

**Meeting of June 2, 2015 – 5:00-7:30 PM**  
**601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield, CA**

**CALL TO ORDER / SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

- I. Public Comment** **Information**  
*This is the opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters not listed on the Agenda that are otherwise within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Please submit a Speaker Card and limit your comments to 3 minutes.*
- II. Consent Calendar** (5 min) **Action**  
A. Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for June 2, 2015  
B. Approve Minutes of the April 7, 2015 Commission Meeting
- III. Committee Reports** (120 min) **Discussion**  
A. Program and Community Engagement Committee (Commissioner Niedziela)  
No Action Items  
B. Systems and Policy Committee (Commissioner Barbosa)  
1. Planning for 2016 and Beyond  
a. Review First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Result Profiles in the context of a Review/Update of the First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Framework  
*Michele Harris, Executive Director; Lori Allio, Hatchuel Tabernik & Associates; and Lisa Colvig, Applied Survey Research*
- IV. Executive Director's Report** (5 min) **Information**  
*Michele Harris, Executive Director*
- V. Commissioner Remarks** (5 min) **Information**
- VI. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location** (5 min)  
The next Commission meeting will be held on August 11, 2015 at 5:00 PM at 601 Texas Street, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Committee Reports; Strategic Planning

**ADJOURN**

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

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

April 7, 2015, 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM  
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

**Minutes**

Commissioners present: Aaron Crutison (Chair), Jay Speck, Elise Crane (arrived 5:28pm), Marisela Barbosa, Erin Hannigan (arrived 5:05pm), Dan Ayala, Liz Niedziela, Jerry Huber (arrived 5:21pm), Dana Dean

First 5 Solano Staff present: Michele Harris, Megan Richards, Ciara Gonsalves, Cherelyn Ellington Hunt, Venis Boyd, and Christiana Lewis

Members of the public present: Debbi Davis (Children's Nurturing Project & Help Me Grow Solano), Alan Kerzin (Children's Network), and Stephan Betz (Health and Social Services, Deputy Director Older and Disabled Adults), Nancy Calvo and Nazlin Huerta (Health and Social Services), and Debbie Peralez (Child Start)

Chair Crutison called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

**I. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**II. Consent Calendar**

- A. Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for April 7, 2015
- B. Approve minutes of the March 3, 2015 Commission Meeting

***Motion: Approve the March 3, 2015 Commission Meeting Agenda and approve the January 13, 2015 Commission Meeting Minutes***

**Moved by Commissioner Ayala; Seconded by Commissioner Speck  
Approved 5-0-1**

**Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Speck, Ayala, Niedziela, and Dean**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: Commissioner Barbosa**

**III. April Children's Month**

Ms. Ellington reported that community partners across Solano County were working together to sponsor a host of public education and community engagement activities to honor children during the month of April.

***Motion: Consider approval of Resolution #2015-01 recognizing April 2015 as "Children's Month" in Solano County***

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Speck**

**Approved 7-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Speck, Barbosa, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, and Dean**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Program and Community Engagement**

Mr. Betz presented a data report by the Center for Youth Wellness in California on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which are known to lead to toxic stress and poor health outcomes later in life. Vallejo City Unified School District along with other agencies instituted a community-wide approach to address trauma in schools. This approach includes screening every school-age child with the 10 question ACEs assessment.

##### **B. Systems and Policy Committee**

###### **1. Planning for 2016 and Beyond**

Ms. Harris explained that the Strategic Planning efforts would be moving fairly quickly from this point forward. The Systems and Policy Committee (SPC) recommended reframing the Indicator Report to holistically approach each priority area and instructed staff to bring a comprehensive report back to the Commission.

- a. Ms. Allio presented the collective impact common agenda that was developed by the Help Me Grow leadership team from qualitative and quantitative data. Commissioner Speck asked for clarification as to which age group of children the Help Me Grow collaborative is choosing to focus their efforts. Ms. Davis explained that the collaborative currently serves mainly young children; however as more partners come aboard the definition of “children” may expand to include children of all ages. Ms. Harris clarified that the common agenda is for the community, and the First 5 Solano Commission can evaluate areas they want support while remaining in their purview. Commissioner Hannigan advocated for the common agenda to remain focused on “all Solano County children”, while First 5 Solano directly supports only those systems specific to the 0-5 population. Commissioner Dean commented that it is acceptable for the Help Me Grow team to consider the systems in place for children ages 0-18, but it is not within First 5 Solano’s domain. Commissioner Huber said he views the common agenda as developing and sustaining systems for all children ages 0-18 and that it would be difficult, even impossible, to separate the 0-5 population. Commissioner Crane added that if First 5 Solano doesn’t help develop systems that will carry child wellbeing past the

age of 5 years old then it will lead to wasted efforts. Chair Crutison asked the Commission and Ms. Harris if the Commission could hold a meeting specifically to address, discuss, and clarify Collective Impact and the common agenda. The Commission and Ms. Harris agreed to work with staff to schedule the meeting.

Commissioner Hannigan expressed interest in how other First 5 Commissions are approaching Collective Impact strategies. Ms. Harris explained that other First 5s are in varying stages of a similar evolution, and she and Ms. Richards will attend a state-wide systems change convening at which they will speak with their peers to glean ideas and report back to the Commission.

- b. Ms. Allio reviewed the elements of the current First 5 Solano Strategic Framework. Ms. Allio asked that the Commissioners begin to contemplate whether these elements fit the future direction of First 5 Solano.

## **V. Contracting Update**

Ms. Richards reported the results of the 2012-2015 Program Investment Plan one-year extension savings analysis as directed by the Commission at the March meeting. As a result of individual meetings with grantee agencies on cost-savings, First 5 Solano expenditures have been reduced by \$561,441, a majority being from Solano County Health and Social Services. In addition, each agency's leaders will attend a meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> to begin discussions regarding First 5 Solano's available resources beyond FY2015/16. Ms. Harris explained that BabyFirst Solano has agreed to explore ways to reduce funding from First 5 Solano, seek alternative funding from other sources, and maintain services over the next two years. Commissioner Huber emphasized that BabyFirst Solano is a national evidence-based fidelity model program and cannot be cut in terms of the fidelity; Health and Social Services will work diligently to find other sources of funding within the two-year goal.

## **VI. First 5 Futures Update**

Ms. Gonsalves provided an analysis of the First 5 Futures program as directed by the Commission at the March meeting. Information provided included leveraged funds, grants applied for and awarded, business engagement activities, and policy work.. Next steps include further review of the Implementation and Fund Development Plan, securing partnerships through Collective Impact efforts, and engaging in activities happening locally and statewide that will have an effect on the early childhood system in Solano.

Commissioner Dean asked what First 5 Solano would lose if it did not expend funds on the First 5 Futures program. Ms. Gonsalves responded that she will have to bring the answer back to the Commission.

## **VII. Public Hearing: First 5 CA FY2013/14 Annual Report**

Ms. Ellington reported the First 5 California FY2013/14 Annual Report. The Report includes overviews of the services and programs provided by the state commission and county commissions. Collaborations between First 5 California and county commissions, as well as key programmatic accomplishments, are outlined.

No comments from the public.

***Motion: Consider acceptance of the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2013/14 Annual Report, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130150***

**Moved by Commissioner Huber; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala**

**Approved 8-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Speck, Barbosa, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Huber and Dean**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

#### **VIII. Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Harris invited the Commission and the public to the premiere screening of *The Raising of America* documentary on April 29<sup>th</sup> and to the EDC Breakfast on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Harris directed the Commission's attention to short YouTube video, *Is America Dreaming- Understanding Social Mobility*, about the challenges and implications of social inequality in The United States.

#### **IX. Commissioner Remarks**

None.

#### **X. Future Agenda Items**

The next Commission meeting will be held on June 2, 2015 at 5:00 PM at 601 Texas Street, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Indicators/Gaps/Systems Report; Committee Reports; Strategic Planning

#### **Adjourn**

Commissioner Crutison adjourned the meeting at 7:23pm.

Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III

Approved:



CHILDREN ARE OUR BOTTOM LINE

**Program & Community Engagement Committee Meeting**  
**May 7, 2015**  
**2:00 PM – 3:30 PM**  
**601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA 94533**

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

- I. Introductions, Commissioner Comment, Public Comment**
- II. Consent Calendar** **Action**
  - A. Approve Agenda of May 7, 2015
  - B. Approve Minutes of February 18, 2015
- III. Community Engagement Activity Update** **Information**

Receive a report on Community Engagement and Help Me Grow (HMG) Outreach activities  
*Cherelyn Ellington Hunt, Community Engagement and Early Education Program Manager*
- IV. BabyFirst Solano Program Update** **Information**

Receive an update on Compliance in Contracts Report  
*Chris Shipman, Health and Well-Being Program Manager*
- V. First 5 California IMPACT (Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive) Report** **Discussion**

Receive information about the First 5 California IMPACT funding  
*Cherelyn Ellington Hunt, Community Engagement and Early Education Program Manager*
- VI. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location** **Discussion**

The Program and Community Engagement Committee is scheduled to meet next on Thursday, July 2, 2015, 2:00 PM, at 601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA. Future agenda items include: Compliance in Contracts Report, Community Engagement Activities, IMPACT activities.

**ADJOURN**

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## First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

Program & Community Engagement Committee Meeting  
May 7, 2015, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM  
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA 94533

### Minutes

#### I. Introductions, Commissioner Comment, Public Comment

Committee Chair Niedziela called the meeting to order at 2:28 PM.

Committee members present: Committee Chair Liz Niedziela (arrived 2:25pm) and Commissioner Erin Hannigan

First 5 Staff present: Michele Harris (Executive Director), Megan Richards (Deputy Director), Cherelyn Ellington Hunt (Early Care and Education Programs Manager), Christiana Lewis (Office Assistant III)

Public attendees: Nadirah Jones (Children's Network) and Nazlin Huerta (BabyFirst Solano)

Commissioner Comment: None

Public Comment: None

#### II. Consent Calendar

A. Approve Agenda of May 7, 2015

**Moved: Commissioner Hannigan, Seconded: Commissioner Niedziela  
Approved: 2-0-0**

B. Approve Minutes of February 18, 2015

**Moved: Commissioner Hannigan, Seconded: Commissioner Niedziela  
Approved: 2-0-0**

#### III. Community Engagement Activity Update

Ms. Ellington explained that First 5 Solano continues to coordinate outreach efforts with Help Me Grow Solano (HMG) to promote the call and referral center. There has been extensive outreach to health care providers, teachers, service providers, family resource centers and public service announcements on KUIC Radio. HMG has also begun coordinating community activities and events through a collaborative calendar.

#### IV. BabyFirst Solano Program Update

Ms. Richards reported that BabyFirst Solano has submitted their third quarter data and have two measures that are still unmet, however, Staff fully expect them to meet one measure by the end of the fiscal year. The other measure is not expected to be met due to extenuating circumstances with the closing and transfer of the YFS contract. Staff anticipates the last BabyFirst progress report to be brought to the Committee in July 2015.

**V. First 5 California IMPACT (Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive) Report**

The First 5 State Commission met on April 23, 2015 and approved \$190 million in funding over 5 years (FY2015/16 through FY2019/20) to improve early learning systems throughout California. The funding promotes and supports a more comprehensive and coordinated early learning and development system for young children in California. The IMPACT funding will allow counties to continue to utilize their federal Race to the Top (RTT) funds and to build upon their Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) plans. The initiative also includes helping to build and connect counties' current work and investments to other state and national efforts.

Regional Training Hubs will be provided approximately \$18 million over the 5 year term to provide basic coordination, project management, and specialized support for counties within that hub. First 5 Solano will be included in the Bay Area Regional Training Hub.

Ms. Harris noted First 5 California has acknowledged that the funds will not be sufficient to implement a total quality early learning and development system, and that outside funding will still be required in order to complete the work. First 5 California will also allow for a planning period to develop the program.

First 5 California will release a Request for Application (RFA) in late spring, however, no information has been released about the details and/or requirements of the RFA.

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

The Program and Community Engagement Committee is scheduled to meet next on Thursday, July 2, 2015, 2:00 PM, at 601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA. Future agenda items include: Compliance in Contracts Report, Community Engagement Activities, IMPACT activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 PM.

Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III

Approved:



CHILDREN ARE OUR BOTTOM LINE

**SYSTEMS AND POLICY COMMITTEE**  
**May 21, 2015 3:00 – 4:30 PM**  
**601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA 94533**

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

- I. Introductions, Public Comment, Commissioner Comments**
- II. Consent Calendar** **Action**
  - A. Approve Agenda of May 21, 2015
  - B. Approve Minutes of March 10, 2015
  - C. Receive Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report
- III. Planning for 2016 and Beyond** **Discussion**
  - A. Review First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Result Profiles in the context of a Review/Update of the First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Framework
  - B. Discuss Options for Providing Collective Impact Clarification for Commission  
*Michele Harris, Executive Director; Lori Allio, HTA; and Lisa Colvig, Applied Survey Research*
- IV. Receive a First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update** **Information**

Receive a report on First 5 Solano staffing and financials  
*Megan Richards, Deputy Director*
- V. Receive a First 5 Futures Update** **Discussion**

Receive a First 5 Futures Update including Implementation and Fund Development Plan  
Review Part 3 of 3 - Grants  
*Ciara Gonsalves, Policy & Fund Development Manager*
- VI. Fundraising Donation Menu** **Discussion**

Review Draft Donation Menu  
*Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III*
- VII. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time, Date, and Location** **Information**

Systems and Policy Committee July 7, 2015 3:00 – 4:30 PM  
601 Texas Street Suite 210, Fairfield CA

Future agenda items: First 5 Solano Budget and Staffing Update; Commissioner Meeting Attendance; First 5 Futures Update, Planning for 2016 and Beyond

**ADJOURN**

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**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
Systems & Policy Committee Meeting**  
May 21, 2015, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

**Minutes**

**I. Introductions, Public Comments, Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Barbosa called the meeting to order at 3:01pm.

Committee Members present: Marisela Barbosa, Jay Speck, Aaron Crutison

First 5 Solano staff present: Michele Harris, Megan Richards, Ciara Gonsalves

Members of the public present: Lori Allio (Hatchuel, Tabernik, and Associates), Lisa Colvig, Christina Branom, and Kim Carpenter (Applied Survey Research), Debbi Davis (Children's Nurturing Project & Help Me Grow Solano), Danielle Henderson (Consultant)

Public Comment: None

Commissioners' Comments: None

**II. Consent Calendar**

- A. Approve Agenda of May 21, 2015
- B. Approve Minutes of March 10, 2015
- C. Receive Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

***Motion: Approve Agenda of May 21, 2015, approve minutes of March 10, 2015, and receive Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report.***

Moved by Commissioner Speck; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison  
Approved: 3-0-0

**III. Planning for 2016 and Beyond**

- A. Review First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Result Profiles in the context of a Review/Update of the First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Framework

Ms. Colvig presented the Committee with the revised community level data report as requested at the March 2015 meeting. The revised data report included result profiles for each initiative, which are a comprehensive picture of the entire initiative, including First 5 Solano and community assets, and gaps in services.

Ms. Colvig asked the Committee if the information provided in the revised report was sufficient for the Commission make decisions around its Strategic Plan

Framework. Ms. Allio reminded the Committee that this information is also intended to help the Commission prioritize efforts in the longer term.

Commissioner Barbosa said she would like Applied Survey Research (ASR) to add data on First 5 Solano dollars expended in each of the result areas. Commissioner Crutison inquired what the full Commission will be asked to do at the June 2015 meeting. Ms. Allio clarified that they will be asked to examine and adjust, if necessary, the goals and results of the current Strategic Plan Framework using the information from the report. Commissioner Speck added that it would be helpful to classify the agency that provides fiscal support as public agency or non-profit, for the services and programs listed in the *Complimentary Efforts* section of the report.

Ms. Allio clarified with the Committee that the plan moving forward was to evaluate the current Strategic Plan Framework and make the necessary adjustments, while asking for feedback from each Commissioner as to their highest priority areas. The prioritization will take place at a separate meeting.

#### B. Discuss Options for Providing Collective Impact Clarification for Commission

Ms. Harris explained that Staff has requested guidance from County Counsel as to how First 5 Solano should move forward with Collective Impact (CI) since a portion of the work may span beyond the 0-5 population. County Counsel is reviewing the information. Ms. Harris asked for suggestions from the Committee on how to address the CI approach with the full Commission.

Commissioner Barbosa said that County Counsel's conclusions, as well as the Strategic Framework, would offer good direction for discussions. Commissioner Crutison said that the Commission should be reminded that First 5 Solano has funded the effort and is working with community partners to look at the early childhood systems holistically, but that First 5 Solano would only fund and prioritize within its purview. Commissioner Speck added that he believes First 5 Solano should not be the only fiscal backbone for an effort that supports populations outside of 0-5.

The Commissioners suggested defining what it means to be the fiscal backbone and to clarify the responsibilities and authority First 5 Solano would have under CI. Commissioner Crutison and Ms. Harris agreed to discuss that matter further upon receipt of legal opinion from County Counsel.

#### **IV. Receive a First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update**

Ms. Richards reported the Commission is fiscally on target. Ms. Richards notified the Committee that the Solano County Auditor has exercised their right to conduct random audits of contracts. The Heather House was chosen for examination and there were 5 findings on processes, such as time keeping. Staff is working with the Auditor's Office and Heather House to rectify the findings. Ms. Richards concluded that the audit does

not appear to be a contract compliance issue at this point and a copy of the audit is available upon request.

#### **V. Receive a First 5 Futures Update**

Ms. Gonsalves congratulated Children's Nurturing Project and First 5 Solano staff who recently secured a \$426,341 grant over 2 years from the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board to provide trauma recovery services to victims of crime.

Ms. Gonsalves recommends continuing to have staff time spent in the area of grant writing as it has the highest return on resources invested. Staff is involved in a new project that uses GIS mapping to show the lack of resources in Solano to aide in applying for grants. Commissioner Speck asked for Staff to address the question that was asked at the April 2015 Commission meeting about how much money was spent on First 5 Futures and the return on investment.

Commissioner Crutison asked if this item was going to be brought the June 2015 Commission meeting. Ms. Richards answered that the item would be developed and defined, then brought back to the next SPC meeting.

#### **VI. Fundraising Donation Menu**

Ms. Harris asked if the Committee would like to table the item until the next meeting in the interest of time. The Committee agreed.

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

Systems and Policy Committee July 7, 2015 3:00 – 4:30 PM  
601 Texas Street Suite 210, Fairfield CA

Future agenda items: First 5 Solano Budget and Staffing Update; Commissioner Meeting Attendance; First 5 Futures Update, Planning for 2016 and Beyond

#### **Adjourn**

Commissioner Barbosa adjourned the meeting at 4:33pm.

Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III  
Approved:



CHILDREN ARE OUR BOTTOM LINE

**DATE:** May 27, 2015  
**TO:** First 5 Solano Commission  
**FROM:** Marisela Barbosa, Systems and Policy Committee (SPC) Chair  
By Michele Harris, Executive Director  
**SUBJ:** **Planning for 2016 and Beyond Staff Report**

**Agenda Item IIIB: Planning for 2016 and Beyond**

**Review First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Result Profiles in the context of a Review/Update of the First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Framework:** At the March 2015 meeting, the Systems and Policy Committee reviewed a data report from Applied Survey Research (ASR) that contained community level data in support of their strategic planning process. The Committee was asked to review the data report and provide feedback on what information should be presented to the full Commission to support their information gathering for strategic planning.

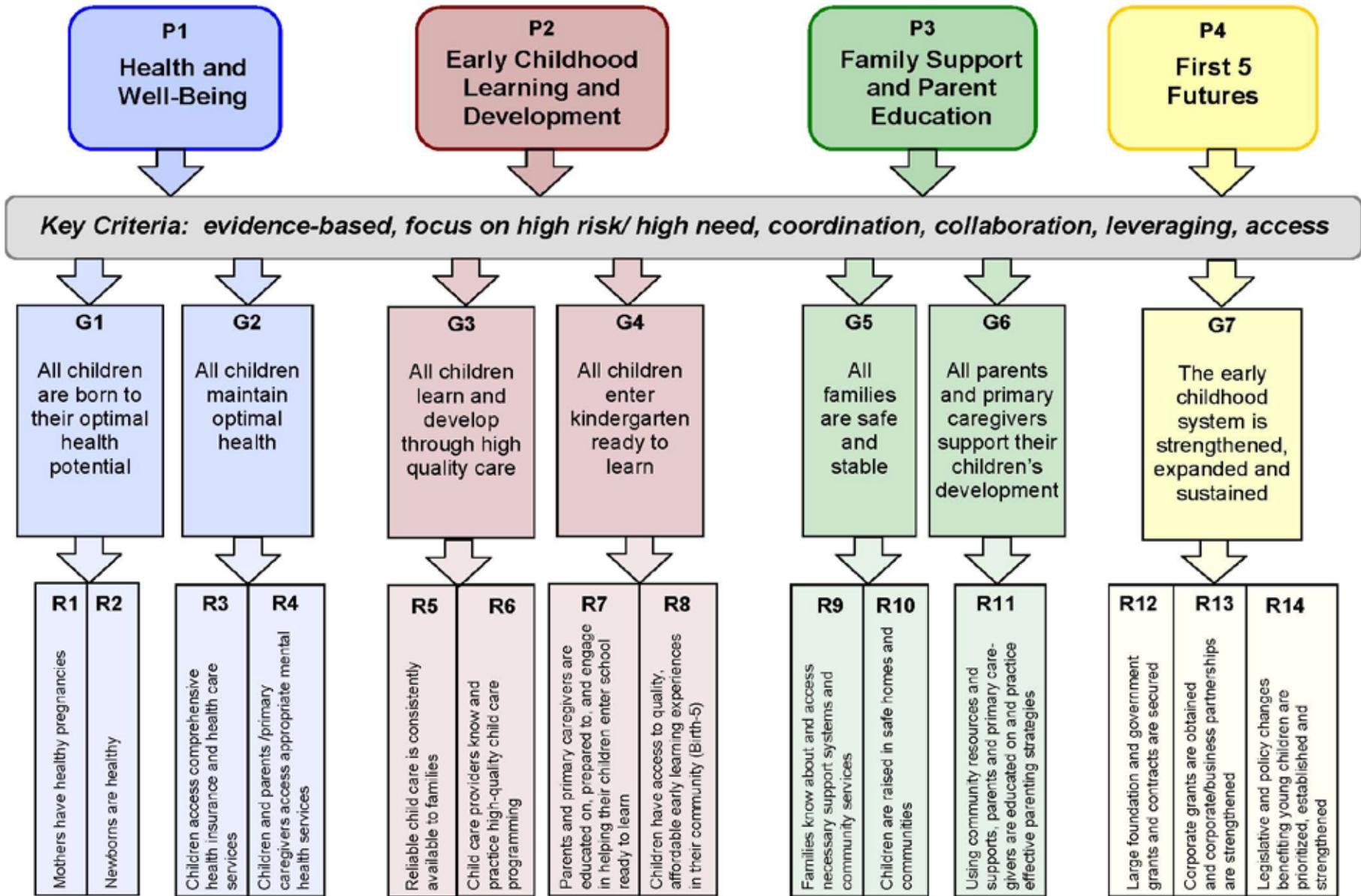
The Committee recommended that this data report be supplemented so that the Commission can garner a full picture of the priority area, including community indicators, First 5 Solano assets, other community assets, gaps in services, etc. In this way, the Commission will see the data in the context of other efforts in the community which will support their decision making around revisions and/or updates to its Strategic Plan Framework.

Committee Deliberation: ASR presented the revised Data Report (Attachment C) for Committee review and comment for full presentation to the Commission at its June 2 meeting. The revised report included result profiles for each initiative, which are intended to provide a comprehensive picture of the entire initiative. The Committee requested clarification of what the full Commission will be asked to do at the June meeting. Strategic planning consultant Lori Allio clarified that the Commission will be asked to examine and adjust, if necessary, their strategic plan framework.

Being presented tonight is the supplemented data report by priority area. The Commission will then be asked to review its Strategic Plan Framework by priority area and make recommendations for changes, if necessary.

Attachment A: Strategic Plan Framework  
Attachment B: Presentation  
Attachment C: Strategic Plan Result Profiles Report (Enclosure)

# First 5 Solano 2012 Strategic Framework



# UPDATING THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

## First 5 Solano Strategic Planning

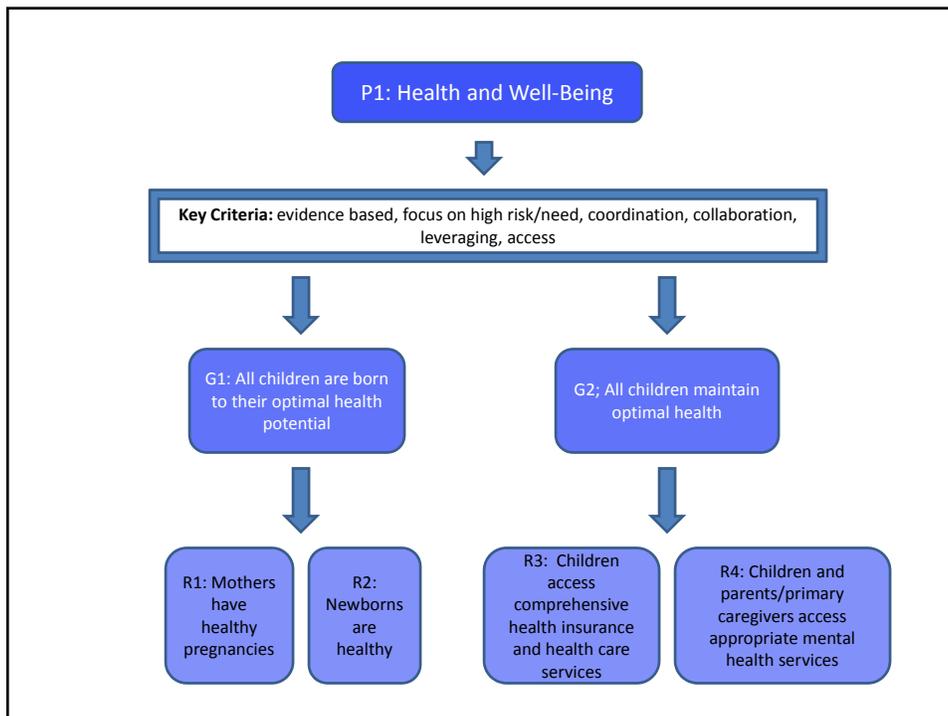
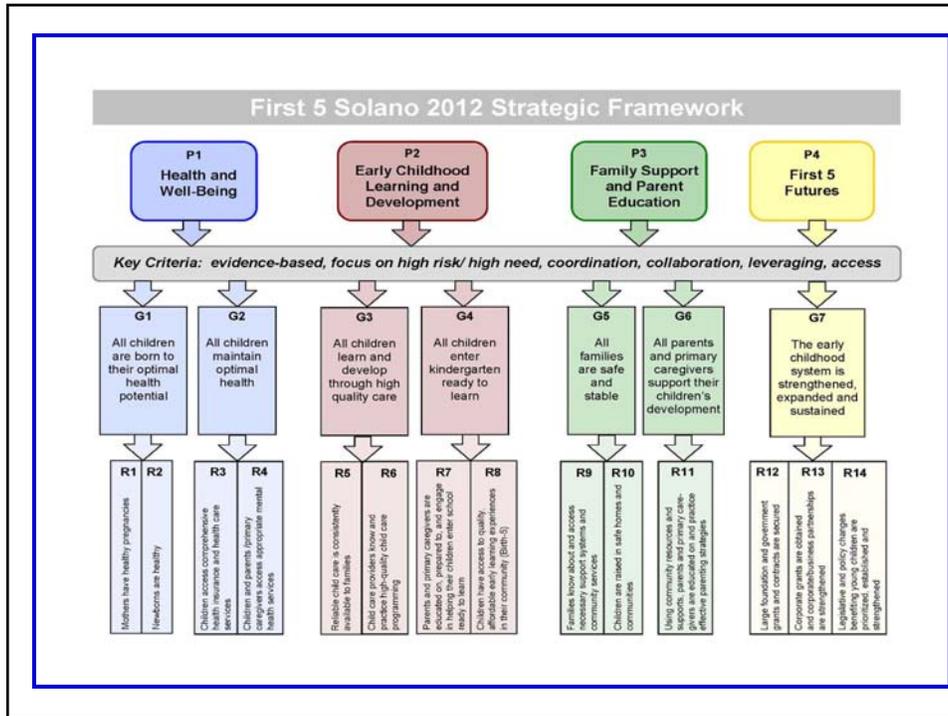
Presentation: Lori Allio PhD

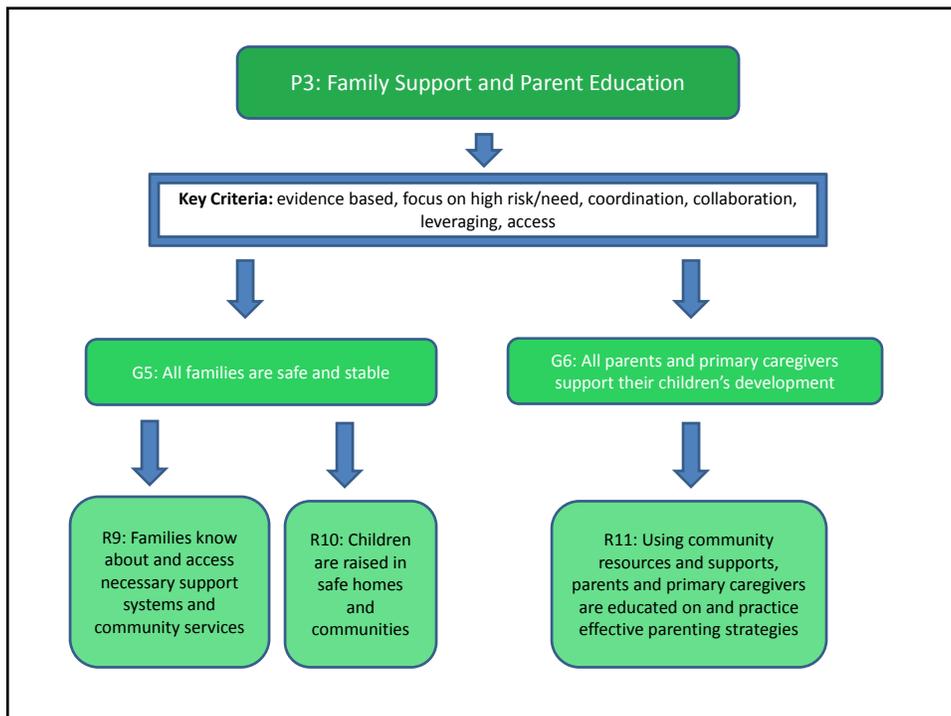
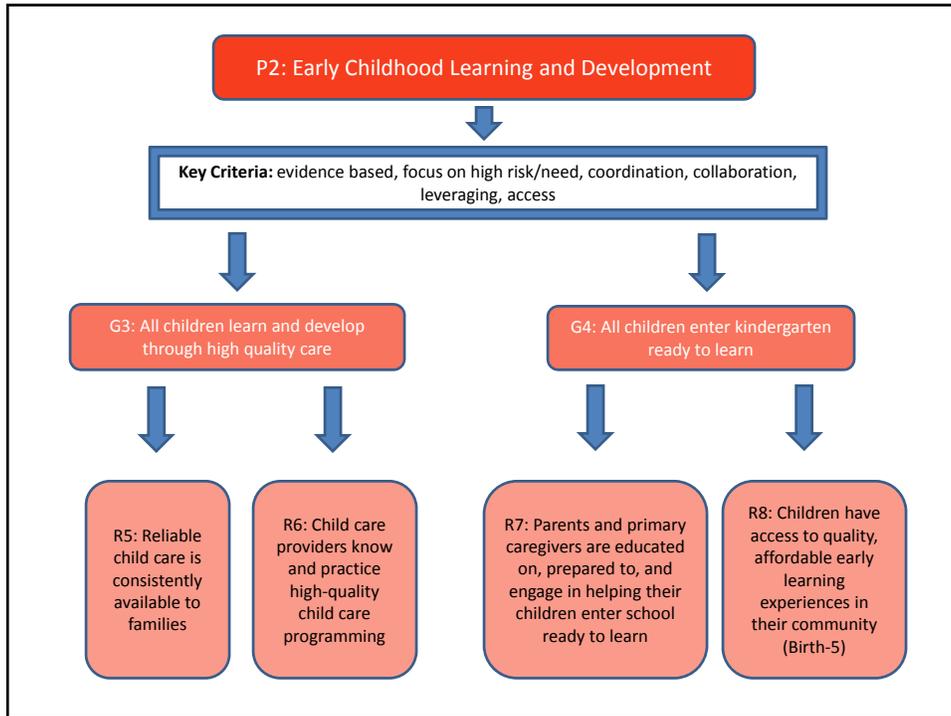


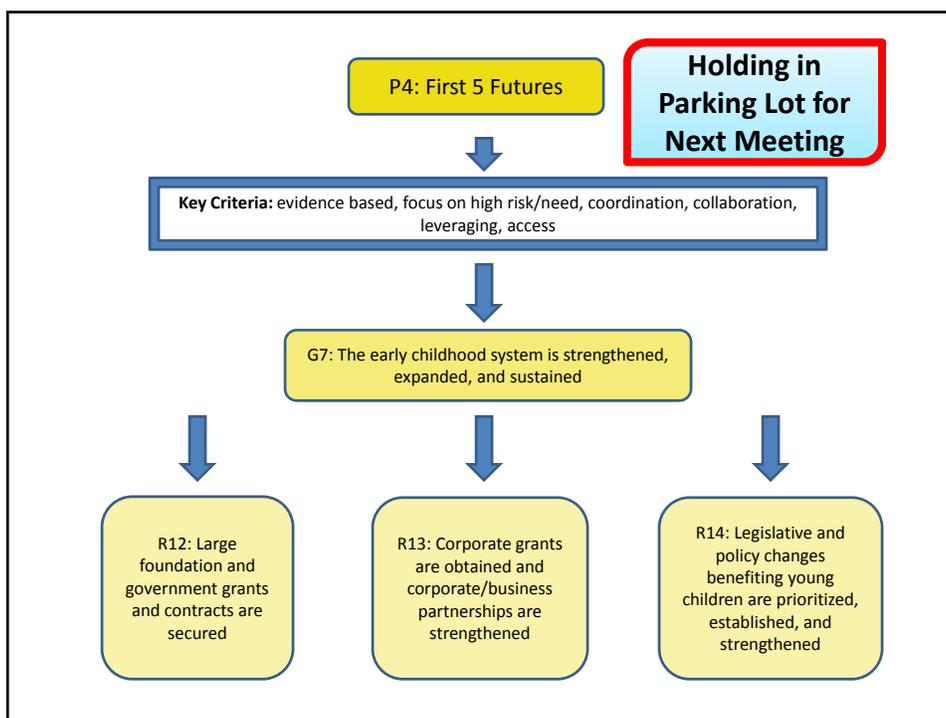
## STEPS IN UPDATING THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

- Set Our Process
- Review Current Framework Components & Criteria
- Receive Data on Three (of Four) Priorities
  - We will have a pause in presentation as we move through for questions, initial reactions
  - Using the “Parking Lot” for Priority 4: First 5 Futures
- Update to Framework
- What Stood Out?
- Next Steps

2





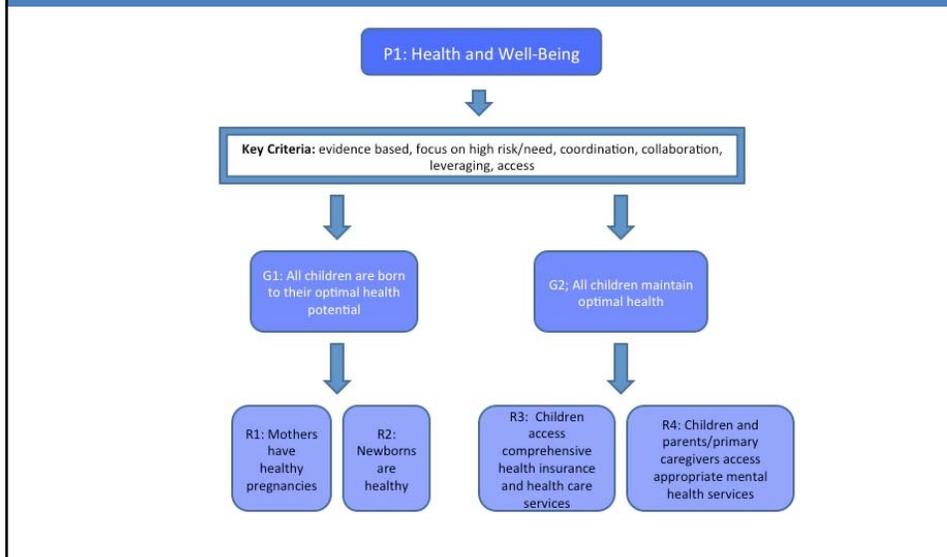


## CRITERIA IN THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

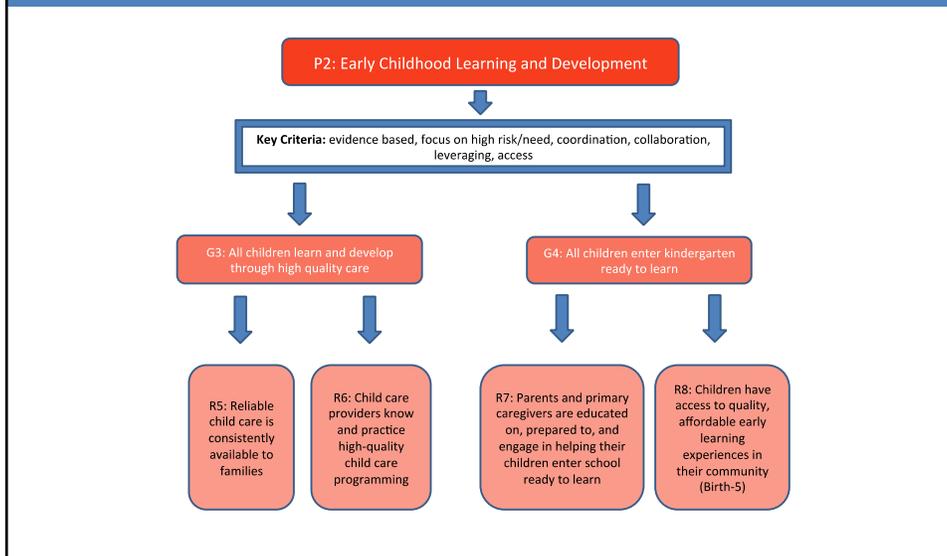
Key criteria act as a lens across all pieces of the framework

- **Key Criteria:**
  - evidence based
  - focus on high risk/need
  - coordination
  - collaboration
  - leveraging
  - access

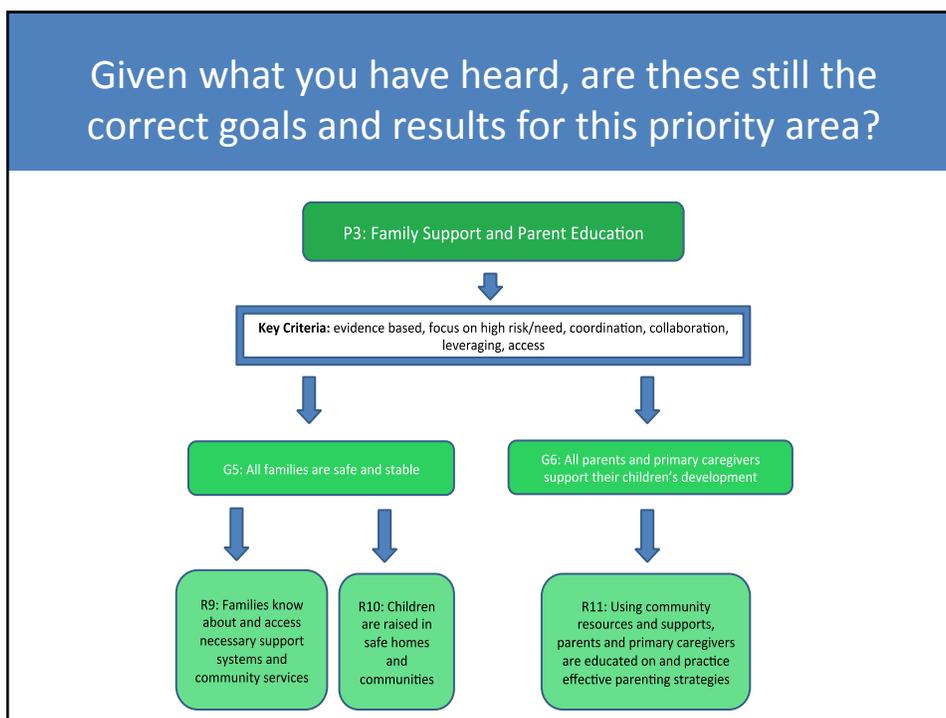
Given what you have heard, are these still the correct goals and results for this priority area?



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## WHAT MODIFIED CRITERIA IN THE THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK?

***Are these still the CORRECT criteria for all of your framework or are there changes/additions?***

- **Key Criteria:**
  - evidence based
  - focus on high risk/need
  - coordination
  - collaboration
  - leveraging
  - access

## Opportunity for reflection

- What stood out for you?
- What highlights will you keep in mind as we move to prioritization of the framework and decisions around investments?

## Proposed Next Steps

- Staff will revise partial framework with today's input for approval
- Next meeting we will:
  - Consider revisions to Priority 4
  - Prioritize results in the framework
  - Revisit Mission, Vision and Values





# FIRST 5 SOLANO STRATEGIC PLAN RESULT PROFILES

May 2015

Applied Survey Research



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# Introduction

The purpose of this report is to assist First 5 Solano review its current investment portfolio in the context of community need, other assets and gaps, and as a prelude to determining “what rises to the top” in terms of funding priorities. Key criteria may include:

- Size of the unmet need;
- Likelihood that the need will remain unaddressed, or will escalate, if First 5 does not intervene; and
- First 5 Solano’s ability to make an impact.

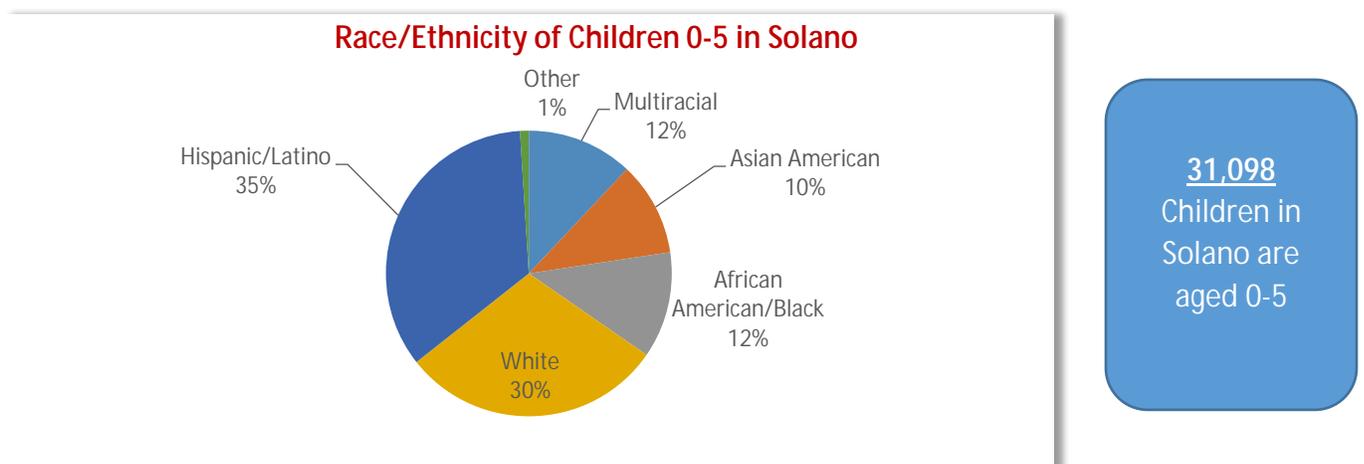
This report summarizes the following information for the result areas that align with First 5 Solano’s funding priorities of prenatal, health access, early childhood mental health, quality child care and school readiness, family support, and collaboration and coordination:

- Key Elements—What does each result area encompass?
- Community Indicators—How is the county faring in this result area?
- Efforts by First 5 Solano and other funders—What services and investments are in place to support change this result area?
- Service gaps—What more could be done to support change in this result area?
- Opportunities—What investments or services are planned for the near future that will affect this result area?

The information presented in this report was gathered from federal, state, and local data sources, as well as interviews and discussions with Solano service providers and community leaders. Discussions with the Help Me Grow leadership group aided in interpretation and contextualization of the community indicator data. In addition, a series of interviews with local key informants with extensive knowledge of the community contributed to a portrait of the services and investments provided in Solano County. The findings in this report are drawn from conversations with community experts in the areas of health, mental health, early childhood education, school readiness, child welfare, and other social services.

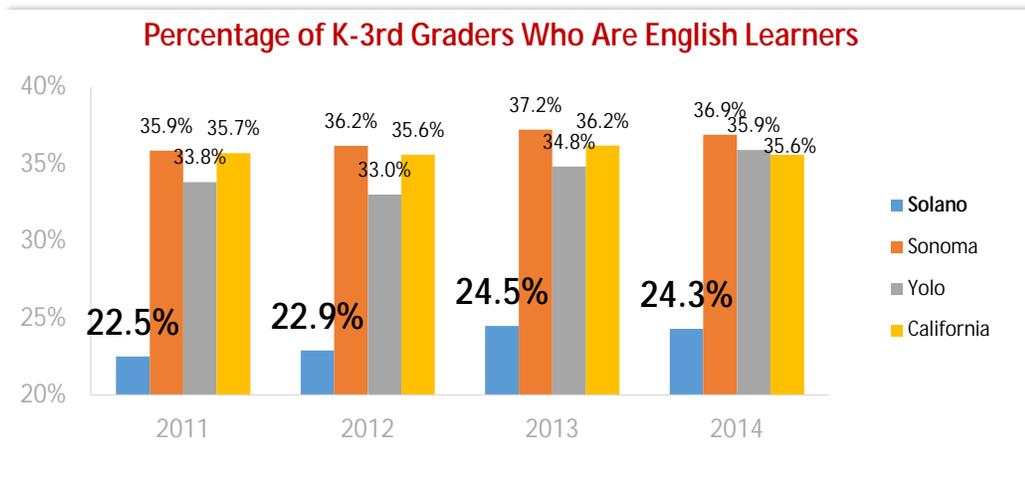
## Solano County Demographics

To set the context for the result profiles that follow, this section also describes the demographics of Solano County’s children and families. The majority of children 0-5 in Solano are White and Hispanic/Latino, but the county also has large proportions of Asian and African American children. The Asian and African American child population in Solano is significantly larger than it is in neighboring Yolo and Sonoma Counties.



Source: California Department of Finance Population Projection Estimates.

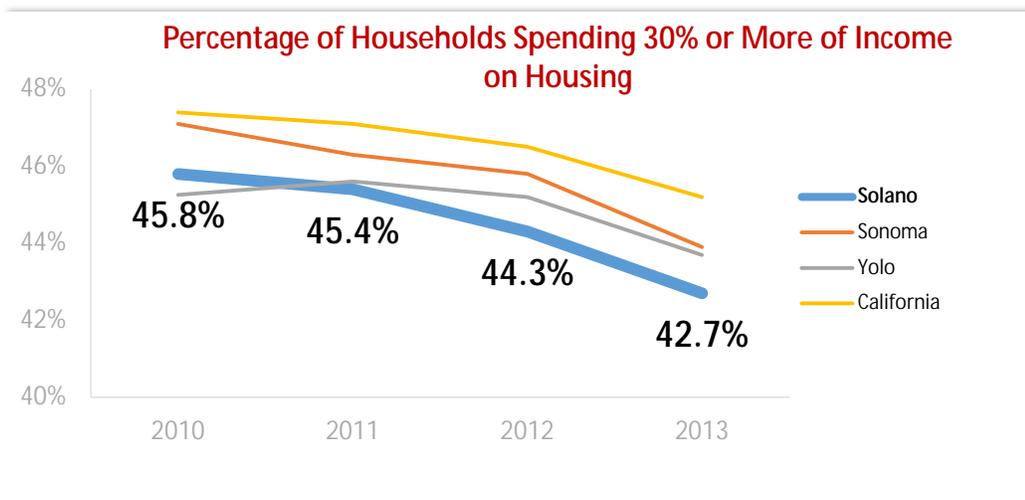
Just under one-quarter of young elementary school children are designated English Learners. This rate is lower than it is in neighboring counties and in the state overall. The majority of these children are Spanish speakers, and there are high numbers of English Learners in Dixon and Vallejo.



**1,204**  
Entering kindergarten students are English Learners

Source: California Department of Education.

With high housing costs across California, many families spend significant portions of their income on housing each year. About 43 percent of families in Solano County spend at least 30% of their income on housing, but this proportion is declining and is lower than in neighboring counties and in the state overall.

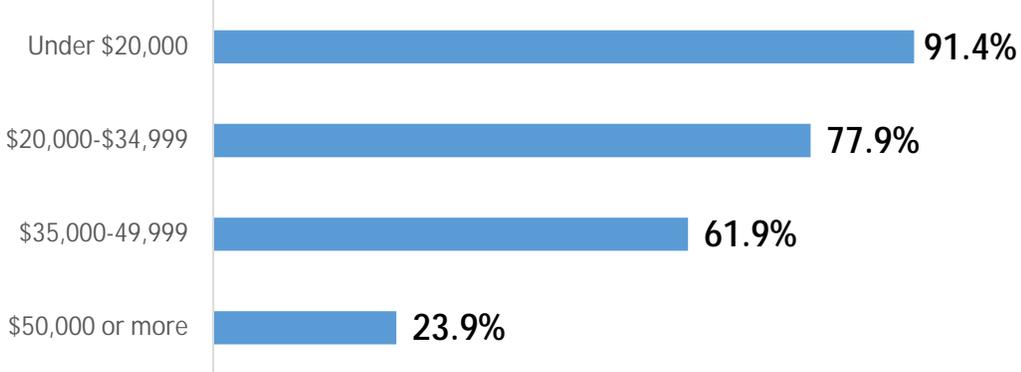


**60,554**  
Households spend 30% or more on housing

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey.

However, housing costs have a greater impact on the county's poorest residents. Over nine in 10 families earning under \$20,000 annually spend at least 30% of their income on housing.

### Percentage of Households Spending 30% or More of Income on Housing, by Income

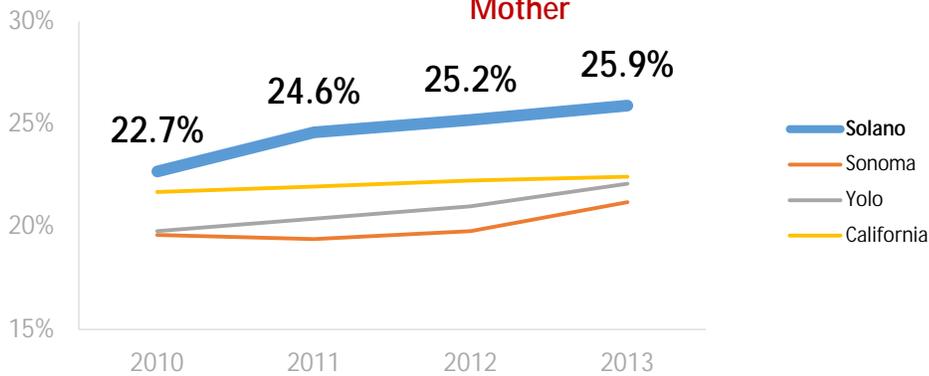


**16,436**  
Households earning under \$20K/year spend 30% or more on housing

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey.

Over one-quarter of children in Solano live in homes headed by a single mother. The proportion of families headed by a single mother is higher in Solano than in neighboring counties and the state overall, and has been rising over time.

### Percentage of Families with Children Headed by a Single Mother

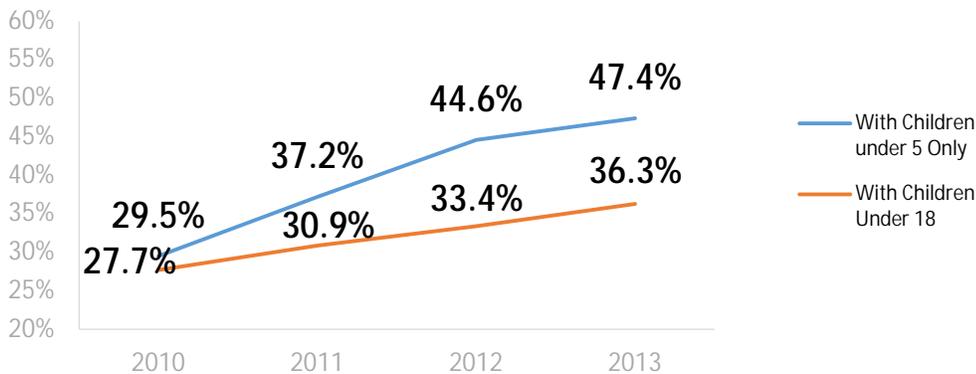


**11,735**  
Families with children are headed by a single mother

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey.

Single mother families are far more likely to be in poverty than two-parent families, especially if they have young children. In fact, 47 percent of single mother families with children under 5 are in poverty in Solano.

### Percentage of Single Mother Families in Poverty

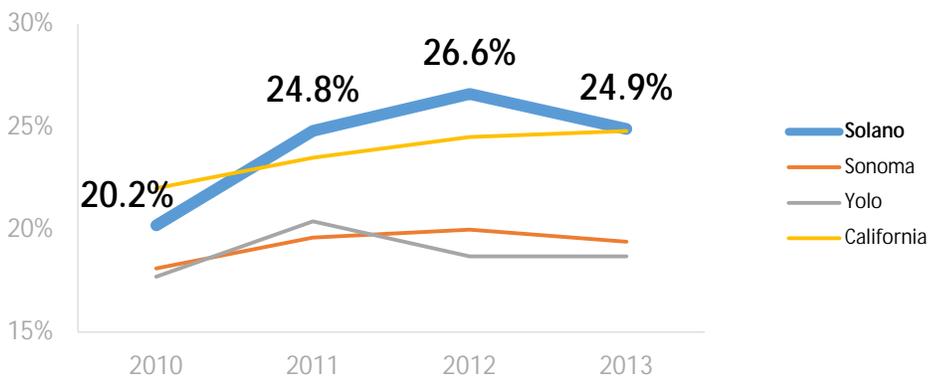


**4,260**  
Single-mother families are in poverty

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey.

Similarly children under 5 are more likely to be in poverty than older children and adults. In 2013, one-quarter of Solano's children under 5 were in poverty.

### Percentage of Children under 5 in Poverty

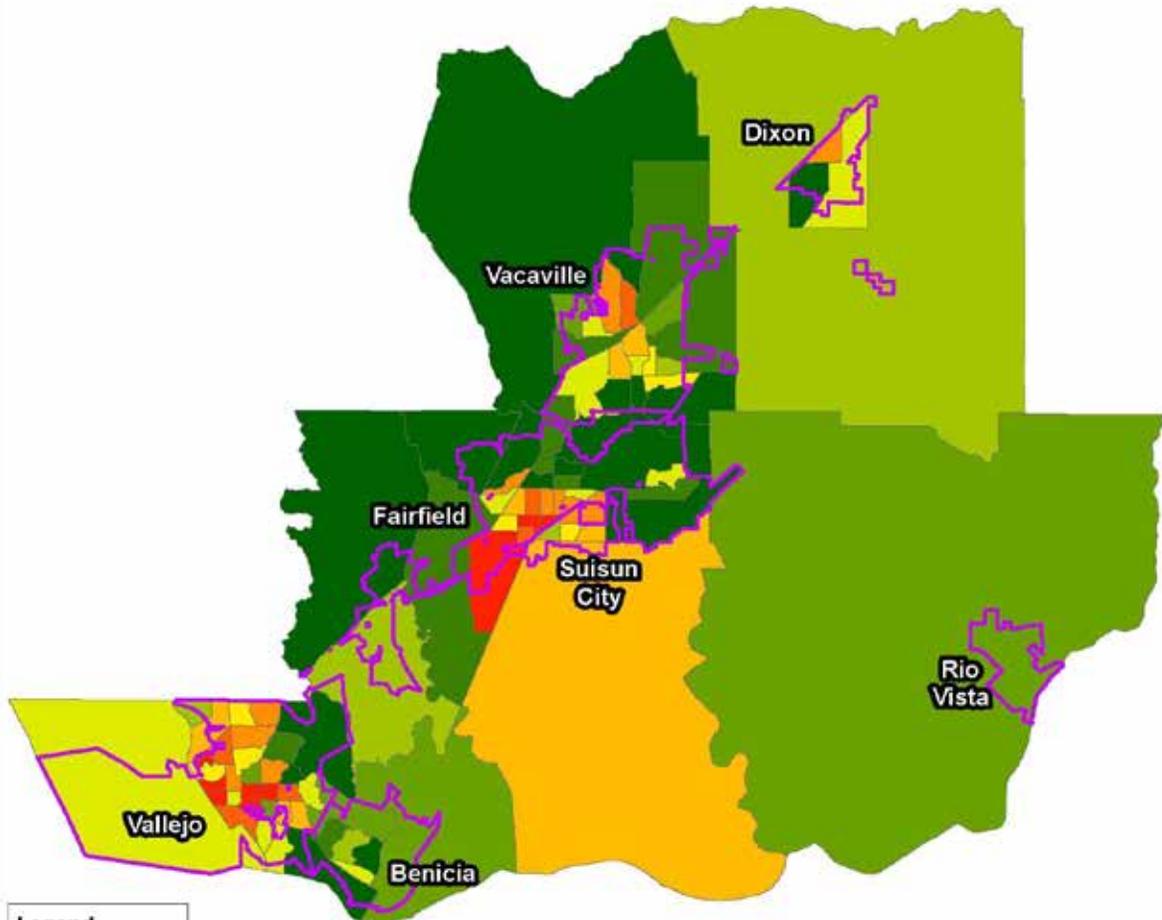


**6,416**  
Children under 5 are in poverty

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey.

The map on the following page illustrates the neighborhoods most affected by child poverty in Solano County. There are several neighborhoods in central Vallejo and in west Fairfield that have very high rates of child poverty. In these neighborhoods, which are colored in red, over 40 percent of children are in poverty. Additional geographic areas of need are highlighted in the textbox below the map.

## Percentage of Children in Poverty by Census Tract

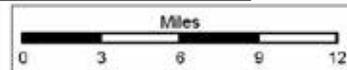


### Legend

Percentage	
	0.0 - 1.9
	1.9 - 5.5
	5.5 - 9.0
	9.0 - 12.3
	12.3 - 17.1
	17.1 - 22.1
	22.1 - 26.4
	26.4 - 35.1
	35.1 - 42.4
	42.4 - 57.7
	City Boundaries

### Additional Solano County "Hot Spots"

- Dixon (third grade proficiency rates)
- Fairfield (preschool attendance)
- Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, and Dixon Unified (special education rates)
- Rio Vista (child care; health services; insurance rate; maltreatment allegation rate)
- Suisun City (preschool attendance)
- Vallejo (insurance rate; preschool attendance; third grade proficiency rates; maltreatment allegation rate; parental unemployment; child homelessness)



Department of Information Technology, GIS Services



### Solano County GIS Services

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ESJ\_1254\_05/2015

*Disclaimer:*  
This map was made using Solano County GIS files with varying degrees of scale, accuracy, precision, completeness, and alignment and therefore cannot be used for situations requiring survey grade measurement or legal boundary determinations. Solano County disclaims liability for any loss that may result from the use of this map. User acknowledges data limitations and accepts responsibility for map based judgments.

# Result Profile

## Prenatal Care

### What do we mean by “Prenatal Care”? Key Elements

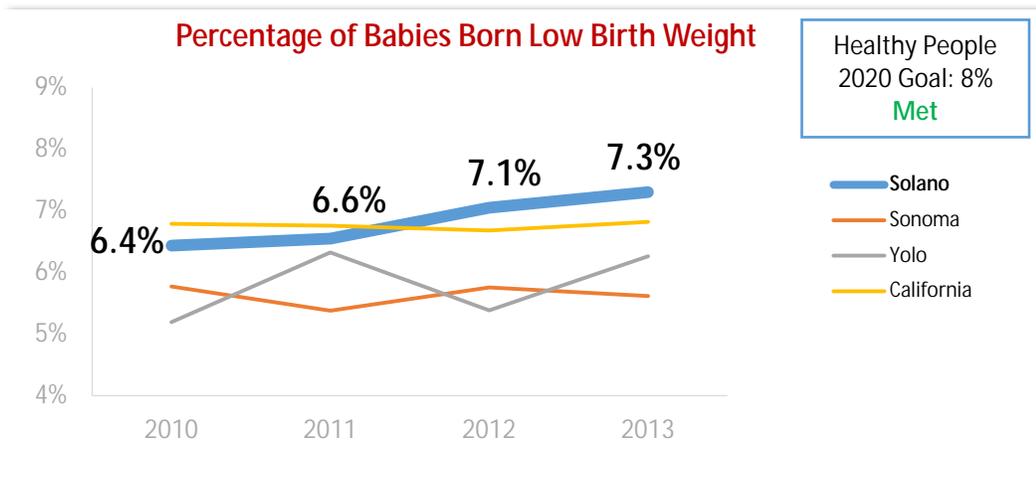
- Perinatal health care
- Home visiting, case management, counseling for high-risk pregnant and parenting women
- Breastfeeding support
- Assessment and referral to developmental services
- Access to a primary care physicians and medical specialists (e.g., psychiatry)



### Key Take-Aways

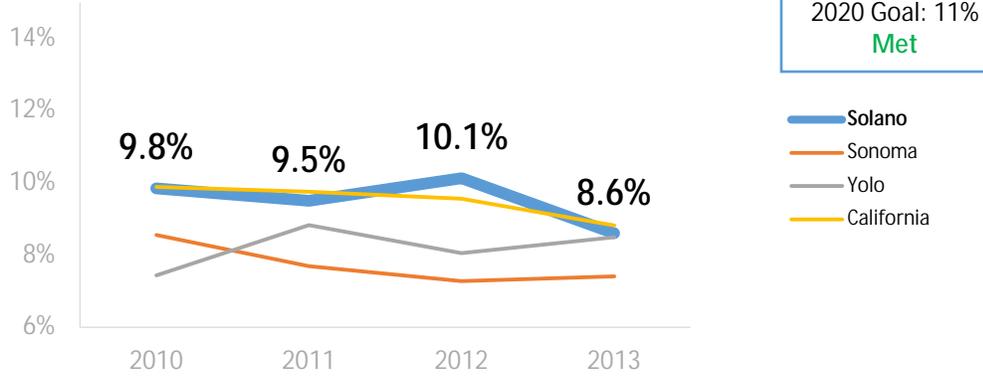
- Decline in teen pregnancy, premature births, and women’s use of tobacco during pregnancy, and increase in entry to early prenatal care and initiation of breastfeeding.
- However, there are significant perinatal health disparities among African American and Latina women.
- Partners provide a range of essential services to support perinatal health, including evidence-based in-home support for children/families at risk of poor health outcomes and/or child maltreatment.
- Barriers to entry to early prenatal care remain, especially among the Medi-Cal population.
- More breastfeeding support is needed in the community to encourage breastfeeding maintenance.

### Community Indicators



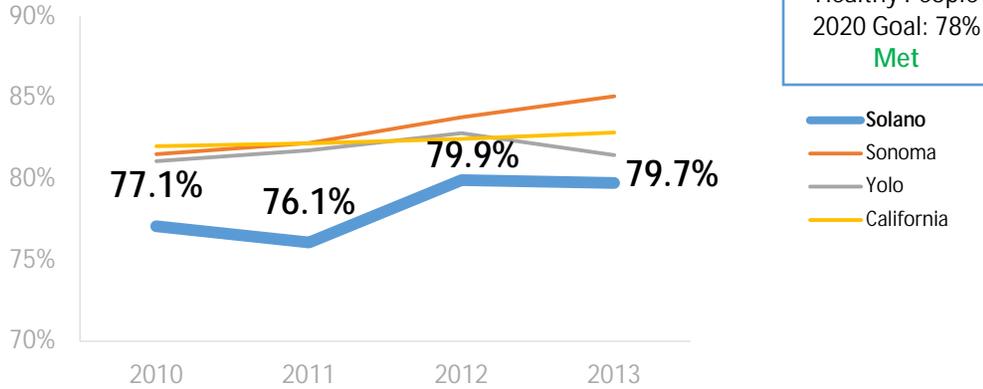
**384**  
Babies were born low birth-weight

### Percentage of Babies Born Preterm



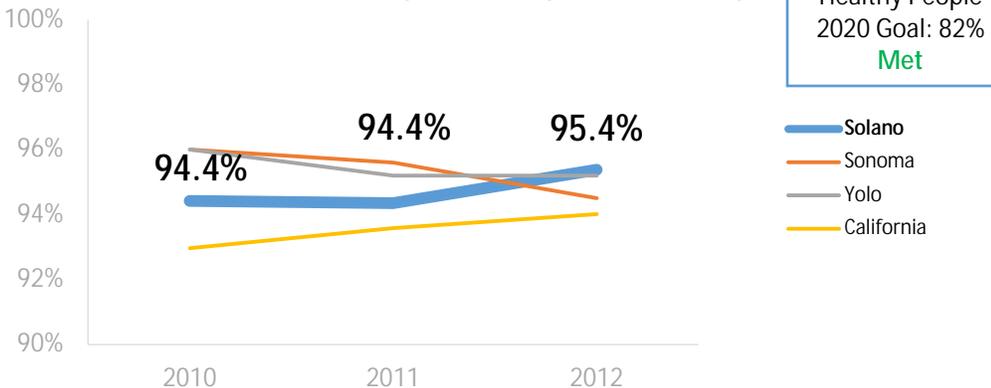
452  
Babies were born preterm

### Percentage Receiving Timely Prenatal Care



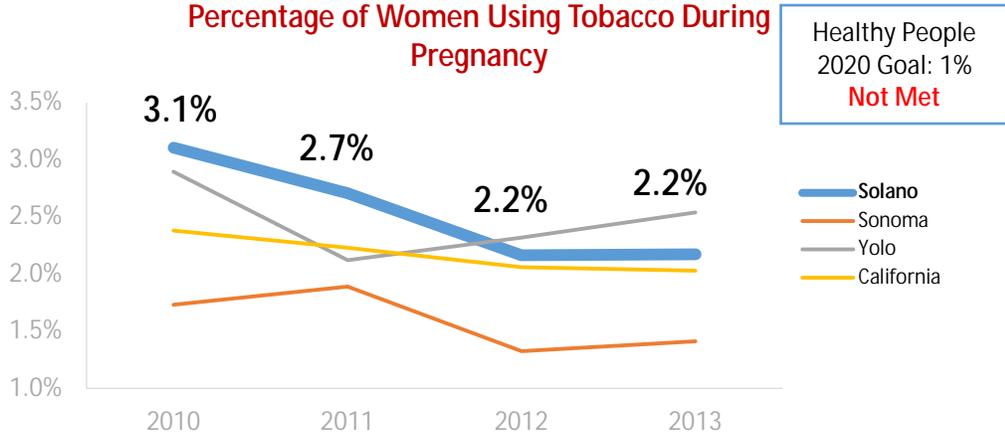
1,061  
Women had no prenatal care at first trimester

### Percentage Initiating Breastfeeding



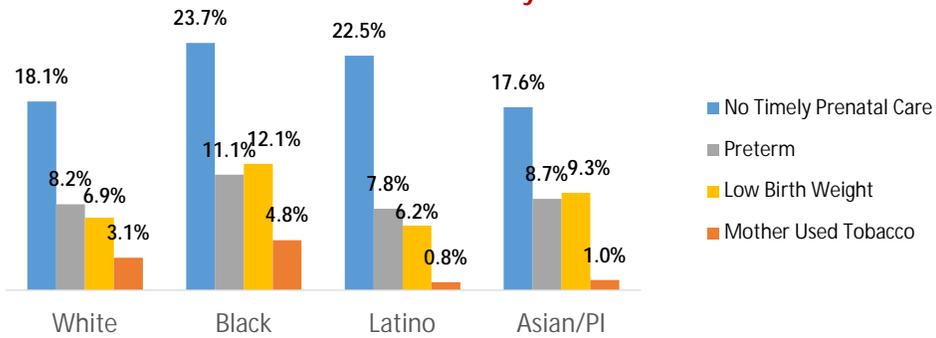
231  
Mothers did not initiate breastfeeding in hospital

### Percentage of Women Using Tobacco During Pregnancy



114  
Women used tobacco during pregnancy

### Percentage of Children with Birth Risk Factors, by Race/Ethnicity



717  
Women of color had no prenatal care at first trimester

Sources: CDC Wonder.

### Geographic Areas of Most Need

- Rio Vista

## Snapshot of Efforts by First 5 Solano and Other Partners<sup>1</sup>

### *First 5 Efforts*

- **BabyFirst Solano** (*perinatal care, case management, home visiting, counseling via Healthy Families America [HFA] and Nurse Family Partnership [NFP]*)
  - Investment: \$997,941
  - Number served: 103 enrolled in HFA; 10 born in NFP; 24 pregnant women referred to substance abuse services

### *Complimentary Efforts*

- **Adolescent Family Life** (*perinatal care, case management, counseling*)
- **Prenatal Care Guidance** (*perinatal care appointment support, insurance enrollment support*)
- **California Children's Services** (*comprehensive health services for seriously ill and disabled children*)
- **Child Health and Disability Prevention** (*support/education to providers, temporary insurance*)
- **Black Infant Health** (*home visiting, case management, counseling*)
- **Public Health Nursing** (*home visiting, case management, counseling*)
- **Community Clinics** (*perinatal care, breastfeeding support*)
- **Partnership Health Plan** (*case management, insurance*)
- **Planned Parenthood** (*perinatal care*)
- **Hospitals** (*perinatal care*)
- **Baby Coach / Nurturing Parenting Project** (*parent education and support*)
- **Delivering a Fresh Start** (*case management, counseling*)
- **Breastfeeding Support** (*peer support*)
- **WIC** (*nutrition support*)

## Gaps in Services

- **Barriers to accessing early prenatal care remain.** Entry to early prenatal care has improved and is above the national goal, but more work can be done, especially for the Medi-Cal population and Black and Latina women. Across the county there is a lack of health care providers in general and a particular shortage of providers that accept Medi-Cal. Other barriers to care also include patients' confusion about the process for obtaining prenatal care or insurance, concerns about costs, lack of transportation, language or literacy level, and lack of child care.
- **More breastfeeding support is needed in the community.** Many women start off breastfeeding and go into hospital intending to breastfeed exclusively, but they discontinue for a variety of reasons (e.g., they may not qualify for paid leave from their job).
- **There are challenges in accessing healthcare in Rio Vista.** Rio Vista has limited health care services, so these families travel for care, often to Fairfield, over 20 miles away.
- **Health disparities are particularly prominent in Vallejo.**

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix A for full details.

- **Teen pregnancy rates are high among Black and Latina women**, despite the fact that the teen pregnancy rate is down overall.
- **There is a shortage of health care providers.** Historically, Solano County struggles to hire and retain health care providers, especially since the Affordable Care Act, which increased competition for providers. However, this problem has improved in recent months.
- **The county needs more bilingual health practitioners.**

## Opportunities

- The home visiting programs offered in the community to high-risk families—Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) and Healthy Families America (HFA)—have a strong evidence base. Moreover, the county just earned HFA accreditation, a significant accomplishment and opportunity for Solano to benefit from the resources and recognition offered by the national HFA organization.

# Result Profile

## Health Access

### What do we mean by “Health Access”? Key Elements

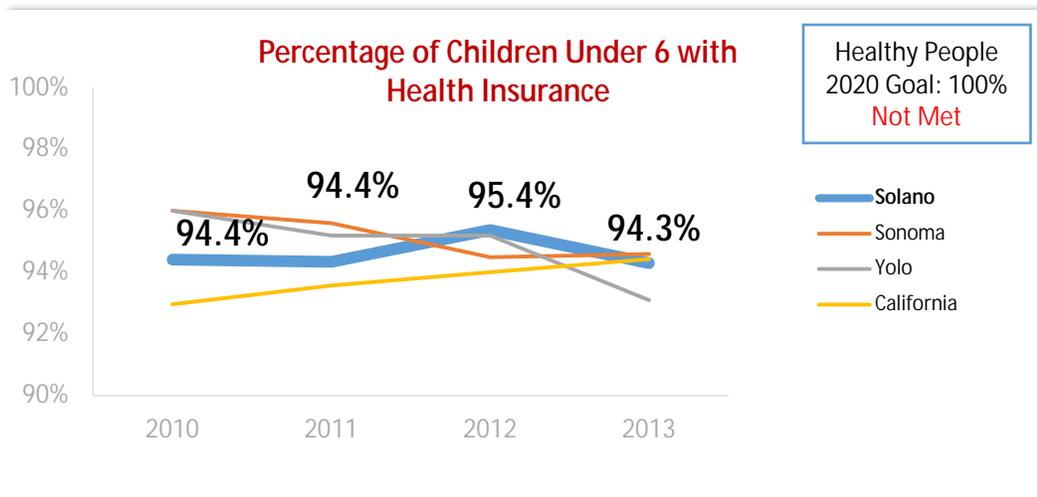
- Insurance coverage
- Insurance enrollment support
- Access to a primary care physician and specialists
- Outreach to underserved populations



### Key Take-Aways

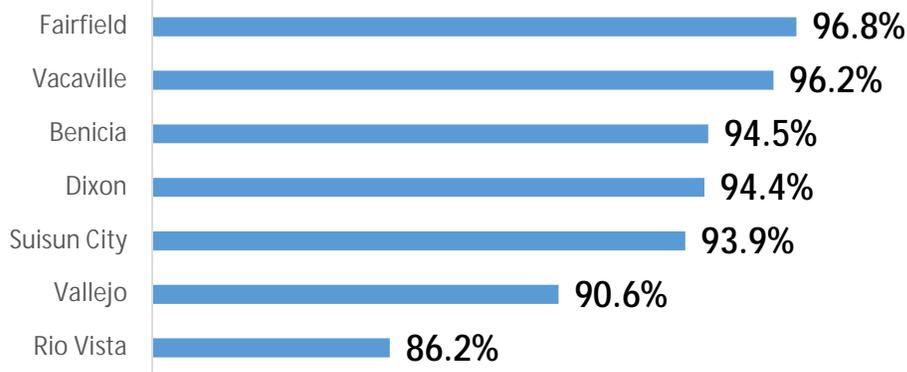
- High percentages of children are insured.
- Lack of health coverage for undocumented parents.
- Lack of primary care physicians and medical specialists, especially for uninsured and Medi-Cal patients.

### Community Indicators



1,829  
Children under 6 do not have health insurance

### Percentage of Children under 18 with Health Insurance, by City



118  
Children in Rio Vista and 2490  
Children in Vallejo do not  
have health insurance

### Percentage of Children on Medi-Cal Attending Well-Child Visits



Sources: U.S. Census; HEDIS Annual Aggregate Reports.

### Geographic Areas of Most Need

- Rio Vista and Vallejo

## Snapshot of Efforts by First 5 Solano<sup>2</sup> and Other Partners<sup>3</sup>

### *First 5 Efforts*

- **Solano Kids Insurance Program** (*insurance coverage, enrollment support for pregnant women and children*)
  - Investment: \$251,207
  - Number served: 611 children under 5 newly enrolled in health insurance; 944 children under 5 assisted with maintaining continuous enrollment; 260 uninsured expectant mothers enrolled in health insurance

### *Complimentary Efforts*

- **Solano Coalition for Better Health** (*insurance coverage, enrollment support, outreach, advocacy*)
- **Covered California** (*insurance coverage, enrollment support*)
- **Community Clinics** (*insurance enrollment support, primary care, dental care*)
- **Kaiser** (*specialty care*)
- **California Health and Disability Prevention** (*temporary insurance coverage*)
- **Prenatal Care Guidance Program** (*insurance enrollment support*)

## Gaps in Services

- Lack of primary care providers in the county.
- Lack of medical specialists in the county, especially psychiatrists and other mental health professionals and dermatologists. This problem particularly affects the uninsured and those on Medi-Cal.
- Lack of insurance coverage for undocumented adults, who do not qualify for Medi-Cal or Covered California. Community clinics and the ER are required to treat them, but if the patient can't pay, the cost is absorbed by the clinic or hospital. Also, undocumented adults tend to wait until they are extremely ill to access care and do not receive preventative or follow-up care.

## Opportunities

- Strong support exists in the community to enroll eligible children and adults in health insurance.
- With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, greater numbers of Californians are eligible for coverage through Medi-Cal or Covered California.

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<sup>2</sup> Funded under the Prenatal Care Initiative and Health Access Initiative.

<sup>3</sup> See Appendix B for full details.

## Early Childhood Mental Health

### What do we mean by “ECMH”? Key Elements

- Screening and assessment
- Early intervention and treatment for mental health and developmental challenges
- Parent and provider education

#### Status

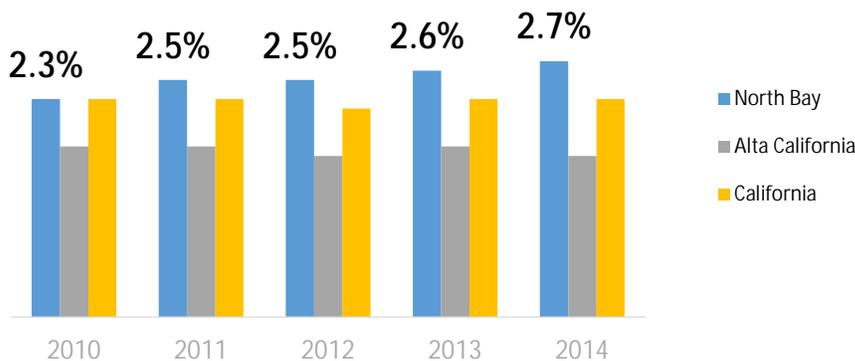


### Key Take-Aways

- Recruiting and retaining mental health providers is a challenge.
- More training is needed for parents and providers around early childhood mental health.
- Costs have outpaced revenue for the County Mental Health Services Department.

### Community Indicators

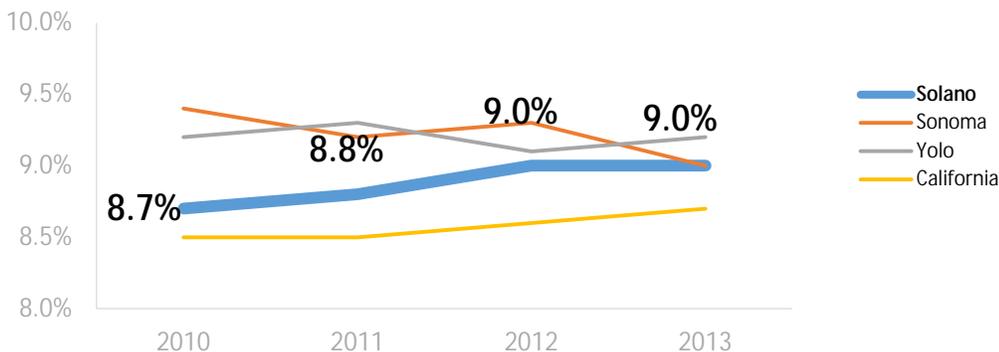
Percentage of Children Under 3 Enrolled in Regional Centers



994  
Children 0-3 are enrolled in Regional Center services

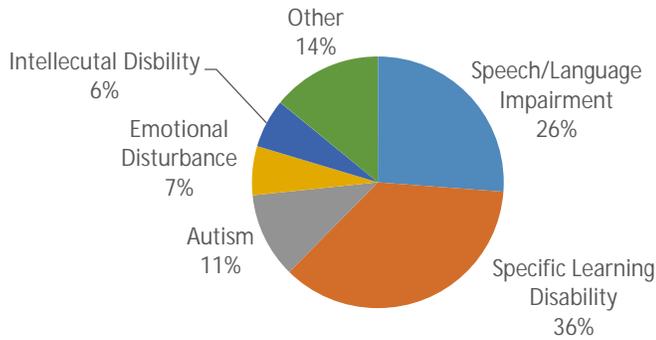
Source: California Department of Developmental Services, California Department of Finance Child Population Projections.

Percentage of Children K-3rd Grade Enrolled in Special Education



349  
Children in Kindergarten are enrolled in special education services

## Children Enrolled in Special Education (K-12) in Solano, by Diagnosis 2013-14 School Year



Source: California Department of Education.

### Geographic Areas of Most Need

- Fairfield-Suisun Unified, Travis Unified, and Dixon Unified have highest special education rates

### Snapshot of Efforts by First 5 Solano and Other Partners<sup>4</sup>

#### *First 5 Efforts*

- **PEAK** (*screenings, assessment, mental health treatment, parent/provider education*)
  - Investment: \$812,181
  - Number served: 929 screenings; 112 parent/caregivers; 75 child care providers; 187 early childhood service providers
- **Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment** (*mental health treatment*)
  - Investment: \$213,344
  - Number served: 443 clients received ongoing mental health services

#### *Complimentary Efforts*

- **County 0-5 ECMH Program** (*mental health treatment*)
- **In-Home Mental Health** (*mental health treatment*)
- **Therapeutic Visitation Services** (*mental health treatment*)
- **County Office of Education** (*preschool for children with mild to moderate disabilities*)
- **North Bay Regional Center** (*screenings, assessment, developmental services*)
- **Independent Child Advocate Program** (*support for children in special education*)

### Gaps in Services

- Recruitment and retention of mental health providers is a challenge in Solano.
- Bilingual, bicultural services are lacking. More support is needed for families who speak a language other than English (e.g., mental health clinicians who speak Spanish).
- Costs have outpaced revenue for the County Mental Health Services Department.

<sup>4</sup> See Appendix C for full details.

- **Early childhood mental health training and support are needed for preschool and daycare providers:** Napa and Alameda Counties have Infant Mental Health training programs that provide certification for ECE providers, behavioral health providers, occupational therapists, CPS workers, paraprofessionals, and others working with young children. The programs are costly and time consuming, but Solano should have its own training program and/or offer funding to offset the cost of attending.
- **The county lacks a behavioral health nursery.** Napa and Alameda Counties also have a behavioral health nursery, which addresses the early education needs of children with behavioral challenges. It also provides early childhood consultation to preschool teachers and parents, to inform them about how to help children regulate and be successful in preschool. The county could add a nursery or preschool consultation component to existing system of care to build upon the established community relationships.

## Opportunities

- **Mental Health Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Cultural Transformation proposal:** The County Mental Health Department proposes using MHSA funds to implement and evaluate new approaches to improve utilization of mental health services in underserved communities (e.g., among Filipino and Latino families).

## Quality Child Care

### What do we mean by “Quality Child Care”? Key Elements

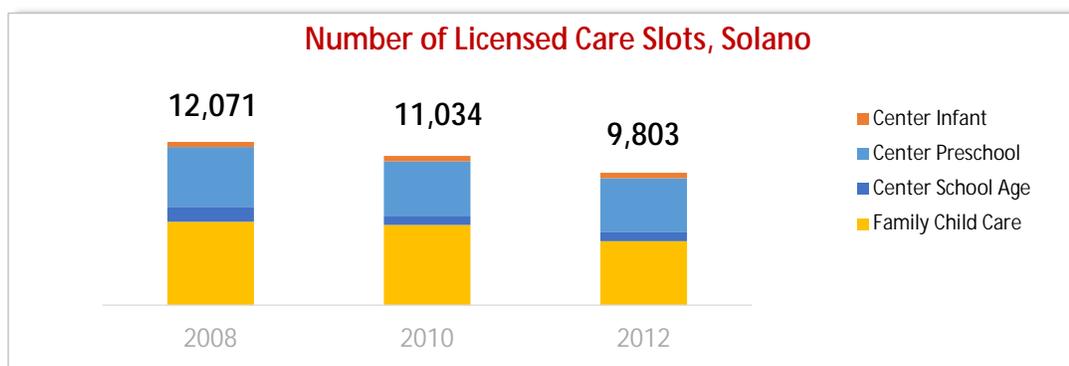
- Access to care (spaces/“slots”)
- Recruitment and retention of providers
- Professional development of teachers (quality)
- Quality of sites as a whole (QRIS)
- Assessment and referrals
- Parent education and engagement



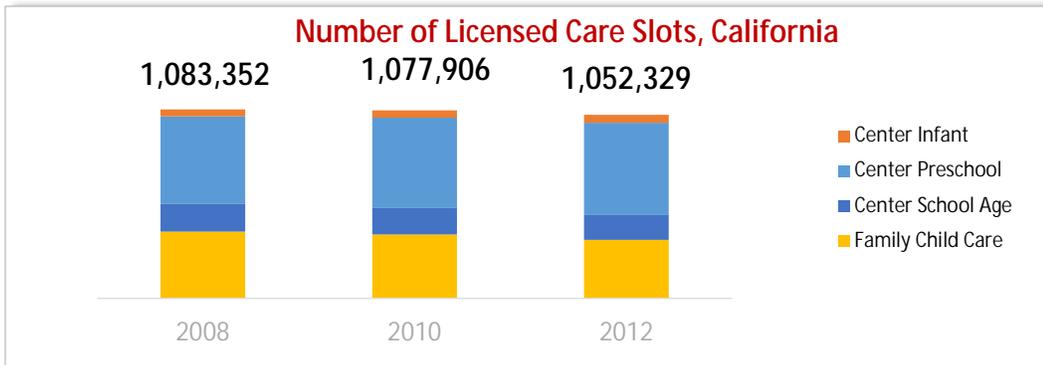
### Key Take-Aways

- Solano County has suffered a loss of family child care slots, which are essential for the families who need after-hours care (only one recently-opened center-based program offers after-hours care).
- There is a lack of funding for California Alternative Payment Program (CAPP program, which serves families that don't qualify for CalWORKs (e.g., the working poor), thereby decreasing access to affordable child care.
- There is a need for increased training, mentoring and coaching services in the county to motivate potential providers to enter the field, stay in the field and to improve child care quality.
- The new Early Head Start Initiative will expand the number of infant/toddler EHS slots available in family child care homes and centers.
- Efforts are underway to address geographic regions of need (Rio Vista) and expand the use of Quality Rating and Information System (QRIS) in the county, which will increase the quality of child care and preschool.

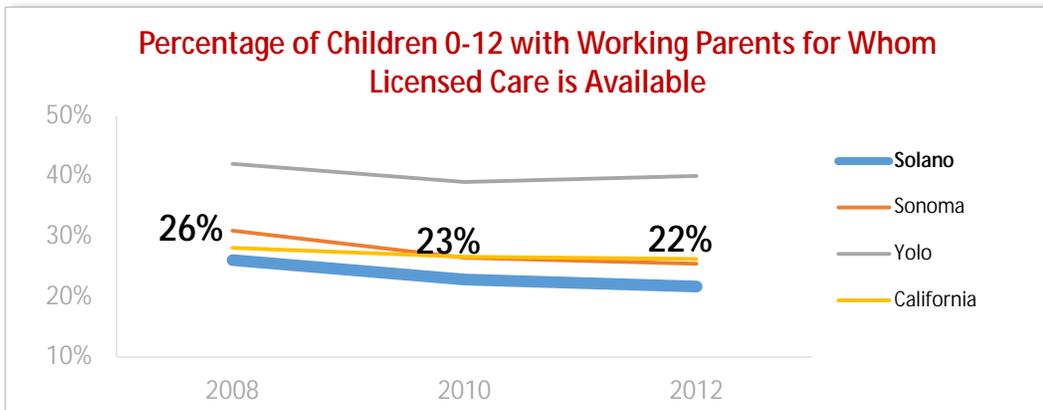
### Community Indicators



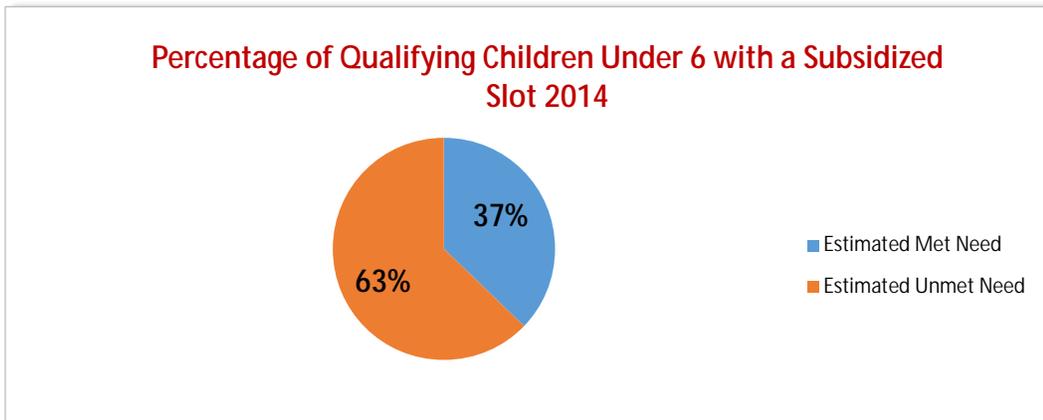
**48%**  
of licensed slots in Solano are for family child care



32%  
of licensed slots in CA are for family child care

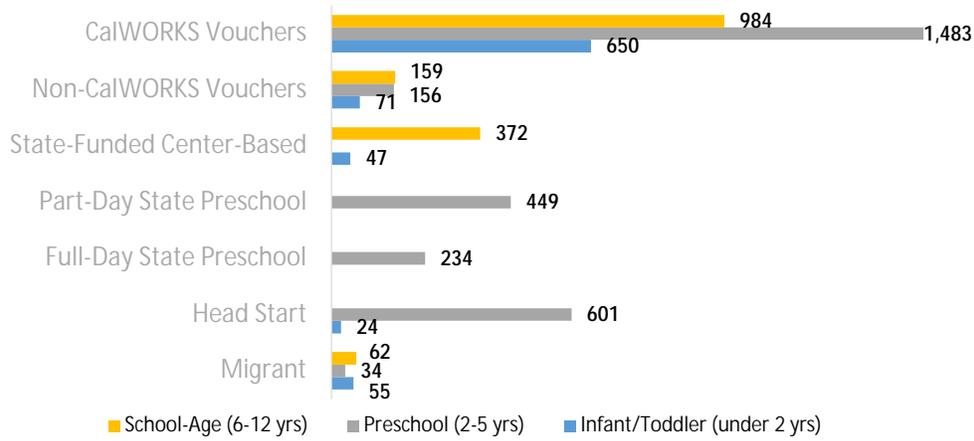


10,500  
Children under 6 need care (working parents), and do not have licensed slot



2,252  
Children under 6 qualify for a child care subsidy, need care, and do not have a subsidized slot

## Number of Children Served by Solano Subsidized Care



**3,804**  
Children under  
6 served in  
subsidized care

Sources: Resource and Referral Network Child Care Portfolios; Solano County Local Planning Council Needs Assessment.

## Geographic Areas of Most Need

- Rio Vista, for child care availability

## Snapshot of Efforts by First 5 Solano and Other Partners<sup>5</sup>

### *First 5 Efforts*

- **Child Start** (*wrap around care*)
  - Investment: \$144,000
  - Number served: 40 children
- **CARES Plus** (*professional development*)
  - Investment: \$239,417
  - Number served: 109 providers
- **Child Signature Project** (*classroom quality*)
  - Investment: \$105,000
  - Number served: 30 classrooms
- **PEAK** (*provider education and training*)
  - Investment: \$45,000
  - Number served: 75 providers;  
~70 parents
- **Head Start** (*facility*)
  - Investment: \$42,240
  - Number served: N/A

### *Complimentary Efforts*

- **Child Development Centers** (*spaces*)
- **Solano/Napa Head Start** (*subsidized spaces*)
- **Solano Family & Children's Services (SFCS):**
  - Resource & Referral Program (*professional development, referrals to child care*)
  - Health and Safety Training Reimbursement (*professional development, recruitment and retention*)
  - Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP) (*professional development, recruitment and retention*)
  - County CCIP (CalWORKs) (*professional development, recruitment and retention*)
  - CalWORKs Stages 1-3 (*vouchers*)
  - California Alternative Payment Program (CAPP) (*vouchers*)
  - Workforce Investment Board Program (*vouchers*)
- **Children's Network / Local Child Care Planning Council** (*site quality, policy*)
- **Solano Community College** (*spaces, professional development*)
- **County Office of Education** (*professional development, spaces for children with disabilities*)
- **Travis AFB** (*spaces*)
- **Solano County Licensed Family Child Care Association** (*professional development*)

## Gaps in Services

- **More personalized support and training for providers is needed to improve recruitment and quality.** It is often not hard to recruit people to provide care, but it can be difficult to get them through the time-intensive license process (e.g., some lose interest or are concerned about leaving full time job or are concerned about all the requirements). Some potential providers who are on the fence about licensing might be motivated by new educational opportunities and personal coaching support.
- **There has been a drop in licensed family child care availability.** There are losses each month in family child care availability. Licensed family child care is a private business and was affected by the economic downturn. Additionally, some providers have been in the business for decades and are ready to retire. Others have decided to open up other businesses.
- **The county lost its Centralized Eligibility List (CEL).** The CEL for subsidized care is not up-to-date because there is no funding to maintain it. When the CDCs have openings they look at the CEL to recruit families.

<sup>5</sup> See Appendix D for full details.

Priority is based on a ranking determined by family income and size (with neediest families served first). Solano Family & Children's Services also uses it for administering CAPP. The CDCs also maintain their own waiting list in addition to the CEL.

- **The CAPP is funded at lower levels than CalWORKs.** The CAPP program has less funding than the CalWORKs programs, but it serves one of the largest populations of families needing care: low-income families that don't qualify for CalWORKs (including the working poor).
- **There remains a need for more after-hours care.** There is not enough after-hours care provided in centers (only one center that just opened provides care after hours). These families have to rely on licensed family care or license-exempt care (friends/neighbors).
- **There is a lack of full-day care in the county.** There are not enough full-day child care slots for families who need them.
- **There is a lack of care in Rio Vista.** Rio Vista generally lacks child care, but R&R Program Manager working to expand availability in the city.
- **Assessment and improvement of site quality is needed.** The Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) has not yet been established in Solano, but the groundwork has started.
- **Center-based programs do not administer CalWORKs contracts.**

## Opportunities

- **Early Head Start Initiative:** Will create new EHS slots in child care centers and family child care homes.
- **IMPACT:** First 5 California funding opportunity to increase access to high-quality early learning programs and services for children and families. The centerpiece of First 5 IMPACT is a network of local Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) that better coordinate, implement, and evaluate early learning programs with a focus on improving their quality.
- **CCIP in Rio Vista:** Rio Vista will be the region of focus for this year's training program to improve recruitment and retention of providers in this city.
- **Reauthorization of federal Child Care and Development Block Grants:** Funding was reauthorized in November 2014 to provide child care services for low-income families and to improve quality of care. California's plan for using these funds will be complete June 2016.
- **Transitional Kindergarten:** Allows 4-year-olds to enter two-year kindergarten program with modified kindergarten curriculum. Funding from the state for professional development is available in the 2014 Budget Act.

## School Readiness

### What do we mean by “School Readiness”? Key Elements

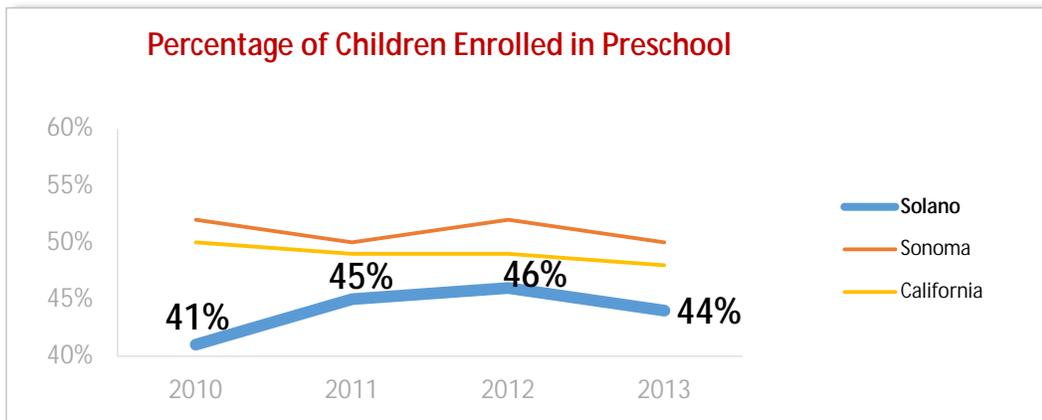
- Access to quality preschool
- Professional development for preschool teachers
- Summer pre-K programs for children without preschool
- Transitional Kindergarten
- Parent education and engagement



### Key Take-Aways

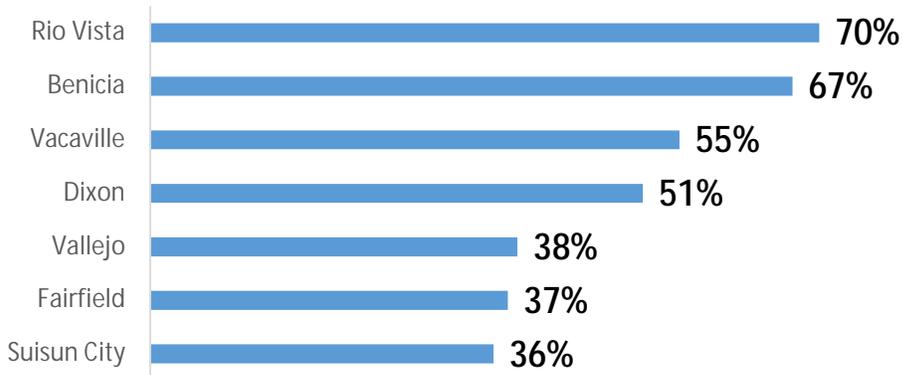
- Only 44% of county 3-4 year olds are enrolled in preschool and just 45% of county third graders are proficient in reading.
- More training, mentoring, and coaching services are needed in the county to motivate potential providers to enter and stay in the field, and to improve child care quality.
- The new Early Head Start Initiative will expand the number of infant/toddler EHS slots available in family child care homes and centers.
- Efforts are underway to expand the use of Quality Rating and Information System (QRIS) in the county, which will increase the quality of preschool.

### Community Indicators



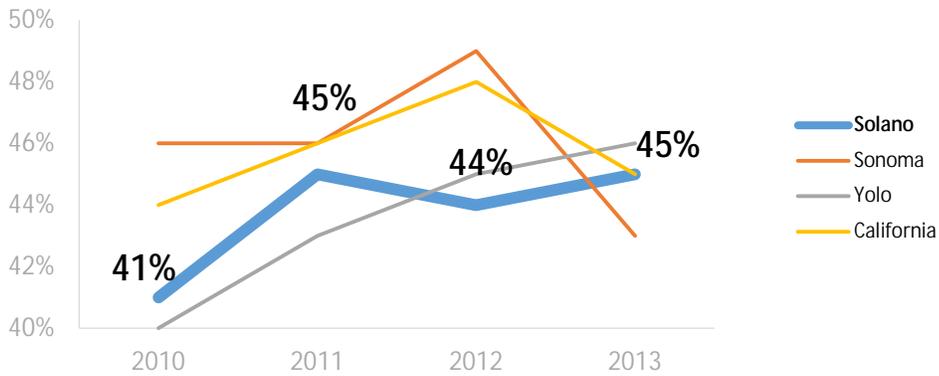
**5,820**  
Children 3-4  
are not  
enrolled in  
preschool

### Percentage of Children 3-4 Enrolled in Preschool



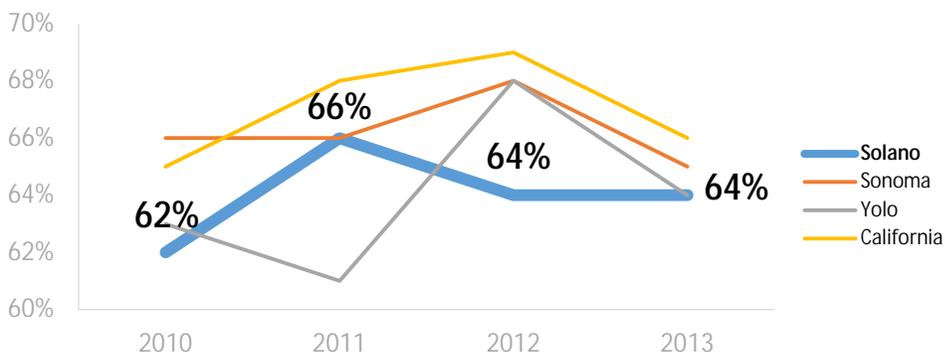
412  
Children in  
Suisun and  
1,824  
Children in  
Fairfield are  
not enrolled in  
preschool

### Percentage of Third Graders Advanced or Proficient in Reading



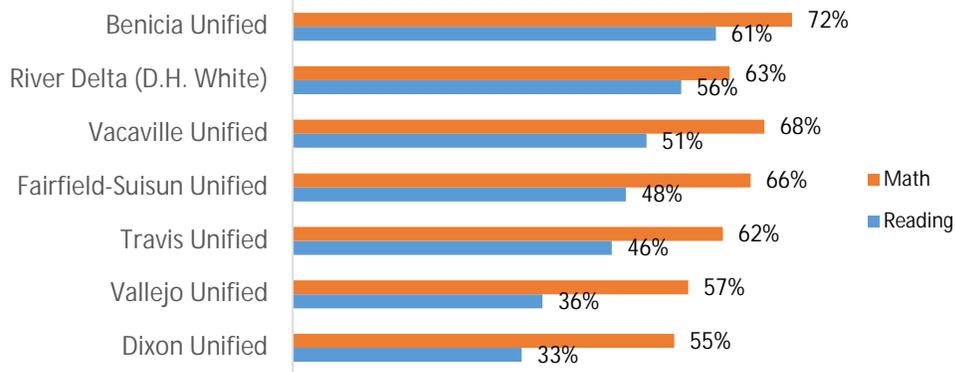
2,498  
Third graders  
are not  
proficient in  
reading

### Percentage of Third Graders Advanced or Proficient in Math



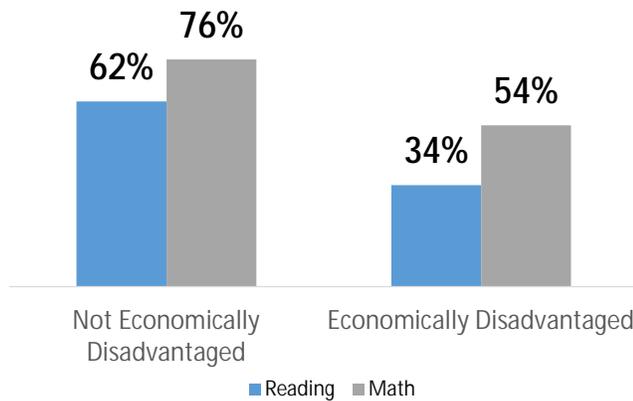
1,641  
Third graders  
are not  
proficient in  
math

### Percentage of Children Proficient in Reading and Math, by District



159  
Third graders in Dixon and 396 Third graders in Vallejo are not proficient in reading

### Percentage of Children Proficient in Reading and Math, by Economic Status



1,698  
Low-income third graders are not proficient in reading

Sources: U.S. Census, California Department of Education.

### Geographic Areas of Most Need

- Suisun City, Vallejo, and Fairfield for preschool attendance
- Dixon and Vallejo for third grade proficiency

## Snapshot of Efforts by First 5 Solano and Other Partners<sup>6</sup>

### *First 5 Efforts*

- **Child Start** (*wrap around care*)
  - Investment: \$144,000
  - Number served: 40 children
- **CARES Plus** (*professional development*)
  - Investment: \$239,417
  - Number served: 109 providers
- **Child Signature Project** (*classroom quality*)
  - Investment: \$105,000
  - Number served: 30 classrooms
- **PEAK** (*provider education and training*)
  - Investment: \$45,000
  - Number served: 75 providers; ~70 parents
- **Head Start** (*facility*)
  - Investment: \$42,240
  - Number served: N/A
- **Pre-K Academies** (*\$131,836; short-term pre-K*)
  - Investment: \$131,836
  - Number served: 426 children
- **Parent Education**
  - Investment: \$200,952
  - Number served: 200 parents

### *Complimentary Efforts*

- **Child Development Centers / School Districts** (*preschool spaces, TK spaces*)
- **Head Start** (*preschool spaces*)
- **Children's Network / Local Child Care Planning Council** (*preschool site quality, policy*)
- **Solano Community College** (*spaces, professional development*)
- **County Office of Education** (*professional development, preschool spaces for children with disabilities*)
- **Regional Center** (*services for children with disabilities*)
- **Business Community** (*co-sponsor of Pre-K Academies*)

## Gaps in Services

- **More personalized support for providers is needed to improve provider recruitment and preschool quality.** The county needs more funding and “people power” to give personalized on-site support, mentoring, and coaching in the field in order attract and retain providers and improve the quality of their care.
- **More professional development for preschool teachers is needed.** There is a need for more ongoing professional development opportunities for preschool teachers.
- **The county needs more full-day preschool slots.** There are not enough full-day preschool and childcare programs for families who need them.

<sup>6</sup> See Appendix E for full details.

- **There's a need to assess and improve site quality.** The Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) is not yet established in Solano, but the groundwork has started.

## Opportunities

- **Early Head Start Initiative:** Will create new EHS slots in child care centers and family child care homes.
- **IMPACT:** First 5 California funding opportunity to increase access to high-quality early learning programs and services for children and families. The centerpiece of First 5 IMPACT is a network of local Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) that better coordinate, implement, and evaluate early learning programs with a focus on improving their quality.
- **Reauthorization of federal Child Care and Development Block Grants:** Funding reauthorized November 2014 to provide child care services for low-income families and to improve quality of care. California's plan for using these funds will be complete June 2016.
- **Transitional Kindergarten:** Allows 4-year-olds to enter a two-year kindergarten program with modified kindergarten curriculum. Funding from the state for professional development was authorized in 2014 Budget Act.

# Result Profile

## Family Support

### What do we mean by “Family Support”? Key Elements

- Basic needs support
- Child welfare services
- Mental health and substance use treatment
- Parent education

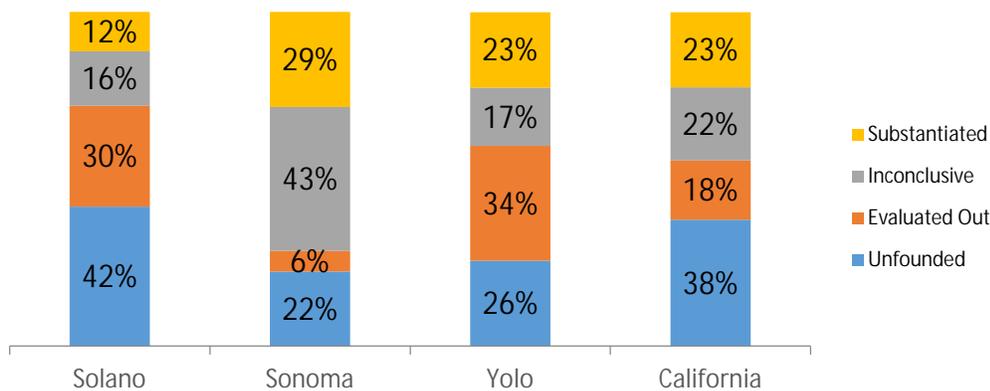
### Key Take-Aways

- Child maltreatment rates and recurrence rates are declining.
- Family reunification rates are increasing.
- Child poverty remains high, while parental unemployment and food insecurity are increasing.
- Recruitment and retention of social workers in child welfare is a challenge.
- Increased funding is needed for basic needs support and mental health services.



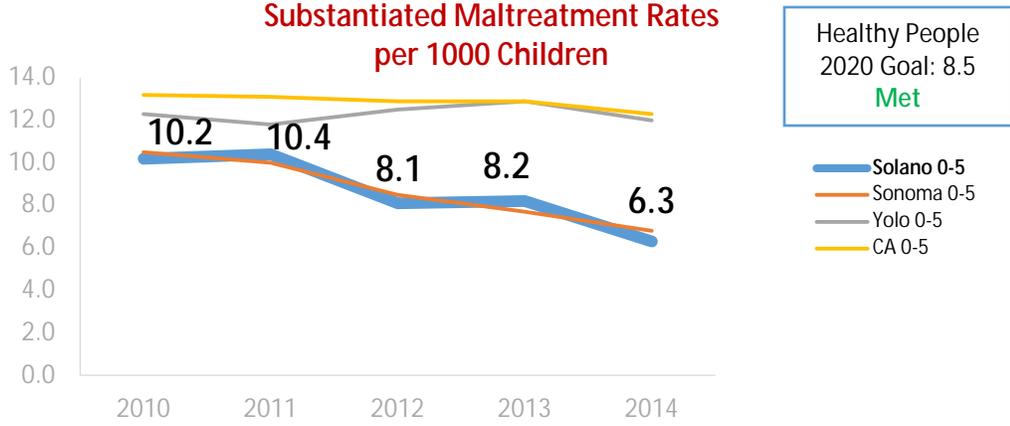
### Community Indicators

Child Maltreatment Allegations Aged 0-5, by Disposition



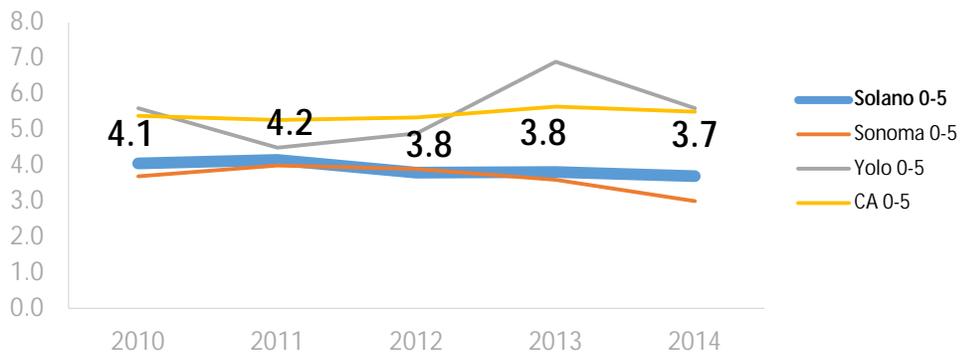
1,667  
Children 0-5  
with an  
allegation

### Substantiated Maltreatment Rates per 1000 Children



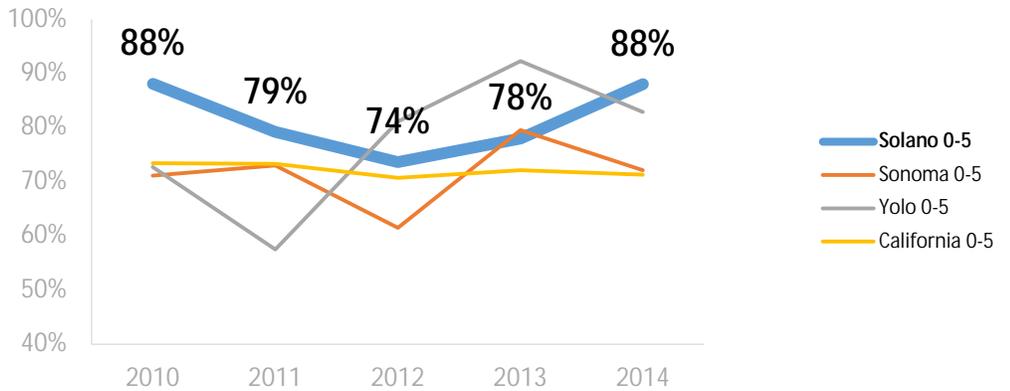
196  
Children 0-5  
with a  
substantiated  
maltreatment  
allegation

### Foster Care Entry Rates per 1000 Children



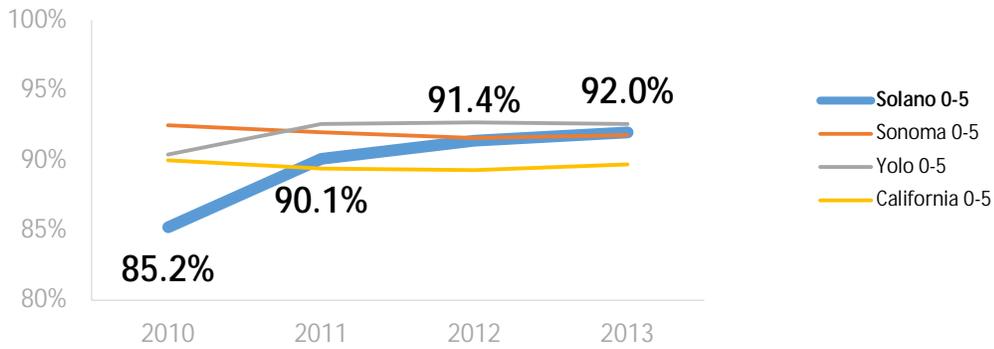
114  
Children 0-5  
entered  
foster care

### Percentage of Children Reunifying by 12 Months



6  
Children 0-5  
in foster care  
did not  
reunify with  
their parents

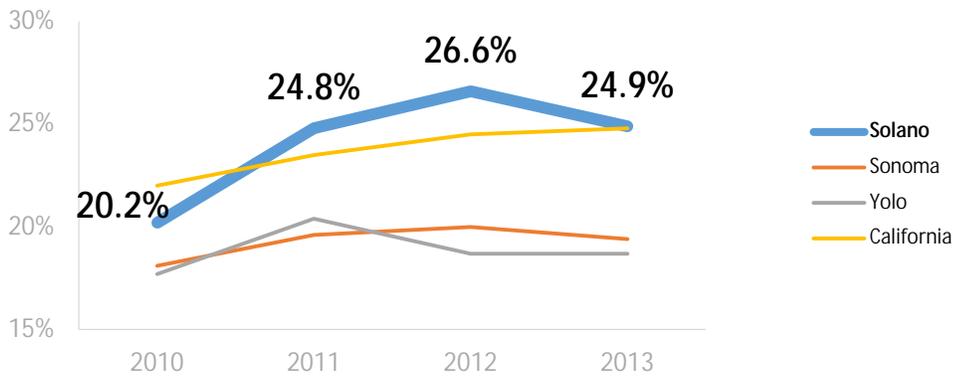
### Percentage of Children without Recurrence of Substantiated Maltreatment



16  
Children 0-5 experienced a recurrence of maltreatment

Source: California Child Welfare Indicators Project.

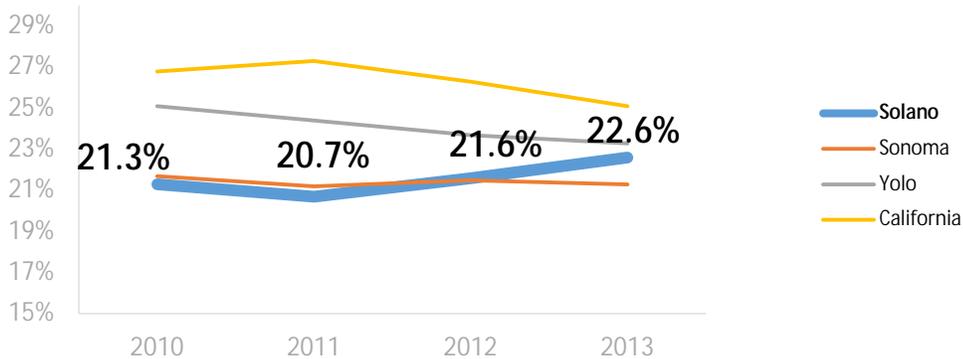
### Percentage of Children under 5 in Poverty



6,416  
Children under 5 in poverty

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey.

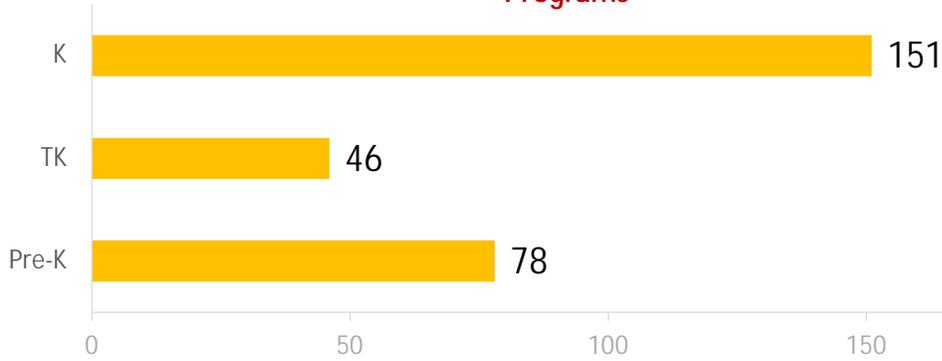
### Percentage of Children in Food-Insecure Households



7,182  
Children 0-5 in food-insecure households

Source: Feeding America.

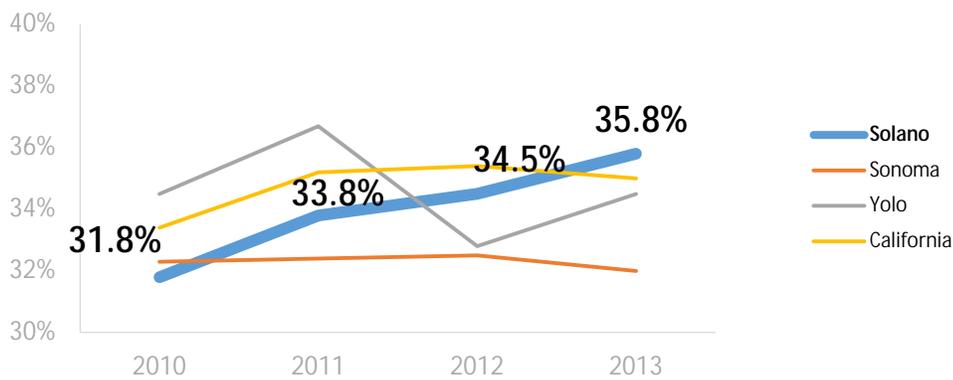
### Number of Homeless Children in Solano County Public School Programs



**275**  
Children enrolled in pre-K and K are homeless (about 3%)

Source: Solano County Office of Education Homeless Education Program.

### Percentage of Children without Secure Parental Employment



**11,192**  
Children 0-5 have parents who lack employment

Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey as cited on Kidsdata.org.

### Geographic Areas of Most Need

- Central Vallejo; Rio Vista (child welfare)
- Fairfield; Vallejo (child poverty, unemployment, and child homelessness)

## Snapshot of Efforts by First 5 Solano and Other Partners<sup>7</sup>

### First 5 Efforts

- **Family Resource Centers** (*basic needs support, parent education, substance abuse/mental health treatment, case management*)
  - Investment: \$576,946
  - Number served: 744 families assessed; 390 families provided case management
- **Child Welfare and Public Health Services** (*parent education, substance abuse/mental health treatment, case management*)
  - Investment: \$182,482
  - Number served: 155 children referred by CWS; 121 children referred by PH
- **Interfaith Council of Solano Heather House** (*basic needs support, case management*)
  - Investment: \$96,609
  - Number served: 38 families (emergency shelter and case management); 74 families (transitional housing assistance)
- **Parent Education**
  - Investment: \$200,952
  - Number served: 200 parents
- **Children's Network Collaboration** (*coordination of FRCs, Heather House, Public Health Nurse, and CPS social worker*)
  - Investment: \$15,744
  - Number served: N/A

### Complimentary Efforts

- **County Child Welfare Services** (*emergency response, case management, counseling, foster care, adoption*)
- **Community Service Broker** (*referrals*)
- **In-Home Mental Health** (*mental health treatment*)
- **County Substance Abuse Services** (*assessment, alcohol and drug treatment, referrals*)
- **Kinship Navigator** (*support sessions, referrals*)
- **Therapeutic Visitation** (*assessment, treatment, parent education*)
- **United Way** (*financial counseling, training, tax return help*)
- **Children's Alliance** (*advocacy, policy, service coordination*)
- **Parent Leadership Training Institute** (*parent education, civic engagement*)
- **Child Care Food Program** (*basic needs support*)
- **Safety Net Summit Steering Committee** (*policy, advocacy*)
- **Rise Together** (*collaborative addressing poverty*)
- **CASA** (*foster care advocacy, legal support*)
- **Housing First Solano / Community Action Partnership of Solano** (*collaborative addressing homelessness*)

## Gaps in Services

- More in-home counseling, mental health and substance use treatment, foster care homes, resources for the FRCs are needed (according to service gaps identified by Child Welfare Services Self-Assessment).

<sup>7</sup> See Appendix F for more details.

- **Increased recruitment and retention of social workers** in child welfare is needed.
- **Basic needs service organizations** do not have enough resources to address the unemployment, poverty, and housing needs of all who are requesting them. The recession resulted in funding cut-backs and yet poverty remains high among young children.
- **Bilingual, bicultural services:** More services are needed for families who speak a language other than English (e.g., more mental health clinicians who speak Spanish).

## Opportunities

- **New social workers:** Board of Supervisors funded new workers to provide intensive family maintenance, reunification, and re-entry prevention services.
- **New grants:** County Health and Social Services has submitted grants to increase revenue (e.g., for CalWORKs program and homeless services).

## Collaboration and Coordination

### What do we mean by “Collaboration/Coordination”? Key Elements

- Coordination and collaboration among stakeholders and providers serving children 0-5 to:
  - Identify needs
  - Avoid duplication of efforts
  - Share strategies
  - Cross-refer



### Key Take-Aways

- There are many collaborative efforts in the county; the challenge is to ensure these efforts are not duplicative, but work together where appropriate on common goals.
- Need to raise awareness among parents about the availability of Help Me Grow services.

### Snapshot of Efforts by First 5 Solano and Other Partners<sup>8</sup>

#### First 5 Efforts

- **Help Me Grow** (*referrals, outreach, Collective Impact planning*)
  - Investment: \$124,733
  - Number served: ~800 clients

#### Complimentary Efforts

- **Mental Health Collaborative** (*mental health providers*)
- **Safety Net Summit** (*addresses poverty*)
- **Rise Together** (*addresses poverty*)
- **Housing First Solano / Community Action Partnership of Solano** (*addresses homelessness*)
- **Children’s Alliance** (*advocacy, policy for children*)
- **Healthy Solano** (*addresses community health needs*)
- **Child Abuse Prevention Council** (*coordinates child abuse prevention efforts*)
- **Local Child Care Planning Council** (*addresses child care needs*)

### Gaps in Services

- There are many collaborative efforts in county; the challenge is to ensure efforts are not being duplicative. There is need for more of a collective impact model.

<sup>8</sup> See Appendix G for more details.

- Help Me Grow would like to staff triage centers with trained specialists (i.e., like an advice nurse line) as call volume increases.
- Need to outreach more to parents about the availability of Help Me Grow services. Parents and caregivers can self-refer to HMG.

## **Opportunities**

- Solano can utilize and expand the collaborations that exist to improve service coordination among providers serving children 0-5 and their families.

# Appendix A: Prenatal Care

## First 5 Solano Efforts, Prenatal Care – Full Details

EFFORT	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	OUTCOME	START/END DATE
BabyFirst Solano	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screenings, case management, prenatal care, home visiting, counseling for Healthy Families America and Nurse Family Partnership, services for low-income pregnant women and teens who are smokers or substance users.</li> </ul>	\$997,941	103 enrolled in Healthy Families America 10 born in Nurse-Family Partnership 24 pregnant women referred to substance abuse services	100% in NFP born full-term, at healthy weight, and attended well-baby visits 80% of women referred to substance use services linked to treatment and got support to remain involved in treatment	Ends 2016 (funding reduced by half in FY 2015/16)

## Complementary Efforts, Prenatal Care – Full Details

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
Nutrition support (Health & Social Services [HSS])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WIC provides supplemental food, education around healthy eating, breastfeeding support, including peer support for breastfeeding for low-income pregnant women and women with children under 6.</li> </ul>	TBD	11,000 women and children under 6 served monthly	
Adolescent Family Life (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adolescent Family Life: Pregnant and parenting teens get intensive case management and support to graduate.</li> </ul>	TBD	TBD	
Prenatal Care Guidance (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help with finding prenatal care appointments, filling out Medi-Cal forms, finding other resources; has a toll-free support line.</li> </ul>	TBD	TBD	
California Children's Services (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health services, case management, occupational and physical therapy for children with severe medical issues or disabilities, or terminal illness.</li> </ul>	TBD	800 children (all ages)	
Child Health and Disability Prevention (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule of services for children at different ages/stages of development implemented in Medi-Cal doctors' offices.</li> <li>CHDP Gateway provides up to 30 days of temporary Medi-Cal insurance.</li> </ul>	TBD	2,600 children connected to insurance via Gateway	
Black Infant Health (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perinatal support for pregnant and postpartum African American women for up to 1 year; public health nursing, social worker, health assistance, case management.</li> </ul>	TBD	TBD	
Public Health Nursing (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Home visits for babies released from NICU and those at risk for child abuse.</li> </ul>	TBD	TBD	
Family Health Services (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary care, mental health, and dental health care; well-baby and well-child visits; breastfeeding support; immunizations for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured patients at county clinics.</li> </ul>	\$27,129,135	30,000 patients	

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examines significant socio-economic, safety and health-system factors associated with fetal and infant mortality.</li> <li>Recommends interventions to improve services system and participates in implementation of interventions.</li> </ul>	29 deaths in 2013	TBD	
County Health Promotion/Wellness Activities (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solano Car Seat Connection: free trainings throughout the year in English and Spanish on using car seats and vouchers to get free car seats.</li> <li>Obesity prevention: campaigns to reduce consumption of sugary beverages and increase activity.</li> <li>Tobacco prevention: training and education to reduce tobacco use.</li> </ul>	TBD	TBD	
Partnership Health Plan (CA Dept. of Health Care)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insurance for low-income families.</li> <li>Case management for high-risk clients including pregnant clients.</li> <li>Medi-Cal Enhanced rate at two clinics to provide perinatal care: mental health, nutrition, health education services.</li> </ul>		TBD	
Planned Parenthood (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides some perinatal services.</li> <li>Provides other health services for women.</li> </ul>			
Hospitals (non-profits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prenatal services at NorthBay, Sutter, Kaiser, and Davis Grant.</li> </ul>			
Baby Coach/Nurturing Parenting Program (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baby Coach: mentors, in conjunction with the multidisciplinary team at CNP, provide parent education and support, and help link to resources.</li> <li>Nurturing Parenting Program: An evidence-based curriculum for parent education and support groups. Groups offer positive disciplinary techniques and nurturing parenting routines.</li> </ul>	\$115,000	50 clients (target) 5 coaches	
Delivering a Fresh Start (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offers services to pregnant women and teens who are at risk or concerned about using substances during their pregnancy.</li> <li>Housed at CNP.</li> </ul>	\$60,000	13 parents	
Sweet Success Program (CA Dept. of Public Health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health care providers that are trained in the care of women with diabetes (training from California Diabetes and Pregnancy Prevention Program). Affiliates at Sutter Vacaville and NorthBay ABC Prenatal Program.</li> </ul>			
La Leche League (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meetings in Fairfield, Vacaville, and Benicia to support mothers who want to breastfeed.</li> </ul>			
A More Excellent Way (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peer Counselor program to support women in breastfeeding.</li> </ul>			

## Appendix B: Health Access

### First 5 Solano Efforts, Health Access – Full Details

EFFORT	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	OUTCOME	START/END DATE
<b>Solano Kids Insurance Program</b> (also described below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assistance to apply for subsidized health insurance and maintain health coverage for pregnant women and children (see below for more details)</li> </ul>	\$251,207 (Note: funded under Prenatal Care and Health Access Initiatives)	611 children under 5 newly enrolled in health insurance 944 children under 5 assisted with maintaining continuous enrollment 260 uninsured expectant mothers enrolled in health insurance	95% of 944 uninsured children under 5 maintained enrollment in insurance 96% of 271 uninsured expectant mothers enrolled in health insurance	Ends 2016

### Complementary Efforts, Health Access – Full Details

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
<b>Insurance Outreach</b> (Solano Coalition for Better Health [SCBH])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insurance outreach events in the community.</li> <li>Visits to jails and homeless shelters to enroll.</li> <li>Primary contact on County materials for those needing insurance.</li> </ul>	Overall budget of SCBH is \$900,000	4000 total people insured	Ongoing/long-term grants
<b>SKIP</b> (SCBH; also described above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrolls families in Medi-Cal, the Kaiser Child Health Plan, or Healthy Kids (insurance for uninsured kids not covered by parents' employer and not eligible for Medi-Cal).</li> <li>Partners with schools and Head Start to screen emergency contact cards for children without insurance and then reaches out to enroll them.</li> <li>Pays insurance premiums for Healthy Kids enrollees.</li> </ul>	\$325,000 (includes F5 funding—see above)	2000-3000 children, including 425 covered by Healthy Kids	Ongoing/long-term grants
<b>Covered California</b> (CA Dept. of Health Care)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrollment counselors who enroll participants in Covered California or Medi-Cal, if eligible.</li> <li>Counselors also help with re-enrollment.</li> </ul>	\$60,000	800 enrolled (about 270 children)	Ends July 2015, but will likely be renewed
<b>SCBH Faith-based Advisory committee</b> (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community leaders and clergy members meet to strategize around improving health access and health outcomes in underserved communities.</li> <li>Visits to churches to enroll congregations in insurance.</li> </ul>	\$20,000	5,000 patients	Year-to-year grant
<b>SCBH Think Tank Activities</b> (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Studying health improvement options for community and advocating for legislation promoting health access.</li> </ul>	None	N/A	N/A
<b>Community Clinics</b> (Health & Social Services [HSS])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrollment assistance to people who enter their facilities without insurance.</li> </ul>			

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
<b>Oral Healthcare Access Program (HSS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dental treatment integrated with primary health care at La Clinica de la Raza.</li> </ul>			
<b>Specialty Care Partnership (HSS and Kaiser)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anyone seen at La Clinica de la Raza who needs specialty medical care can access it at Kaiser.</li> </ul>			
<b>California Health and Disability Prevention Gateway (HSS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Temporary Medi-Cal coverage (up to 30 days) for uninsured children.</li> </ul>		2,600 children (all ages)	
<b>Prenatal Care Guidance Program (HSS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help with finding prenatal care appointments and filling out Medi-Cal forms.</li> </ul>			

# Appendix C: Early Childhood Mental Health

## First 5 Solano Efforts, Early Childhood Mental Health — Full Details

EFFORT	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	OUTCOMES	START/END DATE
PEAK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developmental screenings, assessment, and linkage to services for mental health, behavioral, developmental, and health concerns.</li> <li>Mental health services for children and their families to increase parent-child interaction and bonding and increase parenting skills and connection to community resources.</li> <li>Outreach and trainings to parents and child care providers around developmental milestones, red flags, and developmental screenings.</li> <li>Social and emotional screening of children and parent/caregiver education in Early Head Start and Head Start programs.</li> <li>Behavioral and mental health services to Head Start students.</li> </ul>	\$812,181	929 screenings 112 parents/caregivers 75 child care providers 187 early childhood service providers	99% of families referred for intensive care management received services and staff followed through on needed assistance 100% of parents/caregivers demonstrated increased knowledge of goals/topics in education workshops 100% of child care providers demonstrated increased competency in using ASQ and ASQ-SE 100% of MH providers demonstrated increased knowledge of training subject matter related to children 0-5	Ends 2017
Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental health services to children 0-5 through leveraging of EPSDT funding.</li> </ul>	\$213,344	443 clients received ongoing mental health services	100% of ongoing clients re-evaluated at 6 months demonstrated improvement in treatment goal	Ends 2017

## Complementary Efforts, Early Childhood Mental Health — Full Details

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
County 0-5 ECMH Program (Health & Social Services [HSS])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early intervention services for children with mental health/behavioral challenges (note: some cases referred to PEAK)</li> </ul>	\$2,222,000	400	Ongoing
In-home Mental Health Program (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides intensive, short-term home- and community-based behavioral health services for CWS families.</li> <li>Provided by Aldea.</li> </ul>	\$141,000	8 children 0-5	Contract just renewed
Therapeutic Visitation Services (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment, treatment planning, and therapeutic visitation to children and families in out-of-home placements to address reasons for removal.</li> <li>Includes parent education and promotes relationship building.</li> <li>Provided by Aldea.</li> </ul>	\$400,705	26 children 0-5	Contract just renewed
County Office of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early intervention, child care, and preschool for children with mild to moderate disabilities.</li> <li>Services include speech therapy, occupational therapy, behavior services, nursing services, home</li> </ul>	\$1,056,881 for 0-3 services (pre-	100 infants/toddlers	Year-to-year

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
	visiting, and education and support for parents.	K embedded in overall special education budget)		
<b>North Bay Regional Center</b> (CA Dept. of Developmental Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides developmental services for children with disabilities.</li> <li>Services include behavior and psychological counseling, medical services, parent training in behavior management, and behavior intervention training</li> </ul>	\$157,188,759 total \$837,002 (federal grant for early intervention)	994 children under 3	Ongoing
<b>Independent Child Advocate Program</b> (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff member at Children's Network acts as liaison/ombudsman between families of children with developmental needs and the school.</li> </ul>	\$90,000	300 children (all ages)	

## Appendix D: Quality Child Care

### First 5 Solano Efforts, Quality Child Care – Full Details

EFFORT	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	OUTCOMES	START/END DATE
Child Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Day Head Start</li> </ul>	\$144,000	40 children	96% demonstrated development in awareness of symbols/ letters	Ends 2016
CARES Plus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainings and stipends to child care providers</li> </ul>	\$239,417	109 providers	100% completed coursework, were eligible for stipend	Ends 2016
Child Signature Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops and helps implement quality improvement in preschool classrooms</li> </ul>	\$105,000	30 classrooms	100% completed quality assessment and developed Quality Improvement Plan	Ends 2015
PEAK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds a part-time trainer to provide training to child care providers and parents in child development and ASQ and ASQ-SE developmental screening</li> </ul>	\$45,000	75 providers -70 parents	100% of child care providers demonstrated increased competency using ASQ and ASQ-SE	Ends 2017
Head Start facility on County property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will be paying rent for facility on county property to house a Head Start program</li> </ul>	\$42,240	N/A	N/A	Begins FY 2015-16

### Complementary Efforts, Quality Child Care – Full Details

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
Resource & Referral Program (Solano Family & Children's Services [SFCS] / CA Dept. of Education [CDE])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource and referral line to connect families to needed care.</li> <li>Assistance with establishing or maintaining a child care license.</li> <li>Education and training in English and Spanish, including around business management.</li> </ul>	\$230,000	1600 families (4000-4800 children) needing care  Workshops for 600 parents and child care providers  Education and training for 600 FCC homes and 90 centers	Year-to-year
Health and Safety Training Reimbursement (CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reimbursement of up to \$75/person for providers who complete a health and safety training.</li> <li>Certified training is required for licensing but reimbursement serves as support to staff and applicants for a license.</li> </ul>	\$4,700	92 providers	Year-to-year; considered 1 time funding.
Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP) (SFCS / CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optional training and support for establishing and maintaining child care provider licenses.</li> <li>Optional 25 hours of training provided by CCIP program educators in State-approved training modules.</li> <li>Participants asked to recruit 10 new potential child care providers.</li> <li>Rio Vista is region of focus this year for CCIP.</li> </ul>	\$41,000	3 trainees that completed 25 hours 11 new licensees 13 returning providers wanting to improve the quality of care	Year-to-year
County CCIP (SFCS / CDE / Health & Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment and training of child care providers in order to add to the supply of care, which is</li> </ul>	\$15,000	11 new providers	Year-to-year (connected to

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
Services [HSS])	affected by the child care needs of CalWORKs recipients.			CalWORKs Stage 1 Subsidy contract with County)
<b>CalWORKs Stages 1-3</b> (HSS / CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed or license-exempt child care for eligible low-income families.</li> <li>Voucher paid directly to child care provider.</li> </ul>	Stage 1: \$3,500,000 Stage 2: \$6,613,645 Stage 3: \$2,901,981	Active certificates FY to date: Stage 1: 789 families, 1,249 children Stage 2: 944 families, 157 children Stage 3: 406 families, 695 children	Ongoing
<b>California Alternative Payment Program (CAPP)</b> (CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed or license-exempt child care for eligible low-income families.</li> <li>Voucher paid directly to child care provider.</li> </ul>	\$1,930,607	Active certificates FY to date: 224 families, 385 children	Ongoing
<b>Workforce Investment Board Program</b> (SFCS / CA WIB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed or license-exempt child care for eligible low-income families.</li> <li>Voucher paid directly to child care provider.</li> </ul>	7/2014 to 3/2015: \$3,146	Active certificates FY to date: 6 families, 11 children	Ongoing
<b>Child Development Centers</b> (CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Preschool offers part- and full-day programs for income-eligible children. Families do not need to have qualifying need (unlike CAPP/CalWORKs).</li> <li>CDCs also provide unsubsidized child care.</li> </ul>	Child Development, Inc., 7/2014 to 3/2015: \$1,021,925  Child Start, \$355,000  School districts, TBD	In 2014: State-funded center based programs: 47 infants/toddlers  Part-day state preschool: 449 Full-day state preschool: 234	CDI: Year-to-year
<b>Children's Network / Local Child Care Planning Council (LCCPC)</b> (CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convenes and coordinates county ECE stakeholders.</li> <li>Reviews and educates community on child care needs, completes needs assessment for Department of Education, and supports public policy to improved accessibility to child care in county.</li> <li>Convenes the Solano Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Consortia to support the application and creation of our own Solano QRIS (3 classrooms going through certification to be QRIS providers).</li> <li>Applying for second round of Race-to-the-Top funding; Sonoma's Race to the Top committee helped with Solano's application (Sonoma has been successful).</li> <li>Administering Solano County Transitional Kindergarten and State Preschool Teachers Early Childhood Child Development Stipend (SCTKS) for educational expenses related to early childhood or child development coursework and professional development.</li> </ul>	\$75,000  SCTKS: \$149,780 over 3 years	N/A	Ongoing
<b>Solano/Napa Head Start</b> (CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsidized preschool slots for qualifying families.</li> <li>Support to create full-day Early Head Start slots in child care centers and family child care homes and provide education and training to participants and parents.</li> </ul>	HS/EHS grant: \$7.2 million (projected)*  EHS-Child Care	Head Start: 601 children Early Head Start (Child Start—see above): 40 children	*Notice of award pending

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
		Initiative: \$800,000		
<b>County Office of Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative partner in QRIS, LCCPC and other quality improvement activities.</li> <li>• Member of California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN), a statewide program which provides education and training specific to preschool to the providers in county.</li> <li>• Provides early intervention services and child care to children with mild to moderate disabilities.</li> </ul>	\$1,056,881 for 0-3 services (pre-K embedded in overall special education budget)	100 infants/toddlers	Year-to-year
<b>Travis AFB (Dept. of Defense)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child care for families on the military base.</li> <li>• Collaborative partner in LCCPC.</li> </ul>		3 child development centers and 12 family child care providers on base	
<b>Solano Community College (CA CC System)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and professional development for ECE providers.</li> <li>• Solicits feedback from stakeholders in community to improve their class offerings.</li> <li>• Plans and hosts a yearly Early Childhood Education Conference.</li> <li>• Provides child care for students, faculty, and staff.</li> </ul>		32 infant/toddler slots 84 preschool slots	
<b>Solano County Licensed Family Child Care Association (non-profit)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brings in trainers to community.</li> <li>• Minimal membership funding.</li> </ul>			

## Appendix E: School Readiness

### First 5 Solano Efforts, School Readiness – Full Details

EFFORT	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	OUTCOMES	START/END DATE
Child Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Day Head Start.</li> </ul>	\$144,000	40 children	96% demonstrated development in awareness of symbols/ letters	Ends 2016
CARES Plus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainings and stipends to child care providers.</li> </ul>	\$239,417	109 providers	100% completed coursework, were eligible for stipend	Ends 2016
Child Signature Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops and helps implement quality improvement in preschool classrooms.</li> </ul>	\$105,000	30 classrooms	100% completed quality assessment and developed Quality Improvement Plan	Ends 2015
PEAK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds a part-time trainer to provide training to child care providers and parents in child development and ASQ and ASQ-SE developmental screening.</li> </ul>	\$45,000	75 providers ~70 parents	100% of child care providers demonstrated increased competency using ASQ and ASQ-SE	Ends 2017
Head Start facility on County property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will be paying rent for facility on County property to house a Head Start program.</li> </ul>	\$42,240	N/A	N/A	Begins FY 2015-16
Pre-Kindergarten Academics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four-week pre-kindergarten camps for children with little or no prior preschool.</li> </ul>	\$131,836	426 children	96% showed gains in skills 51% mastered skills predictive of 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade reading proficiency	Year-to-year
Parent Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parenting skills instruction, family literacy nights, and school readiness activities.</li> </ul>	\$200,952 (funded under Family Support and Education)	200 parents	57% displayed improvement in parenting practices 100% set parenting goals and completed parenting plan	Ends 2016

### Complementary Efforts, School Readiness – Full Details

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
School Districts / Child Development Centers (CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Preschool offers part- and full-day programs for income-eligible children. Families do not need to have qualifying need (unlike CAPP/CalWORKs).</li> <li>CDCs also provide general child care and preschool.</li> <li>School district provides 2-year Transitional Kindergarten programs for 4-year-olds with modified kindergarten curriculum.</li> </ul>	Child Development, Inc., 7/2014 to 3/2015: \$1,021,925  Child Start, \$355,000  School districts, TBD	In 2014: State-funded center based programs: 47 infants/toddlers Part-day state preschool: 449 Full-day state preschool: 234 Transitional Kindergarten: 33 classrooms	CDI: Year-to-year
Solano/Napa Head Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsidized preschool slots for qualifying</li> </ul>	HS/EHS grant:	Head Start: 601	*Notice of

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
(CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>families.</li> <li>Support to create full-day EHS slots in family child care homes and provide participants training and parent education and training.</li> </ul>	\$7.2 million (projected)*  EHS-Child Care Initiative: \$800,000	children Early Head Start (Child Start—see above): 40 children	award pending
<b>Children’s Network / Local Child Care Planning Council (CDE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convenes and coordinates county ECE stakeholders.</li> <li>Reviews and educates community on child care needs, completes needs assessment for CDE, and supports public policy to improved accessibility to child care in county.</li> <li>Convenes the Solano Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Consortia to support the application and creation of our own Solano QRIS (3 classrooms going through certification to be QRIS providers).</li> <li>Applying for second round of Race-to-the-Top funding; Sonoma’s Race to the Top committee helped with Solano’s application (they’ve been successful).</li> </ul>	\$75,000	N/A	Ongoing
<b>County Office of Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative partner in QRIS, LCCPC and other quality improvement activities.</li> <li>Member of California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN), a statewide program which provides education and training specific to preschool to the providers in county.</li> <li>Provides early intervention services and child care to children with mild to moderate disabilities.</li> </ul>	\$1,056,881 for 0-3 services (pre-K embedded in overall special education budget)	100 infants/toddlers	Year-to-year
<b>Solano Community College (CA CC System)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education and professional development for ECE providers.</li> <li>Solicits feedback from stakeholders in community to improve their class offerings.</li> <li>Plans and hosts a yearly Early Childhood Education Conference.</li> <li>Provides child care for students, faculty, and staff.</li> </ul>		32 infant/toddler slots 84 preschool slots	
<b>North Bay Regional Center (CA Dept. of Developmental Services)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides developmental services for children with disabilities.</li> </ul>	\$157,188,759 total \$837,002 (federal grant for early intervention)	994 children under 3	

# Appendix F: Family Support

## First 5 Solano Efforts, Family Support — Full Details

EFFORT	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	OUTCOMES	START/END DATE
Family Resource Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family strengthening services at FRCs to improve family stability and reduce child abuse/neglect. Includes help with basic needs, substance abuse and mental health treatment, and referrals to other providers.</li> </ul>	\$576,946	<p>744 families assessed</p> <p>390 high-risk families provided case management services</p>	<p>78% of families remained stable or improved on parent/child relations, financial stability, community engagement</p> <p>79% of families receiving home visiting displayed improvement in parenting practices</p>	Ends 2016
Child Welfare and Public Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated evidence-based family strengthening services to at-risk/high-risk families. Services provided by FRCs and through home visits.</li> </ul>	\$182,482	<p>155 children referred by CWS</p> <p>121 children referred by PH</p>	<p>99% remained in home or with family unit (CWS)</p> <p>98% improved health status (PH)</p>	Ends 2016
Interfaith Council of Solano Heather House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homeless shelter and support for transition to permanent housing through basic needs assistance, case management, life skills instruction, information, and referrals.</li> </ul>	\$96,609	<p>38 families (emergency shelter and case management)</p> <p>74 families (transitional housing assistance)</p>	<p>71% moved from homeless to stable and remained stable for 90 days</p>	Ends 2016
Parent Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parenting skills instruction, family literacy nights, and school readiness activities.</li> </ul>	\$200,952	200 parents	<p>57% displayed improvement in parenting practices</p> <p>100% set parenting goals and completed parenting plan</p>	Ends 2016
Children's Network Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination of 8 Family Resource Centers, Heather House, Public Health Nurse, and CPS social worker.</li> </ul>	\$15,744	N/A	N/A	Ends 2016

## Complementary Efforts, Family Support — Full Details

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	NUMBER SERVED PER YEAR	START/END DATE
County Child Welfare (Health & Social Services [HSS])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency response, family maintenance, family reunification, permanency planning, adoption assistance, and foster care services.</li> <li>Board of supervisors funded new workers to provide intensive family maintenance, reunification, and re-entry prevention services.</li> </ul>	\$20 million	<u>Allegations in 2014 for 0-5</u> 1,766 <u>Caseload on 1/1/15 for 0-5</u> Emergency Response: 2 Family Maintenance: 46 Family Reunification: 76 Permanent Placement: 85	Ongoing
Community Service Broker (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links families to community-based services (e.g., PEAK, FRCs).</li> <li>For families who have received an investigation and do not need core child welfare services.</li> </ul>		155 referred to FRCs (see above)	
In-home Mental Health (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides intensive, short-term home- and community-based behavioral health services for CWS families.</li> <li>Provided by Aldea.</li> </ul>		8 children 0-5	Contract just renewed
County Substance Abuse Services (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanded alcohol and other drug services for parents involved with CWS.</li> <li>Includes assessment and referrals to outpatient treatment.</li> </ul>			
Kinship Navigator (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support services for kin caregivers.</li> <li>Individual support sessions.</li> <li>Warm-line for resources, supports, referrals.</li> </ul>		<u>Children 0-5 in kin care on 1/1/15</u> 81	
Therapeutic Visitation Services (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment, treatment planning, and therapeutic visitation to children and families in out-of-home placements to address reasons for removal.</li> <li>Includes parent education and promotes relationship building.</li> <li>Provided by Aldea.</li> </ul>		26 children 0-5	Contract just renewed
United Way (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SparkPoint: Financial counseling, training, and coaching.</li> <li>Earn It! Keep It! Save It!: Tax return help for families making \$50,000 or less.</li> </ul>	SparkPoint: \$390,000 Earn It! Keep It! Save It!: \$4,195,083 (all of Bay Area)	SparkPoint: 156 clients Earn It! Keep It! Save It!: 4,157 families in Solano	Ongoing
Children's Alliance / Child Abuse Prevention Council (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advisory to Board of Supervisors.</li> <li>Identifies gaps in services and service duplication.</li> <li>Advocates on child care and other issues affecting children.</li> <li>Held policy forum on homeless youth, early childhood education, mental health/behavioral issues, and child/youth safety.</li> <li>Presenting recommendations to legislators.</li> <li>Made up of 20 people appointed by the Board.</li> </ul>	\$130,000	N/A	Ongoing

<b>Parent Leadership Training Institute</b> (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low-income parents learn how to advocate for their child.</li> <li>Aims to increase parent civic engagement.</li> <li>Participants engage in community projects.</li> </ul>	\$25,000-\$30,000	25 parents	Ongoing
<b>Child Care Food Program</b> (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reimburses for healthy meals served by eligible providers.</li> <li>Level of reimbursement depends on whether provider is low-income or if the home is in a low-income neighborhood.</li> <li>Food provided for all the children in provider's care, regardless of subsidy status.</li> </ul>	\$1,438,000	220 providers, 2000 children monthly	Ongoing
<b>Safety Net Summit Steering Committee</b> (non-profits and governmental agencies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative of organizations and government leaders to address poverty in the county.</li> <li>Workgroups implement strategies to combat poverty in various areas (e.g., schools, employment, food security).</li> </ul>	\$25,000 to F5 from Rise Together \$10,000 from F5 Executive Director Fund	N/A	
<b>Rise Together</b> (non-profits and governmental agencies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative of organizations and government leaders to address poverty.</li> <li>Workgroups represent basic needs, jobs, and education.</li> </ul>		N/A	
<b>CASA</b> (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocates for abused, neglected, and other identified children within the court system.</li> <li>Educates community regarding child abuse and neglect.</li> <li>Provides advocacy networking and liaison with public and private agencies and individuals.</li> </ul>			
<b>Housing First Solano / Community Action Partnership of Solano</b> (US Housing and Urban Development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local planning body that coordinates housing and services for homeless population.</li> <li>Tracks homeless population.</li> </ul>	2014 Funding Request: \$1,136,114	71 children in shelters on 1/30/14	

# Appendix G: Collaboration and Coordination

## First 5 Solano Efforts, Collaboration and Coordination — Full Details

EFFORT	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	START/END DATE
Help Me Grow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaging in coordinated approach to service delivery and strengthening early childhood system of care in Solano.</li> <li>Has over 50 partner agencies working together and has an MOU for sharing information across partner agencies for service coordination.</li> <li>Centralized call center with trained developmental specialists who provide referrals to needed services (e.g., to PEAK partners, Family Resource Centers, etc.) and follow-up.</li> <li>Provides training to pediatricians and encourages providers to inform patients/clients about HMG (providers are the top referral source).</li> <li>Outreach to community to inform them of the services.</li> <li>Served approximately 800 clients thus far.</li> </ul>	\$124,733	Ends 2016

## Complementary Efforts, Collaboration and Coordination — Full Details

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	START/END DATE
Children's Alliance (County Board of Supervisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works on legislative action and advocacy for children.</li> <li>Comprised of Board of Supervisor-approved members (includes representatives from Health and Human Services, County Office of Education, law enforcement, local community based organizations, and community members).</li> </ul>	\$130,000	Ongoing
Child Abuse Prevention Council (Health & Social Services [HSS])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trains and advises the community about child maltreatment and intervention and treatment resources.</li> <li>Recommends improvements in services to families and victims.</li> </ul>		
Local Child Care Planning Council (CDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies child care needs in county.</li> <li>Advises Board of Supervisors and Superintendent of Schools on child care and development issues.</li> </ul>	\$75,000	Ongoing
Mental Health Collaborative (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative of mental health providers.</li> <li>Meets quarterly to examine gaps in system of care for mental health; address capacity issues; and identify opportunities for collaboration.</li> </ul>		
Safety Net Summit (non-profits and governmental agencies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative of organizations and government leaders to address poverty in the county.</li> <li>Workgroups implement strategies to combat poverty in various areas (e.g., employment, food security).</li> </ul>	\$25,000 to F5 from Rise Together \$10,000 from F5 Executive Director Fund	
Rise Together (non-profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative of organizations and government leaders to address poverty.</li> <li>Workgroups represent basic needs, jobs, and education.</li> </ul>		
Housing First Solano / Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local planning body that coordinates housing and services for homeless population.</li> <li>Tracks homeless population.</li> </ul>	2014 Funding Request: \$1,136,114	

EFFORT (SPONSORING AGENCY)	SERVICES	INVESTMENT	START/END DATE
<b>Action Partnership of Solano</b> (US Housing and Urban Development)			
<b>Healthy Solano</b> (HSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies needs/gaps in health care services and provides recommendations for policy.</li> <li>• Comprised of representatives from county health clinics, faith-based organizations, non-profits, service clubs, and hospitals.</li> </ul>		

**DATE:** May 26, 2015  
**TO:** First 5 Solano Commission  
**From:** Michele Harris, Executive Director  
**SUBJ:** **Executive Director's Report for June 2015**

**New Deputy County Counsel Assigned to First 5 Solano:** I am both happy and sad to report that Carrie Scarlata is no longer First 5 Solano's assigned Deputy County Counsel, as she has moved on from Solano County. Carrie has taken the position of Assistant County Counsel with Yolo County. This is a great professional opportunity for her and we wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

The Solano County Counsel Department has assigned Deputy County Counsel Dan Wolk to the First 5 Solano assignment. Dan received his BA degree in economics from Stanford University in 1999 and thereafter worked as an economic analyst in the research department of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas for nearly 2 ½ years. He then decided to attend law school and obtained his JD degree from UC Berkeley School of Law in 2005.

Dan's legal career reflects his commitment to public service. For 3 years, he worked for the well-respected public agency firm of McDonough Holland & Allen in the Public Law section, representing public agency clients or private clients collaborating with public agencies. In his free time, he founded the Legal Clinic of Yolo County, working with organizations, local governments, community activists and lawyers to establish a bi-weekly, drop-in pro bono legal clinic for low income individuals.

Dan is currently the Mayor of Davis, having been elected to the City Council in 2012, and often collaborates with First 5 Yolo and their partners as part of his efforts. Dan lives in Davis with his wife, Jamima, and their two young daughters.

**Special Executive Director's Meeting:** On April 9, I held the first in a series of meetings with grantee agency leadership to formalize discussions around sustainability of the early childhood system and the realities of the impending First 5 Solano fiscal cliff. Representatives from all grantee agencies were in attendance and there was robust discussion about the early childhood system and how we all contribute to its success.

From this meeting, the group recommended forming 2 work groups:

1. Working together differently
  - Share Boards to post position and space needs, etc.
  - Consolidate services
  - Share back office staff and personnel-like services
  - Sharing space/infrastructure
  - Increase collaboration/reduce costs
  
2. Accessing alternative funding sources
  - Collective grant applications (Partner in grant applications)
  - Tap into public funds: educations, healthcare (ACA), etc.

These work groups will come together to discuss potential solutions for the early childhood system to move toward sustainability via exploration of the above strategies. As actionable items develop from these workgroups and/or progress is made toward addressing the fiscal cliff, these will be reported back to the Commission.

## **Program Updates:**

**Contract Termination:** In late April, First 5 Solano received notification from Aldea Children & Family Services of their intent to terminate their First 5 Solano mental health contract effective June 30, 2015. Aldea was part of the Partners for Early Access for Kids (PEAK) Collaborative through a 3-year contract First 5 Solano, effective September 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017. Aldea was one of four agencies in the collaborative that provided treatment services. Treatment services are still being provided by the other PEAK partners and Aldea will transition any remaining PEAK clients to another PEAK provider as of June 30.

Aldea leadership reported that when they signed onto the PEAK work, they were optimistic about leveraging funding through a new contract with the County for specialized 0-5 Early Periodic Screening and Diagnosis Treatment (EPSDT). In fact, the Solano RFP for mental health services required maximization of other funding, including EPSDT. Unfortunately, Aldea was unsuccessful in the competitive bidding process for EPSDT services. Therefore, Aldea will discontinue their participation in the PEAK Collaborative.

First 5 Solano has accepted Aldea's letter of contract termination. First 5 Solano staff intend to discuss the issue with the program co-funder, Solano County Health and Social Services, Mental Health Division, which contributes over half of the funding for this program via MHSA-PEI funding. Once a course of action is agreed upon, staff will meet with the PEAK Collaborative partners to chart a path forward.

**IMPACT Update:** On April 23, the First 5 California Commission (F5CA) approved \$190 million in funding to support First 5 IMPACT Initiative. First 5 IMPACT (Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive) is an innovative approach that partners First 5 California (F5CA) with counties to increase access to high-quality early learning programs and services for children and families, and helps ensure children enter school with the skills, knowledge, and dispositions necessary to be successful.

The centerpiece of First 5 IMPACT is a network of local Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) that better coordinate, implement, and evaluate early learning programs with a focus on improving quality. This will give families the information and support they need to promote, support, and optimize their child's development and learning by selecting the best program for their child.

The staff at F5CA is currently working on the development of a Request for Application (RFA), available to all First 5 county commissions, which will be released shortly. First 5 county commissions will have the right of first refusal and will need to build on or continue local consortia efforts for this work. It is yet unknown the timeline for release of the RFA. However, given the potentially short turnaround time for a response, it may be necessary to convene a special meeting of the First 5 Solano Commission prior to its next regularly scheduled meeting on August 11 to consider participation in the First 5 California IMPACT program.

## **Information Items:**

**Systems Change Convening:** Megan and I attended a First 5 Systems Change Convening in Alameda on April 10<sup>th</sup>. This First 5 Association-sponsored convening is for Executive Directors and leadership staff to help develop a shared understanding of systems change in the First 5 world, as well as develop a common language for what the Association mean by "systems," "systems change," and what is needed to tell the First 5 systems change story. The day was spent doing big picture thinking about systems change efforts, with the primary objectives of:

1. Commission leadership's understanding of Systems Change deepened
2. Initial components of a Systems Change Framework drafted
3. Potential areas of inquiry articulated and potential data sources identified.

This convening was Phase 1 of a two part process to working toward common systems change language and moving toward collective efforts. Phase 2 consists of developing and refining the proposed systems change framework, collecting and analyzing data and preparing a systems change framework and report, including recommendations for statewide systems change strategies.

**First 5 Association & First 5 CA Updates:** The vast majority of time at both the First 5 Association and First 5 California meetings was devoted to discussion of the new First 5 Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive (IMPACT) proposal, discussed in detail further down in this report.

At the First 5 Association meeting, we were provided with an update on discussions regarding the Board of Equalization charges to First 5 agencies disproportionate to their share of costs. These conversations are ongoing, with the First 5 Association taking a lead role in trying to address the over-payment from First 5 agencies. While there appears to be interest from legislators in fixing the problem, as yet there is no agreed-upon solution.

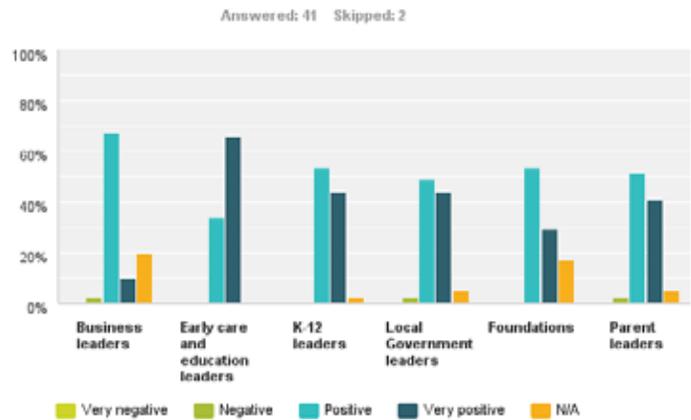
At the First 5 California meeting, the State Commission discussed the role they would take on tobacco bills. The State Commission will take active positions on bills that 1) decrease consumption and 2) are supported by other tobacco cessation groups.

**Commissioner Communications Survey:**

Thank you to those of you who have responded to the Commissioner Survey sponsored by First 5 Association. As of May 20, 43 commissioners from 13 First 5s have responded to the survey, 3 of which were Solano Commissioners.

Already, the results received are providing a new picture about the way Commissioners view their roles within the First 5 world. The chart on the right shows the perceived perception of First 5 across various groups, as seen by your fellow Commissioners. As you can see, ECE leaders, K-12 leaders, and local government leaders are seen as the greatest champions, while no group is seen to have an overly negative perception. The survey is also designed to gather information on the Association's policy work as well as on the Commissioners' perception of their own role as a First 5 champion.

Q3 What is the perception that local leaders from each of the following groups have about First 5 in your community?



**Child Signature Program:** Through use of approximately \$1,000 of the Executive Director Funds, First 5 Solano has assisted the Child Signature Program to purchase books for child care providers called “Loose Parts” which recommends several ways to use everyday items in engaging children in childcare settings. This support is being provided in the context of the Child Signature Program ramp down, as First 5 California has ended the funding for this program and will roll many components of the program into their new IMPACT program.

**Safety Net Summit & Poverty to Prosperity Conference:** On June 3, a contingent of 7 members of the Safety Net Summit workgroup from Solano will attend Rise Together’s “Poverty to Prosperity: The Power of 9” Regional Conference. This event brings together partners in the 9 Bay Area County region to mine data and support their dedication in the quest to cut poverty in half in a decade. From Solano, SNS participants scheduled to attend are:

- Megan Richards, First 5 Solano
- Raisa Ballesteros, First 5 Solano
- Cynthia Verrett, Kaiser Permanente

- Larry Sly, Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano
- Jayleen Richards, Solano County Public Health
- Stephan Betz, Solano County Older and Disabled Adults
- Joanie Erickson, Solano Coalition for Better Health

Additionally, the Solano SNS leadership workgroup will be meeting in June for a ½ day retreat to discuss planning for the upcoming year. Staff will report back to the Commission as this work is further defined.

**Raising of America Launch:** First 5 Solano, in partnership with Solano County Health & Social Services Public Health Division, Help Me Grow Solano, and other community partners, held a sneak peek of the groundbreaking *The Raising of America* documentary series produced by California Newsreel. The launch was Wednesday, April 29, 2015 from 3-5pm at the Fairfield Downtown Theater. The event was facilitated by Supervisor/Commissioner Erin Hannigan and invitees included educators, policy-makers, child-care and health providers, and other interested parties.

Over 140 people were in attendance at the event, including Commissioners Hannigan, Speck and Dean. The documentary explored the effects of early childhood experiences on the developing brain, and linked investments we make in young children and families today to how strong, prosperous, and dynamic the United States will be tomorrow. Following the screening, Supervisor Hannigan facilitated (and participated on) a panel with Dr. Shandi Fuller, a supervising pediatrician from Solano County Family Health Services, as well as Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Associate Superintendent with Solano County Office of Education. The guest speakers contributed their thoughts on the local and national impacts of this dialogue.

#### **First 5 Futures Update:**

##### Grants -

**Children’s Nurturing Project Awarded Grant:** Children’s Nurturing Project and First 5 Solano staff secured \$426,341 from the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board to provide Trauma Recovery services to victims of crime. The proposal was co-written by First 5 Solano and Children’s Nurturing Project staff, requesting funds to provide a system of care to link clients to trauma-related mental health treatment, case management, and other related services over a two-year grant period. This grant will provide funds for an additional Mental Health Clinician and other staff to provide additional capacity to serve more clients needing mental health, victims of crime, and domestic violence services.

**The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation:** Staff received notice in May that the Hillman Foundation proposal was not selected to continue in the second round of the application process. The Hillman Foundation will only award two proposals in the end, and received 130 initial entries. The Foundation reports that some proposals offered creative, compelling ideas, but without sufficient evidence to suggest a likelihood of broader impact making them difficult to recommend. Other proposals featured interventions that were unique within the context of their own health system but were otherwise relatively conventional. Proposals that most closely matched the criteria laid out in the RFP were the most likely to advance, making this a highly competitive process.

##### Business Engagement –

**Solano Economic Development (EDC) Breakfast:** First 5 Solano hosted its annual Solano EDC breakfast on Thursday May 28, 2015. The program was facilitated by Solano EDC President Sandy Person and Commissioner Speck, marking the sixth year that the partnership has existed. The keynote address was delivered by Dowell Myers, Ph.D. of the University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy. Dr. Myers called for a new social contract, elaborating on his published work conveying the importance between the older and younger generations. Myers shared that babies and boomers share a mutual interest and moral responsibility to each generation to provide for

children and the elderly and that every child is an asset to the retiring community. The program concluded with Commissioner Speck presenting the Pre-Kindergarten Business Champion (PKBC) Awards to business champions.

**Letter of Support:** On April 17<sup>th</sup>, I provided a letter of support (Attachment A) to Children's Nurturing Project that was sent to Autism Speaks. This letter of support was submitted to assist the agency in securing \$25,000 for services for children on the Autism Spectrum. CNP has not yet been notified of the status of their grant application.

**Help Me Grow National Conference:** In late April, a Solano County contingent attended the National Help Me Grow conference in Southern California. The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum, themed "Reaching New Heights" provided an opportunity for HMG affiliates across the nation to come together to learn from each other. Solano was represented well, with a HMG contingent consisting of:

Deborah Davis – Children's Nurturing Project & HMG Solano Coordinator  
Carla Denner – Children's Nurturing Project & HMG Program Manager  
Michele Harris – First 5 Solano Commission  
Lisette Estrella-Henderson – Solano County Office of Education  
Joanie Erickson – Solano Coalition for Better Health

This year's conference was heavily focused on collecting and reporting quality data and outcome measures, and continuous quality improvement, one of the four pillars of the Help Me Grow national model.

**Dr. Chasnoff Training:** First 5 Solano was one of many partner agencies (Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, Solano, Yolo, Napa, Marin and Sonoma County SELPAs, Help Me Grow Solano/CNP and the Solano County Office of Education) to sponsor a provider training called "The Invisible Learning Disability: Educational Implications of Prenatal Substance Exposure and Trauma in Children." This training featured Dr. Ira Chasnoff, President of the Children's Research Triangle, a long-time partner with the BabyFirst Solano prenatal program. Also featured was Dr. Ron Powell, former Director of Desert Mountain SELPA and Children's Center.

Participants gained new knowledge of:

1. The impact of prenatal substance exposure and postnatal trauma on the developing fetal and child brain.
2. The impact of prenatal substance exposure and postnatal trauma on behavior and learning.
3. Classroom strategies for enhancing learning and managing behavior in the child at risk due to prenatal substance exposure and postnatal trauma.

**BabyFirst Solano Funding Update:** As stated in the Contracting Update provided to the Commission in April, BabyFirst Solano/Healthy Families America (BFS/HFA) is working with its partners to reduce the current fiscal year expanded level of service to fund the core components of the HFA model. Over the year, direct service staff will be reduced from 6.0 FTE to 4.0 FTE; this reduction will be absorbed by the County internally and by equalizing the subcontracts to maintain home visitors at 4.0 FTE. This reduction will result in a drop in service levels by about one third. No new clients will be served during FY2015/2016 and the program will continue to serve current clients until the one-third caseload reduction has been met.

**Attachments:**

A – Autism Speaks Letter of Support

**COMMISSIONERS**

Aaron Crutison  
*Chair*  
Marisela Barbosa  
Jay Speck  
Elise Crane  
Erin Hannigan  
Dan Ayala  
Liz Niedziela  
Jerry Huber  
Dana Dean

April 17, 2015

Autism Speaks Grant Review Committee  
1 East 33rd Street 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10016

Dear Autism Speaks Grant Review Committee,

On behalf of First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission, I am writing to offer our strongest recommendation for Children's Nurturing Project in support of their \$25,000 request for funding.

**STAFF**

Michele Harris  
*Executive Director*  
Megan Richards  
*Deputy Director*  
Venis Jones Boyd  
*Family Support Programs Mgr.*  
Cherelyn Ellington  
*Early Learning & CE Programs Mgr*  
Ciara Gonsalves  
*Policy & Fund Development Mgr.*  
Chris Shipman  
*Health Programs Mgr.*  
Christiana Lewis  
*Office Assistant III*  
Amanda Holmes  
*Office Assistant II*  
Raisa Ballesteros  
*College Intern*  
Courtney Perry  
*College Intern*  
Ashley Forsyth  
*College Intern*

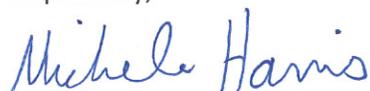
Children's Nurturing Project (CNP) is a strong collaborative partner with First 5 Solano in efforts to expand early developmental services and strengthen the early childhood system. In 2007, CNP brought together a number of partners to establish the Partnership for Early Access for Kids initiative, offering a full range of child, parent/caregiver and provider support to ensure the healthy development and school readiness of some of the most vulnerable children in Solano County. This initiative is still in operation today and continues to post impressive results in both the outcomes of children and families served and system development.

Most recently, in 2012, CNP was selected to act as the lead agency for the Help Me Grow Solano collaborative. Help Me Grow is a national model for linkage and referral that connects at-risk children with the services they need. In this role, CNP has become a local resource for many of our families with children on the autism spectrum and is seen as the most comprehensive resource for Solano families.

In addition, CNP holds weekly support and education groups for parents and caregivers with children on the autism spectrum. Through these groups, parents have identified the need for more local services and supports to Solano families. Autism Speaks funding will enable CNP to ensure children with autism and other special needs are connected to vital services in our community, help all children to reach their full developmental potential, and provide parents with the appropriate supports they so need.

We know you will have many worthy applicants and difficult choices to make. Please give your strongest consideration to Children's Nurturing Project in your evaluation of applicants for Autism Speaks funding. CNP is a vital contributor to Solano children's health and well-being.

Respectfully,



Michele Harris  
Executive Director

First 5 Solano Children & Families Commission uses Proposition 10 tobacco tax and other funds for prenatal, health, quality child care, school readiness and parent, provider, and family support programs across Solano County. These services help ensure that children thrive and enter school healthy and ready to learn, grow and become productive members of Solano County's workforce and community.

