



Report from Executive Director
May 26, 2016

I. Administrative Operations

- Staffing Updates
 - Amy Schroeder has joined the First 5 team as our new Office Coordinator, bringing a wide-range of skills as an administrative professional in human resources, customer relations, manufacturing, property management and sales.
 - Recruitment is underway for a part-time Special Projects Coordinator to support community initiatives and special projects. (see website for more information)
- Program Audits
 - Annual program audits for internal fiscal review of FY 2014-15 First 5 expenditures have been initiated for 6 contractors, representing 8 funded programs.

II. Commission Initiatives

- Neighborhoods for Learning (NfL)
 - Santa Clara Valley NfL
 - Strong Community Collaborations
 - United Way of Los Angeles provided NfL with \$6,352 for utility assistance, serving a total of 75 families.
 - In collaboration with FOOD Share, Sharing the Harvest Program served 242 families in Fillmore and 566 in Santa Paula.
 - Through the USDA Program, NfL served 311 families in Fillmore and 339 in Santa Paula.
 - NfL served 366 families through Drought Boxes provided by State.
 - Two passenger car seat inspection events at Fillmore Fire Station.
 - 3-session workshop on family finances offered by Pepperdine professor.
 - Rio NfL
 - In collaboration with VCPH, 6-session class, “Let’s Move with Fruits & Vegetables”, offered as part of outdoor classroom activities.
 - Seven community-wide food distributions in third quarter provided food to 1,183 families (5,847 individuals).
 - Mixteco community meeting attended by approximately 65 families and 125 children, with drought rescue boxes distributed to eligible participants.
 - Pleasant Valley NfL
 - Close to 80 preschool children screened for hearing and vision.
 - Fostering Social Connections
 - Family field trip offered through PACT classes, with 27 families carpooling to Santa Paula to Painted Pony Farm.

- Results Based Accountability - Learning Communities
 - PACT Teachers Learning Community
 - 13 PACT teachers (representing 8 NfLs) participated in 4-part series on inclusive practices for accommodating children with special needs and their families.
 - Case Management Learning Community
 - NfL family support staff continue to meet regularly to share information, learn about referral resources and build skills.
 - Referral resources on basic needs identified by the group as an area of shared interest, with recent presentations from Housing Rights Law Center, FoodShare, and El Concilio Family Services.

- Countywide Strategies
 - Help Me Grow (HMG)
 - HMG developing an “Early Identification Guide” geared towards the medical setting, an adaption of the “Developmental Screening Toolkit” for preschools.
 - Guide will be piloted through HMG’s quality improvement initiative with Gold Coast Health Plan.
 - HMG and VCPH currently mapping referral networks for social emotional concerns and will provide ongoing support to agencies.
 - Upcoming training will be offered on recently updated ASQ/SE to help agency staff identify social/emotional and behavioral concerns.

 - Triple P
 - City Impact clinicians, working with MICOP trainers to bring Triple P to the Mixtec population, have delivered 8 successful parenting groups.
 - Having previously presented their work with this linguistically isolated population at the CiMH Conference in 2015, City Impact recently presented at the International Helping Families Change (Triple P) Conference, reaching a large audience of researchers and Triple P practitioners from around the world.

 - 2-1-1 Information Resource and Referral line – New Guided Search Function
 - Since the launch of the Guided Search earlier this year, First 5 entries continue to top the list of resources viewed online.
 - “Parenting Skills Classes” is the 4th most searched term (after Rent Assistance, Low Income/Subsidized Rental Housing, and Food Pantries).

 - Regional Health Professionals – Ventura County Public Health (VCPH)
 - Developmental Screening Expansion
 - VCPH continues to expand developmental screening resources to private preschools and other community organizations, providing support and trainings for staff.
 - Group screenings also being piloted.
 - 9 group screening sessions held at 5 NfL sites reached 39 children.
 - Ongoing group screenings taking place at 6 NfL family resource center sites in Oxnard.

- Community Education & Outreach – Community Events
 - CDA Cares Ventura - F5VC was a sponsor of the event and provided 300 Potter the Otter books to young children.
 - Gold Coast Health Fair - books and information provided to local Oxnard families.
 - Summerfest - F5VC was a sponsor of the event and provided books and information to families.
 - National Public Health Week - Lee the Bee books provided for community story time hosted by VCPH.
- Resource Development
 - Assessment Committee formed to help guide work with Netzel Grigsby in developing a resource development plan for F5VC.
 - Committee will be chaired by Supervisor Long; participants include Commissioner Stenslie along with former Commissioners and community leaders in the county.

III. County, Regional and National Updates

- First 5 Partner Appreciation Event
 - First 5 Ventura County staff and commissioners hosted appreciation event in honor of approximately 100 funded and community partners.
 - Special screening of documentary "The Raising of America", exploring stories of parents, caregivers and communities as they struggle to provide the nurturing environments all babies and young children need to thrive.
- Celebrity Reader Event “Take 5 and Read to Kids” (see attached media)
 - Launch Celebrity Reader event held on May 5, 2016 at 10:00 am, when 40 celebrity readers read in malls, libraries, preschool classrooms and at NfLs.
 - Commissioners Kathy Long, Bruce Stenslie and Stan Mantooth, along with Dr. Richard Rush, Supervisor Steve Bennett, Sheriff Geoff Dean and County CEO Mike Powers were among 40 leaders reading to young children at preschools, libraries and malls across the county.
 - Celebrity Readers at Strawberry Festival
 - Harbor Commissioner Mary Anne Rooney, Supervisor Kathy Long, Commissioner Dr. Bob Levin, Family Practice Physician Dr. Lisa Solinas and Oxnard Police Chief Jerri Williams read strawberry-themed books on both Festival days.
 - “Take 5 and Read to Kids” is a partnership between the Ventura County Star and First 5 Ventura County to raise awareness about the importance of early childhood literacy.
- Social Mobility – Community Commission for Ventura County (CCVC)
 - CCVC has been moving forward to engage community leadership in understanding barriers to social mobility.
 - Several commissioners have been involved in leading this effort along with Public Health, Interface, and United Way.
 - Initial efforts will focus on West Ventura.
 - Following meetings with community, city and school district leadership, presentation will be made to Westside Community Council in August.

- Research to Action Grant on Outcomes and Indicators
 - F5VC has been asked to take the lead on project funded by the Center for the Study of Social Policy's EC-LINC initiative.
 - Working with external consultants, protocols will be developed and implemented for use of common indicators by EC-LINC communities.
 - F5VC will coordinate this work with the First 5 Association's Annual Data Project.
 - F5VC will also continue to lead the efforts on the Research to Action Grant on Best Practices for 0-3 Playgroups.
- Advocacy Day
 - F5VC participated in First 5 Association's Advocacy Day in Sacramento, partnering with Santa Barbara to engage legislators and their staff in dialog around issues facing young children and their families.
 - Association will be working with counties to help coordinate summer recess visits with legislators to local sites in their districts.
- State Budget (see attached communication from CA Department of Education)
 - Senate Budget sub-committee and Assembly Budget committee have rejected the Governor's May Revision proposal for the Early Education Block Grant.
- Tobacco Legislation (see attached summaries of current and pending legislation)
 - Several bills recently signed into law by Governor Brown on licensing fees, increasing the smoking age to 21, and state regulation of e-cigarettes.
 - Ballot measure on \$2 tobacco tax increase is pending qualification for the November 2016 ballot.
 - Preliminary projections for impact on First 5 revenues have been developed by the Association (see attached sheet).
- National convenings – F5VC Presence
 - F5VC staff have been asked to participate and showcase the work being done in Ventura County at several recent EC-LINC national convenings.
 - Convenings have included National League of Cities, the Prevention Institute and the All-Site Meeting for EC-LINC.

IV. Upcoming Events

- **First 5 Committees**
 - **Program Committee**, May 31, 2016, 1:00–3:00 pm, Ventura County Community Foundation
 - **Administration/Finance Committee**, June 3, 2016, 9:30–11:30 a.m., F5VC offices

PROVIDER ANECDOTE

Hueneme/ South Oxnard NfL – Collaboration with MICOP

On August 21, 2015 “Mrs. Torres” gave birth to two beautiful twin girls named “Maricela” and “Marisol”. Unfortunately, both of the girls were born with medical conditions. Maricela was born with respiratory problems. She was unable to ingest milk by herself and was hospitalized immediately at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital where she underwent surgery. During this time she had to be tube fed. After she was released from the hospital she often had respiratory infections. When Mrs. Torres took her daughter to the doctor each time she was told that it was only a virus. This was very frustrating to Mrs. Torres because she did not feel that she was getting adequate care for her child. The other child, Marisol, was born with hip fractures and she had to use a hip fracture support. Mrs. Torres was very concerned about the health of both of her children.

Mrs. Torres’ primary language is Mixteco and she came to the NfL to receive assistance from MICOP’s case workers to help her make doctor appointments for her two daughters. Case workers made appointments, filled out forms and did interpretation for VCPH nurses who made house visits to check on the children. They also helped her apply for services with Amigo Baby for physical therapy. MICOP’s case workers helped Mrs. Torres advocate for the health of her children, so that she could receive the services needed. Mrs. Torres attended several workshops given by MICOP promotoras at the NfL to learn how to strengthen her parenting skills and to receive the tools she needed to deal with the stress of having two children with chronic medical needs.

Thanks to all of the support and information the family has received from the NfL, they are now better able to take care of themselves and their children in a safe and effective manner with a clear understanding due to the information being interpreted into their primary language. The parents are very happy and thankful to all the agencies and organizations that supported and helped them.

Triple P

Client is a 5 year old Hispanic female who was very anxious. She often cried and had fears about everything and would not go to bed alone. She had a serious medical problem and had to have two throat surgeries. Client was crying and anxious each time she had to go to the hospital. Her siblings became jealous, because all the mother’s attention was for the client, causing much family discord.

The clinician observed the family dynamics in order to adjust the Triple P program to this case. She instructed mother how parents’ emotions and behaviors influence and affect their children. She educated mother about anxiety and depression, identifying the symptoms, and how to recognize the first physical signs in order to counter them with positive thoughts and then how to form a plan of action. She also counseled mother on how to decrease the rivalry between siblings. She taught mother, client and siblings breathing relaxation exercises and often practiced with them. Client and siblings learned to work together as a team, and she helped them plan family activities. Clinician modeled for mother and client how to prepare for her medical treatment, focusing on the positive aspects. Mother learned that the client needed to take care of herself and to be more independent, achieving that through use of motivational statements and behavior charts. Currently, client goes to the bed alone. The fights with her siblings have significantly decreased along with her general fears. She does not cry when she goes to her medical exam; instead she is cooperative and very friendly with the hospital’s staff. Client’s physician told the mother that the client’s improvement is noticeable.

From: bounce-1455362-4997087@mlist.cde.ca.gov [mailto:bounce-1455362-4997087@mlist.cde.ca.gov] **On Behalf Of** CDDLlists@cde.ca.gov

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 12:59 PM

To: Petra Puls <ppuls@first5ventura.org>

Subject: BUDGET UPDATE: GOVERNOR'S FY 2016-17 MAY REVISION PROPOSAL FOR EARLY EDUCATION BLOCK GRANT – May 19, 2016

This is a message from the California Department of Education (CDE), Early Education and Support Division (EESD).

BUDGET UPDATE: GOVERNOR'S FY 2016-17 MAY REVISION PROPOSAL FOR EARLY EDUCATION BLOCK GRANT – May 19, 2016

On May 13, 2016, the Governor's May Revision FY 2016-17 proposal for Early Education Block Grant (EEBG) and the Child Care programs was released. On Monday, May 16, a message was sent informing you of the May Revision proposal. We would like to provide you with a brief update on the latest events since last Friday.

The Senate Budget sub-committee met on May 18 and rejected the Governor's May Revision proposal for the EEBG. Previously, on April 12, the Assembly Budget committee rejected the Governor's EEBG proposal. Both houses have now rejected the EEBG proposal. This means that the Governor's proposal as presented in the May Revise will not be part of the budget process.

Also on May 18, the Senate Budget sub-committee approved the following items for the child care programs:

- Increase the Regional Market Rate (RMR) to the 75th percentile of the 2014 survey, effective January 1, 2017

- Increase the Standard Reimbursement Rate by four percent, effective July 1, 2016

- Provide 2,000 Alternative Payment slots, effective October 1, 2016

We have learned that the Assembly will submit its early education proposal on Monday, May 23.

Additionally, the Legislative Women's Caucus is asking for an \$800 million increased investment in the following for child care programs:

- One-time quality and support investment

- Increasing the RMR to the 85th percentile of 2014 survey

- Increasing license-exempt rate to 80% of the current RMR

Increasing SRR rates in counties where SRR is below the 85th percentile of the 2014 Survey
Ensuring 12-month eligibility and updating income guidelines
Securing 25,000 slots for children birth to 3-year-olds

Once each house completes its budget, any differences that exist between the Assembly and Senate versions of the two documents will go to budget conference committee to resolve these differences. Then, each house will vote on the final budget, and if adopted forward it to the Governor for approval. The Legislature's approved budget is by law due to the Governor by June 15.

As of this point in the budget process, nothing is final except that the Governor's May Revision FY 2016-17 EEBG proposal has been rejected.

As we learn more information, we will update this message.

Thank you for your commitment to quality programs for California's children!

You have received this message because you are subscribed to an e-mail list from the California Department of Education's Early Education and Support Division. To unsubscribe from this list, go to <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/emailindex.asp>.

Tobacco and E-cigarette Proposals at a Glance

Supplement to Policy and Advocacy Newsletter May 9, 2016

	New Annual BOE Licensing Fee	One-Time Reallocation of BOE Reserve to Special Funds	Smoking Age Increase to 21	E-Cigarette Regulation	Proposed Ballot Measure \$2 Tobacco Tax Increase
Description:	Fee would prevent the siphoning of special fund dollars to cover the administrative costs of tobacco licensing. Now that e-cigarettes are regulated, it will apply to the licensing of cigarettes and e-cigarettes.	Budget proposal to return reserve funds held in the Cigarette and Tax Tobacco Compliance Fund to the special funds, including ~\$3M to Prop 10.	Raises the legal age for purchasing tobacco and e-cigarettes from 18 to 21, with an exemption for active members of the military...	Classifies e-cigarettes as a tobacco product subject to the same restrictions as existing tobacco products. Does not change tobacco revenue and taxation code.	Proposed increase to excise taxes on the distribution of cigarettes and other tobacco products by \$2 per pack. Would also apply, for the first time, the tobacco products excise tax to e-cigarettes.
Status:	Effective June 9, 2016.	Approved by Assembly Budget Committee; pending action by Senate and Governor for inclusion in 16-17 state budget.	Effective June 9, 2016	Effective June 9, 2016.	Pending signature collection to qualify for November ballot.
Estimates:	In FY 14-15, Prop 99 and Prop 10 covered 86% of the licensing program's shortfall, amounting to \$6.8M. Of which, the Prop 10 share is \$4.6M.	~\$3M additional Prop 10 dollars allocated to the State (~\$600K) and County Commissions (~\$2.4M).	The BOE projects reduced tobacco excise tax revenues of about \$43M per year, of which \$39M would come special funds, including Prop 10.	No anticipated change in tobacco tax revenue (General Fund and special funds).	The measure provides for the backfill of Prop 10 revenue loss. The LAO estimates, that in 2017-18, excise taxes on e-cigarettes could generate revenue ranging from the \$10-\$40M for Prop 10.
Revenue Impact:	Ongoing positive revenue impact.	One-time positive revenue impact.	Ongoing negative revenue impact	Neutral revenue impact.	Ongoing mixed revenue impact.
Public Health Impact:			Ongoing positive public health impact.	Ongoing positive public health impact.	Ongoing positive public health impact.

Tobacco Proposals: Estimated Revenue Breakdown

Green = confirmed proposals

Blue = pending proposals

	% of Births	Impact of Annual Licensing Fee	Impact of Age Increase to 21		Impact of Proposed \$2 Tobacco Tax (Backfill)	Impact of Proposed \$2 Tobacco Tax (New E-Cig Rev)	
Estimate		New fee covers costs currently paid by special funds (including Prop 10)	Reduced tobacco excise tax revenues of about \$43M per year.	Total w/ confirmed proposals	\$200 to \$230M in 2017-18.	Very rough estimates from the Legislative Analysts Office	Total
Source:		State Auditor's Report	Bill Analysis		LAO	LAO	
Prop 10		\$4,600,000	-\$24,510,000	-\$19,910,000	Neutral	\$30,000,000	
First 5 CA (20%)		\$920,000	-\$4,902,000	-\$3,982,000	Neutral	\$6,000,000	\$1,190,000
First 5's (80%)		\$3,680,000	-\$19,608,000	-\$15,928,000	Neutral	\$24,000,000	\$8,072,000
Los Angeles	25.73%	\$946,768	-\$5,044,624	-\$4,097,857	Neutral	\$6,174,571	\$2,076,714
San Diego	8.63%	\$317,662	-\$1,692,585	-\$1,374,923	Neutral	\$2,071,708	\$696,784
Orange	7.57%	\$278,607	-\$1,484,490	-\$1,205,883	Neutral	\$1,817,001	\$611,118
Riverside	6.18%	\$227,322	-\$1,211,233	-\$983,910	Neutral	\$1,482,537	\$498,627
San Bernardino	6.12%	\$225,279	-\$1,200,347	-\$975,068	Neutral	\$1,469,213	\$494,145
Santa Clara	4.70%	\$172,865	-\$921,072	-\$748,207	Neutral	\$1,127,383	\$379,177
Sacramento	3.93%	\$144,692	-\$770,954	-\$626,263	Neutral	\$943,640	\$317,378
Alameda	3.85%	\$141,797	-\$755,532	-\$613,735	Neutral	\$924,764	\$311,029
Fresno	3.22%	\$118,641	-\$632,151	-\$513,510	Neutral	\$773,746	\$260,237
Kern	2.94%	\$108,036	-\$575,643	-\$467,607	Neutral	\$704,581	\$236,974
Contra Costa	2.46%	\$90,610	-\$482,796	-\$392,185	Neutral	\$590,937	\$198,752
Ventura	2.14%	\$78,638	-\$419,004	-\$340,366	Neutral	\$512,857	\$172,491
San Joaquin	2.06%	\$75,769	-\$403,719	-\$327,949	Neutral	\$494,148	\$166,198
San Mateo	1.78%	\$65,614	-\$349,608	-\$283,994	Neutral	\$427,917	\$143,923
San Francisco	1.77%	\$65,265	-\$347,748	-\$282,483	Neutral	\$425,641	\$143,157
Tulare	1.59%	\$58,460	-\$311,488	-\$253,029	Neutral	\$381,259	\$128,230
Stanislaus	1.55%	\$56,901	-\$303,181	-\$246,280	Neutral	\$371,090	\$124,810
Monterey	1.33%	\$48,767	-\$259,845	-\$211,078	Neutral	\$318,048	\$106,970
Santa Barbara	1.15%	\$42,312	-\$225,449	-\$183,137	Neutral	\$275,947	\$92,810
Solano	1.04%	\$38,417	-\$204,695	-\$166,278	Neutral	\$250,544	\$84,266
Sonoma	1.04%	\$38,390	-\$204,550	-\$166,161	Neutral	\$250,368	\$84,207
Merced	0.87%	\$31,849	-\$169,698	-\$137,850	Neutral	\$207,709	\$69,860
Placer	0.77%	\$28,329	-\$150,946	-\$122,616	Neutral	\$184,756	\$62,140
Imperial	0.63%	\$23,367	-\$124,504	-\$101,137	Neutral	\$152,392	\$51,254
Santa Cruz	0.61%	\$22,369	-\$119,190	-\$96,821	Neutral	\$145,888	\$49,067
San Luis Obispo	0.52%	\$19,208	-\$102,344	-\$83,136	Neutral	\$125,268	\$42,132
Yolo	0.49%	\$18,085	-\$96,363	-\$78,278	Neutral	\$117,947	\$39,670
Kings	0.49%	\$17,990	-\$95,855	-\$77,865	Neutral	\$117,325	\$39,460
Butte	0.48%	\$17,654	-\$94,063	-\$76,409	Neutral	\$115,132	\$38,723
Madera	0.47%	\$17,411	-\$92,768	-\$75,358	Neutral	\$113,547	\$38,190

Tobacco Proposals: Estimated Revenue Breakdown

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First 5 CA (20%)		\$920,000	-\$4,902,000	-\$3,982,000	Neutral	\$6,000,000	\$1,190,000
First 5's (80%)		\$3,680,000	-\$19,608,000	-\$15,928,000	Neutral	\$24,000,000	\$8,072,000
Marin	0.47%	\$17,191	-\$91,598	-\$74,407	Neutral	\$112,114	\$37,708
Shasta	0.41%	\$15,270	-\$81,361	-\$66,092	Neutral	\$99,585	\$33,494
El Dorado	0.32%	\$11,616	-\$61,895	-\$50,278	Neutral	\$75,758	\$25,480
Napa	0.30%	\$11,175	-\$59,543	-\$48,368	Neutral	\$72,880	\$24,512
Humboldt	0.29%	\$10,829	-\$57,702	-\$46,872	Neutral	\$70,626	\$23,754
Sutter	0.26%	\$9,605	-\$51,179	-\$41,574	Neutral	\$62,643	\$21,069
Yuba	0.25%	\$9,172	-\$48,872	-\$39,700	Neutral	\$59,818	\$20,119
Mendocino	0.22%	\$8,016	-\$42,710	-\$34,694	Neutral	\$52,277	\$17,582
Nevada	0.16%	\$6,045	-\$32,207	-\$26,163	Neutral	\$39,421	\$13,259
San Benito	0.15%	\$5,680	-\$30,262	-\$24,583	Neutral	\$37,041	\$12,458
Tehama	0.15%	\$5,592	-\$29,798	-\$24,206	Neutral	\$36,472	\$12,267
Lake	0.15%	\$5,404	-\$28,794	-\$23,390	Neutral	\$35,243	\$11,854
Siskiyou	0.09%	\$3,439	-\$18,323	-\$14,884	Neutral	\$22,428	\$7,543
Tuolumne	0.09%	\$3,305	-\$17,609	-\$14,305	Neutral	\$21,554	\$7,249
Glenn	0.08%	\$2,910	-\$15,507	-\$12,597	Neutral	\$18,981	\$6,384
Calaveras	0.07%	\$2,441	-\$13,009	-\$10,567	Neutral	\$15,923	\$5,355
Del Norte	0.06%	\$2,360	-\$12,573	-\$10,213	Neutral	\$15,389	\$5,176
Colusa	0.06%	\$2,278	-\$12,136	-\$9,859	Neutral	\$14,855	\$4,996
Lassen	0.06%	\$2,218	-\$11,819	-\$9,601	Neutral	\$14,466	\$4,866
Amador	0.05%	\$2,002	-\$10,669	-\$8,667	Neutral	\$13,059	\$4,392
Inyo	0.04%	\$1,630	-\$8,686	-\$7,056	Neutral	\$10,631	\$3,576
Plumas	0.03%	\$1,161	-\$6,187	-\$5,026	Neutral	\$7,573	\$2,547
Mono	0.03%	\$1,057	-\$5,632	-\$4,575	Neutral	\$6,893	\$2,318
Mariposa	0.03%	\$1,020	-\$5,434	-\$4,414	Neutral	\$6,651	\$2,237
Trinity	0.02%	\$804	-\$4,283	-\$3,479	Neutral	\$5,243	\$1,763
Modoc	0.01%	\$536	-\$2,856	-\$2,320	Neutral	\$3,495	\$1,176
Sierra	0.00%	\$141	-\$754	-\$612	Neutral	\$922	\$310
Alpine	0.00%	\$45	-\$238	-\$193	Neutral	\$291	\$98
		\$3,680,015	-\$19,608,079	-\$15,928,064		\$24,000,097	\$8,072,033

**First 5 Briefings
April 2016**

**Association Meeting
April 27, 2016**

Note: All Association Meeting handouts are available on the [First 5 Association Intranet](#).

Association President Sean Casey welcomed members to the meeting and facilitated a recognition of outgoing Executive Directors Anne Molgaard (Mendocino), Tom Jordan (Lake), Joy Garcia (Shasta), Laurel Kloomok (San Francisco) and Alfredo Perez (Sonoma). Christina Altmayer (Orange) was recognized and thanked for her time on the Executive Committee as she transitions to a new role with First 5 LA. It was also announced that Amy Reisch would be appointed to the Executive Committee as the new Advocacy Chair to replace Christina Altmayer. It was clarified that because the change was taking place during the year, an appointment could be made by the Executive Committee without requiring a vote.

Data and Indicators Project: Child Outcome Indicators Working Session

[Presentation](#) by Moira Kenney, Executive Director of First 5 Association, Nicole Young of Optimal Solutions Consulting and Steve Cohen, Consultant with the Center for the Study of Social Policy.

Nicole clarified the purpose of the Data and Indicators project, providing the broad vision of telling a compelling story about the state of California's 0-5 population and to develop a common message among the 59 commissions in order to have a statewide influence on matters related to early childhood systems.

Steve Cohen's [presentation](#) provided context for the Data and Indicator's project, establishing a

direct correlation between the project and work that is currently being done at the national level. He introduced the proposed desired outcomes as identified by EC-LINC (Early Childhood Learning and Innovation Network for Communities) and provided explanations regarding the proposed indicators that EC-LINC is recommending to use as metrics for measuring success.

Steve shared EC-LINC's proposed systems performance measures, clarifying that the metrics for measuring the proposed value propositions are still in the early stages of development. He advised that the project was in process of being handed over to Orange and Ventura counties who will be taking the lead on next steps.

Moira transitioned the presentation back to the Data and Indicators Project, outlining the connection between this project and the influence it will have on shaping the Annual Report for FY 17-18. She then walked the group through the Early Childhood Indicators which cover three areas: Early Learning and Development, Child Health and Family Context.

Early Learning and Development's indicators include:

- % of children assessed as ready to enter kindergarten
- % of early childhood programs that are high quality
- % of parents who read to their children regularly

The group requested that the language of the third indicator be modified and that a fourth indicator related to % of kindergarten children receiving special education services be added.

Child Health indicators include:

- % of babies born at a low birth weight
- % of young children who have had a dental visit in the previous 12 months
- % of young children who are obese

Family Context indicators include:

- Substantiated cases of abuse or neglect per 1,000 children/Reports of alleged abuse or neglect per 1,000 children
- California Poverty Rate

The group determined that a third indicator for this category and related to family strengthening is warranted.

Nicole facilitated a group conversation where participants shared out questions, comments and concerns, but provided a consensus that the indicators were appropriate and reflected the work being done by First 5.

Overall, Association members expressed support for the list of indicators presented, and for the idea that these indicators would substantially improve messaging about First 5 work at both the local and statewide level. Executive Directors agreed that the Communications Committee should provide input into how to best describe these indicators so that it is understood that these represent a broad vision for children and families, rather than a specific description of First 5 investments.

Moira then provided a brief overview of the second phase of this project, which will focus on the Annual Report redesign. The State Commission staff are very interested in working collaboratively with Association representatives to shape a proposal for the Annual Report redesign – focusing on collecting information that can be easily aggregated and that will demonstrate the work of First 5 at the community level. Moira emphasized the importance of the Executive Directors attending the May 17th meeting in Santa Clara, which will be a working day to shape the Annual Report.

Registration for the Annual Report work day is

still open, and you can register [here](#). If you have any questions about registering for the work day, please email Heather Little.

Dental Transformation Initiative

Moira provided an [overview](#) of the [DHCS Dental Transformation Initiative](#). The DTI – part of the Medi-Cal 2020 waiver – seeks to increase the use of preventive dental services for children, prevent and treat more early childhood caries, and increase continuity of care for children. Moira clarified that the Department is encouraging First 5 commissions to work with their public health departments and oral health partners to review the DTI components, particularly the Local Pilots.

Stakeholder commissions were encouraged to continue the conversation over lunch.

Sharing an Agenda for Quality- From Local to State Recommendations

Laurel Kloomok represented a set of [recommendations](#) from the Bay Area Quality Early Learning Partnership. The partnership was formed to support the Bay Area's Race to the Top effort, and has now expanded to include the additional counties working on IMPACT.

The recommendations cover the following policy areas:

- State Infrastructure – alignment, data, income eligibility
- QRIS Infrastructure – tiers, child outcomes, program types
- Workforce Development – reimbursement rates, compensation, credentialing
- Higher Education – degree coursework, continuum of opportunities
- Coaching – guidelines, flexibility

- Sustainability – CDE and First 5 funding and staff

In addition to the recommendations, the Bay Area counties have produced a [website](#) which includes a series of policy briefs on each of the areas in the recommendations.

Association members expressed broad support for the recommendations, and encouraged Association staff to link these to existing conversations at both the policy and implementation levels.

Moira reported that the Association is considering a contract with VIVA Strategies, who provided support to the Commissions during the RTT effort to operationalize these recommendations. This effort with VIVA would include consultation with Association members to gauge which recommendations are top priority for First 5s, which are already in process through other efforts, and how commissions might contribute to the broader policy conversations.

There will be further discussion of the Association’s early learning policy goals for 2016-2017 at the July Association meeting.

Advocacy Updates

Alexis Fernández thanked everyone for a successful advocacy day and for feedback received so far. The Association is already planning ahead, both in terms of immediate follow-up actions and for Advocacy Day 2017. In the context of building on the momentum of Advocacy Day and thinking about our ongoing policy and advocacy efforts, many attendees mentioned that their members expressed interest in a local site visit or similar event.

Alexis proposed coordinating these local site visits during a week in July when members are on summer recess. Site visits would be part of

simultaneous statewide First 5 effort and the Association could offer basic policy/communications support.

The goal of the site visits would be to continue building a relationship with your local elected officials and educating them on local priorities and their connection to our statewide policy agenda.

There was general agreement and interest. The Association will follow-up in early April with more details.

State Commission Updates

Camille gave an update on activities at First 5 CA. See Commission meeting section of the First 5 Briefings.

**State Commission Meeting
April 28, 2015**

Note: All Commission Meeting Handouts are available on the [First 5 CA website](#).

Commissioners Present:

George Halvorson, Chair
Conway Collis
Lupe Jaime
Shana Hazan
Joyce Iseri
Erin Pak
Ex Officio Member: Jim Suennen

George Halvorson provided a brief overview of the items on the agenda.

New Commissioner Shana Hazan introduced herself. She started as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools and has worked primarily in the non-profit sector. She is Senior Director of Strategic Resource Development at Jewish Family Service of San Diego

New Commissioner Lupe Jaime also introduced herself, noting that she is the first Commissioner from the Central Valley. She has worked in the early learning field for over 20 years and is currently at the Fresno County Office of Education.

Executive Director Report

Camille Maben provided the following updates:

- Visits to Glenn, Kings and Santa Clara
- Packard Early Learning Collaborative
- BUILD's State Policy Early Learning Table meeting in Chicago focusing on developing the continuum of learning from early education to early elementary.
- Superintendent Torlakson's Accountability Taskforce and the

inclusion of a whole child approach in the assessment process.

- Commissioner Halvorson upcoming appearance (May 25th) on Dr. Oz
- Sweepstake on iHeart Radio for Mother's and Father's Day
- Expanded work with ethnic media partners on the Talk, Read, Sing campaign

On IMPACT, Camille explained that the staff is reviewing Phase 2 applications, providing support to counties as they develop action plans. Evaluation staff is working to develop the evaluation design. Staff is building out the website, with an extensive list of

Sierra Losh has been hired to replace Jenifer Clark as the Director of Fiscal Services.

Association Report

The Association hosted its Advocacy Day at the Capitol in early April. Over 90 attendees from 28 counties made visits to 93 legislators to talk about First 5's policy priorities and work at the local level. The visits were a critical opportunity for staff and Commissioners to connect with legislators and put families and children at the center of the policy conversation.

Work is continuing to deepen connections with state agencies around home visiting. The Association is meeting with the Department of Social Services to explore the role home visiting plays in the lives of families in the CalWorks program and is co-sponsoring the Department of Public Health upcoming Home Visiting Summit. This focus on connecting our local work directly to the key state level initiatives is a major focus of our statewide work.

Building on work launched by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, a major research partner at the national level, the Association (again, with First 5 CA), has begun the process of

selecting a set of child outcome indicators. The goal with this project is two-fold: First, to tell a compelling story about the status of young children’s health, development, and well-being across California *from the First 5 perspective; and second*, Inform and influence statewide priorities, policies, initiatives, and legislation that affect early childhood systems. These indicators will provide both a point-in-time snapshot and trends over time. They will be aggregate population measures (not program outcomes), and they will measure both community strengths and progress, needs and disparities.

This list will include both population measures already collected in public data sets (poverty, low birth weight births, obesity, rates of child neglect and abuse) as well as measures which currently are only collected at the county level, often by First 5s. These include such important measures as kindergarten readiness, the frequency of parents reading to their children, and parental sources of support.

Legislative Update

Erin Gabel provided a legislative update.

Earlier this month, the Governor signed AB 908 (Gomez). AB 908 contains two crucial strategies to increase access to the Paid Family Leave program, particularly for low-income working parents: 1) it eliminates a one-week waiting period for benefits to start, and 2) it increases the wage replacement rate from 55% to 70% for low-income workers, and to 60% for all workers.

Last month, the Legislature passed a large number of bills from the Save Lives Coalition’s Tobacco Prevention Agenda that are supported by F5CA in the Special Session on Health Care. Of special note amongst the bills awaiting the Governor’s signature is ABX2 11 (Nazarian). This bill

increases the tobacco licensing fee and changes the fee from a one-time to an annual fee on tobacco retailers. ABX2 11 would make the tobacco licensing program self-sufficient with increased revenues of approximately \$8 million annually, and significantly reduce the Board of Equalization’s draw on First 5 funds for administrative costs. The bills are currently on the Governor’s desk.

On the budget, Erin updated on the budget conversations, including the Governor’s Early Learning Block Grant proposal. The proposal, if approved would have a “devastating effect” on the QRIS efforts and the IMPACT program. She reported that if the Governor’s proposal moves forward, F5CA staff will work with its QRIS partners to review the First 5 IMPACT design and recommend any changes, if necessary, to allow First 5 IMPACT to provide sustainable supports across the state.

Discussion:

- Commissioner Jaime asked about the FCC Home Environment Network program and asked if there could be a conversation about including the QRIS elements in the legislation. Erin responded that the legislature is very interested in the expansion to FCC.
- Commission Collis asked for a clarification on preschool funding sources.

Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee rosters were updated to add the new Commissioners. Committees are limited to two participants on each committee in order to avoid having to publicly notice meetings.

Annual Report Guidelines

David Dodds reviewed the Annual Report Guidelines for the upcoming fiscal year. The Annual Report Guidelines were adopted with no changes (other than removing programs that will not be funded in the next fiscal year (Child Signature Program and Cares Plus).

California Third Grade Reading Proficiency and the Readiness Gap

Glen Price presented an overview of statewide reading proficiency data and efforts to address the readiness gap.

His presentation started with an overview of the results from the first year of the new CAASP assessments. On CAASPP, students' scores fall into one of four achievement levels: standard exceeded, standard met, standard nearly met, and standard not met.

Statewide in all grades, 44 percent of students met or exceeded the English language arts/literacy standard and 33 percent met or exceeded the mathematics standards. For English language arts/literacy statewide in the third grade, 18 percent exceeded the standard, 20 percent met the standard, 26 percent nearly met the standard, and 36 percent did not meet the standard.

However, the data shows a persistence achievement gap.

- Overall, 31 percent of students in all grades from low-income families met or exceeded the standard in English language arts/literacy and 21 percent met or exceeded the standard in math, compared with 64 percent and 53 percent for the subjects, respectively, among other students.
- Overall, 11 percent of English learners in all grades met or exceeded the

standard in English language arts/literacy and 11 percent in math, compared with 69 percent and 55 percent for those subjects, respectively, for students proficient in English.

- As for scores among all grades for ethnic groups, 72 percent of Asians met or exceeded standard in English language arts/literacy and 69 percent in math, while 28 percent of African Americans met or exceeded the standard in English language arts/literacy and 16 percent in math. Other ethnic groups fell between these two. (See Attachment A – Tables 3 and 4.)

Glen concluded with an overview of the discussion to create a new continuous improvement system for districts and schools. He noted that students and educators need more time, training and resources to improve student outcomes.

Discussion:

- Commissioners showed interest in the presentation, and generally supported the notion that more work is needed on integrated systems and supports with an attention to equity.
- Commissioner Morales (Fresno) commented on the importance of the LCAP process.
- Francine Rodd emphasized conversations they were having in Monterey about moving beyond a whole child approach to an approach that embraces the child with the family – the whole family. She also reminded Glen that the lack of quality standards in TK is a challenge. Glen welcomed her comments and said that more funding for schools is critical. Also, aspirationally, First 5 commissions need

to ensure that First 5 is represented at LCAP tables.

Strategic Plan Update

Camille presented an update on the Strategic Plan. 829 surveys were received, including 15 County Commissioners and 57 First 5 staff, accounting for about 10% of respondents.

As Camille pointed out at the Association meeting, much of the positive feedback clearly reflected respondents familiarity with First 5 at the local level, as reflected in such comments as: “First 5 is a great asset to our community and our underprivileged families.” She stressed that she saw survey results as reflecting attitudes about First 5 generally, not specifically First 5 California.

Here are some survey highlights:

- 95% of respondents believe First 5 has successfully invested in child health.
- 94% believe First 5 has successfully invested in early learning
- 95% believe First 5 has successfully invested in family and community support
- 94% believe First 5 California collaborates and partners successfully with local county commissions.

Dual Language Learners

Sarah Neville-Morgan presented on the Dual Language Learner (DLL) Pilot planning, beginning with the overview of DLL children. She noted that the population of young DLLs has tripled in the last several decades and now accounts for 57 percent of children birth through age 5.

First 5 CA staff have been working with an input group to inform the development of the pilot and has conducted an extensive survey of 225 providers, early learning organizations, researchers, and others. The full survey results

are available on the State Commission’s website. The following are the top five results for the proposed focus areas for the pilot project:

- Professional development in dual language acquisition
- Effective strategies for engaging families
- Evaluation of best practices and teaching strategies
- Evaluation of curriculum supporting dual language acquisition
- Professional development for leadership/administration

The funding allocation for this project is from the Research Development and Education fund accounts. The anticipated investment in the DLL Pilot may be up to, approximately, \$16 million over four years (FYs 2017 – 2018 through 2020 – 21). F5CA anticipates investing in more than one Pilot focus area.

The staff expect to bring an RFA to the Commission for review and approval in July 2016, and the RFA will be released in the fall of 2016. Awards will be made in early 2017.

Child Signature Project Evaluation

David Dodds presented a summary of the final evaluation report for the Child Signature Project Phases 1 and 3. Nearly 4,000 classrooms were assessed for quality in the following counties: Los Angeles, Merced, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Ventura, Yolo, Orange, San Mateo. Overall, these classrooms served over 72,000 children, 97% of them preschoolers.

Here are some of the evaluation highlights:

- The number of teachers with bachelor’s degrees increased from 32% to 46% over the life of the program.
- There was a 56% increase in teachers taking part in professional development, with



2,276 teachers engaged in 2014–15.

- The majority of evaluation classrooms met Environment Rating Scales global score standards.
- The pooled 3-year data show a majority of classrooms reporting CLASS data met domain standards of 5 for Emotional Support, 3 for Classroom Organization, and 2.75 for Instructional Support while participating in CSP.
- The evaluation method was insufficient to show whether the CSP affected child development

Financial Update

Staff presented a financial update to the Commission. There were no significant issues discussed.