

POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
February 24, 2025, 02:00 pm
3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA 94590

CALL TO ORDER

I. Introductions, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment

II. Consent Calendar

Action

- A. Approve the February 24, 2025 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the [December 9, 2024 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
- C. Receive the [Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report](#)

III. Equity Initiative Poverty Workshop

Information/Discussion

Receive a report on [First 5 Solano Equity Initiative](#) Poverty Roleplay Simulator and Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop
Toya Adams, Program Manager

IV. Mid-Year Annual Report

Information/Discussion

Receive the [FY2024/25 Mid-Year Performance Report](#)
First 5 Solano Staff

V. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Information

VI. Receive a report on [First 5 Solano staffing and financials](#)

Denise Winters, Deputy Director

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

Information

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, May 26, 2025, 02:00 pm, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. **Future agenda items include:** Early Learning Center update, Fairfield First 5 Center update, Strategic Plan Implementation updates, and Staffing and Finance update.

ADJOURN

Vision: *All Solano County children are healthy, eager to learn, and nurtured by strong families in safe and inclusive communities.*

Mission: *First 5 Solano is a catalyst that strategically advances innovative, prevention-focused approaches across systems that improve the lives of young children and their families.*

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. If you require a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting, please call (707) 784-1332 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Non-confidential materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission are available for public inspection at the First 5 Solano business office, 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA, 94590 during normal business hours.

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
Policy & Oversight Committee (POC) Meeting**

December 9, 2024, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
3375 Sonoma Blvd Ste 30, Vallejo, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present: Commissioner Estrella-Henderson and Commissioner McElroy

Chair Estrella-Henderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

I. Introduction, Public Comment, Commissioner Comment

No public comment.

II. Consent Calendar

Motion:

- A. Approve the December 9, 2024 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the July 22, 2024 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting minutes
- C. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

Moved by Commissioner McElroy; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Approved 2-0-0

Yea: Commissioners McElroy, Estrella-Henderson

Nay: None

Abstain: None

III. Early Learning Center Allocation

Motion: Consider a recommendation to allocate \$2,600,000 to Child Start from the Commission's Reserve Fund to complete the renovation of the Early Learning Center, located at 1450 Coronel Ave, Vallejo CA 94590

First 5 Solano (F5S) Executive Director Michele Harris noted that since inception of Vallejo's Early Learning Center (ELC), Child Start has met with Terra Realty (project manager) and Landmark (general contractor) to ascertain budget and construction needs. When comparing previously quoted costs with current costs, there is a shortfall of funds and thus Child Start is requesting \$2.6M from the Commission's Reserve Fund. In the Long Term Financial Plan, the Commission has indicated that spending on the ELC and Equity work should be prioritized. If the allocation is approved, there will be approximately \$100k remaining that was being held specifically for the ELC and Equity work.

Moved by Commissioner McElroy; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Approved 2-0-0

Yea: Commissioners McElroy, Estrella-Henderson

Nay: None

Abstain: None

IV. Annual Review of Commission Policies

Motion: Consider a recommendation to amend the Small Grants policy to address appropriate use of the fund and confirm the funding range

F5S Policy and Fund Development Manager Toya Adams presented a recommended revision of the Commission's Community Responsive Mini Grants Policy. Major changes include altering the maximum funding amount from \$7500 to \$5000 per fiscal year, the name of the grant from "small grants" to mini grants, explicitly labeling categories the mini grants must fall under (i.e. Resource Component, Education Component, Materials and Equipment, or Awareness Component).

Moved by Commissioner McElroy; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Approved 2-0-0

Yea: Commissioners McElroy, Estrella-Henderson

Nay: None

Abstain: None

V. 2025 Legislative Platform

Motion: Consider recommending approval of the 2025 Legislative Platform

F5S's Toya Adams presented the 2025 First 5 Solano Legislative Platform. This platform considered the Solano County Federal and State legislative platforms, the First 5 Association's platform, and First 5 California's platform. Based upon review, staff suggested that no revisions are necessary.

Moved by Commissioner McElroy; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Approved 2-0-0

Yea: Commissioners McElroy, Estrella-Henderson

Nay: None

Abstain: None

VI. 2024 Strategic Plan Implementation Updates

F5S ED Harris noted that F5S secured a grant from Partnership Health Plan (PHP) for \$141,000 that will help support providers delivering Enhanced Care Management and Community Health Worker services. Potential services eligible for PHP reimbursement include Help Me Grow Solano's developmental screenings, resource specialist services offered by Vallejo's First 5 Center, and health screenings that will be offered at the Rise Vallejo early learning campus. Also of note, F5S Deputy Director (DD) Denise Winters and F5S's Toya Adams toured school based health clinics in Oakland, providing insight into clinic design, implementation, and sustainability in potentially establishing a school based clinic at the ELC.

VII. First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

F5S DD Winters indicated that as of October 31, 2024, F5S is fully staffed and does not anticipate any vacancies. 33% of the year is complete and F5S is on track for the year.

VIII. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date Location

The Policy and Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, February 24, 2025, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA. Future agenda items include: Early Learning Center update, Fairfield First 5 Center update, Strategic Plan Implementation updates, and Staffing and Finance.

Adjourn

Chair Estrella-Henderson adjourned the meeting at 10:46 AM.

Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III

Approved:

2025 COMMISSIONER MEETING ATTENDANCE LOG

COMMISSION MEETINGS														
	1/15/2025		3/19/2025		4/16/2025		6/18/2025		8/20/2025		10/15/2025		12/17/2025	
BROWN														
DONAHUE														
ESTRELLA-HENDERSON														
JONES														
MCELROY		NO MEETING					NO MEETING					NO MEETING		
ROBINSON														
SHAKOOR-GRANTHAM														
WALKER-GIBSON														
WANBERG														

POLICY & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETINGS															
	2/24/2025			5/26/2025			7/28/2025			9/22/2025			11/24/2025		
ESTRELLA-HENDERSON															
WANBERG	NO			NO	NO			NO			NO			NO	
MCELROY	MEETING			MEETING	MEETING			MEETING			MEETING			MEETING	

The Solano County Code (Chapter 7.3) and First 5 Commission Policy set forth the requirements of Commissioner meeting attendance. Per these documents, Commissioners cannot miss three Meetings in a row or more than 50% of Meetings in a calendar year, whereas "Meetings" are defined as meetings of the full Commission per the approved annual Commission Meeting Schedule. In addition, Commissioners serving on a standing Committee cannot miss more than 50% of Committee Meeting.

Date: February 19, 2025

TO: Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Policy and Oversight Committee (POC) Chair
Neely McElroy and Tyffany Wanberg, POC Members

FROM: Toya Adams, Contracts & Programs Specialist

SUBJ: **Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Staff Report**

Agenda Item II: Consent Calendar

- A. Approve the February 24, 2025 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the December 9, 2024 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
- C. Receive the Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

Agenda Item III: Equity Initiative Poverty Workshops

First 5 Solano has strengthened its commitment to equity by partnering with Navalta Media to provide site-specific equity training for grantees. As part of this initiative, First 5 Solano has committed to sponsoring five tailored equity training sessions for grantees, community-based organizations, internal partners, and Health & Social Services.

In addition to the Navalta Media workshops, First 5 Solano has scheduled two larger poverty-focused workshops with separate contractors. These workshops will examine the **Social Determinants of Health**, increasing awareness of the systemic barriers individuals face while navigating support services in poverty.

- **Poverty Simulation Workshop** (April 15, 2025): A six-hour interactive session designed for over 100 participants, providing firsthand insight into the challenges of accessing resources and support while experiencing poverty.
- **Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop** (May 15, 2025): A session focused on understanding the mental models of economic environments and the long-term impact of poverty. **Flyers for both workshops are included as Attachment C.**

These efforts underscore First 5 Solano's dedication to fostering equity and improving access to vital resources for underserved communities.

Agenda Item IV: Mid-Year Performance Report

To ensure high-quality services, First 5 Solano tracks grantee service counts monthly and performance measures quarterly, based on agreed-upon Scopes of Work that are incorporated into grantee contracts and Memorandums of Understanding. The purpose of the mid-year report is to inform the Committee of grantees' overall progress, any on-going challenges, and if applicable, recommendations for improvement. A more detailed report will be provided at the end of the fiscal year as part of the FY2024/25 Annual Report.

The report is included as Attachment D and is organized by First 5 Solano's Priority Areas and funded initiatives. The report includes initial performance for the first 6 months of FY2024/25 and details any challenges to effective service provision.

Overall, grantees are meeting the vast majority of their performance measures during the first half of FY2024/25. Some performance measures are annual targets that are not reported until the end of the Fiscal Year, which accounts for some of the unmet performance measures. Additionally,

grantees who currently have unmet measures have been reminded of their targets and are working toward meeting their performance measures.

Agenda Item V: First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Staffing Update: First 5 Solano is fully staffed and does not anticipate any vacancies.

Finance Update: Through January 31, 2024 (58% of the year complete), \$1,708,652 (46%) of the budgeted revenues have been received. \$732,162 (54%) of the salaries & benefits budget has been expended, \$279,387 (66%) of the services and supplies budget has been expended, and \$1,110,322 (17%) of the grants budget has been expended.

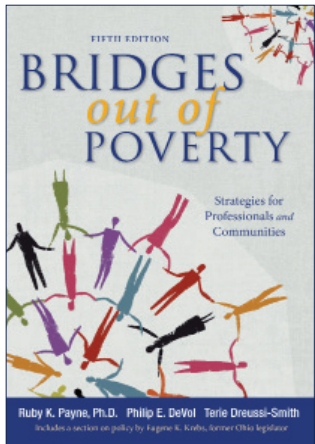
Overall, \$1,708,652 (46%) in revenues have been received, and \$2,121,871 (26%) of expenses have been incurred.

[Attachment A:](#) December 9, 2024 Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes

[Attachment B:](#) Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

[Attachment C:](#) Poverty Workshop Flyers

[Attachment D:](#) Mid-year Performance Report



Bridges Out of Poverty Individual Lens Workshop

Individual Lens

This workshop is a comprehensive approach to understanding poverty. Bridges Out of Poverty uses the lens of economic class and provides concrete tools and strategies for a community to understand, address, and alleviate poverty.

The Four Bridges Lenses



Participants of this workshop will:

- Examine the resources by which you create stability
- Discover the causes of poverty
- Create and analyze mental models of economic environments
- Discover the hidden rules of economic classes
- Analyze language and story structures
- Discuss stability within family and support systems and the importance of building social capital
- Learn new tools and strategies for improving relationships and outcomes

This training assists community organizations, social service agencies, employers, and individuals in gaining insight and strategies to ultimately create stability for all.

Also offered in Spanish.

Prerequisites: None



P. O. Box 272
Highlands, TX 77562
ahaprocess.com

Bring the Poverty Role-Play Workshop to your team or department!



An excellent opportunity for

- Planning and program assessment efforts
- cultural competency and diversity training
- team building
- CLE/CE competence credit

Examples of ways the workshop has been used:

- as part of strategic planning for judges, legal services, and social services providers
- as cultural competence training
- as part of a team-building effort
- to launch or further a public service program
- as a mechanism for discussing diversity, equity, and inclusion
- as a way to start a dialogue about systems and structures, and ways that they could serve the public better



Details:

- ❖ Timing – Approximately 3 hours
- ❖ Minimum number of participants – 30, plus 12 volunteers/staff members to play the business and nonprofit roles
- ❖ Maximum number of participants – 150, plus 28 volunteers/staff members to play the business and nonprofit roles
- ❖ Cost: \$3,300 plus airfare and lodging.

For more information and to talk about how the workshop might work for you, contact:

Tiela Chalmers

415.806.0225 tiela@acbanet.org

Some Additional Details about the Poverty Workshop

What is it?

Participants take on the role of a person living in a low-income community. They are given a packet that tells them what their family structure and circumstances are, and also gives them the family's financial situation. (For example, they may be playing the role of a single dad of 2 kids, ages 10 and 13. The dad has a part-time job that pays \$60/week; the rent on their apartment is \$150/month, and other expenses are also spelled out.)

Other participants play the roles of business and agencies in the community: the bank, the employer, the pawnshop, etc.

Participants playing family roles must get through four 15-minute "weeks" and do what families everywhere do – go to work if they have a job, get any kids to school, feed the family, pay the bills, keep the family safe. Challenges arise in the course of the "month" to which families must also respond.

After the "month" is over, we do an extensive debriefing discussion. Typically, participants have a strong need to talk about how challenging it was, what particular issues came up for them, and what they realized in the course of the simulation. We spend time talking about the impact of what we've learned on the work that the participants do and to address the goals that led the organization to hold this program.

How long does it take in total?

The entire experience takes about 3 hours. It takes some time in the beginning to set the stage and explain how the simulation works, and for participants to familiarize themselves with the packet and their situation. The simulation itself takes just a little over an hour, and then the debrief session tends to go between 45 minutes to an hour.

Participants playing the role of the community businesses or agencies need to be able to arrive about 45 minutes early, so that they can prepare for their roles.

Are there written materials in connection with the simulation?

After the simulation, we will provide participants with several interesting articles on poverty. We don't give these out in advance, however, in order to maximize participants' ability to be present, and to really experience the workshop.

How many participants are needed or can be involved? Do we need to know in advance who is coming?

We really need a minimum of 54 participants to make the workshop work: 40 playing family member roles, and 14 playing the roles of community businesses and agencies. Any fewer, and we lose the elements of chaos and diversity of experience. The workshop can handle a maximum of 162: 134 playing family member roles, and 28 playing the community roles.

Things tend to run more smoothly if we know who is coming in advance, but we can also run the simulation without knowing who will show up. We just ask that you be sure to stay within the numeric guidelines above.

Who should play which roles?

Generally speaking, we assign roles randomly. This enhances people's sense that their experience in the workshop is not just a unique circumstance. Some organizations prefer to provide a different set of people to play the community roles: staff as opposed to professionals, perhaps, or student volunteers. This is fine; participants playing those roles absolutely gain insights from the training, but the nature of those insights is slightly different.

If you know the participants in advance, we will ask you to help us identify people who are particularly outgoing, and perhaps have an acting background, to play some of the more dynamic roles.

What size space do you need?

For a group of 40 participants, we need about 750 square feet, and for a group of 125, we need 1000-1200 square feet. We also need about 15 tables (folding tables are fine) and two chairs for every person. (We know that sounds silly, but people move around during the simulation, and almost all will need to sit in two distinct places.) We do not need a podium, but a microphone that I can use as I move around the room is very helpful; a second microphone for participants during the debrief is also helpful.

Should we serve food during the simulation?

We ask that you do NOT serve food or drink (other than water) during the simulation. Some companies like to offer cookies or snacks for the debrief, and that works fine, as long as they are easy finger-foods. Sometimes people arrange for a reception or mingling opportunity immediately after the simulation – this is an excellent way to take advantage of the camaraderie built during the simulation. If you have the time and budget, it could also work to give everyone lunch and continue the debrief, though it will require a room re-set to give folks tables to eat at. I have seen people do this reset in 10 minutes, though.

For lawyers: can we offer CLE credit?

Yes. We can offer 2 hours of competence credit in California. If outside of California, we are happy to work with you to ascertain the amount of credit your state permits you to offer. Please let us know in advance if you would like us to be the CLE provider.

Have more questions? Contact me; I'd be happy to answer them.

FY2024/25 MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE MEASURES REPORT

February 2025

Introduction

The First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Mid-Year Performance Measures Report is a progress report of First 5 Solano grantees' service provision for contracted programs covering the period July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. The Commission funds within four Priority Areas: Health and Well-Being, Early Childhood Learning and Development, Family Support and Parent Education, and Systems Change.

The purpose of the report is to ensure that appropriate progress is being made toward meeting contractual goals for both services and outcomes and, where needed, to provide guidance to grantees and recommendations for changes in services to ensure annual targets are met for numbers served and outcome impact.

Overall, in the second year of this five-year funding cycle, grantees continue to deliver high-quality services to the populations and programs they support. Any concerns identified by staff have been documented throughout this report. First 5 Solano staff maintain close collaboration with grantees throughout the program year, ensuring compliance and the successful implementation of funded programs. Their dedicated support and partnership help drive progress and ensure that key metrics are met across the four priority areas.

The following are the reports on grantee progress and mid-year performance measures under each of the priority areas highlighted within First 5 Solano's Strategic Framework.

PRIORITY 1 HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Early Childhood Mental Health

H&SS (EPSDT) – Meeting 2 of 2 performance measures / 100%

The Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program provides mental health treatment services for qualifying Medi-Cal eligible children and is a component of the overall children's mental health services system in the County. Mental health services were provided to 89 clients through mid-year. Of those clients, 27 completed a 6-month period of service, with 85% showing improvement in at least one stated treatment goal. Agency partners offering mental health services have worked diligently to ensure access to services are readily available in an effort to support positive outcomes.

Prenatal Care

Solano HEALS - Aliados Health – Meeting 3/6 performance measures / 50%

First 5 Solano, Health and Social Services, and Aliados Health partnered with Solano HEALS and "Doula Doula" to establish the "Centering the Doula" program, which aims to train up to 10 African American women as Doulas to support African American prenatal and postpartum mothers. The program has exceeded its goal, successfully training 13 Doulas in cohort 2, while 6 Doulas from cohort 1 have committed to mentoring the newly trained cohort. In October, the first Black prenatal group was launched and successfully completed, with recruitment for the second Black prenatal group beginning in December.

Three performance measures were not met, two of which involved scheduled meetings. The grantee completed 2 out of 5 HEALS Executive Committee meetings and 2 out of 5 community meetings, leaving three remaining for each. These meetings are scheduled to be completed in Q3 and Q4.

The third unmet measure pertains to training 6 Doulas as facilitators from cohort 2 for future Black prenatal groups. This training will take place in year three, during which four additional groups are planned.

PRIORITY 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Universal Pre-Kindergarten

Solano County Office of Education - Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) – meeting 4/7 performance measures, with 3 measures not captured until Q4.

The Solano County Office of Education has met 100% of its performance measures to date, with three additional measures scheduled for completion by end of Q4. The first four performance measures were achieved, beginning with project planning in Quarter 1 and implementation in Quarter 2. The Early Learning Team collaborated with a business expert to provide four professional development trainings on key topics, including social media, customer engagement, and website building, with 17 participants benefiting from these sessions. The second and final UPK Forum, held on December 17, 2024, shared updates on California's UPK program and research on supporting early learning providers in Solano County. Feedback highlighted the need for more education on how childcare integrates into the UPK system. Additionally, the mini-grants program was launched on December 20, 2024. Applications due in early January, with funding for approved projects set to be released in mid-February.

PRIORITY 3 FAMILY SUPPORT AND PARENT EDUCATION

Rio Vista CARE - Meeting 9/9 performance measures / 100%

Rio Vista CARE provides neighborhood-based family resource center services in Rio Vista and surrounding rural areas. First 5 Solano staff works closely with Rio Vista staff to ensure progress is made toward meeting targeted goals in the areas of providing linkages to community resources, basic needs

support, and financial counseling. At mid-year, this grantee is meeting and/or exceeding all performance measures.

Bay Area Community Resources (BACR) – Meeting 23/24 performance measures / 96%

Through mid-year of FY2024/25, BACR has met the majority of their performance measures for operation of the Vallejo First 5 Center. While BACR has had some challenges in maintaining current staffing, BACR is working to ensure target deliverables at met by year end.

During the first half of the year, BACR completed the following activities/performance measures:

- Over 82 ASQ/ASQ-SE Screening Sessions completed, and each child identified as “at-risk” received a referral.
- 184 participants received one-on-one consultation with the Community Resource Specialist for basic needs support, referrals to community services, and warm hand-offs to MOU partners to ensure families’ needs were met.
- Offered 12 Parent/Child drop-in session playgroups with over 530 children and parents participating
- 100% of participating families learned skills to support their children’s health, development, and early learning.
- The Parent Advisory Committee has met 5 times during quarter one and quarter two.

Other activities that were held by the Center include:

- In July, 25 families participated in the First 5 Center Olympics where children engaged in gross motor activities
- In partnership with Solano Car Seat Connection, the Center hosted a drive-through car seat inspection event and 9 families received new car seats.
- Over 50 families attended a distribution event and community resource fair with families receiving food, coats, diapers and wipes.
- 41 families attended an Enchanted Winter Garden Event, where children and parents were invited to craft personalized ornaments for the holidays. During the event 29 families received free diapers and the Parent Advisory Committee led a clothing distribution.

Unmet performance measure:

- The one performance measure that was unmet was related to the number of ASQ/ASQ-SE child developmental screenings to be completed by mid-year. By end of December, 82 screenings were completed and the goal was 100. The Center typically experiences lower attendance and less consistent participation from families in November and December, and generally there is an increase in family participation during the Spring months. First 5 Center staff are reviewing this deliverable carefully and are strategizing on how to meet this measure by June 2025.

Triple P Parent Education

In its seventh year of implementation, the Triple P Parenting Education Program remains a widely recognized strategy for supporting parents in Solano County. In FY 2024/25, Triple P is offered by four community providers, including Bay Area Community Resources through the First 5 Center, each delivering various levels of Triple P interventions. Over the past two quarters, one new practitioner has been trained and certified, with an additional eight practitioners completing training in January and

February. First 5 Solano continues to coordinate services, distribute parent materials, conduct outreach, and provide practitioner support and training to better serve local families.

Notably, all Triple P contracts are structured as fee-for-service agreements, with both a minimum performance measure goal and a “stretch” goal. Below is a summary of grantee progress through mid-year, measured against the minimum goal targets:

Child Start, Inc. – Meeting 4/5 performance measures / 80%

Child Start offers Level 2 Seminars and Level 3 Individual in English and Spanish for parents who have a child enrolled in a Head Start or Early Head Start Program. Through mid-year, this grantee has met 95% of their target to provide Level 2 Seminars, and over the next two quarters, will shift to offering Level 3 Individual, as participation in this intervention is a natural progression for families upon introduction to the Triple P parent education model. Based upon past history, Level 3 progressive service happens in Q3 & Q4.

Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District (FSUSD) - Meeting 3/5 performance measures / 60%

FSUSD offers Level 2 Seminars and Level 3 Primary Services by integrating parenting education into case management activities and collaborating with other FSUSD schools to provide services to their parents. In the first half of the fiscal year, the FSUSD Family Resource Center met most of its measures, except for those in Levels 2 and 3. The center experienced a slow start in achieving its goals due to a late launch in Q1, as school does not begin until August, along with multiple holiday breaks affecting service availability. However, as of the start of Q3, FSUSD has completed additional Level 2 seminars and Level 3 primary sessions, positioning them to meet their measures by the end of the fiscal year. First 5 Solano staff will continue working with this grantee to ensure they remain on track to meet deliverables by June 2025.

Parents by Choice - Meeting 6/8 performance measures / 75%

Parents by Choice provides Level 2, Level 3, Level 4 Group, Level 4 Standard, and now Level 4 Triple P for Baby across Solano County. In the first half of the fiscal year, they met most of their targets, except for Level 3 Primary and Level 4 Standard. The grantee consistently experiences a slow start in Q1 and Q2 due to the start of the school year and the holiday season. However, participation is expected to increase over the next two quarters, positively impacting both levels. First 5 Solano staff will continue working with the grantee to ensure these measures are met by the end of the fiscal year.

First 5 Solano will continue to support Triple P partners by providing materials and training, convening support meetings, and supporting outreach efforts to ensure partners are connected and services are coordinated.

ALL PRIORITIES

Solano Family and Children’s Services – Help Me Grow Solano - Meeting 19/20 performance measures/95%

Now in its seventh year, Solano Family and Children’s Services (SFCS) continues to implement the Help Me Grow (HMG) Solano call line and referral system. As of mid-year, HMG Solano has received 2,200 calls, surpassing the annual requirement of 1,900 calls, and has provided 1,221 referrals for essential services, including basic needs, childcare support, and mental health resources.

Additionally, HMG Solano staff have completed 338 developmental screenings out of the annual goal of 600 for children who may have developmental or behavioral concerns. The program remains on track to meet its annual outcome measures by the end of the 2024-25 fiscal year. HMG Solano continues to

expand its outreach efforts by engaging child healthcare providers, early childhood programs, and service providers through developmental screening events, community outreach initiatives, and group and individual presentations. These efforts aim to raise awareness and ensure families and professionals are informed about the services available through the HMG Solano program.

HMG Solano has successfully met four out of five outreach measures and is currently at 75% completion for the remaining goal. The program is on track meeting 19 of its 20 mid-year outcome metrics. However, one measure—tracking families with multiple agency involvement for the development of a family support plan—remains below 50% completion. HMG Solano has identified staff turnover at a key referral source as a contributing factor to this shortfall. The Program Manager for Help Me Grow has been in communication with leadership at the Solano County Office of Education to identify a more efficient method for follow-up on pending client referrals.

Despite this challenge, HMG family navigators and program managers continue to engage with families, ensuring they remain connected to the appropriate agencies for therapeutic support. The program has encountered no difficulties with data collection or reporting to HMG CA and HMG National, thanks to its engagement with Apricot support, which has helped streamline outcome reporting and referral data synthesis. The contractor and First 5 Solano staff continue to meet regularly to address challenges and develop strategies to meet or exceed performance indicators. First 5 Solano will maintain ongoing performance monitoring to support the successful implementation of the HMG Solano call line and referral system.

Annual Grants

First 5 Solano continued its Annual Grants Program in FY2024/25, dedicating \$160,000 to its seventh year. Grants of up to \$20,000 were made available through Request for Applications (RFA) #2024-01 to address various community needs. In this funding cycle, applicants were required to submit a Letter of Intent and attend a mandatory 30-minute grant development session facilitated by First 5 Solano staff. A total of 22 Letters of Intent were received, with 21 proposers attending a grant development session. Ultimately, 12 applications were submitted in response to the RFA, and eight met the minimum criteria for funding consideration. After ranking and scoring, three proposals were approved, awarding a total of \$52,140 and leaving a remaining balance of \$107,860.

In addition to the FY2024/25 Annual Grant cycle, First 5 Solano extended funding for the FY2023/24 Annual Grant grantees for an additional year. This decision followed the Policy and Oversight Committee's agreement to allocate up to 20% of grant funds to repeat projects to sustain their success. After evaluation, four grantees—Bay Area Community Resources, Gifted Minds Home Learning Daycare, Solano County Resource Family Association, and Vacaville Solano Services Corp—scored high enough to qualify for a second year of funding, totaling \$60,000 from the remaining FY2024/25 grant funds.

Out of the three new grantees, Circle of Friends and Solano HEALS are on track, as are the four extended grantees, all of whom are meeting their performance measures. However, Make It Home has struggled to meet expectations.

Make It Home is an organization that provides gently used donated furniture and household goods to families transitioning out of homelessness or aging out of the foster care system. The organization is facing challenges in securing referrals from agencies that serve families with children aged 0-5. Despite extensive outreach to various organizations, they continue to struggle with connecting to their target population. First 5 Solano staff have been working closely with Make It Home to identify gaps in their outreach strategy. To address these challenges, staff have been supporting the organization through weekly check-ins, an action plan, and invitations to County collaborative meetings and the First 5 Solano grantee meetings. These efforts allow Make It Home to present their services directly to other agencies. Staff will continue to provide regular support and monitor progress.

PRIORITY 4

SYSTEMS CHANGE: *INTERNAL ACTIVITIES*

Early Learning Center

First 5 Solano, Child Start, and the Solano County Office of Education are excited to continue to collaborate to advance funding and development efforts for Rise Vallejo. In the first half of FY2024/25, we made several important decisions, including the renovation schedule and the final funding request for the Early Learning Center presented to the First 5 Solano Commission. Additionally, operations team meetings have been focused on addressing the educational goals and care needs of our youngest learners. Renovations officially began in January 2025, with the goal of a soft opening planned for August 2025.

Equity Initiative

First 5 Solano continued its equity initiatives in partnership with Navalta Media by executing a contract to provide site-specific equity training for several grantees. As part of this effort, First 5 Solano has committed to sponsoring five individual equity training sessions for grantees, community-based organizations, internal partners, and Health & Social Services.

Two of the five Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) workshops have been completed, with the remaining three scheduled for the third and fourth quarters of FY 2024-25. Below is a summary of completed and upcoming sessions:

Completed Workshops

- **10/15/24** – Solano Family and Children Services (Oversight of Help Me Grow Solano)
- **12/05/24** – The Children’s Network (Oversight of County Family Resource Centers)

Upcoming Workshops

- **02/24/25** – Bay Area Community Resources (Oversight of the First 5 Center in Vallejo)
- **06/12/25** – Solano County Health & Social Services (Session 1 of 2)
- **06/2025** – Solano County Health & Social Services (Session 2 of 2, final date TBD)

In addition to the Navalta Media workshops, First 5 Solano has scheduled two larger poverty-focused workshops with separate contractors. These workshops will explore the ***Social Determinants of Health*** and raise awareness of the barriers individuals face when navigating support systems while living in poverty.

Community Engagement

Through the first part of FY2024/25, First 5 Solano actively engaged with the community through various events, such as the First 5 Center Olympics, which brought families together for enriching activities, and the Kindergarten Round-Up, helping children transition to school. The 7th Annual Donor Breast Milk Drive and Celebration, held during Breastfeeding Awareness Month (August), highlighted the importance of early health and nutrition. The 2025 First 5 Solano calendar, a diverse and inclusive resource, featured equity-focused content, parenting tips, activities for children and local resources, and was distributed in English and Spanish, with 15,000 copies reaching incoming TK and Kindergarten students and community partners. This effort showcased First 5 Solano’s ongoing commitment to supporting families and promoting the

well-being of young children. In 2025, First 5 Solano will continue its active participation in community events, outreach efforts, and support for Solano community partners that serve our children and families in Solano County.

Fund Development

In addition to work performed by grantees, First 5 Solano implements a fund development program which includes preparing and submitting direct grant applications to support First 5 Solano programs; assisting nonprofits and other agencies with preparing grant applications that are on behalf of their agencies; and, assisting nonprofits and other agencies with preparing collaborative grant applications. The following is a summary of fund development activity during this six-month period:

FUND DEVELOPMENT REPORT FOR JULY 1, 2024– DECEMBER 31, 2025						
Date Submitted	Applicant	Funder/Program	First 5 Solano's Role	Application Amount	Funded Yes/No	Grant Amount
09/23/2024	First 5 Solano	CalAIm IPP Grant for the CHW and ECM benefit	Wrote grant	141,000	Yes	141,000
08/24/2025	First 5 Solano	Child Welfare Services CPP Block Grant for Help Me Grow	Wrote the MOU	150,000	Yes	150,000
08/07/2024	Special Care Services Access Equity Grant	California's Department of Developmental Services	Letter of Support	150,000	No	0.0
08/23/2024	Applied Survey Research	Sacramento County Department of Children, Families, Adult services	Letter of Support	245,000	Yes	0.0
12/16/2024	Solano Family and Children Services	Catalyst Project Grant Childcare Needs Assessment	Letter of Support	233,115	No	0.0
12/16/2024	Child Start	Marin County Expansion Opportunity	Letter of Support	1,800,000	Pending	
		TOTALS		\$2,474,115		\$291,000

Conclusion

For the remainder of FY2024/25, grantees will continue to provide services to children and families and maintain efforts to meet performance goals. First 5 staff will remain available to support grantees and ensure progress is made to meet desired targets.

**Summary of FY2024/25 Mid-Year Performance Measures
(July 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024)**

Grantee	Performance Measures		
	Total Number	Number Met/ Exceeded at Mid-Year	Number Unmet
Health & Well-Being			
Solano County H&SS – EPSDT Mental Health Treatment	2	2	0
Aliados Health	6	3	3
Early Learning & Quality Child Care			
Universal Pre-Kindergarten	7	4	3
Family Support			
Bay Area Community Resources	24	23	1
Rio Vista CARE	9	9	0
Triple P Parent Education			
Child Start	5	4	1
Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District	5	3	2
Parents by Choice	8	6	2
Across Priorities			
Solano Family & Children's Services – Help Me Grow	20	19	1
Total	86	73	13