care providers, Head Start, Early Head Start, library sites, and state preschool programs; and Workforce Development and Program Technical Assistance to partner agencies in Modoc and Shasta County to support early childhood education providers and educators individual and agency goals.

Across all investments, an estimated 80 percent of Modoc County children ages 0–5 received services supporting healthy development, family strengthening, or early learning. Investments leveraged Proposition 10 and Small County Population Augmentation funds, supplemented by competitive grant revenue.

Mono

School readiness rates increased significantly in FY 2024-25 indicating success in several First 5 Mono outcomes for home visiting, playgroups, school readiness, and the Childcare Quality System (local Quality Counts California work). Thanks to partnerships with families and communities, and investments in home visiting, playgroups, school readiness, and the Childcare Quality System First 5 Mono met its goal to: enhance the network of support services for families with children prenatal to 5 years old.

Two books were translated into Northern Paiute, part of Home Visiting Coordination work funded by First 5 California. "Cuddled and Carried/ Pija Namavitsiadu" and "Who Am I/ Hii nu, hannotu nu, haga nu?" will be printed and shared with Tribes and Tribal-serving partners. Use of the books will bring a new learning modality for Northern Paiute language learners, an opportunity to learn from an illustrated book aided by an audio recording by the translator, Joseph Lent.

The 2025-29 First 5 Mono Strategic Plan was adopted which leverages rich local data to determine investments for the next 5 years. The plan highlights the most persistent need over the 20 years since First 5 Mono was created: childcare. To begin to address issues associated with childcare needs, First 5 Mono and Mono County adopted an Early Learning and Care Policy Platform which states the highest need to strengthen the childcare system in Mono County is funding to: 1) increase provider pay, and 2) lower family cost. Efforts to facilitate fund creation, in support of the platform's recommendation, will continue.

Monterey

First 5 Monterey County works to ensure every child grows up in a community that supports their health and development. By building strong connections among partners and families, First 5 Monterey County creates sustainable systems that can adapt, heal, and thrive through challenges. In FY 202425, these efforts reached 9,514 children, caregivers, and providers across Monterey County.

This past year, First 5 Monterey County placed particular focus on supporting immigrant families facing fear and uncertainty. Through participation in countywide immigration coalitions, we advanced culturally affirming mental health and wellness strategies—offering training, technical assistance, and advocacy. Our child care safety plan trainings equipped providers, partners, and community members with tools to support families in crisis. We created an Emergency Family Preparedness Toolkit with mental health and immigration resources, distributed "Know Your Rights" and rapid response network resource cards, and shared children's books to help families navigate difficult conversations in age-appropriate ways.

To strengthen the workforce and promote quality early learning, First 5 Monterey

County launched Together in Hope, a mental health training series designed to foster connection, learning, and reflective practice. Providers explored trauma-informed approaches, identity, and equity to build compassionate, sustainable systems.

First 5 Monterey County also deepened its race, equity, diversity, and inclusion (REDI) work. In partnership with Monterey County's Public Health Nursing program and the Irving Harris Foundation, 51 administrators and frontline staff participated in a Diversity-Informed Tenets workshop. Building on this foundation, First 5 Monterey County developed the Building Cultures of Community Care workshop, helping providers explore systemic inequities and their roles as agents of change.

Together, these efforts strengthen families, promote well-being, and build systems that ensure every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Napa

In fiscal year 2024-25 First 5 Napa County began a series of outreach and engagement activities to offer support for families and providers who care for children 0-5 in Napa County.

Three types of efforts were pursued in the program year. The first area had the simple goal of distributing free books to families of children 0-5. The next area encouraged families to participate in literacy activities in the community. The rest of the activities focused on provider training to strengthen the organizations and systems that support families in Napa County.

BOOK DISTRIBUTION

First 5 staff participated in two community events to distribute free children's books to families with children aged 0-5. The first event was Cope Kids Day, which occurs annually in spring. Staff were able to share books with 32 children aged 0-5 and 50 caregivers during the event. The second event series was "Meet Me in the Streets", which takes place monthly during the summer in American Canyon. Staff were able to share books with 61 children aged 3-5 and 50 caregivers during the event. Additionally, staff partnered with the Napa County of Education to launch a local chapter of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The program began registering eligible children in July 2025 and the first books were distributed in August. The details of these activities will be included in the FY 2025-26 report.

LITERACY ACTIVITIES:

First 5 Napa County continued its support of the annual Story Walk in partnership with Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, Napa Bookmine, The City of American Canyon, The American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation, Skyline Park, and Napa Printing. The Story Walk was an annual outdoor installation of pages from a bilingual children's book that were placed in four regional parks. Families visit the park and read the book from a series of signs along a path.

PROVIDER TRAINING

In FY 2024-25, First 5 partnered with other coalitions to strengthen the services available to children and families in Napa County. In May 2025, First 5 supported a training for providers to share information with families about creating Family Preparedness Plans in case of emergency. This is a process that is helpful for all families, and especially important for immigrant families. The training was a train-the-trainer model and First 5 staff participated alongside staff from ParentsCAN and Cope Family Center. All staff participants committed to sharing the training with the staff at their agencies who support families.

Additionally, First 5 Napa County partnered with Providence Queen of the Valley Medical Center, Napa County Health and Human Services, Cope Family Center, Partnership Health Plan of California, Doula Doula, CommuniCare Ole and Puertas Abiertas to support efforts to train Spanish-speaking individuals interested in becoming doulas. First 5 staff supported outreach for enrollment and provided administrative support for the registration system. These tasks led to more interested applicants than could be accommodated in the first cohort. Staff currently have a waiting list for a second cohort once the collaborative secures additional funding.

The outreach efforts above are in addition to continuing our successful long-standing programs "Rainbow Family League", and "Florecer", which both have had meaningful impacts in our community.

We are proud of these collective efforts and look forward to continuing to work in partnership to support children and families in Napa County.

Nevada

Fiscal Year 2024–25 marked a year of innovation, adaptation, and advocacy for First 5 Nevada County as the Commission continued to strengthen its system of care for children prenatal through age five amid declining revenues and uncertainty surrounding the Small Population County Funding Augmentation (SPCFA). Despite fiscal and policy challenges, funded partners delivered meaningful outcomes across prevention, family strengthening, early learning, and systems change, ensuring Nevada County's youngest residents continue to grow up healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

First 5 Nevada County's funded programs remained the backbone of the county's early childhood network, offering consistent support to families navigating parenting and economic stressors. Through home visiting, parenting programs, and Family Resource Centers, families received individualized guidance, emotional support, and access to resources that reduced stress and strengthened parent–child relationships. Bilingual and culturally responsive outreach ensured families were met where they were, through home visits, playgroups, and workshops that fostered connection and confidence.

Collectively, these services helped caregivers build resilience and stability

while reinforcing protective factors that help families thrive.

The Parent Guardian Advisory Council, supported through the local Child Abuse Prevention Council, continued to elevate family voice in shaping program priorities. Parents identified a need for peer support and helped develop new groups and trainings focused on emotional regulation, parenting skills, and Positive Childhood Experiences. This family-led approach deepened trust between providers and the community, ensuring that services reflect the lived experiences and needs of local families.

Cross-sector collaboration remained a hallmark of the Commission's work. Programs aligned with local and statewide initiatives such as the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, CalWORKs Family Stabilization, Behavioral Health's Prevention and Early Intervention efforts, and Quality Counts California. Multi-agency networks, including the Community Support Network of Western Nevada County and the Community Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee, enhanced coordination, professional learning, and communication among providers.

First 5 Nevada County also prioritized equity and accessibility, focusing on families most affected by poverty, isolation, and language barriers. Promotora-led outreach expanded bilingual engagement, while early literacy initiatives like Read Me a Story, KidsReach, and Ready to Grow, helped families access books, play-based learning, and developmental screening opportunities.

While these accomplishments demonstrate progress toward community resilience, the Commission faced challenges advocating for the continuation of SPCFA funding. These funds represent nearly one-third of Nevada County's First 5 budget and are essential to sustaining core services in small, rural communities. As First 5 California reconsiders this funding, the Commission has prioritized advocacy and education, sharing data-driven outcomes, highlighting local innovation, and emphasizing the disproportionate impact that funding loss would have on rural families. Without SPCFA support, foundational programs such as home visiting, family resource centers, and community collaboratives would face significant reductions, threatening progress made in family stability and systems integration.

Looking ahead, First 5 Nevada County will continue aligning evaluation and advocacy efforts to demonstrate the importance of equitable, sustained funding for small counties. Guided by its 2024–30 Strategic Plan, the Commission remains committed to collaboration, data-driven decision making, and centering family voice, ensuring that even in the face of fiscal uncertainty, Nevada County's youngest children and families continue to thrive in nurturing, connected environments.



Orange

HOME VISITING (HV) COLLABORATIVE

First 5 Orange County (F5OC) has two HV work streams—direct services through F5OC-funded HV organizations and system work via a countywide Collaborative. In FY 2024-25, we expanded HV services to increase language access and culturally relevant supports, onboarded 4 new partners who became affiliates of their evidence-based programs, and celebrated HV Week with awards honoring HV staff and agencies, reinforcing workforce retention. F5OC stepped into the role of backbone agency for the HV Collaborative, after the sunset of state funding, and is leading a social media campaign to raise awareness and celebrate home visitors.

DETECT & CONNECT OC (D&COC)

In its fifth year, D&COC advanced its vision to ensure children receive timely well visits, developmental screenings per evidence-based guidelines, and early connection to supports. 22 organizations meet five times annually to coordinate three strategies: helping families access services, enhancing system coordination, and driving improvements. In FY 2024-25, D&COC launched a four-week parent campaign with social media, graphics, and fliers on accessing resources; held the first Technical Advisory Committee Summit on system challenges and opportunities; and published parent-facing videos in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese showing speech therapy tips families can use to support language and early milestones.

OC FATHERHOOD COALITION (OCFC)

First 5 Orange County is the backbone agency for the OCFC. This year, we launched an OCFC event sponsorship fund. The intent of these funds is to support providers that want to engage dads and host a father-focused community event. We successfully sponsored our first event, the Latino Dad Summit, with over 30 dads participating. Additionally, we have begun development of a training for home visitors to help them engage fathers in home visiting. We will implement training in 2025-26, including all First 5s in the southern California region.

Placer

The 2024-25 Fiscal Year represented the first year of funding under our 2024–30 Strategic Plan which focused much effort around equity, sustainability of services supporting early child development and partnership and collective impact. Proposition 10 funding for this period decreased significantly due to funding declines, and Commission monetary investments in oral health and early learning were discontinued. However, long-standing partnerships and county-wide commitments to oral health and early learning and literacy continued efforts in those two domains. External grant funding provided significant support to partners serving children and families in Placer County; one-half of First 5 Placer's (F5P) investments are funded by sources other than tobacco taxes.

All of the Commission's investments are seen through a systems lens. Much of

the work of the Commission is tied to systems building, policy and advocacy. Notably, F5P is a key member of the Placer Accountable Communities for which is currently focused on improving the Medi-Cal provider network to deliver services under CalAIM. F5P is working to assure that its investments in and system of early childhood development (ECD) continues to be sustainable. F5P also continues to participate in the Oral Health Alliance led by Placer County Public Health and share data related to oral health of families served through F5P funded programs. F5P partners with the Office of Education in its Placer County Reads Literacy Initiative, which is a county-wide effort to ensure every child builds strong reading skills from the earliest years through high school. F5P also has leadership positions in the UPK Mixed-delivery system workgroup, the MHSA/BHSA steering committee, the Placer Collaborative Network, and the Placer County Affordable Housing Coalition.

With the shift toward collaborative grant making and increasing efforts on systems and sustainability, F5P has been able to offset declining tax revenue by acting as lead on collaborative grant applications. F5P was the lead three grants multi-year grants. First, the three-year Road to Resilience Grant through the Office of Child Abuse Prevention, providing home visiting and wraparound services to mothers at risk for substance abuse who are pregnant or parenting infants in Placer and Nevada Counties. Two grants through DHCS's California Youth and Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI rounds 2 and 3) were awarded, that will end in June 2026. These provide training in therapeutic interventions and expand on home visiting supports for at risk populations. F5P also worked with the County to provide home visiting to CalWORKS participants and leveraged F5CA Home Visiting dollars to build a system of CalAIM providers who serve families through relevant modalities. F5P Partner Network services saw continued advancement of the Commission's equity commitment and rebound of outcomes to pre-pandemic levels.

Plumas

First 5 Plumas' mission is to cultivate safe, nurturing, healthy environments for children, prenatal to age 5, and their families through inclusive and accessible services and support. First 5 Plumas supports home visiting programs that provide regular, voluntary home visits to expectant and new parents and offer guidance, risk assessment, and referrals to other services offered in the community.

While home visits are the primary investments of the First 5 Plumas Commission in 2024-25, we also provide direct services that support home visits including group supports and county-wide family service navigation.

Highlights for 2024-25 include: A total of 64 families were provided with home visiting services with a total of 449 home visits. 48 children and 27 parent/caregivers were provided with 336 playgroup and breastfeeding group direct service

contacts in Chester, Portola, and Quincy. Additionally, Roundhouse Council provided playgroups several times a week in Greenville with 163 service contacts, serving six native children and their families. In FY 2024-25, there were 3,453 Imagination Library books provided to 360 children in Plumas County.

One collaboration that was particularly effective was the Inclusive Early Education Workgroup, which meets monthly and collaborated with 14 organizations and 29 participants, to develop the Inclusive Early Education Action Plan. This plan is a response to gaps in services and significant deficiencies found in the Early Intervention referral and intake system and a lack of Early Inclusion coordination. The group has already implemented many of the improvements outlined in the plan. First 5 Plumas Systems Improvement work also included collaborating with county partners to improve oral health access, child abuse prevention activities, parent education, and Help Me Grow Plumas.

Riverside

TURNING PILOTS INTO PERMANENT PEDIATRIC INFRASTRUCTURE

First 5 Riverside County and its partners are transforming what prevention looks like in pediatric care. Through Medi-Cal managed care collaboration, HealthySteps shifted from short-term pilots to a standard element of pediatric practice—pairing universal screening with caregiver support and care coordination in clinical settings. Tier 3 services exceeded annual targets by one-third, and new referral pilots with Child Welfare and Early Start are connecting families before crises escalate. This durable prevention pathway is now embedded in routine care across multiple systems.

BUILDING A BRAIDED HOME VISITING SYSTEM THAT MEETS FAMILIES SOONER

By aligning Proposition 10, CalWORKs, and Medi-Cal resources under one coordinated entry system, First 5 Riverside County advanced a county-wide, multi-model home visiting network that reaches families earlier and keeps them engaged longer. Streamlined referrals and data sharing through the START universal intake platform lifted enrollment and retention across all models—serving 556 families (13 percent above target). Families are increasingly connected during pregnancy and the first three years, rather than only at points of crisis.

EXPANDING INFANT-TODDLER CAPACITY WHILE STABILIZING THE WORKFORCE

In partnership with the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) and local jurisdictions, First 5 Riverside County invested in a pipeline of early learning facility projects in every supervisorial district while sustaining Quality Start Riverside County supports at scale (approximately 464 sites serving 16,000+ children). Since 2023, more than 1,400 scholarships have strengthened provider stability and family choice through the Riverside Hybrid Alternative Payment Program (RHAP) —especially in rural communities where access to licensed care remains limited.

First 5 County Highlights

USING REAL-TIME DATA TO PREVENT HARM AND MEASURE SYSTEMS CHANGE
Riverside County is developing shared data dashboards to trigger rapid responses to preventable injuries such as near drownings, while continuous-quality-improvement (CQI) projects are reducing administrative delays and improving service coordination across programs. These data-driven approaches demonstrate that systems change can be measured, managed, and sustained—translating local innovation into long-term prevention infrastructure.

Sacramento

In FY 2024-25, First 5 Sacramento (First 5 Sac) launched the Equity in Action (EiA) Initiative, a community engagement and investment strategy to support long-term transformation for children 0-5 and families who have historically been underserved. The EiA Initiative is a community-led process to determine how $4.2 million of First 5 Sac's funds will be invested, placing under-resourced communities at the center of grant-making by giving them the power to decide who and what to fund. This strategy aims to build capacity and fund new and non-traditional partners (e.g., smaller community-based organizations serving First 5's prioritized neighborhoods not previously funded by First 5). Neighborhoods were prioritized in consultation with the First 5 Sac Community Advisory Committee based on potential barriers to services (e.g., child poverty; percentage speaking a language other than English at home).

This journey began with two community assemblies. The 60 attendees represented businesses, community-based organizations, and residents (78 percent minority-led organizations; 87 percent serving minority communities). Assembly input informed the EiA Committee recruitment and selection. First 5 received 61 nominations through online, email, and press release outreach and invited 18 community members to join the EiA committee. The final group of 15 is gender and racially diverse, immigrants and U.S.-born residents, ages youth to grandparents, residing in 11 different priority neighborhoods.

The EiA Committee first met in June 2025 and began by creating group agreements and sharing stories about why they were called to this work. Over the course of FY 2025-26, the Committee will determine what types of things to fund, how the funding process will roll out, how funding decisions will be made, and how to evaluate the impact of the funding. It is anticipated that the $4.2 million in Equity in Action funding will be allocated in January 2026.

San Benito

In FY 2024-25, First 5 San Benito (F5 SB) continued to provide services to children, families, and providers. Through Quality Counts, 96 percent of providers gained valuable skills to support children's social-emotional development, and 98 percent significantly improved their ability to

support children's academic skills. As part of Home Visiting, the Parents and Teachers curriculum significantly improved parent-child closeness in almost 70 percent of families. According to surveys completed by participants, three-quarters of families demonstrated improvement in their protective factors after receiving First 5 services. Their children also gained resilience, measured by an improved ability to stay calm when faced with a challenge or upset, and adjusting well to change.

F5 SB also continued leading the Regional Home Visiting Collaborative which supported the local county implementation of home visiting coordination strategies and regional coordination of technical assistance across counties to share best practices. F5 supported counties by coordinating their access to regional technical assistance resources and implementing a progress tracking tool. F5 SB also convened five regional meetings for seven Bay Area counties, in which counties shared updates, breakthroughs, challenges, and useful resources.

San Bernardino

First 5 San Bernardino continued to support several successful initiatives and collective impact models, including Children's Fund, Resiliency Institute for Childhood Adversity (RICA), and Maternal Health Network of San Bernardino County.

System-building efforts remain a key focus, particularly in the areas of Home Visitation and Children's Health strategic planning. The Children's Health Collective has established focused workgroups with clear objectives, developed through the guidance of the Children's Health Collective Steering Committee.

The first full year of the Family Support Initiative (FSI) demonstrated growth in the number of community members served in the areas of case management, parenting education, and resource and referral services to families.

Three successful campaigns were launched:

1. Gift a Kid a Book – promoting child and family literacy
2. Little Teeth, Big Responsibility – focusing on oral health education during early childhood
3. Kid Safe Summer – championing water safety, heat safety, and on-the-go safety, including car seat installation, helmet use, and other protective equipment

First 5 San Bernardino staff participated in over 70 community events, engaging with more than 20,500 attendees, and distributing promotional items to support outreach efforts.

San Diego

In Fiscal Year 2024-25, First 5 San Diego completed the final year of the First 5 San Diego 2020–25 Strategic Plan, which focused on four strategic directions - resilient families, coordinated systems of care, integrated leadership, and sustained funding. We also developed a new 5-year

strategic plan that is guided by the values of Love, Integrity, and Justice. These values call us to build strong, integrated systems through deep collaboration, policy advocacy, and innovative funding approaches to better serve our children 0 through 5 and their families.

First 5 San Diego's Talk, Read, Sing campaign promoted early childhood literacy and encouraged parents and caregivers to talk, read, sing and be active with their children. Messaging also promoted positive parenting practices that support healthy, social emotional development of children ages zero through five. Campaign messaging was broadcasted via television, radio, digital media and outdoor advertisements. The campaign achieved more than 60.7 million gross impressions, and the use of First 5 San Diego's website averaged 33,722 page views per month and 4,320 new visitors each month.

San Francisco

In FY 2024-25, the San Francisco Department of Early Childhood, which operates First 5 San Francisco, built on its momentum from FY 2023-24 and moved steadily toward full recovery of all service levels. The year saw deepening investments in early learning, family support, and system coordination, as well as new and expanded initiatives to strengthen partnerships with pediatric clinics and support greater integration of services across the entire early childhood system of care.

Participation in funded early care and education, family resource centers, and developmental screening programs has returned to near pre-pandemic levels, even as San Francisco's child population has declined. Specifically, funded family resource centers served 2,183 children and 8,031 caregivers and early care and education enrollment reached 9,152 children. Across all funded programs, and beginning to expand city-wide, 7,382 children received a developmental screen in FY 2024-25 up from 5,706 children in FY 2023-24. Since FY 2023, Early educator engagement in provider initiatives also grew by nearly 15 percent to 3,016 educators, as more teachers and caregivers accessed expanded compensation supports and professional development pathways, thereby strengthening retention and instructional continuity.

Kindergarten readiness among incoming San Francisco Unified School District students continued its upward trend, with the FY 2024-25 cohort showing gains across domains and surpassing pre-pandemic baselines. San Francisco now boasts an overall kindergarten readiness score of 68 percent which is the highest readiness level reached in over a decade and reflects continued improvement across all racial/ethnic groups and subgroups. This progress illustrates the impact of our collective investments in early education access, early educator compensation, social and emotional learning, family support, and early intervention.

San Joaquin

This was the final year of the Preschool Initiative based on recommendations from the First 5 San Joaquin (F5SJ) Strategic Plan. Since 2004, F5SJ has played a pivotal role in the statewide movement towards Universal Preschool, participating in the initial "Preschool for All" pilot program and expanding it through initiatives like Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant and Quality Counts California. This work contributed to the establishment of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK), a free and accessible program for all four-year-old children. UTK was a collective achievement of funded partners, early care and education stakeholders, local and state partners, and the thousands of children and families served.

Despite reductions in Proposition 10 funding and other state funded initiatives, F5SJ has been tenacious in pursuing opportunities to leverage resources and support to expand or sustain F5SJ funded programs and services. A prime example is seen in local workforce development efforts. F5SJ has prioritized workforce development for early childhood education (ECE) and home visiting personnel. F5SJ has partnered with San Joaquin County Office of Education to promote training and capacity building opportunities for ECE providers. F5SJ also leveraged First 5 California Home Visiting Coordination funding to expand home visiting training opportunities provided through the First 5 Sacramento region and worked with San Joaquin County Home Visiting Coalition partners to host local trainings. Through the Coalition, F5SJ identified relevant training topics and local trainers to help in the development of an on-demand training website for new home visitors. This site will provide foundational resources and training conducted by local trainers for onboarding new home visitors.

F5SJ was also responsive to the county's Community Health Needs Assessment, which identified mental health as a priority within the Community Health Improvement Plan. F5SJ focused its JourneyWORKs investment on direct services to expand the delivery of mental health home visiting services. JourneyWORKs funded partner, San Joaquin County Child Abuse Prevention Council, onboarded an additional Family Advocate to expand services. JourneyWORKs partnered with three local San Joaquin County Human Services Agency Community Centers to create calming centers for children of CalWORKs families seeking services. This dedicated space provides books and materials for children to engage with while their parents/caregivers work with onsite CalWORKs Eligibility Workers to enroll them into relevant services.

F5SJ has worked with SJ TEETH and Help Me Grow funded partners to seek alternate funding opportunities and engage in Medi-Cal Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports. Funded partners have been encouraged to participate in Community Health Worker training and apply to opportunities focused on strengthening internal capacity for Medi-Cal billing. Through the Help Me Grow (HMG) Initiative, F5SJ has continued to build partnerships and is currently in the

process of negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with local Managed Care Plans (MCPs). F5SJ has used this opportunity to propose partnerships for universal screening efforts across the MCPs. F5SJ has also engaged in productive regional discussions with other Northern California First 5 counties exploring a shared model for developmental screenings.

Finally, F5SJ has been resourceful in addressing the business acumen of local family childcare providers. This year, F5SJ provided training through Coaching Companion to support 10 childcare providers on business and professional practices to strengthen continuous quality improvement for local family childcare providers. F5SJ will utilize training evaluation to inform and improve future training opportunities and outcomes.

San Luis Obispo

First 5 San Luis Obispo (First 5 SLO) County mobilized its 2024-28 Strategic Plan with new areas of focus that emerged from community conversations centered around local needs during ever-changing times. As a funder, our agency allocated dollars to two programs designed to combat early childhood education workforce-related challenges:

- *"Ticket 2 Teach,"* which addresses staffing shortages by recruiting, supporting and training apprentices who are interested in a career in Early Childhood Education (ECE).
- *"Building Connections,"* which aims to improve access to quality, affordable early care for children aged 0-2 by providing training, coaching, and curriculum support to Family Child Care (FCC) providers and Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) caregivers.

First 5 SLO County funding also helped to give parent-child engagement classes a broader reach across our county, with the launch of "Aprendiendo con Mamá y Papá" (Learning with Mom and Dad), uniquely tailored to Mixteco-speaking families in the region. In that same spirit, First 5 SLO County joined other ally organizations to bolster support for immigrant families facing increasing uncertainty and barriers to health care, basic provisions and other essential resources. Amid dramatic funding and policy shifts at the federal, state and local levels, our agency also amplified its partner-convening role and established a First 5 Early Childhood Stabilization Fund to help safeguard critical services for young children and their families.

This year First 5 SLO County mobilized a regional Child Care Coalition focused on child care as an economic mobility strategy, with grant funding from Uplift Central Coast as part of the California Jobs First regional initiative. This collaborative space brings together cross-sector child care champions throughout six Central Coast counties— with goals of shared learning, policy change promotion, and identifying regionally scalable child care models.



San Mateo

During FY 2024-25, First 5 San Mateo County (F5SMC) maintained its multi-faceted investments in programs supporting all aspects of a child's early years, including Quality Early Learning; Healthy Development; Resilient Families; and Policy, Advocacy, and Communications. Supported by $4.8 million in community investments, our funded partners served over 13,000 children, parents, and providers. Highlights include:

THE BABY BONUS PROJECT

F5SMC is a key partner in the design and implementation of Congresswoman Jackie Speier's initiative providing direct cash payments to families of newborns with incomes below the federal poverty line. Each family in the program will receive monthly $300 payments for 36 months, from the baby's birth to their third birthday. Along with partners including our County Health System, Stanford University, Stanford Children's Health, the Health Plan of San Mateo, and the Jackie Speier Foundation, this year we received approval for our RCT design and data collection protocols, began building out the team of Community Health Workers who will provide home visiting and care coordination services to participating families, began issuing monthly payments to birthing parents. The study design includes implementation of new memoranda of understanding and data sharing agreements amongst key partners, including Stanford Children's Hospital, the Health Plan of San Mateo, and the SMC Health System. More streamlined and integrated data sharing practices are systems building victories that support timely and accurate communication between health programs serving MediCal eligible families with newborns, enabling more seamless service delivery without burdening families with the task of managing communication among the health providers who are serving their child.

CHILD-PARENT PSYCHOTHERAPY TRAINING COHORTS

Local needs assessments consistently find that San Mateo County families with young children have difficulty accessing mental and behavioral health services that can meet their needs; clinicians with specialized training to work with children ages 0-5 are in high demand. Supported by a grant from the California Children & Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, F5SMC is in the process of training over 60 mental health clinicians in Child-Parent Psychotherapy. These clinicians work in a variety of settings, including non-profit organizations, family resource centers, early learning sites, private practice, and the County Health System. During the 18-month training, clinicians receive classroom instruction, participate in case presentations, and receive coaching and mentorship from peers as well as from experienced CPP practitioners. Once the training series is complete, graduates are linked to an ongoing support network both within and across organizations. The network provides reflective supervision, peer support groups, and a community

of practice to deepen and embed CPP practices within their ongoing therapeutic work.

Santa Barbara

Goal: Improved Systems of Care

Strategy: Invest in a regional Workforce Pipeline and Professional Development System to build opportunities for home visiting professionals to climb their professional ladders, upskill, and professionalize the workforce while also providing opportunities to explore related career paths. FY 2024-25 activities included:

Contracted Brazelton Touchpoints Center to offer three Touchpoints trainings to 51 home visitors along the Central Coast which included four local consultants becoming certified Train the Trainers in the framework.

Contracted with VIVA Strategic Partners to conduct focus groups with home visitors to design the Tri-Counties Home Visiting Resource Hub. The online hub includes professional development resources, an up-to-date training calendar, decision-making tree to assist in referring families appropriately, and general resource library.

Secured a two-year, asynchronous professional development opportunity through Start Early on the following topics: developmental screening tools, relationship-building, substance abuse, inter-partner violence, infant mental health, trauma-informed care, and home visiting in general.

Supported 10 frontline staff to attend the 2025 National Home Visiting Summit and the National Healthy Families America Conference.

Held the first-ever 2024 Regional Pediatric Health Summit with 85 general attendees (Nine Medical Professionals and 58 home visitors) with CEUs available.

Held first-ever 2025 Central Coast Home Visiting Week that saw 382 books donated to seed Home Visiting Programs' Resource Libraries, the distribution of 16 Hope at Home kits gifted to assist in supporting families with substance use issues, provided eight webinars (152 total registrants), opportunities for 3 home visitors to become certified lactation specialists, three publications on benefits of home visitation.

Santa Clara

In year one of the 2024–27 Strategic Plan, First 5 Santa Clara County translated strategy into execution by aligning investments, contracts, and reporting around a common outcomes framework and a family-centered approach. We launched the Stronger Systems, Stronger Families Initiative as a tent-pole effort to strengthen place-based resource centers and drive systems change.

Milestones included onboarding grantees and convening multi-agency Learning Collaboratives to co-design shared measures and multilingual tools. To inform future scaling, we completed a countywide Home Visiting Feasibility Study that mapped service saturation and need,

modeled costs and financing opportunities (including Medi-Cal), and recommended actions to sustain and expand evidence-based models, build a stronger workforce pipeline, and standardize referrals and data.

Finally, through the Silicon Valley Guaranteed Income Project with community partners, we advanced poverty remediation for families with young children by enrolling eligible households and implementing participant-centered supports; forthcoming analyses will inform local policy and resource allocation related to economic stability and child well-being. Collectively, these efforts strengthened frontline capacity, improved coordination across agencies, and positioned the county to scale evidence-informed strategies that bolster family resilience, promote healthy development, and make the early childhood system more equitable and responsive.

Santa Cruz

First 5 Santa Cruz supports a program called Families Together, which provides prevention-based services to families experiencing hardships, such as involvement with Family and Children's Services, financial instability, and other adverse experiences. Families have access to services and resources that cover many domains, including emotional, social, and financial wellness, and physical safety. The program includes comprehensive intake and risk assessments, and development of a tailored case plan:

REDUCTION OF RISK

Parents had their levels of risk assessed throughout their services. Of the families that exited the program between 2007-25 and completed three assessments, 77 percent were assessed as being "high risk" or "very high risk" upon intake, and this dropped to 24 percent six months later. The percentage assessed as being "high" or "very high risk" dropped to 16 percent for families who stayed in the program a full year.

REDUCED RATES OF CHILD MALTREATMENT

Results from 2024 show that 97 percent of families did not have a substantiated allegation of maltreatment in the six months after their cases closed, and 73 percent of families did not have a re-referral to child welfare within six months after case closure.

IMPROVED PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS

Families Together offers Triple P services, which are designed to strengthen families by promoting positive relationships and teaching strategies for preventing and handling parenting challenges. After participating in Triple P, parents reported improvements in their children's emotional and behavioral challenges, and increased use of positive parenting styles.

SUMMARY

Families Together's mission is to aid and empower families in times of need or discord. By assisting these families, they can intervene early, before family difficulties escalate to the point of maltreatment or other adverse childhood experiences. Early intervention helps

increase child safety, engages families in decision-making, and supports healthy child development.

Shasta

First 5 Shasta (F5S) received a California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) grant for a Farm to Family Childcare project where we partnered with our local community college, childcare sites, interns, and local farms to provide produce and nutrition education. The CDFA grant is an exciting opportunity to support small farms, partner with local educational providers, offer college credit and job skills to students, and introduce children to new fresh produce, nutrition and gardening. In the first round we provided services to 54 children at six family childcare sites, 100 percent of families reported their children enjoyed participating in the program and 88 percent report Often/Very Often their child talks about fruits/veggies at home.

Through grants from California Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) we received an extension to continue working with local agencies to provide Trauma-Informed services to children, their parents, and caregivers, including Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) services, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMH) training, and parent support groups. We continue to work with partner organizations around Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) education, screening, and intervention to increase public awareness of the prevalence of ACEs, their long-term negative effects on individuals' health and their long-term costs to society.

Through support of Help Me Grow Shasta (HMG), F5S helped identify children with developmental delays. In FY 202425, HMG completed 958 developmental screenings (ASQ-3), an increase of 24 percent over FY 2023-24. With Home Visiting grant funding ending in FY 2024-25 we were able to finish a push for advertising around home visiting options and three-part training for home visitors, convene our team to share resources and ultimately transition home visiting partners into a combined HMG and Home Visiting Collaborative. F5S presented the Champions for Children event for caregivers and children at Turtle Bay Exploration Park where over 500 participants enjoyed access to the museum, story times, developmental screenings and over 15 community booths with local resources.

F5S distributed 10,038 new, high-quality books to children, caregivers, and ECE providers. First 5 Institute (F5I) presented 13 high-quality trainings to more than 200 providers of services to children 0-5 and their families on topics such as the Home Visiting Series, Implicit Bias Training, and Pregnancy & Infant Loss. F5I sponsored four Smart Starts and eight Smart Lunches on topics including Doulas & Midwives, Brain Spotting therapy, and Building a Village with Community Partners. F5I provides access to high-quality early literacy programs by funding community "Storytimes", which provide young children and their families access to early literacy material and an opportunity for social connections. F5I funded Storytime sites

directly served 1,172 children aged 0-5.

F5S organized our 20th Week of the Young Child with community partners offering a variety of events all week long focused on engaging families and children 0-5. We did our first kickoff event during a community First Friday Downtown that saw over 200 families engaging in story time activities, play, and music. In addition, we celebrated F5S's 25th Anniversary with an awards ceremony where community partners were recognized for: Community Children's Champion, Family-Friendly Business of the Year, Early Development Leadership Award, and Children's Event & Activity Leadership Award. Awards were selected by community vote and highlight organizations and individuals that are building a more supportive community for families.

Sierra

First 5 Sierra County continued to strengthen its early learning system, expand access to high-quality childcare, and enhance family well-being through robust partnerships and targeted investments.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

First 5 Sierra's Universal Preschool Program continued to meet the needs of local families who are not eligible for other childcare subsidies. This year, the program supported 56 children and their families, ensuring access to affordable, high-quality early education.

Participation in Quality Counts California (QCC) remains strong, with 16 child care providers engaged in continuous quality improvement. Providers benefited from professional development stipends, tuition reimbursement, and specialized training on outdoor learning environments. Eight preschool teachers also pursued Early Childhood Education coursework at Feather River College with mentorship support, thereby strengthening Sierra County's early learning workforce.

STRENGTHENING FAMILY RESILIENCE AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS

The Home Visiting Program, launched last year, entered its first full year of operation and has become a strong system of family support in Sierra County. First 5 Sierra played a key role in coordinating referrals and provided incentives to enhance families' enrollment and parent leadership participation. In the last year of the grant, First Sierra participated in the Wellness Summit organized by First 5 Sacramento, which was very successful.

First 5 California launched the toxic stress campaign in Sierra County during Little League Opening Day. Families came together to play and learn about ACES and the adverse effects of toxic stress.

BUILDING COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND PROMOTING WELL-BEING

First 5 Sierra continues to be a lead partner in TechWise Sierra, a countywide initiative grounded in the Sierra County Comprehensive Prevention Plan. This collaborative effort—uniting agencies such as the Sheriff's Office, Probation, the School District, Behavioral Health, and Public

Health—focuses on promoting responsible technology use and addressing the social and emotional impacts of excessive digital exposure among children and families, now expanding to provide family engagement activities, such as family movie nights and summer camps for school-age children.

OVERALL IMPACT

Through these collective efforts, First 5 Sierra advanced its mission to effectively invest in early child development, family-strengthening services, and systems change, and to ensure that all Sierra County children have a happy childhood experience.

Strategic investments in early education, family resilience, and provider development continue to create long-term benefits for children, families, and the community as a whole.

Siskiyou

The Siskiyou Parenting Hub, coordinated by First 5 Siskiyou through the Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative (OPEC), continues to serve as a cornerstone of the county's family strengthening efforts. Through accessible, evidence-based parenting education and workshops, the program empowers parents and caregivers to build strong, nurturing relationships with their children while normalizing participation in parenting support. In FY 2024–25, OPEC offered nine parenting education series spanning 68 classes, reaching 653 parents and 348 children across Siskiyou County.

Evaluation results demonstrated significant gains in parenting knowledge, confidence, and practices. Parents reported marked improvement in understanding normal child behavior (3.5 to 4.9), setting and maintaining reasonable limits (3.0 to 4.8), and listening to children to understand their feelings (3.6 to 5.3). All participants (100%) found the classes helpful and would recommend them to others. Child outcomes also improved, with growth in showing concern for others (3.4 to 4.5), willingness to follow limits and rules (2.8 to 4.2), and getting along with others (3.7 to 4.9). The OPEC Parenting Education initiative exemplifies First 5 Siskiyou's leadership and trusted partnerships in building coordinated, sustainable systems of support for families. By combining evidence-based curricula, community partnerships, and inclusive engagement, the program strengthened parenting capacity countywide and advanced a shared vision of resilient families and thriving young children.

Solano

First 5 Solano continued to advance its mission to ensure that all young children in Solano County are healthy, eager to learn, and nurtured by strong families. This year, the Commission invested in initiatives that strengthened family resilience, advanced health equity, and expanded access to quality early learning—reaching nearly 12,000 residents countywide through coordinated programs and partnerships.

The Rise Vallejo Early Education & Community Resource Center ("Rise

Vallejo") project made significant progress toward becoming a cornerstone for early learning and family support in Vallejo. The Center is scheduled to open in January 2026 and will serve as a vibrant hub for families, offering high-quality early care, parenting programs, and access to comprehensive community services. Final preparations are underway, including the hiring of a site manager, vetting the application for potential care teams, and recruitment of families to the program. A ribbon cutting for the first of its kind center will be held in April 2026.

Rise Vallejo represents a $16.3 million public–private investment to repurpose a shuttered elementary school into a modern, multi-purpose campus designed to meet the needs of Solano County's children and families. Once fully operational, the Center will host 15 early learning classrooms operated by Child Start Inc. (five classrooms), and community-based providers (10 classrooms), creating up to 300 new licensed childcare and preschool slots for children ages birth to five each year. In addition to early education, the site will offer family support, developmental screenings, parent education, health navigation, and community programming—all under one roof.

The First 5 Center, Vallejo—a model of family engagement and systems integration—celebrated its fifth birthday in March 2025. The celebration brought together families, community partners, and dignitaries, including representatives from First 5 California and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, to honor the Center's ongoing impact. In FY 2024-25, the Center served 1,810 individuals, a 33 percent increase from the prior year, and 92 percent of families completing enrolled sessions reported improved parenting knowledge and early learning practices.

Progress also advanced on the First 5 Center, Fairfield, with construction officially underway in partnership with the City of Fairfield. The new Center, slated to open July 1, 2026, will replicate the successful Vallejo model, providing playgroups, parent education, family navigation, and access to essential resources for young children and their caregivers.

First 5 Solano deepened its commitment to equity through the Solano HEALs "Centering the Doula" program, which trained 13 Black doulas—six now Medi-Cal enrolled—to provide culturally responsive care and reduce disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes. The program was recognized by the County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC) as a statewide model and was replicated in Sonoma County through a $100,000 investment in Sonoma HEALs, based on Solano's framework.



Sonoma

First 5 Sonoma County is entering an exciting new chapter marked by historic investments and strategic growth aimed at removing barriers to and strengthening the local systems that support young children and families. In November 2024, Sonoma County voters approved

Measure I, the Sonoma County Child Care & Children's Health Initiative, establishing a quarter-cent local sales tax dedicated to advancing the well-being of children across the county. Measure I creates a permanent, local revenue source to strengthen the early care and education (ECE) system and promote children's physical, mental, and developmental health, as well as perinatal mental health. Sixty percent of Measure I funds are dedicated to the child care sector through investments in workforce development, facilities, wages, and family scholarships. The remaining forty percent supports strategies that promote children's physical and mental health, healing from trauma, and the well-being and support of birthing people and new parents. Aligned with the statewide goals of Proposition 10, this initiative ensures sustained and strategic investment in Sonoma County's youngest residents for years to come.

With the passage of Measure I, First 5 Sonoma County has expanded its staff and operations to manage and steward this new funding. Since April 2025, the organization has added several new roles, including a Communications Manager, an Executive Administrative Assistant, and a Research and Evaluation Manager. This expansion strengthens First 5's capacity to coordinate countywide early childhood initiatives and implement the long-term vision supported by Measure I. Simultaneously, First 5 Sonoma County has launched its 2026–31 Strategic Planning Process, which will guide the stewardship of both Proposition 10 and Measure I funds. The new five-year plan will focus on ensuring the health, well-being, and school readiness of Sonoma County's children through programs, services, systems improvements, and policy advocacy.

To ensure that the planning process reflects community priorities and the lived experiences of families and providers, First 5 Sonoma County convened eleven focus groups, multiple listening sessions and interviews with parents, caregivers, providers and community partners. Two advisory bodies support the development of strategies: the First 5 Strategic Planning Committee, composed of Commissioners and key stakeholders, and an eleven-member Measure I Community Advisory Committee, appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Both committees are supported by First 5 staff and consultants and are engaging in an in-depth analysis of local data and community input. Together, they have developed equity-centered recommendations for funding priorities that align with the intent of both Proposition 10 and Measure I. The committees include representation from parents, early educators, childcare administrators, and professionals from pediatric, perinatal, and mental health systems, ensuring that Sonoma County's strategic direction is grounded in both evidence and community voice.

Stanislaus

It is the mission of First 5 Stanislaus to be a catalyst to help give children and families the best start. In Fiscal Year 2024-25, First 5 Stanislaus funded partners delivered

services to the community that allowed 14,774 children, families, and early care education providers to remain connected to their support systems and basic needs when they were most needed. First 5 Stanislaus and its partners distributed supplies to assist families, including 139 new parent kits, 5,148 books and over 39,000 diapers.

First 5 Stanislaus funded partners fostered the children and families they serve thrive in their communities. The parents of 6,394 children received family support services through countywide Family Resource Centers or other programs. Ninety-eight percent of pregnant and parenting women (125/128) reported less stress as a result of attending support group sessions during their pregnancy through their child's first year. During this fiscal year, our partnership with Imagination Library welcomed 446 new applicants, serving children aged 0-5 living in Stanislaus County. Ninety-seven percent of caregivers surveyed (340/351) gained an increase in skills and knowledge from attending parent education classes. Three hundred nineteen library cards were issued to children/families who participated in literacy services.

The Ceres Community Baby Shower, held in May at the Center for Human Services' Ceres Partnership Family Resource Center, was a wonderful celebration of families and community connections! This event brought together eight vendors and welcomed 79 participants—41 English speakers and 38 Spanish speakers. Hosted by First 5 Stanislaus, Ceres Partnership, WIC, and Health Plan of San Joaquin, the baby shower featured a variety of vendors including La Familia, Livingston Community Health, Safe Sleep, Safe Kids Stanislaus, Oral Health, Imagination Library, and many more. Expecting moms received height and weight screenings from WIC, while Health Plan of San Joaquin offered postpartum classes in both English and Spanish. Attendees were thrilled to receive giveaways such as strollers, bassinets, and gift baskets. Open to the Ceres WIC community, this event was a true example of strengthening community connections and supporting families during the early years.

The 2024-25 fiscal year marks the beginning of First 5 Stanislaus's new 2024-29 Strategic Plan, building upon the foundation laid in our previous initiatives. This plan is designed to promote the importance of the first five years of life and strengthen community partner capacity through collaboration, funding, advocacy, and support to serve young children and their families so that every child in Stanislaus County thrives. Our focus areas include improved family functioning, child development, and systems of care, with a commitment to enhancing literacy, safety, and early childhood education. By fostering partnerships with local agencies and organizations, we aim to create a cohesive network that supports the well-being of children and families throughout the county. As we embark on this strategic journey, we are excited to continue our mission and look forward to the positive impact this plan will have on our community.

First 5 County Highlights

Sutter

Sutter County Strengthening System Sustainability Through Partnership and Capacity Building

As Proposition 10 revenues continue to decline statewide, the Sutter County Children & Families Commission (SCCFC) has taken proactive, strategic steps to protect essential early childhood services by strengthening the long-term sustainability of community partners historically funded through First 5 investments. Understanding that reduced Proposition 10 funding would require a shift in how services are supported and maintained, SCCFC secured Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) funds to implement a comprehensive year-long Sustainability Capacity-Building Initiative. This initiative was designed to help local partners prepare for a future where First 5 dollars are no longer the primary funding source for essential programming.

Because many partner organizations operate across both Sutter and Yuba counties, SCCFC invited First 5 Yuba to join the initiative. This bi-county approach strengthened alignment across the region, reduced duplication, and ensured that the effort supported the broader early childhood system rather than isolated organizations.

SCCFC contracted with Applied Survey Research (ASR) to lead the work. Over the course of the year, grantees participated in a series of in-person workshops focused on refining organizational missions, sharpening impact statements, increasing grant readiness, and strengthening board and donor engagement. The effort also provided partners with practical sustainability tools, including a Sustainability Worksheet, a Funding Readiness Assessment, and the development of a personalized Impact Snapshot to support future pitches to funders. For many organizations, the initiative marked the first time they had developed a formal funding strategy tied directly to their demonstrated community impact.

Beyond the workshops, eight organizations continued with individualized technical assistance, receiving support from a nonprofit fundraising specialist. These sessions helped grantees build content banks for grant applications, identify aligned funders, strengthen donor strategies, and draft or refine fund development plans. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, and evaluation ratings averaged 4.7 out of 5. Grantees shared that the most valuable outcomes were increased confidence in seeking funding, clarity gained around organizational priorities, and the ability to communicate impact and funding needs to potential investors in a compelling way.

This project represents an essential evolution in SCCFC's role. Rather than solely serving as a funding body, the Commission is now positioning itself as a system-strengthening leader focused on sustainability, collaboration, and capacity-building. The work supported partners in developing diversified revenue strategies, improving messaging around impact,

building organizational readiness for competitive funding, and strengthening the regional network of providers serving young children.

Ultimately, the initiative ensured that as funding structures change, the services families depend on are not lost. Instead, they are being fortified through knowledge, planning, leadership, and shared responsibility. Through intentional collaboration with First 5 Yuba and local partners, SCCFC is helping build a resilient early childhood ecosystem that will continue to serve children and families for years to come.

Tehama

At First 5 Tehama, we know every North State family dreams of a village — a caring community where every family feels seen, trusted, and supported to thrive and feel hopeful. We know every parent's journey is unique, shaped by familial culture and strengthened by the community around them. Marely's story shows how programs that build trusting relationships and honor each family's unique journey create a ripple effect of hope and strength that transforms lives.

Marely became a mother at 16. Like many teen parents, she faced financial challenges and limited access to resources. Although fluent in English and Spanish, navigating services wasn't always easy — until a teacher at Centennial High School connected her with Help Me Grow Tehama. That referral led to a trusting relationship with a bilingual family liaison who provided essentials like diapers and a car seat, but more importantly, offered culturally respectful support without judgment. This trust encouraged Marely to open up about her emotional health, leading to a postpartum depression screening — a critical service, as one in five teen parents experience postpartum depression. The screening led to a connection with the Postpartum Support Group Circle of Hope, a bilingual and welcoming space led by an MFT where young mothers find connection, confidence, and healing. As Marely's confidence grew, she joined Family Champions, a parent advisory group where she now shares resources and encourages other young moms to seek help. "I shared what I learned with other moms in my neighborhood and with my family members," she said. Today, Marely is not just a participant but a resource herself — a trusted community voice who reminds others that asking for help is an act of strength.

Her story reflects what makes Tehama County unique: transformation happens through relationships. Across 2,900 square miles of farmland, foothills, and small towns, partnerships fill the gaps that geography creates. This year, those partnerships grew through the Car Seat Safety Coalition, a powerful collaboration between First 5 Tehama, NCCDI, Public Health, Help Me Grow, and community partners. In FY 2024–25 and into the beginning of FY 2025–26, the coalition hosted seven events serving 148 families, providing 104 car seats and completing

44 installation safety checks. Combined with previous efforts, the coalition has now served 267 families, provided 205 car seats, and completed 62 safety checks, ensuring that every child begins their journey safely.

These accomplishments were made possible through coordinated, multi-agency funding and shared commitment: First 5 Prop 10 funds, AAA grant funding to NCCDI, Buckle Up for Life partnerships with NCCDI and Help Me Grow, VOSP and Public Health HMG collaboration, MCAH funding for infants, and even a Public Health surplus donation that fueled community events. Each partner contributed not just resources but trust — the cornerstone of successful systems change, in rural counties.

Across the year, bilingual specialists and partners connected families through 27 community events, linking them to Imagination Library, Positive Parenting Program (Triple P), postpartum and mental health supports, and Help Me Grow developmental screenings. These combined efforts enrolled 587 new children in Imagination Library, brought 55 families into Triple P, and quadrupled countywide social-emotional screenings.

Trinity

During Fiscal Year 2025, First 5 Trinity continued to advance early childhood wellness and family resilience through a pilot partnership with the Trinity County Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Branch. By embedding First 5 oversight within Public Health, the County enhanced coordination, accountability, and sustainability across programs serving children and families. This integration strengthened data sharing, expanded cross-program outreach, and ensured consistent alignment with countywide health and prevention priorities.

We continued to strengthen childhood systems and supports through a coordinated network of programs designed to give every child the best possible start in life. Our School Readiness program through the Trinity County Office of Education fostered strong transitions into kindergarten by promoting early learning, literacy, and parent engagement across local communities. Our Trinity Smiles program through the Trinity County Office of Education expanded access to preventive care and education, helping families establish healthy dental habits from early on in life. This program has been able to develop partnerships with dental offices in nearby counties. These partnerships have been able to increase the consistency with which families are able to access timely care for their children with urgent dental needs. Our Welcome Baby program through a local non-profit, The Human Response Network (HRN), provided compassionate, home-based support to new parents, offering guidance and connections to community resources during the crucial early months of new parenting. Our two swim programs ensured that families with young children throughout Trinity County had access to learning essential water safety skills while building confidence and awareness

around outdoor recreation which is critical in Trinity County given the number of lakes, rivers, and ponds in our area. Together these programs illustrate First 5 Trinity's commitment to nurturing health, resilient families and ensuring that every child is safe, supported and ready to learn.

While we experienced many successful outcomes for children and families during FY 2024-25, fluctuations in funding allocations, uncertainty around annual funding structures, and the administrative burden of reapplying each year presented a significant challenge and threat to our ability to continue to provide high-quality early childhood programs and systems of care in our very rural, frontier County. These conditions created instability in program-planning, staffing and service delivery and made it difficult to continue to maintain long-term partnerships and measure consistent outcomes. Stable, predictable funding is essential to ensure that our local programs can continue providing uninterrupted, relationship-based supports to children and families across our county.

Tulare

With declining revenue, we are appreciative of our partnerships in the community that provide invaluable services to our most vulnerable 0-5 population. In 2024-25, our Commission's funded programs served 21,381 parents and children. 2024-25 was the first year of a three-year grant cycle. The new grant cycle provided a new opportunity to serve an identified need in our community of Lindsay. The Lindsay Unified School District School Readiness program provides developmental screening to all preschool and transitional kindergarten students. The program staff will use the learner's screening results to make referrals and implement intervention strategies and adaptations as appropriate. The Early Learning Social Emotional Inclusion Specialist (ELSEIS) provides all Early Childhood Education staff support and coaching. ELSEIS will also provide parent education opportunities to support families throughout the year.

In 2024-25, 108 children were screened, 150 referrals were made to support services. 95 percent of the children were successfully linked to services. In addition, the ELSEIS held 27 Parent Education meetings, reaching 650 Parents. A parent passionately quoted, "I have the opportunity to watch the learning facilitators at LUSD in action daily and they are very diligent at giving individual attention to each learner and helping them feel heard and important. They are genuine and work hard to create a nurturing learning environment that fosters positive conversations and fun, safe interactions. The love and support in each learning environment go hand in hand and can easily be seen from all learning facilitators."

Tuolumne

In FY 2023–24, First 5 Tuolumne County advanced its mission to ensure that all young children grow up healthy, safe, and ready to learn through collaboration, innovation, and fiscal responsibility.

First 5 County Highlights

Despite declining tobacco tax revenue, the Commission strengthened family resilience, promoted child health and development, and enhanced system integration across Tuolumne County's rural communities.

STRENGTHENING FAMILY RESILIENCE AND EARLY SUPPORT

Through ICES Raising Healthy Families, First 5 Tuolumne provided home visiting and parent education that strengthened protective factors and improved family functioning. In FY 2023–24, 113 parents participated in services. Forty percent achieved or made substantial progress on at least one family goal, 63 percent engaged in social networking, and 45 percent expanded their social connections. Ninety-six parents attended online parenting classes, with "Trauma and Resilience" and "Effective Discipline" drawing the highest participation.

Families also benefited from developmental screenings, with 60 children completing Ages and Stages Questionnaires and nine identified for further assessment. A major milestone was Help Me Grow Tuolumne's formal affiliation with the Help Me Grow National Network, expanding developmental screening and coordinated referral systems. Over 330 community members participated in outreach and training, strengthening cross-sector alignment among health, education, and family support providers.

ADVANCING QUALITY EARLY LEARNING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Commission continued its investment in high-quality early learning through Quality Counts Tuolumne, which supported all state-funded preschools in quality improvement. Early educators completed 1,599 hours of professional development focused on inclusion, social-emotional learning, and instructional quality.

The SEED program provided 300 hours of individualized coaching to 54 teachers, supporting implementation of the Teaching Pyramid model. Eleven children were identified for additional supports and referred for early intervention.

The Imagination Library also promoted early literacy, providing monthly books to 1,078 children—nearly 29 percent of all Tuolumne County children under five. Since 2018, families have received 33,479 books, supporting early literacy and family bonding.

PROMOTING CHILD HEALTH THROUGH SMILE KEEPERS

The TCSOS Smile Keepers program, supported by First 5 Tuolumne, continued its 20-year commitment to improving oral health among young children. In FY 2023–24, 798 children received screenings, and of the 273 with follow-up visits, nearly all sustained or improved oral health. Preventive education reached 403 parents at kindergarten registration, and 371 families received infant oral health kits at Adventist Health Sonora. Long-term data show a continued decline in active dental caries among preschoolers, confirming the

success of this prevention model.

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS OF CARE
First 5 Tuolumne led ongoing system integration and sustainability efforts. Help Me Grow Tuolumne guided adoption of the Unite Us referral platform, now part of the Comprehensive Prevention Plan, improving service coordination across agencies.

The Commission co-hosted a Regional Home Visitor Retreat with First 5 Amador, the Tuolumne Resiliency Coalition, and Blue Zones Tuolumne County. The event brought together 25 home visitors from two counties to share strategies, strengthen networks, and promote workforce well-being.

Recognizing the volatility of tobacco tax revenue, the Commission worked diligently to diversify its funding base. A growing share now comes from external grants and partnerships, including Behavioral Health Services Act funding, a variety of Quality Counts grants, and other community grants, ensuring financial stability and continuity of essential programs.

Ventura

First 5 Ventura County's (F5VC) FY 2024-25 investments supported the early childhood system through Neighborhoods for Learning (NfL), offering Parent and Child Together classes and family support; Help Me Grow (HMG); and systems integration, advocacy, and capacity building. The Commission advanced home visitation with several grant-funded initiatives. The Welcome Every Baby (WEB) home visitation pilot, funded by County pandemic recovery dollars, continued to improve maternal and child health, strengthen prevention, and address service gaps. F5VC also used $145,596 from First 5 California's Regional Home Visiting Technical Assistance grant to:

- Host Ventura County's first Home Visiting Conference, bringing together 110+ home visitors and partners for training on trauma-informed care, maternal mental health, and child development.
- Create bilingual eligibility tools to help families and care coordinators identify appropriate home visiting programs.
- Develop fiscal leveraging and system-building tools, including steps toward contracting with the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan, Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP).

These mark the first dedicated resources for home visiting in Ventura County, tackling systemic barriers and expanding access. The Commission strengthened its partnership with GCHP by signing an MOU to coordinate services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries, especially children prenatal to age five.

Work also began on becoming a contracted Community Health Worker provider with GCHP, enabling reimbursement for services—key to sustainability as Proposition 10 revenues decline. In parallel, the Commission partnered with the Ventura County Human Services Agency on building a countywide Wellness System. Through the NfL, two pilot projects—Community Pathways and

the Family Access and Self-Sufficiency Team (FASST)—were launched to increase access to supports and promote healthy families in safe, local settings.

Yolo

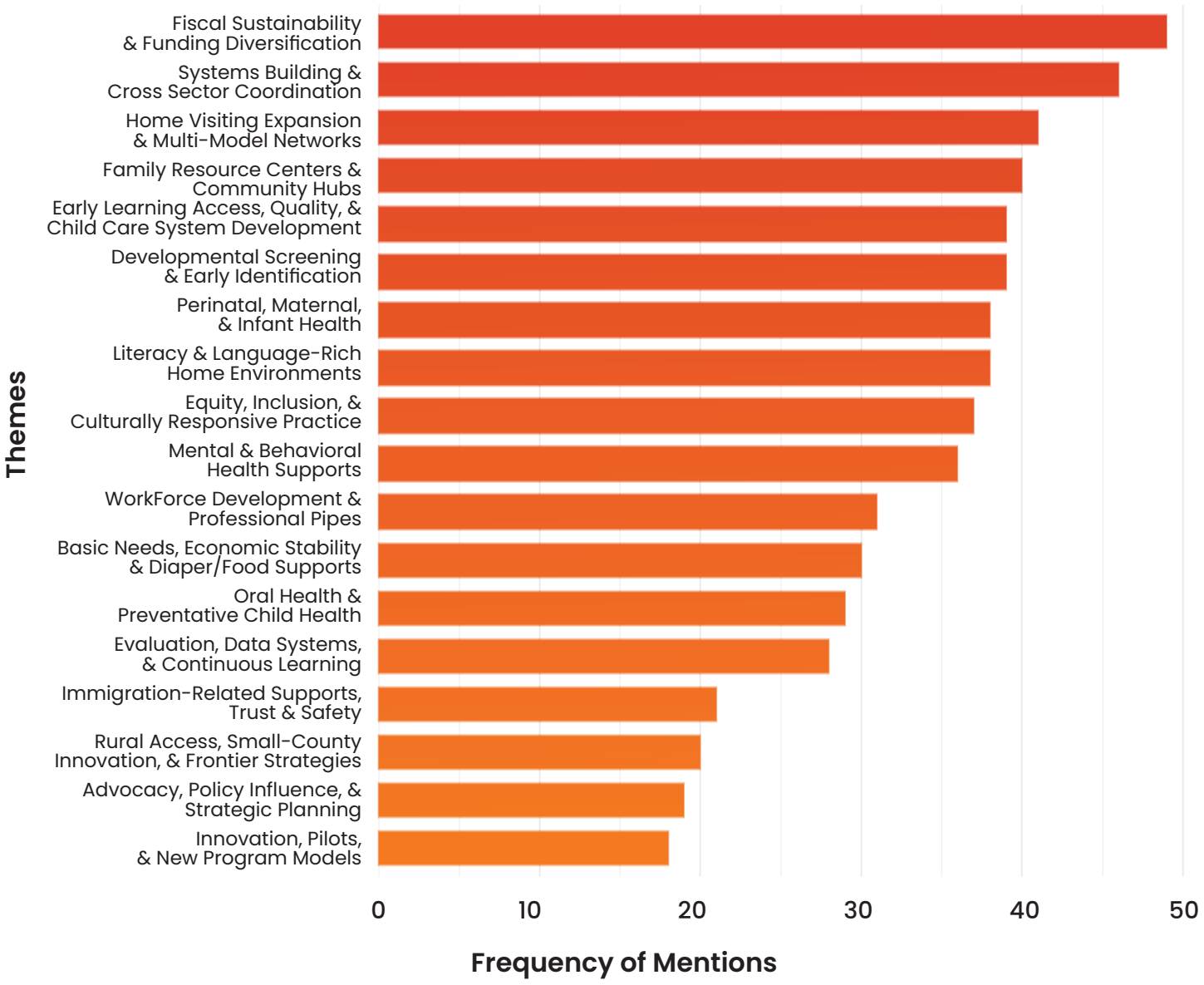
In FY 2024–25, First 5 Yolo signified a transformative year—both in program impact and in agency role and profile. In maternal and infant health, First 5 Yolo fully integrated its Welcome Baby and Road to Resilience programs. The merged initiative, now the agency's largest, created a seamless continuum of care for postpartum families—providing nurse home visits, behavioral health screenings, lactation support, and extended parent coaching by community health workers. More than 400 high-risk families were served, with 98 percent of mothers completing timely postpartum visits and infants showing significantly higher well-child visit rates. The model has earned statewide and local recognition for advancing health equity and preventing child abuse, with leaders, policymakers, academics, and Managed Care Plans citing it as an inspiring and replicable framework for maternal-child health reform.

At the same time, First 5 Yolo continued its broader mission of building an integrated, coordinated, and effective system of care for children prenatal to 5 in alignment with Proposition 10. Yet the recent, steeper decline in Prop 10 revenues threatens this work. Today, more than 75 percent of agency funding comes from non-Prop 10 sources, requiring the braiding of multiple streams to sustain complex and meaningful systems change. While we celebrate the success of our many partnerships, the fiscal complexity and administrative burden are heavy and largely unfunded. Variability in eligibility, timing, and reporting continues to create barriers for families—particularly those most in need of improved systems.

Balancing these challenges, First 5 Yolo has also broken new ground in pursuing sustainable funding through Medi-Cal billing. Building on proven impacts in maternal and child health, the agency is now an enrolled provider, serving as Supervising Provider for the Community Health Worker Benefit and contracting under CalAIM. While Medi-Cal billing helps offset program costs, it does not cover the full infrastructure needed to operate at scale. Looking ahead, First 5 Yolo remains committed to strengthening systems of care for young children and families and looks to the State as a critical partner in sustaining this vital work.



Thematic Analysis of First 5 County Highlights, FY 2024-25



† The bar chart illustrates a thematic analysis of key themes identified in the county highlights during the 2024–25 reporting period.

† Missing county highlights from Lake and Yuba counties.

Thematic Analysis of First 5 County Highlights, FY 2024-25

THEMES	DESCRIPTIONS
Fiscal Sustainability & Funding Diversification	Efforts to reduce reliance on Prop 10: leveraging grants, Medi-Cal/CalAIM billing, philanthropy, local tax measures, and braided funding strategies.
Systems Building & Cross-Sector Coordination	Building coordinated systems of care, backbone roles, referral networks, collective impact tables, and integrated service delivery.
Home Visiting Expansion & Multi-Model Networks	Implementation or expansion of home visiting models, centralized intake, and regional collaboratives.
Family Resource Centers & Community Hubs	Place-based services such as FRCs, community hubs, Neighborhoods for Learning, and family navigation supports.
Early Learning Access, Quality & Child Care System Development	Preschool/UPK/UTK, QRIS/Quality Counts, facility expansion, capacity building, school readiness, and quality improvement.
Developmental Screening & Early Identification	ASQ/ASQ-SE expansion, Help Me Grow systems, pediatric screening, early identification, referral pathways.
Perinatal, Maternal & Infant Health	Perinatal mental health, postpartum screening, lactation support, maternal health workgroups.
Literacy & Language-Rich Home Environments	Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, book distribution, Story Walks, Talk/Read/Sing, literacy promotion.
Equity, Inclusion & Culturally Responsive Practice	Work with Black, Indigenous, Latino, immigrant, multilingual, and rural communities; cultural humility; equity indices.
Mental & Behavioral Health Supports	IECMH consultation, CPP, TF-CBT, trauma-informed trainings, emotional regulation supports for families.
Workforce Development & Professional Pipelines	CHW certification, home visitor training, ECE workforce pipelines, stipends, PD cohorts, apprenticeships.
Basic Needs, Economic Stability & Diaper/Food Supports	Diaper programs, food distribution, cash assistance, rent/utility relief, addressing poverty and material hardship.
Oral Health & Preventive Child Health	Dental screenings, oral health education, fluoride varnish programs, oral health coalitions.
Evaluation, Data Systems & Continuous Learning	Shared outcomes frameworks, dashboards, CQI, data-informed decision making, feasibility studies.
Immigration-Related Supports, Trust & Safety	Supporting families experiencing fear, immigration threats, legal stressors, or language access barriers.
Rural Access, Small-County Innovation & Frontier Strategies	Mobile services, reaching remote communities, frontier-county adaptations, cross-county sharing to address isolation.
Advocacy, Policy Influence & Strategic Planning	Local ballot measures, county policy initiatives, 5-year strategic planning, legislative advocacy.
Innovation, Pilots & New Program Models	Newly designed pilots, CHW networks, digital tools, novel home visiting models, integrated service innovations.

Appendix







Appendix A1: Revenues by Source, FY 2024-25

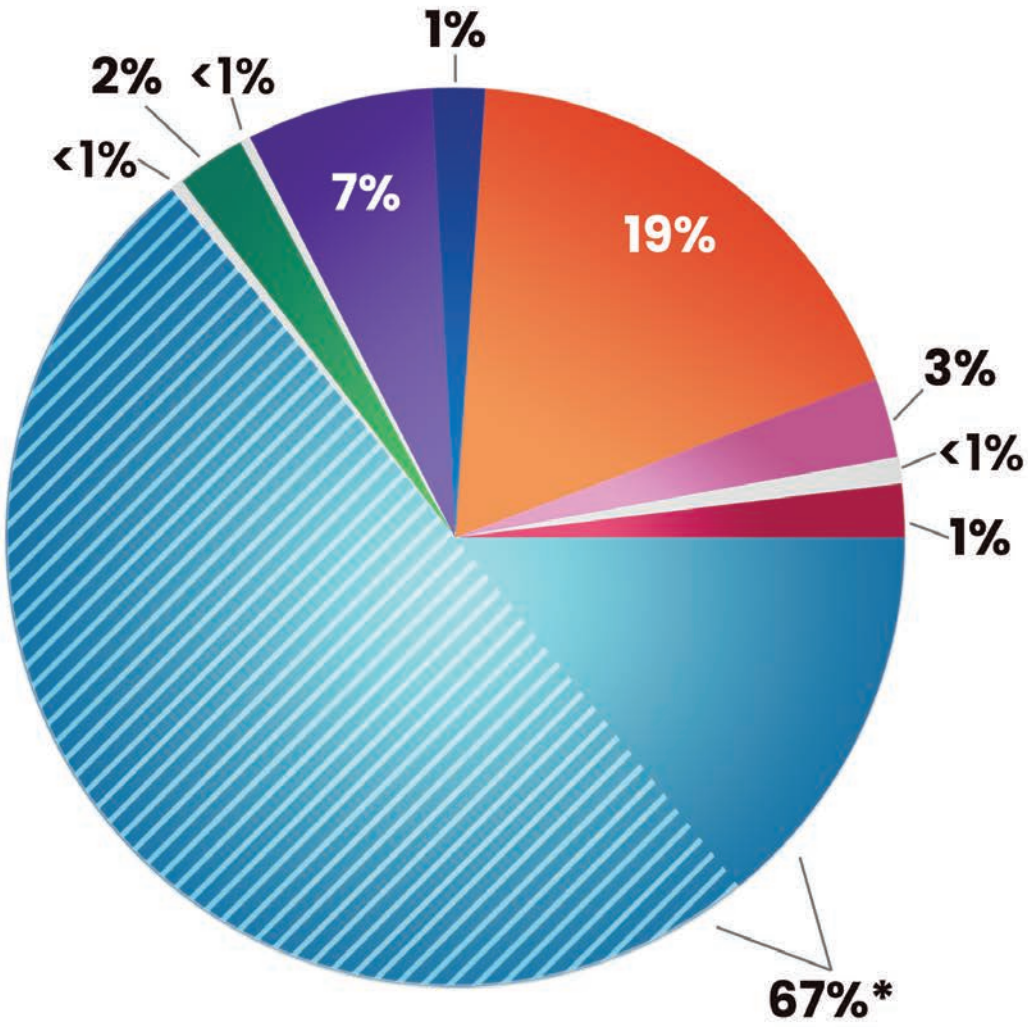
Tobacco Tax Funds [1]	$	210,173,998
IMPACT 2020 Funds [2]	$	32,308,055
Small County Augmentation Funds [3]	$	3,940,404
Other Funds or Revenues [4]	$	9,321,390
Other Public Funds [5]*	$	725,668,213
**This reflects a settlement of $618.7 million to First 5 Alameda*		
Other First 5 California Funds [6]	$	4,161,228
Grants [7]	$	17,685,157
Donations [8]	$	517,696
Revenue from Interest Earned [9]	$	70,322,113
Home Visiting Coordination Funds [10]	$	6,876,565
Total Revenue	$	1,080,974,819

† Data includes all county commissions, except for Lake and Yuba. Imperial's audit report submission to SCO is pending.

† The substantial increase in total revenue in FY 2024–25 compared with FY 2023–24 is primarily because First 5 Alameda received $618.7 million in FY 2024–25 from the Alameda County Measure C sales tax.

1. Total Proposition 10 and Proposition 56 tobacco tax revenue.
2. Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive (IMPACT Legacy) consortia or regional hub funds received from First 5 California.
3. Small Population County Funding Augmentation (SPCFA) funds received from First 5 California.
4. Other funds or revenues received, may include rental income or revenue from services provided.
5. Other federal, state or public funds received.
6. Other funds received from First 5 California.
7. Grants received by the county commission.
8. Donations received by the county commission.
9. Interest earned in all Children and Families Trust Fund revenue accounts by the county commission.
10. Other funds received from First 5 California.

Appendix A1: Revenues by Source, FY 2024-25



- Tobacco Tax Funds
- IMPACT Legacy Funds
- Small County Augmentation Funds
- Other Funds or Revenues
- Other Public Funds

**One time settlement of $618.7 million to First 5 Alameda*

- Other First 5 California Funds
- Grants
- Donations
- Revenue from Interest Earned
- Home Visiting Coordination Funds

Appendix A2: Number of Services and Expenditures by Result Area and Service Type, FY 2024-25

RESULT AREA AND SERVICE TYPE	CHILDREN	PRIMARY CAREGIVERS	PROVIDERS	TOTAL PRIMARY CAREGIVERS & PROVIDERS	TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES	PERCENT OF SERVICES IN RESULT AREA (1)	PERCENT OF TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES (1)	TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR SERVICES	PERCENT OF SERVICE EXPENDITURES IN RESULT AREA (1)	PERCENT OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES (1)
Improved Family Resiliency										
General Family Support	89,393	161,701	3,998	165,699	255,092	36%	20%	$68,248,850	69%	18%
Intensive Family Support	30,355	34,447	803	35,250	65,605	9%	5%	$24,556,662	25%	6%
Family Literacy and Book Programs	247,543	140,791	1,399	142,190	389,733	55%	31%	$5,434,561	6%	1%
Total Improved Family Resiliency	367,291	336,939	6,200	343,139	710,430	100%	57%	$98,240,073	100%	26%
Improved Child Development										
Quality Early Learning Supports	127,157	21,015	23,474	44,489	171,646	82%	14%	$78,867,193	88%	21%
Early Learning Program Direct Costs	29,137	6,719	735	7,454	36,591	18%	3%	$10,934,894	12%	3%
Total Improved Child Development	156,294	27,734	24,209	51,943	208,237	100%	17%	$89,802,087	100%	24%

† Data includes all county commissions, with the exception of Lake and Yuba. Imperial's audit report submission to SCO is pending.

(1) Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

RESULT AREA AND SERVICE TYPE	CHILDREN	PRIMARY CAREGIVERS	PROVIDERS	TOTAL PRIMARY CAREGIVERS & PROVIDERS	TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES	PERCENT OF SERVICES IN RESULT AREA (1)	PERCENT OF TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES (1)	TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR SERVICES	PERCENT OF SERVICE EXPENDITURES IN RESULT AREA (1)	PERCENT OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES (1)
Improved Child Health										
General Health Education and Promotion	28,785	51,502	2,516	54,018	82,803	25%	7%	$7,129,875	6%	2%
Oral Health Education and Treatment	26,438	2,615	170	2,785	29,223	9%	2%	$3,325,802	3%	1%
Early Intervention	63,675	26,455	11,440	37,895	101,570	30%	8%	$27,420,091	25%	7%
Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting	24,017	40,979	444	41,423	65,440	19%	5%	$64,269,358	58%	17%
Prenatal and Infant/Toddler Pediatric Support	32,715	20,822	3,268	24,090	56,805	17%	5%	$7,717,596	7%	2%
Total Improved Child Health	175,630	142,37	17,838	160,211	335,841	100%	27%	$109,862,722	100%	29%
Impproved Systems of Care										
Policy and Public Advocacy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$23,255,104	28%	6%
Systems Building	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$58,562,414	71%	15%
Emergency and Disaster Relief	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$893,160	1%	0%
Total Improved Systems of Care	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$82,710,678	100%	22%
GRAND TOTAL								**$380,615,560**		

† Data includes all county commissions, with the exception of Lake and Yuba. Imperial's audit report submission to SCO is pending.
(1) Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

Appendix B: Result Area and Service Type Definitions

Result Area: Improved Family Resiliency

Providing parents, families, and communities with relevant, timely, and culturally appropriate information, education, services, and support.

FAMILY LITERACY AND BOOK PROGRAMS

Programs promoting family literacy, parent-child book sharing, or book ownership for families with children ages birth to 5. The Kit for New Parents may be included if these statewide efforts are locally modified to promote literacy. For example, adding a children's book, and information and registration link to Imagination Library to the Kits can be an effective way to distribute books and reinforce the importance of access to early literacy activities. Program models or initiatives include Dolly Parton's Imagination Library[1], Kit for New Parents[2], Little by Little[3], Potter the Otter[4], Raising a Reader[5], Reach Out and Read[6], and other Local Models.

GENERAL FAMILY SUPPORT

Programs providing short-term, non-intensive instruction on general parenting topics, and/or support for basic family needs and related case management, including meals, groceries, clothing, and temporary or permanent housing acquisition assistance. General family support may include general playgroup programs that provide parents/caregivers with opportunities to engage, learn, and play with their children. Playgroups are structured, intentional opportunities for parents and/or caregivers and their young children to support the optimal development of the child, the social-emotional needs of the family, and increase social connectedness. General family support may also include referrals to family services such as Family Resource Centers

(FRCs) and other community resources. Core Operating Support includes staff, facilities, materials, and other general operating costs associated with an organization's day-to-day functioning. Fatherhood programs and other operational and support for family support agencies and/or networks are included. In general, these programs are designed to provide less intense and shorter term ("lighter touch") support services and classes for families by paraprofessional staff (e.g., FRCs). Program models or initiatives

1 The imagination Library of California gifts high quality, age-appropriate books every month to children from birth until the child turns five.

2 The Kit for New Parents provide free kit for new parents that includes parent guide, numbers touch-and-feel book, what to do when your child gets sick boo, and more. Kits are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese.

3 The Little by Little Program is an evidence-based early literacy program for young children (ages 0-5) from families engaged in the WIC program.

4 The Potter the Otter is a free bilingual book that is a perfect reminder for children to drink water every day to stay hydrated and healthy.

5 The Raising A Reader program provides a way for children and their parents or caregivers to participate in a weekly rotating book bag program through early care and education settings.

6 The Reach Out and Read is a program that promotes early literacy and school readiness by integrating children's books and advice about the importance of reading aloud into pediatric care.

include Abriendo Puertas[7], Avance[8], Core Operating Support[9], Playgroups, Triple P[10] Levels 2-3, and Five Protective Factors[11].

INTENSIVE FAMILY SUPPORT

Programs providing intensive and/or clinical services by a paraprofessional and/or professional, as well as one-to-one services in family support settings. Programs are generally evidence-based and designed to support at risk parents and families prenatally or with young children to increase knowledge and skills related to parenting and improved family resiliency (e.g., counseling, family therapy, parent-child interaction approaches, and long-term classes or groups). This also is the category for comprehensive and/or intensive services for special populations (i.e., homeless, teen parents, foster children, special needs). Program models or initiatives include Incredible Years[12], Nurturing Parenting Program[13], and Triple P[14] Levels 4-5.

Result Area: Improved Child Development

Increasing the quality of and access to early learning and education for young children.

EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM DIRECT COSTS

Early learning programs for children ages 0 to 5 years old may include preschool programs, kindergarten transition services, and early learning programs for all ages. Programs may include child related early literacy and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math programs; programs for homeless children; migrant programs; and similar investments. Extra supports in early learning settings for homeless children, Federal Migrant or Tribal Child Care programs, and children receiving Alternative Payment vouchers for childcare should be included here. Program models or initiatives include Facility Grants, First 5-funded Preschool/Childcare Reimbursement, and Summer Bridge Programs.

7 The mission of Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors is to honor and support parents as leaders of their families and their child's first and most influential teacher.

8 AVANCE walks alongside children and caregivers in primarily Latino communities to achieve social and economic justice.

9 Core/General Operating Support is defined by Hutton Parker Foundation as unrestricted funding enabling an organization to carry out its mission. Funding awards are intended to underwrite administrative infrastructure, support increased agency capacity, assist with strategic financial and organizational capacity and/or help maintain core programs and essential staff.

10 Triple P gives parents simple and practical strategies to help them build strong, healthy relationships, confidently manage their children's behavior and prevent problems from developing.

11 The five protective factors at the foundation of Strengthening Families are characteristics that have been shown to make positive outcomes more likely for young children and their families, and to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect.

12 The Incredible Years® offers a variety of evidence-based early intervention programs for parents, teachers, early childhood educators, counselors, and other professionals who work with children ages 0-12.

13 The Nurturing Parenting® Programs are a family-centered trauma-informed initiative designed to build Nurturing Parenting® skills as an alternative to abusive and neglecting parenting and child-rearing practices.

14 Triple P gives parents simple and practical strategies to help them build strong, healthy relationships, confidently manage their children's behavior and prevent problems from developing.

QUALITY EARLY LEARNING SUPPORTS

Programs designed to enhance early learning programs such as professional development for early educators, or implementation and integration of services. This service category may include quality and improvement system investments as part of IMPACT investments and other Quality Counts California investments. This service category covers early learning and care (ELC) settings work, most commonly by licensed care providers, but is also inclusive of alternative settings such as Family Resource Centers; Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care; Boys and Girls Clubs; and libraries. This service category may include interagency collaboration, quality improvement supports, support services to diverse populations, and database management and development.

Result Area: Improved Child Health

Promoting optimal health through identification, treatment, and elimination of the risks that threaten children's health and lead to developmental delays and disabilities in young children.

EARLY INTERVENTION

Programs providing screening, assessment, and diagnostic services, including referrals or follow-up to needed services. Programs including early intervention or intensive services to children with disabilities and other special needs, or at-risk for special needs, should be included here. May include strategies targeting language and communication skills, social and emotional development, developmental delays, and related parent education. Developmental playgroups are specifically intended for children who have been identified as at-risk for developmental delays. Additionally, the playgroup staff are trained to support each child's specific early intervention goals. Mental Health Consultations in early learning and care (ELC) settings are included here. Program models or initiatives include Care Coordination and Linkage, Developmental Playgroups and Mild-to-Moderate Supports.

GENERAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

Programs promoting children's healthy development, including nutrition, fitness, access to insurance (health, dental, vision) and health services. Programs also may focus on increased awareness of information about child safety seats, fire, safe sleep, and substances education (drugs, alcohol, tobacco). Program models or initiatives include Nutrition/Breastfeeding, Safety Education, and Smoking or Tobacco Cessation.

ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND TREATMENT

Programs providing an array of services including dental screening, assessment, cleaning and preventive care, treatment, fluoride varnish, and parent education on the importance of oral health care. Category may include provider training and care coordination of services. Program models or initiatives are Local Models.

Appendix B: Result Area and Service Type Definitions

PERINATAL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING

Home visiting is the primary service delivery strategy for inter-generational family-centered supports. Home visiting services are provided in the home by qualified professionals with parents, prenatally and/or with children birth to age three. These voluntary programs tailor services to meet the needs of individual families and offer information, guidance, and support directly in the home environment. While home visiting programs vary in goals and content of services, in general, they combine parenting and health care education, early intervention, and early learning supports for young children and their families. Their visits focus on linking pregnant women with prenatal care, promoting strong parent-child attachment, and coaching parents on learning activities that foster their child's development and supporting families during the pivotal window of pregnancy through early childhood. Program models or initiatives include Early Head Start[15], Healthy Families America[16], Healthy Steps[17], Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)[18], Nurse Family Partnership (NFP)[19], Parents as Teachers[20], Welcome Baby[21], and other Local Models.

PRENATAL AND INFANT/TODDLER PEDIATRIC SUPPORT

Out-of-home programs include prenatal care and follow-up for healthy development-related services during the first three years of a child's life. These programs are designed to improve the health and well-being of women during and after pregnancy, and the infant or young child by a paraprofessional and/ or professional outside of the family home, including, but not limited, to pediatric or clinical environments. Programs may provide comprehensive support, including parenting education, health information, developmental assessments, providing referrals, and promoting early learning. Program models or initiatives include Developmental Understanding and Legal Collaboration for Everyone (DULCE)[22], Healthy Steps, and other Local Models.

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15 Early Head Start is a federally funded program that provides services for infants, toddlers, and pregnant women from low-income families.

16 Healthy Families America (HFA) works with pregnant and parenting families of children prenatally up to age 5.

17 HealthySteps program provides early childhood development support to families where they are most likely to access it- pediatric primary care office.

18 Home Instruction for parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) aims to support parents and caregivers as their children's first teacher.

19 Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) is designed for low-income pregnant people and their children and focuses on first-time parents.

20 Parents as Teachers is a voluntary early childhood development program offering research-based curricula that help families raise children to be healthy, safe, and learning.

21 Welcome Baby is a voluntary, universal hospital-and home-based intervention for families who are expecting or have recently given birth.

22 DULCE is an innovative approach based in the pediatric care setting that proactively addresses social determinants of health, promotes the healthy development of infants, and provides support to their parents, all during the precious and critical first six months of life.

Result Area: Improved Systems of Care

Implementing integrated, comprehensive, inclusive, and culturally and linguistically appropriate services to achieve improvements in one or more of the other Result Areas.

EMERGENCY AND DISASTER RELIEF

Unplanned expenditures made in response to a community disruption resulting from local, regional, or statewide events such as fires, earthquakes, floods, widespread illness (epidemic, pandemic), or riots. Direct materials or support may include addressing immediate needs of individuals or communities for items such as diapers, clothing, food, shelter, transportation, childcare, and lost wages. Also includes coalition building funding used in concert with other philanthropic, government, and business partners to support broader emergency response systems efforts. Program models or initiatives for material support and coalition building.

POLICY AND PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Services include community awareness, public outreach and education on issues related to children ages 0 to 5 years old and their families. This also includes work focused on policy change, work with local and statewide stakeholders, Town Halls, policy development, and related efforts. Program models or initiatives to address resilient families and communities, child health, early learning, and revenue Sustainability.

SYSTEMS BUILDING

Efforts to improve service quality, connections between programs, infrastructure support, and professional development. This category includes activities such as strategic planning, business planning, grant writing workshops, sustainability workshops, and assistance in planning and promoting large community conferences or forums. These improvement efforts should result in improved outcomes for children ages 0 to 5 years old. Improvements could be geared toward creating a well-trained workforce with shared professional standards and competencies, creating strong and effective linkages across system components, or leveraging funding to sustain the system of care. Database management and other cross-agency systems evaluation are also reported here. Program models or initiatives include Early Identification and Intervention (e.g., Help Me Grow[23]), Family Resiliency[24], Health Systems, Behavioral Health Systems[25], Place-Based[26], and Trauma Informed Care/Adverse Childhood Experiences[27].

23 Help Me Grow is a system of supports for pregnant women, caregivers with new babies, and families with young children with developmental delays and disabilities.

24 Family resilience is the family's ability to maintain or resume effective functioning—including care of its members—following potentially traumatic events.

25 https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/cybhi

26 Place-based early identification and intervention refers to services and support that help babies and toddlers (from birth to 3 years of age) with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.

27 Trauma-informed care is an approach to healthcare delivery that recognizes and responds to the signs, symptoms, and risks of trauma to better support the health needs of patients who have experienced.



Appendix C: Demographics of Populations Served, FY 2024-25

AGE CATEGORY	INDIVIDUALS SERVED
Children Less Than 3 Years Old	204,931
Children from 3rd to 6th Birthday	177,502
Children—Ages Unknown (birth to 6th birthday)	258,582
Primary Caregivers	464,436
Providers	46,805
Total Children 0-5	641,015
Total Primary Caregivers	511,241
Total Children, Caregivers, and Providers	1,152,256

LANGUAGE	CHILDREN 0-5	PRIMARY CAREGIVERS	TOTAL
English	239,834	164,170	404,004
Spanish	125,067	85,180	210,247
Cantonese	1,739	1,417	3,156
Mandarin	1,075	586	1,661
Vietnamese	3,532	2,750	6,282
Korean	223	159	382
Other	18,174	9,778	27,952
Unknown	250,133	199,144	449,277
Total	639,777	463,184	1,102,961

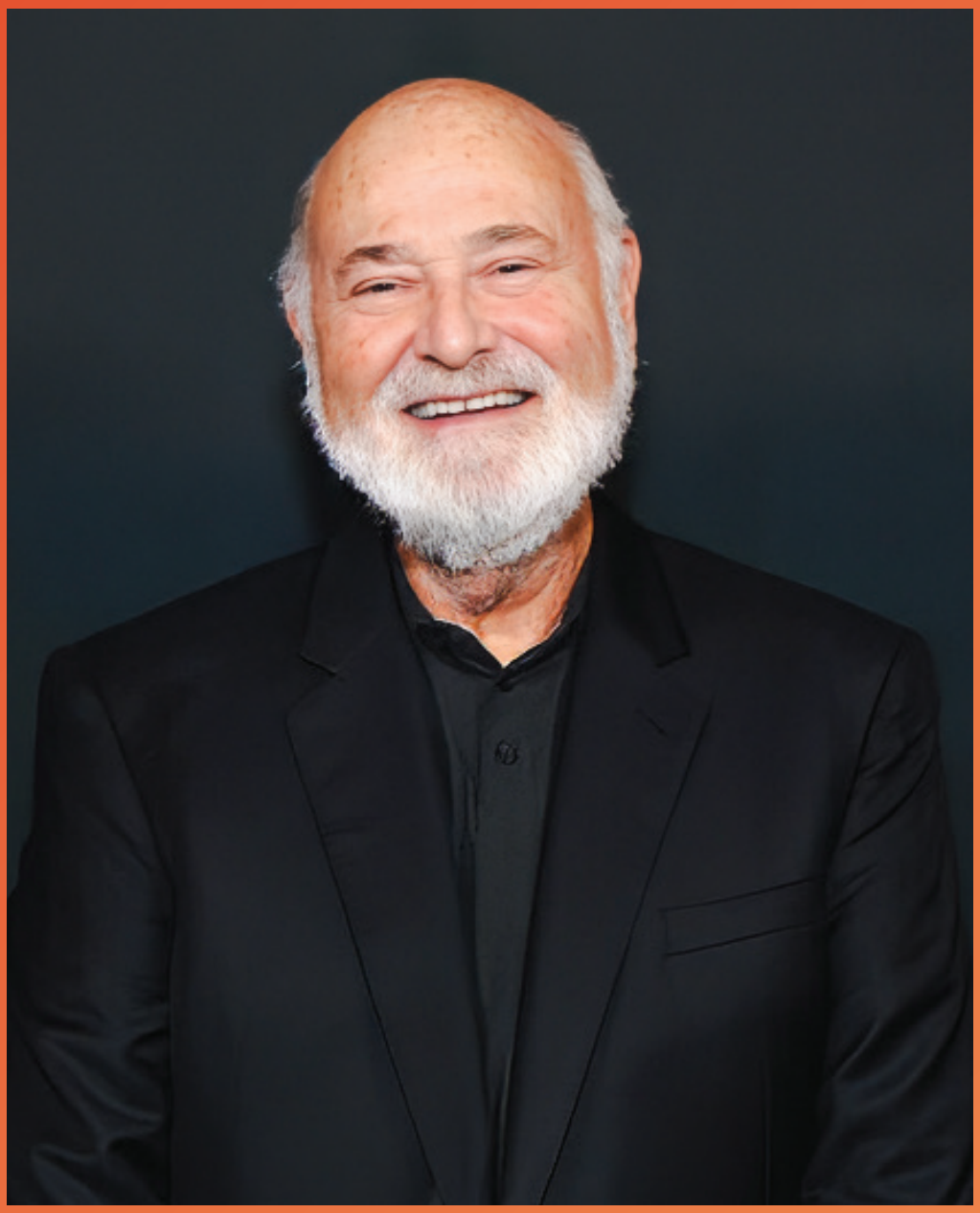


Appendix C: Demographics of Populations Served, FY 2024-25

RACE/ ETHNICITY CATEGORY	CHILDREN 0-5	% Distribution of Children 0-5	PRIMARY CAREGIVERS	% Distribution of Primary Caregivers	TOTAL
Alaska Native/ American Indian	4,231	0.7%	2,260	0.5%	6,491
Asian	23,484	3.7%	15,788	3.4%	39,272
Black/ African-American	25,994	4.0%	18,991	4.1%	44,985
Hispanic/ Latino	201,730	31.4%	154,655	33.2%	356,385
Middle Eastern or North African	1,228	0.2%	1,840	0.4%	3,068
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1,705	0.3%	997	0.2%	2,702
Two or more races	14,066	2.2%	5,528	1.2%	19,594
White	56,728	8.8%	43,948	9.4%	100,676
Other	9,327	1.5%	9,474	2.0%	18,801
Unknown	304,204	47.3%	211,699	45.5%	515,903
Total	642,697	100.0%	465,180	100.0%	1,107,877

† Other-includes respondents who selected unknown or did not specify their race/ ethnicity. This group may also include individuals who identify with a race or ethnicity not explicitly listed in the available categories, or those who opted not to disclose this information for personal reasons. Data regarding these responses is available upon request.

In Memoriam



Rob Reiner

1946–2025

First 5 California dedicates this report to the legacy of Rob Reiner, a visionary leader, fierce advocate, and true champion for California's youngest children and families.

Rob's leadership and commitment helped shape California's early childhood system for the last 25 years, and his legacy of care, compassion, and commitment will continue to guide us in our work and inspire generations to come.







FIRST 5 CALIFORNIA®

G. **Future Agenda Items:**
   G.1. First 5 Riverside County Annual Budget
   G.2. First 5 Riverside County Champion for Children Award
   G.3. 2027-2030 First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan Update
   G.4. Inland Southern California United Way - Guaranteed Income Pilot Project Presentation
   G.5. Help Me Grow Inland Empire Presentation

H. **Adjournment:** Adjournment to the next Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission to be held on May 13, 2026, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at:
   First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission Office
   585 Technology Court — Conference Room A
   Riverside, CA 92507

Conflict of Interest: Any person, or group of persons present at this meeting, who wish (es) to speak on a matter may be required to state for the record any contributions, in excess of $250.00 made in the past (12) twelve months, made to any Commission member, the Commission member receiving the contribution, and the matter of consideration with which they are involved.

Agenda Posting: Agendas will be posted at the Clerk of the Board of Riverside County and the Commission Business Office.

All public record documents for matters on the open session of the Agenda are available for inspection at the meeting listed in this Agenda, and at the following location beginning three (3) days prior to the meeting date:

Riverside County Children and Families Commission
585 Technology Court
Riverside, CA 92507

If a public record document that relates to a matter on the open session of the Agenda is distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting date, the public record document shall be available for inspection, at the same time it is distributed, at the address listed above. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.